Multilevel Meta-Analysis (Pearson r) Tutorial

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Introduction

The following script is designed to perform a multilevel meta-analysis using the metafor, lmerTest and psych packages in R. Specifically, this tutorial utilises Pearson's r and Fisher's Z as the effect size measures, to demonstrate how to convert between the two measures.

The analysis is based on data from Lua et al. (2023) and focuses on the overall relationship between the need for cognition and well-being. The original paper can be found here: https://doi.org/10.1007/s11031-023-10047-w.

The script includes steps for data preparation, effect size calculation, overall effect size computation, forest plot generation, tests for publication bias, and moderation analysis.

The script is structured to be run in RStudio, and it includes comments to guide users through each step of the process.

Setting Up

This section sets up the working environment, installs necessary packages, loads the required libraries, and reads in the data.

If the metafor, lmerTest and psych and packages are not already installed, use the install.packages() function to install it.

Explanation of the Code

- The setwd() function sets the working directory to the location of the script, ensuring that all file paths are relative to the script's location.
- The library() function loads the metafor, lmerTest and psych packages.
- The options() function is used to adjust the display settings, specifically to disable scientific notation and set the number of digits displayed.
- The read.csv() function reads in the data from a CSV file named "NFCWB.csv", which contains the data drawn from Lua et al.(2023).

```
### Set Up ------
# R version 4.5.0

# Set working directory to that of script's current location
setwd(dirname(rstudioapi::getActiveDocumentContext()$path))

# Load packages
library(metafor) # version 4.8-0
```

Loading required package: Matrix

```
## Loading required package: metadat
## Loading required package: numDeriv
##
## Loading the 'metafor' package (version 4.8-0). For an
## introduction to the package please type: help(metafor)
library(lmerTest) # version 3.1-3
## Loading required package: lme4
##
## Attaching package: 'lmerTest'
## The following object is masked from 'package:lme4':
##
##
       lmer
## The following object is masked from 'package:stats':
##
##
       step
library(psych)
                  # version 2.5.3
# Display settings (to disable scientific notation)
options(scipen = 9999, digits = 4)
# Read in data drawn from Lua et al. (2023)
mlmmeta_raw = read.csv("NFCWB.csv")
```

Prepare Data

This section prepares the data for analysis by computing effect sizes for each study and organizing the data frame.

For more information on the escalc() function, refer to ?escalc in R.

- The corr_nfcwb variable has to be reversed for studies with negative well-being, ensuring that the correlation reflects that the lower the correlation, the lower the well-being. The ifelse() function is used to reverse the correlation for studies with negative well-being.
- The measure argument specifies the type of effect size to be calculated, in this case, "ZCOR" (Fisher's Z). ZCOR is used to calculate the effect size from the raw correlation coefficients instead of Pearson's r as Fisher's Z normalises the distribution of the effect sizes. Thus, Fisher's Z would be less affected by the sampling distribution skew.
- The ri variable corr_nfcwb is the column containing the raw correlation coefficients.
- The ni variable sample_size is the column containing the sample sizes for each study.
- Afterwards, the escalc() function computes the effect sizes (yi) and their corresponding sampling variances (vi) for each study.
- The publication type is categorised into "Published" and "Unpublished" based on the type of publication (e.g., journal article, conference paper, thesis/dissertation).

• The mlmmeta data frame is then sorted by the type of publication (published vs unpublished) to facilitate clearer visualization in the forest plot. Do note that the comma before the closing square bracket is required, as it indicates that we are keeping the columns while reordering the rows.

```
### Prepare Data -----
# Clean data file (reverse correlation for negative well-being)
mlmmeta_raw$corr_nfcwb = with(mlmmeta_raw,
ifelse(wellbeing_category == "Negative well-being", -corr_nfcwb, corr_nfcwb))
# Compute effect sizes for each study
mlmmeta = escalc(
  # Type of effect size measure
  measure = "ZCOR",
  # Column for raw correlation coefficients
  ri = corr_nfcwb,
  # Column for sample sizes
  ni = sample_size,
  # Specify data.frame that the information will be extracted from
  data = mlmmeta raw
  )
# Categorise publication type into "published" and "unpublished"
# Published: Journal articles
# Unpublished: Conference, Panel Data, Thesis/dissertation, Unpublished data
mlmmeta$publication_type = ifelse(
  mlmmeta$publication_type == "Journal article",
  "Published",
  "Unpublished")
# Order the data frame based on publication type and effect sizes (yi)
mlmmeta = mlmmeta[order(mlmmeta$publication_type, mlmmeta$yi), ]
```

Computing the Overall Effect Size

This section estimates the overall effect size using the rma.mv() function from the metafor package.

