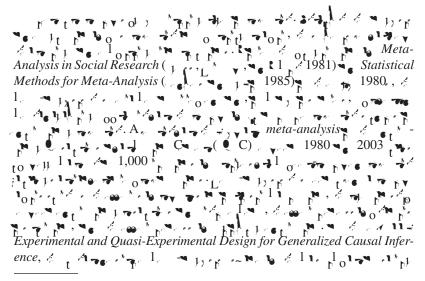
### **META-ANALYSIS**

# A Ca e S · d

D C. B C. BUlniversity of Colorado, Boulder

This article raises some questions about the usefulness of meta-analysis as a means of reviewing quantitative research in the social sciences. When a meta-analytic model for SAT coaching is used to predict results from future studies, the amount of prediction error is quite large. Interpretations of meta-analytic regressions and quantifications of program and study characteristics are shown to be equivocal. The match between the assumptions of the meta-analytic model and the data from SAT coaching studies is not good, making statistical inferences problematic. Researcher subjectivity is no less problematic in the context of a meta-analysis than in a narrative review.

Keywords: meta-analysis; literature review; SAT coaching; statistical inference



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o ( 1986; 1988; B 2004; B 1 2003). (1990; 1990;

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TABLE 1: Observed and Predicted Effects From New Coaching Studies

			P ed c e	edcedCac	Effec F Bec	Bec e (1990)
Re	p S	C ac 🐧 Effec	M de A	M de B	M de C	M de $D$
Н ее (1984)	SAT-V	57	30	11.6	12.9	24.5
	SAT-M	37	30	25.5	1.2	35.8
Fae (1987)	SAT-V	16	30	11.6	1.9	0.8
	SAT-M	16	30	25.5	13.6	12.1
Ha e (1988)	SAT-M	21	30	25.5	14.5	8.1
W a (1988)	SAT-V	=	30	11.6	2.7	0.5
	SAT-M	16	30	25.5	14.4	11.8
S edec (1989)	SAT-V	0	30	11.6	2.7	0.2

TABLE 2: Average Prediction Error From Becker's (1990) Meta-Analytic Models

## INTERPRETING META-ANALYTIC REGRESSIONS AND QUANTIFYING STUDIES

#### INTERPRETING META-ANALYTIC REGRESSIONS

TABLE 4: Estimated Coaching Effects in Randomized Studies

Re	a dS d	SAT-M	SAT-V
A de	a a dP e (1980)		
Sc	A		22
Sc	В		9
Sc	C		14
Sc	D		14
Sc	E		1
Sc	F		14
Sc	G		18
Sc	Н		1
Еа	a dP e (1973)		
G	A	12	
G	В	25	
G	C	11	
La c	e e (1985)	8	0
R be	a d O e e (1966)		
Sc	A		17
Sc	В	12	
Z a	(1988)	51	14
Med a	a effec e a e	12	14

### TABLE 5:

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Calculating effect sizes for meta-analytic regressions.  $\blacksquare$  1,  $\blacksquare$  2,  $\blacksquare$  1,  $\blacksquare$  2,  $\blacksquare$  3,  $\blacksquare$  4,  $\blacksquare$  3,  $\blacksquare$  3,  $\blacksquare$  3,  $\blacksquare$  4,  $\blacksquare$  5,  $\blacksquare$  4,  $\blacksquare$  5,  $\blacksquare$  5,  $\blacksquare$  6,  $\blacksquare$  6,  $\blacksquare$  6,  $\blacksquare$  6,  $\blacksquare$  7,  $\blacksquare$  7,  $\blacksquare$  7,  $\blacksquare$  8,  $\blacksquare$  8,  $\blacksquare$  1,  $\blacksquare$  1, 1,  $\blacksquare$  1 

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$$X_{hij}^{C} z N(\mu_{hi}^{C}, \sigma_{hi}^{2}) and Y_{hij}^{C} z N(\nu_{hi}^{C}, \sigma_{hi}^{2}),$$

$$(4)$$

4601-4 11 1/6 1 text .,

$$X_{hij}^{U} \geq N\left(\mu_{hi}^{U}, \sigma_{hi}^{2}\right) \text{ and } Y_{hij}^{U} \geq N\left(\nu_{hi}^{U}, \sigma_{hi}^{2}\right). \tag{5}$$

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TABLE 6: Studies by Coaching Mode and Design

