20. WORKSHOP FÜR DOKTORANDINNEN UND DOKTORANDEN 2022

der DGPs-Fachgruppe Differentielle Psychologie, Persönlichkeitspsychologie und Psychologische Diagnostik

21. – 23. März 2022 | Jena
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# Zeitplan

## Montag, 21. März

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<td>Konstruktion eines testfaren adaptiven Leistungstestsystems auf Basis eines Item-Link-Designs und der Betrachtung teilrichtiger Lösungen</td>
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<td>Katja Witte</td>
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<td>An Examination of the Relation between Achievement Motive States and Situation Perception</td>
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<td>10:00 – 11:00</td>
<td>Franziska Brotzeller</td>
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<td>Andra Biesok</td>
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<td>Jana Berkessel</td>
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**Mittwochen, 23. März**

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<td>ab 9.30</td>
<td>Career Ups and Downs</td>
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Für die Präsentation jedes Promotionsvorhabens sind 60 Minuten vorgesehen, wovon maximal 30 Minuten auf den Vortrag entfallen sollten, um genügend Zeit für Feedback, die Klärung von Fragen und Anregungen zu haben.

Der Workshop findet als Zoom Meeting statt. Die Zugangsdaten sind:

[https://uni-jena-de.zoom.us/j/68967642888](https://uni-jena-de.zoom.us/j/68967642888)

Meeting-ID: 689 6764 2888
Kenncode: 514518
Hogrefe Academy
Ihr Partner für praxisorientierte Fortbildung

Klinik und Pädagogik
- Intelligenzdiagnostik
- Entwicklungsdiagnostik
- Schulleistungsdagnostik
- Persönlichkeitsdiagnostik
- Klinische Diagnostik
- Einsatz von Therapieprogrammen
- Einsatz von Beratungskonzepten

Human Resources
- Einsatz von Diagnostik für Auswahl- oder Entwicklungsprozesse in Unternehmen, wie z.B.:
  - Nachwuchsrekrutierung
  - Talentidentifizierung
  - Potentialanalyse
  - Führungskräfteentwicklung
  - Leistungs- und Persönlichkeitsdiagnostik

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Abstracts
People differ in their well-being. Some are trans-situationally happier than others. In my PhD, I seek to help explain those individual differences. To this end, I adopt a person × culture perspective. More precisely, I examine how person-level variables (e.g., socioeconomic status, obesity status), culture-level variables (e.g., cultural religiosity, obesity prevalence), and their cross-level interaction predict individual differences in well-being. The PhD comprises two complementary lines of research, each of which consists of multiple studies/subprojects. I am currently roughly 2/3 into my PhD (planning to complete my PhD at the beginning of 2023). I am currently writing up most of the afore-mentioned studies and am about to conduct a few final studies. Therefore, the workshop comes at a perfect time for me to receive feedback from experts and peers—feedback that will greatly aid my write-up and that will be most helpful for designing and conducting the final studies of my PhD. Next, I will describe each of my two research lines.

My first line of research seeks to trace individual differences in well-being to people’s socioeconomic status (SES). Hundreds of studies have shown that higher SES predicts better well-being. According to classic theory in sociology, those well-being benefits should be particularly large in poorer nations, because poorer nations offer less welfare and a certain level of SES is required to meet one’s basic needs. Recent evidence, however, has contradicted the classic theory, finding instead that the well-being benefits of higher SES are larger in richer than in poorer nations. To this day, no one knows why this is the case. My colleagues and I have proposed a solution to that conundrum. Specifically, we hypothesized that national religiosity may solve it. Richer nations are particularly non-religious and, thus, lack religious norms that cast a bad light on higher SES and that ease the burden of lower SES. Drawing on three independent large-scale datasets of 1,567,204, 1,493,207, and 274,393 people across 156, 85, and 92 nations, we show that low levels of national religiosity can account for the higher well-being benefits of high SES in richer nations. This project has just recently been published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) and I am currently working on follow-up studies to further examine the boundary conditions and underlying processes of this fascinating effect. For example, I have replicated the finding on the regional cultural level and am planning to conduct an experiment to tap into underlying religious norms. In my presentation, I would like to put a special focus on these ongoing follow-up studies and would be most grateful to receive feedback on them.

