

Three-dimensional scoring of zebrafish response to psychoactive drugs questions the predictive validity of two-dimensional analyses

Simone Macrì^{1,2}, Romain JG Clément¹, Chiara Spinello¹, Maurizio Porfiri^{Corresp. 1, 3}

¹ Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, New York University, Brooklyn, New York, United States

² Centre for Behavioural Sciences and Mental Health, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy

³ Department of Biomedical Engineering, New York University, Brooklyn, New York, United States

Corresponding Author: Maurizio Porfiri

Email address: mporfiri@nyu.edu

Zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) have recently emerged as a valuable laboratory species in the field of behavioral pharmacology, where they afford rapid and precise high-throughput drug screening. Although the behavioral repertoire of this species manifests along three dimensions (3D), most of the efforts in behavioral pharmacology rely on 2D projections acquired from a single overhead or front camera. We recently showed that, compared to a 3D scoring approach, 2D analyses could lead to inaccurate claims regarding individual and social behavior of drug-free experimental subjects. Here, we examined whether this conclusion extended to the field of behavioral pharmacology by phenotyping adult zebrafish, acutely exposed to citalopram (30 mg/L, 50 mg/L, and 100 mg/L) or ethanol (0.25%, 0.50%, and 1.00%), in the novel tank diving test over a six-minute experimental session. We observed that both compounds modulated the time course of general locomotion and anxiety-related profiles, the latter being represented by specific behaviors (erratic movements and freezing) and avoidance of anxiety-eliciting areas of the test tank (top half and distance from the side walls). We observed that 2D projections of 3D trajectories (ground truth data) may introduce a source of unwanted variation in zebrafish behavioral phenotyping. Predictably, both 2D views underestimate absolute levels of general locomotion. Additionally, while data obtained from a camera positioned on top of the experimental tank are similar to those obtained from a 3D reconstruction, 2D front view data yield false negative findings.

Three-dimensional scoring of zebrafish response to psychoactive drugs questions the predictive validity of two-dimensional analyses

Simone Macri^{1,2}, Romain J. G. Clément¹, Chiara Spinello¹, Maurizio Porfiri^{1,3 *}

¹ Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, New York University, Tandon School of Engineering, 6 MetroTech Center, Brooklyn, NY 11201, USA

² Centre for Behavioural Sciences and Mental Health, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Viale Regina Elena 299, 00161, Rome, Italy

³ Department of Biomedical Engineering, New York University, Tandon School of Engineering, 6 MetroTech Center, Brooklyn, NY 11201, USA

Corresponding Author:

Maurizio Porfiri

6 MetroTech Center, Brooklyn, NY, 11201, USA

Email address: mporfiri@nyu.edu

Abstract

Zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) have recently emerged as a valuable laboratory species in the field of behavioral pharmacology, where they afford rapid and precise high-throughput drug screening. Although the behavioral repertoire of this species manifests along three dimensions (3D), most of the efforts in behavioral pharmacology rely on 2D projections acquired from a single overhead or front camera. We recently showed that, compared to a 3D scoring approach, 2D analyses could lead to inaccurate claims regarding individual and social behavior of drug-free experimental subjects. Here, we examined whether this conclusion extended to the field of behavioral pharmacology by phenotyping adult zebrafish, acutely exposed to citalopram (30 mg/L, 50 mg/L, and 100 mg/L) or ethanol (0.25%, 0.50%, and 1.00%), in the novel tank diving test over a six-minute experimental session. We observed that both compounds modulated the time course of general locomotion and anxiety-related profiles, the latter being represented by specific behaviors (erratic movements and freezing) and avoidance of anxiety-eliciting areas of

the test tank (top half and distance from the side walls). We observed that 2D projections of 3D trajectories (ground truth data) may introduce a source of unwanted variation in zebrafish behavioral phenotyping. Predictably, both 2D views underestimate absolute levels of general locomotion. Additionally, while data obtained from a camera positioned on top of the experimental tank are similar to those obtained from a 3D reconstruction, 2D front view data yield false negative findings.

Keywords: anxiety; automated tracking; citalopram; ethanol; novel tank diving test.

1. Introduction

Preclinical animal models constitute a central tool to detail the fundamental mechanisms underlying the expression of human emotions in physiological and pathological conditions (Haller & Alicki 2012). Within this framework, several experimental models have been proposed to investigate the neurobiological processes underlying anxiety (Davis et al. 2010; Hart et al. 2010), an evolutionarily preserved adaptive emotion, normally occurring as an anticipatory response to a potential threat (Bateson et al. 2011). The adaptive value of anxiety resides in the fact that it limits the negative outcomes associated with a potential threat (Nesse 1999).

Notwithstanding its adaptive nature, inappropriate (context-independent) or excess anxiety may often culminate in anxiety-related disorders that require medical attention (Bateson et al. 2011).

In parallel with the aforementioned evolutionary roots, the underlying biological determinants of anxiety are very well conserved across different taxa. For example, the neuroendocrine machinery activated in response to external stressors exhibits striking homologies and analogies among fish (Bernier & Peter 2001), birds (Lynn & Kern 2018), rodents (Macri & Wurbel 2006), monkeys (Parker et al. 2012), and humans (Rodrigues et al. 2009). Likewise, neurotransmitters such as serotonin have been associated with anxiety-related behaviors in species as diverse as fish (Fossat et al. 2014), birds (Hogg et al. 1994), humans (Caspi et al. 2003), and sheep (Lee et al. 2016).

Although rodents have traditionally constituted the species of choice in this field (Hart et al. 2010; Kalueff et al. 2007), zebrafish have recently emerged as an extremely promising experimental species (Fontana et al. 2018; Shams et al. 2018; Stewart et al. 2014). The success of

this freshwater species rests upon several advantages that range from genetic and neuroanatomic isomorphism between zebrafish and humans (Howe et al. 2013), to their small size and high reproductive rates favoring the execution of high-throughput studies (Kalueff et al. 2014). In addition, the possibility to dissolve substances in water allows for the non-invasive administration of drugs readily absorbed through the gills (Tran & Gerlai 2013). These characteristics designate zebrafish as a fundamental tool in the field of psychopharmacology whereby they allow the preliminary screening of numerous drugs within spaces and time frames much smaller than those required by laboratory mammals (McCarroll et al. 2016).

High-throughput behavioral experiments on zebrafish generally share the following methodological structure: administration of water-soluble drugs, videorecording of observable phenotypes, offline scoring of video, coding of the observed behaviors, and data analysis (Stewart et al. 2014). Traditional behavioral phenotyping leveraged the use of a single camera positioned on top or in front of the experimental tank and the subsequent use of behavioral scoring software, in which the phenotype of interest had to be input by a trained observer (Cianca et al. 2013; Spinello et al. 2013). Albeit extremely productive, this approach was prone to observer bias and has been recently complemented by tracking algorithms capable of automatically coding and scoring zebrafish behavior with limited human supervision (Delcourt et al. 2018; Franco-Restrepo et al. 2019; Nema et al. 2016; Perez-Escudero et al. 2014).

However, from the two-dimensional (2D) view offered by a single video-camera it is impossible to phenotype the 3D swimming pattern exhibited by zebrafish. This consideration prompted the design and development of experimental platforms capable of investigating zebrafish behavior adopting a 3D approach (Cachat et al. 2011; Maaswinkel et al. 2013; Macrì et al. 2017; Stewart et al. 2015). We recently demonstrated that the limitation of 2D scoring methods extends beyond the geometrical underestimation of swimming paths (3D trajectories being longer than their 2D projections by definition), and may result in numerous false positive and false negative findings (Macrì et al. 2017). Specifically, we first tested zebrafish in conventional binary choice behavioral assays, and then analyzed group differences based on 3D or 2D (top and front views) trajectories. This analysis demonstrated that 2D views generated approximately 20% of false findings, being represented by inappropriate reporting of significant inter-group differences in spite of undistinguishable ground truth data (false positives) or failure

to detect significant results in instances in which experimental groups belonged to different populations (false negatives) (Macrì et al. 2017).

In the present study, we aimed at prospectively investigating whether 3D scoring of zebrafish behavior may also benefit pharmacological research. To this aim, we exposed experimentally naïve zebrafish to drugs capable of modulating anxiety-related behaviors in both humans and zebrafish (Cianca et al. 2013; Sackerman et al. 2010), and then analyzed their phenotype in response to an anxiety-provoking test paradigm in 3D or in 2D (top and front views). Specifically, we investigated the behavior of zebrafish in a novel tank diving test in response to the administration of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor citalopram (30 mg/L, 50 mg/L, and 100 mg/L) or ethanol (0.25%, 0.50%, and 1.00%). The goal of this study was twofold: first, we sought to replicate existing findings indicating that ethanol (Pannia et al. 2014) and citalopram (Sackerman et al. 2010) modulate anxiety in zebrafish (predictive validity of the assay), and then we aimed at testing whether the experimental advantages afforded by 3D scoring in drug-free states (Macrì et al. 2017) also extend to zebrafish psychopharmacology.

The novel tank diving test has already been validated as a locomotion- and anxiety-related behavioral test (Cachat et al. 2010). Therein, anxiety is measured through the evaluation of fish position in the water column, swimming speed, erratic movements, and freezing, as functions of the time spent in the experimental tank from the initial release. In order to detail the specific information that can be potentially inferred from these measurements, we preliminarily conducted a principal component analysis (PCA) on nine behavioral measures, objectively scored from 3D trajectories (average speed, average peak speed, average angular speed, average peak angular speed, average acceleration, average peak acceleration, time spent freezing, time spent in the top half of the tank, and time spent in the vicinity of the walls). The PCA was aimed at detecting potential correlations among the variables and identifying underlying orthogonal factors associated with independent domains.

Grounded in our previous work, we anticipated 2D views to be characterized by reduced absolute locomotion values compared to 3D trajectories. Most importantly, in the light of the high rate of false findings observed in drug-free conditions (Macrì et al. 2017), we expected the predictive validity of 2D trajectories to be potentially jeopardized. This hypothesis rests on the fact that, when exposed to psychoactive substances, fish may exhibit a series of responses that vary in space and time. For example, increased anxiety may reflect in a progressive reduction in

general locomotion, increased freezing, erratic movements, and preference for the bottom of the experimental tank. These patterns manifest differentially depending on the time spent in the experimental apparatus (with preference for the bottom varying with the prolonged exposure), and on the view (i.e., top or front view). For example, while horizontal erratic movements are best detected through a top view, geotaxis can be appropriately scored only from a side view. Therefore, we hypothesized that the specific view may reflect into a bias in detecting time-dependent effects of psychoactive drugs, thereby potentially generating view \times drug \times experimental-progression effects.

