Eyetracking Workshop WS 18/19

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Start

- AlternativeTurorialbox
- Today we will use 1 Eyetracker!

- Create account at sr-support

Today

1. Short: How does the Eyelink 1k+ work?
2. How to do gaze control in PTB & Psychopy?
3. Preparing EEG/ET coregistration in your experiment
4. Storing behavioral data in your eyetrack
5. Proper calibration
6. Converting .edf files: stupid (Matlab) & smart (R)
7. Preprocessing .edf files in R

Eyelink

How does the EL1000+ work?

Huey (1908)

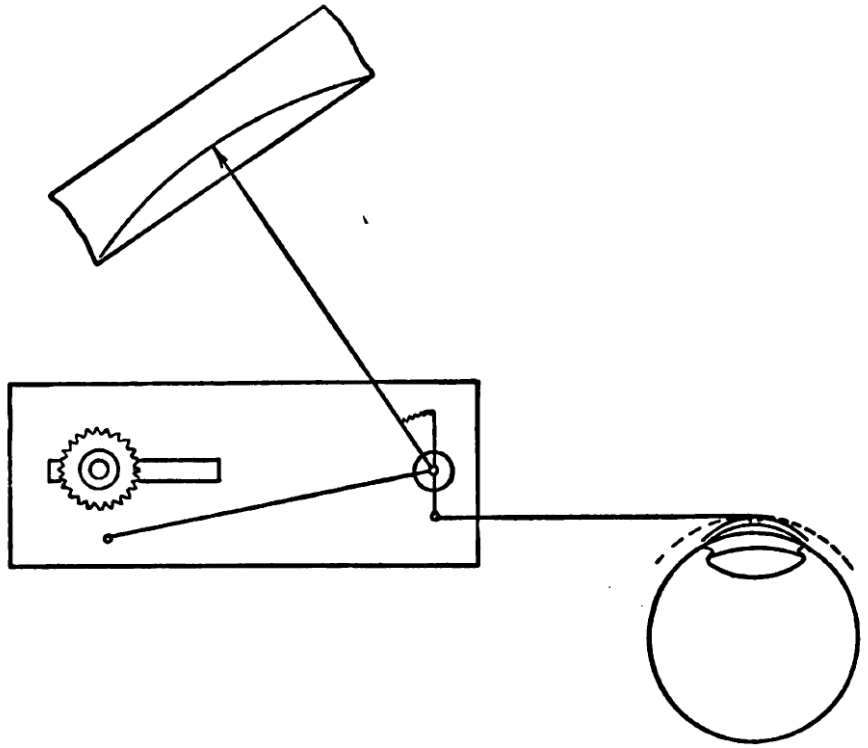


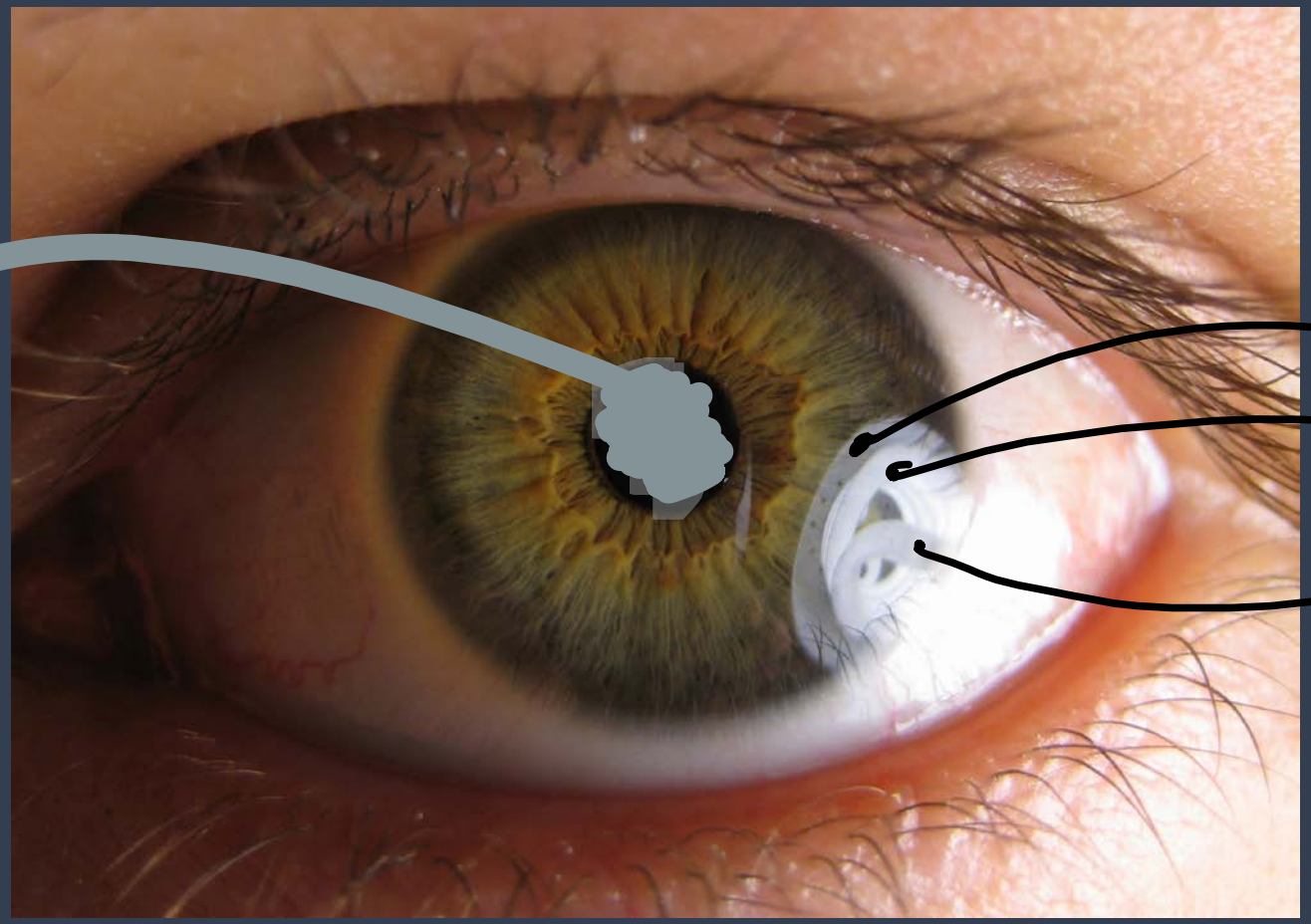
FIG. 1

read. The apparatus seemed to work equally well under all the various conditions, even when the speed reached an average of twelve words per second. In order to

