

Hierarchical Compression Reveals Sub-Second to Day-Long Structure in Larval Zebrafish Behaviour

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Abstract

Animal behaviour is dynamic, evolving over multiple timescales from milliseconds to days and even across a lifetime. To understand the mechanisms governing these dynamics, it is necessary to capture multi-timescale structure from behavioural data. Here, we develop computational tools and study the behaviour of hundreds of larval zebrafish tracked continuously across multiple 24-hour day/night cycles. We extracted millions of movements and pauses, termed bouts, and used unsupervised learning to reduce each larva's behaviour to an alternating sequence of active and inactive bout types, termed modules. Through hierarchical compression, we identified recurrent behavioural patterns, termed motifs. Module and motif usage varied across the day/night cycle, revealing structure at sub-second to day-long timescales. We further demonstrate that module and motif analysis can uncover novel pharmacological and genetic mutant phenotypes. Overall, our work reveals the organisation of larval zebrafish behaviour at multiple timescales and provides tools to identify structure from large-scale behavioural datasets.

1 Introduction

2 To survive, animals must coordinate patterns of action and inaction in response to their environment.
3 These actions and inactions, which together we will define as behaviour, result from some function
4 incorporating internal (e.g. transcriptional, hormonal or neuronal activity) and external (e.g. time of
5 day or temperature) state. Thus, behavioural descriptions provide insight into the underlying
6 mechanisms that control behaviour and are a necessary step in understanding these systems
7 (Krakauer *et al.*, 2017).

8

9 Animal behaviour, however, typically has many degrees of freedom and evolves over multiple
10 timescales from milliseconds (Wiltschko *et al.*, 2015) to days (Fulcher and Jones, 2017) and even across
11 an animal's entire lifespan (Jordan *et al.*, 2013; Stern *et al.*, 2017). As such, quantitatively describing
12 behaviour remains both conceptually and technically challenging (Berman, 2018; Brown and de Bivort,
13 2018). Inspired by early ideas from ethology (Lashley, 1951; Tinbergen, 1963), one approach is to
14 describe behaviour in terms of simple modules that are arranged into more complex motifs.
15 Behavioural modules are often defined from postural data as stereotyped movements, such as
16 walking in *Drosophila* (Berman *et al.*, 2014; Vogelstein *et al.*, 2014; Robie *et al.*, 2017) and mice
17 (Wiltschko *et al.*, 2015), while behavioural motifs are defined as sequences of modules, which capture
18 the patterns inherent to animal behaviour, such as grooming in *Drosophila* (Berman *et al.*, 2014).

19

20 Zebrafish larvae have emerged as a powerful model organism in neuroscience, owing to their genetic
21 tractability (Howe *et al.*, 2013), translucency (Vanwalleghem *et al.*, 2018) and amenability to
22 pharmacological screening (Rihel and Ghosh, 2015). In terms of behaviour larvae exhibit an alternating
23 sequence of movements and pauses, termed bouts. This structure is particularly suited to modular
24 description as individual bouts can be easily segmented and it is relatively easy to acquire many
25 examples from even a single animal due to the high frequency of their movement (Kim *et al.*, 2017).
26 Leveraging these advantages, recent work used unsupervised learning to uncover a locomotor
27 repertoire of 13 swim types in larval zebrafish, including slow forward swims and faster escape swims
28 (Marques *et al.*, 2018). However, the inactive periods between swim bouts, were not considered,
29 despite reflecting behavioural states such as passivity in the face of adversity (Mu *et al.*, 2019) or even
30 sleep (Prober *et al.*, 2006).

31

32 To explore an animal's full behavioural repertoire, from fast movements to sleep it is necessary to
33 study behaviour over long timescales. To date, however, module and motif descriptions of behaviour
34 have been developed from videos fifteen minutes (Vogelstein *et al.*, 2014; Wiltschko *et al.*, 2015;
35 Robie *et al.*, 2017) to two hours (Marques *et al.*, 2018) in length. Consequently, most identified

36 behavioural structure has been on the order of milliseconds and the existence of longer-timescale
37 structure, on the order of minutes to hours has remained unexplored. The development of methods
38 to extract multi-timescale structure from long-timescale recordings would open avenues to explore
39 questions including how behaviour varies across the day/night cycle and develops across an animal's
40 lifespan. Furthermore, as pharmacologically or genetically induced behavioural phenotypes can differ
41 at different times of the day/night cycle in zebrafish larvae (Rihel *et al.*, 2010; Hoffman *et al.*, 2016), a
42 long-timescale approach would provide valuable phenotyping information.

43

44 Currently, the limiting factor in scaling these methods is the volume of data, owing to the high-
45 framerates and -dimensionality required to estimate animal posture. To overcome this challenge and
46 scale current approaches, we present a fundamentally different approach by building a module and
47 motif description of larval zebrafish behaviour from a one-dimensional behavioural parameter
48 recorded over time. Specifically, we used a high-throughput behavioural set-up (Rihel *et al.*, 2010) to
49 continuously monitor the activity of hundreds of zebrafish larvae across multiple days and nights. To
50 identify multi-timescale behavioural structure, we developed a three-step computational approach.
51 Firstly, we used unsupervised learning to identify a set of 10 behavioural modules that describe both
52 active and inactive bout structure. Secondly, we applied a compression algorithm (Nevill-Manning and
53 Witten, 2000) to our module data to compile a library of almost 50,000 motifs, revealing behavioural
54 patterns organised across sub-second to minute timescales. Finally, we used a supervised learning
55 algorithm (Peng *et al.*, 2005) to identify motifs from the library, used at particular times of the
56 day/night cycle. To test the ability of our approach to detect biologically relevant phenotypes, we also
57 studied the behaviour of larvae exposed to the seizure-inducing drug, pentylenetetrazol (PTZ)
58 (Baraban *et al.*, 2005), the sedating drug, melatonin (Zhdanova *et al.*, 2001), and hypocretin receptor
59 (*hcrtr*) mutant larva (Yokogawa *et al.*, 2007), loss of which is associated with narcolepsy in humans (Lin
60 *et al.*, 1999) and altered bout structure in zebrafish (Yokogawa *et al.*, 2007; Elbaz *et al.*, 2012). We
61 found that our computational approach could readily detect both compound dose and mutant specific
62 differences in module and motif usage, demonstrating the biological relevance of our behavioural
63 description.

64

65 Ultimately, our work reveals the organisation of larval zebrafish behaviour at sub-second to day-long
66 timescales and provides new computational tools to identify structure from large-scale behavioural
67 datasets.

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71 Results

72 Behaviour at Scale

73 Larval zebrafish behaviour consists of an alternating sequence of movements and pauses, termed
74 bouts, that are organised at sub-second timescales. To capture this structure from high-throughput,
75 long-timescale experiments, we used a 96-well plate set-up with a single larva housed in each well
76 (Supplementary Figure 1a) and as a proxy for movement recorded the number of pixels that changed
77 intensity within each well between successive pairs of frames, a metric we term Δ pixels. We built on
78 previous work using this set-up (reviewed in: Barlow and Rihel, 2017; Oikonomou and Prober, 2017)
79 by analysing Δ pixels data at 25Hz, rather than in one-minute bins. When recorded in this way, Δ pixels
80 data is an alternating sequence of positive values representing movement magnitude and zeros
81 representing periods of inactivity (Figure 1a, Supplementary video 1). We defined active bouts as any
82 single or consecutive frames with non-zero Δ pixels values and described each bout using several
83 features including the mean and standard deviation of Δ pixels values across the bout (Figure 1a). We
84 defined inactive bouts as any single or consecutive frames with zero Δ pixels values, and described
85 each inactive bout using its length (Figure 1a).

86

87 Using this approach, we first assessed the behaviour of wild-type larvae across a 14hr/10hr day/night
88 cycle (Supplementary Figure 2a). During the day, wild-type larvae had many more bouts than the night
89 (Figure 1b) and tended to use short, sub-second long inactive bouts (Figure 1c). Longer inactive bouts,
90 on the order of seconds to minutes, were generally reserved for the night (Figure 1c). Together these
91 differences in active and inactive bout usage resulted in a diurnal pattern of activity (Figure 1d). These
92 results are broadly consistent with those from analysis of binned Δ pixels data (Barlow and Rihel, 2017;
93 Oikonomou and Prober, 2017), with the addition of sub-second resolution and an increase in accuracy,
94 as determined by intra-fish comparisons between the methods (Supplementary Figure 1b-c).

95

96 Next, we extended our approach to examine the behavioural effects of pharmacological and genetic
97 manipulations. Melatonin, which is strongly hypnotic in zebrafish (Rihel *et al.*, 2010), dose
98 dependently decreased larval activity (Figure 1e) by decreasing the number, magnitude, and length of
99 active bouts and by inducing longer inactive bouts (Supplementary Figure 2b). The epileptogenic drug
100 PTZ (Supplementary Figure 1d) altered both active and inactive bout parameters (Supplementary
101 Figure 2c), eliciting on average longer, lower amplitude active bouts and longer inactive bouts during
102 the day. Finally, homozygous *hcrtr*^{-/-} mutants had only subtle differences in active bout structure, with
103 shorter mean active bout length and lower active bout total and standard deviation, compared to both
104 wild-type *hcrtr*^{+/+} and heterozygous *hcrtr*^{+/-} siblings, which did not differ from one another by any
105 metrics (Supplementary Figure 2d).

106 Collectively, these results quantitatively demonstrate the advantages of assessing Δ pixels data on a
107 frame by frame basis and provide insight into the behaviour of wild-type zebrafish larvae across the
108 day/night cycle as well as those subject to pharmacological or genetic manipulations.

109

110

111 **Module Usage Varies with Behavioural Context**

112 Recent work has demonstrated that larval activity can be classified using unsupervised learning into
113 13 distinct bout types that represent different swimming movements (Marques *et al.*, 2018). A full
114 description of larval behaviour, however, requires quantification of both the movements and pauses
115 that they execute. Thus, we sought to determine if distinct active or inactive bout types, which we
116 termed modules, were identifiable from our data, and if module usage depended upon behavioural
117 context.

118

119 To address these questions, we separately clustered the active and inactive bouts (combined across
120 experiments a total of 30,900,018 active and 30,900,418 inactive bouts) using an evidence
121 accumulation-based clustering algorithm (see Materials & Methods). In brief, 200 Gaussian Mixture
122 Models were built from each data set, then the results of these models were combined to generate
123 aggregate solutions. This clustering method identified 5 active and 5 inactive modules (Figure 2a-b,
124 Supplementary Figure 3), which we separately labelled from 1-5 from the shortest to longest mean
125 bout length. The active modules corresponded to different shapes of Δ pixel changes in terms of
126 amplitude and length (Figure 2a and Supplementary Figure 4a), while the inactive modules consisted
127 of different lengths of inactivity (Figure 2b and Supplementary Figure 4a). The shortest inactive
128 module (module 1) had a mean length of 0.06s and ranged from a minimum of 0.04s (our sampling
129 limit) to a maximum of 0.12s. In contrast, the longest inactive module (module 5) had a mean length
130 of 96s and covered a huge range of values from a minimum of 20s to a maximum of 8.8hours.

131

132 To examine how module usage varied across time, we represented each larvae's behaviour as an
133 alternating sequence of active and inactive modules (Figure 2c, Supplementary video 2). In the wild-
134 type data, module usage varied with both time of day and development (Figure 2d). For example, the
135 probability of observing inactive module 2, which consists of typical day pause lengths (0.16 – 1.16s),
136 was on average 0.6 during the day and only 0.24 during the night, when inactive modules 1, 4 and 5
137 became more likely (Figure 2d). To reveal finer-grain temporal dynamics, we also examined each
138 module's mean frequency over time (Figure 2e). In general, both the active and the short inactive
139 modules had high frequencies during the day, peaking at the light/dark transition as the larvae
140 responded to the sudden change in illumination. In contrast, the only module with a peak in frequency

141 at the dark-to-light transition was inactive module 4 (3.72 – 20s), which also had an increased
142 frequency approaching the light-to-dark transition. Together these results reveal that zebrafish
143 employ different bout types in a time of day/night dependent manner.

144

145 Next, we examined the impact of pharmacological and genetic manipulations upon bout type usage.
146 Larvae dosed with melatonin showed a shift towards using shorter active modules and longer inactive
147 modules (Supplemental Figure 4b). In PTZ dosed larvae, there were also shifts in active module
148 probability. Particularly notable was the complete exclusion of active module 1 in 27 of the 28 (96.4%)
149 PTZ dosed larvae, while control larvae used this module with 0.12 probability during the day and 0.22
150 during the night (Supplementary Figure 4c). These shifts likely reflect the chaotic, seizure-like
151 swimming observed in PTZ-treated larvae (Baraban *et al.*, 2005), although no single active module
152 clearly captured these behavioural seizures. PTZ also increased the probability of the shortest inactive
153 (module 1) as well as the two longest inactive modules (modules 4 and 5), the latter of which are likely
154 to correspond to the inter-ictal bouts of inactivity associated with seizures (Supplementary Figure 4c).
155 Conversely, *hcrtr* mutants exhibited no differences in either active or inactive module probabilities
156 compared to their wild-type siblings (Supplementary Figure 4d), demonstrating that bout type usage
157 is similar between these mutants and wild-type animals across the day/night cycle.

158

159 Collectively, these results reveal that zebrafish behaviour in this assay can be described by 5 types of
160 active and 5 types of inactive modules, the usage of which varies with behavioural context.
161 Interestingly, in many contexts, both active and inactive module probabilities were shifted, suggesting
162 that these module types may co-vary, perhaps by being arranged into recurrent sequences.

163

164

165 **Hierarchical Compression Reveals Structure in Zebrafish Behaviour**

166 From a set of behavioural modules, an animal could structure their behaviour in a range of ways. At
167 one end of this spectrum, successive modules could be organised completely randomly, such that
168 prior modules exert no influence on future module selection. At the other end, module selection could
169 be fully deterministic with a particular module always following another. Rather than being fixed,
170 however, it is likely that animals adapt their behavioural structure in response to changing internal or
171 external states. We sought to map the structure of zebrafish behaviour in different contexts by
172 examining the presence and organisation of module sequences, which could provide insight into the
173 mechanisms governing behaviour. To do this, we used a compression algorithm (Nevill-Manning and
174 Witten, 2000) as Gomez-Marin and colleagues (2016) used to discover structure in *C. elegans* postural
175 data. When applied to our dataset (Figure 3a), this algorithm iteratively identified motifs from each

176 larva's modular sequence and returned two outputs -- compressibility, a measure of each larva's
177 behavioural structure, and a library of identified recurrent module sequences, termed motifs.

178

179 To quantify the structure of zebrafish behaviour, we first compressed every animal's full modular
180 sequence, which in wild type animals were on average 236,636 modules long across 70 hours. To
181 determine if the resultant compression values indicated more structure than would be expected based
182 on either the distribution or the transition structure of the active-to-inactive modules, we compared
183 each larva's compressibility to that of 10 sets of paired shuffled data. All wild-type larvae were more
184 compressive than their paired shuffled data, demonstrating that their behaviour is more structured
185 than expected from modular probabilities alone (Supplementary Figure 5a). Compressibility, however,
186 varies non-linearly with input sequence length, as longer sequences will be more likely to contain
187 motifs (Supplementary Figure 5b). Thus, to enable comparisons between samples with different
188 numbers of modules, we compressed non-overlapping 500 module blocks of sequence per larva. This
189 approach revealed that compressibility was higher during the day than the night (Figure 3b) and
190 increased with developmental age. To determine if these differences were primarily due to the
191 presence of behavioural motifs or instead were a consequence of differences in module distribution,
192 we also compared the difference in compressibility (Δ compressibility) between each animal's real and
193 shuffled data. This approach revealed that the compressibility difference between the day and the
194 night is predominantly due to differences in module selection (Supplementary Figure 5d). To reveal
195 finer-grain temporal changes in compressibility, we plotted Δ compressibility across time
196 (Supplementary Figure 5e). This approach revealed peaks at the light-to-dark transitions in the
197 evenings, consistent with this stimulus eliciting stereotyped behavioural sequences (Burgess and
198 Granato, 2007; Emran *et al.*, 2010).

199

200 Next, we used compressibility to assess how our pharmacological and genetic manipulations altered
201 the structure of larval behaviour. We found that melatonin decreased day compressibility to night-
202 time levels (Figure 3b). In contrast, PTZ increased compressibility to a constant day/night value (Figure
203 3b). PTZ, however, reduced Δ compressibility (Supplementary Figure 5d), indicating that changes in
204 module distribution, rather than motif usage, are the dominant driver of PTZ-induced behavioural
205 changes. Importantly, these drug-induced changes in compressibility do not simply reflect overall
206 activity levels. For example, PTZ exposed larvae are less active than controls during the day and more
207 active during the night (Supplementary Figure 1d) but have consistently higher compressibility (Figure
208 3b). Finally, in *hcrtr* mutants we found no differences in either compressibility or Δ compressibility,
209 suggesting that *hcrtr* mutant behaviour is structured similarly to wild-type animals (Figure 3b).

210 To gain insight into the behavioural sequence's larvae deploy, we then studied the motifs identified
211 by the compression algorithm. Compression of the real modular sequences identified a mean of 1901
212 motifs per animal (Supplementary Figure 5c). Interestingly, compression of the real data almost always
213 identified slightly fewer motifs than the shuffled data (Supplementary Figure 5c). This suggests that
214 the motifs identified from the real data were used more frequently than those in the shuffled data
215 and therefore likely reflect enriched behavioural sequences. Merging the motifs identified across all
216 animals generated a library of 46,554 unique behavioural motifs (Figure 3c). In terms of raw Δ pixels
217 data, each motif represented an approximately repeated pattern of movements and pauses of varying
218 length (Figure 3d). Motifs in the library ranged from 2-20 modules long with a median length of 8
219 modules and spanned timescales from approximately 0.1s-11.3 minutes with a median length of 3.84s.
220 Motifs of different module lengths used distinct sub-sets of modules (Figure 3c). For example, motifs
221 comprised of longer module sequences had a lower probability of using long inactive modules.
222 Together, these results reveal the varied timescales at which zebrafish larvae organise their behaviour
223 and suggest the presence of structure governing the arrangement of modules into motifs.

