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Multiple Face Processing

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.│February 15, 2019 (Friday)
Chamber, 11/F, The Jockey Club Tower │ Centennial Campus │The University of Hong Kong

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Abstract

Faces carry abundant and multi-dimensional information, including invariant aspects related to person identity and variable ones, for example eye gaze and emotional facial expression. Numerous cognitive, neural, and computational models focused on face processing when a single face was considered. In daily life, faces rarely appear in isolation however, but instead, they are typically accompanied by other faces or objects simultaneously. For example, humans interact with multiple other individuals simultaneously in an auditorium or at a busy railway station. For the last ten years, evidence has accumulated showing that human observers are able to rapidly process multiple faces shown concurrently and extract summary statistics (e.g., mean emotion/affective gist) from them. This talk focuses on this specific issue in visual cognition and will present a series of experiments which investigated the cognitive mechanisms responsible for processing multiple faces. In particular, it seeks to assess the potential attentional boundaries of averaging multiple facial expressions into a coherent and unified percept. The implications of the findings and future directions will be discussed.

~All are Welcome~

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