# Dimensional vs. Categorical Personality Disorder Structure

The DSM-V Kerfuffle

S. Mason Garrison Vanderbilt University, Peabody College



July 19, 2015



## Introduction

Introduction
Personality Disorder Structure

Categorical Personality Disorders General Criteria Disorders

Dimensional Personality Disorders General Criteria Diagnosis Disorders

Categorical vs. Dimensional Similarities Differences

Discussion

#### INTRODUCTION I

- ► During the development process of the fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5), proposed revisions would have significantly changed the method of diagnosis for personality disorders.
- ► The proposed revisions would have replaced the categorical approach with a trait-specific method, addressing many of the structure problems, including the overuse of PD-NOS.
- ► Clinicals would then rate these traits in terms of severity.

## INTRODUCTION II

- ► The American Psychiatric Association (APA<sub>1</sub>) Board of Trustees decided to retain the DSM-IV-TR categorical approach with the same 10 personality disorders
- because the trait specific method was "too complex for clinical practice."
- The proposed dimensional model was revised into a hybrid model.
- ► This alternative hybrid dimensional-categorical model was included in a supplemental chapter.

#### Personality Disorder Structure I

## Within the Categorical Model,

- ▶ disorders fall within 10 distinct types,
- one either has the disorder or does not, and
- diagnosis requires meeting the criteria for both the broad disorder and the specific type.
- ► If they do not match a specific type, subjects may be diagnosed with Personality DisorderNot Otherwise Specified (PD-NOS).

## Within the Alternative Hybrid Model,

- subjects are evaluated for impairments in typical personality functioning, and
- assessed on five broad areas of pathological personality traits.

## PERSONALITY DISORDER STRUCTURE II

- clinicans then diagnose patients into six perosonality disorder types, by matching specific patterns of five traits.
- ► If they do not match a specific pattern, subjects may be diagnosed with Personality DisorderTrait Specified (PD-TS).

## GENERAL PERSONALITY DISORDER CRITERIA I

- ► An enduring pattern of inner experience and behavior that deviates markedly from the expectations of the individuals culture. This pattern is manifested in two (or more) of the following areas:
  - 1. Cognition (i.e., ways of perceiving and interpreting self, other people, and events).
  - 2. Affectivity (i.e., the range, intensity, lability, and appropriateness of emotional response).
  - 3. Interpersonal functioning.
  - 4. Impulse control.
- ► The enduring pattern is inflexible and pervasive across a broad range of personal and social situations.

## GENERAL PERSONALITY DISORDER CRITERIA II

- ► The enduring pattern leads to clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning.
- ► The pattern is stable and of long duration, and its onset can be traced back at least to adolescence or early adulthood.
- ► The enduring pattern is not better explained as a manifestation or consequence of another mental disorder.
- ► The enduring pattern is not attributable to the physiological effects of a substance (e.g., a drug of abuse, a medication) or another medical condition (e.g., head trauma).

#### CATEGORICAL PERSONALITY DISORDERS

- Cluster A (Weird)
  - ► Paranoid personality disorder
  - Schizoid personality disorder
  - ► Schizotypal personality disorder
- ► Cluster B (Wild)
  - Antisocial personality disorder
  - Borderline personality disorder
  - ► Histrionic personality disorder
  - Narcissistic personality disorder
- ► Cluster C (Worried)
  - ► Avoidant personality disorder
  - ► Dependent personality disorder
  - ► Obsessive-compulsive personality disorder
- ► Personality disorder not otherwise specified



## CLUSTER A (WEIRD)

- ► Paranoid personality disorder
  - ▶ is characterized by "a pervasive distrust and suspiciousness of others such that their motives are interpreted as malevolent"(American Psychiatric Association, 2013).



## CLUSTER A (WEIRD)

- Paranoid personality disorder
- Schizoid personality disorder
  - ▶ is "a pattern of detachment from social relationships and a restricted range of emotional expression.".



# CLUSTER A (WEIRD)

- Paranoid personality disorder
- Schizoid personality disorder
- Schizotypal personality disorder
  - is characterized by "a pattern of acute discomfort in close relationships, cognitive or perceptual distortions, and eccentricities of behavior."



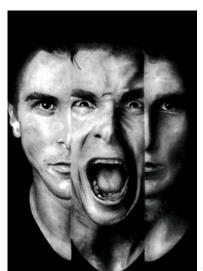
## CLUSTER B (WILD)

- Antisocial personality disorder
  - ▶ is "a pattern of disregard for, and violation of, the rights of others" (American Psychiatric Association, 2013).



# CLUSTER B (WILD)

- Antisocial personality disorder
- Borderline personality disorder
  - is characterized by "a pattern of instability in interpersonal relationships, self-image, and affects, and marked impulsivity."



# CLUSTER B (WILD)

- Antisocial personality disorder
- ► Borderline personality disorder
- Histrionic personality disorder
  - "is a pattern of excessive emotionality and attention seeking."



