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## Instructional Core- <br> Learning Trajectories as Boundary Objects


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## Session Overview

-The CCSS-M context: oh them challenges
-Making sense of the CCSS-M as a teacher: Why Learning Trajectories
-TurnOnCCMath Hexagon Map and Descriptors
-Teacher Experiences with LTs and TOCC -MOOC-Ed initiative
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## Significance of the Common Core

■ Expectations--and opportunities--for higher level reasoning and skills

- Structured to incorporate student learning research and to support learning trajectories/progressions
- Economies of scale: coherence of standards across states, w.r.t. curriculum, assessment, PD
- May buffer some of the effects of educational dislocation due to student mobility
- May turn out to support equity and customization
- (digital learning and use of real-time data: increasing, and eventually in all schools)


## This is NOT Business-as-Usual

1. Standards are more demanding; new and/or more intensified topic treatment, pacing
2. Requires teaching focus on conceptual learning instead of procedural instruction
3. To assess more complex reasoning: New assessments, new problem types
4. Continuing urgency to address student performance gaps (disequities of various kinds)
5. New technologies and expanded data gathering and access transform instruction, and career and college expectations

## More demanding standards and new topics

A. Eight Mathematical Practices made explicit: the doing of mathematics
B. Changes in Content and Grade Expectations (K-5, 6-8, 9-12): Earlier (or Later), and More conceptual, and more demanding
C. (Interdisciplinary Content: Reading and Writing in Science and Technical Subjects)

## Mathematical Practices

-Practices must be interwoven with content. They must be addressed in tandem.
-Practices may provide a way to observe classrooms to see how the content is made understandable, challenging and engaging to students, even for observers with no expertise in mathematics instruction.

## Changes by Grade Bands: grades K-5

- Numeration and operation intensified, and introduced earlier
- Early place value foundations in grade K
- Regrouping as composing / decomposing, in grade 2
- Decimals to hundredths in grade 4
- All three types of measurement simultaneously
- Non-standard, English and Metric
- Emphasis on fractions as numbers
-Emphasis on number line as visualization / structure


## Changes by Grade Bands: grades 6-8

- Ratio and Proportion focused on in grade 6, 7 (not earlier)
- Ratio, unit rates, converting measurement, tables of values, graphing, missing value problems
- Percents introduced in grade 6
- Statistics introduced in grade 6:
- Statistical variability (distribution; measures of central tendency; measure of variation: interquartile range, mean and absolute deviation; data shape)
- Rational numbers in grade 7
- Grade 8: One-third of high-school algebra for all students


## Changes by Grade Bands: grades 6-8

- Much higher expectations at middle grades,
- $4^{\text {th }}$ to $8^{\text {th }}$ grade NAEP: where greatest performance drop-off occurs.
- Collectively, our student performance, are weakest in middle grades
- Very little time to repeat topics each school year.
- Much less elementary preparation for major topics in middle grades (despite research): ratio, statistics, probability
- Much more pressure on elementary school teachers to "get the job done."
- (Greater need to understand student learning, in order to support, improve, and accelerate it...)


## Summary of Changes

- Many changes in timing and intensity of topics.
- Greater explicit emphasis on conceptual understanding and mathematical practices
- New assessments will test more complex reasoning.
- Middle grades will be critical to student success.
- Elementary grades instruction critical to [--everything!-but most immediately--] middle grades preparation and success.
- Specificity of standards should support improved equity of learning (if adequate opportunities to learn)
- Central hosting, technology services models, and diversity of content offers many opportunities and pitfalls. But it is happening.


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-The CCSS-M context: oh them challenges

- Making sense of the CCSS-M as a teacher: Learning Trajectories
- TurnOnCCMath Hexagon Map and Descriptors:
- Unpack the Standards
- Meld Learning Trajectories and the Common Core
- Design, Structure, and Content
- Examples from several LTs: LAV, VDM, RPP
- Teacher Experiences with LTs and TOCC
-Resources to Come at TOCC

The Job: Meaningful implementation of the CCSS-M The Goal: major improvements in student reasoning and achievement across the grades.

This is a generational project. And a legacy to young teachers.
But How to Make Sense of the CCSS-M to support fundamental improvement in student conceptual learning and reasoning? How t--

- How to Support Continuity-year-†o-year
- How to deal with Grain Size Variation in Standards?
- How to Interpret: Read? Visual Representation? Study?
- Inservice teachers: Transition? "Step up"? Retrofit?
- Preservice teachers: Begin teaching careers with the CCSS-M assumed (and what does this mean?)


