

Ph.D. Dissertation Presentation:

Populism & Populist Attitudes Towards an operationalization of an ephemeral latent construct

Supervisor: Professor Dr. André Kaiser

Flavio Azevedo

Cologne Graduate School (CGS)



Presentation Outline

1. Summary of ongoing **(non-PhD)** projects
2. Ph.D. Project
3. **Focus** on 1st Paper

[Other projects] #1

The structural **complexity** & structural **validity** of **conservatism** scales

– In collaboration with Tobias Rothmund

1. validate the original articles' findings
2. assess the (comparative) predictive validity
3. assess the structural complexity of conservatism
4. explore a variety of psychometric (IRT)
5. first adaptive conservatism test
 - » via computerized adaptive testing (CAT-IRT)

– Open Science Framework



[Other projects] #2

Measurement Refinement of Disgust Instruments

- Found to **reliably predict**
 - ideological subscription (US-EU)
 - vote choices (US-EU)
- In collaboration with Yoel Inbar & Josh Tybur
 - › Three-Domain Disgust Scale (TDDS – 10K)
 - › The Disgust Scale-Revised (DS-R – 15K – yourmorals.org)
 - › Perceived Vulnerability to Disease (PVD – 1K)
- Main objective: New and improved “D” scale
- Open Science Framework



Ph.D. Project: Populist Zeitgeist ?

Country	Party	Elections*	Country	Party	Elections*
Austria	Freedom Party (FPÖ)	2002–2013	Latvia	All For Latvia! (VL)	2006–2010
	Alliance for the Future of Austria (BZÖ)	2006–2008	Lithuania	Labour Party (DP)	2004
	Team Stronach (TS)	2013		Order and Justice Party (TT)	2004–2012
Belgium	Flemish Interest (VB)	2003–2010	Luxembourg	Alternative Democratic Reform Party (ADR)	2004–2013
	National Front (FN)	2003–2010	Malta	–	
	List Dedecker (LDD)	2007–2010	Netherlands	List Pim Fortuyn (LPF)	2002–2006
Bulgaria	National Movement Simeon the Second (NDSV)	2001		Liveable Netherlands (LN)	2002–2003
	Attack Party (Ataka)	2005–2013		Freedom Party (PVV)	2006–2012
	Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria (GERB)	2009–2013	Norway	Progress Party (FrP)	2001–2013
Croatia	Law, Order and Justice (RZS)	2009–2013	Poland	Self Defence (SO)	2001–2007
	Croatian Labourists – Labour Party (HL-SR)	2011		Law and Justice (PiS)	2005–2011
Cyprus	Croatian Party of Rights dr. Ante Starčević (HSP-AS)	2011	Portugal	–	
Czech Republic	–		Romania	Greater Romania Party (PRM)	2000–2012
	Public Affairs (VV)	2010		People's Party – Dan Diaconescu (PP-DD)	2012
	ANO 2011 (ANO)	2013	Slovakia	Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (HZDS)	2002–2012
Denmark	Dawn of Direct Democracy (Úsvit)	2013		Direction (Smer)	2002–2006
	Danish People's Party (DF)	2001–2011		Slovak National Party (SNS)	2002–2012
Estonia	–			Ordinary People and Independent Personalities (OLaNO)	2012
Finland	–		Slovenia	Slovenian National Party (SNS)	2000–2011
France	True Finns (PS)	2003–2011	Spain	–	
Germany	National Front (FN)	2002–2012	Sweden	Sweden Democrats (SD)	2002–2010
	Party of Democratic Socialism/ The Left (PDS/Linke)	2002–2013	Switzerland	Swiss People's Party (SVP)	2003–2011
Greece	Popular Orthodox Rally (LAOS)	2004–2012		League of Ticinesians (LdTi)	2003–2011
	Coalition of the Radical Left (SYRIZA)	2004–2012		Swiss Democrats (SD)	2003–2011
	Independent Greeks (ANEL)	2012		Geneva Citizens' Movement (MCG)	2007–2011
Hungary	–		UK	–	
	FIDESZ-Hungarian Civic Alliance (FIDESZ-MPSZ)	2006–2010			
Iceland	Movement for a Better Hungary (Jobbik)	2006–2010			
Ireland	Citizens' Movement (BF)	2009			
Italy	Sinn Féin (SF)	2002–2011			
	Forza Italia (FI) / People for Freedom (PdL)	2001–2013			
	Northern League (LN)	2001–2013			
	5 Star Movement (M5S)	2013			

*This column indicates in which elections between 2000 and 2013 an individual party has participated as a populist party. This does not mean that the party also won seats in the given election years. See Table A.1 in Appendix C for election results.

