Abstract

This study is based on the classical study titled "Adaptation to natural facial categories" on visual adaptation aftereffects of three adaptation categories including ethnicity, gender and emotion facial expressions (Webster, Kaping, Mizokami & Duhamel, 2004). The study presented in this paper narrowly focused on the judgement of facial expression of various emotions. This paper mainly investigated on how visual adaptation would affect the judgement of facial expressions and seek to explore its implications in real life. Various emotion facial expression pairs were used to replicate Webster's experiment with a group of 22 participants in order to determine the impact of visual adaption effects on decision boundary of emotions. Significant results were found that visual adaptation effects do exist and the results in Webster's study could be generalized to emotions that were not covered in the original study.

Keywords: visual adaptations, facial expressions