

Request #: 641 - PSY - Thesis

Using Pavlovian Sign-tracking to Reduce Impulsive Choice in Rats

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Background

I ran this project for my thesis and have collected the data in the past year and recently organized and ran the initial statistical analysis.

Sample

I have finished collecting the data for all subjects (N=39; n= 20 intervention and n= 19 control) for all phases of the study (4 phases).

Hypothesis

Does training with Pavlovian Sign-tracking increase self-controlled choices?

DV: 1. PCA index (score to determine rates of sign-tracking in training) during training, 2. Number of nose-pokes in the active and inactive port during the test of conditioned reinforcement, 3. PCA Index in retraining 4. Percent choice of larger later reward in the impulsive choice assessment

IV: Group assignment

Test-able hypothesis: 1. Do subjects who received training have a significantly higher PCA index than those in the control group? 2. After training does the CS function as a conditioned reinforcer for subjects in the training group? 3. Do subjects in the sign-tracking group select the larger later reward significantly more than subjects in the control group?

Progress

I have run the initial statistical analysis

Request

I would like to confirm that I have conducted the correct analysis.

Timeline

I have planned to defend my thesis in the spring semester therefore I would like to complete the analysis by end of March.