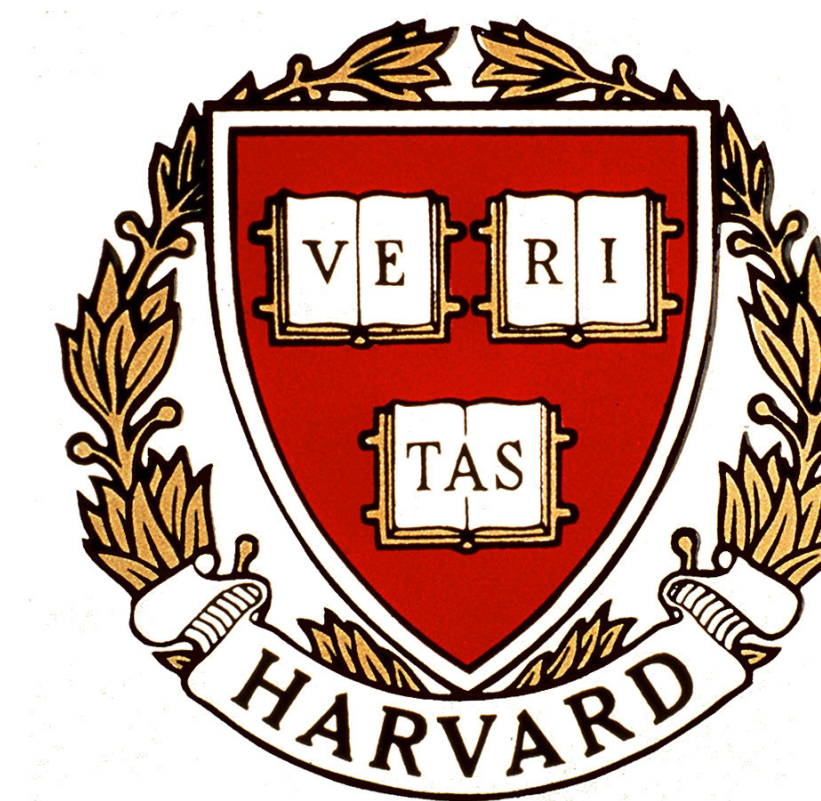


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Developmental Studies

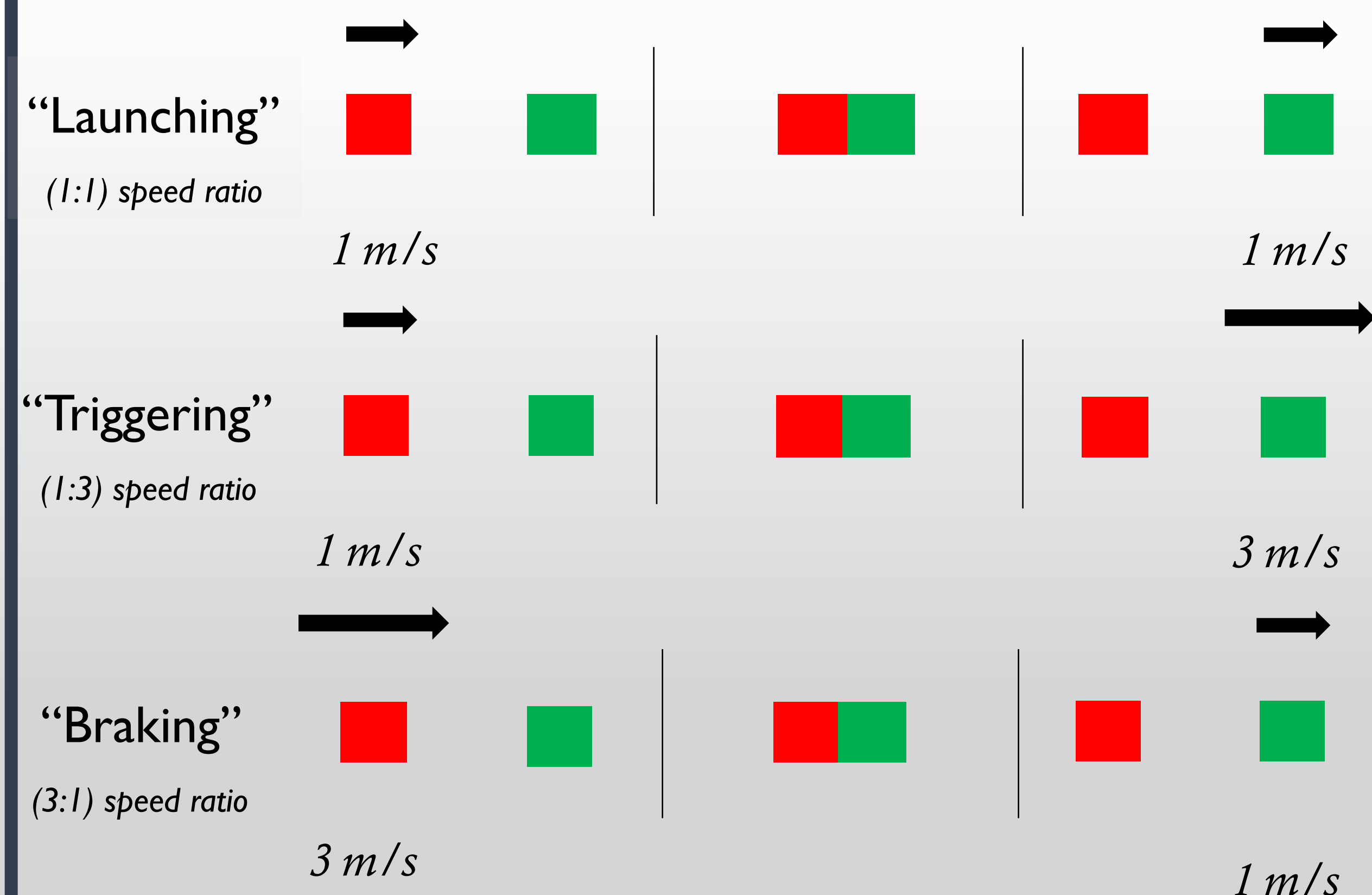
Infants' perception(s) of causality

Florin Gheorghiu, Jonathan Kominsky, and Susan Carey



Introduction

Possible perceptions of causality



What underlies causal perception?

Temporal and spatial continuity supports an immediate causal impression – Michotte, (1964)

Retinotopically-specific adaptation is obtained from *launching* to *braking*, and not to *triggering*, BUT also from *triggering* to *launching* – Kominsky & Scholl, *in press*

Are these categories intrinsic to causal perception?

If causal roles are reversed, 6-month olds dishabituate more to causal events containing spatio-temporal continuity – Leslie & Keeble, (1987)

7-month olds distinguish between launching and triggering – Kominsky et al., *in press*

Methods

4 and 7-month old ($n=32$)

