

# model-based planning I: motivations and methods

ccnss

2018.07.06

slides and references available at

<http://aaron.bornstein.org/ccnss/>

# (p)review: mdps + tdrl

Known

$S$  - Set of States

$A$  - Set of Actions

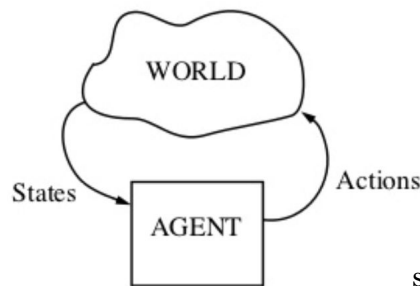
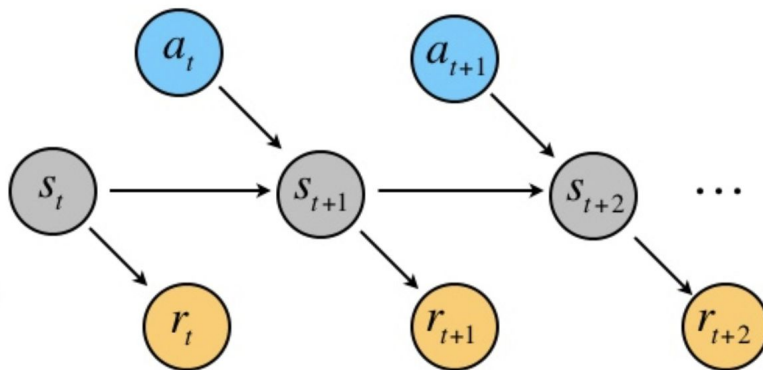
$\Pr(s' | a, s)$  - Transitions

$\alpha$  - Starting State Distribution

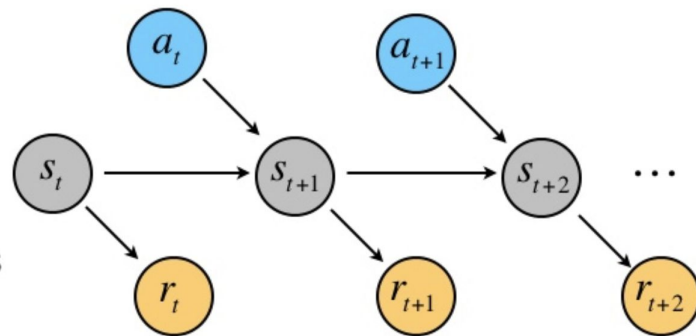
$\gamma$  - Discount Factor

?

$r(s)$  - Reward [or  $r(s, a)$ ]

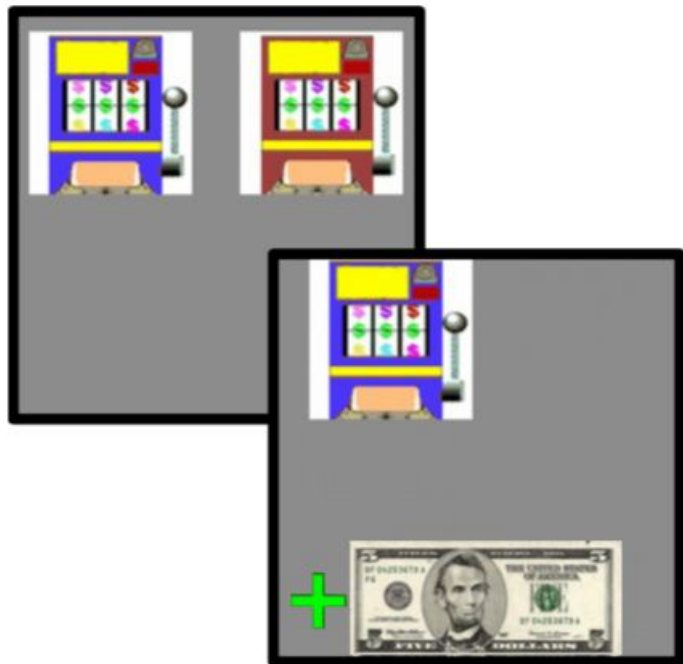


(p)review: mdps + tdrl



$$Q(S, A) = Q(S, A) + \alpha[R - Q(S, A)]$$

(p)review: multi-armed bandit, action selection



# (p)review: selection policy - decide how to decide

when  $Q(\text{Left}) > Q(\text{Right})$ :

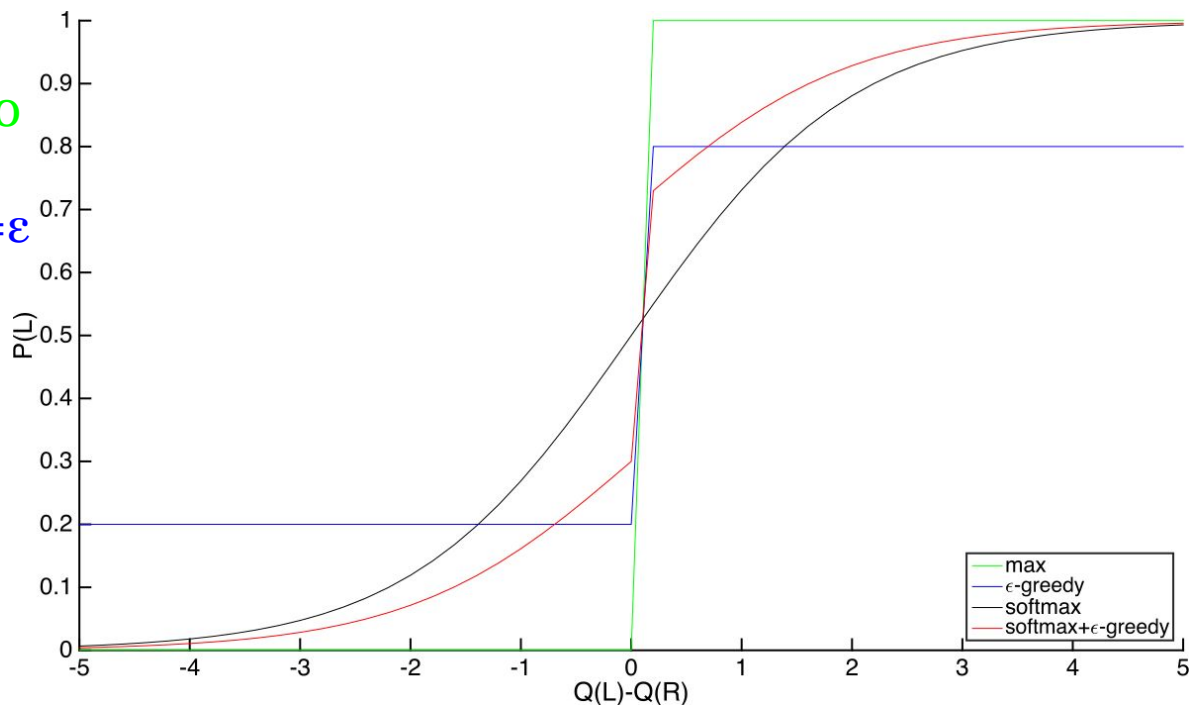
**max:**  $P(\text{Left}) = 1.0$ ,  $P(\text{Right}) = 0.0$

**$\epsilon$ -greedy:**  $P(\text{Left}) = 1 - \epsilon$ ,  $P(\text{Right}) = \epsilon$

**softmax:**  $P(\text{Left}) > P(\text{Right})$

**$\epsilon$ -softmax:**  $P(\text{Left}) - \epsilon > P(\text{Right})$

$$P(L) = \frac{e^{\beta Q(L)}}{e^{\beta Q(L)} + e^{\beta Q(R)}}$$



# (p)review: q-learning with stochastic action selection

## Q-learning (off-policy TD control) for estimating $\pi \approx \pi_*$

Algorithm parameters: step size  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$ , small  $\varepsilon > 0$

Initialize  $Q(s, a)$ , for all  $s \in \mathcal{S}^+$ ,  $a \in \mathcal{A}(s)$ , arbitrarily except that  $Q(\text{terminal}, \cdot) = 0$

Loop for each episode:

    Initialize  $S$

    Loop for each step of episode:

        Choose  $A$  from  $S$  using policy derived from  $Q$  (e.g.,  $\varepsilon$ -greedy)

Take action  $A$ , observe  $R, S'$

$Q(S, A) \leftarrow Q(S, A) + \alpha [R + \gamma \max_a Q(S', a) - Q(S, A)]$

$S \leftarrow S'$

    until  $S$  is terminal

# outline

- I. motivations
- II. behavioral signatures
- III. neural substrates
- IV. if time: open questions