Ph.D. Project: Populism Defined

- **People vs. Elite**
 - › **Manichean** view point
 - › **Non-elitists** attitudes
- **Uncompromising**
 - › **Non-pluralists**
 - › **Sovereignty of people**
- **Thin-centered ideology**

Ph.D. Project: Key Ideas

Populism

Populist Attitudes

Demand-side

Cross-National Comparisons

Methodologically

Latent Variable Measuring

Measurement Equivalence

Ph.D. Project: Summary

– Project #1: First Steps

- Cross-National Comparison
 - › 9 Countries in Europe, LIVEWHAT (n=18370)
- Instrument Development

– Project #2: Generalizations

- Generalizability & Validation
- Americas and Europe (AmericasBarometer, CCES, UCEP, LIVEWHAT, ESS)

– Project #3: Measurement Issues

- Measurement Equivalence
- MG-CFA & DIF-IRT

Ph.D. Project: 1st Paper

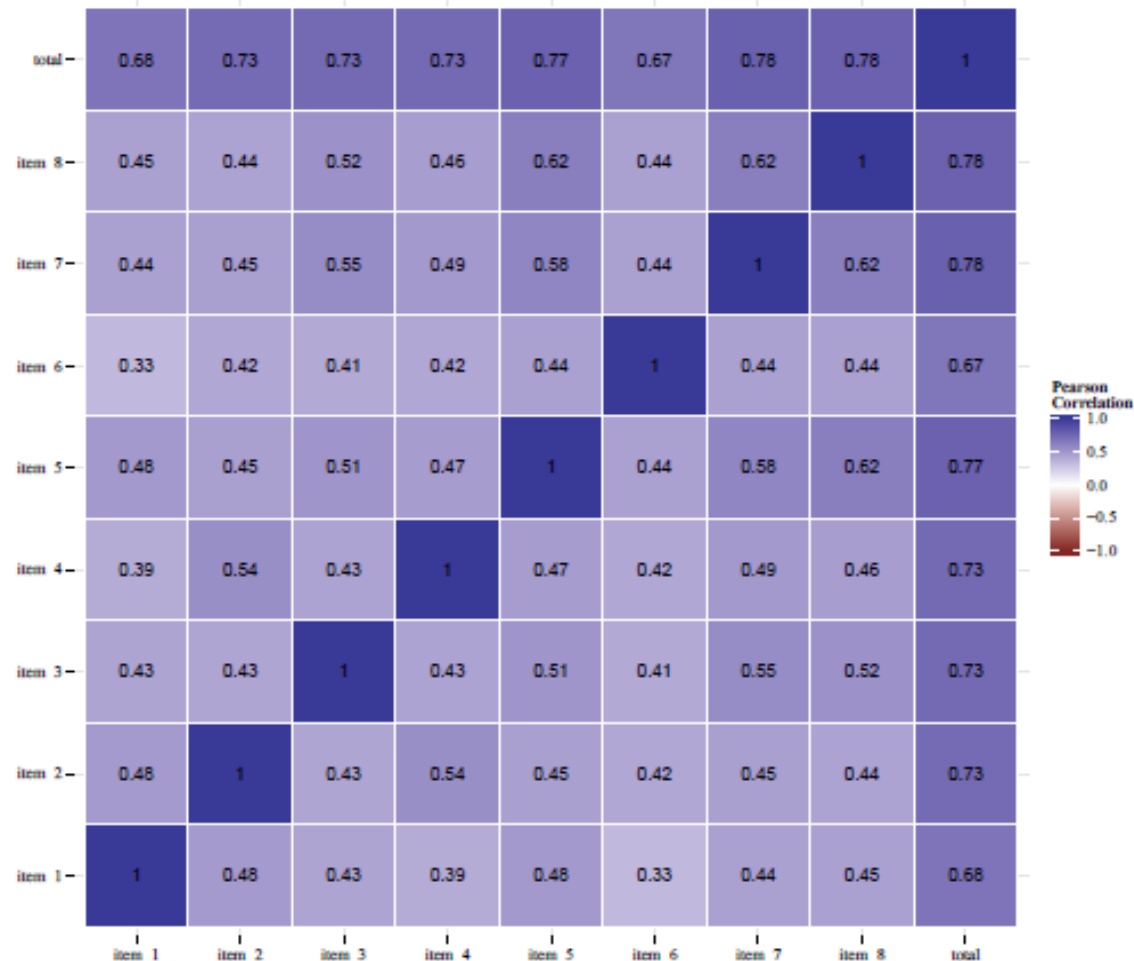
Antecedents

- Convergence on a set of six items
- Applied on 9 European countries (n = 18.370)
 - › **LIVEWHAT** is **unique** & **proprietary** dataset

