

Stefan Scherbaum, Martin Schoemann

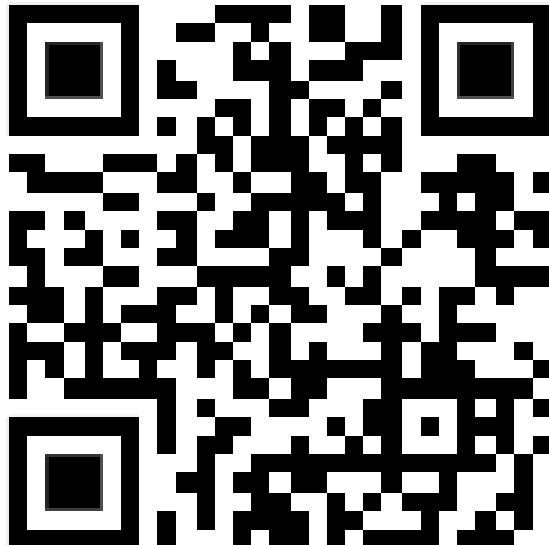
# Tracking the embodied dynamics of cognition using computer mouse tracking

Interdisciplinary College 2023

# Where can you find the slides?



[https://github.com/mschoemann/ik2023\\_mc2](https://github.com/mschoemann/ik2023_mc2)



# Who are you dealing with?



Stefan Scherbaum

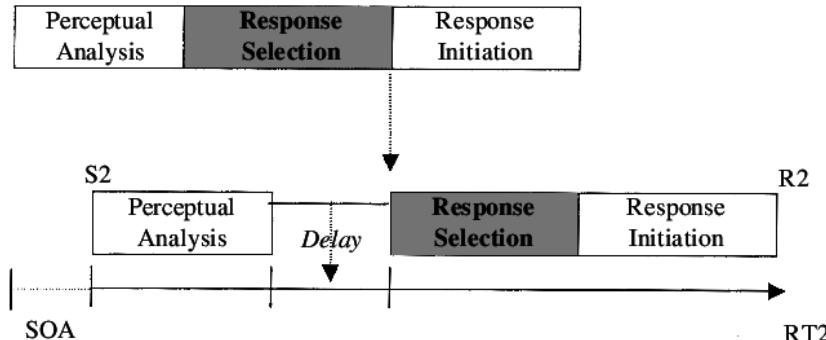


and a very versatile device  
for behavioral research

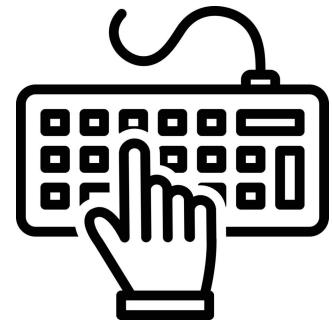
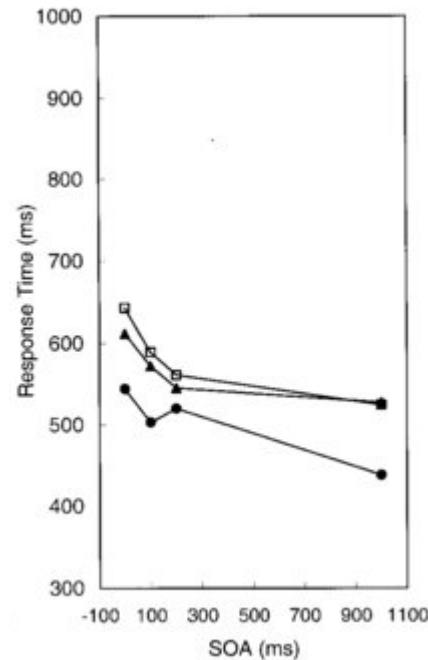


Martin Schoemann

# Stage-like linear approaches to cognition → Measures of final response



e.g., Lien & Proctor, 2002

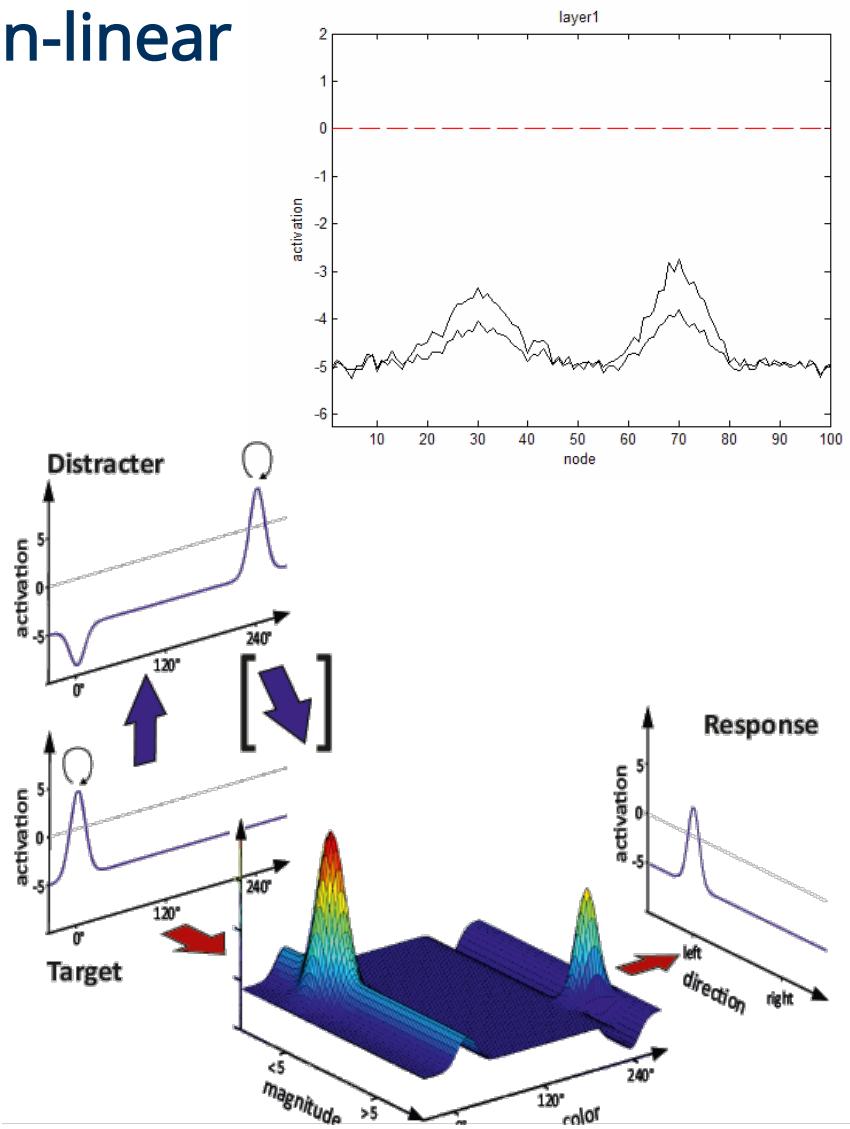
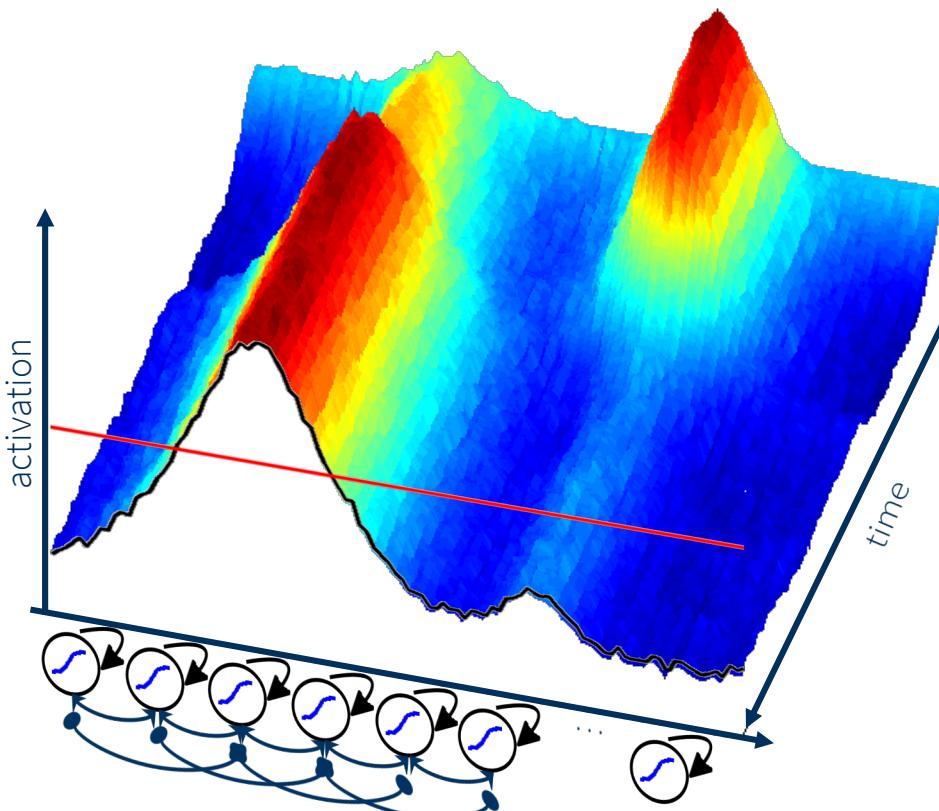


Infering stage components from RT and choices

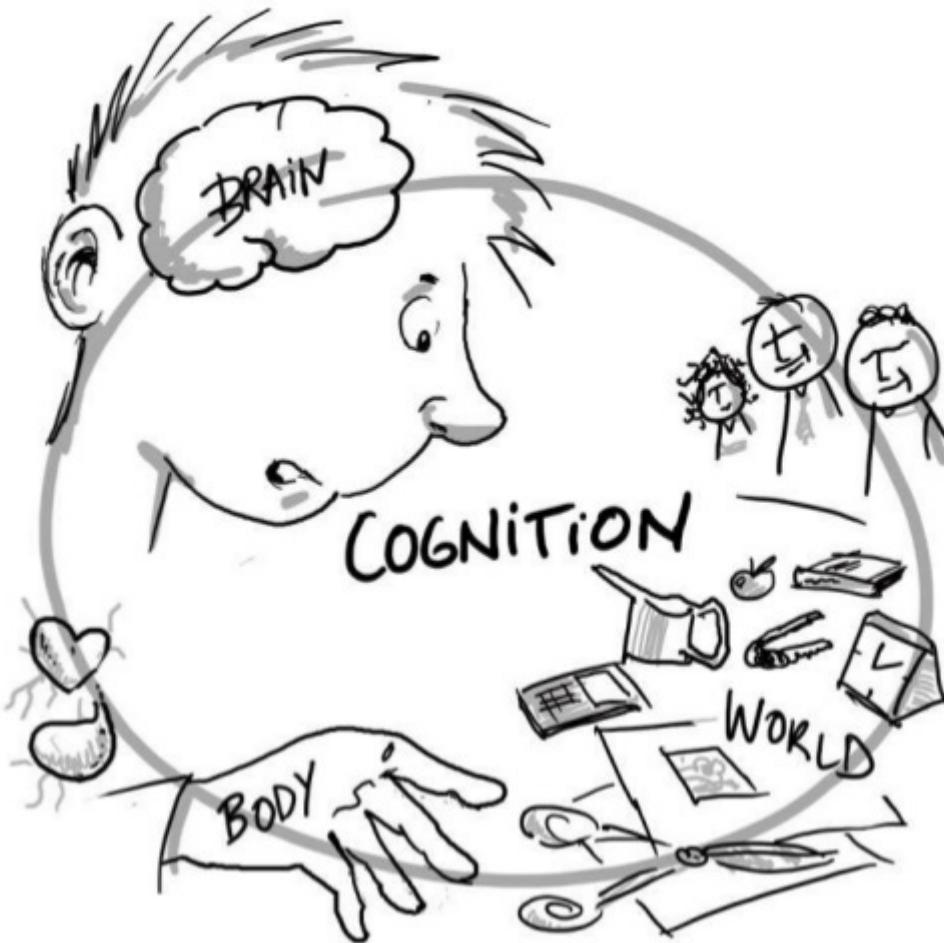


e.g., Fellows 2004, Sugrue et al. 2005

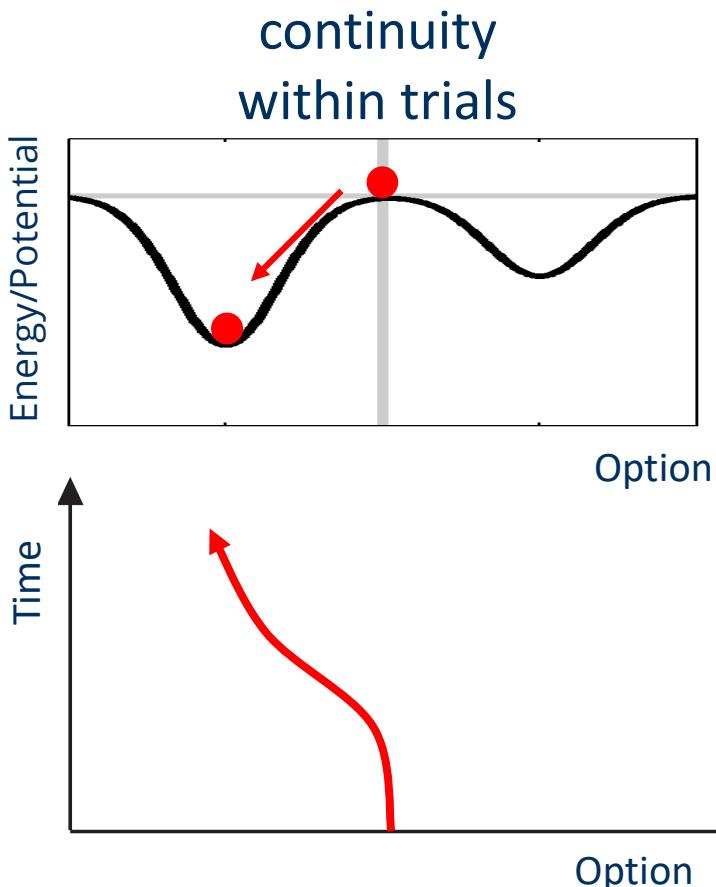
# Cognitive processes are inherently dynamic & interconnected & non-linear



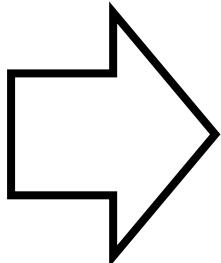
# Cognition & embodiment: Thinking and moving in the world are directly connected



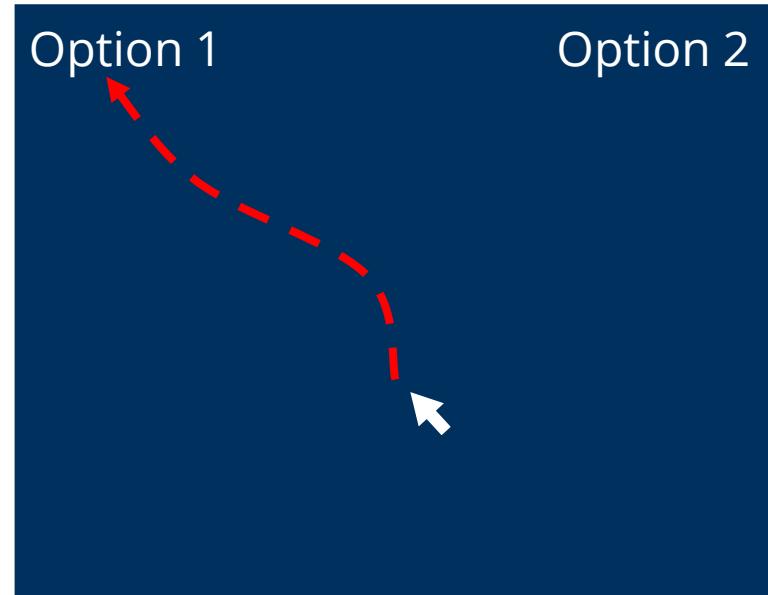
# Tracing continuous processes continuously: by studying continuous movements



Embodiment:  
Leakage of  
cognition  
into  
movements



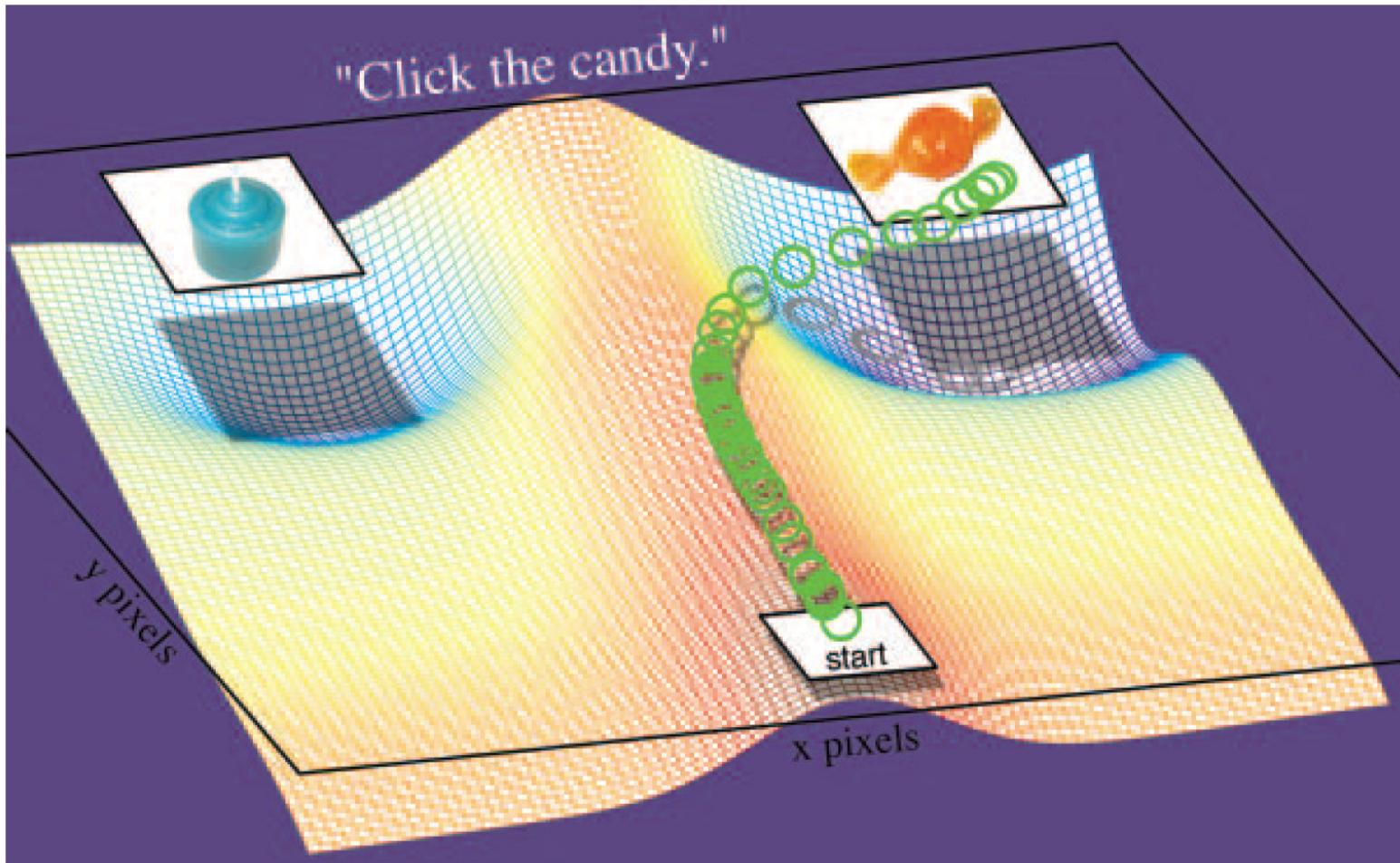
continuous  
tracing of responses



Computer mouse tracking!

