



INTERNATIONAL  
**BRAIN**  
LABORATORY

## **Fiete Lab**

### **2020 March Checkpoint**

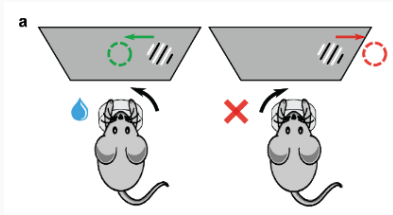
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Rylan Schaeffer, Dr. Leenoy Meshulam, Professor Ila Fiete  
March 24, 2020

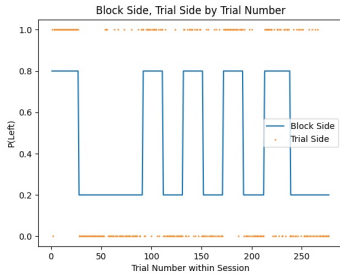
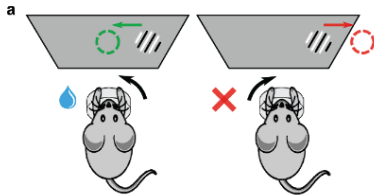
# Research Goals

1. Reverse engineer how neurally-plausible mechanistic models solve IBL task
2. Leverage understanding to direct exploration/analysis of biological circuit data

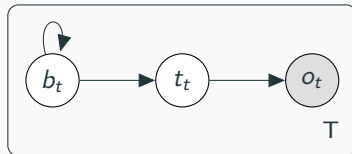
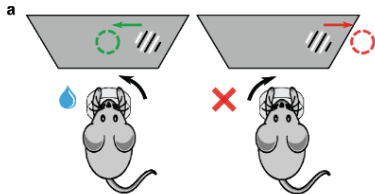
# IBL Task



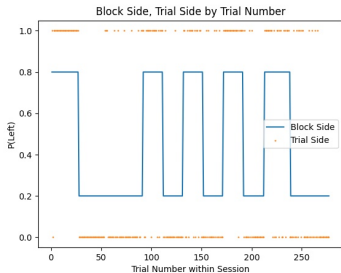
# IBL Task



# IBL Task



Generative model of IBL task.  
 $T$  trials per session. On trial  $t$ :  
block side  $b_t$ , trial side  $t_t$ ,  
observation  $o_t$ .



$$b_t \sim p(b|b_{t-1})$$

$$t_t \sim p(t|b_t)$$

$$o_t \sim p(o|t_t)$$

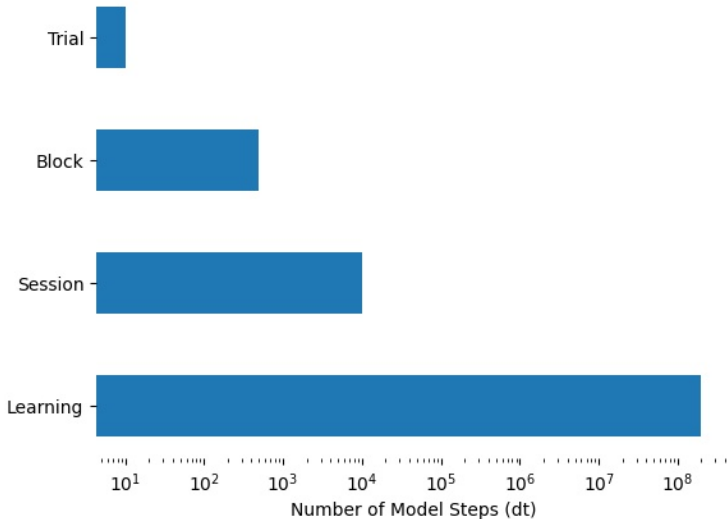
# Research Questions

What mechanisms(s) do plausible neural models use to solve the IBL task?

