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CREW STRUCTURE AND INTERACTION IN LUNAR PALACE 1: A QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

Abstract

A 105-day isolated simulation is conducted in an analogue space station in Beihang University called Lunar Palace 1 on 2014. During isolation, three groups with different crew size and crew structure were built. Especially to the Group 3 with 1 male and 2 females confined 80 days, which members shows different patterns on emotions and group cohesion. A member presented high level of negative emotion at the beginning of the mission, and obvious decreased along with the mission going. The reason is investigated according some qualitative approaches including interview record, working dairy, video of mealtime, post messages on social networking, performance of sand box game. The personality measures of crewmember also considered for explaining the interaction. We would like to discuss how do crew structure, pre-mission team building, and leadership influence the interaction and psychology of crew. The results make us understand well crew relationship in isolated confined circumstance under collectivist culture context.