EL1k+

- Infrared based eyetracker
- Infrared light is emitted to the eye
- The lens records the eye from another angle
- EL-host-PC detects pupil and Purkinje image

Purkinje

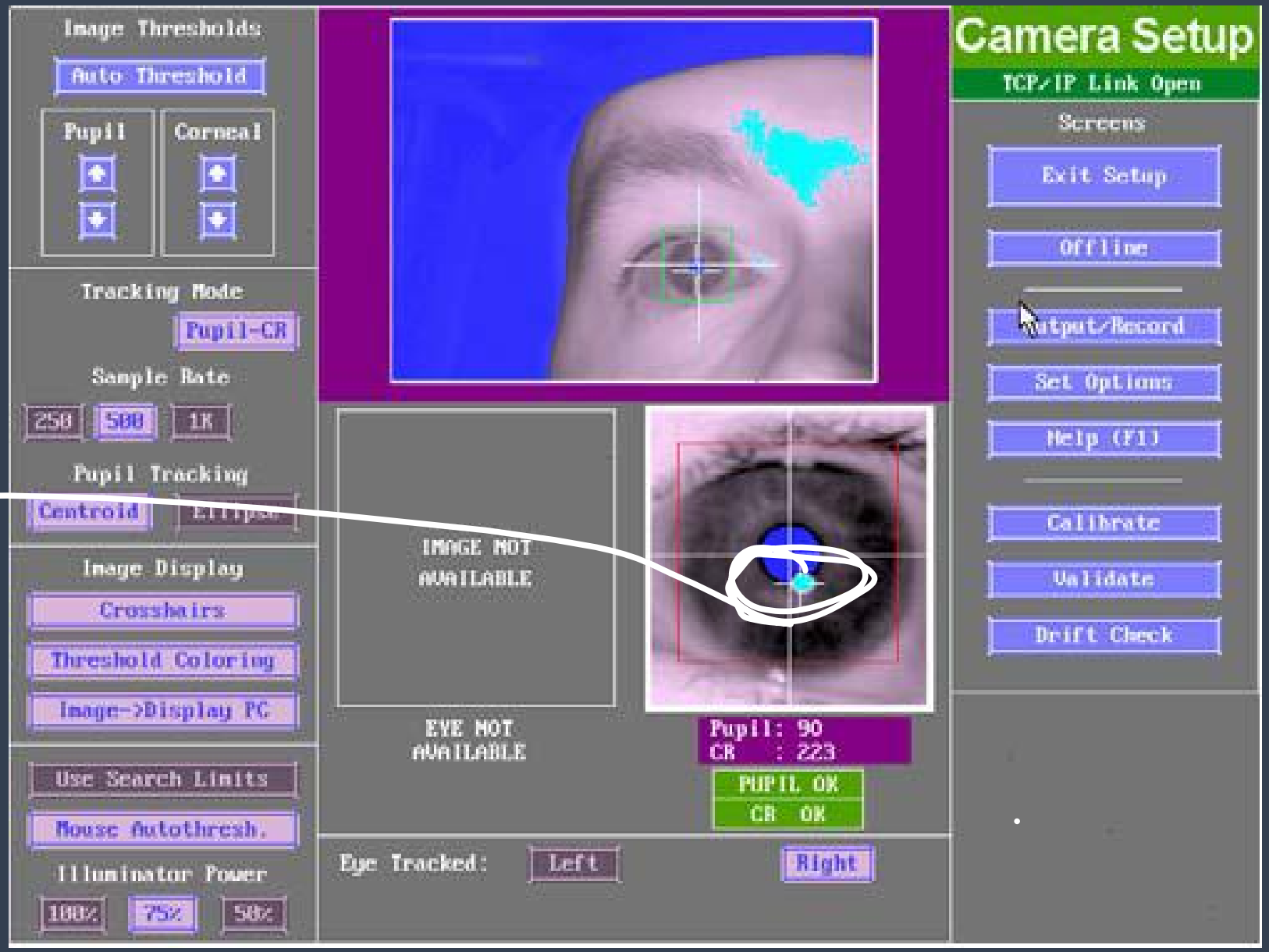


pupil

Purkinje images

Calibration

Cornea reflection = 1st purkinje image



calibration

- Calibration creates constellation-dependent coordinate system
- Validation takes similar measurements and checks how much the screen position differs from the system‘s prediction