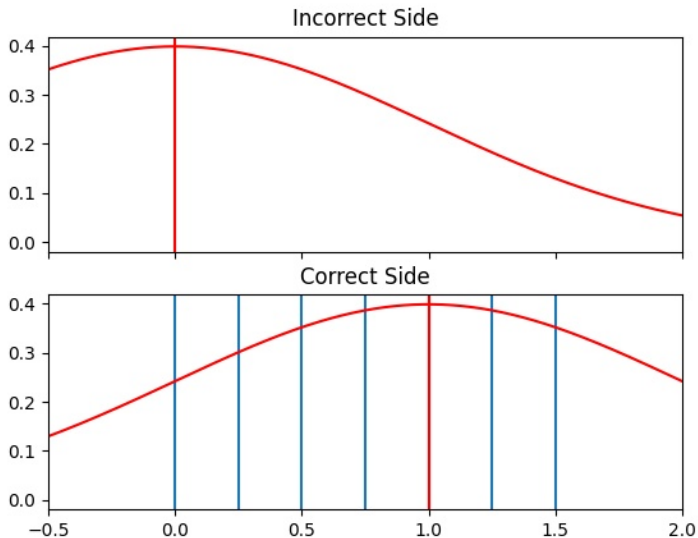
1. Which of these three distributions do networks learn, and over what timescales?
2. How do networks encode current trial side and current block side?
3. How do networks use block side to influence trial side?
4. How do networks use previous stimulus, previous action and the ensuing feedback to update the block side?
5. How do networks use block duration statistics to update block side?
6. How consistent is the learnt mechanism across network design choices?

# Implementation Details - Task Timescales

IBL Task Implementation Time Scales



## Implementation Details - Within-Trial Stimuli





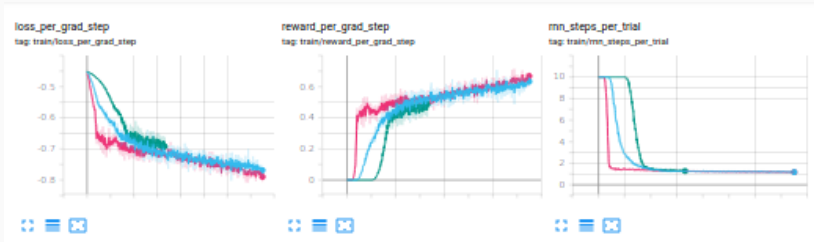
## Implementation Details - Model, Loss, Etc.

- Supervised Classification (Binary Cross Entropy)
- Networks: RNN (tanh), LSTM, GRU
- Number of stacked layers: 1
- Hidden dimension: 10, 50, 100, 200
- Optimizer: SGD with LR=0.01, no momentum
- Optional weight initialization and connectivity constraints

