

# **A TABLET-BASED GAME FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF VISUAL MOTOR SKILLS IN AUTISTIC CHILDREN: SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**

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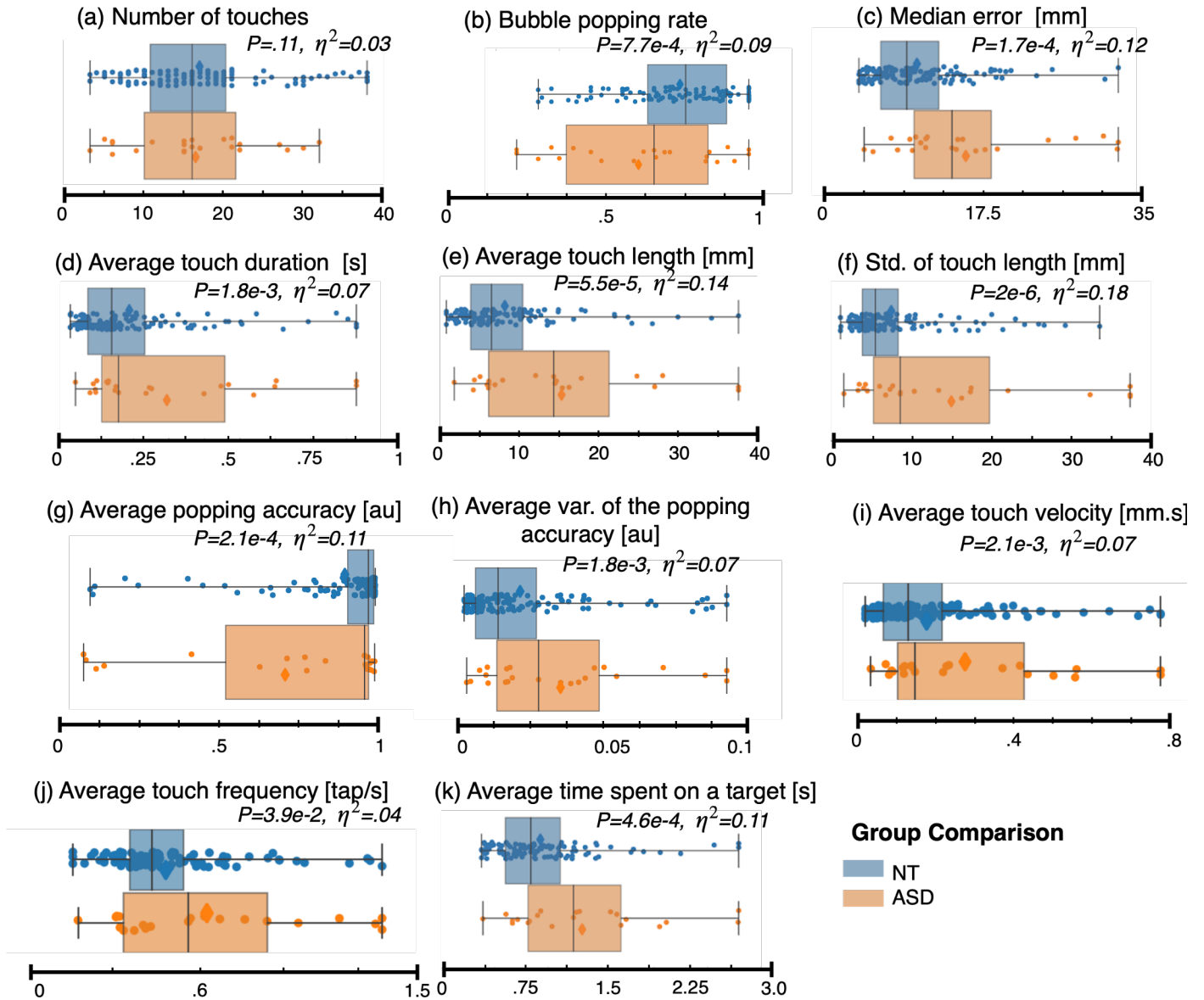
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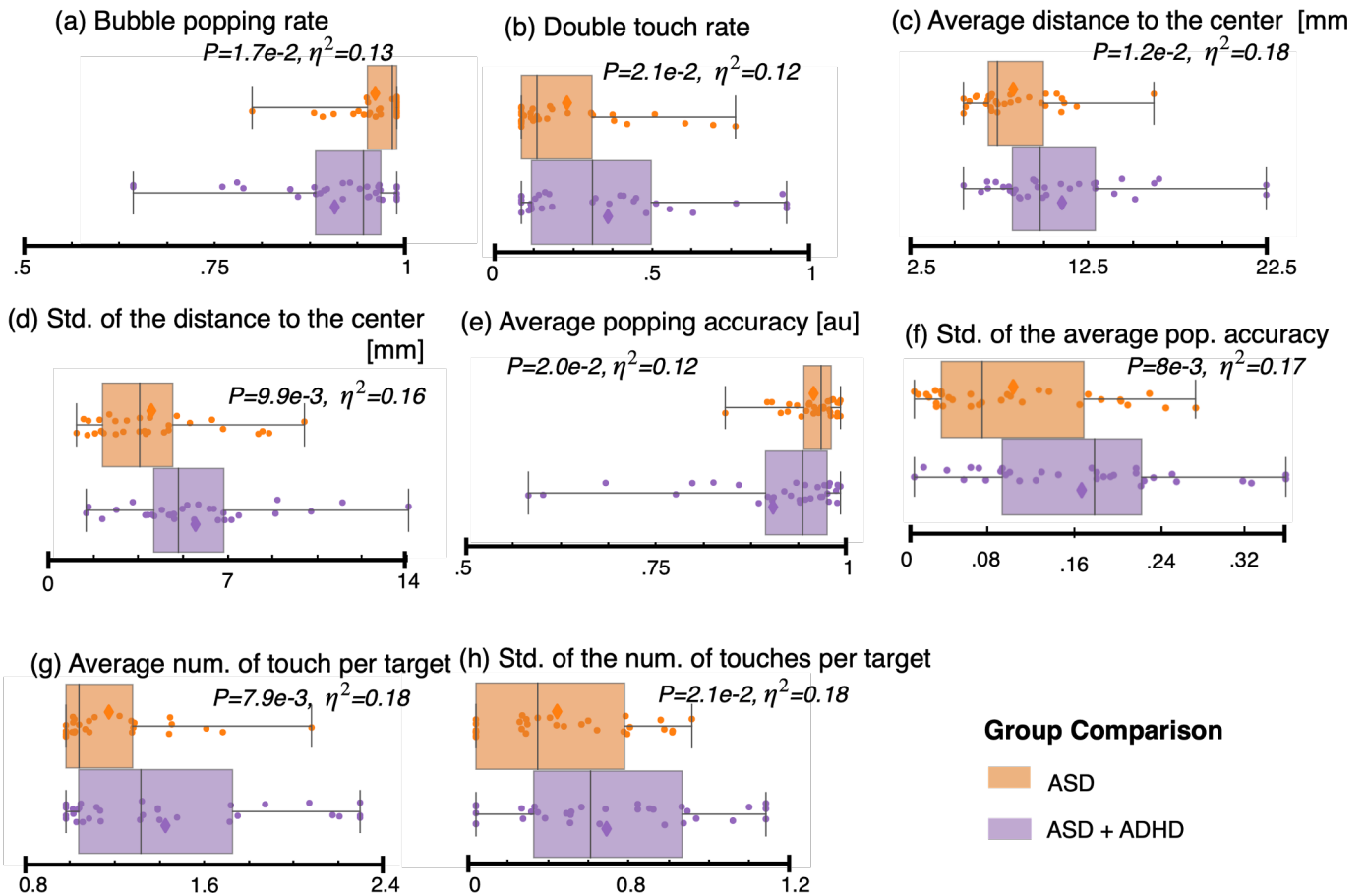
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**Supplementary Figure 1: Boxplot of the distribution of a few touch-related features for autistic versus neurotypical children, for the study 1 sample.** Analysis was performed matching participants' age and experience across the neurotypical and autistic groups. These motor-related features show statistically significant differences between autistic and neurotypical toddlers (except for the *number of touches*). The extracted features presented here are detailed in the features extraction section. P-values were corrected using Benjamini-Hochberg procedure to control for FDR. Effect sizes are denoted as  $\eta^2$ . The line within the boxplot represents the median, the box represents the interquartile range, and the whiskers show extreme values. Scatter points show feature values for each participant.



