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Personality Structure, Sex Differences, and Temporal Change and Stability in Wild White-Faced Capuchins (*Cebus capucinus*)

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3 Personality Structure, Sex Differences, and Temporal Change and Stability in Wild

4 White-faced Capuchins, *Cebus capucinus*

5

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## Abstract

Research on nonhuman primate personality dimensions has focused on a small number of taxa, and little of this work has been done on wild populations. We used ratings to assess personality structure in wild white-faced capuchins over a 9-year period, using a capuchin-specific rating instrument based partly on existing instruments. Adequate levels of inter-rater reliability were found for 24 of 26 items. A longitudinal analysis found that 15 of these items showed significant rank-order stability from adolescence through early adulthood. Principal component analysis revealed five components. Four of these components were recognizable “Big Five” dimensions: Extraversion (E), Openness (O), Neuroticism (N) and Agreeableness (A). A dimension incorporating aspects of high O and high Conscientiousness (C) was labeled Eccentricity. Every dimension except for N showed significant rank-order stability from adolescence through early adulthood. Males were more Extraverted, Open, Neurotic and Eccentric than females, whereas females were more Agreeable than males. A cross-sectional analysis revealed that Openness and Agreeableness declined, whereas Eccentricity increased, during adulthood. The item content of capuchin Extraversion and Openness, and the existence of a distinctive Eccentricity dimension, are consistent with known characteristics of capuchin social and ecological adaptations, specifically the central roles of alliances, behavioral innovation and social learning.

Keywords: Personality, five factor model, trait rating, *Cebus capucinus*

Running headline: Capuchin personality structure

38 A growing body of research has documented that in many species of  
39 nonhuman animal, individuals vary in stable, cross-situational behavioral  
40 dispositions, i.e. personality dimensions (Gosling & John, 1999; Sih, Bell, Chadwick  
41 Johnson, & Ziemba, 2004; Wilson, 1998). For comparative psychologists, this  
42 variation poses the same general theoretical puzzles that are posed by human  
43 personality variation (Nettle, 2006): (1) Why do cross-situationally consistent  
44 dispositions persist, given that they impede adaptively flexible behavioral responses  
45 to variable circumstances (Sih et al., 2004)? (2) What evolutionary forces maintain  
46 the genetic variation associated with personality variation, given that natural  
47 selection generally eliminates all but the most fit allele at any locus (Fisher, 1930;  
48 see Keller et al. 2005, Adams et al. 2012 for recent discussions)? Several theoretical  
49 concepts have been fruitfully brought to bear on these questions, including  
50 frequency-dependent selection (e.g. Wilson, Clark, Coleman, & Dearstyne, 1994),  
51 temporally and spatially variable selection (e.g. Dingemanse, Both, & Drent, 2004),  
52 facultative calibration (Lukaszewski & Roney, 2011; Tooby & Cosmides, 1990), and  
53 trade-offs linked to alternative life history strategies (e.g. Wolf, Doorn, van Leimar, &  
54 Weissing, 2007).

55 As a foundation for such hypothesis-driven work, researchers need basic  
56 descriptive accounts of personality variation in a wide range of animal taxa. For  
57 psychologists interested primarily in the evolution of human personality, data on  
58 nonhuman primates are particularly relevant. According to a recent review  
59 (Freeman & Gosling, 2010), only 7% of all primate species have been the subjects of  
60 personality studies, and over 60% of published work concerns chimpanzees and  
61 rhesus macaques. Furthermore, only 9% of the published studies of nonhuman  
62 primate personality were conducted on wild populations. In this paper, we present  
63 the first data on personality variation in a wild New World primate and the longest  
64 continuous observational study of personality variation for any wild primate  
65 population. The genus *Cebus* (capuchins) has received little attention from  
66 personality researchers. Byrne and Suomi's (2002) study of tufted capuchins, *C.*  
67 *apella*, measured variation in individual trait items, but did not analyze personality  
68 structure. Morton et al. (under review) have described *C. apella* personality  
69 structure; one of our goals is to compare our findings in *C. capucinus* with their  
70 findings (see Discussion).

71 New World monkeys last shared a common ancestor with humans  
72 approximately 40 million years ago (Goodman et al., 1998). Because of its  
73 evolutionary convergence with chimpanzees with respect to encephalization  
74 (Stephan, Barbon, & Frahm, 1988), social complexity (Fragaszy, Visalberghi, &  
75 Fedigan, 2004; Perry & Manson, 2008), long/slow life history (Fragaszy et al., 2004)  
76 and reliance on social learning (Perry, 2011), *Cebus* is of particular interest to  
77 researchers of human behavioral evolution. Personality data from wild *Cebus* may  
78 also aid in reconstructing the phylogeny of personality dimensions (see Weiss,  
79 Adams, Widdig, & Gerald, 2011; Morton et al., under review).

80 In this research, we used trait ratings, one of the principal three methods  
81 (along with behavioral coding, and standardized situations presented to captive  
82 animals) used to measure nonhuman animal personality variation (Freeman,  
83 Gosling, & Schapiro, 2011; Freeman & Gosling, 2010). Observers' ratings have been

84 found to correlate with ethologically measured behavior patterns, thus manifesting  
85 construct validity, in several studies of primates. Most of these involved captive  
86 subjects (Capitani, 1999; Pederson, King, & Landau, 2005; Stevenson-Hinde,  
87 Stillwell-Barnes, & Zunz, 1980; Uher & Asendorpf, 2008; Vazire, Gosling, Dickey, &  
88 Schapiro, 2007), although a few (e.g. King, Weiss, & Farmer, 2005; Konečná et al.,  
89 2008) have used data from wild or at least semi-naturalistic settings. Ratings of the  
90 personality dimension *sociability* have also been found to predict immune function  
91 in rhesus macaques (Capitani, 2011). In general, findings regarding interrater  
92 reliability, construct validity, and discriminant validity are widely held to justify  
93 fully the use of the trait rating method to measure nonhuman primate personality  
94 (Freeman et al., 2011; King & Weiss, 2011).

