Repeated imagination of a future event increases our belief that it will happen in the future, but only for uncertain events

Autobiographical knowledge conditions the effect of repeated simulation on belief in the future occurrence of imagined events

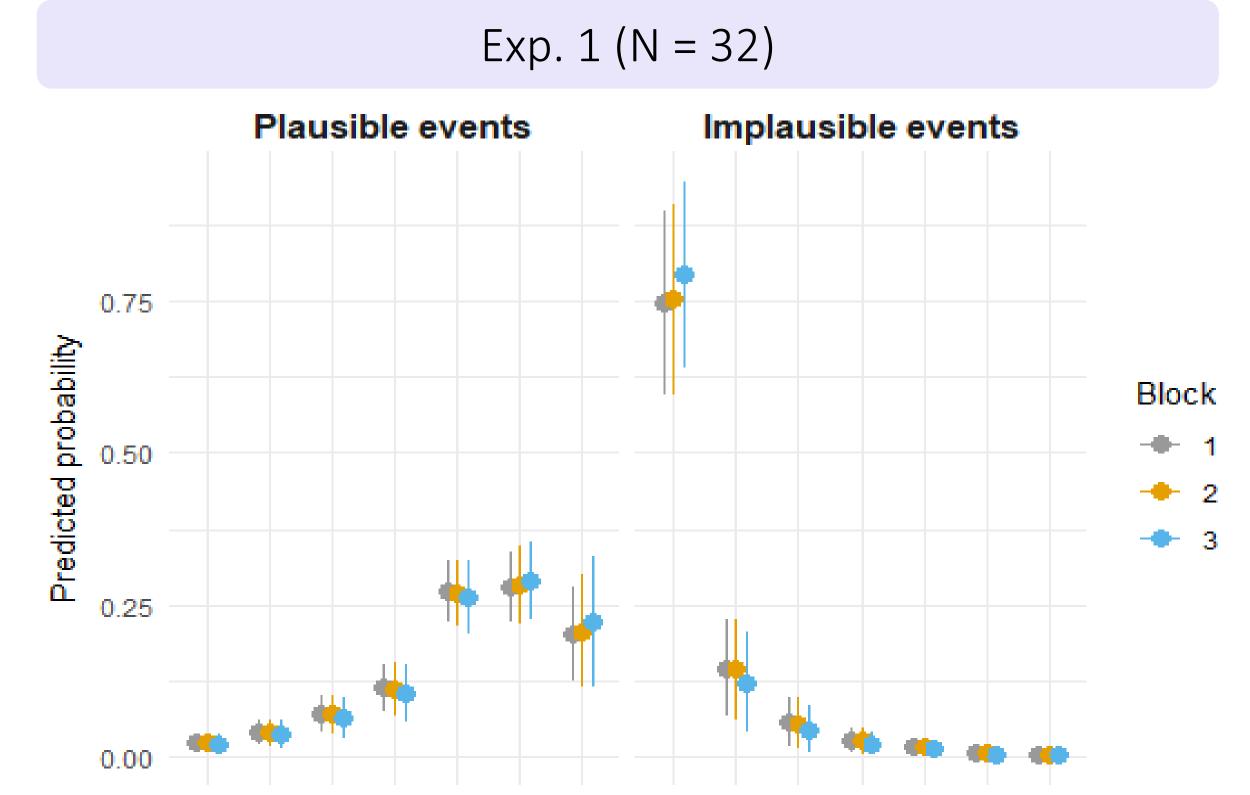
<u>Claudia</u> Garcia Jimenez, Giuliana Mazzoni, & Arnaud D'Argembeau



Belief in future occurrence plays a key role in guiding our decisions and actions

This belief may increase with repeated simulation

This increase may be conditioned by the consistency of the event with autobiographical knowledge



Participants repeatedly (3 x 15 sec) imagined future events holding different levels of integration with autobiographical knowledge

• All types of events became more detailed and took less time to construct

 But belief increased only for uncertain events – events already believed in or considered implausible were not influenced by repetition