Check setup

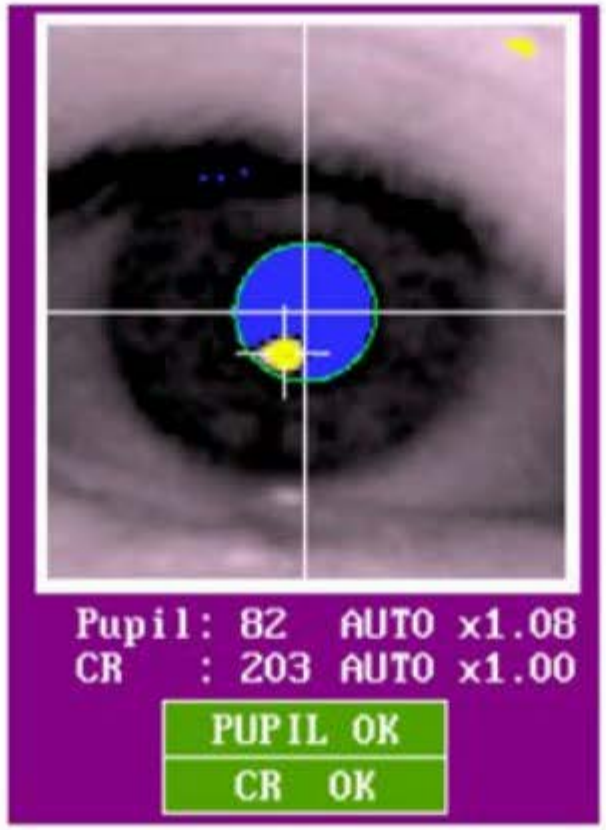
- When looking straight, subjects should look at top 25% of screen
- Eye-to-monitor distance should be >=1.75*monitor width
- Distance tracker<->Eye 40-70cm (ideally 50-55)
- Tracker‘s top as close as possible to screens bottom
- Tracker should be centered horizontally wrt screen
- Illuminator: usually @75%

Good calibration

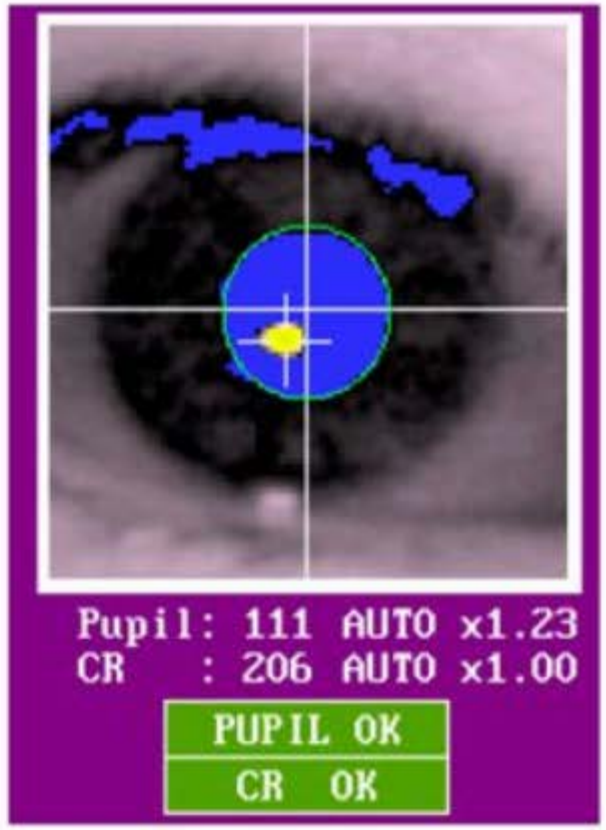
- Usually, centering the tracked eye is best (use big knob)
- Click on the tracked eye and make sure the eyelink thinks about it as „right“ or „left“
- Tune lense manually
- Click ‚a‘ for auto-threshold
- Assure that pupil and CR are well filled and (best case) nothing else is highlighted in the same colors.
- Try to improve things by manually adjusting thresholds with UP/DOWN and +/-
- Have subject look in all corners of the screen and see if the above settings still look good

Good calibra

Threshold bias too low



Properly thresholded



Threshold bias too high

Cali-Vali

- 9-13 point calibration are most precise
- Grid should be horizontally and vertically parallel (approx.)
  - If not: redo setup

Glasses gone wild

- Problem: Glasses reflect IR-light -> tracker thinks ist CR-reflection
- Try this:
  - Ask subject to move chin forward
  - Adjust table height
  - Move camera closer to subject (min distance: 40cm!)
  - Lower position using big knob
  - Adjust angle of camera
  - Increase illumination

Ellipse vs Centroid

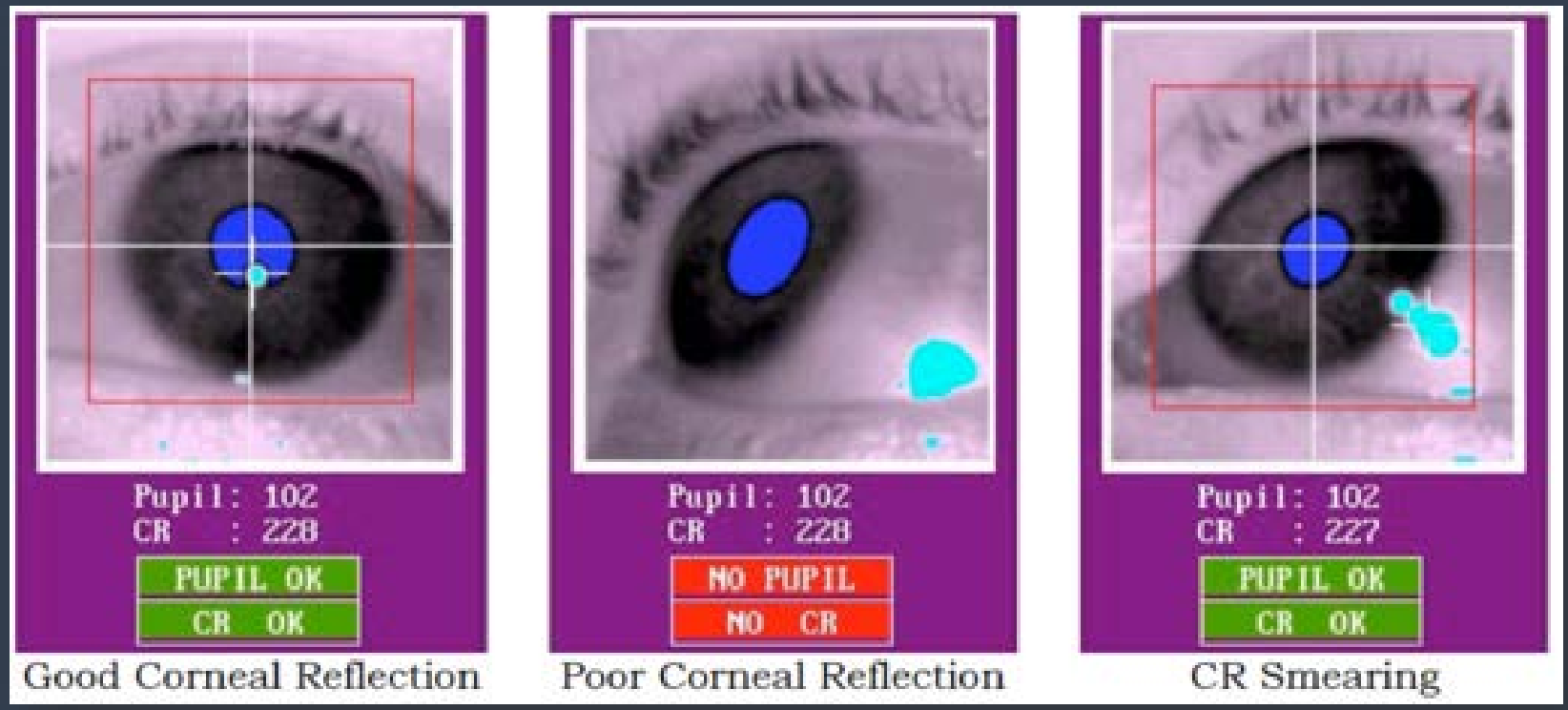
- Two modes of tracking pupil
- Ellipse interpolates parts of pupil that are occluded
- Centroid uses center of mass

