

# MULTFS MRI dataset

*Xiaoxuan Lei, 2023*

*Question of interest:*

*How does the brain represent different aspects of the same naturalistic stimuli across a variety of tasks that are inter-related?*

*MULTFS:*

Multi-Tasks, Feature, Stimuli

Working memory dependent tasks

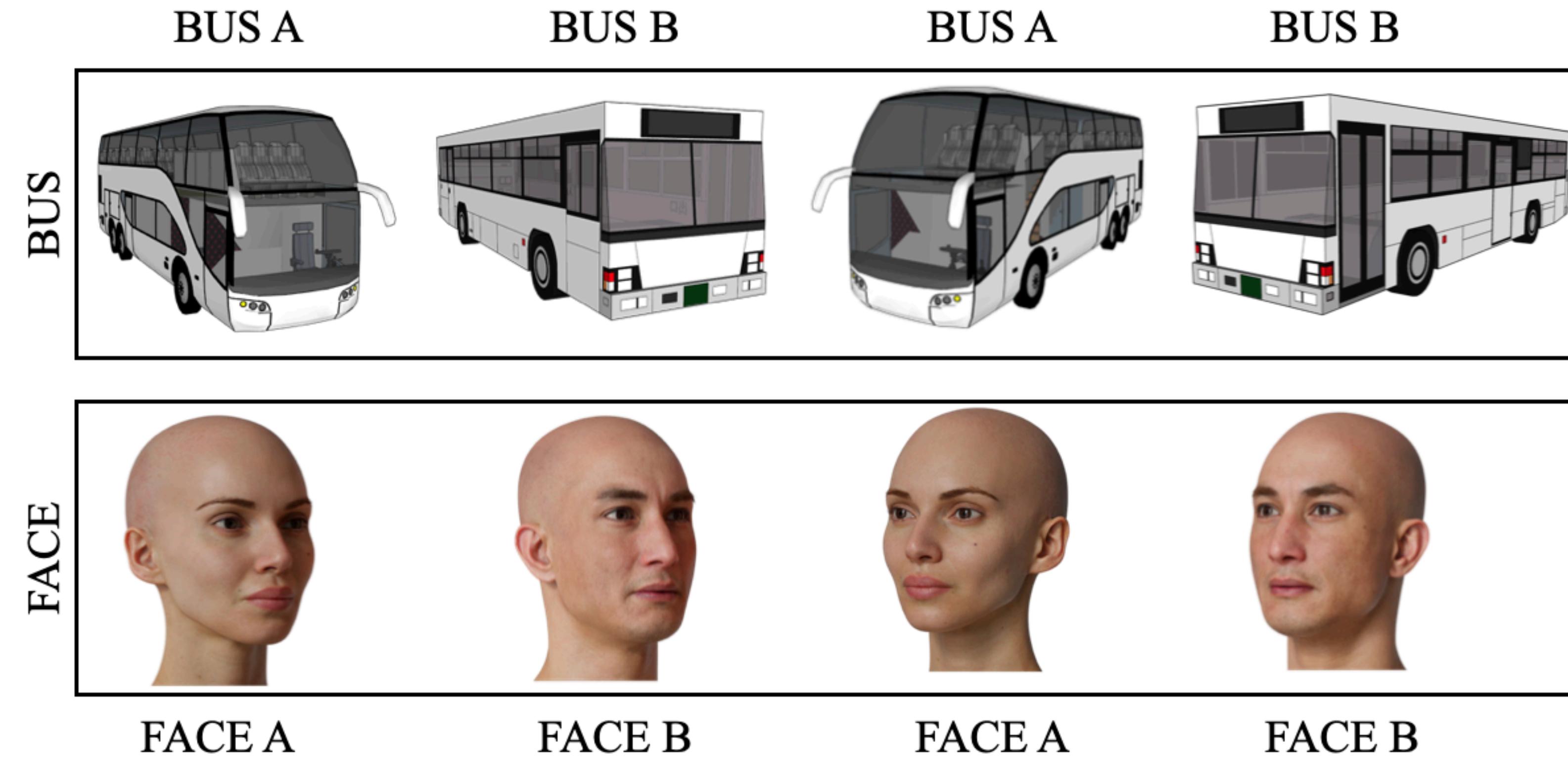
For this fMRI dataset, we collect data from:

**N-BACK**

Interleaved delay match to sample

Contextual decision making

# Stimuli

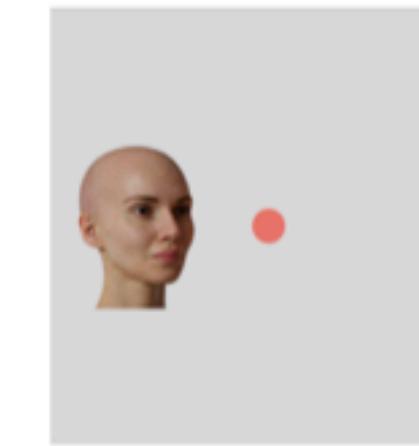


# Baseline Task: Delay Match to Sample (DMS)

DMS location:



Inter trial  
fixation frame



Stimuli 1



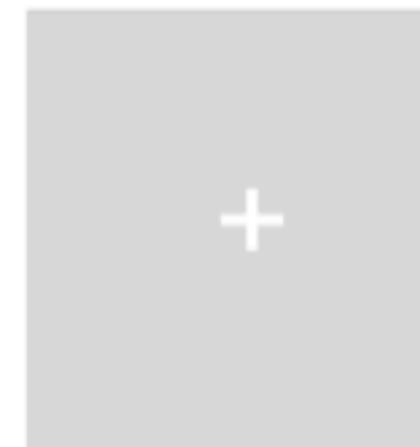
Delay



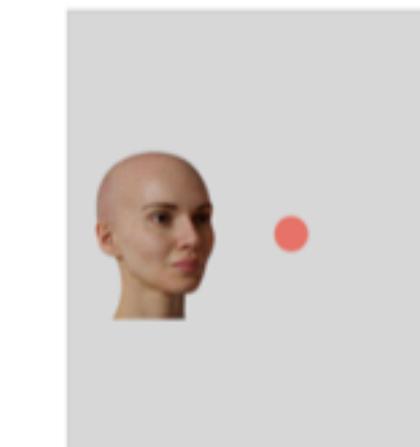
Stimuli 2

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Do Stimuli 1 and Stimuli 2  
match in location? => YES



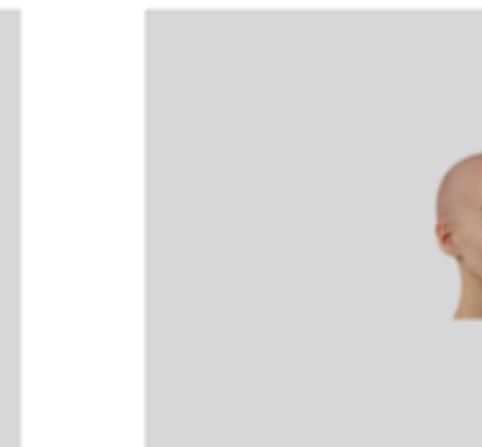
Inter trial  
fixation frame



Stimuli 1



Delay



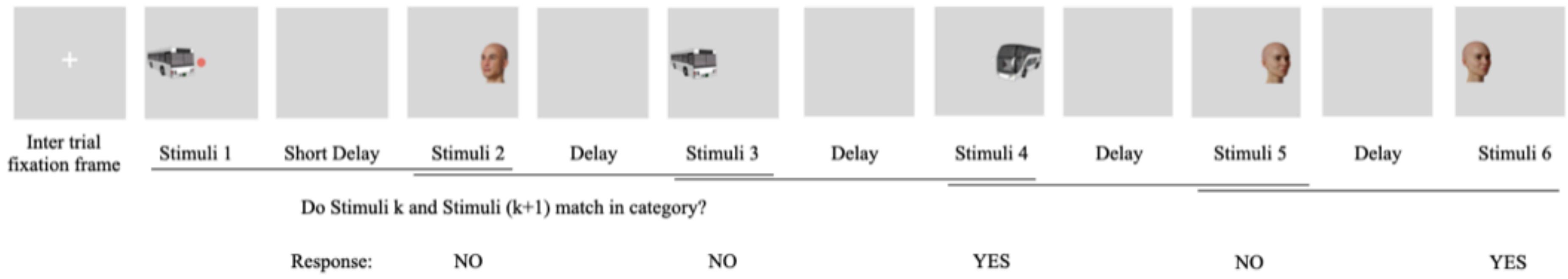
Stimuli 2

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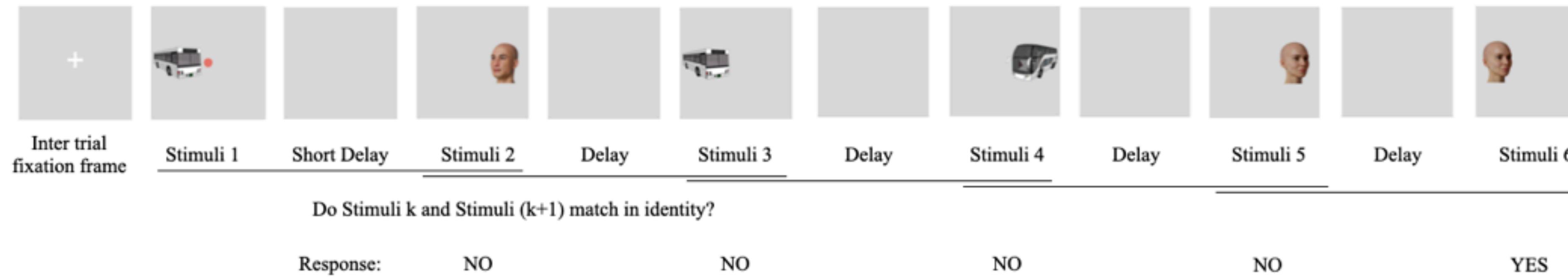
Do Stimuli 1 and Stimuli 2  
match in location? => NO

# Task: 1-BACK

## 1back category

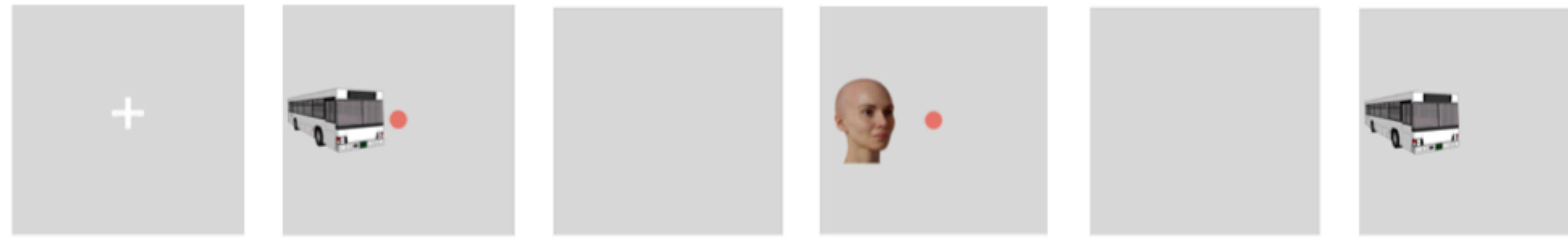


## 1back identity



# Task: Contextual Decision making

## ctxDM location category identity



Inter trial  
fixation frame

Stimuli 1

Short Delay

Stimuli 2

Delay

Stimuli 3

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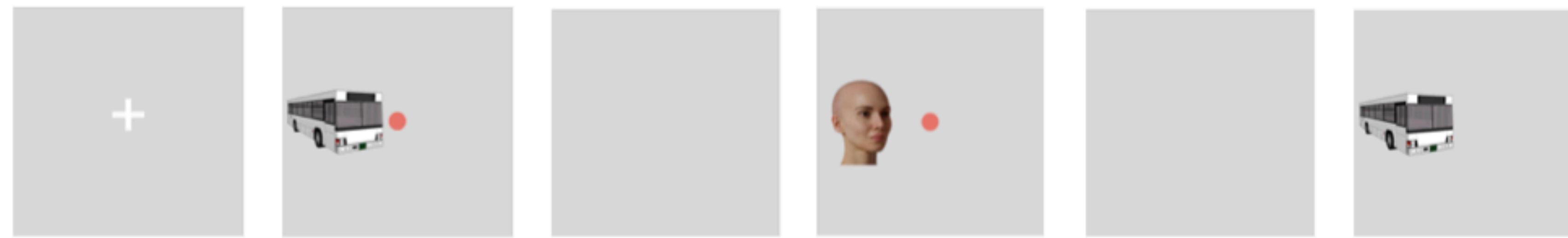
Do Stimuli 1 and Stimuli 2 match in  
location? => YES (don't respond)

---

YES => Do Stimuli 2 and Stimuli 3  
match in category? => NO (respond!)