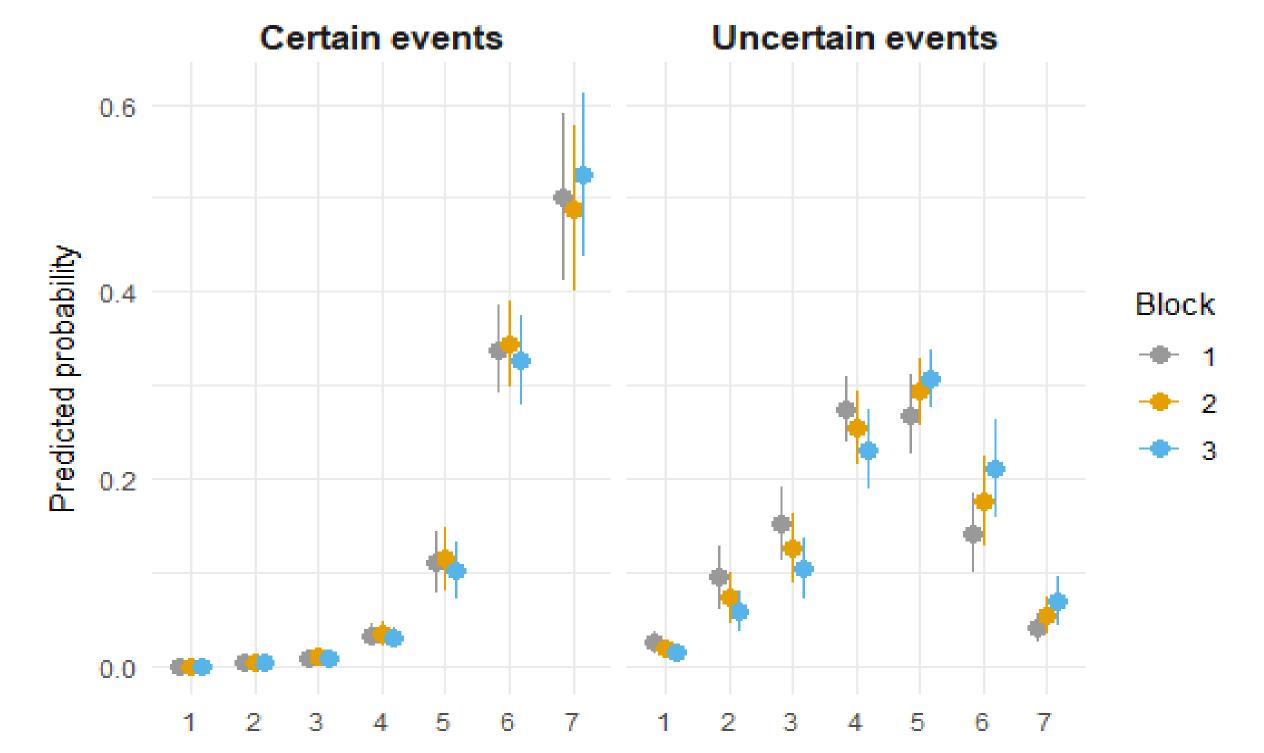
Autobiographical knowledge plays a major role in determining belief in future occurrence, not only as a predictor of the initial belief in novel future events, but also as a modulating factor in the evolution of belief over repeated simulation.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Belief rating Estimate SE z-value p ock 2 0.04 0.21 0.18 .854 ock 3 0.13 0.23 0.59 .555

| Block 2 0.04 0.21 0.18 .854 Block 3 0.13 0.23 0.59 .555 Event Type (Implausible) -4.79 0.49 -9.87 <.001 Block 2 * Type (Impl.) -0.06 0.35 -0.19 .852 Block 3 * Type (Impl.) -0.39 0.36 -1.10 .270 | Predictors | | | | 7- |
|---|--------------------------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| Event Type (Implausible)-4.790.49-9.87<.001 | Block 2 | 0.04 | 0.21 | 0.18 | .854 |
| Block 2 * Type (Impl.) -0.06 0.35 -0.19 .852 | Block 3 | 0.13 | 0.23 | 0.59 | .555 |
| | Event Type (Implausible) | -4.79 | 0.49 | -9.87 | <.001 |
| Block 3 * Type (Impl.) -0.39 0.36 -1.10 .270 | Block 2 * Type (Impl.) | -0.06 | 0.35 | -0.19 | .852 |
| | Block 3 * Type (Impl.) | -0.39 | 0.36 | -1.10 | .270 |

(within-subject designs, analyzed with ordinal mixed model)

Exp. 2 (N = 69)



Belief rating

| Predictors | Estimate | SE | z-value | p |
|------------------------|----------|------|---------|-------|
| Block 2 | -0.05 | 0.15 | -0.32 | .744 |
| Block 3 | 0.09 | 0.15 | 0.62 | .537 |
| Event Type (Uncertain) | -3.15 | 0.27 | -11.77 | <.001 |
| Block 2 * Type (Unc.) | 0.34 | 0.20 | 1.67 | .095 |
| Block 3 * Type (Unc.) | 0.46 | 0.21 | 2.25 | .024 |





Scan the QR code to download the poster (or to get in touch!)

