



# Bio- and other feedback in a virtual stress training to reduce errors and increase performance

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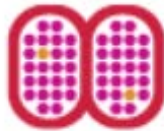


# Project background



# Project background

Brain & Cognition



Nationaal  
Initiatief **Hersenen & Cognitie**

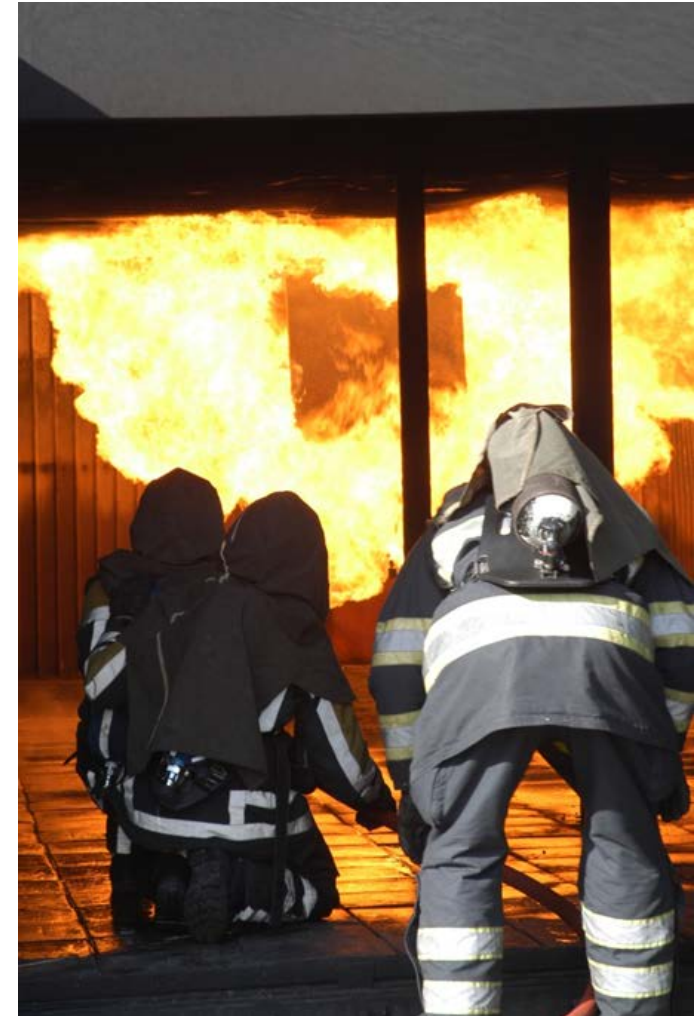




## Project background

### Brain & Cognition

- › Emergency workers experience high stress levels
- › Crisis situations need to be steered with good decisions
- › Penalty for errors is high
- › Stress and pressure can influence decision making processes in a negative way.





## Project background

Better decision under high pressure

- › Main Objective:
  - › Reducing negative effects of stress during high pressure and increasing quality of decisions.
  
