

# Workshop on Sample Size Planning for Intensive Longitudinal Studies

Ginette Lafit, Jordan Revol, Mihai A. Constantin, & Eva Ceulemans

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## About us

### **Ginette Lafit ([ginette.lafit@kuleuven.be](mailto:ginette.lafit@kuleuven.be))**

- PostDoc at Research Group of Quantitative Psychology and Individual Differences and Center of Contextual Psychiatry, KU Leuven

### **Jordan Revol ([jordan.revol@kuleuven.be](mailto:jordan.revol@kuleuven.be))**

- Ph.D. at Research Group of Quantitative Psychology and Individual Differences, KU Leuven

### **Mihai A. Constantin ([mihai@mihaiconstantin.com](mailto:mihai@mihaiconstantin.com))**

- Ph.D. at Department of Methodology and Statistics, Tilburg University

### **Eva Ceulemans ([eva.ceulemans@kuleuven.be](mailto:eva.ceulemans@kuleuven.be))**

- Professor at Research Group of Quantitative Psychology and Individual Differences, KU Leuven

## Preliminaries

### Goal of the workshop

The workshop provides a 'road map' on how to determine the sample size in intensive longitudinal (IL) designs

### Materials

Slides of the workshop and materials are available at [samplesize.help](https://samplesize.help)

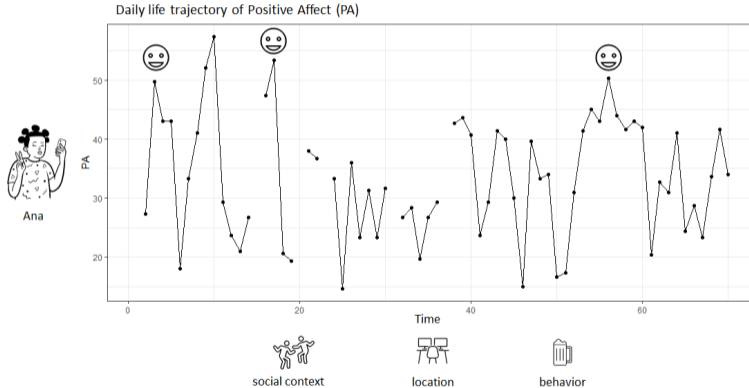
[Feel free to ask questions anytime!](#)

## Overview

- ① Intensive Longitudinal (IL) designs
- ② Sample size planning in IL research
- ③ Research questions in IL research
- ④ Sample size planning for VAR(1) models in  $N = 1$  designs
- ⑤ Sample size planning for multilevel models
- ⑥ Advanced methods for sample size planning

# Investigate dynamics of daily life psychological processes

How do complex psychological processes evolve dynamically within a person's daily life?



## Intensive longitudinal designs

- Intensive longitudinal (IL) designs: persons are repeatedly measured over time
- Methods to gather IL data: Experience Sampling Method (ESM)



Figure: Overview ESM. Taken from Olivia J. Kirtley

## Structure of IL data

- Sample size:  $N$  is the number of persons and  $T$  is the number of repeated measurements
- **Time-varying variables**: repeated measurements within persons
- **Time-invariant variables**: person-level variables

example IL study: Leuven clinical study was conducted on persons diagnosed with depression

ID	Day	Beep	PA	NA	Anhedonia	Diagnosis	Depression
1	1	1	NA	NA	NA	1	12
1	1	2	27.33	30.40	26.00	1	12
1	1	3	49.67	23.80	25.00	1	12
2	1	1	73.67	11.00	20.00	0	4
2	1	2	64.33	10.80	18.00	0	4
2	1	3	69.67	11.20	10.00	0	4

The data set is available at: <https://emotedatabase.com/datasets/3>

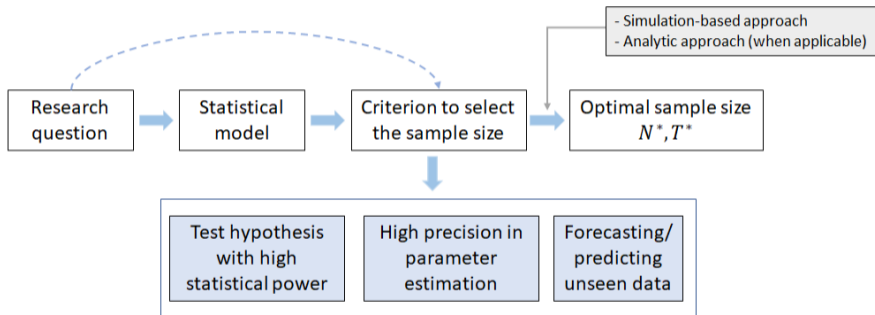
## How we can determine the sample size in an IL study?

- The sample size of a study determines how much information is present in a data set to derive reliable conclusions
- If the goal of a study is to test a hypothesis: a criterion to select the sample size is statistical power
- However, other criteria to select the sample size of a study (e.g., precision in parameter estimation, predictive accuracy)



## Sample size planning

Selecting the sample size involves the following steps:



## Example. Sample size planning in $N = 1$ designs

**Goal: investigate within-person dynamics of a variable for a single person**

A key measure of emotional dynamics: emotional inertia

Emotional inertia refers to the degree to which emotional states are resistant to change (Kuppens et al., 2010)

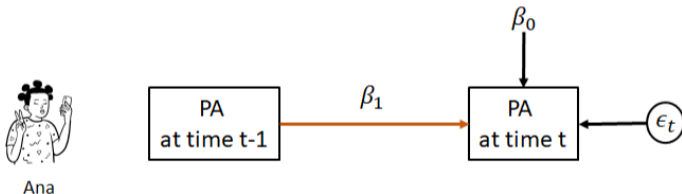
Operationalization of emotional inertia

Within-person emotion autoregressive effect: current values of the emotional variable are predicted by the value of the emotional variable at the previous time point

## Estimating emotional inertia for positive affect

### Emotional inertia of positive affect (PA)

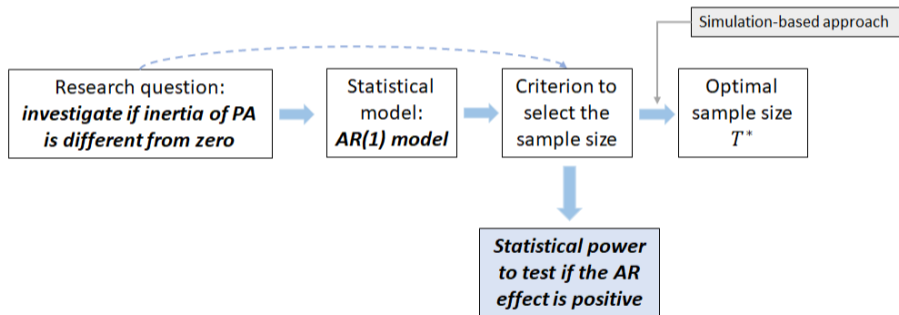
Within-person autocorrelation: current values of PA are predicted by the value of PA at the previous time point



where  $\beta_1$  denotes the autoregressive effect (i.e., inertia)

## Example. Sample size planning to investigate if the emotional of PA is positive

Selecting the sample size for the  $N = 1$  study involves the following steps:



## Power-based sample size planning

### Power-based sample size planning

The goal is to design a study to yield sufficient statistical power to test specific hypotheses concerning parameters in the statistical model

## Power analysis

**Goal: select the sample size to reach high statistical power (e.g., 90%)**

- Power is the probability of correctly rejecting the null hypothesis when there is an effect of a certain size
- Example: in a  $N = 1$  design the goal is to test if the autoregressive effect of PA is different from zero

$$H_0 : \beta_1 = 0$$

$$H_1 : \beta_1 \neq 0$$

Null Hypothesis and Outcome of a Test

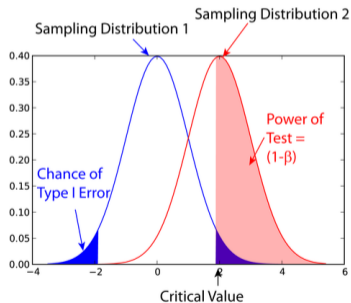
	$H_0$ is true	$H_1$ is true
$H_0$ is rejected	$\alpha = Pr(\text{Type I error})$	$1 - \beta = \text{power}$
$H_0$ is not rejected		$\beta = Pr(\text{Type II error})$

## Factors influencing statistical power

- Test statistics: t-test defined as  $T = \frac{\hat{\beta}_1}{SE(\hat{\beta}_1)}$
- We reject  $H_0$  if  $|T| \geq \mathcal{T}^{-1}(1 - \alpha)$ , where  $\mathcal{T}^{-1}(1 - \alpha)$  is the critical value

