-NCAASE National Center on Assessment and Advancing research on growth measures, models, and policies for improved practice

Opportunity to Learn as a Moderating Variable in Growth

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OTL refers to "the opportunities which schools provide students to learn what is expected of them."

(Herman, Klein, & Abedi, 2000, p. 16)

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Access & Equity

- "The issue of curricular access for students with disabilities became a central legislative concern following the 1994 reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) . . . the IDEA included the so-called 'access to general curriculum mandates,' which established the right of students [with disabilities] to access the same general curriculum that is offered to all students." (Kurz, 2012, p. XX)
- The IDEA signaled "a clear presumption that all students with disabilities should have access to the general curriculum and to the same opportunity to learn challenging and important content that is offered to all students" (McLaughlin, 1999, p. 9).







Kurz, A. (2011). Access to what should be taught and will be tested: Students' opportunity to learn the intended curriculum. In S. N. Elliott, R. J. Kettler, P. A. Beddow, & A. Kurz (Eds.), The handbook of accessible achievement tests for all students: Bridging the gaps between research, practice, and policy (pp. 99-129). New York: Springer.

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Opportunity-to-Learn (OTL)

- OTL is defined as the degree to which a teacher dedicates instructional minutes to covering the content prescribed by the standards using pedagogical approaches that address a range of cognitive processes, instructional practices, and grouping formats. (Kurz, Elliott, & Kettler, 2012)
- This definition is the conceptual foundation for the indices measured by the Instructional Learning Opportunities Guidance System (MyiLOGS; Kurz, Elliott, & Shrago, 2009), an online teacher log developed in a recently completed USDE Enhanced Assessment Grant.

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MyiLOGS: Online Teacher Log

- **MyiLOGS** allows teachers to document their planned and enacted instruction along their state-specific intended curriculum.
- Seven key OTL indices are established at the class and student level:
 - 1. Time on Standards (Min/Day and %)
 - 2. Time on Custom Skills (Min/Day and %)
 - 3. Non-Instructional Time (Min/Day and %)
 - 4. Content Coverage (%)
 - 5. Cognitive Process Score (1.00 2.00)
 - 6. Instructional Practices Score (1.00 2.00)
 - 7. Grouping Formats Score (1.00 2.00)

Dimension	Indicator	Definition	Index
Time	Instructional Time	Instructional time dedicated to teaching the general curriculum standards and, if applicable, any intended IEP objectives.	IT: Average amount of instructional minutes spent on intended curriculum objectives per day.
Content	Content Coverage	Content coverage of the general curriculum standards and, if applicable, any intended IEP objectives.	<i>CC</i> : Percentage of addressed intended curriculum objectives.
Quality	Cognitive Processes	Emphasis of cognitive process expectations along a range of lower-order to higher-order thinking skills.	CP: Sum of differentially weighted percentages of instructional time dedicated to each cognitive process expectation.
	Instructional Practices	Emphasis of instructional practices along a range of generic to empirically supported practices.	<i>IP</i> : Sum of differentially weighted percentages of instructional time dedicated to each instructional practice.
	Grouping Formats	Emphasis of grouping formats along a range from individual to whole class instruction.	<i>GF</i> : Sum of differentially weighted percentages of instructional time dedicated to each grouping format.

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Cognitive Pro	ocess Expectations for Student Learning and Definitions
Cognitive Process	Definition
Attend	Orient toward instructional task and related instructions.
	 Synonyms include listen, focus, pay attention.
Remember ^a	Retrieve relevant knowledge from long-term memory.
	 Synonyms include recognize, identify, recall, retrieve.
Understand ^a	Construct meaning from instructional messages.
	 Synonyms include interpret, exemplify, classify,
	summarize, infer, compare, explain.
Apply ^a	Carry out or use a procedure in a given situation.
	 Synonyms include execute, implement, use.
Analyze ^a	Break materials into its constituent parts and determine how the part
	relate.
	 Synonyms include differentiate, organize, integrate,
	attribute.
Evaluate ^a	Make judgments based on criteria and standards.
	 Synonyms include check, test, critique, judge.
Create ^a	Put elements together to form a coherent whole or a new structure.
	 Synonyms include generate, hypothesize, plan, design,
	produce.