- Antisocial personality disorder
- Borderline personality disorder
- Histrionic personality disorder
- Narcissistic personality disorder
  - is characterized by "a pattern of grandiosity, need for admiration, and lack of empathy."



## CLUSTER C (WORRIED)

- Avoidant personality disorder
  - is characterized by "social inhibition, feelings of inadequacy, and hypersensitivity to negative evaluation" (American Psychiatric Association, 2013).



## CLUSTER C (WORRIED)

- Avoidant personality disorder
- Dependent personality disorder
  - is "a pattern of submissive and clinging behavior related to an excessive need to be taken care of."



## CLUSTER C (WORRIED)

- Avoidant personality disorder
- Dependent personality disorder
- Obsessive-compulsive personality disorder
  - "is a pattern of preoccupation with orderliness, perfectionism, and control."



## NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

- ► Personality change due to another medical condition
  - " is a persistent personality disturbance that is judged to be due to the direct physiological effects of a medical condition (e.g., frontal lobe lesion)"(American Psychiatric Association, 2013).



## NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

- ► Personality change due to another medical condition
  - " is a persistent personality disturbance that is judged to be due to the direct physiological effects of a medical condition (e.g., frontal lobe lesion)"(American Psychiatric Association, 2013).



#### NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

- ► Other specified personality disorder and unspecified personality disorder "is a category provided for two situations:
  - 1. the individual's personality pattern meets the general criteria for a personality disorder, and traits of several different personality disorders are present, but the criteria for any specific personality disorder are not met;
  - 2. the individual's personality pattern meets the general criteria for a personality disorder, but the individual is considered to have a personality disorder that is not included in the DSM-5 classification (e.g., passive-aggressive personality disorder)."

#### GENERAL PERSONALITY DISORDER CRITERIA I

Personality disorders are characterized by **impairments in personality functioning** and **pathological personality traits**. The essential features are:

- ► Moderate or greater impairment in personality (self/interpersonal) functioning.
- ► One or more pathological personality traits.
- ➤ The impairments in personality functioning and the individual's personality trait expression are relatively inflexible and pervasive across a broad range of personal and social situations.

#### GENERAL PERSONALITY DISORDER CRITERIA II

- ► The impairments in personality functioning and the individual's personality trait expression are relatively stable across time, with onsets that can be traced back to at least adolescence or early adulthood.
- ► The impairments in personality functioning and the individual's personality trait expression are not better explained by another mental disorder.
- ► The impairments in personality functioning and the individual's personality trait expression are not solely attributable to the physiological effects of a substance or another medical condition (e.g., severe head trauma).

## GENERAL PERSONALITY DISORDER CRITERIA III

► The impairments in personality functioning and the individual's personality trait expression are not better understood as normal for an individuals developmental stage or sociocultural environment.

## DIAGNOSIS

A diagnosis of a personality disorder requires two determinations:

- 1. an assessment of the level of impairment in personality functioning, which is needed for Criterion A, and
- 2. an evaluation of pathological personality traits, which is required for Criterion B.

#### CRITERION A: PERSONALITY FUNCTIONING

Disturbances in self and interpersonal functioning are the core of personality psychopathology

- Self functioning involves identity and self-direction;
- ► interpersonal functioning involves empathy and intimacy.
- Each are evaluated with the Level of Personality Functioning Scale (LPFS);
- ▶ impairment ratings range from
  - little or no impairment (i.e., healthy, adaptive functioning; Level 0) to
  - ▶ some (Level 1),
  - ► moderate (Level 2),
  - ► severe (Level 3), and
  - extreme (Level 4) impairment.

#### CRITERION B: PATHOLOGICAL PERSONALITY TRAITS I

- ► Five broad domains:
  - ► Negative Affectivity (vs. Emotional Stability),
  - ► Detachment (vs. Extraversion),
  - ► Antagonism (vs. Agreeableness),
  - ► Disinhibition (vs. Conscientiousness), and
  - Psychoticism (vs. Lucidity).
- ► Each domain has 5 facets, based on a review of existing trait models and iterative empirical research on clinical samples.

#### DIMENSIONAL PERSONALITY DISORDERS

- Cluster A (Weird)
  - ► Paranoid personality disorder
  - Schizoid personality disorder
  - ► Schizotypal personality disorder
- ► Cluster B (Wild)
  - Antisocial personality disorder
  - Borderline personality disorder
  - ► Histrionic personality disorder
  - Narcissistic personality disorder
- ► Cluster C (Worried)
  - ► Avoidant personality disorder
  - ► Dependent personality disorder
  - ► Obsessive-compulsive personality disorder
- ► Personality disorder not otherwise specified



## **DISCUSSION POINTS**

- ► The DSM dimensional approach seems to suggest that one pole of the Big Five is the maladaptive one. What other approaches disagree?
- ► What are the pros and cons to dimensional vs. clinical approaches to PDs?
- ▶ Why the reduction from 10 clinical to 6 dimensional PDs?
- ► How does the dimensional approach use as the cut-off from normal to abnormal? Isn't that the same as the clinical approach?

## REFERENCES I

American Psychiatric Association. (2013). Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders.