

Sami Ryan Yousif

CURRICULUM VITAE

1835 Neil Ave
Columbus, OH, 43210

Web: <https://spatialcognitionlab.org/>
email: yousif.36@osu.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025-	Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology Ohio State University
2024-2025	Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology and Neuroscience University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
2022-2024	MindCORE Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology University of Pennsylvania

EDUCATION

2022	Yale University	Ph.D.	Cognitive Psychology
2019	Yale University	M.Phil.	Cognitive Psychology
2018	Yale University	M.A.	Cognitive Psychology
2016	Emory University	B.A.	Psychology

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND HONORS

2025	UNC Psychology & Neuroscience Faculty Mentoring Award
2025	UNC Undergraduate Teaching Award
2025	UNC R.J. Reynolds Junior Faculty Development Award
2024	APS Rising Star
2022	James B. Grossman Dissertation Prize
2021	Allan Sheldon, III Memorial Fellowship
2020	Elsevier/Vision Research Travel Award
2020	William Kessen Teaching Award
2019	Yale Conference Travel Fellowship
2018	Cognitive Science Society Travel Award
2018	NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
2016	Charles Elias Shepard Scholarship
2016	Emory University Tutor of the Year
2016	Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
2015	SIRE Independent Travel Grant (Child Development Society)
2015	SIRE Independent Research Grant (2D shape representations)
2015	SIRE Independent Travel Grant (Vision Sciences Society)
2014	SIRE Independent Research Grant (Geometry and navigation)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Yousif, S.R., Arrighi, R., Brannon, E.M, Clarke, S., Togoli, I., et al. (Stage 1 “in principle acceptance”). Registered report: A multi-site replication of audiovisual cross-modal number adaptation. *Psychological Science*.

Yousif, S. R., & Clarke, S. (In press). Number, adaptation, and perception. In J. Park et al. (Eds.), *Numerical cognition: Debates and disputes*.