- › End goal:  
Creating interventions  
and technological tools





# Literature Background



## Literature background

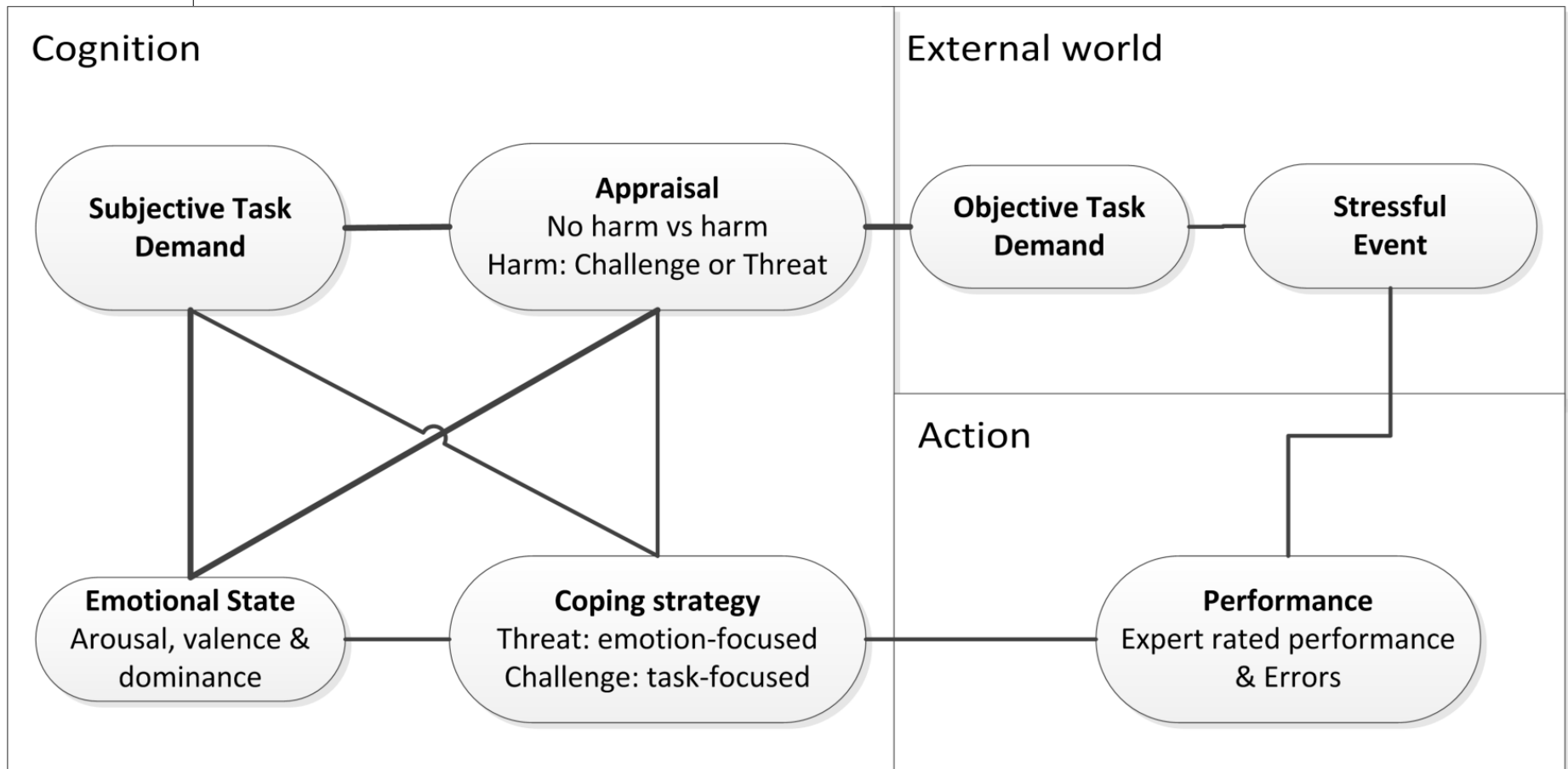
- › Stress studies: positive or negative effect
- › Cognition reduced by acute stress
  - › Cognition → Decision making





# Literature background

## Model





## Literature background

### Model

- › Model needs validation
  - › Are the variables related to each other in the way the model indicates?
  
- › Prediction of performance?
  - › Are the variables good predictors for performance?



# Experiment; Navy





# Experiment; Navy

## Introduction

- › Simulator study at the Navy  
(Royal Netherlands Naval  
College) in Den Helder
- › Participants experienced a stressful scenario
- › Realistic virtual environment
- › Realistic events and decisions