95 In developing rating scales, i.e. sets of items on which observers are asked to  
96 rate animals, researchers may follow one of two strategies, or a blend of the two.  
97 Drawing a parallel with cross-cultural research, Gosling & John (1998; cited in Weiss,  
98 King, & Perkins, 2006) distinguish between *etic* and *emic* sources of items (see also  
99 Uher 2008a, 2008b). Emic instruments are based on variable behavioral tendencies  
100 known, from previous research, to characterize a particular species. Etic  
101 instruments are imported from other species, including humans, and thus may be  
102 based on conceptual frameworks such as the five-factor model or FFM (Costa &  
103 McCrae, 1995; Digman, 1990).

104 Each of the FFM's dimensions, Extraversion (E), Neuroticism (N),  
105 Agreeableness (A), Conscientiousness (C) and Openness to Experience (O), is made  
106 up of 6 more specific facets (Costa & McCrae, 1992, 1995). For example, the facets  
107 of Extraversion are Warmth, Gregariousness, Assertiveness, Activity, Excitement  
108 Seeking, and Positive Emotions. In nonhuman primates, similar factors have been  
109 found in captive chimpanzees along with a sixth dimension, Dominance (King &  
110 Figueredo, 1997). Among captive orangutans assessed with a very similar  
111 instrument, Weiss et al. (2006) found evidence for E, N, A and Dominance, as well as  
112 a species-specific dimension, labeled Intellect, which included traits that in humans  
113 load positively on O and C and negatively on N. Slightly modified instruments have  
114 been used to measure personality dimensions in free-ranging rhesus macaques  
115 (Weiss, Adams, Widdig et al., 2011) and wild hanuman langurs (Konečná et al.,  
116 2008). Rhesus macaques showed a dimension corresponding to O, as well as  
117 dimensions labeled Confidence, Dominance, Friendliness, Activity and Anxiety  
118 (Weiss, Adams, Widdig, et al., 2011). Among the langurs, only three dimensions,  
119 Agreeableness, Confidence and Extraversion, emerged (Konečná et al., 2008).

120 Over a decade ago, Gosling and John (1999) encouraged researchers to seek  
121 evidence for the five factors in nonhuman species and to develop and test  
122 adaptationist hypotheses accounting for their presence or absence in comparative  
123 analyses (e.g. an Agreeableness dimension might not be found in solitary species).  
124 Weiss et al. (2006) suggested that at the finer-grained level of facets or individual  
125 traits, the five factors, though recognizable, may differ among species. Researchers  
126 who have sought FFM or FFM-like dimensions in nonhuman primates have drawn  
127 adaptive inferences. For example, langurs may lack an Openness dimension because  
128 they rarely engage in extractive foraging (Konečná et al., 2008). Researchers have  
129 also drawn phylogenetic inferences, e.g. that some macaque, great ape and human

130 personality dimensions are homologous (King & Figueredo, 1997; Weiss, Adams,  
131 Widdig et al., 2011; Weiss et al., 2006).

132 In humans, personality varies by age and by sex. As people transition from  
133 adolescence through to early and mid-adulthood, they become less Extraverted and  
134 Neurotic, and more Agreeable and Conscientious (Roberts, Walton, & Viechtbauer,  
135 2006; Srivastava, John, Gosling, & Potter, 2003; Terracciano, McCrae, Brant, & Costa,  
136 2005), with Openness increasing and later decreasing (but see Soto, John, Gosling, &  
137 Potter, 2011). These patterns are found cross-culturally (McCrae et al., 1999),  
138 although recent work in small-scale societies (Gurven, von Rueden, Massenkoff, &  
139 Kaplan, in press) challenges the view that the FFM applies to all human groups.  
140 Significant sex differences in most of the 30 FFM facets were found in 26 human  
141 societies (Costa, Terracciano, & McCrae, 2001). Among the major FFM dimensions,  
142 men in this multinational analysis were more Extraverted, and less Agreeable and  
143 Neurotic, than women, and slightly less Open and Conscientious.

144 Studies of age and sex differences in nonhuman primate personality  
145 dimensions show considerable cross-species variation. In captive rhesus macaques,  
146 Stevenson-Hinde et al. (1980) found a complex pattern of age- and sex-related  
147 differences in three personality dimensions: Confidence, Excitability and Sociability.  
148 Both sexes experienced a decline in Confidence in late adolescence. Adult females'  
149 Confidence scores remained low whereas adult males had higher Confidence scores  
150 than juveniles and adolescents of either sex. Females scored higher than males on  
151 Excitability as juveniles but not as adults. McGuire et al. (1994) identified three  
152 personality factors in captive vervets: Social competence, Opportunism and a  
153 Playful/Curious dimension. Juveniles scored higher than adults in Playful/Curious,  
154 whereas subadults scored higher than juveniles and adults, and females scored  
155 higher than males. Neither of the other two factors showed sex differences. In  
156 captive chimpanzees studied by King et al. (2008), age-related changes (but not sex  
157 differences) in the five factors roughly paralleled those found in humans.  
158 Extraversion declined with age through adulthood, and the sexes did not differ;  
159 Agreeableness increased significantly and Conscientiousness increased marginally  
160 with age, and females scored higher than males on both dimensions; Openness  
161 declined with age and showed no sex differences; and Neuroticism showed no age-  
162 related changes, and was higher in males than females.

163 In this paper, we use trait ratings made by experienced observers over a 9-  
164 year period to address the following questions for wild white-faced capuchins,  
165 *Cebus capucinus*: (1) What magnitude of interrater reliability is attainable for trait  
166 items? (2) How much rank-order stability do trait items manifest through early  
167 adulthood? (3) What components emerge when the items are subject to principal  
168 component analysis (PCA), and how well do these components conform to the FFM?  
169 (4) How are these components intercorrelated? (5) How much rank-order stability  
170 do these components manifest? (6) How do component scores vary by sex and by  
171 age during adulthood? Additionally, although this is not primarily a validation study,  
172 we present preliminary data examining the relationship between one rating item,  
173 *sociability*, and a behavioral measure, proportion of time observed alone during scan  
174 samples. Finally, we examine the relationship between proportion of time spent  
175 alone and each of the dimensions revealed by the PCA.

