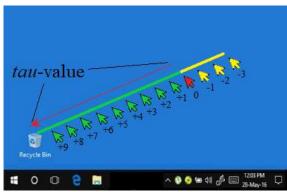
# The complete clarification of all functional perception processes when moving a pointer toward an icon on a computer screen









Caught In A Line
The explanatory model of all motoric movement actions

N.J. Mol July 2024 ©

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The complete clarification of all functional perception processes when moving a pointer toward an icon on a computer screen

### Introduction

In 2016, a comprehensive explanatory model was developed that offers the possibility to appoint all functional perception processes involved in any conceivable goal-directed motor action. It provides a universal explanation, demonstrating that the execution of any action always requires the simultaneous perception of three autonomous foci. Whether it involves catching a ball, the grasping of a coffee cup or throwing a ball towards a basket, one autonomous focus continuously tracks the movement of the ball, the coffee cup and the basket as the environmental object, universally representing a catching action. The other two autonomous foci are concerned with perceiving the movement within the egocentrically executed action: i.c., the movement of the hand (fingertips) or the basketball along an action trajectory shape (towards the ball, the coffee cup or the basket), which universally represents a throwing action.

In relationship to which it compels a fact that, within our worldly dimensions, the sequential positions P of any conceivable object are always interconnected c.q. must always sprout from each other. This factually means that, for example, with an incoming tennis ball within a catching action, the perceptions of all positions P of the tennis ball will always form a line c.q. will always represent solely one line segment shape. This limits the perception to such an extent that we can already precisely know within which global fluctuation boundaries the actual catching will have to take place. According to which it is important to realize that all manifest positions of the tennis ball create the actual line shape, but more essentially, the latent part of the tennis ball's action trajectory shape must (!) emerge from the manifest part.

This applies not only to catching actions but to all throwing actions as well. So also within a free throw in basketball, all positions of the basketball will always be interconnected and construct just one sole action trajectory shape, will the current position of the basketball always represent the precise division between the manifest and latent parts of the outgoing ball trajectory shape, and must the latent part of the action trajectory also (!) emerge from the manifest part. Which facts are clearly not to be refuted.

The explanatory model is based on the paradigm that, in its evolutionary development, the perceptual organ first functioned as a comparison mechanism that could record the autonomous movement of the animal and the autonomous movement of the environment c.q. the environmental objects in line segment shapes. In relationship to which it is important to emphasize that the ability to perceive movement arose long before the more advanced cognitive skills were developed that gave us insight into the

nature of what exactly moves<sup>1</sup>. Thus, perceiving movement essentially has nothing to do with perceiving what exactly moves, and it can also be established that perceiving mere movement must be placed close to the origin of the evolutionary development of the perception processes.

This premise aligns entirely with the findings of J.J. Gibson, who, in addition to indicating the autonomy of the animal, also indicates the autonomy of the environment, while also showing that in the execution of every action, a touching process between the animal and the environment always takes place. If we then take the aforementioned paradigm as a starting point for the execution of a goal-directed action, it can be shown that the animal and the environmental object must at least come into contact with each other first in most motor actions. Which within our perception processes means that 1. a perceptual image of the movement of the environmental object within an action trajectory shape of the catching action, and 2. a perceptual image of the egocentric movement of the animal within an action trajectory shape of the throwing action, will at least have to lead to a perceptual image of a latent intersection point of those two line segment shapes.

As within any conceivable action then solely two universal possibilities arise:

- 1. The environmental object (e.g., the basket or the tennis ball) is standing still<sup>2</sup>. The perception records this as a zero-movement within a zero-line segment shape within the catching action, and a perceptual image of a latent egocentric action trajectory shape of the basketball within the throwing action must be formed to construct a perceptual image of an intersection point of the two involved action trajectory shapes.
- 2. The environmental object (e.g., the basket or the tennis ball) is moving (towards us). The perception records this as a movement within an incoming action trajectory shape within the catching action. This also necessitates forming a perceptual image of a latent egocentric action trajectory shape of the basketball. Which finally should lead to the creation of an autonomous perceptual image of a future (latent) intersection point sprouting from the two latent parts of the involved action trajectory shapes that are constructed separately.

This explanation demonstrates that, contrary to the current state of science, the explanatory model shows that the perception processes within any conceivable motor action originate much more from a single universal source and illustrates that in all actions, an intersection point c.q. contact point between the animal and the environmental object must first be realized, and that after this contact, a pressing or pushing process usually follows. The model shows that the perceptual processes involved in the contact process when grasping objects are identical to the perception processes when pressing a button (e.g., piano key, touchscreen, elevator buttons, electric stove, light switch, etc.), pushing away a billiard ball, or kicking a football towards a goal. The contact process is perceptually identical in all cases. When grasping a coffee cup, however, a pressing or pushing process must follow the contact process within the relevant fingertips, resulting in a total zero vector. Conversely, pressing a piano key requires the creation of an actual movement vector to press the key down. The same applies to the other mentioned buttons and so the contact process within the free throw in basketball involves the same perception processes as in ordinary grasping.

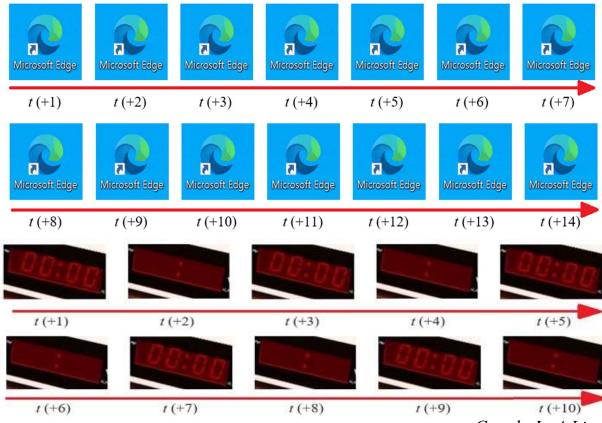
This overview document specifically addresses those aspects of the throwing and catching action within the free throw in basketball that are barely recognized within science. A small part focuses on

<sup>1</sup> Two important remarks: 1. Of course it is very important within evolutionary development of the perception processes that you can distinguish a lion from a zebra., and 2. Even till this day our visual perception processes observe the (external) movement of our body parts in the exact same way as they observe the movement of any other (external moving) environmental object. Solely due to internal perception processes in relationship to a causal connection with this external movement provides us the difference between the two.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In part 1 (page 3), the explanatory model of the motoric movement action demonstrates that perception always observes stationary objects moving in time, but through an active comparison process can conclude that the object in question is stationary. Therefore, even though it is concluded that the coffee cup is stationary, zero-movement is indeed observed on a timeline, which can create an intersection point with an egocentric action trajectory shape in relationship to the grasping hand.

the perception of the basket within the catching action, but the vast majority of new insights are revealed concerning the egocentric throwing action that specifically focuses on the movement of the basketball. It shows the scientific evidence that 1. a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape from the basketball towards the basket is always created first, and 2. how this action trajectory shape can only be filled with the help of two autonomous foci. This overview document now summarizes all phenomena ever found within the movement sciences and forges them into one universal explanatory model. Based on logic, it can be concluded that this forms the complete and definitive explanation of all functional perceptual processes all throwing actions.

# Part 1 - Einstein, the Stationary Icon, and the Digital Clock: The Visual Perception Observes Stationary Icons Moving in Time



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### Introduction

In the dynamic world of visual perception and theoretical physics, seemingly simple objects like a stationary icon on a computer screen and a digital clock reveal surprising insights. This article explores how our visual system always perceives all environmental objects moving in time but can interpret them as static objects. By examining examples such as the blinking zeros of a digital clock and the static edges of an icon, we discover that our brains perform complex computations to understand stability and motion. The major ecological breakthrough encompasses the fact that stationary environmental objects are perceived in an identical manner to moving objects within the vista. These discoveries have profound implications, not only for visual cognition but also for our understanding of space and time, as outlined in Einstein's theory of relativity. This introduction invites you to explore the fascinating cross-pollination of psychology and physics, where the boundaries between perception and reality blur.

### The Example of the Digital Clock

Consider the example of a digital clock where the zeros flash after a power outage. When the clock starts working again, the zeros blink on and off in exactly the same place. This example illustrates an important principle. The visual perception of the first set of zeros has no relationship with the later perception of the zeros, except for their identical position. This phenomenon illustrates how we perceive zero-movement in timeline segment shapes. Stillness can only be perceived through the active comparison of all observations over time, which allows us to deduce that stationary environmental objects within a vista are perceived as actively as moving environmental objects.



### Perception of a Stationary Icon

We perceive a stationary icon in an identical manner to the flashing zeros on a digital clock. The icon's edges and contours do not change position over time. This lack of movement signals to our brain that the icon is stationary. Just as with the zeros on the clock, the perception of the icon at any given moment t(x) in time has no direct relationship with the perception of the icon at subsequent moments t(x+n) in time. Each moment is perceived independently, yet the consistency of the icon's position reinforces the perception of stillness.

- 1. Static Line Segments:
  - o The static nature of the edges and contours of the icon creates a visual perception of stillness. These features remain in the same position, indicating zero movement.
- 2. Positional Data Consistency:
  - Each point on the icon's surface is linked to its previous and subsequent positions in time. This consistent positional data ensures that the icon appears stationary, as there is no disruption in its positional continuity.
- 3. Perceptual Continuity:

 Our visual system continuously processes these stable elements, reinforcing the perception of the icon as stationary. This perpetual perception is key to understanding how we interpret zero-movement within zero-movement line segment shapes.

### **Ecological and Visual Perception**

According to Gibson's theory of affordances, the physical properties of our environment provide opportunities for action and perception. Our visual system has evolved to take advantage of these affordances. Light and moving space are intrinsic parts of our surroundings, and organisms have ecologically and organically developed mechanisms to interact according to these elements. The key idea is that every environmental object's actual position P(0) at time t(0) within a vista is connected to its manifest positions P(-x) at time t(-x) and future (latent) positions P(+x) at time t(+x), and thus is always confined within a line segment shape c.q. always is confined within a timeline. This continuity helps us perceive objects as stable and unchanging when they are at rest.

### The Visual System as a Comparing Organ

Our perception system functions as a comparing organ, utilizing logic to interpret and understand our environment. Here's how this works:

### 1. Comparison Over Time:

Our visual system compares the positions of objects at different moments in time. For example, when looking at a stationary icon or the zeros on a digital clock, our brain continuously compares their positions at t(0), t(+1), t(+2) etc., in time. Despite perceiving each moment independently, the consistent positional data across these moments leads to the interpretation of stability and zero movement.

### 2. Logical Consistency:

The brain uses logic to make sense of the visual information. If an object appears in the same place repeatedly without any perceived movement between these instances, the brain logically concludes that the object is stationary. This logical processing allows us to understand and navigate a complex environment.

### 3. Pattern Recognition:

 Our visual system is adept at recognizing patterns and regularities. By comparing the spatial and temporal patterns of objects, it can determine whether something is moving or still. This pattern recognition relies on logical assessment of the consistency and changes in the visual input.



### Zero-Movement within Action Trajectory Shapes

The concept of zero-movement within action trajectory shapes can be further illustrated through the perception of a stationary icon. Similar to the flashing zeros on a digital clock, the icon is perceived as being at rest because each point on its surface is linked to its previous and subsequent positions in time. This creates a continuous action trajectory shape that indicates no movement. However, it's essential to note that while the icon appears motionless in space, the entire explanation hinges on its movement in time.

### Relationship with Relativity Theory

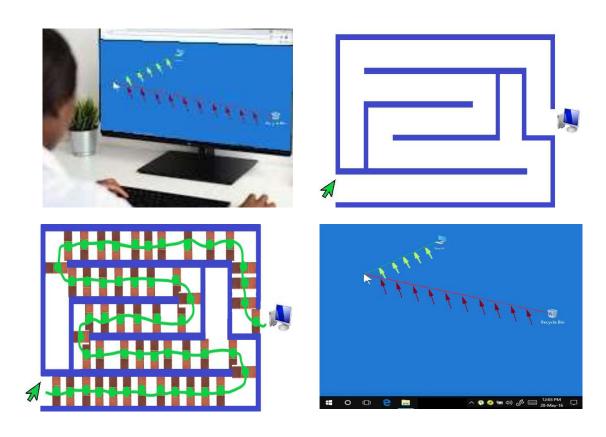
In the context of relativity theory, particularly as articulated by Einstein, the distinction between space and time becomes crucial. Objects can remain spatially stationary (zero-movement) while still undergoing temporal changes. This concept aligns with our perception of the icon: although it occupies a fixed spatial position, its temporal trajectory is dynamic. The icon's state evolves through time, even though it remains static in its spatial coordinates.

This interpretation resonates with Einstein's insight that space and time are interwoven into a single continuum, where objects move through both dimensions simultaneously. The perception of the icon's zero-movement line segment shapes reflects our visual system's ability to discern spatial stability amidst temporal progression. This dual perspective underscores the intricacies of perception and the deeper philosophical implications of how we understand movement and stillness in the universe.

### Summary

The perception of a stationary icon and the zero-movement within a timeline illustrates a fundamental aspect of both visual perception and theoretical physics. While the icon appears static, acknowledging its temporal evolution highlights the complexity of our continuous active perception processes. This duality not only enhances our understanding of visual cognition but also deepens our appreciation for the interconnected nature of space and time, as explained by the theory of relativity.

