

intro

Hello!

In order to prepare for the 2021 Wisdom Summit, to take place October 11, 2021 (Similar to the meeting [two years ago](#), report [here](#)), we want to identify points of convergence and disagreement with the help of the academic community.

We are eager to capture the insights scholars in your field have to offer about the topic of wisdom from a psychological perspective, and its relationship to the themes of morality and culture.

The survey includes a few open-ended and forced choice questions and should take 10-15 minutes. It is completely voluntary, and we hope to use the anonymized and distilled insights from this survey to both better prepare for the conference and get greater clarity on key points of disagreement. We will also share a distillation of opinions with the academic community and society at large.

We recommend completing this survey on a desktop. It contains graphics that may be difficult to read on a mobile device.

demographics

It would be helpful to learn more about your background.

Your field(s). Please select all that apply:

- ☐ Clinical Psychology
- ☐ Moral philosophy
- ☐ Moral Psychology
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Virtue ethics
- ☐ Cognitive Psychology
- ☐ Wisdom
- ☐ Evolutionary Psychology
- ☐ Cognitive Science

- ☐ Social Psychology
- ☐ Developmental Psychology
- ☐ Personality Psychology
- ☐ Quantitative Psychology
- ☐ Other

Have you done *empirical* research on themes you consider related to wisdom (e.g., virtues, character, self-control, decision-making)?

No Yes

☐ ☐

Have you done *empirical* research on themes you consider related to morality?

No Yes

☐ ☐

Have you done *empirical* research on themes related to cultural psychology?

No Yes

☐ ☐

Your level of education:

- ☐ Bachelors
- ☐ Masters
- ☐ PhD
- ☐ Other

Your current position:

- ☐ Undergraduate student
- ☐ Graduate student
- ☐ Post-Doctoral Scholar
- ☐ Assistant Professor
- ☐ Associate Professor

- ☐ Professor
- ☐ Retired
- ☐ Other

Your academic institution:

- ☐ Liberal arts college
- ☐ University
- ☐ Private sector
- ☐ NGO
- ☐ Other

Your country:

wisdom_morality

One big question concerns the relationship between wisdom and morality. In your view (i.e., your core working model of wisdom/your understanding of wisdom), how do you envision the relationship between *psychological characteristics* of wisdom and morality?

Please, select all statements you agree with.

- ☐ Morality is a precursor for wisdom
- ☐ Morality is relevant for wisdom
- ☐ Morality is sufficient for wisdom
- ☐ Morality is necessary for wisdom

Please, select all statements you agree with.

- ☐ Wisdom is a precursor for morality
- ☐ Wisdom is necessary for morality
- ☐ Wisdom is relevant for morality
- ☐ Wisdom is sufficient for morality

Please, complete the sentence by providing an analogy:

Wisdom is to morality as ...

Do you have any additional comments on the relationship between psychological characteristics of wisdom and morality? You are welcome to describe how you construe morality, too.

Please use bullet points below; separate each bullet point with a semi-colon (;).

psych_char

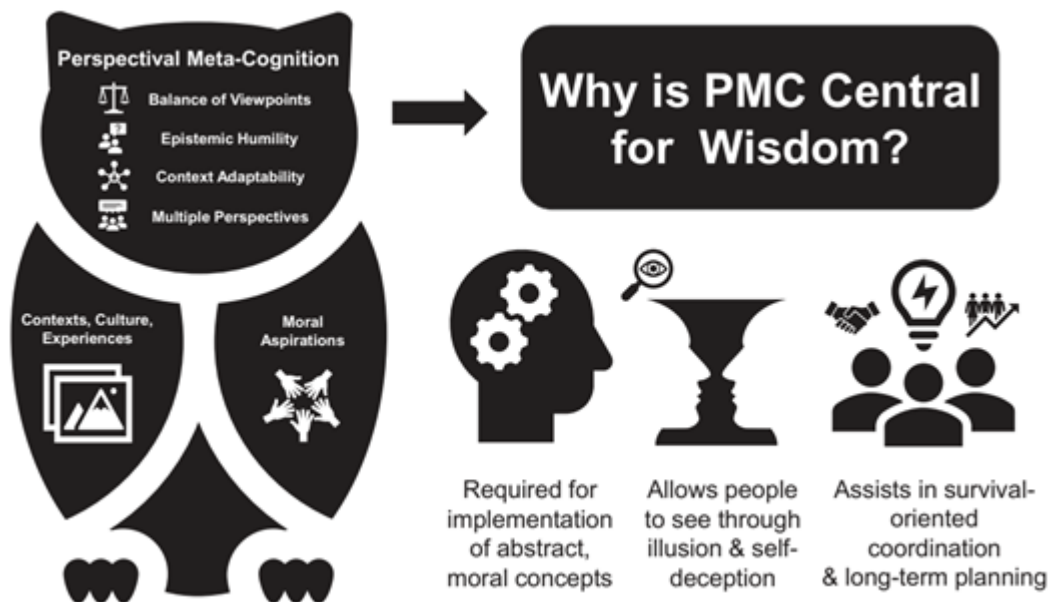
To what extent do psychological characteristics of wisdom depend on either moral intentions or actions?

- By *intentions* we mean desires and beliefs that behavior will lead to desired outcomes.
- By *actions* we mean behaviors undertaken to effect/achieve/obtain outcomes.



paper familiarity

Recently, a large group of scholars published a consensus piece on the nature of wisdom, outlining convergence and divergence between theoretical and empirical models, published in Psychological Inquiry (free preprint [here](#) and rejoinder to commentaries [here](#)). Are you familiar with this paper?