2. Materials and methods

2.1 Animal care and maintenance

The experiments and analysis were performed and reported according to the ARRIVE guidelines (Kilkenny et al. 2010). A total of 112 wild-type adult zebrafish (*Danio rerio*), with a 1:1 male/female ratio were used in this study. The fish were purchased from Carolina Biological Supply Co. (Burlington, NC, USA), and housed in 10 L (2.6 gallons) vivarium tanks (Pentair Aquatic Eco-Systems Locations, Cary, NC, USA), with a density of no more than 10 fish per tank. Fish were kept under a 12 h light/12 h dark photoperiod (Cahill 1996), and fed with commercial flake food (Hagen Corp. Nutrafin max, Mansfield, MA, USA) once a day, approximately at 7 PM. Water parameters of the holding tanks were regularly checked, and temperature and pH were maintained at 26 °C and 7.2 pH, respectively. Regular tap water was used with the addition of a stress coat to remove chlorine and chloramines. Prior to the beginning of the experiments, fish were acclimatized in the holding facility for a period of 12-15 days.

The number of fish used in the study – compatible with obtaining sufficiently reliable and biologically relevant data – was estimated through a power analysis. Briefly, we computed the minimum required sample size considering the two-tailed Student t test for independent groups using the following values, based on the results of previous studies (Abaid et al. 2012; Cianca et al. 2013; Spinello et al. 2013): (i) standard deviation homogeneous among groups $s = 0.23$; (ii) Type I error probability $\alpha = 0.05$ and power $1 - \beta = 0.80$ (conventional values); and (iii) minimum difference between control and treatment group means $D = 0.17$. The sample size resulting from this calculation was 15 subjects per group. To promote the generalizability of our findings, we

conducted experiments on both males and females. We thus increased the sample size to 16 per group (eight males and eight females). We estimated that a sample size of 16 subjects (per group) would have 80% power to detect a 0.60 effect size on the principal outcome measures with a two-tailed significance level of 0.05.

2.2 Experimental setup

To obtain 3D trajectories, we used two Flea 3 high resolution cameras (one overhead and one in front). The dimensions of the test tank were 29 cm (length) \times 14 cm (height) \times 8.5 cm (width) and water 13 cm deep, similar to tanks used in comparable studies (Egan et al. 2009). To maximize the visual contrast and ease automatic tracking, the bottom of the tank was lined with white contact paper. The two short sides of the tank were covered with black contact paper to prevent reflection. On the other hand, the two long sides were kept transparent to allow data acquisition and avoid position bias (i.e., a potential side preference had one side been kept transparent for data acquisition and the other kept opaque). The experimental arena was surrounded by black curtains to prevent light reflection and visual disturbance from the outside.

2.3 Experimental procedure

Experiments, performed in June 2018, were conducted on seven groups, each consisting of 16 subjects (eight males and eight females). Specifically, the experimental design entailed one control group exposed to vehicle (water), three groups treated with citalopram (30 mg/L, 50 mg/L, 100 mg/L), and three groups treated with ethanol (0.25%, 0.50%, 1.00% ethanol/water solution in volume/volume %). The fish were randomly allocated to each of the seven conditions in the following way. The conditions were randomly distributed over several weeks, testing eight subjects per day (four in the morning and four in the afternoon). We balanced sex across conditions, and conditions across mornings and afternoons. Male and female fish were kept in separate tanks; in total, fish were housed in 12 tanks. At the beginning of each test session, we sampled one subject from a tank. Such a tank was different from that out of which we chose the previous subject tested in the same condition. This procedure guaranteed that potential tank effects were distributed evenly across all experimental groups.

Due to technical issues, four trials had to be discarded: this resulted in a slight reduction in the number of subjects in the 100 mg/L citalopram group (15 subjects instead of 16) and in

both the 0.25% and 1.00% ethanol groups (14 and 15 subjects instead of 16, respectively). Following (Sackerman et al. 2010), we measured the effect of acute exposure to citalopram by treating the fish to the substance for five minutes before testing it. Following previous work on the effect of ethanol by our group (Cianca et al. 2013), we measured the effect of exposure to ethanol over a one-hour period. In the interest of reducing the number of subjects used in animal experimentation, the same control subjects were used to test the effects of citalopram and ethanol. Fish were treated and tested in isolation.

Since these substances required a differential pre-exposure time (five minutes for citalopram and one hour for ethanol), we devised a common procedure for vehicle, citalopram and ethanol. Thus, one hour before testing, fish were placed in a 500 mL beaker filled with 450 mL of the following fluid: water for control and citalopram groups, or a solution of ethanol (0.25%, 0.50%, and 1.00%) for the other groups. Five minutes before testing, an additional 50 mL of fluid were slowly added to the beaker over a period of 20-30 seconds. These 50 mL were constituted by either water (the control group), an ethanol solution of the concentration already present in the beaker (the ethanol groups), or a concentrated solution of citalopram that resulted in a final concentration in the beaker of 30 mg/L, 50 mg/L, or 100 mg/L (the citalopram condition). Fish were left in the beaker for five minutes, at the end of which they were transferred to the test tank and recorded for six minutes.

Simultaneous recording from both cameras was initiated before transferring the fish into the test tank. In addition, at the beginning of the recording, a laser beam, visible from both cameras, was pointed into the test tank in order to ensure later synchronization of both video streams. At the end of the experiment, the fish was hand-netted into a separate tank.

All the experiments were performed at the New York University Tandon School of Engineering in Brooklyn NY (USA) in accordance with relevant guidelines and regulations, with National Institutes of Health guide for the care and use of Laboratory animals (NIH Publications No. 8023, revised 1978), and was approved by the University Animal Welfare Committee (UAWC) of New York University under protocol number 13-1424.

2.4 Tracking and 3D reconstruction

Images recorded from the high-resolution cameras were processed through an in-house developed tracking software, see (Butail et al. 2013) for a detailed description. The top and front

view cameras provided time series of the trajectory projected onto the x-y and x-z planes, respectively. Each pair of tracks were automatically synchronized using the common x coordinate along length of the tank. The time-series for each x coordinate of the pair were shifted relative to each other and the relative shift producing the smallest difference was selected. Once synchronized, the tracks from the top view and from the front views were combined to construct the x, y, and z coordinates of the trajectory in the three-dimensional space (see Fig. 1 for a representative trajectory exhibited by a control subject).

Reconstructed trajectories were used to quantify the following ethogram: time spent freezing (percentage of time that the fish moved less than 2 cm anywhere in the tank over a rolling period of 2 s), time spent wall following (percentage of time that the fish spent within 3 cm of any side wall or the bottom of the tank), average speed (time-average of the first-order numerical differentiation of the position time series), average peak speed (time-average of the speed values greater than the 90th percentile), average acceleration (time-average of the magnitude of the first order numerical differentiation of the velocity time series), average peak acceleration (time-average of the acceleration values greater than the 90th percentile), average angular speed (time-computed on the basis of a finite difference approximation of the curvature of fish trajectories), average peak angular speed (time-average of the angular velocity values greater than the 90th percentile), and time spent in the top half of the water column. These nine measures were selected from the technical literature on zebrafish behavior in novel tank tests (Cachat et al. 2010) and their objective scoring from 3D trajectories follows our previous work (Macrì et al. 2017; Mwaffo et al. 2015).

2.5 Statistical analyses

Experiments with ethanol and citalopram were analyzed separately, but both were compared to the same control condition.

2.5.1 Principal component analysis on 3D data

Using raw data on all the nine measures of our ethogram identified from 3D trajectories, we conducted a PCA to identify correlation structure of behavior and potentially reduce the number of variables analyzed. Only principal components with eigenvalues larger than one were retained in the analysis. For each compound (citalopram or ethanol), the loadings were varimax-rotated,

and the resulting scores for each principal component were used as dependent variables in a four (citalopram: vehicle, 30 mg/L, 50 mg/L, and 100 mg/L, or ethanol: vehicle, 0.25%, 0.50%, and 1.00%) \times six (time bins, one minute each) \times two (sex: male, female) repeated measures analysis of variance (ANOVA) for split-plot designs. Testing males and females served the aim to access a heterogeneous experimental population and therefore improve the generalizability of our findings.

Principal components, derived from 3D observations, were used to test the efficacy of ethanol and citalopram in modifying zebrafish behavior. It was not possible to use PCA to compare the different views since the number of variables that construct the principal components in 3D was greater than that in 2D.

2.5.2 Statistical model to compare 2D and 3D analyses

To investigate whether 2D projections of 3D trajectories may introduce a bias in the predictive validity of behavioral data on each of the nine measures, we conducted another repeated measures ANOVA for split-plot designs. In this analysis, the two general models for citalopram and ethanol were, respectively: three (view: 3D, 2D top, 2D front) \times four (treatment: vehicle, 30 mg/L, 50 mg/L, 100 mg/L) \times six (time bins, one minute each) \times two (sex: male, female), and three (view: 3D, 2D top, 2D front) \times four (treatment: vehicle, 0.25%, 0.50%, 1.00% ethanol/water solution) \times six (time bins, one minute each) \times two (sex: male, female) repeated measures ANOVAs. Similar to the PCA, predictions of the effect of sex were not considered.

For all ANOVAs, the distribution of the model residuals was visually inspected to verify that they were close to normality (Quinn & Keough 2002). Statistical analyses were performed using R 3.5.0, with the aov function for ANOVAs, the prcomp function for the PCA, and the emmeans 1.3.0 package for post-hoc comparisons using the Dunnett's multiple comparisons test, comparing control to other conditions and first minute to other minutes.