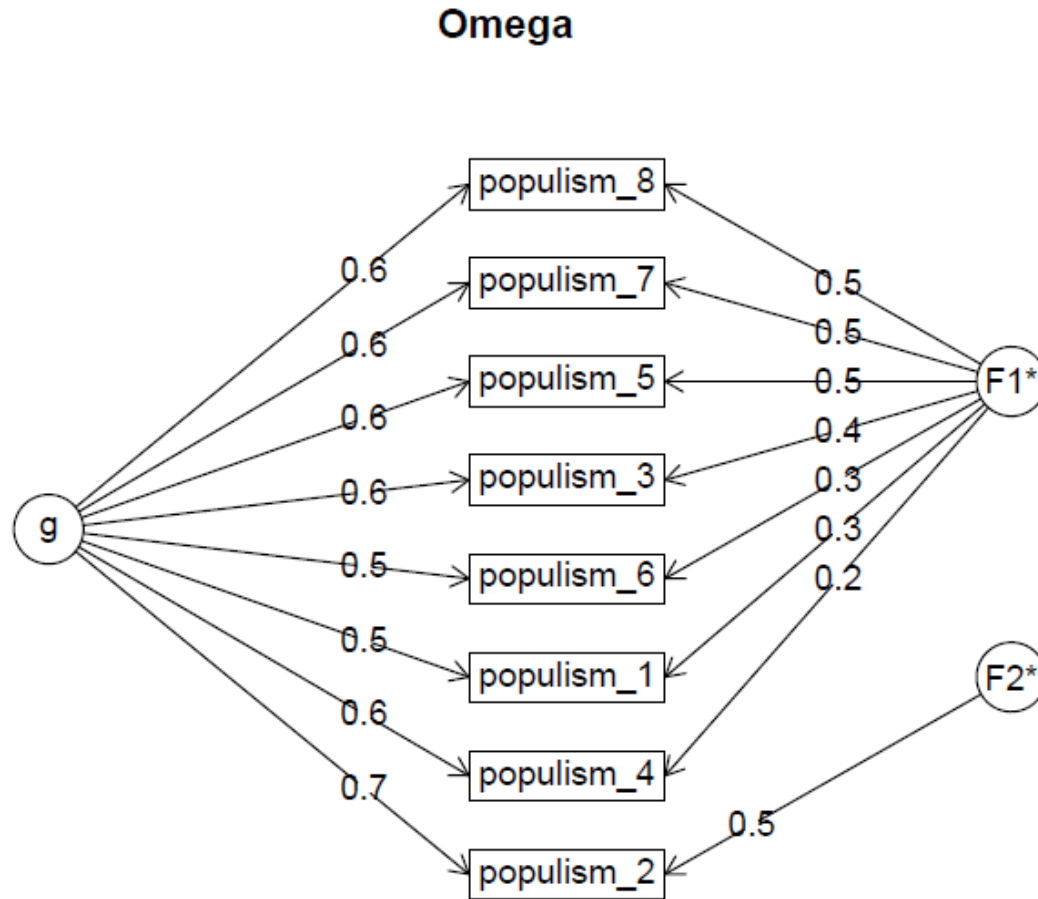
Goals

1. **Replicate** findings: **Structural Complexity**
2. **Validate** the instrument (+ 2 items)
3. **Provide a methodological guide**: **Latent variables**