Scherbaum, Dshemuchadse, Kalis, 2008

# Observing cognitive processes by their „leakage“ into motor control



Spivey & Dale, 2006

# A typical mouse tracking paradigm

Two alternative forced choice paradigms as most controlled variant

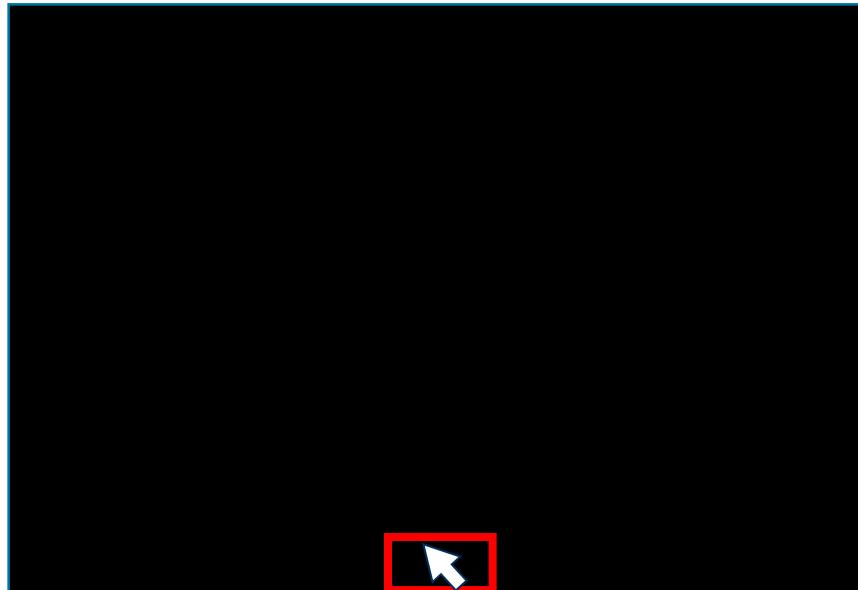
Example: Intertemporal Choice



# A typical mouse tracking paradigm

Two alternative forced choice paradigms as most controlled variant

Example: Intertemporal Choice

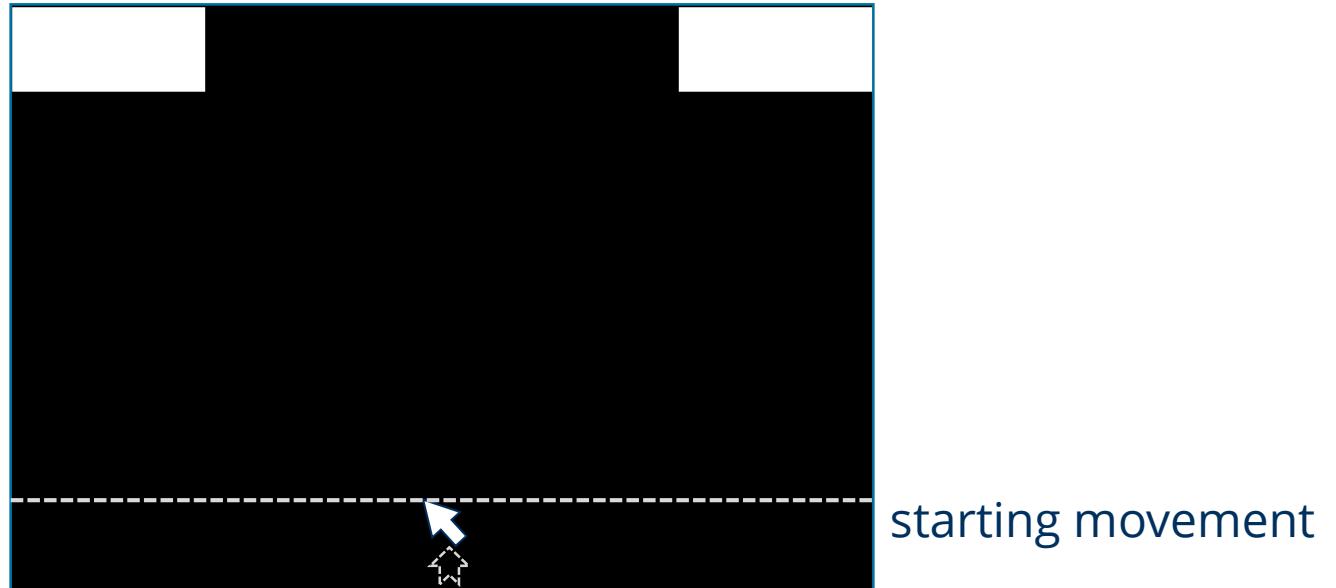


clicking to start  
a trial

# A typical mouse tracking paradigm

Two alternative forced choice paradigms as most controlled variant

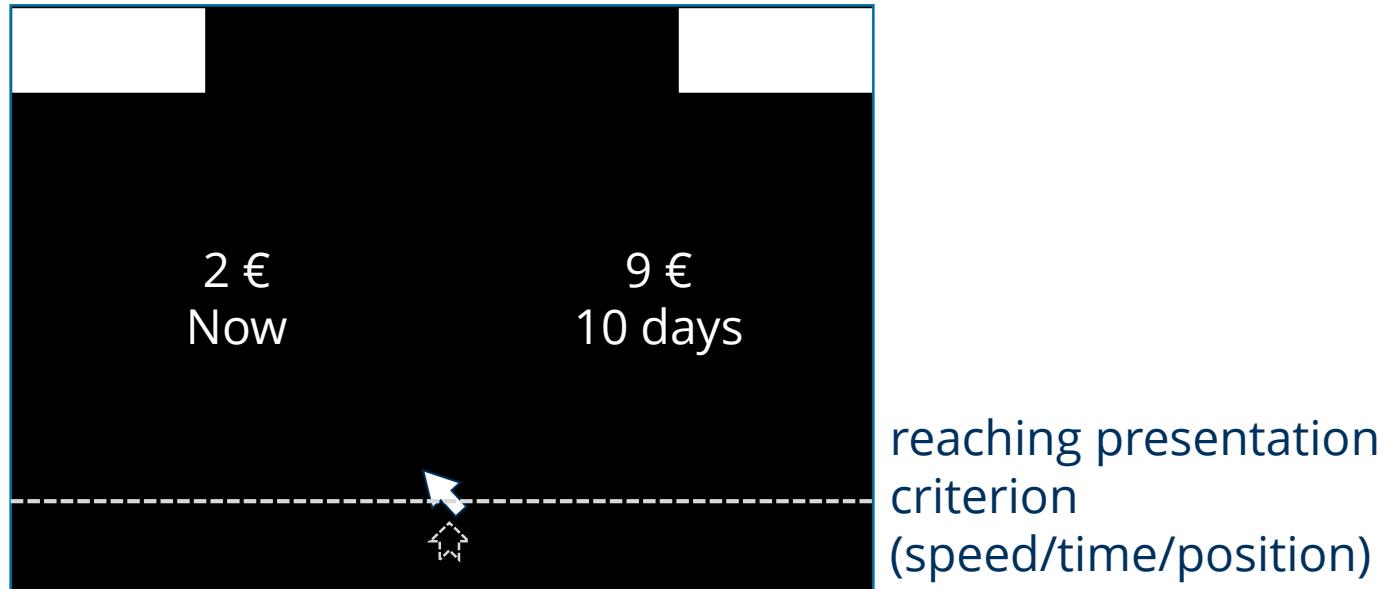
Example: Intertemporal Choice



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Two alternative forced choice paradigms as most controlled variant

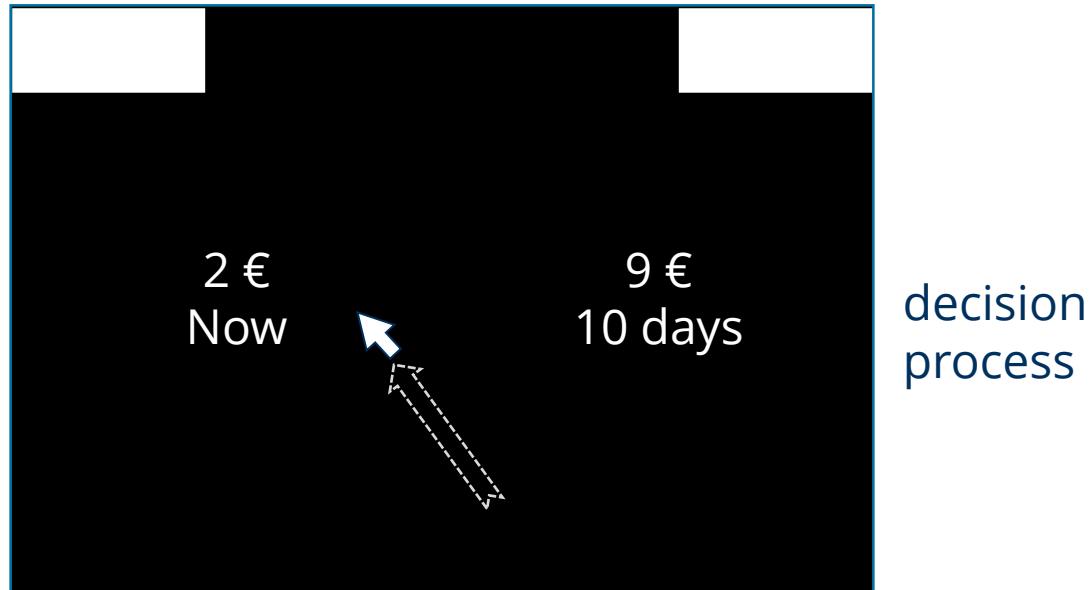
Example: Intertemporal Choice



# A typical mouse tracking paradigm

Two alternative forced choice paradigms as most controlled variant

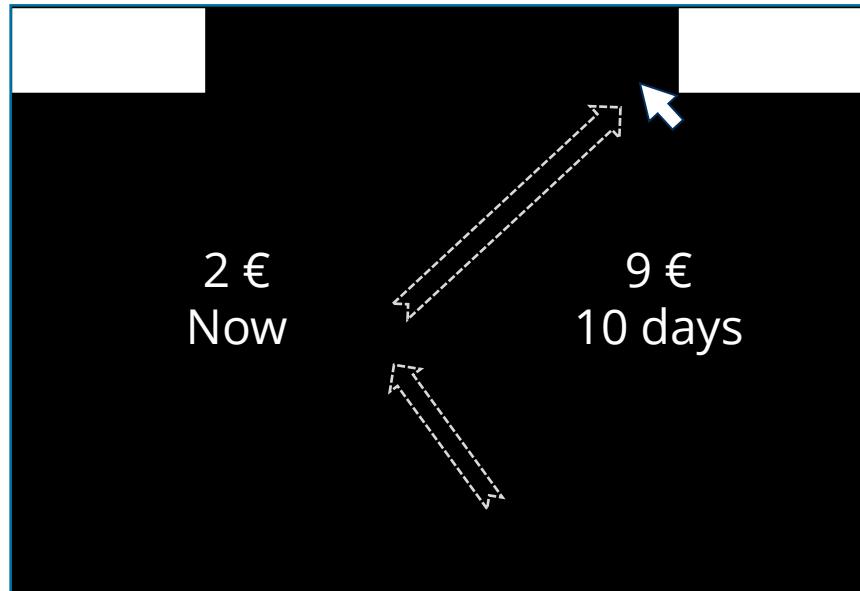
Example: Intertemporal Choice



# A typical mouse tracking paradigm

Two alternative forced choice paradigms as most controlled variant

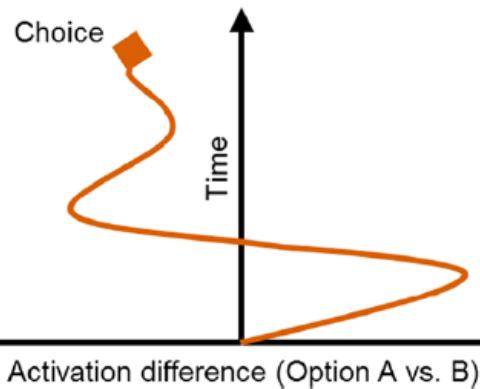
Example: Intertemporal Choice



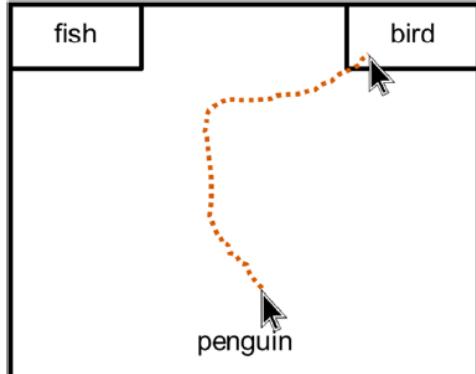
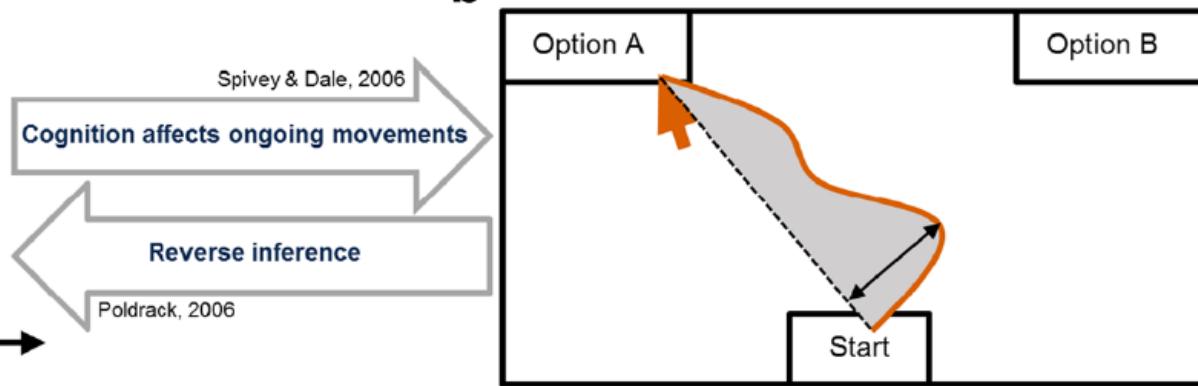
reaching response  
box for final decision

# Using mouse tracking to infer processes

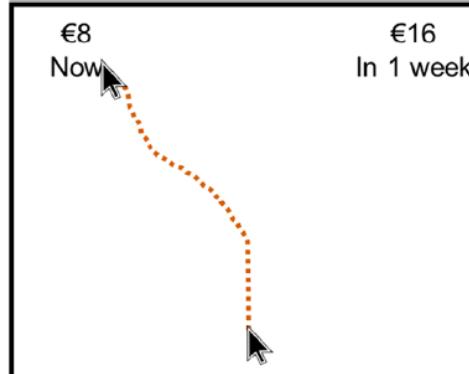
a



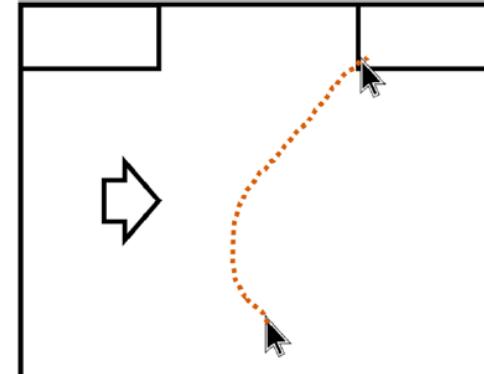
b



Dale et al., 2007



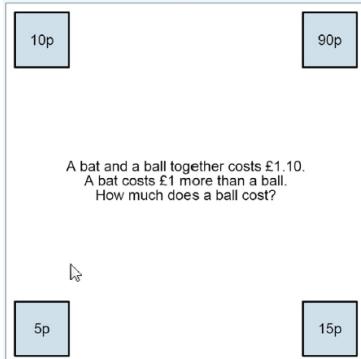
O'Hora et al., 2016



Schoemann et al, 2020

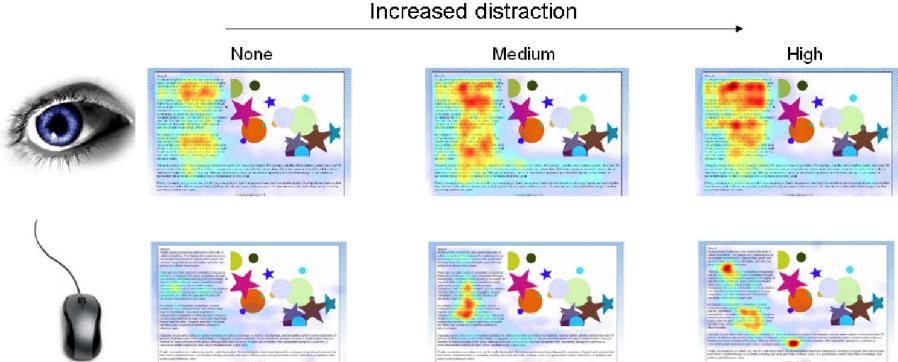
# Other types of mouse tracking

## More than 2 options



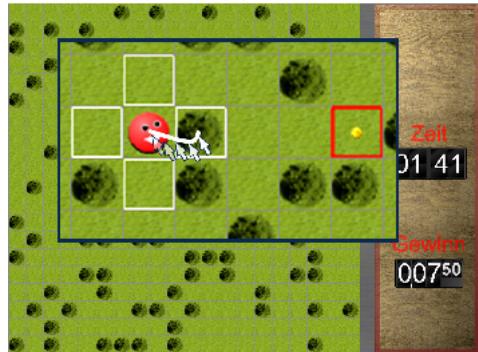
Travers, Rolison, Feeney, 2016

## Mouse tracking as eye tracking



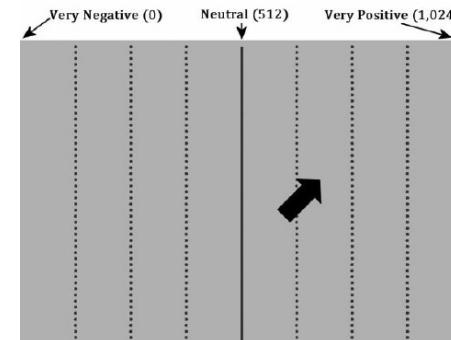
Navalpakkam, Churchill, 2012

## Micro mouse tracking



Scherbaum et al., 2013

## Long(er) term mouse tracking



Vallacher, Geert, Nowak, 2015

# What we will look at today

- What will we do in the course?
- Where has it been applied?
- What can we look at?
- What do we need to keep in mind?

# Course Syllabus

1. Introductory lecture (Monday, 14.30-16.00, i.e., now :))
2. Performing an experiment & discussing your ideas for experiments (Tuesday, 11.00-12.30)
3. Analyzing mouse-tracking data (Tuesday, 16.30-18.00)
4. Presentation of your experiment ideas & analysis results (Wednesday, 11.00-12.30)

# Course Syllabus

Performing an experiment & discussing your ideas for experiments (Tuesday, 11.00-12.30)

- We will present a task
- You will perform the task
- We will discuss your experimental ideas  
→ Find groups and brainstorm ideas  
[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14XsqqMNp\\_30vliT2osjegTo-YrxYAVM?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14XsqqMNp_30vliT2osjegTo-YrxYAVM?usp=sharing)
- What you need: Laptop with Wifi & Google slides link  
(OpenSesame installed)   
[\(https://osdoc.cogsci.nl/\)](https://osdoc.cogsci.nl/)



# Course Syllabus

## Analyzing mouse tracking data (Tuesday, 16.30-18.00)

- We will analyze together the data of the measured task
- You can dig deeper into the data in groups



- What you need: Laptop with Matlab or R installed

(<https://www.mathworks.com/campaigns/products/trials.html>)

(<https://www.r-project.org/> | <https://posit.co/downloads/>)

# Course Syllabus

Presentation of your experiment ideas & analysis results  
(Wednesday, 11.00-12.30)

- We will see and discuss your short presentations of
  - Your designed tasks
  - Your implemented tasks
  - Your additional results from analysis from Tuesday
- What you need: Laptop & Google slides

# Course Syllabus

Paths through this course:

The starter package:

- Think about a potential experiment and what you might need to consider
- Follow the analysis and play around with the provided script(s)
- Present your finalized ideas

The data science package

- Think about a potential experiment and what you might need to consider
- Perform advanced analysis on the data provided
- Present your finalized task ideas and your additional results

The experimenter package

- Think about a potential experiment and implement it by adapting the provided task
- Follow the analysis and play around with the provided scripts
- Present your task, have someone test it live;
- Extreme: measure a few people and analyze

# What do you pick?

Matlab vs R?

Which package?

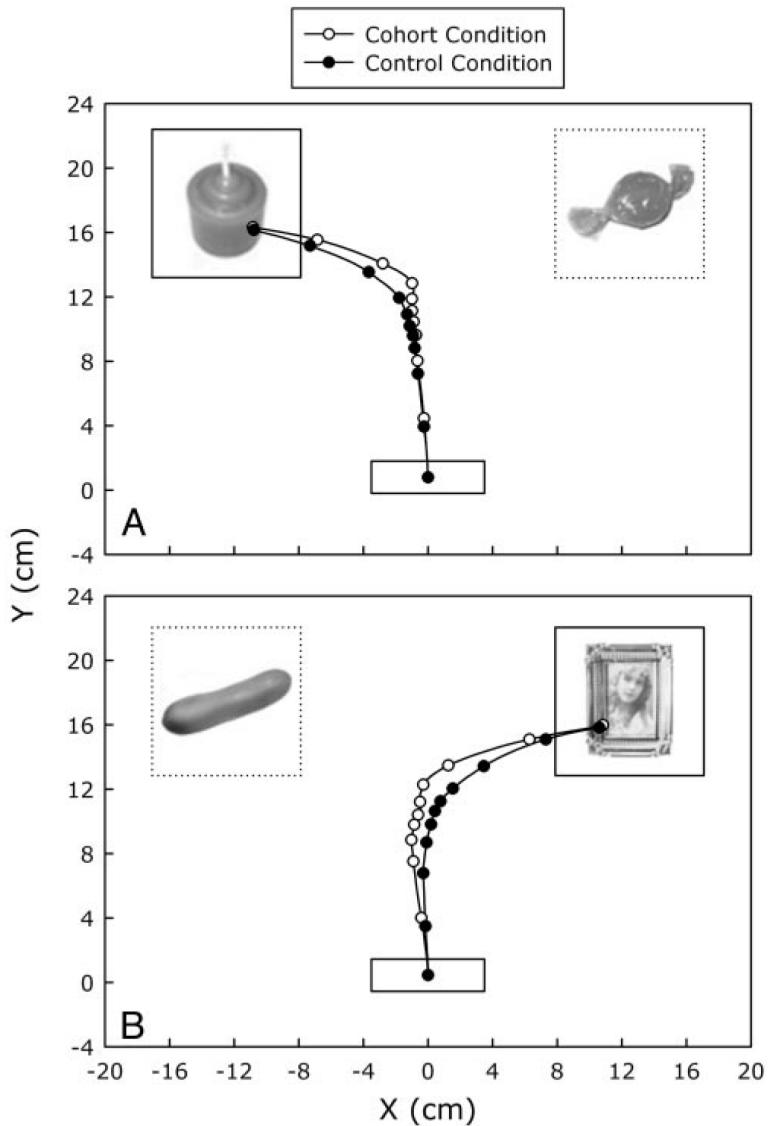


<https://www.menti.com/al8e1bqphr1d>

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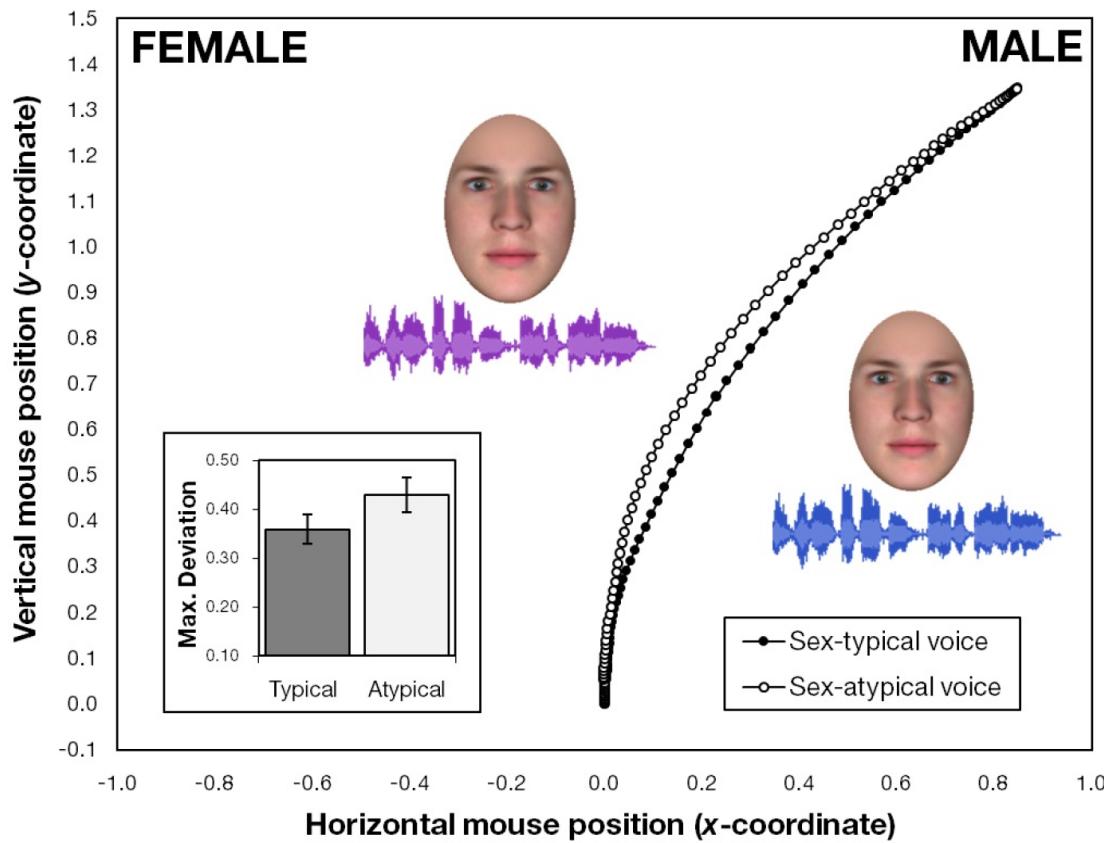
# Areas of application Spoken language



