## Recommended effect size statistics for repeated measures designs

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Investigators, who are increasingly implored to present and discuss effect size statistics, might comply more often if they understood more clearly what is required. When investigators wish to report effect sizes derived from analyses of variance that include repeated measures, past advice has been problematic. Only recently has a generally useful effect size statistic been proposed for such designs: generalized eta squared ( $\eta_G^2$ ; Olejnik & Algina, 2003). Here, we present this method, explain that  $\eta_G^2$  is preferred to eta squared and partial eta squared because it provides comparability across between-subjects and within-subjects designs, show that it can easily be computed from information provided by standard statistical packages, and recommend that investigators provide it routinely in their research reports when appropriate.

Increasingly, investigators are implored to compute, present, and discuss effect size statistics as a routine part of any empirical report (American Psychological Association, 2001; Wilkinson & the Task Force on Statistical Inference, 1999), yet they lag in compliance (Fidler, Thomason, Cumming, Finch, & Leeman, 2004) and discussion of effect sizes in reports of psychological research is not yet widespread. Many more investigators would probably include reports of effect sizes if they understood clearly which statistics should be provided. With respect to one common data-analytic approachthe analysis of variance (ANOVA) when designs include repeated measures-there is some reason for confusion. Most of the advice given in textbooks is problematic or limited in ways that I will describe shortly, and only recently has a more generally useful effect size statistic for such cases been proposed (Olejnik & Algina, 2003).

In this article, I describe generalized eta squared  $(\eta_G^2)$ as defined by Olejnik and Algina (2003). I endorse their recommendation that it be used as an effect size statistic whenever ANOVAs are used, define under what circumstances it varies from eta squared  $(\eta^2)$  and partial eta squared  $(\eta_P^2)$ , and show how it can be computed easily with the information provided by standard statistical packages such as SPSS. Olejnik and Algina showed how  $\eta_G^2$  applies to between-subjects designs, analyses of covariance, repeated measures designs, and mixed designs in general. In contrast, I emphasize application just to designs that include repeated measures. My purposes are to explain why  $\eta_G^2$  is particularly important for such designs (with such designs, differences among  $\eta_{\rm G}^2$ ,  $\eta_{\rm P}^2$ , and  $\eta^2$  can be quite pronounced) and to make its computation easily accessible to users of such designs.

Before I describe  $\eta_G^2$  in more detail, some general comments regarding limitations are in order. Not all investigations lend themselves to proportion of variance effect size measures or other standardized effect size measures. As Bond, Wiitala, and Richard (2003) argue, when measurement units (e.g., reaction time in seconds) are clearly understood, raw mean differences may be preferred. Moreover,  $\eta_G^2$  assumes a traditional univariate ANOVA approach, as opposed to multivariate or multilevel approaches to designs that include repeated measures. Finally,  $\eta^2$  and similar measures are often omnibus tests, which some scholars regard as insufficiently focused to capture researchers' real concerns (Rosenthal, Rosnow, & Rubin, 2000).

At first glance, the matter of effect sizes in an ANOVA context seems straightforward. ANOVAs partition a total sum of squares into portions associated with the various effects identified by the design. These portions can be arranged hierarchically, and the various effects can be tested sequentially (Cohen & Cohen, 1983). In the ANOVA literature, the effect size statistic is usually called *eta squared* ( $\eta^2$ ) and is the ratio of effect to total variance. Thus,

$$\eta^2 = \frac{SS_{\text{effect}}}{SS_{\text{total}}},\tag{1}$$

which is identical to the change in  $R^2$  of hierarchic multiple regression:

$$\Delta R^2 = \frac{R_{\text{change}}^2}{R_{\text{total}}^2}.$$
 (2)

 $\eta^2$ , or the change in  $R^2$ , seems fine in the context of many hierarchic regressions or with a one-way ANOVA, but

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may become problematic when there is more than one source of variance in an ANOVA.

For example, imagine that we computed  $\eta^2$  for factor A, first in a one-way and then in a two-way factorial ANOVA. In the second case, factor B may contribute nonrandom differences to  $SS_{total}$ ; thus, the two  $\eta^2$ s may not be comparable. Usually,  $\eta_P^2$  is presented as a solution to the comparability problem (Keppel, 1991; Tabachnick & Fidell, 2001). In the context of factorial designs,  $\eta_P^2$  removes the effect of other factors from the denominator; thus,

$$\eta_{\rm P}^2 = \frac{SS_{\rm effect}}{SS_{\rm effect} + SS_{\rm s/cells}}.$$
(3)

With a simple A × B factorial design, the total sum of squares is partitioned into four components:  $SS_A$ ,  $SS_B$ ,  $SS_{AB}$ , and the error term, or  $SS_{s/AB}$  (i.e., subjects nested within cells defined by crossing factors A and B). Thus, the  $\eta_P^2$  denominators for the A effect, the B effect, and the AB interaction would be  $SS_A + SS_{s/AB}$ ,  $SS_B + SS_{s/AB}$ , and  $SS_{AB} + SS_{s/AB}$ , respectively. In recognition of the arguments for  $\eta_P^2$ , current versions of SPSS provide  $\eta_P^2$  and not  $\eta^2$  when effect size statistics are requested.

