

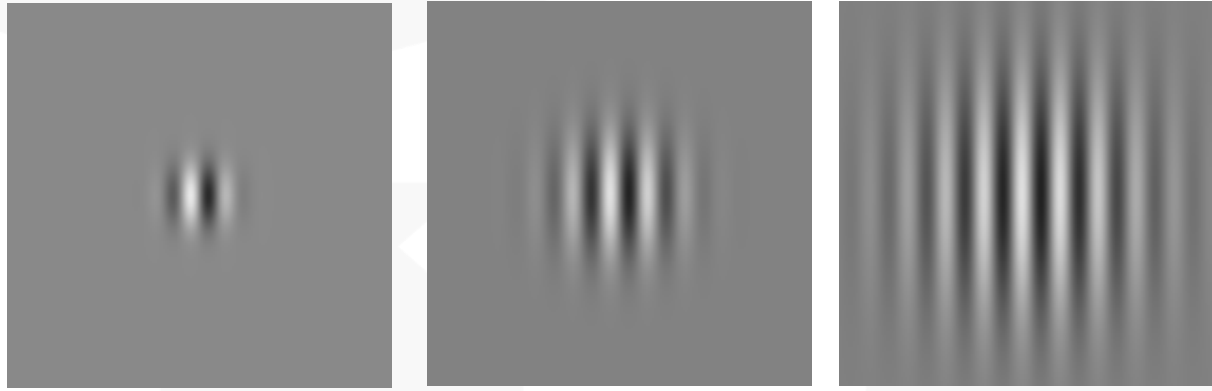
# Summation within and across shapes in central and peripheral vision

*Gunnar Schmidtmann & Maria Zawadyl*



# Summation experiments

A

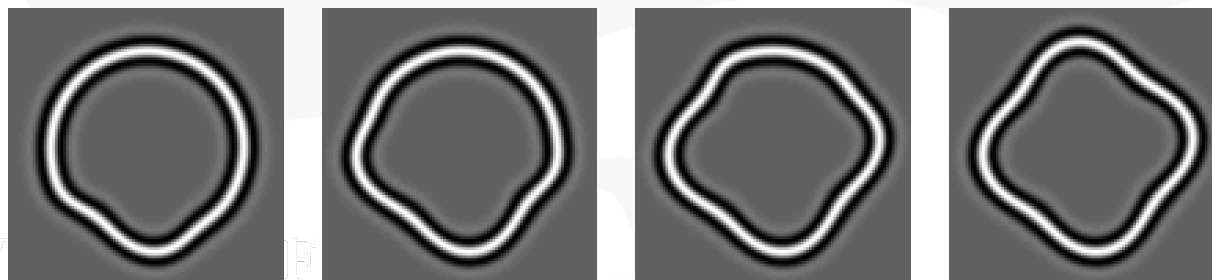


B



Change in number of modulated cycles

C



1

2

3

4



Kingdom, F.A.A., Baldwin, A. S., & Schmidtman, G. (2015). Modeling probability and additive summation for detection across multiple mechanisms under the assumptions of signal detection theory. *Journal of vision*, 15(5), 1-15.

Prins, N., & Kingdom, F. A. (2018). Applying the model-comparison approach to test specific research hypotheses in psychophysical research using the Palamedes Toolbox. *Frontiers in psychology*, 9.



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# Stimuli

Frequency

Amplitude

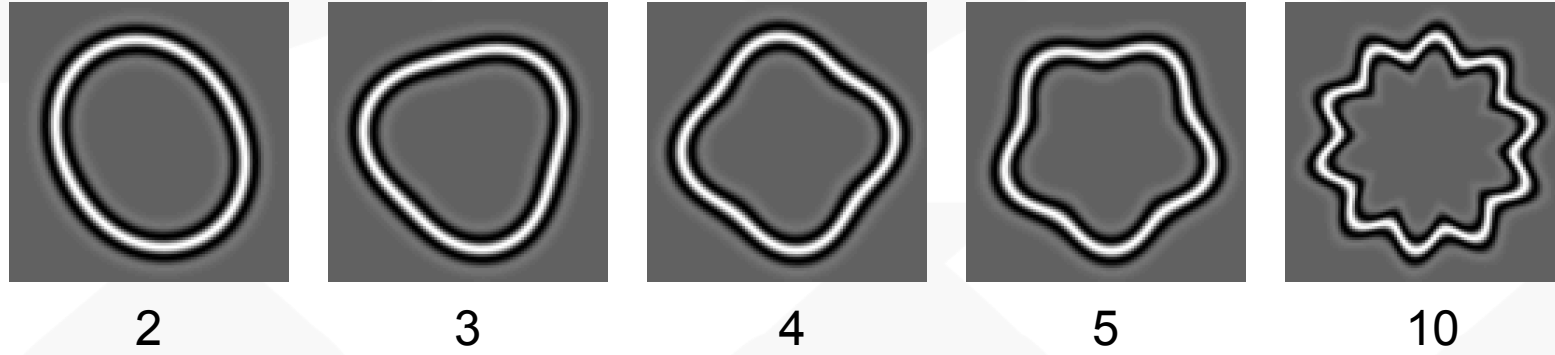
Phase / Orientation

$$r(\theta) = r_{mean}(1 + A(\omega\theta + \varphi))$$

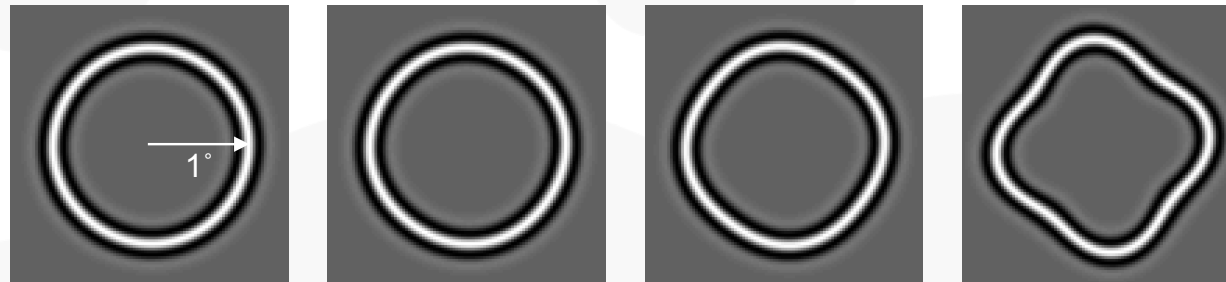


# Stimuli

Change in frequency



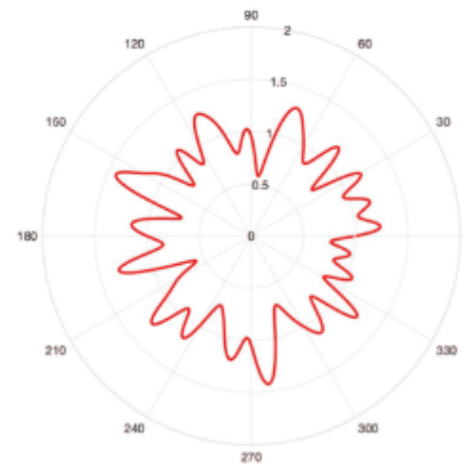
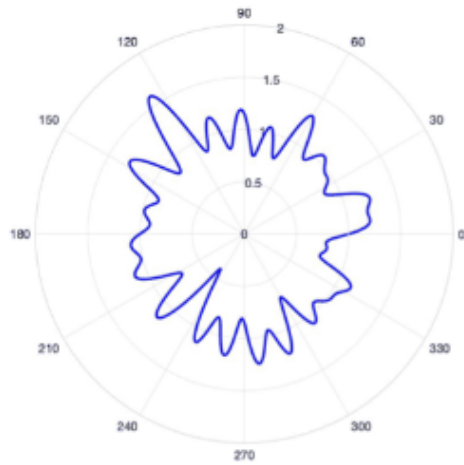
Change in amplitude