- Centroid: Usually best, less noise
- Ellipse: Good for people with low eyelids and tiny glasses

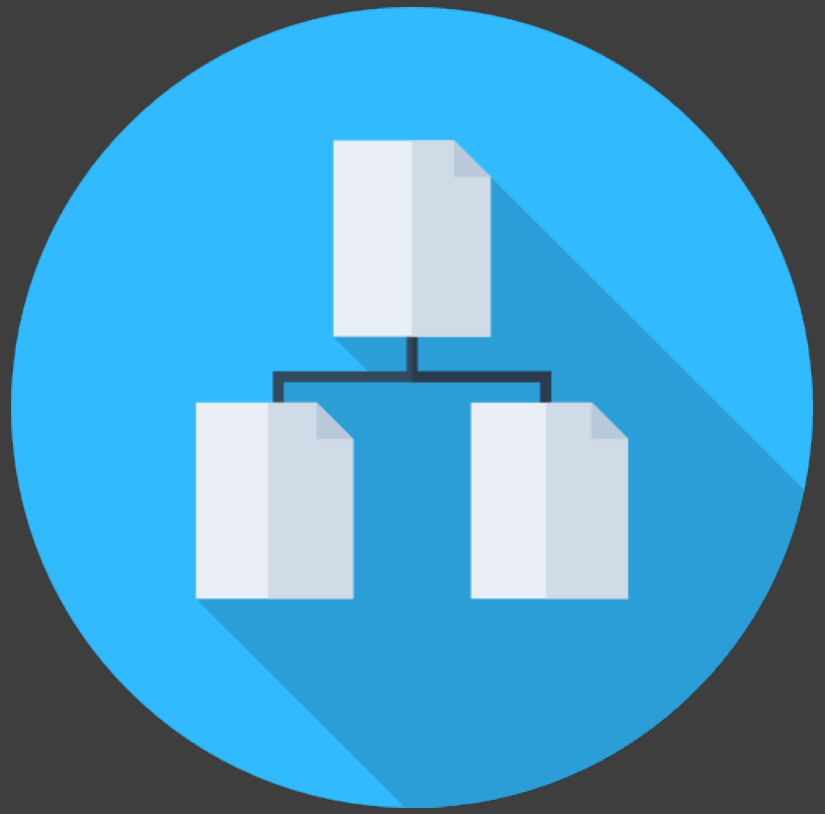
Ellipse vs Centroid

CR smearing

- Usually happens when looking at top corners
- Increase distance or lower threshold



Experiments



Software structure

Matlab / python

Install this (to record)

- SR Developer‘s pack
- Psychtoolbox comes with Eyelink toolbox
- Psychopy comes with *too outdated* Eyelink module
  - See my readme on github for how to update (don‘t use pip!)
- My set of high-level Eyelink functions
  - github.com/wanjam/wm_utilities/Eyelink

Install this (to analyze)

