

Advances in  
Rasch Measurement  
Volume 2

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# Table of Contents

Preface.....	vi
Acknowledgements.....	viii

## Theory of Measurement

Chapter 1

<b>Bringing Human, Social, and Natural Capital to Life: Practical Consequences and Opportunities .....</b>	<b>1</b>
--	----------

William P. Fisher, Jr.

Chapter 2

<b>From Model to Measurement with Dichotomous Items .....</b>	<b>28</b>
---	-----------

Don Burdick, A. Jackson Stenner, and Andrew Kyngdon

Chapter 3

<b>Measuring Measuring: Toward a Theory of Proficiency with the Constructing Measures Framework.....</b>	<b>43</b>
--	-----------

Brent Duckor, Karen Draney, and Mark Wilson

## Measurement Models

Chapter 4

<b>Predicting Responses from Rasch Measures .....</b>	<b>74</b>
---	-----------

John M. Linacre

Chapter 5

**Random Parameter Structure and the Testlet Model:  
An Extension of the Rasch Testlet Model .....90**

Insu Paek, Haniza Yon, Mark Wilson, and Taehoon Kang

Chapter 6

**Estimating Tests Including Subtests .....109**

Steffen Brandt

Chapter 7

**The Construction and Implementation of User-Defined  
Fit Tests for Use with Marginal Maximum Likelihood  
Estimation and Generalized Item Response Models ....132**

Raymond J. Adams and Margaret L. Wu

**Applications, Part I:  
Unidimensional Modeling**

Chapter 8

**The Efficacy of Link Items in the Construction  
of a Numeracy Achievement Scale—from Kindergarten  
to Year 6 .....157**

Juho Looever and Joanne Mulligan

Chapter 9

**Rasch Model's Contribution to the Study of Items  
and Item Response Scales Formulation in  
Opinion/Perception Questionnaires .....183**

Jean-Guy Blais, Julie Grondin, Nathalie Loye, and Gilles Raïche

Chapter 10

**On the Factor Structure of Standardized  
Educational Achievement Tests .....203**

Tim W. Gaffney, Robert Cudeck, Emilio Ferrer, and  
Keith F. Widaman

Chapter 11

**Optimizing the Compatibility between Rating Scales  
and Measures of Productive Second Language  
Competence .....239**

Christopher Weaver

Chapter 12

**Assessment of English Language Development:  
A Validity Study of a District Initiative .....258**

Juan D. Sanchez

Chapter 13

**Examining Student Rating of Teaching Effectiveness  
using FACETS.....284**

Nuraihan Mat Daud and Noor Lide Abu Kassim

Chapter 14

**Using Guttman’s Mapping Sentences and Many-Facet Rasch Measurement Theory to Develop an Instrument that Examines the Grading Philosophies of Teachers .....296**

Jennifer Randall and George Engelhard, Jr.

Chapter 15

**Measure for Measure: Curriculum Requirements and Children’s Achievement in Music Education.....327**

Trevor Bond and Marie Bond

**Applications, Part II:  
Multidimensional Modeling**

Chapter 16

**Development of a Multidimensional Measure of Academic Engagement.....351**

Kyra Caspary and Maria Veronica Santelices

Chapter 17

**Rasch Family Models in e-Learning: Analyzing Architectural Sketching with a Digital Pen .....382**

Kathleen Scalise, Nancy Yen-wen Cheng, and Nargas Oskui

Chapter 18

**Using Item Response Modeling Methods to Test Theory Related to Human Performance .....402**

Diane D. Allen

Chapter 19

**Sources of Self-Efficacy Belief: Development and Validation of Two Scales .....419**

Ou Lydia Liu and Mark Wilson

**Author Index .....440**

**Subject Index .....451**

## Preface

This second volume in the *Advances in Rasch Measurement* series contains papers presented at the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> International Objective Measurement Workshops held in Cairns, Queensland, Australia (2004) and Berkeley, California, USA (2006). In addition, for the first time, the collection includes submissions to the inaugural Pacific Rim Objective Measurement Symposium (2006).

