

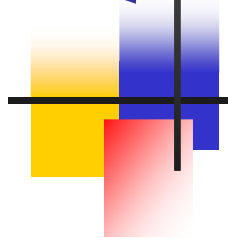
Psychopathic Traits in Juvenile Offenders: A Prospective Study of Criminal Recidivism

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The University of Alabama

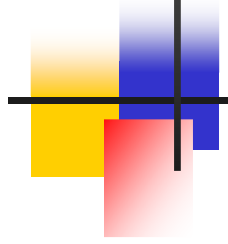
Kirby Forensic Psychiatric Center

Simon Fraser University



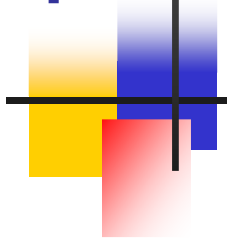
Adolescent Psychopathic Traits

- Assist in identifying adolescents at high risk for serious delinquency and violence
- Evidence for the reliability and construct validity of adolescent psychopathic traits
- Association between adolescent psychopathic traits, and violence and recidivism
 - Moderate associations with aggression (.30), and violent (.25) and general (.24) recidivism



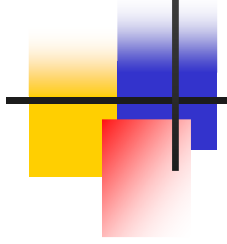
Predicting Recidivism

- Small associations with sexual recidivism
- Associations with general and violent recidivism are smaller in females
- Studies demonstrating low, non-significant associations with general recidivism
- Recent evidence of considerable heterogeneity in violent recidivism
 - Weaker relationship in minority samples



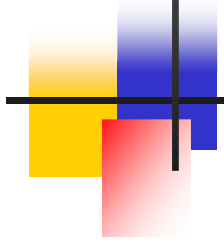
The Current Study

- Recent evidence suggests that adolescent psychopathic traits may not be robust predictors of recidivism
- How well does the PCL:YV and self-report APSD predict one-year criminal recidivism in juvenile offenders?



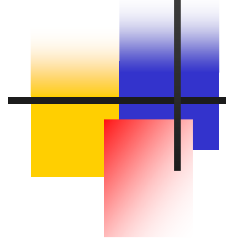
Participants

- 113 male juvenile offenders
 - 13 to 20 years ($M = 16.29$, $SD = 1.41$)
 - Maximum (62%) and minimum (38%) security juvenile facilities
 - Caucasian (50%), Aboriginal (42%), and Other (8%) ethnicity



Measures

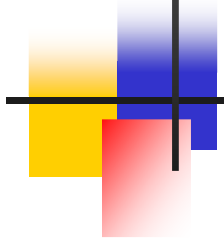
- Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version (PCL:YV)
 - 1 of 3 trained raters based on file and interview
 - Good to excellent interrater reliability (.70 to .96)
 - Total scores ranged from 9 to 39 ($M = 26.66$)
- Self-report Antisocial Process Screening Device (APSD)
 - PCL:YV raters blind to scores
 - Total scores ranged from 3 to 28 ($M = 16.88$)



Criminal Recidivism Coding

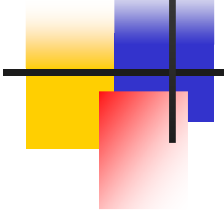
- Official 1-year criminal recidivism data
- Juvenile offenders spent approximately 5 months in custody ($M = 148.75$ days)

	Violent	Non-Violent	Supervision
Mean No.	.98 (1.38)	2.51 (3.10)	1.86 (2.19)
Base Rate	45%	64%	65%
Days until 1 st offense	273.73 (121.77)	220.27 (139.38)	203.78 (139.35)



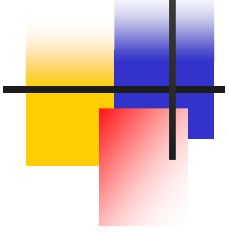
Results: Association

PCL:YV	Violent	Non-Violent	Supervision
Total	.15	.28**	.12
Interpersonal	.05	.11	-.08
Affective	.05	.08	.02
Behavioral	.01	.02	.14
APSD			
Total	.10	.24*	.18
Narcissism	.10	.05	-.09
Callous	.03	.02	-.02
Impulsivity	-.05	.20*	.32**

