

Review of: "Motivational Variables as Predictors of Academic Achievement Among University Students"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

After an excellent and impressive review of the scientific literature on motivational analysis techniques, which demonstrates vast coverage and completeness of information, the Author undertakes his own personal analysis of the motivations observed experimentally in a group of Chilean students.

However, I have some doubts about the size and characteristics of this experimental group: in fact, any subjective scale expressed on ordinal data (like the one proposed) presents inferential problems if treated as a "quantitative" scale. Even the best Likert scales need a normality check, which I cannot find in the paper under review. Only scales derived from Rasch analyses are an exception.

Probably, with larger sample sizes, the distortion due to the ordinal scale is reduced, but, in fact, a verification of the normality of the data (and possible interventions to guarantee it) would have been appropriate. Or it would have been better to use non-linear regressive techniques (Categorical Regression, for example).

Ultimately, assuming that the data normality check has been carried out, the work performed is excellent (but please report the results of this check).

Otherwise, the analysis should be redone with the statistical technique most appropriate to the data available.

Qeios ID: Y9HQCI · https://doi.org/10.32388/Y9HQCI