The Role of Stimuli Dependent Component Duration on Within-Session Responding

Susan Reynolds  
Illinois Wesleyan University

Amie Lulinski  
Illinois Wesleyan University

James Dougan, Faculty Advisor  
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc

Reynolds, Susan; Lulinski, Amie; and Dougan, Faculty Advisor, James, "The Role of Stimuli Dependent Component Duration on Within-Session Responding" (1994). John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference. 39.  
https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/1994/posters/39

This is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It has been brought to you by Digital Commons @ IWU with permission from the rights-holder(s). You are free to use this material in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s) directly, unless additional rights are indicated by a Creative Commons license in the record and/or on the work itself. This material has been accepted for inclusion by faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.  
©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.
THE ROLE OF STIMULI DEPENDENT COMPONENT DURATION ON
WITHIN-SESSION RESPONDING

Susan Reynolds, Amie Lulinski, and James D. Dougan*,
Department of Psychology, IWU.

Previous research in the area of within-session responding has shown that responding
varies within a given session. Results have specifically shown increasing, decreasing, and
bitonic function in which bitonic is predominant. The present experiments examined the
effects of altering stimuli dependent component durations on responding within sessions. Six
female rats pressed a bar for food reinforcers on a multiple VI 30 VI 30 schedule in daily one
hour sessions. Components, consisting of alternations between an illuminated and a
non-illuminated stimulus light, served as the independent variables. After taking a baseline
with a component length of five minutes, the subjects were assigned to one of two
experimental groups. The first group was exposed to a component length of four minutes,
and the second group was exposed to a component length of six minutes. It was found that
the alternating stimulus light did have an effect on within-session responding.