	•		Me d caDe	
C ac	<i>ĕ</i>	Ra d ed C	Obea a C	N C
S S	-ba ed	R be adO e e (1966) Ea adP e (1973) Ade aadP e (1980) Sa (1992)	De (1953) Fe c (1955) Dea (1958) Keefa e (1976) K c (1979) J (Sa Fa c c e) (1984) <sup>a</sup> B e (1986) Re d a dObe a (1987) Ha e (1988) W •, C d, a d Ma e (1989) Sc ede (1995) W e (1996)	Pa e (1961) Ma (1965) J (A a a, Ne Y e ) (1984) <sup>a</sup>

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Ka a (2002)
Φ
                                         H ee (1984)
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APPENDIX A

SAT C. ac, 1953-2001		
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	I	I	I	I	Σ	Σ	2				_	Σ			Σ		_		Σ		_	0
	1985-1986	1987-1988	1988-1989	1989	1995-1996	1001-1002	700				1965	1970-1971			1977-1978		1983-1994		1988		1985-1986	
	Ž	MD, D.C.	PA	MD, NJ	NSA	V					Z F	NJ, OH, PA			7 Ne E • a d	<i>ц</i> Ф	S		S		×	
	e bc(ba)	ae(bba)	b cad ae	ae(bba)	e bcad	а е с	ช ว				bc(a Bac, ba,ada)	bc(ba	d b ba)		bcad ae		e b c (a	Bac, ba)	bc(bba)		e bc(ba)	
			9	4	Σ	Σ	2				85	12	Ø		ω		Σ	ä	က		Σ	
			12		11 , 12	11	, ,				12	11			Ξ		11		12		=	
	21/55	200/438	264/535	631/1,132	427/2,086	503/3 11/1	,				188/310	288/417			A A		23/35		61/122		16/33	
	21/55	200/438	264/535	631/1,132	427/2,086	503/3 11/1	, ,				154/265	ΑN			239/559		23/35		61/122		16/33	
Z a ( 🥞 -SES	a e) (1988)		S edec (1989)	S (1990)	РеаdВс (1999)	(2004)		Rad ed de	Sc -ba ed c ac	R beadOee	(1966)	Ea adPe(1973)		Ade a adP e	(1980)	J (Sa Facc			Sa (1992)	• (	(1988)	

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C e-ba ed c ac H ee (1984) La c e e (1985)

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p S	G a d Mea	SAT-M	C	D	N	MI	A	IP	TP	7.5	OA	НМ	Cl	WC	AC
өө Н	-	-	-	3.5	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	0	-	0	0
Fае	-	-	-	15	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
Нае	-	-	-	4	0	_	-	_	0	-	0	0	0	0	-
Wa	-	-	-	15	-	_	-	_	_	-	0	0	0	0	0
S egec	-	-	-	15	-	_	-	_	_	-	0	0	0	0	0
W €,C d,adMa	е Т	-	-	15	-	_	-	_	-	-	-	0	0	0	0
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NOTE:D=d a fo	fc ac c c . IP = e	(b d a e ac ce, TP=	ω Φ	a ebee ac ce, TS=	eda = e -a		Bec e ' [1990]		e e ), VI= e ba e ac e , WC=	VI= e ba e , WC=		0 .	Ē	= a , AC = a	е 9 С

> Caace...c.fNe. Si de Se- a - a a a a - a a a - - a a ETS APPENDIX C Ra Ma c 00000000-0000 9 De ٩ C, d, Yea 82 88 88 89 89 90 92 95 96 96 96 Ø

#### **NOTES**

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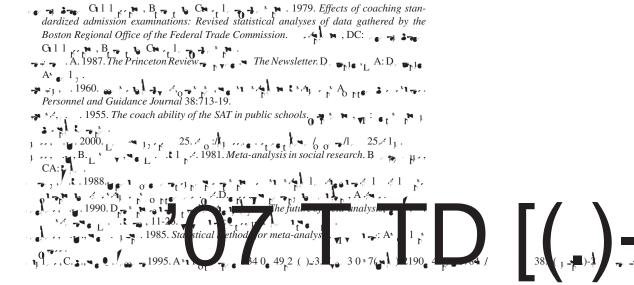
10.4 (1965).

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Derek C. Briggs is an assistant professor specializing in quantitative methods and policy analy-