Explanation of the Multilevel Meta-Analysis Code

- The rma.mv() function is used to compute the overall effect size, accounting for the nested structure of the data.
- The random argument specifies the random effects structure, where ~ 1 | sample_id/meta_id, indicates that random effects are nested within the sample and meta ID.
- The yi and vi arguments specify the effect size estimates and their corresponding sampling variances, respectively.
- The data argument specifies the data frame containing the effect size estimates and variances.
- The summary() function is used to display the results of the meta-analysis, including the overall effect size estimate and its confidence interval.

• The fisherz2r() function is used to convert the effect size estimates from Fisher's Z to Pearson's r.

```
### Compute Overall Effect Size -----
# Effect size estimates
mlmmetaresults = rma.mv(
  # Effect size estimates
 yi = yi,
  # Sampling variances
 V = vi,
  # Include random effects for grouping variable (i.e., sample)
  random = ~ 1 | sample_id/meta_id,
  # Specify where to get the data from
  data = mlmmeta
# summary function used to provide detailed results of the meta-analysis
summary(mlmmetaresults)
##
## Multivariate Meta-Analysis Model (k = 108; method: REML)
##
##
     logLik Deviance
                           AIC
                                     BIC
##
   40.9843
            -81.9687 -75.9687 -67.9502 -75.7357
##
## Variance Components:
##
                        sqrt nlvls fixed
                                                       factor
##
               estim
## sigma^2.1 0.0076 0.0873
                                 52
                                       no
                                                    sample_id
## sigma^2.2 0.0156 0.1250
                                108
                                       no
                                           sample_id/meta_id
##
## Test for Heterogeneity:
## Q(df = 107) = 1573.7169, p-val < .0001
##
## Model Results:
##
## estimate
                se
                      zval
                              pval
                                      ci.lb
                                             ci.ub
     0.1977 0.0200 9.8908 <.0001 0.1585
##
                                            0.2369
##
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
# Convert from Fisher's Z to Pearson's r
mlmmetaresults$b |> fisherz2r()
##
             [,1]
## intrcpt 0.1952
```

Forest Plot

This section generates a forest plot to visually represent the effect sizes and confidence intervals for each study included in the meta-analysis.

The forest plot is created using the forest() function from the metafor package.

The plot includes the following features:

- Arrangement of studies by effect sizes
- Sample size information for need for cognition and well-being group
- Custom headers for the plot
- Custom labels for the studies

After running this code, the forest plot will appear as shown on page 7 of this handbook.

- The forest() function is used to create the forest plot, and the mlmmetaresults object contains the results of the meta-analysis.
- The order argument specifies the arrangement of studies, with "obs" indicating that the studies should be arranged by effect sizes. To organise by column, replace "obs" with the specific column in the data frame.
- The ylim argument sets the y-axis limits for the plot.
- The ilab argument is used to add extra columns of information to the forest plot beyond just the effect sizes. Here, we are adding sample size data for cognition and well-being group into the forest plot.
- The ilab.xpos argument specifies where the sample size columns appear horizontally on the plot. The negative values position the columns on the left side of the plot, just after the study labels.
- The slab argument is used to label each effect size with its respective study.
- The paste() function creates the label by combining the author and year columns. The sep argument specifies the separator between author and the year label, which is set to "," in this case. Hence, the label will be in the format "Author(s), Year" (e.g., "Smith et al., Study 1").
- The xlim argument sets the x-axis limits for the plot.
- The alim argument sets the confidence interval limits, and the steps argument determines the number of intervals in the x-axis.
- The efac argument controls the size of the diamond shapes that represent the effect sizes in the plot.
- The header argument is set to FALSE to allow for manual specification of headers.
- The xlab argument specifies the confidence interval label for the forest plot, in this case, "Fisher's Z"
- The text() function is used to manually include text within the plot, such as the "Author(s) Year" header and specific sample size column headers.
- The x and y arguments in the text() function adjust the position of the headers, with the x argument specifying the horizontal arrangement of the columns and the y argument specifying the vertical arrangement of the columns.
- The font argument adjusts the font size.

```
### Forest Plot -----
# Start creating the forest plot itself
# Specify dataset
forest(
   mlmmetaresults,

# Arrangement of studies
   order = "obs",

# Add y-axis limits
```

```
ylim = c(-3, 111),
  # Add sample size information for need for cognition and well-being group
  ilab = sample_size,
  ilab.xpos = -3,
  # Label studies on the forest plot
  slab = paste(author, year, sep = ", "),
  # Add x-axis limits
  xlim = c(-5, 3),
  # Add confidence interval limits
  # Adjust intervals based on the number of steps
  alim = c(-1.5, 1.5),
  steps = 7,
  # Change size of effect size polygons
  efac = 0.3,
  # Show (TRUE) or hide (FALSE) default headers
  # Hide when we want to manually specify our own headers
 header = FALSE,
  # Add label for confidence interval, in this case, "Fisher's Z"
  xlab = "Fisher's Z"
# For the following lines of code,
# Use text function to manually include text within the plot
# Add "Author(s) Year" header
text(x = -4.6, y = 110, "Author(s) Year", font = 2)
# Add "Sample Size" header
text(x = -3, y = 110, "Sample Size", font = 2)
# Add "r [95% CI]" header
text(x = 2.7, y = 110, "Z [95\% CI]", font = 2)
```

