

## **Industrial Neuroscience for Aerospace Applications**

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# **The Context**

 Confined and isolated environment: human's and team members' mental states and behavioural monitoring

Extreme conditions: human errors commission mitigation

Gravity impact: neurophysiological changes

# The Rationale



## Conventional vs. Neurophysiological measures

Self-assessed measures are subjective and **cannot be collected while** performing tasks (invasiveness and low temporal resolution).

Supervisor assessment could have a certain **subjective bias** (personal experience, cognitive, and emotional biases, not perceivable from his behaviour).

Behavioural data or debriefing often highlight risky behaviours "after the fact".



It is therefore clear how these measurements alone cannot be used to accurately assess the users' mental states and consequently their teamwork.



# The idea









# Neuroscience benefits for Aerospace

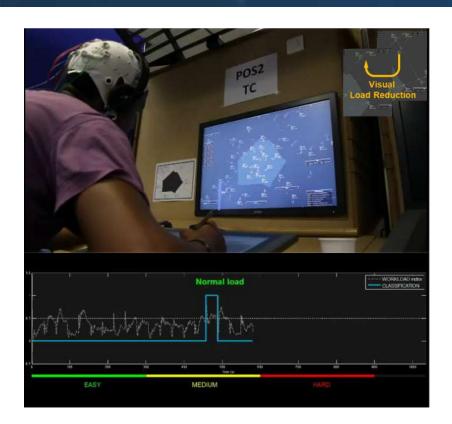


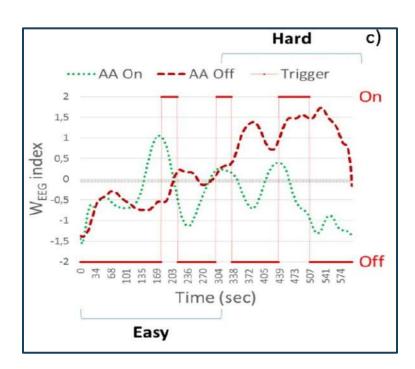
# Neurofeedback and Adaptive Automation



## Adaptive automations: settings















# **Teamwork Assessment**





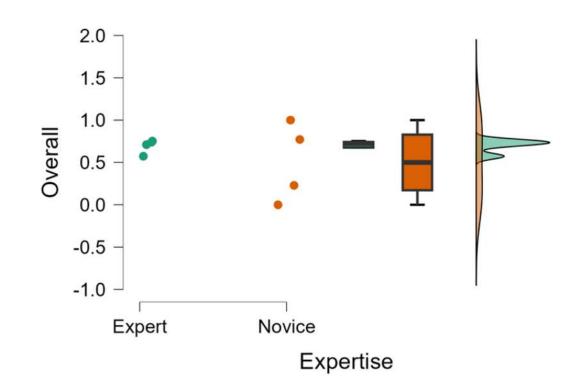






#### **Combined Subjective SME (cSME):**

combination of SME workload evaluations, SAM questionnaire and SME collaboration evaluations

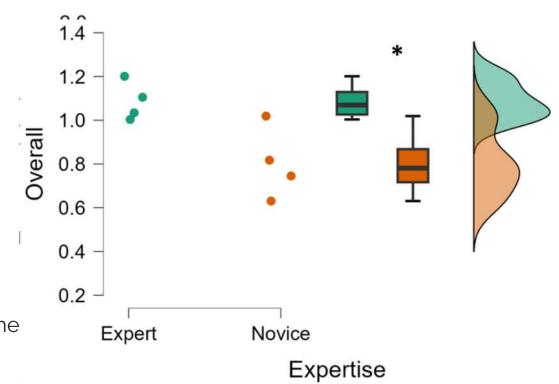


#### **Teamwork Index:**

mutual information between the mental states considered.

#### Real vs. Fake:

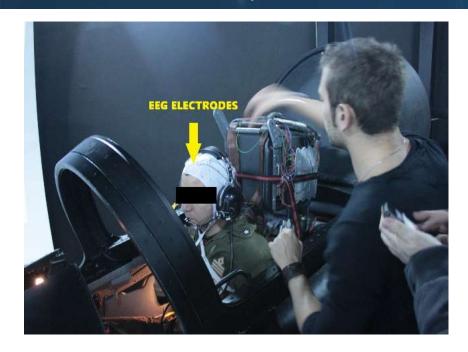
shuffling for each member with all the rest.



