Annual Report 2006


Lite statistik
- Av 235 bidrag är 66 "in press".
- 131 referenser avser artiklar i vetenskapliga tidskrifter (Journal). Av dessa var 50 st "in press".
- 40 referenser avser böcker eller bokkapitel (Book (chapter)). Av dessa var 13 "in press".
- 8 referenser avser rapporter (Report).
- 46 referenser avser konferensbidrag (Proceedings). Av dessa var tre "in press".
- 9 referenser avser doktorsavhandlingar (Dissertations) som lagts fram under året.
- 218 av alla bidrag är på engelska, 16 på svenska och ett på övriga språk (tyska).

Referens:

Abstract:
During the last decade there has been an increasing interest in the role of impulsivity and aggressiveness in psychosocial disturbances. Despite scientific efforts, several aspects of the relationships between these personality features and Personality Disorders and violence are still controversial. A relevant question concerns the reciprocal relationships between impulsivity and aggressiveness, and their interaction with other "action" personality traits or temperamental traits, e.g., sensation seeking. Another controversial topic is the identification of biological and neuropsychological markers of impulsivity and aggressiveness in order to get more objective measures of these personality traits than those produced by subjects' self-reports, and to obtain a deeper understanding of the phenotypic aspects underlying impulsive and aggressive behaviours as manifested in violence. Starting from these considerations, the present session aims at shedding some light on the implications and consequences of impulsivity for psychosocial disturbances, such as abuse and violence. The issue will be discussed in terms of development, possible underlying factors, attitudes and consequences, which can be particularly relevant from a clinical and forensic point of view.

Typ och Nyckelord: Proceedings impulsivity, criminality, violence, risk factors, attitudes, injuries, victims

Referens:

Abstract:
Objective: To examine low episodic memory scores as a potential risk factor for depression.

Method: A population-based sample of non-depressed individuals (20-64 years) were re-examined 3 years after an initial screening (n=708). At baseline, information on episodic memory scores, demographic and socioeconomic factors, alcohol use and anxiety diagnoses was collected. The data for depression diagnoses were collected both at baseline and follow-up.

Results: Logistic regressions, conducted on three separate study groups that were defined according to three assessments of episodic memory (i.e. free + cued recall, free recall, cued recall) among individuals who scored in the 25 lowest or highest percentiles in the memory tests, revealed that low episodic memory performance defined as the sum of free and cued recall of organizable words, constitute a risk for depression diagnosis three years later.

Conclusion: Low episodic memory performance predated depressive diagnosis and might be considered as a premorbid marker of depression.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal depression, cognition, memory

Referens:

Abstract:
Background: This study prospectively examined cognitive and social functioning in recovery from depression using participants sampled from the general population.

Method: Seventy-six depressed persons fulfilling (n=41) and not fulfilling (n =35) the criteria for DSM-IV depression at a threeyear follow-up were compared with respect to episodic memory performance and social functioning at baseline (T1), at follow-up (T2) and change across time.

Results: The groups did not differ in episodic memory performance either at T1, T2 or in residual change. However, the groups differed in social functioning at T2 and in residual change indicating improved social
functioning in the recovered group.

Limitation: The absence of a healthy control group at follow-up.

Conclusion: Despite the symptomatic improvement and improved social functioning, cognitive functioning does not follow this general recovery trend, at least not in the three-year interval examined.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal depression, episodic memory, longitudinal


Författarna är alla forskare inom området och boken bygger delvis på erfarenheterna från ett omfattande forskningsprogram om nya arbetsvillkor. Gränslöst arbete är tänkt att använda som kurslitteratur på universitet och högskolor inom såväl psykologi, pedagogik och sociologi som företagsekonomi. Boken kan även läsas av alla som är intresserade, och kanske drabbade, av villkoren i det nya arbetslivet.

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) arbetsorganisation, working life, lärande, change, hälsa, stress and health


Abstract: In this chapter the system approach outlined in chapter 1 is applied to the analysis of safety management in the Swedish Civil Aviation Safety Authority-SCASA, the regulating authority of Swedish civil airline operations (Luftfartsinspektionen). The methods used were both document analysis and interviews with key persons within SCASA. The results generated an interesting narrative of safety management in the studied organization. Examples of safety management according to core concepts of the system theoretical framework were illustrated, among them safety management in relation to the system structure, identification of threats, and information feedback.

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) air transportation, threats, feedback


Abstract: The use of individualized pay has increased during the last decades. Employers expect individualized pay systems to bring about more efficient and motivated employees, who are willing to heighten their work efforts in order to achieve organizational goals. A certain amount of cooperation and communication between supervisor and employee is required throughout the different processes is required. Although research on leadership and its impact on employees perceptions are extensive (Pfeffer, 1997), there is need to study whether interpersonal competency of leaders in the pay-setting process affects outcomes such as employee satisfaction, performance and well-being. It would be reasonable to assume that employees who have a positive view of the supervisor-employee relationship and regards the supervisor’s conduct in the pay-setting process as fair, also would experience a greater satisfaction, commitment, and are less inclined to quit than individuals with more negative perceptions of the relationship with his/her conduct in the pay-setting process. Questionnaire data was collected among 721 health care workers. The response rate was 81 percent (N=582). The proportion of women was 88 percent, and the mean age 48 (SD=11) years. The results indicate that a clear communication concerning expectations and goals is probably the most important supervisor quality for all five outcomes, followed by supervisor legitimacy and competency, respectful treatment and gender equality.

Typ och Nyckelord: Proceedings wages, leadership, fairness


Abstract: Objectives: To investigate whether application of cutoff levels in an episodic memory test (Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test, RAVLT) is a useful method for identifying patients at high and low risk of cognitive decline and subsequent dementia.

Methods: 224 patients with memory complaints (mean age = 60.7 years, mean MMSE = 28.2) followed-up at a memory clinic over 3 years were assigned retrospectively to one of three memory groups from their baseline results in RAVLT [severe (SIM), moderate (MIM) or no impairment (NIM)]. The groups were investigated regarding cognitive decline.

Results: Patients assigned to SIM showed significant cognitive decline and progressed to dementia at a high
rate, while a normal performance in RAVLT at baseline (NIM) predicted normal cognition after 3 years. Patients with MIM constituted a heterogeneous group; some patients deteriorated cognitively, while the majority remained stable or improved.

Conclusions: The application of cutoff levels in RAVLT at baseline showed that patients with severely impaired RAVLT performance were at a high risk of cognitive decline and progression to dementia, while patients with normal RAVLT results did not show cognitive decline during 3 years. Furthermore, the initial degree of memory impairment was decisive in the cognitive prognosis 3 years later.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, cognitive decline, dementia, Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test, RAVLT

**Referenser:**

**Abstract:**
The practice of individualized pay has brought with it a great many challenges for employers in regard to how the pay-setting process and the communications of criteria and pay-related notifications should be managed. For instance, earlier research has shown that it is foremost pay satisfaction, attitudes towards individualized pay, pay equity and gender equality that contribute to positive work-related attitudes. Given that there is evidence of discrimination – primarily of women – occurring in regard to their pay levels and pay negotiations, the aim of this study is to explore if and how perceptions of the pay setting procedure, pay related justice, gender equality and equal opportunity differ between men and women.

The empirical basis for this cross-sectional study is comprised of questionnaire data collected among 1316 Swedish government white-collar workers. The response rate was 68 percent (N=895) and the proportion of women was 35 percent. The results suggest that individualized pay as a system is something that both men and women desire and are happy with, although perceptions regarding how equal and fair the pay distribution is, who benefits and has an advantage in pay negotiations differed between men and women. Men perceived that men and women had equal opportunities and advantages in connection to individualized pay. Pay were also more satisfied with their pay on the whole and felt that they were able to influence their pay level to a higher degree than women.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings gender, pay, equality

**Referenser:**

**Abstract:**
A common approach for unions to face changes in the industrial environment is through merger. Although mergers can lead to economies of scales, broader membership representation, and greater bargaining power, studies of merger attempts show they are exceedingly difficult to implement, with a majority not completed. The merger literature presently fails to give a unified explanation to this phenomenon. With the aim of adding to the existing knowledge of the hardships of union mergers, this study investigates a failed merger attempt of four Swedish unions. The results show significant differences between, as well as within, the unions regarding members’ merger attitudes and knowledge of the planned merger. The results suggest that the campaigning process is crucial and that union leaders planning mergers should aim at enhancing members’ merger attitudes in order to minimize internal opposition.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report union mergers, barriers, information

**Referenser:**

**Abstract:**
The difficulty of implementing union mergers is reflected in the large proportion of unsuccessful planned mergers. In many cases, this is due to members opposing the merger proposal. Despite this problem, few studies have investigated the significance of members’ orientations in merger implementation. The ability to predict if members will support a merger proposition would be valuable to union leaders planning mergers. Using questionnaire data from members of four Swedish unions involved in an unsuccessful merger attempt, this study investigates predictors of members’ merger orientation - the members’ attitude towards union mergers in general, their expectations about specific merger outcomes, and their intention to vote in favour of a specific merger proposal. The analysis shows that union commitment, union tenure and being informed about a merger proposal significantly predicted merger orientation. Furthermore, the analysis revealed signs of officer opposition. This suggests that a committed and well-informed membership is a crucial precondition to successful merger implementation, and that a merger proposal stands little chance without the support of union leaders.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal commitment, information, merger

**Referenser:**

**Abstract:**
We investigated the dimensions and stability in health-related behaviors (HRBs) among middle-aged Swedish women, and the factors that predicted change in those behaviors. At age 43, 569 women from a representative longitudinal sample completed questionnaires about lifestyle (diet, exercise, smoking, alcohol) and participated in medical screening. Four years later we mailed a follow-up questionnaire. HRBs clustered in two dimensions: healthy eating and addictions. There was a high degree of stability in HRBs; all women slightly increased their HRBs over time. After controlling for previous HRBs, education, marital status, and having children at home were significant predictors of HRBs 4 years later.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal women, health, longitudinal

**Referenser:**

**Abstract:**
A number of neurobiological, psychological and social factors may account for cognitive impairment. In animal
Health guidelines are concerned with soundscapes as coherent wholes (emissions from all sounds) and in order to be able to design future soundscapes, tools are needed by which soundscape quality can be measured. Community noise destroys environments which otherwise could have been quiet and restorative, such as court yards, gardens, parks and other green urban and suburban areas. Wide gaps exist between current sound levels and those adopted in the WHO guidelines for community noise. A wide gap also exists between current long-term goals and the goals that would constitute good sound environments. Thus far, community-noise pollution has in principle been viewed as a pure engineering problem, not a health problem. The objective of the WHO guidelines and the EC environmental noise directive, is to protect people from the harmful effects of noise. Both also recommend education and information as noise management measures, besides the legal and engineering measures. However, in practice there is an inbuilt conflict which abuses the health goals. WHO guideline values are based on different critical health effects which are linked to the "all-noise" immission in specific environments and sensitive time periods for sensitive groups during specific activities. In contrast, noise maps and remedial actions against noise are concerned with sound levels of a specific noise source. It is not enough to protect and prevent against the predominating noise. The way forward is to promote and support the development of healthy soundscapes. One goal of long-term city planning must be to provide soundscapes supportive to health. 


**Abstract:**

Health-supportive soundscapes can best be accomplished if noise pollution is abated in harmony with creative city planning. In order to design better soundscapes in residential areas, outdoors and indoors, we have to know what sounds are discerned and what kinds of soundscapes are adverse (e.g., disturbance) or positive (e.g., tranquillity). Today regulation is limited to energetic time-averages for specific traffic (road, rail & air) and industrial noise. No information is conveyed on sound components, on structure of their composite, or the acoustic soundscape. Also the WHO health-based guideline values are grounded in longterm equivalent continuous sound levels. Such averages, based on the amount of traffic and short-term sound-levels, allow for worst-noise component approximations, but do not characterize the soundscape per se. Alternatively, strategy is here proposed which aims at delivering prognostic design which aims at preserving perceived soundscapes. Recent research results will be presented from our residential soundscape database. It includes a dualistic soundscape similarity approach for differentiating various perceptual and acoustic qualitative aspects of soundscapes as well as a diagnostic system for soundscape certification, which builds on a neural network classifier. Both tools may be used in soundscape design and mitigation psychophysics.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceeding community noise, neural network classifier

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

In order to be able to design future soundscapes, tools are needed by which soundscape quality can be measured. For this purpose a "dualistic psychoacoustic research strategy" has been developed. The main goal of this strategy is to identify new ways to characterize soundscapes acoustically. The core question is how soundscapes should be measured on the one hand acoustically, on the other perceptually, such that the acoustic soundscapes that are similar (or dissimilar) would be identical to the perceived soundscapes that are similar (or dissimilar). A top down approach is favored in which tools for measuring perceived soundscapes are first developed, and followed by developing models of perceptual acoustic soundscapes. Our multidimensional tool for measuring perceived soundscapes includes (perceived) similarity analysis for finding basic underlying dimensions and corresponding similarity analysis of acoustic (waterfall) soundscape quality. This means that this tool measures soundscape quality beyond loudness of unwanted sounds or mere sound level of predominant noise. Research on neural network models is in progress for finding appropriate acoustic measures of soundscapes.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceeding soundscape, neural network, psychoacoustics

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

Health guidelines are concerned with soundscapes as coherent wholes (emissions from all sounds) and everyday life also takes place in soundscapes. Current noise control focuses on sound level change for singular sources, isolated from invariant background and other component sounds. By applying a dualistic similarity approach to data sets of perceptual soundscapes and acoustic soundscapes, it was possible to meaningfully differentiate properties of acoustic soundscapes of relevance for improving urban and suburban soundscapes. Apart from the mere presence of common sounds (e.g., birds, sounds of nature or technological sounds), meaningful differentiations of soundscapes include: (1) the relative proportion of direct and shielded sounds in background soundscapes; (2) the modification of loudness/softness by acoustic quality, and (3) the "sound signatures" traceable to the relative foreground-background character of perceived soundscapes. Acoustically similar soundscapes (evolutionary spectra) were not always perceived similar. In a first step we compared the performance of 1351 subjects (53% women, 47% men; age M=54.0) with natural teeth to 487 edentulous subjects (59% women, 41% men; age M=71.3) on twelve cognitive tests. The natural teeth group had a lower mean age, fewer women, more years of education, higher MMSE, and performed significantly higher on several cognitive tests. In a subsequent analysis, the cognitive performance of a subset of the participants (50-85 years) was examined. In this analysis, 211 had natural dentition and 188 were edentulous. The groups were matched for gender, age, social variables, diseases, stress and MMSE. The cognitive disadvantage of the edentulous group was still apparent. The results suggest that functional natural teeth relate to relatively preserved cognitive functioning in older age.
similar, because the reasons for the two types of similarities differ. This fact calls for new ways to assess the acoustic soundscapes such that adequate design tools for coherent soundscapes can be developed.

Typ och Nyckelord: Proceedings soundscape


Abstract: Annoyance research typically focuses on single sources and on adverse effects of noise. In contrast, soundscape research focuses on the total sound environment, including both positive and negative aspects. A major challenge in soundscape research is to develop methods for measuring the perceived soundscape. In the research program "Soundscape Support to Health", we have developed new methods for this purpose, including listening tests in the laboratory, listening walks in the field and questionnaire studies targeted on the soundscape. We have thus identified major perceptual dimensions of soundscapes (pleasantness and eventfulness), linked these features to important acoustical and informational properties of soundscapes (type of sources), and explored the effect of noise mitigation on soundscape perception. Our research show (a) that pleasantness of soundscapes is related to the presence of natural sounds, whereas eventfulness is related to the presence of sounds from humans, (b) that traffic noise should be reduced to below 50 dBA, in order to have a chance to create good outdoor soundscapes in urban residential and recreational areas, and (c) that mitigation efficiency in sound level of various barriers and facades may overestimate corresponding perceptual mitigation efficiency. Based on these findings, new tools for ‘green labelling’ of soundscapes are being developed.

Typ och Nyckelord: Soundscape, annoyance, pleasantness, eventfulness


Abstract: The importance of social circumstances for middle-age women's general subjective wellbeing (SWB) was investigated in a representative sample of Swedish women, aged 43 (N=369). The results showed non-existent to moderate relationships between a number of social circumstances variables and general SWB. The strongest relationship was found between marital status and global life satisfaction. Being off work because of illness and household income were the strongest predictors of negative affect. A moderate relationship was found between a cumulated social disadvantage index and SWB, indicating that existing disadvantage index were related to fairly large differences in SWB. In person-oriented analyses, social circumstances were compared between women with a typical profile of generalised low SWB and women with a typical profile of generalised above-average SWB. The results indicated stronger relationships between SWB and the cumulative disadvantage index and unemployment than was the case in the variability factors were controlled for, they eliminated nearly all relationships between the social circumstances variables and SWB, except for those between global life satisfaction and marital status or unemployment.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal subjective well-being, social circumstances, women


Abstract: This special issue of International Journal of Social Welfare deals with sociological and psychological perspectives on determinants of social welfare to which invited leading researchers in psychology, sociology, social policy, and public health have contributed. In all articles the outcome variables are important factors related to social welfare and psychological or sociological factors are treated as explanatory variables. In the introduction, Lars Bergman and Olle Lundberg overview the issues and contents of the issue. The article by Johannes Siegrist deals with quality of work and health, partly from a sociological perspective. S-V. Subramanian and Ichiro Kawachi study the importance of income for health and they develop a typology of income-health relationships. Income is regarded at both the individual and community level and the importance of a multilevel framework is emphasized. The article by Daiva Daukantaite and Rita Zukauskienė deals with Swedish and Lithuanian women's subjective well-being and Alexander von Eye and Anne Bogat report on mental health and intimate partner violence. Ulf Lundberg in his article describes the main physiological stress responses and analyze under which conditions these responses promote or damage health and he also discusses how objective and subjective health are related. Finally, Lars Bergman and Olle Lundberg provide a commentary on the issues raised by the articles.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal social, welfare, income
The present commentary gives a brief overview of the person-oriented and variable-oriented approaches, how they are commonly used in longitudinal research, and what one should take into consideration before using either approach. In addition to presenting an empirical example on girls’ adjustment problems using both approaches, this commentary uses the contributions in the present issue of the Merrill Palmer Quarterly to illustrate some of the main issues surrounding these two perspectives. Special attention is also given to the contrast between the person-oriented and variable-oriented approaches in terms of aggregation and disaggregation, model appropriateness and usefulness, and prediction as a goal. Future directions with regard to implementing a person-oriented approach are discussed, including the importance of conceptual clarity, practical and theoretical training, and method development.

**Abstract:**

In this chapter, person-oriented research strategies in developmental psychopathology are reviewed. By closing an important research gap, this paper will demonstrate what insights can be gained when patterns of temporary workers’ motives, voluntary contract choice, and work involvement among temporary employees are related to their self-reported attitudes and individual well-being. However, findings of previous research have been inconclusive. Some studies report no clear differences to permanent employment; some find support for the assumed detrimental effects of temporary work, while yet others report positive effects on employee well-being, attitudes, and behaviour. It has often been argued that the role of individual motives for working in a temporary assignment, the voluntary choice of the employment contract as well as the level of work involvement might be crucial in explaining these mixed results, but few empirical studies have so far been carried out to examine this hypothesis. Thus, this paper, we therefore aimed to clarify how different patterns of motives and work involvement among temporary employees are related to their self-reported attitudes and individual well-being.

**References:**


Bergman, L.R., von Eye, A., & Bernhard-Oettel, C., Bellaagh, K., & Isaksson, K. (2006). The role of motives, volition and work involvement among temporary employees in several ways. Whereas motives of temporary workers have been described earlier, only been studied in variable-oriented approaches. Choosing a pattern approach carries the advantage of a subject-oriented study. Poster presented at the 7th Conference of the European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology, Dublin, 8-10 November.

**Abstract:**

The increasing use of temporary employment forms has stimulated research about their consequences for employees and organisations. Since temporary employment by nature is an insecure employment form it is often assumed to be associated with impaired well-being and less preferable work attitudes. However, findings of previous research have been inconclusive. Some studies report no clear differences to permanent employment; some find support for the assumed detrimental effects of temporary work, while yet others report positive effects on employee well-being, attitudes, and behaviour. It has often been argued that the role of individual motives for working in a temporary assignment, the voluntary choice of the employment contract as well as the level of work involvement might be crucial in explaining these mixed results, but few empirical studies have so far been carried out to examine this hypothesis. Thus, this paper, we therefore aimed to clarify how different patterns of motives, volition and work involvement among temporary employees are related to their self-reported attitudes and individual well-being.

The study uses questionnaire data gathered during 2004 from temporary employees (N = 183) in three different employment sectors in Sweden. Information about the type of temporary contract, contract history, expectations of contract renewal and motives, choices of job and choices of contract have been used to predict indicators of attitudes and well-being whilst controlling for individual characteristics. Preliminary results show that expectations about renewed contracts rather than type of temporary contract or previous experience in temping play an important role to understand temporary workers’ well-being and attitudes. Furthermore, the job of choice yet not contract of choice seems to be an important aspect to consider. Thus, the paper demonstrates that relevant knowledge about the association between temporary work, well-being and work attitudes can be gained by investigating subjective choices and expectations of future employment prospects.

**Typer och Nyckelord:** Proceedings temporary work, well-being, pattern approach

**References:**


In recent years, the use of temporary employment has increased in most industrialised countries, which has stimulated research about their consequences for employees and organisations. Since temporary employment by nature is an insecure employment form it is often assumed to be associated with impaired well-being and less preferable work attitudes. However, findings of previous research have been inconclusive. Some studies report no clear differences to permanent employment; some find support for the assumed detrimental effects of temporary work, while yet others report positive effects on employee well-being, attitudes, and behaviour. It has often been argued that the role of individual motives for working in a temporary assignment, the voluntary choice of the employment contract as well as the level of work involvement might be crucial in explaining these mixed results, but few empirical studies have so far been carried out to examine this hypothesis. Thus, this paper, we therefore aimed to clarify how different patterns of motives, volition and work involvement among temporary employees are related to their self-reported attitudes and individual well-being.

The study uses questionnaire data gathered during 2004 from temporary employees (N = 183) in three different employment sectors (education, food industry and sale) in Sweden. Performing a cluster analysis, six distinct subgroups of temporary employees have been identified, each of them showing a unique pattern of motives, volition and work involvement. Current analyses of variance that are being carried out compare these subgroups in terms of their work attitudes and their self-reported well-being as defined by a number of work-related indicators (e.g., work-home interference; job satisfaction), as well as some more general measures (e.g., general health, irritation). Thus, this study adds to the existing knowledge about the consequences of temporary employment in several ways. Whereas motives of temporary workers have been described earlier, there are only a few studies that have related them to outcomes in terms of attitudes and well-being. The role of work involvement of temporary workers has seldom been addressed and the effects of volition have so far only been studied in variable-oriented approaches. Choosing a pattern approach carries the advantage of a holistic perspective taking into account a pattern of variables as the main analytic unit. As a result, this paper will demonstrate what insights can be gained when patterns of temporary workers’ motives, voluntary contract choices and work involvement are analysed in relation to well-being and work attitudes.

**Typer och Nyckelord:** Proceedings temporary work, motives and choices, well-being

**References:**


In this chapter, person-oriented research strategies in developmental psychopathology are reviewed. By closing an important research gap, this paper will demonstrate what insights can be gained when patterns of temporary workers’ motives, voluntary contract choice, and work involvement among temporary employees are related to their self-reported attitudes and individual well-being. However, findings of previous research have been inconclusive. Some studies report no clear differences to permanent employment; some find support for the assumed detrimental effects of temporary work, while yet others report positive effects on employee well-being, attitudes, and behaviour. It has often been argued that the role of individual motives for working in a temporary assignment, the voluntary choice of the employment contract as well as the level of work involvement might be crucial in explaining these mixed results, but few empirical studies have so far been carried out to examine this hypothesis. Thus, this paper, we therefore aimed to clarify how different patterns of motives, volition and work involvement among temporary employees are related to their self-reported attitudes and individual well-being.

