

## A Meta-analysis of Coefficient Alpha for the Revised Life Orientation Test (LOT-R)

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### Abstract

The Revised Life Orientation Test (LOT-R) is one of the most popular instruments for measuring optimism. The authors conducted a meta-analysis, also known as a reliability Generalization study, to estimate the population Cronbach's Alpha for the LOT-R. This study also examined Alpha heterogeneity and identified factors that might influence it. Using a Random Effects Model, the estimated population Cronbach's Alpha based on 211 studies was found to be 0.768 (95% CI: 0.757, 0.778), indicating a good level of reliability. The heterogeneity analysis revealed an  $I^2$  value of 95.84%, suggesting significant differences among the studies. These differences may stem from factors beyond just methodological variations or population samples. To understand the possible causes for this heterogeneity, a meta-regression analysis was performed, focusing on moderator variables including gender, age, study setting, study type, citation, and language. Among these moderator variables, only the language variable showed a significant impact on the variation in Cronbach's Alpha. In conclusion, the findings suggest that the LOT-R is a reliable instrument for measuring optimism. However, the study also reveals that linguistic factors may influence its reliability, potentially limiting the generalizability of findings across different language groups and in cross-cultural contexts. Therefore, researchers should consider language-related variations when interpreting LOT-R results. Future studies are encouraged to examine further how linguistic differences may affect the instrument's validity and to explore ways to optimize its use across diverse cultural settings.

**Keywords:** Cronbach's alpha, Heterogeneity, LOT-R, Meta-analysis of reliability coefficient, Reliability Generalization.

### Abstrak

*The Revised Life Orientation Test (LOT-R) merupakan salah satu instrumen ukur optimisme yang paling populer. Para penulis melakukan meta-analisis, yang juga dikenal sebagai studi generalisasi reliabilitas, untuk memperkirakan nilai Cronbach's Alpha populasi untuk LOT-R. Studi ini juga menganalisis heterogenitas Alpha dan mengidentifikasi faktor-faktor yang mungkin memengaruhi heterogenitas tersebut. Menggunakan Model Efek Acak, Cronbach's Alpha populasi yang diestimasi berdasarkan 211 studi sebesar 0.768 (95% CI: 0.757, 0.778), menunjukkan tingkat reliabilitas yang baik. Analisis heterogenitas menunjukkan nilai  $I^2$  sebesar 95,84%, menunjukkan perbedaan yang signifikan di antara studi-studi tersebut. Perbedaan ini mungkin disebabkan oleh faktor-faktor di luar variasi metodologis atau sampel populasi. Untuk memahami penyebab heterogenitas ini, dilakukan analisis regresi meta, dengan fokus pada variabel moderator termasuk jenis kelamin, usia, setting studi, jenis studi, kutipan, dan bahasa. Di antara variabel moderator ini, hanya variabel bahasa yang menunjukkan dampak signifikan terhadap variasi Cronbach's Alpha. Kesimpulan studi ini menunjukkan bahwa LOT-R merupakan alat ukur yang andal untuk mengukur optimisme. Namun, studi ini juga mengungkapkan bahwa faktor linguistik dapat memengaruhi keandalan alat ukur tersebut, yang berpotensi membatasi generalisasi temuan di antara kelompok bahasa yang berbeda dan dalam konteks lintas budaya. Oleh karena itu, peneliti disarankan untuk mempertimbangkan variasi terkait bahasa saat menafsirkan hasil LOT-R. Studi selanjutnya dianjurkan untuk menyelidiki lebih lanjut bagaimana perbedaan linguistik dapat memengaruhi validitas alat ukur tersebut dan untuk mengeksplorasi cara-cara untuk mengoptimalkan penggunaannya di berbagai setting budaya.*

**Kata kunci:** Cronbach's alpha, Generalisasi Reliabilitas, Heterogenitas, LOT-R, Meta-analisis koefisien reliabilitas.

## Introduction

Optimism is a stable personality trait characterized by a positive outlook on the future. An optimistic person tends to believe that good things are likely to happen, whereas a pessimist expects unfavorable outcomes (Scheier & Carver, 1985). Optimism has become an important topic of discussion across various fields, including education, psychology, management, and medicine.

In 1985, Scheier and Carver developed the Life Orientation Test (LOT) to measure optimism. As the original version was considered insufficiently focused on future expectations, the instrument was revised nine years later, in 1994, resulting in the Revised Life Orientation Test (LOT-R), which consists of 10 items. Additionally, it was argued that the effects attributed to optimism could not be clearly distinguished from those of neuroticism (Scheier & Carver, 1985). Following these revisions, Schou-Bredal et al. (2017) reported that the LOT-R items effectively differentiate individuals with varying levels of optimism (Chiesi et al., 2013). This conclusion is further supported by item response theory (IRT) analyses, which provide evidence for the LOT-R's accuracy and reliability (Schou-Bredal et al., 2017).

