ARTICLE IN PRESS

Psicología Educativa (2020) xx(x) xx-xx



Psicología Educativa



https://journals.copmadrid.org/psed

Psychometric Properties of the Revised Child Mathematics Anxiety Questionnaire (CMAQ-R) for Spanish Speaking Children

Bárbara Guzmán^a, Cristina Rodríguez^{a, b}, Roberto A. Ferreira^c, and Juan A. Hernández-Cabrera^b

^aUniversidad Católica de la Santísima Concepción, Chile; ^bUniversidad de la Laguna, Spain; ^cPontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile

ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT

Article history: Received 13 November 2019 Accepted 11 May 2020 Available online 27 November 2020

Keywords: Math anxiety Mathematics Spanish-speaking children Rating scale Emotion

Palabras clave: Ansiedad matemática Matemáticas Niños de habla hispana Escala de valoración Emoción Mathematics anxiety (MA) has primarily been studied in adults and children over 8 years of age in English-speaking countries. Few studies have examined MA in younger children and in Spanish-speaking contexts due to the lack of suitable instruments. In the present study we examine the psychometric properties of the Child Mathematics Anxiety Questionnaire (CMAQ-R), an instrument widely used in English-speaking primary school children. A total of 810 Chilean second-grade students (50% boys) from different school types (26% public, 11% private, 63% private-subsidised) completed a Spanish version of CMAQ-R. The results showed adequate internal consistency in line with the original instrument. Confirmatory factor analyses showed that scores from the CMAQ-R version best fit a two correlated-factor structure, which was invariant across gender and school type. This study offers evidence regarding the usefulness of the CMAQ-R in contexts culturally different to the original and supports the multidimensionality of MA.

Las propiedades psicométricas del cuestionario revisado de ansiedad matemática infantil (CMAQ-R) para niños de habla hispana

RESUMEN

La ansiedad matemática (AM) se ha medido principalmente en adultos y niños mayores de 8 años en países anglófonos. Debido a la dificultad de encontrar instrumentos apropiados, pocos estudios han examinado la AM en niños menores y en contextos hispanoparlantes. En el presente estudio, examinamos las propiedades psicométricas del Cuestionario de Ansiedad Matemática (CMAQ-R), un instrumento ampliamente utilizado en la evaluación de AM en niños de escuela primaria de habla inglesa. Un total de 810 estudiantes chilenos de segundo grado (50% niños) de diferentes tipos de escuela (26% pública, 11% privada, 63% subsidiada) completaron una versión en español de CMAQ-R. Los resultados mostraron una adecuada consistencia interna, al igual que el instrumento original. Los análisis factoriales confirmatorios mostraron que las puntuaciones de la versión traducida de CMAQ-R se ajustan mejor a una estructura de dos factores correlacionados, que es invariante por género y tipo de escuela. Este estudio proporciona evidencia sobre la utilidad de CMAQ-R en contextos culturales diferentes y respalda la multidimensionalidad de AM.

There is a close association between emotional variables and academic achievement. In particular, evidence suggests that mathematics anxiety (MA), defined as a state of tension or a negative emotional response to numerical, arithmetic and/or problematic situations (Ashcraft & Faust, 1994; Dowker et al., 2016; Suárez-Pellicioni et al., 2016), is probably one of the most important emotional variables given its negative association with achievement in mathematics (Maloney & Beilock, 2012).

There is considerable evidence that people with MA present cognitive overload when carrying out numerical and arithmetic tasks, leading to poorer performance in these activities (Cargnelutti et al., 2017; Hill et al., 2016; Ramirez et al., 2016). In fact, the results of the PISA 2012 report (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development [OECD, 2013]) show that levels of MA explain 14% of variation in mathematics performance.

It is a worrying fact that a large section of the world's population presents some degree of MA (e.g., Ganley & McGraw, 2016; OECD, 2013; Ramirez et al., 2016) and that a global increase in average levels of MA has been observed in recent years (OECD, 2013). For example, in the United Kingdom, results obtained by Johnston-Wilder et al.

Cite this article as: Guzmán, B., Rodríguez, C., Ferreira, R. A., & Hernández-Cabrera, J. A. (2020). Psychometric properties of the revised child mathematics anxiety questionnaire (CMAQ-R) for Spanish speaking children. *Psicología Educativa*. Ahead of print. https://doi.org/10.5093/psed2020a17

Funding: This study was supported by CONICYT-Chile (FONDECYT REGULAR Nº 1191589) and the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (Programa Ramón y Cajal, RYC-2014-16948). Correspondence: crodri@ull.es (C. Rodríguez)

ISSN: 1135-755X/© 2020 Colegio Oficial de la Psicología de Madrid. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

(2014) show that approximately 48% of adolescents present signs of MA. Ganley and McGraw (2016) suggest that 33.1% of first grade students in the USA present high levels of MA. The figures reported vary considerably between countries, suggesting the relevance of cultural differences MA evaluation, as well as the need for measures adapted to and validated in the particular student context.

MA results from the PISA 2012 report indicate that participating countries, particularly Latin American countries, are among those with the highest levels of MA and the poorest performance in mathematics (OECD, 2013). The report ranks Chile among the ten countries with the highest instances of MA. In a nationwide study, more than half of Chilean students – evaluated at all levels of schooling – reported feelings of apprehension at the prospect of numerical tasks at school: 52% in fourth grade, 56% in eighth grade, and 56% in tenth grade (Ministerio de Educación [MINEDUC, 2016]). Despite these figures, to the best of our knowledge no validated instruments exist for the early measurement of MA in Latin America's population.

