



Research Methods Course

The Experiment

Mel Slater, Andrea Brogni



<http://www.cs.ucl.ac.uk/staff/m.slater/Teaching/ResearchMethods/>
http://www.cs.ucl.ac.uk/staff/a.brogini/Teaching/RM_physio

After ... During ... Before

Where

What

How

Who

When

Questions

The Experiment !



After ... During ... Before

Where
What
How
Who
When

Questions

On Friday the 11th every group has 10 minutes to do a presentation of the results of its experiment

The presentation should include background, value and aim of the experiment, set-up and protocols, results and conclusions

Agree date to hand in the final written coursework (which should be done individually rather than in groups).
Possible dates might be:

11th February

18th February

21st February

After ... During ... Before

Where

What

How

Who

When

Questions



After ... During ... Before

Where

What

How

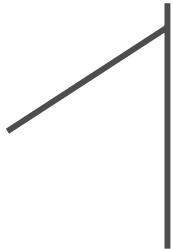
Who

When

Questions



CS Dept. - VR room – ground floor



Not the whole group of 6/7 people !!!!
3 or 4 people should be enough to run properly the experiment, maybe less

After ... During ... Before

Where

What

How

Who

When

Questions

Enough people to:

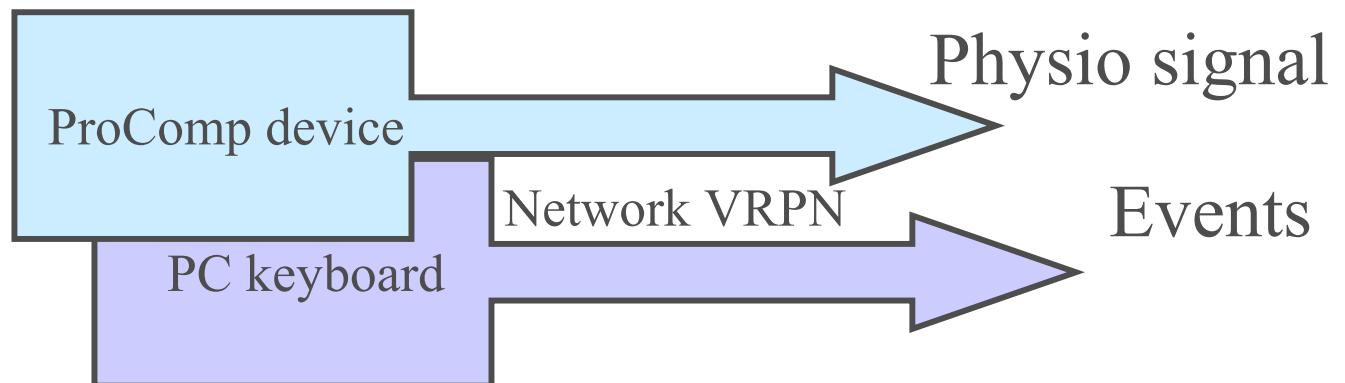
- ✓ take care of the technical stuff and run the code
- ✓ welcome the volunteers, give them the forms, explain the study, give the questionnaire
- ✓ put the physio sensor on/off and take care of the device
- ✓ check that the physio signal has been recorded properly, all the form have been signed and all the data are properly recorded for every volunteer
- ✓

After ... During ... Before

Where
What
How
Who
When

Questions

Connect and switch on/off the device
Place the sensor
Run the VRPN code



Server \leftrightarrow Client
(in this case they are the same machine)

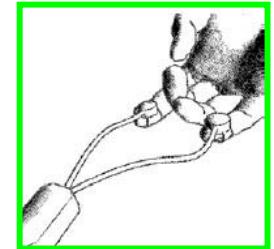
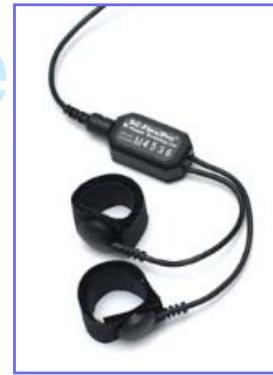
After ... During ... Before

Where
What
How
Who
When

Questions

Placement of the sensor

- ✓ The skin conductance sensor has two short leads that extend from the circuit box.
- ✓ At the end of each lead is an electrode snap similar to those on the extender cables.
- ✓ The GSR sensor uses two replaceable electrodes that are sewn inside Velcro straps.
- ✓ The electrode strap must be fastened around a finger tightly enough so the electrode surface is in contact with the finger pad but not so tightly that it limits blood circulation.
- ✓ No conductive paste should be used on the electrodes.



After ... During ... Before

Where
What
How
Who
When

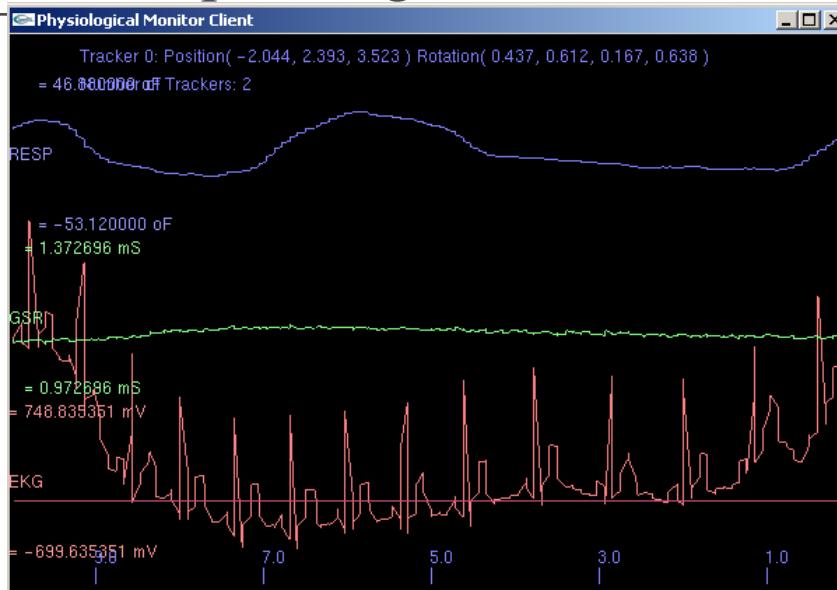
Questions

Record the physio

- ✓ start before starting your session experiment
- ✓ wait to see the OpenGL window and the signal working properly

Signal an event pressing a key

Save the data pressing ESC



After ... During ... Before

Where

What

How

Who

When

Questions

Log out and leave the room ready for
the next group

Collect the data

After ... During ... Before

Where

What

How

Who

When

Questions



After ... During ... Before

Where
What
How
Who
When

Questions

- ✓ The group should have an idea of the roles during the experiment
- ✓ Decide and set up the experiment
- ✓ Decide how to identify the sessions/volunteers (IDs)
- ✓ Start early to plan all the activities, dropping down a timetable with tasks
- ✓ Book the time slot for the experiment
- ✓ Recruit the volunteers for the experiment and be sure they know where and when they have to come
- ✓ the volunteers have to know what kind of experiment they are going to do, but NOT details about the aims, not to modify the results of the experiment with their expectations
- ✓ Prepare all the documents you need for the experiment (questionnaires, instructions, tables for notes)
- ✓ Special equipment
- ✓ more ?

After ... During ... Before

Where

What

How

Who

When

Questions