The study uses questionnaire data gathered during 2004 from temporary employees (N = 183) in three different employment sectors (education, food industry and sale) in Sweden. Performing a cluster analysis, six distinct subgroups of temporary employees have been identified, each of them showing a unique pattern of motives, volition and work involvement. Current analyses of variance that are being carried out compare these subgroups in terms of their work attitudes and their self-reported well-being as defined by a number of work-related indicators (e.g., work-home interference; job satisfaction), as well as some more general measures (e.g., general health, irritation). Thus, this study adds to the existing knowledge about the consequences of temporary employment in several ways. Whereas motives of temporary workers have been described earlier, there are only a few studies that have related them to outcomes in terms of attitudes and well-being. The role of work involvement of temporary workers has seldom been addressed and the effects of volition have so far only been studied in variable-oriented approaches. Choosing a pattern approach carries the advantage of a holistic perspective taking into account a pattern of variables as the main analytic unit. As a result, this paper will demonstrate what insights can be gained when patterns of temporary workers’ motives, voluntary contract choices and work involvement are analysed in relation to well-being and work attitudes.

**Typer och Nyckelord:** Proceedings temporary work, motives and choices, well-being

**References:**

Bernhard-Oettel, C., Sverke, M., & De Witte, H. (2006). Comparing three alternative types of
employment contract with permanent full-time work: how do employment status and perceived job conditions relate to individual well-being? poster presented at the south african conference on positive psychology: individual, social and work wellness, potchefstroom, 3-7 april, 2006.

abstract:
background/aim: previous research has found alternative employment arrangements to be associated with both impaired and improved well-being. such inconsistencies are likely to derive from the type of employment contract as well as characteristics of the job. this paper compares permanent full-time work to alternative employment forms (permanent part-time, fixed-term and on-call work) in order to investigate how different employment contracts relate to individual well-being. moreover, the effects of perceived job conditions and possible interactive effects with type of employment form are tested.

methods: questionnaire data from 954 swedish healthcare workers was analysed and hierarchical regression analyses were used to investigate how much variance in health complaints and job induced tension can be explained by type of contract and perceived job conditions and the suggested interaction between type of contract and perceptions of job characteristics. individual background characteristics that might be intertwined with the employment contract were controlled for.

results and conclusions: the analyses of show that perceptions of the job (job insecurity, job control and demands), but not the type of employment contract, predicted well-being. while this suggests that job characteristics rather than employment contracts tend to be of importance for employee well-being, the results also underscore the importance of distinguishing between different types of alternative employment contracts. type of employment contract interacted with perceptions of job insecurity, in that insecurity was associated with impaired well-being among permanent full-time workers, while no relationship was found for on-call or core part-time employees. despite the absence of interactions between employment contract and job demands or job control, it can be concluded that knowledge about the relationship between alternative employment arrangements and the well-being of workers can be enhanced when the combined effects of employment contract and job conditions are studied.

referecs:

abstract:
it has been implied that being employable is important for individuals on the labour market in order to feel secure. however, little research has been made considering if feelings of being employable is related to how individuals report their health status. in the present study the aim is to investigate if there exists a relationship between employability and subsequent health, when controlling for work environmental factors and previous health. a representative sample of individuals between 25 and 50 years of age living in sweden was used where employability and health was measured at two time points, with a one-year interval. work environment factors (ergonomical work environment exposures and psychosocial work environment exposures) were measured at time point one. health was measured with five different indicators: global health, physical complaints, mental well-being, work ability and sickness absence. the results indicate that employability is related to all indicators except physical complaints. the strongest relationship is found between employability and mental well-being and between employability and global health.

typ och nyckelord: proceedings employability, human capital, dual labour market

referecs:
bertansson, e., sverke, m., & marklund, s. (2006). predicting perceived employability: human capital or labour market opportunities? economic and industrial democracy, 27, 223-244.

abstract:
employability is believed to be a crucial concept concerning employees' job security. this study investigates whether factors associated with human capital and the dual labour market predict perceived employability. two national representative swedish samples are used, representing economic recession (1993, N 1'44952) and prosperity (1999, N 1'46696). employability was perceived as higher during prosperity, but human capital factors as well as dual labour market factors predicted perceived employability, irrespective of the time period. these findings indicate that the understanding of employability is enhanced by considering both structural and individual dimensions.

typ och nyckelord: journal employability, human capital, dual labour market

referecs:

abstract:
several researchers have emphasized that the labour market is being restructured and characterized by more frequently occurring organizational changes. in this sense, it has also been maintained that employability is a gradually more important asset for individuals in contemporary working life. it has been argued that the modern way of job security should be seen in the light of employability, the so called employability security, where security comes from the feeling of being able to get a new job rather than from the feeling of maintaining the current employment position.

employability is defined as an individual's perception of his or her possibilities of getting new employment. feeling employable thus reflects the perception of having great possibilities to get a new job, if necessary. in earlier research employability has been described as a concept depending on individual assets as well as contextual prerequisites. for instance, fugate, kinicki and ashforth (2004) argued that employability is comprised of three distinct dimensions, one motivational component, one component reflecting adaptability and a third component formed by the human and social capital. berntson and marklund (in press), on the other hand, argued that employability also shall be seen in the light of the context of the individual. thus, national economic situation as well as local labour markets are important predictors of an individual's employability.

although the concept of employability has been argued to be dependent on individual assets, few or no studies have been made to investigate if employability is something else than a dispositional characteristic such as efficacy beliefs. it is important to know if employability shall be viewed as a dispositional factor or if it shall be seen as something apart from dispositional traits when it comes to reinforcing employability. the first aim of the present study is to investigate if employability is a concept distinct from self-efficacy. it is however also of importance to investigate if employability gives rise to efficacy beliefs or if it is feelings of efficacy that influence the levels of employability. a second aim, therefore, is to investigate if self-efficacy affects
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a common developmental disorder. This study tested the hypotheses that children with ADHD, particularly those exhibiting severe hyperactivity and impulsivity, have a different stress reaction (measured by salivary cortisol) during a dental recall visit and are more dentally anxious than children in a control group. Eighteen children with ADHD and a control group of 71 children, all aged 13 yr, underwent a clinical dental examination and completed the Corah Dental Anxiety Scale (CDAS). Four saliva samples were gathered for analysis of cortisol: one prior to dental examination, one after, and two obtained, and data regarding notes on behavior management problems (BMP) of the children when between 3 and 10 yr of age were compiled. Compared with controls, children with ADHD had significantly higher decayed, missing or filled surfaces (DMFS) (2.0 +/- 3.0 vs. 1.0 +/- 1.5) and significantly higher decayed surfaces (DS) (1.7 +/- 3.6 vs. 0.5 +/- 0.9). Differences between the groups regarding CFSS-DS scores were non-significant.

In the ADHD group, the prevalence of BMP increased when the children were between 7 and 9 yr of age. In contrast, the prevalence of BMP decreased in the control group. The subgroup ADHD with hyperactivity/impulsivity had statistically significantly lower cortisol levels than controls 30 min after awakening. When cortisol values were plotted on a timeline, this group always had lower cortisol concentrations than children in the control group. There was a significant correlation between CDAS scores and cortisol concentrations prior to the dental examination in both the ADHD and the control groups. Behavioral expressions of anxiety in children with ADHD may be different than in other children, not only due to the characteristics of their disorder, but also due to lower stress reactivity.
of Sweden. Almost 50% of children in inner city Stockholm and 20% in the rest of the County were living in apartments with windows facing a major road, railway or industry. Eighteen percent of all 8- and 12-year olds were disturbed by noise in their homes. Slightly less than 6% reports that noise disturbed school homework or speech communication, whereas 4% reported difficulties in falling asleep due to noise in the home. Approximately three per cent of parents to all 4-, 8- and 12-year old children reported that their children have reduced hearing, and three per cent of 8- and 12-year old children reported that they have tinnitus. It is concluded that noise in dwellings and schools should be reduced in order to provide good and healthy sound environments for children. Furthermore, the sound environment should be considered already at the planning stage, in order to minimize indoor and outdoor noise exposure in future dwellings and schools.

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) noise, children


Abstract: The main purpose of this study was to examine a set of independent group variables (group size, gender composition, and supervisory style) in group supervision, and their interrelation with supervisees’ and supervisors’ view on group interactions, group climate, and attained skill. The study also examined changes over time in supervisees’ and supervisors’ ratings. Results from hierarchical regression analysis indicate that the group variables measured in this study are interrelated to perceived psychotherapeutic knowledge and skills attainment, group interaction, and group climate. The participants experienced a positive change over time with regard to attainment of knowledge and skills, group interaction, and group climate. Supervisors were more likely to experience a positive change whereas supervisees, and especially supervisees on the basic level, tended to present more stable ratings over time. These data underline the utility and importance of studying group supervision in psychotherapy from a small group perspective.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal group size, gender composition, supervisory style


Abstract: In the present article, three scales developed by Borg are compared on bicycle ergometer work. In the first study, comparing the Borg Ratings of Perceived Exertion (RPE) and Category scale with Ratio properties (CR10) scales, 40 healthy subjects (12 men and 8 women with each scale) with a mean age of about 30 years (SD ? 6) participated. A work-test protocol with step-wise increase of work loads every minute was used (20 W increase for men and 15 W for women). Ratings and heart rates were recorded every minute and blood lactates every third minute. Data obtained with the RPE scale were described with linear regressions with individual correlations of about 0.98. Data obtained with the CR10 scale could also be described by linear regressions, but when described by power functions gave exponents of about 1.2 (sd ? 0.4) (with one additional constant included in the power function). This was significantly lower than the exponent of between 1.5 and 1.9 that has previously been observed. Mean individual correlations were 0.98. Blood lactate concentration grew with monotonously increasing functions that could be described by power functions with a mean exponent of about 2.6 (SD ? 0.6) (with two additional constants included in the power functions). In the second study, where also the more recently developed Borg CR100 scale (centiMax) was included, 24 healthy subjects (12 men and 12 women) with a mean age of about 29 years (SD ? 3) participated in a work test with a step-wise increase if work loads (25 W) every third minute. Ratings and HRs were recorded. RPE values were described by linear regressions with individual correlations of about 0.97. Data from the two CR scales were described by power functions with mean exponents of about 1.4 (sd ? 0.5) (with a-values in the power functions). Mean individual correlations were about 0.98. In both studies a tendency for a deviation from linearity between RPE values and HRs were observed. The obtained deviations from what has previously been obtained for work of longer durations (4-6 minutes) points to a need of standardization of work-test protocols and to the advantage of using CR-scales.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal scaling, perceived exertion, physiology


Abstract: This paper is devoted to honor Stevens for his great contributions for psychology. Studies are presented that I have performed over the past fifty years, starting with experiments, where I used Stevens scaling methods in some new fields. These studies would not have been possible without his new methods I will then present some criticism and the results of my work to achieve “level-anchored ratio scaling”.

Typ och Nyckelord: Proceedings Book (chapter) centiMax scale, perceptual magnitudes, psychophysical scaling, Fechner Day


Abstract: This book gives a broad picture of the development of the attachment theory and research related to attachment theory. It presents the links to evolutionary biology, ethology, systems theory as well as to psychoanalytic theory and cognitive psychology.


Abstract: Cognitive bias, such as selective memory for pain-related information, is frequently observed in chronic pain patients and is assessed mostly using verbal material. Beside word lists, the current study used photographs of people presenting pain behaviours to assess memory bias in chronic pain patients. Chronic pain patients were hypothesized to show better recall of pain-related words and pictures as compared to pain-free controls.

Twenty-eight female chronic neck patients and 28 pain-free female controls completed two computerized
Claims of amnesia for violent and sexual crimes are extremely common as guilty suspects often allege memory loss to avoid punishment. The important issue in each case then becomes whether such memory loss is genuine or feigned. Offenders’ Memories of Violent Crimes takes a different approach to the subject by focussing not on eyewitness or bystander testimonies, but on the testimonies of the offenders, or, more specifically, offenders’ remembering and telling about their violent crimes. The book will explore offenders’ memories with particular emphasis on theory and empirical research on such topics as memorial patterns in perpetrators, instrumental and reactive offenders, crime-related amnesia, crime-related brain activation, detecting lies and deceit and interviewing techniques. Organised into three parts: theoretical aspects of offenders’ memories; evaluating offenders’ memories and interviewing offenders, this timely volume will further the understanding of criminal behaviour. It will be essential reading for psychologists, psychiatrists, psychotherapists, social workers and all students and practitioners of clinical psychology, forensic psychology, and law enforcement.

The effect of protocol presentation on witnesses’ tendency to point out errors in a transcribed version of their verbal testimony was examined in two experiments. In the first experiment, forty-five participants were shown a film depicting a robbery and were subsequently questioned. In the process of typing out the testimony, there were six distortions entered into the protocol. When participants were asked to check the content for approval, the protocol was presented to them in one of three ways. They either (1) listened to the experimenter reading it out aloud, (2) read it on their own, or (3) were instructed to attend to any errors before reading it on their own. The results showed that witnesses who had listened to the protocol being read to them pointed out significantly fewer errors, as compared to witnesses in the latter two groups. In the second experiment, this result was replicated, in addition to showing that the effect of protocol presentation was not due to a difference in the retention of the original memory for the crime event.

In searching for offenders’ memories, we need to understand the basic principles of the relationship between emotion and memory. We also need to know that emotions may vary both within and between offenders (e.g., from extreme pleasure to trauma), and that these emotions are closely related to the motivation for committing the crime (e.g., reactive versus instrumental). Violent crime suspects may deny crime or claim crime-related amnesia as a strategy to evade responsibility and to avoid psychological stress related both to the past and to the immediate present, for example, being a murder suspect. In analysing offenders’ memories of homicidal violence, our data indicate that offenders have a strong motivation for feigning amnesia and that their claimed amnesia most often has symptoms of extreme specificity, indicating malingering. It should be noted that malingering per se may have memory-undermining effects. Among professionals working in criminal justice as well as mental health professionals, a majority believe that it is perfectly possible for an offender to develop complete amnesia for homicide, and that the memory loss may be an effect of strong emotions or excessive drug or alcohol use. In this chapter, we present arguments for why this approach is dubious and suggested that laypeople as well as professional groups, including judges and psychologists/psychiatrists, often do not possess relevant knowledge about offenders’ paths to reactive or intended violence or about crime-related amnesia. A critical aspect in searching offenders’ memories is the context in which an offender has to remember and tell about the crime. We argue that it is of immediate importance that the interviewer not only be skilful in investigative interviewing, but also well prepared to receive reports of gruesome details and aware of his/her own affective and protective responses.

It is not uncommon that defendants claim amnesia for the crime of which they are accused, particularly in
cases of homicide where 25-45% of offenders claim amnesia. This chapter presents arguments against and for the existence of such amnesias. Against the authenticity of amnesia, empirical data from interviews with homicide offenders indicate that they often have a strong motivation for feigning amnesia, and that their memory loss may possess typical features of malingered amnesia. Simulated or imagined amnesia may be at least as common as dissociative amnesia. However, unstructured clinical interviews are not a reliable way of differentiating between the two. On the other hand, there is evidence suggesting that the motives for amnesia might be related to the presence of anxiety or depression. Also, amnesia itself only rarely has legal implications, and may be damaging to the conduct of a person’s defence; it will certainly be challenged vigorously by the prosecution. Another point is that alcoholic blackouts are common in heavy drinking populations, and there is a high rate of offending and violent crime in such groups; it is not surprising that some individuals who have consumed large quantities of alcohol report amnesia for their offence. Finally, even the sceptic will not usually query the presence of amnesia in certain neurological conditions, such as epilepsy, hypoglycaemia, and somnambulism, although these can be at least as difficult to assess as the psychological forms of memory loss.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) malingered amnesia, memory, offender

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

This study sought to investigate the feasibility of the Free Recall and Recognition Test (FRRT) as a practical screening tool for cognitive impairment in multiple sclerosis (MS). Persons with MS (n=227) were consecutively recruited and assessed via four cognitive tests: FRRT, Symbol Digit Modalities Test, Paced Auditory Serial Addition Test, and Mini-Mental State Examination. Disease severity was assessed by the Extended Disability Status Scale, the Multiple Sclerosis Functional Composite and the Short and Graphic Assessment Scale. The FRRT was repeated after 6 months. The FRRT was completed by 99% of the cohort in approximately 5 minutes per assessment, and it correlated significantly with the other cognitive tests as well as with the disease severity ratings. Test/retest reliability of the FRRT was r=0.79 for recall, and r=0.55 for recognition. A cut-off of 3.5 for the FRRT free recall rendered 90% sensitivity and 25% specificity, and a cut-off of 4.5 for the FRRT free recognition resulted in 70% sensitivity and 51% specificity. We conclude that the FRRT proved to be a feasible and practical screening tool for cognitive impairment in MS in a clinical setting.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal assessment, cognition, multiple sclerosis, neuropsychological tests, validity

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

The RANCH study found a linear exposure effect association between chronic aircraft noise exposure at primary school and the impairment of children’s reading comprehension, in the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom. This paper presents multilevel modelling analyses, exploring psychological mechanisms, which may moderate the effect of aircraft noise on children's cognition. Psychological restoration – the process whereby places which afford tranquillity and relaxation are utilized to reduce stress and promote well being – has been shown to reduce children’s annoyances. The adverse effects of noise on children's cognition depend on whether having places for psychological restoration at home, moderates the adverse effects of chronic aircraft noise exposure at school on children's cognition. In addition, the effectiveness of coping strategies in relation to noise exposure at school are examined – are specific coping strategies associated with less impairment of cognition?

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings air craft noise, psychological restoration, noise exposure

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

In Sweden the National Bureau of Statistics has reported an increase in stress-related disorders and sleep problems since the mid-1990's. They also report that the number of hours of overtime worked has increased. Previous research on work-related stress and overtime work has demonstrated associations with altered physiological arousal, increased risk for stress related diseases, shorter sleep, greater fatigue and impaired performance. However, there is a lack of knowledge on the effects within individuals. The general aim of the thesis was to investigate the effect of overtime work and increased work stress on sleep, the diurnal pattern of cortisol, sleepiness and subjective stress in a within-subject design. In addition, it examined individual differences in the diurnal cortisol response to stress.

We used a combination of methods – questionnaires, sleep and wake diaries, objective measures of sleep, stress hormones (salivary cortisol) and ambulatory measures of heart rate and blood pressure. Studies followed office workers during two different conditions of (I) high/low work stress and (II) overtime work respectively. The individual differences in the cortisol response to stress from study I prompted study III. In this study we examined two groups that showed different cortisol responses to stress.

In conclusion, the results (I) demonstrated that a week with higher workload and stress affects physiological stress markers such as cortisol, and is associated with increased sleepiness and problems of unwinding at bedtime, shorter sleep duration and longer work hours. Furthermore (II) overtime work, under conditions of relatively low workload with modest exposure, was shown to be associated with increased cortisol. More pronounced effects were found on sleep and fatigue, with greater problems during overtime work. Study III indicated that individual differences in cortisol response to stress maybe related to fatigue and exhaustion.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation work stress, overtime work, cortisol, sleep, sleepiness, fatigue, individual differences, within-subjects design, field study

**Referens:**


Using simulations, a bias caused by inappropriate averaging in experiments with randomized stimuli is
Abstract: described. As an illustrating example, experiments aimed at demonstrating "presentiment" by showing arousal to be higher prior to arousing stimuli than prior to calm stimuli are considered. It is shown that such results could be obtained if (a) the participant believes that the likelihood of an activating stimulus being presented on the next trial increases after a calm stimulus has been presented (the gambler’s fallacy) and (b) overall arousal means are calculated across individual arousal means or for a pooled sample of all possible stimulus sequences. The effect becomes very small when participants are pooled before averaging, provided that the number of trials per participant and/or the number of participants is sufficiently large. The bias decreases as the length of the stimulus sequence increases, and becomes zero in an infinitely long sequence. Basically, the bias can be explained by the fact that the expected mean arousal level before calm stimuli increases as a function of sequence length. Various possible strategies for reducing or eliminating the bias are discussed, but none of them is judged to be fully satisfactory. A generalized version of the bias is outlined and discussed. It is argued that, in some form, the bias may occur in various types of experiments, both within and outside parapsychology. It is also argued that numerous previous experiments need to be checked for occurrence of the bias.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal prejudices, judgment sampling, social attitudes, gamblers, parapsychology, experiments


Abstract: Using simulations, a bias caused by inappropriate averaging in experiments with randomized stimuli is described. As an illustrating example, experiments aimed at demonstrating "presentiment" by showing arousal to be higher prior to arousing stimuli than prior to calm stimuli are considered. It is shown that such results could be obtained if (a) the participant believes that the likelihood of an activating stimulus being presented on the next trial increases after a calm stimulus has been presented (the gambler’s fallacy) and (b) overall arousal means are calculated across individual arousal means or for a pooled sample of all possible stimulus sequences. The effect becomes very small when participants are pooled before averaging, provided that the number of trials per participant and/or the number of participants is sufficiently large. The bias decreases as the length of the stimulus sequence increases, and becomes zero in an infinitely long sequence. Basically, the bias can be explained by the fact that the expected mean arousal level before calm stimuli increases as a function of sequence length. Various possible strategies for reducing or eliminating the bias are discussed, but none of them is judged to be fully satisfactory. A generalized version of the bias is outlined and discussed. It is argued that, in some form, the bias may occur in various types of experiments, both within and outside parapsychology. It is also argued that numerous previous experiments need to be checked for occurrence of the bias.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal prejudices, judgment sampling, social attitudes, gamblers, parapsychology, experiments


Abstract: Butyrylcholinesterase (BuChE) is increased in the cerebral cortex of Alzheimer’s disease (AD) patients, particularly those carrying ε4 allele of the apolipoprotein E gene (ApoE) and certain BuChE variants that predict increased AD risk and poor response to anticholinesterase therapy. We measured BuChE activity and protein level in CSF of eighty mild AD patients in relation to age, gender, and cerebral glucose metabolism (CMRglc). BuChE activity was 23% higher in men than women (p <0.03) and 40–60% higher in ApoE ε4 negative patients than in those carrying one or two ε4 alleles (p <0.0004). CSF BuChE level correlated with cortical CMRglc. Patients with high to moderate CSF BuChE showed better cognitive function scores than those with low BuChE. We hypothesize that CSF BuChE varies inversely with BuChE in cortical amyloid plaques. Thus, low BuChE in a patient’s CSF may predict extensive incorporation in neuritic plaques, increased neurotoxicity and greater central neurodegeneration.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal Alzheimer’s disease, butyrylcholinesterase, apolipoprotein E, ELISA, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), cholinesterase inhibitors


Abstract: The relationship between acetylcholinesterase (ACHE) activity in the CSF and brain of patients with Alzheimer’s disease (AD) was investigated in 18 mild AD patients followed during galantamine treatment. The first 3 months of the study had a randomized double-blind placebocontrolled design, during which 12 patients received galantamine (16–24 mg/day) and six patients placebo. This was followed by 9 months galantamine treatment in all patients. Activities and protein levels of both the "read-through" ACHE (ACHE-R) and the synaptic (ACHE-S) variants of ACHE were assessed in parallel together with the regional brain ACHE activity by 11C-PMP and PET. The ACHE-S inhibition was 30–35% in CSF, which correlated well with the in vivo ACHE inhibition in the brain. No significant ACHE inhibition was observed in the placebo group. The increased level of the ACHE-R protein was 16% higher than that of ACHE-S. Both the ACHE inhibition and the increased level of ACHE-R protein positively correlated with the patient’s performance in cognitive tests associated with visuospatial ability and attention. In conclusion, ACHE levels in CSF closely mirror in vivo brain ACHE levels prior to and after treatment with the cholinesterase inhibitors. A positive cognitive response seems to depend on the ACHE inhibition level, which is balanced by an increased protein level of the ACHE-R variant in the patients.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal Alzheimer’s disease, acetylcholinesterase, positron emission tomography (PET), cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), red blood cells (RBC), galantamine


Abstract: The present thesis concerns middle-aged women’s subjective well-being (SWB). The interest is focused on the importance of childhood factors, social circumstances, and personality for middle-aged women’s general SWB. Data were taken from the longitudinal research program Individual Development and Adaptation (IDA, Magnusson & Bergman, 2000) and concerned a sample of about 300 women. The main analyses were made on data collected at age 43, but data collected at age 13 and age 49 were also used to elucidate the purposes of
The results can be summarized as follows: 1) In a Swedish sample of middle-aged women, social circumstances had only a moderate effect on general SWB variables. The strongest relationship was found between marital status and global life satisfaction. When personality factors were controlled for, they wiped out nearly all relationships between the social circumstances variables and SWB, except for those between global life satisfaction and marital status or unemployment; 2) The level of general SWB was found to be considerably higher for Swedish employed women as compared to their counterparts in Lithuania and different socio-demographic variables predicted SWB in those two countries. For the Swedish sample, family-oriented variables were the strongest predictors of SWB, while for the Lithuanian sample income and educational level were more important; 3) Results from applying longitudinal structural equation modeling suggested that optimism in adolescence influenced optimism in middle age, which in its turn had both a direct influence on global life satisfaction and an indirect influence through the negative affect dimension. In relation to a number of different adjustment factors, it was found that factors measured in adolescence and only factors that were constantly related to SWB 30 years later; 4) Typical patterns of general SWB were identified. Cluster analyses at age 43 and age 49 separately resulted in similar well-functioning six cluster solutions at both ages, indicating structural stability across six years. In addition to the typical high/low/average SWB clusters that could be to some degree expected from variable-effects models, a cluster with intense affect and one with very low GLS emerged. All clusters except the latter one showed individual stability across six years.