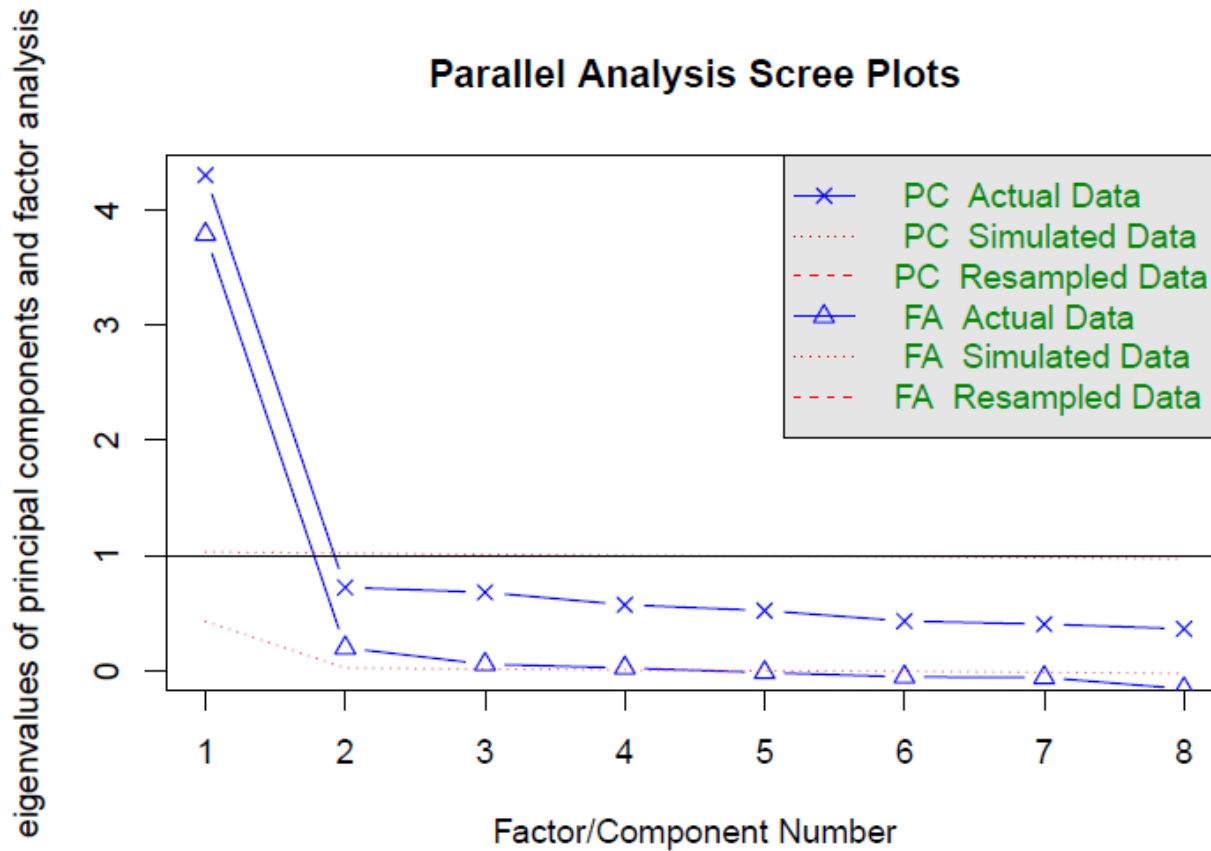
[Goal 1: Replication]



[Goal 1: Replication]



[Goal 1: Replication]



[Goal 1: Replication] Conclusion

“So, what?”

