



Journal of Neurodevelopmental Cognition

is an International Journal

Editor-in-Chief: Madjid Eshaghi-Gordji PhD Institute for Cognitive and Brain Science, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran

Director-in-Charge: Hamidreza Pouretemad PhD Institute for Cognitive and Brain Science, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Inaugural Issues (Vol. 1, 07/2018 and Vol. 2, 12/2018)

Important Dates:

Volume 1, July 2018

Manuscript Due Date	April 30, 2018
First Round of Reviews	June 30, 2018
Publication Date	July 30, 2018

Volume 2, December 2018

Manuscript Due Date	August 30, 2018
First Round of Reviews	October 30, 2018
Publication Date	December 30, 2018

Journal of Neurodevelopmental Cognition (JNCOG) is an international biannual peerreviewed journal that promotes experimental and theoretical contributions address neurocognitive development in both normal and abnormal directions. From this point of view, JNCOG has special interests in both normal neurocognitive development and pathogenesis of neurodevelopmental disorders. A primary focus is on the influence of the environmental and biological factors on the cognition-brain development using experimental psychology, brain mapping, computational modeling, and cognitive interventions in both human, animal, in-vivo, in-vitro and in-silico models.

JNCOG is published by <u>Shahid Beheshti University</u>, Tehran, Iran and sponsored by <u>Iranian</u> Society for Cognitive Science & Technology, free of page charges.

JNCOG started in 2017 with two issues per year.

Manuscripts will be reviewed for possible publication with the understanding that they have not been published, simultaneously submitted in review to any other journal while in review at JNCOG, or already accepted for publication in other journals. Manuscript decision is based on peer review process.

Editors evaluate submitted papers strictly on the basis of scientific merit with the help of peer review reports, regardless of authors' nationality, country of residence, institutional affiliation, ethnic origin, or political views.

There is No Page Charge for this journal.

A. Guide for Authors

i. Exclusivity

Manuscripts should be submitted with the understanding that they have neither been published, nor are under consideration for publication elsewhere, except in the form of an abstract. Prior abstract publications should be described in the form of a footnote to the title. Published manuscripts become the sole property of the Journal and will be copyrighted by Shahid Beheshti University Press. By submitting a manuscript to the Journal, the author(s) agree(s) to each of these conditions.

ii. Preparation of manuscripts

Manuscripts should be typeset in English with double spacing by using AMS-LaTex or Word files (*.doc). In the case of acceptance the author should prepare the paper by using the style file of JNCOG.

While you are preparing your paper for submission, please take care of the following:

- The first page should contain the complete title of the manuscript, full names and affiliations of all authors, institution(s) at which the work was performed, and name, address, telephone number for the author(s) responsible for correspondence. Authors should also provide a running head of not more than 60 characters (including spaces).
- The abstract should be no more than 250 words and should conform to the following guidelines:
 - o Do not use proprietary or trade names in the title or abstract.
 - o The use of the first person should be avoided.
 - Clearly summarize the results and conclusions of the work.
 - References are not permitted in the abstract.
- Manuscript keywords (search terms): On the first page of the manuscript, include a minimum of three (3), maximum of six (6), search terms that will aid in the discoverability of the article in indexing services and search engines. These terms may or may not be different from the terms you selected for the peer review process and areas of expertise. You will be asked to retype these search terms in the submission form when uploading your manuscript. These keywords will be included in the published article. If the search terms entered do not match the manuscript, the manuscript will serve as the default.
- The (full name) authors should include as footnotes for the first page, Keywords and Phrases. Other footnotes may also be included in the first page about supporting grants, presentations, etc.
- A long formula should be broken into two or more lines. Empty spaces in the text should be removed.
- Acknowledgement should be at the end of paper but preceding the references.
- TEXT INSTRUCTIONS:
 - o Title
 - Full names of all authors
 - o Affiliations of all authors
 - Abstract
 - o Keywords
 - Body (Include main headings: Introduction; Materials and Methods; Results; Discussion; Conclusion)
 - o Acknowledgments
 - o Disclosure Statement
 - o References
- Write the body of the manuscript as clearly and concisely as possible.
- To facilitate the review process, the use of sub-sections within main headings is strongly suggested. All original submissions should include the following main headings: Introduction; Materials and Methods; Results; Discussion; Conclusion.
- **Introduction**: State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.
- **Material and methods:** Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced. Methods already published should be indicated by a reference: only relevant modifications should be described.

