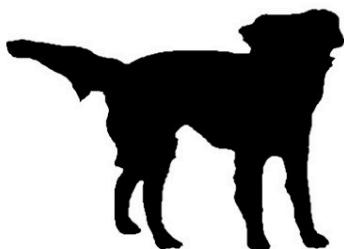


DOG COGNITION

Protocol

Versie V16

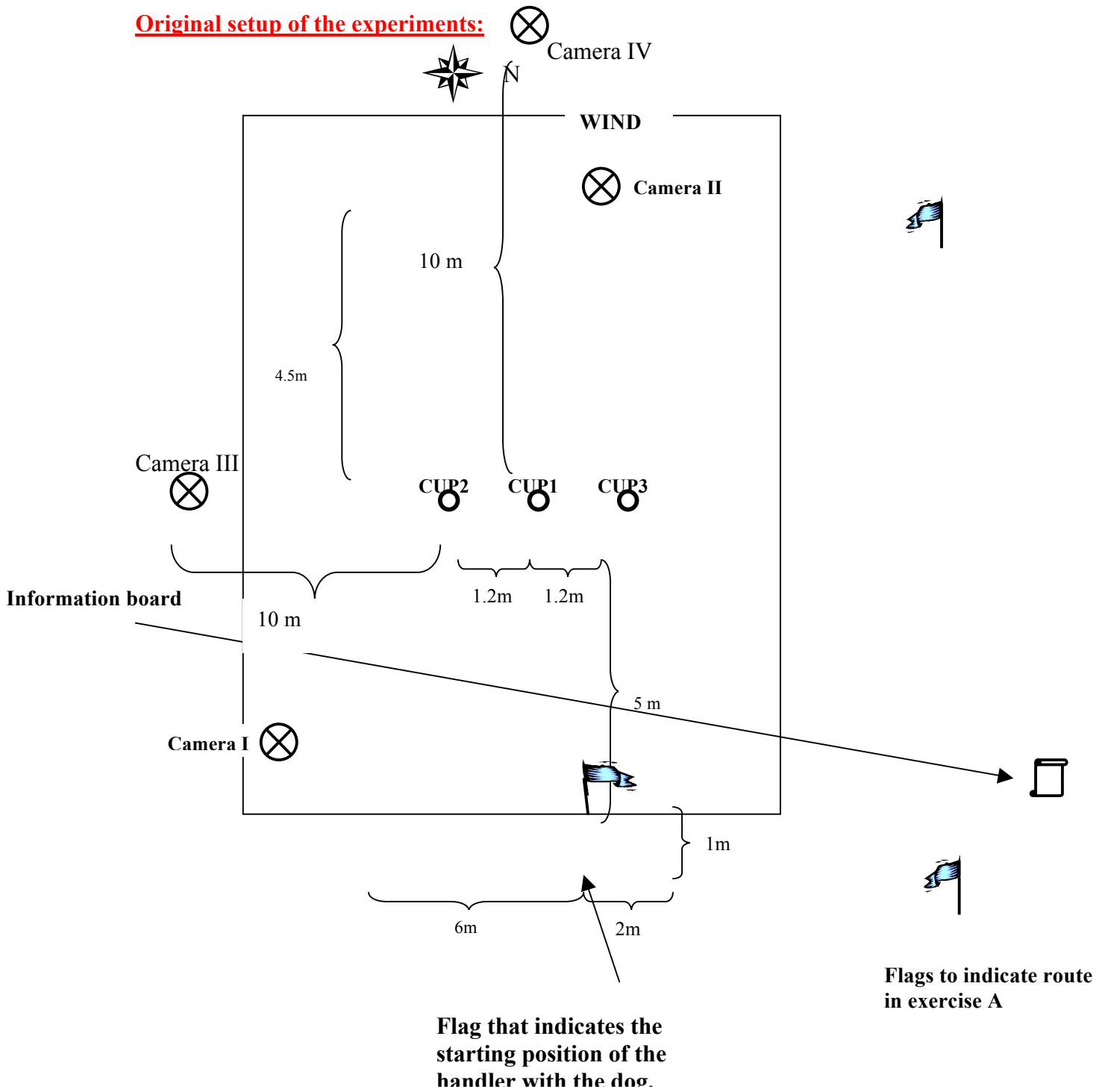
December 2010



Dog Cognition

PROTOCOL

Original setup of the experiments:



Preparation of the experimental area:

- Measure 4.5 meters straight on from Camera II and place 'CUP3' there.
- Place 'CUP1' 1.2 meters far from 'CUP 3', on its left.
- Place 'CUP2' 1.2 meters far from 'CUP 1', on its left.
- Measure 5 meters from 'CUP1' away from Camera II.
- Place here a flag (starting point B) mat, 5 meters far from the cups.
- Measure 2 meters to the right of the flag and then measure 1 meter towards Camera II. Put here the information board facing Camera I and II
- Place Camera I, **6 meters** far from the flag, facing it.
- Place Camera III 10 meters far from cup 2. The camera has to be 3 meters high.
- Place Camera IV 10 meters far from cup 1. The camera has to be 3 meters high.
- Place the other three flags on the right of the area of the experiment marking the route for exercise A.
- Check, whether both of the cameras have a correct view of the area and that the information boards are visible.
- Check whether the information board show the same, correct data.

Things to note before the experiments:

- Note the circumstances- weather, wind, rain, date and time.
- Be sure that we have the intake form about the dog filled. The identifier of the dog that can be seen on the tape should be written on the intake form.

