

Reinforcement Learning



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Reinforcement Learning (RL)

- *What is RL?*
 - *Definitions & terminology*
 - *RL in human research vs RL in AI*
- *RL models (algorithms for prediction and control)*
 - *Classical conditioning*
 - *Rescorla-Wagner (R-W) model*
 - *(Bayesian or non-Bayesian) extension of R-W models*
 - *Operant (instrumental) conditioning*
 - *Model-free vs Model-based learning*
 - *Pavlovian control vs Instrumental control*
- *Adaptive Design Optimization within the RL framework*
- *Naturalistic RL*
- *Limitations & Future directions*

Learning objectives

Participants will...

- *Understand the key concepts and notations of RL (in multiple fields)*
 - “RL is everywhere”
- *Know (some of) popular RL models (& references)*
 - *Simple to complex models*
- *Limitations of (current) RL in CP and some new approaches*
 - *Naturalistic paradigms for RL, new (AI) algorithms in human RL research*

What is RL?

Why RL?

What is RL?

*“Learning what to do” ...
based on (an incomplete history of)
rewards and punishments*

*Sutton & Barto (1998) Reinforcement Learning
Dayan & Labott (2000) Theoretical neuroscience*

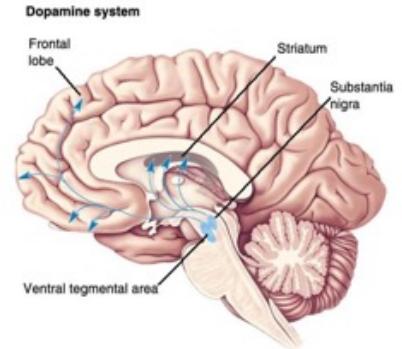
*“Learn optimal ways to make decisions”
in an uncertain environment*

Why RL in CP?

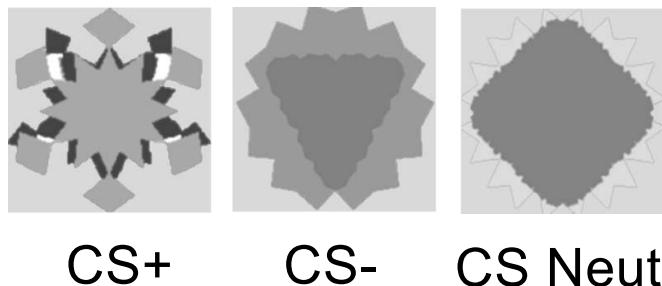
RL is everywhere & in multiple fields



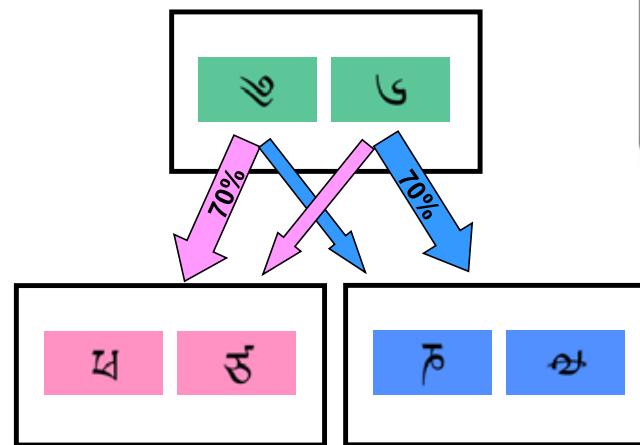
How do we study RL in humans?



“Classical laboratory tasks”



e.g., O'Doherty et al (2003) *Neuron*



Daw et al (2011) *Neuron*

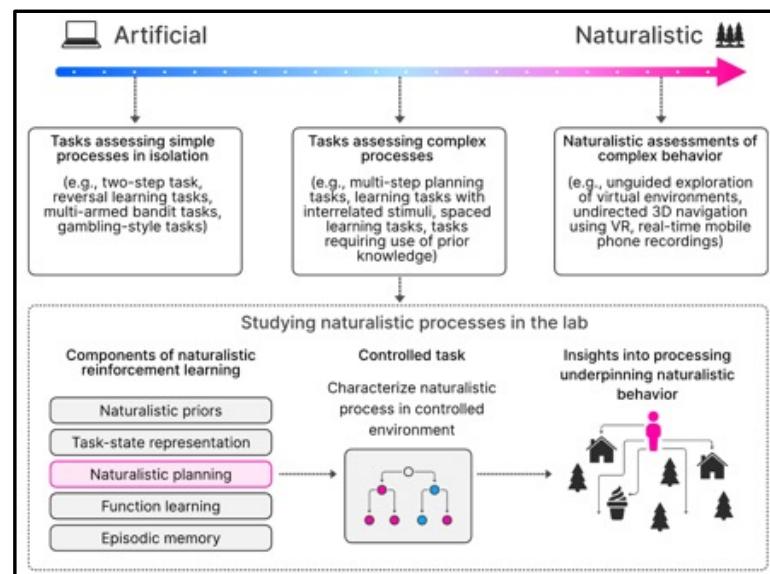
You won \$0.50, but lost \$0.75



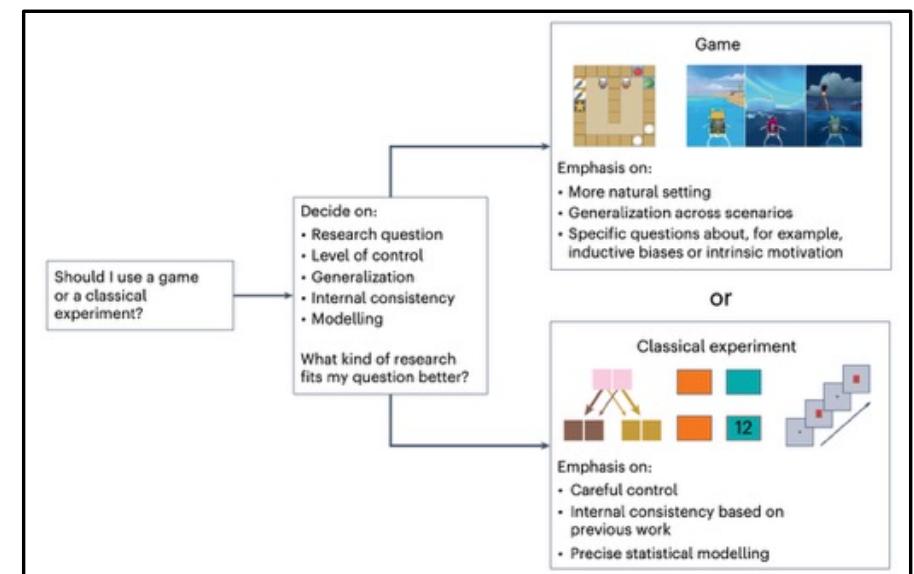
e.g., Bechara et al (1994) *Cognition*

How do we study RL in humans?

“Naturalistic RL tasks”



Wise et al (2023) Trends in Cog Sci



Allen et al (2024) Nature Human Behaviour

RL is a type of Machine Learning

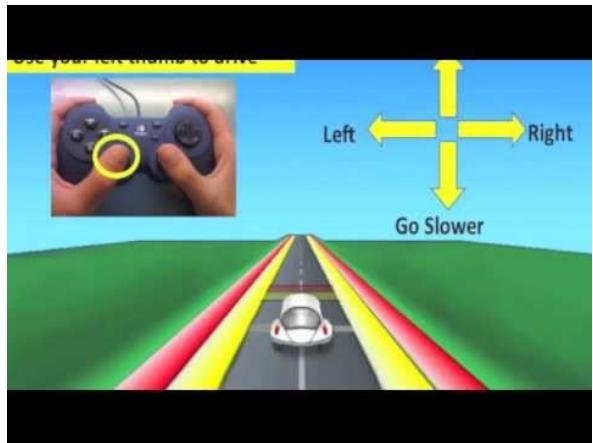
- *Supervised Learning*
- *Unsupervised Learning*
- *Reinforcement Learning*

Q) How is RL different from other ML paradigms?

- *No external supervisor (“minimally supervised”)*
- *Data is not i.i.d.! Reward signals (learn from trials and errors)*
- *Interaction with environment*
- *Goal: “all about data” vs “all about optimization”*

What to solve with RL?

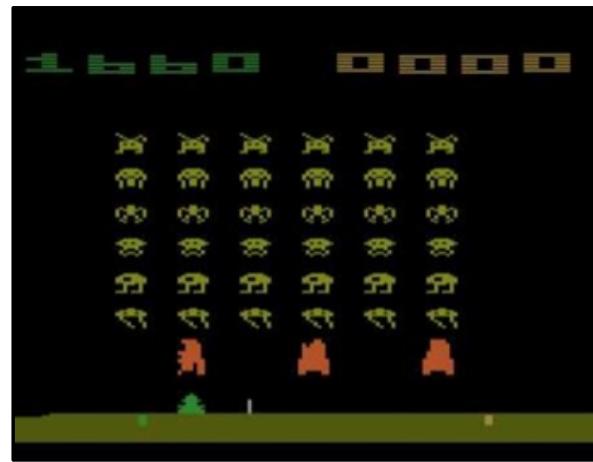
- *Maximize (cumulative) reward is not the only problem*
- *Other topics*
 - *Learning reward function from examples (inverse reinforcement learning)*
 - *Optimize environment to maximize information gain about agent (adaptive design)*
 - *Transferring knowledge between domains (transfer learning, meta-learning,*



Anguera et al (2013) Nature



Silver et al (2016) Nature



Mnih et al (2015) Nature



Machine learning / DNN in Decision Neuroscience

Neuron

 CellPress

Review

Deep Reinforcement Learning and Its Neuroscientific Implications

Matthew Botvinick,^{1,2,*} Jane X. Wang,¹ Will Dabney,¹ Kevin J.

¹DeepMind, London, UK

²University College London, London, UK

*Correspondence: botvinick@google.com

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuron.2020.06.014>

Article

Neuron

Using deep reinforcement learning to reveal how the brain encodes abstract state-space representations in high-dimensional environments

Molecular Psychiatry (2019) 24:1583–1598

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41380-019-0365-9>

EXPERT REVIEW



Deep neural networks in psychiatry

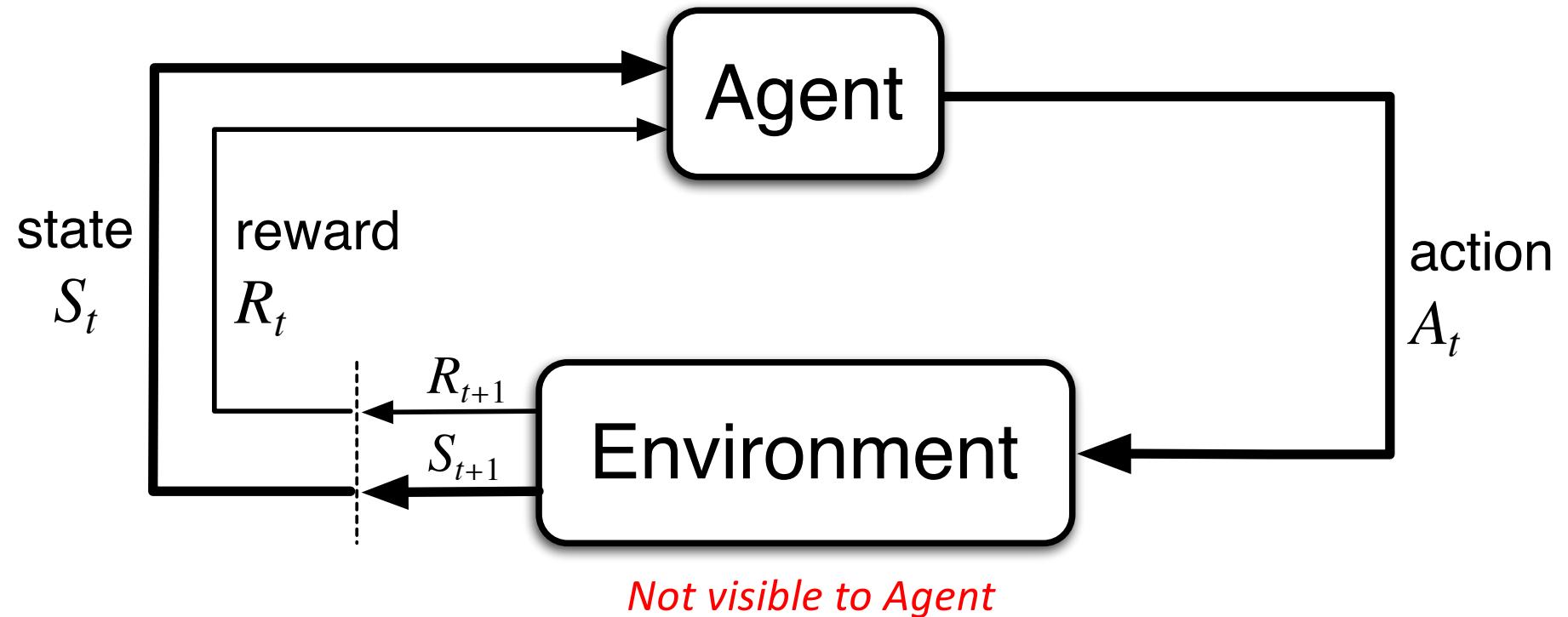
Daniel Durstewitz¹ · Georgia Koppe^{1,2} · Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg²

“Learn optimal ways to make decisions” in an uncertain environment

	<i>RL in human research</i>	<i>RL in AI</i>
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Mimic RL in real world & characterize individual differences</i>	<i>Generate optimal solution</i>
<i>Amount of data</i>	<i>Small</i>	<i>Very large</i>
<i># parameters</i>	<i>Typically < 10</i>	<i>A lot</i>
<i>Parameter estimation</i>	<i>Important</i>	<i>Estimate? Often fixed</i>

Agent-Environment Interface (check MDP lecture)

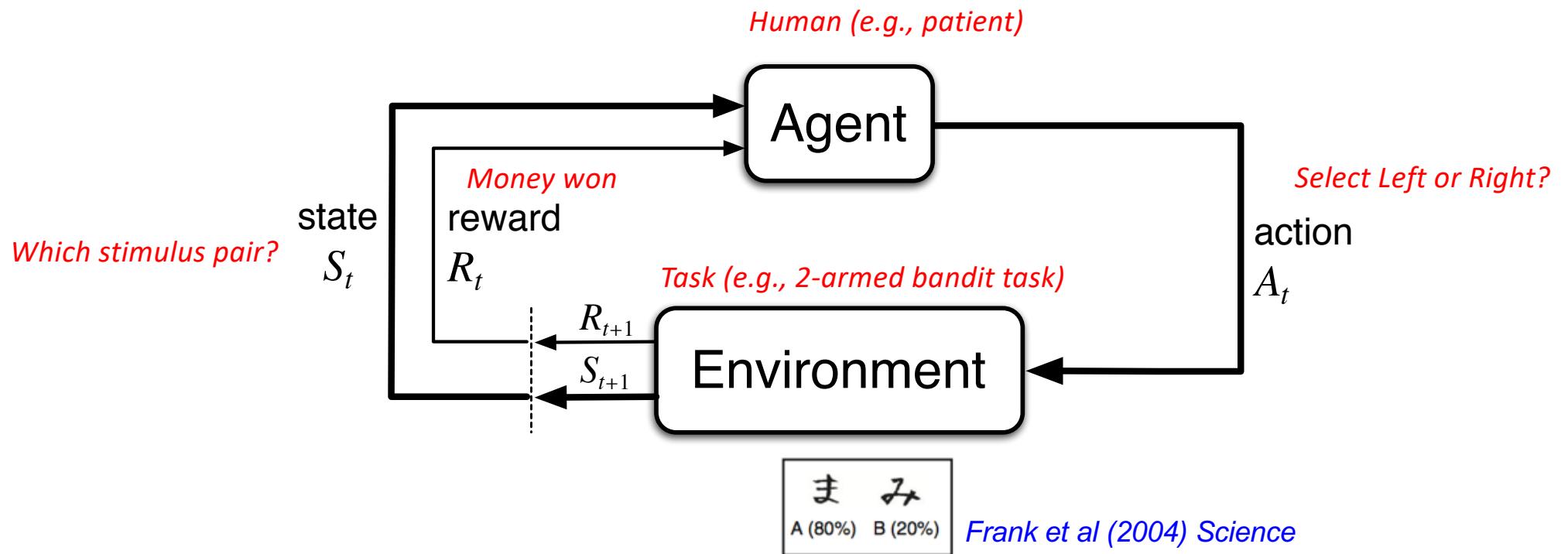
e.g., *Maze task, Tree search, N-armed Bandit*



Sutton & Barto (1998) Reinforcement Learning

Typically in Computational Psychiatric research settings..