224

225

226 **Behavioural Motif Usage is Time Dependent**

227 The large number of motifs in our library led us to hypothesise that each may be used in specific
228 behavioural contexts. To test this hypothesis, we counted the number of times each larva used each
229 motif within each time frame (e.g. day or night) and then normalised these counts by calculating
230 whether each motif was observed more or less frequently than in the paired shuffled data, a metric
231 we termed enrichment/constraint. Overall, we found that enrichment/constraint scores from our real
232 data were more prone to extreme positive (enriched) and negative (constrained) values than the
233 shuffled data (Figure 4a), suggesting that a minority of behavioural motifs were used more or less
234 frequently than would be expected by chance.

235

236 To test if these extremes occurred in particular contexts, we first compared motif usage between the
237 day and the night in wild-type larvae by generating a matrix of enrichment/constraint scores (Figure
238 4b). To distil the most salient motifs from this and other contextual matrices, we used the minimal-
239 redundancy-maximal-relevance criterion (mRMR) algorithm (Peng *et al.*, 2005) to select a subset of
240 motifs that best classify the data into the correct context. To determine how accurately these motif
241 subsets could distinguish between behavioural contexts, we compared each classifier's performance
242 to that of a majority class classifier, which stringently performed as well as the ratio of samples
243 between the two contexts. For example, in the day vs. night classification, a majority class classifier

244 would have an error rate of 50% (\pm standard error of proportion), as each larva contributes an equal
245 number of days and nights to the enrichment/constraint matrix.

246

247 Applying this algorithm to wild-type data revealed changes in motif usage across multiple timescales
248 (Supplementary Figure 6b). We found that only 15 motifs were required to classify day- and night-
249 specific behaviour with only a 0.2% ($\pm 0.63\%$ Std) classification error, compared to a majority class
250 classifier with 50% error (Figure 4c, Supplementary Table 1). The day enriched motifs consisted of high
251 amplitude movements interspersed with short pauses, while the night enriched motifs contained low
252 amplitude movements and long pauses (Figure 4c). Next, we examined how motif usage changed over
253 development by comparing consecutive days and nights (5-6dpf). In both day 5 vs. day 6 and night 5
254 vs. night 6 comparisons, the classifiers achieved roughly 20% error using 93 and 85 motifs, respectively
255 (Supplementary Table 1). Thus, motif usage shifted over just 24 hours of development, though these
256 changes were far less prominent than those between the day and night. To study whether motif usage
257 varied at finer timescales, we first divided the day into morning/evening and the night into early/late
258 periods. In each case the mRMR algorithm performed better than the majority class classifiers
259 (morning/evening: 33%, early/late night: 36%) though the relatively high classification errors suggest
260 that motif selection did not vary strongly across each day or night (Supplementary Table 1). Consistent
261 with this conclusion, classifiers attempting to delineate each hour from every other mostly failed to
262 outperform their majority class classifiers (Supplementary Table 1). The two notable exceptions were
263 the hour following each lighting transition, where this approach identified motifs with startle-like
264 patterns (Figure 4d) and achieved good classification performance (Supplementary Table 1). Together
265 these results demonstrate that motif usage varied between the day and the night, but aside from the
266 lighting transitions, was relatively consistent within these periods.

267

268

269 **Dose-Dependent and Dose-Specific Behavioural Motifs**

270 Finally, we hypothesised that behavioural motif usage would vary dose-dependently across
271 concentrations of melatonin and PTZ, providing insight into the mechanisms by which these
272 compounds exert their behavioural effects. Motif dose-dependency would suggest a continuously
273 modulated underlying process, which might arise if the fraction of bound receptors relates to neuronal
274 activity modulation. Alternatively, motifs enriched at only specific doses, would suggest discrete
275 effects upon neuronal circuitry, for example the binding of low affinity receptors.

276

277 Applying the mRMR algorithm to our pharmacological data revealed both dose-dependent and dose-
278 specific modulation of motif usage. We found that each melatonin dose could be separated from the

279 others using 40 to 250 motifs with only 0-2.78% classification error (Figure 5a, Supplementary Table
280 2). Focussing on just the best motif for each comparison, we observed both dose-dependency as well
281 as dose-specificity. For example, comparing controls to all melatonin-dosed larvae identified a dose-
282 dependent motif that consisted of large magnitude movements and short pauses, whose
283 enrichment/constraint score decreased with increasing melatonin concentration (Figure 5a).
284 Conversely, the best 10 μ M motif, two long pauses broken by a small active bout sequence, showed
285 dose-specificity being enriched at only 3 μ M and 10 μ M doses (Figure 5a). When applied to the PTZ
286 data, our approach performed even more accurately, achieving perfect classification (0% error)
287 between all conditions (Figure 5b and Appendix Table 2). Furthermore, in PTZ-dosed larvae we
288 observed enrichment for motifs highly constrained in wild-type larvae, highlighting the usage of motifs
289 beyond the normal wild-type repertoire, such as those corresponding to behavioural seizures (Figure
290 5b).

291

292 Next, we tested whether our motif subset approach could detect *hcrtr* mutant phenotypes that were
293 not easily captured by other methods. For example, based upon human and rodent literature, where
294 loss of hypocretin is associated with narcolepsy (Lin *et al.*, 1999) and prior zebrafish literature (Elbaz
295 *et al.*, 2012), we expected abnormal transitions between active and inactive bouts. We found
296 reasonable performance when discriminating between *hcrtr*^{+/+} and *hcrtr*^{-/-} during both the day (16.67
297 \pm 7.5% error with 195 motifs) and night (12.82 \pm 9.6% error with 53 motifs) but weaker performance
298 when distinguishing between *hcrtr*^{+/+} and *hcrtr*^{+/-}, as expected for a haplosufficient gene
299 (Supplementary Figure 6c and Supplementary Table 2). Thus, homozygous loss of *hcrtr* impacts motif
300 usage enough to allow for successful classification of *hcrtr*^{-/-} mutants, though no single *hcrtr*^{-/-} motifs
301 with large differences in enrichment/constraint scores compared to wild type siblings were
302 particularly evident.

303

304 Collectively, these results demonstrate that behavioural motifs are used context dependently and
305 reveal how motif subsets can parse subtle differences in motif usage between behavioural contexts.
306 However, does motif analysis provide additional discriminatory power over module selection, which
307 also varies between behavioural contexts? To assess this, we compared the performance of each motif
308 classifier to paired module classifiers built from matrices of module probabilities. All of the motif
309 classifiers achieved better performance than their module pairs (Figure 5c), demonstrating both the
310 phenotyping value of the motifs and their importance in the structure of larval behaviour.

311

312

313 **Discussion**

314 Here, we developed and applied computational tools to describe high-throughput, long-timescale
315 behavioural data in terms of stereotyped behaviours (modules), and sequences of modules (motifs)
316 organised across sub-second to day-long timescales.

317

318

319 **Low-Dimensional Representations of Behaviour**

320 Low dimensional representations of behaviour, such as the Δ pixels metric employed here, result in a
321 loss of information, for example direction of movement or posture. Such metrics do however facilitate
322 screening approaches and/or long-timescale tracking and in these contexts have provided biological
323 insight into the molecular targets of small molecules (Rihel *et al.*, 2010) and genetics of ageing (Churgin
324 *et al.*, 2017). Our work builds on previous long-timescale studies of behaviour by assessing sub-second
325 resolution Δ pixels data across multiple days and nights. This improved resolution enabled the
326 segmentation and parameterisation of individual active and inactive bouts from our data, revealing
327 how larvae adapt their behaviour across the day/night cycle and how behaviour is impacted by small
328 molecules.

329

330 Future work should aim to extend our assay by recording more detailed behavioural measures.
331 Indeed, a recent study using centroid tracking in 96 well plates revealed that larvae show a day/night
332 location preference within the well, and furthermore uncovered a mutant with a difference in this
333 metric (Thyme *et al.*, 2019), demonstrating that even within the confined space of a 96-well plate,
334 location is an informative metric to record. It is likely that even more detailed behavioural measures,
335 like eye and tail angles, will yield additional insights, for example enabling the exploration of rapid-
336 eye-movement sleep in zebrafish larvae (Shein-Idelson *et al.*, 2016). Such metrics could be extracted
337 by skeletonization or even through the use of an autoencoder applied to the raw video frames from
338 each well (Johnson *et al.*, 2016).

339

340

341 **Modular Descriptions of Behaviour**

342 A key idea in ethology is that behaviour consists of stereotyped modules arranged into motifs (Lashley,
343 1951; Tinbergen, 1963). While early studies described behaviour in this manner through manual
344 observations (Richard and Dawkins, 1976), recent advances in machine vision and learning have
345 automated these processes (Todd *et al.*, 2017). For example, in zebrafish larvae, recent work used
346 unsupervised learning to uncover a locomotor repertoire of 13 swim types including slow forward
347 swims and faster escape swims (Marques *et al.*, 2018), although inactive bouts were not considered.
348 From our dataset, we identified 5 active and 5 inactive modules, which respectively describe swim

349 bouts of different amplitudes (Figure 2a) and periods of inactivity of varied length (Figure 2b).
350 Interestingly, all modules were used with reasonably high and similar probability by all wild-type
351 animals (Figure 2d), demonstrating that these modules represent a set of common larval behaviours.
352 Furthermore, the temporal (Figure 2e) and pharmacological (Supplementary Figure 4b-c) shifts in
353 these probabilities illustrates that module usage can be flexibly re-organised depending upon
354 behavioural context (Wiltschko *et al.*, 2015).

355

356 To discretize our bouts into modules, we first extracted hand-engineered features from each bout
357 (Figure 1a) and then applied an evidence accumulation based clustering algorithm (Fred and Jain,
358 2002, 2005). While our results demonstrate the relevance and utility of these modules in describing
359 larval behaviour, it is possible that our approach missed rare bout types. For example, given the
360 appearance of clearly visible PTZ-induced seizures in zebrafish (Baraban *et al.*, 2005), we may have
361 expected a distinct seizure module. Consequently, future work should build upon our bout
362 classification by exploring the benefits of including additional features, the use of alternative
363 clustering algorithms and our assumption of stereotypy, i.e. that all bouts can be fit into a module
364 (Berman, 2018). An alternative direction would be to produce a mapping between our active modules
365 and those identified from analysis of larval posture (Marques *et al.*, 2018). Bridging this gap could
366 facilitate behavioural screening approaches, for example by using data from our set-up to prioritise
367 pharmacological compounds or mutants for postural analysis.

368

369

370 **Quantifying Structure in Behaviour**

371 In some contexts, it is beneficial for animals to execute coordinated patterns of behaviour. For
372 example, to efficiently search an environment zebrafish larvae will execute organised sequences of
373 left and right turns (Dunn *et al.*, 2016). In other contexts, more random behaviour will be
374 advantageous, such as when escaping from a predator (Maye *et al.*, 2007). Quantifying structure in
375 behaviour thus provides insight into the overarching strategy being employed in particular contexts.
376 Alterations in behavioural structure can also manifest clinically, for example in Autism Spectrum
377 Disorder, a defining feature of which is increased behavioural stereotypy (American Psychiatric
378 Association, 2013). Consequently, compression would be a relevant and likely informative metric to
379 record in animal models or even human cases for such conditions.

380

381 To quantify structure in larval zebrafish behaviour in different contexts, we inputted each larva's
382 modular sequence to a compression algorithm. We found that wild-type behaviour was more
383 compressive during the day than the night (Figure 3b). This echoes recent work in *Drosophila* that

384 revealed higher temporal predictability during the day than the night as well as in females (Fulcher
385 and Jones, 2017). A likely explanation for these findings comes from work in *C. elegans* (Gomez-Marin
386 *et al.*, 2016) that demonstrated that animals who transition slowly between modules, as both
387 zebrafish (Figure 1b) and *Drosophila* do at night (Geissmann *et al.*, 2019), tend to be less compressive.
388 This may suggest that the underlying mechanisms controlling longer-timescale behaviours are less
389 precise than those controlling fast behavioural sequences.

390

391 For future efforts applying compression to behavioural data, there are two avenues left to explore —
392 what compression heuristic to use and how to compress data from multiple animals. Following the
393 work of Gomez-Marin and colleagues (2016), we defined the best motif at any iteration as the most
394 compressive, which represents a balance between the motif's length and frequency. While this metric
395 generally leads to the best compression (Nevill-Manning and Witten, 2000), alternative measures,
396 such as frequency or length may capture other aspects of behaviour. The second avenue relates to
397 comparisons between animals. Here, each animal was compressed individually, identifying motifs,
398 which were later grouped into a common library. Whilst computationally tractable, this approach
399 prevents certain comparisons across animals, for example identifying the most compressive motif
400 across all larvae. This issue could be solved by compressing a single sequence containing all of the
401 animal's modular sequences joined end to end, with spacers to prevent inter-animal motifs.
402 Compressing this long sequence would, however, be computationally demanding.

403

404 Compressing and merging the identified motifs across all animals generated a library of 46,554 unique
405 motifs (Figure 3c), each of which described an alternating sequence of movements and pauses (Figure
406 3d). Motifs ranged from 0.1s to 11.3 minutes in length, revealing the range of timescales at which
407 larval behaviour is organised. We cannot, however, rule out the existence of longer timescale motifs
408 in larval behaviour as computational demands limited our search to motifs 10 modules long (though
409 the algorithm's hierarchical approach enabled the identification of motifs up to 20 modules long).
410 Thus, future work should aim to extend our approach to explore the full range of timescales at which
411 larval behaviour is organised by systematically varying this parameter.

412

413

414 **Contextual Behavioural Motifs**

415 Finally, by distilling salient subsets of motifs from our library, we demonstrated that motif usage was
416 context dependent and highlighted the discriminatory power of motif subsets, which were capable of
417 distinguishing between day/night behaviour and even between small changes in compound dose.
418 Comparing motif usage across the day/night cycle identified a set of highly night specific motifs (Figure

419 4c), which may represent sleep behaviours. One way in which future studies could address this
420 possibility would be to deprive larvae of these motifs throughout the night, for example by using a
421 closed-loop paradigm (Geissmann *et al.*, 2019), and observing the impact on larval behaviour the
422 following day. In relation to the PTZ data, comparing seizure motifs across epileptogenic compounds
423 and mutants with spontaneous seizures could suggest clues as to their underlying mechanism (Kokel
424 *et al.*, 2010; Rihel *et al.*, 2010). For example, seizures with similar motif usage patterns may originate
425 in the same brain area or impact awareness in the same manner. This hypothesis could be tested by
426 generating whole-brain activity maps (Randlett *et al.*, 2015) across conditions, with the aim of
427 identifying common and unique neuronal correlates.

428

429 Given the amenability of larval zebrafish to high-throughput behavioural screening (Rihel and Ghosh,
430 2015) future work should leverage our approach to large-scale genetic (Thyme *et al.*, 2019) or
431 pharmacological datasets (Rihel *et al.*, 2010). Individually, these datasets would provide information
432 on the genetic and molecular basis of behaviour across multiple timescales, encompassing processes
433 from sleep to ageing. In combination, by identifying mutant and drug-induced phenotypes that cancel
434 each other out (Lamb *et al.*, 2006; Hoffman *et al.*, 2016), these datasets could be used to identify
435 phenotypic suppressors in genetic disease models, an outcome with potential clinical relevance.

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454 **Materials and Methods**

455 **Animal Husbandry**

456 Adult zebrafish were reared by UCL Fish Facility on a 14hr/10hr light/dark cycle (lights on: 09:00 a.m.
457 to 23:00 p.m.). To obtain embryos, pairs of adult males and females were isolated overnight with a
458 divider that was removed at 09:00 a.m. the following morning. After a few hours, fertile embryos were
459 collected and sorted under a bright-field microscope into groups of 50 embryos per 10 cm petri dish
460 filled with fresh fish water (0.3g/L Instant Ocean). Plates were kept in an incubator at 28.5°C on a
461 14hr/10hr light/dark cycle. Using a Pasteur pipet under a bright-field microscope, debris was removed
462 from the plates and the fish water replaced each day. All work was in accordance with the UK Animal
463 Experimental Procedures Act (1986) under Home Office Project Licence 70/7612 awarded to JR.

464

465 **Behavioural Setup**

466 For all behavioural experiments a Pasteur pipet was used to transfer single zebrafish larvae (aged 4-5
467 days post fertilisation) into the individual wells of a clear 96-square well plate (7701-1651; Whatman,
468 New Jersey, USA); then each well was filled with 650µl of fish water. For experiments longer than 24
469 hours, larvae were plated at 4 days post fertilisation (dpf) and tracking was started the same day. For
470 the duration of these experiments, evaporated fish water was replaced each morning between 09:00-
471 09:30 a.m. For the wild-type experiments, each plate was covered with a plastic lid (4311971; Applied
472 Biosystems, Massachusetts, USA) to prevent evaporation and to negate the need to replenish the fish
473 water. For the 24-hour small molecule experiments (melatonin and PTZ), larvae were plated at 5dpf
474 and the plates were left overnight in a 28.5°C 14hr/10hr light/dark incubator. The following morning
475 each plate was transferred to a behaviour setup where larvae were dosed, between 09:00 and 10:00
476 a.m., immediately after which behavioural recordings were started and run for 24 hours.

