

SITAR

Society for Interpersonal Theory and Research
(SITAR) 2010
13th Annual Meeting Program
Philadelphia, PA, USA

Program & Abstracts

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Saturday, June 12th - Radisson Plaza-Warwick Hotel Philadelphia, 1701 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19103

7:30 – 8:30	Registration & Continental Breakfast
8:30 – 10:15	Welcome: Marc A. Fournier (University of Toronto) Patrick Markey (Villanova University) <i>Changes in women's interpersonal styles across the ovulatory cycle.</i> Patrick Markey (Villanova University) & Charlotte Markey <i>Interpersonal Problems in Patients with Schizophrenia and Bipolar Disorder and their Unaffected First-Degree Relatives.</i> Anthony C. Ruocco (University of Illinois), Jami Huynh, James L. Reilly, & John A. Sweeney <i>Genetic and environmental influences on personality trait stability and growth during the transition to adulthood: A three wave longitudinal study.</i> Christopher J. Hopwood (Michigan State University) & Brent Donnellan
10:15 – 10:30	Morning Break
10:30 – Noon	<i>Self-Transcendence as an Interpersonal Value.</i> Michael B. Gurtman (University of Wisconsin-Parkside), Bethany MacDonald, Alexander Stauder, & Kimberly Hopkins <i>Interpersonal Perception of the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems Short-Circumplex.</i> Mark R. Lukowitsky (Pennsylvania State University) & Aaron L. Pincus <i>Cross-sectional Intraindividual Variability in Interpersonal Functioning.</i> Aidan G. C. Wright (Pennsylvania State University) & Aaron L. Pincus
Noon – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 3:00	President's Symposium: <i>The Handbook of Interpersonal Psychology: Celebration and Reflection</i> Introduction by Marc A. Fournier; Discussion by Len Horowitz & Steve Strack <i>The Five-Factor Model, Five-Factor Theory, and Interpersonal Psychology.</i> Robert R. McCrae (National Institute on Aging) <i>Interpersonal Psychology and the Personality Disorders</i> John F. Clarkin (Cornell University)
3:00 – 3:15	Afternoon Break
3:15 – 4:15	Business Meeting
4:15 – 5:15	Poster Session and Reception (for details see last page of this program)
5:30 – 6:30	Student Social Hour

Sunday, June 13th - Radisson Plaza-Warwick Hotel Philadelphia, 1701 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19103

7:30 – 8:30	Continental Breakfast
8:30 – 10:15	<p><i>Are the IPC “Big Two” big enough? Projecting interpersonal behavior into the three-dimensional space defined by extraversion, agreeableness, and neuroticism.</i> Pamela Sadler (Wilfrid Laurier University), Nicole Ethier, Ivana Lizdek, & Erik Woody</p> <p><i>Observing people’s interpersonal capacities in the lab.</i> Daniel Leising (University of Halle-Wittenberg)</p> <p><i>The Inventory of Interpersonal Strengths: Validation Studies.</i> Robert L. Hatcher (City University of New York) & Daniel T. Rogers</p>
10:15 – 10:30	Morning Break
10:30 – Noon	<p><i>Interpersonal Styles Are Associated with Age of Binge Eating, Dieting, and Obesity Onset in Obese Men and Women with Binge Eating Disorder.</i> Kerstin Blomquist (Yale University School of Medicine), Emily Ansell, Marney A. White, & Carlos M. Grilo</p> <p><i>Interpersonal Traits as Risk Factors for Suicidal Ideation and Suicide Attempts.</i> Emily Ansell (Yale University School of Medicine)</p> <p><i>Interpersonal Dispositions, Vocational Interests, and Competencies in Children.</i> Sandro M. Sodano (University at Buffalo—SUNY)</p>
Noon – 1:15	Lunch
1:15 – 3:00	<p><i>On the Dynamic Association between Interpersonal Perception and Affect: Effects of Social Anxiety and Borderline Personality Disorder.</i> Gentiana Sadikaj (McGill University), Debbie. S. Moskowitz, J. J. Russell, & David C. Zuroff</p> <p><i>Interpersonal styles of depressed outpatients as perceived by their significant others. Pathoplasticity, therapeutic change, and therapy outcome.</i> Martin Grosse Holtforth (University of Zurich), David Altenstein, Emily Ansell, Franz Caspar</p> <p><i>A social-ecological approach to the problem of human autonomy.</i> Stefano Di Domenico (University of Toronto Scarborough) & Marc A. Fournier</p>
3:00 – 3:15	Afternoon Break
3:15 – 4:45	<p><i>Interpersonal Implications of First Person Pronoun Use: Evidence from Psychodynamic Interviews with Female Inpatients.</i> Johannes Zimmermann (University of Heidelberg), Markus Wolf, Astrid Bock, Doris Peham, & Cord Benecke</p> <p><i>Interpersonal Perception Consistency in China and America.</i> Kenneth Locke (University of Idaho), Dianhan Zheng, & Juliane Smith</p> <p><i>Complementarity in Marriage: Behavior, Affect and Relationship Quality.</i> Jenny M. Cundiff (University of Utah), Timothy W. Smith, Bert N. Uchino, Cynthia A. Berg, & Paul Florsheim</p>
4:45	End

Poster Presentations

(in alphabetical order of authorship)

Women's hormone levels and sexual attitudes.

Lindsey E. Brooks (Rutgers University), Charlotte N. Markey, & Patrick M. Markey

The link between body esteem and interpersonal problems.

Rebecca D'Orazio (Villanova University), David Marino, Sarah Cooney, Alexandra Volpe, Elena Cucco, Bridget Lynch, & Patrick Markey

Interpersonal Problems Linked to Violent Video Game Induced Hostility.

Rebecca M. DeMoor (Villanova University), Patrick J. Morse, Ryan Skimmons, Matthew Litke, Juan Zuluaga, & Patrick M. Markey

The Inventory of Interpersonal Strengths, the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems, and their Associations with the Working Alliance Inventory.

Robert L. Hatcher (City University of New York)

Mapping the Perfectionism Dimensions onto the Interpersonal Circumplex.

Paul L. Hewitt (University of British Columbia), Lindsay E. Ayearst, Jonathan Blasberg, Gordon L. Flett, & Ross Broughton

Affective and Interpersonal Aspects of the Self Report Psychopathy Scale.

Gwendoline C. Lander (University at Buffalo-SUNY) & Sandro M. Sodano

Examining the Relation Between Aggression, Hostility, and Interpersonal Problems.

David Marino (Villanova University), Rebecca D'Orazio, Laura O'Keefe, Erica Sciuilli, Sierra Payton, & Patrick Markey

Music as Language.

Trisha Ready (Pacifica Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara)

The Influence of Relationship Context on Interpersonal Sensitivities.

Michael J. Roche (Pennsylvania State University), Christopher J. Hopwood, Emily B. Ansell, Aaron L. Pincus, Aidan G.C. Wright, & Mark R. Lukowitsky

Examination of the Interpersonal Nature of Perfectionism.

Jessica E. Rohlfing (Arizona State University) & Terence J.G. Tracey

The Essential Nature of Borderline Personality.

