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Experience-dependent modulation of behavioral features in sensory navigation of

nematodes and bats revealed by machine learning

Short Title: Machine learning extraction of behavioral features

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<u>ABSTRACT</u>

Animal behavior is the integrated output of multiple brain functions. However,

understanding how multiple brain functions affect behavior has been difficult. In order

to decipher dynamic brain functions from time-series of behavioral data, we developed

a machine learning strategy that extracts distinguishing behavioral features of sensory

navigation. We first investigated experience-dependent enhancement of odor avoidance

behavior of the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans*. We segmented worms' trajectories

during olfactory navigation into two behavioral states, analyzed 92 features of the states,

and automatically extracted 9 distinguishing features modulated by prior odor

experience using a statistical index, the gain ratio. The extracted features included ones

previously unidentified, one of which indicated that the prior odor experience lowers

worms' behavioral responses to a small increase in odor concentration, causing

enhanced odor avoidance. In fact, calcium imaging analysis revealed that the response

of ASH nociceptive neurons to a small odor increase was significantly reduced after

prior odor experience. In addition, based on extracted features, multiple mutant strains

were categorized into several groups that are related to physiological functions of the

mutated genes, suggesting a possible estimation of unknown gene function by

behavioral features. Furthermore, we also extracted behavioral features modulated by

experience in acoustic navigation of bats. Thus, our results demonstrate that, regardless

of animal species, sensory modality, and spatio-temporal scale, behavioral features

during navigation can be extracted by machine learning analysis, which may lead to the

understanding of information processing in the brain.

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

Behavior is the most important output of brain activity, and its recording has become

easy because of the development of small and inexpensive cameras and small GPS

devices. However, these "behavioral big data" have been used to calculate very simple

indices, such as speed, direction, and goal arrival rate. In this study, we analyzed animal

behavior using machine learning (also known as "artificial intelligence") and found

specific behavioral features related to navigation in worms and bats. We also found

activity changes in nerve cells that were reflected in the worm's behavioral changes.

Thus, our results demonstrate that artificial intelligence can be used to find

characteristics of animal behavior that would eventually help us understand how the

brain works.

Keywords: Navigation, Machine Learning, Behavior

INTRODUCTION

Brain activity can be measured as time series vector data of a large number of neural activities using simultaneous optical monitoring recently (1, 2). Behavior, the integrated output of multiple brain functions such as sensory perception, memory, emotion, and decision-making, however, is still analyzed in classic ways and insufficiently studied using simple and subjectively chosen measures, such as velocity, migratory distance, and/or the probability of reaching to a particular goal. This large asymmetry in data between neural activity and behavior has emerged as one of the significant issues in modern neuroscience (3-5). In other words, without describing when and how behavior changes in detail, we may not be able to fully interpret the meaning of large-scale records of neural activities. One cause for this problem is the difficulty in the analysis of behavior: Although machine-vision techniques over small areas and GPS-based tracking over large areas allow us to continuously monitor the positions and/or postures of animals, it is still unclear which aspects of behavioral features should be focused to clarify the relationships with neural activities.

One way to solve this problem is to use machine learning. Machine learning is a method of extracting latent patterns and discovering knowledge from a large amount of data (6). Machine learning-based behavioral analyses of model invertebrates, such as the fruit fly *Drosophila melanogaster* and the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans*, have been performed because these model animals are suitable for machine vision monitoring of their behavior due to their small size and relatively simple behavioral patterns (7-13). Furthermore, these animals have relatively small neural circuits, and multiple genetic

techniques are available, suggesting that comprehensive analysis of brain function at

behavioral, neuronal, and molecular levels is feasible. These analyses have provided

new insights into behavioral states and behavioral motifs during voluntary movement,

as well as the relationships between optogenetic activation of neurons and behavioral

responses. However, machine learning has not been used to understand the brain

activity related to sensory behaviors: How is environmental information transformed

into behavioral responses through sensory perception and decision-making, as well as

its modulation by memory and/or emotion in the nervous system? The lack of research

in this topic is likely due to the fact that these invertebrate model animals are too small

to accurately and easily measure sensory input during behavior. In addition, even when

sensory input can be measured, the method to effectively reveal the dynamic

relationships between sensory input and behavioral output has not been established.

In the present study, we aimed to establish a method to objectively and

comprehensively extract behavioral features that are possibly linked to the neural

activities for sensory behavior. For that purpose, we analyzed two types of sensory

navigation that have been monitored quantitatively but are different in modality and

spatio-temporal scale—olfactory navigation of *C. elegans* and acoustic navigation of

the bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum nippon*—using machine learning. In particular, we

focused on experience-dependent modulation (i.e., "learning"; to avoid confusion with

machine learning analysis, we do not use this term for biological learning hereafter) of

navigation as a model for efficient extraction of differences in behavioral features. In *C.*

elegans, experience-dependent behavioral modulation has been studied in thermotaxis

and salt-taxis, in which worms move in a preferred direction by changing the frequency

of directional changes depending on the intensity of the sensory stimulus (14).

Consistently, changes in neural activity to a stepwise stimulus change have been

revealed by calcium imaging mostly of immobilized worms and in a few cases of freely

moving worms (15-20). However, it has not been fully clarified how those behaviors

are regulated by neural activity that responds to slight changes in stimuli during

navigation in a sensory gradient as well as how the behavioral and neural responses are

modulated by experience. Furthermore, although large scale analyses of mutant strains

are available (12, 21), methods for effectively analyzing the differences in

experience-dependent modulation of sensory behaviors of mutant strains have not been

established.

To reveal experience-dependent modulations of olfactory navigation in worms, we

extracted prominent features of behavior and their relationships to odor stimuli using

machine learning. For this, we segmented the animals' navigation into two behavioral

states and, for individual states, calculated the gain ratio, a statistical index used in

decision tree analysis to identify features that distinguish the data in different classes

(22). We chose this method because it allows us to easily interpret the results of the

analysis for the planning of physiological experiment of neural activities. In the present

study, we analyzed 92 features of behavior and sensory information from each of ~200

behavioral states of wild-type worms either with or without a prior odor experience (25

worms per condition) and found that 9 features are modulated in an

experience-dependent manner. One of the extracted features, the reduction in behavioral

response to a small increase in odor concentration, was consistent with a change in

neuronal activity revealed by calcium imaging. In addition, we calculated gain ratios to

identify the experience-dependent changes in olfactory navigation of multiple mutant

strains and found that the mutants were categorized into several groups based on

behavioral features, which reflect physiological functions of the mutated genes.

Furthermore, we also identified experience-dependent modulation of behavioral

features from bat acoustic navigation. Thus, we propose that machine learning analysis

with gain ratios is an efficient strategy to reveal features of animal behavior in general.

METHODS

Cultivation of worms

The techniques used for culturing and handling *C. elegans* strains have been essentially

described previously (23). Wild type Bristol strain RRID:WB-STRAIN:N2_Male and

mutant strains RRID:WB-STRAIN:MT1219 *egl-3(n589)*, RRID:WB-STRAIN:VC671

egl-3(ok979), RRID:WB-STRAIN:CX4544 *ocr-2(ak47),* RRID:WB-STRAIN:JC1636

osm-9(ky10), RRID:WB-STRAIN:JC0570 *tax-4(p678)* were obtained from the

Caenorhabditis Genetics Center (University of Minnesota, USA).