Part 2 - Prior to moving a pointer toward an icon we always first construct a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape out of the perspective of the pointer – The scientific evidence



Caught In A Line
The explanatory model of all motoric movement actions

N.J. Mol May 2024 © The complete clarification of all functional perception processes when moving a pointer toward an icon on a computer screen

### Introduction

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action provides a universal explanation of all functional perception processes within all goal-directed actions. It demonstrates that performing any conceivable action always requires the simultaneous perception of three autonomous foci<sup>3</sup>, in accordance with J.J. Gibson's theory, which includes both the movement of the animal/organism and the movement of the environment. When moving a pointer toward an icon, within a computer task, one autonomous focus remains engaged with (the movement of) the icon as the environmental object, universally representing a catching action. The other two autonomous foci are concerned with the perception of movement within the egocentrically executed action, i.e., the movement of the pointer along an action trajectory shape (toward the icon), which universally represents a throwing action.

This article specifically focuses on the two foci belonging to the egocentric throwing action of the pointer to an icon. The explanatory model shows that every conceivable throwing action requires a compelling cooperation between an autonomous internal focus and an autonomous external focus. This insight, that two autonomous foci are present instead of a single undivided motor action, not only allows a final and ending specification of all individual perception processes but also reveals as a novelty that a coupling within the egocentric throwing action itself is capable to occur<sup>4</sup>.

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action thus provides a complete description of the *tau*-coupling process, wherein the essence of the task, the primary focus, is executed through (the perception of) the movement of the pointer over a pre-planned action trajectory shape between the current position of the pointer and the icon<sup>5</sup>. This perceptual image is therefore determined in advance within a tactical consideration and involves identifying the future sequential positions the pointer must occupy to achieve a successful action. Sequential positions of any object effectively always create line segment shapes, and when the action is actually executed, the current position of the pointer is going to fill in that perceptual image step by step. Thus, it can be observed within a line segment shape that the *gap* of the latent positions P gradually disappears and, in full accordance with the findings of D.N. Lee, produces the *tau*-value, which plays a crucial role in the completion of the motor action in cooperation with the secondary focus<sup>6</sup>.

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action partly relies on logical reasoning but also presents scientific evidence. This chapter provides scientific proof that when moving a pointer toward an icon, within a computer task, we always first create a perceptual image of a latent successful action trajectory shape out of the perspective of the pointer) before we actually perform any action.

### The scientific evidence

The scientific proof is very easy to comprehend. You are capable to right away endorse it within a personal empiric experiment. You yourself can be the test subject or you can ask a test subject within this

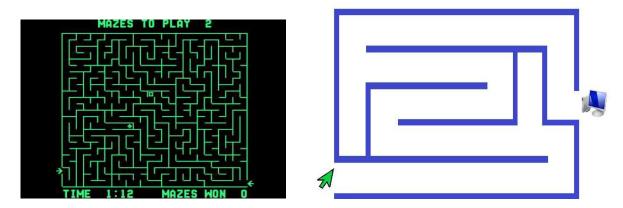
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The cortical streams mediate the grasping of a cup equal as they mediate within the nerve spiral (youtube.com) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QP4vPVAw-Yg

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> D.N. Lee did indeed identify the *tau*-value associated with the primary focus, but he considered the egocentric action as one indivisible whole. His lifelong quest to find the phenomenon it should be connected to remained unsatisfied because he never realized that the coupling occurs within the egocentric action itself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/376450109 Transitioning from random motor activity to the execution of intentional actions demands shifting the internal and external focus The origin of two autonomous foci and how their roles have evolutionar

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/375121264 The tau-coupling process when clicking an icon shows that we absolutely do not need a motor plan Executing an external action trajectory shape within the external primary focus dictates all internal s

computer task. The instruction encompasses the directive to solely execute the task if the test subject presumes a reasonable chance to factually get the pointer reaching the icon. If the test subject doesn't foresee any possibility he/she should refrain from an actual execution.



Images: The scientific evidence relies on the ability to create a representation of a complex maze (left) used in computer games and simplify it into a very basic depiction (right). Within this simplified representation, one can add one additional (maze) wall at any position P.

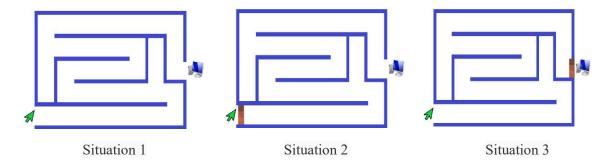
### Create the following conditions:

Situation 1: Display the maze corridor without any extra (maze) wall (baseline measurement). Let the participant move the pointer from the entrance to the exit.

Situation 2: Display the maze corridor with one extra (maze) wall, close to the pointer. Ask the participant to move the pointer from the entrance to the exit, considering the presence of the extra wall.

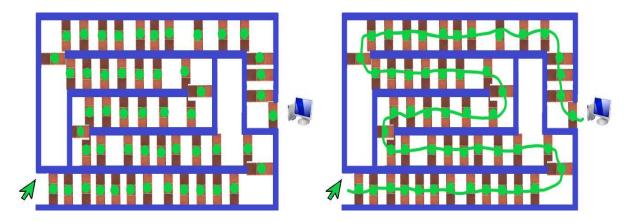
Situation 3: Display the maze corridor with one extra (maze) wall, close to the icon (exit). Instruct the participant to move the pointer from the entrance to the icon, taking into account the presence of the extra wall.

Situation 4: Display the maze corridor with one extra (maze) wall at a randomly chosen position P between the pointer and the icon. The participant is asked to move the pointer from the entrance to the exit, considering the location of the extra wall at position P.



Images: In situation 1, a participant will simply move the pointer towards the icon. However, in situations 2 and 3, where one extra (maze) wall is added, the participant will not initiate the action with the intention of actually reaching the icon. This is because they observe one position P that blocks the pointer from reaching the icon that prevents a full undisrupted course of the pointer to pass.

You and/or your participant will simply move the pointer towards the icon in situation 1. However, in situations 2, 3, and 4, the participant will not initiate the action with the intention of being able to click on the icon. Situations 2 and 3 may not reveal much on their own, but situation 4 clarifies everything. Whether the extra (maze) wall is placed near the pointer or close to the icon, it doesn't matter to the participant. Whenever there is a distinct extra (maze) wall present, the participant refrains from engaging in the action. This holds true for any conceivable position P of the extra (maze) wall, ranging from the initial position P(0) near the pointer to a final position P(n) just before the icon.



Situation 4

Images: In situation 4 it becomes evident that we consider all consecutive future positions of the pointer prior to any execution. It doesn't matter at which position an extra (maze) wall is placed between the pointer and the icon. In such cases, the computer action is not carried out. From a mathematical perspective, one can reason that an uninterrupted sequence of connected positions P can be regarded as a line or line segment shape (action trajectory shape). The images perfectly illustrate that within this action, we first form a perceptual image of the entire latent action trajectory before we execute anything in reality.

That means that we evaluate every position P(0-n) between the pointer and the icon in advance within which it is evident that we assess whether each position P will allow the pointer to pass through, ultimately (successfully) reaching the icon. If any position P is found to be *not empty* (!), the mission is halted. This leads to the definite conclusion that we must examine or observe each position P(x) between the pointer and the icon in advance to determine if it will allow the physical dimensions of the pointer to pass through. Mathematically, an uninterrupted sequence of connected positions P can be regarded as a line segment shape. This completes the scientific evidence that within this computer action, we first form a perceptual image of the entire latent action trajectory shape before we actually execute anything.

Part 3 - The functional perception processes related to the movement of a pointer at a computer screen - The execution of any imaginable motoric action requires the compelling cooperation of an internal and an external focus



Caught In A Line
The explanatory model of all motoric motoric actions

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### Introduction

Traditionally, science has assumed that one motor action encompasses one focus. This assumption has seemingly been so logical that it has never been questioned. However, this has led to the absence of a plausible explanation for the functional perception processes underlying the execution of all motor actions, even after 150 years of movement sciences.

In 2016, an explanatory model was found that is capable of identifying all functional perception processes within any conceivable motor action. With a high degree of certainty, it conversely demonstrates that every motor action can only be executed through a compulsory coupling of two foci: an internal (secondary) focus must always be directed at an external (primary) focus. In which it should be explicitly noted that these two foci represent entities that fundamentally differ from current scientific terminology.

The explanatory model emphasizes that the essence of a motor task always involves the movement of an action object outside our body along an action trajectory shape, but that the action object will never be capable to move on its own along that line. The action object is often an inanimate thing (pen, spoon, tennis racket, ball, etc.) that we hold during an action, and even though the fingertips, during a grasp action with the hand on the outside, consist of living cells, we absolutely aren't capable of moving them there. The explanatory model unequivocally shows that initiating the movement of an action object outside our body is only possible by using secondary perception of autonomous movements within our body.

Compared to the current state of science, the explanatory model represents a revolutionary breakthrough, revealing that two foci must enter into an obligatory connection simultaneously, and this universal stacking of two perceptions of two autonomous movements occurs in every motor movement action. They are clearly autonomous because they belong to two incompatible worlds. Observations of movement inside and outside the body are actually never able to overlap.

Within this article, the previous explanation is fully focused on the action of moving a pointer to an icon on a computer screen. The explanation demonstrates that the execution of any conceivable motor action occurs entirely in accordance with the same two foci. This reaffirms the universal nature of the explanatory model and provides the most ultimate ecological argument. The publication does not extensively address the differences with the current state of science because there is no significant consensus in the scientific community on this subject.

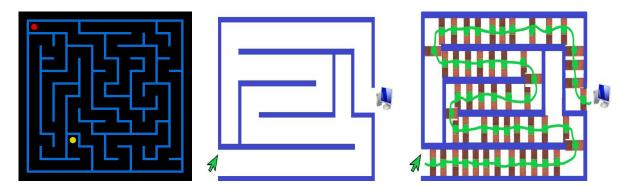
The primary focus in relationship to the movement of a pointer to an icon involves the perception of a movement outside the body

The explanatory model of all motoric motoric actions shows that in this action, solely the pointer or the movements of the pointer carry out the essence of the task, thus representing the primary focus within this action. In addition the explanatory model provides scientific evidence<sup>7</sup> that a motor

<sup>7</sup> Just like the explanatory model of all motoric movements provides scientific evidence within the context of a free throw in basketball and a grasping action, it also provides scientific evidence for performing this computer task:

movement action always consists of two consecutive autonomous phases. Within the tactical action, the goal is to construct a perceptual image of a successful (!) latent action trajectory shape along which the pointer or the movements of the pointer will most probably succeed in reaching the icon. Prior to any factual execution.

In other words, the explanatory model suggests that during this tactical phase, visual perception is primarily focused on identifying the future empty (!) spaces that the pointer needs to traverse smoothly in one continuous line to reach the icon. When we actually execute the action, we guide the pointer along that perceived action trajectory shape until the icon is reached. This is the essential process that our perception processes must accompany within the primary focus, and this process has been completely overlooked by science until now. In subsequent articles, it will be demonstrated that guiding the pointer along the action trajectory shape yields the *tau*-value, to which the secondary focus is compellingly linked, and it will be explained how the cortical streams mediate this process.



In a computer game where one has to navigate through a maze, the concept of "looking at nothing" is illustrated in a striking manner. Within the tactical action, the role of visual perception is crucial, and the focus of that perception lies mainly on identifying free or *empty* (!) spaces that promise a (future) continuous open passage for the pointer (the game element controlled by the player).

A player is actively scanning the maze in advance to discover potential passages and determine the route. In a maze, the existing walls present a challenge because they offer no passage and, therefore, do not promise a continuous uninterrupted action trajectory shape. Avoiding these walls and focusing on the free spaces are essential aspects of navigating through the maze and successfully completing the game. In the case of a maze game, players utilize their visual perception to locate the *free* (!) passages and build mental maps of the maze to plan their movements.





On the desktop (left), two icons are displayed, and your pointer is at a random location. If you choose to open one of the icons, you must move the pointer to the icon. Within this process the explanatory

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/372719694 When moving a pointer on a computer screen you are mainly attentive to where 'nothing' is - The scientific evidence regarding visual perception within each motor action.

model provides the scientific evidence that you first construct a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape between the pointer and the relevant icon. In which it additionally demonstrates that this maybe could encompass a perceptual image of a very nice straight line, but that you will never be able to execute that action trajectory shape straight. Due to the fact that you can only execute the action trajectory shape c.q. the movement of the pointer with the perception of an entirely different autonomous movement, the pointer can and will deviate from that original 'perfect' perceptual image at every point P. Therefore, this process must be mediated by the double and reciprocal process of the cortical streams, representing the body's brilliant ecological answer to execute every motor action in the most parsimonious way possible. The ventral stream and dorsal stream continuously interact with each other to correct the inevitable deviations, but this interaction requires a small reaction time that needs to be counted in tenths of a second. As a result, we (conform Bernstein) will never be capable to execute one motor action identically, and the pointer will always follow a continually different zigzag pattern before reaching the icon. The image on the right shows only a highly simplified representation of this actual phenomenon but can be best characterized in this concise manner.

