

# PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION



A micro-level sequential approach

IN YOUNG CHILDREN  
WITH A SIGNIFICANT COGNITIVE AND MOTOR DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY

**It is generally acknowledged that parents are primary agents of developmental change in their children**

**BUT** knowledge on parenting in this specific target group is very scarce, even though the limitations of the children provide parents with complex challenges

According to constructivist theories, interactive engagement behaviors are pivotal for further development.

A previous study showed parent's responsivity is related to children's interactive engagement, but did not shed light on the direction of this association

**THE AIM OF THIS STUDY IS TO CHART**

- 1) Frequency
- 2) Intra-individual co-occurrence
- 3) Inter-individual temporal dependency OF INTERACTIVE BEHAVIORS

## BACKGROUND & AIMS

**29 PARENT-CHILD DYADS**

#	21	8	21	8
Age	26-54 years		12-58 months	

**CHILD IMPAIRMENTS**

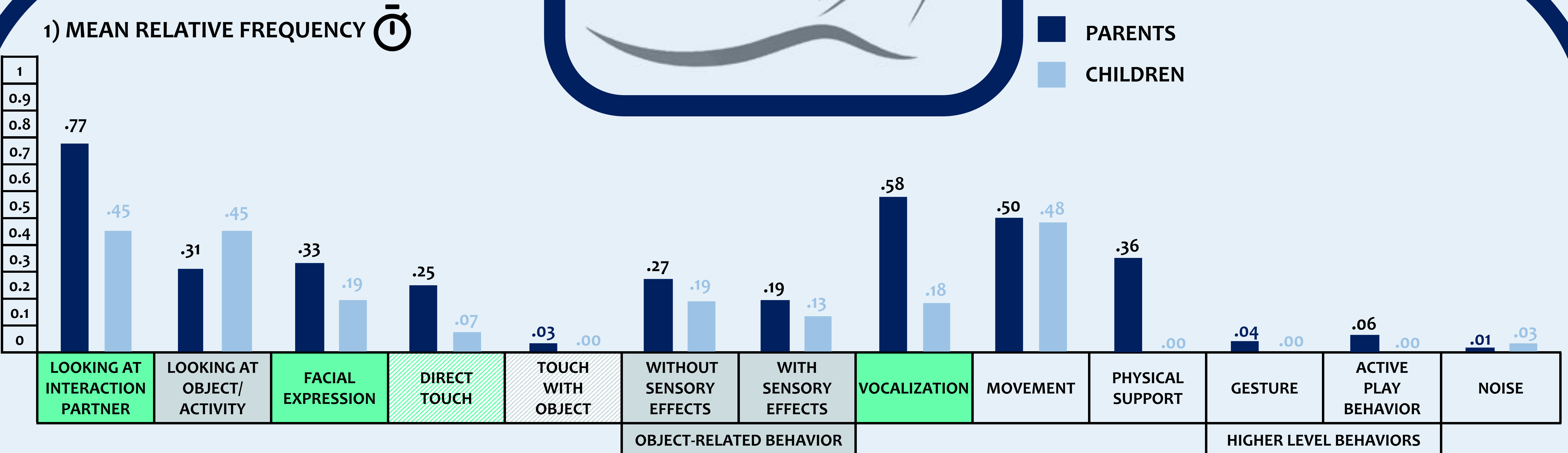
- 100% Cognitive
- 48% Vision
- 100% Motor
- 10% Hearing