This statistical model allowed testing the hypothesis that 2D views yielded spurious results compared to 3D data. While main effects of the view factor allowed assessing whether absolute values differed depending on the tracking method, significant interactions between view and any other factor suggested that the effects of the latter were moderated by the tracking method. For example, a significant view \times treatment interaction would suggest that the effects of a given compound may vary as a function of how the behavior of the animal was scored (i.e.,

using 2D projections from top or front, or resorting to 3D trajectories). Upon detecting a significant interaction, we performed post-hoc comparisons, correcting for type-I errors, to detail whether and which pairwise comparisons were significant. Among these comparisons, those contrasting 2D and 3D were germane to the key question of the study.

3. Results

3.1 Ethanol and citalopram alter individual habituation to the test

For citalopram and ethanol treatments, three principal components with eigenvalue larger than one were extracted by the PCA (Table 1), accounting for 87% of the total variance. The first principal component, accounting for 47% of the variance, reflected locomotion, with positive loadings for average speed, average peak speed, average acceleration, and average peak acceleration, and a modest negative loading for the time spent freezing. The second principal component, accounting for 26% of the variance, reflected anxiety-related behavioral patterns (behavioral anxiety) with positive loadings for average angular speed, average peak angular speed, and the time spent freezing. The third principal component, accounting for 11% of variance, reflected anxiety-related spatial preference (positional anxiety), with positive loadings for the time spent wall following, and negative loadings for the time spent in top half.

When analyzing the three components identified by PCA, we observed that absolute levels of locomotion were indistinguishable between control and citalopram-treated subjects (condition: $F_{3,55} = 0.52$, $P = 0.668$) (Fig. 2a). Additionally, general locomotion steadily declined throughout the experimental session in all subjects (time: $F_{5,275} = 3.03$, $P = 0.011$; $t_{275} > 3.12$, $P < 0.009$), regardless of the specific experimental group (time bins \times condition: $F_{15,275} = 1.13$, $P = 0.329$). Absolute values of behavioral anxiety did not significantly vary across citalopram conditions (condition: $F_{3,55} = 0.76$, $P = 0.524$) (Fig. 2b). Yet, it significantly decreased over the trial (time: $F_{5,275} = 3.52$, $P = 0.004$; $t_{275} > 2.69$, $P < 0.033$), albeit at a different rate (time bins \times condition: $F_{15,275} = 1.85$, $P = 0.029$). Specifically, while behavioral anxiety remained constant throughout the experimental session in citalopram 50 mg/L and 100 mg/L conditions, it significantly declined in control and citalopram 30 mg/L conditions ($t_{275} > 2.60$, $P < 0.043$). While positional anxiety did not significantly vary across citalopram conditions (condition: $F_{3,55} = 0.95$, $P = 0.421$) (Fig. 2c), it significantly increased over time (time: $F_{5,275} = 3.51$, $P = 0.004$;

$t_{275} > 2.82, P < 0.023$). Such time-dependent profile varied depending on the experimental treatment (time bins \times condition: $F_{15,275} = 1.79, P = 0.036$). Thus, while it remained constant in control and citalopram 100 mg/L, it was low at the beginning of the test session and steadily increased in citalopram 30 mg/L and citalopram 50 mg/L subjects ($t_{275} > 2.74, P < 0.029$).

In response to ethanol administration, absolute levels of locomotion failed to reach a statistically significant variation across experimental groups (condition: $F_{3,52} = 2.43, P = 0.072$) (Fig. 3a). When analyzing the time course of general locomotion, we observed that it significantly decreased over time (time: $F_{5,260} = 3.02, P = 0.011$; $t_{260} > 2.67, P < 0.035$), and that such a decrease was indistinguishable across all experimental groups (time bins \times condition: $F_{15,260} = 1.50, P = 0.105$). Behavioral anxiety did not significantly vary across ethanol conditions (condition: $F_{3,52} = 0.80, P = 0.500$) (Fig. 3b), neither did it apparently change over time (time: $F_{5,260} = 1.66, P = 0.144$). However, we observed that the habituation profile varied depending on the specific experimental group (time bins \times condition: $F_{15,260} = 1.83, P = 0.031$). Specifically, while behavioral anxiety remained constant in most experimental groups, it significantly declined over time in the ethanol 0.5% condition ($P < 0.050$; $t_{260} = 2.89; P = 0.019$). Finally, positional anxiety failed to reach a statistically significant variation across ethanol conditions (condition: $F_{3,52} = 2.49, P = 0.071$) (Fig. 3c), although it significantly decreased over time (time: $F_{5,260} = 3.25, P = 0.007$; $t_{260} > 2.75; P < 0.029$). Specifically, it significantly decreased for the ethanol 1.0% condition (time bins \times condition: $F_{15,260} = 2.33, P = 0.004$; $t_{260} > 3.76; P < 0.001$).

3.2 The scoring view influences the validity of experimental outcomes

Herein, we report data concerning the effects of the views on all the experimental variables measured in the study. For the sake of clarity, in this section, we only report statistical findings associated with the scoring view (3D, 2D top, and 2D front) and its interactions with time or condition. Results concerning the main effects of condition, time, and their interaction irrespective of view are available in the supplementary material.

Before delving into detailed comparisons between the three different views for all the considered behavioral measures, we present an aggregated assessment of potentially inaccurate conclusions that would be drawn from 2D projections against 3D trajectories. Briefly, we

identified that the specific view selected to quantify the behavioral repertoire reverberated in both false negative (erroneous reporting of absence of differences *in lieu* of significant findings in 3D) and false positive (erroneous reporting of significant differences *in lieu* of non-significantly different findings in 3D) results. The rate of false negative and false positive findings is synoptically reported in Tables 2 and 3.

3.3.1. Citalopram

Average speed: Predictably, average speed varied significantly depending on which view was used to compute it (view: $F_{2,110} = 118.46$, $P < 0.001$) (Fig. 4a). Specifically, both 2D front and top views underestimated absolute levels of locomotion compared to 3D data ($t_{291.7} = 9.87$, $P < 0.001$; and $t_{291.7} = 6.88$, $P < 0.001$, respectively); additionally, 2D front view resulted in reduced average speed compared to top view ($t_{291.7} = 2.98$, $P = 0.009$). Experimental subjects did not show a habituation profile to the test, yet 2D top projections indicated that the average speed decreased from the first to the last minute (time bins \times view: $F_{10,550} = 14.08$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{317.5} = 3.03$, $P = 0.012$).

Average peak speed: Average peak speed was significantly underestimated in both 2D front and top views in comparison with 3D data (view: $F_{2,110} = 81.93$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{346.6} > 6.64$, $P < 0.001$) (Fig. 4b). While the average peak speed decreased over time in all subjects (supplementary material), experimental groups showed a differential habituation profile (time bins \times view: $F_{10,550} = 15.64$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{286.4} > 2.73$, $P < 0.029$).

Average angular speed: Average angular speed was underestimated in the 2D front view compared to both 3D and 2D top views (view: $F_{2,110} = 88.45$, $P = 0.001$; $t_{295.3} > 5.33$, $P < 0.001$) (Fig. 4c). Furthermore, a decrease in average angular speed over time was observed in all views (time bins \times view: $F_{10,550} = 7.40$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{275} > 2.69$, $P < 0.034$).

Average peak angular speed: Average peak angular speed was underestimated when scored from 2D top view (view: $F_{2,110} = 10.09$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{358.6} = 3.62$, $P = 0.001$) (Fig. 4d). A decrease in average peak angular speed over time was recorded from all views, but not at the same times (time bins \times view: $F_{2,550} = 2.72$, $P = 0.003$; $t_{275} > 2.64$, $P < 0.038$).

Average acceleration: Average acceleration was underestimated in both front and top 2D views compared to 3D (view: $F_{2,110} = 126.62$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{284.4} = 9.24$, $P < 0.001$; and $t_{284.4} = 5.57$, $P < 0.001$, respectively); additionally, 2D front view underestimated average acceleration compared to 2D top view ($t_{284.4} = 3.67$, $P < 0.001$). Average acceleration varied over time depending on the view adopted to score fish behavior (time bins \times view: $F_{10,550} = 13.40$, $P < 0.001$) (Fig. 4e). Specifically, although average acceleration steadily declined from the third minute in ground truth 3D data ($t_{371.0} = 2.57$, $P < 0.046$), such a decline was observable also from 2D top view ($t_{371.0} > 2.80$, $P < 0.025$), but only during the last minute in 2D front view ($t_{275.0} = 2.70$, $P < 0.033$).

Average peak acceleration: Average peak acceleration significantly decreased over time, regardless of the specific view adopted to compute this measure (time bins \times view: $F_{10,550} = 4.42$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{344.7} > 3.15$, $P < 0.008$) (Fig. 4f). Yet, average peak acceleration was underestimated in 2D front and top views compared to 3D (view: $F_{2,110} = 79.67$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{402.3} = 6.05$, $P < 0.001$; and $t_{402.3} = 3.46$, $P = 0.002$, respectively). Additionally, 2D front view yielded a lower average peak acceleration compared to top view ($t_{402.3} = 2.59$, $P = 0.027$).

Wall following: Time spent wall following was significantly underestimated in both 2D front view compared to 3D data (view: $F_{2,110} = 237.90$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{234.4} = 17.55$; $P < 0.001$). Additionally, this metric was lower in 2D front view compared to 2D top view ($t_{234.4} = 15.95$, $P < 0.001$) (Fig. 4g). While 3D and 2D top view data indicated that wall following increased between the first and fifth minute of the experimental session (time bins \times view: $F_{10,550} = 2.16$, $P = 0.019$, $t_{824.7} > 2.56$, $P < 0.05$), 2D front view data failed to identify this time dependent pattern of thigmotaxis.

Position in the water column (proportion of time spent in the top half): Since this metric takes into account only the vertical position of the fish, it cannot be scored from 2D top view and there is no difference between values from 2D front view and 3D reconstructed trajectories (Fig. 4h and 5h).

Freezing: Although the time spent freezing seemed to vary depending on which view was used to compute it (view: $F_{2,110} = 4.19$, $P = 0.018$) (Fig. 4i), post-hoc tests revealed no pairwise

difference. Similarly, although an interaction between view and time was registered (time bins \times view: $F_{10,550} = 2.35$, $P = 0.010$), post-hoc comparisons did not indicate any specific difference.