The secondary focus in relationship to the movement of a pointer to an icon involves the perception of a movement inside the body

When one starts to realize that the primary focus solely concerns the movements of the pointer, it implicitly becomes evident that the pointer itself isn't capable to move at all. This analogy is strikingly similar to a ball during a free throw in basketball or various inanimate objects like tennis rackets, cricket bats, spoons, knives, bottles, pens and more, which clearly never move on their own. But even when we grasp a coffee cup with our hand, the explanatory model demonstrates that the hand, and consequently the relevant fingertips, must also be considered as lifeless action objects. The outer layer of the fingertips does comprise living cells, but it is absolutely incapable of moving the fingertips in an action trajectory shape outside the body with those living cells. We can only induce movement in the outer layer of the fingertips through internal body movements. While they may approach the outer surface of the fingertips, they will always remain within the confines of the body.

In the case of a computer action, we can only haptically perceive the (outer surface of the) mouse with the (outer surface of our) fingertips, and we can only proprioceptively<sup>8</sup> sense how movements within our body influence the haptic contact with the mouse.







Images: It should be evident that we can only move the pointer with a completely autonomous computer program. The movements of the mouse are, in essence, unrelated to the movements of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Proprioceptive perception comprises two autonomous aspects: Limb Position and Movement. The explanatory model makes a clear connection between these two proprioceptive phenomena and their relation to using the computer mouse effectively. The overall mouse displacement technique is influenced by our awareness of limb position, allowing us to control the general movement of the mouse across the screen. On the other hand, the specific location where movement perception is transferred to the mouse movement is essential for precise actions, such as clicking on icons or buttons.

pointer. The mouse is a physical input device controlled by our hands, sending signals to the computer. The pointer, a graphical representation, moves in response to these signals based on computer software. They are distinct entities, and the mouse's physical movements do not directly translate to the exact movements of the pointer on the screen. The computer's software<sup>9</sup> mediates the relationship between them, ensuring the recognizable translation of mouse movements to the appropriate pointer movements on the display. That they indeed are separate entities that require two distinct focus points can be demonstrated quite easily. If you would change the mouse settings<sup>10</sup> of a computer to be reversed or inverted (left image). This experience would vividly illustrate how we indisputably need to use two focal points to move a pointer. A standard example that also highlights this is a modification to a bicycle<sup>11</sup> where the steering movements are mirrored (middle and right images). In such cases, participants even struggle to ride straight ahead for a meter.

The purpose of the task within a motoric action is implicitly connected to the observation of the primary focus, leading us often to be unaware of the secondary focus during many motor actions, especially when they involve simple observations. However, in highly complex motor actions, such as a tennis serve, attention is conversely only directed towards the secondary focus c.q. the serving technique. Completely ignoring the fact that the primary focus compels the realisation of an outgoing ball trajectory shape (OBT). That is the sole essence of a tennis service.

With some practice, you can consciously perceive the two foci simultaneously within many motor actions. For instance, in a grasping action, you can perceive the movement trajectory on the outside of your body while also focusing on movements on the inside of your body. Which exactly includes this debated computer task as well.

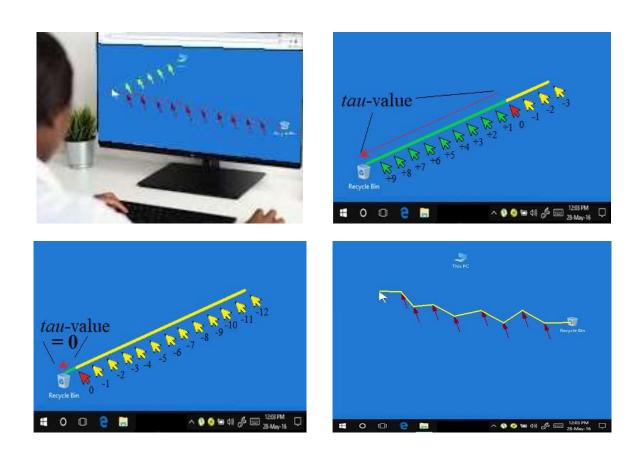
Another way to encounter the distinct autonomous foci is through actions that demand heightened awareness of both. For instance, when attempting to ride a reverse bicycle or setting your mouse to operate in a reverse (mirror image) mode, you will undoubtedly find yourself focusing intently on the secondary aspect. This heightened attention is essential for successfully navigating these unconventional tasks, as the primary focus takes a backseat in these situations. By engaging in such activities, you can experience the challenge of consciously managing and perceiving both primary and secondary focuses simultaneously.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Similar to how you cannot have a direct conversation with someone on the other side of the world during a phone call.

<sup>10</sup> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gunoDKWw3Q

<sup>11</sup> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MFzDaBzBlL0

Part 4 - When clicking on an icon, the essence of the task is solely executed by the movements of the pointer within the primary focus; The pointer becomes constrained within an action trajectory shape which produces the *tau*-value



Caught In A Line
The explanatory model of all motoric motoric actions

N.J. Mol August 2023 ©

### Introduction

Traditionally, science has assumed that one motor action corresponds to one focus. This assumption was likely so intuitive that it was never challenged. However, this has led to the situation where, even after more than 100 years of movement sciences, a plausible explanation for the underlying functional perception processes guiding the execution of all motor actions had never been found.

In contrast, in 2016, an explanatory model emerged that has the capability to identify all functional perception processes within any imaginable motor action. It demonstrates, beyond any reasonable doubt, that each motor action can only be executed through a mandatory coupling of two foci: an internal (secondary) focus that must always be directed towards an external (primary) focus. In which it should be explicitly noted that these two foci represent entities that fundamentally differ from current scientific terminology.

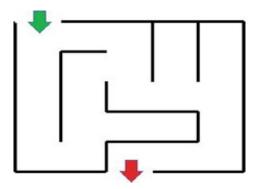
Regarding the external (primary) focus, it can be noted that the scientific community has thus far missed the mark entirely. This is precisely why this publication comprehensively addresses this aspect.

Solely the movements of the pointer encompass the essence of the task c.q. the external (primary) focus

The category of motor actions discussed by the explanatory model pertains the conscious actions where it is assumed that there is always an initial formulation of an egocentric intent (an egocentric formulated will). Before picking up a coffee cup, for instance, there is always the desire to do so. The explanatory model of all motoric movement actions recognizes this as an undisputed factual aspect but adds a caveat. The egocentrically formulated intent does not, for example, concern picking up the coffee cup itself. The explanatory model reveals that this is factually incorrect and that we can only move our fingertips toward the coffee cup. Therefore, the movement of the fingertips toward the coffee cup constitutes the essence of that action. In the context of the discussed action, we might indeed want to click on an icon, but the egocentrically formulated goal solely revolves around moving the pointer towards the icon. Only this aspect determines the essence of the task, and therefore, only this aspect should be considered as the external (primary) focus.

The tactical movement action (TMA) in relationship to moving a pointer towards an icon





Images: Firstly, an egocentric intention must be formulated that we want to move a pointer to a specific icon. On a desktop (left image), starting from the current position of the pointer (white), we then construct a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory that guides us to reach the icon of choice.

This process is part of a tactical action involving two crucial goals. Firstly, it should lead to a successful action, and secondly, ecologically evolved organisms seek to carry out actions as parsimonious as possible. The small maze (right image) further clarifies this tactical consideration. Although it might seem that we wouldn't do this on the desktop due to the absence of any visible edges, this is decidedly inaccurate. The tactical consideration doesn't focus on the edges at all; it solely focuses on the "*empty*" positions (P) where the pointer can move unhindered. In this regard, our visual perception always concentrates on the positions P where there is nothing to see, as all these positions ensure an unobstructed movement of the pointer.

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action demonstrates that after formulating an egocentric goal, we always engage in a tactical consideration<sup>12</sup>, prior to any execution, to determine how we can bring the action object to the goal location within successive positions P. In the context of the discussed action, we always create a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape, allowing the pointer to be moved successfully toward the icon<sup>13</sup>.





Images: It is not straightforward to present an animation that accurately represents the latent action trajectory shape being constructed. The image on the left very clearly displays the shape of the trajectory, in which all contiguous points P are distinctly weighed. However, it does not illustrate that within the construction of the trajectory shape, all dimensions of the pointer are also precisely incorporated, as shown in the image on the right. The perceptual image we pre-construct of the trajectory might possibly contain a hybrid blend of these two animations.

### The factual movement action (FMA) in relationship to moving a pointer towards an icon

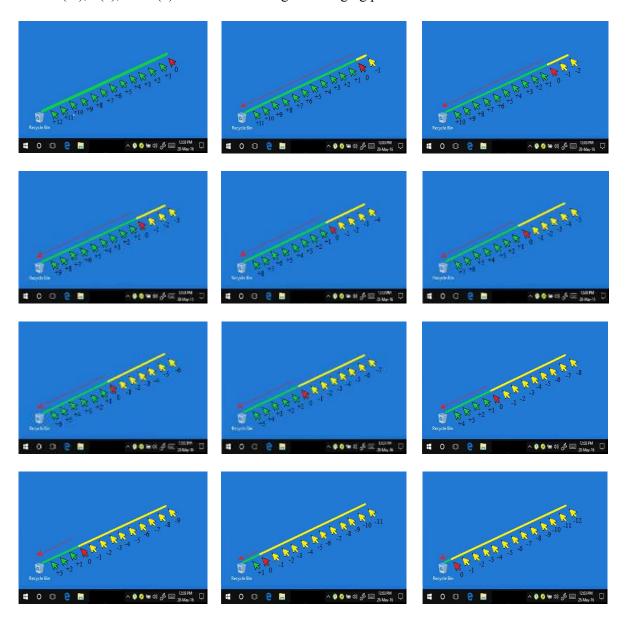
After determining a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape, we proceed to actually carry out the action. This process effectively starts with bridging the gap from the current pointer position P(0) to the next position P(+1) within the action trajectory. Although our ultimate intention of course is to reach the icon, the explanatory model clearly demonstrates that our perception processes in this phase are solely focused on traversing the empty space between the pointer and the icon c.q. between

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> The scientific evidence has been unequivocally provided for all grasping actions and all throwing actions, and can be easily universally extrapolated to any conceivable action. N.J. Mol; *Grasping encompasses two consecutive autonomous phases – The scientific proof that we tactically construct an action trajectory shape prior to the factual execution of that exact same action trajectory shape.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> N.J. Mol; When moving a pointer on a computer screen, you are mainly attentive to where 'nothing' is - The scientific evidence regarding visual perception within each motor action.

the animal and the environment (Gibson)<sup>14</sup>. Which at a micro-level shows, that essentially only the positions P(-1), P(0), and P(1) matter to us during this bridging process.



Images: In an animation, the progression within an action trajectory shape can be depicted as follows. Within any conceivable action, the action object can successfully execute the action only by first occupying the next position P(+1) within the action trajectory. The current position P(0) then shifts one step forward, and a manifest position P(-1) is added. This process repeats with every new position P(0) until the end of the action trajectory is reached. To comprehend the perception processes at the most fundamental level it is of the utmost importance that you start to understand that the latent part of the action trajectory shape will factually need to sprout out of the already manifest positions P(-x).

The perception-action coupling in relationship to moving a pointer towards an icon

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> The explanatory model completes The Affordances Theory by J.J. Gibson. Gibson introduced the crucial second element of the environment besides the animal, yet he was still missing the finalizing entity that connects the animal and the environment. The action space between the animal and the environment.

With the preceding argumentation, the explanatory model of the motoric movement action now provides a comprehensive and universal explanation of how perception is linked to action within any conceivable task. The animations in the previous section illustrate that the action object maintains a fixed relationship with the perceptual image of the action trajectory shape. This becomes easier to comprehend when envisioning a marble in a marble run. In this analogy, you will become much more aware that the perception-action coupling is a unified phenomenon where only a single change occurs every ongoing time span. Within the marble run it becomes quite visible that during the actual execution, each position P(0) serves as the precise separation between all already manifested positions P(-x) and the latent positions P(+x) yet to be traversed.

Through this explanation of the perception-action coupling, the explanatory model can precisely demonstrate how organisms must have evolved within an ecological framework. However, delving into this subject exceeds the scope of this publication. Instead, several crucial points will be highlighted concerning the functional perceptual processes within this motor action.

It's imperative to recognize that while the ultimate goal is reaching the icon, during the execution of the action, we are solely engaged in bridging empty space where seemingly nothing is happening. It can be observed within any conceivable action that we spend relatively more time bridging this nothingness than in actual observable activity. The explanatory model, however, unequivocally shows that not only the end goal matters, but all positions P between the pointer and the icon are equally significant.

Additionally, it must be remarked that the action of the pointer at P(0) can be perceived distinctly, yet no fixed unit of time can be attributed to it. Each unit of time can be divided into a thousand smaller units, and these units can be further subdivided, leading the explanatory model to argue that the action at P(0) fundamentally takes such a brief time span that it only gains significance in relationship to perceptions of the adjacent time frames. In other words, perceiving the current pointer position solely gains meaning through the adjacent future "current" positions P(+x) and the adjacent manifest "current" positions P(-x) of the pointer. Within which the overarching idea is to emphasize that perceptions within any conceivable action mainly pertain to one single phenomenon wherein the perception of the action also compels a perceptual image, but primarily that they are absolutely interdependent.