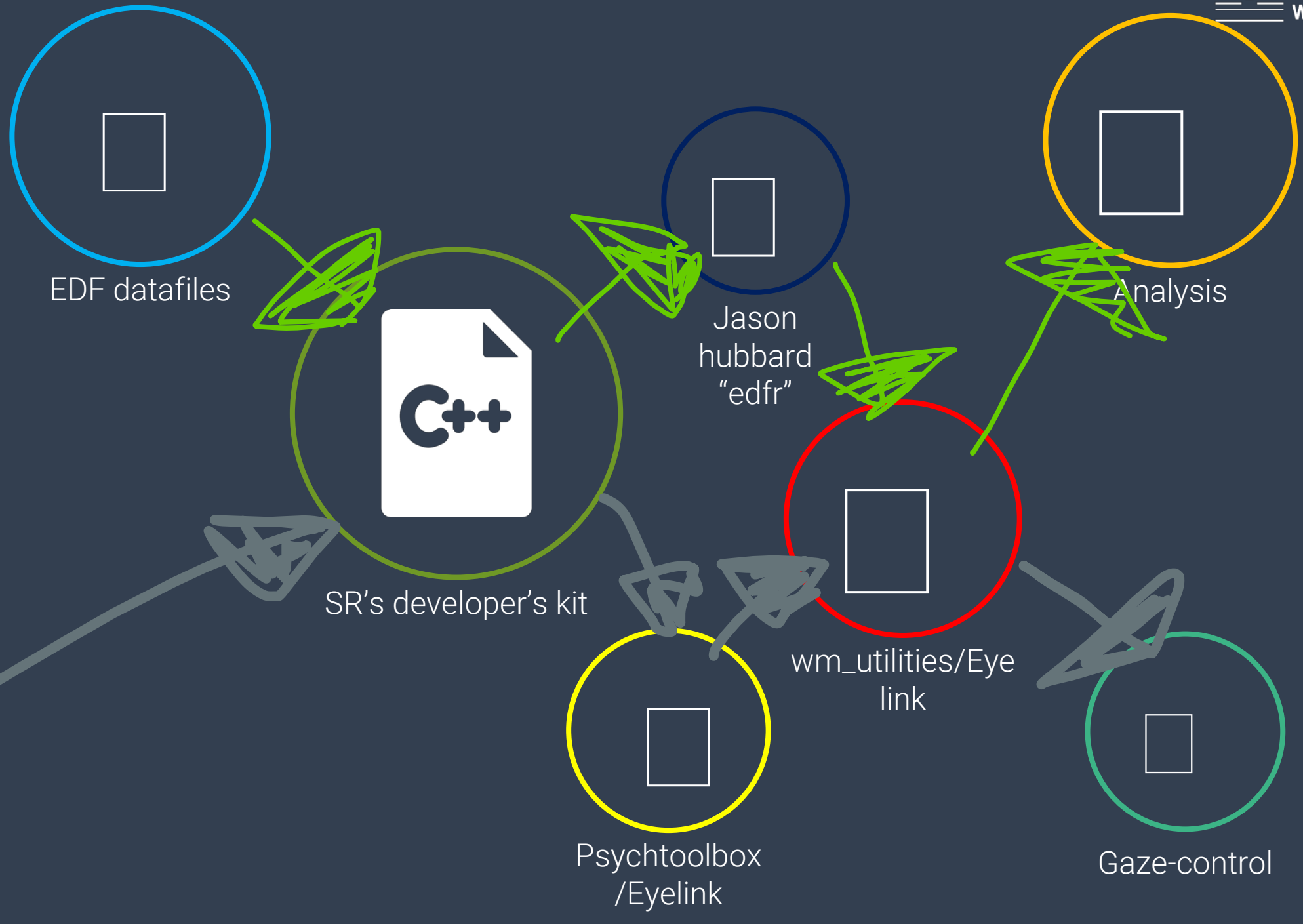
- SR Developer‘s pack
- Matlab:
  - Coregister EEG/ET: Olaf Dimigen‘s <EYE-EEG>
    - Eeglab plugin manager is outdated. Use github: olafdimigen/eye-eeg
- R:
  - Parse edf files: Jason Hubbard‘s <edfr>
    - devtools::install_github(‘jashubbard/edfr‘)
  - Massage data: Hedderik van Rijn‘s <pR>, my <wmR>
    - devtools::install_github(‘wanjam/wm_utilities/helper-funs/wmR‘)
    - devtools::install_github(‘hedderik/pR‘)

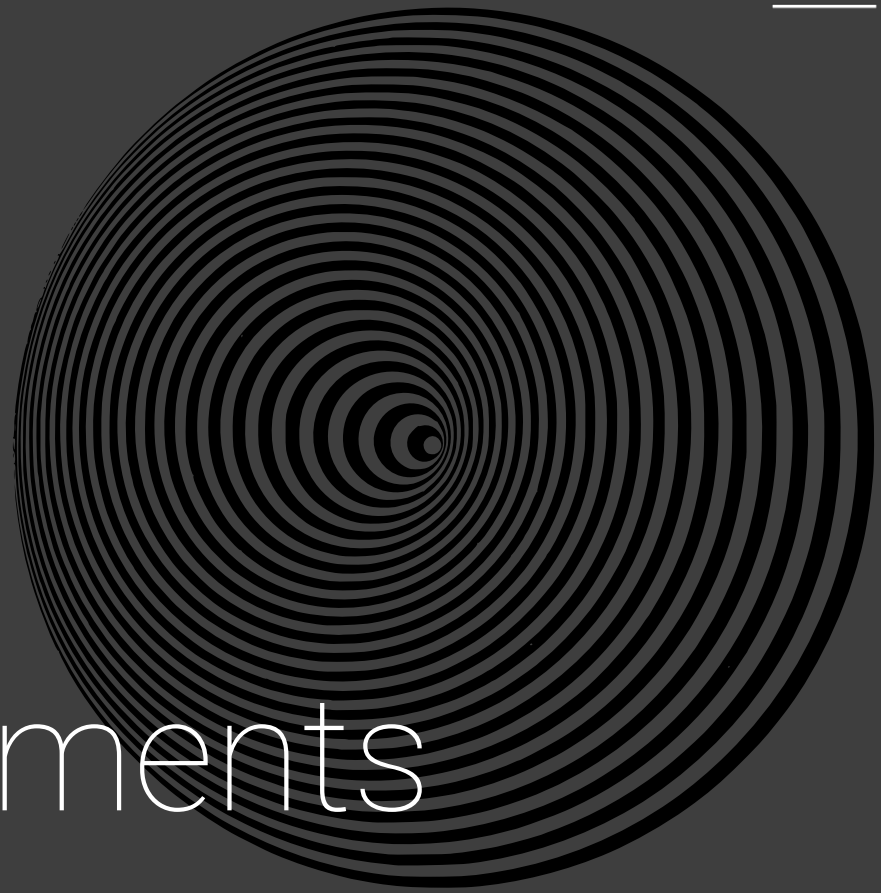
SR-dev kit

- SR research provides a „developer‘s kit“
- Newest version always in forum
- Ubuntu: PPA (read instructions *very* careful)
- Windows/Mac: zip/dmg
- Core of everything (written in C++) → install!

- Have a look: sr-support.com

Software structure





Functions for Experiments

wm_ utilities

Readme online! https://github.com/wanjam/wm_utilities/Eyelink

included here with SR-Research's permission. For the most recent version check their support forum.

Usage

Note that this is probably quite specific to our lab. Use this in any other lab at your own risk.

