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EFFECTS OF CONCURRENT SCHEDULES OF CONTINGENT AND
NONCONTINGENT REINFORCEMENT ON A SINGLE RESPONSE

by

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A dissertation submitted to the Graduate
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This manuscript has been read and accepted for the Graduate Faculty in Psychology in satisfaction of the dissertation requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

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Sincere thanks are due to my dissertation committee. I dedicate this manuscript to my wife and to the memory of my father.

ABSTRACT

A review of the positive noncontingent reinforcement literature was presented. The topics covered were "superstition," "noncontingent reinforcement during extinction," "auto-shaping," "positive conditioned suppression," "time-in to noncontingent reinforcement," and "concurrent schedules of contingent and noncontingent reinforcement." The emphasis of the discussion was on procedures, data, and theories.

In Experiment I, different groups of pigeons were first trained to key-peck according to either a 60 second, 120 second, or 240 second t -schedule in which the first response to occur during a three second t^D period was immediately reinforced. Subsequently, noncontingent reinforcement was superimposed on each baseline schedule. The temporal separation between the contingent and noncontingent reinforcers was systematically varied across sessions. During a later phase of the study, the response requirement for the reinforcement in the baseline schedule was removed, thus resulting in a schedule of total noncontingent reinforcement.

In Experiment II, pigeons were reinforced for the first response in a 60 second T cycle whenever it occurred in the interval. Noncontingent reinforcement was introduced and varied as in Experiment I, with the exception

that not all experimental phases were covered.

A major finding from both studies was that subjects maintained about equal running response rates prior to contingent and noncontingent reinforcement across each of the experimental phases. Overall running response rates did not systematically vary throughout the study as a function of noncontingent reinforcement placement. The removal of the contingent baseline reinforcer in Experiment I (substituting noncontingent reinforcement) resulted in decreased rates prior to both noncontingent reinforcers. This finding demonstrated that response rates prior to the original noncontingent reinforcer were not independent of the presence of contingent reinforcement. The data also showed that post-reinforcement pause durations and the distribution of responses prior to contingent and noncontingent reinforcement varied as a function of the temporal separation between the two reinforcers. The results from the two experiments were related to previous research, and the value of schedules such as those employed was discussed.

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INTRODUCTION

General Introduction

Firmly set at the foundation of the field of conditioning is the notion of contingency. A contingency is a rule which states a conditional relation between responses and stimuli (operant conditioning) or between stimuli and stimuli (classical conditioning). Schedules of stimulus presentation, including reinforcement and discriminative stimulus schedules, represent various blendings of such conditional relations.

As Pavlov (1927) used the term, contingency involved the pairing of stimuli. The rule usually stated that the unconditional stimulus (UCS) would occur some time after the presentation of the conditional stimulus (CS). It was not until Skinner's (1938) work that the significance of contingency as a relation between responses and stimuli became apparent. He made a case for the control of behavior by the arrangement of consequences. Control was achieved by the establishment of a dependency between the occurrence of a particular response and the presentation of a reinforcement. Recently, Schoenfeld and Farmer (1970) have made the definition of contingency more explicit: a contingency exists if the distribution of responses in time determines the subsequent distribution of reinforcement in time; if this relation is absent, i.e., if responding does not influence reinforcement occurrence,

the requirements for noncontingency have been satisfied. Contingency and noncontingency may also be conceived in terms of the response class eligible for reinforcement. As a class of responses (Skinner, 1938) becomes larger, more of an organism's responses become eligible for reinforcement. Contingency and noncontingency anchor the end points of this response class continuum. Under this conception of contingency, all schedules are contingent, in the sense that the distribution of responses in time determines (to a greater or lesser extent) the distribution of reinforcers in time.

One end of the above continuum--noncontingency--has important implications for a general problem of behavior theory: the necessary and sufficient conditions for learning, where learning translates to the acquisition and maintenance of responses. The review of the literature to follow attempts to demonstrate that behavior comes under the control of reinforcement whether that reinforcement is contingent or noncontingent. It further attempts to demonstrate continuity between contingent and noncontingent schedules. The important point about reinforcement is that it controls behavior. The rationale for making that reinforcement contingent may have more to do with experimenters' biases and technological limitations (i.e., using conventional dependent variables it is difficult to measure specific responses under certain noncontingent schedules) than with contingency being more important in the acquisition

and maintenance of behavior.

The review will be organized around topics which involve noncontingent positive reinforcement (S_{NC}^R). Schedules of noncontingent shock presentation will not be included, nor will much be said about noncontingent delivery of "neutral" stimuli (except when they are paired with S_{NC}^R as in the auto-shaping and positive conditioned suppression paradigms). The exclusion of these topics reflects problems of space and should not be taken to mean that the author believes that they are not related to the scope of the review. A major purpose of including research from varied areas of study is to demonstrate their interrelation when these so-called "different procedures" are classified in terms of independent variables.

Superstition

The research on superstition is important because it points out that reinforcement affects the frequency of responses whether or not responses produce the reinforcement. Yerkes (1916) noted that reinforcements often controlled responses of his orangutans even when the performance of those responses was "irrelevant" in the sense that reinforcers occurred independently of their emission. Later, Skinner (1948) performed his now famous demonstration of "superstitious" behavior. He delivered food to pigeons at either fixed or variable time intervals with no reference to ongoing behavior. Stereotyped response

patterns such as head bobbing and turning were controlled despite the fact that an explicit contingency between a specific response and S^R was absent. The finding was discussed in terms of the effects of "adventitious contingencies": ". . . the bird happens to be executing some response as the (food) hopper appears, as a result it tends to repeat this response. If the interval before the next presentation is not so great that extinction takes place, a second 'contingency' is possible. This strengthens the response still further [p. 168]." The inter-reinforcement interval (IS^R_T) was suggested as being a powerful variable determining the effectiveness of noncontingent reinforcement (S^R_{NC}) in conditioning particular responses. The shorter the IS^R_T , the quicker the conditioning. Because a dependency was not established between the occurrence of a response and S^R_{NC} , Skinner noted that the form of a superstition could "drift" after repeated exposure to a schedule. Drift resulted because responses other than those making up the superstitious class might occur at the time of S^R_{NC} and thus would be reinforced. Skinner concluded that the term contingency may mean nothing more than a reinforcer reliably follows a response.

Herrnstein (1966) discussed the acquisition of superstitions in terms of response dominance, and the drift of superstitions in terms of the effects of reinforcing "other behavior." Skinner's pigeons developed responses such as head bobbing and turning because these behaviors were

already dominant in the pigeons' repertoires. Behavioral drift occurred because no dependency existed between a specific response and reinforcement (S^R), thus permitting responses other than those constituting a particular superstitious class to be reinforced.

A replication of the superstition experiment was done by Staddon and Simmelhag (1971). They presented food to pigeons at fixed and variable time periods, independent of any specific responses. The animals developed two topographically distinct classes of responses: interim responses, which occurred just after S_{NC}^R , and terminal responses, which occurred just prior to S_{NC}^R . The former class was associated with times of low S^R probability and the latter with high S^R probability. When the authors compared rates of pecking under contingent and noncontingent schedules, they observed that pecking occurred at equal rates during both types of schedules. However, the location of pecking under S_{NC}^R was more variable than under contingent reinforcement (S_C^R). A specific response-reinforcer ($R-S^R$) contingency serves to decrease the variability of response location--thus serving a selection function (see also Staddon, 1972, 1973; Bolles, 1972). While Skinner (1948) and Herrnstein (1966) argued that S^R strengthened behavior preceding it, Staddon and Simmelhag (1971) emphasized that S^R directly determines what behavior will proceed it.

The major point from the review thus far is that an organism's behavior comes under the control of S^R even

when a prescribed R-S^R contingency is absent. The power of a contingency is that it limits those responses which are eligible for S^R. From the start, the superstition paradigm posed problems from the standpoint of measurement. For example, dependent variables such as rate of response or post-reinforcement pause (the time from S^R to the next response) could not be easily used in the superstition experiment because the experimenter looks at gross movements in space which are then verbally described (Skinner, 1948; Kellogg, 1949; Davis and Hubbard, 1972). In their study, Staddon and Simmelhag (1971) used a complex topographical measurement scheme. However, this method is not entirely satisfactory because the recording of responses was done by a human observer. There are obvious limits on the number and kinds of measurements that can be accurately and reliably recorded by humans. For reasons such as these, many studies of S_{NC}^R involve giving subjects a specific history of S_C^R for making a particular response and then changing the schedule to one of S_{NC}^R. The interest is one of studying the effects of various parameters of S_{NC}^R on a specified response. The next section of this paper will review the literature relevant to this experimental tactic.

Changeover from S_C^R to S_{NC}^R

A way to assess the effectiveness of S_{NC}^R in maintaining specific responses is to give an organism a history of S_C^R and then switch to a schedule of S_{NC}^R. Studies of this

type permit one to analyze changes in various dependent variable measures such as responses rate, post-reinforcement pause (PS^{R_P}), and $R-S^R$ intervals. The studies reported below have been subdivided on the basis of the type of S^R schedule investigated. Several studies could have been incorporated into more than one category, but have been placed into that one which seems most germane.

Fixed interval-fixed time. Skinner (1938) trained rats on a fixed interval 6 minute (FI 6') schedule, then placed them on a fixed time 6 minute (FT 6') schedule, and finally returned them to the FI schedule. Response rates were much lower during the S_{NC}^R phase. Herrnstein (1966), using FI 11" and FT 11" schedules, replicated Skinner's procedures and results with pigeons. He concluded that if behavior other than key-pecking was followed closely in time by S^R it would be more likely to occur again. As more "other" behaviors and less key-pecking were reinforced, their respective rates would increase and decrease. Edwards, West and Jackson (1968) replicated Herrnstein's procedures and results.

Zeiler (1968) exposed pigeons to FI- and FT-6 minute schedules. While response rates dropped considerably under the FT schedule, the "scalloping" pattern characteristic of FI schedules remained. Zeiler concluded that while response rates were determined by the presence or absence of a contingency, response patterning was

controlled by the temporal parameters of the schedule in effect. Appel and Hiss (1962) trained pigeons on a FI 4 minute-FT 4 minute multiple schedule. Although they obtained higher rates in the FI component, temporal patterning developed and was maintained in both components.

Shull (1970, 1971) has shown that, in addition to response patterning, PS^{RP} lengths in FI schedules do not depend on the presence or absence of a contingency, although response rates do. The important determinant of PS^{RP} length is the value of the IS^{RT} .

Variable Interval-Variable Time. In variable schedules, S^R is presented after irregular intervals; the variable interval (VI) or variable time (VT) values specified (e.g., VI 2 minutes, VT 3 minutes) represent the means of the individual component intervals. In VI schedules a particular response is required at the end of each component interval; in VT schedules, S^R is delivered at the end of each interval independent of responding.

Zeiler (1968) found that response rates were lower in a VT 5 minute schedule when compared to a VI 5 minute schedule, a result consistent with those obtained with fixed schedules. Response patterning under the VT and VI schedules was similar and hence did not depend on the presence of a contingency.

The question of how much training on a contingent S^R schedule to maintain responding during S_{NC}^R was studied

by Neuringer (1970). He gave pigeons three contingent S^R s for key-pecking and then switched them to a variety of VT schedules (VT 30 seconds, 1 minute, 2 minutes). All pigeons maintained pecking during each phase of S_{NC}^R . The implication of Neuringer's study is that there is a relationship between the amount of training on contingent schedules and subsequent maintenance of responding on noncontingent schedules. The precise nature of this relation has yet to be experimentally determined.

Rescorla and Skucy (1969, Experiment 1) compared the effects of S_{NC}^R with those produced by an extinction procedure. They gave rats lever press training on a VI 2 minute schedule and then divided them into groups which either were continued on VI, placed on extinction, given S_{NC}^R according to a VT 2 minute schedule, or received S_{NC}^R on a VT 2 minute schedule with the addition that S_{NC}^R was never delivered within 5 seconds following a bar press. They found that, relative to extinction, S_{NC}^R "retarded" rate decrease even when a minimum R- S_{NC}^R interval was imposed. Several differences between the noncontingent and extinction results were noted: response rate reductions occurred more slowly across 20 sessions and reached a slightly higher asymptote in the S_{NC}^R group; when S_{NC}^R was presented on the VT 2 minute schedule during session 21 for the extinction group, these rats showed a marked rate increase, while the same procedure showed no effect in the S_{NC}^R groups (see also Halliday and Boakes, 1971; Boakes,

1973).

Rescorla and Skucy (1969) posit that relatively high rates could be expected during FT schedules following FI training because of the positively accelerated response rates produced by FI schedules. Such prior training sets up an "empirical correlation" between responses and S^R during exposure to FT. In VI schedules, such a temporal distribution is usually not present and this was one reason why they used a VI schedule. However, Rescorla and Skucy did not test the hypothesis that animals would maintain higher rates during S_{NC}^R when they were previously trained on a FI baseline. Lattal (1972) exposed rats to a multiple FI 1 minute - VI 1 minute schedule and then switched them to a multiple FT 1 minute - VT 1 minute schedule. He found that FT response rates were higher than VT response rates after initial FI-VI training. Also, the rats showed temporal response distributions in the two noncontingent components similar to patterns maintained by FI and VI schedules. Like Edwards, Peek and Wolfe (1970) and Rescorla and Skucy (1969), Lattal believes that the baseline schedule of S_C^R determines the degree to which responding is maintained during S_{NC}^R .

Lattal and Maxey (1971, Experiment 1) compared VI and VT schedules in a multiple schedule design. Rats were trained on a multiple VI 1 minute - VI 1 minute schedule. Subsequently, one, then both, components were changed to VT 1 minute. Consistent rate differences developed and

were maintained between the VI and VT components. Performance in the VI component showed no systematic changes, while rates in VT gradually dropped when compared to rates during the VI phase of training. When both components were VT, rates in each dropped further (see also Wilkie, 1972; Boakes, 1973). When exteroceptive cues were removed from a multiple VI-VT schedule (making it a mixed schedule), and when the component values were relatively short, Lattal (1973) found that equally high rates were maintained in both components.

Fixed ratio - fixed time. The types of baseline schedules employed in studies of noncontingent reinforcement have typically been fixed or variable interval in order to permit continuity between the contingent and noncontingent phase of the experiments. Furthermore, the IS^R_T distributions during S^R_{NC} have been approximately equal to those during S^R_C . It is also possible to give an organism a history on ratio schedules of S^R_C and then to expose it to a variety of S^R_{NC} schedules. To date, there has been relatively little work in this area. Edwards, Peek and Wolfe (1970) trained rats on fixed ratio (FR) baseline schedules and then switched the schedules such that S^R_{NC} was presented alone or at fixed times concurrent with the FR schedules. In addition, different IS^R_{NC} distributions were investigated along with manipulations of the size of the FR schedules. Subjects maintained higher rates when S^R_{NC} was

presented concurrent with a FR schedule; and for a given FR schedule, rates were higher at the longer $IS_{NC}^R T$ distributions. When the $IS_{NC}^R T$ distribution was held constant, with the FR schedule systematically reduced, response rates dropped. When S_{NC}^R was presented alone, rates gradually decreased across successive sessions. In sum, the magnitude of rate decrease depended on the magnitude of change in either the FR or the $IS_{NC}^R T$ values.

Random interval - random time. A random interval (RI) schedule is one having a repeating time cycle (T) and a probability of S^R ($p(S^R)$) for the first response in each T. The ratio T/p is the predicted mean $IS^R T$ when each T has at least one response occurring in it (Farmer, 1963). RI schedules become RT schedules when irregular pulse trains are substituted for responses. Thus, S_{NC}^R is delivered without respect to the organism's responses.

In all of the studies of interval schedules discussed above the frequency of S_{NC}^R has been approximately equal to the frequency employed during the baseline condition of S_C^R . Lachter (1970) trained pigeons on a 5 component multiple schedule in which each component was correlated with a different frequency of S_C^R (T= 0, 3, 6, 12, and 24 seconds; $p(S^R)= .10$). Parenthetically, the T= 0 schedule is one in which every response is eligible for S_C^R at the prevailing probability. Subsequently, all subjects were exposed to the following single component schedules

of S_{NC}^R for 30 sessions each: FT 30 seconds, FT 60 seconds, FT 120 seconds, RT 30 seconds, RT 60 seconds, RT 120 seconds. During the noncontingent phases of the study, the stimuli remained the same as during the baseline condition. Following exposure to each S_{NC}^R value, the original multiple schedule baseline condition was recovered. The results showed that response rates in the presence of the components of the multiple schedule decreased with continued exposure to S_{NC}^R at all the $IS_{NC}^R T$ distributions studied; the rate decreases were greatest during the stimuli which were associated with the lowest response rates and lowest frequencies of S^R during RI training. The only exception to this finding involved the T cycle equal to 0 in which rates declined faster than rates under the other T cycles, possibly due to the large decrease in S^R frequency under the stimulus condition correlated with that schedule. Except where $T = 0$, response rates controlled by S_C^R determined the control over pecking during exposure to S_{NC}^R . Lachter (1970) and Lachter, Cole and Schoenfeld (1971) discussed the rate decreases observed during S_{NC}^R in terms of the extinction of a key peck response and the strengthening of "not responding" (\bar{K}) (see also Schoenfeld and Farmer, 1970).

Cole (1973) trained pigeons on a multiple RI 60 second- RI 60 second schedule. He then added a RT 60 second schedule to the second component, thereby doubling its frequency. Next, while the S_{NC}^R schedule remained in effect, the $p(S_C^R)$ in the second component was systematically

lowered until a value of zero was obtained. Subsequently, the birds were exposed to a series of single component schedules of S_{NC}^R , after which they were returned to the multiple RI - RT schedule. Key-pecking rates decreased as the frequency of concurrent S_C^R was decreased, and a low rate was maintained for 40 or more sessions of the single component RT schedules. The results were discussed in terms of the two classes of behavior that were available for S^R under S_C^R and S_{NC}^R schedules. One response class (key-pecking) must be part of the sequence which precedes S_C^R ; in the other class, \bar{K} would precede S_{NC}^R and be strengthened as a result. When response classes are changed as a result of S_{NC}^R from responding (R) to \bar{K} , the observed outcome is a drop in R rate.

Variable delay - fixed time. In all of the studies above, response rate decreases were obtained with continued exposure to S_{NC}^R . Several studies have reported low but stable rates after many sessions of S_{NC}^R . However, none of these studies have shown rates during S_{NC}^R that were equivalent to rates during conditions of S_C^R . Lang and Mankoff (1973) trained a pigeon on a variable delay (VD) schedule having a T cycle of 15 seconds and a $p(S_C^R)$ of 1. A VD schedule is one in which S_C^R is presented at the end of each T cycle in which at least one response has occurred. After exposure to this condition for 31 sessions, S_{NC}^R was substituted for S_C^R ; S_{NC}^R was delivered at the end of each T cycle

whether or not a response occurred in the cycle. Other pigeons were trained on a 4 component VD multiple schedule, with each component having different T values and the same $p(S_C^R)$. After approximately 54 sessions, S_{NC}^R was substituted for S_C^R at the end of each T cycle. Response rates for the pigeons exposed to the single component schedule were maintained for 31 sessions at values near or above the rates obtained during the VD baseline. A similar finding was obtained for the multiple schedule subjects-- S_{NC}^R delivered at the same T and p values employed during the VD baseline resulted in maintenance of rates for 55 or more sessions of S_{NC}^R . The authors suggested that since the VD schedule permitted S_C^R to be delivered at times other than immediately following a key peck, the difference between the patterns of behavior reinforced on the VD and S_{NC}^R schedules were small. That is, since R may be reinforced on the VD schedule, when it is also reinforced on the S_{NC}^R schedule a minimal disruption in the total sequence of responding will occur. The Lang and Mankoff (1973) work is relevant to the delay of reinforcement literature (e.g., Skinner, 1938; Ferster, 1953; Dews, 1960; Azzi, Fix, Keller, and Rocha e Silva, 1964; Ferster and Hammer, 1965; Pierce, Hanford and Zimmerman, 1972). In the delay literature, the major independent variable of interest is the imposed delay between a specified response and S^R . Rates in delay schedules are usually lower than those controlled by similar no-delay contingent schedules (Cole, Lachter, and

Schoenfeld, 1973). Presumably, this difference is due to the reinforcing of R in the delay procedure. Lang and Mankoff's data suggest that the important variable determining response rates in delay and S_{NC}^R schedules is the delay interval between responses and S^R , whether it is determined by the experimenter or the subject.

Summary. The typical result after a contingent reinforcement schedule is switched to a noncontingent one is a drop in response rates, although it has been shown that certain training procedures may produce similar rates under S_C^R and S_{NC}^R schedules. The rate decrease during S_{NC}^R has been found when RI, VI, FI, and FR contingent baseline schedules were employed. Another general finding is that the form of response patterning generated by temporally defined S_C^R schedules persists under similar S_{NC}^R schedules. Also, PS^{RP} lengths do not depend on the presence or absence of a $R-S^R$ contingency but rather on the IS^R_T .

