

Predictive feature remapping before saccadic eye movements

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Saccadic eye movements cause rapid and dramatic displacements of the retinal image of the visual world, yet our conscious perception of the world remains stable and continuous. A popular explanation for this remarkable ability of our visual system to compensate for the displacements is the predictive feature remapping theory. The theory proposes that, before saccades, the representation of a visual stimulus can be predictively transferred from neurons that initially encode the stimulus to neurons whose receptive fields will encompass the stimulus location after the saccade. Visual adaptation aftereffect experiments performed by Melcher (2007) provided psychophysical evidence for this theory. However, it was argued that the visual aftereffects were not measured at the “appropriate” remapped location (Rolfs, Jonikaitis, Deubel, & Cavanagh, 2011). Therefore, whether the remapped representation contains feature information (e.g., orientation, motion direction, or contrast) is still a subject of intense debate. Here, to explore the nature of the predictive transfer during trans-saccadic perception, we measured visual aftereffects (tilt aftereffect, motion aftereffect, and threshold elevation aftereffect) at the appropriate remapped location of adapting stimuli before saccades. We observed a significant tilt

aftereffect and motion aftereffect, but little threshold elevation aftereffect. Furthermore, the tilt aftereffect and motion aftereffect exhibited spatial specificity. These findings provide strong evidence for the predictive feature remapping theory and suggest that intermediate visual processing stages (i.e., extrastriate visual cortex) might be critical for feature remapping. Finally, we propose that the feature remapping process might also contribute to the spatiotopic representation of visual features.

Introduction

Visual adaptation aftereffect experiments performed by Melcher (2007) provided psychophysical evidence for this theory. However, it was argued that the visual aftereffects were not measured at the “appropriate” remapped location (Rolfs, Jonikaitis, Deubel, & Cavanagh, 2011). Therefore, whether the remapped representation contains feature information (e.g., orientation, motion direction, or contrast) is still a subject of intense debate. Here, to explore the nature of the predictive transfer during trans-saccadic perception, we measured visual aftereffects (tilt aftereffect, motion aftereffect, and threshold elevation aftereffect) at the appropriate remapped location of adapting stimuli before saccades. We observed a significant tilt

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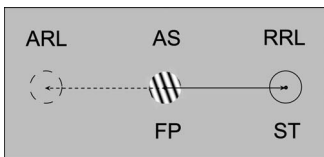


Figure 1. Appropriate remapped location of visual adaptor. In Melcher's study (2007), subjects adapted to a tilted grating presented at the initial fixation point. Then they were asked to make a saccade and judge the orientation of a test grating briefly presented at either the initial fixation point or the saccadic target location. According to Rolfs et al. (2011), the visual adaptor (i.e., the tilted grating) at the initial fixation point activates neurons that encode the adaptor's expected retinal location after the saccade. The remapping vector (dashed arrow) actually opposes the saccade vector (solid arrow). Therefore, the appropriate remapped location of the adaptor corresponds to the retinal position that the adaptor will have only following the saccade. FP: fixation point; ST: saccadic target; ARL: appropriate remapped location; AS: adapting stimulus; and RRL: reversed remapped location.

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q n : 1.5 /°; n n : -20° +20°; „-“

n „+“ n ;

2A).

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100% n 150 (n : 1.0; : 0.08°).