With a simple repeated measures design (i.e., one with no between-subjects variables and only one withinsubjects variable), the total sum of squares is partitioned into three components:  $SS_s$ ,  $SS_p$ , and  $SS_{ps}$ , where  $SS_s$  is the sum of squares between subjects. (I use A, B, C, etc. for between-subjects factors; P, O, R, etc. for within-subjects factors; and s for the subjects "factor.") Here, SS, reflects the proportion of total score variance that can be accounted for by knowing the particular subject, which will be larger the more the repeated scores correlate within subjects. As students are typically taught, a design with one repeated measures factor can be regarded as a two-factor design, with subjects as the other "factor"; each subject represents a level of the factor, and the mean square for error for the repeated measure factor is thus the P  $\times$  subjects interaction, or  $SS_{Ps}$  divided by its degrees of freedom. The more scores correlate within subjects, the smaller this error term will be, which gives repeated measures designs their reputation for increased power (Bakeman, 1992; Bakeman & Robinson, 2005).

Assume the repeated measures factor is age, as it would be in a longitudinal design. If the only factor is age, its effect size per  $\eta^2$  would be the ratio of  $SS_P$  to the sum of  $SS_s$ ,  $SS_P$ , and  $SS_{Ps}$  (i.e.,  $SS_{total}$ ), but its effect size per  $\eta_P^2$ would be the ratio of  $SS_P$  to the sum of  $SS_P$  and  $SS_{Ps}$ ; that is, for  $\eta_P^2$  the effect of subject would be removed from the denominator. In this case,  $\eta_P^2$  would be larger than  $\eta^2$ , which, from a "bigger-is-better" standpoint, might seem desirable; nevertheless, the "correction" of  $\eta_P^2$  renders the effect size for age from a longitudinal design not comparable with a similar effect size for age from a cross-sectional design.

The issue of comparability of effect sizes derived from studies with similar factors but different designs (i.e., cases in which a factor is between subjects in one study and within subjects in another) has been addressed recently by Olejnik and Algina (2003). They propose an  $\eta_G^2$ (described in detail in the next few paragraphs): an effect size statistic that provides comparable estimates for an effect even when designs vary. Such comparability is important not just for meta-analyses but also for the less formal literature reviews incorporated in the introductory sections of our research reports when we want to compare the strength of a particular factor on a specific outcome across studies, even though the designs in which the variables are embedded may vary. Comparability across studies is precisely what we want in our literature; thus,  $\eta_G^2$  seems clearly the best choice for an effect size statistic when ANOVAs are at issue. Still, no statistic can solve all problems. As Oleinik and Algina wrote, no effect size measures can be comparable when different populations are sampled. Thus, estimates of age effects in studies on 3- to 7-year-old children, for example, cannot be compared to similar estimates when 8- to 11-yearold children are studied. But, other things being equal,  $\eta_G^2$  assures comparability of effect sizes when factors are included in different designs, regardless of whether a given factor is between subjects or within subjects.

 $\eta_G^2$  differs from  $\eta^2$  and from  $\eta_P^2$  in its denominator. Whereas  $\eta^2$  includes all component sums of squares in its denominator,  $\eta_{\rm P}^2$  and  $\eta_{\rm G}^2$  include only some of them, although typically  $\eta_{\rm G}^2$  includes more than  $\eta_{\rm P}^2$ . Computation of  $\eta_G^2$  is based on the point of view that variability in the data arises from two sources: The first includes factors manipulated in the study, and the second includes individual differences (Olejnik & Algina, 2003; as Gillett, 2003 [p. 421] noted, individual difference factors are also called stratified by Glass, McGaw, & Smith, 1981; organismic by Cohen & Cohen, 1983; and classification by Winer, Brown, & Michaels, 1991). As Olejnik and Algina note, individual differences (i.e., measured factors) can be attributable to stable or transient characteristics of participants, such as an individual's gender or motivational state, and research designs can vary in the extent to which sources of individual differences are estimated or controlled. However, for comparability across between-subjects and within-subjects designs, variation due to individual differences (which was not created by the investigator) should remain in the denominator, whereas variation due to manipulated factors (which was created by the investigator) should be removed when effect sizes are being estimated.