Model parameters → Psychologically meaningful processes/constructs

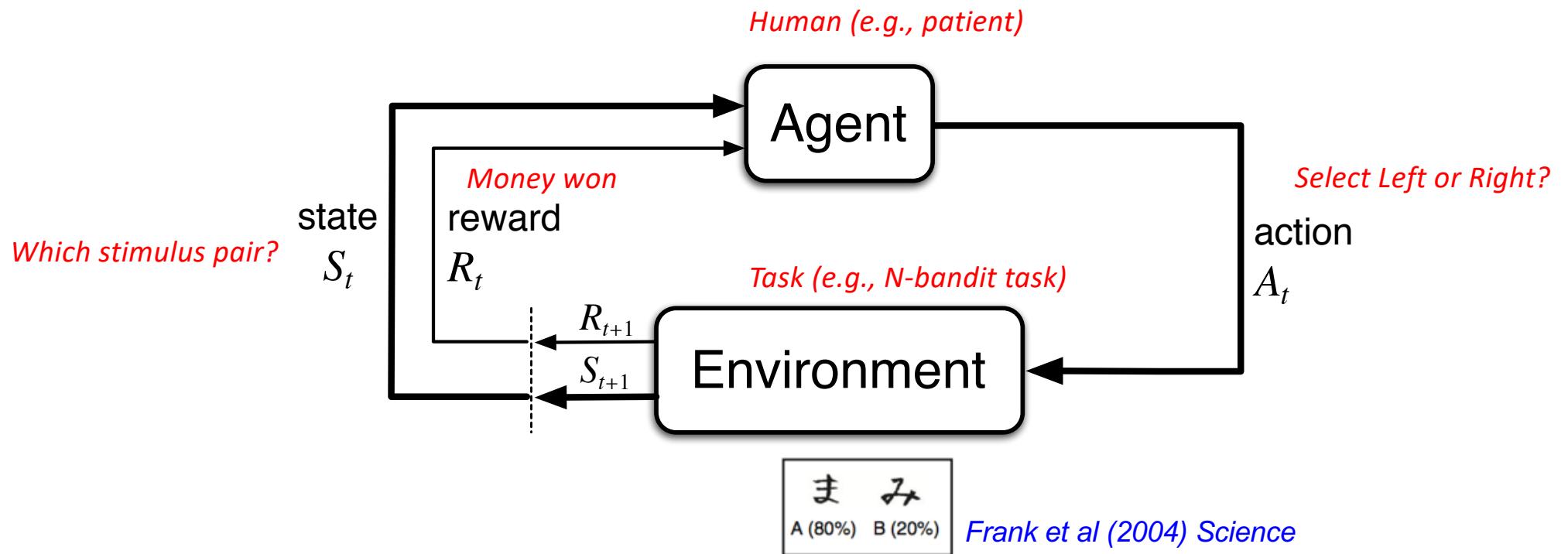


S_t : State value on time (trial) t

A_t : Action value on time (trial) t

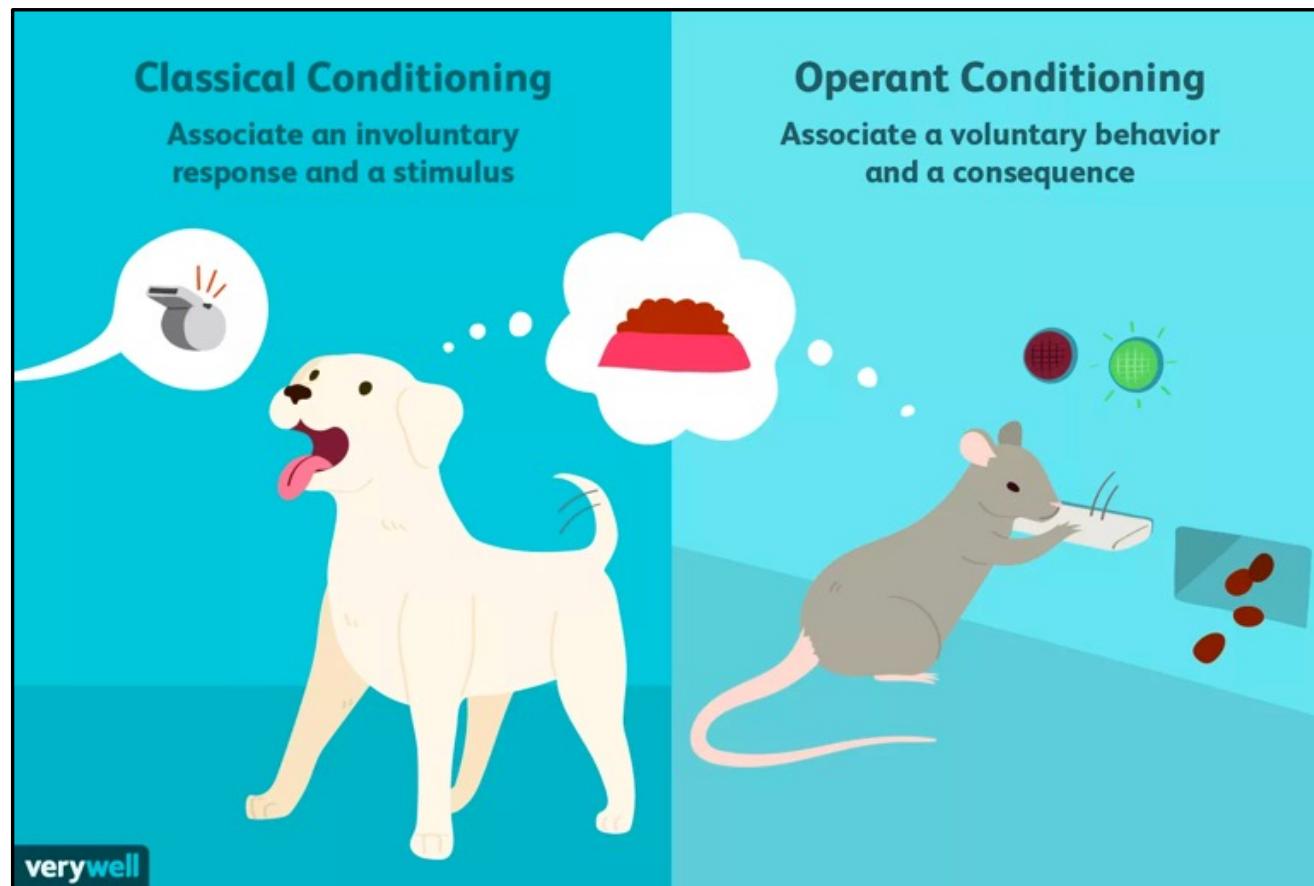
R_t : Reward on time (trial) t

$\pi_t(a_t, s_t)$: Policy on time (trial) $t \rightarrow$ mapping from states to actions



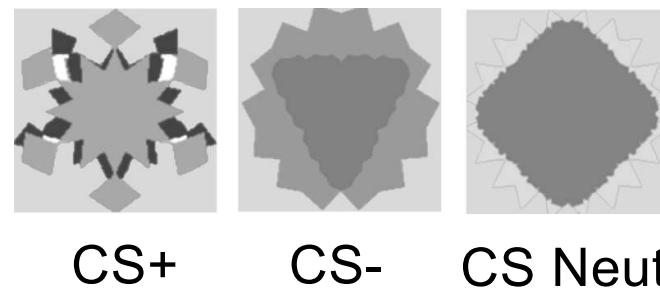
RL models (algorithms for prediction)

Two experimental set-ups (Not a distinction of learning mechanisms)

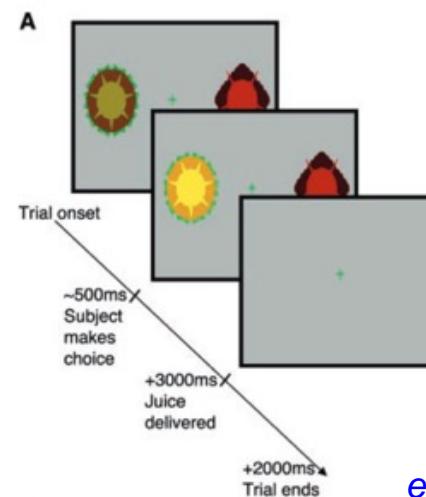


*Two experimental set-ups
(Not a distinction of learning mechanisms)*

*Classical conditioning
(No action required)*



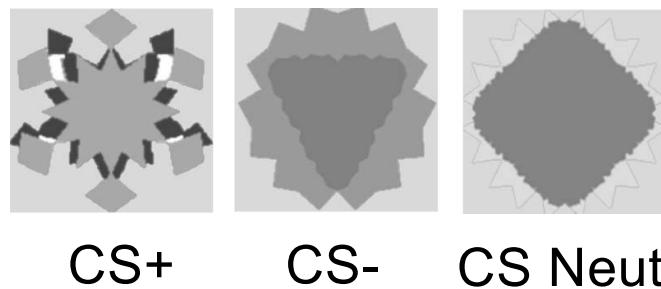
*Operant (Instrumental)
Conditioning (Action required)*



e.g., O'Doherty et al (2003) *Neuron*

e.g., O'Doherty et al (2004) *Science*

Classical conditioning



e.g., O'Doherty et al (2003) *Neuron*

Rescorla-Wagner (R-W) model

→ Point estimates of V_t

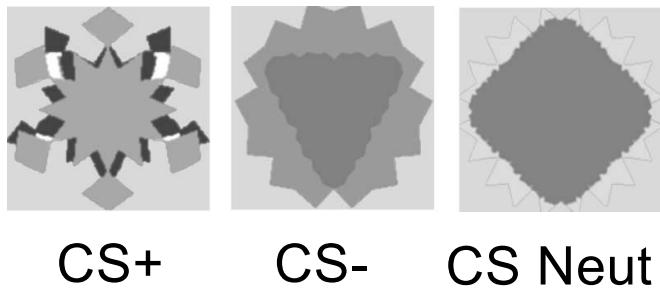
$$V_t = V_{t-1} + \alpha(R_t - V_{t-1})$$

Learning rate

Stimulus value (t) *Stimulus value (t-1)* *Outcome* *Stimulus value (t-1)*

Prediction error

Classical conditioning



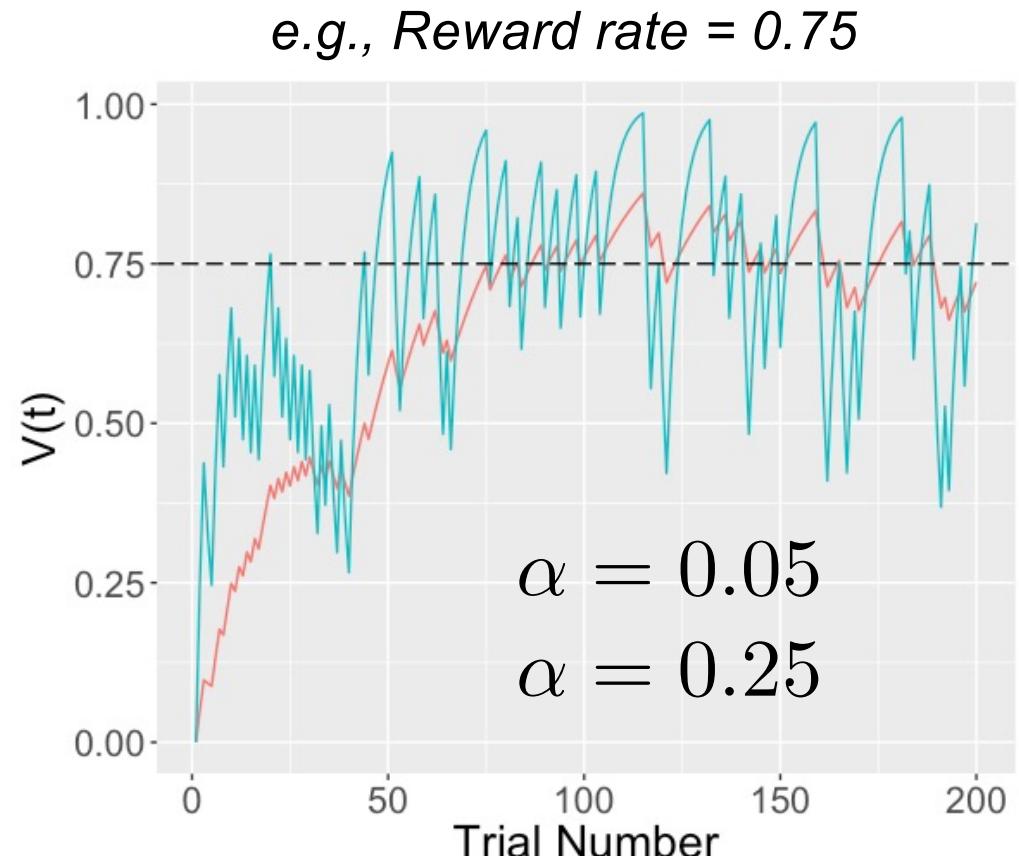
CS+ CS- CS Neut

e.g., O'Doherty et al (2003) *Neuron*

* Rescorla-Wagner (R-W) model
→ Point estimates of V_t

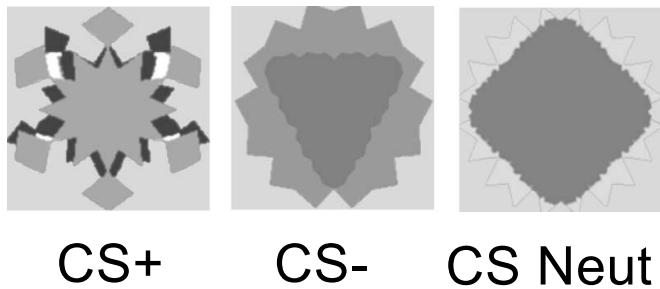
* Bayesian generalization of R-W
→ Kalman filter → HGF

Dayan et al (2000); Kakade & Dayan (2002)
Daw et al (2006); Kruschke (2008); Mathys et al (2011; 2014)



Also see Maaten Speekenbrink's blogs
<https://speekenbrink-lab.github.io/blog/>

Classical conditioning



CS+ CS- CS Neut

e.g., O'Doherty et al (2003) *Neuron*

Temporal Difference (TD) Learning model

- Generalization of R-W (real-time model)
- To account for within-trial and between-trial relationships among stimuli

Reward Prediction Error TD learning model

Computational roles for dopamine in behavioural control

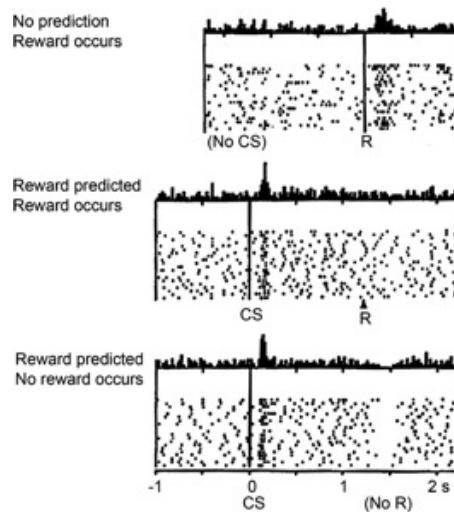
P. Read Montague^{1,2}, Steven E. Hyman³ & Jonathan D. Cohen^{4,5}

Montague et al (2004) Nature

¹Department of Neuroscience and ²Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Baylor College of Medicine, 1 Baylor Plaza, Houston, Texas 77030, USA (e-mail: read@bcm.tmc.edu)

³Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, USA (e-mail: seh@harvard.edu)

⁴Department of Psychiatry, University of Pittsburgh and ⁵Department of Psychology, Center for the Study of Brain, Mind & Behavior, Green Hall, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08544, USA (e-mail: jdc@princeton.edu)



Temporal difference (TD) learning model

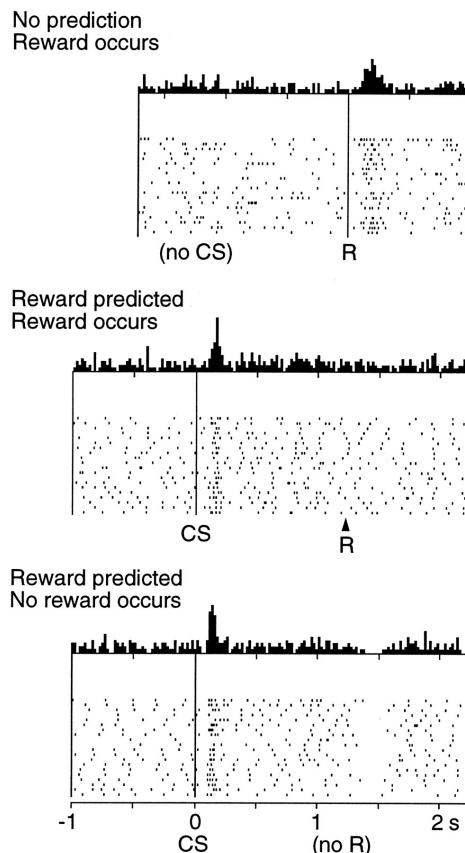
$$\delta(t) = \text{prediction error } (t) = E[r_t] + \gamma \cdot \hat{V}(s_{t+1}) - \hat{V}(s_t)$$

\approx current reward + γ ·next prediction – current prediction

Sutton & Barto (1998) Reinforcement Learning

Q) How TD learning accounts for the phasic response of a dopamine neuron?

