IBC Project: Reward Processing Protocol

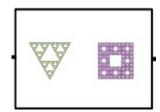
In this experiment, you will be playing to maximize your symbolic monetary gains. Your task is to determine, by trial-and-error, which of the two images shown to you is more profitable and keep track of it. One of the images is associated with a 70% chance of gain and 30% chance of loss ("gain" image). The other image results in a 30% chance of a gain and 70% chance of a loss ("loss" image). If the "gain" image is selected 5 times consecutively, the gain-to-loss probabilities are reversed. This means that the "gain" image now becomes the "loss" image with a 30% chance of gain and 70% chance of loss. Conversely the "loss" image becomes the "gain" image.

This is what a trial looks like:

1. A cross appears at the start of each trial.



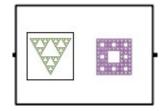
2. Then, two images appear. One of these images is the "gain" image and the other is the "loss" image. The color and location of the images do not predict whether they are "gain" or "loss".



Use trial-and-error to figure out which image is the "gain" image and then remember the image.

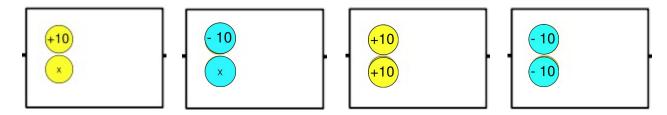
3. Select one of the images. You can select the left image by pressing the button under your index finger and the right one by pressing the middle finger button. A box appears to mark the selected image.

Use the left and right arrow keys for the practice session.



4. You will then be informed about the amount of money you have gained or lost. You can win or lose either 10€ or 20€ on each trial.

Note: color (blue or yellow) does not signify gain or loss, the sign (+ or -) against the amount does.



5. A cross appears again to mark the end of the trial.



6. Now say that the green image is the "gain" image, and you have selected it for 5 trials consecutively. On each subsequent trial there is now a 25% chance that the purple image becomes the "gain" image. You have to once again determine the "gain" image using trial-and-error.