

Understanding User Cognition: From Spatial Ability to Code Writing and Review



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<http://www-personal.umich.edu/~yhhy>

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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

We want to improve productivity and reduce cost in software development and maintenance.

The Human Aspect Matters

- Early study of industrial developers found order-of-magnitude individual variations

Metric	Poorest	Best	Ratio
Debugging Hours Algebra	170	6	28:1
Debugging Hours Maze	26	1	26:1
CPU Seconds Algebra	3075	370	8:1
CPU Seconds Maze	541	50	11:1
Code Writing Hours Algebra	111	7	16:1
Code Writing Hours Maze	50	2	25:1
Program Size Algebra	6137	1050	6:1
Program Size Maze	3287	651	5:1
Run Time Algebra	7.9	1.6	5:1
Run Time Maze	8.0	0.6	13:1

H. Sackman, W. J. Erikson and E. E. Grant. *Exploratory Experimental Studies Comparing Online and Offline Programming Performance*. Communications of the ACM, 1968.

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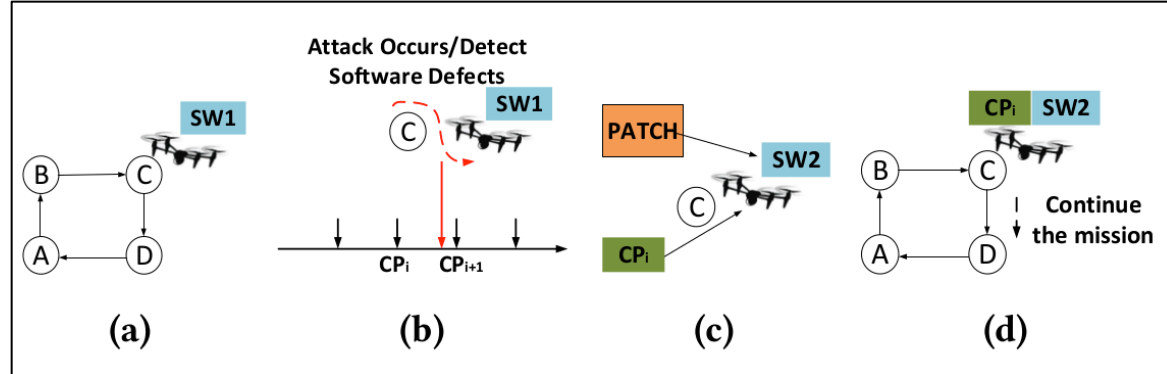
The Human Aspect Matters

- How to **measure** cognitive processes?
 - Conduct behavioral experiments
 - “**Stopwatch**” and “**Scoresheet**”
 - *Time and accuracy*



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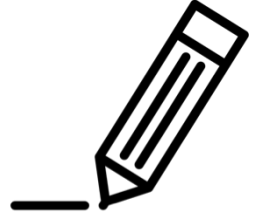
- “**Stopwatch**” and “**Scoresheet**”

- *Time* and *accuracy*
- **What** but not **why**
 - Generalization, recommendation, transformation
- **Overlook** what is actually going on
 - Miss information
- **Limited** research findings



The Human Aspect Matters

- How to **measure** cognitive processes?
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 - **Unreliable**



International Journal for Quality in Health Care 1999; Volume 11, Number 3; pp.187-192

Evidence of self-report bias in assessing adherence to guidelines

THAN LOMAS² AND DENNIS ROSS-DEGNAN¹

Faking It: Social Desirability Response Bias in Self-report Research

Australian Journal of Advanced Nursing
Volume 25 Issue 4 (June/Aug 2008)

van de Mortel, Thea F¹

Abstract: Objective: The tendency for questionnaires is called socially desirable creating false relationships or obscuring scales can be used to detect, minimise, questionnaire- based research. The air related studies that used questionnaire

Journal of Business and Psychology, Vol. 17, No. 2, Winter 2002 (©2002)

UNDERSTANDING SELF-REPORT BIAS IN ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR RESEARCH

Stewart I. Donaldson
Claremont Graduate University

Elisa J. Grant-Vallone
California State University, San Marcos

Self-Reports in Organizational Research: Problems and Prospects

Philip M. Podsakoff
Dennis W. Organ
Indiana University

Self-reports figure prominently in organizational and management research, but there are several problems associated with this article identifies six categories of self-reports and discusses problems as common method variance, the consistency method desirability. Statistical and post hoc remedies and several methods for dealing with artifactual bias are presented and evaluated. Recommendations for future research are also offered.

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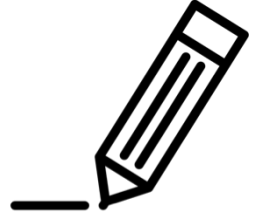


“Can we read your mind?”



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“Can we read your mind?”

Medical Imaging & Eye Tracking

Thesis Statement

*It is possible to meaningfully and objectively measure user cognition to understand the role of **spatial ability**, **fundamental processes** and **stereotypical associations** in certain software engineering activities by combining **medical imaging** and **eye tracking**.*

Challenges

- Many techniques: EEG, PET, fMRI, fNIRS, ...
 - **Non-invasive**
 - **fMRI** and **fNIRS**
 - Sampling the brain **rapidly** with **high spatial resolution**

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 - Contrast-based tasks
 - Experimental design



Outline

- Introduction
- Investigating cognition in software engineering
-  **Understanding the neural representations of data structures**
-  **Comparing prose writing and code writing**
-  **Understanding bias in code reviews**
- Career Plan
- Summary

Hypothesis Time!

Is balancing **AVL trees** like playing **arcade claw machines**?



Hypothesis Time!

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Yes!
Very similar!



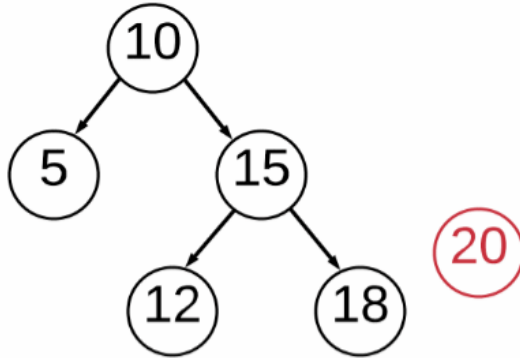
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Very Different!



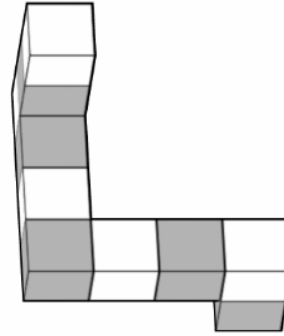
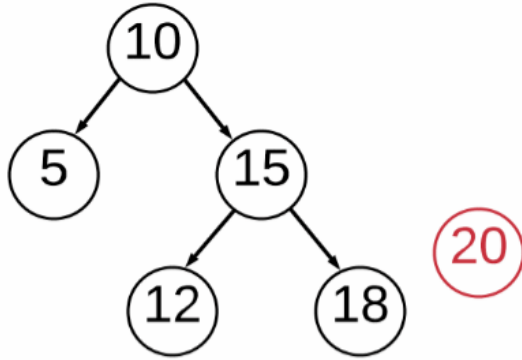
How do human brains represent **data structures**? Is it more like **text** or more like **3D objects**?



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How do human brains represent **data structures**? Is it more like **text** or more like **3D objects**?



Spatial Ability

- Mental rotations
 - The determination of spatial relationships between objects and the mental manipulation of spatially presented information
 - **Measured by mental rotation tasks:** 3D objects
 - Related to success in STEM



About Medical Imaging

- **fMRI** and **fNIRS**
- **BOLD** signals
- Contrast design
- Rigorous data analysis: false positives



fMRI vs. fNIRS

Measure brain activities by calculating the blood-oxygen level dependent (BOLD) signal

- Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging
- Functional Near-Infrared Spectroscopy



fMRI vs. fNIRS

Measure brain activities by calculating the **blood-oxygen level dependent (BOLD)** signal

- **F**unctional **M**agnetic **R**esonance **I**maging
 - *Magnets*
 - **Strong** penetration power
 - Lying down in a magnetic tube
- **F**unctional **N**ear-**I**nfra**R**ed **S**pectroscopy
 - *Light*
 - **Weak** penetration power
 - Wearing a specially-designed cap



fMRI vs. fNIRS

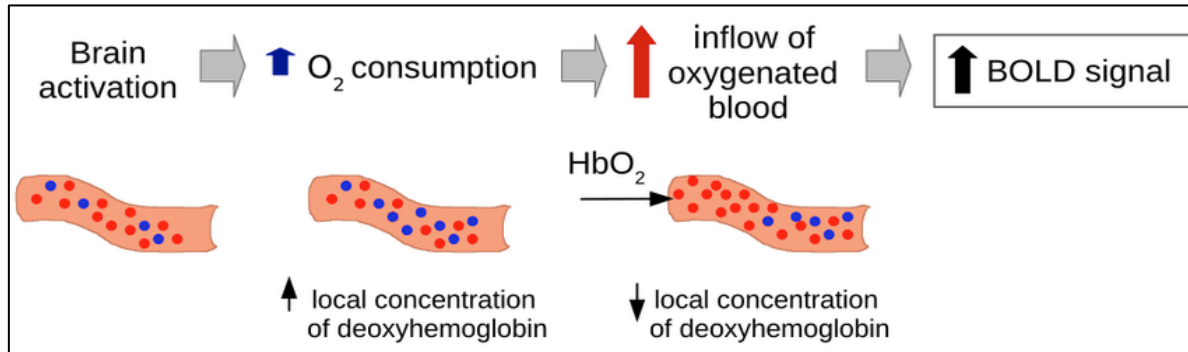
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- **F**unctional **M**agnetic **R**esonance **I**maging
 - **Magnets**
 - **Strong** penetration power
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 - **Cannot move**
- **F**unctional **N**ear-**I**nfra**R**ed **S**pectroscopy
 - **Light**
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 - Wearing a specially-designed cap:
 - **More freedom of movement**