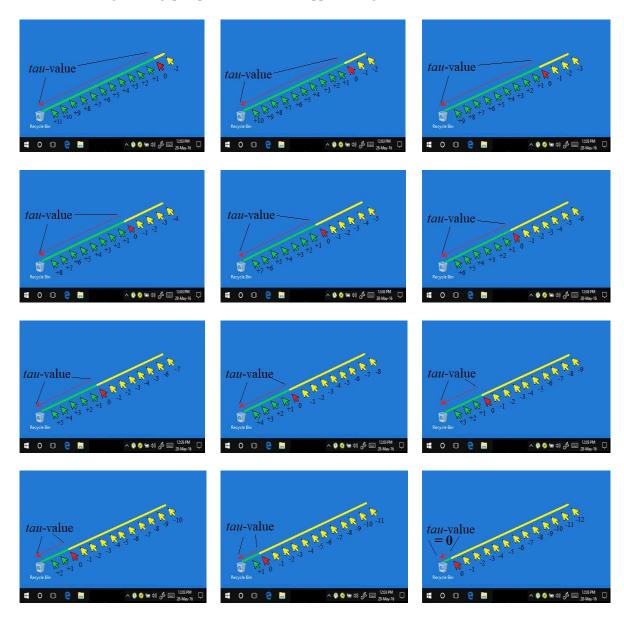




Images: Within many motoric actions the action trajectory shape will not become visible, making it challenging to depict with animations. Conversely, the marble within the marble run, is capable to vividly illustrate this concept. It clearly showcases one single phenomenon wherein the marble, at each position P, delineates the precise separation between all already manifested positions P(-x) and all latent positions P(+x). Additionally, it exemplifies one of the essences of the (perception-action) coupling. If we couldn't see the marble run, the movements of the marble would lack essential context, and conversely, without the marble, we would be completely unable to perceive any coupling as well. The *tau*-value in relationship to moving a pointer towards an icon

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action demonstrates with the aforementioned perception-action coupling that the perception of each position of the pointer c.q. the action object within the

action trajectory shape is equally important. However, as the pointer approaches the end of the action trajectory shape, the task c.q. the egocentrically formulated goal starts to become finalized. Within any imaginable motor action, the action object will universally traverse the action trajectory shape until there are no latent positions P left. Within his *tau*-coupling theory, D.N. Lee referred to this phenomenon as the closing of the gap c.q. as the *tau*-value approaching to zero.

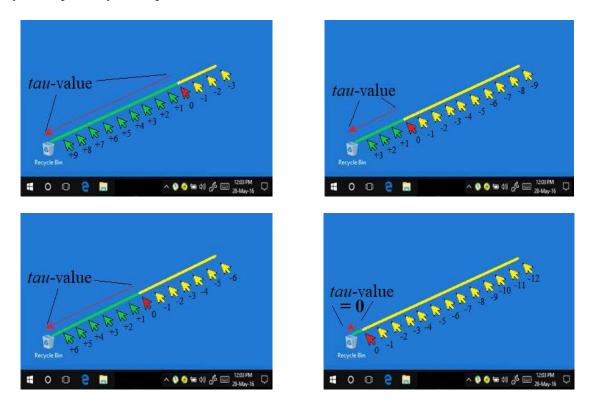


Images: Within the perception-action coupling, the pointer will traverse all latent positions P that are tactically predetermined within a perceptual image of an action trajectory shape. With each successive position P of the pointer, the *tau*-value will decrease, until it eventually approaches zero c.q. becomes zero.

The perception of the tau-value in relationship to moving a pointer towards an icon

The perception of the *tau*-value within the external (primary) focus is an essential process, as it must establish a compelling relationship with the internal (secondary) focus within a strict *tau*-coupling to ensure the successful execution of an action. When it is perceived that the pointer is approaching the icon, the perception within the internal focus, or rather, the perception of the movements of the

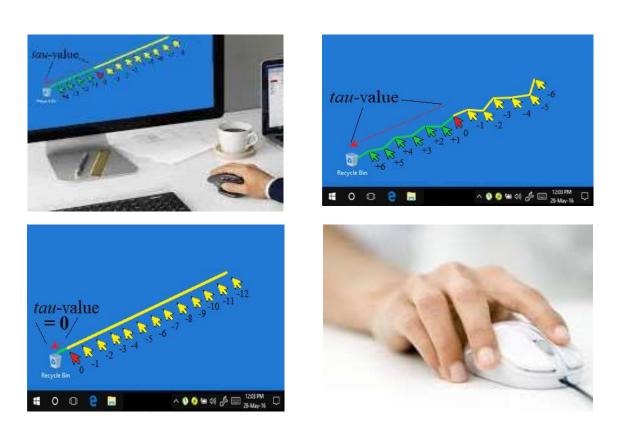
computer mouse, must take charge of slowing down and adjusting the pointer's movement in such a way that it precisely ends up on the icon.



Images: The *tau*-value can be perceived in two autonomous ways. You can either observe how the yellow manifest action trajectory shape takes over the green line or at the most basal level you could solely observe with what speed the green line, representing the still latent action trajectory shape, is disappearing. Within which you factually solely observe how the latent (green) gap is closed.

Perceiving the *tau*-value approaching to zero can be observed in two autonomous ways. The first way involves filling in the perceptual representation of the entire latent action line form with the manifest positions P of the pointer. In animations, this should be depicted as the yellow line taking over or filling in the green line. The other way involves a much more fundamental way of perceiving the *tau*-value. In contrast to the first way, this is solely based on the disappearance of the latent positions P from the perceptual representation of the entire latent action trajectory shape. Which means that you solely observe with what speed the green line disappears.

Part 5 - The *tau*-coupling process when clicking an icon shows that we absolutely do not need a motor plan; Executing an external action trajectory shape within the external (primary) focus dictates all internal sensorimotor perception processes within the internal (secondary) focus



Caught In A Line
The explanatory model of all motoric movement actions

N.J. Mol October 2023 The complete clarification of all functional perception processes when moving a pointer toward an icon on a computer screen

### Introduction

When we want to move a pointer to an icon on a computer screen, the explanatory model of the motoric movement action has demonstrated that solely the movement of the pointer embodies the core of the task and of our egocentric intention. Within there scientific evidence has been provided that, prior to the actual execution of any conceivable action, we first create a perceptual image of an entire latent action trajectory shape over which we can successfully move (all the dimensions of) the action object<sup>15</sup>, in this case, the pointer, to the icon<sup>16</sup>.

However, science has so far completely missed all the essentials in regard to the action trajectory shape and only indirectly noticed that (action) paths are formed between the end effectors c.q. the action object, and the goal of the action. While it can be quickly established that all positions P of an action object are invariably constrained within one single line segment shape within any conceivable motor action. This should have led to several revolutionary insights:

- 1. Factually, the action object invariably fills an action trajectory shape in the same way as a marble moves within a marble run, where the perception of the marble's current location precisely delineates the boundary between the manifest and latent parts of the trajectory.
- 2. All latent positions P of the action object effectively always have to sprout from the manifest positions P, or effectively always have to originate from the manifest part of the action trajectory shape.
- 3. Within the action trajectory shape, it factually always becomes apparent when the action is coming to its end due to the perception of the disappearing of the complete latent action trajectory shape c.q. the *tau*-value approaching to zero<sup>17</sup>.

So, although the explanatory model demonstrates that the perception of the movement of the action object within the perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape encompasses an autonomous phenomenon and thus exclusively is going to perform the essence of the task, the explanatory model also clearly shows that the action object itself absolutely isn't capable to move. Even when grasping with the fingertips, the explanatory model shows that the movement of the fingertips along an external action trajectory shape on the outside of the body can't be moved by the outside of the fingertips themselves. So even within grasping, the movement within the external (primary) focus can only be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Science and the explanatory model of the motoric movement action use the terms 1. end effector and 2. action object for the same phenomenon. For example, in eating with a spoon, science refers to the spoon bowl as the end effector, whereas the explanatory model designates the spoon bowl as the action object.

<sup>16</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/372719694 When moving a pointer on a computer screen you are mainly attentive to where 'nothing' is - The scientific evidence regarding visual perception within each motor action

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/373399960 When clicking on an icon the essence of the task is solely executed by the external movements of the pointer within the primary focus The pointer becomes constrained within an action trajectory shape

executed with movements that must always be perceived within the body, within the internal (secondary) focus. In the present action, where a mouse moves far from the screen, this insight will be easily recognized, and it will also be easy to determine that the pointer can solely be moved along an external action trajectory shape with movements within the body that solely reach up to the mouse<sup>18,19</sup>.











Images: The explanatory model of the motoric movement action shows, beyond any reasonable doubt, that there is no need for a motor plan to initiate an action. It demonstrates that all sensorimotor perception processes within the internal (secondary) focus simply need to follow the lead of the external (primary) focus. This clarification, which does not require any hierarchy, underscores our freedom from being tied to specific sensorimotor movements and this perspective is in perfect alignment with an ecological approach to motor actions. We can control a pointer on a screen towards an icon using various means, such as different types of mice (left), our mouth (center), or our eyes (right). The explanatory model of the motoric movement action simply emphasizes that the action object itself cannot move independently, and it is the internal (secondary) focus that should handle the motion, irrespective of the specific nature of that motion. This becomes abundantly clear in the animations. If we can detect any noticeable difference in the perception of any movement within the internal (secondary) focus, it can be sufficient to set a pointer in motion. The distinction between (the act of) blowing and not blowing, for example, can be readily observed and can be adequate enough to successfully move a pointer towards an icon.

In summary, this leads to the conclusion that the phenomenon of the perception-action coupling is solely related to the perception of movement within the external (primary) focus. Only within this focus, a perceptual image, consisting of latent future positions P of the action object, is filled by the future actual positions of that exact same action object. Also, only within this focus, the *tau*-value can be perceived. This publication now explains how the perception of the *tau*-value should be linked to the internal (secondary) focus and extensively discusses the consequences this has for the perception processes within the internal (secondary) focus c.q. for all sensorimotor actions.

### A universal tau-coupling is present within every conceivable motoric action

The explanatory model, in conjunction with previous publications, demonstrates that the *tau*-value can be universally observed within any conceivable action. This aligns with the findings of D.N. Lee, who showed that in many actions, a gap c.q. a line segment shape between the action object and the end

<sup>18</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/372720049 The functional perception processes related to the movement of a pointer at a computer screen - The execution of any imaginable motoric action requires the compelling cooperation of an internal and an

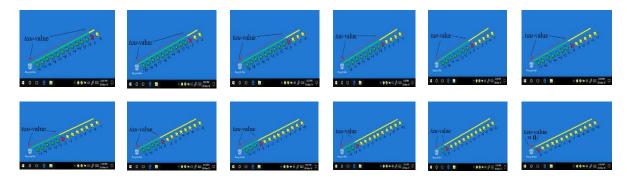
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> This intriguing dualism demands our utmost attention as it presents the essence of our perception processes. The internal (secondary) focus not only meticulously tracks the movement of the action object within the action trajectory shape but is also the instigator of this movement. It might sound paradoxical that the very action you initiate creates your own reliance. However, this is precisely what occurs because it is an implicit fact that when you move something inside your body, an external part of your body will inevitably move within an action trajectory shape on the outside of your body.

goal<sup>20</sup> gradually approached zero and eventually completely disappeared. While Lee's discovery generated significant interest in the scientific community, a major breakthrough remained elusive. Lee connected this crucial *tau*-value to various irrelevant other possible *tau*-values without realizing that multiple foci could be distinguished and linked within a single motoric action.

However, this insight proved to be highly relevant for the explanatory model of the motoric movement action. By understanding that the movement of an action object along an action trajectory shape outside the body is a completely autonomously observable phenomenon, and can only be executed by a completely different autonomously observable phenomenon within the body, it is now possible to explain precisely which phenomena should be connected and how the *tau*-coupling is established. The perception of the *tau*-value approaching zero within the external (primary) focus should ultimately guide the observations within the internal (secondary) focus.

### The tau-coupling when moving a pointer toward an icon

Frequently, when this motoric action commences, the pointer is initially situated at a specific distance from the icon. Subsequently, after a short initial phase, possibly executed at a slightly reduced speed, the pointer needs to traverse<sup>21</sup> a relatively long distance during which it appears that nothing noteworthy occurs. However, the explanatory model of the motoric movement action shows that, on the contrary, this bridging process through what seems like an idle phase demands active engagement from our perception processes, with the cortical streams playing a pivotal role. The egocentrically formulated will reaches its culmination only at the end of the action trajectory shape.



Images: Before we actually move a pointer, a perceptual image of the shape of a latent action trajectory is always created first, which allows all the dimensions of the pointer to successfully reach the icon. Within these images, you can ascertain for yourself that factually only the pointer will fill this action trajectory shape and, therefore, only the pointer will fulfill the essence of the task. It is also evident that the pointer moves like a marble in a marble run, with the current position P (0) of the pointer (in red) always marking the precise boundary between the manifest (in yellow) and the latent (in green) parts. When, within the perceptual image of the action trajectory shape, there are hardly any latent positions P left, or when the *tau*-value approaches zero, the action is going to be finalized. This necessitates adjusting the mouse's movement in such a way that the pointer neatly ends up on the icon and doesn't repeatedly overshoot it. The disappearance of the latent part of the action trajectory shape can be perceived in two autonomous ways. One can observe how the yellow (manifest) part takes over

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> In the original work, examples include a long jumper leaping towards the take-off bar, a Northern Gannet diving toward the water surface, and a bee heading towards a flower.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> In contrast to current scientific beliefs, the explanatory model of the motoric movement action demonstrates that, contrary to prevailing thought within the scientific community, the essence of the task is indeed finalized at the end of the action trajectory shape. However, it also asserts that the transitional phase is equally integral to the task. Both phases hold equal significance, and they must both be executed successfully for the entire motor action to have any chance of success.

the green (latent) part of the action trajectory, or, in a more basic sense, one can solely perceive the speed at which the green line segment disappears c.q. at which the green gap closes.

