

To Whom It May Concern,

Yu Xiang Dong has completed his involvement with the State University of New York at Binghamton's Psychology Laboratory experimental research under the oversight of Dr. Ralph Miller. Our laboratory's specific area of specialization is elementary information processing in humans and non-human animals, including learning, memory, retrieval, and decision making with respect to so-called acquired behavior. We try to dissociate environmental factors that influence perception, associative acquisition, retention, retrieval, and response generation, using impediments to performance such as degraded contingency manipulations, stimulus competition, and associative interference including extinction.

With the outbreak of COVID-19 leading to the closures of universities across the country, we have been unable to continue gathering data from human subjects in person within our laboratory due to safety concerns. Without the ability to collect data, we had to look towards online crowdsourcing platforms, such as Amazon's Mechanical Turk. MTurk is a crowdsourcing marketplace that allows researchers to outsource their experiments to a distributed workforce who can virtually execute these tasks.

The knowledge and expertise of Yu Xiang in computer science and generous offer to develop a program which runs efficiently in MTurk greatly benefited our research agenda and allowed us to further contribute to the ever-evolving field of psychology. With the help of Yu Xiang, we have been able to continue gathering data and have successfully obtained the necessary number of subjects to analyze the results with confidence.

I found Yu Xiang to be hard working, diligent, and trustworthy. He is an overall excellent team player and always goes beyond his duties to help others and ensure everyone has a great working experience. Yu Xiang has gone out of his way to help our laboratory for the purpose of continuing to refine his computer science skills. His commitment to knowledge and inquisitiveness only confirms my beliefs that he will continue to take opportunities to grow and keep an open mind. If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me at rmiller@binghamton.edu.

Cordially,

Ralph R. Miller

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