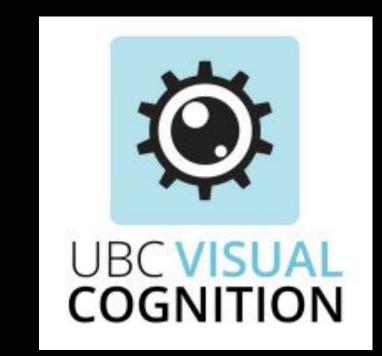
NOVA

A novel paradigm to study inattentional blindness

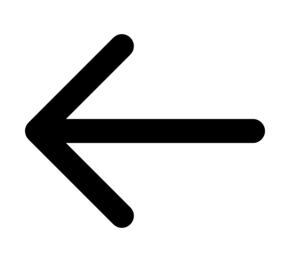


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Many have heard of the invisible gorilla experiment. This is an example of inattentional blindness, the failure to see/perceive a stimulus due to lack of attention

Cueing occurs when the viewer's attention is intentionally re-focused to another object.



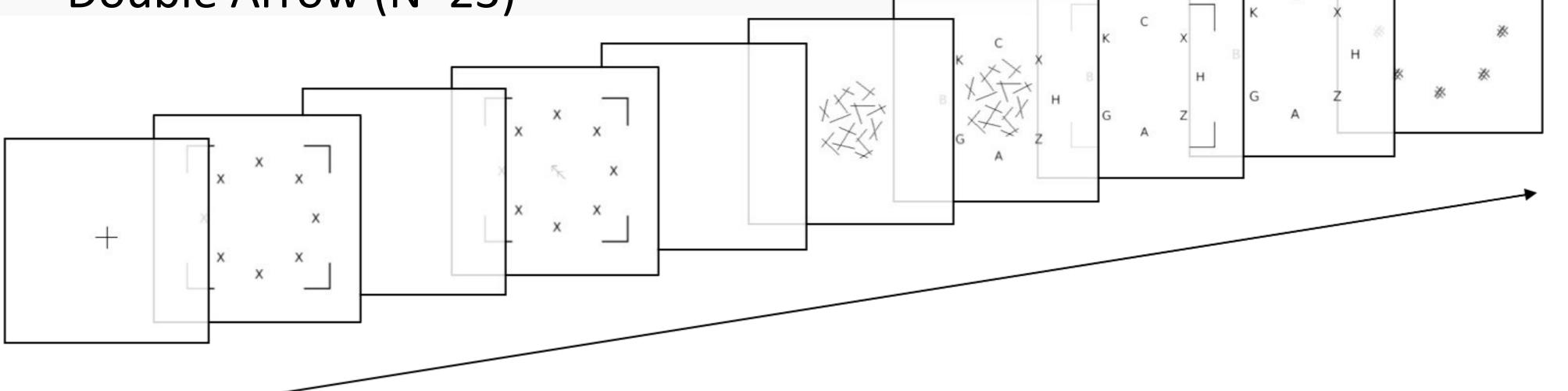
Methods

There are 3 parts to each trial:

- 1. A/E letter discrimination task
- 2. Corner distractor task
- 3. Symbol detection task
- 2 cue types: arrow:



- We used 2 arrow cues to see how robust the arrow shape would be for cueing
- Within-subjects manipulation: Cue (present/absent) X Cue Validity (valid/invalid/control)
- Measurements: A/E accuracy, IB rate, RT
- 2 conditions:
- Arrow (N=28)
- Double Arrow (N=23)



Research Questions

- 1. Is there a way for us to induce inattentional blindness (IB) robustly?
- 2. Do unreported cues (IB trials) still have an effect on directing your attention?

Results (1)

- Participants with less than 2 trials in each condition were excluded, leaving N=14 for the Arrow condition, and N=14 for Double Arrow.
- This paradigm provides a way to induce inattentional blindness (IB) robustly:
- IB rate (across 2 conditions, N=28): 37.6%

Conclusion

- We can induce robust inattentional blindness
- This paradigm allows for direct comparisons between seen and unseen trials
- Arrows are effective cues even when we do not see them

Did you see the letter A or E in the ring of letters?

Did the corners move in an IN-OUT-IN pattern?

