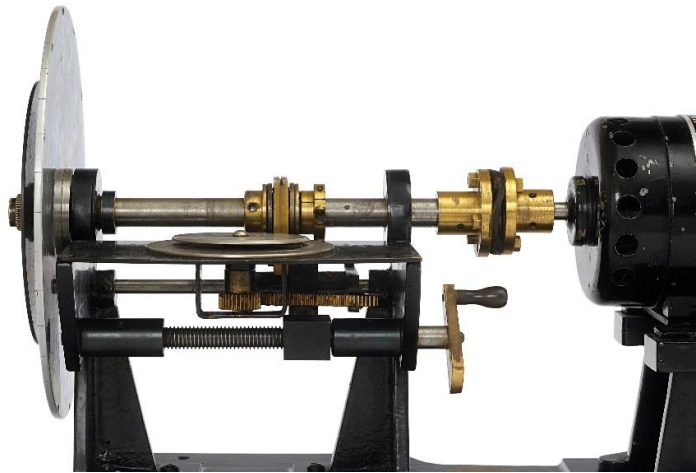


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15 – 18TH OCTOBER, 2020.

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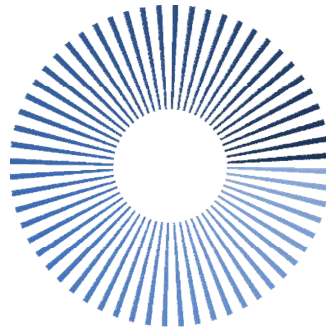
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DEVELOPMENTAL STABILITY OF SEVEN-FACTOR PERSONALITY STRUCTURE

Ljiljana B. Lazarević

Institute of Psychology and Laboratory for Research of Individual Differences, Faculty of Philosophy,
University of Belgrade | *ljiljana.lazarevic@f.bg.ac.rs*

Andjela Stojanović

Department of Psychology and Laboratory for Research of Individual Differences, Faculty of
Philosophy, University of Belgrade

Stojan Ilić

Department of Psychology and Laboratory for Research of Individual Differences, Faculty of
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Department of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade⁴

Goran Knežević

Department of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade

The vast majority of studies investigating personality structure is done using adult samples. If personality is assessed in children, parental ratings are preferably used method, while self-reports are seldom used. Here we use self-report measures to study the developmental stability of the seven-factor personality structure defined by the HEXACO model and Disintegration trait. We focus on middle childhood children, young teens, and teenagers. Sample consisted of four groups: 1) age 10-11 (N=164, 49.4% female), 2) age 12-13 (N=195, 48.9% female), 3) age 14-16 (N=319, 59.2% female), 4) age 17-18 (N=201, 49.5% female). Data were collected in several elementary and high schools in Serbia and Montenegro. Personality traits were assessed using 60 items HEXACO, and 20 items DELTA questionnaires. The stability of the seven-factor personality structure was tested using orthogonal procrustes rotations, and the analysis was done on facets of all seven personality traits. Congruence coefficients and factor loadings were calculated for all facets for all six pairwise comparisons. Overall, the average congruence of factors ranged between .69 (Emotionality) and .96 (Disintegration). The average congruence of facets ranged between .41 (Sincerity) and .95 (Sentimentality), with the majority of facets having average congruence above .85. Average factor loadings for Disintegration range between .55

(Depression) and .85 (Perceptual Distortions), for Honesty between .20 (Sincerity) and .39 (Greed avoidance), for Emotionality between .19 (Anxiety) and .53 (Sentimentality), for Extraversion between .34 (Sociability), and .47 (Social self-esteem and Liveliness), for Agreeableness .34 (Patience), and .54 (Flexibility), for Conscientiousness .33 (Organization) and .53 (Diligence), and for Openness .53 (Creativity) and .67 (Inquisitiveness). As expected, personality structure is least stable in the first age group but stabilizes in groups 3 and 4. We discuss, in detail, stability and content of personality factors on different age groups, and practical implications on assessment these results have.

Keywords: HEXACO, Disintegration, developmental stability, seven-factor personality structure

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1838

CIP – Katalogizacija u publikaciji
Narodna biblioteka Srbije, Beograd

PROCEEDINGS OF THE XXIV SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE EMPIRICAL STUDIES IN
PSYCHOLOGY (26; 2020., Beograd)

[Knjiga rezimea] / XXVI naučni skup Empirijska istraživanja u psihologiji
15–18. oktobar 2020., Filozofski fakultet, Univerzitet u Beogradu; [organizatori]

Institut za psihologiju i Laboratorija za eksperimentalnu psihologiju – 1. Izd –
Beograd: Filozofski fakultet, 2020 – 146 str.

Kor. Nasl. – Knjiga rezimea na srp. i engl. jeziku – elektronsko izdanje

ISBN 978-86-6427-163-9

1. Institut za psihologiju (Beograd)
2. Laboratorija za eksperimentalnu psihologiju (Beograd)
- a) Psihologija – Empirijska istraživanja – Knjiga rezimea