- **Theory/calculation**: A Theory section should extend, rather than repeat, the background of the article already dealt with in the Introduction and lay the foundation for further work. In contrast, a Calculation section represents a practical development from a theoretical basis.
- Results: Results should be clear and concise.
- **Discussion:** This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.
- **Conclusions:** The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.
- **Appendices:** If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.
- The abstract, figure legends, acknowledgments, disclosure section, and references in the manuscript do not count towards word limits.
- Use Calibri or Arial fonts in 12-point type.
- Acknowledgments: After the Conclusion(s) section of the manuscript, include a separate section acknowledging any contributors who did not meet the requirements for authorship and any science writers or corporate employees who participated in the development of the manuscript. Also include acknowledgments of research support for the study.
- **References:** The reference section must be arranged in **alphabetical order**. The author is responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the references.
 - o **Journals**: (Abbreviate journal names in accordance with MEDLINE.)
 - G. Dawson, L. Carver, A. N. Meltzo, H. Panagiotides, J. McPartland, and S. J. Webb. Neural correlates of face and object recognition in young children with autism spectrum disorder, developmental delay, and typical development. Child Dev., 73:700-717, 2002.
 - o Conference Abstracts:
 - E. Ferrari, B. Robins, and K. Dautenhahn. Therapeutic and educational objectives in roboassisted play for children with autism. Pages 108-114, Toyama, Japan, Sept. 27 Oct. 2 2009. Proc. 18th IEEE Int. Symp. Robot Hum. Interact. Commun. (RO-MAN 2009).
 - o Books:
 - P. Kaufman and A. Alm. Adler's Physiology of the Eye: Clinical Applications. Elsevier, Philadelphia, 2003.

iii. Types of Paper

Authors are invited to submit

- Original Manuscripts (max. 15 pages): include 4500-5000 words, maximum of 10 figures and approximately 50 references.
- Review papers (no limit on max. number of pages): include approximately 7000–7500 words, no limit on figures, approximately 80-100 references.
- Letters (max. 4 pages): include 3000-3500 words, maximum of 6 figures, approximately 30 references.
- Short/ Rapid/ Brief Communication papers (max. 4 pages): include 3000-3500 words, maximum of 6 figures, approximately 30 references.



iv. Cover Letter

All submissions should be accompanied by a cover letter. Authors may include any relevant information they wish to convey to the Editor, but the cover letter must also assert the following:

- Each author listed on the submission significantly contributed to the work;
- The author listing is complete;
- No fraudulent or manipulated data was used;
- All reported data and results are authentic and valid;
- No contents of the submission have been plagiarized.

v. Highlights

Highlights are a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings and provide readers with a quick textual overview of the article. These three to five bullet points describe the essence of the research (e.g. results or conclusions) and highlight what is distinctive about it. Highlights will be displayed in online search result lists, the contents list and in the online article, but will not (yet) appear in the article PDF file or in print.

Author instructions:

Highlights should be submitted as a separate source file in EES (i.e. Microsoft Word not PDF) by selecting "Highlights" in the file name when uploading files. Please adhere to the specifications below

Specifications:

- 1. Include 3 to 5 highlights.
- 2. There should be a maximum of 85 characters, including spaces, in each highlight.
- 3. Only the core results of the paper should be covered.

Examples:

1. <u>Biochimica et Biophysica Acta (BBA), Bioenergetics, Volume 1807, Issue 10, October</u> 2011, 1364-1369

Highlights

- A conformational two-state mechanism for proton pumping complex I is proposed.
- The mechanism relies on stabilization changes of anionic ubiquinone intermediates.
- Electron-transfer and protonation should be strictly controlled during turnover.