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In	structional Practices and Definitions
Instructional Practice	Definition
Provided Direct Instruction ^a	Teacher presents issue, discusses or models a solution approach, and engages students with approach in similar context.
Provided Visual Representations ^a	Teacher uses visual representations to organize information, communicate attributes, and explain relationships.
Asked Questions ^a	Teacher asks questions to engage students and focus attention on important information.
Elicited Think Aloud ^a	Teacher prompts students to think aloud about their approach to solving a problem.
Used Independent Practice	Teacher allows students to work independently to develop and refine knowledge and skills.
Provided Guided Feedback ^a	Teacher provides feedback to students on work quality, missing elements, and observed strengths.
Provided Reinforcement ^a	Teacher provides reinforcement contingent on previously established expectations for effort and/or work performance.
Assessed Student Knowledge ^a	Teacher uses quizzes, tests, student products, or other forms of assessment to determine student knowledge.
Other Instructional Practices	Any other instructional practices not captured by the

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	MyiLO	OGS OTL Indices and Operational Definitions					
	Index	Definition					
	Instructional Time on Standards (Min/Day)	Average amount of instructional minutes dedicated to the state-specific academic standards per day.					
	Instructional Time on Standards (%)	Average percentage of allocated class time used for instruction on the state-specific academic standards per day.					
	Instructional Time on Custom (Min/Day)	Average amount of instructional minutes dedicated to custom objectives per day.					
	Instructional Time on Custom (%)	Average percentage of allocated class time used for instruction on the custom objectives per day.					
	Non-Instructional Time (Min/Day)	Average amount of non-instructional minutes per day.					
2 Key	Non-Instructional Time (%)	Average percentage of allocated class time not used for instruction.					
adicos	Content Coverage (%)	Percentage of state-specific academic standards addressed.					
luices	Cognitive Process Score	Sum of differentially weighted percentages of instructional time dedicated to each cognitive process expectation (<i>Attend</i> and <i>Remember</i> x1; <i>Understand/Apply</i> , <i>Analyze/Evaluate</i> , and <i>Create</i> x2).					
	Instructional Practice Score	Sum of differentially weighted percentages of instructional time dedicated to each instructional practice (Used Independent Practice and Other Instructional Practices X1, Provided Direct Instruction, Provided Visual Representation, Asked Question, Elicited Think Aloud, Provided Guided Feedbacks, and Assassed Sindert Knowledge X2).					
	Grouping Format Score	Sum of differentially weighted percentages of instructional time dedicated to each grouping format (Whole Class x1; Individual and Small Group x2)					
	Engagement	Average score based on "Not engaged (0%)" = 0; "Low % of time (<50%)" = 1; "Moderate % of time (50%-80%)" = 2; "High % of time (>80%)" = 3.					
	Goal Attainment/Effort	Average score based on No effort or product observed (0%) = 0; Low effort or limited portion of work completed ($^{5}50\%$) = 1; Moderate effort or moderate portion of work completed ($^{5}60\%$) = 2; High effort or substantial portion of work completed ($^{8}0\%$) = 3.					