The effect size parameter defined by Olejnik and Algina (2003) is

$$\frac{\sigma_{\text{effect}}^2}{\delta \times \sigma_{\text{effect}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{measured}}^2},\tag{4}$$

where  $\sigma_{\text{measured}}^2$  includes variance due to individual differences and where  $\delta = 0$  if the effect involves one or more measured factors, either singly or combined in an interaction (they would already be included in  $\sigma_{\text{measured}}^2$ ) and  $\delta = 1$  if the effect involves only manipulated factors. Thus, the denominator for the effect size parameter includes all sources of variance that involve a measured factor and excludes all that involve only manipulated factors. The exceptions are cases in which the effect involved only manipulated factors, in which case its associated variance is also included in the denominator.  $\eta_G^2$  is then estimated as

$$\eta_{\rm G}^2 = \frac{SS_{\rm effect}}{\delta \times SS_{\rm effect} + \sum_{\rm measured} SS_{\rm measured}}.$$
 (5)

Specifically, for designs that include repeated measures, not just sums of squares for subjects, but also those for all subjects  $\times$  repeated measures factor interactions would be included in the denominator (see Tables 1–3).

Olejnik and Algina (2003) introduced a useful convention. They represented manipulated factors with uppercase letters (A, B, C, etc.) and individual difference factors with lowercase letters (a, b, c, etc.). I have introduced the additional convention that within-subjects factors be represented with the letters P. O. R. and onward. These would not appear as lowercase letters; because they are associated with times or situations that the investigator has chosen for assessment and not with individual measures on which participants might be blocked, repeated measures factors are regarded as manipulated by definition. The subjects factor, whose interactions serve as error terms in within-subjects designs, is not manipulated, and so appears as a lowercase s. Thus, not just designs, but all their component sums of squares can be represented economically with the correct combination of upper- and lowercase letters. Several examples of simple designs that include repeated measures are given in Tables 1–3, along with the component sums of squares

that are included in each design and the formulas for the F ratios,  $\eta_{P}^2$ s, and  $\eta_{C}^2$ s associated with their effects.

The uppercase manipulated, lowercase measured convention permits Equation 5 to be restated as follows: The denominator for  $\eta_G^2$  contains all sums of squares whose representations contain a lowercase letter or letters (alternatively, the denominator is the total sum of squares reduced by any sums of squares whose representation consists only of uppercase letters), with the added proviso that the sum of squares for the effect must be included in the denominator (again, see Tables 1-3). An implication of Equation 5 is that, when designs include repeated measures,  $\eta_G^2$  will be smaller than  $\eta_P^2$ ; as was noted earlier, the denominator for  $\eta_G^2$  is larger because it includes sums of squares for subjects and for all subjects  $\times$  repeated measures factor interactions. For example, with two repeated measures (a PQ design), the denominator for the P effect is  $SS_P + SS_{Ps}$  for  $\eta_P^2$  but the sum of  $SS_P$ ,  $SS_s$ ,  $SS_{Ps}$ ,  $SS_{Os}$ , and  $SS_{POs}$  (i.e.,  $SS_T - SS_O - SS_{PO}$ ) for  $\eta_G^2$  (see Table 1).  $\eta_P^2$  removes other sources of individual differences, which, as Olejnik and Algina (2003) argue, renders it not directly comparable across studies with between-subjects and within-subjects designs.

 $\eta_G^2$  is easily computed from information given by standard statistical packages such as SPSS. For example, the general linear-model repeated measures procedure in SPSS provides sums of squares for any between-subjects effect, any between-subjects error, and all within-subjects effects, including error (i.e., interactions with the subjects factor), from which  $\eta_G^2$  can be computed (specify Type I, or sequential, sum of squares if any between-subjects groups have unequal *ns*). For example, Adamson, Bakeman, and Deckner (2004) analyzed percentages of times