# outline

I. motivations

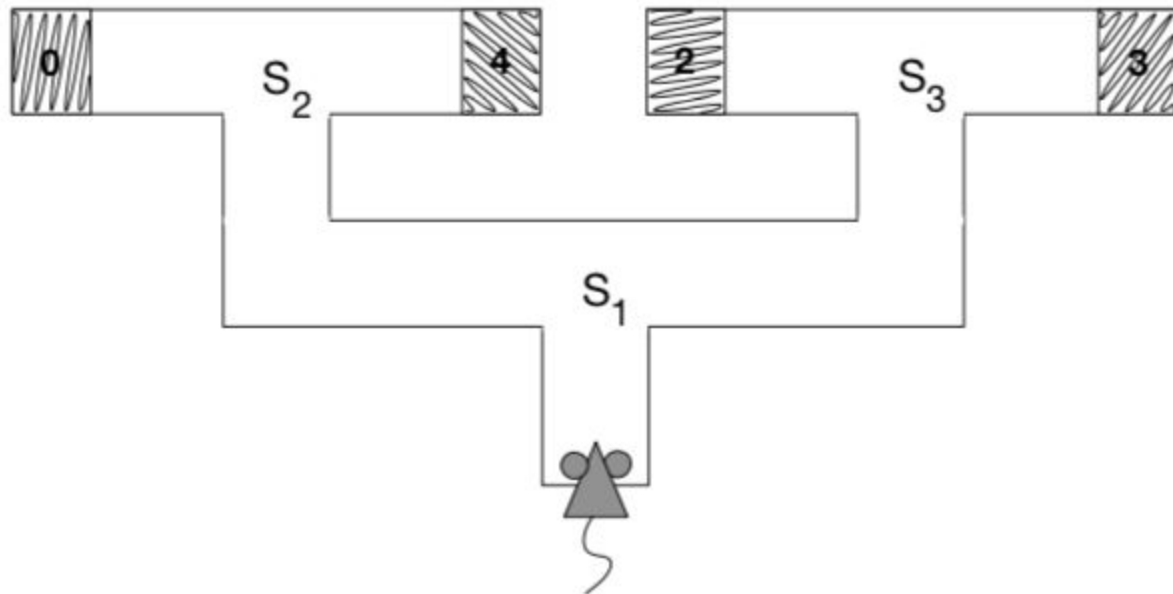
II. behavioral signatures

III. neural substrates

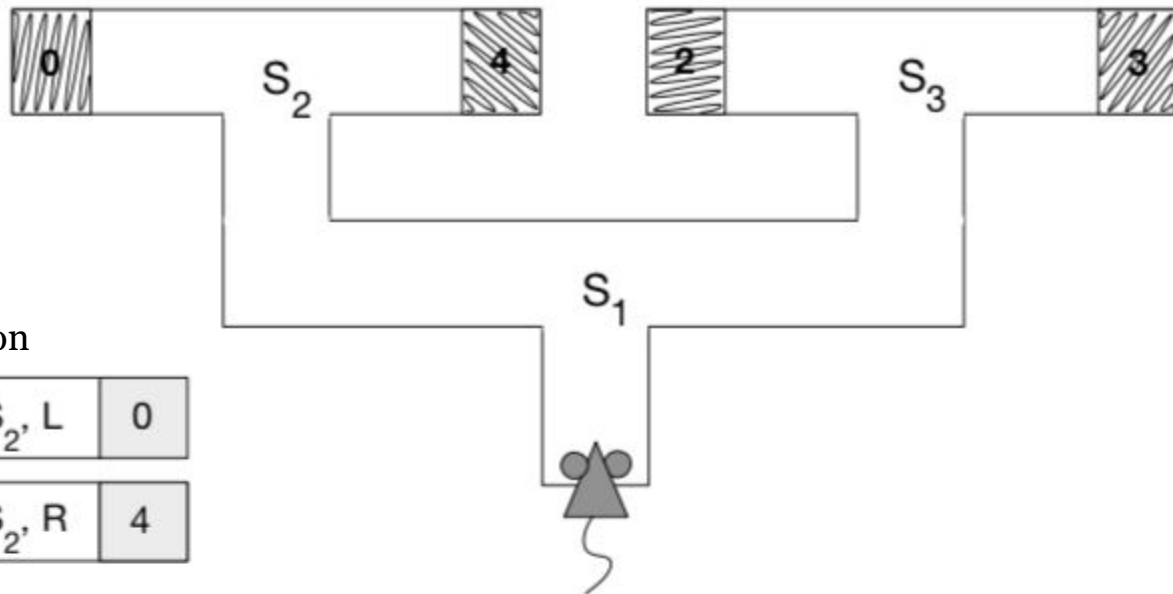
IV. if time: open questions



# multi-step decisions



# multi-step decisions



value function

$S_2, L$	0
----------	---

$S_2, R$	4
----------	---

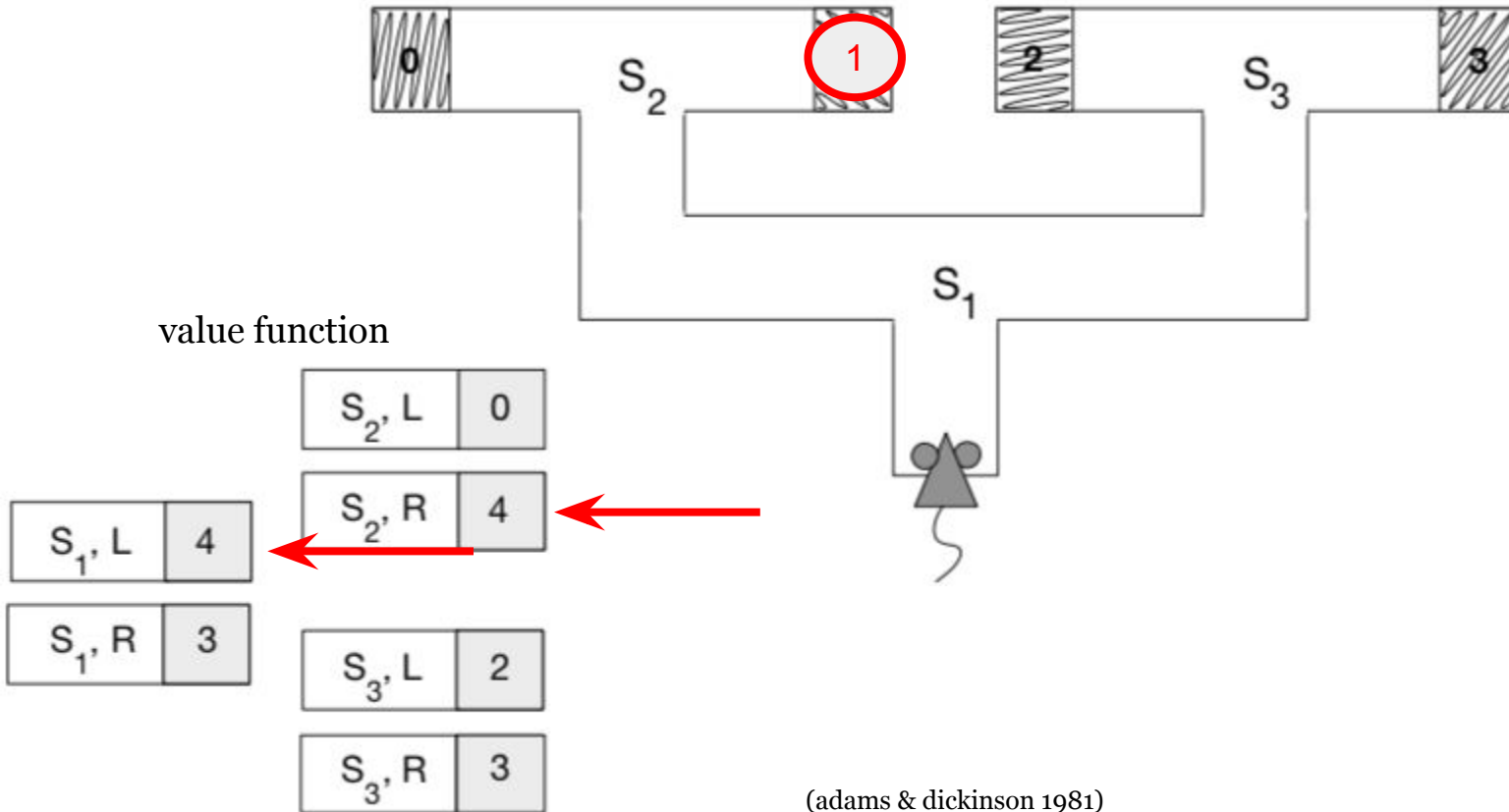
$S_3, L$	2
----------	---

$S_3, R$	3
----------	---

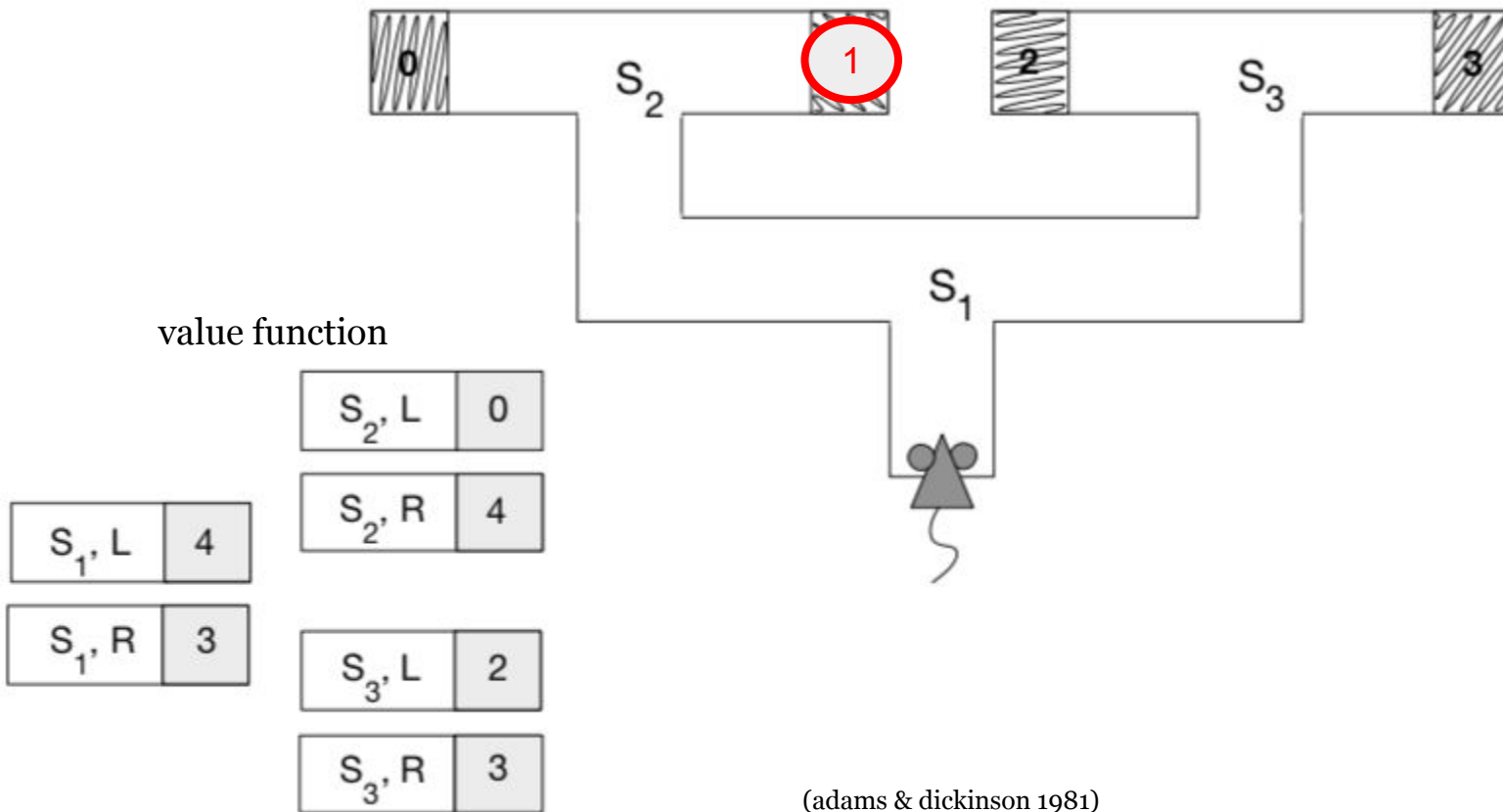
$S_1, L$	4
----------	---

$S_1, R$	3
----------	---

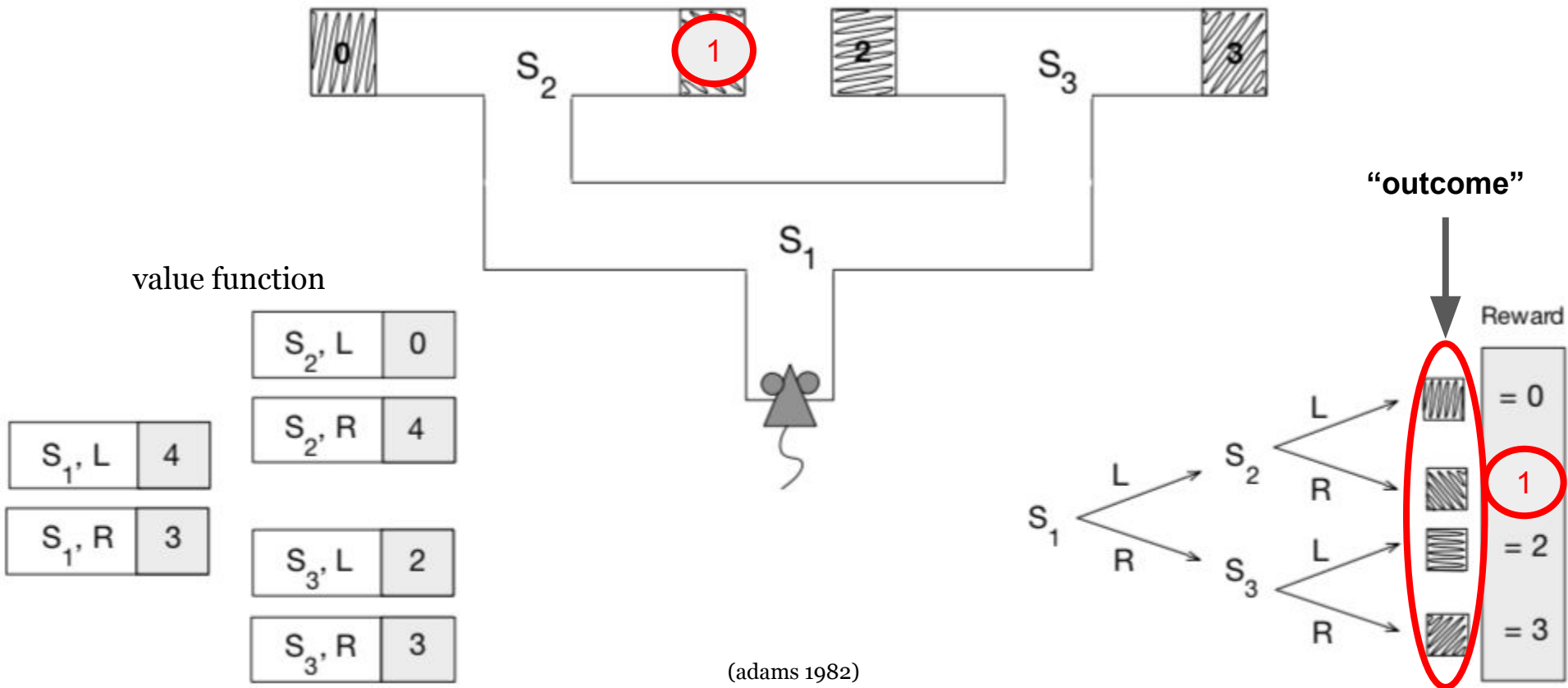
# outcome devaluation



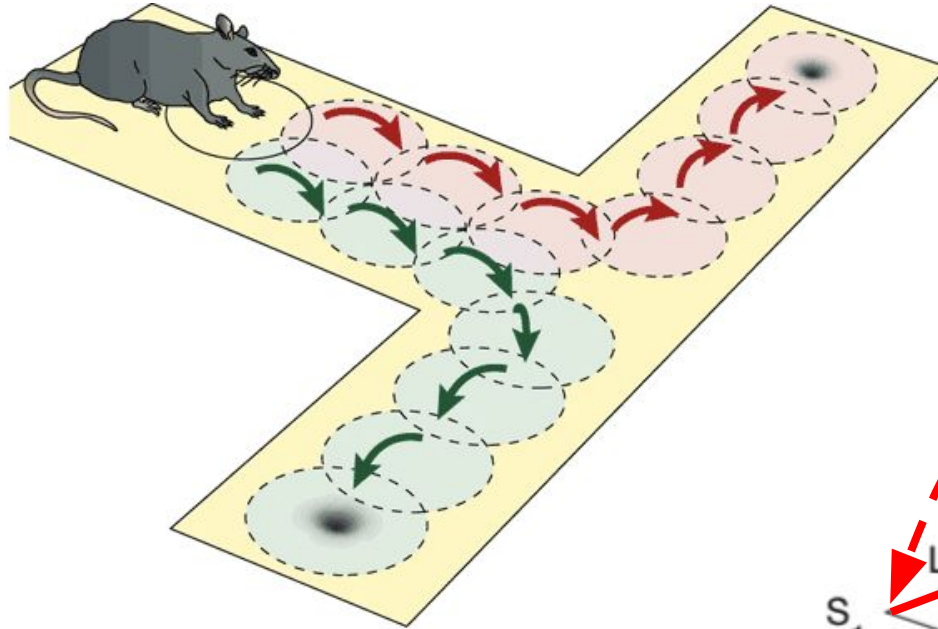
tdrl is “devaluation insensitive”