RRID:WB-STRAIN:KDK1 dop-3*(tm1356)* was originally obtained from National

BioResource Project (Japan) and backcrossed five times with N2 .

Analysis of worms' olfactory navigation

A 2-nonanone avoidance assay was performed as described previously (24, 25). Briefly,

2-3 young adult hermaphrodite worms grown synchronously were placed in the center

of a 9-cm nematode growth media (NGM) plate, and 2 μL of 30% 2-nonanone (cat. no.

132-04173; Wako, Japan) diluted in EtOH (cat. no. 0057-00456; Wako, Japan) were

dropped in two spots on the surface of the NGM plate (Fig. 1A top), and the worms'

behavior was recorded for 12 min. This assay was performed under the following three

conditions: the worms cultivated on NGM plates with their food bacteria

RRID:WB-STRAIN:OP-50 were briefly washed with NGM buffer and subjected to the

assay ("naive" condition), or they were subjected to the assay after 1 h of preexposure to

0.6 μL of 15% 2-nonanone diluted in EtOH or to only EtOH spotted on the lid of a

NGM plate without food ("preexp" and "mock" conditions, respectively). We added the

mock-treated control to confirm that 1-h starvation did not affect the odor avoidance

behavior of worms and to extract behavioral features modulated by the odor

preexposure compared to the naive and the mock-treated controls. Images of worms the

NGM plate during odor avoidance assay were acquired by a high-resolution USB

camera (DMK 72AUC02; The Imaging Source, USA) with a lens (LM16JC5MW;

Kowa, Japan) at 1 Hz for 12 min. From the recorded images, the coordinates of

individual animals' centroids were acquired using Move-tr/2D software (Library Co.,

Ltd., Tokyo, Japan) and used for the following analysis.

Similar to worms' other sensory behaviors, trajectories in the 2-nonanone avoidance

assay can be divided into two states: "run", a relatively long period of straight

movement, and "pirouette", a period of short movements interrupted by frequent

reversals and turns (24, 26). Angular change per s was calculated from the centroid

coordinates, and movements of 1 s with angular change larger than 90° were classified

as a turn. A histogram of turn intervals was fitted by two exponentials, suggesting that

turn intervals are regulated by two probabilistic mechanisms (25, 26). The time of the

intersection of the two exponentials was defined as t_{crit}, and turn intervals longer or

shorter than the t_{crit} were classified as runs or included in pirouettes, respectively. t_{crit}

was calculated for the control (i.e., naive plus mock-treated) condition for wild-type and

mutant strains, respectively. In this study, we analyzed features of runs but not of

pirouettes except for their duration because pirouettes appear to have little effect on

odor avoidance (25). Excel 2010 (Microsoft Corp.) was used for these calculations. The

odor concentrations that worms experienced at specific spatio-temporal points were

calculated according to the dynamic odor gradient model based on the measured odor

concentration (19).

Bats

As previously described, three adult Japanese horseshoe bats (*Rhinolophus*

ferrumequinum nippon, body length: 6.0–8.0 cm, body mass: 20–30 g) were captured

from natural caves in Hyogo and Osaka prefectures in Japan (27). The bats were housed

in a temperature- and humidity-controlled colony room [4 (L) × 3 (W) × 2 m (H)] with

a 12-h-on/12-h-off light cycle at Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan. The bats were

allowed to fly freely and given access to mealworms and water. Captures were

conducted under license and in compliance with current Japanese law. All experiments

complied with the Principles of Animal Care, publication no. 86-23, revised 1985, of

the National Institutes of Health, and with current Japanese law. All experiments were

approved by the Animal Experiment Committee of Doshisha University.

Bat acoustic navigation

Methods for acoustic navigation measurement in bats have been described elsewhere

(Yamada et al., in revision). In brief, the experiments were conducted in a flight

chamber, which was constructed of steel plates [9 (L) × 4.5 (W) × 2.5 m (H)] under

lighting with red filters (>650 nm) to avoid visual effects on the bats. An obstacle

environment was constructed using plastic chains (4 cm in diameter) that were

suspended from the ceiling of the chamber. The chains were arranged at 15-cm intervals

in the x-axis and at 22-cm intervals in the y-axis so that the bat was forced to fly in an

S-shaped pattern without passing between chains. With this layout, three naive bats

were used: each bat was observed for 12 continuous repeated flights so that

echolocation behaviors in unfamiliar and familiar spaces could be compared. In this

study, the initial three flights were defined as unfamiliar flights, and the last three flights

were defined as familiar flights.

The flight behavior of the bats was recorded using two digital high-speed video cameras

(MotionPro X3; IDT Japan, Inc., Japan) at 125 frames/s, which were located in the left

and right corners of the flight chamber. Based on a direct linear transformation

technique, the successive 3D positions of the flying bats, as well as the locations of

other objects, were reconstructed using motion analysis software (DIPPMotionPro

ver. 2.2.1.0; Ditect Corp., Japan). The flight velocity vector of the bat was calculated as

the time derivative of the coordinates of its flight trajectory.

Behavioral parameters included in a feature vector

For the machine learning analysis of worm olfactory navigation, the following behavioral features were calculated for each run from the centroid coordinates of the worms: start time (*RunTime*), serial number (*RunNum*), velocity (*V*), bearing (*B*), odor concentration that a worm experienced during run (*C*), directionality ratio (*Dir*) (28), run's curvature (called weathervane; *WV*) (29), run duration (*RunDur*), and duration of pirouette just before the run (*PirDur*). Time-differential values were calculated for *V* (*dV*), *B* (*dV*), and *C* (*dC*). For these values, the average (*Ave*) during a run as well as average values over 2 s at the initiation (*Ini*) and at the termination (*Ter*) of a run were also calculated. For *Ini* and *Ter*, 0-2 s after the initiation and 2-4 s before the termination of a run were used; we did not use 0-2 seconds before the termination because previous studies revealed that a worm's speed drops largely during this period (25, 26). Although the time windows for worms were set based on the previous studies, the optimal time windows for bats were calculated by machine learning (see below). In addition, to analyze whether these features are independent for each run (in other words, whether any long-term trend among runs across a pirouette exists), we also calculated hysteretic effects (Δ) of these run features between successive runs for *V*, *dV*, *B*, *dB*, *C*, and *dC*—in fact, a certain relationship between bearings before and after a pirouette (*B_Ini*Δ*Ter*) has been reported in salt-taxis (26). For this, *Ave*, *Ini*, or *Ter* of each run feature was subtracted from any of the previous run features. Hysteretic effects were calculated for just one feature for *RunDur*, *PirDur*, and *WV*, which only possess one value per run, and not calculated for *RunTime* and *RunNum*. A total of 92 features were calculated by combining all these features.