## Methods

### Study Population

Study subjects ( $N = 240$ ) were white-faced capuchin monkeys (*Cebus capucinus*) aged 1-38 years, residing in Lomas Barbudal Biological Reserve, Costa Rica, and on nearby public and privately owned land (10°29-32'N, 85°21-24'W). The first study group was habituated to human observers in 1990, and two other groups were habituated in 1996 and 2002, respectively. Group fissions and migrations generated additional study groups; a total of 9 were under observation by 2011. All data presented in this paper were collected on fully habituated individuals. Females of this population give birth for the first time at a mean age of 6.2 years (Perry, Godoy, & Lammers, 2012). The youngest age at which a Lomas Barbudal male sired an offspring was 7.3 years (Perry et al., 2012), and males of this species do not reach adult size until age 10 (Fedigan, Avila, & Rose, 1996). Social groups that include females range in size from 5 to 40 individuals, and contain 1 to 13 adult males and 2 to 11 adult females (Perry, 2012). At any point in time, a minority of adult males resides in all-male groups of up to eight individuals (Perry, 2012). Males transfer from their natal group, usually in groups of two to three individuals, during adolescence or early adulthood, and most males make multiple transfers in later life as well (Jack & Fedigan 2004a,b; Perry et al., 2012; Perry, 2012). Females remain in their natal groups throughout their lives, although large groups occasionally fission. Ages of individuals born before habituation were estimated by comparing their physical and behavioral characteristics to those of individuals of known ages. See Perry and Manson (2008) for additional details about this study population and the long-term project of which the current research forms a part.

### Rating Procedure

Observers ( $N = 51$ ) were volunteer interns, field site managers, graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, and the Principal Investigator (SP). Observers spent 16-17 days per month collecting behavioral data from dawn to dusk. Observers completed trait questionnaires after completing a minimum of 12 continuous months working at the study site (most observers completed their questionnaire just before or just after finishing their internship). Except for SP and two other observers, each observer conducted observations on only a subset (e.g. two out of three) of the social groups that comprised the study population during his or her time at the study site. Each observer (hereafter, rater) rated each monkey that he or she had observed (on all questionnaire items) only once, regardless of how long the rater remained at the field site. Rating questionnaires were completed between Sep. 2002 and Oct. 2011. During this period, the study population expanded steadily. Thus, the number of monkeys rated per rater ranged from 52 to 142 ( $M = 82.5$ ,  $SD = 23.0$ ). Raters were instructed to refrain from discussing their ratings with other project personnel. They were asked to rate every monkey known to them on each questionnaire item before proceeding to the next questionnaire

222 item, i.e. to rate every monkey on *active* vs. *sluggish*, then rate every monkey on  
223 *aggressive* vs. *pacific*, etc. Raters were also asked to distribute their scores for each  
224 questionnaire item (except for one item, *eccentric* vs. *normal*) such that  
225 approximately 10%, 20%, 40%, 20% and 10% of monkeys received scores (on a 5-  
226 point scale) of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively (following Stevenson-Hinde & Zunz,  
227 1978). *Eccentric* was exempted from this normalization requirement because, in  
228 view of its semantic content, we lacked *a priori* confidence that this trait is naturally  
229 normally distributed. A positively skewed distribution seemed at least as likely as a  
230 normal distribution. Some raters declined to rate monkeys on particular trait  
231 adjectives (see “Missing Data,” below).

232

### 233 **Measurement instrument**

234

235 Table 1 shows the 26 items that comprised the questionnaire. Each item was  
236 presented as two antonymous adjectives or descriptive phrases. *Reactive* was  
237 further defined as “easily outraged or alarmed.” *Solicitous* was further defined as  
238 “responding to a distressed individual in a nurturing way.” *Persistent/stubborn* was  
239 further defined as “won’t give up on a project easily.” *Understanding/compromising*  
240 was further defined as “good intuition about how to make a relationship work.”  
241 *Reciprocating* was further defined as “refers to tendency to respond to a social  
242 initiation with like behavior.”

243 Our instrument was partly based on several instruments used in personality  
244 research on other primate species. Like Stevenson-Hinde and Zunz’s (1978)  
245 Madingley rhesus macaque questionnaire, it includes the items *active*, *aggressive*,  
246 *equable*, *fearful*, *opportunistic* and *sociable*. It shares with Capitanio’s (1999) rhesus  
247 questionnaire the items *active*, *aggressive*, *fearful/confident* (used as a single  
248 antonymous item in our instrument), *curious*, *eccentric*, *equable*, *irritable*,  
249 *opportunistic*, *permissive*, *playful*, *popular*, *sociable*, *tense* and *understanding*. Our  
250 item *solicitous* resembles Capitanio’s items *motherly* and *protective*, and our item  
251 *domineering* resembles (the opposite of) Capitanio’s item *subordinate*. Like McGuire  
252 et al’s (1994) vervet questionnaire, our instrument includes the item *assertive*  
253 (McGuire et al’s instrument also includes *vigilant*, which appears in our instrument,  
254 but they defined it in a specific fashion that is not applicable to our study  
255 population). *Impulsive* and *persistent* are found in King & Figueredo’s (1997)  
256 chimpanzee personality instrument, and their item *inventive* resembles our item  
257 *creative*. We included the items *creative* and *neophobic* because of the high  
258 frequencies of behavioral innovation, and the central role of social learning, in the  
259 acquisition of capuchin social interaction patterns (Perry et al., 2003), extractive  
260 foraging techniques, and food choices (reviewed by Perry, 2011). We included the  
261 items *meddlesome*, *attentive to conspecifics*, *understanding*, *reciprocating* and *socially*  
262 *intelligent* because of the central importance of coalition formation, triadic  
263 awareness, service exchange, and alliance partner choice in this species (Gros-Louis,  
264 Perry, & Manson, 2003; Jack & Fedigan, 2004a, 2004b; Manson, Navarrete, Silk, &  
265 Perry, 2004; Meunier, Molina-Vila, & Perry, 2012; Perry, Barrett, & Manson, 2004).  
266 Thus, our approach to instrument construction involved a blend of etic and emic  
267 approaches. We chose a set of items well-suited to determine whether four of the



268 FFM dimensions (Extraversion, Neuroticism, Agreeableness and Openness)  
269 characterize white-faced capuchins, but only 2 to 3 of the 26 items (*alert* and  
270 *persistent*, and possibly *reciprocating*) were likely candidates to load on a  
271 Conscientiousness factor.