Katherine M. Thomas (Michigan State University), Christopher J. Hopwood, & Mary C. Zanarini

Expression of Interpersonal Gratitude via Letter Writing: Further Evidence of Author Benefits.

Steven M. Toepfer (Kent State University at Salem), Kelly Cichy, & Patricia Peters

Social Rank Styles and Performance in Small Work Groups.

David C. Zuroff (McGill University), D. S. Moskowitz, Stéphane Côté

Social Safeness, Social Support, and Personality Vulnerability to Depression: A Test of Gilbert's Tripartite Model of Affect Regulation.

David C. Zuroff (McGill University), Michelle J. Leybman, Tyler Meyer, & Allison C. Kelly

A1.

Interpersonal Traits as Risk Factors for Suicidal Ideation and Suicide Attempts.

Emily Ansell (Yale University School of Medicine)

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Identifying risk factors for suicidal ideation or suicide attempt is an important focus in suicide research. Although relationship stressors are significant triggers of suicide attempts and social support is considered a protective factor for suicide, interpersonal circumplex research has not specifically focused on interpersonal traits associated with suicide related outcomes. However, an interpersonal-psychological theory of suicide risk has been proposed by Joiner (2005) in which three factors influence an individual's risk for suicidal behavior: thwarted belongingness, perceived burdensomeness, and an acquired capability for suicide. Although not addressed within Joiner's theory, these factors overlap in substance and meaning with the dimensions of the interpersonal model: Agency/ Dominance and Communion/ Affiliation. Using the interpersonal circumplex (IPC) model, interpersonal traits were assessed and suicidal ideation and attempts were prospectively followed over 10 years in a sample of 649 patients with personality disorders or major depression diagnosis as part of the Collaborative Longitudinal Personality Disorders Study. Theoretically derived IPC clusters were identified in each quadrant of the circumplex and individuals in all clusters made suicide attempts over 10 years. However, groups differed in level of suicidal ideation and likelihood of making an attempt. Analysis of interpersonal dimensions indicated that submissiveness, but not affiliation, was associated with a significantly greater likelihood of making a suicide attempt within 10 years. The potential utility of the IPC in understanding suicidal risk factors and the convergence and divergence with Joiner's belongingness and burdensomeness factors research will be discussed.

A2.

Interpersonal Styles Are Associated with Age of Binge Eating, Dieting, and Obesity Onset in Obese Men and Women with Binge Eating Disorder.

Kerstin Blomquist (Yale University School of Medicine), Emily Ansell, Marney A. White, & Carlos M. Grilo

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Binge eating disorder (BED), defined as recurrent binge eating (i.e., consumption of unusually large amounts of food while feeling a subjective loss of control) accompanied by distress but without inappropriate weight-compensatory (e.g., purging) behaviors, is strongly associated with obesity and associated psychopathology. Little is known about the development of BED and, in contrast to restraint models posited initially for bulimia nervosa, it appears that a sizeable proportion of patients with BED report an onset of binge eating prior to dieting. Initial research has suggested that differences in the developmental pathways (i.e., timing and sequence of overweight, dieting, and binge-eating onset) may reflect significant differences in etiological or maintenance factors for BED (Masheb & Grilo, 2000; Reas & Grilo, 2007; Spurrell et al, 1997). Although research has also found that problematic interpersonal functioning is associated with disordered eating (Ambwami & Hopwood, 2009) and is a central focus of one of the leading evidence-based treatments approaches for BED (Wilson, Wilfley, Agras, & Bryson, 2010), research has yet to specifically examine the interpersonal functioning in relation to different developmental pathways to BED in obese persons. The current investigation explores these questions in 84 consecutively evaluated, treatment-seeking obese ($BMI \geq 30$) men and women with BED. Participants were reliably assessed with structured diagnostic and clinical interviews and completed a battery of established measures to characterize the history and current state of eating/weight problems. The Inventory of Interpersonal Problems—Short Circumplex (IIP-SC) was administered to tap interpersonal functioning. Analyses revealed significant interpersonal differences between participants with a child versus adult age of binge eating onset and between participants with a child versus adult age of dieting onset. Participants who reported a child age binge onset were significantly more likely to report greater interpersonal rigidity (amplitude) as well as more total interpersonal problems than those with an adult age binge onset. Participants who reported a child age dieting onset were significantly more likely to report greater interpersonal rigidity than those who reported an adult age dieting onset. A younger dieting onset was significantly associated with a more affiliative interpersonal style, which could reflect dieting to meet demands from others to diet. These findings suggest that interpersonal factors may potentially contribute to or reflect differences in developmental differences of dieting, binge-eating, and obesity in obese patients with BED.

A3.

Interpersonal Psychology and the Personality Disorders

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An interpersonal perspective is essential for understanding the personality disorders, which are conceptualized as maladaptive and inflexible patterns of perceiving and relating to oneself and one's environment. Theoretical conceptions of the personality disorders are not carefully coordinated with the current prominent theories of personality, even though many authors argue that personality disorders are essentially continuous with normal personality and represent extreme variations of the same traits and behaviors. Interpersonal theory, object relations theory, and attachment theory all contribute to an enhanced empirical understanding of the personality disorders. There is creative turmoil in the field currently, as advances in cognitive neuroscience provide avenues to go beyond current taxonomies of the personality disorders to domains of mental functioning that become disordered described at psychological and neurobiological realms.

A4.

Complementarity in Marriage: Behavior, Affect and Relationship Quality.

Jenny M. Cundiff (University of Utah), Timothy W. Smith, Bert N. Uchino, Cynthia A. Berg, & Paul Florsheim

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Although there are several specific models of complementarity (Kiesler, 1996; Tracey, 2001; Benjamin, 1974), the most widely studied and best empirically validated form of the principle holds that an actor's behavior invites or evokes behavior from interaction partners that is similar in /affiliation/ and opposite in /control/. Hence, theory predicts that an actor's warm behavior encourages or invites warm behavior from others, and that hostility invites hostility in return. In contrast, dominant behavior invites submissiveness, and submissiveness invites dominance. In our sample of 300 older and middle-aged couples, behavioral affiliation and control were assessed by an independent observer and aggregated over each of 2 tasks (collaboration and conflict) using Structural Analysis of Social Behavior. Complementarity was calculated separately for each axis by correlating wives' affiliation with husbands' affiliation and also wives' control with husbands' control. We found that complementarity was present on both the affiliation and control axes during the collaborative task ($r=.42$ and $-.2$, respectively, both $p<.001$), but found only complementarity on the affiliation dimension ($r=.49$, $p<.001$) during conflict. Further, in the conflict task, when husbands were controlling wives were both controlling ($r = .27$, $P<.001$) and submissive ($.46$, $p<.001$) whereas when wives were controlling husbands were controlling (again, $r=.27$, $p<.001$) but not submissive ($r=-.4$, $p<.001$). Interpersonal theory further predicts that complementary interactions enhance feelings of relatedness and satisfaction, and non-complementary interactions and relationships theoretically create anxiety and frustration and decrease satisfaction (Carson, 1969; Horowitz et al., 2006; Kiesler, 1996). However, research findings linking marital interactions to relationship quality clearly suggest that one particular form of complementarity – high levels of hostility expressed by both spouses - should /not /predict greater relationship satisfaction or relationship continuance (Fincham & Beach, 1999; Gottman, 1979; Karney & Bradbury, 1997; Snyder et al., 2005). Hence, complementarity theory predicts higher relationship quality when spouses are similar in either warmth or hostility, whereas the literature on marital behavior only supports this prediction for warmth and strongly suggests that high levels of hostility will be negatively associated with relationship quality. Although less well researched, there are also distinct predictions for the association between spouses' levels of dominance and submission (i.e. control) and relationship outcomes. We first tested whether degree of complementarity predicted change in self-reported anger and anxiety (each measured using a 12-item measure adapted from the State-trait Personality Inventory) during marital interaction, and found significant prediction in both conflict and collaborative tasks. We then used SEM to compare predictions based on complementarity theory to predictions supported by the literature on marital interactions by examining whether relationship satisfaction (factor analytically derived from the QRI and MAT), anger, and anxiety during marital interaction are better explained by complementarity on affiliation or simply /higher levels/ of warmth within the dyad. We similarly examined whether relationship satisfaction, anger, and anxiety are better explained by complementarity on control or simply lower levels of control.