S_{NC}^R Following Extinction

In the preceding section, the interest was in the consequent effects of S^R . It is also reasonable to assume that S^R serves as a stimulus for further responding. A test of this notion is not possible using the type of designs employed above. The studies reviewed below provide some data on stimulus effects of S^R , unconfounded by their consequent effects. An analysis of these effects may

contribute to a better understanding of S_{NC}^R .

Reid (1957) performed the first study of S_{NC}^R delivery after an extinction procedure. Rats, pigeons, and students were given various amounts of regular S_C^R (S_C^R for each response) training for lever pressing, key pecking, or playing a slot machine. Subsequently, extinction (S_C^R withheld) was carried out for three 30 minute sessions (rats and pigeons) or until the subject met a criterion of no responding for one and one-half consecutive minutes (students). When S_{NC}^R was presented after the exposure to extinction, all subjects made at least one response following S_{NC}^R . Reid discussed his results in terms of the concept of response chaining. During training, a rat, for example, learned a sequence of bar pressing, food eating, returning to the bar, and pressing again. S_C^R acquired a stimulus as well as a reinforcing role. In extinction, responses were never reinforced and thus decreased in frequency. When S_{NC}^R was presented, its stimulus characteristics were sufficient to produce a response. However, with repeated S_{NC}^R presentations, it could be expected that the contingent effects of S_{NC}^R would take hold and thereby strengthen other behavior.

Spradlin, et al. (1966) and Spradlin et al. (1969) studied the effects of presenting S_{NC}^R to mentally retarded children after they had been exposed to extinction procedures. The children were first given FI training. After extinction was completed (in both cases a criterion of no

responding was established) S_{NC}^R was presented. Subjects responded after S_{NC}^R . In the 1969 study, a buzzer was also randomly presented. The results showed that eight of twelve subjects responded most during the 1 minute period following S_{NC}^R ; only two responded most after the buzzer. Spradlin, et al. (1969) accounted for their findings by offering a chaining analysis similar to Reid's (1957).

Rescorla and Skucy (1969, Experiment 2) emphasized stimulus characteristics of S^R that are quite independent of its contingent effects: "These stimulus characteristics evoke a variety of behaviors in the organism, both learned and unlearned . . . food undoubtedly has a general excitatory effect, increasing activity and consequently the probability of bar pressing. In addition, food is a stimulus in the presence of which an animal has previously been reinforced for bar pressing [p. 384]." Thus, these authors believe that S_{NC}^R serves a general excitatory function, thus increasing many operant levels (including the response in question).

Lattal and Maxey (1971, Experiment 2) trained rats on a multiple VI 1 minute - VI 1 minute baseline. The second component was then changed to extinction. The schedule was then switched to VI 1 minute - VT 1 minute for one session. Five to six single session VI - VT probes were then interspersed between successive five session VI-Ext (extinction) conditions. Following the last probe, the VI component was also changed to extinction for 10, 20, or 30 sessions for

different subjects. Single VT probe sessions were conducted to study the effects of S_{NC}^R after various amounts of extinction. Changeover from VI - VI to VI - Ext resulted in rate decreases in the Ext component. The VT probes generally increased rates in extinction with the effect dissipating somewhat across probes. The Ext - Ext procedure resulted in rate decreases in both components. The VT probes caused rate increases during both components. This effect became less dramatic with successive probes. The authors related the effects of the VT probes to response probability at various stages of extinction--the greater the probability, the more probable S_{NC}^R will be closely paired with a response. However, Rescorla and Skucy's (1969) results did not confirm this hypothesis (see below).

Lattal (1972) showed that when rats trained on a FI - VI baseline were later changed to FT - VT, they showed higher rates in the FT component. He also showed that when these animals were exposed to a sequence of multiple FI - VI to multiple Ext - Ext to multiple FT - VT, the rates of responding were higher in the FT component of the last schedule. The large rate increases when the FT - VT schedule followed Ext - Ext were not shortlived, lasting 11 sessions for one rat, 14 for another (these were the number of days at this condition). One rat did not show much rate increase in the VT component.

Conclusions and discussion. The above studies have shown that food can acquire stimulus properties as a

result of previous experimental histories. However, the effects produced by S_{NC}^R may be confounded by adventitious pairings of responses and S_{NC}^R and by the possibility that many novel stimuli intruded into an organism's behavior stream could cause an increase in responding. These two problems deserve some comment.

It is probably true that close response- S^R pairings occasionally occurred in the Lattal (1972) study and that these were sufficient to maintain responding across sessions. It would have been helpful if the author would have empirically determined response- S_{NC}^R intervals. Adventitious pairings do not, however, account for all of the responding maintained in these studies. For example, Rescorla and Skucy (1969, Experiment 2) introduced S_{NC}^R after differing amounts of extinction, that is, when different rates of responding were present. They found that response rates increased when S_{NC}^R was first delivered, but the increase did not systematically relate to the ongoing response rate when S_{NC}^R was presented. As in the Lattal (1972) study, Rescorla and Skucy did not determine actual response- S_{NC}^R intervals during extinction. Spradlin, et al. (1966) and Spradlin, et al. (1969) imposed minimum response- S^R intervals from one to four minutes, and found that their subjects responded. It appears, then, that S^R does have stimulus effects.

It might be posited that any abrupt stimulus change could be sufficient to initiate responding during

Ext. Razran (1939), for example, found an increase in the magnitude of a classically conditioned response when a novel stimulus was presented during extinction. In controlled studies, Spradlin, et al. (1969) and Campbell, et al. (1968) showed that S_{NC}^R produced much larger increments in rates during extinction than an auditory stimulus which had not been paired with S_C^R during baseline training. Estes (1943, 1948) demonstrated that a tone, paired with S_{NC}^R during a pre-training phase, produced increases in response rate when it was presented alone during an extinction phase which followed FI training (however, see Farthing, 1971). The conclusion to be drawn from this work is that S^R acquires its power to reinitiate responding during extinction as a function of its previous inclusion in the R- S^R -R sequence. It has been demonstrated that novel stimuli in and of themselves are not sufficient to produce the effects reported above, and that novel stimuli may acquire stimulus effects as a result of their prior pairing with S_{NC}^R .

Auto-shaping

The preceding research has established that S_{NC}^R can acquire stimulus effects as a result of its prior pairings with a response. Research also indicates that S_{NC}^R can generate and sustain consistent rates of particular responses when no R- S^R contingency is imposed. The method employed in these studies involves the delivery of S_{NC}^R

contingent upon the occurrence of a stimulus, not a response (Pavlov, 1927). Brown and Jenkins (1968) called this procedure auto-shaping, because of the behavioral effect it produced. They presented an eight second key-light which terminated with four seconds of food. If pigeons pecked the response key during the light, the light was terminated and the food hopper was presented. If no response occurred during the light the food was presented at the end of eight seconds. As a control, other birds received the same training as above except that the order of the hopper and keylight was reversed. They found that the key peck developed for all birds in the light-food group, but occurred in only two of 12 birds in the food-light group. The authors stated that

. . . the emergence of the key-peck may be characterized as a process of auto-shaping on which a direction is imposed by the species-specific tendency of the pigeon to peck at things it looks at. The bird notices the onset of the light and perhaps makes some minimal motor adjustment to it. The temporal conjunction of reinforcement with noticing leads to orienting and looking toward the key. The species-specific look-peck coupling eventually yields a peck to the trial stimulus [p. 7].

Once this occurs, a peck- S^R contingency has been established.

In addition to pigeons, various auto-shaping procedures have been employed with rhesus monkeys (Sidman and Fletcher, 1968), squirrel monkeys (Gamzu and Schwan, 1974), quail (Gardner, 1969), rats (Davidson, et al., 1971), fish (Squier, 1969), dogs (Smith and Smith, 1972), and other

organisms. In one study, Sidman and Fletcher (1968) employed a procedure similar to Brown and Jenkins'. Several differences included the use of rhesus monkeys as subjects, the pairing of the CS with an unlighted food tray (the food tray was lit when grain was presented in the Brown and Jenkins study), the random shift in locus of the key-light between three response keys, and food pellets were used as S_{NC}^R . All subjects responded within the first 60 light- S_{NC}^R pairings (compared to a range of 6 to 119 for Brown and Jenkins' pigeons). The results demonstrated that the acquisition of responding to the lighted key does not depend on a consummatory response to a lighted food tray. This finding argued against an explanation of responding to the lighted key as being a result of stimulus generalization from the lighted food tray. It also showed that the auto-shaping procedure does not demand that the subject's (rhesus monkey) responses to the key be the same as its responses to the S^R . Confirmation of this view comes from a study by Wasserman (1973), who showed that chicks would peck at a light signal which reliably predicted noncontingent heat. In light of data with pigeons, the issues pertaining to the above statements become blurred. For example, Schwartz (1973) found that auto-pecking would not develop when a tone served as the signal for food made available in a lighted hopper. Also, Moore (1973) and Jenkins and Moore (1973) showed that the topographies of key-pecking for pigeons differed, depending on whether food

or water was used as S_{NC}^R . Pecking with food as S_{NC}^R was open beaked, sharp, and vigorous; pecking with water as S_{NC}^R was closed beaked, slow, and sustained. In any event, further systematic studies, both within and across species, are needed to clarify the problems.

Williams and Williams (1969) imposed a "negative contingency" between pecking during a trial and S^R delivery. Pecking during a light canceled the occurrence of the food at the end of that trial. If no response was made, S_{NC}^R was presented at the end of the trial. They found that pecking still occurred. One bird acquired between five and 20 S_{NC}^R s per session out of a possible 50. The authors point out the similarity of their procedure to classical conditioning and state that their results can best be explained by the principles which govern classically conditioned responses. Herrnstein and Loveland (1972, Experiment 4), using pigeons and a similar procedure to Williams and Williams, also found that birds pecked even though those pecks canceled S_{NC}^R .

Hursh, Navarick, and Fantino (1974) presented data which suggested that Williams and Williams (1969) may not have eliminated all contingent sources of S^R from their procedure. For example, each response during a trial terminated the key-light, and key-light offset could have been reinforcing since it immediately preceded S_{NC}^R on trials when no pecking occurred. Eliminating this source of S^R , Hursh, et al. found that pecking ceased in three of

four pigeons studied (however, see Schwartz, 1972). Schwartz and Williams (1972a) further determined the contingent sources of S^R in the "negative contingency" paradigm. They compared key-pecking rates and preferences between response keys that were identical in terms of their association with S_{NC}^R (i.e., matched on stimulus-reinforcer characteristics). The keys differed in the contingencies imposed between key-pecking and S_{NC}^R presentation (i.e., response-reinforcer characteristics). Trials were randomly presented in which either a red or white response key was lit. Red key trials were set up so that a response prevented S_{NC}^R from being delivered; responses on white key trials had no scheduled effects. S_{NC}^R s during white key trials were yoked to match the S_{NC}^R frequency obtained on red key trials. There were also choice trials in which the red and white keys were both illuminated, with no S_{NC}^R being presented. All pigeons pecked more on the white key trials and preferred the white key on choice trials. Recently, Gamzu and Schwan (1974) suggested that species-variables may determine the extent to which responding is maintained in the "negative contingency" paradigm. Specifically, squirrel monkeys ceased responding in such a procedure.

Schwartz and Williams (1972b) have made detailed analyses of the direct and contingent effects of food presentation. When a "negative contingency" was in effect, pigeons' pecks were almost exclusively of short duration. When a "positive contingency" was in effect (i.e., pecking

during a trial immediately resulted in S^R), pecks were of longer duration. Short pecks were insensitive to differential S^R , while longer duration pecks were amenable to such conditions. It was suggested that two classes of responding were controlled by S^R --a class which is directly enhanced by food presentation, and a class which is controlled by its consequences. The biological appropriateness of a pigeon's pecking when presented with food was emphasized (see also Seligman, 1970; Moore, 1973).

As mentioned above, Williams and his associates have stated that auto-shaping is consistent with both theory and data of classical conditioning. Several of the studies mentioned above resemble Pavlovian delay conditioning. Gamzu and Williams (1971) extended this work by employing a method which avoided any fixed or predetermined temporal relationship between the signal for S_{NC}^R and S_{NC}^R . A response key-light was periodically lit for 8.6 seconds but S_{NC}^R was not presented at the end of that period. Rather, there was a probability of .03 that S_{NC}^R would be presented at the beginning of each second of key illumination. Two conditions were studied: a differential condition in which the probability of S_{NC}^R was zero during inter-trial intervals (ITI) and .03 during each trial; and a nondifferential condition in which the probability of S_{NC}^R was .03 during ITIs and trials. Pecks were recorded but had no scheduled consequences. All birds developed pecking during the differential condition, but rates were

near zero during the nondifferential condition. Gamzu and Schwartz (1973), Gamzu and Williams (1973), and Gonzalez (1973) replicated these findings. In all three studies, a precise relation between the key light and S_{NC}^R was not necessary. It was only necessary for the light to serve as a differential cue for S_{NC}^R (also see Bilbrey and Winokur, 1973). The low rates during the nondifferential condition suggested that adventitious S^R of pecking did not play a major role in the studies. Gamzu and Williams (1973) stated that "auto-shaping depends on the 'informativeness' of key illumination with respect to reinforcement. It seems likely to propose that the stimulus-reinforcer association . . . that is effective in auto-shaping is paradigmatically the same as the correlation that is effective in classical conditioning [p. 231]." (See also Rescorla, 1967.)

Ricci (1973) studied signal- S_{NC}^R intervals of 30 and 120 seconds. Pecks during the signal had no effects, and S_{NC}^R was presented at the end of each trial. All birds pecked during the signal, although the subjects in the 120 second condition took longer for pecking to develop. When either the 30 second or 120 second stimuli were subdivided into four sections, each differentially cued, birds showed a rate increase across the four sections. Birds exposed to only one stimulus cue did not show this "scalloping."

Conclusion. Inherent in the findings and positions

presented in this section is the notion that the response class chosen for "operant" experiments has important implications for the data obtained. Skinner (1938) considered the operant to be a relatively arbitrary bit of behavior. Its topography and form are not so important as the fact that behavior can be measured and controlled by its consequences. This paraphrase is at the heart of the law of effect. Concerning Skinner's (1938) argument against "botanizing" responses, Herrnstein and Loveland (1972) have stated that

. . . if it [Skinner's position] is not true, then there will be an incentive to botanize which is why we now find ourselves cutting through the botanical thicket of particular responses for particular species under particular circumstances. The law of effect has led us back to the problem of response topography via findings such as those reported here and their predecessors [auto-shaping] . . . certain writers . . . called for full or partial repeal of the law of effect. But that may be premature, for the law of effect promised no more than to account for behavior in terms of its consequences (however conceived), which should never have been taken as a guarantee that the account must be simple or short, or even that we can really avoid the 'thankless task' of botanizing behavior [p. 383].

The behavioral effects of the various auto-shaping procedures have direct bearing on the question of the necessary and sufficient conditions for learning. Skinner's (1948) analysis of S_{NC}^R emphasized that learning (i.e., the increased probability of an operant as a result of its contiguity to S^R) takes place whether a response produced a S^R or not. However, if a particular response is called for, then a contingency may be necessary. The

auto-shaping paradigm as employed by Williams and his associates and others clearly meets the requirement for a noncontingent schedule as defined by Schoenfeld and Farmer (1970). (In the Brown and Jenkins [1968] study, key-pecking did influence the distribution of S^R s in time.) The empirical power of the auto-shaping procedure is that it reliably generates particular responses; and the important conclusion to be drawn is that a contingent R- S^R relation is not always a necessary condition for the acquisition of so-called instrumental responses, although it may be sufficient (but see Breland and Breland, 1961; Seligman, 1970).

Positive Conditioned Suppression

The conditioned suppression paradigm involves first establishing a baseline schedule of S_C^R for making a specific response such as key-pecking or lever pressing. After a measure of stable performance is obtained, S_{NC}^R is presented contingent upon the termination of an exteroceptive cue. Procedurally, the conditioned suppression and auto-shaping paradigms are closely related. The major difference lies in the use of a contingently maintained baseline in the former paradigm. The discussion in this section will focus on the effects of S_{NC}^R on response rates both during and between CS (signal)- S_{NC}^R pairings.

Herrnstein and Morse (1957) trained pigeons on a 5 minute differential reinforcement of low rate (DRL) schedule of food S_C^R . In a DRL schedule, a response is

reinforced only if it follows a previous response by some specific minimum time interval. After the DRL baseline was established, S_{NC}^R was presented one minute after the onset of a key-light signal, while the DRL schedule remained in effect. All birds showed marked increases in rate compared with baseline DRL-alone rates, with the largest increases occurring during the presentation of the signal. The authors concluded that the results could not be solely explained in terms of the adventitious pairing of responses with S_{NC}^R s. Their data indicated that abrupt rate increases were often not correlated with close temporal R- S_{NC}^R pairings. The authors did not suggest what might be responsible for the initial rate increases, but once they were developed adventitious R- S_{NC}^R pairings were sufficient to maintain them. Azrin and Hake (1969) suggested that the rate increases found in the previous study might be accounted for by the similarity between the baseline S_C^R and S_{NC}^R . Using a VI 1 minute baseline schedule and either a qualitatively or quantitatively different S_C^R and S_{NC}^R , Azrin and Hake obtained consistently low rates during a 10 second signal which preceded S_{NC}^R . The authors argued that a signal paired with any strong stimulus may come to suppress responding. In studies using similar S_C^R and S_{NC}^R , there could be an interaction of the two based on discriminative properties of the stimuli. They believe that an "emotional state" during the signal was associated with autonomic changes. Recent data by Kelly (1973a) did not bear out

this speculation at least as far as heart rate and blood pressure were concerned. While he found response "suppression," no detectable changes were noted in his physiological measures.

Azrin and Hake's (1969) findings were at variance with those reported by Brady (1961). He trained rats on a VI 2 minute water schedule of water reinforcement and found that rates increased during a 5 minute signal which terminated with septal stimulation. This discrepancy suggests that the duration of the signal might be an important determiner of responding in the presence of the signal. Henton and Brady (1970), using rhesus monkeys as subjects and a DRL 30 second S_C^R baseline schedule, employed signal- S_{NC}^R values of 20, 40, and 80 seconds. They also used a delay procedure in which a minimum of 7.5 seconds was imposed between a response and S_{NC}^R in order to prevent close R- S_{NC}^R pairings. No change in rate occurred during the 20 and 40 second signal conditions, but during the 80 second signal condition, rates increased as compared to rates occurring at non signal- S_{NC}^R intervals. Meltzer and Brahlek (1970) employed a VI 2 minute baseline, qualitatively different S_C^R and S_{NC}^R , a range of signal- S_{NC}^R intervals from 6 to 120 seconds, and rats as subjects. They obtained low rates during the short signal- S_{NC}^R intervals and higher ones at the longest interval. Miczek and Grossman (1971) failed to obtain increases in rate during either 1, 2, or 3 minute signal- S_{NC}^R intervals which

were superimposed onto a VI 45 second baseline schedule. It is not clear what procedural differences were responsible for this discrepant finding. Perhaps the different combinations of baseline schedules and signal- S_{NC}^R intervals were important.

In the preceding studies, the contribution of the baseline schedule of S_C^R to the obtained results was not assessed. Recent work has shown that the parameters of the baseline schedule may be an important determinant of responding during a signal which precedes S_{NC}^R . For example, Kelly (1973b) found that responding was "suppressed" during a 1 minute signal which preceded S_{NC}^R when a random ratio ($P(S_C^R)=.0125$ for each response) baseline schedule was in effect; responding was "accelerated" during similar signal- S_{NC}^R pairings which were superimposed on a DRL 45 second baseline. The increased and decreased responding during the signal resulted in many S_C^R s being missed in both the DRL and random ratio schedules. This finding may lead some to speak of "maladaptive" behavior in the subjects. Perhaps a more profitable approach would be to further delineate the causes of this phenomenon. One possible direction would be to study changes in responding during the signal as a function of systematic variations of response rates and reinforcement rates via changes in baseline parameters, and to further study interactions with different signal- S_{NC}^R intervals (e.g., Smith, 1974).

A procedure involving use of a CS+ and CS- was

employed by LoLordo (1971). Pigeons were trained on a VI 2 minute schedule of food (4 seconds access to grain) S_C^R . A CS+ was 20 seconds and terminated with eight seconds of access to grain. A CS- was also 20 seconds but was never followed by S_{NC}^R . LoLordo found that pigeons showed high rates in the presence of the CS+ compared to pre-CS+ periods. Rates in the presence of the CS- were relatively unaffected when compared to pre-CS- periods. It had been previously reported that a conditioned response opposite in direction to that controlled by a CS+ was acquired to the CS- when shock was the noncontingent stimulus (Rescorla and LoLordo, 1965). LoLordo suggested that the pecking observed during the CS+ was consistent with results from auto-shaping studies. LoLordo's data did not replicate those from studies in which short signal- S_{NC}^R intervals were investigated. In order to test if the use of a CS- was responsible for his discrepant findings, he omitted the CS- and still got consistently high rates during the CS+.

