

*Psicostat meeting, 15 November 2024*

*Around the world in 1460 days*

Challenges of multi-lab projects: Some thoughts from a multi-lab study on taboo words

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# Outline

- The study
- On the PI's side
- On the co-authors' side
- Should the study be pre-registered?

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# The study


Behavior Research Methods

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ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT



## Taboo language across the globe: A multi-lab study

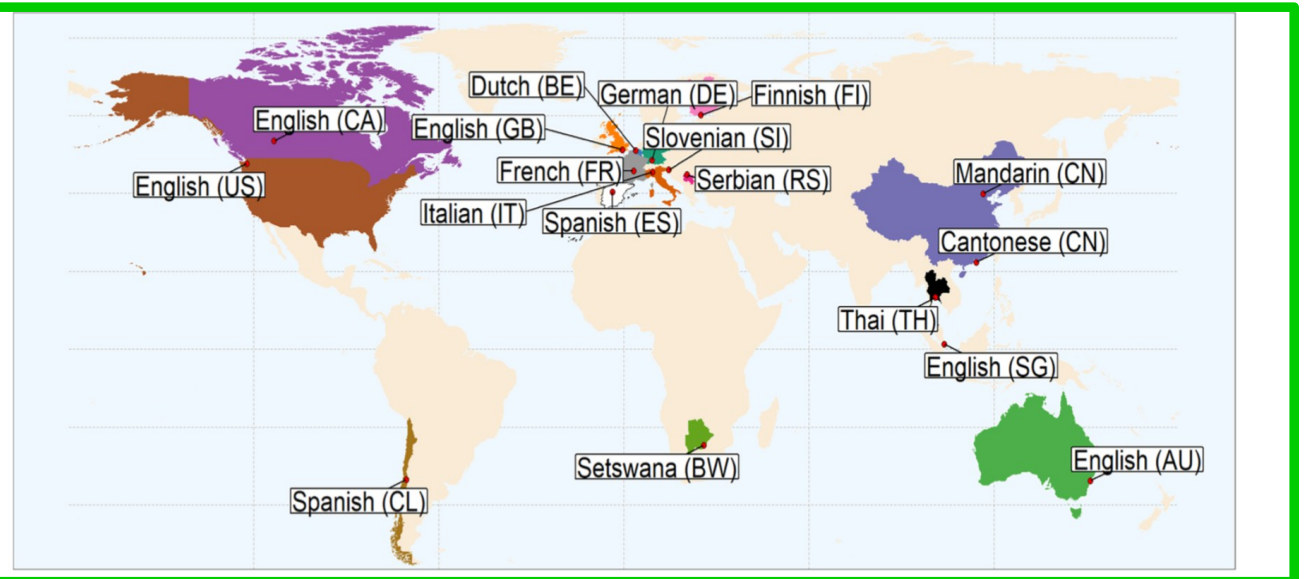
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+ 35 co-authors

# The study

17 countries,  
13 languages



19 countries, 16 languages  
(+ Canada-French, Israel-Hebrew, Egypt-Arabic)

23 countries, 19 languages  
(+ Nederland-Dutch, Russia-Russian, India-an Indian language, Japan-Japanese)

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# On the PI's side

- two is meglio che one
  - *shared thoughts and decisions*
  - *(partial) reduction of project management*

# On the PI's side

- two is meglio che one
- detailed planning of the study
  - *the proposed “journey” should be well planned, even in the details (what we'll do, how long, what is the destination, how many co-authors)*
    - *it takes time, but it's worth it*
      - *It minimizes the questions from co-authors*
      - *You have a kind of “contract” (e.g., male/female sj)*
      - *It reduces the background noise (no df)*



# On the PI's side

- two is meglio che one
- detailed planning of the study
- the proposal is not negotiable
  - *The research is yours, not of your co-authors*

# On the PI's side

- two is meglio che one
- detailed planning of the study
- the proposal is not negotiable
- communicate *cum grano salis*
  - *less and more comprehensive/detailed is better*

# On the PI's side

- two is meglio che one
- detailed planning of the study
- the proposal is not negotiable
- communicate *cum grano salis*
- be flexible, but stay on course  
*Exception may be OK, but for specific cases*

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# On the co-authors' side

- Everybody has a tough nut to crack
  - *side side side project (Canada)*
  - *problems in the recruitment (Egypt)*
  - *topic of little interest or taboo (Japan)*
  - *drop out with no (apparent) reason (Israel)*
  - *no (personal/scientific) knowledge of the PI (India)*

# On the co-authors' side

- Everybody has a tough nut to crack
- Minimize co-authors' work

# On the co-authors' side

- Everybody has a tough nut to crack
- Minimize co-authors' work
- Minimize degrees of freedom = Minimize errors and heterogeneity
  - *well defined categories/classifications (fillers, taboo categories)*
  - *ready-to-eat experimental program*
  - ...

# On the co-authors' side

- Everybody has a tough nut to crack
- Minimize co-authors' work
- Minimize degrees of freedom
- When in Rome, do as the Romans do



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# Should the study be pre-registered?

- Maybe not

Thanks,

Questions?