For analysis of changes in the flight of the bats, the following behavioral features in

each flight were calculated from the coordinates of the animals and obstacles:

three-dimensional flight velocity (V), horizontal and vertical bearings of the flight

(B_hori and B_vert, respectively), distance (R_obs) and bearing (B_obs) of the bat to

the nearest edge point of the obstacle chain array, longitudinal directional distance to

the frontal chain array (R_x), lateral directional distance to the inside pitch of the chain

array (R_y). Time-differential values were calculated for V (dV), B (dB), dB (ddB), and

the flight height (dH), which were calculated with frame units of the high-speed video

cameras (1/125 s). All flight trajectories were divided into three segments: earlier,

middle, and later terms. The time window for the analysis of each behavioral feature

was 0.1, 0.2, or 0.3 s before or when ($t = 0$) passing through the chain array. A total of

42 features were calculated by combining all these features.

Excel 2010 and Visual C# (Microsoft) were used for the calculations, and the

Beeswarm package for R software (The R Project) was used for the scattered plot of

data. These parameters are listed in Table 1 for worms and in Table 4 for bats.

Behavioral classification with gain ratio

In order to extract useful features, we calculated the gain ratio used in C4.5 decision tree

analysis (30) for each feature. In decision tree analysis, the amount of information,

which is acquired when a group of data is divided into sub-groups by a certain feature,

is calculated as information gain. In other words, when dividing a group into sub-groups

by applying a certain feature, information gain is an index indicating the amount of the

increased bias of data in the sub-groups after the division. The information gain was

then divided by split info, a degree of division, for normalization to compute the gain

ratio. For worm olfactory navigation, we extracted behavioral features that have

positive gain ratios in naive versus preexposed worms or in mock-treated versus

preexposed worms. Then, we chose the features that were common in both comparisons

as "features modulated in experience-dependent manner". For bat acoustic navigation,

behavioral features were extracted from the comparison of unfamiliar flights (1st-3rd)

and familiar (10th-12th) flights. Weka software (the University of Waikato, New

Zealand) [31] was used for the calculation.

Calcium imaging

Calcium imaging of the worms' ASH neurons was performed according to a previous

report [19]. Briefly, transgenic strains expressing GCaMP3 [32] and mCherry [33] in

ASH sensory neurons under the *sra-6* promoter (KDK70034 and KDK70072; 20 ng/µl

of *sra-6p::GCaMP3*, 20 ng/µl of *sra-6p::mCherry*, 10 ng/µl of *lin-44p::GFP*, 50 ng/µl

of PvuII-cut N2 genomic DNA as a carrier in N2 background) were placed on an NGM

agar plate on a robotic microscope system, OSB2 [19]. Although these transgenic

worms were immobilized with the acetyl choline receptor agonist levamisole [34] for

high-throughput data acquisition by simultaneous imaging of multiple worms, the

previous study revealed that the ASH activity is essentially unaffected by

levamisole-treatment [19]. For these worms, a constant gas flow of 8 mL/min was

delivered, in which the mixture rate of 2-nonanone gas versus the air was changed to

make a temporal gradient of the odor concentration. The temporal change in odor

concentration was measured by a custom-made semiconductor sensor before and after

the series of calcium imagings on each day. The fluorescence signals of GCaMP3 and

mCherry in ASH neurons were divided into two channels using W-View (Hamamatsu,

Japan), an image splitting optic, and captured by an EM-CCD camera (ImagEM;

Hamamatsu, Japan) at 1 Hz. The intensities of fluorescence signals from cell bodies

were extracted and quantified by ImageJ (NIH) after background subtraction. The

average ratio over 30 s prior to the odor increase was used as a baseline (F_0), and the

difference from F_0 (ΔF) was used to calculate the fluorescence intensities of GCaMP3

and mCherry ($F = \Delta F/F_0$). The ratio between florescence intensities of GCaMP and

mCherry (GCaMP/mCherry) was used in the figure.

Statistical analysis

For comparisons of behavioral features among naive, mock-treated, and preexposed

worms, the Kruskal-Wallis multiple comparison test followed by the *post hoc* Dunn's

test were used (Fig. 2, 3 and 4), except for in the analysis of directional data, for which

the Mardia-Watson-Wheeler test was used. The calculations were performed with Prism

ver. 5.0 for Mac OSX (GraphPad Software, CA, USA), R (The R Project) or SPSS

version 23 (IBM Corp.).

RESULTS

A strategy for extracting features of sensory navigation that were modulated by

prior experience

In this study, we aimed to extract behavioral features using machine learning to

understand changes in information processing in the brain during sensory navigation.

However, identifying characteristic changes in behavior and sensory stimulus during

navigation has been difficult. It is because sensory stimulus in general changes

gradually and continuously during navigation, which may cause gradual or sudden

response at some aspects of behavior with certain probabilities. In order to efficiently

extract behavioral features of sensory navigation by machine learning, we considered

the following points for the analysis: (1) segmenting behavioral states, (2) representing

the animal's position as a single point, (3) calculating sensory information, and (4) using

a statistical index, gain ratio.

Segmenting behavioral states

Segmentation is one of the important preprocessing steps of a large dataset for effective

analysis (35).We considered an animal's navigation to be a series of transitions among a

limited number of behavioral states for a certain period, and we analyzed features in

each of the behavioral states instead of analyzing features in an entire navigation

trajectory or in very short temporal unit (i.e., second or sub-second). For worm

olfactory navigation, we segmented the navigation into two well-established behavioral

states: runs and pirouettes (14, 26; see METHODS for details). For bat acoustic

navigation, we considered the period from passing one obstacle (or from the starting

point) until passing the next obstacle as one behavioral state.

Representing animal's position as a point

During a behavioral state in navigation, animals move a certain distance. For the sake of

proper dimensionality reduction, we calculated the trajectories of a point representing

animal's position (centroid for worms and head position for bats), instead of the posture

of an animal, whose description requires more detailed spatial and temporal

information.

Sensory information

Sensory information is a key factor affecting an animal's behavior. However, because

of technical difficulties, it has been included in the analysis of sensory navigation only

in a few cases for small model animals (17, 19, 36). We included the information of

odor concentration, which changes dynamically during navigation of worms, as

revealed by the direct measurement of odor concentrations in specific spatio-temporal

points in a behavioral arena (19).

Gain ratio

To comprehensively examine behavioral features that can be modulated by prior

experience, we focused on a statistical index used in machine learning-based

classification analysis. In general, classification analysis is the task of classifying new,

unlabeled data into appropriate classes using characteristic features and their parameters

that have been extracted from the known class-labeled data. In the present study,

however, the classification itself was not meaningful because the data were already

classified, such as with or without prior experience or wild-type versus mutant strains.

Instead, we focused on the procedure in the classification that finds features useful for

distinguishing between the two classes. In other words, behavioral features modulated

by prior experience should be able to effectively classify the behavioral data of animals

with or without this experience.

For this purpose, we chose to use gain ratio, the index for decision tree analysis (22).

Binary decision tree analysis is performed to split a data set into two sub-groups by

automatically selecting the best feature and its parameter that has the largest

information gain, the difference of the uncertainty ("information entropy") before and

after division; each data point is classified into either of the sub-classes based on

whether it has a larger or smaller value than the threshold. When applied for binary

classification, decision tree analysis automatically evaluates the classification

performance of all of a large number of features that are designed by the researchers.

The result of this analysis is the extraction of certain features, which allows us to easily

understand the usefulness of particular features for the classification. This is a

substantial difference from the analysis by support vector machines and/or deep neural

networks, where the relationships between features of the data and the classification are

not easily discernible (see DISCUSSION).