272

### 273 **Missing data**

274

275 Eight of the 51 raters did not complete the questionnaire for every monkey  
276 that they were qualified to rate. The items *permissive* or *neophobic* were not rated at  
277 all by two raters, and the items *assertive*, *creative*, *opportunistic*, *attentive to*  
278 *conspicuous*, *persistent* and *socially intelligent* were not rated at all by one rater. One  
279 rater failed to rate 34 of 76 monkeys for *opportunistic*, and 29 of 76 monkeys for  
280 *reciprocating*. Besides these omissions, there were 16 other empty cells, i.e.  
281 individual monkeys not rated for particular items by raters who were qualified to  
282 rate them. Thus, 791 of 109,343 (0.72%) possible ratings were missing. For these  
283 missing values, we substituted the mean value for that item.

284

### 285 **Behavioral observations**

286

287 As one of several behavioral data collection protocols, observers used scan  
288 sampling to record monkeys' activities and the identities of their neighbors at four  
289 spatial proximity categories that ranged out to a distance of 10 monkey body  
290 lengths (roughly 400 cm) from the scanned individual. This paper draws on scan  
291 data collected on a subset of subjects, specifically all females in the five most  
292 intensively studied groups that (1) were alive during some portion of the period  
293 2002-2006 and (2) gave birth at least once in 2007 or earlier (or, in one case, was an  
294 elderly female who had never given birth) ( $N = 38$ ).

295

### 296 **Statistical analysis**

297

298 We carried out analyses using Stata 12.1. Only those monkeys who were  
299 rated by at least three raters were included in any of the analyses. Because the data  
300 had a crossed structure (each rater rated a subset of the subjects, and each subject  
301 was rated by a subset of the raters, and these sets overlapped to varying degrees),  
302 we assessed interrater reliability for each questionnaire item by calculating  
303 intraclass correlations (ICC[3,1] and ICC[3,k]) (Shrout & Fleiss, 1979). ICC is a  
304 widely used technique for assessing whether multiple judges agree above chance  
305 levels in ratings of nonhuman animal personality items (Freeman & Gosling, 2010).  
306 ICC(3,1) yields the inter-rater reliability of individual ratings, whereas ICC(3,k)  
307 yields the inter-rater reliability of mean ratings (here, each animal's mean rating  
308 across raters).

309

310 For each rater/monkey pair, we regarded the monkey's age at rating as its  
311 age three months before the rater completed the questionnaire. This adjustment  
312 takes into account that raters were instructed to consider all their experience  
313 observing each monkey over the preceding 12 months, yet were probably better  
able to remember more recent events than more remote events. To longitudinally

314 examine temporal stability of item ratings within individuals, we identified all  
315 monkeys ( $N = 21$ ) who were rated by at least three raters during each of three age  
316 ranges: age 72-96 months, age 97-120 months, and 121-144 months. These age  
317 brackets correspond to late adolescence and early adulthood. Longitudinal  
318 examination of stability at older ages was not possible because of insufficient  
319 sample sizes. We calculated the mean rating for each questionnaire item for each  
320 individual in each of the three age brackets, and then calculated the Pearson  
321 product-moment correlations, among these 21 individuals, between each pair of age  
322 brackets. In other words, for these 21 individuals, we calculated, for each  
323 questionnaire item, three correlation coefficients: ages 6-8 years correlated with  
324 ages 8-10 years; ages 8-10 years with ages 10-12 years; and ages 6-8 years with  
325 ages 10-12 years. Significantly positive correlations indicate that monkeys' relative  
326 scores at these different ages are similar, i.e. they show rank-order stability.

327 For each monkey among those that were rated by at least three raters ( $N =$   
328 240), we calculated mean ratings for each item. We used principal component  
329 analysis (PCA: Gorsuch, 1983) to extract components from the items, and we  
330 generated a scree plot and used Horn's parallel analysis (Horn, 1965), implemented  
331 via Stata's paran command (Dinno, 2009), to determine the number of components  
332 to retain. Two rotations were applied to the components that we retained: a varimax  
333 procedure to obtain orthogonal components, and a promax procedure to obtain  
334 oblique components. The promax procedure enabled us to assess the correlations  
335 among the components. We considered an item to load on a component when (1) it  
336 had an absolute loading  $>0.40$  and (2) it had the highest absolute loading on that  
337 component compared to all other components, except when two items' absolute  
338 loadings on the same component were within 0.10 of each other, in which case we  
339 regarded both items as loading on that component. Based on the varimax rotation,  
340 we calculated unit-weighted individual scores for each component. Also, for each  
341 retained component, we calculated internal consistencies (Cronbach's alpha) and  
342 inter-rater reliabilities (intraclass correlations using raters' unit-weighted  
343 component scores). Finally, we used the same sample of young adult monkeys  
344 described above ( $N = 21$ ), and the same correlational analysis procedure, to examine  
345 longitudinal rank-order stability in unit-weighted component scores from ages 6 to  
346 12 years.

347 For cross-sectional tests of the relationships between age and sex  
348 (independent variables) and component scores (dependent variable), we scored  
349 each monkey's age as its mean age at rating, across all raters that rated it. Because  
350 the age distribution was highly skewed toward younger ages (see below), we Box-  
351 Cox transformed these mean ages (Box & Cox, 1964) before using multivariate  
352 linear regression. Analysis was restricted to monkeys six years and older.

353 We used the scan sample data to calculate, for each female in the subsample  
354 (see above), the percentage of time spent alone, i.e. with no neighbors within 10  
355 monkey body lengths. Females with infants  $<120$  days old were scored as "alone"  
356 when their only neighbor was their infant. To adjust for year-to-year fluctuation in  
357 sampling intensity, and to create a behavioral score using a process parallel to the  
358 process that generated the rating score, we calculated, for each female, (1) the  
359 proportion of scan samples at which she was observed alone in each calendar year

360 from 2002-2006, (2) the mean value of these proportions across calendar years and  
361 (3) her mean score for each questionnaire item throughout the same time period.  
362 We then calculated the Pearson product-moment correlations, among these 38  
363 females, between proportion of time alone and her mean rating for each  
364 questionnaire item. We expected that *sociability* would be strongly negatively  
365 correlated with time spent alone, and that *sociability* would show the highest  
366 absolute value of  $r$ , among all questionnaire items, with time spent alone. Finally, we  
367 calculated the correlations between time spent alone and all components retained  
368 from the PCA.