Spivey, Grosjean, Knoblich, 2005

# Areas of application

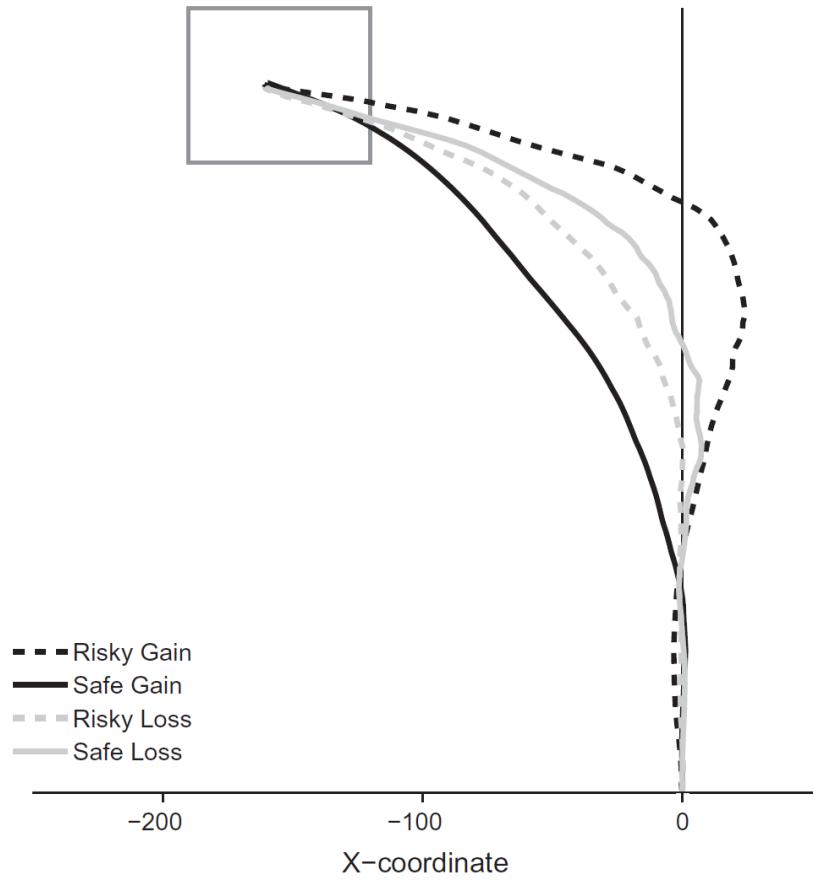
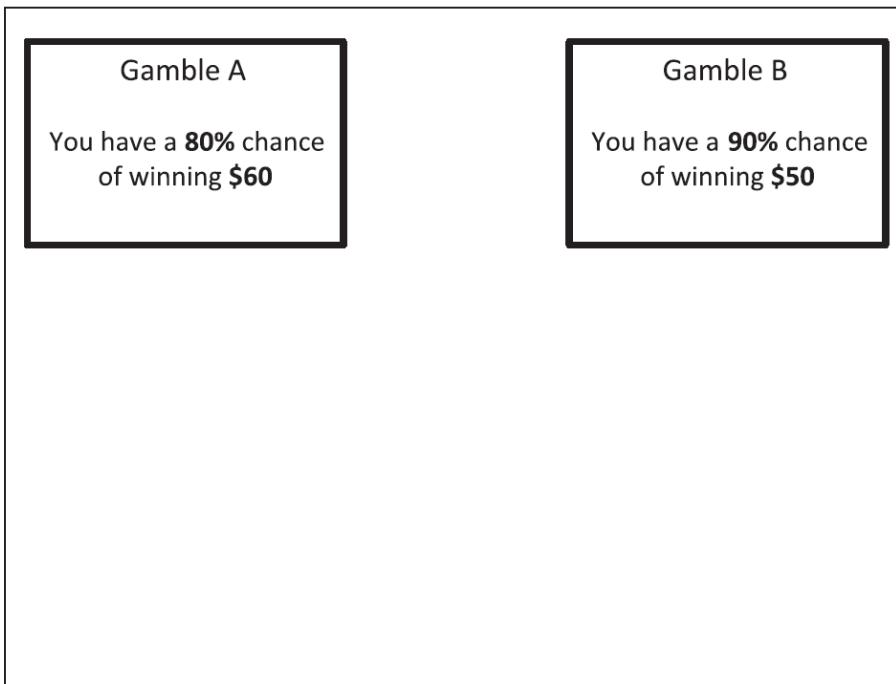
## Stereotypes & face and voice



Freeman & Ambady, 2011

# Areas of application

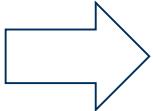
## Decision making & risk aversion



Koop & Johnson, 2013

# Areas of application

## Decision Making & Status Quo Bias

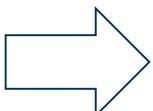


stay

or

switch

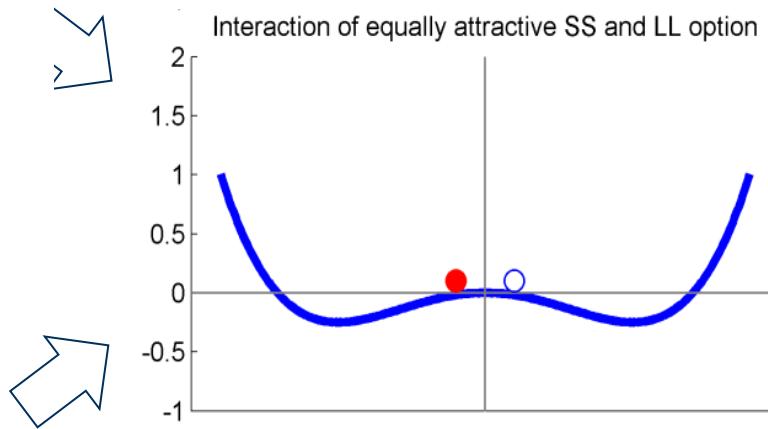
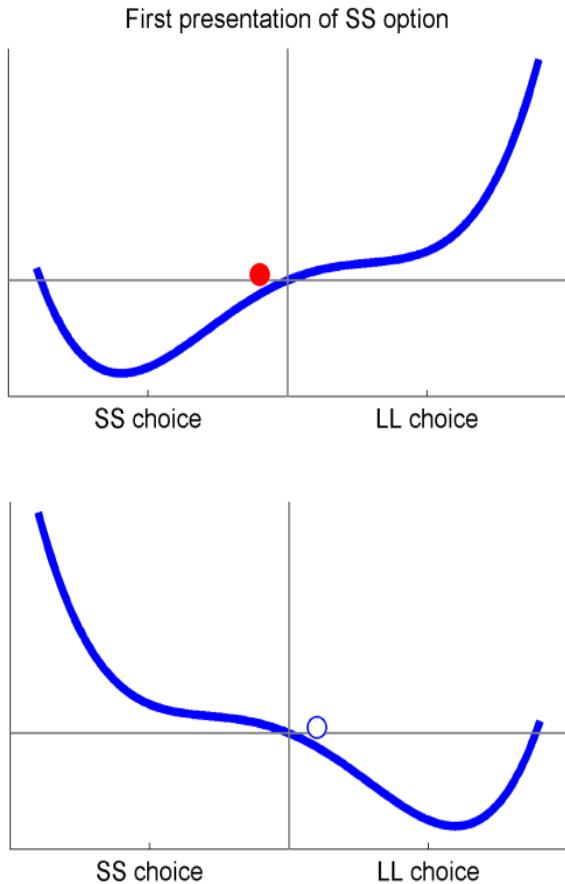
?



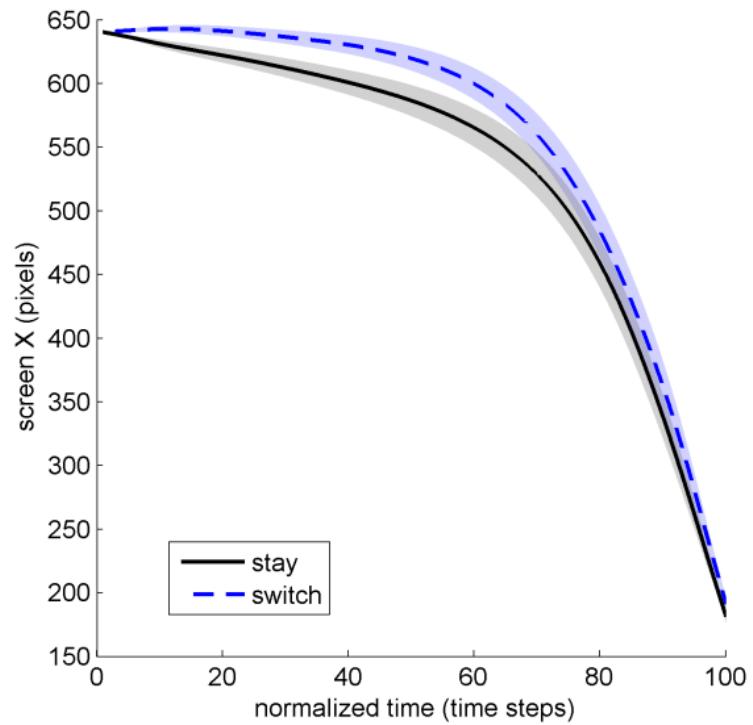
# Areas of application

## Decision Making & Status Quo Bias

SS = soon & small  
LL = late & large



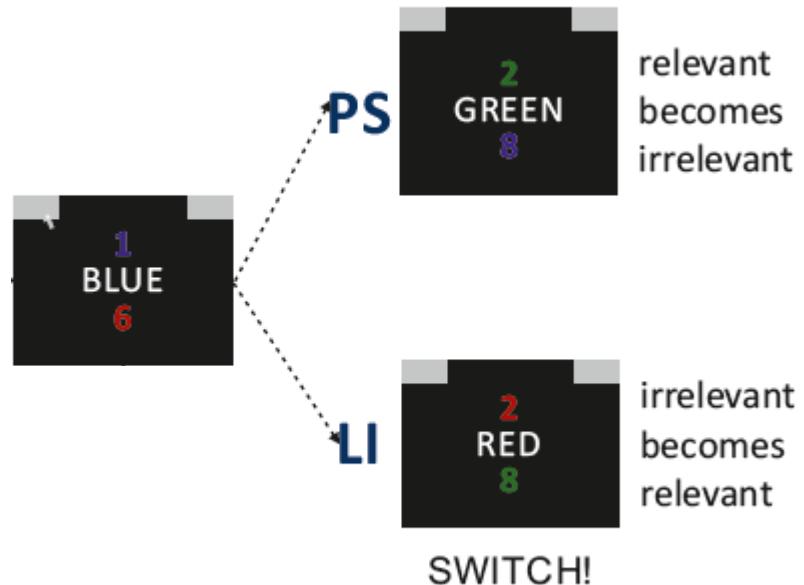
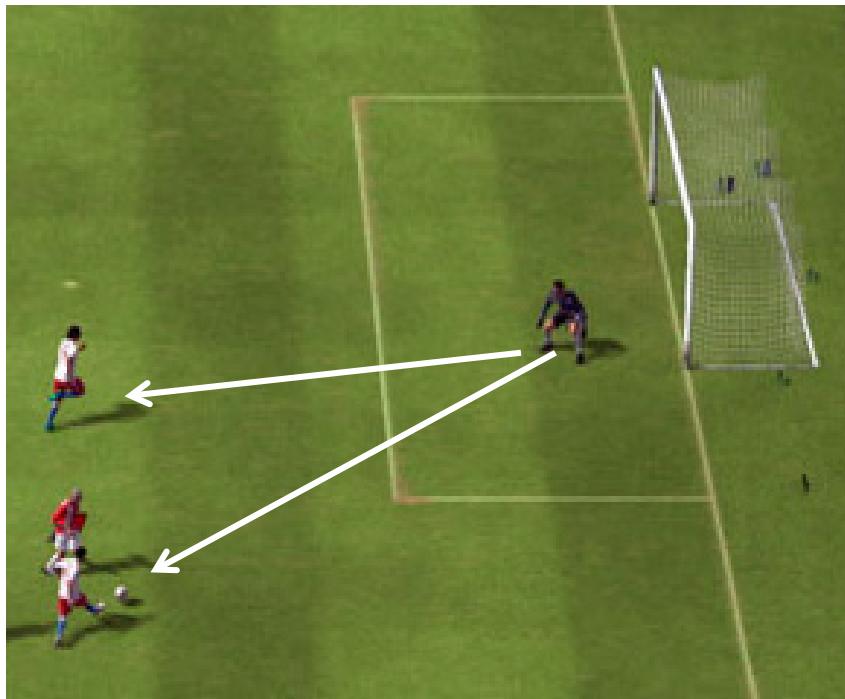
# Order of presentation: Results



(Scherbaum, Frisch, Dshemuchadse, 2018)

# Areas of application

## Set-Shifting



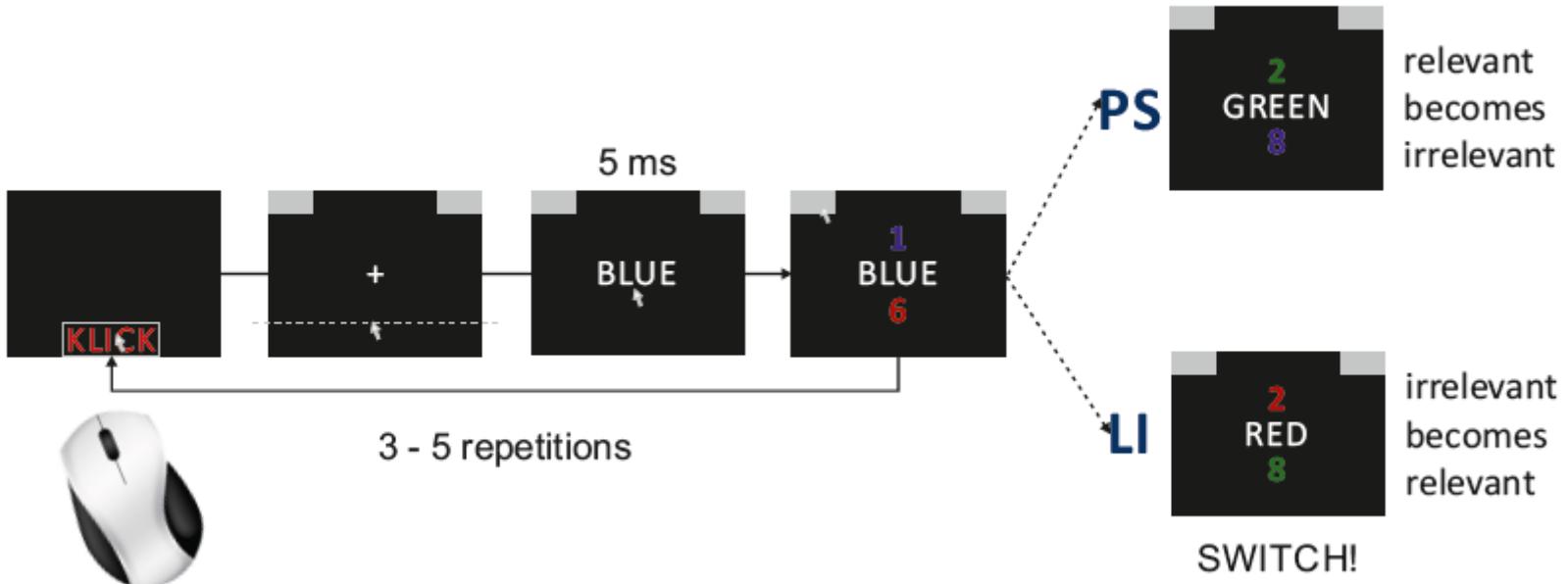
(Dreisbach & Goschke, 2004;

Frisch, Dshemuchadse, Görner, Goschke, & Scherbaum,

Folie 31

# Areas of application

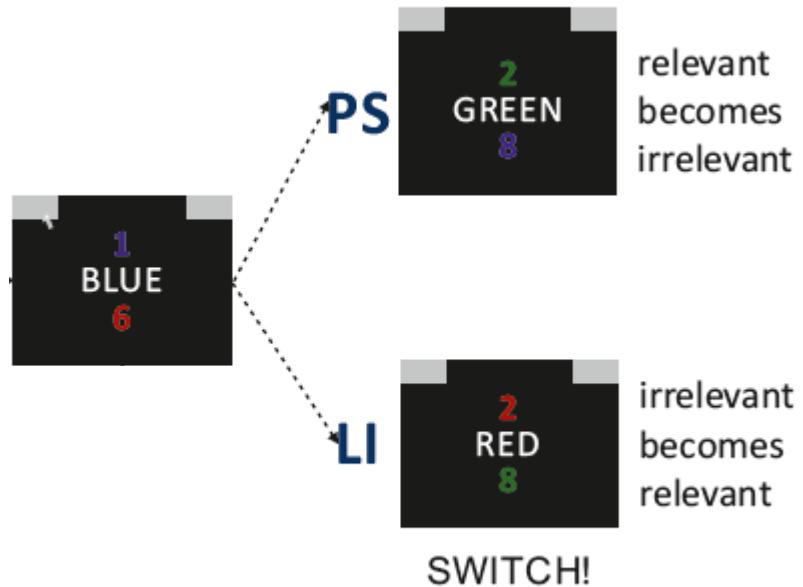
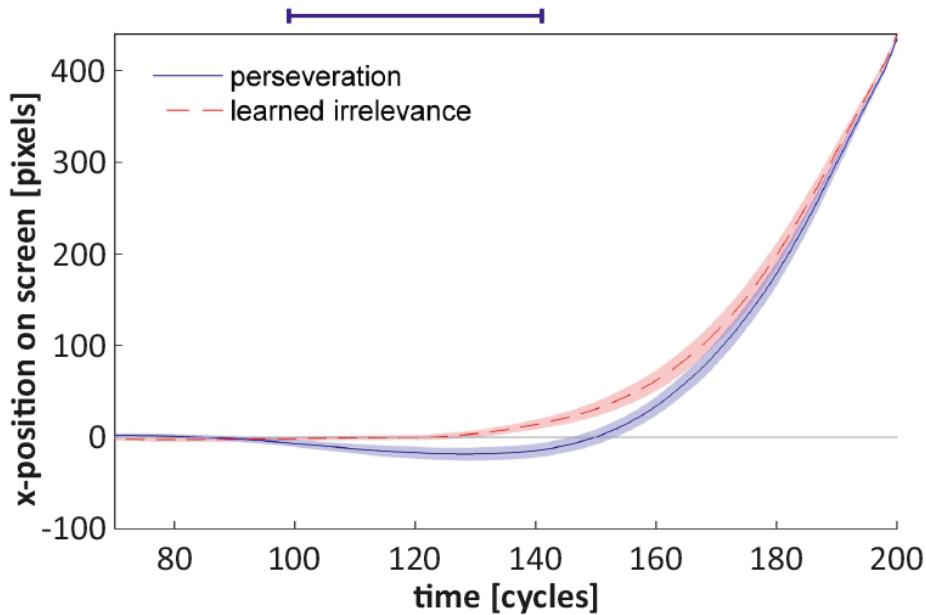
## Set-Shifting



Frisch, Dshemuchadse, Görner, Goschke, & Scherbaum, 2015

# Areas of application

## Set-Shifting

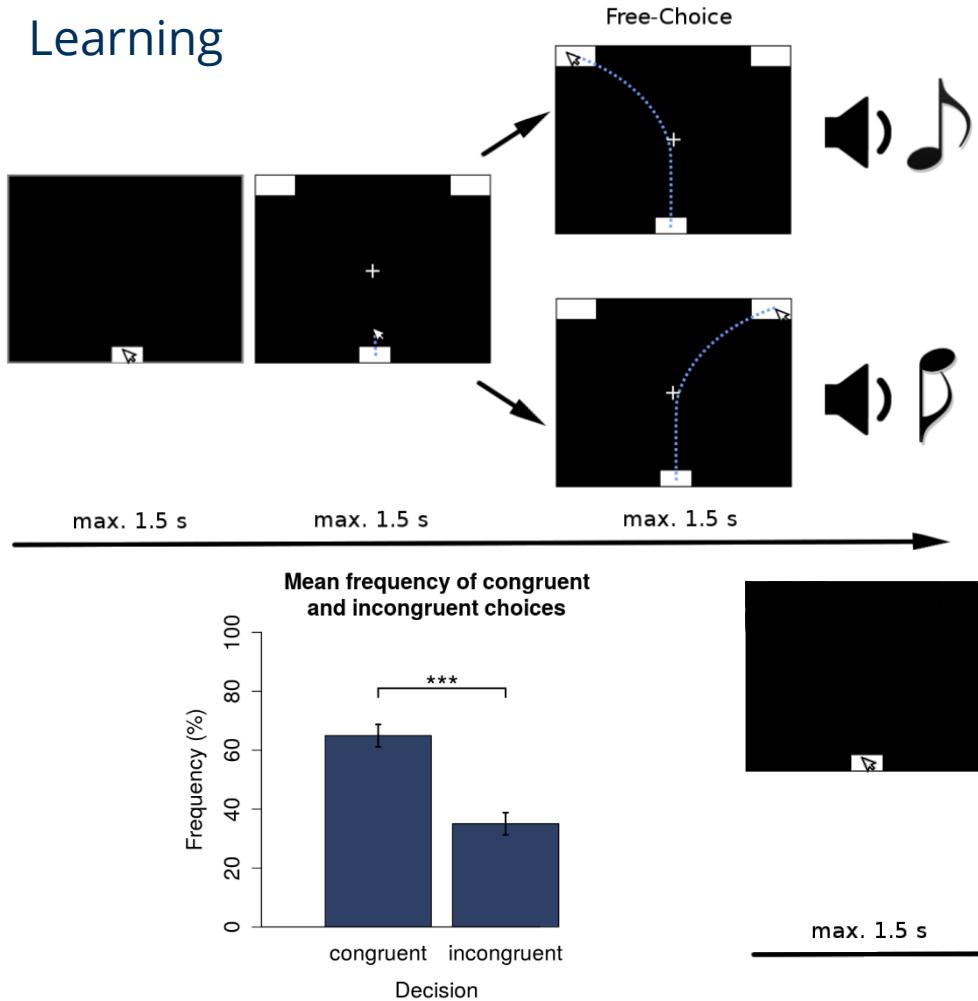


Frisch, Dshemuchadse, Görner, Goschke, & Scherbaum, 2015

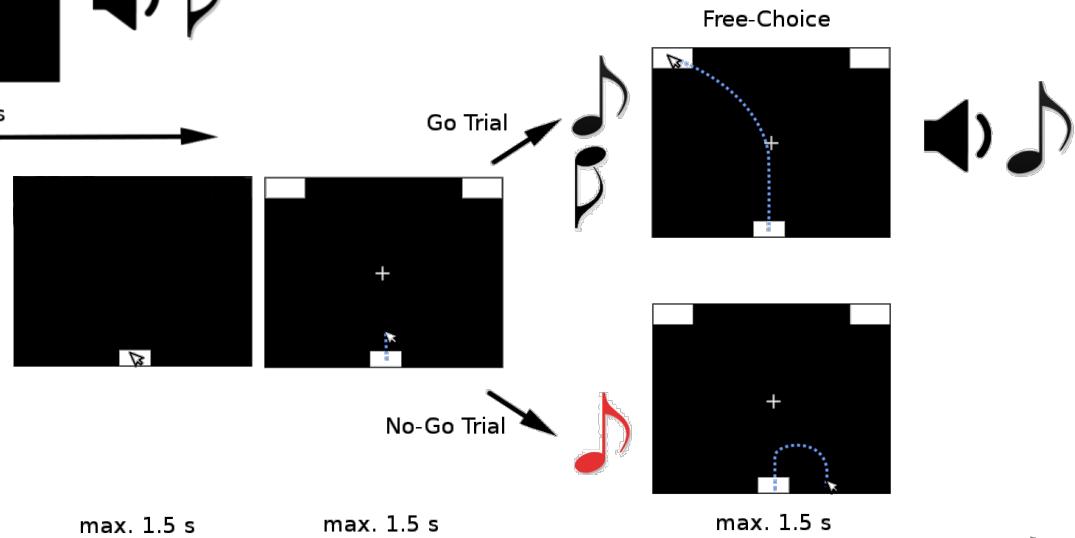
# Areas of application

## Unwanted decision strategies in ideomotor learning

### Learning



Testing: Will participants choose congruently?