In general, measurement of MA has been achieved using selfdescriptive techniques based on ordinal measures (Dowker et al., 2016). Over the past decade, in addition to scales used for MA measurement in adults, scales applicable to children have also been developed and adapted in countries such as the USA (e.g., Carey et al., 2017), Italy (e.g., Caviola et al., 2017), and the UK (e.g., Zirk-Sadowski et al., 2014). However, the majority of these scales are aimed at children over 8 years of age, and scales suitable for measurement of MA at earlier stages, and indeed within the Spanish-speaking context are scarce.

Today, only seven scales exist for children under 8 years of age: the Scale for Early Mathematics Anxiety (SEMA; Wu et al., 2012), the Child Math Anxiety Questionnaire and its revised version (CMAQ; Ramirez et al., 2013; CMAQ-R; Ramirez et al., 2016), the Mathematics Anxiety Scale for Young Children and its revised version (MASYC; Harari et al., 2013; MASYC-R; Ganley & McGraw, 2016), the Children's Anxiety in Math Scale (CAMS; Jameson, 2013), the Math Anxiety Questionnaire (MAQ; Thomas & Dowker, 2000), and the Children's Mathematics Anxiety Scale UK (CMAS-UK; Petronzi et al., 2019). The existence of a multidimensional structure identical to that of studies for adults has been confirmed for some of them (Ganley & McGraw, 2016; Harari et al., 2013). Harari et al. (2013) found three dimensions for the MASYC scale, designed for first-grade children: negative reactions, worry, and numerical confidence. The first two are linked to physical manifestations and states of excessive restlessness in numerical situations, while the third may be associated primarily with an attitudinal construct rather than an emotional one (Ganley & McGraw, 2016). In fact, some of the items of this dimension are proposed based on positive concepts that are relatively opposed to MA, such as interest (e.g., "I like to raise my hand in mathematics class").

Jameson (2013) also confirmed the multidimensional nature of MA in his study of the CAMS scale, designed for first- to fifth-grade students, identifying three dimensions: general mathematics anxiety, mathematics performance anxiety, and mathematics error anxiety. Similarly, in an exploratory factor analysis of the SEMA scale designed for first- and second-grade children, Wu et al. (2012) identified a two-factor structure: numerical processing anxiety and situational and performance anxiety.

Evidence regarding the suitability of the psychometric characteristics of the scales designed for children under 8 years of age is limited, despite their use in a number of studies. The majority of studies in which these scales have been applied used small samples, and in only a few of them was the internal structure confirmed. This is the case of the Child Mathematics Anxiety Questionnaire-Revised CMAQ-R (Ramirez et al., 2016), one of the most widely used measures of MA over the past four years according to the literature (e.g., Gunderson et al., 2018; Van Mier et al., 2019). This scale, based on the MARS-E questionnaire (Suinn et al., 1988), has reported a good level of reliability, but the multidimensionality of its internal structure has not been examined by any studies to date.

CMAQ-R uses vocabulary that is understandable by first- and second-grade children and its pictographic scale representing an emotional gradient is consistent with estimations of emotional magnitudes of which children in this age group are capable (Holmes & Lourenco, 2011). This makes the scale more accessible and allows more precise measurement of MA levels than may be achieved using a numerical scale (DeLoache, 2000). Furthermore, its questions are formulated to avoid posterior reverse scores. In other words, CMAQ-R is an ideal scale for use with small children, pending validation. The aim of the present study was to examine the psychometric properties of the adapted Spanish version of the scale for use with Chilean second-grade children. To do so, its construct validity, reliability, and internal structure were analysed (Flake et al., 2017). Once the CMAQ-R structure most suitable to Chilean context had been defined, a second aim was to verify the invariance of the instrument according to gender and school type.

Method

Participants

Participants were 810 Chilean second-grade students (50% boys; age, *M* =77.96 months, *SD* = 4.85) from 21 public, private, and private-subsidised schools. The empirical distribution of school types reflected the statistics reported by the Chilean Ministry of Education (MINEDUC, 2016), $\chi^2(2) = 4.15$, *p* =.13 (see Table 1 for descriptive statistics).

Table 1. Demographic Information of Participants

School Type	N	%	Students by Gender					
School Type	IN	/0	Girls	Boys				
Public	209	25.8	103	106				
Private-subsidised	511	63.1	264	247				
Private	90	11.1	38	52				
Total	810	100	405	405				

Materials

Mathematics anxiety. The Child Mathematics Anxiety Questionnaire-Revised (CMAQ-R; Ramirez et al., 2016) is applied on an individual basis to first- and second-grade children and is a revised version of the Child Mathematics Anxiety Questionnaire (CMAQ; Ramirez et al., 2013). The questionnaire was translated and adapted to Chilean Spanish in readiness for application by the present study (see Translation and adaptation section below). It covers 16 situations relating to mathematics, including specific mathematical problems and mathematical situations in the classroom. Using a scale of five faces that express an emotional range from *no anxiety* to *very*, very anxious, the children were required to indicate the face which expresses the level of anxiety that they feel in each of the proposed situations. The original scale has been treated unidimensionally and the total mathematics anxiety score is calculated based on the total responses of each item in a range of 16 to 80 points. The original CMAQ-R has high internal consistency, and a Chronbach's alpha of .83 has been reported (Ramirez et al., 2016).

Translation and adaptation to Spanish, CMAQ-R. CMAQ-R was translated to Spanish in accordance with the procedures generally recommended for adaptation of tests (Muñiz et al., 2013; Tassé & Craig, 1999). Two of the authors involved in the present study translated the original scale into Spanish, and a bilingual translator subsequently reverse translated it. Discrepancies between the translations were discussed by two experts (researchers and university teachers). All of the comments were analysed and discussed by the authors, and two context-related modifications

were made. The literal translation of the word "cans" [*latas*] was changed to *bolsas* [bags] in reference to the food in item 1, and references to *centavos* were changed to *pesos* in item 3 (see Appendix for details of the translation and adaptation).