Instructor jobs:

Some words to tell before the experiments just to make sure:

- During the exercises their dogs should be ***on their left, sitting!!***
- The instructor will tell them when and how they can help their dogs during the exercises.
- Ask them **not to correct** their dogs. We only have time and capacity for 3 experiments, we can't keep on trying to do exercises until their dogs succeed. If the dog does not succeed to do some of the exercises that does not mean that it is clumsy etc. Every answer and behaviour is good and valuable for our work!
- Ask the handler to put on the hands free belt. This to minimize affecting the dogs behaviour.
- Ask the handler not to touch the leash during the experiment.
- Ask them not to direct their dogs without the instructor's agreement. There may be some cases when the dog can have some help in finding its way, but the instructor will tell this. Explanation: we examine natural behaviour. This means that every answer/behaviour is a good and proper answer/behaviour.

During the experiments:

- The dog has to be on a leash during the experiment.
- Make sure that cameramen are ready to videotape.

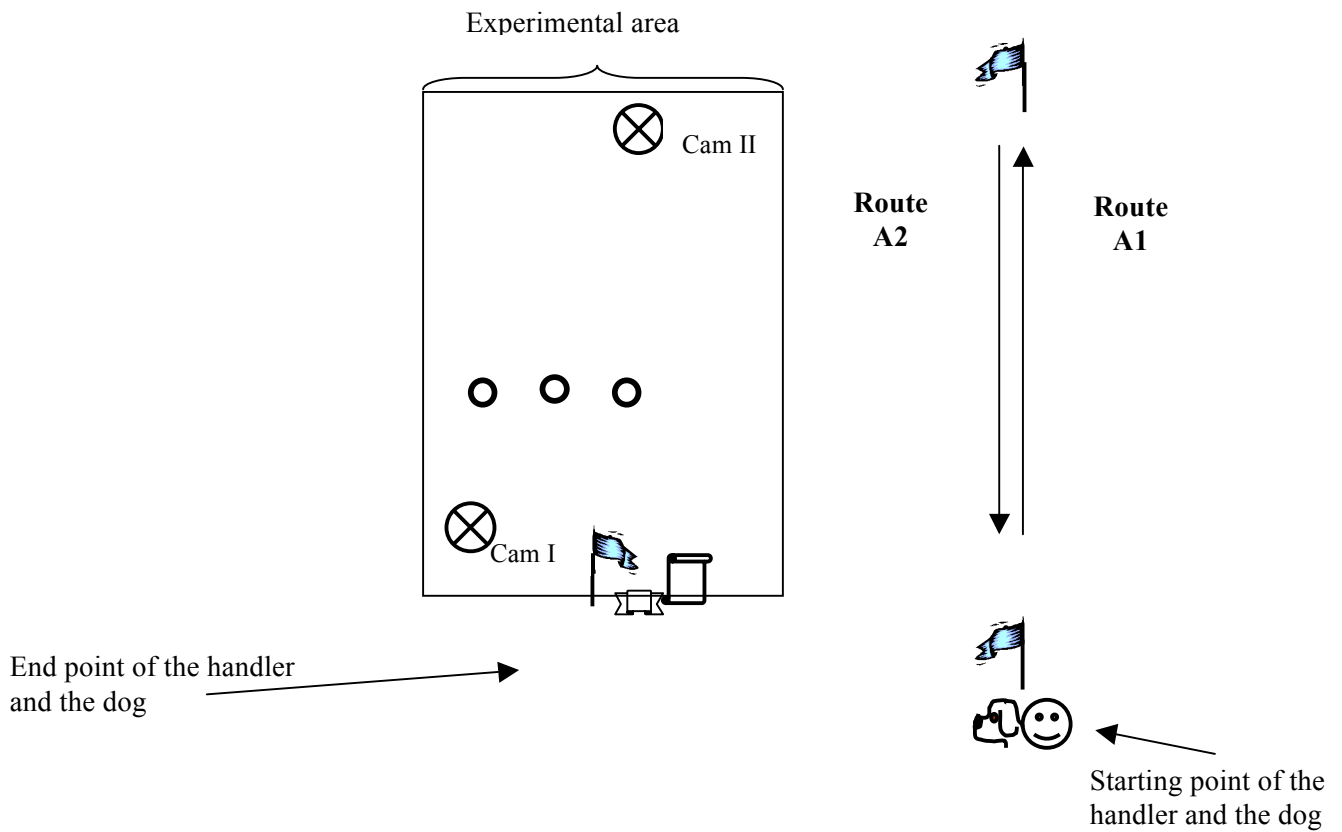
Cameraman jobs:

- If there are any changes in the set-up, say it to the camera and say why we have changed these things.
- If there are other dogs out there as well they can disturb the dog doing the exercises- this also should be mentioned to the camera. If a dog pees or poops somewhere, say it as well.
- It is 'cameraman I' who takes care of correct information on the information boards.
- During exercise A and B both Camera I and Camera II is recording.
- Records only the first some movements of the dog in each of these three exercises.
- **Camera I:** Record an overview. Tape the handler and the dog in total.
- **Camera II:** Record an overview. Tape the handler and the dog in total.
- **Camera III:** Record an overview. Tape the experimental area and the dog in total.
- **Camera III:** Record an overview. Tape the experimental area and the dog in total.

