

Recent trends in testing social cognition

Julie D. Henry, David G. Cowan, Teresa Lee, and
Perminder S. Sachdev (2015)
Current opinion in psychiatry
Presented by Kahyun Kim

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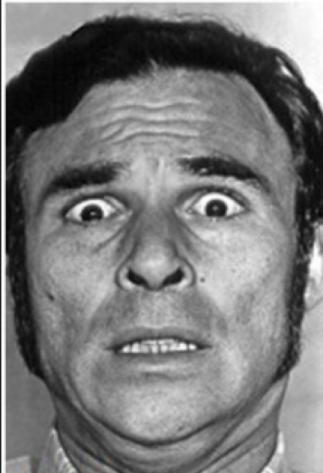
1. Introduction

Purpose

- To give an overview that there are now a large number of validated, reliable measures that have been developed to assess the construct, social cognition.
- social cognitive function is an important predictor of social competency
- social cognitive failures can lead to general interpersonal difficulties
- focus on formal ability tests and on measures that assess emotion recognition or theory of mind

2. Emotions

- Central role in communication
- The six basic emotions



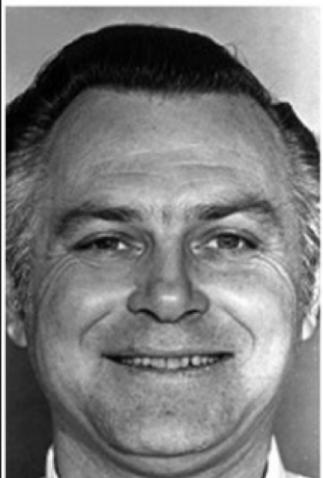
Fearful



Angry



Sad



Happy

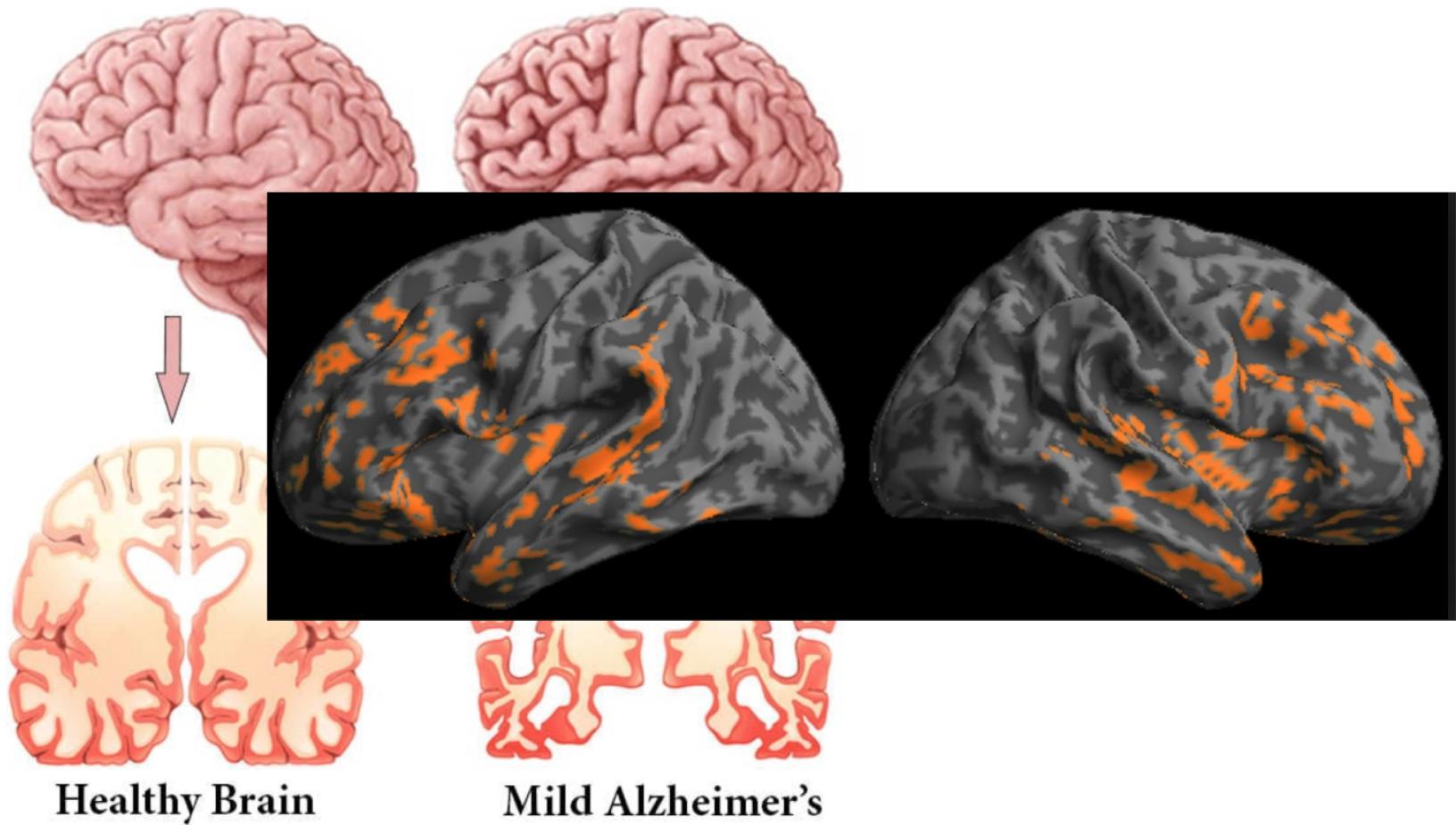


Disgusted

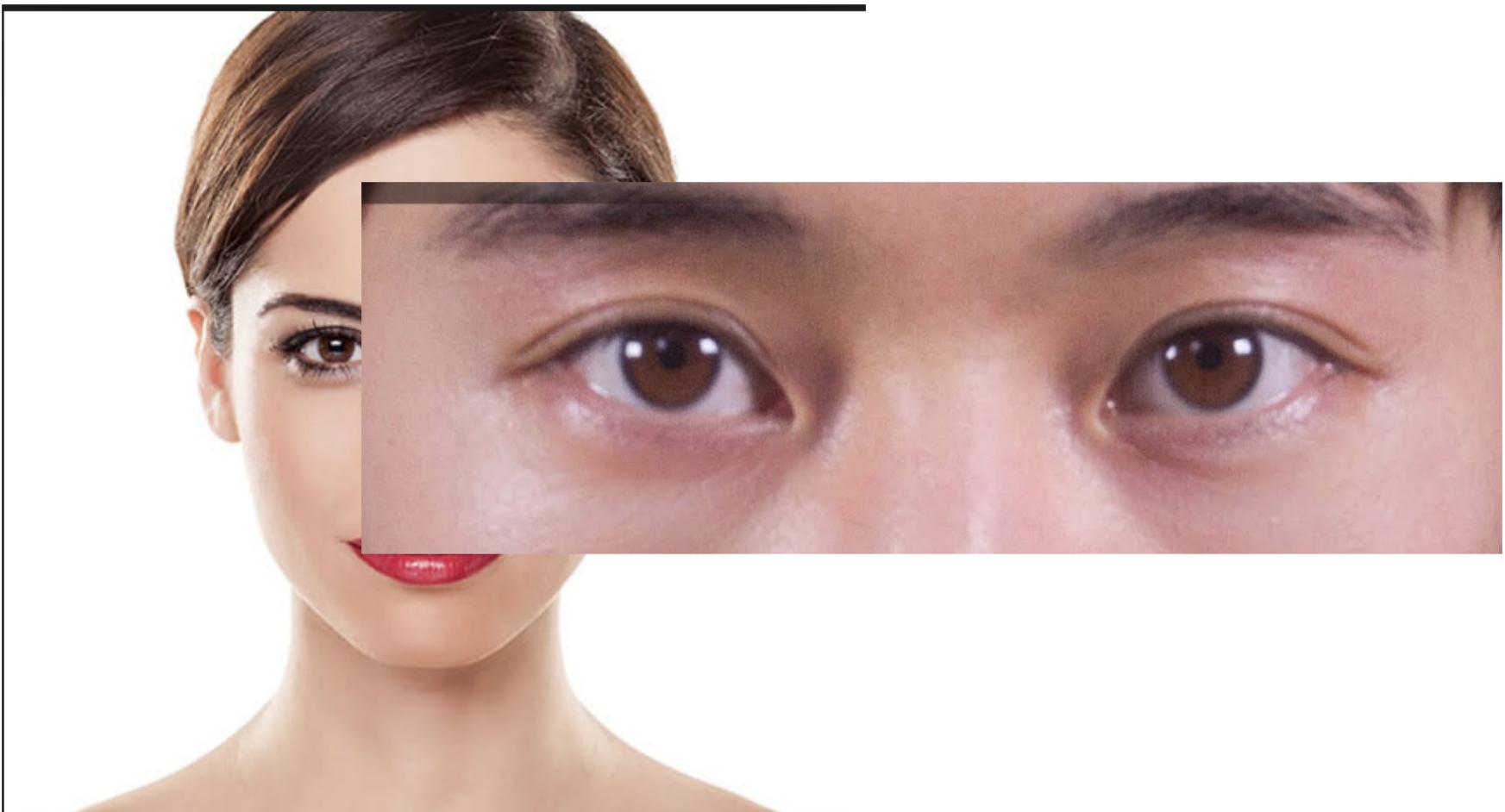


Surprised