### Factors influencing statistical power

- size of the true effect size ( $\beta_1^*$ ) is positively related to power
- Type I error rate ( $\alpha$ ) is inversely related to power
- sample size ( $T$ ) is positively related to power: higher  $T \rightarrow$  lower standard error  $SE(\hat{\beta}_1)$

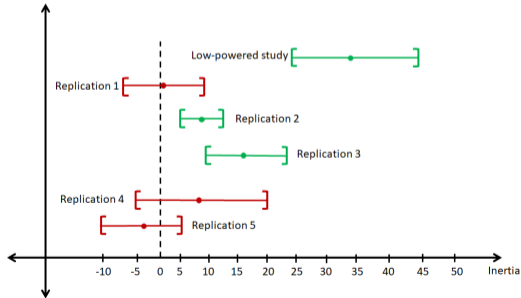


Power of a test. (2022, October 18). In Wikipedia.  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Power\\_of\\_a\\_test](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Power_of_a_test)

# The risk of low-powered studies

Common consequences of studies with low power

- ▶ The research findings of a low-powered study can differ considerably from the findings in the subsequent studies, in other words, they might not be replicated
- ▶ Low-powered studies also increase the chance of overestimation of the true effect





## Methods for conducting power analysis

### Analytic approach

Computes statistical power using formulas for the standard errors of the effect of interest. For example, G\*Power uses analytic approximations to calculate statistical power.

→ obtaining these formulas is not straightforward for complex models

### Simulation-based approach

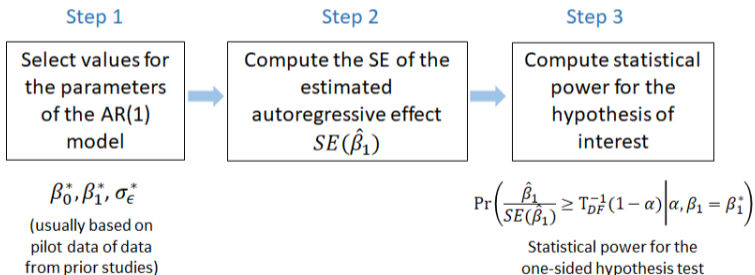
Computes statistical power using Monte Carlo simulations to generate data based on a statistical model and predefined values for the model parameters

→ it can be applied to a wide variety of models

## Steps of the analytic approach

- Example: select the number of measurement occasions  $T$  to test if the autoregressive effect of PA is positive

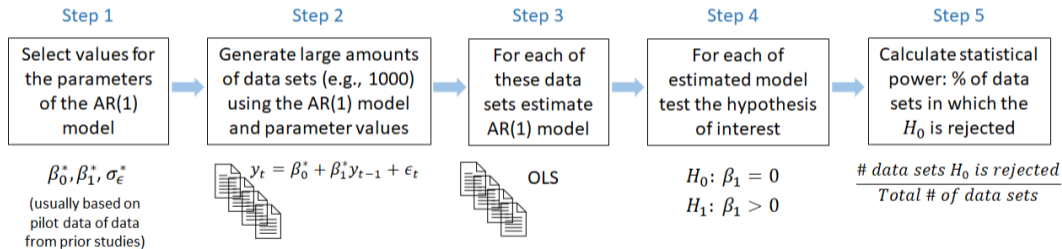
Given  $T$ , Hypothesis of interest (e.g.,  $H_0 : \beta_1 = 0$  vs.  $H_1 : \beta_1 > 0$ ), and  $\alpha$



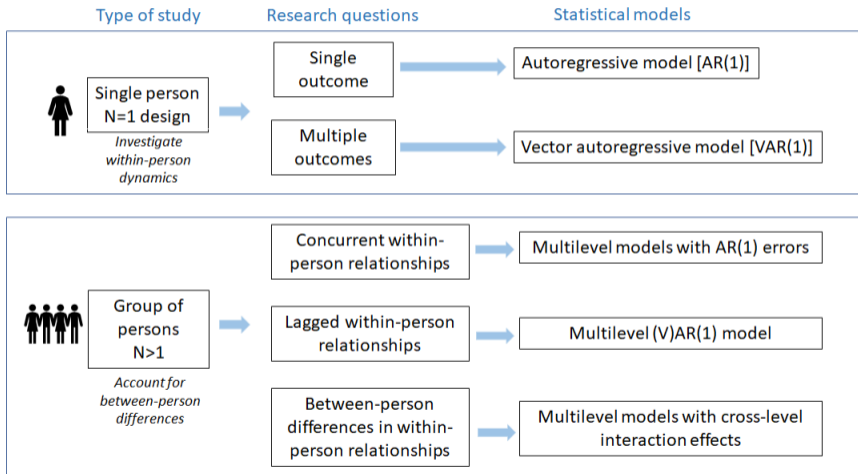
## Steps of the simulation-based approach

- Example: select the number of measurement occasions  $T$  to test if the autoregressive effect of PA is positive

Given  $T$ , Hypothesis of interest (e.g.,  $H_0 : \beta_1 = 0$  vs.  $H_1 : \beta_1 > 0$ ), and  $\alpha$



# What type of research questions we can investigate with IL designs?



## In this workshop we will focus on sample size planning for the following research questions

### Single person $N = 1$ designs

- AR(1) model
- VAR(1) model

### Group of persons $N > 1$ designs

- Multilevel models to investigate concurrent associations (i.e., at the same time point)
- Multilevel AR(1) models

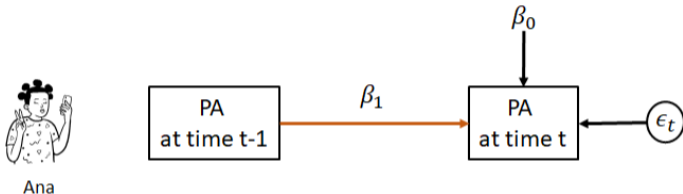
## Sample size planning for VAR(1) models in $N = 1$ designs

**Goal:** select the number of repeated measurements  $T$  for VAR(1) models

- Power analysis in AR(1) and VAR(1) models
- Predictive accuracy analysis: a new criterion for selecting  $T$  in VAR(1) models when the goal of a study is to predict unseen data

## Estimating inertia of PA: Autoregressive model

Autoregressive or AR(1) model for PA



AR(1) model as a linear model:

$$PA_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 PA_{t-1} + \epsilon_t$$

where  $\beta_0$  is the intercept,  $\beta_1$  is the autoregressive effect, and  $\epsilon_i$  denotes the within-person errors which are independent and identically distributed  $N(0, \sigma_\epsilon^2)$

## Example: AR(1) model estimation

AR(1) model can be estimated using ordinary least squares (OLS)

### OLS estimation using R

```
fit.AR.PA = lm(PA ~ 1 + PA.lag, data = data)
summary(fit.AR.PA)
```

### Estimate the standard deviation of the errors ( $\sigma_\epsilon$ )

```
sd(residuals(fit.AR.PA))
[1] 9.566865
```

Estimate of the autoregressive effect:  $\hat{\beta}_1 = 0.41$

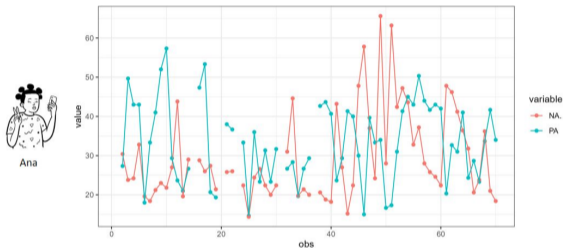
Estimate of the standard deviation of the errors:  $\hat{\sigma}_\epsilon = 9.57$

Observations	54 (16 missing obs. deleted)			
Dependent variable	PA			
Type	OLS linear regression			
	F(1,52)	9.80		
	R <sup>2</sup>	0.16		
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.14		
	Est.	S.E.	t val.	p
(Intercept)	20.33	4.58	4.44	0.00
PA.lag	0.41	0.13	3.13	0.00
Standard errors: OLS				



## What if we are interested in the within-person dynamics of two variables?

Returning to Ana's example, how does her affect system (PA and NA) evolve in daily life?