477

478 To record each animal's behaviour, each plate was placed into a Zebrabox (ViewPoint Life Sciences,
479 Civrieux, France) running quantization mode with the following settings: detection sensitivity -- 15,
480 burst -- 50 and freezing -- 4. All experiments were conducted on a 14hr/10hr light/dark cycle (lights
481 on at 09:00 a.m. to 23:00 p.m.) with constant infrared illumination. All experiments were recorded at
482 25Hz. Larvae were tracked continuously for 24-73 hours, after which all larvae unresponsive to touch
483 with a 10µl pipette tip were presumed sick or dead and excluded from subsequent analysis. Following
484 this, larvae were euthanised with an overdose of 2-Phenoxyethanol (Acros Organics, New Jersey,
485 USA).

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489 **Fish Lines**

490 The term “wild-type” refers to the AB x TUP LF zebrafish strain. This line was used for the wild-type
491 experiments, as well as the melatonin and PTZ dose response curves. *hcrtr* (ZFIN ID: hu2098
492 (Yokogawa *et al.*, 2007). Identified from an ethylnitrosourea-mutagenized screen. UCL Line 2114.)
493 experiments were carried out on embryos collected from heterozygous in-crosses, with larvae
494 genotyped using KASP primers (LGC Genomics, Hoddesdon, UK) post-tracking. KASP results were
495 validated by comparison to PCR-based genotyping of samples from each KASP classified genotype.

496

497 ***hcrtr* Genotyping**

498 DNA Extraction

499 Following each *hcrtr* experiment each larva was euthanised in its well (as above) and DNA was
500 extracted using HotSHOT DNA preparation (Truett *et al.*, 2000). Larval samples were transferred to
501 the individual wells of a 96-well PCR plate. Excess liquid was pipetted from each well before applying
502 50µl of 1x base solution (1.25M KOH, 10mM EDTA in water). Plates were heat sealed and incubated
503 at 95°C for 30 minutes then cooled to room temperature before the addition of 50µl of 1x
504 neutralisation solution (2M Tris-HCL in water).

505

506 PCR

507 The following reaction mixture per sample was prepared on ice in a 96-well PCR plate: 18.3µl PCR mix
508 (2mM MgCl₂, 14mM pH 8.4 Tris-HCl, 68mM KCl, 0.14% Gelatin in water, autoclaved for 20 minutes,
509 cooled to room temperature, chilled on ice, then we added: 1.8% 100mg/ml BSA and 0.14% 100mM
510 d [A, C, G, T] TP), 0.5µl of forward and reverse primers (20 µM), 5.5µl water, 0.2µl of Taq polymerase
511 and 3.0µl of DNA. Next, each plate was heat sealed and placed into a thermocycler, set with the
512 following program: 95°C -- 5 minutes, 44 cycles: 95°C -- 30 seconds, 57°C -- 30 seconds and 72°C -- 45
513 seconds, then 72°C -- 10 minutes and 10°C until collection. Finally, samples were mixed with 6x loading
514 buffer (Colourless buffer: Ficoll-400 - 12.5g, Tris-HCl (1M, pH 7.4) – 5ml, EDTA (0.5M) – 10mL, to 50ml
515 in pure water; heated to 65°C to dissolve, per 10ml of colourless buffer 25mg of both xylene cyanol
516 and orange G were added, then diluted to 6x) and run on agarose gels (1-2%) with 4% GelRed (Biotium,
517 California, USA).

518

519 *hcrtr* Forward Primer: 5' CCACCCGCTAAAATTCAAAGCACTGCTAAC 3'

520 *hcrtr* Reverse Primer: 5' CATCACAGACGGTGAACAGG 3'

521

522 PCR Information: PCR products were digested with Ddel at 37°C to produce a 170bp band in the wild
523 type animals and in *hcrtr* mutants 140 and 30bp bands.

524 **KASP**

525 KASP genotyping was carried out in white, low profile PCR plates on ice with six wells allocated 50:50
526 for positive and negative controls. The following reaction mixture was prepared per sample: 3.89µl of
527 2x KASP reaction mix, 0.11µl KASP primers, 1.0µl water and 3.0µl DNA. Plates were then heat sealed
528 and placed into a thermocycler with the following thermal cycling program: 94°C -- 15 minutes, 10
529 cycles: 94°C -- 20 seconds, 61-53°C (dropping 0.8°C per cycle) -- 60 seconds. 26 cycles: 94°C --20
530 seconds, 53°C -- 60 seconds, then 10°C until collection.

531

532 Following thermal cycling we used a fluorescence reader (Bio-Rad CFX96 Real-Time System) and Bio-
533 Rad CFX Manager software (version 3.1) to automatically determine each samples genotype from a
534 2d scatter plot of fluorescence in each channel. From this scatter plot outlying samples of unclear
535 genotype were manually excluded from subsequent analysis.

536

537 KASP Assay ID: 554-0090.1

538 KASP Flanking Sequence (alternative allele shown in square brackets, with a forward slash indicating
539 a deletion in the alternative allele):

540 5' ACCGCTGGTATGCGATCTGCCACCCGCTAAAATTCAAAGCACTGCTAAA[A/T]GAGCCCGCAAGAGCATC
541 GTGCTGATCTGGCTGGTGTCTGCATCATGATG 3'

542

543 **Pharmacology**

544 0.15M melatonin and 1M pentylenetetrazole (M5250 and P6500; Sigma, Missouri, USA) stock
545 solutions were made in DMSO and sterile water, respectively. Behavioural testing concentrations for
546 each compound were selected based upon (Rihel *et al.*, 2010). For behaviour experiments each animal
547 in a well with 650µl of fish water was dosed with 1.3µl of either vehicle control or compound at 500x
548 concentration, resulting in a 1 in 500 dilution and thus the desired testing concentration.

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560 **Computing**

561 **Hardware**

562 A desktop computer with 16GB of RAM was used for most data analysis, figure production and writing.
563 For two-time intensive steps -- hierarchical compression of full module sequences
564 (Batch_Compress.m) and normalising the behavioural motif counts (Batch_Grammar_Freq.m) -- data
565 was run in parallel, with a worker for every animal, on the UCL Legion Cluster (Research Computing
566 Services, UCL).

567

568 **Software**

569 All software used for data handling, analysis and the production of figures is available at
570 https://github.com/ghoshm/Structure_Paper.

571

572 **Processing Behavioural Data**

573 See Supplemental Figure 7 for a flow diagram describing behavioural data acquisition and analysis. All
574 custom behavioural analysis software was written and run in MATLAB 2016b-2018a (MathWorks,
575 Massachusetts, USA). The suffixes .m and .mat denote MATLAB code and MATLAB data files,
576 respectively.

577

578 Behavioural data was recorded by subtracting subsequent pairs of frames from each other and
579 determining the number of pixels that changed intensity within each well between each pair of
580 frames, termed Δ pixels. To acquire behaviour data, each Zebrabox was setup using ViewPoint's
581 ZEBRALAB software (version 3.22), which outputs a .xls and a .raw file (ViewPoint specific format) per
582 experiment. Each behaviour .xls file was reorganised into a .txt file using the function
583 perl_batch_192.m (Jason Rihel). For each experiment a .txt metadata file assigning each animal to an
584 experimental group, for example genotype, was manually produced. To replicate the previous analysis
585 methodology, as in Supplemental Figure 1c, behaviour and metadata .txt files were input to the
586 function sleep_analysis2.m (Jason Rihel).

587

588 To assess data on a frame by frame basis, each experiment's .raw file which was output from
589 ViewPoint's Zebrabox, was exported within the ZEBRALAB software to thousands of .xls files. Each .xls
590 file contained 50,000 rows and 21 columns, with data from any given well listed approximately every
591 192 rows, as the setup always assumes recordings are from two 96-well plates. This formatting is,
592 however, only approximate as infrequently the well order is erroneously non-sequential; these rows
593 were termed ordering errors. Each .xls file is formatted with 21 columns, of which 3 contain useful

594 data: type – notes when ViewPoint defined data acquisition errors occurred; location -- denotes which
595 well the data came from; and data1 – records the Δ pixel value from that well for that time point.
596 The function Vp_Extract.m was used to reformat the .xls files from each experiment to single frame
597 by fish matrices, from which each animal's behaviour was quantified. Vp_Extract.m requires three
598 inputs to be selected: a folder containing the .xls files; a .txt behaviour file output from
599 perl_batch_192.m; and a .txt metadata file. To ensure that each animal has the same number of
600 frames, frames with ViewPoint defined errors or ordering errors (which are automatically detected by
601 Vp_Extract.m) are discarded. A maximum Δ pixels value can be set and active bouts containing even a
602 single frame with a higher Δ pixels value than this are set to zero for the entire duration of the bout.
603 Here a maximum Δ pixels threshold of 200 was set. This value was determined from manual inspection
604 of the dataset as well as by comparisons of this data to data recorded from plates with no animals in.
605 Time periods during which water is being replenished are automatically detected and set to a Δ pixels
606 value of zero. These time periods are noted and excluded from later analysis. The function outputs
607 .mat files for subsequent analysis. Either single or multiple .mat files output from Vp_Extract.m were
608 input to Vp_Analyse.m and Bout_Clustering.m.

609
610 Vp_Analyse.m was used to compare general activity levels and bout features across time and between
611 groups. The function has two options. The first allows for specific days and nights of interest to be
612 cropped from the data. The second determines how experimental repeats are handled, treating the
613 data as either a single merged dataset or as separate datasets. In the latter case, each experimental
614 repeat is plotted with the same colour scheme as the first experiment, with progressive shading for
615 each repeat. Additionally, the N-way ANOVA comparisons include a repeat factor, which can be used
616 to determine if results are consistent across experimental repeats. Vp_Analyse.m outputs two
617 statistics results structures: twa -- N-way ANOVA comparison results, and kw -- Two-sample
618 Kolmogorov-Smirnov test results. Vp_Analyse.m outputs figures showing each group's activity (e.g.
619 Figure 1d-e) and bout features (e.g. Supplemental Figure 2) over time.

620
621 The script Bout_Clustering.m was used to cluster all active and inactive bouts into behavioural
622 modules, as well as to compare the resultant modules. To cluster the data an evidence accumulation
623 approach is used (Fred and Jain, 2002, 2005) implemented by the custom MATLAB function
624 gmm_sample_ea.m. Bout_Clustering.m produces figures (e.g. Supplementary Figure 3) and
625 statistically compares the modules. The MATLAB workspace output from Bout_Clustering.m can be
626 input to either Bout_Transitions.m or Bout_Transitions_Hours.m.

627

628 The function `gmm_sample_ea.m` clusters data using an evidence accumulation approach (Fred and
629 Jain, 2002, 2005) through which the results of multiple Gaussian Mixture Models are combined to
630 generate an aggregate solution. This process is executed through the following six steps. Firstly, a
631 sample of 'probe points' are randomly sampled from the data. The number of probe points to sample
632 is user defined. Secondly, values of K and sample sizes are uniformly sampled from user set ranges.
633 The values of K are used to set the number of mixture components for each mixture model. The
634 sample sizes determine the number of points, randomly sampled from the data that each mixture
635 model is fit to. Thirdly, a Gaussian Mixture Model is iteratively fit to the sampled data with K
636 components. Each probe point is assigned to the component with the highest corresponding posterior
637 probability and evidence is accumulated on the probe points; evidence is defined as pairwise co-
638 occurrences in the same component. Fourthly, the evidence accumulation matrix is hierarchically
639 clustered, and the final number of clusters is determined by using the maximum differentiated linkage
640 distance to cut the resultant dendrogram. The linkage metric used is a user-defined option. Fifthly, the
641 clusters are normalised for size by randomly sampling the number of points in the smallest cluster,
642 from each cluster. Finally, all data points are assigned to these final size normalized clusters using the
643 mode cluster assignment of the k-nearest neighbours, with k being user defined.

644

645 The script `Bout_Transitions.m` takes the MATLAB workspace output from `Bout_Clustering.m` as an
646 input and compresses each animal's full module sequence to generate a library of behavioural motifs.
647 The number of occurrences of each motif are counted and normalised by comparison to paired
648 shuffled data. Finally, a supervised learning algorithm is applied to identify context specific
649 behavioural motifs. For two-time intensive steps -- hierarchical compression of full module sequences
650 (`Batch_Compress.m`) and normalising the behavioural motif counts (`Batch_Grammar_Freq.m`) -- data
651 was manually copied (via MobaXterm, Personal Edition v10.5) to UCL Legion Cluster (Research
652 Computing Services, UCL) and processed in parallel with a worker for every fish. MATLAB code for
653 hierarchical compression is described in Gomez-Marin *et al.*, (2016). MATLAB code for submitting
654 these jobs to Legion, analysing data and retrieving results is available at
655 https://github.com/ghoshm/Legion_Code. Ultimately, `Bout_Transitions.m` outputs a library of
656 behavioural motifs and motif related figures (e.g. Figure 3).

657

658 The script `Bout_Transitions_Hours.m` compresses blocks of 500 modules for statistical comparisons,
659 uses the motif library from `Bout_Transitions.m` to count the occurrence of each motif every hour,
660 normalises these counts to paired shuffled data and finally uses supervised learning to identify hour
661 specific behavioural motifs. As with `Bout_Transitions.m` behavioural motifs are normalised, via

662 Batch_Grammar_Freq.m, using UCL Legion Cluster. Bout_Transitions_Hours.m outputs figures (e.g.
663 Figure 4d) and statistics.

664

665 **Behavioural Data Analysis**

666 **Δ Pixels**

667 At the acquisition stage, Δ pixels data was filtered by the software (ViewPoint) such that each frame
668 for a given well was scored as either zero or higher. In the absence of movement within a well, and
669 hence no pixels changing intensity, Δ pixels values of zero were recorded. These periods were termed
670 inactive bouts and were defined as any single or consecutive frames with Δ pixels values equal to zero.
671 The length of each inactive bout was used as a descriptive feature. When there was movement within
672 a well, Δ pixels values greater than zero were recorded. These periods were termed active bouts and
673 were defined as any single or consecutive frames with Δ pixels values greater than zero. Six features
674 were used to describe each active bout: length, mean, standard deviation, total, minimum and
675 maximum. These features, as well as the number of active bouts, percentage of time spent active and
676 total Δ pixels activity, were compared between conditions, e.g. day and night and dose of drug, in two
677 ways using the function Vp_Analyse.m.

678

679 To compare the distribution of values for each feature between conditions, a probability density
680 function (pdf) was fit to each animal's data and the mean shape of each condition's pdf was compared
681 using a Two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test (e.g. Supplementary Figure 2a). To compare each
682 feature's average values between conditions, mean values were taken from each animal, and N-way
683 analysis of variance was computed. The following factors, when relevant, were included and full
684 interaction terms were calculated: condition -- e.g. mutant and wild-type; time -- e.g. day and night;
685 development -- defined as a consecutive day and night; and experimental repeat -- i.e. which
686 experimental repeat a datapoint came from. For experiments with multiple repeats, the lack of an
687 interaction effect between the comparison of interest and experimental repeat factor was considered
688 as evidence of a consistent result.

689

690 **Clustering**

691 To cluster the bouts, the script Bout_Clustering.m was used. First, matrices of bouts by features were
692 constructed (Active matrix -- 30,900,018 x 6; Inactive matrix -- 30,900,418 x 1). To prepare the active
693 data for clustering each animal's data was individually normalised by calculating z-scores using
694 equation 1, which illustrates how every bout (i) from each animal (f) was normalised by first
695 subtracting the mean of this animal's bout features (\bar{x}_f) from the bout and then dividing by the
696 standard deviation of each bout feature for this animal σ_f .

697 Equation 1:

$$698 Z_i = \frac{x_i - \bar{x}_f}{\sigma_f}$$

699

700 Active bout features across all animals were then centred by subtracting each feature's mean value
701 from every bout, and principal component analysis (PCA) was used to reduce the data to 3 dimensions,
702 the knee point of the scree plot, which together explain 97.5% of the variance (Supplementary Figure
703 3a).

704

705 Next, the active and inactive bouts were separately clustered using an evidence accumulation-based
706 approach (Fred and Jain, 2002, 2005) implemented by the function `gmm_sample_ea.m`. Firstly, 40,000
707 probe points were randomly sampled from the data. Next, for 200 iterations, another group of points
708 were randomly sampled and fit with a Gaussian mixture model with a random number of clusters. For
709 each iteration, these two parameters varied uniformly in the following ranges: the number of points
710 sampled -- 40,000 to 100,000; the number of clusters fit -- 2 to 20. Each mixture model was fit using
711 MATLAB's `fitgmdist` function (MATLAB, Statistics and Machine Learning Toolbox) with full, regularized,
712 independent covariance matrices and initialised using the k-means++ algorithm (Arthur and
713 Vassilvitskii, 2007). Each mixture model was fit 5 times and the one with the largest log-likelihood was
714 retained. Once each model had been fit, each probe point was assigned to the component with the
715 largest posterior probability, and evidence in the form of pairwise occurrence in the same cluster was
716 accumulated on the probe points. Once the 200 mixture models had been fit, average link clustering
717 was applied to the evidence accumulation matrix and the final number of clusters determined based
718 on maximum cluster lifetime. Next, the resultant clusters were normalised for size by randomly
719 selecting the number of points in the smallest cluster from each cluster (5,983 active, 614 inactive
720 bouts). Finally, all points were assigned to the size normalised clusters using the mode cluster
721 assignment of the 50 nearest neighbours for every point.

722

723 Hierarchical Compression

724 Clustering reduced each animal's behaviour to a non-repetitive sequence of active and inactive bouts,
725 termed modules. On average this reduced each wild-type sequence length by 96%, from 6,308,514
726 frames to 236,636 modules, easing the computational demands of compressing these sequences.

727

728 To compress modular sequences, an offline compressive heuristic (Nevill-Manning and Witten, 2000)
729 was used (equation 2). At each iteration (i) of the algorithm, the most compressive motif was defined
730 as the motif which made the most savings, a balance between the length of the motif (W) and the

731 number of times it occurred in the sequence (N), which also considered the combined cost of adding
732 a new motif to the dictionary ($W + 1$) and of introducing a new symbol into the sequence ($+N$) at every
733 occurrence of this motif in the sequence.

