

MINJUN KANG

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Education

Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)
B.S. in Bio and Brain Engineering
GPA: 3.97/4.3, Major GPA : 4.11/4.3

Feb. 2017 - Aug. 2023
Daejeon, Republic of Korea

Employment

Cognitive Intelligence Lab, KAIST
Research Assistant (Advisor: Prof. Se-Bum Paik)
Computational modeling of visual system using neural network

Sep. 2023 - Current

Publications

Kang M.J., Baek S.D., & Paik S.-B. (2024). Hard-wired visual filters for environment-agnostic object recognition. *bioRxiv*. [\[Link\]](#) (Under review at *Science Advances*)

Shin J.H., **Kang M.J.**, & Lee S.A. (2024). Wearable fNIRS-based measurement of dissociable activation dynamics of prefrontal cortex subregions during a delayed match-to-sample task. *Human Brain Mapping*. [\[Link\]](#)

Poster Presentations

2024 Korean Society for Brain and Neural Sciences (**KSBNS**) Oct. 2024
Kang M.J., Baek S.D. & Paik S.-B. Stable receptive fields for flexible adaptation in dynamic environments

2024 Society for Neuroscience (**SfN**) Oct. 2024
Kang M.J., Baek S.D. & Paik S.-B. Stable receptive fields in the early visual pathway for flexible adaptation

2024 Cognitive Computational Neuroscience (**CCN**) Aug. 2024
Kang M.J., Baek S.D. & Paik S.-B. Stable receptive fields in the early layer enable robust continual learning under dynamic environments

2024 Computational and Systems Neuroscience (**COSYNE**) Feb. 2024
Kang M.J., Kim G.S. Lee H.S., & Paik S.-B. Stable receptive fields in the early layer enable robust continual learning

2023 Korean Society for Brain and Neural Sciences (**KSBNS**) Sep. 2023
Kang M.J., Shin J.H. & Lee S.W. Does the prefrontal cortex guide optimal foraging?

2020 Korean Society for Cognitive & Biological Psychology (**KSCBP**) Aug. 2020
Kang M.J., Shin J.H. & Lee S.A. Temporal dynamics of prefrontal cortex subregion activity during working memory task: an fNIRS study

Awards

Poster Presentation Award at 2024 KSBNS Oct. 2024
* Awarded to top 10% of posters

Magna Cum Laude, KAIST Feb. 2024

Best Presentation Award at 2020 KSCBP Aug. 2020
* The presentation was substituted for recorded video due to COVID-19

Research Experiences

Cognitive Intelligence Lab, KAIST

Research Assistant

Jun. 2023 - Current

1 year 5 months

- Advisor: Prof. Se-Bum Paik
- Study of early visual pathway's functional role using deep neural network (DNN)
- Examine whether inherent receptive fields enable environment-agnostic object recognition
- Incorporated Gabor filters in the first layer of DNN to model biological brains
- Showed our model robustly recognizes objects under domain shifts through shape-biased feature encoding
- 1 preprint, 4 conference presentations

Brain and Machine Intelligence Lab, KAIST

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Mar. 2022 - Jun. 2023

1 year 4 months

- Advisor: Prof. Sang Wan Lee
- Study of human model-based (MB) reinforcement learning system using fMRI
- Examine whether MB system would use temporal difference to estimate drifting rewards and generate reward-prediction-error (MB-RPE)
- Constructed behavior model, designed foraging tasks, conducted human experiments
- Showed our model best explained behaviors and found MB-RPE from prefrontal cortex
- 1 conference presentation

Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Lab, KAIST

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Dec. 2018 - Aug. 2020

1 year 8 months

- Advisor: Prof. Sang Ah Lee
- Study of prefrontal cortex subregions' temporal dynamics during working memory using fNIRS
- Designed working memory task, conducted human experiments
- Constructed novel MATLAB-based preprocessing toolbox for fNIRS data
- Devised new method for accessing decoding performance over time
- 1 journal paper, 1 conference presentation

Experiences

2022 Summer-Fall Undergraduate Research Participation Program

* Supported 2,000,000 KRW

Jun. 2022 - Dec. 2022

Undergraduate Student President, Department of Bio and Brain Engineering

* Planned one-year student welfare projects and promoted department

Mar. 2019 - Dec. 2019

2020, 2023 KSBNS Division of High-level Cognition Workshop (Neurosplash)

Aug. 2020, 2023

2023, 2024 Korean Society for Computational Neuroscience Winter School

Jan. 2023, 2024

Harvard-MIT MGH Summer Internship Program

Jan. 2020

* Selected as KAIST representative (top 5), but canceled due to COVID-19

Military Service

Sep. 2020 - Mar. 2022

Skills

Software

MATLAB, Python, LaTeX, R, Illustrator

Research skills

Neural network simulation, Neural data analysis (fMRI, fNIRS), Behavioral task design

Languages

Korean (Native), English (TOEFL iBT: 105)