

# Matan Mazor

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## EDUCATION

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2017 to 2021	<b>Institute of Neurology, UCL</b> PhD. Advisors: Prof. Stephen M. Fleming and Prof. Karl J. Friston “SELF-MODELLING IN INFERENCE ABOUT ABSENCE”
2011 to 2016	<b>Sagol School of Neuroscience &amp; Adi Lautman Interdisciplinary Programme for Outstanding Students, Tel Aviv University</b> MSc, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> . Advisor: Prof. Roy Mukamel “THE INTERNAL FORWARD MODEL IN THE HUMAN BRAIN: A FUNCTIONAL MRI STUDY” Cumulative GPA: 98.4/100

## ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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2023 to present	<b>Postdoctoral research fellow (PDRF)</b> <i>All Souls College, Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford</i>
2022 to 2023	<b>Postdoctoral researcher</b> <i>Action and Perception lab, Birkbeck, University of London</i>
2016 to 2017	<b>Research staff</b> <i>Roy Mukamel’s lab, Tel Aviv University</i>
2012 to 2014	<b>Research intern</b> <i>Linguistic infrastructure team, Ginger Software (Intel since 2014)</i>

## SELECTED GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

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<b>Grants</b>	<b>BA/Leverhulme Small Research Grants</b> (£9,009, 2025, “Model-based self-simulation in memory reconstruction (behaviour)”; <b>John Fell OUP Research Grant</b> (£40,455, 2025, “Model-based self-simulation in memory reconstruction (neuroimaging)”; <b>Research Innovation Grant from Birkbeck, University of London</b> (£4,832, 2022, “The development and stability of metacognitive knowledge”).
<b>Fellowships and Scholarships</b>	<b>UCL’s Bogue Fellowship</b> (£6,624, 2019, supporting a research visit to MIT); <b>UCL’s Graduate Research Scholarship (GRS) &amp; Overseas Research Scholarship (ORS)</b> (2017 to 2020; tuition fees, stipend and research allowance); <b>Kenneth Lindsay Scholarship</b> (£3000, 2017 to 2019), <b>Full Excellence Scholarship</b> (2011 to 2015; Adi Lautman Interdisciplinary Program for Outstanding Students)

## TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

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<b>PhD mentor</b>	Joint supervisor for <b>Carla Zoe Cremer (DPhil</b> , Department of Experimental Psychology, Oxford, expected graduation: 2026); joint supervisor for <b>Noam Sarna (PhD</b> , Department of Psychological Sciences, Tel Aviv University, expected graduation: 2027);
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<b>MSc mentor</b>	Primary supervisor for <b>two Oxford MSc students</b> (Department of Experimental Psychology, Oxford, graduation: 2025), <b>two Oxford MSci students</b> (Department of Experimental Psychology, Oxford, graduation: 2026), and <b>two UCL MSc students</b> (Functional Imaging Laboratory, UCL, graduation: 2019 and 2020). For their research projects, two of my students ( <b>Maya Schipper</b> at Oxford and <b>Roy Tal</b> at UCL) were awarded <b>the 2024 George Humphrey Prize</b> and <b>the 2019 Richard Frackowiak MSc Prize</b> .
<b>Lecturer</b>	<b>“Cognition” undergraduate course</b> (University of Oxford, 2025-2026; mean student evaluation: 4.47 out of 5); <b>“Introduction to Cognitive Psychology” course</b> (Lady Margaret Hall College, 2025); <b>“Introduction to Bayesian Statistics” graduate course</b> (Tel Aviv University, 2017); <b>“Methods in MRI/fMRI” graduate course</b> (Tel Aviv University, 2017).
<b>Other</b>	General examiner for the <b>prize fellowship exam</b> (All Souls College, 2025); Teaching assistant: <b>“Introduction to Computational Neuroscience”</b> (Tel Aviv University, 2016); educational consultant for <b>Ort educational network of schools and colleges</b> (2016).