**Abstract:**

We used data from the Betula Study to examine associations between total cholesterol, triglycerides, and APOE on 10-year changes in cognitive performance. Tests assessing episodic memory (recall and recognition), semantic memory (knowledge and fluency), and visuospatial ability (block design) were administered to 524 non-demented adults (initially 55–80 years). Multi-level modeling was applied to the data. Higher triglyceride levels were associated with a decline in verbal knowledge. Lipid levels moderated the influence of APOE on memory functioning in older adults. 

**References:**


Abstract:
We used data from the Betula Study to examine associations between total cholesterol, triglycerides, and APOE on 10-year changes in cognitive performance. Tests assessing episodic memory (recall and recognition), semantic memory (knowledge and fluency), and visuospatial ability (block design) were administered to 524 non-demented adults (initially 55-80 years). Multi-level modeling was applied to the data. Higher triglyceride levels were associated with decline in verbal knowledge. Lipid levels moderated the influence of APOE on episodic memory, such that among ε4 allele carriers, decline in recognition was noted for individuals with higher cholesterol levels. Cholesterol and triglyceride levels are pharmacologically modifiable risk factors that account for variation in normal cognitive aging.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal genetics, memory, spatial ability


Abstract:
Sex differences in declarative memory and visuospatial ability are robust in cross-sectional studies. The present longitudinal study examined whether sex differences in cognition were present over a 10-year period, and whether age modified the magnitude of sex differences. Tests assessing episodic and semantic memory, and visuospatial ability were administered to 625 non-demented adults (initially aged 35-80 years), participating in the population based Betula study at two follow-up occasions. There was stability of sex differences across five age groups and over a 10-year period. Women performed at a higher level than men on episodic recall, face and verbal recognition, and semantic fluency, whereas men performed better than women on a task assessing visuospatial ability. Sex differences in cognitive functions are stable over a 10-year period and from 35 to 90 years of age. Decreasing levels of estrogen in women and sex differences in age-related cortical atrophy do not seem to influence cognitive sex differences.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal sex differences, memory, aging


Abstract:
This paper explores the consequences of job insecurity among union members. Starting from the dominance of the instrumental motive for union membership, and using psychological contract theory, we hypothesise that the perception of job insecurity will correlate with a lower level of perceived union support and a higher intention to resign union membership. We also test whether the relationship between job insecurity and membership turnover is mediated by (a lack of) perceived union support in these three countries. None of the hypotheses are corroborated in Sweden. The results of this study suggest that union members in all countries involved but Sweden experience job insecurity as a violation of the psychological contract with their union. Consequences of these findings for future research and for unions in Europe are discussed.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal job insecurity, labor union, work attitudes


Abstract:
The aim of the study was to examine peoples’ perceptions of the economic dimension of the dilemma between individual freedom and collective equality in society. Our previous research in the frameworks of the project had suggested that the economic aspect—rather than political freedom and equality—elicit the strongest differences in people's opinions. A tax reform proposed by a number of conservative parties in Sweden served as a background of the study. The proposed reform was aimed at improving the state budget by increasing the incentives for working and decreasing the incentives of receiving social benefits from the state. Seventy-two Stockholm University undergraduates participated in the study. Each participant read descriptions of several possible tax plans in an imaginary society. When presenting the plans, we manipulated several factors. First, the plans were formulated in a way that the tax reform would lead either to increase of income for working people (reward), or decrease of income for those receiving social benefits for the state (penalty). Second, the plans would either affect everyone (meritocratic), or would be aimed at benefitting the low-income groups in society (egalitarian). In addition, the plans were presented either as a change to an existing tax system, or as a new tax system to be introduced. The difference in tax size between workers and social benefit receivers was constant (in favor of workers) in all formulations. The participants evaluated the tax plans according to three criteria—how much each plan would contribute to social justice, to economic freedom, and to economic equality in the society.

The wording of the tax plans mattered most for evaluations of equality; these evaluations also elicited strongest differences between liberal and conservative respondents. The wording mattered least for evaluations of social justice, and had moderate effects on evaluations of freedom. The results showed that different factors influenced judgments of economic freedom and equality. For example, whether plans were worded as reward or penalty had a stronger influence on evaluations of freedom than on evaluations of equality. On the other hand, meritocratic vs. egalitarian formulation had a much stronger effect on evaluations of equality than on evaluations of freedom. The results show that, although freedom and equality are often depicted as opposing ends of the same continuum, people think about different things when evaluating—at least in economic terms—these two concepts. This, in turn, suggests that by careful framing of social issues it may be possible to avoid juxtaposition of values of freedom and democracy, and to reduce controversy in society.
Abstract:
It is suggested that our general temporal perspective and the intervals that serve us our units of time are derived from the kind of culture in which we live. Subjective (psychological) time estimation is the human ingenuity to estimate objective (physical) time without cues or external clocks. Humans in all cultures exhibit the ability of time estimation; it seems to be universal. Subjective time is how time is felt, how much time seems to have gone by. It involves our feelings about past, present, and future, and what they mean. Time is the conscious experiential product of processes that allow the human organism to adaptively orient and organize itself in line with the sequential relations in a particular environment. Disruption of psychological time is often found with many kinds of psychopathology and brain damage. Some results from our empirical research are presented and interpreted in terms of biological, cognitive, developmental, neuropsychological and cultural factors. Evolutionary aspects are taken up in several contexts.

Typ och Nyckelord:
Proceedings brain, biological clock, psychopathology

Abstract:
Reviewing the risk factors associated with suicide raises the problem that much of the research literature on suicidal behavior is conducted with suicide attempters, for the simple reason that suicide completers are unavailable for interviews. Risk factors for attempted and completed suicide may differ. Suicide and attempted suicide are the deepest expression of human suffering. Extensive knowledge about suicide is therefore needed and should include studies of perception and risk factors associated with suicidal behavior and with subjects not involved in any suicide attempts. Thus, knowledge of perception of suicide and of risk factors associated with suicidal behavior can provide an empirical context and valuable predictions of vulnerability useful in prevention programs. The present study examined perception of suicide and risk factors associated with suicide and suicidal behavior comparing Canadian and Swedish students. The Canadian participants were more inclined to attribute suicide to societal causes and the Swedish participants were most negative toward suicide in terms of their personal attitudes. The results indicate that there are more similarities than differences between the Canadian and Swedish students in the perception of suicide. In contrast to the present study, Eisler and Sorjonen (1999), reported great cultural differences in perception of suicide between Finnish and Swedish participants.

Typ och Nyckelord:
Proceedings culture, prevention, vulnerability

Abstract:
The present study, which is part of a comprehensive project, examines both cultural diversity and cultural similarity of perceived global risks between German, Japanese, Swedish and American subjects (n = 1,317), with the focus on human ecology. Similarities as well as differences between the four cultures were found. Unexpectedly, the German and Swedish subjects were most concerned about hunger and poverty. Another notable similarity is that overpopulation was viewed as a high-risk by both the Swedish and the American groups. Gender differences were also obtained. The findings contribute to our understanding of how people in different cultures and of different gender presently perceive global risks. The current research provides substantial evidence that different cultural viewpoints and knowledge that may have developed over long periods of the particular cultural group’s experience of both the physical and the social environment. However, over the course of human history the dangers faced have changed in many respects.

Typ och Nyckelord:
Book (chapter) human ecology, perception, risks

Abstract:
One hundred and twenty human observers participated in both a prospective and a retrospective duration experiment. The data were treated according to the requirements of Scalar Timing (Expectancy) Theory (SET). The distribution of the ratio (reproduction/standard durations) proved skewed to the right, and the coefficient of variation decreased with the durations rather than being constant. Both findings are at variance with SET, which assumes the validity of Weber’s law and agreement between subjective and chronometric time. However, the outcome could be predicted from the generalized Weber law and a non-veridical psychophysical function for duration. Except for greater scatter, the retrospective data did not differ from the prospective in any essential way.

Typ och Nyckelord:
Journal internal clock, memory, perception

Abstract:
Background: Few studies provide detailed analyses of the various aspects of the entire cognitive profile of children with ADHD.

Material and methods: Cognitive test data were analysed for 10-11-year-old children with (1) ADHD, (2) subthreshold ADHD, and (3) milder attention and/or learning problems, and compared with normative data.

Results: Thirty two had ADHD and 10 met the criteria for subthreshold ADHD, prevalence rates of 5.4% and 1.6%, respectively. On a group level, children with ADHD/subthreshold ADHD, and those with milder attention and/or learning problems had almost identical cognitive profiles for the 13 subtests comprising the WISC III,

Abstract: Boken ger en samlad bild av området juridik och etik i psykologiskt arbete och förmedlar baskunskaper i ämnet. Boken vänder sig till psykologer och psykoterapeuter under utbildning.

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) etik, juridik


Abstract: Antisocial behaviour and alcohol problems are areas of great concern to society, not only associated with personal and emotional costs for the affected individuals and their victims, but also with major societal financial costs. What makes some individuals more likely than others to develop these kinds of problems? The general aim of this thesis was to explore the role of individual characteristics in the development of antisocial behaviour and alcohol problems. More specifically, the research focused on aspects of hyperactive behaviour, personality traits and biological vulnerability indicators in relation to self-reported norm breaching and violent behaviour, registered general criminality and violent offending in particular, and further, on risky alcohol use and drinking offences. The studies were based on both a prospective longitudinal project in which a group of adolescent male lawbreakers and controls were followed from the 1960s into the 1990s, and on more recently collected data on a representative group of Swedish male and female adolescents.

The results of the thesis supported that neuropsychological deficits, manifested in attention difficulties, and personality traits reflecting disinhibition and negative emotionality, influence the development of antisocial behaviour and risk of alcohol problems. The findings indicated, furthermore, that these neuropsychological deficits may be associated with an underlying biological vulnerability to various forms of disinhibitory psychopathology. Although the thesis focuses on individual characteristics, the results also support the view that environmental risk factors such as the influence of family and peers and possible stress experiences, play an important role. It was emphasized that individual characteristics continuously interact with environmental conditions in shaping each individual's developmental course.

Results also revealed that adolescent females displaying violent behaviour and engaging in potentially harmful use of alcohol deviated more in personality traits than did the corresponding group of males. Further knowledge of the development of these problems in females is crucial, since most theories in this area have been developed primarily on male samples.

Typ och Nyckelord: Dissertation adolescence, gender, hyperactive behaviour, biological vulnerability, personality, norm breaking behaviour, criminality, violence, alcohol problems


Abstract: With Moffitt's developmental typology of antisocial behavior as a starting point, the general aim of the study was to investigate the stability of and change in criminal behavior from early adolescence to early adult age. The purpose was also to explore the role of individual, family, peer and school related risk factors in the development of criminal behavior. The study was based on data from the prospective longitudinal research project 'Young Lawbreakers as Adults', in which a group of adolescent male lawbreakers and controls were followed from the 1960s into the 1990s. The results were in favor of a distinction between adolescence-limited and persistent criminality, and supported the suggestion of a common set of risk factors dimensionally related to offending, rather than trajectory-specific risk factors. The findings indicated that, in addition to these common risk factors, early attention deficits and manifestations of aggression might be of specific importance to persistent criminality.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal criminal development, risk factors, longitudinal study


Abstract: Beta amyloid is one of the major histopathological hallmarks of Alzheimer's disease. We recently reported in vivo imaging of amyloid in 16 Alzheimer patients, using the PET ligand N-methyl[11C]2-(4'-methylaminophenyl)-6-hydroxy-benzothiazole (PIB). In the present study we rescanned these 16 Alzheimer patients after 2.0 ± 0.5 years and have described the interval change in amyloid deposition and regional cerebral metabolic rate for glucose (rCMRGlc) at follow-up. Sixteen patients with Alzheimer’s disease were re-examined by means of PET, using PIB and 2-[18F]fluoro-2-deoxy-D-glucose (FDG) after 2.0 ± 0.5 years. The patients were all on cholinesterase inhibitor treatment and five also on treatment with the N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) antagonist memantine. In order to estimate the accuracy of the PET PIB measurements, four additional Alzheimer patients underwent repeated examinations with PIB within 20 days (test–retest). Relative PIB retention in cortical regions differed by 3–7% in the test–retest study. No significant difference in PIB retention was observed between baseline and follow-up while a significant (P < 0.01) 20% decrease in rCMRGlc was observed in cortical brain regions. A significant negative correlation between rCMRGlc and PIB retention was observed in the parietal cortex in the Alzheimer patients at follow-up (r = 0.67, P = 0.009). A non-significant decline in Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) score from 24.3 ± 3.7 (mean ± standard deviation) to 22.7 ± 6.1 was measured at follow-up. Five of the Alzheimer patients showed a significant decline in MMSE score of >3 (21.4 ± 3.5 to 15.6 ± 3.9, P < 0.01) (AD-progressive) while the rest of the patients were cognitively more stable (MMSE score = 25.6 ± 3.1 to 25.9 ± 3.7) (AD-stable) compared with baseline. A positive correlation (P = 0.001) was observed in the parietal cortex between Rey Auditory Verbal Learning (RAVL) test score and rCMRGlc at follow-up while a negative correlation (P = 0.018) was observed between
Abstract:

It is well established that an emphasis on gender differences may have negative effects on women's math performance in Sweden. Scandinavian Journal of Psychology.

Abstract:

In the constant strive for competitiveness, organizations try to deliver their products and services at a faster pace and with higher quality, resulting in increased demands for employee effectiveness and competence. High demands are known to be a risk factor for stress. Employees who perceive their work situation as stressful are likely to experience negative consequences, such as negative work-related attitudes and deteriorated health. The extent of the negative consequences of a stressful work situation most likely depends on the strategies employees use to cope with the situation. Some studies indicate that problem-focused strategies may be the most effective to cope with stressful situations, while other studies have shown emotion-focused strategies to be more effective. The aim of this study is to further investigate the role of problem-focused and emotion-focused coping strategies in reducing negative consequences of the work stressors quantitative and qualitative workload for work-related attitudes and health. The study also investigates potential synergy effects of a combination of the two coping strategies.

Data was collected by questionnaires in March 2005. The sample consists of 252 salaried employees (response rate 86%) who work in a Swedish firm of accountants. Moderated multiple regression analyses were conducted for each outcome (job satisfaction, organizational commitment, well-being and physical health). Age and gender were used as control variables.

The results showed that both problem- and emotion-focused coping strategies could reduce the negative effects of high workload. Two-way interactions indicated that more problem-focused coping moderated the relation between workload and well-being, while emotion-focused coping moderated the relation between workload and physical health. Three-way interactions indicated that problem-focused and emotion-focused coping strategies in combination seemed to have the potential to alleviate the negative effects of high workload for organizational commitment and well-being. These results indicate that in order to cope with high workload, both problem-focused and emotion-focused strategies are useful, either separate or in combination.

Typ och Nyckelord: Proceedings coping strategies, workload, strain

Refereens:


Abstract:

Differences in competitive performance at the elite level are often attributed to more mental factors than merely inequalities in physical or technical prowess. Many elite athletes consequently engage in regular mental skills training, but some reach a higher standard than others. One suggestion is that trait characteristics may to some extent influence both the acquisition and use of mental skills. Our purpose was therefore to investigate whether or not a relationship could be detected between trait measures related to personal control and mental skills. Results revealed that individuals with an internal locus of control and a high sense of coherence consistently displayed significantly higher scores on 9 out of the 12 mental skills measured by the Ottawa Mental Skills Assessment Tool-3 than did athletes scoring lower on the two trait inventories. Findings suggest that individuals who perceive their world to be controllable, manageable, and meaningful have more developed mental skills. The cross-sectional design does, however, preclude causal inferences, but sport psychology consultants and coaches may still want to consider these findings when tailoring mental skills training programs for individual athletes desiring to achieve performance excellence in elite sports.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal sports, locus of control, competitive performance

Refereens:


Abstract:

A broad knowledge of both the overt manifestations - such as economic problems in adults and psychosomatic complaints in children - and the possibility of underlying cognitive vulnerability has to be taken into account.
The study presented here investigated the process of burnout. The experience of three elite endurance athletes when discussing living conditions and psychosomatic complaints in children and adults. This is decisive when it comes to intervention and support.

If the influence of cognitive dysfunctions, on psychiatric ill-health is overlooked, appropriate intervention will fail and measures and resources may be directed exclusively to the overt expressions instead of highlighting the main issue.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal cognitive, children


Abstract: The focus is on (1) the possible influence of childhood hyperactive behavior and adult psychopathy; and (2) how adult clinically rated psychopathy tendencies are related to self-reported personality. The sample comprised 152 male Ss, including young lawbreakers (n=98) and controls (n=54), prospectively studied over life time. Ratings of behavior were obtained from a psychiatrist in childhood and data on personality (KSP and EPQ) used in adulthood. Strong athletic identity and burnout were found. A change from high initial motivation to a lack of motivation was a common experience between training load and burnout scores was found. These findings suggest that factors other than training load must be considered when athletes at risk for burnout are investigated.

Between 1% and 9% of the athletes displayed elevated burnout scores on these four subscales. The hypothesis that also signified and distinguished burnout from overtraining syndrome. Strong athletic identity and burnout were found. A change from high initial motivation to a lack of motivation was a common experience and to validate the interviews together with training logs. Links between the overtraining syndrome and physiological (blood pressure, heart rate, urinary catecholamines, salivary cortisol) measurements obtained before and after treatment showed significant improvements on most of the variables in both groups as well as medium-to-high effect sizes. However, no significant difference was found between the 2 programs. The results indicate that both cognitive behaviour therapy and yoga are promising stress management techniques.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal personality dimensions, hyperactive behavior, psychopathy, longitudinal study


Abstract: This study examined the factorial validity of the Eades Burnout Inventory (EABI) and the prevalence of burnout in adolescent elite athletes and whether burnout is more common in individual sports than in team sports. The EABI was distributed to 980 athletes (402 females and 578 males) in 29 different sports. Confirmatory-factor analyses revealed an acceptable factorial validity for a theoretically supported four-factor model of the EABI. Between 1% and 9% of the athletes displayed elevated burnout scores on these four subscales. The hypothesis of higher prevalence of burnout in individual sports was, however, not supported. Furthermore, no correlation between training load and burnout scores was found. These findings suggest that factors other than training load must be considered when athletes at risk for burnout are investigated.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal burnout, training, stress


Abstract: The study presented here investigated the process of burnout. The experience of three elite endurance athletes who left sports due to burnout was explored. Semi-structured interviews were conducted and inductively analyzed. Furthermore, the Athlete Burnout Questionnaire was used to quantify the athletes’ level of burnout and to validate the interviews together with training logs. Links between training load and burnout were found. A change from high initial motivation to a lack of motivation was a common experience that also signified and distinguished burnout from overtraining syndrome. Strong athletic identity and
The aim of the present study was to investigate Type A behavior as well as perceived work situation, and to investigate the relationships with cortisol output. Participants were 25 white-collar workers employed at a Swedish government authority. Linear regressions and repeated measures of ANOVA were used to calculate mean levels of salivary cortisol as related to recovery/recuperation. The results show significant main effects of cortisol as related to subjective ratings (p < 0.01) and a significant interaction effect (p < 0.05) between cortisol and sex. This study indicates that high levels of morning cortisol are significantly related to failure to recuperate. Results are discussed in terms of validity, prediction, sex differences, selection and generalization.

Abstract: The home occupies a crucial position in daily activity cycles that distribute stressful demands and opportunities for restoration across settings and time. By teleworking from home, people change the distribution of demands and opportunities for restoration. In doing so they may reduce stress from some sources, yet they may also undermine restorative functions of the home. Investigating these possibilities, we analyzed self-report data from 107 workers in a relocated Swedish governmental institution that made flexible work arrangements with long-term employees. As part of their changed working arrangements, many of these employees regularly carried out some paid work at home. Avoiding a long commute and meeting parental responsibilities frequently figured among stress-mitigating reasons they gave for teleworking. However, they reported considerable temporal and mental overlap of work and non-work life, and spatial overlap to a lesser degree, in relation to household density and spatial arrangements for working at home. With increase in perceived overlap, evaluation of the overlap shifted from positive to negative. Perceived overlap correlated inversely with effective...
Abstract: In an attempt to make hospitals more cost effective and improving the quality of medical care, privatization of Swedish hospitals have become more frequent during the past decade. There is a need for knowledge about psychological effects of privatization on health care personnel. We investigated physicians’ perception of their working environment in three hospitals with different forms of ownership — from traditional public administration to for-profit private stock company. The results point towards certain advantages of privatized hospitals. Physicians at the privatized hospital included in the study perceived their work environment in some respects as more positive than did the physicians at the non-privatized hospitals.

References:


Abstract: Working life has been subject to many changes over the last decades. One of these changes that has had a great impact on the contemporary working life is the gradual shift from production to services. Following this, mental rather than physical work activities are emphasized. This puts an increased demand on the employees to be goal-oriented and self-directed and implies a shift from a traditional, more objective regulation of work, to a more subjective one. Work is thus less objectively defined and structured. Along with this contemporary working life is often also characterized by increased autonomy and decision latitude. Traditionally these aspects of work are regarded as positive and desirable. However, if the demands are blurred and vaguely defined, in combination with tight time schedules and unclear work goals, the autonomy and self-directed aspects of the job may be stressful instead of challenging.

This study investigates the importance of these new potential stressors above and beyond more traditional role characteristics, for employee well-being and motivation. More specifically, the purpose of this study is to investigate the relative importance of demographics, role characteristics, and work stressors related to the new working life for salaried employees’ experiences of health and motivation.

The empirical data for this study was collected by means of a questionnaire administered salaried employees working in administrative and teaching jobs in the service-sector in Sweden. Out of a total of 1178 questionnaires 836 were returned to the research team (71%). The respondents’ mean age was 50 years (SD = 10) with an average tenure of 17 years (SD = 13), and 74 percent of the sample was female.

Preliminary results indicate that stressors related to vaguely defined tasks and unclear work goals are important contributions to the salaried employees’ perceived health and well-being above and beyond more traditional role stressors like role overload, role ambiguity and role conflict. Similar results were also obtained for work attitudes and motivation. These results are in line with the notion that greater demands on employees to be independent and effective, along with increased autonomy, may result in a generally more demanding work situation if the work tasks and their goals are vaguely defined and blurred in terms of the output or results.

References:

Abstract: This study investigates the importance of these new potential stressors above and beyond more traditional role characteristics, for employee well-being and motivation. More specifically, the purpose of this study is to investigate the relative importance of demographics, role characteristics, and work stressors related to the new working life for salaried employees’ experiences of health and motivation.