While it may appear that only the end of the action trajectory is crucial, the explanatory model is clear: the perception of every position between the pointer and the icon is equally vital for success. The finalization of the action and the bridging process are, in fact, two distinct phenomena that must be successfully executed sequentially. One can never reach a successful conclusion if the bridging phase has not been successful.

However, the successful execution of the ending is also crucial for a motoric action to succeed. The success of a motoric action depends on observing that the *tau*-value within the external (primary) focus approaches zero. Then, within the internal (secondary) focus, adjustments to mouse movements must be made so that the pointer ends precisely on the icon, without overshooting it repeatedly. In many motor actions, it can be observed that after a phase of relative acceleration during the bridging phase, there is a relative deceleration of the action object as the end of the action approaches<sup>22</sup>.

The perception processes within the internal (secondary) focus in regard to the sensorimotoric movements moving the mouse

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action presents a completely new paradigm. It's built on the factual observation that an autonomous internal movement of any organism will implicitly lead to an autonomous external movement of the outside of that organism. In which it is also a fundamental fact that the movement of any given position P on the outside of that organism will need to sprout out of each other c.q. that all those positions P will always be interconnected. Which factually means that they will always create a line segment shape. So the most important conclusion reveals that these two movements are implicitly connected, but that the perception processes mediating these movements are completely autonomous and independent of each other<sup>23</sup>.

This aforementioned clarification doesn't pertain to the paradigm itself but to its foundation. In regard to which the explanatory model notes that these phenomena occur regardless of which focus you centralize. However, the new paradigm lies in the novelty that you can fully execute a motor action by focusing solely on creating and completing an external action trajectory shape. In contrast to the idea that early organisms primarily started by emphasizing arbitrary motor movements within the body and then observing the external result, the explanatory model states that these roles have now been completely reversed after millions of years of evolution. When moving a pointer to an icon, we primarily perceive the dominant movement of the pointer within the external (primary) focus and guide its

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> As explained in this section, the explanatory model underpins the notion that within many motoric actions a bell-shaped profile is capable to occur when plotting the execution speed of an action against time in a graph. In many actions, it is indeed typical that after a short initiation phase, a smooth and faster bridging phase occurs, followed by a more precise phase towards the end. Although the model generally supports these principles, it doubts the emergence of a highly proportional bell shape in all cases. Additionally, the explanatory model illustrates that this is certainly not the case for all actions. In situations where you need to create a crescendo at the end of the action, such as clapping your hands or defending against an attacker with a punch or a kick, you must accelerate the relevant body parts in the final phase. Similarly, in many ball sports, achieving a necessary "crescendo" can only be accomplished if, after an initial relatively slower catching phase, you maximize acceleration of the ball towards the end of the action trajectory shape.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> While the explanatory model of the motoric movement action has a strong suspicion that the earliest organisms initially engaged in random motor movements, it demonstrates that after millions of years of evolution, the roles of internal and external have reversed. It's much more efficient for organisms to work from an action trajectory shape rather than relying on random motor movements. Creating an action trajectory shape, for instance, from fingertips to a coffee cup or from a spoon to a soup bowl, is by far more effective and efficient than repeatedly generating random internal movements with the hope that the fingertips will reach the coffee cup or the spoon will reach the soup.

progress with motoric movements within the internal (secondary) focus, which only reach the outer parts of the mouse.

Thanks to this new paradigm, the explanatory model of the motoric movement action is now capable of identifying all functional perception processes within any conceivable motoric action, thus enabling it to describe all sensorimotor perception processes within any conceivable motoric action. In this section, a list of the most crucial insights will be outlined, with a focus on challenging many prevailing assumptions within the scientific community.

### a. <u>Visuomotoric perception processes</u>

Of course, science views both visual perception and motor action as essential in executing actions, assuming they share a close relationship. Which, out of a single-focus perspective, led to the rather artificial birth of the term *visuomotoric* perception processes. While one might argue that the term provided some direction in scientific thinking, its content remained vague and never led to any significant consensus.

The explanatory model now emphatically reveals that this term represents an erroneous way of thinking within the scientific community and that it must be expunged from the realm of scientific discourse. The explanatory model effectively illustrates that, in practice, when visual perception comes into play, its exclusive role is to contribute to the perception-action coupling taking place within the external (primary) focus, and has no bearing whatsoever within the internal (secondary) focus. In plain terms, visual perception, by itself, will never induce any movement.

### b. Sensorimotoric perception processes

Just like the concept of visuomotoric perception processes, science introduced the term *sensorimotoric* perception processes. In contrast to the previous paragraph, the explanatory model provides a significantly broader description in regard to those sensorimotoric processes than previously presumed in the scientific community and shows unequivocally that we even can execute motoric actions solely through proprioceptive perception, expanding our capabilities beyond what science has traditionally acknowledged. Many actions can be executed with ease, albeit less efficiently, in complete darkness or without any visual input<sup>24,25</sup>. Consider activities like clapping your hands behind your back, unlocking a door with a key at night, or swatting an annoying mosquito behind your ear. In all these actions, the *tau*-value within the external (primary) focus can be entirely perceived proprioceptively<sup>26</sup>. Additionally, the explanatory model unmistakably reveals that within any conceivable action, an external (primary) focus, operating within a strict *tau*-coupling process, can only be executed by an internal (secondary) focus. It highlights that this secondary focus is exclusively perceived within the body, and therefore, all perceptions within this focus are inherently of a sensorimotoric nature.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Motoric displacement actions from point A to point B, such as walking, cycling, rowing or car driving, can hardly be executed without visual input. However, a person with 100% visual impairment is perfectly capable to navigate through their home freely and by foot travel significant distances outside using a cane. This cane vividly demonstrates that our perception processes are not solely focused on reaching point B but are also deeply engaged in the bridging process. With the cane, the individual is essentially "observing" (feeling) whether the next position P (+1) within the perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape, is accessible and can be occupied by their body. This observation mirrors what was mentioned earlier regarding the pointer's journey to an icon.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Think also of inserting a car key into the ignition. In an unfamiliar car, we need visual perception several times initially to create an action trajectory shape, but after a few repetitions, we do it entirely blindly.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/342715828 The complete functional explanation of limb position and movement in relationship to the proprioceptive perception - The behavioural perception processes within clapping behind your back

# c. The internal (secondary) focus has an indispensable interdependent relationship with the external (primary) focus.

So, the explanatory model revolves around an entirely new paradigm, which reveals that within the execution of a single action, implicitly two autonomous foci arise in relation to two autonomous movements. These two autonomous foci must enter into a mandatory collaboration to accomplish the action successfully. The collaboration involves the motor processes within the internal (secondary) focus, which alone can enable the action object to move, compellingly following the movement within the external (primary) focus. When one is first confronted with this concept, it may evoke an extremely paradoxical feeling. How can a phenomenon that is inherently essential to the action and only solely can ensure the action's success be so dependent on another autonomous phenomenon that it itself brings to life? However, with further contemplation, one will come to realize that it is a remarkable evolutionary discovery and that it provides an explanation for all functional perception processes within any conceivable motor action. Moreover, the explanatory model clearly elucidates how this phenomenon must have developed from the earliest stages of evolution, but further details are omitted here for the sake of brevity<sup>27</sup>. It is emphasized that these two phenomena are entirely interdependent, and without either one, no motor action can be successfully executed.

### d. No motor plan and no hierarchy

If the scientific community were to acknowledge that the perception of the movement of an action object within an action trajectory shape, within the external (primary) focus, has the capability to guide the entire execution of any conceivable motoric action, several challenges within science would be resolved immediately. If it were accepted that, prior to the execution of a motor action, we create an allencompassing and directing perceptual image of an external latent action trajectory shape, the need for a motor plan would instantly disappear. Which would lead to the understanding that all sensorimotor movements simply serve the external (primary) focus, and as a result, there would be no need to recognize hierarchy within the sensorimotor structure. Then all sensorimotor activity can hierarchically be regarded at the exact same level which just obediently have to carry out the task within the external (primary) focus.

### e. The explanatory model reflects an optimal ecological approach

In the current scientific paradigm, there is a consensus that motor planning exists, but there is absolutely no agreement on how such a motor plan is developed. While it's acknowledged that creating a motor plan demands more cognitive capacity from an organism, it essentially reveals that, even after many decades, there is no clear answer to this question. An important, unanswered scientific question is how a motor plan adapts when a sudden change occurs during an action. Which also leads to the pressing follow-up question of how more primitive organisms can cope with such situations. The explanatory model of the motoric movement action demonstrates that perceiving the *tau*-value, despite its inherent complexity, can be distilled into a very simple universal phenomenon. Which is

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> In future publications, where the precise role of the cortical streams in regard to this phenomenon will be explained, this evolutionary development will be further elucidated. In brief, the explanation will demonstrate that organisms initially started with just random (!) movements within their bodies to move a part of the external body somewhere. After millions of years, we 1. realized that this specific external body part, like a marble in a marble run, fills an external action trajectory shape, and 2. gained a solid understanding of the involved motoric movements. This understanding allowed us to reverse the roles, shifting from initiating movements from inside the body to initiating them from the outside. This line of thinking even goes so far as to suggest that the cortical streams within an organism have evolved evolutionarily to precisely mediate this relationship of a marble-marble run in a double and reciprocal process.

also explained in the context of moving a pointer to an icon<sup>28</sup>. To perceive the *tau*-value, all you need to do is register the speed at which the latent part of the perceptual image of the entire action trajectory shape disappears. Essentially, this amounts to a straightforward observation of the disappearance of a two-dimensional line segment.

Subsequently the explanatory model reveals that the internal (secondary) focus can align itself with the external (primary) focus as a whole, without any rigid hierarchy. This simplifies the observation of the *tau*-coupling process to such an extent that, within an ecological framework, it's hard to surpass and which concept can also be applied to the earliest organisms.

### f. Mouse movements are proprioceptively perceived

The explanatory model shows crystal clear that the internal (secondary) focus can solely be perceived within the body and so no visual perception can ever be involved. The internal (secondary) focus can solely be perceived proprioceptively. You can easily observe this during mouse movements. While working at a computer most people look at the screen with the mouse present within peripheral vision but that is totally irrelevant within your internal (secondary) focus. Which you are quickly able to determine if you cover the mouse completely. It won't have any effect on the outcome of the motoric action.

### g. Hybrid (proprioceptive) perception processes

A significant shortcoming in scientific research pertains to the notion that motor actions are always executed with roughly the same sensorimotor perception processes. The explanatory model reveals a universal framework, but it clearly demonstrates as a novelty that often multiple constellations of perception processes are involved within the execution of the same motoric action and that we are capable to endlessly, *ecologically* (!) vary within this realm.

For example, when in pitch black darkness, we bring our (non-key-holding) hand to a lock, we can successfully move the key to the lock using solely proprioceptive perception within the external (primary) focus c.q. we can successfully move the key along a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape using solely proprioceptive perception processes. So even if it then appears that we perform this motoric action with only visual perception in broad daylight, that's factually incorrect. In broad daylight visual perception processes may dominate, but proprioceptive perception processes will never disappear and so will always be present in some hybrid form. So actions we perform during the day with relatively many visual perception processes are always executed proprioceptively as well. This also holds true within the internal (secondary) focus. You can quickly ascertain for yourself that you could move the mouse using only torso action, or even solely leg movements if you were to rigidly hold the mouse. In fact, you could make it move with just upper arm and/or forearm action if you maintain to just rigidly hold that mouse. But even when it comes to more typical motor movements used for mouse control, you can readily observe that you could relatively use more hand or more finger action.

In short, you might have developed a preferred motor strategy for using a mouse, but they will inherently consist of a constellation of hybrid sensorimotor perception processes. Which shows such a complex phenomenon that leads to solely one definite conclusion: you will never be capable of reproducing an identical execution of the mouse action. Upon which the explanatory model of all motoric movement actions again hastily wants to add that these hybrid possibilities in the utmost harmony align within an ecological approach and that a parsimonious organism would never have strived to achieve identical executions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/373399960 When clicking on an icon the essence of the task is solely executed by the external movements of the pointer within the primary focus The pointer becomes constrained within an action trajectory shape

### h. Optimization process

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action demonstrates that a motor action can only be executed by the stacking of two autonomous foci and shows within the previous paragraph that the perception of movement within the internal (secondary) focus is inherently of such a high complex nature that it will definitely prevent the occurrence of an identical internal configuration to occur. Consequently this will cause that the action object is capable to and definitely shall deviate from the perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape at each progressing point P and even though the cortical streams ingeniously mediate this process, it's empirically evident that an identical execution of any action trajectory shape is unattainable. This unequivocally portrays that performing any conceivable action can only be viewed as an optimization process. Hence, you will never be able to make a mouse and a pointer move identically. Instead, you solely can optimize the perceptions within both foci, which also allows you to perform actions in a very successful manner but in ever-varying ways.

