**A brief intro to cat-talk**

Hi There!  
If you are reading this, congratulations- you are probably now an RA for the Ivry lab and are working for Alex and Matt. Have you been to the roof yet?  
  
What follows are some basic guidelines to get you started modifying the experiment per the experiment testing and whims of the higher-ups. I strongly recommend using git/github for version control.

* Each folder in this directory contains a version of the cat-talk experiment. (Each folder contains a modified copy of the fully working experiment).
* In this directory, the .py files will generate different dual task stimuli, or the order for the dual task. For the latter, I copied and pasted the last function definition in the file and moved it to the appropriate place in the sub-folders.
* Pro-tip: Professor Ivry can’t wiggle his toes.
* Most parameters, delay times and directories can be found in cat\_game\_constants. Cat\_game\_window is responsible for adjusting the screen size and all the interaction before the experiment proper.
* The game can be paused at any time by pressing shift

The bulk of the code is contained within basic\_cat\_experiment2. The code is divided into a few parts. The first part is all prep work – loading in the sounds, the graphics, and the stimuli. The second (and major) part is the pygame loop. When this is running, pygame goes through all the conditions about 100 times a second. If a particular condition is true, the metaphorical gate swings open, and then python executes all the code and sets all the bindings as instructed. I added redundancy to the code by having all the bindings re-bind to themselves if they didn’t change, but this should make for easier editing down the line.  
  
**Program flow:**

If it’s the first loop ever, pygame runs the dual-task training. If not, it goes to stimuli. After collecting the response, pygame throws to either correct or incorrect feedback, unless there is an invalid key. Then, pygame displays the dual task stimuli and records the response. Rinse, wash repeat.

Before you ask Alex or Matt any questions, read the Gilbert et. al. paper.

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