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## Results

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### Description of data set

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### Interrater reliability of items

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Table 1 shows ICC(3,1) and ICC(3,k) for the 26 items. Two items (*permissive* and *understanding*) were excluded from further analysis, partly because of their low reliabilities (no other items yielded ICC[3,k] below 0.70) and partly because these two items, and no others, appeared to perplex a substantial number of field assistants as they completed their questionnaires. The differences between ICC(3,1) and ICC(3,k) coefficients for each item were larger than in studies using comparable methods (e.g. Konečná et al., 2008; Weiss et al., 2011). This pattern is attributable to the larger number of raters in the present study compared to similar studies. ICC(3,1), which assesses the agreement among individual ratings, is reduced by large individual deviations from mean ratings, which are more likely in large sets of raters. Because all of our analyses used each animal's mean rating for each item, ICC(3,k), which assesses the reliability of mean ratings, is more relevant than ICC(3,1).

## 406 **Temporal stability in individual item scores**

407

408 Table 2 shows the correlations across the three age ranges (6-8, 8-10 and 10-  
409 12 years) of each of the 24 reliable item ratings. In this longitudinal analysis, only  
410 one item, *reactive*, failed to show significant consistency between any age ranges,  
411 but 9 items failed to show significant consistency between ages 6-8 and ages 10-12.  
412 The mean  $r$ , across items, between ages 6-8 and 10-12 was 0.41.

413

## 414 **Principal component analysis**

415

416 Examination of the scree plot (Fig. S1) and parallel analysis indicated that  
417 five components should be retained. Low unique variances of the items ( $M = 0.18$ )  
418 confirmed that PCA was appropriate. The loadings of individual items on the five  
419 varimax-rotated components are shown in Table 3.

420 Loadings on the first component included *socially intelligent, domineering,*  
421 *(not) fearful, popular, assertive, meddlesome, aggressive, sociable, persistent* and  
422 *attentive to others*. We infer that monkeys scoring high in this dimension frequently  
423 seek opportunities for social interaction, and are frequently sought out by others for  
424 social interaction. They are confident, at least in social situations, and they use  
425 aggression judiciously both to advance and maintain their own social status, and to  
426 assist valuable social partners. This dimension appears to encompass at least two of  
427 the facets of human Extraversion: Gregariousness and Assertiveness. It may also  
428 encompass the Excitement Seeking facet, since coalitional aggression (indicated by  
429 *meddlesome*) appears to be the most exciting of the frequent events in *C. capucinus*  
430 life (Perry & Manson, 2008). Only one item, *persistent*, seems more consistent with a  
431 different FFM factor, Conscientiousness. In view of the overall pattern of item  
432 loadings, we named this component Extraversion<sub>CC</sub>, with the subscript (following  
433 Weiss et al., 2006) indicating that white-faced capuchin Extraversion is not exactly  
434 concordant with human, chimpanzee or orangutan E.

435 Loadings on the second component included *curious, playful, active, (not)*  
436 *neophobic, active, creative, impulsive, sociable* and *opportunistic*. We infer that  
437 monkeys scoring high on this dimension are willing to try new behaviors. They are  
438 actively engaged with both the physical world and with conspecifics. This dimension  
439 appears to correspond most closely to human Openness, although some facets of  
440 human Extraversion (Activity, Excitement Seeking, Positive Emotions) also appear  
441 associated with it. On the other hand, three facets of human O (Actions, Fantasy and  
442 Feelings) have been found to be associated with sensation seeking (Aluja, García, &  
443 García, 2003). We name this factor Openness<sub>CC</sub>.

444 Loadings on the third component included *reactive, (not) tolerant* (i.e.  
445 *irritable*), *(not) relaxed* (i.e. *tense/anxious*), *alert, aggressive* and *impulsive*. We infer  
446 that monkeys scoring high on this dimension are hypervigilant and have poor  
447 internal control in the face of stressors. It is noteworthy that *meddlesome* and  
448 *assertive* also had fairly high loadings on this component, although they were not  
449 regarded as salient according to our pre-set criteria because of their much higher  
450 loadings on other components. Three facets of human Neuroticism – Anxiety, Angry

451 Hostility, and Impulsivity -- seem to be strongly related to this dimension. We call  
452 this dimension Neuroticism<sub>CC</sub>.

453 Loadings on the fourth component included *solicitous*, *reciprocating* and  
454 *attentive to others*. We infer that monkeys scoring high on this dimension seek out  
455 friendly social interactions including grooming, other forms of affiliative physical  
456 contact, and carrying of infants and young juveniles. They can also be relied on to  
457 respond affiliatively to friendly behavior from others. As we defined *reciprocating*,  
458 it could also mean responding aggressively to aggression, but the total pattern of  
459 this component's loadings suggests that high-scoring individuals do not engage in  
460 frequent aggression. Monkeys high on this component may not be particularly  
461 valuable partners for coalitional aggression (*meddlesome* does not load on it), nor  
462 are they preferentially sought as social partners (neither *sociable* nor *popular* loads  
463 on it). Three facets of human Agreeableness – Trust, Altruism and Tender-  
464 Mindedness – seem to be strongly related to this dimension, and we therefore name  
465 it Agreeableness<sub>CC</sub>.

466 Loadings on the fifth component included *eccentric* and *persistent*. *Creative*  
467 also loads modestly on this component, though it is not salient because of the much  
468 higher loading of *creative* on Openness<sub>CC</sub>. This component appears to tap some  
469 aspects of human Openness, but unlike Openness<sub>CC</sub>, it is not related to any of the  
470 items pertaining to the Extraversion facets Gregariousness or Activity. Two facets of  
471 human Conscientiousness, Achievement Striving and Self-Discipline, also seem to  
472 characterize this component. We speculate that monkeys scoring high on this  
473 dimension exhibit behavioral variants that are less commonly used by the majority  
474 of group members. We name this component after its predominant item,  
475 Eccentricity<sub>CC</sub>.

476 The varimax and promax rotations of the first five components yielded  
477 qualitatively very similar results. Two loadings, both on Neuroticism<sub>CC</sub>, differed  
478 between the two solutions. In contrast to the results shown in Table 3, in the  
479 promax solution *aggressive's* loading on Neuroticism<sub>CC</sub> was 0.48 (i.e. not a salient  
480 loading according to our pre-set criteria, because *aggressive's* loading on  
481 Extraversion<sub>CC</sub> was >0.10 greater than 0.48). Also, *impulsive's* loading on Openness<sub>CC</sub>  
482 was 0.70, which was >0.10 than *impulsive's* loading on Neuroticism<sub>CC</sub>, meaning that  
483 *impulsive* no longer had a salient loading on Neuroticism<sub>CC</sub>. Furthermore, for all five  
484 components, the correlation between the varimax item loadings and the promax  
485 item loadings was >0.97. We therefore used the varimax solution for all analyses  
486 except when assessing the intercorrelations among component scores. Internal  
487 consistencies of the varimax components (Cronbach's alpha) ranged from 0.51 to  
488 0.94, while component inter-rater reliabilities (ICC[3,k]) ranged from 0.79 to 0.93  
489 (Table 4).