## i. Within the internal (secondary) focus the line and shape within the line segment shape of the action trajectory demand autonomous perception processes; Solely the line generates the *tau*-value

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action demonstrates, beyond any reasonable doubt, that we do not (need to) create motor plans and that all sensorimotor processes can be compellingly guided by the external (primary) focus. But if a motor plan would have been necessary, science would still have remained remote from a breakthrough, as sensorimotor processes must accompany two autonomous phenomena within the action trajectory shape that have never been recognized in science. The frequently used compound term "action trajectory shape" is in fact a line segment shape and encompasses two autonomous components: the line and the shape. The explanatory model illustrates that they are perceived entirely separately but simultaneously. For experts, this is clearly recognizable within any conceivable action. However to make it comprehensible for everyone, these phenomena are explained within the context of the motoric movement action *car driving* (or riding a bicycle) since this action inherently contains the scientific evidence of these two autonomous perceptions.





Images: In the case of a car and a bicycle without hand brakes, only the steering wheel can compensate for deviations in the width of the action trajectory shape, and the pedals can only compensate for deviations in the length of the action trajectory shape.

When driving a car, it becomes immediately evident that one can exclusively influence the movement within the shape (!) of the action trajectory with the steering wheel. This defines the explanatory model as mediating the deviations in the y-axis. Additionally, it should also become immediately clear

that with the pedals, one can exclusively influence the movement within the line (!) of the action trajectory. This defines the explanatory model as mediating the deviations in the x-axis<sup>29</sup>.

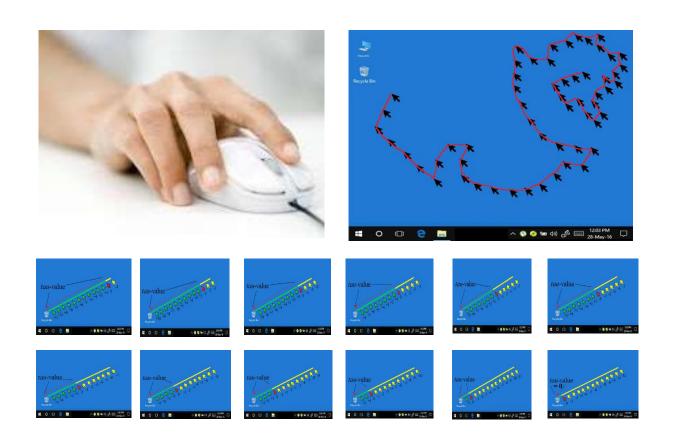
So, when driving a car, it becomes crystal clear that perceiving (and controlling) the shape has absolutely nothing to do with perceiving (and controlling) the line. In which it is essential to mention that perceiving the filling of the latent line (within the x-axis) by the manifest places P of the action object within the external (primary) focus solely involves the *tau*-value which within car driving is solely executed by the pedals. Solely the speed with which the line is filled determines the duration of the action c.g. determines the finalization of the action.

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action demonstrates that the perception of movement within the internal (secondary) focus in any conceivable action, including the current computer operation, contains the same x- and y-axis components. Although it places greater demands on the development of an organism, conversely, it can be shown to fit perfectly within an ecological approach. The dichotomy, where a separate x- and y-axis component is distinguished, can actually deliver the final breakthrough in the understanding of why we are capable to reduce very complex perception processes to the perception of such trivial and simple phenomena. The mere perception of the x-axis can be traced back to simply perceiving how the latent part of the perceptual image of the latent action trajectory disappears.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> The same explanation naturally applies when considering a bicycle with coaster brakes.

Part 6 - Transitioning from random motor activity to the execution of intentional actions demands shifting the internal and external focus; The origin of two autonomous foci and how their roles have evolutionarily reversed in relation to moving a pointer to an icon



Caught In A Line
The explanatory model of all motoric movement actions

N.J. Mol December 2023 The complete clarification of all functional perception processes when moving a pointer toward an icon on a computer screen

### Introduction

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action is capable of delineating all functional perception processes within any conceivable action. Nevertheless, challenges are encountered in its implementation within the scientific community due to the intrinsic nature of a new paradigm within a complex dynamic system. The explanatory model demands the simultaneous integration of multiple innovative mind steps.

In order to facilitate those necessary subsequent steps in science, a series of new articles is introduced, each time focusing on a different motoric action which will be assessed within the complete spectrum of (general) motor activity. The aim is to provide a broader perspective on specific motor activity required for goal-directed actions. Additionally, they universally demonstrate that motor activity always leads to the simultaneous autonomous perception of both internal and external movements, which can be appointed as primary or secondary, and finally, they elucidate all elements underlying the explanatory model of the motoric movement action.

This article centers around the common computer task where, using a computer mouse, one must move a pointer to an icon. The explanation consists of three parts. The first part exclusively focuses on general motor activity and not on specific actions. Here, an action is defined as conscious motor activity aimed at performing a specific task as a result of an egocentrically formulated intention. At the end of this part, the computer task is fully explained in relation to general motor activity. In contrast to the first part, the second part addresses deliberate c.q. specific actions where an egocentrically formulated intention is created to move a pointer to an icon. Two action strategies are highlighted in this part, logically stemming from the general motor activity mentioned in the first part. The concluding part emphasizes the relationship between the discussed motor activities and the explanatory model of the motoric movement action.

### Part 1 - Internal motor (movement) activity when no deliberate goal-directed action is involved

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action identifies all functional perception processes within any conceivable action. In which the fundamental assumption encompasses that the action arises from explicitly formulating a particular egocentric will. However, in this paragraph, we do not assess a specific motor action with an egocentric intention yet. In here we solely focus on general

motor activity. The distinction between mere motor activity and conscious actions provides valuable insight into the broad spectrum of motor (movement) activity.

### a. Basic exercise (passive arm without a spoon)

The entire explanation is built upon a basic exercise, involving a forward-leaning posture with one arm hanging passively downward. This posture is often used in physiotherapy exercises to allow isolated movement of the arm. That is strenuously not the intention of this exercise. It is essential to keep the arm entirely passive during the execution of the basic exercise.







Images: The basic exercise illustrates a forward-leaning position with a passive arm. Despite the apparent action in the images, the primary goal is to develop and observe other body actions and notice how they laterally influence the movement of the passive arm.

Although the hanging arm is prominently present, you are now asked not to focus on it specifically. Conversely, the emphasis must be put on developing other than arm activities (knee, torso, head, foot action, etc.) and observing whether the passive arm is going to move.

### Conclusion of the basic exercise (passive arm without a spoon)

It can be conclusively observed that you are capable to (secondarily) perceive movement of all separate positions P of the outside of a passive arm by directing (primary) attention to an entirely different internal motor activity. This observation carries the following factual conclusions:

- 1) While there is nothing predictable about where the passive arm will move, as random internal motor activity will always result in random or chance movements of the passive arm, there is, on the other hand, a very essential fact to note. All individual points/positions P of the arm will always have to be connected or will always have to emerge from each other. If we, for example, were to focus on three points of the arm, such as the fingertips, knuckles of the fist, and the elbow<sup>30</sup>, you cannot escape the factual conclusion that all those points always move in a line segment shape and that it always involves only one (!) line segment shape<sup>31</sup>. So, this applies to all places on the arm, and within there it can also factually be established that each position P of the arm will move like a marble in a marble run. The current position P (0) of each piece of the arm will always mark the separation between the manifest positions P (-x) and the future positions P (+x).
- 2) The second very essential conclusion encompasses the fact that the two movements have a causal connection, but the perception of the movement of internal motor activity (knee, torso, head, foot

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Hence, you must also realize that when grasping a coffee cup, where we typically focus on the movement of the fingertips, all other mentioned body parts also move in linear forms. This demonstrates that the related perception processes are entirely subjective and depend on the chosen focus.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Indeed, you can factually ascertain that your own body, from birth to the end of life, is also confined within one extensive line segment shape. Your body at every position P(0) is, in fact, bound to the penultimate position P(-1) and the subsequent position P(+1). There is, in fact, simply no escaping it.

action, etc.) has absolutely nothing to do with the perception of the movement within the linear form where all separate parts of the arm become part of \$2\$.

## b. Basic exercise (passive arm with a spoon)

A crucial aspect of the preceding conclusion involves the fact that internal sensorimotoric movements implicitly lead to a movement of, for example, the fingertips over an external line segment shape outside the body. There is, therefore, a direct causal relationship between these two movements, with the remarkable phenomenon that, without internal motor activity, an action trajectory shape of the fingertips is just not capable to occur. However, it is essential to establish that the perception of the movement of the fingertips over an action trajectory shape outside the body, in spite of this crucial causal relationship, has no connection with the perception of internal sensorimotoric movements. To further clarify this intriguing duality, the basic exercise is repeated, with the sole difference that the hand of the passive arm is holding a spoon. The entire exercise proceeds identically to the description above.







Images: In the repetition of the basic exercise, only a spoon is added, while the exercise remains unchanged. It is crucial, once again, not to develop conscious arm action but merely to observe how other bodily actions influence the entirely passive arm with the spoon. Now you can factually establish that all separate positions P of the arm but also all separate positions of the spoon will start to move in line segment shapes. Due to the fact that all those separate positions can only emerge from each other c.q. they will always be interconnected.

#### Conclusion of the basic exercise (passive arm with a spoon)

Like in the first version of the basic exercise it can be factually established that you are capable to (secondarily) perceive movement of all separate positions P of the outside of a passive arm, now holding a spoon, by directing (primary) attention to an entirely different internal motor activity. This observation carries the following factual conclusions:

1) While there is nothing predictable about where the passive arm with the spoon will move, as random internal motor activity will always result in random or chance movements of the passive arm with the spoon, there is, on the other hand, a very essential fact to note. All separate points/positions P of the arm and all separate points/positions P of the spoon will always have to be connected c.q. will always have to emerge from each other. Once again, the three previously mentioned arm positions (the fingertips, the knuckles of the fist, and the elbow) will create a line segment shape, but also all the separate positions of the spoon also form separate lines. If you focus, for example, on the handle or the bowl of the spoon, you cannot escape the factual conclusion that all those points always move in a linear form, and that, too, always involves exact one (!) entire line segment shape<sup>33</sup>. So, all separate positions of the arm and of the spoon are going to traverse a

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> The explanatory model of the motoric movement action demonstrates in numerous articles that the two perceptions of two types of movements are autonomous because they belong to the incompatible worlds of inside and outside the body. Therefore, there can never be a blending of the two.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Hence, you must also realize that when eating soup, where we typically focus on the movement of the spoon-bowl, all other mentioned body and spoon parts also move in line segment shapes. This demonstrates that the related perception processes are entirely subjective and depend on the chosen focus.

- linear form and within there it can also factually be established that each position P of the arm and of the spoon will move like a marble in a marble run. The current position P(0) of each piece of the arm and spoon will always mark the separation between the manifest positions P(-x) and the future positions P(+x).
- 2) The second highly essential conclusion, as mentioned in the first version of the basic exercise, remains fully intact here as well. The perception of the movement of internal motor activity (knee, torso, head, foot action, etc.) has absolutely nothing to do with the observation of the line segment shape that all parts of the arm and now the spoon become a part of. However, the new aspect introduced by the spoon concerns the fact that a spoon is an inanimate object. What leads to the astonishing factual conclusion that, for instance, we can observe the movement of the spoon's bowl over a line, but we can only generate motor activity up to the handle of the spoon<sup>34</sup>. The perplexing aspect of this realization may be the fact that the movement of the spoon's bowl over a line segment shape is entirely dependent on a completely different internal motoric movement. Without this source of action, the spoon's bowl will never move. Additionally, the confirming aspect of this realization may concern the conviction that the perception of the movement of the spoon's bowl over a line has absolutely no connection with the perception of internal motor movement activity.

#### c. The basic exercise in relation to computer activities in which a mouse moves a pointer

If we define an action as a conscious motor activity in which a specific goal is pursued from an egocentrically formulated will, the explanation in this paragraph falls outside the scope of actions. Within the basic exercise, the focus is solely on motor activity, and it is now translated into a computer environment where one moves a pointer on a screen using a mouse.







Images: The basic exercise can be translated to the current clicking task. Your primary attention should mainly be pointed at moving the mouse c.q. you should primarily concentrate on proprioceptive perception process which will let the computer mouse move, and only incidentally (secondarily) notice how the pointer moves across the screen.

The basic exercise can be easily transferred to a computer task. If you focus solely on internal motor activity, you can effectively observe that the pointer moves randomly across the screen. Once again, you can only factually determine that the actual position P (0) of the pointer must always stem from the preceding positions c.q. all positions P of a pointer are always connected in one line. However, two essential omissions should be noted in the animations: 1. Only a limited number of positions P of the pointer are shown. If you were to engage in random mouse motor activity for a brief period, the entire screen would fill rapidly with pointer positions. 2. The connection of successive positions P of the pointer cannot be captured in an animation. The perception of the pointer's movement is, in reality, a continuously flowing line of pointers. The red line represents that continuous connection but, at the same time, does not show the pointers. Therefore, you need to create a hybrid representation of the

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<sup>34</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/375289869 The tau-coupling process within eating demonstrates that we absolutely do not need a motor plan Executing an external action trajectory shape over which the bowl of the spoon moves dictates all intern

two pointer images, which you only can perceive live when you see a pointer moving across a screen during an actual computer task.

