- Psychometric Evaluation of the Bangla Communication Scale through Classical Test
- Theory and Item Response Theory
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Abstract 19

One or two sentences providing a basic introduction to the field, comprehensible to a

scientist in any discipline. 21

Two to three sentences of more detailed background, comprehensible to scientists 22

in related disciplines.

One sentence clearly stating the **general problem** being addressed by this particular

study. 25

One sentence summarizing the main result (with the words "here we show" or their 26

equivalent). 27

Two or three sentences explaining what the **main result** reveals in direct comparison

to what was thought to be the case previously, or how the main result adds to previous

knowledge.

One or two sentences to put the results into a more **general context**. 31

Two or three sentences to provide a **broader perspective**, readily comprehensible to 32

a scientist in any discipline.

Keywords: keywords 34

Word count: X 35

engagement become.

61

Psychometric Evaluation of the Bangla Communication Scale through Classical Test

Theory and Item Response Theory

Communication is a complex behaviour of exchanging information among individuals 38 (Tanner, 2006). Communication plays a central role among adolescents in developing 39 self-identity, social relationships and creates the foundation of collective social activity 40 (Conti-Ramsden & Botting, 2008; Haslett & Bowen, 1989; Spencer, Clegg, & Stackhouse, 2013). Inadequate communication skill may cause poor peer relationship resulting long-term socio-emotional difficulties including social anxiety, stress, low self-esteem and poor academic performance (Brinton & Fujiki, 2004; Reed & Trumbo, 2020). Often adults picture adolescents having inadequate and inept communication skills 45 (Stern, 2005; Thurlow, 2003). Media representation of adolescents often includes "storm-and stress," self absorbed and disengaged type behaviours (Porteous & Colston, 1980; Stern, 2005). As such adolescents are often labelled as "lazy" and "disrespectful" by the adults (Agenda & America, 1999). On the contrary adolescents are highly engaged in work, community services and extracurricular activities and also more aspiring to earn an 50 college degrees (DeBard, 2004; Schneider & Stevenson, 1999). Such a discrepancy between 51 the reality of adolescent's image and adult's perception of the adolescents might be attributed to the mismatch of communication skills. The communication pattern of adolescents might not necessarily same as the adults. In addition to face to face communication, adolescents are vastly exposed to different virtual communication platforms. This may cause them to face more complex social challenges than the adults (Thurlow, 2003). "Communication capital" expresses the potential of civic-engagement 57 that incorporates developing social relationships and influences collective social activity. The more communication capital an individual has the easier the instances of civic

Understanding the adolescents' communication skill vital as it is considered as the

- ⁶² "key skill" in the education (Thurlow, 2001) and employment market (Olszewski,

 ⁶³ Panorska, & Gillam, 2017). In the western society, adolescents are now facing high

 ⁶⁴ unemployment (Lindsay et al., 2014). Lack of adequate communication skill is one of the

 ⁶⁵ root causes of this high unemployment (Lindsay et al., 2014). Similarly, lack of proper

 ⁶⁶ communication skill often promotes the propensity of anti-social behaviours and risk of

 ⁶⁷ exclusion from schools (Clegg, Stackhouse, Finch, Murphy, & Nicholls, 2009;

 ⁶⁸ Conti-Ramsden & Botting, 2004).
- To promote better understanding of subject contents assessing the communication skill among adolescents is highly required. For this purpose "Communication Skill" sub-skill set (Barkman & Machtmes, 2002) was developed in 2002 as a part of The National On-line Youth Life Skills Evaluation System (Mincemoyer, Perkins, & Munyua, 2005) and since then it has been extensively used (Fitzpatrick, Gagne, Jones, Lobley, & Phelps, 2005).
- This study has two objectives: (a) To explore and validate the latent construct of

 "Bangla Communication Scale" using (b) To gather concurrent validity evidence (c) To

 increase the precision of the scale usining Item Response Theory guided analysis ##

 Methods

78 Participants

A cross-sectional survey was used to collect data from a large sample of students of grade 8-12 (n = 300) from 8 schools following convenience sampling method. T. For estimating the sample size for the CFA we followed the N:q rule (Comrey & Lee, 1992; Schönbrodt & Perugini, 2013) which required 10 participants per parameters for trustworthiness of the result. Our sample size exceeds the requirement. Among 300 participants, 218 were female aged between 12 to 21 years (15.89±1.46). 82 were male with an age range between 13 participants 23 years (16.62±1.38). 282 (94%) participants belonged to middle socio-economic status. 13 (4.3%) and 5 (1.7%) participants belonged to

lower and upper socio-economic status-respectively.

