



Supplementary Figure 5. Visual cliff behavior trajectories. **(a)** Head-dipping and jumping events for each session. Rodents peeked over the edge of the board several times before choosing a side to jump off (example shown in Figure 2b), demonstrating risk assessment or exploration behavior. Head-dip events (rectangle markers) and jumps (circles) over time for each session. **(b)** Jump trajectories. Temporal dynamics of the rat's head height (scaled by maximum height of jump over time relative to landing) is plotted as a function of time centered on the landing time. Individual jumps (gray lines), mean (black line) and standard deviation (gray shadow) are shown. **(c)** Head-dipping trajectories during rats' visual inspection of the arena floors from the board (board cross-section shown in black, x-axis flipped with cliff on right side). We found no significant relationship between statistics of the head-dips and decision side. **(d)** Factors affecting jump side preference. Jump decision as a function of exploration time before jump. Note the difference in accuracy between first and second sessions recorded each day. Logistic regression found a significant correlation between exploration time and safe side preference ($b = -.06$, $p < .05$, solid black line, 68% CI as gray shading). Evening sessions with jump latencies greater than 18 secs (7 out of 33 sessions) were, as a result, excluded