Yaniv Abir

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Academic Appointment

2024-	Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Computational Psychiatry, University College London Advisor: Quentin Huys, MD, PhD

Education

2018-2024	PhD, Psychology, Columbia University. Advisors: Daphna Shohamy, PhD and Michael Shadlen, MD, PhD.
2015-2017	MA, Cognitive Sciences, *Magna cum laude,* The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Advisor: Ran Hassin, PhD.
2013-2016	BA, Cognitive Sciences and Psychology. *Summa cum laude*, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Research assistantship advisors: Ran Hassin, PhD and Ayelet Landau, PhD.

Publications

Abir, Y., Shadlen, M. N., & Shohamy, D. (2024). *Human Exploration Strategically Balances Approaching and Avoiding Uncertainty*. eLife, 13.

Abir, Y., Marvin, C. B., van Geen, C., Leshkowitz, M., Hassin, R. R., & Shohamy, D. (2022). *An energizing role for motivation in information-seeking during the early phase of the COVID-19 pandemic.* Nature Communications, 13(1), 1-10.

Sklar, A. Y., Goldstein, A. Y., Abir, Y., Goldstein, A., Dotsch, R., Todorov, A., & Hassin, R. R. (2021). *Did you see it? Robust individual differences in the speed with which meaningful visual stimuli break suppression.* Cognition, 211, 104638.

Abir, Y., & Hassin, R. R. (2020). *Getting to the heart of it: multi-method exploration of nonconscious prioritization processes.* Consciousness and Cognition, 85, 103005.

Abir, Y., Sklar, A. Y., Dotsch, R., Todorov, A., & Hassin, R. R. (2018). *The determinants of consciousness of human faces*. Nature Human Behaviour, 1.

Presentations at Conferences and Meetings

2023	Hebrew University of Jerusalem Cognitive Science Department invited talk.
2023	UKE Hamburg Cognitive Computational Neuroscience, invited talk.
2023	Symposium on Biology of Decision Making, ICM, Paris.
2022	Manhattan Area Memory Meeting.
2022	CPC++: Computational Psychiatry Course.
2022	The Multi-disciplinary Conference on Reinforcement Learning and Decision Making (RLDM; chosen for spotlight)
2022	Columbia University Memory Club.
2021	Neuromatch 4.0.
2021	The Second Workshop on Mental Effort.
2021	BLRB meeting at The University of Chicago, invited talk.

2019   Columbia University Motor Club.

2017   Israeli Society for Cognitive Psychology.

2016   Jerusalem Brain Community Annual Retreat (chosen for spotlight).

Teaching Experience

2022-2023   Teaching assistant, *Drugs and Behaviour.*

2021-2022   Teaching assistant, *Memory and Stress.*

2021   Teaching assistant, *Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience*.

2018-2020   Teaching assistant, *Introduction to Statistics for Behavioural Scientists.*

2015-2017   Teaching assistant, *Introduction to Logic for Cognitive Sciences* and *Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience*.

2014-2015   "Knowledge for all": Instructor at an introduction to psychology evening class. A joint project with the Jerusalem municipal department of welfare.

Mentoring

2022-2023   Jane Mok, Barnard college Cognitive Science thesis student

2022-2023   Brena Bessa, postbaccalaureate research assistant

2021-2023   Sam Barnett, undergraduate research assistant

2016-2017   Yoav Resnik, undergraduate research assistant

2016-2017   Yuval Harris, undergraduate research assistant

Awards and Scholarships

2022   Ed Smith Memorial Award.

2020, 2022   Emil S. Bahary Doctoral Student Fellowship.

2021   Leo Rubinstein Endowed Fellowship.

2017   President of The Hebrew University PhD Honours Programme.

2016-2017   The Jack, Joseph & Morton Mandel School MA Honours Programme.

2016, 2017   The Hebrew University Dean of Humanities award for excellence.

2014, 2015   The Hebrew University Rector's award for excellence.

Technical Skills

Data collection: In-person and online behavioural data collection with JavaScript, Python, and MATLAB; Eye-tracking; MEG acquisition; fMRI training level 2.

Analysis: Statistical computing in R, Julia, and Python; Bayesian inference with Stan; reproducible workflows with Docker and Singularity; git.

Professional Service

2020   Columbia University Interdisciplinary Decision-Making Club organizer.

2019   Columbia University Memory Club organizer.

Peer Review

Journal of Experimental Psychology: General, Scientific Reports, Open Mind.