Sutton & Barto (2017) Reinforcement Learning, 2nd Ed., Chapter 15



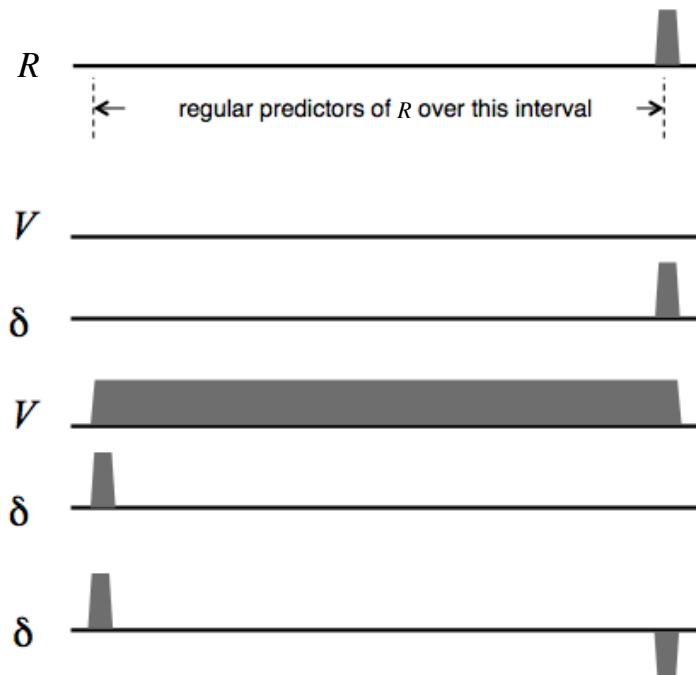
$$\gamma = 1$$

early in
learning

learning
complete

R omitted

$$\delta_t = R_t + \gamma V(s_t) - V(s_{t-1})$$



Reward onset

$$\delta_t = R_t + V_t - V_{t-1} = R_t + 0 - 0 = R_t$$

Cue onset

$$\delta_t = R_t + V_t - V_{t-1} = 0 + R_t - 0 = R_t$$

Reward onset

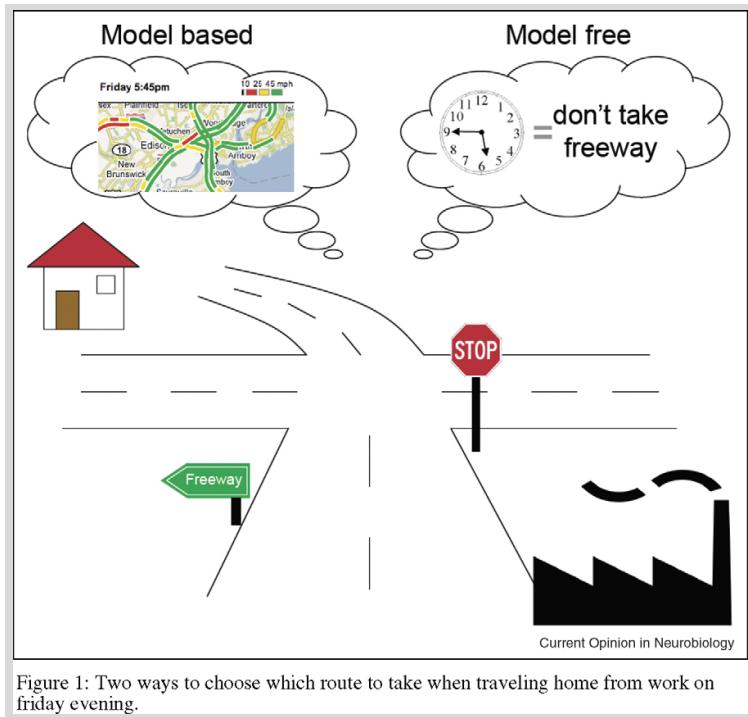
$$\delta_t = R_t + V_t - V_{t-1} = 0 + 0 - R_t = -R_t$$

Recent works: Kim et al (2020) Cell; Gershman et al (2024) Nature Neuro. Masset et al (2025) Nature

Instrumental learning

Model-based vs Model-free

Model-based vs Model-free

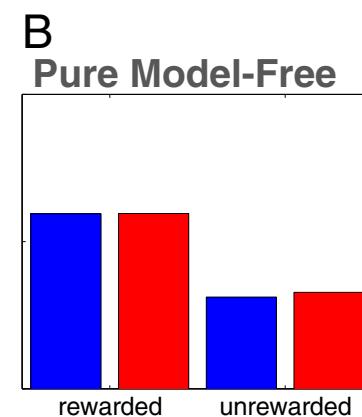
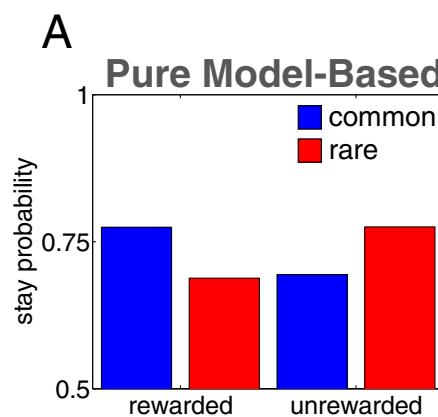
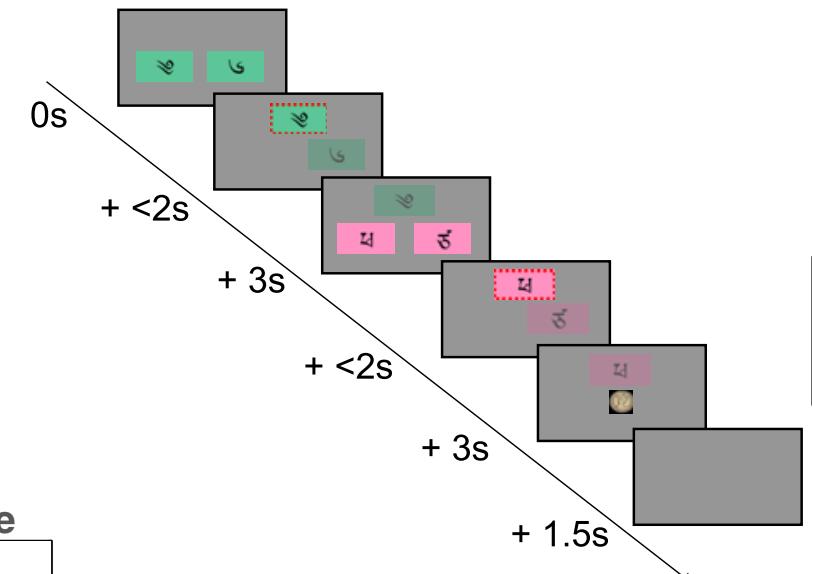
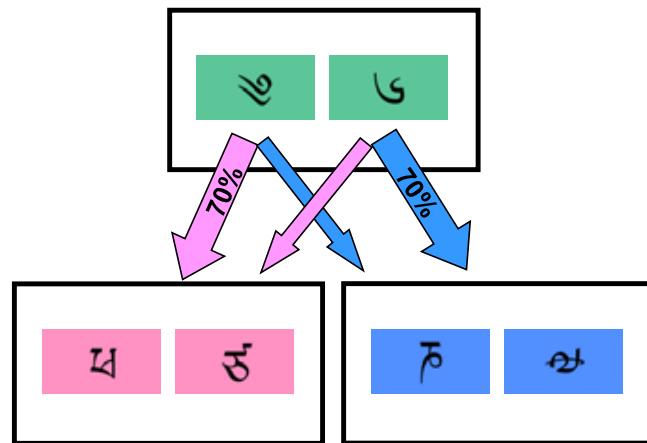


Dayan & Niv (2008)

- *Model-based (goal-directed) learning: build a model of an environment. Effortful but flexible.*
- *Model-free (habitual) learning: relies on trials-and-errors. Efficient but inflexible.*
- *(Clinical) examples: compulsive behaviors, etc.*

Two-Step task

Daw et al (2011) Neuron

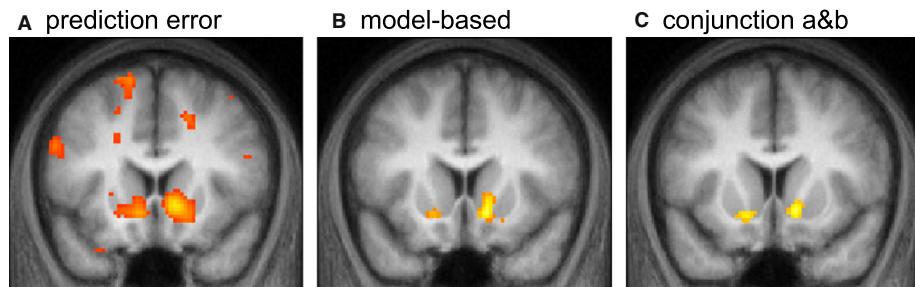


Computational model

Daw et al (2011) Neuron
Wunderich et al (2012) Neuron

- Separately calculate V^{MF} and V^{MB} (assuming full knowledge of the environment).
- Ω (omega): weight for model-based (MB)
 - 0 (completely model-free) $\leq \omega_{MB} \leq 1$ (completely model-based)

$$V^{Hybrid} = \omega \cdot V^{MB} + (1 - \omega) \cdot V^{MF}$$



Daw et al (2011) Neuron

RESEARCH ARTICLE

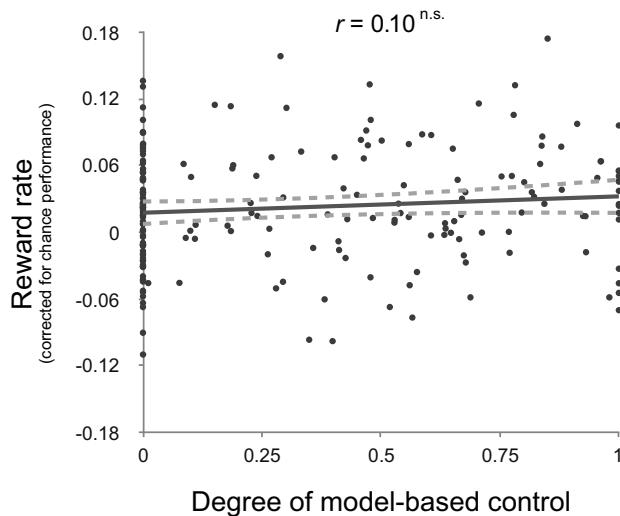
When Does Model-Based Control Pay Off?

Wouter Kool^{1*}, Fiery A. Cushman¹✉, Samuel J. Gershman^{1,2}

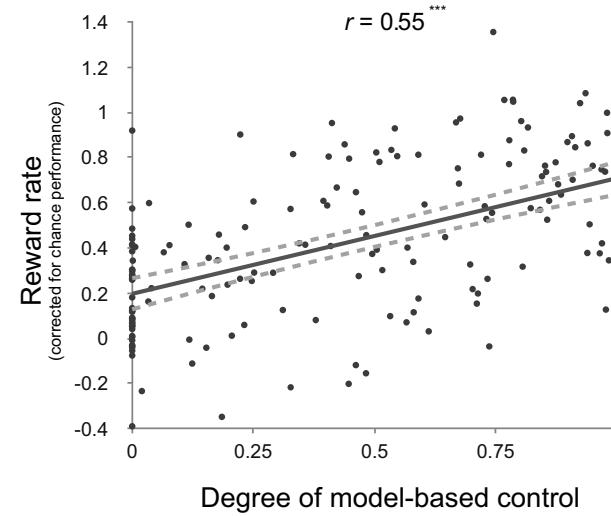
1 Department of Psychology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States of America,
2 Center for Brain Science, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States of America

✉ These authors contributed equally to this work.

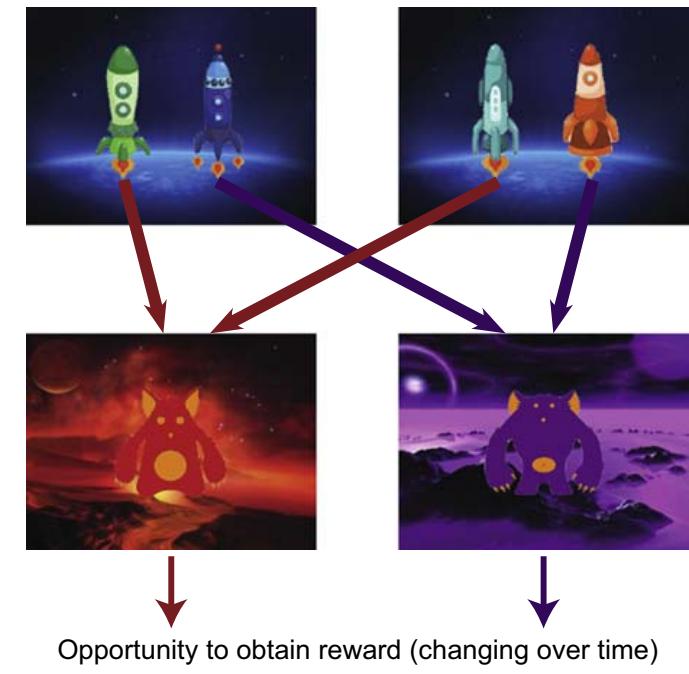
* wkool@fas.harvard.edu



Daw Two-Step Task

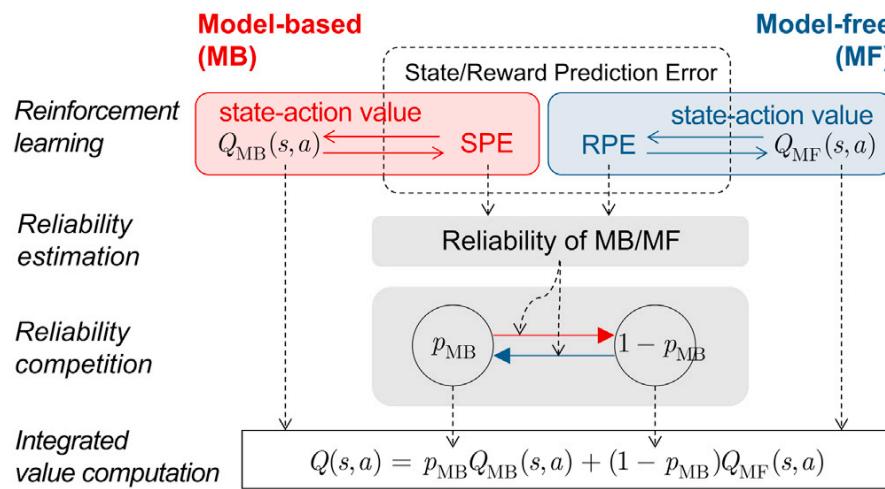


Kool Two-Step Task



Kool et al (2016) PloS Comput Biol

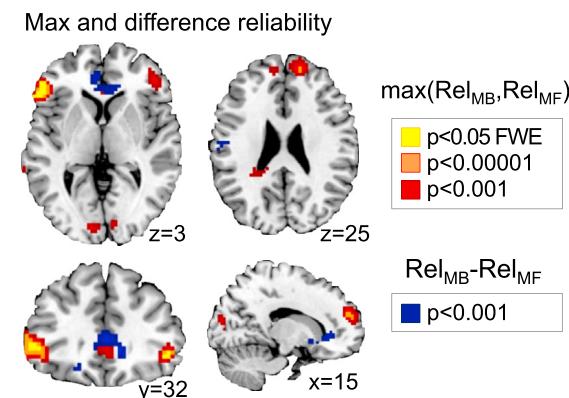
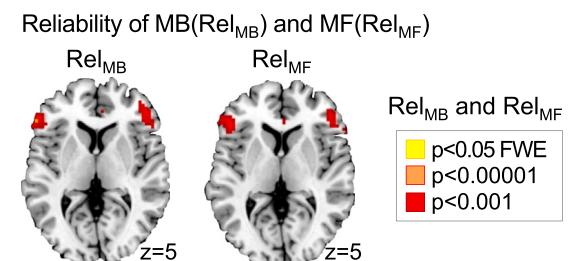
Reliability-based arbitration between model-based and model-free