## Experiment; Navy

### Scenario

- › 2 Dutch naval ships





# Experiment; Navy

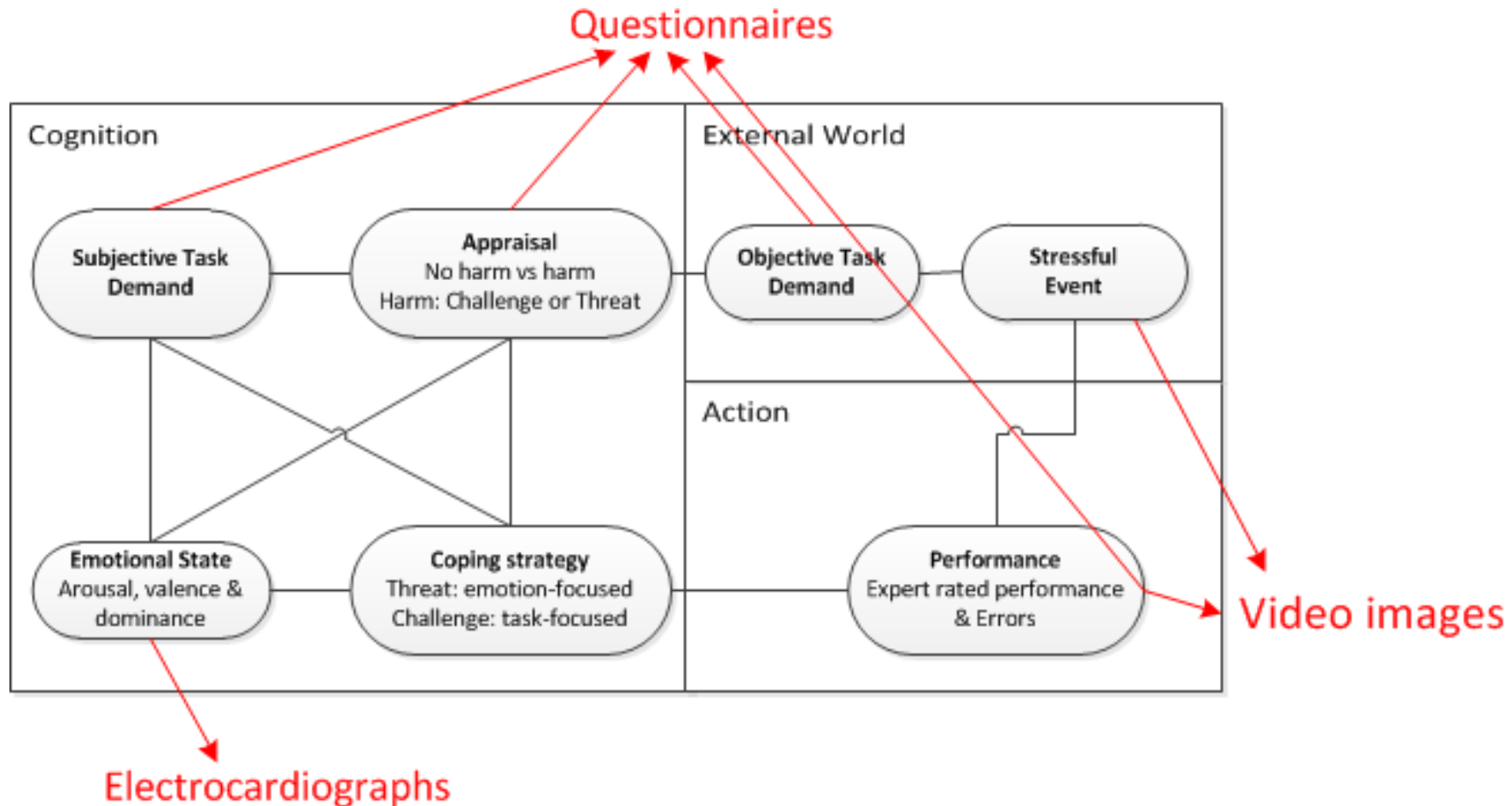
## Introduction / Methods

- › Variables measured:
  - › Task Demand → Questionnaire
  - › Appraisal → Questionnaire
  - › Emotional State/Arousal → ECG measurement
  - › Performance → Questionnaire
  - › Errors → Video



# Experiment; Navy

## Introduction / Methods





# Experiment; Navy

## Results





# Experiment; Navy

## Results

### › Correlations:

	HR	HRV	Appraisal Threat	Appraisal Challenge	Objective Task Demand	Subjective Task Demand
HR	1.00					
HRV	<b>-0.99</b>	1.00				
Appraisal Threat	0.03	-0.03	1.00			
Appraisal Challenge	0.14	-0.13	<b>-0.23</b>	1.00		
Objective Task Demand	0.09	-0.08	<b>0.40</b>	<b>0.63</b>	1.00	
Subjective Task Demand	-0.01	0.02	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.23</b>	<b>0.75</b>	1.00



# Experiment; Navy

## Results

- › Predictive models:
- › Performance = regression analysis
- › Error = logistic regression