**Supplementary Figure 2. Boxplot of the distribution of a few touch-related features for autistic children and those co-occurring ADHD, for the study 2 sample.** Analysis was performed matching participants' age, IQ, and experience across the autistic participants with and without ADHD. These motor-related features show statistically significant differences between autistic participants with and without ADHD (except for the *number of touches*). The extracted features presented here are detailed in the features extraction section. P-values were corrected using Benjamini-Hochberg procedure to control for FDR. Effect sizes are denoted as  $\eta^2$ . The line within the boxplot represents the median, the box represents the interquartile range, and the whiskers show extreme values. Scatter points show feature values for each participant.

## Applied force computation - Algorithms

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Algorithm 1: Computation of a proxy for the force applied.

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*Input:*  $X(t)$ ,  $Y(t)$  and  $Z(t)$  time series of the acceleration of the iPad. Child's touchscreen information  $(T_i)_{i[1,N]}$ .

*Output:* Energy  $(E_i)_{i[1,N]}$  associated with each child touch.

For each touch  $T_i$  of the child:

# Find beginning and ending timestamps of the dynamical response of the iPad

$t_i$ ,  $t_f$  = retrieve\_touch\_timestamps( $T_i$ ,  $X(t)$ ,  $Y(t)$ ,  $Z(t)$ ) # See Alg. 2

# Compute the energy of the iPad associated to this touch

$E_i = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} (X^2 + Y^2 + Z^2) dt$

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Algorithm 2: retrieve\_touch\_timestamps

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*Input:* =  $T_i$  single child's touch information, and  $X(t)$ ,  $Y(t)$ ,  $Z(t)$  the accelerations of the iPad.

*Output:*  $t_i$ ,  $t_f$  beginning and ending timestamps of the dynamical response of the iPad.

