

GRAND ROUNDS

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Statistical analysis of latency data in behavioral experiments

ABSTRACT

Latency data arise in many behavioral experiments. The most prominent example are maze experiments as the Barnes Maze or the Morris Water Maze test. The time to escape from the maze is analyzed to evaluate the spatial learning and memory in mice and rats. Latency data are broadly analyzed by ANOVA type methods. However, these methods do not consider important issues arising in latency data. We will propose a statistical approach to analyze and graphically illustrate latency data, which overcomes the shortcomings of ANOVA. Methods are illustrated on two examples from behavioral neuroscience and anesthesiology.

Food and beverages will be provided.