



Mediation, Moderation, and Conditional Process Analysis I

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Global School in Empirical Research Methods, Oslo, Norway



Understanding causal effects

Hagtvedt, H., & Patrick, V. M. (2008). Art infusion: The influence of visual art on the perception and evaluation of consumer products. *Journal of Marketing Research*, 45, 379-389.



HEINRICH HAGTVEDT and VANESSA M. PATRICK

In this research, the authors investigate the phenomenon of "art infusion," or the influence of visual art on consumer products. Specifically, they examine how the infusion of luxury perceptions, but not luxury decorations, into a product influences consumer evaluations of that product. The results indicate that art infusion is more effective than luxury advertising and pricing alone.

Keywords: visual art, luxury, aesthetics, optimism effects, packaging

Art Infusion: The Influence of Visual Art on the Perception and Evaluation of Consumer Products



ABSTRACT
The authors of this study are interested in investigating the influence of visual art on consumer products. In this paper, they focus on the influence of luxury perceptions on the evaluations of consumer products. To do this, they first conducted a series of experiments to determine whether luxury decorations or luxury perceptions, but not luxury decorations alone, influence consumer evaluations of products. The results indicate that art infusion is more effective than luxury advertising and pricing alone.

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Understanding causal effects

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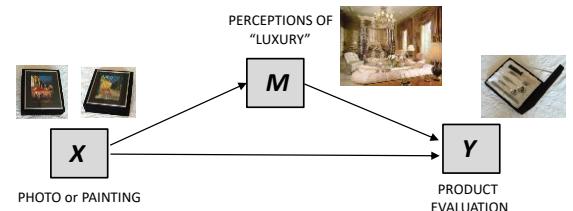


The product with the impressionist painting on the box was evaluated more favorably than the product with a photograph of a similar scene.

Remaining Questions:

- How does this effect occur? What is the *mechanism* that produces it?
 - Is the effect consistent across type of product, type of consumer, and so forth?
- These are the important questions!

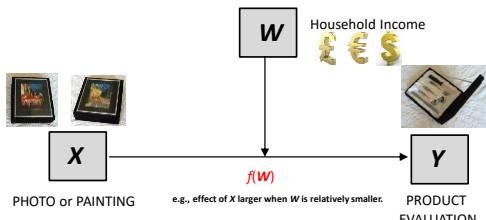
A simple mediation model



Art-infused product was perceived as more "luxurious," and this greater perceived luxury translated into a more favorable product evaluation. Thus, the infusion of the product with art influenced product evaluation at least partly through the "mechanism" of perceived luxuriousness.

Mediation analysis is about estimating and making inferences about such *indirect effects*.

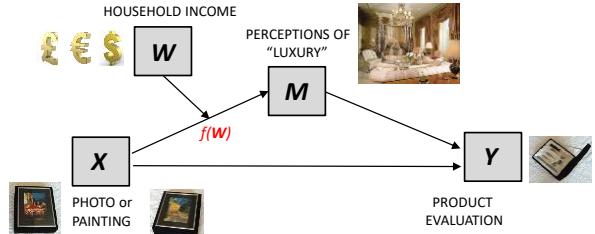
Moderation



Is this effect of art infusion is larger among those with less income? Is the size of the effect dependent on (or a function of) income? In this case, income is a *moderator* of the effect of art infusion on product evaluation.

Moderation analysis is about the estimation of *contingent effects*, i.e., examining the boundary conditions of effects or the factors that make effects large versus small, positive versus negative.

Combining moderation and mediation



Does art infusion result in greater perceptions of luxury more so among those with less income? If so, then the indirect effect of art infusion on product evaluation through perceptions of luxury depends on income. Thus, the strength of this "mechanism" may depend on income. Mediation can be moderated.

In this class

- After a review of OLS regression, we start with questions of "HOW"—**statistical mediation analysis**
- "Direct," "indirect," and "total effects" in path models and how to test hypotheses in such models using OLS regression and various computational tools developed for this purpose.
- We then move to questions of "WHEN"—**moderation analysis**
- Estimation and interpretation of models in which a predictor can have different effects on an outcome depending on the value of another variable in the model.
- We then explore models that combine moderation and mediation—**"conditional process analysis"**
- With fundamentals covered, we address more complex models and issues in mediation and moderation analysis, such as multiple mediators and multi-categorical independent variables and repeated-measures mediation.

What you'll need

- This course is hands-on. Hopefully you brought a laptop with SPSS 19+ or SAS 9.1+ with PROC IML. If not, that is ok. You'll still benefit.

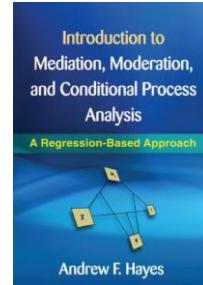
[SPSS Code](#)
[SAS Code](#)
- Various files available on a USB drive I pass around.
 - SPSS and SAS data folders. SPSS data files are ready to go. SAS files are programs thus must be executed to make them "work" files.
 - SPSS and SAS PROCESS folders. This contains the PROCESS macro we'll heavily rely on, and some documents related to it.
 - Miscellaneous folder. Various files, including some PDFs and other miscellaneous things of relevance to this course.
- A lot of stamina.

What we will and won't do

- We will stick with fairly simple models to cover basic principles, with continuous outcomes, and cross-sectional or experimental data.
- **Statistical** mediation analysis. No discussion of counterfactuals, “potential outcomes,” directed graphs, or other approaches to thinking about cause.
- Everything OLS-regression-based.
- No dichotomous outcomes, nothing multilevel.

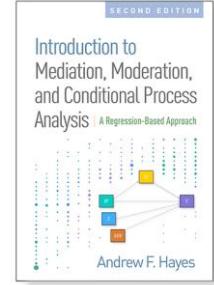
Although the principles are not software specific, their implementation is facilitated with the use of a “macro” which makes otherwise tedious things very simple and effortless. You will learn about PROCESS.

This course is a companion to...



2013

www.guilford.com



December 2017

Example for the class “inspired by”...

Bayram-Ozdemir, S. & Stattin, H. (2014). Why and when is ethnic harassment a risk for immigrant adolescents’ school adjustment? Understanding the processes and conditions. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 43, 1252-1265.

The image shows a composite of two photographs. On the left, a close-up of a young girl with blonde hair looking down with a somber expression. On the right, three other girls are shown from the waist up, all pointing their fingers directly at the girl on the left. They are outdoors in what looks like a school setting.

Example for the class “inspired by”...

Bayram-Ozdemir, S. & Stattin, H. (2014). Why and when is ethnic harassment a risk for immigrant adolescents’ school adjustment? Understanding the processes and conditions. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 43, 1252-1265.



All are continuous variables scaled such that higher = more.

330 7th to 9th grade students in Finland measured in the spring term (T1) and again one year later (T2). All were first or second generation immigrants who reported at least some ethnic harassment.

HARASS: 6-item measure of ethnicity-related harassment frequency (scaled 1 to 5). T1 only.

POSREL: 6-item measure of positivity of relationships with teachers (scaled 1 to 4). T1 only.

SE: 10-item Rosenberg self-esteem scale (scaled 1 to 4). T1 and T2.

DEP: 20-item Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale for Children (scaled 1 to 4). T1 and T2.

FAIL: 4-item measure of perceived academic failure at school (scaled 1 to 4). T1 and T2.

SATIS: 5-item measure of satisfaction in school (scaled 1 to 5). T1 and T2.

The Data: HARASS

SPSS

	harass	se2	dep2	sat2	posrel	sel	dept1	satis1	fail1	
1	2.16	3.00	1.25	4.80	1.00	1.60	3.60	1.10	4.40	2.00
2	3.75	2.00	1.75	3.00	1.00	1.50	3.00	1.20	3.00	2.00
3	1.16	3.00	1.95	5.00	1.00	1.50	3.16	1.95	4.80	1.00
4	2.50	2.50	2.15	3.00	2.00	2.00	3.10	1.25	3.20	2.00
5	1.50	3.00	1.90	2.60	1.00	2.80	3.00	1.20	3.00	2.00
6	1.90	2.00	1.75	2.50	1.25	2.00	3.00	1.20	3.00	2.00
7	1.50	2.10	2.05	2.40	1.50	3.00	3.00	1.20	3.00	2.00
8	1.60	3.00	1.75	2.80	1.25	3.00	3.00	1.20	3.00	2.00
9	1.80	2.70	2.15	3.20	1.00	3.00	3.00	1.20	3.00	2.00
10	1.50	2.00	2.40	4.00	2.00	3.00	3.16	1.20	3.00	2.00

"1" and "2" in the variable name refers to time 1 and time 2, respectively. The absence of a number means the data were available only at time 1.

SAS

```
data harass;
  input harass se2 dep2 sat2 posrel sel dept1 satis1 fail1;
  datalines;
2.16 3.00 1.25 4.80 1.00 1.60 3.60 1.10 4.40 2.00
2.35 2.00 1.75 3.00 1.00 1.50 3.00 1.20 3.00 2.00
1.16 3.00 1.95 5.00 1.00 1.50 3.16 1.95 4.80 1.00
2.50 2.50 2.15 3.00 2.00 3.10 1.25 3.20 2.00
1.50 3.00 1.90 2.60 1.00 2.80 3.00 1.20 3.00 2.00
1.90 2.00 1.75 2.50 1.25 2.00 3.00 1.20 3.00 2.00
1.50 2.10 2.05 2.40 1.50 3.00 1.80 2.10 2.40 2.00
1.50 3.00 1.75 2.80 1.25 3.00 3.40 1.20 3.80 1.25
1.80 2.70 2.15 3.20 1.50 3.50 2.90 2.30 3.40 1.50
1.80 2.00 1.45 2.00 1.00 2.80 1.25 3.00 1.25
1.33 2.40 1.70 3.60 1.75 3.16 3.00 2.05 4.40 2.25
```

The SPSS file is ready for analysis. The SAS version is a SAS program that must be executed to produce a temporary work data file.

These are not the actual data from this study. They were generated to produce similar results to the published study.

A quick review of regression analysis

- Linear regression is the foundation of this class.
- Used throughout science as a means of "modeling" the relationship between variables.
- Many of the kinds of analyses and statistics you already know about can be expressed in the form of a linear regression model
 - independent groups t test
 - analysis of variance

Pearson's coefficient of correlation (r) is the building block of linear regression analysis. Consider the correlation between positivity of relationships with teachers and satisfaction at school (measured contemporaneously).

Correlations

	posrel	satis1
posrel	Pearson Correlation	.458
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000
	N	330
satis1	Pearson Correlation	.458
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000
	N	330

SPSS code in black box

```
correlations variables = posrel satis1.
```

SAS code in white box

```
proc corr data=harass;var posrel satis1;run;
```

Using SPSS syntax

We will use syntax to instruct SPSS what to do in this class. There are many benefits of learning how to write SPSS syntax.

(1) Open a new syntax window (File > New > Syntax)



(2) Type your command(s) into the blank window that opens



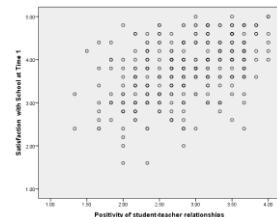
(3) Click and drag to highlight code you want to execute and press the "play" button or select various options under "Run" in the syntax window menu.

A scatterplot

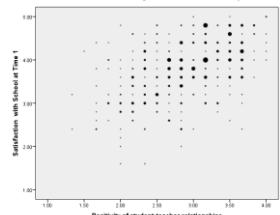
Consider a scatterplot visually depicting this relationship:

```
graph/scatterplot=posrel with satis1.
proc sgscatter data=harass;plot satis1*posrel/run;
```

Overlapping points make this unclear



After "binning" to see the overlap:



If you had to draw a single straight line through this plot that "best fits" the relationship, where would you draw it? At its heart, this is the problem regression analysis solves.

OLS (Ordinary Least Squares) linear regression

Goal: Derive the equation ("model") for the line representing the association between independent variable X and dependent variable Y that "best fits" the data.

The "simple regression model" (i.e., only one variable on the right hand side) takes the form

$$Y_i = b_0 + b_1 X_i + e_i$$

Using the ordinary least squares criterion, there is only one line described by the function

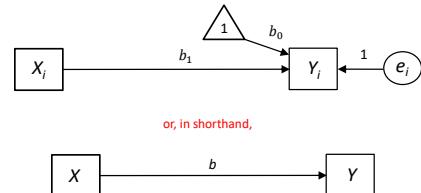
$$\hat{Y}_i = b_0 + b_1 X_i \quad e_i = Y_i - \hat{Y}_i$$

that "best fits" the data, where \hat{Y}_i is the estimated or fitted value of Y_i , and "best fit" is defined as the line that minimizes the sum of the squared residuals (SS_{residual}), summed over all n cases in the data. This is called the **LEAST SQUARES** criterion.

$$SS_{\text{residual}} = \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2$$

A visual representation

$$Y_i = b_0 + b_1 X_i + e_i$$



In a diagram such as this, \longrightarrow represents "predictor of" or "component of" but not necessarily "cause of," although the association could be causal. So X is a predictor of Y (and perhaps a cause of Y) in this diagram.

Easier to do in SPSS and then explain

This is an easy problem for a computer with an OLS regression routine. We estimate Y from X , or regress Y on X . X = POSREL (positivity of teacher-student relationships), Y = SATIS1 (satisfaction with school).

Model Summary						
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate		
1	.458 ^a	.210	.207	61.840		

ANOVA*						
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	33.763	1	33.763	86.902	.000 ^b
	Residual	125.433	328	382		
	Total	159.696	329			

a. Dependent Variable: satis1
b. Predictors: (Constant), posrel

Coefficients*						
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients	Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval for B
1	(Constant)	.2245	.531	13.527	.000	1.918 to 2.571
	X posrel	.531	.531	4.68	9.326 .000	.419 to .643

a. Dependent Variable: satis1

$$\hat{Y}_i = b_0 + b_1 X_i$$

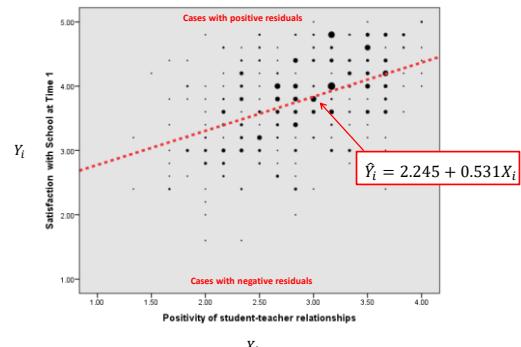
$$\hat{Y}_i = 2.245 + 0.531 X_i$$

This is the best fitting OLS regression model, assuming a linear association between X and Y .

```
regression/statistics defaults ci/dep=satis1/method=enter posrel.  
proc reg data=harass;model satis1 = posrel/stb clb;run;
```

Output A

The model in visual form



Interpretation of b_0 and b_1

$$\hat{Y}_i = b_0 + b_1 X_i$$

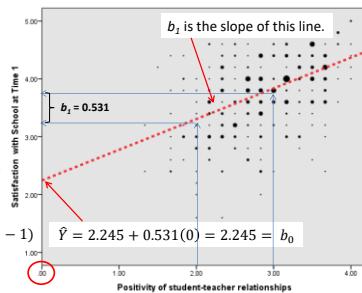
$$\hat{Y}_i = 2.245 + 0.531 X_i$$

b_1 = estimated difference in Y between two cases that differ by one unit on X . The sign of b_1 speaks to the sign of the association between X and Y .

$b_1 = \hat{Y}|(X=0) - \hat{Y}|(X=0-1)$
 $\hat{Y} = 2.245 + 0.531(0) = 2.245 = b_0$

b_0 = estimated value of Y when $X=0$. This is not meaningful here.

Two kids that differ by one unit in the positivity of their student-teacher relationships are estimated to differ by $b_1 = 0.531$ units in satisfaction with school. The kid that is **higher** in positivity of those relationships is estimated to be *more* satisfied (because b_1 is positive)



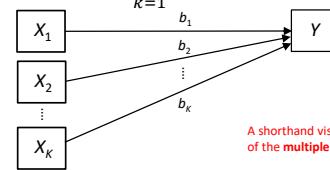
Multiple predictors

Multiple predictors variables are handled with ease, without modification to the estimation process. But this results in some interpretational changes.

$$Y_i = b_0 + b_1 X_{1i} + b_2 X_{2i} + b_3 X_{3i} + \dots + b_K X_{Ki} + e_i$$

or, more concisely,

$$Y_i = b_0 + \sum_{k=1}^K b_k X_{ki} + e_i$$



A shorthand visual representation of the **multiple regression model**.

A multiple regression model (SPSS)

```
regression/statistics defaults ci/dep=satisf1/method=enter posrel harass sel.
proc reg data=harass;model satisf1 = posrel harass sel/stb clb/run;
```

Model Summary

Model	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std Error of Estimate
Model 1	0.444 ^a	0.211	2.92

a. Previous (Constant), sel, posrel, harass

ANOVA^b

Model	Sums of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Significance F
1. Regression	47.120	3	15.707	45.091	0.000 ^a
Residual	111.576	326	342		
Total	158.696	329			

a. Dependent Variable: satisf1

b. Predictors: (Constant), sel, posrel, harass

$$SS_{\text{residual}} = 111.576$$

No other set of b values would produce a smaller value of SS_{residual} .

X_1 = positivity of teacher-student relationships
 X_2 = harassment frequency
 X_3 = self-esteem.

Coefficients^c

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients (Beta)	t	Sig.	95% Confidence Interval for B	
	B	Std. Error				Lower Bound	Upper Bound
1. (Constant)	1.479	.309	.472	4.798	.000	.871	2.087
posrel	.472	.055	.408	8.519	.000	.363	.581
harass	-.145	.090	-.078	-1.613	.108	-.322	.032
sel	.373	.064	.376	5.828	.000	.247	.499

a. Dependent Variable: satisf1

$$\hat{Y}_i = 1.479 + 0.472X_{1i} - 0.145X_{2i} + 0.373X_{3i}$$

Output B

The meaning of the values of b

$$\hat{Y}_i = 1.479 + 0.472X_{1i} - 0.145X_{2i} + 0.373X_{3i}$$

Two kids the **same** on all predictors except the positivity of their teacher relationships (X_1) but who **differ by one unit in such positivity** will differ by $b_1 = 0.472$ units in estimated satisfaction with school (\hat{Y}).

b_1 , the **partial regression coefficient** for X_1 , quantifies how **differences in positivity of the student-teacher relationship relate to differences in satisfaction with school** when **all other predictor variables in the model are held constant**, or "statistically controlling for" those other variables.

Two people the **same** on all predictors except ethnic harassment (X_2) who **differ by one unit in harassment** will differ by $b_2 = 0.145$ units in estimated satisfaction with school (\hat{Y}).

b_2 , the **partial regression coefficient** for X_2 , quantifies how **differences in frequency in the experience of ethnic harassment relate to differences in school satisfaction when all other predictor variables in the model are held constant**, or "statistically controlling for" those other variables. The negative sign for b_2 means those who experience **more** harassment are estimated to be **less** satisfied with school.

Statistical inference

$$Y_i = b_0 + b_1 X_{1i} + b_2 X_{2i} + b_3 X_{3i} + \dots + b_K X_{Ki} + e_i$$

The constant, values of b are sample-specific. They are sample-specific estimates of a corresponding population or process model (the "true" model):

$$Y_i = \tilde{b}_0 + \tilde{b}_1 X_{1i} + \tilde{b}_2 X_{2i} + \tilde{b}_3 X_{3i} + \dots + \tilde{b}_K X_{Ki} + \tilde{e}_i$$

Departures between the "true model" and the obtained model resulting from our data are used to test hypotheses about the "true values" of b .

Departures between the true and the obtained model are assumed to be driven by "random" processes, such as random sampling, random assignment variation, measurement error, etc., unless the data suggest otherwise. We attempt to estimate the true model using our data, hoping that our estimates of the true values of that model are accurate.

Null hypothesis testing for \tilde{b}

$$Y_i = \tilde{b}_0 + \tilde{b}_1 X_{1i} + \tilde{b}_2 X_{2i} + \tilde{b}_3 X_{3i} + \dots + \tilde{b}_K X_{Ki} + \tilde{e}_i$$

In any study, we observe only \tilde{b}_j , the sample estimate of b_j . We often are interested in making an inference about the size of \tilde{b}_j , or testing a hypothesis about its value.

e.g., Null hypothesis test about \tilde{b}_j :

Assume \tilde{b}_1 equals some specific value. Typically, we assume $\tilde{b}_1 = 0$ under the **null hypothesis** (i.e., X_1 is unrelated to Y when all other variables in the model are held constant).

$$\begin{aligned} H_0: \tilde{b}_1 &= 0 \\ H_a: \tilde{b}_1 &\neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

If H_0 is true, then b_1 / s_{b_1} follows the $t(df_{residual})$ distribution, where s_{b_1} is the estimated standard error of b_1 . Using the t distribution, we generate a p -value and reject H_0 in favor of H_a if $p \leq \alpha$ -level chosen for the test (usually .05). In that case, the result is "statistically significant."

Statistical inference for partial regression coefficients

ANOVA ^a						
Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	
1	Regression	47.120	1	47.120	.000 ^b	
	Residual	111.876	326	.342		
	Total	158.996	329			

a. Dependent Variable: sat1

b. Predictors: (Constant), sat1, posrel, harass

$$\begin{aligned} H_0: \tilde{b}_1 &= 0 \\ H_a: \tilde{b}_1 &\neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$b_1 = 0.472, se(b_1) = 0.055, t(326) = 8.519, p < 0.001$

Reject H_0 in favor of H_a

$$\begin{aligned} H_0: \tilde{b}_2 &= 0 \\ H_a: \tilde{b}_2 &\neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$b_2 = -0.145, se(b_2) = 0.090, t(326) = -1.613, p = 0.108$

Do not reject H_0

a. Dependent Variable: sat1

Two kids equal in ethnic harassment frequency and self esteem but who differ in the positivity of their student-teacher relationships differ from each other in satisfaction more than can be explained by chance. The observed and statistically significant positive partial relationship tells us that kids with more positive student-teacher relationships are more satisfied with school.

Two kids equal in the positivity of their student-teacher relationships and their self-esteem but who differ in ethnic harassment frequency do not differ in their satisfaction any more than would be expected by "chance."

Output B

Interval estimation

Inferences can also be framed as an interval such that this interval will capture the true value a certain percentage of the time. As a rough rule-of-thumb, we can be 95% confident that the true value resides within about 2 standard errors of the obtained estimate.

$$b_j - 2s_{b_j} \leq \tilde{b}_j \leq b_j + 2s_{b_j}$$

Output B

Coefficients ^a						
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients			Standardized Coefficients		
	B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.	95.0% Confidence Interval for B
1	(Constant)	1.479	.309	4.788	.000	.871 -.087
	posrel	.472	.065	7.148	.000	.563 .581
	harass	-.145	.090	-.1613	.108	-.322 .032
	sat1	.373	.064	.5828	.000	.247 .499

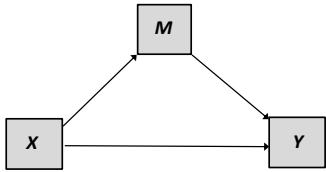
a. Dependent Variable: sat1

We can be 95% sure \tilde{b}_1 is somewhere between 0.363 and 0.581

We can be 95% sure \tilde{b}_2 is somewhere between -0.322 and 0.032.

Question: Is it fair to say we have 'no evidence' that kids who are harassed more frequently are less satisfied with school?

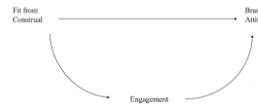
Statistical mediation analysis



The “simple mediation” model

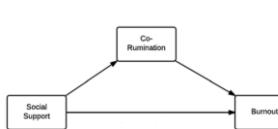
A mediation model links an assumed cause (X) to an assumed effect (Y) at least in part via an intermediary variable (M). An intermediary variable can be a psychological state, a cognitive process, an affective response, or any other conceivable “mechanism” through which X exerts an effect on Y . X affects M which in turn affects Y .

Some examples in the literature



Lee, A. Y., Keller, P. A., & Sternthal, B. (2010). Value from regulatory constraint fit: Persuasive impact of fit between consumer goals and message concreteness. *Journal of Consumer Research*, 36, 735-747.

Hoyt, C. L., Burnette, J. L., & Inrella, A. N. (2012). I can do that: The impact of implicit theories on leadership model effectiveness. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 38, 257-268.

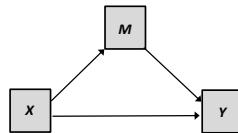


Boren, J. P. (2014). The relationship between co-rumination, social support, stress, and burnout among working adults. *Management Communication Quarterly*, 28, 3-25.

Nelson, B. D., Shankman, S. A., & Proudfit, G. H. (2014). Intolerance of uncertainty mediates reduced reward anticipation in major depressive disorder. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 158, 108-113.

The most basic intervening variable model

- For M to be an intermediary, it must be located *causally* between X and Y .



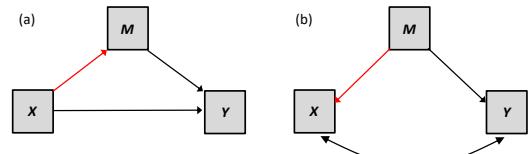
- M is sometimes called a “mediator”, but it goes by other names as well.

- Mediator models are causal models and carry with them the usual criteria for making causal claims.

Difficult to establish cause statistically or otherwise.
Theory is sometimes the sole foundation upon which our causal claims rest. **That's ok so long as we recognize this.**

Mediation and spuriousness

Mediation analysis cannot distinguish between (a) mediation and (b) spuriousness. If (b) can be deemed plausible, that weakens the case for (a) regardless of what the data analysis tells you.

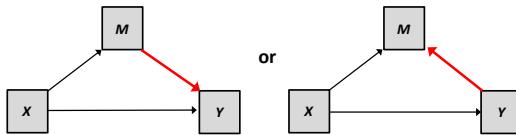


Inferences are always design-bound.

Mediation is a causal process, but causal claims are only justified if the design allows such claims, regardless of what the statistics say.

Causal order

Manipulation of and random assignment to X affords causal inference for the effect of X on M and Y , but not the effect of M on Y . We cannot establish causal order for the M - Y path using the methods that are the focus here. Theory is important. Multiple studies can help, one of which involves manipulation of M .



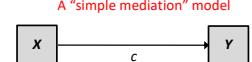
When X is not experimentally manipulated, all paths are subject to potential alternative causal orders.

MacKinnon, D. P. & Pirlott, A. G. (2015). Statistical Approaches for Enhancing Causal Interpretation of the M to Y Relation in Mediation Analysis. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 19(1), 30 – 43.

Path analysis: Total, direct, and indirect effects

Let a, b, c , and c' be quantifications of causal effects, such as regression coefficients in an OLS model (or maximum likelihood path estimates in a structural equation model)

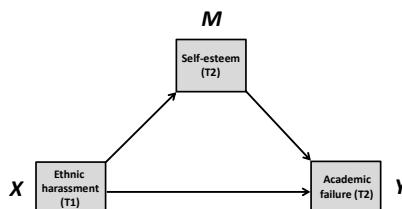
$$\begin{aligned}\hat{Y} &= c_0 + cX \\ \hat{M} &= a_0 + aX \\ \hat{Y} &= c'_0 + c'X + bM\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}c &= \text{"total effect" of } X \text{ on } Y \\ a \times b &= \text{"indirect effect" of } X \text{ on } Y \\ c' &= \text{"direct effect" of } X \text{ on } Y\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{total effect} &= \text{direct effect} + \text{indirect effect} \\ c &= c' + (a \times b) \\ \text{indirect effect} &= \text{total effect} - \text{direct effect} \\ (a \times b) &= c - c'\end{aligned}$$

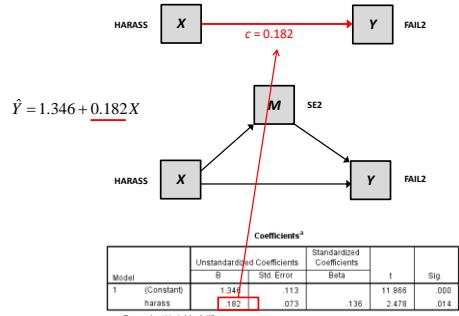
Our question



Does ethnic harassment influence school performance by affecting self-esteem which in turn affects performance.

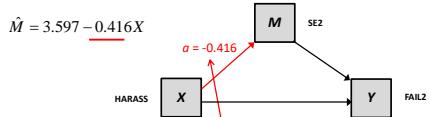
Asking this question does not require evidence that there is a bivariate relationship between X (ethnic harassment) and Y (performance)

Using a set of OLS regression analyses



SPSS: `regression/dep=fail2/method=enter harass.`
SAS: `proc reg data=harass;model fail2=harass;run;`

Using a set of OLS regression analyses

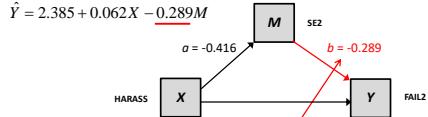
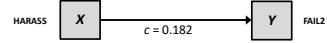


Coefficients ^a						
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	1
	B	Std. Error	Beta			
1	(Constant)	3.597	.123	29.123	.000	
	harass	-0.416	.089	-5.209	.000	
	se2					

a. Dependent Variable: se2

```
regression/dep=se2/method=enter harass.  
proc reg data=harass;model se2=harass;run;
```

Using a set of OLS regression analyses

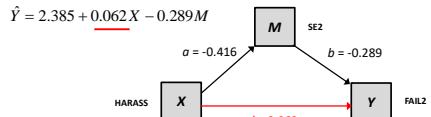
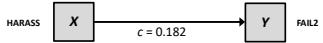


Coefficients ^a						
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	1
	B	Std. Error	Beta			
1	(Constant)	2.385	.204	11.676	.000	
	harass	.062	.072	.850	.396	
	se2	-.289	.048	-.324	.5988	.000

a. Dependent Variable: fail2

```
regression/dep=fail2/method=enter harass se2.  
proc reg data=harass;model fail2=harass se2;run;
```

Using a set of OLS regression analyses

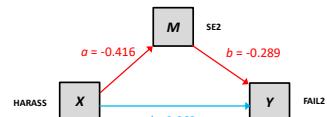
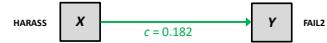


Coefficients ^a						
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	1
	B	Std. Error	Beta			
1	(Constant)	2.385	.204	11.676	.000	
	harass	.062	.072	.850	.396	
	se2	-.289	.048	-.324	.5988	.000

a. Dependent Variable: fail2

```
regression/dep=fail2/method=enter harass se2.  
proc reg data=harass;model fail2=harass se2;run;
```

Using a set of OLS regression analyses



Direct effect of X on Y = $c' = 0.062$
 Indirect effect of X on Y via M = $ab = -0.416(-0.289) = 0.120$
 Total effect of X on Y = $c' + ab = 0.062 + 0.120 = 0.182 = c$

Interpretation of the total, direct, and indirect effects

Generic

Total: Two people who differ by one unit on X are estimated to differ by c units on Y on average.

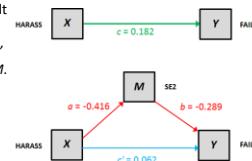
Indirect: They differ by ab units on average as a result of the effect of X on M which in turn affects Y .

Direct: The rest of the difference, the difference of c' units, is due to the effect of X on Y independent of M .

Direct effect = $c' = 0.062$

Indirect effect = $ab = -0.416(-0.289) = 0.120$

Total effect = $c = 0.062 + 0.120 = 0.182$



Specific

Total: Two kids who differ by one scale point in ethnic harassment are estimated to differ by 0.182 units in perceived academic failure one year later, with the more frequently-harassed kid perceiving greater failure.

Indirect: They differ by 0.120 units in perceived failure as a result of the negative effect of harassment on self esteem a year later, which in turn increases perceived failure.

Direct: Independent of this mechanism, the more harassed kid is estimated to be 0.062 units higher in perceived failure.

It works for dichotomous X too.

Garcia, D. M., Schmitt, M. T., Branscombe, N. R., & Ellemers, N. (2010). Women's reactions to ingroup members who protest discriminatory treatment: The importance of beliefs about inequality and response appropriateness. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, **40**, 733-745.

Participants (all female) read a narrative about a female attorney who lost a promotion at her firm to a much less qualified male through unequivocally discriminatory actions of the senior partners.

Participants assigned to the 'protest' condition were then told she protested the decision by presenting an argument to the partners about how unfair the decision was.

Participants assigned to the 'no protest' condition were told that although she was disappointed, she accepted the decision and continued working at the firm.

After reading the narrative, the participants evaluated how appropriate they perceived her response to be, and also evaluated the characteristics of the attorney, the responses of which were aggregated to produce a measure of "liking." Prior to the study, the participants filled out the Modern Sexism Scale.

The data: PROTEST

SAS users, run this program to make a temporary or "work" data file named PROTEST.

```

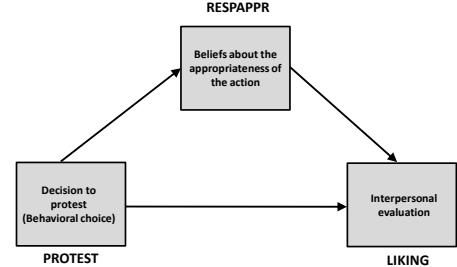
data protest;
input subnum cond sexism angry liking respappr protest;
1 1 4.46 2 4.25 1 4.50 5.75 .00
2 44 0 4.25 2 4.50 5.75 .00
3 126 2 5.00 3 5.50 4.75 1.00
4 232 2 5.00 3 5.50 4.75 1.00
5 30 2 5.42 1 6.16 6.75 1.00
6 140 1 5.75 1 6.00 5.50 1.00
7 27 2 5.12 2 4.66 5.00 1.00
8 44 0 4.88 1 5.50 .00
9 67 0 5.75 6 1.00 3.00 .00
10 182 0 4.62 2 4.83 5.75 .00
11 40 2 4.75 1 5.00 5.00 1.00
12 109 2 6.12 5 5.66 7.00 1.00
13 120 0 4.87 2 5.83 4.50 .00
14 69 1 5.87 1 6.50 6.25 1.00
  
```

PROTEST: Experimental condition (1 = protest, 0 = no protest)

LIKING: Evaluation (liking) of the lawyer (higher = more positive evaluation, i.e. like more)

RESPAPPR: A measure of how appropriate the lawyer's behavior in response to the action of the partners was perceived to be for the situation (higher = more appropriate)

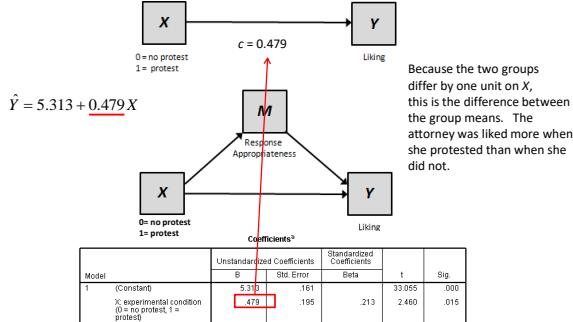
Our question



Do perceptions of the appropriateness of the response act as the mechanism through which choice influences interpersonal evaluation?

Notice that this question is not asked contingent on evidence of simple association between the choice and the evaluation.

Using a set of OLS regression analyses



SPSS: `regression/dep=liking/method=enter protest.`

SAS: `proc reg data=protest;model liking=protest;run;`

Interpretation when X is dichotomous

$$\hat{Y}_i = 5.310 + 0.479X_i$$

When $X = 1$ (protest), $\hat{Y} = 5.310 + 0.479(1) = 5.789$
When $X = 0$ (no protest), $\hat{Y} = 5.310 + 0.479(0) = 5.310$

means tables = liking by protest				
Report				
Liking (using means from model)				
PROTEST	Significant Condition	n	Mean	Std. Deviation
0 = no protest		47	5.3102	1.30798
1 = protest		50	5.7896	.87464
Total		157	5.6057	1.04776

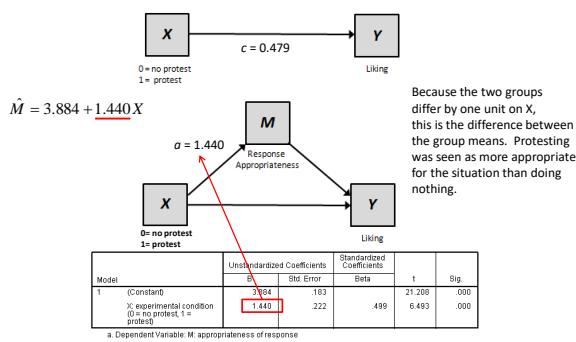
Notice that with X coded 0 and 1, the model yields the group means, b is the difference between the group means, and the *regression constant* is the mean for the group coded $X = 0$ (no protest condition).

More generally, if the two groups are coded by a difference of λ units, such that $X = 0 + \lambda$ for group 1 and $X = 0$ for group 2,

$$b = (\bar{Y}_1 - \bar{Y}_2) / \lambda$$

If you get in the habit of coding a dichotomous variable such that the groups differ by one unit on X , b will always be a difference between group means.

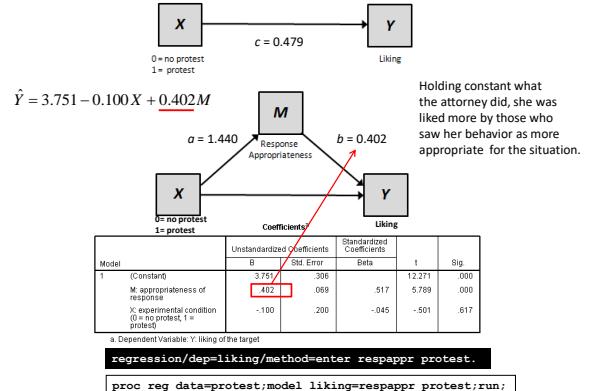
Using a set of OLS regression analyses



SPSS: `regression/dep=respappr/method=enter protest.`

SAS: `proc reg data=protest;model respappr=protest;run;`

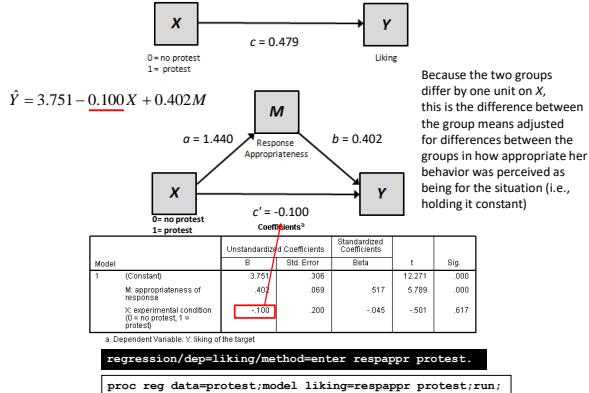
Using a set of OLS regression analyses



SPSS: `regression/dep=liking/method=enter respappr protest.`

SAS: `proc reg data=protest;model liking=respappr protest;run;`

Using a set of OLS regression analyses



Interpretation of total, direct, and indirect effects

Generic

Total: Two people who differ by one unit on X are estimated to differ by c units on Y on average.

Indirect: They differ by ab units on average as a result of the effect of X on M which in turn affects Y .

Direct: The rest of the difference, the difference of c' units, is due to the effect of X on Y independent of M .

Specific

Total: Participants who were told the lawyer protested ($X = 1$) liked her 0.479 units **more**, on average, than those who were told she did not protest.

Indirect: They liked her by 0.579 units **more** on average as a result of their beliefs about the appropriateness of her response, which in turn affected their liking.

Direct: Among those equal in their beliefs about the appropriateness of her response, those who were told the lawyer protested liked her 0.100 units **less** (because the sign is negative) than those who were told she did not protest.

$$\begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{c = 0.479} Y \\ | \\ X \xrightarrow{a = 1.440} M \xrightarrow{b = 0.402} Y \end{array}$$

Direct effect = -0.100
 Indirect Effect = $1.440(0.402) = 0.579$
 Total effect = $-0.100 + 0.579 = 0.479$

$$\begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{c = 0.479} Y \\ | \\ X \xrightarrow{a = 1.440} M \xrightarrow{b = 0.402} Y \end{array}$$

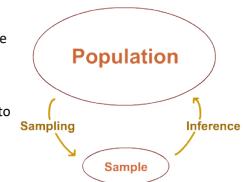
$$\begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{c' = -0.100} Y \\ | \\ X \xrightarrow{a = 1.440} M \xrightarrow{b = 0.402} Y \end{array}$$

Statistical Inference

Statistical inference: The indirect effect

Statistical inference is how we take information from our sample and generalize to the population.

Up to this point we have made estimates based on the sample, but we were unable to make any claims about what we think the population looks like.

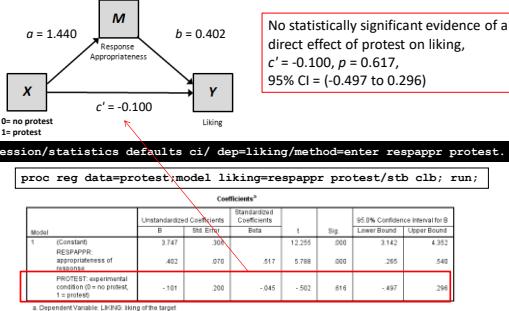


Methods of inference:

- Sobel Test (Normality Test / Delta Method)
- Bootstrap confidence intervals
- Monte Carlo confidence intervals
- Causal Steps Method

Statistical inference: The direct effect

Inference for the direct effect is simple and noncontroversial. The inference can be framed in terms of a hypothesis test or a confidence interval. Any OLS regression program will provide both.



Statistical inference: The indirect effect

The indirect effect estimates the influence of X on Y through the mechanism represented by M (i.e., the $X \rightarrow M \rightarrow Y$ sequence). 21st-century mediation analysis bases claims of mediation on evidence that the indirect effect is different from zero.

