

NJTI-4-EN

by Christian Johansson christian@neojungiantypology.com

Abstract

Personality-systems based on Jungs theories have received a lot of criticism over the years but is still popular. We create a test motivated by neuroscience of personality and make interpretations of Jungs theories and explores if we can create a test that fulfills formal requirements. Our aim is to make motivated physical reductions to biology of mental constructs related to individual differences in personality in philosophy, psychology, sociology and anthropology.

Answer-options

We use a Likert scale with five answer-options to enable valid statistical analyses:

- Strongly disagree (0)
- Disagree (1)
- Neutral (2)
- Agree (3)
- Strongly agree (4)

Statements

Guidelines:

- All statements test only one trait
- All statements are positive
- Statements are formulated without any negations
- Statements are simple
- All statements have same weight

EI

From a neurobiological perspective the quantity of striatal d2 dopamine receptors manifest in the psychology of learning from negative outcomes, avoiding negative outcomes and error-related negativity in general. The striatal d2 dopamine receptors are receiving signals from the prefrontal cortex that act on go/no-go signals (approach vs avoid behavior) therefore the quantity of these receptors should cause differences in this trait. Since high and low quantity is anti-correlated, traits based on this should be anti-correlated and therefore dichotomous as well. [2, 3, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46]

E - Doing

Brave

Most similar to Jungs concept of *The Extraverted Type*.

“In so far it is not purely reactive to environmental stimuli, its character is constantly applicable to the actual circumstances, and it finds adequate and appropriate play within the limits of the objective situation. It has no serious tendency to transcend these bounds.” [1, p. 418]

Not afraid of making mistakes because mistakes are not experienced as negative as for Thinking types.

From a neuroscientific perspective Doing types should have less quantity of striatal dopamine d2 receptors compared to the Thinking types.

1. You easily dare to take the initiative with people even though you might do a blunder
2. You easily try things even though you might make an error
3. It's effortless for you to test your way through situations
4. It's natural for you to try activities even though you might make mistakes
5. You effortlessly dare to test your way with other people even though you might do something wrong

I - Thinking

Cautious

Most similar to Jung's concept of *The Introverted Type*.

“Introverted consciousness doubtless views the external conditions, but it selects the subjective determinants as the decisive ones. The type is guided, therefore, by that factor of perception and cognition which represents the receiving subjective disposition to the sense stimulus.” [1 p. 472]

Wanting to act reflectively and slow. New information is excluded from this.

From a neuroscientific perspective Thinking types should have higher quantity of striatal dopamine d2 receptors compared to the Doing types.

1. You are afraid of doing something wrong
2. It's natural for you to halt and try to avoid making errors
3. Your blunders affect you strongly
4. It's natural for you to refrain from activities when you think you will make a mistake
5. It's natural for you to be cautious with other people

TF

From a neuroscientific perspective, state-dependent connectivity to the default-mode-network (DMN) vs task-positive-network (TPN) manifests in psychological differences in the balance of social/phenomenal/moral cognition vs mechanistic/formal cognition. Since state-dependent connectivity to the networks is anti-correlated, traits based on this should be anti-correlated and therefore dichotomous. [4, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41]

T - Technical

Mechanical / impersonal reasoning

“As a result of the general attitude of extraversion, thinking is orientated by the object and objective data.” [1, s. 428]

“Its desire is to reach reality; its goal is to see how external facts fit into, and fulfill, the framework of the idea; its actual creative power is proved by the fact that this thinking can also create that idea which, though not present in the external facts, is yet the most suitable, abstract expression of them. Its task is accomplished when the idea it has fashioned seems to emerge so inevitably from the external facts that they actually prove its validity.” [1, p. 481]

Wanting to evaluate or look at ideas, facts, decisions or conclusions from a mechanical / impersonal / analytical perspective.

From a neuroscientific perspective Technical types should have lesser state-dependent connectivity to the DMN and higher state-dependent connectivity to the TPN compared to Symbolical types.

1. You enjoy principled independent reasoning
2. You like to understand things in an impersonal way
3. You like doing evaluations that are impartial and according to established rules
4. You enjoy evaluating things in a distanced logical way
5. You enjoy ruthless matter-of-fact analyses

F - Symbolical

Empathetic / sympathetic reasoning

“It agrees with objective values.. I may feel constrained, for instance, to use the predicate ‘beautiful’ or ‘good’, not because I find the object ‘beautiful’ or ‘good’ from my own subjective feeling, but because it is fitting and politic so to do; and fitting it certainly is, inasmuch as a contrary opinion would disturb the general feeling situation.” [1, p. 446]

“But a stormy emotion will be brusquely rejected with murderous coldness, unless it happens to catch the subject from the side of the unconscious, i.e. unless, through the animation of some primordial image, feeling is, as it were, taken captive. In which event such a woman simply feels a momentary laming, invariably producing, in due course, a still more violent resistance, which reaches the object in his most vulnerable spot. The relation to the object is, as far as possible, kept in a secure and tranquil middle state of feeling, where passion and its intemperateness are resolutely proscribed.” [1, p. 493]

Wanting to evaluate or look at ideas, facts, decisions or conclusions from an emotional perspective. Opinions and forms of reasoning is excluded from this.