# outcome-sensitive

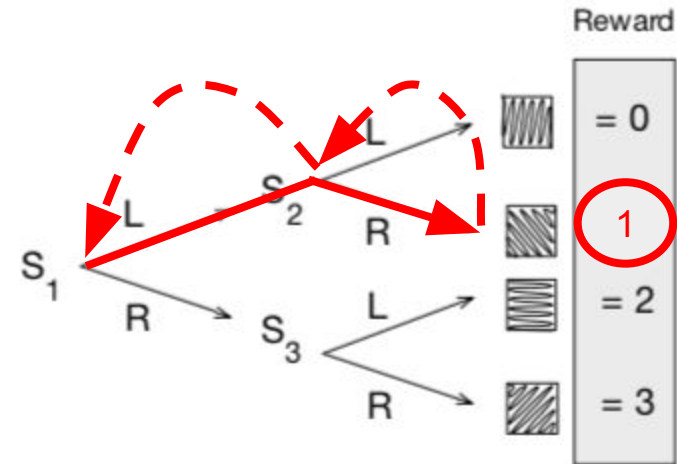


# “online planning” with simulated experience

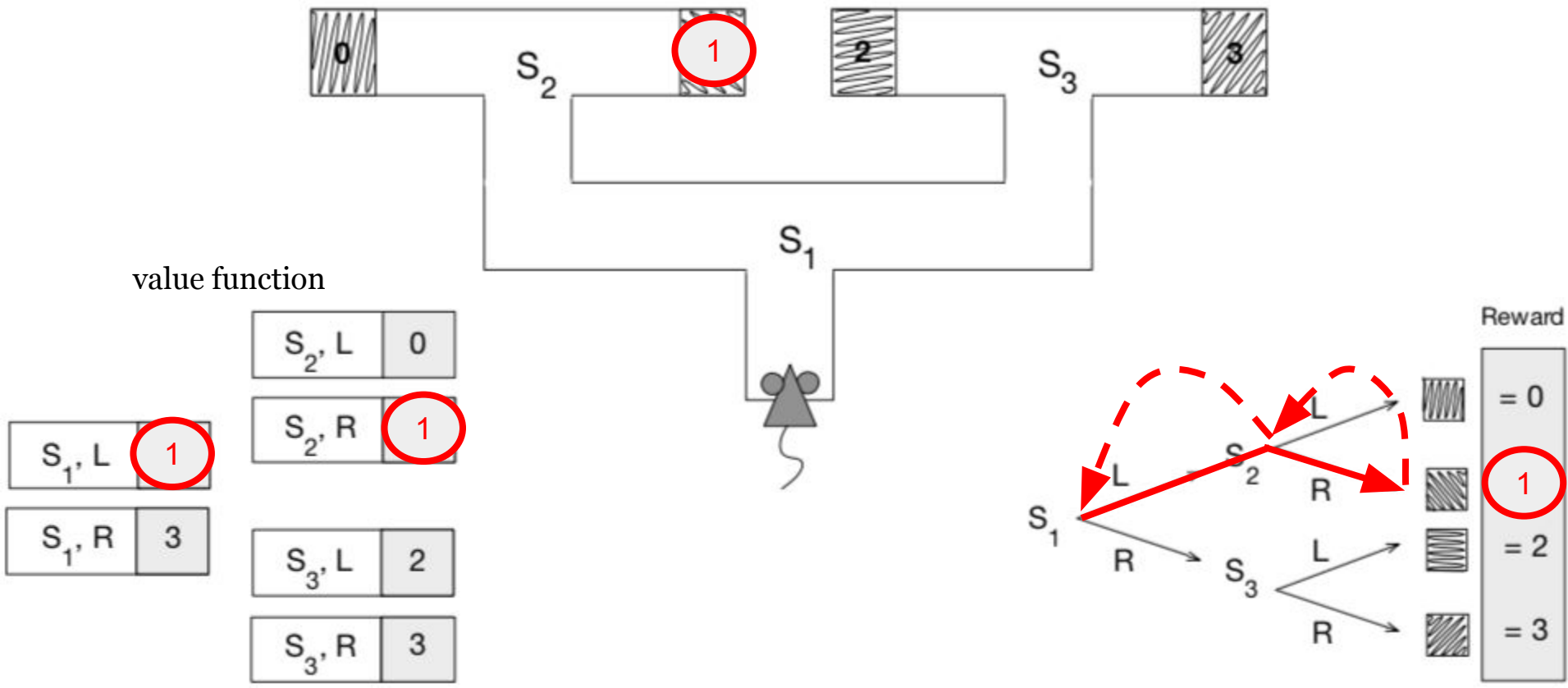


value function

$S_1, L$	1
$S_1, R$	3



# “offline planning” update via simulated outcomes



# dyna-q: “offline” updates using previous experience

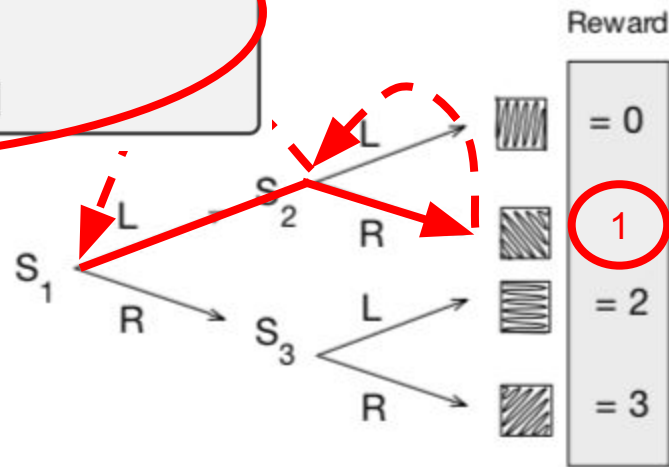
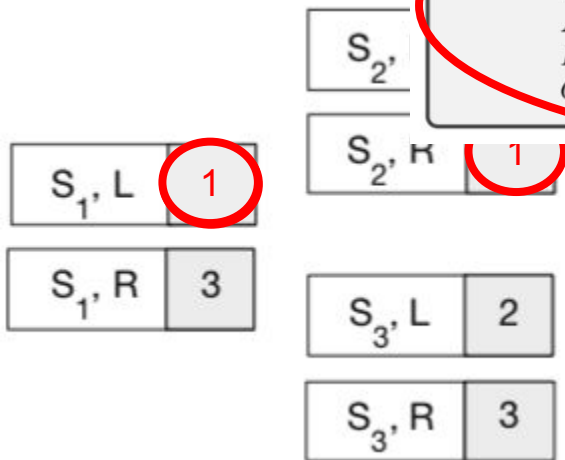
## Tabular Dyna-Q

Initialize  $Q(s, a)$  and  $Model(s, a)$  for all  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  and  $a \in \mathcal{A}(s)$

Loop forever:

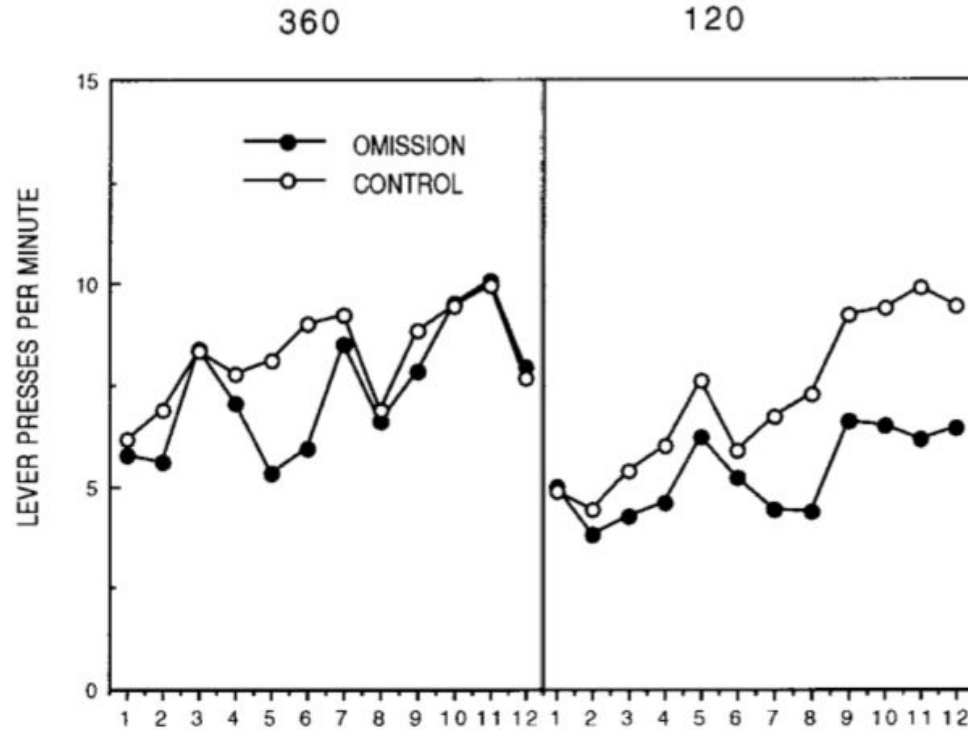
- (a)  $S \leftarrow$  current (nonterminal) state
- (b)  $A \leftarrow \epsilon$ -greedy( $S, Q$ )
- (c) Take action  $A$ ; observe resultant reward,  $R$ , and state,  $S'$
- (d)  $Q(S, A) \leftarrow Q(S, A) + \alpha [R + \gamma \max_a Q(S', a) - Q(S, A)]$
- (e)  $Model(S, A) \leftarrow R, S'$  (assuming deterministic environment)
- (f) Loop repeat  $n$  times:
  - $S \leftarrow$  random previously observed state
  - $A \leftarrow$  random action previously taken in  $S$
  - $R, S' \leftarrow Model(S, A)$
  - $Q(S, A) \leftarrow Q(S, A) + \alpha [R + \gamma \max_a Q(S', a) - Q(S, A)]$

value function





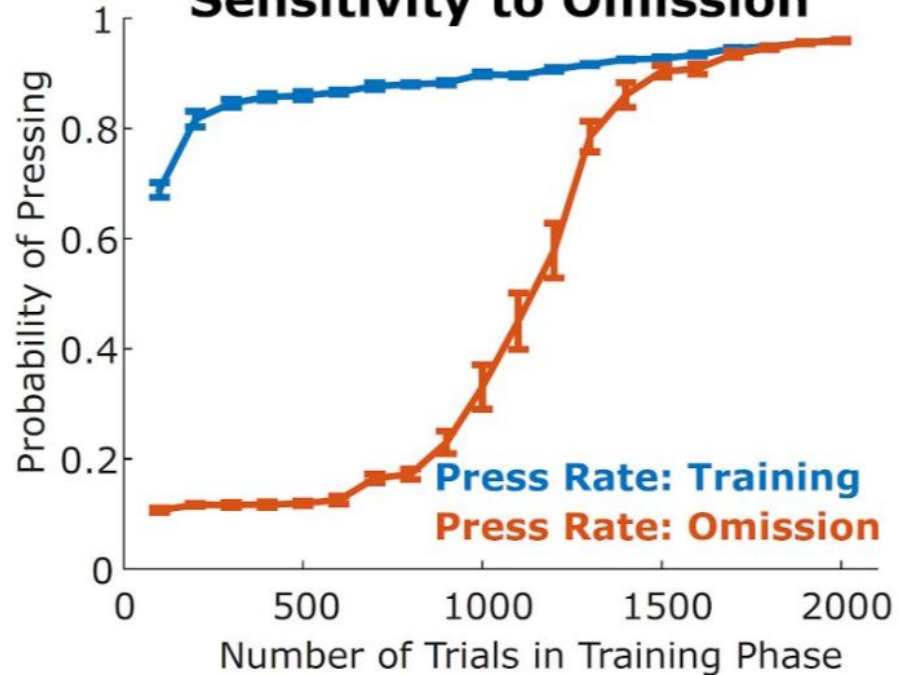
# “overtraining”



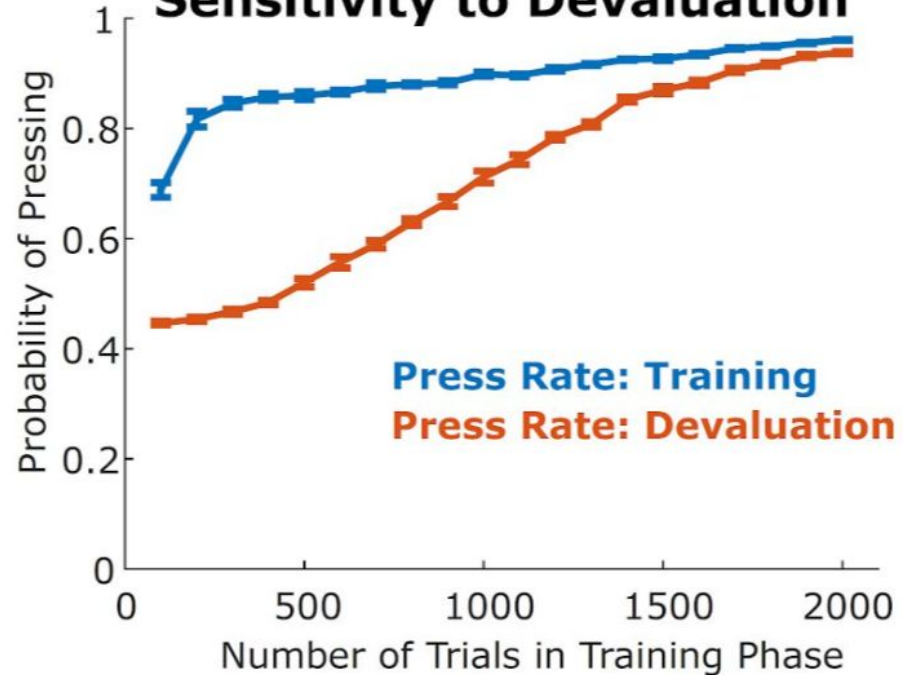
(adams 1982; dickinson et al 1998)

“overtraining”

### Overtraining Abolishes Sensitivity to Omission



### Overtraining Abolishes Sensitivity to Devaluation



# interim summary

internal model  *simulated* experience

**decision-time (“online”)** planning  
**background (“offline”)** planning

- allows sensitivity to changes in outcome value (“devaluation-sensitive”)
  - *even with no direct experience!*
  - animals are, mostly, devaluation-sensitive
    - inference: they are using a “flexible” “action-outcome” (A-O) representation
  - ... *unless* they are “overtrained”
    - inference: some other “stimulus-response” (S-R) representation takes over

# outline

I. motivations

II. behavioral signatures

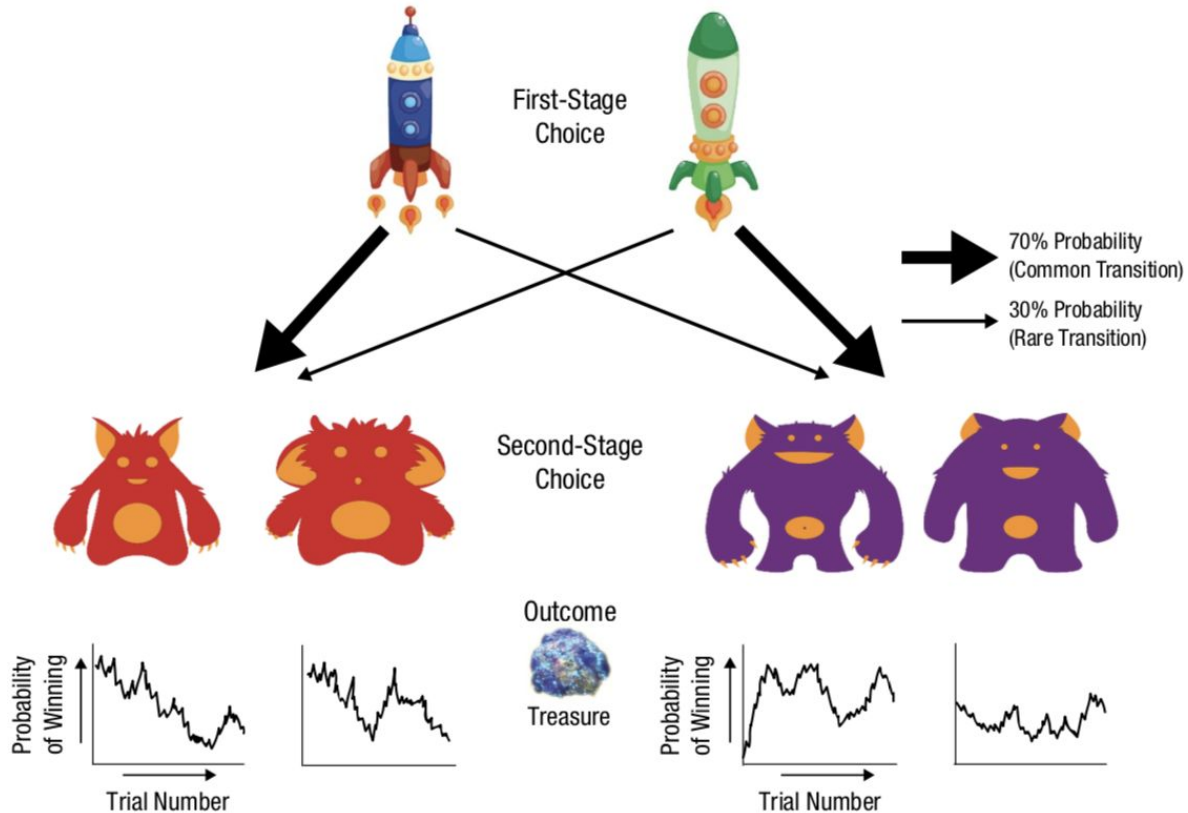
III. neural substrates

IV. if time: open questions

# signatures of model-based planning

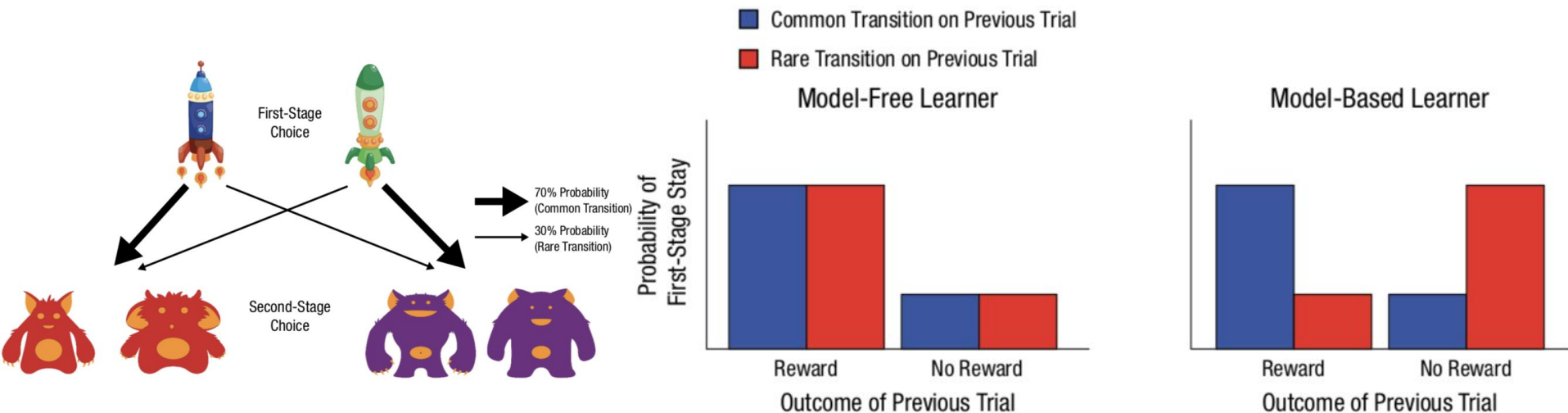
- sensitivity to outcome devaluation is one signature of model-based planning
- but not the most useful, in practice:
  - difficult to elicit overtraining / devaluation insensitivity in healthy humans
  - blocked tasks with coarse behavioral transition between “overtrained” and non-
  - would like a task that can elicit model-based and/or model-free behaviors, repeatedly
- another idea: test the model *update*

