**CogAT®** in the **Classroom**

# What is ability data and why does it matter?

**Thursday 7/13** | 9am PST · 11am CT · 12pm ET

## Learning Objectives

Understand the **difference between ability data and achievement data**.

Explore opportunities for using **ability data to elevate learners** to their fullest potential.

## Speakers

**Dr. Joni Lakin,** Professor at University of Alabama, Co-Author of Cognitive Abilities Test (Form 8)

**Anna Houseman,** Former District Assessment Director and Elementary School Teacher

# Questions, Handouts, & Recordings

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# Dr. Joni Lakin

- Co-Author of *CogAT* (Form 8)
- Professor of Educational Research at the University of Alabama
- Research interests include:
  - Equitable use of test data and equitable talent identification processes
  - Test validity and fairness
  - Broadening participation in STEM careers and promoting STEM retention
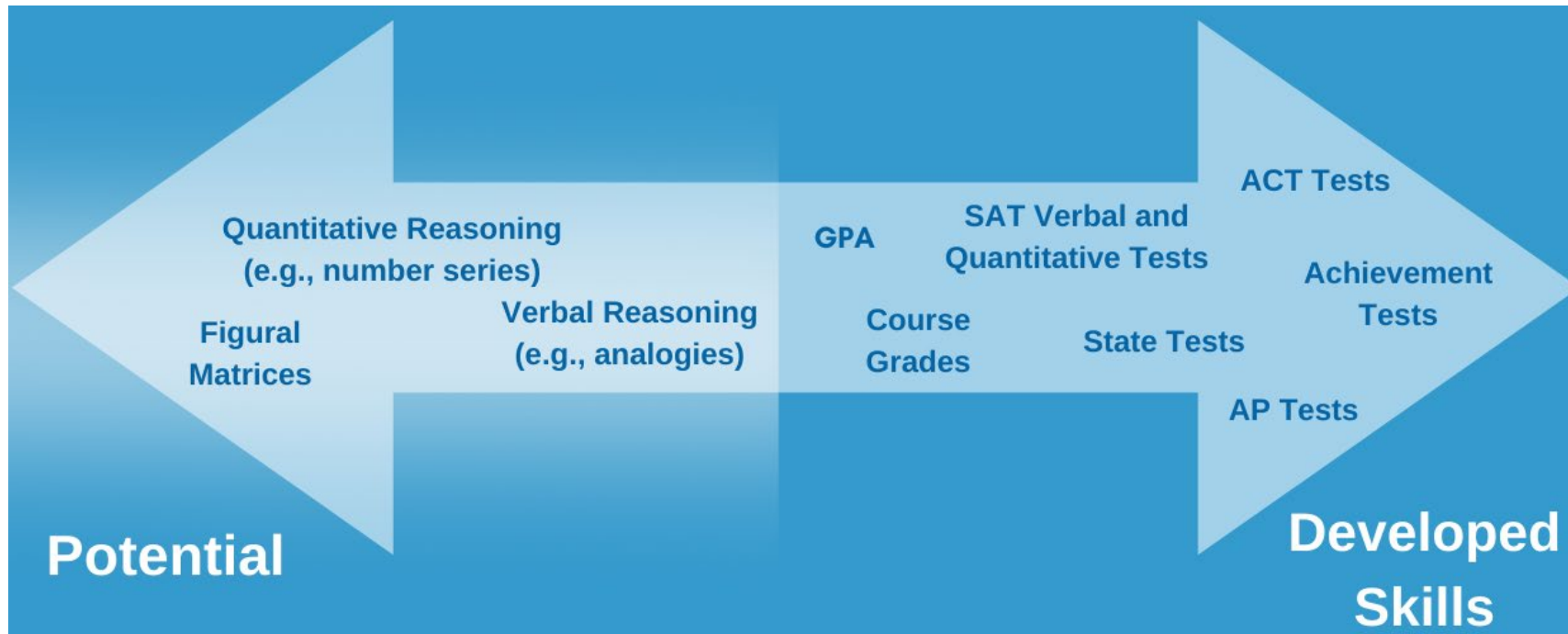
# Ability vs. Achievement

## Ability

- Influenced by *all* learning opportunities
- Requires novel problem solving and reasoning processes

## Achievement

- Influenced more by formal education
- Requires well-practiced skills and crystallized knowledge

# Call it Aptitude, call it Ability…



| Aptitude | = | Ability | = | Student Potential for Learning |
|----------|---|---------|---|-------------------------------|

**Ability**, also called *aptitude* or student *potential for learning*, provides insight into students' readiness to **demonstrate creative problem-solving skills** and **learn in different situations and learning environments.**