Procedure

The present study was approved by the Ethics Committee of Universidad Católica de la Santísima Concepción, Chile. The parents or guardians of participants were required to sign consent forms prior to the evaluation, and the permission of the children was also obtained. In order to ensure anonymity during data processing, a numerical code was assigned to each participant.

The evaluation was conducted on an individual basis in a quiet room free of distractions by examiners who received training beforehand. The instructions were read aloud, and then to ensure children's understanding of the pictographic scale, they were presented with a practice problem covering a subject unconnected to those simulated during the study (e.g., "How anxious do you feel when you look down from the top floor of a building?"). The children were asked to use their index finger to select the face that best expressed their level of anxiety. The same procedure was used for all items. In the event that participants had questions or failed to understand an item, they were free to consult with the examiners. Application of the questionnaire took place during June, halfway through the school year, and lasted approximately 15 minutes.

Data Analysis

The data were analysed using R version 3.3.5 (R Core Team, 2017), the Lavaan package (Rosseel, 2012), and the syntax described by ULLRToolbox (Hernández & Betancort, 2018). In order to determine the factor structure of the CMAQ-R scale, two confirmatory factor analyses (CFA) were conducted. The first CFA (Model 1) examined the fit obtained for a unidimensional model representing all problematic situations associated with mathematics anxiety (MA), as has been done in previous studies (e.g., Gunderson et al., 2018; Maloney et al., 2015; Ramirez et al., 2016; Van Mier et al., 2019). The second CFA (Model 2) included two global factors: "mathematics anxiety towards explicit numerical situations" (ENS) and "mathematics anxiety towards general classroom situations" (GCS).

The definition of factors was based on the review conducted by Haase et al. (2019), who indicate that two dimensions may be observed in the measurement structure: attitudes about problemsolving and specific situations. Assignment of items to each factor was based on the description of the measure reported by previous studies which indicate that some items refer to feelings of nervousness regarding solving particular mathematical problems, while others refer to nervousness towards more general situations experienced in the mathematics classroom (e.g., Gunderson et al., 2018; Maloney et al., 2015; Ramirez et al., 2016; Van Mier et al., 2019). As such, 9 items were assigned to factor ENS, referring to solving explicit mathematical problems, and 7 items were assigned to factor GCS, referring to general problems in the mathematics classroom.

Estimation was done using the robust weighted least squares (WLSMV) method recommended for the modelling of ordinal variables, including in cases where the assumption of normality of the data is not met (Abad et al., 2011). The goodness of fit of the models was assessed by means of the standardised root mean square residual (SRMR), the root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA, CI 90%), the comparative fit index (CFI), and the Tucker-Lewis index (TLI). In order to achieve a good fit, the following criteria were considered for each of the indices: RMSEA (\leq .06), SRMR (\leq .08), CFI (\geq .95), TLI (\geq .95) (Brown, 2015; Hu & Bentler, 1999), with a χ^2/df relationship less than 2 (Kline, 2016). In order to statistically compare

the unidimensional model and the correlated two-factor model, we used the χ^2 difference test.

ARTICLE IN PRES

The reliability of CMAQ-R was assessed using coefficient omega (McDonald, 1999). While Cronbach's alpha is one of the most widely used coefficients in the literature, it does have some limitations. For instance, it assumes that data are continuous (Gadermann et al., 2012) and it is dependent upon the number of items and their normal distributions (Taber, 2018). In addition, test items need to meet the assumption of the tau-equivalent model, which further implies equal factor loadings for each item in each factor (Cho, 2016; Teo & Fan, 2013). When the above assumptions are not met, estimation of reliability using Cronbach's alpha is not accurate. In such cases, coefficient omega is more appropriate for assessment of reliability because it is calculated directly using the parameter estimates from the CFA, displaying much greater stability when dealing with non-continuous data (Dunn et al., 2014; Gadermann et al., 2012).

Finally, to test whether the factor structure found was similar between girls and boys and between schools (public, private, private-subsidised), multi-group CFAs were used to test the configural invariance. The test for configural invariance shows whether the same items are associated with the same construct. If fit indices are within the range of acceptable values, the configural model is considered invariant. When the configural invariance model is supported, metric invariance can be tested. This is achieved by constraining the factor loadings of similar items to be equal across the different groups. To determine the metric invariance of groups, a $\Delta \chi^2$ test was conducted (Sass, 2011). If the metric model does not differ from the configural model, metric invariance is inferred.

Results

Descriptive Statistics and Correlations

Prior to CFA, descriptive statistics were calculated for the items (median for central tendency and frequencies for variability). The descriptive statistics for each CMAQ-R item are presented in Table 2.

The correlation analysis of the items was performed based on a polychoric correlation matrix. Current suggestions indicate that the polychoric correlation coefficient is more appropriate than Pearson's for estimating the relationship between the items of a Likert scale (Martínez-Abad & Rodríguez-Conde, 2017). Results showed positive and statistically significant correlations between items. Table 3 present the correlations between the items and the corrected item-total correlations. The results showed adequate correlations across all items of the CMAQ-R scale within each of its dimensions.

Reliability

The results indicated acceptable internal consistency reliability for both the GCS (ω = .76) and ENS factors (ω = .70). Similarly, composite reliability values for GCS (CR = .75) and ENS (CR = .80), as well as average variance extracted for GCS (AVE = .30) and ENS (AVE = .31), suggest good model reliability (Hair et al., 2010).