My second line of research seeks to trace individual differences in well-being to people’s obesity status. Again, many studies have shown that obese people suffer from lower levels of well-being compared to their non-obese counterparts. My colleagues and I have tested whether this effect is cross-culturally universal or whether it depends on the obesity levels within one’s cultural context. Our evidence supports the latter across three large-scale datasets (total N = 2,913,222) including hundreds of cultural contexts at the region-level within the US as well as the UK. Obesity prevalence varied greatly across cultural contexts (5%–45%). Replicating prior findings, obesity was associated with lower well-being on a variety of well-being indicators (e.g., obese individuals were more prone to bad health). Critically, however, these well-being disadvantages of being obese were reduced—and sometimes even eliminated—in high-obese contexts. Again, I am currently working on follow-up studies to examine the processes underlying this cultural buffering effect. For example, there are various potential theoretical explanations for the effect that I am trying to disentangle using additional large-scale datasets.
Figurative expressions are an elementary part of everyday language (Fainsilber & Ortony, 1987). Much of human thinking is conceptualized through metaphors, proverbs, irony, and other instances of non-literal language (Lakoff & Johnson, 2008), which means that people get into contact with figurative language early in their development and have predominantly fewer problems understanding and producing it later in life. Figurative language comprehension influences social relationships, social participation, and educational achievement (Cain et al., 2005; Kerbel & Grunwell, 1997; Swineford et al., 2014).

Even though psychological research has produced a plethora of knowledge on figurative language comprehension (e.g., Glucksberg et al., 1997; Kintsch, 2000; Lakoff & Johnson, 2008), and production (Chiappe & Chiappe, 2007; Pereira de Barros et al., 2010; Pierce & Chiappe, 2009; Silvia & Beaty, 2012) in healthy and especially clinical samples, there is still an ongoing discussion whether metaphors, proverbs, irony, idioms, and sarcasm should be grouped under the umbrella term of figurative language and whether there is one psychological process underlying the comprehension of figurative language or that there are several different processes that can explain the comprehension in healthy and clinical subjects.

A novel approach to integrate the comprehension of figurative language in a broader framework for healthy individuals could be the integration in the Cattell–Horn–Carroll (CHC) model of intelligence (McGrew, 2009). The contribution of several cognitive abilities from the CHC-model of intelligence to the comprehension of figurative language are only discussed in a few studies (Silvia & Beaty, 2012).

First, we want to investigate whether the subcategories of figurative language (metaphors, proverbs, idioms, and irony) are independent constructs and whether there is one psychological process necessary to comprehend figurative language or that there are several different processes that can explain the comprehension of figurative language in healthy subjects.

Second, we want to investigate whether the ability to comprehend figurative language might be locatable in the CHC-model of intelligence (McGrew, 2009) for healthy individuals. There is few evidence that fluid intelligence contributes to the comprehension of figurative language in the generation of creative metaphors (Silvia & Beaty, 2012) and long-term storage and retrieval (Glr) may contribute to the procession of conventional idioms and conventional metaphors (Bohrn et al., 2012). Furthermore, working memory, inhibitory control and executive abilities seem to be relevant in the comprehension of figurative language. Nevertheless, more research is needed to integrate figurative language in the CHC-model.

Third, we investigate the relationship between psychopathology and the comprehension of figurative language in schizophrenia. The comprehension of figurative language is significantly worse in patients with schizophrenia compared to healthy subjects. (for a review, see Thoma & Daum, 2006). In this study, we will investigate if the integration of figurative language comprehension in the CHC-model for healthy individuals can also be shown for individuals with schizophrenia. Furthermore, some important factors, like meta- and social cognitive functions, will be included and controlled for and their correlations with figurative language comprehension will be exploratively examined.
Interpersonal perceptions are a central element of any social interaction and play a pivotal role in understanding the links between an individual's personality, their social behaviors, and the initiation of social relationships (Kenny, 1994; Back et al., 2011). This is particularly important in the developmental phase of adolescence, where individuals are tasked with the formation of a clear view of themselves and thus may be especially sensitive to social feedback from others (Erikson, 1968; Harter, 2012; Koepke & Denissen, 2012). To date, however, little is known about how different interpersonal perceptions shape each other in social interactions, about their driving forces, and the consequences they have for how adolescents view themselves. Addressing this knowledge gap, this dissertation seeks to investigate the role of different interpersonal perceptions (i.e., self-, other-, and metaperceptions) in adolescents' social interactions. Using data focusing on social interactions in different social contexts (i.e., laboratory, daily life, and virtual encounters), this dissertation explores how interpersonal perceptions of key domains (i.e., personality and social inclusion) interrelate and shape each other. Moving further, this project also examines how interpersonal perceptions and their relationships are determined by stable personality traits and how they relate to changes in key aspects of adolescents' self-view (i.e., momentary self-esteem). To this end, this dissertation will comprise three empirical studies. Study 1 explores social interactions in both the laboratory and the daily lives of adolescents by analyzing how different interpersonal perceptions of social inclusion are associated with individuals' momentary self-esteem. In addition, the study will investigate the degree to which these associations are shaped by the personality traits neuroticism, extraversion, and agreeableness. Study 2 will draw on data collected during virtual group interactions and examine the extent to which adolescents understand other-perceptions of their personality (i.e., meta-accuracy), and how this relates to subsequent interpersonal perceptions of social inclusion, as well as an individual's momentary self-esteem. Finally, Study 3 will provide an in-depth analysis of the links between interpersonal perceptions and behaviors within social interactions. Overall, this project aims to increase knowledge on the dynamic interplay of social interactions and adolescent personality by taking a micro-perspective on different interpersonal perception processes within social interactions.
Mechanisms of Personality Development in Adulthood
Franziska Brotzeller, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

