

Computational Psychiatry:

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Computational Psychiatry:

- Existing psychiatric diagnostic system and treatments for mental or psychiatric disorder lacks biological foundation [1].
- Complexity of brain presents challenges in developing hypothesis to lead the research in psychiatry.

Computational Psychiatry:

Computational Psychiatry aims to [2]:

-> model the computations that brain performs to find solutions to problems.

-> understand how the 'abnormal' thoughts and behaviors, (considered as psychiatric disorders) relate to normal function and neural processes.

-> provide tools to identify the causes of particular symptoms by establishing mathematical relationship between symptoms, environments and neurobiology.

[2] Adams RA, Huys QJ, Roiser JP. Computational Psychiatry: towards a mathematically informed understanding of mental illness. J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry. 2015 Jul 8;jnnp-2015.

Computational Psychiatry:

- It encompasses two approaches [3]:
 - Data-driven: Data analysis method from Machine Learning (ML): Diagnostic classification, treatment selection, relationship between symptoms.
 - Theory-driven: Mathematically specify relations between variables.

Theory-driven approach:

Models can be classified in many different ways: [3]

- Synthetic / Biophysically detailed model
- Algorithmic model
- Optimal model

Synthetic / Biophysically detailed model:

- Helps to link biological abnormalities in psychiatric disorder to neurodynamical and behavioral consequences [3].
- One such model has been described in [4].
- Objective of the model was to:
 - > Study the effects of disinhibition associated with schizophrenia in a cortical working memory model.
 - > How stable the Working memory trace is, when perturbed by an additional distracting input.

Synthetic / Biophysically detailed model:

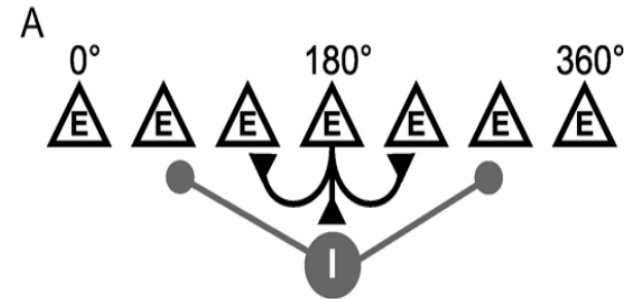
The model included:

Recurrently connected pyramidal neurons (Excitatory)

GABAergic interneurons (Inhibitory)

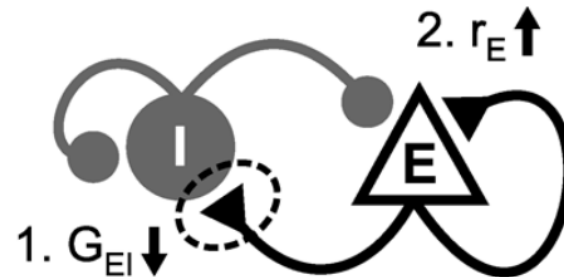
$N_E = 2048$ pyramidal cells

$N_I = 512$ inhibitory interneurons



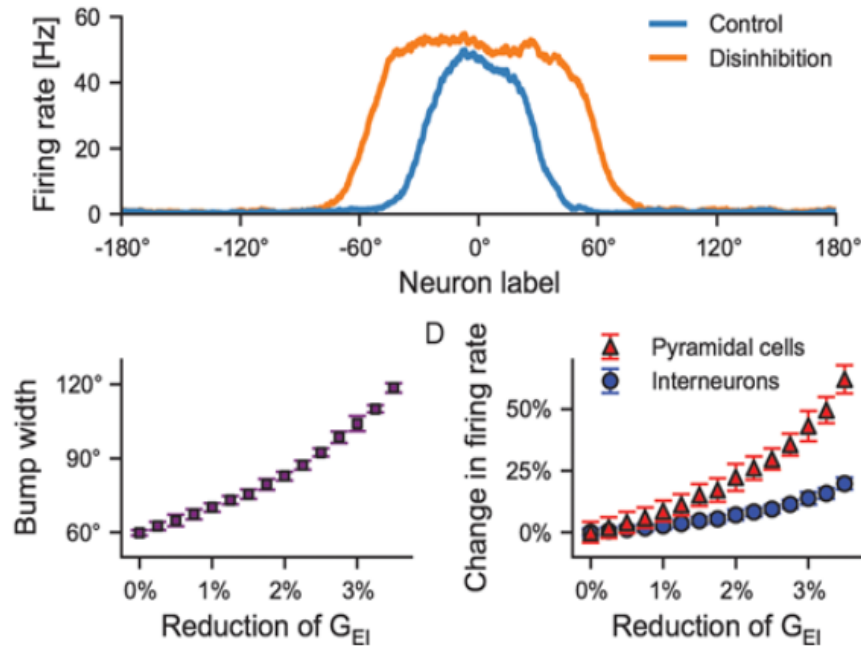
Synthetic / Biophysically detailed model:

- Disinhibition is implemented through a reduction of NMDA conductance on interneurons.
- This weakens the recruitment of feedback inhibition i.e. inhibitory interneurons are less strongly recruited by pyramidal-cell activity,
- More pyramidal cells can be activated by recurrent collaterals.



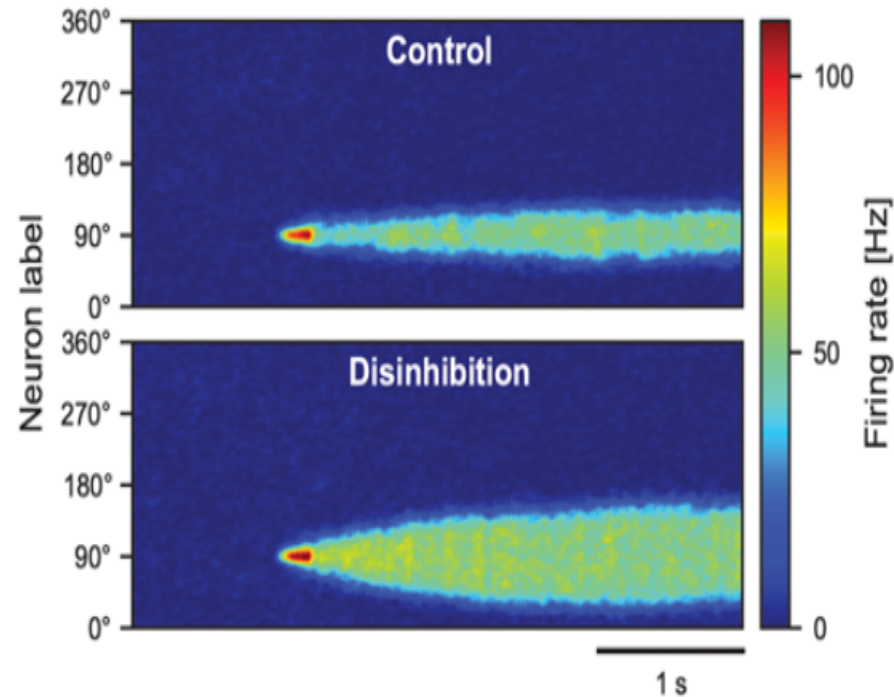
Synthetic / Biophysically detailed model:

- With increasing reduction of conductance, bump width and firing rate of excitatory neurons increase.



Synthetic / Biophysically detailed model:

- Broadening of the bump width in disinhibition case during persistent activity in working memory.



Synthetic / Biophysically detailed model:

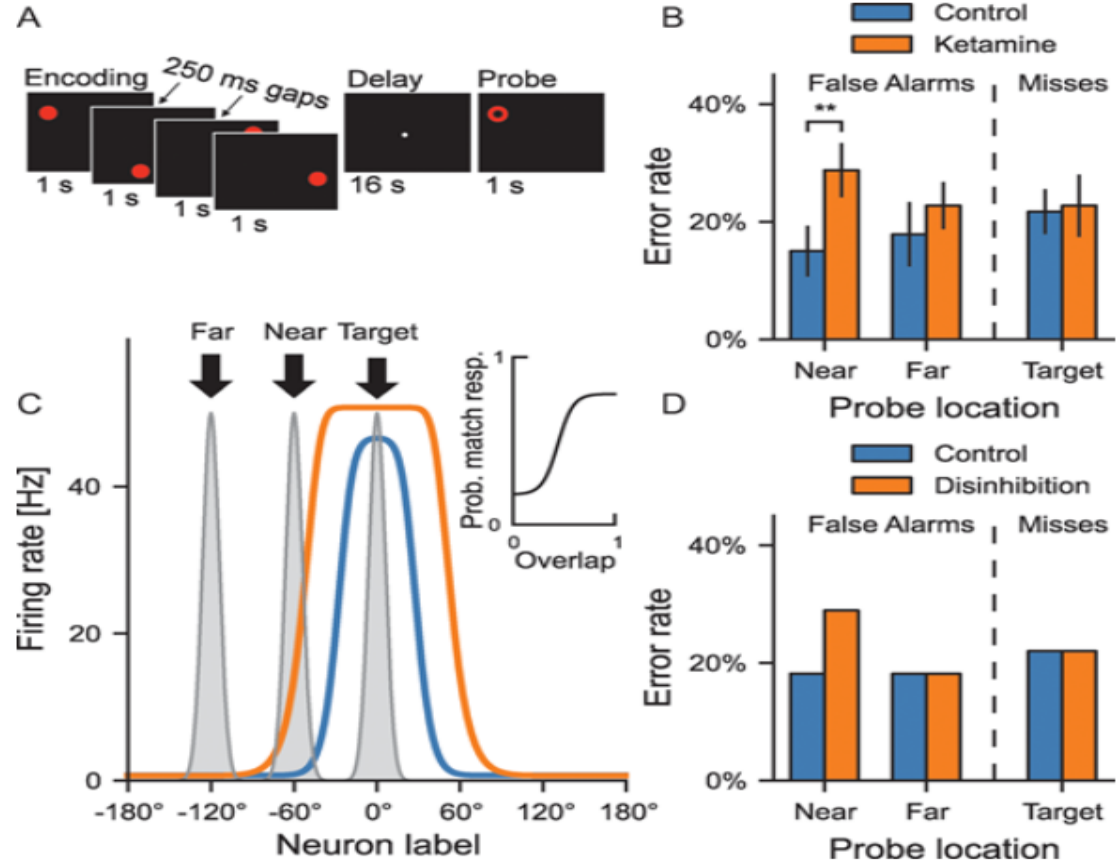
Error:

Misses:

Nonmatch response to a probe at a target location.

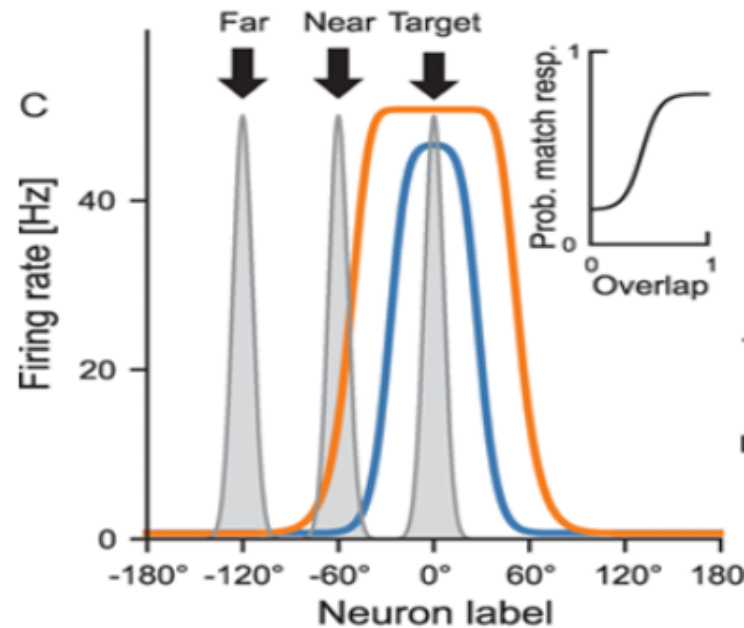
False alarms:

Match response to a probe at a nontarget location.



Synthetic / Biophysically detailed model:

- Disinhibition broadening overlaps more with the near probe location cases, hence results in increasing error rate.



Algorithmic model:

- Reinforcement Learning model
- Applied extensively to deal with issues like emotional decision-making, motivation, affect etc. [3].
- One such model has been described in [5]:

Negative symptoms are a core feature of schizophrenia and the objective of the model was to establish relationship between reinforcement learning abnormality with negative symptoms.