LoLordo, McMillan, and Riley (in press) extended the auto-shaping formulation of conditioned suppression. Pigeons were trained to either key-peck or treadle-press on a DRL 12 second (limited hold 4 second) schedule for four seconds access to grain. Half of the birds in both groups received a tone signal, the other half a key light signal. The signal was always 20 seconds and terminated with 10 seconds access to grain. When the light was the signal, rates increased during the signal for subjects who

were trained to key-peck for S_C^R . The same CS produced key-pecking and suppression of treadle-pressing for subjects who were trained to treadle-press for S_C^R . The tone CS produced inconsistent results across all subjects (see also Schwartz, 1973). The authors stated that the increased rates of pecking for the birds trained to peck and the substitution of pecking for treadle-pressing for the birds trained to treadle-press demonstrates the relevance of the auto-shaping literature to studies of positive conditioned suppression. It was not clear to the authors why the birds did not peck the speaker when the signal was a tone (see also Schwartz, 1973).

Several of the studies reported above obtained low rates of responding during the signal- S_{NC}^R interval. Meltzer and Brahlek (1970) and Kelly (1973b), by making fine grain analyses of their data, showed that when "suppression" occurred it tended to be restricted to the latter portion of the signal interval. This temporal discrimination was similar to that obtained when shock was used as the non-contingent stimulus (Millenson and Hendry, 1967).

A different kind of temporal discrimination has been found between signal- S_{NC}^R pairings when a response contingency is attached to the presentation of the signal- S_{NC}^R pairing. Specifically, Hake and Powell (1970) studied the suppressive and positively reinforcing effects of superimposing signal- S_{NC}^R pairings on a VI 3 minute baseline. The same bar press response that determined S_C^R

delivery on the baseline schedule also produced the signal- S_{NC}^R pairings according to a FI 2 minute schedule. Responding prior to signal- S_{NC}^R pairings was positively accelerated. Control rats who received the signal- S_{NC}^R pairings on a FT 2 minute schedule did not show the effect. Lever pressing was "suppressed" during the signal (10 seconds long). The authors did not make a fine grain analysis of responding throughout the signal.

Summary. A number of independent variables have been shown to affect the behavioral pattern obtained during and between signal- S_{NC}^R pairings which have been superimposed on an ongoing S_C^R baseline. The major ones are the baseline schedule of S_C^R , the quality and quantity of S_C^R and S_{NC}^R , the signal- S_{NC}^R interval, the presence or absence of a response contingency to produce signal- S_{NC}^R pairings, and the response class measured. There have been no studies of the probability that a signal will be followed by S_{NC}^R . If, for example, pigeons were exposed to probabilistic signal- S_{NC}^R pairings, and if responding during the signal is at least partly determined by the auto-shaping procedure involved, it might be expected that low probability pairings would produce a lower asymptotic performance than higher probability pairings (see Gonzalez, 1973). Secondly, no one has investigated the relation between the frequency of signal- S_{NC}^R presentations relative to baseline S_C^R s.

In terms of the broader scope of this review (i.e., the analysis of methodologies, data, and theories concerning S_{NC}^R), it might prove helpful to consider the behavioral effects during the signal- S_{NC}^R interval in terms of a continuum of rate, instead of in terms of "suppression" or "facilitation." In the final analysis, these dichotomies always refer to behavioral output which can be counted. The causes of the various effects are the parameters of independent variables in force. Viewed in this way, associations of "good" or "adaptive" with certain effects and "bad" or "maladaptive" with others may lose their plausibility (see also Kelly, 1973b).

Time-in to Positive S_{NC}^R

A schedule of stimulus presentation which has recently received attention is termed "time-in to positive S_{NC}^R ." Responses during time-out produce a time period during which S_{NC}^R occurs according to some schedule. Time-in schedules are complementary to so-called time-out from positive reinforcement schedules. (Leitenberg, 1965). In time-in schedules if an organism does not respond during periods of time-in, a time-out follows. D'Andrea (1971) conceptualizes responding during time-in as the avoidance of time-out. A more general approach is to consider both schedules as two sides of the same coin. This approach permits an analysis in terms of the schedules parameters only, thereby demonstrating the continuity between time-in and time-out.

In the first reported study directly bearing on the issue of time-in, Ferster and Skinner (1957) showed that pigeons would key-peck according to a VI schedule which would produce S_{NC}^R 60 seconds after the VI requirement had been satisfied. However, quantitative data were not presented.

Baer (1960) permitted children to watch cartoons. Responses on a lever caused the cartoons to stay on for three, five, or 10 seconds (the time-in values differed across subjects). In one group, if a subject did not respond on the lever, a time-out period began as soon as the specified time-in interval elapsed. A time-out consisted of the interruption of the audio and video of the movie projector; a time-out lasted until another response occurred. Responses during a time-in period reset the clock and the interval began anew. In a second group, with the time-out procedure the same as above, a response during time-in added the value of the time-in interval to the interval between that response and the next time-out period, thereby resulting in cumulated time-in periods. The results of the first group showed that the rate of lever pressing was closely related to the beginning of time-out periods. Subjects would typically respond, view the cartoon, be timed-out, and respond again. The second group's performance was characterized by "avoidance" behavior. Generally, subjects would respond sufficiently to prevent the occurrence of time-out periods.

Baer's (1960) study did not include a quantitative analysis of response rates at the different time-in values. Thomas (1965), using pigeons, studied the following parameters: time-in intervals, 20, 30, 60, and 120 seconds; time-out interval, 10 seconds; S_{NC}^R schedule during time-in, VT 3 minutes (one pigeon also exposed to VT 1 minute); a four second $R-S_{NC}^R$ minimum interval during time-in was programmed to limit adventitious pairings. Each response during time-in reset the time-in clock. Responses during time-out had no effect. Rates during time-in decreased as the time-in interval increased. The bird, exposed to the VT 1 minute S_{NC}^R schedule, produced results consistent with the VT 3 minute subjects, although the absolute rates were lower in the former schedule.

Using rats, D'Andrea (1971) varied the time by which a response postponed the next time-out (from 3.75 to 100 seconds). A VT schedule of S_{NC}^R was in effect during time-in. Also, a minimum $R-S_{NC}^R$ interval of three seconds was imposed during time-in periods. Response rates during time-in first increased to a maximum and then decreased as the interval by which a response delayed the onset of a time-out was lengthened. No systematic changes in rate were observed when the three second $R-S_{NC}^R$ delay interval was removed. The author argued that because a $R-S_{NC}^R$ delay interval was imposed, his findings were inconsistent with an analysis in terms of adventitious reinforcement of responding during time-in. However, the $R-S_{NC}^R$ interval

does not guarantee that a S_{NC}^R that occurs three seconds after a response does not affect that response. The $R-S_{NC}^R$ interval is as much a part of the total schedule variables as any other parameter. It might be expected that D'Andrea would have obtained an effect due to the delay interval had he increased the minimum delay interval to larger values.

Neuringer (1973) studied the effects of four independent variables on time-in schedules: rate of S_{NC}^R during time-in; duration by which a key-peck postponed the next time-out; pattern of S_{NC}^R during time (FT vs. VT); and presence or absence of exteroceptive stimuli during time-in and time-out. Response rates for pigeons were a function of the duration of time-in values; pecks which produced relatively long time-in intervals generated low rates of pecking, while pecks which produced relatively short time-in intervals generated high rates, a finding consistent with data reported earlier by Thomas (1965) (compare with D'Andrea, 1971). Rates did not vary systematically as the average frequency of S_{NC}^R during time-in increased. This result differed from data provided by Thomas (1965) and D'Andrea (1971), both of whom found higher rates in time-in for denser S_{NC}^R schedules. Neuringer attributed the discrepancy to procedural differences. Response patterning during time-in under VT and FT schedules was consistent with Zeiler's (1968) data. Lastly, cueing time-in and time-out resulted in a close temporal relation between inter-response

times and time-in values.

Summary. Formally, time-in schedules meet Schoenfeld and Farmer's (1970) requirement for contingency. Within the time-in limits, responding does determine the distribution of S^R in time, in that if no responses are made S_{NC}^R occurs either at a low frequency (Thomas, 1965; D'Andrea, 1971) or not at all (Baer, 1960; Neuringer, 1973). In addition, a contingency exists between responding and the time-out intervals. Time-in schedules do represent a class of " S_{NC}^R " schedules in that S_{NC}^R during time-in intervals occurs independently of particular responses. This type of paradigm is similar to the procedures employed in delay of S_C^R studies. That is, in a delay of S_C^R schedule, S^R is delivered some time period after the occurrence of a specific response; however, the exact response that S^R closely follows in time is not predetermined by the schedule variable. Perhaps the most significant point to be learned from the time-in literature is that a close conceptual relationship exists between schedules of contingent, delayed, and noncontingent reinforcement. The relationship appears to be between response class and S^R schedule.

Concurrent S_C^R and S_{NC}^R Schedules

The last area of research to be discussed deals with concurrent schedules of S_C^R and S_{NC}^R . A concurrent schedule is one in which two or more schedules are

programmed simultaneously and independently (Catania, 1966). Certain phases of the Cole (1973) study and the positive conditioned suppression paradigm illustrate such schedules. This section will review further research on this topic.

Brownstein and Pliskoff (1968) programmed S_{NC}^R for pigeons from two sources. S_{NC}^R from one source was presented in the presence of an amber chamber light, and from the other source in the presence of a blue chamber light. The two schedules ran concurrently but S_{NC}^R from either source was delivered only when the correlated stimulus was lit. A single key-peck alternated stimulus conditions. The results were consistent with those obtained from similar contingent concurrent schedules: the relative time that a schedule was in effect varied directly with the relative rate of S_{NC}^R that the schedule produced.

Rachlin and Baum (1972) trained pigeons to peck a response key for S_C^R according to a VI schedule. A VT schedule was programmed concurrently so that birds obtained S_C^R for pecking as well as S_{NC}^R . With the two schedules kept constant, the magnitudes of S_C^R and S_{NC}^R were varied; subsequently, with magnitudes kept constant, the frequencies of the schedules were varied. A similar procedure was also run in which a minimum R- S_{NC}^R interval of two seconds was imposed. The results showed that the rate of key-pecking was inversely related to the amount of S_{NC}^R so that more pecking occurred when either the magnitude or frequency of S_{NC}^R was less than either the magnitude or frequency of S_C^R .

This finding held up when a two second $R-S_{NC}^R$ interval was imposed. The finding that rate of pecking on a single response key was inversely related to the frequency of S_{NC}^R has been replicated by Cole (1973) and by Benassi, Weil, and Lanson (1974).

General Conclusions

When contingent S^R schedules are employed, an experimenter typically has little difficulty in choosing a response to measure. However, many noncontingent S^R schedules pose problems. Even if a history of S_C^R is given to a subject, when the schedule is changed to S_{NC}^R , rates of conventionally defined responses (e.g., key-pecking, lever-pressing) usually decline to zero or near-zero levels over time. The difficulty in maintaining control of such responses has not, of course, been universal. The work on mixed schedules of S_C^R and S_{NC}^R , auto-shaping, positive conditioned suppression, and variable delay are cases in point. Another possible schedule of stimulus presentation which could permit a study of the effects of S_{NC}^R on a particular response class involves the use of the concurrent $S_C^R - S_{NC}^R$ paradigm (discussed above). In such a schedule S_{NC}^R presentations are superimposed on a schedule of S_C^R . The rationale for such a schedule would be that S_C^R would maintain a prescribed response. Changes in rate of that response could be studied as a function of changes in parameters of S_{NC}^R .

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The present experiments were designed to further examine the effects of schedules of S_{NC}^R which are programmed concurrently with schedules of S_C^R . Rachlin and Baum (1972) and Cole (1973) employed procedures which assessed the effects of such schedules on a single response. Those studies, however, were not concerned with precise control of the temporal separation between the delivery of S_C^R and S_{NC}^R . The studies reported below investigated the effects on a single response of two schedules correlated with respect to the time between the occurrence of S_C^R and S_{NC}^R . The first response during the first three seconds (Experiment I) or any time (Experiment II) in the T cycle was immediately followed by S_C^R . Some time after the beginning of a cycle S_{NC}^R was presented. The time between the beginning of a T cycle and S_{NC}^R was systematically varied across sessions.

The experimental design permitted a study of several questions:

1. What variations in response distributions occur throughout a T cycle as a function of the temporal separation variable? It is known that response patterning under schedules of total S_{NC}^R resembles that generated by similar schedules of S_C^R . Zeiler (1968), for example, obtained "scalloping" with both FI and FT schedules.

2. How do overall rates of responding during T cycles differ as a function of the introduction of S_{NC}^R to, and then variation of locus within, the baseline schedule of S_C^R ? Rachlin and Baum (1972) and Cole (1973) found that S_{NC}^R added to a baseline S_C^R schedule produced a drop in overall response rates as the frequency of S_{NC}^R , relative to S_C^R , was increased. Those studies differed from the present work in that the authors employed either variable or random time schedules, and they did not control for the temporal separation between S_C^R and S_{NC}^R .

3. Do animals maintain higher rates prior to S_C^R or S_{NC}^R depending on where in a T cycle S_{NC}^R is presented? The literature on multiple schedules of S_C^R and S_{NC}^R indicates that rates are higher in the S_C^R component (Lattal and Maxey, 1971; Wilkie, 1972; Boakes, 1973). However, Lattal (1973) reported evidence showing that nearly equal rates could be maintained in two components of a mixed schedule of S_C^R and S_{NC}^R . Although this latter study differed procedurally from the present work, it was similar in that S_{NC}^R presentation was not cued by an exteroceptive stimulus.

4. On its most general level, the present studies permit analyses of the effects of an added noncontingent stimulus on behavior maintained by a contingent stimulus. Variation of the temporal separation between S_C^R and S_{NC}^R permits exploration of a range of stimulus functions. Part of the rationale for employing this type of paradigm comes from work by Farmer and Schoenfeld (1966). They found that

when a light stimulus was intruded onto a FI baseline at different temporal separations from S_C^R different behavioral effects resulted. It was clear that the various effects were a function of the relation between S_C^R and the intruded stimulus. The present work is procedurally similar to Farmer and Schoenfeld's except that the noncontingent stimulus is the same as S_C^R . This tactic will provide some comparison data between schedules in which the intruded stimulus is "neutral" or a "primary reinforcer."

To facilitate an understanding of the t-schedules employed in the experiments to follow, some background material will be presented. The rationale of these schedules has been outlined by Schoenfeld and his associates (1972). A t-schedule consists of a repeating time cycle, T. Each cycle contains t^D periods when S^R is available according to some probability and t^A periods when S^R is available at a lower probability. In most studies, the probability of S^R in t^D and t^A have been set at one and zero, respectively. The proportion of T occupied by t^D is called \bar{T} . The first response in t^D is reinforced, and subsequent responses in that cycle are not reinforced. In Experiment I, three baseline schedules of S_C^R were studied to assess the generality of the findings. When S_{NC}^R was added, it occurred at different absolute temporal values from S_C^R in the different groups, but the same relative separation between S_C^R and S_{NC}^R was always maintained.

EXPERIMENT I

Method

Subjects. Six experimentally naive female White Carneaux pigeons, between six and eight years old, were maintained at $80\% \pm 3\%$ of their ad libitum body weights by supplemental feeding following experimental sessions. Water and grit were available in the home cages.

Apparatus. The center response key of a three-key Lehigh Valley Electronics unit (Model # 1519C) was continuously illuminated by amber light during experimental sessions. Approximately 25 grams were required to produce key switch closure. The two side keys were not used in the experiment. Both S_C^R and S_{NC}^R were delivered for three seconds through a lighted grain hopper located directly below the center key. All timing functions were discontinued during S^R s. A deflector directed a continuously lit houselight toward the ceiling of the unit. Ventilation and masking noise were provided by a blower in the chamber and by an external fan. All logic functions were controlled by BRS Electronics digital logic circuitry. Data were gathered on Sodeco counters.

Procedure. All subjects were trained to peck the center response key by the method of successive approximations (Ferster and Skinner, 1957), after which they

received 100 regular reinforcements. The subjects were then randomly assigned to one of three experimental groups and given the following baseline training:

1. Group I - Subjects 218 and 203 were immediately exposed to a schedule in which $T = 60$ seconds and $\bar{T} = 1$. After two sessions they were placed on their terminal baseline schedule, with $T = 60$ seconds and $\bar{T} = .05$.

2. Group II - Over three sessions, the t-schedule for subjects 455 and 483 was changed from 60 seconds to 120 seconds, with $\bar{T} = 1$ in both schedules. The subjects were then placed on their terminal baseline schedule, with $T = 120$ seconds and $\bar{T} = .025$.

3. Group III - Over seven sessions, the t-schedule for subjects 100 and 213 was changed from 60 seconds to 120 seconds, to 240 seconds, with $\bar{T} = 1$ in all three schedules. They were then placed on their terminal baseline schedule, with $T = 240$ seconds and $\bar{T} = .0125$.

For each of the three groups, when they were exposed to their terminal baseline schedules t^D was set at three seconds. S_C^R was delivered for the first response in t^D and was never presented in a cycle if a response did not occur in t^D . During baseline all reinforcements were response contingent. There were 25 T cycles each experimental session. If subjects responded in t^D each cycle, they would obtain 25 S_C^R s.

Following 30 days of terminal baseline training, S_{NC}^R was added to each of the baseline schedules. Across

sessions, the temporal separation between the beginning of a T cycle (S_C^R) and S_{NC}^R delivery was systematically varied. These temporal intervals are presented in Table 1 in their order of introduction into the experiment. When S_{NC}^R was included in the study, the subjects would always obtain 25 S_{NC}^R s. With rare exception all subjects were run seven days each week.

Table 1 shows, for example, that in Phase 2 for 15 sessions subjects were maintained on their baseline schedule with S_{NC}^R presented at either 50, 100, or 200 seconds into the T cycle. Phase 3 through 6 represent the remainder of the parametric values of temporal placement investigated. Several experimental values were redetermined (phases 7, 8, 11, 12, and 13). A further manipulation involved dropping the response requirement in t^D ; S_{NC1}^R was presented at the beginning of each T cycle; the previously S_{NC2}^R was presented at the middle of each T cycle (phase 9) and then at the latter part of each T cycle (phase 10).

Results and Discussion

The data for all measures were taken from the last five sessions at each experimental phase. When used, means were calculated for each session; and the mean and standard deviation of those values were used as data points. The decision to run eight instead of 15 sessions for the recovery and total S_{NC}^R phases was made because the data

Table 1

Temporal Intervals Between the Beginning of T Cycle
and Noncontingent Reinforcement Delivery
in Experiment I

Phase	Temporal Intervals		
	Group I 60"[218/203]	Group II 120"[455/483]	Group III 240"[100/213]
1	Baseline (30)*	Baseline (30)*	Baseline (30)*
2	50" (15)	100" (15)	200" (15)
3	40" (15)	80" (15)	160" (15)
4	30" (15)	60" (15)	120" (15)
5	20" (15)	40" (15)	80" (15)
6	10" (15)	20" (15)	40" (15)
7	50" (8)	100" (8)	200" (8)
8	30" (8)	60" (8)	120" (8)
9	**30" (8)	**60" (8)	**120" (8)
10	**50" (8)	**100" (8)	**200" (8)
11	50" (8)	100" (8)	200" (8)
12	10" (8)	20" (8)	40" (8)
13	Baseline (8)	Baseline (8)	Baseline (8)

* The number of sessions run at an experimental point are given in parentheses.

** S_{NC}^R delivered at values shown and at beginning of T cycle.

from these phases were fairly stable based on standard deviations. Also, no systematic deviation was observed from sessions four to eight of the 15 session phases.

Because a three second t^D was used, subjects would miss S_C^R s if a response did not occur during t^D . Actually, the subjects only occasionally missed S_C^R s and these instances did not systematically effect the results.

Response patterning. Figures 1-6 provide a measure of the distribution of responses throughout T cycles for the 60, 120, and 240 second T cycle groups. T cycles were divided into 12 equal and consecutive time bins of five, 10, or 20 seconds, for the three groups. Responses were accumulated depending on their temporal location within a cycle. Each figure has been constructed to permit a comparison of response patterning prior to S_C^R with response patterning prior to S_{NC}^R . The data represent the mean percentage of total responses in a session that occurred during each of the time segments. The most prominent feature of the figures is the consistency of the results both within and across groups. The following statements fairly well describe the results:

(1.) Baseline--the general trend was for subjects to make increasingly more responses as the time to S_C^R came closer.

(2.) S_{NC}^R at 50, 100, or 200 seconds--The subjects paused after S_C^R , showed an initial percentage increase, and

Figure 1. Percentage of responses in consecutive 5 second segments of a 60 second T cycle. The separate figures represent data for subject 218 at the different S_{NC}^R loci. The functions from 1 to N represent responding from the beginning of the T cycle to S_{NC}^R , while the functions from N to 12 represent responding from S_{NC}^R delivery to the end of the T cycle.

