The Pleasure of Making a Difference: Perceived Social Contribution Explains the Relation Between Extraverted Behavior and Positive Affect

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Why are trait extraversion and extraverted behaviors both associated with greater positive affect? Across 3 studies, we examined whether 2 aspects of social experience—perceived social contribution and social power—mediate the relation between extraversion and positive affect. Study 1 (N=205) showed that trait measures of social contribution and power mediated the relation between trait extraversion and trait positive affect. Study 2 (N=78) showed that state social contribution and power helped to explain the greater levels of state positive affect reported by participants who were instructed to enact extraverted behaviors. Finally, Study 3 (N=62) showed that social contribution and power mediated the relation between natural fluctuations in extraverted behavior and positive affect states in daily life. In all 3 studies, multiple-mediator models showed that social contribution, but not power, independently mediated the relations that trait and state extraversion had with positive affect. This suggests that perceptions of positive influence—more so than a general sense of power—help to explain why extraverts and extraverted moments are happier. We link these findings to emerging trends in the study of personality dynamics and the potential benefits of acting "out of character."

Keywords: extraverted behavior, extraversion, positive affect, social contribution, social power

Extraversion is one of five basic trait domains that describe the structure of personality (John, Naumann, & Soto, 2008) and can be defined as the tendency to be talkative, assertive, and sociable at the high end of the continuum, and quiet, passive, and reserved at the opposite ("introverted") end. The tendency for extraverts to experience higher levels of positive affect (PA) is often described as one of the most robust findings in personality psychology (Lucas & Fujita, 2000; Smillie, DeYoung, & Hall, 2015; Steel, Schmidt, & Shultz, 2008) and holds across several cultures (Lucas, Diener, Grob, Suh, & Shao, 2000). This relation is strongest when PA is defined, in line with Watson and Tellegen's (1985) factor model of affect, as the combination of pleasant valence and high activation (e.g., lively, excited; see Smillie, DeYoung, & Hall, 2015). Therefore, extraverts tend to be "happier"—a term we use as short-hand—in the sense that they experience higher levels of PA.

The extraversion–PA relation also holds at the state level: individuals feel happier in the *moments* in which they behave in a more

provided causal evidence that participants who are instructed to act extraverted (e.g., talkative, bold, assertive) report higher levels of PA than those instructed to act introverted (e.g., quiet, passive, reserved) during interactive activities in the lab (Gallagher, Fleeson, & Hoyle, 2011; McNiel & Fleeson, 2006; McNiel, Lowman, & Fleeson, 2010; Smillie, Wilt, Kabbani, Garratt, & Revelle, 2015; Zelenski et al., 2013; Zelenski, Santoro, & Whelan, 2012). Experience sampling (ESM) studies, in which participants use a mobile device to report their momentary levels of extraverted behavior and PA across several time points during their daily lives, also reveal a positive relation between within-person fluctuations in extraverted behavior and PA states (Fleeson, Malanos, & Achille, 2002; Wilt, Bleidorn, & Revelle, in press; Wilt, Noftle, Fleeson, & Spain, 2012). Like the trait-level association, this state-level association appears to generalize across several cultures (Ching et al., 2014). In addition, perhaps surprisingly, no study has found an interaction between trait extraversion and extraverted behavior on PA, indicating that the affective benefits of acting extraverted may apply to dispositional introverts and extraverts alike.

talkative and sociable way. Several experimental studies have

Although many theories have attempted to explain why extraverts are happier (e.g., Gross, Sutton, & Ketelaar, 1998; Larsen & Ketelaar, 1989; Lucas, Le, & Dyrenforth, 2008), very little research has been able to explain why it feels good to act like an extravert (see Smillie, 2013, for a review). Yet, recent research suggests that explaining why extraverted moments are happier could shed new light on the long-standing question of why trait extraverts are happier (Wilt et al., 2012). Through a series of ESM studies, Wilt and colleagues (2012) found support for a model in

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which extraverted behaviors and PA states mediate part of the relation between trait extraversion and trait PA. In other words, extraverts may be happier in part because of what they "do" (i.e., act extraverted more often), and not just what they "have" (see Cantor, 1990). If this model is robust, the processes that mediate the relation between extraverted behaviors and PA states may also mediate the relation between trait extraversion and trait PA. The current investigation seeks to explain the state-level relation between extraverted behavior and PA.

Recent studies suggest that positive social experiences associated with extraverted behavior may help to explain its effect on PA (Howell, Ksendzova, Nestingen, Yerahian, & Iyer, in press; Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015). Extraverts have qualitatively different social experiences compared with introverts, including higher ratings of friendship quality, closeness, and satisfaction (Berry, Willingham, & Thayer, 2000; Festa, Barry, Sherman, & Grover, 2012; Wilson, Harris, & Vazire, 2015), as well as deeper conversations, greater self-disclosure, and increased shared reminiscing in daily life (McLean & Pasupathi, 2006; Wilson et al., 2015). These perceptions may be partially due to the impact of extraverted *behavior* on social processes (Eaton & Funder, 2003).

Motivated by such findings, Smillie, Wilt, et al. (2015) proposed that qualitative aspects of social experience—beyond mere quantity of time spent in social activities (Lucas et al., 2008)—could help to explain the relation between enacted extraversion and PA. In an initial correlational study, Smillie, Wilt, et al. (2015, Study 1) investigated whether individual differences in quality of social experience mediate the relation between trait extraversion and trait PA. Results showed that a multidimensional measure of social well-being (Keyes, 1998) explained 32% of the relation between trait extraversion and PA. Of the five subscales, social contribution (believing that one has something valuable to give, and does give, to society) was the strongest mediator, independently explaining 29% of the trait extraversion-PA relation. To bolster this correlational study with experimental evidence, Smillie, Wilt, and colleagues (Study 2) then investigated whether state measures of social well-being and social contribution mediated the relation between enacted extraversion and increased PA. As a state measure of social contribution, participants reported the percentage to which they "contributed to the discussion tasks," relative to the other two participants. Mirroring the trait-level findings, singlemediator models showed that social well-being and social contribution both helped to explain the effect of acting extraverted on PA. However, social contribution again emerged as a particularly strong mediator, explaining 70% of this effect.

Smillie, Wilt, and colleagues' (2015, Study 2) findings therefore suggest that qualitative aspects of social experience, especially perceived social contribution, could explain part of the effect of enacted extraversion on state PA. Though these findings provide a promising starting point, they raise as many questions as they answer. Whereas Keyes' (1998) social contribution measure emphasized worthwhile and valuable contributions to one's community, Smillie, Wilt, et al.'s "percent contributed" measure is conceptually ambiguous. Ratings may have reflected the extent to which participants felt that they directed the discussion (mere impact), contributed to the success of the exercise (useful contributions), or made the task enjoyable for others (positively contributing to others' well-being). Thus, although these findings indicate

that those who act extraverted perceive that they have more impact on a social situation, it is unclear what kind of impact is involved.

Subjective social power (henceforth, power) may be a more general mechanism that underlies the social contribution effect. Power is defined as one's perceived ability to influence others-that is, to modify others' states (Anderson, John, & Keltner, 2012; Keltner, Gruenfeld, Galinsky, & Kraus, 2010). As power can stem from one's perceived freedom to deliver resources as well as punishments to others (Keltner, Gruenfeld, & Anderson, 2003), it is more general than social contribution, which we define as perceptions of positive (i.e., useful or prosocial) impact (in line with Keyes, 1998). The two constructs therefore overlap in that social contribution can be thought of as a facet of social power. Extraverts have been shown to attain more influence in social interactions and in the workplace (Anderson & Berdahl, 2002; Anderson & Kilduff, 2009; Anderson, Spataro, & Flynn, 2008), and individuals assigned more power in laboratory-based interactions experienced and expressed more positive emotion (Berdahl & Martorana, 2006; Langner & Keltner, 2008). This suggests that power could plausibly mediate the extraversion-PA relation.

Our objective in the present research is to clarify the conceptual nature of the social contribution mediator identified by Smillie, Wilt, and colleagues (2015), and thereby sharply delineate the social processes that may help to explain the impact of extraverted behavior on PA. This is achieved in three ways. First, to examine the role of "positive impact," we use measures of state social contribution that are explicitly framed in terms of positive contributions. Second, we examine the potential mediating role of a more general impact-related process, power. Finally, we test the simultaneous mediating effects of social contribution and power to explore the unique and overlapping roles of "positive impact" (i.e., social contribution) compared with "general impact" (i.e., power).

Overview of Studies

Across three studies, we test the hypotheses that (Hypothesis 1) social contribution and (Hypothesis 2) power mediate the relation between extraversion and PA. We also investigate the extent to which social contribution and power independently mediate the relation between extraversion and PA. As a preliminary test of our hypotheses, we first examine whether individual differences in social contribution and power mediate the relation between trait extraversion and trait PA (Study 1). We then investigate whether state levels of social contribution and power mediate the relations that experimentally manipulated extraverted behavior (Study 2) and natural fluctuations in extraverted behavior (Study 3) have with PA states. All methods received ethical approval at the University of Melbourne.