Behavioral features modulated by the prior experience in worm odor avoidance

behavior

We analyzed the experience-dependent enhancement of odor-avoidance behavior of *C.*

elegans as a model. We have reported that preexposure of worms to the repulsive odor

2-nonanone causes enhancement of avoidance behavior to the odor. After 1 h of

preexposure, worms migrate farther away from the odor source as a type of

non-associative middle-term learning (24). A series of genetic analyses indicated that

neuropeptide and dopamine signaling pathways are required for acquisition and

execution of the odor memory, respectively (25), suggesting that this non-associative

middle-term memory is caused by a circuit-level modulation of neural activity rather

than simple sensory sensitization.

Previous studies analyzed several features and revealed that run duration is the major

behavioral change caused by odor preexposure, likely because of reduction in the

pirouette initiation rate (24, 25). However, this did not rule out the possibility that other

behavioral features play more profound effects. Moreover, multiple mutant strains

exhibit their own abnormalities in the enhanced odor avoidance behavior (see below),

although identification of the features modulated in each mutant strain is

time-consuming and laborious. To reveal features modulated by prior experience

comprehensively and effectively, we calculated the gain ratio by comparing naive

versus preexposed and mock-treated versus preexposed animals, and we considered

features that were extracted from both comparisons.

In the machine learning analysis, we calculated gain ratios of 92 features (Fig. 1 and

Table 1; see METHODS for details) and extracted 18 and 15 features from the

comparisons of naive versus preexposed and mock-treated versus preexposed worms,

respectively (Table 2). Nine features were shared between the two comparisons,

suggesting that those features were modulated by the prior experience to cause the

enhanced odor avoidance (Table 2 and Fig. 2A). These features are related to run

duration (*RunDur*), temporal differences in bearing (*dB_X*), odor concentration (*C_X*),

and its temporal difference during runs (*dC_X*). Modulation of run duration (*RunDur*;

Fig. 2B) by the prior odor experience was previously revealed by traditional analysis

(24). Thus, this result supports the validity of the machine learning analysis.

Experience-dependent modulations of temporal differences in bearing (*dB_X*; Fig. 2C

for example and Table 2) have not been revealed previously. Its contribution to the

enhancement of avoidance distance, however, are unclear. Differences between the

average or the terminal bearing change and the previous initial value (*dB_AveΔIni* or

dB_TerΔIni) were also extracted (Table 2), while the differences were likely due to the

modulation in the previous initial value (Δ*Ini*), not due to the change in hysteretic

effects.

Odor stimuli during runs, which likely drive the worms' odor avoidance behavior, were

also found to be modulated in several aspects: the initial, terminal, and average odor

concentration (*C_Ini*, *C_Ter*, and *C_Ave*), and the terminal and average odor

concentration change (*dC_Te*r and *dC_Ave*) (Table 2; Fig. 2D and E for *C_Ave* and

dC_Ave, respectively, for examples). However, this result does not directly imply that

the lower odor concentration is the causal reason for the enhanced avoidance distance;

one possible scenario is that, because the odor-experienced worms were located farther

away from the odor source, they sensed a lower concentration of the odor.

Because the terminal and average values of odor concentration change (*dC_Te*r and

dC_Ave) were extracted, and because a previous study demonstrated that worm odor

avoidance behavior depends on *dC*, rather than *C*, at least in naive conditions (19), we

investigated these features more in detail. We compared ensemble averages of *dC/dt*

that worms sensed during the last 30 s of each run (Fig. 2F). Interestingly, although

most of the control (*i.e.* naive and mock-treated) worms sensed 2-3 μM odor

concentrations (Fig. 2D), *dC/dt* at the end of each run was ± 0.1 nM/s on average (Fig.

2F; 0.09 ± 0.72 and -0.09 ± 0.76 nM/s for naive and mock-treated animals, respectively).

This result suggests that, to initiate a pirouette, worms respond to a subtle odor

concentration change, of which the magnitude is 1/20,000 - 1/30,000 of the odor

concentration itself per second. Even considering that sensory information is temporally

integrated for a few seconds during worm chemosensory navigation (19, 37), this value

is far lower than the general psychological threshold for sensory signals: The lower

threshold of signal change (ΔS) is more than 1/100 of the signal intensity (*S*) (38).

This extreme sensitivity to positive *dC/dt* was modulated by prior experience of the

odor. The terminal *dC/dt* was significantly higher than in naive and mock-treated

animals (1.58 ± 0.6 nM/s compared to the values in the previous paragraph; *p* < 0.01,

the Kruskal-Wallis multiple comparison test followed by the *post hoc* Dunn's test). This

change in terminal *dC/dt* could be the cause for the enhanced odor avoidance behavior

and suggest the following model: the worms without prior experience of the odor are

highly sensitive to a slight increase in odor concentration during a run, which is a sign

of inappropriate movement toward the source of the repulsive odor, and they respond to

it by initiating a pirouette. In contrast, the worms with prior odor experience ignore the

slight odor increase and continue the run, which leads to a longer run duration (Fig.

2G).

The responsiveness of sensory neurons to odor increases was modulated by odor

experience

If the change in sensitivity to positive dC/dt is the causal reason for the enhanced odor

avoidance behavior, it should be associated with changes in neural activity. Thus, we

analyzed the responsiveness of a likely candidate group of neurons, ASH nociceptive

neurons (39, 40). Previously we established the OSB2 microscope system that allows

for calcium imaging of *C. elegans* neurons *in vivo* under odor stimuli resembling ones

that worms experience during the odor avoidance assay in the plates (19). Using the

OSB2 system, we found that ASH neurons are the major sensory neurons to cause

pirouettes upon increases in 2-nonanone concentration (19). However, whether the ASH

response is modulated by 2-nonanone experience has not been studied.

We found that ASH responses were modulated by prior odor experience in a manner

consistent with the behavioral modulation. When the worms were stimulated with 5

nM/s odor increase, which is the lowest rate of change to cause the threshold-level

behavioral response in the previous study (19), ASH neurons in naive as well as

mock-treated worms exhibited robust responses (Fig. 3A and B). However, the ASH

responses were significantly reduced in the preexposed animals (Fig. 3B and C). This

result suggests that prior odor experience causes the reduced response to the odor

increase, which causes longer run durations and enhanced odor avoidance behavior.