## Our Goals and Commitment

- Research $\leftarrow \rightarrow$ Practice: Understanding Student Learning
- Help educators make sense of the CCSS-M, using Learning Trajectories
- Resources that educators can turn to and dive deeper with time
- Multiple levels: website, presentations, powerpoints, MOOCs
- (Set out groundwork for pre-service teachers)
- Continual Improvement: Analytics and Your Assistance
- Community of Support


## Learning Trajectories: what?

To learn mathematics learning is not synonymous whin the structure of the discipline of mathematics.

To Connect (a) research on student learning of mathematics to (b) mathematics instruction.

Potential for improved instructional planning, anticipation of student strategies, representations, and misconceptions

CCSS-M built to incorporate learning progressions: "One promise of common state standards is that over time, they will allow research on learning progressions to inform and improve the design of Standards to a much greater extent than is possible today."

CCSS 2010, p. 5

## Learning trajectory/progression--

...a researcher-conjectured, empirically-supported description of the ordered network of constructs a student encounters through instruction (i.e. activities, tasks, tools, forms of interaction and methods of evaluation), in order to move from informal ideas, through successive refinements of representation, articulation, and reflection, towards increasingly complex concepts over time
(Confrey et al., 2009)

## Learning trajectory/progression--

In brief--Research-based descriptions of student learning, especially their conceptual development, through instruction, across time (years)

Learning Trajectory. within a Conceptual Corridor


Confrey (2006) Design Studies Chapter, Cambridge Handbook of the Learning Sciences

## Underlying Features of Learning Trajectories

1. Emphasize big ideas that develop gradually over time (across grades)
2. Describe the transition from students' prior knowledge to more sophisticated target understandings (domain goal understanding)
3. Identify intermediate understandings, indicate how they can contribute to growth in conceptual understanding, in order to recognize and build on these

## Value of Learning Trajectories --†o Teachers

- Support understanding of student conceptual development and intermediate understandings
- Identify clusters of related concepts at grade level
- Unifying theory of student learning in the domain
- Suggest rich uses of classroom assessment
- Clarify what to expect about students' preparation from last year, and what will be expected of your students next year.
- Support managing the range of preparation and needs of students-the more you understand about student learning of concepts and skills, the more readily you can identify tasks and discourse that supports improved proficiency
- Support cross-grade (vertical) instructional collaboration and coordination


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- TurnOnCCMath Hexagon Map and Descriptors:
- Unpack the Standards
- Meld Learning Trajectories and the Common Core
- Visualize Continuity and Structure in the CCSS-M
- Design, Structure, and Content
- Examples from several LTs: EQP, DVM, LAV, VDM, RPP
- Teacher Experiences with LTs and TOCC
- Resources to Come at TOCC


## Standards, as seen in CCSS-M Document

- [1.] Grade
- [2.] Domains: larger groups of related standards. Standards from different domains may sometimes be closely related
- [3.] Clusters of groups of related standards. Note that standards from different clusters may sometimes be closely related, because mathematics is a connected subject.
- [4.] Individual standards that define what students should understand and be able to do.


# Unpacking the CCSS-M: TurnOnCCMath 

## Learning Trajectories to Interpret the Common Core

www.turnonccmath.net
Hexagon map of CCSS-M
Descriptors

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Hexagon map © Wireless Generation 2011

## Turn On Common Core Math project

1. Goal: Interpret the CCSS-M from standpoint of student learning.
2. (CCSS-M is NOT a Curriculum) Standards become landmarks within a trajectory of conceptual development
3. Embed the CC Standards within Learning Trajectories to articulate student learning developing over time (across grades) consistent with CCSS-M

## TurnOnCommonCoreMath projec:

4. A common resource for
a. teachers,
b. professional development leaders,
c. teacher educators,
d. researchers.
5. Based on:
a. research synthesis
b. service on CCSS-M national validation committee
c. experience revising NC Standards
d. hexagon representations of state standards (with Wgen)
e. multiple iterations of standards charts

## List of 18 K-8 Learning Trajectories

- Counting
- Place Value and Decimals
- Addition and Subtraction
- Equipartitioning
- Time and Money
- Length, Area and Volume
- Fractions
- Multiplication and Division
- Ratio and Proportion, and Percent
- Shapes and Angles
- Triangles and Transformations
- Elementary Data and Modeling
- Variation, Distribution and Modeling
- Chance and Probability
- Integers, Number lines, and Coordinate Planes
- Rational and Irrational Numbers
- Early Equations and Expressions
- Linear and Simultaneous Functions