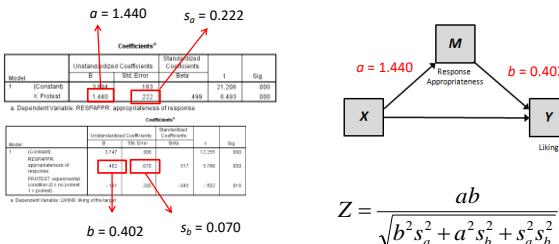
A popular “20th-century” approach to inference: The Sobel test

$$Z = \frac{ab}{\sqrt{b^2 s_a^2 + a^2 s_b^2 + s_a^2 s_b^2}}$$

Indirect effect $\rightarrow ab$
"Second order" estimator of the standard error of ab $\rightarrow \sqrt{b^2 s_a^2 + a^2 s_b^2 + s_a^2 s_b^2}$ One version eliminates this term ("first order" estimator).

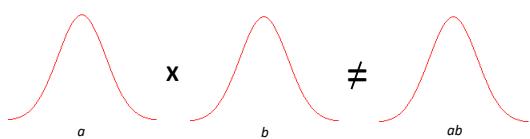
A p -value is derived by assuming normality of the sampling distribution of the indirect effect and using the standard normal distribution for derivation of p . A p -value no greater than α leads to the claim that the indirect effect is statistically different from zero at the α level of significance.

Computation with Protest Data



What's wrong with the Sobel test?

For the Sobel test, the p -value is derived by assuming normality of the sampling distribution of the indirect effect and using the standard normal distribution. Although this assumption is fairly sensible in large samples, it is not in smaller ones. What is a sufficiently large sample is situationally-specific, and typically you won't know going into the analysis whether or not to trust **large sample theory**.



This assumption, which typically will not hold, yields a test that is lower in power than alternatives. **Experts in mediation analysis don't recommend the use of this test, though it remains popular.** Eventually, researchers will get the message.

$$Z = \frac{(1.440)(0.402)}{\sqrt{(0.402)^2(0.222)^2 + (1.440)^2(0.070)^2 + (0.222)^2(0.070)^2}} = \frac{0.579}{0.136} = 4.271, p < .0001$$

The indirect effect is statistically significant. But this test has serious problems.

The bootstrap confidence interval

Bootstrapping allows us to empirically estimate the sampling distribution of the indirect effect and generate a confidence interval (CI) for estimation and hypothesis testing. **It has become the preferred inferential method for estimating and testing indirect effects.**

- (1) Take a random sample of size n from the sample **with replacement**.
- (2) Estimate the indirect effect in this “resample”.
- (3) Repeat (1) and (2) a total of k times, where k is at least 1,000. The larger k , the better. I recommend at least 5,000.
- (4) Use distribution of the indirect effect over multiple resamples as an approximation of the sampling distribution of the indirect effect.
- (5) For 95% CI using “percentile” method, lower and upper bounds are 2.5th and 97.5th percentile in k bootstrap estimates of the indirect effect. Variations exist (e.g., ‘bias corrected’ or ‘bias-corrected and accelerated’ confidence intervals but they do not perform as well as percentile.)

Bootstrapping

Your data			A resampling of your data		
X	M	Y	X	M	Y
4.3	1.4	9.1	5.9	2.3	5.4
1.4	5.4	6.4	4.9	4.3	1.3
4.9	4.3	1.3	9.4	4.1	2.3
5.9	2.3	5.4	4.9	4.3	1.3
6.1	3.3	3.9	4.3	1.4	9.1
3.8	3.1	6.3	1.4	5.4	6.4
2.8	3.2	1.5	3.8	3.1	6.3
9.4	4.1	2.3	9.4	4.1	2.3
4.3	1.3	4.4	6.1	3.3	3.9
4.9	3.7	2.1	4.3	1.3	4.4

$$a = -0.051 \quad b = -0.844$$

$$ab = 0.043$$

$$a = 0.020 \quad b = -0.921$$

$$ab = -0.018$$

Bootstrapping

Your data			Another resampling of your data		
X	M	Y	X	M	Y
4.3	1.4	9.1	6.1	3.3	3.9
1.4	5.4	6.4	4.9	4.3	1.3
4.9	4.3	1.3	2.8	3.2	1.5
5.9	2.3	5.4	4.9	3.7	2.1
6.1	3.3	3.9	3.8	3.1	6.3
3.8	3.1	6.3	9.4	4.1	2.3
2.8	3.2	1.5	4.9	4.3	1.3
9.4	4.1	2.3	2.8	3.2	1.5
4.3	1.3	4.4	4.9	3.7	2.1
4.9	3.7	2.1	1.4	5.4	6.4

$$a = -0.051 \quad b = -0.844$$

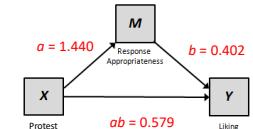
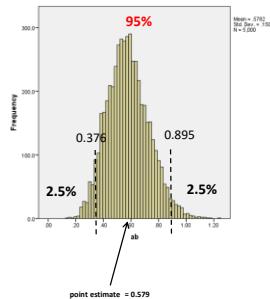
$$ab = 0.043$$

$$a = -0.034 \quad b = 0.523$$

$$ab = -0.017$$

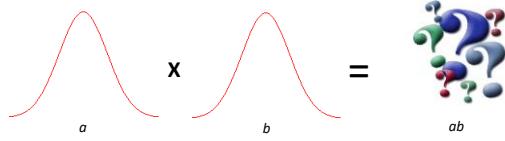
5,000 bootstrap estimates of the indirect effect

95% of the 5,000 bootstrap estimates of the indirect effect were between 0.376 and 0.895. This is our 95% confidence interval.



Zero is not in the confidence interval, so we can claim an indirect effect different from zero with 95% confidence. This is akin to (though not exactly the same as) rejecting the null hypothesis of no indirect effect at the $\alpha = 0.05$ level of significance.

The Monte Carlo interval



If all of the assumptions of linear regressions are met (or sample sizes are sufficiently large), then we know that a and b will have normally distributions.

The Monte Carlo confidence intervals takes advantage of this knowledge by simulating normal distributions for a and b then calculating their product to get an estimated distribution of the indirect effect (ab).

The Monte Carlo interval

Monte Carlo empirically estimate the sampling distribution of the indirect effect and generate a confidence interval (CI) for estimation and hypothesis testing. This simulation based method assumes each individual path (a and b) are normally distributed.

- (1) Generate k samples from a normal distribution with mean a and standard deviation s_a
- (2) Generate k samples from a normal distribution with mean b and standard deviation s_b
- (3) Multiply samples together to get a distribution of k estimates of ab .
- (4) Rank order estimates and select estimates which define the lower percentile of sorted k estimates and upper percentile of sorted estimates which define CI of interest.
- (5) For 95% CI lower and upper bounds are 2.5th and 97.5th percentile in k bootstrap estimates of the indirect effect.

The Monte Carlo interval

This method performs well (similarly to bootstrapping) in a variety of simulation studies, but is still less popular.

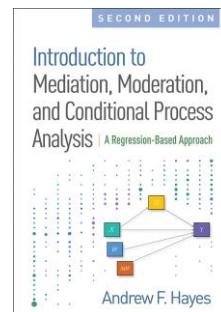
This method makes stronger assumptions than bootstrapping, but does not result in great power.

Add mc = 1 to PROCESS command line to request Monte Carlo CIs

Indirect effect(s) of X on Y:				
Effect	MC SE	MC LLCI	MC ULCI	
respappr	.5793	.1332	.3369	.8469

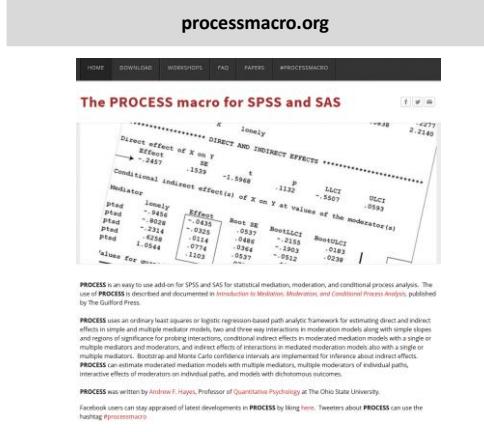
Using a Monte Carlo confidence interval also suggests that we are confident the indirect effect is not zero. So all three inferential methods come to the same conclusion, which is comforting.

PROCESS



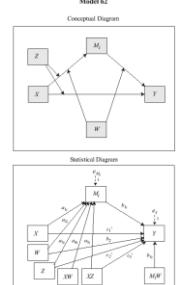
Published in December 2017 and available through
The Guilford Press, Amazon.com, and elsewhere.

- First released in beta form in March of 2012 and later documented in Hayes (2013, IMMCPA, published by The Guilford Press).
- Available for both SPSS (in macro and "custom dialog" form) and SAS.
- An integration of functions available in my other published macros for mediation and moderation analysis (SOBEL, INDIRECT, MODMED, MODPROBE, MED3C) and a whole lot more, all in one command.
- A handy tool for both "confirmatory" and "exploratory" approaches to data analysis.
- Freely available at www.processmacro.org. The current release is v3.2.



Read the documentation (eventually)

The PROCESS documentation is an eventual must-read. It describes how to use PROCESS, as well as its various options, capabilities, and limitations. It is available as Appendix A in Hayes (2017). *Introduction to Mediation, Moderation, and Conditional Process Analysis* (2nd Ed.). At a minimum, you must have the model templates handy, as PROCESS expects you to tell it which model number you are estimating and which variables play what role. You [have a mini version of the templates PDF](#).



PROCESS as a syntax-driven macro

Open process.sps as a syntax file and run the entire program **exactly as is**. This produces a new SPSS command called PROCESS. See the documentation for details on the syntax structure. PROCESS goes away when you close SPSS.

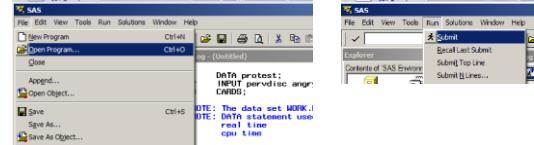


Once PROCESS is defined, you can run a properly-formatted PROCESS command in a new syntax window. Such a command might look something like below. Not all of the arguments below are required.

```
process y=liking/x=protest/m=respappr/total=1/normal=1  
/model=4/boot=10000.
```

PROCESS for SAS

In SAS, open process.sas and submit the entire program **exactly as is**. This produces a new SAS command called %PROCESS. The syntax structure is described in the documentation.

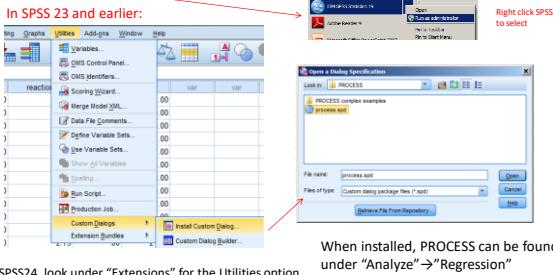


Once PROCESS is defined, you can run a properly-formatted PROCESS command in a new syntax window. Such a command might look something like below. Not all of the arguments below are required.

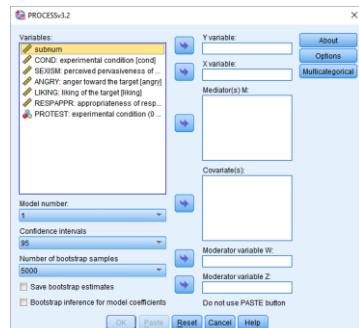
```
%process (data=protest,y=liking,x=protest,m=respappr,total=1,  
normal=1,boot=10000,model=4);
```

PROCESS "Custom Dialog"

The PROCESS macro must be run at least once in your SPSS session to activate the PROCESS command. Custom Dialog files are permanently installed in SPSS, integrating the procedure into SPSS menus. Use the procedure below. In Windows, installation requires administrative access to your machine. You probably have to open SPSS as an administrator as well. You may not have access to do so.



PROCESS "Custom Dialog"



Installing the dialog box does not eliminate the need to run the PROCESS code if you plan on executing with syntax. And don't use the PASTE button.

In SPSS24, look under "Extensions" for the Utilities option

Autoexecution

It is possible to get SPSS to execute the PROCESS code on its own when SAS/SPSS executes. A document is provided to you with the course files that provides instructions for SPSS for Windows and Mac.

When successful, SPSS for Windows users typically see something like the following in the output window when SPSS is opened:

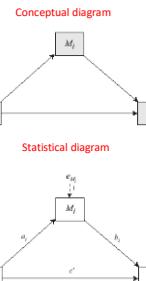
```

*INSERT FILE="c:\process\process.sps".
23 0 /* PROCESS for SPSS v2.12 */.
24 0 /* Written by Andrew F. Hayes */.
25 0 /* SPSS 23.0 */.
26 0 /* Copyright 2014 */.
27 0 /* Documentation available in Appendix A of */.
28 0 /* http://www.guilford.com/g/hayes3 */.
29 0 /*.
30 0 preserves.
31 0 set printback=off.
3353 0 * End of INCLUDE and INSERT nesting level 01.

```

Model template system

PROCESS has 56 model templates, referred to by number in PROCESS, which specify the form of the model (moderation, mediation, moderated mediation, and so forth) and which variables play what roles.



Example #1:

Model 4 is a simple or parallel multiple mediator model, which estimates the direct and indirect effect(s) of X on Y through one or more mediators (M) (up to 10 mediators at once)

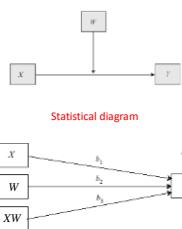
Model template system

PROCESS has 56 model templates, referred to by number in PROCESS, which specify the form of the model (moderation, mediation, moderated mediation, and so forth) and which variables play what roles.

Conceptual diagram

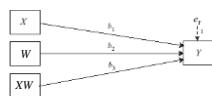
Example #2:

Model 1 is a simple moderation model, with W moderating the effect of X on Y .



Statistical diagram

The statistical diagram shows the model in the form of a path diagram. This is the form in which the model is estimated.



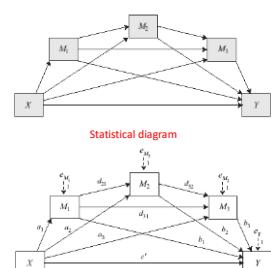
Model template system

PROCESS has 56 model templates, referred to by number in PROCESS, which specify the form of the model (moderation, mediation, moderated mediation, and so forth) and which variables play what roles.

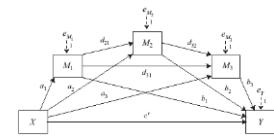
Conceptual diagram

Example #3:

Model 6 is a serial multiple mediator model, which estimates the direct and indirect effect(s) of X on Y through up to 4 mediators (M) chained together in serial. An example with three mediators is depicted to the right.



Statistical diagram



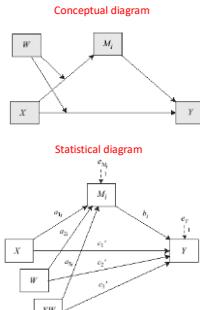
Model template system

PROCESS has 56 model templates, referred to by number in PROCESS, which specify the form of the model (moderation, mediation, moderated mediation, and so forth) and which variables play what roles.

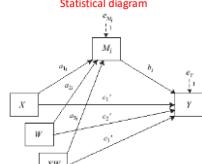
Conceptual diagram

Example #4:

Model 8 is a conditional process model which estimates the conditional direct and indirect effects of X on Y through M , with direct effect and "first stage" moderation by W .



Statistical diagram



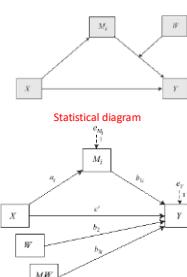
Model template system

PROCESS has 56 model templates, referred to by number in PROCESS, which specify the form of the model (moderation, mediation, moderated mediation, and so forth) and which variables play what roles.

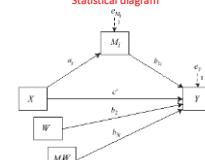
Conceptual diagram

Example #5:

Model 14 is a conditional process model which estimates the direct effect of X on Y and conditional indirect effects of X on Y through M , with "second stage" moderation by W .



Statistical diagram



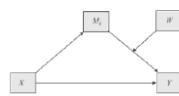
Model template system

PROCESS has 56 model templates, referred to by number in PROCESS, which specify the form of the model (moderation, mediation, moderated mediation, and so forth) and which variables play what roles.

Minimum required specifications

- Which variables play which role in the model ($y = x = m = w =$ and so forth)
- Model number (`model=`)
- SAS only: Data file (`data=`)

Conceptual diagram



SPSS

```
PROCESS y=yvar/x=xvar/m=mvlist/w=vvar/model=14.
```

SAS

```
%process (data=filename,y=yvar,x=xvar,m=mvlist,w=vvar,model=14);
```

Limitations and constraints

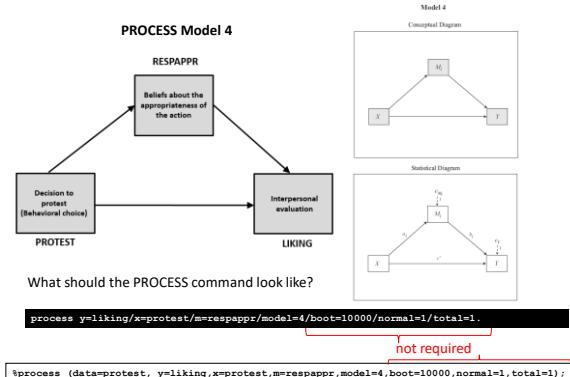
- Only one X and one Y allowed in a model.
- PROCESS is an OLS or logistic regression modeling tool. Categorical mediators are not allowed.
- Up to 10 mediators in numbered models, 6 in custom models.
- No more than two moderators can be used in any model.
- A variable can play only one role in the model. For example a variable can't be both a moderator and a covariate, or both a mediator and a moderator.
- PROCESS is a single-level observed variable modeling system. No multilevel problems can be analyzed with PROCESS.
- PROCESS requires complete data. Listwise deletion is used for cases missing on any variable in the model.
- Although PROCESS will accept them, it is safer to restrict variable names to eight characters or fewer.

If you are familiar with PROCESS v2, see the "What's new in PROCESS 3" pages in your course book.

Differences between V2 & V3

- No longer need the `vars` list
- Covariates now listed in `cov` list
- Moderators are always W and Z , no more V , M or Q moderators
- Dichotomous Y now available for some models
- A variety of models have been cut, but new ability to create and edit models
- New models for serial moderated mediation and serial and parallel mediation
- Probing option now defaults to what used to be `quantiles`, can use `moments` argument for legacy output
- Probing and plotting for models with any moderation
- Default is now percentile bootstrap, no more BC or ABC
- Multicategorical X or Moderators
- `Wmodval` and `Zmodval` allow for multiple values
- Covariate assignment
- Bootstrap CIs for regression coefficients
- Model construction
- Cluster, `ws`, `varorder`, and `percent` are no longer options

Estimation of the PROTEST model in PROCESS



PROCESS output

```
***** PROCESS Procedure for SPSS Version 3.00 *****
Written by Andrew F. Hayes, Ph.D. www.afhayes.com
Documentation available in Hayes (2018). www.guilford.com/p/hayes3

Model : 4
Y : liking
X : protest
M : respappr

Sample
Size: 129

***** OUTCOME VARIABLE: respappr *****

 $\hat{M} = 3.884 + 1.440X$ 

Model Summary
R R-sq MSE F df1 df2 P
.4992 .2492 1.3753 42.1550 1.0000 127.0000 .0000

Model
Coeff SE t P LLCI ULCI
constant 3.8841 1.831 21.2078 .0000 3.6017 4.2466
protest 1.4397 .2217 6.4927 .0000 1.0009 1.8785 path a

***** TOTAL, DIRECT, AND INDIRECT EFFECTS *****

Total effect of X on Y
Effect SE t P LLCI ULCI
-.4786 .1947 2.4584 .0153 .0934 .8639 path c

Direct effect of X on Y
Effect SE t P LLCI ULCI
-.1007 .2005 -.5023 .6163 -.4975 .2960 path c'

Indirect effect of X on Y
Effect Boot SE BootLLCI BootULCI
respappr .5793 .1519 .3113 .9067 ab with 95% bootstrap confidence interval

Normal theory tests for indirect effect
Effect se z P
.5793 .1350 4.2924 .0000 Sobel test
```

Her behavior was perceived as more appropriate if she protested relative to when she did not ($a = 1.440$), and the more appropriate her behavior, the more positively she was perceived ($b = 0.402$). Her choice to protest had a positive effect on how favorably she was perceived indirectly through perceived appropriateness of the response (point estimate: 0.579, 95% CI = 0.311 to 0.907). After accounting for this mechanism, there was no effect of her choice to protest on how she was evaluated (direct effect = -0.101, $p = 0.62$)

PROCESS output

```
***** Outcome: liking *****

 $\hat{Y} = 3.747 - 0.101X + 0.402M$ 

Model Summary
R R-sq MSE F df1 df2 P
.4959 .2459 .8441 20.5483 2.0000 126.0000 .0000

Model
Coeff SE t P LLCI ULCI
constant 3.7473 3.058 12.2553 .0000 3.1422 4.1524
respappr .4024 .0695 5.7884 .0000 .2648 .5400 path b
protest -.1007 .2005 -.5023 .6163 -.4975 .2960 path c'

***** TOTAL EFFECT MODEL *****

Outcome: liking
 $\hat{Y} = 5.310 + 0.479X$ 

Model Summary
R R-sq MSE F df1 df2 P
.2131 .0454 1.0601 6.0439 1.0000 127.0000 .0153

Model
Coeff SE t P LLCI ULCI
constant 5.3102 1.608 33.0244 .0000 4.3921 5.6284
protest .4786 .1947 2.4584 .0153 .0934 .8639 path c

*****
```

Output C

Output C

PROCESS output

```
***** TOTAL, DIRECT, AND INDIRECT EFFECTS *****

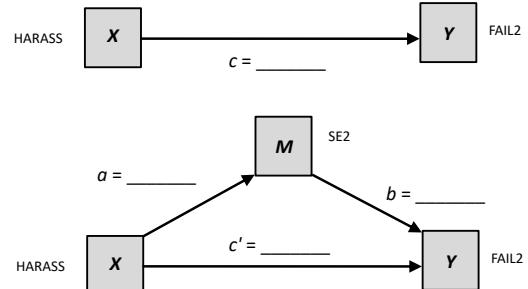
Output C

Total effect of X on Y
Effect SE t P LLCI ULCI
-.4786 .1947 2.4584 .0153 .0934 .8639 path c

Direct effect of X on Y
Effect SE t P LLCI ULCI
-.1007 .2005 -.5023 .6163 -.4975 .2960 path c'

Indirect effect of X on Y
Effect Boot SE BootLLCI BootULCI
respappr .5793 .1519 .3113 .9067 ab with 95% bootstrap confidence interval

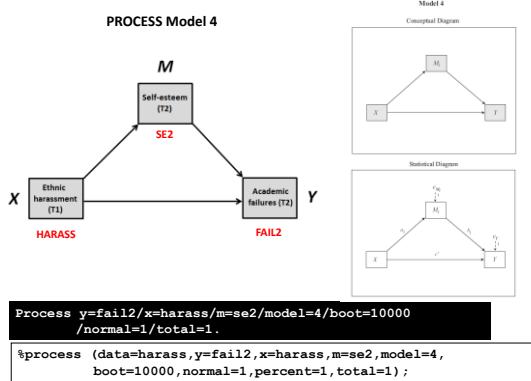
Normal theory tests for indirect effect
Effect se z P
.5793 .1350 4.2924 .0000 Sobel test
```



Indirect effect = _____, 95% bootstrap CI = _____

Your CI will not exactly match. Why?

Estimation of the harassment model in PROCESS



PROCESS output

***** PROCESS Procedure for SPSS Version 3.00 *****

Written by Andrew F. Hayes, Ph.D. www.afhayes.com
Documentation available in Hayes (2018). www.guilford.com/p/hayes3

Model : 4
Y : fail2
X : harass
M : se2

Sample
Size: 330

OUTCOME VARIABLE: $\hat{M} = 3.597 - 0.416X$

Model Summary

	R	R-sq	MSE	F	df1	df2	p
constant	.2764	.0764	.2905	27.1349	1.0000	328.0000	.0000

Model

Effect	coeff	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI
constant	3.5966	.1235	29.1227	.0000	3.3536	3.8395
harass	-.4156	.0798	-5.2091	.0000	-.5725	-.2586

path a

PROCESS output

Outcome: fail2
 $\hat{Y} = 2.385 + 0.062X - 0.289M$

Model Summary

	R	R-sq	MSE	F	df1	df2	p
constant	.3397	.1154	.2215	21.3247	2.0000	327.0000	.0000

Model

Effect	coeff	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI
constant	2.3845	.2042	11.6757	.0000	1.9827	2.7863
se2	-.2887	.0482	-5.9879	.0000	-.3836	-.1939
harass	.0616	.0725	.8499	.3960	-.0810	.2042

TOTAL EFFECT MODEL *****

Outcome: fail2
 $\hat{Y} = 1.346 + 0.182X$

Model Summary

	R	R-sq	MSE	F	df1	df2	p
constant	.1356	.0184	.2451	6.1419	1.0000	328.0000	.0137

Model

Effect	coeff	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI
constant	1.3460	.1134	11.8860	.0000	1.1229	1.5692
harass	.1816	.0733	2.4783	.0137	.0374	.3257

path b
path c'

PROCESS output

***** TOTAL, DIRECT, AND INDIRECT EFFECTS *****

Total effect of X on Y

Effect	coeff	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI
	.1816	.0733	2.4783	.0137	.0374	.3257

path c

Direct effect of X on Y

Effect	coeff	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI
	.0616	.0725	.8499	.3960	-.0810	.2042

path c'

Indirect effect of X on Y

Effect	Boot SE	BootLLCI	BootULCI	
se2	.1200	.0321	.0629	.1899

ab with 95% bootstrap confidence interval

Normal theory tests for indirect effect

Effect	coeff	se	t	p
	.1200	.0308	3.8993	.0001

Sobel test

Kids one unit higher in harassment frequency were 0.416 units lower in self esteem one year later ($a = -0.416$), and lower self-esteem was related to higher perceived academic failure ($b = -0.289$). So harassment indirectly affected perceived academic failure (point estimate: 0.120, 95% bootstrap CI = 0.063 to 0.190). After accounting for this mechanism, there was no evidence of an effect of harassment on perceived academic failure (direct effect = 0.062, $p = 0.396$, 95% CI = -0.081 to 0.204)

Output C

Some additional options

SPSS

```
process y=liking/x=protest/m=respappr/model=4/boot=10000/normal=1/totall=1/
effsize=1/conf=99/save=1/seed=25545.
```

SAS

```
%process (dataprotest, y=liking,x=protest,m=respappr,model=4,boot=10000,
normal=1,totall=1,effsize=1,conf=99,save=boots,seed=25545),
```

- EFFSIZE=1:** Generates various effect size measures for the indirect effect.
CONF=z: Changes level of confidence to z% for confidence intervals.
SAVE= or **SAVE=fn** in SPSS, produces a file of all bootstrap estimates of all regression coefficients in the model. In SAS, saves bootstrap estimates to a file named "fn"
SEED=xxxx: Seeds the random number generator for replication of resamples over repeated runs of PROCESS.



See the documentation in Appendix A of IMMCPA for details.

Confounding

Kids who reported greater harassment earlier reported lower in self-esteem later, but they also reported lower self-esteem earlier ($r = -0.18$), and self-esteem was temporally consistent over time ($r = 0.51$). Furthermore, students who reported lower self esteem later reported greater academic failure later, but these later low self-esteem students also reported higher greater academic failure earlier ($r = -0.26$), and academic failure was temporally consistent ($r = 0.30$)

		harass	se1	fail1	se2	fail2
harass	Pearson Correlation	1	-0.18 .001	.196 .000	-.276 .000	.138 .014
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.330	.330	.330	.330
se1	Pearson Correlation		1	-.06 .001	.295 .000	.295 .000
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.330	.330	.330	.330
fail1	Pearson Correlation			1	-.255 .000	.297 .000
	Sig. (2-tailed)			.330	.330	.330
se2	Pearson Correlation				1	.234 .000
	Sig. (2-tailed)				.330	.330
fail2	Pearson Correlation					1
	Sig. (2-tailed)					.330
N						

Pre-existing self-esteem and failure confound the relationships we believe to be causal. We want to know whether later self-esteem and academic failure are related to ethnic harassment frequency after accounting for initial self-esteem and failure.

Confounding

Some effects in a mediation model are subject to 'confounding' even when X is based on random assignment, making causality harder to establish. Partialing out various confounders can help though won't solve the problem entirely.

$$\hat{Y} = c_0 + cX + c_2U$$

$$\hat{M} = a_0 + aX + a_2U$$

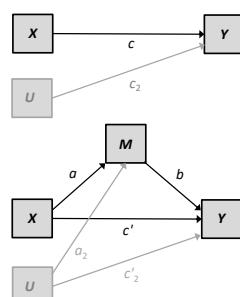
$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + cX + bM + c'_2U$$

$$\text{total effect} = \text{direct effect} + \text{indirect effect}$$

$$c = c' + (a \times b)$$

$$\text{indirect effect} = \text{total effect} - \text{direct effect}$$

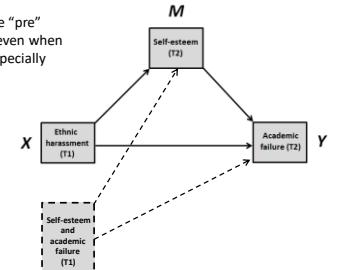
$$a \times b = c - c'$$



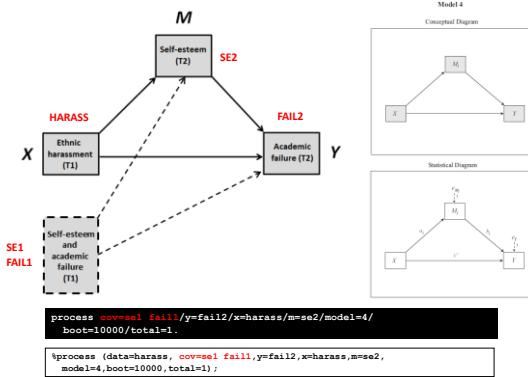
Some rationales for adjusting for prior state

When available, it is desirable to include "pre" measures of M and/or Y as covariates, even when X is experimentally manipulated, but especially when it is not.

- (a) Doing so can increase precision in the estimation of X 's effect on M and/or Y if pre-measures are correlated with later measures (as they typically are).
- (b) Prior states often are correlated with X , M , or Y , introducing a "self-selection" threat to causal claims. Including prior state helps to reduce that threat.
- (c) It gives an interpretation to paths that are closer to a "change" interpretation without regression artifacts that can be introduced with the use of difference scores. In this example, the b path estimates the relationship between later self-esteem and how much higher or lower a student's failure is given expected later failure from prior self-esteem and failure. Path a estimates the relationship between ethnic harassment frequency and how much lower or higher a student's self-esteem is later relative to what would be expected given his or her earlier self-esteem and academic failure.



Adding covariates to a model using PROCESS



PROCESS output

***** PROCESS Procedure for SPSS Version 3.00 *****
Written by Andrew F. Hayes, Ph.D. www.afhayes.com
Documentation available in Hayes (2018). www.guilford.com/p/hayes3

***** Model : 4 *****
Y : fail2
X : harass
M : se2

Covariates:
sel fail1

Sample Size: 330

***** OUTCOME VARIABLE: se2 *****

Model Summary R R-sq MSE F df1 df2 P
.5450 .2971 .2224 45.9259 3.0000 326.0000 .0000

Model	coeff	se	t	P	LLCI	ULCI
constant	.0.0200	.0412	.0.4825	.0002	.4139	.5004
harass	-.2.728	.0717	-.3.8025	.0002	-.1317	
sel	.4879	.0536	9.1081	.0000	.3825	.5933
fail1	-.1010	.0606	-.1.6661	.0967	-.2.202	.0182

***** TOTAL, DIRECT, AND INDIRECT EFFECTS *****
Total effect of X on Y
Effect SE t P LLCI ULCI path c
.0790 .0714 1.1060 .2695 -.0615 .2194

Direct effect of X on Y
Effect SE t P LLCI ULCI path c'
.0196 .0713 .2754 .7832 -.1.1207 .1599

Indirect effect of X on Y
Effect Boot SE BootLLCI BootULCI ab with 95% bootstrap confidence interval
se2 .0593 .0229 .0203 .1089

***** Path Diagram *****
Diagram shows paths: X to M (c = 0.079), X to Y (c' = 0.020), M to Y (a = -0.273), and M to Y (b = -0.218). A dashed box labeled 'SE1 FAIL1' is shown near the X variable.

PROCESS output

***** Outcome: fail2 *****
Output D

Model Summary R R-sq MSE F df1 df2 P
.4059 .1648 .2105 16.0276 4.0000 325.0000 .0000

Model	coeff	se	t	P	LLCI	ULCI
constant	2.0934	.2588	8.0900	.0000	1.5843	2.6025
se2	-.2.035	.0539	-4.6375	.0001	-.3235	-.1365
harass	.0196	.0513	.3.814	.0782	.0207	.1559
sel	-.0672	.0584	-1.1517	.2503	-.1820	.0476
fail1	.2307	.0592	3.8966	.0001	.1142	.3471

***** TOTAL EFFECT MODEL *****
Outcome: fail2

Model Summary R R-sq MSE F df1 df2 P
.3505 .1229 .2203 15.2219 3.0000 326.0000 .0000

Model	coeff	se	t	P	LLCI	ULCI
constant	1.6521	.2400	6.8842	.0000	1.1804	2.1245
harass	-.0714	.1.1120	-.6395	.5114		
sel	-.1733	.0533	-3.2513	.0013	-.2782	-.0685
fail1	.2526	.0603	4.1886	.0000	.1340	.3713

path b
path c'
path c

PROCESS output

***** TOTAL, DIRECT, AND INDIRECT EFFECTS *****
Output D

Total effect of X on Y
Effect SE t P LLCI ULCI path c
.0790 .0714 1.1060 .2695 -.0615 .2194

Direct effect of X on Y
Effect SE t P LLCI ULCI path c'
.0196 .0713 .2754 .7832 -.1.1207 .1599

Indirect effect of X on Y
Effect Boot SE BootLLCI BootULCI ab with 95% bootstrap confidence interval
se2 .0593 .0229 .0203 .1089

***** Path Diagram *****
Diagram shows paths: X to M (c = 0.079), X to Y (c' = 0.020), M to Y (a = -0.273), and M to Y (b = -0.218). A dashed box labeled 'SE1 FAIL1' is shown near the X variable.

Discussion: Comparing Results

We ran the mediation analysis with the harass data twice. Once without covariates and once with covariates.

- What are some key differences between the results?
- Which analysis do you think best approximates the “truth”?
- If the results had not changed while including the covariates, what would that mean?

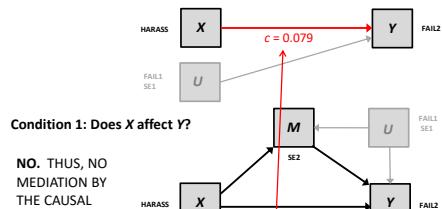
What about Baron & Kenny?

Also called the “causal steps” approach, it was popularized by Baron and Kenny (1986) as a test of mediation.

Conditions required to claim M functions as a mediator of the relationship between X and Y :

- (1) Does X affect Y ?
- (2) Does X affect M ?
- (3) Does M affect Y holding X constant ?
- (4) Is the direct effect of X closer to zero than the total effect?
 - (i) if direct effect is closer to zero than total effect but statistically different from zero, claim “partial mediation”
 - (ii) If direct effect is closer to zero than total effect and not statistically different from zero, claim “complete mediation”

Using a set of OLS regression analyses

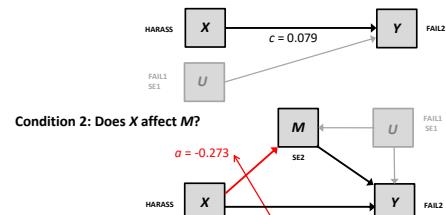


Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig
	B	Std. Error	Beta	95%		
1	(Constant)	1.852	.240	.6384	.000	
	harass	.079	.071	.059	1.108	.226
	fail1	-.253	.068	.231	4.189	.000
	sel	-.173	.053	-.178	-3.251	.001

a. Dependent Variable: fail2.

```
regression/dep=fail2/method=enter harass fail1 sel.
proc reg data=harass;model fail2=harass fail1 sel/run;
```

Using a set of OLS regression analyses

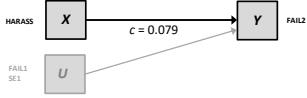


Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig
	B	Std. Error	Beta	95%		
1	(Constant)	2.028	.041	.8410	.500	
	harass	-.273	.072	-.181	-3.802	.000
	sel1	.488	.054	.448	9.108	.000
	fail1	-.101	.061	-.062	-1.656	.137

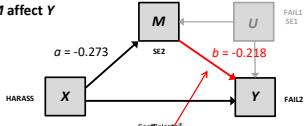
a. Dependent Variable: se2.

```
regression/dep=se2/method=enter harass sel fail1.
proc reg data=harass;model se2=harass sel fail1;run;
```

Using a set of OLS regression analyses



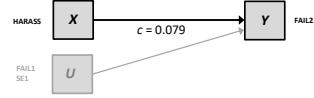
Condition 3: Does M affect Y holding X constant?



Coefficients*					
	Unstandardized Coefficients	Standardized Coefficients	Beta	t	Sig.
Model	B	Std Error			
1 (Constant)	2.093	.259		8.090	.000
harass	.020	.074	.015	.276	.783
se2	-.218	.054	-.244	-4.038	.000
sel	-.291	.059	-.211	-4.989	.000
set	-.067	.058	-.069	-1.152	.295

a Dependent Variable: fail2.
 regression/dep=fail2/method=enter harass se2 fail1 sel.
 proc reg data=harass;model fail2=harass se2 fail1 sel;run;

Using a set of OLS regression analyses



4. Qualitatively compare c to c'



Direct effect (c') is closer to zero than the total effect (c) and is not statistically different from zero. But can we really call this complete mediation given that there was no total effect of X in the first place by commonly used inferential rules?

Coefficients*					
	Unstandardized Coefficients	Standardized Coefficients	Beta	t	Sig.
Model	B	Std Error			
1 (Constant)	3.863	.368		10.440	.000
harass	.020	.074	.015	.275	.783
se2	-.218	.054	-.244	-4.038	.000
sel	-.291	.059	-.211	-4.989	.000
set	-.067	.058	-.069	-1.152	.295

a Dependent Variable: fail2.
 regression/dep=fail2/method=enter harass se2 fail1 sel.
 proc reg data=harass;model fail2=harass se2 fail1 sel;run;

Problems with the causal steps approach

❑ Indirect effect is logically inferred rather than directly estimated

But typically, we make inferences from data using estimates of quantities pertinent to the question. Why should inferences about indirect effects be any different?

A fallacious rebuttal: if a and b are both different from zero (as established by rejection of the null hypothesis) so too must their product, so no estimate or test of indirect effect is needed.

- a) Although frequently that will be true, it isn't necessarily true.
- b) An indirect effect may be different from zero even in the absence of evidence that both paths a and b are.

❑ If data fail to meet a single criterion, **game over--no indirect effect through M .**

The use of multiple, fallible hypothesis tests gives this approach the **lowest power** among competing methods for testing intervening variable effects. Tests or claims of mediation should not be based on the significance of individual paths in the model.

What about Baron & Kenny?

Consider:

$$X + Y = Z$$

If $Z > 0$ what does this tell us about X ?
 What does this tell us about Y ?

Problems with the causal steps approach

- If total effect (path c) is not detectably different from zero, the game doesn't even begin.
This is logically sensible if you accept one definition of a mediator variable – a variable that is causally between X and Y and that accounts for their association.
 - By this definition, an effect that does not exist can't be mediated. But the significance of c neither constrains nor determines the size of the product of paths a and b , nor does it tell us whether that product is different from zero.
 - Kenny and Judd (2014, *Psychological Science*) illustrate that a hypothesis test about the total effect is generally less powerful than a hypothesis test about the indirect effect.
- Because the indirect effect is not quantified, this method does not lend itself well to comparisons between indirect effects in multiple mediators models, or to modeling of the size of indirect effects ('conditional process analysis')

"Complete"/"full" and "partial" mediation

- The causal steps strategy is often used as a means of labeling a process as "complete" or "partial mediation". There is little value to this semantic labeling exercise.
- What if there is no evidence of a total effect (i.e., c non-significant)? This can happen, and actually does more often than people probably realize. Thus, these concepts don't have a place much of the time.
 - The reliance on statistical significance criteria means that when power is high for the test on c partial mediation is the best you can hope for, and when power is relatively low, complete mediation is more likely. So if establishing complete mediation is your goal, you should intentionally limit the size of your sample to as small as necessary
 - Establishing complete mediation by your favored mediator does not preclude others from being able to make the same claim with their own favored mediator.
 - "Direct effects" don't exist in reality. All effects are mediated by something. Thus, a claim of 'partial mediation' is a claim that one has not specified the model correctly.

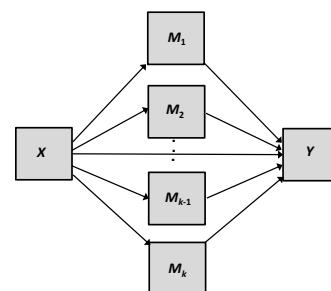
Experts in mediation analysis are abandoning these concepts. They are of historical interest only these days.