From a neuroscientific perspective Symbolical types should have higher state-dependent connectivity to the DMN and lesser state-dependent connectivity to the TPN compared to Technological types.

1. You enjoy trying to understand an idea based on what emotions it creates in people
2. You enjoy trying to understand a thing based on how it affects peoples mood
3. You like trying to understand a conclusion based on how it makes people feel
4. You like judging an idea based on how much it means to people
5. You enjoy evaluating decisions based on how they make people feel

SN

From a neuroscientific perspective, state-dependent connectivity to the frontopolar region of the brain manifests in the psychology of counter-factual, alternative, cross-contextual, imaginary cognition. [9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32]

S - Realist

Obvious / present / factual

“As sense-perception, sensation is naturally dependent upon the object.” [1, p. 456]

“Sensation has a preferential objective determination, and those objects which release the strongest sensation are decisive for the individual’s psychology. The result of this is a pronounced sensuous hold to the object. Sensation, therefore, is a vital function, equipped with the potentest [sic] vital instinct. In so far as objects release sensations, they matter; and, in so far as it lies within the power of sensation, they are also fully accepted into consciousness, whether compatible with reasoned judgment or not.” [1, p. 457]

“Whereas, the extraverted sensation-type is determined by the intensity of the objective influence, the introverted type is orientated by the intensity of the subjective sensation-constituent released by the objective stimulus.” [1, p. 501]

Wanting to stay in context or only focusing what is given or straightforward.

From a neuroscientific perspective Realist types should have lesser state-dependent connectivity to the frontopolar region of the brain compared to the Idealist types.

1. When speculating you like to only consider alternatives which are grounded in reality
2. You like to only relate things to factual experiences
3. You like to base discussions only in existing things
4. You enjoy to base discussions only in the realistic
5. You like to consider only factual or real events

N - Idealist

Hidden / alternative / hypothetical

“Intuition as the function of unconscious perception is wholly directed upon outer objects in the extraverted attitude. Because, in the main, intuition is an unconscious process, the conscious apprehension of its nature is a very difficult matter. In consciousness, the intuitive function is represented by a certain attitude of expectation, a perceptive and penetrating vision, wherein only the subsequent result can prove, in every case, how much was [p. 462] ‘perceived-into’, and how much actually lay in the object.” [1, p. 461–462]

“The primary function of intuition is to transmit mere images, or perceptions of relations and conditions, which could be gained by the other functions, either not at all, or only by very roundabout ways.” [1, p. 462]

Wanting to see beyond or between contexts and fantasize how things would be if facts were different. Events are excluded from this.

From a neuroscientific perspective Idealist types should have higher state-dependent connectivity to the frontopolar region of the brain compared to Realist types.

1. You think it's exciting to fantasize how the world would look if facts were different
2. You think it's exciting to imagine how a theory would work in a different context
3. You find searching for hypothetical similarities between different contexts exciting
4. You enjoy fantasizing about alternative associations or relationships between things
5. You enjoy fantasizing about possible parallels between different contexts

JP

From a neuroscientific perspective the degradation speed of prefrontal dopamine and the quantity of dopamine transporters in striatum manifests in psychological differences in reward-sensitivity, task-switching costs, interference control, autonomy and collaborativeness. [5, 6, 7, 47, 48, 49]

Since a slow prefrontal dopamine degradation and low quantity of dopamine transporters in striatum is anti-correlated with having fast prefrontal degradation of dopamine and high level of dopamine transporters in striatum, traits based on these attributes should be anti-correlated and dichotomous as well.

J - Judging

Need for control / predictability / preparation

“The two types just depicted are almost inaccessible to external judgment. Because they are introverted and have in consequence a somewhat meagre capacity or willingness for expression, they offer but a frail handle for a telling criticism.” [1, p. 511]

“On the contrary, these types show very often a brusque, repelling demeanour towards the outer world, although of this they are quite unaware, and have not the least intention of showing it.” [1, p. 511]

“The reasonableness that characterises the conscious management of life in both these types, involves a conscious exclusion of the accidental and non-rational. Reasoning judgment, in such a psychology, represents a power that coerces the untidy and accidental things of life into definite forms; such at least is its aim. Thus, on the one hand, a definite choice is made among the possibilities of life, since only the rational choice is consciously accepted; but, on the other hand, the independence and influence of those psychic functions which perceive life's happenings are essentially restricted.” [1, p. 454]

“The rationality of both types is orientated objectively, and depends upon objective data. Their reasonableness corresponds with what passes as reasonable from the collective standpoint. Subjectively they consider nothing rational save what is generally considered as such. But reason is also very largely subjective and individual.” [1, p. 455]

Wanting to experience stability and predictability to be able to make long-term decisions or goals.