## SERVICE

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<b>Associate editor</b>	<i>Mind &amp; Language</i>
<b>Reviewer</b>	<b>Journals:</b> <i>Neuroscience and Behavioural Reviews</i> , <i>Cognition</i> , <i>eLife</i> , <i>PNAS</i> , <i>Proceedings of the Royal Society B</i> , <i>Scientific Reports</i> , <i>Nature Human Behaviour</i> , <i>Cognitive Science</i> , <i>Attention, Perception and Psychophysics</i> , <i>Philosophical Psychology</i> , <i>Developmental Psychology</i> , <i>Consciousness and Cognition</i> , <i>Philosophy and the Mind Sciences</i> , <i>Cortex</i> , <i>Journal of Experimental Psychology: General</i> , <i>Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance</i> , <i>Cerebral Cortex</i> , <i>BMC Psychology</i> ; <i>Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology</i> ; <i>Journal of Neurophysiology</i> ; <b>Conferences:</b> <i>CogSci</i> ; <b>Books:</b> <i>Cambridge University Press</i> ; <b>Grants:</b> <i>Wellcome Trust (Expert Reviewer)</i> .

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Christian & Mazor (arXiv)**  
*Self-Blinding and Counterfactual Self-Simulation Mitigate Biases and Sycophancy in Large Language Models*

**Sarna, Dar & Mazor (PsyArxiv)**  
*Biased and inattentive responding drive apparent metacognitive biases in mental health*

**Mazor, Firestone & Phillips (Psychological Science, in press)**  
*Pretending not to know reveals a capacity for model-based self-simulation*

**Barnett, Mazor, Cabbai & Dijkstra (Neuroscience of Consciousness, 2026)**  
*Vivid imagery is reported faster than weak imagery*

**Mazor (Berggruen prize essay competition; shortlisted, 2026)**  
*Mind-body dualism as social signalling*

**Mazor (Behavioral and Brain Sciences, a commentary on Fleming & Michel, 2025)**  
*Consciousness science as a marketplace of rationalizations*

**Schipper & Mazor (Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 2025)**  
*Confidence in absence as confidence in counterfactual visibility*

**Mazor (Open Mind, 2025)**  
*Inference about absence as a window into the mental self-model*

**Yaron, Faivre, Mudrik & Mazor (Psychological Bulletin & Review, 2025)**  
*Individual differences do not mask effects of unconscious processing*

**Mazor**, Moran & Press (*Psychological Review*, 2025)

*Beliefs about perception shape perceptual inference: an ideal observer model of detection*

Michel, Gao, **Mazor**, Kletenik & Rahnev (*Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 2024)

*When visual metacognition fails: Widespread anosognosia for visual deficits*

**Mazor** & Mukamel (*Entropy*, 2024)

*A randomization-based, model-free approach to functional neuroimaging: a proof of concept*

Sarna, **Mazor** & Dar (*Clinical Psychological Science*, 2024)

*Obsessive Compulsive visual search: a reexamination of presence-absence asymmetries*

Dijkstra, **Mazor** & Fleming (*Journal of Vision*, 2024)

*Confidence ratings do not distinguish imagination from reality*

**Mazor**, Moran & Press (*Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 2024)

*The Role of Counterfactual Visibility in Inference about Absence*

**Mazor**, Charles, Maimon & Fleming (*Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 2023)

*Paradoxical evidence weighting in confidence judgments for detection and discrimination*

**Mazor**, Gong & Fleming (*Royal Society Open Science*, 2023)

*Re-evaluating frontopolar and temporoparietal contributions to detection and discrimination confidence*

**Mazor**, Siegel & Tenenbaum (*Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 2023)

*Prospective search time estimates reveal the strengths and limits of internal models of visual search*

**Mazor**, Brown, Ciaunica, Demertzis, Fahrenfort, Faivre, Francken, Lamy, Leggenhager, Moutoussis, Nizzi, Salomon, Soto, Stein & Lubianiker (*Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 2022)