| Comput |                  | ai Ba Squarea (4p           | ) und Generunzen Eta Squ                               |   |
|--------|------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Design | Effect           | F Ratio                     | $\eta_{ m P}^2$  | $\eta_{ m G}^2$   |
| А      | SSA              | $MS_A/MS_{s/A}$             | $SS_{\rm A}/(SS_{\rm A} + SS_{\rm s/A})$               | $SS_{\rm A}/(SS_{\rm A} + SS_{\rm s/A})$  |
|        | $SS_{ m s/A}$    | —                           |  |   |
| Р      | SS <sub>s</sub>  |                             | aa //aa   aa )   |   |
|        | SS <sub>P</sub>  | $MS_{\rm P}/MS_{\rm Ps}$    | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P}+SS_{\rm Ps})$                  | $33_{\rm P}/(33_{\rm P} + 33_{\rm s} + 33_{\rm Ps})$                              |
| ΔP     | SS <sub>Ps</sub> | MS /MS                      | $SS_{1}/(SS_{1} + SS_{2})$                             | (223 + 223 + 223)   |
| 711    | $SS_A$           | s/A                         | $BB_{A}^{\prime}(BB_{A}^{\prime} + BB_{s/A}^{\prime})$ | $SS_{A'}(SS_{A} + SS_{S/A} + SS_{PS/A})$  |
|        | $SS_{P}^{S/A}$   | $MS_{\rm P}/MS_{\rm Ps/A}$  | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P} + SS_{\rm Ps/A})$              | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P} + SS_{\rm s/A} + SS_{\rm Ps/A})$                          |
|        | $SS_{PA}$        | $MS_{\rm PA}/MS_{\rm Ps/A}$ | $SS_{PA}/(SS_{PA} + SS_{Ps/A})$                        | $SS_{PA}/(SS_{PA} + SS_{s/A} + SS_{Ps/A})$  |
| _      | $SS_{Ps/A}$      |                             |  |   |
| aP     | SS <sub>a</sub>  | $MS_{\rm a}/MS_{\rm s/a}$   | $SS_{a}/(SS_{a} + SS_{s/a})$                           | $SS_a/(SS_a + SS_{s/a} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{Ps/a})$                                    |
|        | $SS_{s/a}$       | $MS_{\rm p}/MS_{\rm p}$     | $SS_{\rm p}/(SS_{\rm p} + SS_{\rm p})$                 | $SS_{p}/(SS_{p} + SS_{c} + SS_{c} + SS_{p} + SS_{p})$                             |
|        | $SS_{Pa}$        | $MS_{Pa}/MS_{Ps/a}$         | $SS_{Pa}/(SS_{Pa} + SS_{Ps/a})$                        | $\frac{SS_{Pa}}{(SS_{Pa} + SS_{a} + SS_{s/a} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{Ps/a})}$             |
|        | $SS_{Ps/a}$      |                             | ia ia ista   | 14 14 4 5/11 15/4 <sup>2</sup>  |
| PQ     | $SS_s$           | _                           |  |   |
|        | SS <sub>P</sub>  | $MS_{\rm P}/MS_{\rm Ps}$    | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P} + SS_{\rm Ps})$                | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P} + SS_{\rm s} + SS_{\rm Ps} + SS_{\rm Qs} + SS_{\rm PQs})$ |
|        | SS <sub>Ps</sub> | MS /MS                      | $SS_{1}/(SS_{2} + SS_{2})$                             | (222 + 22 + 22 + 22 + 22 + 22)/22   |
|        | $SS_Q$           | Qr_IVID_Qs                  | DDQ(DDQ + DDQs)  | $DDQ(DDQ + DD_s + DDp_s + DDQ_s + DDpQ_s)$  |
|        | $SS_{PQ}^{QS}$   | $MS_{\rm PO}/MS_{\rm POs}$  | $SS_{PQ}/(SS_{PQ} + SS_{PQs})$                         | $SS_{PO}/(SS_{PO} + SS_s + SS_{Ps} + SS_{Os} + SS_{POs})$                         |
|        | 66 2             |                             |  |   |

 Table 1

 Computation of Partial Eta Squared ( $\eta_P^2$ ) and Generalized Eta Squared ( $\eta_G^2$ ) for A, P, AP, aP, and PQ Designs

Note—"A" represents a manipulated between-subjects factor, "a" represents a measured between-subjects factor, "P" and "Q" represent within-subjects factors, and "s" represents the subjects factor.

