Dimensional vs. Categorical Personality Disorder Structure

The DSM-V Kerfuffle

S. Mason Garrison Vanderbilt University, Peabody College



July 20, 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

- ▶ During the development process of the fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (dsm2013diagnostic; DSM-5), proposed revisions would have significantly changed the method of diagnosis for personality disorders.
- ► The propsoed 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 (APA₁) 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".



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."



- ► Antisocial personality disorder
 - ▶ is "a pattern of disregard for, and violation of, the rights of others."



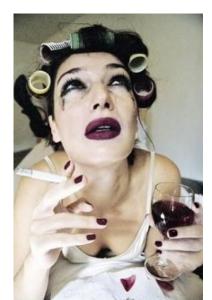
CLUSTER B (WILD)

- 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."



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."



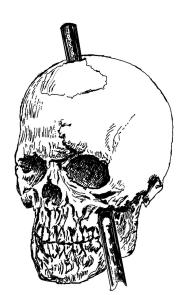
CLUSTER C (WORRIED)

- 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)."



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)."



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

- Antisocial personality disorder
 - typical features include "a failure to conform to lawful and ethical behavior, and
 - an egocentric, callous lack of concern for others,
 - accompanied by deceitfulness, irresponsibility,
 - manipulativeness, and/or risk taking."



DIMENSIONAL PERSONALITY DISORDERS

- ► Antisocial personality disorder
- Avoidant personality disorder
 - features include
 "avoidance of social
 situations and
 inhibition in
 interpersonal
 relationships
 - related to feelings of ineptitude and inadequacy,
 - anxious preoccupation with negative evaluation and rejection, and
 - ► fears of ridicule or



DIMENSIONAL PERSONALITY DISORDERS

- Antisocial personality disorder
- ► Avoidant personality disorder
- ► Borderline personality disorder
 - features are "instability of self-image, personal goals, interpersonal relationships, and affects,
 - accompanied by impulsivity, risk taking, and/or hostility."



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.