

G89.2223 Perception

Bayesian Decision Theory

Laurence T. Maloney

Last: Visual Tasks



Constantine Brancusi

*Size?
Shape?
Distance?*

Cue combination

Last: Visual Tasks



Constantine Brancusi

*Cue combination
tells us what to
see, not what to
do.*

Planning of action.

Statistical Decision Theory



Abraham Wald



John von Neumann



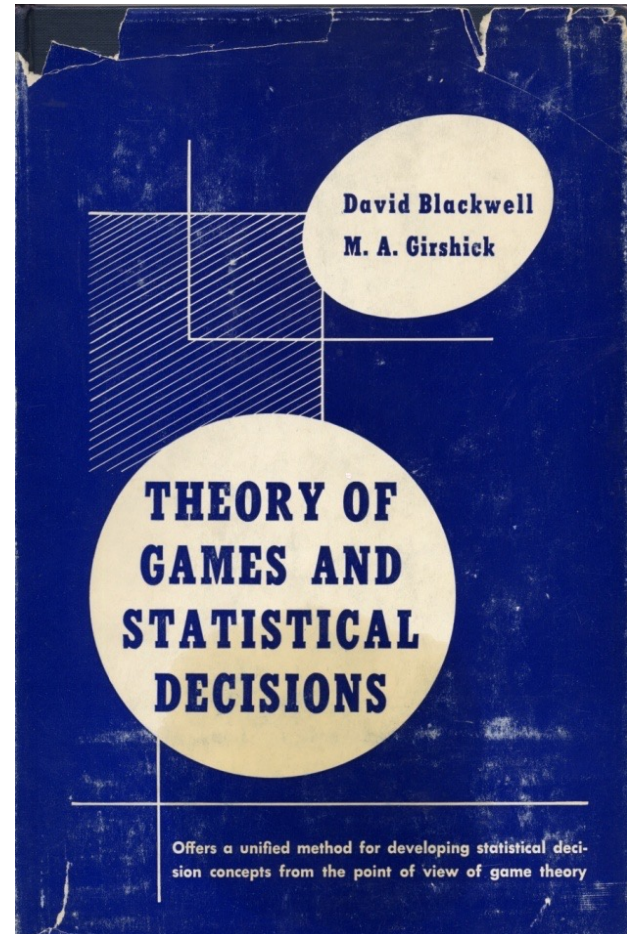
David Blackwell



Oskar Morgenstern



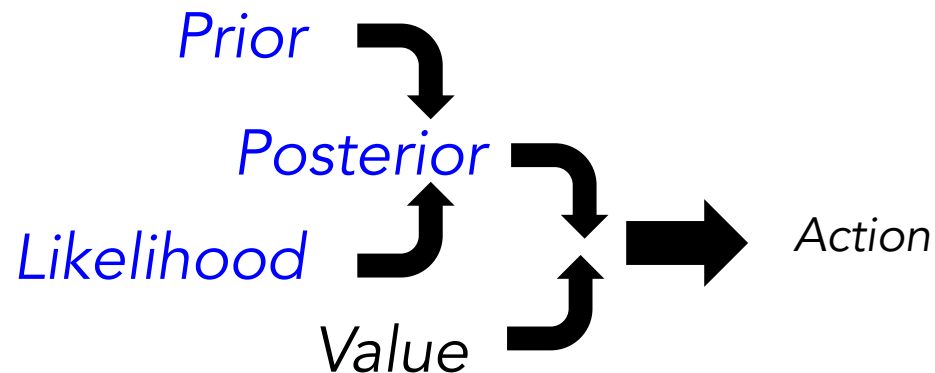
M. A. Girschick



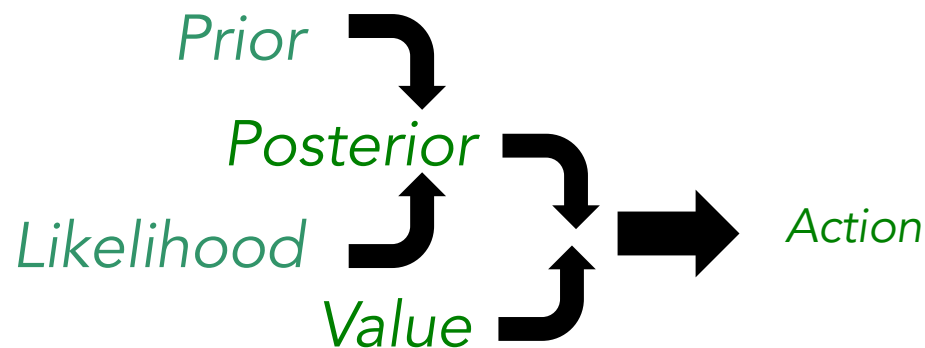
1954

Bayesian Decision Theory

Objective Information



Internal Representations

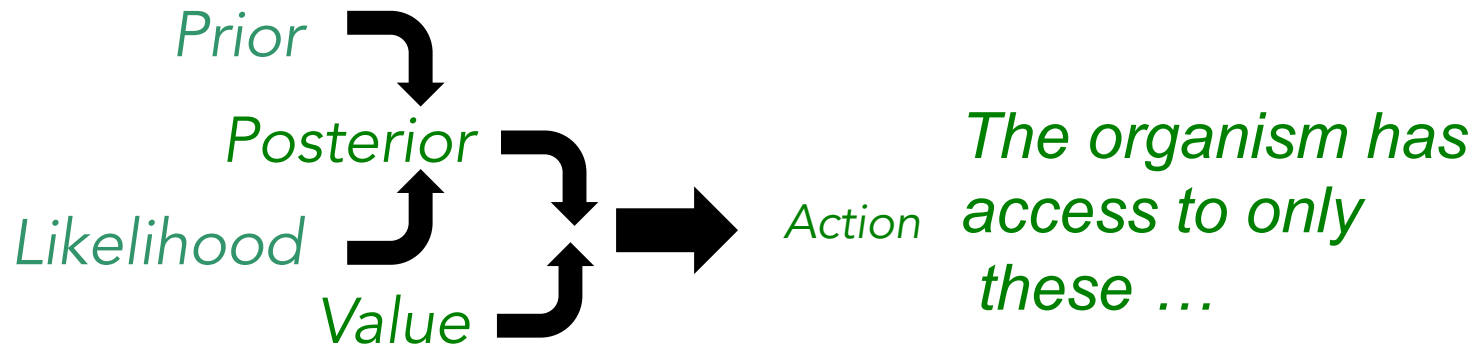


The organism has access to only these ...

Bayesian Decision Theory



Internal Representations



BDT with incorrect internal representations of probabilities, values.

The Three Elements of SDT

$$W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m\} \quad \text{possible states of the world}$$

$$A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p\} \quad \text{possible actions}$$

$$X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \quad \text{possible sensory events}$$

Bayesian Decision Theory (BDT)

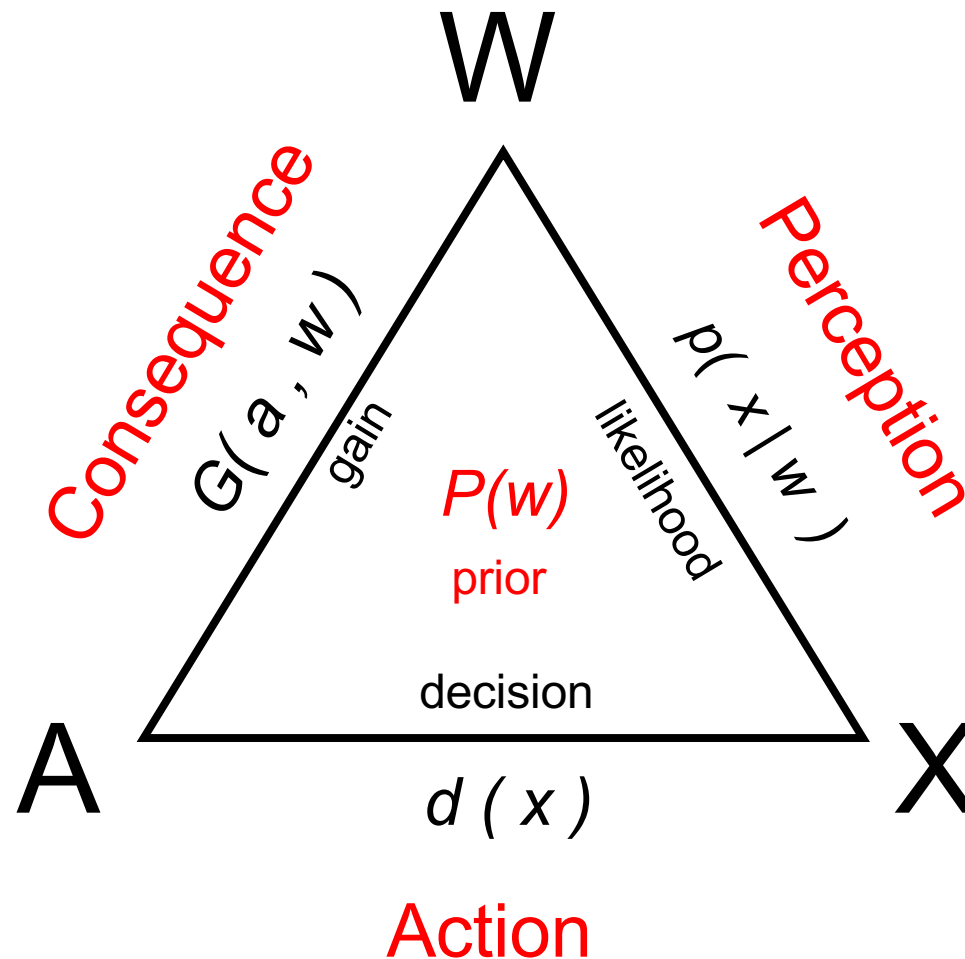


Fig. 1

Goal: select

$$d : X \rightarrow A$$

to maximize expected gain

Translated for
New Yorkers ...

Time Out New York

JANUARY 22-28, 2009 ISSUE 695
TIMEOUTNEWYORK.COM

TH Chances to earn \$15 to \$100K
D Get-rich schemes from experts

Best of Chinatown

In time for the Lunar New Year

The Killers

Brandon Flowers talks underpants

Ski for cheap

7 pages of deals around NYC

**57 ways to
score extra
cash—fast**

MAKE MONEY

Featuring
Dev Patel of

*To help you
make money....*



Bayesian Decision Theory (BDT)

Maximize expected Bayes gain

$$EBG(d) = \iint G(d(x), w) p(x | w) \pi(w) dx dw$$

by choice of a decision rule

$$d : X \rightarrow A$$

$$EBG(d) = \iint G(d(x), w) p(x | w) \pi(w) dx dw$$

Two stages: pick a random world: prior $\pi(w)$

Generate a random perception from that world:

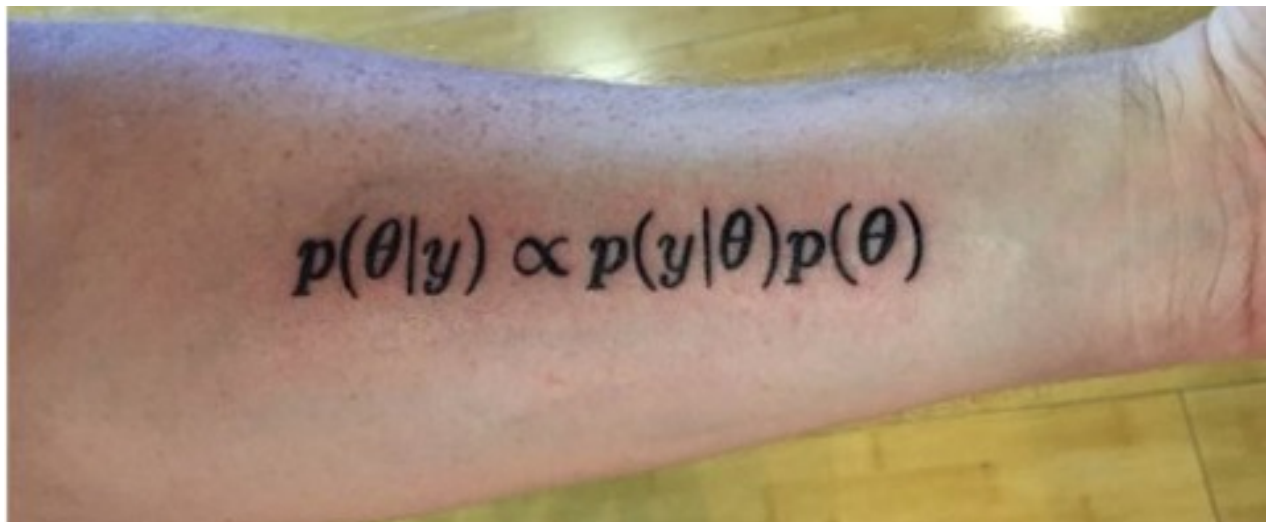
likelihood $p(x | w)$

Maximize your expected gain over both random events.

$$EBG(d) = \iint G(d(x), w) \overset{\text{likelihood prior}}{\boxed{p(x|w) \pi(w)}} dx dw$$

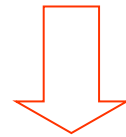
$$EBG(d) \propto \iint G(d(x), w) \underset{\text{posterior}}{\boxed{\tilde{p}(w|x)}} dx dw$$

Bayes Theorem:



BDT, Perception and Action: A Brief History

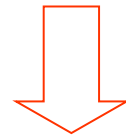
Barlow(1950)
Geisler (1989)



$$\iint G(d(x), w) p(x | w) \pi(w) dx dw$$

BDT, Perception and Action: A Brief History

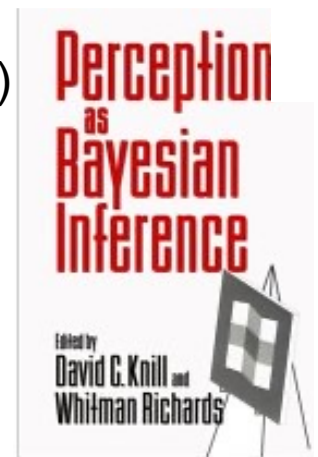
Barlow(1950)
Geisler (1989)



$$\iint G(d(x), w) p(x | w) \pi(w) dx dw$$

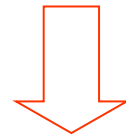


Knill & Richards (1996)
Yuille & Bulthoff
Tanenbaum & Griffiths
Many more



BDT, Perception and Action: A Brief History

Barlow(1950)
Geisler (1989)



$$\iint G(d(x), w) p(x|w) \pi(w) dx dw$$



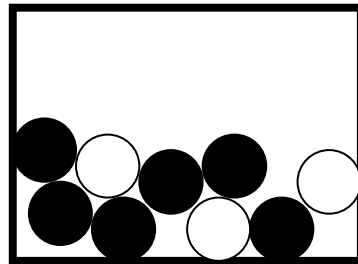
*The gain function is
the problem posed by
the world to the
organism*

Knill & Richards (1996)
Yuille & Bulthoff
Tanenbaum & Griffiths
Many more

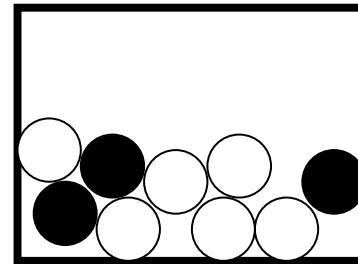


Are you
Bayesian?

'Black Urn'



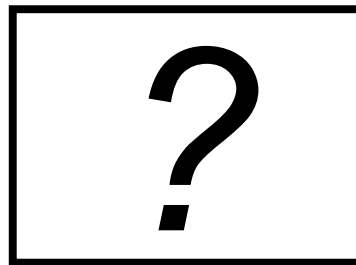
'White Urn'



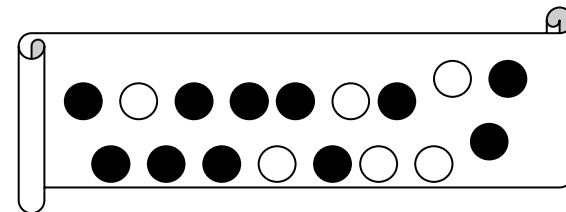
?

?

?

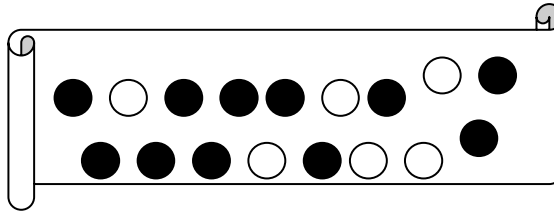


'Unknown Urn'



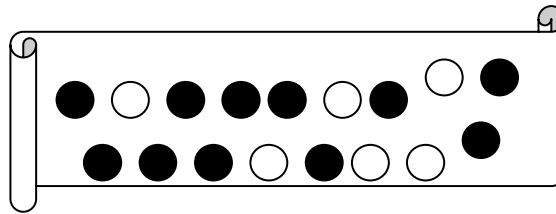
Sample

Ward Edwards



*What is the probability that the unknown urn
Is the 'black' urn?*

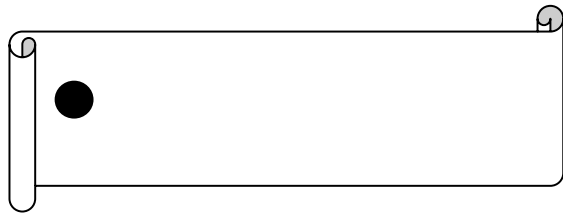
Please write down your estimate.



How can we estimate this probability using Bayesian methods?

Suppose we draw one black ball (b)

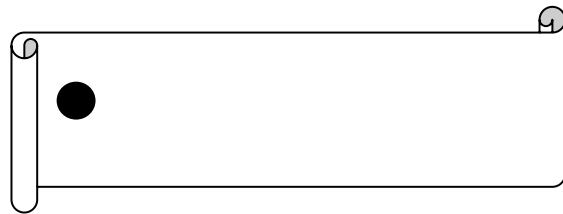
What is the probability now that the urn is the black one $P[B|b]$?



$$P[B|b] = \frac{P[b|B]P[B]}{P[b]}$$

Suppose we draw one black ball (b)

What is the probability now that the urn is the black one $P[B|b]$?



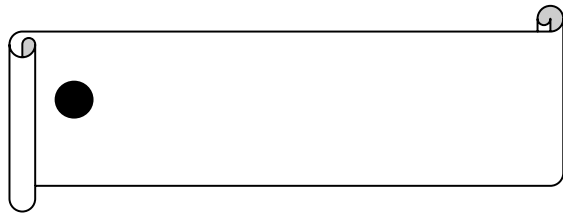
likelihood

$$P[B|b] = \frac{P[b|B]P[B]}{P[b]}$$

posterior $\nearrow$ $\nwarrow$ *prior* $\nwarrow$?

Suppose we draw one black ball (b)

What is the probability now that the urn is the black one $P[B|b]$?

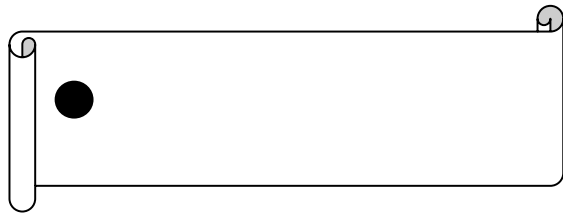


$$P[B|b] = \frac{P[b|B]P[B]}{P[b]}$$

$$P[W|b] = \frac{P[b|W]P[W]}{P[b]}$$

Suppose we draw one black ball (b)

What is the probability now that the urn is the black one $P[B|b]$?



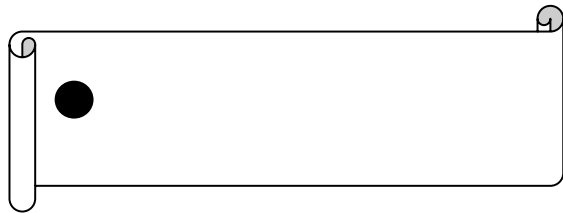
$$\text{posterior odds} \longrightarrow \frac{P[B|b]}{P[W|b]} = \frac{P[b|B]}{P[b|W]} \frac{P[B]}{P[W]}$$

↑
likelihood ratio

← *prior odds*

Suppose we draw one black ball (b)

What is the probability now that the urn is the black one $P[B|b]$?

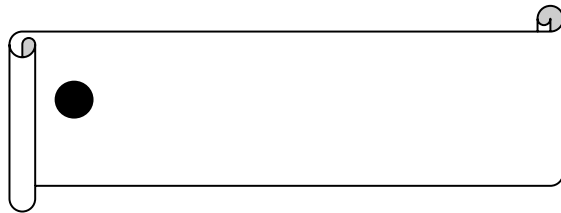


$$\frac{P[B|b]}{P[W|b]} = \frac{P[b|B] P[B]}{P[b|W] P[W]}$$

$$\frac{P[B|b]}{P[W|b]} = \frac{2/3}{1/3} \frac{1/2}{1/2} = 2$$

Suppose we draw one black ball (b)

What is the probability now that the urn is the black one $P[B|b]$?



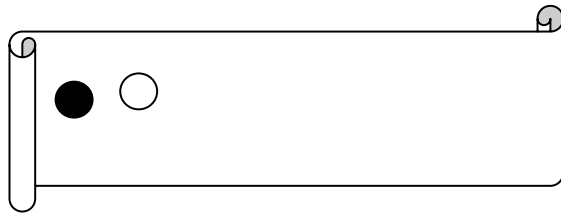
log likelihood ratio

log posterior odds $\longrightarrow \log \frac{P[B|b]}{P[W|b]} = \log \frac{P[b|B]}{P[b|W]} + \log \frac{P[B]}{P[W]}$ $\longleftarrow$ *log prior odds*

$$\log \frac{P[B|b]}{P[W|b]} = 1 + 0$$

Next we draw a white ball (w)

*What is the probability **now** that the urn is the black one $P[B|bw]$?*



log prior after b

$$\log \frac{P[B|bw]}{P[W|bw]} = \log \frac{P[w|B]}{P[w|W]} + \log \frac{P[B|b]}{P[W|b]}$$

$$\log \frac{P[B|bw]}{P[W|bw]} = -1 + 1 = 0$$

Log Odds

$$\log_2 \frac{P[B | d_1 \cdots d_n]}{P[W | d_1 \cdots d_n]} = \sum_{i=1}^n \log_2 \frac{P[d_i | B]}{P[d_i | W]} + \log_2 \frac{P[B]}{P[W]}$$

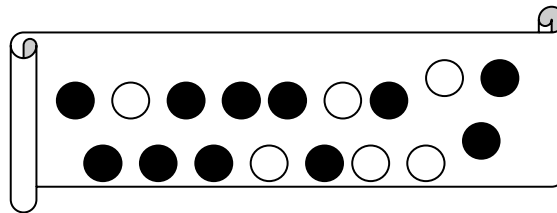
$d_i = b, w$

<i>log posterior odds</i>	<i>log likelihood ratio(s)</i>	<i>log prior odds</i>
	+1 <i>black</i>	0
	-1 <i>white</i>	

Log Odds

$$\log_2 \frac{P[B | d_1 \cdots d_n]}{P[W | d_1 \cdots d_n]} = \sum_{i=1}^n \log_2 \frac{P[d_i | B]}{P[d_i | W]} + \log_2 \frac{P[B]}{P[W]}$$

$d_i = b, w$



Sample

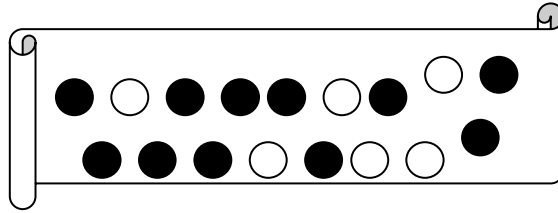
$$32:1 \Rightarrow \frac{32}{33}$$

6 white
11 black
5 difference

*Probability that
The urn is the
black urn*

Only the difference matters

Log Odds



Sample

$$+5 \Rightarrow 32:1 \Rightarrow \frac{32}{33}$$

*Probability that
The urn is the
black urn*

Only the difference matters

Is that your intuition?

<u><i>B</i></u>	<u><i>W</i></u>
5	0
11	6
95	90

Are you Bayesian?



Probably not.

People tend to pick odds closer to 1:1 than the correct odds. This error is an example of human tendency to distort probability.

Conservatism [Ward Edwards]

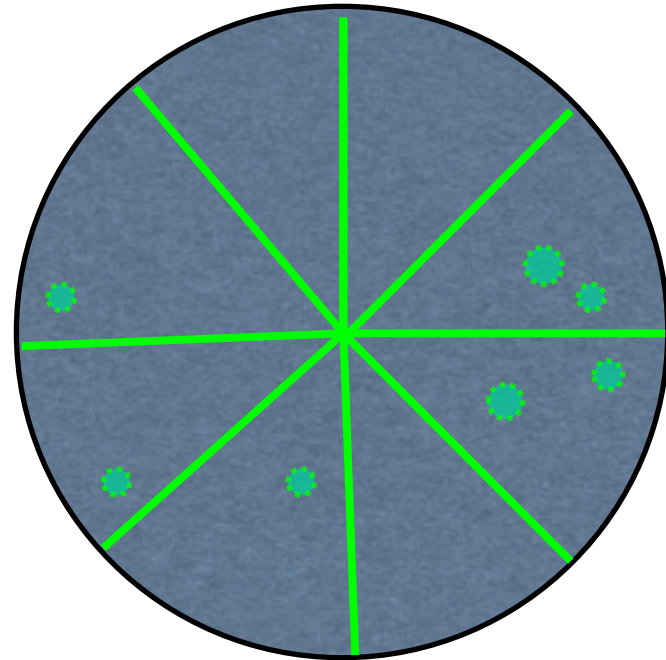
BDT in Action:

Signal Detection Theory

Origin of SDT: WW2 radar operator

- Are the blobs enemy aircraft? Or just noise (e.g. clouds)?
- Decision has consequences:
 - If you miss an aircraft, people might get killed
 - If you mistake “noise” for an aircraft, fuel, time & resources are wasted

Radar screen



$$W = \{S, \bar{S}\}$$

World States

$$A = \{Y, N\}$$

Actions

$$X = (-\infty, \infty)$$

Stimulus Intensity

Decision outcomes

SIGNAL: are the blobs real enemy aircraft?

*DECISION:
should you alert
the air force?*

	S	$\bar{S}$
Y	Hit	False alarm
N	Miss	Correct reject

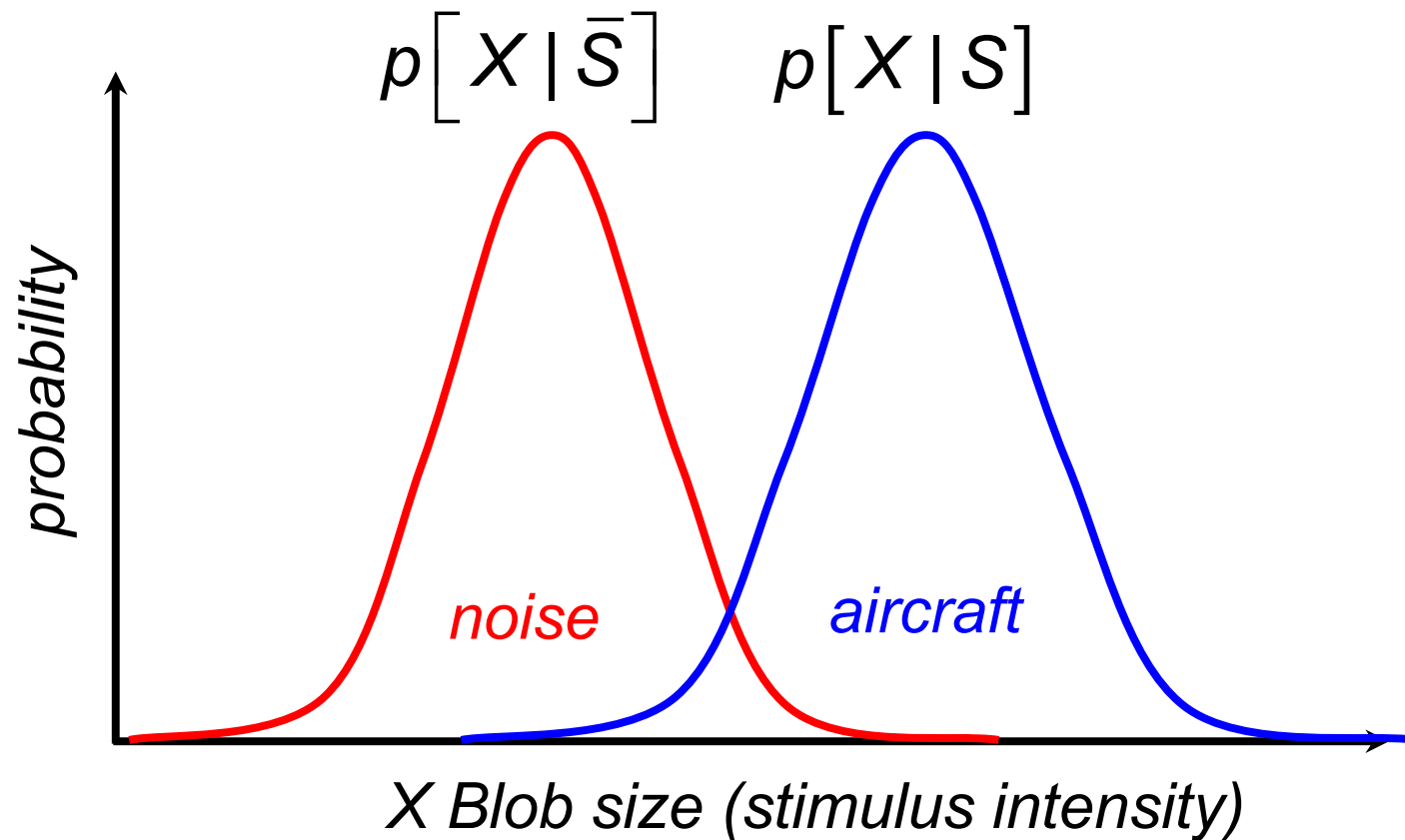
$$W = \{S, \bar{S}\}$$

$$A = \{Y, N\} \quad p[X|S], p[X|\bar{S}] \quad \textit{likelihood}$$

$$X = (-\infty, \infty)$$

	S	$\bar{S}$	
Y	V_{YS}	$-V_{Y\bar{S}}$	$\textit{gain}$
N	$-V_{NS}$	$V_{N\bar{S}}$	

Likelihood Functions



Computing Expected Bayes Gain

$$EBG(Y | X) = V_{YS}p[X | S]\pi(S) - V_{Y\bar{S}}p[X | \bar{S}]\pi(\bar{S})$$

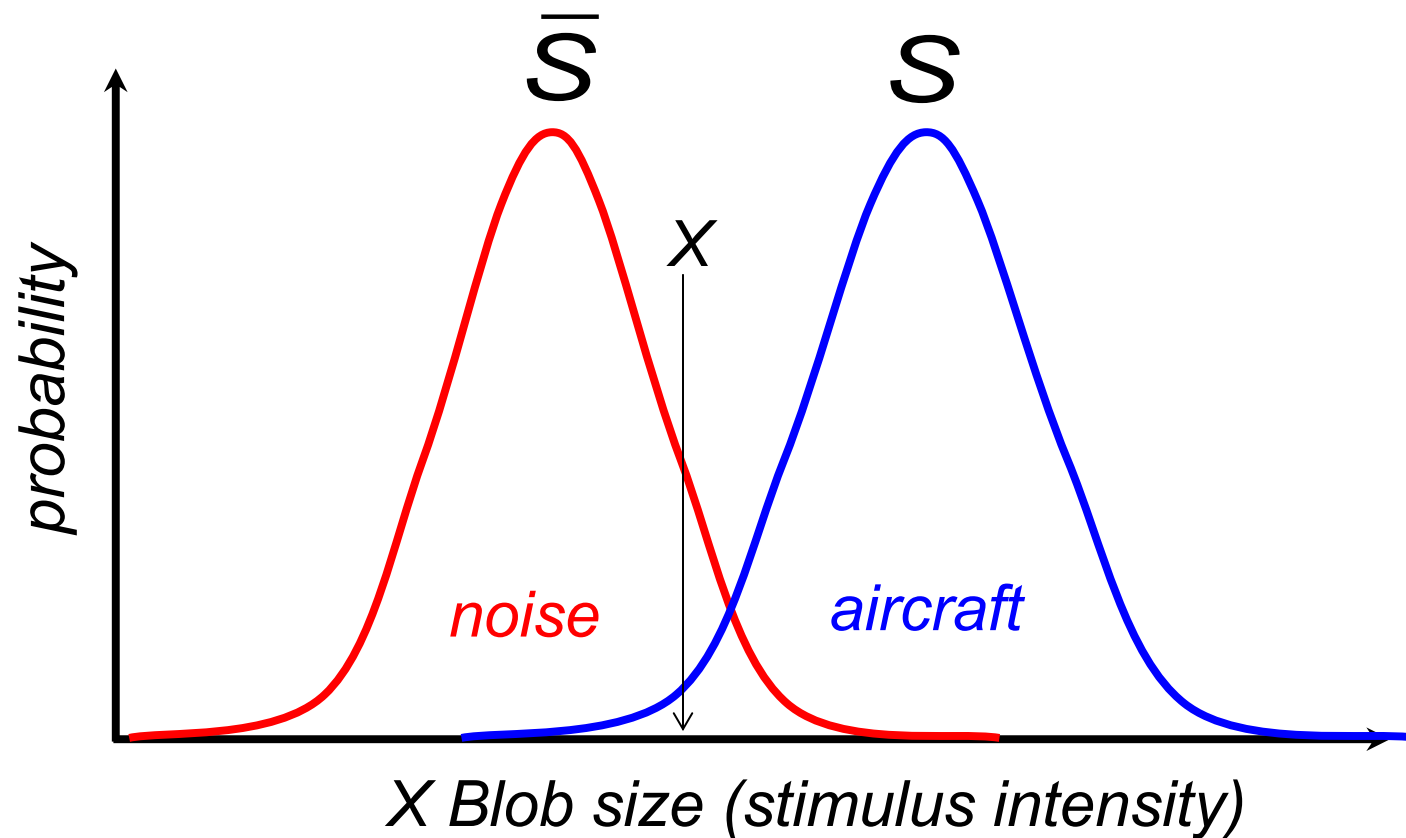
$$EBG(N | X) = -V_{NS}p[X | S]\pi(S) + V_{N\bar{S}}p[X | \bar{S}]\pi(\bar{S})$$

$$RULE: \text{ "Say } Y \text{ " } \Leftrightarrow EBG(Y | X) > EBG(N | X)$$

$$\frac{p[X | S]}{p[X | \bar{S}]} > \frac{V_{Y\bar{S}} + V_{N\bar{S}}}{V_{YS} + V_{NS}} \times \frac{\pi(\bar{S})}{\pi(S)}$$

likelihood ratio

$$\frac{p[X | \bar{S}]}{p[X | S]} > \frac{V_{Y\bar{S}} + V_{N\bar{S}}}{V_{YS} + V_{NS}} \times \frac{\pi(\bar{S})}{\pi(S)} \quad \textit{criterion}$$



How should we set criterion?

$$Y \Leftrightarrow \frac{\overset{\text{likelihood ratio}}{p[X|S]}}{\underset{\text{prior odds}}{p[X|\bar{S}]}} > \frac{\pi(\bar{S})}{\pi(S)} \left[\frac{V_{YS} + V_{NS}}{V_{Y\bar{S}} + V_{N\bar{S}}} \right]$$

posterior odds

Bayes Theorem

$$Y \Leftrightarrow \frac{p[S|X]}{p[\bar{S}|X]} > \frac{V_{YS} + V_{NS}}{V_{Y\bar{S}} + V_{N\bar{S}}}$$

Given the stimulus X are the posterior odds large enough to motivate a Yes response?