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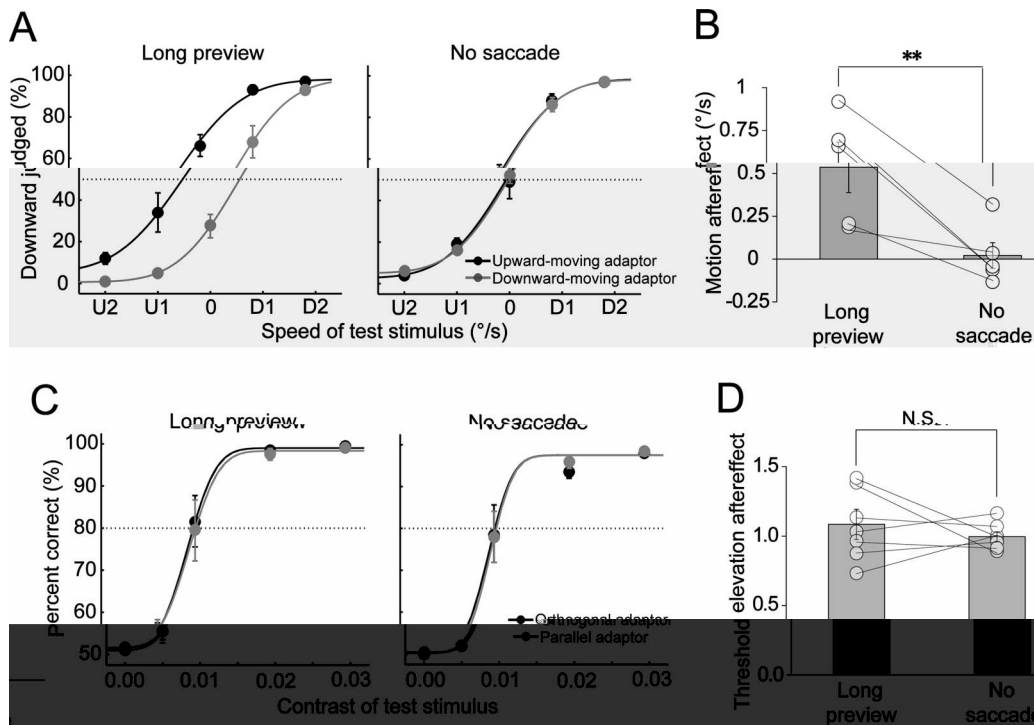
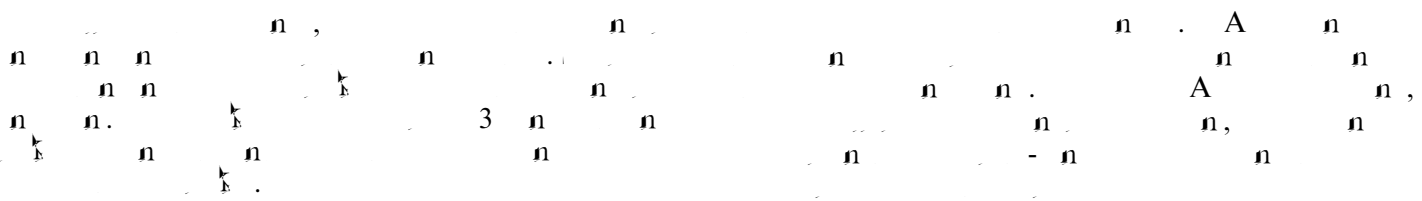


Figure 4. Results of Experiments 3 and 4. (A) Psychometric functions showing motion direction judgments after adapting to the upward- or downward-moving adaptor. The abscissa refers to the direction of test stimuli. U and D indicate that a test stimulus moved upward or downward. The ordinate refers to the percentage of trials in which subjects indicated that a test stimulus moved downward. (B) MAE magnitudes in the long-preview and no-saccade conditions. (C) Psychometric functions showing contrast detection performance after parallel or orthogonal adaptation. (D) TEAE magnitudes in the long-preview and no-saccade conditions. Data are plotted for each subject (lines and circles) as well as the group means (bars). Asterisks indicate a statistically significant difference between two conditions ($**p < 0.01$). Error bars denote 1 SEM calculated across subjects for each condition.



Data analysis

$\pm 20^\circ$

A

A

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4B).