# RF compounds – shape channels

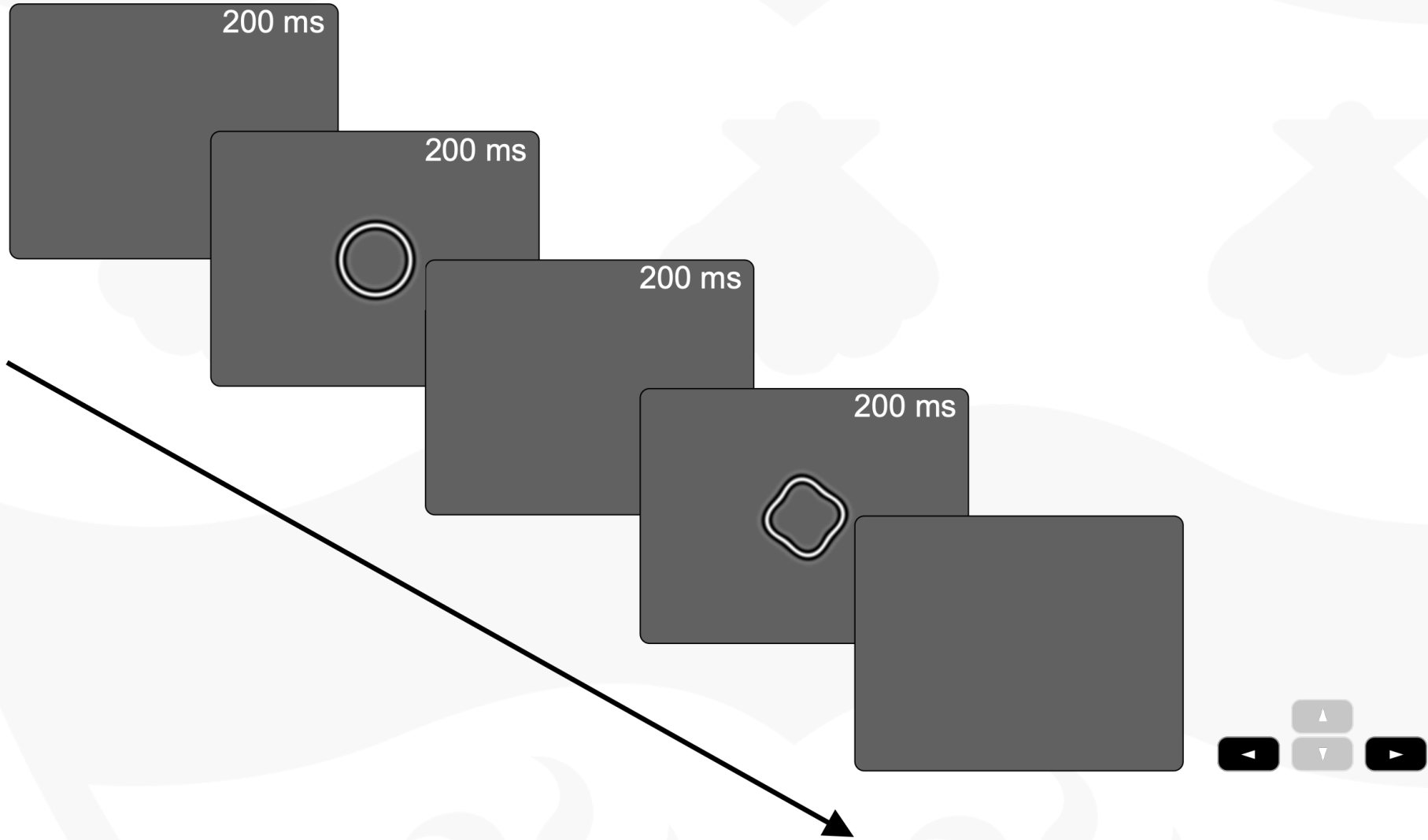
$$r(\theta) = r_{mean} \left( 1 + \sum_n^m A_n \sin(\omega_n \theta + \varphi_n) \right)$$



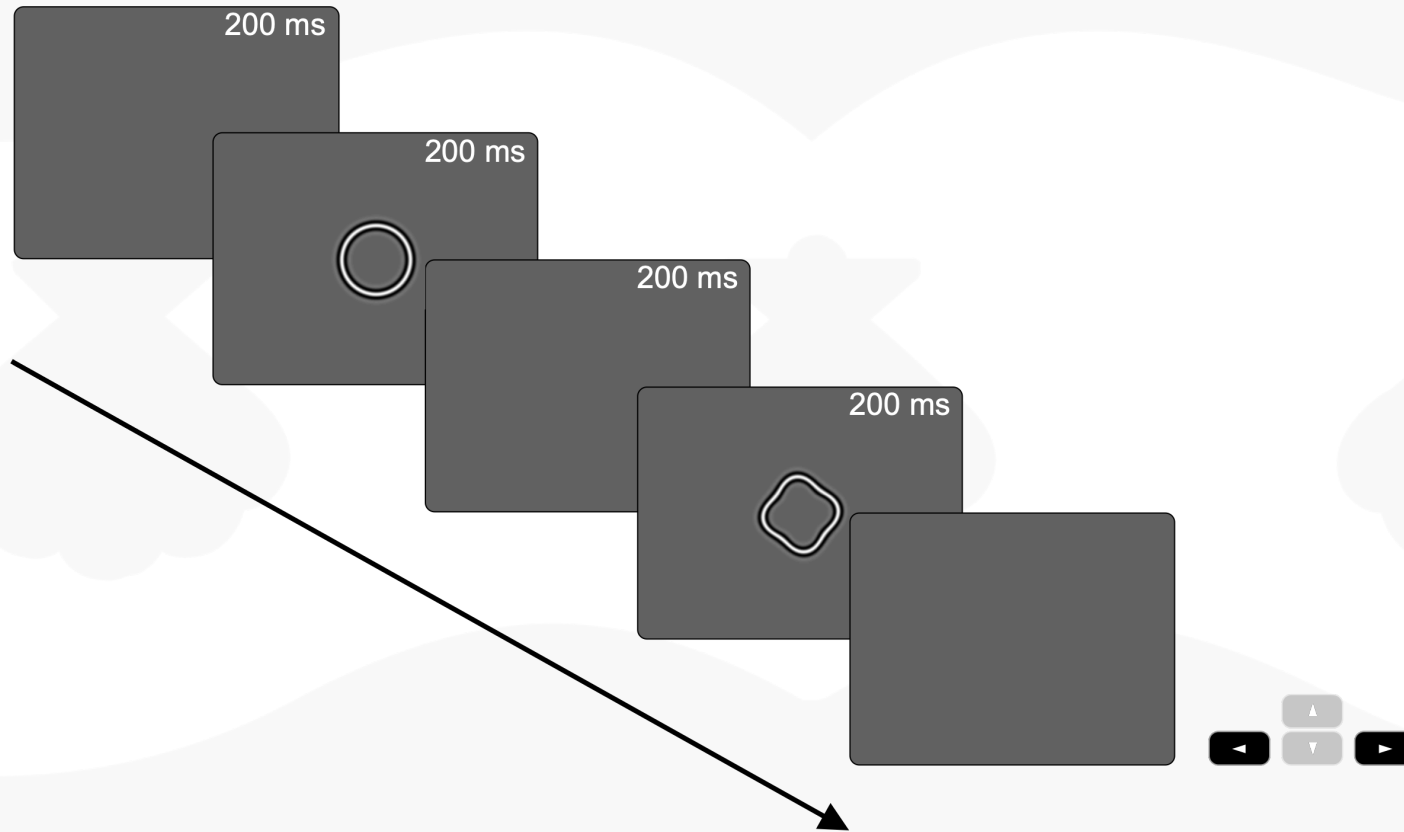
- Schmidtmann, G., & Freund, I. (2019). Radial frequency patterns describe a small and perceptually distinct subset of all possible planar shapes. *Vision research*, 154, 122-130.
- Schmidtmann, G., Kingdom, F. A., & Loffler, G. (2019). The processing of compound radial frequency patterns. *Vision research*, 161, 63-74.