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ree, 2003 96 — 0.73 (0.52, 0.	irtanto, 2021a ilama-Younes, 2016	154	The state of the s	0.58 [0.42, 0.7
	artanto, 2021a alama-Younes, 2016 raham, 2010			0.73 (0.57. 0.8
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andom-Effects Model • 0.20 [0.16, 0.	artanto, 2021a alama-Younes, 2016 raham, 2010 outinho & Woolery, 2004	157		0.73 [0.52, 0.9

Optional: Saving the Forest Plot as a Separate File

Saving the forest plot as a PDF file allows for easy sharing and presentation, and allows adjustment to the plot's dimensions.

Explanation of the Code

- To save the forest plot as a PDF file, the plotting code can be enclosed within cairo_pdf() and dev.off() functions:
- The cairo_pdf() function starts the graphics device driver to create PDF files, and the file argument specifies the name of the file. Specifically, the cairo_pdf function is used for font compatibility and in this case, it is for the author's names.
- The width and height arguments adjust the dimensions of the PDF file.
- Following the pdf() function, the same code used to create the forest plot of moderators is repeated to generate the plot within the PDF file. The graphical output will be directed to the specified PDF file instead of the RStudio plotting window.
- The dev.off() function is used to close the graphics device and finalise the plot as a saved file.

```
### Forest Plot -----
# Save the forest plot as a PDF file
# Name the pdf file of the forest plot
cairo pdf(file = "NFCWBforestplot.pdf", width = 14, height = 35)
# Same forest plot code as above
forest(
  mlmmetaresults,
  order = "obs",
 ylim = c(-3, 111),
  ilab = sample_size,
  ilab.xpos = -3,
  slab = paste(author, year, sep = ", "),
  xlim = c(-5, 3),
  alim = c(-1.5, 1.5),
  steps = 7,
  efac = 0.3,
 header = FALSE,
  xlab = "Fisher's Z"
text(x = -4.6, y = 110, "Author(s) Year", font = 2)
text(x = -3, y = 110, "Sample Size", font = 2)
text(x = 2.7, y = 110, "Z [95\% CI]", font = 2)
# Close the forest plot and finalise it as a saved file
dev.off()
```

pdf ## 2

Tests for Publication Bias

This section performs tests for publication bias, including a funnel plot and Egger's test.

For multilevel meta-analysis, we do not recommend conducting a rank correlation test as it is prone to Type 1 error.

Researchers may refer to this article by Fernández-Castilla et al. (2019) on a detailed discussion of the limitations of rank correlation tests in multilevel meta-analysis, as well as an overview on other publication bias tests: https://doi.org/10.1080/00220973.2019.1582470:

Funnel Plot

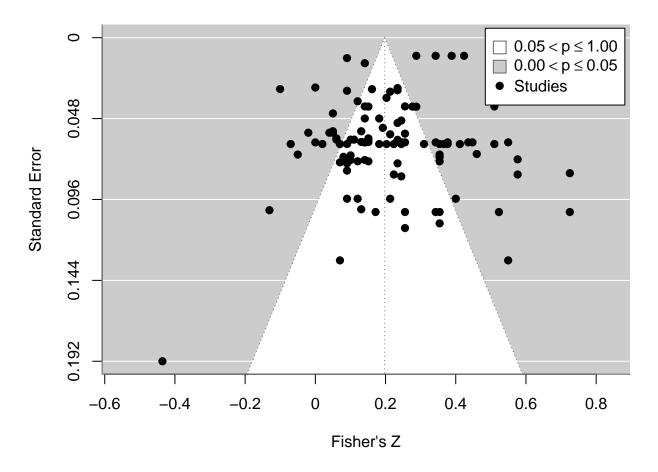
The funnel plot visually represents the distribution of effect sizes and their standard errors, allowing for the identification of potential publication bias.

After running this code, the funnel plot will appear as shown on page 10 of this handbook.

