

Construct Validity of the Personality Inventory for DSM-5 (PID-5) Triarchic Psychopathy Scales in a Male Correctional Sample

Jillian H. Hackathorn & Dustin B. Wygant, Ph.D.
Eastern Kentucky University

Introduction

- Psychopathy is characterized by callousness, fearlessness, dominance, manipulateness, irresponsibility, and impulsivity (among other traits)
- There is considerable debate in the field about how to best operationalize the construct of psychopathy
- Patrick, Fowles, and Krueger (2009) developed the Triarchic model of psychopathy by align historical theories and assessment measures of psychopathy
- The Triarchic model distills psychopathy down to 3 phenotypic domains:
 - Boldness:** social dominance, emotional resiliency, daring
 - Meanness:** callous lack of empathy, instrumental aggression
 - Disinhibition:** problematic impulse control and emotional reactivity
- Scales have been developed for various personality inventories to capture the Triarchic domains
- Drislane and colleagues (2019) developed scales for the Personality Inventory for DSM-5 (PID-5) to assess the triarchic model of psychopathy
 - PID-5 was developed to assess the Alternative Model of Personality Disorders in the DSM-5
 - Initial validation for the scales indicated good support in capturing the triarchic domains and other measures of personality psychopathology
 - To date, these scales have not been examined in correctional samples, which theoretically have a higher base rate of psychopathic traits

The Current Study

- Goal of the current study was to extend the construct validation of the PID-5 Triarchic scales in a male correctional sample in relation to various measures of psychopathy and personality functioning. Construct validity is denoted by examining the pattern of convergent and discriminant correlations between criteria.
- We hypothesized that the PID-5 Triarchic scales would exhibit convergent validity with other measures of the Triarchic model:
 - PID-5 Boldness** would be associated with other markers of boldness (TriPM Boldness, PPI-R Boldness), emotional resilience (low negative emotionality-MMPI-2-RF NEGE), and fearlessness (e.g., PPI-R Fearless Dominance)
 - PID-5 Meanness** would be associated with markers of meanness (TriPM Meanness, PPI-R Meanness), callousness (PCL-R Facet 2), and interpersonal aggression (MMPI-2-RF AGGR)
 - PID-5 Disinhibition** would be associated with markers of disinhibition (TriPM Disinhibition, PPI-R Disinhibition) poor impulse control (MMPI-2-RF DISC), negative emotionality (NEGE), and externalizing tendencies (PCL-R Facet 3 and 4, SCID-II ASPD)

METHOD

Participants

- 203 adult male incarcerated offenders at a medium-security institution
- 52% Caucasian, 43% African-American, 5% other ethnicity
- Mean age: 34.1 years (SD = 9.7), Mean Ed: 11.8 years (SD = 1.5)
- 62% were incarcerated for violent offenses, 25% for sexual offenses, 24% for drug related offenses

Measures

- Personality Inventory for DSM-5 (PID-5;** Krueger et al., 2011): Self-report measure of personality psychopathology aligned with DSM-5 Alternative Model of Personality Disorders
- Triarchic Psychopathy Measure (TriPM;** Patrick, 2010): measures triarchic domains of psychopathy (boldness, meanness, disinhibition)
- Psychopathic Personality Inventory-Revised (PPI-R;** Lilienfeld & Widows, 2005): self-report measure of psychopathic traits
- Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV Axis II Disorders (SCID-II ASPD;** First et al., 1997): Continuous measure of antisocial personality disorder symptoms
- Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R;** Hare, 2003): Clinician rating of psychopathic traits
- Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2 Restructured Form (MMPI-2-RF;** Ben-Porath & Tellegen, 2008): Broadband measure of personality and psychopathology. We examined the Personality Psychopathology Five (PSY-5) scales

Results

- We calculated zero-order correlations between each criteria and the PID-5 Triarchic scales
- Next, to further elucidate the relative and unique correlates for each PID-5 Triarchic scale, we regressed each of the external criteria onto the three PID-5 scales, which is presented in the Table
- We color-coded the correlations in the table to align with the hypotheses in the Introduction.
- As you can see, the pattern of results were generally in line with our hypotheses:
 - PID-5 Boldness aligned with measures of fearlessness, boldness, and emotional resiliency**
 - PID-5 Meanness was associated with other markers of meanness, callousness, and aggression**
 - PID-5 Disinhibition was associated with markers of impulsivity, disinhibition, and negative emotionality**

