

Ownership Effects Across Territory Boundaries

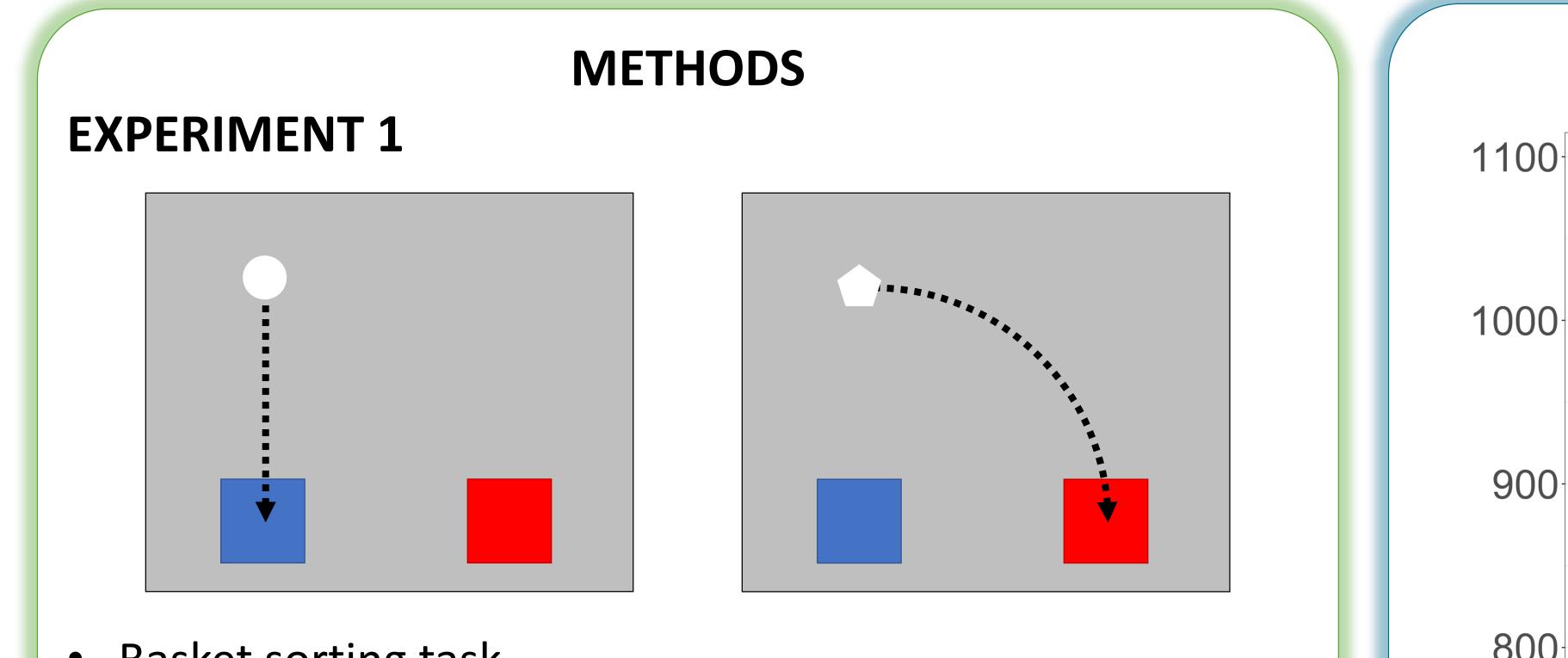
James W.A. Strachan, Merryn D. Constable, Günther Knoblich Central European University, Budapest, Hungary