Mediation analysis summary thus far

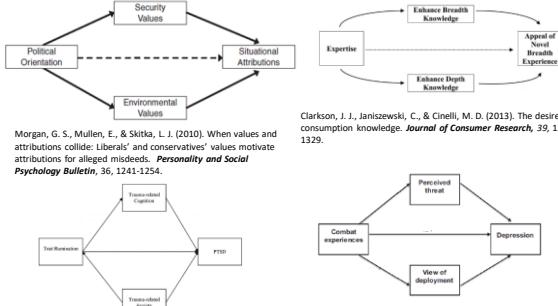
- Mediators are variables which are causally located between two variables X and Y and that explain, in part, the effect of X on Y . X affects M which in turn affects Y .
- The causal steps strategy popularized by Baron and Kenny (1986) remains a popular method for mediation analysis.
 - Yet it is among the lowest in power, in some circumstances, massively so.
 - It is not consistent with modern thinking about mediation analysis.
 - Its use is not recommended. Soon you won't be able to get away with it.
- Tests of mediation should be based on an estimate of the indirect effect.
 - Sobel test for inference in large samples only, but we don't know how large is large enough.
 - Bootstrap confidence intervals in a sample of any size.
- There is no need to condition the hunt for an indirect effect on a statistically significant total effect (path c).
- Focus interpretation on the size and sign of the indirect effect. Tests of significance for the individual paths ($X \rightarrow M$ and $M \rightarrow Y$) are useful as supplemental information but need not be part of the story.

Models with More Than One Mediator

A parallel multiple mediator model



Some examples From the literature with 2 mediators



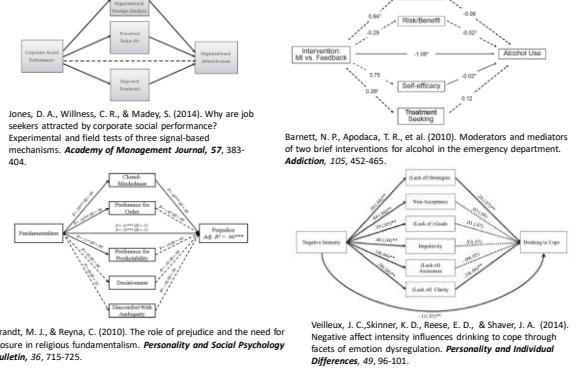
Morgan, G. S., Mullen, E., & Skitka, L. J. (2010). When values and attributions collide: Liberals' and conservatives' values motivate attributions for alleged misdeeds. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 36, 1241-1254.

Clarkson, J. J., Janiszewski, C., & Cinelli, M. D. (2013). The desire for consumption knowledge. *Journal of Consumer Research*, 39, 1313-1329.

Spirhoven, P., Penning, B. W., Krempenou, A., et al. (2015). Trait rumination predicts onset of post-traumatic stress disorder through trauma-related cognitive appraisals: A 4-year longitudinal study. *Behaviour Research and Therapy*, 71, 101-109.

Pitts, B. L., & Safer, M. A. (2016). Retrospective appraisals mediate the effect of combat experiences on PTS and depression symptoms in U.S. Army medics. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, 29, 65-71.

Some examples from the literature with several mediators



Jones, D. A., Willness, C. R., & Maday, S. (2014). Why are job seekers attracted by corporate social performance? Experimental and field tests of three signal-based mechanisms. *Academy of Management Journal*, 57, 383-404.

Barnett, N. P., Apodaca, T. R., et al. (2010). Moderators and mediators of two brief interventions for alcohol in the emergency department. *Addiction*, 105, 452-465.

Brant, M. J., & Reyna, C. (2010). The role of prejudice and the need for closure in religious fundamentalism. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 36, 715-725.

Why estimate such a model?

- Many causal effects probably operate through multiple mechanisms simultaneously. Better to estimate a model consistent with such real-world complexities.
- If your proposed mediator is correlated with the real mediator but not caused by the independent variable, a model with only your proposed mediator in it will be a misspecification and will potentially misattribute the process to your proposed mediator rather than the real mediator—“epiphenomenality.”
- Different theories may postulate different mediators as mechanisms. Including them all in a model simultaneously allows for a formal statistical comparison of indirect effects representing different theoretical mechanisms.

Path Analysis: Total, Direct, and Indirect Effects

$$\hat{Y} = c_0 + cX$$

$$\widehat{M}_j = a_{0j} + a_j X$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c'X + \sum_{j=1}^K b_j M_j$$

c = “total effect” of X on Y

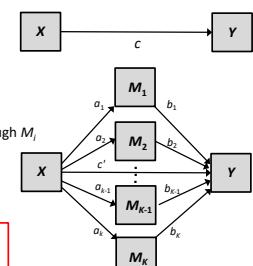
$a_j \times b_j$ = “specific indirect effect” of X on Y through M_j

$\sum (a_j \times b_j)$ = “total indirect effect” of X on Y

c' = “direct effect” of X on Y

total effect = direct effect + total indirect effect
$c = c' + \sum (a_j \times b_j)$

total indirect effect = total effect - direct effect
$\sum (a_j \times b_j) = c - c'$





Path Analysis: Exercise Example

Suppose the true state of the world is such, and salary is measured in thousands of dollars per year (i.e., a one unit increase in salary corresponds to a \$1000 increase in salary/year): An increase in salary of **\$2,000/year** is associated with an overall increase in happiness of **3**. Suppose also that an increase in salary of **\$1,000/year** is associated with a decrease in financial concerns by **2**. It is known that increasing financial concerns by **1** decreases happiness by **.5** when controlling for salary.

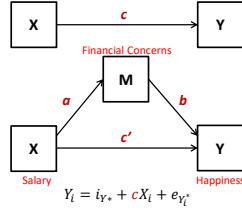
What are the values for:

$a = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ total = $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

$b = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ direct = $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

$c = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ indirect = $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

$c' = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$



$$Y_1 = i_{Y_1} + cX_1 + e_{Y_1}$$

$$M_1 = i_M + aX_1 + e_{M_1}$$

$$Y_1 = i_Y + c'X_1 + bM_1 + e_{Y_1}$$

Direct effect of X on Y (not through M) = c'

Indirect effect of X on Y (through M) = $a \times b$

Total effect = direct effect + indirect effect

$$\frac{c}{c'} = \frac{c'}{c} + \frac{a \times b}{c}$$

Indirect effect = total effect - direct effect

$$a \times b = c - c^{113}$$

Example: Science

Participants read a syllabus for a computer science class. The syllabus either had a policy that was **procollaboration** or one which required **no collaboration**. Participants were randomly assigned to condition. This is the main independent variable.

Participants were asked a series of questions about the class they read about including four questions which assessed **interest in the class** (this is the primary DV). Higher = greater interest. They were also asked a set of questions to assess (1) how much they felt the class would help them in achieving **communal goals** (helping others, working with others) and (2) how difficult they expected the class to be. Higher = greater communal fulfillment /difficulty.

Question: Does group work in computer science classes increase interest in the class indirectly through perceived communal goal fulfillment, through class difficulty, or both?

Would people who read about the procollaboration policy think the class is more communal and would that communality then predict greater interest? Would the procollaboration policy make students think the course is easier, and this would increase interest?

The data: Science

ProNo	comm	diff	interest	late	experience	laptop	Subject	Cond	sex	FroYo	comm	diff	interest
1.00	5.20	5	6.01								5	6	
1.00	1.00	4	2.21	106	1	1	1	5.2	5		5	6	
1.00	4.00	4	2.51	109	1	1	1	1	1		4	2.25	
1.00	4.00	2	3.51	110	1	1	1	1	1		4	2.5	
1.00	7.00	7	7.01	114	1	1	1	1	1		4	3.5	
1.00	6.00	1	6.01	115	1	1	1	1	1		7	7	
1.00	4.00	7	2.71	131	1	1	1	1	1		4	2.75	
1.00	3.40	6	4.21	132	1	1	1	1	1		4	3.45	
1.00	4.20	3	3.51	148	1	1	1	1	1		3.4	3.5	
1.00	4.60	6	1.51	161	1	1	1	1	1		4.6	6	1.5
1.00	4.20	5	2.01	162	1	1	1	1	1		4.2	5	2
1.00	4.40	5	1.01	174	1	1	1	1	1		4.4	3	1
1.00	5.40	3	7.01	177	1	1	1	1	1		4.6	6	2.75
1.00	5.00	4	2.21	178	1	1	1	1	1		3.4	4	1.25
1.00	4.60	6	2.71	202	1	1	1	1	1		3.4	3.5	
1.00	3.40	4	1.21	204	1	1	1	1	1		5.2	6	1.75
				216	1	1	1	1	1		7	7	6
				217	1	1	1	1	1		5	4	4.75

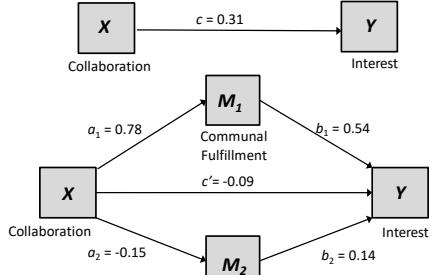
ProNo: Experimental condition (1 = procollaboration, 0 = no collaboration)

interest : interest in class (higher = greater interest)

comm: Perceived fulfillment of communal goals (higher = more fulfillment)

diff: Perceived difficulty of the class (higher = more difficult)

Example: Science



Direct effect = -0.09

Specific indirect effect via Comm: $0.78(0.54) = 0.42$

Specific indirect effect via Import: $-0.15(0.14) = -0.02$

Total indirect effect = $0.42 - 0.02 = 0.40$

Total effect = $-0.09 + .42 - 0.02 = 0.31$

What Was That One Called? Final Answers in ITBS Test Explain Details
Copyright © 2003 by Educational Testing Service

Participants read a syllabus for a computer science class. The syllabus either had a policy that was **procollaboration** or one which required **no collaboration**. Participants were randomly assigned to condition. This is the main independent variable.

Participants were asked a series of questions about the class they read about including four questions which assessed **interest in the class** (this is the primary DV). Higher = greater interest. They were also asked a set of questions to assess (1) how much they felt the class would help them in achieving **communal goals** (helping others, working with others) and (2) how difficult they expected the class to be. Higher = greater communal fulfillment /difficulty.

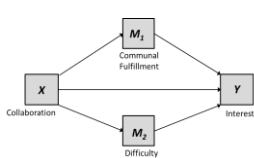
Question: Does group work in computer science classes increase interest in the class indirectly through perceived communal goal fulfillment, through class difficulty, or both?

Would people who read about the procollaboration policy think the class is more communal and would that communality then predict greater interest? Would the procollaboration policy make students think the course is easier, and this would increase interest?

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Estimation and inference using PROCESS

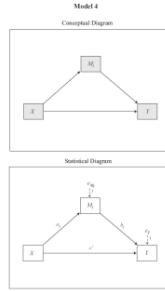
PROCESS model 4 is used for the parallel multiple mediator model.



Up to 10 mediators can be listed in the "m =" list. Order does not matter.

```

process y=interest/x=ProNo/m=comm diff=total=1/boot=10000/model=4/normal=1/contrast=1.
!process (data-science,y=interest,x=ProNo,m=comm diff, total=1,boot=10000,model=4,
          normal=1,contrast=1);
  
```



PROCESS output

Output E

Model : 4
Y : interest
X : ProNo
M1 : comm
M2 : diff
Sample Size: 232

OUTCOME VARIABLE:
comm

$$\widehat{M}_1 = 3.12 + 0.78X$$

Model Summary	R	R-sq	MSE	F	df1	df2	P
	.3031	.0919	1.5279	23.2670	1.0000	230.0000	.0000

Model
coeff se t P LCLCI ULCI
constant 3.1160 .1133 27.4994 .0000 2.8927 3.3392
ProNo .7831 .1624 4.8236 .0000 .4632 1.1030 ← a_1 path

OUTCOME VARIABLE:
diff

$$\widehat{M}_2 = 4.94 - 0.15X$$

Model Summary	R	R-sq	MSE	F	df1	df2	P
	.0594	.0035	1.6760	.8155	1.0000	230.0000	.3674

Model
coeff se t P LCLCI ULCI
constant 4.3412 .1187 41.6352 .0000 4.7073 5.1750
ProNo -.1536 .1700 -.9031 .3674 -.4886 .1813 ← a_2 path

PROCESS output

Output E

OUTCOME VARIABLE:
interest

$$\widehat{Y} = 0.49 - 0.09X + 0.54M_1 + 0.14M_2$$

Model Summary	R	R-sq	MSE	F	df1	df2	P
	.4418	.1952	1.9659	18.4348	3.0000	228.0000	.0000

Model
coeff se t P LCLCI ULCI
constant .4898 .4618 1.0607 .2899 -.4201 1.3986
ProNo -.1088 .1933 -.0404 .6438 -.4705 .2916 ← c' path
M1 .0027 .0229 .2448 .0000 .2448 -.0050 ← b_1 path
M2 -.1364 .0218 1.9008 .0586 -.0050 .2778 ← b_2 path

TOTAL EFFECT MODEL *****
OUTCOME VARIABLE:
interest

$$\widehat{Y} = 2.84 + 0.31X$$

Model Summary	R	R-sq	MSE	F	df1	df2	P
	.1000	.0100	2.3974	2.3217	1.0000	230.0000	.1290

Model
coeff se t P LCLCI ULCI
constant 2.8361 .1419 19.9817 .0000 2.5565 3.1158 ← c path
ProNo .1099 .2034 1.5237 .1290 -.0908 .7106

PROCESS output

Output E

***** TOTAL, DIRECT, AND INDIRECT EFFECTS OF X ON Y *****

Total effect of X on Y
Effect se t p LCLCI ULCI
.3099 .2034 1.5237 .1290 -.0908 .7106 ← c path

Direct effect of X on Y
Effect se t p LCLCI ULCI
-.0895 .1933 -.4630 .6438 -.4705 .2916 ← c' path

Indirect effect(s) of X on Y:
Effect BootSE BootLCLCI BootULCI
TOTAL .3099 .1135 .1950 .6399
comm .4203 .1128 -.2171 .6584 ← $a_1b_1 + a_2b_2$ with bootstrap CI
diff -.0209 .0282 -.0858 .0280 ← a_1b_1 with bootstrap CI
(CI) .4413 .1189 .2251 .6927 ← a_2b_2 with bootstrap CI

Normal theory test for indirect effect(s):
Effect se z p
comm .4203 .1059 3.9706 .0001
diff -.0209 .0284 -.7367 .4613 ← Sobel tests (less trustworthy than bootstrap CIs)

Specific indirect effect contrast definition(s):
(CI) comm minus diff

The data are consistent with the claim that group work influences interest indirectly through communal goal fulfillment controlling for difficulty (0.420; 95% CI = 0.217 to 0.659) but not through difficulty controlling for goal fulfillment (-0.0209; 95% CI = -0.086 to 0.028).

Things to consider

- (1) In a multiple mediator model, the specific indirect effect through M_k quantifies the component of the total indirect effect that is unique to M_k . Each specific indirect effect is estimated **controlling for all other mediators**.

M_k may function as a mediator variable when considered in isolation but not when considered with other mediator variables in the same model. If the intervening variables are highly intercorrelated, they can "cancel out" each others' effects.

- (2) It is possible for a total indirect effect to be not detectably different from zero even when one or more specific indirect effects is.

$$\text{total indirect effect} = \text{sum of specific indirect effects}$$

$$\Sigma(a_i b_i) = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + \dots + a_k b_k.$$

Scenario (a): A single large specific indirect combined with several tiny ones.

Scenario (b): Specific indirect effects that have different signs and add to near zero.

In multiple mediator models, the total indirect effect is rarely of much interest.

Comparing specific indirect effects

Indirect effects quantify how Y changes as X changes by one unit through a mediator. They are free of the scale of measurement of the mediators. So in multiple mediator models, indirect effects linking the same X to the same Y are directly comparable even if the mediators are measured on different scales. We can statistically compare them if so desired. No standardization or other arithmetic gymnastics is required.

Approach #1: Calculate the ratio of the difference between the indirect effect through M_i and the indirect effect through M_j to its standard error. Assuming a normally distributed sampling distribution of the difference, a p -value for the null hypothesis that the difference equals zero can be derived from the standard normal distribution.

$$Z = \frac{a_i b_i - a_j b_j}{se_{a_i b_i - a_j b_j}}$$

Approach #2: Bootstrap a confidence interval for the $a_i b_i - a_j b_j$ and ascertain whether 0 is in the confidence interval as a pseudo null hypothesis test that the difference is zero.

PROCESS can generate a bootstrap confidence interval for all possible pairwise comparisons between specific indirect effects

PROCESS output

```
process y=interest/x=prono/m=comm diff/total=1/boot=10000/model=4/normal=1/contrast=1.

@process (data=science,y=interest,x=prono,m=comm diff, total=1,boot=10000,model=4,
normal=1,contrast=1);

Indirect effect(s) of X on Y:
Effect      BootSE   BootLLCI   BootULCI
TOTAL     .3994     .1135     .1950     .6399
comm     .4203     .1128     .2171     .6594
diff     -.0209    .0282    -.0858     .0280
(C1)     .4413     .1189     .2251     .6927 ← a1b1 - a2b2

Normal theory test for indirect effect(s):
Effect      se       Z       P
comm     .4203    .1059    3.9706    .0001
diff     -.0209   .0284   -7.7367   .4613

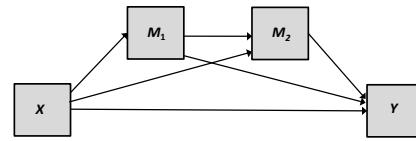
Specific indirect effect contrast definition(s):
(C1)      comm      minus    diff
```

Output E

The specific indirect effect of collaboration on interest through perceived Communal goal fulfillment is different from the specific indirect effect through perceived class difficulty (difference = 0.441; 95% CI = 0.225 to .6927).

The serial multiple mediator model

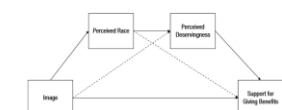
A serial multiple mediator model with two mediators and all possible direct and indirect effects freely estimated.



Some examples in the literature:

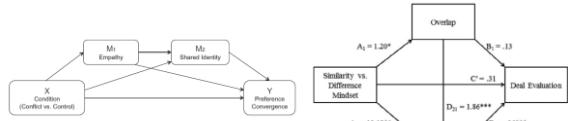


Casciano, R., & Massey, D. S. (2012). Neighborhood disorder and anxiety symptoms: New evidence from a quasiexperimental study. *Health and Place*, 18, 180-190.



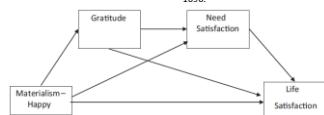
Brown-Iannuzzi, J. L., Dotsch, R., Cooley, E., & Payne, B. K. (2017). The relationship between mental representations of welfare recipients and attitudes toward welfare. *Psychological Science*, 28, 92-103.

More examples from the literature



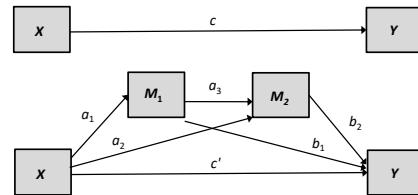
Schiff, R. Y., & Moty, A. (2015). Pain and preferences: Observed decisional conflict and the convergence of preferences. *Journal of Consumer Research*, 42, 515-534.

Kan, C., Lichtenstein, D. R., Grant, S. J., & Janiszewski, C. (2014). Strengthening the influence of advertised reference prices through information priming. *Journal of Consumer Research*, 40, 1078-1096.



Tsang, J.-A., Carpenter, T. P., Roberts, J. A., Frisch, M. B., & Carlisle, R. D. (2014). Why are materialists less happy? The role of gratitude and need satisfaction in the relationship between materialism and life satisfaction. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 64, 62-65.

Serial mediation: Path analysis rules



The total effect of X on Y is equal to the direct effect of X plus the sum of all specific indirect effects (there are three of them here).

$$\hat{Y} = c_0 + cX$$

$$\bar{M}_1 = a_{01} + a_{1X}$$

$$\bar{M}_2 = a_{02} + a_{2X} + a_{3M_1}$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c'X + b_1\bar{M}_1 + b_2\bar{M}_2$$

Direct effect of X: c'

Specific indirect effect of X through M_1 : $a_1 b_1$

Specific indirect effect of X through M_2 : $a_2 b_2$

Specific indirect effect of X through M_1 and M_2 : $a_1 a_2 b_2$

Total indirect effect of X: $a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_1 a_2 b_2$

Total effect of X: $c = c' + a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_1 a_2 b_2$

Example

May 1st, 2011, 11:30PM



Professor Erik Nisbett (OSU School of Communication) had a national telephone survey in the field examining perceptions of Muslims in the U.S. when Obama announces the death of bin Laden; 390 respondents prior to announcement (**BINLADEN** = 0) and 271 after announcement (**BINLADEN** = 1). See report in materials provided for details.

Measures

STEREO: Stereotype endorsement, 4 items (5-pt semantic differential)

"Please tell us how much you associate each of the following sets of characteristics with Muslims"

e.g., Peaceful – Violent
Tolerant – Fanatical

RTHREAT: Realistic threat, 5 items (5-pt Likert)

"Below are a few statements expressing different views about Muslims living in the U.S. Please read and tell us how much you agree with each statement"

e.g., "Muslims in the U.S. sympathize with terrorists"
"Muslims make America a more dangerous place to live"

MCIVIL: Restriction of Muslim civil liberties, 5 items (5-pt Likert)

"Below are some statements people have expressed about Muslim civil liberties and terrorism in the U.S. Please read each and tell us how much you agree or disagree..."

e.g., "All Muslims in the U.S. should be required to carry a special ID card"
"Muslims in the U.S. should register their whereabouts with the U.S. government"

Higher reflect greater negative stereotype endorsement/threat/willingness to restrict..."

The Data: BINLADEN

BINLADEN.SAV

	binladen	mcivil	stereo	mcivil	age	ideo	sex
1	0	3.00	2.00	2.00	15	5.6	0
2	1	2.00	1.00	2.00	32	3.5	1
3	1	2.25	2.00	2.00	56	5.6	1
4	1	2.00	2.00	3.40	40	5.9	1
5	1	4.00	4.20	4.00	59	5.9	1
6	0	4.00	4.00	4.00	59	5.9	0
7	0	4.00	5.00	5.00	58	5.9	1
8	0	4.00	2.00	3.00	72	5.6	1
9	0	3.25	3.00	2.80	67	5.6	1
10	1	4.00	5.00	5.00	69	5.9	1
11	0	2.00	2.00	2.00	60	5.6	0
12	1	1.50	3.20	1.60	39	5.6	1
13	1	3.25	3.00	3.40	56	5.6	1
14	1	4.25	2.00	5.00	46	5.9	1
15	1	2.50	3.00	3.20	26	5.9	1
16	1	2.75	3.40	3.20	56	5.6	1

Also included in the data file are respondent **age** in **decades**, political **ideology** (7 point scale, higher = more conservative) and **gender** (0 = female, 1 = male).

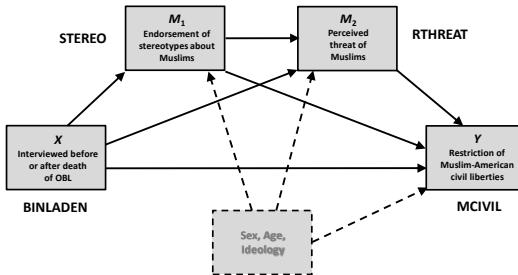
BINLADEN.SAS

```

BINLADEN
data binladen;
input binladen rthreat stereo mcivil age ideo sex;
datalines;

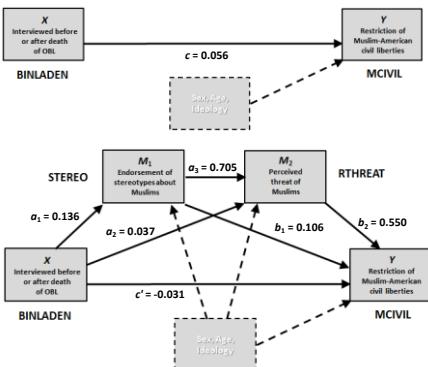
```

Example

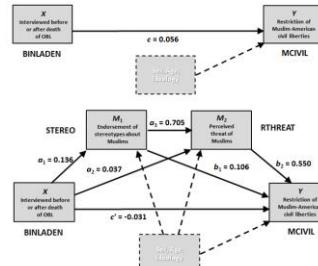


This model includes four pathways of influence of news coverage of OBL death, two through a single mediator, one through both mediators in serial, and one direct.

Example



Example



Direct effect = -0.031

Specific indirect effect via stereotype endorsement: $0.136(0.106) = 0.014$

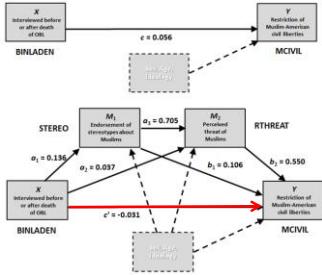
Specific indirect effect via perceived threat: $0.037(0.550) = 0.020$

Specific indirect effect via stereotype endorsement and threat: $0.136(0.705)(0.550) = 0.053$

Total indirect effect = $0.014 + 0.020 + 0.053 = 0.087$

Total effect = $-0.031 + 0.087 = 0.056$

Example



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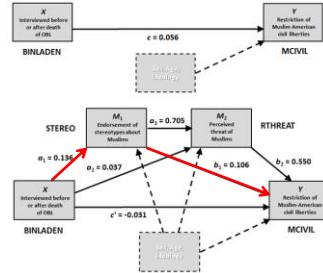
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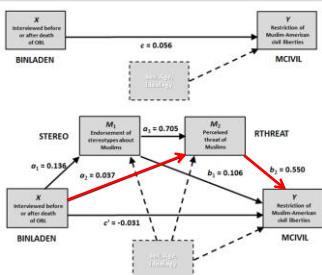
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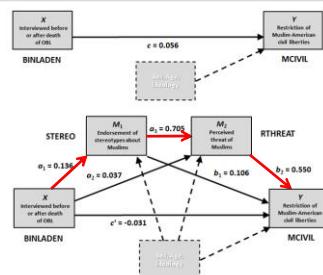
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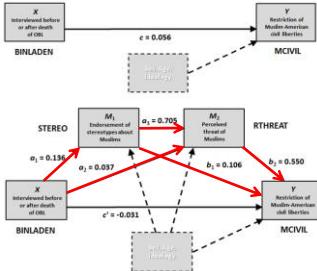
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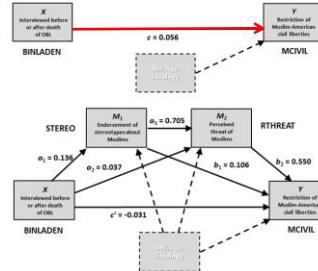
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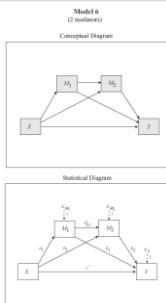
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Estimation and inference using PROCESS



PROCESS model 6 is the serial multiple mediator model.

In model 6, order of the variables in the "m" list matters. Variables listed earlier are causally prior to those listed later. PROCESS allows up to four mediators to be linked in a causal chain. All possible indirect and direct effects are estimated.

```
%process cov=sex age ideo/y=mcivil/x=binladen/m=stereo rthreat /boot=10000/model=6/total=1.
%process (data=binladen,cov=ssex age ideo,y=mcivil,x=binladen,m=mstereo rthreat,boot=10000,
model=6, total=1);
```

PROCESS output

```
*****
Model = 6
Y = mcivil
X = binladen
M1 = stereo
M2 = rthreat
*****
Statistical Controls:
CONTROLS sex age ideo
Sample size
661
*****
Outcome: stereo
 $\hat{M}_1 = 1.905 + 0.136X + \dots$ 
*****
Model Summary
R      R-sq      MSE      F      df1      df2      P
.3557   .1265   .6495   23.7609   4.0000   656.0000   .0000
*****
Model
coeff      se      t      P      LLCI      ULCI
constant  1.9045  .1322  14.4084  .0000  1.6449  2.1640
binladen  .1358  .0639  2.1258  .0339  .0104  .2613
sex       .0398  .0635  .6262  .5314  -.0849  .1644
age       .0504  .0192  2.6220  .0089  .0127  .0882
ideo      .1293  .0143  9.0483  .0000  .1012  .1574
*****
a1 path
```

PROCESS output

Output F

Outcome: rtthreat						
	R	R-sq	MSE	F	df1	df2
constant	.2548	.1467	.7369	.0829	.5428	.0332
stereo	.7047	.0378	.6630	.0000	.6306	.7789
binladen	.0374	.0620	.6038	.5462	-.0843	.1592
sex	.1286	.0614	2.0938	.0367	.0080	.2492
age	.0451	.0187	2.4135	.0161	.0084	.0818
ideo	.0898	.0147	6.1257	.0000	.0610	.1186

a₁ path
a₂ path

PROCESS output

Output F

Outcome: mcivil						
	R	R-sq	MSE	F	df1	df2
constant	.7165	.1448	4.9499	.0000	.4323	.1.0008
stereo	.1057	.0460	2.2965	.0220	.0153	.1960
rtthreat	.5491	.0385	14.2732	.0000	.4736	.6247
binladen	-.0311	.0611	-.5095	.6106	-.1510	.0888
sex	-.1001	.0607	-1.6504	.0993	-.2193	.0190
age	-.0103	.0185	-.5599	.5758	-.0466	.0259
ideo	.0545	.0148	3.6696	.0003	.0253	.0836

b₁ path
b₂ path
c' path

PROCESS output

Output F

***** TOTAL EFFECT MODEL *****						
Outcome: mcivil						
	R	R-sq	MSE	F	df1	df2
constant	.3675	.1351	.9278	25.6100	4.0000	656.0000
binladen	.0564	.0764	.7380	.4608	-.0936	.2061
sex	-.0099	.0759	-.1310	.8958	-.1589	.1391
age	.0393	.0230	1.7085	.0880	-.0059	.0844
ideo	.1675	.0171	9.8053	.0000	.1339	.2010

c path

PROCESS output

Output F

***** TOTAL, DIRECT, AND INDIRECT EFFECTS *****						
Total effect of X on Y						
Effect	SE	t	p	LLCI	ULCI	
TOTAL	.0564	.0764	.7380	.4608	-.0936	.2063
Direct effect of X on Y						
Effect	SE	t	p	LLCI	ULCI	
Ind1	-.0311	.0611	-.5095	.6106	-.1510	.0888
Ind2						
Ind3						
Indirect effect(s) of X on Y:						
Effect	BootSE	BootLLCI	BootULCI	<i>a₁b₁ + a₂b₂ + a₃b₃</i>		
TOTAL	.0875	.0460	.0005	.1798		
Ind1	.0144	.0098	-.0002	.0373	<i>a₁b₁</i>	
Ind2	.0266	.0338	-.0446	.0895	<i>a₂b₂</i>	and bootstrap CIs
Ind3	.0526	.0248	.0050	.1021	<i>a₃b₃</i>	
Indirect effect key						
Ind1	binladen	>	stereo	>	mcivil	
Ind2	binladen	>	rtthreat	>	mcivil	
Ind3	binladen	>	rtthreat	>	mcivil	

c path
c' path

The data are consistent with the claim that coverage of OBL's death increased endorsement of restriction of Muslim civil liberties serially through stereotype endorsement and perceived threat of Muslims (0.053, 95% CI=0.005 to 0.102) but not through stereotype endorsement independent of perceived threat (.014, 95% CI = -0.0002 to 0.037) or perceived threat independent of stereotype endorsement (0.021, 95% CI = -0.045 to 0.089). There is no evidence of a direct effect of his death independent of these pathways of influence.

Moderation

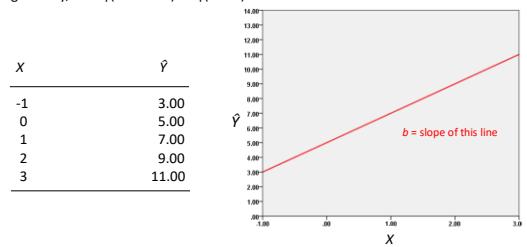
Moderation. The effect of X on Y can be said to be *moderated* if its size or direction is dependent on some third variable W . It tells us about the conditions that facilitate, enhance, or inhibit the effect, or for whom or what the effect is large vs. small, present vs. absent, positive vs. negative vs. zero.

The simple regression coefficient

Consider a simple regression model with predictor variable X .

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + bX \quad \text{such as } \hat{Y} = 5.00 + 2.00X$$

Two cases that differ by one unit on X are estimated to differ by $b = 2.00$ units on Y . b is a “**global property**” of the model, in that makes no difference which value of X you start at— b is the estimated difference in Y between two cases who differ by a unit on X . Most generally, $b = \hat{Y}|(X = \omega + 1) - \hat{Y}|(X = \omega)$ for all ω .



Partial regression coefficients as unconditional effects

Consider a multiple regression model with two predictors, X and W .

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X + b_2W \quad \text{such as } \hat{Y} = 4.50 + 2.00X + 0.50W$$

Regardless of W , a one unit difference in X is associated with the same expected difference on Y . And regardless of the value of X , a one unit difference in W is associated with the same expected difference on Y . This is true regardless of which value of X or W you choose. b_1 and b_2 are **global properties** of the model.

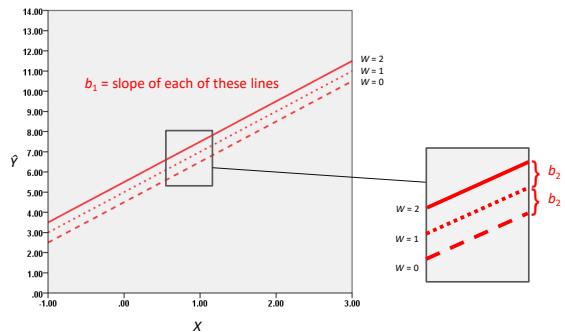
Most generally,

$$b_1 = \hat{Y}|(X = \omega + 1, W = \lambda) - \hat{Y}|(X = \omega, W = \lambda) \text{ for all } \omega, \lambda$$

$$b_2 = \hat{Y}|(W = \lambda + 1, X = \omega) - \hat{Y}|(W = \lambda, X = \omega) \text{ for all } \lambda, \omega$$

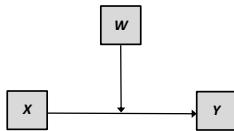
Partial regression coefficients as unconditional effects

$$\hat{Y} = 4.50 + 2.00X + 0.50W$$



Moderation

Moderation. The effect of X on Y can be said to be *moderated* if its size or direction is dependent on some third variable W . It tells us about the conditions that facilitate, enhance, or inhibit the effect, or for whom or what the effect is large vs. small, present vs. absent, positive vs. negative vs. zero.



In this diagram, W is depicted to *moderate* the size of the effect of X on Y , meaning that the size of the effect of X on Y depends on W . In such a case, we say W is the *moderator* of the $X \rightarrow Y$ relationship, or that X and W *interact* in their influence on Y . X is sometimes called the **focal predictor**, and W the **moderator**.

Releasing this constraint on the model

Suppose we let X 's effect be a function of W , $f(W)$, as in

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + f(W)X + b_2W$$

For instance, let $f(W)$ be a linear function of W , $b_1 + b_3W$. Thus,

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + (b_1 + b_3W)X + b_2W$$

This can be rewritten in an equivalent form as

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X + b_2W + b_3XW$$

This model, the “simple moderation model,” allows X 's effect on Y to depend linearly on W . Other forms of moderation are possible, but this form is the one most frequently estimated.

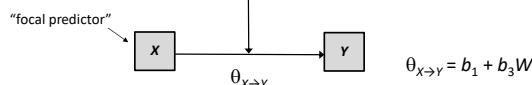
Moderation

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X + b_2W + b_3XW$$

can be written as

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + (b_1 + b_3W)X + b_2W$$

This is a conceptual representation of moderation. This is not a path diagram.



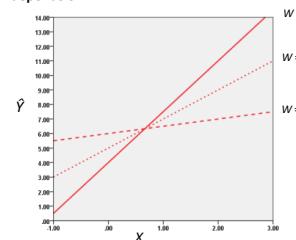
$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}$ is the “conditional effect of X ” defined by the function $b_1 + b_3W$

X 's effect as a function of W

$$\begin{aligned} b_0 &= 6.00 \\ b_1 &= 0.50 \\ b_2 &= -1.00 \\ b_3 &= 1.50 \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{Y} = 6.00 + 0.50X - 1.00W + 1.50XW$$

Observe that the amount by which two cases that differ by one unit on X are estimated to differ on Y depends on W .



	X	W	\hat{Y}
W=2	-1	0	5.50
W=2	-1	1	3.00
W=2	-1	2	0.50
W=1	0	0	6.00
W=1	0	1	5.00
W=1	0	2	4.00
W=1	1	0	6.50
W=1	1	1	7.00
W=1	1	2	7.50
W=0	2	0	7.00
W=0	2	1	9.00
W=0	2	2	11.00

X's effect as a function of W

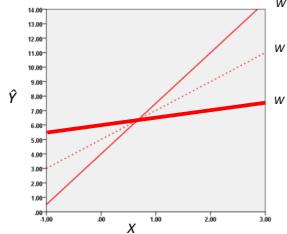
$$\begin{aligned} b_0 &= 6.00 \\ b_1 &= 0.50 \\ b_2 &= -1.00 \\ b_3 &= 1.50 \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{Y} = 6.00 + 0.50X - 1.00W + 1.50XW$$

X	W	\hat{Y}
-1	0	5.50
-1	1	3.00
-1	2	0.50
0	0	6.00
0	1	5.00
0	2	4.00
1	0	6.50
1	1	7.00
1	2	7.50
2	0	7.00
2	1	9.00
2	2	11.00

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} &= b_1 + b_3 W \\ &= 0.50 + 1.50W \\ &= 0.50 + 1.50(0) = 0.50\end{aligned}$$

Observe that the amount by which two cases that differ by one unit on X are estimated to differ on Y depends on W.



X's effect as a function of W

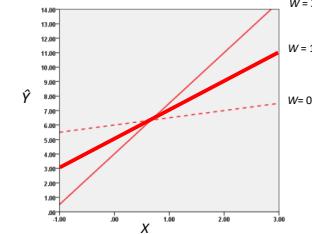
$$\begin{aligned}b_0 &= 6.00 \\b_1 &= 0.50 \\b_2 &= -1.00 \\b_3 &= 1.50\end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{Y} = 6.00 + 0.50X - 1.00W + 1.50XW$$

X	W	\hat{Y}
-1	0	5.50
-1	1	3.00
-1	2	0.50
0	0	6.00
0	1	5.00
0	2	4.00
1	0	6.50
1	1	7.00
1	2	7.50
2	0	7.00
2	1	9.00
2	2	11.00

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} &= b_1 + b_3 W \\ &= 0.50 + 1.50W \\ &= 0.50 + 1.50(1) = 2.00\end{aligned}$$

Observe that the amount by which two cases that differ by one unit on X are estimated to differ on Y depends on W.



X's effect as a function of W

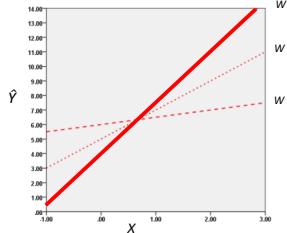
$$\begin{aligned}b_0 &= 6.00 \\b_1 &= 0.50 \\b_2 &= -1.00 \\b_3 &= 1.50\end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{Y} = 6.00 + 0.50X - 1.00W + 1.50XW$$

X	W	\hat{Y}
-1	0	5.50
-1	1	3.00
-1	2	0.50
0	0	6.00
0	1	5.00
0	2	4.00
1	0	6.50
1	1	7.00
1	2	7.50
2	0	7.00
2	1	9.00
2	2	11.00

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} &= b_1 + b_3 W \\ &= 0.50 + 1.50W \\ &= 0.50 + 1.50(2) = 3.50\end{aligned}$$

Observe that the amount by which two cases that differ by one unit on X are estimated to differ on Y depends on W.



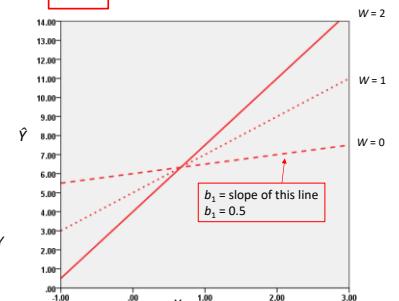
Interpretation of b_1 as a conditional effect

$$\begin{aligned}b_0 &= 6.00 \\b_1 &= 0.50 \\b_2 &= -1.00 \\b_3 &= 1.50\end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{Y} = 6.00 + 0.50X - 1.00W + 1.50XW$$

b_1 is the effect of X on Y when $W = 0$. It quantifies how much two cases that differ by one unit on X but with $W = 0$ are estimated to differ on Y.

b_1 is a local property of the model. It characterizes the association between X and Y only when $W = 0$.



$$b_1 = \hat{Y}|(X = \omega + 1, W = 0) - \hat{Y}|(X = \omega, W = 0) \text{ for all } \omega.$$

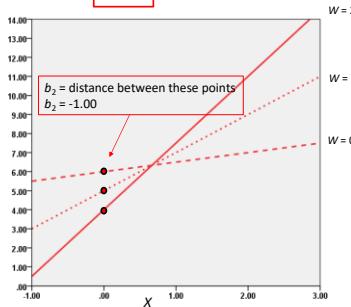
Interpretation of b_2 as a conditional effect

$$\begin{aligned} b_0 &= 6.00 \\ b_1 &= 0.50 \\ b_2 &= -1.00 \\ b_3 &= 1.50 \end{aligned}$$

b_2 is the effect of W when $X = 0$. It quantifies how much two cases that differ by one unit on W but with $X = 0$ are estimated to differ on Y .

b_2 is a **local property** of the model. It characterizes the association between W and Y only when $X = 0$.

$$\hat{Y} = 6.00 + 0.50X - 1.00W + 1.50XW$$



$$b_2 = \hat{Y}|(W = \lambda + 1, X = 0) - \hat{Y}|(W = \lambda, X = 0) \text{ for all } \lambda$$

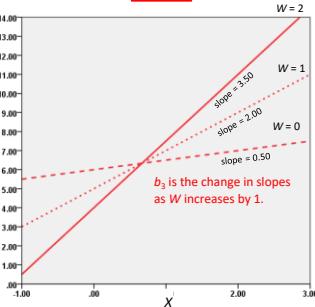
Interpretation of b_3

$$\hat{Y} = 6.00 + 0.50X - 1.00W + 1.50XW$$

b_3 is the amount by which the conditional effect of X changes as W changes by one unit.

$$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} = b_1 + b_2W = 0.50 + 1.50W$$

$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}$	W
0.50	0
2.00	1
3.50	2



$$b_3 = (\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}|W = \lambda + 1) - (\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}|W = \lambda) \text{ for all } \lambda$$

Differences in interpretation

	$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X + b_2W$	$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X + b_2W + b_3XW$
b_0	The estimated value of Y when X and $W = 0$.	The estimated value of Y when X and $W = 0$.
b_1	The effect of X on Y holding W constant. This is a <i>partial</i> effect.	The effect of X on Y when $W = 0$. This is a <i>conditional</i> effect. It is Not a "main effect" or "average effect" of X .
b_2	The effect of W on Y holding X constant. This is a <i>partial</i> effect.	The effect of W on Y when $X = 0$. This is a <i>conditional</i> effect. It is not a "main effect" or "average effect" of W .
b_3		How much the effect of X on Y changes as W changes by 1 unit.