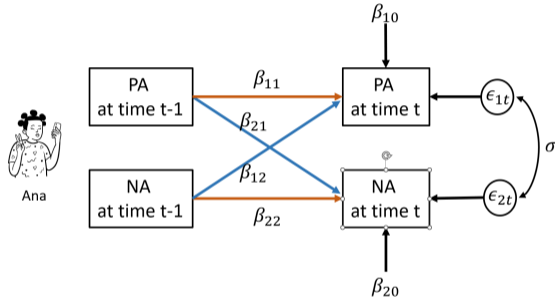


Vector autoregressive model [VAR(1)]: investigate temporal associations between variables

- ▶ Effect of a variable at time  $t - 1$  on the same variable at time  $t$
- ▶ Effect of a variable at time  $t - 1$  on the other variable at time  $t$

## VAR(1) models for PA and NA

Goal: investigate within-person dynamics of a system of two variables



where  $\beta_{11}$  and  $\beta_{22}$  are the auto-regressive effects,  $\beta_{12}$  and  $\beta_{21}$  are the cross-regressive effects and  $\epsilon$  are the error term that follows a multivariate normal distribution  $N(0, \Sigma_{\epsilon}^2)$

## VAR(1) models as a linear model

$$PA_t = \beta_{10} + \beta_{11}PA_{t-1} + \beta_{12}NA_{t-1} + \epsilon_{1t}$$

$$NA_t = \beta_{20} + \beta_{22}NA_{t-1} + \beta_{21}PA_{t-1} + \epsilon_{2t}$$

With:

$$\epsilon \sim N \left[ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{12} \\ \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix} \right]$$

## Example: VAR(1) model estimation

VAR(1) model can be estimated using ordinary least squares (OLS)

### OLS estimation using R

```
fit.PA = lm(PA ~ 1 + PA.lag + NA.lag, data = data)
summary(fit.PA)
fit.NA = lm(NA. ~ 1 + PA.lag + NA.lag, data = data)
summary(fit.NA)
```

### Estimation variance-covariance matrix

```
res = cbind(residuals(fit.PA), residuals(fit.NA))
cov(res)
```

#### PA outcome:

	Est.	S.E.	t val.	p
(Intercept)	23.46	6.28	3.74	0.00
PA.lag	0.39	0.13	2.94	0.00
NA.lag	-0.08	0.11	-0.73	0.47

Standard errors: OLS

#### NA outcome:

	Est.	S.E.	t val.	p
(Intercept)	17.88	6.63	2.70	0.01
PA.lag	-0.02	0.14	-0.14	0.89
NA.lag	0.38	0.12	3.14	0.00

Standard errors: OLS

#### Variance-covariance:

```
##           [,1]      [,2]
## [1,] 90.572865  4.295723
## [2,]  4.295723 101.177796
```

## Power analysis VAR(1) models

In a new study of a person with similar characteristics to Ana, we want to investigate if:

- The auto-regressive effect for NA is different from zero ( $H_0 : \beta_{22} = 0$  vs.  $H_1 : \beta_{22} \neq 0$ )
- A negative effect of NA on PA ( $H_0 : \beta_{21} = 0$  vs.  $H_1 : \beta_{21} \neq 0$ )

Using Ana's data, we set the values of the model parameters of the VAR(1) model:

$$PA_t = 23.46 + .39 * PA_{t-1} + (-.08) * NA_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{1t}$$

$$NA_t = 17.88 + .38 * NA_{t-1} + (-.02) * PA_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{2t}$$

$$\epsilon \sim N \left[ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 90.6 & 4.30 \\ 4.30 & 101.2 \end{bmatrix} \right]$$

## Power for VAR(1)

**Goal:** select the number of repeated measurements ( $T$ ) to reach high statistical power (e.g., 90%) with a simulation-based approach

**Solution1:** R script (see `power_analysis_var1.Rmd`)

**Solution2:** A shiny app ([link](#))

### Script to run the shiny app

```
remotes::install_gitlab("ppw-okpiv/researchers/u0148925/shinyapp-paa_var_n1",  
host="https://gitlab.kuleuven.be", force=TRUE)  
library(paavar1)  
run_paa_var1()
```

## Power for VAR(1): using the shiny app

A: Simulation parameters: seed, #replicates and #time points (T)

C: Power settings: alpha and power target

### A. Simulation parameters

Seed:

Number of replicates:

Number of time points:

### C. Power analysis

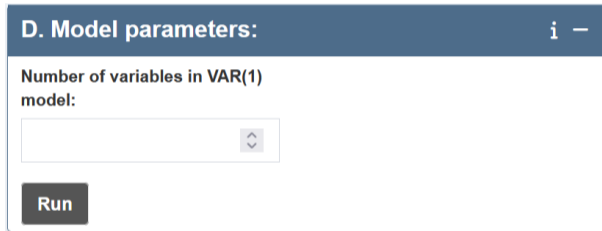
Alpha:

Power threshold:

## Power for VAR(1): using the shiny app

Parameters: select the number of variables in the VAR(1) model



The screenshot shows a Shiny app window titled "D. Model parameters:". Inside the window, there is a label "Number of variables in VAR(1) model:" followed by a dropdown menu. Below the dropdown menu is a dark grey button labeled "Run".



## Power for VAR(1): using the shiny app

Parameters: set the values of the model parameters of the VAR(1) model

**D. Model parameters:** i -

Number of variables in VAR(1) model:

2

Y1 PA Y2 NA.

Transition matrix formula

Intercept matrix

	PA	NA.
	0	0

Transition matrix:

	PA	NA.
PA	0	0
NA.	0	0

Sigma matrix:

	PA	NA.
PA	1	0
NA.	0	1

Run

## Power for VAR(1): using the shiny app

Intercepts:

$$PA_t = \beta_{10} + \beta_{11}PA_{t-1} + \beta_{12}NA_{t-1} + \epsilon_{1t}$$

$$NA_t = \beta_{20} + \beta_{22}NA_{t-1} + \beta_{21}PA_{t-1} + \epsilon_{2t}$$

Intercept matrix:

	PA	NA
	$\beta_{10}$	$\beta_{20}$

## Power for VAR(1): using the shiny app

### Intercepts:

$$PA_t = 23.46 + .39 * PA_{t-1} + (-.08) * NA_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{1t}$$

$$NA_t = 17.88 + .38 * NA_{t-1} + (-.02) * PA_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{2t}$$

### Intercept input:

Intercept matrix

	PA	NA.
	23.46	17.88

## Power for VAR(1): using the shiny app

**Coefficients of the transition matrix:**

$$PA_t = \beta_{10} + \beta_{11}PA_{t-1} + \beta_{12}NA_{t-1} + \epsilon_{1t}$$

$$NA_t = \beta_{20} + \beta_{22}NA_{t-1} + \beta_{21}PA_{t-1} + \epsilon_{2t}$$

**Transition matrix:**

	PA	NA
PA	$\beta_{11}$	$\beta_{12}$
NA	$\beta_{21}$	$\beta_{22}$

## Power for VAR(1): using the shiny app

**Coefficients of the transition matrix:**

$$PA_t = 23.46 + .39 * PA_{t-1} + (-.08) * NA_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{1t}$$

$$NA_t = 17.88 + .38 * NA_{t-1} + (-.02) * PA_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{2t}$$

**Input the values of the parameters of the transition matrix:**

Transition matrix:

	PA	NA.
PA	0.39	-0.08
NA.	-0.02	0.38

## Power for VAR(1): using the shiny app

**Variance-covariance matrix of the within-person errors:**

$$\epsilon \sim N \left[ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{00} & \sigma_{01} \\ \sigma_{10} & \sigma_{11} \end{bmatrix} \right]$$

**Variance-covariance matrix of the within-person errors:**

	PA	NA
PA	$\sigma_{11}$	$\sigma_{12}$
NA	$\sigma_{12}$	$\sigma_{22}$

## Power for VAR(1): using the shiny app

Variance-covariance matrix of the within-person errors:

$$\epsilon \sim N \left[ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 90.6 & 4.30 \\ 4.30 & 101.2 \end{bmatrix} \right]$$

Input the values of the parameters of the variance-covariance matrix of the within-person errors:

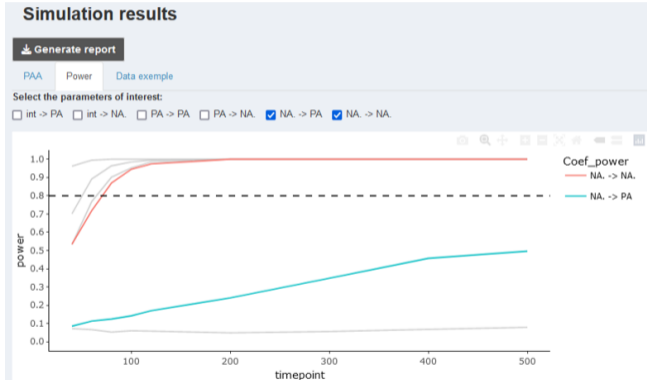
Sigma matrix:

	PA	NA.
PA	90.6	4.3
NA.	4.3	101.2

Run

# Power for VAR(1): using the shiny app

## ► Power curve



- Sample size recommendation: 60 and 500+



## Power for VAR(1): using the shiny app

### ► Summary table

**Summary table**

For each number of measurement occasions, displays the estimated power associated to each model parameter.