[Goal 2: Validation] IRT

Item Response Theory

- Latent Variable Modeling

In depth insight on “how good” a

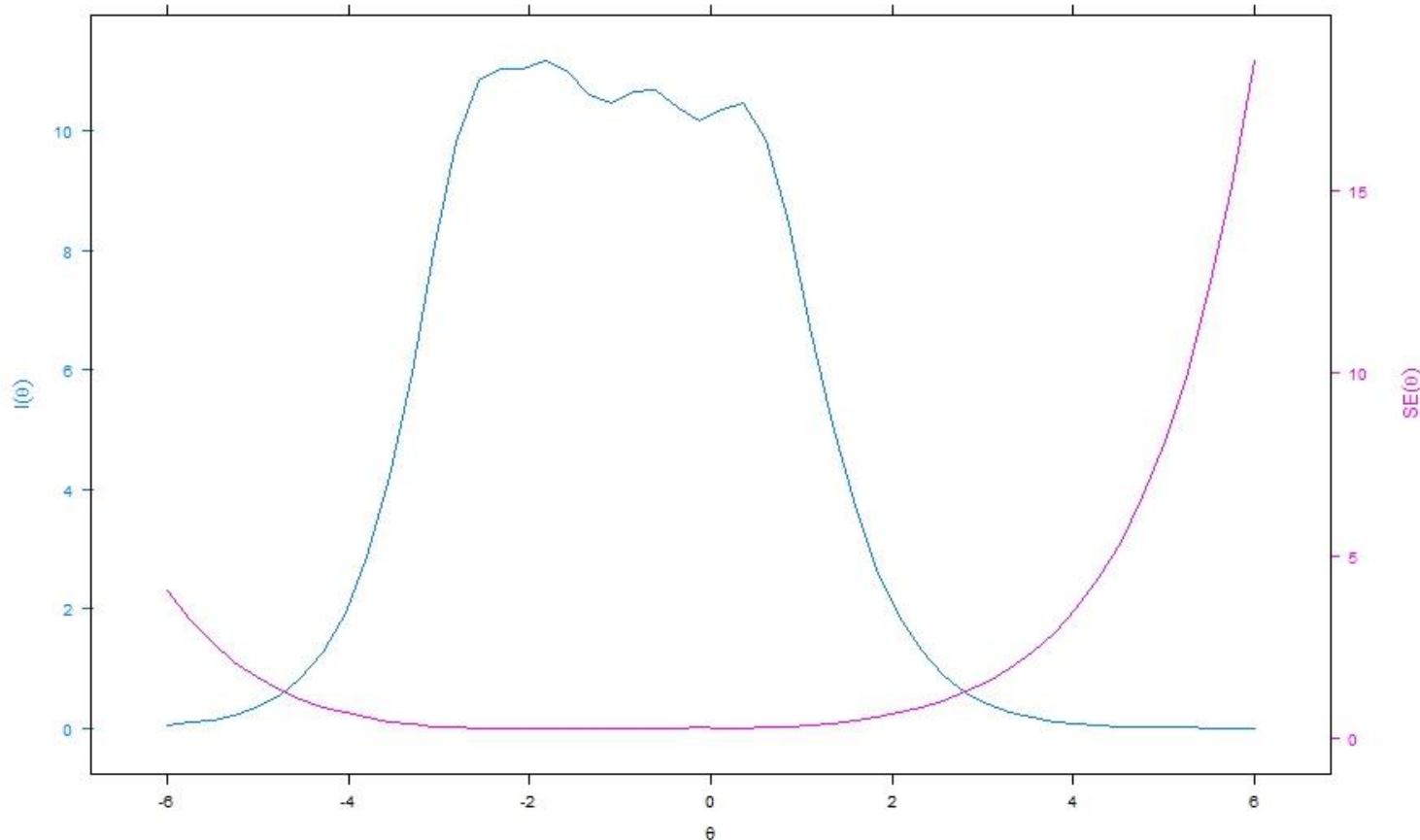
- Scale
- Items
- Response Categories

are, in terms of the **studied** latent construct

[Goal 2: Validation]