## Experiment; Navy

### Results

Performance predictors	<i>B</i>	Std error	<i>t</i>	Sig.
HR	0.00	0.01	-0.42	0.68
HRV	-0.73	0.83	-0.88	0.38
Appraisal Threat	0.12	0.03	4.52	<0.01
Appraisal Challenge	0.07	0.01	5.8	<0.01
Objective task demand	-0.06	0.01	-4.8	<0.01
Subjective task demand	0.01	0.01	0.79	0.43
Intercept	0.42	1.45	0.29	0.77

$r = 0.79$  between predicted and observed data



## Experiment; Navy

### Results

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Error predictors	<i>B</i>	<i>S.E.</i>	Wald	df	Sig.
HR	-0.04	0.02	5.32	1	0.02
HRV	-7.61	1.76	18.66	1	<.01
Appraisal Threat	-0.36	0.03	208.30	1	<.01
Appraisal Challenge	-0.14	0.01	139.39	1	<.01
Objective Task Demand	-0.07	0.01	36.99	1	<.01
Subjective Task Demand	0.03	0.01	13.81	1	<.01

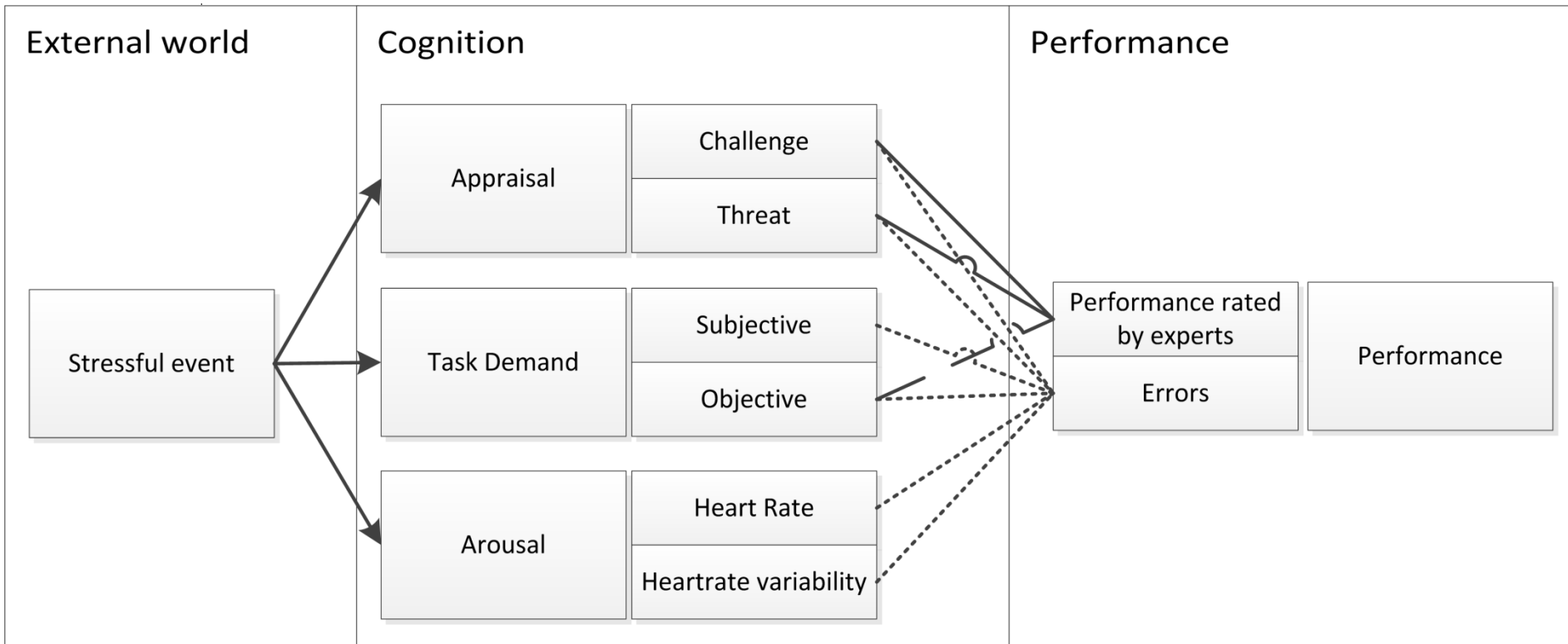
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66.4% correct predictions. Cox & Snell's  $R^2 = 0.17$



# Experiment; Navy

## Results





# Experiment Feedback System



## Experiment; Feedback System

- › Now we have:
  - › A better understanding of the influences of stress on cognition and the decision making process and outcomes.
  - › Real-time predictions
  
- › This will be used as an extra feedback option:

Biofeedback

**&**

Real-time predictions



## Experiment; Feedback System

- › Trainee component
  - › Heart rate (biofeedback)
  - › Performance predictions
  - › Error predictions
  
- › Trainer component
  - › What task is being performed?





