

Paradigm	Decade <sup>1)</sup>	Theory	Key concepts
(Connectionism) <sup>2)</sup>	1880 - 1900	<b>Connectionism</b> (Thorndike)	- learning is incremental strengthening of the S-R <sup>3)</sup> association
- <b>S-R associations</b> are strengthened through <b>repetition</b>			
- outcome of a S-R event can strengthen or weaken the connection			
- potential to learn leads to frustration if not satisfied			
Behaviorism	1900 - 1910	<b>Classical conditioning</b> (Pavlov)	- learning is a <b>visible change</b> in one's behavior
- learning is manifested in a <b>natural reflex</b> reaction on an associated environmental stimulus			
- emotional response can also be learned or conditioned			
1920 - 1930	<b>Contiguity theory</b> (Guthrie)	- behavior is formed by a <b>series of movements</b> which are learned through S-R associations	
- a close <b>temporal relationship</b> between S and R is necessary for learning to occur			
- learning occurs on <b>first experienced instance</b> of the stimulus			
- reinforcements (reward or punishment) do not influence the strength of this connection			

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Neo-behaviorism	1930 - 1940	<b>Sign learning</b> (Tolman)	- suggests studying behavior on the molar level (whole, purposeful, goal-directed behaviors)
- learning is acquisition of knowledge through <b>meaningful behavior</b> , not mechanical moves			
- rewards or punishments can only be used as motivators for performance, not learning			
- animals are not simple mechanisms, but intelligent organisms capable of <b>cognitive processes</b>			
<b>Drive reduction theory</b> (Hull)	- <b>mathematical formulas</b> attempting to explain behavior and the likelihood of its appearance		
- <b>drive</b> (a stimulus in form of a biological need) results in behavior in order to <b>satisfy</b> it			
- reinforced S-R learning through the reduction of a biological drive			
- <b>cognitive factors</b> need to be taken into account when explaining human learning			
1950 - 1960	<b>Operant conditioning</b> (Skinner)	- <b>reinforced learning of new behaviors</b> , not just shaping reflexes	
- different reinforcement intervals have different effect			
- complex behaviors are learned through more simple ones			

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<b>Stimulus sampling theory</b> (Estes)	- a <b>statistical learning theory</b> ; set of formulas and axioms		
- S-R association is learned in a <b>single trial</b> ; learning results in accumulated S-R associations			
- reinforcement has to do with the performance, not with learning			
- later included <b>memory</b> as a factor in his theory			

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