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Let's meet CATE!

Aphasia and AoS interventions

inspired by the Complexity Account of Treatment Efficacy

Agenda

Background

- Generalisation effects
- CATE's prediction

Two single case studies

- Semantic impairment
- Apraxia of Speech

Wrap Up

Evaluating the effectiveness of SLT

Training effects

- improvement for trained material

Generalisation effects

- improvement for untrained materials and/or untrained tasks
- expansion of what has been learned

Transfer effects

- improvement in an everyday situation

Generalisation effects

- strong evidence for the effectiveness of a treatment
- if (only if!) it is predicted beforehand what kind of generalisation can be expected due to the treatment
- prediction is theory-driven or evidence-based

Webster J, Whitworth A, Morris J. (2015)

[Is it time to stop 'fishing'? A review of generalisation following aphasia intervention.](#)

Aphasiology

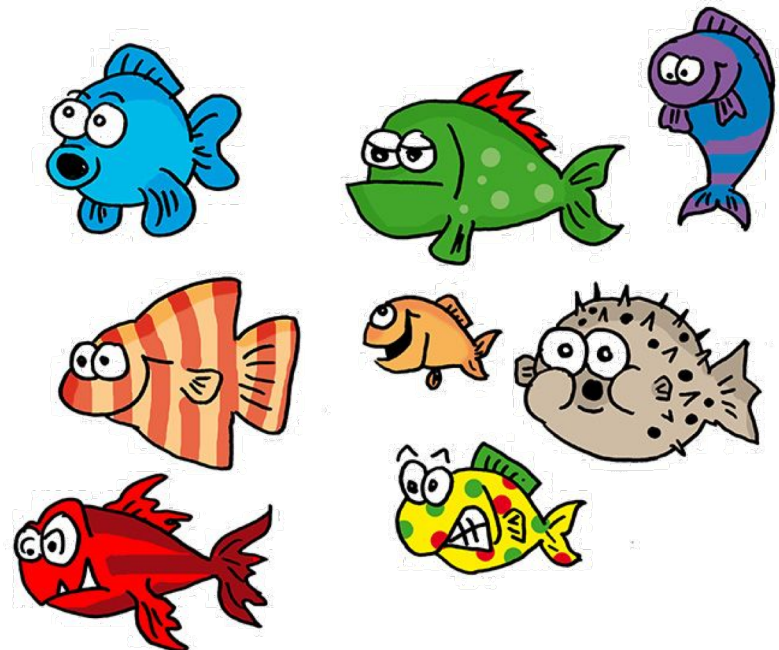
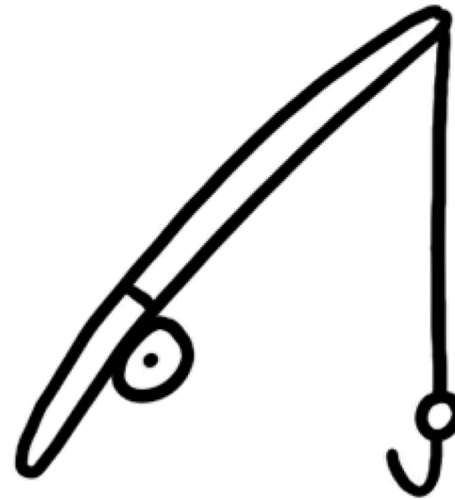
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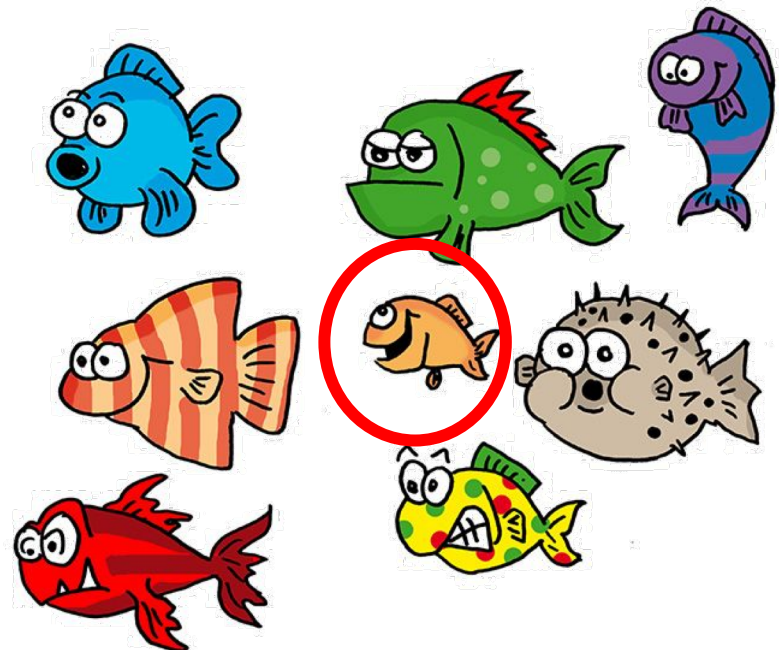
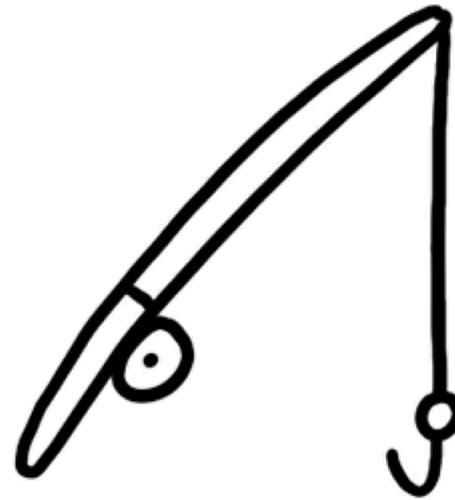