## Experiment; Feedback System

**Output:** Predictions

Expected performance

Chances on errors

**Input:** Event

Appraisal + Task Demand: already in model

ECG: measured real-time



## Experiment; Feedback System



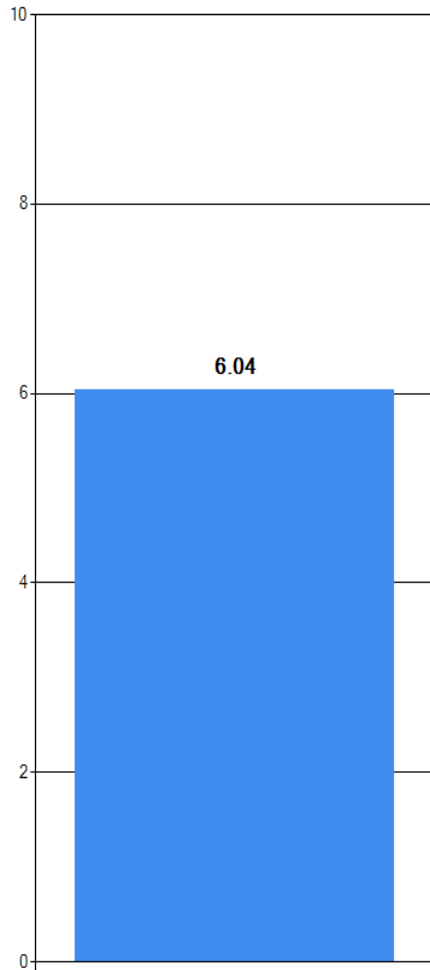


## Experiment; Feedback System

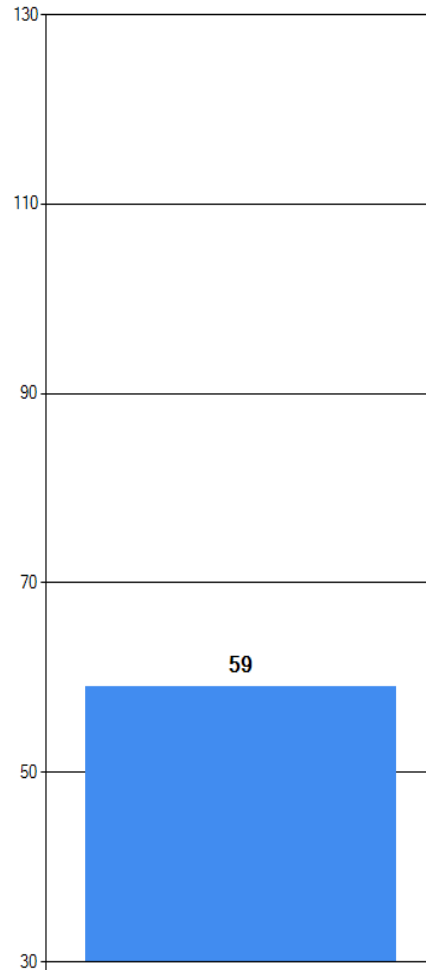




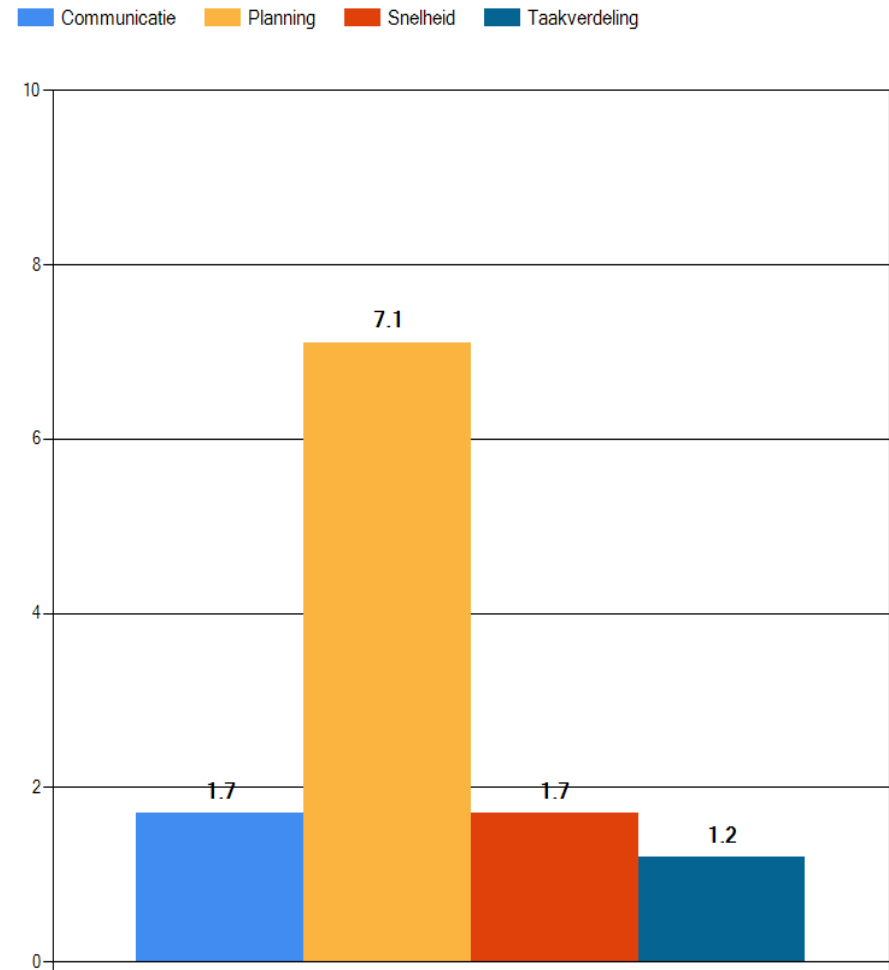
Prestatie voorspelling



Hartslag



Kans op fouten





**[0:00:00]**  
 Loaded task file: D:\iriscohen\My Documents\zz\_PhD\Release v1.0.2.0\Tasks\_navy\_easy.txt

- task: name = 1. schaduwen van target schip {(Threat = 1)(Challenge = 2.94)(objectiveTD = 5.67)(subjectiveTD = 2.37)}
- task: name = 2. start van de training {(Threat = 1)(Challenge = 2.39)(objectiveTD = 4.5)(subjectiveTD = 3)}
- task: name = 3. reageren op ontdekking {(Threat = 1.75)(Challenge = 2.55)(objectiveTD = 6)(subjectiveTD = 5)}
- task: name = 4. andere scheepvaart ontwijken {(Threat = 1.5)(Challenge = 3)(objectiveTD = 4)(subjectiveTD = 3.32)}
- task: name = 5. boarding voorbereiden {(Threat = 2.8)(Challenge = 2)(objectiveTD = 6.667)(subjectiveTD = 5.68)}
- task: name = 6. taakverdeling teams {(Threat = 1.6)(Challenge = 2.3)(objectiveTD = 7.67)(subjectiveTD = 4.68)}
- task: name = 7. positioneren van de schepen {(Threat = 1.57)(Challenge = 3.36)(objectiveTD = 6.33)(subjectiveTD = 5)}
- task: name = 8. boarding uitvoeren {(Threat = 1.75)(Challenge = 2.75)(objectiveTD = 6.5)(subjectiveTD = 4.89)}