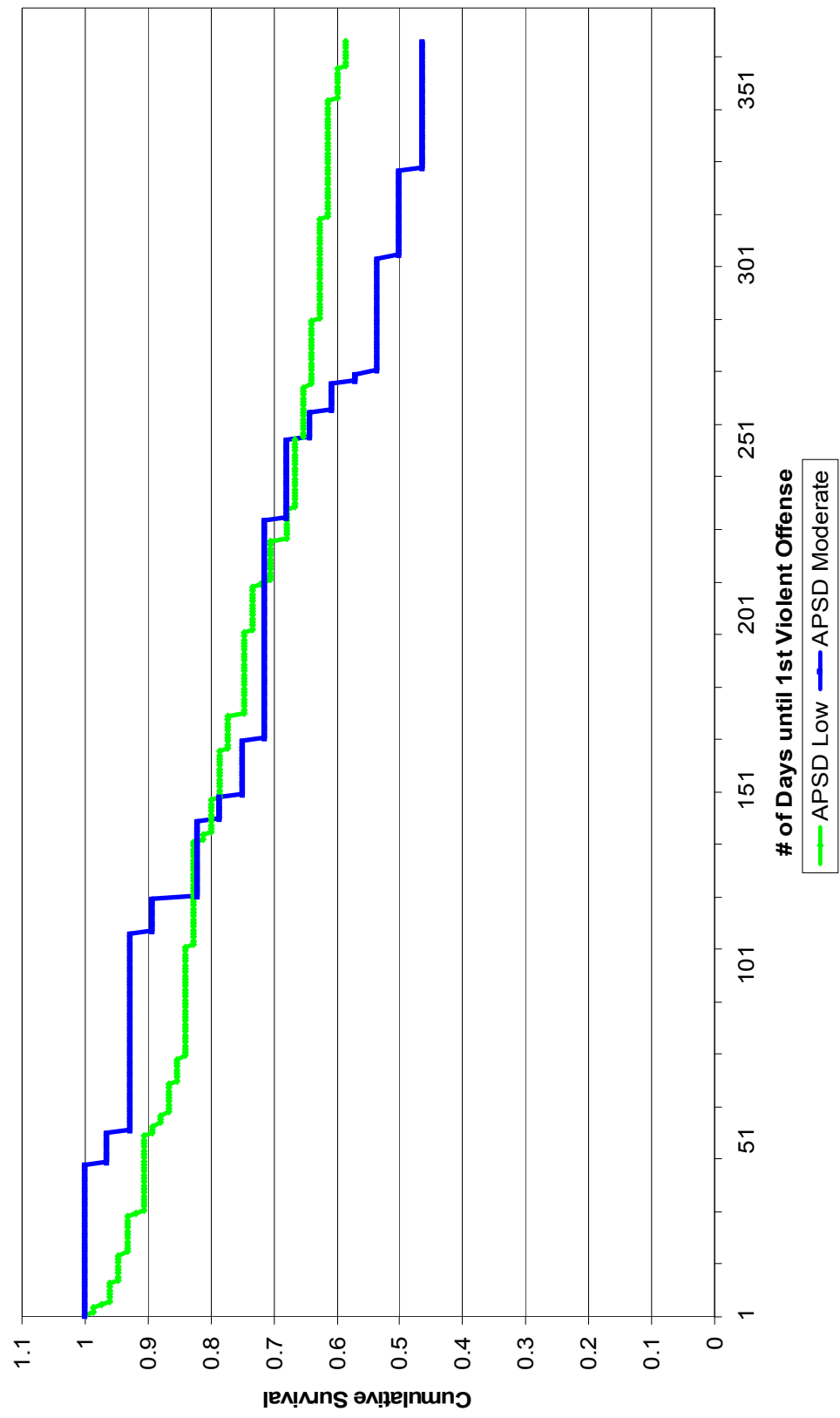


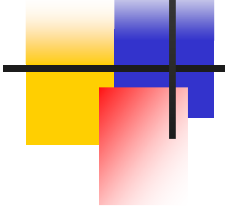
Results: Survival Analyses (Violent)