How should we set criterion?

$$Y \Leftrightarrow \log \frac{p[X|S]}{p[X|\bar{S}]} > \log \frac{\pi(\bar{S})}{\pi(S)} + \log \left[\frac{V_{YS} + V_{NS}}{V_{Y\bar{S}} + V_{N\bar{S}}} \right]$$

$$Y \Leftrightarrow \log \frac{p[X|S]}{p[X|\bar{S}]} > \log \beta$$

log likelihood ratio

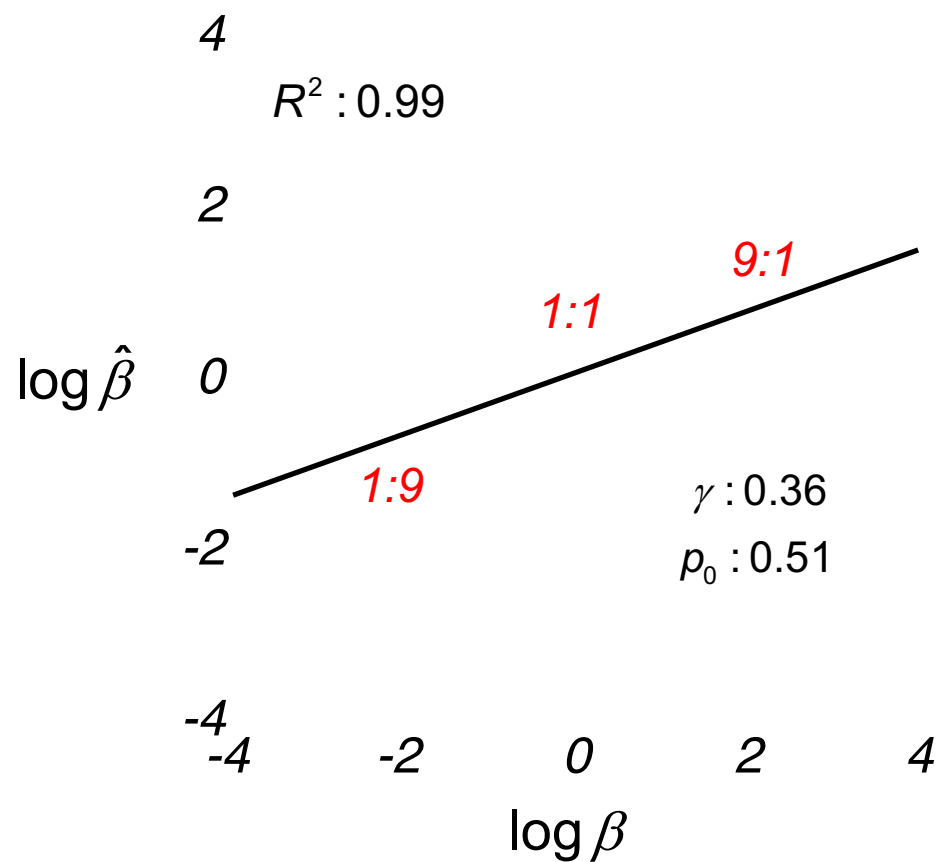
Compare the LLR to a criterion, $\log \beta$

This is equivalent to $X > c$ for the right choice of c .

How well do people do?

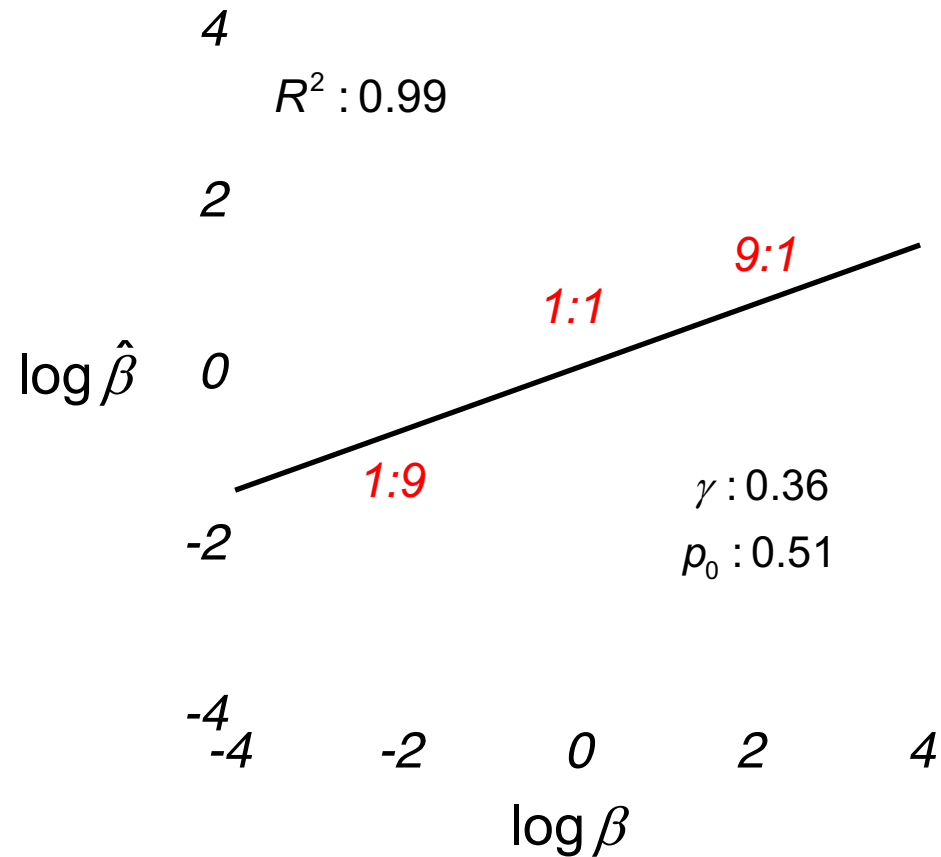
*We can estimate log beta [optimal]
and compare it to the log beta
people choose.*

Vary prior odds
Estimate criterion β



Tanner, Swets, & Green (1956)

Conservatism



Tanner, Swets, & Green (1956)

Themes

Managing **uncertainty** to maximize **gain** is the central task of a biological organism.



The use of explicit **cost and rewards** allow us to probe a much wider range of behavior than previously explored (Trommershäuser et al, 2003, 2008)

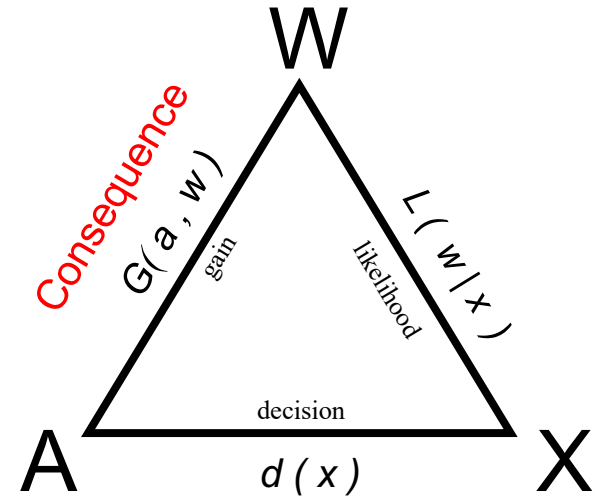
We can **test** SDT/BDT as a framework for modeling perception and action (Maloney & Mamassian, 2009)

Aside

The gain function is the organism's link to the environment.

It represents a problem, posed by the environment, a problem that can rapidly change.

Only the luckiest organism can choose its gain function.



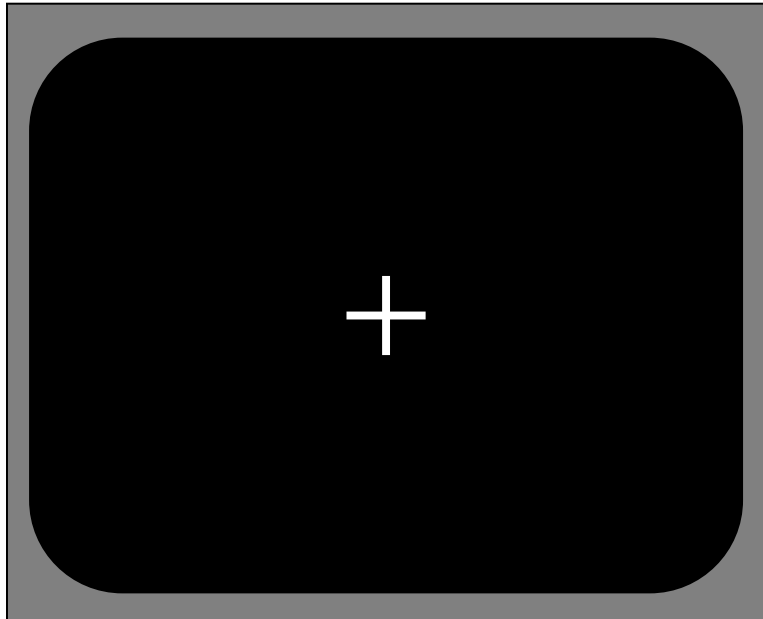
*Planning Actions
Maximizing
Expected Gain*

One example

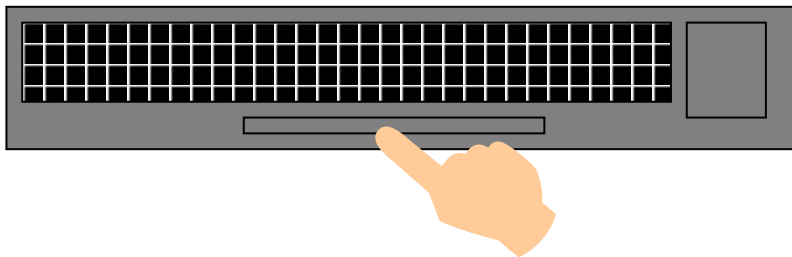




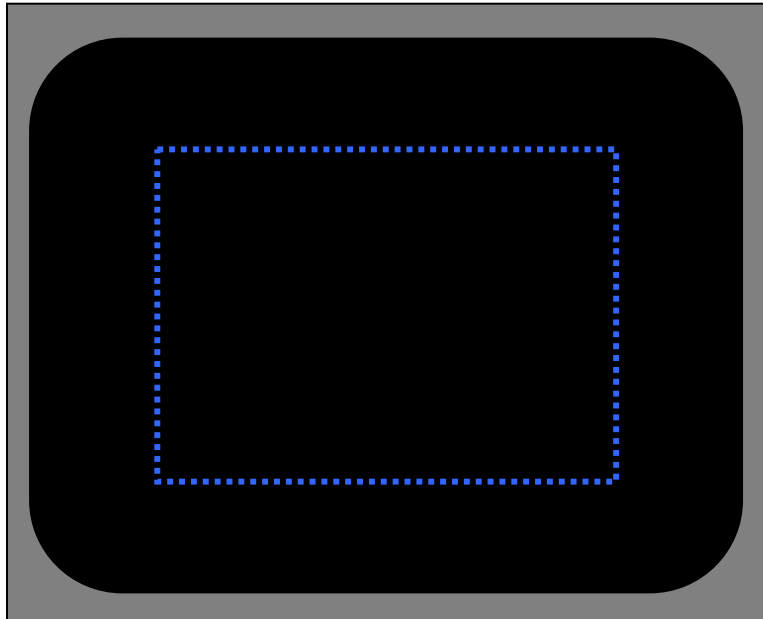
Experimental Task



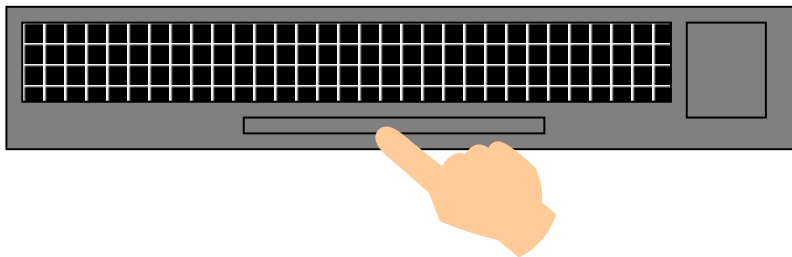
Start of trial:
display of fixation
cross (1.5 s)



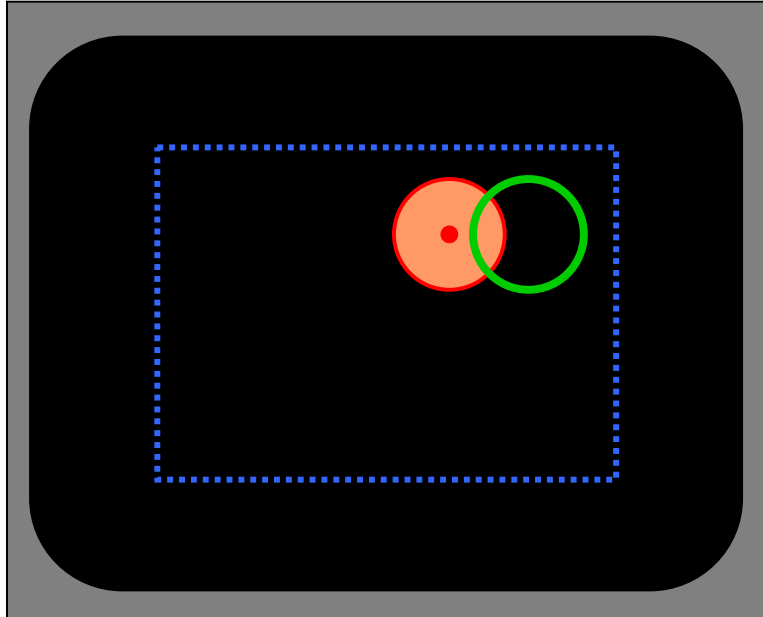
Experimental Task



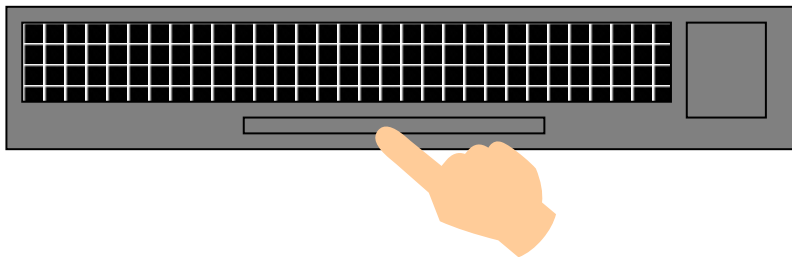
Display of response area,
500 ms before
target onset
(114.2 mm x 80.6 mm)



