

Developing a Digital Autoganzfeld Testing System

Results:

We proposed to develop a digital autoganzfeld testing system in order to replicate and extend parapsychological research employing the 'ganzfeld' procedure. In this procedure, two participants typically take part in any one trial. One participant, the receiver, is isolated in a ganzfeld environment (a mild form of sensory isolation) and is asked to report imagery that comes to mind, whilst the other participant, the sender, is shown a target film clip in a separate room. A judging procedure makes it possible to assess the degree of correspondence between the receiver's imagery and the target film clip.

In this project, we developed a system, *DigiGanz*, that is flexible and low-cost so as to encourage other researchers to attempt to replicate and extend previous research using the ganzfeld procedure. The *DigiGanz* software may be run on computers running Mac OS 9, Mac OS X, and Microsoft Windows. We also conducted two exploratory studies as part of the development and testing of this system. We now plan to continue conducting studies using this system as well as making the software available to other researchers wishing to conduct ganzfeld studies.

Published work:

Fox, J. (2002). 'The role of introspection in the study of ESP.' Paper presented at the 26th International Conference of the Society for Psychical Research, Manchester, August 2002.

Fox, J., Smith, M. D., & Williams, C. (2002a). 'Developing a digital autoganzfeld system.' Invited poster presentation at the Bial Symposium 'Behind and Beyond the Brain', Porto, Portugal, April 2002.

Fox, J., Smith, M. D., & Williams, C. (2002b). Introducing DigiGanz: Describing a digital autoganzfeld system. In Watt, C. (ed.) *The Parapsychological Association 45th Annual Convention Proceedings of Presented Papers*, 299-401.

Simmonds, C. A. & Fox, J. (2002). A pilot investigation into sensory noise, schizotypy, and extrasensory perception. In Watt, C. (ed) *The Parapsychological Association 45th Annual Convention Proceedings of Presented Papers*, 235-246.

Simmonds, C. A., Fox, J. & Holt, N. (2002). 'Schizotypy, creativity and psi performance in a visual noise paradigm.' Paper presented at the 26th International Conference of the Society for Psychical Research, Manchester, August 2002.

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More information about *DigiGanz* can be found at: www.digiganz.info