# Developing Models of the World
17-21 May 2021, Lorentz Center @Oort

## Scientific
*Short description of the aims for the virtual meeting:*
The workshop "Developing Models of the World" was concerned with fundamental questions about the development of human cognition. The aim of the workshop was to explore a diverse range of developmental questions through the lens of different computational theories and formalisms, with a specific focus on predictive processing and rational constructivism.

*Short summary of key moments (key debates, breakthroughs, etc.):*
Key debates revolved around the big questions in development and differences between the formal frameworks. Most discussions took place in small groups in breakout channels.

*Outcome(s)*
We identified a set of 7 targets for future research, some of them with concrete ideas for research questions and experiments. As a next step, we will submit a proposal for a special issue of the prestigious journal *Topics in Cognitive Science*, to which participants of the workshop will contribute articles.

*Other comments*
Despite the limitations of the virtual format, we had lively discussions, which often continued after the official program was over.

## Organization
*Preparation* (synchronous and asynchronous strategies – see our *Virtual Workshop Tips & Tricks* document for concept definitions):
We used mainly synchronous strategies.

*Duration of the workshop and time management:*
The duration of the workshop was five days (as originally planned), but we had to reduce the program to about 4 hours each day because of the large differences between time zones.

*Platform(s) used before and during the workshop:*
MS Teams, Google documents

*Short- and long-term plans for follow-up:*
We are working on a proposal for a special issue and are considering organizing a follow-up, in-person workshop at the Lorentz Center.

*Lessons learned for future virtual events:*
- be open to feedback from participants during the workshop
- adjust the workshop program based on this feedback if needed

- rather have more than too little time for discussion
- prioritize open discussion to talks from key-notes

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