# Supplementary Materials:

Problems with the Big Five assessment in the World Values Survey

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### A: Information on variables

The  $\circ$  items relate to openness, c items to conscient iousness, e items to extraversion, a items to agreeableness, and s items to emotional stability. The items with the suffix a are reverse coded.

| Item | WVS variable | Description                     | Reverse coded |
|------|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| o1   | V160J        | has an active imagination       | No            |
| o2   | V160E        | has few artistic interests      | Yes           |
| c1   | V160H        | does a thorough job             | No            |
| c2   | V160C        | tends to be lazy                | Yes           |
| e1   | V160F        | is outgoing, sociable           | No            |
| e2   | V160A        | is reserved                     | Yes           |
| a1   | V160B        | is generally trusting           | No            |
| a2   | V160G        | tends to find fault with others | Yes           |
| s1   | V160D        | is relaxed, handles stress well | No            |
| s2   | V160I        | gets nervous easily             | Yes           |

#### B: Data preprocessing

```
# Load packages
library("rio")
library("ggplot2")
library("reshape2")
library("grid")
library("gridExtra")
library("tidyr")
library("stargazer")
# Load dataset (Stata format)
wvs <- import("WV6_Stata_v_2016_01_01.dta")</pre>
# Code missing values
trait.vars <- c("V160A", "V160B", "V160C", "V160D", "V160E",</pre>
                 "V160F", "V160G", "V160H", "V160I", "V160J")
wvs[trait.vars] [wvs[trait.vars] < 0] <- NA</pre>
# Reverse code and save variables
wvs$o1 <- wvs$V160J
wvs$o2 <- (wvs$V160E-6)*-1
wvs$c1 <- wvs$V160H
wvs$c2 <- (wvs$V160C-6)*-1
wvs$e1 <- wvs$V160F
wvs\$e2 <- (wvs\$V160A-6)*-1
wvs$a1 <- wvs$V160B
wvs$a2 <- (wvs$V160G-6)*-1
wvs$s1 <- wvs$V160D
wvs$s2 <- (wvs$V160I-6)*-1
wvs$male <- wvs$V240
wvs$male[wvs$male < 0] <- NA</pre>
wvs$male[wvs$male == 2] <- 0
wvs$age <- wvs$V242
wvs$age[wvs$age < 0] <- NA</pre>
```