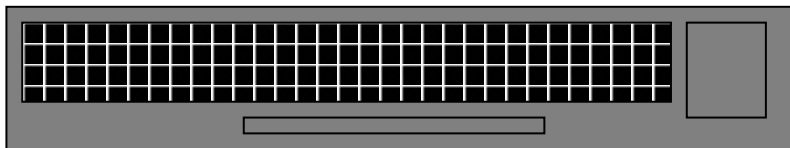
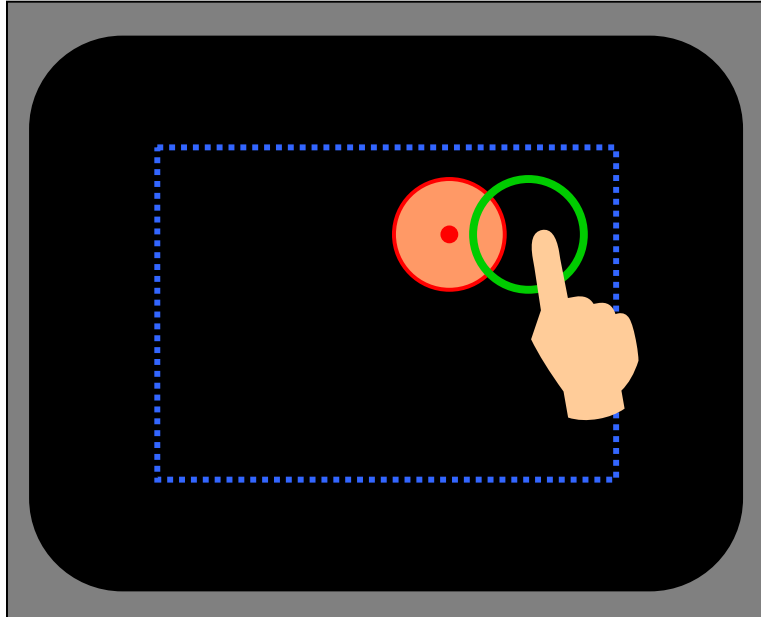
Experimental Task



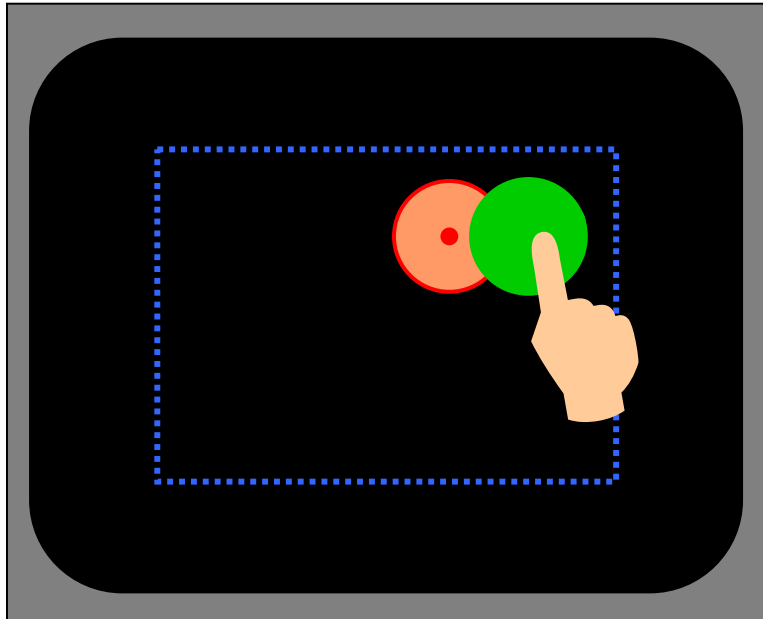
Target display (700 ms)



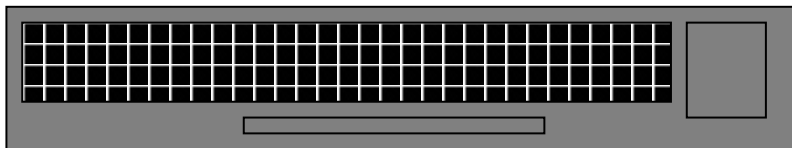
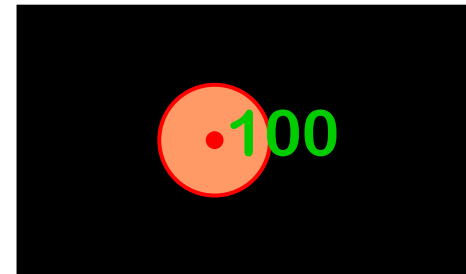
Experimental Task



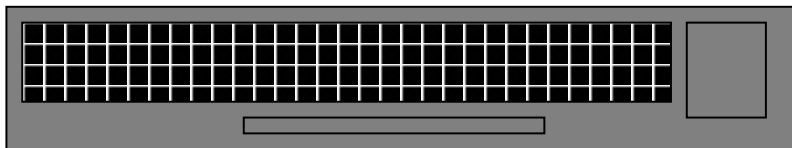
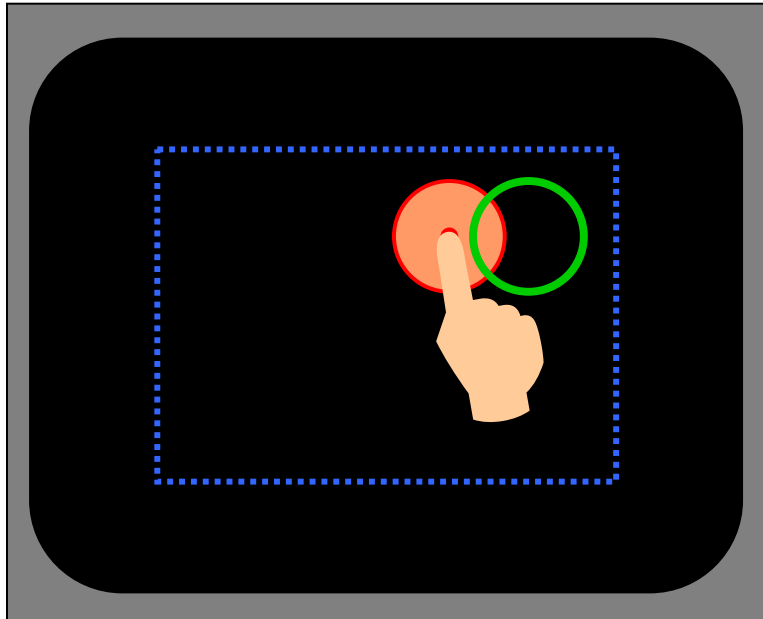
Experimental Task



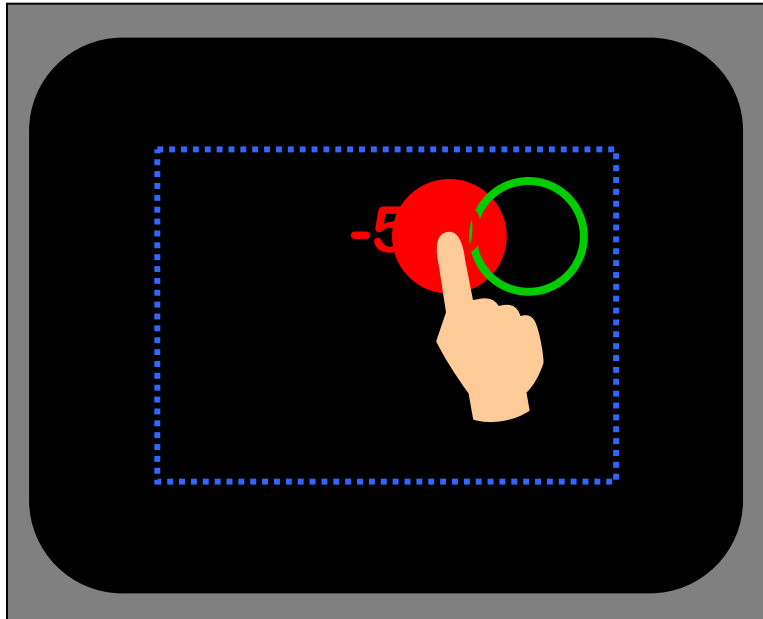
The green target is hit:
+100 points



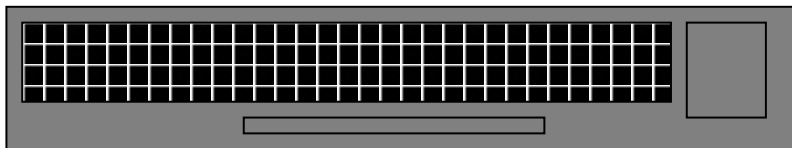
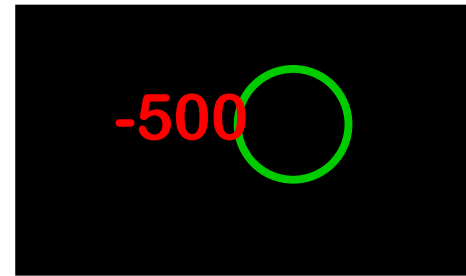
Experimental Task



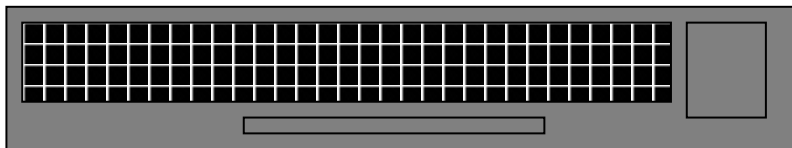
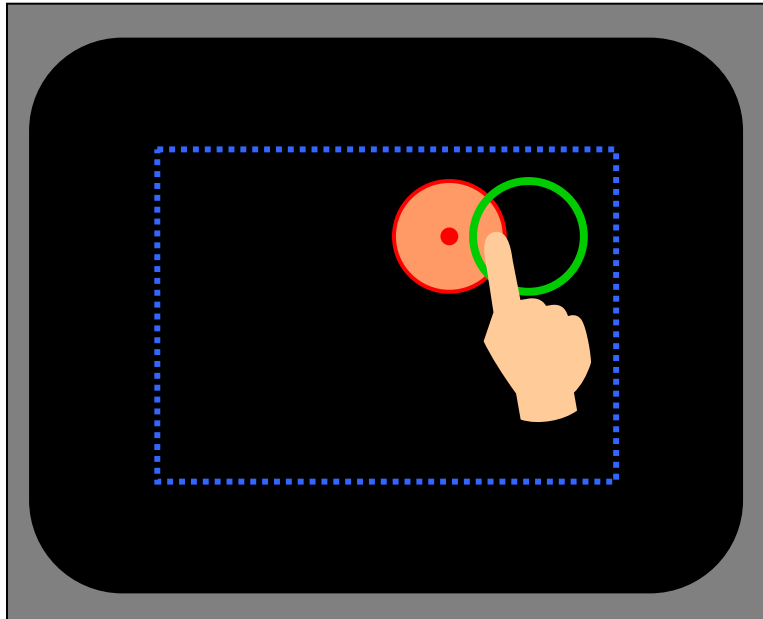
Experimental Task



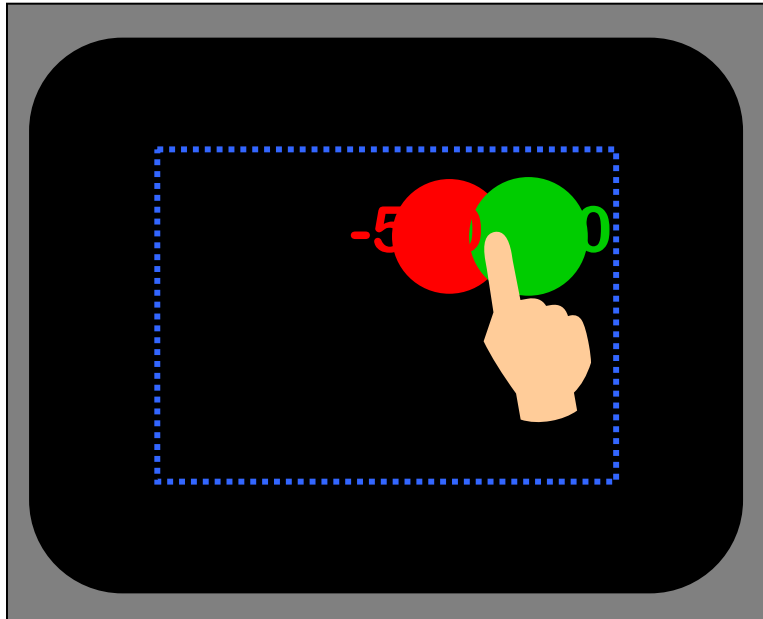
The red target is hit:
-500 points



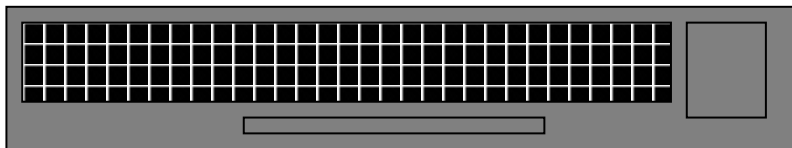
Experimental Task



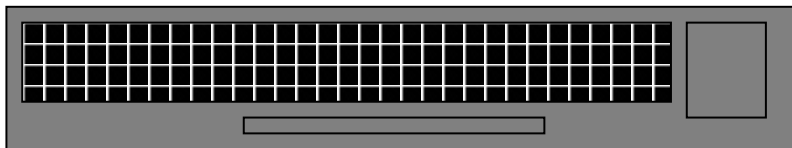
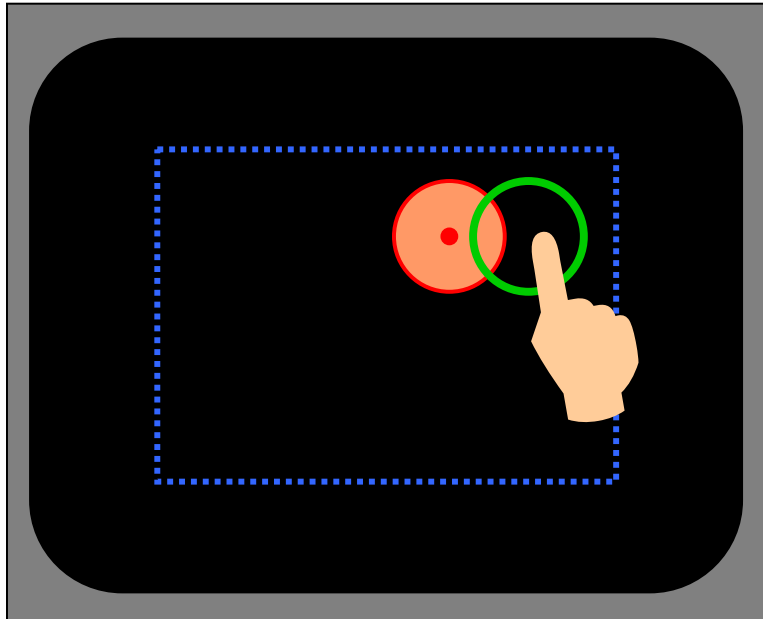
Experimental Task



Scores add if both
targets are hit:



Experimental Task

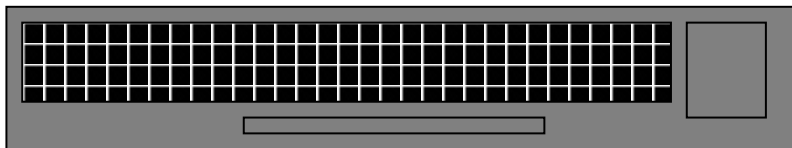


Experimental Task

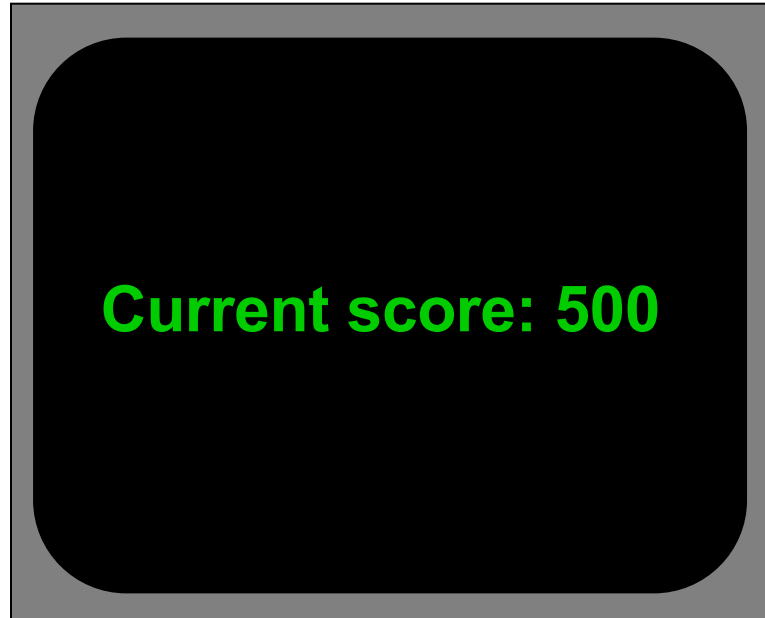


The screen is hit
later than 700 ms
after target display:
-700 points.

