

UC Merced

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society

Title

Experienced effort depends on evaluation mode

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/1c88z30c>

Journal

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 42(0)

Authors

Ashburner, Michelle

Risko, Evan

Publication Date

2020

Peer reviewed

Experienced effort depends on evaluation mode

Michelle Ashburner

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Evan Risko

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Abstract

Our understanding of effort perception is limited. Performance (e.g., response time; accuracy) is typically used as one way to assess effort in cognitive tasks; however, performance can be readily dissociated from subjective ratings of effort. One potential contribution to effort ratings that could lead to such dissociations is the judgment context. We tested this notion using a recently reported dissociation between performance and subjective effort in combination with a manipulation of evaluation mode (i.e., joint versus separate evaluation). Participants were asked to silently read a display of words as quickly as possible, then provide the level of effort experienced. Results demonstrate that evaluation mode can have a marked effect on retrospective judgments of effort. Implications are discussed.