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Detaile Teacher: 1	d Content C Teacher turq Date Range	Coverage Bar Chart (Calendar Days) ucuise1005m Classs Tunnell Gr. 8 Math e: 08/01/2010 - 07/31/2011	
Skills		% of Total Time	
S1 Number/ Operations	15.6%	33 hrs 20 min:	
S1C1PO1 Compare/order	0.6%	1 hrs 15 mins	1
S1C1PO2 Classify rational/irrational	1.5%	3 hrs 15 mins	1
S1C1PO3 model read numbers	1.5%	3 hrs 15 mins	1
S1C1PO4 model/solve absolute value	0.5%	1 hrs 10 mins	1
S1C2PO1 Factors/multiples/prime	1.6%	4 hrs 30 mins	1
S1C2PO2 Rational number effects	1.0%	2 hrs 10 mins	1
S1C2PO3 Percent inc., dec, simple interest	3.1%	7 hrs 45 mins	
S1C2PO4 Std/scientific notation conver.	1.4%	3 hrs 5 mins	1
S1C2PO5 Simplify expression	3.4%	7 hrs 20 mins	1
S1C3PO1 Estimate1			1
S1C3PO2 Estimate on number line	0.7%	2 hrs 35 mins	1
S2 Data Analy, Prob., Discrete Math	18.5%	40 hrs 42 mins	
S2C1PO1 Use displays, box-whisker, scatterplot	5.2%	11 hrs 12 mins	
S2C1PO2 Inferences, 2 data sets	1.2%	3 hrs 40 mins	l
S2C1PO3 Summary-shape of distribution			J
S2C1PO4 Bias, effective presentation	0.2%	1 hrs 30 mins	1
S2C1PO5 Evaluate design			
S2C2PO1 Theoretical/experimental	3.2%	7 hrs 50 mins	l
S2C2PO2 Compare outcome/prediction	2.3%	5 hrs 0 mins	J
S2C2PO3 Sample space for dep/indep	1.5%	3 hrs 15 mins	J
S2C3PO1 Counting-order, repetition			
S2C3PO2 Counting-factorial notation	2.4%	5 hrs 5 mins	ļ

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Initial Validity Evidence for MyiLOGS

Research Questions

Sample

- Can teachers be trained to use MyiLOGS with high integrity to yield reliable OTL indices?
- To what extent is there convergent and predictive validity evidence for the MyiLOGS indices?
- 3. What are the relations between student-based MyiLOGS indices and student achievement?

Commle.		Arizon	a	P	ennsylv	ania	So	uth Car	olina
Sample	MA	ELA	Unique	MA	ELA	Unique	MA	ELA	Unique
Schools			7			5			5
Teachers	8	7	15*	5	8	12	6	8	11
Classes	9	7		5	8		6	11	
Target Students	18	14	22	10	16	19	11	20	15
Note. MA = Mathem	atics; EL	A = Engli	sh/Languag	ge Arts.					
^a Includes three specia	al educati	on co-tea	chers.						

Breakdown of Schools, Teachers, Classrooms, and Target Students by State and Subject

OTL Index	п	М	(SD)
Logged School Days	46	151	(18)
Instructional Time on Standards (Min/Day)	46	44	(23)
Instructional Time on Standards (%)	46	67	(18)
Instructional Time on Custom (Min/Day)	46	18	(11)
Instructional Time on Custom (%)	46	27	(17)
Non-Instructional Time (Min/Day)	46	3	(3)
Non-Instructional Time (%)	46	5	(4)
Number of Standards	46	53	(28)
Content Coverage of Standards (%)	46	68	(22)

Calendar-Based Class OTL Indices for Entire Sample

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		21 31	-Jeer 11			
OTL Index		MA			ELA	
OIL mdex	n	M	SD	n	M	SD
Across States						
Logged School Days	20	156	(12)	26	147	(21)
Instructional Time on Standards (Min/Day)	20	43	(19)	26	45	(25)
Instructional Time on Standards (%)	20	69	(16)	26	66	(19)
Instructional Time on Custom (Min/Day)	20	17	(11)	26	18	(11)
Instructional Time on Custom (%)	20	27	(17)	26	28	(17)
Non-Instructional Time (Min/Day)	20	3	(3)	26	3	(3)
Non-Instructional Time (%)	20	4	(4)	26	5	(5)
Number of Standards	20	48	(13)	26	58	(36)
Content Coverage of Standards (%)	20	66	(20)	26	69	(23)
Note. MA = Mathematics; ELA = English/Language Art	ts.					

Calendar-Based Class OTL Indices By Subject Area

	Correlations between SEC and MyiLOGS OTL Indi Index	ces and Class Achievement Averages 2010-2011 Average Class Achievement
ſ	SEC Alignment Index	53*
l	Instructional Time on Standards (Min/Day)	.56*
	Instructional Time on Standards (%)	.06
	Instructional Time on Custom (Min/Day)	.49
	Non-Instructional Time (Min/Day)	04
	Non-Instructional Time (%)	32
	Content Coverage of Standards (%)	30
	Cognitive Process Score	.64**
	Instructional Practice Score	34
	Grouping Format Score	71**
	<i>Note</i> . N = 16. ${}^{*}p \le .05$; ${}^{**}p \le .01$.	