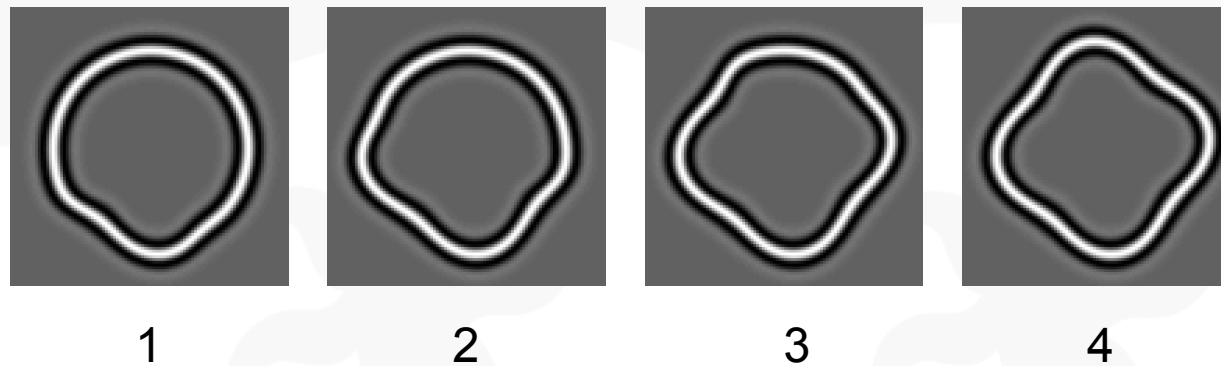
# Paradigm



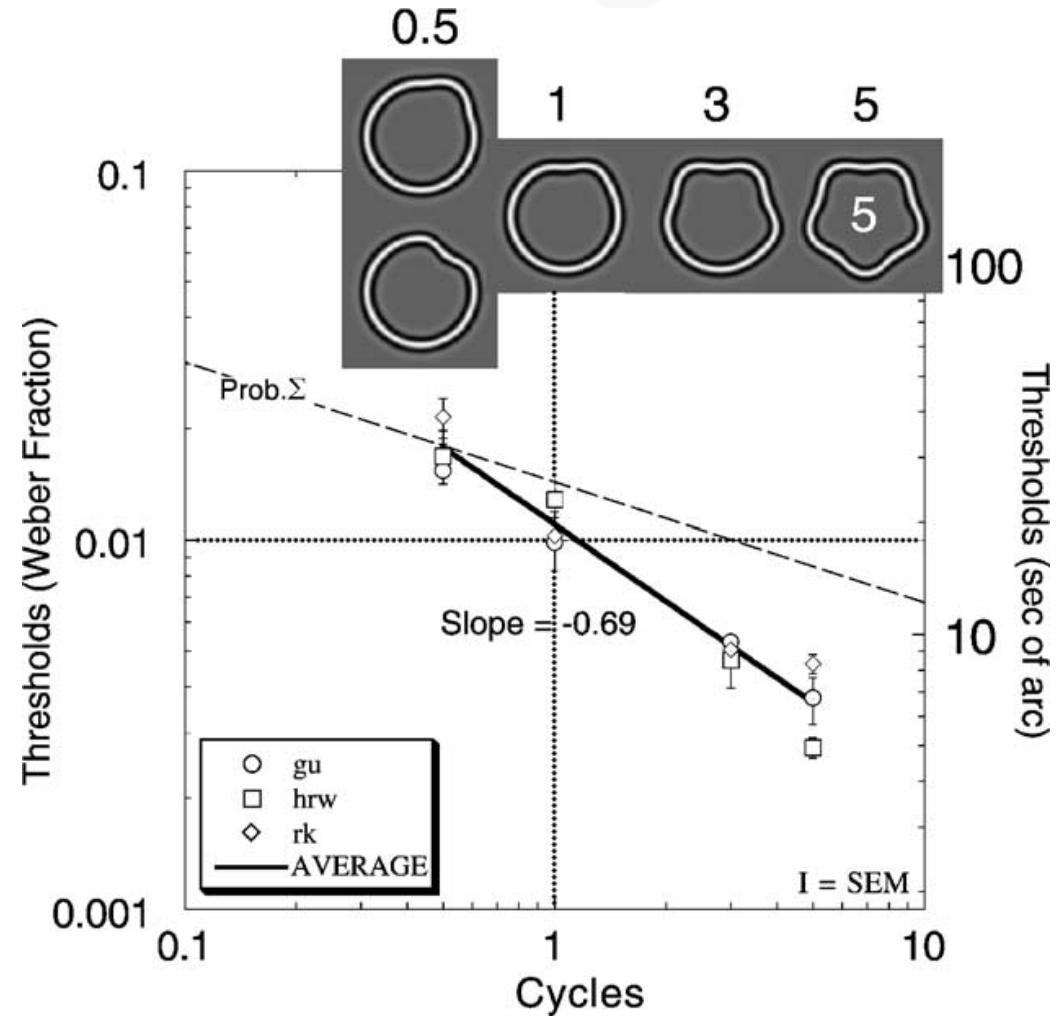
# Paradigm



Change in number of modulated cycles

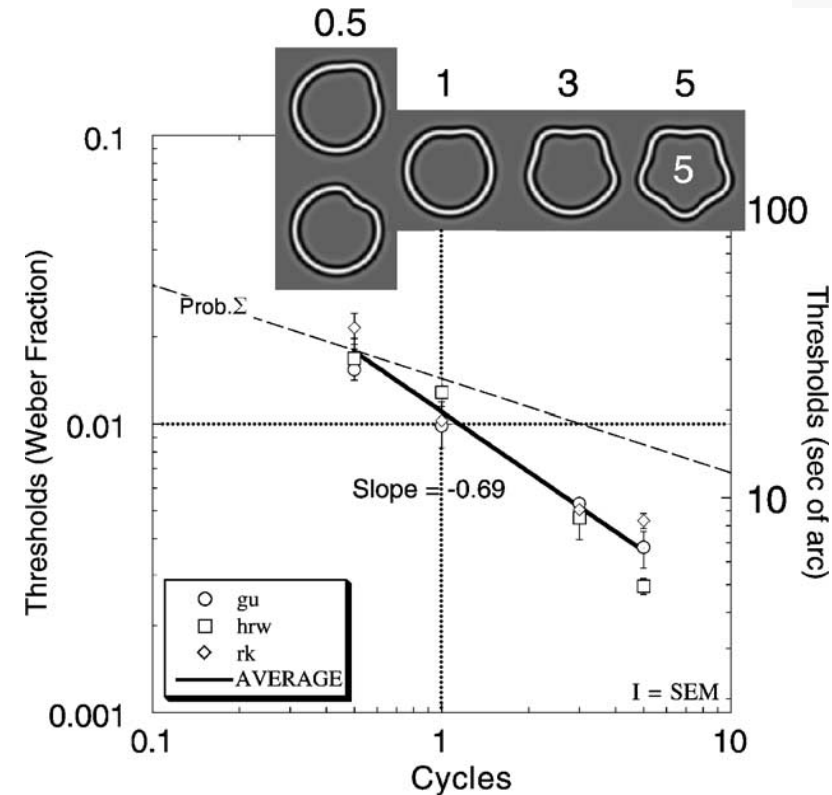
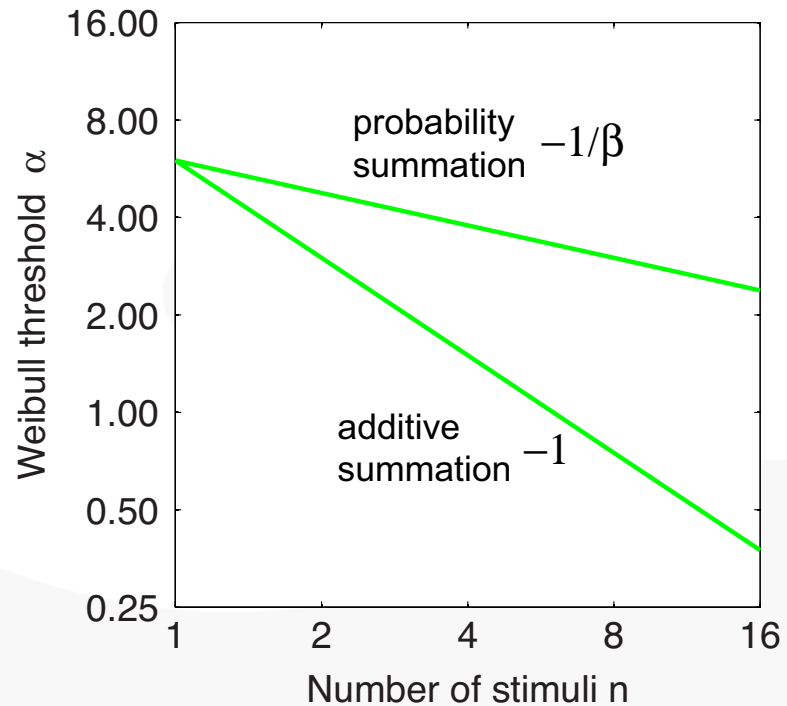


# RF summation



# High Threshold Theory predictions

## Thresholds

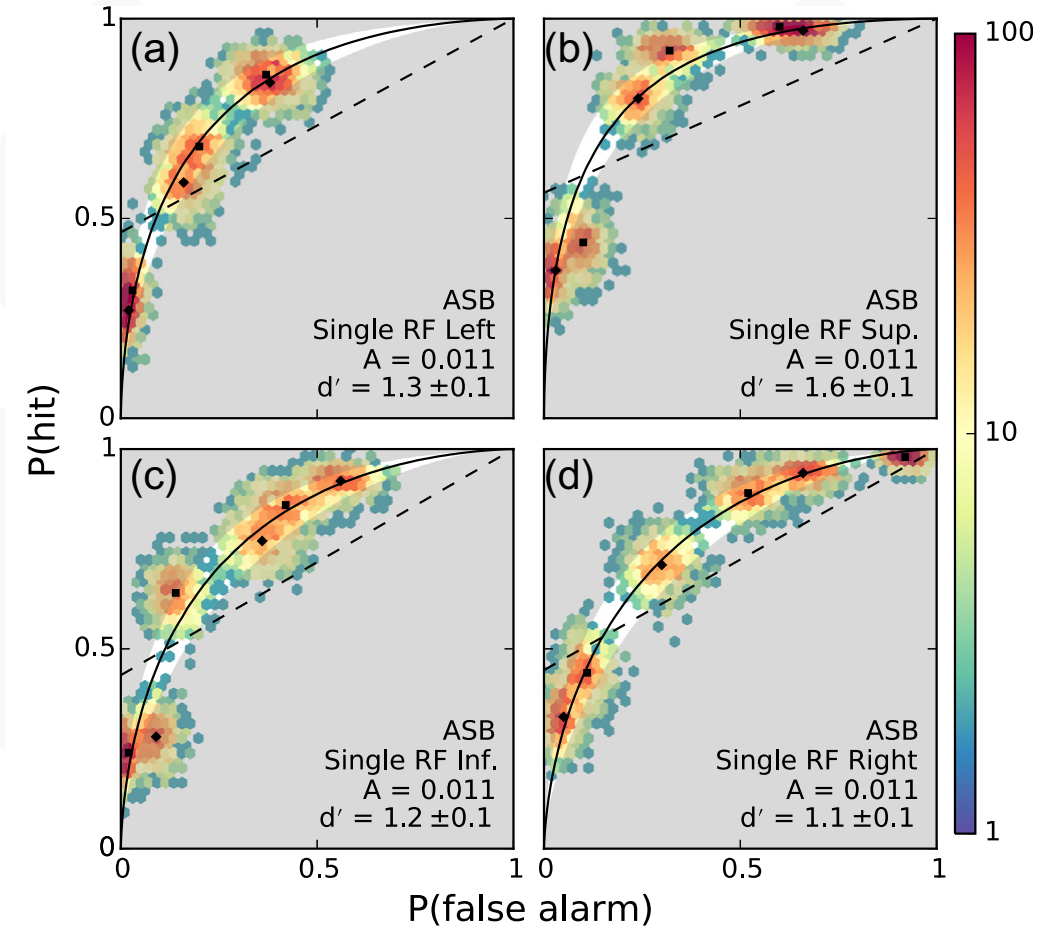
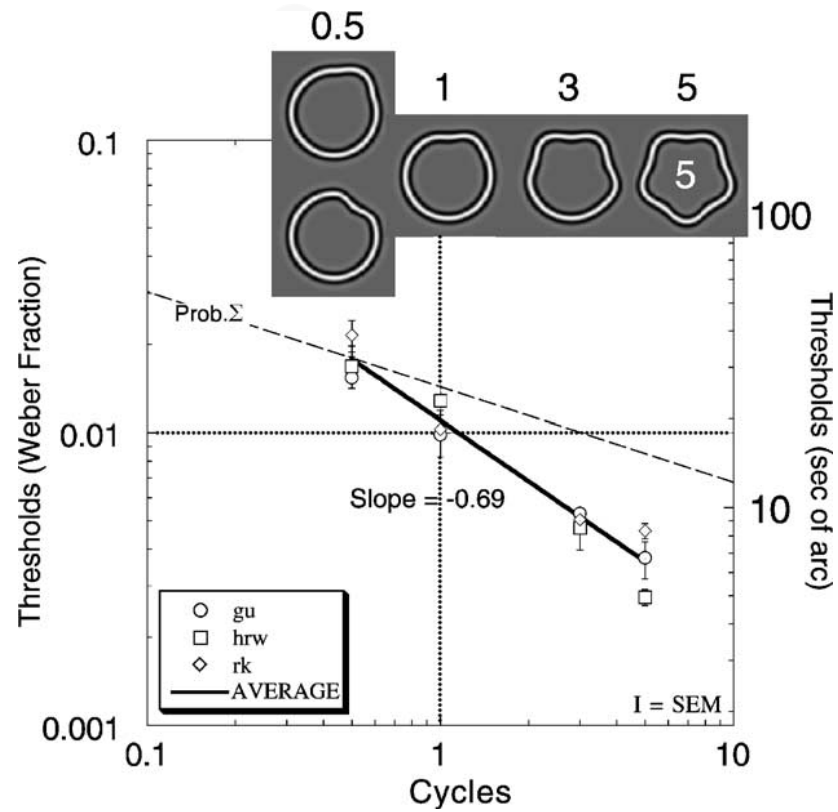