#### Conclusion basic exercise in relation to computer activities in which a mouse moves a pointer

In tasks of this nature, where motor activity occurs far from the screen, it becomes evident that you can (secondarily) move a pointer by solely focusing on an entirely different (primary) motor activity. This observation carries the following factual conclusions:

- 1) Although there is nothing predictable about where the pointer will move, as random internal motor activity will always result in random or chance movements of the pointer, there is, on the other hand, a very essential fact to note. All separate points/positions P of the pointer will always have to be connected or will always have to emerge from each other. Due to which one can conclude that all those points always construct a line, and that, too, always involves exact one (!) entire line segment shape. The pointer will move in that linear form in the same universal manner as a marble moves within a marble run. In which the current position P (0) of the pointer will always serve as the precise separation between all manifest positions P (-x) and all future positions P (+x).
- 2) Once again, the second highly essential conclusion follows the explanation as in the case of the other basic exercises. The perception of the movement of internal motor activity has absolutely nothing to do with the perception of the movement of the pointer within the line segment shape that all positions of the pointer become a part of.
  The perplexing aspect of this realization may be the fact that the movement of the pointer over a line segment shape is entirely dependent on a completely different internal motoric movement solely reaching the outer surface of the mouse. Without this source of action, the pointer will never move. Additionally, the confirming aspect of this realization may concern the conviction that the perception of the movement of the pointer over a linear form has absolutely no connection with the perception of internal motor movement activity.

#### Part 2 - Internal motor (movement) activity when a deliberate goal-directed action is involved

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action encompasses the clarification of all functional perception processes within any conceivable action, assuming that these are conscious actions driven by an egocentrically formulated will, with a clearly defined specific goal. So, the motor movements in the first part specifically did not involve actions aimed at placing motor activity in a larger context. Conversely within the second part, general motor activity will now be translated towards specific motoric actions. Although the explanatory model of the motoric movement action is emphasized more in this part, the explanation within this section still aims to clarify the entire spectrum of motor (movement) activity.

So, within the second part we do assume deliberate actions where an egocentric will is formulated to achieve a specific goal and in this chapter the movement of a pointer towards an icon, using a computer mouse, encompasses the key issue. The basic exercise clearly shows that two possible action strategies c.q. execution perspectives can be pursued in this regard.

# a. Execution perspective 1 – Primary focus on mouse movements and secondary focus on the movement of the pointer

The basic exercise within the first part clearly demonstrates that with primary attention on internal motor activity, focused on the computer mouse, we can randomly move a (external) pointer across a computer screen. However, this random movement becomes a challenge when formulating the egocentrically expressed intention to move a pointer to a specific icon. With primary attention on internal motor activity, we might be able to make the pointer occupy all positions on a screen in a few minutes, but it is far from parsimonious (efficient and effective). And that is even without considering whether, with the many motor mouse activities causing the pointer to move relatively quickly, you could precisely bring the pointer to a standstill on the icon.







Images: Even when, within a deliberate action, one aims to move a pointer to an icon, it always compels a strategy to primarily focus on mouse activity and secondarily observe whether the pointer ever reaches the icon. Although this approach might require a fair amount of luck and patience, it remains a possible action strategy. However, it is not particularly parsimonious within this computer task.

# b. Execution perspective 2 – Primary focus on the movement of the pointer and secondary focus on mouse movements

Contrary to the description of random motor activity within the basic exercises within the first part of this article and also in contrast to the previous action strategy, when it comes to the emergence of a conscious action, one can adopt a completely different execution perspective. It would be by far the most economical solution to conceptualize and construct an action trajectory shape between the pointer and the icon.







Images: It is most parsimonious to first construct a perceptual image of an (efficient and effective) latent action trajectory shape, along which the pointer can be successfully moved to the icon, and then to actually execute it.

In the second execution strategy, the roles of attention are reversed. The primary focus now has the goal to track the progress of the pointer within the action trajectory shape, and this must be followed secondarily by motor activity. In which you now have to observe, similar to the basic exercise in the first part, that motor activity passively follows the primary focus.

It would, of course, be by far the most parsimonious execution strategy, but the reversal of roles requires significantly more cognitive capacity. While the first execution perspective allows for a straightforward initiation of the action, the second one demands the following essential cognitive skills:

- a. It demands that first a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape is constructed over which the pointer can be successfully moved to the icon.
- b. There needs a significant complex system to be present which must be capable of mediating the (perception of) the movement of the pointer within the action trajectory shape. While the roles of attention can be reversed, will not change the fact that the pointer can only be moved by (the perception of) a completely different autonomous (internal) phenomenon. Even if we try to enforce that the pointer actually fills in the perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape, the autonomy of the motor activity will cause the pointer to deviate from that perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape at every position P.

#### Part 3 – General conclusion

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action is capable of appointing all functional perception processes within any conceivable action. However, its implementation in the scientific world encounters several challenges. It represents an entirely new paradigm and involves an explanation within a complex dynamic system where multiple new conceptual steps must be combined simultaneously. Therefor the goal is to try to enhance the insights around the explanatory model, and for that purpose, the preceding paragraphs zoomed in on the entire spectrum of motor activity. From a generally recognizable image, a translation was made to the core concepts and thought processes demanded by the explanatory model of the motoric movement action.

In the end, within this article, two possible action perspectives were identified based on general motor activity. Without any reasonable doubt it becomes clear that the second perspective, where the primary focus is pointed at the construction and execution of a perceptual image of a latent (external) action trajectory shape, will be far more superior to the first mentioned action strategy. However, this ultimate parsimonious solution also reveals which additional conditions the most superior action strategy should meet:

- a. Firstly, an organism must have the cognitive ability to create a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory, over which, in the present action, the pointer can be successfully moved to an icon prior to any actual execution. Regarding this first condition, the explanatory model of the motoric movement action has universally provided scientific evidence that we create such a perceptual image within every conceivable action. This has also been specifically addressed regarding this computer task<sup>35</sup> and it has also been demonstrated specifically in grasping<sup>36</sup> and throwing<sup>37</sup> tasks and can easily be adapted to any conceivable action.
- b. Secondly, an organism must have the cognitive ability to mediate the movement of the pointer within that perceptual image of a latent action trajectory. The mere quintessence of this article encompasses namely that motor activity is a completely autonomous phenomenon and although it has a direct causal relationship with the movement of the pointer within an action trajectory shape, the pointer will never be able to move by itself. So, we might be intensely motivated to reverse the roles of the primary and secondary focus and willing to construct and execute an optimal straight, ultimate parsimonious, action trajectory shape between the pointer and the icon, but we will absolutely never be able to execute the action trajectory shape like that perceptual image due to the autonomy of the perception of both movements. The (autonomous perception of the movement of the) pointer will certainly want to follow the perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape, but the (autonomous perception of the movement of the) mouse will actually ensure that the pointer will deviate at every point P within the perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape.

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action thus concludes that there must be a very heavy significant system to mediate the ever-deviating movements of the pointer within an ever-deviating action trajectory shape each consecutive time frame. Regarding this second condition the explanatory model finds that this very heavy system is present within the processing processes of

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<sup>35</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/372719694 When moving a pointer on a computer screen you are mainly attentive to where 'nothing' is - The scientific evidence regarding visual perception within each motor action

<sup>36</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/372290282 Grasping encompasses two consecutive autonomous phases - The scientific proof that we tactically construct an action trajectory shape prior to the factual execution of that exact same action trajector? sg%5B0%5D=cjBGD1Dj5IxR2T4se38lo9o1z M-

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 $<sup>\</sup>underline{LYMQPb3Fz\_XmE18jNVnKKf8WfOSPcG4l1w\&\_tp=eyJjb250ZXh0Ijp7ImZpcnN0UGFnZSI6ImhvbWUiLCJwYWdlIjoicHJvZmlsZSIsInBvc2l0aW9uIjoicGFnZUNvbnRlbnQifX0$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/371912704 The scientific proof that we primarily start with the construction of a perceptual image of an outgoing ball trajectory shape prior to the factual execution - The complete explanation of the free thro

the perception c.q. is present within the functioning of the cortical streams and, based on current scientific literature, it asserts that there is a double and mutual relationship between the dorsal and ventral stream. In the present computer task, the dorsal stream is mainly related to the processing of perceptions concerning the specific position of the pointer, and the ventral stream is mainly related to the processing of perceptions concerning the perceptual image of the whole action trajectory shape. However, this must be seen as mutual. At any time frame t or at any point P(0) of the action, one perceives the pointer relative to the action trajectory shape and vice versa. So, the dorsal stream mainly processes the position of the pointer, but this is always related to the action trajectory, but this is always related to the specific position of the pointer.

Part 7 - The explanation of the emergence of the cortical streams - We can only guide a pointer to an icon with a zigzag movement, yet the ingenious mediation by the cortical streams creates the delusion of a straight action trajectory shape



Caught In A Line
The explanatory model of all motoric movement actions

N.J. Mol May 2024

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#### Introduction

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action provides a profound understanding of all functional c.q. behavioural perception processes occurring within any conceivable motoric action. Nonetheless, challenges arise in its implementation within the scientific community, given the intrinsic nature of a new paradigm within a complex dynamic system. It necessitates the simultaneous integration of several innovative mind steps, including:

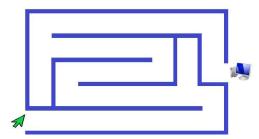
- 1. The scientific evidence showing that, as part of a tactical (ecological) consideration, we always first create a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape before we actually move a pointer towards an icon.
- 2. The understanding of the necessity of a compelling collaboration between an internal and an external focus in every motor action. During this computer task the movement of the pointer within the action trajectory shape can only be perceived outside the body and is solely caused by perception of movements within the body. Due to their exclusive domains these perceptions are incompatible.
- 3. The assumption of the crucial role of the movement of the pointer over the action trajectory shape as the essence of this computer task, wherein the external focus must be hierarchically considered primary. This assigns a secondary status to the internal focus and demonstrates that no motor plan is ever conducted.
- 4. The explanation of how the primary focus generates the *tau*-value and how the secondary focus needs to obediently follow the development of that *tau*-value within a strict *tau*-coupling process, providing the first ecological explanation for anticipating all unexpected events during an action.
- 5. The insight that when we move the pointer, on a computer screen from a random position A, to an icon, it is mostly a subjective choice from the perspective of the tip of the pointer. With the same mouse action all parts of the pointer also move in a unique action trajectory shape. This demonstrates that when moving a pointer, there is a causal relationship between the perception of internal

and external movements, but an explicit relationship only emerges when we (subjectively) have "chosen" the tip of the pointer.

As a concluding step, this chapter delves into the functioning of the cortical streams when we aim to move a pointer towards an icon on a computer screen. It provides a comprehensive understanding of why they must play such a pivotal role c.q. why they are ecologically/evolutionarily developed. Additionally, it is precisely explained how they mediate two autonomous processes within every motor action, namely the zigzag process and the accordion process<sup>38</sup>.

1. The main goal of the tactical movement action (TMA) encompasses the construction of a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape between the current position of the pointer and the intended icon

Supported by scientific evidence<sup>39</sup>, the explanatory model delineates that the execution of any motor action involves two distinct sequential phases: the tactical movement action (TMA) and the actual movement action (AMA). The tactical movement action is focused solely on planning the upcoming action and must be finalized before any actual execution occurs. An essential aspect of the tactical movement action within a computer task is to create a percep-



tual image of a latent action trajectory shape between the current position of the pointer (position A) and the desired icon (position B). The explanatory model demonstrates that during this phase, we are indeed largely focused on all physical dimensions of the icon aligning with much scientific research. However, with the recognition that a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape is being created, the explanatory model also arrives at a conclusion that is not yet recognized within the scientific community. The formation of a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape between the current position of the pointer and the icon also indicates that we strategically determine beforehand whether the space between the pointer and the icon (in the very near future) can be filled or bridged by a continuous trajectory shape of all dimensions of the pointer. The explanatory model provides irrefutable scientific evidence, and you can quickly conclude from your own empirical experiences that one creates a completely different action trajectory shape when you first have to navigate through a labyrinth on a screen before reaching the icon.



Images: Within letter posting and grasping we also construct a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape during the tactical movement action (TMA) like in any conceivable motoric action, over which *all dimensions* (!) of the action object (i.e., the letter and the fingertips) will enable the action to succeed. During the actual execution within the actual movement action (AMA), akin to the pointer, one must perceive the movement of the action object during the bridging process, as only the pointer, the letter, and the fingertips are going to move c.q. can be moved egocentrically. Within the images, it

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> In previous publications, this has been referred to as the harmonica process.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/372290282 Grasping encompasses two consecutive autonomous phases - The scientific proof that we tactically construct an action trajectory shape prior to the factual execution of that exact same action trajector

is particularly noticeable that we actively perceive whether the entire path through all dimensions of the fingertips, the pointer, or the letter can be filled in a continuous action trajectory shape c.q. we mainly perceive the "nothingness" in the vista in front of us. Because only in that void there is (empty) space to successfully execute an action.