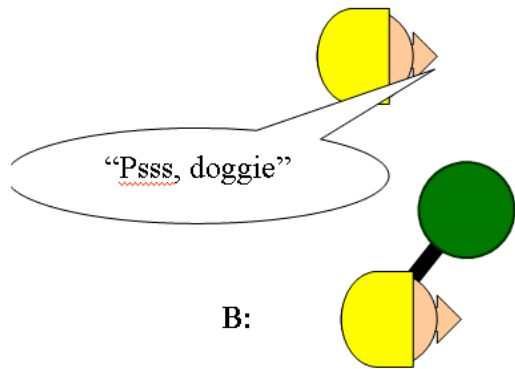
Receptionist jobs:

- Welcome arriving people and explain what will happen and what is expected from them.
- Keep the experimental area clear of other dogs and handlers. It is important that their smell should not be brought by the wind to the dog doing the experiment.
- Give coffee, tea and cake to the people.
- Check intake forms and assign dog number.
- Call next person when it is appropriate.
- Thank the handler when he has finished and give goody and tennis ball to the dog.
- Help to take care of dogs whose owner is busy with the other dog of him/her.

Exercise A: A small walk with the dog



A:



B:



The handler is facing forward in both trials. The dog will look to the left and right according to the schedule as seen below the description for the instructor.

Description for the handler:

- Please make your dog sit on your left.
- Please put on the hands free belt and do not touch the leash. This to minimize affecting the dogs behaviour.
- When the instructor gives a sign, please start walking towards the right flag, walk past the flag towards the left flag and then come back. Start stepping with you're the **leg that is instructed to** you before starting, **on the moment of the cue.**
- **Repeat** this exercise but with the **opposite leg**
- Please stay clear of the experimental area during this walk.
- Please try to walk in a normal way, do not stop or walk faster than you normally do.
- Please do *not* to talk to your dog!

Description for the instructor:

- Explain the exercise briefly and clearly to the handler as it is described above.
- At the starting point the dog *sits* on the left of the handler.
- Put the belt on the handler and attach the dog to it. Explain why.
- Ask cameraman I and II whether they are ready or not.
- Give a sign to the handler when he can start walking.
- Make sure that they don't enter the experimental area.
- Let the dog look to the **left or the right** as seen in the schedule.

Dog	Experiment	trial	leg	Dog looks
1	A	1	R	R
1	A	2	L	R
2	A	1	R	L
2	A	2	L	L
3	A	1	L	L
3	A	2	R	L
4	A	1	L	R
4	A	2	R	R

Repeat this every four dogs.

Description for cameraman I:

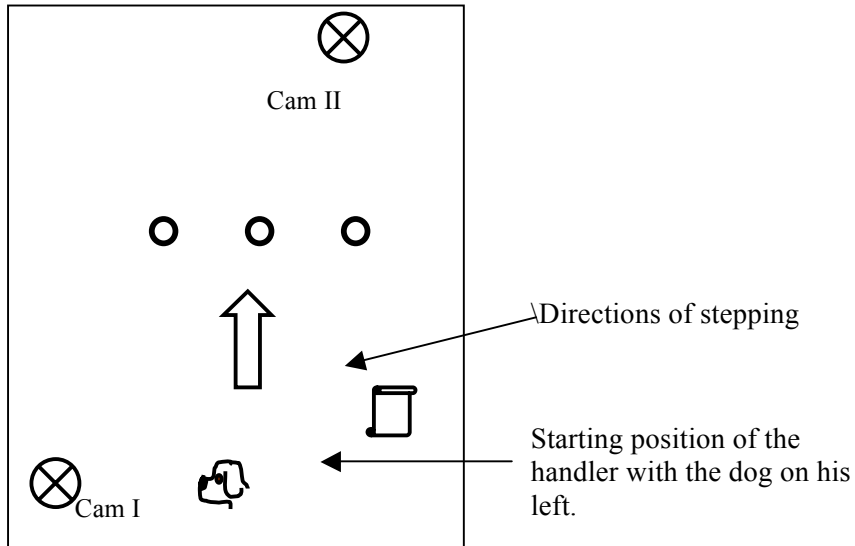
- Check the information boards whether they show the correct data or not.
- Record the whole exercise.
- We observe the body language of the dog from the first moment on. At the beginning of the exercise zoom on the total body of the handler and the dog. First in such a way that the first step of the dog is clearly visible.
- During the walk record both the dog and the handler, as big as possible. Use zoom and the swivel.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

Description for cameraman II:

