

## 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)

Is the disruption of time perception due to the *sending or receiving* of gaze signals?

Or could it be a combination of both?

## Methods

- 60 students were recruited in pairs (dyads) and all were strangers
- Sitting side-by-side, made subjective time estimates during four gaze trials: looking away, receiving gaze, sending gaze, and eye contact

## 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

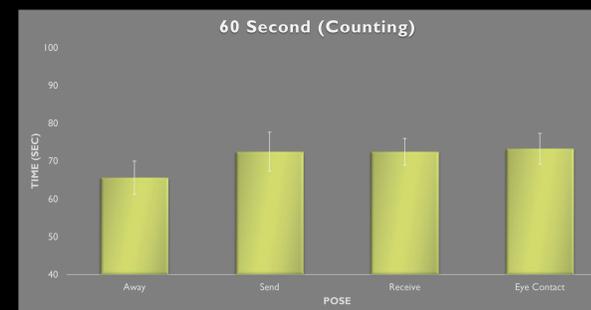
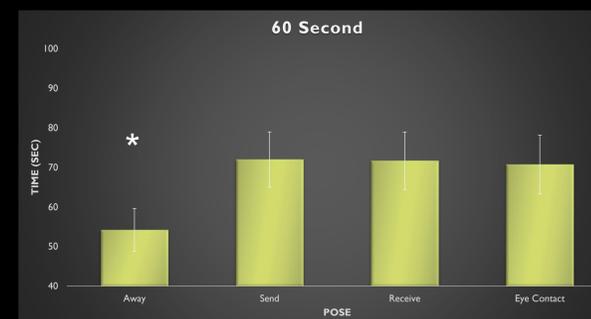
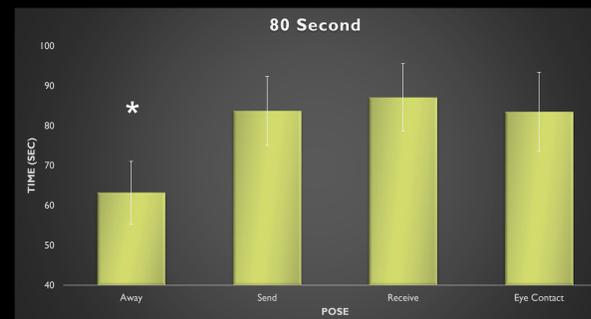
**Experiment 1:** Ps randomly assigned to the 40s, 60s, or 80s group. Asked to press the mouse when they "felt" the target time had elapsed

**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.



\* t-test significance ( $p < .05$ ). Error bars are 95% confidence intervals

## 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

- [1] Jarick, M., Laidlaw, K. E. W., Nasiopoulos, E., & Kingstone, A. (2016). Eye contact affects attention more than arousal as revealed by prospective time estimation. *Attention Perception Psychophysics*, 78, 1302-1307.
- [2] Ho, S., Foulsham, T., & Kingstone, A. (2015). Speaking and listening with the eyes: Gaze signaling during dyadic interactions. *PLoS ONE*, 10(8).