The LOT-R has been used in various countries and translated into multiple languages, with numerous studies reporting its internal consistency. Suryadi et al. (2021) found a Cronbach's alpha of 0.76 for the translated LOT-R in a sample of Indonesian high school students, which is comparable to the original version developed by Scheier and Carver (1985), who reported a Cronbach's alpha of 0.78. In other studies, Leong Abdullah et al. (2019) reported an alpha of 0.78 in a sample of cancer patients in Malaysia, while research on family caregivers of Alzheimer's patients in Spain yielded a Cronbach's alpha of 0.72. Additionally, Serlachius et al. (2015) reported Cronbach's alpha scores for three subscales in a cardiovascular health sample: total, 0.78; optimism, 0.71; and pessimism, 0.78. Similarly, Schou-Bredal et al. (2017) found total alpha of 0.75, pessimism of 0.77, and optimism of 0.84 in a study on mental health and life satisfaction among Norwegians.

Cronbach's alpha is one of the most widely used measures of reliability in the social sciences (Bollen, 1989) and was originally developed by Cronbach in 1951. Reliability refers to the extent to which an assessment tool produces stable and consistent results (Greco et al., 2018). However, when reliability coefficients are reported with confidence intervals based on a single sample, these intervals can be too broad to provide meaningful insights into the impact of reliability on statistical analyses (Bonett, 2010). To overcome this limitation, meta-analysis can be employed to combine reliability estimates from multiple independent studies (Bonett, 2010). This approach involves statistically aggregating and systematically synthesizing the results of similar studies to produce more robust and generalizable estimates (Borenstein et al., 2009; Card, 2012; Rodriguez & Maeda, 2006a). By pooling data across studies, meta-analysis offers stronger evidence than individual studies alone, enabling a more comprehensive evaluation of a measure's reliability (Hayat, 2024). Moreover, as Miller et al. (2018) noted, meta-analysis can assign greater weight to alpha coefficients with smaller variances, resulting in more precise and accurate estimates.

In the 1990s, Tammy Vacha-Haase introduced a method known as Reliability Generalization (RG), which is a meta-analytic approach to examining the reliability of measurement instruments. RG was developed because reliability coefficients have different distributional properties compared to traditional effect size estimates like Cohen's *d* or correlation coefficients. This discrepancy makes conventional meta-analytic techniques unsuitable for aggregating reliability coefficients (Greco et al., 2018). Reliability Generalization enables researchers to assess the average error variance of measurements, identify sources of variance that are specific to certain samples (Vacha-Haase, 1998), and examine reliability estimates of tests across various studies. Furthermore, RG can be applied to analyze reliability across different scales that measure the same construct (Romano & Kromrey, 2009).

In summary, the Reliability Generalization (RG) method addresses three key issues: the estimation of reliability, the assessment of heterogeneity, and the explanation of variability across studies. Tackling these issues is crucial for synthesizing the empirical reliability estimates reported in the literature for a specific test (Botella et al., 2010). By systematically evaluating and aggregating reliability coefficients

from multiple studies, RG provides a more accurate estimate of a test's internal consistency. Additionally, it helps identify sample- or context-specific factors that contribute to variability in reliability

### *Objective*

In this study, Reliability Generalization (RG) is applied to the Revised Life Orientation Test (LOT-R) with three main objectives: to estimate the population alpha in the aggregated study sample; to assess the heterogeneity of estimated alpha coefficients across studies and, if significant heterogeneity is detected, to investigate its sources; and to examine explanatory variables that influence the variations in alpha coefficients.

## **Methods**

### *Selection Criteria for Study Sample*

Before searching for a sample of studies, the researcher established four criteria to guide the selection of sampled studies. The criteria for studies to be included in this research are as follows: a) articles must use the LOT-R instrument or its translation, which refers to the standardized instrument developed by Scheier and Carver (1985)(1985); b) articles must report alpha reliability and be published in accredited scientific journals; c) there is no restriction on the year of publication for journal research reports; and d) the sample size in the article must consist of at least 10 participants.

### *Search Strategies*

The procedure conducted in this alpha coefficient meta-analysis involved searching for and identifying studies that reported Cronbach's alpha values for the Life Orientation Test – Revised (LOT-R) instrument. The search process followed the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines (Moher et al., 2009). Researchers utilized online sources available through the Google Scholar database and employed a randomized search strategy.

The search was refined using various combinations of keywords, including "Life Orientation Test – Revised Reliability Alpha," "LOT-R Coefficient Alpha," "Life Orientation Test – Revised Internal Consistency," and "LOT-R Internal Consistency." No delimiters, such as publication year range, were used to limit the search. LOT-R studies that met the inclusion and exclusion criteria were examined for the availability of relevant statistical data, and background variables were compiled into the researchers' database.

### *Data Extraction*

Data extraction from the selected samples involved examining and recording essential statistical data and background variables. The data extraction included Cronbach's alpha along with several background variables, which are defined as follows: 1) mean age, sex proportion (0. male majority (>50%); 1. female majority (>50%), citation proportion (0. small (<100); 1. medium (100 < x < 200); 2. high (> 200)), type of study (0. general; 1. psychometric), study setting (0. non-clinical; 1. clinical) and language (0. non-English; 1. English).