2. Emotion Recognition



2. Emotion Recognition

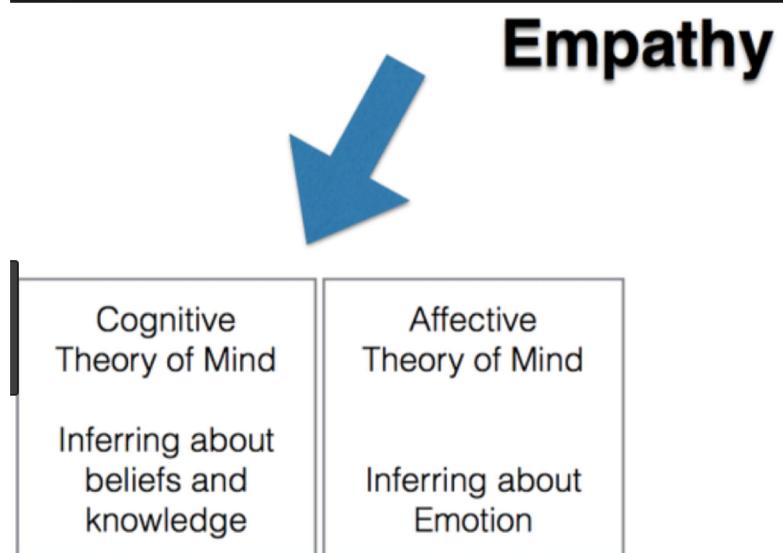


2. Emotion Recognition

- Importance of taking into broader cognitive and perceptual factors

3. Theory of Mind

- The capacity to understand others' mental states
 - “Put yourself in others' shoes”
- Hot (Affective) ToM → understanding of others' emotions, affective states, or feelings
- Cold (Cognitive) ToM → understanding of their cognitive states, beliefs, thoughts, or intentions