A5.

A social-ecological approach to the problem of human autonomy.

Stefano Di Domenico (University of Toronto Scarborough) & Marc A. Fournier

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The idea that people have a basic psychological need for autonomy is the foundation for humanistic theories of psychological health and is the central theme in a large body of research guided by self-determination theory (or SDT; Deci & Ryan, 2008). Within SDT, autonomy is defined as the subjective experience of congruence between one's basic values and behavior. Over the past three decades, research guided by SDT has focused on the socializing conditions that either foster or undermine the individual's autonomy at the expense of considering the individual's capacity to function autonomously by actively and purposively shaping his or her social ecology. Accordingly, the present research adopted a social-ecological approach to the problem of human autonomy, wherein people are presumed to strive for autonomy by relying on their traits and abilities to extract what they need from the social environment. First-year undergraduates living in same-sex dormitories completed a range of individual difference measures and provided sociometric evaluations of their housemates' social status; their physical attractiveness was also assessed. Consistent with the social-ecological approach, socially extraverted and physically attractive individuals attained the highest levels of social status, and in turn these individuals reported experiencing the highest levels of autonomy satisfaction.

A6.

Interpersonal styles of depressed outpatients as perceived by their significant others. Pathoplasticity, therapeutic change, and therapy outcome.

Martin Grosse Holtforth (University of Zurich), David Altenstein, Emily Ansell, Franz Caspar

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Interpersonal theory (Horowitz, 2003) assumes that mental disorders are associated with dysfunctional interpersonal styles. Whereas empirical research has identified various differences between the interpersonal styles of depressed and normal subjects, researchers rarely tried to identify subgroups of depressed patients based on their interpersonal style and examined differential changes in psychotherapy. Furthermore interpersonal style has rarely been examined from the perspective of patient's significant others.

Data was collected for 832 patients (180 of which were MDE). Patients were treated according to the principles of general psychotherapy (Grawe, 1998, 2000) in a Swiss outpatient clinic. Interpersonal style was assessed from the perspective of patients' significant others before and after psychotherapy using the revised Impact Message Inventory, German version (IMI-R; Kiesler et al., 2002). Treatment outcome was assessed using various symptomatic and non-symptomatic measures.

Subgroups of depressed patients were defined empirically (by cluster analysis) and theoretically (assignment to a quadrant in the interpersonal circumplex). Gurtman's (1994) structural summary approach was used to characterize the interpersonal style of the identified subgroups of depressives. Among others, depressed patients exhibited increased scores of submissiveness, which decreased over the course of therapy. Decrease in submissiveness was related to a reduction of depressive symptoms. Exploratory analyses of differential change effects for the subgroups are presented.

Results are discussed in terms of their implications for theory, assessment, psychotherapy practice, and future research.

A7.

Self-Transcendence as an Interpersonal Value.

Michael B. Gurtman (University of Wisconsin-Parkside), Bethany MacDonald, Alexander Stauder, & Kimberly Hopkins

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Schwartz defines values as overarching, prioritized beliefs that transcend situations and motivate behavior, and he proposes a circumplex model around which ten distinct personal values are arranged. Using Schwartz's model, our research focuses on the interpersonal value dimension of self-transcendence versus self-enhancement. Self-transcendence is a composite of the personal values of benevolence (concern for peers, kin, and the "in-group") and universalism (altruistic concern for humanity at large; environmentalism). These values oppose power (social status and authority, often at the expense of others) and achievement (success as measured by social standards), which together constitute self-enhancement.

Our research explores self-transcendence (ST) in the context of other values-related constructs and personality dimensions. Participants (N=220) completed Schwartz's POV measure of values, along with a variety of other measures assessing goals, aspirations, self-construals, and interpersonal motives (based on the CSIV). Personality dimensions based on the Big Five, and markers for Agency and Communion, were also included. A meaningful pattern of correlations with ST were obtained, helping to clarify the construct. Projections of ST within the CSIV value circumplex suggested a high Communal/low Agentic dimension, rather than a pure Communal dimension. ST components (e.g., of benevolence and universalism) often had unique correlations. The relationship between ST and Agency and Communion will be discussed.

A8.

The Inventory of Interpersonal Strengths: Validation Studies.

Robert L. Hatcher (City University of New York) & Daniel T. Rogers

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The Inventory of Interpersonal Strengths (IIS, Hatcher & Rogers, 2009, *Psychological Assessment*, /21/, 554–569) has shown excellent circumplex properties as well as expected associations with other interpersonal measures (IIP, Big 5 Extraversion & Agreeableness) and with Life and Relationship Satisfaction. The current study validates the circumplex structure and compares the functioning of the IIS in an additional undergraduate sample and in an outpatient clinical sample. It characterizes the IIS through correlations and structural analyses in relation to other interpersonal measures (BIC, Paulhus; CSIV, CSIE, Locke) and shows the incremental variance in Life Satisfaction associated with the IIS and its octants; it demonstrates relations between the IIS and measures of optimism-pessimism (LOT, Scheier et al.), depression (BDI, Beck), psychological distress (OQ45.2, Lambert; HSCL-25, Derogatis et al.; IIP, Horowitz et al.), ways of coping (WOC, Lazarus & Folkman), and psychological mindedness (Conte). The hypothesis that profile variability will be correlated with greater pathology is tested and confirmed, though with low r . Overall the study demonstrates that the IIS is a robust interpersonal circumplex measure, showing expected associations with a range of established measures.

A9.

Genetic and environmental influences on personality trait stability and growth during the transition to adulthood: A three wave longitudinal study.