# Task: Contextual Decision making

## ctxDM category identity location



Inter trial  
fixation frame

Stimuli 1

Short Delay

Stimuli 2

Delay

Stimuli 3

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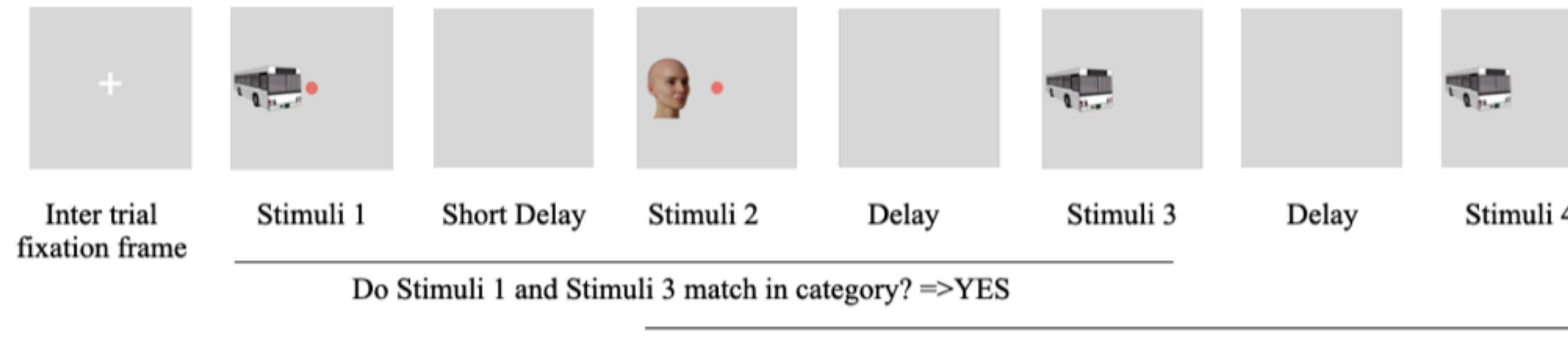
Do Stimuli 1 and Stimuli 2 match in category? => NO (don't respond)

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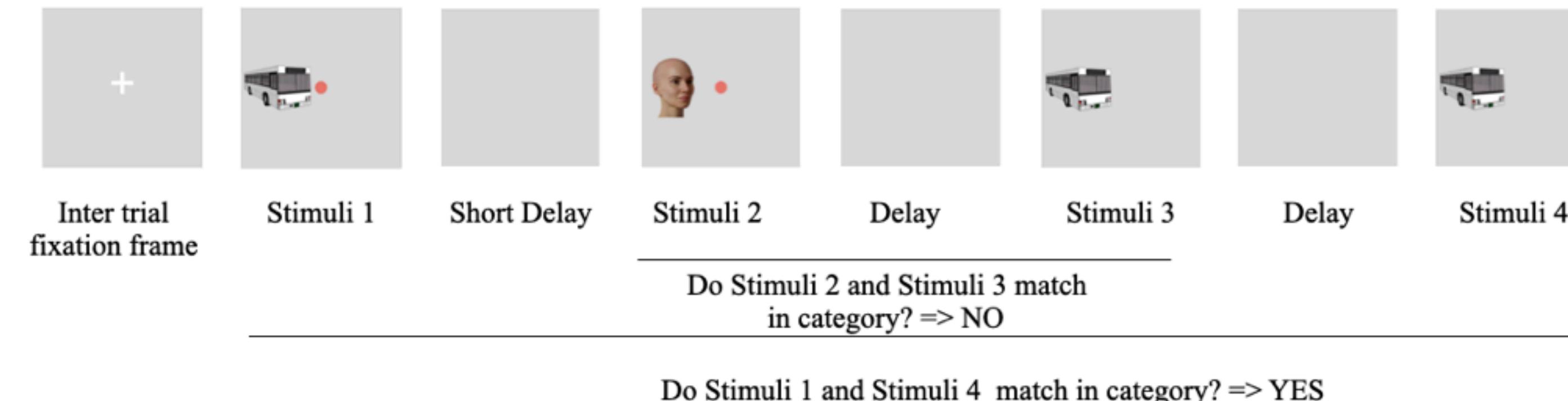
NO => Do Stimuli 2 and Stimuli 3 match in location? => YES (respond!)

# Task: interleaved Delay-Match to Sample

## interDMS ABAB category



## interDMS ABBA category



# MULTFS MRI pilot data analysis

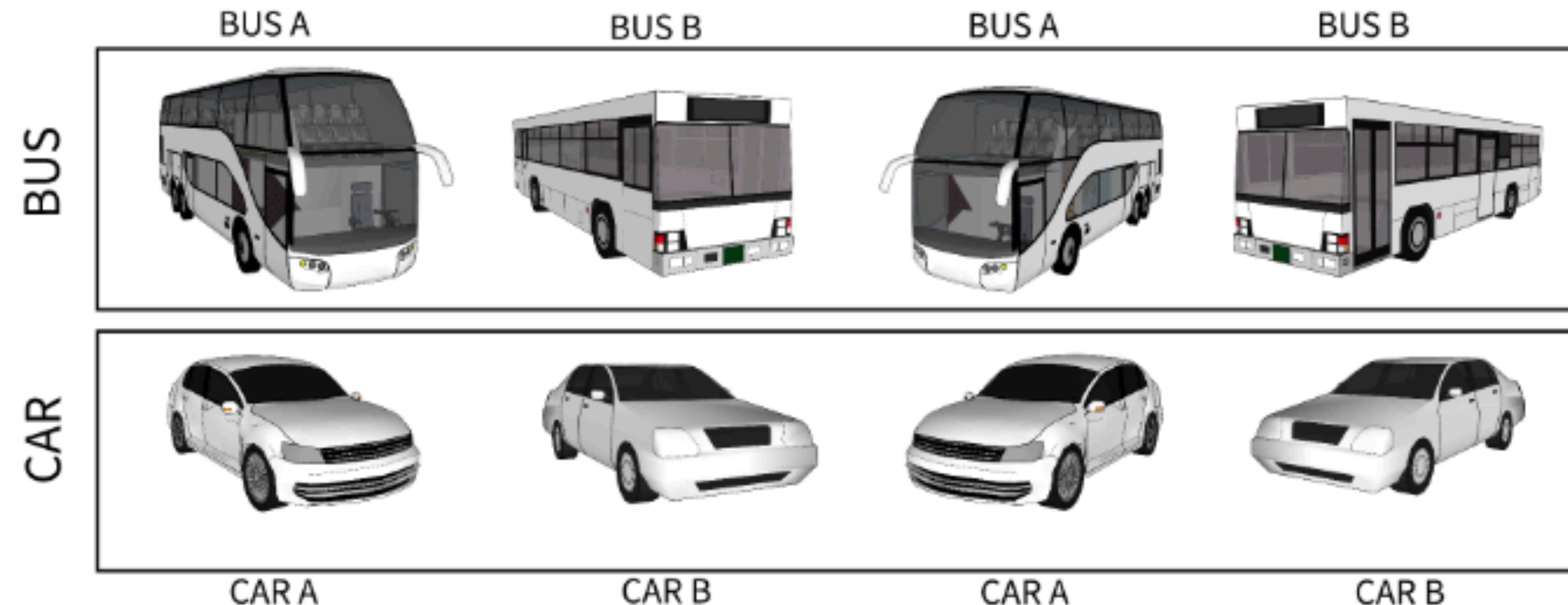
*Tasks available:*

dms location, 1back-category,  
1back-location, ctxdm-LCO

*Preliminary results*

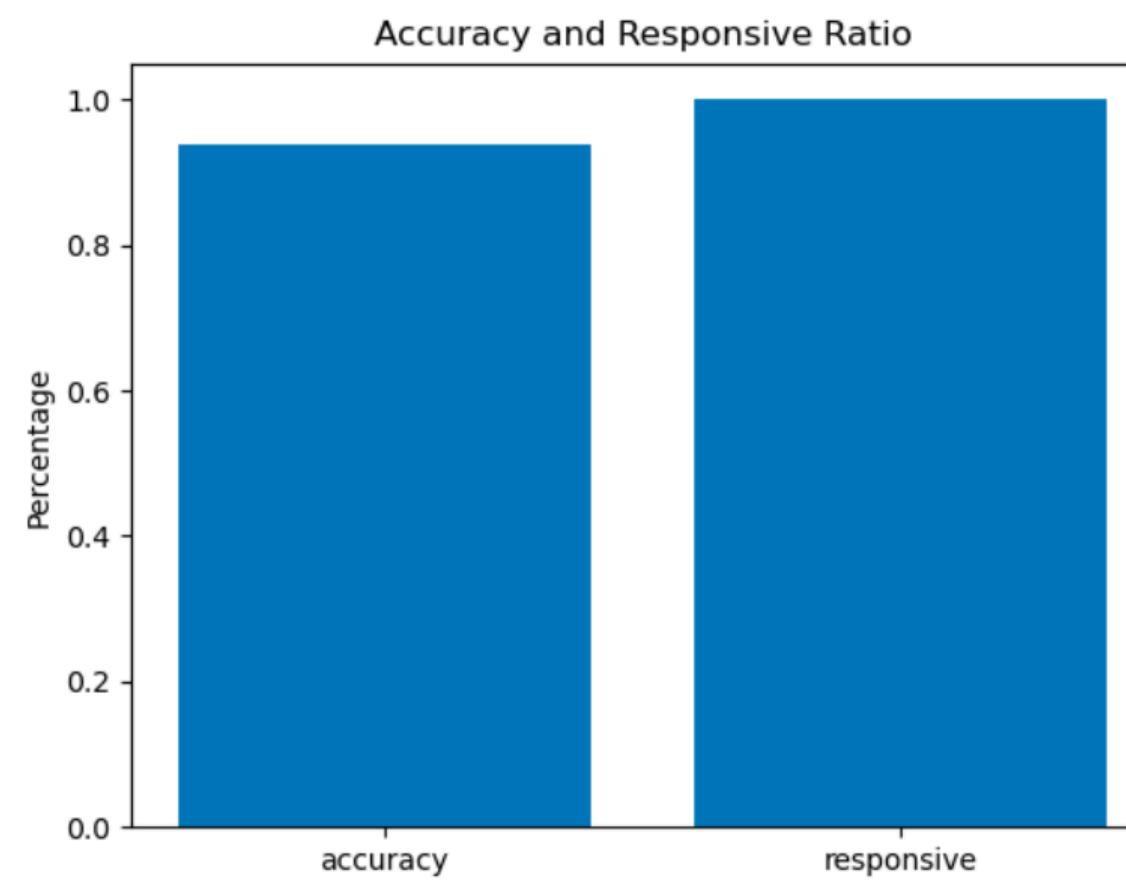
1. Behavioural performance
2. Imaging data analysis
  1. Methods
  2. Results