490

### 491 **Correlations among components**

492

493 Table 5 shows the correlations among the promax-rotated components. The  
494 mean absolute value of the correlations was 0.157. This value falls into the range of  
495 mean component intercorrelations reported for chimpanzees (0.135: King &

496 Figueredo, 1997), rhesus macaques (0.14: Weiss, Adams, Widdig, et al., 2011) and  
497 orangutans (0.18: Weiss et al., 2006).

498

### 499 **Rank-order stability of component scores**

500

501 Table 6 shows the correlations across three age ranges (6-8, 8-10 and 10-12  
502 years) of unit-weighted scores for each of the five components. In this longitudinal  
503 analysis, four of the components showed significant rank-order stability across all  
504 age ranges. Among the five components, the mean  $r$  between ages 6-8 and 10-12  
505 was 0.49. Neuroticism<sub>CC</sub> did not show significant rank-order stability between ages  
506 6-8 and ages 10-12.

507

### 508 **Sex differences in personality dimensions**

509

510 Table 7 incorporates data from monkeys of all ages. It shows mean values  
511 and standard errors of the two sexes for each of the five varimax-rotated unit-  
512 weighted component scores, as well as effect sizes (Cohen's  $d$ ) and significance  
513 levels. Males were more Extraverted, Open, Eccentric, and Neurotic than females,  
514 whereas females were more Agreeable than males.

515

### 516 **Age differences in personality dimensions**

517

518 Table 8 and Figure 1 show the results of cross-sectional analyses of age  
519 effects (and sex effects) on personality dimensions in monkeys aged 6 years and  
520 older. Figure 1 shows actual (untransformed) ages for ease of interpretation. After  
521 controlling for age, and restricting the analysis to adults, all of the sex comparison  
522 results described in Section 3.6 remained qualitatively unchanged. Three of the five  
523 dimensions showed significant age effects after controlling for sex. Monkeys became  
524 less Open and Agreeable, and more Eccentric, as they aged. In another set of  
525 analyses, we used age, sex and the age  $\times$  sex interaction as independent variables.  
526 All main effects remained qualitatively the same as in the analyses already  
527 described. Only one interaction effect, for Openness, was statistically significant ( $p$   
528  $< .001$ ; Figure 1B): both sexes became less Open with age during adulthood, but  
529 males' scores declined more steeply than females' scores.

530

### 531 **Ratings, dimensions and time spent alone**

532

533 Among the 38 females that contributed data to this analysis, the correlation  
534 between mean *sociable* rating and proportion of time spent alone was -0.846 ( $p$   
535  $< .0001$ ). None of the other 25 items was as strongly correlated with proportion of  
536 time spent alone. Among conceptually similar items, *attentive to conspecifics* was  
537 correlated at  $r = -0.768$  ( $p < .0001$ ), *popular* at  $r = -0.674$  ( $p < .0001$ ), and *solicitous*  
538 at  $r = -0.255$  ( $p = .12$ ). All five personality components were significantly correlated  
539 with proportion of time spent alone: Extraversion ( $r = -0.741$ ,  $p < .001$ ); Openness ( $r$   
540  $= -0.706$ ,  $p < .001$ ); Neuroticism ( $r = -0.463$ ,  $p = .004$ ); Agreeableness ( $r = -0.742$ ,  $p$   
541  $< .001$ ); and Eccentricity ( $r = 0.392$ ,  $p < .015$ ).

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## Discussion

546

547

548 We presented a descriptive account of personality structure in wild white-

549 faced capuchin monkeys, *Cebus capucinus*, using a more extensive data set than any

550 yet published on personality variation in a wild primate population. We created a

551 *Cebus*-specific rating instrument by modifying existing instruments (e.g. Capitanio,

552 1999; King & Figueredo, 1997) to include items that are relevant to known features

553 of capuchin behavior, particularly innovation, social learning and social complexity

554 (e.g. frequent aggressive coalitions) (Perry & Manson, 2008). Of the 26 items

555 comprising the instrument, 24 yielded adequate inter-rater reliability, consistent

556 with findings in other primate species (Freeman et al., 2011; Freeman & Gosling,

557 2010) that high levels of reliability are attainable among trained observers with

558 extensive experience. We validated one item, *sociability*, by finding a very strong

559 negative correlation (stronger than for any other rating item) between it and the

560 behavioral variable *proportion of time spent alone*.

561 Four of the dimensions revealed by PCA (Extraversion<sub>CC</sub>, Openness<sub>CC</sub>,

562 Neuroticism<sub>CC</sub>, and Agreeableness<sub>CC</sub>) are similar to personality dimensions found in

563 humans and chimpanzees (Costa & McCrae, 1995; King & Figueredo, 1997). Our

564 failure to find a Conscientiousness dimension should not be taken as evidence that

565 no such dimension exists in white-faced capuchins; as described above, the rating

566 instrument was not well-suited to capture such a dimension. The five dimensions

567 revealed by our analysis resemble the five dimensions (Assertiveness, Openness,

568 Neuroticism, Sociability, and Attentiveness) reported for captive *Cebus apella* by

569 Morton et al. (under review), but we tentatively infer that three of these dimensions

570 differ sufficiently to merit different labels. As a caveat to the following remarks,

571 Morton et al. used a different instrument (the Hominoid Personality Questionnaire

572 [HPQ; Weiss et al., 2009]) from ours. Future studies using the same instrument(s)

573 with both species are required to confirm the degree of similarity between their

574 personality structures. Extraversion<sub>CC</sub> differs from *C. apella* Assertiveness, and from

575 chimpanzee, orangutan and rhesus macaque Dominance (King & Figueredo, 1997;

576 Weiss et al., 2006; Weiss, Adams, Widdig, et al., 2011), in including two items,

577 *sociable* and *popular*, that indicate that individuals high on this dimension are

578 attractive as social interaction partners in addition to being formidable competitors.