Christopher J. Hopwood (Michigan State University) & Brent Donnellan

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The transition to adulthood involves dramatic changes in the social environment, as it is during this period that individuals typically settle into adult roles in love and work, as well as significant changes in personality traits that are generally in the direction of greater stability and adaptation. Competing hypotheses have been developed to account for these personality changes: the intrinsic maturation hypothesis suggests that change trajectories are endogenous, whereas the life-course hypothesis suggests that these changes occur in transaction with the social environment. This study investigated the patterns and etiologies of trait changes during the transition to adulthood from age 17 to 29 using 3 waves of Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire data provided by twins to test competing intrinsic and life-course hypotheses regarding the etiology of change. Results suggest that a) trait changes were more profound in the first relative to the second half of the transition to adulthood; b) traits tend to become more stable during the second half of this transition, with all the traits yielding retest correlations between .74 and .78; c) negative affectivity declined over time and constraint increased over time; minimal change was observed on agentic or communal aspects of positive affectivity; d) significant individual-level variability was observed for trait changes, and e) while genetic factors were primarily responsible for trait levels and trait stability, both genes and non-shared environmental factors promoted changes. Overall, these results highlight the power of combining behavioral genetic models in multi-wave data during a targeted developmental period, and are consistent with a life-course perspective in suggesting that the manner in which individuals settle into adult roles, in concert with heritable change trajectories, contributes to shaping their personalities.

A10.

Observing people's interpersonal capacities in the lab.

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Although routinely employed in clinical practice (e.g., social skills training), role-plays are only rarely used in interpersonal research. In our study, the interpersonal behavior of 100 participants was videotaped while they were taking part in 17 brief dyadic role-plays. The role-plays were intended to enable a comprehensive assessment of important interpersonal skills (e.g., apologizing, asserting a claim, expressing affection). The participants' performances in the role-plays were rated by themselves, and by three independent observers. Overall interpersonal competence, as rated by the observers, was unrelated to general cognitive ability, as assessed by three intelligence tests. Self-ratings and observer-ratings of overall interpersonal competence were also unrelated to each other. Interviewer-ratings of personality pathology predicted the participants' performances in the role-plays better than did self-ratings of personality pathology. People's views of their own interpersonal skills and skills deficits are largely idiosyncratic. It is argued that judgments by impartial others should generally be preferred over self-ratings, in assessing interpersonal functioning.

A11.

Interpersonal Perception Consistency in China and America.

Kenneth Locke (University of Idaho), Dianhan Zheng, & Juliane Smith

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Groups of 5 acquaintances (28 Chinese groups and 23 American groups) rated themselves and their 4 partners on a set of socially desirable traits and socially undesirable traits with similar descriptive content. We used these ratings to compute four measures of interpersonal perception: Assimilation (consistency in how you describe your 4 partners), Consensus (consistency in how your 4 partners describe you), Projection (consistency in how you describe yourself and how you describe a partner), and Agreement (consistency in how you describe yourself and how a partner describes you). Furthermore, we decomposed each consistency measure into: (1) normative evaluative consistency (the tendency shared with all respondents to ascribe more desirable than undesirable traits), (2) normative descriptive consistency (the tendency shared with all respondents to ascribe certain traits more than others, controlling for trait desirability), (3) distinctive evaluative consistency (consistency in ascribing more desirable or undesirable traits than is normative), and distinctive descriptive consistency (consistency in ascribing certain traits even after controlling for the other 3 types of consistency). The results showed that Chinese students, students who liked their partners, and (somewhat less reliably) students with collectivistic values tended to describe (a) their partners in normative ways and (b) themselves and their partners in similar ways (i.e., more distinctive assimilation and projection). On the other hand, American students showed higher levels of distinctive consensus and agreement; thus, American students were less consistent in how they described individuals in general, but may have been more accurate in their descriptions of particular individuals. The results highlight the utility of teasing apart different components of interpersonal perception.

A12.

Interpersonal Perception of the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems Short-Circumplex.

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Kenny's Social Relations Model (1994) was used to partition the variance in ratings of interpersonal problems into perceiver and target effects in order to investigate several hypotheses about the interpersonal perception of interpersonal problems. Moderately acquainted individuals randomly assigned to small teams of mixed sex peers completed the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems-Short Circumplex (IIP-SC, Hopwood, Pincus, DeMoor, & Koonce, 2008) in a round robin design whereby each individual on the team served as both a target and judge. Results indicated that the largest proportion of variance in ratings of interpersonal problems came from the perceivers suggesting that individuals approached the task of rating others' interpersonal problems through the process of assimilation. Assimilation was also related to self-ratings providing evidence of both assumed similarity (individuals who rated themselves as overly-nurturant assumed that others were also overly-nurturant) and contrast projection (individuals who rated themselves as nonassertive assumed that others were domineering). The targets also accounted for a significant proportion of the variance in ratings of interpersonal problems suggesting that individuals were able to reliably detect the interpersonal problems of their peers and reached consensus about those observations. Individual's self-ratings of their own interpersonal problems were also in agreement with those of their peers indicating self-other agreement. Finally, results comparing self and peer ratings largely supported the structure of the interpersonal circumplex. For example, targets identified as domineering were not perceived as nonassertive and targets identified as overly-nurturant were not perceived as cold. Overall, results provide evidence for the utility of observer ratings in the assessment of interpersonal problems and support basic principles of interpersonal theory.

A13.

Changes in women's interpersonal styles across the ovulatory cycle.

Patrick Markey (Villanova University) & Charlotte Markey

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Research has demonstrated that woman's sexual interest, dress, and desires change during ovulation in a manner consistent with evolutionary theory (c.f., Pillsworth & Haselton, 2005; Durante, Li, & Haselton, 2008). However, no study has examined whether or not women's interpersonal styles alter during ovulation and if these changes mirror the desires of men. In two studies (n = 80 and n = 102) single men rated the interpersonal styles of their ideal mates using fictional personal ads and the IAS. In both studies, it was found that men preferred mates who had a warm-agreeable (LM octant) interpersonal style. In study 3, 85 women completed the IAS and information about their menstrual cycle each night for 35 nights. Results from this study indicated that women who were not using hormonal contraceptives tended to act in a warm-agreeable manner (LM octant) while ovulating. In Study 4, 95 women not using hormonal contraceptives completed the IAS and a hormone test to confirm ovulation status. As in Study 3, it was found that ovulating females tended to report being more warm-agreeable (LM octant) than women not ovulating. Taken together results from this research suggest that women might have evolved a tendency to display interpersonal styles that men find most attractive when women are most fertile.

A14.

The Five-Factor Model, Five-Factor Theory, and Interpersonal Psychology.

Robert R. McCrae (National Institute on Aging)

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The Five-Factor Model (FFM) is a taxonomy of traits; Five-Factor Theory (FFT) is a theory of personality based on research with the FFM. Both are useful in understanding interpersonal psychology. Traits traditionally considered interpersonal fall in the plane defined by FFM Extraversion and Agreeableness, but all five factors have interpersonal consequences. FFT offers an account of the operation of traits in interaction with the environment; in interpersonal interactions, people serve as reciprocal environments to each other. Many topics in interpersonal psychology may be profitably viewed from the perspective of FFT.

A15.

Interpersonal Problems in Patients with Schizophrenia and Bipolar Disorder and their Unaffected First-Degree Relatives.