# Stimuli

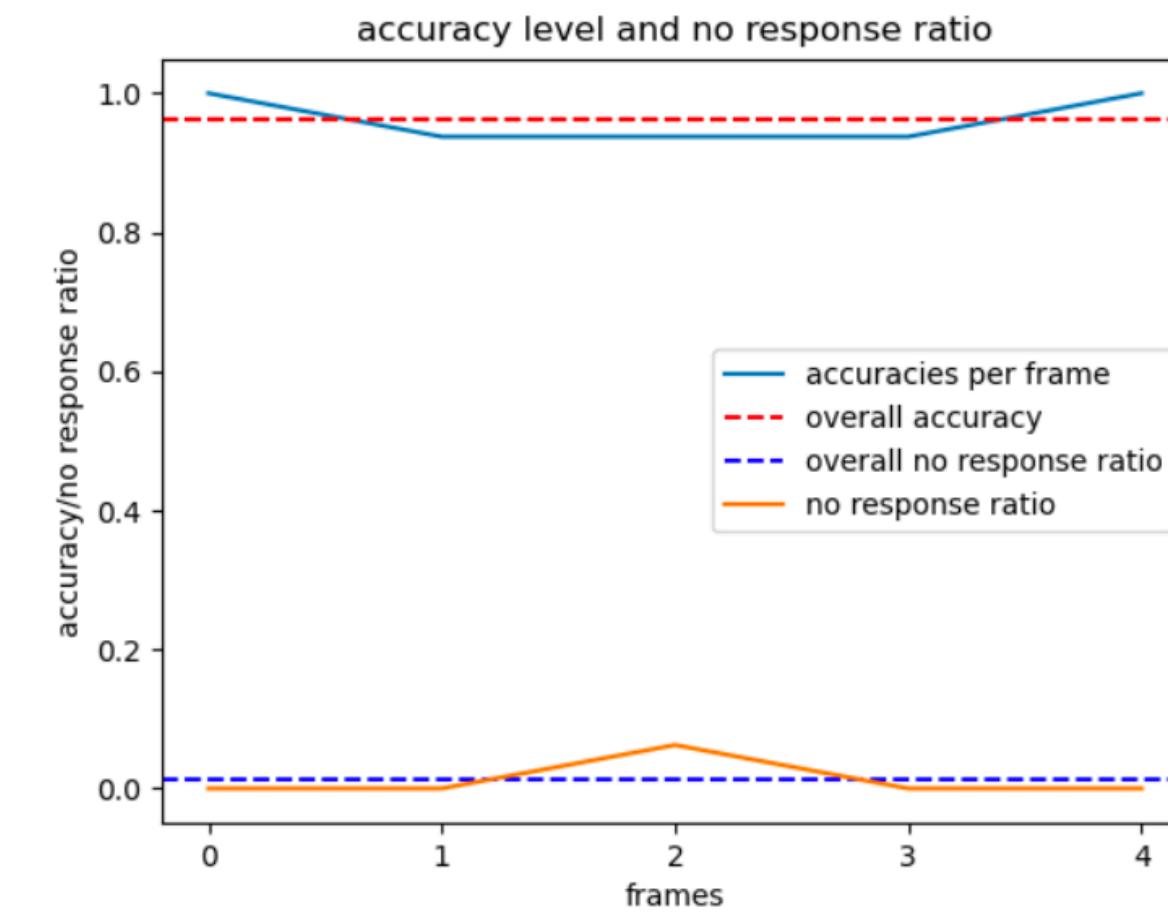


# Behavioural Performance

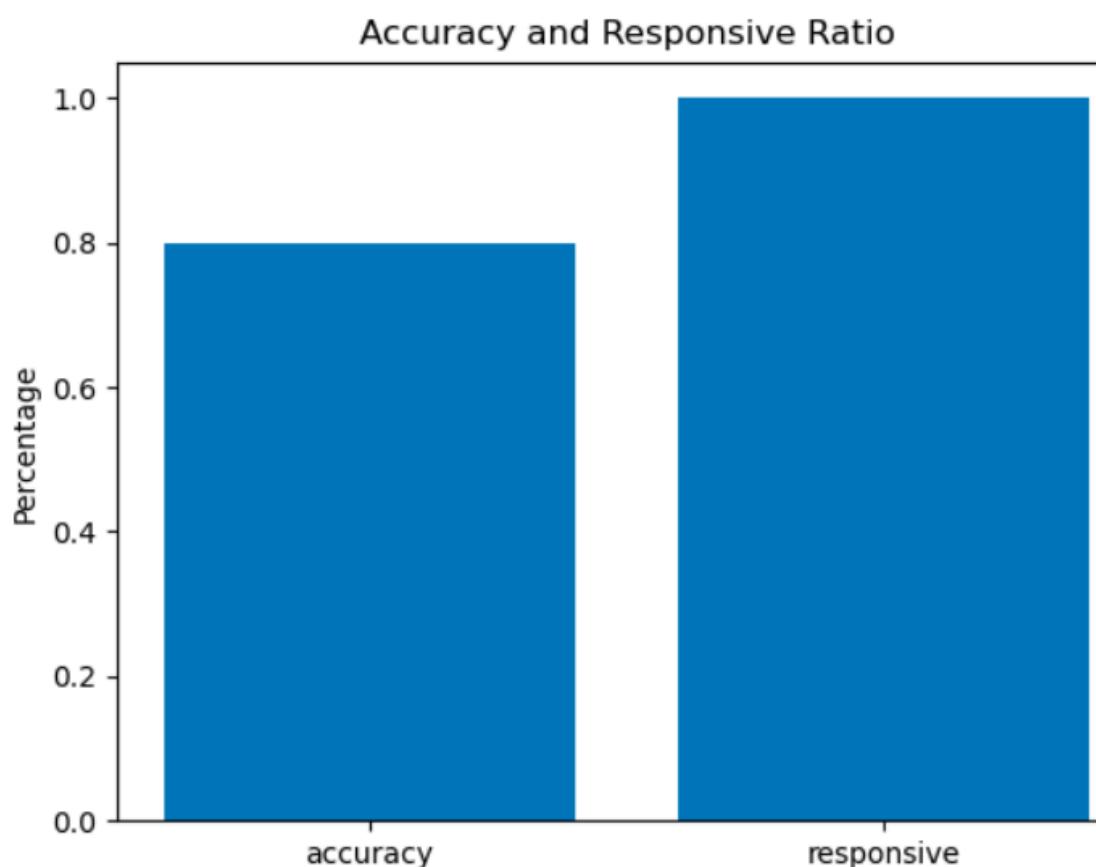
Dms location task



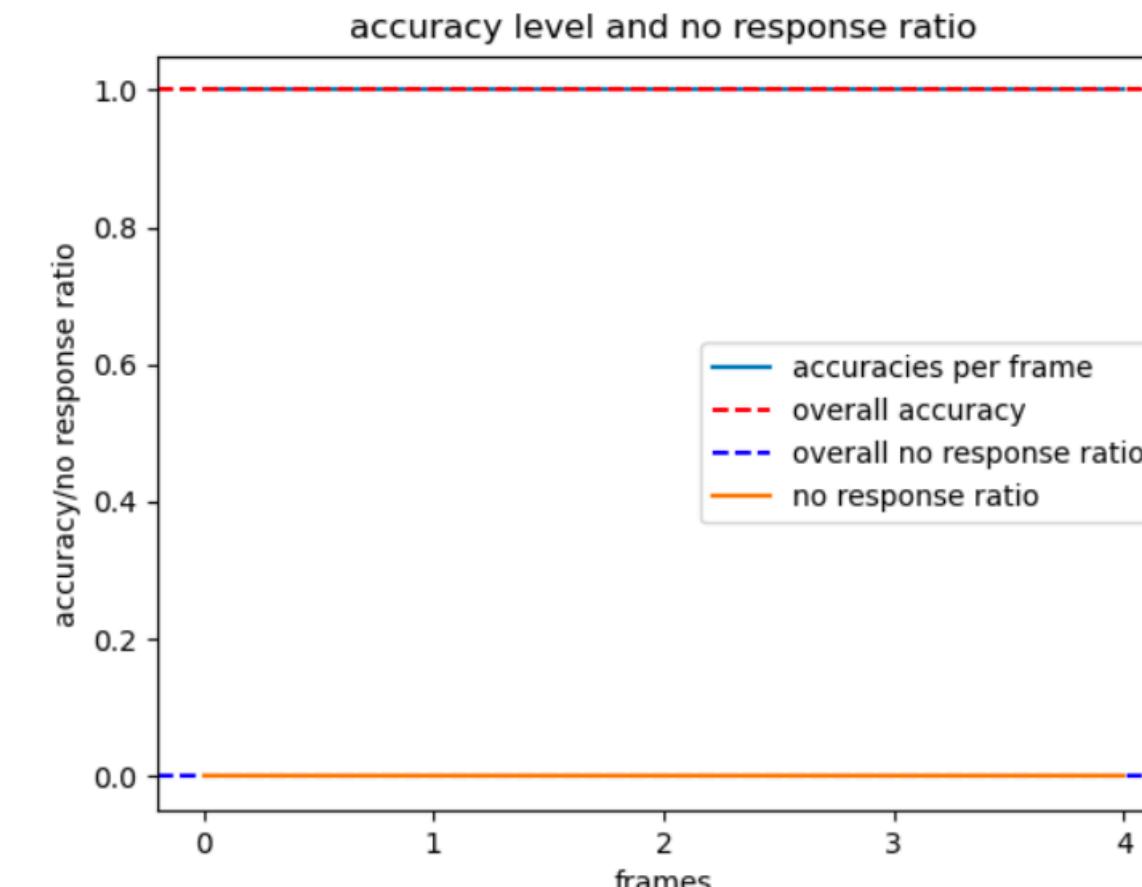
1back location task



Ctxdm LCO task



1back category task



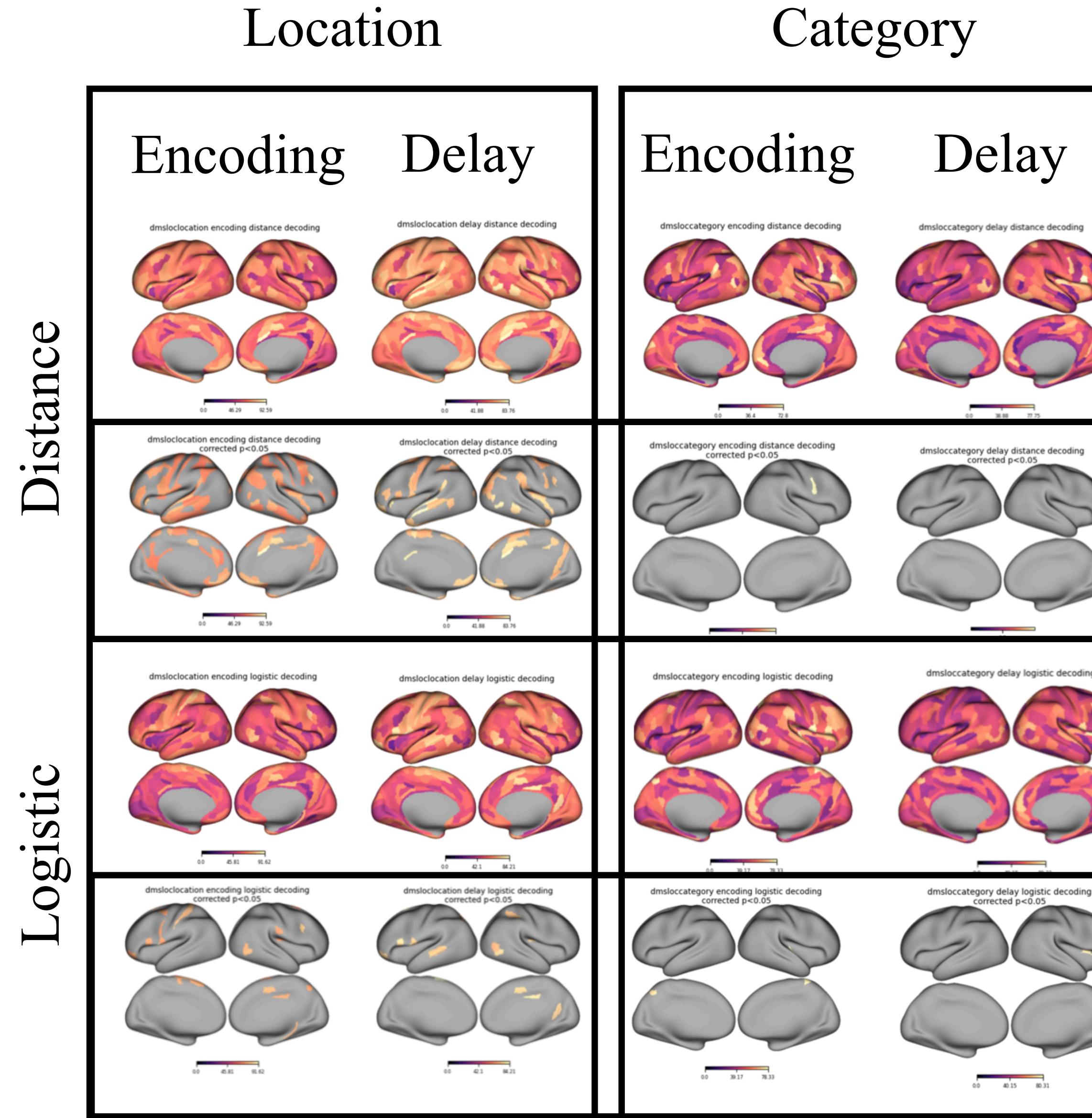
# Imaging data analysis: Methods

*Goal:* To test whether feature information is decodable during stimulus presentation and delay period.

*Methods:*

- apply GLM to the imaging data and obtain betas for corresponding TRs of interest.
- Perform distance/logistic regression based decoding analysis.
- Select brain regions that encode features of interest with null permutation test

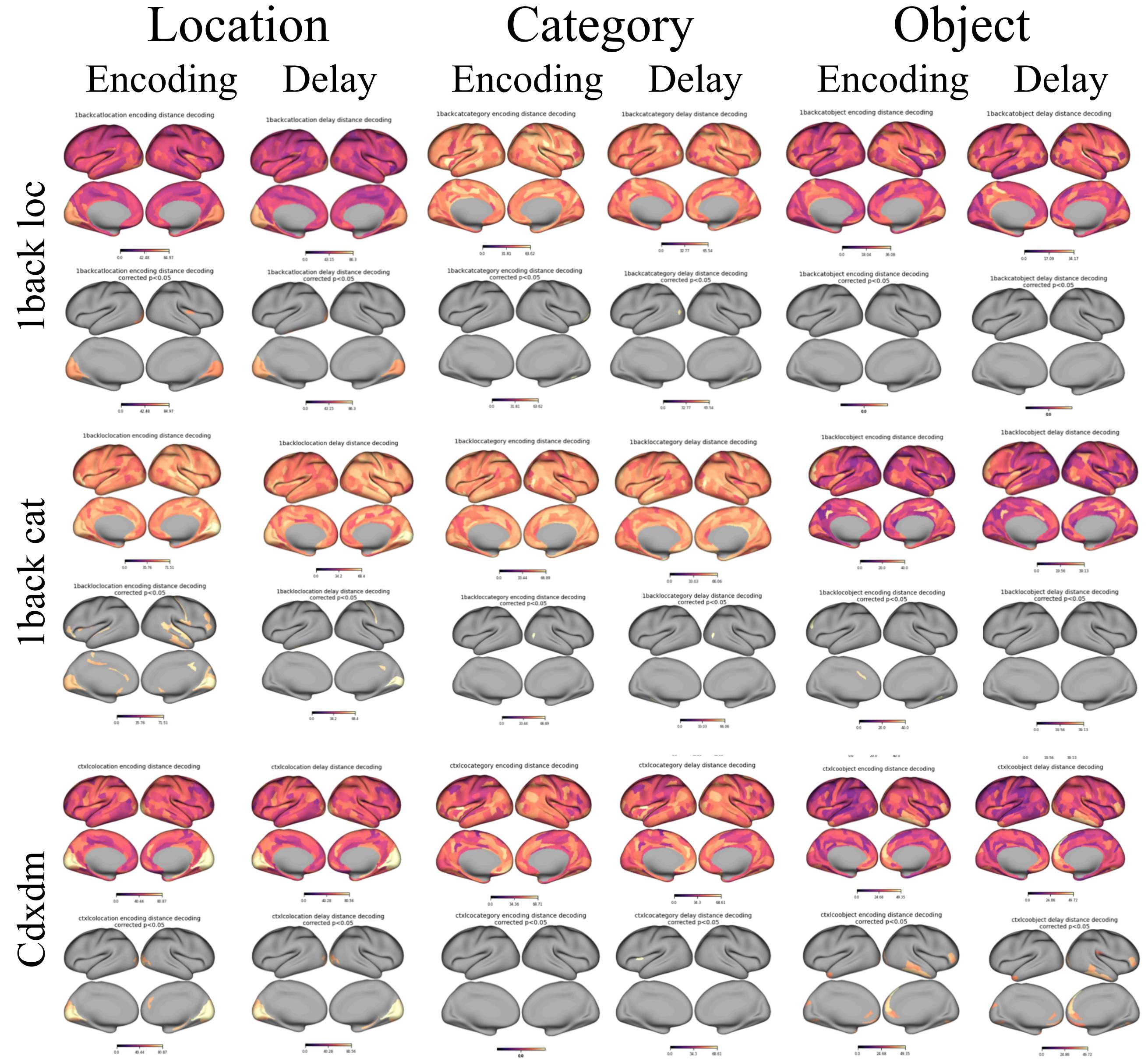
# Imaging data analysis: Results



Decoding for the DMSLOC task:

