



# MATLAB for Brain and Cognitive Psychology (Timing)

Presented by:

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## Priority

- Modern computers have multiple software processes constantly competing for access to resources.
- How these resources are allocated moment to moment can affect the execution of your script



## Priority

- Use Priority() to set the priority level
- The higher the priority level, the less chance there is of other processes interfering with your script
- Available levels and their functions differ depending on your OS
- Recommendation: When you are testing with PTB, close applications other than Matlab
- Use PTB's Priority function to assign a priority to the execution of your process



## Priority

```
whichScreen = max(Screen('Screens'));
maxPriorityLevel = MaxPriority(whichScreen);
Priority(maxPriorityLevel);
```

These lines would go at the beginning of your script to set priority level for that script



## Control timing of task

#### Measures for time:

- Tic toc
- GetSecs()
- WaitSecs()



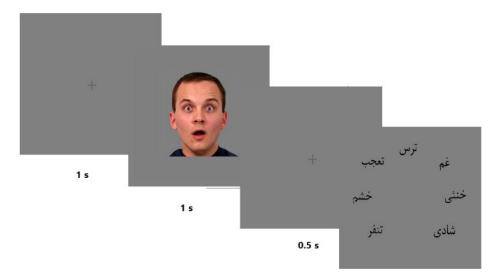
## Some example for flow control

- WaitSecs()
- vbl = Screen('Flip', wPtr,time)
- State based flowchart



## Programing flowchart

```
Random selection image from list
randperm (7,1,1)
Show Fixation for 1 sec
Show Image for 1 sec
Clean Image on screen
Show Fixation for 0.5 sec
Show response options
Getclick on the screen
Check if the subject Choose Correct choice
End of trial
```





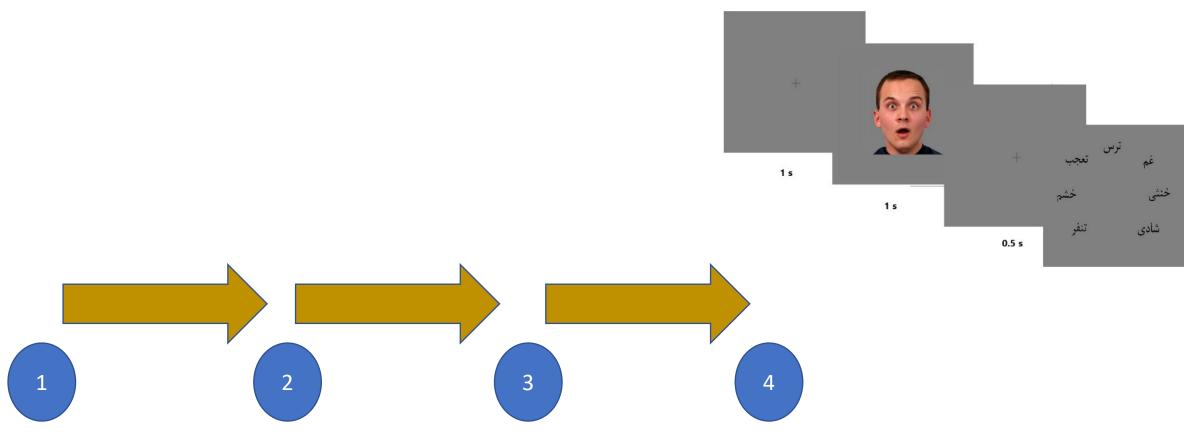
## Programing flowchart (WaitSecs)

```
Random selection image from list
randperm (7,1,1)
Show Fixation for 1 sec WaitSecs(1)
Show Image for 1 sec WaitSecs(1)
Clean Image on screen
Show Fixation for 0.5 sec WaitSecs(1)
Show response options
Getclick on the screen
Check if the subject Choose Correct choice
End of trial
```





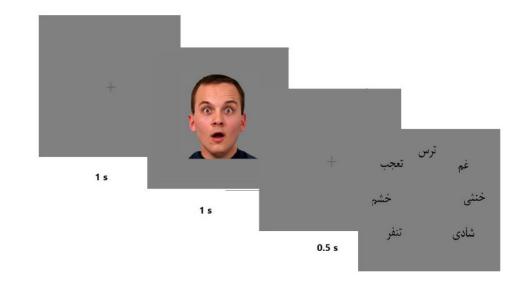
# Programing flowchart (State based)