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Schizophrenia (SCZ) and bipolar disorder (BP) are severe forms of mental illness with poorly characterized interpersonal profiles. Whereas SCZ is typically associated with introversion and suspiciousness, BP is linked to extraversion and argumentativeness, particularly during acute periods of mania. First-degree unaffected relatives of these patients may show similar patterns of interpersonal difficulties, albeit to a lesser degree, possibly reflecting some degree of heritability of interpersonal function in these disorders. The purpose of the present study was to characterize the nature of interpersonal problems in clinically stable patients with SCZ and psychotic BP and their unaffected first-degree relatives. Patients, relatives, and healthy control participants were recruited as part of the Bipolar-Schizophrenia Network on Intermediate Phenotypes study. Participants completed comprehensive clinical interviewing, symptom rating scales, and self-report personality measures, including the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems (IIP-64; Horowitz, Alden, Wiggins, & Pincus, 2000). Groups were compared with regard to IIP total and octant scores. Results showed that SCZ and BP patients scored higher than controls across all eight octants and tended to report more interpersonal deficits than excesses. SCZ and BP relatives consistently fell in a range intermediate to that of patients and controls across all octants, with only BP relatives scoring significantly higher than controls on the avoidant octant. These findings suggest that SCZ and BP patients and their unaffected first-degree relatives show globally elevated levels of interpersonal problems relative to healthy controls with no history of psychiatric illness. Commonalities in IIP data across these disorders and in their family members were more pronounced than differences.

A16.

On the Dynamic Association between Interpersonal Perception and Affect: Effects of Social Anxiety and Borderline Personality Disorder.

Gentiana Sadikaj (McGill University), Debbie. S. Moskowitz, J. J. Russell, & David C. Zuroff

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Prior research has provided evidence for distinct patterns of dynamic associations between interpersonal perception and affect for individuals with different attachment orientations from non-clinical populations. The present study posited that these associations would also vary as a function of psychopathologies characterized by interpersonal difficulties. The present study compared the within-person associations between affect and perceptions of others among individuals with Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD), Social Anxiety Disorder (SAD), and community controls. Participants collected event-contingent recorded data for interpersonal events during each day of a 20-day period. Information about positive affect, negative affect, and perceptions of the interaction partner's communal (agreeable-quarrelsome) behavior was collected for each event. Individuals with BPD as compared to individuals in the other two groups reported stronger associations between perceptions of others' communal behavior and their own negative affect.. Within-person associations between perception of others' communal behavior and negative affect were stronger among individuals with SAD than community controls. Associations between perception of others' behavior and positive affect were less strong among individuals with BPD than community controls and individuals with SAD. Within-person associations between perceptions of others' communal behavior and positive affect were no different among community controls and individuals with SAD. These findings suggest that it is primarily the experience of negative affect in association with perceptions of others' agreeable and quarrelsome behavior most likely to be influenced by psychopathologies characterized by interpersonal difficulties, such as SAD and BPD. Attachment-related dynamics may be responsible for the experience of negative affect in social interactions among these two psychopathology groups.

A17.

Are the IPC “Big Two” big enough? Projecting interpersonal behavior into the three-dimensional space defined by extraversion, agreeableness, and neuroticism.

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The interpersonal circumplex (IPC) dimensions of dominance and affiliation can be regarded as rotational variants of two of the Big Five factors, extraversion and agreeableness (e.g., Pincus, 2002). However, anxiety and avoidance tendencies are important and common features in people’s interpersonal behavior, and these should be related to the Big Five dimension of neuroticism. Is neuroticism an important dimension that is missing from the IPC space, possibly requiring further refinements to IPC theory and measures? Or as Leary and others argued, is a two-dimensional IPC (excluding neuroticism) sufficient to capture the most important differences in people’s interpersonal styles?

To address these questions, we projected items from IPC measures into the three-dimensional space defined by the orthogonal dimensions of extraversion, agreeableness, and neuroticism. Participants were 411 undergraduates who provided self-ratings on trait-adjective (IAS-R; Wiggins, Trapnell, & Phillips, 1988) and behaviorally anchored (SBI; Moskowitz, 1994) IPC measures and the BFI (John, Donahue, & Kentle, 1991), as well as a new trait-adjective measure designed to be balanced in terms of social desirability (Ethier et al., 2010). If the IPC captures most of the important variations in interpersonal behavior, then we would expect the interpersonal items to correlate negligibly with neuroticism. Moreover, we would expect to see a circular (circumplex-like) pattern of correlations of IPC items in the plane defined by extraversion and agreeableness.

The results were inconsistent with these hypotheses. First, interpersonal items tended to correlate substantially with neuroticism. In addition, in the plane defined by extraversion and neuroticism, interpersonal indicators that were positively related to extraversion were also consistently negatively related to neuroticism, and vice versa. This pattern suggests that current IPC items may conflate the two underlying, orthogonal motives of approach and avoidance. Second, in the plane defined by extraversion and agreeableness, the interpersonal items tended to show a fan-like structure with gaps, rather than a circle. Although such gaps are usually interpreted in terms of scale defects, we explore the alternative idea that the actual underlying structure may be more of a fan shape than a circumplex. Finally, we relate these results to the important role of underlying motives for understanding social behavior (Horowitz, 2004).

A18.

Interpersonal Dispositions, Vocational Interests, and Competencies in Children.

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Interpersonal dispositions and vocational interests have been well researched in adults from the perspectives of the Interpersonal Circle (IPC; Wiggins, 1982; 1995) and Holland's RIASEC (1997) models. Despite the prominence of these models of personality, few studies have applied them to children, relative to adults, and no studies have examined their overlap in children. A property vector fitting procedure was utilized to investigate the intersection of interpersonal dispositions and vocational interests and competencies in a sample of 183 sixth grade children. Vocational interests and related competencies were measured by the Inventory of Children's Activities-Revised (ICA-R; Tracey, 2002; Tracey & Ward, 1998). The interests and competencies were plotted within interpersonal space that was defined by the two dimensions of the IPC—Dominance and Affiliation—as measured by the Child and Adolescent Interpersonal Survey (CAIS; Sodano & Tracey, 2006). Overall, the results indicated that there are interpersonal aspects to both vocational interests and competencies in children. Some associations are consistent with what would be expected for adults; however, some associations appear to be unique to this age group.

A19.

Cross-sectional Intraindividual Variability in Interpersonal Functioning.

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In Leary's (1957) initial articulation of the Interpersonal System, he advocated the use of the now well known interpersonal circle (IPC) as the basic structure of interpersonal behavior along with an explicit recognition that interpersonal functioning occurs at a number of levels of experience. He further suggested that functioning within and across these levels could serve as a comprehensive model for personality and psychopathology. IPC based research has focused almost exclusively on within level functioning (e.g., relating narcissism to interpersonal problems). However, measures now exist that capture interpersonal motivations (Locke, 2000), traits (Wiggins, 1995), efficacy (Locke & Sadler, 2007), and problems (Alden et al., 1990). While these are not direct articulations of Leary's level system, they offer an existing operationalized framework for exploring across level variability as it relates to (mal)adaptive functioning. This research examines this theoretical model by applying intraindividual variability statistical modeling techniques to cross-sectional IPC data. A large sample of undergraduate ($N = 1,173$) participants each completed the four previously mentioned IPC measures. Intraindividual variability was modeled as spin (i.e., angular variance), pulse (i.e., vector length variance), flux (i.e., variance in specific content domains), and more targeted difference values between the main IPC axes across measures (e.g., trait dominance – problems dominance). These variables were calculated and then correlated with a wide variety of self-report psychopathology, affect, and attachment scales. Results indicated that spin was differentially related to external measures, with modest to moderate (r 's = .11-.39) positive correlations with measures of borderline pathology, avoidant PD, maladaptive dependency, and negative affect (NA). In contrast, opposite relationships of similar magnitudes were found with adaptive narcissism ($r = -.39$) and positive affect (PA; $r = -.27$). Flux and Pulse were generally unrelated to external measures with some notable exceptions. On the other hand, differences in scores across specific levels were consistently related to external measures. Findings indicate that molar variability (i.e., spin) is indeed related to maladaptive functioning, while at the same time, more specific discrepancies in self-reported functioning (e.g., trait dominance – problems dominance) are predictive of both adaptive and maladaptive functioning depending on the nature of the across level discrepancy. These results will be discussed in terms of their theoretical and measurement implications, along with suggestions for future directions for cross-level interpersonal research.