## TurnOnCCMath.net

| CCSS-M <br> Description | Descriptor |
| :--- | :--- |
| K.MD.B Indirectly <br> compare two <br> objects by <br> representing the <br> attribute with, for <br> example, another <br> object and then <br> directly <br> comparing. | This Bridging Standard is introduced here to <br> describe how students' learning of measurements <br> emerges. <br> is the movement from identifying attributes, to <br> representing attributes, directly and indirectly <br> comparing attributes, and finally unitizing attributes <br> using constructed units and wisely choosing <br> common units. |
| [...] |  | three objects by length; compare the lengths of two objects indirectly by using a third object.

When two fixed objects cannot be placed adjacently for direct comparison, a third object can be used for indirect comparison. If the third object is longer than the other two, the lengths of the other two can be marked on the third object and be compared. If the length of the third object falls between the other two, then ordering is established. If the third object is shorter than the other two, students would need to develop a way to begin a measurement process (see the Standard 1.MD. 2 later). Note that this standard is slightly more advanced than the earlier Bridging Standard K.MD.A in which, for example, strips were created to represent the lengths of two objects. In this standard only one mediating object is used for comparison.

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## Quick Tour--

1. Two map views : grade level and LT
2. One standard per hexagon (to the \#.AB.\#.a level)
3. Hexagon: abbreviated text of standard, fulltext visible
4. Descriptors:
5. Structural Overview
6. Full text of standard
7. Extended discussion of standard's content and implications for student learning
8. Bridging standards
9. Refers to supporting LTs and Standards

## Unpacking the CCSS-M:

LT Descriptor Elements www.turnonccmath.net

1. Underlying cognitive or conceptual principles (big ideas)
2. Student strategies, representations (inscriptions), and misconceptions
3. Mathematical distinctions and multiple models
4. Coherent structure
5. Bridging standards

## Unpacking the CCSS-M: Descriptor Elements

1. Underlying Cognitive or Conceptual Principles: components of cognitive framework for making meaning; "big ideas"
2. Student Strategies, Inscriptions (Representations), and Misconceptions: how students make their reasoning and intermediate understandings visible
3. Mathematical Distinctions and Multiple Models: emerging distinctions, and models for reasoning, that support increasingly sophisticated and nuanced building of the big ideas
4. Coherent Structure: recurring themes or frameworks for reasoning, which can be fostered deliberately in instruction to support student investigation and reflection.
5. Bridging Standards: identify intermediate understandings, address CCSS-M grain size variations, and signal major instructional gaps that might not otherwise be addressed, for student progress and transitions.

## LT Descriptors: Elements

1. Underlying cognitive or conceptual principles (big ideas): components of cognitive framework for making meaning; "big ideas"
2. Student strategies, representations (inscriptions), and misconceptions
3. Mathematical distinctions and multiple models
4. Coherent structure
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## Equipartitioning

## Multiple Wholes

## Single (divisible) Wholes

## Co-Splitting

## Evenly Divisible Collections

...developed from student learning research on splitting, sharing, one-toone correspondence, and fractions, including Confrey, Pothier and Sawada, Mitchelmore, Bryant, Pitkethly, Davis, Lamon, and others.


## Equipartitioning LT: A Common

 Foundation for moving around in multiplicative space (Rational Number Reasoning)
## Equipartitioning/Splitting Construct

- Equipartitioning/Splitting: cognitive behaviors that have the goal of producing equal-sized groups (from collections) or pieces (from continuous wholes) as "fair shares" for each of a set of individuals.
- Equipartitioning/Splitting is not breaking, fracturing, fragmenting, or segmenting in which there is the creation of unequal parts.
- Equipartitioning/Splitting is the foundation of division and multiplication, ratio, rate, and fraction.
- Concept draws on student experience with fair sharing, and develops gradually over multiple years.


## Cognitive and conceptual principles (Equipartitioning LT)

"Cases" of Equipartitioning: task contexts in which fair sharing is developed and analyzed by students: collections, single wholes, multiple wholes.

Proficiencies in splitting (proto-division) into shares and reassembly (inverse, proto-multiplication) of shares are distinct but related for collections and single wholes. Reasoning from both cases is brought to bear in equipartitioning multiple wholes.

