

CALL FOR PAPERS

“fNIRS in Psychological Research:

Functional Neuroimaging beyond Conventional Fields”

Special Issue Editors:

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We invite your contributions to the Special Issue of

Japanese Psychological Research: Vol.60, No. 3 (July/ 2018),

“fNIRS in Psychological Research: Functional Neuroimaging beyond Conventional Fields”

Recent advances in functional neuroimaging methods have revolutionized the way we elucidate psychological processes: instead of understanding them as hypothetical concepts, we can now explore their neural bases and attribute them to functional areas or networks within the brain. Thus far the driving force of neuroimaging studies has been fMRI, which is a powerful tool for visualization of brain functions along with structures. However, this method also has technical limitations: measurements can only be performed in unnatural, restricted conditions in a closed scanner; consequently, its application in developmental and clinical studies has been limited.

On the other hand, fNIRS (functional near-infrared spectroscopy), an optical neuroimaging method for measuring cortical hemodynamics, offers compact and portable instruments with low running costs, allowing various psychological experiments and measurements to be conducted in relatively unrestricted and natural environments. Owing to these features, fNIRS has been employed in a wide range of psychological applications that are beyond the reach of conventional neuroimaging devices, including examination of infant cognitive development; visualization of neural bases for neuropsychological evaluation; and diagnostic, neuropharmacological, and neuro-feedback assessment of developmental disorders. In short, fNIRS is expanding the horizon of psychological research by uncovering the neural bases of psychological states and processes of the human brain.

In this special issue, entitled “fNIRS in psychological research: functional neuroimaging beyond conventional fields,” psychologist Prof. So Kanazawa and engineer Prof. Ippeita Dan have worked together to contemplate research processes in psychology and related fields. We encourage authors to focus on any form of psychological research using fNIRS. We also welcome studies on methodological approaches, especially regarding experimental paradigms and data analysis for fNIRS.

We welcome three types of papers

1. Original articles: In principle, an original article should present research results, theoretical discussion, and a clear conclusion based on the description of problems, experiments, surveys, and case studies. It should also include new methods, skills, and data that are useful for conducting research, such as the development of new experimentation equipment and analysis programs, the creation of new psychological measurement scales, as well as database construction. The length should be kept to a maximum of 12 pages on the published version.

2. Brief Reports: A Brief Report contains the following contents: (a) an additional examination of an already published report, (b) the discovery of a new fact, (c) a new important observation, (d) a report of a few cases, (e) results to be published quickly or (f) a report based on exploratory ideas. Assuming approximately 700 words per page, the maximum acceptable length is 8 pages (up to 5,600 words) for a Brief Report, including the title, abstract, references, figures, tables, and line drawings.

3. Reviews: A review should focus on recent major themes in psychology, explain primary research status, main achievements and problems, and discuss the significance of current and future studies. "Invited Review" articles are written by request of the Editorial Board. The length should be kept to a maximum of 24 pages on the published version.

Submission and Deadline

Deadline for submission is **30th September, 2017**.

Papers should be submitted as usual via the Japanese Psychological Research website:

https://jpa.bunken.org/jpa/user_logins/en/

<http://www.psych.or.jp/english/publications.html>

The cover letter must clearly state that the paper is intended for the "**Special Issue.**"

Please refer to the Author Guidelines:

https://jpa.bunken.org/jpa/files/author_publication_manual.pdf

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In line with the Journal's policy, all submissions to this special issue will be subject to the usual process of initial screening and peer review. Reviews will be completed by **end-March 2018**, and any revisions requested **MUST** be carried out by **mid- April 2018**.

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