One hundred sixty papers were presented at these events, organized by Trevor Bond (IOMW 2004; PROMS 2006) and Nathaniel Brown and Brent Duckor (IOMW 2006). A call for submissions for a refereed proceedings resulted in a pool of forty papers. Each paper was reviewed blind by two experts and either accepted, accepted pending minor revision, returned for revision and resubmission, or rejected. Decisions were based on significance of the topic, writing quality, literature review, research design, data analysis, discussion and conclusions, and appropriateness for this volume. Revised manuscripts were reviewed by the editorial board. Nineteen papers appear in this volume, an acceptance rate of 47%.

In accordance with the traditions established by the predecessor series *Objective Measurement: Theory into Practice* (Vols. 1-5) and carried forth by the first volume of this new series, the chapters in this volume deal with both the theoretical and practical applications of Rasch measurement.

The three papers in the first section, **Theory of Measurement**, deal with the theoretical foundations of successful objective measurement. In Chapter 1, Fisher discusses the mathematical definitions of capital, the important distinction between living and dead capital, and the role of measurement as a tool to bring human, social, and natural capital to life. In Chapter 2, Burdick, Stenner, and Kyngdon examine different multi-item models and the support they provide for reliable measurement, concluding that the Rasch model has special features in this regard. In Chapter 3, Duckor, Draney, and Wilson introduce a new theory of measurement knowledge from the perspective of a continuum of expertise, while advancing six new construct maps within the Constructing Measures framework.

The four papers in the second section, **Measurement Models**, introduce new models for various measurement purposes and new methods for exploring model fit. In Chapter 4, Linacre describes models for predict-

ing future data from existing data. In Chapter 5, Paek, Yon, Wilson, and Kang describe an extended testlet model in which there may be interaction between the testlet effect and the target dimension. In Chapter 6, Brandt describes a subdimension model that accounts for strengths or weaknesses in subdomains within an overarching unidimensional domain. In Chapter 7, Adams and Wu describe a method for creating user-defined fit tests for combinations of items that can more powerfully test hypothesized model violations.

The eight chapters in the third section, **Applications I: Unidimensional Modeling**, discuss issues arising in the application of Rasch measurement in unidimensional contexts and present several new measurement scales. In Chapter 8, Looveer and Mulligan discuss linking test forms across years in the construction of a numeracy achievement scale and the necessity of testing for the presence of differential item functioning across those years. In Chapter 9, Blais, Grondin, Loye, and Raïche discuss the detection of item wording effects on an opinion questionnaire. In Chapter 10, Gaffney, Cudeck, Ferrer, and Widaman discuss using factor analysis to analyze the dimensionality of California's high-stakes educational achievement tests. In Chapters 11-15, the development and/or validation of new measurement scales is described in the contexts of English writing on a Japanese university's entrance examination (Weaver), English proficiency of California English language learners (Sanchez), student ratings of teaching effectiveness (Mat Daud and Lide Abu Kassim), teacher grading philosophies (Randall and Engelhard), and achievement in music education (Bond and Bond).

The four chapters in the fourth section, **Applications II: Multidimensional Modeling**, discuss issues arising in the application of Rasch measurement in multidimensional contexts. In Chapters 16-19, the development and validation of new measurement scales is described in the contexts of academic engagement (Caspary and Santelices), architectural drawing (Scalise, Cheng, and Oskui), human performance (Allen), and self-efficacy belief (Liu and Wilson).

The *Advances in Rasch Measurement* series represents the work of a community of measurement experts and practitioners that is unique in its singular focus and breadth of application. We hope that Volume 2 advances and sustains our community in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century as it continues to innovate and demonstrate the relevance of Rasch measurement in a variety of contexts across the globe.