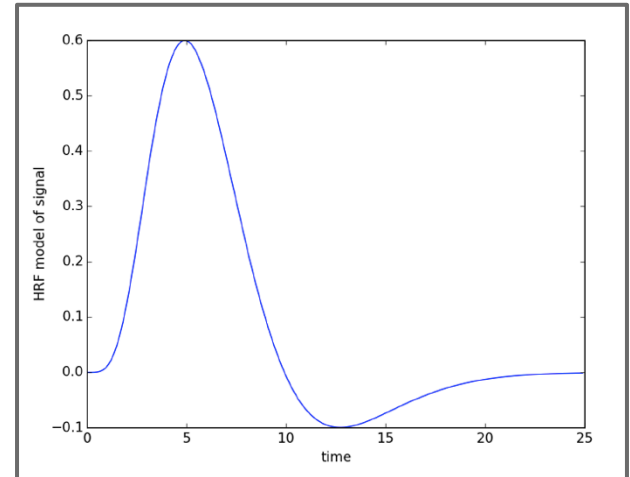
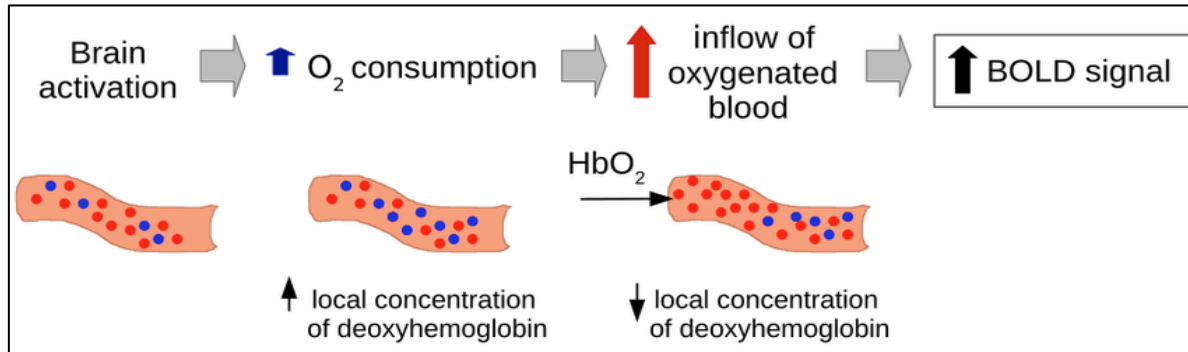
What is **BOLD** signal?

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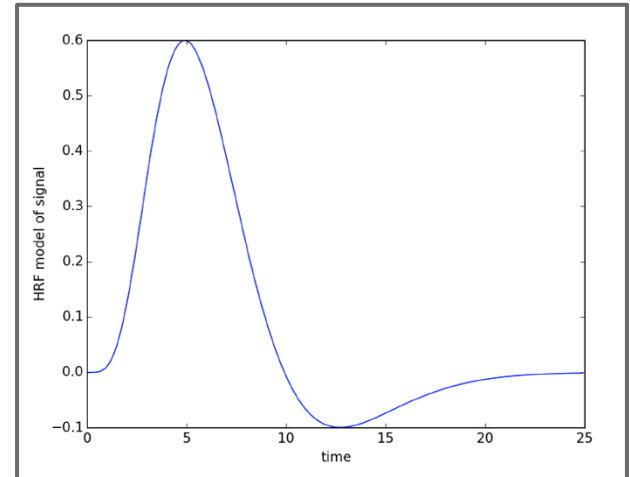
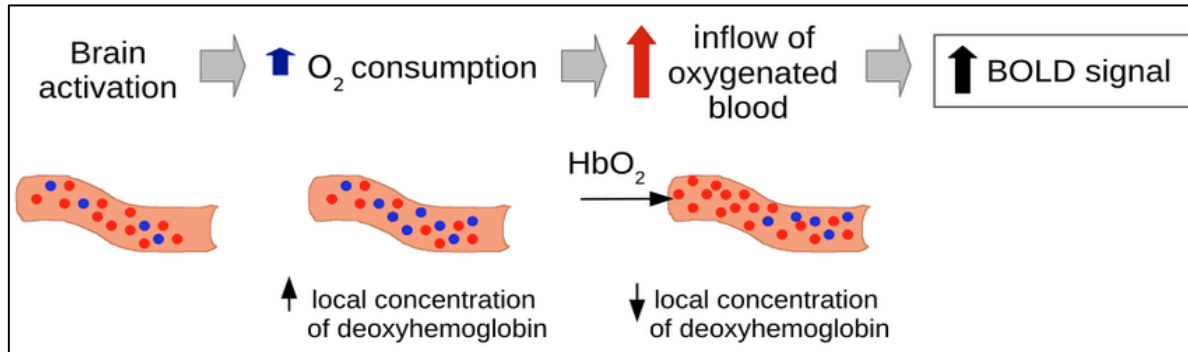
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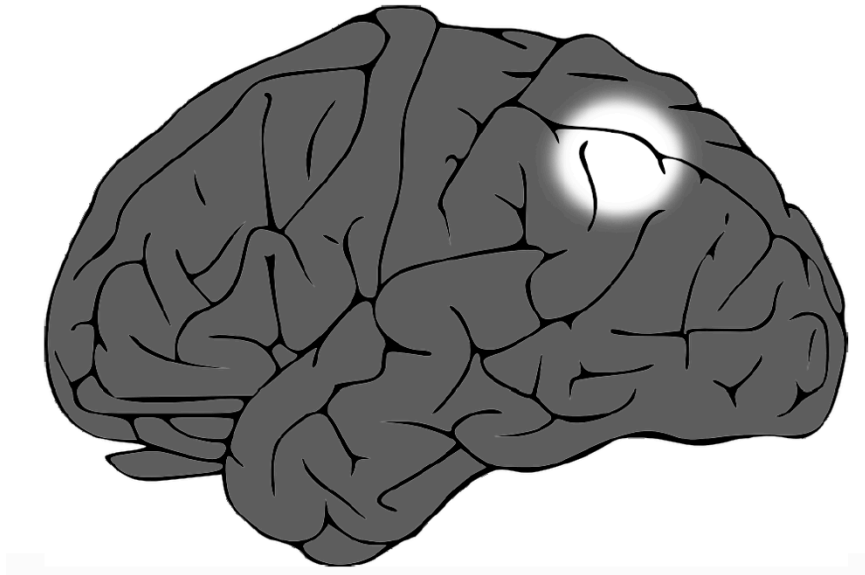
What is **BOLD** signal?

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- Activation model: hemodynamic response function (HRF)
- Stimulus, HRF, design matrix, noise
 - Comprehensive quantitative model of BOLD signals
 - General Linear Model (GLM)



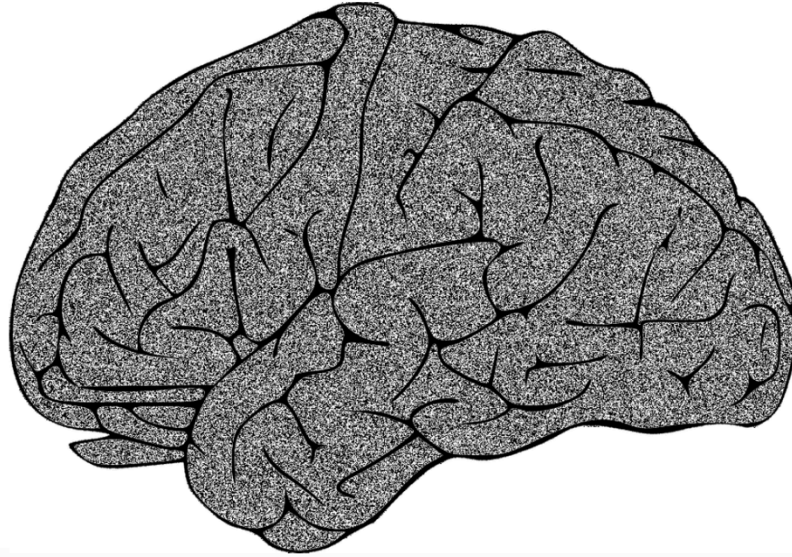
But it's not so easy

- Brain activation does not work like this:



But it's not so easy

- The brain signals are **noisy**



But it's not so easy

- The brain signals are **noisy**
- Signal changes are **small**

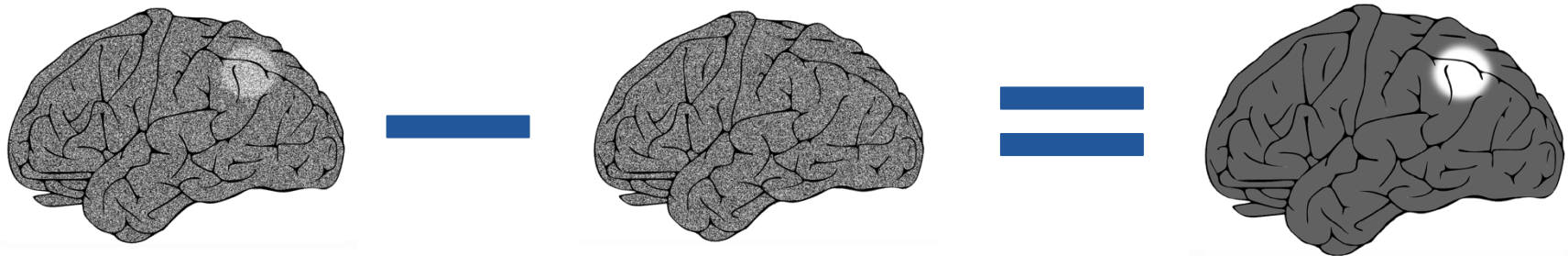


Think in Terms of Contrasts!



Think in Terms of Contrasts!

