Methods in Behavioural Neurobiology



1. Direct measures of Neuronal Activity

a. Microdialysis

HICRODIALYSIS PROBE

b. Electrophysiological recording (and stimulation)





1. Direct measures of Neuronal Activity

"Euphoria Dysphoria

c. ElectroEncephaloGraphy (EEG)



d. functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI)



1. Direct measures of Neuronal Activity

e. Positron Emission Tomography (PET)



f. Immunohistocemistry/In-situ hybridization





- a. Behavioural observations
- b. Unconditioned behaviour: non-specific



Locomotor activity chamber





b. Unconditioned behaviour: specific



Analgesia: Hot plate

Learning and memory



Anxiety: Elevated plus maze



c. Conditioned behaviour

i. Classical (Pavlovian) conditioning (CS-US associations)



c. Conditioned behaviour

ii. Operant (instrumental) conditioning





c. Conditioned behaviour

ii. Operant (instrumental) conditioning

Operant conditioning procedures:

- 1. Positive reinforcement: the response increases the probability that appetitive stimulus will appear (response rate should increase)
- 2. Punishment: the response increases the probability that aversive stimulus will appear (response rate should decrease)
- 3. Negative reinforcement: the response increases the probability that aversive stimulus will be removed (response rate should increase)
- 4. Omission training: the response increases the probability that appetitive stimulus will be removed (response rate should decrease)

c. Conditioned behaviour

ii. Operant (instrumental) conditioningSchedules of reinforcement

- 1. Ratio Fixed (FR-1, FR-10), Variable (VR-2, VR-10)
- 2. Interval Fixed (FI-1, FI-5), variable (VI-3, VI-15)

Measurements of drug reward

- 1. Drug self-administration
 - i. A steady rate of response
 - ii. Response should extinguish when the drug is removed (or much lower response rate on "inactive" option
 - iii. Response rate sensitive to drug dose





Measurements of drug reward

1. Drug self-administration: Schedules of reinforcement

- usually training initiates with FR-1
- Can then be increased (FR-5 or higher)

To assess motivation to seek drug: Progressive Ratio
(PR) - response requirement increases for each
successive infusion (1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, 20, 25, 32, 40, 50, 62, 77, 95, 118, 145, 178, 219...)



Measurements of drug reward

- 2. Conditioned Place Preference (CPP)
 - A classical conditioning procedure
 - The subjects spend more time in the "drug environment"





3. Direct neuronal activation/inhibition



b. TMS

Mentioned earlier...

C. Optogenetics



Karl Deisseroth



(Witten et al 2010)

3. Direct neuronal activation/inhibition

d. DREADD (Designer Receptor Exclusively Activated by Designer Drug)

- Mutant ACh muscarinic receptors: activated only be clozapine N-oxide (CNO; pharmacologically inert lignad).



Armbruster et al., 2007, PNAS Adapted from Wess et al., 2013, Trends in Pharmacological Sciences

The transparent brain



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-NMfp13Uug



Fiber photometry

• GCaMP (Ca indicator) expressed in specific neutrons (through viral infection)





- · Mice trained to press a lever for reward
- GCaMP was expressed selectively in striatal cells expressing DA D1 direct pathway) or D2 receptors (indirect pathway)