In accordance with recent recommendations surrounding research integrity (Simmons, Nelson, & Simonsohn, 2012), we report how we determined our sample size, all manipulations, and all data exclusions. Additional measures that were unrelated to the current hypotheses, along with data and analysis scripts necessary to reproduce the results reported in this article, are available at https://osf.io/rusxc.

Study 1

The current article focuses on mediators of the state-level relation between extraverted behavior and PA states. However, Fleeson and colleagues (2002) have suggested that states and traits share important properties and consequences, such that state-level relations should mirror trait-level relations. The finding that trait extraversion and extraverted behavior are both associated with increased PA (e.g., Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015) supports this statetrait isomorphism hypothesis. From this perspective, if our hypotheses apply to people who generally behave in a more extraverted way (i.e., trait extraverts), they should also apply when people are enacting extraverted behaviors. We therefore conducted a preliminary cross-sectional study to investigate trait-level effects. Study 1 aimed to replicate Smillie, Wilt, et al.'s (2015, Study 1) finding that (Hypothesis 1) trait social contribution mediates the relation between trait extraversion and trait PA, and to test the new hypothesis that (Hypothesis 2) trait power mediates the relation between trait extraversion and trait PA. To compare positive influence with general impact, we also explored whether social contribution and power independently mediate the trait extraversion-PA relation when entered as simultaneous mediators.

Although one other paper has used this dataset (Sun, Kaufman, & Smillie, in press), the results presented here have not been reported elsewhere (apart from descriptive statistics for the extraversion scale and subscales).

Method

Participants and procedure. Participants (N = 211) recruited via Amazon's Mechanical Turk (MTurk; see Buhrmester, Kwang, & Gosling, 2011) completed the study in exchange for \$2 USD. To obtain more precise estimates of the effects and to achieve a similar sample size (i.e., N = 225) as Smillie, Wilt, et al. (2015, Study 1), we added 59 observations after analyzing the first 147 (of 152) valid responses. Results changed very little after the addition of this second wave of data. Data collection for each wave ended automatically when the allocated number of MTurk assignments were completed. We detected seven duplicate participants (based on MTurk WorkerIDs) that resulted from the multiple waves of data collection, but we could not exclude them as we did not link WorkerIDs to survey responses. Data from six participants were excluded due to highly inconsistent responses between an original and repeated item (i.e., differing by ≥ 2 scale points) designed to screen for inattention. This left a final sample of 205 participants (98 female) aged 18 to 66 years ($M_{\rm age} = 34.89$, $SD_{\text{age}} = 10.04$). Participants completed a battery of trait questionnaires, including the following measures, programmed using QualtricsTM survey software.

Measures.

Extraversion. Participants completed the 20-item extraversion scale from the Big Five Aspect Scales (DeYoung, Quilty, & Peterson, 2007). This consists of two 10-item subscales measuring two distinct aspects of extraversion: *assertiveness* (agentic and bold behavior; e.g., "take charge") and *enthusiasm* (affiliative experiences; e.g., "make friends easily"). Participants indicated the extent to which they agreed that each statement described their personality (1 = strongly disagree, 5 = strongly agree).

Social contribution. Participants completed two measures of social contribution. First, participants completed the 3-item social

contribution subscale (e.g., "I have something valuable to give the world"; $1 = strongly \ disagree$, $5 = strongly \ agree$). Second, participants completed the 3-item Self-Worth subscale from the Comprehensive Inventory of Thriving (CIT; Su, Tay, & Diener, 2014), which assesses subjective perceptions of valuable social contributions (e.g., "The things I do contribute to society"; $1 = strongly \ disagree$, $5 = strongly \ agree$). As the two measures were conceptually similar and highly correlated (r = .69, p < .001), and the six items clearly loaded onto a single Principal Component that accounted for 66.1% of the variance (all loadings $\ge .74$), we combined all items into a single scale to increase measurement reliability, given the brevity of the individual measures.

Social power. The 8-item Sense of Power Scale (Anderson et al., 2012) measures subjective perceptions of power in social relationships. Thinking about their relationships with others, participants indicated the extent to which they agreed with each of the items (e.g., "I can get them to do what I want"; 1 = disagree strongly, 7 = agree strongly).

Positive affect. Participants completed the 20-item Positive and Negative Affect Schedule (PANAS; Watson, Clark, & Tellegen, 1988), which contains a 10-item measure of activated PA (e.g., excited, enthusiastic)—the strongest affective correlate of trait extraversion (Smillie, DeYoung, & Hall, 2015). Participants rated the extent to which they feel these affects in general (1 = very slightly or not at all, 5 = extremely).

Data analysis. All analyses were conducted using SPSS Version 23, with the exception of omega (ω) reliability coefficients (McDonald, 1999), which were computed in R (R Core Team, 2016) using the MBESS package (Dunn, Baguley, & Brunsden, 2014; Kelley & Lai, 2012). Mediated regressions were deployed using the PROCESS Macro for SPSS (Hayes, 2013, 2014), which implements the bootstrapping procedures outlined by Preacher and Hayes (2008). We used 2,000 bootstrap samples to estimate biascorrected standard errors and 95% confidence intervals for the indirect effects of extraversion on PA via social contribution and power, and the difference between the two indirect effects. To facilitate effect size interpretation, indirect effects are described in-text as a percentage of the total effect of extraversion on PA (percent mediated effect [PME]; Preacher & Kelley, 2011).

Results and Discussion

Preliminary analyses. Table 1 shows means, standard deviations, ω reliability estimates, and intercorrelations between measures. All scales had high internal consistency (ω s \geq .89). All

Table 1 Descriptive Statistics, Scale Reliabilities (ω), and Intercorrelations for Study 1

Variable	M	SD	1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Extraversion	3.28	0.71	.92					
Enthusiasm	3.32	0.79	.85	.89				
Assertiveness	3.23	0.84	.87	.49	.92			
4. Contribution	3.61	0.88	.56	.50	.47	.90		
5. Power	4.81	1.25	.71	.55	.66	.62	.92	
6. Positive affect	3.60	0.89	.60	.56	.47	.49	.50	.93

Note. All rs are significant at p < .001. ω coefficients are displayed as bold values on the diagonal.

variables were also highly correlated, supporting the plausibility of the proposed mediation hypotheses.

Mediated regressions. Supporting Hypothesis 1 (and conceptually replicating Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015, Study 1), the indirect effect of extraversion on PA via social contribution was significant and accounted for 21% of the total effect of extraversion on PA (see Table 2, Model 1). Supporting Hypothesis 2, there was also a significant indirect effect of extraversion on PA via power (see Table 2, Model 2), accounting for 18% of the relation between extraversion and PA. When social contribution and power were entered together, the indirect effect via social contribution remained significant and of a similar magnitude (PME = 19%) to its indirect effect in the single-mediator model, but power was no longer a significant mediator (see Table 2, Model 3). However, the two indirect effects were not significantly different in magnitude.

At the aspect level (see Table 3), social contribution mediated a significant proportion of the relation between enthusiasm and PA (PME = 25%), and the relation between assertiveness and PA (PME = 34%). Power also mediated a significant proportion of the relation between enthusiasm and PA (PME = 27%), and between assertiveness and PA (PME = 46%). Unlike the domain-level results (see Table 2, Model 3), when entered together, social contribution and power both independently mediated the relations between enthusiasm and PA (PME_Contribution = 17%; PME_Power = 18%), and between assertiveness and PA (PME_Contribution = 26%; PME_Power = 26%). Consistent with the domain-level results, the magnitudes of the two indirect effects were not significantly different for either aspect.

Summary

These results support our two hypotheses that individual differences in social contribution and power mediate the relation between trait extraversion and PA. Our social contribution finding conceptually replicates Smillie, Wilt, et al.'s (2015, Study 1) finding, using a longer measure of social contribution and a more diverse online sample. We additionally extend Smillie, Wilt et al.'s (2015) social contribution finding by demonstrating that a related social impact process, social power, may also help to explain the relation between trait extraversion and PA. If relations at the state level mirror those at the trait level (Fleeson et al., 2002), these findings suggest that social contribution and power might also mediate the relation between extraverted behavior and PA states.

In Studies 2 and 3, we test these hypotheses directly, and also address a few remaining issues.

First, cross-sectional data do not permit inferences about causal direction, and indirect effects based only on self-ratings may be inflated by or even entirely attributed to common method variance (see Podsakoff, MacKenzie, Lee, & Podsakoff, 2003). To address these limitations, Study 2 employs an experimental paradigm to investigate the causal effects of extraverted behavior on social contribution, power, and self- and informant-rated PA states. Multiple-mediator models in Study 1 also showed that as simultaneous mediators, social contribution remained a significant mediator, but power no longer significantly mediated the extraversion–PA relation. At the aspect level, however, social contribution and power both independently mediated the enthusiasm–PA and assertiveness–PA relations. Studies 2 and 3 therefore continue to compare the extent to which both types of impact mediate the extraversion–PA relation.