88 Procedure

Prior to data collection necessary authorization from school's authority and assent from the participating were obtained. Data collection was commenced between November 2021 to January 2022. The data collection took place in the classroom where students were at first briefed about 'communication skill.' Next. they filled up their soci-demographics information and responded to our Bangla Communication Scale. All personal information (name, school, class) was codified and encrypted, producing a anonymous database.

95 Materials

Communication Scale.

Bangla Communication Scale. We translated the "Communication Scale" into
Bangla Language following International Test Commission (ITC) guidelines (Bartram et
al., 2018) to translate and adapt Communication scale. Two bilingual researchers (PhD in
Psychology) natives in Bangla translated the original English version to Bangla. Two
translated versions were then judged and synthesized by the authors. Subsequently, two
bilingual researchers (One PhD, one MS in Psychology) back-translated the Bangla scale
into English with no knowledge of the original work. The authors synthesized the two
back-translations and compared it with the original scale and made necessary amendments

105 Item Analysis

Scree plot, map and hull method (Figure 2) suggested a one factor solution. Horn's parallel analysis (Horn, 1965) with 500 iterations indicated a two-factor solution. However, the minimum average partial (MAP) method (Table ??) (Velicer, 1976) and Hull method

(Lorenzo-Seva, Timmerman, & Kiers, 2011) (Figure 2) suggested a five-factor solution. As a result, we tested both five-factor and six-factor solutions.

Measurement Invariance

To gather more information on our retained one-factor solution, we sought Item 112 Response Theory (IRT). IRT complements the conventional classical test theory-based 113 analysis by gathering information on item discrimination and item difficulty. IRT judges an 114 item's quality by providing item information in the light of participants' trait level (θ) . We 115 gathered evidence on item quality as well as item fit, person fit and model by fitting a 116 graded response model in RStudio with the "mirt" package (Chalmers, 2012) (Chalmers, 117 2012). We did a Monte Carlo simulation using "SimDesign" package (Chalmers & Adkins, 118 2020) with sample sizes varying from 50-350 and calculated average root mean squared 119 error(RMSE) to estimate the optimal sample size for the graded response model with 23 120 items. The RMSE became stable for n = 200 to 300 (RMSE ranging between .25-.35). Our 121 sample size within the estimated sample size for stability. 122

Marginal reliability is based on the true score model (Lord & Novick, 1968) and is an estimate of the overall reliability of a test based on the average conditional standard errors.

Often it is close in value to coefficient alpha (and sometimes it may even be identical).

Alpha provides a lower estimate of marginal reliability.

127 Results

Discussion

Ethical Consideration

All procedures performed in studies involving human participants were in accordance with the 1964 Helsinki declaration and its later amendments or comparable ethical

standards. This article does not contain any studies with animals performed by any of the authors.

Data and code availability

All code and data underlying this article is available on a public GitHub repository (https://github.com/masiraji/Communication).