# **Expertise Evaluation**

## Air Force: Experts vs. Students





EEG recording along the entire flight simulation.

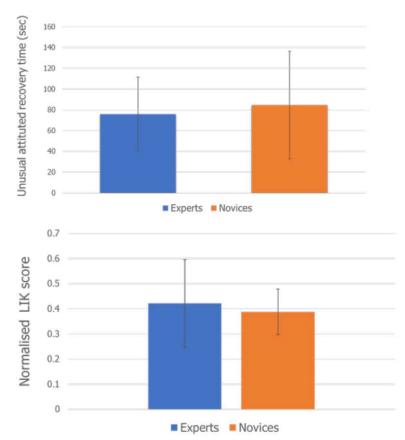


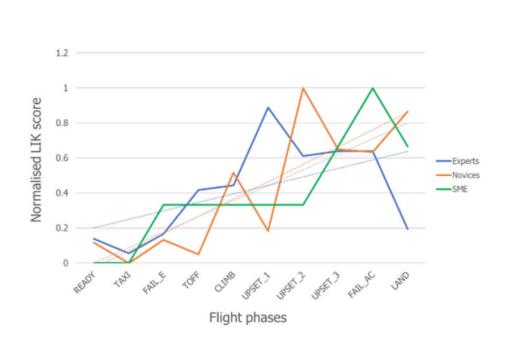
The Instructor could control the simulator and interact with the pilots.



## Experts vs. Students: Results

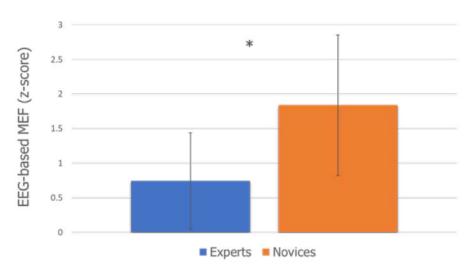


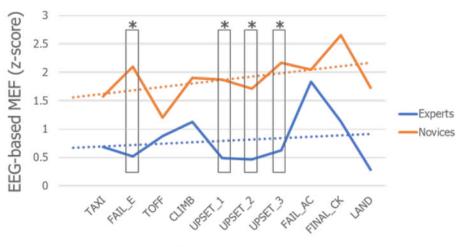




(Borghini et al., 2022, Safety)







Flight phases

# Microgravity impact

## Virgin Galactic Suborbital Flight





**Multitasking**: 2 levels (easy, hard) **When**: PRE – uGravity – POST

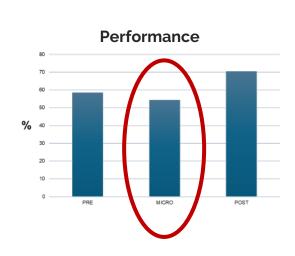
**Duration**: 3 mins **Sample size**: 2 pax

Data collection: Performance, EEG, ECG and EDA

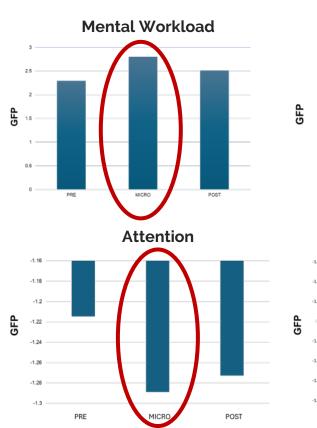


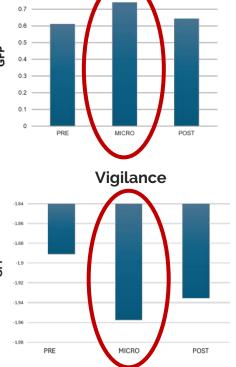
## Cognitive impairment assessment





Confirmed by **Cortisol** (+50%), **Dopamine** Dopamina (-19%) and **Brain derived neurotrophic factor BDNF**(+15%)



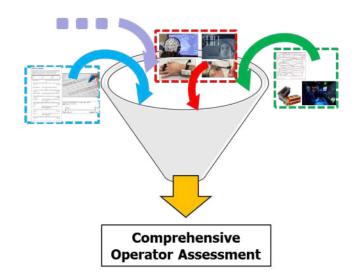


**Stress** 

# **General Conclusions**



Neuroscience and multimodal approach will endow additional and objective information for a more accurate individual's and team members' monitoring and assessment in Aerospace contexts





Discovering unconscious Insights

Any questions, comments, suggestions?

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