CMAQ-R Factor Structure

Two confirmatory models were tested for CMAQ-R: the unidimensional model and the correlated two-factor model (see Table 4). For both models, correlations between error terms for items 9 and 16 were allowed. This specification assumes that the two indicators are linked in part by the shared influence of the ENS factor, but part of their covariance is due also to different sources of the common factor, which in this case is explained by the similar wording of the two items (¿Cómo te sientes cuando tienes que resolver 27 + 15?/¿Cómo te sentirías si tuvieras que resolver 34 - 17?) (Brown, 2015).

A comparison between the unidimensional model and the correlated two-factor model revealed a significant difference, $\Delta \chi^2(1) = 68.384$, p < .000. The latter presented a significantly better fit for the data than the unidimensional model and, as such, is considered the best of the two.

Table 2.	Descriptive	Statistics of	the CMAQ-R
----------	-------------	---------------	------------

Item	Median	Response Frequency (%)								
		1	2	3	4	5				
Item 01	2	33.1	24.9	23.8	8.1	10.0				
Item 02	1	54.3	20.0	13.1	4.8	7.8				
Item 03	3	29.5	19.1	22.3	12.8	16.2				
Item 04	1	50.6	18.5	14.2	7.5	9.1				
Item 05	3	16.2	16.5	20.2	16.1	30.9				
Item 06	1	63.2	16.7	10.5	4.9	4.7				
Item 07	2	36.8	22.3	17.7	10.4	12.8				
Item 08	2	48.6	18.8	14.1	8.1	10.4				
Item 09	3	28.1	18.1	16.2	14.9	22.6				
Item 10	3	24.1	14.9	17.2	12.2	31.6				
Item 11	1	51.1	18.5	12.8	8.0	9.5				
Item 12	3	8.3	18.8	27.4	18.9	26.5				
Item 13	3	27.7	17.3	22.1	16.4	16.5				
Item 14	2	36.5	21.2	18.8	10.5	13.0				
Item 15	3	30.7	14.9	14.8	13.7	25.8				
Item 16	3	28.3	19.8	15.8	14.7	21.5				

Note. Some rows may not add to 100% due to rounding. Items scores ranging from 1 (*no anxiety*) to 5 (*very, very anxious*).

Figure 1 shows the best fitting model and the standardised trajectory coefficients for each observed variable. All of the item loadings were found to be at an acceptable level (\geq .39) and all of the parameter estimates were significantly different to 0. The latent completion in day between the model for the parameter as .20

tent correlation index between the model factors was r = .80.

Invariance of CMAQ-R Factor Structure

Multi-group confirmatory factor analysis. To test whether the factor structure was similar across gender and school type (configural invariance test), parameters were estimated simultaneously for each level of gender (boys, girls) and school type (public, private, private-subsidised). Fit indices of the multi-group CFA by gender and school type were acceptable (see Table 5). It can therefore be concluded that

both the number of factors and the factor loading pattern of CMAQ-R scale's items are similar across gender and school type.

With regard to metric invariance (whether factor loadings are the same for all groups), the fit indices were acceptable across gender and school type (see Table 5). The results show that there were no differences in fit indices between the configural model and the metric model for gender ($\Delta\chi^2 = 14.71$, $\Delta df = 14$, p = .398) and school type ($\Delta\chi^2 = 32.12$, $\Delta df = 28$, p = .269). As such, there was also support for metric invariance for both gender and school type.

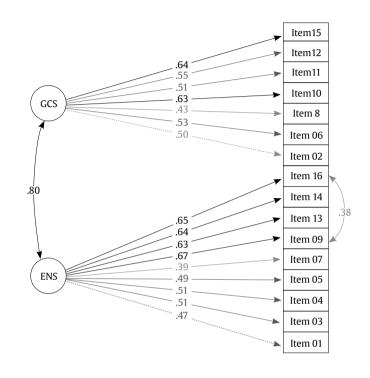


Figure 1. CMAQ-R Factor Solution Model 2.

Discussion

The aim of the present study was to examine the psychometric properties of the CMAQ-R scale in the Chilean child population. Two theoretical structural models were identified. The first model was

e 3. Polychoric Correlation Matrix of the CMAO-R and Corrected Item-Total Correlations	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	GCS	ENS
1. Item 01	-																	.48
2. Item 02	.11	-															.55	
3. Item 03	.24	.08	-															.50
4. Item 04	.24	.18	.23	-														.48
5. Item 05	.28	.19	.26	.15	-													.46
6. Item 06	.20	.43	.16	.18	.10	-											.60	
7. Item 07	.16	.13	.25	.13	.21	.13	-											.40
8. Item 08	.12	.26	.24	.18	.07	.24	.10	-									.44	
9. Item 09	.29	.26	.33	.37	.31	.28	.28	.25	-									.72
10. Item 10	.25	.33	.25	.30	.31	.35	.17	.19	.32	-							.59	
11. Item 11	.17	.25	.14	.23	.23	.35	.19	.25	.26	.31	-						.50	
12. Item 12	.22	.24	.27	.24	.26	.25	.21	.24	.31	.31	.25	-					.48	
13. Item 13	.33	.26	.34	.35	.31	.18	.30	.22	.43	.29	.21	.31	-					.63
14. Item 14	.34	.19	.33	.38	.27	.28	.22	.19	.44	.36	.33	.30	.42	-				.62
15. Item 15	.23	.28	.33	.26	.33	.32	.16	.31	.35	.42	.27	.32	.30	.29	-		.59	
16. Item 16	.31	.32	.33	.34	.32	.29	.29	.27	.65	.34	.28	.26	.35	.38	.35	-		.69

Note. GCS factor = mathematics anxiety; ENS factor = mathematics anxiety towards explicit numerical situations.