2. Learning and Instruction, Volume 21, Issue 6, December 2011, 746-756

Highlights

- Fading of a script alone does not foster domain-general strategy knowledge.
- Performance of the strategy declines during the fading of a script.
- Monitoring by a peer keeps performance of the strategy up during script fading.
- Performance of a strategy after fading fosters domain-general strategy knowledge.
- Fading and monitoring by a peer combined foster domain-general strategy knowledge.

vi. Use of English Language

All submissions must be in English. Appropriate use of the English language is a requirement for review and publication in the Journal. For authors whose native languages are not English, and for those who wish to seek assistance to improve the compositional quality of their manuscripts, we suggest using a service that can aid in the translation and editing of material into correct and proper academic/business English. The publisher offers a paid editing service. Fees are determined on an individual basis and reflect the length and complexity of the document. Fees are solely the responsibility of the author(s). Employing this service, or any other editing service, does not imply or guarantee acceptance of any submission. It serves simply to improve the manuscript for proper English grammar and usage, rendering it more presentable for review purposes and potential publication. For more information regarding the Publisher's editing services, contact Jncog@sbu.ac.ir

vii. Disclosure Statement

Immediately following the Acknowledgments section, include a section entitled "Author Disclosure Statement." This text must be included before the references. In this portion of the manuscript, authors must disclose any commercial associations that might create a conflict of interest in connection with submitted manuscripts. This statement should include appropriate information for EACH author, thereby representing that competing financial interests of all authors have been appropriately disclosed according to the policy of the journal. It is important that all conflicts of interest, whether they are actual or potential, be disclosed. This information will remain confidential while the manuscript is being reviewed and will not influence the editorial decision.

If no conflicts exist, the authors must state "No competing financial interests exist."

Please see the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals at www.icmje.org/index.html#conflicts for further guidance.

viii. Preparation of Figures and Legends

Figure Legend Instructions:

- Include a separate page in the manuscript containing all table and figure legends.
- Prepare legends double-spaced.
- Define all relevant information in figures, including figure part labels, footnotes, abbreviations, acronyms, arrows, and levels of magnification in insets.
- Each figure should have a corresponding figure legend, and should be brief and pertinent.

The depiction of data presented in *JNCOG* is of the utmost importance to our audience. Please be sure to follow these specific guidelines for submitting figures:

- Do NOT embed art files into a Word or PDF document. Figures provided in this format cannot be used for production purposes
- Line illustrations should be submitted at 900 dpi
- Halftones and color should be submitted at a minimum of 300 dpi
- To ensure proper print quality, please submit only TIFF or EPS files. JPEG files are for screen representation-quality only and will print very poorly during the printing process

- Color art must be saved as CYMK—not RGB. (Note: If RGB files are submitted, the files will be converted to CYMK and some color variation will occur. This conversion could result in misinterpretation of data)
- PowerPoint and Excel figures cannot be uploaded
- Use 12-point Times New Roman or Arial fonts for any labeling within figures

There are no associated fees for online publishing color art.

ix. Preparation of Tables

Table Instructions

Prepare all tables on separate pages in Word or AMS-LaTex. Cite tables in the order in which they appear in the text using Arabic numerals. Provide a **table title** for all tables.

Chemical Formulae and Mathematical Equations

Wherever possible, write mathematical equations and chemical formulae on a single line. Please submit complex chemical structures as figures. Number equations sequentially in Arabic numerals at the right margin.

Abbreviations

Please include a list of all abbreviations used in the article. All acronyms and their definitions should be spelled out in a separate list on a separate page immediately after the title page. Acronyms should be defined the first time they are listed in the text. JNC discourages the use of unnecessary acronyms. Overuse of acronyms can cause reduced clarity and therefore the use of acronyms should be limited whenever possible.