In addition to unveiling this novelty, it is also revealed that when the tactical movement action has been finalized, we are primarily going to focus on the movement of the pointer towards the icon. This contrasts with the traditional perspective of science, which remains constantly focused on the icon itself. During the actual movement action (AMA), our main concern is the egocentric bridging process of the pointer, guiding it over the perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape which is exclusively determined during the tactical movement action. So when the factual execution starts the icon itself is not any longer the focal point, but rather the movement of the pointer towards it c.q. the bridging of the void (!) between the current location of the pointer and the icon forms the essence of the action.

Another revolutionary novelty aligns with the previous thought. Although reaching the end of the action trajectory shape will eventually lead us to the completion of this task, the explanatory model, supported by scientific evidence, demonstrates that we also tactically determine beforehand whether the entire (!) space between the pointer and the icon can be filled by a continuous line of all dimensions of the pointer. This means that all positions P between the current location of the pointer and the icon are observed as actively and as crucially as the endpoint of the action trajectory shape. This realization provides a solid foundation for the fact that during the actual movement action (AMA), we are solely focused on traversing the latent positions P associated with the action trajectory shape. This implies that upon reaching position P(x), for example, somewhere midway along the action trajectory, we are mainly focused on the perception of three positions: position P(x-1), where we just came from, position P(x), where the pointer is now, and position P(x+1), the perception of the next position where we need to move the pointer. In this phase, we are primarily engaged in the aforementioned bridging process and only monitor whether the gap between the pointer and the icon is closing. This also reveals another essential ecological novelty, showing that during the actual movement action, we are indeed not concerned with the icon itself, but only with reducing the number of latent positions P between the pointer and the icon.

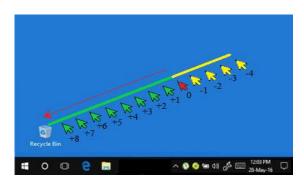
2. The reciprocal dependency between the internal and external focus results in absolute deviations of the pointer within the perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape

The explanatory model of the motoric movement action unequivocally illustrates within the context of moving a pointer towards an icon on a computer screen that two foci always arise. We can only guide the pointer along an external action trajectory (from A to B) with a focus on internal movements. These foci are autonomous because the (perception of) movements occur strictly separated inside and outside the body, rendering them incompatible. In this motor action, it is immediately apparent that the perception of mouse movements has absolutely nothing to do with the perception of pointer movements.

However, as the explanatory model now demonstrates that the movement of the pointer within the external action trajectory shape is going to fulfil the essence of the task, an intriguing phenomenon of reciprocal dependency emerges. Only internal motor movements towards the computer mouse can lead the pointer externally along an action trajectory shape, yet the progression of the pointer within that trajectory will, as the primary focus, dictate those internal motor movements. The inevitable consequence of this observation encompasses that it is not a matter of whether the pointer will deviate within the perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape, but rather that this is an absolute certainty. In which this absoluteness logically stems from the factual nature of the autonomous perception of both foci.

3. Within the actual movement action (AMA) the cortical streams will have to mediate the continuous flow of absolutely emerging deviations

If we now combine the two preceding paragraphs and proceed to actually move the pointer from a random position A to an icon, our main endeavour will primarily become to initiate the bridging process of the pointer in which the perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape serves as an open yet compelling guiding<sup>40</sup> phenomenon. This means that we aim to step by step (!) reduce the distance between the current position of the pointer and the icon, starting with the first step of moving the pointer from position P(0) to position P(+1).





Images: The explanatory model of the motoric movement action provides a tangible example with the marble in the marble run, illustrating the continuous reciprocal perception-action coupling within any conceivable motoric action. From the perspective of the marble's current position, one can perceive the relationship within the entire marble run, and vice versa, one can perceive the relationship with the marble's current position from the perspective of the entire marble run. Although all this remains invisible when moving a pointer, it is present in an equivalent manner. Because in our worldly dimensions, it is just a mere fact that all positions P of any moving object, including a pointer, must emerge from each other, meaning that the perception of the pointer's movement is always captured in one single line segment shape within computer tasks. In which the current position P(0) of the pointer will always form the precise separation between the already manifest positions P(-x) and the still latent positions P(+x). In which could be further added that the perceptual image of the still latent action trajectory involves future projections that must arise from the observation of the movement of all subsequential manifest pointer positions prior to the current position P(0).

The perceptual image of the entire latent action trajectory shape thus also represents an image of its very beginning, and at the outset of the action, we will try to guide the pointer to follow that beginning. However, even during the bridging to this first position, due to the aforementioned mutual autonomous dependency of the internal and external focus, the pointer will inevitably deviate<sup>41</sup> from the perceptual image. It is an absolute factual given that cannot be avoided, and it would quickly lead to chaotic action trajectories<sup>42</sup> if there were not a system capable of mediating these deviations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Upon perusing the explanatory model, one will start to realize that the construction of a perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape is necessary to initiate any motor action, but it doesn't need to be followed precisely. That's the essence of a highly economical system. In the initial stages of an action trajectory shape, it's not a problem at all if the pointer deviates, as long as the pointer comes closer to the endpoint. However, without a (precisely global) perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape, motor actions cannot commence and the explanatory model introduces the term "precise global" in this context. The perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape must precisely indicate the global (fluctuation boarders of the) direction it should take.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> As stated in footnote 4, this precisely illustrates an optimal parsimonious model, where nothing needs to be executed very precisely, but only gives a general (albeit compelling) direction. If you were only able to move a pointer in an identical manner each time, moving a pointer toward an icon would become an impossible task. The task, where you only need to reduce the distance, opens up countless more possibilities and shows that the bridging process is just one part of the task.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> The description of the cortical streams within the motoric movement action car driving is particularly notable in this regard. If deviations from the driving lane on a highway do not lead to corrections the exponential product will soon lead to accidents. Deviation upon deviation will cause an exponential grow due to the fact that they belong to two complex subsystems.







Images: The perceptual image of a latent action trajectory shape, constructed within the tactical movement action (TMA), depicts a smooth line segment shape from the pointer toward the icon. However, during the actual execution, the pointer, akin to a ring in relationship to a nerve spiral<sup>43</sup>, will definitely deviate at every position P within that perceptual image due to the autonomy of the internal and external focus. This necessitates redirecting the pointer back to the original perceptual image to prevent a stacking of deviations. In practice, this means that a corresponding adjustment in the remaining part of the latent action trajectory shape must be made from the micro-deviation<sup>44</sup>. Similar to a marble in a marble run, the pointer in relationship to the whole action trajectory shape will become a part of a continuous mutual perception-action coupling, in which the dorsal stream primarily monitors the actual position of the pointer towards the action trajectory shape, and vice versa the ventral stream primarily monitors the action trajectory shape towards the actual position of the pointer. The nerve spiral clearly demonstrates that this double reciprocal coupling inevitably leads to deviations or touches of the ring with the spiral, causing the pointer to follow the action trajectory shape in a zigzag movement. However, the ingenious mediation of the cortical streams ensures that the action trajectory shapes appear deceptively straight.

Within there the explanatory model of the motoric movement action illustrates that the execution of action trajectory shapes indeed encompasses the essence of motor tasks, and that success hinges on the meticulous management of deviations of the action object within the action trajectory<sup>45</sup>. Therefore, it ideally presupposes a mutually reinforcing system that continuously monitors the relationship with the action trajectory shape from the current position of the pointer, and conversely, constantly monitors the actual position of the pointer from the perceptual image of the action trajectory.

The explanatory model thus implies a rather heavy correction system, and based upon current scientific literature, it concludes that the conceptual steps within the explanatory model precisely presuppose what is described (neuro-)scientifically regarding the processing of perceptions: namely, the functionality of the dorsal and ventral stream. At every time t or at every position P, all observations are processed by the ventral and dorsal stream in such a way that deviations simply cannot escape attention. The ventral stream primarily processes deviations from the perceptual image of the entire action trajectory to the actual position of the pointer, while the dorsal stream does so vice versa, primarily from the actual position of the pointer to the perceptual image of the entire action trajectory shape.

<sup>43</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/376888581 The nerve spiral demonstrates that random motor activity implicitly generates an internal and external focus and provides scientific evidence that the external focus can guide the action due to the in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> You can speak of micro-adjustments or of updating c.q. renewing the perceptual image of the remaining latent action trajectory.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> One must be able to stop at the right distance behind the waiting car and not bump into it, one must be able to push away an opponent in a precise *tau*-coupling process at just the right moment, and not a moment earlier or later; one must bring food precisely to the mouth, and the fingertips must also stop precisely at the coffee cup without knocking it over repeatedly.

The mediation of these two processing streams leads to continuous micro-adjustments of the original perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape, happening so ingeniously and swiftly that the absolute zigzag and accordion-like deviations barely stand out, making the executed action trajectory shapes appear deceptively straight.

# 4. The cortical streams mediate two autonomous groups of deviations within every conceivable action

The preceding paragraphs extensively delve into the fact that the action object will inevitably deviate from the perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape, determined within the tactical movement action, when the action is actually performed. The occurring deviations of an action trajectory involve two autonomous phenomena<sup>46</sup>, which relate to the words *line* and *shape* in the compound term *line segment shape*. The explanatory model demonstrates that they are observed and processed completely separately, yet simultaneously. Driving and cycling (without hand brakes) show, beyond any reasonable doubt, that the deviations in relationship to the line and shape are autonomously observed and processed.





Images: The deviations within each action trajectory shape involve two autonomous phenomena, as indicated by the explanatory model, referred to as the zigzag process and the accordion process. In car driving and cycling (without hand brakes), it becomes immediately apparent that steering exclusively influences the *movement within the shape* (!) of the action trajectory. This defines the explanatory model as mediating deviations along the x-axis and causing the zigzag process. Additionally, it becomes equally evident that using the pedals exclusively influences the movement *within the line* (!) of the action trajectory shape. This defines the explanatory model as mediating deviations along the y-axis and causing the accordion process. Therefore, in driving, it becomes crystal clear that (processing the) perceptions in relationship to the shape have absolutely nothing to do with (processing the) perceptions in relationship to the line. In which it is essential to note that processing observations regarding filling the latent line with the manifest positions P within the external (primary) focus solely involves the perception of the *tau*-value and is thus actually generated solely by the pedals of the car or bicycle. Only the speed within which the line is filled determines the duration of the action, thus finalizing the action.

Deviations along the length axis or y-axis of the action trajectory shape involve deviations of the movement of the action object over time. They are related to determining the *tau*-value<sup>47</sup> within a motor action, and deviations of the action object along the line can be characterized as an accordion process. Deviations along the width axis or x-axis of the action trajectory shape involve deviations of the movement of the action object within the shape and can be characterized as a zigzag process.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> In essence, they form two complex subsystems within the larger phenomenon of the whole cortical stream operation, revealing that perceiving deviations c.q. the processing of deviations leads to an unprecedented variety of hybrid perception processes. This article does not delve further into this complexity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> https://www.researchgate.net/publication/375121264 The tau-coupling process when clicking an icon shows that we absolutely do not need a motor plan Executing an external action trajectory shape within the external primary focus dictates all internal s

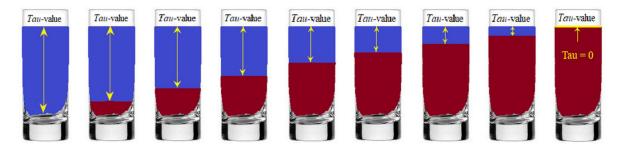
## 5. The zigzag process and the accordion process when moving a pointer towards an icon in a computer task

The explanatory model of motoric movement action reveals that the zigzag process and the accordion process are inherent in every conceivable action<sup>48</sup>. However, in other actions, demonstrating this is much more challenging than in cycling or car driving. Nevertheless, in all actions, one must consider separate pedals and a steering wheel that autonomously influence the construction and mediation of the latent action trajectory shape, which will then be processed through hybrid forms of these phenomena. While the zigzag process (the steering process) can be adequately depicted in animations for most actions, the accordion process cannot.



Images: The zigzag process in any conceivable action can easily be represented in an animation. Due to the fact that the primary focus can only be executed by the autonomous secondary focus, the action object (respectively, the letter, the pointer, and the spoon bowl) will definitely deviate from the perceptual image of the latent action trajectory shape in width.

The accordion process (the pedal process) when moving a pointer to an icon is difficult to depict in an animation because it involves compressions and elongations of time<sup>49</sup>. Nonetheless, similar to driving a car, you must realize that you can never move the pointer identically in time along an action trajectory shape. You can quickly observe empirically that they will vary infinitely within certain fluctuation boundaries.



Images: In the motoric movement action *pouring*, the accordion process is still difficult to capture in an animation. However, it can be factually stated that when filling a glass, as a very rare exception, there are absolutely no deviations within a zigzag process. The cortical streams are fully dedicated to the accordion process during pouring.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> While this imposes greater demands on organismal development, conversely, it allows for a compelling demonstration of its seamless integration within an ecological framework. The dichotomy that distinguishes a separate x- and y-axis component actually constitutes the breakthrough that allows us to reduce highly complex perception processes to such seemingly simple phenomena.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Wherein it should be noted for the record that the pointer does not move back within the action trajectory shape.