CMAQ-R for Spanish Speaking Children

Table 4. Model Comparison: Summary of Goodness-of-Fit Statistics

Model	χ-	df	RMSEA (90% CI)	CFI	SRMR	TLI
Unidimensional covariance	301.541	103	.049 [.042, .055]	.954	.050	.946
Two-factor covariance	209.304	102	.036 [.042, .043]	.975	.041	.971

Table 5. Test for Invariance of CMAQ-R

WAQ-K								
χ^2	df	р	CFI	TLI	RMSEA	$\Delta \chi^2$	Δdf	р
226.600	204	.133	.997	.996	.017			
259.865	218	< .050	.994	.994	.022	14.71	14	.3980
358.678	306	< .050	.993	.992	.025			
444.508	334	< .001	.986	.985	.035	32.12	28	.2697
	χ ² 226.600 259.865 358.678	$\begin{array}{c c} \chi^2 & df \\ \hline 226.600 & 204 \\ 259.865 & 218 \\ \hline 358.678 & 306 \\ \hline \end{array}$	χ^2 df p 226.600 204 .133 259.865 218 <.050	χ^2 df p CFI 226.600 204 .133 .997 259.865 218 <.050	χ^2 df p CFI TLI 226.600 204 .133 .997 .996 259.865 218 <.050	χ^2 df p CFI TLI RMSEA 226.600 204 .133 .997 .996 .017 259.865 218 <.050	χ^2 df p CFI TLI RMSEA $\Delta \chi^2$ 226.600 204 .133 .997 .996 .017 259.865 218 <.050	χ^2 df p CFI TLI RMSEA $\Delta\chi^2$ Δdf 226.600 204 .133 .997 .996 .017 .022 14.71 14 358.678 306 <.050

based on the unidimensional treatment of the scale used in previous studies (e.g., Gunderson et al., 2018; Maloney et al., 2015; Ramirez et al., 2016; Van Mier et al., 2019). In the second model, an internal two-dimensional structure was tested (mathematics anxiety towards explicit numerical situations and mathematics anxiety towards general situations) and found to be in line with current theoretical reviews and with the description proposed by studies that have used the scale (Gunderson et al., 2018; Haase et al., 2019; Van Mier et al., 2019).

In terms of reliability, the results indicate an adequate internal consistency of the general scale, in line with the original study (Ramirez et al., 2016). This shows that modifications made during the translation of CMAQ-R and its application in a new context do not affect the internal consistency of the scale. With regard to the internal structure, findings show that the two structural models presented adequate fit indices; however, the two-factor model offered the best fit for the data. These findings suggest that the CMAQ-R scale may be conceived as two subscales, an approach that has not been considered by previous studies (e.g., Gunderson et al., 2018; Ramirez et al., 2015; Van Mier et al., 2019).

To date, the instrument has been used unidimensionally in terms of the total or average score derived from the general scale, with no consideration given to the relative weight of each item. As such, use of the measure has been limited to the identification of a general level of MA and has not addressed different identifiable elements which could usefully become the subject of intervention. The fact that two factors were found by the present work enables us to better identify those situations which trigger anxiety in a subject and thus to intervene more effectively in levels of anxiety in children; this is not possible when only MA level is reported.

As mentioned previously, the CMAQ-R scale is based on the MARS-E questionnaire (Suinn et al., 1988) and also has a two-factor structure. CMAQ-R is therefore a suitable measure of MA in children entering formal education, being aimed at an age range that is not covered by MARS-E. Furthermore, girls do not differ from girls in CMAQ-R scale, and this is important given significant gender differences in MA levels reported by a number of studies (e.g., Devine et al., 2012; Stoet et al., 2016). The scale is also invariant across school type, which is relevant, given that school type and socio-economic status (SES) are almost interchangeable in Chile (Ortiz, 2015), and because SES has been found to influence MA (Adimora et al., 2015; Geyik, 2015).

Identification of two CMAQ-R factors for second-grade children is in line with findings by Wu et al. (2012), who developed SEMA scale, also based on MARS-E. The study identified two factors of MA: numerical processing anxiety and situational and performance anxiety. However, these two factors, extracted using EFA, were not confirmed by CFA, and the psychometric properties reported for SEMA were lower than those of the Spanish version of CMAQ-R. For example, the SEMA scale reports 8.5% of variance explained by the 'situational and performance anxiety' factor, while for CMAQ-R (Spanish version) 30% of variance is explained by the 'mathematics anxiety towards general situations' factor.

A positive aspect of the present study was that it used the largest sample of any study of CMAQ-R published to date. However, all of the participants were second-grade students and it is therefore essential that future studies that use the scale examine whether CMAQ-R factor structure may be used with first-grade students. Additionally, in light of the evidence suggesting that MA is linked to contextual factors (Chang & Beilock, 2016; Rubinsten et al., 2018) and has a significant impact on mathematics performance (Carey et al., 2017), future studies could use the present instrument to examine the impact of classroom dynamics and teacher characteristics on the development of MA and its relation to subsequent mathematics performance.

In conclusion, the present study contributes evidence as to the usefulness of the CMAQ-R scale in contexts that are culturally different to the original, and supports the multidimensionality of MA. In addition, given the limited number of studies that have explored this phenomenon in Latin America, and particularly in Chile, the present paper makes a real contribution to the research on the subject and offers an instrument that may be easily applied and interpreted by teachers and education professionals in general. The study of MA, particularly during early school years, has been systematically overlooked in comparison with other competence factors. As such, the existence of a validated and reliable measure will enable early identification of students at risk of MA and support the implementation of preventive strategies and specific interventions within the school context.