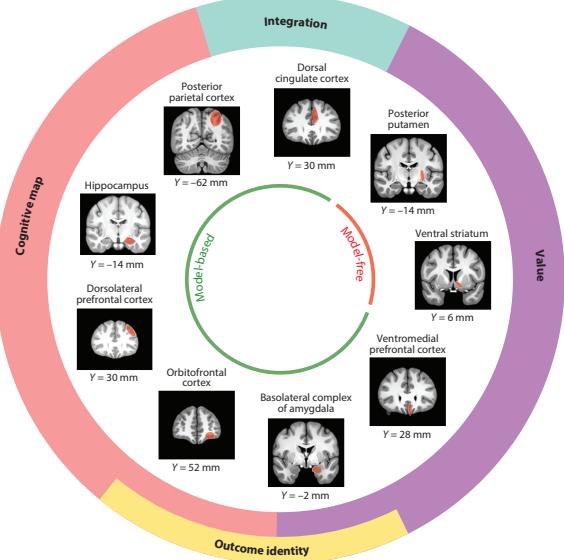
Lee et al (2014) *Neuron*

Daw et al (2005) *Nature Neuroscience*

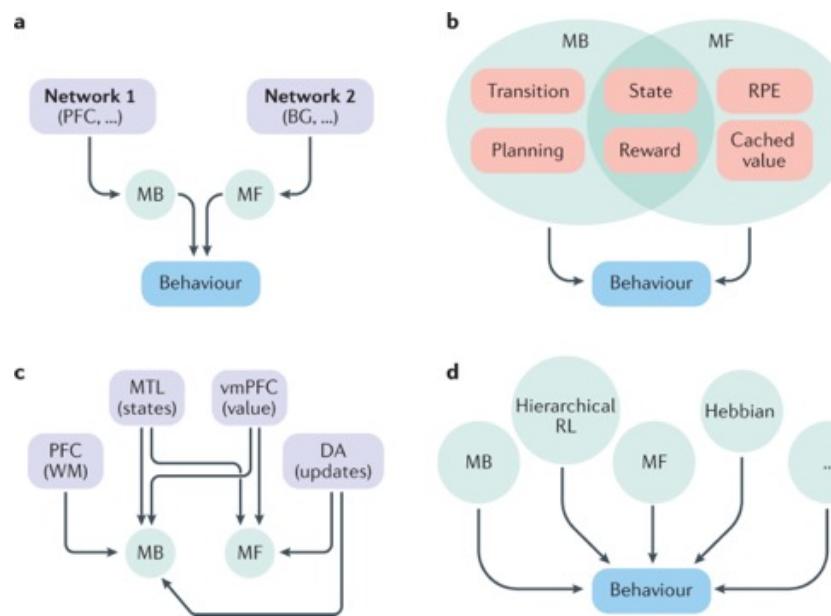
Wang et al (2018) *Brain & Neuro. Advances*



Inferior lateral prefrontal and frontopolar cortex



O'Doherty et al (2017) *Annu. Rev. Psychology*



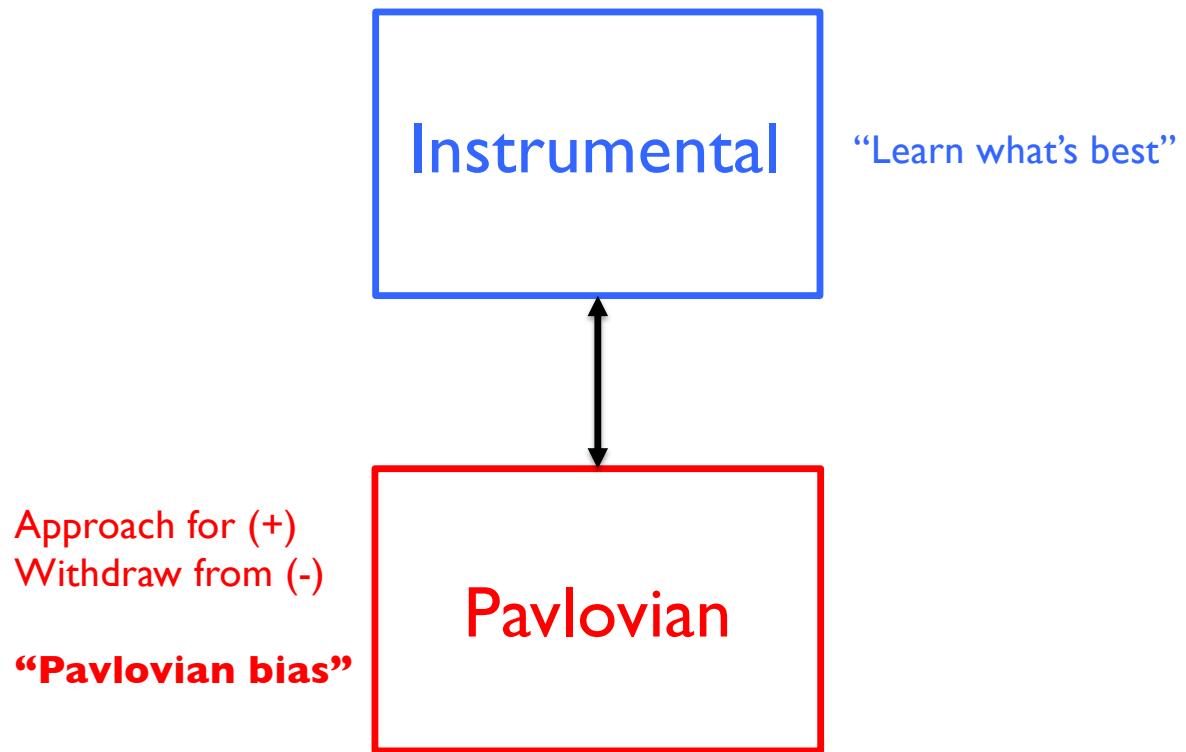
Collins & Cockburn (2020) *Nature Reviews Neuroscience*

Current Biology
Review

The Role of Hippocampal Replay in Memory and Planning

H. Freyja Ólafsdóttir¹, Daniel Bush², and Caswell Barry¹

Pavlovian vs Instrumental control



Opinion

CellPress

Action versus valence in decision making

Marc Guitart-Masip^{1,2}, Emrah Duzel^{3,4,5}, Ray Dolan², and Peter Dayan⁶

¹ Aging Research Centre, Karolinska Institute, SE-11330 Stockholm, Sweden

² Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging, Institute of Neurology, University College London, London WC1N 3BG, UK

³ Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, University College London, London WC1N 3AR, UK

⁴ Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg, Institute of Cognitive Neurology and Dementia Research, D-39120 Magdeburg, Germany

⁵ German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases, D-39120 Magdeburg, Germany

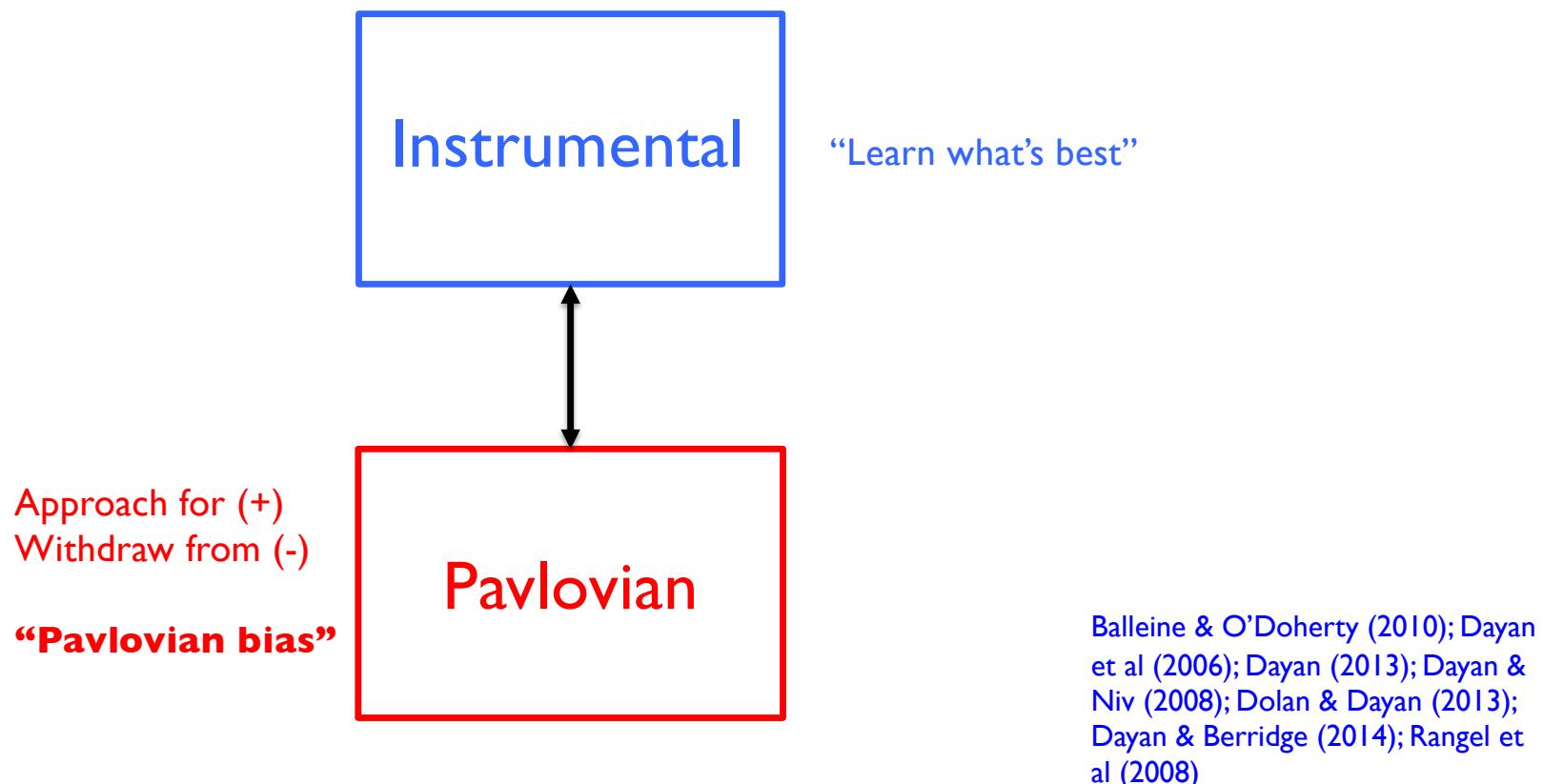
⁶ Gatsby Computational Neuroscience Unit, University College London, London W1CN 3AR, UK

Balleine & O’Doherty (2010); Dayan et al (2006); Dayan (2013); Dayan & Niv (2008); Dolan & Dayan (2013); Dayan & Berridge (2014); Rangel et al (2008)

Orthogonalized Go/Nogo task

Pavlovian-Instrumental competition

Guitart-Masip et al (2012) Neuroimage
Also, see Huys et al (2011) Plos Comp Biology

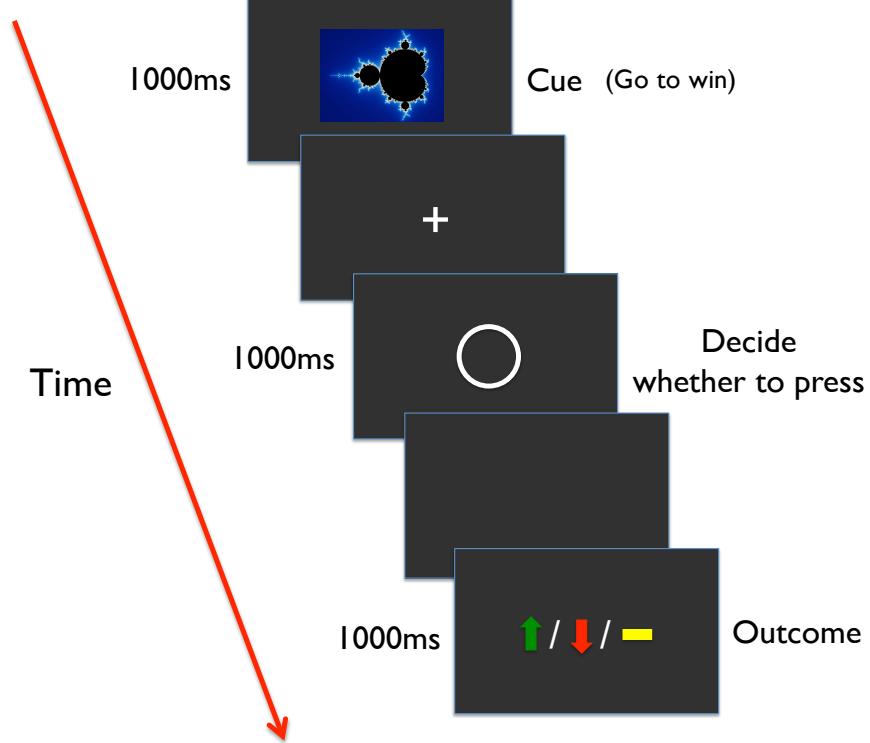


Orthogonalized Go/Nogo task

	Loss	Gain
Go	Go to avoid	Go to win
Nogo	Nogo to avoid	Nogo to win

 Pavlovian congruent
 Pavlovian incongruent

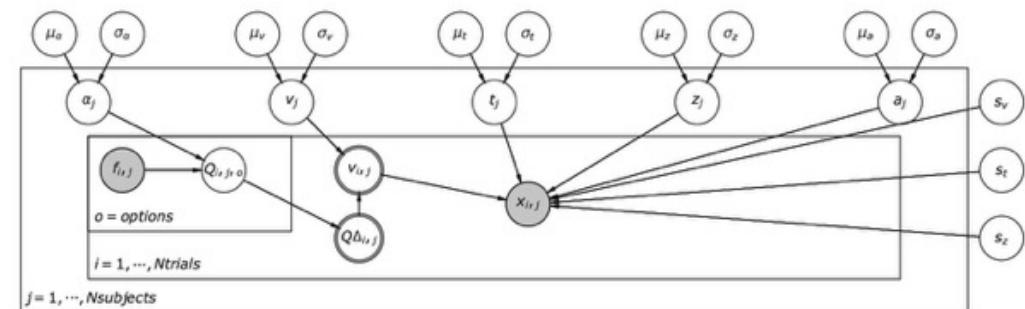
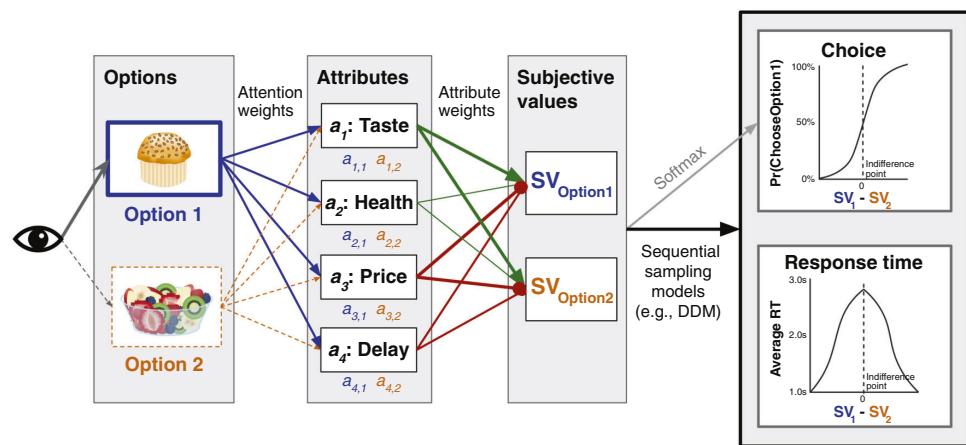
- 4 cues (conditions)
2 actions (Go / Nogo) x
2 valence (Gain / Loss)



Guitart-Masip et al (2012) Neuroimage
Cavanagh et al (2013) J Neuro

More...