3.3.2. Ethanol

Average speed: The different scoring views resulted in variable average speed values (view: $F_{2,104} = 90.45$, $P < 0.001$) (Fig. 5a). Both 2D top and front views underestimated average speed compared to 3D ($t_{174.3} = 3.79$; $P < 0.001$; and $t_{174.3} = 9.47$; $P < 0.001$, respectively). Additionally, average speed was lower in 2D front view compared to top view ($t_{174.3} = 5.69$; $P < 0.001$). While data inspection suggested that habituation profiles were skewed by the view adopted to score individual behavior (time bins \times view: $F_{10,520} = 10.14$, $P < 0.001$), post-hoc analyses failed to show significant view-dependent variations in this parameter.

Average peak speed: Average peak speed varied in all subjects, and this profile was apparently influenced by the view adopted to score individual trajectories (time bins \times view: $F_{10,520} = 9.36$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{260.0} > 2.64$, $P < 0.039$). This variation was manifested as a robust decline in subjects treated with ethanol 0.50% concentration (time bins \times condition \times view: $F_{30,520} = 1.83$, $P = 0.005$; $t_{260.0} > 2.57$, $P < 0.047$, see Fig. S2, supplementary information). Furthermore, average peak speed was significantly underestimated in both 2D front and top views compared to 3D data (view: $F_{2,104} = 83.2$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{270.2} > 4.41$; $P < 0.001$) (Fig. 5b), as well as from the front view compared to the top view ($t_{260.0} = 2.60$; $P = 0.027$). Although ANOVA reported a significant interaction between view and condition (condition \times view: $F_{6,104} = 2.33$, $P = 0.037$), post-hoc tests failed to reveal any significant pairwise difference.

Average angular speed: Predictably, both 2D front and top views underestimated average angular speed compared to the 3D view (view: $F_{2,104} = 63.33$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{265.7} = 7.73$, $P < 0.001$; and $t_{265.7} = 4.78$, $P < 0.001$, respectively). Additionally, average angular speed was smaller in 2D front view compared to 2D top view ($t_{265.7} = 2.95$, $P < 0.010$) (Fig. 5c). Furthermore, 3D data demonstrated that average angular speed declined between the first and the last minute of observation. Such a decline, observable in 2D top view data, was not detected in 2D front view (time bins \times view: $F_{10,520} = 5.19$, $P < 0.001$, $t_{730.9} = 3.902$, $P < 0.005$).

Average peak angular speed: Although average peak angular speed appeared significantly different depending on which view was used (view: $F_{2,104} = 4.37$, $P = 0.015$), such a difference failed to emerge in post-hoc comparisons. From all views, average peak angular speed declined throughout the experimental session (time bins \times view: $F_{10,520} = 3.53$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{707.1} > 2.66$, $P < 0.035$) (Fig. 5d).

Average acceleration: In line with most of the locomotion-related variables, average acceleration was underestimated in both 2D front and top views compared to 3D view (view: $F_{2,104} = 64.41$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{164.6} = 7.45$, $P < 0.001$; and $t_{164.6} = 3.20$, $P = 0.005$, respectively, see Fig. 5e). Furthermore, 2D front view yielded lower values of the average acceleration compared to the top view ($t_{164.6} = 4.25$, $P < 0.001$). Individual habituation profile was differentially expressed by experimental subjects depending on the specific view (time bins \times view: $F_{10,520} = 11.87$, $P < 0.001$). Specifically, while 3D and 2D top view data indicated a general decrease in average acceleration throughout the experimental session ($t_{312.7} = 2.94$, $P < 0.016$), such a profile was not visible in 2D front view, showing only a reduction during the third minute of the test ($t_{260.0} = 2.70$, $P = 0.033$). Data analysis suggested that the habituation profile varied depending on both the view and the ethanol treatment (time bins \times condition \times view: $F_{30,520} = 1.50$, $P = 0.046$). Specifically, we observed that the reduction in average acceleration was significant in ethanol 0.5% ($t_{260.0} > 2.80$, $P < 0.025$), and that this decrease occurred regardless of the specific view from which data were scored.

Average peak acceleration: Average peak acceleration varied depending on the specific scoring view (view: $F_{2,104} = 61.85$, $P < 0.001$); specifically it was underestimated in both 2D front and top views compared to 3D ($t_{273.9} = 5.69$, $P < 0.001$; and $t_{273.9} = 2.41$, $P = 0.044$, respectively) and was also less in 2D front view compared to 2D top view ($t_{273.9} = 3.28$, $P = 0.003$) (Fig. 5f). Furthermore, although data inspection suggested that the time-dependent habituation profile varied depending on the specific view (time bins \times view: $F_{10,520} = 5.70$, $P < 0.001$; $t_{312.6} = 2.57$, $P < 0.047$), post-hoc tests did not support this suggestion. Thus, acceleration decreased with time in experimental subjects regardless of the specific view adopted.

Wall following: The time spent in the proximity of the walls significantly varied depending on the specific view used to compute it (view: $F_{2,104} = 56.09$, $P < 0.001$). Wall following was significantly underestimated in both 2D front and top views compared to 3D ($t_{178.8} = 9.96$; $P <$

0.001; and $t_{178.8} = 3.49$; $P = 0.002$, respectively), and this parameter was less in 2D front view compared to 2D top ($t_{178.8} = 6.47$, $P < 0.001$). The individual habituation profiles varied depending on the view (time bins \times view: $F_{10,520} = 3.37$, $P = 0.001$) (Fig. 5g). Specifically, wall following remained constant in 3D and 2D top view, and decreased in 2D front view ($t_{260.0} = 2.79$; $P < 0.025$). While wall following was apparently differed between conditions depending on the scoring view (condition \times view: $F_{2,104} = 5.54$, $P < 0.001$), such difference was not statistically significant in pairwise comparisons.

Freezing: While the time spent freezing seemed to vary depending on the specific scoring view, (view: $F_{2,104} = 5.35$, $P = 0.006$) (Fig. 5i), such a difference was not confirmed by post-hoc tests performed between the first and the sixth minute.

4. Discussion

The methodological nature of the present study first reverberated in the systematic evaluation of the correlation among the variables that constitute the ethogram exhibited in the novel tank diving test. The PCA revealed the presence of three orthogonal factors, reflecting general locomotion (average speed, average peak speed, average acceleration, and average peak acceleration), anxiety-related behavioral patterns (average angular speed, average angular peak speed, and freezing), and anxiety-related spatial preference (time spent close to the side walls and time spent in the upper half of the water column). The first principal component relates to the translational motion within the water tank. The behavioral patterns loading on the second principal component have been consistently associated with anxiety, in the form of erratic movements (zig-zagging) and freezing (Kalueff et al. 2013). From the catalog of Kalueff and colleagues (Kalueff et al. 2013), anxiety-related behavior is also related to thigmotaxis and geotaxis, which are the two behavioral measures that load on the third principal component.

While this analysis aligns with previous evidence indicating that anxiety can be expressed through different modalities, it also points at potential pitfalls of common practice in the construction of the ethogram of the novel tank diving test from 2D views. Specifically, the fact that variables contributing to the same principal component require different perspectives further

corroborates the need for a 3D approach. For example, while position in the water column requires a front camera, wall distance and erratic movements need an overhead camera.

The analysis conducted on the aforementioned principal components revealed that both citalopram and ethanol influenced anxiety-related behaviors, thus corroborating the predictive validity of the novel tank diving test. Importantly, while citalopram concentration-dependently reduced locomotion and predictably reduced anxiety, ethanol resulted in increased anxiety, but only at a medium concentration (Tran et al. 2016c). Higher and lower ethanol concentrations were apparently ineffective. Low and medium concentrations of citalopram did not influence general locomotion but were associated with the exhibition of reduced anxiety, selectively during the first three minutes of testing. High concentrations of citalopram were associated with reduced locomotion and reduced anxiety throughout the entire test session. The anxiolytic effects of citalopram have already been reported in several studies. For example, (Sackerman et al. 2010) reported that zebrafish treated with 100 mg/L citalopram spent significantly more time than control fish in the top two thirds of the tank, suggesting a decrease in anxiety compared to the control.

It is worth noticing that, when analyzing discrete parameters rather than focusing on the principal components, some anxiety-related behavioral parameters seemed unaffected by the anxiolytic treatments applied. Specifically, we failed to observe a significant effect of citalopram on the time spent in the upper portion of the tank, a classical measure of anxiety. We note that such absence of a concentration-dependent behavioral response to anxiolytic compounds has also been reported in other studies. For example, (Sackerman et al. 2010) reported that acute exposure to 0.5% ethanol failed to alter the time spent in the upper portion of the test tank in zebrafish. Similarly, (Maximino et al. 2011) failed to observe significant anxiety-related behavioral alterations in response to fluoxetine. Finally, in a previous study, we also observed that 0.25% and 0.5% ethanol did not modulate anxiety-related behaviors in the light-dark test (Cianca et al. 2013). These false negative findings further corroborate the potential heuristic value of conducting PCA in zebrafish behavioral pharmacology.

The anxiolytic effects of citalopram are likely related to its direct influence on serotonergic concentrations. For example, handling stress has been shown to increase anxiety-like behavior and reduce brain concentrations of the serotonin metabolite 5-HIAA (Tran et al. 2016b). Furthermore, (Maximino et al. 2014) observed that acute administration of the 5-HT1a

receptor agonist buspirone reduced behavioral anxiety in the light-dark test. Finally, in accordance with the present study, the acute administration of the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor fluoxetine resulted in reduced anxiety in the geotaxis test (Maximino et al. 2013).

With respect to ethanol, available literature (Gerlai et al. 2000) indicates that its effects vary depending on the concentration, administration schedule, and methodological issues. (Tran et al. 2016a) reported that ethanol can have either anxiogenic or anxiolytic effects on zebrafish depending on whether the water in the test tank comes from the individual's holding tank or from a tank that did not hold any fish. Further, since ethanol influences general locomotion, some of its effects on anxiety may be spurious and potentially related to locomotor effects. For example, a lack of vertical exploration may reflect a decrease in swimming behavior due to the sedative effect of high concentration of ethanol, rather than an anxiety response (Rosemberg et al. 2012). In our previous study (Cianca et al. 2013), we observed that high ethanol concentration resulted in reduced anxiety, associated with reduced motility and increased freezing. Likewise, (Gebauer et al. 2011) observed that ethanol administration resulted in reduced anxiety in the light/dark test, but not in the novel tank diving test. In contrast with these findings, Tran and collaborators (Tran et al. 2016c) reported that acute exposure to high ethanol concentration resulted in increased preference for the bottom of the test tank, and that such a variation related to alterations in brain monoamines. Specifically, alcohol-treated subjects showed reduced concentrations of the dopamine metabolite DOPAC, of serotonin and its metabolite 5-IAA (Tran et al. 2016c). Thus, while the effects of ethanol on anxiety are more variable compared to those exerted by citalopram, they apparently impinge on the same neurochemical pathways modulated by citalopram. Ultimately, the complementary use of these substances served the aim to address the validity of 2D approaches in zebrafish pharmacology of anxiety.

