
Call for Independent Researchers

OPCT v2.0: Objective Projection Calibration Test — Pre-Registered Empirical Validation Protocol

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leventbulut.com | OSF Pre-registration: osf.io/us8bw | DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.19415236

The Bulut Doctrine's Objective Projection methodology (DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.18689179) makes a falsifiable empirical claim: specific physical narrative parameters produce statistically convergent biophysical responses across culturally diverse reader populations, independently of individual writer style. The Objective Projection Calibration Test version 2.0 (OPCT v2.0) is the pre-registered protocol designed to test this claim. This document is a formal invitation to any researcher with access to standard psychophysiological measurement equipment to conduct an independent OPCT v2.0 trial. The protocol is open, pre-registered, and fully documented. Results — confirmatory or falsifying — will be published and credited.

1. The Central Empirical Claim

Objective Projection (OP) is a narrative engineering methodology that encodes emotional states through measurable physical parameters — thermal gradient, luminous decay, acoustic impedance, kinetic momentum, atmospheric pressure, and spatial geometry — rather than through abstract emotional language or similes. The methodology enforces the Adjective Embargo: the absolute prohibition of emotional descriptors ('melancholic', 'terrifying') and similes from narrative texts.

The Bulut Doctrine's central empirical claim, subject to OPCT v2.0 testing, is:

When three independent writers from culturally distinct backgrounds produce narrative texts from the same Physical Matrix specification under Adjective Embargo conditions,

readers will show statistically convergent biophysical responses ($p < 0.05$) across all three texts — indicating that the Physical Matrix, not individual writer style, drives the biophysical response.

This claim is falsifiable. If the Physical Matrix effect does not reach $p < 0.05$, or if writer identity variance exceeds matrix variance, the doctrine's central claim is rejected. The pre-registration at OSF (osf.io/us8bw) commits to this criterion publicly and irrevocably.

2. OPCT v2.0 Protocol Summary

Phase 1: Physical Matrix Pre-Registration

The supervising researcher specifies the complete Physical Matrix in an OSF pre-registration document, sealed before writer recruitment. The matrix specifies all six physical parameters with numerical values. No emotional content, character psychology, cultural references, or narrative outcome are included.

Phase 2: Independent Text Generation

Three independent writers from culturally distinct backgrounds (minimum: three different first languages, three different cultural regions) receive the identical Physical Matrix specification. Each produces a 300–500 word prose scene under mandatory Adjective Embargo and Exclusion of Similes conditions. Writers have no contact during production. Writer identity is masked during reader testing.

Phase 3: Biometric Reader Testing

A minimum of 80 readers from culturally diverse backgrounds read all three texts in counterbalanced order, monitored continuously by:

- ECG with HRV spectral analysis (LF/HF ratio)
- Optical pupillometry (pupillary dilation)
- Galvanic skin conductance (GSC)
- Post-reading affect ratings — SAM scale (exploratory only)

All biometric data is time-stamped against text position markers.

Statistical Analysis

Mixed-effects model: biometric response as dependent variable; Physical Matrix and writer identity as fixed effects; participant as random effect.

Primary hypothesis confirmed if: (1) Physical Matrix effect $p < 0.05$ AND (2) writer identity effect $p > 0.05$ for all three biometric measures.

3. Falsification Criteria

The following outcomes constitute falsification of the stated claims. These criteria are pre-registered and cannot be revised after data collection:

Test	Falsifying Outcome	Claim Rejected
Primary convergence	Physical Matrix effect $p > 0.05$ across three independent runs	Physical matrix claim falsified
Writer independence	Writer identity effect $p < 0.05$ (significant)	Objective Projection claim falsified
Cross-cultural convergence	Convergence disappears in cross-cultural subgroup comparison	Universal Biological Interface claim falsified

4. What the Applying Research Team Gains

Academic Credit

The applying team is credited as the first independent replication team in all subsequent publications by the Narrative Engineering Laboratory. Full authorship credit in any co-authored publication of results.