RL + sequential sampling models

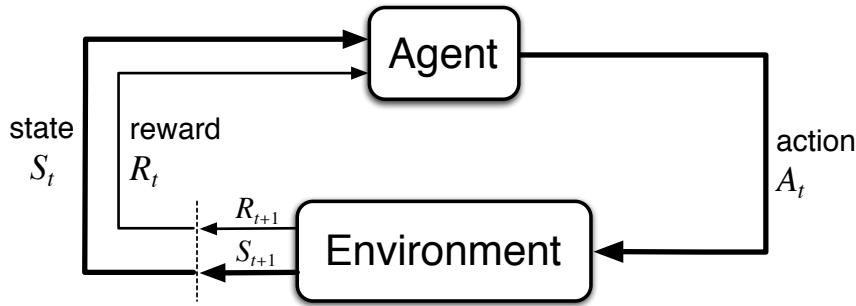


Pedersen & Frank (2020) Computational Brain & Behavior

Collins & Shenhav et al (2021) Neuropsychopharmacology

*Adaptive Design Optimization
within the RL framework*

Optimize experiments on the fly!



$$P(\theta|y) = \frac{P(y|\theta) P(\theta)}{P(y)}$$

Bayesian updating

Update the current state of knowledge with observed response via Bayes rule

Adaptive Design Optimization

Design optimization

Find the most informative design for next experimental trial

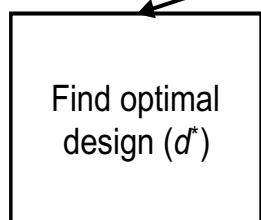
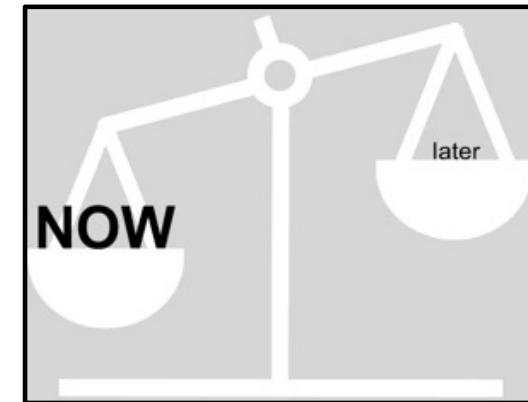
Experiment

Present the optimal design on next trial and record observed response

$$d^* = \operatorname{argmax}_d \iint u(d, \theta, y) P(\theta) P(y|\theta, d) d\theta dy$$

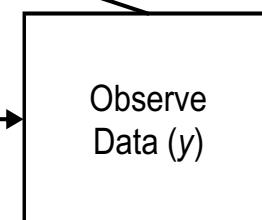
$$p(\theta|y, d) = \frac{p(y|\theta, d)p(\theta)}{p(y|d)}$$

*Bayesian
updating of
model
parameters (θ)*



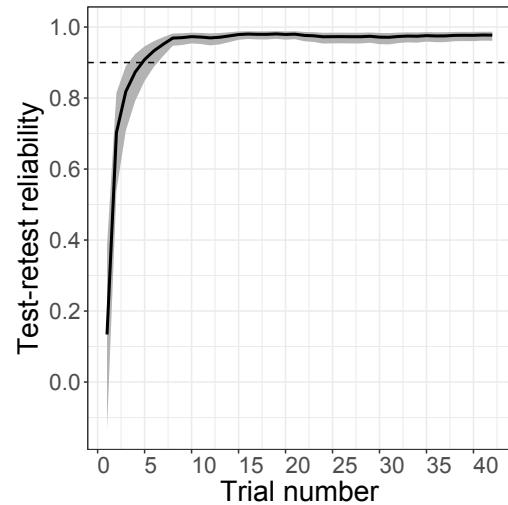
*Design & Conduct a mini-experiment on every trial
“What’s the most informative design (d^*) we should use?”*

e.g., \$320 now vs \$800 in 3 years

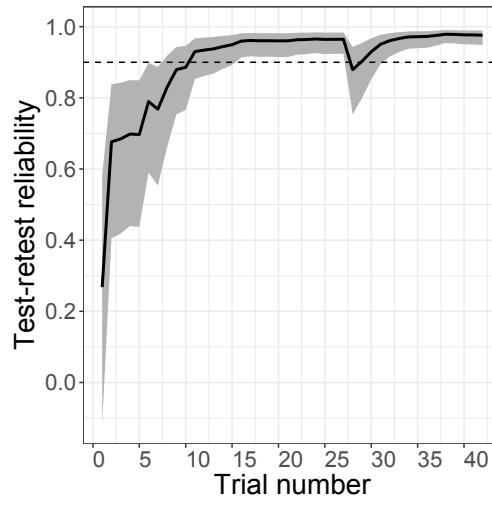


$$d^* = \operatorname{argmax}_d \int \int u(d, \theta, y) p(y|\theta, d) p(\theta) dy d\theta$$

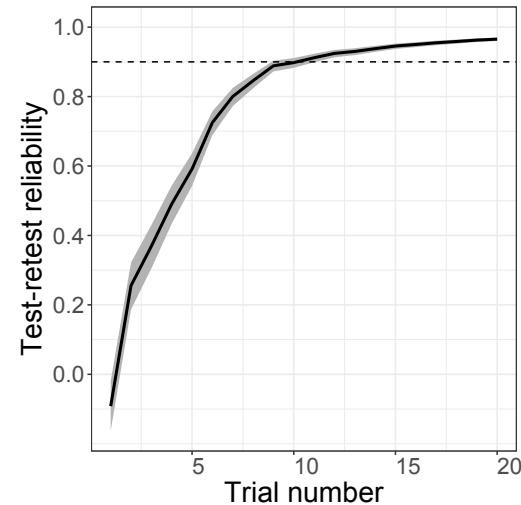
*Up to 0.98 test-retest reliability
within ~10 trials*



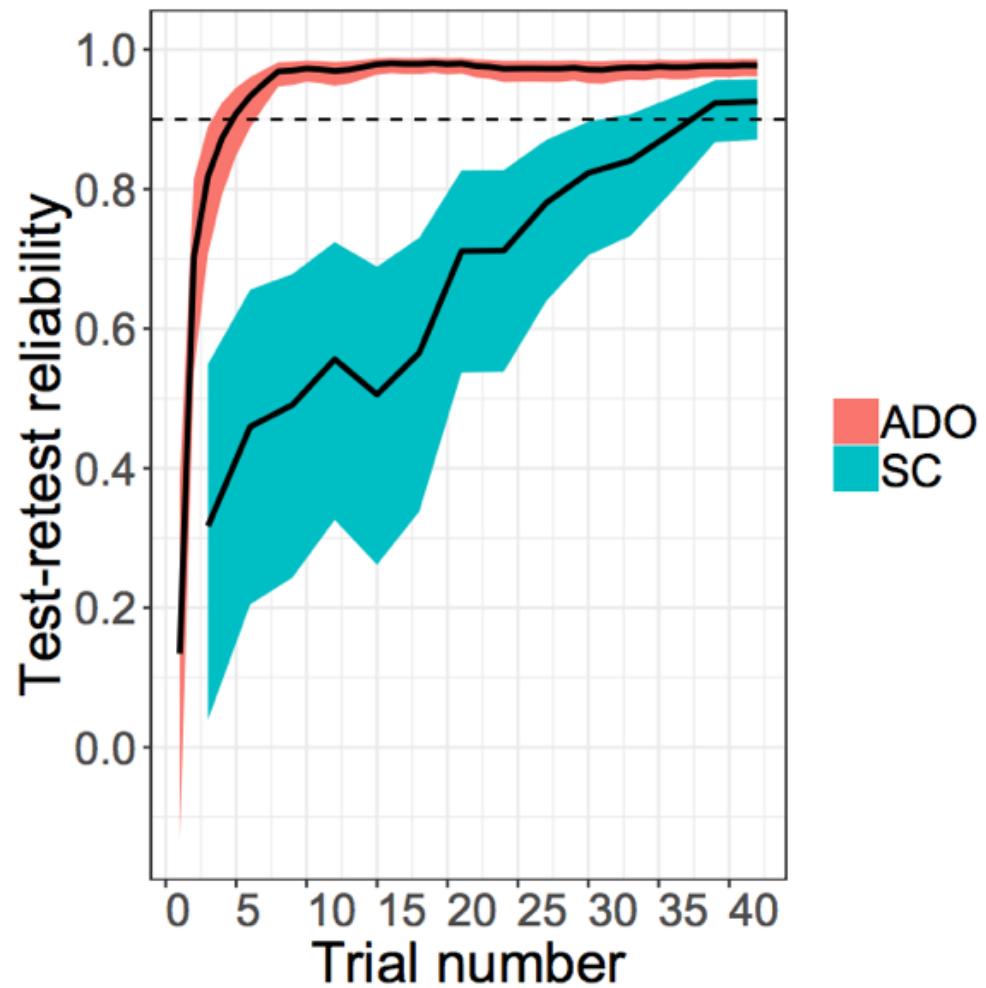
College students



Patients with SUDs



Online Amazon MTurk



3-5 times more precise

3-8 times more efficient

<https://github.com/adopy/adopy>

ADOpY

pyPI v0.3.1 GitHub status Active build passing codecov 93%

ADOpY is a Python implementation of Adaptive Design Optimization (ADO; Myung, Cavignaro, & Pitt, 2013), which computes optimal designs dynamically in an experiment. Its modular structure permits easy integration into existing experimentation code.

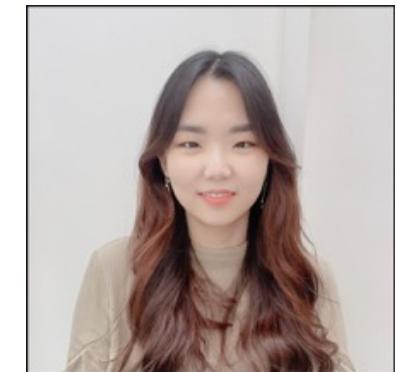
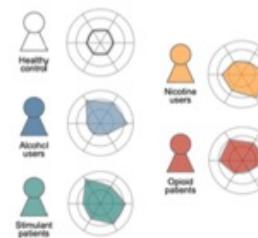
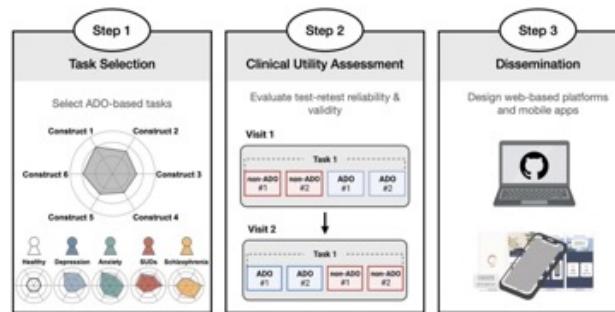
ADOpY supports Python 3.5 or above and relies on NumPy, SciPy, and Pandas.

Features

- Grid-based computation of optimal designs using only three classes: `adopy.Task`, `adopy.Model`, and `adopy.Engine`.
- Easily customizable for your own tasks and models
- Pre-implemented Task and Model classes including:

Utility of adaptive design optimization for developing rapid and reliable behavioral paradigms for substance use disorders

Project Number	Contact PI/Project Leader	Awardee Organization
1R01DA058038-01	VASSILEVA, JASMIN L Other PIs	VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY
Contact PI/ Project Leader Name: VASSILEVA, JASMIN L Title: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR Contact: View Email	Other PIs Name: AHN, WOO-YOUNG	Program Official Name: PARIYADATH, VANI Contact: View Email



Jeongyeon Shin

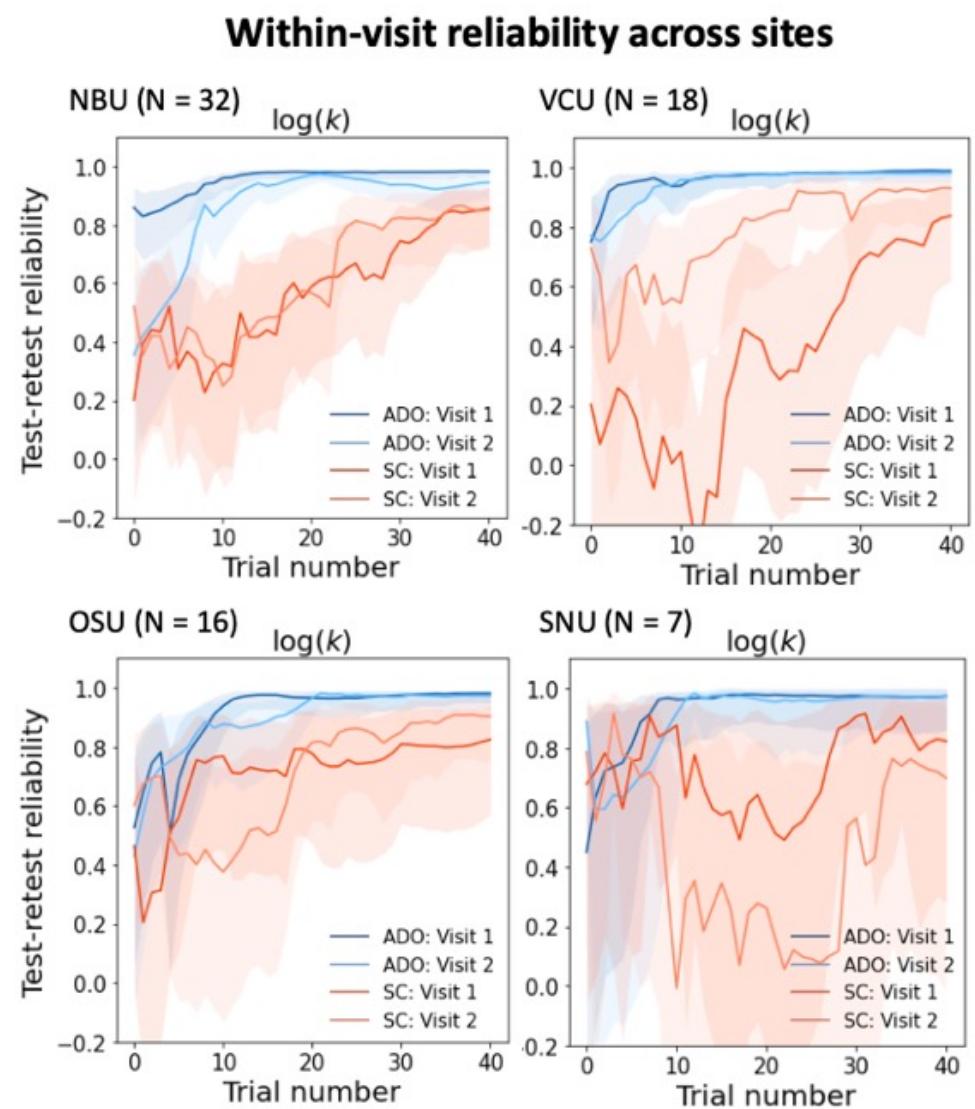
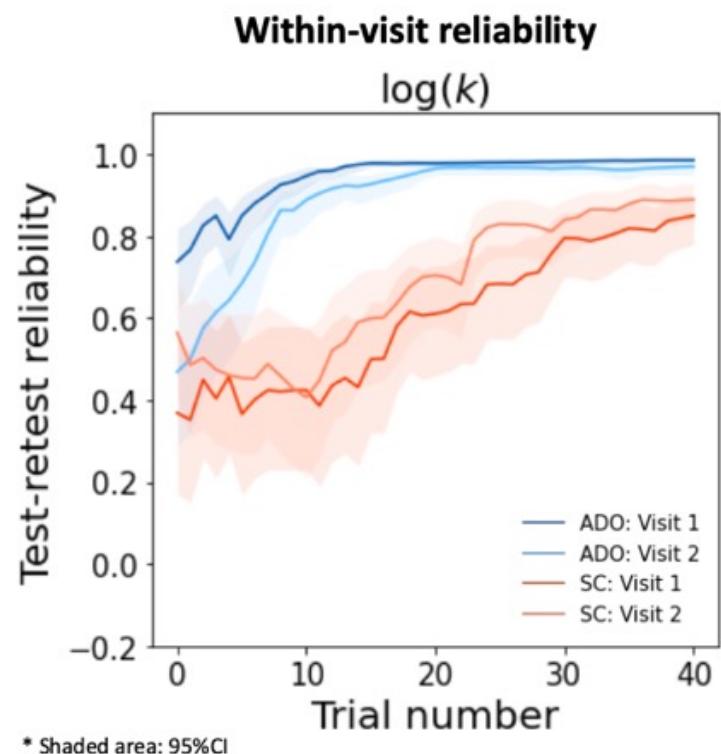
NIH / NIDA R01 (2023-2028)
MPI: Vassileva & Ahn

ADO-powered fMRI
Experiments

Shin et al (in preparation)

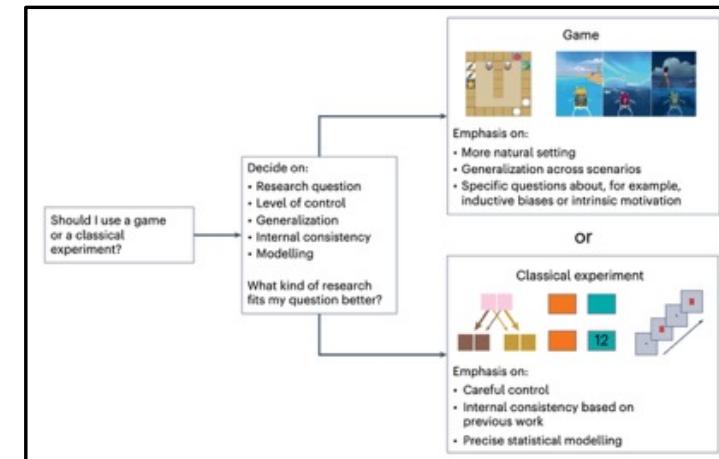
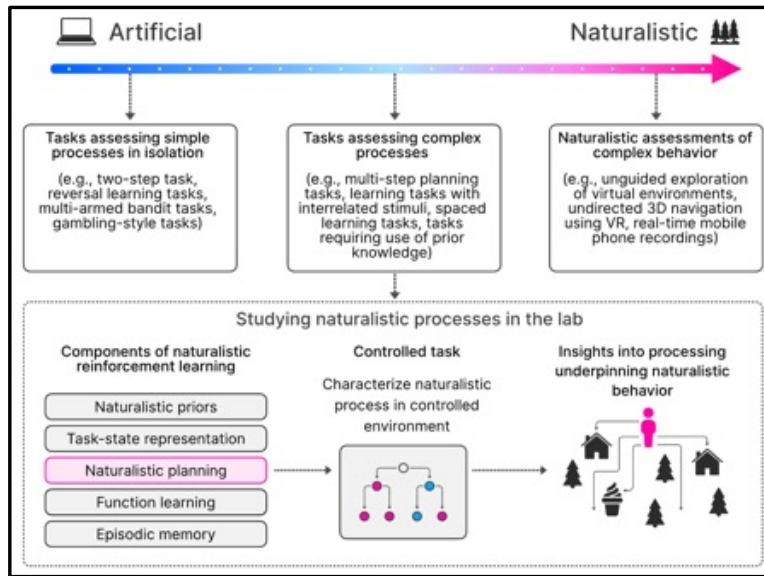
Yang, Pitt, Ahn, Myung (2020) *Behavior Research Methods*
Kwon, Lee, & Ahn (2023) *Biol. Psychiatry: CnnI*
Vassileva, Lee, Psederska & Ahn (2023) *Computational Neuroscience*