Conflict of Interest

The authors of this article declare no conflict of interest.

Acknowledgement

We gratefully acknowledge Gerardo Ramírez for facilitating access to the English version of the Revised Child Mathematics Anxiety Questionnaire (CMAQ-R). The first author was supported by Doctoral Fellowship No 21182003, ANID, Chile.

References

Abad, F., Olea, J., Ponsoda, V., & García, C. (2011). *Medición en ciencias sociales y de la salud*. Editorial Síntesis.

Adimora, D. E., Nwokenna, E. N., Omeje, J. C., & Eze, U. N. (2015). Influence of socio-economic status and classroom climate on mathematics anxiety of primary school pupils. *Procedia-Social and Behavioral Sciences*, 205, 693-701. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sbspro.2015.09.109

- Ashcraft, M. H., & Faust, M. W. (1994). Mathematics anxiety and mental arithmetic performance: An exploratory investigation. *Cognition and Emotion*, 8(2), 97-125. https://doi.org/10.1080/02699939408408931
- Brown, T. A. (2015). Confirmatory factor analysis for applied research (2nd ed.). The Guilford Press.
- Carey, É., Hill, F., Devine, A., & Szűcs, D. (2017). The modified abbreviated math anxiety scale: A valid and reliable instrument for use with children. Frontiers in Psychology, 8(11). https://doi.org/10.3389/ fpsyg.2017.00011
- Cargnelutti, E., Tomasetto, C., & Passolunghi, M. C. (2017). How is anxiety related to math performance in young students? A longitudinal study of Grade 2 to Grade 3 children. *Cognition and Emotion*, 31(4), 755-764. http://doi.org/10.1080/02699931.2016.1147421
- Caviola, S., Primi, C., Chiesi, F., & Mammarella, I. C. (2017). Psychometric properties of the Abbreviated Math Anxiety Scale (AMAS) in Italian primary school children. *Learning and Individual Differences*, 55, 174-182. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lindif.2017.03.006
- Chang, H., & Beilock, S. (2016). The math anxiety-math performance link and its relation to individual and environmental factors: A review of current behavioral and psychophysiological research. *Current Opinion in Behavioral Sciences*, 10, 33-38. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cobeha.2016.04.011
- Cho, E. (2016). Making reliability reliable: A systematic approach to reliability coefficients. Organizational Research Methods, 19(4), 651-682. https://doi.org/10.1177/1094428116656239
- DeLoache, J. S. (2000). Dual representation and young children's use of scale models. *Child development*, 71(2), 329-338. https://doi. org/10.1111/1467-8624.00148
- Devine, A., Fawcett, K., Szűcs, D., & Dowker, A. (2012). Gender differences in mathematics anxiety and the relation to mathematics performance while controlling for test anxiety. *Behavioral and Brain Functions*, 8(1), 33. https://doi.org/10.1186/1744-9081-8-33
- Dowker, A., Sarkar, A., & Looi, C. Y. (2016). Mathematics anxiety: What have we learned in 60 years? Frontiers in Psychology, 7, 508. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2016.00508
 Dunn, T. J., Baguley, T., & Brunsden, V. (2014). From alpha to omega: A
- Dunn, T. J., Baguley, T., & Brunsden, V. (2014). From alpha to omega: A practical solution to the pervasive problem of internal consistency estimation. *British Journal of Psychology*, 105(3), 399-412. https://doi. org/10.1111/bjop.12046
- Flake, J. K., Pek, J., & Hehman, E. (2017). Construct validation in social and personality research: Current practice and recommendations. Social Psychological and Personality Science, 8(4), 370-378. https://doi. org/10.1177/1948550617693063
- Gadermann, A. M., Guhn, M., & Zumbo, B. D. (2012). Estimating ordinal reliability for Likert-type and ordinal item response data: A conceptual, empirical, and practical guide. *Practical Assessment, Research & Evaluation*, 17(3), 1-13. https://doi.org/10.7275/n560-j767
- Ganley, C. M., & McGraw, A. L. (2016). The development and validation of a revised version of the math anxiety scale for young children. *Frontiers* in Psychology, 7, 1181. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2016.01181
- Geyik, S. K. (2015). The effects of parents' socio-economic status on mathematics anxiety among social sciences students in turkey. International Journal of Education and Research, 3(1), 311-324. http:// www.ijern.com/journal/2015/January-2015/26.pdf
- Gunderson, E. A., Park, D., Maloney, E. A., Beilock, S. L., & Levine, S. C. (2018). Reciprocal relations among motivational frameworks, math anxiety, and math achievement in early elementary school. *Journal of Cognition and Development*, 19(1), 21-46. https://doi.org/10.1080/152 48372.2017.1421538
- Haase, V. G., Guimarães, A. P. L., & Wood, G. (2019). Mathematics and Emotions: The Case of Math Anxiety. In A. Fritz, V.G. Haase, & P. Räsänen (Eds.), International Handbook of Mathematical Learning Difficulties (pp. 469-503). Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-97148-3_29
- Hair Jr., J. F., Black, W. C., Babin, B. J., & Anderson, R. E. (2010). Multivariate data analysis (7th ed.). Pearson Prentice-Hall.
- Harari, R. R., Vukovic, R. K., & Bailey, S. P. (2013). Mathematics anxiety in young children: An exploratory study. *The Journal of Experimental Education*, 81(4), 538-555. https://doi.org/10.1080/00220973.2012.727888
- Hernández, J. A., & Betancort, M. (2018). ULLRtoolbox. https://sites.google. com/site/ullrtoolbox/
- Hill, F., Mammarella, I. C., Devine, A., Caviola, S., Passolunghi, M. C., & Szűcs, D. (2016). Maths anxiety in primary and secondary school students: Gender differences, developmental changes and anxiety specificity. *Learning and Individual Differences*, 48, 45–53. https://doi. org/10.1016/j.lindif.2016.02.006
- Holmes, K. J., & Lourenco, S. F. (2011). Common spatial organization of number and emotional expression: A mental magnitude line. *Brain and Cognition*, 77(2), 315-323. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bandc.2011.07.002
- Hu, L. T., & Bentler, P. M. (1999). Cutoff criteria for fit indexes in covariance structure analysis: Conventional criteria versus new alternatives. *Structural Equation Model*, 6, 1–55. https://doi.org/10.1080/10705519909540118
- Jameson, M. M. (2013). The development and validation of the Children's Anxiety in Math Scale. *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment*, 31(4), 391-395. https://doi.org/10.1177/0734282912470131 Johnston-Wilder S. Brindley L. B. Derte D. (2014).
- Johnston-Wilder, S., Brindley, J., & Dent, P. (2014). A survey of mathematics anxiety and mathematical resilience among existing apprentices. *The Gatsby Foundation*.