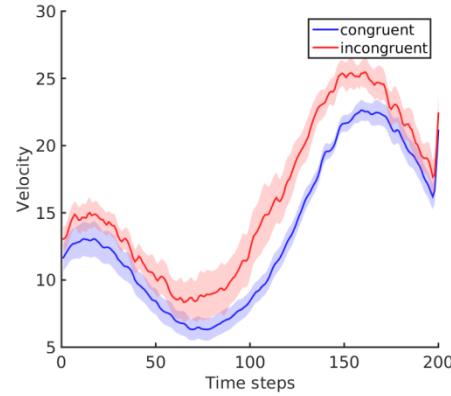
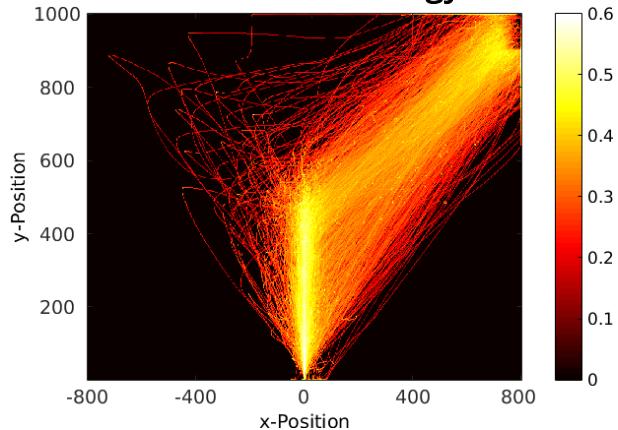


Vogel, Scherbaum, Janczyk, 2018

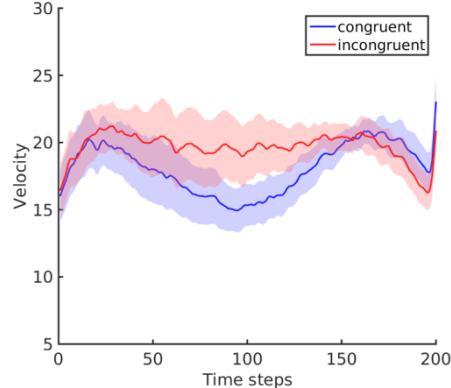
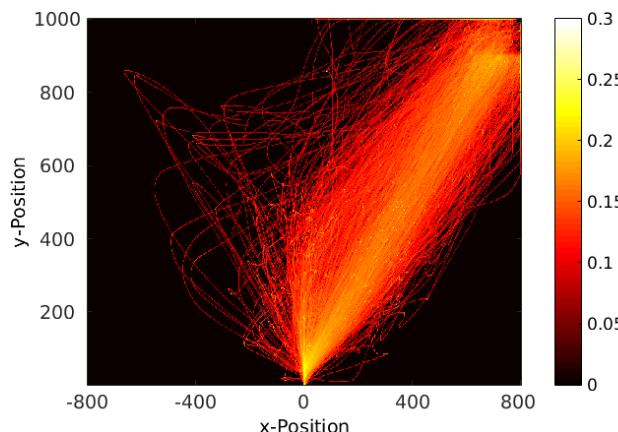
# Areas of application

## Unwanted decision strategies in ideomotor learning

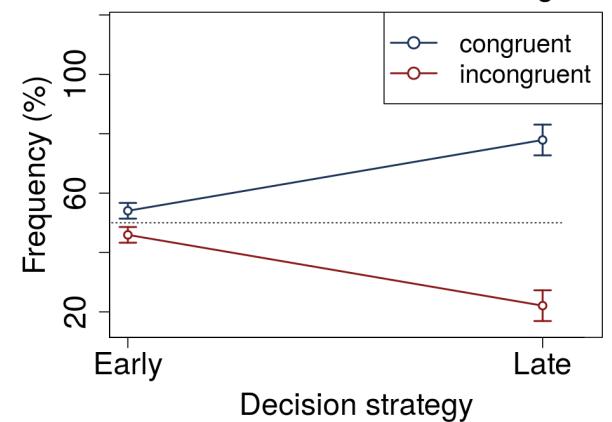
Late decision strategy



Early decision strategy



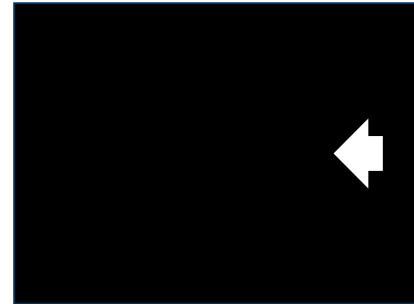
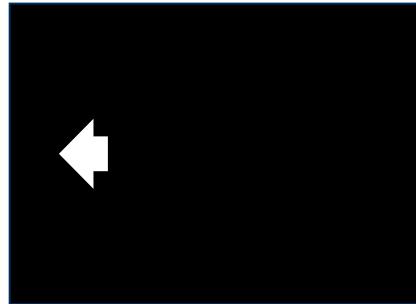
Mean frequency of congruent and incongruent choices in different decision strategies



Vogel, Scherbaum, Janczyk, 2018

# Areas of application

## Cognitive Control: Simon task and cognitive conflict

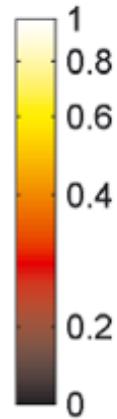
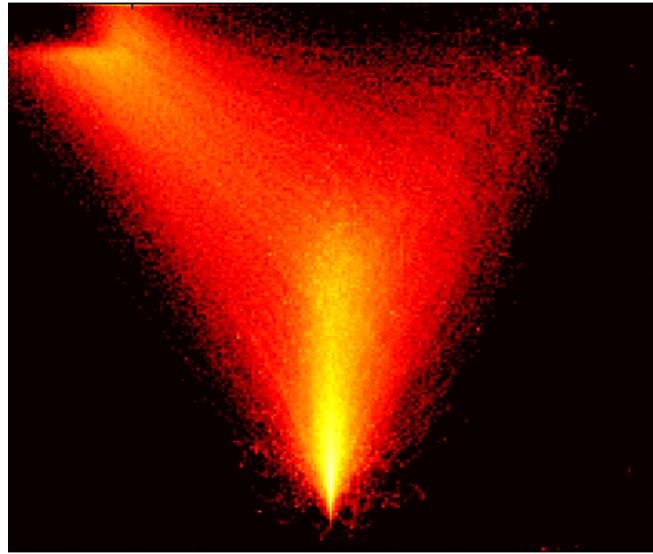
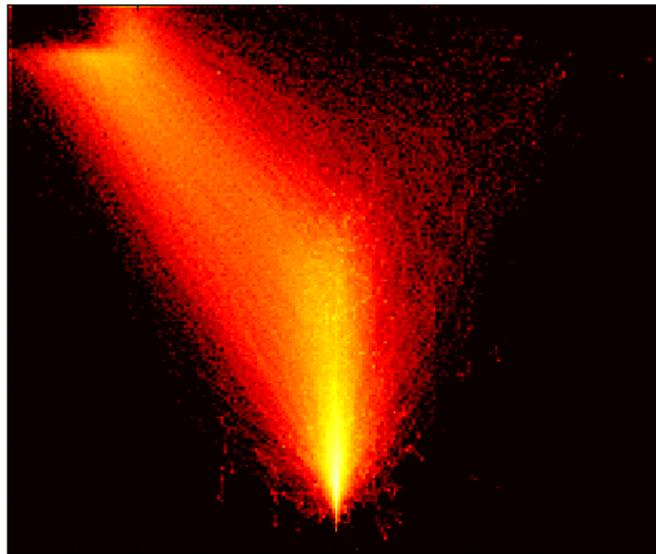


Simon, 1969

Scherbaum, Dshemuchadse, Fischer, Goschke, 2010

# Areas of application

## Cognitive Control: Simon task and cognitive conflict

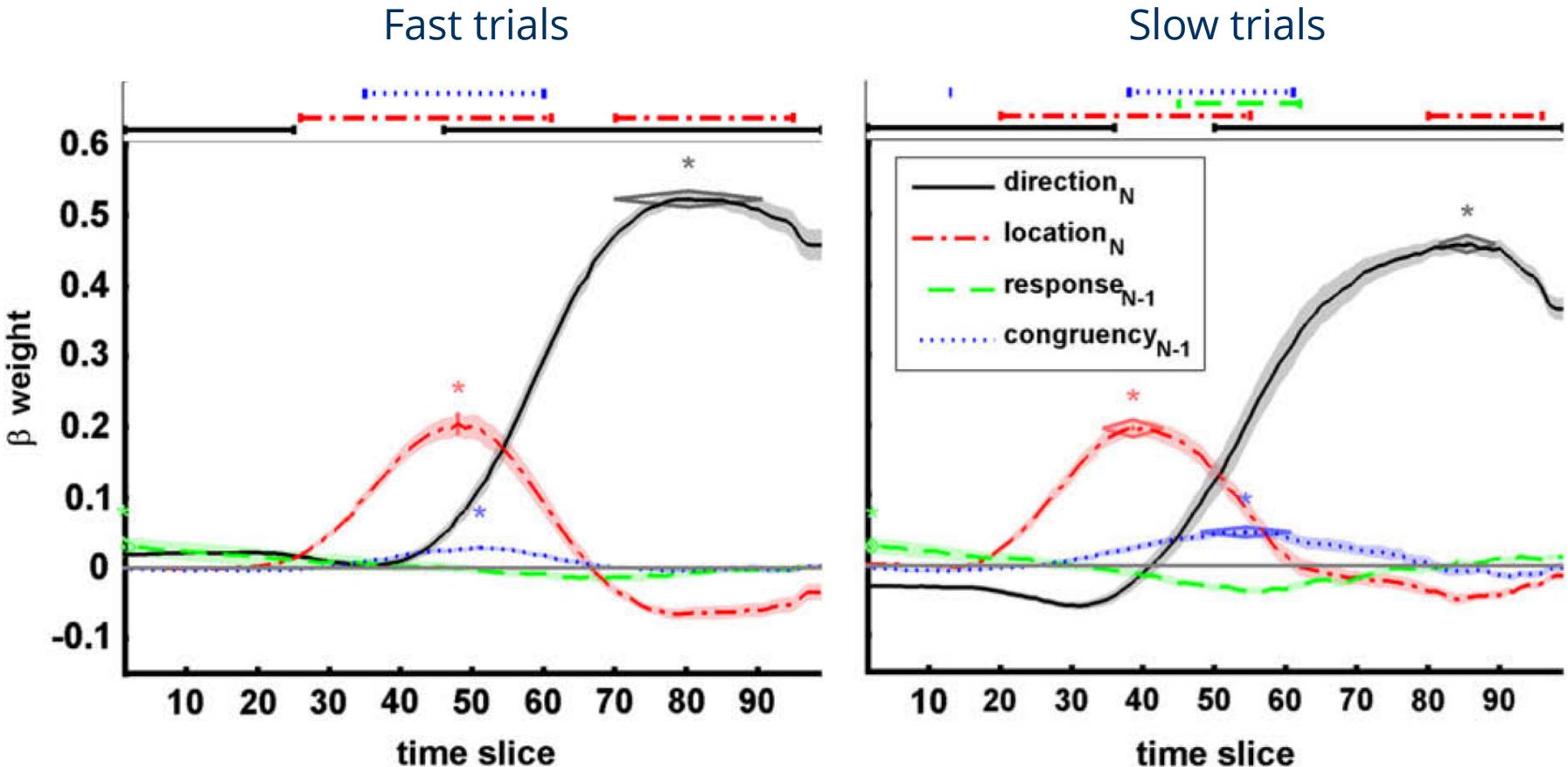


see also Ye & Damian, 2023

# Areas of application

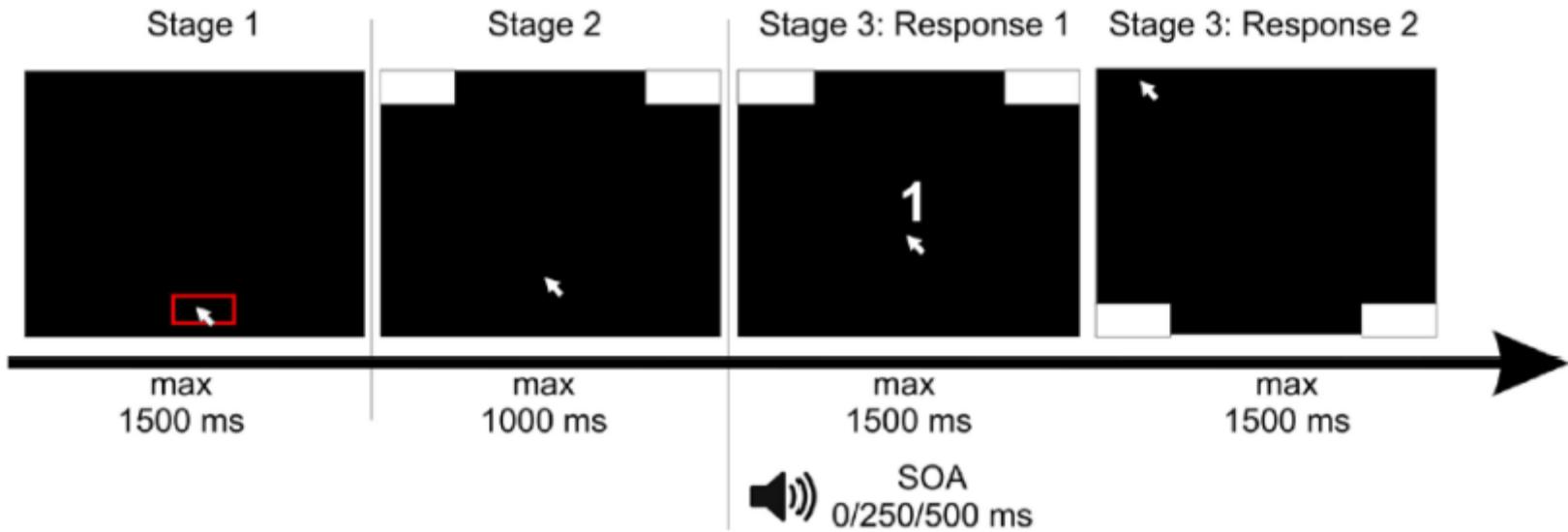
## Cognitive Control: Simon Task and cognitive conflict