- The par() function is used to adjust the margins of the funnel plot, with the mar argument specifying the bottom, left, top, and right margins.
- The funnel() function is used to create the funnel plot, and the mlmmetaresults object contains the results of the meta-analysis.
- The legend argument specifies whether to include a legend in the plot. TRUE indicates that a legend should be included, FALSE indicates that it should not.
- The xlab argument specifies the confidence interval label for the funnel plot, in this case, "Fisher's Z".

```
### Tests for Publication Bias -----
# Funnel Plot #

# Adjust margins of the funnel plot
# Set the bottom, left, top, and right margins
par(mar = c(4, 4, 0.3, 1))
# Create the funnel plot
funnel(mlmmetaresults, legend = TRUE, xlab = "Fisher's Z")
```



Optional: Saving the Funnel Plot as a Separate File

Saving the funnel plot as a PDF file allows for easy sharing and presentation, and allows adjustment to the plot's dimensions

- To save the funnel plot as a PDF file, the plotting code can be enclosed within pdf() and dev.off() functions:
- The pdf() function starts the graphics device driver to create PDF files, and the file function specifies the name of the file.
- The width and height arguments adjust the dimensions of the PDF file.
- Following the pdf() function, the same code used to create the funnel plot is repeated to generate the plot within the PDF file. The graphical output will be directed to the specified PDF file instead of the RStudio plotting window.
- The dev.off() function is used to close the graphics device and finalize the plot as a saved file.

```
### Tests for Publication Bias -----
# Funnel Plot #

# Save the funnel plot as a PDF file
# Name the pdf file of the funnel plot
# Adjust the width and height of the pdf file
```

```
pdf(file = "NFCWBfunnelplot.pdf", width = 8, height = 5)
# Same funnel plot code as above
par(mar = c(4, 4, 0.3, 1))
funnel(mlmmetaresults, legend = TRUE, xlab = "Fisher's Z")
# Close the funnel plot and finalise it as a saved file
dev.off()
## pdf
## pdf
## 2
```

Egger's Test

The Egger's test is a statistical test that quantifies the degree of asymmetry in the funnel plot, providing a more formal assessment of publication bias.

- The lmer() function is used to fit a linear mixed-effects model, where the effect size weighted by the standard error is predicted by the intercept and the inverse of the corrected standard error. metafor::rma.mv does not have a weights argument, and metafor::regtest does not support rma.mv objects. For three (or more) level meta-analysis, use lmerTest::lmer instead.
- The I(yi / vi) expression indicates that the effect size (yi) is divided by the standard error (vi), which is used to weight the effect sizes in the model.
- The I(1 / vi) expression indicates that the inverse of the standard error is included in the model as a predictor.
- The 1 | sample_id expression indicates that random intercepts are included for each lab, accounting for the nested structure of the data.
- The data argument specifies the dataset to be used for the analysis.
- The summary() function provides the results of the Egger's test, including the slope estimate and its significance.

```
### Tests for Publication Bias -----
# Eggers' Test #
lmer(
    # g weighted by SE is predicted by intercept and inverse SE
    # with random intercept by sample
    I(yi / vi) ~ 1 + I(1 / vi) + (1 | sample_id),
    data = mlmmeta
) |>
    # Estimate of interest is the intercept
    summary(correlation = TRUE)
## Warning: Some predictor variables are on very different scales: consider
```

```
## warning. Some predictor variables are on very different scales. consider
## rescaling
## Warning: Some predictor variables are on very different scales: consider
## rescaling
## Linear mixed model fit by REML. t-tests use Satterthwaite's method [
## lmerModLmerTest]
## Formula: I(yi/vi) ~ 1 + I(1/vi) + (1 | sample_id)
## Data: mlmmeta
##
```

```
## REML criterion at convergence: 1427
##
## Scaled residuals:
              1Q Median
                            3Q
##
      Min
                                  Max
##
   -4.537 -0.103 0.022 0.110
##
## Random effects:
##
   Groups
              Name
                          Variance Std.Dev.
##
   sample_id (Intercept) 42221
                                    205
   Residual
                          14832
                                    122
## Number of obs: 108, groups: sample_id, 52
##
## Fixed effects:
                                                                Pr(>|t|)
##
               Estimate Std. Error
                                          df t value
## (Intercept) -41.0231
                           35.3050
                                    50.5712
                                               -1.16
                                                                    0.25
## I(1/vi)
                 0.2564
                            0.0202
                                    45.8603
                                               12.67 < 0.0000000000000000 ***
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Correlation of Fixed Effects:
           (Intr)
##
## I(1/vi) -0.420
## fit warnings:
## Some predictor variables are on very different scales: consider rescaling
```

Moderation Analysis

This section performs moderation analysis to explore the influence of categorical moderators on the effect sizes.

Explanation of the Code

- The rma.mv() function is used to compute the multilevel meta-analysis with moderators.
- The yi and vi arguments specify the effect size estimates and their corresponding sampling variances, respectively.
- The random argument specifies the random effects structure, where ~ 1 | sample_id/meta_id indicates that random intercepts are included for both the lab and individual studies, accounting for the nested structure of the data.
- The subset argument is used to specify the subset of data for each moderator analysis.
- The data argument specifies the data frame containing the effect size estimates and variances.

