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Correction of an Error in "A THEORY OF LEARNING AND TRANSFER"

Dr. Kenneth W. Spence has pointed out an error in our article which we wish to correct.

On page 248 of the December, 1938, issue of *Psychometrika* we stated that Spence assumes "that at the beginning of training the rat has tendencies to respond directionally (to the right or left) and relatively (to the larger or smaller) . . . . . We rejected Spence's definition and adopted a directional one when we found it possible to predict relational transfer on the basis of directional habits. This prediction seemed scientifically more interesting than to assume a relative tendency at the beginning and then deduce relative transfer later."

The foregoing statement of Spence's view is erroneous. He assumes no relational tendencies. Instead, he assumes that an animal possesses four stimulus-response tendencies: to approach the right; to approach the left; to approach one of the two stimuli to be discriminated; and, to approach the other stimulus. From the assumption of these tendencies, none of which are relational, Spence deduces relational transfer.

Spence's theory differs from ours in that he assumes four stimulus-response tendencies, whereas we assume only two, namely, tendencies to go to the right and to the left. Both theories agree in deducing relational transfer from assumptions which involve no relational tendencies.

We greatly regret this error and welcome the opportunity to correct it.

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ERRATA

In the article "The Multiple Factor Theory in Terms of Common Elements," *Psychometrika*, **4**, 1939, the term "sine" or "sines" should replace "cosine" or "cosines" in the following places: page 67, lines 17, 18, 31, 33, and 36; page 68, lines 3, 4, and 22.

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