S49-6

FACET THEORETICAL ANALYSIS OF THE SIMILARITY RE-LATIONSHIPS OF PERSONALITY FACTORS AND PERSON-ALITY DISORDERS

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Recent categorical and dimensional models of personality, personality disorders (PDs) and their interrelationships are not only very heterogeneous, but also contain various methodological and statistical shortcomings. These shortcomings are avoided by applying non-metric multidimensional scaling models and a facet theoretical methodology to standard measures of personality traits (Sechs-Faktoren-Test) and PDs (DSM-III-R, ICD 10 and K. Schneider's four subaffective disorders) in a clinical (n = 165) and non-clinical (n = 100) sample.

It was hypothesised that higher-order personality traits generally structure the personality and that the difference between nonclinical personalities and PDs is not fundamental, but gradual.

Results show that the two classes of variables (personality factors and PDs) can be attached similarly to each other and structured in form of a radex in both samples (see figures).