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Generalisation effects

- untrained task improves for trained items
oral picture naming → naming by definition
- untrained items improve in a trained task
sentence production: passive sentences → active sentences
- untrained language improves for trained materials

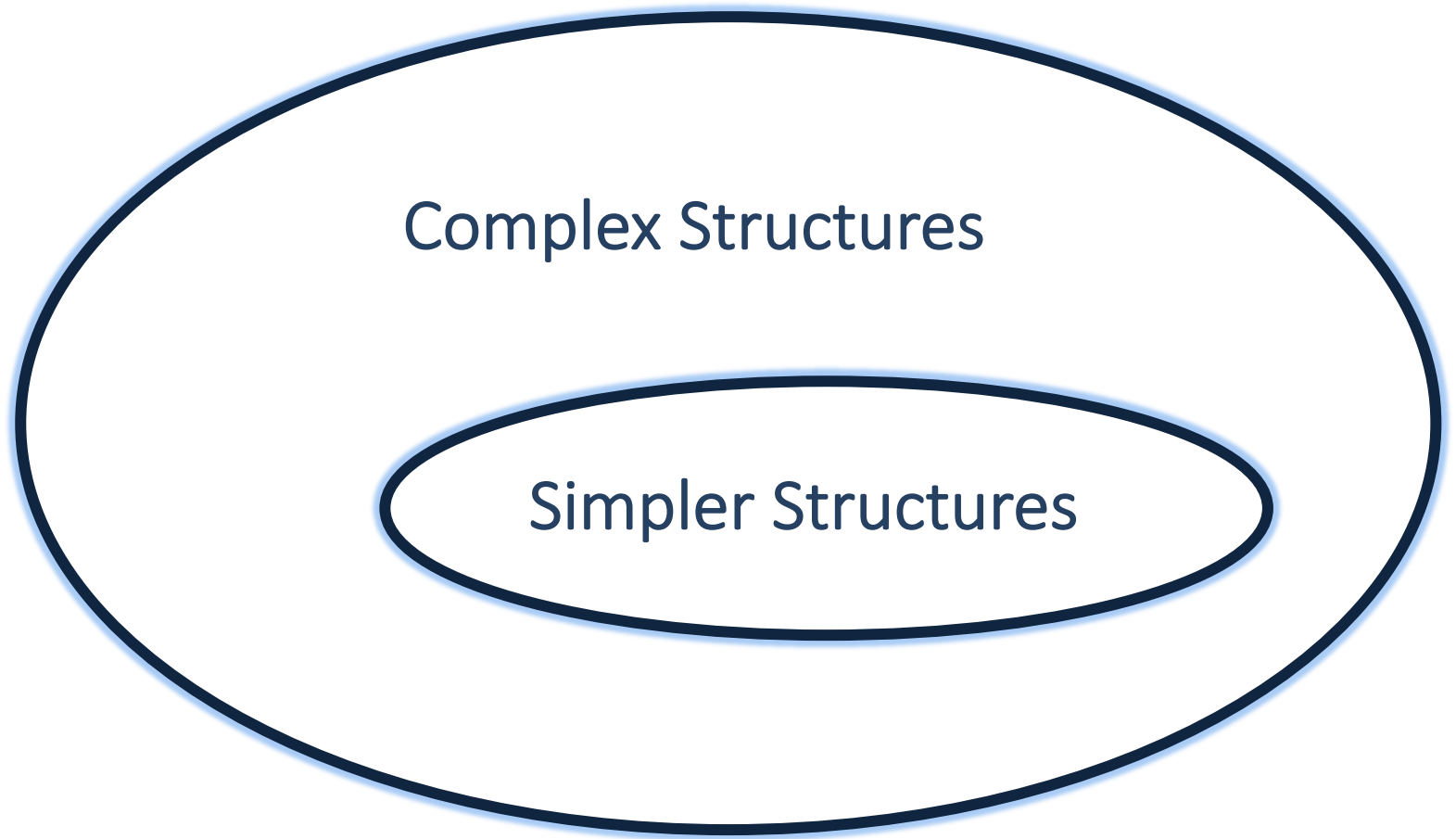
Complexity Account of Treatment Efficacy

“Training complex structures results in generalization to less complex structures when untreated structures encompass processes relevant to (i.e., are in a subset relation to) treated ones.” (Thompson et al., 2003, p. 11)

According to CATE

- we should use complex items for treatment
- as less complex, comparable items then improve, too
- predicted generalisation from complex to simple

Subset relation



CATE: Not intuitive, but effective!

- CATE contradicts classic didactic principles
- effectiveness has been shown for
 - agrammatism z.B. Thompson et al. 2003; Thompson et al. 2007; Stadie et al. 2008
 - semantic impairment z.B. Kiran & Thompson 2003; Kiran et al. 2009
 - apraxia of speech Maas et al. 2002; Schneider & Frens 2005
 - SLI Gierut 2007; Levy & Friedmann 2009
- learning process might be even faster with complex material

Evaluating CATE's prediction: A-B-A

A: BASELINE BEFORE	B: TREATMENT	A: BASELINE AFTER
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Evaluating CATE's prediction: A-B-A

A: BASELINE
BEFORE

B: TREATMENT

A: BASELINE
AFTER








complex items
TO BE TREATED



complex items
TRAINING EFFECT?

Evaluating CATE's prediction: A-B-A

A: BASELINE BEFORE	B: TREATMENT	A: BASELINE AFTER
 complex items TO BE TREATED		complex items TRAINING EFFECT?
 simpler items WILL NOT BE TREATED		 simpler items GENERALISATION? CATE!