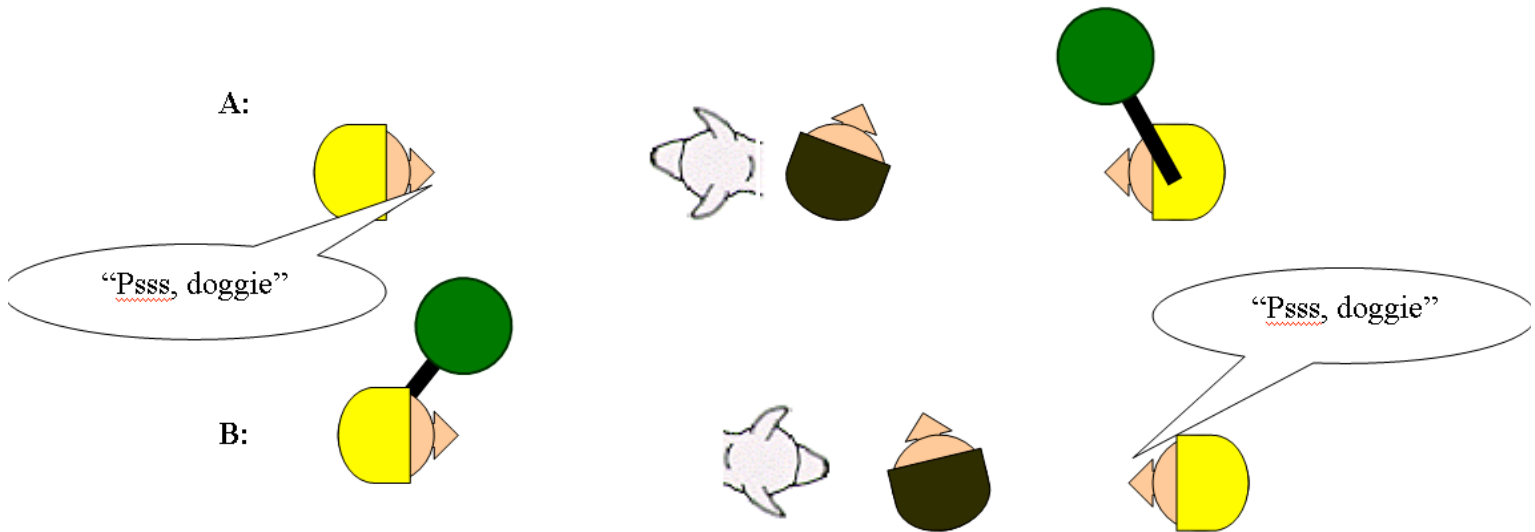
- Check whether the information boards show correct data or not.
- Record the whole exercise.
- We concentrate on the first paws and the nose of the dog during these step-exercises. This means that zoom should be used during recording and the hole body of the dog should be visible as well as the legs of the handler.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

Exercise B: Stepping into three directions

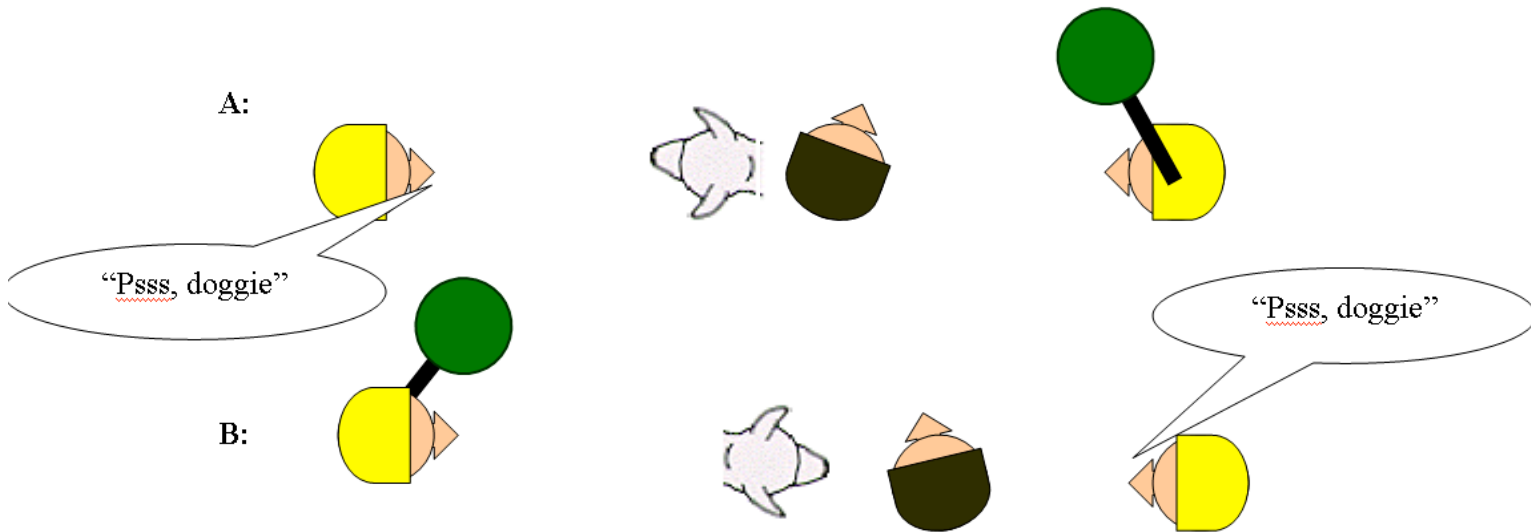
Starting position of the handler with the dog on his left



A:



B:



The handler is facing forward in each trial. Within each trial the dog will look to the left and right according to the schedule as seen below the description for the instructor.

Description for the handler:

- The dog is on a long leash, but please give the end of the leash to the instructor, he will hold it.
- Please make your dog *sit* on your left.
- Please put on the belt and attach the dog to it and do not touch the leash. This to minimize affecting the dogs behaviour.
- When the instructor gives a sign with the **green/ red stop sign**, please first start stepping with you're the **leg that is instructed to you** and move your body forward. Exactly three steps are needed, and then you can step back to the starting point. Repeat the this with the same leg.
- Back at the starting point wait for the sign and than please start stepping with your **leg that is instructed to you** and start walking exactly three steps again. Then please turn back and walk back to the starting point. Repeat this with the same leg.
- These two exercises will be done into three directions: First to the direction of Camera II (forward), then to the direction of Camera I (left) and at last to the opposite direction of Camera I (right).
- Please do *not* talk to your dog during these previous exercises.
- Please make your dog sit on your left again and face the experimental area both you and your dog.
- **(B3)** Command the dog to follow without moving away (handler).