579 The item content of Extraversion<sub>CC</sub> is consistent with the large role of alliance

580 formation and maintenance, relative to the role of physical formidability, in white-

581 faced capuchin status competition (Perry & Manson, 2008). For example, alpha

582 males sometimes maintain their rank for up to 17 years, i.e. until their fighting

583 prowess has declined substantially from its peak in early adulthood (Muniz et al.,

584 2010). In contrast, coalitionary aggression is less common and is accompanied by a

585 less elaborate signal repertoire in wild *C. apella* than in wild *C. capucinus* (Perry,

586 2012).

587 Openness<sub>CC</sub> closely resembles *C. apella* Openness (Morton et al., under

review), except that the former includes *sociable*. Neuroticism<sub>CC</sub> closely resembles

588 *C. apella* Neuroticism. Agreeableness<sub>CC</sub> differs somewhat from *C. apella* Sociability.  
589 The former includes *solicitous*, whereas neither *gentle*, *sympathetic* nor *helpful* loads  
590 on the latter. On the other hand, *C. apella* Sociable includes *sociable*, whereas  
591 Agreeableness<sub>CC</sub> does not. Thus, whereas *C. apella* Sociable appears to capture both  
592 frequency and (to some extent) friendliness of social interaction, individuals high on  
593 Agreeableness<sub>CC</sub> do not necessarily spend a lot of time in social activity, but when  
594 they do interact with conspecifics, they probably provide a high level of services  
595 such as grooming and carrying. Eccentric<sub>CC</sub>, like orangutan Intellect (Weiss et al.,  
596 2006) comprises a blend of facets from the FFM dimensions Openness and  
597 Conscientiousness, with no relationship to items related to sociability or general  
598 activity level. Unlike *Cebus apella* Attentive (Morton et al, under review),  
599 Eccentricity<sub>CC</sub> includes *persistent*, whereas *C. apella* Attentive does not include the  
600 HPQ item, (not) *conventional*, that most closely resembles our item *eccentric*.  
601 Interestingly, although Openness<sub>CC</sub> and Eccentricity<sub>CC</sub> overlap conceptually (both  
602 resembling FFM Openness), the correlation between them is slightly negative (Table  
603 5), and they change in opposite directions during adulthood. Compared to other  
604 primates, capuchins frequently innovate, and learn socially, in the domains of both  
605 communicative social conventions (Perry et al., 2003) and food processing  
606 techniques (reviewed by Perry, 2011). Although *creative* loaded strongly positively  
607 on Openness<sub>CC</sub> and weakly positively on Eccentricity<sub>CC</sub>, we speculate that high-  
608 Openness<sub>CC</sub> monkeys tend to acquire new behavioral variants socially, via direct  
609 interaction with conspecifics, whereas high-Eccentricity<sub>CC</sub> monkeys tend to acquire  
610 new variants more often by independent invention and persistent trial and error  
611 learning. Variation in Openness<sub>CC</sub> and Eccentricity<sub>CC</sub> might be maintained by  
612 balancing selection favoring a mix of innovation and social learning (e.g. Rendell et  
613 al., 2010).

614 In a subset of individuals followed from late adolescence through early  
615 adulthood, we found modest levels of rank-order temporal stability in individual  
616 rating items, and generally strong levels of stability in four of the five components.  
617 Fifteen of the 24 items showed significant correlations between age 6-8 years and  
618 ages 10-12 years. However, constraints imposed by our methods may have  
619 produced underestimates of the true strength of temporal stability of these items.  
620 The mandatory normalization instruction forced raters to compare each monkey to  
621 a reference group, and individual raters varied considerably with respect to the  
622 composition of this reference group. First, monkey group compositions changed  
623 over time because of births, deaths, male immigrations and emigrations, and group  
624 fissions. Second, each observer worked with a subset of the monkey groups, and  
625 these subsets overlapped to differing degrees with the subsets of other observers  
626 working at the study site at the same time.

627 Among the five personality dimensions identified by the PCA, the mean  
628 correlation between scores at age 6-8 and scores at age 10-12 was 0.49. This is  
629 roughly the same as the strength of rank-order stability shown for human FFM  
630 scores in the corresponding life history stages (ages 18-30) (meta-analysis: Roberts  
631 & DelVecchio, 2000). Studies of rank-order personality stability in nonhuman  
632 primates have mostly covered periods of 1.5 years or less (e.g. Uher, Asendorpf &  
633 Call, 2008; Weiss et al., 2011) and are therefore not directly comparable to our



634 analyses. An exception is Stevenson-Hinde et al's (1980) four-year longitudinal  
635 study of rhesus macaque personality. They found that multiparous females and  
636 fully adult males showed significant rank-order stability in dimensions labeled  
637 Confident, Excitable and Sociable. In our data set, Neuroticism<sub>CC</sub> was the least  
638 temporally stable dimension. We speculate that monkeys' scores on Neuroticism<sub>CC</sub>,  
639 unlike their scores on other components, are strongly influenced by transient social  
640 conditions, at least through early adulthood. For example, males that transfer  
641 between social groups in late adolescence might become less Neurotic if they attain  
642 alpha rank, but more Neurotic if they become subordinates. Adult females with  
643 unweaned infants might become more Neurotic in response to the presence of  
644 potentially infanticidal males following male group membership or rank changes  
645 (Perry, 2012). The adaptive adjustment of personality configurations to other  
646 phenotypic traits, particularly those affecting social bargaining power, is predicted  
647 by the facultative calibration model (Lukaszewski & Roney, 2011; Tooby &  
648 Cosmides, 1990). Future research on our study population will test predictions from  
649 this model.

