It All Blurs Together: How the Effects of Habituation Generalize Across System Notifications and Security Warnings

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Habituation



Generalization

Generalization of habituation



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HABITUATION:

A MODEL PHENOMENON FOR THE STUDY OF NEURONAL SUBSTRATES OF BEHAVIOR ¹

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The recent habituation literature is reviewed with emphasis on neurophysiological studies. The hindlimb flexion reflex of the acute spinal cat is used as a model system for analysis of the neuronal mechanisms involved in habituation and sensitization (i.e., dishabituation). Habituation of this response is demonstrated to follow the same 9 parametric relations for stimulus and training variables characteristic of behavioral response habituation in the intact organism. Habituation and sensitization appear to be central neural processes and probably do not involve presynaptic or postsynaptic inhibition. It is suggested that they may result from the interaction of neural processes resembling "polysynaptic low-frequency depression," and "facilitatory afterdischarge." "Membrane desensitization" may play a role in long-lasting habituation.

ments have studied "below-zero" habituation as such (Humphrey, 1933; Prosser & Hunter, 1936; Wendt, 1931), the observations may be viewed as an extension of the relationship between number of stimulus presentations and degree of habituation. Zero response level is of course to some degree dependent upon the particular response measures used.

alization to other stimuli.

Most studies of dishabituation (see above) 7. Habituation of response to a have noted its habituation. Lehner (1941) given stimulus exhibits stimulus generhas done the most careful parametric studies, showing that habituation of dishabituation follows a negative exponential course for the startle response in the rat and the abdominal Coombs (1938) demonstrated generalizareflex in man. More recently, Hagbarth and tion of GSR habituation to different types Kugelberg (1958) and Hagbarth and Finer of auditory stimulation, and Porter (1938) (1963) verified and extended Lehner's finddemonstrated cross-modal generalization of ings for the abdominal and leg flexion rethe habituated GSR for light and tone flexes in humans. Crampton and Schwam stimuli. Mowrer (1934) showed some gen-(1961) have shown that dishabituation of eralization of postrotatory nystagmus habitupostrotatory nystagmus in the cat by audiation in the pigeon. In a recent study, tory or cutaneous stimuli habituates in a Crampton and Schwam (1961) reported similar fashion

or unsunguishing between nabituation and "fatigue."

9. Upon repeated application of the dishabituatory stimulus, the amount of dishabituation produced habituates (this might be called habituation of dishabituation).





Attention

Attention

Stimulus repetitions

Habituation











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RQ1. How does habituation to notifications generalize to novel security warnings?



RQ2. How warnings be designed to be resistant to generalization?























Ecological validity

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Table 1 The Proposed Opportunities for IS Research

- Localize the various brain areas associated with IS constructs (neural (1) correlates of IS constructs) and link them to the cognitive neuroscience literature to map IS constructs into specific brain areas, learn about the functionality of these brain areas, and better understand the nature and dimensionality of IS constructs.
- Capture hidden (automatic or unconscious) mental processes (2) (e.g., habits, ethics, deep emotions) that are difficult or even impossible to measure with existing measurement methods and tools.
- Complement existing sources of data with brain imaging data that can (3) provide objective responses that are not subject to measurement biases (e.g., subjectivity bias, social desirability bias, common method bias).
- Identify antecedents of IS constructs by examining how brain areas are (4)

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- (2)
- (3)bias).
- (4)

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Behavioral experiment



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