Description for the instructor:

- Explain briefly and clearly the exercise to the handler as written above. Ask him not to talk to his dog.
- Put the belt on the handler and attach the dog to it.
- Ask cameraman I and II whether they are ready or not.
- In the beginning the dog sits on the left of the handler.
- If the dog looks **away from or in the direction of**, , the handler **according to the schedule**, give a sign, with the green/ red stop sign, to the handler that he can start stepping. First ask him to step towards Camera II starting with the **leg that is instructed**, stepping three steps. He only should move his upper body, no more. Then ask him to step back to the starting point.
- Repeat this with the same leg but with the dog looking the opposite way.
- After that if the dog looks **away from or in the direction of**, the handler, **according to the schedule** ask the handler to take three steps starting with **leg that is instructed**, towards Camera II. Ask him to go back to the starting point.
- Repeat this with the same leg but with the dog looking the opposite way.
- After that repeat these previous exercises into the direction of Camera I and into the opposite direction of Camera I.
- You can help him how to step during the exercise.
- Before repeating the exercise to the other two directions check the information boards and the cameramen again.
- **<(B3)**.After that ask the handler to get the dog sit on his left again. Ask him to command the dog to follow without moving away.

Schedule

Dog	Experiment	trial	leg	Dog looks
1	B	1	R	R
1	B	1	L	R
2	B	2	R	L
2	B	2	L	L
3	B	1	R	L
3	B	1	L	L
4	B	2	R	R
4	B	2	L	R
5	B	1	L	R
5	B	1	R	R
6	B	2	L	L
6	B	2	R	L
7	B	1	L	L
7	B	1	R	L
8	B	2	L	R
8	B	2	R	R

Repeat this scheme every four dogs.

Description for cameraman I:

- Check whether the information boards show correct data or not.
- Record the whole exercise.
- We concentrate on the first paws and the nose of the dog during these step-exercises. This means that zoom should be used during recording and the whole body of the dog should be visible as well as the legs of the handler.
- Then film the dog and the instructor how and where she caches the goody. (so zoom out)
- After the handler steps with both left and then with right legs into one direction change the number of 'take' on the information boards.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

Description for cameraman II:

- Check whether the information boards show correct data or not.
- Record the whole exercise.
- We concentrate on the first paws and the nose of the dog during these step-exercises. This means that zoom should be used during recording and the whole body of the dog should be visible as well as the legs of the handler.
- Then film the dog and the instructor how and where she caches the goody. (so zoom out)
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

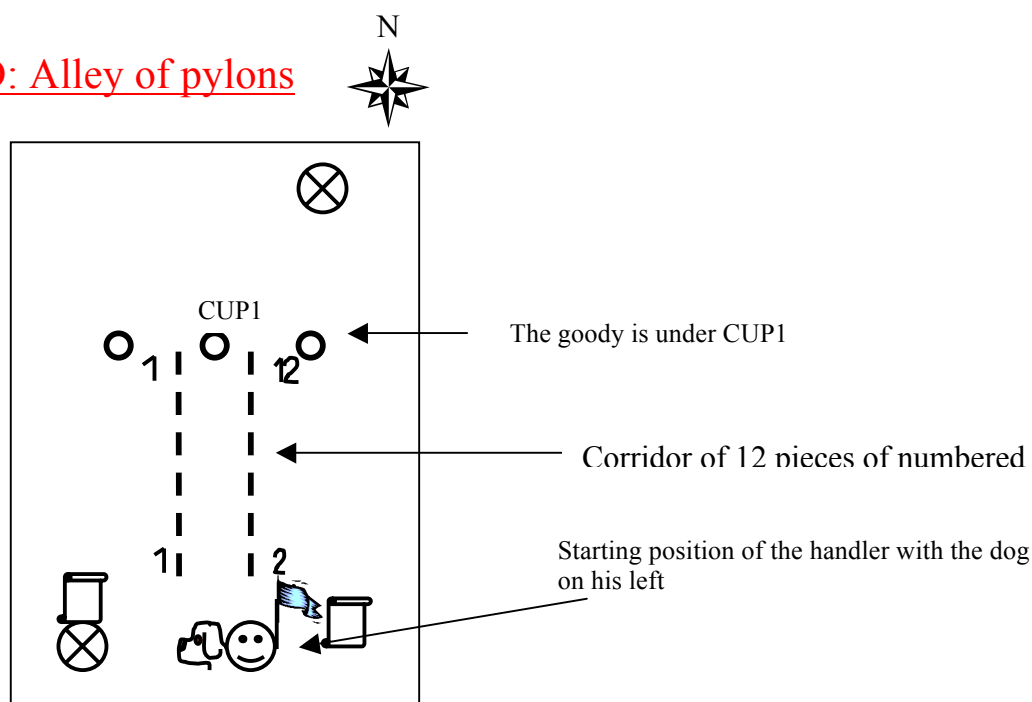
Description for cameraman III:

- Record the whole exercise.
- Film the area with the frame of pylons before the experiment starts and after a long break.
- Check that the camera will film the whole experiment area. Adjust the setting up of the cameras to get an optimal image of the dogs.
- Make sure that the camera will not move during the experiment.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

Description for cameraman IV:

- Record the whole exercise.
- Film the area with the frame of pylons before the experiment starts and after a long break.
- Check that the camera will film the whole experiment area. Adjust the setting up of the cameras to get an optimal image of the dogs.
- Make sure that the camera will not move during the experiment.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

Exercise D: Alley of pylons



Description for the handler:

- The description of each part:
 - o We use the same wooden board or the paper towel to hide the experimental area from the dog the same way.
 - o Please get the dog to sit on your left behind the board or blindfold its eyes with the paper towel.
 - o The instructor takes the goody to the dog's nose; get the dog to smell it. Then he goes to the middle cup and puts the goody under it.
 - o When the instructor comes back to you, please give him the leash
 - o After getting a sign from the instructor please get the dog to sit on your left. Then wait for the sign of the instructor and when you get it, you can start encouraging the dog to search for the goody. Please don't go with the dog, only when the instructor suggests it to you.
- During the searching part the instructor will hold the leash.
- After finding the goody please bring the dog back to the starting point and wait for the next trial, facing the experimental area and having the dog sitting on your left behind the board.