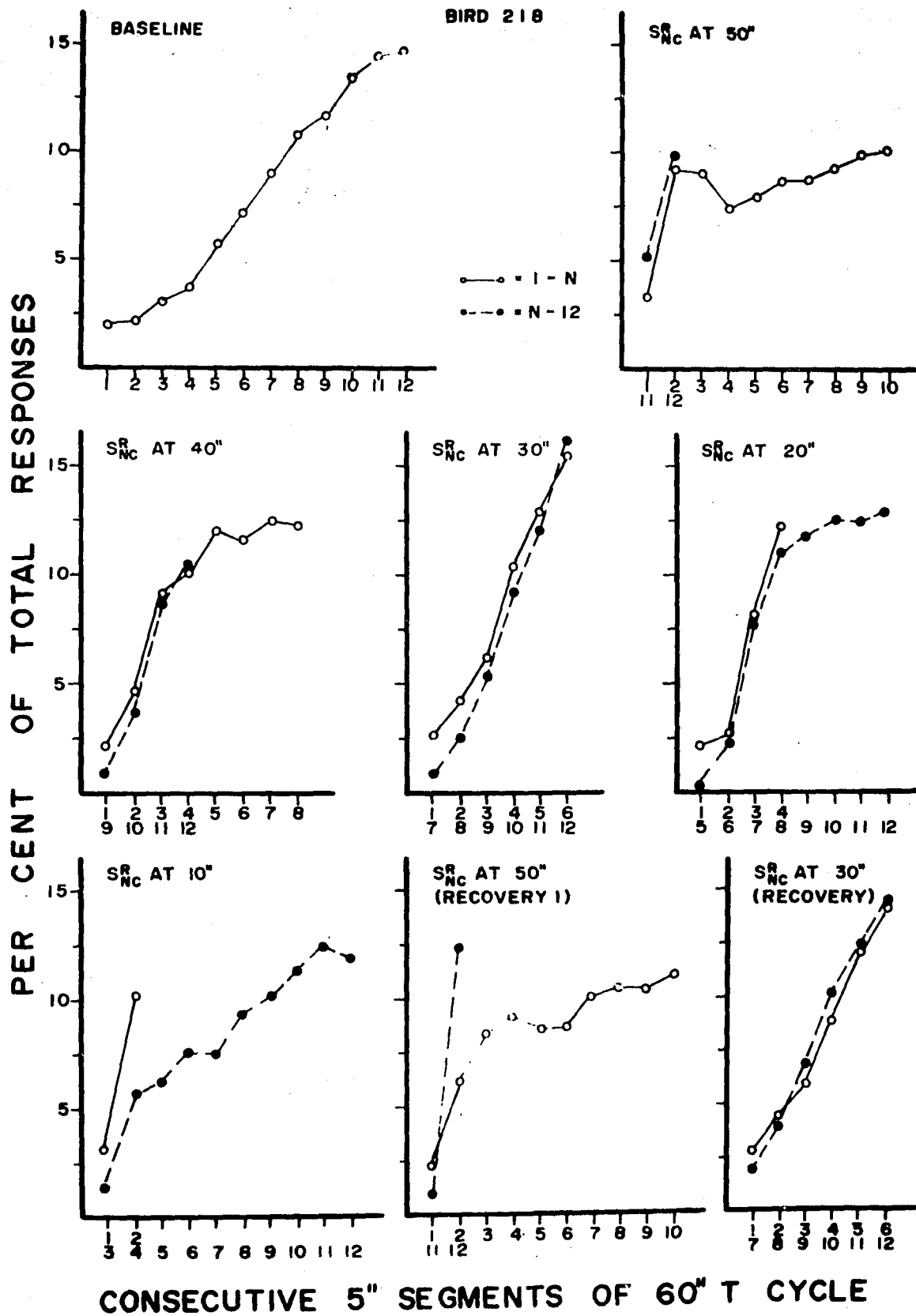
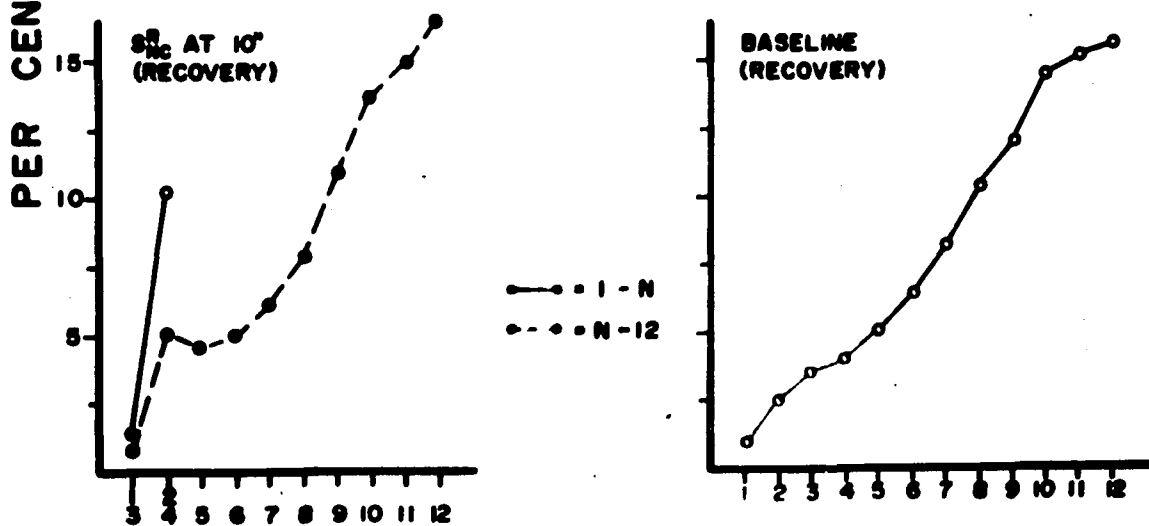
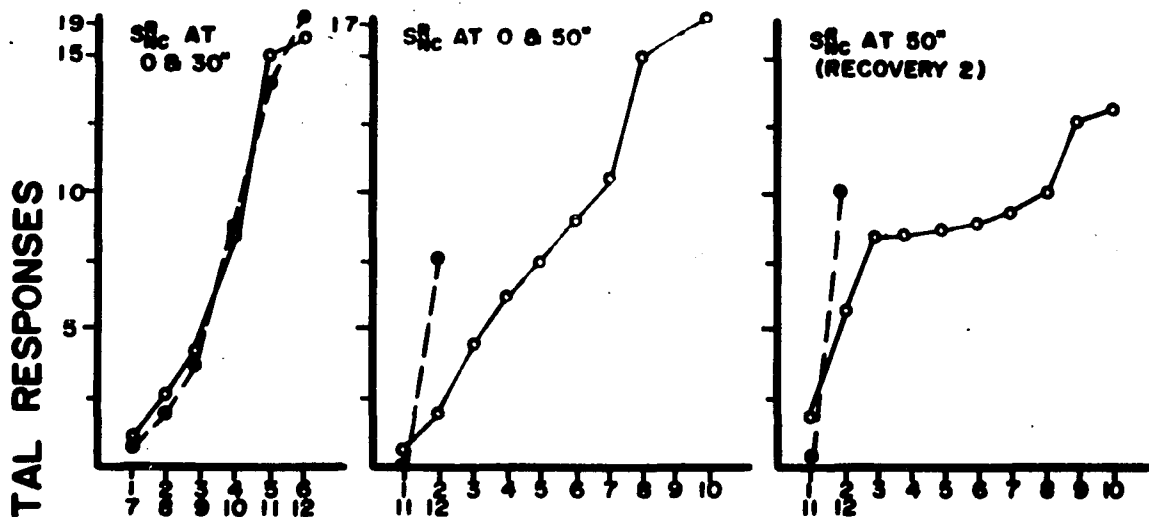


Figure 1. (continued)

BIRD 218



CONSECUTIVE 5" SEGMENTS OF 60" T CYCLE

Figure 2. Percentage of responses in consecutive 5 second segments of a 60 second T cycle. The separate figures represent data for subject 203 at the different S_{NC}^R loci. The functions from 1 to N represent responding from the beginning of the T cycle to S_{NC}^R , while the functions from N to 12 represent responding from S_{NC}^R delivery to the end of the T cycle.

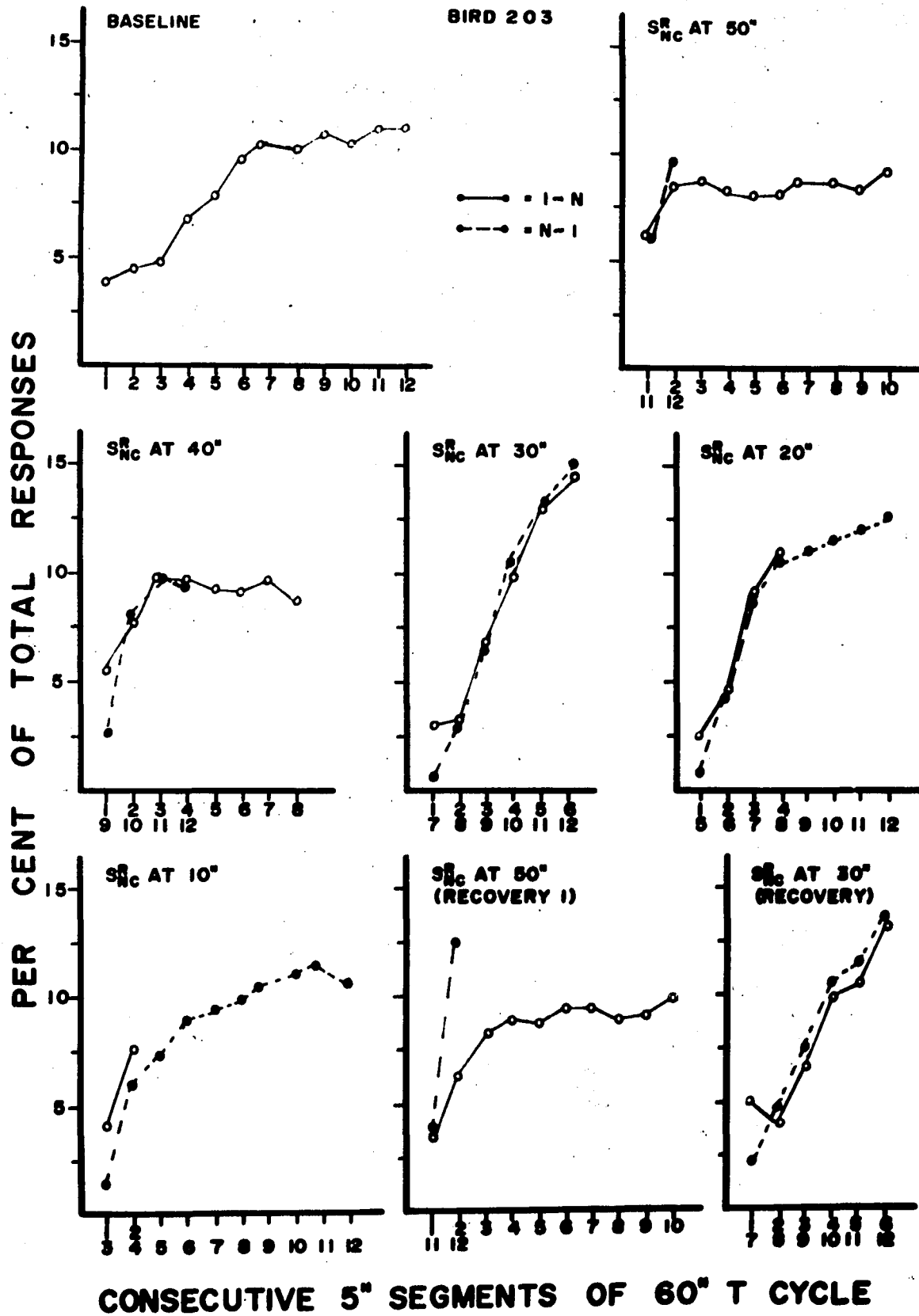
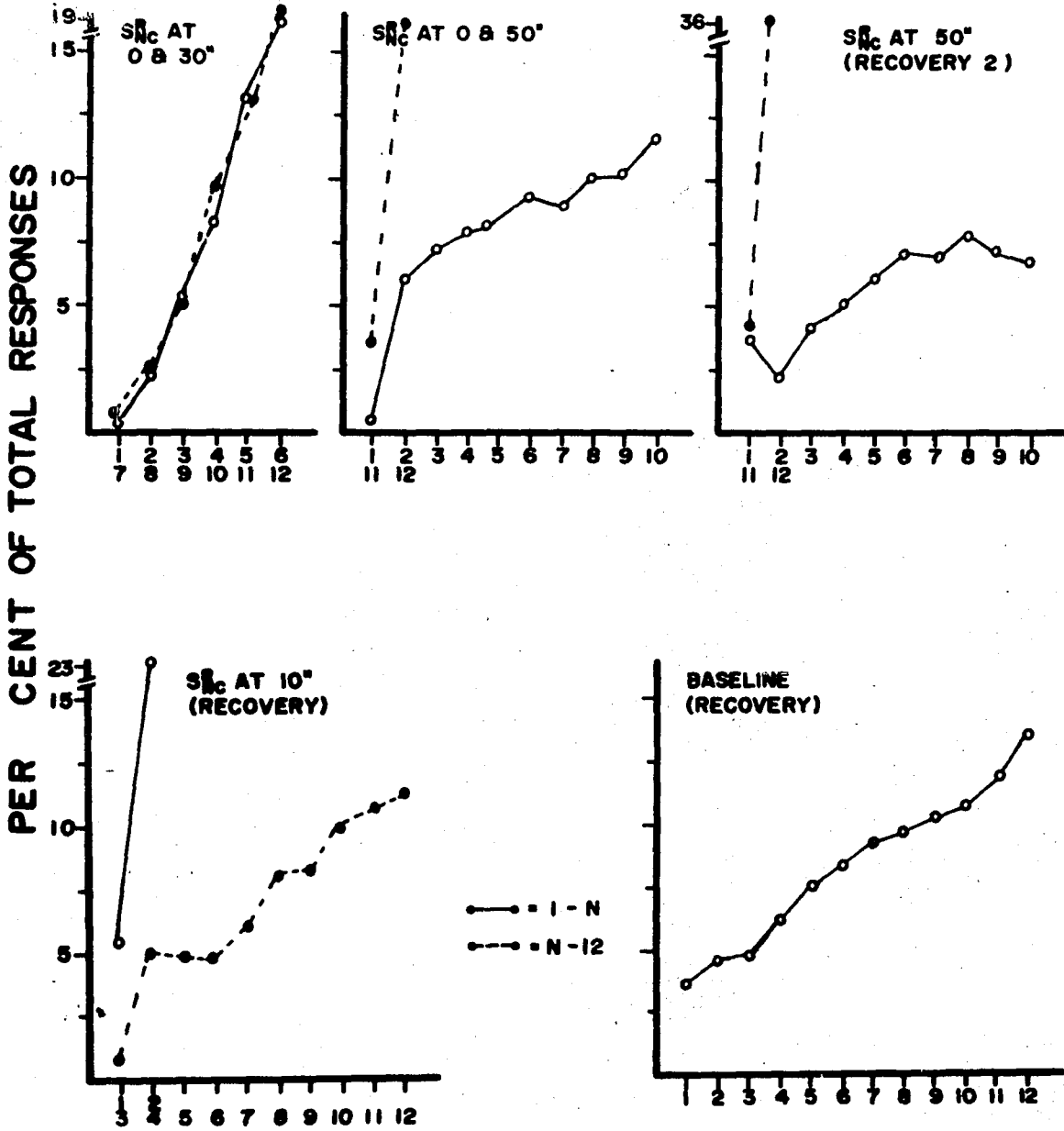


Figure 2. (continued)

BIRD 203



CONSECUTIVE 5" SEGMENTS OF 60" T CYCLE

Figure 3. Percentage of responses in consecutive 10 second segments of a 120 second T cycle. The separate figures represent data for subject 455 at the different S_{NC}^R loci. The functions from 1 to N represent responding from the beginning of the T cycle to S_{NC}^R , while the functions from N to 12 represent responding from S_{NC}^R delivery to the end of the T cycle.

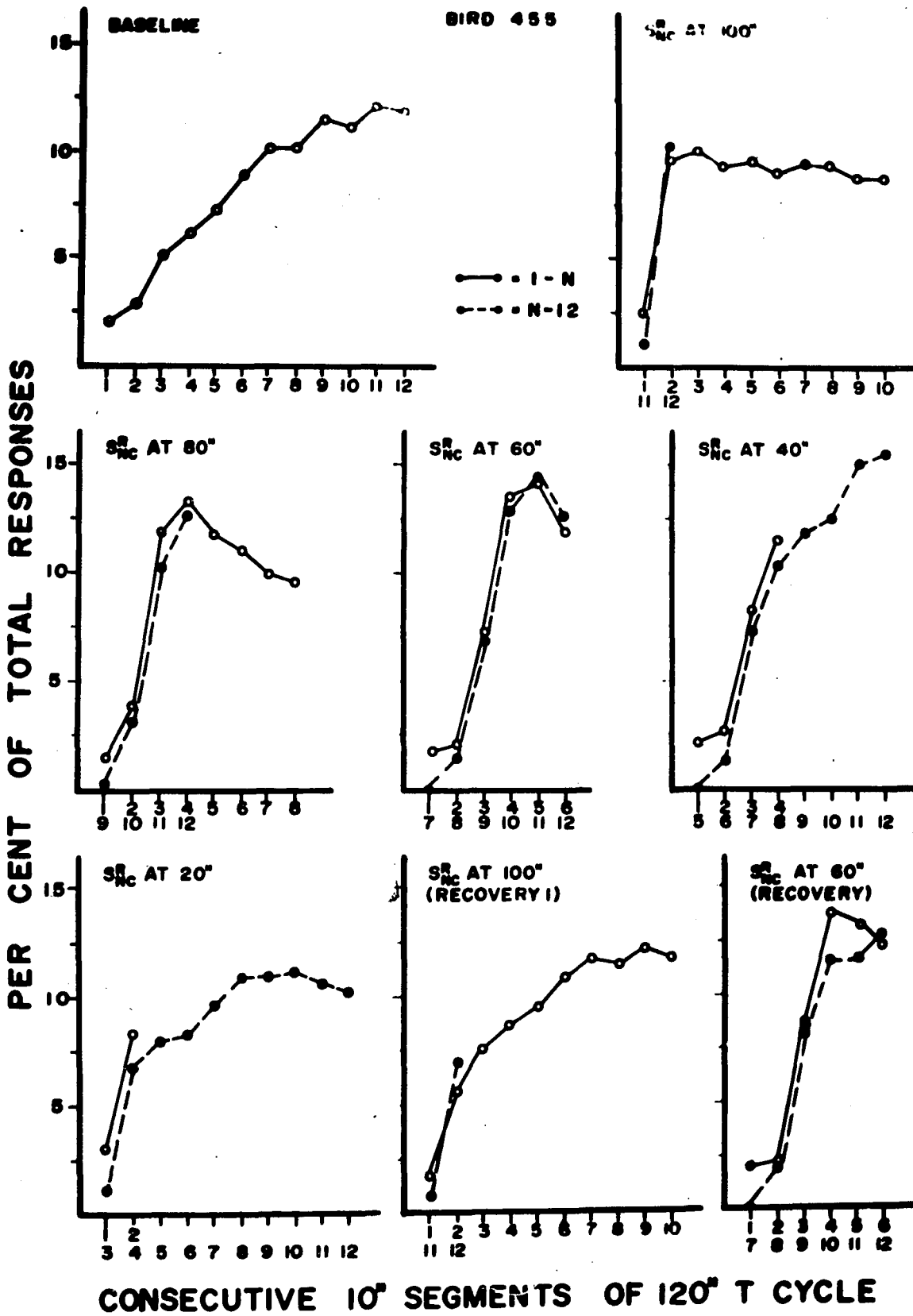
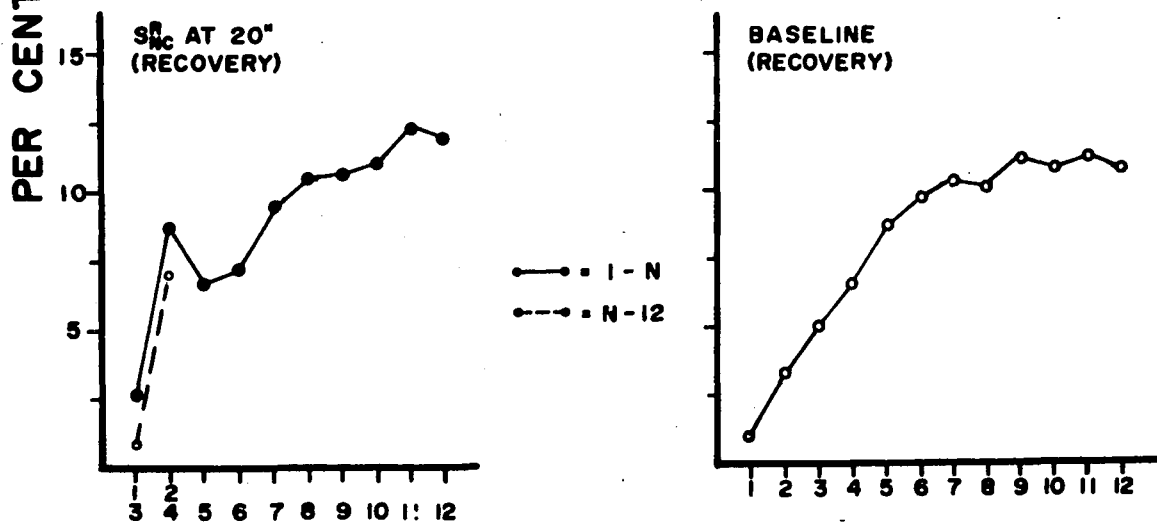
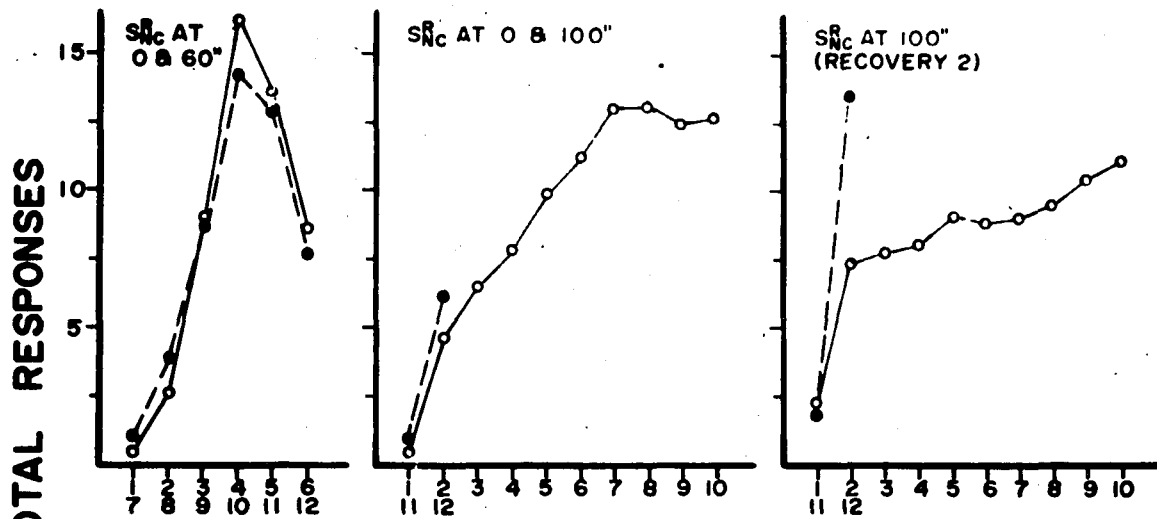


Figure 3. (continued)

BIRD 455



CONSECUTIVE 10" SEGMENTS OF 120" T CYCLE

Figure 4. Percentage of responses in consecutive 10 second segments of a 120 second T cycle. The separate figures represent data for subject 483 at the different S_{NC}^R loci. The functions from 1 to N represent responding from the beginning of the T cycle to S_{NC}^R , while the functions from N to 12 represent responding from S_{NC}^R delivery to the end of the T cycle.