Symmetry in moderation

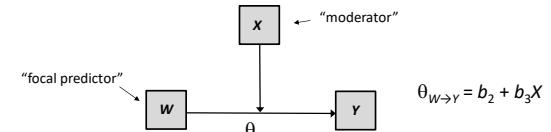
$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X + b_2W + b_3XW$$

We saw that this is alternative representation of

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + (b_1 + b_3W)X + b_2W$$

But it is also an alternative representation of

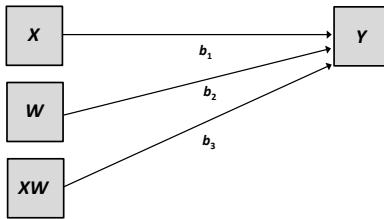
$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + (b_2 + b_3X)W + b_1X$$



Here, X moderates the size of the effect of W on Y . Now X is the moderator. Ultimately, which variable X or W we think of as the moderator depends on substantive concerns. Statistically, it makes no difference as they are mathematically equivalent models.

In path diagram form

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X + b_2W + b_3XW$$

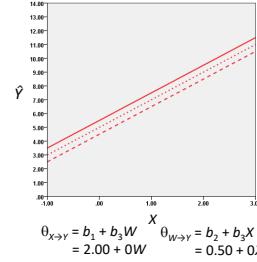


Remember

b₁ is NOT the effect of X on Y. The effect of X is $b_1 + b_3W$
b₂ is NOT the effect of W on Y. The effect of W is $b_2 + b_3X$

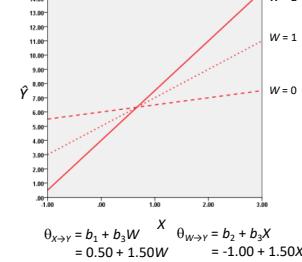
The importance of b_3 when testing a moderation hypothesis

$$\hat{Y} = 4.50 + 2.00X + 0.50W + 0XW$$



$$\begin{aligned} \theta_{X \rightarrow Y} &= b_1 + b_3W \quad X \\ \theta_{W \rightarrow Y} &= b_2 + b_3X \quad W \\ &= 2.00 + 0W \quad = 0.50 + 0X \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{Y} = 6.00 + 0.50X - 1.00W + 1.50XW$$



$$\begin{aligned} \theta_{X \rightarrow Y} &= b_1 + b_3W \quad X \\ \theta_{W \rightarrow Y} &= b_2 + b_3X \quad W \\ &= 0.50 + 1.50W \quad = -1.00 + 1.50X \end{aligned}$$

When $b_3 = 0$, a one unit change in X has the same effect on Y regardless of W, and a one unit change in W has the same effect on Y regardless of X. When $b_3 \neq 0$, the effect of a change in X on Y depends on W, and the effect of a change in W on Y depends on X. So we test a moderation hypothesis by testing whether b_3 is different from zero.

Example inspired by ...

Witkiewitz, K., & Bowen, S. (2010). Depression, craving, and substance use following a randomized trial of mindfulness-based relapse prevention. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 78, 362-374.

Depression, Craving, and Substance Use Following a Randomized Trial of Mindfulness-Based Relapse Prevention

Kate Witkiewitz
Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Sarah Bowen
Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Objectives: To evaluate whether cognitive behavioral therapy using a brief mindfulness-based intervention can reduce depression, craving, and substance use following a relapse prevention program. **Design:** A 2 (treatment: mindfulness-based relapse prevention [MBRP] vs. control) \times 3 (time: baseline, 2 month follow-up, 4 month follow-up) mixed ANOVA. **Setting:** Outpatient treatment center. **Participants:** Thirty-four patients with a history of substance abuse who were in the relapse prevention phase of treatment. **Interventions:** MBRP or control. **Outcomes and Measures:** Beck Depression Inventory (BDI), Penn Alcohol Craving Scale (Crave), and Alcohol, Smoking, and Substance Involvement Scale (ASSIST).

Conclusion: MBRP was associated with reduced depression, craving, and substance use compared to control at all time points. MBRP may be an effective alternative to traditional cognitive behavioral therapy for substance abuse.

Keywords: MBRP, depression, craving, substance abuse, relapse prevention, cognitive behavioral therapy

168 clients of a public service agency providing treatment for alcohol and substance use disorders.

MBRP: Randomly assigned to treatment as usual (0) or mindfulness-based relapse prevention (1)

BD10: Beck Depression Inventory at start of therapy (0 to 3; multiply by 21 to see BDI in its original 0 to 63 metric). This is also available at the termination of therapy (**BDIP**)

CRAVE2: Score on the Penn Alcohol Craving Scale at 2 month follow-up (0 to 6). Also available at baseline, prior to start of therapy (**CRAVE0**)

USE4: Alcohol and other substance use at 4-month follow-up. (0 to 5)

TREATRS: Hours of therapy administered.

The data file is **MBRP**

The Data: MBRP

SPSS

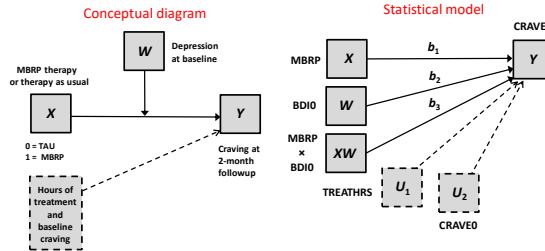
SAS

mbrp

	mbrp	bd10	bdp	crave0	crave2	use4	treatrs
1	0	1.28	1.09	4.0	8	1.3	
2	0	1.67	1.50	2.4	3.8	1.6	
3	0	0.66	1.14	2.2	1.4	1.0	
4	1	1.66	1.23	2.2	2.4	1.1	
5	0	1.29	.85	4.2	2.4	.9	
6	1	.95	1.04	1.0	1.0	1.3	
7	0	1.38	.85	2.0	8	1.4	
8	0	1.76	.95	3.2	2.0	8	
9	0	0.80	.71	3.0	3.2	5	
10	1	1.38	1.14	1.2	1.6	1.2	
11	1	1.38	2.00	2.4	2.0	1.6	
12	0	1.00	.61	1.0	6	.6	
13	1	1.38	1.66	3.8	1.2	.5	
14	1	1.09	.95	1.8	1.2	1.8	

These aren't their actual data. But the analyses we do yield similar results to what they report.

Example



Does the effect of MBRP therapy relative to therapy as usual on craving depend on initial depression? That is, is the therapy more or less effective as a function of depression prior to start of therapy?

Estimation using OLS regression

```
compute mbrpdep = mbrp*bdio0.
regression/dep = crave2/method = enter mbrp bdio0 mbrpdep treatrs crave0.
```

```
data mbrp;set mbrp;mbrpdep=mbrp*bdio0;run;
```

```
proc reg data=mbrp;model crave2=mbrp bdio0 mbrpdep treatrs crave0;run;
```

$$\hat{Y} = 1.038 + 0.587X + 1.122W - 0.948XW + \dots$$

Coefficients^a

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta			
1	(Constant)	1.038	.470		2.209	.029
	MBRP Therapy as usual (0) or usual therapy (1)	.587	.524	.299	1.120	.264
	BDIO Beck Depression Inventory baseline	1.122	.276	.368	4.063	.000
	mbrpdep	-0.948	.423	-.598	-2.240	.026
	TREATRS: Hours of therapy	-.018	.810	-.128	-1.719	.088
	CRAVE0: Baseline craving	.192	.073	.183	2.614	.010

a Dependent Variable: CRAVE2: Craving at two month followup

X = MBRP
W = BDIO
Y = CRAVE2

Output G

"conditional effects", not
"main effects"
 $b_1 = 0.587$
 $b_2 = 1.122$
 $b_3 = -0.948$

The coefficient for the product is statistically different from zero. This means that the effect of MBRP therapy on craving depends on the person's level of depression at the start of therapy. But to really understand what is happening, we need a picture.

Visualizing the model

Rejecting the null hypothesis that "true b_3 " is equal to zero tells you that the focal predictor's effect is indeed moderated by the proposed moderator. But moderation can take many different forms. We need to visualize the effect in order to interpret the result.

Step 1: Select various combinations of values of the focal predictor and moderator. The selection is sometimes arbitrary, but it may not be. Just make sure the values chosen are within the range of the data.

Step 2: Using the model, generate the estimates of Y using your selected values of the focal predictor and moderator. If your model includes covariates, use the sample mean for each of those.

$$\hat{Y} = 1.038 + 0.587X + 1.122W - 0.948XW - 0.018U_1 + 0.192U_2$$

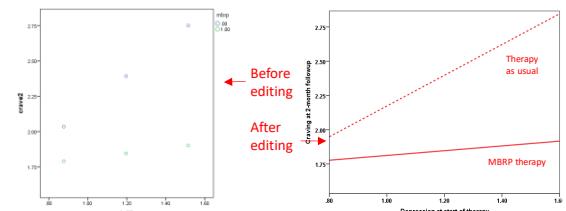
Step 3: Graph, using whatever graphics program you prefer.

MBRP (X)	BDIO (W)	TREATRS (U_1)	CRAVE0 (U_2)	\hat{Y}
0	0.877	30.685	2.943	2.035
0	1.196	30.685	2.943	2.393
0	1.515	30.685	2.943	2.751
1	0.877	30.685	2.943	1.790
1	1.196	30.685	2.943	1.846
1	1.515	30.685	2.943	1.901

I used one standard deviation below the mean, the mean, and one standard deviation above the mean. It really makes no difference what you choose, except you want to make sure that your resulting graph is not extrapolating beyond the available data.

Example code in SPSS

```
data list free/mbrp bdio0.
begin data.
0 0.877
0 1.196
0 1.515
1 0.877
1 1.196
1 1.515
end data.
compute crave2=1.038+0.587*mbrp+1.122*bdio0-0.948*mbrp*bdio0-0.018*30.685+0.192*2.943.
graph/scatterplot = bdio0 with crave2 by mbrp.
```

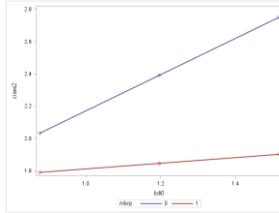


Example code in SAS

```

data;
input mbrp bdi0;
crave2=1.038+0.587*mbrp+1.122*bdi0-0.948*mbrp*bdi0-0.018*30.685+0.192*2.943;
datalines;
0 0.877
0 1.196
0 0.515
1 0.877
1 1.196
1 0.515
run;
proc sgplot; reg x=bdi0 y=crave2/group=mbrp;run;

```



Example code in R

Although hard to learn at first, once you learn how to use R, you will find it very helpful in the construction of visual depictions of models.

```

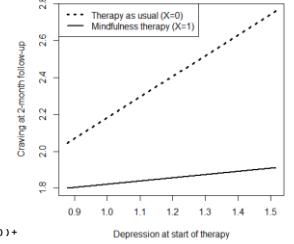
x<-c(0,1,0,1,0,1)
w<-c(0.877,0.877,1.196,1.196,1.515,1.515)
y<-1.038+0.587*x+1.122*w-0.948*x*w-0.018*30.685+0.192*2.943
plot(y~x,xlab="Depression at start of therapy",
ylab="Craving at 2-month follow-up")
legend.txt<-c("Therapy as usual (X=0)", "Mindfulness therapy (X=1)")
legend("topleft",legend=legend.txt,
lty=c(3,1),lwd=(3,2))
lines(m$x==0,y|x==0,lwd=3,lty=3)
lines(m$x==1,y|x==1,lwd=2,lty=1)

```

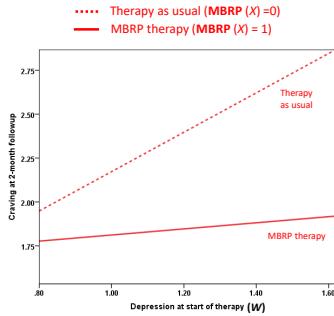
```

OR
library(ggplot2)
ggplot(x = w, y = y, linetype = as.factor(x),
      geom = "line") +
  xlab("Depression at start of therapy") +
  ylab("Craving at 2-month follow-up") +
  scale_linetype_manual(name=element_blank(),
                        labels=c("0","1"),
                        labels=c("Therapy as Usual (X = 0)", "Mindfulness Therapy (X = 1)"))+
  theme(legend.justification=c(-0.1,1.1),
        legend.position=c(0,1),
        panel.background = element_rect("white", "black"),
        panel.grid.major = element_blank())

```



Substantive interpretation of the pattern

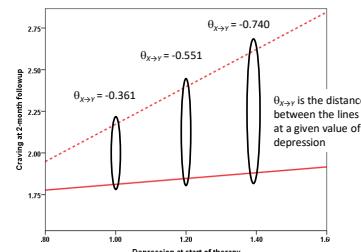


Those who receive MBRP therapy crave substances less than those who receive MBRP therapy, but this difference is larger among those more depressed at the start of therapy.

A graphical depiction of the model

$$\hat{Y} = 1.038 + 0.587X + 1.122W - 0.948XW + \dots \quad \text{or, equivalently,}$$

$$\text{Therapy as usual (MBRP } X=0\text{)} \quad \hat{Y} = 1.038 + (0.587 - 0.948W)X + 1.122W + \dots$$



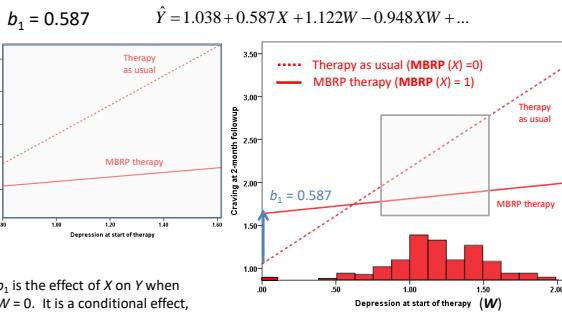
The conditional effect of MBRP therapy ($\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}$) is defined by the function

$$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} = 0.587 - 0.948W$$

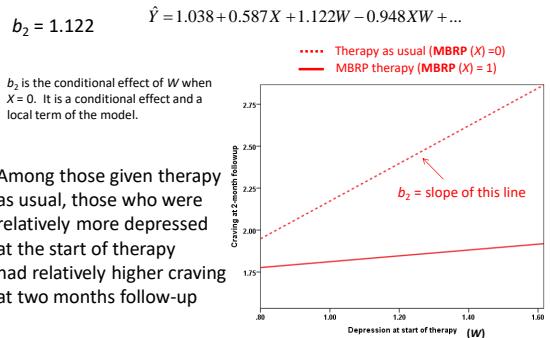
BDIO (W)	$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}$
1.00	-0.361
1.20	-0.551
1.40	-0.740

You can plug any value of BDIO you want into the function to get the conditional effect of MBRP therapy

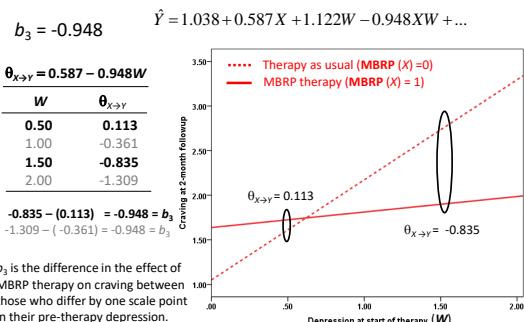
Interpretation of b_1



Interpretation of b_2

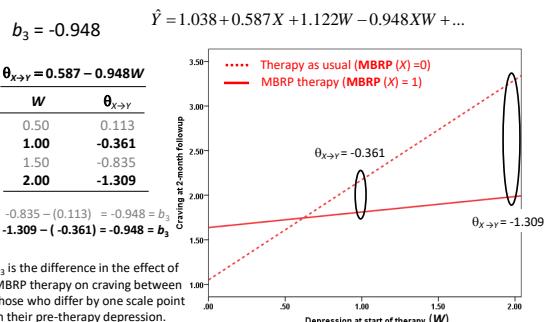


Interpretation of b_3



$$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}|(W = \lambda+1) - \theta_{X \rightarrow Y}|(W = \lambda) = -0.948, \text{ for all } \lambda.$$

Interpretation of b_3



$$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}|(W = \lambda+1) - \theta_{X \rightarrow Y}|(W = \lambda) = -0.948, \text{ for all } \lambda.$$

Interpretation of b_3

$$\hat{Y} = 1.038 + 0.587X + 1.122W - 0.948XW + \dots$$

$$b_3 = -0.948$$

$$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} | (W=\lambda+1) - \theta_{X \rightarrow Y} | (W=\lambda) = -0.948, \text{ for all } \lambda$$

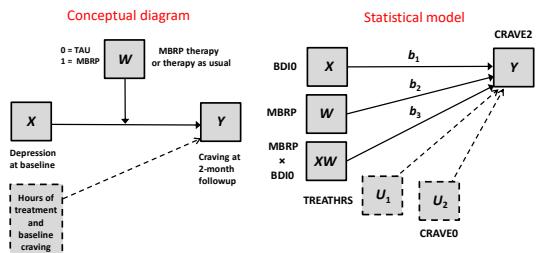
b_3 is the difference in the effect of MBRP therapy on craving between those who differ by one scale point in their pre-therapy depression.

$$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} | (W=\lambda+1) - \theta_{X \rightarrow Y} | (W=\lambda) = -0.948, \text{ for all } \lambda$$

Select 3 values of λ then calculate the conditional effect of X on Y at $\lambda+1$, λ , and the difference between the two.

λ	$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} (W=\lambda+1)$	$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} (W=\lambda)$	$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} (W=\lambda+1) - \theta_{X \rightarrow Y} (W=\lambda)$

A Dichotomous Moderator

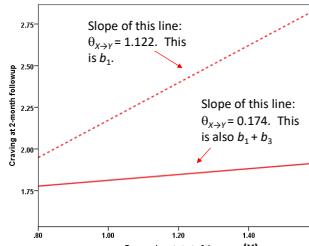


Does the association between pre-treatment depression and later craving differ between those who receive MBRP therapy versus therapy as usual?

A graphical depiction of the model

$$\hat{Y} = 1.038 + 1.122X + 0.587W - 0.948XW + \dots \text{ or, equivalently,}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \cdots \cdots \text{Therapy as usual (MBRP (W)=0)} & \hat{Y} = 1.038 + (1.122 - 0.948W)X + 0.587W + \dots \\ \text{--- MBRP therapy (MBRP (W)=1)} & \end{array}$$



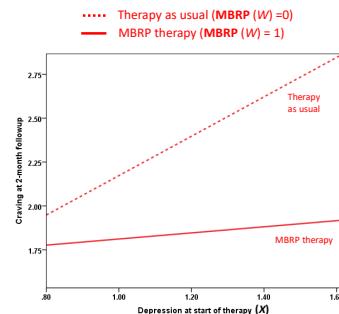
The conditional effect of pre-therapy depression ($\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}$) is defined by the function

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_{X \rightarrow Y} &= b_1 + b_3 W \\ &= 1.122 - 0.948W \end{aligned}$$

MBRP (W)	$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}$
0	1.122
1	0.174

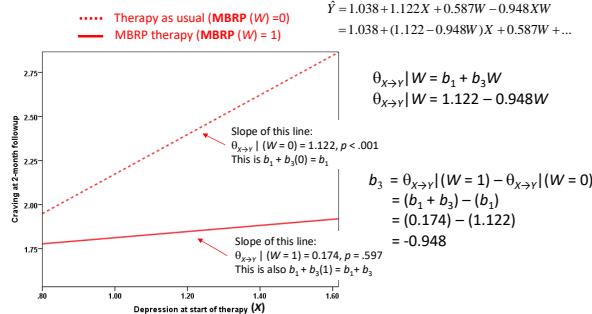
Two cases that differ by one unit on W are estimated to differ by $\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}$ units on Y. $\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}$ depends on W.

Substantive interpretation of the pattern



A larger effect of pre-therapy depression on later craving among those who experienced therapy as usual compared to those who received mindfulness behavioral relapse prevention therapy. MBRP therapy seems to have disrupted the link between depression and craving.

Interpreting b_3



So b_3 is the difference in the slopes of these two lines. As W increases by one unit, $\theta_{x \rightarrow y}$ decreases by 0.948 units. This difference is statistically different from zero.

Probing an interaction

The coefficient for the product term carries information about how changes in one variable are related to changes in the effect of the other. A picture helps to understand how the focal variable's effect changes as a function of the moderator variable.

It is typically desirable to conduct statistical tests of the focal predictor variable's effect at values of the moderator. This allows you to make more definitive claims about where the focal predictor variables effect is zero versus where it is not.

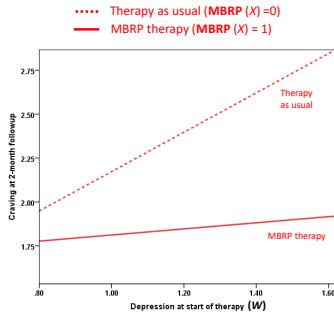
"Pick-a-Point" Approach

Select values of the moderator and estimate the conditional effect of the focal predictor at those values of the moderator, along with a hypothesis test or confidence interval.

Johnson-Neyman Technique

Derive mathematically where on the moderator variable continuum the focal variable's effect transitions between statistically significant and nonsignificant.

Substantive interpretation of the pattern



Those who receive MBRP therapy crave substances less than those who receive MBRP therapy, but this difference is larger among those more depressed at the start of therapy.

Pick-a-point approach

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X + b_2W + b_3XW$$

Select a value of the moderator (W) at which you'd like to have an estimate of $\theta_{x \rightarrow y}$, the focal predictor variable's (X) effect. Then derive its standard error. The ratio of the effect to its standard error is distributed as $t(df_{\text{residual}})$ under the null hypothesis that the effect of the focal predictor is zero at that moderator value, where df_{residual} is the residual degrees of freedom from the regression model.

We already know that $\theta_{x \rightarrow y} = b_1 + b_3W$

The estimated standard error of $\theta_{x \rightarrow y}$ is

$$s_{\theta_{x \rightarrow y}} = \sqrt{s_{b_1}^2 + 2W s_{b_1 b_3} + W^2 s_{b_3}^2}$$

Squared standard error of b_1 Covariance of b_1 and b_3 Squared standard error of b_3

You could do this by hand, and instructions are available in various books on regression analysis (e.g., Aiken and West, 1991; Cohen et al., 2003). But there is no reason to, and the potential for mistakes is high. It is made easier using "regression centering."

Pick-a-point: Regression centering approach

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X + b_2W + b_3XW$$

In the above model, b_1 estimates the conditional effect of X when $W=0$. If we desire the conditional effect of X when W equals some value λ , we can produce a new variable W' that is W centered around λ , such that $W'=0$ when $W=\lambda$. Then substitute W' for W in the model above. That is, we will estimate

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X + b_2(W - \lambda) + b_3X(W - \lambda)$$

as

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1X + b_2W' + b_3XW' \text{ where } W' = W - \lambda$$

In this model, b_1 is the conditional effect of X when $W'=0$. But $W'=0$ when $W=\lambda$. So b_1 estimates the conditional effect of X when $W=\lambda$. A common (but arbitrary) convention is to use $\lambda = \bar{W}$, $\lambda = \bar{W} - SD_W$, and $\lambda = \bar{W} + SD_W$

Pick-a-point: Regression centering approach

```
compute bdi0_p = bdi0-1.196; ←
compute interact = bdi0_p*mbrp;
regression/dep = crave2/method = enter mbrp bdi0_p interact treathrs crave0;
```

$\lambda = 1.196$
(the sample mean)

```
data mbrp;set mbrp;
bdi0_p=bdi0-1.196;
interact=bdi0_p*mbrp;
proc reg data=mbrp;model crave2=mbrp bdi0_p interact treathrs crave0;run;
```

Coefficients^a

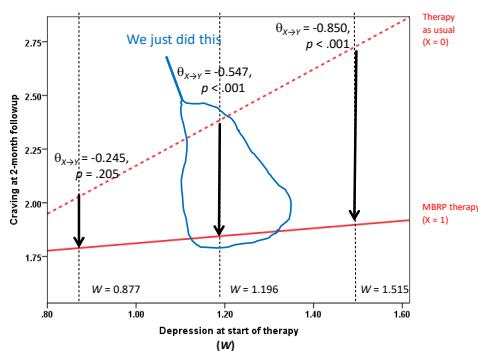
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std Error	Beta		
1 (Constant)	2.380	.364		6.534	.000
MBRP: Therapy as usual (0) or MBRP therapy (1)	-0.547	.192	-0.279	-3.880	.000
bdi0_p	1.122	.276	.366	4.983	.000
interact	-0.946	.423	-0.197	-2.240	.026
TREATHRS: Hours of therapy	-0.018	.010	-0.120	-1.719	.088
CRAVE: Baseline craving	.192	.073	.183	2.614	.010

a. Dependent Variable: CRAVE2: Craving at two month followup

$$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} (W = 1.196) \quad S_{\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}}$$

MBRP therapy reduces craving relative to therapy as usual among people "average" in pre-therapy depression, $\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} = -0.547$, $p < .001$.

Repeat for other values of the moderator



Pick-a-point: Regression centering approach

```
compute bdi0_p = bdi0-0.877; ←
compute interact = bdi0_p*mbrp;
regression/dep = crave2/method = enter mbrp bdi0_p interact treathrs crave0;
```

$\lambda = 0.877$
(One SD below the sample mean)

```
data mbrp;set mbrp;
bdi0_p=bdi0-0.877;
interact=bdi0_p*mbrp;
proc reg data=mbrp;model crave2=mbrp bdi0_p interact treathrs crave0;run;
```

Coefficients^a

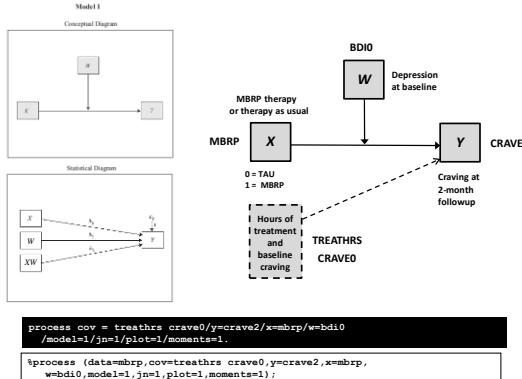
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std Error	Beta		
1 (Constant)	2.023	.367		5.506	.000
MBRP: Therapy as usual (0) or MBRP therapy (1)	-0.245	.192	-0.124	-1.272	.205
bdi0_p	1.122	.276	.366	4.983	.000
interact	-0.946	.423	-0.242	-2.240	.026
TREATHRS: Hours of therapy	-0.018	.010	-0.120	-1.719	.088
CRAVE: Baseline craving	.192	.073	.183	2.614	.010

a. Dependent Variable: CRAVE2: Craving at two month followup

$$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} (W = 0.877) \quad S_{\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}}$$

MBRP therapy does not reduce craving relative to therapy as usual among people "relatively low" in pre-therapy depression, $\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} = -0.245$, $p = .21$.

Using PROCESS



PROCESS output

Output H

```

Model : 1
x : crave2
y : mbrp
w : bdi0

Covariates:
treathrs crave0

Sample Size: 168

*****OUTCOME VARIABLE: crave2
 $\hat{Y} = 1.038 + 0.587X + 1.122M - 0.948XM + ...$ 

Model Summary R R-sq MSE F df1 df2 p
constant .5140 .2642 .7277 11.6319 5.0000 162.0000 .0000
mbrp .1038 .4701 2.2090 .0286 .1102 1.9668
bdi0 .5872 .5241 1.1204 .2642 -.4478 1.6222
int_1 1.1221 .2762 4.0625 .0000 .0000 1.6675
treathrs -.0498 -.4298 -.2985 -.17647 -.1122
crave0 -.0177 .0103 -1.7190 .0875 -.0380 .0036
crave0 .1920 .0735 2.6138 .0098 .0470 .3371

Product terms key:
Int_1 : mbrp x bdi0

Test(s) of highest order unconditional interaction(s):
R2-chng F df1 df2 p
x*w .0228 5.0166 1.0000 162.0000 .0265

```

PROCESS generates the product term for you.

PROCESS output

PROCESS sees that the moderator is quantitative (because it has more than 2 values) so it automatically implements the pick-a-point procedure. When moments = 1 moderator values equal to the mean of the moderator as well as \pm one SD from the mean.

```

*****
Conditional effect of X on Y at values of the moderator(s):
bdi0 Effect se t p LLCI ULCI
.8772 -.2447 .1922 -.1.2733 .2047 -.6243 .1348
1.1963 -.5473 .1375 -.3.9818 .0001 -.8188 -.2759
1.5153 -.8500 .1933 -.4.3973 .0000 -.2317 -.4683

Values for quantitative moderators are the mean and plus/minus one SD from mean.
Values for dichotomous moderators are the two values of the moderator.

*****
 $\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} = 0.587 - 0.948W$ 

```

Output H

MBRP therapy resulted in lower craving than did therapy as usual among those relatively "moderate" ($\theta_{X \rightarrow Y|W=1.196} = -0.547, p < .001$) or "relatively high" ($\theta_{X \rightarrow Y|W=1.515} = -0.850, p < .001$) in pre-therapy depression. Among those "relatively low" in pre-therapy depression, MBRP therapy had no statistically significant effect on craving relative to therapy as usual. ($\theta_{X \rightarrow Y|W=0.877} = -0.245, p = .205$)

PROCESS output: PLOT option

```

process cov = treathrs crave0/y=crave2/x=mbrp/w=bdi0
/model=1/jn=1/plot=1/moments=1.

tprocess (data=mbrp,cov=treathrs crave0,y=crave2,x=mbrp,
w=bdi0,model=1,jn=1,plot=1,moments=1);

```

Both the SPSS and SAS versions produce a table of estimated values of Y for different combinations of X and W. Plug these into your preferred graphing program to generate a plot, or use SPSS or SAS's graphics features. SPSS writes the code for you. Just cut and paste this into an SPSS syntax file and execute:

```

DATA LIST FREE/mbrp bdi0 crave2.
BEGIN DATA.
.0000 .8772 2.0456
1.0000 .8772 1.8009
.0000 1.1963 2.4037
1.0000 1.1963 1.8563
.0000 1.5153 2.7617
1.0000 1.5153 1.9117
END DATA.
GRAPH/SCATTERPLOT=bdi0 WITH crave2 BY mbrp.

```

Output H

Generating a graph from PROCESS "PLOT" option: SAS

```

data;
input mbxp bdi0 crave2;
datalines;
.0000    .8772    2.0456
1.0000   .8772    1.8009
.0000    1.1963   2.4037
1.0000   1.1963   1.8563
.0000    1.5153   2.7617
1.0000   1.5153   1.9117
run;
proc sgplot; reg x=bdi0 y=crave2/group=mbxp;run;

```

Output generated by the PLOT option.

Generating a graph from PROCESS "PLOT" option: R

```

x<-c(0,1,0,1,0,1)
w<-c(0.877,0.877,1.196,1.196,1.515,1.515)
y<-c(2.046,1.801,2.404,1.856,2.762,1.912)
plot(y~x,w,pch=15,col="white",
xlab="Depression at start of therapy",
ylab="Craving at 2-month follow-up")
legend.txt<-c("Therapy as usual (X=0)","Mindfulness therapy (X=1)")
legend.topleft<-c("topleft",legend=legend.txt,
lty=c(3,1),lwd=c(3,2))
lines(w[x==0],y[x==0],lwd=3,lty=3)
lines(w[x==1],y[x==1],lwd=2,lty=1)

```

From the PLOT option in PROCESS.

Additional probing options

Setting moments = 0 or leaving it out, produces estimates of the conditional effect of X at the 16th, 50th, and 84th percentiles of the moderator rather than the mean and plus/minus one standard deviation. Or use the wmodval option to request a specific value of the moderator at which you'd like the conditional effect of X .

```

process y = ... /moments = 0;      %process (data = ... , moments = 0);

Conditional effects of the focal predictor at values of the moderator(s):
      bdi0    Effect      se       t      p      LLCI      ULCI
.9020    -.2683    .1850  -1.4500   .1490   -.6336    .0971
1.1900   -.5414    .1375  -3.9384   .0001   -.8129   -.2699
1.5180   -.8525    .1941  -4.3923   .0000  -1.2358   -.4692

W values in conditional tables are the 16th, 50th, and 84th percentiles.

process y = ... /wmodval = 1.5;    %process (data = ... , wmodval = 1.5);

Conditional effect of X on Y at values of the moderators(s)
      bdi0    Effect      se       t      p      LLCI      ULCI
1.5000   -.8354    .1888  -4.4253   .0000  -1.2082   -.4626

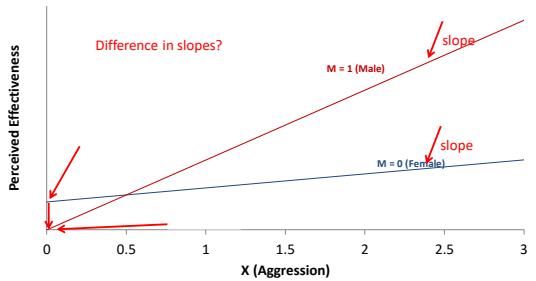
```

Practice Interpreting Coefficients

Among upper level managers, does the relationship between aggression and perceived effectiveness depends on gender?



$$Y_i = 1 + (.5 + 2M_i)X_i - 1M_i$$



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The Johnson-Neyman technique

The Johnson-Neyman technique seeks to find the value or values of the moderator (W) within the data, if they exist, such that the p -value for the ratio of the conditional effect of the focal predictor at that value or values of W is exactly equal to some chosen level of significance α .

To do so, we ask what value of W produces a ratio exactly equal to the critical t value (t_{crit}) required to reject the null hypothesis that the conditional effect of X is equal to zero?

$$t_{crit} = \frac{b_1 + b_3 W}{\sqrt{\{s_{b_1}^2 + 2Ws_{b_1 b_3}^2 + W^2 s_{b_3}^2\}}}$$

Isolate W and solve the polynomial that results. The quadratic formula finds the solutions:

$$W = \frac{-2(t_{crit}^2 s_{b_1 b_3} - b_1 b_3) \pm \sqrt{(2t_{crit}^2 s_{b_1 b_3} - 2b_1 b_3)^2 - 4(t_{crit}^2 s_{b_3}^2 - b_3^2)(t_{crit}^2 s_{b_1}^2 - b_1^2)}}{2(t_{crit}^2 s_{b_3}^2 - b_3^2)}$$

The Johnson-Neyman technique

This will produce no values, one value, or two values of W that are within the range of the moderator variable data.

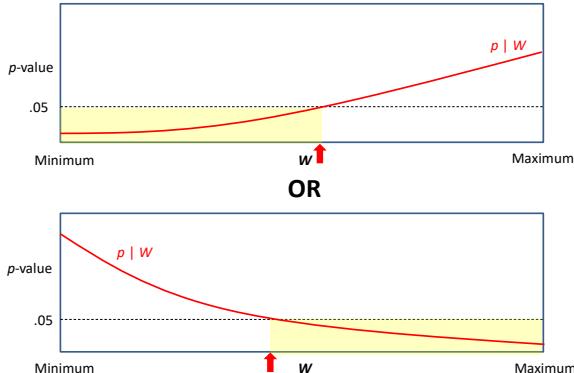
If one value, this defines a single point of transition between a statistically significant and a statistically nonsignificant conditional effect of the focal predictor, such that $p \leq .05$ for either values of the moderator (1) equal to above W or (2) equal to and below W .

If two values, this defines the two points of transition between a statistically significant and a statistically nonsignificant conditional effect of the focal predictor, such that the conditional effect is statistically significant for either (1) values of the moderator between the two values of W , or (2) values of the moderator at least as large as the larger W and at least as small as the smaller W .

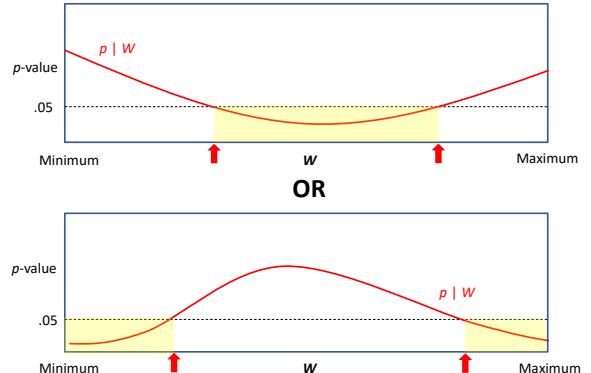
If no values, that means the conditional effect is statistically significant for ALL values of the moderator within the range of the data, or it NEVER is.

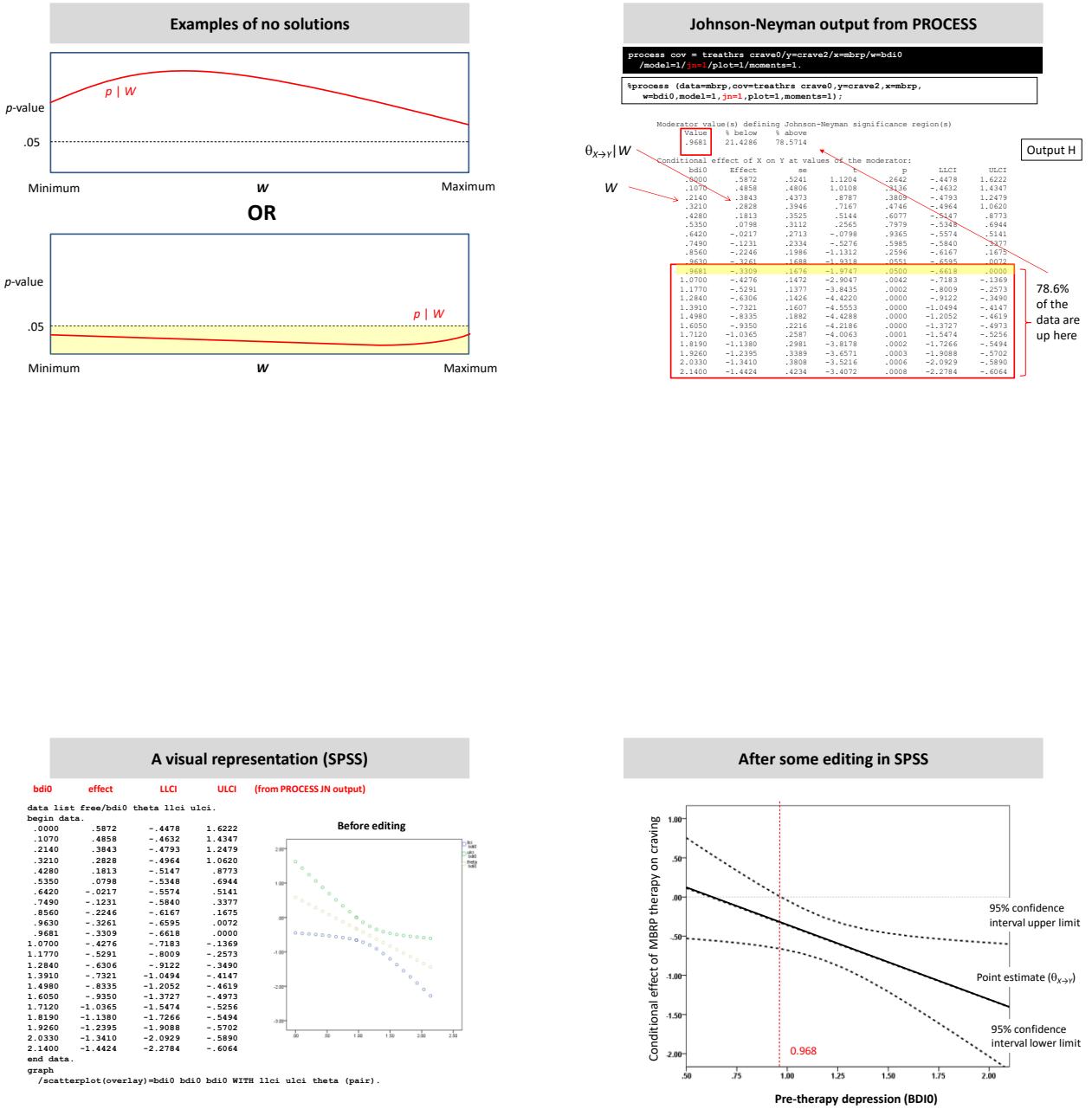
We would not attempt to do this by hand

Examples of one solution

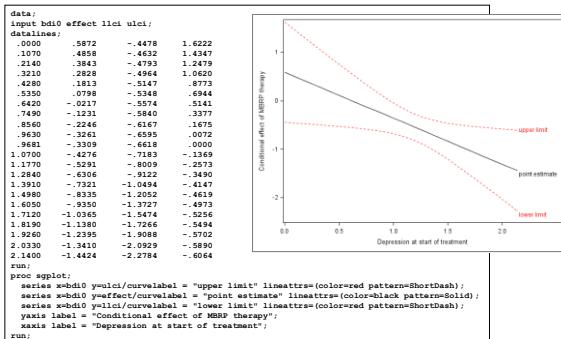


Examples of two solutions





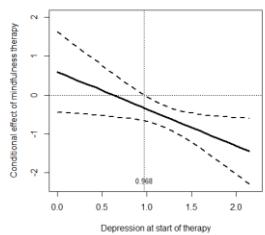
A visual representation (SAS)



A visual representation (R)

From the JN option in PROCESS.