A20.

Interpersonal Implications of First Person Pronoun Use: Evidence from Psychodynamic Interviews with Female Inpatients.

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Background: The frequency with which a person refers to herself as an individual or as a part of a dyad or group is an important marker of psychological functioning (Chung & Pennebaker, 2007). First person singular pronoun use has been interpreted as a measure of self-focus and found to be associated with negative mood. First person plural pronoun use has been interpreted as a measure of social orientation and found to be associated with mental health. The aim of our study was to explore first person pronoun use systematically by locating it within the Interpersonal Circle (IPC). Method: We assessed the frequency of first person singular and plural pronouns from transcribed psychodynamic interviews of $n = 85$ female psychosomatic inpatients by means of Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count software (LIWC). The Inventory of Interpersonal Problems (IIP-C) and Beck Depression Inventory (BDI) were used to measure interpersonal style and depressive symptoms. Results: First person singular pronouns were associated with an intrusive interpersonal style ($R^2 = .90$, $\delta = 45^\circ$, $e = .10$, $a = .18$). First person plural pronouns were associated with low interpersonal distress, peaking at the cold octant ($R^2 = .90$, $\delta = 166^\circ$, $e = -.32$, $a = .15$). When controlling for depressive symptoms, specific interpersonal implications (i.e., amplitude) stood out even more clearly. Conclusions: Self-referencing behavior appears to have specific interpersonal implications beyond general interpersonal distress and depressive symptoms. It is argued that self-referencing “the singular way” reflects the tendency to seek attention from others, whereas self-referencing “the plural way” reflects the tendency to balance social pressures and one’s own social needs.

B1.

Women's hormone levels and sexual attitudes.

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Past research suggests that the interpersonal circumplex can be used to predict sexual promiscuity (Markey & Markey, 2007) and more recent research indicates that interpersonal behaviors change during ovulation (Markey & Markey, 2010). In order to help understand the link between these findings the current study examines whether or not women's attitudes about sex change as their hormones change. Thus, the goal of this project was to examine women's cyclical hormone fluctuations in relation to their sexual attitudes as a means of understanding behavior patterns in sexual situations. It is expected that women with high LH levels (i.e., ovulating) will report more relaxed sexual attitudes during this peak in their hormone cycle. Overall, the results of this study are consistent with past research and extend research in this area by confirming that women who were ovulating indicated permissive sexual attitudes.

B2.

The link between body esteem and interpersonal problems.

Rebecca D'Orazio (Villanova University), David Marino, Sarah Cooney, Alexandra Volpe, Elena Cucco, Bridget Lynch, & Patrick Markey

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Past research has connected hostility and aggression to the interpersonal traits contained within the Interpersonal Circumplex (Gallo & Smith, 1998). In order to expand upon this research and acquire a better understanding of these constructs, the current study examines how various interpersonal problems are related to aggression and hostility. Approximately 200 people completed assessments of their interpersonal problems using the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems – Short Circumplex (IIP-SC; Soldz et al., 1995) and their aggression and hostility using the Aggression Questionnaire (Buss & Perry, 1992). Results indicated that hostility and anger were positively associated to participants IIP-SC total score, thus, suggesting that hostile individuals tend to have more interpersonal problems. Furthermore, findings suggested that physically and verbally aggressive individuals tended to have interpersonal problems associated with Vindictiveness.

B3.

Interpersonal Problems Linked to Violent Video Game Induced Hostility.

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Much of the research examining the potential link between violent video games and aggression suggests that playing the games is a contributing factor towards increased aggression and hostility (e.g. Anderson & Dill, 2000). The General Aggression Model (GAM) postulates that this effect can be accentuated by certain personality traits and suggests that these traits might moderate the negative effects of violent video games. Anger has specifically been shown to significantly moderate these effects (Giumetti & Markey, 2006) and aggression has long been known to be linked to interpersonal problems (Cummings-Robeau, Lopez & Rice, 2009). The current study sought to investigate whether any specific type of interpersonal problems would have a similar effect. Participants were administered the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems-Short Circumplex (IIP-SC; Soldz et al., 1995) and then were randomly assigned to play either a violent or non-violent video game. They subsequently completed the State Hostility Scale (SHS; Anderson, Deuser, & DeNeve, 1995), a measure of current hostility. Data collection is still ongoing but preliminary regression analyses have revealed that higher DOM scores on the IIP-SC appear to most effectively moderate the effect of violent video games on hostility, demonstrating that people with more problems related to dominance are more adversely affected by violent video games than people who do not demonstrate problems with dominance or who demonstrate problems unrelated to dominance.

B4.

The Inventory of Interpersonal Strengths, the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems, and their Associations with the Working Alliance Inventory.

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The relationships between the Working Alliance Inventory (Horvath & Greenberg) and the Inventory of Interpersonal Strengths (IIS, Hatcher & Rogers, 2009, *Psychological Assessment*, 21, 554–569) and the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems (IIP, Horowitz et al.) are explored. Differential correlations between IIS and IIP octants with level of working alliance are examined, as are their differential associations with working alliance. Interpersonal problems are associated with lower alliances, whereas strengths are associated with stronger alliances.

B5.

Mapping the Perfectionism Dimensions onto the Interpersonal Circumplex.

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The construct of perfectionism continues to capture the attention of researchers as an important personality variable that is relevant to both clinical and general populations. Evidence continues to mount that perfectionistic behaviour is relevant in the domain of interpersonal relationships (Flett, Hewitt & de Rosa, 1996; Hewitt, Flett, et al., 2008) and that the perfectionism construct itself encompasses significant interpersonal features that have important outcomes. Recently there has been an interest in understanding perfectionism as a personality construct with respect to larger models of personality. One model of personality that is particularly germane to the interpersonal nature of perfectionism involves the interpersonal circumplex. Previous research (Hill, Zrull & Turlington, 1997) has mapped the correlations between the three trait dimensions of perfectionism as measured by the Multidimensional Perfectionism Scale (MPS; Hewitt & Flett, 1991) and two circumplex measures: the Interpersonal Adjective Scales - Revised (Wiggins, Trapnell & Phillips, 1988) and the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems – Circumplex (Alden, Wiggins, & Pincus, 1990). Since Hill and colleagues published their findings new measures capturing different aspects of perfectionism have emerged.