In order to compare 3D and 2D approaches, all experimental variables were also analyzed independently from one-another. This comparison was aimed at confirming the intuition that locomotion is underestimated when scoring the behavior in 2D and at assessing whether 2D views yielded incorrect conclusions regarding the effects of anxiolytics on individual behavior. Working with raw experimental variables rather than aggregated principal components allowed for a direct comparison of our findings with available literature, where the selected metrics are routinely assessed in pharmacological phenotyping of zebrafish (Kalueff et al. 2013). With respect to absolute values of locomotion, predictably, they were higher in 3D than 2D, regardless

of whether the latter referred to the frontal or the horizontal plane. This can be easily explained by recognizing that 2D trajectories correspond to the projection of the full 3D motion on independent views, which would, by definition, abolish movement along a third dimension. This evidence echoes our previous findings obtained in drug-free states (Macrì et al. 2017).

The core objective of the present study was to evaluate whether 2D views may result in inaccurate rejection of null hypotheses or acceptance of alternative ones. We observed that the specific view consistently skewed the time course of the behavioral response to the novel tank. This was reflected in the presence of ubiquitous significant view \times time bins interactions across most of the variables, and only few instances of view \times condition interactions. Thus, these data could preliminarily suggest a relative robustness of current scoring methods in zebrafish pharmacology. Yet, in the light of the paucity of drug-dependent effects and of the nature of the statistical model required to test the suitability of the 2D approaches compared to 3D, we argue that this assessment only reflects a partial consideration of the observed results.

Specifically, in our previous study, we demonstrated that 2D experiments are underpowered compared to 3D and therefore more prone to false negative findings than false positive ones (Macrì et al. 2017). While in situations characterized by few significant main effects of a given variable the likelihood to observe false negatives is intrinsically limited, data with numerous significant main effects shall be amenable to the identification of numerous false reporting instances. Accordingly, in the present study, the sporadic main effects of the condition have apparently masked view-dependent false negatives; complementarily, the ubiquitous presence of main effects of time bins allowed the detection of numerous view \times time bins interactions. Thus, the specific view from which data were scored influenced the observed individual habituation patterns to the experimental paradigm. For example, while 3D data indicated that locomotion-related parameters (e.g., speed, angular speed, and acceleration) declined throughout the experimental session, 2D front view data failed to capture such a time-dependent habituation pattern. While this aspect may simply indicate the limited heuristic potential of the front view and advocate in favor of the use of a top view camera, we nonetheless note that a front camera is indispensable to quantify the position in the water column, which contributes to the anxiety-related phenotype.

These considerations extrapolate to zebrafish pharmacology, whereby our and others' data (Cachat et al. 2010) indicate that anxiety-modulating compounds often alter habituation

profiles rather than absolute values averaged across different time points (Wong et al. 2010). For example, we reported that anxiety-related behaviors in control subjects appear relatively constant throughout the entire course of the experimental session. Conversely, experimental subjects treated with low and medium concentrations of citalopram exhibit reduced anxiety-related behaviors during the early stages of the task, which gradually rise to attain control values towards the end of the session. Similar to (Watts et al. 2017), we found that although 3D measures offer higher precision, the benefit of using 3D compared to a view from the top is limited regarding general behavioral pattern. The use of a front view remains necessary to capture specific behaviors linked to the position of the fish in the water column.

5. Conclusions

It is important to emphasize that in the present study we primarily focused on anxiolytic drugs and we thus cannot extrapolate our findings to the entire spectrum of anxiety-related behaviors. Future studies are needed to test whether the considerations outlined in this study also extend to anxiogenic compounds (e.g., caffeine) and non-pharmacological anxiety-eliciting stimuli (e.g., predators).

Author contributions

SM and MP designed the research; RC and CS performed the experiments; RC and CS scored animal behavior; SM, RC, and MP performed statistical analyses; RC and CS provided a preliminary draft; SM and MP wrote the final draft; and all the authors reviewed the final draft and offered comments.

Acknowledgments

The authors are grateful to Hannah Kurdila for her help in data analysis, Shinnosuke Nakayama for his help with the statistics, and Boris Arbuzov for his help in scoring fish behavior from the video recordings.

Funding

This work was supported by the National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Drug Abuse under grant number 1R21DA042558-01A1, the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research that co-founded the National Institute on Drug Abuse grant, and by the National Science Foundation under grant number CMMI-1505832.

References

- Abaid N, Bartolini T, Macri S, and Porfiri M. 2012. Zebrafish responds differentially to a robotic fish of varying aspect ratio, tail beat frequency, noise, and color. *Behavioural Brain Research* 233:545-553. 10.1016/j.bbr.2012.05.047
- Bateson M, Brilot B, and Nettle D. 2011. Anxiety: an evolutionary approach. *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry* 56:707-715. 10.1177/070674371105601202
- Bernier NJ, and Peter RE. 2001. The hypothalamic-pituitary-interrenal axis and the control of food intake in teleost fish. *Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology Part B: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology* 129:639-644.
- Butail S, Bartolini T, and Porfiri M. 2013. Collective response of zebrafish shoals to a free-swimming robotic fish. *PLoS One* 8:e76123. 10.1371/journal.pone.0076123
- Cachat J, Stewart A, Grossman L, Gaikwad S, Kadri F, Chung KM, Wu N, Wong K, Roy S, Suciu C, Goodspeed J, Elegante M, Bartels B, Elkhayat S, Tien D, Tan J, Denmark A, Gilder T, Kyzar E, Dileo J, Frank K, Chang K, Utterback E, Hart P, and Kalueff AV. 2010. Measuring behavioral and endocrine responses to novelty stress in adult zebrafish. *Nature Protocol* 5:1786-1799. 10.1038/nprot.2010.140
- Cachat J, Stewart A, Utterback E, Hart P, Gaikwad S, Wong K, Kyzar E, Wu N, and Kalueff AV. 2011. Three-dimensional neurophenotyping of adult zebrafish behavior. *PLoS One* 6:e17597. 10.1371/journal.pone.0017597
- Cahill GM. 1996. Circadian regulation of melatonin production in cultured zebrafish pineal and retina. *Brain Research* 708:177-181.
- Caspi A, Sugden K, Moffitt TE, Taylor A, Craig IW, Harrington H, McClay J, Mill J, Martin J, Braithwaite A, and Poulton R. 2003. Influence of life stress on depression: moderation by a polymorphism in the 5-HTT gene. *Science* 301:386-389. 10.1126/science.1083968

- Cianca V, Bartolini T, Porfiri M, and Macrì S. 2013. A robotics-based behavioral paradigm to measure anxiety-related responses in zebrafish. *PLoS One* 8:e69661. 10.1371/journal.pone.0069661
- Davis M, Walker DL, Miles L, and Grillon C. 2010. Phasic vs sustained fear in rats and humans: role of the extended amygdala in fear vs anxiety. *Neuropsychopharmacology* 35:105-135. 10.1038/npp.2009.109
- Delcourt J, Ovidio M, Denoël M, Muller M, Pendeville H, Deneubourg J-L, and Poncin P. 2018. Individual identification and marking techniques for zebrafish. *Reviews in Fish Biology and Fisheries* 18:839-864. 10.1007/s11160-018-9537-y
- Egan RJ, Bergner CL, Hart PC, Cachat JM, Canavella PR, Elegante MF, Elkhayat SI, Bartels BK, Tien AK, Tien DH, Mohnot S, Beeson E, Glasgow E, Amri H, Zukowska Z, and Kalueff AV. 2009. Understanding behavioral and physiological phenotypes of stress and anxiety in zebrafish. *Behavioural Brain Research* 205:38-44. 10.1016/j.bbr.2009.06.022
- Fontana BD, Mezzomo NJ, Kalueff AV, and Rosemberg DB. 2018. The developing utility of zebrafish models of neurological and neuropsychiatric disorders: A critical review. *Experimental Neurology* 299:157-171. 10.1016/j.expneurol.2017.10.004
- Fossat P, Bacque-Cazenave J, De Deurwaerdere P, Delbecque JP, and Cattaert D. 2014. Comparative behavior. Anxiety-like behavior in crayfish is controlled by serotonin. *Science* 344:1293-1297. 10.1126/science.1248811
- Franco-Restrepo JE, Forero DA, and Vargas RA. 2019. A review of freely available, open-source software for the automated analysis of the behavior of adult zebrafish. *Zebrafish*.
- Gebauer DL, Pagnussat N, Piato AL, Schaefer IC, Bonan CD, and Lara DR. 2011. Effects of anxiolytics in zebrafish: similarities and differences between benzodiazepines, buspirone and ethanol. *Pharmacology Biochemistry and Behavior* 99:480-486. 10.1016/j.pbb.2011.04.021
- Gerlai R, Lahav M, Guo S, and Rosenthal A. 2000. Drinks like a fish: zebra fish (*Danio rerio*) as a behavior genetic model to study alcohol effects. *Pharmacology Biochemistry and Behavior* 67:773-782.
- Haller J, and Alicke M. 2012. Current animal models of anxiety, anxiety disorders, and anxiolytic drugs. *Current Opinion in Psychiatry* 25:59-64. 10.1097/YCO.0b013e32834de34f

