

The valence of event-
based prospective
memory cues affects
their detection

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What is Prospective Memory?

- Event-based Tasks
 - Environmental Trigger
- Time-based Tasks
 - Internal Cognitive Processes
- Activity-based Tasks
 - Debatable

Event-Based Prospective Memory

- Environmental Trigger



- Press a key when you see...

Cue detection

- The probability that an intention comes to mind can be manipulated by changing cues.
 - UPPER CASE CUES / lower case OGT
 - Low WF cues on High WF OGT
 - Cue Saliience

Valence and its effects on memory

- Pre-attentive or post-elaboration?
- Greater recall & recognition of valenced material (Kensinger & Corkin)
 - Larger emotional enhancement effect for *negative*

A Tale of Two Predictions

1. Negatively valenced cues may attract more attention and more processing:
 - Greater probability of retrieving intention
2. Negatively valenced cues obligatorily bring other related thoughts to mind, resulting in a temporary distraction:
 - Lower probability of retrieving intention

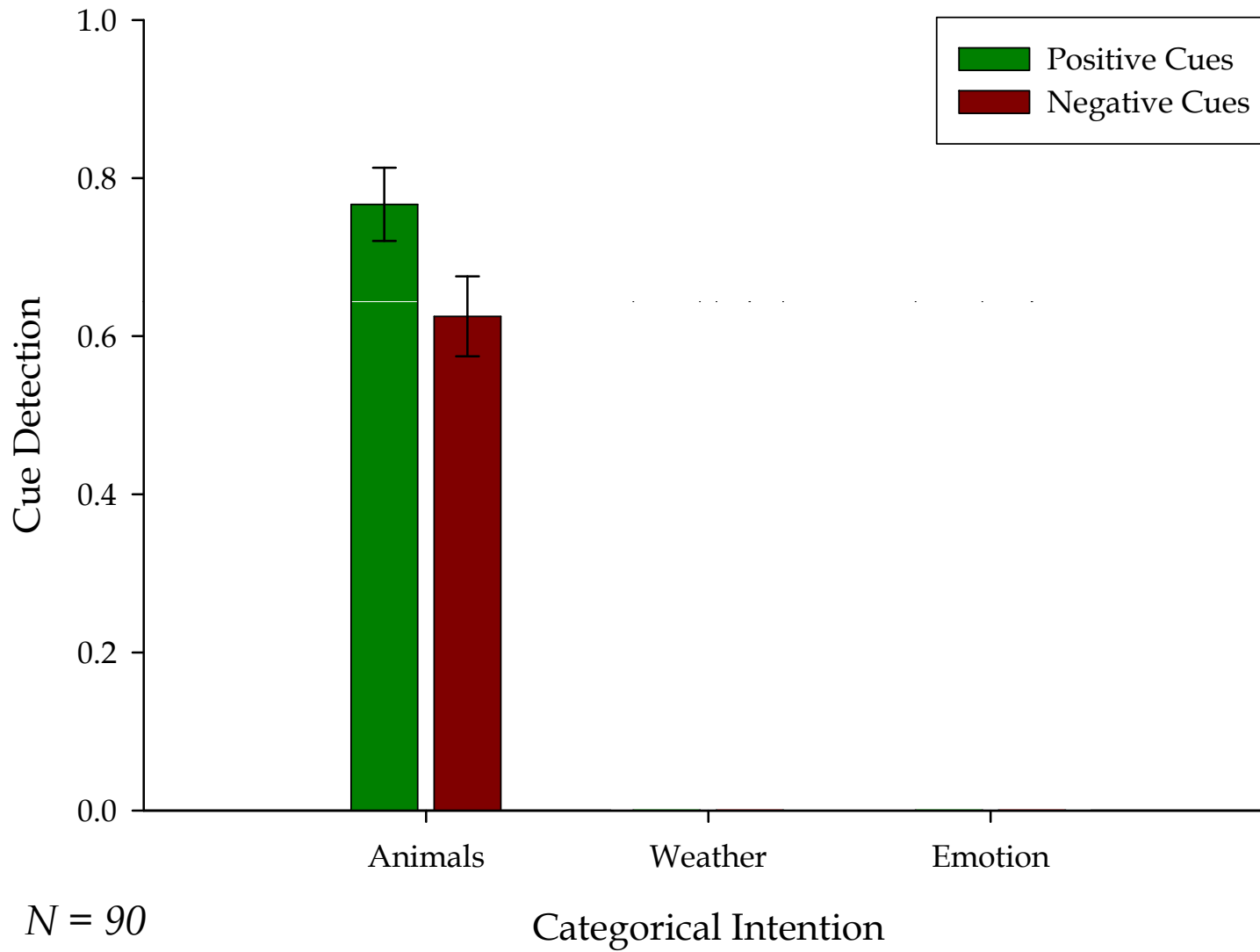
Procedure



- Press “/” when you see an ANIMAL or INSECT

- *Note:* Three different intentions (Animals/Insects, Weather Phenomena, Emotions/Feelings) were manipulated between subjects.

Detection of Positively and Negatively Valenced Cues



Discussion

- Negative cues were detected less often than positive cues.
 - Obligatory processes.
 - Neutral cues?
 - Arousal?

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