The current study sought to replicate and expand the findings of Hill and colleagues by examining the interpersonal underpinnings of several measures of perfectionism, including the MPS, the Frost Multidimensional Perfectionism Scale (FMPS; Frost, Marten, Lahart & Rosenblate, 1990), the Perfectionistic Self-Presentation Scale (Hewitt et al., 2003), and the Perfectionistic Cognitions Inventory (Hewitt, Flett, Blankstein & Gray, 1998), in a sample of college students and a sample of treatment seeking perfectionists. Results strongly supported the multidimensional model of perfectionism, given that at least one perfectionism subscale was located in each octant of the interpersonal circumplex. Similar to results reported from Hill et al. (1997), perfectionism traits were shown to have strong interpersonal components which generally fall within the hostile and dominant sectors of the circumplex. The exception was the FMPS subscales which were located within the friendly hemisphere of the circumplex. The results also demonstrated clear gender differences in the interpersonal expression of perfectionism dimensions.

B6.

Affective and Interpersonal Aspects of the Self Report Psychopathy Scale.

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The Self-Report Psychopathy Scale (SRPS; Levenson, Kiehl, & Fitzpatrick, 1995) is a brief measure of primary and secondary subtypes of psychopathy. Although studies have supported the common and unique aspects of the subtypes (e.g., Levenson et al.; Miller, Gaughan, Pryor, 2008), a key criticism has been that the core affective and interpersonal aspects of the subtypes are not well represented by this model and by the primary subtype, in particular (e.g., Lileinfeld & Fowler, 2006; Poythress, et al, 2009). We sought to further investigate this criticism and proposed that there would be a pattern of differential associations between theoretically meaningful affective and interpersonal constructs and primary and secondary psychopathy of the SRPS. Brief measures of state social anxiety, state emotional regulation, general emotionality, fear, impulsivity, neuroticism, physical and verbal aggression, and expressed anger and hostility were administered to a sample of undergraduate college students (N = 145), along with the Interpersonal Adjective Scales (IAS; Wiggins, 1995). The results supported the affective distinctions between the SRPS subscales, but at levels that would be expected for college populations. In addition, there were moderate negative associations between primary and secondary psychopathy and IAS affiliation, as expected, but almost no relation between primary psychopathy and dominance. With the exception of dominance, the findings were similar to previous descriptions of the primary psychopathy construct that include a lack of fear, emotional detachment, and coldness (e.g., Frodi et al., 2001; Patrick, 1997; Skeem et al., 2007). The findings were also similar to previous descriptions of secondary psychopathy that include anxiety, emotional disturbance, impulsivity, poor anger control (e.g., Lykken, 1995; Newman et al., 2005; Patrick: Patrick et al., 2005; Skeem et al.). The results are discussed in the context of psychopathy research with college students.

B7.

Examining the Relation Between Aggression, Hostility, and Interpersonal Problems.

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Past research has connected hostility and aggression to the interpersonal traits contained within the Interpersonal Circumplex (Gallo & Smith, 1998). In order to expand upon this research and acquire a better understanding of these constructs, the current study examines how various interpersonal problems are related to aggression and hostility. Approximately 200 people completed assessments of their interpersonal problems using the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems – Short Circumplex (IIP-SC; Soldz et al., 1995) and their aggression and hostility using the Aggression Questionnaire (Buss & Perry, 1992). Results indicated that hostility and anger were positively associated to participants IIP-SC total score, thus, suggesting that hostile individuals tend to have more interpersonal problems. Furthermore, findings suggested that physically and verbally aggressive individuals tended to have interpersonal problems associated with Vindictiveness.

B8.

Music as Language.

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The proposed paper will be excerpted from dissertation case study research. This research explores whether listening to selected classical instrumental, jazz, folk, rock or hip-hop music at a psychiatric facility with inpatients who are experiencing first-break psychotic processes, will help these patients to articulate and to contain affect. International research (McGorry and Yung, 2003) has shown that intensive, early intervention during the first phase of psychosis can greatly improve a patient's prognosis. The ability to articulate and hold affect will be defined generally as the patient's ability to give symbolic expression, in terms of form, shape, or gesture to his or her feelings during and after ten sessions of listening to music. Expression of affect will be measured using a pre and post intervention Rorschach Assessment, as well as through clinical interviews, observation and countertransference notes, and any expressive materials (i.e., drawings) generated during research.

One of the underlying assumptions of this research is that patients will express affective responses to the music in a manner that will be useful for the patient's ongoing psychotherapy. Also inherent in this exploration is the concept of music as a meeting place, which is to say that music is part of the therapeutic environment, as well as part of what Winnicott (1971) referred to as "potential space" between therapist and patient.

As noted above, a pre and post Rorschach assessment will be given to each participant. Exner (1993,2003) noted that inpatients with schizophrenia have a higher percentage of Fu or F- responses than other groups. After treatment, schizophrenics usually have an increase in pure F answers, which are commonly linked to an improved prognosis (Exner & Murillo, 1977). In this study we will measure whether there is any notable change in form and various other Rorschach data points as a result of ten music listening sessions.

B9.

The Influence of Relationship Context on Interpersonal Sensitivities.

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Past literature on social allergens suggest that another's repeated unpleasant behavior produces a growing sensitivity or annoyance which can negatively impact close relationships (Cunningham, et al, 1997, 2005). Recently, a more general model of interpersonal sensitivity was offered (Interpersonal Sensitivities Circumplex; ISC; Pincus et al., 2009a) where interpersonal sensitivities are comprehensively organized around the dimensions of the interpersonal circumplex (IPC). The ISC was validated for circumplex structure and recent findings suggested the most typical pattern of sensitivity was found when the other behaved in interpersonal opposite (acomplementary) ways from the participant's self reported interpersonal style (Pincus et al., 2009a; Hopwood et al., 2009). However, sensitivities and other patterns of interpersonal behavior may be partly a function of social context, so it is important to assess how different social contexts may impact these results.

The current study was designed to test the potential impact of relationship context on the structure, levels and criterion associations of interpersonal sensitivities. 250 participants (72.4% women) were administered three context specific ISC scales modified to capture the three relational contexts of interactions with acquaintances, friends, and romantic partners. Mean levels of interpersonal sensitivities differed by ISC context scales, such that sensitivities were stronger as the relationship context became closer. However, the structure of sensitivities was consistent with past research, finding participants tended to rate interpersonal opposites as most aversive (acomplementarity). The impact of these results within the context of interpersonal complementarity will be discussed.

B10.

Examination of the Interpersonal Nature of Perfectionism.

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This study examined the interpersonal nature of four commonly used measures of perfectionism, specifically in relation to interpersonal problems. Six hundred and six undergraduate participants from a large Southwestern university completed the Almost Perfect Scale-Revised (APS-R), Dyadic Almost Perfect Scale (DAPS), Frost Multidimensional Perfectionism Scale (FMPS), and the Hewitt & Flett Multidimensional Scale (HFMPMS), in order to obtain data from the 15 total subscales of the four measures. Significant regression analyses were followed by correlational analysis between perfectionism subscales and IIP and IAS amplitude. Multivariate regression analysis of perfectionism subscales were performed on the Inventory of Interpersonal Problems-32 (IIP-32) and the Interpersonal Adjective Scale (IAS). For both interpersonal measures, dominance and affiliation were significantly related to several, but not all, perfectionism subscales. Results suggest several patterns between perfectionism and interpersonal problems. While findings partially replicated the results of prior research indicating high expectations of others to be related to increased interpersonal problems, analysis also identified additional intrapersonal factors that appear to be related to higher IIP scores.