While it is now largely acknowledged that everyday experiences – from incidental episodes to major life events – can lead to personality change across the entire lifespan, researchers have only just begun to examine the mechanisms behind personality change and cannot yet sufficiently explain why certain experiences lead to trait changes and others do not (Bleidorn et al., 2018; Geukes et al., 2017; Quintus et al., 2021). The TESSERA model by Wrzus and Roberts (2017) offers one explanation by proposing that explicit and implicit representations of personality develop via reflective and associative processes, respectively. More specifically, these two processes enable long-term change by linking repeated momentary states to explicit and implicit trait representations. Momentary states can trigger reflective processes such as restructuring, evaluating, and reappraising an experience. These reflective processes can result in an increased congruence between the states and explicit trait representations, e.g., through explicit trait change. In addition, momentary states trigger associative processes, that is, the strengthening of implicit associations between states and the concept self, which can over time impact a person’s implicit trait representations (Wrzus & Roberts, 2017).

In my dissertation project, I aim at examining the reflective and associative processes underlying explicit and implicit trait change in more detail. First, I focus on reflective processes underlying trait change after receiving feedback that is congruent vs. incongruent with one’s explicit self-concept. I argue that the larger this incongruency, the more the person reflects on it, that is, invests working memory capacity (WMC) into resolving the incongruency. Furthermore, I assume that the larger this investment, the more the person’s explicit trait representations change in the direction of the feedback obtained.

In my first two studies, I test this hypothesis in (quasi)experimental online studies with two measurement occasions. At t1, participants’ explicit trait level of self-discipline, a subfacet of conscientiousness, is measured via self-reports. Several weeks after t1, participants complete two tasks framed as objective measures of self-discipline. They then receive feedback both on their self-reported self-discipline level (“trait”) and their objectively measured self-discipline during the tasks. Next, participants complete a WMC task to measure the amount of reflection as well as a self-report scale measuring participants’ willingness to adjust their self-reported self-discipline level in accordance with the task feedback they obtained. I hypothesize that the larger the incongruency between the “trait” and the task feedback, the more (a) participants reflect on it (i.e., the larger the reductions in WMC) and (b) the more they are willing to adjust their explicit self-concept. I also hypothesize that these effects are larger for negative incongruencies (i.e., task feedback below self-report) than for positive incongruencies (i.e., task feedback above self-report).

After the first two studies, I plan on conducting further studies aimed at exploring the content of reflective processes as well as the relationship between the two processes and trait change with an experience sampling-methodology.
Major life events like a new romantic relationship or the death of a family member can have a large impact on a person's everyday life and are, for example, associated with changes in subjective well-being or personality traits. In recent research, one can observe a shift from objective to subjective characteristics when studying the perception of major life events. The dissertational project examines the construct validity of idiosyncratic life event perception. Specifically, we examine whether the subjective perception of a life event can improve the prediction of relevant outcome variables (e.g., changes in depression symptoms) vis-à-vis objectively measured life events.

If it is possible to measure idiosyncratic life events, the subjective experience of this event should also be accessible for a close person (e.g., mother) of the target – at least to some extent. To investigate the convergence of self- and informant-perception of major life events, we are currently conducting a preregistered correlational online study with a dyadic design. First, participants rate how they perceived a self-chosen major life event on the Event Characteristic Questionnaire (ECQ; Luhmann et al., 2020). Subsequently, participants rate the event characteristics of another, close person's life event on the ECQ. We will investigate the overall and the distinctive profile correlation of self- and informant-ratings. Additionally, we will examine potential moderators of the convergence of major life event perception, such as perceived closeness between the individuals, verbal exchange about the event, and presence at the informant's event. Data collection started in August 2021 and data of $N = 114$ dyads is already collected. However, full sample size of $N = 550$ dyads needs to be reached to obtain more robust results for envisioned moderator analyses.

