

Hierarchical Structure of Maladaptive Personality Traits

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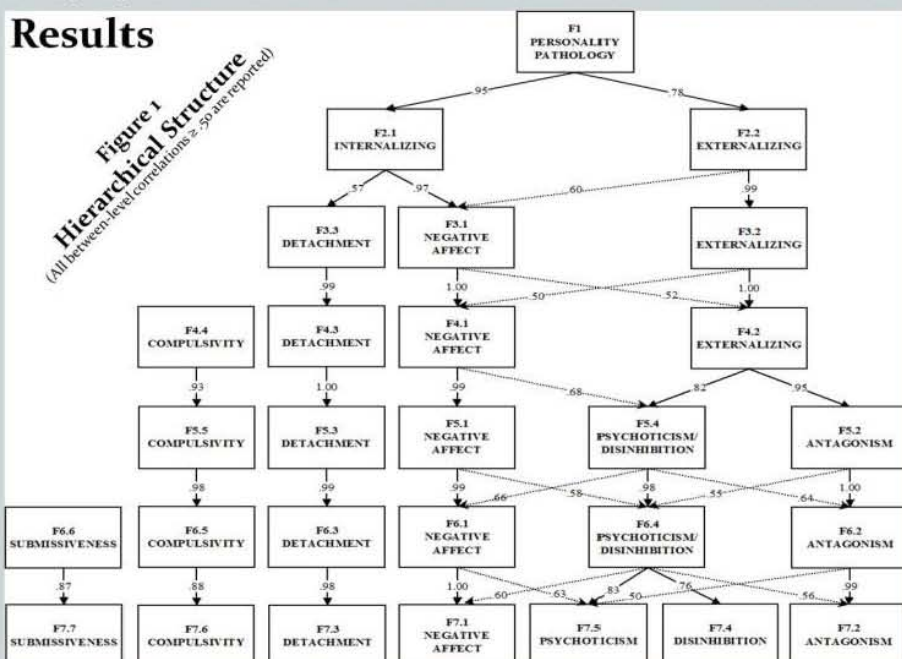
Objective

Examine in a clinical sample the joint hierarchical structure of personality pathology derived from the 25 primary facets of the *Personality Inventory* (PID-5; Krueger et al., 2012) for the fifth edition of Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5; section III) and the 18 traits domains of the *Dimensional Assessment of Personality Pathology-Basic Questionnaire* (DAPP-BQ; Livesley & Jackson, 2009).

Method

The clinical sample was comprised of 414 outpatients (58% female), aged 18 to 64 years old ($M = 33.9$, $SD = 11.3$), referred for personality assessment to the Personality Disorder Unit of Barcelona's Clinic Hospital (Catalonia, Spain). A series of exploratory factor analyses (EFA) was performed following a "bass-ackwards" approach (Goldberg, 2006) by using Unweighted Least Squares (ULS) as the method for factors extraction and Promax rotations. One to k factors were successively extracted, being k the maximum number of nontrivial factors (three or more loadings per factor above .30 psychologically interpretable). Regression-based factor scores on each level of the hierarchy were computed and subsequently correlated to compute path coefficients between the different hierarchical levels. We also calculated zero-order and disattenuated correlations between all scales.

Results



A hierarchical structure of seven factors emerged (F_1 -Negative Affect, F_2 -Antagonism, F_3 -Detachment, F_4 -Disinhibition, F_5 -Psychoticism, F_6 -Compulsivity, F_7 -Submissiveness) (Figure 1), which accounted for 67.3% of the common variance. The fit indexes of this model were acceptable ($\chi^2_{(623)} = 2288.839$; $p < .001$; AGFI = .99) as well as factorial simplicity indices ($S = .6761$; $LS = .3749$) and the root mean square of residuals (RMSR = .0316; Kelley's RMSR = .0492). This seven-factor solution was the lowest one meeting our acceptability criteria, and it is fully shown in Table 1.

Disattenuated correlations (r_c) between the PID-5 & DAPP-BQ scales show that about two-thirds of the scales in either of the questionnaires have a corresponding image from good to excellent in the other, as suggested by $r_c \geq .80$ (Figure 2).

