SOME RIGHTS RESERVED
creative commons
All content on this website (including text, photographs, audio files, and any other original works), unless otherwise noted, is licensed under a Creative Commons License.

ShareAlike

This work is licensed under the
Creative Commons
Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs
License
Ce travail est protégé par une licence
Creative Commons
(559 Nathan Abbott Way, Stanford, California 94305, USA)
au profit de l' association
APOCOSIS
ISBN: 978-972-9059-05-6

Il peut être copié et distribué gratuitement, uniquement dans un but non-commercial, mais sans modification, et à condition que soit indiqués
It can be copied and distributed, only in a non-commercial purpose, but without modification, and provided with the indications of

the origin/la source : http://www.afscet.asso.fr/resSystemica/Lisboa08/amigo.pdf
the title/le titre : Adjective scale of the unique personality trait: measure of personality as an overall and complete system.
the author/l'auteur : AMIGO Salvador, Joan C. MICO & Antonio CASELLES
the pages/la pagination : 3 p.
the year/l'année : 2008
& the book/la publication: 7th Systems Science European Union Congress Proceedings, Lisboa, Portugal.

Attribution Non-Commerciale, Partage À l'Identique
Urhebernennung, Nicht-kommerziell, Gegenseitigkeit
Atribución No comercial, Compartir en igualdad
Atribuição Não-Comercial, Partilha em Igualdade

Adjective scale of the unique personality trait: measure of personality as an overall and complete system

Salvador Amigó
Departament de Personalitat, Avaluació I Tractaments Psicològics
Universitat de València
Salvador.Amigo@uv.es

Joan C. Micó
Departament de Matemàtica Aplicada-IUMPA
Universitat Politècnica de Valéncia
jmico@mat.upv.es

Antonio Caselles
Departament de Matemàtica Aplicada
Universitat de València
Antonio.Caselles@uv.es

Abstract

The unique trait personality theory, proposed by Amigó (2005), and Amigó, Caselles and Micó (2008), asserts that there exists a basic trait of personality, which provides an overall description of personality. In other words, it is the top element of a hierarchical system defined by a set of personality traits. In this study, a scale of 9 adjectives explaining personality is presented. This scale was enlarged from the sensation seeking of the MAACL, by Zuckerman and Lubin, and it was administered to 80 Spanish subjects. A Cronbach's alpha of .71 was obtained. The factor analysis provided two factors with an explained cumulated variance of 53%. Both factors correlate negative and significantly ($r=-.24$; $p<.01$). The scale correlate significantly with the factors of the EPQ by Eysenck, as it was expected: on a hand, positive and significantly with Extraversion and Psychoticism ($p<.01$) and, on the other hand, negative and significantly with Neuroticism ($p<.01$). In addition, there exists a correlation between the adjective scale and ITPA personality disorders: on a hand, positive and significantly with antisocial disorder and, conversely, negative and significantly with the spectrum of anxiety disorders. The conclusion is that the presented scale, constituted uniquely by 9 adjectives, represents an attempt to measure personality as a trait-system of nine elements, which is complete, due to the outcomes obtained in this study by comparing it with other psychological instruments, and overall, due to its hierarchical relationship with other traits.

1. Introduction

The existence of a single and basic trait has been proposed, in the vertex of a hierarchy of personality traits and, in the context of the Unique Personality Trait Theory (hereafter UPTT) (Amigó, 2005; Amigó, Caselles and Micó, 2008). On a hand, this trait measures the organism's relationship with its environment. On the other hand, it measures as well a continuous interval between to poles of conduct: from a stimuli-seeking conduct (Extraversion) to an avoidance and stress conduct (Introversion).

The UPTT proposes that sensation seeking is a good approximation to the unique personality trait. From the Sensation Seeking Scale, composed by 12 adjectives, selected from the original Multiple Affect Adjective Check List (MAACL) by Zuckerman & Lubin (1965), we have elaborated a brief scale of nine adjectives. This is the Adjective Scale of Unique Personality Trait (hereafter ASUPT).

We propose that ASUPT assesses a basic trait of personality which provides an overall description of personality. Nevertheless, we propose a relationships' structure to correlate ASUPT with other traits of the Eysenck's EPQ and personality disorders to the ITPA. Our proposal is that the ASUPT extraversion pole correlates positively with traits such as extraversion, psychoticism and antisocial disorder, and the ASUPT introversion pole correlates negatively with traits such as neuroticism or the anxiety disorders traits. All of this relations show personality as a hierarchical system of traits.