CATE meets Semantic Impairment

Semantic Complexity

- concreteness effect: abstract > concrete
- typicality effect: atypical > typical

Typicality



Typicality

Members of a category are defined by

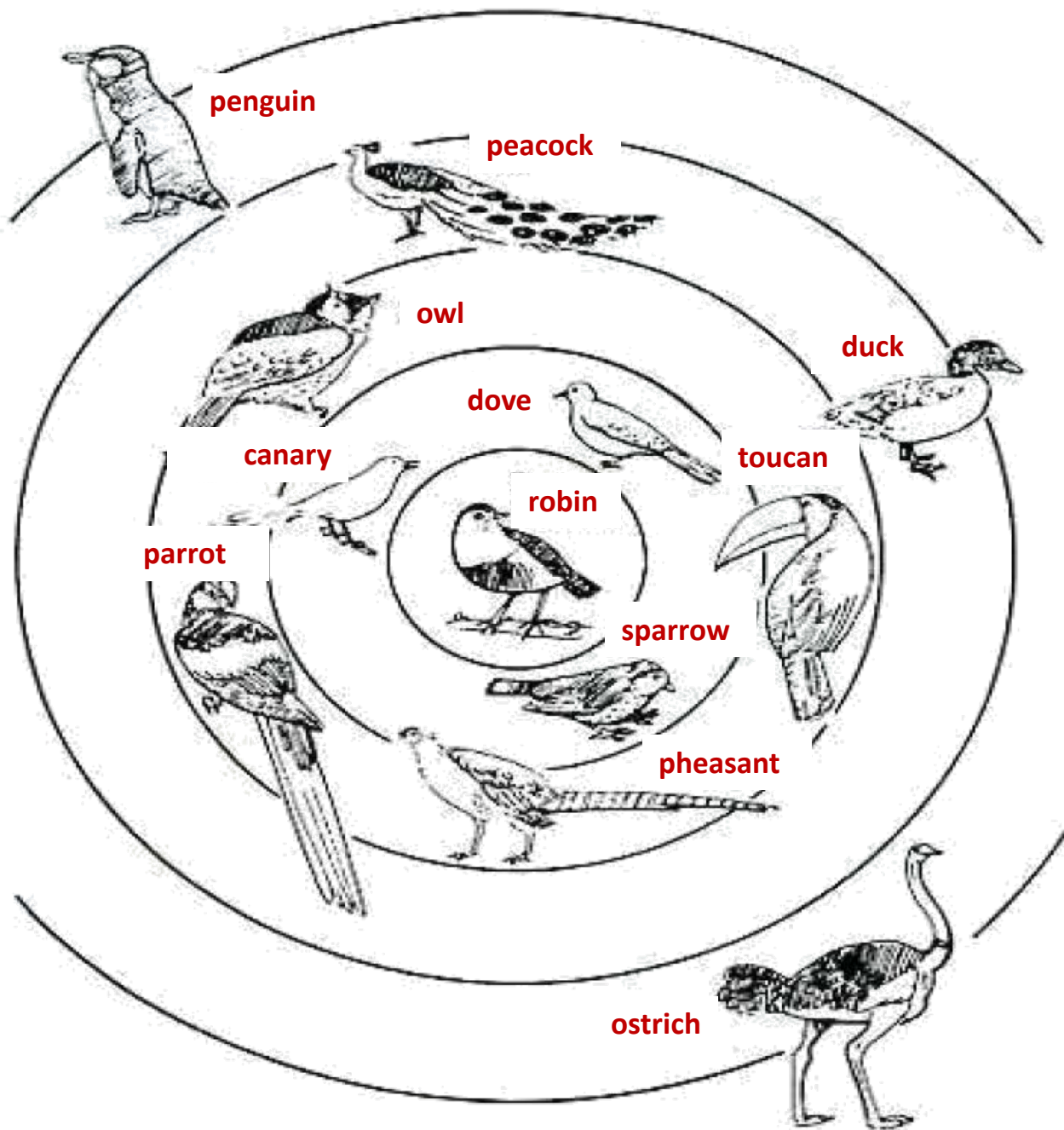
- core features *lays eggs, has a beak*
- prototypical features *can fly, builds a nest*
- atypical features *can run fast, eats fish*

Typical members

- share prototypical features
- have only few distinctive features

Atypical members

- have many distinctive features
- reflect the full range of the semantic category



Single case study: Mr. A.