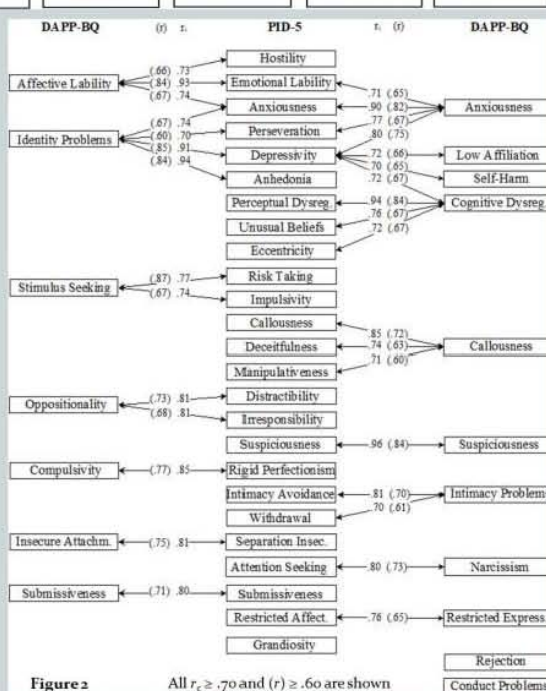


Figure 2 All $r_c \geq .70$ and $(r) \geq .60$ are shown

Table 1. Promax-Rotated Factor Loadings for the Seven-Factor Solution of the Hierarchical Model

Traits	Negative Affect	Antagonism	Detachment	Disinhibition	Psychoticism	Compulsivity	Submissiveness
DAPP Anxiousness	.101	-.10	.03	.05	-.14	.17	.11
PID Anxiousness	.07	-.10	-.10	-.06	-.11	.13	-.03
DAPP Identity Problems	.01	-.04	.25	-.09	-.12	-.06	-.03
PID Depressivity	.83	-.10	-.19	-.04	.06	-.07	.05
PID Anhedonia	.77	-.02	.39	-.17	-.19	-.11	.02
DAPP Insecure Attachment	.76	.09	-.51	-.11	.12	-.09	.05
DAPP Submissiveness	.75	-.02	-.02	-.08	.13	.02	.56
PID Separation Insecurity	.75	.12	-.47	-.12	.03	-.14	.11
DAPP Affective Liability	.72	-.08	-.12	.31	-.01	.19	-.29
DAPP Low Affiliation	.69	.02	.32	-.20	.04	.04	.17
DAPP Emotional Liability	.67	-.15	-.21	.28	.10	.16	-.13
PID Perseveration	.65	.06	.19	.16	-.06	.26	.13
DAPP Oppositionality	.64	.04	.11	.34	-.14	-.21	.18
PID Distractibility	.58	-.04	.12	.33	-.01	-.17	.16
PID Submissiveness	.57	.05	-.06	-.19	.14	.03	.55
PID Suspiciousness	.47	.16	-.02	-.20	.34	-.08	-.14
DAPP Suspiciousness	.44	.21	-.02	-.17	.35	-.04	-.14
DAPP Self-Harm	.40	-.20	.08	.11	.32	.02	-.01
PID Manipulativeness	-.22	.85	.02	.15	-.11	.01	.01
PID Deceitfulness	.01	.80	.06	.06	-.02	-.08	.16
DAPP Callousness	-.02	.76	.23	.01	-.03	-.05	-.11
PID Attention Seeking	.11	.69	-.25	.16	-.01	.08	.18
DAPP Rejection	.00	.66	-.01	.17	-.16	.23	-.24
DAPP Narcissism	.44	.61	-.24	.01	-.07	.19	.25
PID Grandiosity	-.26	.61	.03	-.01	.16	.28	.01
PID Callousness	-.14	.57	.30	.06	.09	-.15	-.24
DAPP Intimacy Problems	-.05	-.08	.80	.00	-.02	.06	-.11
PID Intimacy Avoidance	-.15	-.02	.74	.08	.02	.07	-.08
DAPP Restricted Expression	.18	.07	.71	-.16	.01	.12	.13
PID Withdrawal	.16	-.04	.71	-.11	.12	.02	-.07
PID Restricted Affectivity	-.12	.33	.65	-.10	.02	.03	.04
DAPP Stimulus Seeking	-.05	.19	-.16	.71	.16	-.07	-.10
PID Risk Taking	.35	.18	-.07	.60	.20	-.04	-.13
PID Impulsivity	.22	.08	-.11	.57	.04	-.12	-.14
PID Irresponsibility	.29	.22	.16	.39	.02	-.32	.10
DAPP Conduct Problems	.02	.25	.12	.38	.15	-.08	-.18
PID Unusual Beliefs & Experiences	-.11	-.02	-.01	.21	.87	.10	.09
PID Perceptual Dysregulation	.22	-.07	.08	.22	.70	.05	.18
DAPP Cognitive Dysregulation	.42	-.15	.09	.19	.60	.01	.16
PID Eccentricity	.21	.04	.28	.17	.43	.10	.05
PID Rigid Perfectionism	.23	.15	.19	-.07	-.01	.80	.01
DAPP Compulsivity	.03	.07	.08	-.22	.17	.77	.03
PID Hostility	.29	.33	.10	.20	-.07	.02	.43

Loadings $\geq .30$ are shown in bold type and the largest loadings of each factor underlined.

Conclusions

The hierarchical structure resulting integrates the main domains of personality pathology covered by both the PID-5 and the DAPP-BQ and represents an empirically-based model for the dimensional classification of maladaptive personality traits.



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