- Summation slopes are typically steeper than that predicted by probability summation (PS) under HTT  $\rightarrow$  PS rejected
- Under HTT the component mechanisms will be activated if their input exceeds some fixed threshold value
- There is almost no “penalty” under HTT for monitoring additional non-target mechanisms, as any irrelevant internal noise carried by those mechanisms will have a vanishingly small effect on performance

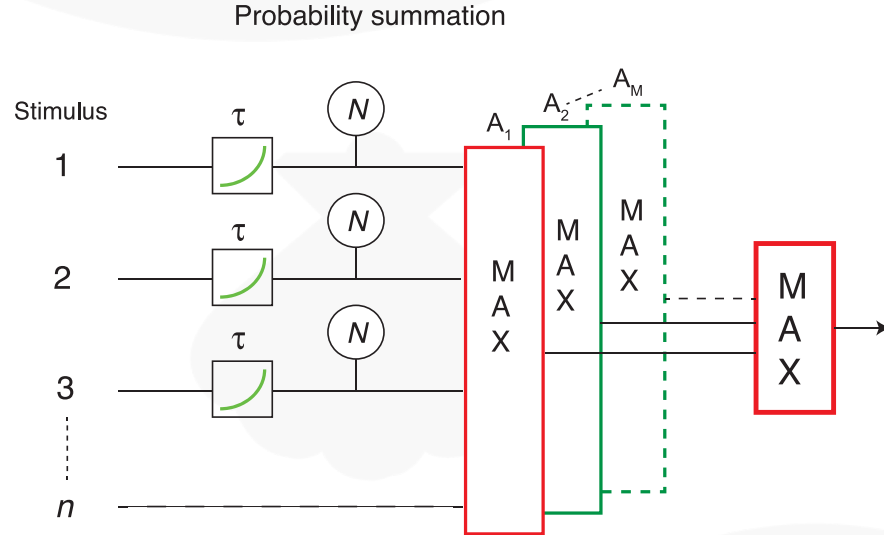


# Summation under Signal Detection Theory

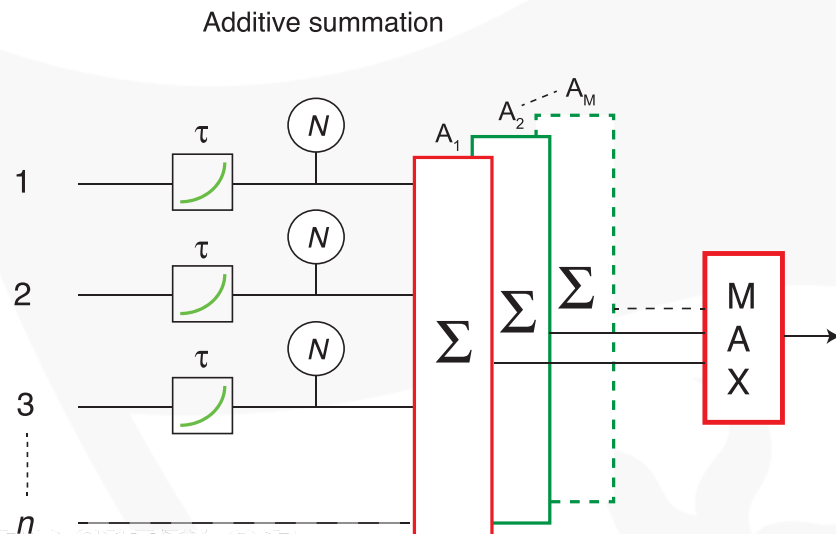
Baldwin, A. S., Schmidtman, G., Kingdom, F. A., & Hess, R. F. (2016). Rejecting probability summation for radial frequency patterns, not so Quick!. *Vision Research*, 122, 124-134.



# Types of summation



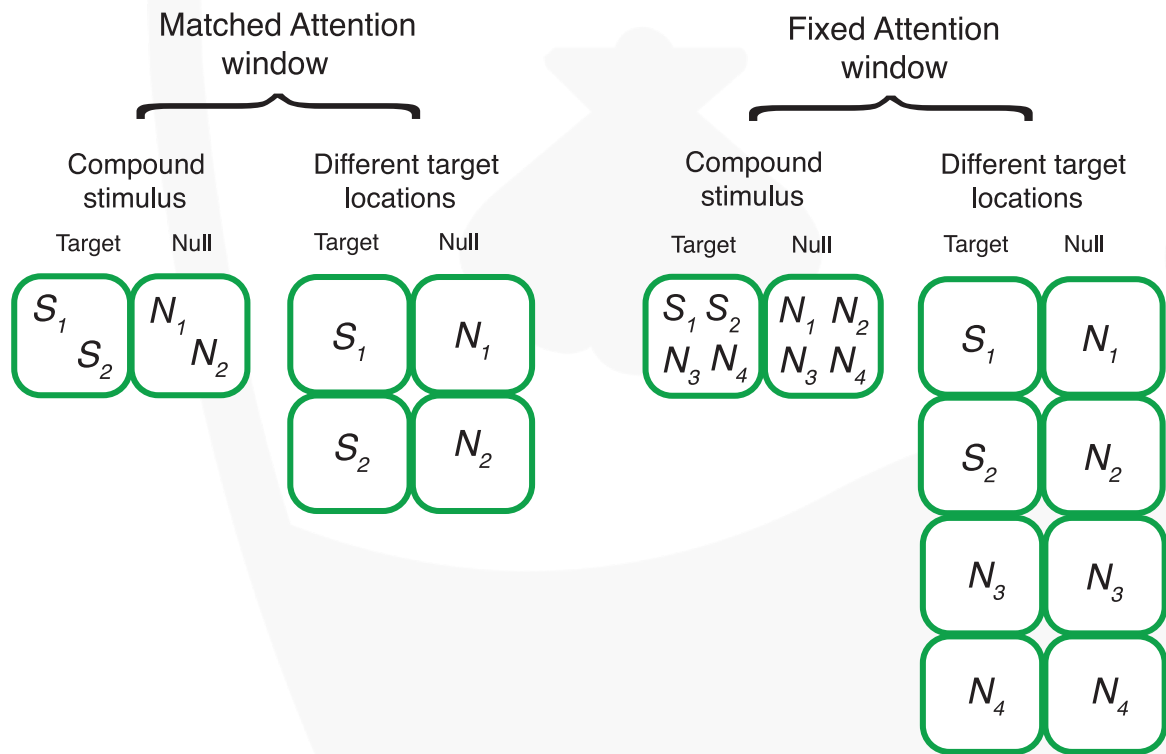
- $N$  = internal noise
- $\tau$  = exponent of transducer function
- $A_1$  = the target alternative / interval
- $A_2 - A_M$  = the non-target (i.e. noise-alone alternatives / intervals)
- $M$  = the total number of alternatives/ intervals in the forced-choice task.
- MAX = MAX decision rule



Kingdom, F.A.A., Baldwin, A. S., & Schmidtman, G. (2015). Modeling probability and additive summation for detection across multiple mechanisms under the assumptions of signal detection theory. *Journal of vision*, 15(5), 1-1.