Did you see a symbol in the middle of the ring?

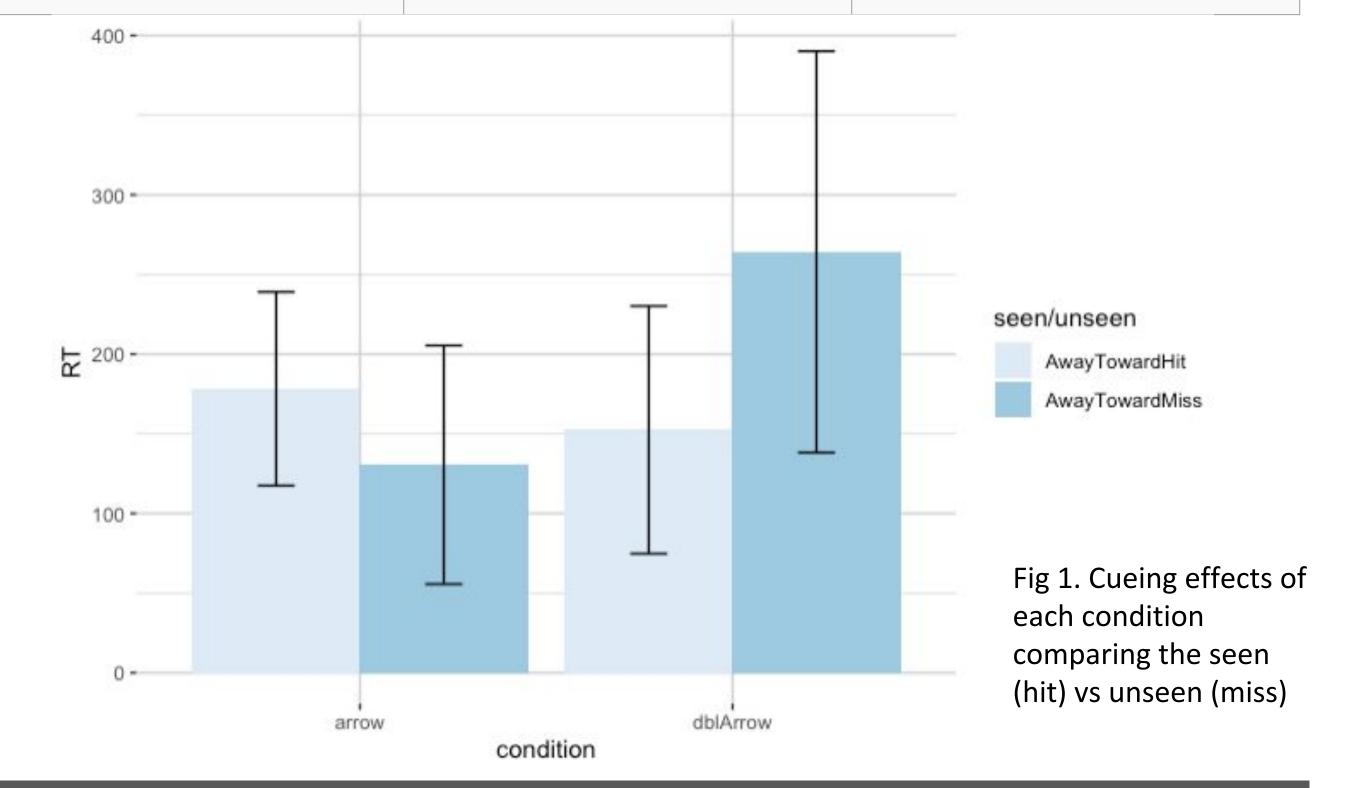
Motivation

- Existing inattentional blindness paradigms are not robust
- No within subject comparisons possible
- What can we test with this paradigm?

Results (2)

Effect sizes were significant in all conditions. We calculate cueing effect size by doing RT of invalid cues - RT of valid cues:

Condition	Seen (z-test)	Unseen (z-test)
Arrow (N=14)	178.30 (.00081)	130.53 (.031)
Double Arrow (N=14)	152.48 (.017)	264.21 (.012)



Future Directions

 Experiment with more parameters to increase the power of this paradigm: changing sizes of cues, SOAs, etc...



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