

Forgetting in STM: Trace Decay

Study	Conclusions	Problems with the conclusions
Peterson & Peterson (1959)	measured recall of trigrams after varying intervals. Between presentation & recall, PPs did a counting interference task. After 18s PPs recalled less than 10% of the information.	
Reitman (1975)	conducted a similar study to the Petersons. Instead of a counting task she used a vigilance task where PPs had to listen carefully to detect an auditory tone. Over 15s, recall of the trigrams declined by about 24%.	
	How good an explanation of STM forgetting is trace decay? Explain your conclusions.	