

# A RETROSPECTIVE CORRELATIONAL STUDY OF LATENCY TO CHALLENGING BEHAVIOR IN FUNCTIONAL ANALYSES AND RESPONSIVENESS TO FUNCTIONAL COMMUNICATION TRAINING

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## INTRO:

- Latency as a measure of challenging behavior has previously been used to measure elopement in functional analyses (Traub and Vollmer, 2019), initiation of a task (Ardoin et al., 1999), and as a measure of response strength (Thomason-Sassi et al., 2011).
- Latency can be useful to decrease the number of trials required to measure behavior change in an individual (Thomason-Sassi et al., 2011)

## PURPOSE:

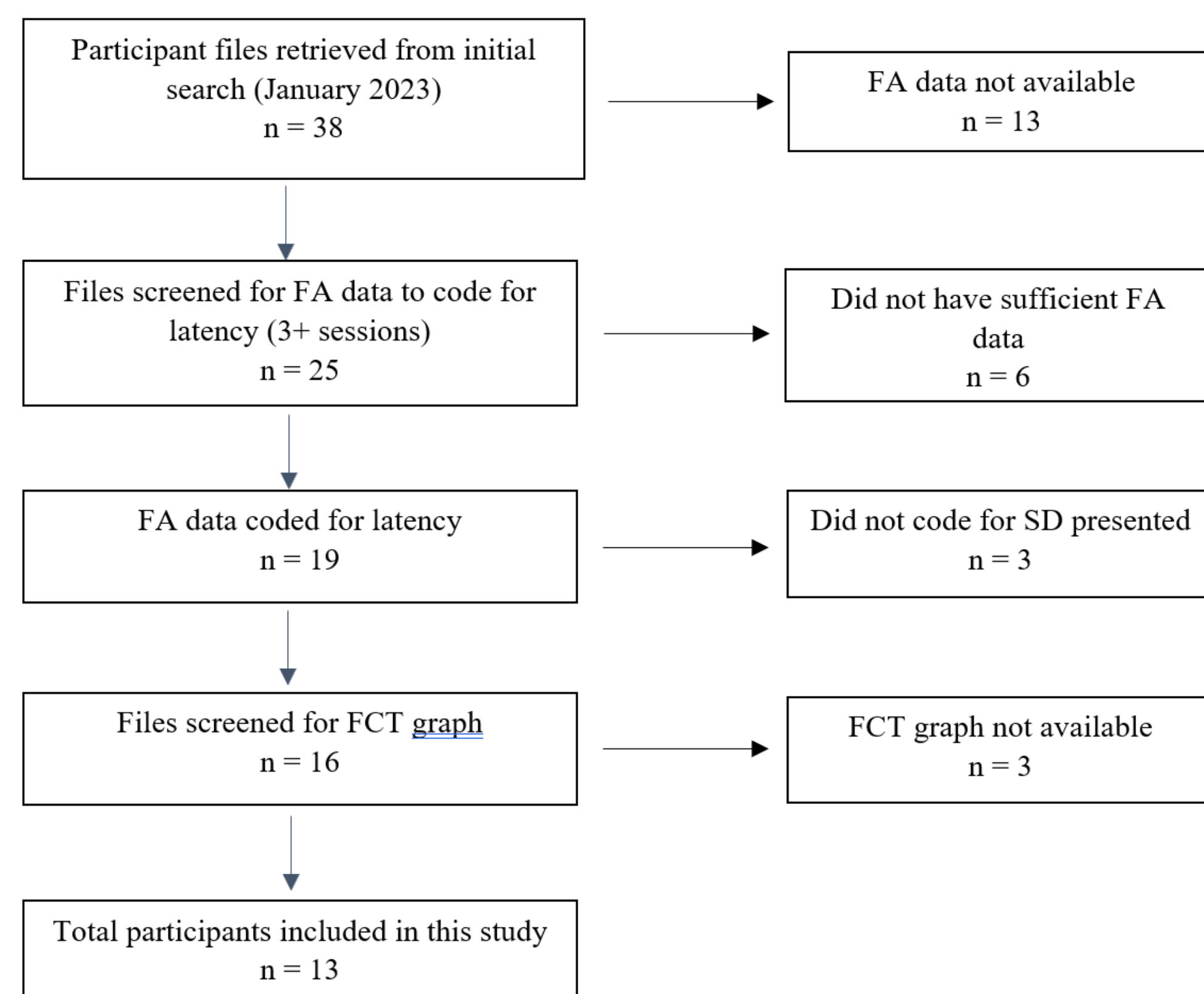
- Is there a correlation between the latency to challenging behavior (CB) in functional analyses (FA) and responsiveness to functional communication training (FCT) in children with autism?

### Participants

- 13 children (ASD)

### Dependent Variables

- Average latency (amount of time between a stimulus and a response to that stimulus)
- Trend across sessions (first avg. latency vs. last avg. latency)
- Trend within sessions (based on raw trend)
- Raw trend (slope of latency within sessions)



Dosing parameters showed weak correlation with latency variables, except for total duration of intervention in weeks and trend across sessions.