### *Data Cleaning*

Before conducting the meta-analysis, the researchers cleaned the collected data to ensure that the included studies met the necessary sampling criteria. This step was crucial, as some studies reported information that did not accurately reflect original empirical findings (Henson & Thompson, 2002). For instance, some authors cited or reused reliability coefficients from previous studies instead of calculating them from their own data. These cases are known as induced reliability (Vacha-Haase, 1998). Induced reliability coefficients were excluded from the analysis because they do not represent genuine reliability estimates derived from the researchers' original samples.

*Data Analysis*

The first step in meta-analyzing alpha coefficients is to estimate the mean or population alpha coefficient across studies (Warne, 2008). This value represents what Rodriguez and Maeda (2006) refer to as the unknown population parameter to be estimated—the true average reliability of the instrument.

However, Cronbach's alpha is a function of the average inter-item correlation and the number of items in a scale (Thompson & Vacha-Haase, 2000). Because the distribution of correlations is often non-normal and associated with problematic standard errors, it is necessary to transform or calibrate alpha values to meet statistical assumptions (Tripepi et al., 2007). Consequently, the raw alpha coefficients should be transformed to normalize their distribution, stabilize variance across samples, and allow meaningful comparisons across studies. To fulfill this requirement in this study, we performed the transformation according to Bonett's formula (Bonett, 2002) as follows.

Let  $\rho_k$  represent the coefficient alpha for a scale consisting of  $k$  components, and let  $\rho_1$  denote the reliability of a single component. Then  $\bar{\rho}_k$  and  $\bar{\rho}_1$  denote estimators of  $\rho_k$  and  $\rho_1$ . The logarithmic transformation formula was performed as below to normalize the alpha distribution

$$\begin{aligned} W &= -\ln(1 - \bar{\rho}_k) / 2 \\ &= [\ln\{[1 + (k - 1)\bar{\rho}_1] / (1 - \bar{\rho}_1)\}] / 2 \end{aligned}$$

which is the variance-stabilizing transformation:

$$\text{var} \ln(1 - \bar{\rho}_k) \approx 2k / \{(k - 1)(n - 2)\}$$

A random-effects model was selected for this meta-analysis (Borenstein et al., 2009). The main advantage of the random-effects model is that it allows for generalization beyond the specific studies included in the meta-analysis (Hedges & Vevea, 1998). Additionally, this model assumes that the observed reliability coefficients represent a random sample drawn from a larger superpopulation of true reliability coefficients. In the random-effects framework, each alpha is weighted by the inverse of its total variance, which comprises both within-study variance and between-study variance. The between-study variance was estimated using the restricted maximum likelihood (REML) method. Finally, 95% confidence intervals for the alpha estimates were calculated following the procedure proposed by Hartung (Sánchez-Meca & Marín-Martínez, 2008).

The next step involves examining the results using a forest plot. The forest plot displays the distribution of alpha coefficients from each study relative to the estimated population alpha. If the individual alphas are widely dispersed, the distribution is considered heterogeneous; conversely, if they cluster closely around the population alpha, the distribution is considered homogeneous. When heterogeneity is observed, it suggests that factors influencing the variation in alpha may be present, which can be further investigated through potential moderator variables. To statistically assess heterogeneity, we conducted the Q homogeneity test (Hedges & Olkin, 1985). This test evaluates the null hypothesis that the reliability coefficients are homogeneous, assuming a chi-square distribution with degrees of freedom equal to  $k - 1$ , where  $k$  represents the number of studies. A p-value less than 0.05 for the Q statistic indicates rejection of the homogeneity hypothesis, suggesting that  $\tau^2$  is not equal to zero (Borenstein et al., 2009; Cheung, 2015; Hedges & Olkin, 1985).

In addition to the Q homogeneity test, the  $I^2$  statistic was calculated to quantify the percentage of variability attributable to heterogeneity and to complement the heterogeneity analysis. The  $I^2$  index provides an estimate of the "true" level of heterogeneity in the reliability coefficients, expressed as a percentage (Borenstein et al., 2009). Like the Q test, the  $I^2$  statistic reflects variability arising from

differences in study characteristics that may influence the reliability estimates. Conventional benchmarks classify  $I^2$  values of 25%, 50%, and 75% as indicating low, moderate, and substantial heterogeneity, respectively. For example, an  $I^2$  of 50% indicates that half of the total variability among reliability estimates is due to real differences between studies rather than sampling error.

