Validation of a French translation of the Gold-MSI, an instrument to assess self-reported musical skills and behaviours

The GOLD-MSI, the Goldsmiths Musical Sophistication Index

- Short questionnaire containing 38 self-reported items
- Evaluates different facets of ‘musical sophistication’ (= multi-faceted nature of musical expertise)
  - Active musical engagement
  - Self-reported perceptual abilities
  - Musical training
  - Self-reported singing abilities
  - Emotional engagement with music
  - General musical sophistication (aspects from the five subscales)
- Correlates with listening tasks
- Available in English, German² and Danish
- Developed in 2011 and 2012 by the Goldsmiths University of London

Participants

- 795 participants
- 71.2 % female
- Between 10 and 87 years old ($M= 47.39 ; SD = 17.44$)
- Belgian and/or French
- Exclusion if mainly the same answers (variance < 2 SDs below mean variance)
→ Sample of 761 participants

Data analysis

- 3 measures of intern reliability: Cronbach’s alpha/ McDonald's omega total / Guttman's lambda 6
- Factor structure: confirmatory factor analysis (CFA)

RESULTS

Intern reliability:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Active engagement</th>
<th>Perceptual abilities</th>
<th>Musical training</th>
<th>Singing abilities</th>
<th>Emotions</th>
<th>General Musical Sophistication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean (SD)</td>
<td>35.58 (10.23)</td>
<td>46.73 (8.80)</td>
<td>22.72 (11.31)</td>
<td>28.34 (9.13)</td>
<td>32.49 (5.33)</td>
<td>72.27 (18.10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha</td>
<td>.87</td>
<td>.87</td>
<td>.91</td>
<td>.87</td>
<td>.89</td>
<td>.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omega</td>
<td>.90</td>
<td>.89</td>
<td>.94</td>
<td>.87</td>
<td>.86</td>
<td>.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guttman6</td>
<td>.87</td>
<td>.87</td>
<td>.92</td>
<td>.87</td>
<td>.78</td>
<td>.94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- High measures (between 0.78 and 0.95)
- Close to the original and German versions

Intern correlation: from moderate to strong

- Confirmatory of the 5 factors (5 facets):
  - RMSEA-value: 0.08
  - SRMR-value: 0.11
  - CFI with a general factor and no group factors: 2.10

CONCLUSION

- Good internal consistency and psychometric properties
- Confirmation of the underlying factor structure of the model based on the English and German versions of the MSI
- French version freely available: can contribute to research about musical skills and behaviours in French speaking regions