Matlab

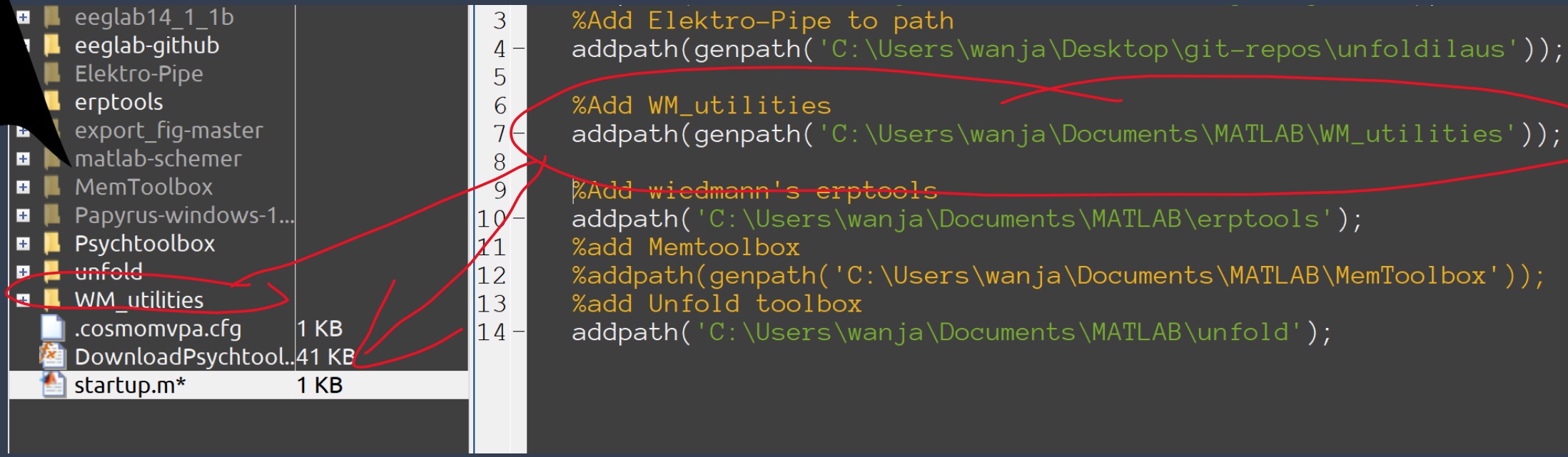
The Matlab code consists of five simple functions: `EyelinkStart.m, EyelinkStop.m, EyelinkRecalibration.m, EyelinkgGetGaze.m, and EyelinkAvoidWrongTriggers.m`

A typical workflow in Psychtoolbox would look like this:

1. Start your Experiment with the typical settings until you open a window. Typically, you'll have a line like this:
   `wPtr = Screen('Openwindow', P.PresentScreen, [ 0.5, 0.5, 0.5 ],[],[],[],[],1);`

wm_ utilities

I'll only talk about Matlab – Same functions for Python!



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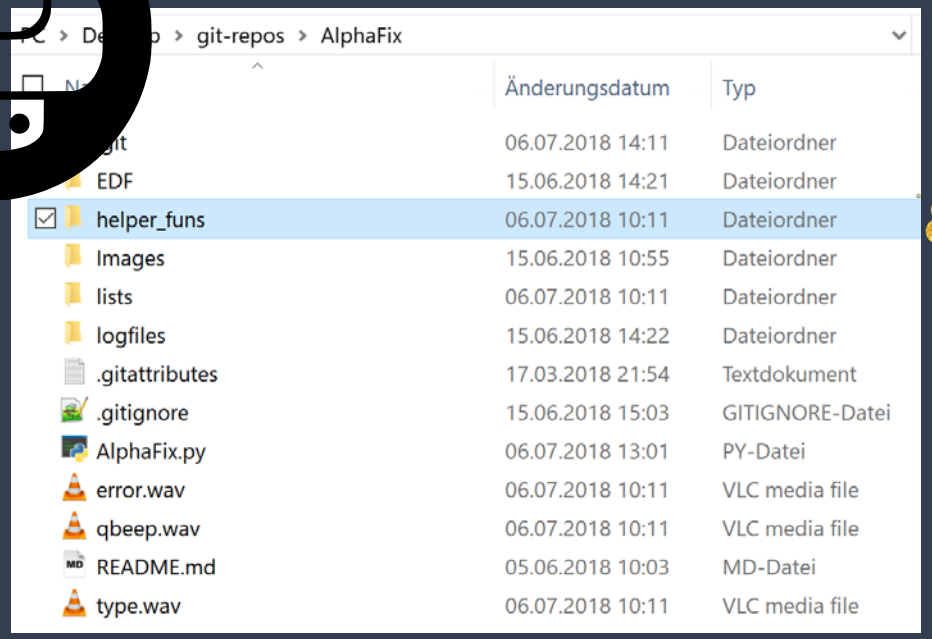

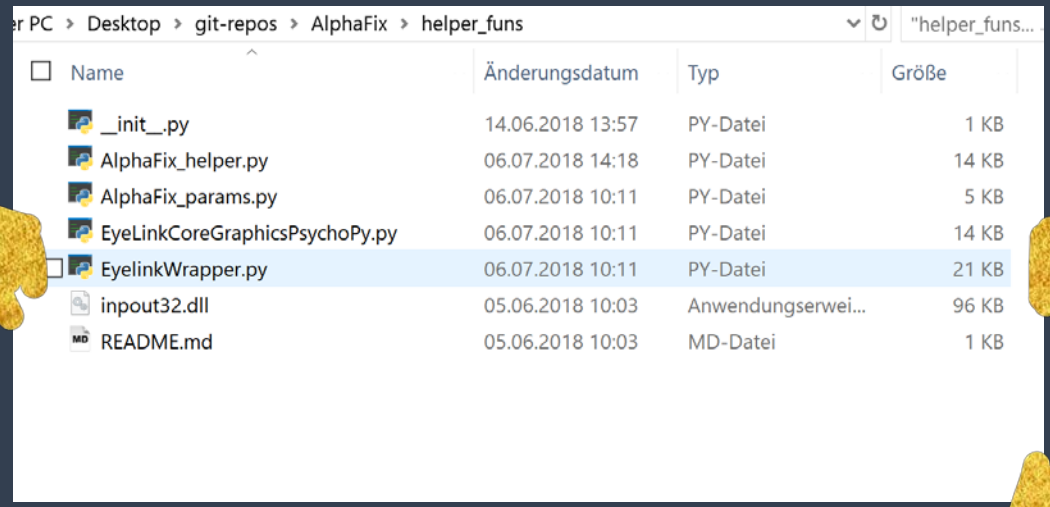


```
29  import helper_funs.EyelinkWrapper as EW
```