INTRODUCTION

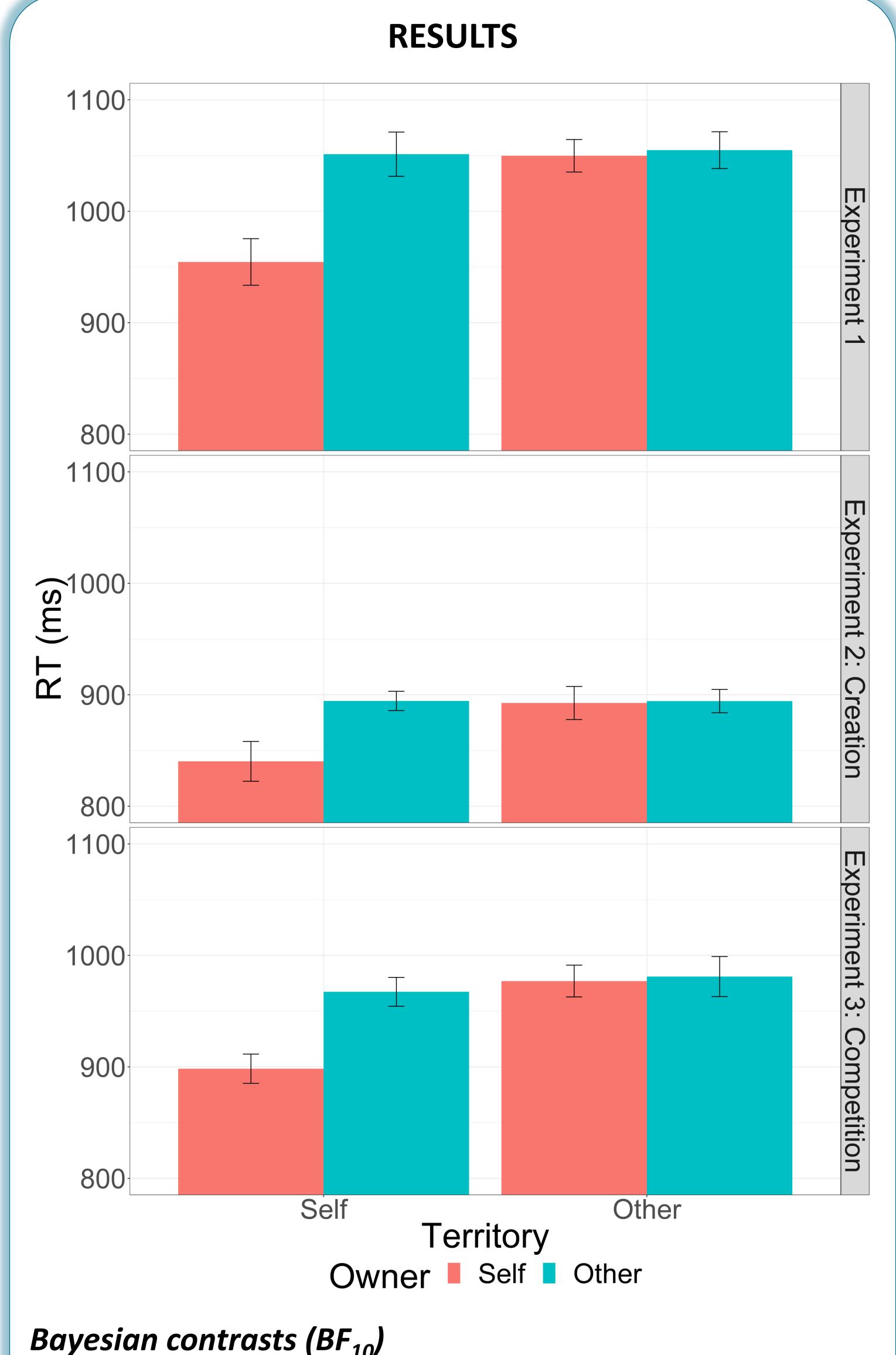
- Merely owning an object makes us process it differently from unowned or other-owned objects [1]
- We are faster to process our own objects than other people's, suggesting privileged processing for self-relevant items [2]
- Often described as automatic, self-relevance leading to attention capture [3]
- Territory also has a relevant ownership component
- Psychological consequences of territory are less well explored

How does the location of an object within a territory affect the object ownership effect?

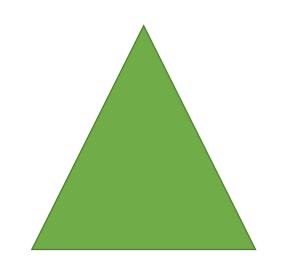


- Basket sorting task
- SELF-owned and OTHER-owned objects appear in SELF or OTHER territory defined by location of baskets
- Participants decide to DROP or PASS item

EXPERIMENT 2: Creation



- Participants create their own objects
- Pick shape and colour
- Identical to Experiment 1



Other object generated to be different from participant's choice

EXPERIMENT 3: Competition

- Participants tested in pairs
- Told to be faster and more accurate than the other person
- Told that OTHER object and territory belong to opponent

N=24 per experiment

Whole display 10 DVA in size; limiting need for eye movements

REFERENCES

- Beggan, J.K. (1992). On the social nature of nonsocial perception: The mere ownership effect. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 62*(2), 229-237.
- 2. Sui, J., He, X., & Humphreys, G. W. (2012). Perceptual effects of social salience: evidence from selfprioritization effects on perceptual matching. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*, *38*(5), 1105.
- 3. Humphreys, G. W., & Sui, J. (2016). Attentional control and the self: the Self-Attention Network (SAN). *Cognitive neuroscience*, 7(1-4), 5-17.

Corresponding author: James Strachan, Department of Cognitive Science, Central European University, Oktober 6 u. 7, 1051 Budapest

Self TerritoryExp 1: 131.28Exp 2: 9.34Exp 3: 48.52Other TerritoryExp 1: 0.22Exp 2: 0.12Exp 3: 0.22

CONCLUSIONS

- Reliable ownership effects in the Self territory
- Moderate but consistent evidence *against* ownership effects in Other territory
- Not affected by whether item was created (Experiment 2) or context was competitive (Experiment 3)



james.wa.strachan@gmail.com



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