# Initialize  $t_i$  and  $t_f$  to be the touch timestamps

$t_i$  =  $T_i$  first timestamps

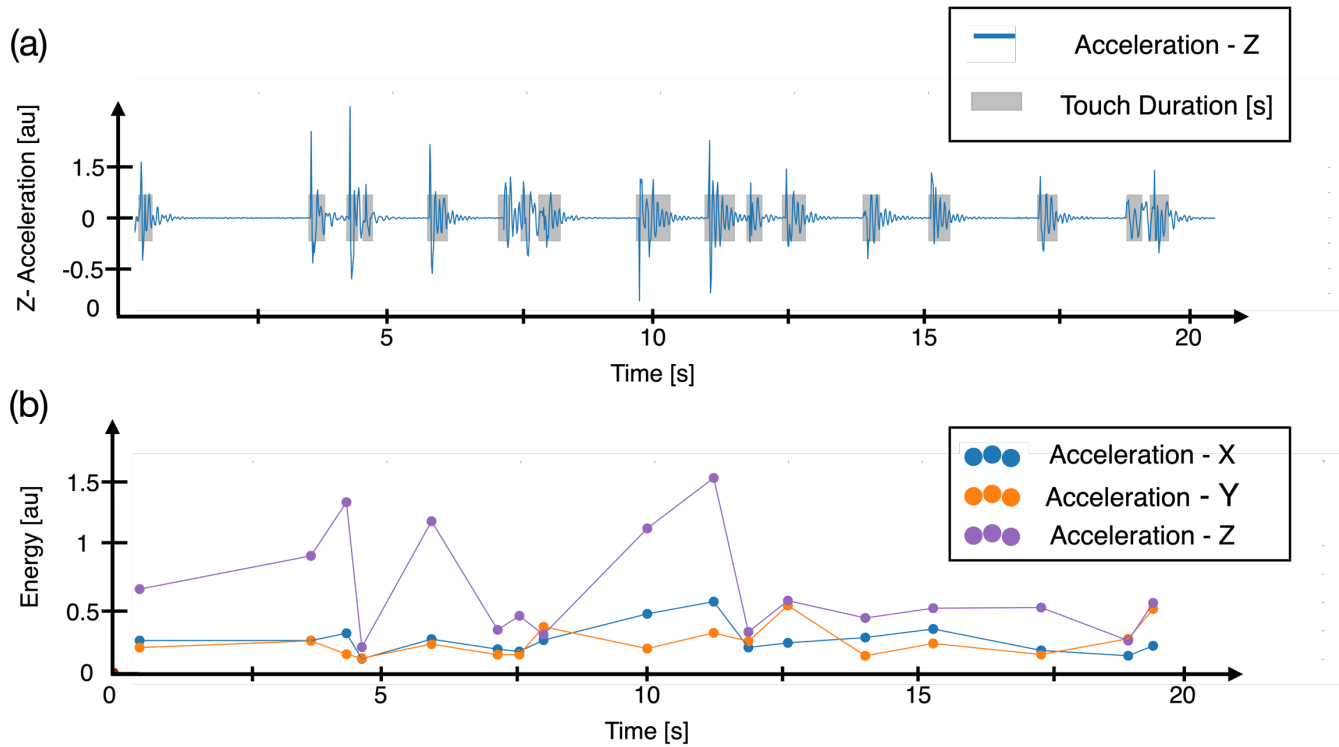
$t_f$  =  $T_i$  last timestamps

# Compute  $Z(t)$  standard deviation during the touch (orthogonal direction of the screen)

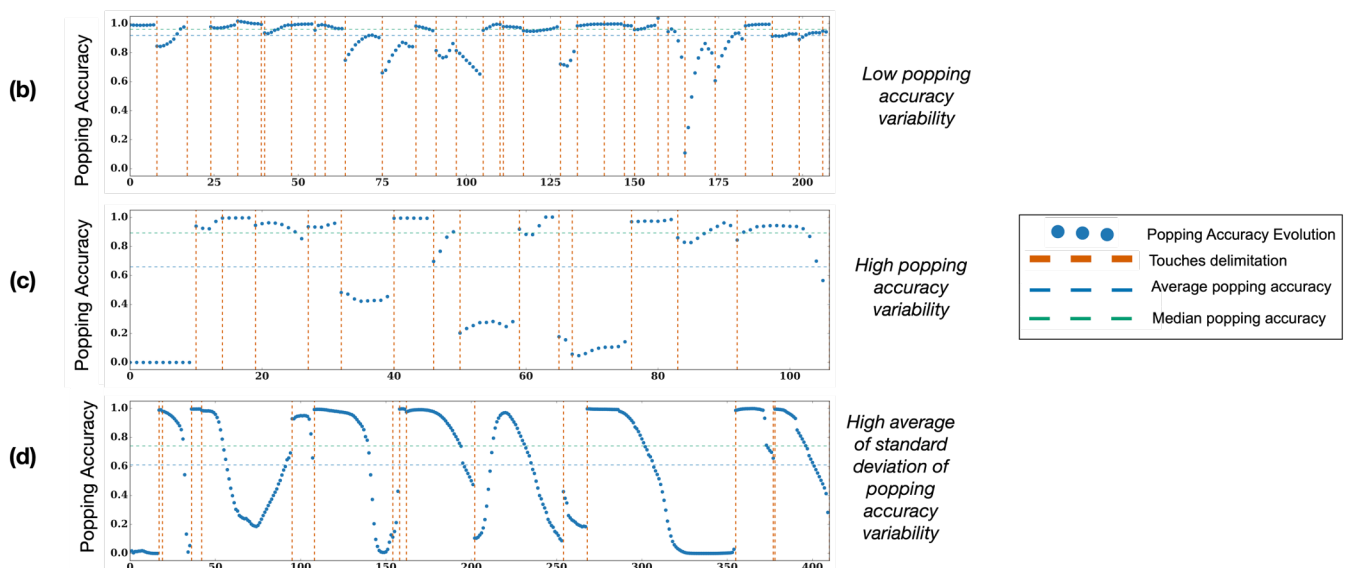
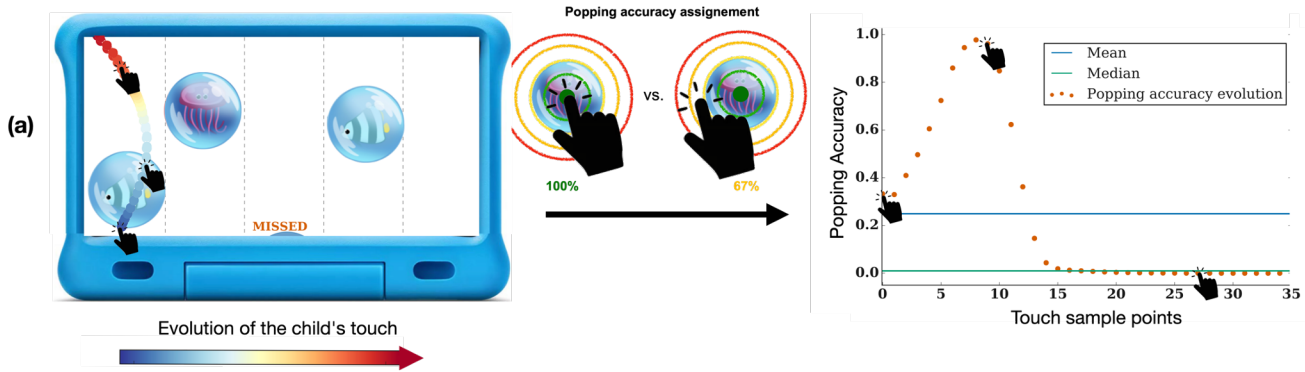
$Z(t) = \text{STD}(Z(t), t_i, t_f)$