- If the dog is not used to search-exercises then the alternative route from the previous exercise can be followed with it. Please walk to the cups showing that the smell comes from there, help the dog with commands “Vooruit, Zoek”.
- Say loud and strong “Fffffff”- sound if these commands are unknown for your dog.
- You can also help the dog to remove the cups and get the goody if the dog is not used to pushing away cups or pylons.
- Now you *can* talk to your dog, but please do not correct it.

Description for the instructor:

- There leads a corridor of 12 pylons (evenly distributed on 5 meters) to the middle cup. The order of the pylons is relevant: on the right there are even numbers increasing, on the left there are uneven numbers increasing.
- The width of this alley is approximately the width of the dog + 40 cm-s.
- Explain briefly and clearly the exercise to the handler as described above. Tell him that he can now talk to his dog and ask him not to correct it.
- Make sure that you have enough sausages and the saucer with you.
- Tell the handler that if the dog is not used to these kinds of search exercises then he can help to the dog as in the previous exercise (alternative route, “Ffff” sound, “Vooruit”, “Zoek”).
- Tell him that he can also help the dog to remove the cup and get the goody.
- Place the wooden board in front of the dog if it fights against paper towel.
- Ask the handler to have the dog sit next to him, behind the board.
- Bring the sausage on the saucer to the dog, get it to smell it, and then put it under the middle cup.
- Ask for the leash from the handler and stand onto it, holding its end in your hands.
- Ask the handler to tell the dog to sit on his left. Remove the board and give a sign for the handler that he can start encouraging the dog to find the goody. Ask him to stay at the starting point.
- You can help the handler how to direct the dog and in which ways to help it.
- Ask him to get the dog sit on his left. Then give a sign for the handler that he can start encouraging the dog to find the goody.
- You can help the handler how to direct the dog and in which ways to help it.
- After finding the goody ask the handler to go back to the starting point with the dog, you can give the leash back to him now. Take care of the wooden board again.
- Repeat the previous steps two times again; put the goody under the middle cup during each trial.
- If it is needed the dog can be allowed to see the goody while it is put under the cup. If you decide so, suggest this possibility.

Description for the cameraman I:

- Check whether the information boards show correct data or not.
- Record only the first some steps of the dog. Zoom on its body and paws.
- Then film the dog and the instructor how and where she caches the goody.
(so zoom out)
- After each trial change the number of take.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

Description of cameraman II:

- Check whether the information boards show correct data or not.
- Record the whole exercise. When the dog starts coming to the cups zoom on its body and to its front paws. Then simply record how the dog gets the goody. The whole body of the dog and a bit more should be visible on the tape.
- Then film the dog and the instructor how and where she caches the goody.
(so zoom out)
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

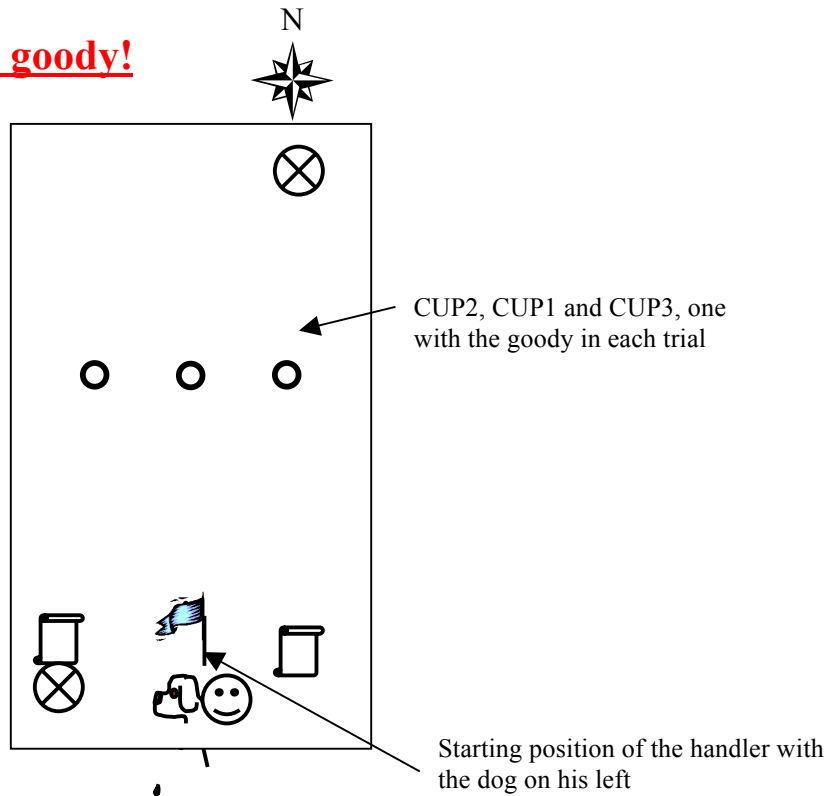
Description for cameraman III:

- Record the whole exercise.
- Film the area with the frame of pylons before experiment starts and after break.
- Check that the camera filming the whole experiment area. Adjust the setting up of the cameras to get optimal image of the dogs.
- Make sure that the camera will not move during the experiment.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

