

MOTION JUDGMENT IN INFANT JAPANESE MACAQUES (*Macaca fuscata*)

S. Watanabe^{1,2}, M. Tomonaga³, K. Fujita¹

¹Kyoto University, Kyoto-City, Kyoto, Japan, ²Japan Society for Promotion of Science, Chiyoda ward, Tokyo, Japan, ³Kyoto University, Inuyama, Aichi, Japan

Presenter's Email: sotawatanabe@i01.mbox.media.kyoto-u.ac.jp

We investigated whether infant Japanese macaques would refer to the surrounding object when judging the motion of a target. Eight infant Japanese macaques below 1 year of age participated twice, once in summer and again in autumn. In the experiment, a subject was held in front of the computer monitor. Two pairs of a target (cross-shaped blue object) and a surround (white square frame) were displayed horizontally. A session consisted of five consecutive familiarization trials followed by two test trials. Each trial lasted 5 seconds. In a familiarization trial, only the targets moved to right and left (or to lower right and upper left, counterbalanced across subjects). In a test trial, both the targets and the surrounds moved. In one pair, the motion of the target was physically the same as in familiarization trials but the motion in relation to the surround was different. In the other pair, on the contrary, the motion of the target in relation to the surround was the same as in familiarization trials even though its physical motion differed. Data from two infants were excluded because of insufficient familiarization, insufficient disfamiliarization, or side bias. The remaining six infants tended to look longer at the former pair than the latter. The results suggest the possibility of non-relativity (absolute judgment) in motion judgment by infant Japanese macaques.

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