

Doctoral Researcher and Postdoctoral Researcher

University of Bern, Institute of Psychology, Department of Cognitive Psychology, Perception, and Research Methods

Start 1 September 2023 or according to agreement

Location: University of Bern, Institute of Psychology (www.kog.psy.unibe.ch)

The two positions are part of an SNF project aiming to investigate the interplay of mental imagery and perception. Specifically, the project investigates how eye movements during mental imagery can inform about the underlying mechanisms. The project is structured in three parts. Part one focuses on how the encoding of stimulus material affects the subsequent generation of mental images. Part two aims to investigate the origin of individual differences in eye movements during mental imagery. Part three explores how perception and mental imagery interact and how this shapes reality monitoring. The eye movements in mental imagery will be analyzed with standard and innovative methods (recurrence quantification analysis).

The successful candidates will collaborate and are responsible for refining, implementing, and conducting experiments on mental imagery and visual perception, using behavioral methods and eye tracking. The obtained data will be analyzed jointly with advanced statistical methods.

Requirements Doctoral Researcher:

- Excellent Master's degree in Psychology, Cognitive Science or related fields
- Research experience in psychophysics or experimental cognitive psychology
- High motivation, commitment, and ability to work independently
- Experience in statistical modelling, advanced data analysis and/or programming in any language is an advantage
- Prior experience with eye tracking is an advantage

Requirements Postdoctoral Researcher:

- PhD in Psychology, Cognitive Science, Computer Science or any related experimental discipline
- The same qualifications as the doctoral researcher (see above)
- A deep understanding of statistical modeling and strong programming skills (in R, Python, and/or MATLAB)
- Experience with eye tracking, and/or visual psychophysics

We offer:

- A stimulating, diverse and supportive research environment
- Opportunities for professional development and career advancement
- Family-friendly work-environment
- Remuneration according to the guidelines of the Swiss National Science Foundation
- Duration of employment: 4 years (doctoral student); 2 years (postdoc position)

To apply, please send CV and contact details of at least two references, academic certificates, and a letter of motivation to Fred Mast, PI of the project: fred.mast@unibe.ch.

We encourage applications from individuals of all backgrounds, including those traditionally underrepresented in science.