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Is your gaze your aim?

Eye position in reward gambling and the role of orbito-frontal cortex in encoding the value of visually cued offers

Demetrio Ferro^{1,2,*}, Anna Rifé Mata^{1,2}, Tyler Cash-Padgett³, Maya Zhe Wang³, Benjamin Hayden³, Rubén Moreno Bote^{1,2}

¹Center for Brain and Cognition (CBC), Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF), 08002, Barcelona – ES;

²Department of Information and Communication Technologies, Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF), 08002, Barcelona – ES;

³Dept. of Neuroscience, Center for Magnetic Resonance Research, Center for Neuroeng., University of Minnesota, MN55455, Minneapolis – USA;

*demetrio.ferro@upf.edu



Fixate



acquire fixation at center of the screen



Offer 1



first offer is presented



Offer 1





Delay 1



blank screen



Offer 2





Delay 2



blank screen



Re-fixate



re-acquire fixation at center of the screen



Choice-go



saccade to chosen offer side



Choice-made



hold chosen offer side for at least +200ms



Feedback



chosen offer is resolved: reward / no reward



Reward



reward is provided



Motivations

- Is the gaze position relevant for the reward gambling task execution?
- Can we use the gaze position as a marker of what is the animal mentally picturing during task execution in, particular during delay times?



Trials pooled with first offer re-referenced to Left side.

Normalized count



Trials pooled with first offer re-referenced to Left side.

Normalized count





Trials pooled with first offer re-referenced to Left side.

0 1 Normalized count



Trials pooled with first offer re-referenced to Left side.





Trials pooled with first offer re-referenced to Left side.

Normalized count





Generalized Linear Model (GLM) for behavioral choice



Neural Data



Carmichael, S.T., and Price, J.L. (1994). Architectonic subdivision of the orbital and medial prefrontal cortex in the macaque monkey. J. Comp. Neurol.346,366–402.

Data acquisition

Subject 1

area	session	#cells	# trials
BA13	12/07/17	51	643
BA13	12/08/17	59	700
BA11	12/09/17	24	697
BA11	12/10/17	29	603
	Total	163	2643

Subject 2

area	session	#cells	# trials
BA11	3/06/19	18	1015
BA11	3/07/19	32	323
BA11	3/08/19	9	1084
BA11	3/11/19	26	906
	total	85	3328



- 2 Subjects
- 8 Sessions
- 248 Cells

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Tyler Cash-Padgett, Maya Zhe Wang, Benjamin Hayden, Hayden Lab, Dept. of Neuroscience, Center for Magnetic Resonance Research, Center for Neuroengineering, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA;

Two adult male rhesus macaques (macaca mulatta) served as experimental subjects. All procedures were approved by the University Committee on Animal Resources at the University of Rochester and at the University of Minnesota, conducted in compliance with the Public Health Service's Guide for the Care and Use of the Animals.

Motivations

- Are task-relevant variables encoded by OFC cells?
- Is the gaze position relevant in the neural process of encoding the offer values?

GLM for OFC spiking activity



Hypothesis:

Focusing on the Left offer EV, E(L)

if the monkey looks at Left/Right side, is the E(L) coding in OFC affected?



Test:

Consider trials where monkey mostly - *LookL*: tR/(tR+tL)<0.5

- LookR: tR/(tR+tL)>0.5
- GLM for E(L): Look Left $\eta \approx Poiss(f^{-1}(\beta_{0,L} + \beta_L \cdot E(L)))$
- GLM for E(L): Look Right $\eta \approx Poiss(f^{-1}(\beta_{0,R} + \beta_R \cdot E(L)))$

β_L vs β_R ??







Conclusions

• The gaze position has a significant role in the reward gambling task execution: the fraction of time spent at either screen side is predictive of the chosen side;



• Task-relevant variables are encoded by a significant fraction of OFC cells, including the fraction of time spent inspecting either screen side;



• The gaze position is relevant in the process of encoding offer values: looking at either side possibly yields stronger coding of the ipsi-later offer EV.



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upi

TCN Lab

Rubén Moreno Bote Anna Rifé Mata Alice Vidal Jorge Ramirez Ruiz Chiara Mastrogiuseppe Carolina Schneider Bender Devin Ozbağcı Dmytro Grytskyy Farhad Razi Sofia Lawrie Alireza Valyan Francesco Damiani Fatma Aboalasaad

Collaborators

Benjamin Hayden, Tyler Cash-Padgett, Maya Zhe-Wang,

Hayden Lab, <u>haydenlab.com</u> University of Minnesota, Dept. Neuroengineering, Minneapolis, USA.

Fundings



See you at at the Poster Session 4 Friday 05 Nov 21 – 9AM, 12:30PM Posters: #PS4-50

Thank you for your attention.

TCN upf.edu/web/tcn

Research Group on Theoretical

and Cognitive Neuroscience

Eye Data



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All trials

- → Subject is inspecting the CURRENT offer (on screen)
- → Subject is not interested in CURRENT offer (on screen) since it is not the best
- → Subject drifts the gaze to NEXT offer location (blank screen) for a better value
- → Subject drifts the gaze back to PREVIOUS location (blank screen) for a better value
- → Subject correctly holds the gaze to choose the BEST offer

Eye Data



Two-dimensional distribution of eye position during task execution

Experimental paradigm



Data acquisition



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Orbito-Frontal Cortex (OFC)



GLM for neural spiking activity







GLM for neural spiking activity

preoffer1



choicesacc



GLM for neural spiking activity

23/248

8

6

-6 -8



4/248











What if we used more bins for Look L vs Look R? i.e. tR/(tR+tL) binned as [0, 0.25, 0.5, 1]