Furthermore, it is planned to examine if there are differences in the convergence of self- and informant-report among different raters. Particularly, we will extend the current study by assessing multiple informants for one target (e.g., family member, colleague and romantic partner). The second part of the study is currently being planned, and I would welcome feedback at the workshop.
Methodische und inhaltliche Abwägungen in der Wissensermittlung

Benjamin Goecke, Ulm University


This dissertation project aims to improve the knowledge and understanding of the self-assessment motive (SAM, Sedikides & Strube, 1997), a motive not only relevant for social and personality psychology, but also for everyday life. Believing in the propagated positive effects of self-insight, people engage in various activities to improve the knowledge about themselves and their internal states. Amongst others, they use smartphones to track their moods, take personality or intelligence tests on the internet, ask friends for feedback on their appearance. The striving for an accurate self-knowledge is related to the SAM in theories on motivated self-perception and regulation (e.g., Baumeister, 1997; Leary, 2007; Robins & John, 1997; Sedikides & Strube, 1997). Focusing on the SAM, my dissertation project aims to answer the following questions: Do people systematically differ in the strength of their SAM, and can these individual differences be assessed with a valid and reliable scale? What is the nomological net of the SAM? Are there antecedents and which consequences does the motive have for self-perception, social cognition, and behavior? To investigate these questions, the first research paper will introduce the measurement of the motive with a short self-report scale and provides a theoretical framework on antecedents and consequences of the SAM. The second research paper will deal with the consequence that feedback processing depends on the strength of the SAM. Two experimental studies will provide not only correlational, but also causal evidence on the assumption that a stronger motive leads to enhanced processing of Feedback. Finally, the third paper will investigate cultural differences in the meaning and strength of the SAM between individualistic Western and collectivistic East Asian cultures. This study will also validate a cross cultural invariant version of the scale to reliably measure interindividual differences in the SAM.
Almost all aspects of modern life are subject to an increasing digitization, perhaps mostly in the domain of keeping up with friends, family and spouses. For this reason, a substantive part of interpersonal relationships is nowadays taking place online through instant messaging services such as WhatsApp. Importantly, these interactions can be collected and analyzed to study interpersonal relationships in unprecedented detail and granularity. This kind of data is especially promising due to the retrospective data collection, granularity and its non-intrusive nature. So far however, most related work is either qualitative or fails to consider established findings and theoretical frameworks from interpersonal psychology. This is because quantitative text mining approaches have rarely been thoroughly connected with established theoretical bases and chat-log file data is difficult to collect, parse and analyze for most social scientists. For these reasons, I am aiming in my dissertation to:

1) Provide a low-threshold framework for social scientists to collect digitally logged interpersonal communication from their participants. Specifically, I will develop an R-package and a Shiny web app for collecting, parsing and visualizing donated WhatsApp chat log files. A first version of the package and app can be found here: https://github.com/gesiscss/WhatsR.

2) Explore who is willing to donate digital behavioral data of interpersonal communications for research purposes, under which conditions and for which reasons. The goal is to develop best-practices for data donation of sensitive digital behavioral data. Specifically, I will conduct a study using the Shiny web app where participants can upload their own chatlogs, interactively censor the parts they are not willing to share and fill in a questionnaire about their demographic information, personality traits, motivations, fears and expectations with respect to data donation.

3) Use digitally logged communication in combination with questionnaires and diary studies to investigate their usefulness for assessing theoretically established concepts in relationship dynamics. Specifically, I will conduct a study to assess perceived relationship quality, interpersonal closeness, satisfaction, demographic information and personality assessments in either a) couples in long distance relationships who primarily use WhatsApp for daily communication b) a sample of first semester university students who primarily use WhatsApp for daily communication. In addition to the assessments using established questionnaires and diary approaches, participants will be asked to donate metadata of their WhatsApp Chat logs that they have with other participants. This combination of actual behavioral data with subjectively experienced relationship development can be used to investigate the complex interaction of intrapersonal and interpersonal factors in shaping romantic relationships or emerging friendship networks.
Detecting careless responding in personality questionnaires in the multidimensional forced-choice format
Rebekka Kupffer, University Koblenz-Landau

Personality traits are often measured using self-report questionnaires in the rating scale format. The multidimensional forced-choice (MFC) format is an alternative to rating scales in which participants are instructed to rank items according to how well the items describe them (e.g., from most like me [Rank 1] to least like me [Rank 3]). Some response biases such as faking can be reduced by using the MFC format. Currently, little is known regarding another response bias: careless responding. Careless responding is defined as selecting response options without considering the item content. These responses often seem to be arbitrary or indiscriminate. Not screening out these careless responses impacts data quality negatively. Methods exist to detect careless responses in rating scale data. For the MFC format there are no existing methods to detect careless responding so far.

