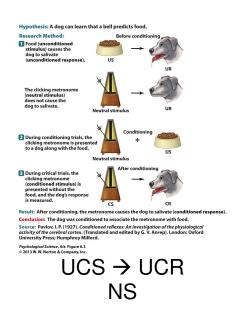
Differences Between Classical and Operant Conditioning

Classical Conditioning

In classical conditioning, the organism learns an association between two stimuli—the UCS and NS (eg. food and tone)—that occurs before the natural response (eg. salivation).

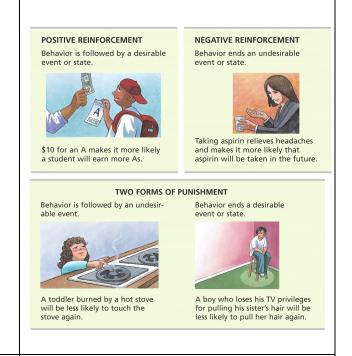
Operant Conditioning

In operant conditioning, the organism learns an association between behavior and its consequences. Behavior changes because of the consequence that occur after it.





Classical conditioning usually deals with reflexive or involuntary responses such as physiological or emotional responses.



Operant conditioning usually deals with voluntary behaviors such as active behaviors that operate on the environment.

Classical Conditioning

Before Conditioning:

		"examples"	Terminology
1 Food (unconditioned stimulus) causes the	Before conditioning	Food→ drooling	US → UR
dog to salivate (unconditioned response).	US		(sometimes written
	UR		as UCS → UCR)
The clicking metronome (neutral stimulus)	→ (Tuning fork →	Neutral stimulus
does not cause the dog to salivate.	Neutral stimulus UR	no response	(NS) → no response
Psychological Science, 4/e Figure 6.3 part 1 © 2013 W. W. Norton & Company, Inc.			

During Conditioning:

	"examples"	Terminology
2 During conditioning trials, the clicking metronome is presented to a dog along with the food. Neutral stimulus	Food + bell → drooling	US + CS → UR (sometimes CS is written as NS)

After Conditioning:

	"examples"	Terminology
3 During critical trials, the clicking metronome (conditioned stimulus) is presented without the food, and the dog's response is measured. CS CR Psychological Colonia (4: Figure 4.2 part 3.073) (2.371) (3.4)	bell → drooling	CS →CR

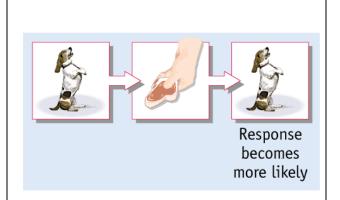
Operant Conditioning

Operant conditioning is the basic learning process that involves changing the probability that a response will be repeated by manipulating the consequences (reinforcements or punishments) of that response.

Reinforcements

A consequence that follows a behavior that makes that behavior more likely to occur in the future.

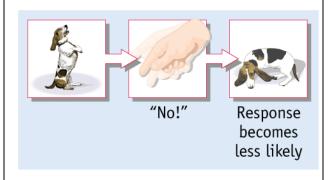
Behaviors that are reinforced are more likely to occur.



Punishments

A consequence that follows a behavior that makes that behavior less likely to occur in the future.

Behaviors that are <u>punished</u> are <u>less</u> likely to occur.



Check your understanding of the usual differences between classical conditioning and operant conditioning by indicating the type of conditioning process involved in each of the following examples. In the space on the left, place a

- C if the example involves classical conditioning,
- O if it involves operant conditioning, or
- **B** if it involves both.
- N if not sure
- Whenever Marcia takes her dog out for a walk, she wears the same old blue windbreaker. Eventually, she notices that her dog becomes very excited whenever she puts on this windbreaker.
- 2. The Creatures are a successful rock band with three hit albums to their credit. They begin their U. S. tour featuring many new, unreleased songs, all of which draw silence from their concert fans. The same fans cheer wildly when The Creatures play any of their old hits. Gradually, the band reduces the number of new songs it plays and starts playing more of the old standbys.
- 3. When Cindy and Mel first fell in love, they listened constantly to *The Creatures'* hit song *Transatlantic Obsession*. Although several years have passed, whenever they hear this song, they experience a warm, romantic feeling.
- 4. For nearly 20 years Ralph has worked as a machinist in the same factory. His new foreman is never satisfied with his work and criticizes him constantly. After a few weeks of heavy criticism, he experiences anxiety whenever he arrives at work. He starts calling in sick more and more frequently to evade this anxiety.