Note that if convergence issues arise, the control function can be used to address it. Researchers may also refer more to the metafor package documentation for more information on how to address convergence issues.

```
### Moderation Analysis -----
# Categorical Variable (i.e., publication type)
rma.mv(
    yi = yi,
    V = vi,
    random = ~ 1 | sample_id/meta_id,
    # Specify categorical moderator (i.e., Published articles)
```

```
subset = (publication_type == "Published"),
 data = mlmmeta,
  # To address convergence issues (if it exists)
  control = list(rel.tol=1e-8)
)
##
## Multivariate Meta-Analysis Model (k = 54; method: REML)
## Variance Components:
##
                                                    factor
##
              estim
                      sqrt nlvls fixed
## sigma^2.1 0.0158 0.1257 37 no
                                                 sample id
## sigma^2.2 0.0103 0.1016 54 no sample_id/meta_id
## Test for Heterogeneity:
## Q(df = 53) = 1058.6768, p-val < .0001
## Model Results:
##
## estimate
              se zval
                             pval ci.lb ci.ub
   0.1915  0.0275  6.9686  <.0001  0.1376  0.2453  ***
##
##
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
rma.mv(
 yi = yi,
 V = vi,
 random = ~ 1 | sample id/meta id,
 # Specify categorical moderator (i.e., Unpublished articles)
 subset = (publication_type == "Unpublished"),
 data = mlmmeta,
 # To address convergence issues (if it exists)
  control = list(rel.tol=1e-8)
##
## Multivariate Meta-Analysis Model (k = 54; method: REML)
## Variance Components:
##
##
              estim
                      sqrt nlvls fixed
                                                    factor
## sigma^2.1 0.0040 0.0633
                            15 no
                                                 sample_id
## sigma^2.2 0.0170 0.1304
                             54
                                    no sample_id/meta_id
##
## Test for Heterogeneity:
## Q(df = 53) = 351.3640, p-val < .0001
## Model Results:
## estimate se zval pval ci.lb ci.ub
   0.2126 0.0289 7.3678 <.0001 0.1561 0.2692 ***
##
## ---
```

```
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

Forest Plot of Moderators

This section generates a forest plot that includes moderators to visually represent the effect sizes and confidence intervals for each study included in the meta-analysis.

The forest plot includes the following features:

- Arrangement of studies by effect sizes and types of moderators
- Sample size information for need for cognition and well-being group
- Custom headers for the plot
- Custom labels for the studies
- Summary effect sizes for each moderator

After running this code, the forest plot of moderators will appear as shown on page 17 of this handbook.

- The forest() function is used to create the forest plot, and the mlmmetaresults object contains the results of the meta-analysis.
- The rows argument specifies the arrangement of studies by publication type, and in ascending order of effect sizes per publication type.
- The ylim argument sets the y-axis limits for the plot.
- The ilab argument is used to add extra columns of information to the forest plot beyond just the effect sizes. Here, we are adding sample size data for cognition and well-being group into the forest plot.
- The ilab.xpos argument specifies where the sample size columns appear horizontally on the plot. The negative values position the columns on the left side of the plot, just after the study labels.
- The slab argument is used to label each effect size with its respective study.
- The paste() function creates the label by combining the author and year columns. The sep argument specifies the separator between author and the year label, which is set to "," in this case. Hence, the label will be in the format "Author(s), Year" (e.g., "Smith et al., Study 1").
- The xlim argument sets the x-axis limits for the plot.
- The alim argument sets the confidence interval limits, and the steps argument determines the number of intervals in the x-axis.
- The efac argument controls the size of the diamond shapes that represent the effect sizes in the plot.
- The header argument is set to FALSE to allow for manual specification of headers.
- The xlab argument specifies the label for the confidence interval, in this case, "Hedge's g".
- The text() function is used to manually include text within the plot, such as the "Author(s) Year" header and specific sample size column headers.
- The x and y arguments in the text() function adjust the position of the headers, with the x argument specifying the horizontal arrangement of the columns and the y argument specifying the vertical arrangement of the columns.
- The font argument adjusts the font size.
- The pos argument specifies the position of the text relative to the specified coordinates

- The rma.mv() function is used to perform moderation analysis for each publication type, with the subset argument specifying the subset of data for each category.
- The rest.j, res.t, and res.c variables store the results of the moderation analysis for journal articles, thesis/dissertations, and conference papers, respectively.
- The subset argument is used to specify the subset of data for categorical moderators, allowing for separate analyses for each category.
- The addpoly() function is used to add summary effect sizes for each of the moderators, with the row argument specifying the position of the summary in the plot.