1. We observed that location information was more readily decodable than category information, with distance-based decoding yielding an accuracy rate as high as 92.59% during the encoding period.
2. While logistic regression provided slightly higher decoding accuracy, fewer brain regions met the statistical significance threshold.

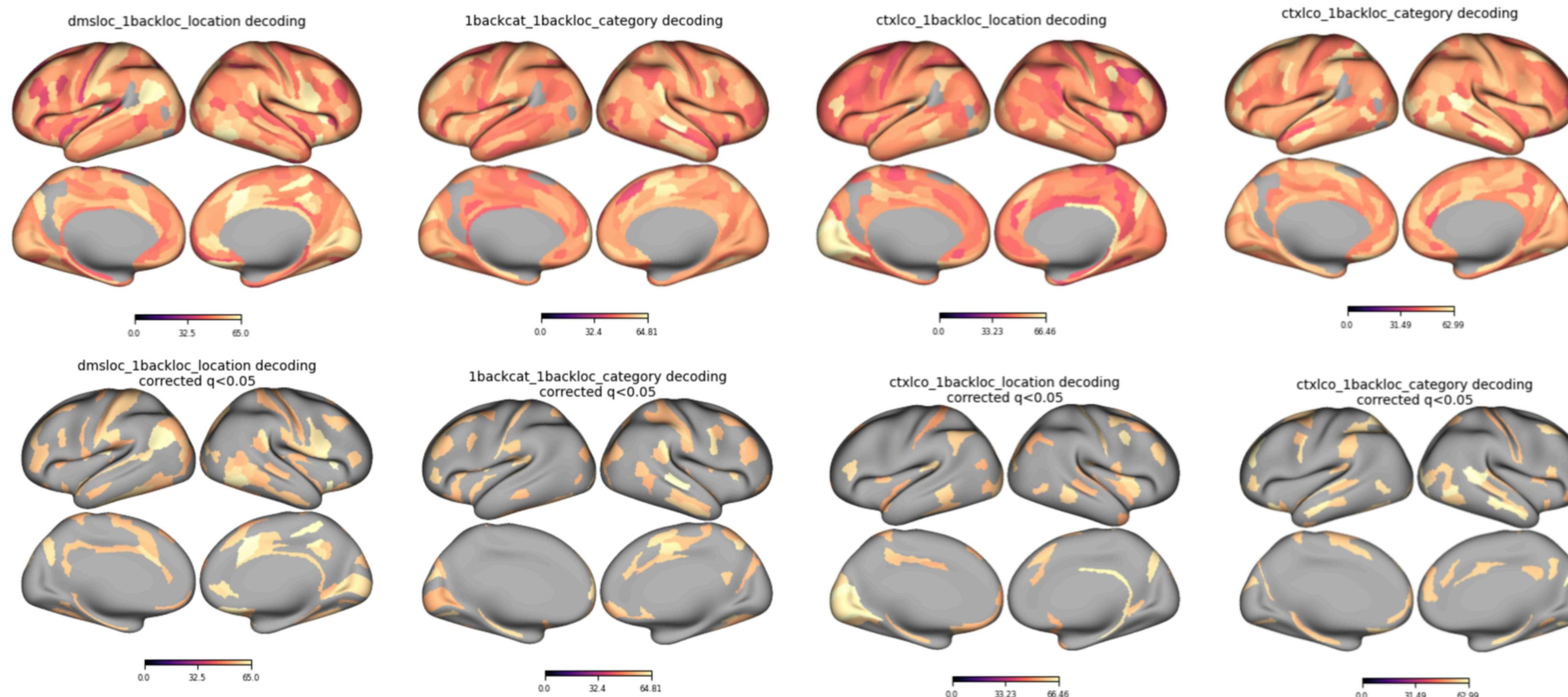
# Imaging data analysis: Results



Notes: distance based decoding for 1backloc, 1backcat and ctxlco task.

1. The brain regions that met the statistical significance threshold were mainly located in the primary visual area.
2. We observed that location was the most easily decodable feature, while object information could only be decoded from the ctxlco task.