734

735 Equation 2:

$$736 \text{ Savings}_i = WN - (W + 1 + N)$$

737

738 The overall compressibility of a given input sequence was calculated by summing these savings across
739 all iterations and dividing this total by the length of the original input sequence (in modules). This
740 process resulted in a compressibility metric that ranged from 0-1 (low-high compressibility). To reduce
741 computational time, motifs of a maximum of 10 modules long were sought, although the hierarchical
742 nature of the algorithm enabled the identification of longer motifs through nesting. To generate the
743 common motif library, the motifs obtained from compression of every animal's full module sequence
744 (Batch_Compress.m) were merged, and then all unique motifs were kept (Bout_Transitions.m). To
745 generate sets of paired control sequences for every animal, each animal's module sequence was
746 divided into sequential day and night or hourly segments and the modules within each of these
747 windows was shuffled 10 times, maintaining the active/inactive transition structure
748 (Bout_Transitions.m). As compressibility varies non-linearly with uncompressed sequence length
749 (Supplementary Figure 5b), to enable comparisons between samples with different numbers of
750 modules, non-overlapping blocks 500 modules long were compressed (Bout_Transitions_Hours.m).

751

752 Supervised Motif Selection

753 To identify both which and how many motifs were required to distinguish between behavioural
754 contexts (e.g. day and night), the following approach was executed by the function
755 Batch_Grammar_Freq.m. Firstly, the number of occurrences of every motif from the common motif
756 library was counted in every real and shuffled modular sequence. Next, to calculate
757 enrichment/constraint scores for every motif, the deviation of the real from shuffled counts, as well
758 as the deviation of each shuffle from the other shuffles, was calculated (equation 3). For a given animal
759 and time window, i.e. day or night, the mean number of times motif (i) was counted in the shuffled
760 data (\bar{s}_i), was subtracted from the real number of counts (x_i) and divided by the standard deviation
761 of the shuffled counts (σ_{si}).

762

763 Equation 3:

$$764 Z_i = \frac{x_i - \bar{s}_i}{\sigma_{si}}$$

765 When comparing the shuffled data to itself, each shuffle (now x_i) was excluded from \bar{s}_i and σ_{s_i} . Infinite
766 values occurred when there was no standard deviation in the σ_{s_i} counts and thus σ_{s_i} equalled zero.
767 For subsequent working, infinite values were replaced with a constant value of ± 3.32 . This value was
768 chosen as equation 3 will always output this value when there is no standard deviation in the shuffled
769 counts and x_i is included in the calculation of σ_{s_i} . Note that in the real data, infinite values constituted
770 only 2.2% of all enrichment/ constraint scores.

771

772 For any given comparison, motif library enrichment/constraint scores for the relevant animals were
773 formatted into a matrix of samples by motifs (e.g. Figure 4b). Scores for each motif (column) were
774 normalised by subtracting each column's mean score and dividing by each column's standard
775 deviation. A supervised feature selection algorithm (Peng *et al.*, 2005) was applied to these matrices
776 to select the top 250 maximally relevant and minimally redundant (mRMR) motifs. To determine how
777 many of these motifs were necessary for accurate classification, linear discriminant analysis classifiers
778 were trained on this data using 10-fold cross validation as sequential mRMR motifs were added, and
779 classification error mean and standard deviation were calculated. The MATLAB function `fitcdiscr`
780 (Statistics and Machine Learning Toolbox) was used to implement these steps. Finally, to determine
781 how many motifs were necessary for a given comparison, classification error curves were smoothed
782 with a running average 3 motifs wide and the number of motifs at which the minimum classification
783 error occurred was identified (Supplementary Figure 6a). To evaluate classifier performance, the
784 results of each classifier were compared to a majority class classifier whose performance depended
785 upon the ratio of samples of each class. For example, in a dataset with two labels at a ratio of 0.1 : 0.9,
786 the majority class classifier would consistently assign the latter label and achieve a classification error
787 of 10% (\pm standard error of proportion).

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796 **Supplementary Information**

797 **Supplementary video 1. High-throughput Behavioural Tracking**

798 A video of 96, 6dpf zebrafish larvae swimming in our rig. The last 1 second of each larva's Δ pixels data
799 is plotted over each well. This video was filmed at 25Hz and is played back in real time.

800 **Supplementary video 2. Behavioural Modules**

801 A video of 96, 6dpf zebrafish larvae swimming in our rig. The last 1 second of each larva's Δ pixels data
802 is plotted over each well, with each active and inactive bout coloured according to its module
803 assignment. This video was filmed at 25Hz and is played back in real time.

804

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807 comments on the manuscript, and the UCL Fish Facility and staff for support.

808

809 **Author Contributions**

810 M.G. and J.R. conceived the experiments. M.G. performed the experiments. M.G. designed, wrote
811 code to, and executed data handling and analysis. M.G. produced and formatted figures. M.G. and J.R.
812 wrote the paper.

813

814 **Competing Interests**

815 We declare that we have no competing interests.

816

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819 Fellowship (J.R.) and a European Research Council Starting Grant (J.R.).

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1001 **Figure Legends**

1002 **Figure 1. Behaviour at Scale**

- 1003 **a.** Top panel: five consecutive frames from an individual well of a 96-well plate as a 6dpf zebrafish
1004 larva performs a swim bout. Blue highlights pixels that change intensity between frames (Δ pixels).
1005 Lower panel: a Δ pixels time series from the larva above. Highlighted are the features that describe
1006 each active and inactive bout.
- 1007 **b.** The mean number of bouts recorded from individual larvae at 5 and 6dpf during the day (light
1008 blue) and the night (dark blue). Each dot is 1 of 124 wild-type larvae. The orange crosses mark the
1009 population means.
- 1010 **c.** The probability of observing different lengths of inactivity during the day (light blue) or the night
1011 (dark blue) at 5 and 6dpf. Each larva's data was fit by a probability density function (pdf). Shown
1012 is a mean pdf (bold line) and standard deviation (shaded surround) with a log scale on the x-axis
1013 cropped to 10 seconds. Insert: the total probability of inactive bout lengths longer than 10
1014 seconds, per animal.
- 1015 **d.** The mean activity of 124 wild-type larvae from 4-7dpf, on a 14hr/10 hr light/dark cycle. Data for
1016 each larva was summed into seconds and then smoothed with a 15-minute running average.
1017 Shown is a summed and smoothed mean Δ pixels trace (bold line) and standard error of the mean
1018 (shaded surround).
- 1019 **e.** Average activity across one day (white background) and night (dark background) for larvae dosed
1020 with either DMSO (control) or a range of melatonin doses immediately prior to tracking at 6dpf.
1021 Data was summed and smoothed as in d. The number of animals per condition is denoted as $n=$.

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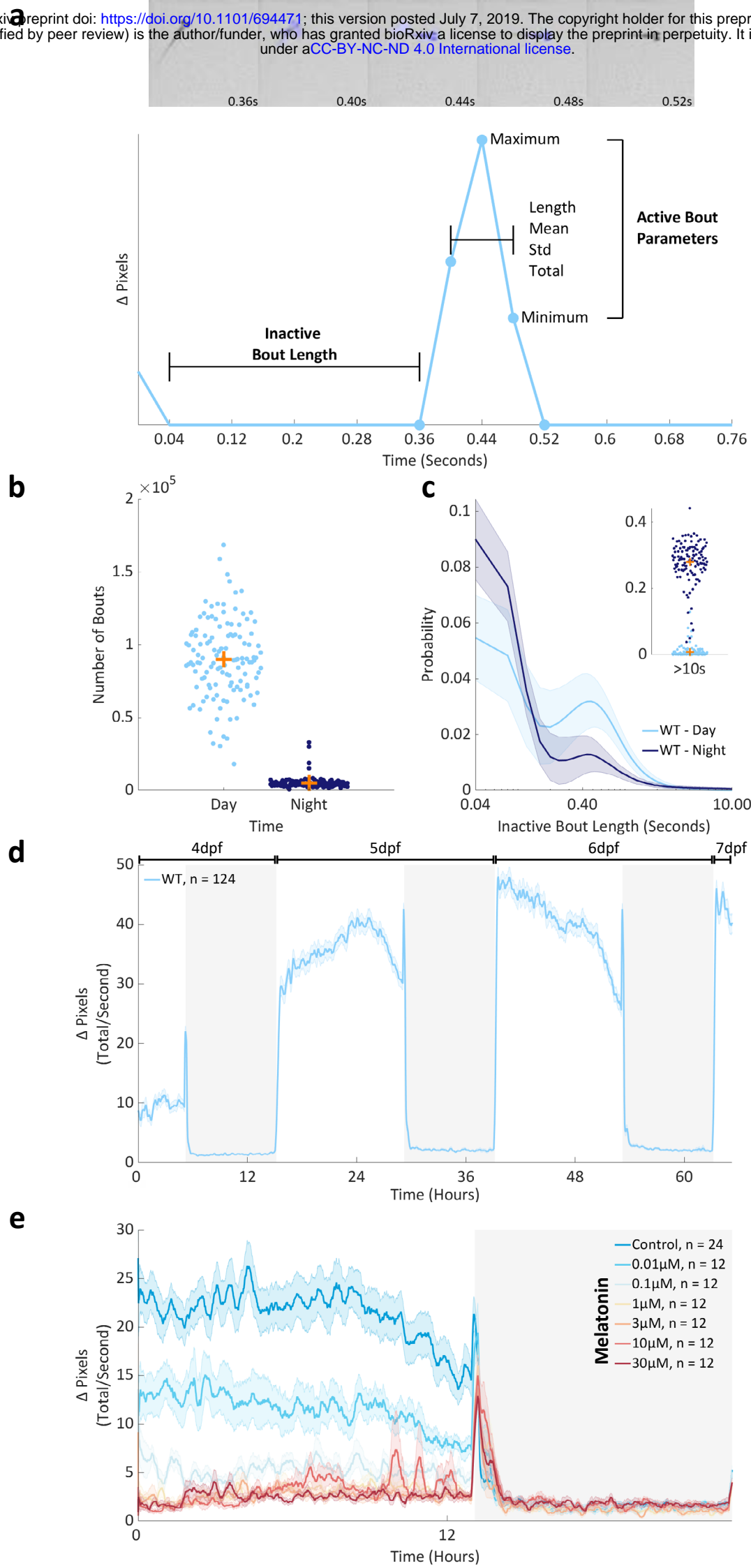
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1033 **Figure 2. Unsupervised Learning Identifies Contextual Behavioural Modules**

- 1034 **a.** Average Δ pixels changes for each active module. Shown is the mean (bold line) and standard error
1035 of the mean (shaded surround) of 100 bouts randomly sampled from each module from one
1036 representative larva. Modules are numbered and coloured by average module length across all
1037 animals, from shortest (1) to longest (5).
- 1038 **b.** Probability density curves showing the distribution of inactive bout lengths in seconds, on a log x-
1039 axis cropped to 60s, within each inactive module. Modules are numbered and coloured from
1040 shortest (1) to longest (5) mean length (see legend).
- 1041 **c.** Matrices showing the active (left) or inactive (right) module assignment of every frame (x-axis) for
1042 each of 124 wild-type larvae (y-axis) across the 14-hour days (light blue underlines) and 10-hour
1043 nights (dark blue underlines) from 5-6 dpf. Larvae were sorted by total number of active modules
1044 from highest (top) to lowest (bottom). Modules are coloured according to the adjacent colormaps.
- 1045 **d.** Average active (upper) and inactive (lower) module probability during day (light blue) and night
1046 (dark blue) 5 and 6 of development. Each of 124 wild-type animals is shown as a dot and orange
1047 crosses mark the population means. Active modules are sorted by mean day probability from
1048 highest to lowest (left to right). Inactive modules are sorted by mean length from shortest to
1049 longest (left to right). The blobs correspond to the colour used for each module in other figures.
- 1050 **e.** The mean frequency of each active (left) and inactive (right) module across days 5 and 6 of
1051 development. Shown is a mean smoothed with a 15-minute running average, rescaled to 0-1. Days
1052 are shown with a white background, nights with a dark background. Modules are sorted from
1053 shortest to longest (lower to upper panels).

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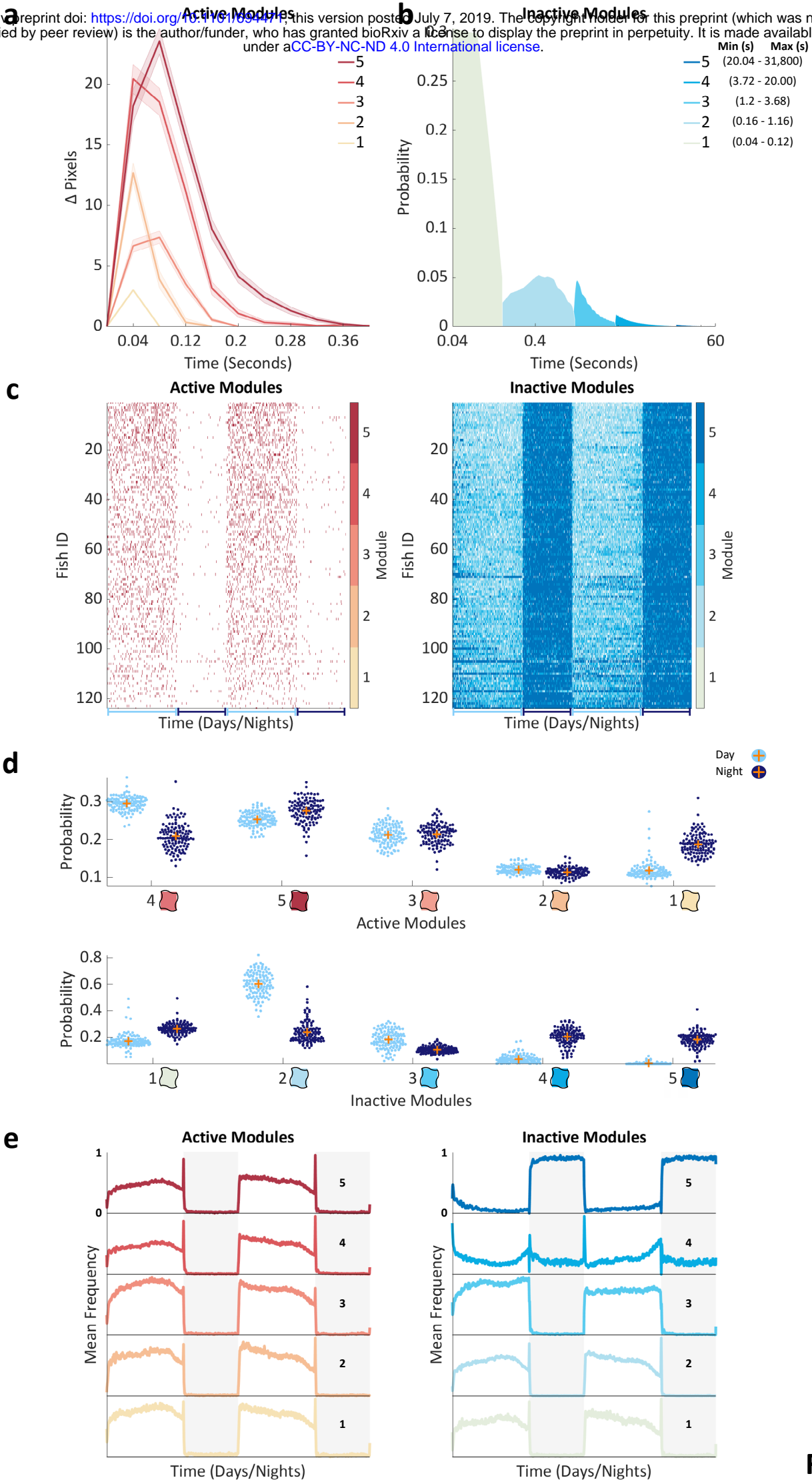


Figure 2.

1063 **Figure 3. Hierarchical Compression Reveals Structure in Zebrafish Behaviour**

- 1064 **a.** Compression explained using fictive data. Top to bottom: from Δ pixels data (black trace) we
1065 classified both active and inactive behaviours into modules (coloured circles). From modular
1066 behavioural sequences, we identified motifs (sequences of modules) using a compression
1067 algorithm. Compression iteratively identifies motifs (shown as boxes) by replacing them with new
1068 symbols until no more motifs can be identified and the sequence is maximally compressed.
- 1069 **b.** Each panel shows how compressibility, calculated from 500 module blocks, varies in different
1070 behavioural contexts. Each pale line shows an individual fish's mean compressibility during the
1071 day and the night. The darker overlay shows a population day and night mean \pm standard
1072 deviation. In the wild-type data, compressibility is higher during the day than the night ($p < 10^{-158}$)
1073 and increases from day/night 5 to 6 ($p < 10^{-4}$), findings consistent across triplicate experiments.
1074 Melatonin decreases ($p < 10^{-10}$), while PTZ increases compressibility ($p < 10^{-8}$). There is no effect
1075 of *hcrtr* genotype on compressibility. Statistics are two or four-way ANOVA.
- 1076 **c.** All 46,554 unique motifs (y-axis) identified by compressing data from all animals. Each motif's
1077 module sequence is shown, with the modules coloured according to the colormap on the right.
1078 Motifs are sorted by length and then sequentially by module. Motifs range in length from 2-20
1079 modules long. Insert: for each motif length, the probability of observing each inactive or active
1080 module.
- 1081 **d.** Each motif in the library consists of an alternating sequence of Δ pixels changes and pauses (active
1082 and inactive modules). A representative motif of each module length is shown with each module
1083 coloured according to the colormap in c. Representative motifs were chosen by determining every
1084 motif's distribution of modules and then for each observed module length, selecting the motif
1085 closest to the average module distribution (see c, insert).