- 54 yrs old, 3;6 yrs p.o., left parietal hemorrhage
- impaired word retrieval due to a semantic disorder

Aim

- refine representation in the semantic system
- establish/stabilise semantic features
- improve naming accuracy

A-B-A Design

A: BASELINE
BEFORE

B: TREATMENT

A: BASELINE
AFTER

○ atypical animals
TO BE TREATED



atypical animals
TRAINING EFFECT?

○ typical animals
WILL NOT BE TREATED



typical animals
GENERALISATION? CATE!

atypical vegetables
WILL NOT BE TREATED



atypical vegetables
GENERALISATION?

typical vegetables
WILL NOT BE TREATED



typical vegetables
GENERALISATION?

A-B-A Design

A: BASELINE
BEFORE

B: TREATMENT

A: BASELINE
AFTER

○ atypical animals
4/10



atypical animals
TRAINING EFFECT?

○ typical animals
3/20



typical animals
GENERALISATION? CATE!

atypical vegetables
0/10



atypical vegetables
GENERALISATION?

typical vegetables
3/20













typical vegetables
GENERALISATION?

Treatment (7 sessions)

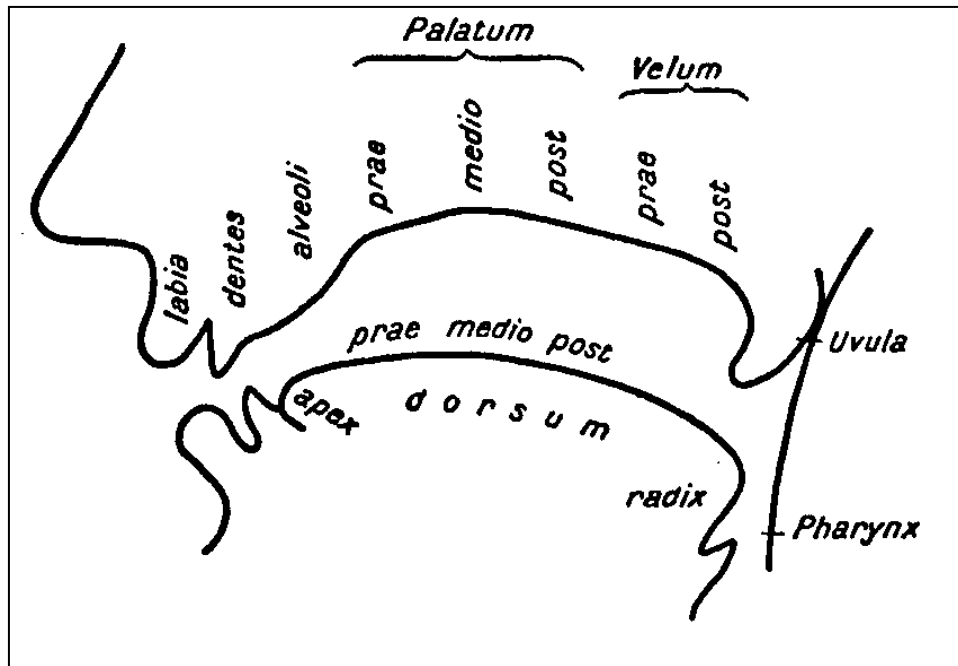


- oral naming
- semantic categorisation *air or water? flat or tall?*
- select semantic features
water / green / tall / air / arms / trunk / orange / flat
- YES/NO decision on semantic features *water? → yes*
- oral naming