Scale-Level Information

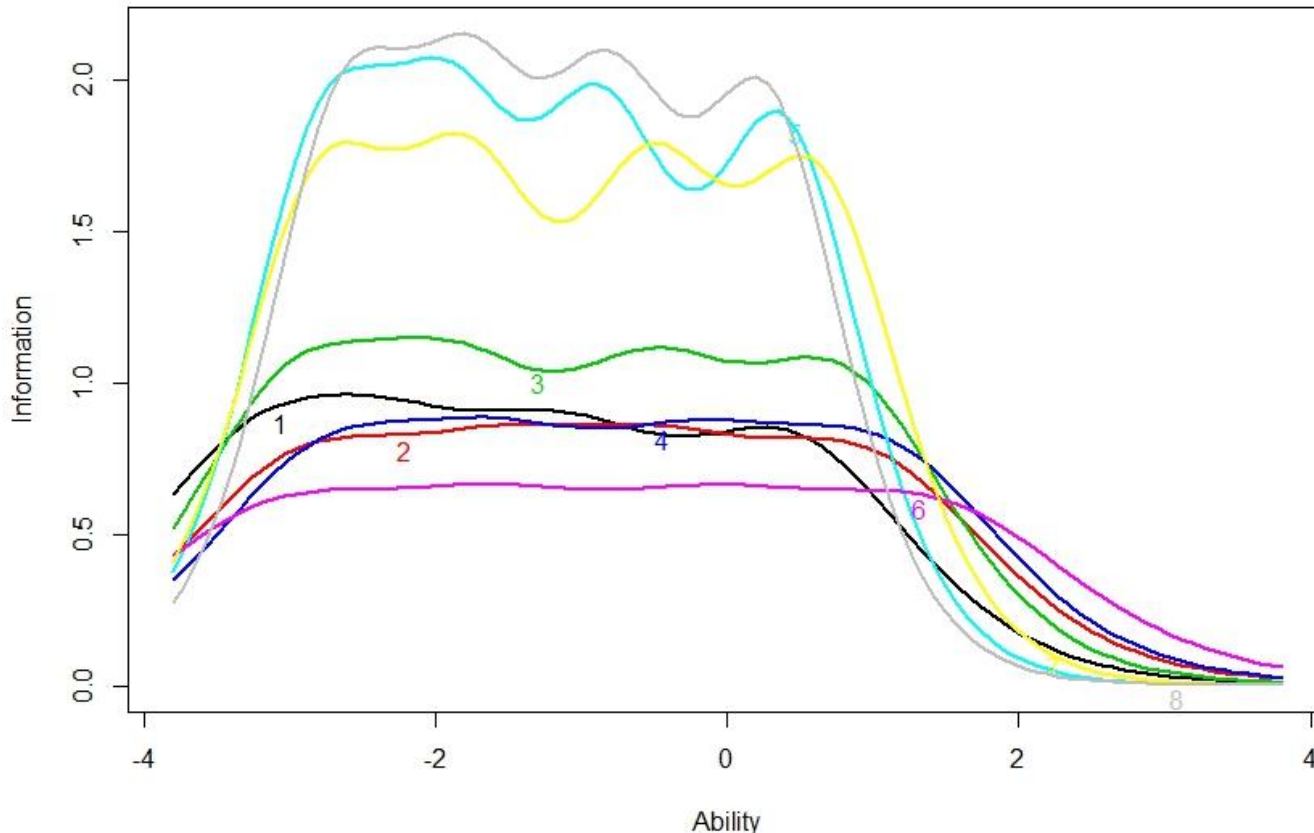
Test Information and Standard Errors



[Goal 2: Validation]

Item-Level Information

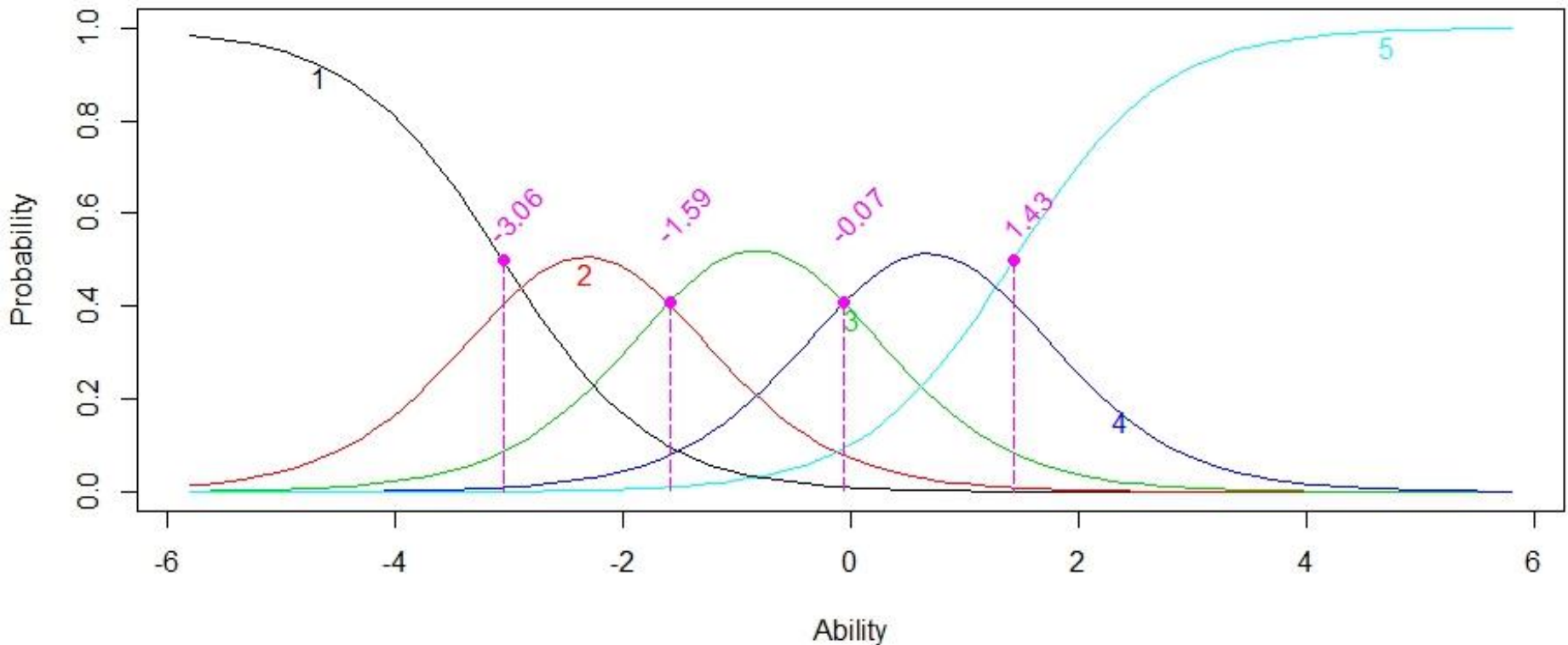
Item Information Function



[Goal 2: Validation]

