

Not So Fast: The Influence of Auditory Rhythms on the Speed of Perceptual Decision Making

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Fast isochronous rhythms have been shown to produce the experience of time dilation, whereby intervals are perceived to last longer. This suggests that faster rhythms may be capable of not only slowing down time but may also speed up the rate of perceptual processes within the same interval. This research will examine if exposure to faster rhythms in the presence of a perceptual task will produce correspondingly faster responses than



would be possible in the absence of sound. Participants will be asked to complete a mental rotation task in which they have to judge whether 3-D geometrical shapes are simply rotated versions of each other, or if they are mirror images and cannot be made to match. It is predicted that decisions made in the presence of any rhythm will be faster compared to no sound, but that the decisions will be fastest in the presence of the faster rhythm.