Study 2

Study 2 uses an experimental design to test whether social contribution and power mediate the effect of experimentally manipulated extraverted behavior on self- and informant-rated PA states. This experiment closely replicates the protocol used by Smillie, Wilt, et al. (2015, Study 2), while using an improved measure of state contribution; instead of a single-item percentage rating, the present experiment uses a multi-item state measure derived from Keyes' (1998) social contribution construct (see Study 1). Encouraged by the trait-level findings in Study 1, we hypothesized that (Hypothesis 1) social contribution and (Hypothesis 2) power would also mediate the effect of acting extraverted on PA in single-mediator models. We also tested multiple-mediator models to clarify the extent to which social contribution and power independently mediate this effect.

Method

Participants and procedure. Participants (N = 84) were recruited through the undergraduate psychology participant pool at the University of Melbourne, as well as flyers placed around the university. This represents an oversampling of our target sample size of 81, to match Smillie, Wilt, et al. (2015, Study 2). However, four participants did not show up. We also excluded one legally blind participant and one participant who had incomplete data. The final sample (N = 78; 61 female) therefore comprised 63 first-year

Table 2
Key Mediated Regression Models Tested in Study 1

Mediating variable	$IV \to M \ (a \text{ path})$	$M \rightarrow DV (b path)$	Direct effect (c' path)	Indirect effect $(a \times b \text{ path})$	95% CI of indirect effect
Model 1					
Contribution	0.70***	0.22^{**}	0.60***	0.15	[0.08, 0.25]
Model 2					
Power	1.25***	0.11	0.62***	0.14	[+0.00, 0.29]
Model 3					
Contribution	0.70***	0.20^{**}	0.55***	0.14	[0.05, 0.23]
Power	1.25***	0.05		0.06	[-0.08, 0.21]
Difference				0.08	[-0.12, 0.27]

Note. Indirect effects in bold denote that the 95% CI does not capture zero. ** p < .01. *** p < .001.

Table 3
Aspect-Level Mediated Regression Models Tested in Study I

Mediator	$IV \to M \ (a \text{ path})$	$M \rightarrow DV (b path)$	Direct effect (c' path)	Indirect effect $(a \times b \text{ path})$	95% CI of indirect effect
Model 1 _{Enthusiasm}	A = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = =	O O O N. N. N.	0.45**	0.4	FO 00 0 0 1
Contribution	0.55***	0.28***	0.47***	0.15	[0.09, 0.24]
Model 1 _{Assertiveness} Contribution	0.49***	0.34***	0.33***	0.17	[0.10, 0.26]
Model 2 _{Enthusiasm} Power	0.86***	0.20***	0.46***	0.17	[0.09, 0.27]
Model 2 _{Assertiveness} Power	0.98***	0.23***	0.27**	0.23	[0.10, 0.43]
Model 3 _{Enthusiasm} Contribution	0.55***	0.19**	0.41***	0.11	[0.04, 0.18]
Power	0.86***	0.13*	0.41	0.11	[0.03, 0.21]
Difference Model 3 _{Assertiveness}				0.00	[-0.15, 0.12]
Contribution	0.49*** 0.98***	0.27** 0.13*	0.24***	0.13 0.13	[0.07, 0.22]
Power Difference	0.98	0.13		0.13	[0.01, 0.27] $[-0.16, 0.16]$

Note. Indirect effects in bold denote that the 95% CI does not capture zero. Subscripts denote the independent variable.

psychology students (who received course credit) and 15 members of the general public (compensated with \$15 AUD cash), aged 18 to 40 years ($M_{\rm age}=20.22,\,SD_{\rm age}=3.56$).

Participants were tested in groups of three or two (in four sessions where one participant did not show up). After providing informed consent, participants completed several trait questionnaires via QualtricsTM. They were then randomly assigned to one of three (acting extraverted, acting introverted, and uninstructed informant; for complete groups) or two conditions (no uninstructed condition; for incomplete groups) via written instructions on how to interact with the other participants during the discussion tasks (described below). After data exclusions (described above), the final analyses were based on 22 groups of three and six groups of two, comprising 22 uninstructed participants and 28 participants in each of the acting extraverted and acting introverted conditions.

Seated in a circle, participants were given 15 min to complete each of two group discussion tasks (described subsequently). After the first discussion (T1), participants independently completed paper-based state measures, including measures of their extraverted behavior, social contribution, power, and PA during the first discussion task. All participants also provided informant ratings of other participants' states. Participants then completed a second group discussion task, followed by the same state measures pertaining to experiences during the second discussion task (T2). Finally, participants were debriefed and thanked.

Measures and materials.

Behavioral instructions. Participants received individual behavioral instructions as part of the general written instructions for the two discussion tasks. As in previous studies (e.g., Fleeson et al., 2002; Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015; Zelenski et al., 2012), participants in the acting extraverted condition were instructed to act bold, talkative, energetic, assertive, and adventurous, whereas participants in the acting introverted condition were instructed to act reserved, quiet, lethargic, passive, compliant, and unadventurous during the two discussion tasks. In place of acting instructions,

participants in the uninstructed condition were given slightly extended (but informationally equivalent) task instructions to ensure that all participants spent an equal amount of time reading their instructions. Participants were asked not to share their instructions with anyone else in the group.

Group discussion tasks. The two "Survival on the Moon" and "Lost at Sea" discussion tasks (with the order counterbalanced between groups) were based on problem-solving exercises used in previous enacted extraversion studies (e.g., Fleeson et al., 2002; Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015). Participants discussed and collaboratively ranked the usefulness of 15 items in scenarios that involved being stranded in space or adrift at sea on a ship.

Trait and state extraversion. Trait extraversion was measured using the same measure as in Study 1. State extraversion was measured after each discussion task. Ten well-validated adjectives that described extraverted behavior (shy [r], compliant [r], reserved [r], lethargic [r], bold, talkative, energetic, active, assertive, adventurous; Goldberg, 1992) were mixed with eight filler adjectives (e.g., practical, imaginative). Participants rated how accurately these adjectives described their behavior and the behavior of the other two participants during the task (1 = not at all, 7 = very well). Extraversion items did not simply duplicate behavioral instructions, but included additional adjectives (e.g., active, reserved).

State PA. State PA was measured immediately after each discussion task. Participants rated the extent to which they felt each of 10 PANAS PA adjectives (described in Study 1; 1 = not at all, 7 = extremely) during the group discussion. They also rated the extent to which they thought the other participants felt these emotions during the discussion.

State social contribution. To create a state measure of social contribution, we adapted items from the two measures described in Study 1 (Keyes, 1998; Su et al., 2014). Participants rated how accurately three items described their experience during the discussion ("My contributions to the discussion were worthwhile"; "I

^{**} p < .01. *** p < .001.

had nothing to contribute to the social interaction" [r]; "My input to this exercise was important"; $1 = not \ at \ all$, $7 = very \ well$). Because of the subjective nature of this construct, informant ratings were not collected (in line with Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015).

State social power. After each discussion task, participants rated two items adapted from Langner and Keltner (2008): "I had power in the discussion" and "I had control over the discussion" ($1 = disagree\ strongly$, $7 = agree\ strongly$). Participants also rated the power and control that the other two participants had during the discussions.

Data analyses. Each participant had two ratings of contribution (self-ratings at T1 and T2) and up to six separate ratings of state extraversion, PA, and power (self- and informant ratings at T1 and T2). As participants had the same acting instructions for both discussion tasks, we combined ratings across the two time points to increase measurement reliability (except for time-lagged analyses). To further increase measurement reliability and decrease the bias associated with self-report (e.g., common method variance), we also combined self- and all available informant ratings, and focus on describing analyses involving these total composites. To provide additional information and to assess the robustness of the results across different indices, we additionally report results for analyses that used self-ratings only, uninstructed informant ratings only, all available informant ratings (henceforth, multiple-informant composite), and composites comprising selfand uninstructed informant ratings (henceforth, self-uninstructed composite). The exception is that mediation analyses were always conducted using self-reported mediators (contribution or power), as we did not obtain informant reports of contribution. This ensured that any differences in the resulting indirect effects were not due to different combinations of raters.

Although we did not conduct an a priori power analysis in planning this study, it is informative to provide context on the effect sizes that could reasonably be detected using our final sample size. A G*Power (Faul, Erdfelder, Lang, & Buchner, 2007) analysis reveals that the sample sizes per condition required for 80% power to detect "large" (d=0.80), "medium" (d=0.50), and "small" (d=0.20) effects (Cohen, 1992) are 26, 64, and 394, respectively. With an average sample size of 26 per condition, we therefore had around 80% power to detect differences greater than d=0.80, which is in line with previous estimates of the effect of acting extraverted on self-rated PA (e.g., Fleeson et al., 2002; McNiel & Fleeson, 2006; Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015).