# the “two-step task”



(daw et al 2011; decker et al 2016)

# the “two-step task”



$$ModelFreeIndex = P(stay|RC) + P(stay|RU) - P(stay|OC) - P(stay|OU)$$

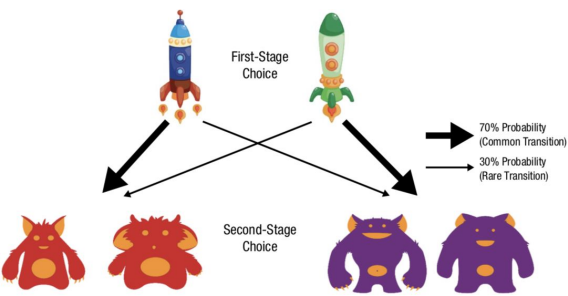
$$ModelBasedIndex = P(stay|RC) - P(stay|RU) - P(stay|OC) + P(stay|OU)$$

# the “two-step task”

■ Common Transition on Previous Trial

■ Rare Transition on Previous Trial

Proportion of  
First-Stage Stays



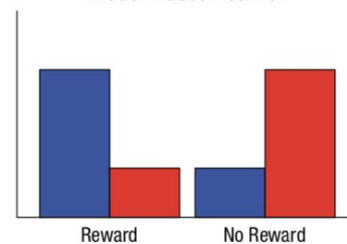
Adults



Model-Free Learner



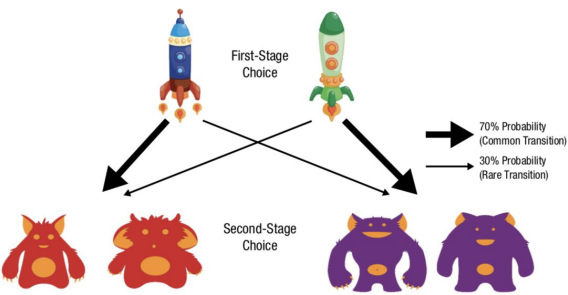
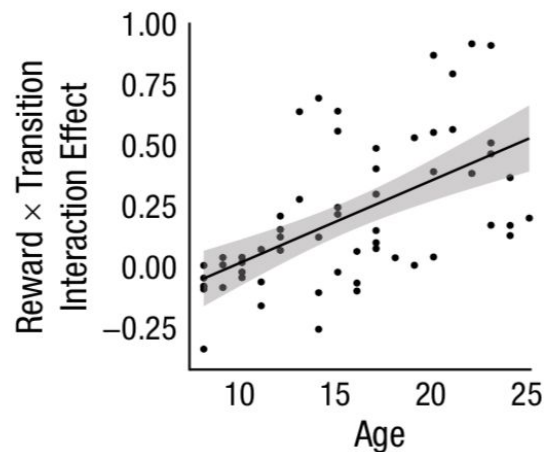
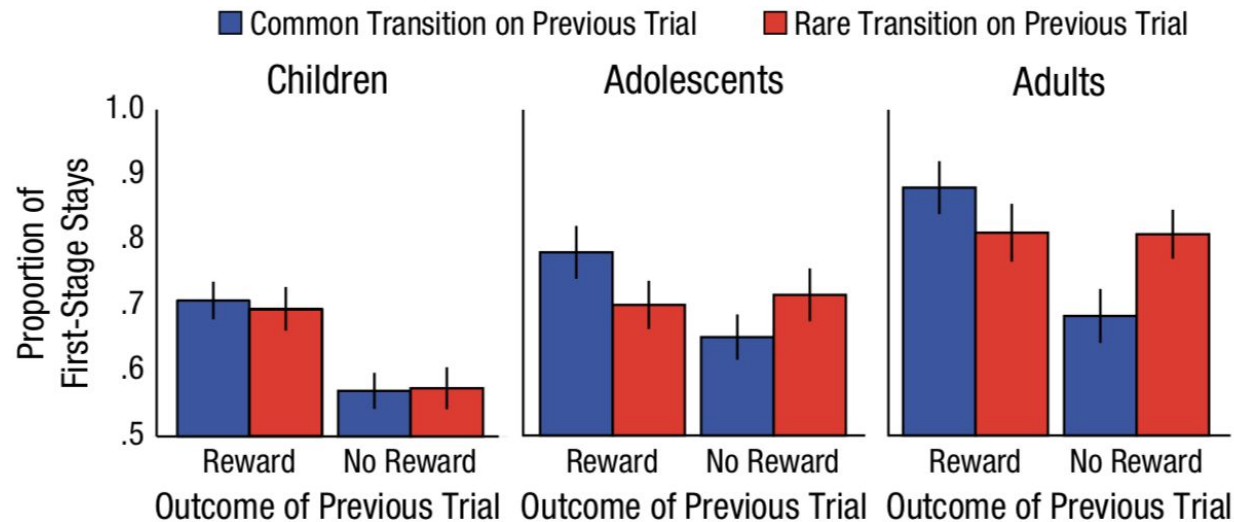
Model-Based Learner



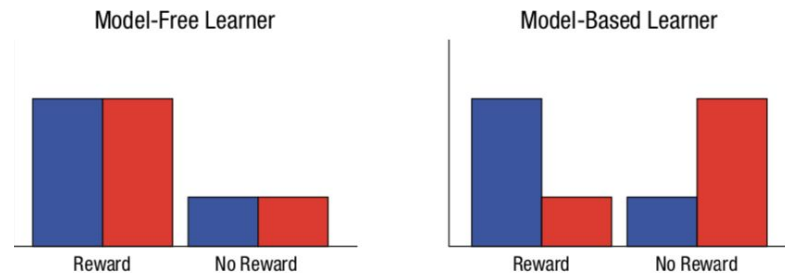
(daw et al 2011; decker et al 2016)



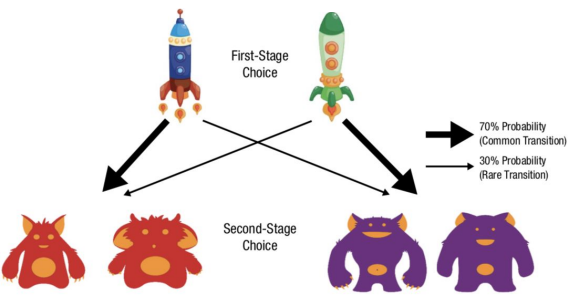
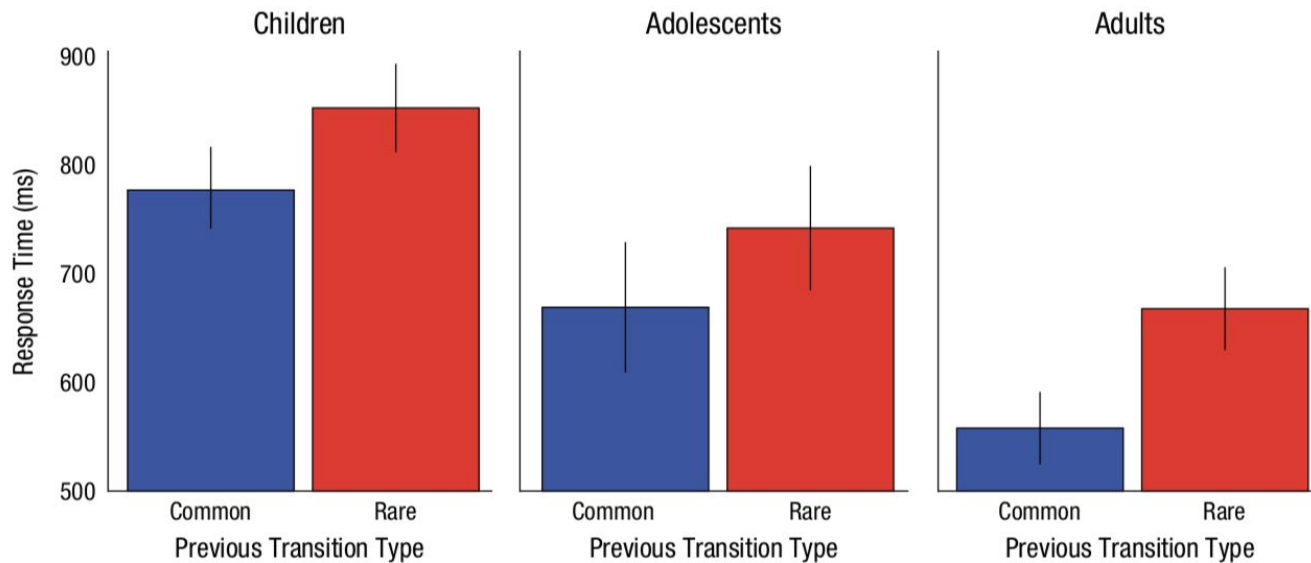
# models in development



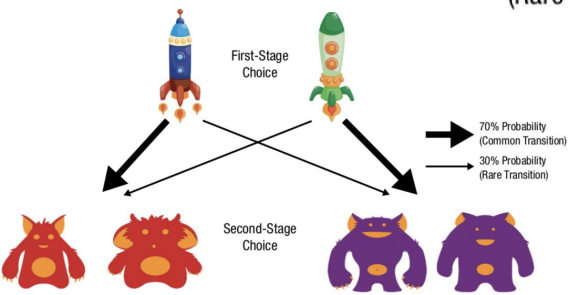
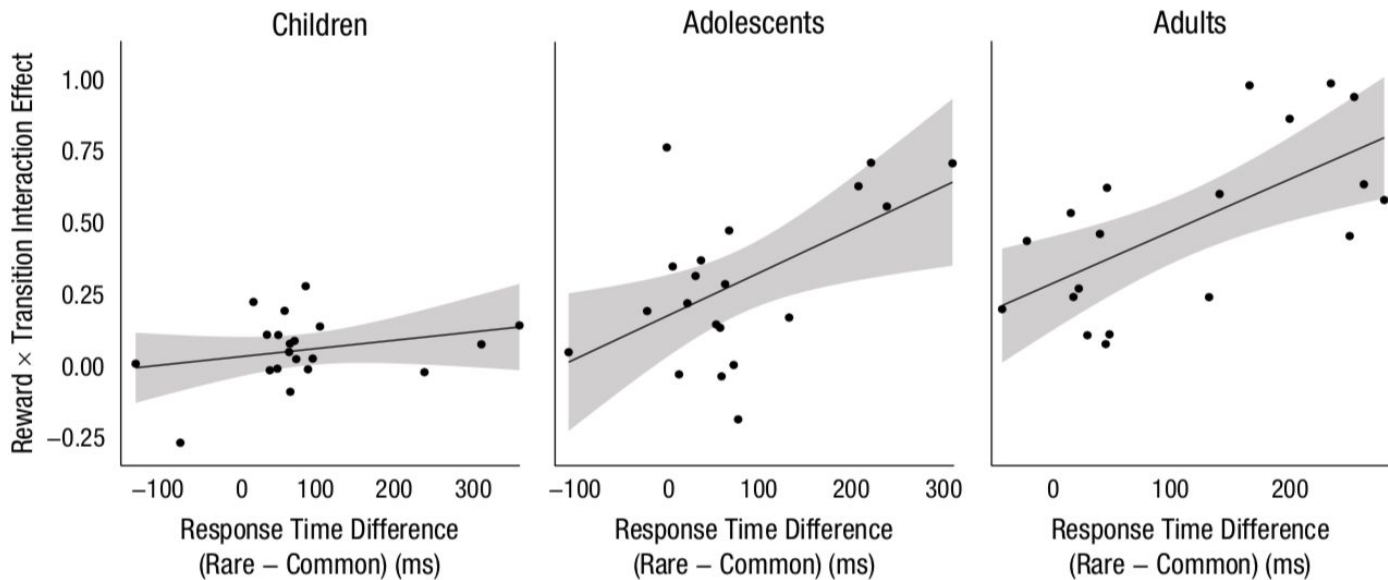
(decker et al 2016)



# “implicit” model-based

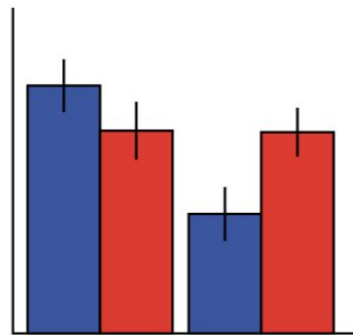


# “implicit” model-based



# uncertainty-based arbitration

- if these are to be combined, how might they be combined?
- idea: “uncertainty-based arbitration” (daw et al 2005)
  - at state  $S$ , each controller (mb, mf) produces a candidate action  $A$
  - these are **Bayesian**, not point estimates - they carry distributions over  $Q(s,a)$
  - thus they code for the **uncertainty** of each controller
- the source of the uncertainty depends on the controller
  - model-free uncertainty arises from little experience
    - width of the posterior of  $Q(s,a)$
  - model-based uncertainty arises from
    - estimation variance, e.g. width of the posterior of the transition function, due to computational “noise” — presumed heuristics (such as tree search strategies) of online planning
- explains transition from flexible to inflexible behavior



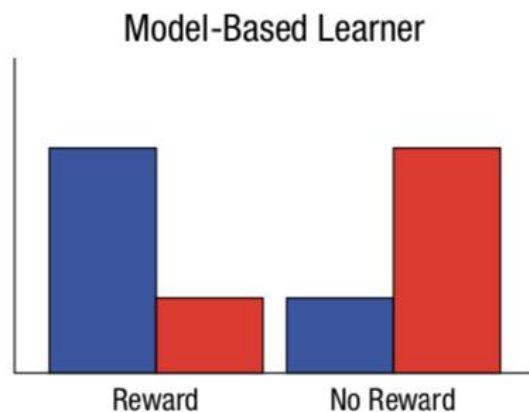
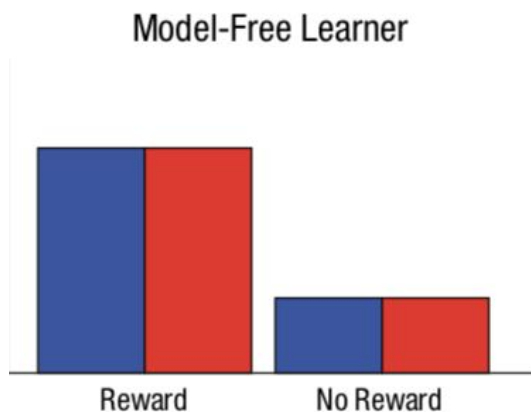
# “model-basedness” as a personality trait