Extracted behavioral features of mutant strains correspond to gene functions

We also investigated whether feature extraction from behavior of mutant strains can

allow us to understand relationships between chemosensory behavior and gene

functions in the nervous system. By calculating gain ratios, we analyzed mutants of

genes that are known to be involved in the experience-dependent modulation of

2-nonanone avoidance behavior, such as that for proprotein convertase (required for

neuropeptide signaling), EGL-3 (41), and the D2-type dopamine receptor DOP-3 (25,

42), as well as genes involved in sensation of chemical signals, such as those for TRP

channel homologs OCR-2 and OSM-9 (43, 44) and the cGMP-gated cation channel

TAX-4 (45), whose relationships to the 2-nonanone avoidance behavior have not been

studied.

egl-3, encoding a homolog of proprotein convertase, is required for neuropeptide

biosynthesis, expressed in many neurons, and known to be involved in various aspects

of worm behavior including learning (25, 41, 46). Deletion and missense mutations of

the gene are known to cause severe and mild phenotypes, respectively (25, 47). Our

previous study revealed that run duration is not increased after preexposure in *egl-3*

mutants, suggesting that neuropeptide signaling is required for the acquisition of odor

preexposure memory (25). In the present study, the abnormal features were similar

between deletion (*ok979*) and missense (*n589*) mutants, namely, run duration

(*Run_Dur*), odor concentration (*C_Ave*, *C_Ini*, *C_Ter*), and odor concentration change

(*dC_Ave*, *dC_Ter*), although the deletion mutants exhibited additional abnormal

features (Table 3 and Fig. 4). Increases in odor concentration in preexposed worms

were interesting because they were observed only in *egl-3* mutants but not in any other

mutants.

Mutations in *dop-3*, which encodes a homolog of the D2-type dopamine receptor, were

previously found to affect migratory direction after preexposure (25). This was

concluded because the mutants did not exhibit enhanced avoidance distance, although

run duration was increase after preexposure, and because run terminal bearing (*B_Ter*)

was worsened (25). These features were extracted in this analysis (Table 3), further

supporting the reliability of this analysis. In addition, the averaged directionality ratio

(*Dir_Ave*) was worsened (Table 3 and Fig. 4C). This is also consistent with the idea that

migratory direction is worsened in *dop-3* mutants after preexposure. Moreover, lowered

velocity (*V_Ave*, *V_Ter*; Table 3 and Fig. 4B) was also extracted, which may also

contribute to the failure in the enhanced odor avoidance. Such multiple abnormal

phenotypes are consistent with the fact that *dop-3* is expressed in many neurons and

involved in the regulation of multiple aspects of behavior (48).

ocr-2 and *osm-9* both encode homologs of TRP-type cation channels, expressed in

multiple sensory neurons including ASH neurons and considered to be involved in

sensory perception as well as its modulation (43). We found that mutants for these two

genes did not exhibit significantly enhanced odor avoidance (Fig. 4A). In addition,

these mutants exhibited increases in velocity (*V_Ave* and *V_Ter*) after preexposure,

which was specific for these two mutants but not observed in other mutants. Some

features are specific for each mutant strains, which may reflect the differences in their

expression and/or function (43). Mutants of *tax-4*, encoding a homolog of the

cGMP-gated cation channel expressed in different sets of sensory neurons, exhibited a

unique pattern of features (Table 3, Fig. 4).

Taken together, our results suggest that the pattern of extracted features from mutant

strains may reflect functional groupings of the mutated genes. Thus, profiling and

classification of extracted mutant features of unknown genes may be useful to estimate

their physiological functions.

Feature extraction of experience-dependent modulation of acoustic navigation of

bats

To demonstrate the general applicability of our method, we examined features of

acoustic navigation in bats. We have previously reported that bats improve their flight

trajectory in an indoor space with obstacles in an experience-dependent manner

(Yamada et al., in revision). Here, we analyzed 42 features using gain ratios and

extracted several features, such as velocity (V), distance to the obstacle chain array

(R_obs and R_x), and horizontal bearing of the flight (B_hori) (Table 4 and Fig. 5A-C).

Interestingly, although velocity (V) itself was modulated by flight experience,

acceleration (dV) was not (Fig. 5D), suggesting that bats may determine flight speed

before initiating but not during navigation, at least in our experimental conditions.

Because the bats' vocalizations reflect their attention or decisions (49), our results

suggest that such higher brain functions during navigation could be extracted by

machine learning analysis.

DISCUSSION

In the present study, we extracted behavioral features that are modulated by experience

from olfactory navigation of worms and from acoustic navigation of bats using machine

learning analysis. In the case of worm olfactory navigation, we found a neural correlate

for one of the newly identified features: The reduced behavioral response to an increase

in odor concentration was consistent with the reduced response of ASH nociceptive

neurons to a small increase in odor concentration. In addition, we also found that mutant

strains can be grouped based on extracted features, which may correspond to the

physiological roles of genes in chemotaxis and/or experience-dependent modulation.

Furthermore, our machine learning analysis was applied to acoustic navigation of bats

to extract the features modulated by prior experience.

Extraction of behavioral features by machine learning

Machine learning has been playing a major role in classifying behavioral data of model

animals into several categories (7-13, 50). Instead of such behavioral classification,

however, we intended to use a machine learning technique for extracting characteristic

features of sensory behavior to decipher information processing in the brain. For that

purpose, we first hypothesized that a change in a behavioral feature reflects a change in

activity of a functional unit of the brain. Then, we used machine learning to extract

behavioral features that differ between two classes of behavior, rather than to categorize

the behavioral data into two classes; in our study, two classes (e.g., "with or without

prior experience" or "wild-type versus mutant strains") were determined *per se* and did

not need to be categorized.

In addition, we also included sensory information that worms experienced during the

course of behavior in the machine learning analysis. Although small model animals

such as *C. elegans* or *Drosophila melanogaster* are suitable for machine vision

monitoring and subsequent quantitative analysis of behavior, their small size makes it

difficult to measure sensory signals they receive during behavior. We have solved this

problem by precisely measuring the odor concentration at multiple spatio-temporal

points in a paradigm to assess olfactory behavior of worms (19), which allowed us to

include the information of odor concentration and its temporal changes (C and dC) into

the feature vector for the machine learning analysis. Our machine learning method

could also be used for detailed analysis of sensory navigation in the environment where

the gradients of chemical signal were also quantitatively monitored (36, 51, 52).

As a result, we were able to find multiple behavioral features modulated by prior

experience, including the temporal odor concentration change (dC_Ter), which was

consistent with the experience-dependent change in the responsiveness of ASH

nociceptive neurons. Such an effective and objective approach to estimate neural

function from comprehensive behavioral analysis may play important roles in the

understanding of recent large-scale monitoring of neuronal activity (see below).

For machine learning-based classification, support vector machines and deep learning

have also been used (53, 54). However, in these analyses, it is difficult for researchers

to understand which features are characteristic to each group because these algorithms

attempt to combine multiple features in a single representation. In other words, it is

difficult to use the results of classification for subsequent experiments and/or analysis to

further investigate the neural correlates of the behavioral differences. In contrast, in the

calculation of gain ratio, all features are evaluated independently, allowing us to

immediately translate the results of analysis to a new understanding and/or hypothesis

for subsequent experiments and analyses, as shown in the present study. Thus, we

conclude that the method used in this study—making a list of characteristic features

based on gain ratios and subsequently performing detailed analyses on each of extracted

features—is effective to understand the basic principles of neural functions regulating

behavior.

However, causal relationships among extracted features should be considered carefully.