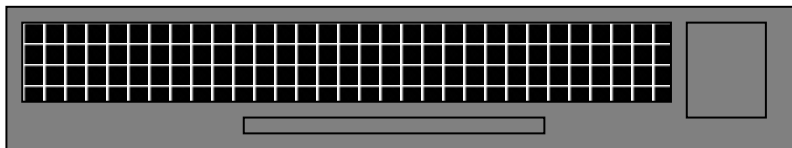
If you are on time but
Miss the targets, 0.



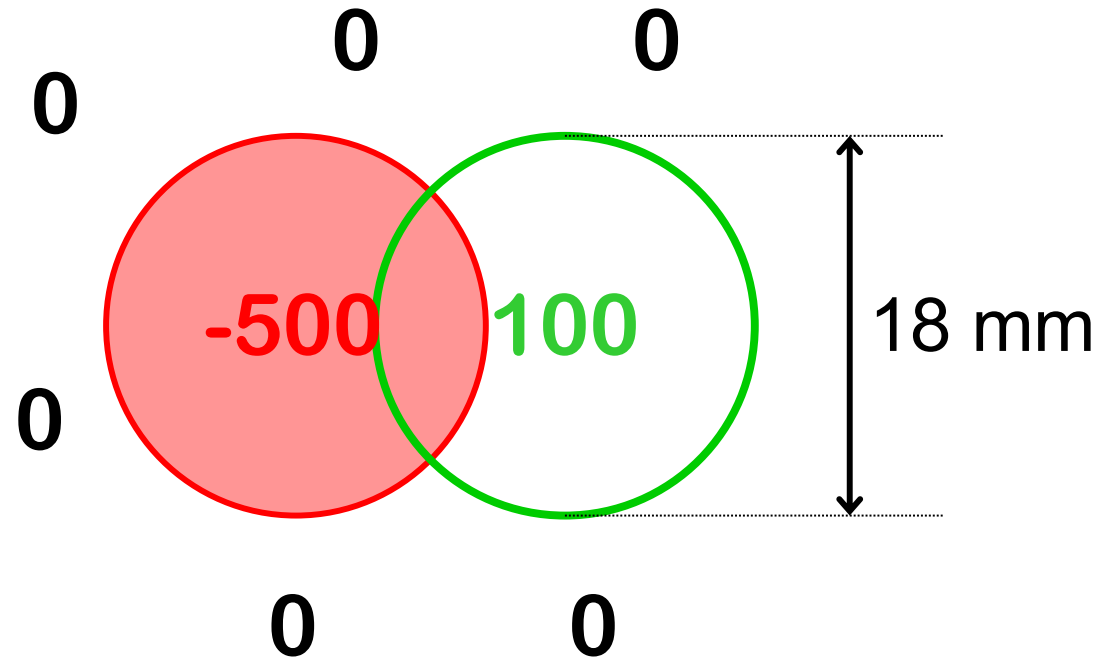
Experimental Task



End of trial

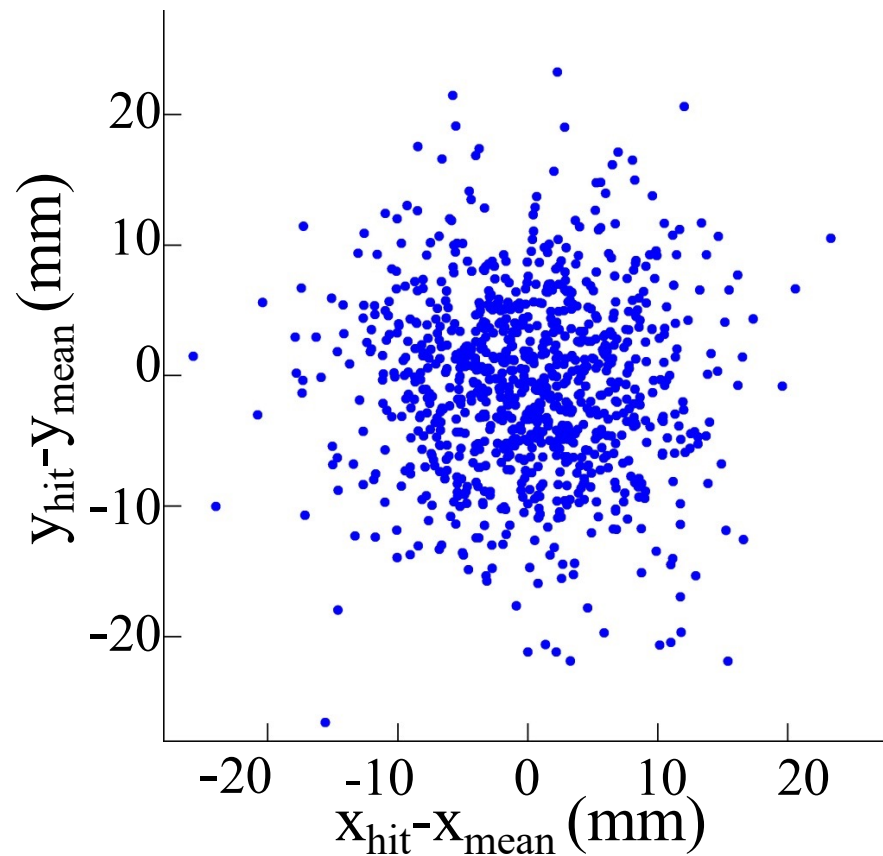


Choice among Movement Strategies



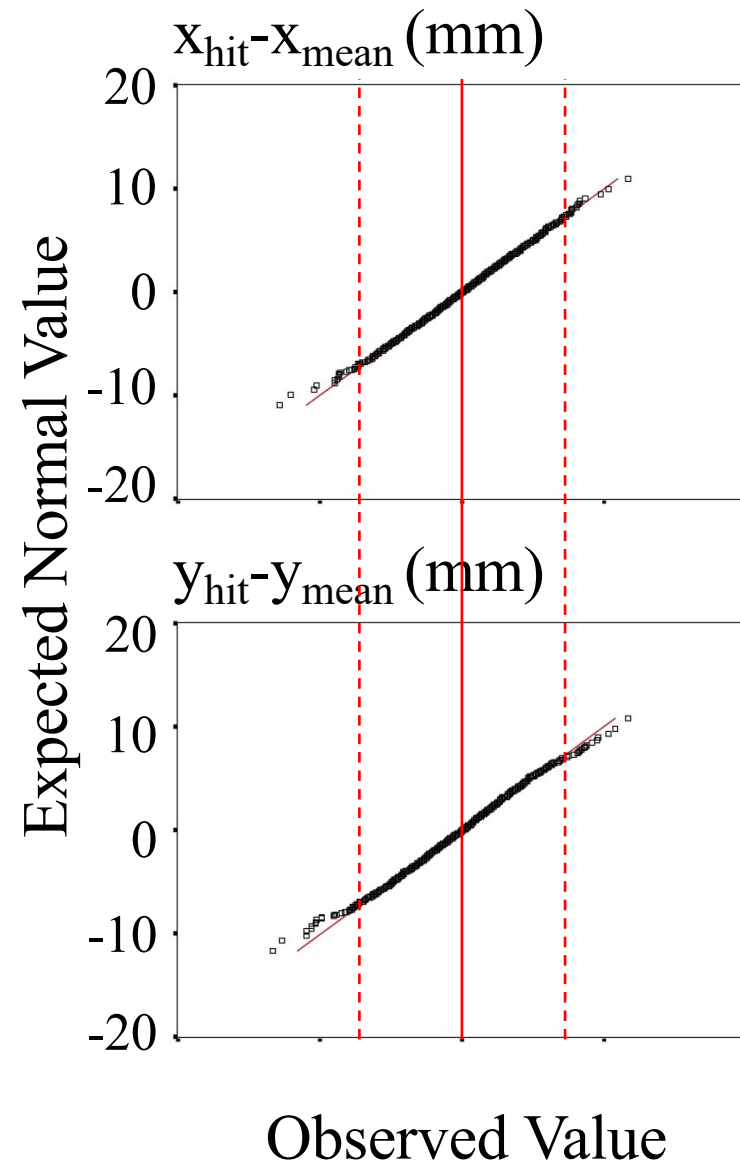
What should Paulina do?

Distribution of movement end points

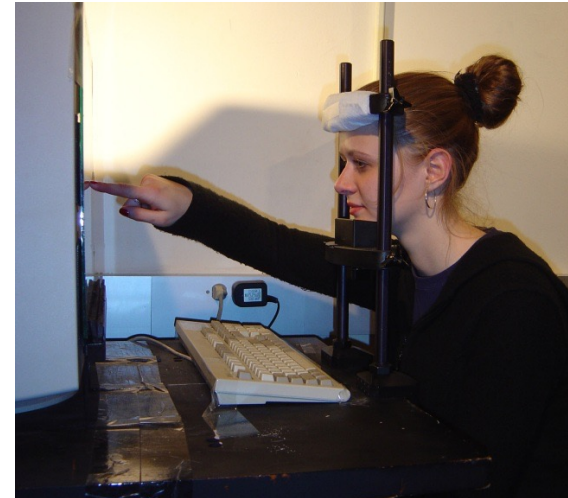
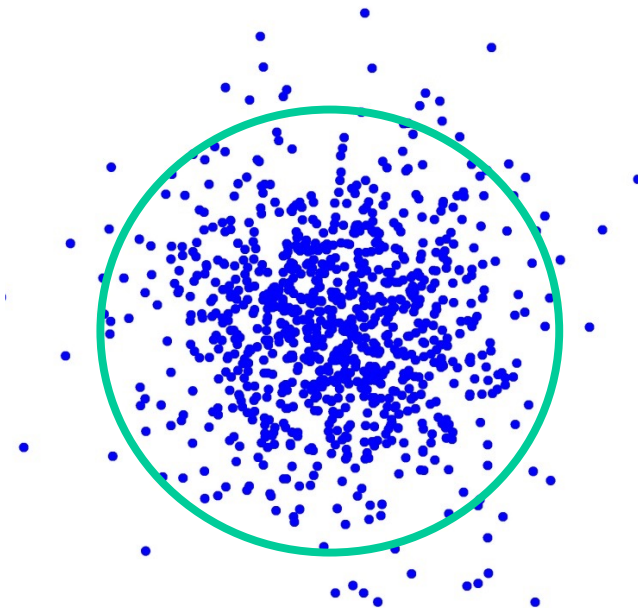


Subject S4, $\sigma = 3.62$ mm,
72x15 = 1080 end points

Q-Q Plot



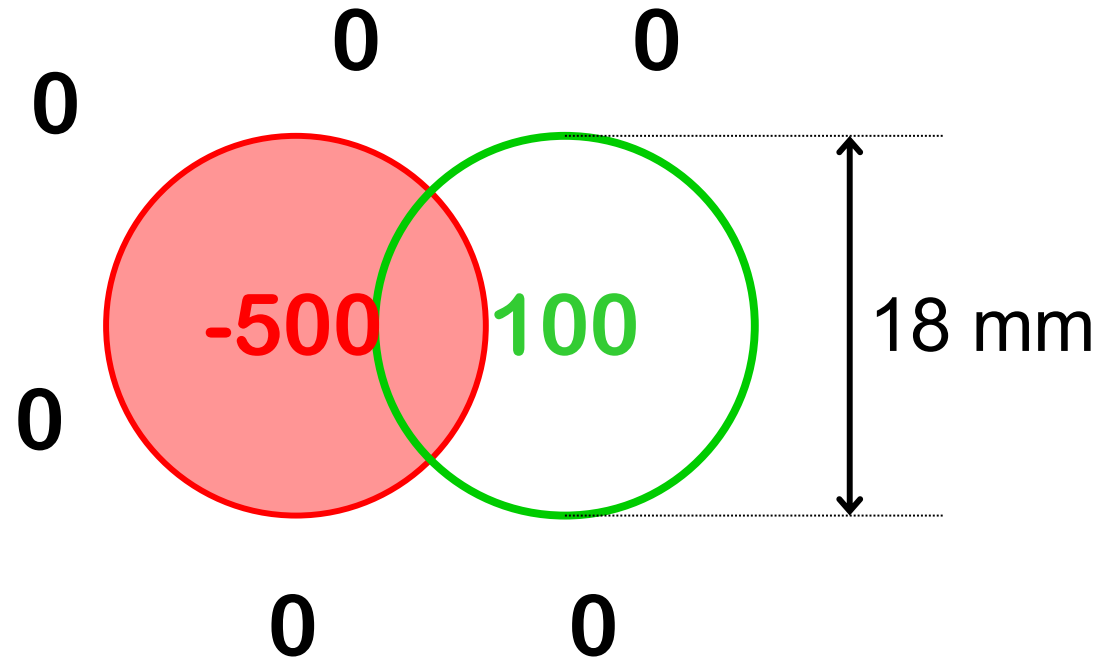
If there were no red penalty circle



Aim for center
Select perceptual-motor strategies that
minimize variance

Harris & Wolpert (1998)

Choice among Movement Strategies

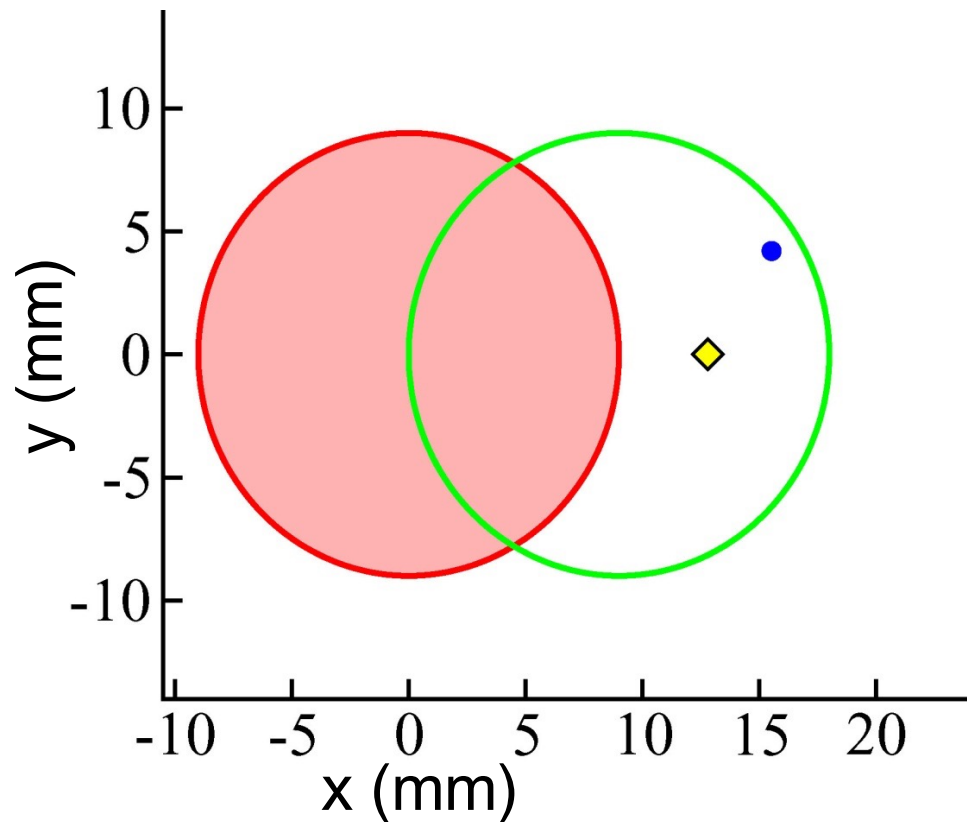


What should Paulina do?