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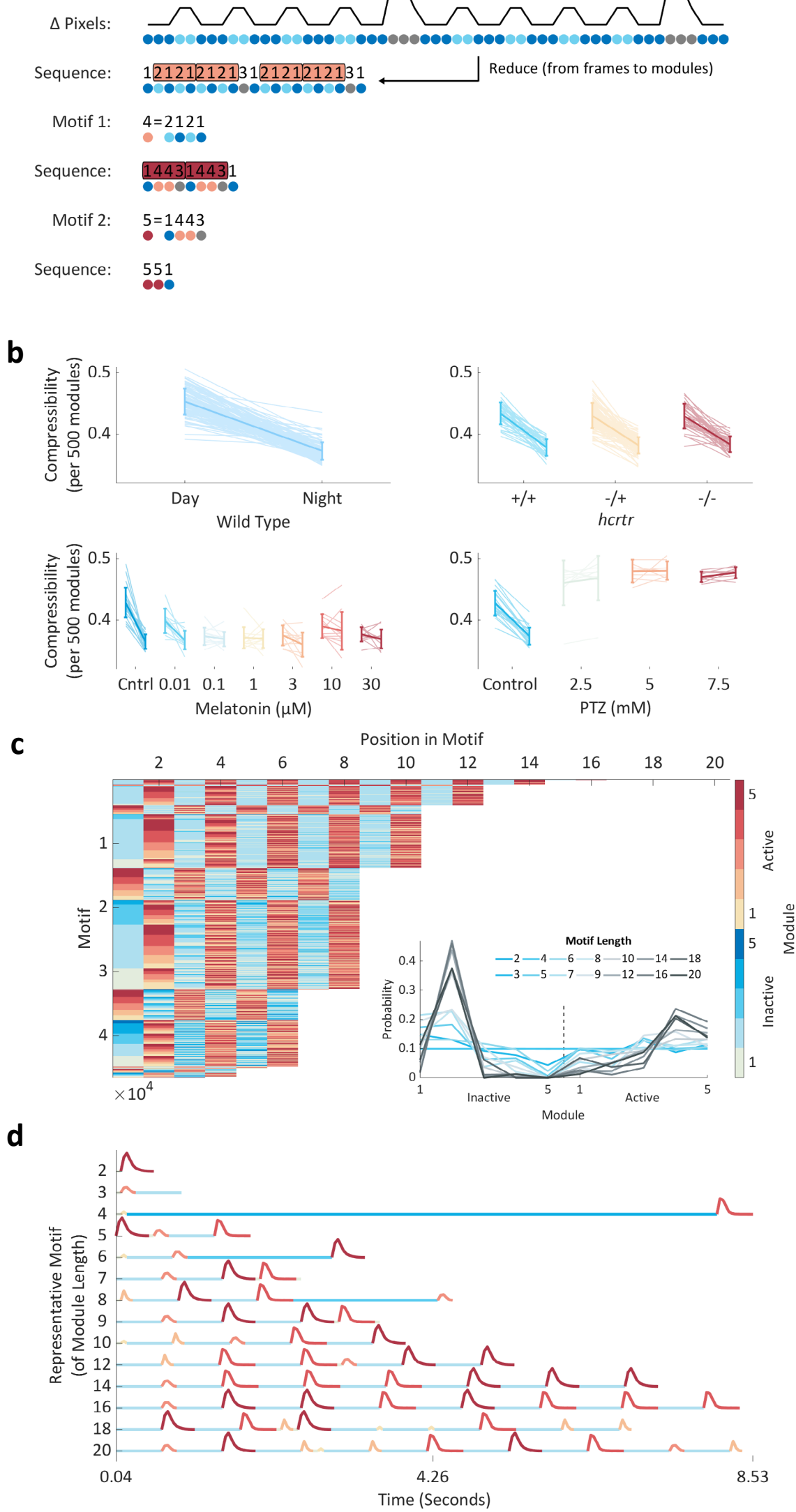


Figure 3.

1096 **Figure 4. Supervised Learning Identifies Contextual Behavioural Motifs**

- 1097 **a.** Probability density functions (pdfs) showing the probability of observing motifs at different
1098 enrichment/constraint scores rounded to whole numbers and summed at values above or below
1099 ± 4 for ease of visualisation. Each wild type animal is depicted by a single pale blue (real data) and
1100 10 black (shuffled data) lines; overlaid in bold are mean pdfs. The insert shows that the kurtosis
1101 of the real data is higher than the shuffled data ($p < 10^{-271}$; two-way ANOVA, real vs shuffled data,
1102 no significant interaction with experimental repeat factor). Each larva is shown as a pale line;
1103 overlaid is a population mean and standard deviation.
- 1104 **b.** Enrichment/constraint scores for all 46,554 motifs (x-axis) for each fish during day/night 5 and 6
1105 of development (y-axis). To emphasise structure, motifs are sorted in both axes, first by their
1106 average day night difference (from day to night enriched left to right), then separately day and
1107 night by larva. Finally, each motif's enrichment/constraint score is Z-scored to aid visualisation.
- 1108 **c.** Left: the 15 day/night mRMR motifs module sequences are shown numbered by the order in which
1109 they were selected by the algorithm. Motifs are sorted by day minus night enrichment/constraint
1110 score (middle). The long pauses at the end of motifs 5 and 14 are cropped at 10s (arrows). Middle:
1111 for each selected motif (y-axis), ordered as in the left panel, each wild-type animal's (124 in total)
1112 day minus night enrichment/constraint score (x-axis) is shown as a dot. Values above zero are
1113 coloured light blue; below zero are dark blue. Overlaid is a population mean and standard
1114 deviation per motif. Right: a tSNE embedding of the 15-dimensional motif data (middle) into a 2-
1115 dimensional space. Each circle represents a single day (light blue) or night (dark blue) sample.
- 1116 **d.** Representative motif temporal dynamics; shown are motifs 1 (day) and 2 (night) from c, as well as
1117 a startle-like motif. Left: each motif's module sequence. Right: each motif's mean
1118 enrichment/constraint score each hour, rescaled to 0-1.

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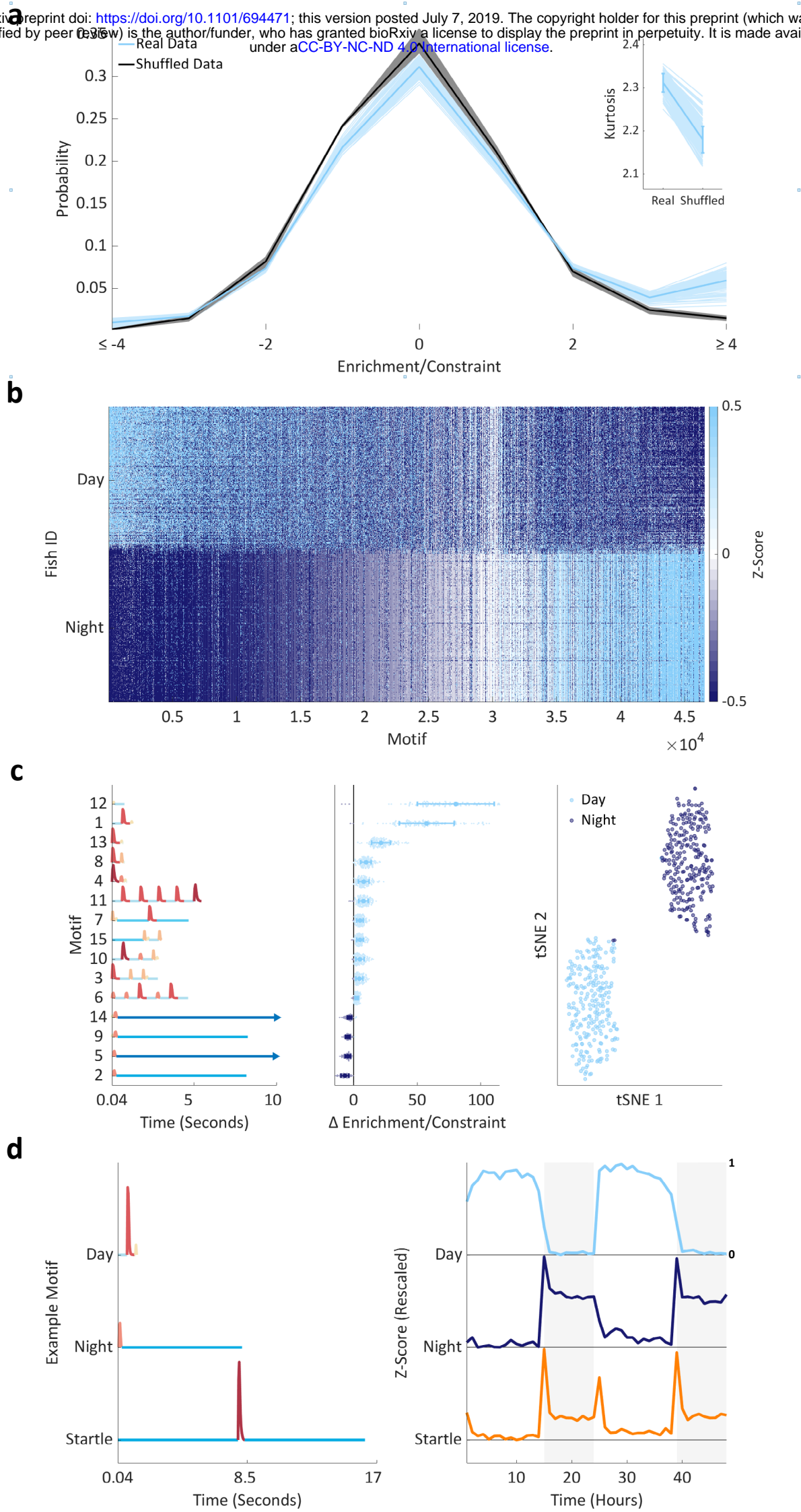


Figure 4 .

1128 **Figure 5. Pharmacological Behavioural Motifs**

- 1129 **a.** Left: module sequences for the single best motif for each melatonin comparison. Modules are
1130 coloured as elsewhere. Middle: for each dose's single best motif, see left panel y-axis for dose,
1131 enrichment/constraint scores are shown for every dose on a log x-axis. Each animal is shown as a
1132 dot, with a mean \pm std overlaid per dose. Right: a 2-dimensional tSNE embedding from a space of
1133 912 unique motifs. Each animal is shown as a single dot underlaid by a shaded boundary
1134 encompassing all animals in each condition.
- 1135 **b.** Left: module sequences for the single best motif for each PTZ comparison. To highlight a seizure
1136 specific motif, the control motif and corresponding enrichment/constraint score shown is mRMR
1137 motif 2, not 1, for this comparison. Modules are coloured as elsewhere. Middle: for each dose's
1138 single best motif, enrichment/constraint scores are shown for every dose on a linear x-axis. Each
1139 animal is shown as a dot, with a mean and standard deviation overlaid per dose. Right: a 2-
1140 dimensional tSNE embedding from a space of 338 unique motifs. Each animal is shown as a single
1141 dot underlaid by a shaded boundary encompassing all animals in each condition.
- 1142 **c.** Each classifier's classification error (%) is shown in terms of modules (x-axis) and motifs (y-axis).
1143 Data is shown as mean and standard deviation from 10-fold cross validation. Classifiers are
1144 coloured by experimental dataset (see Legend). For reference, $y = x$ is shown as a broken black
1145 line. Data below this line demonstrates superior performance of the motif classifiers.

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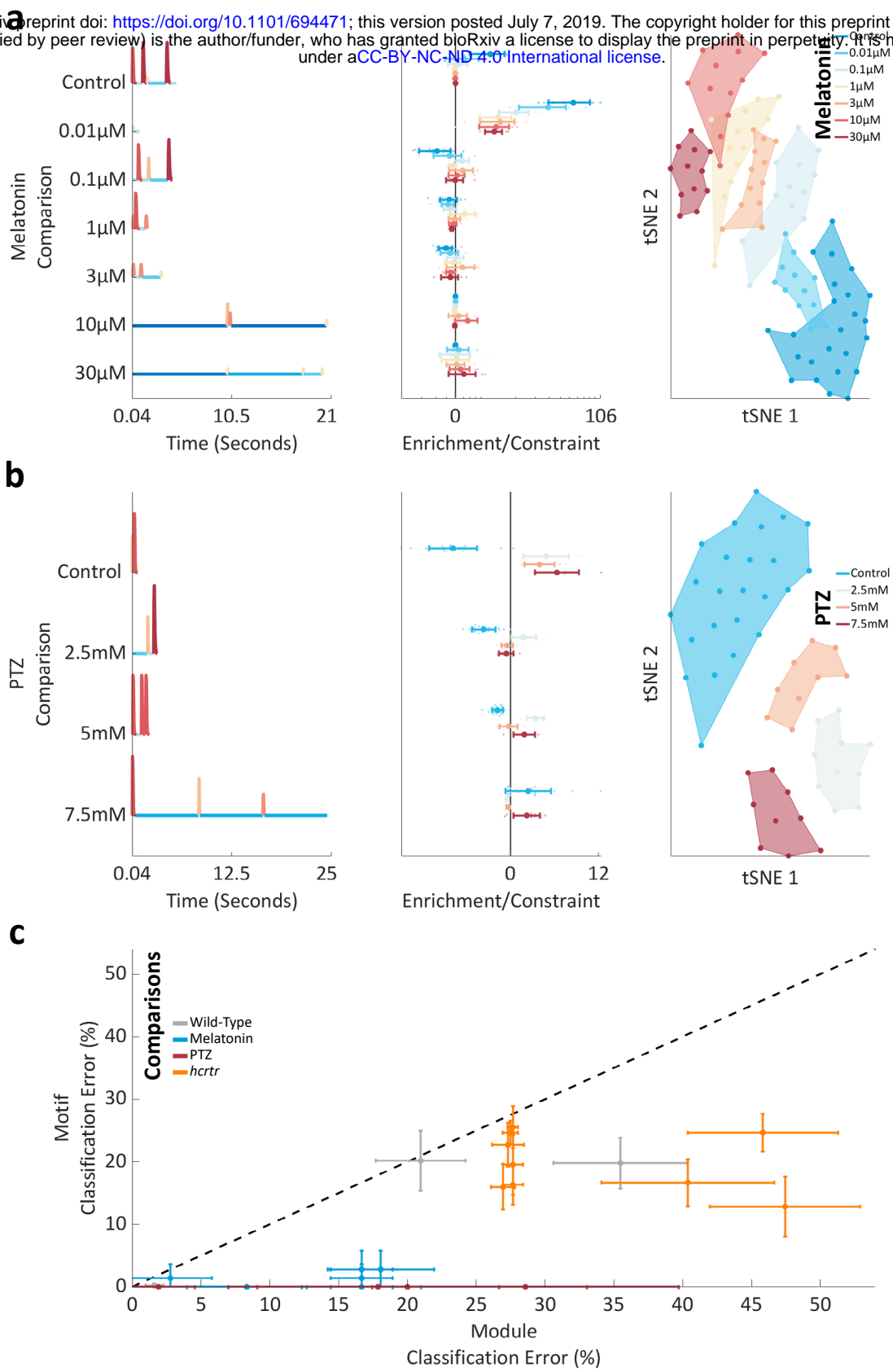


Figure 5.

1159 **Supplementary Figure 1. Behavioural Set-up and Analysis**

- 1160 **a.** Schematic of our behavioural set-up. Note that aside from the computer, the set-up is fully
1161 enclosed. Not shown to scale. IR - infra-red, LED - light emitting diode.
- 1162 **b.** A fictive illustration of zebrafish behaviour (blue line). Two minutes of data are shown divided by
1163 a black dashed vertical line. A 1min binning approach would score both minutes as 20 seconds of
1164 activity and miss the 60 second period of inactivity in between. This latter loss leads to a
1165 discrepancy in the number of periods ≥ 60 s between the 1-minute bin and 25Hz methods (see c).
- 1166 **c.** The number of inactive periods ≥ 60 s for each of 124 wild type animals is shown, as determined
1167 by both a 1-minute bin and 25Hz approach. Data is from each animal's entire recording period (4-
1168 7dpf). Data for each animal is shown as a pale blue line overlaid with a bold line showing the
1169 population mean and standard deviation. Insert: the percentage of the 25Hz counts detected by
1170 the 1minute bin method per animal. Each animal's data is shown by a circle. An orange cross marks
1171 the population mean.
- 1172 **d.** Average activity across one day (white background) and night (dark background) for larvae
1173 exposed to either H₂O (control) or a range of PTZ doses immediately prior to tracking at 6dpf. Data
1174 for each larva was summed into seconds and then smoothed with a 15-minute running average.
1175 Shown is a mean summed and smoothed trace (bold line) and standard error of the mean (shaded
1176 surround). n denotes the number of animals per condition.