# Looking for the final timestamps  $t_f$  as the ending of the device's dynamical relaxation, by finding when  $Z(t)$  stays less than  $0.5 * Z(t)$

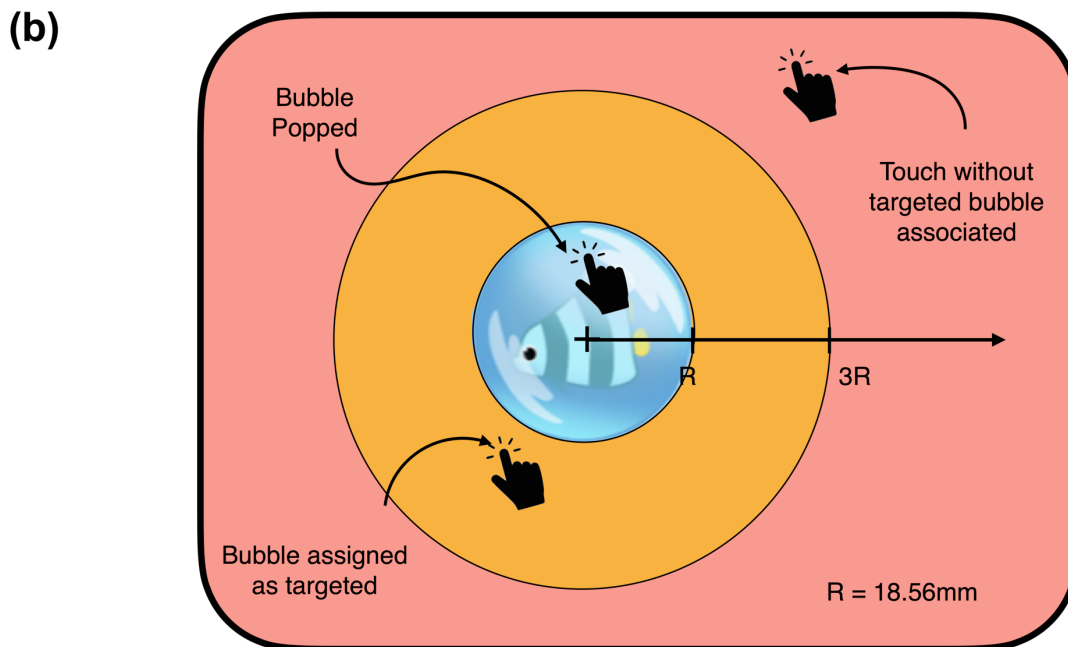
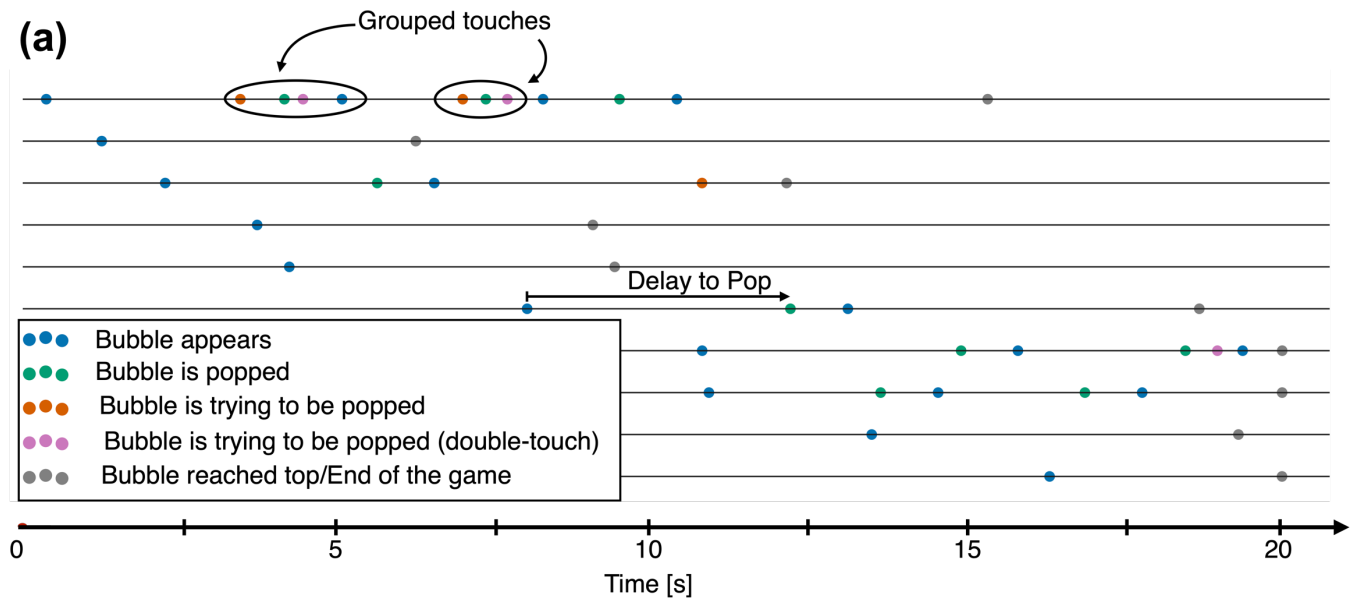
$t_f$  = retrieve\_final\_timestamps( $Z(t)[t_i, t_f]$ ,  $Z(t)$ )