# Why Measure Ability?

**Achievement**

**Reading fluency/comprehension**

**Knowledge & Skills**

**Executive functions-Planning**

**Motivation**

**Short term/long term memory**

**Sequential Reasoning**

**Fluid reasoning**

**Deductive Reasoning**

**Working memory**

**Attention**

**Inductive Reasoning**

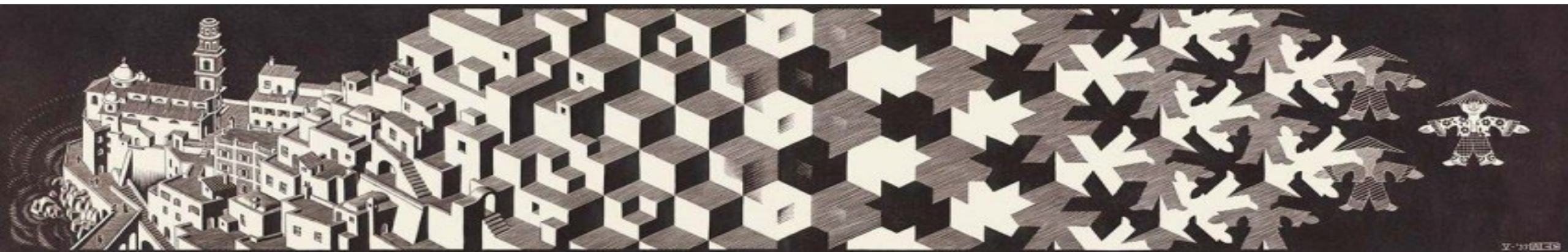# *CogAT* Measures Key Reasoning Skills

*CogAT* measures a cluster of general and abstract reasoning abilities tied to successful learning and problem solving

- Comprehending problem situations

- Detecting similarities and differences

- Making inferences

- Making deductions

- Classifying and categorizing objects, events, and other stimuli

- Creating and adapting problem-solving strategies

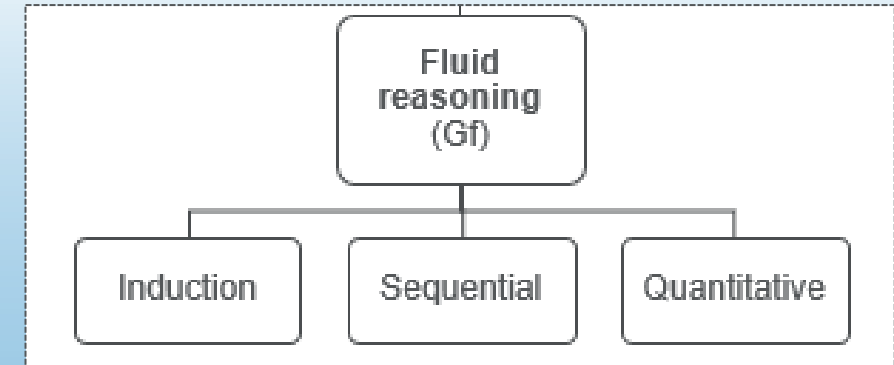- Using familiar concepts and skills in new contexts

# Value of multidimensional test

Better measure of general reasoning (composite)

Can compare and contrast scores to gain more information through *Ability Profile Scores*

# How can we use data from Ability assessments?

Guide efforts to **adapt instruction (goals, methods, and materials)** to the needs and abilities of students.

Provide a measure of cognitive development for **program placement**.

Identify students whose predicted level of achievement are **markedly discrepant** from their observed levels of achievement.

CogAT® in the Classroom

**Ability Profiles:** Understanding student cognitive strengths

**Tuesday 7/25** | 9am PST · 11am CT · 12pm ET

**Learning Objectives**

- Dive into the *CogAT Ability Profiles* and identify instructional implications from each **student's unique ability code.**

Adam Laningham,
President Elect of SENG and Former District Gifted Services Manager

Anna Houseman,
Former District Assessment Director and Elementary School Teacher

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CogAT® in the Classroom

**Ability data as a tool for instructional differentiation**

**Thursday 7/27** | 9am PST · 11am CT · 12pm ET

**Learning Objectives**

- Learn best practices for **using ability data in the classroom** from two *CogAT* power users

Marla Caviness-French,
Gifted & Talented Resource Teacher and *CogAT* Coordinator at Jeffco

Monica Simonds,
Director of Advanced Learning Programs and Services in Richardson ISD

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**CogAT® in the Classroom**

**Webinar Series**

Get the most out of your *CogAT* ability data in this expert-led series on helpful tips and best practices

**What is Ability Data and Why Does it Matter?**

**Thursday, July 13** · **11:00am CDT** | **12:00pm EDT** · Presented by **Dr. Joni Lakin** and **Anna Houseman**

- Understand the difference between ability and achievement data
- Explore opportunities for using ability data to elevate learners to their fullest potential

*Click here to register*

*Ability Profiles*™: **Understanding Student Cognitive Strengths**

**Tuesday, July 25** · **11:00am CDT** | **12:00pm EDT** · Presented by **Adam Laningham** and **Anna Houseman**

- Dive into the *CogAT Ability Profiles* and identify instructional implications from each student's unique ability code

*Click here to register*

**Ability Data as a Tool for Differentiation**

**Thursday, July 27** · **11:00am CDT** | **12:00pm EDT** · Presented by **Marla Caviness-French** and **Monica Simonds**

- Learn best practices and classroom tricks for using ability data you already have from two *CogAT* Power Users

*Click here to register*

**Develop Students' Verbal, Nonverbal, & Quantitative Reasoning Skills**

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