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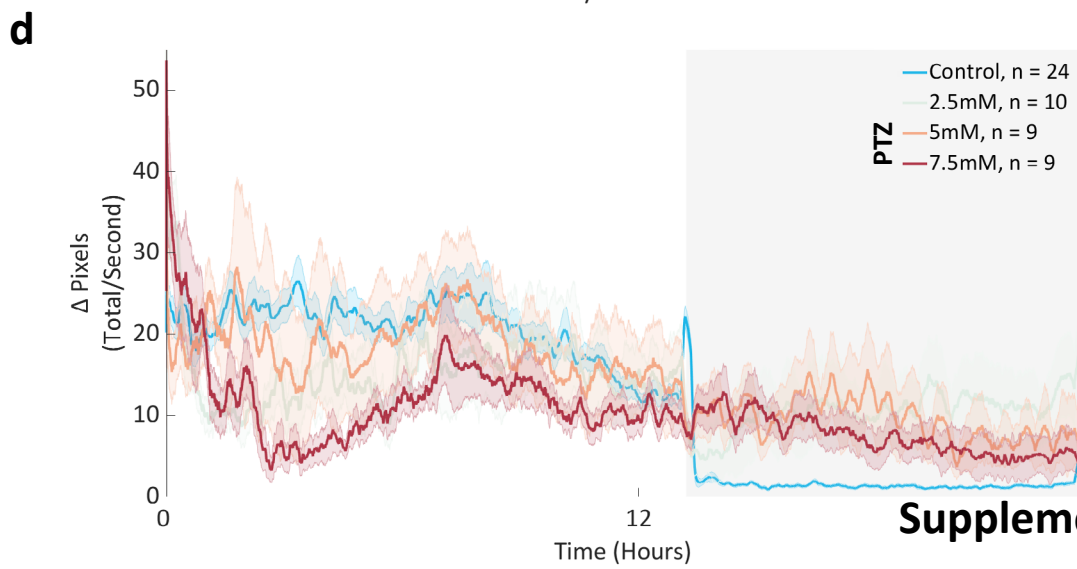
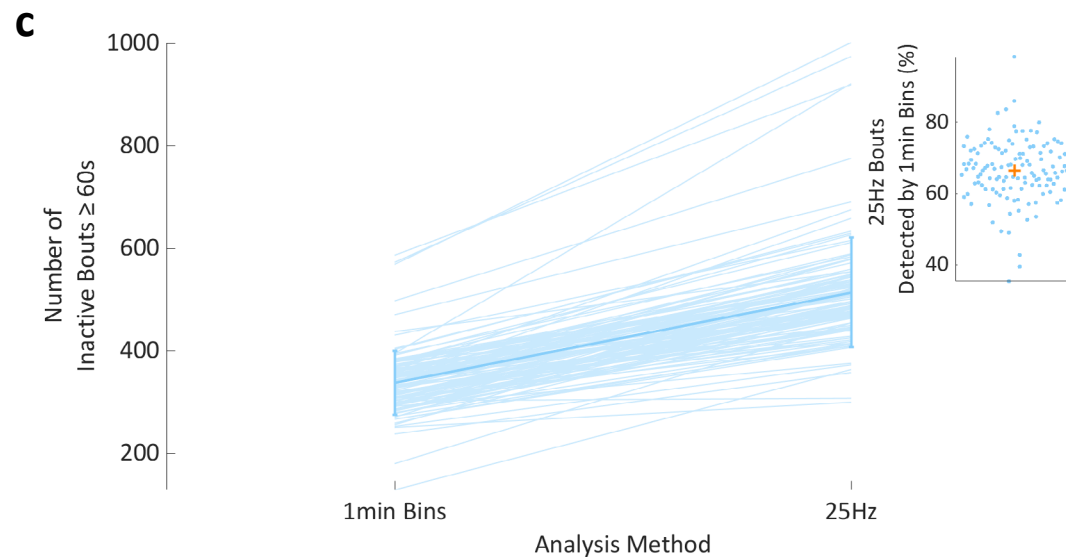
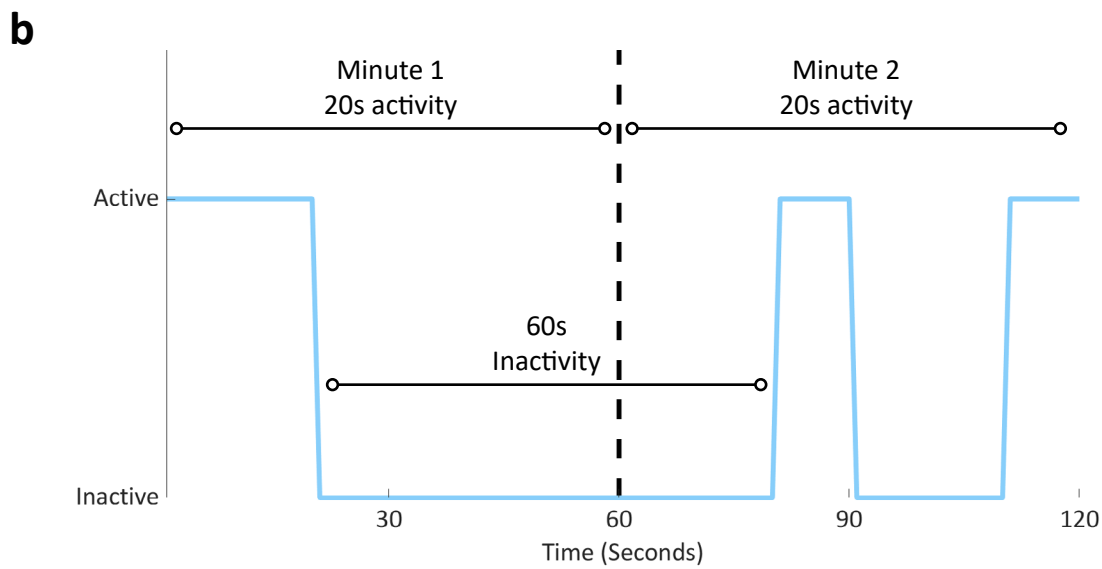
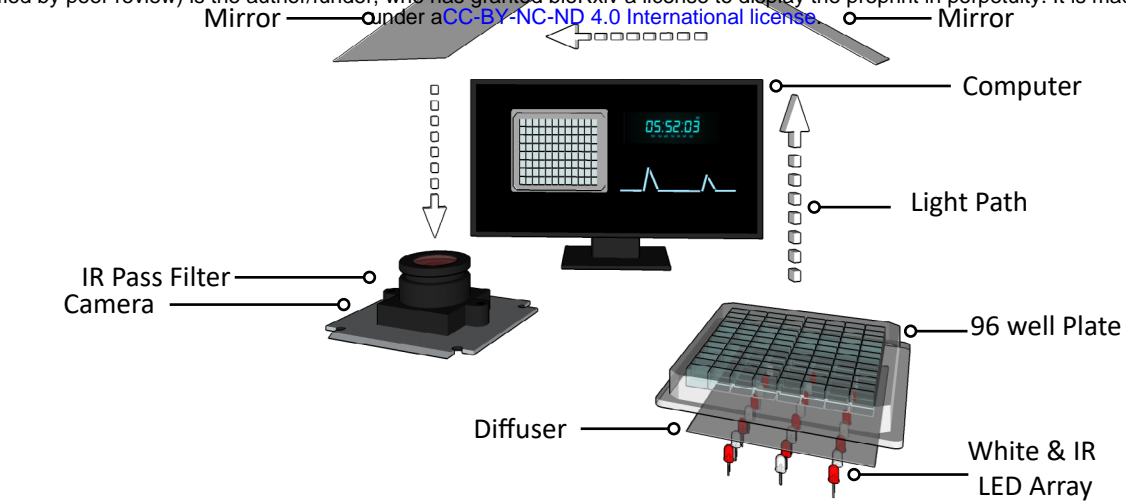
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1193 **Supplementary Figure 2. Bout Features**

1194 **a.** Bout feature distributions during the day (light blue) and the night (dark blue). For the probability
1195 curves, each animal's data was fit with a probability density function (pdf). Shown is a mean pdf
1196 (bold line) and standard deviation (shaded surround) with a log scale on the x-axis. For the scatter
1197 plots, each larva's mean value across the days or nights (5-6dpf) is shown as a light blue (day) or
1198 dark blue circle (night). An orange cross marks each population's mean. Of the pdfs, only the mean
1199 day and night active bout total and inactive bout length pdfs were consistently significantly
1200 different across three independent experiments ($p < 0.01$; Two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test).
1201 $n = 124$ wild-type larvae.

1202 **b.** Melatonin bout feature means. A mean was taken per animal per feature, and day or night (6dpf).
1203 Shown is a population mean and standard error of the mean during the day (white background)
1204 and the night (grey background). Control - DMSO. $n = 24$ controls then $n = 12$ per dose.

1205 **c.** PTZ bout feature means, as in b. Control - H_2O . $n = 24$ controls then $n = 10$ (2.5mM), $n = 9$ (5mM)
1206 and $n = 9$ (7.5mM).

1207 **d.** *hcrtr* bout feature means as in b, for days (white background) and nights (grey background) 5 to 6
1208 post fertilisation. *hcrtr*^{-/-} mutants had significantly lower mean values compared to both *hcrtr*^{+/+}
1209 and *hcrtr*^{+/-} for the following active bout features: length, standard deviation and total ($p < 0.05$
1210 for all comparisons, Dunn-Sidak corrected four-way ANOVA, adjusted for the following factors:
1211 day/night, development and experimental repeat). No features differed significantly between
1212 *hcrtr*^{+/-} and *hcrtr*^{+/+}. $n = 39, 102$ and 39 , for WT - *hcrtr*^{+/+}, Het - *hcrtr*^{+/-}, Hom - *hcrtr*^{-/-} respectively.

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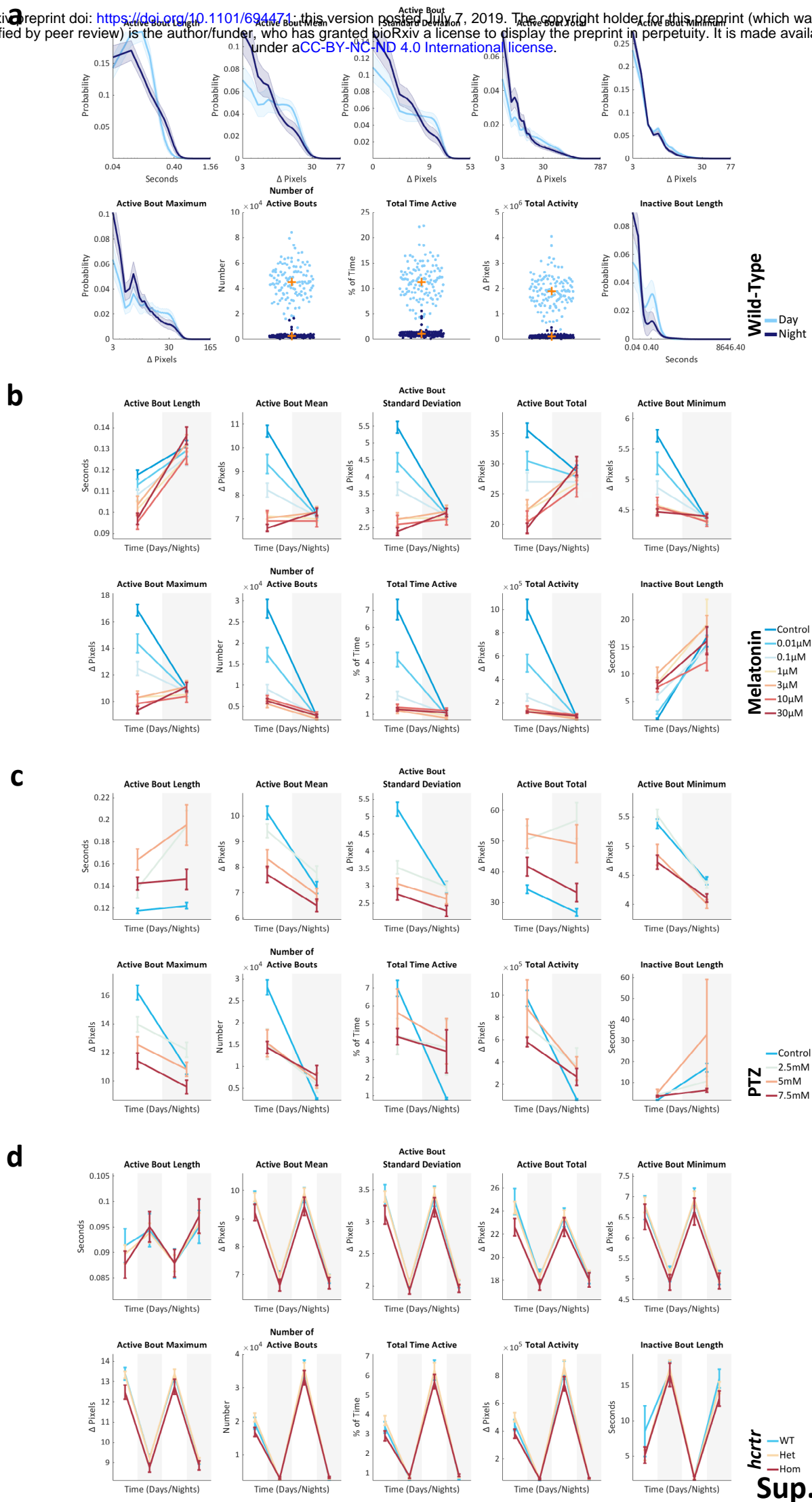
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1224 **Supplementary Figure 3. Evidence-accumulation Based Clustering**

- 1225 **a.** Left: scree plot showing the percentage of variance explained by each principal component from
1226 the active bout data. The first 3 principal components, the knee point of the curve, were kept for
1227 subsequent analysis. The colours of these points refer to the right panel. Right: each of the 3
1228 retained component's coefficients for the different active bout parameters is shown.
- 1229 **b.** The active bouts within each module were fit by Gaussian distributions. Each active bout is shown
1230 in a 3D space of PC1, PC2, and probability. Each bout is numbered and coloured by its module
1231 assignment.
- 1232 **c.** Evidence accumulation (E.A.) matrix for the 40,000 active probe points (matrix dimensions are
1233 thus 40,000 by 40,000). A higher E.A. index indicates a higher frequency of pairwise occurrences
1234 in the same cluster across 200 Gaussian Mixture Models. This matrix was clustered hierarchically,
1235 and a maximum lifetime cut was made to determine the final number of modules. The
1236 dendrogram above shows all 40,000 leaves and is coloured by mean module length from shortest
1237 (lightest) to longest (darkest) as in other figures.
- 1238 **d.** Evidence accumulation matrix for the inactive bouts.

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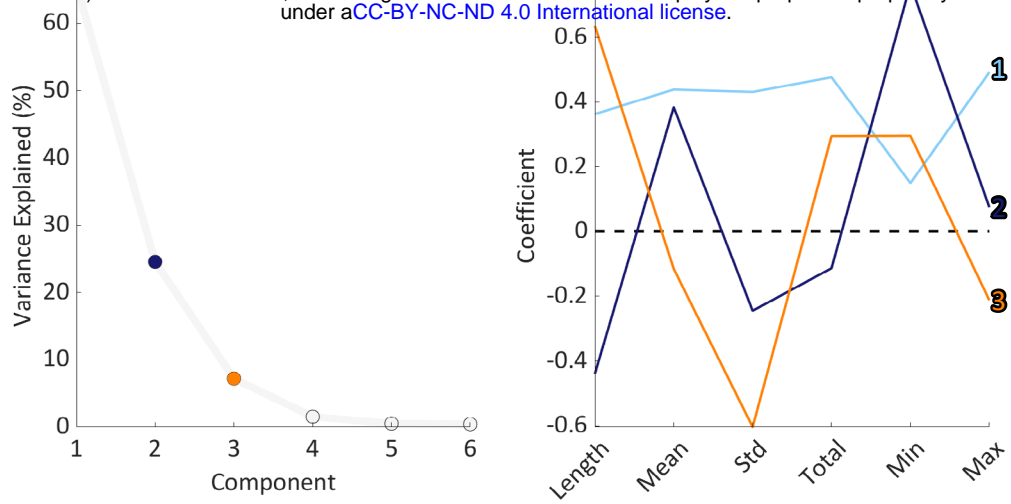
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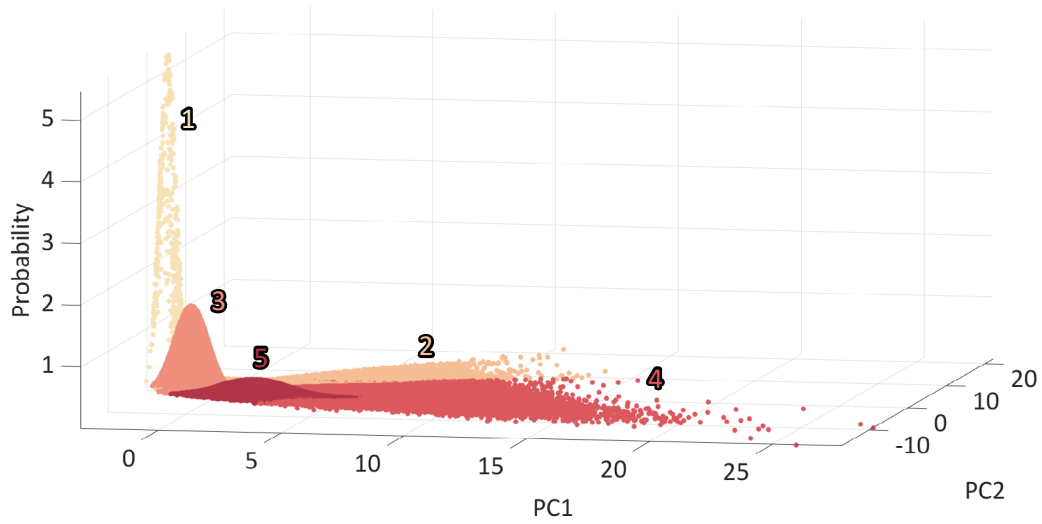
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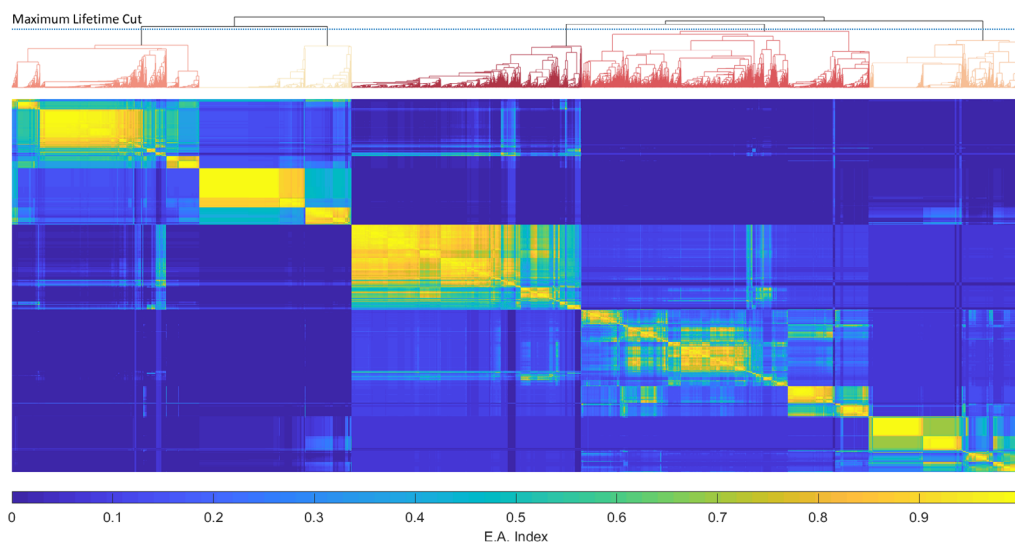
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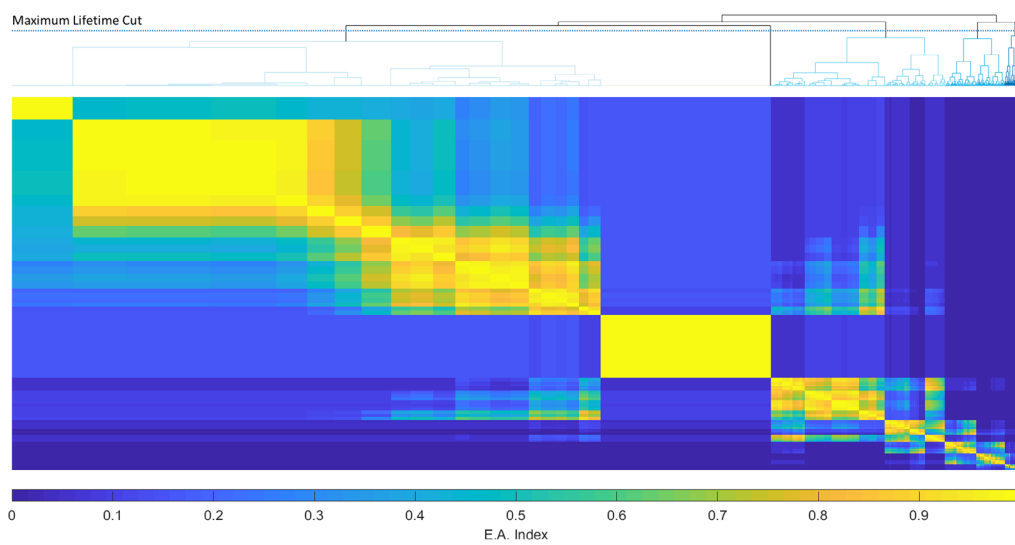
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1254 **Supplementary Figure 4. Behavioural Modules**