Power analysis for mediation models is more complex. However, one simulation study (Fritz & MacKinnon, 2007) suggests that, using the bias-corrected bootstrap method, around 34 participants are needed for 80% power to detect an indirect effect when the *a* (independent variable to mediator) and *b* (mediator to dependent variable) paths are both large, around 53 participants are needed if one path is large and the other medium, and around 71 participants are needed if both paths are medium. Notably, if both paths are small, over 462 participants may be needed to detect the indirect effect. Assuming that these general guidelines apply to this specific case, our mediation analyses comprising 56 participants (for the total, self, and multiple-informant composites) had sufficient power to detect indirect effects when one path was large and the other was at least medium in magnitude. However, analyses comprising 44 participants (for the uninstructed informant and

self—uninstructed composites) only had enough power to detect indirect effects based on two large paths.

Descriptive statistics and ω reliability coefficients were computed using SPSS Version 23 and R, respectively (as described in Study 1). We also used the rpsychi package for R (Okumura, 2012) to compute unbiased standardized mean differences (Hedges' g) and 95% confidence intervals. Although participants were nested within groups, we had no group-level predictions, and the intraclass correlations (ICC[1]s) for all state variables were extremely small (\leq .003) for all variables apart from state PA reported by uninstructed informants (T1 = .12; T2 = .02; combined = .06), suggesting that the group structure accounted for virtually zero variance in most variables. We therefore used the PROCESS Macro for SPSS (as described in Study 1) to conduct standard mediated and moderated regression analyses (with condition coded as 0 = acting introverted, 1 = acting extraverted).

Results

Preliminary analyses. As shown in Table 4, all trait and state measures had high internal consistency ($\omega s \ge .88$), whether participants were rating themselves or others. ICC(1)s for all state extraversion and power composites showed good interrater agreement (Cicchetti, 1994) at separate time points (≥ .65), and excellent agreement when combined across both time points (\geq .85). Although *ICC*(1)s for state PA at separate time points ranged from nearly no agreement (.09) to good agreement (.68), the combined *ICC*(1)s across the two time points were in the good to excellent range (\geq .72). Test—retest stability was also high for all indices, as shown by high correlations (\geq .79) between scores after the first and second discussion tasks (see Table 4). Nevertheless, as composites averaged across all available ratings showed the highest interrater agreement, analyses that use the total composites averaged across both time points may produce more robust results than analyses that use alternative indices or individual time points.

Manipulation checks. We proceeded to examine whether participants in the two acting conditions followed instructions to act extraverted or introverted. Although uninstructed participants primarily served as relatively unbiased informants, we also calculated unbiased Hedges' g standardized effect sizes to investigate whether participants in the acting conditions enacted higher or lower levels of extraversion, relative to those who received no acting instructions. These estimates (see Table 5) revealed no significant differences in trait extraversion between the three conditions, suggesting that between-group differences on state extraversion (and PA) would not likely be due to trait influences.

As expected, state extraversion differed between conditions (see Table 5). Participants in the acting extraverted condition indeed acted significantly more extraverted than participants in the acting introverted condition (across all indices), and this difference ranged from 1.35 (uninstructed informant ratings) to 3.30 standard deviations (self-ratings) in magnitude. Uninstructed informants also had significantly higher levels of state extraversion than participants instructed to act introverted (across all indices), with effect sizes ranging from 1.05 (uninstructed informant ratings) to 2.51 standard deviations (self-ratings). It is particularly notable that even uninstructed informants, who were unaware of the existence of acting instructions, noticed these differences. Although the effect sizes reported by the uninstructed informants were much

Table 4

Means, Standard Deviations, Reliability Estimates (ω), Interrater Agreement (ICC[1]), and Test-Retest Reliability (r) of Key Measures in Study 2

		M(SD)		(ນ		ICC	(1)	Test-retest
	Act E	Act I	Uninstructed	T1	T2	T1	T2	Combined	reliability (r)
Trait extraversion	3.57 (0.41)	3.46 (0.63)	3.48 (0.45)	.8	38				
State extraversion									
Total	5.13 (0.50)	3.07 (1.02)	4.73 (0.77)			.81	.83	.91	.92
Self	5.32 (0.66)	2.54 (1.06)	4.72 (0.83)	.93	.95				.92
Uninstructed informant	5.00 (0.83)	3.77 (1.04)							.86
Multiple informants	5.00 (0.60)	3.36 (1.07)	4.74 (0.86)	.92	.91	.65	.66	.85	.88
Self-uninstructed	5.15 (0.52)	3.14 (0.89)	` '			.70	.66	.87	.90
State positive affect		, ,							
Total	4.60 (0.65)	3.12 (0.86)	4.44 (0.83)			.57	.68	.83	.89
Self	4.63 (0.87)	2.80 (1.29)	4.37 (1.16)	.93	.95				.79
Uninstructed informant	4.55 (1.14)	3.64 (1.00)	` /						.88
Multiple informants	4.54 (0.86)	3.27 (0.97)	4.48 (0.95)	.93	.94	.46	.44	.78	.87
Self-uninstructed	4.57 (0.74)	3.14 (0.79)	` /			.09	.50	.72	.82
State contribution	` /	, ,							
Self	5.88 (0.74)	3.54 (1.53)	5.47 (0.85)	.88	.88				.80
State power	` /	, ,	` /						
Total	5.36 (0.89)	2.79 (1.33)	4.50 (1.07)			.82	.81	.91	.88
Self	5.58 (1.20)	2.60 (1.52)	4.60 (1.19)	.89	.92				.84
Uninstructed informant	5.13 (0.97)	3.44 (1.50)							.80
Multiple informants	5.25 (0.90)	2.90 (1.38)	4.44 (1.23)	.90	.93	.72	.68	.85	.82
Self-uninstructed	5.34 (0.88)	3.05 (1.37)	(=1==)			.81	.76	.92	.91

Note. Act E = Acting Extraverted; Act I = Acting Introverted; T1 = After Discussion 1; T2 = After Discussion 2. ps for test-retest r all < .001.

smaller compared with those produced by self-ratings, these relatively naïve informant ratings arguably provide a particularly strong manipulation check.

Finally, although participants in the acting extraverted condition had higher point estimates of extraverted behavior relative to uninstructed controls, these differences were much smaller, ranging from 0.30 (all informant ratings) to 0.69 standard deviations (self-ratings), and this difference was only significant for self-rated extraverted behavior.

Enacted extraversion and positive affect. We also compared differences in state PA between participants in the three conditions (see Table 5). The pattern of findings was very similar to those for extraverted behavior. As expected, participants in the acting extra-

verted condition had significantly higher levels of state PA than participants in the acting introverted condition (across all indices), and this difference ranged from 0.82 (uninstructed informant ratings) to 1.90 standard deviations (total composite) in magnitude. Uninstructed controls also had significantly higher levels of state PA than participants instructed to act introverted (across all indices), with effect sizes ranging from 0.66 (uninstructed informant ratings) to 1.70 standard deviations (total composite). Again, however, participants in the acting extraverted condition only had slightly higher point estimates for state PA relative to uninstructed participants, and none of these differences were statistically detectable.

We then tested whether trait levels of extraversion moderated the effect of acting extraverted (vs. acting introverted) on PA. A

Table 5
Unbiased Standardized Mean Differences (Hedges' g) Between Conditions

Contrast	Total	Self	Uninstructed informant	Multiple informants	Self- uninstructed
Trait E					
Act E-Act I		0.22[-0.31, 0.75]			
Act E-Uninstructed		0.19[-0.38, 0.76]			
Uninstructed-Act I		0.03[-0.54, 0.60]			
State E					
Act E-Act I	2.60 [2.06, 3.13]	3.30 [2.67, 3.74]	1.35 [0.75, 1.96]	1.90 [1.36, 2.43]	2.64 [2.03, 3.24]
Act E-Uninstructed	0.50[-0.07, 1.07]	0.69 [0.12, 1.26]	0.31[-0.30, 0.91]	0.30[-0.27, 0.87]	0.56[-0.04, 1.16]
Uninstructed-Act I	2.10 [1.53, 2.66]	2.51 [1.95, 3.08]	1.05 [0.45, 1.65]	1.60 [1.03, 2.16]	2.08 [1.48, 2.68]
State PA					
Act E-Act I	1.90 [1.37, 2.43]	1.64 [1.11, 2.17]	0.82 [0.22, 1.43]	1.37 [0.84, 1.90]	1.56 [0.96, 2.16]
Act E-Uninstructed	0.20[-0.36, 0.77]	0.24[-0.33, 0.80]	0.17[-0.44, 0.77]	0.07[-0.49, 0.64]	0.22[-0.38, 0.82]
Uninstructed-Act I	1.70 [1.13, 2.26]	1.40 [0.84, 1.97]	0.66 [0.06, 1.26]	1.30 [0.73, 1.87]	1.34 [0.74, 1.94]

Note. 95% confidence intervals are shown in brackets. Coefficients in bold denote that the 95% CI does not capture zero. For uninstructed participants, uninstructed informant and self–uninstructed composites were self-ratings.

series of moderated regressions revealed that trait extraversion did not predict levels of state PA, and the interaction between trait extraversion and condition was nonsignificant (for all indices; see Table 6). Thus, there was no evidence that extraverts and introverts differed in the extent to which they enjoyed enacting extraverted behaviors. Although we cannot rule out small interaction effects (given the statistical power provided by the current sample size), the lack of a significant interaction is consistent with all previous studies that have reported this analysis (McNiel & Fleeson, 2006; Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015; Zelenski et al., 2012; Zelenski et al., 2013).