Time course of influences in TCMR



# Areas of application

## Multitasking

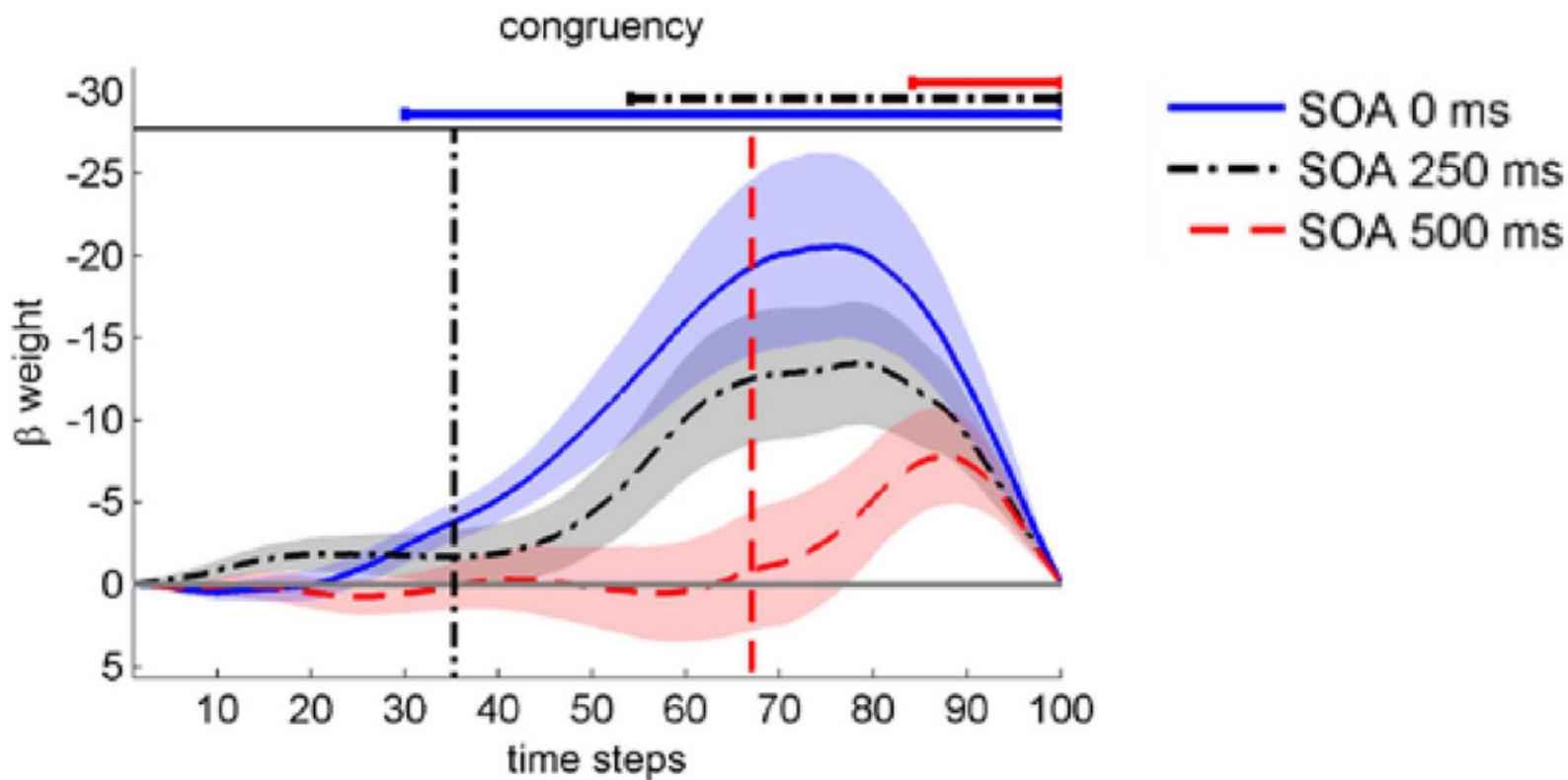


Scherbaum, Gottschalk, Dshemuchadse, Fischer, 2015

# Areas of application

## Multitasking

### Time course of influences in TCMR



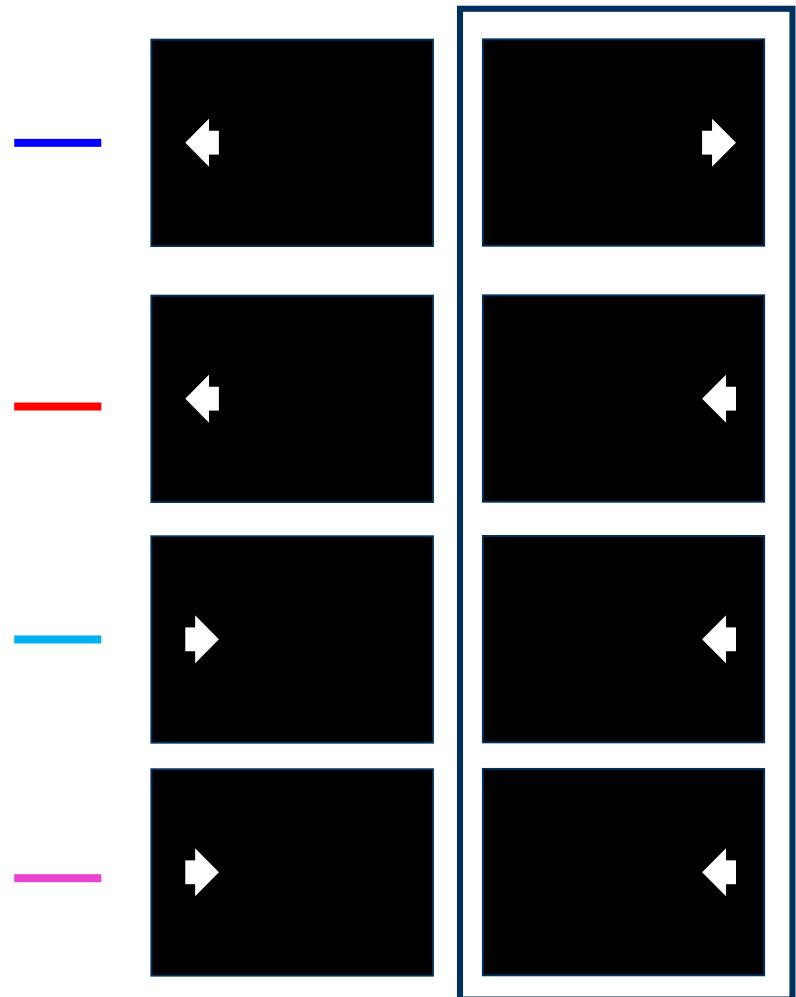
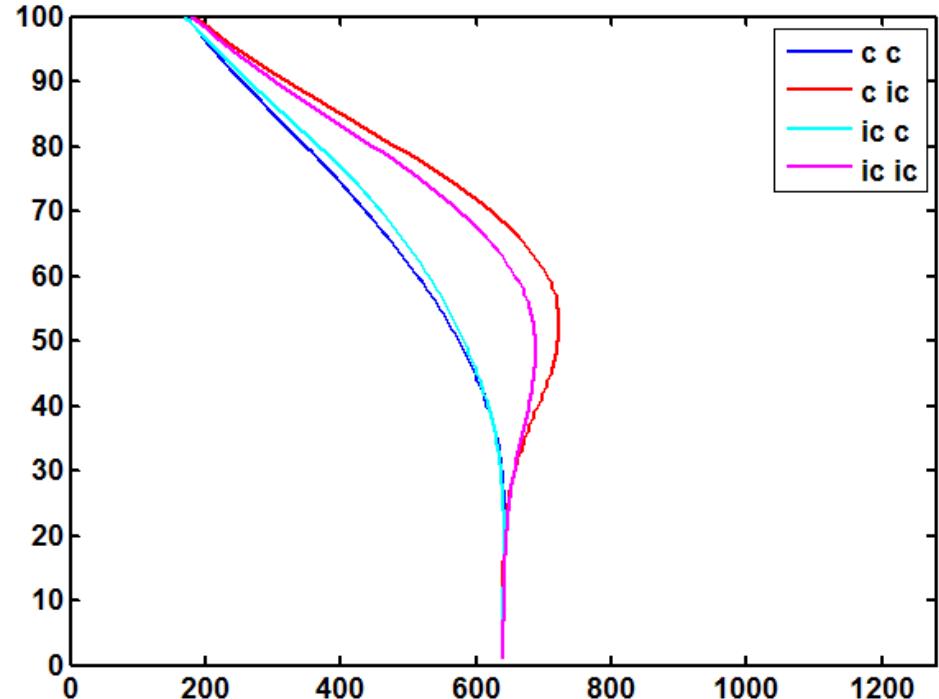
Talk, Dshemuchadse, Fischer, 2015

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# Methods of Analysis

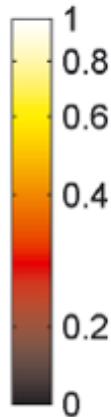
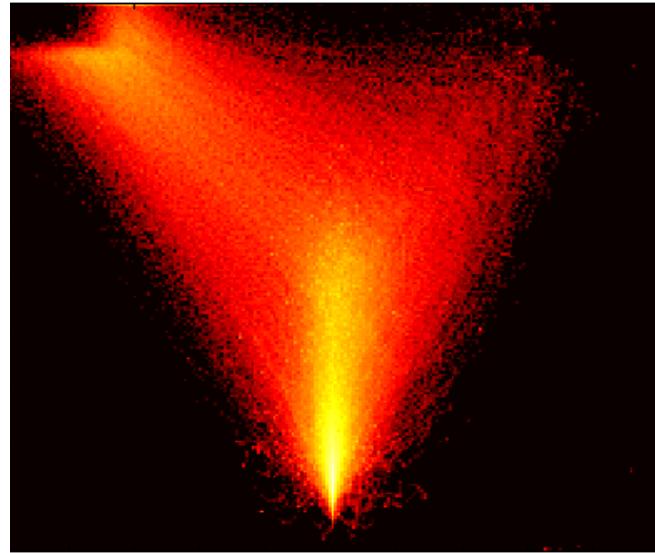
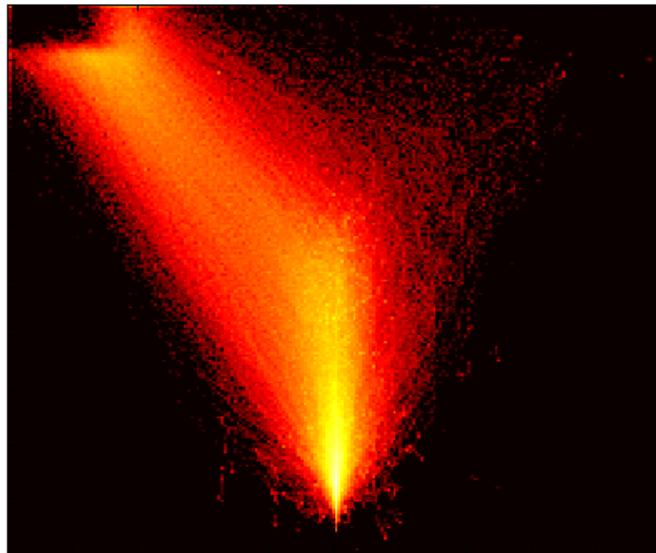
## 2D Coordinates



Interpretation:  
Whatever you want to read into it qualitatively

# Methods of Analysis

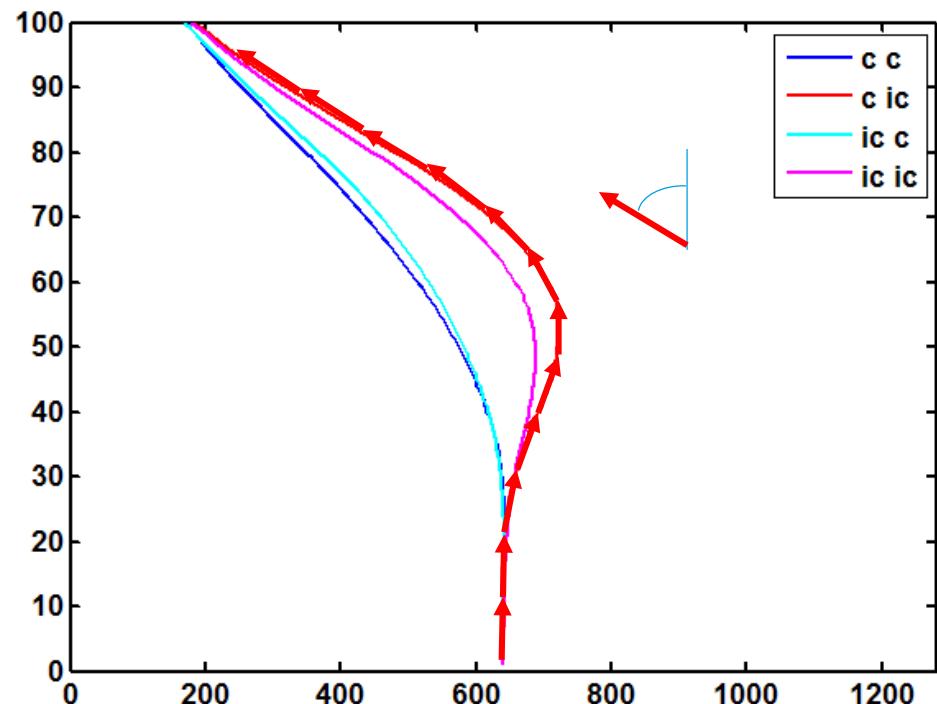
## Heat Maps



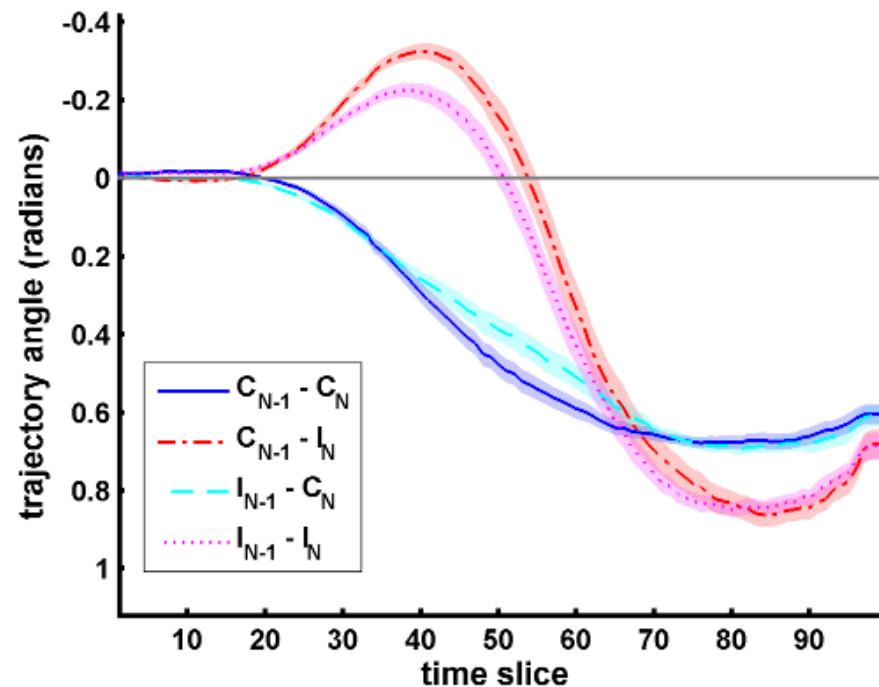
Interpretation:  
Consistency of movements and biases on movements

# Methods of Analysis

## Trajectory Angle

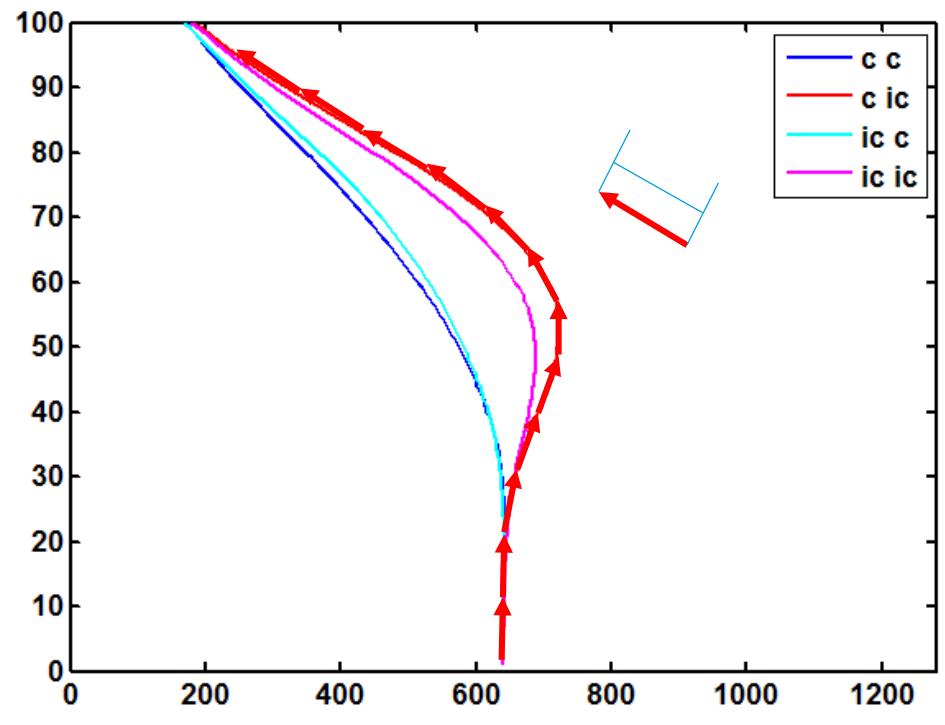


Interpretation:  
Direct influences on movement direction

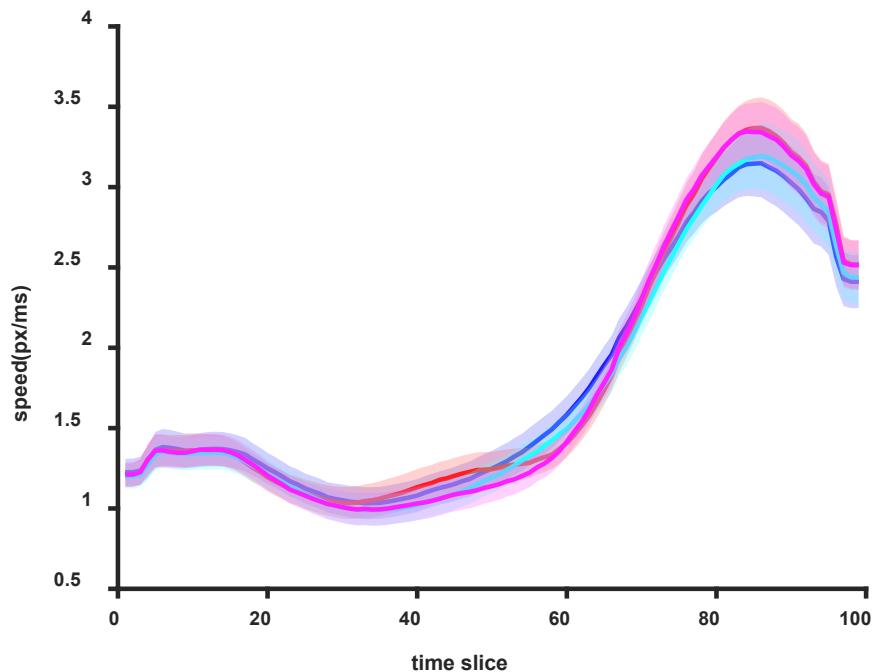


# Methods of Analysis

## Velocity

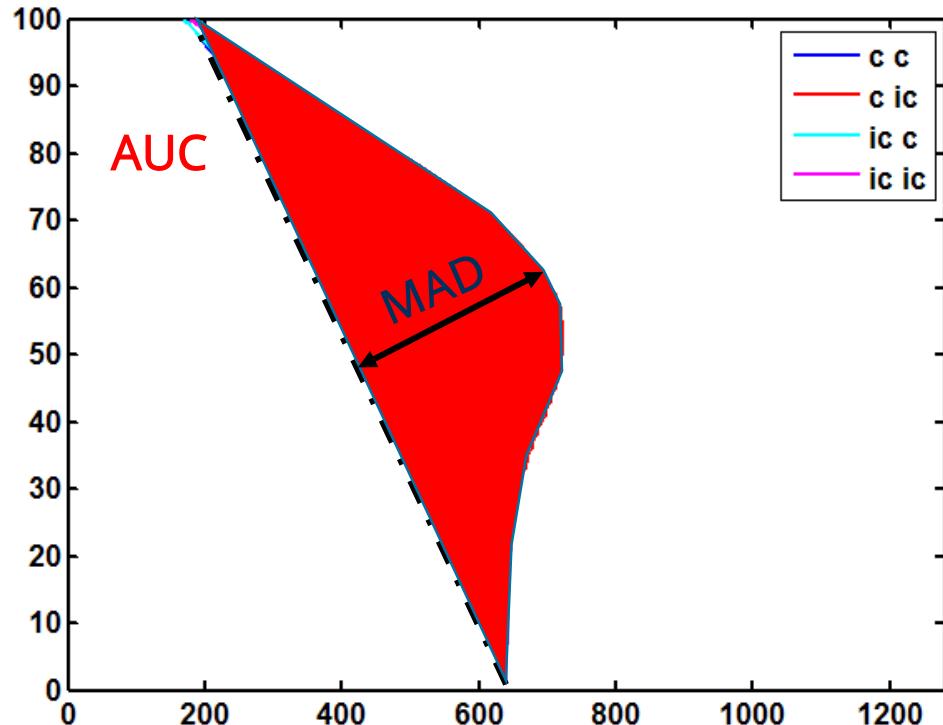


Interpretation:  
Speed of processing, cognitive effort

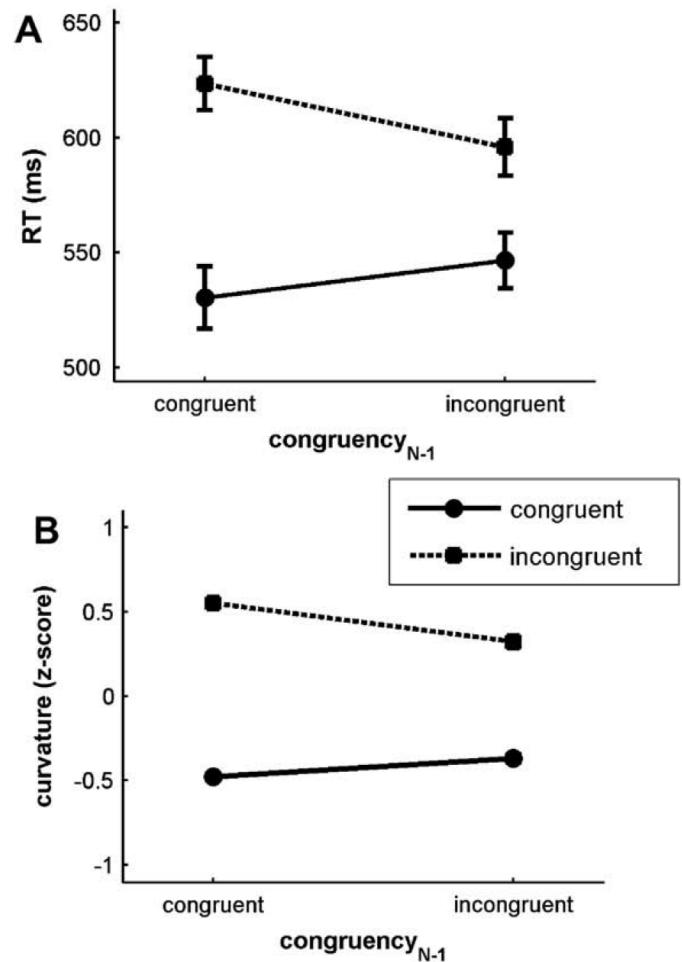


# Methods of Analysis

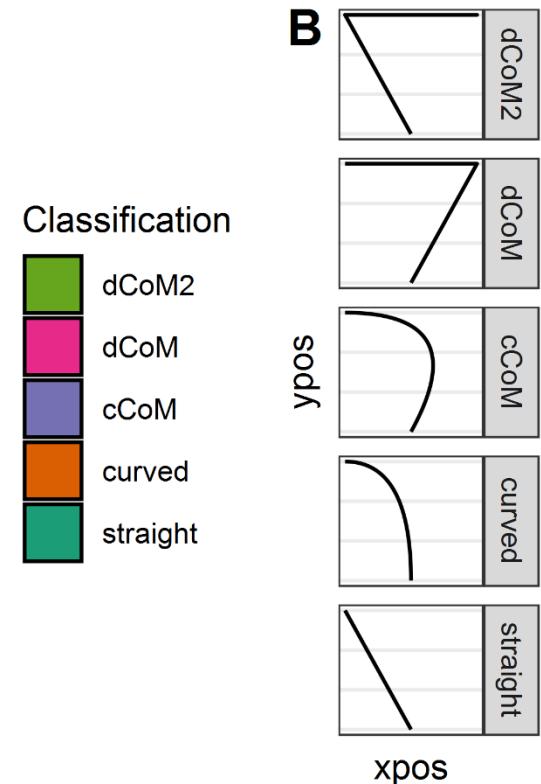
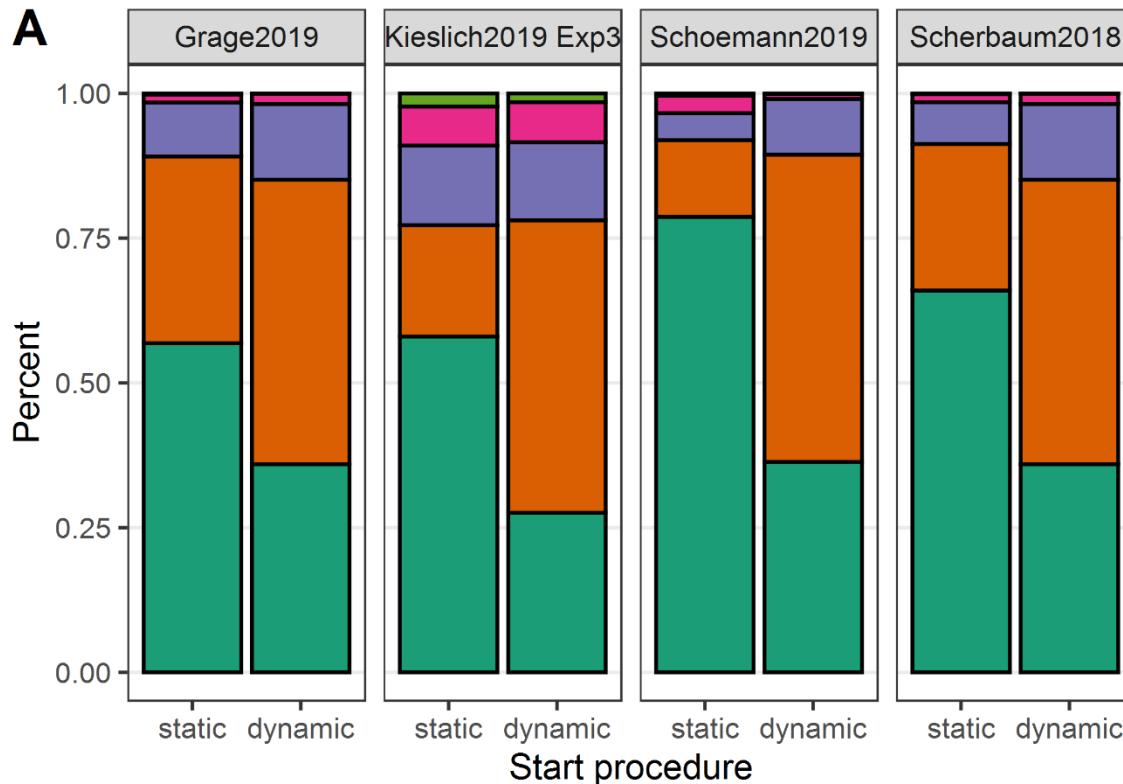
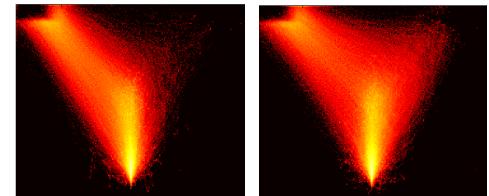
## Static measures: Area under curve, Maximum Deviation