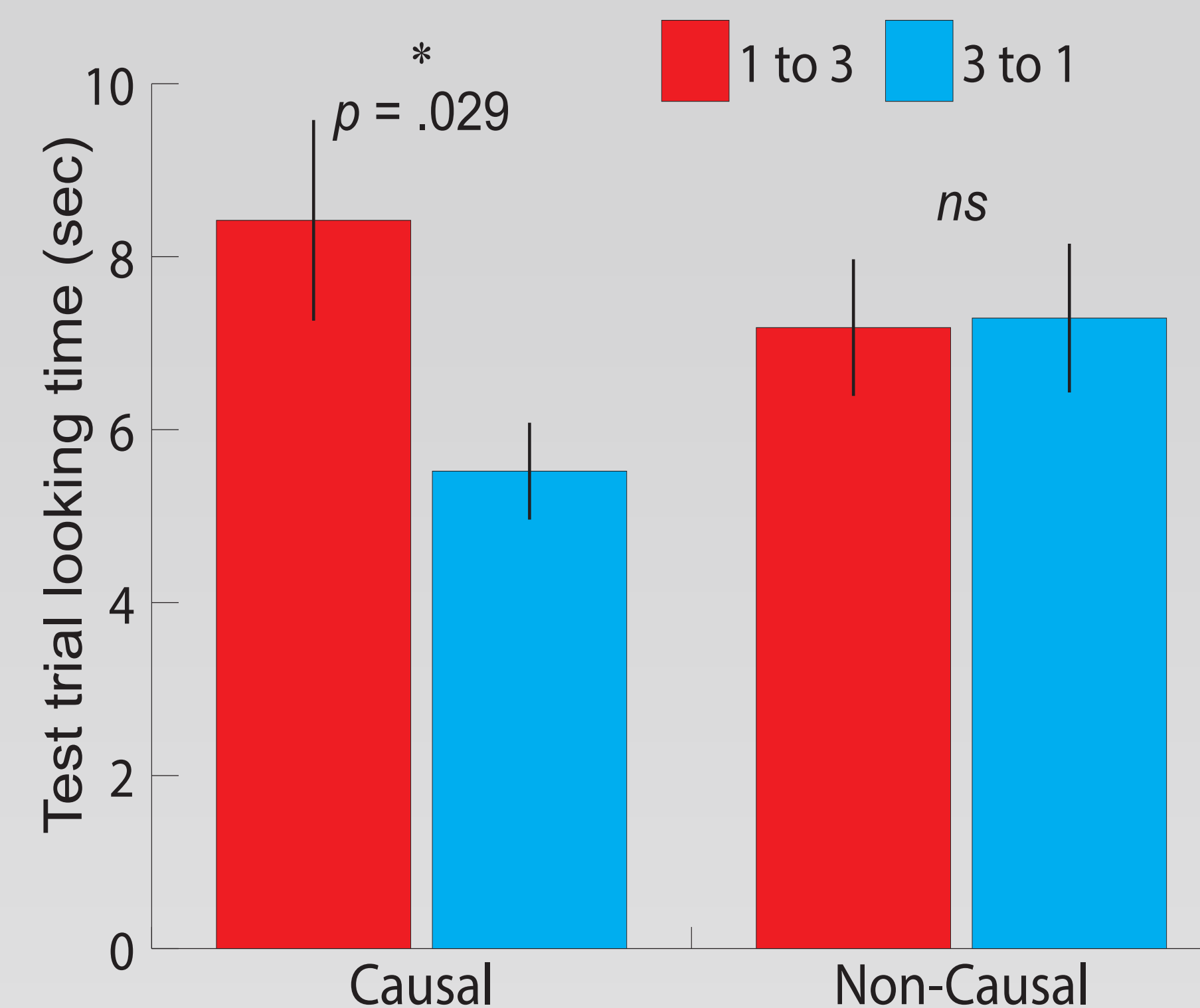
infants habituated to
Causal Launching or *Delayed Temporal Offset* (0.5s)

One test trial on either 1:3 or 3:1
(in the corresponding
habituation condition)