Mediated regressions. Supporting Hypothesis 1, our first mediation model (see Table 7, Model 1) demonstrated that social contribution significantly mediated the effect of acting extraverted on total (PME = 61%), self-report (PME = 73%), multiple-informant (PME = 56%), and self—uninstructed (PME = 55%) PA indices. Likewise, supporting Hypothesis 2, our second model (see Table 7, Model 2) demonstrated that power significantly mediated the effect of acting extraverted on total (PME = 59%), self-report (PME = 65%), multiple-informant (PME = 59%), and self—uninstructed (PME = 51%) PA indices.

The results of the multiple-mediator models (see Table 7, Model 3) largely mirrored the domain-level findings of Study 1. When social contribution and power were entered together as simultaneous mediators, contribution, but not power, remained a significant mediator for total (PME = 47%), self-report (PME = 63%), and self—uninstructed (PME = 48%) PA indices. Once again mirroring Study 1, the differences between the pairs of indirect effects were not statistically significant.

One potential concern is that our mediators and dependent variables were measured at overlapping time points. As timeordered lagged analyses enable stronger directional inferences, and therefore a stronger test of mediation (MacKinnon, Fairchild, & Fritz, 2007; Shrout & Bolger, 2002), we used ratings of social contribution and power after the first discussion (T1) as the mediator, and PA states after the second discussion (T2) as the dependent variable, while controlling for PA states at T1. These lagged analyses (see Table 7) revealed that social contribution (Model 1) significantly mediated the effect of acting extraverted on PA in the single-mediator model for the total (PME = 21%), self-report (PME = 33%), and self-uninstructed PA indices (PME = 27%), whereas power (Model 2) was a significant mediator for the total (PME = 30%), uninstructed informant (PME not applicable), multiple-informant (PME = 53%), and selfuninstructed indices (PME = 45%).

When entered as simultaneous mediators (see Table 7, Model 3), social contribution (PME = 31%), but not power, was a

significant mediator for the self-report PA measure, although the two indirect effects were not significantly different in magnitude. Neither social contribution nor power were significant mediators for the remaining PA indices, perhaps due to insufficient statistical power to detect the relatively smaller indirect effects on T2 PA after partialing out variance explained by T1 PA.

Summary

These results continue to bolster the well-replicated effect that acting extraverted has on PA (see Smillie, 2013). Supporting Hypothesis 1, we conceptually replicated the recent finding that social contribution mediates this effect (Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015, Study 2), using an improved measure of the social contribution construct. Supporting Hypothesis 2, and conceptually replicating our trait-level findings in Study 1, we also found a significant mediating effect of power. Consistent with the domain-level findings in Study 1, however, power was generally no longer a significant mediator when entered simultaneously with social contribution. In contrast, social contribution tended to remain a significant mediator. Taken together, these findings clarify the results of Study 1 by suggesting that perceptions of "positive impact" may have a more robust role than "general impact" in explaining why extraverts report greater levels of PA in general.

Study 2 has three key strengths relative to the cross-sectional self-report design of Study 1. The principal strength of the experimental paradigm used in this study is that it allows us to draw stronger causal inferences about the effect of acting extraverted on social contribution, power, and PA. Although we did not manipulate the mediators, lagged analyses also demonstrated that T1 social contribution or power (in single-mediator models) had downstream effects on most T2 composite measures of PA, controlling for T1 PA. Finally, by obtaining both self- and informant ratings, we were able to demonstrate that self-reported social contribution mediated the effect of acting extraverted on PA rated by multiple informants. As these ratings came from different individuals, this suggests that these indirect effects are not an artifact of common method variance.

However, a few issues remain unresolved. First, we recognize that our study had limited statistical power, sufficient only to detect medium to large indirect effects. As we were conceptually replicating effects demonstrated in a previous experimental study (Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015), as well as Study 1, we are less concerned about the effects being false positives. However, the small sample size did not provide sufficient statistical power to detect smaller effects, such as the difference between the indirect effect via social contribution and the indirect effect via power. The

Table 6
Moderated Regressions Predicting Positive Affect From Acting Condition

	Total	Self	Uninstructed informant	Multiple informants	Self-uninstructed
Condition \rightarrow State PA	1.44*** [1.04, 1.84]	1.78*** [1.19, 2.37]	0.89** [0.22, 1.55]	1.23*** [0.74, 1.73]	1.39*** [0.93, 1.85]
Trait E \rightarrow State PA	0.30 [-0.16, 0.76]	0.10 [-0.57, 0.77]	0.31 [-0.40, 1.01]	0.42 [-0.14, 0.98]	0.21 [-0.28, 0.70]
Condition \times Trait PA	0.20 [-0.65, 1.04]	0.71 [-0.52, 1.94]	-0.16 [-1.46, 1.14]	-0.12 [-1.15, 0.91]	0.34 [-0.56, 1.25]

Note. 95% confidence intervals shown in brackets.

^{**} p < .01. *** p < .001.

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Key Mediated Regression Models Tested in Study 2

			Combined time points					Lagged time points		
	Total	Self	Uninstructed informant	Multiple informants	Self-uninstructed	Total	Self	Uninstructed informant	Multiple informants	Self-uninstructed
Model 1 (Contribution)										
$\mathrm{IV} \to \mathrm{M}$	2.34***	2.34***	2.32***	2.34***	2.32***	.86.0	1.22**	1.91	1.55***	1.13*
$M \to DV$	0.39***	0.57***	0.09	0.30^{**}	0.34***	0.14^{*}	0.31**	0.11	0.08	0.16^{*}
Direct effect	0.58*	0.50	0.70	0.56	0.64*	0.53**	.92.0	0.03	0.45*	0.48
Indirect effect	0.91 [0.59, 1.30]	1.33 [0.85, 1.91]	0.21[-0.41, 0.93]	0.71 [0.32, 1.21]	0.79 [0.42, 1.29]	0.14 [0.01, 0.40]	0.37 [0.09, 0.85]	0.21[-0.04, 0.53]	0.12[-0.07, 0.39]	0.18 [0.01, 0.62]
Model 2 (Power)										
$V \rightarrow M$	2.98***	2.98***	2.91***	2.98***	2.91***	1.70***	2.05***	2.71	2.18***	2.00***
$M \to DV$	0.30***	0.40***	0.04	0.25**	0.25**	0.12^{*}	0.13	0.15^{*}	0.14**	0.15^{*}
Direct effect	0.60*	0.64	0.80	0.52	.69%	0.47*	.980	-0.16	0.27	0.36
Indirect effect	0.88 [0.50, 1.35]	1.19 [0.58, 1.87]	0.11[-0.57, 0.82]	0.75 [0.38, 1.36]	0.73 [0.31, 1.40]	0.20 [0.01, 0.51]	0.27 [-0.03, 0.76]	0.39 [0.09, 0.70]	0.30 [0.03, 0.66]	0.30 [0.05, 0.73]
Model 3 (Both)										
$\text{IV} \rightarrow \text{M1}$	2.34***	2.34***	2.32***	2.34***	2.32***	.86.0	1.22**	1.91	1.55***	1.13*
$IV \rightarrow M2$	2.98***	2.98***	2.91***	2.98***	2.91***	1.70***	2.05***	2.71***	2.18****	2.00***
$M1 \rightarrow DV$	0.30^{**}	0.49***	0.12	0.20	0.29**	0.10	0.29*	0.03	0.03	0.10
$M2 \rightarrow DV$	0.12	0.10	-0.04	0.13	0.06	0.08	0.03	0.13	0.14*	0.11
Direct effect	0.44	0.38	0.75	0.41	0.57	0.42*	0.71*	-0.17	0.27	0.34
Indirect effect via M1	0.70 [0.29, 1.17]	1.15 [0.62, 1.81]	0.27[-0.38, 1.21]	0.48[-0.10, 1.11]	0.68 [0.29, 1.20]	0.10[-0.04, 0.37]	0.35 [0.05, 0.89]	0.05[-0.28, 0.42]	0.01[-0.27, 0.22]	0.11[-0.08, 0.54]
Indirect effect via M2	0.34[-0.09, 0.84]	0.30[-0.32, 0.87]	0.34 [-0.09, 0.84] 0.30 [-0.32, 0.87] -0.12 [-0.96, 0.58]	0.38[-0.18, 1.01]	0.18[-0.28, 0.71]	0.14[-0.07, 0.42]	0.07 [-0.39, 0.43]	0.36[-0.13, 0.73]	0.30[-0.01, 0.66]	0.22[-0.14, 0.63]
Difference	0.35 [-0.47, 1.17]	0.35 [-0.47, 1.17] 0.84 [-0.08, 2.00]	0.39[-0.76, 1.98]	0.09 [-1.02, 1.24] 0.50 [-0.19, 1.34]	0.50 [-0.19, 1.34]	-0.04 [-0.39, 0.29] 0.29 [-0.29, 1.07]		$-0.31\ [-0.86, 0.54]$	$-0.29\ [-0.76, 0.19]$	-0.11[-0.67,0.47]

Note. M1 = Contribution; M2 = Power. 95% confidence intervals shown in brackets. Indirect effects in bold typeface indicate that the 95% confidence interval does not capture zero. $^*p < .05. ^{**}p < .01. ^{***}p < .01.$

intensive repeated measures design of Study 3 provides greater statistical power to address this question.