# Summation scenarios



- Schematic showing different summation scenarios for a two-interval forced-choice task ( $M = 2$ ) with the target interval containing two stimuli  $S_1$  and  $S_2$
- $N_1 - N_4$  internal noise in the channels/locations sensitive to the stimuli
- Each green box denotes a spatial location
- When the conditions are blocked, the observer can focus attention only on the relevant channels, termed here the “Matched Attention Window” scenario.
- For this situation  $n = Q = 2$ , where  $n$  is the number of stimuli and  $Q$  the number of monitored channels/locations
- When the conditions are interleaved, the observer will likely monitor all potentially relevant channels, which means that the observer will also monitor the channels that only contain internal noise. Tyler and Chen (2000) coined the term “Fixed Attention Window” for this scenario. For this situation  $n = 2$  and  $Q = 4$

Kingdom, F.A.A., Baldwin, A. S., & Schmidtman, G. (2015). Modeling probability and additive summation for detection across multiple mechanisms under the assumptions of signal detection theory. *Journal of vision*, 15(5), 1-1.

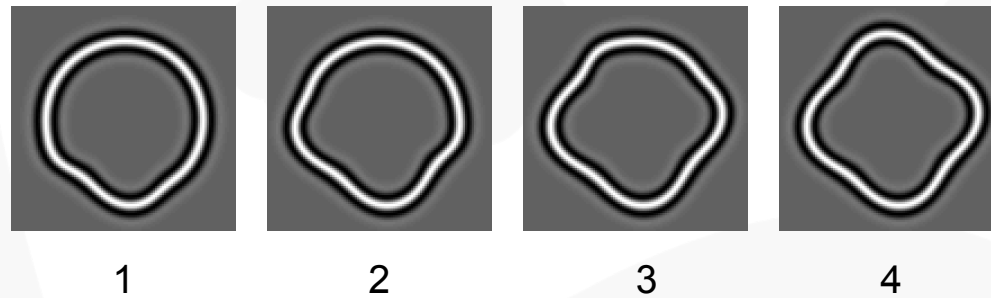
Tyler, C. W., & Chen, C. C. (2000). Signal detection theory in the 2AFC paradigm: Attention, channel uncertainty and probability summation. *Vision research*, 40(22), 3121-3144.





# Spatial uncertainty

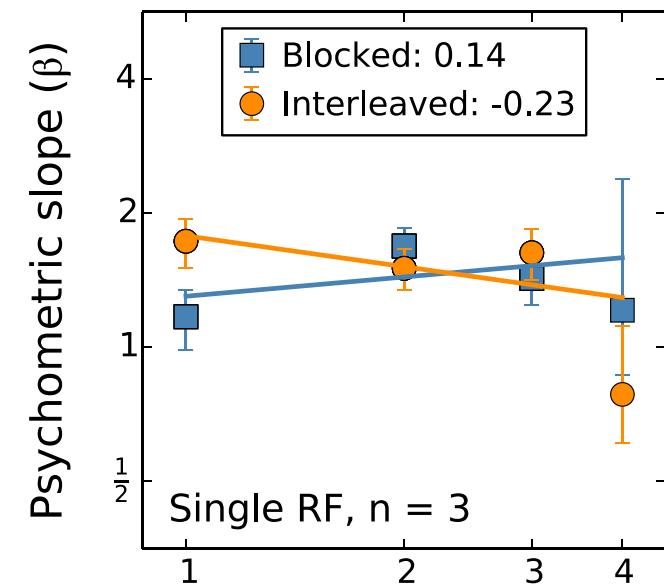
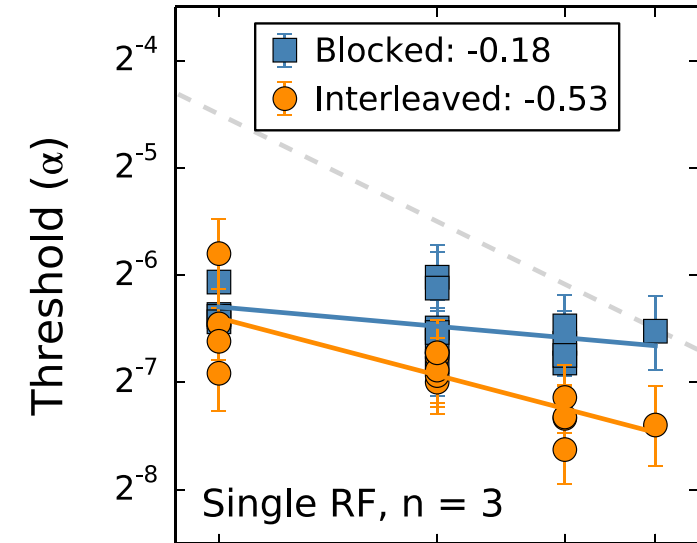
Change in number of modulated cycles



Baldwin, A. S., Schmidtman, G., Kingdom, F. A., & Hess, R. F. (2016). Rejecting probability summation for radial frequency patterns, not so Quick!. *Vision Research*, 122, 124-134.

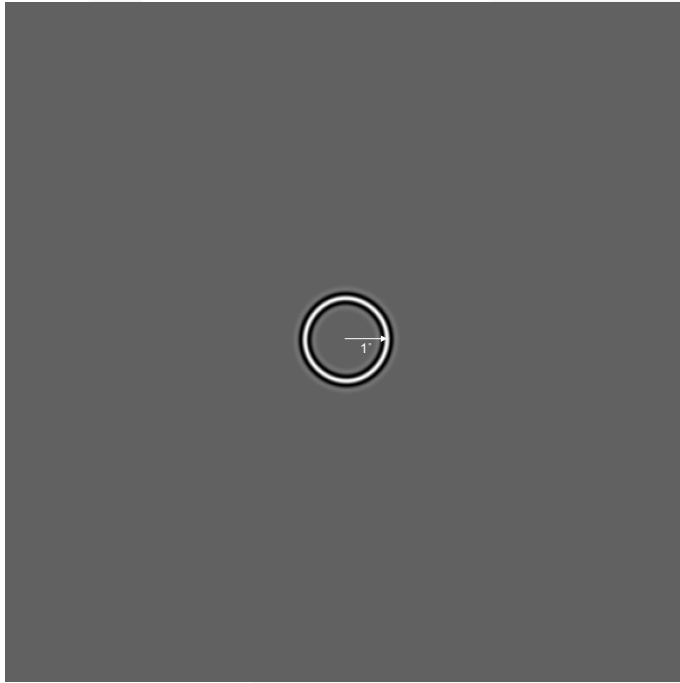
Green, R. J., Dickinson, J. E., & Badcock, D. R. (2017). Global processing of random-phase radial frequency patterns but not modulated lines. *Journal of vision*, 17(9):18, 1-11.

Green, R. J., Dickinson, J. E., & Badcock, D. R. (2018). Integration of shape information occurs around closed contours but not across them. *Journal of vision*, 18(5):6, 1-13.