- Yousif, S.R. & Epstein, R.A. (In press). Cognitive maps as a medium for thought. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*.
- Waterhouse, G.C.L., & Yousif, S.R. (2026). Spontaneous perception of visuospatial ensembles. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*.
- Yousif, S. R., Hu, Y. & Brannon, E. M. (2026). Robust representation of the spatial arrangement of topological features. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*.
- Clarke, S., Olugbusi, R., & Yousif, S.R. (2026). Ensemble size perception as a case study of the bounds of adaptation. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*.
- Yousif, S.R., & Sherman, B.E. (2026). Distortions of space and time in and around objects and events. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 33(3), 98.
- Wen, C., Yousif, S.R., & Sherman, B.E. (2026). Unfolding event structure distorts subjective time. *Cognition*, 267, 106354.
- Clarke, S. & Yousif, S.R. (2026). Can we “see” value? Spatiotopic “visual” adaptation to an imperceptible dimension. *Cognition*, 49(12), e70148.
- Waterhouse, G.C.L., & Yousif, S.R. (2025). The “crowd size illusion” and the relativity of number perception. *Cognitive Science*, 49(12), e70148
- Joo, S., Yousif, S.R., Martin, F., Keil, F.C., & Knobe, J. (2025). No privileged link between intentionality and causation: Generalizable effects of agency in language. *Cognition*, 264, 106225.
- Boger, T.*, Yousif, S.R.*, McDougle, S.D., & Rutledge, R.B. (2025). Random behavior is stable across tasks and time. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 154(6), 1571–1582.
- Sherman, B.E. & Yousif, S.R. (2025). An illusion of time caused by repeated experience. *Psychological Science*, 36(2), 71-86.
- Yousif, S. R., Goldstein, L.B., & Brannon, E.M. (2025). Children’s understanding of topological relations. *Open Mind*, 9, 401-417.
- Yousif, S. R. & Brannon, E.M. (2025). Perceiving topological relations. *Psychological Science*, 36(2), 71-86.
- Yousif, S. R., Clarke, S., & Brannon, E.M. (2025). Seven reasons to (still) doubt the existence of number adaptation: A rebuttal to Burr et al. and Durgin. *Cognition*, 254, 105939.
- Yousif, S.R. & Clarke, S. (2024). Size adaptation: Do you know it when you see it? *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 86(6), 1923-1937.
- Yousif, S.R., Lee, S.H., Sherman, B.E., & Papafragou, A. (2024). Event representation at the scale of ordinary experience. *Cognition*, 249, 105833.
- Yousif, S.R., Clarke, S., & Brannon, E.M. (2024). Number adaptation: A critical look. *Cognition*, 249, 105813.
- Yousif, S.R. & Brannon, E.M. (2024). Intuitive network topology. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 153(8), 2013-2027.
- Yousif, S.R. & McDougle, S.D. (2024). Oblique warping: A general distortion of spatial perception. *Cognition*, 247, 105762.
- Yousif, S.R., Forrence, A.D., & McDougle, S.D. (2023). A common format for representing spatial location in visual and motor working memory. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 31(2), 697-707.
- Yates, T.S., Sherman, B.E., Yousif, S.R. (2023). More than a moment: What does it mean to call something an ‘event’? *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*. 30(6), 2067-2082.
- Joo, S., Yousif, S.R., & Knobe, J. (2023). Teleology beyond explanation. *Mind and Language*, 38, 20-41.
- Joo, S., & Yousif, S.R. (2022). Are we teleologically essentialist? *Cognitive Science*, 46, e13202.
- Yousif, S.R. (2022). Redundancy and reducibility in the formats of spatial representations. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 17, 1778-1793.
- Yousif, S.R. & Keil, F.C. (2022). Quantity perception: The forest and the trees. *Cognition*, 229, 105074
- Aboody, R., Yousif, S.R., Sheskin, M., & Keil, F.C. (2022). Says who? Children evaluate informants’ sources when deciding whom to believe. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 151, 2481-2493.
- Yousif, S.R., Alexandrov, E., Bennette, E., Aslin, R.N., & Keil, F.C. (2022). Children estimate area using an ‘Additive-Area Heuristic’. *Developmental Science*. 25, e13235.

- Joo, S., Yousif, S.R., & Keil, F.C. (2022). Understanding 'Why': How implicit questions shape explanation preferences. *Cognitive Science*, 46. e13091.
- Yousif, S.R. (2021). Numerosity, Area-osity, Object-osity? Oh my. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 44.
- Liefgreen, A., Yousif, S.R., Keil, F.C., & Lagnado, D. A. (2021). Motive on the mind: Explanatory preferences at multiple stages of the legal-investigative process. *Cognition*, 217, 104892.
- Yousif, S.R., Rosenberg, M. D., & Keil, F.C. (2021). Using space to remember: Short-term spatial structure spontaneously improves working memory. *Cognition*, 214, 104748.
- Yousif, S.R. & Keil, F.C. (2021). How we see area and why it matters. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 25, 554-557.
- Lin, Q., Yousif, S.R., Chun, M. M., & Scholl, B. J. (2021). Visual memorability in the absence of semantic content. *Cognition*, 212, 104714.
- Bennette, E., Keil F.C., & Yousif S.R. (2021). A ubiquitous illusion of volume: Are impressions of 3D volume captured by an 'Additive Heuristic'? *Perception*, 50, 462-469.
- Aulet, L., Yousif, S.R., & Lourenco, S. F. (2021). Spatial-numerical associations from a novel paradigm support the Mental Number Line account. *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology*, 74, 1829-1840.
- Yousif, S.R. & Keil, F.C. (2021). The shape of space: Evidence for spontaneous but flexible use of polar coordinates in visuospatial representations. *Psychological Science*, 32, 573-586.
- Yousif, S.R., Aslin, R.N., & Keil, F.C. (2020). Judgments of spatial extent are fundamentally illusory: 'Additive-area' provides the best explanation. *Cognition*, 205, 104439.
- Yousif, S.R. & Keil, F.C. (2020). Area, not number, dominates estimates of visual quantities. *Scientific Reports*, 10, 1-13.
- Yousif, S.R., Chen, Y. C., & Scholl, B. J. (2020). Systematic angular biases in the representation of visual space. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*, 82, 3124-3143.
- Yousif, S.R., Aboody, R., & Keil, F.C. (2019). The illusion of consensus: A failure to distinguish between 'true' and 'false' consensus. *Psychological Science*, 30, 1195-1204.
- Ayzenberg, V., Chen, Y., Yousif, S.R., & Lourenco, S. F. (2019). Skeletal representations of shape in human vision: Evidence for a pruned medial axis model. *Journal of Vision*, 19, 1-21.
- Yousif, S.R. & Keil, F.C. (2019). The 'Additive-Area Heuristic': An efficient but illusory means of visual area approximation. *Psychological Science*, 30, 495-503.
- Yousif, S.R. & Scholl, B. J. (2019). The one-is-more illusion: Sets of discrete objects appear less extended than equivalent continuous entities in both space and time. *Cognition*, 185, 121-130.
- Yousif, S.R. & Lourenco, S. F. (2017). Are all geometric cues created equal? Children's use of distance and length for reorientation. *Cognitive Development*, 43, 159-169.