| Design | Effect              | F Ratio                      | $\eta_{ m P}^2$                              | $\eta_{ m G}^2$   |
|--------|---------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| ABP    | SSA                 | $MS_A/MS_{s/AB}$             | $SS_{\rm A}/(SS_{\rm A} + SS_{\rm s/AB})$    | $SS_{\rm A}/(SS_{\rm A} + SS_{\rm s/AB} + SS_{\rm Ps/AB})$  |
|        | $SS_{\rm B}$        | $MS_{\rm B}/MS_{\rm s/AB}$   | $SS_{\rm B}/(SS_{\rm B} + SS_{\rm s/AB})$    | $SS_{\rm B}/(SS_{\rm B} + SS_{\rm s/AB} + SS_{\rm Ps/AB})$  |
|        | $SS_{AB}$           | $MS_{AB}/MS_{s/AB}$          | $SS_{AB}/(SS_{AB} + SS_{s/AB})$              | $SS_{AB}/(SS_{AB} + SS_{s/AB} + SS_{Ps/AB})$  |
|        | $SS_{s/AB}$         | —                            |  |   |
|        | $SS_{P}$            | $MS_{\rm P}/MS_{\rm Ps/AB}$  | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P} + SS_{\rm Ps/AB})$   | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P} + SS_{\rm s/AB} + SS_{\rm Ps/AB})$  |
|        | $SS_{PA}$           | $MS_{\rm PA}/MS_{\rm Ps/AB}$ | $SS_{PA}/(SS_{PA} + SS_{Ps/AB})$             | $SS_{PA}/(SS_{PA} + SS_{s/AB} + SS_{Ps/AB})$  |
|        | $SS_{PB}$           | $MS_{\rm PB}/MS_{\rm Ps/AB}$ | $SS_{\rm PB}/(SS_{\rm PB} + SS_{\rm Ps/AB})$ | $SS_{PB}/(SS_{PB} + SS_{s/AB} + SS_{Ps/AB})$  |
|        | $SS_{PAB}$          | $MS_{PAB}/MS_{Ps/AB}$        | $SS_{PAB}/(SS_{PAB} + SS_{Ps/AB})$           | $SS_{PAB}/(SS_{PAB} + SS_{s/AB} + SS_{Ps/AB})$  |
|        | SS <sub>Ps/AB</sub> | —                            |  |   |
| aBP    | $SS_{a}$            | $MS_a/MS_{s/aB}$             | $SS_{\rm a}/(SS_{\rm a} + SS_{\rm s/aB})$    | $SS_a/(SS_a + SS_{aB} + SS_{s/AB} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{PaB} + SS_{Ps/aB})$   |
|        | $SS_{\rm B}$        | $MS_{\rm B}/MS_{\rm s/aB}$   | $SS_{\rm B}/(SS_{\rm B} + SS_{\rm s/aB})$    | $SS_{\rm B}/(SS_{\rm B} + SS_{\rm a} + SS_{\rm aB} + SS_{\rm s/AB} + SS_{\rm Pa} + SS_{\rm PaB} + SS_{\rm Ps/aB})$  |
|        | $SS_{aB}$           | $MS_{aB}/MS_{s/aB}$          | $SS_{aB}/(SS_{aB} + SS_{s/aB})$              | $SS_{aB}/(SS_{aB} + SS_{a} + SS_{s/AB} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{PaB} + SS_{Ps/aB})$  |
|        | $SS_{s/aB}$         | —                            |  |   |
|        | SS <sub>P</sub>     | $MS_{\rm P}/MS_{\rm Ps/aB}$  | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P} + SS_{\rm Ps/aB})$   | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P} + SS_{\rm a} + SS_{\rm aB} + SS_{\rm s/AB} + SS_{\rm Pa} + SS_{\rm PaB} + SS_{\rm Ps/aB})$  |
|        | SS <sub>Pa</sub>    | $MS_{Pa}/MS_{Ps/aB}$         | $SS_{Pa}/(SS_{Pa} + SS_{Ps/aB})$             | $SS_{Pa}/(SS_{Pa} + SS_{a} + SS_{aB} + SS_{s/AB} + SS_{PaB} + SS_{Ps/aB})$  |
|        | SS <sub>PB</sub>    | $MS_{\rm PB}/MS_{\rm Ps/aB}$ | $SS_{PB}/(SS_{PB} + SS_{Ps/aB})$             | $SS_{PB}/(SS_{PB} + SS_a + SS_{aB} + SS_{s/AB} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{PaB} + SS_{Ps/aB})$  |
|        | SS <sub>PaB</sub>   | $MS_{PaB}/MS_{Ps/aB}$        | $33_{PaB}/(33_{PaB} + 33_{Ps/aB})$           | $SS_{PaB}/(SS_{PaB} + SS_a + SS_{aB} + SS_{s/AB} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{Ps/aB})$   |
|        | SS <sub>Ps/aB</sub> |                              |  |   |
| abP    | $SS_a$              | $MS_a/MS_{s/ab}$             | $SS_a/(SS_a + SS_{s/ab})$                    | $SS_{a}/(SS_{a} + SS_{b} + SS_{ab} + SS_{s/ab} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{Pb} + SS_{Pab} + SS_{Ps/ab})$  |
|        | SSb                 | $MS_{b}/MS_{s/ab}$           | $SS_{b}/(SS_{b} + SS_{s/ab})$                | $SS_{b}/(SS_{b} + SS_{a} + SS_{ab} + SS_{s/ab} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{Pb} + SS_{Pab} + SS_{Ps/ab})$  |
|        | SS <sub>ab</sub>    | $MS_{ab}/MS_{s/ab}$          | $SS_{ab}/(SS_{ab} + SS_{s/ab})$              | $SS_{ab}/(SS_{ab} + SS_a + SS_b + SS_{s/ab} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{Pb} + SS_{Pab} + SS_{Ps/ab})$   |
|        | SS <sub>s/ab</sub>  |                              |  | aa // aa + aa + aa + aa + aa + aa + aa  |
|        | SSP<br>SS           | $MS_{P}/MS_{Ps/ab}$          | $SS_{P}/(SS_{P} + SS_{Ps/ab})$               | $\frac{5S_{p}}{(S_{p} + S_{a} + S_{b} + S_{a} + S_{b} + S_{ab} + S_{s/ab} + S_{pa} + S_{pb} + S_{pab} + S_{ps/ab})}{SS_{p}}$  |
|        | SS <sub>Pa</sub>    | $MS_{Pa}/MS_{Ps/ab}$         | $SS_{Pa}/(SS_{Pa} + SS_{Ps/ab})$             | $S_{Pa}/(S_{Pa} + S_{a} + S_{b} + S_{ab} + S_{s/ab} + S_{Pb} + S_{Pb} + S_{Pab} + S_{Ps/ab})$   |
|        | SS <sup>Pb</sup>    | $MS_{Pb}/MS_{Ps/ab}$         | $SS_{Pb'}(SS_{Pb} - SS_{Ps/ab})$             | $S_{Pb'}(S_{Pb} + S_{a} + S_{b} + S_{ab} + S_{s/ab} + S_{Pa} + S_{Pab} + S_{Ps/ab})$  |
|        | SS <sub>Pab</sub>   | Pab/ IVI D Ps/ab             | BBPab BBPab BBPs/ab                          | $\mathcal{B}_{Pab}$ ( $\mathcal{B}_{Pab}$ ' $\mathcal{B}_{a}$ ' $\mathcal{B}_{b}$ ' $\mathcal{B}_{ab}$ ' $\mathcal{B}_{s/ab}$ ' $\mathcal{B}_{Pa}$ ' $\mathcal{B}_{Pb}$ ' $\mathcal{B}_{Ps/ab}$ ' |
|        | DD Dc/ab            |                              |  |   |

