

## The Flexible Use of Inductive and Geometric Spatial Categories

Several studies of memory for location have found that people organize space into categories that are bounded by major axes of symmetry. This talk will present several experiments that examine the conditions under which people use (or ignore) another possible basis for forming spatial categories: induction from experience with stimulus distributions. The literature on whether and how people use inductive experience is mixed, I suggest, because different testing procedures make the default categorization scheme more or less beneficial for estimation. Given the goal of accurate recall, spatial categorization is flexible enough to take advantage of inductive experience under conditions in which the default, geometric organization is likely to be least effective.