#### C: Figures included in main text

```
# Make data frame with the BFI-10 items
b5 <- wvs[c("V2", "male", "age", "o1", "o2", "c1", "c2", "e1", "e2", "a1", "a2", "s1", "s2")]
b5 <- na.omit(b5)
b5.cor <- data.frame(country = unique(b5$V2),
                     n = NA,
                     cor.o = NA,
                     se.o = NA,
                     cor.c = NA,
                     se.c = NA,
                     cor.e = NA,
                     se.e = NA,
                     cor.a = NA,
                     se.a = NA,
                     cor.s = NA,
                     se.s = NA
                     )
for (i in unique(b5$V2)){
  b5.cor$n[b5.cor$country == i] <- NROW(b5[b5$V2 == i,])
  b5.cor$cor.o[b5.cor$country == i] <- cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$01,
                                                 b5[b5$V2 == i,]$o2)$estimate
  b5.cor$se.o[b5.cor$country == i] <- cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$01,
                                                b5[b5$V2 == i,]$o2)$estimate /
    cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$o1,b5[b5$V2 == i,]$o2)$statistic
  b5.cor$cor.c[b5.cor$country == i] <- cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$c1,
                                                 b5[b5$V2 == i,]$c2)$estimate
  b5.cor$se.c[b5.cor$country == i] <- cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$c1,
                                                b5[b5$V2 == i,]$c2)$estimate /
    cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$c1,b5[b5$V2 == i,]$c2)$statistic
  b5.cor$cor.e[b5.cor$country == i] \leftarrow cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$e1,
                                                 b5[b5$V2 == i,]$e2)$estimate
  b5.cor$se.e[b5.cor$country == i] <- cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$e1,
                                                b5[b5$V2 == i,]$e2)$estimate /
    cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$e1,b5[b5$V2 == i,]$e2)$statistic
  b5.cor$cor.a[b5.cor$country == i] <- cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$a1,
                                                 b5[b5$V2 == i,]$a2)$estimate
  b5.cor$se.a[b5.cor$country == i] <- cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$a1,
                                                b5[b5$V2 == i,]$a2)$estimate /
    cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$a1,b5[b5$V2 == i,]$a2)$statistic
  b5.cor$cor.s[b5.cor$country == i] \leftarrow cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$s1,
                                                 b5[b5$V2 == i,]$s2)$estimate
  b5.cor$se.s[b5.cor$country == i] <- cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$s1,
                                                b5[b5$V2 == i,]$s2)$estimate /
    cor.test(b5[b5$V2 == i,]$s1,b5[b5$V2 == i,]$s2)$statistic
```

```
b5.cor$name <- NA
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 12,]$name <- "Algeria"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 48,]$name <- "Bahrain"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 76,]$name <- "Brazil"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 156,]$name <- "China"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 400,]$name <- "Jordan"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 414,]$name <- "Kuwait"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 702,]$name <- "Singapore"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 170,]$name <- "Colombia"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 218,]$name <- "Ecuador"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 818,]$name <- "Egypt"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 268,]$name <- "Georgia"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 276,]$name <- "Germany"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 344,]$name <- "Hong Kong"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 356,]$name <- "India"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 368,]$name <- "Iraq"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 422,]$name <- "Lebanon"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 434,]$name <- "Libya"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 528,]$name <- "Netherlands"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 586,]$name <- "Pakistan"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 275,]$name <- "Palestine"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 646,]$name <- "Rwanda"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 710,]$name <- "South Africa"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 764,]$name <- "Thailand"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 788,]$name <- "Tunisia"
b5.cor[b5.cor$country == 887,]$name <- "Yemen"
fig.ii.o <- ggplot(b5.cor, aes(x = name, y=cor.o, ymin=cor.o-1.96*se.o,
                               ymax=cor.o+1.96*se.o)) +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 0, size=0.5, linetype="dashed", colour="#999999") +
  geom_pointrange() +
  coord_flip() +
  ylab("r (Imagination, Few artistic interests)") +
  theme_minimal() +
  scale_y_continuous(breaks=c(-.5,0,.3), labels=c("-.5","0",".3")) +
  xlab("")
fig.ii.c <- ggplot(b5.cor, aes(x = name, y=cor.c, ymin=cor.c-1.96*se.c,
                               ymax=cor.c+1.96*se.c)) +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 0, size=0.5, linetype="dashed", colour="#999999") +
  geom_pointrange() +
  coord flip() +
  ylab("r (Not lazy, Thorough job)") +
  theme minimal() +
  scale_y_continuous(breaks=c(-.5,0,.5), labels=c("-.5","0",".5")) +
  xlab("") +
  theme(axis.text.y = element_blank())
fig.ii.e <- ggplot(b5.cor, aes(x = name, y=cor.e, ymin=cor.e-1.96*se.e,
                               ymax=cor.e+1.96*se.e)) +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 0, size=0.5, linetype="dashed", colour="#999999") +
```

```
geom_pointrange() +
  coord flip() +
  ylab("r (Not reserved, Outgoing)") +
  theme_minimal() +
  scale_y_continuous(breaks=c(-.5,0,.5), labels=c("-.5","0",".5")) +
  xlab("") +
  theme(axis.text.y = element_blank())
fig.ii.a <- ggplot(b5.cor, aes(x = name, y=cor.a, ymin=cor.a-1.96*se.a,
                               ymax=cor.a+1.96*se.a)) +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 0, size=0.5, linetype="dashed", colour="#999999") +
  geom_pointrange() +
  coord_flip() +
  ylab("r (Trusting, Does not find faults)") +
  theme minimal() +
  xlab("")
fig.ii.s <- ggplot(b5.cor, aes(x = name, y=cor.s, ymin=cor.s-1.96*se.s,
                               ymax=cor.s+1.96*se.s)) +
  geom_hline(yintercept = 0, size=0.5, linetype="dashed", colour="#999999") +
  geom_pointrange() +
  coord_flip() +
  vlab("r (Relaxed, not nervous)") +
  scale_y_continuous(breaks=c(-.5,0,.5), labels=c("-.5","0",".5")) +
  theme minimal() +
  xlab("") +
  theme(axis.text.y = element_blank())
png('figure1.png', height=8, width=8, units="in",res=700)
grid.arrange(fig.ii.o, fig.ii.c, fig.ii.e, fig.ii.a, fig.ii.s,
             widths=c(5, 4, 4), ncol=3)
dev.off()
## pdf
##
b5.long <- gather(b5.cor, trait, value, c(cor.o,cor.c,cor.e,cor.a,cor.s),
                  factor_key=TRUE)
png('figure2.png', height=6, width=8, units="in",res=700)
ggplot(b5.long, aes(x=value, fill=trait)) +
  geom_vline(xintercept=0, linetype="dashed") +
  geom_vline(xintercept=-0.3, colour="gray", linetype="dashed") +
  geom_vline(xintercept=0.3, colour="gray", linetype="dashed") +
  scale_y_continuous(breaks=c(0,.25,.50,.75,1), labels=c("","","","","")) +
  scale_x_continuous(breaks=c(-.5,0,.5), labels=c("-.5","0",".5")) +
  geom_dotplot(stackgroups = TRUE, stackratio = 1.2, binwidth=0.07,
               dotsize = 0.7, binpositions = "all") +
  scale_fill_manual("", labels = c("Openness", "Conscientiousness", "Extraversion",
                                   "Agreeableness", "Emotional Stability"),
                    values = c("#69D2E7", "#81AD99", "#C02942",
                               "#F38630", "#ECD078")) +
```

```
xlab("Item-item correlation") +
ylab("") +
annotate("text", x = -0.8, y = 0.27, label = "Bahrain") +
theme_minimal()
dev.off()

## pdf
## 2
```