Table 2
 Computation of Partial Eta Squared ( $\eta_{P}^{2}$ ) and Generalized Eta Squared ( $\eta_{P}^{2}$ ) for ABP, aBP, and abP Designs

Note—"A" and "B" represent manipulated between-subjects factors, "a" and "b" represent measured between-subjects factors, "P" represents a within-subjects factor, and "s" represents the subjects factor.

infants and mothers spent in a state they call *symbol-infused supported joint engagement* using a mixed sex × age design. For this aP design (see Table 1), where a = infant's sex and P = infant's age, the sums of squares computed by SPSS were 23.7 and 195.8 for the a and s/a between-subjects terms, respectively, and 310.0, 4.0, and 131.6 (rounded) for the P, Pa, and Ps/A within-subjects terms, respectively. Thus, for the sex effect  $\eta_P^2 = 23.7/(23.7 + 195.8) = .11$  and  $\eta_G^2 = 23.7/(23.7 + 195.8 + 4.0 + 131.6) = .07$ , whereas for the age effect  $\eta_P^2 = 310.0/(310.0 + 131.6) = .70$  and  $\eta_G^2 = 310.0/(310.0 + 23.7 + 195.8 + 4.0 + 131.6) = .47$ . As was expected,  $\eta_G^2$  gives smaller values than  $\eta_P^2$ , but both indexes indicate that the age effect was more than six times stronger than the sex effect.

It is more difficult to recover effect size statistics from already published articles, a situation that rightly troubles meta-analysts. Usually, investigators provide F ratios, from which  $\eta_P^2$  but not  $\eta_G^2$  can be computed:

$$\eta_{\rm P}^2 = \frac{F \times df_{\rm effect}}{F \times df_{\rm effect} + df_{\rm error}}.$$
 (6)

If all factors are manipulated between subjects, there is no problem. In such cases,  $\eta_G^2$  is identical to  $\eta_P^2$ , which can be computed from *F* ratios. If all factors are between subjects but only some are manipulated, then computation of  $\eta_G^2$  requires that the investigator provide an ANOVA of source table—a practice that, unfortunately, seems less common now than it was in the past.

The greatest number of difficulties occur when designs include one repeated measure or more. Even when investigators include a source table, often the table includes only within-subjects and not between-subjects information. A total sum of squares could be computed if a standard deviation for all scores were given, but almost always means and standard deviations are given separately for the repeated measures, if they are provided at all. In such cases, investigators who wish to compare their effect sizes with those of other studies in the literature may have no choice but to rely on  $\eta_P^2$  computed from *F* ratios. In some cases—and assuming properly qualified interpretation—this may not be a bad alternative if it is the only one available.

