

The effect of Sensorimotor and Cognitive Cues on the implicit and explicit experience of agency

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Sense of agency (SoA), namely the feeling of being the author of our actions is a prerequisite for experience responsibility. In four studies, I applied different experimental manipulations to investigate the influence of different sensorimotor and cognitive cues on the experience of agency. To do so, I took advantage of a validated temporal judgment task (Zapparoli 2020a, 2020b), whereby participants were instructed to switch on a lightbulb actively/passively, providing measures of their implicit and explicit sense of agency afterwards. Spatial representations and SoA. With the first study (Mariano 2024b), I examined how the distance from a self-produced outcome ("near" vs. "far" from the participants) influences the experience of agency. Results show that participants experience reduced experience of implicit (but not explicit) agency when outcomes occur in the far space.

Motor interactions and SoA. In the second study (Zapparoli & Mariano 2024), I investigated the impact of contextual and social cues on the experience of agency, by making participants pressing a button to turn on a lightbulb synchronously. Results show that participants experience greater explicit and implicit sense of agency when acting alone.

Virtual reality and SoA. In the third and fourth studies my goal was to determine whether a sense of agency can be experienced in virtual reality when both actions and sensory consequences occur within the same virtual space. Results show that the embodiment of a virtual avatar is fundamental in the genesis of the implicit and explicit sense of agency in a virtual environment.

If you're submitting a symposium talk, what's the symposium title?

Senso di responsabilità: quando l'azione si fa coscienza

If you're submitting a symposium, or a talk that is part of a symposium, is this a junior symposium?

Yes

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