A-B-A Design

A: BASELINE BEFORE	B: TREATMENT	A: BASELINE AFTER
 atypical animals 4/10	 	atypical animals 10/10*
 typical animals 3/20	 	<div>typical animals 13/20*</div>
atypical vegetables 0/10	 	atypical vegetables 2/10
typical vegetables 3/20	 	typical vegetables 15/20*

- generalisation atypical → typical animals (CATE's prediction)
- cross-category generalisation to typical but not atypical vegetables



CATE meets Apraxia of Speech

Phonological complexity

clusters > singletons

- onset:

broek > *boek*

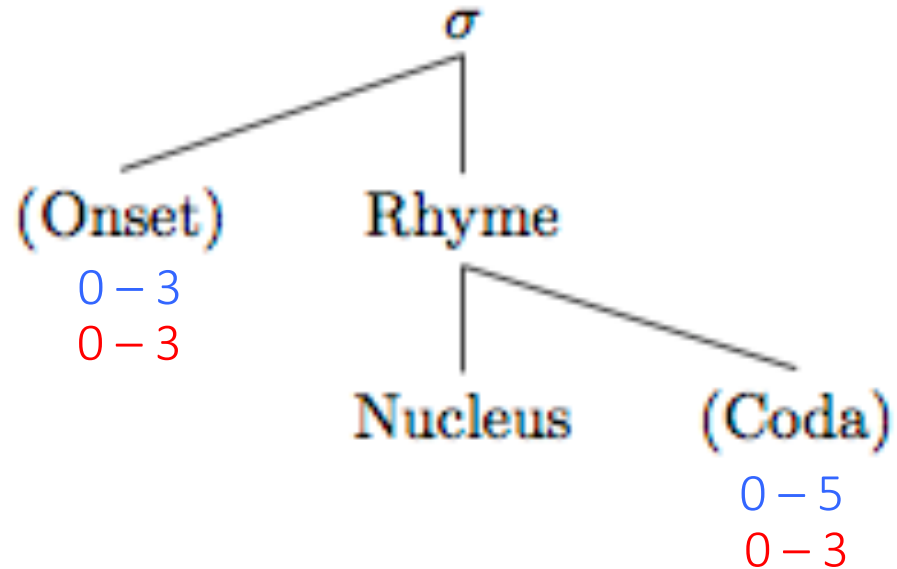
Brand > *Band* (*fire/ribbon*)

- coda:

hals > *hal*

Hals > *Hall* (*neck/echo*)

Phonological complexity



str

o

p

pr

o

mptst

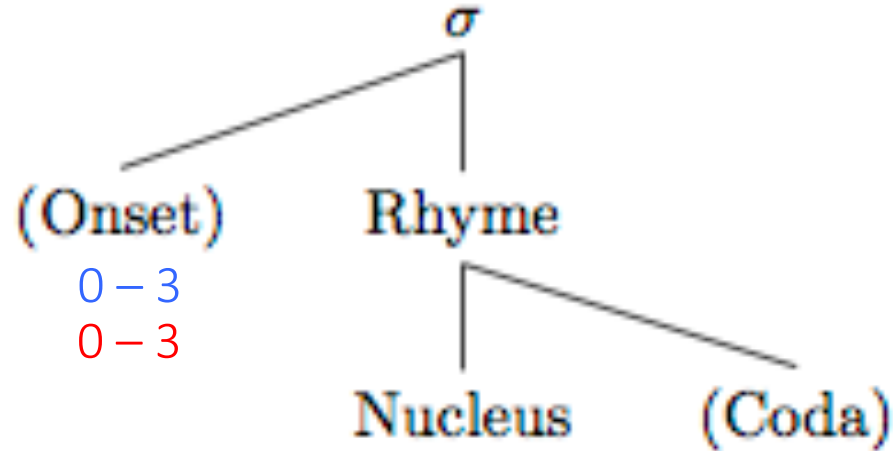
Str

u

mpf

(sock)

Phonological complexity



APHASIOLOGY, 2002, 16 (4/5/6), 609–622

Treatment of sound errors in aphasia and apraxia of speech: Effects of phonological complexity

E. Maas, J. Barlow, D. Robin, and L. Shapiro

San Diego State University, CA, USA

Phonological complexity

syllable contacts: xCCC.CCx > xV.Cx

angstweet > autoweg

Angstschweiß > Autobahn

Single case study: Mrs. B.