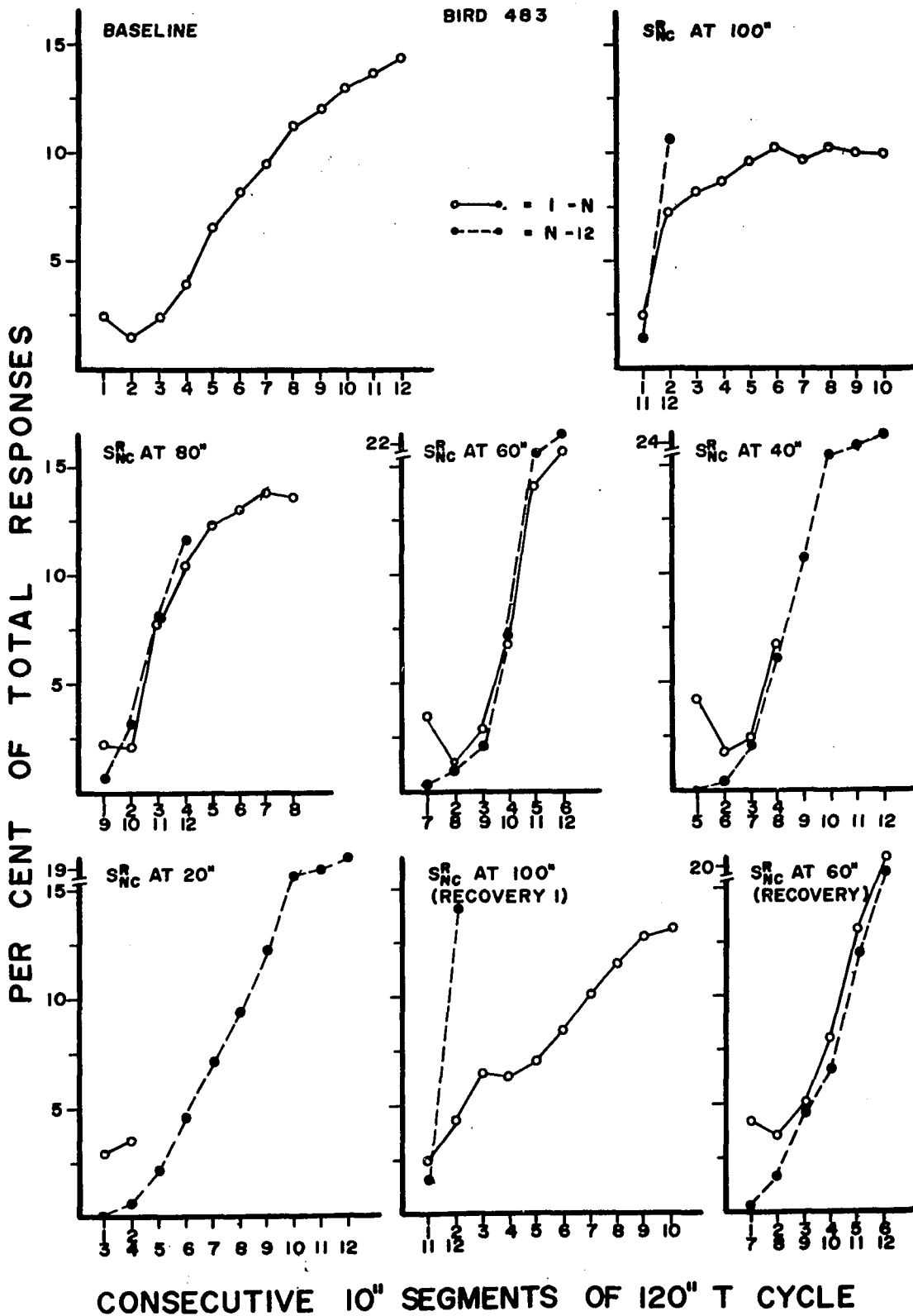
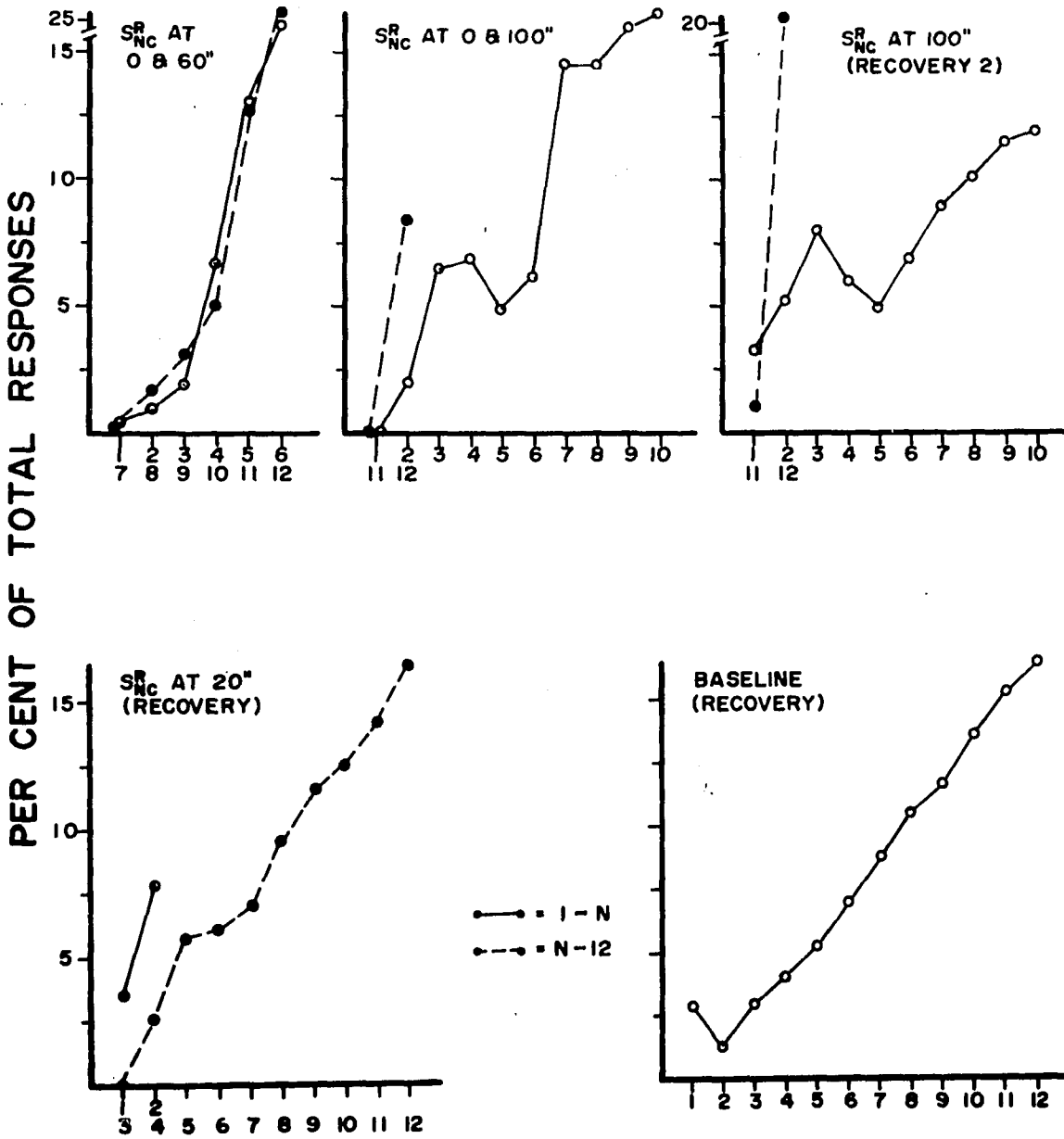


Figure 4. (continued)

BIRD 483



CONSECUTIVE 10" SEGMENTS OF 120" T CYCLE

Figure 5. Percentage of responses in consecutive 20 second segments of a 240 second T cycle. The separate figures represent data for subject 213 at the different S_{NC}^R loci. The functions from 1 to N represent responding from the beginning of the T cycle to S_{NC}^R , while the functions from N to 12 represent responding from S_{NC}^R delivery to the end of the T cycle.

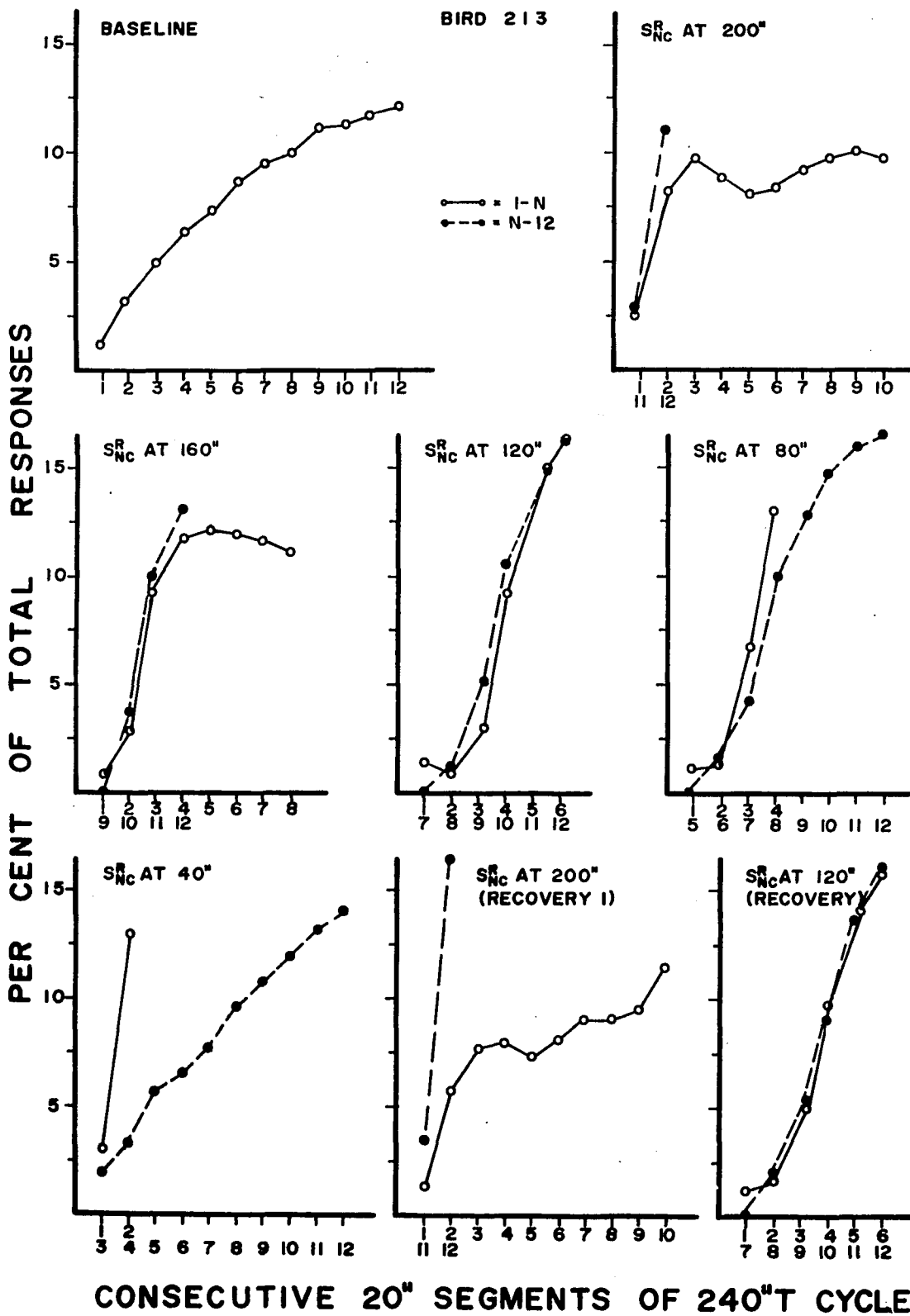
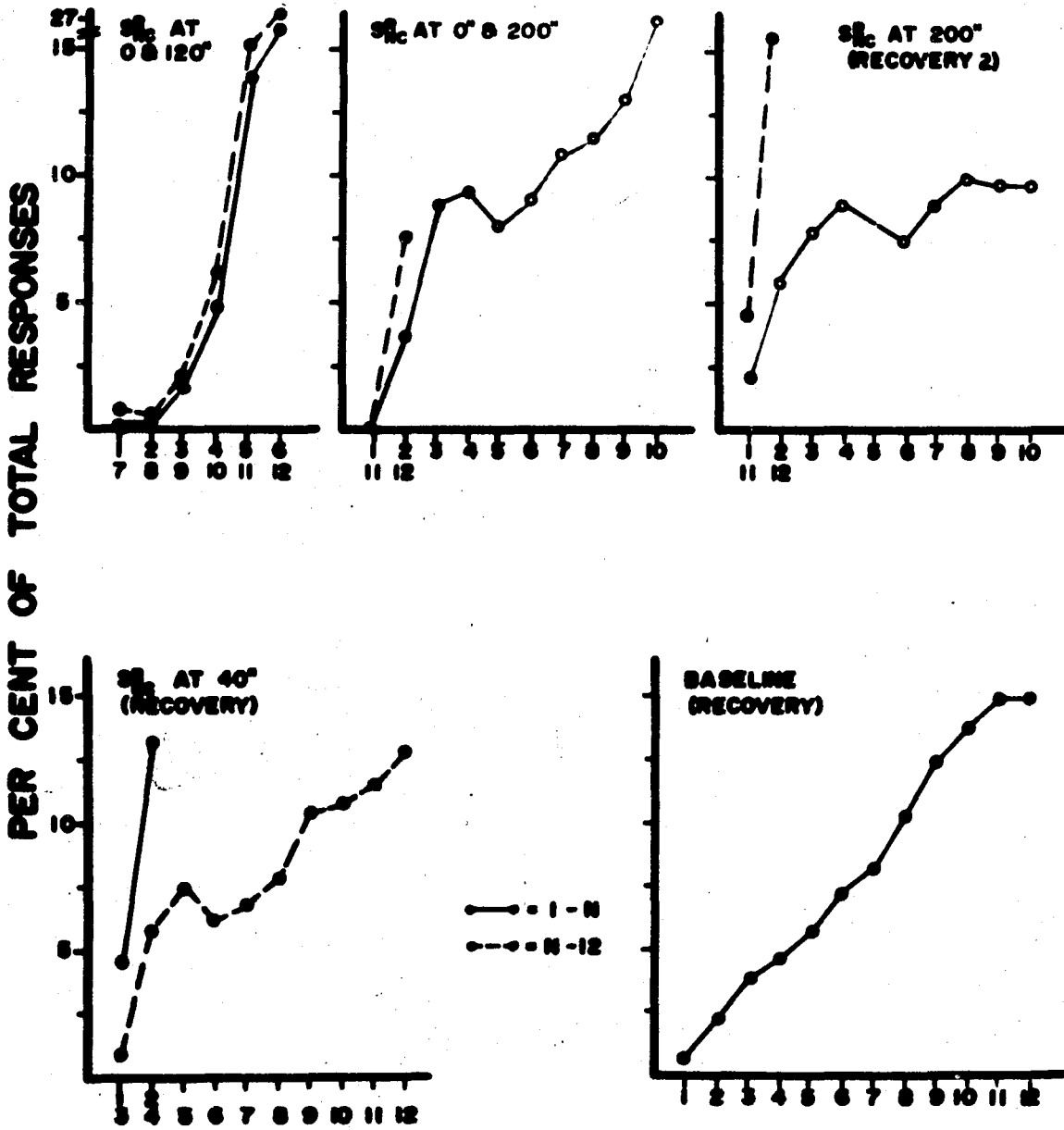


Figure 5. (continued)

BIRD 213



CONSECUTIVE 20° SEGMENTS OF 240° T CYCLE

Figure 6. Percentage of responses in consecutive 20 second segments of a 240 second T cycle. The separate figures represent data for subject 100 at the different S_{NC}^R loci. The functions from 1 to N represent responding from the beginning of the T cycle to S_{NC}^R , while the functions from N to 12 represent responding from S_{NC}^R delivery to the end of the T cycle.