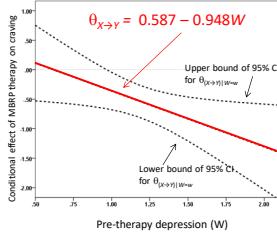
```
bdi0<-c(0,.107,.214,.321,.438,.535,.642,.749,.856,.963,.968,1.070,1.177,
1.284,1.391,1.498,1.605,1.712,1.819,1.926,2.033,2.140)
effect<-c(.587,.486,.384,.283,.181,.080,-.022,-.123,-.225,-.326,-.331,-.428,
-.529,-.631,-.732,-.834,-.935,-1.037,-1.138,-1.240,-1.341,-1.442)
llci<-c(-.448,-.463,-.479,-.496,-.515,-.535,-.557,-.584,-.617,-.660,-.662,
-.711,-.812,-.912,-1.005,-1.373,-1.547,-1.727,-1.909,-2.092,-2.278)
ulci<-c(.322,1.421,1.248,1.162,1.075,1.005,1.038,1.068,1.096,1.137,
1.257,-.349,-.415,-.462,-.497,-.526,-.549,-.571,-.591,-.606)
plot(bdi0,y=effect,type="l",pch=19,ylim=c(-2.3,2),xlim=c(0,2.2),lwd=3,
ylab="Conditional effect of mindfulness therapy",
xlab="Depression at start of therapy")
points(bdi0,llci,lwd=2,ltyp=2,type="l")
abline(h=0,untf = FALSE,ltyp=3,lwd=1)
abline(v=0.968,untf=FALSE,ltyp=3,lwd=1)
text(0.968,-2.2,"0.968",cex=0.8)
```



Testing moderation versus testing a conditional effect

A test of moderation is a test as to whether the size of the effect of X on Y is related to the proposed moderator. This is different than asking whether a conditional effect is different from zero.

$$\hat{Y} = 1.038 + 0.587X + 1.122W - 0.948XW + \dots$$



$$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} = b_1 + b_3 W = 0.587 - 0.948W$$

b_3 is the slope of this line. It is statistically different from zero, meaning that the effect of X depends on W —moderation.

Moderation does not imply that the conditional effect of X is different from zero at some, any, or all specific values of the moderator that you choose. Often it will be, perhaps for some values of the moderator but not others. But this is not a requirement of moderation.

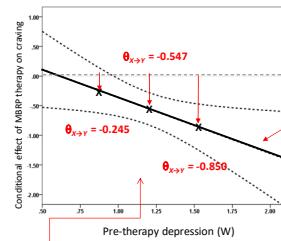
Testing moderation versus testing a conditional effect

A test of moderation is a test as to whether the size of the effect of X on Y is related to the proposed moderator. This is different than asking whether a conditional effect is different from zero.

When testing a conditional effect, we are asking whether the effect of X on Y at a specific value of W is statistically different from zero. This is the difference between the point estimate of $\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}$ and zero.

$$\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} = b_1 + b_3 W = 0.587 - 0.948W$$

Difference in significance does not imply significantly different. The pattern of significance or lack thereof across values of M does not say anything about moderation.



	Conditional effect of X on Y at values of the moderator(s):	bdi0	Effect	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI
.8772	.2447	.1922	-1.2733	.2047	-.6243	.1348		
1.1963	-.5473	.1375	-3.9818	.0001	-.8188	-.2759		
1.5153	-.8500	.1933	-4.3973	.0000	-1.2317	-.4683		

Comparing conditional effects

We want to know whether the conditional effect of X on Y when $W = w_1$ is different from the conditional effect of X on Y when $W = w_2$.

$$\theta_{(X \rightarrow Y) | W=w_2} - \theta_{(X \rightarrow Y) | W=w_1} = (b_1 + b_3 w_2) - (b_1 + b_3 w_1) \\ = (w_2 - w_1)b_3$$

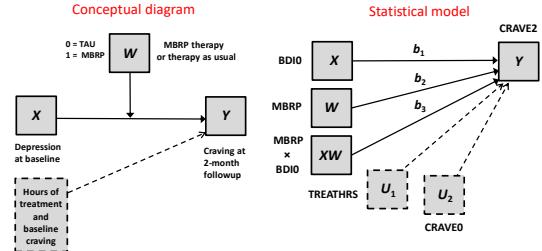
and the standard error of the difference is $(w_2 - w_1) \times$ standard error of b_3 . Under the null hypothesis that the difference in conditional effects is zero, the ratio

$$\frac{(w_2 - w_1)b_3}{(w_2 - w_1)se_{b_3}}$$

is distributed as $t(df_{residual})$. But notice that *regardless of the values of w_1 and w_2* , this ratio simplifies to b_3 / se_{b_3} . We already have the p-value for this. It is the p-value for b_3 from the regression model.

A test of linear moderation of X 's effect on Y by W is equivalent to a test of the difference between *any two* conditional effects of X . Moderation = any two conditional effects of X are different from each other. No moderation = no two conditional effects of X are different from each other. It doesn't matter what values of w_1 and w_2 you choose.

A Dichotomous Moderator



Does the association between pre-treatment depression and later craving differ between those who receive MBRP therapy versus therapy as usual?

Probing the Interaction

When the moderator is dichotomous, the pick-a-point procedure is the only option available, as the Johnson-Neyman technique is meaningful only with a quantitative moderator. Typically, you'd want to estimate the effect of the focal predictor at the two values of the moderator and conduct an inferential test for each conditional effect.

$$\hat{Y} = 1.038 + 1.122X + 0.587W - 0.948XW \\ = 1.038 + (1.122 - 0.948W)X + 0.587W + ... \\ \theta_{X \rightarrow Y} = b_1 + b_3W = 1.122 - 0.948W$$

When one of the moderator categories is coded 0, we already have an estimate of $\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}$ when $W = 0$. That estimate is b_1 . And the regression output provides a test of significance.

Model	Coefficients ^a		Standardized Coefficients Beta	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error			
1 (Constant)	1.038	.470		2.209	.029
MBRP: Therapy as usual	.587	.324	.298	1.120	.264
BDI0: Beck Depression Inventory Baseline	1.122	.276	.368	4.063	.001
mbrpdep	-.948	.423	-.246	.026	
TREATHRS: Hours of therapy	-.018	.010	-.120	-1.719	.088
CRAVE0: Baseline craving	.192	.073	.183	2.614	.010

Among those given therapy as usual, those who were relatively more depressed at the start of therapy had relatively higher craving at two months follow-up. $\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} = 1.122 - 0.948(-.948) = 4.063$, $p < .001$

Probing the Interaction

We already know effect of pre-therapy depression on later craving among those given MBRP therapy. That is $1.122 - 0.948(1) = 0.174$. We can use the regression centering approach, constructing $W' = W - 1$ and reestimating the model in order to get a test of significance.

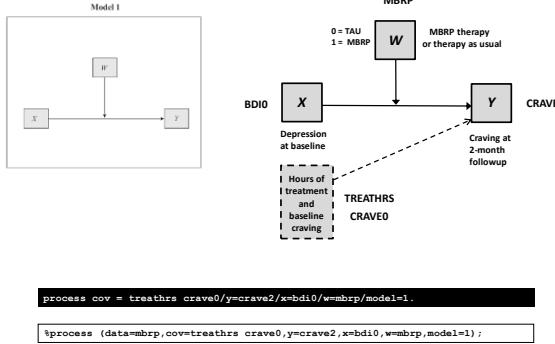
```
compute mbrp_p = mbrp-1;
compute mbrpddep = mbrp_p*bdio;
regression/dep = crave2/method = enter mbrp_p bdio mbrpddep treathrs crave0;
data mbrp;set mbrp;mbrp_p=mbrp-1;mbrpddep=mbrp_p*bdio;
proc reg data=mbrp:model crave2=mbrp_p bdio mbrpddep treathrs crave0;run;
```

Model	Coefficients ^a			Standardized Coefficients Beta	t	Sig.
	Unstandardized Coefficients B	Std. Error	t			
1 (Constant)	1.426	.533	2.641	.004	.883	
mbrp_p	.587	.524	.112	.264	.597	
BDI0: Beck Depression Inventory Baseline	.174	.329	.529	.529	.597	
mbrpdep	-.948	.423	-.224	-.224	.826	
TREATHRS: Hours of therapy	-.018	.010	-.120	-1.719	.088	
CRAVE0: Baseline craving	.192	.073	.183	2.614	.010	

a. Dependent Variable: CRAVE2: Craving at two month follow-up

Among those given MBRP therapy, there was no statistically significant relationship between pre-therapy depression and later craving, $\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} = 0.174$, $t(162) = 0.529$, $p = .597$

Estimation Using PROCESS



```
process cov = treathrs crave0/y=crave2/x=bdio/w=mbrp/model=1.
```

```
*process (data=mbrp,cov=treathrs crave0,y=crave2,x=bdio,w=mbrp,model=1);
```

PROCESS Output

Model = 1
Y = crave2
X = bdi0
M = mbrp

Statistical Controls:
CONTROL= treathrs crave0

Sample size 168

PROCESS detects that the moderator is dichotomous and generates the conditional effect of the focal predictor at the two values of the moderator.

Output I

Model Summary

Model	R	R-sq	MSE	F	df1	df2	P
.5140	.2642	.7277	11.6319	5.0000	162.0000	.0000	

Model 1

Model	cooff	se	t	p	LIC1	ULC1
constant	1.3985	.4700	2.909	.0286	.1102	.9668
abp	-.0541	.5241	1.1204	.2642	-.1778	.8232
bdi0	1.1221	.2762	4.0625	.0001	.5767	1.6475
int_1	-.9485	.4235	-2.2398	.0245	-.7847	.1122
treathrs	-.0103	.0103	-1.7190	.0875	-.0380	.0006
crave0	.1920	.0735	2.6138	.0098	.0470	.3371

Interactions:

int_1	bdi0	x	abp

R-square increase due to interaction(s):

int_1	R2-chng	F	df1	df2	P
.0228	5.0165	1.0000	162.0000	.0265	

Conditional effect of X on Y at values of the moderator(s):

abp	bdi0	x	int_1	LIC1	ULC1	
.0000	1.1221	.2762	4.0625	.0001	.5767	1.6475
1.0000	.1736	.3281	.5291	.5974	-.4744	.8216

Myths and truths about mean centering

In a model such as

$$\hat{Y}_i = b_0 + b_1 X_i + b_2 W_i + b_3 X_i W_i$$

there is much ado in the literature about the need to mean center X and W first, thereby estimating the following model instead:

$$\hat{Y}_i = b'_0 + b'_1(X_i - \bar{X}) + b'_2(W_i - \bar{W}) + b_3(X_i - \bar{X})(W_i - \bar{W})$$

There are three reasons commonly offered for why this should be done.

- (1) Estimation accuracy and statistical power is increased by reducing collinearity. **A MYTH!**
- (2) The interpretations of b_1 and b_2 are more meaningful. **TYPICALLY TRUE!**
- (3) Rounding error is less likely to affect computations. **NOT A CONCERN THESE DAYS**

There is no need to mean center in this fashion, although you may do so if you choose. As standardization is a form of mean centering (combined with a rescaling), all these arguments apply to standardization as well.

Illustration

Without mean centering

```
compute mbrpdep = mbrp*bdi0.
regression/dep = crave2/method = enter mbrp bdi0 mbrpdep treathrs crave0.
data mbrp;set mbrp;mbrpdep=mbrp*bdi0;run;
proc reg data=mbrp;model crave2=mbrp bdi0 mbrpdep treathrs crave0;run;
```

$$\hat{Y} = 1.038 + 0.587X + 1.122W - 0.948XW + \dots$$

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig
	B	Std. Error	Beta			
1 (Constant)	1.038	.476			2.209	.029
MBRP: Therapy as usual (0) or MBRP therapy (1)	.587	.524	.299	.1120	.264	
BDI0: Beck Depression Inventory baseline	1.122	.276	.368	4.063	.000	
integers	-.948	.423	-.598	-2.240	.026	
TREATRS: Hours of therapy	-.018	.010	-.120	-1.719	.086	
CRAVE0: Baseline craving	.192	.073	.183	2.614	.010	

a. Dependent Variable: CRAVE2: Craving at 2 month follow-up

$b_1 = 0.587$. This is the effect of X (MBRP) when M (pre-therapy depression) = 0.

$b_2 = 1.122$. This is the effect of W (Pre-therapy depression) when $X = 0$ (therapy-as-usual condition)

$b_2 = -0.948$
 $SE_{b_2} = 0.423$
 $t = -2.240$,
 $p = 0.026$

Illustration

With mean centering

```
compute mbrp_c = mbrp-0.554;
compute bdi0_c = bdi0-1.196;
compute mbrpdep_c = mbrp_c*bdi0_c;
regression/dep = crave2/method = enter mbrp_c bdi0_c mbrpdep_c treathrs crave0.
data mbrp;set mbrp/bdi0_=bdi0_-1.196;mbrp_c=mbrp-0.554;mbrpdep_c=mbrp_c*bdi0_c;run;
proc reg data=mbrp model1 crave2=mbrp_c bdi0_c mbrpdep_c treathrs crave0;run;
```

$$\hat{Y} = 2.077 - 0.547X + 0.597W - 0.948ZW$$

Model	Coefficients ^a			
	Unstandardized Coefficients B	Standardized Coefficients Beta	T	Sig
1 (Constant)	2.077	.369	5.635	<.000
mbrp_c	-.547	-.137	-.279	.790
bdi0_c	.957	.222	.194	.745
mbrpdep_c	-.948	-.423	-.158	.224
TREATHRS: Hours of Therapy	-.018	.010	-.120	.868
CRAVEO: Baseline Crave	.192	.073	.183	.214

a. Dependent Variable: CRAVE2: Craving at two month follow-up

$b_1 = -0.547$. This is the effect of X (MBRP) among people average in W (pre-therapy depression) $b_2 = 0.597$. This is the group-weighted average effect of W (Pre-therapy depression)

Interaction is unaffected by centering. b_1 and b_2 have changed because the meaning of "0" changes when X and W are mean centered. This change has nothing to do with multicollinearity being reduced by mean centering.

Collinearity and regression standard errors

The estimated standard error (s_{bj}) for predictor variable j is

$$s_{bj} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{1-R_j^2} \sqrt{\frac{MS_{\text{residual}}}{n(s_j^2)}}} = \sqrt{\frac{MS_{\text{residual}} (\text{VIF})}{n(s_j^2)}}$$

where R_j^2 is the squared multiple correlation in a model estimating predictor variable j from the other predictor variables and s_j^2 is the variance of predictor j .

■ $1 - R_j^2$ is called predictor variable j 's **tolerance**. It quantifies the proportion of the variance in variable j unexplained by the other predictor variables. Larger is better.

■ The inverse of a variable's tolerance is its **variance inflation factor (VIF)**. It quantifies how much the sampling variance of predictor j 's regression coefficient is affected by the correlation between it and the other predictor variables (larger is worse)

In general, the weaker the correlation between predictor variables, the larger a variable's tolerance, the smaller its variation inflation factor, the smaller the standard error, and the more power the hypothesis test for that predictor. Thus, anything you can do to reduce the correlation between predictors would seem to be a good thing.

Collinearity and regression standard errors

In moderated multiple regression, some therefore argue that you should mean center X and M prior to computing their product, because this will lower the intercorrelation between X , M , and their product, reduce the standard error for the regression coefficient for the product, and therefore increase the power of the hypothesis test for interaction.

Correlations between variables in their original metric:

		Correlations		
		MBRP: Therapy as usual (0) or MBRP therapy (1)	BDI0: Beck Depression Inventory baseline	mbrpdep
MBRP: Therapy as usual (0) or MBRP therapy (1)	Pearson Correlation	1	-.091	.945
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.242	.000
	N	168	168	168
BDI0: Beck Depression Inventory baseline	Pearson Correlation	-.091	1	.123
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.242		.113
	N	168	168	168
mbrpdep	Pearson Correlation	.945	-.123	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.113	
	N	168	168	168

Some say you should NEVER include two predictors in a model that are so highly correlated.

Collinearity and regression standard errors

In moderated multiple regression, some therefore argue that you should mean center X and M prior to computing their product, because this will lower the intercorrelation between X , M , and their product, reduce the standard error for the regression coefficient for the product, and therefore increase the power of the hypothesis test for interaction.

Correlations between variables after mean centering X and M :

		Correlations			Tol.	VIF
		mbrp_c	bdi0_c	mbrpdep_c		
mbrp_c	Pearson Correlation	1	-.091	.020		
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.242	.798		
	N	168	168	168		
bdi0_c	Pearson Correlation	-.091	1	-.287		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.242		.000		
	N	168	168	168		
mbrpdep_c	Pearson Correlation	.020	-.287	1		
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.798	.000			
	N	168	168	168		

The offensively large correlation has been reduced to near zero, and all the VIFs are near the minimum possible value of 1. Certainly this is a good thing, right?

But other things have changed too.

$$s_{b_j} = \sqrt{\frac{MS_{\text{residual}}(\text{VIF})}{n(s_j^2)}}$$

Descriptive Statistics		
	N	Variance
ribeDep	168	.3816
ribeDep_c	168	.0266
Valid N (listwise)	168	

Without mean centering

$$\begin{aligned}s_{b_3} &= \sqrt{\frac{MS_{\text{residual}}(15.704)}{n(0.3816)}} \\&= \sqrt{\frac{15.704}{0.3816} \sqrt{\frac{MS_{\text{residual}}}{n}}} \\&= \sqrt{41.1} \sqrt{\frac{MS_{\text{residual}}}{n}}\end{aligned}$$

With mean centering

$$\begin{aligned}s_{b_3} &= \sqrt{\frac{MS_{\text{residual}}(1.093)}{n(0.0266)}} \\&= \sqrt{\frac{1.093}{0.0266} \sqrt{\frac{MS_{\text{residual}}}{n}}} \\&= \sqrt{41.1} \sqrt{\frac{MS_{\text{residual}}}{n}}\end{aligned}$$

The variance of the product changes by the same factor as the variance inflation factor is changed after mean centering. The result is no change in the standard error of the interaction. (The mean squared residual and sample size are unaffected by mean centering)

To mean center or not to mean center

- The choice is yours to make. It is not required for the purpose of estimation.
- Mean centering does nothing to the test of the interaction. Although mean centering does reduce multicollinearity, this has no consequence on the estimate of the interaction or its statistical test.
- If you mean center, you run no risk of interpreting the coefficients for the predictor and the moderator when they estimate quantities beyond the range of the data. This is a good reason for doing it.
- Mean centering does change the coefficient for the focal predictor and moderator. But this has nothing to do with reducing multicollinearity. Mean centering changes the conditioning from "0" to the sample mean. All these arguments apply to standardization as well.

Mean centering in PROCESS

If you wish to mean center, you may do so before using PROCESS. But PROCESS has an option built in which does it for you. Use the **center = 1** option to automatically mean center variables which define product terms.

```
process cov = treathrs crave0
  /y=craze2/x=mbrp /w=bdi0/model=1
  /center=1.

%process (data=mbrp, cov=treathrs
  crave0,y=craze2, x=mbrp, m=bdi0,
  model=1,center=1);
```

You get the same results. But interpret in terms of centered metrics rather than uncentered.

```
*****  
Outcome: crave2  
Model Summary  
R       R-sq      MSE      F      df1      df2      P  
.5140   .2642   .7277  11.6319  5.0000  162.0000  .0000  
Model  
constant  2.0778  .3686  5.6363  .0000  1.3498  2.8057  
bdi0     -.5970  2221  2.6876  .0079  1.984  1.0357  
treathrs  -.1770  1.3774  1.0484  .0001  -.8274  -.2307  
int_1    -.9485  4235  -2.2384  .0265  -.7847  -.1122  
treathrs*int_1  -.0100  1.7190  .0875  -.0002  -.0002  .0000  
craze0   1.923  .7735  2.4538  .0078  -.0470  -.3371  
  
Interactions:  
int_1  abcp      X  bdi0  
R-square increase due to interaction(s):  
R2-chg   F      df1      df2      P  
int_1  -.0228  5.0166  1.0000  162.0000  .0265  
*****  
Conditional effect of X on Y at values of the moderator(s):  
Effect      t      P      LLCI      ULCI  
-.3531  -.1922  -1.2738  .2047  -.6243  -.1248  
-.0000  -.5473  -.1375  -3.9818  .0001  -.8188  -.2759  
-.3531  -.1922  -1.2738  .2047  -.6243  -.1248  
Values for quantitative moderators are the mean and plusminus one SD from mean.  
Values for dichotomous moderators are the two values of the moderator.  
***** ANALYSIS NOTES AND WARNING *****  
Level of confidence for all confidence intervals in output:  
95.00  
NOTE: The following variables were mean centered prior to analysis:  
abcp  bdi0
```

Moderation analysis summary

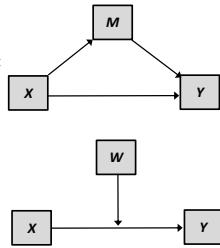
- A moderator of the effect of X on Y is a variable which influences or otherwise is related to the size of X's effect on Y.
- Including a variable defined as the product X of W to a regression model that includes X and W allows X's effect on Y to be a linear function of W.
- The regression coefficient for XW in such a model is hard to interpret without a picture. Draw a picture of your model before attempting to interpret.
- We can dissect or "probe" interactions in a few different ways:
 - The pick-a-point approach requires us to select values of W at which to estimate the conditional effect of X on Y. Usually the selection is arbitrary.
 - The Johnson-Neyman technique avoids the need to choose values of the moderator arbitrarily.
- Care must be taken when interpreting the regression coefficients for X and W in a model that includes XW. They are not "main effects" and they may not have any substantive interpretation. Their interpretation will be influenced by their scaling and whether a value of zero is meaningful on the measurement scale. We can make it meaningful by centering.

Combining moderation and mediation “Conditional Process Analysis”

“Conditional process analysis” is a general modeling strategy undertaken with the goal of describing the *conditional nature of the mechanism(s)* by which a variable transmits its effect on another, and testing hypotheses about such contingent effects.

A merging of two ideas conceptually and analytically:

“**Process analysis**”, used to quantify and examine the direct and indirect pathways through which an antecedent variable X transmits its effect on a consequent variable Y through an intermediary M . Better known as “mediation analysis” these days.



“**Moderation analysis**” used to examine how the effect of an antecedent X on a consequent Y depends on a third moderator variable W (a.k.a. “interaction”)

History

Idea is not new (e.g., Judd & Kenny, 1981; James & Brett, 1984; Baron and Kenny, 1986). It goes by various names that often confuse, including “moderated mediation” and “mediated moderation.”

More recently:

Muller, Judd, and Yzerbyt (2005): Describe analytical models and steps for assessing when “mediation is moderated” and “moderation is mediated.”

Edwards and Lambert (2007): Take a path analysis perspective and show how various effects in a simple mediation model can be conditioned on a third variable.

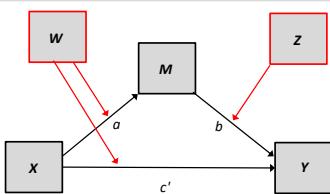
Preacher, Rucker, and Hayes (2007): Provide a formal definition of the *conditional indirect effect* and give formulas, standard errors, and a bootstrap approach for estimating and testing hypotheses about moderated mediation in five different models.

MacKinnon and colleagues (e.g., Fairchild & MacKinnon, 2009): Explicate various analytical approaches to testing hypotheses about mediated moderation and moderated mediation.

Hayes (2013): Introduces the term “conditional process modeling” (also see Hayes and Preacher, 2013) and provides tools for SPSS and SAS to make it easy to do.

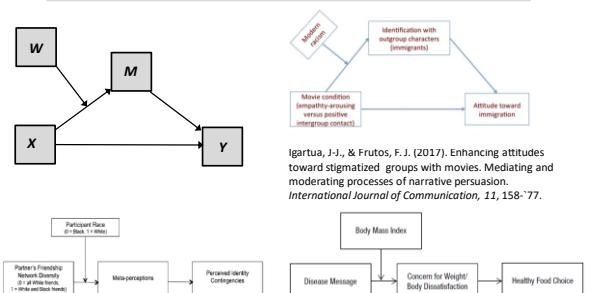
Hayes (2015): Introduces the *index of moderated mediation* which provides a formal test for moderated mediation in a variety of models.

“Moderated mediation”



- ❑ The indirect effect of X on Y through M is estimated as the product of the a and b paths
- ❑ But what if the size of a or b (or both) depends on another variable (i.e., is moderated)?
- ❑ If so, then the magnitude of the indirect effect therefore depends on a third variable, meaning that “mediation is moderated”.
- ❑ When a or b is moderated, it is sensible then to estimate “conditional indirect effects”—values of indirect effect conditioned on values of the moderator variable that moderates a and/or b .
- ❑ Direct effects can also be conditional. For instance, above, W moderates X 's direct effect on Y .

Examples: X to M path moderated by W

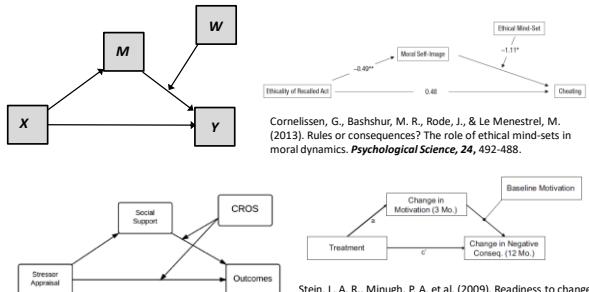


Igartua, J.J., & Frutos, F.J. (2017). Enhancing attitudes toward stigmatized groups with movies. Mediating and moderating processes of narrative persuasion. *International Journal of Communication*, 11, 158-177.

Wout, D.A., Murphy, M.C., & Steele, C.M. (2010). When your friends matter: The effect of White students’ racial friendship networks on meta-perceptions and Perceived identity contingencies. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 46, 1035-1041.

Hoyt, C.L., Burnette, J.L., & Auster-Gussman, L. (2014). “Obesity is a disease”: Examining the self-regulatory impact of this public-health message. *Psychological Science*, 25, 997-1002.

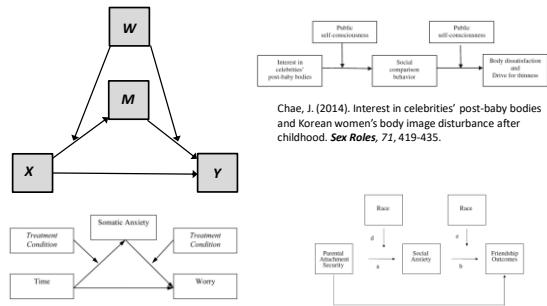
Examples: M to Y path moderated by W



Cornelissen, G., Bashshur, M. R., Rode, J., & Le Menestrel, M. (2013). Rules or consequences? The role of ethical mind-sets in moral dynamics. *Psychological Science*, *24*, 492-488.

Boren, J. P., & Veksler, A. E. (2015). Communicatively restricted organizational stress (CROS): Conceptualization and overview. *Management Communication Quarterly*, *29*, 28-55.

Examples: X to M and M to Y path moderated by W



Chae, J. (2014). Interest in celebrities' post-baby bodies and Korean women's body image disturbance after childhood. *Sex Roles*, *71*, 419-435.

Donegan, E., & Dugas, M. (2012). Generalized anxiety disorder: A comparison of symptom change in adults receiving cognitive-behavioral therapy or applied relaxation. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, *80*, 490-496.

Parade, S. H., Leerkes, E. M., & Blankson, A. (2010). Attachment to parents, social anxiety, and close relationships of female students over the transition to college. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, *39*, 127-137.

"Conditional direct effect"

In a mediation model, the direct effect of X on Y quantifies X 's effect independent of the intervening variable or variables. If that direct effect is moderated, then the direct effect is conditional on the variable that moderates X 's effect. For example,

$$\hat{M} = a_0 + aX$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c'_1 X + c'_2 W + c'_3 XW + bM$$

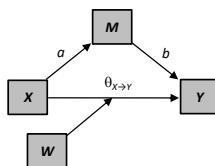
or, equivalently,

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + (c'_1 + c'_3 W)X + c'_2 W + bM$$

or, equivalently,

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + \theta_{X \rightarrow Y} X + c'_2 W + bM$$

where $\theta_{X \rightarrow Y} = (c'_1 + c'_3 W)$



In this model, $\theta_{X \rightarrow Y}$ is the **conditional direct effect of X** , which is defined by the function $c'_1 + c'_3 W$. Holding M constant, two cases that differ by one unit on X are estimated to differ by $c'_1 + c'_3 W$ units on Y .

This is a very basic conditional process model. It models two pathways through which X affects Y . One is unconditional and indirect via M , and the other is direct but conditional—the size of the direct effect depends on W .

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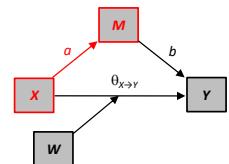
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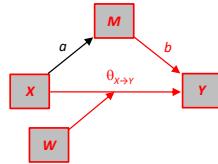
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An indirect effect is quantified as the product of paths linking X to Y via the intermediary variable. If one of those paths depends on a moderator, then so too does the indirect effect depend on that moderator. For example:

$$\hat{M} = a_0 + aX$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c'_1 X + b_1 M + b_2 W + b_3 WM$$

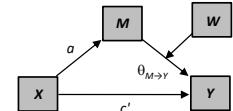
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The indirect effect of X on Y via M is $a\theta_{M \rightarrow Y}$, but as $\theta_{M \rightarrow Y}$ is a conditional effect (the conditional effect of M), then $a\theta_{M \rightarrow Y}$ is the **conditional indirect effect of X on Y via M** : $a\theta_{M \rightarrow Y} = a(b_1 + b_3 W) = ab_1 + ab_3 W$. It depends on W .

This is also a basic conditional process model, and potentially more interesting one. It allows for the process or ‘mechanism’ linking X to Y via M to differ systematically as a function of W . This model allows “mediation to be moderated.”

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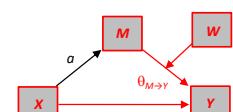
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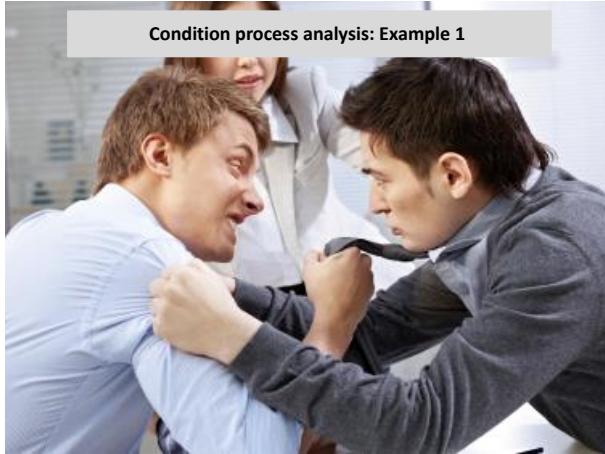
$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c'_1 X + \theta_{M \rightarrow Y} M + b_2 W$$

where $\theta_{M \rightarrow Y} = (b_1 + b_3 W)$

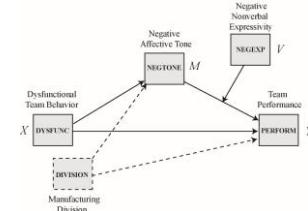


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Condition process analysis: Example 1



This is a model of **negative affective tone (M)** as the mechanism by which **dysfunctional team behavior (X)** influences **performance (Y)**, with that mechanism being contingent on the extent to which **team members hide their negative feelings (V)** from the team. This "nonverbal expressivity" is postulated as moderating the effect of negative tone on performance. This is a "second stage" moderated mediation model.

Affective Mechanisms Linking Dysfunctional Behavior to Performance in Work Teams: A Moderated Mediation Study
Michael T. Cole
Stanford University
Hilke Bruch
University of Göttingen

The present study examines the mechanism through which dysfunctional behavior in work teams influences team performance. A conceptual model is proposed that links dysfunctional behavior to negative affective tone, which in turn influences team performance. In addition, it is hypothesized that nonverbal expressivity, or the degree to which team members hide their negative feelings from the team, will moderate the effect of negative affective tone on team performance. The results support the proposed model. Specifically, dysfunctional behavior was associated with negative affective tone, which in turn influenced team performance. In addition, the interaction between dysfunctional behavior and nonverbal expressivity was significant, indicating that dysfunctional behavior had a greater influence on team performance when team members hid their negative feelings from the team. The findings have important implications for managers and researchers. Managers can use the findings to improve team performance by addressing dysfunctional behavior and encouraging nonverbal expressivity. Researchers can use the findings to better understand the mechanisms through which dysfunctional behavior influences team performance.

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The Data: TEAMS

60 teams working in an automobile parts manufacturing facility.

DYSFUNC: Dysfunctional team behavior, i.e., How often members of the team do things to weaken the work of others or hinder change and innovation.

NEGTON: Negative affective group tone. How often team members report feeling negative emotions at work such as "angry", "disgust", etc.

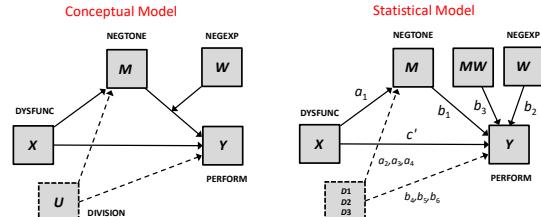
NEGEXP: Negative nonverbal expressivity. Supervisor's perception as to how easy it is to tell how team members are feeling.

PERFORM: Team performance. Supervisor's judgment as to the team's efficiency, ability to get task done in a timely fashion, etc.

All variables are scaled arbitrarily, but higher = "more"

Also available is which of four parts divisions the team worked in, as a single categorical variable (**division**) as well as three dummy variables (**d1**, **d2**, **d3**).

Conceptual and statistical models

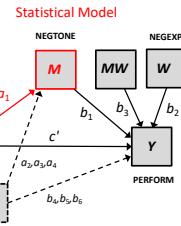
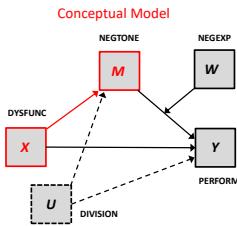


$$\hat{M} = a_0 + a_1 X + a_2 D_1 + a_3 D_2 + a_4 D_3$$

$$\hat{Y} = c' + c' X + b_1 M + b_2 W + b_3 MW + b_4 D_1 + b_5 D_2 + b_6 D_3$$

The number of equations needed is equal to the number of variables with arrows pointing at them in the conceptual or statistical diagram.

Conceptual and statistical models

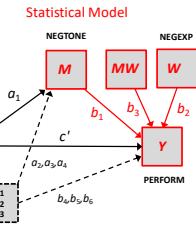
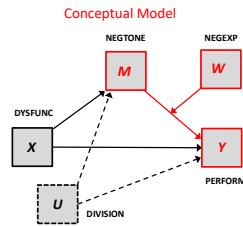


$$\hat{M} = a_0 + a_1 X + a_2 D_1 + a_3 D_2 + a_4 D_3$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c' X + b_1 M + b_2 W + b_3 MW + b_4 D_1 + b_5 D_2 + b_6 D_3$$

The effect of dysfunctional team behavior (X) on negative affective tone of the work environment (M).

Conceptual and statistical models

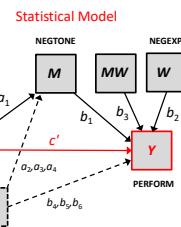
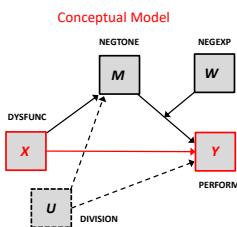


$$\hat{M} = a_0 + a_1 X + a_2 D_1 + a_3 D_2 + a_4 D_3$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c' X + b_1 M + b_2 W + b_3 MW + b_4 D_1 + b_5 D_2 + b_6 D_3$$

The moderation of the effect of the negative affective tone of the work environment (M) on team performance (Y) by negative nonverbal expressivity (W).

Conceptual and statistical models

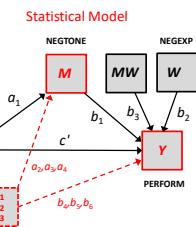
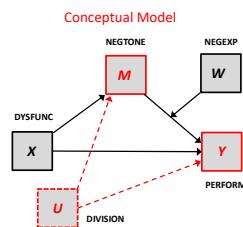


$$\hat{M} = a_0 + a_1 X + a_2 D_1 + a_3 D_2 + a_4 D_3$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c' X + b_1 M + b_2 W + b_3 MW + b_4 D_1 + b_5 D_2 + b_6 D_3$$

The direct effect of dysfunctional team behavior (X) on team performance (Y).

Conceptual and statistical models



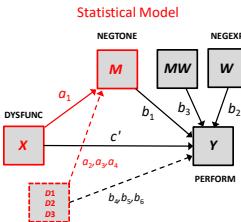
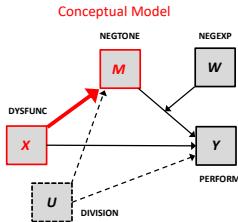
$$\hat{M} = a_0 + a_1 X + a_2 D_1 + a_3 D_2 + a_4 D_3$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c' X + b_1 M + b_2 W + b_3 MW + b_4 D_1 + b_5 D_2 + b_6 D_3$$

Covariates to account for potential confounding by divisional differences (U) in negative tone of the work environment (M) and performance (Y)

Estimating the a_1 path

Let's first estimate the effect of dysfunctional team behavior on the negative affective tone of the team environment: Path a_1 in the statistical model.



$$\hat{M} = a_0 + a_1X + a_2D_1 + a_3D_2 + a_4D_3$$

Emphasis is not on statistical significance, as neither the direct or indirect effects of X are defined entirely in terms of a_1 .

Estimating the a_1 path

```
regression/dep=negtone/method=enter dysfunc d1 d2 d3.
proc reg data=teams;model negtone=dysfunc d1 d2 d3;run;
```

Model	Coefficients*			t	Sig
	B	Unstandardized Coefficients Std. Error	Standardized Coefficients Beta		
1 (Constant)	-708	.984	1.30	-3.572	.142
Dysfunctional team behavior	.609	.167	.431	3.655	.001
d1	.347	.171	.207	2.039	.047
d2	.285	.212	.183	1.391	.170
d3	.251	.166	.230	1.508	.137

a. Dependent Variable: Negative affective tone

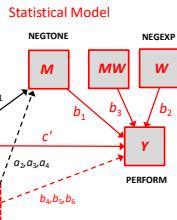
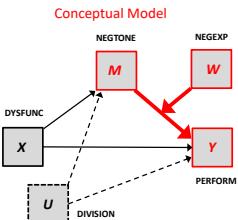
$$a_1 = 0.609$$

$$\hat{Y} = -0.206 + 0.609X + 0.349D_1 + 0.295D_2 + 0.251D_3$$

Teams whose members exhibit relatively more dysfunctional behavior tend to operate in a work environment characterized by relatively more negative affective tone (i.e., members report more negative affect)

Estimating the moderation component of the model

The conceptual model proposes that the effect of negative work tone on performance depends on negative nonverbal expressivity. Let's see whether there is evidence of this.



$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c'X + b_1M + b_2W + b_3MW + b_4D_1 + b_5D_2 + b_6D_3$$

We most care about the moderation components of the model of Y : b_1 , b_2 , and b_3 . But these must be estimated in the context of the complete model of Y , which includes X as well.

Estimating the moderation component of the model

```
compute toneexp=negtone*negexp.
regression/dep=perform/method=enter dysfunc negtone negexp toneexp d1 d2 d3.
data teams;set teams;toneexp=negtone*negexp;run;
proc reg data=teams;model perform=dysfunc negtone negexp toneexp d1 d2 d3;run;
```

Model	Coefficients*			t	Sig
	B	Unstandardized Coefficients Std. Error	Standardized Coefficients Beta		
1 (Constant)	-175	130	.185		
Dysfunctional team behavior	.373	.181	.206	2.062	.044
Negative affective tone	-.489	.138	-.491	-3.549	.001
Negative expressivity	.572	.118	.523	4.888	.001
toneexp	.410	.245	.240	1.635	.122
d1	.182	.172	.168	1.036	.306
d2	.594	.201	.565	2.960	.009
d3	.282	.165	.259	1.709	.093

a. Dependent Variable: Team performance

$$b_1 = -0.489, b_2 = -0.022, b_3 = -0.450$$

$$\hat{Y} = -0.175 + 0.373X - 0.489M - 0.022W - 0.450MW + 0.182D_1 + 0.084D_2 + 0.282D_3$$

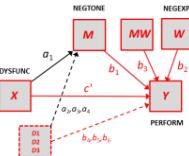
"Marginally significant" evidence that the effect of negative tone of the work environment on team performance depends on the negative nonverbal expressivity of team members. To better understand this, dissect this model.