Coefficients	40	60	80	100	120	200	300	400	500
int -> PA	0.96	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
int -> NA.	0.70	0.89	0.96	0.98	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
PA.lag -> PA	0.53	0.77	0.90	0.95	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
PA.lag -> NA.	0.07	0.07	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.08
NA.lag -> PA	0.08	0.11	0.12	0.14	0.17	0.24	0.35	0.46	0.50
NA.lag -> NA.	0.53	0.72	0.87	0.94	0.97	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

Simulation duration: 20 mins

**Remark: power-based sample size recommendations differ according to the effect of interest!**

## Exercise

**Goal:** Select the sample size for a VAR(1) model with 3 variables: PA, NA, and anhedonia to design a new study for a person with similar characteristics to Ana.

We want high power (.8) for:

- ▶ auto-regressive effect of PA
- ▶ cross-regressive effect of NA on PA
- ▶ cross-regressive effect of NA on anhedonia

Follow the steps:

- 1 Give as inputs: the model, #time points ( $T = 100, 150$ )
- 2 Run the simulation and interpret the results
- 3 Select sample size

PA outcome:

	Est.	S.E.	t val.	p
(Intercept)	22.60	6.51	3.47	0.00
PA.lag	0.39	0.13	2.91	0.01
NA.lag	-0.13	0.14	-0.91	0.37
anhedonia.lag	0.06	0.10	0.55	0.59

Standard errors: OLS

NA outcome:

	Est.	S.E.	t val.	p
(Intercept)	14.84	6.66	2.23	0.03
PA.lag	-0.03	0.14	-0.18	0.85
NA.lag	0.22	0.14	1.54	0.13
anhedonia.lag	0.20	0.10	1.91	0.06

Standard errors: OLS

Anhedonia outcome:

	Est.	S.E.	t val.	p
(Intercept)	14.95	8.92	1.68	0.10
PA.lag	0.04	0.18	0.24	0.81
NA.lag	0.33	0.19	1.71	0.09
anhedonia.lag	0.31	0.14	2.20	0.03

Standard errors: OLS

Variance-covariance matrix:

##		[,1]	[,2]	[,3]
## [1,]	90.034929	2.375884	16.02124	
## [2,]	2.375884	94.326082	37.21901	
## [3,]	16.021244	37.219012	169.22933	

## Exercise: solution

PA outcome:					NA outcome:				
	Est.	S.E.	t val.	p		Est.	S.E.	t val.	p
(Intercept)	22.60	6.51	3.47	0.00	(Intercept)	14.84	6.66	2.23	0.03
PA.lag	0.39	0.13	2.91	0.01	PA.lag	-0.03	0.14	-0.18	0.85
NA.lag	-0.13	0.14	-0.91	0.37	NA.lag	0.22	0.14	1.54	0.13
anhedonia.lag	0.06	0.10	0.55	0.59	anhedonia.lag	0.20	0.10	1.91	0.06
Standard errors: OLS					Standard errors: OLS				

Anhedonia outcome:					Variance-covariance matrix:				
	Est.	S.E.	t val.	p	##	[,1]	[,2]	[,3]	
(Intercept)	14.95	8.92	1.68	0.10	## [1,]	90.034929	2.375884	16.02124	
PA.lag	0.04	0.18	0.24	0.81	## [2,]	2.375884	94.326082	37.21901	
NA.lag	0.33	0.19	1.71	0.09	## [3,]	16.021244	37.219012	169.22933	
anhedonia.lag	0.31	0.14	2.20	0.03					
Standard errors: OLS									



### Intercepts

PA	NA	<u>Anhed.</u>
22.6	14.84	14.95

### Transition

	PA	NA	<u>Anhed.</u>
PA	.39	-.13	.06
NA	-.03	.22	.2
<u>Anhed.</u>	.04	.33	.31

### Variance-covariance

	PA	NA	<u>Anhed.</u>
PA	90	2	16
NA	2	94	37
<u>Anhed.</u>	16	37	169

## Exercise: solution

**D. Model parameters:** i -

Number of variables in VAR(1) model:

Y1  Y2  Y3

Transition matrix formula

Intercept matrix

	PA	NA.	Anhed.
	22.6	14.84	14.95

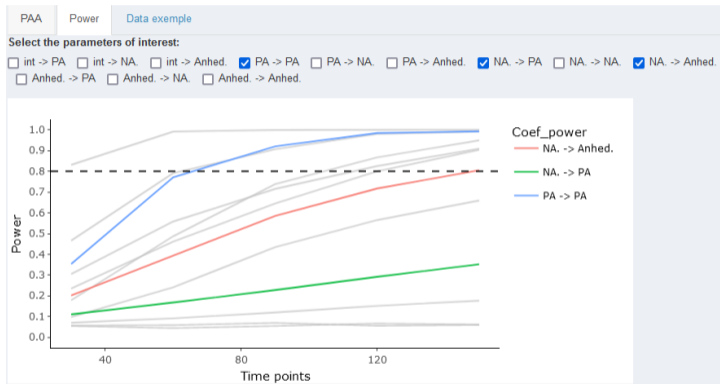
Transition matrix:

	PA	NA.	Anhed.
PA	0.39	-0.13	0.06
NA.	-0.03	0.22	0.2
Anhed.	0.04	0.33	0.31

Sigma matrix:

	PA	NA.	Anhed.
PA	90	2	16
NA.	2	94	37
Anhed.	16	37	169

## Exercise: solution



- What sample size recommendation? 70, 150 or more?

## Exercise: sensitivity analysis

**Goal:** Run sensitivity analysis to explore uncertainty around the recommended sample sizes.

Explore how the sample size recommendations change depending on:

- Hypothesized parameters' values:
  - Auto-regressive PA: .39 to .8
  - Variance PA: 90 to 180
- Number of replicates ( $R=100$ )
- Select lower and upper bounds of CI of the auto-regressive PA

### PA outcome:

	2.5 %	97.5 %
(Intercept)	9.5296021	35.6778667
PA.lag	0.1208077	0.6605412
NA.lag	-0.4063407	0.1530965
anhedonia.lag	-0.1488169	0.2600881

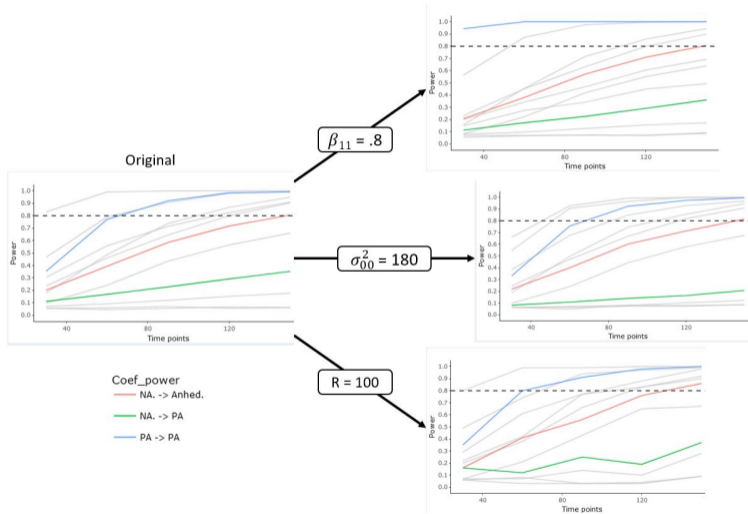
### NA outcome:

	2.5 %	97.5 %
(Intercept)	1.46062438	28.2247622
PA.lag	-0.30162831	0.2508175
NA.lag	-0.06736614	0.5052475
anhedonia.lag	-0.01071022	0.4078257

### Anhedonia outcome:

	2.5 %	97.5 %
(Intercept)	-2.97591249	32.8729333
PA.lag	-0.32611856	0.4138472
NA.lag	-0.05709339	0.7098859
anhedonia.lag	0.02741213	0.5880142

# Exercise: sensitivity analysis

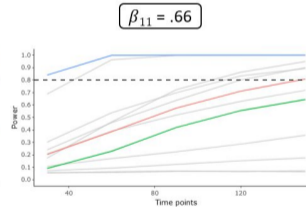
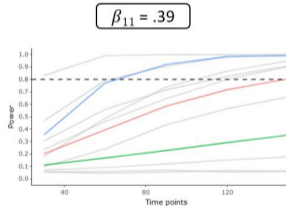
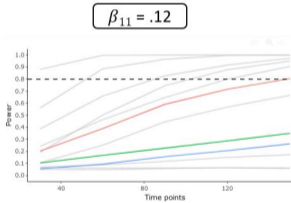


# Exercise: sensitivity analysis

## PA outcome:

	2.5 %	97.5 %
(Intercept)	9.5296021	35.6778667
PA.lag	0.1208077	0.6605412
NA.lag	-0.4063407	0.1530965
anhedonia.lag	-0.1488169	0.2600881