For example, because odor concentration (C) and temporal odor concentration change

(dC) are both features of sensory stimuli, they were likely candidates for the cause of

changes in behavioral response. However, we regard that dC, rather than C itself, is the

causal reason because of the following: (1) previous quantitative analysis in the plate

assay paradigm revealed that pirouettes and runs are strongly correlated with positive or

negative dC, respectively, rather than the value of C; (2) in the OSB2 robotic

microscope system, positive or negative dC caused high or low levels of turning, such

as pirouettes and runs, respectively (19). For example, the lower C in preexposed

worms is likely caused by their relatively lower positions in the odor gradient (i.e.,

farther positions from the odor source) caused by the enhanced avoidance behavior. In

other words, sensory behaviors are closed loops—changes in sensory input cause

changes in behavior, while changes in behavior should also cause changes in sensory

input because the positions and/or directions of sensory organs are changed due to the

behavior. Thus, even when sensory features are extracted by machine learning, causal

relationships with behavioral features should be evaluated by independent experiments:

An open loop system, which allows control of sensory stimuli and monitoring behavior

independently, such as the OSB2 system (19), will provide an effective solution.

Analysis of multiple mutant strains revealed that the extracted features appeared to be

correlated with the physiological roles of the genes. For example, two alleles of a gene

required for neuropeptide signaling (*egl-3*) exhibited similar feature patterns, which

were different from mutants of a dopamine-signaling gene (*dop-3*). In addition,

mutations in two homologous but distinct TRP-type channel genes required for sensory

signaling (*ocr-2* and *osm-9*) exhibited a similar feature pattern, and the one for cyclic

nucleotide-gated ion channels (*tax-4*) exhibited a different pattern. It is interesting that

mutants of genes with similar functions exhibited similar behavioral features although

these genes should influence animal behavior in a complex manner. These results

suggest that behavioral features of mutants of a novel gene may be categorized to a

group of genes which have similar physiological functions. In other words, feature

extraction using gain ratio of multiple mutant strains can allow estimation of gene

functions in the nervous system.

In conclusion, we established a machine learning method to effectively reveal different

features of two different sensory behaviors. In particular, it is important to include not

only the behavior itself but also environmental sensory information that animals sense

in the feature vectors. Furthermore, it is also necessary to verify causal relationships of

the extracted features by other methods, such as using an open loop experimental setup.

In addition, this method can be used for estimation of the physiological function of

genes.

This method could be applied to analysis of more complex behaviors of other animals.

In the case of visual and acoustic stimuli, it is not clear what features of the stimuli (e.g.,

shapes, colors, and brightness for visual stimuli, and frequency and intensity for

acoustic stimuli) have the most prominent effects on behavior in a particular context.

We believe that our method presented herein, which allows extraction of the essential

features of information processing for sensory behaviors in the brain in an objective and

comprehensive manner, will help to solve this problem. Poor description of behavior

with simple indices compared to "big data" on neuronal activity is being recognized as

one of the significant problems in modern neuroscience (3-5). We expect that

comprehensive and objective feature extraction would increase the wealth of description

of behavior, which will provide us clues to understand more of the big data from brain

activity monitoring.

FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1. A workflow of the machine learning method for the analysis of worm odor

avoidance behavior; "Behavioral data" (Top) Examples of the trajectories of 3 worms

during 12 min of 2-nonanone avoidance assay, overlaid on a schematic drawing of a

9-cm agar plate. (Second from the top) A magnified view of trajectories of a worm, in

which runs are blue and pirouettes are red. (Second from the bottom and bottom)

Graphs showing the odor concentration (C, second from the bottom) and temporal

changes in C (dC, bottom) at the worm's position at 1-s intervals during the odor

avoidance assay. "Feature vector" From the (x, y) coordinates of each worm's centroid,

velocity, bearing, odor concentration, and their derivatives (V, B, C, dV, dB, and dC) as

well as the difference between the present and the previous values (Δ) were calculated.

"Gain ratio" One example (C_Ter) of calculating gain ratio is shown.

Figure 2. Extracted features that were modulated by prior experience of the odor. (A)

Enhanced odor avoidance behavior of worms caused by odor preexposure. (Left) End

points of 25 worms in each condition plotted on a schematic drawing of the assay plate.

(Right) Avoidance distance (distance between the center line of the plate and end point

of behavior) of each worm. Each bar represents median. Significant differences were

observed in the preexposed worms compared to the naive and mock-treated worms

(***$p < 0.001$, Kruskal-Wallis test with *post hoc* Dunn's test). (B, C, D and E)

Distributions of extracted features. Duration (B), the initial value of bearing change (C),

the average odor concentration (D), and the average odor concentration change (E) of

each run (**$p < 0.01$ and ***$p < 0.001$, Kruskal-Wallis test with *post hoc* Dunn's test).

t_{crit} for wild type worms was 13.1. Bars represent median and first and third quartiles.

(F) Time course changes in ensemble averages of odor concentration (dC) that worms

experienced before the termination of runs. On average, naive and mock-treated worms

experienced odor decrements of about -8 nM/s until 15 s before the end of each run,

when the decrements started to become very close to zero at the end of the run. In

contrast, preexposed animals consistently experienced smaller (i.e., shallower) odor

decrements during runs, and the average odor concentration changes at the end of runs

were positive. Bars represent mean ± SEM. (G) A model relationship between odor

concentration change and behavioral response during navigation along the odor gradient.

When naive and mock-treated worms sensed a slight increase in the odor concentration,

which is a sign of migrating in the wrong direction, they stopped a run and started a

pirouette to search for a new direction. In contrast, the preexposed worms did not

respond to a slight increase in odor concentration, leading to longer run durations and

shorter pirouette durations in total, which likely contribute to the enhanced avoidance

distance. Numbers of worms are 25 for all the conditions, and all the statistical details

are described in Supplementary Table 1.

Figure 3. Sensory responses to slight odor concentration increases were reduced by

preexposure to the odor. (A) A schematic drawing of calcium imaging of neural activity

of worms under odor stimuli. Several immobilized worms were simultaneously exposed

to an odor flow whose concentration was changed by controlling syringe pumps. (B)

Responses (GCaMP/mCherry) of ASH neurons in naive (n = 25), mock-treated (n = 29),

and preexposed (n = 26) worms. Thick colored lines with gray shadows indicate mean ±

SEM, and thin lines indicate individual responses. (C) Distributions of peak values

during the odor-increasing phase ($t = 40$-80 s) shown in panel B. Bars represent median.

(***$p < 0.001$, Kruskal-Wallis test with *post hoc* Dunn's test).

Figure 4. Examples of extracted features of mutant strains. Avoidance distance (A), the

average velocity (B), the average migratory direction (C), and the initial odor

concentration (D) per run are shown. t_{crit} for each strain was 8.1 (*egl-3(n589)*), 7.2

(*egl-3(ok979)*), 18.1 (*dop-3(tm1356)*), 11.2 (*ocr-2(ak47)*), 17.8 (*osm-9(ky10)*), and 6.7

(*tax-4(p678)*). Thick bars represent statistical differences between preexposed worms

versus naive *and* mock-treated worms, suggesting differences caused by the odor

preexposure; thin bars represent statistical differences between preexposed worms

versus naive *or* mock-treated worms, which were not caused by the preexposure. (**$p <$

0.01 and ***$p < 0.001$, Kruskal-Wallis test with *post hoc* Dunn's test)

Figure 5. Experience-dependent changes in bat acoustic navigation. (A) Measurement

system for 3D flight trajectory of a bat during obstacle avoidance flight in a chamber.

