

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN DIFFERENT PREDICTORS OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

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✓ OBJECTIVES : Explore the relationships between Huber's subjective experiences and Meehl's schizotypy

The concept of **subjective experiences** corresponds to the **self-perception of cognitive disorders** in schizophrenia : attention, perception, memory, thinking, language, movement and emotion. It constitutes a **neglected topic** among researches on schizophrenia. It has been proposed by Huber et al. (1980), under the label of “ **basic symptoms** ”, because they are considered as the symptoms of schizophrenia appearing before the onset of illness.

The concept of **schizotypy** (Meehl, 1962) has been proposed to refer to individuals who possess an **underlying vulnerability to schizophrenia** which encompass anhedonia, ambivalence, cognitive slippage and interpersonal aversiveness.

We studied the relationships between subjective experiences and schizotypy.

✓ METHODS

SUBJECTS:

399 students

Exclusion: any psychiatric history

RATING SCALES:

-Schizotypy:

- Chapman scales:
 - **Physical anhedonia** (PAS)
 - **Social anhedonia** (SAS)
 - **Perceptual aberrations** (PerAS)
 - **Magical Ideation** (MIS)

- **Cognitive Slippage Scale** (CSS) Miers & Raulin , 1987)
- **Schizotypal Ambivalence Scale** (Sam) (Kwapil et al., 2002)

-Subjective Experiences

- **Frankfurt Complaint Questionnaire** : 98 items ' subscale - Yes/No questionnaire for the autoevaluation of subjective experiences about cognitive impairments (loss of control, simple perception, complex perception, language, thought, memory, motility, lack of automatism, anhedonia-anxiety and sensory over stimulation) (Loas et al., 2002)

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS:

- * Exploratory Principal Components Analysis (EPCA)

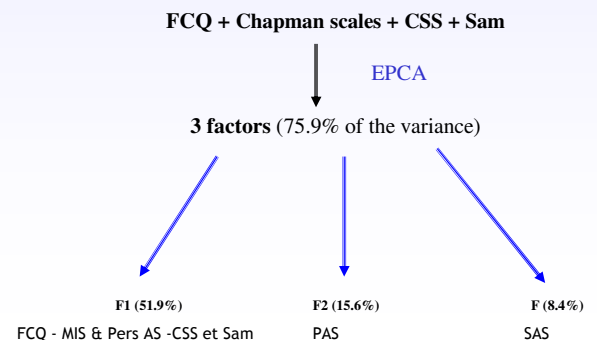
Exploratory principal components analysis is used as a dimensional reduction technique for determining a smaller set of orthogonal (uncorrelated) variables to explain a majority of the total variance.

- * Correlations between FCQ and schizotypal scales

- * Step by step multiple regression analysis

✓ RESULTS

Exploratory Principal Components Analysis



- ✓ FCQ and scales evaluating cognitive factors are encompass in the same factor

Correlations with FCQ

- ✓ FCQ correlates with every other scale except the Physical Anhedonia Scale
The highest correlation is with the Cognitive Slippage Scale

Step by step multiple regression analysis

- ✓ Chapman's Scales represent an important part of the FCQ's variance (61%)
The Cognitive Slippage Scale represents 50% of the FCQ's variance

✓ CONCLUSIONS

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- ✓ There's a **strong link** between **subjective experiences** evaluated by the Frankfurt Complaint Questionnaire and **schizotypy** evaluated by Chapman's scales
- ✓ This link seems to be on **positive factors of schizotypy and not on anhedonia**
- ✓ Frankfurt Complaint Questionnaire and Cognitive Slippage Scale seem to evaluate the **self-perception of cognitive impairments**

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