Second, although an experimental design allows us to draw stronger causal inferences, this comes at a cost to ecological validity: it is possible that the mediating effects of social contribution and power may be meaningfully different outside of an artificial group problemsolving context. Relatedly, although the social contribution measure used in this study improved upon Smillie, Wilt, et al.'s (2015, Study 2) "percent contributed" measure, it was still framed in terms of contributions to arguably trivial laboratory tasks. This task-specific measure may not have adequately captured Keyes' (1998) conceptualization of social contribution, which emphasized general perceptions of social value and contributions to one's community. In Study 3, we address these limitations by employing a naturalistic ESM paradigm and a modified version of the social contribution measure used in the present study.

Study 3

In Study 3, we move out of the lab and into the real world to investigate whether state levels of social contribution and power mediate the relation between natural fluctuations in extraverted behavior and PA states across a range of time points and situations in everyday life. We also employ an adapted state measure of social contribution that captures general perceptions of social value and beneficial impacts on other people. These extensions allow us to assess the extent to which the results of Study 2 generalize to daily life, while enabling a more faithful operationalization of Keyes' (1998) social contribution construct. Again, we hypothesized that (Hypothesis 1) social contribution and (Hypothesis 2) power would mediate the relation between extraverted behavior and PA in singlemediator models. Based on the results of Studies 1 and 2, we also hypothesized that (Hypothesis 3) when entered as simultaneous mediators, only social contribution would remain a significant mediator. Finally, the large number of momentary observations provide greater statistical power to examine whether the indirect effect via social contribution was larger than the indirect effect via power.

Method

Participants. Participants (N = 76) were recruited via flyers posted around the University of Melbourne. All participants were compensated with \$20 cash, and those who completed at least 75% of the ESM reports and the final survey also received a \$20 iTunes voucher and entry into a lottery to win one of six \$100 iTunes or Apple Store vouchers. A priori power analysis for multilevel models (see Bolger, Stadler, & Laurenceau, 2012) requires information about many parameters that were not available from the single-level results of Studies 1 and 2. We instead set a minimum target sample of 60 based on recommendations for avoiding biased estimates of Level 2 standard errors in multilevel modeling (Kreft & de Leeuw, 1998; Maas & Hox, 2005). Oversampling was required to replace unusable data (e.g., due to technical difficulties), and data collection ended when a minimum of 65 participants successfully completed the study. After excluding 14 participants due to technical and data quality issues (described subsequently), the final analyzed sample comprised 62 participants (39 female) aged 18–33 years ($M_{\rm age} = 21.40$, $SD_{\rm age} = 3.55$). **Procedures and design.** Participants attended an information

Procedures and design. Participants attended an information session on a Monday (Day 0) in which they completed a battery of

trait measures, downloaded an ESM app (Instant Survey; Richardson, 2015) onto their smartphones, and were carefully instructed by the researcher on its use. Following recommendations for maximizing motivation and compliance in ESM studies (Conner & Lehman, 2012), participants were encouraged to complete as many reports as possible, but were informed that accurate reports were more important than a perfect response rate, and that they could miss reports due to major inconveniences (e.g., driving, sleeping).

During the 7-day ESM component, which began the following day (Tuesday, Day 1), participants were prompted, via phone notifications and sound alerts, to complete a series of momentary reports. Each report comprised 24 items (completion time ~2 min), including questions on social context and state levels of extraversion, potential mediators, and PA, in a fixed order. Six reports were sent between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. each day at variable 60 to 150 min intervals. The questionnaire became unavailable after 30 min following the initial alert. To encourage high completion rates, the researcher sent two text messages to update each participant on their overall response rates (usually Days 2 and 4), while thanking them and encouraging their continued effort.

Due to smartphone software incompatibility, eight participants were unable to complete the ESM component, and one participant revealed that he consistently responded inaccurately as his phone froze during reports. After excluding these data, the remaining 67 participants completed 1,934 out of 2,814 (68.73%) possible reports; a typical response rate for ESM studies (Fleeson & Gallagher, 2009). Of these, 23 reports comprising more than 85% identical responses (e.g., responding "10" for \geq 20 of the 23 Likert-type questions) were excluded. Finally, 5 participants who completed fewer than 15 valid reports were excluded, eliminating 62 reports. The final analyzed data comprised 62 participants who completed 1,849 out of 2,604 (71%) possible reports ($M_{\rm reports} = 29.82$, $SD_{\rm reports} = 6.06$).

The morning after the ESM component ended (Day 8), participants were emailed a link to a final survey comprising measures (unrelated to the stated hypotheses) about their experiences during the previous week. All participants completed the online survey using their own computers or phones within 48 hr of completing the ESM component. Finally, participants read a debriefing statement and had the opportunity to discuss the study over the phone.

Measures.

Trait extraversion. Trait extraversion was assessed as in Studies 1 and 2.

Social context. Participants selected the mutually exclusive category that best described their situation in the past hour: alone, semisocial (with people but not interacting with them, e.g., in a lecture), or social (interacting with others).

State extraversion. Participants described their levels of extraverted behaviors in the *previous hour* ("In the past hour, how [talkative; bold; assertive; quiet; outgoing; reserved] were you?"; $0 = not \ at \ all$, 10 = very). These six items were adapted from Goldberg's (1992) adjective markers; "quiet" and "reserved" were reverse-scored.

State PA. Participants rated their current levels of PA ("How [lively; excited; enthusiastic] do you feel right now?"; $0 = not \ at \ all$, 10 = extremely). These three items were drawn from Smillie, DeYoung, and Hall (2015).

State power. Participants rated their perceptions of influence over others in the *past hour* ("In the past hour, how much [power;

influence] do you think you had over others?"; 0 = none at all, 10 = a great deal). These two items were adapted from previous state measures of social power (Anderson & Kilduff, 2009; Langner & Keltner, 2008).

State contribution. To capture participants' perceptions of their social value in the past hour, participants indicated their agreement (0 = disagree strongly, 10 = agree strongly) with three items adapted from the Flourishing Scale (Diener et al., 2010) and the Self-Worth subscale of the Comprehensive Inventory of Thriving (Su et al., 2014): "In the past hour, [what I was doing was valuable and worth-while; the things I did were important for other people; I actively contributed to the happiness and wellbeing of others]".

Data Analyses. The resulting data had a multilevel structure, with reports (Level 1) nested within individuals (Level 2). As in Studies 1 and 2, descriptive statistics and correlations for Level 2 variables were computed using SPSS Version 23, whereas ω reliability coefficients for trait measures were computed using R. ω reliability coefficients for state measures, based on a multilevel confirmatory factor analysis framework (Bolger & Laurenceau, 2013b; Geldhof, Preacher, & Zyphur, 2014; Shrout & Lane, 2012), were computed using Mplus Version 7 (Muthén & Muthén, 1998–2012).

Mediation hypotheses were examined using a multilevel structural equation modeling (MSEM) framework (Bauer, Preacher, & Gil, 2006; Muthén & Asparouhov, 2011). Multilevel modeling was required as there was substantial between-person variation (*ICC*[1]s > .14; see Table 8). The effects of state extraversion on social contribution, power, and state PA were modeled as random slopes, as were the effects of social contribution and power on state PA. As extraverted behavior, social contribution, power, and PA were each assessed as momentary states, all MSEMs had a 1–1–1 structure. All state measures were centered around each individual's mean (i.e., aggregated states) to remove Level 2 variance from state variables. Multilevel analyses were then deployed using Mplus Version 7.4 (Muthén & Muthén, 1998–2012) with syntax adapted from Bolger and Laurenceau (2013c, p. 188).

Given that extraverted behaviors and perceived contribution and power would be expected to vary across social context, we statistically controlled for the fixed effect of social context in all multilevel models. Following Bolger and Laurenceau's (2013a) strong recommendation, all multilevel models also controlled for the fixed effect of the time elapsed since each individual's first ESM report. The resulting unstandardized *b* coefficients quantify the average amount of change in the dependent variable associated with a one-unit change in the independent variable, independent of social situational and time course confounds.

Table 8
Descriptive Statistics, Scale Reliabilities, and Intercorrelations
Between Aggregate States

State measure	M	SD_{BP}	SD_{WP}	1- <i>ICC</i> (1)	1	2	3	4
1. Extraversion 2. PA		0.83 1.18	2.06 1.60	.86 .65	.93 .54	.84		
3. Contribution4. Power		0.98 1.16	1.84 2.09	.78 .76	–	.60 .41	.82 .77	.93

Note. Bold values denote ω reliability coefficients. $SD_{\mathrm{BP}} =$ between-person $SD; SD_{\mathrm{WP}} =$ average within-person SD. 1-ICC(1) represents the proportion of total variation due to within-person variation. All correlations are significant at p < .01.