- “model-based” index correlates with a variety of stable or semi-stable personality traits
  - working memory span (otto et al 2014)
  - moral judgements (crockett 2016)
  - negatively with compulsion disorders (gillan et al 2015, 2016; voon et al 2015)
  - negatively with schizophrenia symptoms (culbreth et al 2016)
  - patience in *deliberative* (not reflexive) intertemporal choice (shenhav et al 2016; hunter, bornstein, hartley in prep; cf solway et al 2017)

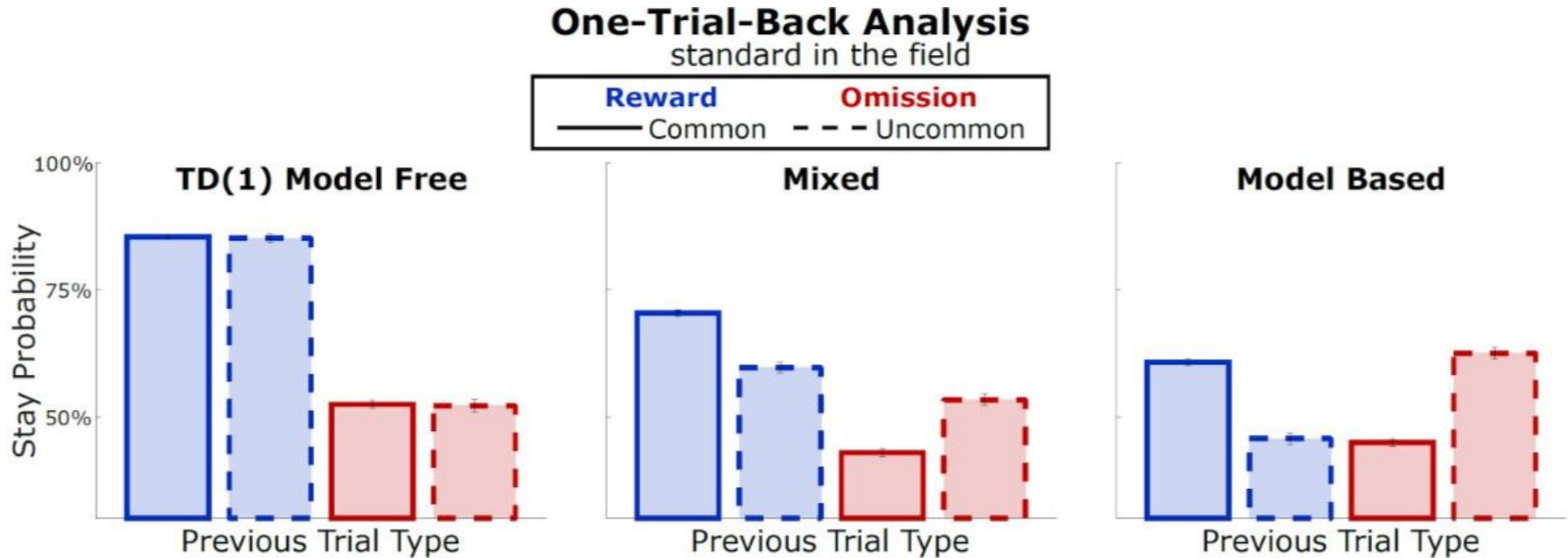
# one back stay/switch

$$ModelFreeIndex = P(stay|RC) + P(stay|RU) - P(stay|OC) - P(stay|OU)$$

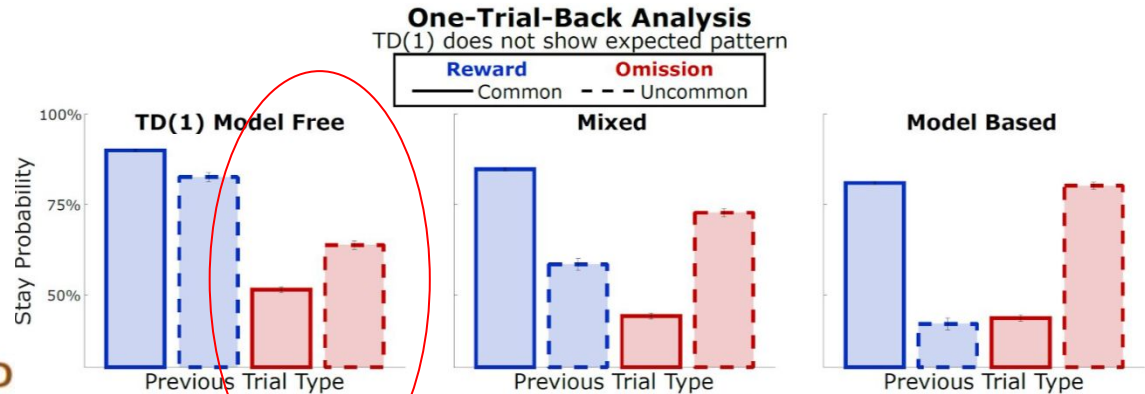
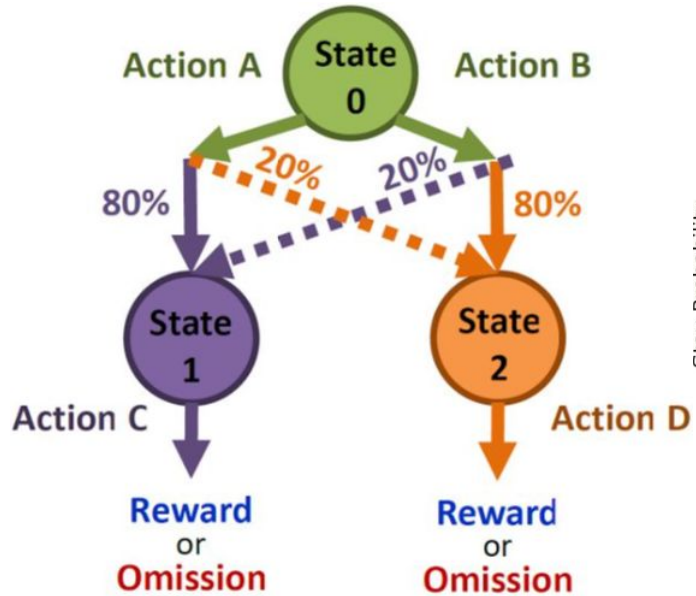
$$ModelBasedIndex = P(stay|RC) - P(stay|RU) - P(stay|OC) + P(stay|OU)$$



# n-back to the future



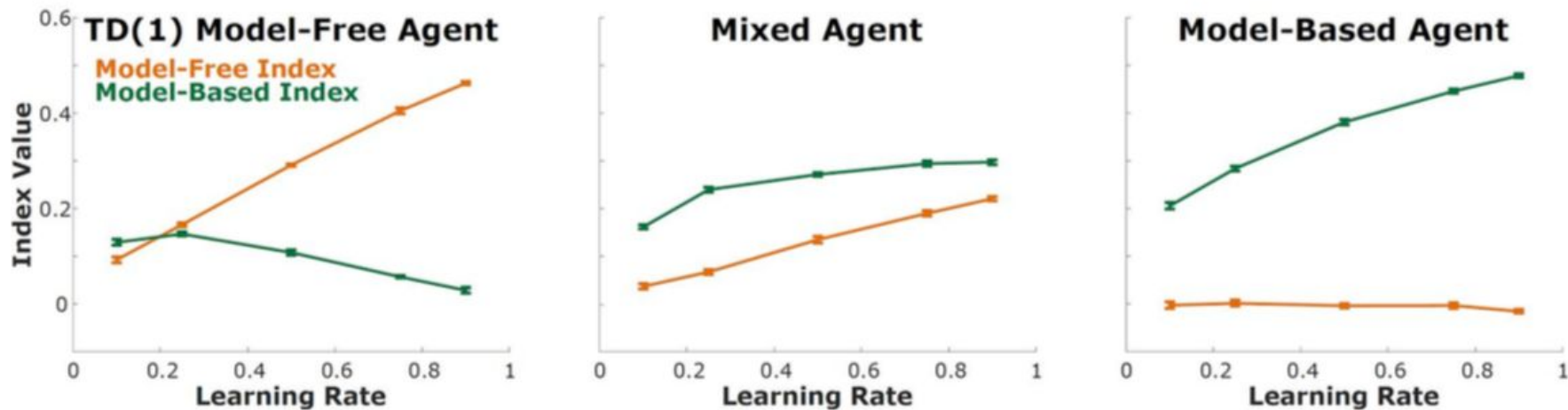
# model-free looks model-based in less-stochastic task





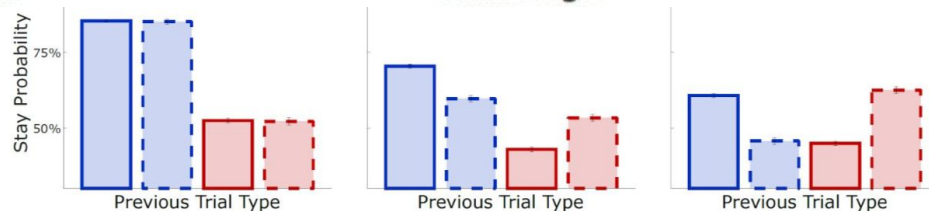
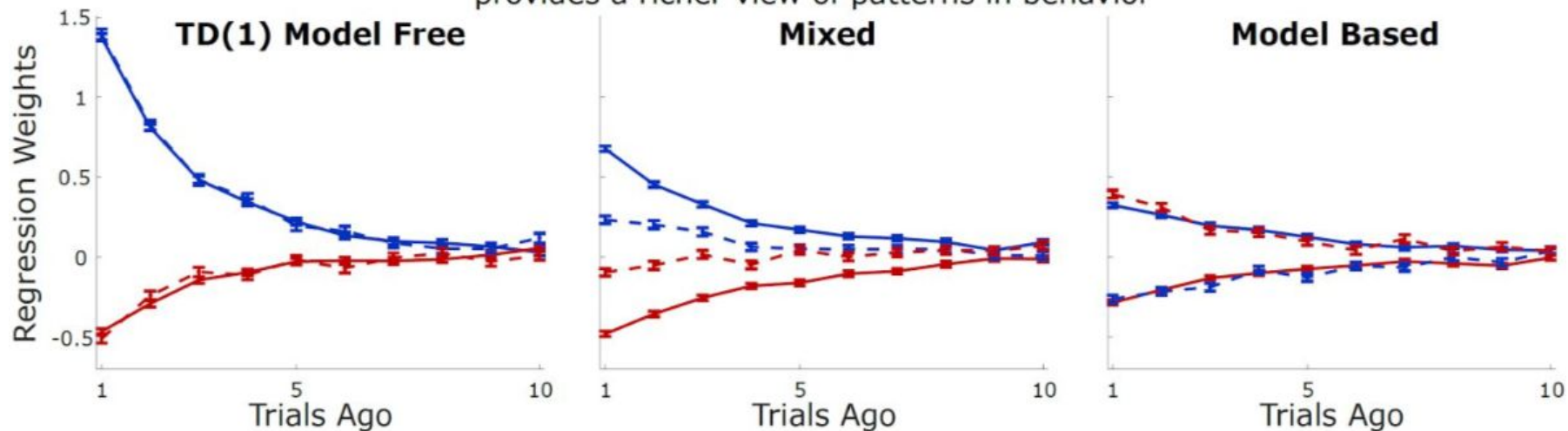
# “slow” model-free can look model-based

## One-Trial-Back Analysis substantially affected by learning rate



# n-back to the future

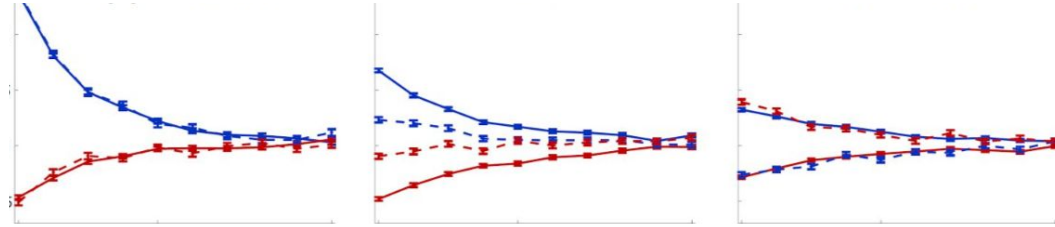
## Many-Trials-Back Analysis provides a richer view of patterns in behavior



(miller et al 2016)

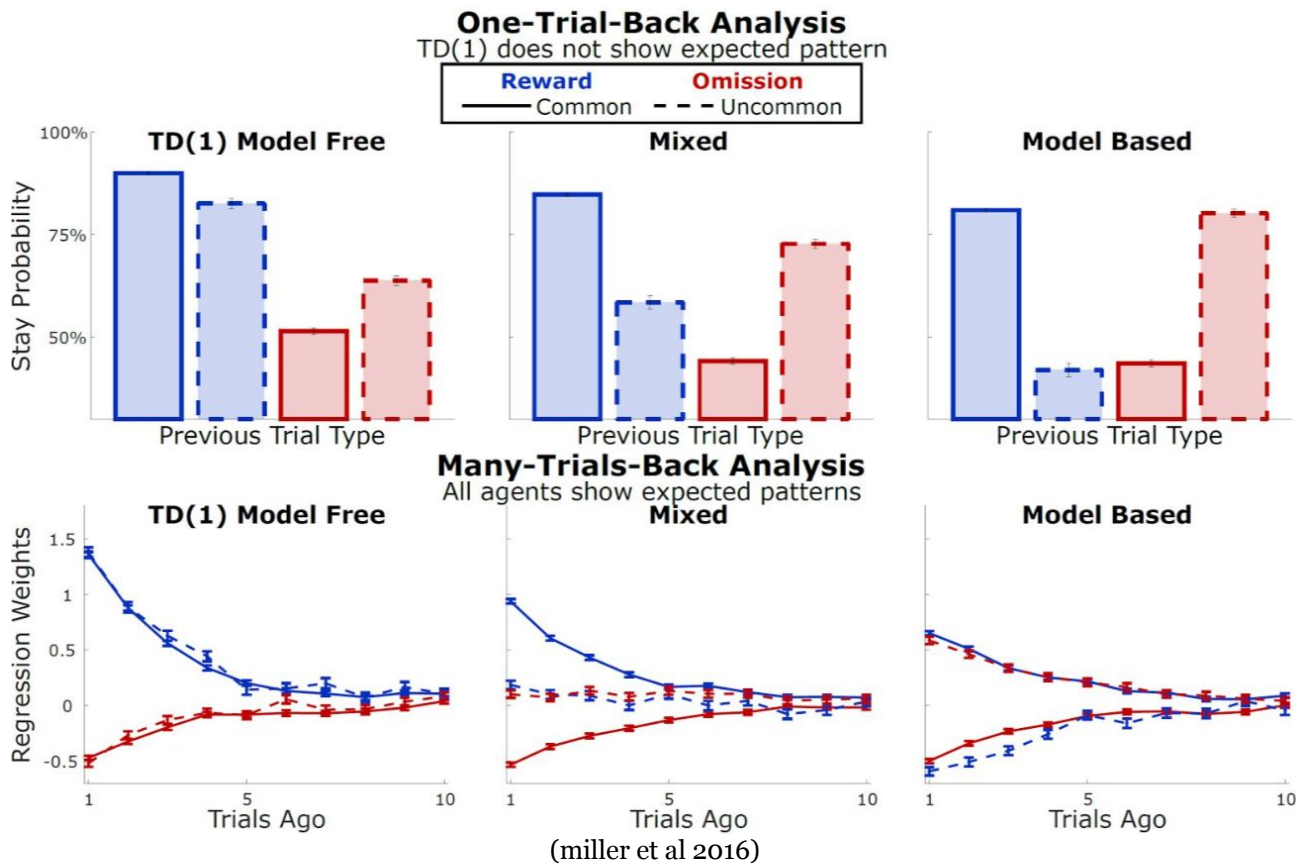
# n-back to the future

$$\begin{aligned} \log \left( \frac{P_{left}(t)}{P_{right}(t)} \right) &= \sum_{\tau=1}^T \beta_{RC}(\tau) * RC(t - \tau) \\ &+ \sum_{\tau=1}^T \beta_{RU}(\tau) * RU(t - \tau) \\ &+ \sum_{\tau=1}^T \beta_{OC}(\tau) * OC(t - \tau) \\ &+ \sum_{\tau=1}^T \beta_{OU}(\tau) * OU(t - \tau) \end{aligned}$$



