

mice use the prior to optimize their performance

- premise: knowledge of the current prior would help the mice to perform well
- premise: the prior is the only source of information on zero contrast trials
- premise: mice could form only a subjective estimate of the true block prior from the trial history
- premise: at best, they could compute the estimate of the true block prior given full knowledge of the task structure and the sequence of previous stimulus sides since the start of the session

model 1

- bayes-optimal prior
 - is a hidden markov model (HMM)
 - * contains: observed data, hidden state label, and block length
 - * maintains a belief over hidden state label