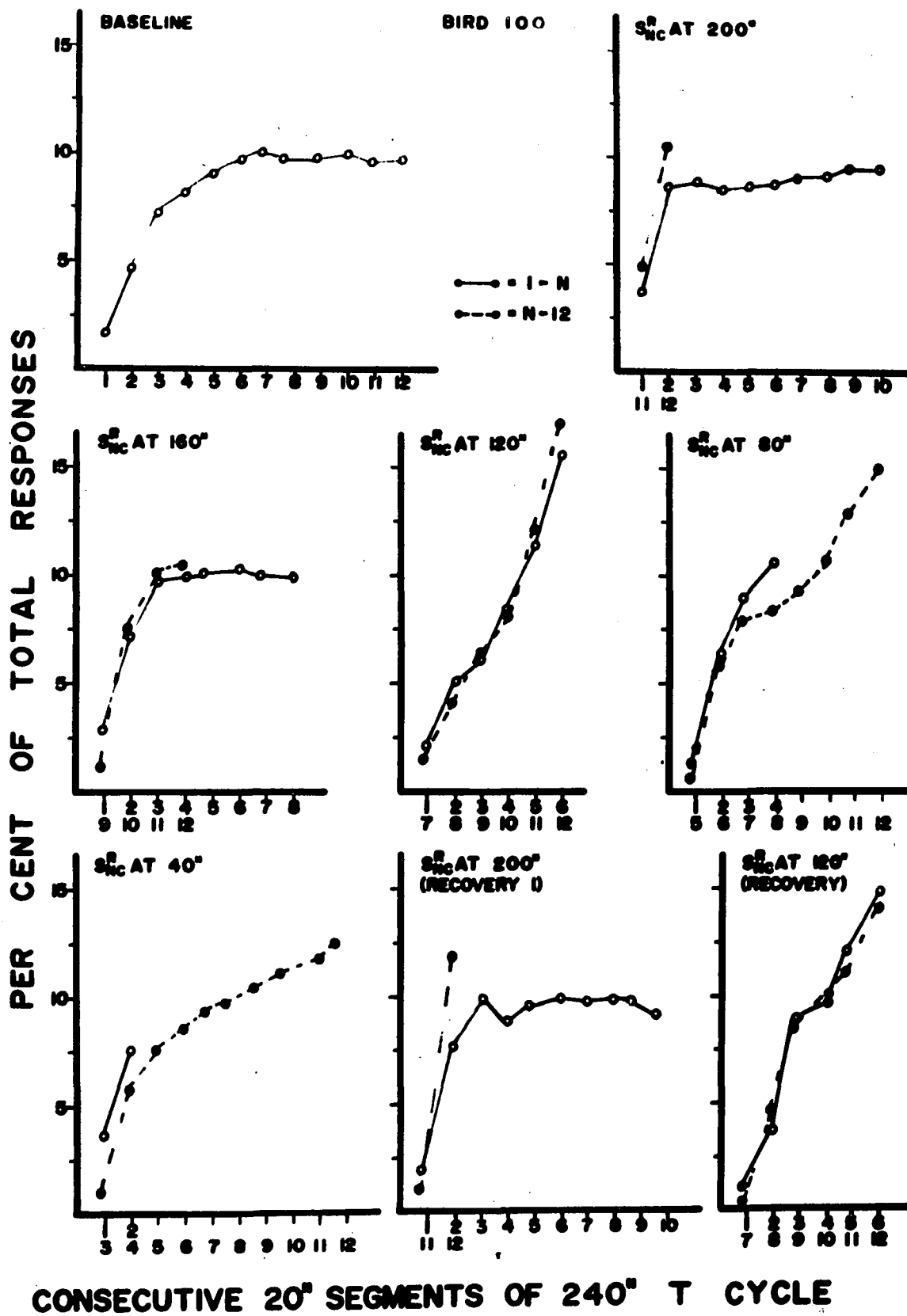
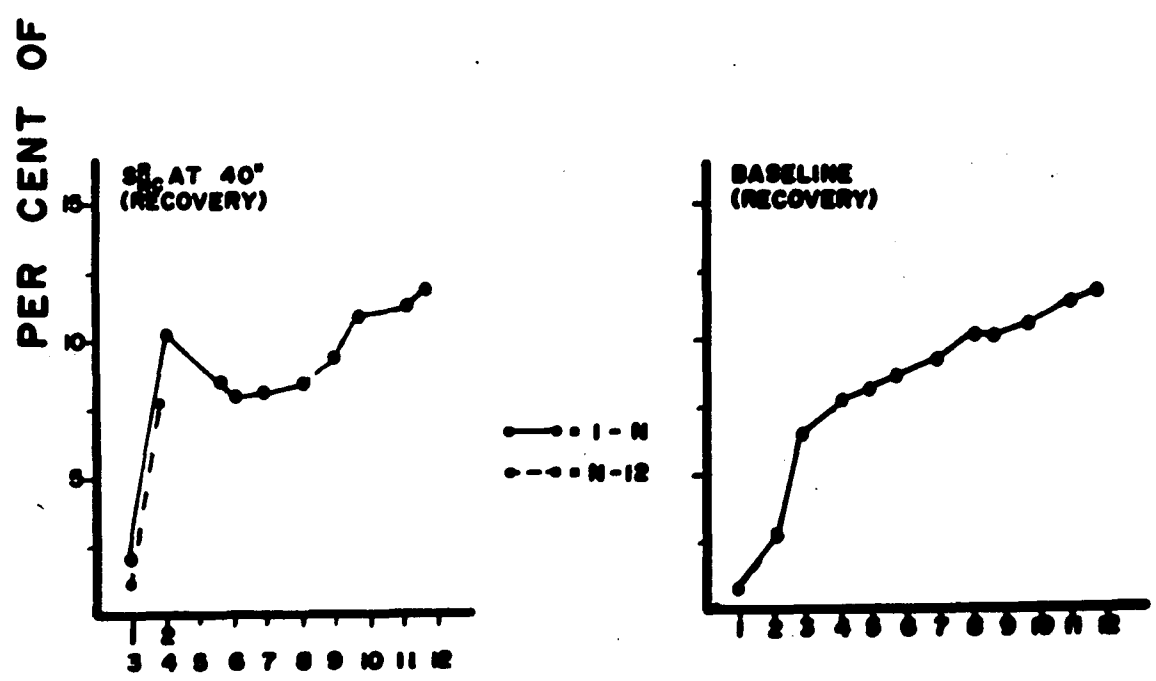
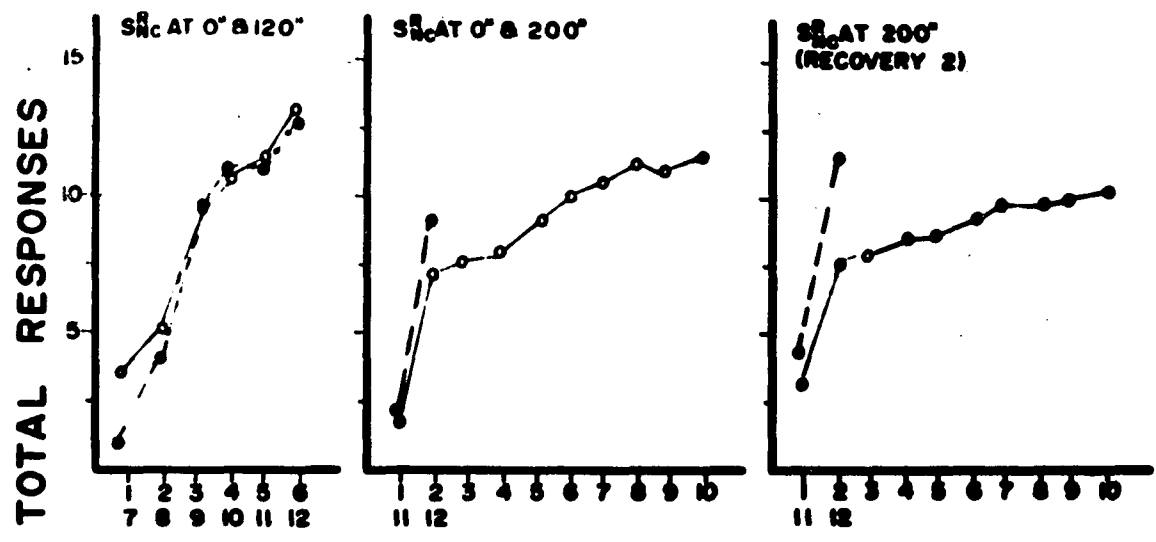


Figure 6. (continued)

BIRD 100



CONSECUTIVE 20° SEGMENTS OF 240° T CYCLE

then made a fairly constant percentage of responses until S_{NC}^R . After a pause there was an increased percentage of responses into the next cycle.

(3.) S_{NC}^R at 40, 80, or 160 seconds--The subjects showed the same general pattern described in the previous phase.

(4.) S_{NC}^R at 30, 60, or 120 seconds--At this phase, S_{NC}^R was presented at the middle of the T cycle. The response patterning prior to S_C^R and S_{NC}^R for all subjects was generally indistinguishable. Subjects paused after each S^R and then showed an increasing percentage of responses into the next S^R .

(5.) S_{NC}^R at 20, 40, or 80 seconds--All subjects showed a pause after S_C^R , and then an increased percentage of responses into S_{NC}^R . After a pause, they made an increasing percentage of responses into the next cycle.

(6.) S_{NC}^R at 10, 20, or 40 seconds--All subjects showed the same pattern described in (5.).

(7.) Recovery of S_{NC}^R at 50, 100, and 200 seconds--The data were similar to the first determinations except that most subjects showed a gradual increase in the percentage of responses per segment between S_C^R and S_{NC}^R .

(8.) and (9.) S_{NC}^R at 30, 60, or 120 seconds; and S_{NC}^R at 10, 20, or 40 seconds--The findings replicated those from the first determinations.

(10.) S_{NC}^R at 0 and 30, 60, or 120 seconds--The distributions of responses for all subjects were similar

to those obtained when S_C^R was part of the schedules.

(11.) S_{NC}^R at 0 and 50, 100, or 200 seconds--The subjects paused after S_{NC1}^R and then showed an increasing percentage of responses into S_{NC2}^R . After a pause, they made an increasing percentage of responses into the next cycle.

(12.) Recovery of Baseline--The findings replicated those from the first determinations.

Except for the conditions involving a very short and very long temporal separation between S^R s (e.g., phases 2 and 6), the subjects tended to respond into the S_1^R preceded by a longer IS^R_T as follows. The distributions into S_1^R closely resembled those which occurred into the S_2^R preceded by a shorter IS^R_T , until the point when S_2^R would have occurred. From that point to S_1^R animals tended to make a fairly constant output when S_1^R was noncontingent, or show an increasing output when S_1^R was contingent. The recovery phases in which S_{NC}^R was preceded by a longer IS^R_T generally produced results similar to those obtained when S_C^R was preceded by a longer IS^R_T . When differential temporal cues between S_C^R and S_{NC}^R were removed (i.e., when S_{NC}^R was delivered at the middle of a cycle), response patterning into S_C^R and S_{NC}^R was largely indistinguishable (phases 4 and 8). This finding held up when differential temporal cues were absent and both S^R s were noncontingent (phase 9). Lastly, when contingency cues were removed with temporal

cues still present (phase 10), the subjects responded with an increasing number of responses into the S^R preceded by a longer time since the previous S^R . In both phases 9 and 10, overall response rates and rates into S_{NC1}^R and S_{NC2}^R were lower than in similar schedules (phases 4 and 6) in which S_C^R was included. The above results indicate that FT schedules do not necessarily generate progressive rate increases throughout the T cycle (the percent of responses per time segment could be transformed into a rate measure). In several phases, the responding into S_{NC}^R looked more like the "break run" characteristic of fixed ratio schedules than like patterning controlled by fixed time (FI and FT) schedules. Since previous studies have employed different procedures than used here (e.g., Zeiler, 1968; Lattal, 1972), comparisons are difficult to make. Nonetheless, the present data suggest that particular forms of response patterning are a function of the parameters of the independent variables in force.

Response rate measures. Tables 2, 3, and 4 provide the means, standard deviations, and medians for overall corrected response rates (total responses divided by total session time) at each experimental phase. The data for phases 1 through 6 showed no systematic changes either within or across groups. Rates were not consistently recovered for all subjects at the recovery phases (7, 8, 11,

Table 2

Overall Corrected Response Rates (Responses/Sec) for Subjects 218 and 203.
Means, Standard Deviations (S.D.), and Medians
Across All Experimental Phases Are Presented

	Time Between Start of T Cycle and S ^R _{NC} Delivery												
	Base- line	50"	40"	30"	20"	10"	50"	30"	30"*	50"*	50"	10"	Base- line
218:													
Mean	.83	1.06	.87	.94	.91	.92	1.26	1.26	.84	.94	1.47	1.33	1.85
S.D.	.14	.12	.05	.06	.04	.19	.14	.22	.10	.11	.15	Lost data	.24
Median	.84	1.04	.93	.94	.92	.87	1.33	1.24	.85	.92	1.50	1.38	1.87
203:													
Mean	.76	.75	.68	.63	.77	.69	.67	.49	.39	.48	.41	.47	.64
S.D.	.03	.07	.04	.04	.01	.12	.06	.03	.06	.03	.06	.05	.08
Median	.78	.77	.66	.63	.78	.62	.67	.50	.41	.47	.42	.45	.63

*In this phase both S^Rs were noncontingent.

Table 3

Overall Corrected Response Rates (Responses/Sec) for Subjects 455 and 483.
Means, Standard Deviations (S.D.), and Medians
Across All Experimental Phases Are Presented

	Time Between Start of T Cycle and S _{NC} ^R Delivery												
	Base- line	100"	80"	60"	40"	20"	100"	60"	60"*	100"*	100"	20"	Base- line
455:													
Mean	.41	.74	.39	.50	.46	.75	.83	.54	.25	.41	.53	.68	.99
S.D.	.05	.05	.03	.06	.06	.05	.16	.03	.09	.11	.13	.07	.13
Median	.42	.72	.50	.49	.45	.76	.90	.53	.21	.38	.52	.66	1.04
483:													
Mean	.47	.48	.40	.23	.22	.30	.38	.24	.11	.06	.24	.22	.29
S.D.	.11	.04	.01	.02	.02	.03	.08	.03	.01	.05	.02	.02	.07
Median	.41	.48	.41	.23	.23	.30	.41	.24	.10	.04	.25	.21	.30

*In this phase both S^Rs were noncontingent.

Table 4

Overall Corrected Response Rates (Responses/Sec) for Subjects 213 and 100.
Means, Standard Deviations (S.D.), and Medians
Across All Experimental Phases Are Presented

	Time Between Start of T Cycle and S _{NC} ^R Delivery												
	Base- line	200"	160"	120"	80"	40"	200"	120"	120"*	200"*	200"	40"	Base- line
213:													
Mean	.56	.56	.48	.35	.40	.44	.39	.38	.22	.13	.42	.41	.51
S.D.	.05	.04	.02	.03	.05	.05	.06	.02	.04	.07	.07	.01	.04
Median	.53	.56	.48	.36	.41	.47	.37	.38	.22	.12	.38	.40	.50
100:													
Mean	.46	.57	.54	.51	.47	.48	.51	.60	.43	.36	.51	.52	.66
S.D.	.05	.03	.03	.08	.03	.06	.06	.04	.03	.05	.06	.05	.06
Median	.46	.57	.55	.49	.47	.48	.50	.62	.43	.36	.52	.50	.64

*In this phase both S^Rs were noncontingent.

12, 13). There were consistent and sharp decreases during the total S_{NC}^R phases (9, 10) except for subject 218.

Tables 5, 6, and 7 provide means, standard deviations, and medians for running response rates (total responses divided by total session time after post-reinforcement time was subtracted) at each experimental phase. Across phases 1 through 6 there were no systematic changes in rate when either within- or across-group comparisons were made. The recovery phases (7, 8, 11, 12, 13) did not show a consistent pattern of recovered rates for all subjects. Rates decreased during the total S_{NC}^R phases (9, 10) with the exception of subject 218.

The running and corrected response rates of subject 218 changed dramatically at phase 7. Upon observation by the experimenter, it was determined that the bird's topography of key-pecking changed from a head-thrusting to a beak-fluttering movement. No reliable nor obvious topographic changes were noted in the other subjects throughout the experiment.

Neither the corrected nor the running response rates showed consistent variation across experimental phases, although the corrected rates tended to show more variability across conditions. This difference in across-condition variability for the two measures may be a special feature of the present procedure. The PS_{P}^R data presented below indicated that the particular locus of S_{NC}^R in the T cycle affected the durations of PS_{P}^R s after S_C^R and S_{NC}^R .

Table 5

Overall Running Response Rates (Responses/Sec) for Subjects 218 and 203.
Means, Standard Deviations (S.D.), and Medians
Across All Experimental Phases Are Presented

	Time Between Start of T Cycle and S _{NC} ^R Delivery												
	Base- line	50"	40"	30"	20"	10"	50"	30"	30"*	50"*	50"	10"	Base- line
218:													
Mean	1.21	1.22	1.31	1.53	1.40	1.32	1.68	1.84	1.55	1.63	2.07	2.00	2.53
S.D.	.11	.12	.08	.09	.06	.13	.16	.19	.22	.15	.29	Lost data	.20
Median	1.22	1.21	1.26	1.54	1.41	1.25	1.74	1.81	1.48	1.69	2.00	2.05	2.63
203:													
Mean	.88	.83	.80	.90	1.04	.85	.83	.65	.69	.67	.68	.71	.83
S.D.	.04	.07	.05	.06	.03	.12	.05	.04	.06	.02	.06	.10	.13
Median	.89	.85	.80	.90	1.05	.83	.83	.63	.68	.68	.66	.71	.78

*In this phase both S^Rs were noncontingent.

Table 6

Overall Running Response Rates (Responses/Sec) for Subjects 455 and 483.
Means, Standard Deviations (S.D.), and Medians
Across All Experimental Phases Are Presented

	Time Between Start of T Cycle and S _{NC} ^R Delivery												
	Base- line	100"	80"	60"	40"	20"	100"	60"	60"*	100"*	100"	20"	Base- line
455:													
Mean	.57	.89	.89	.84	.76	.90	1.03	.80	.43	.58	.66	.84	1.19
S.D.	.10	.05	.10	.07	.06	.05	.14	.12	.12	.11	.01	.05	.07
Median	.57	.88	.90	.81	.77	.92	1.10	.84	.37	.58	.67	.83	1.21
483:													
Mean	.62	.59	.63	.58	.57	.58	.54	.58	.46	.27	.48	.44	.51
S.D.	.07	.06	.01	.06	.04	.04	.10	.01	.08	.10	.08	.06	.11
Median	.59	.58	.64	.61	.57	.61	.57	.57	.46	.20	.47	.42	.56

*In this phase both S^Rs were noncontingent.

Table 7

Overall Running Response Rates (Responses/Sec) for Subjects 213 and 100.
Means, Standard Deviations (S.D.), and Medians
Across All Experimental Phases Are Presented

	Time Between Start of T Cycle and S _{NC} ^R Delivery												
	Base- line	200"	160"	120"	80"	40"	200"	120"	120"*	200"*	200"	40"	Base- line
213:													
Mean	.66	.65	.67	.66	.68	.61	.51	.66	.59	.23	.53	.52	.73
S.D.	.03	.03	.02	.02	.09	.02	.05	.02	.05	.05	.07	.05	.01
Median	.66	.63	.68	.65	.74	.61	.51	.67	.59	.22	.53	.53	.74
100:													
Mean	.53	.63	.64	.66	.59	.57	.60	.78	.58	.43	.57	.61	.78
S.D.	.03	.01	.02	.09	.03	.05	.04	.05	.02	.05	.05	.06	.07
Median	.53	.64	.66	.64	.60	.57	.59	.78	.56	.44	.58	.65	.80

*In this phase both S^Rs were noncontingent.

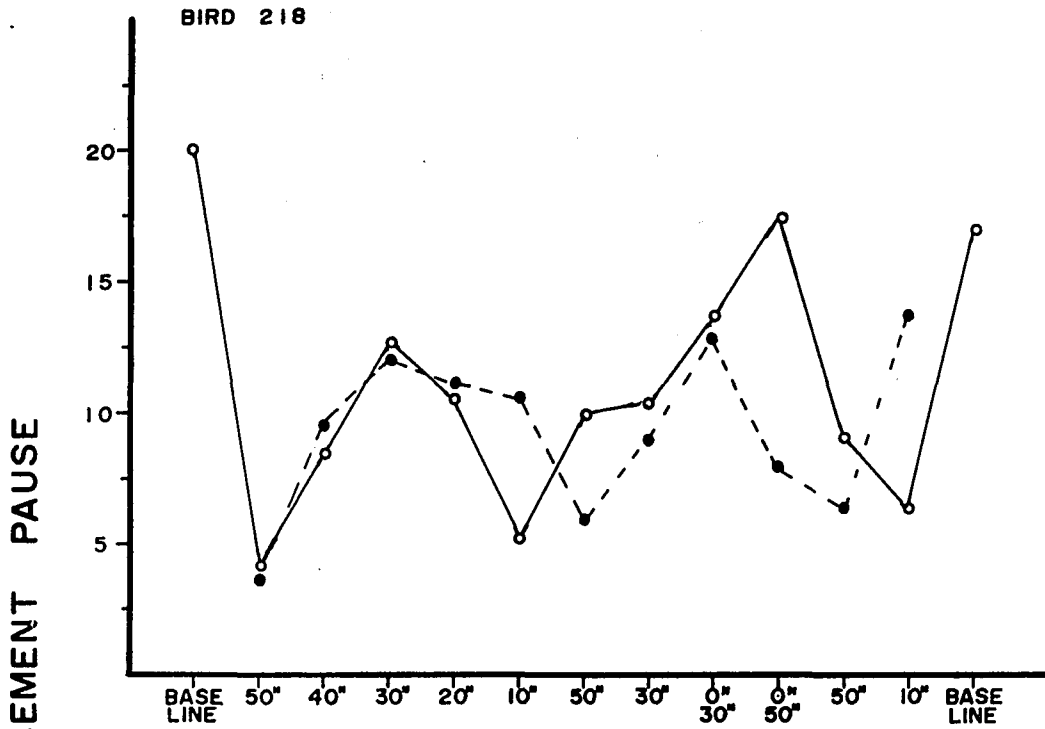
The corrected rate measure included PS^R_P s. When PS^R_P s were not included in the rate calculation, as with running rate, the across-condition changes in rate were generally smaller than observed in corrected rates. This analysis suggests that the running rate measure is probably a better indicator of actual changes in responding as a function of changes in the independent variable.

Post-reinforcement pause. The PS^R_C and PS^R_{NC} measures were determined by calculation of the mean time between S^R and the first response following S^R . Figures 7, 8, and 9 provide the data. Except for several reversals, the results were consistent both within and across groups. The following statements characterize the trends in the data (for explanation of the phases see Table 1):

(1.) Phases 1 through 4--At phase 2 both PS^R_C and PS^R_{NC} measures were lower than the PS^R_C values for baseline. Also, PS^R_C were slightly longer in duration than PS^R_{NC} s, with the exception of subject 455 (however, in this, and several conditions in which the PS^R_P values were of similar length, there was considerable overlap in standard deviations for the measures). From phase 3 to 4, all subjects showed continued increases in both measures. At phase 4, when S^R_{NC} was presented at the middle of the T cycle, both measures were approximately equal in duration for all subjects.

