# PLANET ERROR

## The Processing of Intentional Errors

### INTRODUCTION

Committing errors is something that we encounter every day and such errors affect subsequent behavior. But what happens if an error is committed on purpose?

| 500 ms | 200 ms | 800 ms | 500 ms |
|---|---|---|---|
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| • | V | | Error |
| | T | | |

### METHOD

We investigated a distinct behavioral correlate of error processing: **post – error slowing**. In a three – choice discrimination task, participants (n=24) were instructed to commit errors by intentionally pressing the wrong button in certain trials. These trials were introduced by a cue that appeared randomly in one out of six trials. In **Experiment 1**, participants received error-related feedback, in **Experiment 2**, they did not.
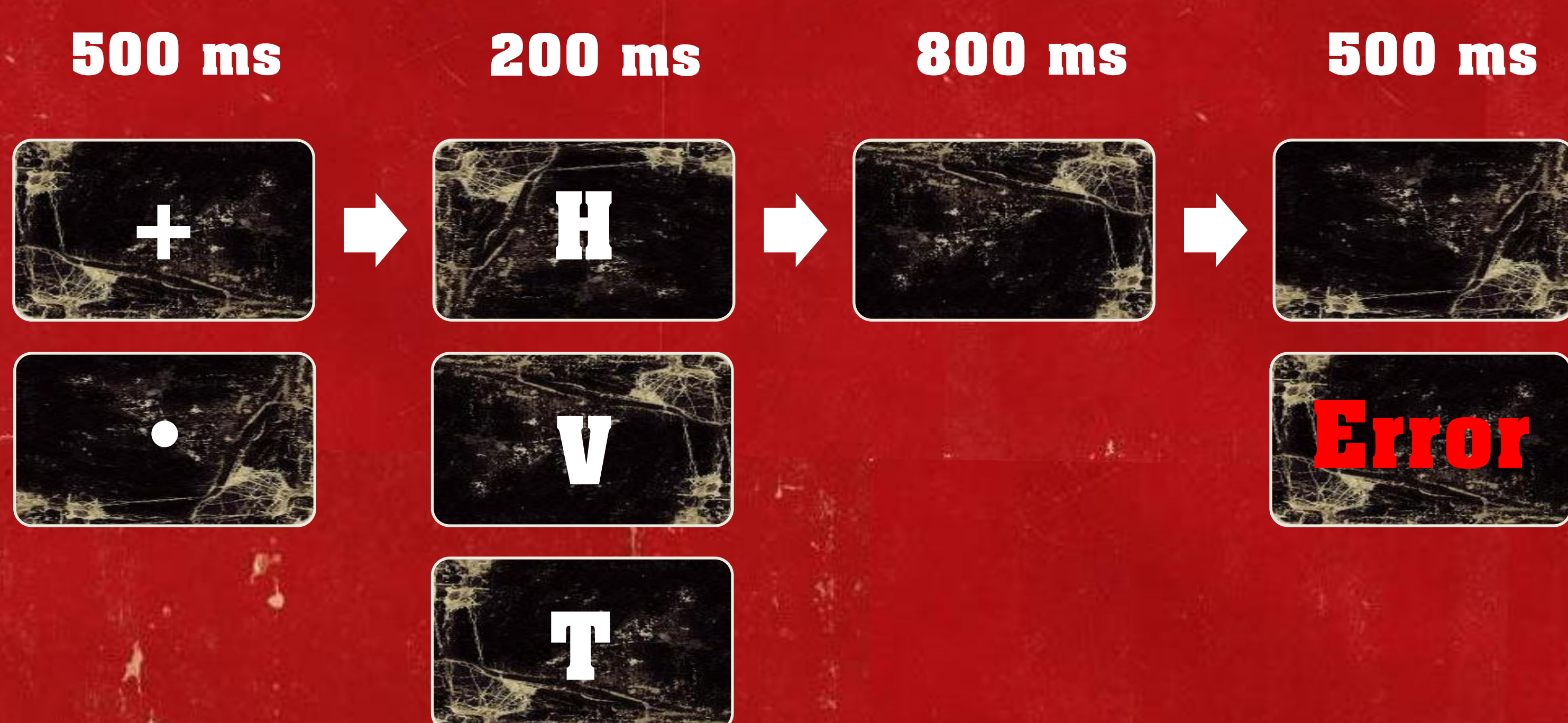