Response-Level Information

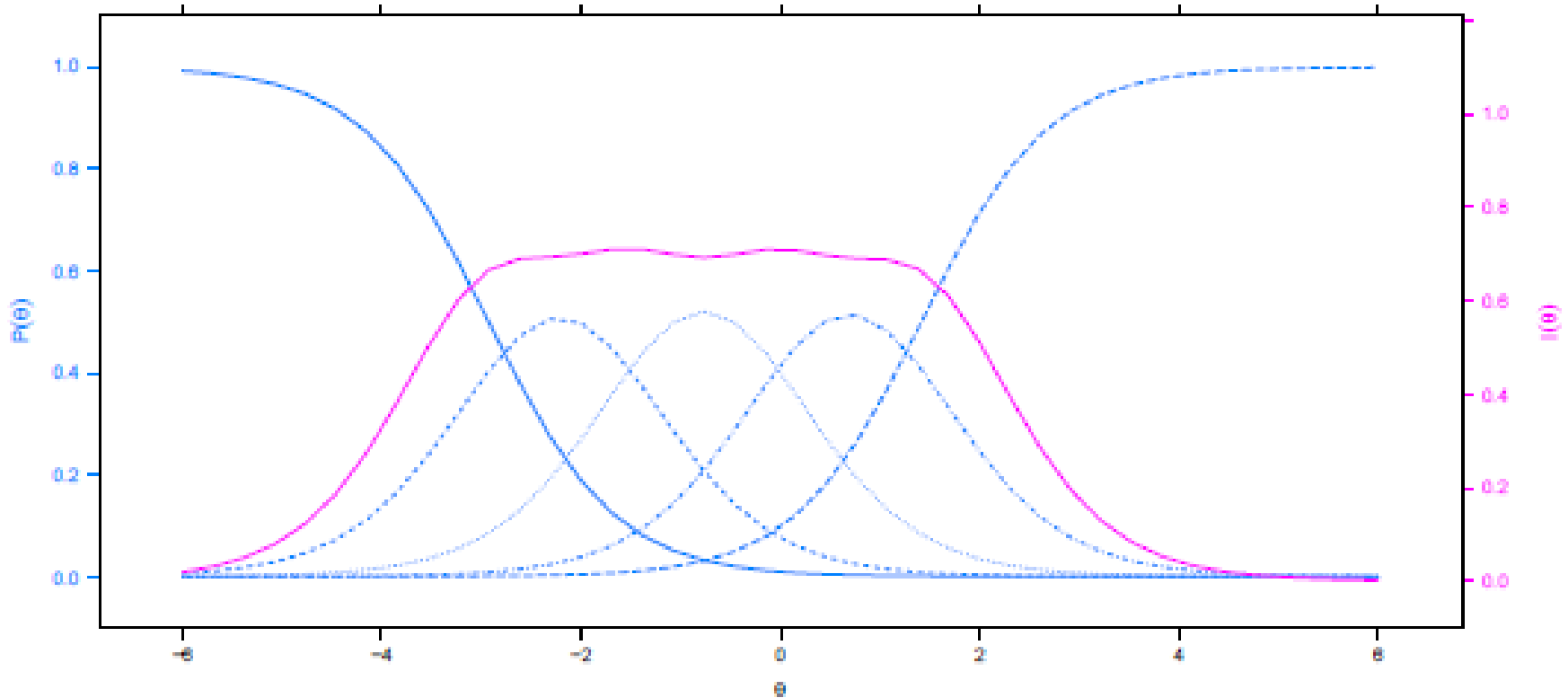
Category Response Curves for Item 6



[Goal 2: Validation]

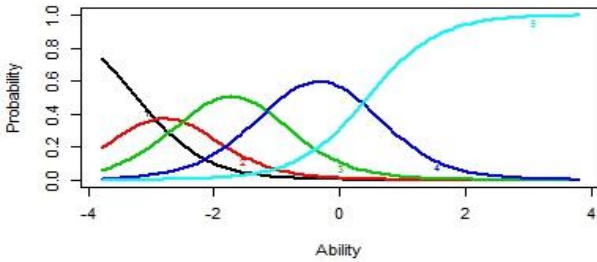
Response-Level Information

Trace lines and information for item 6

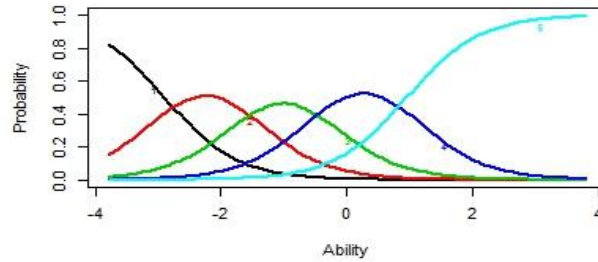


[Goal 2: Validation]