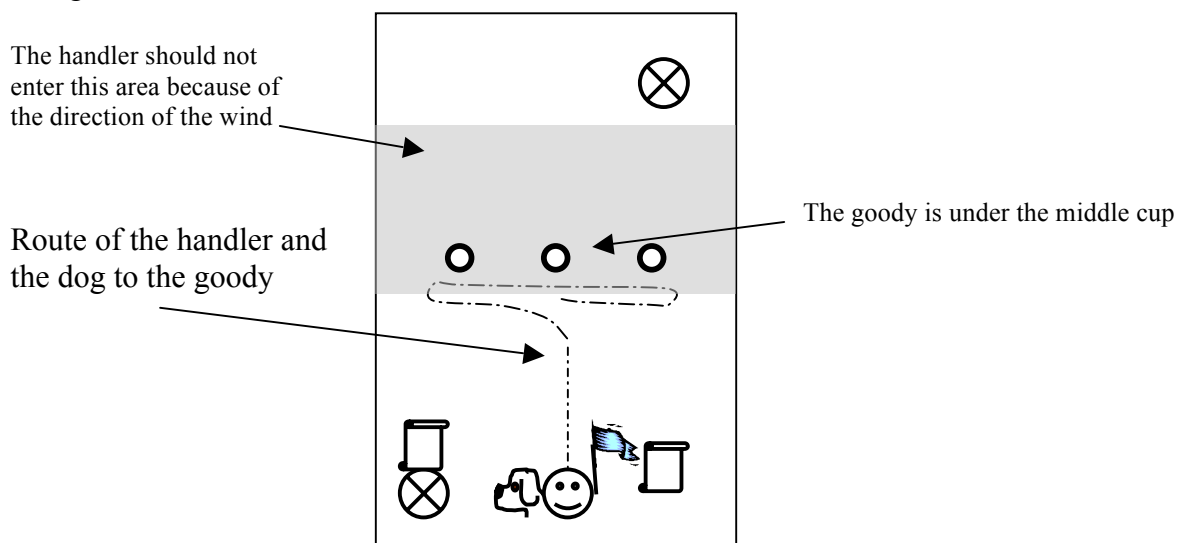
Description for cameraman IV:

- Record the whole exercise.
- Film the area with the frame of pylons before experiment starts and after break.
- Check that the camera filming the whole experiment area. Adjust the setting up of the cameras to get optimal image of the dogs.
- Make sure that the camera will not move during the experiment.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

Exercise C: Find the goody!



If the dog is not used to these kinds of search-exercises then the handler can help it where to go and where to smell (the handler can direct the dog towards the cups and walk in front of them with the dog). If the dog is not used to pushing away cups or pylons then the handler can help it to get the goody when the dog smells where it is. The figure of this alternative for the first route:



Description for the handler:

- The most important difference between this exercise and the previous ones that now we would like to ask you to blindfold your dog.
- The description of each part:
 - o If your dog doesn't mind and doesn't fight against being blindfold by a paper towel then please kneel on the rubber mat or just squat and hold the dog between your legs. Blindfold its eyes using the paper towel.
 - o If the dog is resists then we can use a wooden board as well to hide the experimental area from the dog. Please face the experimental area both you and your dog.
 - o Please get the dog to sit on your left behind the board.
 - o The instructor takes the goody to the dog's nose; get the dog to smell it. Then he goes to one of the cups and puts the goody under it (firstly under the middle one, secondly under the one on the left and thirdly under the one on the right).
 - o When the instructor comes back to you, give him the leash, please.
 - o After getting a sign from the instructor get the dog to sit on your left. Then wait for the sign of the instructor and when you get it, you can start encouraging the dog to search for the goody. Please don't go with the dog, only when the instructor suggests this possibility to you.
 - o Please don't enter the area between the cups and Camera II. The wind may bring your smell to your dog and this can disturb it while looking for the goody.
- The instructor will hold the leash during the searching, like in the previous exercise.
- After finding the goody please bring the dog back to the starting point and wait for the next trial, facing the experimental area and having the dog sitting on your left behind the board.
- If the dog is not used to search-exercises then the above alternative route can be followed with it.
- Please walk to the cups showing that the smell comes from there, help the dog with commands "Vooruit, Zoek".
- Say loud and strong "Fffffff"- sound if these commands are unknown for your dog.
- You can also help the dog to remove the cups and get the goody if the dog is not used to pushing away cups or pylons.
- Now you *can* talk to your dog, but please do not correct it, we would like to examine natural behaviour.

Description for the instructor:

- Explain briefly and clearly the exercise to the handler. Tell him that he can now talk to his dog and ask him not to correct it during searching.
- Make sure that you have the sausages and the saucer with you.
- Ask cameraman I and II whether they are ready or not.
- Give the paper towel to the handler, but if the dog is really fighting against it, then place the wooden board in front of the dog.
- If the handler uses the paper towel, help him how to squat or kneel on the rubber mat holding the dog between his legs. Otherwise ask the handler to make the dog sit down on the left of him behind the board.
- Bring the sausage on the saucer to the dog, get it to smell it, and then put in under the middle cup.
- Ask for the leash from the handler and stand onto it, holding its end in your hands.
- Ask the handler to tell the dog to sit on his left. Remove the board and give a sign for the handler that he can start encouraging the dog to find the goody. Ask him to stay at the starting point.
- You can help the handler how to direct the dog and in which ways to help it.
- Tell the handler that if the dog is not used to these kinds of search exercises then the above alternative route can be followed with the dog: the handler can walk there telling "Smell!" by giving a loud and strong "Ffff" sound. (If commands like "Vooruit" and "Zoek" are unknown for the dog.)
- Tell him that he can also help the dog to remove the cup and get the goody.
- After finding the goody ask the handler to go back to the starting point with the dog, you can give the leash back to him now. Take care of the wooden board again.
- Repeat the previous steps, but secondly put the sausage under the cup on the left and thirdly under the one on the right.

