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Measurement in Psychology: Conceptual Analysis and Synthesis Revisited

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Short CV.

Birgitta Berglund is professor at Stockholm University (SU) and the Institute of Environmental Medicine of the Karolinska Institutet. She has held full professor chairs in Environmental Psychology and in Perception and Psychophysics. In 1971, she received her PhD in psychology from SU and held a Sloan Foundation post doc at Smith College, USA. In 1972-1986, she was researcher at the Swedish Council for Social Sciences, in 1987-1994 she held a full-professor research chair donated by the Swedish Council for Building Research to SU, and in 1994-2010 a chair as full professor of perception and psychophysics at SU, where she is still active as re-employed professor. Birgitta Berglund is founding member and former president of the International Society for Psychophysics (ISP) and the International Academy of Indoor Air Sciences (IAIAS). She has served as Secretary, President and Past President for the International Commission on the Biological Effects of Noise (ICBEN) and frequently served as scientific advisor and expert for the World Health Organization and the European Commission on works in environmental noise, indoor air quality and odorous air pollution. She coordinated the European Commission's NEST research on "Measuring the Impossible" and was the leading researcher on the development of electronic noses for measuring odors.



Abstract

The imagined existences of "quantity" in psychology is a prerequisite for measurement. Any person (researcher or subject) may imagine homogeneous concepts as quantities, for example, (perceived) redness, loudness or heaviness of different kinds of objects or events. Conversely, heterogeneous concepts may be merged to imagined quantities such as intelligence or personality, which both are constructed from agreed upon sets of theoretical concepts. Measurement in physics, psychophysics and psychology will be contemplated, comparatively.



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