- 658 Hart PC, Bergner CL, Smolinsky AN, Dufour BD, Egan RJ, Laporte JL, and Kalueff AV. 2010.
659 Experimental models of anxiety for drug discovery and brain research. *Methods in*
660 *Molecular Biology* 602:299-321. 10.1007/978-1-60761-058-8_18
- 661 Hogg S, Paterson S, Mills AD, and File SE. 1994. Receptor binding in Japanese quail selected for
662 long or short tonic immobility. *Pharmacology Biochemistry and Behavior* 49:625-628.
- 663 Howe K, Clark MD, Torroja CF, Torrance J, Berthelot C, Muffato M, Collins JE, Humphray S,
664 McLaren K, Matthews L, McLaren S, Sealy I, Caccamo M, Churcher C, Scott C, Barrett
665 JC, Koch R, Rauch GJ, White S, Chow W, Kilian B, Quintais LT, Guerra-Assuncao JA,
666 Zhou Y, Gu Y, Yen J, Vogel JH, Eyre T, Redmond S, Banerjee R, Chi J, Fu B, Langley E,
667 Maguire SF, Laird GK, Lloyd D, Kenyon E, Donaldson S, Sehra H, Almeida-King J,
668 Loveland J, Trevanion S, Jones M, Quail M, Willey D, Hunt A, Burton J, Sims S, McLay
669 K, Plumb B, Davis J, Clee C, Oliver K, Clark R, Riddle C, Elliot D, Threadgold G, Harden
670 G, Ware D, Begum S, Mortimore B, Kerry G, Heath P, Phillimore B, Tracey A, Corby N,
671 Dunn M, Johnson C, Wood J, Clark S, Pelan S, Griffiths G, Smith M, Glithero R, Howden
672 P, Barker N, Lloyd C, Stevens C, Harley J, Holt K, Panagiotidis G, Lovell J, Beasley H,
673 Henderson C, Gordon D, Auger K, Wright D, Collins J, Raisen C, Dyer L, Leung K,
674 Robertson L, Ambridge K, Leongamornlert D, McGuire S, Gilderthorp R, Griffiths C,
675 Manthravadi D, Nichol S, Barker G, Whitehead S, Kay M, Brown J, Murnane C, Gray E,
676 Humphries M, Sycamore N, Barker D, Saunders D, Wallis J, Babbage A, Hammond S,
677 Mashreghi-Mohammadi M, Barr L, Martin S, Wray P, Ellington A, Matthews N, Ellwood
678 M, Woodmansey R, Clark G, Cooper J, Tromans A, Grafham D, Skuce C, Pandian R,
679 Andrews R, Harrison E, Kimberley A, Garnett J, Fosker N, Hall R, Garner P, Kelly D, Bird
680 C, Palmer S, Gehring I, Berger A, Dooley CM, Ersan-Urun Z, Eser C, Geiger H, Geisler
681 M, Karotki L, Kirn A, Konantz J, Konantz M, Oberlander M, Rudolph-Geiger S, Teucke
682 M, Lanz C, Raddatz G, Osoegawa K, Zhu B, Rapp A, Widaa S, Langford C, Yang F,
683 Schuster SC, Carter NP, Harrow J, Ning Z, Herrero J, Searle SM, Enright A, Geisler R,
684 Plasterk RH, Lee C, Westerfield M, de Jong PJ, Zon LI, Postlethwait JH, Nusslein-Volhard
685 C, Hubbard TJ, Roest Crollius H, Rogers J, and Stemple DL. 2013. The zebrafish reference
686 genome sequence and its relationship to the human genome. *Nature* 496:498-503.
687 10.1038/nature12111

- 688 Kalueff AV, Gebhardt M, Stewart AM, Cachat JM, Brimmer M, Chawla JS, Craddock C, Kyzar
689 EJ, Roth A, Landsman S, Gaikwad S, Robinson K, Baatrup E, Tierney K, Shamchuk A,
690 Norton W, Miller N, Nicolson T, Braubach O, Gilman CP, Pittman J, Rosemberg DB,
691 Gerlai R, Echevarria D, Lamb E, Neuhauss SC, Weng W, Bally-Cuif L, Schneider H, and
692 Zebrafish Neuroscience Research C. 2013. Towards a comprehensive catalog of zebrafish
693 behavior 1.0 and beyond. *Zebrafish* 10:70-86. 10.1089/zeb.2012.0861
- 694 Kalueff AV, Stewart AM, and Gerlai R. 2014. Zebrafish as an emerging model for studying
695 complex brain disorders. *Trends in Pharmacological Science* 35:63-75.
696 10.1016/j.tips.2013.12.002
- 697 Kalueff AV, Wheaton M, and Murphy DL. 2007. What's wrong with my mouse model? Advances
698 and strategies in animal modeling of anxiety and depression. *Behavioural Brain Research*
699 179:1-18. 10.1016/j.bbr.2007.01.023
- 700 Kilkenny C, Browne WJ, Cuthill IC, Emerson M, and Altman DG. 2010. Improving bioscience
701 research reporting: the ARRIVE guidelines for reporting animal research. *PLoS Biology*
702 8:e1000412. 10.1371/journal.pbio.1000412
- 703 Lee C, Verbeek E, Doyle R, and Bateson M. 2016. Attention bias to threat indicates anxiety
704 differences in sheep. *Biology Letters* 12. 10.1098/rsbl.2015.0977
- 705 Lynn SE, and Kern MD. 2018. Interactions of body temperature and nutritional status on
706 hypothalamo-pituitary-adrenal axis activity in pre-thermoregulatory eastern bluebird
707 chicks (*Sialia sialis*). *General and Comparative Endocrinology* 267:82-89.
708 10.1016/j.ygcen.2018.06.003
- 709 Maaswinkel H, Zhu L, and Weng W. 2013. Using an automated 3D-tracking system to record
710 individual and shoals of adult zebrafish. *JoVE (Journal of Visualized Experiments)*:e50681.
- 711 Macrì S, Neri D, Ruberto T, Mwaffo V, Butail S, and Porfiri M. 2017. Three-dimensional scoring
712 of zebrafish behavior unveils biological phenomena hidden by two-dimensional analyses.
713 *Scientific Reports* 7:1962. 10.1038/s41598-017-01990-z
- 714 Macrì S, and Wurbel H. 2006. Developmental plasticity of HPA and fear responses in rats: a
715 critical review of the maternal mediation hypothesis. *Hormones and Behavior* 50:667-680.
716 10.1016/j.yhbeh.2006.06.015
- 717 Maximino C, da Silva AWB, Araujo J, Lima MG, Miranda V, Puty B, Benzecry R, Picanco-Diniz
718 DL, Gouveia A, Jr., Oliveira KR, and Herculano AM. 2014. Fingerprinting of psychoactive

drugs in zebrafish anxiety-like behaviors. *PLoS One* 9:e103943. 10.1371/journal.pone.0103943

Maximino C, da Silva AWB, Gouveia A, Jr., and Herculano AM. 2011. Pharmacological analysis of zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) scototaxis. *Progress in Neuro-Psychopharmacology and Biological Psychiatry* 35:624-631.

Maximino C, Puty B, Benzecry R, Araujo J, Lima MG, de Jesus Oliveira Batista E, Renata de Matos Oliveira K, Crespo-Lopez ME, and Herculano AM. 2013. Role of serotonin in zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) anxiety: relationship with serotonin levels and effect of buspirone, WAY 100635, SB 224289, fluoxetine and para-chlorophenylalanine (pCPA) in two behavioral models. *Neuropharmacology* 71:83-97. 10.1016/j.neuropharm.2013.03.006

McCarroll MN, Gendele L, Keiser MJ, and Kokel D. 2016. Leveraging large-scale behavioral profiling in zebrafish to explore neuroactive polypharmacology. *ACS Chemical Biology* 11:842-849. 10.1021/acscchembio.5b00800

Mwaffo V, Butail S, di Bernardo M, and Porfiri M. 2015. Measuring zebrafish turning rate. *Zebrafish* 12:250-254. 10.1089/zeb.2015.1081

Nema S, Hasan W, Bhargava A, and Bhargava Y. 2016. A novel method for automated tracking and quantification of adult zebrafish behaviour during anxiety. *Journal of Neuroscience Methods* 271:65-75. 10.1016/j.jneumeth.2016.07.004

Nesse RM. 1999. Proximate and evolutionary studies of anxiety, stress and depression: synergy at the interface. *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews* 23:895-903.

Pannia E, Tran S, Rampersad M, and Gerlai R. 2014. Acute ethanol exposure induces behavioural differences in two zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) strains: a time course analysis. *Behavioural Brain Research* 259:174-185. 10.1016/j.bbr.2013.11.006

Parker KJ, Buckmaster CL, Lindley SE, Schatzberg AF, and Lyons DM. 2012. Hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis physiology and cognitive control of behavior in stress inoculated monkeys. *International Journal of Behavioral Development* 36. 10.1177/0165025411406864

Perez-Escudero A, Vicente-Page J, Hinz RC, Arganda S, and de Polavieja GG. 2014. idTracker: tracking individuals in a group by automatic identification of unmarked animals. *Nature Methods* 11:743-748. 10.1038/nmeth.2994

- Quinn GP, and Keough MJ. 2002. *Experimental design and data analysis for biologists*: Cambridge University Press.
- Rodrigues SM, LeDoux JE, and Sapolsky RM. 2009. The influence of stress hormones on fear circuitry. *Annual Review of Neuroscience* 32:289-313. 10.1146/annurev.neuro.051508.135620
- Rosemberg DB, Braga MM, Rico EP, Loss CM, Cordova SD, Mussulini BH, Blaser RE, Leite CE, Campos MM, Dias RD, Calcagnotto ME, de Oliveira DL, and Souza DO. 2012. Behavioral effects of taurine pretreatment in zebrafish acutely exposed to ethanol. *Neuropharmacology* 63:613-623. 10.1016/j.neuropharm.2012.05.009
- Sackerman J, Donegan JJ, Cunningham CS, Nguyen NN, Lawless K, Long A, Benno RH, and Gould GG. 2010. Zebrafish Behavior in Novel Environments: Effects of Acute Exposure to Anxiolytic Compounds and Choice of Danio rerio Line. *Internal Journal of Comparative Psychology* 23:43-61.
- Shams S, Rihel J, Ortiz JG, and Gerlai R. 2018. The zebrafish as a promising tool for modeling human brain disorders: A review based upon an IBNS Symposium. *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews* 85:176-190. 10.1016/j.neubiorev.2017.09.002
- Spinello C, Macri S, and Porfiri M. 2013. Acute ethanol administration affects zebrafish preference for a biologically inspired robot. *Alcohol* 47:391-398. 10.1016/j.alcohol.2013.04.003
- Stewart AM, Braubach O, Spitsbergen J, Gerlai R, and Kalueff AV. 2014. Zebrafish models for translational neuroscience research: from tank to bedside. *Trends in Neuroscience* 37:264-278. 10.1016/j.tins.2014.02.011
- Stewart AM, Grieco F, Tegelenbosch RA, Kyzar EJ, Nguyen M, Kaluyeva A, Song C, Noldus LP, and Kalueff AV. 2015. A novel 3D method of locomotor analysis in adult zebrafish: Implications for automated detection of CNS drug-evoked phenotypes. *Journal of Neuroscience Methods* 255:66-74. 10.1016/j.jneumeth.2015.07.023
- Tran S, Facciol A, and Gerlai R. 2016a. Home tank water versus novel water differentially affect alcohol-induced locomotor activity and anxiety related behaviours in zebrafish. *Pharmacology Biochemistry and Behavior* 144:13-19. 10.1016/j.pbb.2016.02.009
- Tran S, and Gerlai R. 2013. Time-course of behavioural changes induced by ethanol in zebrafish (*Danio rerio*). *Behavioural Brain Research* 252:204-213. 10.1016/j.bbr.2013.05.065