Interpretation:  
Strength of conflict or bias



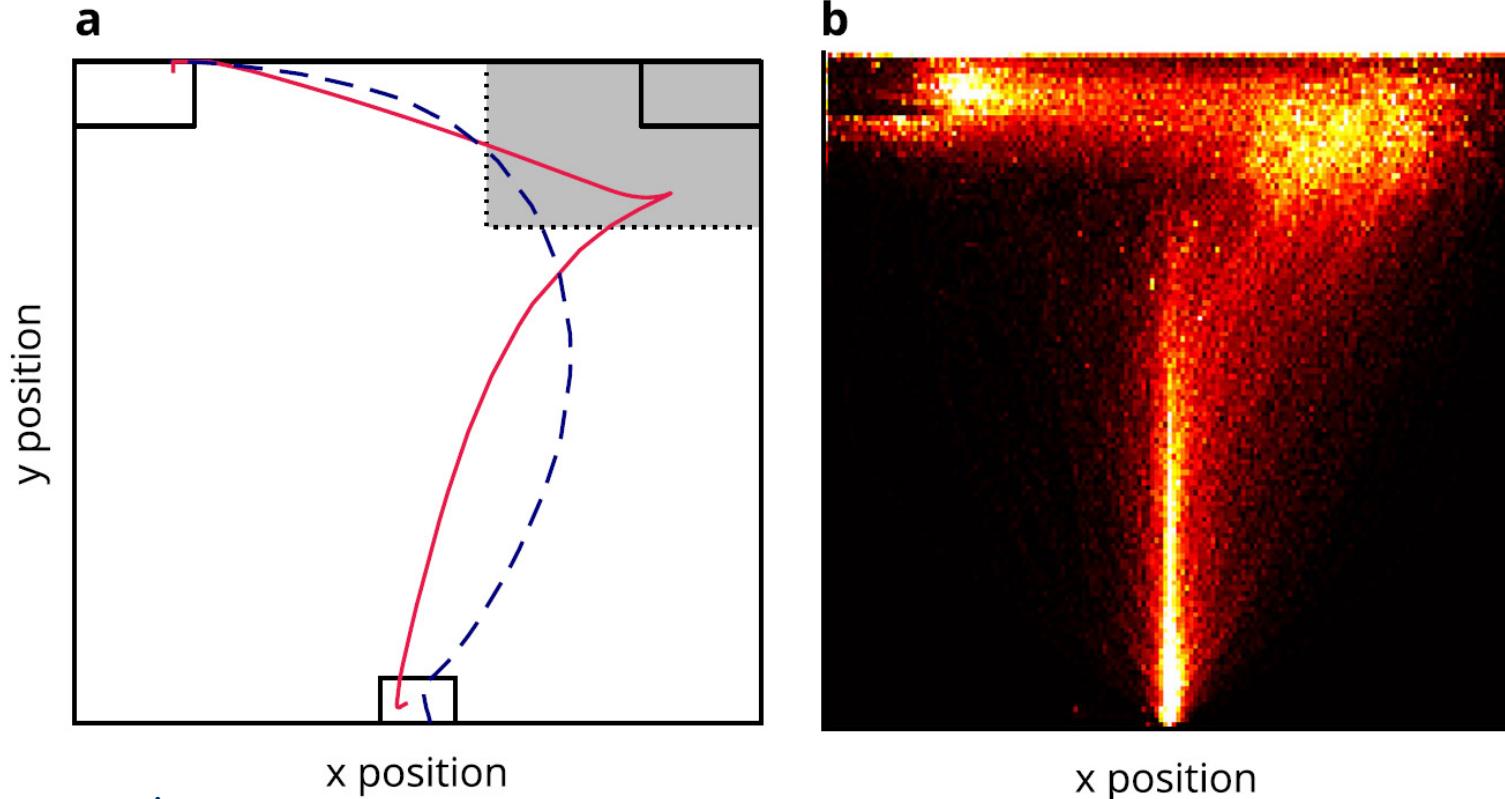
# Methods of Analysis Movement Prototypes



**Interpretation:**  
Quality of conflict or bias / consistency of movements (/ dual systems)

# Methods of Analysis

## Discrete changes of mind (dCoM) classification

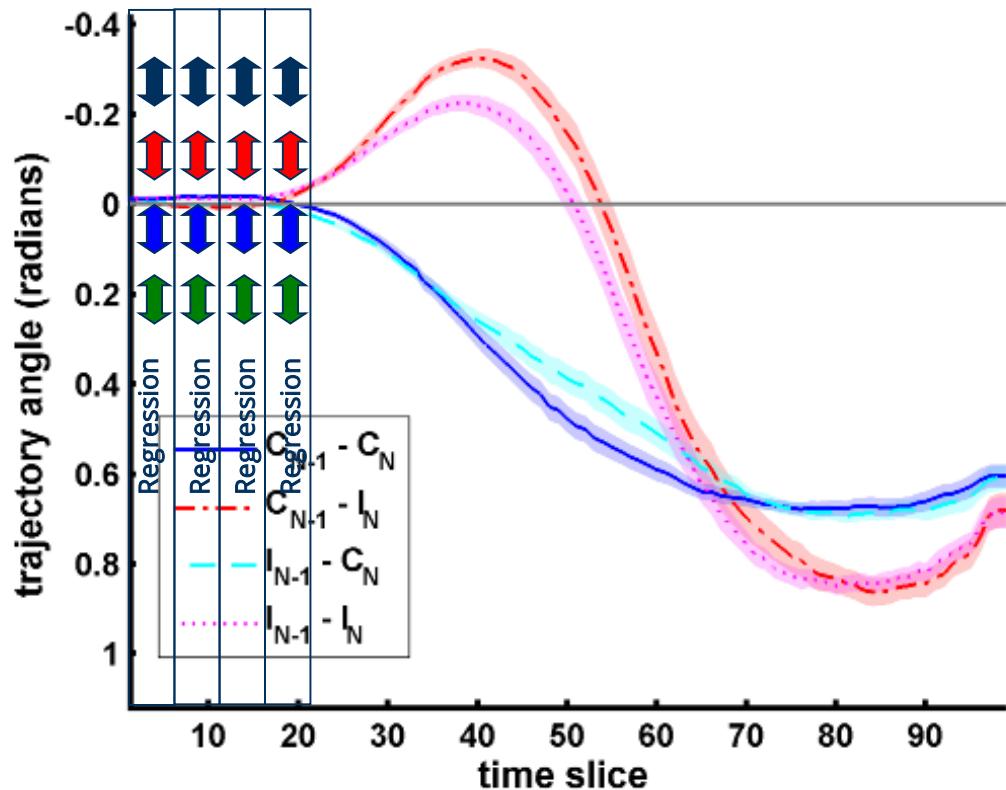


Interpretation:  
Quality of conflict or bias / consistency of movements (/ dual systems)

# Methods of Analysis

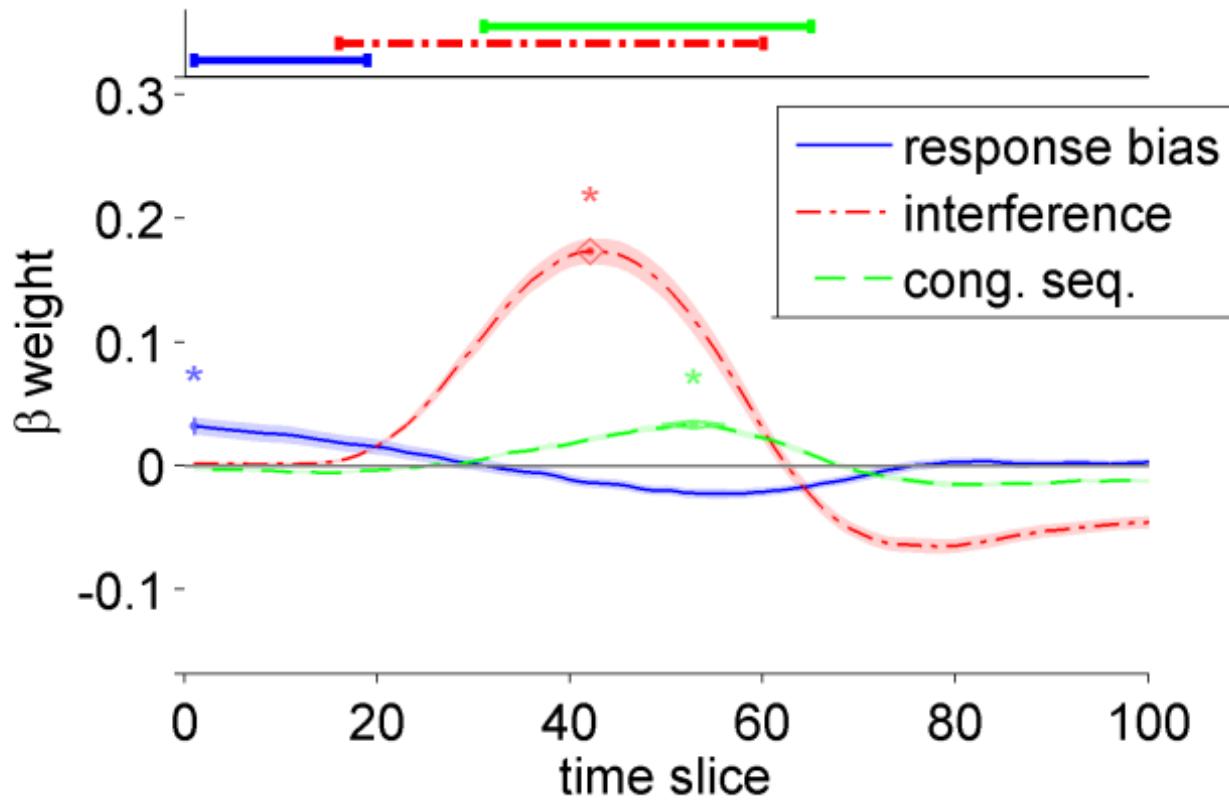
## Dissection of influences: Time-continuous regression

- Direction
- Location
- prev. conflict
- prev. response



# Methods of Analysis

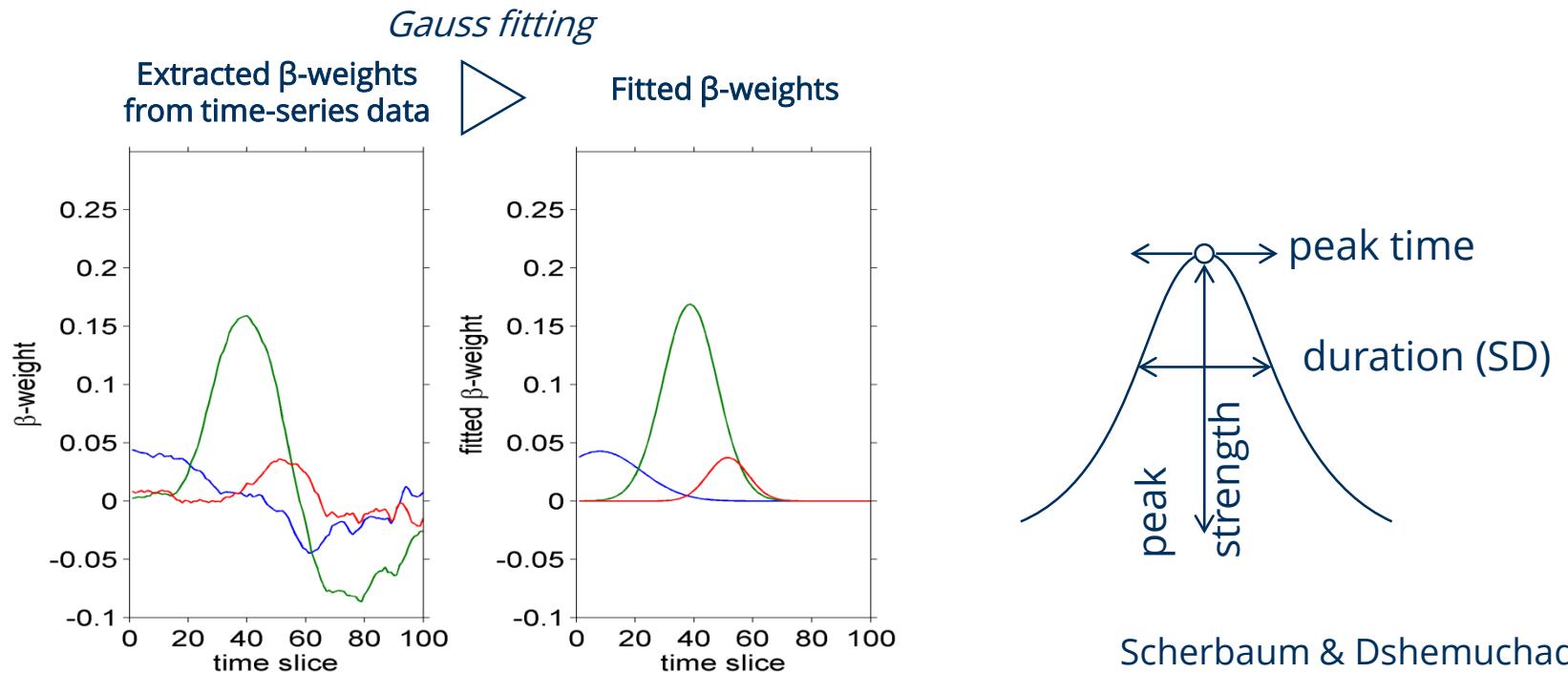
## Dissection of influences: Time-continuous regression



Interpretation:  
Strength of different influences at different points in time

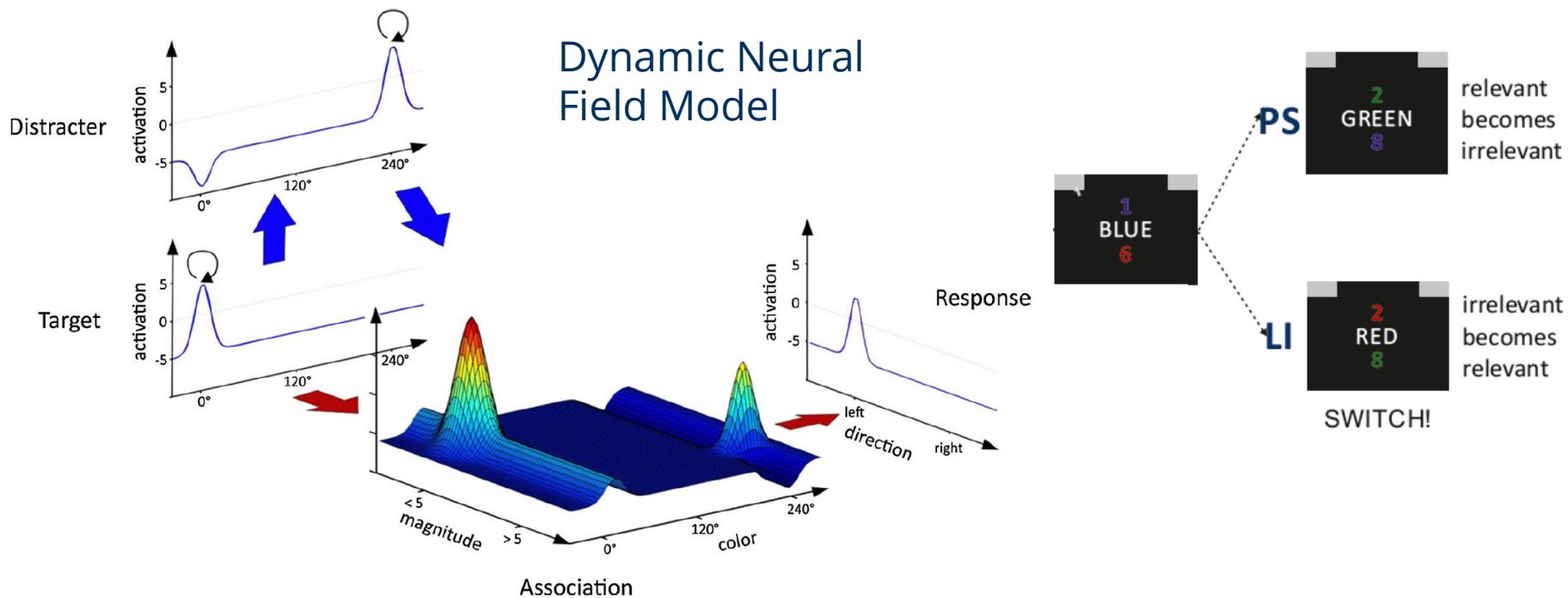
# Methods of Analysis

## Dissection of influences: Time-continuous regression & extraction of individual measures



Interpretation:  
Strength, duration and timing of different influences

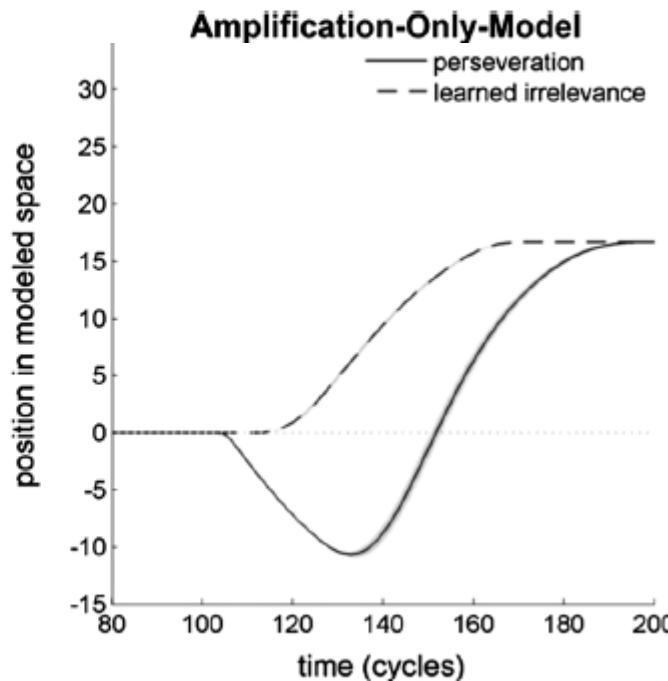
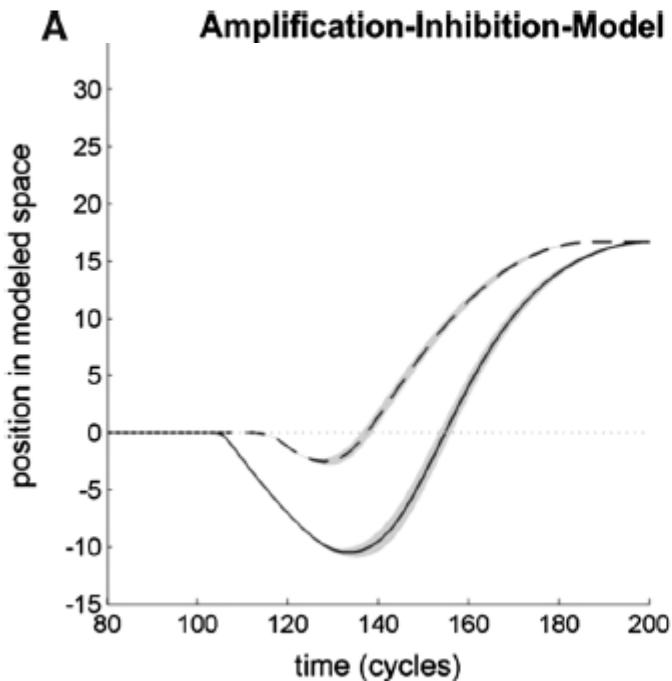
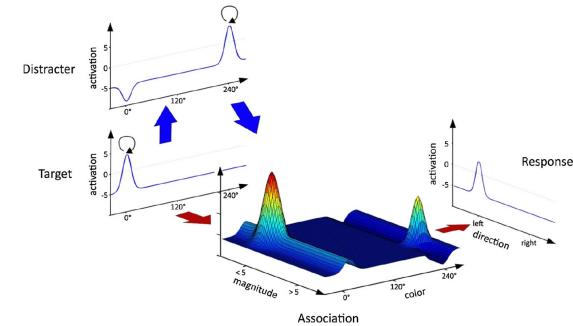
# Methods of Analysis and Synthesis: Modelling trajectories



