Introduction

- Eye gaze requires attention for both sending and receiving information.
- Recent research in our lab has shown that the attention-capturing nature of eye gaze disrupts time perception (overestimated).

Hypotheses

(1) Eye contact will disrupt time estimation the most, and might be the sum of the sending and receiving trials.
(2) Eye contact might be attention-grabbing enough to interfere with counting.

Experiment 1: Ps randomly assigned to the 40s, 60s, or 80s group. Asked to press the mouse when they “felt” the target time had elapsed.

Experiment 2: 9 dyads asked to count to 60s and press the mouse once it had elapsed.

Results

Participant pairs were highly correlated, so we considered them as a single data point.

Conclusions

- We found that eye contact, including sending and receiving gaze signals, is attention-grabbing such that it causes overestimation of time.
- Our hypotheses were not supported since eye contact did not disrupt time perception the most, nor was it the combined effort of sending and receiving gaze.
- We conclude that sending and receiving gaze equally capture attention and similarly disrupt time.

Limitations

- Some participants had glasses which could have interfered with making eye contact.
- Experiment 2 had a small sample size.

References