- task: name = 9. hailing van schip {(Threat = 0)(Challenge = 2.17)(objectiveTD = 6)(subjectiveTD = 2.42)}
- task: name = 10. positioneren van target schip {(Threat = 1)(Challenge = 2.22)(objectiveTD = 5.67)(subjectiveTD = 2)}
- task: name = 11. crew aansturen {(Threat = 1.67)(Challenge = 2.64)(objectiveTD = 4.67)(subjectiveTD = 4.05)}
- task: name = 12. onderlinge communicatie {(Threat = 2.33)(Challenge = 2.85)(objectiveTD = 5.33)(subjectiveTD = 5.68)}
- task: name = 13. reageren op mayday {(Threat = 2.44)(Challenge = 2.4)(objectiveTD = 5.33)(subjectiveTD = 5.95)}
- task: name = 14. search & rescue uitvoeren {(Threat = 1.83)(Challenge = 2.33)(objectiveTD = 7)(subjectiveTD = 5.63)}
- task: name = 15. overdracht target schip aan kustwacht {(Threat = 0)(Challenge = 1.83)(objectiveTD = 6)(subjectiveTD = 0.74)}
- task: name = 16. lancering helikopter {(Threat = 3)(Challenge = 2.8)(objectiveTD = 4.67)(subjectiveTD = 3.26)}
- task: name = 17. tegen de stroom opvaren {(Threat = 1.5)(Challenge = 3)(objectiveTD = 5)(subjectiveTD = 2.37)}
- task: name = 18. navigeren tussen zandbanken {(Threat = 2)(Challenge = 2.63)(objectiveTD = 5)(subjectiveTD = 3.32)}
- task: name = 19. zoeken naar man-over-board {(Threat = 2)(Challenge = 2.75)(objectiveTD = 6.67)(subjectiveTD = 0.84)}
- task: name = 20. medic/arts inzetten {(Threat = 2.33)(Challenge = 2)(objectiveTD = 7)(subjectiveTD = 1)}