# Imaging data analysis: Results

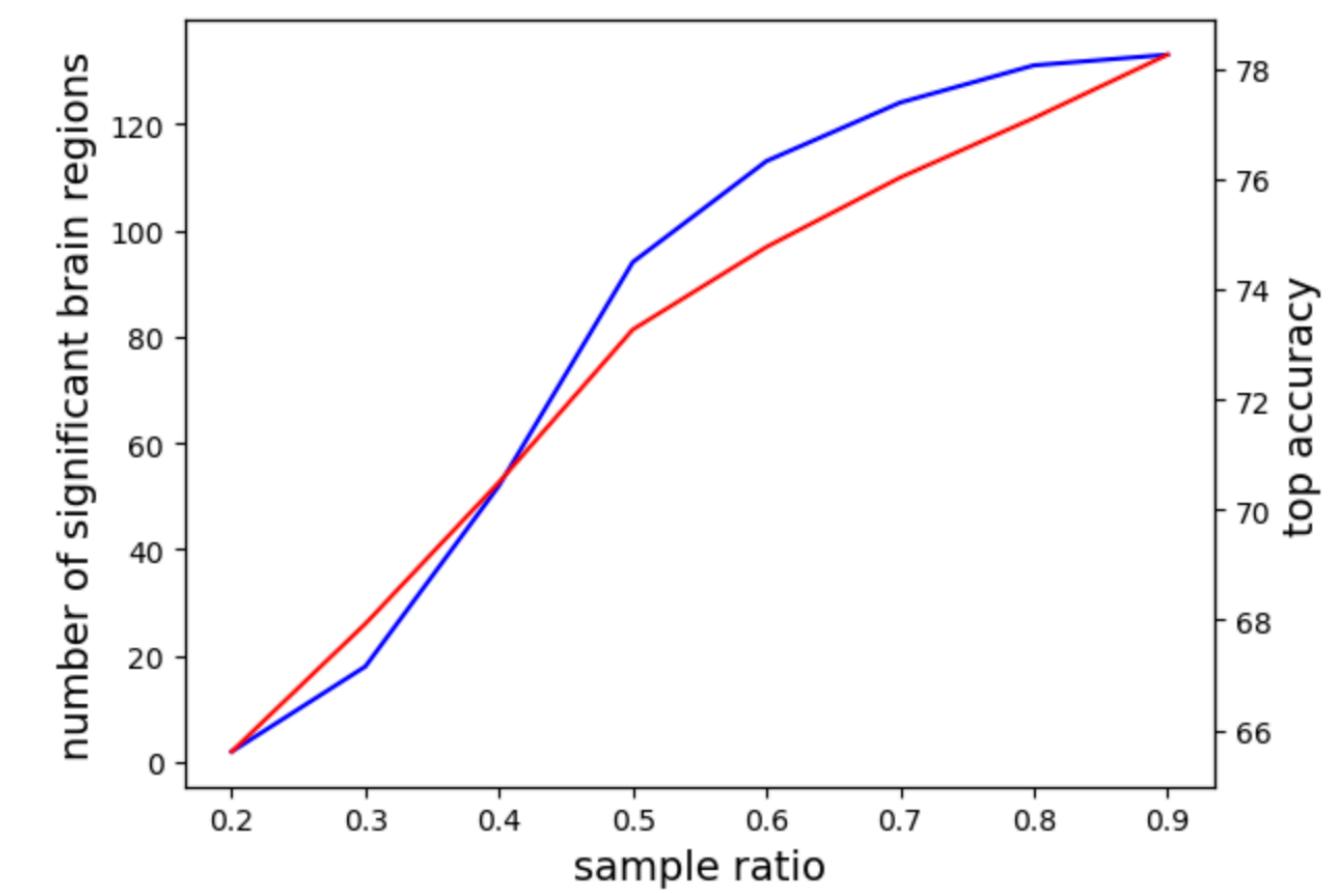
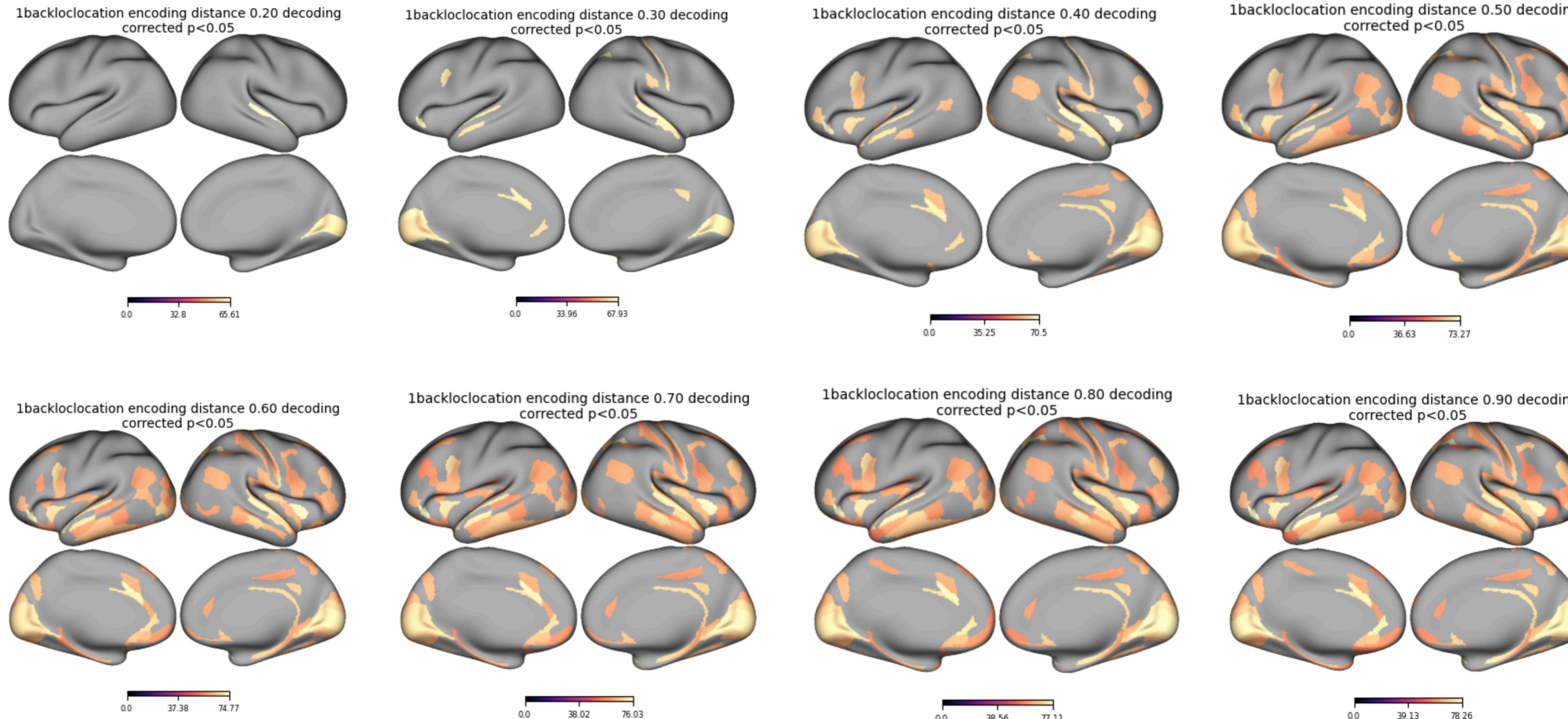


Notes: Cross Context Decoding analysis

Train on different task tested on 1backloc w.r.t indicated feature of interest

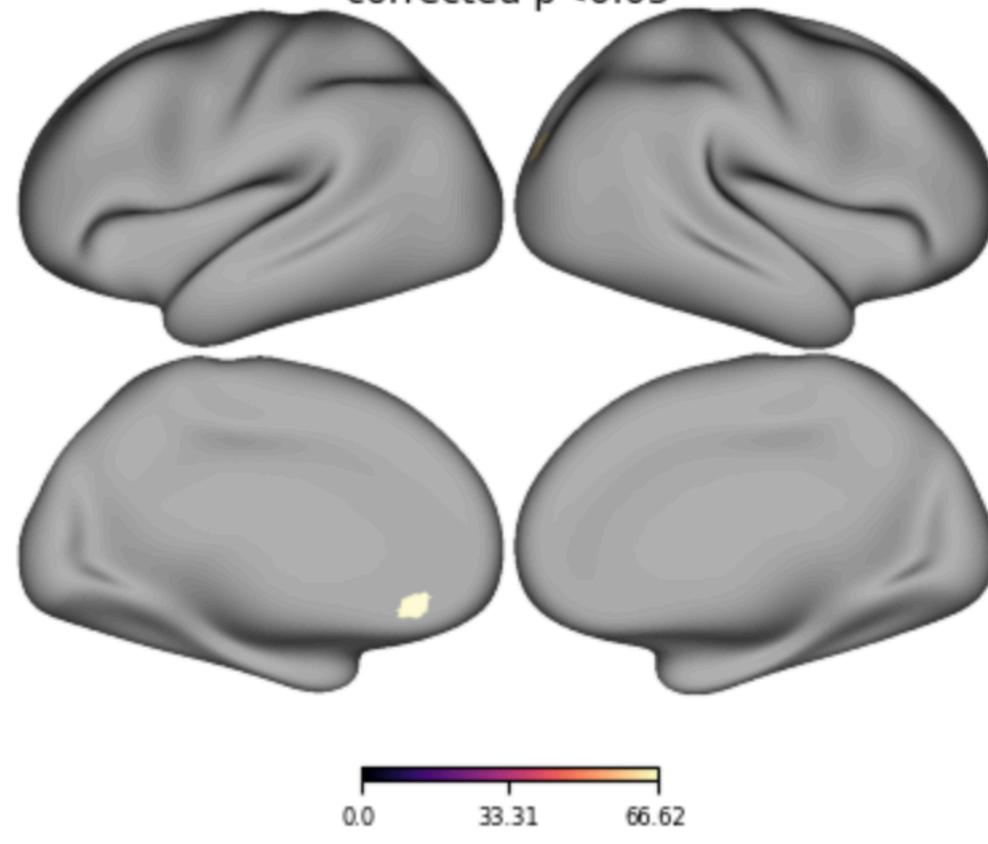
Although the overall decoding accuracy on the test dataset was lower than that of classifiers trained on the same dataset, we observed that the classifiers trained on different tasks showed more significant brain regions. This suggests that there was some degree of generalization across tasks.