Code online at <https://github.com/int-brain-lab/ann-rnns>

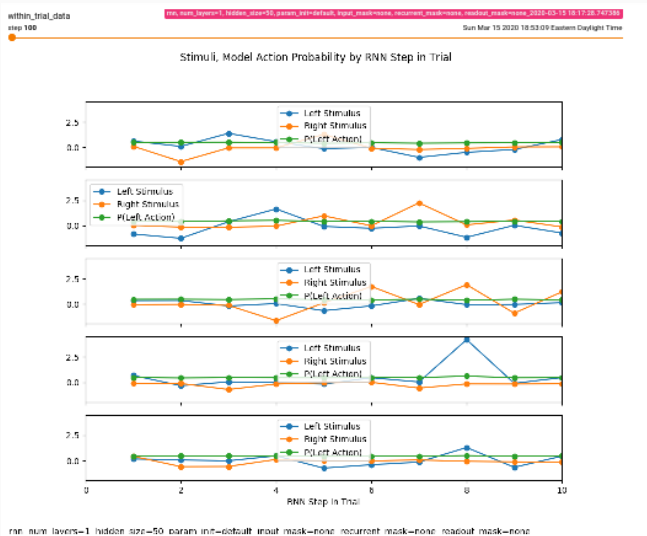
# Preliminary Results - Performance

**Figure 1:** Loss, Avg Reward/Trial, Avg RNN Steps/Trial vs Grad Step



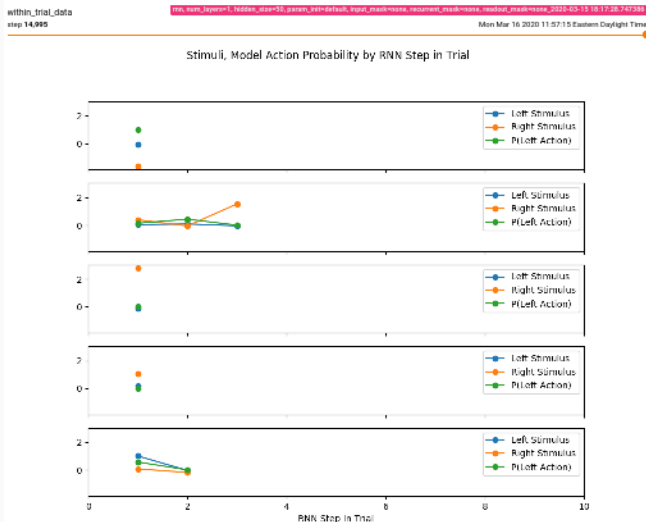
# Preliminary Results - Within-Trial Behavior

Figure 2:  $P(\text{Left})$ , Left Stimulus, Right Stimulus vs  $dt$  within trial



# Preliminary Results - Within-Trial Behavior

**Figure 3:** P(Left), Left Stimulus, Right Stimulus vs  $dt$  within trial



# Preliminary Results - Within-Block Behavior

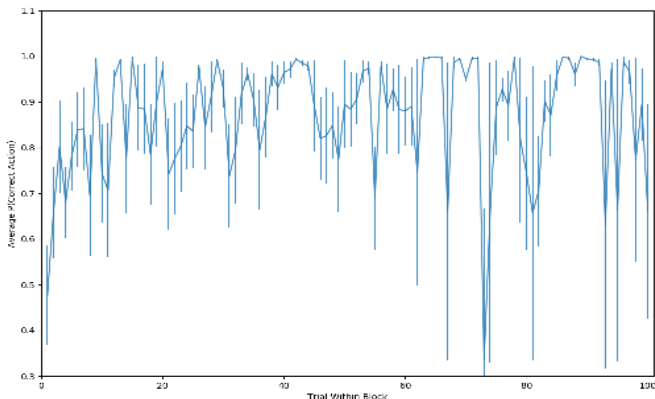
**Figure 4:** Avg P(Correct Choice) vs Trial within Block (Incorrect Block Duration i.e. mean 60, truncated to [60, 100])

avg\_model\_prob\_by\_trial\_index\_within\_block  
step 15,000

trn, num\_layers=1, hidden\_size=50, param\_ssr=default, input\_mask=none, recurrent\_mask=none, readout\_mask=none\_2020-03-15 18:17:28.747389

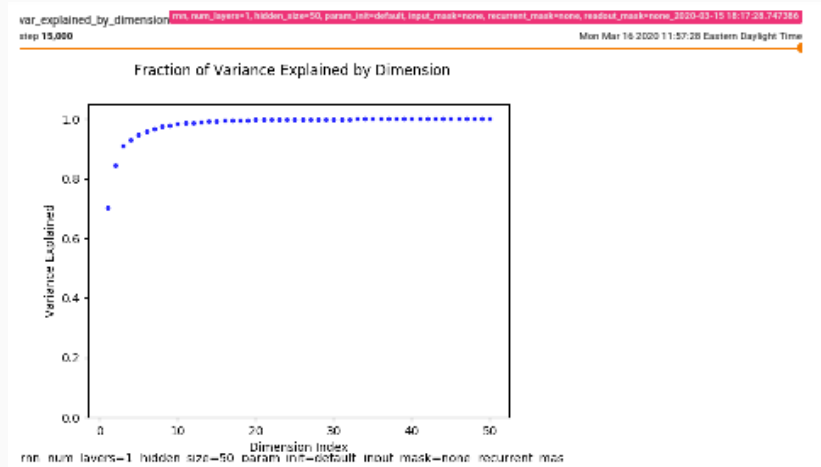
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Average P(Correct Action) by RNN Step Within Block



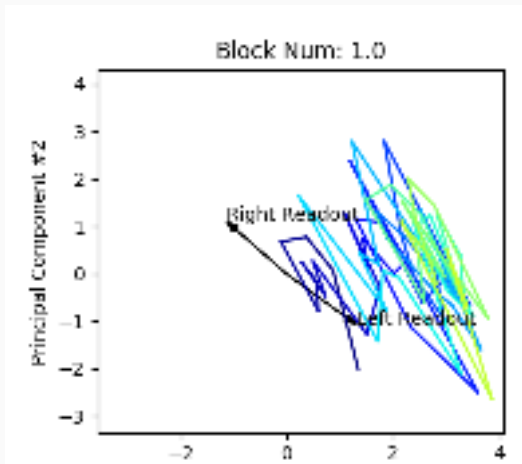
# Preliminary Results - Fraction of Variance Explained