Algorithmic model:

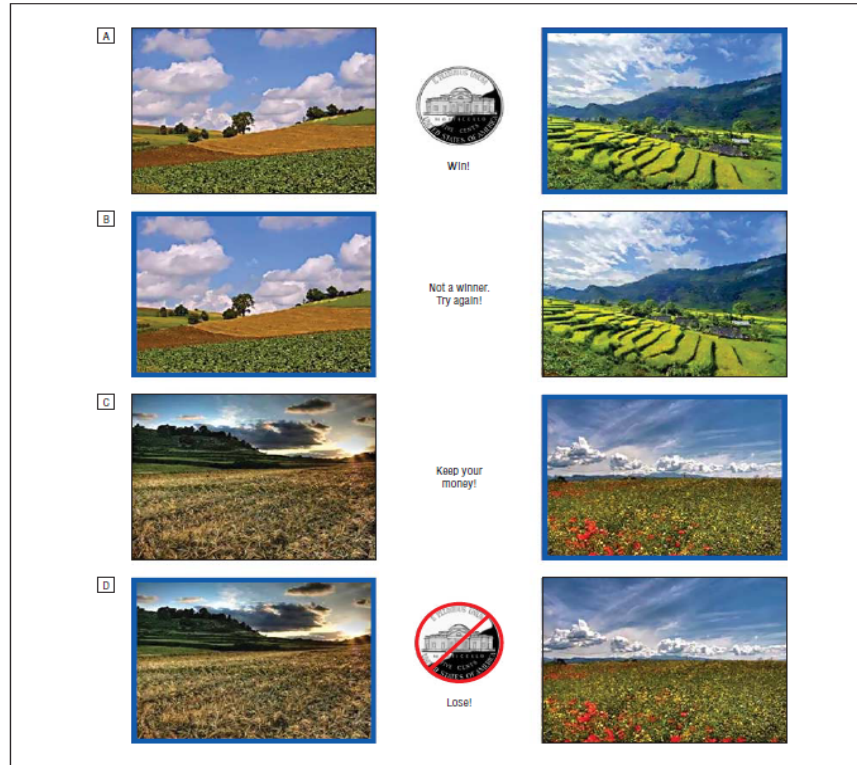
It was found that [5]:

Patients in the high-negative symptom group

- > demonstrated impaired learning from rewards but intact loss-avoidance learning
- > failed to distinguish rewarding stimuli from loss-avoiding stimuli in the test phase.

Algorithmic model:

- First two pair corresponds to reward earning and last two pair relates to loss avoidance.



Algorithmic model:

- Patients with high negative symptoms tend to learn from loss-avoidance instead of reward earning.