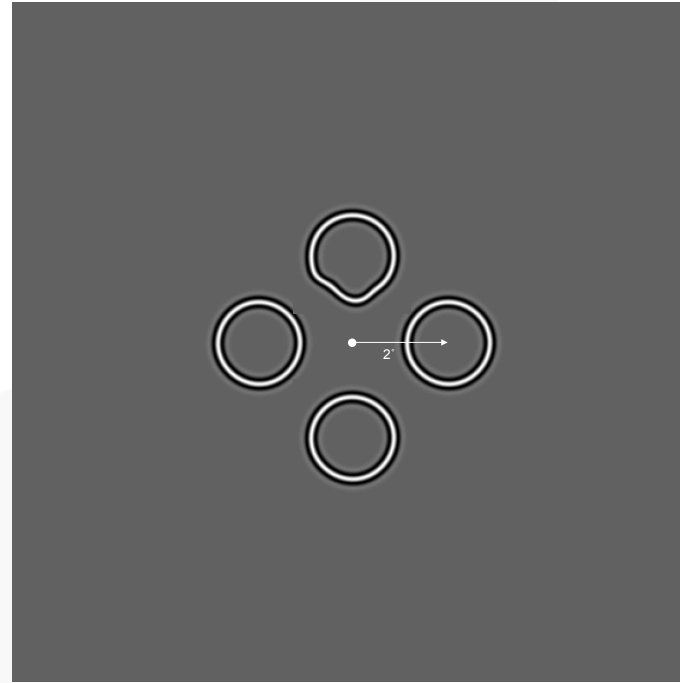


# Stimuli

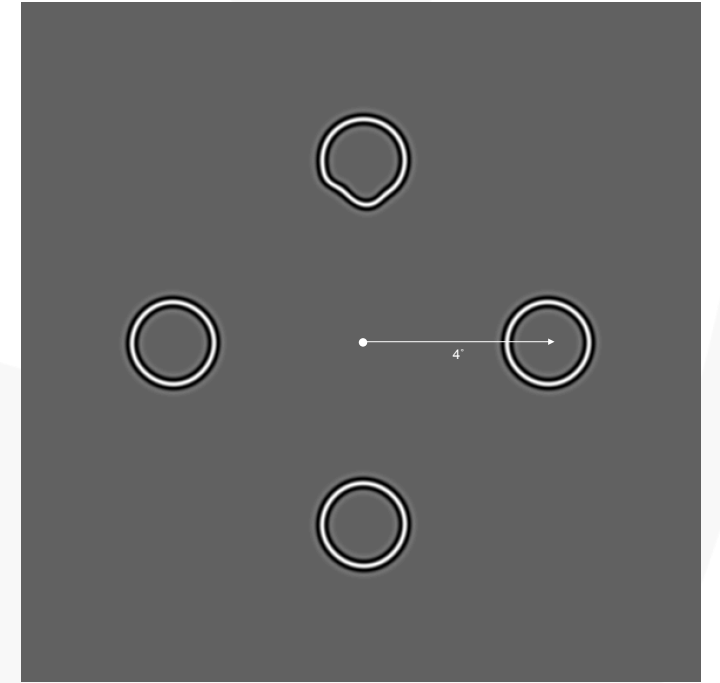
central



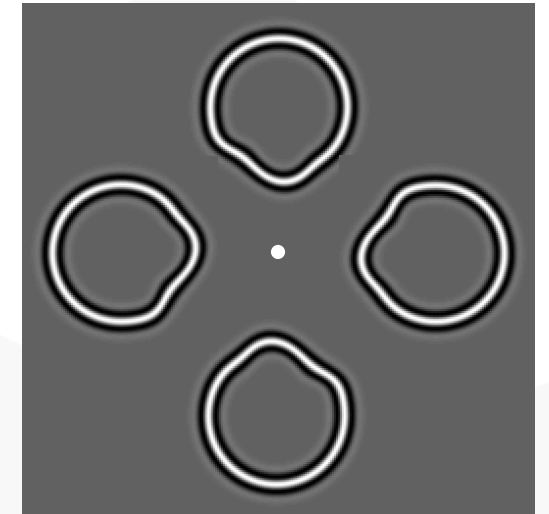
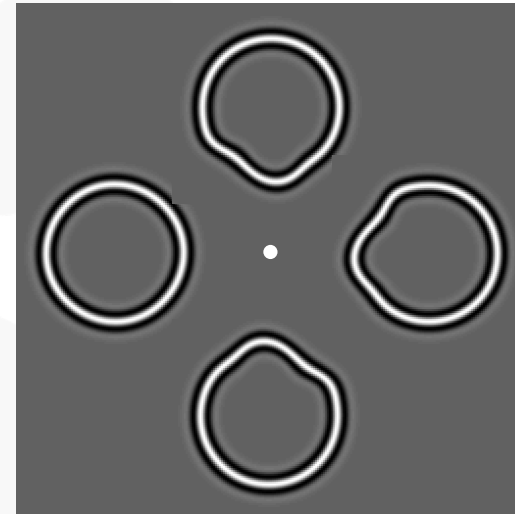
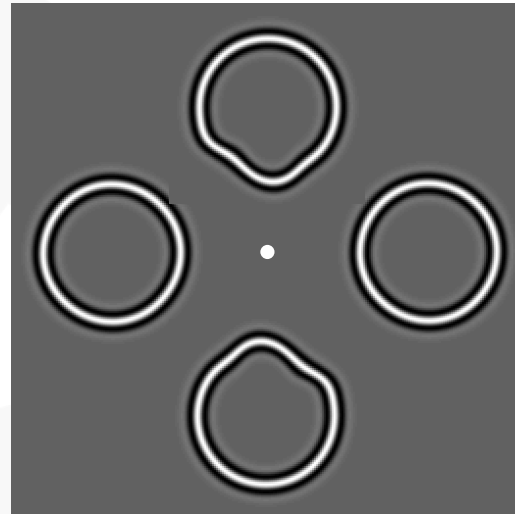
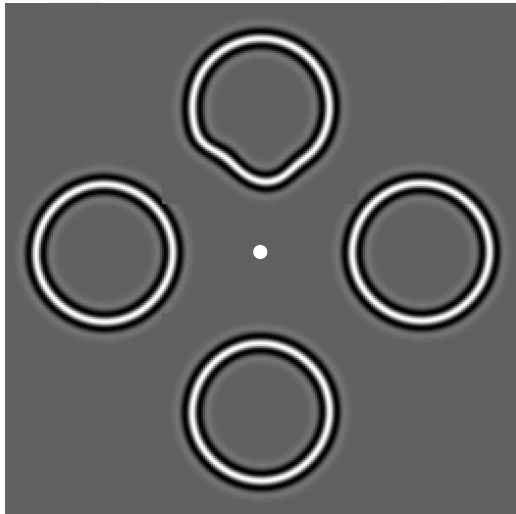
2° eccentricity