Results and Discussion

Descriptive statistics. As usual, the trait extraversion measure (M = 3.36, SD = 0.46) had good internal consistency ($\omega = .81$). For state measures, Table 8 displays descriptive statistics, ω reliability estimates, and aggregate-level intercorrelations. The good ω coefficients ($\geq .82$) for state measures indicate that they reliably assessed within-person change. The 1-ICC(1) statistics show that there was greater within-person variability than between-person variability for all measures. Participants reported roughly equal proportions of alone (30.8%) and semisocial (30.4%) situations, and slightly more social situations (38.8%). Consistent with the extant literature, aggregate levels of extraverted states were positively correlated with aggregate levels of PA states (see Table 8).

Extraverted behaviors and PA states. As expected, individuals tended to report higher levels of PA in moments when they reported greater levels of extraverted behaviors, b=0.46, p<0.01, 95% CI [0.40, 0.52]. The magnitude of this within-person relation varied significantly between persons, SD=0.16, p<0.01. However, consistent with the findings of Study 2—and all previous studies in this literature—trait extraversion did not moderate the relation between extraverted behaviors and PA states, b=-0.01, p=0.606, 95% CI [-0.07, 0.04]. In other words, extraverts and introverts both reported similar increases in PA when they acted relatively more extraverted in daily life.

Mediation models. Consistent with Hypotheses 1 and 2 and the results of our first two studies, social contribution (PME = 24%) and power (PME = 13%) both mediated the relation between extraverted behaviors and PA states in single-mediator models (see Table 9, Models 1 and 2). However, when entered together as simultaneous mediators (see Table 9, Model 3), social contribution continued to explain a significant 23% of this relation, but power no longer had a significant independent mediating effect (supporting Hypothesis 3). Finally, in contrast to Studies 1 and 2, the indirect effect via social contribution was significantly larger than the indirect effect via power.

Summary

As in Studies 1 and 2, social contribution and power mediated the relation between extraverted behavior and PA states as individual mediators, but social contribution was the only significant independent mediator when the two variables were entered simultaneously. In addition to conceptually replicating the pattern of findings demonstrated at the trait domain level (Study 1) and at the state level (Study 2), Study 3 also provided the first evidence that the indirect effect via contribution is significantly stronger than the indirect effect via power. These findings, combined with those of Studies 1 and 2, provide converging evidence that the relation between extraverted behavior and positive affect may stem from perceptions of beneficial social contributions more so than any kind of social influence. This evidence substantially clarifies the conceptual nature of the social contribution mediator first identified by Smillie, Wilt, and colleagues (2015).

Study 3 also extends the state-level results of Study 2, as well as Smillie, Wilt, et al.'s (2015, Study 2) experimental study, in two ways. First, by sampling across a representative range of situations in participants' daily lives, our results suggest that the mediating effect of social contribution is not circumscribed to an artificial laboratory setting, but generalizes to everyday life. Second, assess-

Table 9
Multilevel Mediation Models Tested in Study 3

Mediator	$IV \to M \ (a \text{ path})$	$M \rightarrow DV (b path)$	Direct effect (c' path)	Indirect effect $(a \times b \text{ path})$	95% CI of indirect effect
Model 1					
Contribution	0.54***	0.21***	0.35***	0.11	[0.07, 0.15]
Model 2					
Power	0.66***	0.11***	0.40^{***}	0.06	[0.02, 0.09]
Model 3					
Contribution	0.54***	0.20***	0.34***	0.11	[0.06, 0.15]
Power	0.66***	0.05		0.02	[-0.02, 0.06]
Difference				0.09	[0.02, 0.16]

Note. Indirect effects in bold denote that the 95% CI does not capture zero. ** p < .01. *** p < .001.

ing everyday experiences of perceived social value, rather than "contributions" to a trivial discussion task, offered a more faithful operationalization of Keyes' (1998) social contribution construct.

The key limitation of a naturalistic ESM paradigm is the lack of controlled manipulation of extraverted and proposed mediators, precluding inferences about causal direction. Though lagged analyses of temporally ordered variables can provide stronger tests of mediation (MacKinnon et al., 2007; Shrout & Bolger, 2002), these were deemed inappropriate for this study, as lags were up to 3 hours apart, but the processes of interest are theoretically expected to vary rapidly (i.e., within minutes). Nevertheless, Study 3 complemented our experimental findings (Study 2) by conceptually replicating these results using ecologically valid methods.

General Discussion

Why are extraverts and extraverted moments happier? The present research aimed to clarify the recent finding that perceived social contributions help to explain why trait and state extraversion are associated with greater levels of PA (Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015). We tested the mediating effects of social contribution and power, separately and simultaneously, to assess the extent to which these "contributions" comprised any kind of influence on others, relative to specifically positive influences. Across three studies, we consistently found that social contribution and power both mediated the relation between extraversion and PA in single-mediator models. When we tested their simultaneous mediating effects, however, all three studies revealed a significant indirect effect of extraversion on PA via social contribution, but not power. These findings held at the trait domain level (Study 1) and the state level (Studies 2 and 3), not only in the lab (Study 2) but also in everyday life (Study 3). Therefore, we conclude that perceptions of beneficial contributions—more than impact per se—help to explain why extraverts and extraverted moments are happier.

Clarifying the Social Contribution Effect

The present studies continue to support the recent hypothesis that aspects of social experience, beyond quantity of social activity (e.g., Lucas et al., 2008), help to explain the relation between extraverted behaviors and PA (Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015). This hypothesis was formed on the basis that extraverts report more positive social experiences (e.g., Wilson et al., 2015), in part due

to their extraverted behaviors (Eaton & Funder, 2003). In the present research, we focused on the mediating role of social impact processes, in hopes of clarifying the recent finding that perceptions of social contribution explained 70% of the effect of enacted extraversion on PA (Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015). Given the ambiguous wording of Smillie, Wilt and colleagues' task-specific "percent contributed" measure, it was unclear whether the underlying process involved perceptions of influence, valuable contributions to a task, or beneficial contributions to other people.

Our results conceptually replicated, refined, and extended Smillie, Wilt et al.'s (2015) social contribution finding in several ways. First, we employed improved measures of social contribution that aligned more closely with Keyes' (1998) conceptualization of social contribution as social value. Second, by testing the mediating effects of social contribution and power separately and concurrently, our findings demonstrated that the underlying process may more strongly involve perceptions of contributing positively, relative to a general sense of influence (i.e., power). Finally, whereas Study 2 demonstrated these findings under similar conditions to Smillie, Wilt, and colleagues' experimental study, the ESM paradigm used in Study 3 extended these laboratory-based findings by showing that the mediating effect of social contribution generalizes to perceptions of social value in everyday life.

Although the difference in the significance of the two mediating effects occurred consistently across the three studies, only Study 3 found that the indirect effect via social contribution was significantly larger than the indirect effect via power. In addition, it is possible that we did not have sufficient statistical power to detect a small mediating effect of power when social contribution was in the same model. Nor do we claim that perceptions of general influence are irrelevant; indeed, we see social contribution as a particular manifestation of social power concerning perceptions of positive influence. The consistency of the pattern of findings across the three studies may suggest that the mediating effect of perceived positive contribution is stronger and more robust than the mediating effect of perceived general social influence.

Although we only employed self-report measures of social contribution, multimethod measurement of this construct would further clarify the scope and interpretation of the social contribution effect. If the social consequences of personality can only be fully understood by including the perspectives of social partners (see Back & Vazire, 2015), a crucial question is whether other

people experience the purported positive impacts of the extraverted behaviors of those around them. Future studies could obtain informant reports and code the conversational characteristics of social interactions recorded in the laboratory or in everyday life (see Mehl & Robbins, 2012). For example, do those who are acting extraverted just talk more, or are their words actually more useful, relative to those who are acting introverted? Do conversational partners sound happier when a target is acting more extraverted? If not, then why do people believe that their social contributions are more valuable when they are acting extraverted?

Strengths, Limitations, and Implications

Although all three studies are statistically consistent with a mediating role of social contribution, we recognize the limitations of statistical mediation. With no experimental manipulations, our crosssectional (Study 1) and naturalistic ESM (Study 3) findings are causally ambiguous. Partially addressing this concern, the enacted extraversion paradigm employed in Study 2 provides somewhat stronger evidence for the causal effect of extraverted behavior on PA, social contribution, and power. Although we did not manipulate social contribution and power in Study 2, lagged analyses also suggested that T1 social contribution or power generally had downstream effects on T2 PA, over and above T1 PA. A second issue is that the indirect effect sizes in Studies 1 and 3 may be inflated by common method variance. However, the finding that self-rated social contribution mediated the relation between experimentally manipulated extraverted behavior and informant-rated PA in Study 2 suggests that our key effect is not artifactual. Nevertheless, we recognize that it is surprisingly difficult to rigorously establish causal pathways (Bullock, Green, & Ha, 2010), and see the current article as a preliminary effort that lays the groundwork for the extensive program of research required to establish stronger evidence for causal mediation.