B11.

The Essential Nature of Borderline Personality.

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Research separating personality traits that predispose psychopathology from traits that influence the expression of psychopathology has the potential to unpack the differential roles that personality plays in developing, modifying, and maintaining problems in living. Such models can be described as hybrid because they contain traits that directly relate to psychopathology as well as traits that show pathoplastic relations with psychopathology. Zanarini (2007) has theorized that a hyperbolic temperament serves as a core dispositional factor in the development of borderline personality pathology, while several interpersonal factors maintain and exacerbate this pathology. As an initial test of this theory, we administered the newly developed Hyperbolic Temperament Questionnaire to three samples that varied in clinical status. Results indicated a five-factor model in which "hyperbolic temperament" served as a risk factor for borderline personality pathology; the remaining four factors were interpersonal in nature and in particular represented tendencies for agency, validation-seeking, passivity, and detachment. This model suggests the importance of separating dispositional traits from interpersonal traits in conceptualizing borderline personality.

B12.

Expression of Interpersonal Gratitude via Letter Writing: Further Evidence of Author Benefits.

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This study examined the effects of writing letters of gratitude on three primary qualities of well-being; happiness (positive affect), life-satisfaction (cognitive evaluation), and depression (negative affect). Gratitude was also assessed. Participants included 219 men and women who wrote three letters of gratitude over a three week period in order to assess the influence of expressive writing. Participants were asked to consider and ultimately write to three different people for whom they had feelings of gratitude and appreciation. Expressing the intricacies of these relationships through writing was hypothesized to be a vehicle for change. Moderating variables (state-trait happiness and depression) were considered as factors that could influence the outcome of the writing intervention. A two-way mixed method ANOVA with a between factor (writers vs. non-writers) and within subject factor (time of testing) analysis was conducted. Preliminary results show significant increases in happiness and life-satisfaction, as expected, and a decrease in depression. No significant change in gratitude was found.

Please note, the project also included a separate analysis of family emotional involvement. We have just started to look at that data but are encouraged by early results. For example, the ANOVA indicates that by writing letters of gratitude feelings of emotional involvement with family members increased in authors while perceived family criticism remains unchanged. We are looking at this information closely and intend to consider other factors such as impact by type of relationship: parent, sibling, intimate friend, acquaintance, etc.

B13.

Social Rank Styles and Performance in Small Work Groups.

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Zuroff, Fournier, Patall, & Leybman (2010) proposed that an evolutionary personality psychology could be developed by identifying individual differences in each of five evolved systems that regulate social behavior (Bugental, 2000). They developed a 17-item questionnaire measure of three personality variables related to the social rank system: Dominant Leadership (DL), Coalition-Building (CB), and Ruthless Self-Advancement (RSA). In the present study, 36 mixed-sex leaderless work groups with 3-4 members were composed from 136 employed adults. Groups watched a video describing a hypothetical airplane crash landing in the arctic. Participants prepared a rank-ordering of the survival value of 15 salvaged items, after which there was a 35-minute group discussion leading to a consensus group ranking. Participants rated their own performance and their satisfaction with the group's solution. An objective measure of the group's performance was obtained by comparing the group's final rankings to the rankings of survival experts. Self-ratings of performance and satisfaction were analyzed using hierarchical linear modeling, with scores for subjects nested within groups. For the analysis of objective performance, objective performance scores were regressed on the groups' mean levels of the three personality variables.

Dominant Leadership predicted self-rated performance, but not the objective quality of the participant's solution. The participant's satisfaction with the group's solution was higher when average levels of Coalition-Building or Ruthless Self-Advancement were high. Objective performance of the group was poorer when the group's mean level of Ruthless Self-Advancement was high, and better when the group's mean levels of both Dominant Leadership and Coalition-Building were high. The results demonstrate the relevance of social rank styles for understanding the performance of small work groups and, more broadly, for organizational psychology.

B14.

Social Safeness, Social Support, and Personality Vulnerability to Depression: A Test of Gilbert's Tripartite Model of Affect Regulation.

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Drawing on both psychometric studies of self-reported affect (e.g., Watson et al., 1995) and more recent affective neuroscience (e.g., Panskepp, 1998; Depue & Morrone-Strupinsky, 2005), Gilbert and colleagues (2008, 2009) suggested that there are three independent yet interacting systems that regulate affect. The threat system appraises signals of danger in the environment and generates negative affect (NA). The incentive/resource-seeking system generates arousal and positive affect (PA) that motivates the seeking of rewards. Finally, a second positive affect system, termed the soothing system, generates low arousal positive affects such as peacefulness, contentment, and well-being in response to social signals of warmth, kindness, and acceptance. Individuals who experience low levels of social safeness are believed to be at risk for psychopathology as many of their maladaptive intrapersonal and interpersonal behaviors are defenses against perceived threats and the absence of safeness.

We tested some of Gilbert's ideas in an 7-day daily diary study. Participants were 51 male and 51 female undergraduate students. At an initial testing session they completed the Depressive Experiences Questionnaire, a measure of dependency and self-criticism, two personality vulnerabilities to depression. In the evening of each subsequent day, they completed the PANAS (a 20-item questionnaire measure of NA and PA), Gilbert et al.'s (2008) 11-item measure of social safeness, and a 3-item measure of received social support (Cutrona, 1989). Received social support was conceptualized as an input to the soothing system, that is, as signaling to individuals that others value, accept, and support them.

The first set of analyses investigated whether the three affect systems were indeed distinguishable. ICCs demonstrated that the amount of between-subject variance differed over the three affects (ICC = .88, .55, and .55 for safeness, PA, and NA, respectively). Aggregated over the 7 days, the three affects were moderately correlated, but not so highly correlated as to undermine discriminant validity (largest $r = -.43$). The average within-subject correlations were small in size, largest $r = .15$. The second set of analyses used multi-level modeling to examine the relations between mean and daily levels of social support and social safeness. As predicted by Gilbert's model, social safeness was higher for subjects with higher average levels of received social support, and social safeness was higher on days when subjects received higher levels of received support than their average level. The third set of analyses examined relations between Dependency and Self-Criticism and social safeness. High scores on Self-Criticism predicted low average levels of social safeness. Moreover, social safeness in subjects who were highly self-critical was more responsive to mean levels of received social support. Finally, subjects who were high on both Self-Criticism and Dependency, who theoretically are the most vulnerable, were especially sensitive to daily fluctuations in received social support.

In summary, the results supported Gilbert's tripartite model, demonstrating that the three affects are operationally distinct from one another, that social safeness is related in expected ways to social cues, and that social safeness in vulnerable individuals is especially reactive to those cues. A possible clinical implication of the findings is that experienced safeness in the therapeutic relationship may be both lower on average and more prone to disruption ("alliance ruptures") in patients who are highly self-critical.