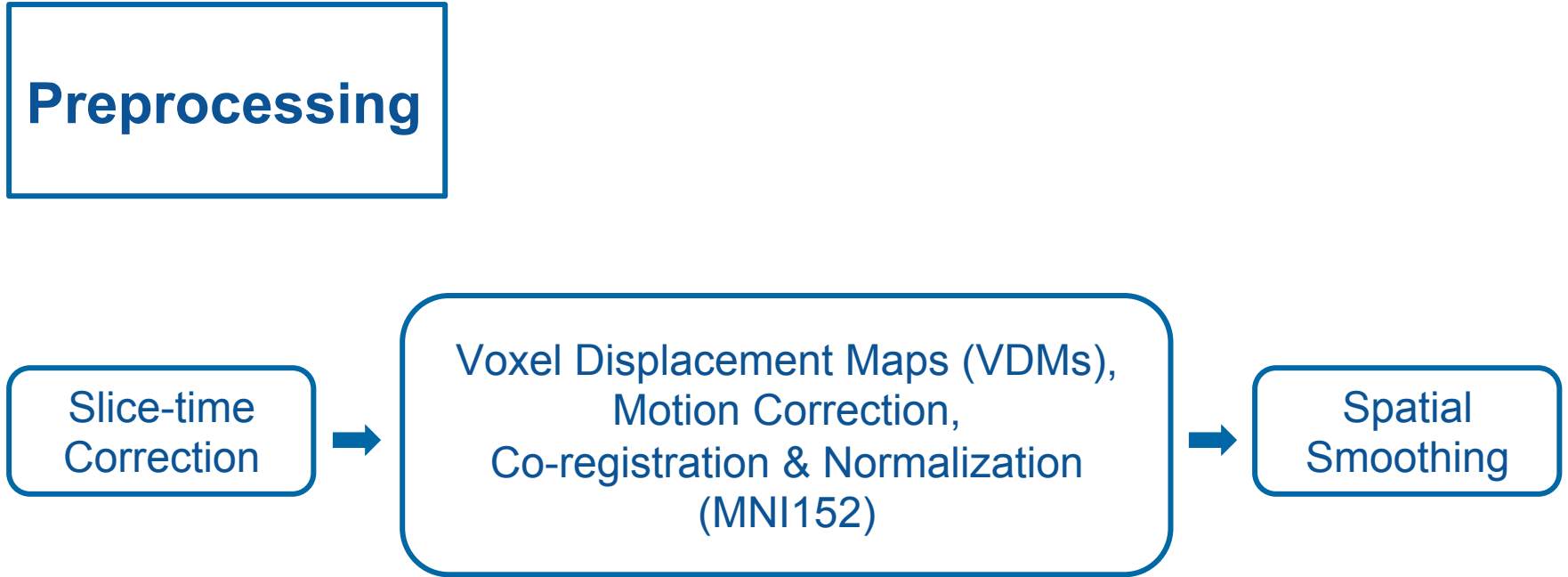
- Controlled experimental design
 - Task A = “balancing trees + nervous + ...”
 - Task B = “rotating 3D objects + nervous + ...”
 - Contrast **A** > **B**: brain activations that vary between the tasks



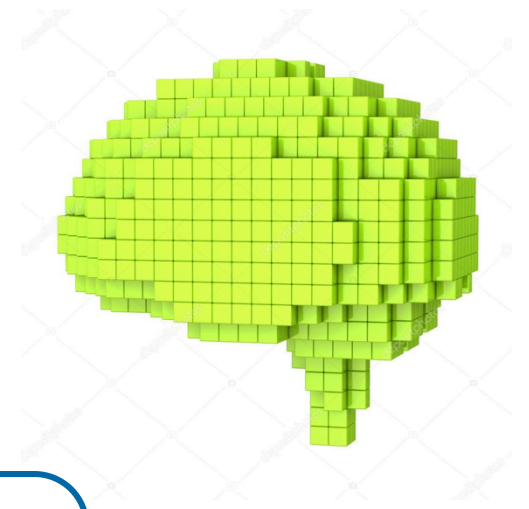
Data Analysis



Data Analysis



Data Analysis



Preprocessing

Slice-time
Correction



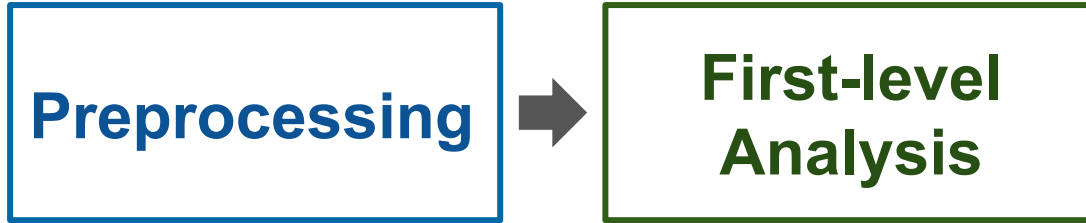
Voxel Displacement Maps (VDMs),
Motion Correction,
Co-registration & Normalization
(MNI152)



Spatial
Smoothing



Data Analysis



- **Within** individuals
- General Linear Models
 - Robust weighted least squares (rWLS)
 - For each experiment condition



Data Analysis



- Pairwise contrast
 - Mean differences between conditions
 - Group-level random effects analyses
- Second-level GLM
 - Assess average activity **across all subjects**



Data Analysis



- Final results
 - A statistical parametric map of t-values (t-map) describing clusters of significant activity for a given task-related comparison



Data Analysis

- We need to be *careful*
 - 153,000 voxels or more
 - Spurious correlations due to multiple comparison: false positives



Data Analysis

- We need to be **careful**
 - 153,000 voxels or more
 - Spurious correlations due to multiple comparison: false positives



Neural correlates of interspecies perspective taking in the post-mortem Atlantic Salmon: An argument for multiple comparisons correction

Craig M. Bennett¹, Abigail A. Baird², Michael B. Miller¹, and George L. Wolford³

¹ Psychology Department, University of California Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA; ² Department of Psychology, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY;

³ Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

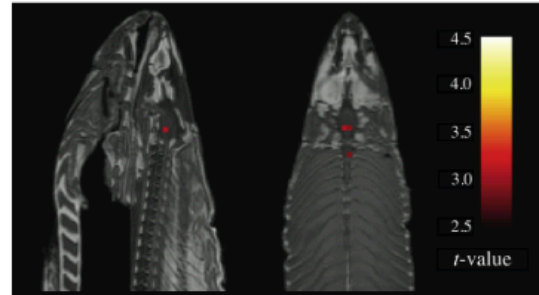
INTRODUCTION

With the extreme dimensionality of functional neuroimaging data comes extreme risk for false positives. Across the 130,000 voxels in a typical fMRI volume the probability of a false positive is almost certain. Correction for multiple comparisons should be completed with these datasets, but is often ignored by investigators. To illustrate the magnitude of the problem we carried out a real experiment that demonstrates the danger of not correcting for chance properly.

METHODS

Subject. One mature Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*) participated in the fMRI study. The salmon was approximately 18 inches long, weighed 3.8 lbs, and was not alive at

GLM RESULTS



Data Analysis



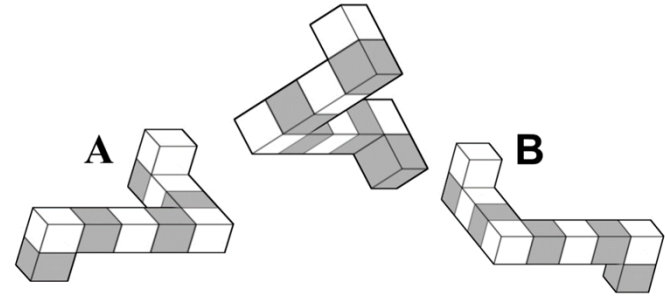
- False discovery rate (FDR) correction ($q < 0.05$)



Experimental Design

- Two types of tasks
 - Data structure manipulations
 - Mental rotations: 3D objects

Which object is the same as the original object, aside from its orientation?



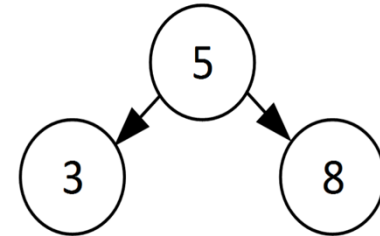
What is the minimum number of swaps required to make the given array sorted?

Indices	0	1	2	3	4	5
nums	0	6	7	4	8	10

A. 1

B. 2

Which of the candidate insertion sequences will produce the given BST?



A. 5, 3, 8

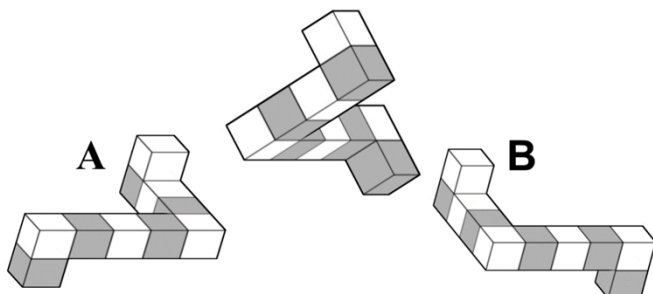
B. 8, 3, 5



Experimental Design

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- **fMRI** and **fNIRS**: *1st time in SE*

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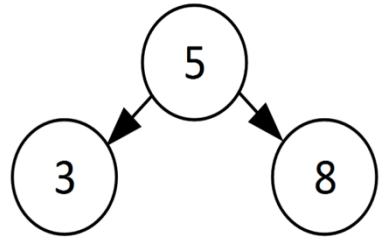
B

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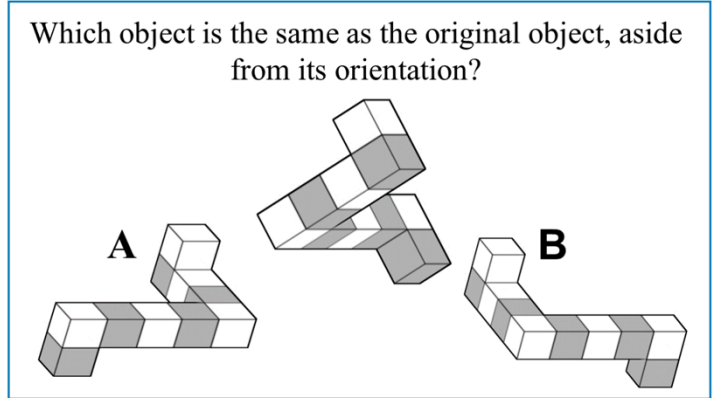
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- *Largest in SE*: 76 participants