Despite these limitations, we find it compelling that our studies revealed highly consistent findings across three distinct methods with complementary strengths. Study 1 employed long-form measures of our key variables, assessed as global, enduring traits. Study 2 manipulated extraverted behavior under controlled laboratory conditions and obtained self- and informant ratings of extraverted behavior and state PA at two time points. Finally, the naturalistic ESM paradigm employed in Study 3 increased our confidence that the findings generalize to daily life. These methods enabled us to assess the social and affective correlates of trait extraversion (Study 1), as well as experimentally manipulated (Study 2) and everyday extraverted behavior (Study 3). Our three studies therefore provide a robust description of the relative strengths of associations and patterns of unique and shared variances between extraversion, social contribution, power, and PA, at the trait and state levels.

In this article, we focused on clarifying the mediating effects of two social impact constructs. Recognizing this narrow scope, we wish to emphasize that social contribution and power did not completely explain the extraversion–PA relation in most of our models; rather, it is likely that multiple mechanisms underlie this association. Indeed, two studies published while this article was under review found that daily relatedness mediated the relation between daily extraverted behavior and daily positive emotions (Howell et al., in press)¹, and that velocity (the perceived rate of progress toward a goal) mediated the relation between extraverted behavior and PA states (Wilt et al., in press).

These two articles also provide new theoretical perspectives on the general mechanisms that may mediate the relation between personality states and PA states. Drawing from Self-Determination Theory (SDT; Ryan & Deci, 2000), which posits that fulfilling autonomy, relatedness, and competence needs contributes to well-being, Howell and colleagues (in press) suggest that different personality states may satisfy these three needs to different extents. From this need satisfaction perspective, social contribution could help to satisfy the relatedness need, whereas rapid goal progress (Wilt et al., in press) helps one to feel competent. Alternatively, Wilt and colleagues (in press) draw from control theories of self-regulation, which suggest that positive feelings result when a person is doing unexpectedly well (Carver, 2015; Carver & Scheier, 1990). In contrast to SDT, control theories posit that affective outcomes are linked to the rate of progress, not just goal attainment (or need satisfaction) per se. If goal velocity is a more general mechanism that links extraverted behavior with PA, then social contribution, relatedness, and additional mediators could be conceptualized as goals that are more readily attained by enacting extraverted behaviors. This aligns with emerging frameworks which suggest that personality states are enacted to help accomplish specific goals (Fleeson & Jayawickreme, 2015; McCabe & Fleeson, 2012; McCabe & Fleeson, 2016). Both frameworks allow for the possibility that several social and nonsocial mechanisms may help to account for the extraversion–PA relation (Smillie, 2013).

The notion that extraverted behavior can be construed as goaldirected action also suggests one way that the present findings could be integrated with the more established literature linking trait extraversion with neural processing of rewards (for a recent review, see Wacker & Smillie, 2015). This literature shows that more extraverted individuals have more pronounced neural responses to reward (e.g., Cooper et al., 2014; Wu et al., 2014), attributed to dopaminergic signaling of motivationally salient stimuli (DeYoung, 2013; Pickering & Pesola, 2014). These dopamine neurons are thought to be centrally involved in learning about and energizing and directing behavior toward rewarding outcomes. To the extent that such approachmotivated behaviors take the form of extraverted states, differential reward processing may explain why some people tend to engage in extraverted behavior more often than others (i.e., why the extraversion dimension exists). If extraverted behaviors trigger experiences such as enhanced perceptions of social contribution, and in turn, increased PA, and if these processes are repeated more frequently for those who are more reward-sensitive (i.e., extraverts), the processes that explain the relation between extraverted behavior and PA states could also help to explain the relation between trait extraversion and trait PA (Fleeson et al., 2002; Wilt et al., 2012). In this way, research on state-level mediators could uncover new explanations for the positive affectivity of trait extraverts.

Conceptually, for those who see PA as a core feature of extraversion (e.g., Watson & Clark, 1997), the association between extraversion and PA may seem tautological. Others have shown that excluding affect-related items from measures of trait extraversion does not substantially influence its relation with measures of PA (Lucas & Fujita, 2000; Smillie, DeYoung, & Hall, 2015). Our focus on states allowed us to examine the complementary

¹ Although this was not the focus of the current article, our ESM survey (Study 3) contained one relevant item, enabling us to conceptually replicate this recent finding (see Appendix).

question of why the affective and behavioral components of extraversion cohere. This approach is in line with the emerging focus in personality research on the dynamic links among various affective, behavioral, and cognitive states (e.g., Howell et al., in press; Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015; Wilt et al., in press). From this perspective, our results suggest that social cognitions—specifically, perceptions of social contribution—may help to bind the affective and behavioral components of extraversion.

Finally, concerning practical implications, our findings may point to personality-informed pathways for increasing subjective well-being. Several researchers have suggested that acting extraverted could be an effective intervention for increasing an individual's levels of PA (e.g., Blackie, Roepke, Forgeard, Jayawickreme, & Fleeson, 2014). Although introverts do not appear to find it distressing, effortful, or inauthentic to act extraverted in the short-term (e.g., Fleeson & Wilt, 2010; Gallagher et al., 2011; McNiel et al., 2010; Zelenski et al., 2012), extraverted behavior may be related to delayed fatigue for introverts and extraverts alike (Leikas & Ilmarinen, in press). There may also be other reasons why introverts might be reluctant to act extraverted to increase their PA. For example, introverts may underpredict how enjoyable acting extraverted can be (Zelenski et al., 2013), and an emerging cultural movement aims to celebrate introverts "for who they are" (Cain, 2012; http://www.quietrev.com). Given these considerations, mediational investigations could offer an alternative approach to increasing PA: targeting the processes that mediate the relation between extraverted behaviors and PA states. For example, if the link between perceived social contribution and PA is found to be causal, and if there are several nonextraverted ways to enhance these perceptions (e.g., Aknin, Dunn, Whillans, Grant, & Norton, 2013), this could potentially empower introverted individuals with additional pathways for increasing their PA in ways that best align with their preferences (Lyubomirsky & Layous, 2013).

Conclusion

The present research shows that perceptions of social contribution, more so than a general sense of impact, independently explain why extraverts and extraverted moments are happier. These findings continue to support the hypothesis that qualitative aspects of social experience help to explain the relations that trait extraversion and extraverted behavior have with PA (Smillie, Wilt, et al., 2015). By describing the social experiences that covary with PA, this research also points to additional pathways for increasing subjective well-being, beyond acting extraverted. Before any translational implications can be realized, however, these links need to be causally established and replicated by future experimental investigations. Such endeavors, informed by personality theories, hold the potential of revealing the mutable processes that can enhance well-being in all individuals.

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Appendix

Supplemental Analyses

While the present article was under review, Howell and colleagues (in press) presented new daily diary data supporting relatedness (feelings of closeness and connectedness) as a mediator of the relation between daily extraverted behavior and daily PA states. Although this was not the focus of our article, our ESM survey (Study 3) included one item that measured perceived closeness ("In the past hour, how close did you feel to other people?"; $0 = not \ at \ all$, $10 = extremely \ close$; M = 5.12, $SD_{\rm BP} = 1.37$, $SD_{\rm WP} = 2.17$, 1 - ICC(1) = 0.72). This enabled us to examine whether Howell and colleagues' finding would replicate at the state (rather than daily) level and to compare the mediating effects of relatedness with social contribution.

As shown in Table A1, we replicate Howell and colleagues' (in press) finding: perceived relatedness mediated 28% of the

relation between extraverted behavior and state PA (see Table A1, Model 4). At the aggregate state level, social contribution and relatedness were highly correlated ($r=.81,\ p<.001$). Despite this, a multiple-mediator model revealed that social contribution (PME = 15%) and relatedness (PME = 24%) independently mediated the relation between extraverted behavior and state PA (see Table A1, Model 2), and that this model explained an additional 16% of this association, relative to the model with only social contribution as a mediator (see Table 9, Model 1). The magnitudes of these indirect effects were not significantly different, b=-0.04, 95% CI [-0.08, 0.01]. This suggests that there are likely to be multiple mechanisms that explain the link between extraverted behavior and PA.

Table A1

Additional Multilevel Mediation Models for Study 3

Mediator	$IV \to M \ (a \text{ path})$	$M \rightarrow DV (b path)$	Direct effect (c' path)	Indirect effect $(a \times b \text{ path})$	95% CI of indirect effect
Model 4 Relatedness Model 5	0.59^{***}	0.23***	0.33***	0.13	[0.09, 0.17]
Contribution Relatedness Difference	0.54*** 0.59***	0.14*** 0.19***	0.28***	0.07 0.11 -0.04	[0.04, 0.10] [0.07, 0.15] [-0.08, 0.01]

Note. Indirect effects in bold denote that the 95% CI does not capture zero. *** p < .001.

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