

Virtual MathPsych/ICCM 2022 mathpsych.org July 2022

### Predicting algorithmic complexity for individuals

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## Introduction

- Interest: Simulation of algorithms
- Question: How can we use complexity metrics to predict an individual's difficulty solving a task?
- Experiment Railway environment
- Move, While, Repeat
- 8 tasks 4 and 6 wagons



Three train tracks with 6 wagons on the *Top Left* track



# **Complexity Metrics**

- 1. Depth Based on nested loops
- 2. Structure Based on length of code
- 3. Moves
  - # performed moves
- 4. Commands
  - # times each block is executed
- 5. Contexts Switching between tracks
- 6. Signature Repetition Effect

#### 7. Entropy

Chaotic distribution of wagons

Metric	$\rho$	p-value			
Depth	-0.145	.016			
Structure	-0.008	.149			
Moves	0.078	.202			
Commands	0.019	.751			
Contexts	0.086	.152			
Signature	-0.133	.027			
Entropy	-0.123	.041			

Pearson's  $\rho$ 

## Predictive Modeling Task

- Are the metrics good predictors of task difficulty for each individual?
- Cognitive Computation for Behavioral Reasoning Analysis (CCOBRA) framework
  - Easy model evaluations
  - $\circ\,$  Focus on modeling reasoning behavior on the individual level
- Models: Equip each metric with a complexity threshold
- Maximum complexity that an individual can handle
- Prediction: Compare the individual's threshold to the task complexity
- Lower-bound baseline: Individuals always give an incorrect answer

### Results

Metric Model	Accuracy	1.0					- 22		-25	
Entropy Structure Signature Contexts Commands Moves Depth Baseline	87% 87% 86% 83% 83% 83% 81% 76%	0.8 0.7 0.6 0.5 0.5 0.4 0.3 0.2								
		0.2	Baseline	Depth	Moves	Contexts	Commands	Signature	Structure	Entropy

Benchmark evaluation results

Thank you for your attention!