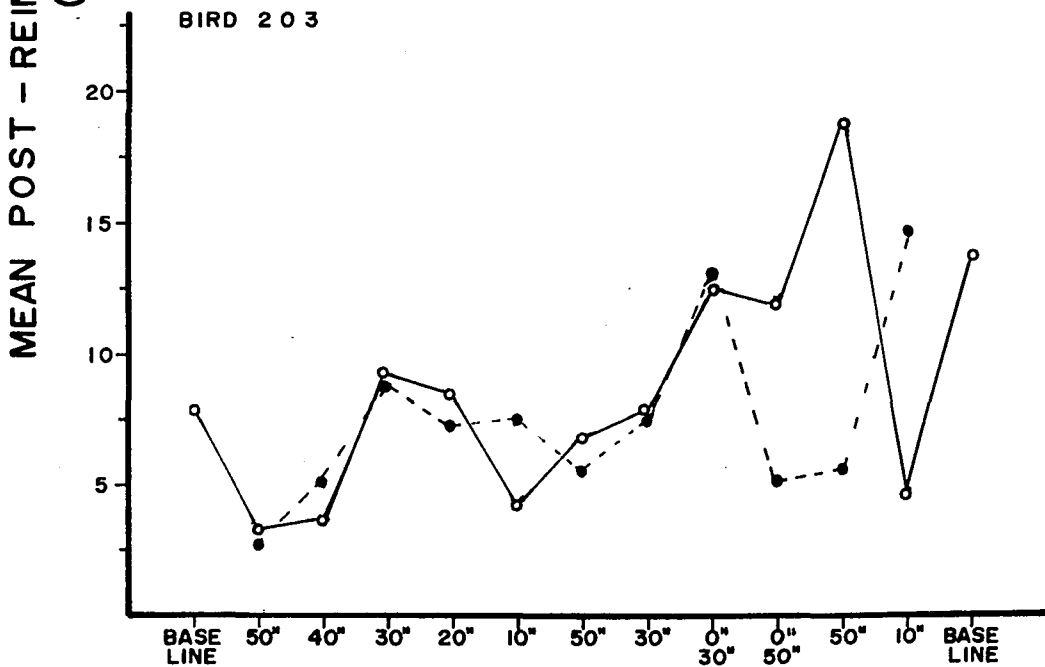
(2.) Phases 5 and 6--During phases 5 and 6 the PS^R_C values consistently decreased across all subjects.

Figure 7. Mean post-reinforcement pause for subjects 218 and 203 at each temporal placement of S_{NC}^R within a 60 second T cycle.



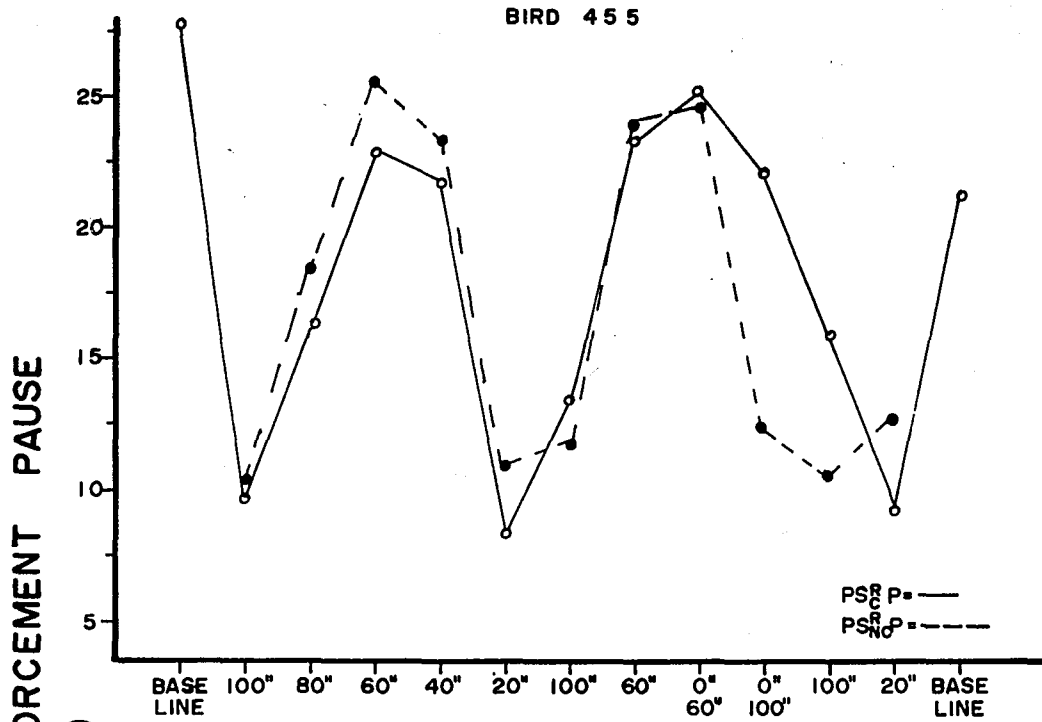
SR_{NC} LOCUS IN BASELINE SCHEDULE

PS_C P = — PS_{Nc} P = - - -

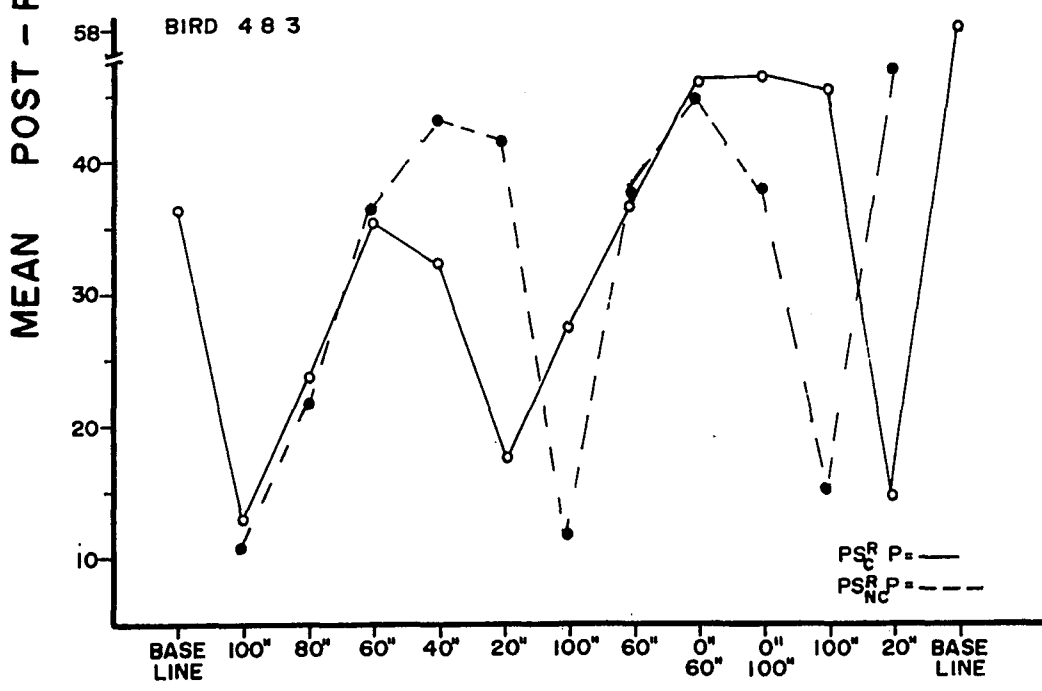


SR_{NC} LOCUS IN BASELINE SCHEDULE

Figure 8. Mean post-reinforcement pause for subjects 455 and 483 at each temporal placement of S_{NC}^R within a 120 second T cycle.

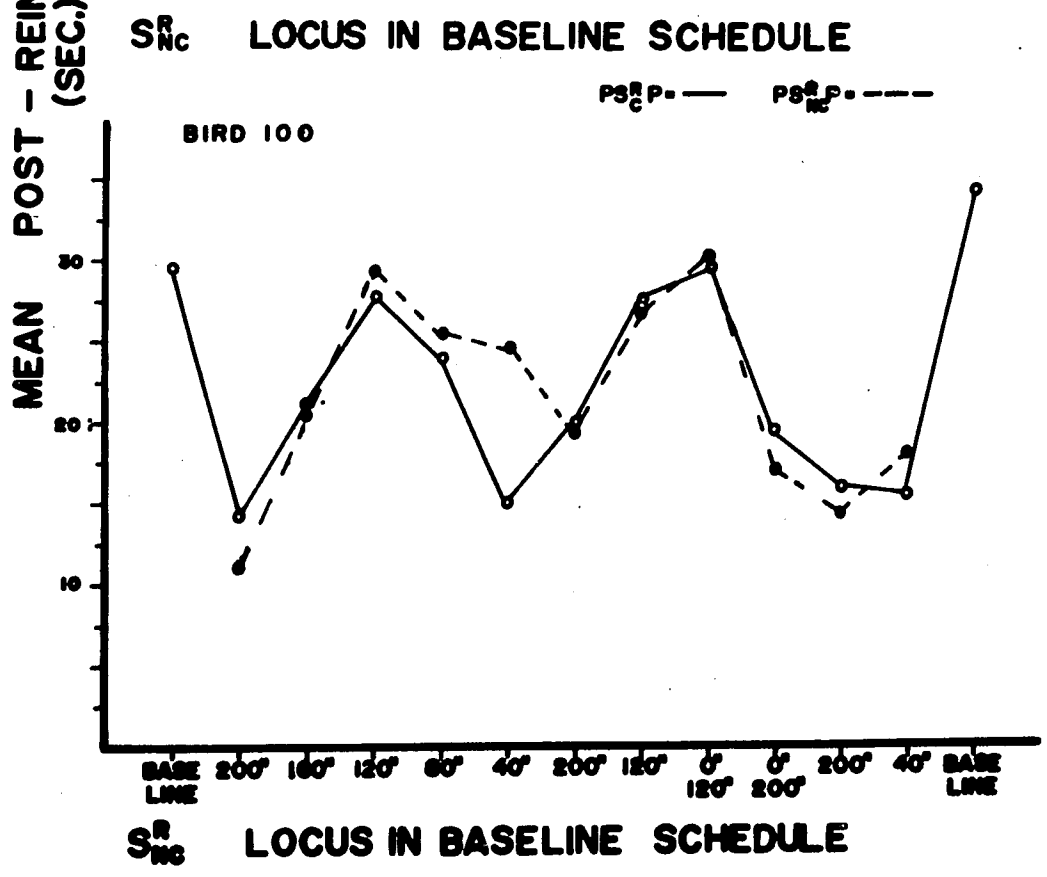
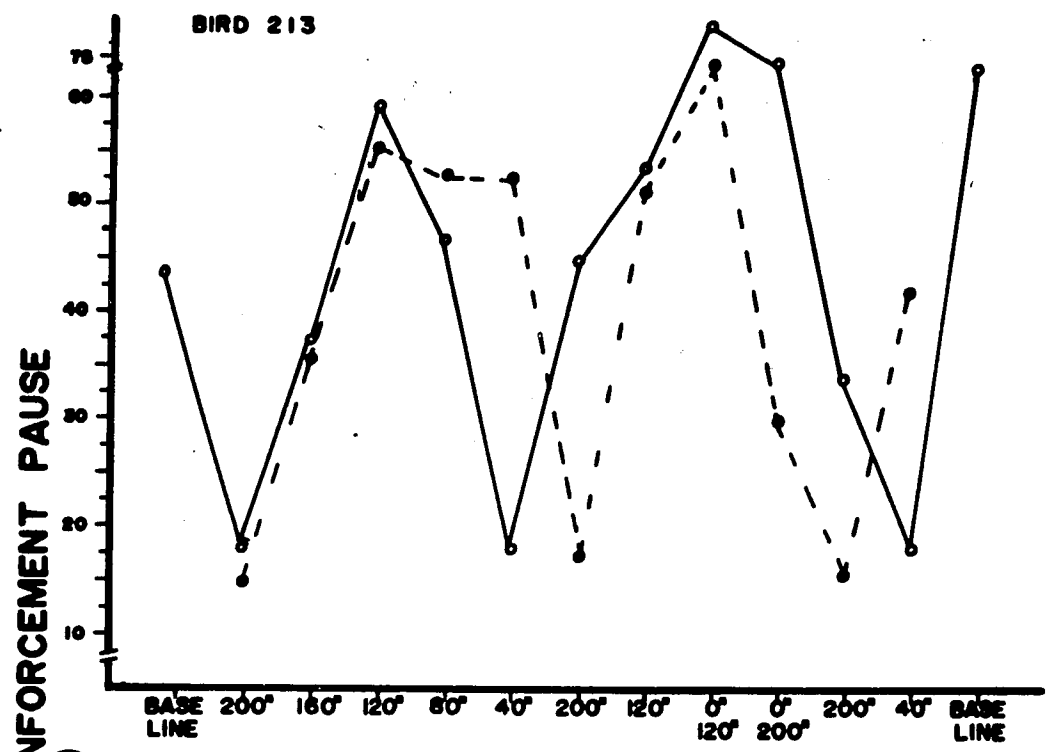


SR_{NC} LOCUS IN BASELINE SCHEDULE



SR_{NC} LOCUS IN BASELINE SCHEDULE

Figure 9. Mean post-reinforcement pause for subjects 213 and 100 at each temporal placement of S_{NC}^R within a 240 second T cycle.



With the exception of subject 203 at phase 5, all PS_{NC}^R Ps were longer than their matching PS_C^R P values. There were no systematic increases or decreases in PS_{NC}^R Ps across the subjects, with the exception of subject 455.

(3.) Phases 7 and 11--Phases 7 and 11 were direct replications of phase 2. Whereas in phase 2 both measures were generally equal in duration, in phases 7 and 11 the PS_C^R Ps were consistently longer, with the exception of subject 100 at phase 7.

(4.) Phases 8, 12, and 13--These phases were direct replications of phases 4, 6, and 1, respectively. The findings were consistent with those obtained from the initial determinations.

(5.) Phases 9 and 10--These phases consisted of total S_{NC}^R . The results paralleled those from similar phases in which S_C^R was included. There was some variability across subjects in terms of the absolute values of the PS^R Ps under conditions of total S_{NC}^R .

In summary, the PS^R P data indicated that the values after S_C^R and S_{NC}^R were determined by the joint control exerted by the temporal separation variable and by the length of IS^R Ts which preceded S_C^R and S_{NC}^R . The IS^R Ts per se did not determine the length of PS^R Ps after S^R s. Confirmation of this comes from a comparison of phase 2 with phase 6 and phase 3 with phase 5. In these phase comparisons, times between successive S^R s were equivalent. The difference was in whether S_C^R or S_{NC}^R was preceded by a

longer IS^{RT} . Inspection of Figures 7-9 indicates that although the PS^{RPs} tended to be longer after S_C^R in phase 2 and after S_{NC}^R in phase 6, the absolute values were longer after S_{NC}^R . In general, a similar trend occurred in phases 3 and 5. When S_{NC}^R was presented in the middle of the T cycle (phase 4), PS^{RPs} after S_C^R and S_{NC}^R did not systematically differ. This particular finding was consistent with Shull's (1971) data on the lengths of PS^{RPs} after S_C^R and S_{NC}^R in temporally equated schedules.

Ratio of response rates. Mean running response rates were separately determined for (1) responding from the beginning of a T cycle to S_{NC}^R , and for (2) responding from S_{NC}^R to the beginning of the next T cycle (i.e., into S_C^R). Tables 8, 9, and 10 provide the ratios of these rates across experimental phases. A ratio was calculated in the following manner:

$$\frac{\text{Rate into } S_{NC}^R}{\text{Rate into } S_{NC}^R + \text{Rate into } S_C^R}$$

Values of .5, less than .5, or greater than .5 signify that rates into S_{NC}^R were equal to, less than, or greater than rates into S_C^R . Ratios are presented only for running rates because a measure unconfounded by PS^{RP} time was preferred. Since running rate measures do not include PS^{RPs} , it was possible to assess actual changes in responding frequency into S_C^R and S_{NC}^R across the experimental phases without the

Table 8

Ratio of Running Response Rates into S_C^R and S_{NC}^R
 as a Function of the Locus of S_{NC}^R in
 the Baseline Schedule*

S_{NC}^R Locus in Baseline:	Ratio of Rates	
	#218	#203
50 sec.	.41	.50
40 "	.51	.48
30 "	.50	.51
20 "	.52	.51
10 "	.56	.51
50' "	.35	.33
30 "	.50	.49
** 0 " and 30 sec.	.51	.48
** 0 " and 50' "	.40	.33
50 "	.31	.17
10 "	.55	.71

* See text for formula for rate ratios.

** In this phase both S^R s were noncontingent.

Table 9
 Ratio of Running Response Rates into S_C^R and S_{NC}^R
 as a Function of the Locus of S_{NC}^R in
 the Baseline Schedule*

S_{NC}^R Locus in Baseline:	Ratio of Rates	
	#455	#483
50 sec.	.43	.41
40 "	.63	.50
30 "	.48	.46
20 "	.50	.36
10 "	.50	.63
50 "	.48	.36
30 "	.50	.50
** 0 " and 30 sec.	.50	.52
** 0 " and 50 "	.40	Data lost
50 "	.39	.24
10 "	.51	.41

* See text for formula for rate ratios.

** In this phase both S^R s were noncontingent.

Table 10
 Ratio of Running Response Rates into S_C^R and S_{NC}^R
 as a Function of the Locus of S_{NC}^R in
 the Baseline Schedule*

S_{NC}^R Locus in Baseline:	Ratio of Rates	
	#213	#100
50 sec.	.45	.45
40 "	.48	.49
30 "	.50	.48
20 "	.47	.48
10 "	.57	.47
50 "	.44	.43
30 "	.51	.51
** 0 " and 30 sec.	.49	.50
** 0 " and 50 "	Data lost	.50
50 "	.42	.44
10 "	.62	.53

* See text for formula for rate ratios.

** In this phase both S^R s were noncontingent.

confounding of PS^R_P .

No consistent differences in rates prior to S_C^R or S_{NC}^R were found across experimental manipulations. A large number of values fell within a range of plus or minus .10 of .50, thus indicating that subjects tended to respond into S_C^R and S_{NC}^R at generally equal rates. It is interesting to note that although the overall running rates prior to S_C^R and S_{NC}^R did not systematically change as a function of the temporal position of S_{NC}^R in the T cycle, the distributions of those rates did differ. This effect can be observed by inspection of the response patterning data in Figures 1-6. Although differences in local rates occurred, generally, an overall equilibrium was maintained. (The reader should be cautioned that the data in the figures include PS^R_P .) The present experimental design did not permit further analysis of this phenomenon.

The above results add to the growing literature that response rates prior to S_{NC}^R can occur at high and reliable rates. Specifically, particular values of schedules known as variable delay, mixed $S_C^R-S_{NC}^R$, auto-shaping, and positive conditioned suppression have produced this result. The latter two of these procedures closely resemble Pavlov's (1927) paradigm of pairing a "neutral" stimulus (CS) with an unconditioned one (UCS). The only known free operant studies (not employing an exteroceptive stimulus) to show that S_{NC}^R can maintain response rates equal to S_C^R were done by Lang and Mankoff (1973) and by

Lattal (1973). The present study represents an addition to these special cases and further brings into focus the view that the effects of S_{NC}^R on particular responses are a function of the parameters of S_{NC}^R delivery, and its contact with ongoing responding.

While it was true that rates prior to S_{NC}^R were at times higher than or about equal to those prior to S_C^R , it cannot be assumed that S_{NC}^R rates were independent of the S_C^R variable. When S_C^R was changed to S_{NC}^R (phases 9 and 10) overall response rates as well as rates prior to both S_{NC}^R s decreased substantially, with the exception of subject 218. Thus, in the schedules studied here, it appears that in order for S_{NC}^R to control high rates, S_C^R may be necessary.

EXPERIMENT II

In Experiment I, the value of t^D was three seconds for each of the groups. In Experiment II, the subjects were reinforced for the first response in a 60 second T cycle no matter where in the interval it occurred. Such a t-schedule can be considered as fixed-interval-by-the-clock (Schoenfeld and Cole, et al., 1972). The interest was in determining if the data obtained in Experiment I were a special result of the use of a three second t^D value.

Method

Subjects. Two experimentally naive female White Carneaux pigeons, between six and eight years old, were maintained at $80\% \pm 3\%$ of their ad libitum body weights by supplemental feeding following experimental sessions. Water and grit were available in the home cages.

Apparatus. Same as Experiment I.

Procedure. Subjects 50 and 404 were trained to peck the center response key by the method of successive approximations, after which they received 100 regular reinforcements. In the next session the subjects were exposed to a 60 second T cycle, with $\bar{T} = 1$. The first response in each T cycle (whenever it occurred) was immediately reinforced. This baseline schedule remained in effect throughout the experiment.

Following 20 days of baseline training, S_{NC}^R was added to the baseline schedule. The procedure was the same as in Experiment I, with two exceptions: (1) The first response in each T cycle produced S_C^R . (2) Not all of the phases covered in Experiment I were explored. The values of the independent variable are presented in Table 11. The subjects were successively exposed to phases 1 through 6, followed by a redetermination of two values of the independent variable.