```
### Forest Plot of Moderators -----
# Start creating the forest plot itself
# Specify dataset
forest(
 mlmmetaresults,
  # Manually arrange effect sizes by publication type
  # - Unpublished: Rows 108 to 51
  # - Published: Rows 50 to 48
  # The arrangement must consider spacing and must end at row 2
 rows = c(112:40, 36:2),
  # Add y-axis limits
 ylim = c(-3, 116),
  # Add sample size information for need for cognition and well-being group
  # Values indicate the x-axis position of the sample size columns
  ilab = sample_size,
  ilab.xpos = -4.2,
  # Label studies on the forest plot
  slab = paste(author, year, sep = ", "),
  # Add x-axis limits
  xlim = c(-7, 4),
  # Add confidence interval limits
  # Adjust intervals based on the number of steps
  alim = c(-1.5, 1.5),
  steps = 7,
  # Change size of effect size polygons
  efac = 0.3,
  # Remove headers (if any), for manual input
  header = FALSE,
  \# Add label for confidence interval, in this case, "Fisher's Z"
 xlab = "Fisher's Z"
# For the following lines of code,
# Use text function to manually include text within the plot
```

```
# Add text labels for moderator (type of publication)
# Labels for different publication types (Moderator Analysis)
# - "Unpublished" (Unpublished data, Panel Data, Thesis/Dissertations) at y = 37
# - "Published" (Journal Articles, Conference) at y = 113
text(
 x = -7,
 y = c(37, 113),
 pos = 4,
 c("Unpublished", "Published"),
 font = 2
)
# Moderation analysis
res.p = rma.mv(
 yi,
  vi,
  random = ~ 1 | sample_id/meta_id,
  subset = (publication_type == "Published"),
 data = mlmmeta,
 # To address convergence issues (if it exists)
 control = list(rel.tol=1e-8)
res.u = rma.mv(
  уi,
  vi,
 random = ~ 1 | sample_id/meta_id,
 subset = (publication_type == "Unpublished"),
 data = mlmmeta,
  # To address convergence issues (if it exists)
  control = list(rel.tol=1e-8)
# Add summary effect sizes for each of the moderators
addpoly(res.u, row = 1) # summary effect for "Unpublished" group
addpoly(res.p, row = 39) # summary effect for "Published" group
# Add"Author(s) Year" header
text(x = -6.4, y = 115, "Author(s) Year", font = 2)
# Add "Sample Size" header
text(x = -4.0, y = 115, "Sample Size", font = 2)
# Add "r [95% CI]" header
text(x = 3.6, y = 115, "Z [95\% CI]", font = 2)
```

Oakberg et al., 2008 Missioner A., 2009 Missioner A., 2009 Missioner A., 2019 Missioner A., 2012 Napier B., 2019 Missioner B., 2017 Napier B., 2018 S.,	30 98 98 98 99 98 99 98 99 99 99 99 99 99		-0.44 [-0.81, -00.13 [-0.33, -00.10] -0.16, -00.05 [-0.19, -00.05 [-0.19, -00.05 [-0.19, -00.05 [-0.09, -00.05 [-0.09, -00.05 [-0.09, -00.05 [-0.09, -00.09] [-0.09] [-0.0
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Name A. Shearer. 2012	316 1142 316 320 336 496 496 282 202 202 112 1000 112 99 91 122 207 703 112 99 91 92 92 93 95 96 96 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97		-0.02 (-0.13, 0 0.00) (-0.00)
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sayer et al., 2019 sachek et al., 2001 schebenerko et al., 2019 schebenerko et al., 2019 schebenerko et al., 2017 syevc, 2008 savenzo et al., 2019 sariok et al., 2001 sariok et al., 2008 sariok et al., 2008 sariok et al., 2008 savenzo et al., 2009 savenzo et al., 2019 save	182 182 1008 1008 1008 1008 1008 1008 10	 	0.09 (-0.06, 0 0.09 (-0.10, 0 0.09 (-0.03, 0 0.10 (-0.04, 0 0.12 (-0.05, 0 0.12 (-0.07, 0 0.13 (-0.07, 0 0.14 (-0.10, 0 0.14 (0.05, 0 0.15 (0.03, 0 0.15 (0.03, 0 0.16 (0.03, 0
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histophemic et al., 2019 histophemic et al., 2019 weer, 2008 2 weeze & Carone & C	1008 1192 207 703 1112 99 1152 4354 601 282 569 1070 7764 306		0.09 [0.03, 0 0.03, 0 0.01 0.04, 0 0.01 0.04, 0 0.12 0.05, 0 0.12 0.05, 0 0.13 0.07, 0 0.14 0.00, 0 0.14 0.00, 0 0.14 0.01, 0 0.15 0.03, 0 0.15 0.03, 0 0.15 0.07, 0 0.16 0.07, 0 0.16 0.07, 0 0.16 0.07, 0 0.16 0.07, 0 0.16 0.07, 0 0.16 0.07, 0 0.16 0.07, 0 0.0
wyer, 2008 average Scanner Sc	207 703 1112 99 91 192 4354 601 282 569 1070 356 7784 306	4	0.10 [-0.04, 0, 0.10 [-0.04, 0, 0.10 [-0.04, 0, 0.12 [-0.05, 0, 0.12 [-0.07, 0, 0.13 [-0.07, 0, 0.14 [-0.10, 0, 0, 0.14 [0.01, 0, 0, 0, 15 [0.03, 0, 0.15 [0.03, 0, 0, 0.16 [0.10, 0, 0, 0, 0.16 [0.10, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
awazos & Campbell, 2008 7 aciente et al., 2001 1 aberg et al., 2008 1 aberg et al., 2008 1 aciente et al., 2009 1 aciente et al., 2020 1 aciente et al., 2009 7 aciente et al., 2009 7 aciente et al., 2009 3 aciente et al., 2009 1 aciente et al., 2000 1 aciente et al., 2001 1 aciente et al., 2000 2	703 1112 99 1912 14354 4564 4564 4564 4564 4564 4564 4567 4567	Re	0.12 [-0.05, 0. 0.12 [-0.07, 0. 0.13 [-0.07, 0. 0.14 [-0.00, 0. 0.14 [0.11, 0. 0.14 [0.06, 0. 0.15 [0.07, 0. 0.16 [0.10, 0. 0.16 [0.10, 0. 0.16 [0.10, 0.
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aberg et al., 2008 auchier et al., 2008 auchier et al., 2005 auchier è Siedelecki, 2021 4, be, 2016 5,	99 192 192 1334 1354 1361 1375 1375 1375 1375 1375 1375 1375 137	 10 10 10 10 10	0.13 [-0.07, 0.014 [-0.00, 0.014 [-0.00, 0.014 [0.01, 0.014 [0.06, 0.015 [0.03, 0.07, 0.016 [0.10, 0.016 [0.10, 0.07]]