MANUSCRIPTS

- Boger, T., Amir, D., & Yousif, S.R. (Under revision). Near-random behavior in strategic games.
- Zheng, J., Yousif, S.R., & Sherman, B.E. (Under revision). Independent repulsive and attractive effects of repetition on temporal memory.
- Shah, A.M. & Yousif, S.R. (Under revision). Topological structure and the creation of visual complexity.
- Kittur, M., Zhang, A., Bryce, N. & Yousif, S.R. (Under review). Topological structure in human spatial representation revealed through drawing.
- Boger, T. & Yousif, S.R. (Under review). Idiosyncratic random behavior in a massive online sample.
- Yousif, S.R., & Sloutsky, V.M. (Under review). Performance without competence? Rethinking how we know what children know.
- Garro-Rivero, R., Clarke, S. & Yousif, S.R. (Under review). Place and form: A case study in the disunity of core knowledge.
- Berson, S., Joo, S., Keil, F.C., & Yousif, S.R. (Under review). How children understand 'why'.
- Yousif, S.R., & Sherman, B.E. (Under review). Does time fly when the world is still? Evaluating information-accumulation theories of temporal perception.
- Lytle, N. & Yousif, S.R. (In prep). Universality and diversity in cross-modal aesthetic perception.

- Herzog, A., Warmuth, K., & Yousif, S.R. (In prep). Spatial memory in structured environments.
- Clarke, S. & Yousif, S.R. (In prep). Troubles with adaptation: Unpacking the nature of repulsive aftereffects in mind and brain.
- Waterhouse, G.C.L., Xiong, C., & Yousif, S.R. (In prep). Visual proportion estimation and the relative prioritization of visual quantities.
- Demczuk, C., Clarke, S., & Yousif, S.R. (In prep). Serial reproduction: A critical look.
- Waterhouse, G.C.L. & Yousif, S.R. (In prep). A pluralistic account of number perception.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Waterhouse, G.C.L. and Yousif, S.R. (2026, June). *Number as a case study for the origins of abstract thought*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology.
- Herzog, A., Warmuth, K.L, and Yousif, S.R. (2026, May). *Spatial memory in structured environments*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society.
- Lytle, N.D. & Yousif, S.R. (2026, May). *What does vision sound like? Variability in cross-modal perception*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society.
- Warmuth, K.L. and Yousif, S.R. (2026, May). *Simultaneous representation of location with respect to landmarks and boundaries*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society.
- Zheng, J., Yousif, S.R., & Sherman, B.E. (2026, May) *To what extent does existing knowledge influence stimulus memorability?* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society.
- Demczuk, C.T., Clarke, S., and Yousif, S.R. (2026, May). *Serial dependence is a decision-level process, not a perceptual one*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society.
- Kittur, M.K. and Yousif, S.R. (2026, May). *Topological visual representation revealed through drawing*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society.
- Waterhouse, G.C.L. and Yousif, S.R. (2026, May). *Number is not special: Comparing the relative salience of various visual ensembles*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society.
- Kittur, M.K. and Yousif, S.R. (2026, April). *Children's representation of topological structure revealed through drawing*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Development Society.
- Waterhouse, G.C.L. and Yousif, S.R. (2026, April). *Spontaneous perception of visuospatial ensembles in children and adults*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Cognitive Development Society.
- Waterhouse, G.C.L. and Yousif, S.R. (2025, June). *Is number (perceptually) special?* Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Object Perception, Attention, and Memory Conference.
- Yousif, S.R. (2025, July). *Topology and core knowledge*. Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Science Society.
- Waterhouse, G.C.L. and Yousif, S.R. (2025, June). *The Crowd Size Illusion*. Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology.
- Sherman, B.E. and Yousif, S.R. (2025, June). *An illusion of time caused by repeated visual experience*. Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology.
- Neufeld, E. and Yousif, S.R. (2025, June). *Against Teleological Essentialism: Generalized*. Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology.
- Clarke, S. and Yousif, S.R. (2025, June). *Can we “see” value? Spatiotopic “visual” adaptation to an imperceptible dimension*. Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology.
- Waterhouse, G.C.L. and Yousif, S.R. (2025, May). *The Crowd Size Illusion*. Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society.
- Sherman, B.E. and Yousif, S.R. (2025, May). *An illusion of time caused by repeated visual experience*. Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society.