After all, there is no absolute meaning associated with either  $\eta_{\rm P}^2$  or  $\eta_{\rm G}^2$  (except for zero values); their values gain meaning in relation to the findings of other, similar studies. If we focus on a pair of variables (e.g., the effect of age on receptive language or externalizing behavior) and compare effect sizes across studies with similar designs, it would not much matter which effect size statistic we used. However, if we want to apply common guidelines or if designs vary across studies, then  $\eta_{\rm G}^2$  is the effect size statistic of choice (S. Olejnik, personal communication,

| Design | Effect              | F Ratio                      | $\eta_{ m P}^2$                             | $\eta_{ m G}^2$   |
|--------|---------------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| APQ    | SSA                 | $MS_{\rm A}/MS_{\rm s/A}$    | $SS_{\rm A}/(SS_{\rm A} + SS_{\rm s/A})$    | $SS_{\rm A}/(SS_{\rm A} + SS_{\rm s/A} + SS_{\rm Ps/A} + SS_{\rm Qs/A} + SS_{\rm PQs/A})$   |
|        | $SS_{s/A}$          | —                            |   |   |
|        | $SS_{\rm P}$        | $MS_{\rm P}/MS_{\rm Ps/A}$   | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P} + SS_{\rm Ps/A})$   | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P} + SS_{\rm s/A} + SS_{\rm Ps/A} + SS_{\rm Os/A} + SS_{\rm POs/A})$   |
|        | $SS_{PA}$           | $MS_{\rm PA}/MS_{\rm Ps/A}$  | $SS_{\rm PA}/(SS_{\rm PA} + SS_{\rm Ps/A})$ | $SS_{PA} / (SS_{PA} + SS_{s/A} + SS_{Ps/A} + SS_{Qs/A} + SS_{PQs/A})$   |
|        | $SS_{Ps/A}$         | —                            |   |   |
|        | $SS_Q$              | $MS_Q/MS_{Qs/A}$             | $SS_{\rm Q}/(SS_{\rm Q} + SS_{\rm Qs/A})$   | $SS_{Q}/(SS_{Q} + SS_{s/A} + SS_{Ps/A} + SS_{Qs/A} + SS_{PQs/A})$   |
|        | $SS_{QA}$           | $MS_{\rm QA}/MS_{\rm Qs/A}$  | $SS_{\rm QA}/(SS_{\rm QA} + SS_{\rm Qs/A})$ | $SS_{QA}/(SS_{QA} + SS_{s/A} + SS_{Ps/A} + SS_{Qs/A} + SS_{PQs/A})$   |
|        | SS <sub>Qs/A</sub>  |                              |   |   |
|        | $SS_{PQ}$           | $MS_{\rm PQ}/MS_{\rm PQs/A}$ | $SS_{PQ}/(SS_{PQ} + SS_{PQs/A})$            | $SS_{PQ}/(SS_{PQ} + SS_{s/A} + SS_{Ps/A} + SS_{Qs/A} + SS_{PQs/A})$   |
|        | SS <sub>PQA</sub>   | $MS_{PQA}/MS_{PQs/A}$        | $SS_{PQA}/(SS_{PQA} + SS_{PQs/A})$          | $SS_{PQA}/(SS_{PQA} + SS_{s/A} + SS_{Ps/A} + SS_{Qs/A} + SS_{PQs/A})$   |
|        | SS <sub>PQs/A</sub> | _                            |   |   |
| aPQ    | SS <sub>a</sub>     | $MS_{\rm a}/MS_{\rm s/a}$    | $SS_{\rm a}/(SS_{\rm a} + SS_{\rm s/a})$    | $SS_a/(SS_a + SS_{s/a} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{Ps/a} + SS_{Qa} + SS_{Qs/a} + SS_{PQa} + SS_{PQs/a})$  |
|        | $SS_{s/a}$          |                              |   |   |
|        | $SS_{P}$            | $MS_{\rm P}/MS_{\rm Ps/a}$   | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P} + SS_{\rm Ps/a})$   | $SS_{\rm P}/(SS_{\rm P} + SS_{\rm a} + SS_{\rm s/a} + SS_{\rm Pa} + SS_{\rm Ps/a} + SS_{\rm Qa} + SS_{\rm Qs/a} + SS_{\rm PQa} + SS_{\rm PQs/a})$ |
|        | $SS_{Pa}$           | $MS_{\rm Pa}/MS_{\rm Ps/a}$  | $SS_{Pa}/(SS_{Pa} + SS_{Ps/a})$             | $SS_{Pa}/(SS_{Pa} + SS_a + SS_{s/a} + SS_{Ps/a} + SS_{Qa} + SS_{Qs/a} + SS_{PQa} + SS_{PQs/a})$   |
|        | $SS_{Ps/a}$         | _                            |   |   |
|        | $SS_Q$              | $MS_Q/MS_{Qs/a}$             | $SS_{\rm Q}/(SS_{\rm Q} + SS_{\rm Qs/a})$   | $SS_{Q}/(SS_{Q} + SS_{a} + SS_{s/a} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{Ps/a} + SS_{Qa} + SS_{Qs/a} + SS_{PQa} + SS_{PQs/a})$   |
|        | $SS_{Qa}$           | $MS_{Qa}/MS_{Qs/a}$          | $SS_{Qa}/(SS_{Qa} + SS_{Qs/a})$             | $SS_{Qa}/(SS_{Qa} + SS_a + SS_{s/a} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{Ps/a} + SS_{Qs/a} + SS_{PQa} + SS_{PQs/a})$   |
|        | $SS_{Os/a}$         |                              |   |   |
|        | $SS_{PQ}$           | $MS_{PQ}/MS_{PQs/a}$         | $SS_{PO}/(SS_{PO} + SS_{POs/a})$            | $SS_{PO}/(SS_{PO} + SS_a + SS_{s/a} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{Ps/a} + SS_{Oa} + SS_{Os/a} + SS_{POa} + SS_{POa} + SS_{POs/a}$                               |
|        | SS <sub>PQa</sub>   | $MS_{PQa}/MS_{PQs/a}$        | $SS_{PQa}/(SS_{PQa} + SS_{PQs/a})$          | $SS_{PQa}/(SS_{PQa} + SS_a + SS_{s/a} + SS_{Pa} + SS_{Ps/a} + SS_{Qa} + SS_{Qs/a} + SS_{PQs/a})$  |
|        | $SS_{POs/a}$        | _                            |   |   |