Visual depiction of the common wisdom model, representing the initial consensus position among empirical wisdom scientists in 2019. Central to Common Wisdom Model are aspects of perspectival meta-cognition, which are grounded in moral aspirations and specific socio-cultural contexts and experiences.

No

☐

Yes

☐

At the summit, we would like to discuss merits of consensus models at a roundtable. If you had a chance to reflect on the Common Wisdom Model, *which parts did you agree the most and the least and why?*

Please, use bullet points and separate each bullet point with a semi-colon (;).

Points of agreement:



Points of disagreement:



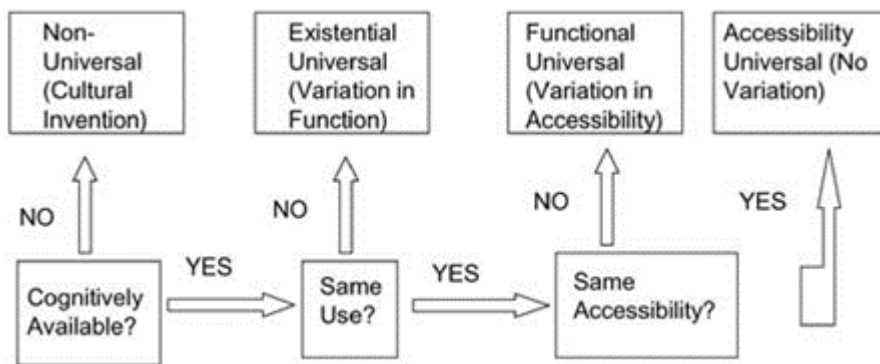
Block 5

Another big question concerns the relationship between wisdom and culture. In your view (i.e., your core working model of wisdom), how do you envision the relationship between culture and the *psychological characteristics* of wisdom (e.g., attitudes, forms of understanding, mental processes)? By psychological characteristics we *do not* mean cultural practices (e.g., specific prayers, pilgrimages, rites).

Please, use bullet points and separate each bullet point with a semicolon (;).



Psychological universals are core mental attributes shared by humans everywhere. As the flowchart below shows, there are different types of universals.



from [Norenzayan & Heine, 2005](#)

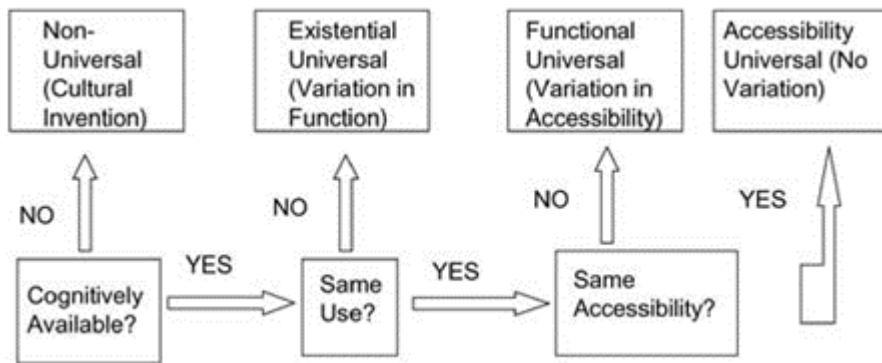
Non-universals are psychological processes that do not exist in all cultures (e.g., abacus reasoning).

Existential universals are psychological processes that exist in all cultures, although the process is not necessarily used to solve the same problem, nor is it equally accessible across cultures. (e.g., rite of passage rituals – they exist in most cultures but can look very different).

Functional universals are psychological processes that exist in all cultures, are used to solve the same problem across cultures, yet are more accessible to people from some cultures than others (e.g., punishment of unfairness across cultures).

Accessibility universals are psychological processes that exist in all cultures, are used to solve the same problem across cultures, and are accessible to the same degree across cultures - i.e., the likelihood of a person using this psychological process is similar across culture (e.g., intuitive physics – even infants are surprised if objects just disappear).

Below is a set of possible psychological characteristics associated with wisdom. Please, sort them into one of the four boxes. Only select characteristics you consider central to the wisdom construct.



Would you like to see the definitions for each wisdom construct again?

Show definitions

Items

Open-
mindedness/Consideration
of diverse perspectives

Sympathy/compassion

Balance of diverse
interests

Equanimity/Self-control

Uncertainty management

Self-compassion

In-group cooperation

Experiential knowledge

Deliberation/Reflection

Non-Universals

Existential Universal

Pursuit of truth

Humor

Realization of shared
humanity

Seeking Insight /Meaning

Self-transcendence

Declarative (book)
knowledge

Epistemic
humility/Recognition of
limits of knowledge &
one's fallibility

Context-sensitivity

Functional Universal

Accessibility Universal

empirical_articles

We are interested in recent empirical studies exploring the relationship between key features of wisdom (e.g., epistemic humility, open-mindedness) and **morality**. Please, nominate **up to 5 key empirical articles** worth highlighting (self-authored nominations are welcome!). These can be preprints or published studies. We will collate and share these papers with the broader community.

We are interested in recent empirical studies exploring the relationship between key features of wisdom (e.g., epistemic humility, open-mindedness) and **current socio-political issues** or other pressing issues of the day. Please, nominate **up to 5 key empirical articles** worth highlighting (self-authored nominations are welcome!). These can be preprints or published studies. We will collate and share these papers with the broader community.



comments

Do you have any additional comments on the topic of wisdom or preferences for the [2021 Wisdom Summit](#)?