- Tran S, Nowicki M, Fulcher N, Chatterjee D, and Gerlai R. 2016b. Interaction between handling induced stress and anxiolytic effects of ethanol in zebrafish: A behavioral and neurochemical analysis. *Behavioural Brain Research* 298:278-285. 10.1016/j.bbr.2015.10.061
- Tran S, Nowicki M, Muraleetharan A, Chatterjee D, and Gerlai R. 2016c. Neurochemical factors underlying individual differences in locomotor activity and anxiety-like behavioral responses in zebrafish. *Progress in Neuro-Psychopharmacology & Biological Psychiatry* 65:25-33. 10.1016/j.pnpbp.2015.08.009
- Watts I, Nagy M, Holbrook RI, Biro D, and Burt de Perera T. 2017. Validating two-dimensional leadership models on three-dimensionally structured fish schools. *R Soc Open Sci* 4:160804. 10.1098/rsos.160804
- Wong K, Elegante M, Bartels B, Elkhayat S, Tien D, Roy S, Goodspeed J, Suciu C, Tan J, Grimes C, Chung A, Rosenberg M, Gaikwad S, Denmark A, Jackson A, Kadri F, Chung KM, Stewart A, Gilder T, Beeson E, Zapolsky I, Wu N, Cachat J, and Kalueff AV. 2010. Analyzing habituation responses to novelty in zebrafish (*Danio rerio*). *Behavioural Brain Research* 208:450-457. 10.1016/j.bbr.2009.12.023

Figure 1

Trajectory for a single fish from a control trial.

(A) top view, (B) 3D reconstructed trajectory obtained from synchronizing trajectories from top and front views, and (C) front view. The color of the trajectory denotes the evolution of the position of the fish along the six-minute trial. The axes dimensions are 29 cm \times 8.5 cm \times 13 cm.

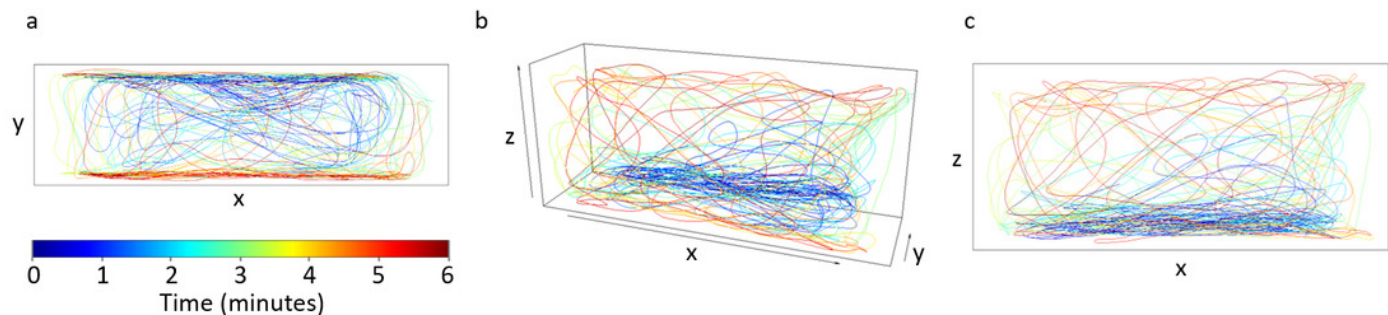


Figure 2

Principal components for the citalopram conditions.

Mean \pm standard error for (A) locomotion, (B) behavioral anxiety, and (C) positional anxiety, over six-minute trials, showing overall variation, as well as for each concentration of citalopram (control 0 mg/L, 30 mg/L, 50 mg/L, and 100 mg/L) based on the reconstructed trajectories in 3D. Filled symbols denote a significant difference from the first minute within each condition. Horizontal bar denotes a significant overall difference in time.

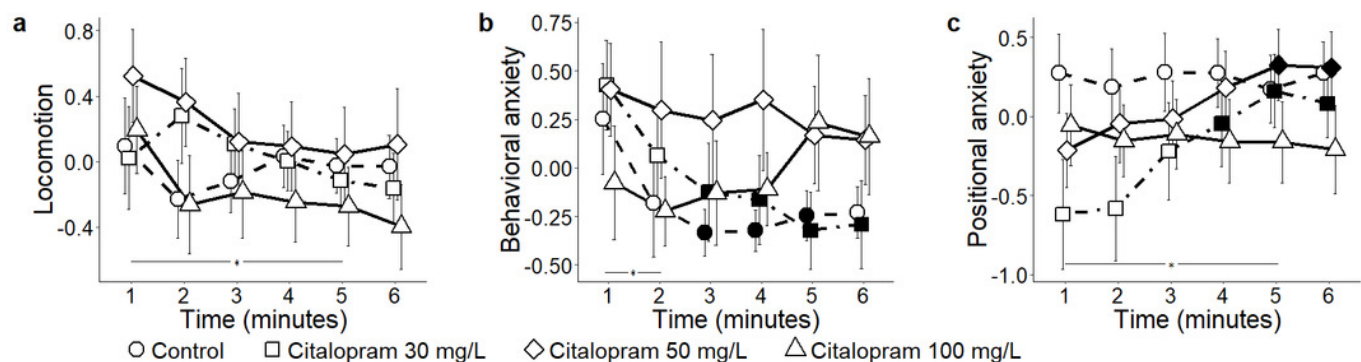


Figure 3

Principal components for the ethanol conditions.

Mean \pm standard error for (A) locomotion, (B) behavioral anxiety, and (C) positional anxiety, over six-minute trials, showing overall variation, as well as for each concentration of ethanol (control 0%, 0.25%, 0.50%, and 1.0%) based on the reconstructed trajectories in 3D. Filled symbols denote a significant difference from the first minute within each condition.

Horizontal bar denotes a significant overall difference in time.

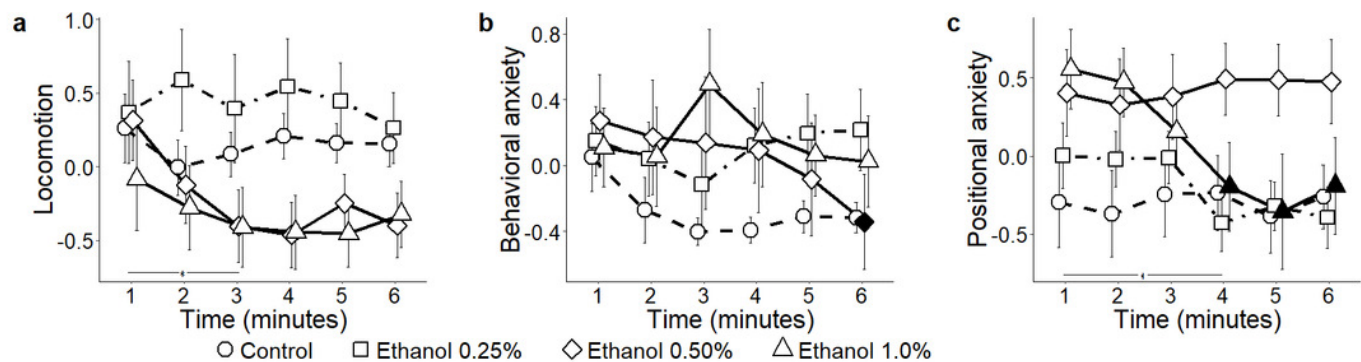


Figure 4

Behavioral parameters for the citalopram conditions.

Mean \pm standard error for (A) average speed, (B) average peak speed, (C) average angular speed, (D) average peak angular speed, (E) average acceleration, (F) average peak acceleration, (G) proportion of time spent within 3 cm of walls, (H) proportion of time spent in the top half of the tank, and (I) proportion of time spent freezing, over six-minute trials aggregated for all citalopram conditions, computed from 2D front and top views, and 3D reconstructed trajectories. Filled symbols denote a significant difference from the first minute within each condition. Horizontal bar denotes a significant overall difference over time. Filled symbols in the top right corner of each panel indicate a significant overall difference with respect to 3D data.