4° eccentricity



# Fixed position and blocked (Fixed)

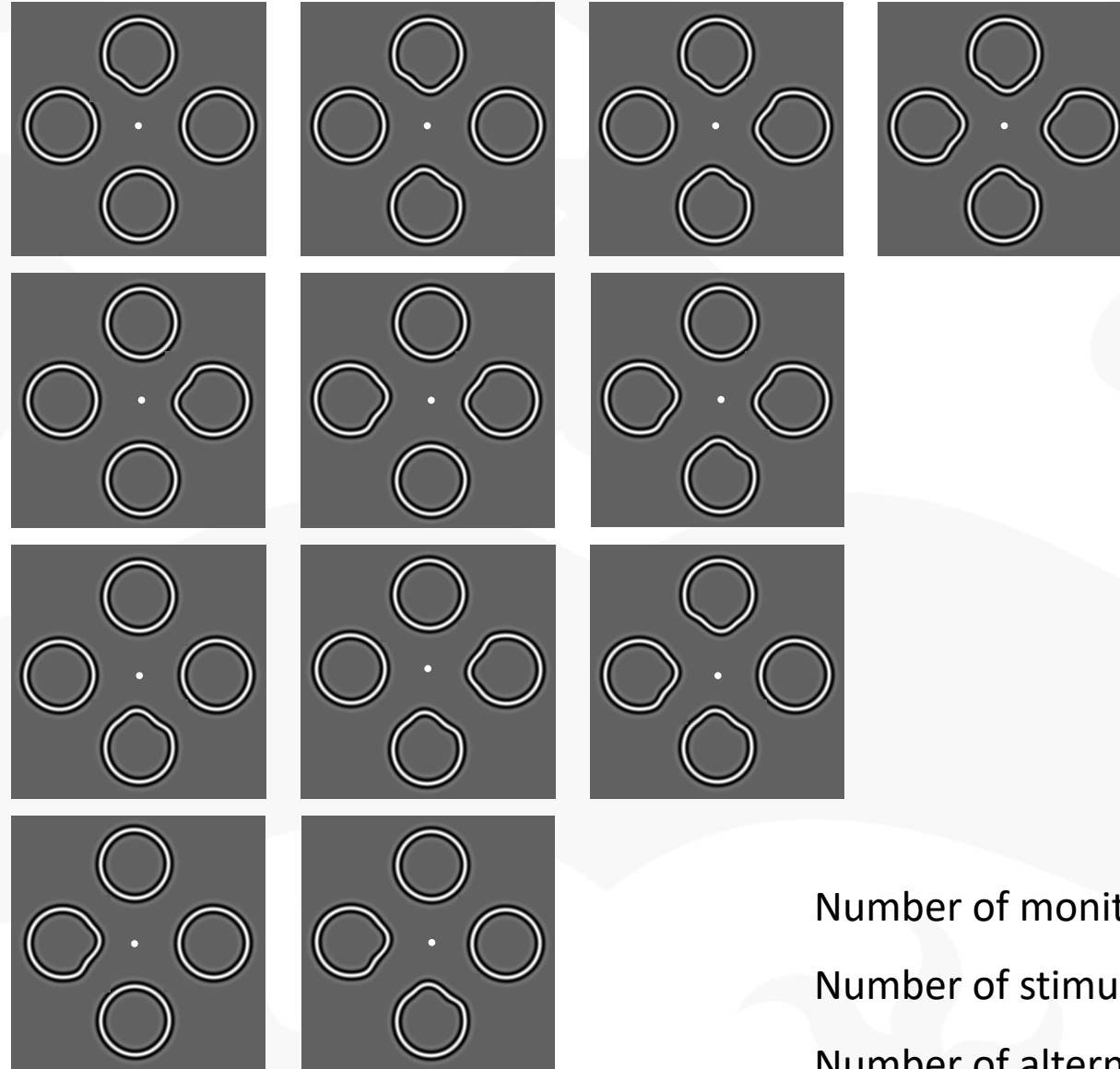


Number of monitored channels:  $Q = [1\ 2\ 3\ 4]$

Number of stimuli:  $n = [1\ 2\ 3\ 4]$

Number of alternatives:  $M = 2$

# Variable position and blocked (Semi – Fixed)



Number of monitored channels:  $Q = [4\ 4\ 4\ 4]$

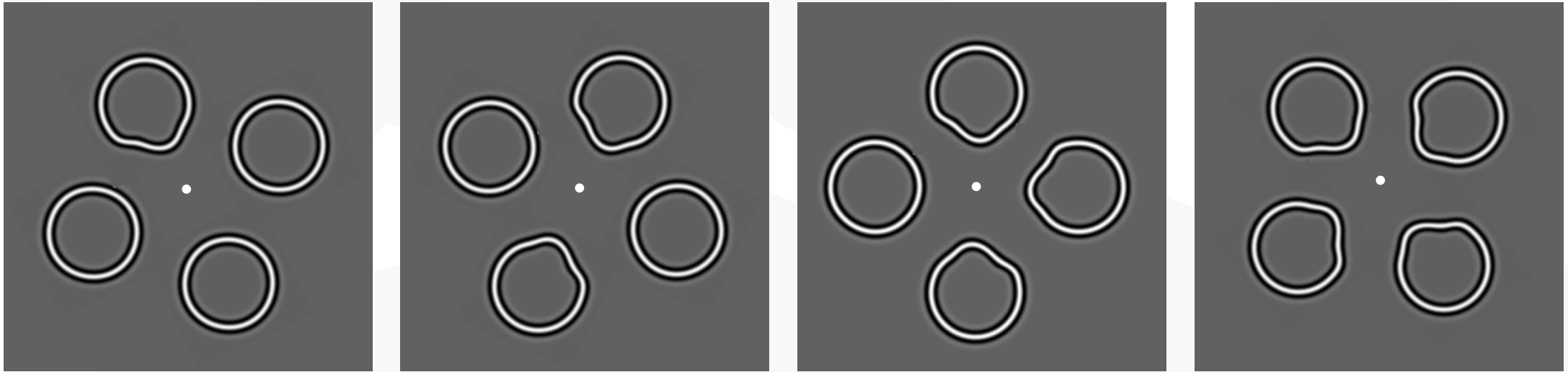
Number of stimuli:  $n = [1\ 2\ 3\ 4]$

Number of alternatives:  $M = 2$

⋮



# Random position and interleaved (Random)



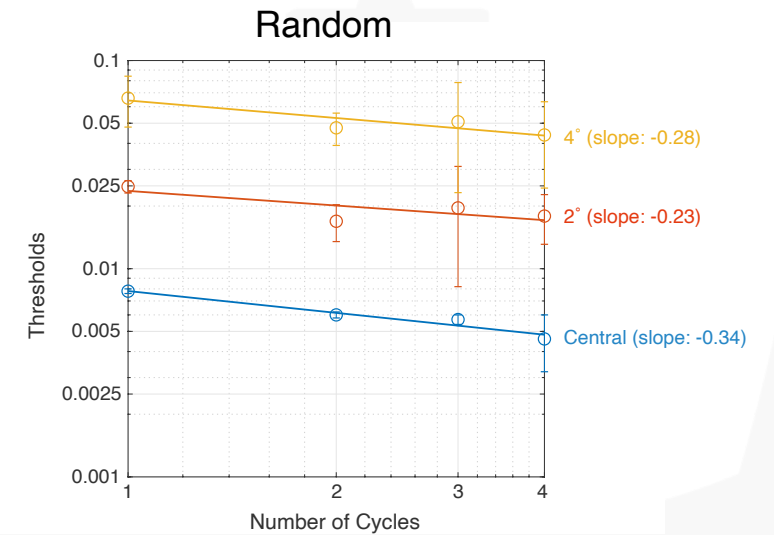
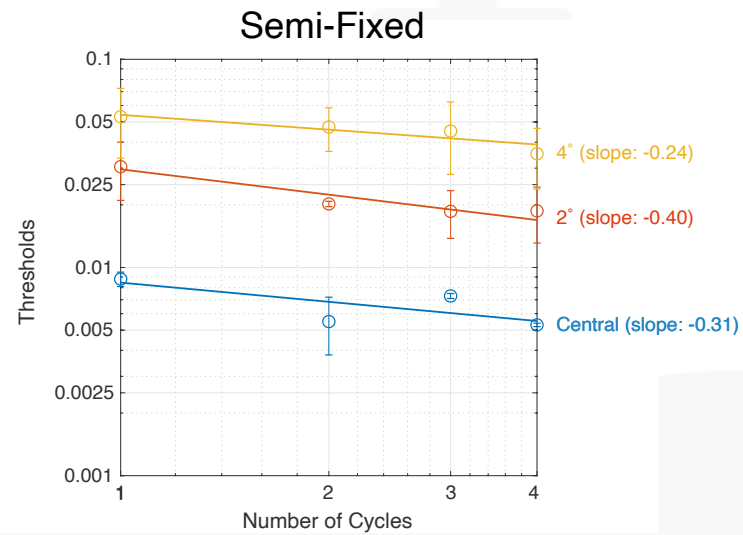
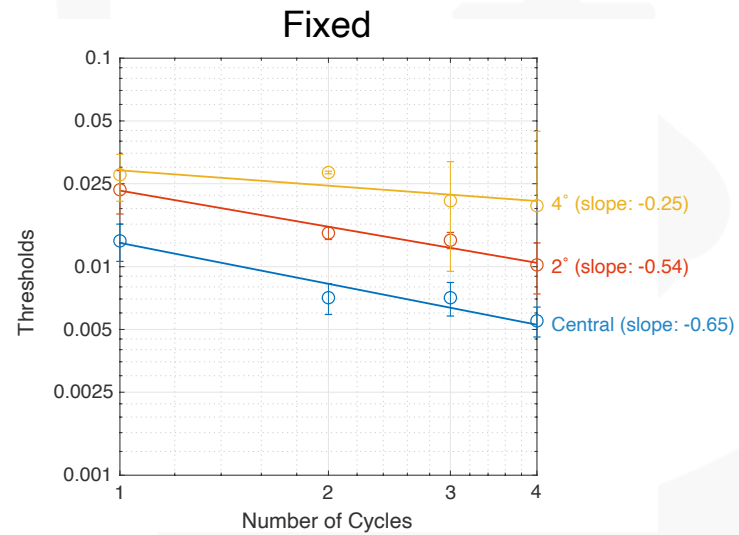
Number of monitored channels:  $Q = [360\ 360\ 360\ 360]$

Number of stimuli:  $n = [1\ 2\ 3\ 4]$

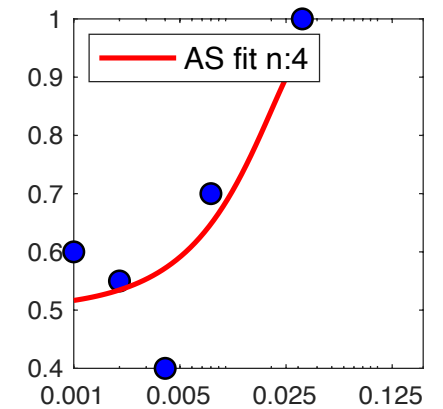
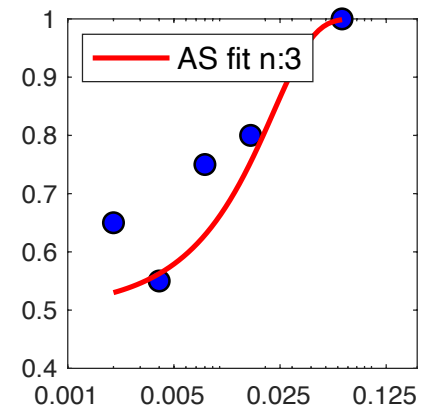
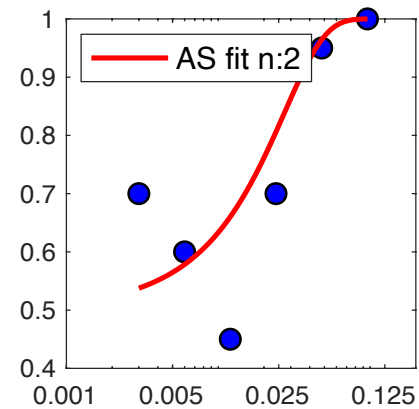
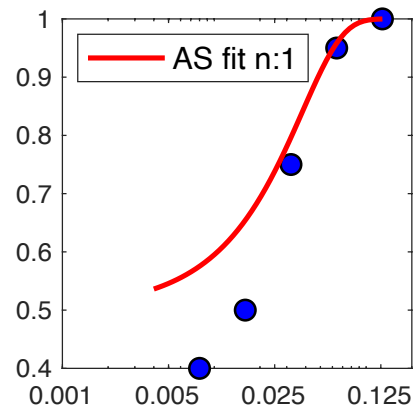
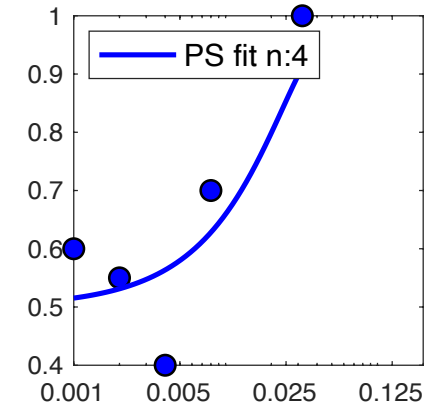
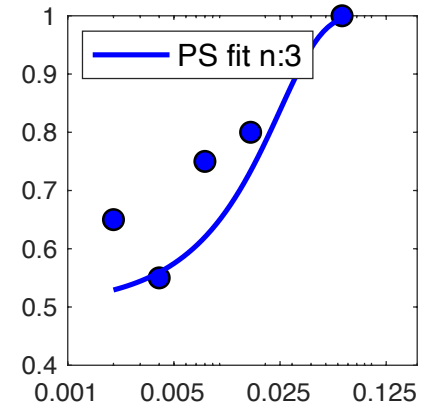
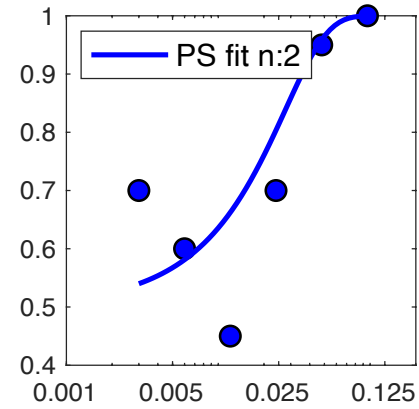
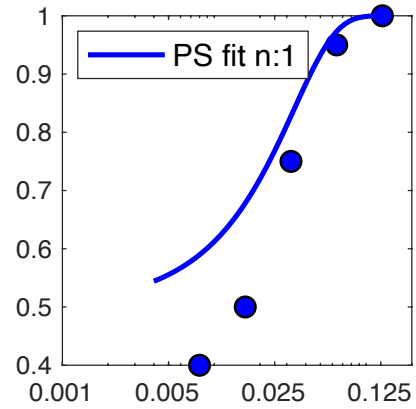
Number of alternatives:  $M = 2$