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Table 1

Items	Mean	SD	Skew	Kurtosis	Shapiro-Wilk Statistics	Item-Total Correlation
CS01	2.97	1.02	-0.65	-0.43	0.84*	0.20
RCS02	2.51	1.18	-0.26	-0.96	0.89*	0.26
CS03	2.94	1.09	-0.72	-0.44	0.84*	0.35
CS04	2.47	1.23	-0.42	-0.79	0.89*	0.33
RCS05	2.50	1.31	-0.48	-0.87	0.87*	0.08
CS06	2.82	0.97	-0.62	-0.01	0.87*	0.40
CS07	2.70	1.16	-0.63	-0.59	0.86*	0.41
CS08	2.92	1.07	-0.87	0.00	0.84*	0.36
CS09	3.60	0.76	-2.24	4.73	0.56*	0.18
CS10	3.08	0.97	-0.81	-0.18	0.82*	0.34
CS11	3.17	1.00	-1.07	0.40	0.78*	0.52
CS12	2.58	1.19	-0.40	-0.83	0.89*	0.43
CS13	3.22	1.12	-1.35	0.81	0.72*	0.29
CS14	2.82	1.10	-0.79	-0.06	0.86*	0.43
CS15	3.34	0.82	-1.19	1.19	0.76*	0.51
CS16	2.63	1.26	-0.45	-1.00	0.87*	0.28
CS17	2.20	1.33	-0.04	-1.22	0.89*	0.36
CS18	2.86	1.07	-0.76	-0.11	0.85*	0.38
CS19	2.03	1.23	-0.08	-0.93	0.91*	0.44
CS20	2.73	1.00	-0.44	-0.47	0.88*	0.52
CS21	2.79	1.08	-0.66	-0.25	0.87*	0.56
CS22	3.00	1.06	-0.94	0.26	0.82*	0.44
CS23	2.31	1.22	-0.12	-0.91	0.90*	0.05

Measurment Invariance analysis on CFA sample (n=262) across native and non-native English speakers. Table 2

BANGLA

1 245.13 238.00 0.99 0.09 0.01 0.00 0.04 280.35 254.00 0.98 0.97 0.03 0.00 0.04 290.78 270.00 0.98 0.98 0.02 0.00 0.04 303.44 287.00 0.98 0.98 0.02 0.00 0.04		Chi-Square df CFI TLI RMSEA	дþ	CFI	TLI	RMSEA	RMSEA 90% Lower CI	RMSEA 90% Upper	RMSEA 90% Lower CI RMSEA 90% Upper Chi-Square Difference df difference* p $\underset{\bigcirc}{\mathrm{C}}\mathrm{NA}$	df difference*	$_{ m ONA}$
280.35 254.00 0.98 0.97 0.03 0.00 0.04 290.78 270.00 0.98 0.98 0.02 0.00 0.04 303.44 287.00 0.98 0.98 0.02 0.00 0.04	Configural	245.13	238.00	0.99	0.99	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.08	ı	' MM'
290.78 270.00 0.98 0.98 0.02 0.00 0.04 303.44 287.00 0.98 0.98 0.02 0.00 0.04	Metric	280.35	254.00	0.98	0.97	0.03	0.00	0.04	0.08	13.481a	16 UN 140.637
303.44 287.00 0.98 0.98 0.02 0.00 0.04	Scalar	290.78	270.00	0.98	0.98	0.02	0.00	0.04	0.08	13.002b	16 QJ.673
	Residual	303.44	287.00	0.98	0.98	0.02	0.00	0.04	0.09	14.008c	17 00.667

Table 3

Correlation matrix of the main variables

	1	2	3
1 Communication			
2 Hopelessness	16*		
3 Life Satisfaction	02	.02	
4 SE	.04	58**	07

Note. **p < .001

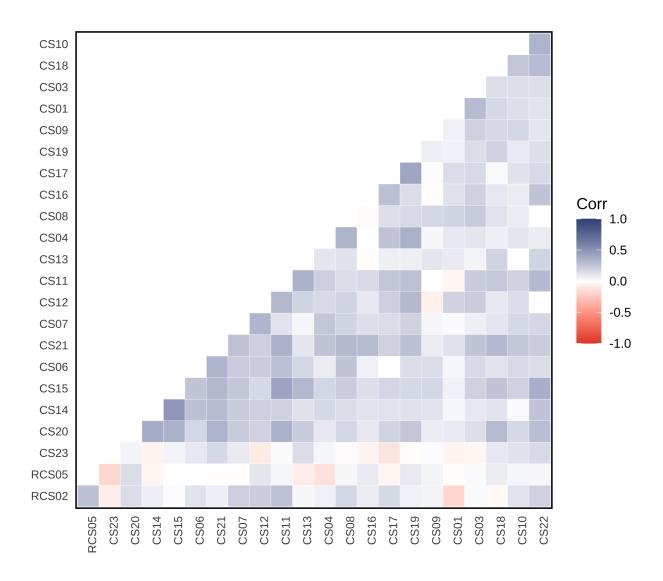


Figure 1. Inter item polychoric correlation coefficients for the 48 items. 4.9~% inter-item correlation coefficients were higher than .30

