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Distributed Systems

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Synonyms

[Parallel distributed processing \(PDP\)](#)

Definition

Distributed systems is a model of neural network-ing, using a computational systems approach to describe complexities of cognitive processing. In contrast to early explanations of brain functioning which focused on discrete, localized functioning, parallel distributed systems models in cognitive psychology emphasize the nonlocalized, parallel, simultaneous, and interactive nature of processing. By describing the interaction between regions of the brain, the decentralized role of the

cortex is highlighted. The theory of distributed systems was initially explored for acquired reading disorders and later applied to a variety of cognitive areas including perception, memory, attention, and language.

Cross-References

- [Localization](#)
- [Parallel Processing](#)

References and Readings

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