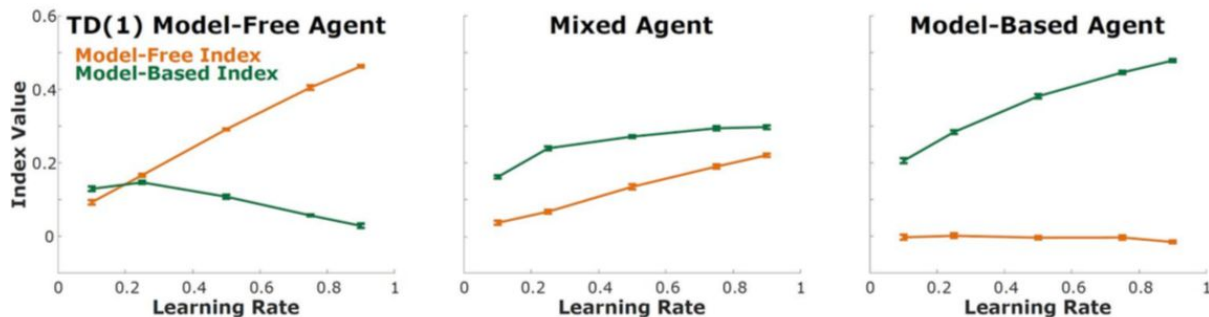
$$\begin{aligned} ModelFreeIndex &= \sum_{\tau=1}^T [\beta_{RC}(\tau) + \beta_{RU}(\tau)] - \sum_{\tau=1}^T [\beta_{OU}(\tau) + \beta_{OC}(\tau)] \\ PlanningIndex &= \sum_{\tau=1}^T [\beta_{RC}(\tau) - \beta_{RU}(\tau)] + \sum_{\tau=1}^T [\beta_{OU}(\tau) - \beta_{OC}(\tau)] \end{aligned}$$

# model-free can look model-based

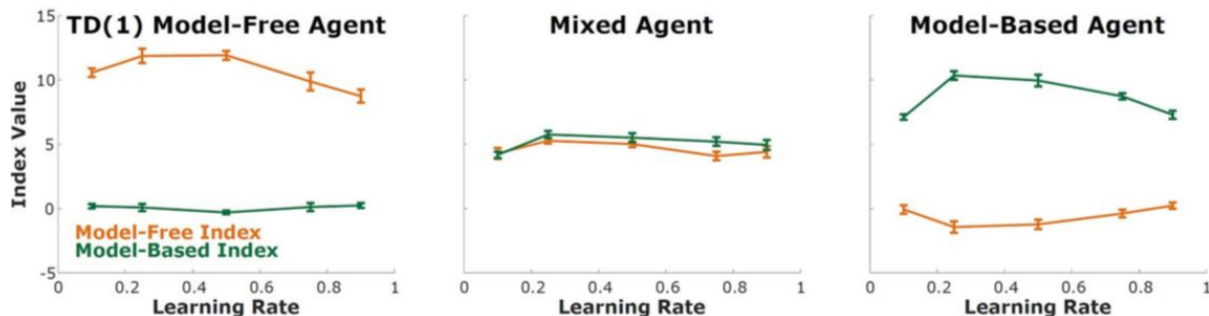


# “slow” model-free can look model-based

**One-Trial-Back Analysis**  
substantially affected by learning rate

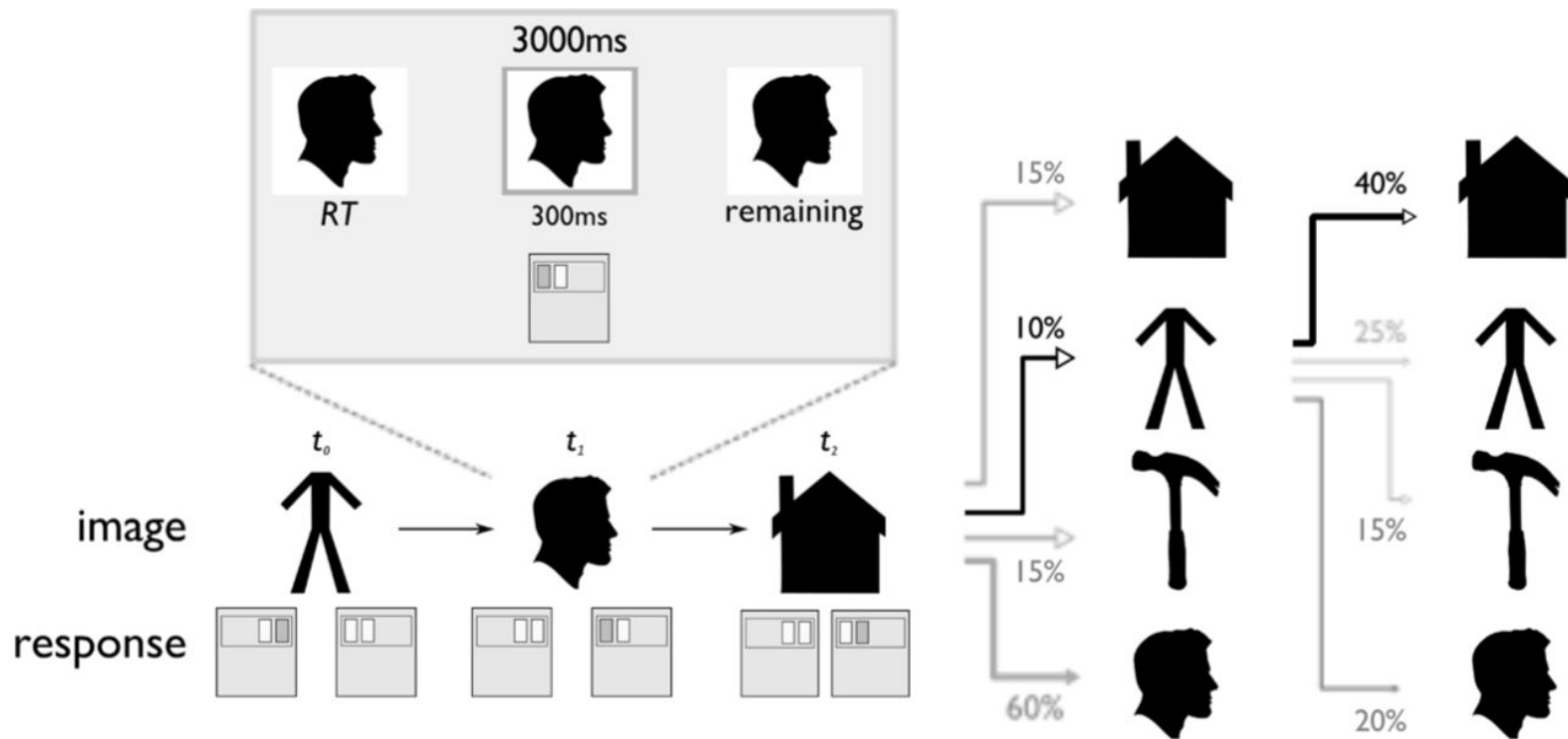


**Many-Trials-Back Analysis**  
less affected by learning rate

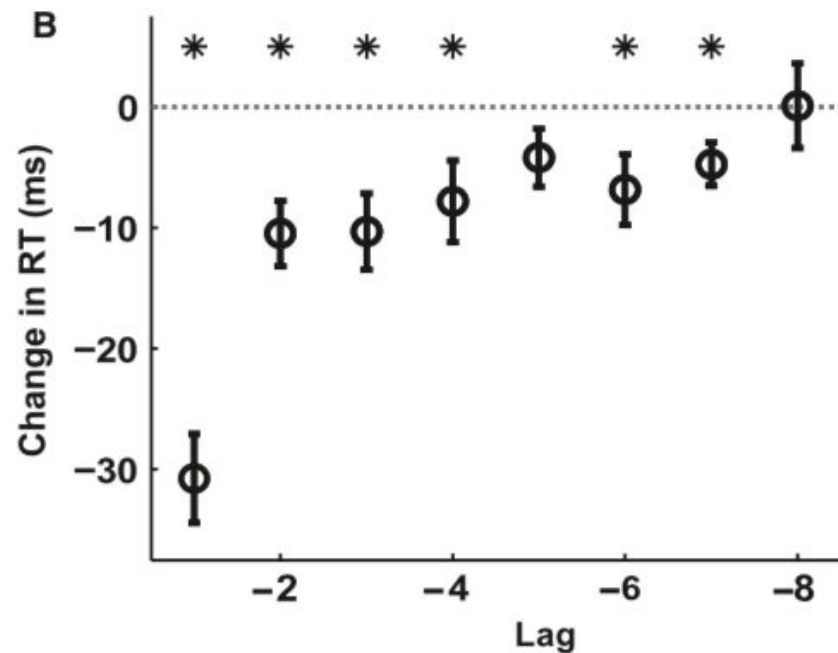
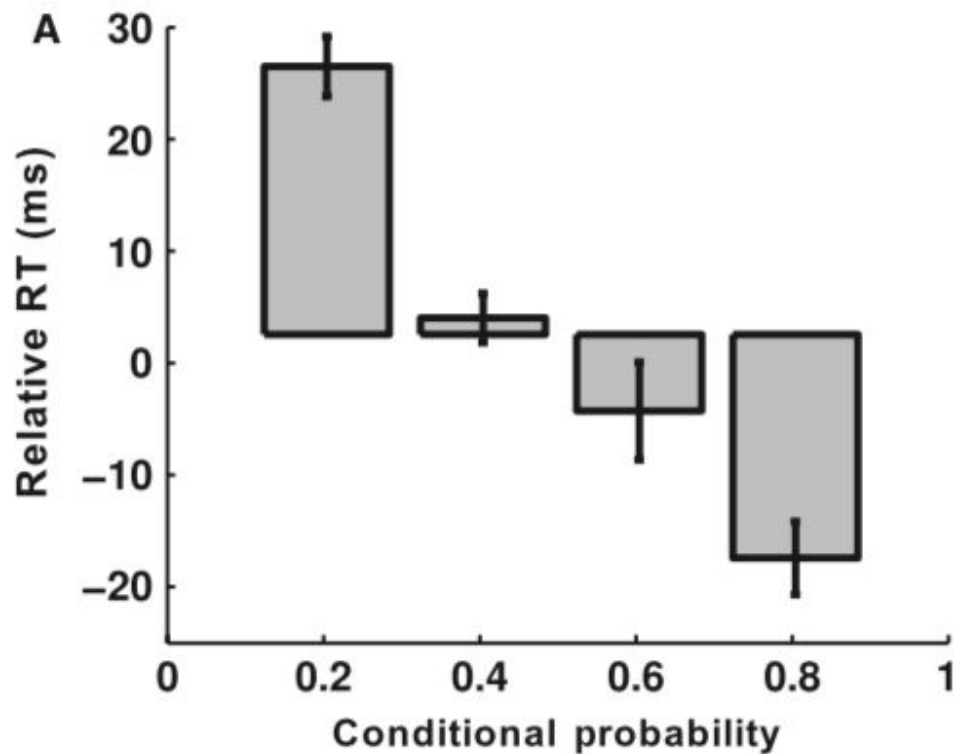