- Shah, A.M. and Yousif, S.R. (2025, May). *Topological structure and the creation of visual complexity*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society.
- Clarke, S. and Yousif, S.R. (2025, May). *Visual adaptation to arbitrarily assigned value*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society.

- Sherman, B.E. and Yousif S.R. (2025, April). An illusion of time caused by repeated experience. Talk presented at the North Carolina Cognition Conference, Chapel Hill, NC.
- Yousif, S.R. (2025, April). Topology as a building block of spatial thought. Talk presented at the North Carolina Cognition Conference, Chapel Hill, NC.
- Yousif, S.R., Forrence, A.D., and McDougle, S.D. (2023, July). *A common format for representing spatial location in visual and motor working memory*. Talk presented at the 45th Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.
- Yousif, S.R., and McDougle, S.D. (2023, July). *A common oblique bias in perception and action*. Poster presented at the 45th Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.
- Yousif, S.R., Clarke, S., and Brannon, E.M. (2023, July). *Do humans visually adapt to number, or just itemhood?* Poster presented at the 45th Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.
- Aboody, R., Joo, S., Yousif, S.R., Sheskin, M., and Keil, F.C. (2023, June). *Learning from and about others: When reasoning about testimony, children consider both where it came from and what others believe about its source*. Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP).
- Yousif, S.R., Clarke, S., and Brannon, E.M. (2023, June). *Do humans visually adapt to number?* Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP).
- Yousif, S.R., Clarke, S., and Brannon, E.M. (2023, May). *Strong evidence against number adaptation*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS).
- Aboody, R., Yousif, S.R., Joo, S., Sheskin, M., and Keil, F.C. (2023, January). *Learning from and about others: When reasoning about testimony, children consider both where it came from and what others believe about its source*. Poster presented at the Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development.
- Joo, S., Yousif, S.R., Martin, F., Keil, F.C., and Knobe, J. (2022, July). *No privileged link between intentionality and causation: Generalizable effects of agency in language*. Talk presented at the 44th Conference of the Cognitive Science Society. *
- * Winner of the Cognitive Science Society Disciplinary Diversity and Integration Award
- Yousif, S.R., McDougle, S.D., and Rutledge, R.B. (2022, July). *A task-general model of human randomization*. Poster presented at the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.
- Sherman, B. E., Yousif, S.R., Reiner, C. and Keil, F.C. (2022, July). *The speed of statistical perception*. Poster presented at the 44th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.
- Joo, S. and Yousif, S.R. (2022, June). *Are we teleologically essentialist?* Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology.
- Joo, S., Yousif, S.R., Martin, F., Keil, F.C., and Knobe, J. (2022, May). *Does causality matter? Impressions of agency influence judgments of both causal and non-causal sentences*. Talk presented at the 2nd annual Experiments in Linguistic Meaning (ELM) conference.
- Yousif, S.R. and McDougle, S. D. (2022, May). *Common coordinate systems for perception and action*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS).
- Zhang, X. Y., and Yousif, S.R. (2022, May). *Psychological ownership captures visual attention*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS).
- Yousif, S.R., Aslin, R.N., and Keil, F.C. (2022, April). *Systematic errors in children's estimation of cumulative area*. Poster presented at the 2022 Biennial Cognitive Development Society Conference.
- Joo, S., Yousif, S.R., and Keil, F.C. (2022, April). *Do children have an intuitive belief in God(s)? Children's teleological explanation preferences and intentional design*. Talk presented at the 2022 Biennial Cognitive Development Society Conference.
- Joo, S., Yousif, S.R., Martin, F., Keil, F.C., and Knobe, J. (2022, January). *Does causality matter? Impressions of agency influence judgments of both causal and non-causal sentences*. Talk presented at the 2nd annual Agency and Intentions in Language (AIL2) workshop.
- Yousif, S.R. and Keil, F.C. (2021, July). *'Decoding' the locus of spatial representation from simple localization errors*. Poster presented at the 43rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.
- Joo, S., Yousif, S.R., and Keil, F.C. (2021, July). *What is a 'mechanism'? A distinction between two sub-types of mechanistic explanations*. Poster presented at the 43rd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.