# Imaging data analysis: Results

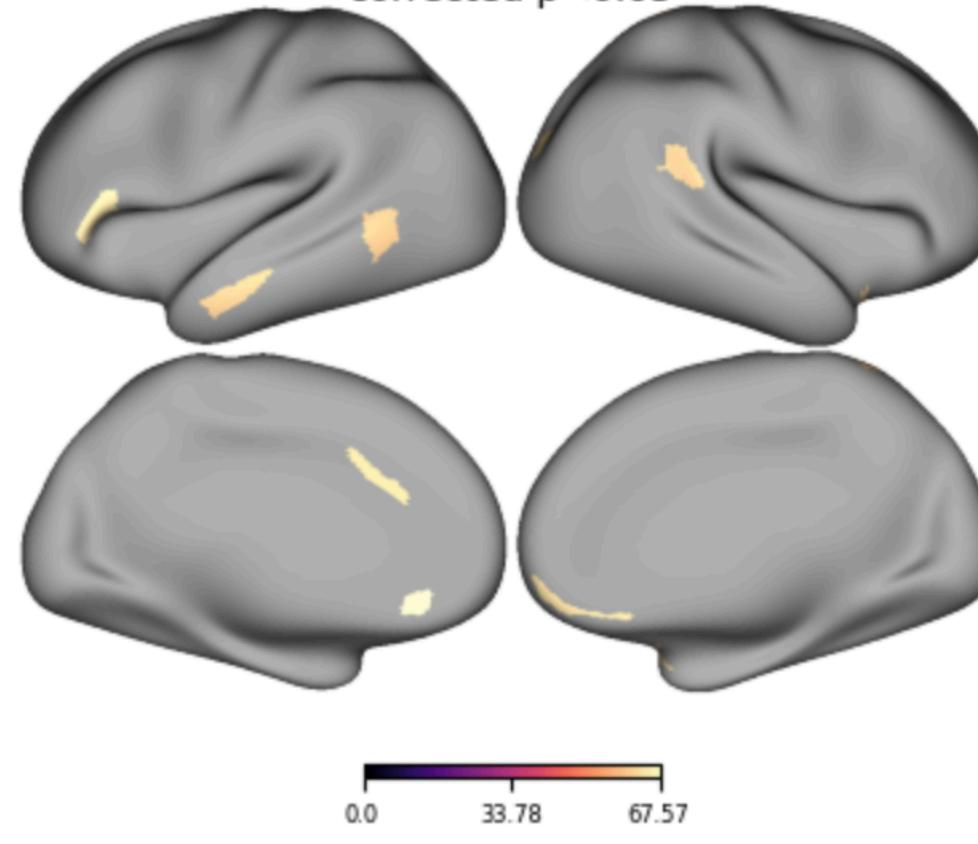


# Imaging data analysis: Results

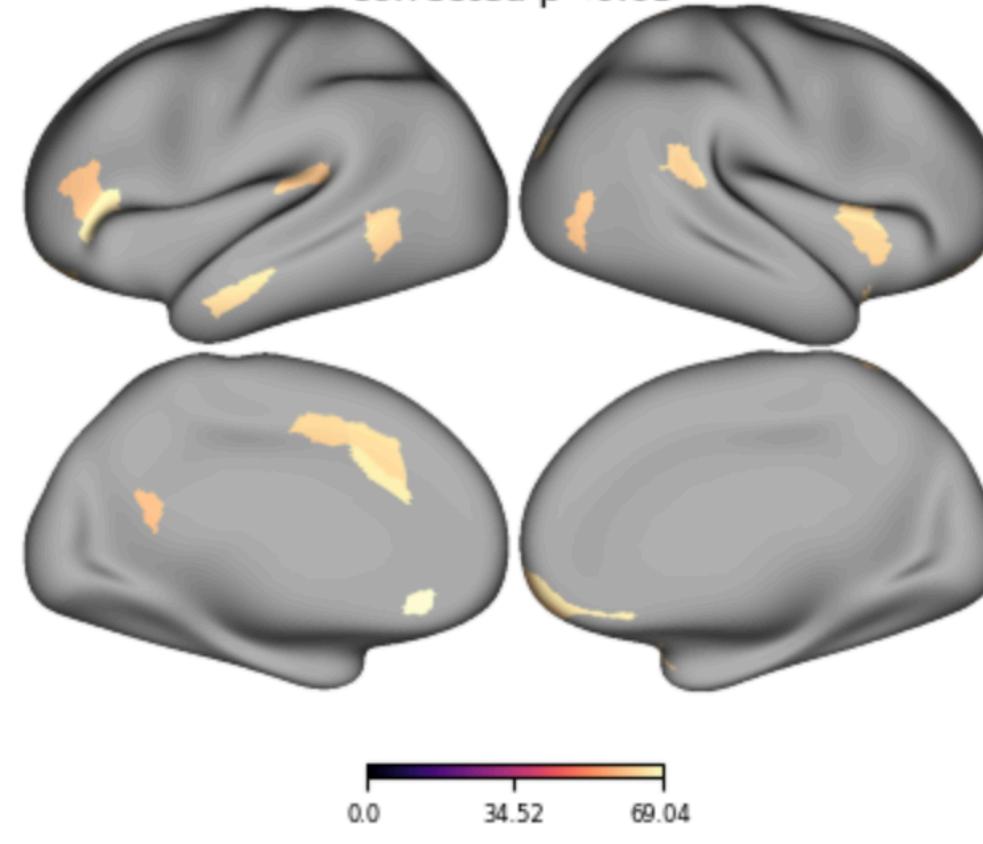
1backloccategory encoding distance 0.60 decoding  
corrected p<0.05



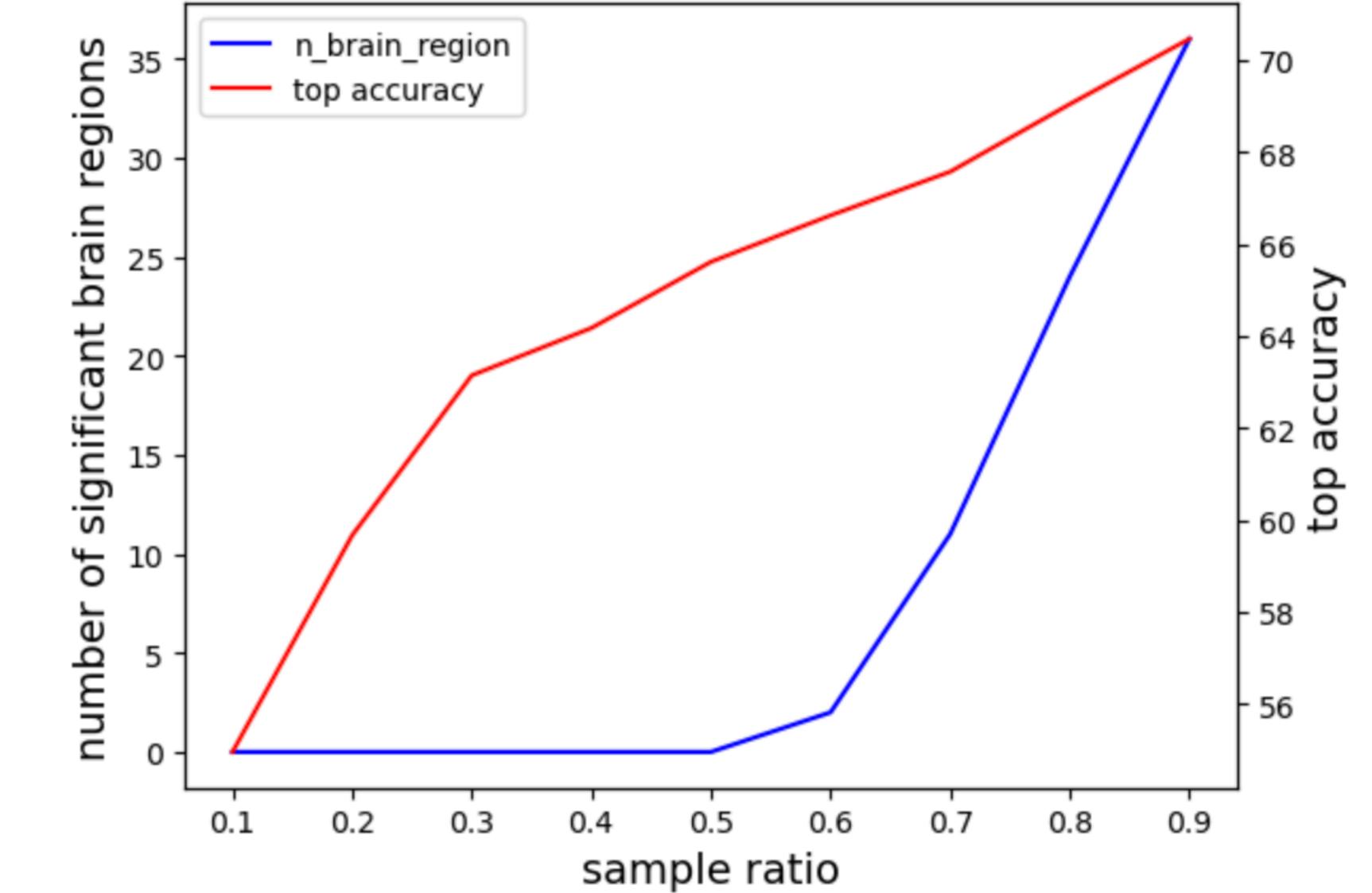
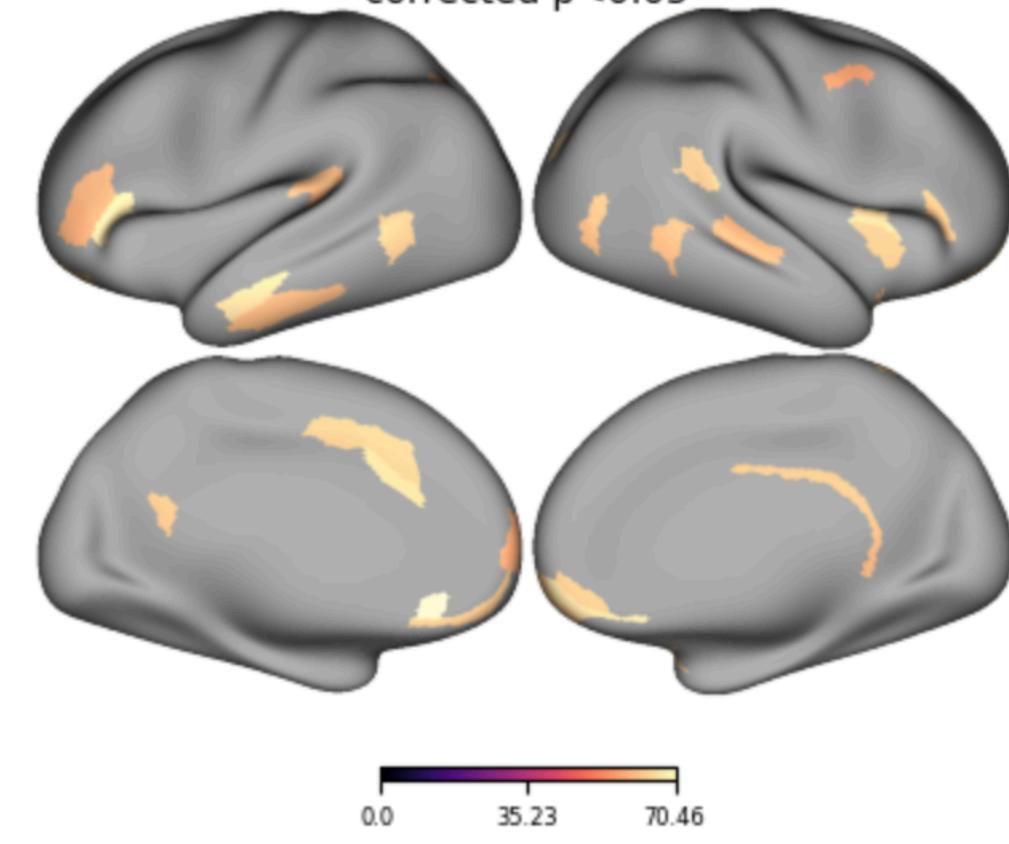
1backloccategory encoding distance 0.70 decoding  
corrected p<0.05



