What neurodevelopmental disorders can reveal about cognitive architecture

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In recent years data from children with neurodevelopmental disorders has been used as one source of evidence for how language, theory of mind, and other cognitive domains might be structured. In this paper I review the arguments for and against using data from children with disorders such as autism, SLI or Williams syndrome for these purposes. I will also discuss what has been learned about the neurocognitive components of theory of mind from studies in autism and Williams syndrome.