Replication of Kominsky et al., *in press*

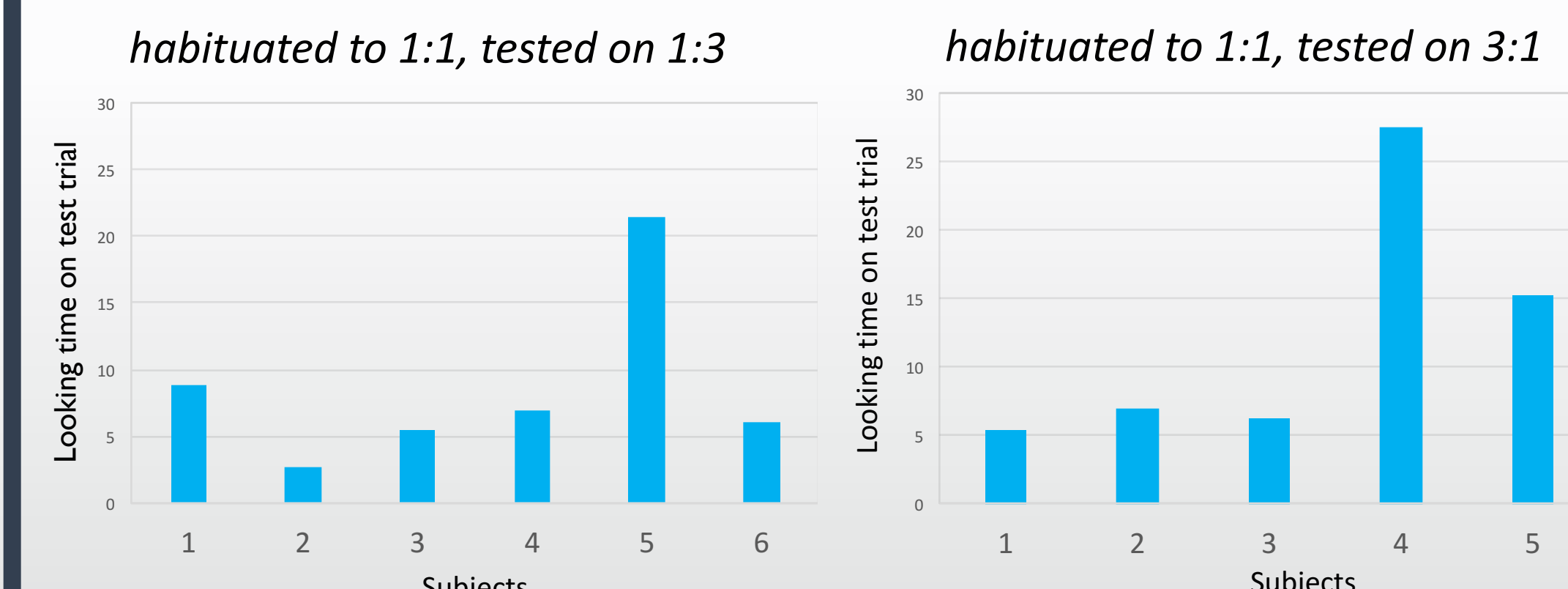
Previous results

Kominsky et al., *in press*

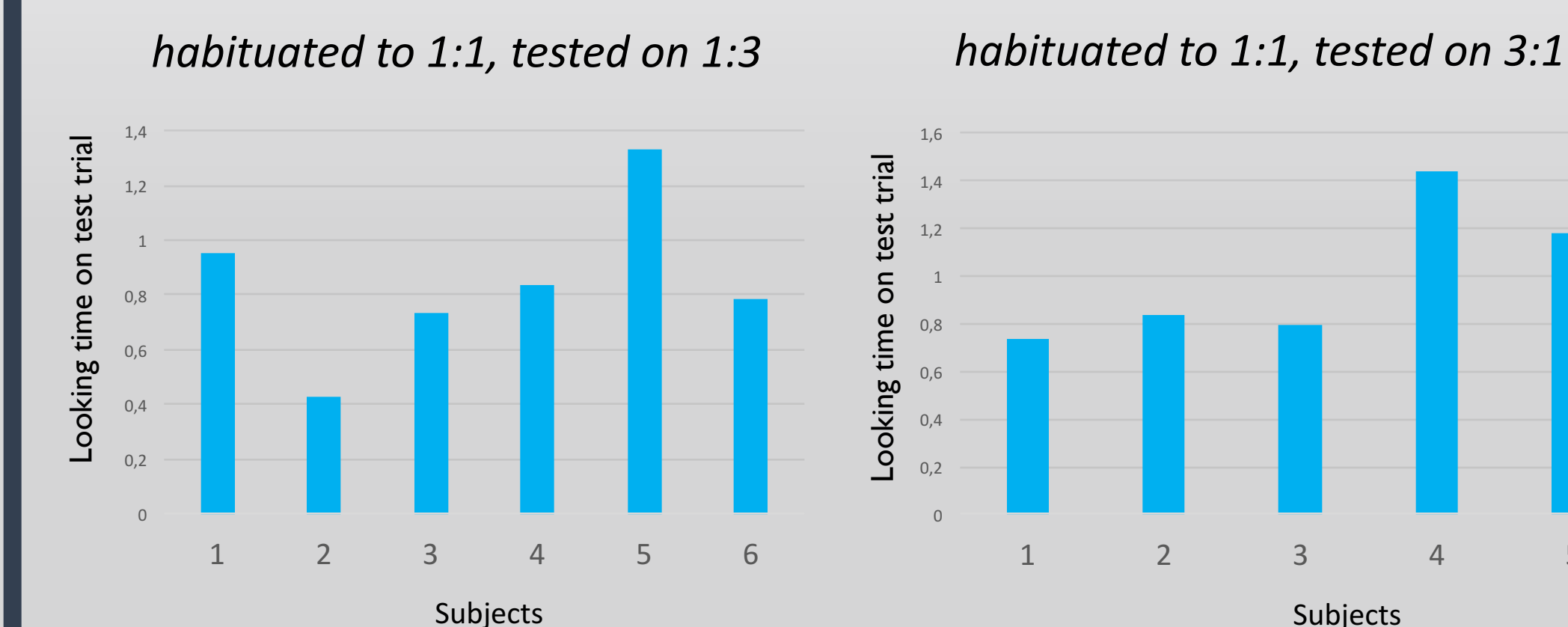


Results

7-month olds ($n=11$)



Log transformations



4-month olds ($n=7$)

Data collection is ongoing.

Discussion

How is the development of causal perception shaped? (< or >)

If infants distinguish *triggering*, what is there to it?

Temporospatial properties?

Animacy?
Luo & Baillargeon, (2005)