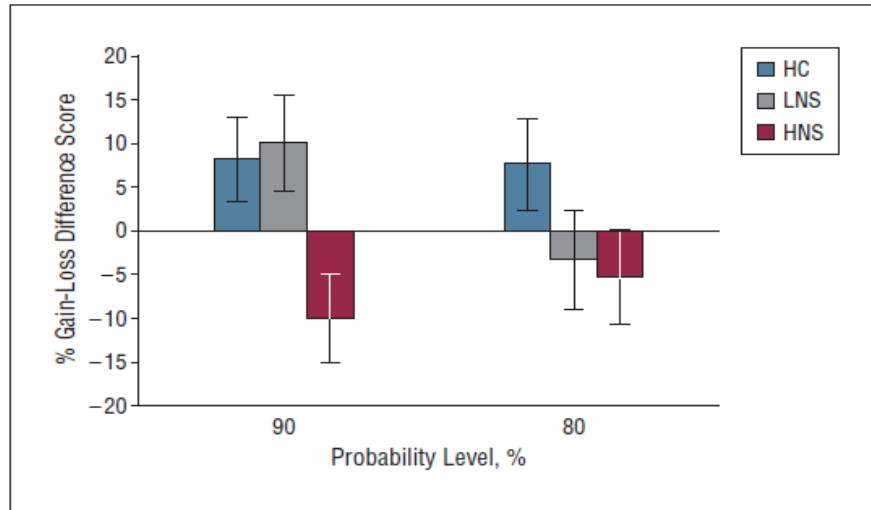


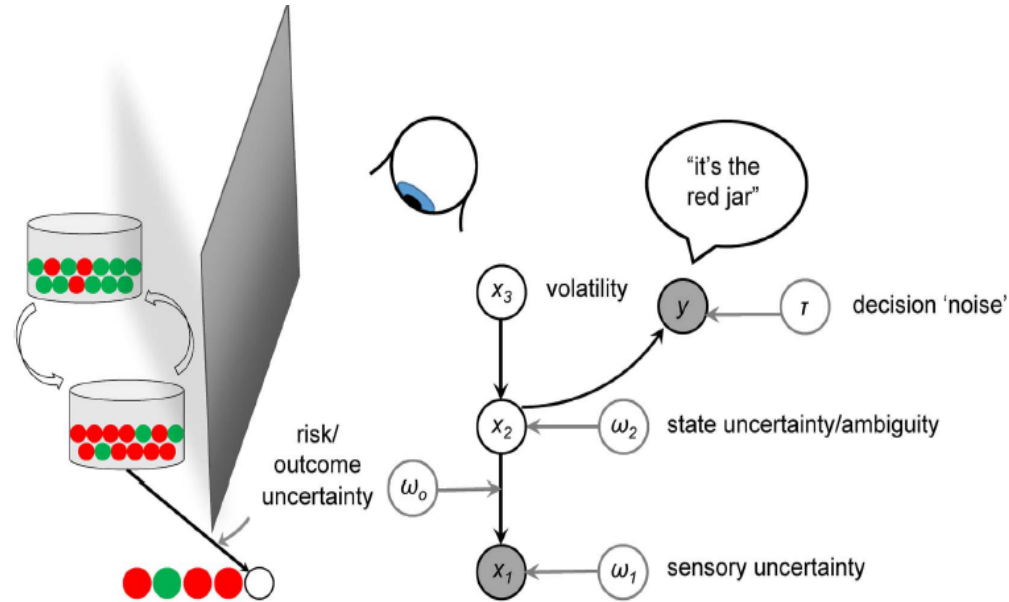
Figure 3. Performance on the gain and loss-avoidance difference score among patients and healthy control (HC) subjects. The difference score was calculated using block 4 performance. Scores above zero indicate better learning from gain than from loss avoidance, while scores below zero indicate better learning from loss avoidance than from gain. HNS indicates high-negative symptom; LNS, low-negative symptom.

[5] Gold, James M., et al. "Negative symptoms and the failure to represent the expected reward value of actions: behavioral and computational modeling evidence." *Archives of general psychiatry* 69.2 (2012): 129-138.

Bayesian model:

- It is used to better understand the nature of the problems and their solutions [3].

Generative model of decision making:

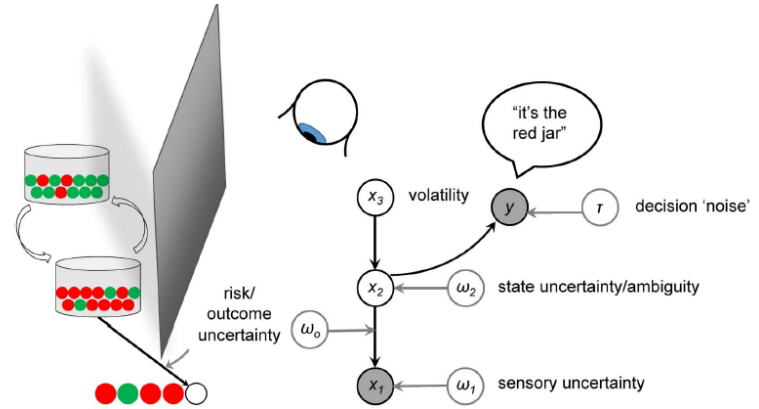


Possible uncertainty changes in schizophrenia:

$\uparrow \omega_2, \tau, \downarrow \omega_1, \omega_0$

Generative model of decision making:

- x_1 -> input;
 w_1 -> associated uncertainty
- x_2 -> identity of the jar;
 w_2 -> associated uncertainty;
 w_0 -> uncertainty about next outcome
- x_3 -> belief that jar can be swapped
- y -> decision;
 τ -> Uncertainty/noise in decision



Possible uncertainty changes in schizophrenia:

$\uparrow \omega_2, \tau, \downarrow \omega_1, \omega_0$

To conclude,

Computational psychiatry helps understand mental disorder by allowing fitting computational model to behavioral data.

Thank You....