

Dear Colleague,

You are receiving this email because you have requested an access to the Bank Of Standardized Stimuli (BOSS) or are currently a user. As you may know, the BOSS is a set of normative high quality visual stimuli to use in cognitive and psycholinguistic research. More information can be found on <https://sites.google.com/site/bosstimuli/>. Please note that the BOSS is no longer displayed on smugmug.

We are pleased to announce that the BOSS has been updated and we invite you to take note of the following changes.

- 1) 930 new normative photos stimuli were added to the set. These photos include animals, building infrastructures, body parts, and vehicles. The number of stimuli in previous categories has been substantially increased. The BOSS now includes 1,468 normative photos. This second phase of the BOSS has been published in PLoS ONE.
- 2) Non-normative photo stimuli were added to the set. These stimuli are mostly exemplars of concepts that have been normalized (e.g. a second stapler), or photos depicting normative concepts viewed from a different viewpoint. 386 concepts have more than one exemplar (2.9 on average) and 466 concepts have been photographed from more than one viewpoint (2.2 on average).
- 3) Drawing versions of the photos were created. There are currently 274 drawings.
- 4) The original photos are also now offered in png format, with a transparent background. png photos can easily be pasted over scene images.
- 5) An excel document was created to include all norms collected across different studies. This document can be downloaded from our website or from the Google drive (see the instructions below).
- 6) Finally, please note that some changes were made on the previous version of the BOSS. Some files were renamed, few corrections were made on the norms, and the size of some images was slightly changed. We therefore strongly recommend that you use the new version of the BOSS.

The images cannot be downloaded from this site because of their excessive size. Instead, the BOSS is now stored on a Google drive space accessible to everyone. To access the BOSS, enter this link in your navigation browser:

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B3m1Sf0USgt8bXRjZFNDMUwzaWc&usp=sharing>

Once logged in, you will have access to two folders. One includes the documents (articles and norms) and one includes the stimuli. The stimuli have been compressed in winrar files. One file includes the normative photos of the first phase of the project (v.1(2010)), one includes the new stimuli (v.2(2014)), and one includes the non-normative photos. The .rar files include files in .jpg files.

You can also get access to all individual files, including the .png which are not in the .rar files. You can send us a gmail address and we will share the space with you or you can log into Google drive as a guest, using the following information:

User name: bankofstimuliguest

Password: BOSSguest

We are proud that the BOSS has been requested by more than 300 research teams around the world and has generated a lot of enthusiasm. Creating this bank of stimuli required a lot of work and resources. Nonetheless, we are pleased to offer the BOSS to all researchers free of charge. We believe this project has the potential to grow with the contribution of other researchers. Hence, we invite you to share any new norms or amendments that you may have made on the BOSS by contacting us. Any contribution will be highlighted on the documents and on the website (<https://sites.google.com/site/bosstimuli/>) and the references will be clearly noted.

Finally, we would like to emphasize that although the BOSS is free, we appreciate that the use of it is acknowledged and cited correctly. It is important to remember that the BOSS, especially norms, is the sum of separate projects. Please take care to quote the article from which the norms are used. References are clearly indicated in the file describing the norms.

Do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or specific requests,

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mathieu Brodeur'.

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