1backloccategory encoding distance 0.80 decoding  
corrected p<0.05



1backloccategory encoding distance 0.90 decoding  
corrected p<0.05



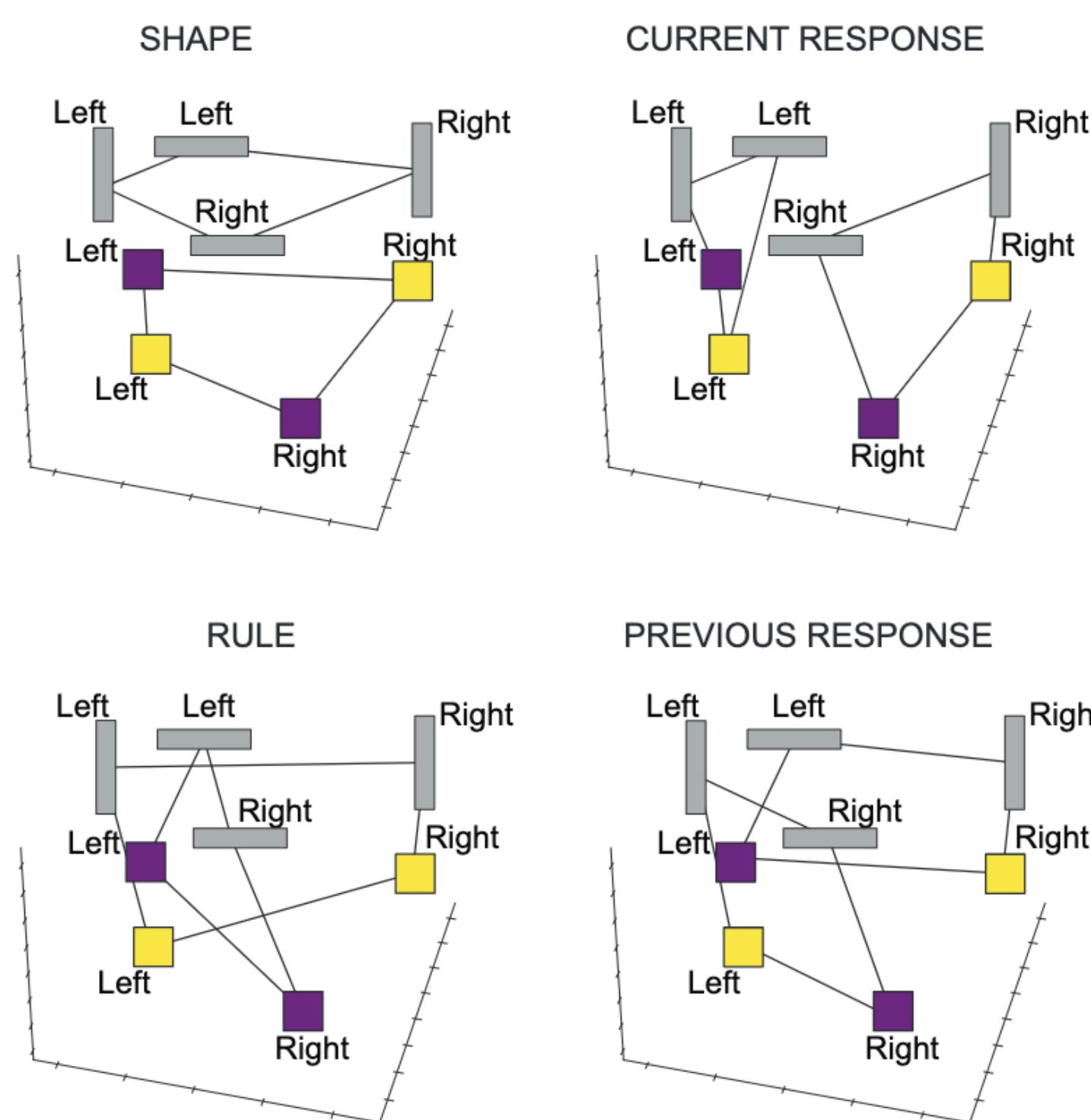
## **UPDATED tasks**

1. Longer stimulus presentation and delay period (to include at least 1TR + 2TR, detailed calculation see next page)
2. To guarantee decodable category/object information, replace car with faces
3. Make sure for each run, MRI trigger stimulus onset.

# List of Research questions

1. Does the brain utilize an abstract low dimensional representation for different object properties?
2. Is this abstract representation generalizable across different tasks? If so, to what level it can generalize?

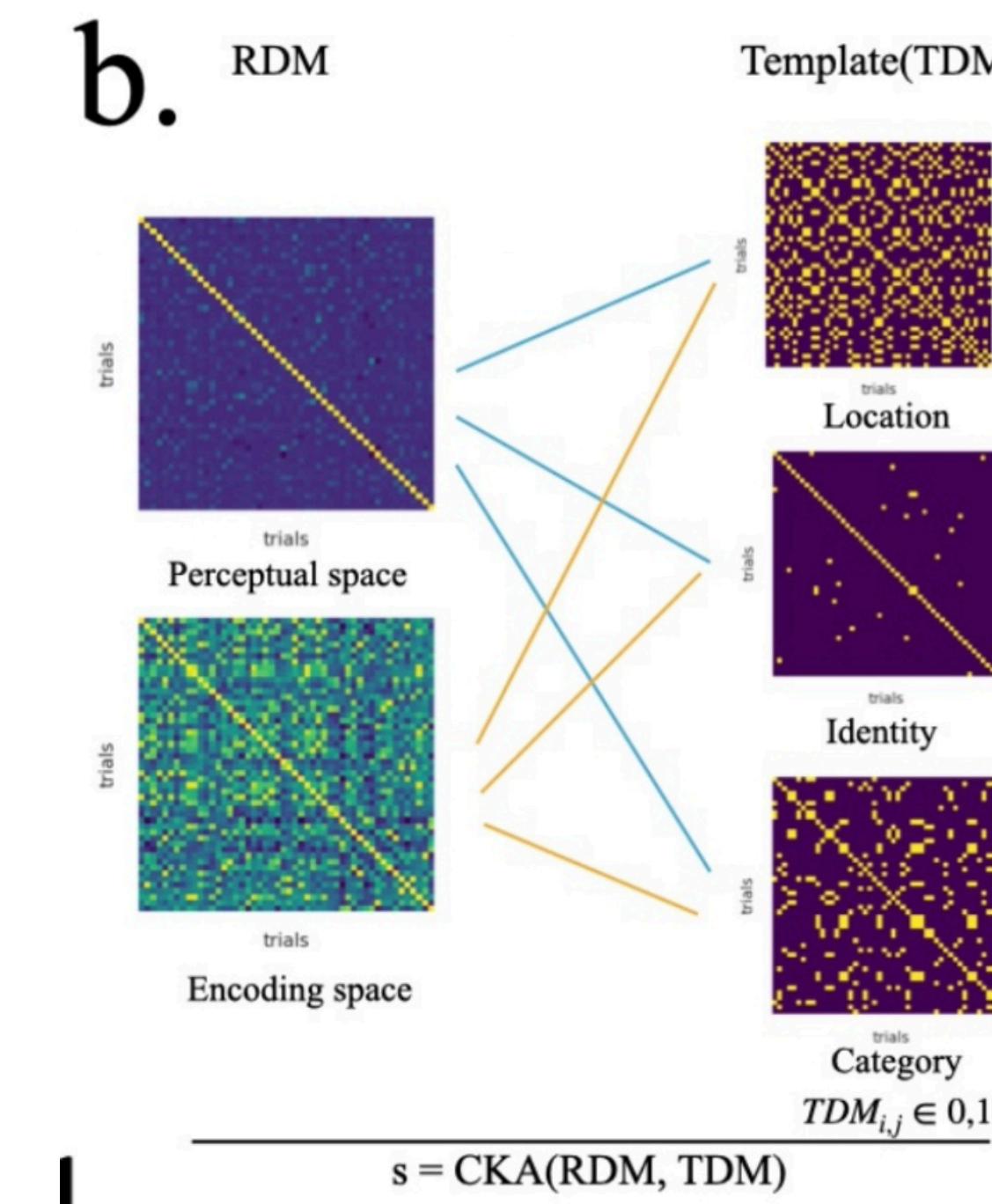
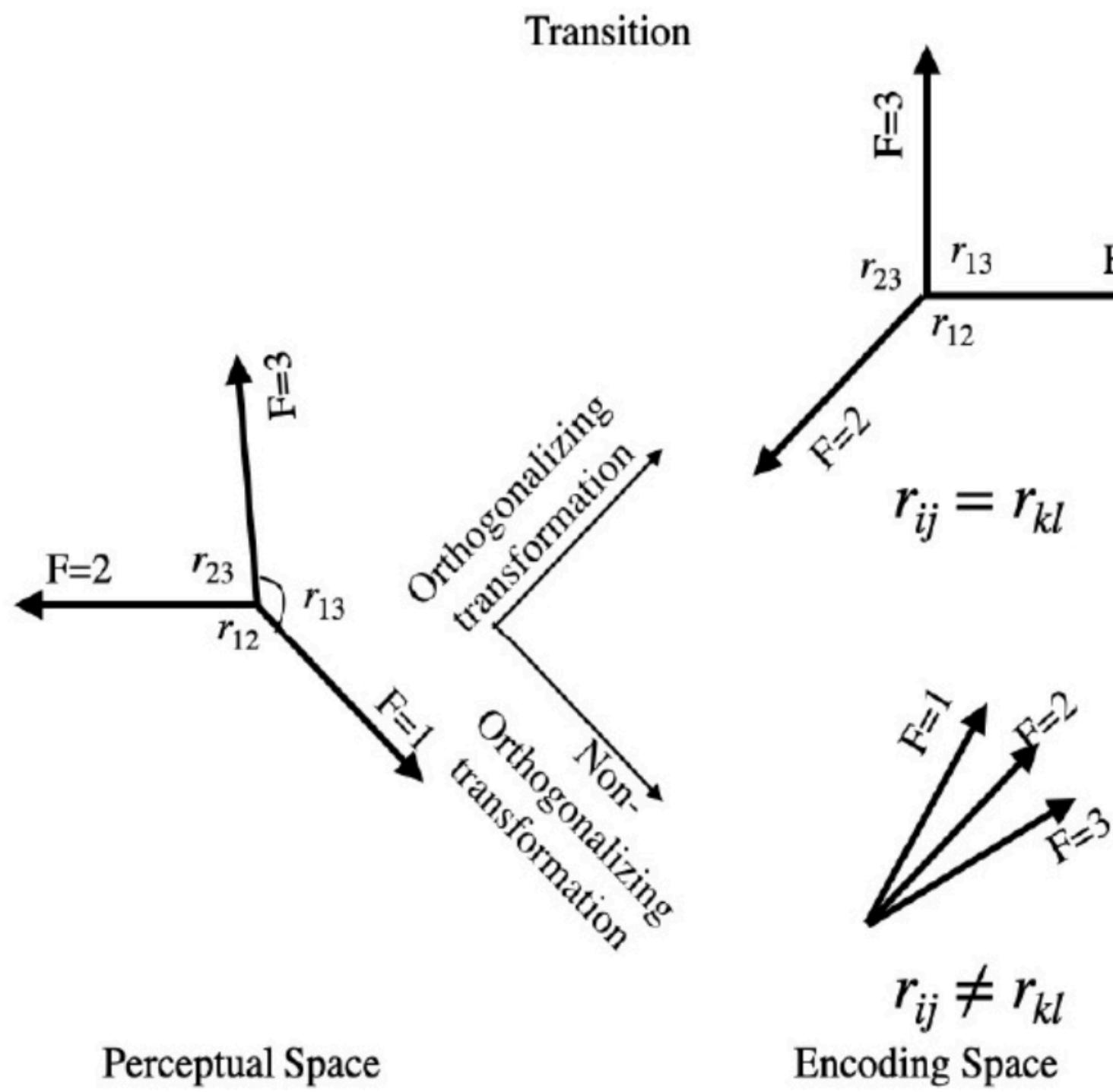
Method: Cross Condition Decoding analysis