Kline, R. B. (2016). *Principles and practice of structural equation modeling* (4th ed.). The Guilford Press.

ARTICLE IN PRESS

- Maloney, E., & Beilock, S. (2012). Math anxiety: Who has it, why it develops, and how to guard against it. *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 16(8), 404-406. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tics.2012.06.008
- Maloney, E. A., Ramirez, G., Gunderson, E. A., Levine, S. C., & Beilock, S. L. (2015). Intergenerational effects of parents' math anxiety on children's math achievement and anxiety. *Psychological Science*, 26(9), 1480-1488. https://doi.org/10.1177/0956797615592630
- Martínez-Abad, F., & Rodríguez-Conde, M. J. (2017). Comportamiento de las correlaciones producto-momento y tetracórica-policórica en escalas ordinales: un estudio de simulación. *RELIEVE. Revista Electrónica de Investigación y Evaluación Educativa, 23*(2), 1-21. https://doi. org/10.7203/relieve.23.2.9476
- McDonald, R. (1999). Test theory: A unified treatment. Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- Ministerio de Educación (MINEDUC, 2016). Estadísticas de la educación. https://centroestudios.mineduc.cl/wp-content/uploads/ sites/100/2017/07/Anuario_2016.pdf
- Muñiz, J., Elosua, P., & Hambleton, R. K. (2013). Directrices para la traducción y adaptación de los tests: segunda edición. *Psicothema*, 25(2), 151-157. https://doi.org/10.7334/psicothema2013.24
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD, 2013). Education at a glance 2013: OECD indicators. https://doi.org/10.1787/ eag-2013-en
- Ortiz, I. (2015). Escuelas inclusivas en el contexto de segregación social del sistema escolar chileno. Calidad en la Educación, (42), 93-122. http:// doi.org/10.4067/S071845652015000100004
- Petronzi, D., Staples, P., Sheffield, D., Hunt, T. E., & Fitton-Wilde, S. (2019). Further development of the Children's Mathematics Anxiety Scale UK (CMAS-UK) for ages 4-7 years. Educational Studies in Mathematics, 100(3), 231-249. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10649-018-9860-1
 R Core Team. (2017). R: A language and environment for statistical
- K Core Ieam. (2017). R: A language and environment for statistical computing. R Foundation for Statistical Computing. https://www.Rproject.org
- Ramirez, G., Chang, H., Maloney, E., Levine, S., & Beilock, S. (2016). On the relationship between math anxiety and math achievement in early elementary school: The role of problem solving strategies. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 141, 83-100. https://doi.org/10.1016/j. jecp.2015.07.014.
- Ramirez, G., Gunderson, E. A., Levine, S. C., & Beilock, S. L. (2013). Math anxiety, working memory, and math achievement in early elementary school. Journal of Cognition and Development, 14(2), 187-202. https:// doi.org/10.1080/15248372.2012.664593
- Rosseel, Y. (2012). Package 'lavaan'. http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages /lavaan/lavaan.pdf
- Rubinsten, O., Marciano, H., Levy, H. E., & Cohen, L. D. (2018). A framework for studying the heterogeneity of risk factors in math anxiety. *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience*, 12. http://doi.org/10.3389/fnbeh.2018.00291
- Sass, D. A. (2011). Testing measurement invariance and comparing latent factor means within a confirmatory factor analysis framework. *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment*, 29(4), 347-363. https://doi. org/10.1177/0734282911406661
- Stoet, G., Bailey, D. H., Moore, A. M., & Geary, D. C. (2016). Countries with higher levels of gender equality show larger national sex differences in mathematics anxiety and relatively lower parental mathematics valuation for girls. *PloS one*, *11*(4). https://doi.org/10.1371/journal. pone.0153857
- Suárez-Pellicioni, M., Núñez-Peña, M. I., & Colomé, À. (2016). Math anxiety: A review of its cognitive consequences, psychophysiological correlates, and brain bases. *Cognitive, Affective, & Behavioral Neuroscience, 16*(1), 3-22. http://doi.org/10.3758/s13415-015-0370-7 Suinn, R. M., Taylor, S., & Edwards, R. W. (1988). Suinn mathematics anxiety
- Suinn, R. M., Taylor, S., & Edwards, R. W. (1988). Suinn mathematics anxiety rating scale for elementary school students (MARS-E): Psychometric and normative data. *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, 48(4), 979-986. https://doi.org/10.1177/0013164488484013
- Taber, K. S. (2018). The use of Cronbach's alpha when developing and reporting research instruments in science education. *Research in Science Education*, 48(6), 1273-1296. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11165-016-9602-2
- Tassé, M., & Craig, E. M. (1999). Critical issues in the cross-cultural assessment of adaptative behaviour. In R. L. Schalock (Ed.), Adaptative behaviour and its measurement: Implications for the field of mental retardation (pp. 161-184). American Association on Mental Retardation.
- Teo, T., & Fan, X. (2013). Coefficient alpha and beyond: Issues and alternatives for educational research. *The Asia-Pacific Education Researcher*, 22(2), 209-213. https://doi.org/10.1007/s40299-013-0075-z
- Thomas, G., & Dowker, A. (2000). Mathematics anxiety and related factors in young children. In British Psychological Society Developmental Section Conference.
- Van Mier, H. I., Schleepen, T. M., & Van den Berg, F. C. (2019). Gender differences regarding the impact of math anxiety on arithmetic performance in second and fourth graders. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2018.02690
- Wu, S. S., Barth, M., Amin, H., Malcarne, V., & Menon, V. (2012). Math anxiety in second and third graders and its relation to mathematics