- Joo, S., Yousif, S.R., and Keil, F.C. (2021, June). *Why questions are ambiguous: How implicit questions shape explanation preferences*. Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP), Princeton, NJ.
- Liefgreen, A., Yousif, S.R., Lagnado, D., and Keil, F.C. (2021, June). *Whodunnit? A 'motive' preference at multiple stages of the legal-investigative process*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology (SPP), Princeton, NJ.
- Yousif, S.R. and Keil, F.C. (2021, May). *Binding information to discrete objects improves retention in working memory*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS).
- Reiner, C., Yousif, S.R., Sherman, B. E., and Keil, F.C. (2021, May). *Common structure underlying visual and non-visual judgments of randomness*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS).
- Joo, S., Yousif, S.R., and Keil, F.C. (2021, April). *How Children Understand the Pragmatics of 'Why' Questions*. Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD).
- Yousif, S.R., Aslin, R.N., and Keil, F.C. (2020, November). *'Additive area' better explains area judgments than both veridical and scaling models*. Talk presented at the Object Perception, Attention, and Memory meeting.
- Yousif, S.R. and Keil, F.C. (2020, July). *Illusory causal connections and their effect on subjective probability*. Talk presented at the 42nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.
- Joo, S., Yousif, S.R., and Keil, F.C. (2020, July). *Implicit questions shape information preferences*. Poster presented at the 42nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.
- Liefgreen, A., Yousif, S.R., Keil, F.C., and Lagnado, D. (2020, July). *I don't know if you did it, but I know why: A 'motive' preference at multiple stages of the legal-investigative process*. Poster presented at the 42nd Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society.
- Yousif, S.R. and Keil, F.C. (2020, May). *Interactions between the 'visuospatial sketchpad' and the 'phonological loop': task-irrelevant spatial structure benefits working memory, in spite of explicit rehearsal*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS).
- Bennette, E., Yousif, S.R., and Keil, F.C. (2020, May). *An illusion of volume: Perceived volume is best approximated by the sum of objects' dimensions*. Poster accepted at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS). [Retracted due to COVID-19]
- Yousif, S.R. and Keil, F.C. (2019, November). *Evidence for size-invariant polar representations of visual space*. Poster presented at the Object Perception, Attention, and Memory meeting, Montreal, QC.
- Yousif, S.R., Alexandrov, E., Bennette, E., Aslin, R.N., and Keil, F.C. (2019, October). *Children approximate area using an 'Additive-Area Heuristic'*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.
- Aboody, R., Yousif, S.R., Sheskin, M., and Keil, F.C. (2019, October). *Says who? Children consider informants' sources when deciding whom to believe*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Louisville, KY.
- Yousif, S.R., Alexandrov, E., Bennette, E., and Keil, F.C. (2019, July). *Perceived area plays a dominant role in visual quantity estimation*. Talk presented at the 41st Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Montreal, QC.
- Lin, Q., Yousif, S.R., Scholl, B. J., and Chun, M. M. (2019, May). *Image memorability is driven by visual and conceptual distinctiveness*. Talk presented at the Manhattan Area Memory Meeting (MAMM), Princeton, NJ.
- Yousif, S.R., Chen, Y-C., and Scholl, B. J. (2019, May). *Systematic biases in the representation of visual space*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS), St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Lin, Q., Yousif, S.R., Scholl, B. J., and Chun, M. M. (2019, May). *Image memorability is driven by visual and conceptual distinctiveness*. Talk presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS), St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Yousif, S.R., Aboody, R., and Keil, F.C. (2018, July). *Any consensus will do: The failure to distinguish between 'true' and 'false' consensus*. Talk presented at the 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Madison, WI.*
- * Winner of the Cognitive Science Society Travel Award
- Yousif, S.R. and Keil, F.C. (2018, July). *When in doubt: Using confidence and consensus as 'summary statistics' of collective knowledge*. Poster presented at the 40th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Madison, WI.