Country	Recruitment site	N
Bulgaria	New Bulgarian Univ. (NBU)	50
	Ohio State Univ. (OSU)	33
	Virginia Commonwealth Univ. (VCU)	23
South Korea	Seoul National Univ. (SNU)	13



Last but not the least major limitation

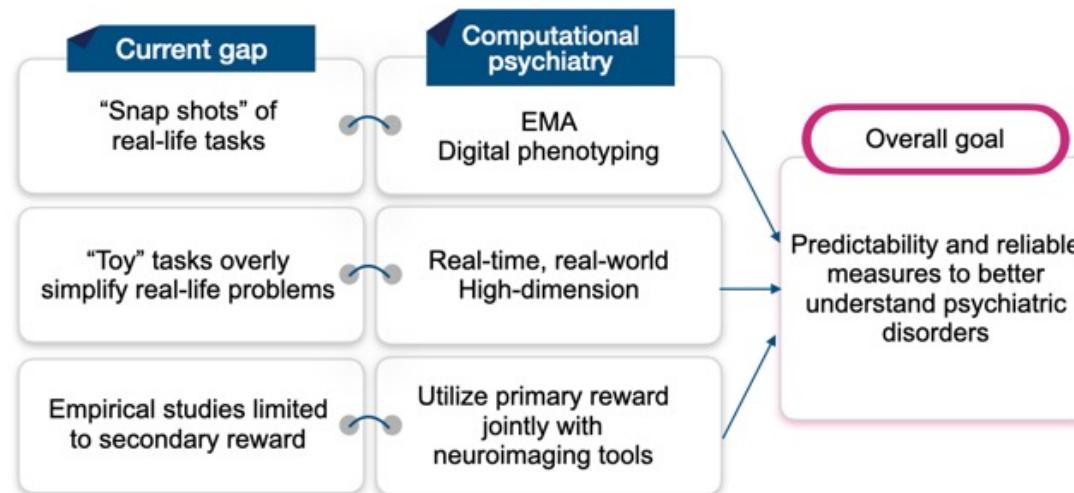
Overly simplified “toy” problems/tasks



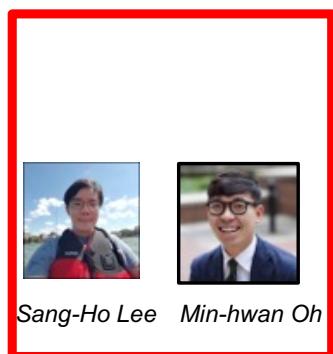
Wise et al (2023) *Trends in Cog Sci*

Allen et al (2024) *Nature Human Behaviour*

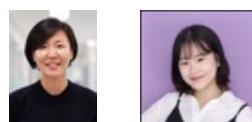
Overly simplified “toy” problems/tasks



*Ahn, Lee, & Kim (invited review) Current Directions in Psychological Science
Lee, Lee, Im, O'Doherty, & Ahn (invited review) Nature Reviews Psychology*



Explore vs Exploit
w/ Minecraft



Wonmok Shim Hyeonmin Lee

“Real” reward (nicotine)



Josh Brown Jeung-Hyun Lee Eunhwi Lee

Naturalistic (movie)
paradigm

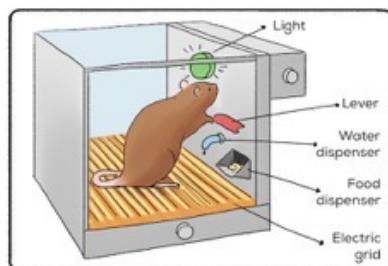


Monica Rosenberg Mina Kwon

Overly simplified “toy” problems/tasks
→ Real-time/real-world tasks



Sang-Ho Lee



Lee, Song, Oh, & Ahn (2024) Psychological Science

Measures of Impulsivity

- **Self-report measures** and **Behavioral measures** are the two most widely used methods to assess impulsivity.



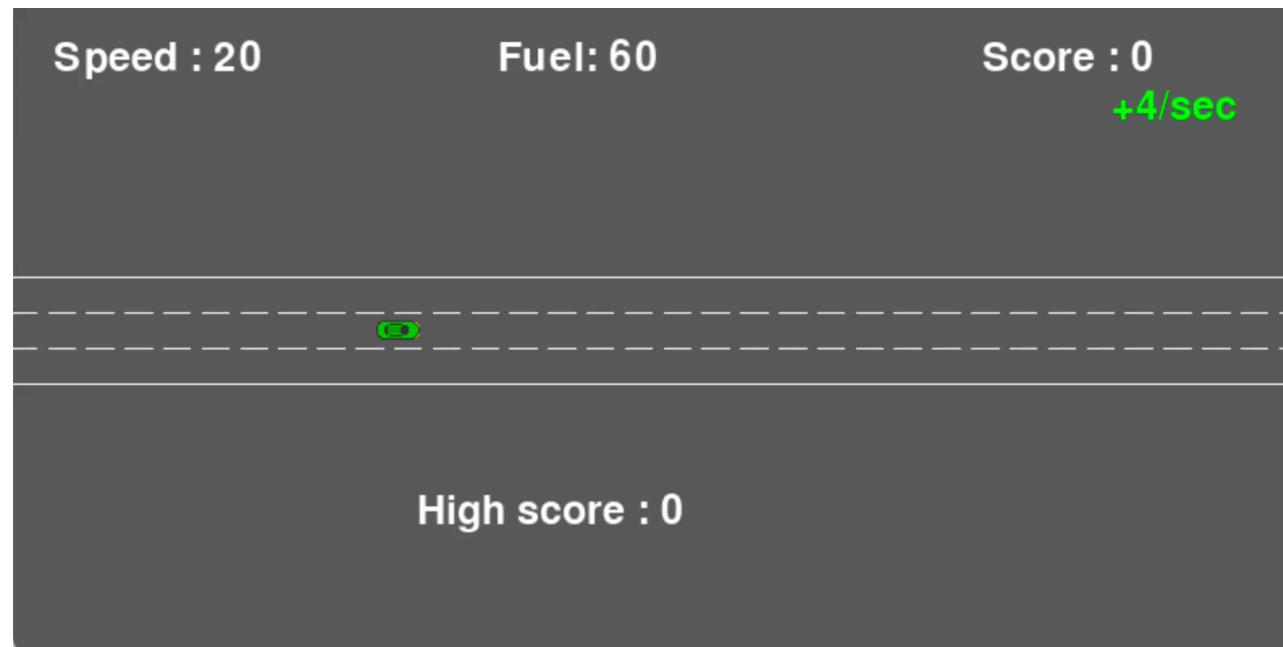
- **A Challenge:** Self-report measures and behavioral measures often show weak correlations with each other.

Sharma et al (2014), Saunders et al. (2018), Murphy et al (2016), Frey et al. (2017), Dang et al (2020)

(Real-time) “Highway Task”



Sang-Ho Lee (KAIST)



Inverse Reinforcement Learning

Arora, Doshi (2021)

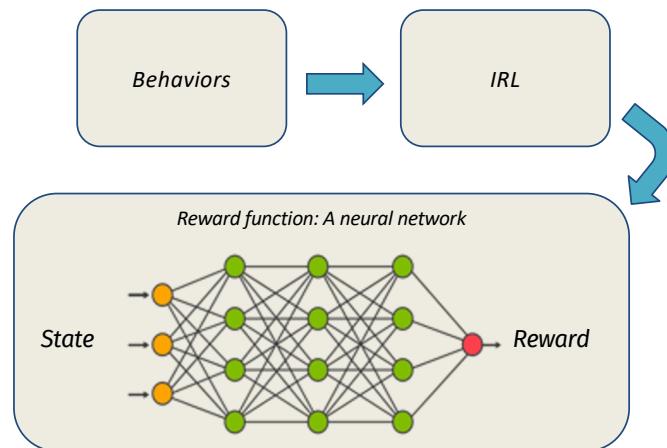
Fu et al (2017)

To model complex behaviors in a real-time task, we harness deep neural networks + inverse reinforcement learning (IRL).

- IRL infers reward structures underlying observed behaviors.



Min-hwan Oh



Algorithm 1 Adversarial inverse reinforcement learning

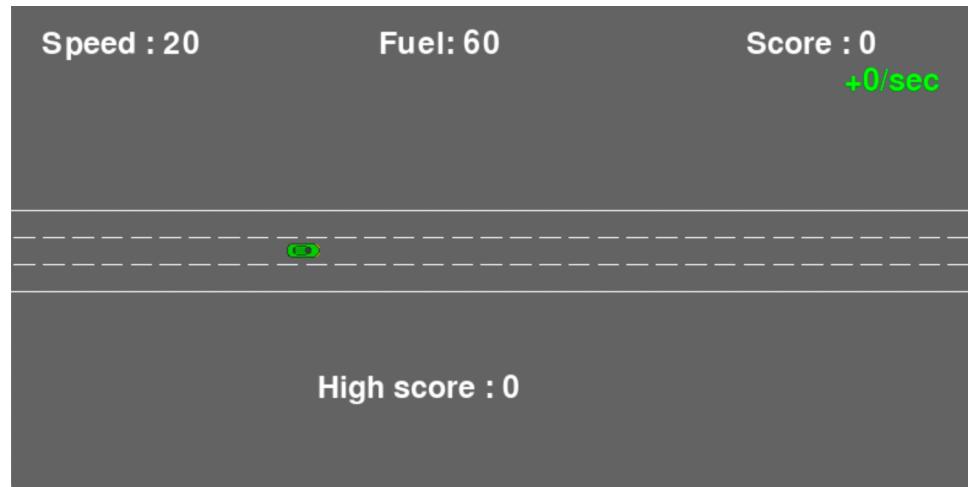
```
1: for iteration  $i$  in  $\{1, \dots, N\}$  do
2:   Obtain observed trajectories  $\tau_i^0$  from the data.
3:   Initialize discriminator  $D_{\theta, \phi}(s, a, s')$  and policy  $\pi$ .
4:   for step  $t$  in  $\{1, \dots, T\}$  do
5:     Sample trajectories  $\tau_t$  using the policy function  $\pi$ .
6:     Train  $D_{\theta, \phi}$  to classify the data  $\tau_t^0$  from samples  $\tau_t$ .
7:     Update reward  $r(s, a, s') \leftarrow \log(D_{\theta, \phi}(s, a, s')) - \log(1 - D_{\theta, \phi}(s, a, s'))$ .
8:     Update policy  $\pi$  with respect to  $r(s, a, s')$ .
9:   end for
10: end for
```

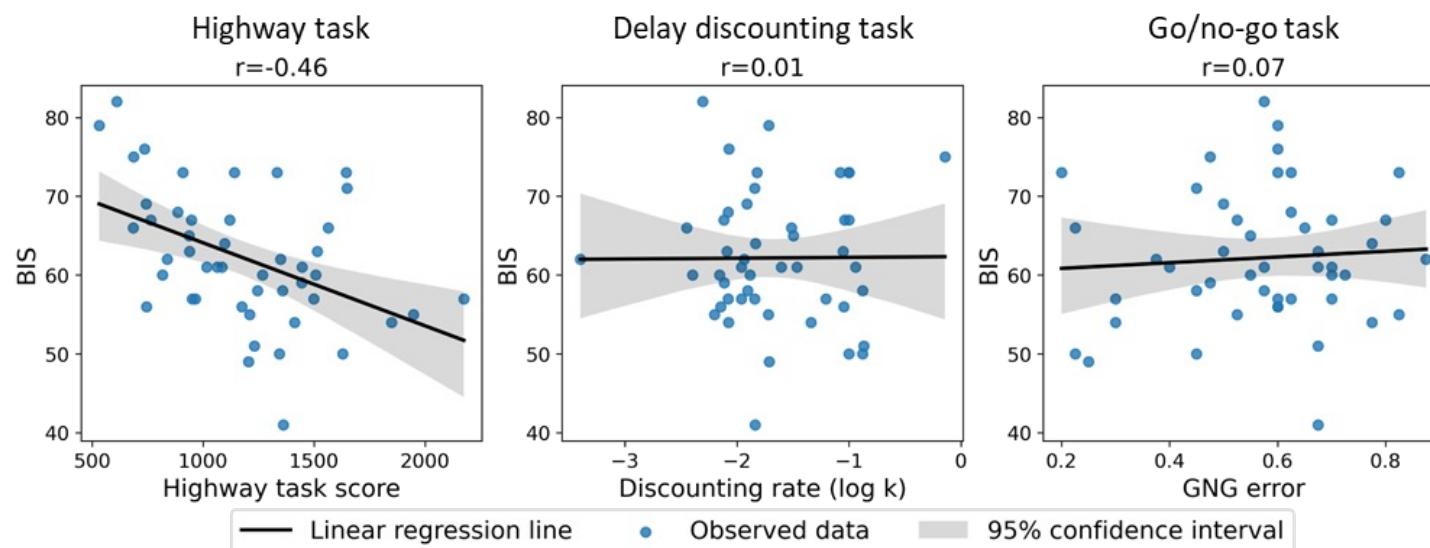
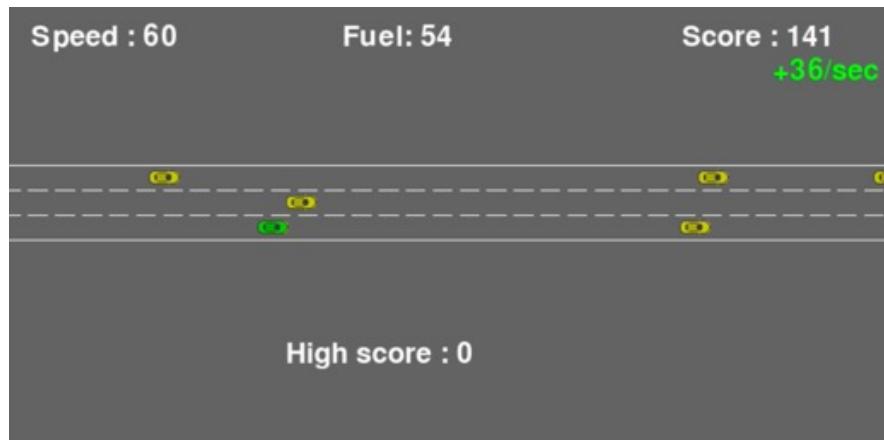
We aim to explore individual differences in impulsivity by comparing individual reward structures inferred by IRL.

Lee, Song, Oh, & Ahn (2024) Psychological Science

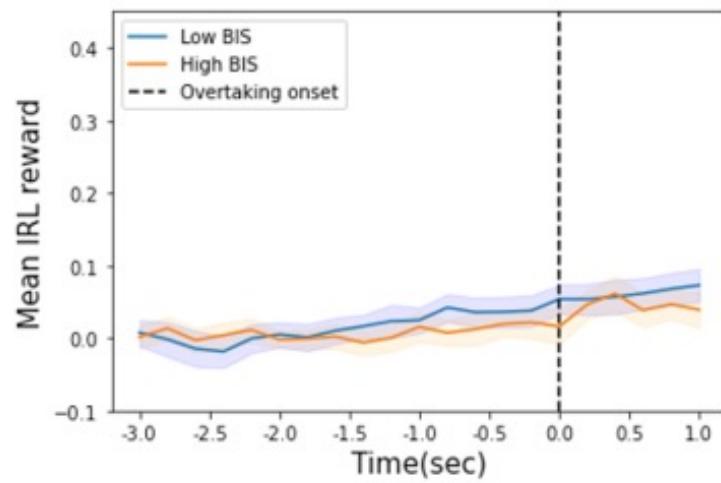
Task Performance Example

- *This is an agent trained by deep Q-learning.*

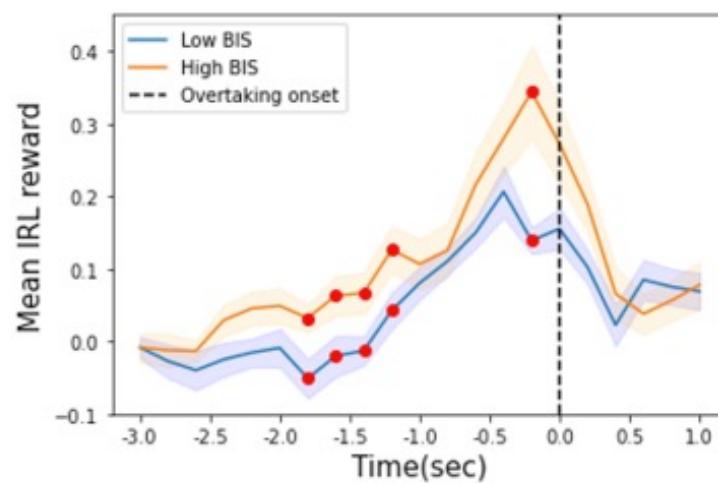




a) Passive overtaking

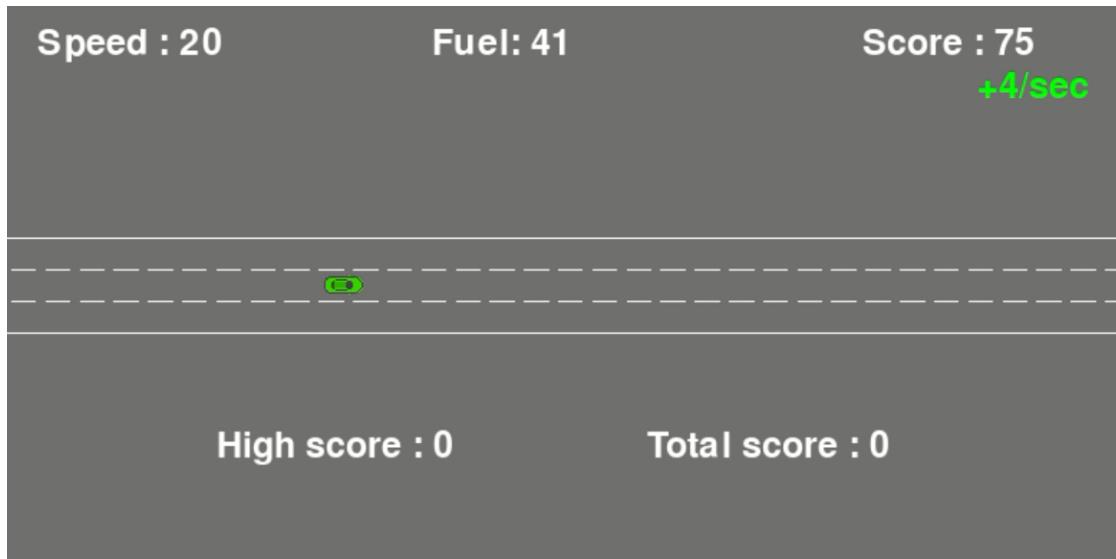


b) Active overtaking

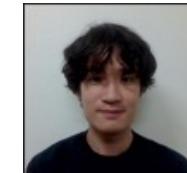


Next Questions

- *IRL reward \approx reward signals in the brain?*
- *More realistic tasks?*
 - *3D version of the Highway task using Unity (w/ Robert Whelan, TCD)*
 - *“Cutting-in”*



