

Personality Research Fall 2004

Research Proposals

Approach and Avoidance Temperaments and different motivations in the Prisoner's Dilemma

Lindsay Rankin

- Prisoner's dilemma as non-zero sum game
 - Prisoner faced with 2 choices, cooperate with other prisoner (don't confess) or defect (confess)
 - Payoff matrix to Prisoner 1

	» Prisoner 2	
	Cooperate	Defect
P1 C	10	-20
D	20	-10

Prisoner's dilemma and personality

- Strategic choice:
 - Trust other to “do the right thing”
 - Distrust other and expect them to defect and do the “rational thing”
- Cooperative behavior in repeated games
 - “tit for tat” strategy in repeated games

Prisoner's Dilemma and Personality

- Approach motivated individuals
 - Do they go for the rewards in the payoff
- Avoidance motivated
 - Do they choose to avoid the possible losses?

Personality and Prisoner's Dilemma

- Classic PD vs. modified PD
 - Payoff matrix to Prisoner 1
 - » Prisoner 2
 - » Cooperate
 - P1 C 10 -20
 - D 20 -10
 - Alternative matrix
 - Payoff matrix to Prisoner 1
 - » Prisoner 2
 - » Cooperate
 - P1 C 10 -10
 - D 20 -20

Christmas Eve Phenomenon happiness and tense arousal

Marissa Jackson

- Question of the bipolarity of affect
 - Can you be both happy and sad at the same time?
 - Consider Christmas
 - Anticipation of Christmas gifts
 - Positive affect + Tension

Christmas: Method

- Film clip mood induction
 - Night of living dead
 - Bill Cosby
- Another mood induction includes unexpected reward (\$) or complex cognitive task
- NLD + \$ vs. NLD (alone)
- BC + cog task vs. BC (in groups of two)

Christmas- comments

- Include a personality variable
 - E or sensitivity to PA
 - N or sensitivity to NA

Extraversion and motivation for viewing graphic horror

Shaska Venumbaka

- Question: Why do people watch horror movies?
- Alternative theories:
 - Berlyne, Zuckerman, Zillman, Cantor
- Hypothesis:
 - Es watch horror to elevate arousal levels and positive affect -- gore - thrill
 - Is watch “because they empathize with either the villain or victim” which elevates negative affect? Problem focused?

Personality and Horror

- Method:
 - EPI + Mehrabian trait empathy + Zuckerman Sensation Seeking
 - Movie horror induction: Saw
 - Pretest - personality scales + why do you watch horror movies
 - PA -- wildness, excitement, powerfulness
 - NA frustration, loneliness, anger, sadness

Personality and horror

- Motivations for watching horror
 - Gore, thrill
 - independent, problem
- Affect (+/-) vs Empathy/Sensation Seeking
- Complex I/E prediction with respect to motivations and affects

Affiliation motivation and electronic vs. face to face interaction

Michelle Rheinschmidt

- Review:
 - Affiliation motivation
 - Goal oriented versus threat oriented
 - Affiliative tendency and sensitivity to rejection scales
 - But much of literature is based upon face to face interaction -- what happens with electronic interaction -- is this the same

Affiliation and electronic interaction

- Method
 - Measures of affiliative tendency (MAFF) and sensitivity to rejection (MSR)
 - Online social network: thefacebook.com
 - Background survey on facebook.com usage
 - Imaginary scenario of acceptance vs. rejection on facebook
 - Measures of distress - pleasure
 - Approach vs. rejection

Role players' identification with character constructs

Michael O'Hara

- Review of role playing games
- Method:
 - Survey of role player game members
 - Personality measures of each role's stereotype
 - Preference of role
 - Personality measure of each person (for selves)
- Hypothesis:
 - People prefer to play characters most like selves

Extraversion, Anxiety and Performance

Meaghan Lakes

- Introduction- review
 - I/E and performance
 - Anxiety and performance
- Method
 - I/E x Anxiety x stress
 - Stress is 10 minutes versus relaxed (take as long as you want)
- Prediction:
 - Low Anx > High Anx, E > I
 - Anxiety x stress x I/E (bigger effects of Is than Es)

Anxiety and Procrastination

Marina Hartnett

- Review:
 - Procrastination and depression, neuroticism, low grades, low self esteem
 - Anxiety and approach and avoidance motivation
- Method
 - Anxiety inducing video vs. neutral
 - Pre - post measures of anxiety and procrastination
- Prediction: anxiety by stress induction interaction on procrastination scores

Stereotype Threat, Achievement Motivation, and Math Performance

Geeta Dhingra

- Review:
 - Stereotype threat and performance
 - Achievement motivation
- Method:
 - Achievement motivation x stereotype threat manipulation on 20 SAT like math items
- Prediction: Nach reduces stereotype threat effect
- Question: should anxiety be measured as well?