(B) Representative flight trajectories of a bat in horizontal plane during repeated flight

in the obstacle course. The top figure combines the initial three (red) and last three

(blue) flight trajectories. Each behavioral feature was collected in three segments:

earlier, middle, and later terms. Bottom figure shows an expanded view of the earlier

term in the first flight. Definition of the horizontal bearing of the flight (*B_hori*),

distance (*R_obs*), and bearing (*B_obs*) of the bat to the nearest edge point of the

obstacle chain array, longitudinal directional distance to the frontal chain array (*R_x*),

and lateral directional distance to the inside pitch of the chains array (*R_y*) are indicated.

Time windows for the analysis of each behavioral feature were 0.1, 0.2, or 0.3 s before

or when ($t = 0$) passing through the chain array. (C) A list of extracted features of bat

acoustic navigation modulated by flight experience. (D) Distributions of *V(-0.3)* and

dV(-0.3) are plotted. Bars represent median and first and third quartiles. (*$p < 0.05$,

Kruskal-Wallis test with *post hoc* Dunn's test).

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

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Table 1. A list of behavioral features used for worms' olfactory navigation

Parameters	Definition
RunNum	Number of a run
RunTime	Start time of a run
RunDur	Duration of a run
PirDur	Duration of the previous pirouette
V_Ave	Average velocity during a run
V_Ini	Velocity at run initiation
V_Ter	Velocity at run termination
dV_Ave	Average acceleration during a run
dV_Ini	Acceleration at run initiation
dV_Ter	Acceleration at run termination
B_Ave	Bearing of migratory vector throughout a run
B_Ini	Bearing at run initiation
B_Ter	Bearing at run termination
dB_Ave	Average temporal changes in bearing
dB_Ini	Temporal changes in bearing at run initiation
dB_Ter	Temporal changes in bearing at run termination
C_Ave	Average odor concentration during a run
C_Ini	Odor concentration at run initiation
C_Ter	Odor concentration at run termination
dC_Ave	Average temporal changes in odor concentration during a run
dC_Ini	Temporal changes in odor concentration at run initiation
dC_Ter	Temporal changes in odor concentration at run termination
Dir_Ave	Average directionality ratio
Dir_Ini	Directionality ratio at run initiation
Dir_Ter	Directionality ratio at run termination
WV	Curving rate of a run
RunDurΔ	Current *RunDur* minus the previous *RunDur*
PirDurΔ	Current *PirDur* minus the previous *PirDur*
WVΔ	Current *WV* minus the previous *WV*
X_AveΔAve	Current *Ave* minus the previous *Ave*
X_AveΔIni	Current *Ave* minus the previous *Ini*
X_AveΔTer	Current *Ave* minus the previous *Ter*
X_IniΔAve	Current *Ini* minus the previous *Ave*
X_IniΔIni	Current *Ini* minus the previous *Ini*
X_IniΔTer	Current *Ini* minus the previous *Ter*
X_TerΔAve	Current *Ter* minus the previous *Ave*
X_TerΔIni	Current *Ter* minus the previous *Ini*
X_TerΔTer	Current *Ter* minus the previous *Ter*
（*X = V, dV, B, dB, C, dC, Dir*）	

887 **Table 2. Extracted features of worms' olfactory navigation modulated by prior**
888 **odor experience**

naive vs pre-exp		mock vs pre-exp	
V_Ave	0.1796	*C_Ter*	0.1337
Run_Dur	0.1558	*C_Ave*	0.0998
dB_Ini	0.1349	*C_Ini*	0.0932
C_IniΔAve	0.1230	*dC_Ave*	0.0854
C_IniΔIni	0.1230	*dC_Ini*	0.0810
dB_TerΔIni	0.1191	*dC_Ter*	0.0749
dB_AveΔIni	0.1013	*dC_IniΔTer*	0.0722
C_Ave	0.0983	*dC_TerΔIni*	0.0490
C_Ter	0.0942	*dV_AveΔIni*	0.0478
dB_IniΔTer	0.0924	*dV_Ini*	0.0478
C_Ini	0.0914	*dV_Ave*	0.0364
dB_IniΔAve	0.0839	*Run_Dur*	0.0352
V_AveΔAve	0.0815	*dB_Ini*	0.0342
dC_Ter	0.0810	*dB_TerΔIni*	0.0304
Run_DurΔ	0.0785	*dB_AveΔIni*	0.0298
dC_Ave	0.0547		
C_AveΔTer	0.0394		
Pir_Dur	0.0326		

889 Bold letters indicate features shared between the two comparisons.
890

891 **Table 3. Summary of extracted features of wild-type and mutant strains that are modulated by prior odor experience**

strain	RunDur	V_Ave	V_Ini	V_Ter	B_Ter	dB_Ini	C_Ave	C_Ini	C_Ter	dC_Ave	dC_Ter	Dir_Ave	RunNum
wild-type	up					down	down	down	down	up	up		
egl-3(n589)							up	up	up				
egl-3(ok979)		down	down	down		down	up	up	up				
dop-3(tm1356)	up	down		down	up					up	up	down	
ocr-2(ak47)		up		up	up								
osm-9(ky10)	up	up		up									
tax-4(p678)													up

892 Only features with statistical differences between preexposed worms versus naive *and* mock-treated worms are shown.

894   **Table 4. A list of behavioral features used for bats' acoustic navigation**

Parameters	Definition
$V(t)$	Fight velocity in 3D space
$dV(t)$	Flight acceleration in 3D space
$B\_hori(t)$	Absolut bearing of the flight vector in a horizontal plane
$dB\_hori(t)$	Temporal change in bearing of the flight vector in a horizontal plane
$ddB\_hori(t)$	Temporal acceleration in bearing of the flight vector in a horizontal plane
$B\_vert(t)$	Absolut bearing of the flight vector in a vertical plane
$B\_obs(t)$	Absolute bearing to the edge point of the nearest chain array
$R\_obs(t)$	Distance from the bat to the edge point of the nearest chain array
$R\_x(t)$	Longitudinal directional distance to the frontal chain array
$R\_y(t)$	Lateral directional distance to the inside pitch of the chain array
$dH(t)$	Temporal change in flight height

896   t = -0.3, -0.2, -0.1, or 0 s. $B\_obs(t)$ and $R\_x(t)$ were not calculated for $t = 0$.

A

B

C

A

High speed video cameras

Obstacle chains

2.5 m

9 m

4.5 m

B

Earlier term $t_e = 0$ Middle term $t_m = 0$ Later term $t_l = 0$

start

Initial 3 flights
Last 3 flights

0.5 m

R_x (-0.3)

B_obs (-0.3)

X axis (0°)

R_y (-0.3)

B_hori (-0.3)

$t_e = -0.3$ s

R_obs (-0.3)

0.3 m

$t_e = -0.2$ s

$t_e = -0.1$ s

$t_e = 0$ s

C

Features	Gain ratio
R_x (-0.3)	0.373
R_obs (-0.3)	0.352
V (-0.3)	0.312
V (-0.2)	0.294
R_x (-0.2)	0.294
R_obs (-0.2)	0.294
B_hori (-0.3)	0.292
B_hori (-0.2)	0.219
ddB_hori (-0.3)	0.209

D

Supplementary Table 1. Detailed results of statistical tests.

