

**S2 Table. Effect of biological variability and reward threshold on performance and operant strategy.** Values represent overall mean  $\pm$  SE. Tukey HSD was used for pair-wise comparisons ( $\leftrightarrow$ ) between conditions of high and low variability (*HV*, *LV*) and difficult, moderate, and easy threshold (*DT*, *MT*, *ET*).

Statistical significance (\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , \*\*\*\* $p < 0.0001$ )

	Performance		Strategy	
Variability Feedback	<i>LV</i>	<i>HV</i>	<i>LV</i>	<i>HV</i>
<i>LT</i>	0.661 $\pm$ 0.004	0.784 $\pm$ 0.007	18.753 $\pm$ 1.297	13.378 $\pm$ 1.166
<i>MT</i>	0.658 $\pm$ 0.006	0.784 $\pm$ 0.006	10.052 $\pm$ 0.959	11.808 $\pm$ 1.137
<i>HT</i>	0.729 $\pm$ 0.005	0.797 $\pm$ 0.006	6.364 $\pm$ 1.317	8.252 $\pm$ 1.224
<i>LT</i> $\leftrightarrow$ <i>MT</i>	0.004 $\pm$ 0.001(ns)	0.002 $\pm$ 0.001(ns)	8.905 $\pm$ 0.146(****)	1.656 $\pm$ 0.146(ns)
<i>MT</i> $\leftrightarrow$ <i>HT</i>	0.069 $\pm$ 0.001(****)	0.013 $\pm$ 0.001(ns)	3.619 $\pm$ 0.194(**)	3.351 $\pm$ 0.177(*)
<i>LT</i> $\leftrightarrow$ <i>HT</i>	0.066 $\pm$ 0.009(****)	0.015 $\pm$ 0.001(ns)	12.476 $\pm$ 0.127(****)	5.069 $\pm$ 0.085(**)