Pre-existing Framework

The theoretical framework, physical matrix specification, statistical analysis plan, and measurement instruments are fully documented and available at leventbulut.com. No theoretical development work is required from the applying team.

Open Protocol

OPCT v2.0 is an open protocol. Results — whether confirmatory or falsifying — are equally valuable and will be published. Falsifying results do not disadvantage the applying team; they contribute to science.

Genuinely Novel Territory

No independent replication of OPCT v2.0 has been conducted. The first team to publish results will occupy a genuinely novel position in the intersection of narrative theory, psychophysiology, and empirical aesthetics.

Cross-disciplinary Visibility

Results will be disseminated across literary theory, cognitive neuroscience, and AI/narrative engineering communities — extending the applying team's visibility beyond their primary discipline.

5. Equipment Requirements

OPCT v2.0 requires standard psychophysiological measurement equipment. Any laboratory equipped for experimental psychology or cognitive neuroscience research will have the required instruments:

- ECG or pulse oximetry with HRV analysis capability
- Galvanic skin conductance (GSC) / electrodermal activity (EDA) measurement
- Eye-tracking or optical pupillometry (optional but strongly recommended)
- Standard participant recruitment infrastructure (minimum 80 participants)
- IRB / ethics committee approval for human subjects research

No specialist literary theory expertise is required from the applying team. The Narrative Engineering Laboratory provides full methodological support, including Physical Matrix specification, writer recruitment guidance, and statistical analysis consultation.

6. How to Initiate an Independent Trial

Step 1: Read the full OPCT v2.0 protocol

Available in full at leventbulut.com and registered at DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.19415236. The OSF pre-registration (osf.io/us8bw) contains the complete analysis plan.

Step 2: Read the Physics of Literature monograph

The theoretical foundations, six physical parameters, and prior case study evidence are documented in the complete monograph available at

leventbulut.com.

Step 3: Contact the Narrative Engineering Laboratory

Submit your institution, available equipment, and proposed timeline via leventbulut.com. The Laboratory will provide the Physical Matrix specification, writer recruitment protocol, and scoring instruments.

Step 4: Pre-register your trial

File a trial-specific OSF pre-registration referencing the OPCT v2.0 master pre-registration (osf.io/us8bw). This protects your team's contribution and ensures publication regardless of outcome.

Step 5: Conduct and report

Results should be submitted for publication to an appropriate peer-reviewed venue in psychophysiology, empirical aesthetics, or cognitive narratology, with co-authorship from the Narrative Engineering Laboratory where appropriate.

7. Suitable Research Disciplines

OPCT v2.0 is particularly well-suited for research teams working at the intersection of:

- Experimental psychology and cognitive psychology
- Psychophysiology and autonomic nervous system research
- Empirical aesthetics and neuroaesthetics (Semir Zeki, Vessel & Starr frameworks)
- Cognitive narratology (Herman, Fludernik traditions)
- Affective computing and human-computer interaction
- AI and natural language processing (narrative generation evaluation)

The protocol is designed to be executable within standard experimental psychology laboratory infrastructure. The literary theory framework is fully documented and does not require prior expertise in narrative theory from the applying team.

8. Academic Registration

OPCT v2.0 Protocol	DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.19415236
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OSF Pre-registration	osf.io/us8bw (April 2026)
OPCT v1.0 (predecessor)	DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.19073747
Architectural Framework	DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.18689179
Probabilistic Convergence	DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.19164277
Two-Pathway Architecture	DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.19225203
Biophysical Output	DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.19225484
Why 28.4°C?	DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.19407165
Beyond Eliot	DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.19390047
Physics of Literature Monograph	leventbulut.com

The doctrine is designed to be tested. The protocol is open. The pre-registration is public. The falsification criteria are irrevocable.

The first independent research team to conduct and publish an OPCT v2.0 trial will occupy a genuinely novel position at the frontier of narrative science. We invite you to be that team.

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