Connect

```
[P, wPtr] = EyelinkStart(P, wPtr, "filename")
→ doc EyelinkStart
```

P = your structure with parameters

can be empty, can contain extra config stuff

Always back assign P!

Does this:

- Starts and configures connection between EL and PC
- Opens a file to write to
- Defines sampling rate and what to store
- Defines locations of calibration points
- Nulls the TTL port
- Runs an initial calibration

Re-calibrate

EyelinkRecalibration (P)

Recalibrates the Eyetracker

Useful when:

- Break
- Subject moved a lot and eye is lost

Control Fixation

```
[didrecal, FixationOnset, hsmvd] =
EyelinkControlFixation(P, Tmin, Tmax, loc,
maxDegDeviation, eyelinkconnected, pixperdeg, dorecal,
Igoreblinks)
```

Highest possible level in wm_utilities

Does this:

- Takes a target location (loc)
- Subject has <Tmax> seconds to look at the target
- Subject has to look at target for <Tmin> seconds
- If not: start a recalibration (If you want that)
- Do you want to ignore blinks?

Get Gaze

```
[x, y,    hsmvd] = EyelinkGetGaze(P, Ignoreblinks,
OverSamplingBehavior, targetXY,
FixLenDeg, eyelinkconnected, pixperdeg)
```

Lower level: Just get the gaze position and check whether that differs from the last position.

Does this:

- Checks if the Eyetracker has a new sample available
- If so, return the (x, y) pixel coordinate pair of the current gaze
- In addition, check if the current gaze differs more than <FixLenDeg> degree from targetXY. If so, <hsmvd> is true (1).

Behavioral data

```
[message] = EyelinkSendTabMsg(varargin)
```

stores behavioral data coregistered with time and ttl into the .edf file

Does this:

- Takes as many input arguments as you want
- Converts everything to strings
- Concatenates everything tab-delimited
- Prepends a “<“
- Sends <message> to .edf file

Stop recording

```
EyelinkStop (P, eyelinkconnected)
```

Finishes recording and puts Eyelink to standby

Does this:

- Stops the recording
- Copies the final file from the EL-host PC to the stimulation PC
- Then puts the Eyelink to standby

Status Notifier

EyelinkNotify (message, eyelinkconnected)

Lower level: Just get the gaze position and check whether that differs from the last position.

Does this:

- Checks if the Eyetracker has a new sample available
- If so, return the (x, y) pixel coordinate pair of the current gaze
- In addition, check if the current gaze differs more than <FixLenDeg> degree from targetXY. If so, <hsmvd> is true (1).

Status Notifier

EyelinkNotify (message, eyelinkconnected)

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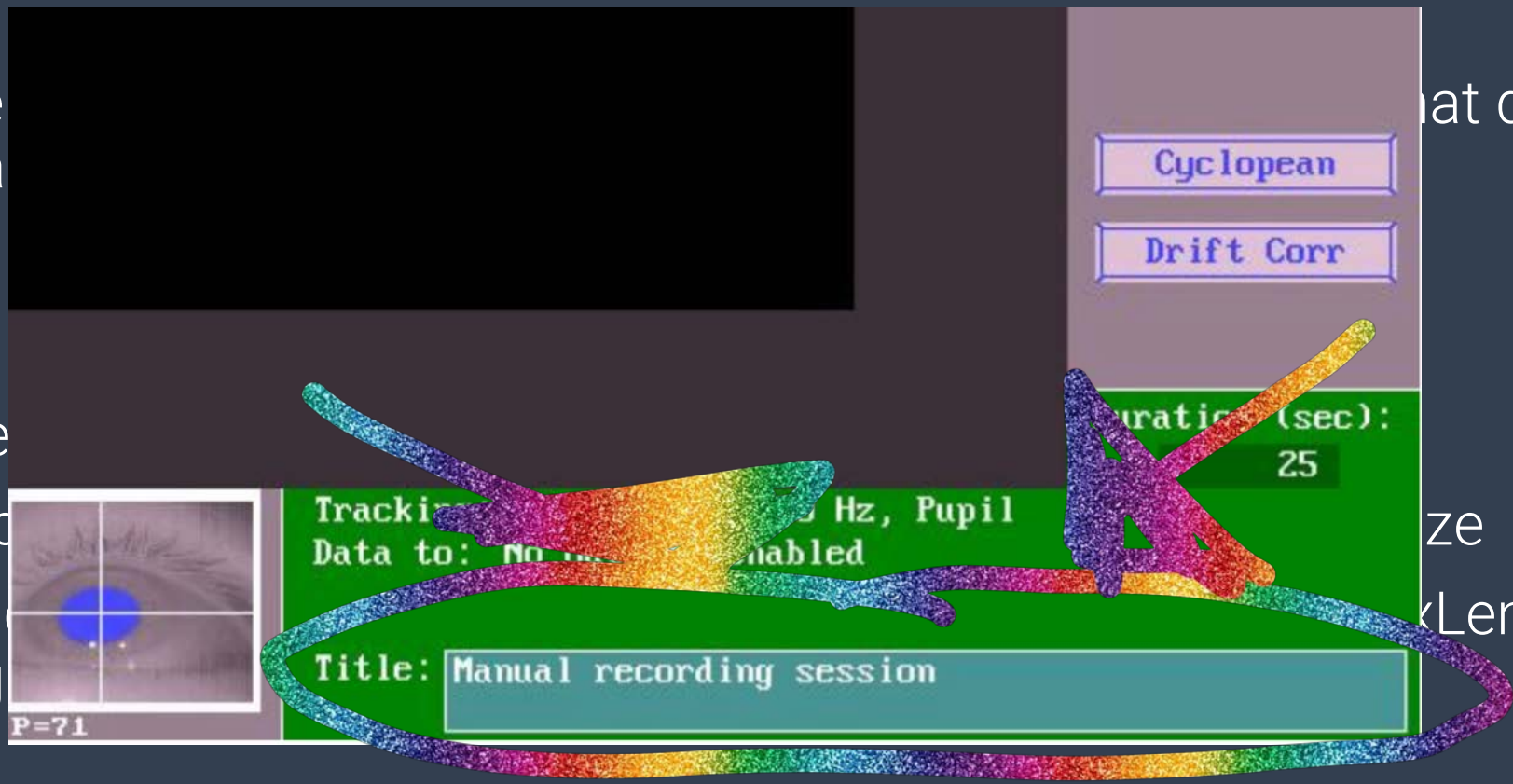