Estimating the moderation component of the model

Model	Coefficients ^a			t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Standardized Coefficients Beta		
1	Constant	.175	.130	-1.344	.885
	Dysfunctional team behavior	.373	.581	.265	.844
	Negative affective tone	-.489	.139	-.491	.801
	Negative expressiveness	.222	.160	.138	.595
	Moderating	-.450	.245	-.183	.812
	d1	.182	.172	.101	.056
	d2	.084	.210	.055	.400
	d3	.282	.165	.259	.1709

a. Dependent Variable: Team performance

$$b_1 = 0.489, b_3 = -0.450$$



$$\hat{Y} = -0.175 + 0.373X - 0.489M - 0.022W - 0.450MW + 0.182D_1 + 0.084D_2 + 0.282D_3$$

which can be written as

$$\hat{Y} = -0.175 + 0.373X + (-0.489 - 0.450W)M - 0.022W + 0.182D_1 + 0.084D_2 + 0.282D_3$$

or

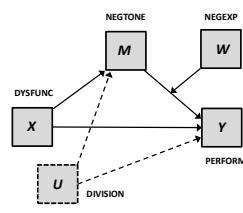
$$\hat{Y} = -0.175 + 0.373X + \theta_{M \rightarrow Y}M - 0.022W + 0.182D_1 + 0.084D_2 + 0.282D_3$$

where

Let's visualize and probe this. PROCESS will take the work out of it.

Estimation of the model in PROCESS

PROCESS takes most of the computational burden off our shoulders.



This is PROCESS model 14

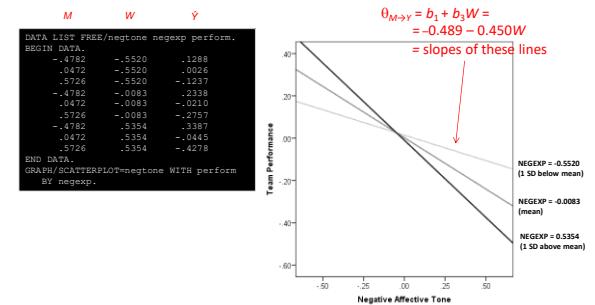
```
process cov = d1 d2 d3/x=dysfunc/m=negtone/y=perform/w=negexp/boot=10000/model=14/plot=1
%process (data=teams,cov=d1 d2 d3,x=dysfunc,m=negtone,y=perform,w=negexp,
boot=10000,model=14, plot = 1);
```

PROCESS output

OUTCOME VARIABLE:	Output J					
Model Summary	P	R-sq	MSE	F	df1	df2
.5937	.3524	.2006	4.0428	7.0000	52.0000	.0013
Model	coeff	se	t	p	LLCI	ULCI
constant	-.1754	.1305	-1.344	.885	-.4375	.8664
dysfunc	.729	.160	4.6262	.0442	.0100	.7357
negtone	-.4886	.1377	-3.5685	.0008	-.7649	.2323
negexp	-.0221	.1176	-.1875	.8520	.2581	.2140
Tot 1	-.4498	.2451	-.18353	.0722	-.9417	.0420
d1	.1815	.1720	1.0556	.2960	-.1635	.5266
d2	.0841	.2099	.4000	.6905	-.3372	.5053
d3	.2816	.1648	1.7087	.0935	-.0491	.6123
Product terms key:						
Int_1 :	negtone	x	negexp			
Test(s) of highest order unconditional interaction(s):	R2-chng	F	df1	df2	p	
M*W	.0419	3.3684	1.0000	52.0000	.0722	

Visualizing the interaction

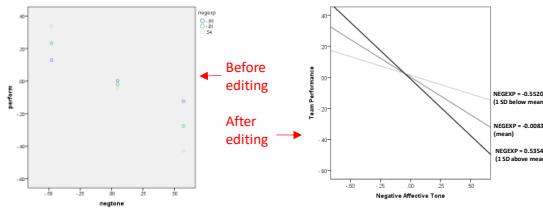
Use of the PLOT option in SPSS (plot=1) produces a table of estimated values of the outcome for various combinations of the focal predictor and moderator, and an SPSS program to generate a skeleton of the plot that can be edited.



Visualizing the interaction

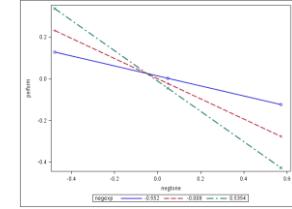
```
DATA LIST FREE/negtone negexp perform.
BEGIN DATA;
  -.4782   -.5520   .1288
  -.4782   -.5520   .0026
  .5726   -.5520   -.1237
  -.4782   -.0083   .2338
  .0472   -.0083   -.0210
  .5726   -.0083   .3387
  -.4782   .5354   -.4278
  .0472   .5354   -.0445
  .5726   .5354   -.4278
END DATA;
GRAPH/SCATTERPLOT=negtone WITH perform BY negexp.
```

Use of the PLOT option
(**plot=1**) produces a table of estimated values of the outcome for various combinations of the focal predictor and moderator.



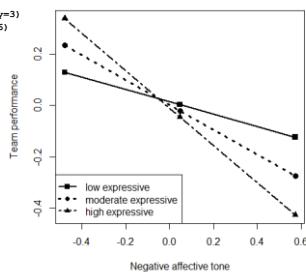
Example code in SAS

```
data;
input negtone negexp perform;
cards;
  -.4782   -.5520   .1288
  -.4782   -.5520   .0026
  .5726   -.5520   -.1237
  -.4782   -.0083   .2338
  .0472   -.0083   -.0210
  .5726   -.0083   .3387
  -.4782   .5354   -.4278
  .0472   .5354   -.0445
  .5726   .5354   -.4278
run;
proc sgplot reg x=negtone y=perform/group=negexp;run;
```



Example code in R

```
m<-c(-.478,.047,.573,-.478,.047,.573,-.478,.047,.573)
w<-c(-.552,-.552,-.552,-.008,-.008,.535,.535,.535)
y<-c(.129,.003,-.124,.234,-.021,-.276,.339,-.045,-.428)
wmarker<-c(15,15,15,16,16,16,17,17,17)
plot(y~w,xm=cex1.2,pch=wmarker,xlab="Negative affective tone",
ylab="Team performance")
legend.txt<-c("low expressive", "moderate expressive", "high expressive")
legend("bottomleft", legend = legend.txt,cex=1.1, lty=c(1,3,6), lwd=c(2,3,2), pch=c(15,16,17))
lines(m[w==-.552],y[w==-.552],lwd=2)
lines(m[w==-.008],y[w==-.008],lwd=3,lty=3)
lines(m[w==.535],y[w==.535],lwd=2,lty=6)
```



Probing the interaction: Pick-a-point

PROCESS sees that the moderator is quantitative (i.e., it has more than 2 values) so it implements the pick-a-point procedure with moderator values equal to 14th, 50th, and 84th percentile.

$$Y_{M \rightarrow Y} = b_1 + b_2 W = -0.489 - 0.450W$$

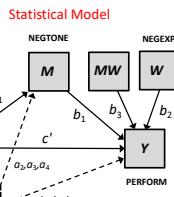
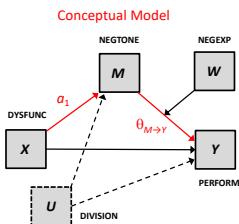
Focal predict: negtone (M)
Mod var: negexp (W)

Conditional effects of the focal predictor at values of the moderator(s):

negexp	Effect	se	t	p	LICI	ULCI
-.5308	-.2498	.2196	-1.1379	.2604	-.6904	.1997
-.0600	-.4616	.1434	-3.2188	.0022	-.7494	.1738
.6000	.7585	.1633	-4.6451	.0000	-1.0862	-.4308

Negative affective tone is significantly negatively related to performance among teams relatively "moderate" and "relatively high" in negative nonverbal expressivity but not among teams "relatively low" in negative nonverbal expressivity.

The conditional indirect effect of X

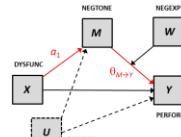


The conditional indirect effect of X on Y through M is the product of the effect of X on M (a_1) and the conditional effect of M on Y given W ($\theta_{M \rightarrow Y} = b_1 + b_3 W$):

$$a_1 \theta_{M \rightarrow Y} = a_1(b_1 + b_3 W) = 0.610(-0.489 - 0.450W)$$

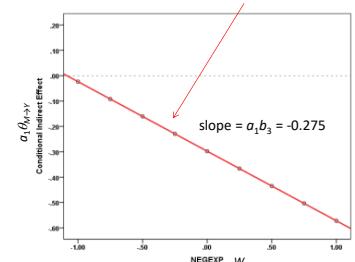
The indirect effect of dysfunctional team behavior on team performance through negative tone is allowed to be a function of negative nonverbal expressivity.

A visual representation of the indirect effect



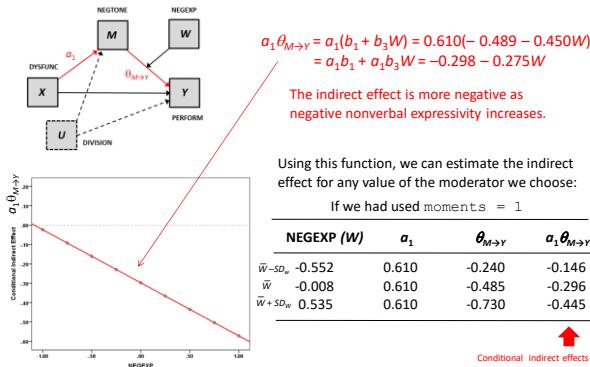
$$a_1 \theta_{M \rightarrow Y} = a_1(b_1 + b_3 W) = 0.610(-0.489 - 0.450W) = a_1 b_1 + a_1 b_3 W = -0.298 - 0.275W$$

The indirect effect is more negative as negative nonverbal expressivity increases. The "index of moderated mediation" is $a_1 b_3 = -0.275$. It quantifies the relationship between the moderator and the indirect effect in this model.



As will be seen, a hypothesis test that the slope of this function is equal to 0 is a formal test of moderated mediation....moderation of the indirect effect.

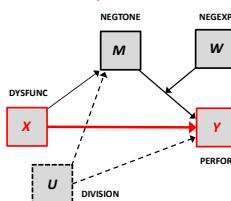
The conditional indirect effect of X



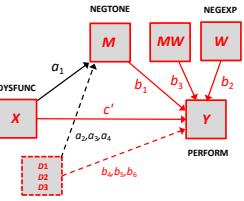
The direct effect of X

The direct effect of X is the effect of X on Y that does not operate through M.

Conceptual Model



Statistical Model



$$\hat{Y} = i_1 + c'X + b_1 M + b_2 MW + b_3 NEGP + b_4 D_1 + b_5 D_2 + b_6 D_3$$

In this model, the direct effect is fixed to be unmoderated. It is a constant rather than a function of another variable in the model.

The direct effect of X (we estimated earlier)

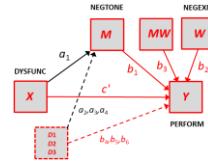
Model	Coefficients*			
	Unstandardized Coefficients B	Standardized Coefficients Beta	t	Sig.
1 (constant)	.373	.181	.385	.3962 .024
Dysfunctional teams behavior				
Negative affective tone	-.489	-.138	-.491	-.3445 .001
toneexp	-.023	.018	-.028	-.186 .495
d1	-.450	.345	-.240	-.1835 .872
d2	.182	.372	.161	.1056 .296
d3	.088	.210	.055	.400 .890
	.282	.565	.259	.1709 .093

a. Dependent Variable: Team performance

$$c' = 0.373, t(55) = 2.062, p < .05.$$

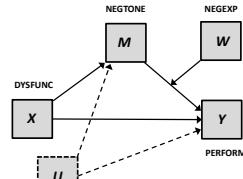
$$\hat{Y} = -0.175 + 0.373X - 0.489M - 0.022W - 0.450MW + 0.182D_1 + 0.084D_2 + 0.282D_3$$

Holding constant negative affective tone and negative nonverbal expressivity, teams that exhibit more dysfunctional behavior perform **better**.



Estimation of the model in PROCESS

PROCESS takes most of the computational burden off our shoulders.



This is PROCESS model 14

```

process cov = d1 d2 d3/x=dysfunc/m=negtone/y=perform/w=negexp/boot=10000
model=14/p/plot = 1
%process (data=teams,cov=d1 d2 d3,x=dysfunc,m=negtone,y=perform,w=negexp,
boot=10000,model=14, plot = 1);
  
```

PROCESS output

```

Model = 14
Y = perform
X = dysfunc
M = negtone
W = negexp
W = negexp

Statistical Controls:
CONTROL: d1 d2 d3

Sample size: 60

***** Outcome: negtone *****

 $\hat{M} = -0.206 + 0.610X + \dots$ 

Model Summary
R R-sq MSE F df1 df2 p
.5026 .2526 .2213 4.6462 4.0000 55.0000 .0027

Model
coeff se t p LLCI ULCI
constant -.2097 .1305 -.15760 .1208 -.4672 .0559
dysfunc .6095 .1600 3.6346 .0008 .2757 .9025 a1 = 0.610
d1 .3437 .1715 2.0332 .0429 .0040 .65923
d2 .2951 .2122 1.3906 .1700 -.1302 .7204
d3 .2507 .1663 1.5078 .1373 -.0825 .5840

***** Output J *****
  
```

PROCESS output

```

 $\hat{Y} = -0.175 + 0.373X - 0.489M - 0.022W - 0.450MW + \dots$ 

***** Outcome: perform *****

Model Summary
R R-sq MSE F df1 df2 p
.5937 .3524 .2066 4.0428 7.0000 52.0000 .0013

Model
coeff se t p LLCI ULCI
constant -.1754 .1305 -.13444 .1847 -.4373 .0864
negtone -.4886 .1377 -.3.5485 .0008 -.7649 -.2123 b1 = -0.489
dysfunc .3729 .1908 2.0622 .0442 .0100 .7357 c' = 0.373
negexp -.0221 .1176 -.1875 .8520 -.2140 .2140 b2 = -0.022
int_1 -.0210 .1042 -.1822 .0417 -.2117 .2117 b3 = -0.450
d1 .1815 .1730 1.0356 .23860 -.16365 .5266
d2 .0841 .2099 .4004 .6905 -.3372 .5053
d3 .2816 .1648 1.7087 .0935 -.0491 .6123

Interactions:
int_1 negtone X negexp
***** Output J *****
  
```

PROCESS output

***** DIRECT AND INDIRECT EFFECTS *****

Direct effect of X on Y

Effect	SE	t	p	LLCI	ULCI	Direct effect
.3729	.1808	2.0622	.0442	.0100	.7357	$c' = .373, p < .05$

INDIRECT EFFECT: $negexp \rightarrow negtone \rightarrow perform$

negexp	Effect	BootSE	BootLLCI	BootULCI	Output J
-.5308	-.1523	.1540	-.4335	.1943	
-.0600	-.2813	.1249	-.5432	-.0549	
.6000	-.4623	.1678	-.8095	-.1503	

Index of moderated mediation:

Index	BootSE	BootLLCI	BootULCI	
Negexp	-.2742	.1791	-.7172	-.0234

$a_1\theta_{M \rightarrow Y} = a_1(b_1 + b_3W)$
 $= 0.610(-0.489 - 0.450W)$
 $= a_1b_1 + a_1b_3W$
 $= -0.298 - 0.274W$

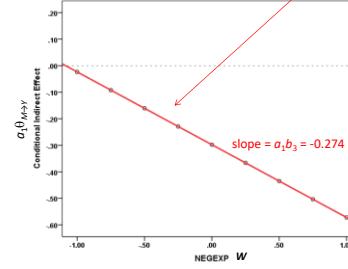
W values in conditional tables are the 16th, 50th, and 84th percentiles.

PROCESS sees that the moderator is continuous so, without instruction otherwise, prints the conditional indirect effect at the 16th, 50th, and 84th percentiles. For the mean +/- 1 SD add moments = 1 to the command line.

A statistical test of moderated mediation in the second stage moderated mediation model

$$a_1\theta_{M \rightarrow Y} = a_1(b_1 + b_3W) = 0.610(-0.489 - 0.450W)$$

$$= a_1b_1 + a_1b_3W = -0.298 - 0.274W$$



The indirect effect is a function of W (negative nonverbal expressivity) in our model. This function is a line.

$$a_1\theta_{M \rightarrow Y} = a_1(b_1 + b_3W)$$

$$= a_1b_1 + a_1b_3W$$

$$= -0.298 - 0.274W$$

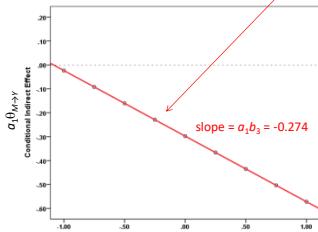
An inference about the slope of this line—the “index of moderated mediation”—is an inference about whether the indirect effect is moderated: Is this slope significantly different from zero? If so, that supports a claim of “moderated mediation.”

As a_1b_3 is a product of regression coefficients, an inferential test should respect the nonnormality of the sampling distribution of the product. A bootstrap confidence interval is a good choice.

This test is provided automatically by PROCESS

$$a_1\theta_{M \rightarrow Y} = a_1(b_1 + b_3W) = 0.610(-0.489 - 0.450W)$$

$$= a_1b_1 + a_1b_3W = -0.298 - 0.274W$$



The indirect effect is a function of V (negative nonverbal expressivity) in our model. This function is a line.

$$a\theta_{M \rightarrow Y} = a_1(b_1 + b_3W)$$

$$= a_1b_1 + a_1b_3W$$

$$= -0.298 - 0.274W$$

Output J

***** INDEX OF MODERATED MEDIATION *****

Negexp	Index	SE(Boot)	BootLLCI	BootULCI
	-.2742	.1727	-.6833	-.0243

This slope is statistically different from zero. The indirect effect depends on negative nonverbal expressivity.... The mediation is moderated.

Where is this test discussed?

**Andrew F. Hayes
An Index and Test of Linear Moderated Mediation**

This test is a test of linear mediated moderation in path analysis based on an interval estimate of the product of two regression coefficients. It is a test of the hypothesis that the indirect effect of X on Y through M is a linear function of W, where W is a continuous moderator variable. The test is appropriate when the indirect effect of X on Y is not moderated by W but the total effect of X on Y is. The test is also appropriate when the total effect of X on Y is not moderated by W but the indirect effect of X on Y is. The test is also appropriate when the total effect of X on Y is not moderated by W but the indirect effect of X on Y is a function of W.

AN INDEX AND TEST OF LINEAR MODERATED MEDIATION

Empirically substantiating the boundary conditions of one of the most common causal models in social psychology—moderated mediation—is a task that has not been fully addressed in the literature. In this paper, I propose a test of the hypothesis that the total effect of X on Y is a linear function of W, where W is a continuous moderator variable. The test is appropriate when the total effect of X on Y is not moderated by W but the indirect effect of X on Y is. The test is also appropriate when the total effect of X on Y is not moderated by W but the indirect effect of X on Y is a function of W.

AN INDEX AND TEST OF LINEAR MODERATED MEDIATION

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AN INDEX AND TEST OF LINEAR MODERATED MEDIATION

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Provided with your materials

12.2 Moderation, Moderation, and Conditional Process Analysis

In the causal model we order to claim M is a mediator. In addition, Kramer (2008) does not consider a third variable being a moderator. In this model, M's effect on Y is not just that, but, it's $b + cZ$. Thus, the indirect effect of M on Y is not $c'ZM$, meaning it is a function of Z (e.g., Preacher et al., 2007).

In the model they recommend, M needs to be directly independent of X. But the direct effect of X on this model is not $c'ZM$ as it might seem. Grouping terms together, the direct effect of X on Y is $c'ZM + a_1b_1 + a_1b_3W$, meaning it is a function of X on Y:

$$a_1b_3W = c'ZM$$

So the direct effect of X is conditioned on M. In other words, if C is a covariate, 12.2 is statistically different from saying the effect of X on Y is $c'ZM + a_1b_1 + a_1b_3W$, meaning it is a function of M.

By their criteria, M can be deemed a mediator of X's effect on Y if M is a function of X. In this case, M is a function of X and W. Thus, in the model Kramer et al. (2008) recommend as the test of moderation, M is a function of X and W. This is the same as establishing M as a mediator also means that M could be construed as a moderator of X's effect, at least statistically or mathematically.

Just as it is reasonable to assume that M is a function of X, it is sensible theoretically or substantively interpretable when it happens. In the model Kramer et al. (2008) recommend, M is a function of X and W. In other words, if C is a covariate, 12.2 is statistically different from saying the effect of X on Y is $c'ZM + a_1b_1 + a_1b_3W$, meaning it is a function of M.

12.2 is a statistically different from saying the effect of X on Y is $c'ZM + a_1b_1 + a_1b_3W$, meaning it is a function of M.

My guess is that there are many real-life processes in which things caused by X are functions of both X and W. In such cases, it would be reasonable to say that M would have to be causally prior to Y in order for this to be possible, implying that M could also be construed as a mediator if M is caused in part by X.

12.3 Comparing Conditional Indirect Effects and a Formal Test of Moderated Mediation

If the indirect effect of X on Y through M depends on a particular moderator, that means that the indirect effect is a function of that moderator. A sensible question to ask is whether the conditional indirect effect when the

Chapter 12 of IMCPA

PROCESS output

We need an inferential test for these conditional indirect effects. Bootstrap confidence intervals are perfect for the job. PROCESS does this for us automatically.

***** DIRECT AND INDIRECT EFFECTS *****

Direct effect of X on Y

Effect	SE	t	p	LLCI	ULCI
.3729	.1808	2.0622	.0442	.0100	.7357

INDIRECT EFFECT:

dysfunc → negtone → perform

negexp	Effect	BootSE	BootLLCI	BootULCI
-.5308	-.1523	.1540	-.4335	.1943
-.0600	-.2813	.1249	-.5432	-.0549
.6000	-.4623	.1678	-.8095	-.1503

Conditional indirect effects with 95% bias-corrected bootstrap CIs based on 10,000 bootstrap samples.

Index of moderated mediation:

Index	BootSE	BootLLCI	BootULCI	
negexp	-.2742	-.1791	-.7172	-.0234

The indirect effect of dysfunctional behavior on performance through negative tone is negative among teams relatively moderate (point estimate: -0.28, 95% CI from -0.54 to -0.05) and relatively high (point estimate: -0.46, 95% CI from -0.81 to -0.14) in negative nonverbal expressivity but not different from zero among those low in negative nonverbal expressivity (point estimate: -0.15, 95% CI from -0.43 to 0.19).

Comparing conditional indirect effects (2nd stage model)

A seemingly sensible question to ask is whether the conditional indirect effect of X when the moderator equals some value $W = w_1$ is different than the conditional indirect effect of X when the moderator is some different value $W = w_2$. For example, is the indirect effect among teams low in negative nonverbal expressivity different from the indirect effect among teams high in negative nonverbal expressivity?

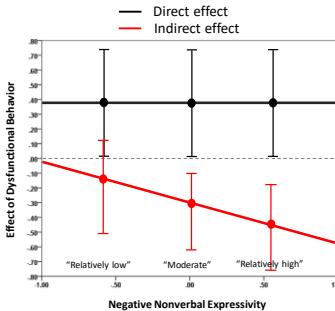
Rejection of the null hypothesis of no moderated mediation based on the index of moderated mediation implies that **any two conditional indirect effects are different!** No additional test is needed.

For example, for the second stage moderated mediation model just estimated:

$$\begin{aligned} a_1(b_1 + b_3 w_1) - a_1(b_1 + b_3 w_2) &= a_1(b_1 + b_3 w_1) - a_1(b_1 + b_3 w_2) \\ &= a_1 b_1 + a_1 b_3 w_1 - a_1 b_1 - a_1 b_3 w_2 \\ &= a_1 b_3 w_1 - a_1 b_3 w_2 \\ &= a_1 b_3 (w_1 - w_2) \end{aligned}$$

If a bootstrap confidence interval for $a_1 b_3$ does not contain zero, then neither will a confidence interval for $a_1 b_3 (w_1 - w_2)$, **regardless** of values of w_1 and w_2 chosen, so long as $w_1 \neq w_2$. And if a bootstrap confidence interval for $a_1 b_3$ contains zero, then so too will a confidence interval for $a_1 b_3 (w_1 - w_2)$, **for any two values** of w_1 and w_2 , ($w_1 \neq w_2$).

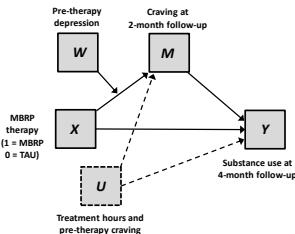
Putting it all together



Point estimates with 95% confidence intervals (OLS confidence intervals for direct effects, bootstrap confidence intervals for indirect effects).

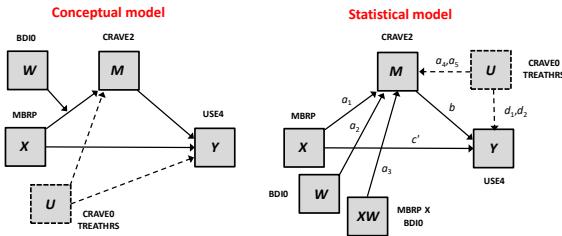
More dysfunctional behavior tends to lead to more negative affective tone, yet this negative affective tone seems to lower performance only among teams that are more demonstrative of their negative feelings. Such a process does not operate among teams that hide their feelings. Independent of differences between teams in the negative affective tone of the work environment, teams that exhibit more dysfunctional behavior otherwise perform **better**.

Conditional Process Modeling Example #2



This is a model of **craving (M)** as the mechanism by which **mindfulness relapse prevention therapy (X)** affects **substance use (Y)** relative to therapy as usual. In this model, moderation of the mechanism is proposed as operating in the "first stage" of the mediation process via the moderation of the effect of mindfulness relapse prevention therapy on craving by **pre-therapy depression level (W)**.

Conceptual and Statistical Models

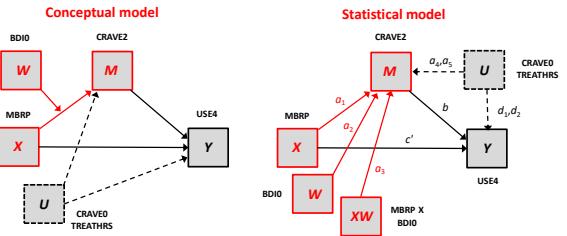


$$\hat{M} = a_0 + a_1X + a_2W + a_3XW + a_4U_1 + a_5U_2$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c'X + bM + d_1U_1 + d_2U_2$$

The number of equations needed is equal to the number of variables with arrows pointing at them in the conceptual or statistical diagram.

Conceptual and Statistical Models

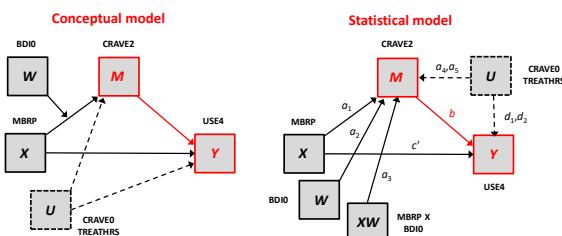


$$\hat{M} = a_0 + [a_1X + a_2W + a_3XW] + a_4U_1 + a_5U_2$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c'X + bM + d_1U_1 + d_2U_2$$

The moderation of the effect of mindfulness behavioral relapse prevention therapy relative to therapy as usual on craving by pre-therapy depression level.

Conceptual and Statistical Models

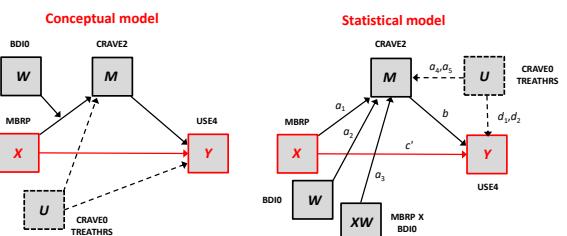


$$\hat{M} = a_0 + a_1X + a_2W + a_3XW + a_4U_1 + a_5U_2$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c'X + bM + d_1U_1 + d_2U_2$$

The effect of craving at two month follow-up on substance use after 4 months.

Conceptual and Statistical Models

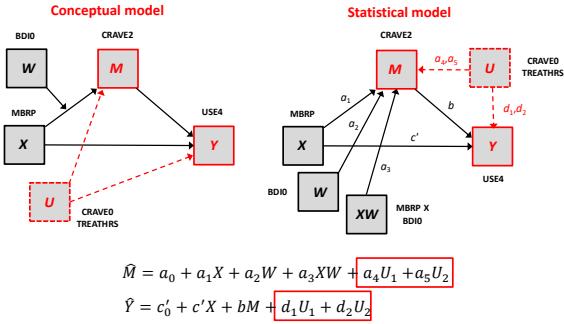


$$\hat{M} = a_0 + a_1X + a_2W + a_3XW + a_4U_1 + a_5U_2$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c'X + bM + d_1U_1 + d_2U_2$$

The direct effect of mindfulness behavioral relapse prevention therapy on substance use at four month follow up accounting for the mechanism through craving.

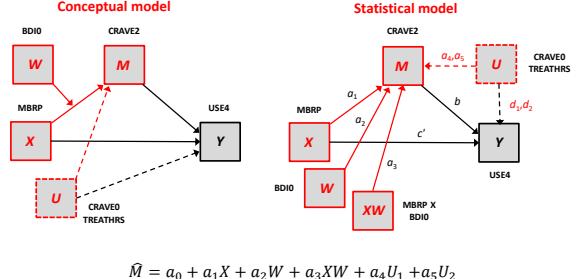
Conceptual and Statistical Models



Covariates to account for potential confounding by treatment hours and pre-therapy craving.

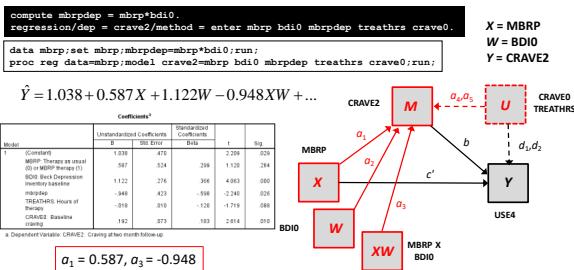
Estimating the moderation component of the model

The conceptual model proposes that the effect of mindfulness behavioral relapse prevention therapy depends on pre-therapy depression.



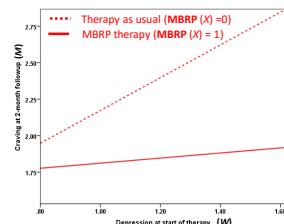
We most care about the moderation components of the model of M: a_1 and a_3

We did this already



Pre-therapy depression moderates the effect of mindfulness behavioral relapse prevention therapy on craving. We can say that this moderation/interaction is statistically significant, but this doesn't matter for our purposes because neither the direct nor indirect effects in this model are determined entirely by a_3 , it is the direct and indirect effects we care about. We need a_1 and a_3 to estimate the indirect effects.

Recall the pattern from the earlier analysis



The conditional effect of MBRP therapy ($\theta_{X \rightarrow M}$) is defined by the function

$$\theta_{X \rightarrow M} = 0.587 - 0.948W$$

BD10 (W)	$\theta_{X \rightarrow M}$
0.877	-0.245
1.196	-0.547
1.515	-0.850

Recall these from our Implementation of the pick-a-point approach.

$$\hat{M} = 1.038 + 0.587X + 1.122W - 0.948XW + ...$$

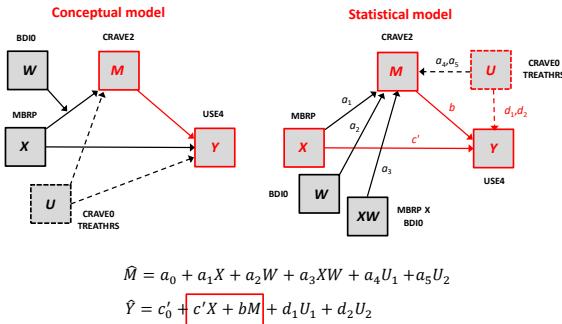
which can be written as

$$\hat{M} = 1.038 + (0.587 - 0.948W)X + 1.122W + ...$$

or

$$\hat{M} = 1.038 + \theta_{X \rightarrow M}X + 1.122W + ... \text{ where } \theta_{X \rightarrow M} = 0.587 - 0.948W = a_1 + a_3W$$

Estimating the b and c' paths



Estimating the b and c' paths

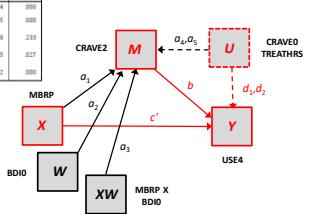
```
regression/dep=use4/method=enter crave2 mbrp crave0 treathrs.  
proc reg data=mbrp;model use4 = crave2 mbrp crave0 treathrs;run;
```

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta	t		
1	Constant					
	CRAVE2: Craving at two month follow-up	.481	.040	11.955	0.000	
	MBRP therapy (0) or MBRP therapy (1)	.093	.077	.070	1.198	.233
	CRAVED: Baseline craving	-.088	.040	-.224	-2.225	.027
	TREATHRS: Hours of treatment	-.020	.006	-.300	-3.377	.000

$$\hat{Y} = 1.130 + 0.093X + 0.481M + \dots$$

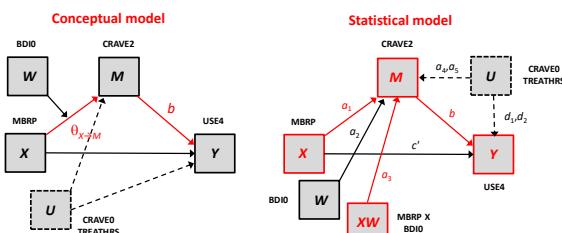
$$b = 0.481, c' = 0.093$$

Statistical model



Emphasis is not on statistical significance of the b path, as the indirect effect of X is not defined entirely in terms of b . c' is the direct effect (discussed in a bit).

The conditional indirect effect of X

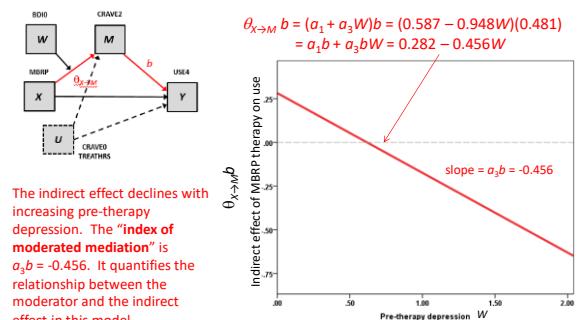


The conditional indirect effect of X on Y through M is the product of the conditional effect of X on M ($\theta_{X \rightarrow M} = a_1 + a_3W$) and effect of M on Y (b):

$$\theta_{X \rightarrow M} b = (a_1 + a_3W)b = (0.587 - 0.948W)(0.481)$$

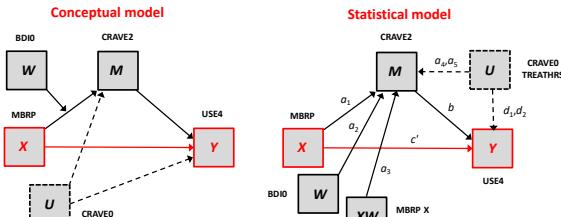
The indirect effect of MBRP therapy relative to therapy as usual on later substance use through craving is a function of pre-therapy depression.

A visual representation of the indirect effect



As will be seen, a hypothesis test that the slope of this function is equal to 0 is a formal test of moderated mediation....moderation of the indirect effect.

The direct effect of X



$$\hat{M} = a_0 + a_1X + a_2W + a_3XW + a_4U_1 + a_5U_2$$

$$\hat{Y} = c'_0 + c'X + bM + d_1U_1 + d_2U_2$$

In this model, the direct effect is fixed to be unmoderated. It is a constant rather than a function of another variable in the model. This is a modeling or theoretical decision, not a requirement.

The direct effect of X (estimated earlier)

```
regression/dep=use4/method=enter crave2 mbrip crave0 treathrs.
proc reg data=mbrip;model use4 = crave2 mbrip crave0 treathrs;run;
```

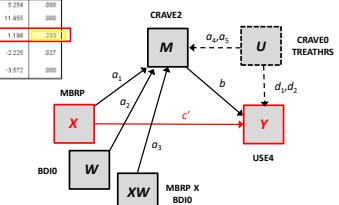
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta	t		
1	Constant	1.130	.215	5.254	.000	
	CRAVE2: Craving at 6m month follow-up	.481	.040	11.985	.000	
	MBRP: Baseline MBRP therapy (1)	.093	.077	.126	.333	.731
	CRAVE0: Baseline TREATRS: Hours of therapy	-.088	.040	-.225	.827	
	USE4: Substance use at four month follow-up	-.020	.006	-.300	-.377	.000

a. Dependent Variable: USE4 Substance use at four month follow-up

$$\hat{Y} = 1.130 + 0.093X + 0.481M + \dots$$

$$c' = 0.093, t(163) = 1.198, p = 0.233$$

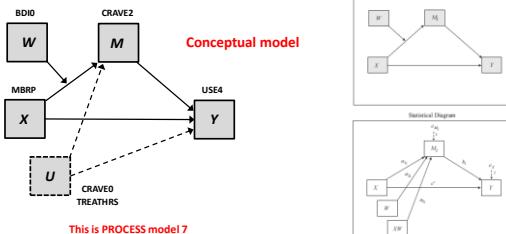
Statistical model



Mindfulness behavioral relapse prevention therapy has no apparent effect on later substance use relative to therapy as usual after accounting for the mechanism through craving.

Estimation of the model in PROCESS

PROCESS takes most of the computational burden off our shoulders.

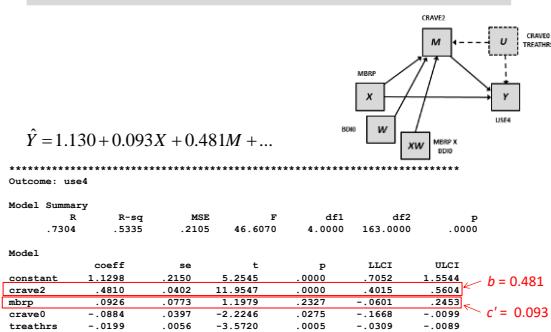


PROCESS output

```
*****  
Model = 7  
T = use4  
X = mbrip  
M = crave2  
W = bdi0  
Statistical Controls:  
CONTROL= crave0 treathrs  
Sample size  
168  
*****  
Outcome: crave2  
 $\hat{M} = 1.039 + 0.587X + 1.122W - 0.948XW + \dots$   
Model Summary  
R .5140 R-sq .2642 MSE .7277 F 11.6319 df1 5.0000 df2 162.0000 P .0000  
Model  
constant 1.0385 .4707 2.2084 .0000 1.1150 1.6592  
mbrip .1292 .5241 1.1204 .0000 .2468 1.4178  
bdi0 1.1221 .2762 4.0625 .0001 .5767 1.6675  
int_1 -.9485 .4235 -2.2398 .0265 -1.7847 -.1122  
crave2 -.1920 .0735 2.6138 .0098 .0470 .3371  
treathrs -.0177 .0103 -1.7190 .0875 -.0380 .0026  
Interactions:  
int_1 mbrip X bdi0  
*****  
Output K
```

Output K

PROCESS output



PROCESS output

***** DIRECT AND INDIRECT EFFECTS *****

Direct effect of X on Y

Effect	SE	t	p	LLCI	ULCI
.0926	.0773	1.1979	.2327	-.0601	.2453

INDIRECT EFFECT:

mbrp	W	→ crave2	→ use4	
bdi0	Effect	BootSE	BootLLCI	BootULCI
.9020	-.1290	.0770	-.2869	.0183
1.1900	-.2604	.0862	-.4458	-.1090
1.5180	-.4100	.1367	-.7080	-.1767

$\theta_{X \rightarrow M} b = (a_1 + a_3 W)b = (0.587 - 0.948W)(0.481)$

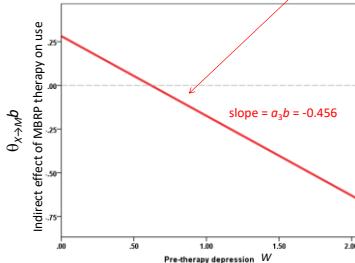
$= a_1 b + a_3 b W = 0.282 - 0.456W$

PROCESS sees that the moderator is continuous so, without instruction otherwise, prints the conditional indirect effect at 16th, 50th, and 84th percentile of the moderator.

Output K

A statistical test of moderated mediation in the first stage moderated mediation model

$$\theta_{X \rightarrow M} b = (a_1 + a_3 W)b = (0.587 - 0.948W)(0.481) \\ = a_1 b + a_3 b W = 0.282 - 0.456W$$

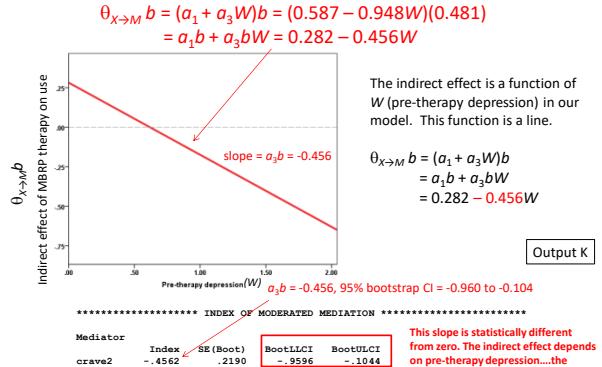


The indirect effect is a function of W (pre-therapy depression) in our model. This function is a line.
 $\theta_{X \rightarrow M} b = (a_1 + a_3 W)b$
 $= a_1 b + a_3 b W$
 $= 0.282 - 0.456W$

An inference about the slope of this line—the “index of moderated mediation”—is an inference about whether the indirect effect is moderated: Is this slope significantly different from zero? If so, that supports a claim of “moderated mediation.”