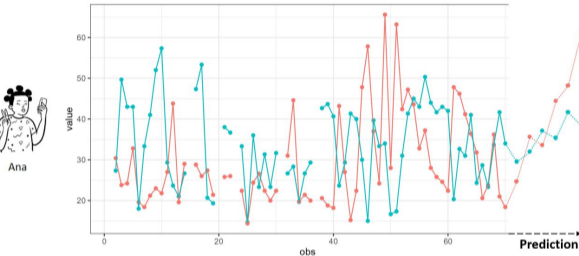
Coef\_power  
— NA. -> Anhed.  
— NA. -> PA  
— PA -> PA



- ▶ Sample size uncertainty: from 30 to 150+

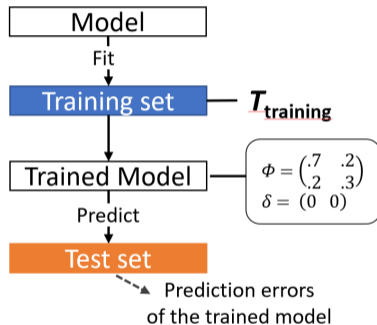


# Predictive accuracy: what is the goal?



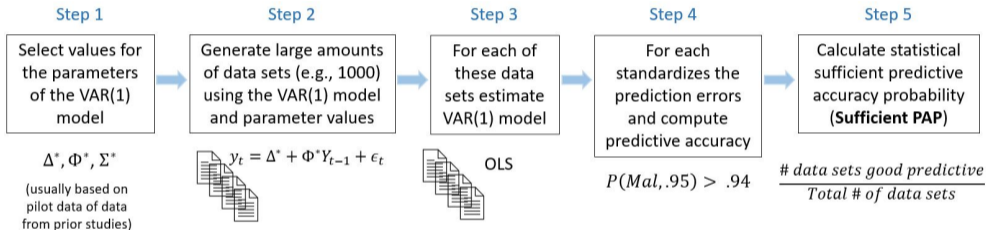
- Predictive accuracy = performance of the whole model on unseen data
- Predict at  $t+1$  (forecasting) and generality (overfitting)

## How to compute predictive accuracy?



## Predictive accuracy analysis (PAA)

PAA: Optimize the number of measurement occasions to have an **high probability** to achieve a **good predictive accuracy** using a simulation-based approach.



## PAA: an illustration

**For a participant similar to Ana**, we want a model of the affect system (PA and NA) that:

- Predict well the next values ( $t+1$ )
- Can generalize well to unseen data (prevents overfitting)

**Goal: Determine the number of measurement occasions ( $T$ ) for a-priori high predictive accuracy and a good probability to reach it**

## PAA: using shiny app

**Hypothesized model:** VAR(1) model for PA and NA (see previous slides)

### A. Simulation parameters

Seed:

Number of replicates:

Number of time points:

### B. Predictive Accuracy Analysis (PAA)

Predictive accuracy threshold (\$p\_{Mal}\$):

Sufficient predictive accuracy probability:

### D. Model parameters:

Number of variables in VAR(1) model:

Y1 PA Y2 NA.

Transition matrix formula

Intercept matrix

	PA	NA.
	23.46	17.88

Transition matrix:

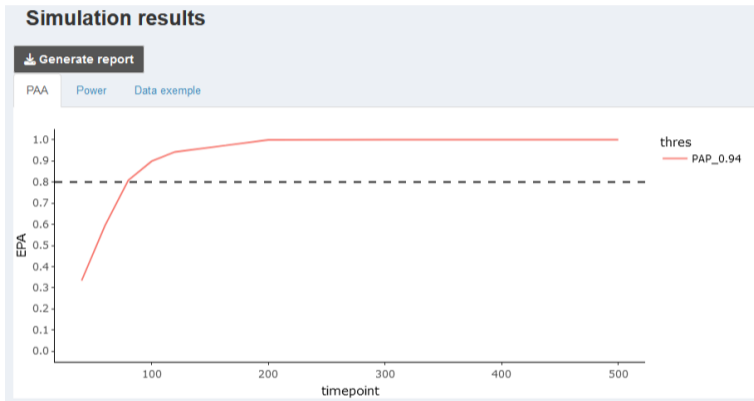
	PA	NA.
PA	0.39	-0.08
NA.	-0.02	0.38

Sigma matrix:

	PA	NA.
PA	90.6	4.3
NA.	4.3	101.2

## PAA: using shiny app

- ▶ Sufficient predictive accuracy probability curve



## PAA: using shiny app

### ► Summary table

#### Summary table

For each threshold and number of measurement occasions, displays the Sufficient Predictive Accuracy Probability estimated using the simulation.

	40	60	80	100	120	200	300	400	500
PAP_0.94	0.33	0.59	0.81	0.90	0.94	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

#### Based on simulation's parameters:

- For PAA with  $P_{Mal} = 0.94$  and Sufficient PAP = 0.8 : 80 time points required.

### ► Sample size recommended: $T=80$

## Exercise

**Goal:** select the sample size for predictive accuracy for a VAR(1) model with 3 variables: PA, NA, and anhedonia to design a new study for a person with similar characteristics to Ana.

Using Ana's data, we estimated the parameters of the VAR(1) model and we already ran the simulation for power.

### Follow the steps:

- 1 Select sample size
- 2 Does it differ from the previous model?
- 3 What if we change the expected values (sensitivity analysis)?

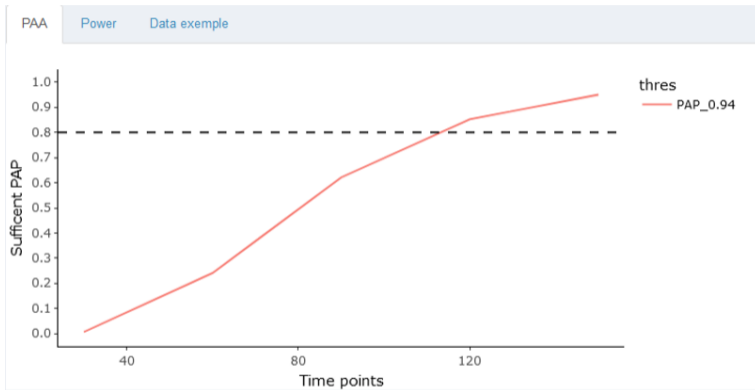
PA outcome:					NA outcome:				
	Est.	S.E.	t val.	p		Est.	S.E.	t val.	p
(Intercept)	22.60	6.51	3.47	0.00	(Intercept)	14.84	6.66	2.23	0.03
PA.lag	0.39	0.13	2.91	0.01	PA.lag	-0.03	0.14	-0.18	0.85
NA.lag	-0.13	0.14	-0.91	0.37	NA.lag	0.22	0.14	1.54	0.13
anhedonia.lag	0.06	0.10	0.55	0.59	anhedonia.lag	0.20	0.10	1.91	0.06
Standard errors: OLS					Standard errors: OLS				

Anhedonia outcome:					Variance-covariance matrix:			
	Est.	S.E.	t val.	p	##	[,1]	[,2]	[,3]
(Intercept)	14.95	8.92	1.68	0.10	## [1,]	90.034929	2.375884	16.02124
PA.lag	0.04	0.18	0.24	0.81	## [2,]	2.375884	94.326082	37.21901
NA.lag	0.33	0.19	1.71	0.09	## [3,]	16.021244	37.219012	169.22933
anhedonia.lag	0.31	0.14	2.20	0.03				
Standard errors: OLS								

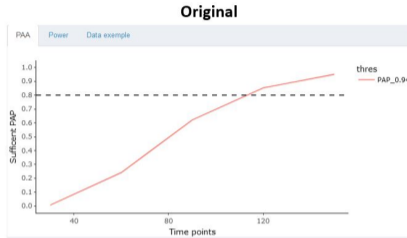


## Exercise: Solution



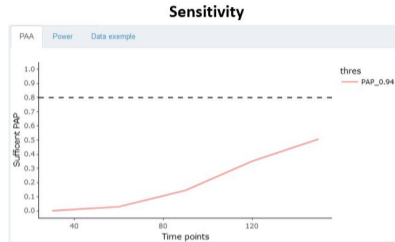
- Sample size recommendation: 110

# Exercise: Sensitivity analysis



	PA	NA	Anhed.
PA	.39	-.13	.06
NA	-.03	.22	.2
Anhed.	.04	.33	.31

Transition

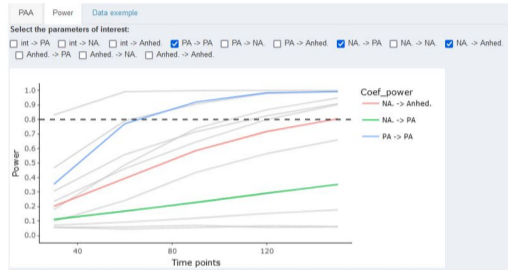
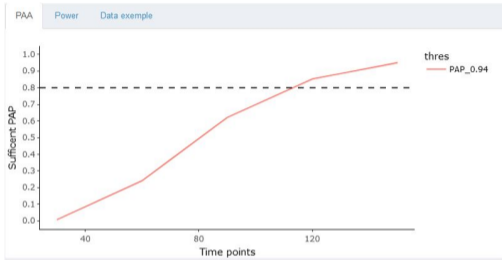


