Winson Yang Fu Zun

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology: Cognitive Neuroscience, May 2023 (expected)
Texas Tech University (United States)

Masters of Science in Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience, Specialization in Neuropsychology, July 2017
Maastricht University (Netherlands)

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

Track Representative (student/program liaison), University of Maastricht

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RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY – DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE, Lubbock, TX, 2018 - current
Graduate Research Assistant

Headed the Wise Aging Project, Working Memory Training Project, Neurofeedback Training Project. Improved the infrastructure of the lab's research analytic plans by building several custom scripts to suit the analysis of neuroimaging and behavioral data.

Key Accomplishments:

- Wrote preprocessing pipelines and scripts for fMRI and EEG data
- Built custom software and programs to run Neurofeedback training.
- Built data analysis plans and codes for graph analysis, machine learning, functional connectivity analysis
- Conducted workshops for neuroimaging analysis
- Teach undergraduate research assistants neuropsychological assessments

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY – UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES, Lubbock, TX, 2018 - 2019
UX Team Graduate Assistant

Collaborated with the UX team to improve overall user experience of the Texas Tech University Library System. Advised and tested new features for the library

Key Accomplishments:

- Advised and tested several new features for the library, resulting in better student experience in using the OneSearch Library system

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL SINGAPORE – DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE, Singapore, SG, 2017-2018
Research Assistant

Prepared and analyzed data for two separate projects, including a study that understands the needs, burden, and quality of life of family caregivers of cancer illness; and a Randomized Control Trial on mindfulness practices in an elderly population. Independent project includes *Validation of the Needs Assessment of Family Caregivers-Cancer (NAFC-C) questionnaire in an Asian population*.

Key Accomplishments:

- Data entry and quality assurance of the study questionnaire, leading to accurate and precise refinement of the questionnaire
- Conducted statistical analyses on the psychometrics of questionnaires, leading to validation of questionnaires being used in a Singapore population and context
- Prepared and authored manuscripts for publications, and conferences

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCIO – MEMORY AND AGING CENTER, San Francisco, CA, 2016-2017
Visiting Scholar

Drive the progress of critical research by analyzing data and developing analysis tools to prepare data, models, and visualizations for conference presentations and journal publications. Independent projects include *Relationship between Semantic Appraisal Network and TASIT-EET* and *Relationship between Occupation and Stress on Inflammation, White Matter, and Processing Speed*.

Key Accomplishments:

- Completed two independent projects and theses as part of the Maastricht University Research Master's program
- Developed, maintained, and automated processing of a social function resting-state fMRI database using MATLAB, python, and R.
- Created accurate statistical models and data visualizations by programming automated processes in MATLAB, and R.
- Created custom and general interactive dashboards using Tableau and R (Markdown, Shiny) for a wide range of researchers
- Authored concise and accurate reports of qualitative and quantitative data to create insights for diverse audiences.

MAASTRICHT UNIVERSITY– FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY AND NEUROSCIENCE, Maastricht, Netherlands, 2015-2016
Research Assistant

Collaborated with a research team to plan, conduct, and improve data collection methods on human participants for the project, *Behavioral and neural basis for individual differences in auditory and motor timing and sequencing*. Developed research and analytics skills by attending workshops and tutorials, and contributed to discussions and examinations of theory and practice.

Key Accomplishments:

- Collected research data to explore temporal processes in healthy adults by designing and administering EEG experimental paradigms.
- Learned to analyze EEG data using state-of-the-art methods with MATLAB
- Authored a proposal for the examination of auditory-motor synchronization in individuals with Parkinson's disease.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCIO – MEMORY AND AGING CENTER, San Francisco, CA, 2016-2017
Visiting Scholar

Conducted several neuropsychological bedside tests and UDS as part of a clinical internship. Discussed patient clinical findings with a team of neurologists, neuropsychologists, nurses, and genetic counsellors for patients' diagnoses and prognoses

Key Accomplishments:

- Conducted several neuropsychological bedside tests and UDS for patients with dementias
- Written neuropsychological test reports as part of the whole neuropsychological diagnostics process
- Discussed and presented patients' clinical findings with a team of neurologists, neuropsychologists, nurses, genetic counsellors, medical students, and psychology practicum students at weekly case conferences

PUBLICATIONS

Xie, A., Wu, Q.X., **Yang, W.F.Z.**, Qi, C., Liao, Y., Wang, X., Hao, W., Tang, Y, Liu1, J., Liu, T., & Tang, J. (2021). Altered Patterns of Fractional Amplitude of Low-Frequency Fluctuation and Regional Homogeneity in Abstinent Methamphetamine-Dependent Users. *Scientific Reports*, *11*, 7705

Yang, W.F.Z., Liu, J. L., Tan, T., Chan, Y.H., Griva, K., Kuparasundram, S., Mahendran, R. (2020). Validation of the Needs Assessment of Family Caregivers-Cancer questionnaire in an Asian population. *BMC Psychology, 8*(84), 1-14.

