# **An Initial Decision has been made on your Manuscript High mutual cooperation rates in rats learning reciprocal altruism: the role of payoff matrix.**

Dear Dr. Delmas,

Thank you very much for submitting your manuscript entitled 'High mutual cooperation rates in rats learning reciprocal altruism: the role of payoff matrix' for consideration by PLOS Biology.

I regret to inform you that we do not feel the paper is a strong candidate for publication in PLOS Biology. We appreciate that your study shows that the use of both positive and negative reinforcements, and an appropriate contrast index, allows rats to learn reciprocal altruism at a high rate. At this stage, however, we are not persuaded that the novel biological insights of the manuscript provide the strength of advance that we aim to achieve for PLOS Biology.

While we cannot consider your manuscript further for publication in PLOS Biology, we very much appreciate your wish to present your work in an Open Access publication and so suggest, as an alternative, submitting to PLOS ONE ([www.plosone.org](https://u2730683.ct.sendgrid.net/wf/click?upn=WSBnDBo-2FgNS2TePIjxnPwnfao8HtkDY3mGY7Uwgef6g-3D_ginbe8joYjdLuuL4YSNgG7NoyziOySmonJhDvUbyqgPpUfXil4FK3VdsVu3fYHU950QjkangZnNkpxYoMIaHSHh7U9yatchCA7BFkgsjS312S-2FuhhM5uczI67H1Umzk6pXfgGPw6SDLW7KcRdCTQG2ZWC2-2BOGsFQe3YyO7iyUwXqJlm-2B7NlQqUQukrya0RLI-2FDq2DZKVY9jEgb8qurkY4g-3D-3D)).

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If you would like the editors of this journal to consider your work please login at the relevant journal submission site (details about the journal and a link to the submission site can be found at [http://journals.plos.org/](https://u2730683.ct.sendgrid.net/wf/click?upn=xS8UK-2FrL1hGgaoBW0WYBtr-2Fr6AI53mKQ6BjibxsfUvTL8nZLC6NfQASC-2BZrO-2BhrDiq2iXJzS4jxDHp1l0aEdTw-3D-3D_ginbe8joYjdLuuL4YSNgG7NoyziOySmonJhDvUbyqgPpUfXil4FK3VdsVu3fYHU9NUAybi9tJstgIjGHh3kIqQkBXW8QnO9rOhNYge91s1YNdxIAjInsBPvIDWeMYJvFMU5L6zr0dxd1Nc4DxtFs3a-2F39ML6aHjxlrITsTC-2FkQkr1olv8HeDGki33BZkOQktLmk-2BZbetyF2De-2BxXl9pXVg-3D-3D)). Please note that the journals are editorially independent and we cannot submit your article on your behalf. Once at the relevant submission site, log in and choose 'Submit Manuscript' from the list of Author Tasks, selecting the article type 'Research Article'. Please include the PLOS Biology decision letter, including all editorial and reviewer comments, in your submission. This letter can be uploaded as an 'Other' file in the file inventory of your submission form and will assist the PLOS ONE editors to assess your manuscript as quickly as possible.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to consider your work.

Sincerely,

Brian Grone

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Brian Grone, PhD I Associate Editor, PLOS Biology

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