1255 **a.** Probability density functions for each bout feature by module. All features are shown on a log x-
1256 axis. The legend panel indicates each module's colour.

1257 **b.** Melatonin module probabilities during 6dpf day (upper panels) and night (lower panels) for both
1258 the active (left) and inactive (right) modules. Shown is a mean and standard error of the mean for
1259 each group, coloured according to the legend. Active modules are sorted from highest to lowest
1260 by average wild type day probability, based upon wild type data in Figure 2d. Inactive modules are
1261 sorted by increasing mean length. Control - DMSO. n = 24 controls then n = 12 per dose.

1262 **c.** PTZ data as in b, with H₂O (control). n = 24 controls then n = 10 (2.5mM), n = 9 (5mM) and n = 9
1263 (7.5mM).

1264 **d.** *hcrtr* data as in b, with mean values across 5 and 6dpf. No module probabilities differed
1265 significantly among genotypes (full four-way ANOVA, with the following factors: genotype,
1266 day/night, development, and experimental repeat). n = 39, 102 and 39, for WT - *hcrtr*^{+/+}, Het -
1267 *hcrtr*^{-/+}, Hom - *hcrtr*^{-/-} respectively.

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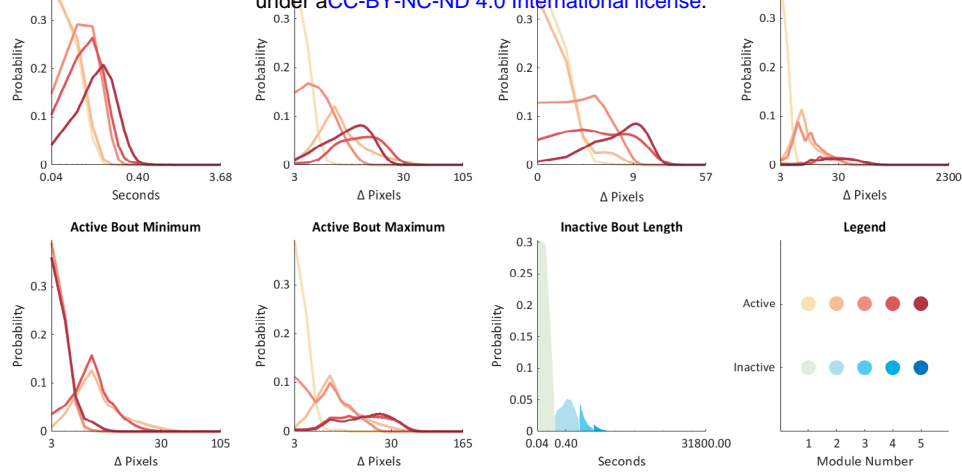
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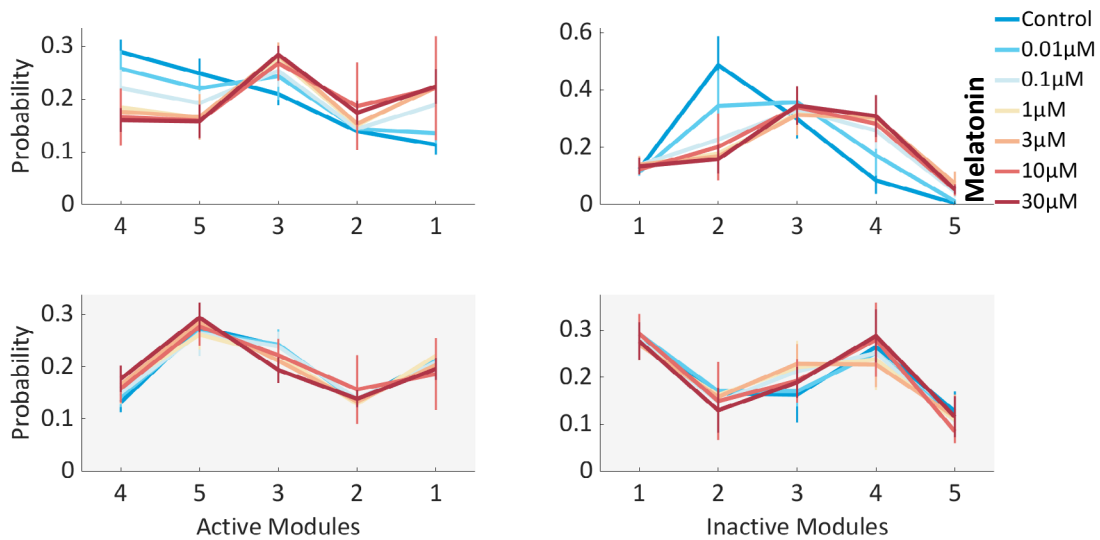
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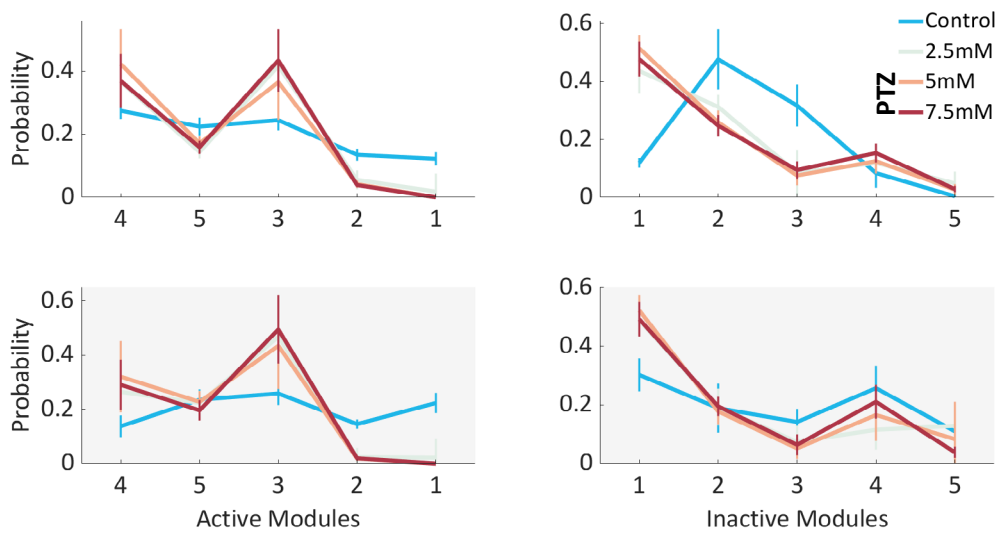
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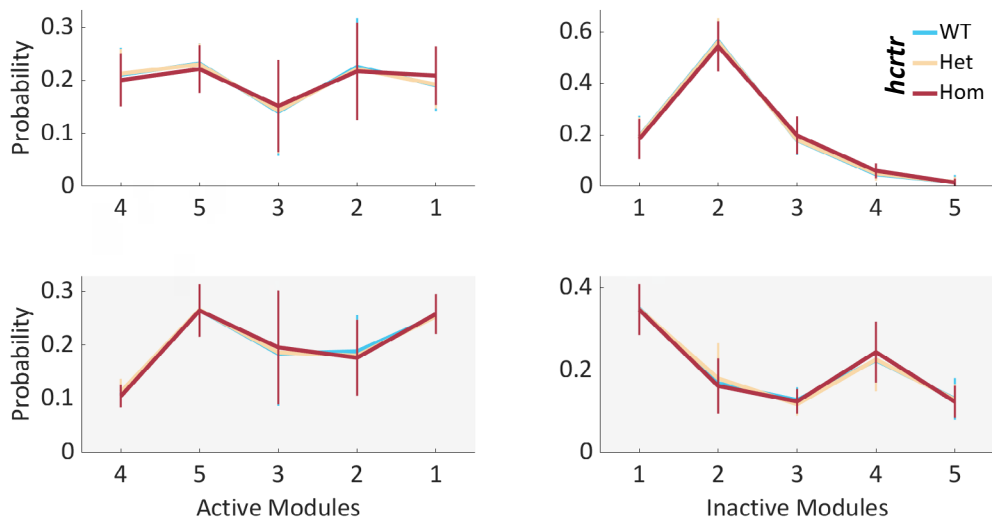
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1284 **Supplementary Figure 5. Hierarchical Compression Metrics**

- 1285 **a.** The compressibility (y-axis) of the real wild-type data is higher than the paired shuffled data ($p <$
1286 10^{-15} , two-way ANOVA, real vs shuffled data, no significant interaction with experimental repeat
1287 factor). Each animal's data is shown as a pale blue line. Overlaid is a mean and standard deviation.
1288 Insert: the mean difference in compressibility between each larva's real and shuffled data. Each
1289 larva is shown by a circle, and the orange cross marks the mean.
- 1290 **b.** The compressibility (y-axis) of the real wild type data varies non-linearly with uncompressed
1291 sequence length. Each larva (of 124) is shown as a dot.
- 1292 **c.** The number of motifs (y-axis) identified from compressing each wild-type animal's real and paired
1293 shuffled data. Each animal's data is shown as a pale blue line. Overlaid is a mean and standard
1294 deviation. Insert: the mean intra-fish difference in the number of identified motifs. Each larva is
1295 shown by a circle, and the orange cross marks the mean.
- 1296 **d.** Each panel shows how Δ compressibility varies in different behavioural contexts. Each pale line
1297 shows an individual larva's average Δ compressibility during the day and the night. The darker
1298 overlay shows a population day and night mean and standard deviation.
- 1299 **e.** Δ Compressibility of 500 module blocks for each wild-type larva, averaged into 1-hour time points.
1300 Each pale blue line shows 1 of 124 larvae. Line breaks occur when a larva had less than 500
1301 modules within a given hour. The darker blue overlay shows the mean and standard deviation of
1302 this data every hour. Shown are days (white background) and nights (dark background) 5 and 6 of
1303 development.

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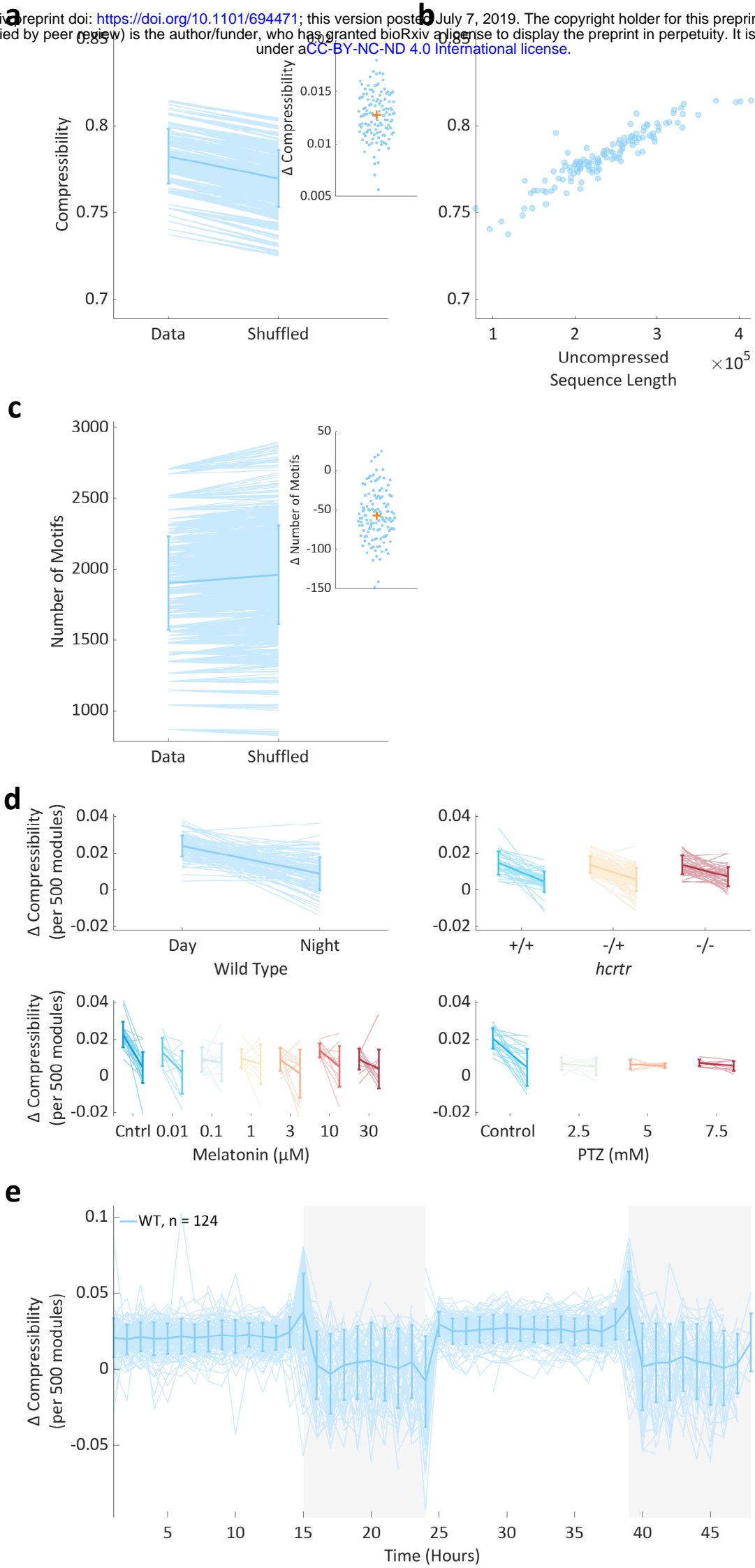
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1317 **Supplementary Figure 6. Motif Classifier Performance**

- 1318 **a.** Classification error (%) from linear classifiers separating wild-type day and night behaviour using
1319 motif enrichment/constraint scores as sequential mRMR motifs from 1-250 are added (x-axis). The
1320 average error is shown in light blue. Overlaid in darker blue is a running average 3 motifs wide.
1321 The broken black lines show the minimum of the smoothed data to be at 15 motifs, where the
1322 classification error is 0.2%.
- 1323 **b.** Wild-type temporal classifier performance. Real classifiers (colour) are shown as a mean and
1324 standard deviation from 10-fold cross validation. Majority class classifiers (grey) are shown as
1325 value and standard error of proportion. Each classifiers data is listed on the x-axis. D - day, N -
1326 night, M/E - morning/evening, E/LN - early/late night. The number of motifs chosen for each
1327 classification and exact values for each classifier are detailed in Supplementary Table 1.
- 1328 **c.** *hcrtr*, Melatonin and PTZ classifier performance. Real classifiers (colour) are shown as a mean and
1329 standard deviation from 10-fold cross validation. Majority class classifiers (grey) are shown as
1330 value and standard error of proportion. Each classifier's data is listed on the x-axis. For *hcrtr*
1331 comparisons, grouped classifiers as well as separate day (light blue underline) and night (dark blue
1332 underline) classifiers are shown. For melatonin and PTZ, only day data was compared. Classifier
1333 details can be found in Supplementary Table 2.