Frisch, Dshemuchadse, Görner, Goschke, & Scherbaum, 2015

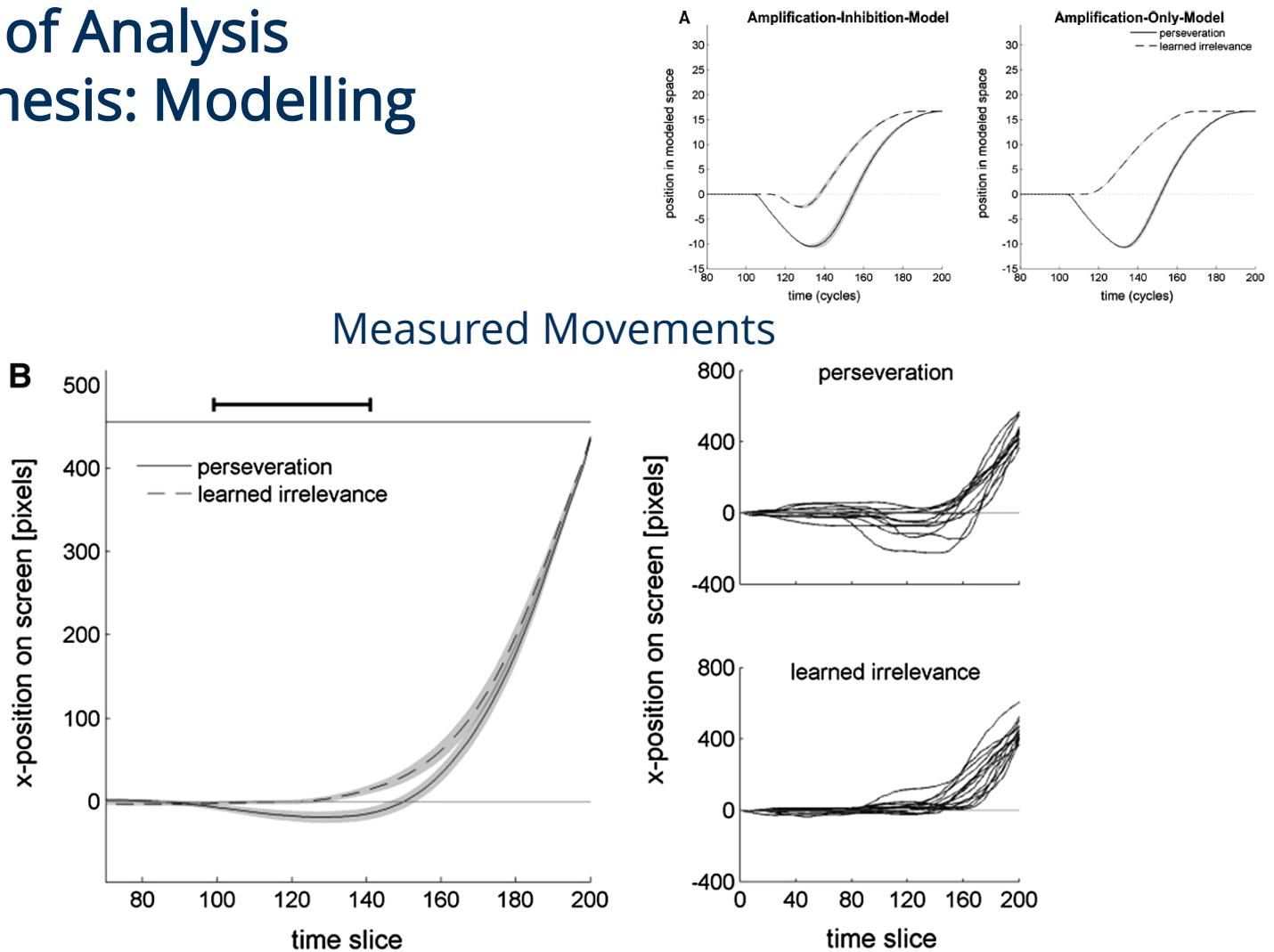
# Methods of Analysis and Synthesis: Modelling trajectories

## Predicted Movements



Frisch, Dshemuchadse, Görner, Goschke, & Scherbaum, 2015

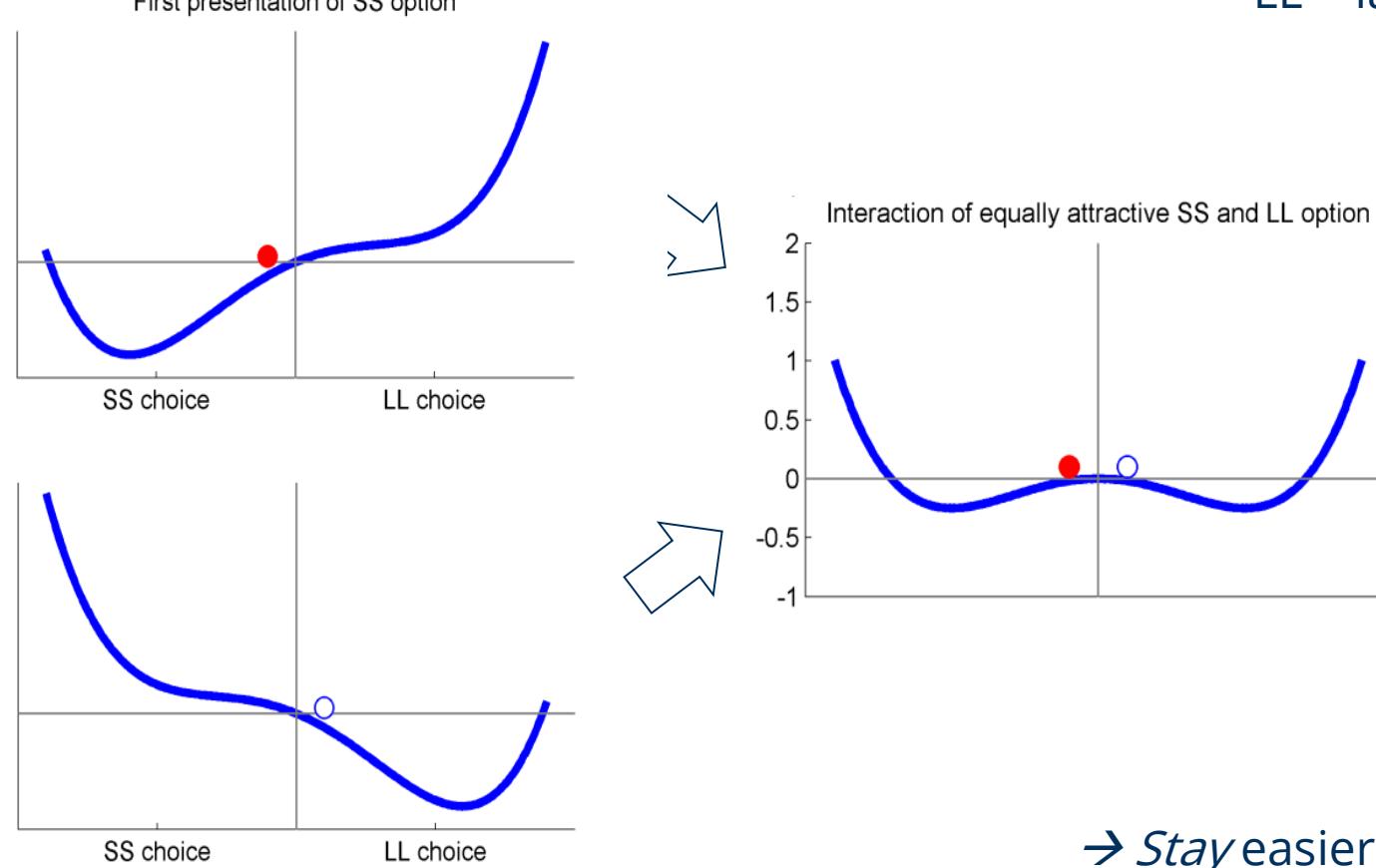
# Methods of Analysis and Synthesis: Modelling



Frisch, Dshemuchadse, Görner, Goschke, & Scherbaum, 2015

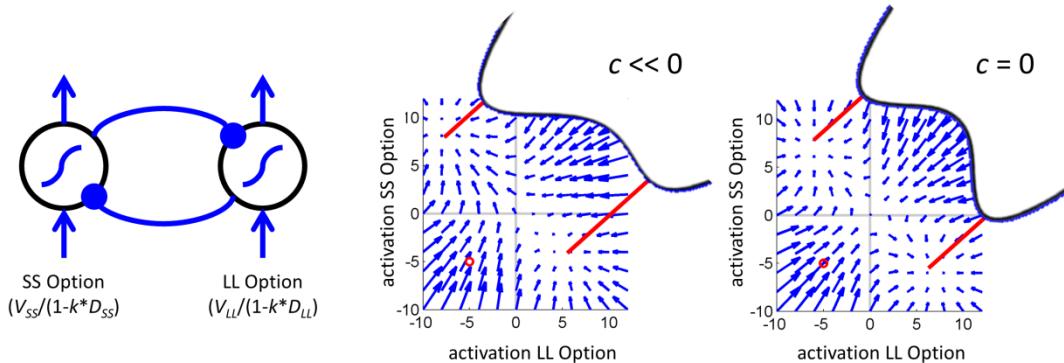
# Methods of Analysis and Synthesis: Modelling trajectories

SS = soon & small  
LL = late & large

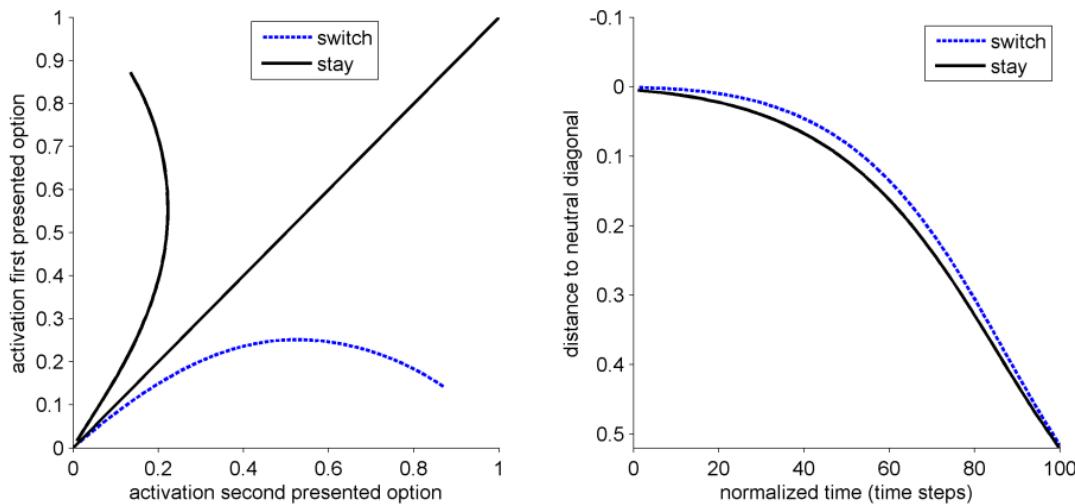


# Methods of Analysis and Synthesis: Modelling trajectories

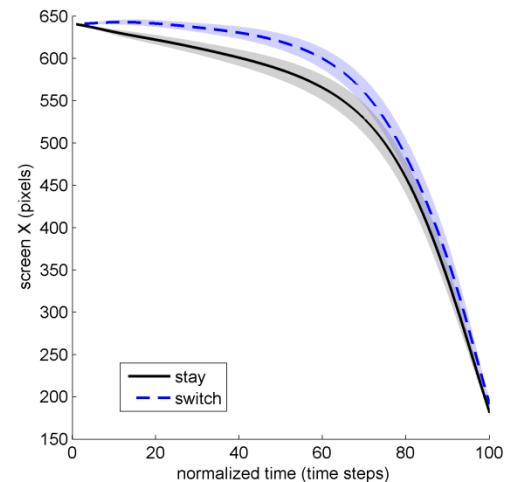
## Neural attractor model



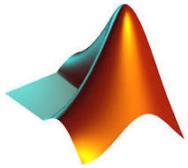
## Modelled state-space trajectories



## Measured movements



# Toolboxes for these analyses



Matlab: TCMR Toolbox

<https://osf.io/5e3vn/>



R: Mousetrap

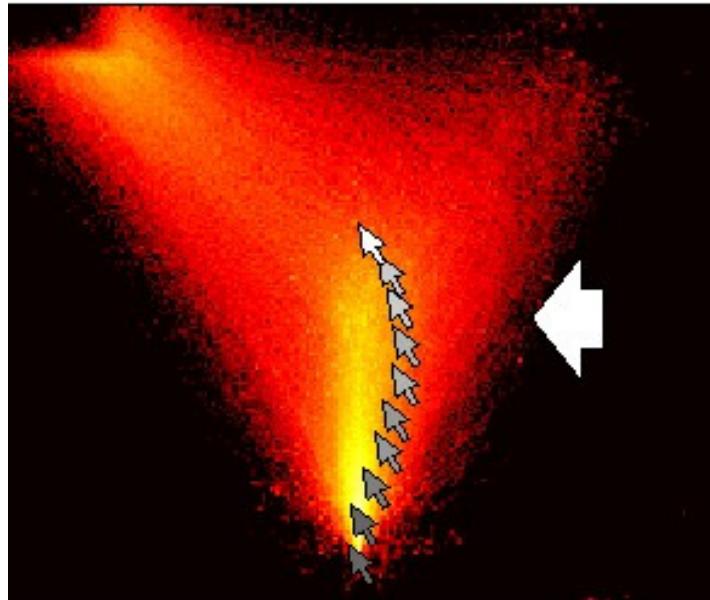
<https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/mousetrap/>

# What we will look at today

- What will we do in the course?
- Where has it been applied?
- What can we look at?
- What do we need to keep in mind?  
→ The black art of mouse tracking

# The black art of mouse tracking

## Issues of experimental design

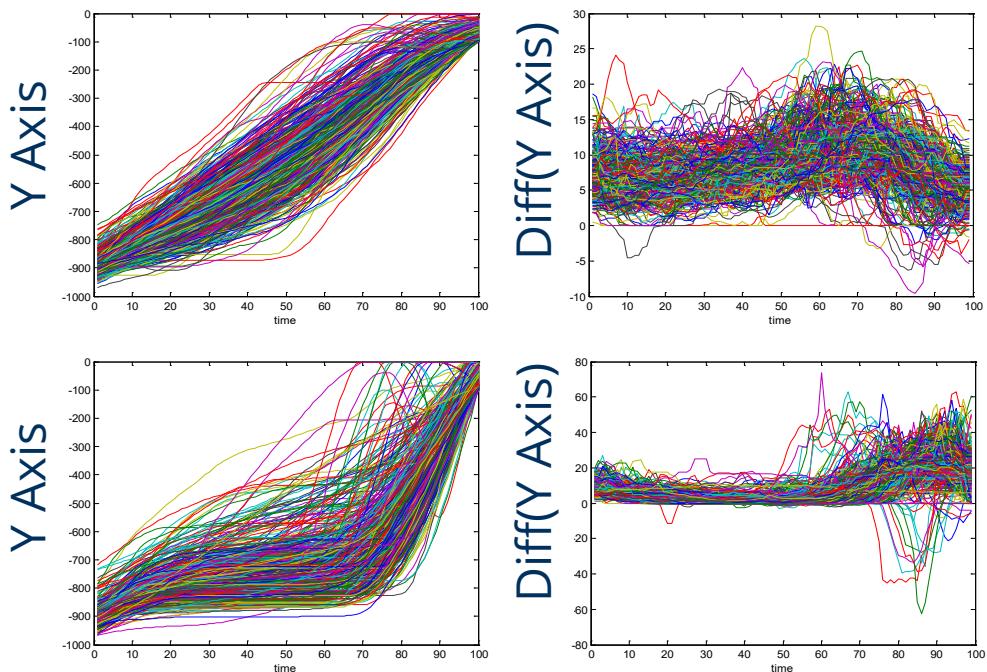
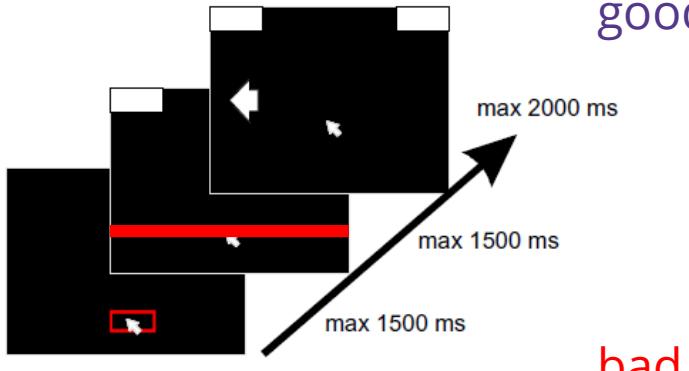


# Issues of experimental design

## Issue 1: What triggers stimuli

Participants need to move while thinking

- Force them to move & present stimuli only after movement started
- Instruct them to move continuously
- Check for continuous movements and exclude stopping participants