*The scientific study of consciousness cannot, and should not, be morally neutral*

**Mazor\***, Dijkstra\* & Fleming (*Journal of Neuroscience*, 2022)

*Dissociating the neural correlates of subjective visibility from those of decision confidence*

**Mazor** & Fleming (*Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 2022)

*Efficient search termination without task experience*

**Mazor**, Moran & Fleming (*Neuroscience of Consciousness*, phase 1 Registered Report; 2021)

*Neuroscience of Consciousness*, phase 2 Registered Report; 2021)

*Metacognitive asymmetries in visual perception*

Dijsktra, **Mazor**, Kok & Fleming (*Cognition*, 2021)

*Mistaking imagination for reality: Congruent mental imagery leads to more liberal perceptual detection*

**Mazor** & Fleming (*Nature Human Behaviour*, 2021)

*The Dunning-Kruger effect revisited*

**Mazor** & Fleming (*Philosophy and the Mind Sciences*, 2020)

*Distinguishing absence of awareness from awareness of absence*

**Mazor**, Friston & Fleming (*eLife*, 2020)

*Distinct neural contributions to metacognition for detecting, but not discriminating visual stimuli*

Scotti, Kulkarni, **Mazor**, Klapwijk, Yarkoni & Huth (*Journal of Open Source Education*, 2020)

*EduCortex: browser-based 3D brain visualization of fMRI meta-analysis maps*

**Mazor**, Mazor & Mukamel (*European Journal of Neuroscience*, 2019)

*A novel tool for time-locking study plans to results*

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2025 to present	<b>Tandem: Mental Health Befriending for Oxford</b> Befriender
2022 to 2024	<b>The Under-Represented Student Mentorship (URSM) scheme</b> Mentoring students in their PhD applications.
2021	<b>240 Project</b> Drawing and painting with people who are affected by homelessness and exclusion.
2012 to 2016	<b>Abarbanel Mental Health Center</b> Worked in a closed psychiatric ward, primarily with patients coping with schizophrenia.

### SELECTED REVIEWS FROM MY ONLINE PARTICIPANTS

- 5f649be46ebea202219bc735     "This experiment was very enjoyable"
- 5c2fc716ea6880001dc8e3d     "I LOVED THIS SO MUCH, IT WAS SO FUN!"
- 5d60b5beealc1c0001c98bf6     "I thought that it was interesting because of the different ways the tasks were set up."
- 5c40bb8880392f00015e8910     "I love these type of games and thank you for allowing me to participate. Have a splentacular day."
- 62a779f845a7840040d41bf8     "This was the most fun online research game I've ever played. Kudos!"
- 5dbb9407e0a6e81863526af7     "I think this type of game is great, because of the mental agility to which you are subjected, but I think the survey is very well structured."
- 60a55d4bb6bd9be6c95b89eb     "This was one of the most entertaining and interesting studies I've done while on Prolific, and I've done a lot! Thanks for that break, it was very interesting!"
- 5ee0edcb962eba464f486b40     "it was testing reaction time I guess"
- 5decc61a488cde39be161a91     "I play a lot of video games."
- 5d62886927a84f00010fbbb4     "it was a solid experiment"
- 5f78433aef37d001ace1f086     "I enjoyed the game very much"
- 5ea4a9cac3872a06b560229f     "very unusual, but fun"
- 5e459f61418f610891628564     "found it incredibly easy"
- 5ea1c935df1e160ae8532b18     "Very well explained and set up."
- 5a135875074b1900012527a9     "Jesus loves you!"
- 62b347618b52904682bf1ca7     "This is a cool experiment! Wasn't what I expected when I accepted it, but I don't mind."
- 5f467b0a0d1aef037515c8c9     "my thoughts are I have no idea what you are fishing for lol"
- 5bab002f21db560001c44556     "Strangest experiment ever but i am here for it haha!"
- 651c87603dfec9f96c475d93     "I have done about 1500 of these experiments here and this was one of the stranger ones well done im confused"