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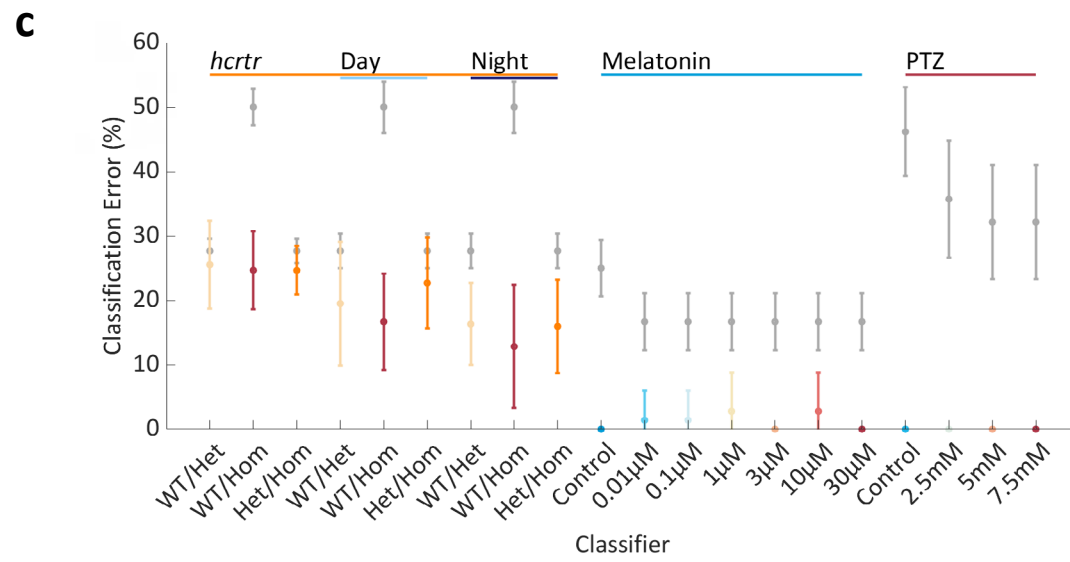
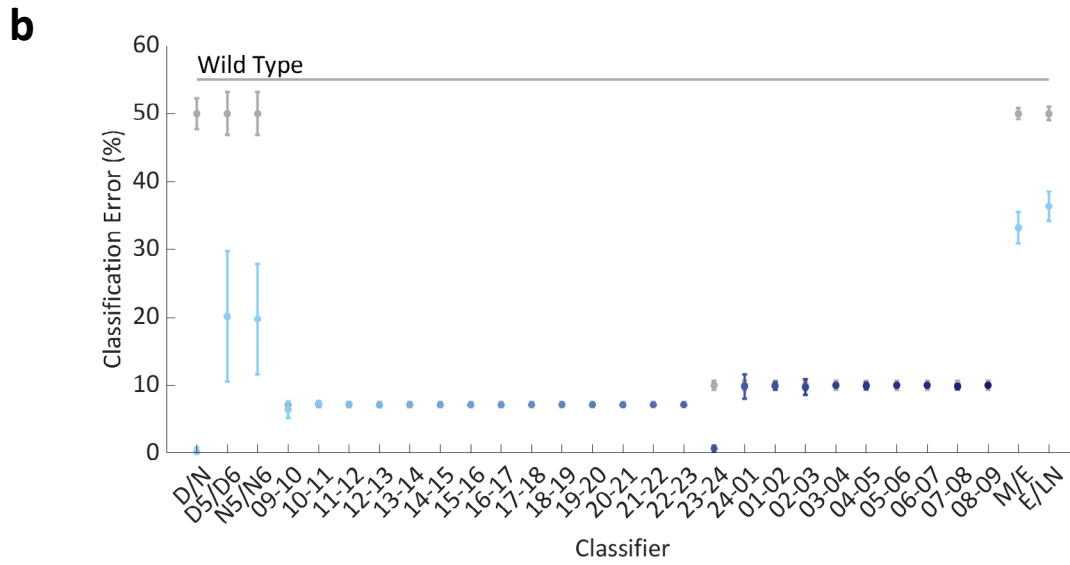
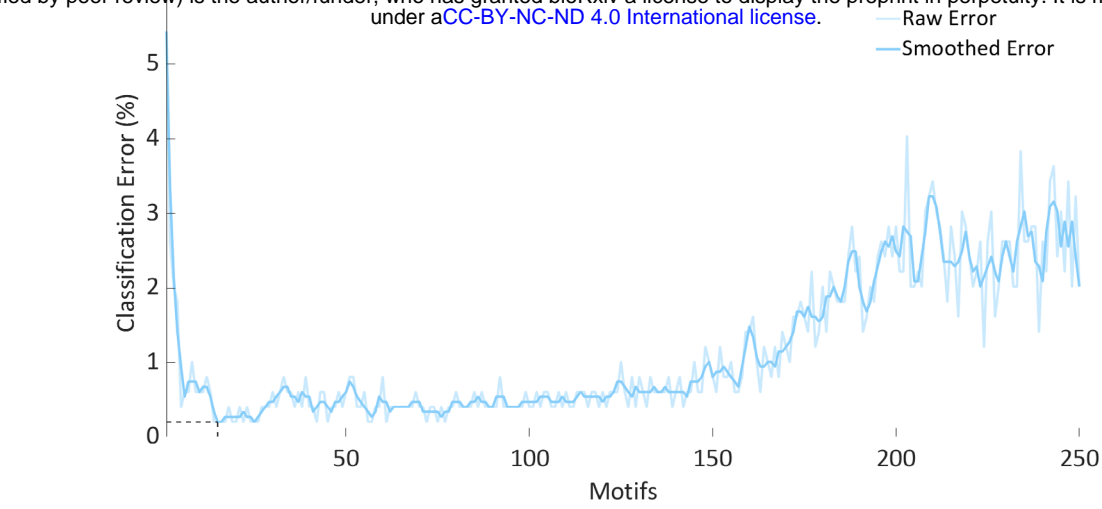
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1351 **Supplementary Figure 7. Analysis Framework**

1352 Flow diagram depicting the steps of our analysis framework. Data is output from our behavioural set-
1353 up (ViewPoint) in the form of a .xls file. perl_batch_192.m organises this data to a .txt format.
1354 Experiment metadata (e.g. animal genotypes) is supplied in the form of a .txt file. The 1min bin method
1355 uses sleep_analysis2.m to produce figures and statistics from these two .txt files. The 25Hz method
1356 exports .raw data from ViewPoint to produce .xls files. Vp_Extract.m reorganises these, using .txt data,
1357 to a .mat file which can be input to either Vp_Analyse.m or Bout_Clustering.m. Vp_Analyse.m
1358 produces figures and statistics. Bout_Clustering.m uses the clustering function gmm_sample_ea.m to
1359 assign data to modules, produce figures and calculate statistics, Bout_Clustering.m's output can be
1360 input to Bout_Transitions.m, which compresses full modular sequences by calling Batch_Compress.m
1361 and Batch_Grammar_Freq.m. The motifs identified from this approach can be input to
1362 Batch_Transitions_Hours.m which compresses 500 module chunks and uses Batch_Grammar_Freq.m
1363 to count motif occurrences per hour. With the exception of the 1min bin method (sleep_analysis2.m),
1364 two example figures are shown for each figure producing step. All code can be run locally, though for
1365 speed several steps (indicated in green) are best run on a cluster computer.

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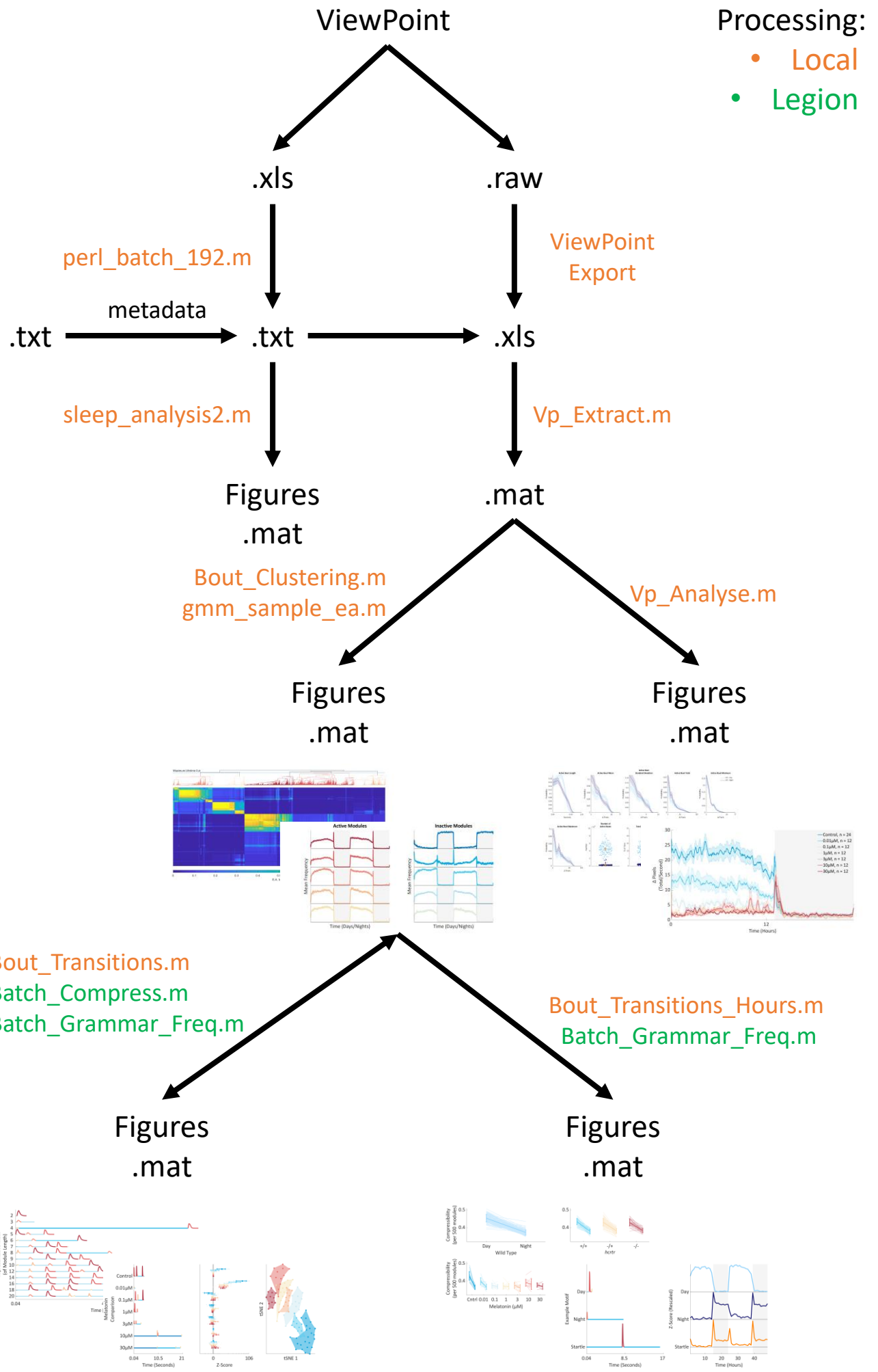
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1386 **Table 1. Wild-type Motif Classifier Performance**

1387 A table showing the performance of each wild-type motif classifier. Each classifier sought to separate
1388 the data shown in the comparison column, e.g. Day/Night. For the hourly comparisons, each hour was
1389 compared to data from all other hours grouped together. For each comparison 250 motifs were
1390 chosen by mRMR, then a smaller number were retained (see Motifs column) based on classification
1391 error curves (see Supplementary Figure 6a). Cv – 10-fold cross validated. Std – standard deviation
1392 across the 10 folds. Mc – majority class classifier.

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1394 **Table 2. *hcrtr* and Pharmacological Classifier Performance**

1395 A table showing the performance of each classifier. Each classifier sought to separate the data shown
1396 in the comparison column, e.g. *hcrtr*^{+/+} (WT) and *hcrtr*^{/+} (Het). For the pharmacological comparisons
1397 each condition was compared to the rest of the conditions grouped together, aside from the control
1398 data which was excluded. For each comparison 250 motifs were chosen by mRMR, then a smaller
1399 number were retained (see Motifs column) based on classification error curves (see Supplementary
1400 figure 6a). Cv – 10-fold cross validated. Std – standard deviation across the 10 folds. Mc – majority
1401 class classifier. WT - *hcrtr*^{+/+}, Het – *hcrtr*^{/+}, Hom – *hcrtr*^{-/-}.

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1403 **Table 3. Module Classifier Performance**

1404 A table showing the performance of each module classifier. Each classifier sought to separate the data
1405 shown in the comparison column, e.g. Wild Type, Day/Night. For each comparison all 10 modules were
1406 sequentially chosen by the mRMR algorithm, then a smaller subset was retained (see Module column)
1407 based on classification error curves. Cv – 10-fold cross validated. Std – standard deviation across the
1408 10 folds. Mc – majority class classifier.

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Comparison	Motifs (Number)	Cv Error (%)	Cv Error Std (%)	Mc Error (%)	Mc Error of Proportion (%)
Wild Type					
Day/Night	15	0.20	0.63	50.0	2.25
Day 5/Day 6	93	20.16	9.60	50.0	3.18
Night 5/Night 6	85	19.76	8.09	50.0	3.18
Day Hours					
• 09-10	102	6.39	1.23	7.14	0.44
• 10-11	1	7.37	0.31	7.14	0.44
• 11-12	5	7.20	0.23	7.14	0.44
• 12-13	9	7.06	0.34	7.14	0.44
• 13-14	1	7.14	0.12	7.14	0.44
• 14-15	1	7.14	0.12	7.14	0.44
• 15-16	1	7.11	0.14	7.14	0.44
• 16-17	1	7.09	0.15	7.14	0.44
• 17-18	1	7.14	0.12	7.14	0.44
• 18-19	1	7.14	0.12	7.14	0.44
• 19-20	1	7.14	0.12	7.14	0.44
• 20-21	3	7.11	0.27	7.14	0.44
• 21-22	1	7.14	0.12	7.14	0.44
• 22-23	1	7.14	0.12	7.14	0.44
Night Hours					
• 23-24	23	0.69	0.47	10.0	0.60
• 24-01	177	9.84	1.83	10.0	0.60
• 01-02	5	9.92	0.51	10.0	0.60
• 02-03	88	9.72	1.18	10.0	0.60
• 03-04	1	10.00	0.17	10.0	0.60
• 04-05	22	9.92	0.47	10.0	0.60
• 05-06	1	10.00	0.17	10.0	0.60
• 06-07	1	10.00	0.17	10.0	0.60
• 07-08	3	9.84	0.34	10.0	0.60
• 08-09	1	10.00	0.17	10.0	0.60
Morning/Evening	229	33.21	2.32	50.0	0.85
Early/Late Night	26	36.37	2.18	50.0	1.00

Comparison	Motifs (Number)	Cv Error (%)	Cv Error Std	Mc Error (%)	Mc Error of Proportion (%)
<i>hcrtr</i>					
Day and Night					
• WT/Het	173	25.53	6.77	27.66	1.88
• WT/Hom	83	24.68	6.07	50.00	2.83
• Het/Hom	235	24.65	3.76	27.66	1.88
Day					
• WT/Het	80	19.50	9.60	27.66	2.66
• WT/Hom	195	16.67	7.50	50.00	4.00
• Het/Hom	55	22.70	7.02	27.66	2.66
Night					
• WT/Het	79	16.31	6.38	27.66	2.66
• WT/Hom	53	12.82	9.58	50.00	4.00
• Het/Hom	76	15.96	7.27	27.66	2.66
Melatonin (Day)					
• Control	40	0.0	0.0	25.00	4.42
• 0.01 μ M	89	1.39	4.52	16.67	4.39
• 0.1 μ M	192	1.39	4.52	16.67	4.39
• 1 μ M	132	2.78	6.02	16.67	4.39
• 3 μ M	97	0.0	0.0	16.67	4.39
• 10 μ M	250	2.78	6.02	16.67	4.39
• 30 μ M	133	0.0	0.0	16.67	4.39
PTZ (Day)					
• Control	26	0.0	0.0	46.15	6.91
• 2.5mM	55	0.0	0.0	35.71	9.06
• 5mM	162	0.0	0.0	32.14	8.83
• 7.5mM	104	0.0	0.0	32.14	8.83

Comparison	Modules (Number)	Cv Error (%)	Cv Error Std	Mc Error (%)	Mc Error of Proportion (%)
Wild Type					
• Day/Night	10	1.61	1.29	50.0	2.25
• Day 5/Day 6	8	20.97	6.53	50.0	3.18
• Night 5/Night 6	1	35.48	9.71	50.0	3.18
hcrtr					
Day and Night					
• WT/Het	1	27.66	0.77	27.66	1.88
• WT/Hom	10	45.83	10.92	50.00	2.83
• Het/Hom	8	27.48	1.12	27.66	1.88
Day					
• WT/Het	1	27.66	1.46	27.66	2.66
• WT/Hom	1	40.38	12.54	50.00	4.00
• Het/Hom	3	27.31	2.35	27.66	2.66
Night					
• WT/Het	1	27.66	1.46	27.66	2.66
• WT/Hom	1	47.44	10.92	50.00	4.00
• Het/Hom	10	26.95	1.72	27.66	2.66
Melatonin (Day)					
• Control	3	8.33	8.69	25.00	4.42
• 0.01μM	10	2.78	6.02	16.67	4.39
• 0.1μM	2	16.67	4.52	16.67	4.39
• 1μM	1	18.06	7.74	16.67	4.39
• 3μM	1	16.67	8.67	16.67	4.39
• 10μM	1	16.67	4.52	16.67	4.39
• 30μM	1	16.67	4.52	16.67	4.39
PTZ (Day)					
• Control	1	1.92	5.27	46.15	6.91
• 2.5mM	1	17.86	17.57	35.71	9.06
• 5mM	1	28.57	22.29	32.14	8.83
• 7.5mM	10	20.00	26.06	32.14	8.83