

Title: Theorizing in Psychological Science: Meaning, Measures, and Models

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Abstract:

This workshop will discuss the vital role of theorizing for good psychological research, especially in times of growing presence and influence of purely data-driven methods and artificial intelligence. Using pertinent examples from the recent literature, we will demonstrate the practicality of universal theories that explicate boundary conditions for universal laws (and why this is not a contradiction). We will also focus on the value of theorizing for statistical modeling discussing examples from our own research. Finally, the workshop will focus on how progress in psychological research can be accelerated via the development of strong theories and the design of diagnostic research.

We will ask participants to read one or two papers in advance. In the workshop we will discuss these papers and our experience with theorizing and its role in the research process. Participants should be prepared to critically evaluate the theories they have been using on different dimensions, and to develop ideas on how these theories could be strengthened.

We will also discuss how we can better integrate theorizing into the research process.

Credit: 2 workshop days