Open regressiemodellen..

Regressionsnavy.txt

Hartslag sensor COM3 Verbonden!

Open taken..

Tasksnavy\_easy.txt

Hartslagsnelheid (HR) Hartslagvariabiliteit (HRV)

Individual variance value

value = 0

**65 slagen/minuut**

**0.907 s**

Takenlijst

- 1. schaduwen van target schip
- 2. start van de training
- 3. reageren op ontdekking
- 4. andere scheepvaart ontwijken
- 5. boarding voorbereiden
- 6. taakverdeling teams
- 7. positioneren van de schepen
- 8. boarding uitvoeren
- 9. hailing van schip
- 10. positioneren van target schip
- 11. crew aansturen
- 12. onderlinge communicatie
- 13. reageren op mayday
- 14. search & rescue uitvoeren
- 15. overdracht target schip aan kustwacht

Performance -

Total error -

Communication error -

Planning error -

Speed error -

Task allocation error -

Open Professionalscherm

Zichtbaar:

- Prestatie voorspelling
- Hartslag
- Kans op fouten





task: name = 17. tegen de stroom opvaren {(Threat = 0)(Challenge = 3)(objectiveTD = 3.33)(subjectiveTD = 2.5)}

task: name = 18. navigeren tussen zandbanken {(Threat = 3)(Challenge = 3.25)(objectiveTD = 3)(subjectiveTD = 4)}

Open regressiemodellen..

Regressionsnavy.txt

Hartslag sensor

COM-poorten..

Niet verbonden

Open taken..

Taskexperienced.txt

Hartslagsnelheid (HR)

Hartslagvariabiliteit (HRV)

Individual variance value

value = 0

geen

geen

Takenlijst

- 1. schaduwen van schip
- 2. start van training
- 3. reageren op ontdekking
- 4. andere scheepvaart ontwijken
- 5. boarding voorbereiden
- 6. taakverdeling teams
- 7. positioneren van de schepen
- 8. boarding uitvoeren
- 9. hailing van schip
- 10. positioneren van target schip
- 11. crew aansturen
- 12. onderlinge communicatie
- 13. reageren op mayday
- 14. search & rescue uitvoeren
- 15. overdracht target schip aan kustwacht

- Performance -
- Total error -
- Communication error -
- Planning error -
- Speed error -
- Task allocation error -

Open Professionalscherm

Zichtbaar:

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## Experiment; Feedback System

Still needs to be tested:

Effect of system on performance + errors

- › Between subjects:
  - › Full Feedback screen vs. No Feedback screen
  
- › Usability
  - › Instructions
  - › Easy to use
  - › Easy to understand



# Bio- and other feedback in a virtual stress training

More information:

[http://ii.tudelft.nl/fast\\_decisions](http://ii.tudelft.nl/fast_decisions)