Discussion

- Our results generally indicated good evidence of construct validity (convergent and discriminant evidence) for the PID-5 Triarchic scales and supported our initial hypotheses
- PID-5 Triarchic scales are aligned with conceptually relevant psychopathy and personality criteria
- The PID-5 Triarchic scales can bridge the Triarchic model of psychopathy and DSM-5 Alternative Model of Personality Disorders

Measures	PID-5 Boldness	PID-5 Meanness	PID-5 Disinhibition	R ²
	r/β	r/β	r/β	
Triarchic Psychopathy Measure (TriPM)				
Boldness	.49*/.50*	.16/.11	-.03/-.19	.27
Meanness	.29*/.09	.67*/.52*	.53*/.22*	.49
Disinhibition	.06/-.04	.22/-.11	.58*/.65*	.34
Psychopathic Personality Inventory-Revised (PPI-R)				
Fearless Dominance	.62*/.62*	.19/.03	.07/-.07	.38
Self-Centered Impulsivity	.20/.03	.48*/.12	.71*/.64*	.52
Coldheartedness	.30*/.16	.53*/.53*	.23*/-.09	.30
Boldness	.58*/.59*	.17/.03	.05/-.09	.34
Meanness	.32*/.15	.59*/.52*	.36*/.05	.37
Disinhibition	.07/-.06	.31*/-.05	.66*/.70*	.45
Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV (SCID-II)				
Antisocial PD Symptoms	.22/.12	.32*/.11	.40*/.32*	.19
Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R)				
Total Score	.34*/.25*	.33*/.12	.36*/.25*	.21
Facet 1 (Interpersonal)	.31*/.28*	.18/.11	.10/-.01	.11
Facet 2 (Affective)	.27*/.19	.33*/.26	.21/.03	.14
Facet 3 (Lifestyle)	.26*/.20	.21/-.07	.42*/.42*	.21
Facet 4 (Antisocial)	.24*/.14	.33*/.13	.40*/.30*	.19
MMPI-2 Restructured Form (MMPI-2-RF)				
Aggressiveness (AGGR)	.35*/.25*	.38*/.17	.39*/.25*	.25
Psychoticism (PSYC)	-.09/-.18	.20/.12	.29*/.26*	.11
Disconstraint (DISC)	.29*/.17	.40*/.10	.54*/.45*	.33
Negative Emotionality (NEGE)	-.33*/-.41*	.05/-.15	.43*/.60*	.38
Introversion/Low Positive (INTR)	-.30*/-.37*	.14/.38*	-.10/-.23	.19

Bolded correlations/beta-weights are significant at $p \leq .001$

References

- Ben-Porath, Y. S., & Tellegen, A. (2008). *The Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2 Restructured Form: Manual for administration, scoring, and interpretation*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- Drislane, L. E., Sellbom, M., Brislin, S. J., Strickland, C. M., Christian, E., Wygant, D. B., Krueger, R. F., & Patrick, C. J. (2019). Improving characterization of psychopathy within the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5), alternative model for personality disorders: Creation and validation of Personality Inventory for DSM-5 Triarchic scales. *Personality Disorders: Theory, Research, and Treatment*, 10, 511–523.
- First, M. B., Gibbon, M., Spitzer, R. L., Williams, J. B. W., & Benjamin, L. S. (1997). *SCID-II personality questionnaire*. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Press.
- Hare, R. D. (2003). *The Psychopathy Checklist—Revised manual and interview guide* (2nd ed.). Toronto, Canada: Multi-Health Systems.
- Krueger, R. F., Eaton, N. R., Clark, L. A., Watson, D., Markon, K. E., Derringer, J., . . . Livesley, W. J. (2011). Deriving an empirical structure of personality pathology for DSM-5. *Journal of Personality Disorders*, 25, 170–191.
- Lilienfeld, S. O., & Widows, M. R. (2005). *Psychopathic Personality Inventory—Revised: Professional manual*. Lutz, FL: Psychological Assessment Resources, Inc.
- Patrick, C. J. (2010). Operationalizing the triarchic conceptualization of psychopathy: Preliminary description of brief scales for assessment of boldness, meanness, and disinhibition. Unpublished manual, Department of Psychology, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL. Retrieved from <http://www.phenxtoolkit.org>
- Patrick, C. J., Fowles, D. C., & Krueger, R. F. (2009). Triarchic conceptualization of psychopathy: Developmental origins of disinhibition, boldness, and meanness. *Development and Psychopathology*, 21, 913–938.