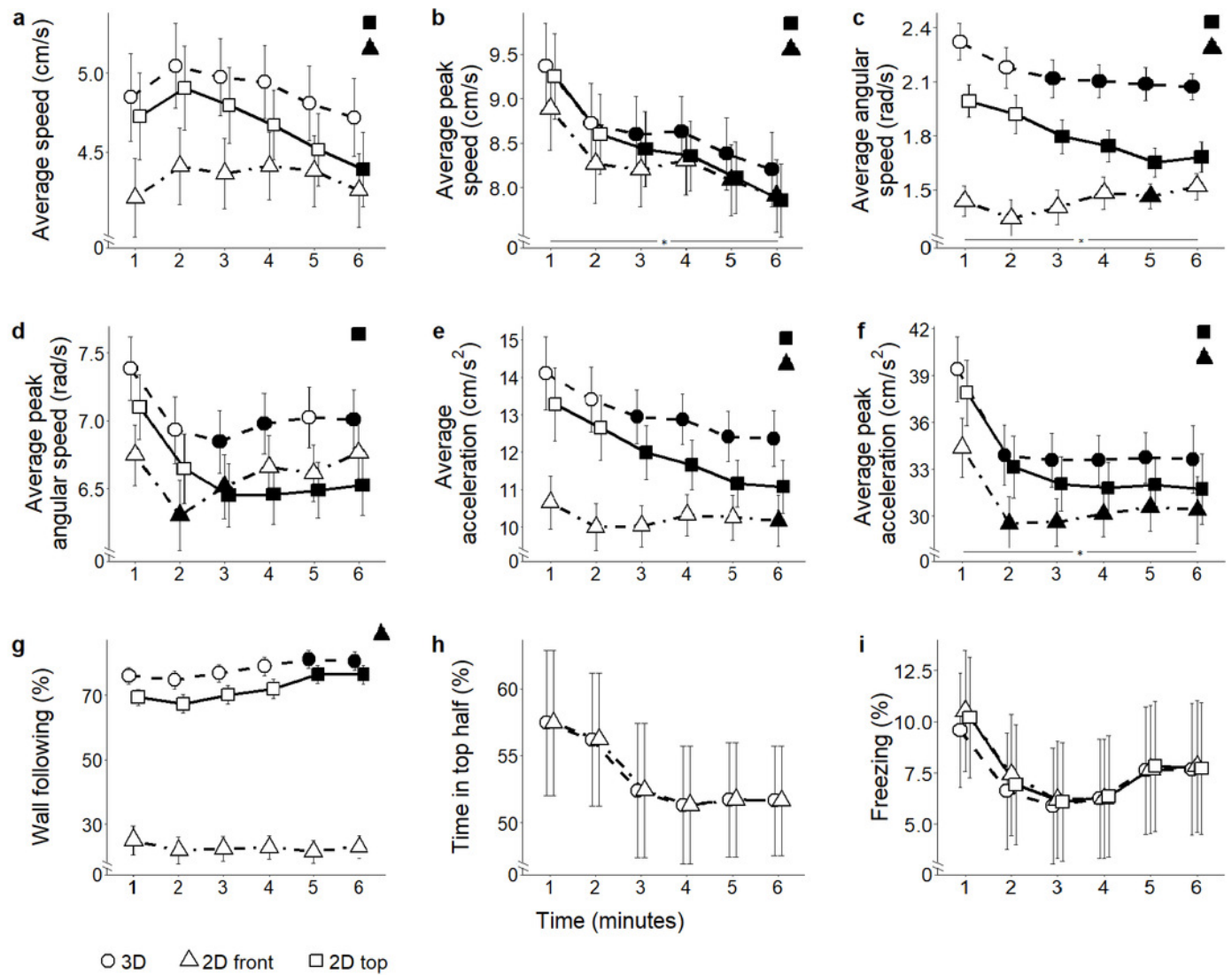


Figure 5

Behavioral parameters for the ethanol conditions.

Mean \pm standard error for (A) average speed, (B) average peak speed, (C) average angular speed, (D) average peak angular speed, (E) average acceleration, (F) average peak acceleration, (G) proportion of time spent within 3 cm of walls, (H) proportion of time spent in the top half of the tank, and (I) proportion of time spent freezing, over six-minute trials aggregated for all ethanol conditions, computed from 2D front and top views, and 3D reconstructed trajectories. Filled symbols denote a significant difference from the first minute within each condition. Horizontal bar denotes a significant overall difference over time. Filled symbols in the top right corner of each panel indicate a significant overall difference with respect to 3D data.

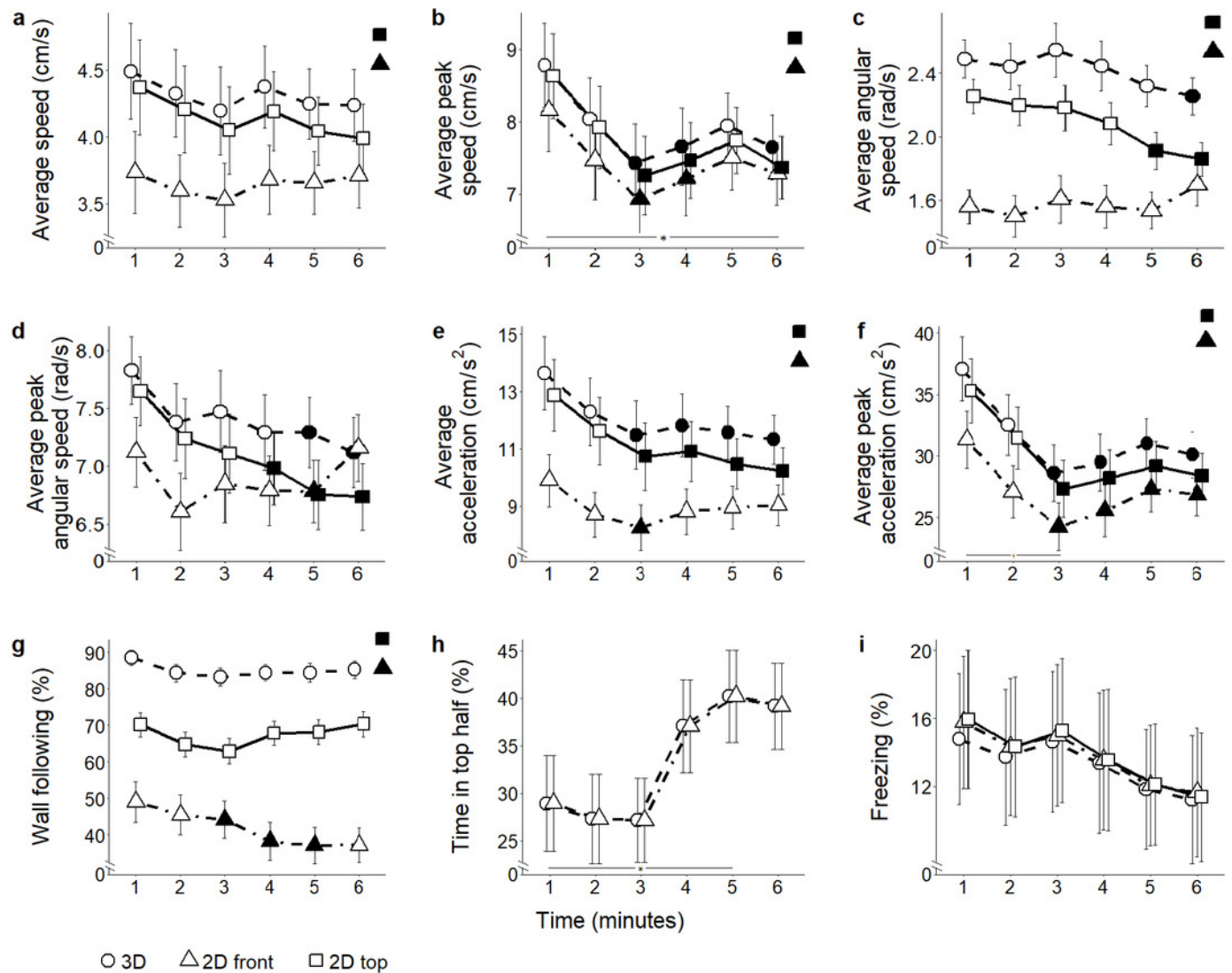


Table 1(on next page)

Principal component analysis.

Summary results from the principal component analysis for citalopram and ethanol conditions. Principal components with eigenvalue larger than 1 are shown. Loadings greater than 0.7 or smaller than -0.7 are emboldened; loadings smaller than 0.1 in magnitude are not displayed.

	Citalopram			Ethanol		
	Locomotion	Behavioral anxiety	Positional anxiety	Locomotion	Behavioral anxiety	Positional anxiety
Eigenvalues	4.29	2.34	1.19	4.29	2.47	1.06
Explained variance (%)	47.7	26.0	13.3	47.7	27.4	11.8
Cumulative variance (%)	47.7	73.6	86.9	47.7	75.1	86.9
Varimax-rotated loadings						
Speed	0.938	-0.261		0.924	-0.289	
Average peak speed	0.948	-0.172		0.953	-0.122	
Average angular speed		0.939			0.946	0.106
Average peak angular speed		0.971			0.976	0.113
Average acceleration	0.977			0.976		
Average peak acceleration	0.942			0.969		
Freezing	-0.542	0.760		-0.524	0.746	0.170
Wall following		0.176	0.817		0.309	0.670
Time in top half	-0.213		-0.788	-0.118		-0.873

Table 2 (on next page)

Number of false positive and false negative findings for citalopram.

Number of false positives and false negatives produced for each parameter when computed based on 2D top view and front view data, for the citalopram conditions. A false positive indicates that the 2D view (top or front) yields a significant result that is not supported by the 3D scoring approach. A false negative indicates that the 2D view (top or front) fails to detect a significant result that is instead evident from the 3D scoring approach.

Citalopram	Differences between 3D and 2D top view			Differences between 3D and 2D front view		
Parameters	False positives	False negatives	Total	False positives	False negatives	Total
Average speed	1	0	1	0	0	0
Average peak speed	0	0	0	0	2	2
Average angular speed	0	0	0	0	3	3
Average peak angular speed	1	0	1	0	2	2
Average acceleration	0	0	0	0	3	3
Average peak acceleration	0	0	0	0	2	2
Wall following	0	0	0	0	2	2
Time in top half	-	-	-	0	0	0
Freezing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	0	2	0	14	14

1

Table 3(on next page)

Number of false positive and false negative findings for ethanol.

Number of false positives and false negatives produced for each parameter when computed based on 2D top view and front view data, for the citalopram conditions. A false positive indicates that the 2D view (top or front) yields a significant result that is not supported by the 3D scoring approach. A false negative indicates that the 2D view (top or front) fails to detect a significant result that is instead evident from the 3D scoring approach.

Ethanol	Differences between 3D and 2D top view			Differences between 3D and 2D front view		
Parameters	False positives	False negatives	Total	False positives	False negatives	Total
Average speed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Average peak speed	0	0	0	0	1	1
Average angular speed	1	0	1	0	1	1
Average peak angular speed	1	0	1	0	1	1
Average acceleration	0	0	0	3	0	3
Average peak acceleration	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wall following	0	0	0	3	0	3
Time in top half	-	-	-	0	0	0
Freezing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	0	2	6	3	9