**Molistic processing in facial comparison*.***

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**Experiment 1 description**

* Identity-Incongruent mole faces: Observers matched 40 trials (20 match, 20 mismatch) from the KFMT, which featured misleading (i.e. identity incongruent moles). (*N* = 50)
* Identity-Congruent mole faces: Observers matched 40 trials (20 match, 20 mismatch) from the KFMT, which featured helpful (i.e. identity congruent moles). (*N* = 50)
* Control condition: Observers matched 40 trials (20 match, 20 mismatch) from the KFMT, in which no moles were artificially manipulated. (*N* = 50)
* Data were analysed via a 3(mole condition) x 2 (trial type) mixed-factor ANOVA.

**Experiment 2 description**

* Identity-Incongruent mole faces: Observers matched 40 trials (20 match, 20 mismatch) from the KFMT, which featured misleading (i.e. identity incongruent moles). Before the task, observers were given a hint that moles might be useful features for this task. (*N* = 50)
* Identity-Congruent mole faces: Observers matched 40 trials (20 match, 20 mismatch) from the KFMT, which featured helpful (i.e. identity congruent moles). Before the task, observers were given a hint that moles might be useful features for this task. (*N* = 50)
* Control condition: Observers matched 40 trials (20 match, 20 mismatch) from the KFMT, in which no moles were artificially manipulated. Before the task, observers were given a hint that moles might be useful features for this task. (*N* = 50)
* Data were analysed via a 3(mole condition) x 2 (trial type) mixed-factor ANOVA.

**Experiment 3 description**

* Same-location mole faces: Observers matched 40 trials (20 match, 20 mismatch) from the KFMT, which featured moles that were located in the same location across all faces. Before the task, observers were given a hint that moles might be useful features for this task. (*N* = 50)
* Similar-location mole faces: Observers matched 40 trials (20 match, 20 mismatch) from the KFMT, which featured moles that were displaced by 10 pixels across all faces. Before the task, observers were given a hint that moles might be useful features for this task. (*N* = 50)
* Different-location mole faces: Observers matched 40 trials (20 match, 20 mismatch) from the KFMT, which featured moles that were displaced by 20 pixels across all faces. Before the task, observers were given a hint that moles might be useful features for this task. (*N* = 50)
* Data were analysed via a 3(mole location) x 2 (trial type) mixed-factor ANOVA.

**Experiment 4 description**

* Block 1: Unmanipulated 40 trials from the KFMT (20 match, 20 mismatch)
* Block 2: Same 40 trials, with 10 match and 10 mismatch trials manipulated to feature identity-congruent moles, and the remaining 10 match and mismatch trials were manipulated to feature identity-incongruent moles.
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* These data were analysed via a 2(task: mole matching versus face matching) x 2(trial type) within-subjects ANOVA to determine whether mole matching is easier than face matching. Correlations between these tasks were also investigated. Finally, the impact of facial identity on mole matching was investigated via a 2(mole congruency) x (mole match versus mole mismatch) within-subjects ANOVA.