Figure	Parameter	Number of naive	Number of mock	Number of preexp.	Unit of number	Multiple test	df value of multiple test	p value of multiple test	Other result of multiple test	Post-hock test	df value of post-hock test	p value of post-hock test	Other result of post-hock test
2A, 4A	Avoidance distance of N2	25	25	25	animals	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	24.451	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.7621(ns) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: 0.0001(***)	z = 0.6619 z = 4.5747 z = 3.9128
2B	Run duration of N2	219	210	187	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	18.76	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 1(ns) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: 0.0006(***)	z = -0.4269 z = -3.9959 z = -3.547
2C	Initial dBearing of N2	219	210	187	runs	Mardia-Watson-Wheeler test	2	<0.0001(***)	64.69	Mardia-Watson-Wheeler test	1	naive vs mock: <0.0001(***) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: 0.002(**)	W = 26.305 W = 59.795 W = 12.007
2D	Average Conc. of N2	219	210	187	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	68.69	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.1351(ns) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: <0.0001(***)	z = -1.6951 z = 6.3349 z = 7.9016
2E	Averege dConc. of N2	219	210	187	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.0003(***)	16.56	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.3202(ns) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: 0.0085(**)	z = -1.2441 z = -4.001 z = -2.7671
3C	Peak value of GCaMP3/mCherry	25	29	28	animals	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	30.11	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.0949(ns) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: 0.0004(***)	z = 1.8571 z = 5.3589 z = 3.6525
4A	Avoidance distance of egl-3(n589)	25	25	25	animals	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.7763(ns)	0.51	Dunn's test	1	-	-
4A	Avoidance distance of egl-3(ok979)	25	25	25	animals	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.0128(*)	8.72	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.3924(ns) naive vs preexposure: 0.0051(**) mock vs preexposure: 0.1069(ns)	z = -1.1226 z = -2.9265 z = -1.8039
4A	Avoidance distance of dop-3(tm1356)	46	46	47	animals	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.8196(ns)	0.40	Dunn's test	1	-	-
4A	Avoidance distance of ocr-2(ak47)	19	16	18	animals	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.2001(ns)	3.22	Dunn's test	1	-	-
4A	Avoidance distance of osm-9(ky10)	24	26	24	animals	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.0191(*)	7.91	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.1625(ns) naive vs preexposure: 0.0075(**) mock vs preexposure: 0.3141(ns)	z = 1.6058 z = 2.8055 z = 1.2552
4A	Avoidance distance of tax-4(p678)	23	29	30	animals	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.0008(***)	14.39	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.0506(ns) naive vs preexposure: 0.0002(***) mock vs preexposure: 0.1175(ns)	z = 2.1232 z = 3.7932 z = 1.7605
4B	Average speed of N2	219	210	187	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.2796(ns)	2.55	Dunn's test	1	-	-
4B	Average speed of egl-3(n589)	227	194	235	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	80.44	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: <0.0001(***) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: <0.0001(***)	z = -8.9653 z = -4.5544 z = 4.6671
4B	Average speed of egl-3(ok979)	370	260	252	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	137.51	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.3296(ns) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: <0.0001(***)	z = 1.2272 z = 11.1444 z = 9.1734
4B	Average speed of dop-3(tm1356)	276	266	279	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	39.19	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.6155(ns) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: <0.0001(***)	z = 0.8234 z = 5.795 z = 4.9154
4B	Average speed of ocr-2(ak47)	180	142	168	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	50.52	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.075(ns) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: <0.0001(***)	z = -1.9599 z = -6.9657 z = -4.6254
4B	Average speed of osm-9(ky10)	147	175	160	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	66.85	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.2053(ns) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: <0.0001(***)	z = -1.4875 z = -7.5979 z = -6.4146
4B	Average speed of tax-4(p678)	402	531	473	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	20.69	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: <0.0001(***) naive vs preexposure: 0.0019(**) mock vs preexposure: 0.3492(ns)	z = -4.456 z = -3.2307 z = 1.1931
4C	Average directionality ratio of N2	219	210	187	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.2781(ns)	2.56	Dunn's test	1	-	-
4C	Average directionality ratio of egl-3(n589)	227	194	235	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.0042(**)	10.96	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.0014(**) naive vs preexposure: 0.1115(ns) mock vs preexposure: 0.1585(ns)	z = -3.3036 z = -1.7844 z = 1.6179
4C	Average directionality ratio of egl-3(ok979)	370	260	252	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.1357(ns)	4.00	Dunn's test	1	-	-
4C	Average directionality ratio of dop-3(tm1356)	276	266	279	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	38.61	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 1(ns) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: <0.0001(***)	z = -0.3986 z = 5.1836 z = 5.5349
4C	Average directionality ratio of ocr-2(ak47)	180	142	168	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.0135(*)	8.62	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.0062(**) naive vs preexposure: 0.6577(ns) mock vs preexposure: 0.0541(ns)	z = -2.8694 z = -0.7747 z = 2.0962
4C	Average directionality ratio of osm-9(ky10)	147	175	160	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.6949(ns)	0.73	Dunn's test	1	-	-
4C	Average directionality ratio of tax-4(p678)	402	531	473	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	37.08	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: <0.0001(***) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: 1(ns)	z = -5.4554 z = -5.2773 z = 0.0423
4D	Initial Conc. of N2	219	210	187	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	57.75	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.1381(ns) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: <0.0001(***)	z = -1.6846 z = 5.7215 z = 7.284
4D	Initial Conc. of egl-3(n589)	227	194	235	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	48.82	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 1(ns) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: <0.0001(***)	z = 0.0374 z = -6.0955 z = -5.8855
4D	Initial Conc. of egl-3(ok979)	370	260	252	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	83.00	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.002(**) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: <0.0001(***)	z = -3.2048 z = -9.0932 z = -5.4678
4D	Initial Conc. of dop-3(tm1356)	276	266	279	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	30.83	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.001(***) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: 0.064(ns)	z = -3.4101 z = -5.4972 z = -2.0269
4D	Initial Conc. of ocr-2(ak47)	180	142	168	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.0151(*)	8.38	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: 0.0057(**) naive vs preexposure: 0.2973(ns) mock vs preexposure: 0.1517(ns)	z = 2.8947 z = 1.2868 z = -1.6393
4D	Initial Conc. of osm-9(ky10)	147	175	160	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	0.0637(ns)	5.51	Dunn's test	1	-	-
4D	Initial Conc. of tax-4(p678)	402	531	473	runs	Kruskal-Wallis test	2	<0.0001(***)	76.84	Dunn's test	1	naive vs mock: <0.0001(***) naive vs preexposure: <0.0001(***) mock vs preexposure: 0.8193(ns)	z = 8.0792 z = 7.3115 z = -0.6035

Figure	Parameter	Number of Groups	Number of initial	Number of last	Unit of number	Statistical tests used	p value	Other result
5D	Fight velocity in 3D space at t=−0.3	2	27	27	flights	Mann–Whitney test	0.0234(*)	Mann-Whitney U = 233.0
5D	Flight acceleration in 3D space at t=−0.3	2	27	27	flights	Mann–Whitney test	0.2326(ns)	Mann-Whitney U = 295.0