From a neuroscientific perspective Judging types should have a higher prefrontal dopamine level compared to Perceiving types.

1. When you hear about new tasks you like to finish what you are working on before changing task
2. You like doing one thing at a time
3. You enjoy finishing what you have started before you change task
4. You like to finish what you are focusing on before you start focusing on something new
5. You enjoy reaching an closure in a activity before you do anything else

P - Perceiving

Need for change / adaptation

“From the standpoint of the rational type, the irrational might easily be represented as a rational of inferior quality; namely, when he is apprehended in the light of what happens to him. For what happens to him is not the accidental-in that he is master-but, in its stead, he is overtaken by rational judgment and rational aims. This fact is hardly comprehensible to the rational mind, but its unthinkableness merely equals the astonishment of the irrational, when he discovers someone who can set the ideas of reason above the living and actual event. ” [1, p. 469]

“Thus, the introverted rational types unquestionably have a reasoning judgment, only it is a judgment whose leading note is subjective. The laws of logic are not necessarily deflected, since its one-sidedness lies in the premise. The premise is the predominance of the subjective factor existing beneath every conclusion and colouring every judgment.” [1, p. 496]

Wanting to experience changes and new impressions to adapt to new situations and events.

From a neuroscientific perspective Perceiving types should have a lower prefrontal dopamine level compared to Judging types.

1. You enjoy to swiftly focus on something new
2. You enjoy hastily changing goal or activity
3. You like a flexible climate with rapid changes
4. You enjoy to promptly get set on something unexpected
5. You like quick changes of tasks

FAKE

Statements that all serious testers should answer positive on.

1. You are person with strengths and weaknesses
2. You are a person with thoughts and feelings
3. You are a person who has multiple interests

Dichotomy independence

Individual differences in prefrontal level of dopamine and striatal dopamine transporter density is independent of: striatal dopamine d2 quantity, connectivity to frontopolar region of the brain,

state-dependent connectivity to DMN and TPN.

Individual differences in connectivity to frontopolar region of the brain is independent of: state-dependent connectivity to DMN and TPN, striatal dopamine d2 receptor quantity.

Individual differences in state-dependent connectivity to DMN and TPN is independent of striatal dopamine d2 receptor quantity.

From a neuroscientific perspective this should indicate that the dichotomies should be uncorrelated.

Experiment

Hypothesis

A serious result on the test is a result which had activated JavaScript in their web-browser and has answered enough positive on the false statements.

Given one experiment with 500 serious results on the online-test, Cronbach's alpha for all four factors should exceed the established accepted limit at 0.7 and the p-value for exploratory factor-analysis should be below the established level of 5% or 0.05 and we should find 4 orthogonal factors matching design.

Method

Statements are presented in a random order. We present the 40 real statements and the 4 false ones but do not reveal which statements are false. We use a technology to determine if the visitor uses JavaScript as a strong indication for whether the visitor is a human since robots rarely support JavaScript. Only the results which have responded positive or neutral on the false statements are included in the statistics.

We calculate Cronbachs alpha, extra factors through orthogonal and oblique rotation with exploratory factor analysis where the number of factors are determined using parallel analysis. We do this in one experiment where each statement have been responded to by 500 testers which fulfill the requirements stated above.

We collect data via a PHP-script and perform calculation by using established routines i R. Since we determine the number of factors to extract in exploratory factor analysis via parallel analysis the whole procedure is mechanistic and we have no part which are dependent on subjective interpretation. This means that the data goes from the test into the calculations without being affected in any way.

Result

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- Cronbach's alpha for factors is between 0.84 - 0.91 (TF, SN, JP, EI)
- Cronbach's alpha for traits is between 0.77 - 0.94 (T, F, S, N, J, P, E, I)
- Exploratory factor analysis (EFA) with promax rotation finds 5 factors where 4 fit perfectly with the designed factors

- Exploratory factor analysis (EFA) with varimax rotation finds 5 factors where 4 of them fit perfectly with designed factors
- 7 eigen-values above 1
- p-value for varimax EFA is 7.11E-92, chi-square statistics: 1583, degrees of freedom: 590

Discussion

We can conclude that the results of our experiment was according to our hypothesis. We have additionally shown that it's possible to do a interpretation of Jungs personality-types which you can find empirical evidence for and can be motivated by neuroscience.

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Jungian psychology

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