Liu, T., Wu, Q., Luo X., Chen, S., **Yang, W.F.Z.,** Liao, Y., Tang, J., & Tang, Y. (2019). Stigmatizing towards mental disorders among non-mental health professionals in six general hospitals in Hunan Province. Frontiers in Psychiatry, 10, 946.

Taraban, R., Pittman, J., Nalabandian, T., **Yang, W.F.Z.**, Marcy, W., Gunturu, S.M. (2019). Creating and testing specialized dictionaries for text analysis. *East European Journal of Psycholinguistics, 6*(1), 1-10.

Toller, G., **Yang, W.F.Z**., Brown, J., Ranasinghe, K.G., Shdo, S.M., Kramer, J.H., Seeley, W.W., Miller, B.L., Rankin, K. (2019). Divergent patterns of loss of interpersonal warmth in frontotemporal dementia syndromes are predicted by altered intrinsic network connectivity. *Neuroimage: Clinical*, *22*, 101729.

PRESENTATIONS

Yang, W.F.Z., Tang, Y. (2020). Short-term mindfulness practice engages the reward system. Poster for the Mind & Life 2020 Contemplative Research Conference, "The State of the Field: Discoveries, Opportunities & Challenges", Madison (Meeting held as virtual conference due to COVID-19).

Yang, W.F.Z., Tang, Y. (2020). Spectral dynamic causal modelling in resting-state neuroimaging reveals changes in effective connectivity after meditation training. Poster for the Organization of Human Brain Mapping 2020 Meeting, Montreal (Meeting held as virtual conference due to COVID-19).

Rijpma, M., Toller, G., **Yang, W.F.Z.**, Battistella, G., Miller, B., Seeley, W., Rankin, K. (2020). Patterns of effective connectivity in the midbrain underlie natural sensitivity to social cues. Poster for the Society of Affective Sciences 2020 Meeting, San Francisco (Meeting held as virtual conference due to COVID-19).

Yang, W.F.Z., Tang, Y. (2019). Increased inter-network connectivity in the triple networks after short-term mindfulness meditation training. Poster for the Cognitive Neuroscience Society 2019 Meeting, San Francisco.

Yang, W.F.Z., Lim, H., Chan, Y.H., Tan, T., Griva, K., Mahendran, R. (2018). Unmet-needs of Family Caregivers of Cancer Patients Across Treatment Phases in Singapore. Poster session presented at the World Congress of Psycho-Oncology, Hongkong.

Mahendran, R., **Yang, W.F.Z,** T., Chan, Y.H., Griva, K. (2018). Cancer Caregivers Needs and the Impact on their Well-Being and Care Burden. Poster session presented at the World Congress of Psycho-Oncology, Hongkong.

Shdo, S.M., Toller, G., Ranasinghe, K., **Yang, W.**, Datta, S., Sturm, V., Miller, B., Rankin, K.P. (2018). Interaction of neural networks underlying heightened threat vigilance using a neurodegenerative disease lesion model. Poster presented at the 2018 Annual Conference of Society for Affective Science, Los Angeles.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Yang, W.F.Z. (2020). Finding the Oasis: An online guide to navigating adversity with compassion. Virtual half-day workshop-retreat given at Fo Guang Shan San Bao Temple, San Francisco.

Yang, W.F.Z. (2019). Three secrets to growth mindset. Talk given at Fo Guang Shan San Bao Temple, San Francisco.

Yang, W.F.Z. (2018). Compassion in daily life. Talk given at Fo Guang Shan San Bao Temple, San Francisco.

Yang, W.F.Z. (2018). 念佛，慈悲人生 (Compassionate Life with Mantra Recitation). Talk (in Chinese) given at Fo Guang Shan San Bao Temple, San Francisco.

Yang, W.F.Z. (2018). What is it like to study cognitive neuroscience? Talk given at Psi Chi Society, Texas Tech University.

Yang, W.F.Z. (2018). Meditation is not magic: What can neuroscience tell us about meditation? Talk given at Fo Guang Shan San Bao Temple, San Francisco.

Yang, W.F.Z. (2018). 神经学与佛教的概念 (The concepts of neuroscience and Buddhism). Talk (in Chinese) given at Fo Guang Shan San Bao Temple, San Francisco.

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Received the **2019 Darcy Reich Memorial Scholarship.** Texas Tech University

Selected as New Investigator for **Mind and Life Summer Research Institute 2019.** Mind and Life Institute. June 2019, Garrison Institute, New York.

Received the **2018 Sheri E. Holloway Endowment Scholarship.** Texas Tech University.

Received Scholarship Registration for **2018 Mind & Life International Symposium for Contemplative Research (ISCR).** Mind and Life Institute. November 2018 Phoenix, Arizona.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Volunteer, FO GUANG SHAN SAN BAO TEMPLE, San Francisco, 2017

TECHNICAL SKILLS

R • Python • SPSS • MATLAB • JavaScript • CSS • HTML • PostgreSQL • Tableau

Microsoft Word • Microsoft Excel • Microsoft PowerPoint • Adobe Photoshop • Adobe Illustrator

ADHOC REVIEWER

NeuroImage

NeuroImage: Clinical

Mindfulness