

Towards a Replicable Formula for Significant Intuitive Ability in an Applied Setting

Results:

Lange, Houran and Lange (in press) designed and validated a new, computerized psi test that aimed to improve controls conditions above and beyond our previous work with the I Ching. The main feature of this software was that the design incorporated the well-validated Theory of Reasoned Action model in decision-making. This allowed us to test intuition paralleled well-defined cognitive processes or whether psi could be a contributing variable as suggested by previous research. A convenience sample of hospitality executives (N = 62) responded both intuitively (spontaneous) and cognitively (reasoned) to a set of narratives via a computerized questionnaire that presented hypothetical situations that were conducive to intuitive thinking. Also embedded in the computerized task was a test of psi, thereby allowing correlations between a psi target and the two sets of responses. Other covariates included Sex, Transliminality and Paranormal Belief (New Age Philosophy and Traditional Paranormal Beliefs). No Sex effects were found. Chance-level results on hit rate were observed, although hit rate did show patterns suggesting that some variables promote person-conduciveness to psi. Scores on transliminality significantly and positively predicted scores on intuitive thinking, which in turn were significantly related to hit rate. New Age Philosophy was moderately correlated with transliminality and intuitions as might be expected, but it had no relation to hit rate. Most importantly, intuitive responses could not be entirely explained in terms of a conventional “weighting” cognitive process inherent to many other contexts of decision-making. Thus, we (Houran & Lange, submitted) found mixed support for our idea that inherently novel, spontaneous and ambiguous situations (i.e., conducive for intuitive thought) overcomes participants’ lower levels of belief and transliminality levels.

Published works:

Full Papers:

Houran, J., & Lange, R. (submitted). Comparing modes of decision-making in a hidden test of psi. *Journal of the Society for Psychical Research*.

Lange, R., Houran, J., & Lange, X. (in press: 2013). Methodological note: applying the Theory of Reasoned Action to a computerized test of intuition. *Journal of the Society for Psychical Research*.

Area(s) of interest:

Parapsychology, anomalistic psychology

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