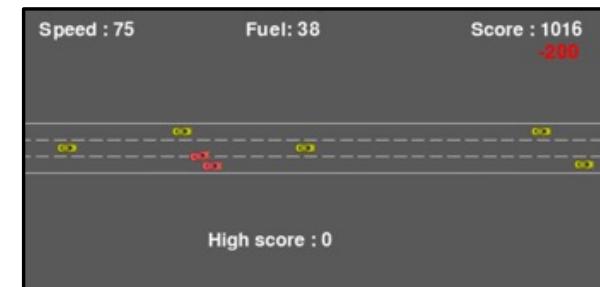
Chaeyoun Chung



Joonha Kim

(Preliminary) fMRI Study w/ Highway task

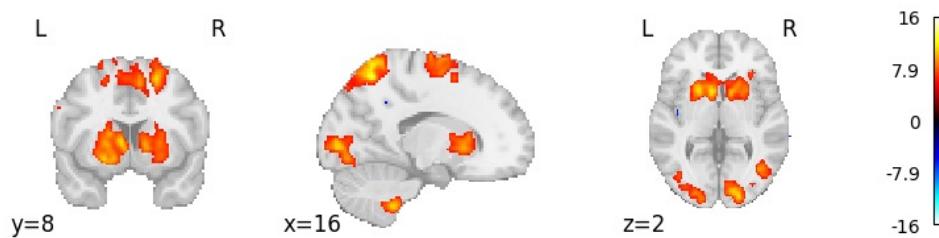
- *fMRI Study w/ healthy controls (N=45)*
- *Focus on two events*
 - “Overtaking”
 - “Crash”



*Lee, Oh, & Ahn (2024) CCN2024
Lee, Chung, Oh, & Ahn (in preparation)*

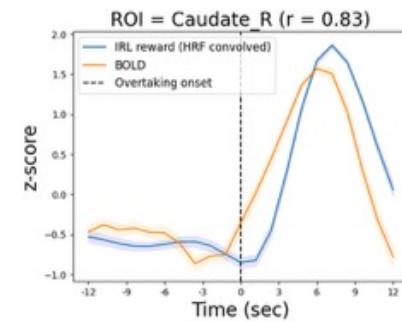
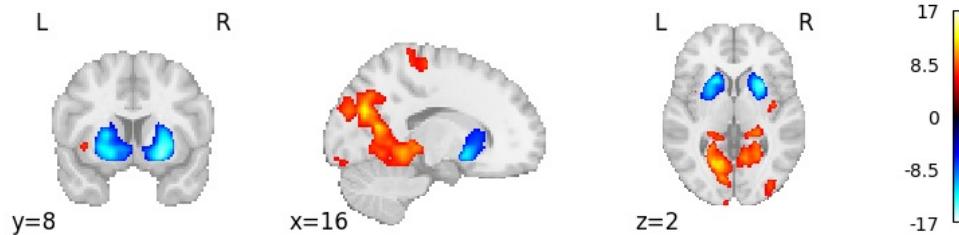
GLM analysis

Overtake onset



Sang-Ho Lee (KAIST)

Crash onset



Lee, Oh, & Ahn (2024) CCN2024
Lee, Chung, Oh, & Ahn (in preparation)

P value threshold = 0.001 (corrected $p < 0.05$, FDR corrected)

“Subjective Reward”
From IRL

Participant
005



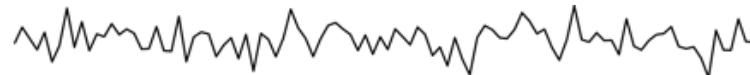
Penalized regression
w/ mixed effects analysis



ROI 1



ROI 2



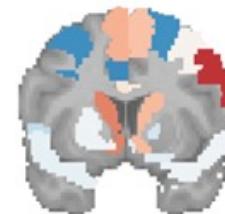
...



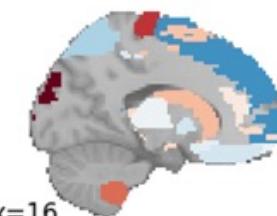
ROI 120



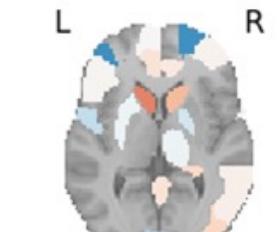
L R



y=8

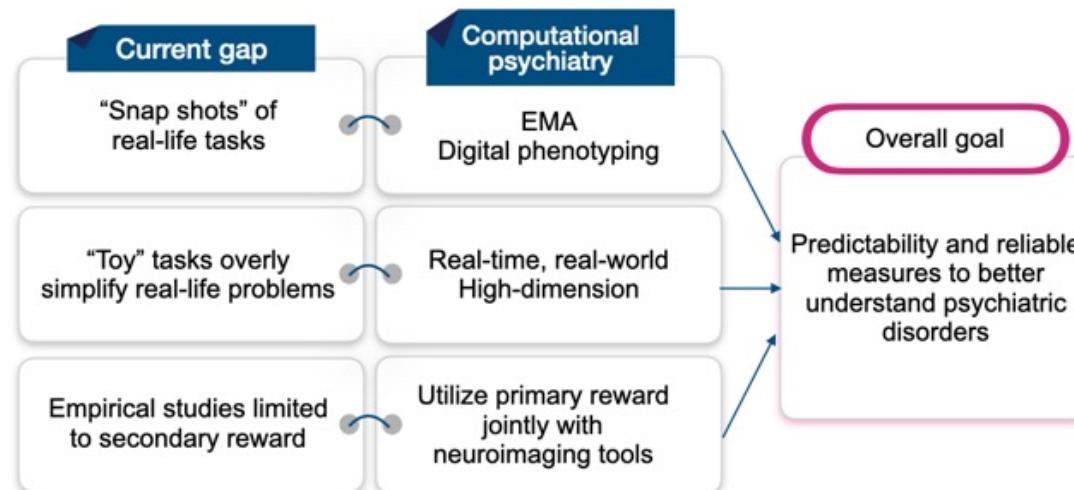


x=16



z=2

Overly simplified “toy” problems/tasks



Ahn, Lee, & Kim (invited review) *Current Directions in Psychological Science*
Lee, Lee, Im, O'Doherty, & Ahn (invited review) *Nature Reviews Psychology*

Real-time Driving task



Sang-Ho Lee Min-hwan Oh

Explore vs Exploit w/ Minecraft



Wonmok Shim Hyeonmin Lee

“Real” reward (nicotine)



Josh Brown Jeung-Hyun
Lee Eunhwi Lee

Naturalistic (movie) paradigm



Monica Rosenberg Mina Kwon

Exploration/exploitation bias in addiction?

Exploration Bias

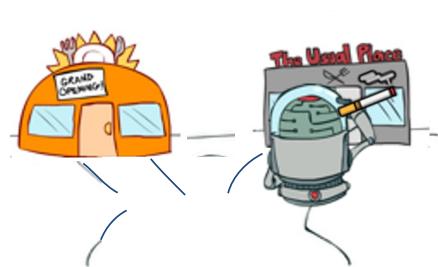
“Failure to properly use prior information and excessive focus on irrelevant information”

- **Smokers in reward** ([Morris et al., 2016](#))
- **Binge eating disorder in loss** ([Morris et al., 2016](#))

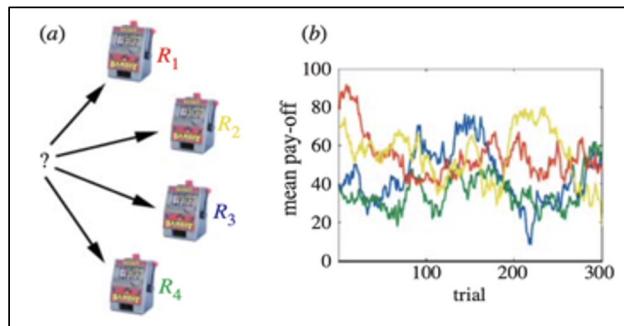
Exploitation Bias

“Repetition of habitual behaviors without acquiring new information”

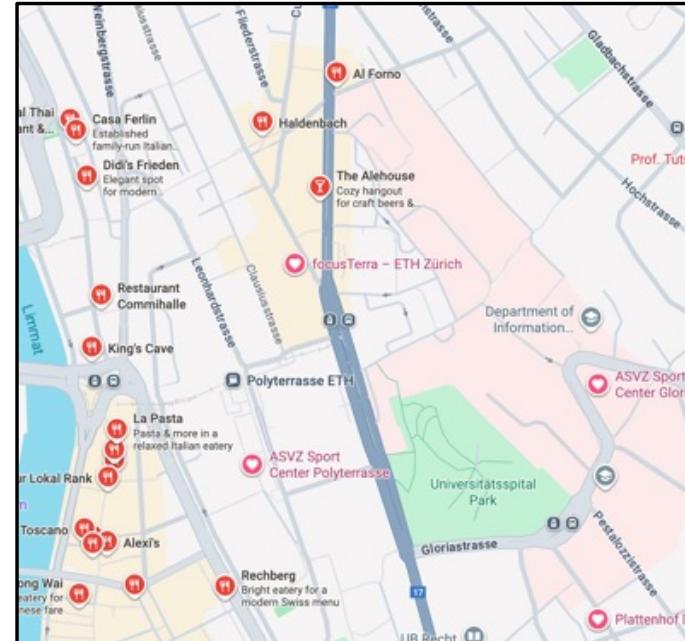
- **Methamphetamine users** ([Harle et al., 2015; Addicott et al., 2017](#))
- **Alcohol use disorder** ([Morris et al., 2016](#))
- **Habitual smokers** ([Addicott et al., 2014a](#))



Multi Armed-Bandit Task



Daw et al (2006) Nature

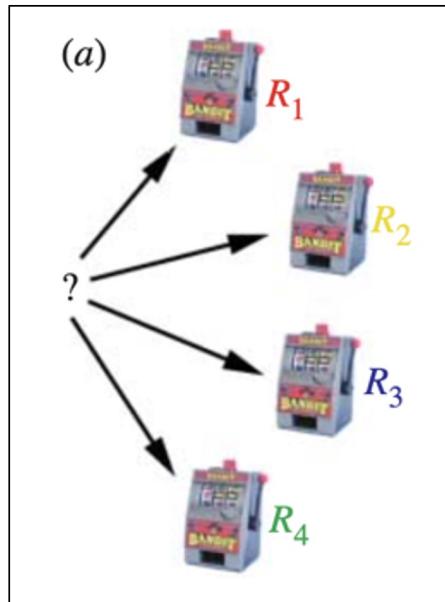


Dining options!

Limitations?

- *Low ecological validity*
- *Cost (time & effort) for navigation*
- *Locomotion & visual exploration*





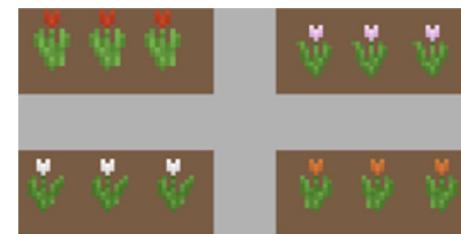
2D MAB



Hyeonmin Lee



MINECRAFT

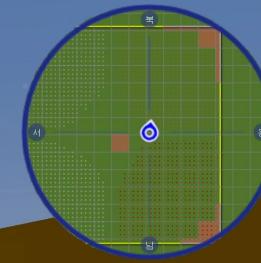


3D MAB

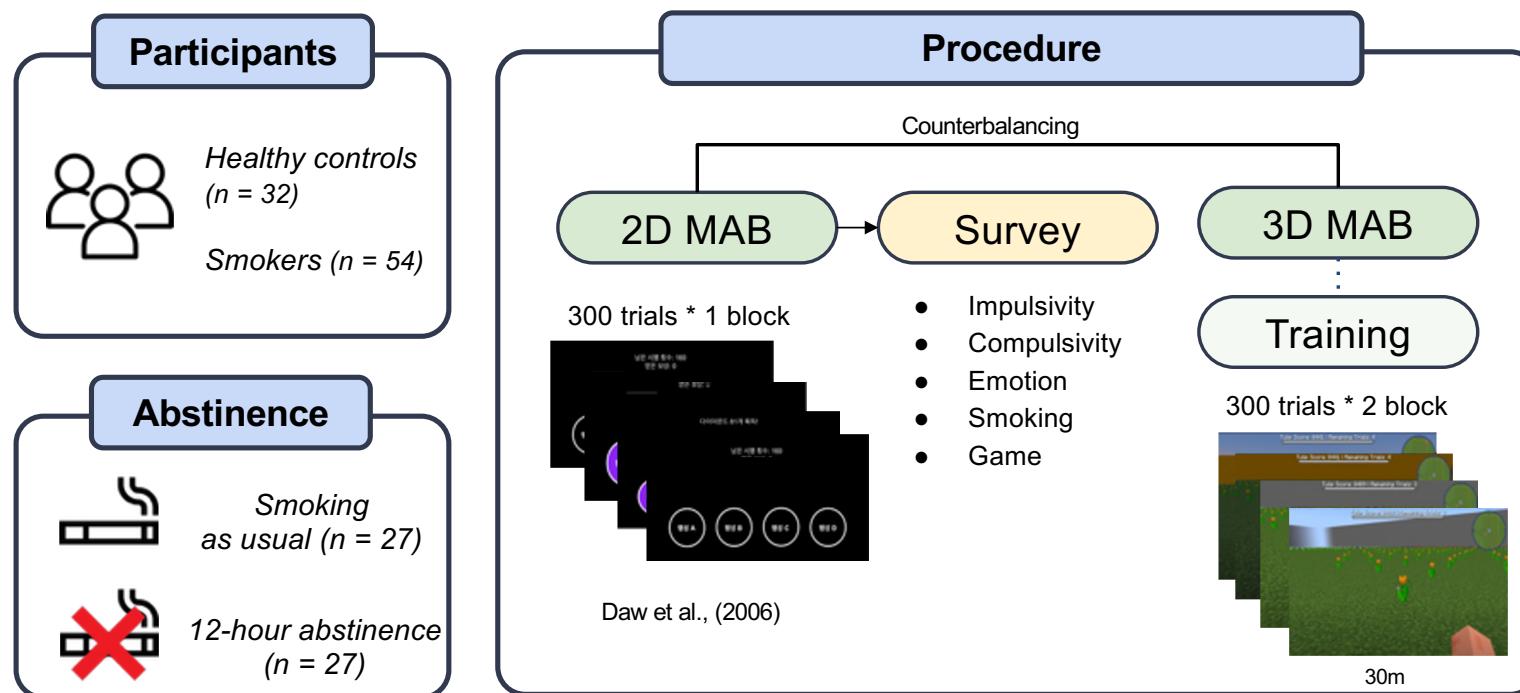


Lee et al (in preparation)

Tulip Score: 8441 | Remaining Trials: 4



Participants and Procedure



Computational Modeling

- *Hierarchical Bayesian parameter estimation (MCMC) w/ Stan*
- *Model Comparison (leave-one-out CV information criterion; LOOIC)*
 - *Model 1: [2D/3D] Kalman filter + Softmax* (Daw et al., 2006)
 - *Model 2: [3D] Kalman Filter + Softmax with the navigation cost*
 - *In 3D MAB, model 2 is the best-fitting model in all three groups*

$$P(\text{choice}_{i,t} = j) = \frac{\exp(\beta_i Q_{i,j,t})}{\sum_{k=1}^{N_{arm}} \exp(\beta_i Q_{i,k,t})}$$