- 44 yrs old, 8 yrs p.o., left ACM infarction
- mild aphasia
- mild to moderate apraxia of speech
 - inconsistent error pattern
 - phonetic and phonological errors
 - effects of phonological complexity, lexicality, and length
 - scanning speech

Aim

- correct production of clusters
 - precise articulation
 - fluent speech

A-B-A Design

A: BASELINE
BEFORE

B: TREATMENT

A: BASELINE
AFTER

xCCC.CCx
xCC.CCCx

TO BE TREATED







xCCC.CCx
xCC.CCCx





TRAINING EFFECT?

Kunst.zahn – *Salz.brief
Palm.zweig – *Last.strunk

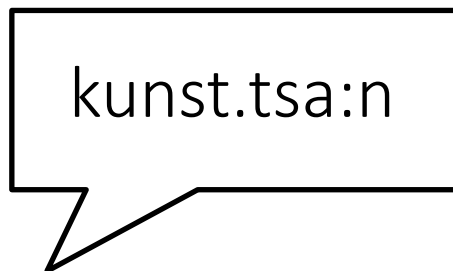
A-B-A Design

	A: BASELINE BEFORE	B: TREATMENT	A: BASELINE AFTER
	xCCC.CCx xCC.CCCx TO BE TREATED		xCCC.CCx xCC.CCCx TRAINING EFFECT?
	xCC.CCx xCCCx xCx WILL NOT BE TREATED		<div> xCC.CCx xCCCx xCx GENERALISATION? CATE! </div>

A-B-A Design






	A: BASELINE BEFORE	B: TREATMENT	A: BASELINE AFTER
	xCCC.CCx xCC.CCCx 3/40		xCCC.CCx xCC.CCCx TRAINING EFFECT?
	xCC.CCx xCCCx xCx 13/60		<div> xCC.CCx xCCCx xCx GENERALISATION? CATE! </div>

Treatment (10 sessions in 5 weeks)



- repetition (w/o mouth gesture)
- assessment ○ ○ ○
- ○ → embed word in sentence
- ○ ○ → practice
 - repetition (mouth gesture visible)
 - slowed presentation
 - phonetic instructions
 - backward chaining of the phonemes

Results

	A: BASELINE BEFORE	B: TREATMENT	A: BASELINE AFTER
	xCCC.CCx xCC.CCCx 3/40		xCCC.CCx xCC.CCCx 17/40*
	xCCCCx xCCCx xCx 13/60		 <div> xCCCCx xCCCx xCx 27/60* </div>

- generalisation complex clusters → simpler clusters (CATE)
- still room for improvement

Wrap Up

Summary

- two interventions inspired by CATE
 - semantic impairment/ naming
 - apraxia of speech/ syllable contact
- generalisation: complex → simpler items
- materials based on linguistic criteria
- A-B-A intervention design for systematic evaluation

CATE@work

- theory-driven prediction on generalisation effects: CATE does not fish!
- material-centered account: CATE recommends how to choose and structure the items (treated vs. untreated)
- no specification of the treatment/task
- CATE challenges patients
- helpful: make treatment transparent to the patient
 - explain idea of complexity
 - set a time frame (e.g. 10 sessions)
 - announce baseline testings

Thank you!

A somewhat different example ☺



Level 1

RUN

1 attempt

1 attempt



Level 2

RUN
JUMP

4 attempts

1 attempt



Level 3

RUN
JUMP
FLY

6 attempts

1 attempt



Level 4

RUN
JUMP
FLY
CLIMB

11 attempts

17 attempt

Evaluating treatment effects: A-B-A