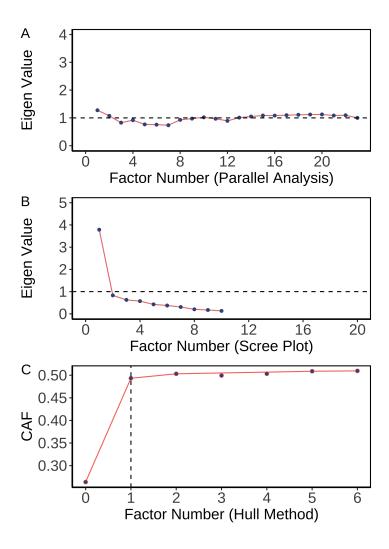


Figure 2. Factor Identification Methods (A) Parallel analysis indicated the optimal number of factors were two. (B) Scree plot suggested One facor. (C) Hull method indicated 1 factors were required to balance the model fit and number of parameters.

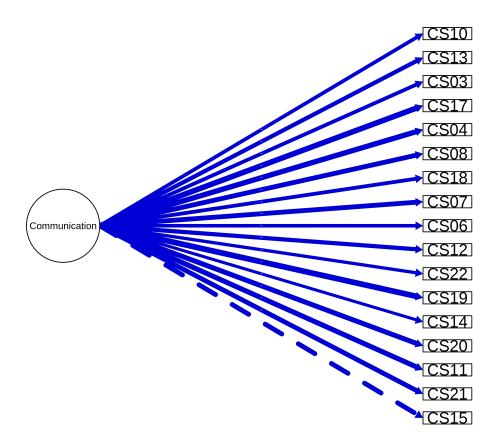


Figure 3. CFA Plot.

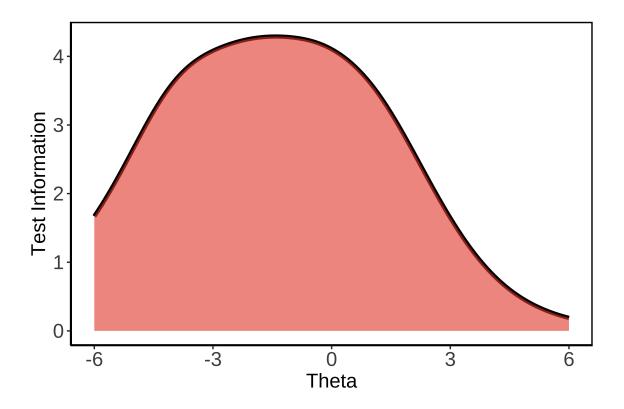
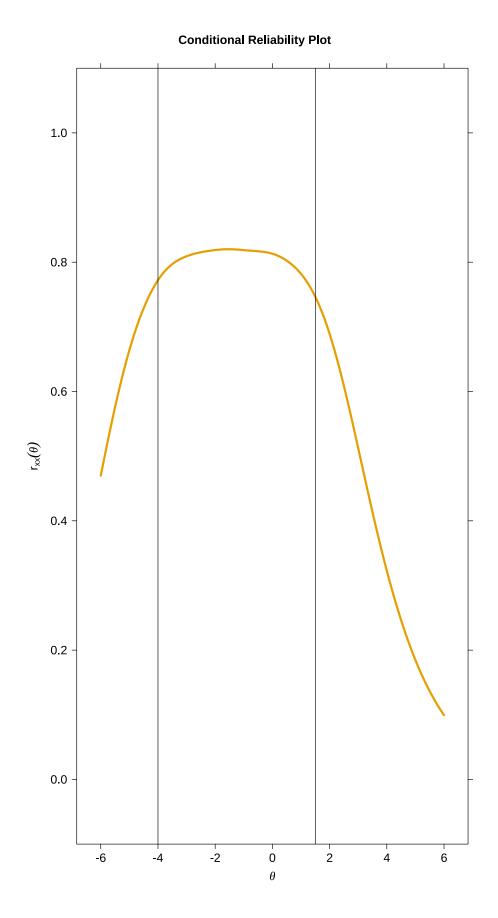


Figure 4. TIC.



Figure~5. Conditional Reliability.