	PA	NA	Anhed.
PA	.5	-.4	.2
NA	-.3	.51	.4
Anhed.	.4	.6	.5

Transition

- A counter-intuitive effect: higher coefficients, higher recommendation

# Exercise: PAA and power analysis



## Factors influencing sample size recommendations based on PAA

- auto- and cross-regressive coefficient values
- complexity of the model (#variables)

## Sample size planning for $N > 1$ IL designs

We now consider IL design where  $N > 1$

- Repeated measurements are nested in persons: the simple regression assumption that errors across all observations are independent is violated
- Relationship between predictor and criterion can be different within or between individuals

### Multilevel models

- ▶ Multilevel models extend the regression models by incorporating 'random effects' to account for between-person differences: within-person relations may differ across individuals
- ▶ Multilevel models are estimated using maximum likelihood or restricted maximum likelihood

## Power-based sample size planning for multilevel models

**Goal: Select the number of persons  $N$  and the number of repeated measurements  $T$  to test hypotheses that can be investigated with multilevel models with high power**

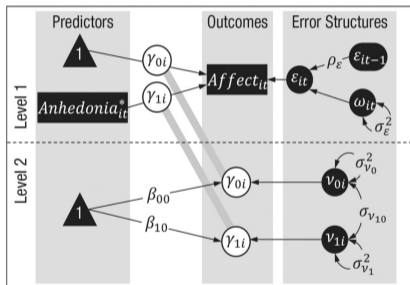
In this workshop, we will focus on:

- ▶ Power analysis for multilevel models that account for serial dependency
- ▶ The target will be the number of participants  $N$  given a predefined number of measurement occasions  $T$
- ▶ Use analytic and simulation-based approaches
- ▶ Sensitivity analysis: varying the number of repeated measurement occasions  $T$  and the value of the model parameters

## Concurrent within-person relationships

**Goal:** investigate relationships between time-varying variables at time  $t$

Example: Does anhedonia at time  $t$  predict NA at time  $t$ ?



where  $\gamma_{00}$  and  $\gamma_{10}$  denote the random intercept and slope and  $\beta_{00}$  and  $\beta_{10}$  denote the fixed intercept and slope

## Multilevel model to investigate concurrent within-person relationships

Include random effects to account for between-person differences in the model coefficients (i.e., intercepts and slopes)

Level 1:

$$NA_{it} = \gamma_{0i} + \gamma_{1i}Anhedonia_{it} + \epsilon_{it}$$

Level 2:

$$\gamma_{0i} = \beta_{00} + \nu_{0i} \quad \text{random intercept}$$

$$\gamma_{1i} = \beta_{10} + \nu_{1i} \quad \text{random slope}$$

- $\beta_{00}$  is the fixed intercept and  $\beta_{10}$  is the fixed slope
- $\epsilon_{it}$  is the within-person error: serially correlated following an AR(1) process with variance  $\sigma_{\epsilon}^2$  and autocorrelation  $\rho_{\epsilon}$
- $\nu_{0i}$  and  $\nu_{1i}$  are the random effects which are bivariate normal distributed:  $\sigma_{\nu_0}^2, \sigma_{\nu_1}^2, \rho_{\nu_{01}}$

## Example. Power analysis to investigate if anhedonia at time $t$ predicts NA at time $t$

- Design a new IL study to investigate if anhedonia at time  $t$  predicts NA at time  $t$  in a sample of persons diagnosed with depression
- The new study will include 70 repeated measurement occasions
- Research hypothesis: the effect of anhedonia at time  $t$  on NA at time  $t$  is different from zero

$$H_0 : \beta_{10} = 0$$

$$H_1 : \beta_{10} \neq 0$$

**How many participants are needed to test the hypothesis of interest with high statistical power?**



## Simulation-based power analysis for multilevel models

### PowerAnalysisIL: a shiny app to perform power analysis for multilevel models applied to in IL studies

- The application implements a simulation-based approach to calculate statistical power
- Link to the shiny app: <https://github.com/ginettelafit/PowerAnalysisIL>

#### Script to run the shiny app

```
devtools::install_github("ginettelafit/PowerAnalysisIL", force = T)
library(PowerAnalysisIL)
shiny::runGist("6bac9d35c2521cc4fd91ce4b82490236")
```

Let's conduct the simulation-based power analysis!

## Step 0: determine the values of the model parameter

To obtain the values of the model parameters we will use data from the Leuven clinical study

Estimation of the multilevel model using REML

### REML estimation using R

```
fit.Model.1 = lme(NA. ~ 1 + anhedonia.c, random = 1  
+ anhedonia.c|PID,na.action=na.omit, data=data.MDD,  
correlation=corAR1(), method="REML")  
  
summary(fit.Model.1)
```

```
Estimation output  
## Random effects:  
## Formula: ~1 + anhedonia.c | PID  
## Structure: General positive-definite, Log-Cholesky parametrization  
##           StdDev   Corr  
## (Intercept) 14.7788369 (Intr)  
## anhedonia.c  0.1162717 0.003  
## Residual    11.9150995  
##  
## Correlation Structure: AR(1)  
## Formula: ~1 | PID  
## Parameter estimate(s):  
##      Phi  
## 0.4293834  
## Fixed effects: NA. ~ 1 + anhedonia.c  
##           Value Std.Error DF t-value p-value  
## (Intercept) 42.98279 2.4299656 2216 17.688641 0  
## anhedonia.c  0.13900 0.0233386 2216  5.955753 0  
  
Mean anhedonia: 51.66162  
Std. deviation anhedonia: 23.6734
```

## Step 1: in the PowerAnalysisIL app select the model and set the sample size

- i. Indicate the model of interest
- ii. Input the number of participants  $N$  (comma-separated):  
 $N = 20, 40, 60, 80, 100$
- iii. Input the number of repeated measurement occasions:  
 $T = 70$

**Choose a model (more information in panel About the Method):**

Model 3: Effect of a level-1 continuous predictor (random slope) ▾

Model 3: Effect of a level-1 continuous predictor (random slope)

Level 1:  $Y_{it} = \gamma_{0i} + \gamma_{1i}X_{it} + \epsilon_{it}$

Level 2:  $\gamma_{0i} = \beta_{00} + \nu_{0i}$

Level 2:  $\gamma_{1i} = \beta_{10} + \nu_{1i}$

AR(1) errors  $\epsilon_{it}$  with autocorrelation  $\rho_\epsilon$  and variance  $\sigma_\epsilon^2$

Number of participants: introduce an increasing sequence of positive integers (comma-separated).

**Number of participants**

20,40,60,80,100

**Number of time points**

70

## Step 2: in the PowerAnalysisIL app set the value of the model parameters

- We use the values obtained using the data from the Leuven clinical study
- Multilevel model:

$$NA_{it} = \beta_{00} + \beta_{10}Anhedonia_{it} + \nu_{0i} + \nu_{1i}Anhedonia_{it} + \epsilon_{it}$$

$$\beta_{00} = 42.98 \quad \text{fixed intercept}$$

$$\beta_{10} = 0.14 \quad \text{fixed slope}$$

$$\sigma_{\epsilon} = 11.92 \quad \text{std. deviation Level 1 errors}$$

$$\rho_{\epsilon} = 0.43 \quad \text{std. deviation Level 1 errors}$$

$$\sigma_{\nu_0} = 14.78 \quad \text{std. deviation random intercept}$$

$$\sigma_{\nu_1} = 0.12 \quad \text{std. deviation random slope}$$

$$\rho_{\nu_{01}} = 0.003 \quad \text{correlation between the random effects}$$

$$\mu_{Anhedonia} = 51.66 \quad \text{mean anhedonia}$$

$$\sigma_{Anhedonia} = 23.67 \quad \text{std. deviation anhedonia}$$

## Step 2: in the PowerAnalysisIL app set the value of the model parameters

Fixed intercept:  $\beta_{00}$

Fixed slope:  $\beta_{10}$

Standard deviation of level-1 errors:  $\sigma_{\epsilon}$

Autocorrelation of level-1 errors:  $\rho_{\epsilon}$

Standard deviation of random intercept:  $\sigma_{\nu_0}$

Standard deviation of random slope:  $\sigma_{\nu_1}$

Correlation between the random intercept and random slope:  
 $\rho_{\nu_{01}}$

Mean of time-varying variable X:

Standard deviation of time-varying variable X:

Person mean centering  $X_{it}$  using the individual mean

Estimate AR(1) correlated errors  $\epsilon_{it}$

Type I error:  $\alpha$

Monte Carlo Replicates

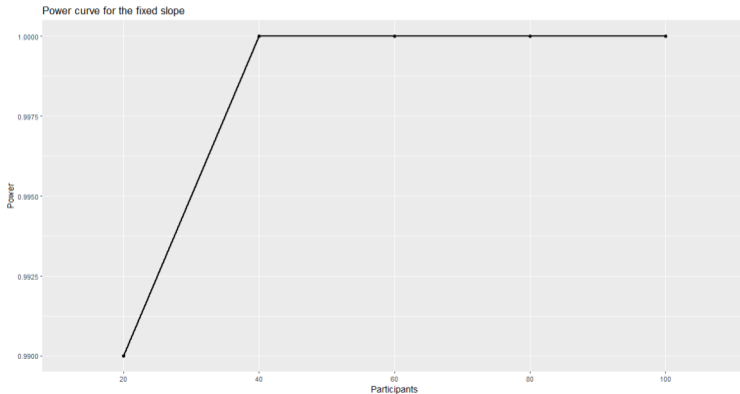
Choose the method to fit linear mixed-effects model

Estimate Computational Time    Compute Power

Reset Page

### Step 3: inspect simulation results

- Statistical power is higher than 90% when the number of participants is equal to or higher than 20



## Power analysis for multilevel models using the analytic approach

### ApproxPowerIL: a shiny app to perform power analysis for multilevel models using analytical derivations

- The application uses asymptotic approximations for the standard errors to calculate statistical power

- Link to the shiny app:

<https://gitlab.kuleuven.be/ppw-okpiv/researchers/u0119584/ApproxPowerIL>

#### Script to run the shiny app

```
remotes::install_github("ginettelafit/ApproxPowerIL", force = T)
library(ApproxPowerIL)
shiny::runGist("302737dc046b89b7f09d15843389161c")
```

Let's conduct the power analysis using the analytic approach!

## Step 1: in the ApproxPowerIL app select the model and set the sample size

- i. Indicate the model of interest
- ii. Input the number of participants  $N$  (comma-separated):  
 $N = 20, 40, 60, 80, 100$
- iii. Input the number of repeated measurement occasions:  
 $T = 70$

Choose multilevel model:

Model 3: Effect of a Level 1 continuous predictor (random slope) ▾

Model 3: Effect of a level-1 continuous predictor (random slope)

Level 1:  $Y_{it} = \gamma_{0i} + \gamma_{1i}X_{it} + \epsilon_{it}$

Level 2:  $\gamma_{0i} = \beta_{00} + \nu_{0i}$

Level 2:  $\gamma_{1i} = \beta_{10} + \nu_{1i}$

AR(1) errors  $\epsilon_{it}$  with autocorrelation  $\rho$  and variance  $\sigma^2$

The distribution of the Level 1 variable:  $X_{it} = \mu_X + \nu_{0i} + \epsilon_{it}$

$\nu_i$  is a Level 2 random effect which is normally distributed  $N(0, \sigma_{\nu_0}^2)$

AR(1) errors  $\epsilon_{it}$  with autocorrelation  $\rho_e$  and variance  $\sigma_e^2$

Number of participants: introduce an increasing sequence of positive integers (comma-separated).

**Number of participants**

20,40,60,80,100

**Number of time points**

70



## Step 2: in the ApproxPowerIL app set the value of the model parameters

Fixed intercept:  $\beta_{00}$

Fixed slope:  $\beta_{10}$

Standard deviation of Level 1 errors:  $\sigma$

Autocorrelation of Level 1 errors:  $\rho$

Standard deviation of random intercept:  $\sigma_{\nu_0}$

Standard deviation of random slope:  $\sigma_{\nu_1}$

Correlation between the random intercept and random slope:  
 $\rho_{\nu_{01}}$

Mean of Level 1 variable  $X_{it}$ :

Standard deviation of the random intercept of the Level 1 variable  $X_{it}$ :

 We set this value to zero since we are not assuming between-person differences in the Level 1 predictor

Standard deviation of Level 1 error of variable  $X_{it}$ :

Autocorrelation of Level 1 error of the variable  $X_{it}$ :

 We set this value to zero since we are not modeling serial dependence in the Level 1 predictor

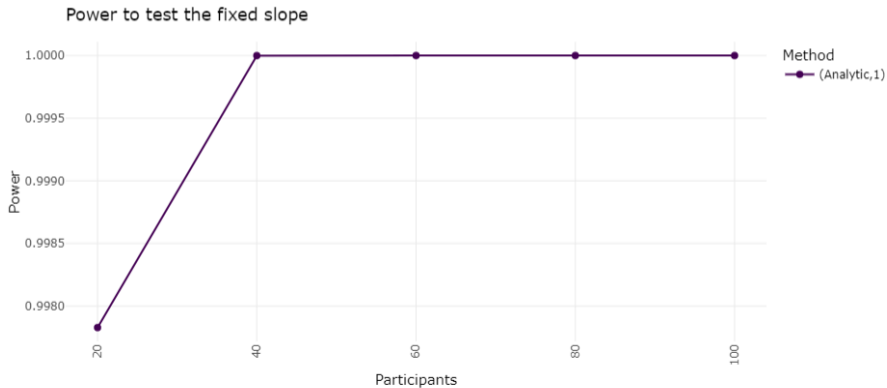
Person-mean centered Level 1 variable  $X_{it}$  using the persons' mean

Select the tail of the hypothesis test:

Type I error:  $\alpha$

### Step 3: inspect results

- Statistical power is higher than 90% when the number of participants is equal to or higher than 20



## Remark

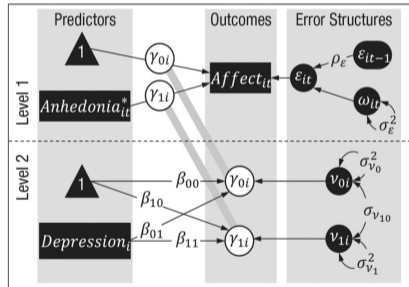
### Differences between the two approaches to calculate statistical power

- The analytic approach uses asymptotic approximations for deriving the standard errors of the estimates of the fixed effect, whereas in the simulation-based approach, the model of interest is fitted to the simulated data
- The two approaches yield different sample size recommendations when either  $N$  or  $T$  are small
- The analytic approach can be used first to obtain the power curve over different sample size values. Next, the simulation-based approach can be used over a restricted range of  $N$  to save computational time

## Between-person differences in within-person relationships

Extending the previous model by incorporating the interaction effect between a time-invariant (Level 2) and time-varying (Level 1) predictor

Example: Does depression moderates the effect of Anhedonia on NA?



where  $\beta_{11}$  is the fixed cross-level interaction effect between Anhedonia and Depression

## Multilevel model to investigate cross-level interaction effects

The model includes a Level 2 continuous predictor: Depression

Level 1:

$$NA_{it} = \gamma_{0i} + \gamma_{1i}Anhedonia_{it} + \epsilon_{it}$$

Level 2:

$$\gamma_{0i} = \beta_{00} + \beta_{01}Depression_i + \nu_{0i} \quad \text{random intercept}$$

$$\gamma_{1i} = \beta_{10} + \beta_{11}Depression_i + \nu_{1i} \quad \text{random slope}$$

-  $\beta_{11}$  represents the cross-level interaction effect between depression and anhedonia

## Exercise

**Goal:** select the number of persons to investigate if depression moderates the relationship between anhedonia and NA:  $H_0 : \beta_{11} = 0$  vs.  $H_1 : \beta_{11} \neq 0$

Using the Leuven clinical study, we estimated the parameters of the multilevel model including the cross-level interaction effect

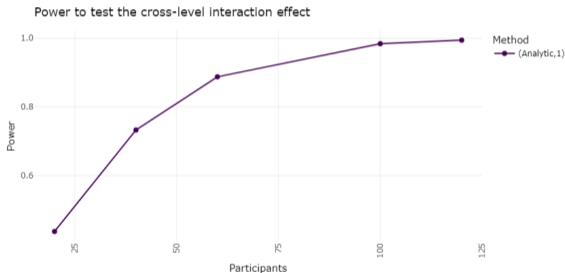
### Follow the steps:

- 1 Select sample size using the analytic approach ( $N = 20, 40, 60, 100, 120$ )
- 2 Compare the results with the ones obtained using the simulation-based approach

```
Estimation output
## Random effects:
## Formula: ~1 + anhedonia.c | PID
## Structure: General positive-definite, Log-Cholesky parametrization
##          StdDev      Corr
## (Intercept) 12.8555036 (Intr)
## anhedonia.c  0.1056154 0.249
## Residual    11.9234081
##
## Correlation Structure: AR(1)
## Formula: ~1 | PID
## Parameter estimate(s):
##      Phi
## 0.4302492
## Fixed effects: NA. ~ 1 + anhedonia.c + anhedonia.c * QIDS.c
##          Value Std.Error  DF  t-value p-value
## (Intercept)  42.97796 2.1228637 2215 20.245274 0.0000
## anhedonia.c    0.13747 0.0218391 2215  6.294553 0.0000
## QIDS.c         1.52600 0.4308459   36  3.541870 0.0011
## anhedonia.c:QIDS.c -0.01019 0.0046382 2215 -2.197910 0.0281
Mean anhedonia: 51.66162          Mean depression: 15.71
Std. deviation anhedonia: 23.6734      Std. deviation depression: 5.00
```

## Exercise: Solution Using the Analytic Approach

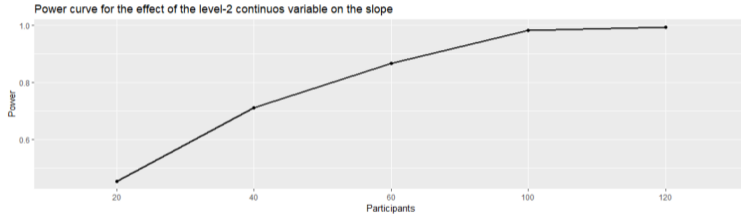
- Power curve to test the moderation effect of depression on the relationship between anhedonia and NA



- Statistical power is higher than 90% when the number of participants is equal to or higher than 100

## Exercise: Solution Using the Simulation-based Approach

- Power curve to test the moderation effect of depression on the relationship between anhedonia and NA



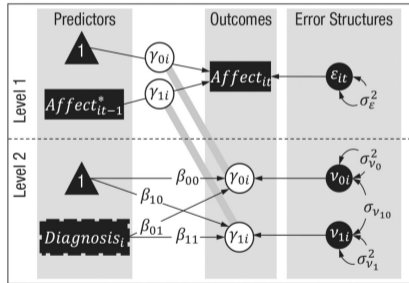
- Statistical power is higher than 90% when the number of participants is equal to or higher than 100



## Lagged within-person relationships

### Multilevel AR(1) Model

Example: estimate differences in the autoregressive effect of NA between persons diagnosed with depression and controls



where  $\beta_{11}$  denotes the difference in the fixed autoregressive effects between the two groups

## Multilevel AR(1) model

Level 1:

$$\text{NA}_{it} = \gamma_{0i} + \gamma_{1i}\text{NA}_{it-1} + \epsilon_{it}$$

Level 2:

$$\gamma_{0i} = \beta_{00} + \beta_{10}\text{Diagnosis} + \nu_{0i} \quad \text{random intercept}$$

$$\gamma_{1i} = \beta_{10} + \beta_{11}\text{Diagnosis} + \nu_{1i} \quad \text{random autoregressive effect}$$

-  $\beta_{10}$  is the fixed autoregressive effect -  $\beta_{11}$  is the difference in the fixed autoregressive effect between the two groups

-  $\epsilon_{it}$  is the within-person error: independent and identically distributed  $N(0, \sigma_{\epsilon}^2)$

## Power analysis for multilevel AR(1) models

- In the context of multilevel AR(1) models, power analysis can be conducted using the simulation-based approach
- There are no analytical formulas that can be used to calculate statistical power using the analytic approach

### Power analysis for Multilevel AR(1) models

Power calculations for these models can be conducted using PowerAnalysisIL app

## Exercise. Sensitivity analyses

**Goal: select the number of persons in each group to investigate group differences in the fixed AR effect:  $H_0 : \beta_{11} = 0$  vs.  $H_1 : \beta_{11} \neq 0$**

**Follow the steps:**

- 1 Conduct sensitivity analysis to investigate differences in statistical power when varying the number of measurement occasions  $T$  due to different levels of compliance (i.e., 60% and 80%)
- 2 Conduct sensitivity analysis to investigate differences in statistical power when varying the value of  $\beta_{11}$ : we assume  $\beta_{11}$  is 10% lower/higher than the one obtained using the Leuven clinical data set

## Exercise. Sensitivity analyses

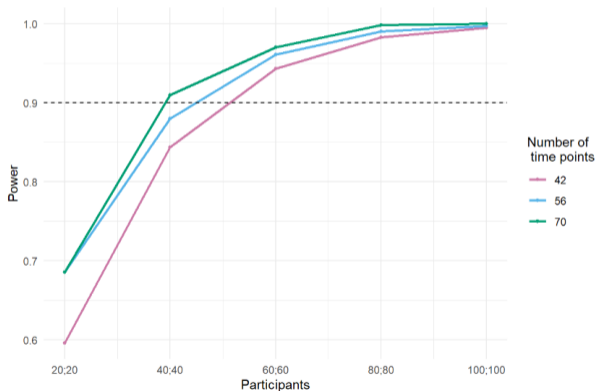
- Using the Leuven clinical study, we estimated the parameters of the multilevel AR(1) model

### Estimation output

```
## Random effects:
## Formula: ~1 + NA.lag | PID
## Structure: General positive-definite, Log-Cholesky parametrization
##           StdDev   Corr
## (Intercept) 5.7874498 (Intr)
## NA.lag      0.1402727 -0.199
## Residual    8.7540300
##
## Fixed effects: NA. ~ 1 + MDD + NA.lag + MDD * NA.lag
##           Value Std.Error   DF  t-value p-value
## (Intercept)  6.824841 0.9800413 3911  6.963830  0.0000
## MDD          16.326600 1.5896204   76 10.270754  0.0000
## NA.lag       0.313887 0.0366665 3911  8.560574  0.0000
## MDD:NA.lag   0.116184 0.0472239 3911  2.460275  0.0139
```

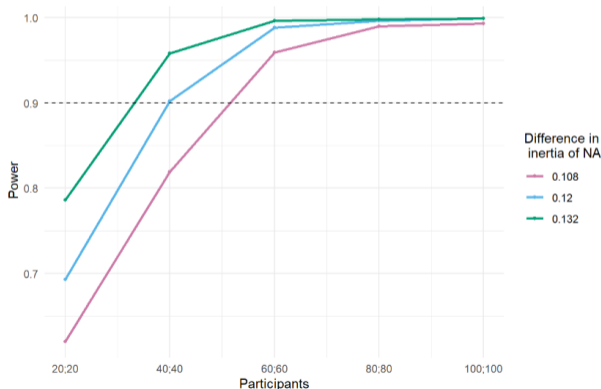
## Exercise: Solution

Sensitivity analysis when varying the number of repeated measurements occasions  $T$ :  
statistical power decreases when  $T$  decreases



## Exercise: Solution

Sensitivity analysis when varying the value of  $\beta_{11}$ : statistical power increases when the absolute value of  $\beta_{11}$  increases



## Remark I

The estimation framework proposed in this workshop assumes:

- ▶ repeated measurements are equidistant
- ▶ ignore night blocks
- ▶ cannot handle missing observations (i.e., missing values are listwise deleted)

**How can we take these considerations into account when conducting a power analysis?**



## Remark 1

### Considerations related to the selection of $T$ for power analysis

When conducting a power analysis select  $T$  considering the following:

- ▶ % of missing values (i.e., compliance)
- ▶ the number of observations that will be missing due to lagging the predictor within days

ID	Day	Beep	PA	PA.lag
1	1	1	NA	NA
1	1	2	27.33	NA
1	1	3	49.67	27.33
1	1	4	43.00	49.67
1	2	1	18.00	NA
1	2	2	33.33	18.00
1	2	3	41.00	33.33
1	2	4	52.00	41.00

Three missing observations: one missing observation for PA and two observations are missing after lagging PA

## Remark II

How to tackle the uncertainty about the parameter values when computing statistical power?

- ▶ To calculate statistical power for the models presented in this workshop it is necessary to get information about the value of the intercept, autoregressive effect, and standard deviation of the within-person errors
- ▶ This is usually done by using data from previous studies, BUT findings from previous studies may be biased

**Solution: conduct a sensitivity analysis to assess the influence of the values of the model parameters on power**

We showcase how to conduct such a sensitivity analysis in this project:

<https://psyarxiv.com/7msh6/>

## Remark III

### Considerations related to the validity of sample size recommendations

Both power analysis and PAA are conducted prior to data collection. Thus, the generalizability of sample size recommendation depends on the validity of the model when fitted to the data of the new study

## Advanced methods for sample size planning

We will now present advanced methods for sample size planning. Slides available at:

- ▶ `samplesize.help` > Advanced methods for sample size planning