auther et al. 2006 1 auther et al. 2006 2 auther set al. 2007 2 auther set al. 2009 3 auther set al. 2001 3 au	192 4354 601 282 599 1070 351 784 4	 H H H H 	0.14 [-0.00, 0. 0.14 [0.11, 0. 0.14 [0.06, 0. 0.15 [0.03, 0. 0.15 [0.07, 0. 0.16 [0.10, 0.
adani & Siedlecki, 2021 4 w. 2018 6 innaze & Levine, 2020 2 w. 2018 6 intel et al., 2020 1 intel et al., 2030 7 intel et al., 2031 7 intel et al.,	4354 601 282 599 1070 351 784 306)9 00 00 00 00 -01	0.14[0.11, 0. 0.14[0.06, 0. 0.15[0.03, 0. 0.15[0.07, 0. 0.16[0.10, 0.
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armaze & Levine, 2020 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2. 2.	282 599 1070 351 784 306 112	 	0.15 [0.03, 0. 0.15 [0.07, 0. 0.16 [0.10, 0.
se, 2018 5 was 2 humber 1 and 2020 1 se & Pushkar, 2009 3 seasof et al., 2009 3 sevenes et al., 1995 3 selected at al., 2009 1 sincherhan & King, 2016	599 1070 351 784 306 112	 	0.15 [0.07, 0. 0.16 [0.10, 0.
Intel et al., 2020 a. & Pushkar, 2009 brestoff et al., 2009 crestoff et al., 2019 crestoff et al., 2019 crestoff et al., 2019 crestoff et al., 2019 crestoff et al., 2001 crestoff et al., 2002 crestoff et al., 2001 crestoff et al., 2002 crest	1070 351 784 306 112	 - - 	0.16 [0.10, 0.
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enstorf et al., 2009 revene et al., 1905 aziek et al., 2001 initzeirana & King, 2016 initzeirana & Lickina initzeiran	784 306 112		0.401000.0
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zelek et al. 2001 interzelma & King, 2016 abbisdari & Greitemeyer, 2016 subyer et al. 2019 amoutu, 2003 amoutu, 2003 amoutu, 2003 december et al. 2019 amoutu, 2003 december et al. 2000 december et al. 2001 december et al. 2017 december et al. 2019 december et a	112	F■H	0.20 [0.13, 0. 0.21 [0.10, 0.
intizetima & Kinig, 2016 biblicatin & Cortellemyer, 2016 3 spyer et al., 2019 super et al., 2019 tecerist et al., 2019 tecerist et al., 2010 tecerist et al., 2011 tecerist et a		 	0.21 [0.10, 0.
abbisdin & Greitemeyer, 2016 3 3 saysper et al., 2019 3 3 amol.u. 2003 2 4 secuh et al., 2019 1 5 secuh et al., 2019 1 6 secuh et al., 2019 1 6 secuh et al., 2019 1 7 secuh et al., 2019 1 7 secuh et al., 2017 1 7 secuh et al., 2019 1 7 secuh et al., 20	1020		0.23 [0.17, 0.
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amo bil., 2003 amo bil., 2003 tritamis & Dicishaluser, 2012 tritamis, 2015 tritamis, 2017 tritamis, 2018	182	T=1	0.23 [0.09, 0.
Newbill et al., 2019 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	274	F=-	0.23 [0.12, 0
ritrams & Diskhauser, 2012 abdome et al., 2002 gloy et al., 1986 e., 2018 e., 2019 e., 2018 e., 2019 e	274 1116		0.23 [0.12, 0
eisdom et al., 2020 4 eisdom et al., 2020 5 et al., 2086 8 e. 2018 1 e. 2019	150	F=1	0.24 [0.08, 0.
suby et al. 1986 s. 2019 s. 20	415	 I	0.24 [0.15, 0
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urin et al. 2020 2016 2021	112	H=-1	0.40 [0.21, 0
e, 2018 enny & Banks, 2015 internal Noveley, 2016 internal Noveley, 2016 internal Noveley, 2004 internal Noveley, 2004 internal, 2021b 2 internal, 2021b 2 e, 2012 enery, 2007 internal, 2021b 2 enery, 2007 internal, 2021b 2 enery, 2021	8615		0.42 [0.40, 0
nony & Banks, 2015 alama-Younes, 2016 suthin & Wooley, 2004 stranto, 2021b	212	 	0.46 [0.32, 0.
latina- Younes, 2016 suithin & Wooley, 2004 stranto, 2021 b stranto, 2021 b suithin & Wooley, 2004 stranto, 2021 b suithin & Wooley, 2004 suithin & Wooley, 2004 suithin & Wooley, 2007 stranton, 2021 b suithin & 2021 b	601	H	0.51 [0.43, 0.
usinho & Wooley, 2004 1 trainio, 2021b 1 trainio, 2021a 1 trainio, 2021a 1 trainio, 2021b 2 trainio, 2021b 1 trainio, 2021b 2 trainio, 2021b	60	1	0.55 [0.29, 0
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rtanto, 2021b 2	253	H ≡ H	0.20 [0.08, 0
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	253 96	+ = -	0.31 [0.19, 0 0.34 [0.14, 0
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	188		0.35 [0.21, 0
	253	 	0.35 [0.23, 0
	253	FB-1	0.37 [0.24, 0
-	263 261	F=1	0.37 [0.24, 0
	253	F=1	0.38 [0.25, 0
	253	F=1	0.36 [0.25, 0
	263 261	 	0.44 [0.29, 0
	261		0.44 [0.31, 0
	253	F=-1	0.51 [0.39, 0
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	154	F	0.58 [0.42, 0
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andom-Effects Model		♦ ' - '	0.21 [0.16, 0
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Optional: Saving the Forest Plot of Moderators as a Separate File

Saving this forest plot of moderators as a PDF file allows for easy sharing and presentation, and allows adjustment to the plot's dimensions.

- To save the forest plot of moderators as a PDF file, the plotting code can be enclosed within cairo_pdf() and dev.off() functions:
- The cairo_pdf() function starts the graphics device driver to create PDF files, and the file argument specifies the name of the file. Specifically, the cairo_pdf function is used for font compatibility and in this case, it is for the author's names.
- The width and height arguments adjust the dimensions of the PDF file.
- Following the pdf() function, the same code used to create the forest plot of moderators is repeated to generate the plot within the PDF file. The graphical output will be directed to the specified PDF file instead of the RStudio plotting window.
- The dev.off() function is used to close the graphics device and finalise the plot as a saved file.

