

Does the Tip-of-the-Tongue State Entail a Feeling of Being on the Tip of Prediction?



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BACKGROUND

- **Tip-of-the-tongue:** feeling like a word is right on the verge of access, but not quite accessible.
- Associated with increased inclinations to gamble and engage in risks (Cleary et al., 2020; 2021)
- Prospective decision-making processes?

PRIMARY FOCUS

- When experiencing tip-of-the-tongue, will participants show an increased feeling of being able to predict an unpredictable event?

METHODS

- 80 general knowledge questions

“What is the fastest animal on earth?”

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“Are you in a tip-of-the-tongue state for the answer?”

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“How strong is your feeling of being able to predict the outcome of a...
coinflip?” (Experiment 1) 

“How strong is your feeling of being able to predict the outcome of a...
six-sided die roll?” (Experiment 2) 

RESULTS

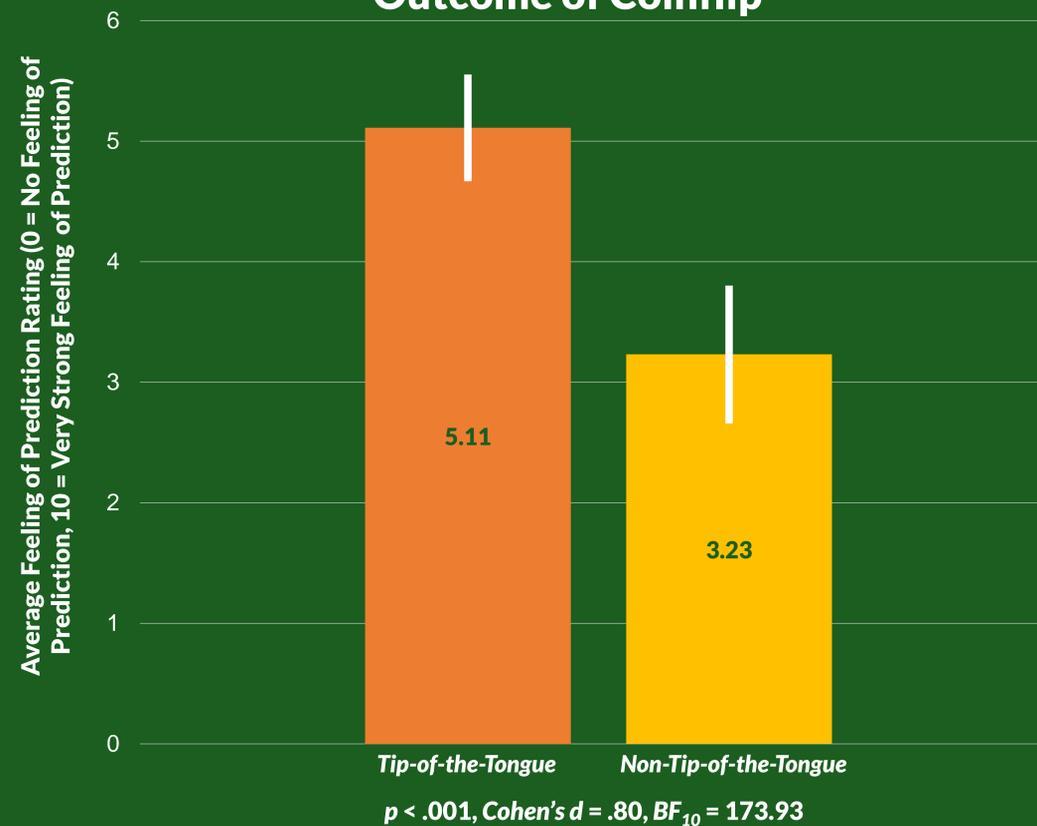
- Higher feeling of prediction ratings during tip-of-the-tongue states than non-tip-of-the-tongue states.
- Effect size diminished as number of potential outcomes increased.

DISCUSSION

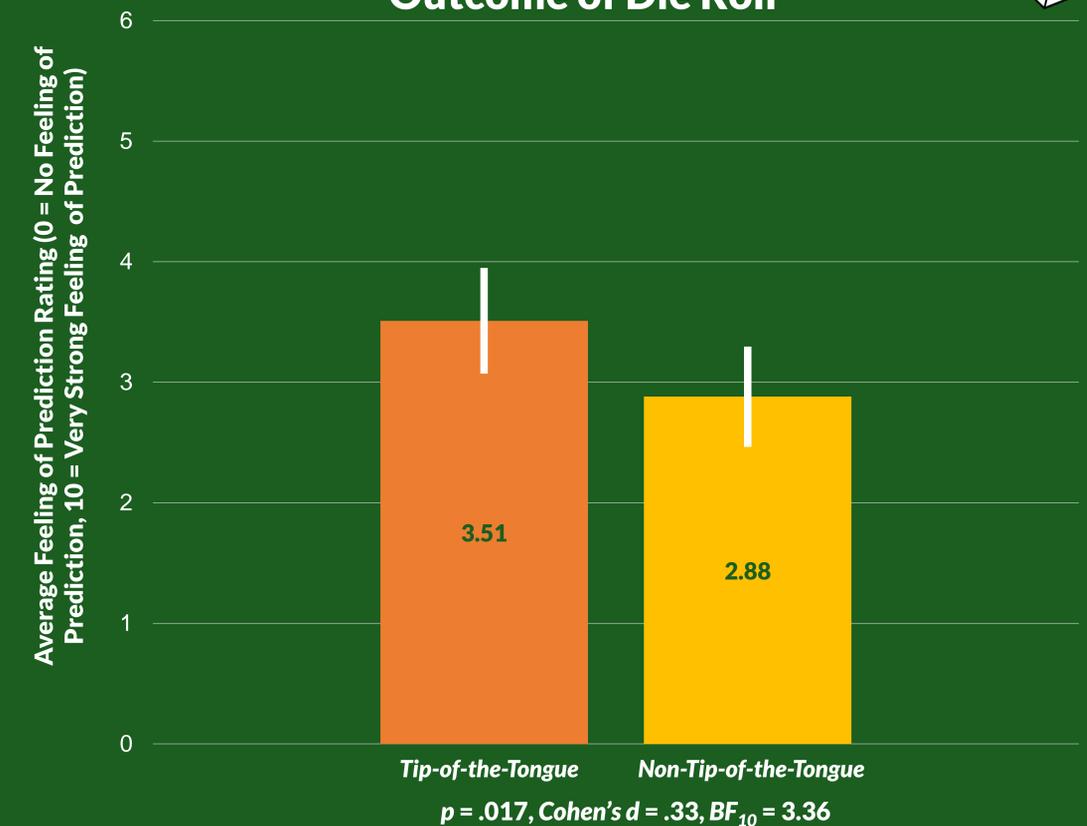
- Tip-of-the-tongue is associated with increased feelings of being able to predict outcome of unpredictable event.
- What are the boundary conditions?
 - As # of outcomes increases, will bias diminish?

Tip-of-the-tongue states bias participants' prospective decision-making processes.

Experiment 1 – Feelings of Predicting Outcome of Coinflip



Experiment 2 – Feelings of Predicting Outcome of Die Roll



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