## 6 Glossary

2AFC Two-alternative forced choice. An experimental procedure by which the user is con-

strained to select one solution from two alternatives.

A' (A-prime) A measure of sensitivity analogous to d'. In contrast to d', this statistical procedure

does not require the assumption that the underlying distribution has to be normally distributed. The upper limit of A is 1. A level of performance equivalent to chance

would yield an A' score of .5 (Valentine et al., 1995)

Activation The momentary intensity perceived by an observer

After exposure to a bright stimulus, an image remains visible after its removal, most

commonly producing reverse contrast

Ambiguous A stimulus which can be interpreted in more than one way

ANOVA Analysis of Variance

Ballistic (movement) A movement, which is completely determined (excepting environmental influences)

already before it has begun, and cannot be changed while it is occurring. Saccades are

commonly ballistic

Change Blindness A phenomenon in visual perception in which very large changes, occurring in full view

in a visual scene, are not noticed (O'Regan, 2001)

Correct Rejection The observer correctly decides that the target signal was not present

Criterion The minimum level of activation necessary for an observer to claim detection of a

signal

d'(d-prime) A measure of the average intensity difference, perceived by an observer between sam-

ples including a signal and samples not including a signal. The value of d' is independent of any bias of the subject to make one response than the other. A d' of 0.0 reflects

chance performance (Valentine et al., 1995)

Dependent Variable The variable measured and recorded by the experimenter

Ecology Validity Ecological Validity has typically been taken to refer to whether or not one can general-

ize from observed behavior in the laboratory to natural behavior in the world

(Schmuckler, 2001)

ERP Event-Related (Brain) Potentials. The method of evoked potentials is valuable mainly

for detecting behavior common to large populations of neighboring cells; it cannot differentiate functionally between areas of cortex smaller than about  $1~\mathrm{mm}^2$  (Hubel &

Wiesel, 1962)

Express Saccades Short-latency eye movements that form the first mode of a bimodal distribution of

saccadic latencies, the second mode of which is called (regular) saccades or briefly saccades. Express saccades occur after extensive training to singly appearing visual

targets

Eyetracker Device that analyzes the eye movement during inspecting a visual stimulus

False Alarm The observer incorrectly claims that the target signal was presented

FFA Fusiform Face Area. A face area in a remarkably restricted area of the prefrontal cortex

(Scalaidhe, Wilson, & Goldman-Rakic, 1997)

FIE Face Inversion Effect. In an upside-down presentation faces are recognized and de-

tected slower and with lower accuracy than when presented upright

FINST The minimal mechanism for linking perceptual and cognitive levels of processing is a

set of spatial indexes or attentional tokens, called Fingers of INSTantiation (Pylyshyn,

1989)

Fixation An eye movement that causes the image of an object or location to focus at the fovea of

the eye

fMRI Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging. FMRI is a technique for determining which

parts of the brain are activated by different types of physical sensation or activity

Fovea The part of the retina which contains the highest density of cones and therefore has the

best visual acuity

Greebles Artificial stimulus class, which is highly complex. Often used by the Gauthier research

group (e.g., Gauthier & Tarr, 1997) for testing putative face specific effects

Hit The observer correctly claims that the target signal was presented

Iconic Memory Very brief sensory memory of some visual stimuli, that occur in the form of mental

pictures

Identikit The general technique of face reconstruction
Independent Variable The variable manipulated by the experimenter

Interaction Effects Experimental results that occur when the effects of one independent variable depend on

the values of other independent variables

Inversion The upside-down turning of an object. All inversions used in this work were realized

by turning the face by 180°, because than this version is ecologically equal to the original; other researchers have also made an inversion by flipping the image (e.g., Leder et al., 2001), but this means, that the picture is mirrored and therefore changed, because

especially faces are never fully symmetrical to their y-axis

IOR Inhibition Of Return. Posner and Cohen (1984) found that a peripheral cue produced an

RT advantage for targets presented at the cued position within the first 150 ms after cue onset (priming). This facilitation was then, after about 300 ms, replaces by an RT dis-

advantage for targets on the cued side relative to the uncued side

IT Inferotemporal Cortex. In the cortical areas of the inferior temporal cortex, neurons

process stimuli even more complexly than those described in area V4

Main Effect The effect of one independent variable independent of the values of another independ-

ent variable

McGurk Effect Different auditory and visual inputs combine to form a percept of a new utterance that

was not present in either modality alone (see McGurk & MacDonald, 1976)

MDS Multi Dimensional Scaling. The goal of a MDS is to find a configuration of points and

an appropriate function that transforms the interpoint distances such that the transformed distances exactly match the experimental dissimilarities (Steyvers & Busey,

2000)

Mean The arithmetic average of a group of numbers

Median The center value in an ordered list of numbers

Mental Imagery A visual mental image as a pattern of activation in the visual buffer that is not caused

by immediate sensory input (Kosslyn, 1994; for a critical view on mental imagery see

Pylyshyn, in press)

Miss The observer incorrectly claims that the target signal was not presented

Mode The most common value in a group of numbers

N170 The N170 is a posterior negativity of the event-related potential (ERP), which puta-

tively reflects an early stage of face processing

Noise Any stimulus, internal or external, other than the signal to which one wishes to attend

PCA Principal Component Analysis. The most commonly used form of PCA in psychology

is the Factor Analysis technique, developed for multivariate statistics

PET Positron Emission Tomography measures the regional cerebral blood flow distribution

(Dubois et al., 1999)

Photokit A specific face reconstruction technique

Prosopagnosia Selective face recognition impairments, first presented by Bodamer (1947). Prosopag-

nosia is one of the many forms of visual associative agnosia, in which familiar ob-

jects—here *faces*—lose their distinctive association (Takamura, 1996)

PT Presentation Time

Random An event whose probability of occurrence is independent of surrounding events

Repeated Measurement An experimental design in which each subject is tested under more than one level of

the independent variable

RT Reaction Time (measured from stimulus onset until the response comes)

Saccade A very fast, ballistic movement of the eye. Because the human eye can focus clearly

only a very small visual angle, the eyeball must make many movements to interpret the visual world. Perception of new information is suppressed during the movement, allowing the perception of a stable world. The saccades are ballistic motions of up to 900 °/s during which visual information processing is severely limited (Volkmann,

1986)

SD Standard deviation
SE Standard error

Sensitivity A measure of how strongly an observer reacts to a signal, usually called d'

Signal A target stimulus, usually recurring

Skew Distribution One of the tails of the distributions contains more observations than the other. The

skew is towards the longer tail, and the mean, and, to a lesser degree, the median shift

towards that tail

Subliminal Visually masked, often unidentifiable objects of about 50 ms (Abrams et al., 2002).

The subliminal is below the liminal (the smallest detectable sensation)

Supraliminal Being above the threshold of consciousness or of sensation

Systematic A correlation exists between the given variables; they are not independent

TAE Thatcher advantage effect. The effect that inverted faces are recognized faster than

original faces if the stimuli are only presented very briefly (term coined by the author)

Thatcher-Effect Also known as Thompson-Effect (Thompson, 1980) or Thatcher-Illusion. By turning

the eyes and mouth areas upside-down in an inverted face, this very strong manipulation is hardly recognizable. Whereas in an upright face it can be perceived easily and

results in a grotesque looking face

V1 Visual area of the cortex, named *primary visual area* 

V2 An extrastriate visual area extensively interconnected with other occipital, parietal and

temporal visual areas

V4 A later extrastriate visual area than V2, also extensively interconnected with other

occipital, parietal and temporal visual areas

Within-Subjects

An experimental design in which each subject is tested under more than one level of

Design the independent variable