**Experiment 1**
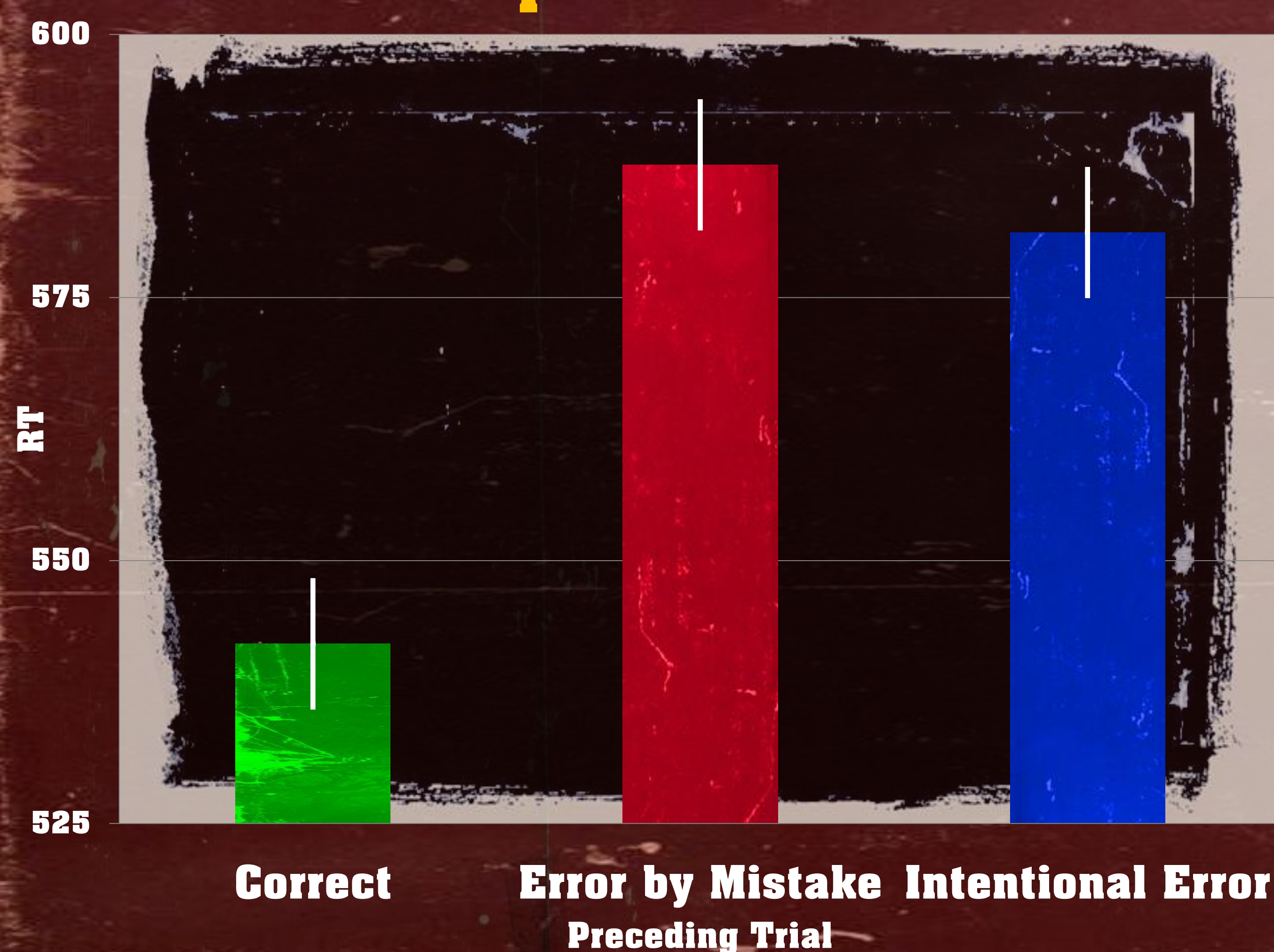
**Experiment 2**
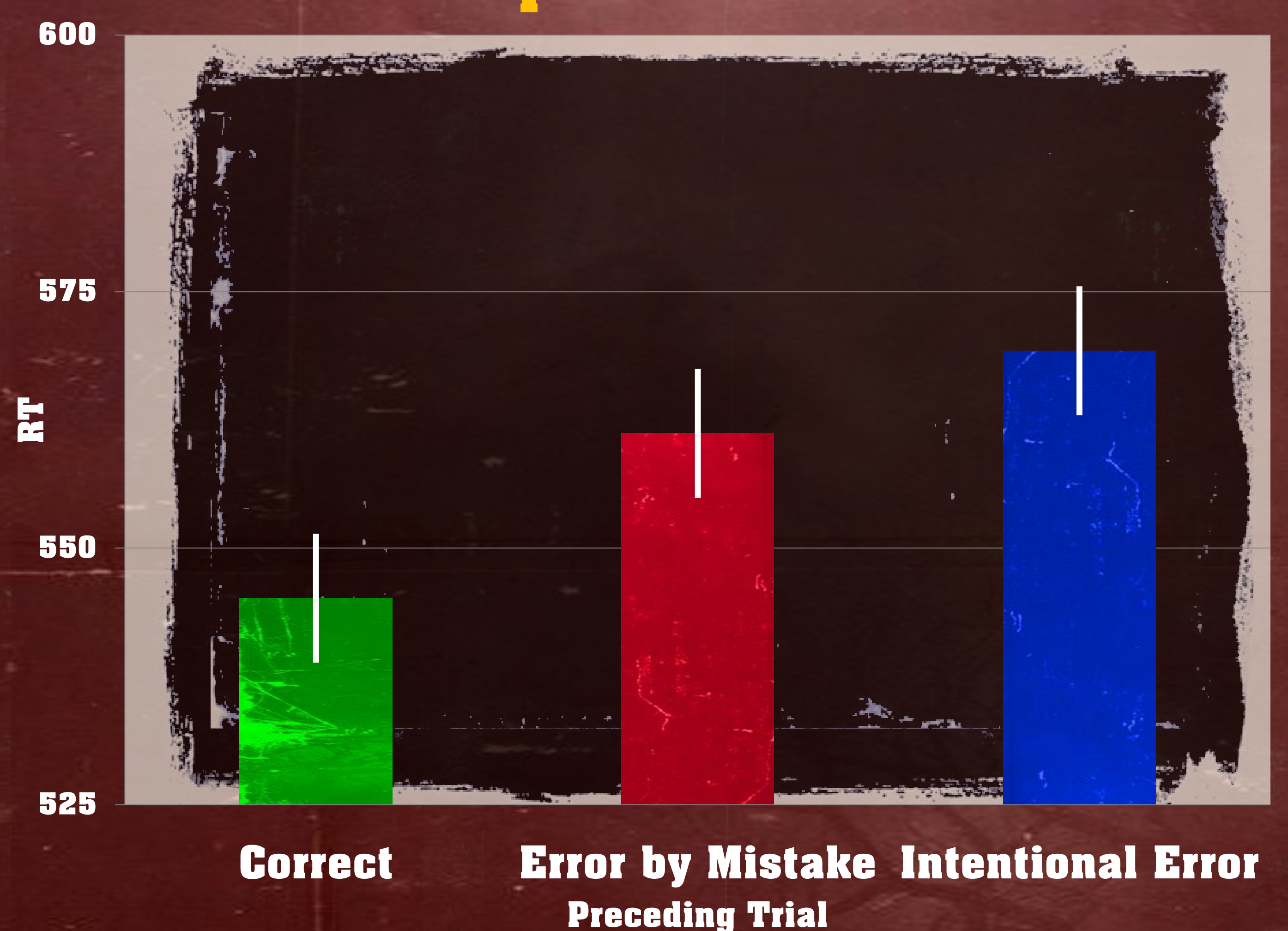
The Graphs show the mean RTs +/- 95% within-CI for correct trials following (a) correct trials (b) errors made by mistake and (c) intentional errors.

### CONCLUSIONS

Our data shows that post – error slowing appears after both, intentional errors and errors by mistake, participants are slower after committing an error, disregarding their intention. This effect is hardly influenced by error-related feedback.
This suggests that both kinds of errors are processed in a similar way.

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