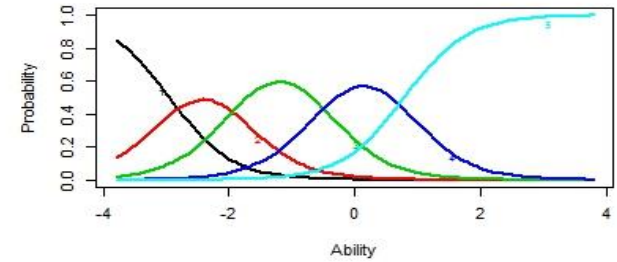
Item Characteristic Curves



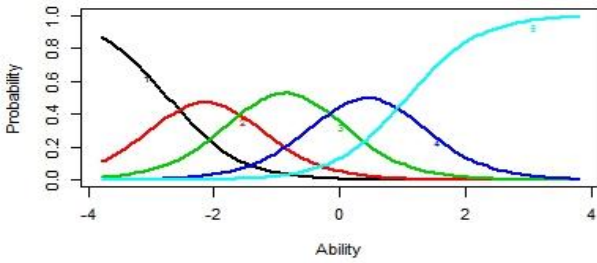
Item Characteristic Curves



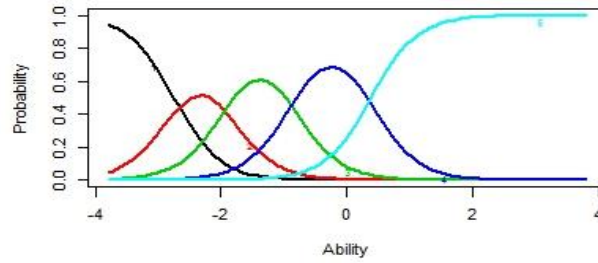
Item Characteristic Curves



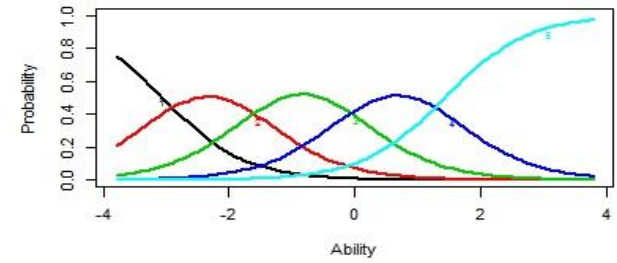
Item Characteristic Curves



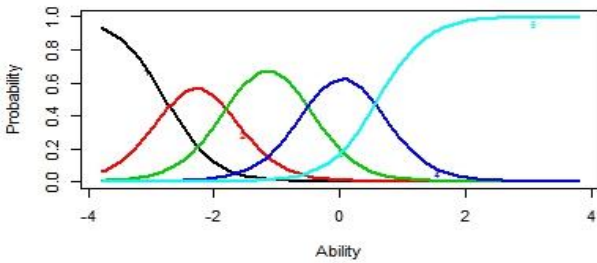
Item Characteristic Curves



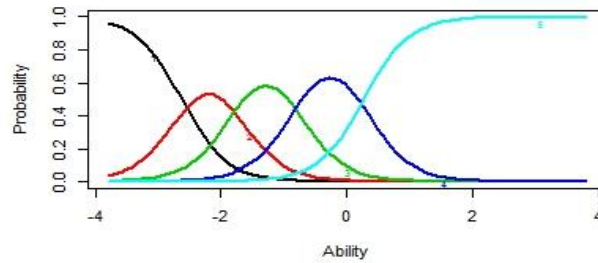
Item Characteristic Curves



Item Characteristic Curves



Item Characteristic Curves



[Conclusion]

- Which **conclusions** can be drawn by these results?
- How the use of IRT facilitated **scale refinement**?
- What are the **suggestion** we can make based upon these results?

**Thank you for your time,
questions and comments !**

Please visit

www.flavioazevedo.com

**for the outline of ongoing projects,
R resources and R an boot-camp course**