**Figure 5:** Cumulative Fraction of Variance in RNN state vs Principal Component Number



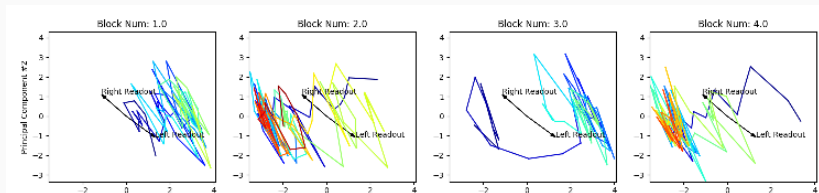
## Preliminary Results - PCA-projected RNN State Within-Block

**Figure 6:** PCA-projected RNN state within block 1 (post-training)



# Preliminary Results - PCA-projected RNN State Within-Block

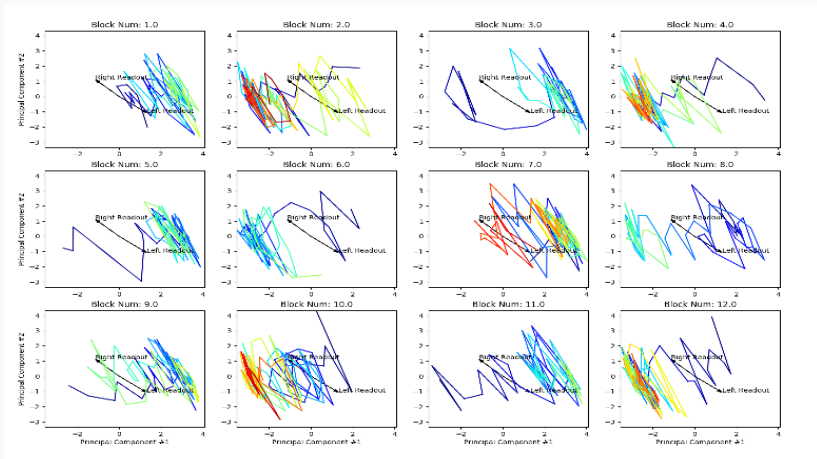
**Figure 7:** PCA-projected RNN state within blocks 1-4 (post-training)





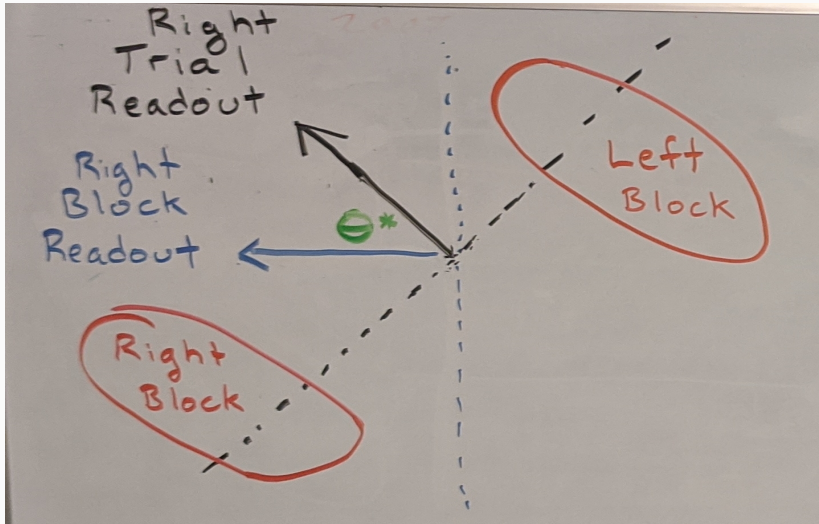
# Preliminary Results - PCA-projected RNN State Within-Block