The empirical data for this study was collected by means of a questionnaire administered salaried employees working in administrative and teaching jobs in the service-sector in Sweden. Out of a total of 1178 questionnaires 836 were returned to the research team (71%). The respondents’ mean age was 50 years (SD = 10) with an average tenure of 17 years (SD = 13), and 74 percent of the sample was female.

Preliminary results indicate that stressors related to vaguely defined tasks and unclear work goals are important contributions to the salaried employees’ perceived health and well-being above and beyond more traditional role stressors like role overload, role ambiguity and role conflict. Similar results were also obtained for work attitudes and motivation. These results are in line with the notion that greater demands on employees to be independent and effective, along with increased autonomy, may result in a generally more demanding work situation if the work tasks and their goals are vaguely defined and blurred in terms of the output or results.

References:

Abstract: Previous research has identified a link between job insecurity perceptions and turnover intentions among employees. It has also been suggested that in times of turmoil and insecurity in the organization, employees who perceive themselves as employable are more prone to voluntarily leave the organization as compared to employees perceiving themselves as less employable and attractive on the labor market. Along this line it has also been proposed that the individuals most attractive on the labor market are often key-persons that the
organization want to keep, and consequently, the organization may suffer if employable employees leave the organization. The purpose of this study is to investigate the effects of job insecurity perceptions on two different types of turnover intentions, namely organizational turnover and occupational turnover. Secondly, this study aims at investigating the potential moderating role of employability on the relationship between job insecurity and the two types of turnover intention, suggesting that employees perceiving themselves as more employable will be more prone to leave the organization when experiencing job insecurity. The study is based on questionnaire data collected in an acute care hospital in Stockholm, Sweden. The results indicate that employability perceptions may play an important role in employees' turnover intentions during organization turmoil and in connection with feelings of job insecurity.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** employability, job insecurity, turnover


**Abstract:** A study on intelligence (i.e., block design and word comprehension) and executive functioning (i.e., working memory and verbal fluency) as related to family size and birth order was performed in middle-aged, young-old,
and old-old adults. Previous studies and theories on the structural issues of family environment and its relationship to intelligence was the point of departure of this research. Using data from healthy participants, aged 35-85 years, in the Betula project (Nilsson et al., 1997, 2004), this study revealed that effects of sibship size and birth order, previously demonstrated in children, remain in adult age. Working memory was the most sensitive of the four tests used for revealing effects of the sibship size and birth order. Implications for the relationship between executive functioning and intelligence, and implications for the confuence and resource dilution models (Blake, 1981; Downey, 2001; Zajonc, 1976) are discussed.

Abstract: This study aimed to explore the heterogeneity of mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and detect differences in regional cerebral blood flow (rCBF) and cognitive function between progressive mild cognitive impairment (PMCI) and stable mild cognitive impairment (SMCI) in order to identify specific changes useful for early diagnosis of dementia. SPECT was performed in 82 MCI subjects and 20 controls using Tc-99m hexamethylpropyleneamine oxime. Cognitive functions were tested in five domains which included episodic memory, semantic memory, visuospatial function, attention, and general cognitive function. After the initial examination, MCI subjects were clinically followed for an average of 2.8 years. Twenty-eight subjects progressed to dementia and were defined as PMCI at baseline and 54 subjects remained stable and were defined as SMCI at baseline. The baseline rCBF and cognitive function of PMCI, SMCI, and controls were compared. PMCI had decreased relative rCBF in the parietal lobes and increased relative rCBF in prefrontal cortex compared to SMCI and controls at baseline. The cognitive function of PMCI was more severely impaired compared to SMCI with respect to episodic memory and visuospatial and general cognitive function. Both SPECT and neuropsychological tests had moderate discriminant function between PMCI and SMCI at baseline with the area under the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve at 75–77%. The combination of these two methods improved the diagnostic accuracy with the area under the ROC curve at 82–84%. Semantic memory and attention were negatively correlated with left prefrontal relative rCBF among the study population. The results show that the clinical heterogeneity of MCI is reflected in different patterns of psychological and CBF changes. Combined SPECT investigation and neuropsychological testing might predict the future development of dementia in patients with MCI.

References:


Abstract: The purpose of this study was to identify women's career development patterns by examining the dynamic interactions between individuals' involvement in working life and other career-related domains of life. Career biographies, from the ages of 16 to 43, were recorded through retrospective reports of a representative sample of Swedish women (n=549) participating in a longitudinal program on individual development. Seven career-related activities were coded and combined into career sequences covering the entire period. Data were analysed using optimal matching, and nine distinct career patterns - disparate in terms of the timing, ordering, and duration of activities - were identified. There were significant differences between the career patterns in early educational aspirations and early sexual experiences as well as in life-role values and socioeconomic status in middle age. With respect to the consequences of career patterns on work wellness and stress, health, and wellbeing, there were significant differences in self-rated health but not in job satisfaction or life satisfaction. The diversity of patterns is discussed from a perspective taking into account both life course theory and the choices made by individual women in a society that provides childcare facilities, parental leave, and other types of support to working parents.

References:

This study aimed at identifying and describing occupational career patterns (OCPs) from age 16 to 43 by applying optimal matching techniques to sequence data obtained from a sample of Swedish women. Women's occupational trajectories were found to be diverse. Upward mobility (3 patterns) and stable careers (4 patterns) were prevalent, but there were also women characterized by downward mobility, fluctuation and being outside the labor market (1 pattern each). Women's OCPs were related to family of origin, but more strongly to their overall life career (i.e., multiple role constellations over the life course). The study indicates that occupational mobility patterns do matter in terms of job perceptions, work attitudes, and quality of life. The results generally confirm the popular belief of the advantage of upward mobility, followed by stable occupational careers, whereas women with downward or fluctuating careers fared worst.

It has long been known that organisational conditions affect working conditions and health. This means, for example, that formal and informal power and responsibility structures for coping with the psychosocial work environment are very complex in contemporary organisations. Some of our most important observations have arisen as a consequence of an attempt to empirically explore contemporary organisations. This means, for example, that formal and informal power and responsibility structures for coping with the psychosocial work environment are very complex in contemporary organisations. Some of our most important observations have arisen as a consequence of an attempt to empirically explore contemporary organisations. One conclusion is that selection mechanisms should be taken into account, as many individuals move between occupational conditions. Additionally, these changes may be very different for different groups, depending on individual and organisational conditions. One of the determinations of what aspects at the organisational level are important and another is how such organisational aspects can be measured and assessed. It is also important to decide relevant to a specific study. Another problem that is particularly important, as many contemporary organisations are volatile and have diffuse boundaries, is how organisations should be defined and how individual employees should be linked to a specific part of an organisation.

This study aimed at identifying and describing occupational career patterns (OCPs) from age 16 to 43 by applying optimal matching techniques to sequence data obtained from a sample of Swedish women. Women's occupational trajectories were found to be diverse. Upward mobility (3 patterns) and stable careers (4 patterns) were prevalent, but there were also women characterized by downward mobility, fluctuation and being outside the labor market (1 pattern each). Women's OCPs were related to family of origin, but more strongly to their overall life career (i.e., multiple role constellations over the life course). The study indicates that occupational mobility patterns do matter in terms of job perceptions, work attitudes, and quality of life. The results generally confirm the popular belief of the advantage of upward mobility, followed by stable occupational careers, whereas women with downward or fluctuating careers fared worst.

This report discusses some suggestions for the design and methodology of empirical studies aimed at bridging the gap between research on organisations and research on individual working conditions and health. This approach in work-life research can be described as organisation-oriented work and health research. Our main aim is to integrate the conceptual, theoretical, and empirical, and practical and theoretical aspects of such an approach. Using the examples of a number of research projects with different specific questions and different empirical designs, we attempt to detect some of the most common stumbling blocks and to find some pragmatic solutions to the problems which arise in this type of research. We discuss some specific problems with the integration of organisational studies and health research, and draw conclusions about the application of such research results to prevention and intervention.
Abstract: Although research on and models of career patterns often are implicitly assumed to be of general validity, they are usually coloured by their cultural, ethnic, and historical background and - until recently - by a lack of gender perspective. A major aim of research on women and career development (Phillips & Imhoff, 1997) concluded that research in the recent decade took important steps but that critical gaps still remain. One such gap concerns changes and transitions in women’s careers. The general aim of this paper is to describe career patterns over the life course of women born in the 1950s - in terms of shape, level, and stability. Data were taken from work histories in the interviews of a sample of Swedish women aged 43 (n=109) as part of a longitudinal study. Career patterns were plotted based on life events related to education, family, and work. Results revealed relative stability of labour force participation, but not of work hours over the life course. Career progress in terms of moving to higher career levels was a common feature of the cohort. However, continuous full-time work (from 16 until 43) was highly unusual and almost entirely limited to women with no children.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal career patterns, women, life-events


Abstract: One major focus of anxiety research in recent years has been the identification of cognitive factors that promote increased vulnerability to anxiety. Cognitive formulations propose that anxiety is characterised by an increased tendency to attend to negatively valenced emotional information, and that this bias may play a causal role in the development and maintenance of clinical anxiety. Evidence suggests that this anxiety-linked processing bias occurs even in conditions in which the stimuli are masked in order to prevent awareness of the content (i.e., preattentive bias). The present thesis focused principally on the preferential processing of threat-related information that occurs outside awareness. Two different outcome measures were used to index preferential preattentive processing of threat-related information in non-clinical populations: The emotional Stroop task was used to index selective attention to masked presentation of threatening word stimuli, whereas skin conductance responses were used to index selective autonomic responses to masked presentation of threatening pictorial stimuli. The empirical studies in the present thesis showed that elevated levels of trait anxiety promote preferential preattentive processing of negatively valenced information, whereas elevated levels of social anxiety (social performance generally interpreted as defensiveness) describe processing of negatively valenced information, especially among those at higher levels of trait anxiety, irrespective of outcome measure used. Moreover, previous research has demonstrated that a person’s most common emotional reaction when encountering a stressful event is causally influenced by that person’s habitual tendency to selectively encode the most threatening aspects of all stimuli. Specifically, whereas preattentive bias was positively associated with self-reported negative emotional response, it was negatively associated with a physiological indicator of emotional response. The results were discussed in terms of an inability to automatically inhibit the processing of threatening cues, which seems to be a vulnerability marker for anxiety. Whether this bias is ultimately sufficient for the development of clinical anxiety remains to be examined in future research. Additionally, more information is needed before it can be established that the emotional Stroop task can be viewed as a reliable diagnostic tool for determining an individual’s anxiety status.

Typ och Nyckelord: Dissertation preattentive processing, selective attention, trait anxiety, defensiveness, emotional responses, emotional vulnerability

Referens: Johnson, D.W., Toumisto, M.T., & Patching, G.R. (in press). The Relationship between Cardiac Reactivity in the Laboratory and in Real Life. Health Psychology.

Abstract: An excessive cardiovascular response to acute stress is a probable risk factor for cardiovascular (CV) disease. Such reactivity is usually assessed from the CV response to laboratory stressors. However, if it is a risk factor, correlated responses must occur in real life. In the present study, we investigated the relationship between the heart rate (HR) response to five laboratory stressors and HR reactivity in the field assessed by HR variability, the response to a real life stressor (public speaking) and the increase in skin conductance responses to masked presentation of threatening word stimuli. The empirical studies in the present thesis showed that elevated levels of trait anxiety promote preferential preattentive processing of negatively valenced information, whereas elevated levels of social anxiety (social performance generally interpreted as defensiveness) describe processing of negatively valenced information, especially among those at higher levels of trait anxiety, irrespective of outcome measure used. Moreover, previous research has demonstrated that a person’s most common emotional reaction when encountering a stressful event is causally influenced by that person’s habitual tendency to selectively encode the most threatening aspects of all stimuli. Specifically, whereas preattentive bias was positively associated with self-reported negative emotional response, it was negatively associated with a physiological indicator of emotional response. The results were discussed in terms of an inability to automatically inhibit the processing of threatening cues, which seems to be a vulnerability marker for anxiety. Whether this bias is ultimately sufficient for the development of clinical anxiety remains to be examined in future research. Additionally, more information is needed before it can be established that the emotional Stroop task can be viewed as a reliable diagnostic tool for determining an individual’s anxiety status.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal heart rate, cardiac reactivity, laboratory stressors


Abstract: Aim and method: To distinguish between two different vulnerable self-structures, where individuals’ perceived self-worth is defined either by accomplishments or emotional security, we developed two scales measuring Competence dependent self-esteem (SE) and Relation dependent self-esteem. Initially, responses (N = 216) to an item pool of 62 contingent SE items were subjected to exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses. Results: Two factors emerged indicating SE dependent on competence and SE dependent on emotional relations. On this basis two scales were developed which both yielded a structure consisting of two factors: Competence SE dimensions referred to (1) SE conditional upon competence/need to outperform others and (2) frustrated strivings/self-criticism. Relation SE dimensions reflected (1) love seeking/fear of rejection and (2) emotional suppression/compliance. The study revealed good reliability indexes for both scales, and evidence of construct validity is obtained in three samples. The scales and their subdimensions have theoretical and practical importance for studies on health and adjustment.

Typ och Nyckelord: Proceedings contingent self-esteem, vulnerability, scale construction

Abstract: A major concern when using lateralized words to study hemispheric asymmetry is that the retinal eccentricity of targets is matched across visual hemifields. The standard technique is to fixate a point fixed at the centre of the visual field. However, the demands of this fixation task are therefore considerable and far greater than those of the window technique. Nevertheless, both techniques produced the same pattern of visual field effects, indicating that the demands of fixing a fixed central point do not confound performance with lateralized words. However, the window technique was more efficient and easier for participants to use and so offers a new improved methodology for studying hemispheric asymmetry.

Typ och Nyckelord: Hemispheric asymmetry, word perception, fixation, attention


Abstract: The study of spatial-frequency is being used increasingly often to investigate processes underlying visual word recognition. However, research in this area has adopted techniques that require the physical deformation of word targets used in experiments (e.g., filtered images of words, words embedded in visual noise) and this approach may limit the inferences that can be made about the role of spatial frequencies in normal word recognition. Spatial-frequency adaptation is described in this article as an additional technique for studying the role of spatial-frequency information in word recognition. The advantage of this technique is that it alters participants’ sensitivity to particular spatial-frequencies and so allows the study of spatial-frequency involvement in word recognition using normal images of word stimuli. The application of the adaptation technique to studies of word recognition is explained in detail and its potential is then demonstrated by an example word-recognition experiment in which spatial-frequency adaptation was used.

Typ och Nyckelord: Spatial-frequency adaptation, word recognition


Abstract: Regular physical activity has many positive health effects. Despite this, approximately 50% of all adults are not exercising enough to enjoy better health and may, therefore, need an alternative to vigorous physical exercise. Qigong offers a gentle way to exercise the body. A questionnaire sample of 253 participants was collected and correlations with the variable health-now were analyzed. Results showed that health-now was positively correlated with number of completed qigong courses (p < 0.05), with level of concentration (p < 0.01), session-time (p < 0.01), and years of practice (p < 0.05). Among these variables, concentration predicts an increased feeling of health (R2 = 0.092). Qigong exercise thereby seems to offer a viable alternative to other more vigorous physical activities when wellness is the primary goal. When interpreted using self-determination theory, qigong seems to satisfy needs related to autonomy, competence and relatedness, thereby, primarily attracting individuals who are intrinsically motivated.

Typ och Nyckelord: Qigong, concentration, wellness


Abstract: Objective: In stating the Millennium Development Goals, the United Nations aims to halve malnutrition around the world by 2015. Nutritional status of the elderly population in low-income countries is seldom focused upon. The present study aimed to evaluate the magnitude of malnutrition among an elderly population in rural Bangladesh.

Design and setting: Data collection for a multidimensional cross-sectional study of community-based elderly people aged 60 years and over was conducted in a rural area in Bangladesh.

Subjects: Of 850 randomly selected elderly individuals, 625 participated in home interviews. Complete nutritional information was available for 457 individuals (mean age 69 ± 8 years, 55% female). Nutritional status was assessed using an adapted form of the Mini Nutritional Assessment (MNA) including body mass index (BMI). Age, sex, education, household expenditure on food and self-reported health problems were investigated as potential predictors of nutritional status.

Results: BMI, 18.5 kg m 2, indicating chronic energy deficiency, was found in 50% of the population. MNA revealed a prevalence of 26% for protein–energy malnutrition and 62% for risk of malnutrition. Health problems rather than age had a negative impact on nutritional status. Level of education and food expenditure were directly associated with nutritional status.

Conclusion: In order to reduce world hunger by half in the coming decade, it is important to recognise that a substantial proportion of the elderly population, particularly in low-income countries, is undernourished.

Typ och Nyckelord: Mini nutritional assessment, malnutrition, Bangladesh


Abstract: A major concern when using lateralized words to study hemispheric asymmetry is that the retinal eccentricity of targets is matched across visual hemifields. The standard technique is to fixate a point fixed at the centre of the visual field. However, the demands of this fixation task are therefore considerable and far greater than those of the window technique. Nevertheless, both techniques produced the same pattern of visual field effects, indicating that the demands of fixing a fixed central point do not confound performance with lateralized words. However, the window technique was more efficient and easier for participants to use and so offers a new improved methodology for studying hemispheric asymmetry.
Abstract:

Rationale: Patients suffering from Alzheimer’s disease (AD) experience a marked reduction in cortical nicotinic acetylcholine receptors (nAChRs). In particular, selective loss of the α-sub-4/β-sub-2 nAChR subtype was observed in postmortem AD brain tissue. The α-sub-4 and β-sub-7 nAChR subunits were suggested to play an important role in cognitive function. Positron emission tomography (PET) has so far been used to visualize neuronal nAChRs in vivo by 11C-nicotine binding.

Objectives: To investigate the relationship between measures of cognitive function and in vivo 11C-nicotine binding in mild AD brain as assessed by PET.

Materials and methods: Twenty-seven patients with mild AD were recruited in this study. A dual tracer model with administration of 15O-water for regional cerebral blood flow and (S)-11C-nicotine was used to assess nicotine binding sites in the brain by PET. Cognitive function was assessed using neuropsychological tests of global cognition, episodic memory, attention, and visuospatial ability.

Results: Mean cortical 11C-nicotine binding significantly correlated with the results of attention tests (r = -0.44 and p = 0.02) and Trail Making Test A (TMT-A) (r = 0.42 and p = 0.03). No significant correlation was observed between 11C-nicotine binding and the results of tests of episodic memory or visuospatial ability.

Regional analysis showed that 11C-nicotine binding in the frontal and parietal cortex, which are the main areas for attention, correlated significantly with the Digit Symbol test and TMT-A results.

Conclusion: Cortical nicotinic receptors in vivo in mild AD patients are robustly associated with the cognitive function of attention.

References:


Rationale: Patients suffering from Alzheimer’s disease (AD) experience a marked reduction in cortical nicotinic acetylcholine receptors (nAChRs). In particular, selective loss of the α-sub-4/β-sub-2 nAChR subtype was observed in postmortem AD brain tissue. The α-sub-4 and β-sub-7 nAChR subunits were suggested to play an important role in cognitive function. Positron emission tomography (PET) has so far been used to visualize neuronal nAChRs in vivo by 11C-nicotine binding.

Objectives: To investigate the relationship between measures of cognitive function and in vivo 11C-nicotine binding in mild AD brain as assessed by PET.

Materials and methods: Twenty-seven patients with mild AD were recruited in this study. A dual tracer model with administration of 15O-water for regional cerebral blood flow and (S)-11C-nicotine was used to assess nicotine binding sites in the brain by PET. Cognitive function was assessed using neuropsychological tests of global cognition, episodic memory, attention, and visuospatial ability.

Results: Mean cortical 11C-nicotine binding significantly correlated with the results of attention tests (r = -0.44 and p = 0.02) and Trail Making Test A (TMT-A) (r = 0.42 and p = 0.03). No significant correlation was observed between 11C-nicotine binding and the results of tests of episodic memory or visuospatial ability.

Regional analysis showed that 11C-nicotine binding in the frontal and parietal cortex, which are the main areas for attention, correlated significantly with the Digit Symbol test and TMT-A results.

Conclusion: Cortical nicotinic receptors in vivo in mild AD patients are robustly associated with the cognitive function of attention.

References:


Abstract: Huntington's disease (HD) is a neurodegenerative disorder initially affecting the basal ganglia and especially the head of the caudate nucleus. Neuropsychological research has indicated that olfactory dysfunction may appear early in HD, prior to the onset of significant motor or cognitive dysfunction. The aim of this study was to examine whether asymptomatic carriers of the Huntington disease mutation also exhibit olfactory dysfunction. To address this issue we presented an extensive olfactory test battery comprising tasks assessing olfactory sensitivity, intensity discrimination, quality discrimination, episodic odor memory, and odor identification, to a group of gene carriers and non-mutation carriers of the disease. The results showed that gene carriers were selectively impaired in discriminating odor quality, although performance did not differ from non-carriers across the other tasks. The role played by striatum and in particular the caudate nucleus for gene carriers were selectively impaired in discriminating odor quality, although performance did not differ from non-carriers across the other tasks. Performance measures were obtained during the first and last week. The results showed that the energy index decreased (pB/0.01) throughout the camp and did not return to initial values following either the short (one night) or long rest (two nights and one day). Performance measures and RPE remained unaﬀected throughout training, as did the POMS depression scores, indicating that the athletes experienced an overreached state but did not develop staleness. Our results suggest that repeated evaluation using POMS fatigue, vigour, and depression scores during periods of intensified training may help prevent athletes from becoming severely overreached and reduce the likelihood of staleness.

References:


Abstract: We examined recollective experience in odor memory as a function of age, intention to learn, and familiarity. Young and older adults studied a set of familiar and unfamiliar odors with incidental or intentional encoding instructions. At recognition, participants indicated whether their response was based on explicit recollection (remembering), a feeling of familiarity (knowing), or guessing. The results indicated no age-related differences in the distribution of experiential responses for unfamiliar odors. By contrast, for familiar odors the young demonstrated more explicit recollection than the old adults, who produced more know and guess responses. Intention to learn was unrelated to recollective experience. In addition, the observed age differences in remember responses for familiar odors were eliminated when odor naming was statistically controlled. This suggests that age-related deficits in activating specific odor knowledge (i.e., odor names) play an important role for age differences in recollective experience for olfactory information.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal memory, odors, aging

Apolipoprotein E-epsilon 4 is the main known genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's disease. Functional abnormalities in the parietal cortex have been reported for Alzheimer's disease patients and also for those at risk. Hence, a critical question is whether measurements of parietal cortex integrity may predict negative outcome among at-risk persons. We studied nondemented apolip-protein E-epsilon 4 carriers and found a significant relationship between parietal blood-oxygen-level-dependent functional magnetic resonance imaging response during a word categorization task and subsequent episodic memory performance. Thus, the results show that parietal cortex alterations predict memory decline in nondemented apolipoprotein E-epsilon 4 carriers, and hence likely progression to Alzheimer's disease.

The Apolipoprotein E epsilon 4 (APOE epsilon 4) is the main known genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's disease (AD). Genetic assessments in combination with other diagnostic tools, such as neuroimaging, have the potential to facilitate early diagnosis of AD. We have conducted a large-scale fMRI study, where we contrasted 30 APOE epsilon 4 carriers and 30 non-carriers with regard to brain activity during a semantic categorization task. Critically, both groups showed decreased functional brain activity response in cognitively intact Apolipoprotein E epsilon 4 carriers. The Apolipoprotein E epsilon 4 (APOE epsilon 4) is the main known genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's disease (AD). Genetic assessments in combination with other diagnostic tools, such as neuroimaging, have the potential to facilitate early diagnosis of AD. We have conducted a large-scale fMRI study, where we contrasted 30 APOE epsilon 4 carriers and 30 non-carriers with regard to brain activity during a semantic categorization task. Critically, both groups showed decreased functional brain activity response in cognitively intact Apolipoprotein E epsilon 4 carriers. Reduced hippocampal volume in non-demented carriers of the Apolipoprotein E epsilon 4: Relation to chronological age and recognition memory. NeuroReport, 17, 1683-1686.

