

Psychological Refractory Period Paradigm

Task

Title	Psychological Refractory Period Paradigm Task
Domain	Self-Regulation
Type	Behavioral
Duration (min)	12
Description	On each trial, subjects see two different stimuli presented in rapid succession, each acting as the imperative stimulus for a different choice RT task using different effectors. The time between the presentation of the two stimuli (stimulus-onset-asynchrony, SOA) is manipulated across trials
OSF Link	https://osf.io/br2c9/
Adult/Child	adult
Computerized	
Identified	1
Identified Description	The Psychological Refractory Period (PRP) task measures the limit of dual-tasking. In PRP tasks, subject are presented two different stimuli in rapid succession, each of which acts as the imperative stimulus for a different choice RT task using a different sets of responses. The duration between the onset of the two stimuli, the stimulus onset asynchrony (SOA), is manipulated across trials. The main dependent measure is the speed of responding, especially for the second task in the sequence, as a function of SOA. When the SOA is long, performance in the second task is similarly fast as a single-task environment, suggesting that there is little interference from the first task to the second. When the SOA is short, performance in the second task is severely slowed, suggesting that the second task must wait in a serial processing bottleneck (Pashler, 1994) or must share limited processing capacity/resources (Tombu & Jolicoeur, 2003) with the first task. Therefore, this task is taken as an index of the ability of the cognitive system to complete two tasks in rapid succession, which is often important for goal-directed behavior.

Documentation

Identified
PMCID,
PUBMED ID, or
CITATION

Text Citation: Pashler, H. (1994). Dual-task interference in simple tasks: data and theory. Psychological Bulletin, 116(2), 220-244.

Measured

Measured
Description

Measured
Supporting
Documentation

Measured
PMCID,
PUBMED ID, or
CITATION

Influenced

Influenced
Description

Influenced
Supporting
Documentation

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PMCID,
PUBMED ID, or
CITATION

Outcome
(Validated vs
Invalidated)

Outcome

Outcome
Description

Outcome
Supporting
Documentation

Outcome
PMCID,
PUBMED ID, or
CITATION

Owner

Teon Brooks
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