

(Supplemental Information)

Sex-specific Stress and Biobehavioural Responses to Human Experimenters in Rats

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Supplemental Figures

Figure 1. *Correlational analysis.* Most trials in Experiment 1 to 4 revealed no significant correlation between surface temperature and thigmotaxis before and after stress (panels A&B). Stress-induced thermal changes in general did not predict post-stress thermal responses to the experimenter sex in both groups (panel C). Yellow, green and purple triangles in the corners represent *B. Baseline*, *C. Baseline*, and *D. IR recording (stress-open field)*, respectively. * $p \leq 0.05$, ** $p \leq 0.01$; Pearson's correlation, $n = 5-6/\text{group}$.

Figure 2. *Correlational analysis.* (A) Plasma CORT and thigmotaxis were positively correlated in both sexes, particularly in female rats. (B) There was no significant correlation between the cutaneous temperature and CORT. (C) A significant negative correlation was found between the plasma CORT and OT in female rats in Experiments 1 and 2, whereas the correlation between the CORT and OT in male rats was not significant. Purple and pink triangles in the corners

represent *D. Stress* and *E. Blood Collection*, respectively. $**p \leq 0.01$; Spearman correlation, $n = 4-6/\text{group}$.