

# Reading minds

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Propositions accompanying the dissertation

*Reading Minds:*  
Behavioral and Neuroeconomic  
Experiments on Strategic Reasoning

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2023

1. Disrupting the medial prefrontal cortex can actually lead to an improvement, rather than a deterioration, in strategic reasoning. (Chapter 2)
2. The brain area that is involved in the processing of beliefs in traditional theory of mind tasks is also involved in the processing of beliefs in games. (Chapter 2)
3. Different methods of collecting process data lead to similar results on information search patterns in games, even if these methods capture different types of attention. (Chapter 3)
4. Information search patterns in games are adjusted to the context in which these games are played, such as the perceived kindness of the opponent. (Chapter 4)
5. In the face of rapid production of alternative theories, choice data alone provide a limited way to distinguish between these different theories.
6. Despite its accomplishments, neuroeconomics is at best two decades old and has yet to establish itself as an independent discipline.
7. Scientists from different disciplines in the social sciences could learn a lot from each other, if only they were willing to listen.
8. Regression to the mean is a common statistical phenomenon that can mislead us when we draw inferences about the world.
9. Every scientist has language pet peeves, such as “unnecessary” quotation marks, spelling errors, and the Oxford comma.
10. “I am a brain, Watson. The rest of me is a mere appendix.” (Arthur Conan Doyle)