**Title**: Investigating the Effects of Mediated Associations on Judgment of Learning Reactivity

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**Abstract**:

Judgments of learning (JOLs) are reactive on cue-target pairs. This effect, however, is moderated by relatedness, as related but not unrelated pairs show a memorial benefit versus a no-JOL control group. Based on Soderstrom et al.’s (2015) cue-strengthening account, JOLs direct attention towards intrinsic cues which aid retrieval. However, reactivity may instead reflect relational encoding, which is applied selectively based on relatedness. The present study tested these accounts using mediated paired-associates (e.g., lion-stripes), which appear unrelated at encoding yet are indirectly related. A cue-strengthening account predicts no reactivity on mediated pairs while a relational account predicts a memory benefit. Overall, reactivity extended to mediated pairs, regardless of whether cued-recall (Experiment 1) or recognition testing (Experiment 2) was used. Interestingly, JOLs also increased correct recognition of unrelated pairs, a finding that was replicated in Experiments 3 and 4. Thus, positive reactivity on related pairs likely reflects relational encoding when cued-recall testing is used. However, because recognition is based on familiarity cues rather than relatedness, reactivity occurs globally for all pair types.

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