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```
graph TD; 5((5)) --> 3((3)); 5((5)) --> 8((8));
```

A. 5, 3, 8 B. 8, 3, 5


Data Structures vs. Spatial Ability


- 70% of human participants believe there is no connection
- What is your answer?

Hypothesis Time!


Is balancing **AVL trees** like playing **arcade claw machines**?

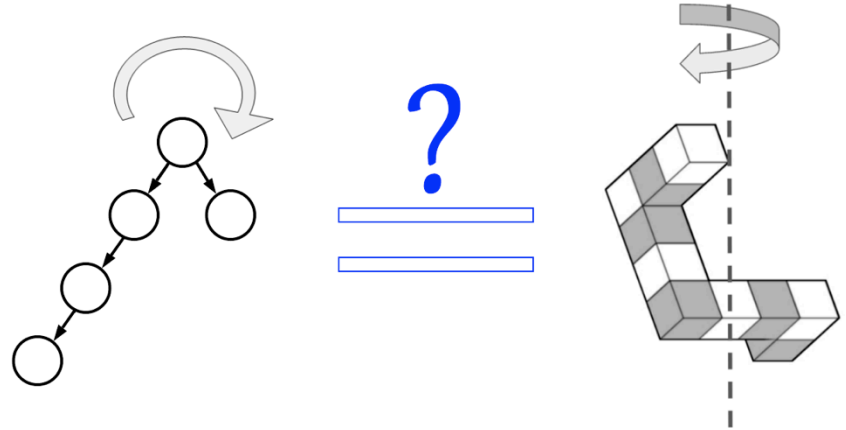
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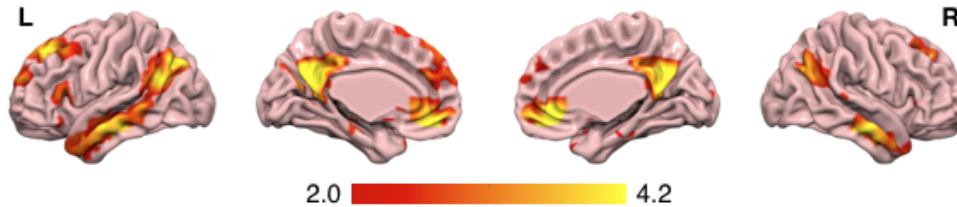
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Very Different!





Data Structures vs. Spatial Ability

- Data structure manipulations use the same parts of the brain as rotating 3D objects in the real world (spatial ability)
 - **fMRI**: more similarities than differences ($p < 0.01$)
 - **fNIRS**: activation in the same brain regions ($p < 0.01$)



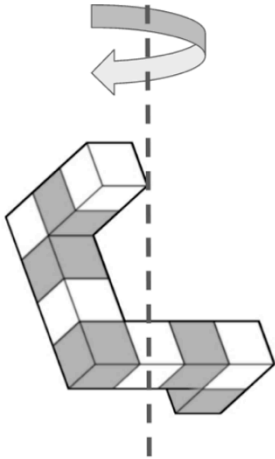
Mental Rotation > Tree



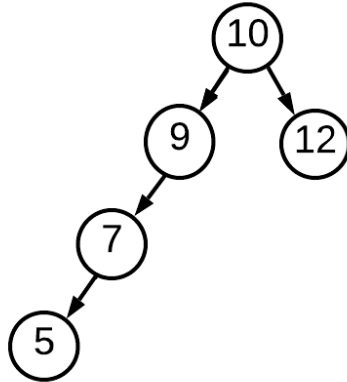
The Role of Task Difficulty

- The brain works even **harder** for **more difficult** data structure tasks
 - Difficulty measurement
 - Mental rotations: angle of rotation
 - Data structure: size
- **fNIRS: no significant findings** for the effect of task difficulty

Rotation Angle = 20°



$N = 5$



$N = 5$

Indices	0	1	2	3	4
nums	1	5	6	7	10



Summary: Data Structures vs. Spatial Ability

- **Large human study**: 76 participants
- **fMRI vs. fNIRS**
- Data structure manipulations and mental rotations use the **same** brain regions
- **Task difficulty matters** for data structures
- Medical imaging can discover more than self-reporting



Summary: Data Structures vs. Spatial Ability

- This work may inform:
 - Pedagogy and training
 - Technology transfer
 - Programming expertise



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 - Technology transfer
 - Programming expertise
- The findings have been used to direct a longitudinal study
 - Improve CS students' performance on programming using spatial training



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Distilling Neural Representations of Data Structure Manipulation using fMRI and fNIRS




Yu Huang¹, Xinyu Liu¹, Ryan Krueger¹, Tyler Santander², Xiaosu Hu¹, Kevin Leach¹ and Westley Weimer¹

¹{yhhy, xinyuliu, ryankrue, xiaosuhu, kjleach, weimerw}@umich.edu, University of Michigan

²t.santander@psych.ucsb.edu, Univeristy of California, Santa Barbara



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- Investigating cognition in software engineering
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-  Understanding bias in code reviews
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How do we tell truths that might hurt?

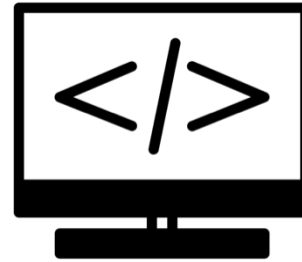
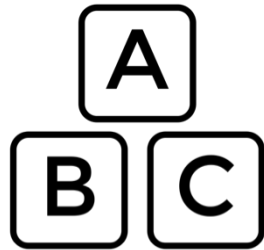
Besides a mathematical inclination, an exceptionally good mastery of one's native tongue is the most vital asset of a competent programmer.



Hypothesis Time!

Is writing **code** like writing **English**?

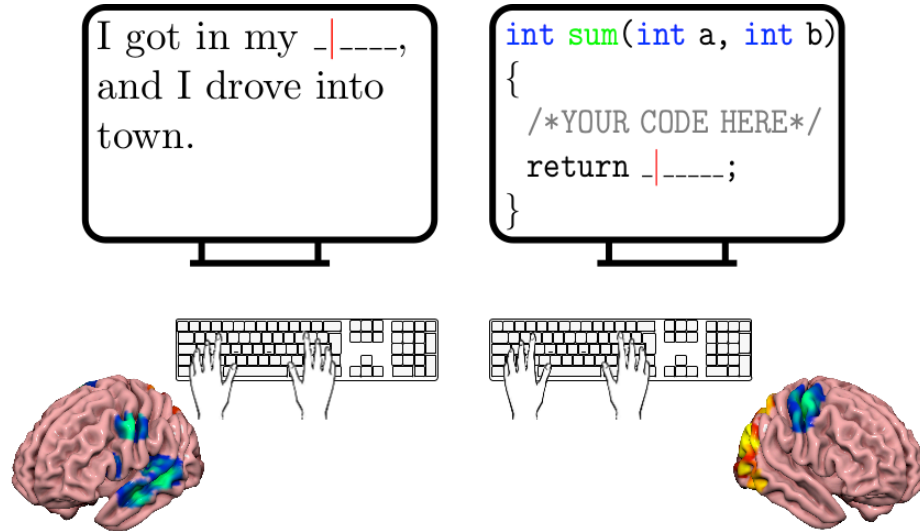
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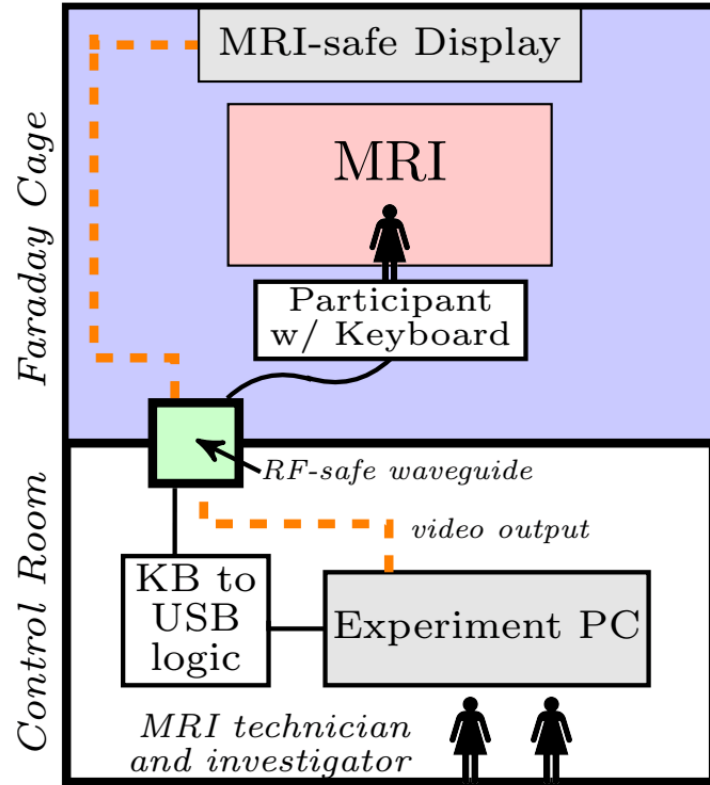


Are code writing and prose writing **similar** neural activities? Do I have to be **good at English writing** to become a good software developer?



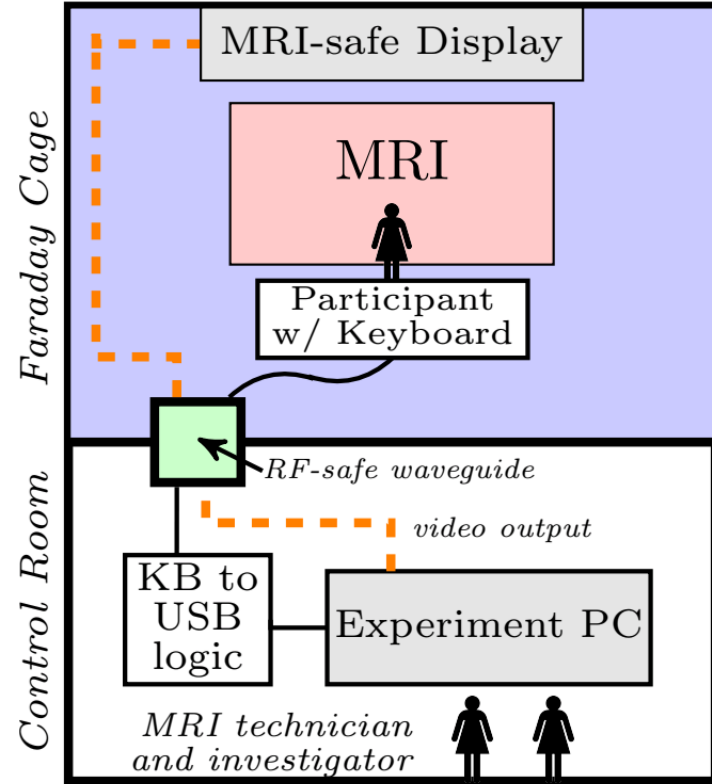
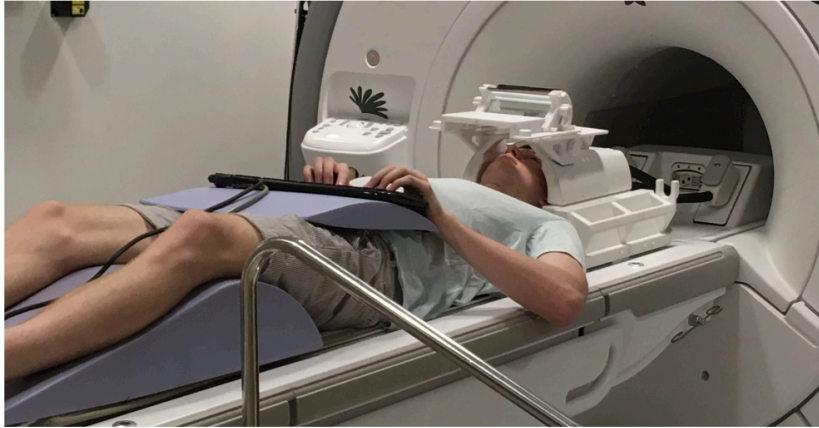
Challenge: Typing in fMRI

- fMRI-safe bespoke keyboard
 - QWERTY keyboard
 - Allow typing and editing



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Experimental Design

- Two-by-two contrast task design: 30 participants

Given two 3x5 2D arrays of integer, x1 and x2, write the code needed to copy every value from x1 to its corresponding element in x2.