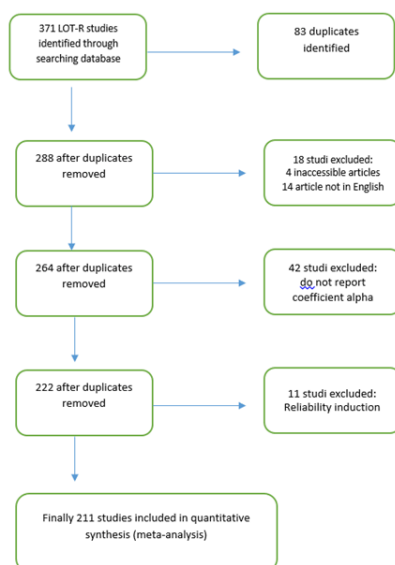
Moderator variable analysis should be conducted if the Q test is significant and the  $I^2$  index indicates at least moderate heterogeneity ( $\geq 50\%$ ). When there is variability in the reliability coefficients, the weighted mean coefficient may not sufficiently represent the set of reliability estimates, indicating the need for moderator analysis (Karadere et al., 2020). Characteristics of the studies, such as age, gender, study type, and other relevant moderator factors, should be examined using meta-regression analysis, with both continuous and categorical variables handled appropriately. These moderator variables will act as predictors to help explain the variability in alpha coefficients across different studies.

In this study, alpha transformation, the Q statistical test, the  $I^2$  statistic, and meta-regression analysis using a random-effects model were conducted with the open-source software R (JJ Allaire), employing the “metafor” package developed by Wolfgang Viechtbauer. According to Viechtbauer (2020), the metafor package provides a set of functions that enable users to calculate variations in effect sizes or outcome measures, for fixed-effect, random-effects, and mixed models, perform moderator variable analyses, and generate various types of meta-analysis plots. For transparency and reproducibility, the data used in this study are available for viewing and download from the repository at <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8084677>.

## Results

### Study Sample

A total of 371 studies discussing the Revised Life Orientation Test (LOT-R) were identified through a literature search on Google Scholar. After removing 83 duplicates, 288 articles remained for screening (see Figure 1). Following the data-cleaning process, 78 articles were excluded because they did not meet the predefined inclusion criteria. Among these excluded articles, 5% were not in English or Indonesian, 18% were either inaccessible or available only as abstracts, 24% reported reliability from previous studies (induced reliability), 11% did not report the total alpha for LOT-R, and 42% did not report any alpha coefficients at all.



Sources: Personal data (2024).

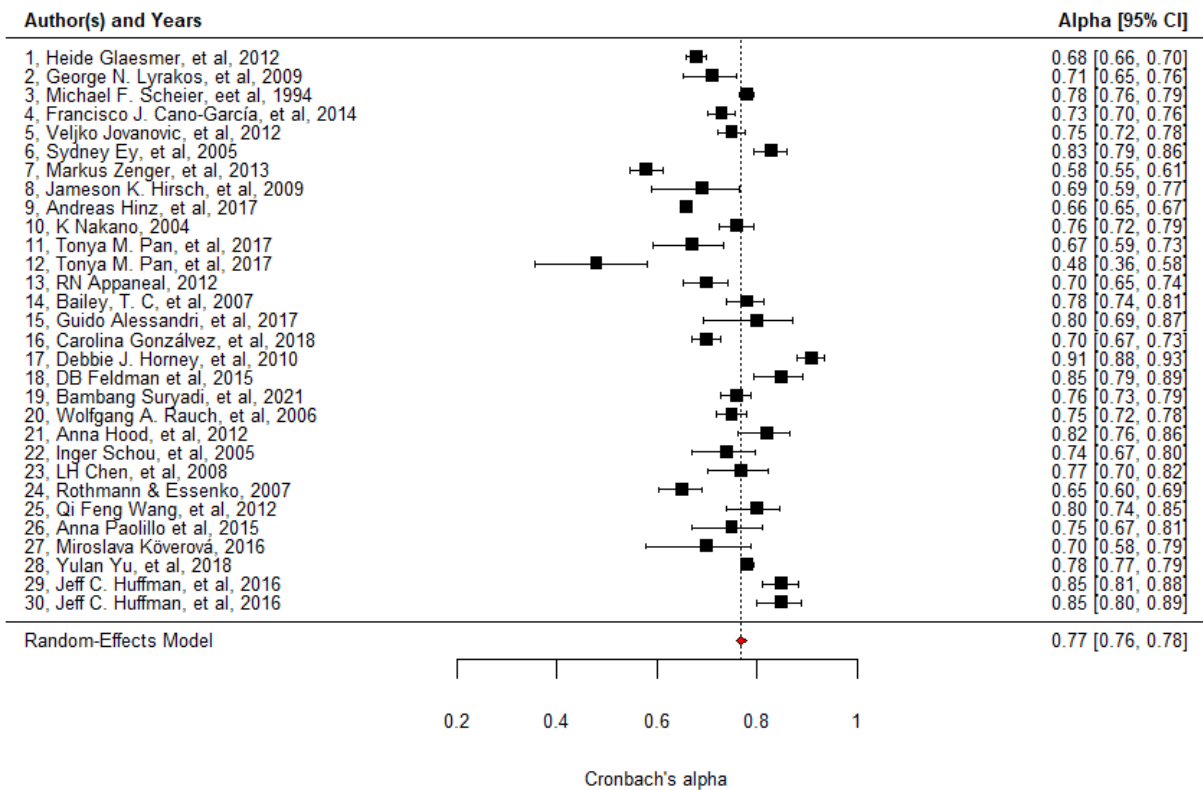
**Figure 1.** PRISMA Diagram

A total of 126,026 respondents participated across 211 studies, with individual study sample sizes ranging from 21 to 19,970 participants, and an average of 597 respondents per study. In terms of gender distribution, 78 studies (37%) had a majority of male participants, while 133 studies (63%) had a majority of female participants. Regarding the setting of these studies, 63 studies (29.9%) were conducted in clinical settings, while 148 studies (70.1%) were performed in non-clinical settings. Differences between studies were addressed through careful data grouping and disaggregation, as previously described, and were verified through heterogeneity tests.