β_i - exploitation vs exploration parameter

$$Q'_{i,j,t} = \mu_{ev,i,j,t} - \gamma_i \cdot \text{cost}_{i,j,t}$$

γ_i - cost sensitivity

Locomotion & visual exploration measures

Locomotion

- *Coordinate Variance*
- *Enclosing Diameter*
- *Field Entropy*
- *Tortuosity*
- *Total Path Length*
- *Turning Angle Standard Deviation*
- *Sum of Distances from Origin*
- *Maximum Distance from Origin*

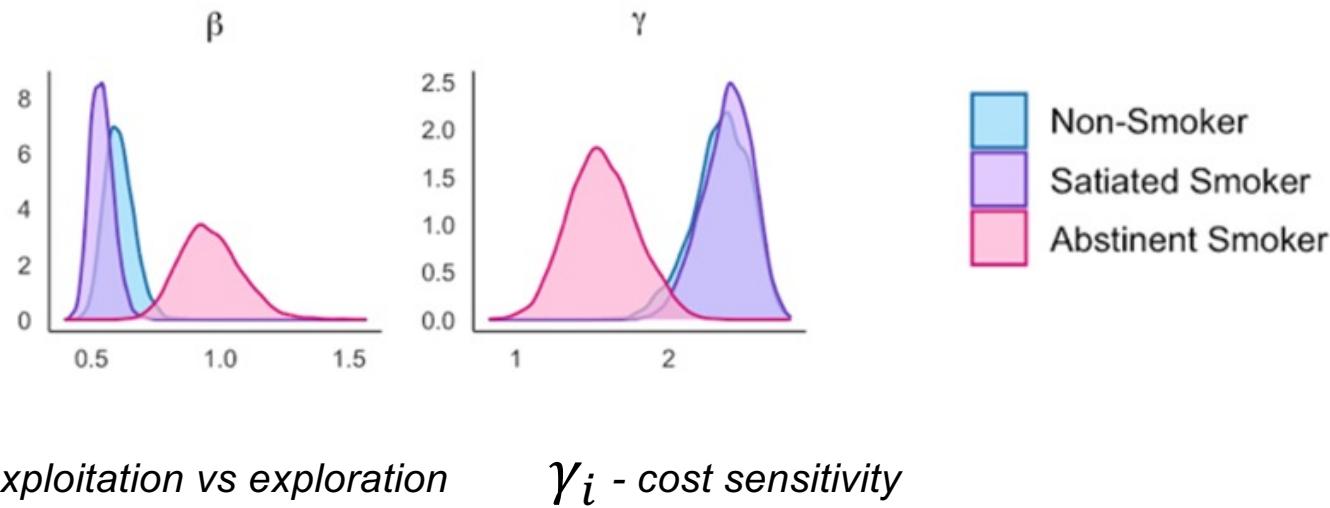
Visual Exploration

- *Yaw/Pitch Variance*
- *View Entropy*
- *Total Angular Displacement*
- *Mean/Max Angular Speed*

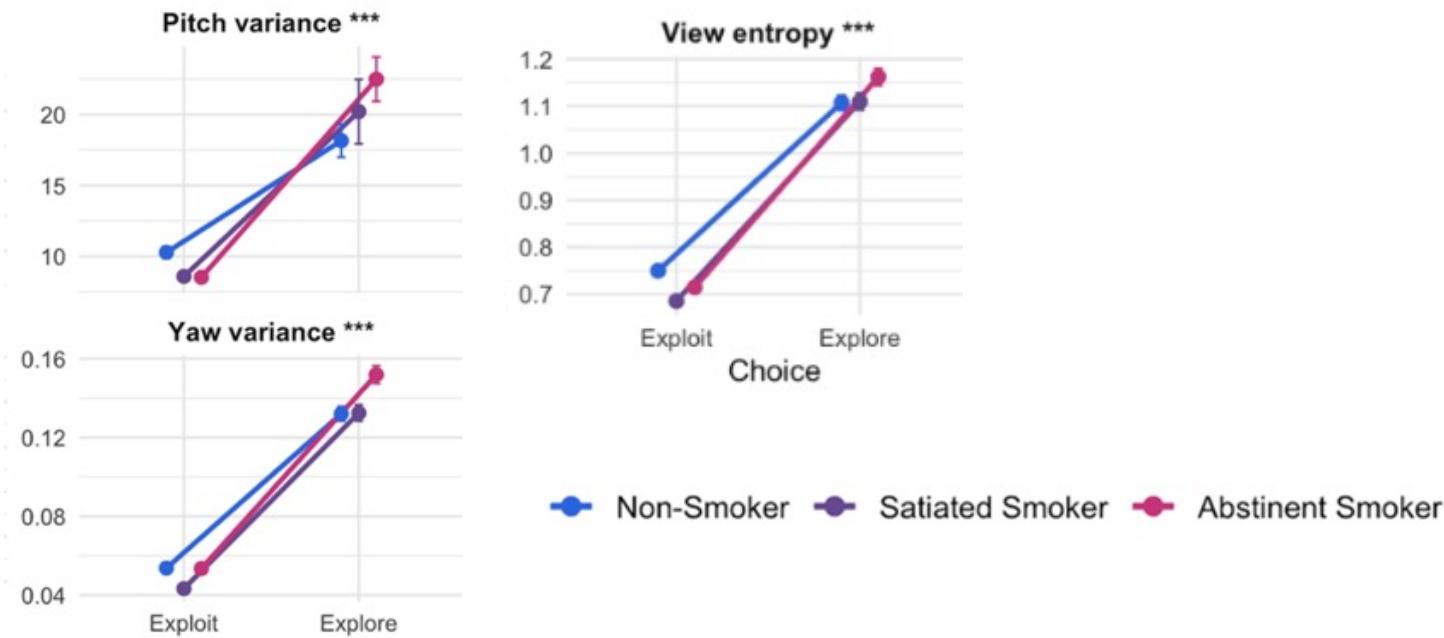


Modeling Results

- *In 2D MAB, no group difference*
- *In 3D MAB, higher exploitation and reduced cost sensitivity among abstinent smokers*



Visual exploration results



Abstinent smokers show greater (task-irrelevant) visual exploration during exploration

Abstinent smokers
= more distracted / disorganized?

“Real” rewards in the magnet



VS



Jeung-Hyun Lee



Eun-Hwi Lee



Joshua Brown, Indiana Univ.



*Modak et al. (2021) Neuroimage: Clinical
Lim et al (2020) BP: CNNI*

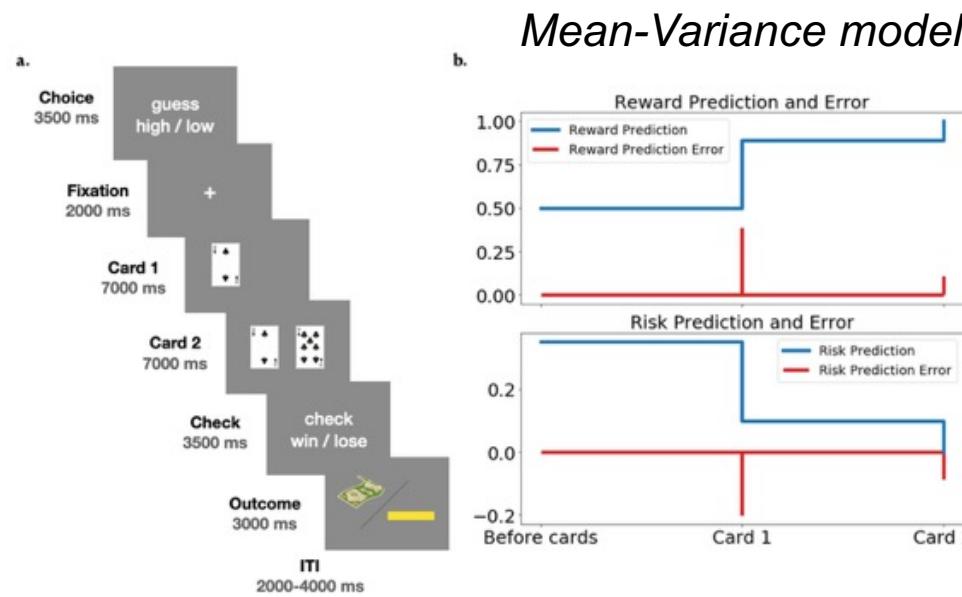
MRI-compatible e-cigarette setup



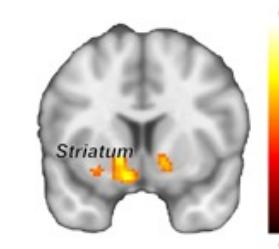
Joshua Brown, Indiana Univ.



Neural correlates of reward and risk w/ monetary and nicotine rewards

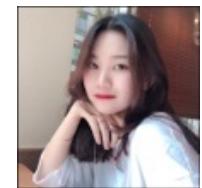
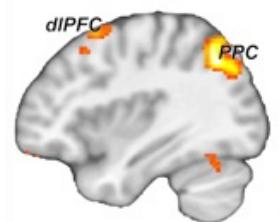


Reward PE



Jeung-Hyun Lee

Risk PE

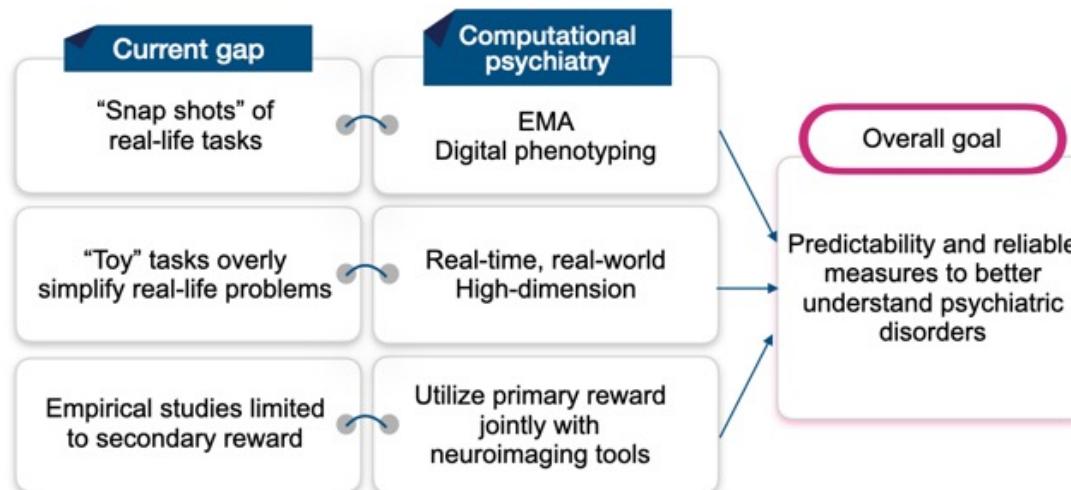


Eun-Hwi Lee

Preuschoff et al (2008) *Journal of Neuroscience*
Preuschoff et al (2006) *Neuron*

Lee, Lee, Brown, & Ahn (2024)
CCN2024

Time for naturalistic paradigms!?



Ahn, Lee, & Kim (invited review) *Current Directions in Psychological Science*
Lee, Lee, Im, O'Doherty, & Ahn (invited review) *Nature Reviews Psychology*

Real-time Driving task



Sang-Ho Lee Min-hwan Oh

Explore vs Exploit w/ Minecraft



Wonmok Shim Hyeonmin Lee

"Real" reward (nicotine)



Josh Brown Jeung-Hyun Lee Eunhwi Lee

Naturalistic (movie) paradigm



Monica Rosenberg Mina Kwon

Challenges ahead of us

- *(Simple) computational modeling is hard*
- *Phenotypes/(bio)markers are not reliable*
- *Dynamic nature of the human mind*
- *Overly simplified “toy” problems/tasks*
- *“Good” mathematical models for “the mind”*

Article

A foundation model to predict and capture human cognition

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-025-09215-4>

Received: 26 October 2024

Accepted: 29 May 2025

Published online: 02 July 2025

Open access

 Check for updates

Marcel Binz^{1,2,✉}, Elif Akata¹, Matthias Bethge², Julian Coda-Forno¹, Peter Dayan^{2,4}, Can Den Thomas L. Griffiths⁷, Susanne Haridi^{1,8}, Aksh Sreejan Kumar⁷, Tobias Ludwig^{2,4}, Marvin M. Surabhi S. Nath^{2,4,8}, Joshua C. Peterson¹⁰, Mi Johannes A. Schubert⁴, Luca M. Schulze Bu Mirko Thalmann¹, Fabian J. Theis^{12,13,14}, Vuong Konstantinos Voudouris¹, Robert Wilson¹⁰, K Huadong Xiong¹⁶ & Eric Schulz¹

Article

Discovering cognitive strategies with tiny recurrent neural networks

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-025-09142-4>

Received: 15 May 2023

Accepted: 12 May 2025

Published online: 02 July 2025

Open access

 Check for updates

Li Ji-An¹, Marcus K. Benna¹ & Marcelo G. Mattar^{2,✉}

Understanding how animals and humans learn from experience to make adaptive decisions is a fundamental goal of neuroscience and psychology. Normative modelling frameworks such as Bayesian inference¹ and reinforcement learning² provide valuable insights into the principles governing adaptive behaviour. However, the simplicity of these frameworks often limits their ability to capture realistic biological behaviour, leading to cycles of handcrafted adjustments that are prone to researcher subjectivity.

“Build a model that can predict and simulate human behavior in any domain”



Tutorial C

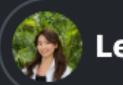
Reinforcement Learning using the hBayesDM Package

AM Session

8:15 am - 11:45 am



Ahn



Lee



Im

Info

In this tutorial, participants will learn how to use a Bayesian package called hBayesDM (supporting R and Python) for modeling various reinforcement learning and decision making (RLDM) tasks. A short overview of (hierarchical) Bayesian modeling will be also provided. Participants will also learn important steps and issues to check when reporting modeling results in publications.



hBayesDM 1.3.0

Reference

Articles

Changelog

Hierarchical Bayesian Analysis on Hierarchical Gaussian Filter

Source: vignettes/hgf_tutorial.Rmd

By Jinwoo Jeong, Juha Lee, Yusom Jo, Woo-Young Ahn | September 2, 2025

https://ccs-lab.github.io/hBayesDM/articles/hgf_tutorial.html

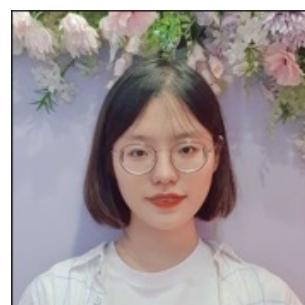
(Hierarchical) Bayesian analysis of HGF



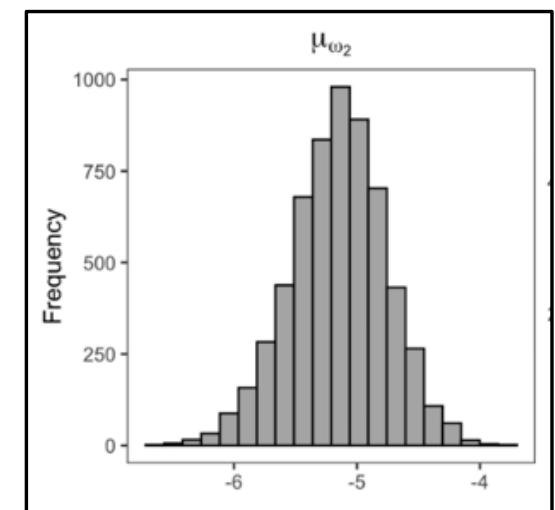
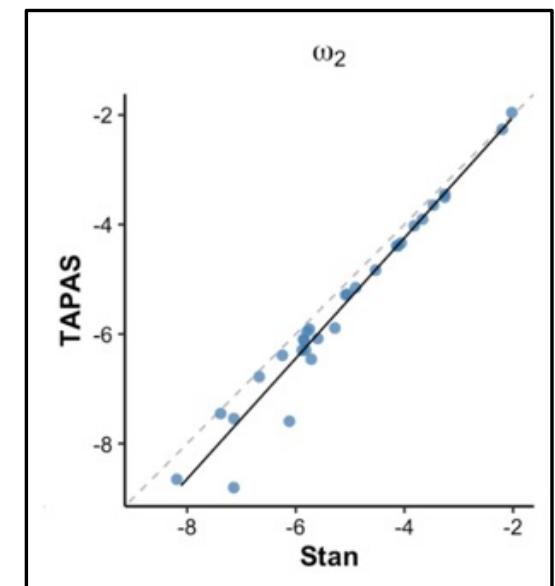
Jinwoo Jeong



Juha Lee



Yusom Jo





Computational Clinical Science Laboratory



Thanks!

[ccs-lab.github.io /](https://ccs-lab.github.io/)
happylaboratory.org