IMPORTANT

Please upload **individual files** of all manuscript material—do **NOT** upload a single PDF file containing all text, figure, and table files of your manuscript. Once all individual files are uploaded to Manuscript Central, the system will automatically create a single PDF proof for the peer-review process.

x. Submission

Your manuscripts should be written in good English using LaTeX or Word. We strongly prefer to receive manuscripts via our online submission system. Using this system, authors can upload manuscript files (text, figures and supplementary information, including video) directly to our office and check on the status of their manuscripts during the review process. In addition, reviewers can access the manuscripts (in a highly secure fashion that maintains referee anonymity) over a direct internet link, which speeds up the review process.

The submission should include the original source (including all style files and figures) and a PDF version of it. So submissions should be sending online in the web site: www.jncog.ir and by emailing the PDF file of your manuscripts to the Editor-in-Chief at: jncog@sbu.ac.ir

LaTex JNCOG package
Word JNCOG package

Please follow these instructions carefully.

Revisions, including manuscripts submitted after a presubmission inquiry, should be uploaded via the link provided in the editor's decision letter. Please do not submit revisions as new manuscripts.

IMPORTANT! Please note that not more than 2 papers per calendar year, per author and co-author can be submitted to Journal of Neurodevelopmental Cognition.

Articles under consideration for the journal should be **neither published nor submitted for publication** elsewhere.

xi. Referee

A submitted paper will be refereed in the traditional way by at least two referees. Any member of editorial board will try to make the decision within 3 months after submission. If necessary, the author(s) would be asked to revise the manuscript according to the referee reports. The editorial board reserves the right to make reasonable modifications in wording.

XII. Requirements for Submitting Reviewers

1) Please prepare a list of 8 (eight) proposed reviewers.

You <u>MUST</u> include <u>Full Names</u>, <u>Department</u>, <u>University</u>, <u>Country and Email Addresses</u> for <u>each</u> proposed reviewer. This list should not contain names which have been suggested by you or any of your co-authors for previously submitted manuscripts. It should be a globally geographically diverse list of potential reviewers; there should be no more than two suggested referees from any particular area/region/country.

If you, or any of your co-authors, have submitted to our journal previously, please note that you must have a different list of reviewers for each manuscript submitted.

All proposed reviewers **MUST be fluent in English** to ensure the integrity of each review and the correct processing of all manuscripts.

2) Proposed reviewers <u>MUST BE</u> knowledgeable in your area of research and these reviewers should not be persons with whom any of the authors have in the past or currently have a personal/working/professional relationship (i.e., instructors, co-workers, advisors, students, former co-authors, etc.).

xiii. Accepted articles

If a paper is accepted, the corresponding author will be required to provide the LaTeX or Word file of it, **without changes**, using the style of the journal given in the <u>link</u>. Please ensure the References are produced in the same style as the sample article.

xiv. Copyright

Submission of a manuscript implies that the work described has not been published before (except in the form of an abstract or as part of a published lecture, review, or thesis); that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication has been approved by all co-authors, if any, as well as (tacitly or explicitly) by the responsible authorities at the institution where the work is carried out. Upon acceptance of any manuscript, all authors will receive a follow-up email with instructions on how to complete our online Copyright Agreement form (CAF). It is critical to ensure the accuracy of ALL authors' email addresses when uploading submissions to Manuscript Central to ensure the proper delivery of all email communications.

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xvi. Page Proofs

An email containing a link to the PDF file of the page proof is sent to the corresponding author. The proof should be read very carefully and returned within 3 days to the Publisher with the author's approval and/or corrections.

xvii. Post-Publication Corrections

Any reported errors in published articles will be researched by the authors and/or Editor(s) and addressed appropriately. If errors are found to have merit, the online version of the article will be corrected, and if deemed appropriate by the Editor, a full correction page will be issued in the next available issue.

xviii. Retraction Policy

Articles may be retracted or withdrawn by their authors, academic or institutional sponsor, editor or publisher, due to:

- Scientific misconduct;
- Unsubstantiated, irreproducible, or falsely reported/fabricated data;
- Plagiarism;
- False representation;
- Other forms of intentional impropriety;
- Widespread error.

xix. Publishing Ethics

JNCOG is committed to maintaining high standards through a rigorous peer-review together with strict ethical policies. Any infringements of professional ethical codes, such as plagiarism, fraudulent use of data, bogus claims of authorship, should be taken very seriously by the editors with zero tolerance.