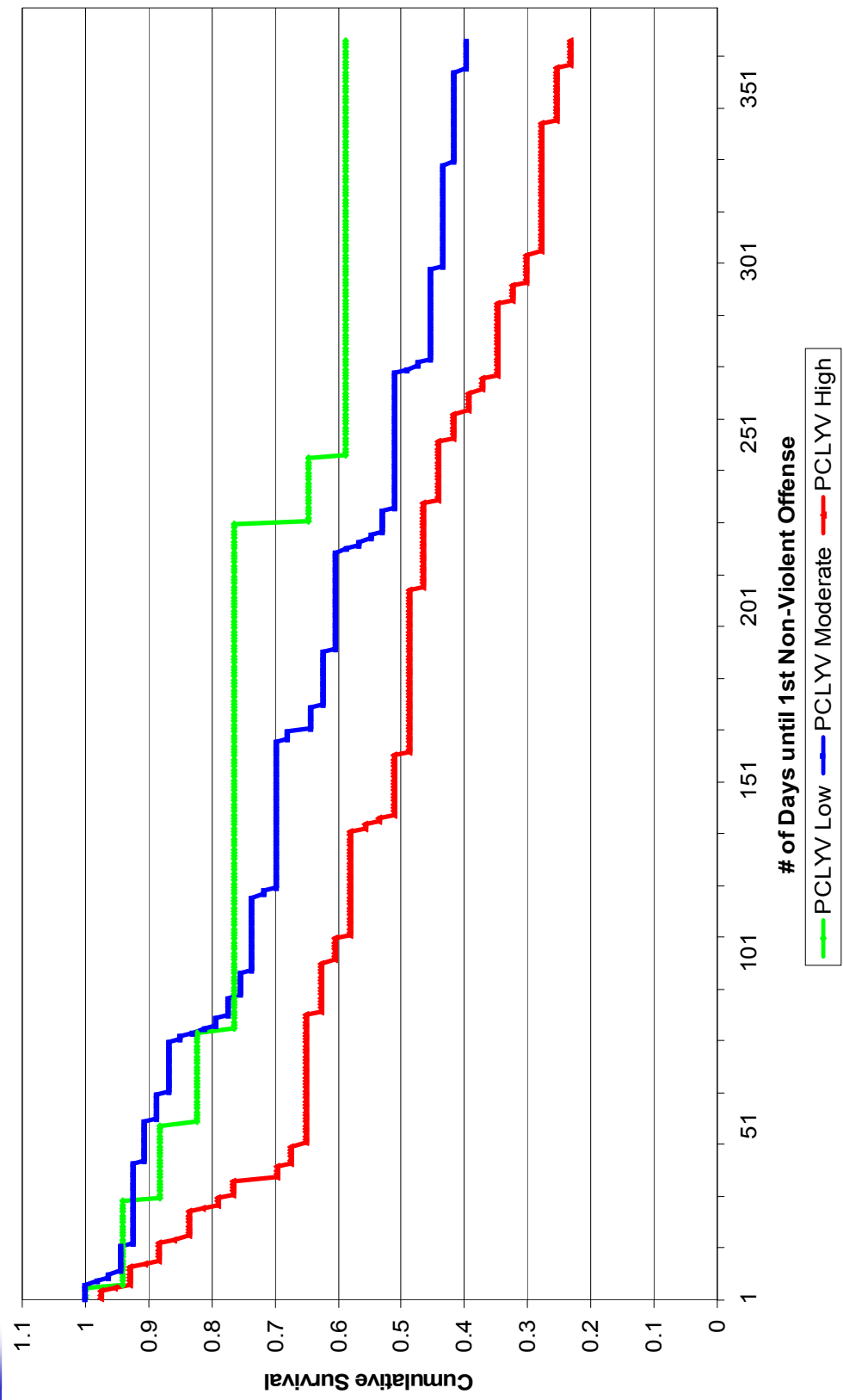


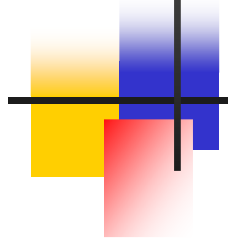
Results: Survival Analyses (Violent)





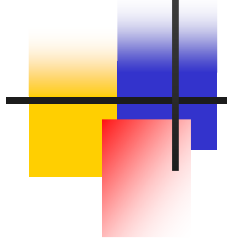
Results: Survival Analyses (Non-Violent)





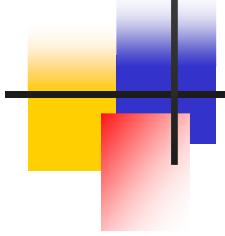
Results: ROC Analyses

PCL:YV	Violent	Non-Violent	Supervision
AUC (SE)	.56 (.05)	.66 (.05)	.53 (.06)
95% CI	.45 - .67	.56 - .76	.42 - .65
APSD			
AUC (SE)	.62 (.06)	.63 (.06)	.55 (.06)
95% CI	.51 - .73	.52 - .75	.43 - .67



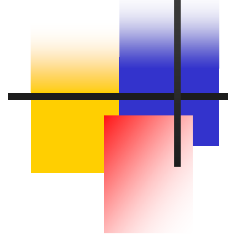
Conclusions

- Predictive ability of psychopathic traits
 - None of the PCL:YV symptom clusters were associated with recidivism
 - APSD impulsivity associated with non-violent and supervision offenses
 - Neither measure predicted violent recidivism
- Low diagnostic efficiency
- Adolescent psychopathic traits may not be a robust risk factor for violent recidivism



Limitations and Future Directions

- Lack of a strong relationship
 - Ethnic diversity
 - Restricted range of APSD
 - Relatively short follow-up
 - Use of official criminal statistics
- Comparing juvenile offenders
- Interaction between psychopathic traits and other contextual risk factors



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