# “latent” learning

# “latent” learning

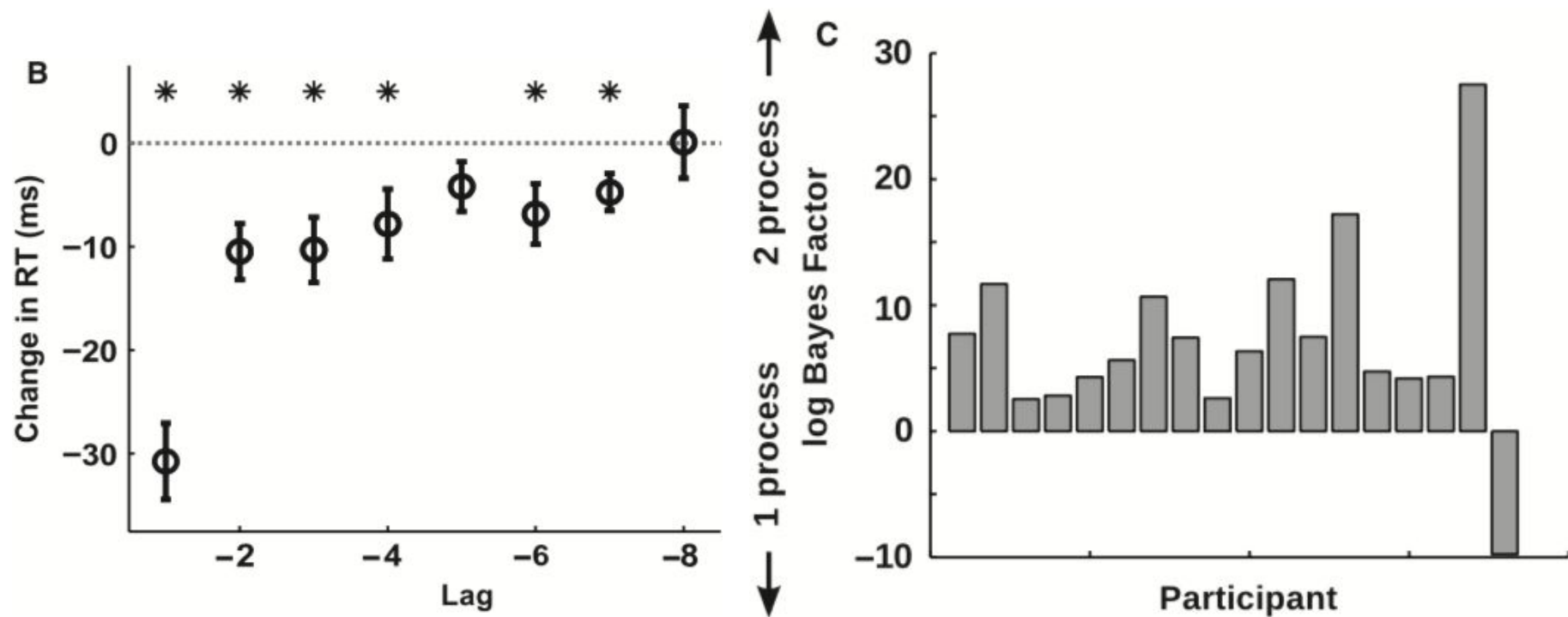


# “latent” learning

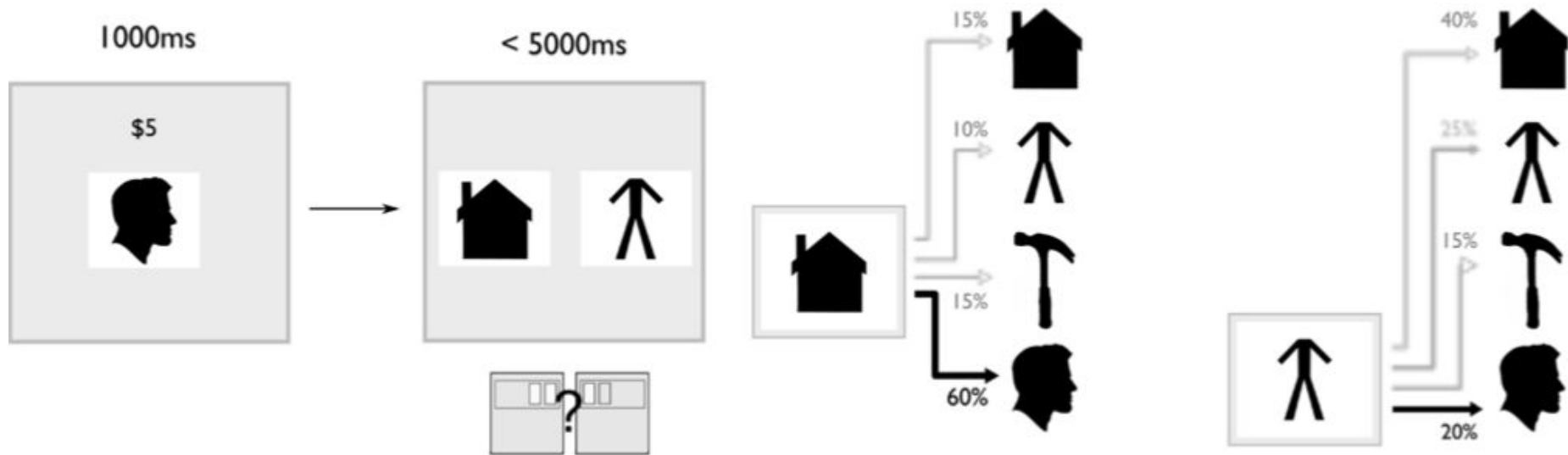




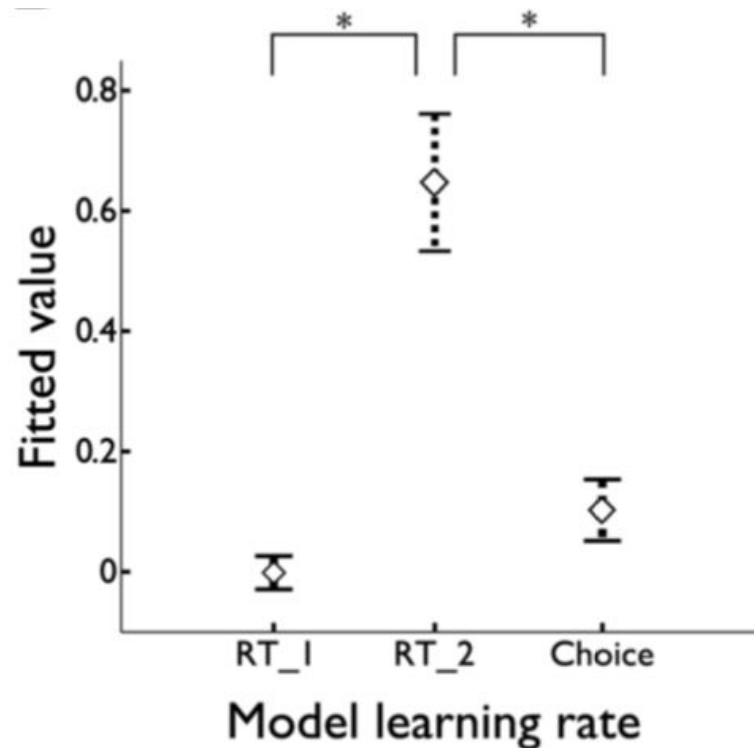
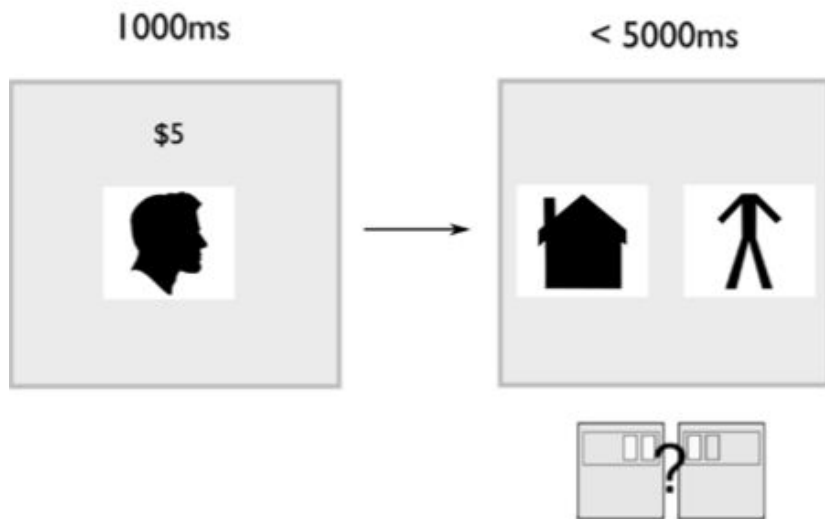
# “latent” learning



# “latent” learning



# “latent” learning



# interim summary

- “model-based” behavior can be distinguished by:
  - a. **outcome-sensitivity**: quick response to outcome devaluation
  - b. **offline updating**: value function updates that reflect knowledge of transition structure
  - c. **online evaluation**: use of transition function to make online decisions with novel rewards
- model-based and model-free behavior can “trade off” based on computational demands of the current task
  - model-free: simple structure, lots of experience
  - model-based: complex structure, little experience

# outline

I. motivations

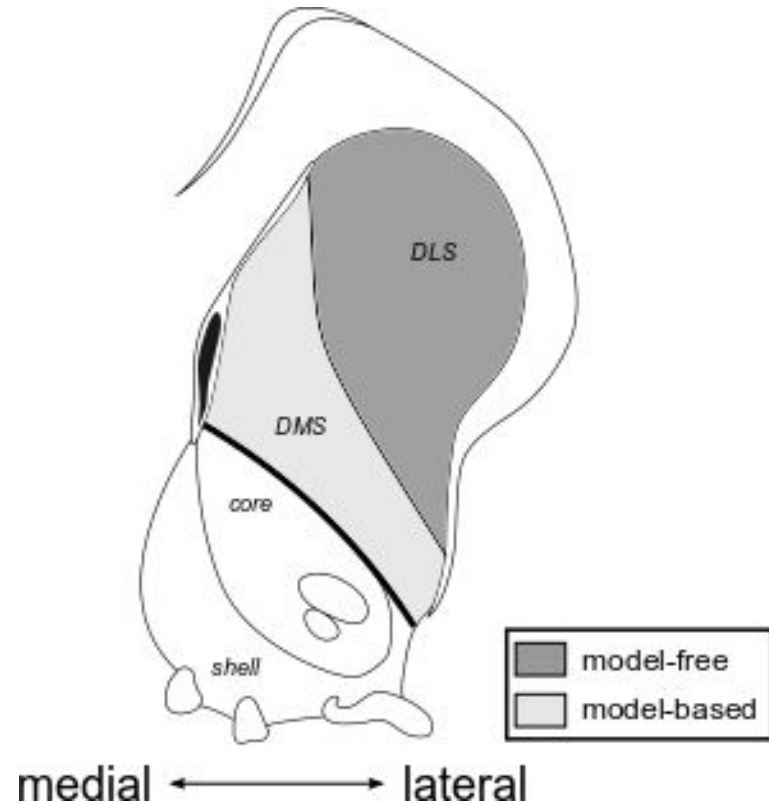
II. behavioral signatures

III. neural substrates

IV. if time: open questions

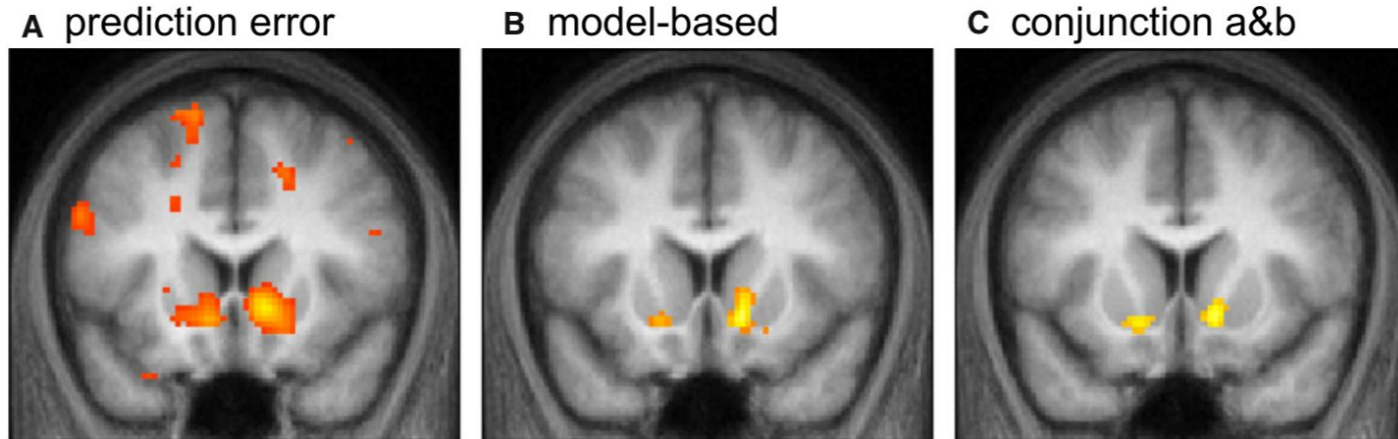
# neural substrates: striatal subdivisions

- muscimol inactivations to dorsolateral striatum impair overtraining (yin et al 2004)
- inactivations to dorsomedial striatum enhance devaluation-insensitivity (yin et al 2005)
- interpretation:
  - neural ensembles in DLS reflect “stimulus-response” (S-R) associations
  - in DMS, “action-outcome” (A-O) associations

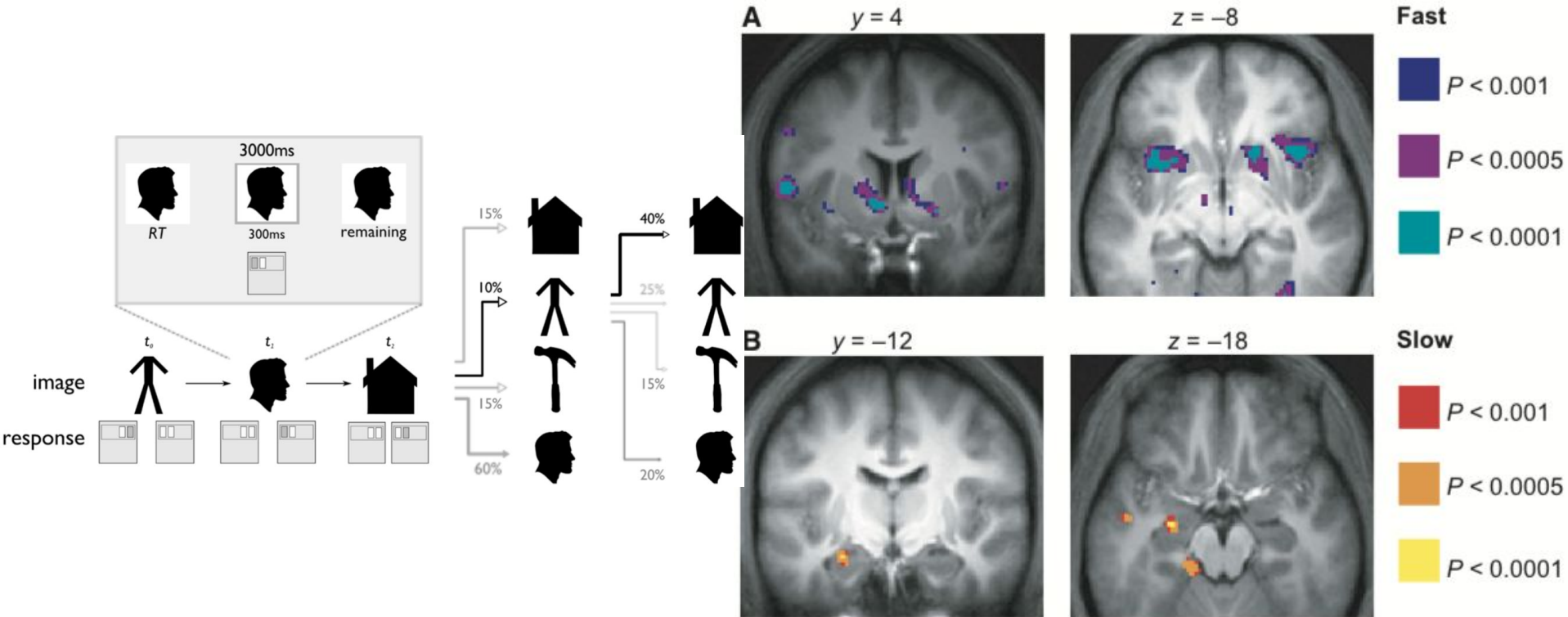


# neural substrates: RPE

- ventral striatum is a primary target of the midbrain dopaminergic nuclei
- BOLD signal in vStr tracks RPE (mcclure et al 2004; daw, o'doherty et al 2006)
- in *repeated* choice tasks, RPE reflects a mixture of model-based and model-free influence (daw et al 2011; simon & daw 2011)
- in *planning-based* tasks, RPE reflects solely model-based influence (bornstein & daw 2013)