Thought Experiment

● : -500

○ : 100 points (2.5 ¢)



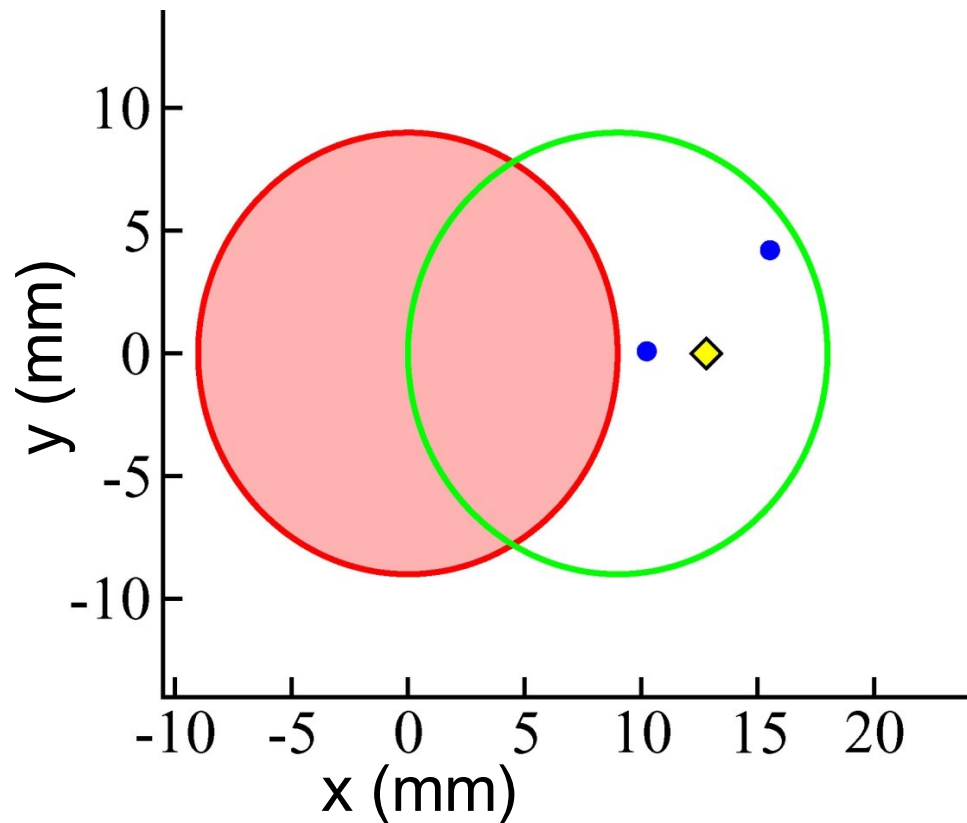
100 points

$\sigma = 4.83 \text{ mm}$

Thought Experiment

● : -500

○ : 100 points (2.5 ¢)



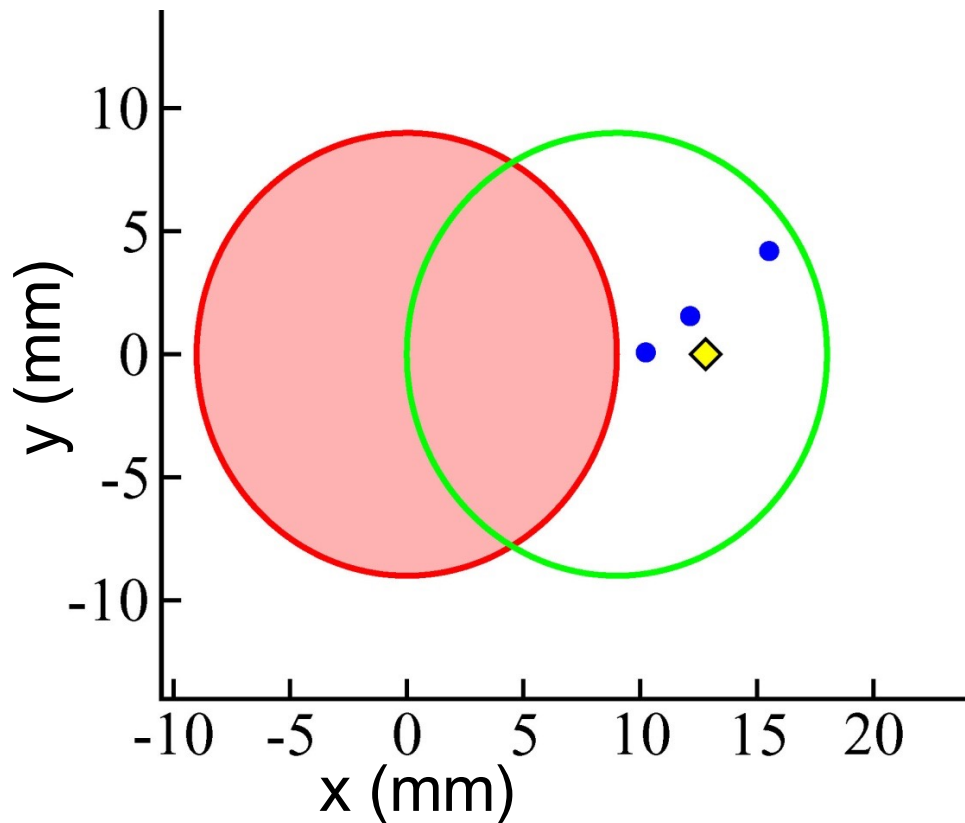
100 points
100 points
200 points

$\sigma = 4.83 \text{ mm}$

Thought Experiment

● : -500

○ : 100 points (2.5 ¢)



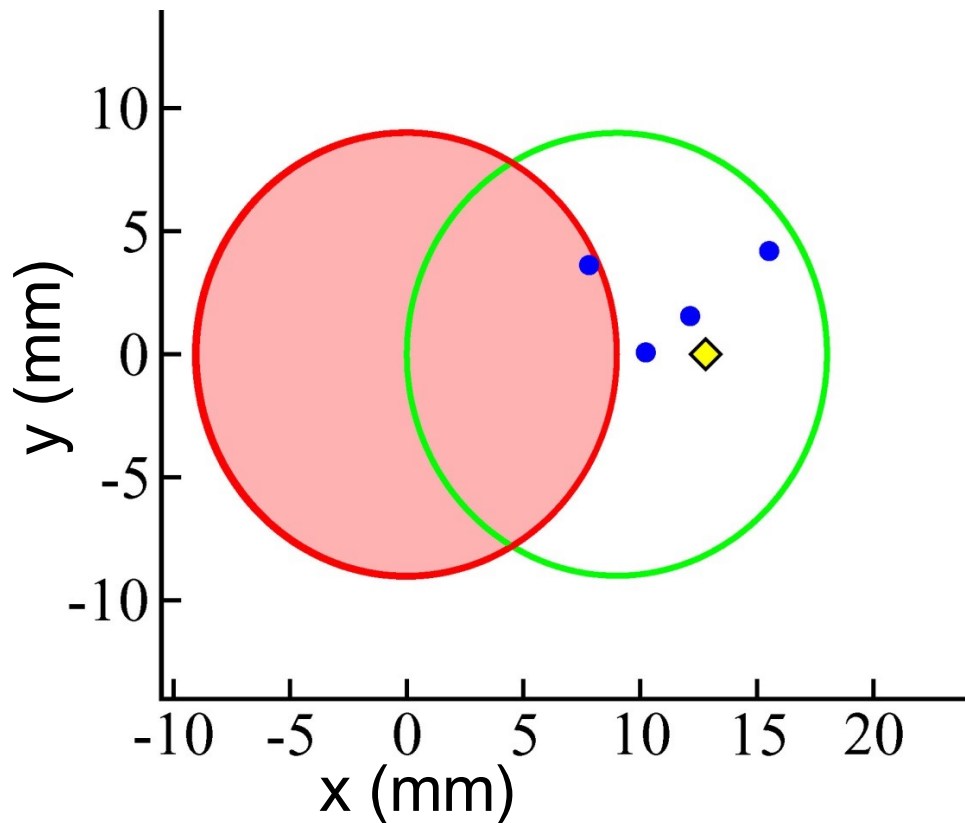
100 points
100 points
100 points
300 points

$\sigma = 4.83 \text{ mm}$

Thought Experiment

● : -500

○ : 100 points (2.5 ¢)



100 points
100 points
100 points
-400 points

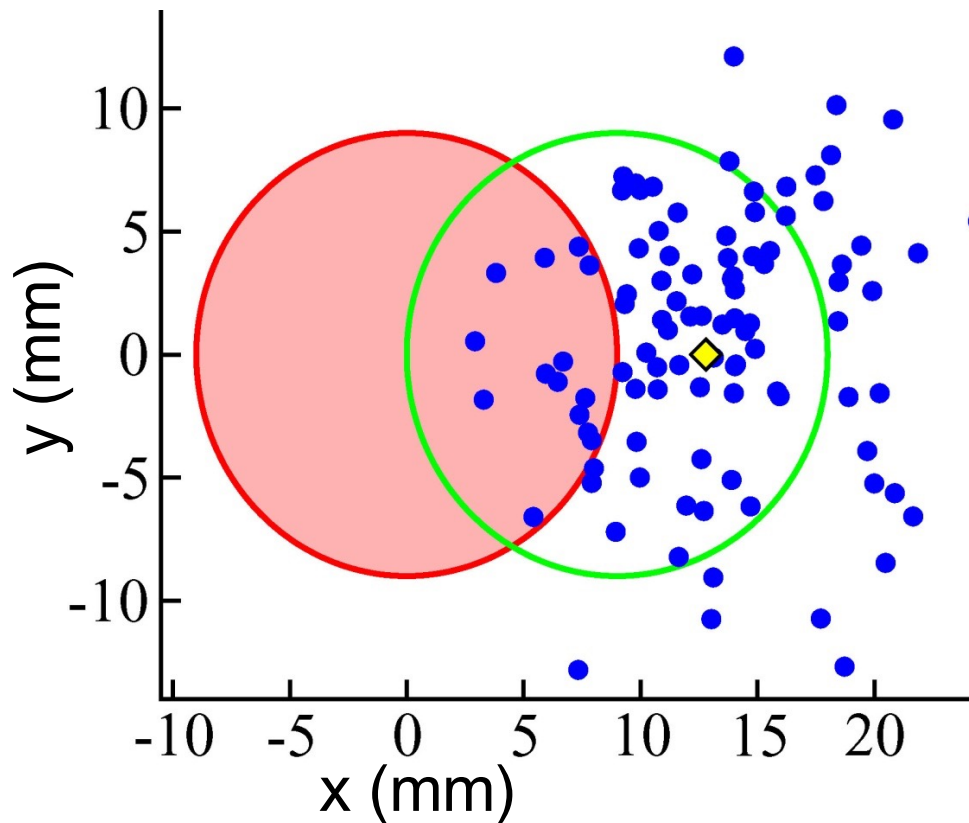
-100 points

$\sigma = 4.83 \text{ mm}$

Thought Experiment

● : -500

○ : 100 points (2.5 ¢)



100 points
100 points
100 points
-400 points
⋮

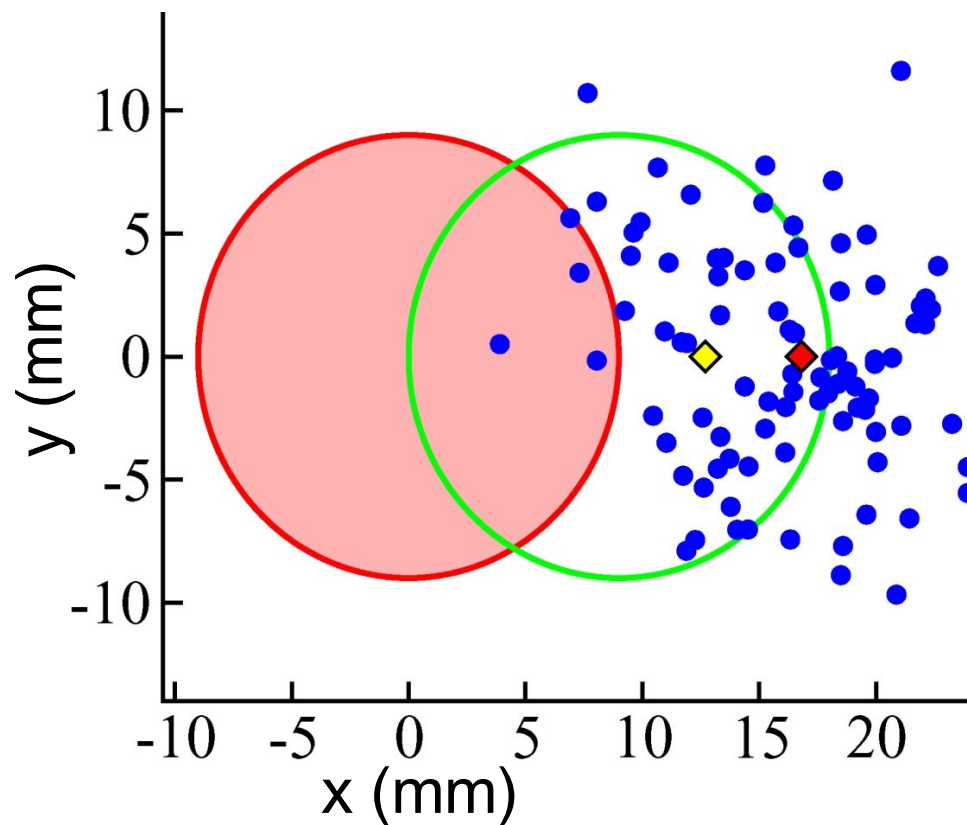
-0.3 pts. per trial

$\sigma = 4.83 \text{ mm}$

Thought Experiment

● : -500

○ : 100 points (2.5 ¢)



- 0.3 pts. per trial

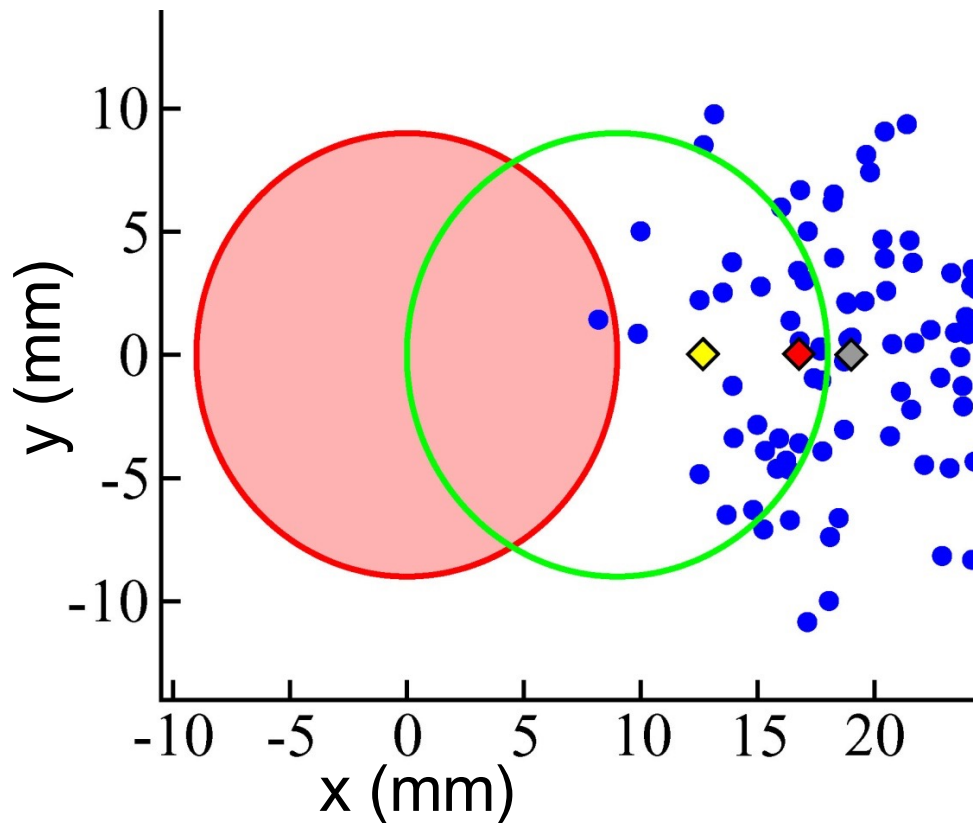
30.7 pts. per trial

$\sigma = 4.83 \text{ mm}$

Thought Experiment

● : -500

○ : 100 points (2.5 ¢)



- 0.3 pts. per trial

30.7 pts. per trial

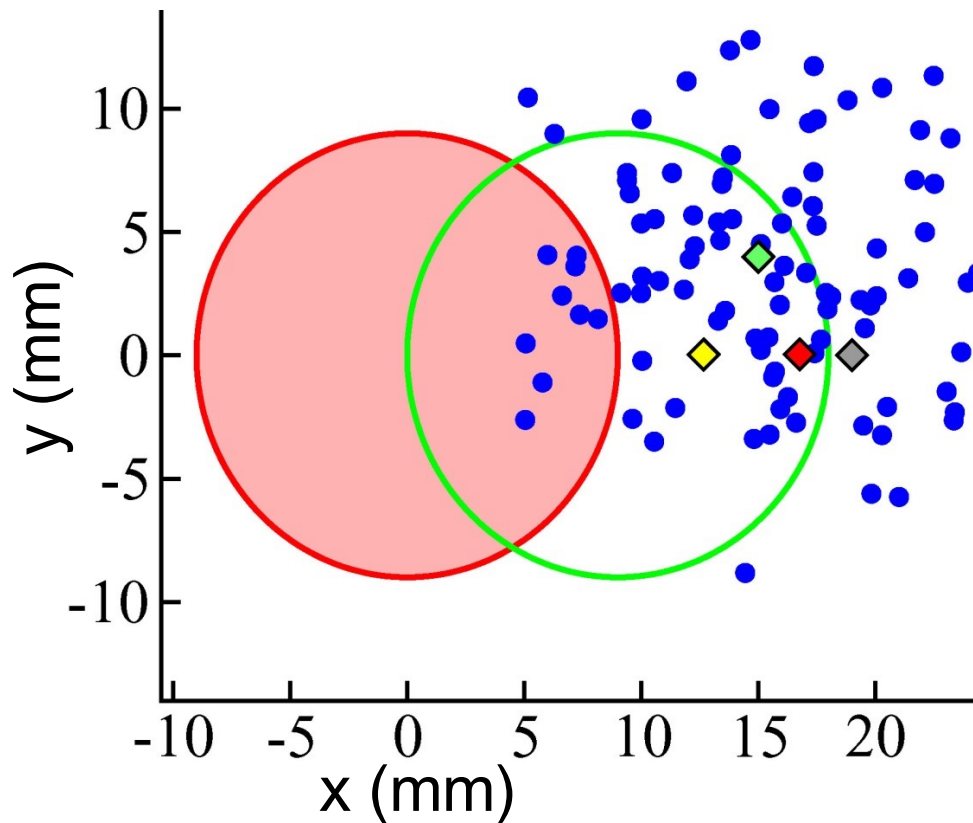
25.5 pts. per trial

$\sigma = 4.83 \text{ mm}$

Thought Experiment

● : -500

○ : 100 points (2.5 ¢)