Stranger Anxiety and cognitive performance

Amy Stallard

- Review:
 - Stranger anxiety as a component of anxiety
 - Anxiety and performance
- Method:
 - Subjects participate with a stranger (confederate)
 - Control vs. speech
 - Measure of cognitive performance taken while waiting to give speech to confederate
 - Confederates take cognitive test in an anxiety inducing way (faster, paper rustling, etc.)

Creativity: Personality and affect

Julia Udesky

- Review:
 - Creativity as desire and ability
 - Desire to be creative and openness to experience
 - Ability Convergent versus divergent thinking
 - Cognitive spiral of looking and relooking for patterns and associations
 - Mood and creativity
 - Positive mood and flexibility, pa and broad processing

Creativity

- Method
 - Personality assessment: Gough's Creative Personality Scale
 - Mood induction:
 - Mr. Bean (PA) vs. Night and Fog (NA)
 - Manipulation check of feelings, identification
 - Instructions: do your best vs. be creative
 - Creativity measure: insight problems
- Prediction: neg affect facilitates creativity among high creative
 - Instructions interact with creativity and affect

Reward and Creativity

Jenny Meyers

- Review:
 - Creativity of everyday life
 - Openness, flexibility, risk taking
 - Affect
 - Reward (hinders)
- Method:
 - Reward x informed (if top 25% based upon creativity/random)
- Problem: missing a personality variable

Personality and mood effects on Positive and Negative word recall

Olivia DeManche

- Review:
 - I/E and PA, N and NA
- Hypothesis: trait versus state mood and recall
- Method:
 - EPQ as measure of I/E and N
 - Mood induction:
 - imagine winning \$10⁶ and taking vacation
 - Death of close friend + worst sickness you can imagine
 - neutral

Personality, Mood and Memory

- Word lists: 10 positive, 10 negative words
- Immediate recall
- Predictions:
 - I/E interacts with mood induction for recall of positive words
 - S/N interacts with mood induction for recall of negative words

Conscientiousness and individual versus group performance

Theresa Sullivan

- Review:
 - Cooperative groups versus individuals
 - What personality variables help/hurt
 - Previous analysis is inappropriate
 - Groups of 4 do better because you are taking max of group versus average
 - Need to form random pseudo groups to make appropriate comparison
 - Role of personality, specifically Conscientiousness

C and Groups

- Hypothesis:
 - LC will take more trials to solution in group compared to best individual score
 - LC will finish more rapidly
- Method:
 - Group versus individual performance
 - Groups are homogenous based upon personality of members
- Predictions: Group effect enhanced by C:
 - Group x C interaction

Anxiety, gender and ethnicity

Lakshmi Tummala

- Sex/gender differences in anxiety
- Ethnicity (Asian American) differences in anxiety
- Predicts fan fold interaction of sex x ethnicity for bigger effects of ethnicity among women
- Method: survey

Extraversion and Sport Preference

Maurice Parris

- Review:
 - Some findings of individual differences in sports participation, particularly compared to fellow college students
- Hypothesis:
 - Es prefer group and contact sports
 - Is prefer individual and non-contact sports
- Method: Survey of athletes and non-athletes

Functional and Dysfunctional Impulsivity: effects upon affective synchrony

Barbara Ruf

- Review:
 - Dickman and distinction between functional and dysfunctional impulsivity
 - Circadian variations in energetic and tense arousal
 - Problems of synchronicity -
 - For some EA and TA are independent, for others correlated, is this due to functional/dysfunctional impulsivity?

Optimism, Affect, and approach avoidance motivation

Sean Ryan

- Review:
 - Dispositional optimism/pessimism
 - Approach/avoidance motivation
- Method:
 - Goal setting condition on mid term exams
 - Emotional self report given at end of mid term