



PSY402

Theories of Learning

Friday

February 28, 2003



Criticisms of Two-Factor Theory

- Avoidance behavior is extremely resistant to extinction.
 - Should extinguish with exposure to CS without UCS, but does not.
- Levis & Boyd found that animals do not get sufficient exposure duration because their behavior prevents it.
 - Avoidance persists if long latency cues exist closer to the aversive event.

Is Fear Really Present?

- When avoidance behavior is well-learned the animals don't seem to be afraid.
 - An avoidance CS does not suppress operant responding (no fear).
 - However, this could mean that the animal's hunger is stronger than the fear.
- Strong fear (drive strength) is not needed if habit strength is large.