```
1 for(int i = 0; i < 3; i++){
2     for(int j = 0; j < 5; j++){
3         /* YOUR CODE HERE */
4     }
5 }
6 }
7
```

FITB

Fill in the blank below

```
1 Angered that the book arrived in the mail in
  such a shabby condition, Elliot insisted that
  the bookseller _____ it with a new copy.
```

FITB:
Fill in the Blank

CODE

PROSE

Implement a function is_sorted that accepts a vector of integer values and returns true if it is non-decreasing, and false otherwise

```
1 |
```

LR

What would happen if everyone lived in space? (e.g., What type of houses would they live in? What type of clothing would they wear?)

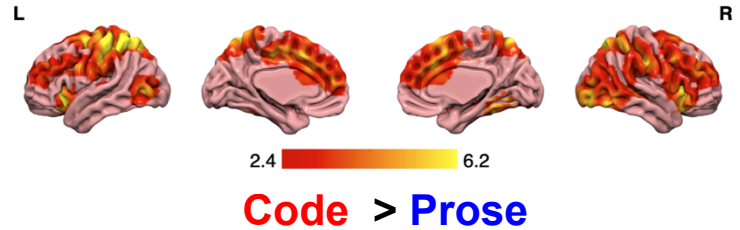
```
1 |
```

LR:
Long Response



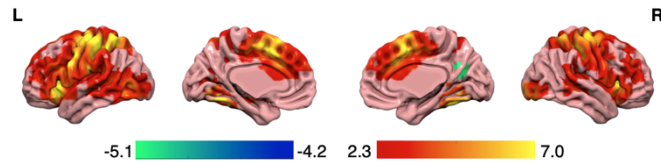
Summary: Prose Writing vs. Coding Writing

- **Code writing** and **prose writing** are very **distinct** neural activities!
($2.4 < t < 6.2$)
 - **Code writing**: top-down control, memory, planning, spatial ability
 - **Prose writing**: language-related regions

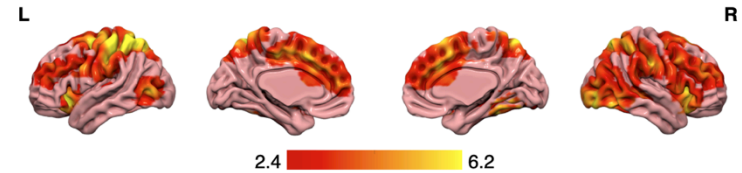


Summary: Prose Writing vs. Coding Writing

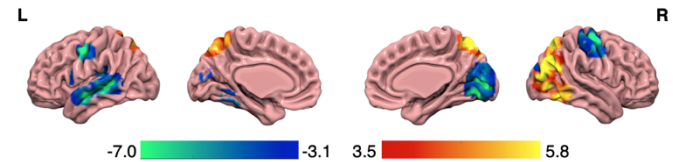
- **Code writing** and **prose writing** are very *distinct* neural activities!
($2.4 < t < 6.2$)
 - **Code writing**: top-down control, memory, planning, spatial ability
 - **Prose writing**: language-related regions



Code FITB > Prose FITB



Code > Prose

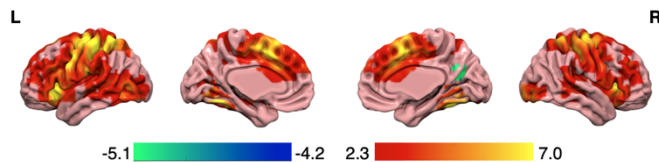


Code LR > Prose LR

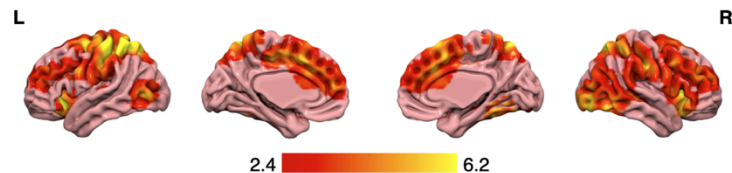


Summary: Prose Writing vs. Coding Writing

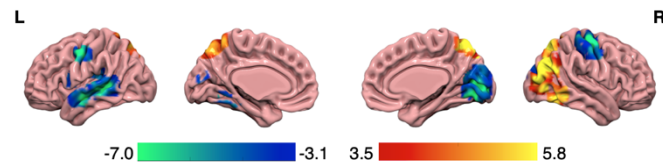
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 - **Code writing**: top-down control, memory, planning, spatial ability
 - **Prose writing**: language-related regions
- Implications
 - Training and pedagogy
 - Broadening participation
 - Writing proofs?



Code FITB > Prose FITB






Code > Prose



Code LR > Prose LR



Outline

- Introduction
- Investigating cognition in software engineering
-  Understanding the neural representations of data structures
-  Comparing prose writing and code writing
-  **Understanding bias in code reviews**
- Career plan
- Summary

Code Review

- Code review is **critical** for software development
 - **Systematic** inspection, analysis, evaluation, and revision of code.



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2 algorithms/cpp/majorityElement/majorityElement.cpp
32 cnt++;
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34     majority == num[i] ? cnt++ : cnt --;
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Code changes



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Commit message

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Beyond the Code Itself:

How Programmers *Really* Look at Pull Requests

Denae Ford, Mahnaz Behroozi
North Carolina State University
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Alexander Serebrenik
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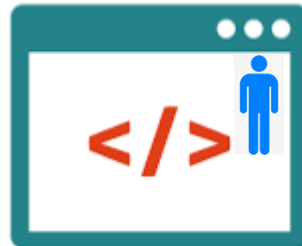
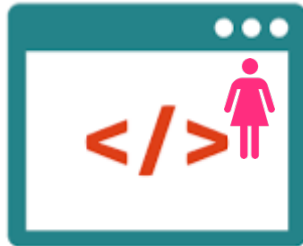
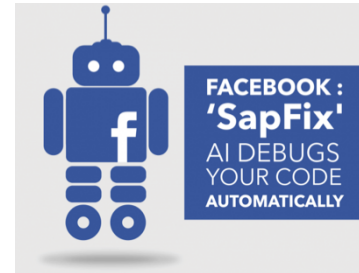
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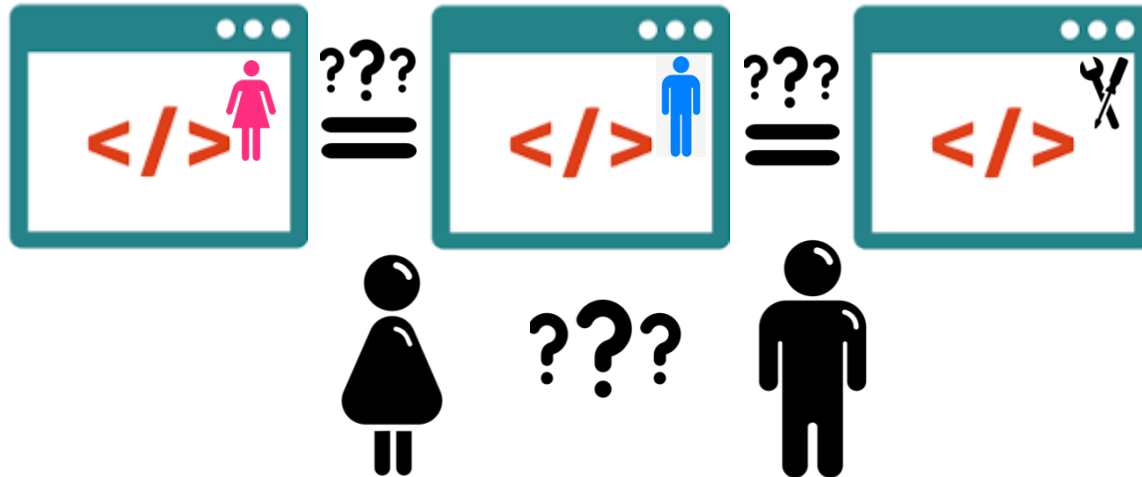
Hypothesis Time!

Do **women** and **men** review code **in the same way**?



Is there **bias** on **gender** and **identities** in code review? How do we characterize the bias?

- Systematically
- Objectively
- Rigorously



Experimental Design

- 60 C/C++ pull requests from GitHub

60 Pull Requests

Delete the equal mark in case the array is like
(x,x,x...(n),y,y,y...(n+1))