Therefore, the aim of my first PhD project was to develop methods to detect careless responding in personality questionnaires in the MFC format. We adapted a number of indices used in the rating scale format to the MFC format and additionally developed several new indices that are unique to the MFC format. We applied them to a data set from an online survey (N = 1,169) that included a series of personality questionnaires in the MFC format assessing the HEXACO, Big Five, and Dark Triad. The results from this study showed that careless responding also plays an important role in the MFC format. The examined indices differed in their performance and flagged different proportions of the sample as careless respondents. Moreover, the majority of the sample (about 78 – 84%) did not respond carelessly, though the ones that did were characterized by different levels and manifestations of careless responding. For example, some participants tended to repeat certain rank orders relative to the presented order (e.g., 2-3-1; 2-3-1; 2-3-1).

An important decision to make when screening the data for careless responding using the indices is which cutoff values should be applied. For some indices, natural cutoff values exist but for others, adequate cutoff values need to be determined. Hence, the aim of my second PhD project is to further validate the careless responding indices in an empirical study and to investigate adequate cutoff values for the indices in a simulation study in order to provide practical recommendations on how to detect careless responding in the MFC format. As a side project of this dissertation, functions to compute the careless responding indices were written and combined to an R package which will be soon available on GitHub. A short tutorial with examples on how to compute the careless responding indices in the MFC format will be apart of the third dissertation project.
Extraversion und sozialer Status
Sabine Ostermann, Georg-August-University Göttingen

Extraversion ist eine fundamentale Dimension der Persönlichkeit, die in nahezu allen Modellen menschlicher Persönlichkeiten identifiziert wird, ebenso wie in Persönlichkeitsmodellen der Tierwelt (Gosling & John, 1999). Extraversion ist eine breit gefächerte Eigenschaft, die aus durchsetzungsfähigen (assertive) und enthusiastischen Tendenzen besteht (Condon et al., 2020).

Stabile individuelle Unterschiede in dieser Persönlichkeitseigenschaft sind mit einer Reihe von sozialen und dem Wohlbefinden betreﬀenden Konstrukten assoziiert. Besonders der Zusammenhänge von Extraversion mit dem spontanen Erlangen von sozialem Status (e.g. Desjardins et al., 2015) und positivem Affekt (PA, e.g. McNiel & Fleeson, 2006) sind robust. Wie sich diese Assoziationen jedoch in sozialen Interaktionen widerspiegeln, ist belang unklar, vor allem im Bezug auf PA.


Konstruktion eines testfairen adaptiven Leistungstestsystems auf Basis eines Item-Link-Designs und der Betrachtung teilrichtiger Lösungen
Dominik Weber, Universität des Saarlandes

Im Rahmen der Dissertation sollen umschriebene Fragen zur Testfairness und -validität im Kontext der kognitiven Leistungstestung beantwortet werden.


There are more and more experience sampling studies assessing personality (Horstmann et al., 2020), interests (Roemer et al., 2021) or well-being (Stieger et al., 2021), among other things. Research on personality (e.g., Wilson et al., 2017) as well as vocational interests (Roemer et al., 2021; Ziegler et al., 2018) provided evidence concerning intraindividual variance in either trait or state expressions. This finding could also apply to other constructs. If someone is interested in what drives a person to learn, an appropriate approach is to look at different motivational roots of an individual. Since traits and states are conceptually not the same thing (Augustine & Larsen, 2012; Baumert et al., 2017) one should consider examining not only the motivational consistencies of individuals but also the within-person fluctuations in situational achievement motives. For a comprehensive prediction of behavior, the sole analysis of traits is sometimes not sufficient, i.e. state assessments and dynamic processes need to be included. Theories like the Whole Trait Theory (Fleeson & Jayawickreme, 2015) support this assumption as the influence of the situation is taken into account. Although we seem to know that there are fluctuations in the expressions of traits, only few studies address this aspect in terms of achievement motives (Breland & Donovan, 2005; Goetz et al., 2016). In the proposed dissertation project, it shall thus be investigated whether achievement motive traits manifest as achievement motives states in the moment and, if so, whether these states are related to situation perception. Achievement motives, especially achievement goals, have shown to be adequate predictors of academic performance (Pekrun et al., 2009; Richardson & Abraham, 2009; Robbins et al., 2004; Steinmayr et al., 2011; Wirthwein et al., 2013). In this context, it will also be investigated whether achievement motive states can predict academic performance.
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