	Average latency for first session	Average latency for last session	Trend within sessions	Trend across sessions	Raw Trend
Dosing (Number of sessions until 2 consecutive sessions with zero CB)	0.31	0.12	0.14	0.34	-0.23
Dosing (Total minute equivalent of sessions above)	0.31	0.12	0.14	0.34	-0.23
Frequency of sessions per week	-0.03	-0.25	0.1	0.21	-0.18
Total duration of intervention in weeks	0.31	0.13	0.22	0.50	-0.15

## RESULTS

- The correlational analysis indicates weak correlations (i.e., 0-0.35) between dosing quantity and average latency, raw trend, and trend within sessions. (Taylor, 1990)
- The correlational analysis indicates a moderate correlation (i.e., 0.36-0.67) between total duration of intervention in weeks and trend across sessions.

## DISCUSSION

- The findings of this study highlight the need for a larger and more diverse sample size to see the full effects of these variables.
- In future research, experimenters should strive to collaborate with other facilities to acquire participant data.
- The focus on latency to challenging behavior in functional analyses and dosing parameters for treatment will potentially guide future researchers to expand on their correlational status.

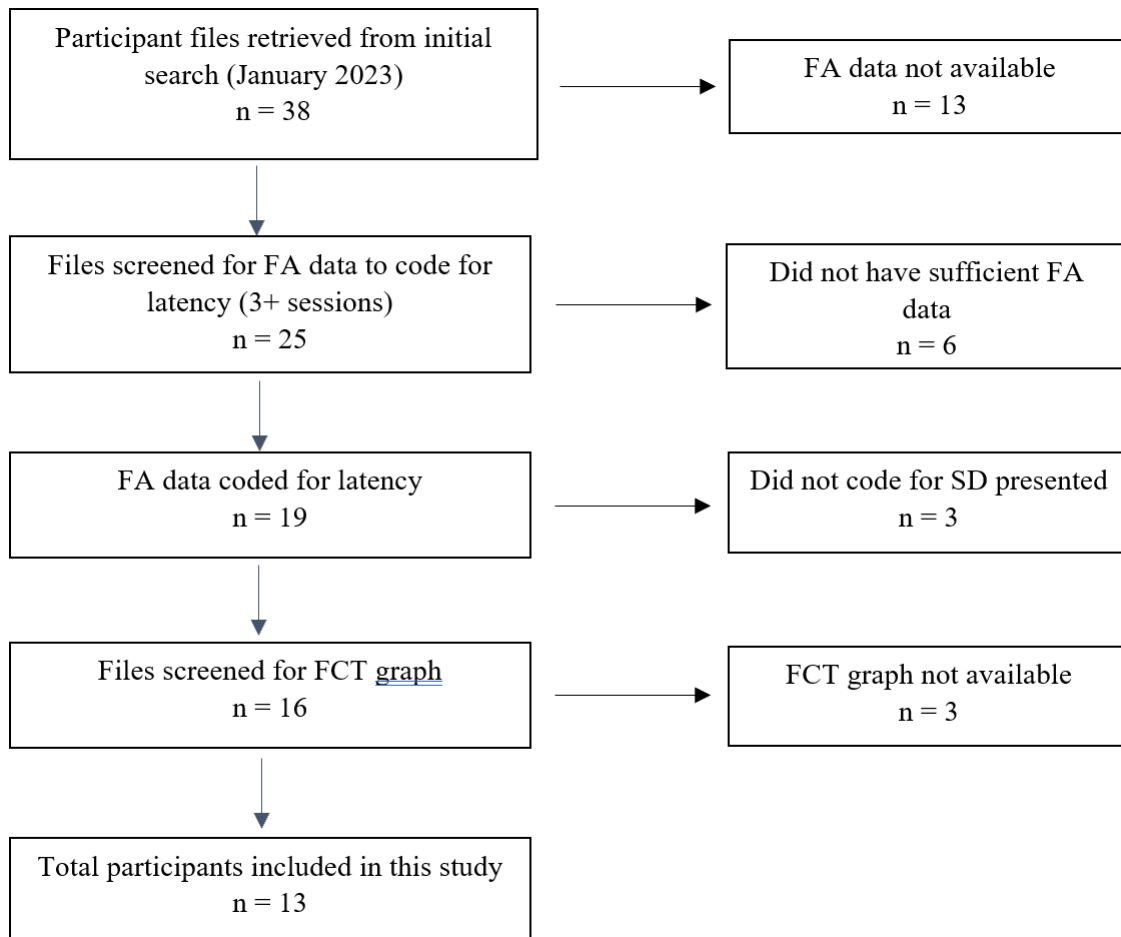
# A Retrospective Correlational Study of Latency to Challenging Behavior in Functional Analyses and Responsiveness to Functional Communication Training

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Latency as a measure of challenging behavior has previously been used to measure elopement in functional analyses (Traub and Vollmer, 2019), initiation of a task (Ardoin et al., 1999), and as a measure of response strength (Thomason-Sassi et al., 2011). It is also known to be useful in decreasing number of trials to measure behavior change in an individual (Thomason-Sassi et al., 2011). A correlational study design was used to analyze latency to challenging behavior (CB) in functional analyses (FA) and responsiveness to functional communication training (FCT). Results indicated dosing quantity showed weak correlation with average latency, trend within sessions, and raw trend, and a moderate correlation with trend across sessions. Findings suggest a greater and more diverse sample size might result in a comprehensive analysis of these variables.

**Figure 1.**

## *PRISMA Participant Analysis*



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