```
1 // algorithms.cpp/majorityElement/majorityElement.cpp
2
3 #include <vector>
4
5 int majorityElement(vector<int> &num) {
6     int cnt=0;
7     int majority;
8     for(int i=0; i<num.size(); i++)
9     {
10         majority = num[i]; cnt++;
11     }
12     if (cnt > num.size()/2) return majority;
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14     return majority;
15 }
```



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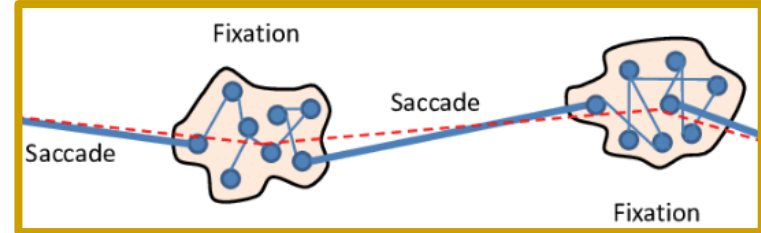
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```
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3  
4 #include <vector>  
5 #include <string>  
6 #include <algorithm>  
7  
8 using namespace std;  
9  
10 int majorityElement(vector<int> &num) {  
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12     int majority=0;  
13     for(int i=0;i<num.size();i++)  
14     {  
15         if (num[i]==majority) cnt++;  
16         else if (cnt > num.size()/2) return majority;  
17         else majority=num[i];  
18     }  
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```



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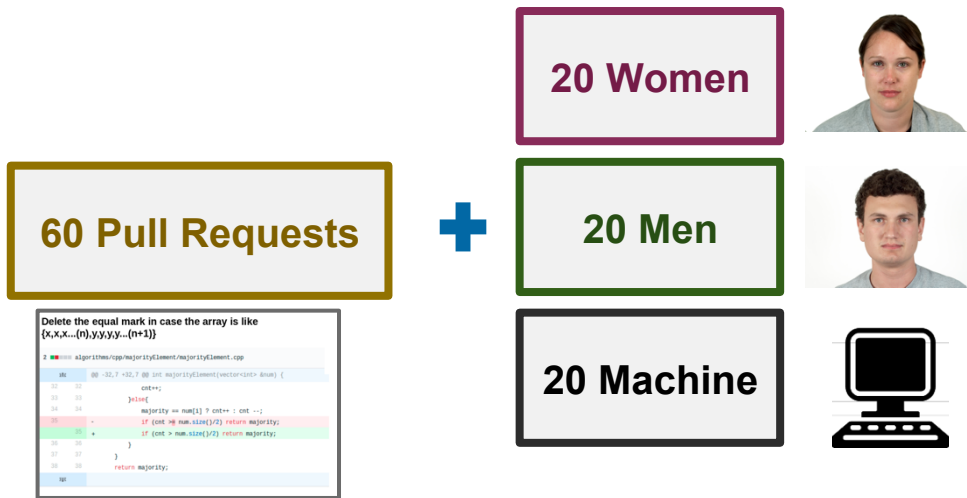
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2 #include <vector>
3 #include <string>
4 #include <algorithm>
5 #include <iostream>
6 using namespace std;
7
8 int main() {
9     int n;
10    while (cin >> n) {
11        vector<int> v(n);
12        for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
13            cin >> v[i];
14        }
15        int majority = 0;
16        for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
17            if (v[i] == majority) continue;
18            int cnt = 1;
19            for (int j = i + 1; j < n; j++) {
20                if (v[j] == v[i]) cnt++;
21            }
22            if (cnt > n / 2) majority = v[i];
23        }
24        cout << majority << endl;
25    }
26    return 0;
27 }
```



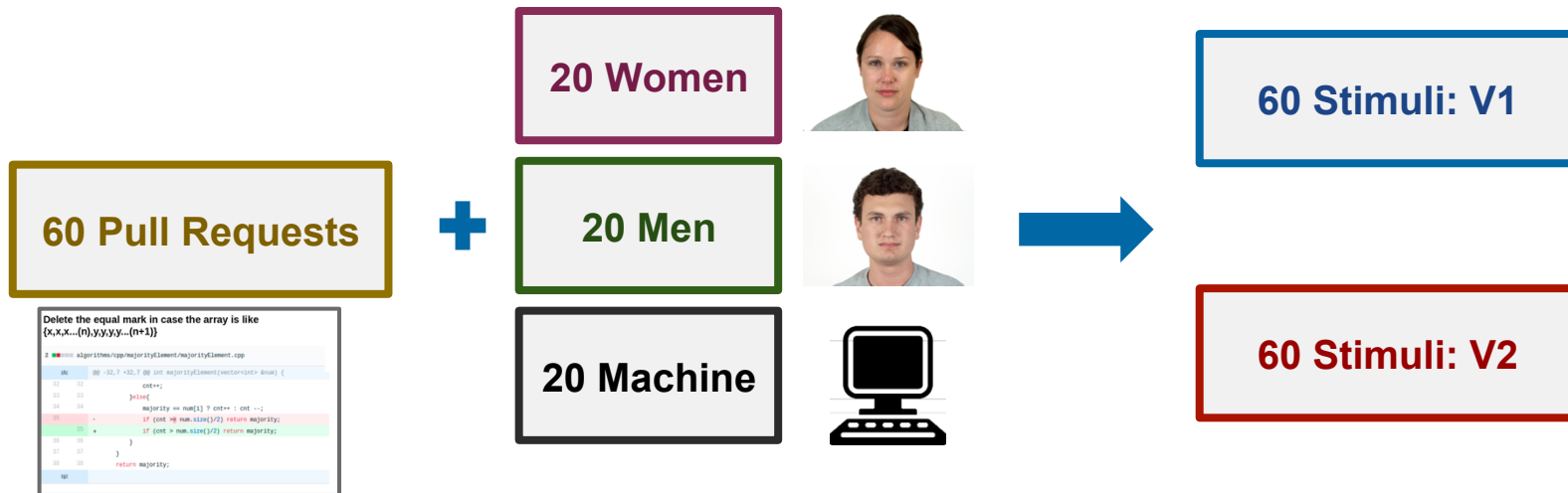
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- 60 C/C++ pull requests from GitHub
- Author images: **Relabel the author information**
 - Chicago Face Database



Experimental Design

- 60 C/C++ pull requests from GitHub
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- **Construction** of code review stimuli




Experimental Design



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Owner: [REDACTED]



Accept Reject

li: V1

li: V2

60 Pu



Experimental Design

Recruitment

Deception

Code
Reviews

Post Survey

Debriefing

- **Avoid social desirability bias**
- **37 Participants**
- **Post-survey questions**

Demographic	Number of Participants		
	Total	Version I	Version II
Men	21	11	10
Women	16	7	9
Undergraduate	26	11	15
Graduate	11	7	4



Summary: Biases in Code Review

- We find **universal biases** in how all participants treat code reviews as a function of the **reviewers' gender** and **apparent author**:



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 - **Behavioral difference**
 - i. All participants spend **less time** evaluating the Pull Requests of **women** ($p < 0.01$)
 - ii. All participants are **less likely to accept** the Pull Requests of **machines** ($p < 0.05$)
 - iii. Women reviewers** spent **less time** on all Pull Requests ($p < 0.0001$)



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 - iii. Women reviewers** spent **less time** on all Pull Requests ($p < 0.0001$)
 - **Visual difference**
 - i. Men and women reviewers employ **different high-level problem-solving strategies** ($p < 0.001$)
 - ii. **Men fixated more frequently** ($p < 0.001$), while **women** spent significantly **more time** analyzing **Pull Requests messages** and **author pictures**.



Summary: Biases in Code Review

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 - i. It is possible to *distinguish* women and men conducting code review



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- Participants' **self-reported perception** in code review **do not align** with the objective observations.
 - Do not realize the existence of difference on gender
 - Bias against machines exists