650         The observed sex differences in capuchin personality dimensions are  
651 interpretable in terms of both general primate behavioral sex differences, and the  
652 different life courses of the two sexes in capuchins specifically. Almost all males  
653 migrate before breeding, usually with one or two co-migrants (Jack & Fedigan,  
654 2004a; Perry 2012), and the formation and maintenance of alliances with other  
655 males and with females can strongly influence reproductive success, and indeed  
656 survival (Gros-Louis et al., 2003; Perry, 2012; Perry & Manson, 2008). Thus, males  
657 probably benefit more than females from seeking out social opportunities and from  
658 taking the risks involved in forming new relationships and trying out new forms of  
659 social behavior (higher Extraversion<sub>CC</sub> and Openness<sub>CC</sub>). Depending on the spatial  
660 scale of habitat heterogeneity, migrating males might also benefit more than females  
661 from being willing to try out new foraging behaviors (higher Openness<sub>CC</sub> and  
662 Eccentricity<sub>CC</sub>). In general, male primates innovate more than females (Reader &  
663 Laland, 2001). Higher male than female Neuroticism<sub>CC</sub> is interpretable in terms of  
664 males' greater need for vigilance in response to the threat of escalated aggression  
665 (Gros-Louis et al., 2003). Females, on the other hand, might be more effective  
666 mothers and allomothers (Manson, 1999; Perry, 1996) by being higher in  
667 Agreeableness<sub>CA</sub>.

668         Throughout adulthood, capuchins become less Open as they age. Viewing  
669 Openness<sub>CC</sub> as, roughly speaking, a mix of facets characterizing human Openness  
670 and Extraversion, this result is consistent with findings from captive chimpanzees  
671 (King et al., 2008), which show age-related declines in both dimensions in adults.  
672 The costs, particularly the risks, of forging new social relationships may be offset by  
673 greater benefits at younger ages than at older ages, particularly for males in species  
674 characterized by male transfer. Consistent with this hypothesis, we found that male  
675 Openness<sub>CC</sub> declined more steeply than female Openness<sub>CC</sub>, whereas in chimpanzees  
676 (a female transfer species: Pusey, 1979), neither Extraversion nor Openness showed  
677 an age × sex interaction effect (King et al., 2008). Adult white-faced capuchins  
678 become less Agreeable with age, whereas both humans and chimpanzees become  
679 more Agreeable (King et al., 2008).

680 Future research on this population will make use of available genetic data  
681 and long-term behavioral data to address several questions regarding the causes  
682 and consequences of personality variation in *C. capucinus*. For example, what are  
683 the relative effects of heritable variation, early life experience (e.g. the stress caused  
684 by take-overs by infanticidal males), and later facultative calibration (see Tooby &  
685 Cosmides, 1990) on personality variation? How are personality dimensions,  
686 assessed during the juvenile phase, predictive of fitness-relevant outcomes later in  
687 life (see, e.g. Capitanio, 1999; Fairbanks et al., 2004)? These questions are still  
688 largely unanswered for wild primates.

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970 Table 1. Interrater reliability of trait items.

Trait	Interrater reliability	
	ICC(3,k)	ICC(3,1)
<i>Active vs. sluggish</i>	0.91	0.16
<i>Aggressive vs. pacific</i>	0.89	0.14
<i>Meddlesome in ongoing interactions vs. non-interfering</i>	0.87	0.12
<i>Assertive/instigator vs. non-assertive</i>	0.87	0.12
<i>Reactive vs. unperturbable/equable</i>	0.75	0.06
<i>Impulsive vs. self-controlled</i>	0.79	0.07
<i>*Permissive vs. restrictive</i>	0.60	0.03
<i>Popular vs. unpopular</i>	0.89	0.13
<i>Attentive to conspecifics vs. more focused on own actions</i>	0.77	0.06
<i>Fearful vs. confident</i>	0.83	0.09
<i>Relaxed vs. tense/anxious</i>	0.72	0.05
<i>Alert/vigilant vs. inattentive</i>	0.78	0.06
<i>Curious vs. uninterested</i>	0.90	0.15
<i>Neophobic vs. neophilic</i>	0.81	0.08
<i>Eccentric vs. normal</i>	0.83	0.09
<i>Tolerant vs. irritable</i>	0.73	0.05
<i>Solicitous vs. uncaring</i>	0.78	0.06
<i>Opportunistic vs. narrow-minded/conservative</i>	0.72	0.05
<i>Playful vs. serious</i>	0.94	0.22
<i>Creative vs. unimaginative</i>	0.83	0.09
<i>Sociable vs. solitary</i>	0.90	0.15
<i>Domineering vs. submissive/passive</i>	0.90	0.16
<i>Persistent/stubborn vs. easily discouraged</i>	0.75	0.05
<i>*Understanding/compromising vs. uncompromising</i>	0.65	0.04
<i>Reciprocating vs. nonreciprocating</i>	0.76	0.06
<i>Socially intelligent/good politician vs. socially inept</i>	0.85	0.10
Mean	0.81	0.09

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972 Note. \*Excluded from further analysis; see text.

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975 Table 2. Correlations across age ranges of item scores.  $N = 21$ .

Trait	Correlation ( $r$ )		
	6-8 years/ 8-10 years	8-10 years/ 10-12 years	6-8 years/ 10-12 years
<i>Active</i>	0.40	0.44*	0.31
<i>Aggressive</i>	0.79***	0.76***	0.58**
<i>Meddlesome</i>	0.80***	0.67***	0.47*
<i>Assertive</i>	0.91***	0.78***	0.66**
<i>Reactive</i>	0.31	0.18	-0.30
<i>Impulsive</i>	0.81***	0.62**	0.50*
<i>Popular</i>	0.81***	0.69***	0.57**
<i>Attentive to others</i>	0.41	0.59**	0.12
<i>Fearful</i>	0.69***	0.71***	0.50*
<i>Relaxed</i>	0.58**	0.62**	0.47*
<i>Alert</i>	0.56**	0.27	0.20
<i>Curious</i>	0.61**	0.32	0.36
<i>Neophobic</i>	0.45*	0.47*	0.31
<i>Eccentric</i>	0.40	0.54*	0.45*
<i>Tolerant</i>	0.55**	0.39	-0.04
<i>Solicitous</i>	0.55**	0.78***	0.52*
<i>Opportunistic</i>	0.60**	0.42	0.29
<i>Playful</i>	0.60**	-0.10	0.25
<i>Creative</i>	0.76***	0.58**	0.46*
<i>Sociable</i>	0.68***	0.62**	0.48*
<i>Domineering</i>	0.84***	0.81***	0.74***
<i>Persistent</i>	0.69***	0.63**	0.66**
<i>Reciprocating</i>	0.71***	0.80***	0.70***
<i>Socially intelligent</i>	0.62**	0.80***	0.63**

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977 Note. \* $p < .05$ ; \*\* $p < .01$ ; \*\*\* $p < .001$

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