Return of Fear: When extinction is not enough

European Fear Conditioning Meeting

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Acquisition

Sig. discrimination between A+ and A-

US Exp.: F(1, 45) = 1625.82, p < .001

SCR: F(1, 45) = 44.28, p < .001

FPS: F(1, 45) = 10.86, p < .005

No effect of Group

Start of Extinction

Sig. discrimination between A+ and A- for US Exp.

US Exp.: F(1, 45) = 28.24, p < .001

SCR and FPS did not show sig. discrimination

SCR: F(1, 45) = 1.48, p > .05

FPS: F(1, 45) = .39, p > .05

No effect of Group

End of Extinction

No discrimination between B+ and B- for any of the variables.

No effect of Group

Legend



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—— ABA

---- ABC

----- ABB

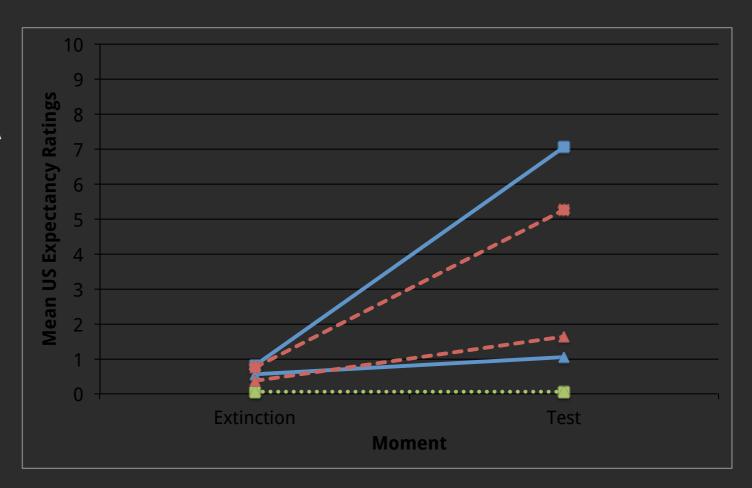
Start of Test

US expectancy

Sig. Group × CS × Trial interaction (F(2, 45) = 10.57, p < .001)

Sig. difference between CS(GS)+ and CS(GS)- in ABA and ABC (p < .001)

Expectancy for CS(GS)+ in groups ABA and ABC significantly higher than group ABB (p < .001)

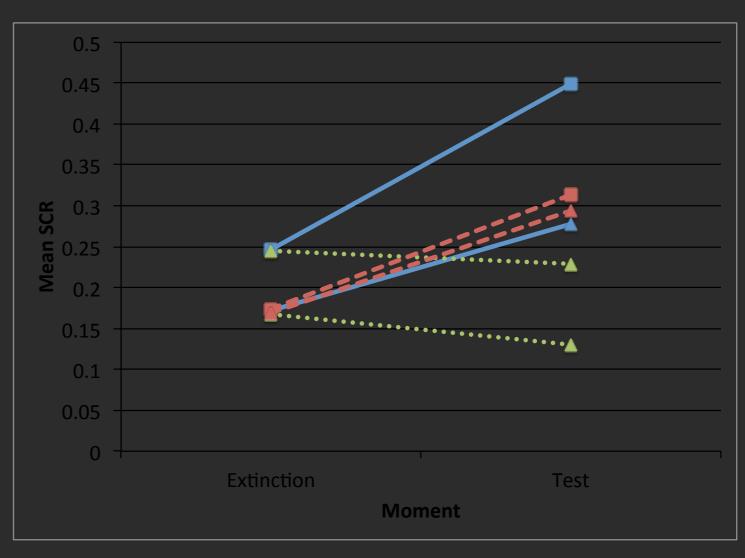


Skin Conductance Response (SCR)

Sig. Block × Group (F(2, 45) = 7.30, p < .005), and CS × Group (F(2, 45) = 6.69, p < .005) interactions

Sig. difference between CS+ and CS- in ABA (p < .005)

Expectancy for CS(GS)+ in groups ABA and ABC significantly higher than group ABB (p < .005, p < .05 respectively)