Description of cameraman I:

- Check whether the information boards show correct data or not.
- Record only the first some steps of the dog. Zoom on its body and paws.
- Then film the dog and the instructor how and where she caches the goody. (so zoom out)
- After each trial change the number of take.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

Description of cameraman II:

- Check whether the information boards show correct data or not.
- Record the whole exercise. When the dog starts coming to the cups zoom on its body and to its front paws. Then simply record how the dog gets the goody. The whole body of the dog and a bit more should be visible on the tape.
- Then film the dog and the instructor how and where she caches the goody. (so zoom out)
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

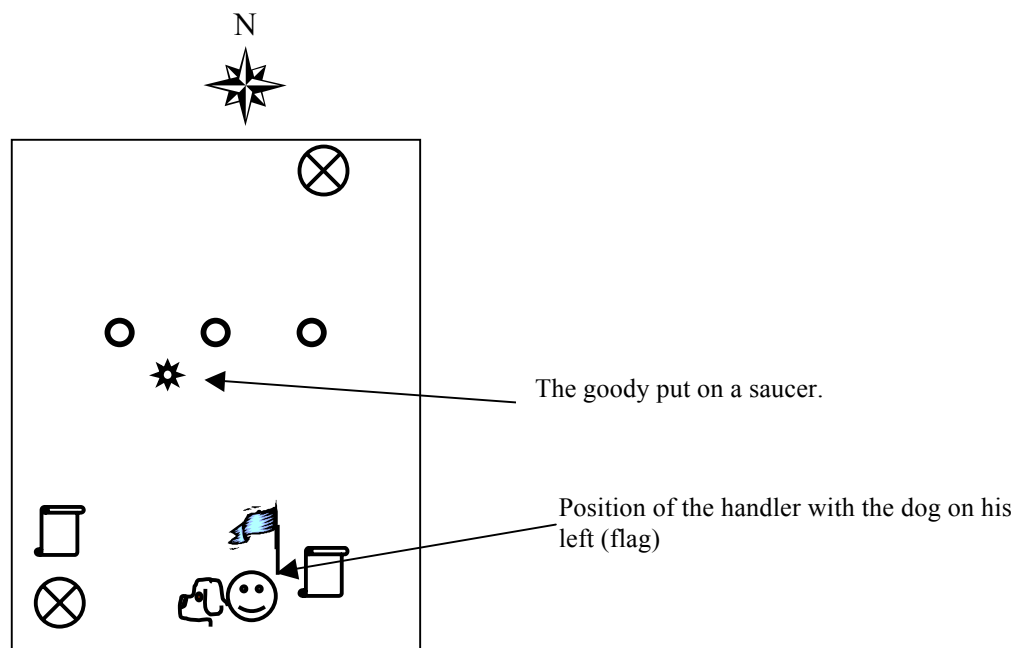
Description for cameraman III:

- Record the whole exercise.
- Film the area with the frame of pylons before experiment starts and after break.
- Check that the camera filming the whole experiment area. Adjust the setting up of the cameras to get optimal image of the dogs.
- Make sure that the camera will not move during the experiment.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

Description for cameraman IV:

- Record the whole exercise.
- Film the area with the frame of pylons before experiment starts and after break.
- Check that the camera filming the whole experiment area. Adjust the setting up of the cameras to get optimal image of the dogs.
- Make sure that the camera will not move during the experiment.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

Exercise E: The final exercise



Description for the handler:

- Please make the dog sit on your left.
- The dog is allowed now to see the goody while it is put down. After that please tell it to go and search for it.
- Thank you very much for your participating.

Description for the instructor:

- Explain briefly and clearly the exercise to the handler. Now the dog sits on the left of the handler.
- Make sure that the alley of pylons has been removed.
- Ask cameramen whether they are ready or not.
- Put the goody in front of the cups on a saucer. The dog can see you during this.
- Give a sign to the handler that he can encourage the dog to find the goody.
- Ask the handler to go to the receptionist to get the goody and the tennis ball for the dog.
- And many thanks to the handler!

Description for cameraman I:

- Check whether the information boards show correct data or not.
- Record only the first some steps of the dog. Zoom on its body and paws.
- Then film the dog and the instructor how and where she caches the goody.
(so zoom out)
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

Description for cameraman II:

- Check whether the information boards show correct data or not.
- Record the whole exercise. When the dog starts coming to the cups zoom on its body and to its front paws. Then simply record how the dog gets the goody. The whole body of the dog and a bit more should be visible on the tape.
- Then film the dog and the instructor how and where she caches the goody.
(so zoom out)
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately

Description for cameraman III:

- Record the whole exercise.
- Film the area with the frame of pylons before experiment starts and after break.
- Check that the camera filming the whole experiment area. Adjust the setting up of the cameras to get optimal image of the dogs.
- Make sure that the camera will not move during the experiment.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.

Description for cameraman IV:

- Record the whole exercise.
- Film the area with the frame of pylons before experiment starts and after break.
- Check that the camera filming the whole experiment area. Adjust the setting up of the cameras to get optimal image of the dogs.
- Make sure that the camera will not move during the experiment.
- If something goes wrong, tell the instructor immediately.