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Variable	В	SEB	β	R^2	ΔR^2
Step 1				.62	.62
Prior Achievement	0.76	0.11	0.79*		
Step 2				.64	.02
Prior Achievement	0.70	0.13	0.73*		
Time on Standards (Min/Day)	0.00	0.37	0.00		
Time on Custom (Min/Day)	0.46	0.51	0.13		
Non-Instructional Time (Min/Day)	0.20	0.40	0.06		
Step 3				.63	01
Prior Achievement	0.79	0.11	0.83*		
Content Coverage (%)	0.54	0.50	0.13		
Step 4				.63	.00
Prior Achievement	0.78	0.14	0.81*		
Cognitive Process Score	9.17	42.17	0.03		
Instructional Practice Score	36.75	55.37	0.09		
Grouping Format Score	2.26	37.30	0.01		
Final Model				.62	
Prior Achievement	0.76	0.11	0.79*		

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Hierarchical Regression Analysis Summary for Student-Based OTL Indices Predicting

Variable	B	SEB	β	R ²	∆R ^z
Step 1				.25	
Time on Standards (Min/Day)	-0.01	0.52	0.00		
Time on Custom (Min/Day)	1.76	0.64	0.50		
Non-Instructional Time (Min/Day)	0.11	0.56	0.04		
Step 2				.25	.00
Time on Custom (Min/Day)	1.72	0.58	0.49		
Content Coverage (%)	-0.13	0.70	-0.03		
Step 3				.26	.01
Time on Custom (Min/Day)	1.39	0.77	0.40		
Cognitive Process Score	36.58	67.88	0.12		
Instructional Practice Score	-39.46	75.93	-0.10		
Grouping Format Score	4.34	53.03	0.02		
Final Model				.24	
Time on Custom (Min/Day)	1.74	0.56	0.49		
Note. p.< .05.					

Student Achievement

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Conclusions About Validity Evidence

The majority of findings of this study are unique, because no investigators have previously reported a study where OTL data were continuously collected and analyzed along all three instructional dimensions—time, content, and quality—at the class and student level for a large portion of the school year.

The evidence collected with MyiLOGS by teachers substantiated that:

- teachers can be trained to criterion within 4-hour to report reliably on various OTL indices based on instructional scenarios at the class and student level;
- (b) teachers can maintain high procedural fidelity logging various OTL indices at the class and student level across the duration of a school year; and
- (c) teachers' concurrent log data provided a valid account of their classroom instruction based on agreement percentages between teachers and independent observers. The results of the classroom observations indicated that two independent observers were able to achieve high agreements across both observation categories and teachers and observers generally had lower agreements for cognitive processes than instructional practices.
- (d) Student-based OTL indices in general did not add significantly to prior achievement when predicting end of year achievement.
- The current findings do support the conclusion that the teacher self-report data from MyiLOGS provides a rich picture and reliable account of opportunities to learn in middle school classrooms across several states. Future studies are needed to address sample limitations.



Additional Research Questions to be Addressed with MyiLOGS

- In a subsequent analysis of data from this initial study, we also examined differences in the opportunity to learn of students with and without disabilities.
- Next, I highlight a few findings comparing general education classroom instruction for the entire classes and for individual students with disabilities receiving instruction in the general curriculum (i.e., state indented content standards).