Subjects:

A total of 180 subjects (58 males and 122 females) were included. These subjects were selected from the students and staff at Universities of Valencia and valencian professionals of several types. The mean age was 32.52 (S.D. = 14.767) of ages ranging from 17 to 74 years.

2. Instruments

1. EPQ-RS (Eysenck and Eysenck, 1985).
2. International Personality Disorders Examination (IPDE) (Loranger et al., 1994).
3. ASUPT: List of 5 adjectives, selected from the Sensation Seeking Scale (MAACL; Zuckerman & Lubin, 1965). The adjectives are: active, energetic, adventurous, daring, enthusiastic, merry, quiet, mild and bored.

3. Results

ASUPT presents adequate internal consistency and construct validity. The internal consistency of the AFS is acceptable (α = .71). A factor analysis was performed. It was obtained two factors that explain 34.37 % of variance the first one and 18.65 % of variance the second one. The first factor groping the adjectives: active, energetic, adventurous, daring, enthusiastic and merry. This is an extraversion factor. The second factor groping the adjectives: quiet, mild and bored. This is an introversion factor. The results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Rotted component matrix.

	Extraversion	Introversion
Active	.47	
Energetic	.58	
Adventurous	.75	
Daring	.76	
Enthusiastic	.64	
Merry	.63	
Quiet		.74
Mild		.70
Bored		.68

An extraction method: Principal Component Analysis. A rotation method: varimax. The explained cumulate variance of both factors is 53 %.

Both factors correlate negative and significantly (r = -.24; p < 0.1). This outcome reinforces the construct validity of ASUPT.

On the other hand, the relationships of ASUPT with the personality factors resulted as expected. Table 2 shows the outcomes.

Table 2: ASUPT and the personality factors.

	ASUPT	E	N
E	.52**		
N	-.21**	-.16*	
P	.25**	-.005	.04

* = p < .05; ** = p < .01; ASUPT = Adjective Scale of Unique Personality Trait; E = extraversion; N = Neuroticism; P = Psychoticism.

ASUPT correlates positive and significantly with Extraversion (r = .52; p < .01) and Psychoticism (r = .25; p < .01), and correlates negative and significantly with Neuroticism (r = -.21; p < .01).

The relationships between ASUPT and personality disorders (measured with the IPDE test), were also in the expected direction.

Therefore, regarding the relationship between the unique personality trait and personality disorders, a positive and significant correlation was obtained between the unique trait and the antisocial personality disorder ($r = .22$; $p < .01$), while a negative and significant correlation was obtained with the anxiety spectrum disorders: obsessive-compulsive ($r = -.18$; $p < .05$), dependence ($r = -.15$; $p < .05$) and avoidance ($r = -.32$; $p < .01$).

On the other hand, a negative and significant correlation was obtained with two serious personality disorders: schizoid ($r = -.24$; $p < .01$) and schizotypal ($r = -.20$; $p < .01$).

4. Discussion

ASUPT presents adequate internal consistency and construct validity, while its relationships with the personality factors of other models are such as they were expected. All EPQ' traits are significative predictors of the ASUPT results. Extraversion and Psychoticism correlate positive and significantly with ASUPT, and Neuroticism correlate negative and significantly. Conversely, the relationships between ASUPT and personality disorders, measured by ITPA, were as expected too. ASUPT correlates positively and significantly with antisocial disorder, and, equally, negatively and significantly with the spectrum of anxiety disorders.

Therefore, nine adjectives are only necessary to measure one trait that defines overall personality. The outcomes of this study show that personality has the structure of a hierarchical system of traits.

References

1. Amigó, S. (2005). *La teoría del rasgo único de personalidad. Hacia una teoría unificada del cerebro y la conducta*. Editorial de la UPV: Valencia.
2. Amigó, S., Caselles, A. & Micó, J.C. (2008). A dynamic extraversion model: the brain's response to a single dose of a stimulant drug. *British Journal of Mathematical and Statistical Psychology*, 61, 211–231.
3. Eysenck, H.J. & Eysenck, M.W. (1985). *Personality and individual differences. A natural science approach*. New York: Plenum.
4. Loranger, A.W., Sartorius, N., Andreoli,A., Berger, P., Buchheim, P., Channabasavanna, S.M. & cols. The International Personality Disorder Examination. *Archives of General Psychiatry,* 1994; 51: 215-224.
5. Zuckerman, M., Lubin, B. & Rinck, C.M. (1983). Construction of new scales for the Multiple Affect Adjective Check List. *Journal of Behavioral Assessment*, 5, 119-129.