The present study aimed to investigate the structure of a Swedish translation of Ryff's psychological well-being scales covering self-acceptance, positive relations, autonomy, environmental mastery, personal growth and purpose in life. Moreover, the consistency of previously reported age and gender profiles of psychological well-being was examined. Analyses were based on data from 1260 white-collar workers aged 32–58 years. The internal consistency coefficients of the translated scales were higher than that of the original Ryff scales. Further confirmatory factor analyses replicated previous findings showing that the proposed six-factor model with a single second-order super-factor had better fit than the single factor model. Besides confirming previously reported age and gender profiles, the study showed age differences in self-acceptance and gender differences in environmental mastery and purpose in life but not in personal growth. The present findings clearly demonstrate the adequacy of the Swedish version of the Ryff scales in female and male white-collar workers.

The study showed age differences in self-acceptance and gender differences in environmental mastery and purpose in life but not in personal growth. The present findings clearly demonstrate the adequacy of the Swedish version of the Ryff scales in female and male white-collar workers.

Most research on the combined effects of paid and unpaid workload has related these factors to stress, depression, and physical symptoms. Thus, comparative knowledge concerning positive aspects of human
functioning, such as health and well-being and how they relate to total workload of employed women and men, is limited. Our aim in this study was to investigate how total workload including paid and unpaid work is related to psychological well-being and symptoms in full-time employed women and men. We obtained data on workload, general symptoms, and the Ryff scales covering self-acceptance, environmental mastery, positive relations, personal growth, purpose in life, and autonomy from questionnaires mailed to a stratified sample of highly educated white-collar workers aged between 32 and 58 years. Data from women (n = 430) and men (n = 400) living in partner relationships with at least one child showed that increasing hours of unpaid work was associated with decreasing levels of self-acceptance and environmental mastery in women, whereas paid work was associated with increasing levels of personal growth and decreasing levels of purpose in life. For men, paid work was associated with increasing levels of personal growth and more symptoms. We discuss factors underlying the gender-specific relationships between paid and unpaid work, psychological well-being, and symptoms.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal positive health, total workload, symptoms


Abstract: Objective: To investigate how physiologic dysregulation, in terms of allostatic load and clinical risk, respectively, relates to sense of coherence (SOC) in women with no previously diagnosed pathology.

Methods: At baseline, 200 43-year-old women took part in a standardized medical health examination and completed a 3-item measure of SOC, which they completed again 6 years later. According to data from the medical examination, two different measures of physiologic dysregulation were calculated: a) a measure of allostatic load based on empirically derived cut points and b) a measure of clinical risk based on clinically significant cut points.

Results: In line with the initial hypotheses, allostatic load was found to predict future SOC, whereas clinical risk did not. In addition to baseline SOC and nicotine consumption, allostatic load was strongly associated with a weak SOC at the follow-up.

Conclusions: The better predictive value of allostatic load to clinical risk indicates that focusing solely on clinical risk obscures patterns of physiologic dysregulation that influence future SOC.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal positive health, physiologic dysregulation, women


Abstract: The objective is to present our recent research on the biological underpinnings of positive health. In the first study, the Ryff scales covering self-acceptance, environmental mastery, positive relations, personal growth, purpose in life, and autonomy were used to measure positive health in female and male white-collar workers (n = 23) at the same workplace. Biological indicators, including salivary cortisol, urinary catecholamines and blood pressure, were collected during two workdays. The results revealed that individuals with high scores on the Ryff scales had significantly lower levels of morning cortisol and blood pressure than did the others, while no significant differences emerged for catecholamines or blood pressure. In a second study, sense of coherence (SOC) was used to measure positive health in 43-year-old women (n = 244) who took part in a standardized medical examination. As hypothesized, the results showed that women reporting a strong SOC had significantly lower systolic blood pressure and total cholesterol than did those with a weak SOC. A third study explored further the longitudinal associations between SOC and allostatic load in women (n = 200). The results showed that, at age 43, SOC, nicotine consumption and allostatic load were significantly associated with SOC at age 49. Taken together, our studies indicate possible mechanisms linking self-reports of positive health to health-related biological reactions. It is suggested that, in comparison to individuals with low positive health, individuals with high positive health have access to resources for dealing successfully with daily life stress, which reduces chronic stress and cumulative load on bodily systems and contributes to long-term health.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal Ryff scales, sense of coherence, biological mechanisms


Abstract: Many dental health workers suffer from musculoskeletal disorders in the upper extremities. In addition to ergonomic factors, psychosocial work characteristics have been linked to musculoskeletal disorders. The present cross-sectional study aimed at investigating how musculoskeletal disorders in the upper extremities (UED) and occupational position are related to work characteristics and general health problems in female dental health workers. Questionnaire data from dentists, dental hygienists and dental nurses (N=945) showed that 81% reported UED. Multivariate analysis of variance showed that dentists reported the highest levels of physical load and fatigue whereas dental nurses reported the lowest levels of influence at work. Irrespective of position, those with UED considered their physical and psychosocial work environment and their own health to be significantly poorer than did those without UED. A hierarchical multiple regression showed that the physical load of dentistry work was most strongly related to UED. Despite improvements to the ergonomics and physical work environment of dentistry, it is concluded that female dental health workers are still at high risk of developing UED.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal dentistry, musculoskeletal disorders, work environment


Abstract: Purpose: Research has shown that people often have difficulties estimating eyewitness accuracy correctly. In most previous studies examining validity in credibility judgments, participants have assessed the accuracy of witnesses who have been homogeneous in their memory performance. This study investigated validity in judgments of witnesses who varied widely in memory. A further purpose was to examine whether judgmental validity was moderated by the witness' ethnic ingroup/outgroup status.

Methods: Participants rated the credibility of videotaped testimonies of high- and low- accurate in-group

Abstract: I kapitlet presenteras forsknings kring betydelsen av etnisk gruppstillsättning i vittnessammanhang. Studier som undersökt hur vittnen bedömmer en brottsling, eller hur bedömningar av vittnens trovärdighet påverkas av etnicitet visar att etnisk bakgrund kan påverka rättsliga bedömningar. Konsekvenser för rättslig praxis diskuteras.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal etnicitet, vittnen, fördömar


Abstract: This study investigated the relationship between light and strenuous exercise with depression, and gender differences in this relationship, in a representative sample of 860 suburban dwelling Swedish elderly men and women in age cohorts from 60 to 96 included in the Swedish National Aging and Care study (SNAC). The relation between self-reported changes in exercise status over time and depression was also examined. Exercise activities were measured by four survey questions and depression by the Montgomery Åsberg Depression Rating Scale (MADRS). Inactive elderly revealed higher depression scores compared to more active individuals, both in terms of light and strenuous exercise. The continuously active group showed lower depression compared to continuously inactive individuals and individuals reporting a shift from activity to inactivity during the last year. Light exercise had somewhat stronger effect on depression for women whereas the effect of strenuous exercise was only significant for men.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal elderly, exercise, depression


Abstract: This study investigated the relationship between light and strenuous exercise with depression, and gender differences in this relationship, in a representative sample of 860 suburban dwelling Swedish elderly men and women in age cohorts from 60 to 96 included in the Swedish National Aging and Care study (SNAC). The relation between self-reported changes in exercise status over time and depression was also examined. Exercise activities were measured by four survey questions and depression by the Montgomery Åsberg Depression Rating Scale (MADRS). Inactive elderly revealed higher depression scores compared to more active individuals, both in terms of light and strenuous exercise. The continuously active group showed lower depression compared to continuously inactive individuals and individuals reporting a shift from activity to inactivity during the last year. Light exercise had somewhat stronger effect on depression for women whereas the effect of strenuous exercise was only significant for men.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal elderly, exercise, depression


Abstract: The aim of this article is to describe the main physiological stress responses and to analyse under which conditions these responses are health-promoting versus health-damaging, and how subjective and objective health is related. The brain communicates with the rest of the body through nerves, hormones and the immune system. Thus, perceived stress affects various systems and organs in the body, such as the cardiovascular and the gastrointestinal systems, sleep and breathing patterns, healing processes, the effectiveness of the immune system and, by feedback mechanisms, the brain itself. These bodily responses to stress have developed during evolution and are necessary for survival and protection of the body; however, activation of the stress systems means energy mobilisation, and in modern society, where stress is often induced by mental and psychosocial conditions, the mobilisation of energy for fight or flight may have harmful consequences on various bodily systems. To maintain health, repeated or long-term activation of these systems, i.e. catabolic processes, has to be followed by periods of rest and restitution to allow growth, healing and build-up of new resources, i.e. anabolic processes.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal physiology, catabolism, anabolism


I detta bokkapitel beskrivs genom vilka olika psykosociala mekanismer som psykosociala faktorer kan påverka den fysiska hälsan via beteende och kroppliga reaktioner.

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) arbetsbelastning, hälsa, återhämtning


Abstract: Psychobiological stress responses, induced by environmental conditions and demands, interact with behavior and contribute to a number of health problems in the industrialized countries today. However, the stress responses are also necessary for survival and protection of the body and the aim of this article is to describe how the body responds to stress and under what conditions the stress responses are health damaging versus...
Abstract:
Elevated levels of anxiety are a common response to stressful competitive sports situations, are known to moderate athletic performance and are referred to as an unpleasant emotional state associated with perceptions of situational threat. The empirical studies in this dissertation considered primarily psychometric, methodological and conceptual issues of relevance for the study of anxiety and sports performance. In Study I, athletes were followed across a full competitive season to explore patterns of inter- and intra-individual variability of anxiety and self-confidence in relation to performance. The findings imply intra-individual anxiety and self-confidence variability to affect performance differently than the specific intensity level and are discussed in relation to more stable personality dispositions such as private self-consciousness. Study II evaluated the psychometric properties of the 27-item Competitive State Anxiety Inventory-2 (CSAI-2) and alternative versions of this scale. General support for a 17-item version (CSAI-2R) was found, but there are also psychometric limitations future research needs to resolve. Study III investigated assessment of intensity and directional ratings on single anxiety items with reference to the conceptualisation of anxiety symptoms as intertwinements of debilitative and facilitative anxiety. The findings support the importance and rationale of assessing anxiety direction and revealed serious concerns with assessment procedures and statistical techniques applied in previous research. These concerns were also supported in Study IV, which explored athletes' idiosynchratic experiences of debilitative and facilitative anxiety symptoms in terms of intensity and emotional valence. The findings are discussed and summarised in a model in order to increase conceptual clarity and provide implications for future research regarding anxiety and related emotional performance states.

Typ och Nyckelord: Dissertation competition, intra-individual, variability, directional interpretations, emotions, sports performance, CSAI-2, psychometrics

References:

Abstract:
Two representative samples of adult Norwegians (n = 2000) were asked a set of general and specific questions regarding their beliefs and opinions about human memory. The results indicate that on many questions, such as time of the earliest memories, inhibiting effects of collaboration, and memory for dramatic versus ordinary events, the views of the general public concurred with current research findings, and people in general had realistic views about their own memory performance. On other questions, such as the reliability of olfactory as compared with visual and auditory memory, the memory of small children in comparison with that of adults, the likelihood of repression of adult traumatic memories, and on more general questions such as the possibility of training memory and the capacity limitations of long-term memory, a large proportion of the participants expressed views that are less supported by scientific evidence. Implications of these findings are briefly discussed.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal memory, survey, beliefs

References:

Abstract:
The aim of the present study is to examine the possible relationship between experiencing early intercourse and reproductive health characteristics in midlife for women. The participants belonged to the Swedish longitudinal research program Individual Development and Adaptation (IDA) project. By the age of 14, the cohort consists of 590 girls, whereas 522 gave information about the timing of their first sexual intercourse experience. Approximately 29 years later, when the women were 43 years old, a sub-cohort of 369 women participated in the psychological-medical investigation. Those who experienced early intercourse were likely to be different on various demographics and have markers of poorer reproductive health characteristics than their counterparts. More specifically, those experiencing early intercourse were less formally educated, left home earlier, and earned on average less than their counterparts who experienced sexual intercourse later. Early intercourse likely plays a role in not only specific reproductive health but also reproductive health characteristics as a whole in midlife. Early intercourse was consistently a predictor of teenage pregnancy, terminated pregnancies, no use of contraception, and having menstrual symptoms.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal reproductive health, early intercourse, problem behavior

References:

Abstract:
The chapter presents an analysis of individual development as an integrated process, in which mental, biological, and behavioral aspects of individual functioning and social, economic, and physical factors in the environment are involved. It is suggested that an individual's way of thinking, feeling, acting, and reacting at any stage of the life process is the result of an integrated transformation process which takes place on the basis of biologically based potentialities and restrictions. The measurement implications of this view are discussed with reference to a person approach in research on developmental processes.

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) holistic interactionism, longitudinal, development

References:
Abstract:

This report is presenting the methodological designs of different studies aiming at the investigation of the relationship between organisational characteristics and individual working conditions and health. The theoretical background to this line of research is summarized in Härenstam and collaborators (2006). The report displays methods, samples and designs of three studies. Three different methods were used in the studies and different focal units were chosen. In the first presented study "The Healthy Workplace Study": the Organisation was used as the focal unit. In the second study: "The National Working Life Cohort": individuals were set as focal units, and in the final study, "Power over Working Conditions" - Case studies of organisational responsibility, interpersonal relations were set as focal units.

In the Healthy Workplace Study the aim was to explore the importance of organisational conditions and individual characteristics for the variation in working conditions and health for employees. The study was designed as a longitudinal, multilevel analysis, of a two-step data collection of organisations, and of the individuals working within the studied organisations. About 5,000 employees, in 90 establishments in 32 parent organisations were included.

The National Working Life Cohort examined how work career and changes in employment and working conditions affect health and well-being. The study also covered aspects of how individuals' ambitions and plans change over time and how this affects working life behaviour. The study was representative and longitudinal and comprised a representative sample of 4,929 individuals living in Sweden between the ages of 25 and 50.

In the third study called "Power over Working Conditions" - Case studies of organisational responsibility, two multiple case studies were used to explore mechanisms of power and responsibility within public and private organisations. The first of the two studies explored mechanisms of power and responsibility within private multinational industry and service organisations. The second study explored a similar complex of relations in the public sector. Critical-Incident interviews, semi structured interviews and workshops with about 140 employees, managers, labour union representatives and politicians, were conducted in one company group and two municipalities between 2004 and 2006.

References:


Abstract:

Crime-related amnesia refers to a claim raised by defendants or convicted perpetrators that they cannot remember essential details of the crime they have committed or even of their entire life including the crime. Experts who have to evaluate claims of crime-related amnesia can learn from the following lessons from two cases presented in the chapter, the Ferdinand's case and the case of NN: (1) Experts should ensure that they have access to the complete record of the defendant. In particular, third-party eyewitness testimonies about the defendant's behavior before and after the crime might be informative. (2) Experts should have access to collateral sources that might provide them with crucial information about the defendant's background. (3) Experts should not take the defendant's self-report about his memory complaints at face value. That is, psychological testing of memory functioning is essential. (4) Experts should routinely use appropriate tests and tools to evaluate the possibility of malingering. (5) Experts should use PET, MRI or EEG data to evaluate the possibility of malingering. (6) Experts should use PET, MRI or EEG data to estimate factors associated with physical and mental health and postpartum symptoms.

Results: A total of 817 women were enrolled (71% response) in the study; 716 women completed interviews at 5 weeks postpartum. On average, women reported 6 postpartum symptoms, most frequently fatigue (64%), breast discomfort (60%), and decreased desire for sex (52%). Findings showed that cesarean (vs vaginal) deliveries were associated with significantly worse physical function, role limitations, and vitality. Multivariate findings showed that the effect of delivery type on physical health was moderately large (ß = –5.96; P < .01), and breastfeeding was associated with an increased frequency of postpartum symptoms (ß = 4.63; P = .01).

Conclusions: These mothers experienced several childbirth-related symptoms at 5 weeks postpartum, indicating a need for ongoing rest and recovery. Health concerns were greater for women who were breastfeeding and for those whose babies were delivered by cesarean section, suggesting a need for greater support for these women and a reassessment by the medical community of the progressively growing practice of cesarean deliveries.

References:


Abstract:

Bipolar disorders are often not recognized. Several instruments were developed but none primarily focused on hypomania. The hypomania checklist (HCL) is aimed at the identification of bipolarity in outpatients. Using a German and Swedish sample, we investigated if the factor structure in nonclinical samples is similar to the one reported in outpatient samples. Furthermore, we tested if people who probably had a lifetime history of hypomania report more depression or other signs of impairment and if current depression is associated with

Abstract:
Bilingualism and its effect on individuals have been studied within different disciplines. Although the first psychological study of bilingualism was conducted by Cattell as early as 1887, only a few studies have exclusively investigated the effect of bilingualism on memory systems’ functioning. In the field of cognitive psychology of bilingualism, there is some evidence for the positive influence of bilingualism on children's cognitive ability across various domains but there is little knowledge about the relationship between bilingualism and memory in a lifespan perspective. This thesis’s main aim was to investigate memory systems’ functioning and development in bilingual adults. To this end, two studies were performed: a cross-sectional study of bilingual children (Study I) and a longitudinal study of young and older adults (Study II). The purpose of Studies I and II was to determine whether there are differences between monolinguals and bilinguals regarding various memory systems’ functioning. Study I compared children’s performance on episodic and semantic memory, and Study II investigated performance on episodic and semantic memory in bilingual younger and older adults. Specifically, these studies aimed to examine a) which memory systems will be affected more as a function of language, and b) to what extent the differences would manifest them in a subject's lifespan. The purpose of Studies I and II was to examine the relationship between word representations, lexical access and lexical selection in a bilingual word production paradigm. In this study, a model of bilingual production was developed to explain the results and clarify the role of automatic and controlled processes in using two languages. The results of Studies I and II showed a superiority of bilinguals over monolinguals as well as a variation of association between memory performance and bilingualism across different periods of adulthood. It appears that the lifelong experience of managing two languages enhances control processes, which in turn play an important role in enhancing memory performance. Using a "dual mechanism model", Study III explains the efficiency of inhibitory processing when having two languages activated.

Typ och Nyckelord: Dissertation bilingual model, children, elderly, memory, control, lexical selection


Abstract: A questionnaire study compared Swedish and American attitudes towards freedom and equality and the potential trade-off between these two values. The participants were first-year students from Stockholm University (N=54) and Stanford University (N=92). When participants simply rank-ordered a number of values related to freedom and equality no significant between-group differences in orderings were observed. However, when participants were asked to indicate their willingness to see increased equality at the expense of reducing freedom, and vice versa, clear between-group differences were apparent. Both in direct measures regarding this tradeoff and in evaluation of public policy options, Swedish participants generally proved more willing than Americans to increase equality at the expense of freedom whereas the American participants proved more willing to increase equality at the expense of freedom. This result implies that answers to trade-off questions may reflect the perceived fulfillment of values in the society (more freedom in USA, more equality in Sweden), which is not shown by importance ratings. The results are discussed in the context of previous cross-cultural studies comparing political value preferences in both countries.

Typ och Nyckelord: Proceedings human values, culture, freedom


Abstract: This paper presents four domains of markers that have been found to predict later cognitive impairment and neurodegenerative disease. These four domains are (a) data patterns of memory performance, (b) cardiovascular factors, (c) genetic markers, and (d) brain activity. The critical features of each domain are illustrated with data from the longitudinal Betula Study on memory, aging, and health (Nilsson et al., 1997; Nilsson et al., 2004). Up to now, early signs regarding these domains have been examined one by one and it has been found that they are associated with later cognitive impairment and neurodegenerative disease. However, it was also found that each marker accounts for only a very small part of the total variance, implying that single markers should not be used as predictors for cognitive decline or neurodegenerative disease. It is discussed whether modeling and simulations should be used as tools to combine markers at different levels to increase the amount of explained variance.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal memory, genetics, cardiovascular factors, brain activity


Abstract: Associations between two genes, ApolipoproteinE (APOE) and Catechol O-methyl-transferase (COMT), and
performance in episodic memory tasks will be presented and discussed in relationship to main effects and gene-environmental interactions in healthy individuals (35-80 years of age). We found that participants with mild head injury but without APOE ε4 showed no decline in memory performance. Participants with APOE ε4 showed decline in performance, and those with both APOE ε4 and head injury showed a dramatic decline. This study confirms that APOE ε4 is a risk factor for later cognitive decline, that mild injury in isolation does not increase the risk, but that head injury in combination with the APOE ε4 leads to a synergistic effect. For the COMT gene, the data pattern is different. Carriers of the Met allele show no decline, whereas carriers of the Val allele show a decrease in performance. None of these alleles interacts synergistically with mild head injury.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal memory, genetics, early signs of dementia


Abstract: This chapter in the yearbook of the Norwegian Academy of Sciences constitutes a summary of a lecture held at the academy in February 2004. The chapter describes how declarative memory can be divided into episodic and semantic memory. Each of these two memory systems can be further subdivided into recall and recognition (episodic memory), knowledge and fluency (semantic memory). On the basis of data from the longitudinal Betula project on memory, aging and health, it is furthermore described how different genes seem to affect episodic memory, and recall in particular, but not semantic memory.

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) memory, genetics, health


Abstract: This chapter outlines and discusses potential risk factors for cognitive dysfunction and dementia. Illustrations of the arguments made are based on data from the Betula Study, which is a longitudinal, multi-cohort study being conducted in Sweden. As a first step in this analysis of potential risk factors for cognitive dysfunction and dementia, this chapter presents potential and identified risk factors for dementia, as well as potential and identified risk factors for cognitive dysfunction. Each of these risk factors for cognitive dysfunction and dementia is associated with a decline in cognitive performance. A second step in this search for early signs of dementia is to identify persons with the ε4 allele of the ApolipoproteinE gene. A third step described in the chapter is to assess brain activity by means of functional MR. Individuals with genetic risk of Alzheimer's disease show a lower degree of brain activity than those with no such genetic risk.

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) memory, genetics, brain imaging


Abstract: This chapter describes the core features of the Betula Study, which is a longitudinal multicohort study conducted in Sweden since 1988. The focus of this chapter is to describe the methodology used in this study, the memory tests used and the health instruments used.

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) cognition, aging, multi-cohort study


Abstract: A question of long standing in psychology and elsewhere is whether genes influences memory performance in healthy individuals. If there is an effect of a certain gene, one basic question is whether the effect is specific such that it affects a certain form of memory or is the effect general affecting several forms of memory and perhaps intellectual functioning in general. Another basic question, in case of a genetic effect, is what is the mechanism for the effect. Several options are possible. The mechanism could be at the level of microbiology, at a cellular level, at a synaptic level, or perhaps at the cognitive level. Still another basic question is which the candidate genes are. Assuming that there are approximately 20 000 genes affecting the brain, the question is where to start. Which gene is the most likely candidate to affect memory? Having found one gene that seems to influence memory performance, the next question is whether there are more genes with a similar effect. Do these genes interact? Do they produce additive effects? Do they produce synergistic effects? Do the active genes in this regard interact with the environment? Genetics has not played a major role in psychology to date, but behavioral genetics is a new exciting field of investigation and as can be seen from the examples mentioned, there are many questions to answer. I will examine, discuss, and try to answer these questions in my talk and I will use data from a large prospective study on memory, health, and aging, to illustrate possible answers.