**10 minutes Continuous coding**

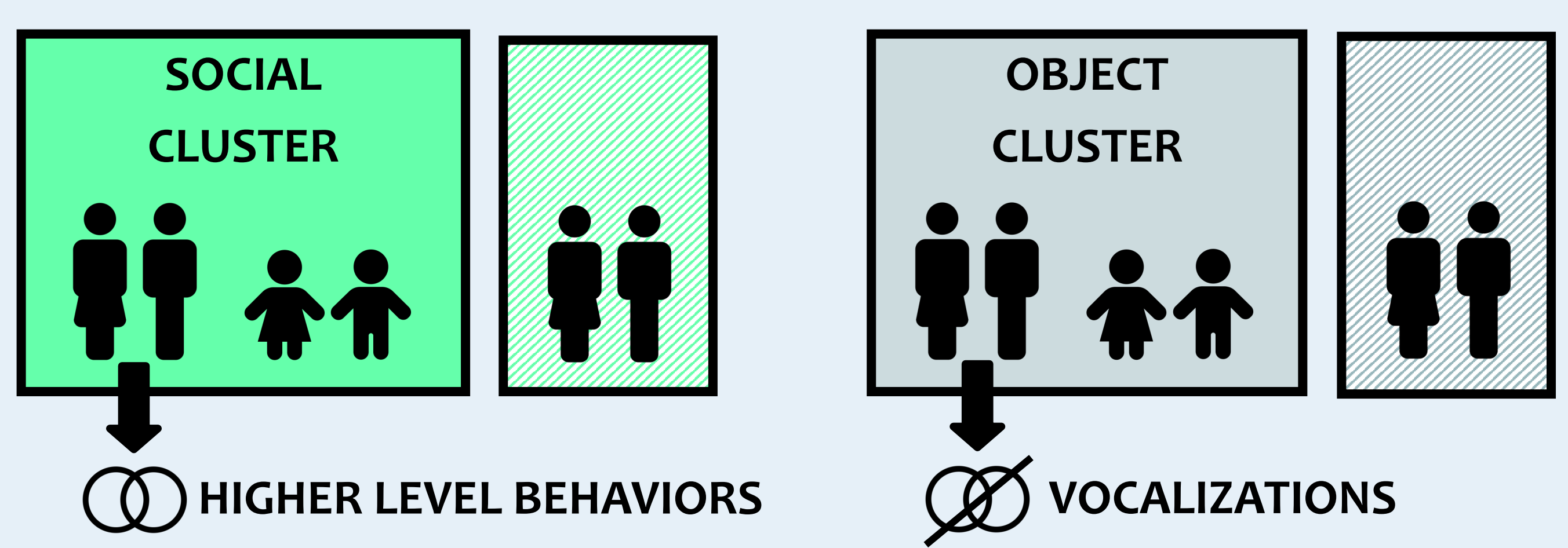
Self-developed coding scheme

## PARTICIPANTS & METHODS

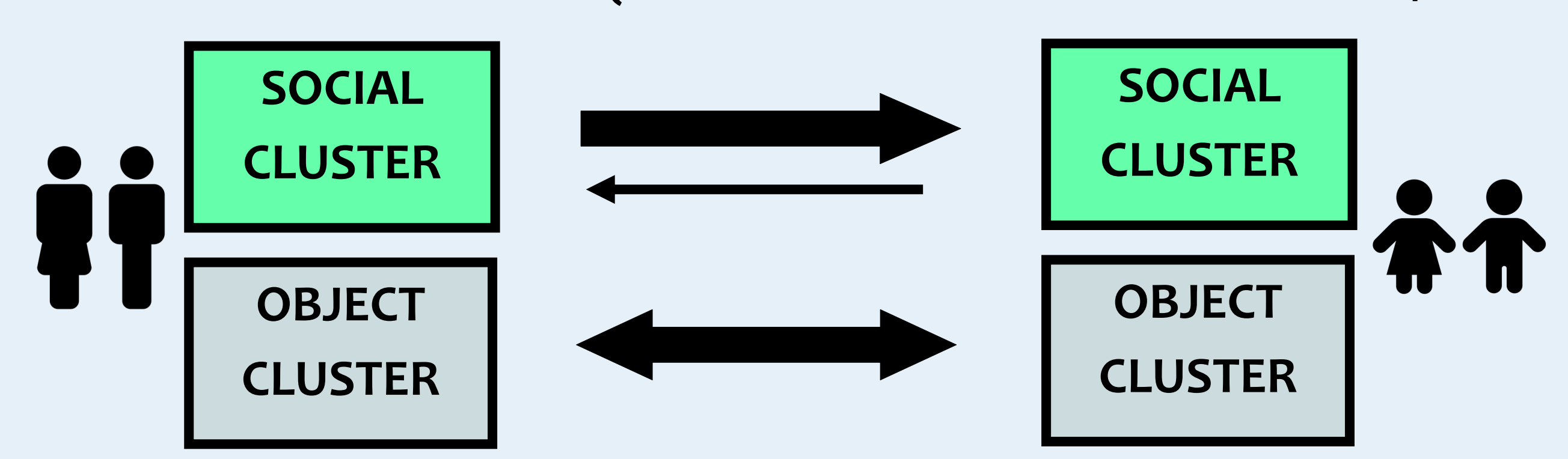
## CONCLUSIONS



2) SYSTEMATIC CO-OCCURRENCE (= BEHAVIORS LIKELY TO BE COMBINED)



3) TEMPORAL DEPENDENCY (= BEHAVIORS LIKELY TO PRECEDE/FOLLOW)



- Children do combine different behaviors
- Interaction seems to be either socially- or object-oriented
- Children's social behavior needs a parental 'trigger'
- Parents are more persistent in showing and eliciting social behavior compared to object behavior
- Combination of different (modalities of) stimuli might elicit higher levels of responding in children