- Lin, Q., Yousif, S.R., Scholl, B. J., and Chun, M. M. (2018, May). *Visual memorability in the absence of semantic content*. Talk presented at the Manhattan Area Memory Meeting (MAMM), New York City, NY.
- Yousif, S.R., Chen, Y-C., and Scholl, B. J. (2018, May). *The origin of spatial biases: Memory, perception, or action?* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS), St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Lin, Q., Yousif, S.R., Scholl, B. J., and Chun, M. M. (2018, May). *Visual memorability in the absence of semantic content*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS), St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Yousif, S.R. and Lourenco, S. F. (2017, October). *Modularity of geometric processing? Children's reorientation behavior as a case study*. In N. S. Newcombe (Chair), *The development of spatial reorientation: An old puzzle, a new formulation*. Symposium conducted at the Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Portland, OR.
- Aulet, L. S., Yousif, S.R., and Lourenco, S. F. (2017, July). *Numbers uniquely bias spatial attention: a novel paradigm for assessing Spatial-Numerical Associations*. Talk presented at the 39th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, London, UK.
- Yousif, S.R. and Scholl, B. J. (2017, May). *The one-is-more illusion: Sets of discrete objects appear less extended than equivalent continuous entities in both space and time*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS), St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Yousif, S.R., Norman, E. M., and Lourenco, S. F. (2017, April). *Spatial development in a sample of Samoan children*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD), Austin, TX.
- Yousif, S.R., Ayzenberg, V., and Lourenco, S.F. (2016, May). *Spatial memory demands modulate shape representations*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS), St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Ayzenberg, V., Yousif, S.R., and Lourenco, S. F. (2016, May). *The medial axis as a robust model of object representation*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS), St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Nag, S., Ayzenberg, V., Yousif, S.R., and Lourenco, S. F. (2016, May). *Target detection within a two-dimensional shape: A test of the medial axis model of object recognition*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS), St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Yousif, S.R. and Lourenco, S. F. (2015, December). *Tapping into two-dimensional shape representation*. Talk presented at the SIRE Fall Research Symposium, Atlanta, GA.
- Yousif, S.R. and Lourenco, S. F. (2015, October). *Flexibility of geometric processing: Evidence from reorientation*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Columbus, OH.
- Cheung, C., Ayzenberg, V., Diamond, R.F.L., Yousif, S.R., and Lourenco, S. F. (2015, July). *Probing the mental number line: a between-task analysis of spatial-numerical associations*. Proceedings of the 37th Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society, Pasadena, CA.
- Yousif, S.R., Ayzenberg, V., and Lourenco, S. F. (2015, May). *Reorientation in three-dimensional space: is distance the key?* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Vision Sciences Society (VSS), St. Pete Beach, FL.
- Yousif, S.R. and Lourenco, S.F. (2015, April). *Global geometry in reorientation: children rely on more than discrete cues to navigate*. Talk presented at the SIRE Research Symposium, Atlanta, GA.
- Yousif, S.R. and Lourenco, S.F. (2015, April). *Geometry in navigation: How children use the features of the space to reorient*. Poster presented at the SIRE Research Symposium, Atlanta, GA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring, Autumn 2026	PSYC3310: Sensation & Perception
Spring 2025	PSYC490: Illusions of the mind
Fall 2024	PSYC760: Foundational Debates in Cognition & Development
Teaching fellowships	Introduction to Psychology (Chun), Teaching Fellow (Yale)
	Developmental Psychology (Keil), Teaching Fellow (Yale)
	Introduction to Cognitive Science (Scholl), Teaching Fellow (Yale)
	Quantitative Theory and Methods (Introductory Stats), Peer Tutor & Peer Mentor (Emory)