Typ och Nyckelord: Proceedings memory, genetics, cardiovascular disease


Abstract: We examined the effect of the ε4 allele of ApolipoproteinE (APOE) in non-demented healthy individuals in the age range of 35-85 years of age. In a prospective cohort study we demonstrated a more pronounced ε4-related deficit for participants in the age of 70 years and older in tasks assessing episodic recall. Somewhat smaller ε4-related deficits for these persons were found in episodic recognition. The effect of APOE on semantic memory tasks was of a different nature. Whereas APOE and age interacted for episodic memory tasks, the interaction for semantic memory tasks was between APOE and test wave. No effects of APOE were found in tasks assessing vocabulary, primary memory and priming. We also demonstrated that ε4 heterozygotes among middle-age and young-old participants performed at a higher level than non-carriers of this allele in episodic recall tasks, but not in episodic recognition tasks, nor in tasks assessing semantic memory, primary memory and priming. Furthermore, we found a dose effect, such that carriers of two ε4 alleles fail more profoundly in acquiring and recollecting episodic information than carriers of one ε4 allele, who in turn fail more than carriers of non-ε4 alleles. The pattern of findings observed for older ε4 carriers suggests that these individuals have particular difficulty when the executive task demands are high. Several factors (e.g., smaller hippocampal
This chapter introduces main concepts, theories and data that are covered in this section of the book. After discussing the applied ambitions of Herrmann Ebbinghaus the chapter reflects on the topics of e-learning, relationships with age and sex. In S. Magnussen & T. Helstrup (Eds.), Everyday memory. Hove, UK: Psychology Press.

The third topic is entitled Memory deficits: Social costs and includes six chapters written by Fergus I.M. Craik, Ingvar Lundberg, Robert L. Logie and Sergio Della Sala, Masaru Mimura, Douglas Herrmann, Michael M. Gruneberg, Steve Fiori, Jonathan W. Schooler and Rebecca Torres, and Barbara A. Wilson.

Neurodegenerative diseases.

neurodegenerative diseases.

neurodegenerative diseases.

neurodegenerative diseases.

neurodegenerative diseases.

neurodegenerative diseases.

neurodegenerative diseases.
Two listening experiments were conducted in order to determine whether A-weighting is a valid indicator of the perceived loudness or annoyance of road-traffic sound. Because -weighting has been criticized for not properly integrating energy at low frequencies, experimental road-traffic sounds were selected with a wide range in low-frequency content, assessed as the difference between C- and A-weighted sound pressure levels \( L_{C-A} \). In the first experiment, 30 listeners assessed the perceived loudness of the selected sounds. In the second experiment, another group of 31 listeners assessed the perceived annoyance of the same sounds. Sounds with high levels of \( L_{C-A} \) were louder and more annoying than sounds with similar levels of \( L_{C-A} \), which in turn were louder and more annoying than sounds with medium levels of \( L_{C-A} \) at similar A-weighted sound pressure levels \( L_A \). It was estimated that the change in perceived loudness or annoyance associated with a 1 dB change in \( L_{C-A} \) would correspond to approximately a 0.4 dB change in \( L_A \). In contrast, sounds with similar Zwicker loudness levels \( L_H \) were approximately equal in loudness and annoyance irrespective of their \( L_{C-A} \). Thus, \( L_H \) was found to be superior to \( L_A \) as an indicator of short-term loudness and annoyance of road-traffic sounds with wide variation in low-frequency content.

### Typ och Nyckelord:
Proceedings noise barrier, annoyance, noise mitigation

### Referens:

### Abstract:
Two listening experiments were conducted in order to determine whether A-weighting is a valid indicator of the perceived loudness or annoyance of road-traffic sound. Because -weighting has been criticized for not properly integrating energy at low frequencies, experimental road-traffic sounds were selected with a wide range in low-frequency content, assessed as the difference between C- and A-weighted sound pressure levels \( L_{C-A} \). In the first experiment, 30 listeners assessed the perceived loudness of the selected sounds. In the second experiment, another group of 31 listeners assessed the perceived annoyance of the same sounds. Sounds with high levels of \( L_{C-A} \) were louder and more annoying than sounds with similar levels of \( L_{C-A} \), which in turn were louder and more annoying than sounds with medium levels of \( L_{C-A} \) at similar A-weighted sound pressure levels \( L_A \). It was estimated that the change in perceived loudness or annoyance associated with a 1 dB change in \( L_{C-A} \) would correspond to approximately a 0.4 dB change in \( L_A \). In contrast, sounds with similar Zwicker loudness levels \( L_H \) were approximately equal in loudness and annoyance irrespective of their \( L_{C-A} \). Thus, \( L_H \) was found to be superior to \( L_A \) as an indicator of short-term loudness and annoyance of road-traffic sounds with wide variation in low-frequency content.

### Typ och Nyckelord:
Proceedings traffic noise, positive sound environments, noise policy

### Referens:

### Abstract:
This chapter describes major concepts in the area of learning and memory in a historical perspective. The chapter takes into account the various influences that cultures have had on the concepts used in learning and memory research of today. A large portion of the chapter is devoted to defining and discussing different forms of learning and memory. The issue of behavior vs. cognition is discussed at some length. The concepts of storage of information, the spatial metaphor of memory, and memory trace are central concepts in memory research and are therefore dealt with thoroughly and are evaluated in the light of today’s knowledge of human memory. The chapter is ended by a discussion of the requirements for scientific concepts to survive.

### Typ och Nyckelord:
Book (chapter) concepts, memory, learning

### Referens:

### Abstract:
This chapter summarizes the section about practical consequences of various forms of memory deficits and the costs involved, both with respect to the individual and his or her family and with respect to the society. Memory deficits occurring in normal aging and pathological changes in old age, memory deficits that are related to dyslexia, working memory problems in everyday cognition, problems in executive functions chronic alcoholics, and Korsakoff amnesics. This chapter also includes a description of memory failures and their causes in everyday life and the rehabilitation of memory in everyday life. The chapter authors in this section of the book are: Fergus I.M. Craik, Ingvar Lundberg, Robert L. Logie and Sergio Delia Sala, Masaru Mimura, Douglas Herrmann, Michael M. Gruneberg, Steve Fiori, Jonathan W. Schooler and Rebecca Torres, and Barbara A. Wilson.
**Abstract:**
According to guidelines proposed in Sweden, at least 80% of visitors in quiet areas should perceive the sound environment as good. This was the starting point for a questionnaire study conducted in four suburban green areas and city parks during day time is below 50 dBA. All suburban green areas but none of the city parks reached the stipulated goal (at least 80%). The quality was assessed by a five-point bipolar category scale. Among the respondents, 84-100% in the suburban green areas and 53-65% in the city parks assessed the soundscape as “Good” or “Very good”. Thus, all suburban green areas and none of the city parks reached the stipulated goal (at least 80%). The soundscape quality was confirmed by attribute profiling using a set of 12 adjectives. Based on the visitor’s responses, it is concluded that good soundscape quality can only be achieved if the traffic noise exposure in suburban green areas and city parks during day time is below 50 dBA.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Soundscape, green areas, city-parks

**Referens:**

**Abstract:**
Questionnaire studies were conducted in a residential area before and after the erection of a 2.25 m high noise barrier. The interval between studies was two years. House closest to the barrier received a sound-level reduction from ~70.0 to 62.5 dB A; den at the most exposed facade. The sound-level reduction decreased with distance to the road, and was negligible for houses at more than 100 m distance. Up to this distance, the noise barrier reduced residents’ noise annoyance outdoors and indoors as well as improved speech communication outdoors. Indoors, speech communication and sleep disturbance were slightly but nonsignificantly improved.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal noise barrier, sound-level reduction, annoyance

**Referens:**

**Abstract:**
The present report presents data collected within a project focusing on salaried employees, among whom we have witnessed profound changes both in the conditions under which work is carried out and in the reported frequencies of psychological health complaints. The aim has been to capture traditional and new demands that have previously not been the focus of empirical studies, as well as to investigate what factors related to attitudes, behavior, and well-being among salaried workers. The project has consisted in a longitudinal data collection among white-collar workers in four Swedish organizations. Documentation on the procedure, samples, and questionnaire items is presented in the present technical report, along with measurement properties and descriptive statistics at both time points for the scales used. The results indicate that the measures are for the most part satisfactory, and the report provides a solid basis for future research on the data collected in this project.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report data collection, measures, working life

**Referens:**

**Abstract:**
This book contributes to the understanding of contemporary working life, and how recent changes have affected employees’ work climate, attitudes, and well-being. Contemporary working life has been associated with more autonomy and varied work tasks, and increased opportunities to shape their own competencies, but also new and less clearly defined tasks and demands, increasing difficulty to limit work to traditional working hours, and conflict between work and family life. The chapters in the book collectively describe and discuss the current state of working life as well as positive and negative consequences of current phenomena, all from the perspective of the employees. The book also brings new research in to the light of traditional theoretical frameworks, as well as discusses developing theoretical frameworks suited to describe contemporary working life phenomena. The book centers on employee reactions but brings up organizational strategies to help individuals cope and fare better in the contemporary working life.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) working life
Abstract:
The general category of factors labeled job stress has been associated with a number of negative outcomes, such as health complaints, as well as negative attitudes and behaviors. The exact nature of the particular stressors may vary in different studies, but individuals who are exposed to different stressors generally report lower well-being and symptoms of ill-health and depression.

Depression has been reported as a consequence of job stress in several studies, and there are indications of reverse causation, in that depression has been found to influence perceptions of work stressors, thus actually exacerbating the experience of negative conditions at work. Moreover, levels of depression have been found to be higher among women, and women tend to be more likely to experience depressive episodes. Fewer studies have tested whether the link between job stressors and depression is stronger among women as compared to men. Based on this, the present study investigates the relationship between work stressors and depression, and potential gender differences in this relationship, as well as testing a longitudinal design. In order to investigate the whether the strengths of the relationships between work stressors and depression vary between women and men by a multiple group comparison using structural equation modeling.

Wave 1 of the data collection was completed during February 2005. Questionnaires were sent out to the home addresses of all employees at an accounting firm with branches all over Sweden, and 250 filled out and returned their questionnaires for a response rate of 86%. Women comprised 50% of the sample, and the mean age was 42 years (SD=10). Wave 2 data will be collected in January 2006.

The preliminary results indicate that work stressors predict depression similarly among women as compared to men, implying that explanatory models for depression hold for both groups, at least when pertaining to work stressors. The results also indicate that work stressors explain a larger variance of the depression scores than indicated by previous research. The results indicate that depression may be partly prevented by improving the work situation. When expanded with tests for reverse causality and control for initial values, the study will be able to shed light on gender differences in the development of depressive symptoms over time as well, and have implications for helping individuals cope with depression at work.
individuals were non-demented, and the groups were matched on demographic variables and cognitive performance. The results showed a decline in fractional anisotropy, a marker for white-matter integrity, in the posterior corpus callosum of ε4 carriers compared to non-carriers. Additional sites of altered white-matter integrity included the medial temporal lobe.

Conclusions: Although the mechanism underlying vulnerability of white matter tracts in APOE ε4 carriers is still unknown, our findings suggest that increased genetic risk for developing AD is associated with changes in microscopic white-matter integrity well before the onset of dementia.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, genetics, brain imaging


**Abstract:** To explore neural correlates of cognitive decline in aging, we used longitudinal behavioral data to identify two groups of older adults (n = 40) that differed with regard to whether their performance on tests of episodic memory remained stable or declined over a decade. Analysis of structural and diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) revealed a heterogeneous set of differences associated with cognitive decline. Manual tracing of hippocampal volume showed significant reduction in those older adults with a declining memory performance as did DTI-measured fractional anisotropy in the anterior corpus callosum. Functional magnetic resonance imaging during incidental episodic encoding revealed increased activation in left prefrontal cortex for both groups and additional right prefrontal activation for the elderly subjects with the greatest decline in memory performance. Moreover, mean DTI measures in the anterior corpus callosum correlated negatively with activation in right prefrontal cortex. These results demonstrate that cognitive decline is associated with differences in the structure as well as function of the aging brain, and suggest that increased activation is either caused by structural disruption or is a compensatory response to such disruption.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal aging, hippocampus, memory


**Abstract:** This chapter discusses the psychosocial situation for deaf children with cochlear implants from multiple perspectives: the parents’ perspective, the teachers’ perspective, and the children’s perspective. It considers results from international research and a recent Swedish longitudinal study that (a) indicate problems if communication and education for children with implants is based only on speech and (b) suggest that a cochlear implant cannot replace using sign language, but it can facilitate everyday life in hearing families.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) deaf, children, cochlea implant, psychosocial, development


**Abstract:** Beteendets ABC är en grundbok i klinisk inlärningspsykologi och fungerar som en introduktionstext till modern beteendeterapi. Den presenterar både klassiska principer för inlärning och nyare tankegångar, särskilt vad gäller människligt språk och kognition. Alt sätts i in ett kliniskt perspektiv med särskilt fokus på inleddning och bedömning. Genom att våva in kliniska fall ger boken en konkret framställning av en inlärningspsykologiskt föranledad psykoterapi.

Boken är avsedd för grundläggande utbildningar inom psykoterapi, klinisk psykologi och psykiatri men vänder sig också till yrkesverksamma inom psykiatri och relaterade vårdområden.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) beteendeterapi, klinisk inlärningspsykologi, psykoterapi


**Abstract:** Different aspects of change were examined in 62 patients who fulfilled the DSM-IV criteria for a primary diagnosis of panic disorder with agoraphobia of moderate to severe magnitude, and who were treated with 16 sessions of behavioral therapy. The treatment resulted in substantial effects on panic attacks and agoraphobic avoidance. Panic-free status only differentiated the patients regarding mood at pre- and post-treatment. Changes in panic and avoidance were related to each other, but change in avoidance was more related to change in negative affect. Change in quality of life (QOL) was also more associated with change in avoidance at post-treatment. At follow-up change in QOL was more related to change in panic than change in avoidance.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal DSM-IV, panic disorder


**Abstract:** Fifty-nine patients that fulfilled DSM-IV criteria for a primary diagnosis of panic disorder with agoraphobia of...
moderate to severe magnitude were treated with 16 sessions of behavioural therapy. The study investigated the relationship between therapists' and clients' perception of each other, working alliance and outcome. There was initially a low correspondence between therapist and client perceptions, but a growing consensus during treatment. This was most pronounced regarding high ratings of therapist qualities and the perception of the client as attractive. Clients' perceptions showed virtually zero correlation with outcome, regardless of time. Therapist perception of client as showing active participation and goal direction, yielded positive correlations with outcome at post-treatment and follow-up, from session 4 and through the treatment. No significant relation between working alliance and outcome were found, apart from the fact that those who improved during follow-up rated the alliance significantly higher than those who remained not improved.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal panic disorder, agoraphobia, behavioural therapy

**Referens:**

**Abstract:**
This study examines the impact of health education on prevalence of and expenditure on treatment of self-reported arthritis-related illness among elderly persons in rural Bangladesh. An intervention study was conducted, including 1135 elderly persons (760 years) from eight randomly selected villages, four each of an intervention and a control area. The analyses include 839 elderly persons who participated in both pre- and post-intervention surveys (Intervention area: n=425; Control area: n=414). Participants of the intervention area were further categorized as compliant (n=315) and non-compliant (n=110) based on adherence to the intervention instructions. The intervention that lasted for fifteen months comprised home-based physical exercise, dietary instructions and other aspects of management. Results show that although there was no significant difference in self-reported arthritis-related illness between the compliant and non-compliant groups at baseline, it was significantly lower in the compliant group (71%) at post-intervention compared to the non-compliant (81%). Related monthly expenditure on treatment was significantly reduced in the compliant group (from Taka 104 to Taka 52) but not in the other two groups. Logistic regressions further showed that the control group had a higher probability of increased treatment-related expenditure compared to the compliant group (OR: 2.0, 95% CI 1.4-2.8).

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal intervention, arthritis, Bangladesh

**Referens:**

**Abstract:**
Repetitive and monotonous work is frequently associated with neck and shoulder pain and negative psychosocial factors inducing stress reactions. The present thesis concerns the relations between psychophysiological and subjective stress reactions, muscle activity measured by surface electromyography (SEMG) in the trapezius muscle, and neck and shoulder pain in women performing repetitive and monotonous work.

In Study I cardiovascular and subjective stress reactions were investigated during computer work in a laboratory setting. The findings indicated that heart rate variability is a more sensitive and selective measure of mental stress compared with blood pressure recordings.

Study II explored the relations between stress reactions and muscle activity during supermarket work. The results showed that perceived negative stress reactions may have a specific influence on muscle activity in the neck and shoulder region, which can be of importance for work-related musculoskeletal disorders in repetitive and monotonous work.

In Study III the association between SEMG activity patterns and neck and shoulder pain was investigated during cash register work. It was found that pain-afflicted women had a different muscle activation pattern (more static, more co-contraction, less muscle rest) compared with pain-free women.

Study IV was a follow-up study evaluating the introduction of job rotation among female cashiers. The results indicated positive effects on diastolic blood pressure, muscle activity, and partly on neck and shoulder pain, although perceived stress was unchanged. It was concluded that job rotation seems to have a limited effect on chronic neck and shoulder pain, but may be an effective preventive measure. The empirical findings are particularly relevant for women who, compared with men, more often perform repetitive and monotonous work and are also more often affected by neck and shoulder pain.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Dissertation repetitive and monotonous work, women, psychophysiological stress reactions, subjective stress reactions, muscle activity, trapezius muscle, neck and shoulder pain, job rotation

**Referens:**

**Abstract:**
A first purpose of this prospective study was to investigate whether the levels of mental strain and the working conditions included in the Effort-Reward Imbalance (ERI) model and the Demand-Control-Support (DCS) model differed for managers/professionals (n=688) and manual workers (n=343). An additional purpose was to compare the predictive power of the DCS and ERI models in the regard to long-term mental strain for these two groups. The study further aimed to investigate whether combining the models would improve the predictive power of long-term mental strain. Managers/professionals reported higher job demands and intrinsic efforts than did the manual workers, as well as slightly higher mental strain, but also higher decision latitude, social support and rewards from work. Both models explained small albeit significant proportions of variance in mental strain for both occupational groups. A tentative conclusion from the study is that combining the two models may slightly increase the explanatory power to predict work-related mental strain.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal work stress, well-being, stress models

**Referens:**

Aging pattern in WAIS-R Block Design test (BDT) performance were examined cross-sectionally and
**Abstract:**

A comprehensive study on camera position and presentation scale for infrared night vision systems in cars. The 20 participants drove for about 45 min on a rural route in night conditions where four objects were placed in or next to the road. When the camera was mounted on the grill of the car and the scale was true size, the time to collision was the longest. Changing the scale to a wide-angle view of 1:2 decreased this time. When the camera was mounted on the roof of the car, the scale change produced an increase of the time to collision. The results indicate considerable stability of interindividual differences of declarative memory across age and time, suggesting that heterogeneity of the aging processes, at least as reflected at the behavioral level, may be less prominent than is often asserted. This indication of relative lack of diversity needs to be supplemented with careful analyses of differences/changes in variance across age and time.

**Type och Nyckelord:** Journal infrared, human factors, car

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

Principles of an infrared night vision system in cars were studied in a stationary car simulator. The 20 participants drove for about 45 min on a rural route in night conditions where four objects were placed in or next to the road. When the camera was mounted on the grill of the car and the scale was true size, i.e. 1:1, the time to collision was the longest. Changing the scale to a wide-angle view of 1:2 decreased this time. When the camera was mounted on the roof of the car, the scale change produced an increase of the time to collision.

**Type och Nyckelord:** Journal infrared, human factors, car

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal infrared, human factors, car

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

Principles of an infrared night vision system in cars were studied in a stationary car simulator. The 20 participants drove for about 45 min on a rural route in night conditions where four objects were placed in or next to the road. When the camera was mounted on the grill of the car and the scale was true size, i.e. 1:1, the time to collision was the longest. Changing the scale to a wide-angle view of 1:2 decreased this time. When the camera was mounted on the roof of the car, the scale change produced an increase of the time to collision. Principal component analysis indicated that the speed and the lateral position of the car were independent. The relation between time-related changes in cognition and markers of nutrition (body height), family structure (sibsize), and education (years of schooling) were examined. Continuous time-related gains were observed on the cognitive variables across the 15-year period, regardless of age and ability level. The “gender-gaps” on measures of memory and on Block Design were largely time-invariant. The results suggest that the Flynn effect is a cohort effect, with gains up to nearly one standard deviation unit across the 1909 to 1969 birth cohorts. Differences in educational attainment appear to be the major factor. Height and sibsize, in addition, predicted a minor portion of the time-related variance, suggesting that a full account of Flynn effects needs to consider multiple factors. Their relative contribution to secular gains in cognitive performance likely depends on which ability factors and socio-cultural and historical contexts are considered.

**Type och Nyckelord:** Journal Flynn effect, cohort, memory, visuospatial ability

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

Major characteristics of the Betula study on memory, health, and aging (Nilsson et al., 1997, 2004) were presented. In addition, reliability and stability coefficients (5 and 10 years) were computed for individual measures of episodic memory and semantic memory (and for Block Design and MMSE) and for unit-weighted composites (min. n = 1000, 830, and 653 for T1, T2, and T3). Estimate reliabilities ranged from .42 to .88 overall. Stability coefficients were substantial at the composite level (r = .77-.83) and did not differ for younger (35-55 years) and older adults (60-80 years). Finally, the stability coefficients decreased minimally over retest intervals, regardless of age. Together, the results indicate considerable stability of interindividual differences of declarative memory across age and time, suggesting that heterogeneity of the aging processes, at least as reflected at the behavioral level, may be less prominent than is often asserted. This indication of relative lack of diversity needs to be supplemented with careful analyses of differences/changes in variance across age and time.

**Type och Nyckelord:** Journal episodic memory, semantic, memory, aging, reliability, stability coefficients

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

To estimate Flynn effects (time-lag gains) on forms of declarative memory (episodic, semantic) and visuospatial ability (Block Design) adult samples (35-80 years), assessed on either of four measurement occasions (1989, 1994, 1999, 2004; n = 2974), were compared. It is suggested that the Flynn effect is a cohort effect, with gains up to nearly one standard deviation unit across the 1909 to 1969 birth cohorts. Differences in educational attainment appear to be the major factor. Height and sibsize, in addition, predicted a minor portion of the time-related variance, suggesting that a full account of Flynn effects needs to consider multiple factors. Their relative contribution to secular gains in cognitive performance likely depends on which ability factors and socio-cultural and historical contexts are considered.

**Type och Nyckelord:** Journal Flynn effect, cohort, memory, visuospatial ability

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

This chapter treats the former Norwegian Petroleum Directorate NPD in 2003, at that time an organization not yet settled after a period of organizational change. We attempt to model Safety management in NPD according to important themes from the general system theoretic framework presented in this volume. The analysis was based on publicly available documents about NPD. The results include several themes with implications for safety management related to important aspects of the system theoretic framework described by Svenson in a preceding chapter, such as the system structure, safety threats, and information management and feedback. A brief background to the Norwegian petroleum activities from both a historical and a societal perspective is also presented.

**Type och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) oil industry, regulatory, off-shore oil industry

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

Major characteristics of the Betula study on memory, health, and aging (Nilsson et al., 1997, 2004) were presented. In addition, reliability and stability coefficients (5 and 10 years) were computed for individual measures of episodic memory and semantic memory (and for Block Design and MMSE) and for unit-weighted composites (min. n = 1000, 830, and 653 for T1, T2, and T3). Estimate reliabilities ranged from .42 to .88 overall. Stability coefficients were substantial at the composite level (r = .77-.83) and did not differ for younger (35-55 years) and older adults (60-80 years). Finally, the stability coefficients decreased minimally over retest intervals, regardless of age. Together, the results indicate considerable stability of interindividual differences of declarative memory across age and time, suggesting that heterogeneity of the aging processes, at least as reflected at the behavioral level, may be less prominent than is often asserted. This indication of relative lack of diversity needs to be supplemented with careful analyses of differences/changes in variance across age and time.

**Type och Nyckelord:** Journal episodic memory, semantic, memory, aging, reliability, stability coefficients

**Referens:**


**Abstract:**

To estimate Flynn effects (time-lag gains) on forms of declarative memory (episodic, semantic) and visuospatial ability (Block Design) adult samples (35-80 years), assessed on either of four measurement occasions (1989, 1994, 1999, 2004; n = 2974), were compared. It is suggested that the Flynn effect is a cohort effect, with gains up to nearly one standard deviation unit across the 1909 to 1969 birth cohorts. Differences in educational attainment appear to be the major factor. Height and sibsize, in addition, predicted a minor portion of the time-related variance, suggesting that a full account of Flynn effects needs to consider multiple factors. Their relative contribution to secular gains in cognitive performance likely depends on which ability factors and socio-cultural and historical contexts are considered.
Referens:

Abstract:
This study uses data for the main group of the longitudinal research program Individual Development and Adaptation. About 1000 men and women were studied at age 48 and 43, respectively, and the participation rate was high (82% and 89%, respectively). In this report, general and area-specific subjective well-being (SWB) are compared between genders. No significant mean differences were found. The focus is on gender differences in the relationships between general and area-specific SWB. Generally speaking, the relationships were fairly strong and strongest between general SWB and satisfaction with family life. The relationship between extrinsic job satisfaction and general SWB was stronger for men than for women while the relationship between general SWB and satisfaction with the partner relation was stronger for women than for men.

