

## **Investigating individual differences in EDA response to emotional stimuli in a DMILS paradigm**

### **Results:**

In the course of this project three experiments were conducted, all using SC as the indicator of psi. In the first experiment IAPS pictures, mostly of mutilated bodies, erotic and neutral scenes, were presented to the sender whilst mean log SC and mean variance of SC were taken as dependent measures. There was an emotional-neutral as well as a positive-negative-neutral comparison. The results can be seen in table 1. Only for mean variance in the differential comparison was a strong trend observed ( $\chi^2 = 8.197$ ,  $df = 2$ ,  $p = 0.017$ , two-tailed).

In the second experiment ( $N = 30$ ) threatening video clips of dangerous animals were used. No significant differences were observed. Post hoc, a significant correlation was found between the gender of the sender and receiver and psi performance ( $F = 9.258$ ,  $df = 1$ ,  $p = 0.005$ ) for mean log SC. A similar pattern was observed for mean variance. The interaction was such that when the gender of the sender and receiver was different psi performance was high (see figure 1).

The third experiment ( $N = 18$ ) compared picture and video conditions directly. Differences in all comparisons were in the predicted direction, with a strong trend for mean variance in the clip condition (see table2).

No significant gender interactions were observed, but the pattern for mean variance for clips was similar to that observed in the previous experiment. This suggests the pattern may be genuine.

On the whole, the project found only marginal evidence for psi, but this exploration into emotional picture and clip stimulus material may prove valuable to future researches. As for individual differences, no relationships between personality and psi performance were observed. The gender interaction may be confirmed by further study.

### **Published work:**

Ramakers, P., Stevens, P., & Morris R. L. The effect of remote emotion on receiver skin conductance. *Proceedings of the 29<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Society for Psychical Research*, Bath. (2005).

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