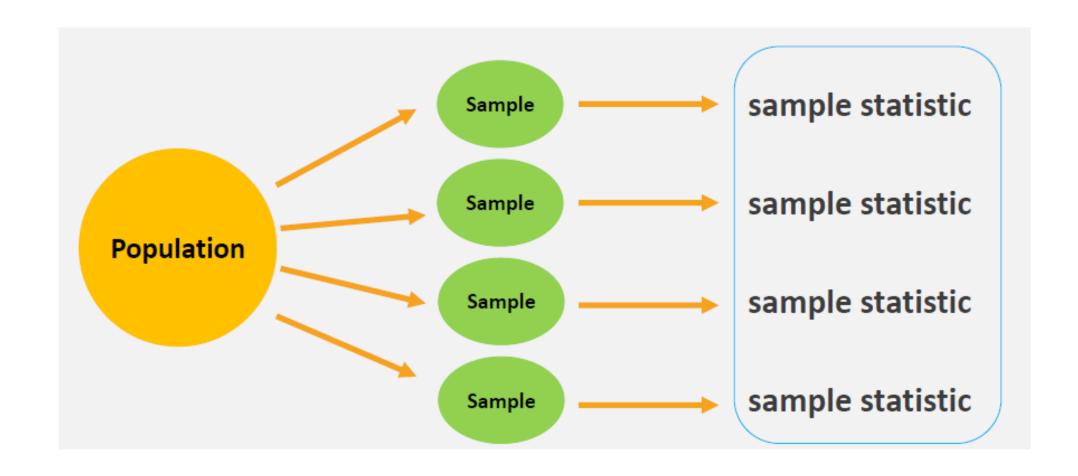
## Experiment teminology

- Subject
- Sessions
- Conditions
- Trial
- Performance
- Reaction time
- Accuracy





## Trial repetition





- On startup, Matlab initializes the random number generator.
- The rng creates a sequence of random numbers called the *global* stream.
- The random number functions (rand, randi, randn) access this list of numbers, in order



rng controls the random number generator

```
>> rng
ans =
    Type: 'twister'
    Seed: 0
   State: [625x1 uint32]
>> rng default
>> randi(100,[1,10])
ans =
                92 64 10 28 55 96
        91
           13
>> rng default
>> randi(100,[1,10])
ans =
           13
                      64 10
```



- "Seed" the random number generator to generate different values
- Common seed to use is the current time
- rng shuffle to reseed with current time



```
>> rng shuffle
>> rng
ans =
     Type: 'twister'
     Seed: 2062320423
    State: [625x1 uint32]
>> rng(1)
>> rng
ans =
     Type: 'twister'
     Seed: 1
    State: [625x1 uint32]
>> rng(5,'combRecursive')
>> rng
ans =
     Type: 'combRecursive'
     Seed: 5
    State: [12x1 uint32]
```



 Matlab function randperm() and PTB function Shuffle() are useful for permuting lists



- randperm(N) will create a vector of numbers from 1 to N in random order.
- You can use these numbers as indexes to reference multiple lists in the same random order



#### • Example:

- You have a list of fruits, and a separate list of colors that describe those fruits. They are in order, such that colors{1} describes the color of fruits{1}.
- You want to describe the name and color of each fruit, but in random order



- PTB function Shuffle() will take a vector or matrix, and return to you the items in random order
- If the input has multiple rows, each column will be shuffled, but numbers will stay in their columns. Note this multi-column shuffle does not work with cell matrices.



#### Other randomization functions

- RandSample()
- ChooseKFromN()
- RandSel()
- URandSel()
- CoinFlip()



## Assignment #10

- Create a function called yourinitials\_session10()
  - Using the some emotional faces (happy and neural) make a task for emotion recognition. You can 5 level of noise to image (0, 20 40 60 ,100)% noise. Task started by one second fixation 300 millisecond stimulus presentation and one second delay period, after delay subject should respond with keyboard that emotion is happy or not.
  - Calculated the number of trials are needed for this experiment.