## D: Descriptive statistics

```
# Get country with minimum number of observations
min(b5.cor$n)
[1] 653
b5.cor$name[b5.cor$n == min(b5.cor$n)]
[1] "Yemen"
# Get country with maximum number of observations
max(b5.cor$n)
[1] 3317
b5.cor$name[b5.cor$n == max(b5.cor$n)]
[1] "South Africa"
# Create summary statistics table
stargazer(b5[c("male", "age", "o1", "o2", "c1", "c2",
               "e1", "e2", "a1", "a2", "s1", "s2")],
          title = "Summary statistics",
          covariate.labels = c("Male", "Age"),
          summary = TRUE)
```

% Table created by stargazer v.5.2 by Marek Hlavac, Harvard University. E-mail: hlavac at fas.harvard.edu % Date and time: Tir, Feb 28, 2017 - 13:14:38

Table 2: Summary statistics

| Statistic | N          | Mean   | St. Dev. | Min | Max |
|-----------|------------|--------|----------|-----|-----|
| Male      | 32,880     | 0.494  | 0.500    | 0   | 1   |
| Age       | 32,880     | 40.540 | 15.643   | 16  | 99  |
| o1        | 32,880     | 3.242  | 1.239    | 1   | 5   |
| o2        | $32,\!880$ | 3.027  | 1.273    | 1   | 5   |
| c1        | $32,\!880$ | 3.617  | 1.248    | 1   | 5   |
| c2        | $32,\!880$ | 3.528  | 1.297    | 1   | 5   |
| e1        | $32,\!880$ | 3.536  | 1.224    | 1   | 5   |
| e2        | $32,\!880$ | 2.734  | 1.322    | 1   | 5   |
| a1        | $32,\!880$ | 3.374  | 1.295    | 1   | 5   |
| a2        | $32,\!880$ | 3.203  | 1.297    | 1   | 5   |
| s1        | $32,\!880$ | 3.326  | 1.194    | 1   | 5   |
| s2        | $32,\!880$ | 2.997  | 1.287    | 1   | 5   |

#### E: Interitem correlations

```
get upper tri <- function(cormat){</pre>
  cormat[lower.tri(cormat)]<- NA</pre>
  return(cormat)
}
for(i in unique(b5$V2)) {
  cormat <- round(cor(b5[b5$V2 == i,</pre>
                          c("o1","o2","c1","c2","e1","e2","a1","a2","s1","s2")]),
  upper_tri <- get_upper_tri(cormat)</pre>
  melted_cormat <- melt(upper_tri, na.rm = TRUE)</pre>
  p <- ggplot(data = melted_cormat, aes(Var2, Var1, fill = value))+</pre>
    geom_tile(color = "white")+
    scale_fill_gradient2(low = "blue", high = "red", mid = "white",
                          midpoint = 0, limit = c(-1,1), space = "Lab",
                          name="Pearson\nCorrelation") +
    theme_minimal() +
    theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 45, vjust = 1,
                                        size = 12, hjust = 1))+
    coord_fixed() +
    ggtitle(b5.cor[b5.cor$country == i,]$name) +
    geom_text(aes(Var2, Var1, label = value), color = "black", size = 2) +
    theme(
      axis.title.x = element_blank(),
      axis.title.y = element_blank(),
      panel.grid.major = element_blank(),
      panel.border = element_blank(),
      panel.background = element_blank(),
      axis.ticks = element_blank(),
      plot.title = element_text(size = 12),
      legend.justification = c(1, 0),
      legend.position = c(0.6, 0.7),
      legend.direction = "horizontal")+
    guides(fill = guide_colorbar(barwidth = 7, barheight = 1,
                                  title.position = "top", title.hjust = 0.5))
 print(p)
```