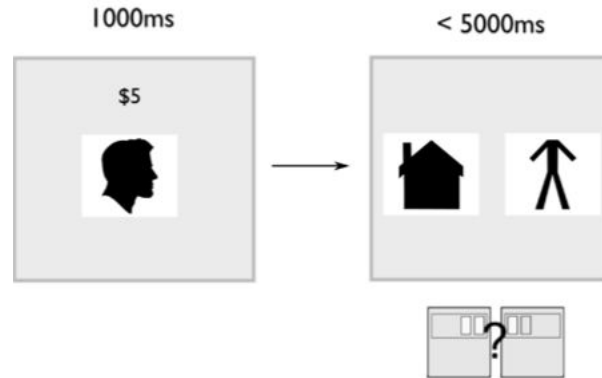
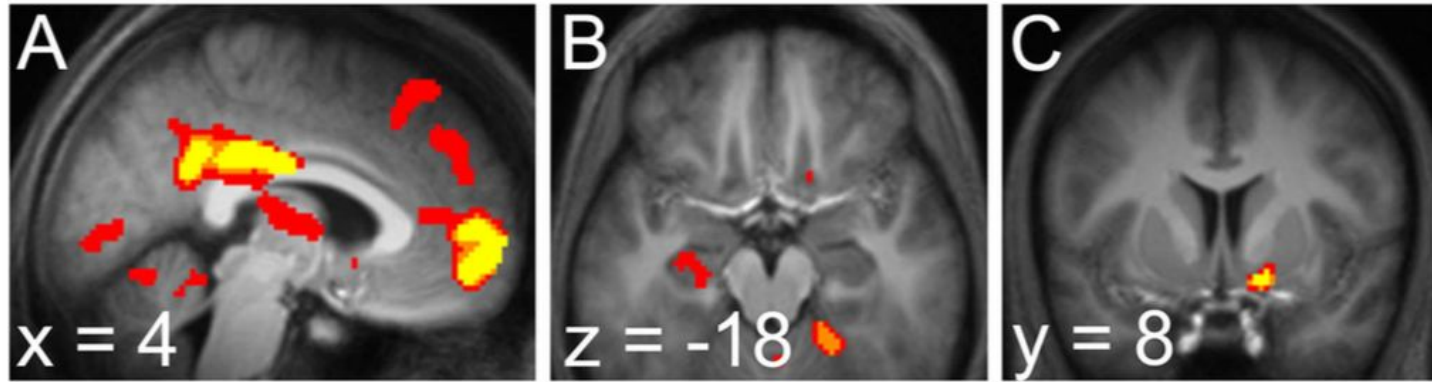


# multiple model-based

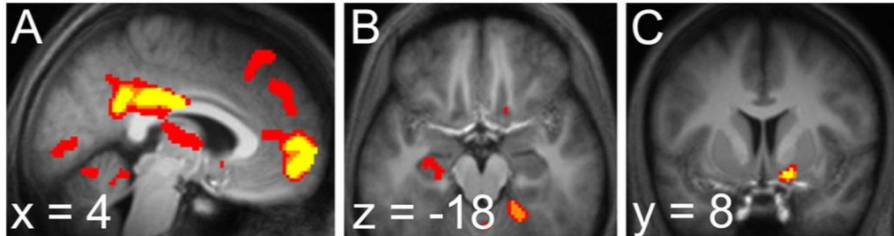
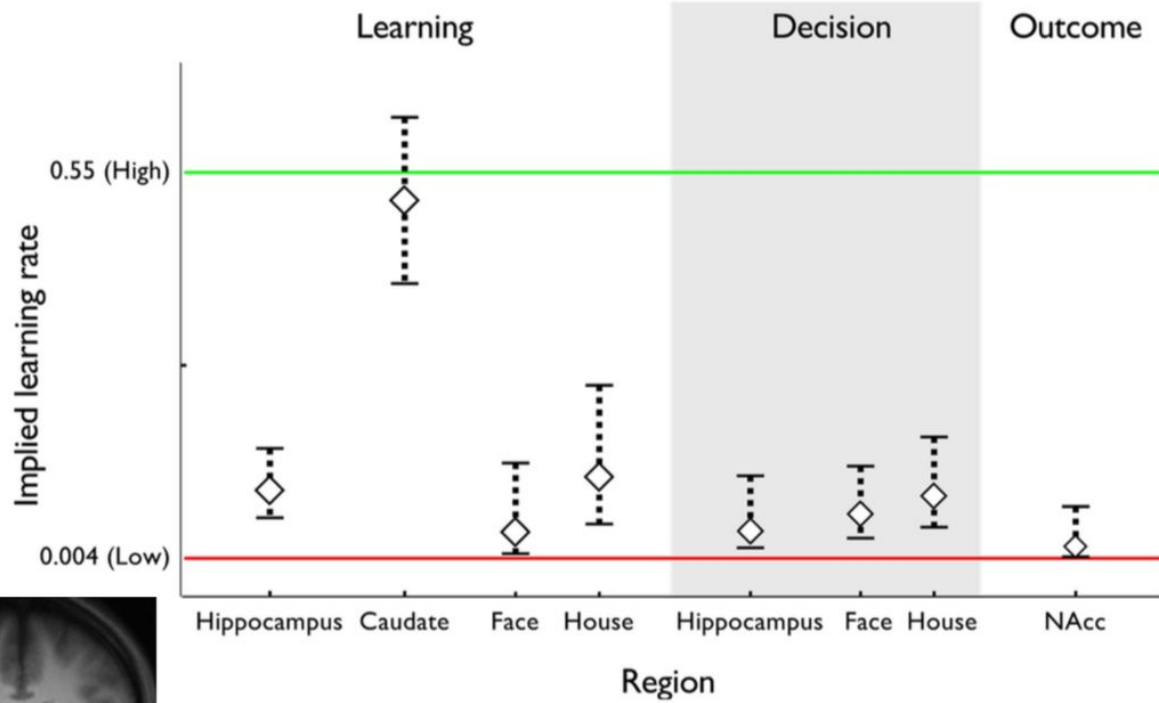




# only hippocampus predicts planning for reward



# only hippocampus predicts planning for reward



# where ~~is~~ are the models?

- cerebellum (doya et al 2002)
- lateral PFC/prelimbic (PL) cortex:
  - inactivations impair A-O learning (balleine et al 1998)
  - “state prediction errors” (glascher et al 2010)
  - muscimol inactivation impairs transitive reward inference (pan et al 2018)
- dorsomedial striatum/SMA:
  - inactivation impairs sensitivity to outcome-devaluation (yin et al 2005)
  - “ramping” predicts decisions (ding, gold 2010)
  - fast-timescale S-S transition learning (bornstein & daw 2012, 2013)
- MTL/hippocampus:
  - (right, but not left) MTL lesion patients are “model-free” in 2-step task (vikbladh et al 2018a)
  - slow-timescale S-S transition learning (bornstein & daw 2012, 2013)
  - “cognitive map” / replay (foster & wilson 2006; johnson & redish 2007; pfeiffer & foster 2013)

# how are these models used?

- trajectory sampling
- offline updating
- distribution-based lookahead(?)
- very open question

# summary

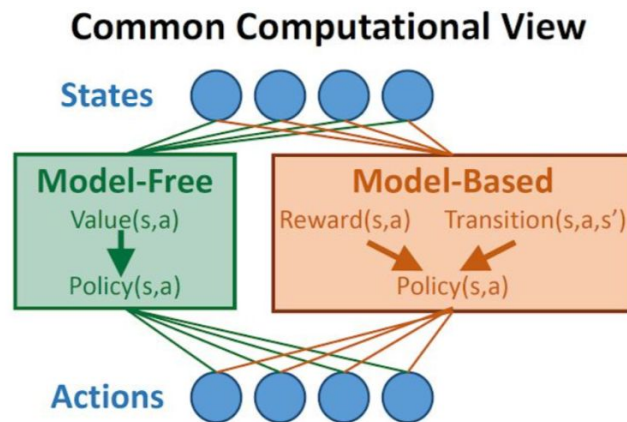
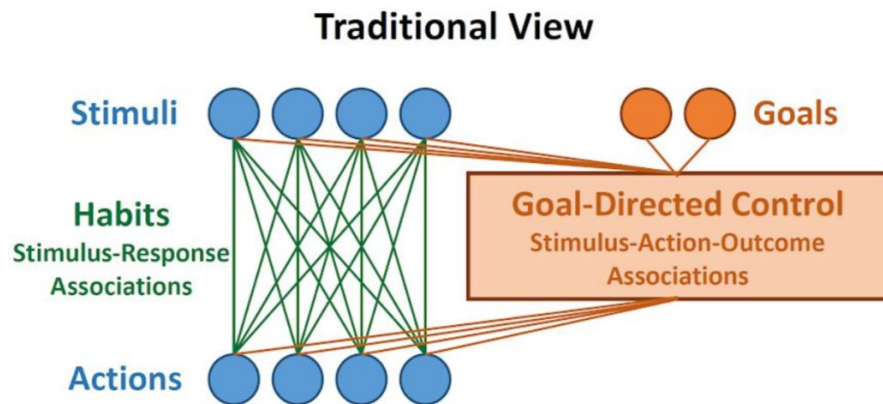
- “model-based” **planning**...
  - allows fast adaptation to changes in both rewards and contingencies
  - relies on a **value function**, just like “model-free” methods
  - but augments this with a **model** that can be used to update the value function via simulated experience
- multiple **representations** can be used to make decisions
  - these reflect various physical (motor, sensory) and latent (cognitive) structure(s)
  - the influence of each representation may depend on the uncertainty in that representation
- model use can be “online” or “offline”
  - these can be mutually beneficial

# outline

- I. motivations
- II. behavioral signatures
- III. neural substrates
- IV. open questions

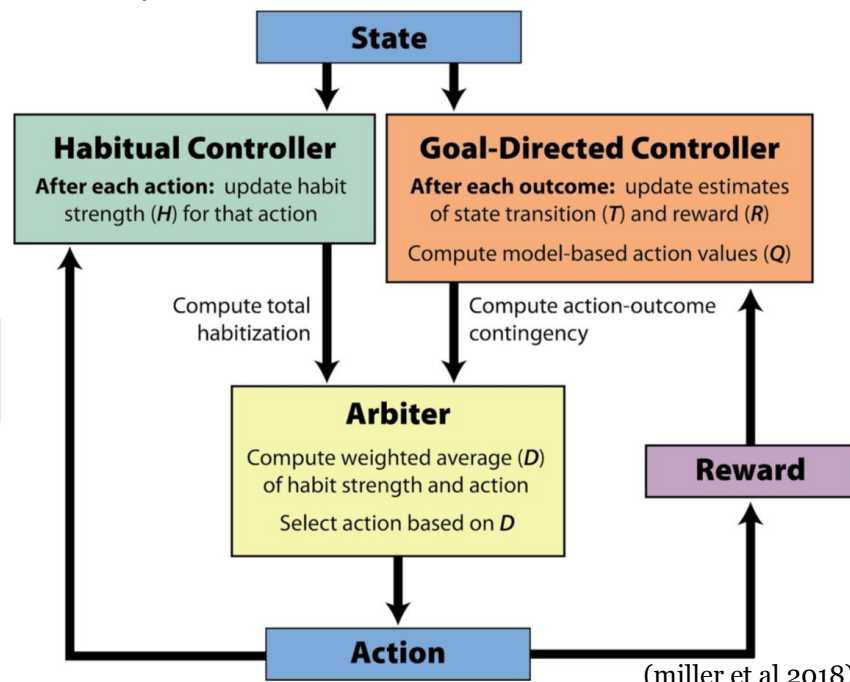
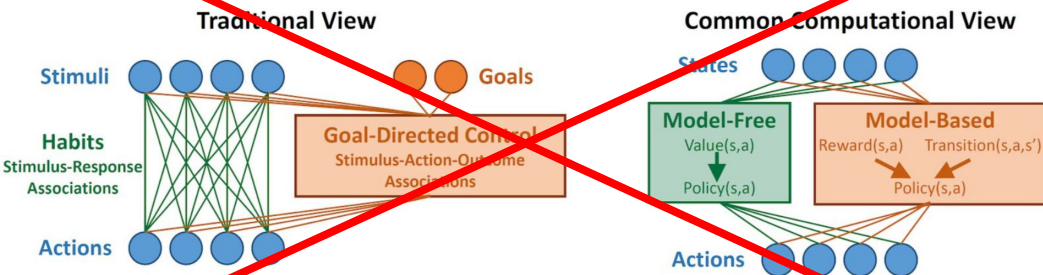
# open q: is anything truly “model-free”?

- pretty much every healthy behavior/neural signal reflects model use (doll et al 2012)
- model-based/model-free  $\neq$  goal-directed/habit?



# open q: is anything truly “model-free”?

- pretty much every behavior/neural signature model-based (doll et al 2012)
- model-based/model-free  $\neq$  goal-directed/habit?
  - habits may be “value-free” (miller et al 2018)





# open q: underlying representations

- computational RL: many varieties of “model”
  - *sample* models v *distribution* models

## **open question: sample updates or expected updates?**

- distribution models can be used to generate samples, or to compute entire expectations
  - this can be difficult to distinguish experimentally, at the level of aggregate behavior
  - can even be difficult to distinguish at the level of neural activity! (beck et al 2008; berkes et al 2010)
- neuroscience: a continuum of representations
    - full state-space (daw et al 2005; glascher et al 2010; smittenar et al 2013; wilson et al 2016)
    - flexible action sequences (doya et al 2002; bornstein & daw 2012)
    - flexible stim-stim sequences (“successor representation”; dayan 1993; bornstein & daw 2012, 2013)
    - episodes (lengyel & dayan 2008; bornstein & daw 2013; bornstein et al 2017a,b; vikbladh et al 2018a,b; ritter et al 2018)
  - further frontiers
    - not just states or plans (e.g. categories — [http://www.j-paine.org/dobbs/why\\_be\\_interested\\_in\\_categories.html](http://www.j-paine.org/dobbs/why_be_interested_in_categories.html))
    - general principles apply across representations: learning incrementally, by experience, direct or simulated

# open q: trajectory sampling?

- no one has yet decoded *multi*-step decisions, either offline or online
- thus it's an open question whether planning is trajectory sampling, or single-step value-function updates

open q: whither nucleus accumbens?

# tomorrow

- state inference
- decisions by sampling (from memory)
- the episodic memory route to model-based planning

# further reading

- all cited papers are at: <http://aaron.bornstein.org/ccnss/>
  - plus some others i think are worth reading
- 2nd edition of sutton & barto book (latest update 2018.**07.03**):  
<http://incompleteideas.net/book/the-book-2nd.html>
- forthcoming book: “goal-directed decision making: computations and neural circuits” — ask for pdfs in a couple months
  - table of contents: [http://aaron.bornstein.org/cv/pubs/2018\\_gdcnc/](http://aaron.bornstein.org/cv/pubs/2018_gdcnc/)
- happy to talk about research any time  $\implies$  [aaron@bornstein.org](mailto:aaron@bornstein.org)