

Kevin W. Soo

University of Pittsburgh
Learning Research & Development Center
3939 O'Hara St
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Phone: 412-915-8164
E-mail: kevin.soo@pitt.edu
Website: kevinsoo.github.io
Blog: kevinsoo.github.io/BetweenTwoWaves

Education

University of Pittsburgh

PhD Cognitive Psychology (expected graduation: Spring 2019)
MS Cognitive Psychology (completed Spring 2016)

University College London

MSc Cognitive & Decision Sciences (graduated 2011, with distinction)

HELP University, Malaysia

BS Psychology (graduated 2009, with first-class honors)

Professional experience

Graduate Student Researcher, University of Pittsburgh (2013–present)

Researcher on various projects investigating causal cognition in humans. Designed, programmed, and ran numerous web and lab-based behavioral experiments. Extensive statistical simulation, modeling, and data analysis. Published and presented findings in academic contexts.

Teaching Fellow, University of Pittsburgh (2015–present)

Teaching research methodology lecture sections (50-60 students), supervising undergraduate students in research projects. Designed and developed interactive web-based tutorials for teaching research methods concepts.

Lecturer, Department of Psychology, HELP University (2012–2013)

Designed/taught courses in research methods, cognitive psychology, and judgment and decision-making. Supervised research and teaching assistants.

Peer-reviewed publications

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (under review). Switch rates do not influence underweighting in decisions from experience, but optional stopping does.

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (under review). Causal induction from time series data.

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (2016). Causal learning with continuous variables over time. In A. Papafrogou, D. Grodner, D. Mirman, & J.C. Trueswell (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 153-158).

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (2015). Elemental causal learning from transitions. In R. Dale, C. Jennings, P. Maglio, T. Matlock, D. Noelle, A. Warlaumont, & J. Yoshimi (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 2254-2259).

Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (2014). Learning causal direction from transitions with continuous and noisy variables. In P. Bello, M. Guarin, M. McShane, & B. Scassellati (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 36th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 1485-1490).

Conference presentations

- Soo, K. W. & Rottman, B. M. (2015). *Causal learning from transitions and states*. Poster presented at the meeting of the Psychonomic Society, Chicago, IL.
- Soo, K. W. & Lagnado, D. A. (2013). *Detecting and adapting to changes in causal systems*. Paper presented at the Asian Conference on Psychology & the Behavioral Sciences, Osaka, Japan.
- Soo, K. W. (2012). *Crime Perception: Non-rational judgments*. Paper presented at the Malaysian Psychology Conference, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- *Ho, A. S. P., *Tan, K. C. K., *Liew, S. J. Y., *Goh, S. M. T., *Goh, V. W. Y. & Soo, K. W. (2012). *Differences in counterfactual regret mechanisms and counterfactual distance on decision making*. Paper presented at the South East Asia (SEA) Psychology Conference, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.
- *Lim, M. W. C., *Chee, M. Y. F., *Mok, L. L., *Wong, T. Y. M., *Thong, J. A. & Soo, K. W. (2012). *Investigating classification learning & inference learning in category acquisition and retention*. Paper presented at the South East Asia (SEA) Psychology Conference, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.
- Lukman, H. & Soo, K. W. (2010). *Assessment of eating disorder symptomatology in young adult female students in urban Malaysia*. Poster presented at the World Conference on Psychology, Counseling and Guidance, Antalya, Turkey.
- Lukman, H., Khor, K. L., Siew, J. L., Chua, W. L. & Soo, K. W. (2010). *Perceived body image norms in Malaysian adolescents*. Poster presented at the World Conference on Psychology, Counseling and Guidance, Antalya, Turkey.
- Soo, K. W. (2009). *Source-monitoring of words and their translations in bilingual memory*. Paper presented at the South East Asia (SEA) Psychology Conference, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

* denotes undergraduate student supervisee

- Other talks** Cognitive Psychology Brown Bag Series, University of Pittsburgh
- September 2017: *Does it fit? Proportionality between causes and effects*
 - February 2017: *Our patterns of sampling (don't) foreshadow our decisions*
 - March 2016: *Causal learning with continuous variables over time*
 - March 2015: *Elemental causal learning from transitions*
 - April 2014: *Causation from correlation over time*
 - How (ir)rational are we?*
 - Keynote talk. Psychology Colloquium, HELP University (April 2012)
 - Reasoning about causal changes*
 - Causality Workshop, Causal Cognition Group, University College London (August 2011)

- Honors**
- University of Pittsburgh*
 - Honorable mention, Tim Post Award for Excellence in Research (2017)
 - Arts and Sciences Fellowship (2013–2014)
 - University College London*
 - Commonwealth Scholarship (2010–2011)
 - HELP University*
 - Datuk Paduka Dr. Hajjah Saleha Award (2009) for top-ranked student at faculty level
 - HELP University Merit Scholarship (2006–2009)

Service	<p>Reviewer for Journal of Experimental Psychology: General (2017) and PLoS ONE (2017)</p> <p>Program Representative, Department of Psychology, University of Pittsburgh (2014–2015)</p>	
Skills	<p><i>Statistical methods and programming languages</i></p> <p>Data cleaning, visualization, and analysis: R, Python, SQL, Shiny web-apps, SPSS</p> <p>Advanced statistics: multi-level modeling, Bayesian inference, causal inference</p> <p><i>Web-based publishing</i></p> <p>Front-end design: HTML, CSS, Javascript, Bootstrap, d3</p> <p>Publishing: GitHub, Markdown, Jupyter notebooks</p> <p><i>Data collection</i></p> <p>Expertise: Experimental design, survey design, crowdsourcing, web-scraping</p> <p>Tools: Google App Engine, Amazon Mechanical Turk, Qualtrics</p>	
References	<p>Dr. Benjamin M. Rottman</p> <p>University of Pittsburgh</p> <p>726 Learning Research & Development Center</p> <p>3939 O'Hara Street</p> <p>Pittsburgh, PA 15260</p> <p>+1-412-624-7493</p> <p>E-mail: rottman@pitt.edu</p> <p>Website: lrdc.pitt.edu/rottman</p>	<p>Dr. David A. Lagnado</p> <p>University College London</p> <p>26 Bedford Way</p> <p>WC1H 0AP, London</p> <p>United Kingdom</p> <p>++44-207-679-5385</p> <p>E-mail: d.lagnado@ucl.ac.uk</p> <p>Website:</p> <p>ucl.ac.uk/lagnado-lab/david_lagnado</p>
	<p>Dr. Timothy Nokes-Malach</p> <p>University of Pittsburgh</p> <p>726 Learning Research & Development Center</p> <p>3939 O'Hara Street</p> <p>Pittsburgh, PA 15260</p> <p>+1-412-624-7789</p> <p>E-mail: nokes@pitt.edu</p> <p>Website: lrdc.pitt.edu/nokes</p>	