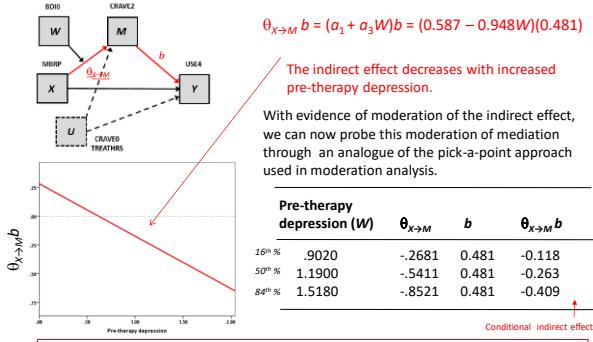
As a_3b is a product of regression coefficients, an inferential test should respect the nonnormality of the sampling distribution of the product. A bootstrap confidence interval is a good choice.

This test is provided automatically by PROCESS



Output K

Probing the moderation of mediation



We need an inferential test for these conditional indirect effects. Bootstrap confidence intervals are perfect for the job. PROCESS does this for us automatically.

PROCESS output

***** DIRECT AND INDIRECT EFFECTS *****

Direct effect of X on Y

Effect	SE	t	p	LLCI	ULCI
.0926	.0773	1.1979	.2327	-.0601	.2453

Conditional indirect effect(s) of X on Y at values of the moderator(s) :

Mediator	bd10	Effect	BootSE	BootLLCI	BootULCI
	.9020	-.1210	.0770	-.2869	.1983
	1.1900	-.4604	.0862	-.4459	-.1090
	1.5180	-.4100	.1367	-.7080	-.1767

Conditional indirect effects with 95% bootstrap CIs based on 10,000 bootstrap samples.

Output K

The indirect effect of MBRP therapy relative to therapy as usual on substance use through craving is negative among the relatively moderate (point estimate: -0.260, 95% CI from -0.446 to -0.09) and relatively highly depressed (point estimate: -0.410, 95% CI from -0.708 to -0.177) but not different from zero among the relatively less depressed (point estimate: -0.129, 95% CI from -0.287 to 0.018).

Comparing conditional indirect effects (1st stage model)

A seemingly sensible question to ask is whether the conditional indirect effect of X when the moderator equals some value $W = w_1$ is different than the conditional indirect effect of X when the moderator is some different value $W = w_2$. For example, is the indirect effect of MBRP therapy through craving different for those relatively low in pre-therapy depression relative those relatively high?

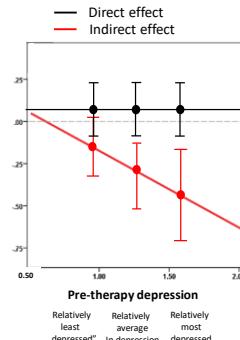
For this model, the difference between any two conditional indirect effects defined by different values of W equal to w_1 and w_2 is

$$(a_1 + a_3 w_1)b - (a_1 + a_3 w_2)b = a_1 b + a_3 b w_1 - a_1 b - a_3 b w_2 \\ = a_3 b w_1 - a_3 b w_2 \\ = a_3 b (w_1 - w_2)$$

Rejection of the null hypothesis of no moderated mediation based on the index of moderated mediation implies that any two conditional indirect effects are different! No additional test is needed.

If a bootstrap confidence interval for $a_3 b$ does not contain zero, then neither will a confidence interval for $a_3 b (w_1 - w_2)$, regardless of values of w_1 and w_2 chosen, so long as $w_1 \neq w_2$. And if a bootstrap confidence interval for $a_3 b$ contains zero, then so too will a confidence interval for $a_3 b (w_1 - w_2)$, for any two values of w_1 and w_2 , ($w_1 \neq w_2$).

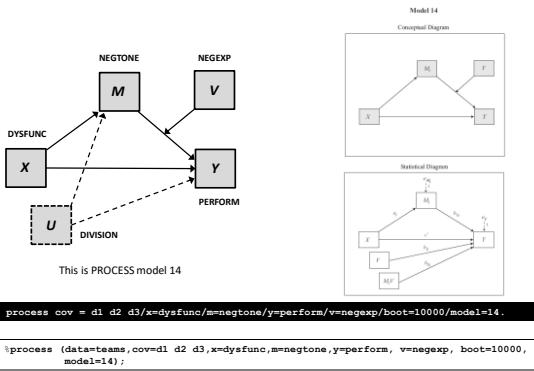
Putting it all together



MBRP seems to reduce substance use through a reduction in craving which in turn lowers use, but more so among those who are more depressed at the start of therapy. Among those relatively lower in depression, we cannot say definitively that this mechanism is in operation. Independent of this mechanism, there is no evidence of an effect of MBRP therapy on later substance use.

Point estimates with 95% confidence intervals (OLS confidence intervals for direct effects, bootstrap confidence intervals for indirect effects).

PROCESS versus SEM



In Mplus

COMPARE TO OUTPUT THAT PROCESS GENERATES

```
DATA:
  file is 'c:\mplus\teams.csv';
VARIABLE:
  names are dysfunc negtone negexp perform division d1 d2 d3;
  !usevariables are dysfunc negexp negtone perform d1 d2 d3 toneexp;
DEFINE:
  toneexp = negtone*negexp;
ANALYSIS:
  !estimator=bootstrap;
  !bootstrap=10000;
MODEL:
  perform ON d1 d2 d3
    dysfunc (b1)
    negtone (b2)
    negexp (b3);
  negtone ON d1 d2 d3
    dysfunc (a1);
  negexp ON d1 d2 d3
    dysfunc (a2);
  d1;
  d2;
  d3;
  negexp;
  dysfunc;
  division;
  negtone with negexp;
  negtone with toneexp;
  negexp with toneexp;
  MODEL CONSTRAINT:
  !althetaM=1*(b1+b3*(-.5308));
  althetaM=a1*(b1+b3*(-.0600));
  althetaM=a1*(b1+b3*(.0600));
  albetaM=b1+b3;
  OUTPUT:
  !stdyx;
  !ciinterval(bootstrap);
  !cintervall(bootstrap);
  !albeta;
```

PERFORM ON	Estimate	S.E.	Est./S.E.	P-Value
D1	0.182	0.147	1.231	0.218
D2	0.084	0.252	0.333	0.739
D3	0.282	0.174	1.650	0.091
DYSFUNC	0.173	0.195	1.088	0.466
NEGTONE	-0.489	0.131	-3.728	0.000
NEDEXP	-0.022	0.102	-0.217	0.829
TONEEXP	-0.450	0.243	-1.851	0.064
NEGTON ON				
D1	0.349	0.167	2.093	0.036
D2	0.285	0.206	1.426	0.151
D3	0.251	0.116	2.167	0.030
DYSFUNC	0.609	0.216	2.822	0.005
Intercepts				
NEGTON	-0.206	0.087	-2.368	0.018
PERFORM	-0.175	0.127	-1.380	0.167
New/Additional Parameters				
ALTHETAM	-0.152	0.152	-1.003	0.316
ALTHETAM	-0.281	0.126	-2.235	0.025
ALTHETAM	-0.462	0.170	-2.722	0.000
ALB3	-0.274	0.176	-1.557	0.119

In Mplus

Removing exclamation points from the code generates bootstrap confidence intervals for all parameter estimates, including conditional indirect effects.

COMPARE TO OUTPUT THAT PROCESS GENERATES

	Lower .5%	Lower 2.5%	Lower 5%	Estimate	Upper 5%	Upper 2.5%	Upper .5%
New/Additional Parameters							
ALTHETAM	-0.568	-0.429	-0.377	-0.152	0.113	0.187	0.352
ALTHETAM	-0.664	-0.544	-0.488	-0.281	-0.082	-0.052	0.010
ALTHETAM	-0.954	-0.816	-0.753	-0.462	-0.194	-0.146	-0.064
ALB3	-0.886	-0.702	-0.617	-0.274	-0.051	-0.022	0.030

Point estimates
End points of a 95% bootstrap confidence intervals
for the conditional indirect effect based on 10,000 bootstrap samples.

Observe that the results using an SEM program are largely the same as the results that PROCESS produces.

PROCESS versus Structural Equation Modeling



Hayes, A. F., Montoya, A. K., & Rockwood, N. J. (2017). The analysis of mechanisms and their contingencies: PROCESS versus structural equation modeling. *Australasian Marketing Journal*, 25, 76-81.

- For observed variable models, it makes no difference whether you use SEM or PROCESS. You get the same results and with a lot less effort.

Some reasons you might choose SEM:

- More options for dealing with missing data
- More sophisticated means of managing the effects of measurement error.
- Latent variables and blends of latent and observed variables.
- Greater flexibility for model specification.

CPA Activity



The following slides have examples of conditional process analyses from the literature. Try to draw the path diagram for these models and write out the PROCESS code to analyze the data.

Mawritz, M. B., Mayer, D. M., Hobbler J. M., Wayne, S. J., & Marinova, S. V. (2012) A trickle-down model of abusive supervision, *Personnel Psychology*

"Specifically, we find that abusive manager behavior is positively related to abusive supervisor behavior, which in turn is positively related to work group interpersonal deviance. In addition, hostile climate moderates the relationship between abusive supervisor behavior and work group interpersonal deviance such that the relationship is stronger when hostile climate is high."

HINT: You need to choose a model from the templates that matches the hypothesis

Activity:

- Draw a path diagram and label X, M, Y, and W with variable names (e.g., pg 128)
- Variable Names: Abusive Manager Behavior (Manage), Abusive Supervisor Behavior (Super), Work Group Deviance (Deviance), and Hostile Climate (Hostile). What would the PROCESS command be to run this analysis? Use percentile bootstrapping with 7,000 bootstraps.
- Write the equations for the model of M and the model of Y. What would the conditional indirect effect be? What would the index of moderated mediation be? (e.g., pg 128)
- Draw a graphical representation of the indirect effect across the moderator which fits the above hypotheses. (e.g., pg 133)

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Mediation analysis in the 2-condition within-subject design

Data are from Judd et al. (2001). Estimating and testing mediation and moderation in within-subjects designs. *Psychological Methods*, 6, 115–134.

JUDD.sav JUDD.sas

panel	pain1	pain2	hormone1	hormone2
73.00	61.00	37.00	33.00	
57.00	55.00	30.00	28.00	
57.00	61.00	30.00	36.00	
67.00	49.00	31.00	30.00	
80.00	75.00	37.00	35.00	
56.00	60.00	33.00	34.00	
72.00	73.00	38.00	35.00	
81.00	65.00	43.00	29.00	
61.00	59.00	33.00	31.00	
67.00	48.00	20.00	17.00	
74.00	64.00	43.00	41.00	
70.00	55.00	34.00	27.00	
83.00	68.00	41.00	39.00	
62.00	61.00	35.00	30.00	
49.00	55.00	32.00	32.00	
74.00	79.00	35.00	37.00	
73.00	60.00	36.00	38.00	
46.00	51.00	25.00	24.00	
60.00	55.00	26.00	25.00	
93.00	71.00	46.00	39.00	

20 participants with chronic pain symptoms participated in a pain drug trial. Each was measured twice, once after administration of a placebo **and** once after a administration of a pain inhibiting drug. Order is randomized.

Measurement 1 = Following placebo

Measurement 2 = Following drug

Y = pain sensations (0 to 100, higher = more)

M = pain enhancing hormone (0 to 100, higher = more)

Analytical goal: Determine if the effect of the drug on pain experienced operates through the mechanism of reducing pain enhancing hormone levels.

Advantages of such a design...

Designs such as this are common:

- Participants might read two different scenarios that vary on some manipulated feature X and offer emotional reactions, make predictions about the own behavior, and so forth, in each.
- A therapist might measure certain symptoms and various outcomes when clients arrive in the office for the first time and after a few months of treatment. So X is "pre" or "post", i.e., the passage of time.

Some advantages relative to "between-subjects" design and analysis:

- Fewer participants needed. Rather than having n people (n_1 in one condition, n_2 in the other), we need about $0.5n$ in total. That saves effort, time, money, labor, and so forth.
- Greater statistical power. Each person serves as his or her own control. "Noise" due to individual differences that increases standard errors in estimates of effects is reduced, sometimes substantially.
- Reduces (but doesn't eliminate) the fundamental problem of causal inference. We don't have to think counterfactually. We know how a person responds in *each* condition rather than having to make an assumption about he or she might have if assigned to the other condition instead.

Judd, Kenny, and McClelland (2001)

Downloaded from https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/7w27

Estimating and Testing Mediation and Moderation in Within-Subject Designs

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Abstract. Despite its clear value and relevance of mediation and moderation effects, the literature on within-subjects designs has not provided clear guidelines for estimating and testing these effects. This article presents a general approach for estimating and testing mediation and moderation effects in within-subjects designs. The approach uses the same logic as Baron and Kenny's (1986) classic article on mediation analysis, but it accommodates the fact that the same variable is measured twice. It also accommodates the fact that the same variable may be manipulated twice. The approach also accommodates the fact that the same variable may be measured on different scales or may change over time. The article provides an analytic approach to examining mediation and moderation effects in within-subjects designs.

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One of the few treatments of mediation analysis in this common research design.

A "causal steps", Baron and Kenny type logic to determine whether M is functioning as a mediator of X's effect on Y when both M and Y are measured twice in difference circumstances but on the same people.

Judd, Kenny, and McClelland (2001)

Data are from Judd et al. (2001). Estimating and testing mediation and moderation in within-subjects designs. *Psychological Methods*, 6, 115–134.

Analytical goal. Determine if the effect of a pain-inhibiting drug on pain experienced operates through the mechanism of reducing pain-enhancing hormone levels.

- (1) On average, is pain following the drug lower than pain following the placebo?
- (2) On average, are there fewer pain enhancing hormones in the blood following the drug relative to the placebo?
- (3) Does difference in hormone level predict differences in pain experienced?
- (4) Do differences in hormone levels account for differences in pain?

	Y_1	Y_2	M_1	M_2
pair1	73.00	61.00	37.00	33.00
	57.00	55.00	30.00	28.00
	57.00	61.00	30.00	36.00
	67.00	49.00	31.00	30.00
	80.00	75.00	37.00	35.00
	56.00	60.00	33.00	34.00
	72.00	73.00	38.00	36.00
	81.00	65.00	43.00	29.00
	61.00	59.00	33.00	31.00
	67.00	48.00	20.00	17.00
	74.00	64.00	43.00	41.00
	70.00	55.00	34.00	27.00
	83.00	68.00	41.00	39.00
	62.00	61.00	35.00	30.00
	49.00	55.00	32.00	32.00
	74.00	79.00	35.00	37.00
	73.00	60.00	36.00	38.00
	46.00	61.00	25.00	24.00
	60.00	55.00	26.00	25.00
	93.00	71.00	46.00	39.00

Application of Judd et al. (2001)

- (1) On average, is pain following the drug significantly lower than pain following the placebo?

```
ttest pairs=pain1 pain1.
```

```
proc ttest data=judd;paired pain2*pain1;run;
```

Paired Samples Statistics					
	Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	
Pair 1 pain2	61.2500	20	8.58318	1.91926	
pain1	67.7500	20	11.88929	2.65853	

Paired Samples Test					
	Paired Differences		95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	Lower	Upper
Pair 1 pain2-pain1	-6.50000	9.23665	2.05539	-10.82289	-2.17711
				-3.147	19
				.005	

Pain experienced following the administration of the drug was 6.500 units lower compared to pain experienced following the placebo, $t(19) = -3.147, p < .01$.

Application of Judd et al. (2001)

- (2) On average, are there fewer pain-enhancing hormones in the blood following the drug relative to the placebo?

```
ttest pairs=hormone2 hormone1.
```

```
proc ttest data=judd;paired hormone2*hormone1;run;
```

Paired Samples Statistics					
	Mean	N	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	
Pair 1 hormone2	32.0000	20	5.96481	1.33377	
hormone1	34.2500	20	6.41442	1.43431	

Paired Samples Test					
	Paired Differences		95% Confidence Interval of the Difference		
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	Lower	Upper
Pair 1 hormone2-hormone1	-2.25000	4.10231	0.91730	-4.16984	-3.3006
				-2.453	19
				.024	

Pain-enhancing hormone levels were 2.25 units lower on average following the administration of the drug compared to following the placebo, $t(19) = -2.453, p < .05$.

Application of Judd et al. (2001)

- (3) Does difference in hormone level following the drug relative to placebo predict the difference in pain experienced following the drug relative to placebo?

Regress $Y_2 - Y_1$ on both $M_2 - M_1$ and mean centered ($M_2 + M_1$), as such:

$$Y_{2i} - Y_{1i} = b_0 + b_1(M_{2i} - M_{1i}) + b_2 \left(M_{2i} + M_{1i} - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (M_{2i} + M_{1i})}{n} \right) + e_i$$

```
compute ydiff=pain2-pain1;
compute mdiff=hormone2-hormone1;
compute msumc=(hormone2+hormone1)/66.25;
regression/dep=ydiff/method=enter mdiff msumc;
data judd;set judd ydiff=pain2-pain1 mdiff=hormone2-hormone1;
msumc=(hormone2+hormone1)-66.25;
proc reg data=judd model ydiff=mdiff msumc;run;
```

Coefficients*						
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error B	Beta	Std. Beta		
1	(Constant) -3.765	2.807			-1.304	.898
	mdiff 1.215	.457	.540	.2658	.617	
	msumc -.065	.160	-.082	-.406	.690	

a. Dependent Variable: ydiff

Relatively fewer pain-enhancing hormones following the drug relative to placebo is associated with less pain following the drug relative to placebo, $b_1 = 1.215, p < 0.05$.

Why include $(M_2 + M_1)$ in the model?

The impulse is to model $Y_2 - Y_1$ from $M_2 - M_1$ to assess the effect of difference in M on difference in Y . This is appropriate only if the regression weight estimating Y_2 from M_2 is the same as the regression weight estimating Y_1 from M_1 .

If Y_1 and Y_2 are linked to M_1 to M_2 as

$$Y_1 = d_{01} + \mathbf{d}_1 M_1 + e_1 \\ Y_2 = d_{02} + \mathbf{d}_2 M_2 + e_2,$$

then

$$Y_2 - Y_1 = (d_{02} + d_1 M_2 + e_2) - (d_{01} + d_1 M_1 + e_1) \\ = (d_{02} - d_{01}) + d(M_2 - M_1) + (e_2 - e_1) \\ = d_0 + \mathbf{d}(M_2 - M_1) + e_3$$

But if Y_1 and Y_2 are linked to M_1 and M_2 as

$$Y_1 = d_{01} + \mathbf{d}_1 M_1 + e_1 \\ Y_2 = d_{02} + \mathbf{d}_2 M_2 + e_2,$$

then

$$Y_2 - Y_1 = (d_{02} + d_2 M_2 + e_2) - (d_{01} + d_1 M_1 + e_1) \\ = (d_{02} - d_{01}) + (d_2 M_2 - d_1 M_1) + (e_2 - e_1)$$

It can be shown that this is equivalent to

$$\text{where } d_0 = d_{02} - d_{01} \text{ and } e_3 = e_2 - e_1$$

$$Y_2 - Y_1 = (d_{02} - d_{01}) + 0.5(d_2 - d_1)(M_2 + M_1) + \\ 0.5(d_1 + d_2)(M_2 + M_1) + (e_2 - e_1) \\ = d_0 + 0.5(d_2 - d_1)(M_2 + M_1) + \\ \mathbf{0.5(d}_2 + \mathbf{d}_1)(\mathbf{M}_2 - \mathbf{M}_1) + e_3$$

where $d_0 = d_{02} - d_{01}$ and $e_3 = e_2 - e_1$

$$Y_{2i} - Y_{1i} = b_0 + \boxed{b_1(M_{2i} - M_{1i})} +$$

$$+ b_2 \left(M_{2i} + M_{1i} - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (M_{2i} + M_{1i})}{n} \right) + e_i$$

These are nearly the same, with the exception of the centering, which has no effect on b_1 . $b_1 = 0.5(d_2 + d_1)$. So b_1 estimates the effect of $M_2 - M_1$ on $Y_2 - Y_1$, without assuming $d_1 = d_2$. It is also the average within period regression weight estimating Y from X . $\mathbf{b}_1 = \mathbf{d}$ if $d_1 = d_2$. Otherwise, \mathbf{b}_1 and \mathbf{d} will likely be different.

Why mean center $M_2 + M_1$?

Mean centering ($M_2 + M_1$) yields an intercept that estimates the average difference in Y not attributable to differences in M .

$$Y_{2i} - Y_{1i} = \boxed{b_0} + b_1(M_{2i} - M_{1i}) + b_2 \left(M_{2i} + M_{1i} - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (M_{2i} + M_{1i})}{n} \right) + e_i$$

Model	Coefficients ^a			t	Sig
	B	Unstandardized Coefficients	Standardized Coefficients Beta		
1	(Constant)	-3.765	2.087	-1.804	.089
	mdiff	1.215	.457	.540	.2658
	msumc	-.065	.160	-.082	-.406
a. Dependent Variable: ydiff					

(4) After accounting for differences in hormone levels, there is no statistically significant difference in pain experienced after the drug relative to the placebo, $t = -3.765, p = 0.089$.

Observations

(1) This method is squarely rooted in the causal steps tradition to mediation analysis that has been severely criticized. Compare it to the "Baron and Kenny" criteria:

- Is Y_2 statistically different than Y_1 ? This is like asking whether there is a total effect of X (drug) on Y (pain).
- Is M_2 statistically different than M_1 ? This is like asking whether X affects the mediator.
- Does difference in M significantly predict difference in Y ? This is like asking whether the mediator affects the outcome.
- Is there still evidence of a difference in Y after accounting for the mediator? This is like asking whether the mediator completely or partially accounts for the effect of X on Y .

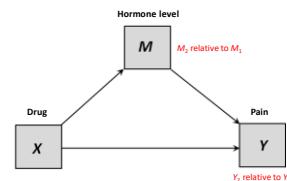
(2) There is no explicit quantification of the indirect effect, but it is the indirect effect that is the primary focus in 21st century mediation analysis.

All of the criticisms of the causal steps approach apply to the Judd, Kenny, and McClelland (2001) method of within-subject mediation analysis.

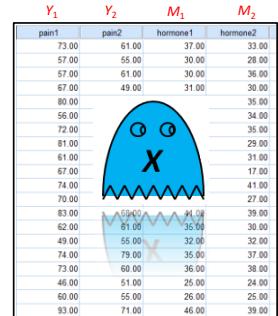
In a path analytic mediation framework

Data are from Judd et al. (2001). Estimating and testing mediation and moderation in within-subjects designs. *Psychological Methods*, 6, 115–134.

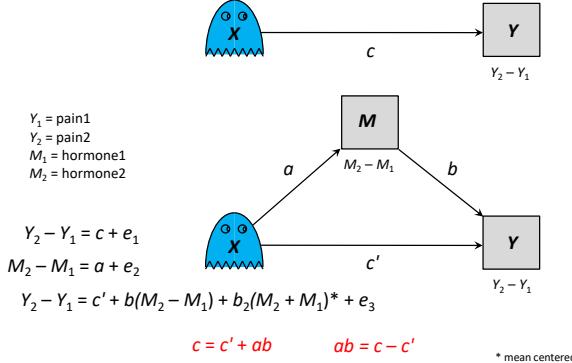
Goal: Model the effect of the pain-facilitating drug on pain sensations, directly as well as indirectly through the effect of the drug on pain-enhancing hormone level.



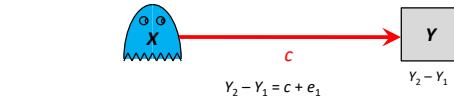
Where is X in the data?



In a path analytic mediation framework



Estimating the total effect (path c)



The total effect is the intercept in a "constant only" model of the difference between pain following the drug (Y_2) and pain following the placebo (Y_1). This is equivalent to the mean difference in pain experienced. No regression analysis needed. Just calculate the mean difference in Y (i.e., $Y_2 - Y_1$).

```
compute ydiff=pain2-pain1;
descriptives variables=ydiff;
data judd;set judd;ydiff=pain2-pain1;run;
proc means data=judd;var ydiff;run;
```

Descriptive Statistics					
	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
ydiff	20	-22.00	6.00	-6.5000	9.23665
Valid N (listwise)	20				

$c = -6.500$

6.50 units less pain following the drug compared to placebo

Estimating the a path

$$M_2 - M_1 = a + e_2$$

The a path is the intercept in a "constant only" model of the difference in hormone following the drug (M_2) and following the placebo (M_1). This is equivalent to the mean difference in hormone level. No regression analysis needed. Just calculate the mean difference in M (i.e., $M_2 - M_1$).

```
compute mdiff=hormone2-hormone1;
descriptives variables= mdiff;
data judd;set judd;mdiff=hormone2-hormone1;run;
proc means data=judd;var mdiff;run;
```

Descriptive Statistics					
	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
mdiff	20	-14.00	6.00	-2.2500	4.10231
Valid N (listwise)	20				

$a = -2.250$

2.50 units less of the pain enhancing hormone following the drug compared to placebo

Estimating the b path

$$Y_2 - Y_1 = c' + b(M_2 - M_1) + b_2(M_2 + M_1)^* + e_3$$

The b path is the regression coefficient for the mean difference in M in a model of the mean difference in Y , including the mean centered sum of M_1 and M_2 as a covariate. In these data, the mean of the sum of M_1 and M_2 is 66.250.

```
compute msumc=(hormone2+hormone1)-66.250;
regression/dep=ydiff/method=enter mdiff msumc.
data judd;set judd;mdiff=hormone2-hormone1;msumc=(hormone2+hormone1)-66.250;run;
proc reg data=judd;model ydiff=mdiff msumc;run;
```

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients			Standardized Coefficients		
	B	Std. Error	t	Sig.		
1	(Constant)	.3766	2.907	.1.804	.089	
	mdiff	1.215	.457	.540	.2658	.017
	msumc	-.092	.160	-.082	-.408	.690

a Dependent Variable: ydiff

* mean centered

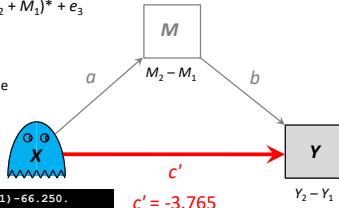
$b = 1.215$

On average, each fewer unit of pain enhancing hormone following drug relative to placebo is associated with 1.215 fewer units of pain following drug relative to placebo.

Estimating the direct effect (path c')

$$Y_2 - Y_1 = c' + b(M_2 - M_1) + d_2(M_2 + M_1)^* + e_3$$

The direct effect (path c') is the regression constant in the model of the mean difference in Y from the mean difference in M and the mean centered sum of M_1 and M_2 . This is the same model used to estimate path b .



```
compute msumc=(hormone2+hormone1)-66.250.
regression/dep=ydiff/method=enter mdiff msumc.
data judd;set judd;mdiff=hormone2-hormone1;msumc=(hormone2+hormone1)-66.250;run;
proc reg data=judd;model ydiff=mdiff msumc;run;
```

Coefficients^a

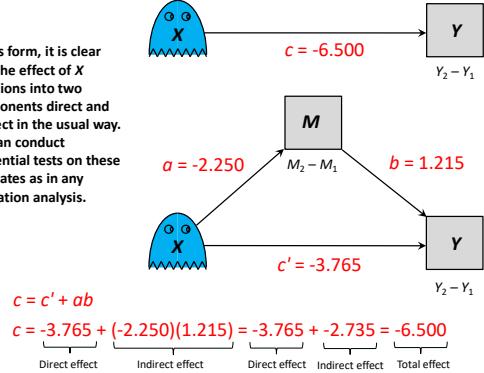
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig.
	B	Std Err	Beta	t		
1 (Constant)	-3.765	2.087		-1.804	.069	
mdiff	.457	.540	.540	2.658	.017	
msumc	-.065	.160	-.082	-.406	.690	

a. Dependent Variable: ydiff

Independent of the effect of drug vs. placebo hormone difference on pain difference, the drug results in 3.765 units less pain relative to placebo.

Putting it all together

In this form, it is clear that the effect of X partitions into two components direct and indirect in the usual way. We can conduct inferential tests on these estimates as in any mediation analysis.



$$c = c' + ab$$

$$c = -3.765 + (-2.250)(1.215) = -3.765 + -2.735 = -6.500$$

Direct effect Indirect effect Direct effect Indirect effect Total effect

Statistical inference

- The total effect is just the average difference between Y_2 and Y_1 . Inference can proceed in the usual way (paired t-test, a confidence interval for the difference, etc.)

In these data, $c = -6.500$, $t(19) = -3.147$, $p < 0.01$. On average, the drug appears to have an effect on the experience of pain. But we should not insist on evidence of a total effect to proceed with a mediation analysis, as we no longer do elsewhere in modern mediation analysis.

- The direct effect is just the average difference between Y_2 and Y_1 , not accounted for by differences in M and their sum. A hypothesis test or confidence interval will do.

Here, $c' = -3.765$, $t(17) = -1.804$, $p = 0.089$. Accounting for the effect of change in M and individual differences in M , the remaining effect of the drug on pain is not statistically different from zero.

- Whereas the Judd et al. (2001) approach requires the joint significance of a and b to claim mediation, modern mediation analysis bases claims of mediation on a quantification of the indirect effect and inference about it. The indirect effect is ab , which is equivalent to $c - c'$. The sampling distribution of this difference is not normally distributed.

$ab = -2.250(1.215) = -2.785$. This is the reduction in pain due to the drug that results from the effect of the drug on reducing pain-enhancing hormones. A bootstrap CI for inference is a good choice.

MEMORE

This method is described in more detail in Montoya and Hayes (2017). The paper includes a description of a new macro (MEMORE, pronounced like "memory").

- Single and multiple mediator models.
- Single and multiple moderator models.
- Various inferential methods for indirect effects
- Contrasts between indirect effects
- moderated mediation analysis functions coming soon.

```
memore y=pain2 pain1/m=hormone2 hormone1/samples=10000.
```

```
%memore (data=judd,y=pain2 pain1,m=hormone2 hormone1,samples=10000);
```



MEMORE Output

**MEMORE
constructs
differences
and averages
for you.**

```
***** MEMORE Procedure for SPSS Version 1.1 *****
Written by Amanda Montoya
Documentation available at afhayes.com
*****
```

Variables:
 $y = \text{pain2} - \text{pain1}$
 $M = \text{hormone2} - \text{hormone1}$

Computed Variables:
 $ydiff = \text{hormone2} - \text{hormone1}$
 $Mavg = (\text{hormone2} + \text{hormone1}) / 2$ Centered

Sample Size: 20

```
***** Outcome: Ydiff = pain2 - pain1 *****
Model          Effect      SE      t      df      P      LLCI      ULCI
c' = -6.500   'x'  -6.5000  2.0654  -3.1471  19.0000  .0053  -10.8233  -2.1767
```

```
***** Outcome: Mdiff = hormone2 - hormone1 *****
Model          Effect      SE      t      df      P      LLCI      ULCI
a = -2.250   'x'  -2.2500  .9173  -2.4528  19.0000  .0240  -4.1701  -.3299
```

```
*****
```

MEMORE Output

```
***** Outcome: Ydiff = pain2 - pain1 *****
Model Summary
Model          R      R-sq      MSE      F      df1      df2      P
c' = -3.765   .5554    .3085  65.9384  3.7918  2.0000  17.0000  .0435
b = 1.215   ↗ 'x'  -3.7654  2.0869  -1.8041  17.0000  .0889  -8.1689  .6381
Mavg = -.1302  ↗ Mid ff  1.2154  .4972  2.6583  17.0000  .0146  -.2556  2.1801
      ↗ Avg ff  .3029  -.4057  17.0000  .0600  -.8074
```

```
***** TOTAL, DIRECT, AND INDIRECT EFFECTS *****
Total effect of X on Y
Effect      SE      t      df      P      LLCI      ULCI
c = -6.500   ↗ -6.5000  2.0654  -3.1471  19.0000  .0053  -10.8233  -2.1767
```

```
Direct effect of X on Y
Effect      SE      t      df      P      LLCI      ULCI
c' = -3.765   ↗ -3.7654  2.0869  -1.8043  17.0000  .0889  -8.1689  .6381
```

```
Indirect Effect of X on Y through M
Effect      BootSE  BootLLCI  BootULCI
Indir  -2.7346  1.3120  -.6521  -.5230 ↗ bootstrap confidence interval
```

```
Indirect Key
Indir X  -> Mdiff  -> Ydiff
```

```
***** ANALYSIS NOTES AND WARNINGS *****
Bootstrap confidence interval method used: Percentile bootstrap.
Number of bootstrap samples for bootstrap confidence intervals: 10000
```

A study of sex discrimination in the workplace

Garcia, D. M., Schmitt, M. T., Branscombe, N. R., & Ellemers, N. (2010). Women's reactions to ingroup members who protest discriminatory treatment: The importance of beliefs about inequality and response appropriateness. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 40, 733-745.



All participants (129 females) read a narrative about a female attorney who lost a promotion at her firm to a less qualified male through unequivocally discriminatory actions of the senior partners. The participants were randomly assigned to one of three conditions:

"Individual protest": Participants were told that she protested by describing her qualifications for the job, how much she deserved it, and the unfairness and harm to her own career.

"Collective protest": Participants were told that she protested by describing how the firm has not been fair to women, women are just as qualified as men, and they should be treated equally.

"No protest": These participants were told that although she was disappointed, she accepted the decision and continued working at the firm.

A study of sex discrimination in the workplace

Garcia, D. M., Schmitt, M. T., Branscombe, N. R., & Ellemers, N. (2010). Women's reactions to ingroup members who protest discriminatory treatment: The importance of beliefs about inequality and response appropriateness. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 40, 733-745.

After reading the narrative, the participants evaluated how appropriate they perceived her response to be for the situation, i.e., was it a positive response for dealing with the firm's discrimination.

They also responded to various questions about the attorney that were used to produce a measure of her evaluation which we'll simply call **liking**, such as "I like Catherine," and "Catherine has many positive traits."

Prior to the study, the participants filled out the **modern sexism scale**, used to score each participant with respect to how pervasive she believes sexism and sex discrimination are in society.

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 DOI: 10.1002/jclp.20640
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The Data: PROTEST

submiss	cond	1	session	angry	liking	respappr	protest	date	protest	cond	sexism	angry	liking	respappr	protest
1	209	2	1	4.90	2	4.80	1.20	209	2	4.97	2	4.83	4.25	1.00	
2	44	0	4.45	1	4.60	5.20	.70	44	0	4.25	1	4.50	5.75	1.00	
3	134	2	5.00	3	5.50	4.75		134	2	5.00	1	5.10	5.75	1.00	
4	232	2	5.60	1	6.60	7.00		232	2	5.50	1	5.66	7.00	1.00	
5	38	2	4.85	1	5.10	5.75		38	2	5.62	1	6.16	6.75	1.00	
6	140	1	5.75	2	6.00	5.60		140	1	5.75	1	6.00	5.50	1.00	
7	27	2	5.12	2	4.66	6.00		27	2	5.12	1	4.66	5.00	1.00	
8	54	0	4.02	1	5.10	5.25		54	0	4.42	1	5.10	5.25	1.00	
9	67	0	3.75	6	1.00	3.00		67	0	3.75	6	1.00	3.00	1.00	
10	182	0	4.62	1	6.83	5.75		182	0	4.62	1	6.83	5.75	1.00	
11	85	2	4.45	1	5.30	5.75		85	2	4.75	2	5.00	5.25	1.00	
12	109	2	4.12	5	5.44	7.00		109	2	4.25	2	5.44	7.00	1.00	
13	122	0	4.87	2	5.83	4.60		122	0	4.87	2	5.83	4.90	1.00	
14	69	1	5.87	1	6.50	6.25		69	1	5.87	1	6.50	6.25	1.00	

COND: Experimental condition (0 = no protest, 1 = individual protest, 2 = collective protest)

LIKING : Evaluation (liking) of the lawyer (higher = more positive evaluation, i.e. like more)

SEXISM: Score on the modern sexism scale: Beliefs about the pervasiveness of sex discrimination in society (higher = sex discrimination perceived as more pervasive in society)

RESPAPPR: A measure of how appropriate the lawyer's behavior in response to the action of the partners was perceived to be for the situation (higher = more appropriate)

Our objectives with these data

	Perceived Response Appropriateness (M)		Liking (Y)		
	M	SD	\bar{Y}	SD	\bar{Y}^*
No protest (n = 41)	3.884	1.457	5.310	1.302	5.715
Individual protest (n = 43)	5.145	1.075	5.826	0.819	5.711
Collective protest (n = 45)	5.494	0.936	5.753	0.936	5.495
All groups combined	4.866	1.348	5.637	1.050	5.637

\bar{Y}^* = adjusted mean, adjusted to the sample mean of perceived response appropriateness.

We'll examine whether the effect of the attorney's response on how she is evaluated (3 conditions)...

... operates through the mechanism of how appropriate her response to the situation perceived as being (mediation)

Course II....

... depends on perceived pervasiveness of sex discrimination in society (moderation).

... as mediated by the mechanism of perceived appropriateness of her response is moderated by perceived pervasiveness of sex discrimination (moderated mediation)

Single-factor ("one-way") analysis of variance

Did the lawyer's choice as to how to respond (not at all, individual protest, collective protest) influence how she was perceived? That is, is there a difference between conditions, on average, in how much she was liked? Most would answer this using a single-factor (a.k.a. "one-way") analysis of variance (ANOVA).

means tables = liking by cond/statistics anova.					
proc anova data=protest;					
class cond;model liking = cond;means cond;run;					
Report					
LIKING: Liking of the target					
COND (experimental condition)	Mean	N	Std. Deviation		
no protest	5.3102	41	1.30158		
individual	5.8260	43	81943		
collective	5.7533	45	93801		
Total	5.6367	129	1.04870		
ANOVA Table					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Likng: Liking of the target	Between Groups (Combined)	6.523	2	3.262	3.055 .051
* COND (experimental condition)	Within Groups	134.515	126	1.068	
	Total	141.039	128		

The lawyer's response to the discrimination affected how much she was liked on average, $F(2,126) = 3.055$, $p = .051$. She was most liked when she protested individually (Mean = 5.83, SD = 0.82), next most when protesting collectively (Mean = 5.75, SD = 0.94), and least when she didn't protest at all (Mean = 5.31, SD = 1.30).

Mediation

Does perceived response appropriateness mediate this effect?

	Perceived Response Appropriateness (M)		Liking (Y)		
	M	SD	\bar{Y}	SD	\bar{Y}^*
No protest (n = 41)	3.884	1.457	5.310	1.302	5.715
Individual protest (n = 43)	5.145	1.075	5.826	0.819	5.711
Collective protest (n = 45)	5.494	0.936	5.753	0.936	5.495
All groups combined	4.866	1.348	5.637	1.050	5.637

\bar{Y}^* = adjusted mean, adjusted to the sample mean of perceived response appropriateness.

Here, the presumed cause is a multicategorical variable with three levels. How does one conduct a mediation analysis in such a design?

Mediation of the effect of a multcategorical independent variable

Does perceived response appropriateness mediate this effect?

The causal steps approach

From a single-factor ANOVA,

the effect of experimental condition

on...liking: $F(2,126) = 3.055, p = .051$ (**total effect**)

...response appropriateness: $F(2,126) = 22.219, p < .001$ ('**a' effect)**

From a single-factor ANCOVA...the relationship between perceived response appropriateness and liking is positive, $b = 0.412, p < 0.001$ ('**b' effect), and...**

...the effect of condition on liking disappears after controlling for response appropriateness $F(2,125) = 0.729, p = .485$ (**direct effect**)

This approach has all the problems of the causal steps ("Baron and Kenny") approach.
There is a better way.

	Perceived Response Appropriateness (M)			Liking (Y)		
	M	SD	T	SD	t'	
No protest (n = 41)	3.884	1.457	5.310	1.302	5.715	
Individual protest (n = 43)	5.145	1.075	5.826	0.819	5.711	
Collective protest (n = 45)	5.494	0.936	5.753	0.936	5.495	
All groups combined	4.866	1.348	5.637	1.050	5.637	

\bar{Y}' = adjusted mean, adjusted to the sample mean of perceived response appropriateness.

Representing a multcategorical predictor in a linear model

Predictor variables in a linear model must be quantitative or dichotomous (i.e., categorical with only two values). What if we want to include multcategorical variables? **How do we proceed?**

Any multcategorical variable with k categories can be represented with $k - 1$ Variables in a regression model. For example, we can code membership in a category with a set of *dummiy variables* and all of these $k - 1$ dummy variables in the model.

Indicator Coding (AKA "Dummy Coding")

Set D_1 to 1 for cases in category 1, 0 otherwise

D_2 to 1 for cases in category 2, 0 otherwise

.

.

$D_{(k-1)}$ to 1 for cases in category $k - 1$, 0 otherwise

Category k is called the "reference category," for reasons that will be clear soon. It is represented here in the coding system, but it doesn't seem so.

Indicator coding condition

```
frequencies variables = cond.
```

```
proc freq data=protest;tables cond;run;
```

COND: experimental condition

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
cond = 0	Valid	41	31.8	31.8
cond = 1	individual	43	33.3	65.1
cond = 2	collective	45	34.9	34.9
	Total	129	100.0	100.0

One possible dummy variable coding system for condition ($k = 3$ categories):

	D_1	D_2
No protest	0	0
Individual	1	0
Collective	0	1

The "reference category" is the one with zeros on all $k - 1$ dummy variables. In this example, those told the lawyer did not protest are the reference category.

Constructing Indicator variables

There is a variety of ways of constructing indicator codes in a computing platform, each with its dangers, assumptions, and conveniences.

	D_1	D_2	
cond = 0	No protest	0	0
cond = 1	Individual	1	0
cond = 2	Collective	0	1

Here is one way

```
compute d1 = 0.
compute d2 = 0.
if (cond = 1) d1 = 1.
if (cond = 2) d2 = 1.
execute.
```

```
data protest;set protest;
d1=0;d2=0;
if (cond=1) then d1 = 1;
if (cond=2) then d2 = 1;
run;
```

This approach can be dangerous. Any cases missing on condition will be coded as if they were assigned to the no protest condition. Use this approach with caution. As a general rule, know your data before you start manipulating it.

