

Factor structure of the Spanish version of the Life Orientation Test-Revised (LOT-R): Testing several models

Cano-García F.J.

Sanduvete-Chaves S.

Chacón-Moscoso S.

Rodríguez-Franco L.

García-Martínez J.

Antuña-Bellerín M.A.

Pérez-Gil J.A.

Studies of the dimensionality of the Life Orientation Test-Revised (LOT-R), considered as the gold standard in the measurement of dispositional optimism, yield controversial results due to the various factorial solutions found. Consequently, the factorial structure of the test has not yet been fully established. The aim of this study is to determine the factorial structure of the LOT-R by comparing seven previous models and their empirical evidence. The test was administered to 906 Spanish participants, ages 18 to 61 (mean age: 23; 56% males). Confirmatory factor analyses were conducted using polychoric correlations. Considering the theoretical background and the best model fit indices (RMSEA=038; CFI=98), we conclude that the test presents a factorial structure of a second-order factor (life orientation) composed of two factors (optimism and pessimism). Thus, we recommend using a single global score that could be referred to as life orientation but which ultimately represents the level of dispositional optimism. © 2014 Asociación Española de Psicología Conductual.

Confirmatory factor analysis

Instrumental study

Life Orientation Test-Revised (LOT-R)

Optimism

Second-order factor structure