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OTL Index		GENED $(n = 29)$		$\frac{\text{SPED}}{(n=17)}$			
		SD	M	SD	df	L	ES
		17	142	17	44	2.49*	0.76
Instructional Time on Standards (Min/Day)	50	23	34	16	44	2.60*	0.83
Instructional Time on Standards (%)	71	13	61	23	44	1.94	0.55
Instructional Time on Custom (Min/Day)	17	10	18	14	44	-0.13	-0.03
Instructional Time on Custom (%)	26	14	30	22	44	-0.81	-0.23
Non-Instructional Time (Min/Day)	3	3	3	3	44	-0.07	-0.02
Non-Instructional Time (%)	4	4	6	5	44	-1.14	-0.33
Number of Standards	63	32	37	4	44	3.42*	1.17
Content Coverage of Standards (%)	74	19	59	24	44	2.35*	0.69

Calendar-Based Class OTL Indices By Class Type

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		GEN	$\frac{\text{SPED}}{(n=17)}$					
	OTL Index	$(\underline{n} =$						
		M	SD	M	SD	df	£	ES
Acro	oss States							
L	ogged Sample Days	47	9	37	6	44	3.98*	1.27
	Cognitive Process Score	1.77	0.14	1.68	0.11	44	2.41*	0.75
	Instructional Practice Score	1.64	0.13	1.59	0.25	44	0.77	0.22
	Grouping Format Score	1.19	0.17	1.36	0.27	44	-2.70*	-0.78
	Engagement	2.60	0.28	2.47	0.34	44	1.38	0.41
	Goal Attainment/Effort	2.58	0.28	2.46	0.35	44	1.27	0.37

Sample-Day Dasea Class OIL Quality Indices Dy Class I VD	Sam	ple-Day	Based	Class	OTL	Ouality	Indices	Bv	Class	TVD
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		yOIL	Indice	SBYC	lass	lype	
	Cl	ass	Stu	dent			
	M	SD	M	SD	df	t	ES
General Education $(n = 55)$							
Instructional Time on Standards (Min/Day)	47	12	41	17	54	4.77***	.24
Instructional Time on Custom (Min/Day)	21	12	20	12	54	2.18	.09
Non-Instructional Time (Min/Day)	4	4	10	13	54	-4.58***	20
Content Coverage of Standards (%)	47	15	42	17	54	5.36***	.31
Cognitive Process Score	1.77	0.14	1.70	0.15	54	3.89	.05
Instructional Practice Score	1.64	0.13	1.63	0.14	54	2.32*	.08
Grouping Format Score	1.19	0.17	1.21	0.18	54	-1.70	11
Special Education $(n = 34)$							
Instructional Time on Standards (Min/Day)	32	18	29	17	33	3.90***	.18
Instructional Time on Custom (Min/Day)	17	13	18	14	33	-0.77	05
Non-Instructional Time (Min/Day)	6	5	8	8	33	-1.68	38
Content Coverage of Standards (%)	38	18	36	19	33	3.98***	.08
Cognitive Process Score	1.68	0.11	1.67	0.12	33	1.81	.09
Instructional Practice Score	1.59	0.25	1.59	0.26	33	0.92	.03
Grouping Format Score	1.36	0.26	1.36	0.28	33	0.52	.01

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Conclusions About OTL for SWDs

"Based on this sample's general education classrooms, which represented a full inclusion model, students with disabilities experienced less time on standards, more non-instructional time, and less content coverage compared to their class. ... At least for students with disabilities nested in general education classrooms, OTL appears to be a differentiated opportunity structure. ...the instructional differences do not indicate equal or equitable OTL for students with disabilities. Given their disability-related characteristics, students with disabilities may need at least as much OTL, if not more, than their peers without disabilities. However, the current findings suggest the exact opposite; if replicable, these data would pose serious instructional challenges for teachers and hold profound implications for policy makers focusing on academic proficiency and growth without consideration for the instructional inputs and processes that affect student outcomes." (Kurz, Elliott, Lemons, Kettler, Zigmond, & Kloo, 2012)

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NCAASE Multiple Measures Study where OTL is featured as a Process Variable

Our Key Research Questions

- Do students with disabilities have equal access to the general curriculum in comparison to their classmates without disabilities?
- What is the relationship between opportunity to learn and academic growth in mathematics for all students? Is the relationship different for students with and without disabilities?
- To what extent are variations in growth for students with and without disabilities related to OTL?



Visual Representation of Measurement Plan

Four 2-year Longitudinal Cohorts: 4-5, 5-6, 6-7, & 7-8



NCAASE / Multiple Measures Study / 2012



Key References

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Thank you very much!

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