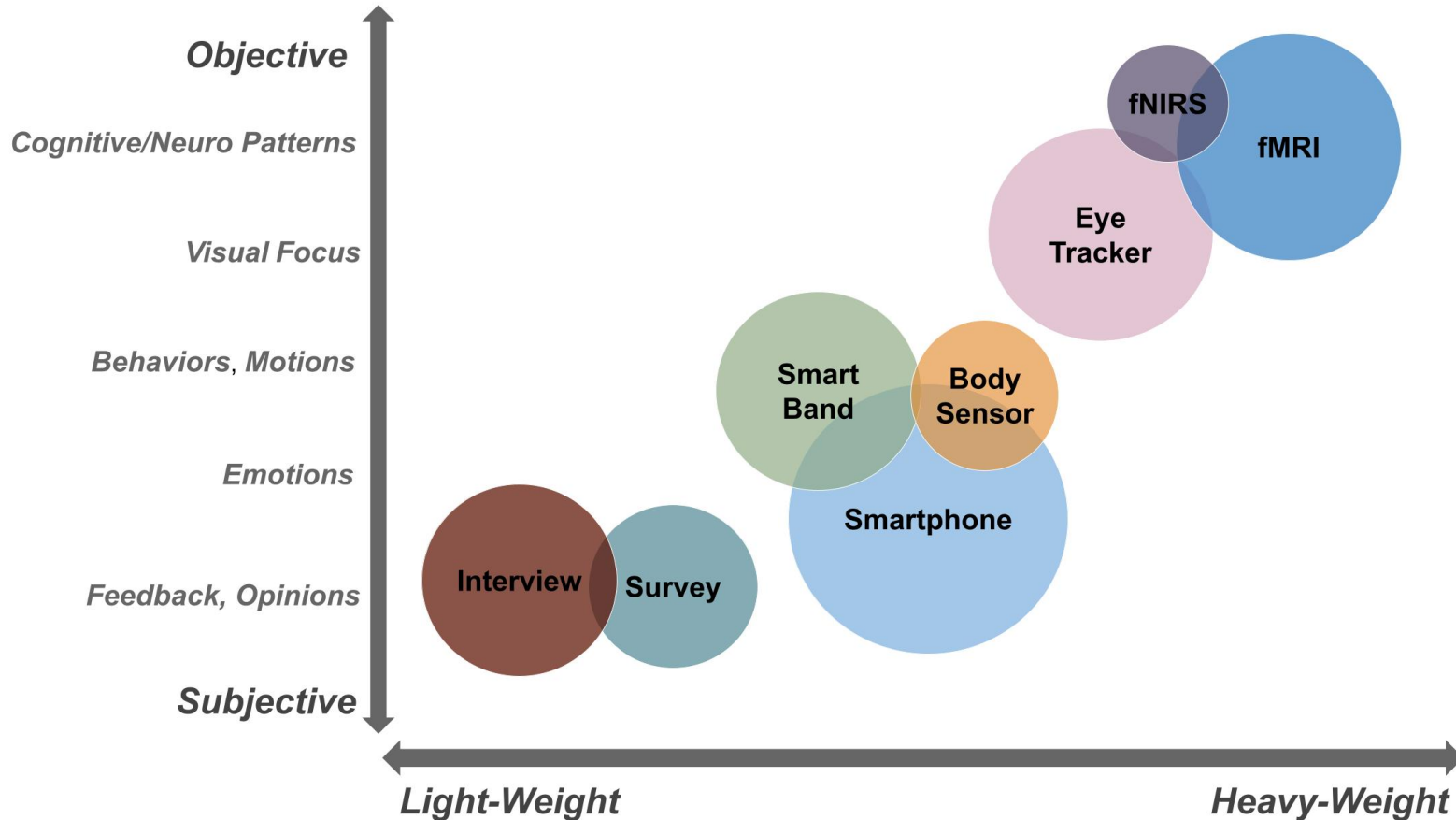


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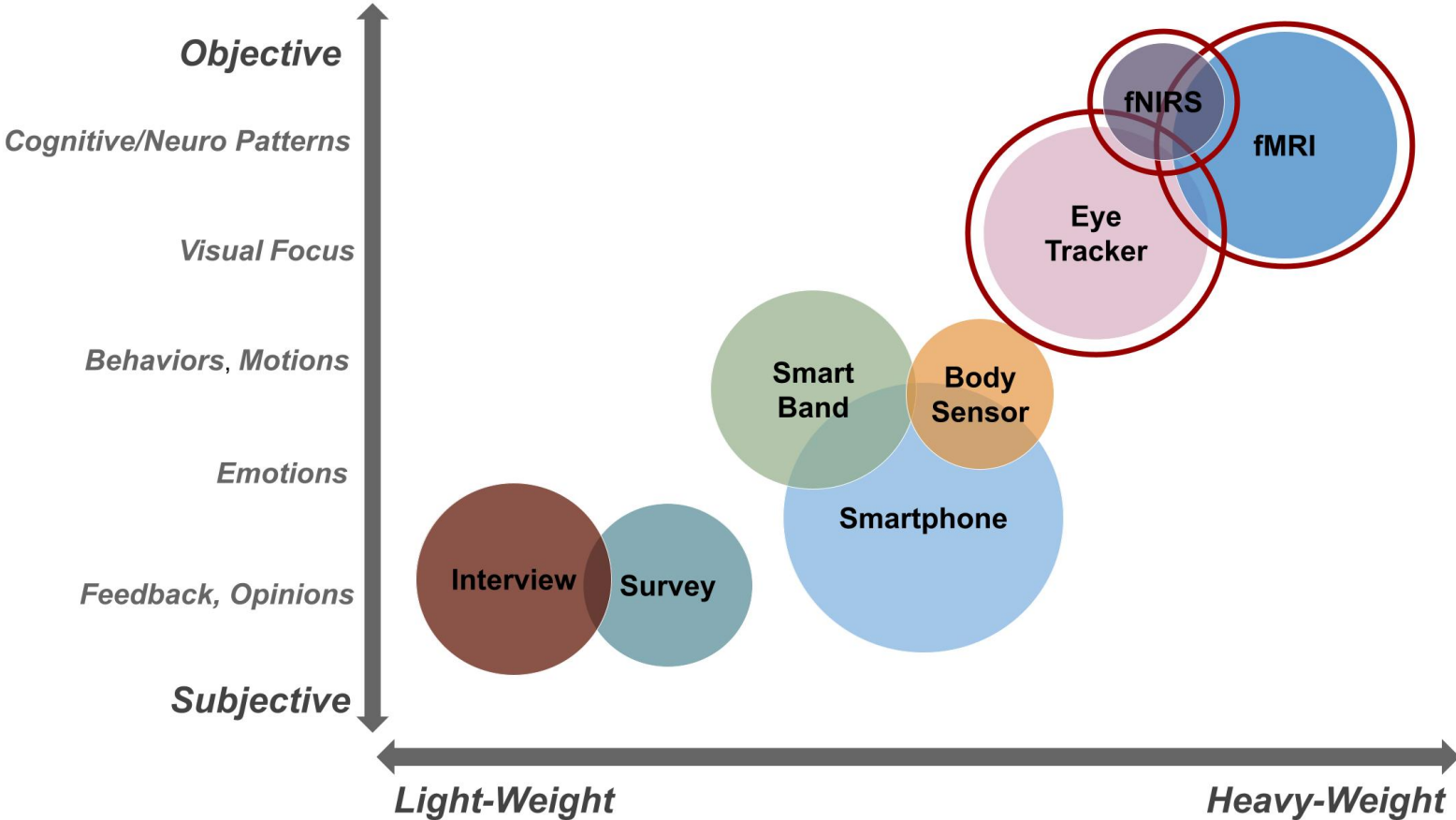
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 - Do not realize the existence of difference on gender
 - Bias against machines exists
- Implications
 - How should we design code review environment based on the **differences**?
 - Should we avoid showing **authors' profiles**?
 - Is there any effective training to **mitigate the biases**?



Thesis Scope: Metrics for Human Factors in SE



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Publications: Supporting this Thesis

1. Distilling Neural Representations of Data Structure Manipulation using fMRI and fNIRS. (*SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award*)

Yu Huang, Xinyu Liu, Ryan Krueger, Tyler Santander, Xiaosu Hu, Kevin Leach, Westley Weimer.
41st ACM/IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2019).

2. Neurological Divide: An fMRI Study of Prose and Code Writing.

Ryan Krueger, Yu Huang, Xinyu Liu, Tyler Santander, Westley Weimer, Kevin Leach.
42nd ACM/IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2020).

3. Biases and Differences in Code Review using Medical Imaging and Eye-Tracking: Genders, Humans, and Machines.

Yu Huang, Kevin Leach, Zohreh Sharafi, Tyler Santander, Westley Weimer.
ACM Joint European Software Engineering Conference and Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE 2020)

4. Towards an Objective Measure of Developers' Cognitive Activities.

Zohreh Sharafi, Yu Huang, Kevin Leach, Westley Weimer.
ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology, Volume 30, Issue 3 (TOSEM 2021)

Publications: Others

- 1. Connecting the Dots: Rethinking the Relationship between Code and Prose Writing with Functional Connectivity.** Zachary Karas, Andrew Jahn, Westley Weimer, Yu Huang. *ACM Joint European Software Engineering Conference and Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE 2021)*. To Appear.
- 2. Applying Automated Program Repair to Dataflow Programming Languages.** Yu Huang, Hammad Ahmad, Stephanie Forrest, Westley Weimer. *10th International Workshop on Genetic Improvement (GI 2021 @ ICSE 2021)*. To Appear.
- 3. Leaving My Fingerprints: Motivations and Challenges of Contributing to OSS for Social Good.** Yu Huang, Denae Ford, Thomas Zimmermann. *43rd ACM/IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2021)*. To Appear.
- 4. Trustworthiness Perceptions in Code Review: An Eye-tracking Study.** Ian Bertram, Jack Hong, Yu Huang, Westley Weimer, Zohreh Sharafi. *Empirical Software Engineering and Measurement, Emerging Results and Vision Papers (ESEM 2020)*.
- 5. A Human Study of Comprehension and Code Summarization.** Sean Stapleton, Yashmeet Gambhir, Alexander LeClair, Zachary Eberhart, Westley Weimer, Kevin Leach, Yu Huang. *28th IEEE/ACM International Conference on Program Comprehension (ICPC 2020)*.
- 6. Understanding Behavioral Dynamics of Social Anxiety Among College Students Through Smartphone Sensors.** Jiaqi Gong, Yu Huang, Philip I Chow, Karl Fua, Matthew Gerber, Bethany Teachman, Laura Barnes. *Information Fusion*, 49:57–68, September 2019.
- 7. Physiological Changes Over the Course of Cognitive Bias Modification for Social Anxiety.** Mehdi Boukhechba, Jiaqi Gong, Kamran Kowsari, Mawulolo K Ameko, Karl Fua, Philip I Chow, Yu Huang, Bethany A Teachman, and Laura E Barnes. *Biomedical & Health Informatics (BHI), 2018 IEEE EMBS International Conference on*, pages 422–425.

Publications: Others

8. **I Did OK, But Did I Like It? Using Ecological Momentary Assessment to Examine Perceptions of Social Interactions Associated with Severity of Social Anxiety and Depression.** Emily C Geyer, Karl C Fua, Katharine E Daniel, Philip I Chow, Wes Bonelli, Yu Huang, Laura E Barnes, and Bethany A Teachman. *Behavior therapy*, 49(6):866–880, 2018
9. **Discovery of Behavioral Markers of Social Anxiety From Smartphone Sensor Data.** Yu Huang, Jiaqi Gong, Mark Rucker, Philip Chow, Karl Fua, Matthew S. Gerber, Bethany Teachman, and Laura E. Barnes. *1st Workshop on Digital Biomarkers, DigitalBiomarkers '17, pages 9–14, New York, NY, USA, ACM.*
10. **Using Mobile Sensing to Test Clinical Models of Depression, Social Anxiety, State Affect, and Social Isolation Among College Students.** Philip I. Chow, Karl Fua, Yu Huang, Wesley Bonelli, Haoyi Xiong, Laura E. Barnes, and Bethany Teachman. *Journal of Med Internet Res*, 19(3):e62, Mar 2017.
11. **Monitoring Social Anxiety From Mobility and Communication Patterns.** Mehdi Boukhechba, Yu Huang, Philip Chow, Karl Fua, Bethany A. Teachman, and Laura E. Barnes. *The ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive and Ubiquitous Computing and Proceedings of the 2017 ACM International Symposium on Wearable Computers, UbiComp '17, pages 749–753.*
12. **Daehr: A Discriminant Analysis Framework for Electronic Health Record Data and an Application to Early Detection of Mental Health Disorders.** Haoyi Xiong, Jinghe Zhang, Yu Huang, Kevin Leach, and Laura E. Barnes. *ACM Trans. Intell. Syst. Technol.*, 8(3):47:1–47:21, February 2017.
13. **Assessing Social Anxiety Using GPS Trajectories and Point-of-Interest Data.** Yu Huang, Haoyi Xiong, Kevin Leach, Yuyan Zhang, Philip Chow, Karl Fua, Bethany A Teachman, and Laura E Barnes. *2016 ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive and Ubiquitous Computing (UbiComp '16), pages 898–903.*