achievement. Frontiers in Psychology, 3. https://doi.org/10.3389/ fpsyg.2012.00162 Zirk-Sadowski, J., Lamptey, C., Devine, A., Haggard, M., & Szűcs, D. (2014). Young-age gender differences in mathematics mediated by

independent control or uncontrollability. Developmental Science, 17(3), 366-375. https://doi.org/10.1111/desc.12126

Appendix

Revised Child Math Anxiety Questionnaire (CMAQ-R); Ramírez et al., 2016)

Instructions: Say, "Now I'm going to ask you some questions about what kinds of things make you feel nervous, anxious, or tense. Do you know what it means to be nervous?

[Instrucciones. Diga: "Ahora voy a hacerte algunas preguntas sobre el tipo de cosas que te hacen sentir nervioso, ansioso o tenso. ¿Sabes lo que significa estar nervioso?"]

- 1. See this graph. It shows how many cans of food each student collected for the canned food drive. How would you feel if you were asked to say how many cans of food Marie collected? You don't actually have to answer the question, but I just want you to pretend you are going to answer it and see how it makes you feel. [*Mira este gráfico. Se muestran cuántas bolsas de comida recolectó cada estudiante para una campaña de alimentos. ¿Cómo te sentirías si te pidieran que dijeras cuántas bolsas de comida recolectó María? No tienes que responder la pregunta, solo quiero que te imagines que vas a responder y ver cómo te hace sentir.*]
- 2. How do you feel when you are in math class and your teacher is about to teach something new? [¿Cómo te sientes cuando estás en la clase de matemáticas y tu profesora va a comenzar a enseñar algo nuevo?]
- 3. How would you feel if you were given this problem: How much money does Annie have if she has 2 dimes and 4 pennies? [¿Cómo te sentirías si te pusieran este problema: cuánto dinero tiene Pedro si tiene 2 monedas de 10 pesos y 4 monedas de 5 pesos?]
- 4. How would you feel if your teacher asked you how many cubes are in this picture? [¿Cómo te sentirías si tu profesor te preguntara cuántos cubos hay en esta imagen?]
- 5. See this clock. How would you feel if you were asked to say what time it will be in 20 minutes? [¿Cómo te sentirías si te pidieran que dijeras qué hora será dentro de 20 minutos?]
- 6. How do you feel when you have to sit down and start your math homework? [¿Cómo te sientes cuando te sientas y comienzas a hacer tu tarea de matemáticas?]
- 7. How do you feel when figuring out if you have enough money to buy a candy bar and a soft drink? [¿Cómo te sientes cuando tienes que calcular si tienes suficiente dinero para comprar un chocolate y una bebida?]
- 8. How do you feel when your teacher explains to you how to do a math problem? [¿Cómo te sientes cuando tu profesora te explica cómo resolver un problema de matemáticas?]
- 9. How do you feel when you have to solve 27 + 15? [¿Cómo te sientes cuando tienes que resolver 27 + 15?]
- 10. How do you feel when taking a big test in your math class? [¿Cómo te sientes al realizar una prueba larga en tu clase de matemáticas?]
- 11. How do you feel when getting your math book and seeing all the numbers in it? [¿Cómo te sientes al abrir tu libro de matemáticas y ver todos los números en él?]
- 12. How do you feel when you are in math class and you don't understand something? [¿Cómo te sientes cuando estás en la clase de matemáticas y no entiendes algo?]
- How would you feel if you were given this problem: You scored 15 points. Your friend scored 8 points. How many more points did you score than your friend? [¿Cómo te sentirías si te pusieran este problema?: Has anotado 15 puntos. Tu amigo anotó 8 puntos. ¿Cuántos puntos obtuviste más que tu amigo?]
 How would you feel if you were given this problem: There are 13 ducks in the water. There are 6 ducks in the grass. How many ducks are there in all?
- [¿Cómo te sentirías si te dieran este problema?: hay 13 patos en el agua y 6 en el pasto. ¿Cuántos patos hay en total?]
 15. How do you feel when you get called on by the teacher to explain a math problem on the board? [¿Cómo te sientes cuando el profesor te pide que expliques
- now do you reel when you get cance on by the reacher to explain a main problem on the board? [¿Como te sientes cuando el profesor te pide que expliques un problema matemático en la pizarra?]
 12. Li cuando el pide que expliques a contractor el pide que expliques el pide que explique
- 16. How would you feel when you have to solve 34 17? [¿Cómo te sentirías si tuvieras que resolver 34 17?]