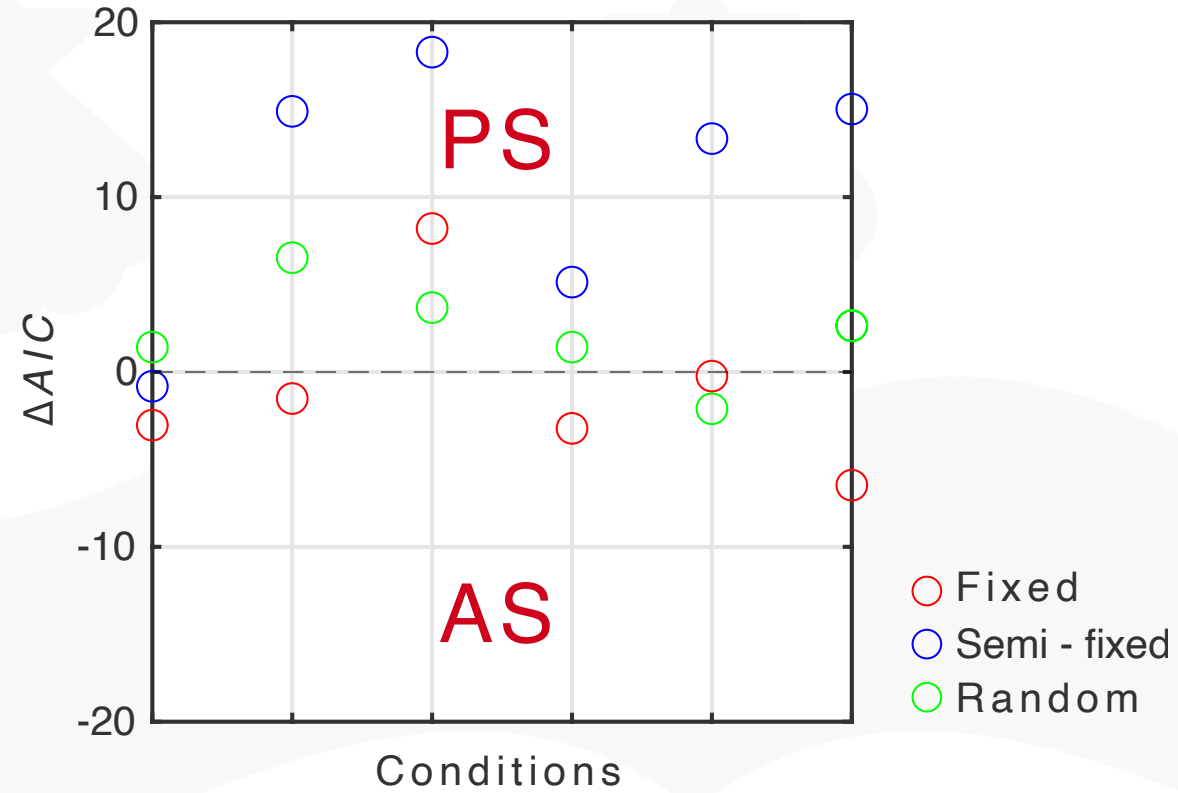
# Results - Thresholds



# Results – Model simulations



# Results - Models



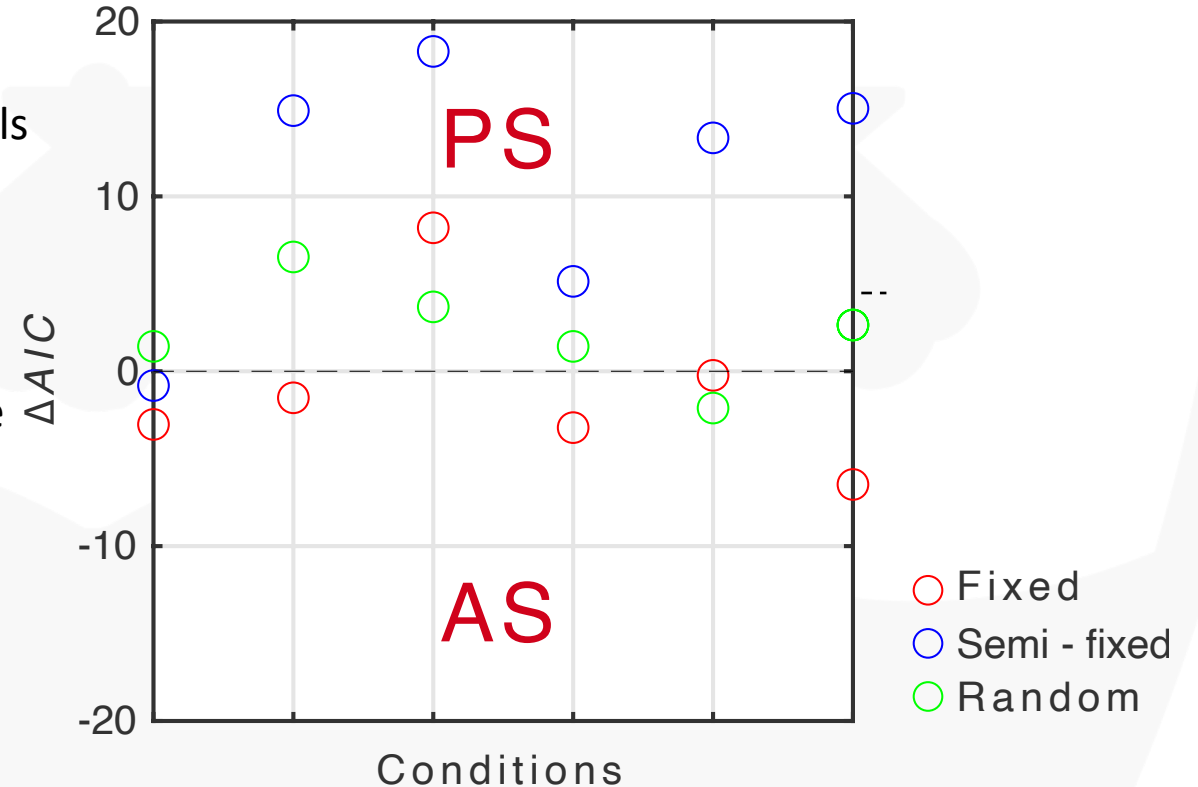


# Results - Models

- The model with the smallest  $AIC$  values is the probability summation model
- The differences in  $AIC$  values between the PS and AS models are relatively small
- According to Burnham and Anderson (2004), the preferred model can be determined by calculating the difference between the  $AIC$  scores of the  $i$ -th model ( $AIC_i$ ) and the model with the lowest  $AIC$  score ( $AIC_{min}$ ) obtained from the set of models examined

$$\Delta_i = AIC_i - AIC_{min}$$

- Models with  $\Delta_i > 7$  can be rejected (Burnham & Anderson, 2004)



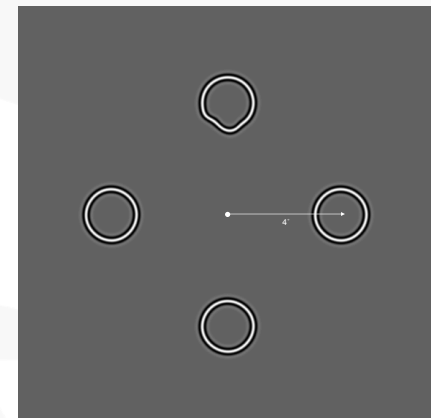
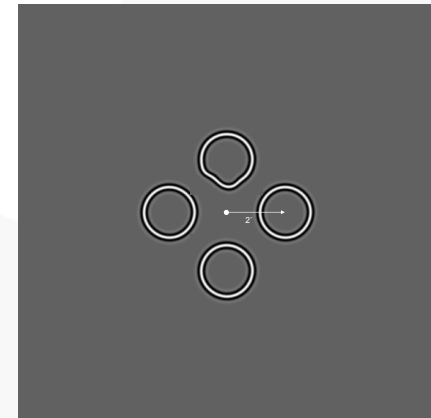
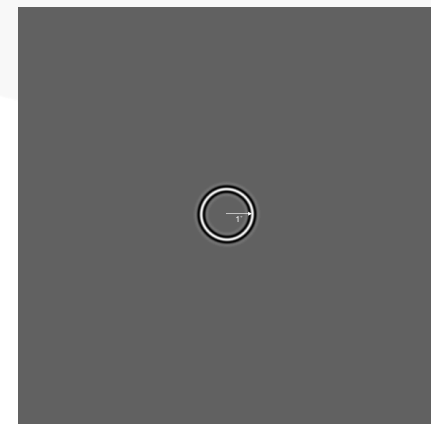
# Discussion

- We can not reject PS as a model
- In agreement with Baldwin et al. (2016)
- Summation is similar whether it occurs within a single shape or across shapes
- In agreement with Baldwin et al. (2016)
- Independent of eccentricity
- Largely independent of uncertainty (*cf.* Green et al., 2017, 2018)
- This implies that the visual system does not treat single closed shapes any different from various shapes distributed across the visual field.

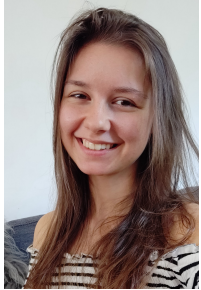
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Green, R. J., Dickinson, J. E., & Badcock, D. R. (2018). Integration of shape information occurs around closed contours but not across them. *Journal of vision*, 18(5),6, 1-13.



# Acknowledgments



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THE COLLEGE OF  
OPTOMETRISTS



Hatem Barhoom (PhD student)