- 0.3 pts. per trial

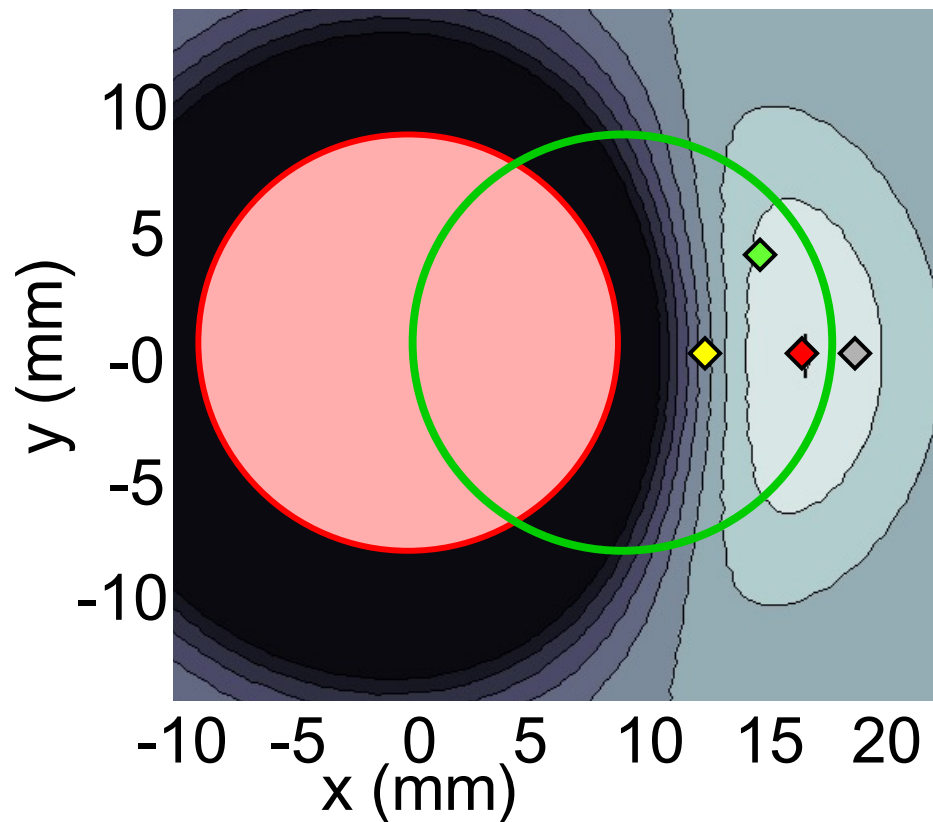
30.7 pts. per trial

25.5 pts. per trial

22.6 pts. per trial

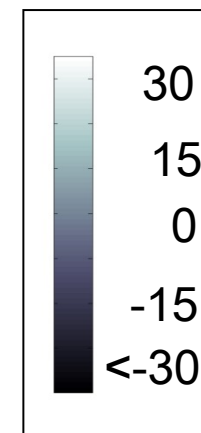
$\sigma = 4.83 \text{ mm}$

Expected value as function of
mean movement end point (x,y):



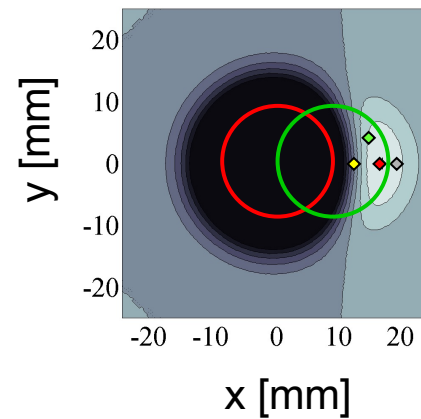
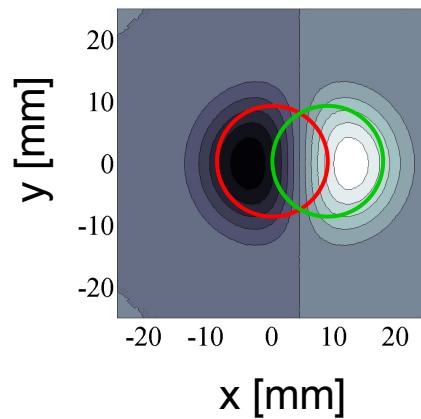
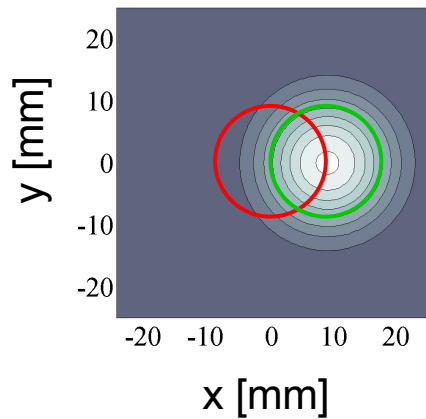
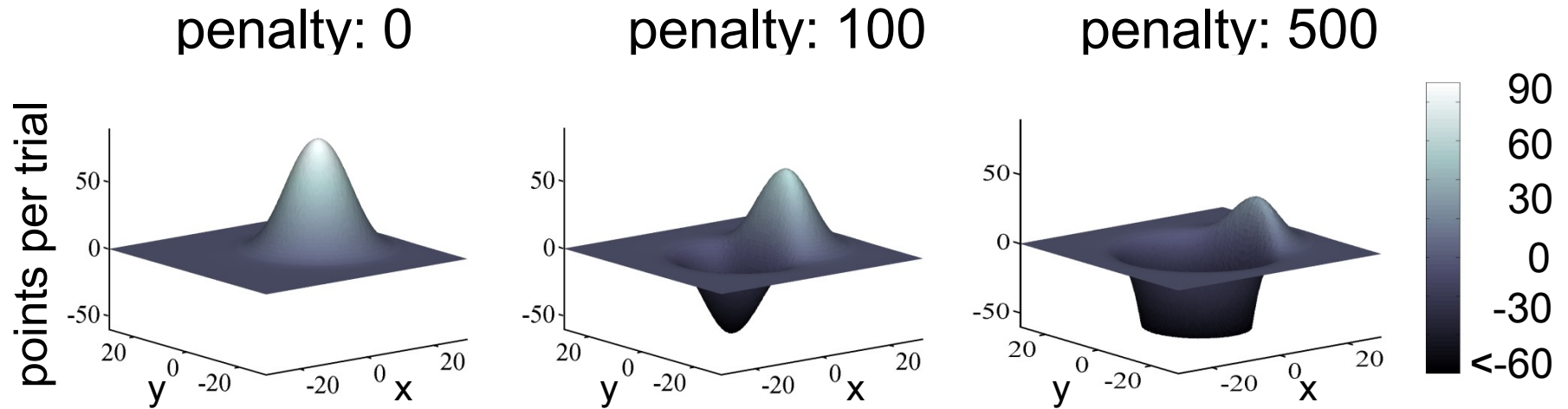
$\sigma = 4.83$ mm

points
per trial



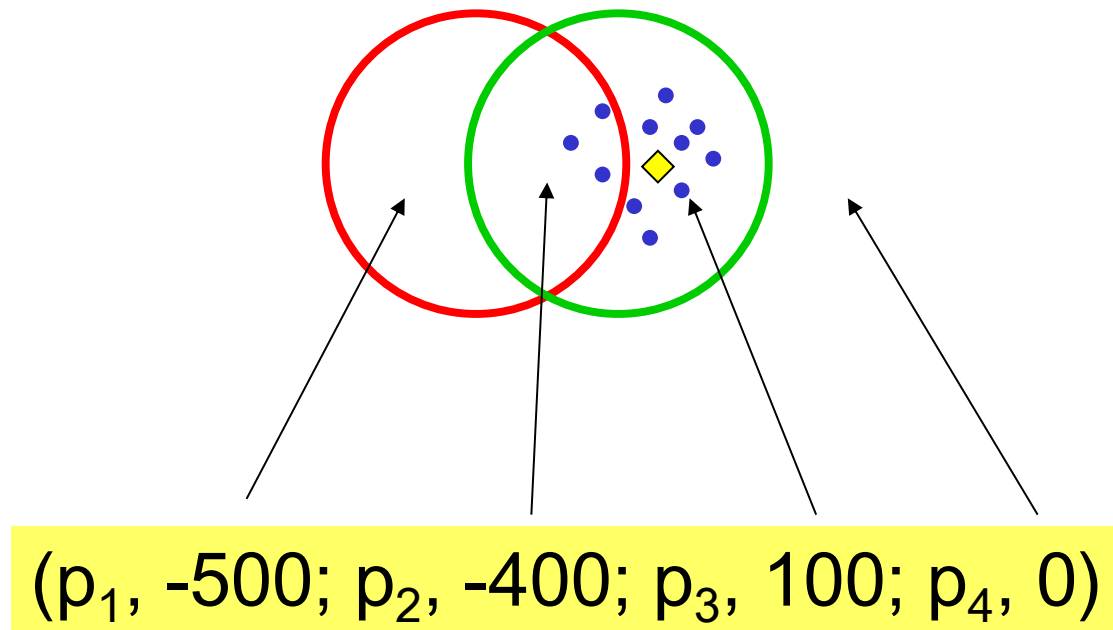
target: 100
penalty: -500

Thought Experiment

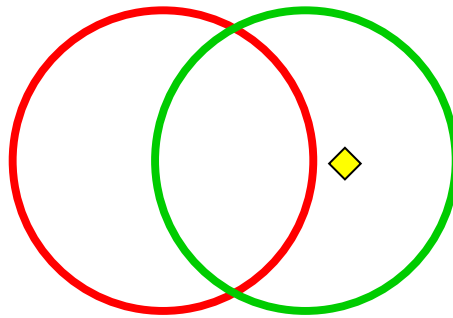


$$\sigma = 4.83 \text{ mm}$$

Movement plans as lotteries



Movement plans as lotteries



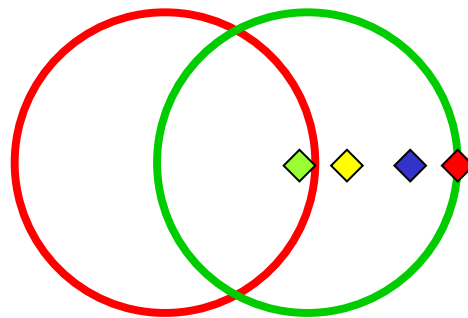
$$\sigma = 4 \text{ mm}$$

Lottery:

(1.3%, -500; 30.3%, -400; 60.9%, 100; 7.5%, 0)

Movement plans as lotteries

Optimal aim point: lottery with MEV



$\sigma = 4 \text{ mm}$

(6.6%, -500; 52.3%, -400; 37.0%, 100; 4.0%, 0)

(1.3%, -500; 30.3%, -400; 60.9%, 100; 7.5%, 0)

(0%, -500; 4.6%, -400; 62.6%, 100; 32.8%, 0)

(0%, -500; 0.7%, -400; 37.6%, 100; 61.7%, 0)

Experiment 1

Reaching with Asymmetric Gain/Loss

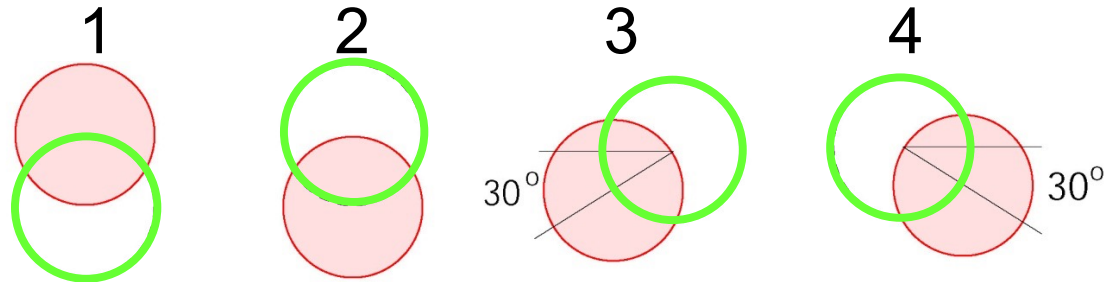


Julia Trommershäuser

Trommershäuser, Maloney, Landy (2003) JOSA A

Test of the model: Experiment 1

4 stimulus configurations:
(varied within block)



2 penalty conditions:
0 and -500 points (varied between blocks)

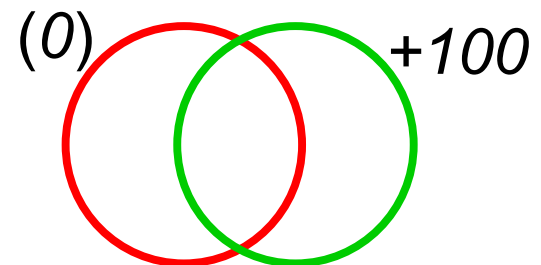
5 “practiced movers”

1 session of data collection: 360 trials
24 data points per condition

General Methods: Training

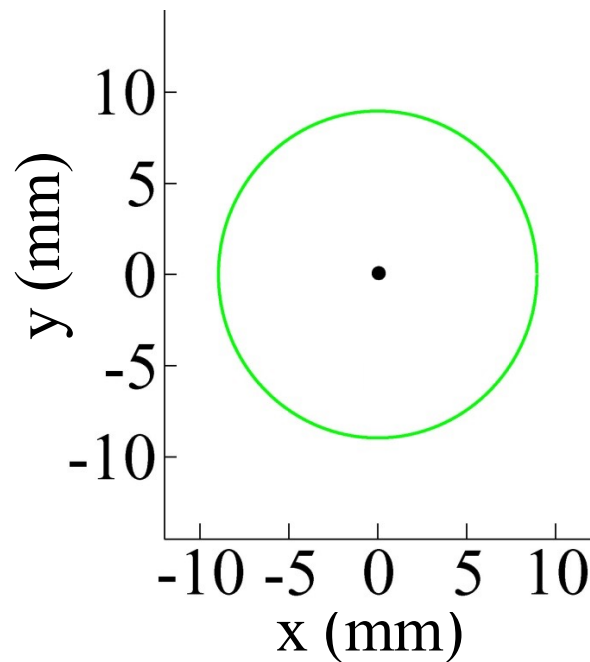
For all experiments:

- *All subjects practice the task for 360 trials or more until their variance stabilizes.*
- *The timeout limit is gradually decreased to 700 ms during training.*
- *There are no **penalties** during training (the concept is never mentioned).*
- *We verify that each subject's movement variance has stabilized.*
- *They are told only to **make money**.*



Results: Experiment 1

Model prediction:

