

Matan Mazor

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EDUCATION

2017 to 2021	Institute of Neurology, UCL PhD. Advisors: Prof. Stephen M. Fleming and Prof. Karl J. Friston “SELF-MODELLING IN INFERENCE ABOUT ABSENCE”
2011 to 2016	Sagol School of Neuroscience & Adi Lautman Interdisciplinary Programme for Outstanding Students, Tel Aviv University 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

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

SELECTED GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

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

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

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

SERVICE

Associate editor	<i>Mind & Language</i>
Reviewer	Journals: <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> ; Conferences: <i>CogSci</i> ; Books: <i>Cambridge University Press</i> ; Grants: <i>Wellcome Trust (Expert Reviewer)</i> .

PUBLICATIONS

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, 2026)
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, Demertzi, 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

Dijkstra, **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

SELECTED VOLUNTEER WORK

2025 to present	Tandem: Mental Health Befriending for Oxford Befriender
2022 to 2024	The Under-Represented Student Mentorship (URSM) scheme Mentoring students in their PhD applications.
2021	240 Project Drawing and painting with people who are affected by homelessness and exclusion.
2012 to 2016	Abarbanel Mental Health Center 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!"
- 5d60b5bee1c1c0001c98bf6 "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."
- 5d62886927a84f00010fb6b4 "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"