Typ och Nyckelord: Report subjective well-being, gender, life satisfaction

Referens:

Abstract:
Background: There are different research approaches regarding the causes and possible overrepresentation of dyslexia in criminals. One approach focuses on sociological explanations such as under-stimulation at home, while another focuses on the importance of cognitive neurobiological dysfunctions. In several studies, poor memory for digits and poor verbal learning ability have been found in non-criminal dyslexics.

Aim: To compare memory performance in two groups of dyslexics, namely, juvenile delinquents and junior college students, in order to discuss their dyslexic problems in the light of sociocultural and cognitive neurobiological approaches.

Participants: Two groups of male adolescent dyslexics: 11 juvenile delinquents (mean age 18.55 years, SD = 2.07), all of them convicted for severe offences, and 11 junior college students (mean age 17.09 years, SD = 0.83).

Results: Matched-samples t-tests indicate that there is no difference in memory performance between the two different groups of dyslexics, which supports the accuracy of the diagnoses of dyslexia in the group of juvenile delinquents.

Conclusions: The present results show that the memory performance of dyslexic juvenile delinquents does not differ from that of dyslexic junior college students. A sociocultural approach, therefore, cannot plausibly explain the high prevalence of reading and writing difficulties among juvenile delinquents.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal juvenile delinquents, dyslexia, memory performance

Referens:

Abstract:
It is known that offenders with immigrant backgrounds are over-represented in criminal as well as forensic psychiatric populations and that the prevalence of dyslexia among prisoners with Swedish as a native language is much higher than in the general population in Sweden. The aim of the present study was to describe dyslexia in a sample of 23 male offenders with immigrant backgrounds undergoing a forensic psychiatric investigation with the objective to discuss the appropriateness of a commonly used assessment procedure in accordance with DSM-IV. Dyslexia was diagnosed individually; the participants took reading and writing tests, as well as intelligence and neuropsychological tests. Nine out of 23 participants (39%) were diagnosed as having dyslexia. Thus, dyslexia seems to be common among male offenders with immigrant backgrounds undergoing FPI, and for that reason it is important to investigate their reading and writing abilities. Dyslexia is regarded as a functional impairment in Sweden, and therefore all offenders with dyslexia undergoing a forensic psychiatric investigation, irrespective of their background, should receive help of legal procedure, for example their crime files and police investigation documents should be read to them. We conclude that in addition to the criteria in DSM-IV the assessment procedure should be extended with phonological tests.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal dyslexia, immigrant background, forensic psychiatric investigation

Referens:
Abstract: The engagement mode (EM) model describes how an IT user (subject) engages in an activity with an object in a certain mode. The model specifies five engagement modes (Enjoying/Acceptance, Ambition/Curiosity, Avoidance/Hesitation, Frustration/Anxiety, and Efficiency/Productivity), which are characterized on three dimensions (evaluation of object, focus of motivation). Using questionnaire data from 290 participants, we extended previous empirical support for the model as described in the model's relationship to flow experience. In addition, it was found that autonomy, controlled and impersonal orientation in conjunction with socio-demographic variables differentiated among specific engagement modes and flow experience. We conclude that the EM-model, flow experience, and causality orientation theories provide a uniform framework for understanding how people adapt to information technology.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal, engagement modes, flow experience, information technology


Abstract: The older population is increasing, as is life expectancy. Technical devices are becoming more widespread and used for many everyday tasks. Knowledge about new technology is important to remain an active and independent part of the society. However, if an older user group should have equal access to this technology, new demands will be placed on the design of interfaces and devices. With respect to old users it is and will be important to develop technical devices and interfaces that take the age-related decline in physical and cognitive abilities into account. The aim of this work was to investigate to what extent the age-related cognitive decline affects performance on different computer-related tasks and the use of different interfaces. With respect to the use of computer interfaces, two studies were conducted. In the first study, the information was presented with a hierarchical structure. In the second study the information was presented as a 3D-environment, and it was also investigated how an overview map could support navigation. The third study examined the age-related cognitive decline in the use of a small mobile phone display with a hierarchical information structure. The results from the studies showed that the most pronounced age-related difference was found in the use of the 3D-environment. Within this environment, prior experience was found to have the largest impact on the hierarchical information. Regarding the hierarchical information, participants seemed to have a larger impact on performance of easy tasks, while age and cognitive abilities had a larger impact on performance of more complex tasks. With respect to navigation aids, the overview map in the 3D-environment did not reduce the age-differences; however, it contributed to a better perceived orientation and reduced the feeling of being lost.

Typ och Nyckelord: Dissertation, ageing, cognition, navigation, computers, internet, mobile phones, interface design


Abstract: In this study 11 patients with mild Alzheimer's disease (AD) were treated with the cholinesterase inhibitor rivastigmine (mean dose 8.6 ± 1.3 mg) for 12 months and underwent positron emission tomography (PET) studies of cerebral glucose metabolism (CMRglc) and neuropsychological testing at baseline and after 12 months. An untreated group of 10 AD patients served as control group. While the untreated AD patients showed a significant decline of CMRglc in the temporo-parietal and frontal cortical regions after 12 months follow-up the rivastigmine-treated patients showed no decline in CMRglc in corresponding cortical brain regions. Furthermore, a significant dose-related increase in CMRglc was recorded in the right frontal association region after 12 months rivastigmine treatment. A positive correlation was observed between changes in CMRglc and several cognitive tests in patients receiving higher doses (10.5–12 mg) of rivastigmine. These results suggest a stabilization effect of rivastigmine on CMRglc in mild AD patients receiving long-term rivastigmine treatment.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal, cerebral glucose metabolism, rivastigmine, Alzheimer's disease


Abstract: The APOE gene is a determinant for the body's transportation of cholesterol. APOE status, involving any combination of allele e4, is also a known risk factor for developing vascular disorders and, although disputed, has a minor impact on cognitive functioning. Recent research have found that APOE e4 status might also act as a vulnerability factor, and that the combination of APOE e4 and certain diseases can cause a larger than expected impairment in cognitive functioning. Further, the impact of vascular health on cognitive functioning is well documented, and a main mechanism for this is variation in levels of cholesterol. The present study, which is based on data from the Betula project, examines how the interactions of APOE and vascular health (levels of cholesterol, triglycerides and blood pressure) influences performance on memory, verbal and visuospatial tasks. The results are also discussed in the perspective of age and gender differences in cognitive functioning.

Typ och Nyckelord: Proceedings, APOE, vascular health, cognition

**Abstract:** The present series of studies investigate possible explanations for the lack of female managers. The first study resulted in a categorisation scheme of characteristics associated with good, bad, female and male management, to a large degree pertaining to communion and agency. In a second study, student participants evaluated women more highly, but believed that women meet with more difficulties than men. Concurrently, preliminary data (n=80) from a study validating a Swedish translation of the Ambivalent Sexism Inventory (ASI, Glick & Fiske, 1996) indicate that both men and women dissociate themselves from sexist ideas. Interestingly, women disagreed to a greater extent with Benevolent items than Hostile items. A suggested link between system justification and the belief in complementary gender stereotypes (e.g., Glick & Fiske, 1997, 2001) could not be confirmed. Further investigation of these aspects will take place, both in qualitative and quantitative studies, in order to understand why women do not rise to the top, while good management and female leadership both are described in many communal terms.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings gender, role congruity, management stereotypes


**Abstract:** The present study sought to understand the lack of corporate female managers by investigating management stereotypes. Participants from different settings answered open-ended questions on good, bad, female and male management. A qualitative categorisation process resulted in a coding scheme and examples of items used in the second phase. Ideas of good management entailed many stereotypically feminine aspects. However, participants’ open-ended responses often entailed comparisons between women and men, implying a norm of men as managers. Participants in the quantitative study had a more positive view of female than male managers. They strongly opposed the idea that female managers were less competent, but believed that women meet with more difficulties as managers than men. There was also a tendency for women to adhere more strongly to these views, which is interpreted as social identity concerns relating to gender.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings gender stereotypes, role congruity, social identity


**Abstract:** The present study sought to understand the lack of corporate female managers by investigating management stereotypes. In a first step, participants from different settings answered open-ended questions on good, bad, female and male management. A qualitative categorisation process resulted in a coding scheme and examples of items used in the second phase. Student participants indicated degree of agreement on items reflecting the categories extracted previously. Half the participants answered a particular item concerning male managers, and the other half an item concerning female managers. In all item concerning female managers, which asked questions on good, bad, male and female management. A qualitative categorisation process resulted in a coding scheme and examples of items used in the second phase. Student participants indicated degree of agreement on items reflecting the categories extracted previously. Half the participants answered a particular item concerning male managers, and the other half an item concerning female managers. In all item concerning female managers were evaluated as more feminine and feminine aspects. However, participants’ open-ended responses often entailed comparisons between women and men, implying a norm of men as managers. Participants in the quantitative study had a more positive view of female than male managers. They strongly opposed the idea that female managers would be less competent, but believed that women meet with more difficulties as managers than men. There was also a tendency for women to adhere more strongly to these views, which is interpreted as social identity concerns relating to gender.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings management stereotypes, gender


**Abstract:** The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effects of two different admission procedures (high school grades/scholastic aptitude test (SAT) versus high school grades/SAT + interview) to a program in professional psychology on students' and supervisors' experiences of the group climate in psychotherapy supervision groups during an eighteen-month clinical practicum. A self-rating scale was used to measure experiences of group climate in group supervision in psychotherapy was used. The results showed that students who were admitted based on the alternative admission procedure reported that their supervision groups had a more beneficial climate compared to those who were admitted based on high school grades/SAT. The evaluation suggested that admission via interviews together with high school grades/SAT is a good alternative to traditional admission procedures.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal admission procedure, psychotherapy supervision, group climate


**Abstract:** Increased risk of dementia following mild head injury for carriers but not for non-carriers of the APOE ε4 allele. *International Psychogeriatrics.*

**Typ och Nyckelord:** *Increased risk of dementia following mild head injury for carriers but not for non-carriers of the APOE ε4 allele.* *International Psychogeriatrics.*


**Abstract:** Increased risk of dementia following mild head injury for carriers but not for non-carriers of the APOE ε4 allele. *International Psychogeriatrics.*

**Typ och Nyckelord:** *Increased risk of dementia following mild head injury for carriers but not for non-carriers of the APOE ε4 allele.* *International Psychogeriatrics.*
population-based study of aging, memory, and health. The study included 543 participants in the age range 40-85 years, free of dementia at baseline, who were followed-up within a 5-year interval. Dementia was classified using the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Criteria. Information of previous head injury was done through screening of the participants' answers to health questionnaires both at baseline and at following test occasions. We found that subjects with head injury but without APOE ε4 had no increased risk of dementia. Subjects with APOE ε4 had elevated risk and those with both APOE ε4 and head injury had the highest risk (OR = 5.2). This study confirms that APOE ε4 constitutes a risk factor of dementia, that mild injury in isolation does not increase the risk, but that head injury in combination with the APOE ε4 lead to increased risk of dementia.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory representation, decision, individual differences


**Abstract:** The purpose of this study was to provide a framework for studies of safety management based on a systems approach. Safety management is considered a process, in which, industries, societal representatives and the public interact in finding a balance between the benefits, costs and risks of products, activities and processes. The purpose of the chapter is to provide a framework based on a system perspective that is general enough for application in different approaches to safety management. A system theoretic perspective supports a safety manager in his/her analysis of and work in an organization.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) system theory, living systems, feedback


**Abstract:** This chapter describes the safety feedback from event reporting systems. The companies who were investigated in more detail (SAS and Danderyd Hospital Company) and also the corresponding safety regulation authorities were quite open about their own internal reporting systems and provided valuable information. The present chapter covers company internal event reporting systems and external reporting systems to the societal authorities.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) incident reports, aviation, health care


**Abstract:** The purpose of this study was to provide a framework for studies of safety management based on a systems approach. Safety management is considered a process, in which, industries, societal representatives and the public interact in finding a balance between the benefits, costs and risks of products, activities and processes. The purpose of the chapter is to provide a framework based on a system perspective that is general enough for application in different approaches to safety management. A system theoretic perspective supports a safety manager in his/her analysis of and work in an organization.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report kärnkraftsindustrin, "Kategori 2 händelse", rapportering RO-rapporteringsomständigheter

**Referens:** Svenson, O., Salo, I., & van de Loo, K. (in press). Memories of real-life decisions. Memory.

**Abstract:** Three studies investigated decision makers' memory representations of choice alternatives in most important real-life decisions. In study 1, each participant recalled the most important decision that she or he had ever made and rated to what degree a number of characteristics could describe the decisions. In study 2, the participants were asked to think about an important decision and then describe it in detail. In study 3, the memory representations of decisions of a group of action-oriented participants were compared with those of a group of state-oriented participants (Kuhl, 1983). Characteristics related to standard decision theory like consequences, values and likelihood had high ratings of applicability as well as affect/feeling. When testing the applicability of a circumplex model, the fuzzy-trace theory of memory and differences between state- and action-oriented decision makers we found (1) that there was no support for the circumplex model of emotions. Instead, an important decision problem was characterized by both positive and negative affect/emotion and thus, a bipolar mapping was found inadequate, (2) that a comparison of abstract and concrete aspects showed that the abstract characteristics scored higher thereby supporting the fuzzy-trace theory, and (3) that the prediction that action-oriented participants would score higher than state-oriented participants on the characteristic of activity was not supported. However, state-oriented decision makers rated passivity higher than action-oriented decision makers for the important decision of leaving a partner. State-oriented decision makers used perceptual/cognitive scenario representations to a greater extent than action-oriented participants. Finally, it was stressed that in the development of decision theories it is essential to find theoretical representations as close as possible to how decision makers themselves represent the decisions. The method used in this contribution is based on the role of memory in decision making and gives further insights into how important real-life decisions are represented by different decision makers.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory representation, decision, individual differences
The present study aims to shed light on the issue of causality in the relationship between job insecurity and various potential outcomes. The relation of commitment to various potential outcomes will also be highlighted. The presentation will also point out some future challenges.

Abstract:
Over the past decades, the concept of work commitment has attracted empirical research attention both as an antecedent and as a consequence of other work-related variables. Unfortunately, however, the rising interest in commitment as a phenomenon and the growth of commitment related concepts have not been accompanied by careful theoretical consideration of its conceptual domain. An important issue in terms of work commitment concerns the distinction between various foci of commitment. Employees can commit themselves, for instance, to the organization, the job itself, their coworkers, and the union. This important issue concerns the dimensionality of commitment. A striking characteristic of research on the nature of commitment is that various fundamental dimensions of commitment are sometimes assigned different labels, thus increasing the risk of concept redundancy. This presentation will discuss similarities and differences between various forms of work motivation and commitment, as well as between different dimensions of commitment, in order to arrive at a clearer understanding of the fundamentals of commitment. Since a crucial issue in commitment research concerns the processes through which the different aspects of commitment are assumed to develop, the presentation will also summarize research evidence on the antecedents of commitment.

References:

Abstract:
In a general sense measurement could be described as the assignment of numbers to objects and events according to certain rules. This chapter discusses the problem that the gap between theoretical constructs and empirical indicators presents to measurement. The chapter starts with an overview of data sources in quantitative measurement. This is followed by a section which presents the basics of measurement theory. The discussion is then elaborated in one section about reliability (how consistent are the measurements?) and one about validity (do the empirical measurements capture what they are intended to measure?). The chapter aims to contribute to an increased awareness that observed associations between observed variables cannot be used without caution to draw inferences about relationships between theoretical constructs. The chapter also aims to illustrate that indicators of different theoretical phenomena may present certain possibilities of avoiding some of the problems of measurement. The discussion is mainly based on reasoning and examples from classical measurement theory, as well as measurement theory adapted to self-reports measures.

References:

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) research design, sampling, causal inferences

Abstract:
Organizations in most industrialized countries have engaged in various adaptive strategies in order to remain competitive in a gradually more unpredictable environment. Restructurings, privatizations, mergers and acquisitions have become more frequent, and typically involve personnel reductions through layoffs, offers of early retirement, and increased utilization of subcontracted workers. Although these reorganizations differ in many ways, they usually have at least one thing in common – they leave the workforce permeated with worries regarding the future. Job insecurity can be defined as a perceptual phenomenon, reflecting the fear of involuntary job loss. In the literature, job insecurity is often considered a classical work stressor, and it has been linked to several negative outcomes. A growing number of studies have documented that job insecurity is related to job dissatisfaction, impaired organizational commitment, increased turnover intention, and physical as well as mental health complaints. There are also indications that the worry of job loss may be related to factors such as impaired compliance with safety procedures, ischemic heart disease occurrence, and absenteeism. However, whereas previous research has concluded that job insecurity has psychological, behavioral as well as health-related consequences, the causal inferences are less clear. The aim of the present study is to shed light on the issue of causality in the relationship between job insecurity and a potential outcome that has attracted comparatively limited research attention – absenteeism. Drawing upon the literature on work stress, it is reasonable to suggest that job insecurity may lead to increased absenteeism from work. Equally plausible, however, would be to assume that individuals with high absenteeism records would feel more at risk in organizations where there is a threat of layoffs. The study also aims at ruling out the yet alternative hypothesis that both job insecurity and absenteeism are caused by third variables, by controlling for factors such as seniority and well-being. Longitudinal data for this study are currently being collected using mail questionnaires among white-collar workers in a Swedish organization. The second wave of

References:

Abstract:

References:

Abstract:
In a general sense measurement could be described as the assignment of numbers to objects and events according to certain rules. This chapter discusses the problem that the gap between theoretical constructs and empirical indicators presents to measurement. The chapter starts with an overview of data sources in quantitative measurement. This is followed by a section which presents the basics of measurement theory. The discussion is then elaborated in one section about reliability (how consistent are the measurements?) and one about validity (do the empirical measurements capture what they are intended to measure?). The chapter aims to contribute to an increased awareness that observed associations between observed variables cannot be used without caution to draw inferences about relationships between theoretical constructs. The chapter also aims to illustrate that indicators of different theoretical phenomena may present certain possibilities of avoiding some of the problems of measurement. The discussion is mainly based on reasoning and examples from classical measurement theory, as well as measurement theory adapted to self-reports measures.

References:

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) research design, sampling, causal inferences

References:

Abstract:
In a general sense measurement could be described as the assignment of numbers to objects and events according to certain rules. This chapter discusses the problem that the gap between theoretical constructs and empirical indicators presents to measurement. The chapter starts with an overview of data sources in quantitative measurement. This is followed by a section which presents the basics of measurement theory. The discussion is then elaborated in one section about reliability (how consistent are the measurements?) and one about validity (do the empirical measurements capture what they are intended to measure?). The chapter aims to contribute to an increased awareness that observed associations between observed variables cannot be used without caution to draw inferences about relationships between theoretical constructs. The chapter also aims to illustrate that indicators of different theoretical phenomena may present certain possibilities of avoiding some of the problems of measurement. The discussion is mainly based on reasoning and examples from classical measurement theory, as well as measurement theory adapted to self-reports measures.

References:

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) research design, sampling, causal inferences

References:

Abstract:
In a general sense measurement could be described as the assignment of numbers to objects and events according to certain rules. This chapter discusses the problem that the gap between theoretical constructs and empirical indicators presents to measurement. The chapter starts with an overview of data sources in quantitative measurement. This is followed by a section which presents the basics of measurement theory. The discussion is then elaborated in one section about reliability (how consistent are the measurements?) and one about validity (do the empirical measurements capture what they are intended to measure?). The chapter aims to contribute to an increased awareness that observed associations between observed variables cannot be used without caution to draw inferences about relationships between theoretical constructs. The chapter also aims to illustrate that indicators of different theoretical phenomena may present certain possibilities of avoiding some of the problems of measurement. The discussion is mainly based on reasoning and examples from classical measurement theory, as well as measurement theory adapted to self-reports measures.

References:

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) research design, sampling, causal inferences

References:

Abstract:
In a general sense measurement could be described as the assignment of numbers to objects and events according to certain rules. This chapter discusses the problem that the gap between theoretical constructs and empirical indicators presents to measurement. The chapter starts with an overview of data sources in quantitative measurement. This is followed by a section which presents the basics of measurement theory. The discussion is then elaborated in one section about reliability (how consistent are the measurements?) and one about validity (do the empirical measurements capture what they are intended to measure?). The chapter aims to contribute to an increased awareness that observed associations between observed variables cannot be used without caution to draw inferences about relationships between theoretical constructs. The chapter also aims to illustrate that indicators of different theoretical phenomena may present certain possibilities of avoiding some of the problems of measurement. The discussion is mainly based on reasoning and examples from classical measurement theory, as well as measurement theory adapted to self-reports measures.