**Supplementary Figure 3. (a) Example of the Z-acceleration (orthogonal direction of the screen) of the iPad during the game, with duration of the child’s touches represented. (b) Example of the computed iPad energies.** To compute a proxy for the force engaged by the child when touching the screen, we integrated the acceleration signal - indicative of the device's dynamical response to a touch - over the duration of a touch (grey shades), and then sum over the X, Y and Z components, as explained in the algorithms 1 and 2.



**Supplementary Figure 4. a) Illustration of the popping accuracy assignment for all the sample points of a touch. (b-c-d) Popping accuracy evolution for three different participants.** The *popping accuracy* provides information about the evolution of the accuracy of a child while their finger is touching the screen. a) Each sample point of a child's touch was assigned a score between 0 and 1 reflecting its closeness to the bubble. b) This participant showed high *popping accuracy* across their touches, low intra-touches variability (*average variation of the popping accuracy*), and low inter-touches variability (*variability of the average popping accuracy*). c) This participant showed medium *popping accuracy*, low intra-touches variability, but high inter-touches variability. d) This participant showed medium *popping accuracy*, high intra-touches variability, and low inter-touches variability.



**Supplementary Figure 5. (a) Example of a chronogram of gameplay events. (b) Diagram depicting how a touch was assigned to a bubble.** (a) The grouped touches correspond to several touches intended to touch the same bubble. We assumed that a touch was intended to touch a specific bubble if the distance between the edge of that bubble and the touch onset location was less than 3.71cm, corresponding to  $2R$ . Sub-figure (b) illustrates how we made the association between a touch and a bubble.

**Supplementary Table 1: AUCs obtained by the model when using three motor features, by identified sex, race, and ethnicity**

Subgroups	AUC [95% CI]	
	Study 1 (N=151)	Study 2 (N=82)
All	0.73 [0.63, 0.83]	0.74 [0.62, 0.86]
Sex		
Male	0.72 [0.60, 0.84]	0.78 [0.66, 0.92]
Female	0.76 [0.60, 0.92]	0.66 [0.41, 0.91]
Ethnicity		
Not Hispanic/Latino	0.75 [0.64, 0.86]	0.72 [0.59, 0.85]
Hispanic/Latino	0.71 [0.45, 0.97]	1.00 [1.0, 1.0]
Race		
Black or African American	0.71 [0.55, 0.87]	1.0 [1.0, 1.0]
White/Caucasian	0.77 [0.65, 0.89]	0.79 [0.65, 0.93]
All Other Races	0.72 [0.52, 0.92]	0.59 [0.24, 0.94]

The AUC values were relatively consistent across groups; however, confidence intervals were larger due to the smaller sample sizes. Leave-one out cross-validation approach was used. Features used to fit the model was the *average length*, the *average touch duration*, and the *average time spent* for the Study 1 sample, and the *average distance to the center*, the *number of targets*, and the *screen exploratory percentage* for the study 2 sample.