Publications: Others

14. **Sensus: a Cross-Platform, General-Purpose System for Mobile Crowdsensing in Human-Subject Studies.** Haoyi Xiong, Yu Huang, Laura E Barnes, and Matthew S Gerber. *In Proceedings of the 2016 ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive and Ubiquitous Computing, UbiComp '16*, pages 415–426.
15. **Demons: an Integrated Framework for Examining Associations Between Physiology and Selfreported affect Tied to Depressive Symptoms.** Philip Chow, Wesley Bonelli, Yu Huang, Karl Fua, Bethany A Teachman, and Laura E Barnes. *In Proceedings of the 2016 ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive and Ubiquitous Computing: Adjunct*, pages 1139–1143.
16. **A Design and Theoretical Analysis of a 145 mV to 1.2 V Single-Ended Level Converter Circuit for Ultra-Low Power Low Voltage ICs.** Yu Huang, Aatmesh Shrivastava, Laura E Barnes, and Benton H Calhoun. *Journal of Low Power Electronics and Applications*, 6(3):11, 2016.
17. **M-SEQ: Early Detection of Anxiety and Depression via Temporal Orders of Diagnoses in Electronic Health Data.** Jinghe Zhang, Haoyi Xiong, Yu Huang, Hao Wu, Kevin Leach, and Laura Barnes. *In Proceedings of the 2015 IEEE International Conference on Big Data (BigData 2015)*, September 2015.
18. **A 145 mV to 1.2 V Single Ended Level Converter Circuit for Ultra-Low Power Low Voltage ICs.** Yu Huang, Aatmesh Shrivastava, and Benton H Calhoun. *In SOI-3D-Subthreshold Microelectronics Technology Unified Conference (S3S), 2015 IEEE*, pages 1–3.
19. **Optimizing Energy Efficient Low Swing Interconnect for Sub-Threshold FPGAs.** He Qi, Oluseyi Ayorinde, Yu Huang, and Benton Calhoun. *In Field Programmable Logic and Applications (FPL), 2015 25th International Conference on*, pages 1–4. *IEEE*, 2015.

Publications: Others

- 20. Using Island-Style Bi-directional Intra-CLB Routing in Low-Power FPGAs.** Oluseyi Ayorinde, He Qi, Yu Huang, and Benton H Calhoun. *In Field Programmable Logic and Applications (FPL), 2015 25th International Conference on*, pages 1–7. *IEEE*, 2015.

Career Plan

- Next stop: Assistant Professor (tenure-track) in Vanderbilt



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 - Sustaining participation in/via Open Source Software for Social Good
 - Supporting HW/SW co-design

Acknowledgement

Acknowledgement



My advisor: Prof. Westley Weimer

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Acknowledgement

My committee members



Prof. Westley Weimer



Prof. Stephanie Forrest



Prof. Mark Guzdial



Prof. Ioulia Kovelman



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Dr. Denae Ford
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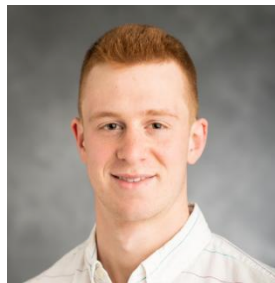
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@UM



Ryan Krueger
@UM



Ian Bertram
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Nick McKay
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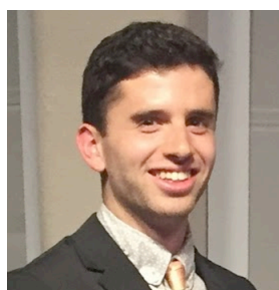
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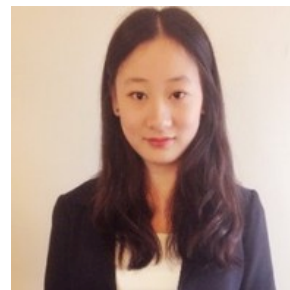
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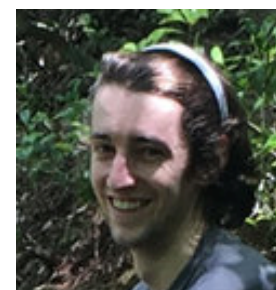
Zach Karas
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Heather Lukas
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Yuyan Zhang
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Wesley Bonelli
@Uva



Sarai Alvarez
@Uva

Acknowledgement

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And all my friends!



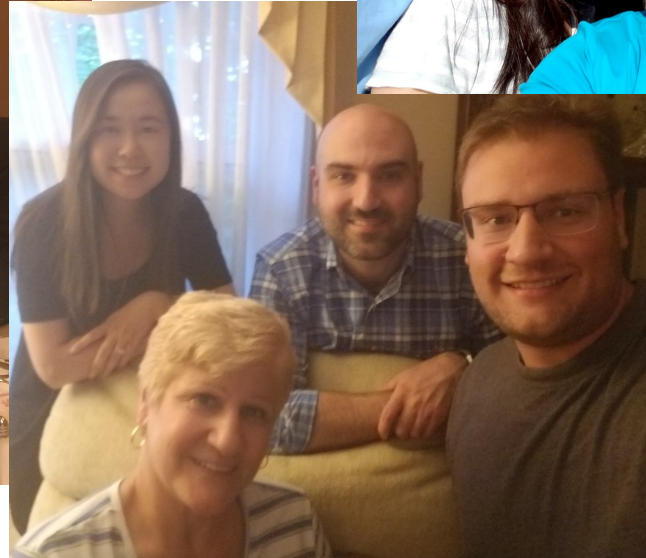
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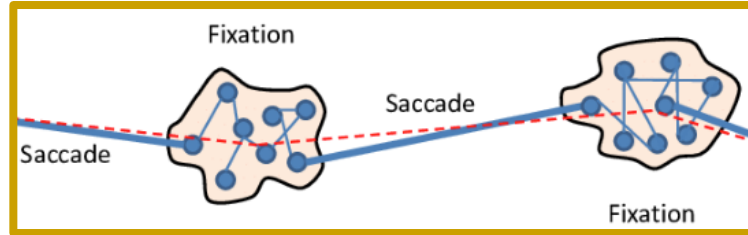
Acknowledgement

- My parents: Zhonglin Huang and Qian Xu
- My husband: Kevin Leach
- My parents-in-law: Richard and Linda Leach
- My brother-in-law: Eric Leach



Summary

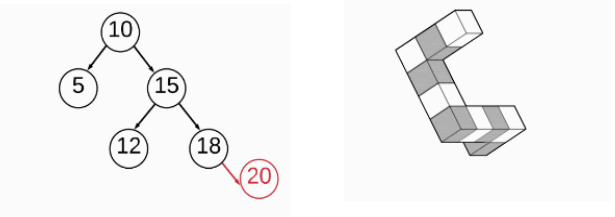
- Measure cognitive processes in software activities



Summary

- Measure cognitive processes in software activities
- Novel concept, problems, and approaches

How do human brains represent **data structures**? Is it more like **text** or more like **3D objects**?



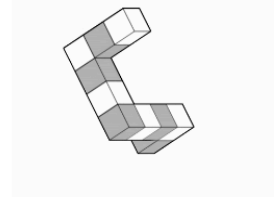
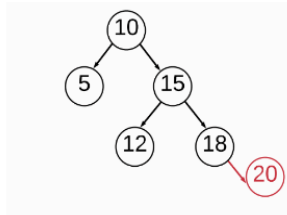
Neural Representations of Data Structures

17

Summary

- Measure cognitive processes in software activities
- Novel concept, problems, and approaches
- Rigorous controlled experiments

How do human brains represent **data structures**? Is it more like **text** or more like **3D objects**?

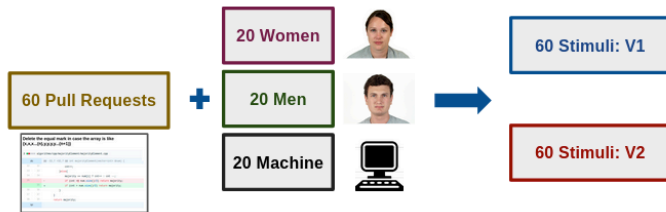


Neural Representations of Data Structures

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Experimental Design

- 60 C/C++ pull requests from GitHub
- Author images: **Relabel the author information**
- **Construction** of code review stimuli



Understanding bias in code reviews

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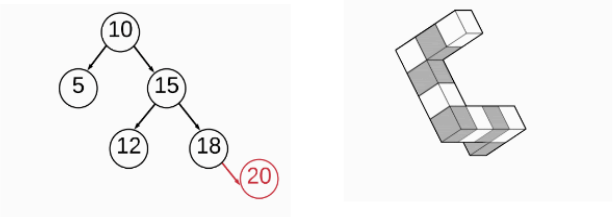
De-identified data is public: <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~yhhy/>

113

Summary

- Measure cognitive processes in software activities
- Novel concepts, problems, and approaches
- Rigorous controlled experiments
- Potentials for broad impact

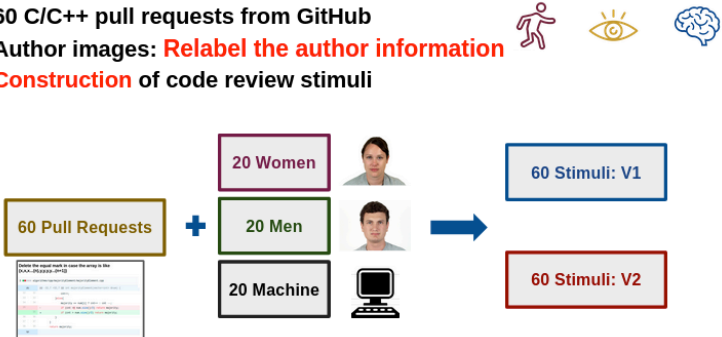
How do human brains represent data structures? Is it more like **text** or more like **3D objects**?



Neural Representations of Data Structures 17

Experimental Design

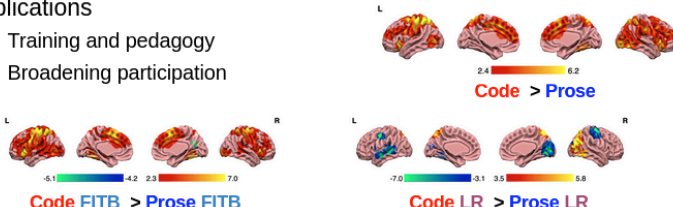
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Understanding bias in code reviews 69

Summary: Prose Writing vs. Coding Writing

- **Code writing** and **prose writing** are very **distinct** neural activities! (2.4 < t < 6.2)
 - **Code writing**: top-down control, memory, planning, spatial ability
 - **Prose writing**: language-related regions
- Implications
 - Training and pedagogy
 - Broadening participation



Comparing prose writing and code writing 53

De-identified data is public: <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~yhhy/>