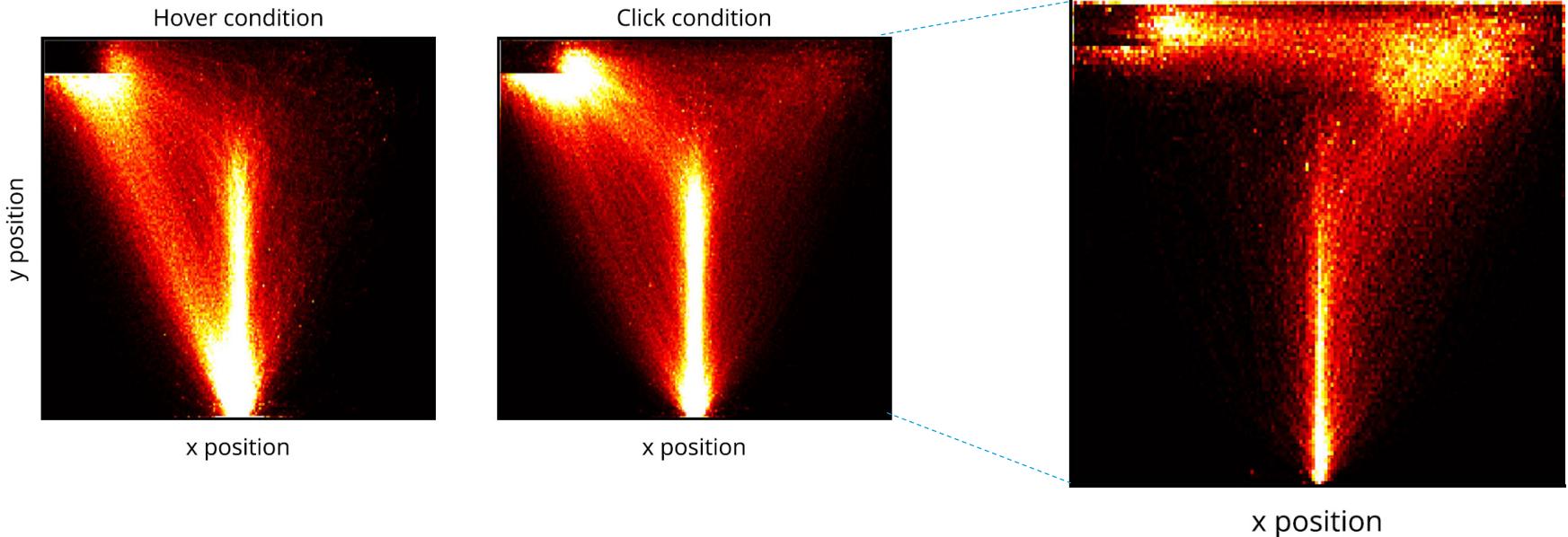
# Issues of experimental design

## Issue 2: Touching/hover or clicking

Use the power of ballistic movements

→ Make choice movement as intuitive as possible

→ Avoid irritation by clicking into target boxes or too small boxes

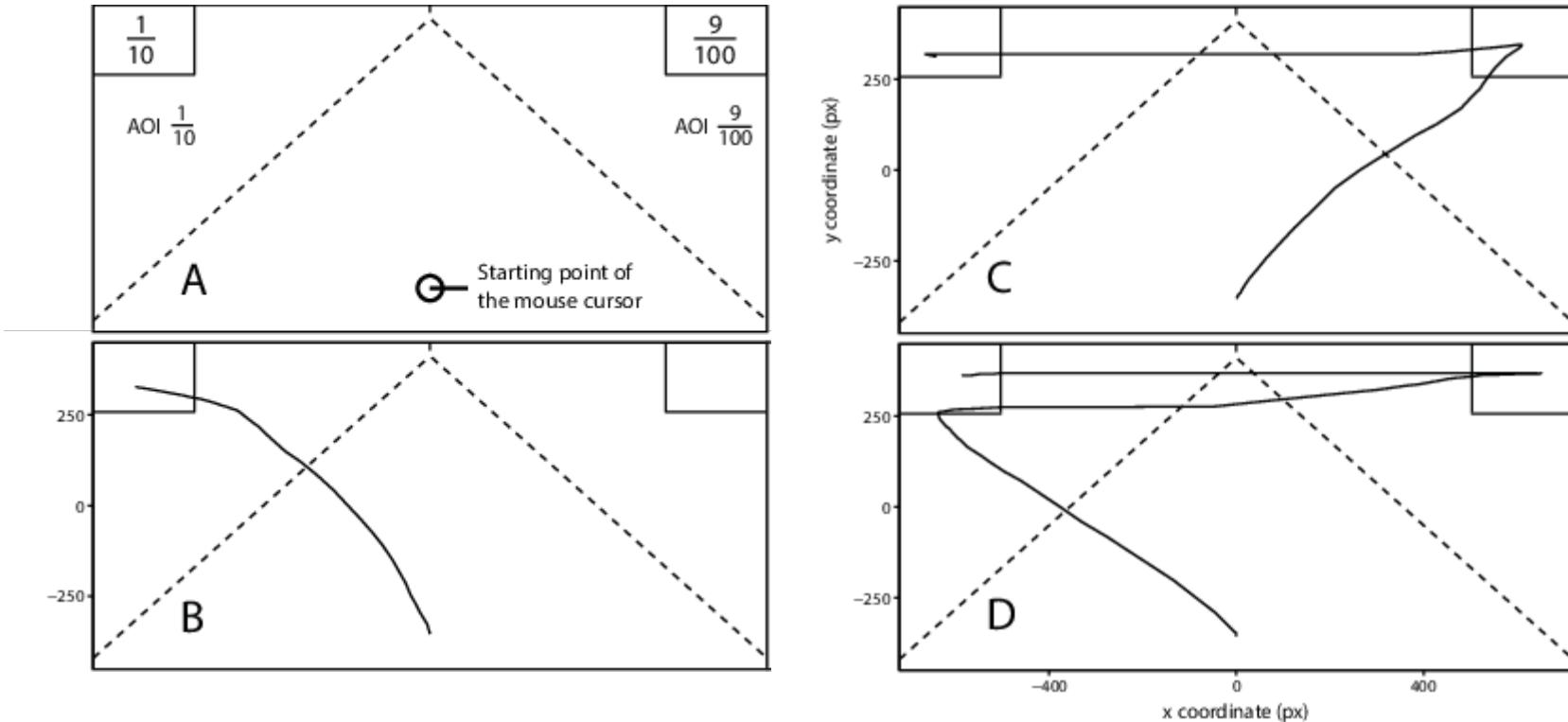


Grage, Schoemann, Kieslich, Scherbaum, 2019

# Issues of experimental design

## Issue 2: Touching/hover or clicking

Or maybe you want re-decisions? Then clicking is good

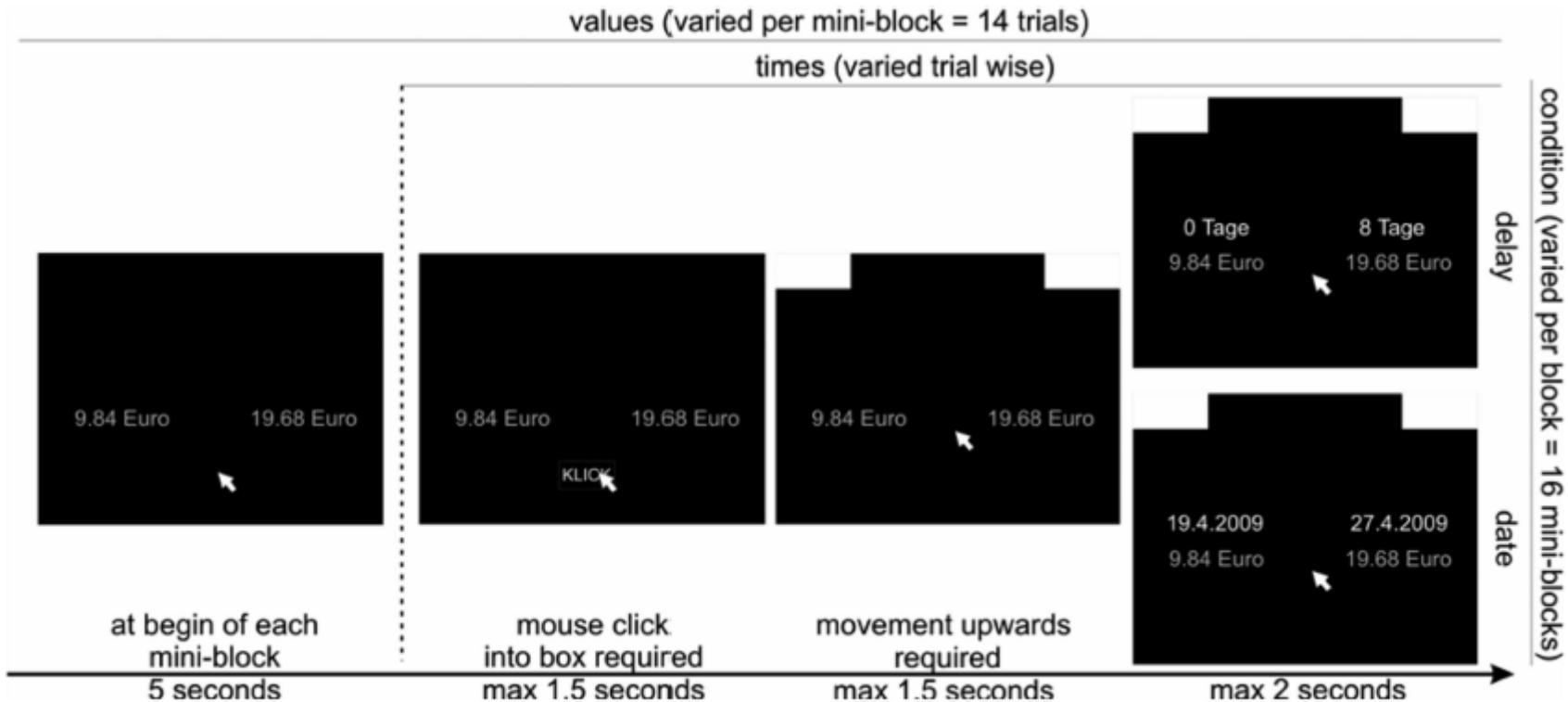


Szaszi, Palfi, Szollosi, Kieslich, Aczel, 2018

# Issues of experimental design

## Issue 3: Complexity of task

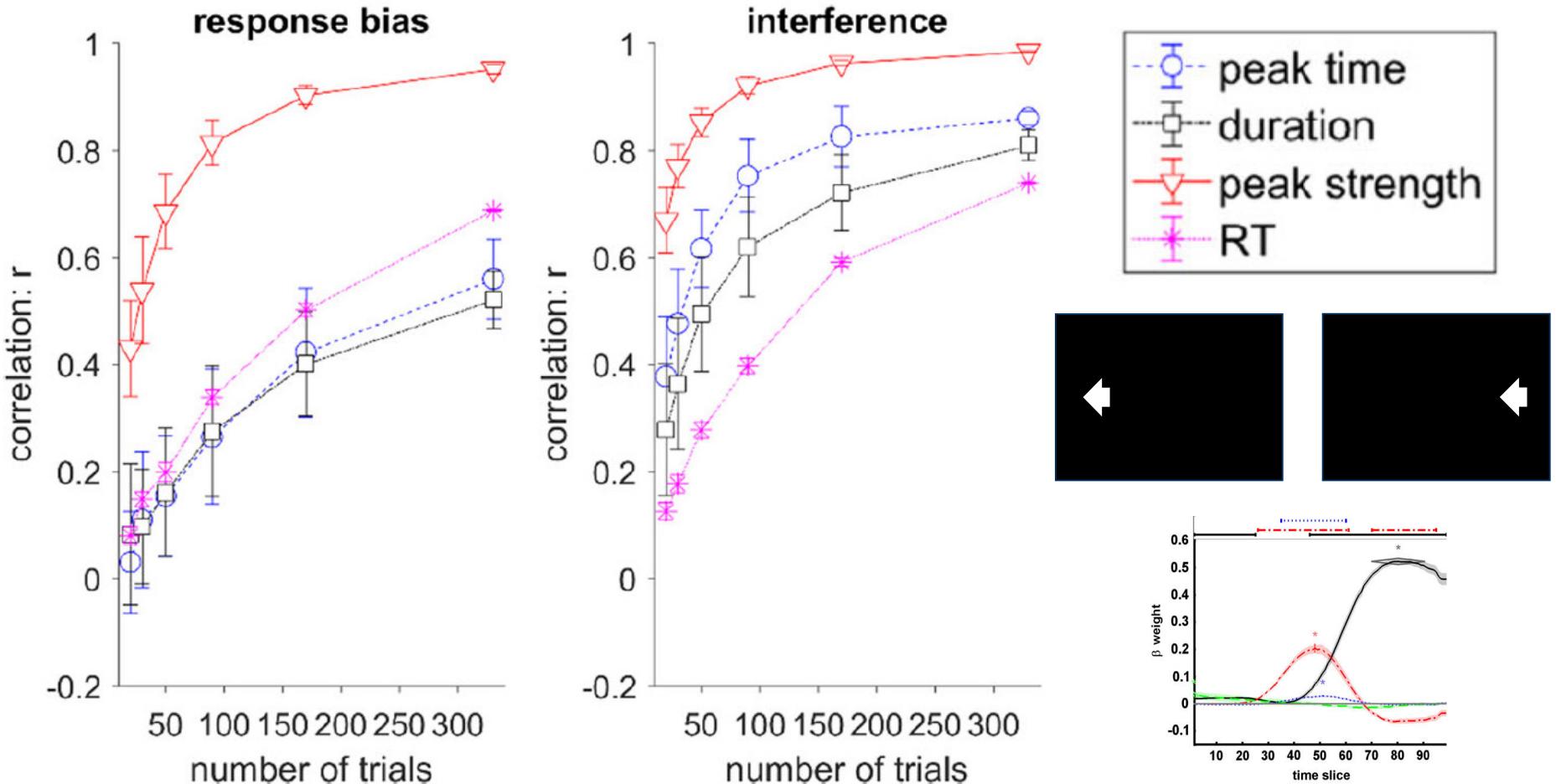
Participants will stop moving or move backwards when decision is too complex → study simple decision or simplify the decision



Dshemuchadse, Scherbaum, Goschke, 2012

# Issues of experimental design

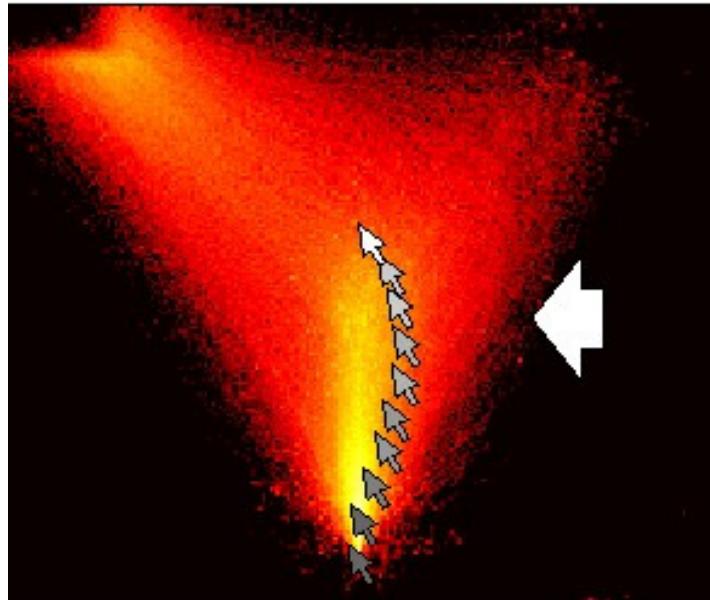
## Issue 4: Have enough trials



Scherbaum, Dshemuchadse, 2020

# The black art of mouse tracking

## Issues of data analysis



# Issues of data analysis

## Issue 5: Choose your trajectory measure

Continuous movements can be analyzed in different ways

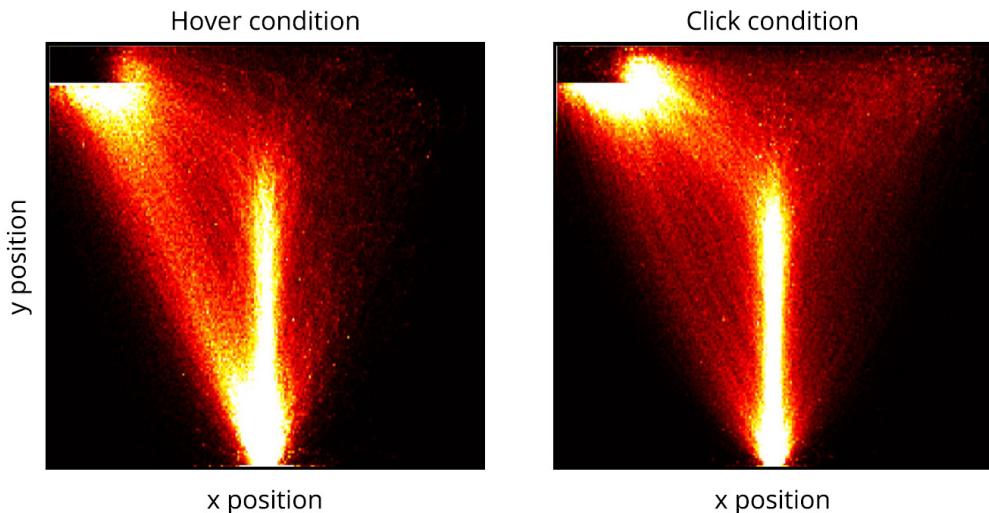
- X-Y Movements
- Movement on X-Axis
- Angle to Y-Axis
- Speed
- Deviation
- Euclidian distance

# Issues of data analysis

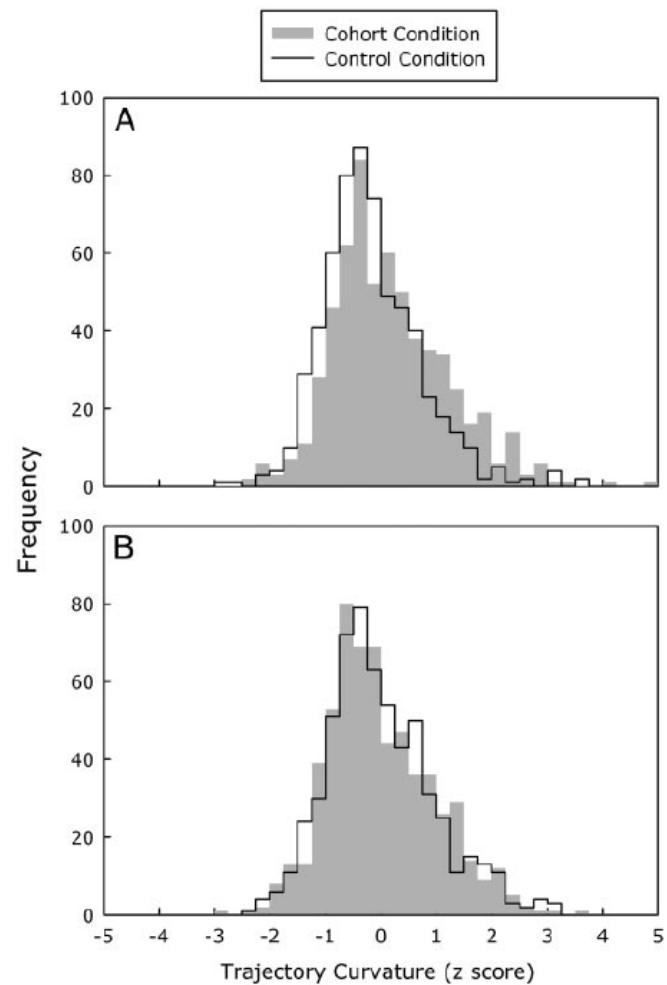
## Issue 6: Bimodality

### Countermeasure

- Histograms of MAD or AUC
- Bimodality index on max/mean deviation
- Sexy & functional: Heat maps



Grage, Schoemann, Kieslich, Scherbaum, 2019



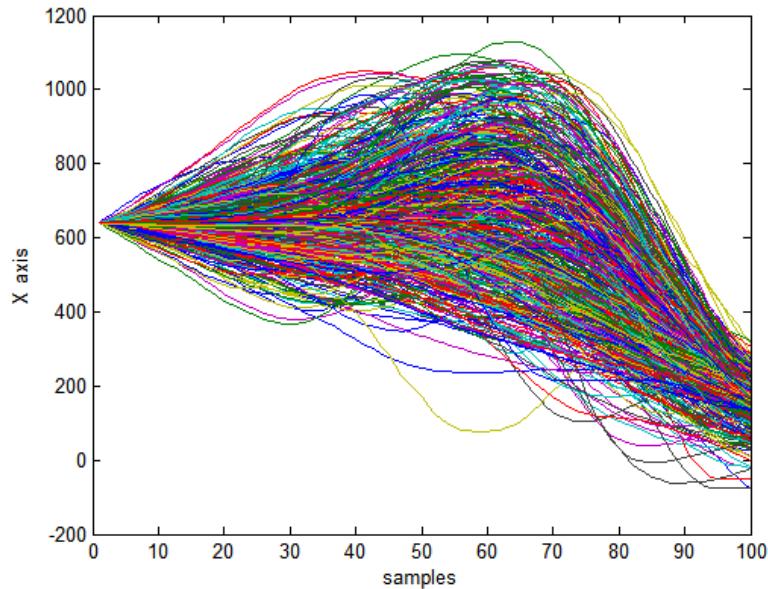
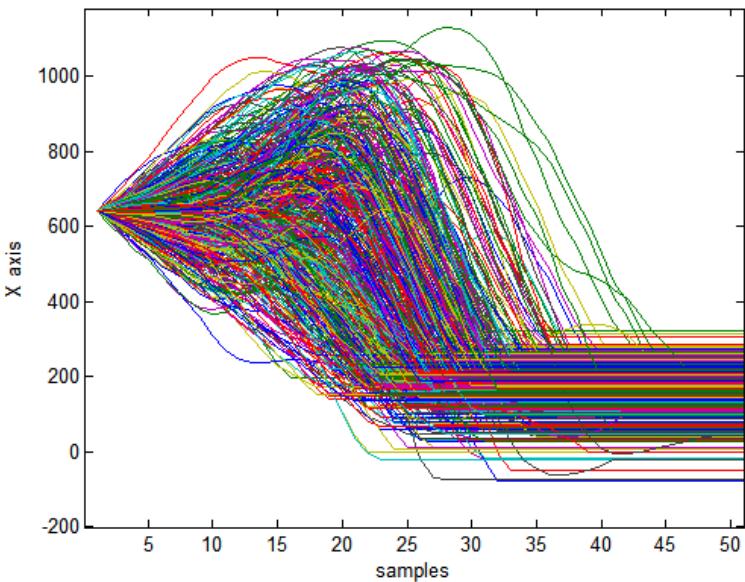
Spivey et al., 2005

# Issues of data analysis

## Issue 7: Time normalization?

What is the process of interest?

- Stimulus locked
- Response locked
- Center locked
- Time normalized

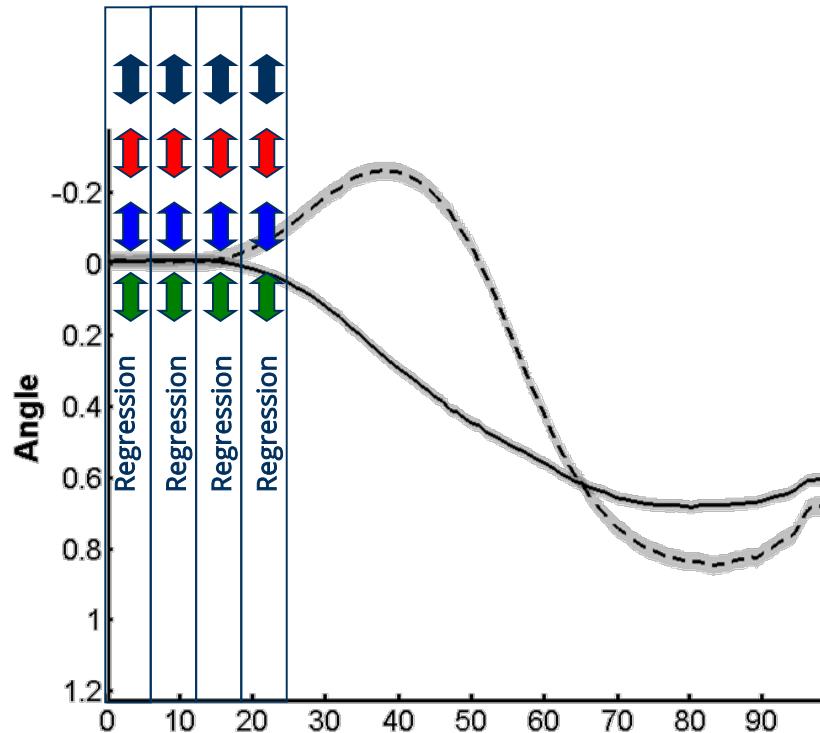


# Issues of data analysis

## Issue 8: Regression - Multicollinearity

When trial properties are dependent  
due to Bad design or Post-hoc factors

- Direction 
- Location 
- Previous conflict 
- Previous response 



# Issues of data analysis

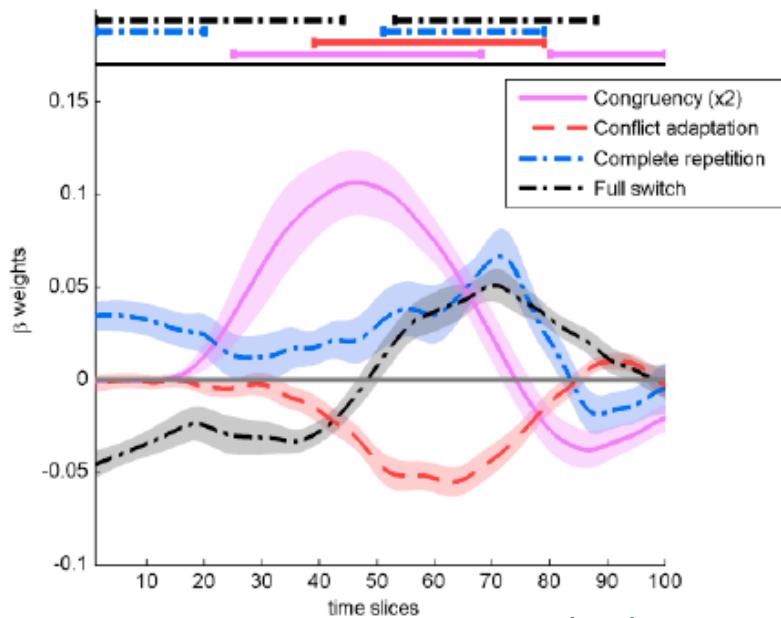
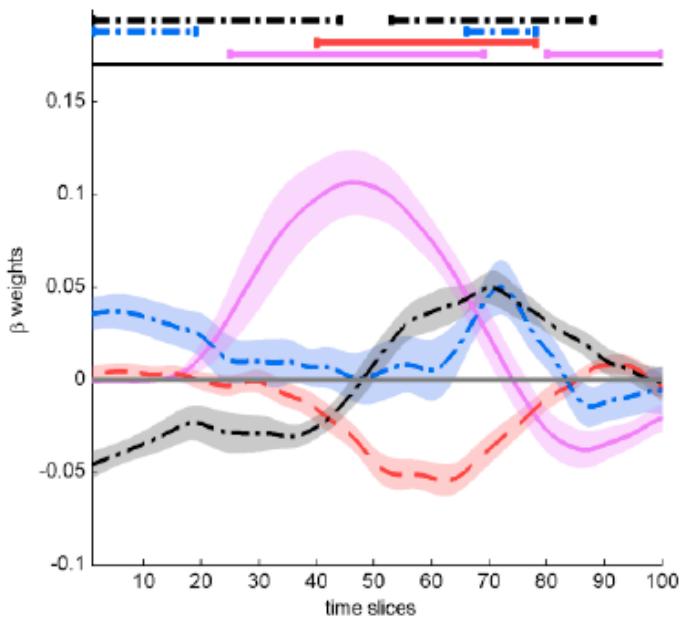
## Issue 8: Regression - Multicollinearity

Counter measures:

Covariance/correlation of trial properties

Variance inflation factor ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Variance\\_inflation\\_factor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Variance_inflation_factor))

Stepwise regression



(Scherbaum et al., 2016)

# The black art of mouse tracking

## A bunch of (hidden) choices

Aim to understand your method and the assumptions!

### Experimental Design

- Stimuli triggers, Touching or clicking, Task complexity, Number of trials

### Data Analysis

- Trajectory measures, Statistical measures, Bimodality, Multicollinearity

# Summary

- Mouse tracking is a cheap method that lets us get a lot out of behavioral data from 2 alternative forced choice tasks
- Methods of analysis can go from simple (qualitative or maximum deviation) to complex (TCMR)
- You need to consider several design factors when designing your experiment

Until tomorrow:

- Talk about potential experiments and interests in groups. Decide which package you want to choose.
  - Check to Google Slides
  - Install R, Matlab, Open Sesame