PEEQ: Property of Equality of Equipartitioning: Congruent wholes, split in different directions but with the same splitting number: equal (not congruent) parts from the two wholes

Co-Splitting: A foundation for ratio: Performing the same split on each of two quantities (objects and sharers) to create two new quantities with the same fair share relationship.

Complementary Approaches to Unpacking the CCSS-M

1. Underlying cognitive and conceptual principles
2. Student strategies, representations (inscriptions), and misconceptions: how students make their reasoning and intermediate understandings visible
3. Mathematical distinctions and multiple models
4. Coherent structure
5. Bridging standards

## Variation, Distribution, and Modeling

## Bivariate Data, Scatter Plots and Basic Linear Regression



Describing the
Distribution of a Set of
Data


## Słudent Inscriptions of Data

## (2) (5) (1) (4) (11) (8) (5) (1)(7) (5) (5) (2) (8) (7) (5) (5) (4) (5) (2)

## Case plot

$$
\text { (1)(1)2 (2) (2) 4 } 4555(55(5)(8) 8(11
$$

Ordered Cases


Case Value Plot

## Dot Plots

Movement from a case value plot to a dot plot


## Distributions of Data



## Distributions of Data





## Elements of LTs in Unpacking CCSSM

1. Underlying cognitive and conceptual principles
2. Student strategies, representations (inscriptions), and misconceptions
3. Mathematical distinctions and multiple models emerging distinctions, and models for reasoning, that support increasingly sophisticated and nuanced building of the big ideas
4. Coherent structure
5. Bridging standards

## Division and Multiplication

## Fractions

Multi-digit Whole Numbers

Factors and Multiples

## Problem Types, Properties and Strategies

Models of Division and Multiplication

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## Division and

 Multiplication Learning Trajectory
## Three Word Problem Types

- Two dimension situations (two unit types):
- Equipartitioning/Sharing: numbers of items, persons, number PER person
- Rate: miles, time, miles PER hour
- One-dimension situations (one unit type):
- Quotative/Measurement: How many groups of items,
- Scaling: how much bigger or smaller (multiplicative compare)
- New dimension and new unit situations
- One unit type $\rightarrow$ a second unit type: linear x linear $\rightarrow$ area.
- Two different units $\rightarrow$ a third completely different unit: Cartesian products
- Arrays as transitional strategies


## Mathematical Distinctions and Multiple Models.

 Division and Multiplication LTProblem types as models for division and multiplication, characterized with respect to changes in the referent (unit) in the operation.

## Model 1: Referent-Transforming

## Model 2: Referent-Preserving (scaling)

## Model 3: Referent-Composing

Referent: the quantity to which the numerical values refer (unit) (reinterprets these terms as used by Schwartz, 1988)

## Division/Multiplication Models 1 through 3, summary

| Model 1: <br> Referent- <br> Transforming | Model 2: <br> Referent- <br> Preserving | Model 3: <br> Referent- <br> Composing |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Fair sharing | Unit conversion | (Arrays) |
| Rate | Scaling | Area |
| Equal Groups |  | Cartesian Product |

## Complementary Approaches to Unpacking the CCSS-M

1. Underlying cognitive and conceptual principles
2. Student strategies, representations (inscriptions), and misconceptions
3. Mathematical distinctions and multiple models
4. Coherent structure: recurring themes or frameworks for reasoning, which can be fostered deliberately in instruction to support student investigation and reflection.
5. Bridging standards

## Length, Area and Volume



## Coherent Structure for

 Mathematical Reasoning: Length, Area, and Volume learning trajectory


## Additive principle

## Compensatory principle

Measure with no-gaps or overlaps

Indirectly compare
Directly compare

Conservation Principle

## Define attributes

These form a module that is accomplished by students first for length, then area, then volume.
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## Variation, Distribution, and Modeling

## Bivariate Data, Scatter Plots and Basic Linear Regression



Describing the
Distribution of a Set of
Data


Student strategies, representations (inscriptions), and misconceptions: Variation, Distribution, and Modeling LT
Coherent structure for statistical reasoning
Students engage in investigations that include the four steps in which they:

1. Pose a (meaningful) question
2. Collect relevant data
3. Analyze the data to answer the question
4. Interpret the results

A repeated structure that applies to every level of statistical investigation, from elementary up.