LECTURES & TALKS

Theories of Object Perception Workshop, March 2026 (Topology)
 Brown University, Perception & Action Seminar, March 2026 (Adaptation)
 Number, Cognition, and Perception Workshop, March 2026 (Number / adaptation)
 UNC, Charlotte, Cognitive Science Speaker Series, October 2025 (Adaptation)
 UC, Riverside, Developmental Prosem, October 2025 (Topology)
 Timing Research Forum, September 2025 (An illusion of time caused by repeated experience)
 NeuroSpin Lab Group, September 2025 (Topology)
 UNC, Greensboro "Hard Data Café", April 2025 (Topology)
 Duke University, Social Cognition, Guest Lecture, January 2025 (Social perception)
 Duke University Cognitive Neuroscience Seminar, August 2024 (Adaptation)
 CUNY Cognitive Science Group, February 2024 (Topology)
 UNC Chapel Hill Psychology Department, December 2023 (Formats of spatial representation)
 UC Berkeley Psychology Department, November 2023 (Formats of spatial representation)
 Polish Academy of Sciences, "Representational format roundtable", November 2023
 UC Santa Barbara Psychology Department, January 2023 (Teleology and explanation in children)
 Hopkins Vision Group (Johns Hopkins), November 2022 (Number adaptation)
 Experimental Philosophy Group (Jean Nicod Institute, Strickland), May 2022 (Agency in language)
 Northeastern University Psychology Department, March 2022 (Formats of spatial representation)
 Guest Lecture (Tools for academic success, Yale), February 2022 (Research & time management)
 Lab for the Developing Mind (New York University, Dillon), October 2021 (Format of spatial representation)
 The Developing Minds Lab (University of Pennsylvania, Brannon), April 2021 ('Additive-Area Heuristic')
 Causality in Cognition Lab Meeting (Stanford University, Gerstenberg), January 2021 (Explanation)
 Spatial Cognition Lab Meeting (Emory University, Lourenco), June 2020 (Format of spatial representation)
 UM6P School of Collective Intelligence, May 2020 (False consensus)
 University College London, Causal Cognition Lab, March 2020 (Explanation)
 University of British Columbia, Developmental Brown Bag, March 2019 (Case studies in spatial cognition)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & AFFILIATIONS

Memberships

Association for Psychological Science, Cognitive Development Society, Cognitive Science Society, Society for Philosophy and Psychology, Vision Sciences Society