With respect to the language of the LOT-R scale, 113 studies (53.6%) used non-English versions (e.g., Greek LOT-R), while 98 studies (46.4%) utilized the English version. For citation background, 168 studies (79.9%) had few citations, 25 studies (11.8%) had a moderate number, and 18 studies (8.5%) had a large number of citations. In terms of the age of respondents, 143 studies (67.8%) included young participants, 46 studies (21.8%) included middle-aged participants, and 22 studies (10.4%) included elderly participants.

*Population Alpha and Heterogeneity Test*

The estimated population alpha in this study was 0.768, which can be rounded to 0.77. The 95% confidence interval was narrow, ranging from 0.757 (rounded to 0.76) to 0.778 (rounded to 0.78). Referring to the commonly accepted reference value of 0.70 for Cronbach’s alpha (Nunnally & Bernstein, 1968), these results indicate that the LOT-R demonstrates satisfactory internal consistency. In other words, based on the aggregation of 211 study samples, the LOT-R scale exhibits good reliability.



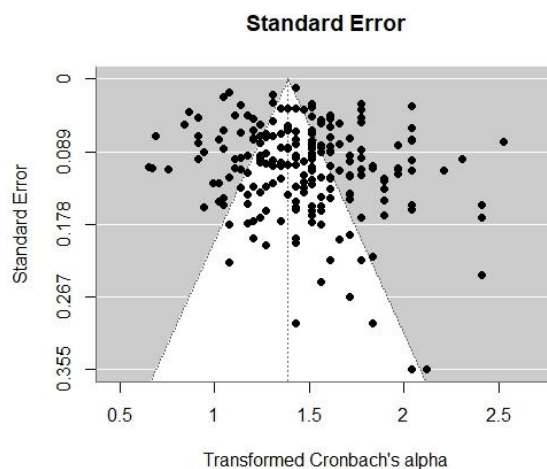
**Figure 2.** Example Forest Plot of Population and Samples of Transformed Alpha of LOT-R

The heterogeneity of the alpha coefficients across the 211 study samples was assessed using the Q statistic. The Q value was 4,156.35 with 210 degrees of freedom, and the result was statistically significant ( $p < 0.001$ ). A significant Q value leads to the rejection of the null hypothesis, indicating that the alpha

coefficients from the 211 studies are heterogeneous. Additionally, the  $I^2$  statistic was computed and resulted in a value of 0.958. This means that 95.8% of the total variability in alpha coefficients can be attributed to differences between the studies, while only 4.2% is due to variation within each study.

The alpha heterogeneity of the 211 study samples is illustrated in the forest plot (see Figure 2). As shown in the forest plot, study number 150 by Drew R. Fowler et al (2016; see appendix in Figure 7) reported the highest alpha coefficient of 0.92, with a 95% confidence interval of 0.91 to 0.93. In contrast, study number 12 by Tonya M. Pan et al. (2017) reported the lowest alpha of 0.48, with a 95% confidence interval of 0.44 to 0.51. The widest 95% confidence interval was observed in the study by S. Ho et al. (2011), with an alpha of 0.66 and a confidence interval ranging from 0.47 to 0.78, followed by Claire Coloni-Terrapon et al. (2013), which reported an alpha of 0.76 and a 95% confidence interval of 0.57 to 0.87. The 95% confidence interval indicates the range within which the true alpha coefficient is expected to lie with 95% confidence. A narrower interval suggests a more precise estimate of the alpha coefficient.

The analysis was further extended by constructing a funnel plot (see Figure 3) to assess potential publication bias. The funnel plot appeared relatively symmetrical and flat, a finding supported by the Egger regression test ( $Q = 4,156.35$ ;  $p < 0.001$ ). However, it is important to note that, according to Mullen et al. (2001), cumulative meta-analysis results can be considered robust against publication bias if the value of  $N / (5k + 10)$  exceeds 1, where  $N$  is the total sample size and  $k$  is the number of studies. In this study, the calculation yielded 118.3 [ $126,026 / (211 \times 5 + 10)$ ], suggesting that the likelihood of publication bias is very low. Additionally, to complement the Egger regression test, the trim-and-fill method was applied to evaluate further publication bias (Duval & Tweedie, 2000; Shi & Lin, 2019). This analysis indicated no missing studies on the left side of the funnel plot (estimated missing studies = 0,  $SE = 8.3985$ ), confirming that asymmetry was not significantly detected (see Figure 2).