## Complementary Approaches to Unpacking the CCSS-M

1. Underlying cognitive and conceptual principles
2. Student strategies, representations, and misconceptions
3. Mathematical distinctions and multiple models
4. Coherent structure
5. Bridging standards. Examples from Ratio and Proportion, and Percents LT: identify intermediate understandings, address CCSS-M grain size variations, and signal major instructional gaps that might not otherwise be addressed, for student progress and transitions.

## Circle Graphs...

4.EDM.A Interpret circle graphs (pie graphs) to map the relative frequency of data to the fractional part of the whole, limited to fractional parts of halves, fourths, and eighths.

Fourth Grade Students' Favorite Girl Scout Cookies


## Ratio and Proportion, and Percents



## Bridging Standards: <br> Ratio and Proportion, and Percents LT

## Section 1: A New Form of Equivalence

Part 1: Using ratio tables
Part 2: Ratio Units and Unit Ratios Part 3: Graphing

Ratio Boxes, Ratio Units, Unit Ratios, and Rates

Part 4: Building Up
Part 5: Ratio Boxes

## Ratio and Proportion, and Percents

6.RP.1: Understand the concept of a ratio and use ratio language to describe a ratio relationship between two quantities.
6.RPP.A: (Bridging Standard) Express the concept of a ratio using a table of values based on doubling, tripling, etc., and splitting using a variety of factors in both columns of the ratio table.

## Ratio and Proportion, and Percents

Standard 6.RPP.B (Bridging Standard): Understand the concepts of ratio unit and unit ratio. Relate these concepts for a given table of values and show them on a graph.

This bridging standard was added because it is important for students to identify and work with both ratio units and unit ratios in ratio tables and graphs.

- A ratio unit, or "base ratio," is the smallest pair of whole numbers that defines the ratio; "littlest recipe;" smallest whole-number ratio...leads to slope, rational numbers, constant of proportionality
- A unit ratio is a ratio in which one of the two values is equal to one. 1:n OR n:1 unit rate; constant of proportionality


## Ratio and Proportion, and Percents

Standard 6.RPP.C (Bridging Standard): Use a ratio box to describe the relationships and explain how to move multiplicatively: a.) between the two quantities (correspondence), and b.) within the two quantities (covariation).
This bridging standard was added because it is important for students understand the multiplicative relationships in a ratio box in order to solve missing ratio-value problems later.


Correspondence rule:
the number of feet is 3 times the number of yards; the no. of yards is the no. of feet, div. by 3

Covariation rule:
Each time the number of yards increases by $x n$ (or $1 / n$ ), the number of feet increases by $\mathrm{x} n$ (or $1 / n$ )

## Ratio and Proportion, and Percents

## Q.RPP.D (Bridging Standard): Distinguish ratio relationships from non-ratio relationships in a ratio bos.



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## Instructional Core- <br> Learning Trajectories as Boundary Objects



## Teacher responses to LTs and TurnOnCCMath

Outcomes

- Increasingly evidence-based, nuanced perceptions of students’ work, mathematical distinctions, argument
- Improved mathematical content knowledge(!)
- Teachers reflected on and filled in gaps in their own understanding. LTs helped them make sense of their own and their students' intermediate knowledge, and growth paths.
- The (Common Core) Standards make more sense...
- Hope for supporting student learning, even if saddled with a procedure-heavy curriculum
Challenges:
- Time and Grain Size of substantial PD efforts
- Different approach to instruction and learning, urgency to implement CCSS, and not-business-as-usual
- Teachers as Learners: not a ‘one-shot' process--need iterative work with the CCSS-M to become more expert.

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## MOOC-Ed Initiative: http://mooc-ed.org

(MOOC: Massive Open Online Courses)
(Ed: for Educators)

- Mathematics Learning Trajectories for the Common Core.
- First course, running now: Equipartitioning
- Registration open until Monday (or later)
- Emphasizes cross-grade development of understanding
- Forums: discussion and task design/adaptation/critique
- LT-based instruction task design (optional)
- Participants: teachers, teacher leaders and PD-supervisors, teacher educators. Nationwide.
- Video based
- Self-directed and self-paced
- 3-5 hours per week
- Certificate of completion
- Free(!)


## Mathematics Learning Trajectories for the Common Core (http://mooc-ed.org)

- Next MOOC-Eds:
- Division and Multiplication (February 2014)
- Fractions (June 2014)
- Ratio and Proportional Reasoning
- Statistics (6-8)