References:

Typ och Nyckelord: Book (chapter) research design, sampling, causal inferences

References:

Abstract:
In a general sense measurement could be described as the assignment of numbers to objects and events according to certain rules. This chapter discusses the problem that the gap between theoretical constructs and empirical indicators presents to measurement. The chapter starts with an overview of data sources in quantitative measurement. This is followed by a section which presents the basics of measurement theory. The discussion is then elaborated in one section about reliability (how consistent are the measurements?) and one about validity (do the empirical measurements capture what they are intended to measure?). The chapter aims to contribute to an increased awareness that observed associations between observed variables cannot be used without caution to draw inferences about relationships between theoretical constructs. The chapter also aims to illustrate that indicators of different theoretical phenomena may present certain possibilities of avoiding some of the problems of measurement. The discussion is mainly based on reasoning and examples from classical measurement theory, as well as measurement theory adapted to self-reports measures.
data collection, conducted a year after Time 1, is currently being completed. Preliminary analyses based on cross-sectional Time data indicate a positive association between job insecurity and absenteeism. The longitudinal design will make it possible to test various alternative models of causality. Latent variable cross-lagged analysis will contribute to the understanding of the development and consequences of job insecurity by shedding light on the issue of absenteeism in this process.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings job insecurity, absenteeism, work stress

**Referens:**

**Abstract:**
This chapter describes the nature of job insecurity and addresses conceptual as well as methodological issues affecting our understanding of its antecedents and consequences. The literature review suggests that a great deal of theoretical and empirical work is needed to capture the nature of job insecurity, develop psychologically sound measures of the different aspects, and arrive at valid conclusions regarding the effects of insecurity. Job insecurity is defined as a subjectively experienced stressor which may be divided into different dimensions. Experiences of job insecurity originate in both situational and a number of individual factors. Job insecurity perceptions have been consistently related to reactions such as negative work-related attitudes and behaviors, and job-induced stress symptoms. However, despite a few longitudinal studies on the consequences of job insecurity, most research results derive from cross-sectional studies, and a lot of work remains to expand knowledge on how job insecurity contributes to changes in various outcomes. There are also a number of plausible factors that may moderate the relationships between job insecurity and its potential outcomes. These issues need to be addressed in theoretical as well as empirical work in order to improve the understanding of both what job insecurity is and what it may imply for the individual and the organization.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) job insecurity, work stress, employment

**Referens:**

**Abstract:**
This report describes the nature of job insecurity and addresses conceptual as well as methodological issues affecting the understanding of its antecedents and consequences. The literature review suggests that a great deal of theoretical and empirical work is needed to capture the nature of job insecurity, develop psychologically sound measures of the different aspects, and arrive at valid conclusions regarding the effects of insecurity. Job insecurity is defined as a subjectively experienced stressor which may be divided into different dimensions. Experiences of job insecurity originate in both situational and a number of individual factors. Job insecurity perceptions have been consistently related to reactions such as negative work-related attitudes and behaviors, and job-induced stress symptoms. However, despite a few longitudinal studies on the consequences of job insecurity, most research results derive from cross-sectional studies, and a lot of work remains to expand knowledge on how job insecurity contributes to changes in various outcomes. There are also a number of plausible factors that may moderate the relationships between job insecurity and its potential outcomes. These issues need to be addressed in theoretical as well as empirical work in order to improve the understanding of both what job insecurity is and what it may imply for the individual and the organization.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Report job insecurity, work stress, employment

**Referens:**

**Abstract:**
Job insecurity can be defined as a perceptual phenomenon, reflecting the fear of involuntary job loss, and it has been linked to several negative outcomes. Just like for other stressors, these consequences can be classified in three broad categories – psychological, behavioral, and health-related. However, whereas previous research has concluded that job insecurity is associated with negative job attitudes and poor well-being, there is insufficient evidence to draw any causal inferences. Most studies are cross-sectional and therefore unable to control for initial levels of the outcome variables and examine temporal precedence. Only a few studies have explicitly addressed the issue of direction of relation between job insecurity and such outcomes. The aim of the present study is to shed light on the issue of causality in the relationship between job insecurity and a hitherto neglected potential psychological outcome – sense of mastery. Drawing upon the unemployment literature, it is reasonable to suggest that job insecurity may lead to impaired sense of mastery, as reflected in, for instance, impaired self-esteem and reduced confidence in one’s own capacity. Equally plausible, however, would be to assume that a strong sense of mastery serves a protective function. Whether job insecurity, just like unemployment, may lead individuals to lose confidence in their capacity to make a difference is still an unresolved issue. Longitudinal data for this study are currently being collected using mail questionnaires among white-collar workers in a Swedish organization. The time 1 data collection wave was completed in Winter 2004/2005 (response rate: 64%). Preliminary analyses, based on Time 1 data, indicate that job insecurity was negatively related to various indicators of sense of mastery (e.g., self-esteem). The Time 2 data will make it possible to test various alternative models of causality. Latent variable cross-lagged analysis will contribute to the understanding of the development and consequences of job insecurity by shedding light on the issue of sense of mastery in this process.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Proceedings job insecurity, personality, work stress

**Referens:**

**Abstract:**
The present study aimed at comparing participants with and without self reported musculoskeletal pain in a normal population with regard to performance on a range of tests for episodic memory, semantic memory, and other cognitive functions. Differences in performance were used to identify expected differences between the groups, and to see if expected differences were observed. The study showed that participants with pain performed worse on a range of tasks as compared to participants without pain, and that these differences occurred regardless of age. The most robust effects of pain were displayed on tests for vocabulary and construction ability as these were the only effects that remained significant after controlling for years of education and reported depression in separate analyses. When depression and education were
controlled for in the same analysis, even these effects were eliminated suggesting interplay between pain, depressive status, and educational level in the negative effects on cognitive functioning.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal musculoskeletal pain, age, memory


**Abstract:** The present study investigated the relation between level of general cognitive function and the oral reading of irregular words in Swedish. Swedish is an orthographically regular language, so many irregular words are loan words from other languages. A test comprising such words (irregularly spelled words (ISW)) was designed, and tested on a sample of 48 healthy Swedish adults, stratified according to age, gender, and level of education. The results confirmed that the ability to read words that do not follow the regular rules for decoding in Swedish was positively related to general cognitive level. ISW in combination with demographic variables gave a good estimate of general cognitive function and a better estimate than demographic variables alone. Exposure to written and spoken vocabulary during the lifespan may be indexed by ISW performance, for factor analysis suggested that this may constitute a discrete factor contributing to cognitive function.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal ISW, premorbid cognitive function


**Abstract:** This book chapter is in the Routledge International encyclopedia of adolescence. The encyclopedia is a comprehensive socio-cultural survey of the lives of adolescents around the world. In four volumes, the work will explore all aspects of the lives of young people between childhood and adulthood, i.e., between (roughly) age 10 and 25. Coverage will not only stress psycho-pathological issues, but instead will cover a wide range of topics concerning the lives of young people in countries as varied as Iran, India, Sweden, the USA, or Japan. In the present chapter, the following issues are presented about youth in Sweden: period of adolescence, beliefs, gender, the self, family relationships, friends and peer/youth culture, love and sexuality, health risk behaviors, education, work, media, politics and military, as well as issues that may be particularly unique to Sweden.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Book (chapter) adolescence, adolescents, youth culture


**Abstract:** Much research on cognitive competence in normal older adults has documented age and sex differences. We used cross-sectional data from the Victoria Longitudinal Study (n=386; age 61-95 years) to examine how health and biological age influence age and sex differences in cognitive aging. We found evidence for both moderating and mediating influences. Age differences were moderated by health status, such that the negative effects of age were most pronounced among participants of relatively better health. Sex differences were moderated by health and were pronounced among participants reporting comparatively poorer health. Although health mediated a notable amount of age-related cognitive variation, BioAge mediated considerably more variance, even after statistical control for differences in health. A complex pattern emerged for the mediation of sex differences: whereas BioAge accounted for sex-related variation in cognitive performance, health operated to suppress these differences. Overall, both health and BioAge predicted cognitive variation independently of chronological age.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal health, bioage, cognitive aging
Current Concerns in Visual Masking


Abstract: Corticotropin-releasing factor-binding protein (CRF-BP) regulates the availability of free CRF and is a functional candidate gene for affective disorders. Previous research showed an association between polymorphisms in CRF-BP gene and recurrent major depression (MDD) in a Swedish sample. The purpose of the current study was to re-evaluate the previous findings in an extended Swedish sample and in an independent Belgian sample of patients with recurrent MDD and in control samples. In total, 317 patients and 696 control individuals were included. Six single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in CRF-BP gene were genotyped and the haplotype block structure of the gene was assessed. The association between genetic variants and neuro-endocrine function was examined in a small Belgian subgroup with the combined dexamethasone/CRF test. In the Swedish population, there was a trend towards an association between two SNPs and MDD. The subsequent gender analysis showed significant associations of three SNPs (CRF-BPs2 T p = 0.015; CRF-BPs11 T p = 0.005 and CRF-BPs12 C p = 0.030) and haplotype G_T_C_T_C (p = 0.016) with MDD in Swedish males. These results could not be replicated in the Belgian sample. However, in remitted Belgian MDD patients, CRF-BPs12 C and G_T_C_T_C homozygotes showed a significantly higher cortisol output after CRF stimulation. In conclusion, the association between specific genetic CRF-BP variants and MDD may be sexually dimorphic. The influence of the polymorphisms on neuro-endocrine function in MDD needs further investigation.

Journal of corticotropin releasing hormone-binding protein, depression, dexamethasone, gene

Refereces:


Abstract: Corticotropin releasing factor-binding protein (CRF-BP) regulates the availability of free CRF and is a functional candidate gene for affective disorders. The aim of the present study was to examine the association between polymorphisms in CRF-BP gene and bipolar disorder in an isolated Danish population. Hundred and eighty-two patients with bipolar 1 disorder and 333 control individuals from Northern Sweden were included in the study. Five single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and a deletion polymorphism in CRF-BP gene were genotyped. The haplotype block structure of the gene was considered and the expectation maximization algorithm was adopted to estimate the haplotype frequencies. As a result, there were no significant associations of the different polymorphisms in the CRF-BP gene with bipolar disorder. In conclusion, this study in an isolated Swedish population does not support a role for the CRF-BP gene in the vulnerability for bipolar disorder.

Journal corticotropin releasing, factor-binding protein, bipolar disorder, genetics, HPA axis, vulnerability

Refereces:


Abstract: When pictures are masked, people can discriminate among them even though they claim that they are not consciously aware of the pictures. In deciding whether people are actually aware of the pictures, it is debated whether measures based on discrimination ability (objective measures) are preferable to measures of self-reported subjective experience (subjective measures). The present paper discusses commonly used indexes and relates them to contemporary concepts of phenomenal, access, and reflexive consciousness. Because objective and subjective measures capture different aspects of consciousness, their comprehensive use is recommended.

Proceedings consciousness, masking, awareness

Refereces:


Abstract: Because evidence for subliminal perception of fearful faces is mixed, we used event-related fMRI (N = 29) to study activations of amygdala and fusiform gyrus to backward masked fearful, neutral, and scrambled target faces. Scrambled faces served as masks to isolate responses to fearful expressions (fearful vs. neutral) and faces (fearful and neutral vs. scrambled). To manipulate perceptual awareness, targets were masked at four different durations (10, 20, 30, and 60 ms). During scanning, participants responded whether they detected a face. After scanning, participants performed objective tasks to measure their abilities in face detection and fear discrimination at the four target durations. Results showed that perceptual awareness varied substantially over target durations. Only left amygdala (MNI = -28, -4, -24) showed a main effect for fear across target durations. This response to fear was small and varied little over target durations, but was stronger for men and correlated with face detection. In contrast, regions in bilateral amygdala (-16, 2, -16; 28, -4, -18) and fusiform gyrus (-40, -60, -18; 38, -62, -16) showed a main effect for faces across target durations. This response to faces was larger at longer durations and dropped substantially at shorter durations. All areas showed this pattern. Results suggest that responses to fear and faces vary with perceptual awareness and that behavioral indexes of awareness are more sensitive than functional imaging.

Proceedings consciousness, fear, masking
Hannula, Simons, and Cohen advocate several changes for future imaging research of implicit perception. Although it is true that most imaging studies might have inadvertently established subjective unawareness, behavioural researchers do not generally agree that objective measures are more valid measures of awareness. The debate persists because there is no conclusive evidence that either subjective or objective measures satisfy the requirements for a valid index of awareness — that they capture all aspects of conscious processing (exhaustive) but no non-conscious processing (exclusive)7, 8. Because stronger masking is typically required for objective unawareness than subjective unawareness,9 this finding is often interpreted as evidence that subjective measures are affected by response biases10 and, therefore, are less sensitive than objective measures11. However, the principal drawback of objective measures is that they ignore the subjective nature of awareness. That is, because awareness is a subjective experience, it is more relevant to index what people notice subjectively than what they can discriminate objectively.12 In analogy, the experience of pain cannot be indexed in terms of whether people can discriminate stimuli objectively, but whether they experience them subjectively as painful. Therefore, there is no evidence that objective measures fulfill validity requirements of exhaustiveness and exclusiveness better than subjective measures, so the discussion cannot be considered resolved in favour of objective measures. Furthermore, whereas the authors imply that methodological issues will disappear once imaging studies use objective measures, the results of behavioural research suggest that this conclusion is unwarranted. First, even for signal-detection measures, it is unclear what objective measure should be used (for example, face detection versus discrimination). Indeed, if discrimination ability per se is considered proof for awareness, implicit perception (for example, blindsight) is logically impossible. Second, because unawareness is demonstrated by null sensitivity, this procedure attempts to prove the null (absence of awareness), and so depends on power. However, there are no generally accepted criteria (such as number of trials, or alpha level) for determining power. Thus, whereas the authors presented below subjective awareness, participants might have no motivation to perform the task. If so, they might respond randomly, and, as a result, an objective measure would only assess subjective unawareness.13 So, objective measures ignore the subjective nature of awareness and have additional problems.

Until the debate concerning a valid index of awareness is resolved, researchers are advised to adopt an eclectic approach using signal-detection measures to characterize unawareness comprehensively in terms of subjective and objective unawareness.15

Typ och Nyckelord: Pro-Bullying Attitude Scale (PAS) was evaluated in 259 voluntarily recruited male juvenile delinquents in Russia. Exploratory factor analysis gave a two-factor solution: core psychopathic pro-bullying attitudes and future perspectives. The two factors include items assessing the child's pro-bullying attitudes and future perspectives. The validity of the PAS was assessed using correlations with measures of psychopathy, aggression, and future perspectives. The results indicated higher pro-bullying attitudes among high group Ss as compared to low and intermediate groups. The findings suggest that pro-bullying attitudes among incarcerated juvenile delinquents are related to psychopathy, aggression, and future perspectives. The implications of these findings for the assessment and treatment of pro-bullying attitudes among incarcerated juvenile delinquents are discussed.

**Abstract:**
This study investigated (a) the influence of verbal and conceptual processing on the retrieval and phenomenological evaluation of olfactory evoked memories, and (b) whether the experienced qualities of retrieved information are affected by olfactory exposure per se. Seventy-two older adults were randomized into one of three cue conditions (odor-only, name-only, or odor-name) and asked to relate any autobiographical event for the given cue. The results indicate that explicit knowledge of an odor’s name significantly affects the age distribution of memories such that the memory peak in childhood observed for odors-only was attenuated. Also, experiential factors such as pleasantness, and feelings of being brought back in time were lower when odors were presented with their respective names. Olfactory evoked memories were associated with a higher emotional arousal that could not be accounted for by the perceptual stimulation alone. Taken together, the overall pattern of findings suggests that retrieval of olfactory evoked information is sensitive to semantic and conceptual processing, and that odor-evoked representations are more emotional than memories triggered by verbal information.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, autobiographical, odor


**Abstract:**
This study addressed age distributions and experiential qualities of autobiographical memories evoked by different sensory cues. Ninety-three older adults were presented with one of three cue types (i.e., word, picture, or odor) and asked to relate any autobiographical event for the given cue. The main aims were to explore whether: (a) the age distribution of olfactory evoked memories differs from memories cued by words and pictures, and whether (b) the experiential qualities of the evoked memories vary over the different cues. Results showed that autobiographical memories triggered by olfactory information were older than memories associated with verbal and visual information. Specifically, most odor-cued memories were located to the first decade of life (< 10 years), whereas memories associated with verbal and visual cues peaked in early adulthood (11-20 years). Also, odor-evoked memories were associated with stronger feelings of being brought back in time and had been thought of less often as compared with memories evoked by verbal and visual information. This pattern of findings suggests that odor-evoked memories may be different from other memory experiences.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal memory, autobiographical, odor


**Abstract:**
The aim of this article was to examine how people arrived at the decision to divorce. Semi-structured interviews were carried out with twelve couples in which both agreed the relationship was in trouble and at least one partner was considering divorce. We found that initiating informants used cognitive, interactional and preparatory strategies, aiming at reconstructing the mental representation of the partner, the self, the relationship, as well as of the divorce option. Non-initiating partners sometimes used resistance strategies. Results are discussed in terms of dynamics between partners, identity making process and implications for family practice.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal distress, divorce, decision making


**Abstract:**
Aims: Four different measures of sickness absence were related to psychosocial and physical work characteristics in workplaces with high, intermediate, and low sickness absence. The relationships between work characteristics and sickness absence were hypothesized to differ depending the sickness absence measure used.

Methods: Questionnaire data on physical work environment, physical load, support, influence at work, and worry were collected from 1,726 employees at 48 dental clinics in Stockholm, Sweden and were related to registry-based sickness absence obtained at the workplace level. The sickness absence measures included: (1) frequency, (2) one-day absence, (3) overall duration, and (4) duration between 2 and 21 days.

Results: For frequency, significant differences were found for all work characteristics, with poor work characteristics being associated with a high frequency of sickness absence. Considering duration between 2 and 21 days, there were significant differences in support, influence at work and physical work environment; for one-day absence, support, influence at work and physical load differed significantly. Conversely, there were no significant differences for the overall duration measure.

Conclusions: The results show that frequency of sickness absence is most consistently related to work characteristics, that short-time sickness absences have more inconsistent relationships and that relationship with overall duration is lacking. This highlights the need for further differentiation between different sickness absence measures, the behavioral patterns associated with different types of absence and the implication of such processes for prevention and intervention.

**Typ och Nyckelord:** Journal sickness absence, measurement, dentistry


**Abstract:**
Objective: The objective of this study was to investigate the relationships between self-rated recovery from work stress and biologic dysregulation in terms of allostatic load (AL) and individual biomarkers, respectively, in healthy women within the public health care sector.

Methods: Two hundred forty-one women completed self-ratings of recovery and took part in a standardized medical examination, which provided individual biomarkers that were used to compute AL.
Results: Cluster analysis of self-rated recovery resulted in three cluster profiles, including (1) recovered women (n=108), (2) nonrecovered women (n=51), and (3) fatigued women (n=82). Sequential logistic regression analysis showed that the fatigued profile had an increased risk for high AL. In contrast, there was no significant difference in individual biomarkers between recovery profiles.

Conclusions: The findings establish an association between biologic processes and self-rated recovery from work stress, thus supporting the hypothesis that insufficient recovery may result in high AL.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal recovery, allostatic load, women


Abstract: This cross-sectional study was set to investigate the relationships between self-rated recovery from work stress and biological dysregulation in terms of allostatic load and individual biomarkers, respectively. 241 healthy women within the Swedish public health care sector completed self-rated recovery on a standardized online form and blood samples for the determination of 17 individual biomarkers. This study provides support for a focus on cumulative load when investigating the biological pathways of self-rated recovery from work stress. Furthermore, it adds to the research field by clarifying how self-rated recovery from work stress is related to allostatic load in healthy women employed in the public health care sector, which suggests that assessment of self-rated recovery from work could be used to prevent future ill health.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal occupational health, biological dysregulation, recovery profiles


Abstract: Studies of hormone therapy (HT) and cognitive function have yielded conflicting results. The aim of this observational study was to examine the effect of estradiol, via serum verified HT (estradiol, estriol, progesterone) and endogenous estradiol, on 108 healthy postmenopausal women's cognitive performance. The results demonstrated that the 43 HT-users performed at a significantly higher level than non-users on episodic memory tasks and on a verbal fluency task, whereas HT-users and non-users did not differ on tasks assessing semantic memory and spatial visualization. In addition, there was a positive relationship between serum estradiol level and enhanced episodic memory and verbal fluency, independent of age and education. These observational results suggest that HT use may be sufficient to exert small, yet positive effects on female sensitive cognitive tasks. HT compliance and formulation is discussed as confounding factors in previous research.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal estrogen, memory, menopause


Abstract: Androgens have been linked to visuospatial ability. We examined the relationship between serum free testosterone (T) levels and spatial visualization ability in a population-based sample of 450 healthy men between the ages of 35 and 80 years. They were tested on block design and Mini Mental State of Examination (MMSE) draw-a-figure, as well as tasks assessing semantic memory, procedural memory, and verbal fluency. Blood was analyzed for free T and estradiol. Participants were grouped into high or low free T based on age-specific median values. Participants with low free T performed at a significantly higher level than non-users on tasks assessing endogenous estradiol, on 108 healthy postmenopausal women's cognitive performance. The results demonstrated that the 43 HT-users performed at a significantly higher level than non-users on episodic memory tasks and on a verbal fluency task, whereas HT-users and non-users did not differ on tasks assessing semantic memory and spatial visualization. In addition, there was a positive relationship between serum estradiol level and enhanced episodic memory and verbal fluency, independent of age and education. These observational results suggest that HT use may be sufficient to exert small, yet positive effects on female sensitive cognitive tasks. HT compliance and formulation is discussed as confounding factors in previous research.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal memory, testosterone, block design


Abstract: The author examined the relationship between (a) stable sociometric status (rejected, popular, and average popularity) among same-gender class peers at ages 10-11 and (b) peer situation and social adjustment at age 15. Findings revealed that rejected children maintained their lower popularity with same-gender classmates as well as with different-gender peers up to midadolescence, suggesting that low popularity is gender independent. This group of children also perceived their peer situation (index of friendship, loneliness, and popularity) more negatively than children in the average and popular groups. As expected, adolescents of both genders reported most of their peers to be in conventional peer categories, such as school-mates, same-age peers, and classmates. However, the rejected participants reported a smaller number of conventional peers. These findings suggest that exposure to peer rejection during late childhood among same-gender classmates as well as among different-gender classmates may be seen as a negative factor for an individual's future adjustment and development. With the development of sexual maturity during adolescence, negative reactions of both genders increase difficulties in identity formation and self-esteem. Therefore, clinicians working with individuals in late childhood and midadolescence should implement interventions that focus on reducing the impact of peer rejection within late childhood.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal peer status, adjustment, adolescence

Abstract: Stable peer status clusters of rejected, popular, and average girls from ages 10 to 13 were identified and associated to young and middle adulthood adjustment. The study included a representative sample of 445 females from the longitudinal research program Individual Development and Adaptation. Results showed that, by young adulthood, rejected girls were at increased risk for criminal offending and especially alcohol abuse (two and eight times increased risk, respectively). In midlife, popular girls had achieved a more successful vocational career than average girls. However, for most midlife adjustment areas, like social relations and subjective well-being, there were no significant differences between the stable childhood clusters. To test an incidental explanatory model, childhood confounding variables (aggression, withdrawal, academic achievement, and SES) were introduced and explained some of the significant relations.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal adult adjustment, cluster analysis, sociometric peer status


Abstract: In this study, we compared executive functioning in 32 Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) individuals with that of normally aging controls. Cognitive planning tests (Trail Making, Porteus Maze Test, verbal fluency tests) show a group difference favoring the normal controls, but tests for inhibition of prepotent responses (no-go accuracy, two measures of the Stroop effect, and negative priming) failed to uncover a significant group difference. The results indicate that there is no general executive control function impairment in MCI; rather, the deficits found are compatible with the hypothesis that MCI is an accelerated form of normal aging.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal aging, cognition, executive functions


Abstract: Despite the fact that group supervision in psychotherapy appears to be the most frequently used modality in many training institutions (Holmes, Stader, Swaim, Haigler, & deRosset, 1998; Ögren, Jonsson, & Sundin, 2005), relatively few systematic studies of psychotherapy supervision in group have been published. GUT (Group Supervision in Psychotherapy in an Academic Context) is a research project that studies aspects of group supervision in psychotherapy training. The project is performed in collaboration between a number of Swedish universities and university-affiliated institutions. Four questionnaires have been developed: 1) Attained knowledge and skill, 2) Group climate, 3) Supervisor style, 4) Actual and ideal usage of the group format. In this project, data is collected from psychodynamic and cognitive-behavioral supervisors and their supervisees who work at different training institutions and different training levels. The supervisors and supervisees complete self-ratings at three measurement points during a supervision period of 1.5 to 2 years. Up until now, data has been collected during a five-year period (2002 to 2006), and a data-base with data from 150 supervision groups has been developed. Results from this project have been published in a number of articles.

Our main findings of this net-work project is summerized as well as major limitations of this project and its design. Implications for future research is discussed.

Typ och Nyckelord: Report group supervision, psychotherapy, design


Abstract: The major purpose of this study was to examine differences between supervisors’ and novice supervisees’ experience of actual and desired usage of the group format in psychotherapy supervision. Second, differences between supervisors and supervisees who worked with cognitive behavioral and psychodynamic group supervision were examined. The results showed significant differences between the actual and desired usage of the group format. Psychodynamic supervisors and supervisees, to some extent, presented higher wish ratings compared to cognitive behavioral supervisors and supervisees. In conclusion, from a supervisor and supervisee perspective, a more frequent usage of group processes as a teaching tool in group supervision of psychotherapy is desired.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal group processes, group supervision, psychotherapy orientations


Abstract: The main goal of the present work was to longitudinally examine consequences of long-term moderately elevated levels of stress for various health outcomes. To address this issue, data covering 10 years was used from the ongoing Swedish population-based prospective Betula Study. Based on the ratings on a validated...
stress-reported stress scale, matched subsamples between 40 and 65 years of age were divided into a high (n= 137) and low (n= 211) stress group. The reported incidence of cardiovascular, diabetes, psychiatric, tumour and musculoskeletal diseases was assessed 5 and 10 years after baseline (1993-1995) without contaminating effects of past health history. The incidence of diseases 5 years after baseline assessment showed no differences between the groups. After 10 years, there was a significantly higher incidence of psychiatric diseases, mainly depression in the high-stress group as well as a significant effect for tumours, although the number of cases was low. Although moderately elevated stress level may have a possible impact on psychiatric diseases especially depression and some tumours, it seems that prolonged moderate stress does not appear to be harmful to other stress-related diseases.

Typ och Nyckelord: Journal cardiovascular, depression, diabetes, musculoskeletal, tumours