**Figure 8:** PCA-projected RNN state within blocks 1-12 (post-training)

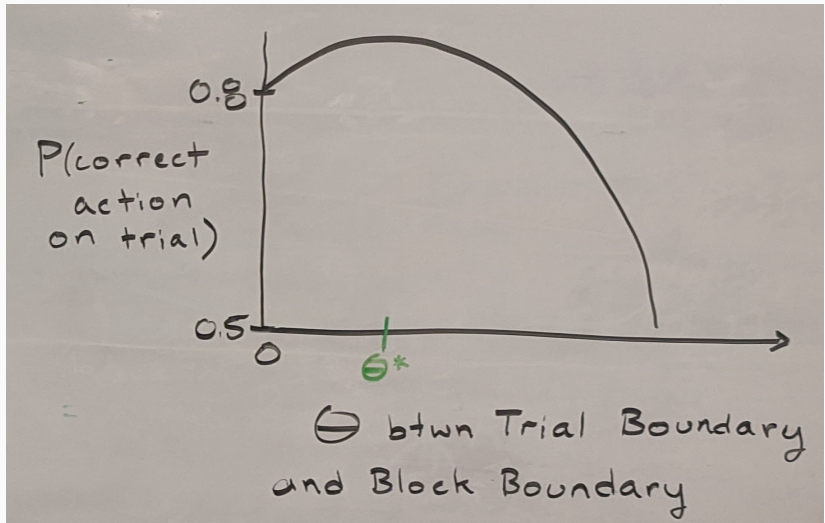


# Preliminary Results - Block and Trial Encoding Mechanism

**Figure 9:** Idealized state space for encoding block side and trial side

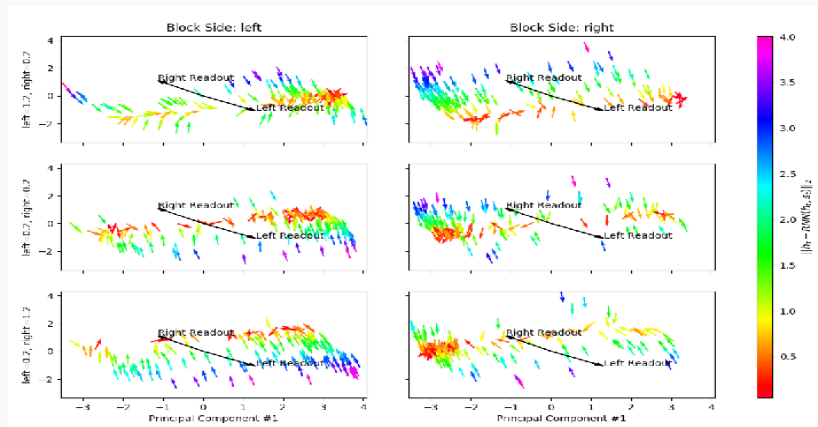


## Preliminary Results - Predicted Effect of Rotating Readout



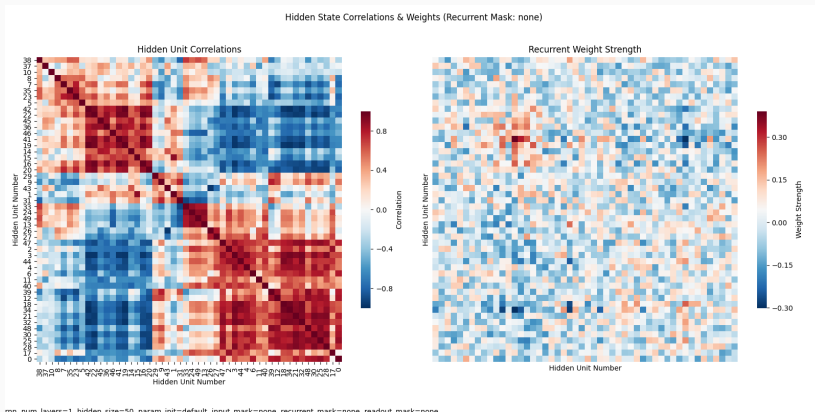
# Preliminary Results - RNN State Movement

**Figure 10:** RNN state movement in response to strong left, ambiguous and strong right stimuli. Color:  $\|h_t - \text{RNN}(h_t, o_t)\|_2$



# Preliminary Results - Circuit for Bistable Attractor Dynamics

**Figure 11:** Correlation of RNN state units (left) and Recurrent Weights (right) reveal two self-excitatory, mutually-inhibitory populations



# Questions?