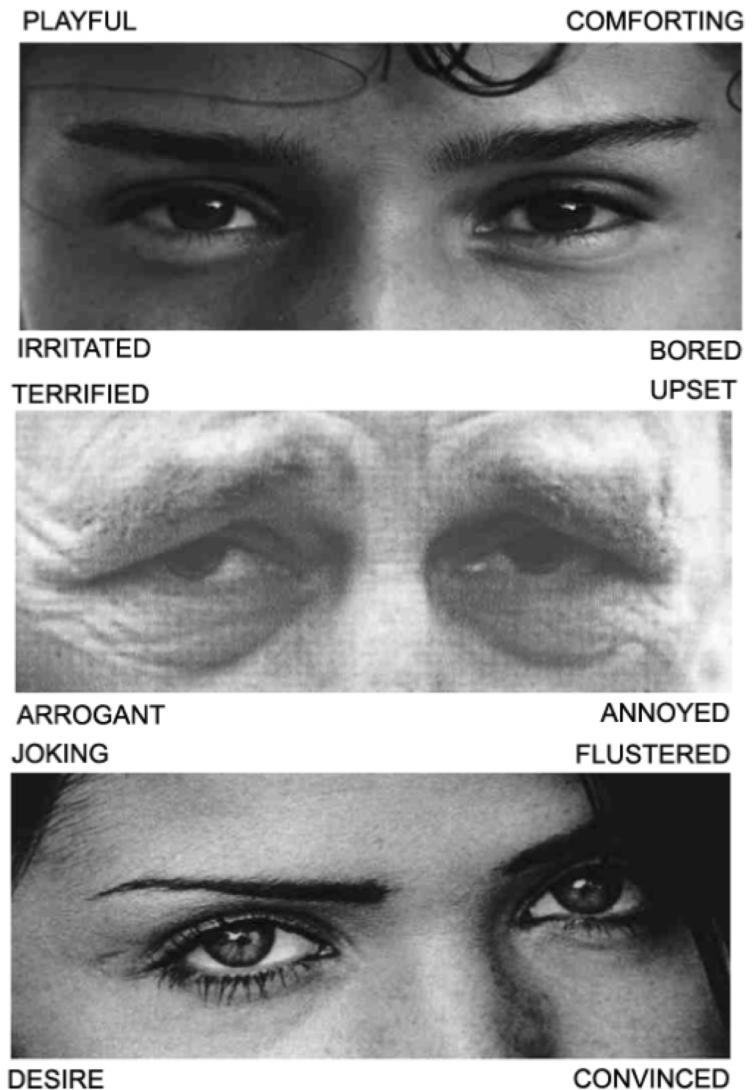


3. Theory of Mind

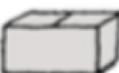
Affective ToM

The Mind in the Eyes Test (MET)

-asking about physical
characteristics of the MET
stimuli provides a good visuo-
perceptual control task



A. False-Belief Task



Sally puts her ball in the basket.

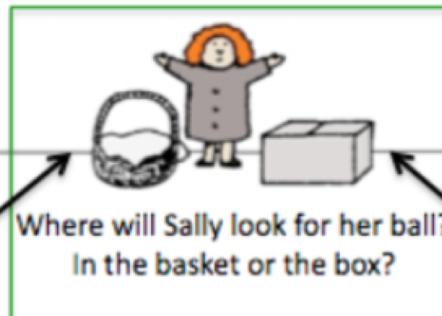


Then she goes for a walk.



While Sally is gone, Anne moves the ball to the Box.

Belief Attribution



Pass

Fail

B. True-Belief Task



Sally puts her ball in the basket.

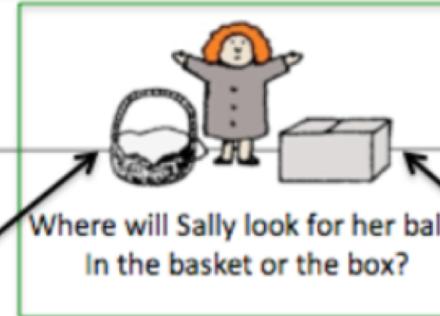


Then she sits in the chair.



While Sally watches, Anne moves the ball to the Box.

Belief Reasoning



Fail

Pass

Faux Pas test

Sally is a three-year-old girl with a round face and short blonde hair. She was at her Aunt Carol's house.

The doorbell rang and her Aunt Carol answered it. It was Mary, a neighbour. "Hi," Aunt Carol said, "Nice of you to stop by."

Mary said, "Hello," then looked at Sally and said, "Oh, I don't think I've met this little boy. What's your name?"

Did anyone say something they shouldn't have said or something awkward?

4. Conclusion

- Overall picture: POSITIVE
 - A large number of validated measures
- Still need clinical measures that
 - Use cues to socio-emotional states in daily life
 - Not limited in our choice from a narrow range of labels
 - Clinic response different from friend/family response

Thank you

for your kind attention