Constructing Indicator variables

There is a variety of ways of constructing indicator codes in a computing platform, each with its dangers, assumptions, and conveniences.

	D_1	D_2
No protest	0	0
Individual	1	0
Collective	0	1

Here is a safer approach:

```
compute d1 = (cond=1).
compute d2 = (cond=2).
execute.
```

```
data protest;set protest;
d1 = (cond=1);
d2 = (cond=2);
if (cond=.) then d1=.;
if (cond=.) then d2=.;
run;
```

In SPSS, this is very efficient. SAS requires the explicit coding of missing data as such.
The SPSS version will leave cases missing on cond missing on d1 and d2.

Estimating liking from experimental condition using regression

```
compute d1 = (cond=1).
compute d2 = (cond=2).
regression/dep =liking/method = enter d1 d2.
```

```
data protest;set protest;
d1 = (cond=1):run;
d2 = (cond=2):run;
proc reg data=protest model liking = d1 d2:run;
```

We know there are no missing data on cond, so this is ok.

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std Error of the Estimate
1	.219*	.046	.031	1.05374

a. Predictors: (Constant), d2, d1

ANOVA ^a					
Model	Sum of Squares		df	Mean Square	F
1	Regression		1	3.262	3.855
	Residual		128	1.068	
	Total		129	1.068	

a. Dependent Variable: LIKING: liking of the target

b. Predictors: (Constant), d2, d1

Coefficients ^a					
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant) 5.310	.161		32.908	.000
	d1 .516	.226	.233	2.287	.024
	d2 .443	.223	.302	1.986	.049

a. Dependent Variable: LIKING: liking of the target

$$\hat{Y} = 5.310 + 0.516D_1 + 0.443D_2$$

The model reproduces the group means

$$\hat{Y} = 5.310 + 0.516D_1 + 0.443D_2$$

	D_1	D_2
No protest	0	0
Individual	1	0
Collective	0	1

No protest $\hat{Y} = 5.310 + 0.516(0) + 0.443(0) = 5.310 = \bar{Y}_{NP}$

Individual protest $\hat{Y} = 5.310 + 0.516(1) + 0.443(0) = 5.826 = \bar{Y}_{IP}$

Collective protest $\hat{Y} = 5.310 + 0.516(0) + 0.443(1) = 5.753 = \bar{Y}_{CP}$

Report

LIKING: liking of the target			
COND: experimental condition	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
No protest	5.3102	41	1.03198
Individual	5.8260	43	1.04143
Collective	5.7533	45	1.03601
Total	5.6367	129	1.04970

Interpretation of the coefficients

$$\hat{Y} = b_0 + b_1 D_1 + b_2 D_2$$

$$\hat{Y} = 5.310 + 0.516D_1 + 0.443D_2$$

	D_1	D_2
No protest	0	0
Individual	1	0
Collective	0	1

$b_0 = 5.310$ This is the mean liking among those assigned to the no protest condition ($D_1 = 0, D_2 = 0$).

$b_1 = 0.516$ This is the mean difference in liking between those in the individual protest condition ($D_1 = 1, D_2 = 0$) and those in the no protest condition ($D_1 = 0, D_2 = 0$)
 $b_1 = \bar{Y}_{IP} - \bar{Y}_{NP} = 5.826 - 5.310 = 0.516$

$b_2 = 0.443$ This is the mean difference in liking between those in the collective protest condition ($D_1 = 0, D_2 = 1$) and those in the no protest condition ($D_1 = 0, D_2 = 0$)
 $b_2 = \bar{Y}_{CP} - \bar{Y}_{NP} = 5.753 - 5.310 = 0.443$

When D_1 and D_2 are indicator codes constructed in this fashion, b_1 estimates the mean difference in Y between the group coded by D_1 and the reference group, and b_2 estimates the mean difference in Y between the group coded by D_2 and the reference group.

Statistical inference

We are estimating the coefficients of a model of the form

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{b}_0 + \hat{b}_1 D_1 + \hat{b}_2 D_2$$

If there is no actual difference, on average, between these groups on Y , this implies that both “true” regression coefficients \hat{b}_1 and \hat{b}_2 are both equal to zero. The null hypothesis can be tested by converting the obtained R^2 to an F -ratio and then deriving a p -value.

Model Summary					
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	
1	.215*	.046	.031	1.03324	

a. Predictors: (Constant), D_1 , D_2

ANOVA ^a					
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1. Regression	3.523	2	1.762	3.055	.051*
Residual	134.515	126	1.068		
Total	141.039	128			

a. Dependent Variable: Liking: liking of the target

b. Predictors: (Constant), D_1 , D_2

$$H_0: \hat{b}_1 = \hat{b}_2 = 0$$

$$H_a: \text{at least one is different from zero}$$

$$F(k-1, df_{\text{residual}}) = \frac{df_{\text{residual}}R^2}{(k-1)(1-R^2)}$$

$$F(2,126) = \frac{126(0.046)}{2(1-0.046)}$$

$$F(2,126) = 3.055$$

$F(2,126) = 3.055, p = .051$. Reject H_0 . The three group means differ from each other by more than can be explained by just ‘chance’. Compare this to the one-way ANOVA from earlier.

Statistical inference

We are estimating the coefficients of a model of the form

$$\hat{Y} = \hat{b}_0 + \hat{b}_1 D_1 + \hat{b}_2 D_2$$

b_1 and b_2 can also be used to test hypotheses about differences between groups—specifically, between the group a dummy variable codes and the reference group.

Coefficients^a

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients Beta	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error			
1	(Constant)	5.310	.161	32.908	.000
	D_1	.516	.226	.233	.2287
	D_2	.443	.223	.202	.1986

a. Dependent Variable: Liking: liking of the target

$$H_0: \hat{b}_1 = 0$$

$$H_a: \hat{b}_1 \neq 0$$

$$b_1 = 0.516, t(126) = 2.287, p = .024$$

$$H_0: \hat{b}_2 = 0$$

$$H_a: \hat{b}_2 \neq 0$$

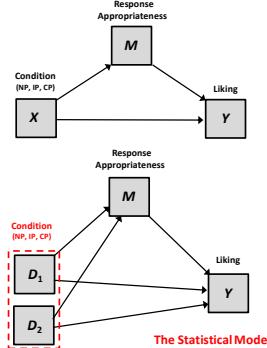
$$b_2 = 0.443, t(126) = 1.986, p = .049$$

Those told she individually protested liked her more on average than those told she did not protest.

Those told she collectively protested liked her more on average than those told she did not protest.

Mediation analysis with a multicategorical independent variable

The Conceptual Model



Expert Tutorial: Statistical mediation analysis with a multicategorical independent variable

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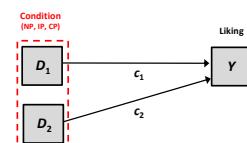
Virtually all discussions of mediation of moderated mediation analysis have been based on the condition that the independent variable is dichotomous or continuous, with the exception of a few papers that have considered the case of categorical independent variables (e.g., MacKinnon et al., 2002; MacKinnon & Fairchild, 2009). This paper extends the theory and practice of mediation analysis to the case of a categorical independent variable. The paper also extends the theory and practice of moderated mediation analysis to the case of a categorical independent variable. The paper also extends the theory and practice of moderated mediation analysis to the case of a categorical independent variable.

The simple mediation model, the focus of this paper, is diagrammed in Figure 1b. In this model, X is predicted to affect M , and this effect then propagates to Y . According to the model, X also affects Y directly—the direct effect of X on Y . This model is a special case of the general model of mediation analysis (MacKinnon et al., 2002; MacKinnon & Fairchild, 2009). The term “moderated mediation” refers to the case in which X is a moderator of the relationship between M and Y .

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Hayes and Preacher (2014, *BJMSP*) available in your materials.

(Relative) total, direct, and indirect effects



c_1 and c_2 : Relative total effects of experimental condition on liking

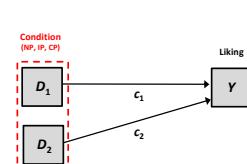
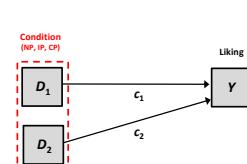
c'_1 and c'_2 : Relative direct effects of experimental condition on liking

a_1 and a_2 : Relative indirect effects of condition on liking through perceived response appropriateness.

$$c_1 = c'_1 + a_1 b; \text{ therefore, } a_1 b = c_1 - c'_1$$

$$c_2 = c'_2 + a_2 b; \text{ therefore, } a_2 b = c_2 - c'_2$$

The relative total effects partition perfectly into relative direct and relative indirect effects. The relative indirect effects are the relative total effects minus the relative direct effects.



Coding the groups

We'll use indicator codes setting the no protest condition to the reference group. Condition (variable name COND) is coded 0 (no protest condition), 1 (individual protest condition), and 2 (collective protest condition).

Condition	D_1	D_2
No protest	0	0
Individual	1	0
Collective	0	1

```
compute d1 = (cond=1).
compute d2 = (cond=2).
execute.
```

```
data protest;set protest;
d1 = (cond=1);
d2 = (cond=2);
if (cond=.) then d1=.;
if (cond=.) then d2=.;
run;
```

So effects for D_1 will compare individual protest to no protest, and effects for D_2 will compare collective protest to no protest.

The total effect of experimental condition on liking (c paths)

regression/dep = liking/method = enter d1 d2.

proc reg dataprotest:model liking=d1 d2;run;

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	F	Sig.
1	.215*	.046	.031	1.03374	

a. Predictors: (Constant), d1, d2

b. Predictors: (Constant), d2, d1

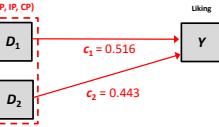
c. Dependent Variable: LIKING Liking of the target

d. Predictors: (Constant), d1, d2

e. Dependent Variable: LIKING Liking of the target

f. Predictors: (Constant), d2, d1

We did this already!



Relative total effects

Relative to those told she did not protest, those told she individually protested liked her more on average ($c_1 = 0.516, p = .024$). Relative to those told she did not protest, those told she collectively protested also liked her more on average ($c_2 = 0.443, p = .049$).

The effect of experimental condition on perceived response appropriateness (a paths)

regression/dep = respappr/method = enter d1 d2.

proc reg dataprotest:model respappr=d1 d2;run;

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	F	Sig.
1	.211*	.0261	.0148	1.16309	

a. Dependent Variable: RESPAPPR appropriateness of response

b. Predictors: (Constant), d2, d1

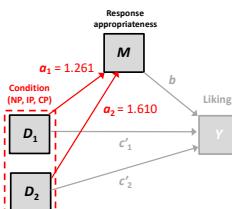
c. Coefficients*

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig.
	B	Std Error	Beta			
1	(Constant)	.01042	.102	.103	-.001	.999
	d1	.1291	.256	.443	4.946	.000
	d2	.1618	.257	.472	6.384	.000

a. Dependent Variable: RESPAPPR appropriateness of response

b. Predictors: (Constant), d2, d1

c. Coefficients*



The direct effect of condition on liking (c' paths) along with the effect of response appropriateness on liking (b path)

regression/dep = liking/method = enter respappr d1 d2.

proc reg dataprotest:model liking=respappr d1 d2;run;

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	F	Sig.
1	.3073*	.093	.075	14.123	.000

a. Predictors: (Constant), d1, d2, respappr

b. Predictors: (Constant), d2, d1

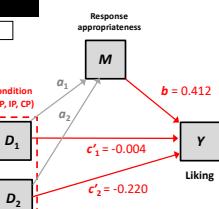
c. Coefficients*

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig.
	B	Std Error	Beta			
1	(Constant)	.37708	.307	.307	12.071	.000
	respappr	.00000	.000	.000	0.000	.999
	d1	.000	.218	.492	.017	.988
	d2	.228	.228	.-1.00	-.988	.338

a. Dependent Variable: LIKING Liking of the target

b. Predictors: (Constant), d2, respappr, appropriateness of response, d1

c. Coefficients*

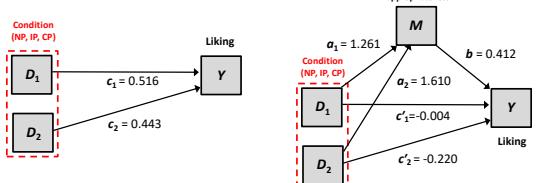


Relative direct effects

Controlling for perceived responses appropriateness, those told she individually protested did not like her any more, on average, than those told she did not protest ($c'_1 = -.004, p = .987$). And those told she collectively protested did not like her any more, on average, than those told she did not protest ($c'_2 = -.220, p = .336$). Holding condition constant, those who perceived her behavior as relatively more appropriate likely her relatively more ($b = 0.412$).

Relative to those told she did not protest, those told she individually protested felt her response was more appropriate on average ($a_1 = 1.261, p < .001$). Relative to those told she did not protest, those told she collectively protested felt her response was more appropriate on average ($a_2 = 1.610, p < .001$).

(Relative) total, direct, and indirect effects



c_1 and c_2 : Relative total effects of condition on liking ($c_1 = 0.516$, $c_2 = 0.443$).
 c'_1 and c'_2 : Relative direct effects of condition on liking ($c'_1 = -0.004$, $c'_2 = -0.220$).
 a_1b and a_2b : Relative indirect effects of condition on liking through perceived response appropriateness
 $a_1b = 1.261(0.412) = 0.520$, $a_2b = 1.610(0.412) = 0.663$

$$c_1 = c'_1 + a_1b: 0.516 = -0.004 + 1.261(0.412) = -0.004 + 0.520$$

$$c_2 = c'_2 + a_2b: 0.443 = -0.220 + 1.610(0.412) = -0.220 + 0.663$$

The relative total effects partition perfectly into relative direct and relative indirect effects. The relative indirect effects are the relative total effects minus the relative direct effects.

Relative total, direct, and indirect effects

	Perceived Response Appropriateness (M)		Liking (Y)		
	M	SD	M	SD	\bar{Y}^*
No protest ($n = 41$)	$a_1 = 1.261$	3.884	1.457	5.310	5.715
Individual protest ($n = 43$)	5.145	1.075	5.826	0.819	5.711
Collective protest ($n = 45$)	5.494	0.936	5.753	0.936	5.495
All groups combined	4.866	1.348	5.637	1.050	5.637

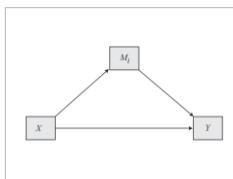
\bar{Y}^* = adjusted mean, adjusted to the sample mean of perceived response appropriateness.

$$c_1 = c'_1 + a_1b: 0.516 = -0.004 + 1.261(0.412) = -0.004 + 0.520$$

$$c_2 = c'_2 + a_2b: 0.443 = -0.220 + 1.610(0.412) = -0.220 + 0.663$$

Estimation using PROCESS

Model 4



PROCESS V3 has an option for specifying X as a multicategorical variable with up to 9 categories. Four options are available for coding the groups.

MCX=1 tells PROCESS that X is a multicategorical variable and to use dummy coding to represent the groups. Other coding options are available. See the PROCESS documentation.

MCX Coding system
1 Simple dummy coding
2 Sequential ("adjacent categories") coding
3 Helmert coding
4 Effect coding

```
process y=liking/mwrespappr/x=cond/mcx=1/model=4/total=1/boot=10000
%process (data=protest,y=liking,m=respappr,x=cond,mcx=1,model=4,
  total=1,boot=10000);
```

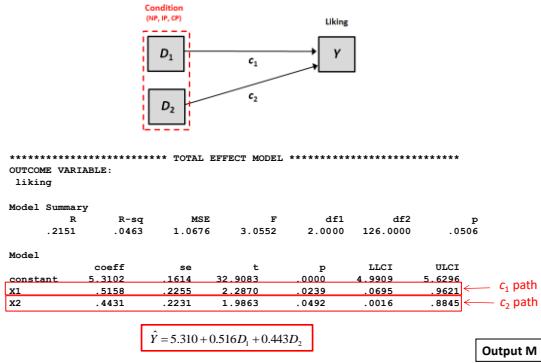
PROCESS output

Model : 4
 Y : liking
 X : cond
 M : mwrespappr
 Sample Size: 129
 Coding of categorical X variable for analysis:
 cond X1 X2
 .000 .000 .000 X1 codes individual protest, X2 codes collective protest.
 1.000 2.000 1.000 No protest is the reference category, with the numerically smallest value on the categorical variable is always the reference)

 OUTCOME VARIABLE: mwrespappr
 $\hat{M} = 3.884 + 1.261D_1 + 1.610D_2$
 Model Summary
 R R-sq MSE F df1 df2 P
 .5106 .2067 1.3649 22.2190 2.0000 126.0000 .0000
 Model
 coeff se t P ILCI ULCI
 Constant 3.8841 1825 21.2981 .0000 3.5231 4.2452
 X1 -.0037 -.2190 -.0169 -.9865 -.4372 .4297
 X2 1.6103 .2582 6.3466 .0000 1.3131 2.0485

 OUTCOME VARIABLE: liking
 $\hat{Y} = 3.710 - 0.004D_1 - 0.220D_2 + 0.412M$
 Model Summary
 R R-sq MSE F df1 df2 P
 .5031 .2031 1.3427 14.1225 3.0000 125.0000 .0000
 Model
 coeff se t P ILCI ULCI
 Constant 3.7103 .3074 12.0711 .0000 3.1020 4.3187
 X1 -.0037 -.2190 -.0169 -.9865 -.4372 .4297
 X2 1.6103 .2582 6.3466 .0000 1.3131 2.0485
 respappr .4119 .0700 5.8844 .0000 .7334 .9314
 b path
 c' path
 c'' path
 Output L

PROCESS output



PROCESS output

***** TOTAL, DIRECT, AND INDIRECT EFFECTS OF X ON Y *****

Relative total effects of X on Y:

Effect	se	t	P	LLCI	ULCI
X1	.1519	.2255	2.2870	.0239	.0695 .9621
X2	.4431	.2231	1.9863	.0492	.0016 .8845

Omnibus test of total effect of X on Y:

R2-chng	F	df1	df2	P
.0463	3.0552	2.0000	126.0000	.0506

Relative direct effects of X on Y:

Effect	se	t	P	LLCI	ULCI
X1	.0037	.2190	-.0169	.9865	-.4371 .4297
X2	-.2202	.2280	-.9658	.3360	-.6715 .2310

Omnibus test of direct effect of X on Y:

R2-chng	F	df1	df2	P
.0087	.7286	2.0000	125.0000	.4846

Relative indirect effects of X on Y

cond -> resappgr -> liking

Effect	se	t	P	LLCI	ULCI
X1	.5195	.1524	.2590	.0536	-.4297 .4297
X2	.6633	.1671	.3684	1.0187	-.3684 .3684

Indirect effect $a_1 b$ with bootstrap confidence interval
Indirect effect $a_2 b$ with bootstrap confidence interval

Output M

Those told she individually protested liked her more than those told she did not protest because protesting was perceived as more appropriate than not, which in turn enhanced liking (point estimate = 0.520, 95% CI: 0.259 to 0.854). There is no direct effect of individually protesting on liking. Those told she collectively protested liked her more than those told she did not protest because protesting was perceived as more appropriate than not, which in turn enhanced liking (point estimate= 0.663, 95% CI: 0.368 to 1.019). There is no direct effect of collectively protesting on liking.

Omnibus inference

PROCESS gives us tests of the $k-1$ relative total effects. It also provides a test of equality of the k group means on Y —the “omnibus” total effect. This is equivalent to a single-factor ANOVA.

***** TOTAL, DIRECT, AND INDIRECT EFFECTS OF X ON Y *****

Relative total effects of X on Y:

Effect	se	t	P	LLCI	ULCI
X1	.5158	.2255	2.2870	.0239	.0695 .9621
X2	.4431	.2231	1.9863	.0492	.0016 .8845

Omnibus test of total effect of X on Y:

R2-chng	F	df1	df2	P
.0463	3.0552	2.0000	126.0000	.0506

Relative direct effects of X on Y:

Effect	se	t	P	LLCI	ULCI
X1	-.0037	.2190	-.0169	.9865	-.4371 .4297
X2	-.2202	.2280	-.9658	.3360	-.6715 .2310

Omnibus test of direct effect of X on Y:

R2-chng	F	df1	df2	P
.0087	.7286	2.0000	125.0000	.4846

Relative indirect effects of X on Y

cond -> resappgr -> liking

Effect	BootSE	BootLLCI	BootULCI	
X1	.5195	.1524	.2590	.0536
X2	.6633	.1671	.3684	1.0187

Test of the “omnibus” total effect.

The three conditions differ on average in liking of the attorney, $F(2,126) = 3.055$, $p = .051$.

Omnibus inference

PROCESS gives us tests of the $k-1$ relative direct effects. It also provides a test of equality of the k group adjusted means on Y when the mediator is held constant—the “omnibus” direct effect. This is equivalent to a single-factor ANCOVA.

Output M

***** TOTAL, DIRECT, AND INDIRECT EFFECTS OF X ON Y *****

Effect	se	t	P	LLCI	ULCI
X1	.5158	.2255	2.2870	.0239	.0695 .9621
X2	.4431	.2231	1.9863	.0492	.0016 .8845

Omnibus test of total effect of X on Y:

R2-chng	F	df1	df2	P
.0463	3.0552	2.0000	126.0000	.0506

Relative direct effects of X on Y:

Effect	se	t	P	LLCI	ULCI
X1	-.0037	.2190	-.0169	.9865	-.4371 .4297
X2	-.2202	.2280	-.9658	.3360	-.6715 .2310

Omnibus test of direct effect of X on Y:

R2-chng	F	df1	df2	P
.0087	.7286	2.0000	125.0000	.4846

Relative indirect effects of X on Y

cond -> resappgr -> liking

Effect	BootSE	BootLLCI	BootULCI	
X1	.5195	.1524	.2590	.0536
X2	.6633	.1671	.3684	1.0187

Test of the “omnibus” direct effect.

The three conditions do not differ on average in how much they liked her after accounting for group differences in perceived response appropriateness $\Delta R^2 = 0.009$, $F(2,125) = 0.729$, $p = .485$. ΔR^2 is the change in R^2 when the $k-1$ variables coding group are added to the model of Y that already contains the mediator.

Omnibus inference about the indirect effect

- The omnibus tests for the total and direct effect of X are not dependent on the system used for coding the groups, even though the relative direct and total effects are.
- The rule that X indirectly affects Y if at least one relative indirect effect is different from zero means our conclusion will depend on the system used for coding groups, since the relative indirect effects are dependent on that choice.
- If all of the bootstrap confidence intervals for the relative indirect effects straddle zero, that does NOT mean X does not indirectly affect Y . It could be that a different coding choice produces a different outcome.
- The rule can confirm that X indirectly affects Y if at least one relative indirect effect is different from zero. But a failure to meet this criterion does not disconfirm the existence of an indirect effect of X on Y through M .
- Moral: Choose your coding system wisely, so that it produces relative indirect effects you care about and that are sensitive to the question you are trying to answer.
- There are omnibus tests of the indirect effect that are not sensitive to the coding choice. This must be done in SEM and can require problematic assumptions.

A different coding system

Other systems for coding groups can be used. For instance, we might instead choose to estimate the direct and indirect effects of protesting (regardless of form) relative to not, and the effects of collectively protesting relative to individually protesting.

	D_1	D_2
cond = 0	No protest	-2/3
cond = 1	Individual	1/3
cond = 2	Collective	-1/2
	1/3	1/2

You may recognize these as two *orthogonal contrasts*. It is also called "Helmert coding" when the multicategorical variable is ordinal.

```
data protest;set protest;
if (cond = 0) d1 = -2/3;
if (cond > 0) d1 = 1/3;
if (cond = 0) d2 = 0;
if (cond = 1) d2 = -1/2;
if (cond = 2) d2 = 1/2;
run;
```

Effects for D_1 will compare no protest to the average of the two protest conditions, and effects for D_2 will compare collective protest to individual protest.

The total effect of experimental condition on liking (c paths)

```
regression/dep = liking/method = enter d1 d2.
proc reg data=protest;model liking=d1 d2;run;
```

Coefficients*						
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig.
	B	S.E. B	Beta	t		
1 (Constant)	5.630	.091		61.841	.000	
d1	.479	.195	.214	2.454	.016	
d2	-.073	.220	-.026	-.310	.742	

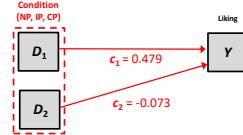
a. Dependent Variable: LIKING: liking of the target

Relative total effects

$$c_1 = \frac{(\bar{Y}_{IP} + \bar{Y}_{CP}) - \bar{Y}_{NP}}{2} = \frac{(5.826 + 5.753)}{2} - 5.310 = 5.789 - 5.310 = 0.479$$

$$c_2 = \bar{Y}_{CP} - \bar{Y}_{IP} = 5.753 - 5.826 = -0.073$$

Relative to those told she did not protest, those told she protested liked her more on average ($c_1 = 0.479, p = .016$). Those told she collectively protested did not differ, on average, in how much they liked her relative to those told she individually protested ($c_2 = -0.073, p = .742$).



The effect of experimental condition on perceived response appropriateness (a paths)

```
regression/dep = respappr/method = enter d1 d2.
proc reg data=protest;model respappr=d1 d2;run;
```

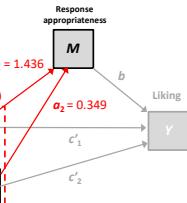
Coefficients*						
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		t	Sig.
	B	S.E. B	Beta	t		
1 (Constant)	4.841	.103		47.032	.000	
d1	1.436	.221	.498	6.499	.000	
d2	.349	.249	.107	1.401	.164	

a. Dependent Variable: RESPAPPR: appropriateness of response

$$a_1 = \frac{(\bar{M}_{IP} + \bar{M}_{CP}) - \bar{M}_{NP}}{2} = \frac{(5.145 + 5.494)}{2} - 3.884 = 5.320 - 3.884 = 1.436$$

$$a_2 = \bar{M}_{CP} - \bar{M}_{IP} = 5.494 - 5.145 = 0.349$$

Relative to those told she did not protest, those told she protested felt this was a more appropriate response, on average ($a_1 = 1.436, p = .016$). Those told she collectively protested did not perceive this as any more or less appropriate, on average, relative to those told she individually protested ($a_2 = 0.349, p = .164$).



$$a_1 = \frac{(\bar{M}_{IP} + \bar{M}_{CP}) - \bar{M}_{NP}}{2} = \frac{(5.145 + 5.494)}{2} - 3.884 = 5.320 - 3.884 = 1.436$$

$$a_2 = \bar{M}_{CP} - \bar{M}_{IP} = 5.494 - 5.145 = 0.349$$

Relative to those told she did not protest, those told she protested felt this was a more appropriate response, on average ($a_1 = 1.436, p = .016$). Those told she collectively protested did not perceive this as any more or less appropriate, on average, relative to those told she individually protested ($a_2 = 0.349, p = .164$).

The direct effect of condition on liking (c' paths) along with the effect of response appropriateness on liking (b path)

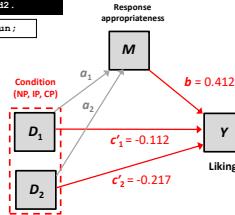
```
regression/dep = liking/method = enter resppr d1 d2.
```

```
proc reg data=protest;model liking=respappr d1 d2;run;
```

Model	Coefficients*					
	B	Unstandardized Coefficients	Std Errs	t	Sig	
1 (Constant)	.1340	.348	.870	.529	.5884	.000
RESPAPPR:						
Response appropriateness of responses						
d1	-1.12	-2.01	-.055	-5.58	.578	
d2	.217	.180	.081	2.18	.219	

a Dependent Variable: Liking (the target)

Relative direct effects

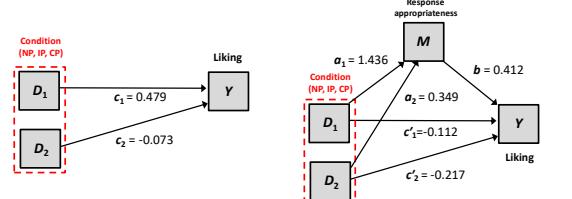


$$c'_1 = \frac{(\bar{Y}_{IP}^* + \bar{Y}_{CP}^*) - \bar{Y}_{NP}^*}{2} = \frac{(5.711 + 5.495)}{2} - 5.715 = 5.603 - 5.715 = -0.112$$

$$c'_2 = \bar{Y}_{CP}^* - \bar{Y}_{IP}^* = 5.495 - 5.711 = -0.217$$

Controlling for perceived responses appropriateness, on average, those told she protested did not like her any more than those told she did not protest ($c'_1 = -0.112, p = .578$). And those told she collectively protested did not like her any more, on average, than those told she individually protested ($c'_2 = -0.217, p = .275$). Holding condition constant, those who perceived her behavior as relatively more appropriate likely her relatively more ($b = 0.412$).

(Relative) total, direct, and indirect effects



c_1 and c_2 : Relative total effects of condition on liking ($c_1 = 0.479, c_2 = -0.073$).

c'_1 and c'_2 : Relative direct effects of condition on liking ($c'_1 = -0.112, c'_2 = -0.217$).

a_1b and a_2b : Relative indirect effects of condition on liking through perceived response appropriateness
 $a_1b = 1.436(0.412) = 0.591, a_2b = 0.349(0.412) = 0.144$

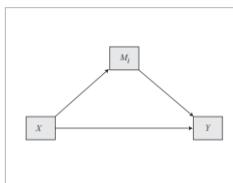
$$c_1 = c'_1 + a_1b: 0.479 = -0.112 + 1.436(0.412) = -0.112 + 0.591$$

$$c_2 = c'_2 + a_2b: -0.073 = -0.217 + 0.349(0.412) = -0.217 + 0.144$$

The relative total effects partition perfectly into relative direct and relative indirect effects. The relative indirect effects are the relative total effects minus the relative direct effects.

Estimation using PROCESS

Model 4



PROCESS has an option for specifying X as a multicategorical variable with up to 9 categories. Four options are available for coding the groups.

MCX=3 tells PROCESS that X is a multicategorical variable and to use "Helmert coding" to represent the groups. This is equivalent to the orthogonal contrasts we set up manually in this example.

MCX Coding system
1 Simple dummy coding
2 Sequential ("adjacent categories") coding
3 Helmert coding
4 Effect coding

```
process y=liking/m=respappr/x=cond/mcx=3/model=4/total=1/boot=10000;
%process (data=protest,y=liking,m=respappr,x=cond,mcx=3,model=4,
total=1,boot=10000);
```

PROCESS output

Model : 4
Y : liking
X : cond
M : respappr

Sample Size: 129

Coding of categorical X variable for analysis:
cond XI XII XI codes protest versus no protest. XII codes collective versus individual protest.

OUTCOME VARIABLE: respappr

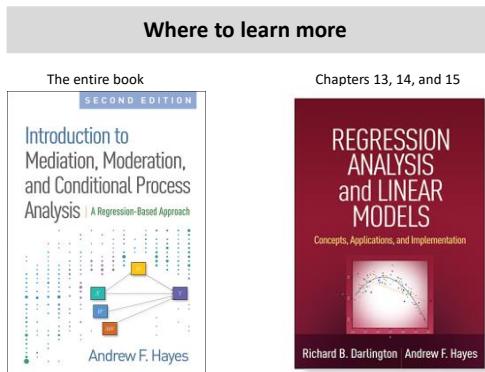
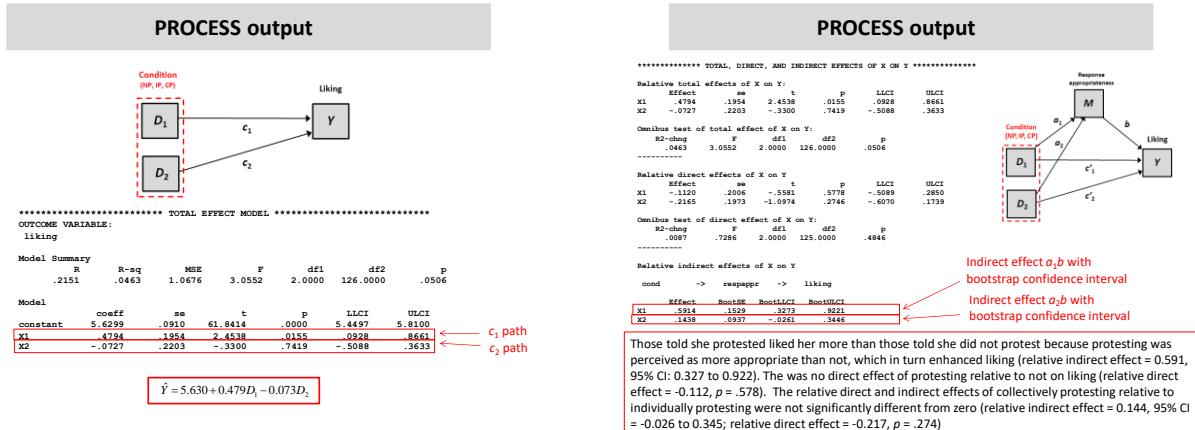
Model Summary R-Sq: .5106 MSE: 1.3649 F: 22.2190 df1: 2.0000 df2: 126.0000 P: .0000

Model coeff: constant 4.8413 a1: -.1028 t: 47.031 P: 0.000 ULCI: 5.0450 ULCI: 5.0450
X1: .2531 a2: .1028 t: 1.000 P: 0.300 ULCI: 1.000 ULCI: 1.000
X2: -.3491 a2: .2491 t: 1.4012 P: 0.1636 ULCI: -.1440 ULCI: -.8421

OUTCOME VARIABLE: liking

Model Summary R-Sq: .5033 MSE: .2531 F: .8427 df1: 14.1225 df2: 125.0000 P: .0000

Model coeff: constant 3.6357 a1: .3484 t: 10.4351 P: 0.000 ULCI: 2.9461 ULCI: 4.3252
X1: .2007 a2: .1003 t: 1.931 P: 0.0577 ULCI: 1.000 ULCI: 1.000
X2: -.2165 a2: .1973 t: -1.0974 P: 2.744 ULCI: -.1739 ULCI: -.6070
respappr: .4119 a2: .0700 t: 5.8844 P: 0.0000 ULCI: .2734 ULCI: .5504



Typically Taught in GSERM St. Gallen

- Review of the fundamentals of mediation, moderation, and conditional process analysis.
- Testing whether an indirect effect is moderated and probing moderation of indirect effects.
- Partial and conditional moderated mediation.
- Mediation analysis with a multicategorical independent variable.
- Moderation analysis with a multicategorical (3 or more groups) independent variable or moderator.
- Conditional process analysis with a multicategorical independent variable
- Moderation of indirect effects in the serial mediation model.
- New features available in PROCESS v3.0, such as how to modify a numbered model or customize your own model.

<http://www.guilford.com/>

Sample Size Planning

How many people do I need to have reasonable power to detect an indirect effect?

Need approximate estimates of all paths involved in the analysis (e.g., a , b , and c for mediation).

Previous simulation work:

Fritz & MacKinnon (2007)

Hayes & Scharkow (2013)

Biesanz, Falk, & Savalei (2016) normal and nonnormal data

Williams & MacKinnon (2008) serial models and

Monte Carlo Simulations:

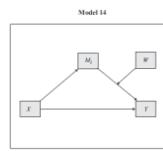
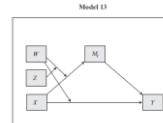
Thoemmes , MacKinnon & Reiser (2010) – specific to mediation

Sigal & Chalmers (2016)

Really great R package called 'simdesign' which can be used for Monte Carlo Simulations to understand power.

Constructing and editing models in PROCESS

Historically, PROCESS has operated by a model number system. The model numbers and the models those numbers represent can be found in the documentation. Choose the model number that corresponds to the model you would like to estimate.



Many of the preprogrammed numbered models you will find useful.

But what if the model you want to estimate does not correspond to any preprogrammed model represented by a model number?

Version 2: Too bad. Nothing you can do about it (unless you know some tricks).

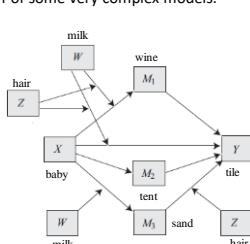
Version 3: Within certain constraints, you can create your own model from scratch, or edit an existing model number to make it correspond to the model you want to estimate.

Putting it all together

This system allows for the construction of some very complex models.

B matrix				W matrix				
X	M ₁	M ₂	M ₃	X	M ₁	M ₂	M ₃	
M ₁	1	■	■	■	0	■	■	■
M ₂	1	0	■	■	0	■	■	■
M ₃	1	0	0	■	1	0	0	■
Y	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0

Z matrix				WZ matrix				
X	M ₁	M ₂	M ₃	X	M ₁	M ₂	M ₃	
M ₁	0	■	■	■	0	■	■	■
M ₂	0	0	■	■	0	0	■	■
M ₃	0	0	0	■	0	0	■	■
Y	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0

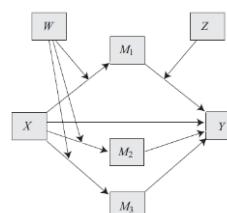


```
process y=tile/x=baby/m=wine tent sand/w=milk/z=hair
/bmatrix=1,0,1,0,0,1,1,1/wmatrix=0,0,0,1,0,0,0,0,0
/zmatrix=0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1/wzmatrix=1,0,0,0,0,1,0,0,0.
```

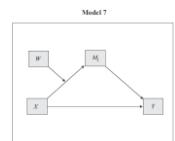
Editing a numbered model

Many preprogrammed numbered models are likely to be close to the model you want to estimate. You can edit a modeled number, adding a desired interaction, or removing one you don't want. This is done by reprogramming the W, Z, and/or WZ matrices.

Example



This is like model 7, except model 7 doesn't include moderation of any M to Y paths.



This is like model 21, except model 21 would include moderation by Z of the M₂ and M₃ to Y paths as well as the M₁ to Y path.

The MATRICES statement

If you want to check to make sure you have programmed the matrices correctly, or you want to see what the matrices of a preprogrammed model look like, add **matrices=1** to a PROCESS command.

```
***** MODEL DEFINITION MATRICES *****  
process y=tile/x=baby/m=wine tent  
sand/w=milk/z=hair/model=7/  
zmatrix=0,0,0,0,0,0,1,0,0  
/matrices=1.  
  
*****  
BMATRIX: Paths freely estimated (1) and fixed  
to zero (0):  
    baby wine tent sand  
wine 1 0 0 0  
tent 0 1 0 0  
sand 0 0 1 0  
tile 0 0 0 1  
  
WMATRIX: Paths moderated (1) and not moderated  
(0) by W:  
    baby wine tent sand  
wine 0 0 0 0  
tent 1 0 0 0  
sand 1 0 0 0  
tile 0 0 0 0  
  
ZMATRIX: Paths moderated (1) and not moderated  
(0) by Z:  
    baby wine tent sand  
wine 0 0 0 0  
tent 0 0 0 0  
sand 0 0 0 0  
tile 0 1 0 0
```

Matrices that don't appear in the output have zeros in all cells. If your model includes covariates, the C matrix will appear here too.

Pertinent Publications

Rockwood, N. J., & Hayes, A. F. (2018). Mediation, moderation, and conditional process analysis: Regression-based approaches for clinical research. Draft submitted and to appear in A. G. C. Wright and M. N. Hallquist (Eds.) *Handbook of research methods in clinical psychology*. Cambridge University Press.

Rockwood, N. J., & Hayes, A. F. (2018). Multilevel mediation analysis. Draft submitted and to appear in A. A. O'Connell, D. B. McCoach, and B. Bell (Eds.). *Multilevel modeling methods with introductory and advanced applications*. Information Age Publishing.

Hayes, A. F. (2018). Partial, conditional, and moderated moderated mediation: Quantification, inference, and interpretation. *Communication Monographs*, 85, 4-40. [\[PDF\]](#)

Hayes, A. F., & Rockwood, N. J. (2017). Regression-based statistical mediation and moderation analysis in clinical research: Observations, recommendations, and implementation. *Behaviour Research and Therapy*, 98, 39-57. [\[paper and data\]](#)

Hayes, A. F., Montoya, A. K., & Rockwood, N. J. (2017). The analysis of mechanisms and their contingencies: PROCESS versus structural equation modeling. *Australasian Marketing Journal*, 25, 76-81. [\[PDF and Mplus code\]](#)

Hayes, A. F., & Montoya, A. K. (2017). A tutorial on testing, visualizing, and probing interaction involving a multicategorical variable in linear regression analysis. *Communication Methods and Measures*, 11, 1-30. [\[paper and data\]](#)

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Hayes, A. F. (2015). *An index and test of linear moderated mediation*. *Multivariate Behavioral Research*, 50, 1-22.

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Hayes, A. F., & Scharkow, M. (2013). The relative trustworthiness of inferential tests of the indirect effect in statistical mediation analysis: Does method really matter? *Psychological Science*, 24, 1918-1927.

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Hayes, A. F. (2009). Beyond Baron and Kenny: Statistical mediation analysis in the new millennium. *Communication Monographs*, 76, 408-420.

Hayes, A. F., & Matthes, J. (2009). Computational procedures for probing interactions in OLS and logistic regression: SPSS and SAS implementations. *Behavior Research Methods*, 41, 924-936.

Preacher, K. J., & Hayes, A. F. (2008). Asymptotic and resampling strategies for assessing and comparing indirect effects in multiple mediator models. *Behavior Research Methods*, 40, 879-891.

Preacher, K. J., Rucker, D. D., & Hayes, A. F. (2007). Assessing moderated mediation hypotheses: Theory, methods, and prescriptions. *Multivariate Behavioral Research*, 42, 185-227.

Preacher, K. J., & Hayes, A. F. (2004). SPSS and SAS procedures for estimating indirect effects in simple mediation models. *Behavior Research Methods, Instruments, and Computers*, 36, 717-731.