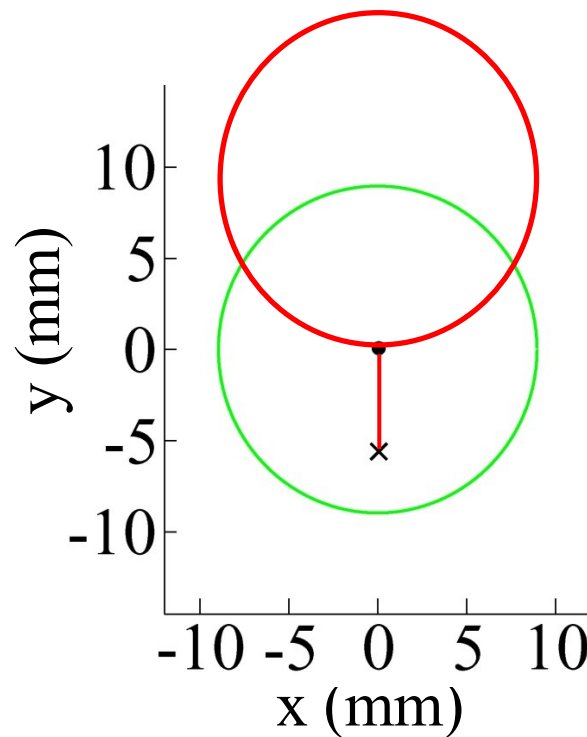


- model, penalty = 0

Subject S5, $\sigma = 2.99$ mm

Results: Experiment 1

Model prediction: configuration 1

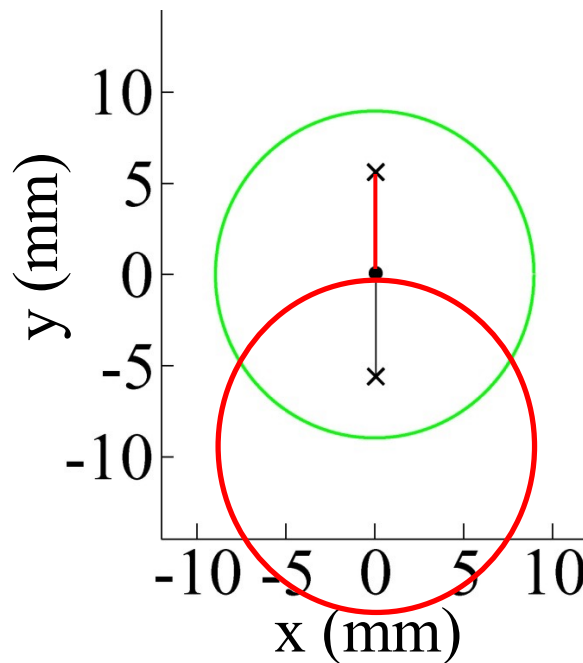


- model, penalty = 0
- × model, **penalty = 500**

Subject S5, $\sigma = 2.99$ mm

Results: Experiment 1

Model prediction: configuration 2

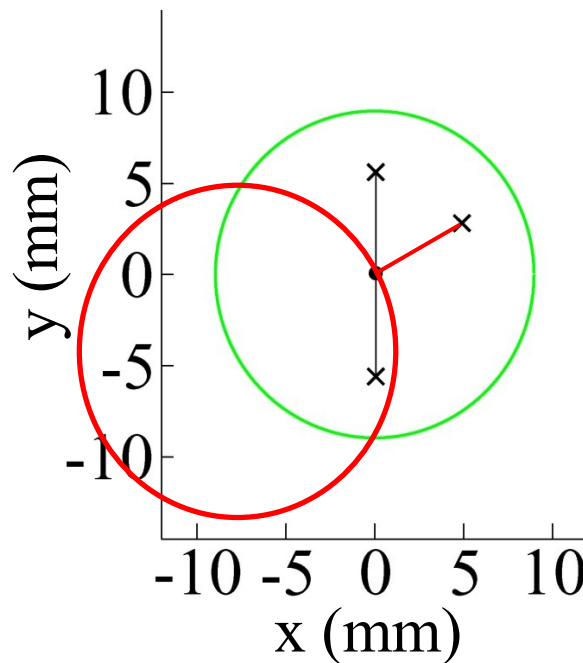


- model, penalty = 0
- × model, **penalty = 500**

Subject S5, $\sigma = 2.99$ mm

Results: Experiment 1

Model prediction: configuration 3

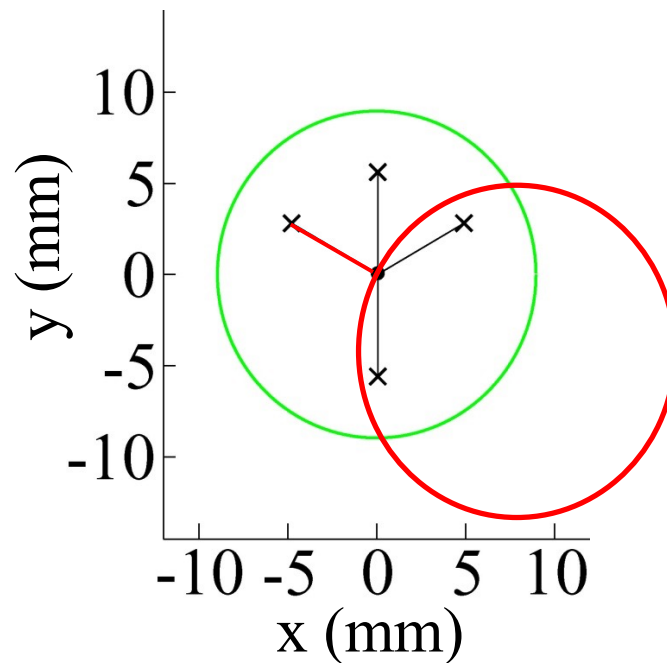


- model, penalty = 0
- × model, **penalty = 500**

Subject S5, $\sigma = 2.99$ mm

Results: Experiment 1

Model prediction: configuration 4

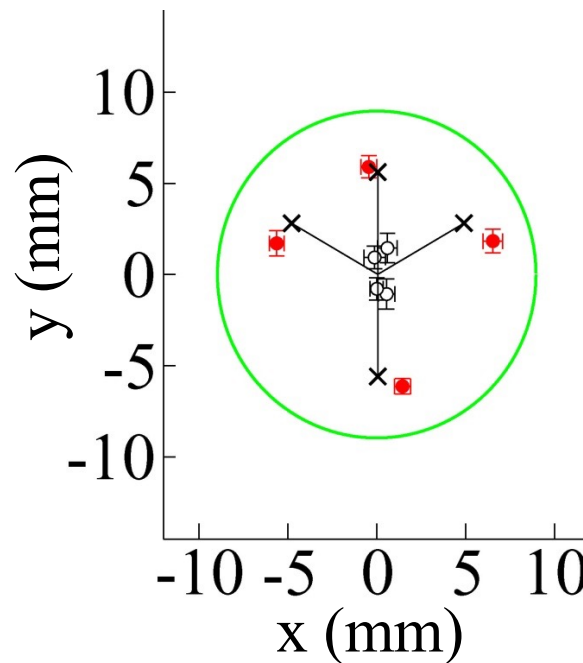


- model, penalty = 0
- × model, **penalty = 500**

Subject S5, $\sigma = 2.99$ mm

Results: Experiment 1

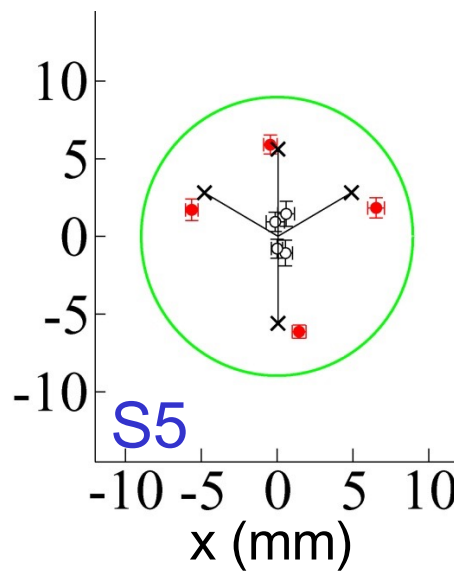
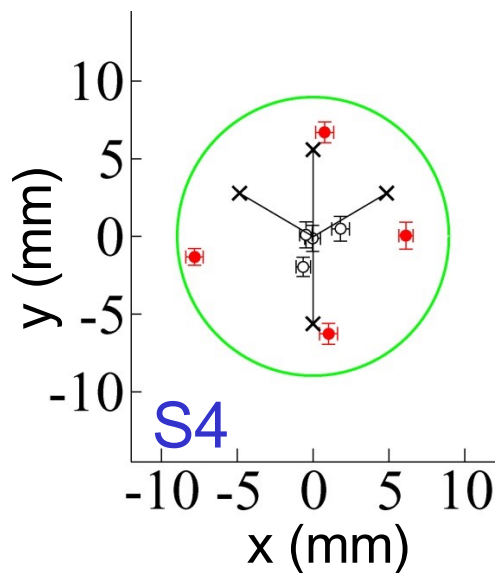
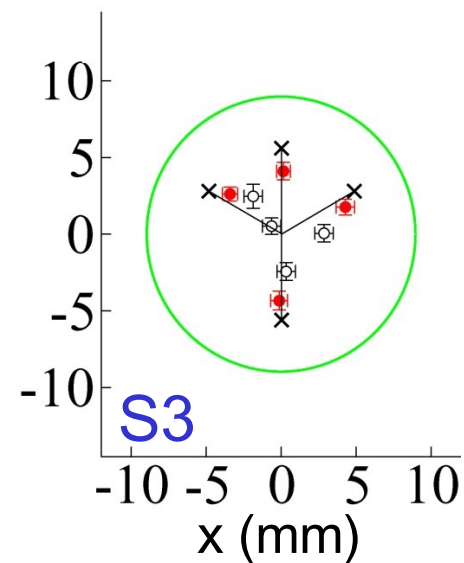
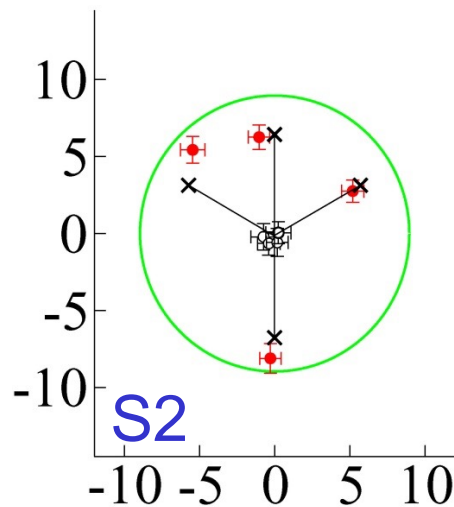
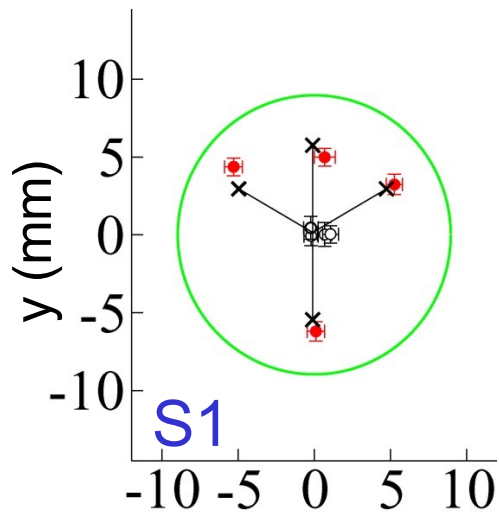
Comparison with experiment



- exp., penalty = 0
- exp., penalty = 500
- x model, penalty = 500

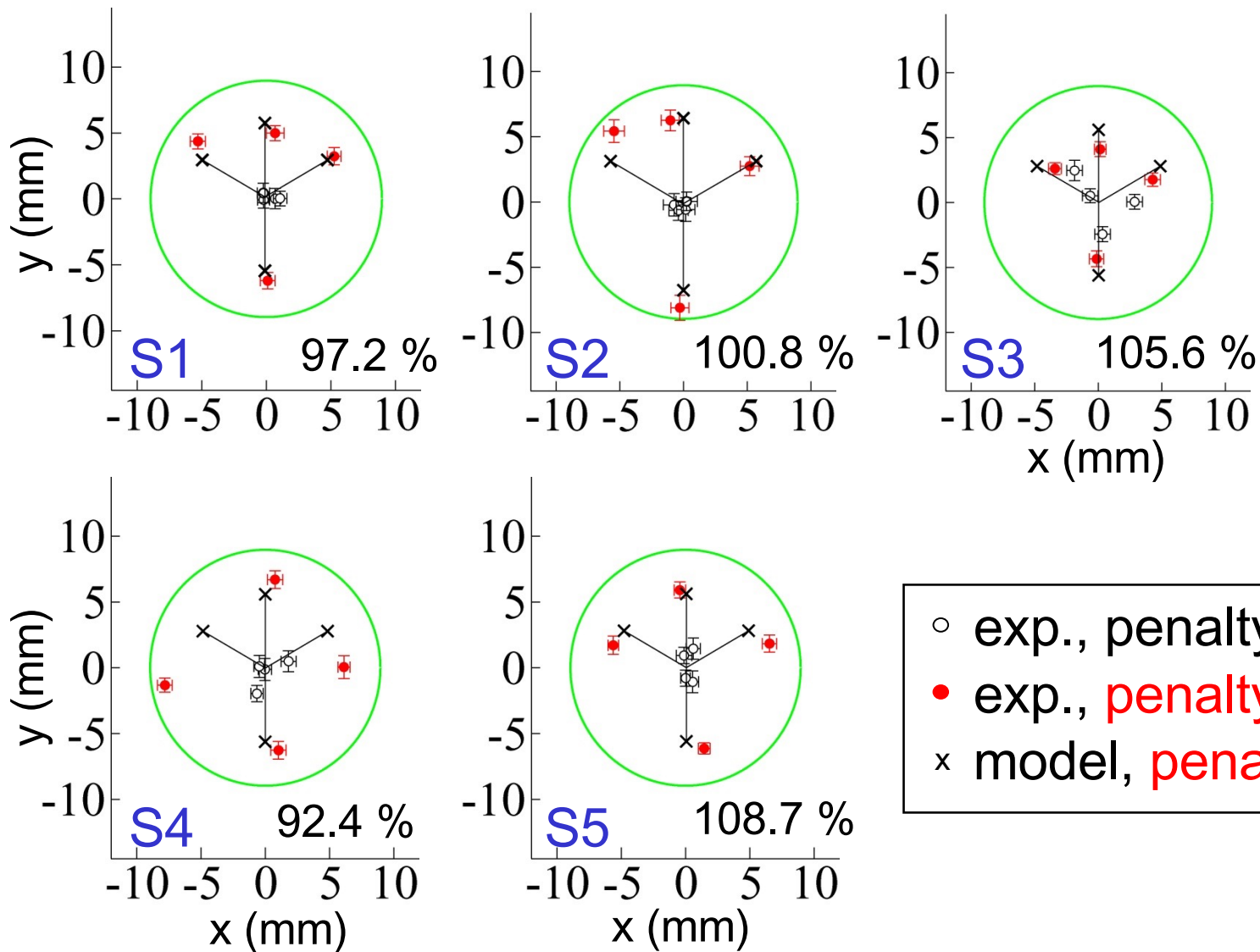
Subject S5, $\sigma = 2.99$ mm

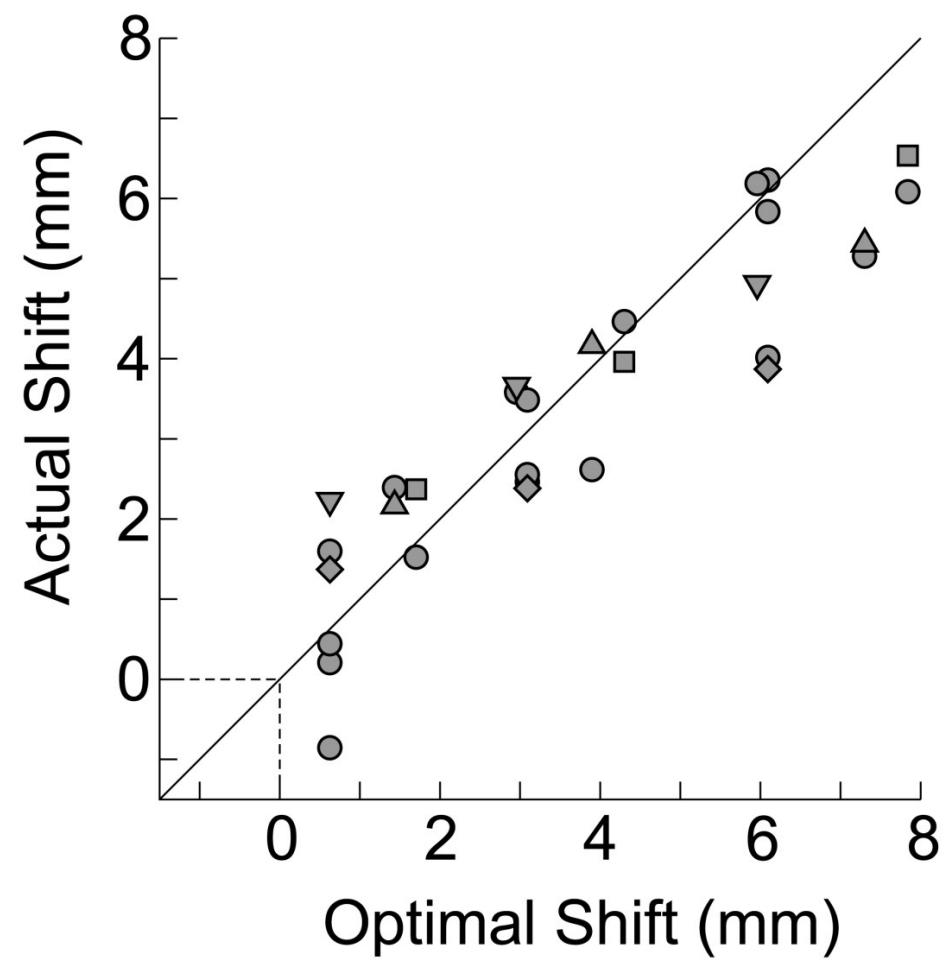
Results: Experiment 1



- exp., penalty = 0
- exp., penalty = 500
- × model, penalty = 500

Results: Experiment 1





Conclusions

BDT is a promising mode; of movement planning

*The use of explicit **cost and rewards** allow us to probe a much wider range of behavior than previously explored.*

*Managing **uncertainty** is the central task of a biological organism.*