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July 29, 2022

Manuscript Submission: “The Implicit Relational Assessment Procedure is not very sensitive to the attitudes and learning histories it is used to assess”

Dear Prof Levin,

Please find attached our manuscript “The Implicit Relational Assessment Procedure is not very sensitive to the attitudes and learning histories it is used to assess”.

The IRAP is of clear interest to CBS. The majority of publications that employ it examine draw conclusions from (differences in) mean *D* scores. At the same time, there is already agreement that these scores are biased in some way. E.g. O’Shea et al (2016) observed this and called it a ‘positive framing bias’. Finn et al. (2016) also observed it and referred to it by different terms. While there is general agreement that this issue exists, our manuscript is the first to (1) correctly label this issue as a confound, (2) to quantify it precisely using a large sample and multiple domains, and (3) consider the implications of this confound for the valid interpretation of past and future IRAP research.

After demonstrating the effect in a large sample, we consider which statistical tests, comparisons and inferences are confounded vs. unaffected by the generic pattern. This provides guidance to how readers should and should not (re)interpret results from IRAP data.

We hope that this manuscript will be of great interest to your readers given CBS’s close ties to the IRAP.

Kind regards,

Ian Hussey
&
Chad Drake