```
### Forest Plot of Moderators -----
# Save the forest plot as a PDF file
# Name the pdf file of the forest plot
# cairo pdf function used for font compatibility
# Adjust the width and height of the pdf file
cairo_pdf(file = "NFCWBforestplotwithmod.pdf", width = 13, height = 35)
# Same forest plot code as above
forest(
  mlmmetaresults,
  rows = c(112:40, 36:2),
  ylim = c(-3, 116),
  ilab = sample_size,
  ilab.xpos = -4.2,
  slab = paste(author, year, sep = ", "),
  xlim = c(-7, 4),
  alim = c(-1.5, 1.5),
  steps = 7,
  efac = 0.3,
  header = FALSE,
  xlab = "Fisher's Z"
text(
  x = -7,
  y = c(37, 113),
  pos = 4,
  c("Unpublished", "Published"),
  font = 2
)
res.p = rma.mv(
  уi,
  νi,
```

```
random = ~ 1 | sample_id/meta_id,
  subset = (publication_type == "Published"),
 data = mlmmeta,
  control = list(rel.tol=1e-8)
res.u = rma.mv(
 уi,
 vi,
 random = ~ 1 | sample_id/meta_id,
 subset = (publication_type == "Unpublished"),
 data = mlmmeta,
 control = list(rel.tol=1e-8)
addpoly(res.u, row = 1)
addpoly(res.p, row = 39)
text(x = -6.4, y = 115, "Author(s) Year", font = 2)
text(x = -4.0, y = 115, "Sample Size", font = 2)
text(x = 3.6, y = 115, "Z [95\% CI]", font = 2)
# Close the forest plot and finalise it as a saved file
dev.off()
```

pdf ## 2

END OF CODE