

# Contents

Acknowledgements	v
<b>Chapter 1 Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Chapter 2 Theories of absolute judgement in psychophysics</b>	<b>6</b>
Helson's adaptation-level theory	10
Volkman's "rubber-band" model	14
Interval properties of the judgement scale	17
"Perceptual" versus "semantic" shifts	20
The role of subjects' expectations	25
Features of the stimulus distribution that determine shifts in judgement: Parducci's range-frequency model	28
<b>Chapter 3 Stimulus distinctiveness and stimulus relevance</b>	<b>34</b>
"Assimilation-contrast" in psychophysical judgement	37
Classification and stimulus relevance	42
<b>Chapter 4 The effects of incidental stimulus variation on absolute judgements</b>	<b>50</b>
Accentuation theory	53
The effects of superimposed classifications	57
The effects of value on judgements of physical magnitude	61
An accentuation theory account of the effects of value on judgements of physical magnitude	65
Holzkamp's theory of the effects of value on judgements of physical magnitude	72

<b>Chapter 5 Theories of social judgement</b>	87
The effects of judges' attitudes on ratings of attitude statements	89
The effects of judges' personality on ratings of attitude statements	103
The application of theories of psychophysical judgement to social judgement	110
The application of adaptation-level theory to social judgement	110
The variable series model: an application of the "rubber-band" model to social judgement	114
The assimilation-contrast model	128
Do judges assimilate acceptable items and contrast items they reject?	133
The effects of judges' level of involvement on ratings of attitude statements	137
Conclusions	141
<b>Chapter 6 An accentuation theory approach to social judgement</b>	144
Incidental stimulus variation and the judgement of attitude statements	146
Agreement-disagreement as a superimposed cue	149
The role of "value connotations"	155
"Value connotations" and overall mean judgement	163
Conclusions	167
<b>Chapter 7 Social judgement and phenomenal causality</b>	171
Cognitive consistency	174
Positivity bias	176
Unit relations	181
Attribution	186
Trait inferences	187
Attribution theory	196
Personal constructs	201
Dimensional salience	209
Concluding remarks	216
References	218
Author Index	228
Subject Index	233