As in Experiment I, the data for all of the analyses were based on the last five sessions at the experimental phases. Both subjects obtained 25 S_C^R s at all phases of the study; when S_{NC}^R was included they always obtained 25 S_{NC}^R s.

Response patterning. Figures 10 and 11 provide the data for the percentage of total responses that occurred during each of the consecutive time segments. Since the results closely paralleled those obtained in similar phases of Experiment I, a detailed summary will not be made. When S_{NC}^R was at 50 seconds, subject 404 showed a trend of an increasing percentage of responses between the beginning of a T cycle and S_{NC}^R . This finding was obtained for the first determination and the recovery phase. At phase 7 subject 50 showed a steadily increasing percentage of responses in successive time segments between the beginning of the cycle and S_{NC}^R .

Table 11
 Temporal Intervals Between the Beginning
 of T Cycle and Noncontingent
 Reinforcement Delivery
 in Experiment II

Phase	Temporal Intervals
1	Baseline (20)*
2	50" (15)
3	40" (15)
4	30" (15)
5	20" (15)
6	10" (15)
7	50" (8)
8	30" (8)

*The number of sessions run at an experimental point are given in parentheses.

Figure 10. Percentage of responses in consecutive 5 second segments of a 60 second T cycle. The separate figures represent data for subject 404 at the different S_{NC}^R loci. The functions from 1 to N represent responding from the beginning of the T cycle to S_{NC}^R , while the functions from N to 12 represent responding from S_{NC}^R delivery to the end of the T cycle.

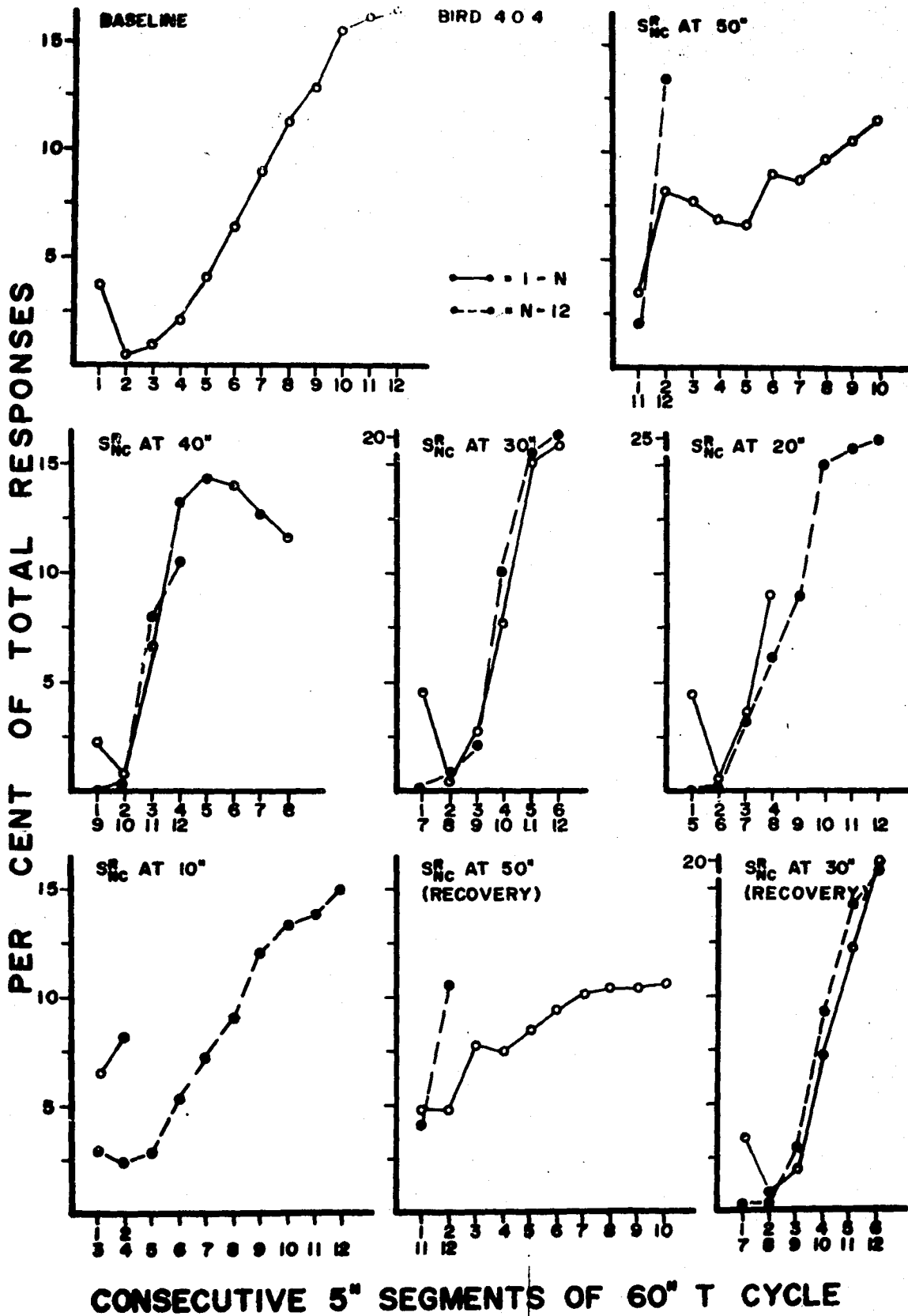
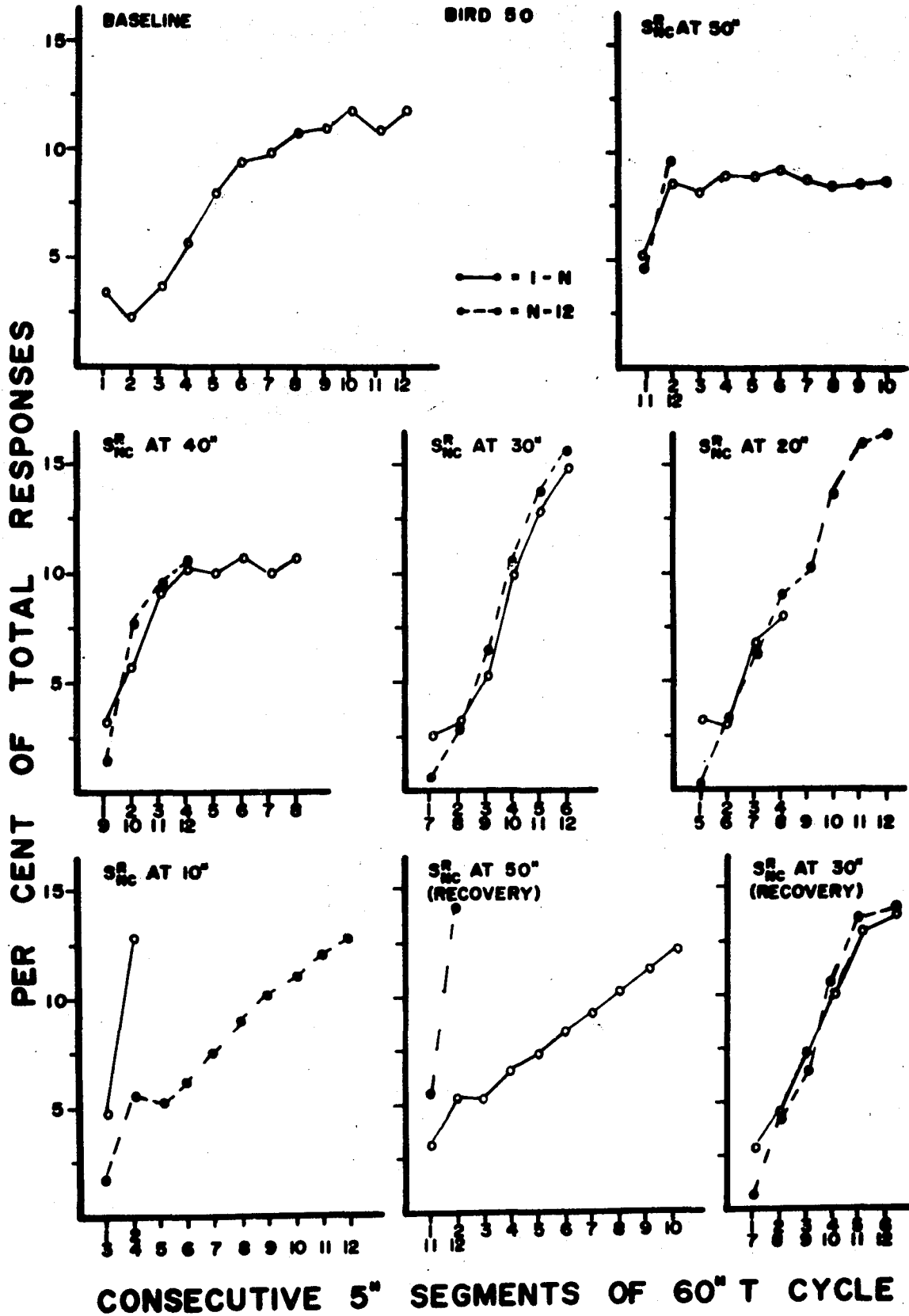


Figure 11. Percentage of responses in consecutive 5 second segments of a 60 second T cycle. The separate figures represent data for subject 50 at the different S_{NC}^R loci. The functions from 1 to N represent responding from the beginning of the T cycle to S_{NC}^R , while the functions from N to 12 represent responding from S_{NC}^R delivery to the end of the T cycle.



The finding of an increasing percentage of responses prior to S_{NC}^R when S_{NC}^R was delivered toward the end of the T cycle was also noted in several subjects in Experiment I, mainly at recovery phases. It is not clear whether these data represent a temporal discrimination or some other effect. There was some evidence that the finding, at least for several subjects, may have been due to increased variability. The standard deviations of data points in these instances were larger than those when a change in response patterning was not noted at recovery phases.

Response rate measures. Table 12 provides the means, standard deviations, and medians for corrected response rates at each experimental phase. No consistent trend appeared across placements. The data from phases 7 and 8 did not result in close recovery of the first determinations at those S_{NC}^R values.

Table 13 provides the same measures as Table 6 for running response rates. No systematic trends across phases emerged. Phases 7 and 8 did not produce close approximations of the rates obtained from the first determinations of those S_{NC}^R values.

Post-reinforcement pause. PS_C^R and PS_{NC}^R measures were calculated as in Experiment I. The data in Figure 12 are nearly in complete agreement with those from similar phases of Experiment I.

Table 12

Overall Corrected Response Rates (Responses/Sec) for Subjects 404 and 50.
Means, Standard Deviations (S.D.), and Medians Across
All Experimental Phases Are Presented

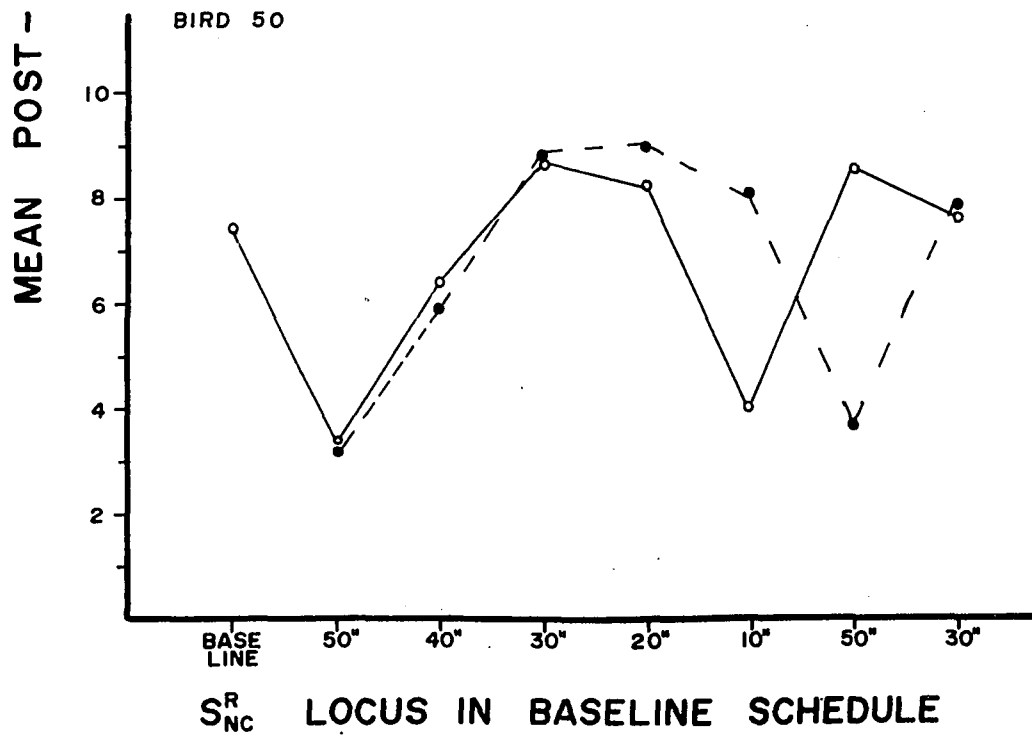
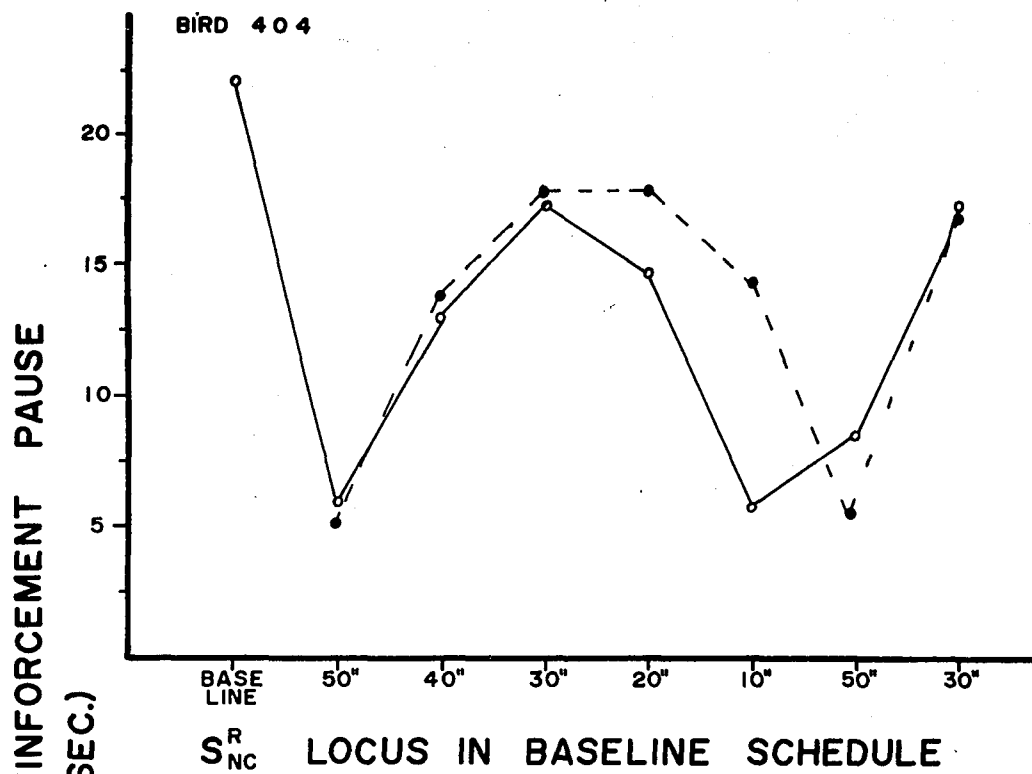
	Time Between Start of T Cycle and S_{NC}^R Delivery							
	Base- line	50"	40"	30"	20"	10"	50"	30"
404:								
Mean	.68	.85	.66	.83	.55	.78	.76	.88
S.D.	.06	.03	.03	.07	.01	.05	.01	.08
Median	.67	.83	.68	.81	.54	.82	.76	.86
50:								
Mean	.43	.51	.63	.36	.35	.57	.39	.46
S.D.	.02	.06	.05	.03	.07	.04	.07	.05
Median	.44	.50	.64	.37	.36	.59	.37	.45

Table 13

Overall Running Response Rates (Responses/Sec) for Subjects 404 and 50.
Means, Standard Deviations (S.D.), and Medians Across
All Experimental Phases Are Presented

	Time Between Start of T Cycle and S _{NC} ^R Delivery							
	Base- line	50"	40"	30"	20"	10"	50"	30"
404:								
Mean	.70	.62	1.12	.84	.76	.87	.51	1.00
S.D.	.04	.06	.04	.06	.09	.08	.08	.07
Median	.72	.61	1.11	.82	.80	.86	.48	.99
50:								
Mean	.80	.94	.84	1.16	.78	.99	.96	1.17
S.D.	.10	.02	.05	.05	.01	.08	.05	.11
Median	.76	.94	.84	1.15	.78	.98	.96	1.19

Figure 12. Mean post-reinforcement pause for subjects 404 and 50 at each temporal placement of S_{NC}^R within a 60 second T cycle.



Ratio of response rates. Rate ratios, shown in Table 14, were determined as in Experiment I. The results were consistent with those obtained in Experiment I.

Table 14

Ratio of Running Response Rates into S_C^R and S_{NC}^R as a Function of the Locus of S_{NC}^R in the Baseline Schedule*

S_{NC}^R Locus in Baseline	Ratio of Rates	
	#404	#50
50 sec.	.36	.45
40 "	.43	.51
30 "	.48	.49
20 "	.46	.42
10 "	.60	.60
50 "	.34	.36
30 "	.49	.51

* See text for the formula for rate ratios.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

The results from Experiments I and II demonstrate that the intruded stimulus paradigm (Farmer and Schoenfeld, 1966) has potential as a design for assessing effects of noncontingent reinforcement. By establishing and keeping in force a baseline schedule of S_C^R , responding was maintained so that the effects of the parameters of S_{NC}^R on that responding could be determined. Part of the difficulty with many of the independent and dependent variables discussed in the Introduction was that with continued exposure to S_{NC}^R measured rates of responding declined to zero or near-zero levels. The methodology employed in the present investigations offers one possible solution to the problem.

Experiments I and II reported above indicated that S_{NC}^R had clear effects on key-pecking. At the same time, it should be re-stated that this control was not independent of the fact that S_C^R was part of the total schedule variable. In fact, variations in the dependent variables were a result of the temporal positioning of S_{NC}^R with respect to S_C^R . Lattal (1973) has shown that when different exteroceptive stimuli for a two component multiple schedule of S_C^R and S_{NC}^R were removed, rats maintained equivalent rates in the two components when IS^R Ts were equated and component lengths were relatively short. Perhaps very different results would have been obtained in the present experiments

if the intervals between successive S^R s were differentially cued.

Farmer and Schoenfeld (1966) developed the intruded stimulus paradigm in order to study the effects of stimuli added to a baseline maintained by S_C^R . Across sessions, pigeons received a 6 second change in key light color at different temporal loci within a FI 60 second schedule. The effects of the intruded stimulus depended on the temporal locus of the intrusion. In a subsequent study, Snapper, Schoenfeld, and Shimoff (1971) employed a procedure similar to Farmer and Schoenfeld's except for the use of electric shock as the intruded stimulus. Several comparisons between those studies and the present one seem noteworthy.

In the Farmer and Schoenfeld study, intrusion of the light toward the beginning of the interval had little effect on responding relative to responding when only the FI was in effect. Overall response rates were reduced when the stimulus was placed toward the end of the interval (immediately before S_C^R). The addition of the stimulus in the middle of the interval resulted in positively accelerated response rates prior to the intruded stimulus and the S_C^R . The rate increases prior to S_C^R were larger than those prior to the intruded stimulus.

Snapper, Schoenfeld, and Shimoff found that the addition of a .05 ma. shock toward the beginning and the middle of a fixed interval resulted in response rate

increases leading to the shock, followed by response rate increases terminated by S_C^R . The rates preceding the shock were higher when it was located in the middle of the interval. For both of these conditions, the response rate increases prior to S_C^R were larger than those preceding the shock. Shock presentation immediately before S_C^R resulted in progressive rate increases into the shock and S_C^R , but overall response rates were decreased when compared to responding maintained only by S_C^R .

The data from the present experiments indicated that higher response rates were maintained prior to the intruded stimulus (S_{NC}^R) than in the two studies cited above when comparisons were made between similar temporal loci of intrusion. For example, addition of S_{NC}^R in the middle of each of the fixed intervals investigated produced indistinguishable response rates prior to S_{NC}^R and S_C^R . Also, presenting S_{NC}^R just prior to S_C^R did not result in an overall reduction of response rate as in the Farmer and Schoenfeld and Snapper, Schoenfeld, and Shimoff studies. The extent to which the data resulted from the use of food as the intruded stimulus remains to be fully determined. Perhaps the use of some other reinforcing stimulus would provide pertinent data (e.g., electrical stimulation of the brain [ESB]). In addition to serving as a reinforcer, at very mild intensities ESB would resemble Farmer and Schoenfeld's "neutral" stimulus. At very strong intensities, ESB would be similar to Schoenfeld, Snapper, and

Shimoff's "aversive" stimulus. Thus, through the parametric manipulation of a single stimulus, an individual subject comparison can be made of so-called "neutral," "reinforcing" and "aversive" intruded stimuli.

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