JNCOG follows the Code of Conduct (http://publicationethics.org/resources/code-conduct) of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) (http://publicationethics.org/), and follows the COPE Flowcharts (http://publicationethics.org/resources/flowcharts) for Resolving Cases of Suspected Misconduct.

xx. Definitions of Scientific Misconduct

JNCOG generally follows the guidelines and rules regarding scientific misconduct put forth by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), and the Office of Research Integrity (ORI).

Scientific misconduct and violation of publishing ethics vary and can be intentionally or unintentionally perpetrated. Some examples of misconduct and violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Scientific Misconduct:** Fabrication, falsification, concealment, deceptive reporting, or misrepresentation of any data constitutes misconduct and/or fraud.
- Authorship Disputes: Deliberate misrepresentation of a scientist's contribution to the published work, or purposefully omitting the contributions of a scientist.
- **Misappropriation of the ideas of others**: Improper use of scholarly exchange and activity may constitute fraud. Wholesale appropriation of such material constitutes misconduct.
- Violation of generally accepted research practices: Serious deviation from accepted practices
 in proposing or carrying out research, improper manipulation of experiments to obtain biased
 results, deceptive statistical or analytical manipulations, or improper reporting of results constitute
 misconduct and/or fraud.
- Material failure to comply with legislative and regulatory requirements affecting research: Including but not limited to serious or substantial, repeated, willful violations of applicable local regulations and law involving the use of funds, care of animals, human subjects, investigational drugs, recombinant products, new devices, or radioactive, biologic, or chemical materials constitutes misconduct.
- Conflict of Interest: Nondisclosure of any conflicts, direct or indirect, to the Journal which prevents you from being unbiased constitutes misconduct.

- **Deliberate misrepresentation:** of qualifications, experience, or research accomplishments to advance the research program, to obtain external funding, or for other professional advancement constitutes misconduct and/or fraud.
- Plagiarism: Purposely claiming another's work or idea as your own constitutes misconduct and/or fraud.
- **Simultaneous Submission:** Submitting a paper to more than one publication at the same time constitutes misconduct.

IMPORTANT! Research performed on human subjects must be accompanied by a statement of compliance with the Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association (Declaration of Helsinki) and the standards established by the author's Institutional Review Board (IRB) and granting agency. Informed consent statements, if applicable, should be included with the manuscript stating that the nature of the experimental procedures was explained to the subjects. When the data reported in a manuscript are made available for sharing, a statement that IRB approval and informed consent for such data sharing is also required. Photographs of recognizable subjects must be accompanied by signed consent of the subject of publication.

IMPORTANT! Experiments on animals should be carried out in accordance with the guidelines published in the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (8th Edition, 2011) and be accompanied by a statement of approval by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

xxi. Data and Algorithm Ownership, Management, and Data Sources

Data and Algorithm Ownership

Ownership of the data generated by research reported in *JNCOG* publications is presumed to lie with the authors. Similarly, algorithms for data processing, statistical analysis or data interpretation are presumed to be the intellectual property of the authors. Release of ownership of data or algorithms is not a condition of publication in *JNCOG*. The CAF, described above, pertains solely to as-published text and figures and does not extend to tabular data or source data, either physical or digital, or to algorithms or software. If ownership of digital data or software is released by the authors either by the terms of the agreement with the funding agency or by the authors' choice, the ownership status should be described. If the data used in a *JNCOG* publication were obtained from some other outside source, the source of the data should be described and appropriately acknowledged. Similarly, all free software used for data processing should be fully described and appropriately acknowledged.

Data and Software Sharing

http://jncog.sbu.ac.ir/ http://jncog.ir/

11

If access is being granted to digital data or software reported in a *JNCOG* publication, the means of access together with any terms and conditions should be described in a Data and Software Sharing sub-section of the Methods section. Descriptions of shared data must be accompanied by a statement that this data sharing was approved by or exempted by the author's IRB and granting agency and that informed consent for such data sharing was obtained from the subjects.