**Figure 3.** Trim and Fill Funnel Plot

These findings suggest that the low risk of publication bias enhances the accuracy of the results, as there is no systematic tendency to include only studies with significant findings. Moreover, with minimal indication of bias, the effects reported in this meta-analysis are likely to represent the true reliability of the LOT-R scale, without inflation or exaggeration. Consequently, the results of this meta-analysis can be confidently used to inform policy decisions and guide future research.

As presented earlier, the analysis revealed a significant  $Q$ -value, leading to the rejection of the null hypothesis. This indicates the presence of heterogeneity among the alpha coefficients, as further illustrated by the  $I^2$  value, which shows that 95.8% of the total variation is attributable to differences

between studies. Given this heterogeneity, it is necessary to explore variables that may contribute to the observed variability. In this study, the selected moderator variables included gender, study type, age, study setting, citation frequency, and language.

**Table 1.** Meta-Regression Results Using Mixed-Effect Model

Moderator Variables	B	SE	Z	Confidence Interval		P-value
				95%		
				Lower	Upper	
Intercept	1,483	0,091	16,244	1,304	1,661	<,0001
Percent Female	-0,020	0,045	-0,444	-0,108	0,068	0,657
Age	-0,001	0,002	-0,503	-0,004	0,002	0,615
Citation	0,015	0,037	0,392	-0,058	0,087	0,695
Type of Study	-0,069	0,048	-1,440	-0,163	0,025	0,150
Setting of Study	-0,088	0,058	-1,525	-0,201	0,025	0,127
Language	0,214	0,046	4,691	0,125	0,303	<,0001

Sources: Personal data (2024).

The effects of various moderator variables on the alpha coefficients are summarized in Table 1. A meta-regression analysis was conducted using a mixed-effects model. The results revealed that only the language variable had a statistically significant impact on the heterogeneity of alpha coefficients ( $p < 0.0001$ ), with a coefficient of 0.214 and a 95% confidence interval ranging from 0.125 to 0.303. This finding indicates that studies conducted in different languages exhibit significantly different reliability estimates. In contrast, none of the other moderator variables—proportion of female participants, age, citation frequency, study type, and study setting—showed a significant effect ( $p > 0.05$ ). When all moderator variables were set to zero, the model intercept was 1.483, which is statistically significant, suggesting a substantial baseline effect.

## Discussion

The Life Orientation Test Revised (LOT-R) is a widely used instrument for measuring individual optimism and has been employed in studies across many countries. Nearly all studies using the LOT-R reported its reliability, with Cronbach's alpha serving as the primary focus of this research. Reporting the reliability coefficient is essential for any measurement instrument, particularly for well-established tools like the LOT-R, to ensure the consistency and trustworthiness of the obtained scores.

The analysis revealed substantial heterogeneity, with a significant Q-statistic and an  $I^2$  value of 95%, indicating considerable variation in alpha coefficients across studies, as shown in the forest plot. As a result, the null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ), which posits no variation in alpha coefficients across the 211 LOT-R studies, was rejected, while the alternative hypothesis ( $H_1$ ), indicating the presence of variability, was accepted. To explore potential sources of this variability, six study-level moderator variables were

examined: age, study type, study setting, citation frequency, gender, and scale language. Meta-regression analysis indicated that only the language variable had a statistically significant effect on the heterogeneity

The LOT-R was originally developed in English, which poses challenges when translated into other languages. Translation may alter item meaning due to differences in grammar, nuances, and complexity, potentially affecting respondents' understanding and response patterns. Additionally, cultural interpretations of optimism can vary, with some contexts emphasizing social norms and others individual perspectives, leading to differences in response tendencies. These factors contribute to variability in LOT-R reliability across studies.

While language significantly influences reliability, other factors such as cultural context, socioeconomic background, and publication type may also play a role. To address these sources of heterogeneity, future research should employ rigorous adaptation procedures (e.g., back-translation, cross-cultural validation), assess measurement invariance across languages, and examine cultural response styles. Methods such as Differential Item Functioning (DIF) testing (Zumbo, 1999) and COSMIN guidelines (Mokkink et al., 2010) can ensure that the LOT-R measures optimism consistently across linguistic and cultural contexts.

## Conclusion

The results of this study indicated that the LOT-R has adequate reliability, with a population alpha of 0.768. This suggests that approximately 76.8% of the variance in observed scores reflects true score variance, while the remaining 23.2% is attributable to measurement error. Knowing this population alpha provides users with a benchmark for the general reliability of the LOT-R. However, it is important for future research to prioritize rigorous translation and validation processes to maintain reliability across different languages. This study shows that language differences can affect Cronbach's alpha, with higher reliability observed in scales using the original language. Therefore, translations should not only follow a rigorous linguistic procedure but also incorporate cultural aspects to ensure that the concept of optimism is accurately conveyed in accordance with local contexts. By involving both language and cultural experts, adapted LOT-R scores can remain consistent with the original scale.

Future research could consider using other alpha transformations, such as those proposed by Hakstian and Whalen (Rodriguez & Maeda, 2006), or analyzing raw alpha scores without transformation (Vachon-Haase, 1998) to examine potential differences. Additionally, it is important to explore other study-level moderator variables that may influence the variability of LOT-R reliability estimates and to expand the meta-analysis to include more studies beyond the current 211 articles.