Table 3Computation of Partial Eta Squared ( $\eta_P^2$ ) and Generalized Eta Squared ( $\eta_G^2$ ) for APQ and aPQ Designs

Note—"A" represents a manipulated between-subjects factor, "a" represents a measured between-subjects factor, "P" and "Q" represent withinsubjects factors, and "s" represents the subjects factor.

April 1, 2004). Common guidelines can be useful; for example, it is now routine to characterize zero-order correlations of .1 to .3 as small, those of .3 to .5 as medium, and those .5 and over as large, as Cohen (1988) recommended. Cohen (1988, pp. 413–414), who did not consider repeated measures designs explicitly, defined an  $\eta^2$ (which is not the same as Cohen's  $f^2$ ) of .02 as small, one of .13 as medium, and one of .26 as large. It seems appropriate to apply the same guidelines to  $\eta_G^2$  as well. Still, within an area of research in which designs do not vary, investigators can develop their own common guidelines for  $\eta_P^2$ , and so it can still prove an effective, if local, effect size statistic.

An additional qualification should be stated. Like  $R^2$ ,  $\eta^2$  overestimates the population proportion of variance explained. Still, reports often rely on the sample statistics  $R^2$  and  $\eta^2$  because their formulas are simple and straightforward and because the overestimation becomes fairly negligible as sample size increases. Nonetheless, just as adjusted  $R^2$  corrects for the overestimation of  $R^2$ ,  $\omega^2$  corrects for the overestimation of  $\eta^2$  (Hays, 1963; Keppel, 1991). Interested readers may wish to consult Olejnik and Algina (2003) regarding the computation of  $\omega^2$ , but before they conclude that  $\omega^2$  is preferable to  $\eta^2$ they should read Keppel and Wickens (2004), who wrote that although "the partial  $\omega^2$  statistics are straightforward to define theoretically, they are difficult to use practically" (p. 427).

For some simple designs, there are no differences between  $\eta_G^2$ ,  $\eta_P^2$ , and  $\eta^2$ . For a one-way between-subjects ANOVA, no matter whether the factor is manipulated or measured (A or a), values for  $\eta_G^2$  are the same as those for  $\eta_P^2$  and  $\eta^2$ . For factorial designs with between-subjects manipulated factors (AB, ABC, etc.),  $\eta_G^2$  and  $\eta_P^2$  are the same—but if any between-subjects measured factors are included,  $\eta_G^2$  is less than  $\eta_P^2$ . Likewise, although  $\eta_G^2$  and  $\eta^2$  are the same for a within-subjects ANOVA with a single factor (P), in this case and for all other within-subjects or mixed designs,  $\eta_G^2$  is less than  $\eta_P^2$ .

In summary, investigators who report results of ANOVAs, including those with one or more repeated measures factors, are encouraged to report  $\eta_G^2$  as defined by Olejnik and Algina (2003). This statistic is easily computed, as we have demonstrated here. Unlike  $\eta^2$  or  $\eta_{\rm P}^2$ , its value is comparable across studies that incorporate the factor and outcome of interest, regardless of whether the factor is between or within subjects; thus, common guidelines can be applied to the size of the effect of the designated factor on the specific outcome. This is only the first step. More important than simply reporting effect size statistics is their discussion. As Schmidt (1996) has reminded us, for our science to accumulate we need to pay attention to effect sizes and, with time, develop a sense of the typical strength with which a pair of variables is associated in a given area of research. Too often, current articles, when summarizing the literature, merely present effects as present or absent (usually meaning statistically significant or not). Discussion of their typical size, meaning, and practical significance, which  $\eta_G^2$  affords, would be a significant advance, and for that reason is a method that deserves to be more widely known and utilized.

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