# List of Research questions

Hypothesis:

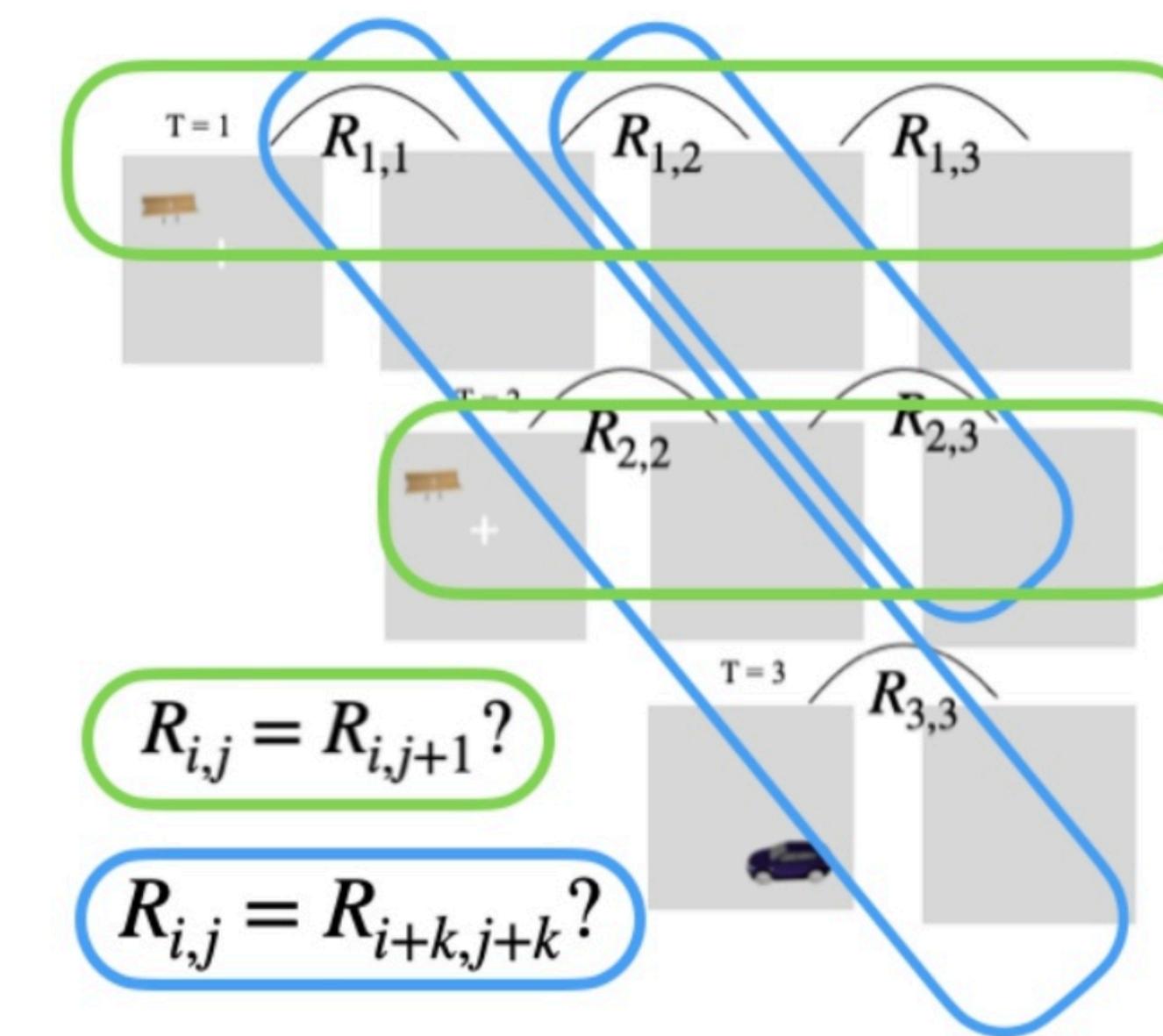
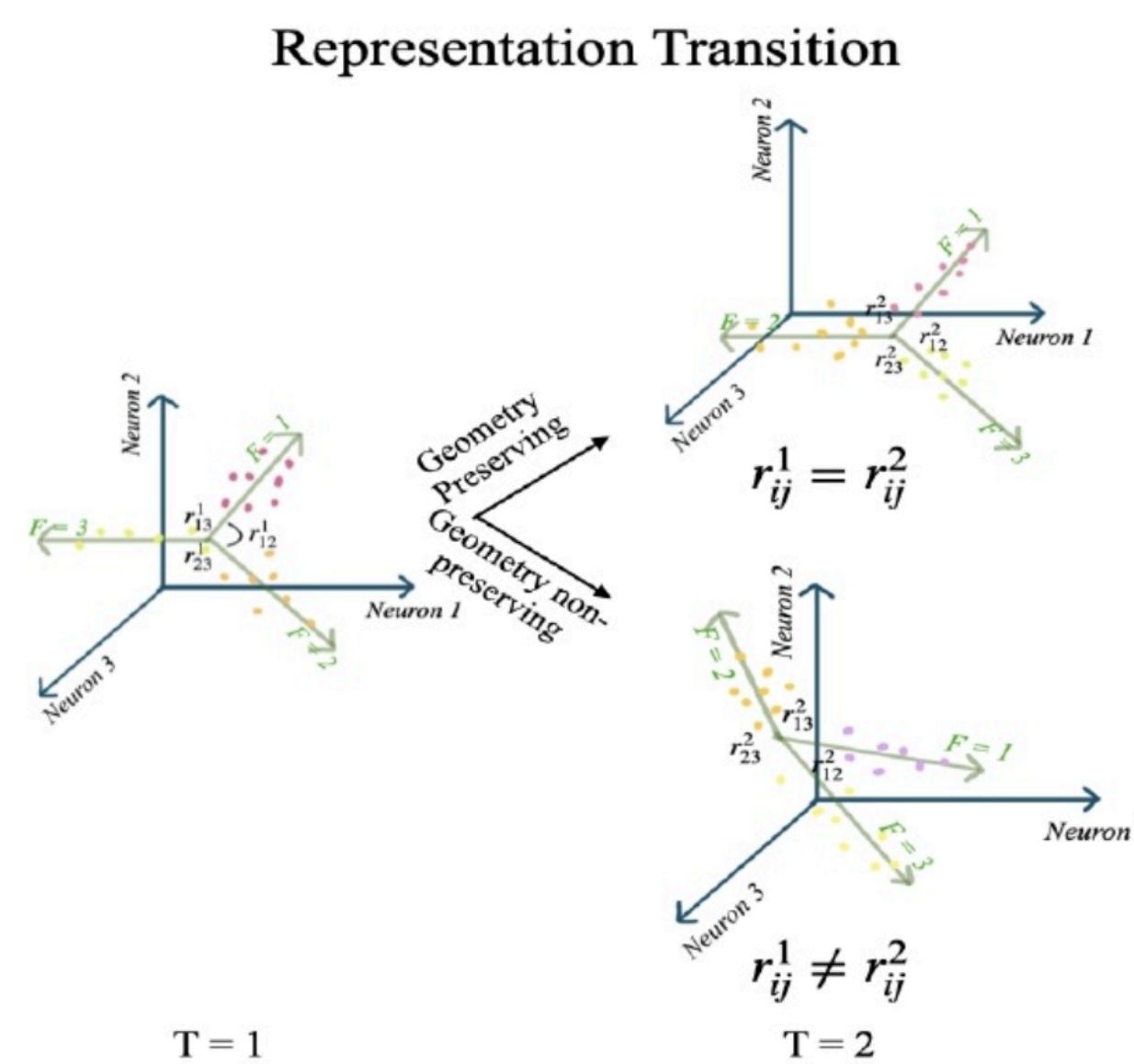
Compared to the visual regions, PFC orthogonalizes the axes along which distinct object properties are represented, enabling enhanced separation of object properties. Moreover, the task-relevant object properties are represented along more orthogonalized axes relative to task-irrelevant one



# List of Research questions

Hypothesis: [dynamics of the representation geometry]

Across time, the brain preserves the geometric structure of the latent subspace representing various object properties. The rotational dynamics governing the transformation of WM encodings into memories was shared across stimuli, yet the transformations governing the retention of an encoding in the face of incoming stimuli were distinct across time.





# # trials count: 1back

We consider permute over all pairs of stimuli:

For category and object task: 16 pairs of stimuli in total

For location task: 64 pairs of stimuli in total

9 trial per block 5.4 minutes

Each file contains 1 block

16 files in total: 88 min

Each 1back task trial has 6 frames, which gives us 5 pairs of stimuli.

We also need to consider the consecutiveness of pairs of stimuli, since the second stimulus corresponding to the previous delay period is the first stimulus of the current delay period, by simulation, we need **at least 24 trials** for the 1backcat and 1backloc task, and **80 trials for the 1backloc task** to guarantee at least 5 repetitions for each pairs of stimuli. =>  $18+18+109=145$   
=>80min

Total trials:  $24 + 24 + 72 = 120$  trials

Each trial:  $6*1.5$  (stimulus presentation)+ $6*4$ (delay) = 33 sec

Total time:  $120*33 = 3960$  sec = 67 min

## # trials count: interDMS

16 trials per block, around 6 min

30 block files => 180 min

We consider permute pairs of stimuli over the first two frames and randomly choose the stimuli for the 3rd and 4th frames. Similar as before, we have 16 pairs of stimuli for the cat and obj task, 64 pairs of stimuli for the loc task. We have two patterns in total: ABBA, ABAB.

Total trials:  $16 \text{ (pairs of stimuli)} * 2 \text{ (patterns)} * n_{\text{rep}} * 2 \text{ (features)} + 64 \text{ (pairs of stimuli)} * 2 \text{ (patterns)} * n_{\text{rep}} = 192 n_{\text{rep}}$

Each trial:  $1 \text{ (1st delay)} + 3 * 4 \text{ (the rest delay and response time)} + 4 * 1.5 \text{ (stimulus presentation)} = 19 \text{ sec}$

Total time:  $192n_{\text{rep}} * 19 = 60.8 * n_{\text{rep}} \text{ min}$

20 trials per block, 5.5 minutes # trials count: ctxDM  
32 files, 1 file for 1 block  
=> 176 min

We consider permute pairs of stimuli over the first two frames and randomly choose the stimuli for the 3rd frame in a response balanced way. We have two task rules in total: LCO, COL. Since both rules involve the location feature, we need to consider 64 pairs of stimuli for both of them.

Total trials:  $2 \text{ (rules)} * 64 \text{ (pairs of stimuli)} * n\_rep = 128 * n\_rep$

Each trial:  $1 \text{ (1st delay)} + 3 * 1.5 \text{ (stimulus presentation)} + 2 * 4 \text{ (other delay and response time)} = 13.5 \text{ sec}$

Total time:  $128n\_rep * 13.5 = 28.8 * n\_rep \text{ min}$

Based on block file info, we need 7.4 hr scanning time

If not considering waste of time

**In total, we need  $(67 + 89.6 * n\_rep) \text{ min.}$**

**If consider 15% extra time,**

**$n\_rep = 5: 8.58 \text{ hr (actual recording time)} * 1.15 = 9.87\text{hr}$**