TTL trigger

EyelinkAvoidWrongTriggers

Prevents EEG-trigger-mess

Should be at the top of your non-eyetracking experiment

Does this:

- Checks if the Eyelink-host pc is turned on
- Throws an error if that‘s the case

Para-meters

‚eyelinkconnected' = boolean – if false, all functions are dummies

Dummymode doesn't always work for me, but it's worth trying

DIY

Implement Gazecontrol

DIY

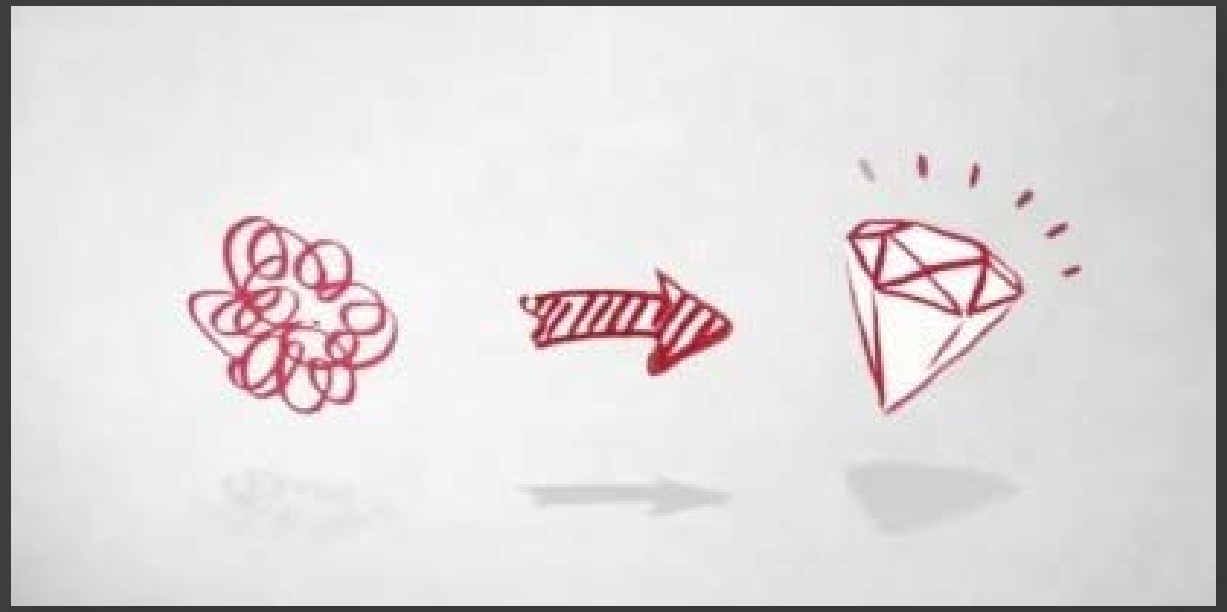
- Open a terminal and run >**ptb3 - matlab**
- Go to /home/tutorialbox/Documents/MATLAB/Tutorial/Task
- Start the experiment once by running >**TutorialExperiment.m**

DIY

- Add code to start and stop the Eyelink
- Display „Ruebezahl“ as status message, right after EyelinkStart
- Display the current trial number as status message
- Recalibrate after each break.
- Control that subjects look at the fixation symbol.
- Send „triggers“ (i.e., messages) after all relevant flips.
- Store the resulting behavioral data in the .edf

- If time: try to make the target‘s position gaze-dependent

Analyze



Preprocessing

What's possible ?

- Coregistration with EEG data:
  - Fixation Related Potentials → follow EYE-EEG/Elektro-Pipe
- Pupil Dilation
- Saccades
- Fixations
- Gazepaths
- …

→ Most stuff possible after following this template…

Parse Matlab

- edf2asc : binary available in the terminal (from the devpack)
- EYE-EEG
  - `parseeyelink(` *file.asc* `)` ← converts .asc to .mat
  - `pop_importeyetracker(` *EEG, file.asc* `)` ← coregistration
- Elektro-Pipe
  - `func_importEye` combines all three and plots quality
  - Called by `prep01_preproc`

Parse R

- Jason Hubbard‘s edfr uses the devpack‘s C++ code directly
  - No need for edf2asc
  - Most sophisticated package for parsing (afaik)
  - edf.all (), edf.recordings (), edf.events ()
  - = ET-data, Header, TTL

DIY

- Open Rstudio in the VirtualBox
- You‘ll find a file called **tutorial_preprocEDF.R**
- Let‘s first walk through that…

- Challenge:
  - Set the output time vector relative to fixation onset
  - Go to line 213. Try to add more info (as added in the experiment)
  - Add the new info to all necessary lines.