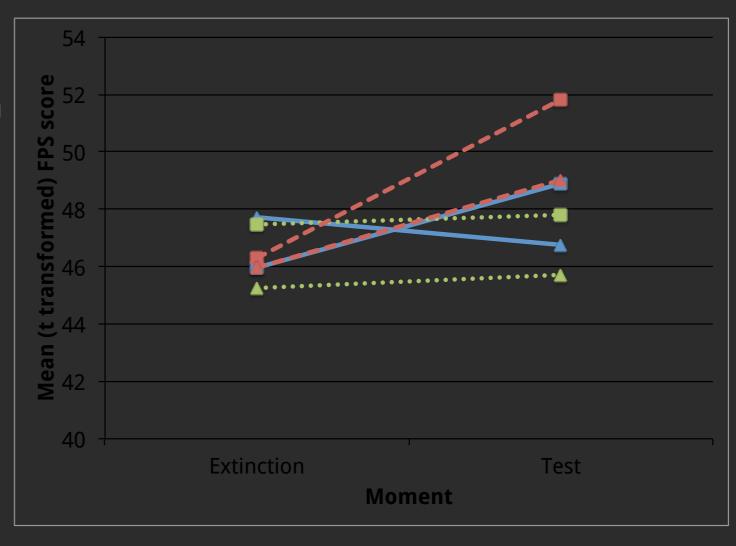


Fear Potentiated Startle

Sig. Block × Group interaction, (F(2, 45) = 3.74, p < .05)

No sig. differences between CS(GS)+ and CS(GS)- in any group.

Expectancy for CS(GS)+ in group ABC significantly higher than group ABB (p < .05)



ABC group:

Sig. positive correlation with ACS and eACS (r = .61 and r = .58, p < .05, respectively)

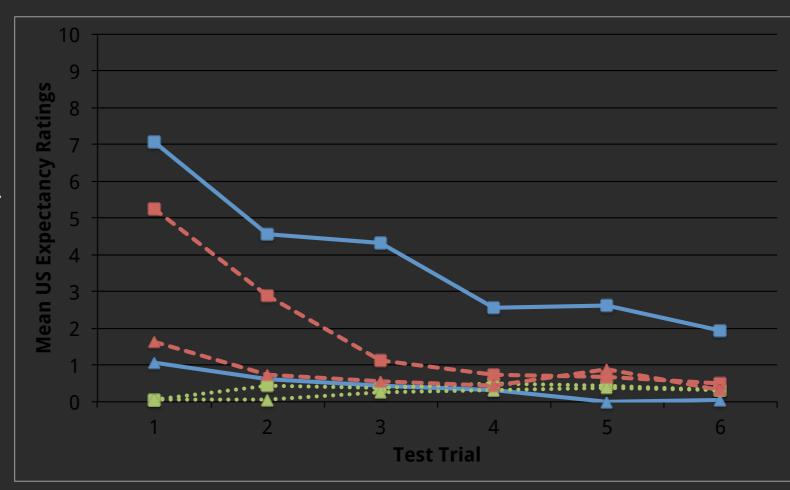
Non sig. negative correlation with STAI-T (r = -.47 p = .07)

Test

US expectancy

Sig. Group × CS × Trial interaction (F(10, 225) = 3.63, p < .005)

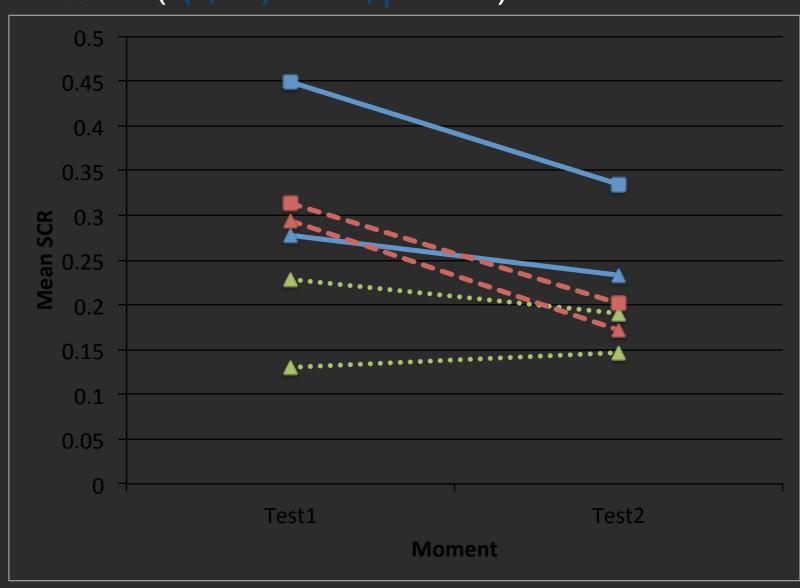
Sig. difference between CS+ and CS- in ABA in the final trial of Test (p < .001)



Skin Conductance Response (SCR)

Sig. main effect of Block (F(1, 45) = 8.22, p < .01) Sig. CS × Group interaction (F(1, 45) = 9.16, p < .001)

Sig. difference between CS+ and CS- in ABA in the final block of Test (p < .05)



Fear Potentiated Startle (FPS)

Sig. Block × Group interaction (F(2, 45) = 7.77, p < .005)

Almost sig. difference between CS+ and CS- in ABA in the final block of Test (p = .05)