Results

Experiment 1: Predictive remapping of orientation before saccade

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t(5) = 3.92, p

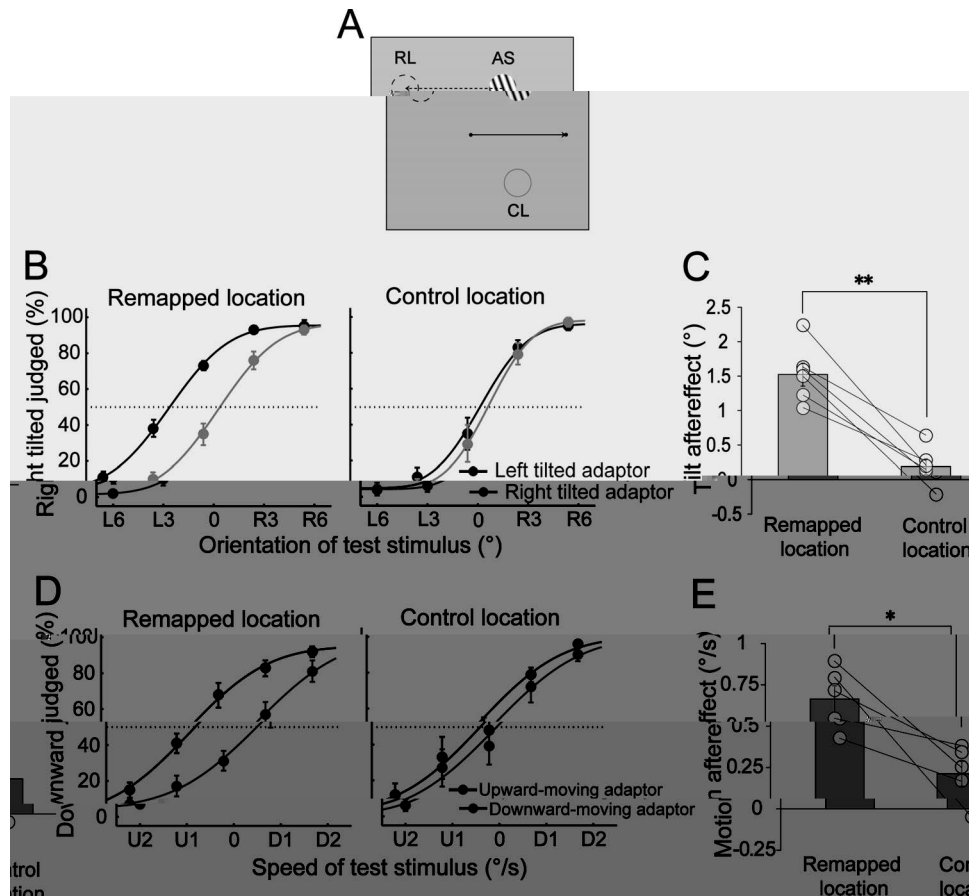


Figure 5. Results of Experiments 5 and 6. (A) The spatial location and the remapped location of the grating adaptor and the control location. RL: remapped location; AS: adapting stimulus; and CL: control location. (B) Psychometric functions showing orientation judgments after adapting to the left or right tilted adaptor. The abscissa refers to the orientation of test stimuli. L and R indicate that a test stimulus was left or right tilted. The ordinate refers to the percentage of trials in which subjects indicated that a test stimulus was right tilted. (C) TAE magnitudes at the remapped location and the control location. (D) Psychometric functions showing motion direction judgments after adapting to the upward- or downward-moving adaptor. The abscissa refers to the direction of test stimuli. U and D indicate that a test stimulus moved upward or downward. The ordinate refers to the percentage of trials in which subjects indicated that a test stimulus moved downward. (E) MAE magnitudes at the remapped location and the control location. Data are plotted for each subject (lines and circles) as well as the group means (bars). Asterisks indicate a statistically significant difference between two conditions ($*p < 0.05$; $**p < 0.01$). Error bars denote 1 SEM calculated across subjects for each location.

$= 0.011$, $t(5) = 3.82$, $p = 0.012$ (2-tailed).

Experiment 2: Time-dependent predictive remapping of orientation

(3A). A

$t(4) = 8.14$, $p < 0.01$, $t(4) = 3.97$, $p = 0.017$, $t(4) = 0.16$, $p = 0.878$.

Experiment 2: Time-dependent predictive remapping of orientation

(3A). A

$t(4) = 8.14$, $p < 0.01$, $t(4) = 3.97$, $p = 0.017$, $t(4) = 0.16$, $p = 0.878$.

$t(4) = 7.05, p < 0.01$; $t(4) = 3.67, p = 0.021$ (3C).
 $t(4) = 6.08, p < 0.01$.

Experiment 3: Predictive remapping of motion direction before saccade

A $t(4) = 3.62, p = 0.022$, $t(4) = 0.28, p = 0.791$.
 $t(4) = 4.58, p = 0.01$ (4A, 4B).
 A $t(4) = 8.20, p < 0.001$, $t(4) = 2.88, p = 0.045$.
 $t(4) = 3.95, p = 0.017$ (5, 5).

Experiment 4: Contrast information cannot be predictively remapped

$t(6) = 0.779, p = 0.465$, $t(6) = 0.105, p = 0.919$.
 $t(6) = 0.723, p = 0.497$ (4C, 4).
 A $t(6) = 0.779, p = 0.465$, $t(6) = 0.105, p = 0.919$.
 $t(6) = 0.723, p = 0.497$ (4C, 4).

& (1989), & (2004), & (2003); & (1995); & B (2003).

Experiments 5 and 6: Location specificity of predictive feature remapping

A $t(5) = 9.07, p < 0.001$, $t(5) = 1.67, p = 0.155$.
 $t(5) = 6.66, p < 0.001$ (5B, 5C).
 $t(4) = 8.20, p < 0.001$, $t(4) = 2.88, p = 0.045$.
 $t(4) = 3.95, p = 0.017$ (5, 5).

Discussion

(A, A, A) $t(4) = 8.20, p < 0.001$, $t(4) = 2.88, p = 0.045$.
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Wang, X., & Saccade, 1997; Wang, X., 1995; Wang, X., 2016; Wang, X., & Saccade, 2014), Wang, X., & Saccade, 2014, Wang, X. (2016). Wang, X. (2016).

Keywords: feature remapping, saccade, psychophysics, adaptation, visual aftereffect

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