For example:

"Standardized coordinates and experimental meta-data for this study are available online through the BrainMap® database (brainmap.org). These data have been classified as not human-subject data and are IRB exempt."

"The BrainMap®//Sleuth workspace for the meta-analysis reported here is available at BrainMap.org/publications. These data are IRB exempt."

"Primary per-subject data for this study, including image data and behavioral data can accessed online at the National Database for Autism Research (NDAR.nih.gov), in accordance with the terms of the funding agreement. This data sharing has been approved by the IRB and was specified in the informed consent signed by each study participant."

"Source data for this study have been contributed to the Thousand Functional Connectomes Project (Biswal et al., 2010) and are available through the Neuroimaging Informatics Tools and Resources Clearinghouse (NITRC) at http://fcon_1000.projects.nitrc.org/."

"The statistical analysis software described and validated here is open source and can be accessed at github.com"

Data Sources

If the research reported in a *JNCOG* publication uses data obtained from a third-party source, the source should be stated in the Methods (e.g. in a sub-section entitled Data Source), together with any filter criteria used to sub-sample the data source.

For example:

"All coordinate data used in this ALE meta-analysis were accessed through the BrainMap® database."

"Resting-state fMRI data used here were the NKI-Rockland sample, and were accessed through the Thousand Functional Connectomes Project hosted by the Neuroimaging Informatics Tools and Resources Clearinghouse (NITRC) at http://fcon_1000.projects.nitric.org."

"All data used in this study were obtained from the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI-info.org), hosted by the University of Southern California (USC) Laboratory of Neuroimaging at adni.loni.usc.edu."

Authors must abide by the terms of any Data Sharing Agreement required for data access. This may require individual or group co-authorship or acknowledgement of the funding source and Data Sharing Agreement.

For example,

http://jncog.sbu.ac.ir/ http://jncog.ir/

12

"This project was made possible by a collaboration agreement allowing comprehensive access to the BrainMap® database, a copyrighted electronic compilation owned by the University of Texas Board of Regents."

B. Peer Review Process

Manuscripts not adhering to journal guidelines will be returned to authors without scientific evaluation. After the **Editorial Board** confirms that a submitted paper meets the aims and scope of the journal, it will be sent to one or two experts, advised by the Editorial Board or by a member of the Honorary Associate Editors, to review it. The Editorial Board prepares a decision letter according to the comments of the reviewers, which is sent to the corresponding author. A submitted paper will be refereed in the traditional way by at least four referees. Any member of editorial board will try to make the decision within 3 months after submission. If necessary, the author(s) would be asked to revise the manuscript according to the referee reports. Thus, based on the referee's report, the **Editorial Board** decides on the paper as follows:

The manuscript will be accepted, if all peer reviewers recommend the manuscript be accepted. The manuscript will be rejected, if more than half of peer reviewers recommend the manuscript be rejected. In all other cases the reviewers' comments will be sent back to the submitting author to revise the manuscript.

This journal uses double-**blind review**, which means that both the reviewer and author identities are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa, throughout the **review** process.

Accepted articles: If a paper is accepted, the corresponding author will be required to provide the LaTeX file or Word file (*.doc) of it that has been prepared, without any changes, using the style of the journal. Please ensure the **Bibliography** is produced in the same style as the sample article.

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- Managing Editor: Jamal Amani Rad PhD, Institute for Cognitive and Brain Science, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran, Email: <u>j_amanirad@sbu.ac.ir</u>

D. Contact us

Editor-in-Chief: Madjid Eshaghi Gordji PhD, Institute for Cognitive and Brain Science, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran, meshaghi@semnan.ac.ir

Director in Charge: Hamidreza Pouretemad PhD, Institute for Cognitive and Brain Science, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran, h-pouretemad@sbu.ac.ir

Managing Editor: Jamal Amani Rad PhD, Institute for Cognitive and Brain Science, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran, j. amanirad@sbu.ac.ir

Address: Institute for Cognitive and Brain Science, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran

Tel. 98-21-22431617 E-mail: jncog@sbu.ac.ir

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14