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**Lab25**

# Dynamic Choice in Concurrent Random Interval – Random Ratio Schedules

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## Background

Studies of performance under concurrent VR–VI schedules of reinforcement have been a testbed to evaluate different choice models, providing contradictory data so far (Baum and Aparicio, 1999). The present experiment provides data about the dynamics of performance under these schedules, in particular its adjustment to frequently uncertain changes in the value of the VR and VI schedules (Baum, 2010). These data will increase the data set needed to compare a broader set of choice models (Cowie, Davison and Elliffe, 2016).

## Method

The key pecking of six pigeons was reinforced by ten different pairs of a Findley concurrent random interval – random ratio schedule. Pairs were separated by blackouts of 30 seconds, and each one ended after ten deliveries of reinforcement (Baum, 2010). For five of the pairs, the value of the random interval was fixed, while the value of the random ratio was fixed for the other five pairs. Which of the two conditions started a session, as well as the order of pair presentation within a condition, was randomly determined. The experiment was run for 110 daily sessions; we present data from the last 60.

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