Editorial Work

Action Editor, *Cognition*, 2026-
 Editorial Board Member, *Cognition*, 2025-

Ad Hoc Reviewing — Grant Panels

NSF Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships; NSF STEM K12

Ad Hoc Reviewing — Funding Agencies

NSF Perception, Action, and Cognition

Ad Hoc Reviewing — Conferences

Cognitive Science Society; Society for Philosophy and Psychology

Ad Hoc Reviewing — Journals

Acta Psychologica; Animal Cognition; Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics; British Journal for the Philosophy of Science; Child Development; Cognition; Cognitive Development; Cognitive Psychology; Cognitive Research: Principles and Implications; Cognitive Science; Consciousness and Cognition; Cortex; Current Biology; Developmental Psychology; eLife; Journal of Experimental Child Psychology; Journal of Experimental Psychology: General; Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance; Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition; Journal of Mathematical Psychology; Journal of Memory and Language; Journal of Vision; Memory & Cognition; Nature Human Behaviour; Open Mind; PLOS One; Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences; Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences; Psychological Science; Psychonomic Bulletin & Review; Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology; Scientific Reports; Visual Cognition

ADVISING & MENTORSHIP

Graduate Students (Current)

Tal Boger (Johns Hopkins Psychology PhD '28; collaborator)

Research: Randomness and strategic games

Kunlin (Nickel) Jin (OSU Psychology PhD '31)

Research: Perception, complexity

Rodrigo Garro Rivero (USC Philosophy PhD '28; visiting graduate student; 2025-2026)

Research: Spatial representation & core knowledge

Xinyi (Celina) Zhao (OSU Psychology PhD '31)

Research: Perception of relations

Undergraduate Students (Current)

Gabriel Waterhouse (UNC, class of 2028; project published in *Cognitive Science*; recipient of a National Science Foundation Undergraduate Travel Grant; recipient of an SPP Travel Award)

Mahwish Kittur (UNC, class of 2028; recipient of a National Eye Institute Early Career Scientist Travel Grant)

Kyra Warmuth (OSU, class of 2028; recipient of a CCBS Undergraduate Summer Institute Fellowship)

Charles Demczuk (OSU, class of 2028)

Ashna Shah (UNC, class of 2027; recipient of a National Science Foundation Undergraduate Travel Grant)

Naomi Lytle (UNC, class of 2026; recipient of the UNC Eisdorfer Award for Excellence in Linguistics; recipient of a National Eye Institute Early Career Scientist Travel Grant)

Anthony Herzog (OSU, class of 2026; thesis titled *Spatial memory in structured environments*)

Agnes Zhang (OSU, class of 2026)

Chance McKinnie (UNC, class of 2026)

Undergraduate Students (Former)

Cynthia Wen (UNC, Class of 2028; project published in *Cognition*)

Rachel Olugbusi (UNC, Class of 2027; project published in *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*)

Lily Goldstein (UPenn, Class of 2024; project published in *Open Mind*)

Tal Boger (Yale, Class of 2023; thesis published in JEP: General; recipient of the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship)

Diego Miro-Rivera (Yale, Class of 2022; thesis titled *The mind represents space in multiple formats simultaneously*)

Serena Shapard (Yale, Class of 2020; *Towards a cognitive explanation for why it's difficult to be funny*)

Sehrang Joo (Yale, Class of 2020; thesis published in *Cognitive Science*; recipient of the Henry Edwards Ellsworth Senior Thesis Prize, the CogSci Disciplinary Diversity and Integration Award)

PhD Committees

Mingyang Yang (2026; Philosophy)

Jiangmeng Weng (2026; Psychology)

Nikki Fackler (2025; Psychology & Neuroscience)

Qualifying Exam Committees

James Kesan (2025; Psychology & Neuroscience)

Jenny Fiedler (2025; Psychology & Neuroscience)

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

OSU Psychology Department Ombuds Committee (2025-)

UNC Teaching Fellow Faculty Mentor (2025)

UNC Developmental Area Graduate Student Liaison (2025)

UNC Cognitive Area, Admissions Liaison (2025)

UNC P&N Subject Pool Committee (2024-2025)