# Shaorong Yan

https://shaorongyan.github.io

# Education

University of Rochester PhD Candidate, Brain and Cognitive Sciences; GPA: 4.00/4

# University of Iowa

M.A. in Cognitive Psychology: GPA: 4.00/4

# **Peking University**

B.S. in Psychology/B.Econ in Finance; GPA: 3.76/4

# Coursework

- Graduate: Bayesian Methods and Design, Mixed-Effects Modeling, Information Theory, Methods in Data-Enabled Research, Models and Mechanisms of Language Learning
- **Undergraduate**: Probability Theory, Econometrics, Mathematics in Finance (Stochastic Processes), Cognitive Neuroscience

# EXPERIENCE

# NSF/NRT Graduate Trainee in Data-Enabled Research

Trainee

- **Methodology**: Used Deep neural networks and Bayesian methods to model human behavior. Topics covered: Computational Vision, Sentiment Analysis, Speech Perception
- Practicum: Worked in a group project where we used Deep Neural Network to classify Aphasic patients based on their property and transcribed speech. More details can be found at the *project website*. Responsible for extracting prosodic information, model structure design, and model performance evaluation.

# University of Rochester

Research Assistant

- Aug. 2016 Present • Unsupervised Speech Adaptation: Used Bayesian learning algorithms to model how people's perceived speech
- categories change after exposure to unlabeled speech input and what prior knowledge enables such ability. • Neural Signatures of Semantic Processing: Examined, both theoretically and empirically, what metrics of semantic processing (e.g., surprisal, semantic distance, event update) can best predict ERPs (event-related potentials) that reflect meaning construction.
- Contextual Diversity of Lexical Items: Testing and modeling whether and how language users are sensitive to the contextualized word distributions. University of Iowa

Iowa City, IA

Rochester, NY

Rochester, NY

Aug. 2016 - May 2017

Aug. 2013 - Aug. 2016

• Syntactic Adaptation: Used mixed-effect models to model readers' pattern of eye-movements to examine how readers rapidly update their expectations during syntactic processing.

# **Peking University**

Research Assistant

Research Assistant

Beijing, China March 2010 - Aug. 2013

- **Prosodic Boundary**: Designed, recorded, and annotated linguistic materials to study how prosodic boundaries (pauses) modulate access to semantic information in processing topic structures.
- Chinese Neutral Tone: Used ERP/EEG and eye-tracking to study whether and when prosodic information is activated during silent reading.

### AWARDS

| Post-comprehensive Research Award, University of Iowa                  | \$9,404.5 |
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| Graduate College Summer Fellowship, University of Iowa                 | \$4,000   |
| Stanley Graduate Awards for International Research, University of Iowa | \$1,250   |

### SKILLS

- Statistical Tools: Bayesian methods, Mixed-effect models, Generalized additive models.
- Programming Languages: Python, R, MATLAB, JavaScript, SAS
- **Experiment Methods**: Crowd-sourcing (MTurk), Behavioral methods, Eve-tracking, Neuroimaging
- Languages: Mandarin (native), English (fluent), French (conversational), Cantonese (conversational)

Rochester, NY Aug. 2016 – Present

Iowa City, IA Aug. 2013 - May. 2016

Beijing, China Sep. 2008 - June. 2012