

Lability And Pk Performance: Identifying The Optimal Conditions For Pk-Rng Effects In The Laboratory Using An I Ching Task

Results:

Study 1 used a new PK testing program involving an I Ching divination task. Three hexagrams were produced by sampling 3 sources of randomness (RNG, RND function in BASIC, random number tables). Participants rated all I Ching outcomes in advance using a Q-sort method. As predicted, highest ratings were awarded to hexagrams sampled from the most labile randomness source, but effects were small and nonsignificant. A similar pattern was found for participant lability, and for the interaction. Study 2 was an on-line survey to produce a psychometrically robust measure of lability and explore its relationship with spontaneous PK. A 71-item Lability Scale incorporated five factors, of which three—Intuitive Cognition, Ego-orientated Cognition and Emotional Interpretation—predicted PK experience scores. Study 3 used this new scale in an I Ching experiment, and looked at the effects of physiological arousal on performance. No interaction effects between participant and target system lability were found and relationships with arousal measures were inconsistent, but included significant correlations between PK score and heart rate (low lability) and PSS (high lability). Study 4 focused on researcher-participant interaction quality; no lability interaction effect was found, and there were no differences found between the 'friendly' and 'formal' conditions. Study 5 compared a nonstriving 'practice' trial and a 'test' in which participants were strived for a desired outcome. This gave a significant interaction between individual lability levels and RNG lability levels. Performance in 'test' condition was significantly better than in the 'practice' condition for low and intermediate lability target systems.

Areas of interest:

Psychokinesis, I Ching, lability.

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