CAT-PD response bias scales are good at detecting feigning (but might provide false positives)

**Evaluating Response Bias Scales on the CAT-PD**

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**INTRODUCTION**

- The Computer Adaptive Test of Personality Disorder (CAT-PD) has demonstrated reliability and validity of its primary content scales.
- However, research has not evaluated its response bias scales: Positive Impression Management (PIM), Infrequency (INF), and Inconsistency (INC).
- In this study, we evaluate these scales using a combination of deliberate feigning conditions and computer simulation.

**METHODS**

- Participants were 547 workers on Amazon’s MTurk.
- Participants completed items about personality traits before being randomized to one of three conditions in which they responded to CAT-PD PIM, INF, and INC.
- We assigned ⅓ of participants each to normal responding, faking good, or faking bad conditions.
- We compared scale scores in normal responding condition to comparison conditions using Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) analysis.

**RESULTS**

- All response bias scales produced a statistically significant AUC (Figures 1-3).
- However, they had low specificity and moderate sensitivity (Table 1).

**DISCUSSION**

- Findings suggest CAT-PD response bias scales may be good at detecting bad responses but not sufficiently specific.
- One reason for scales’ underperformance may be that participants completed response bias scales isolated from other items on the CAT-PD.
- Future research should attempt to improve upon these limitations include all CAT-PD items/scales as well as manipulation checks.

**Table 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cut Score</th>
<th>SN</th>
<th>SP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PIM</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INF</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INC</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>.73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 1**

ROC Curve of CAT-PD- PIM Predicting Faking Good

Note. AUC = .64

**Figure 2**

ROC Curve of CAT-PD- INF Predicting Faking Bad

Note. AUC = .71

**Figure 3**

ROC Curve of CAT-PD- INC Predicting Random Responding

Note. AUC = .72; INC compared to simulated responses.