## Acknowledgment

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## Conflict of Interest

There is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this research. All data and findings in this study have been examined and presented objectively, without influence or bias. This study was conducted solely for academic and scientific purposes.

## Authors Contribution

**WS:** Designing the research, writing the script, finding and analyzing the data, and finalization. **BH:** Supervision, manuscript writing, revision, manuscript editing, finalization

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Appendix

Forrest Plot

Source: Personal data (2024)

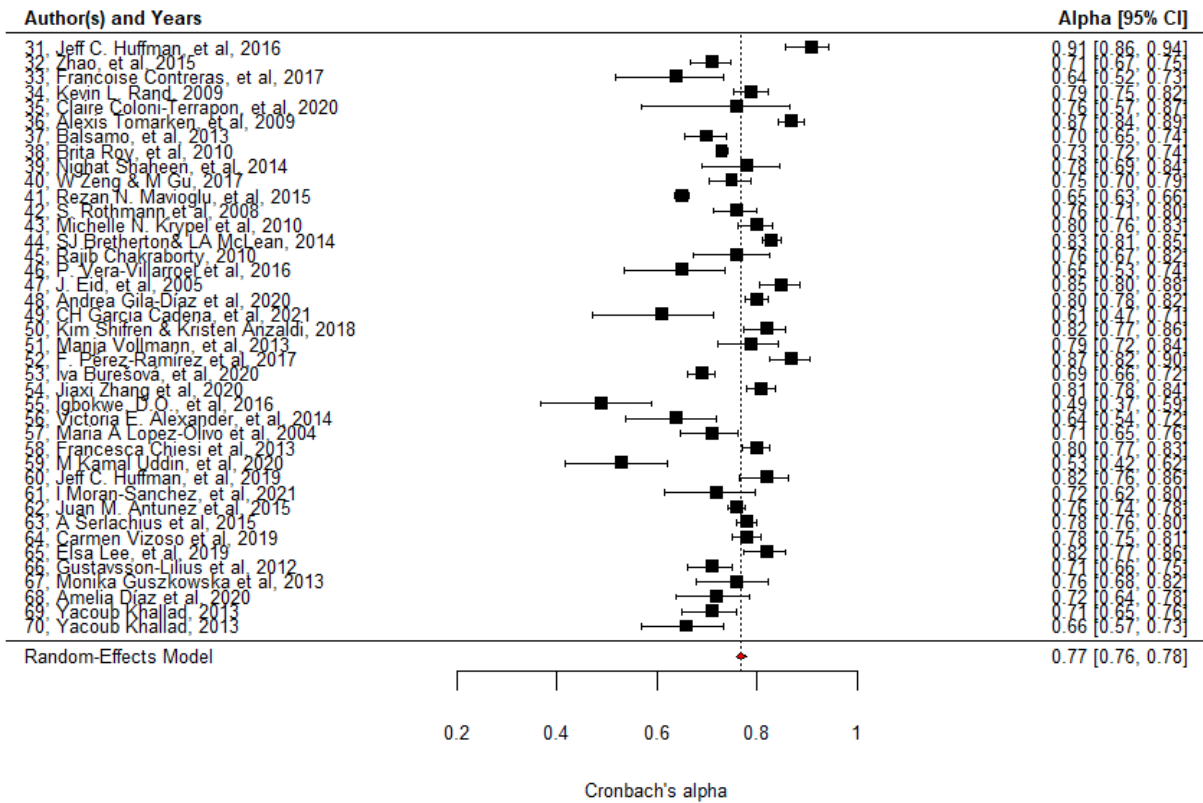


Figure 4. Forest Plot authors and years from numbers 31 to 70

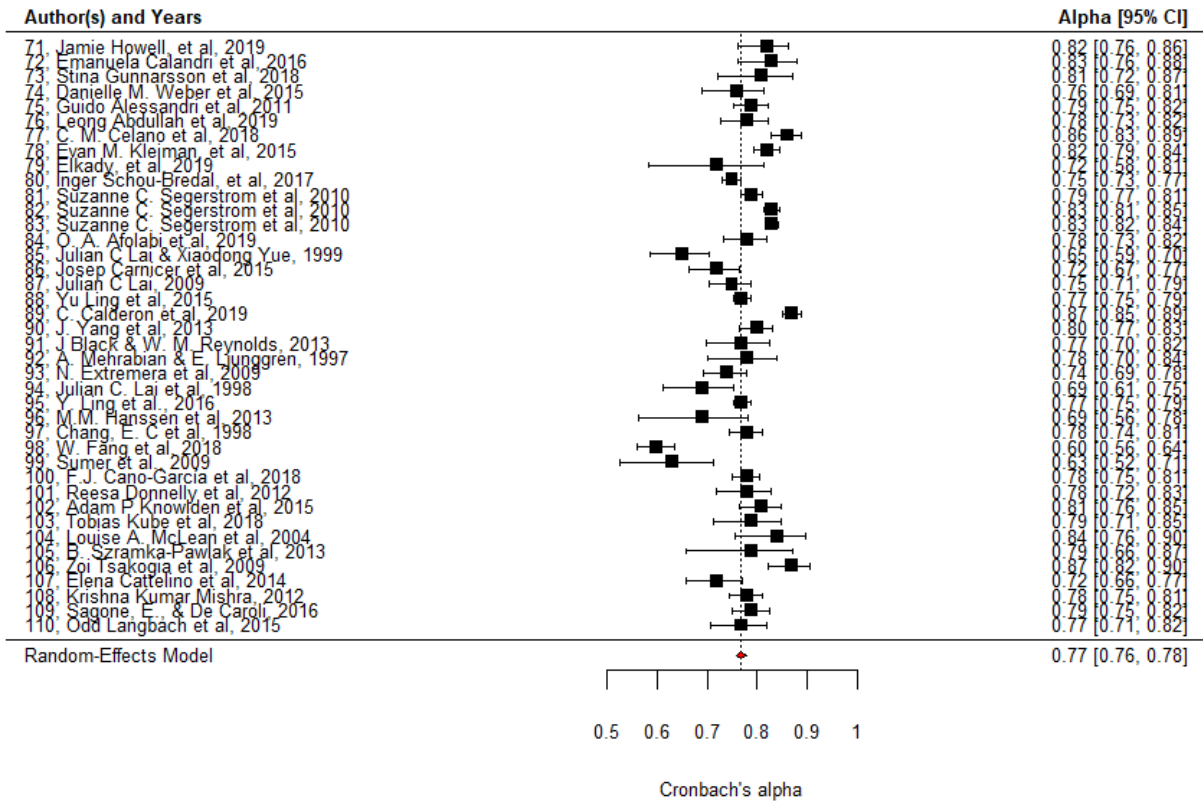


Figure 5. Forest Plot authors and years from numbers 71 to 110

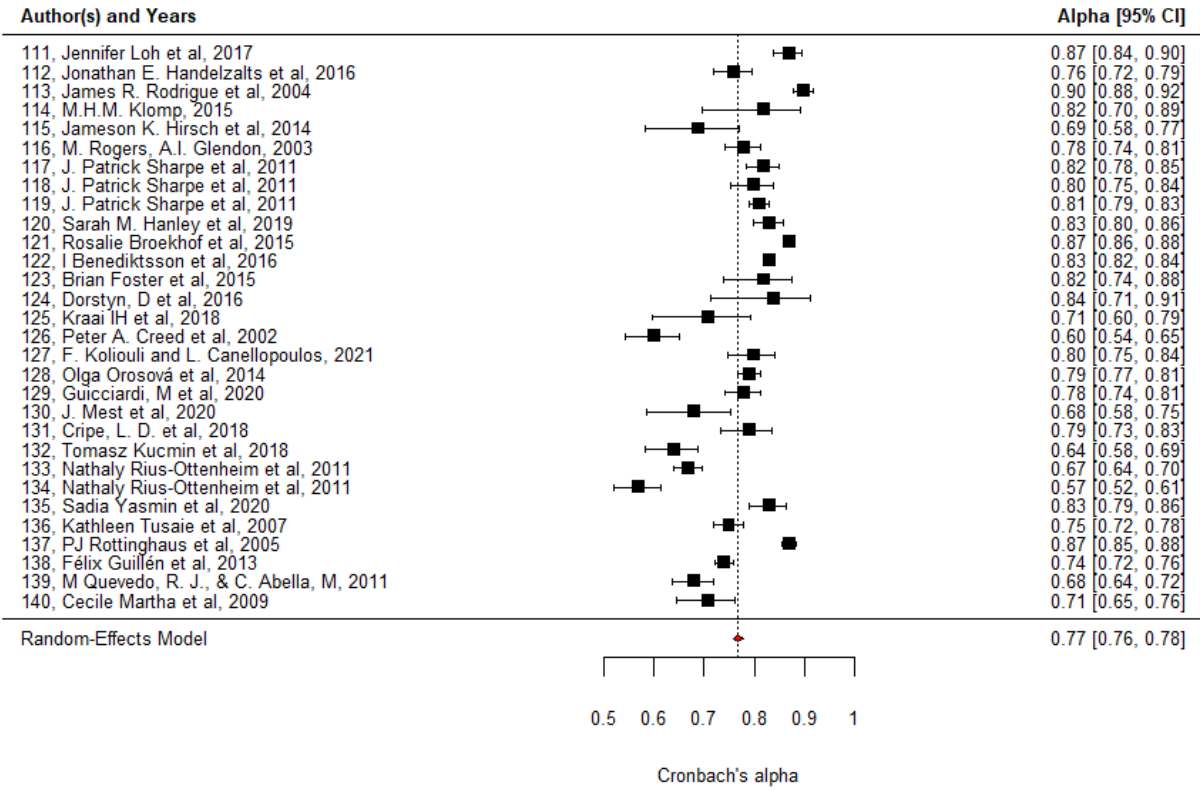


Figure 6. Forest Plot authors and years from numbers 111 to 140

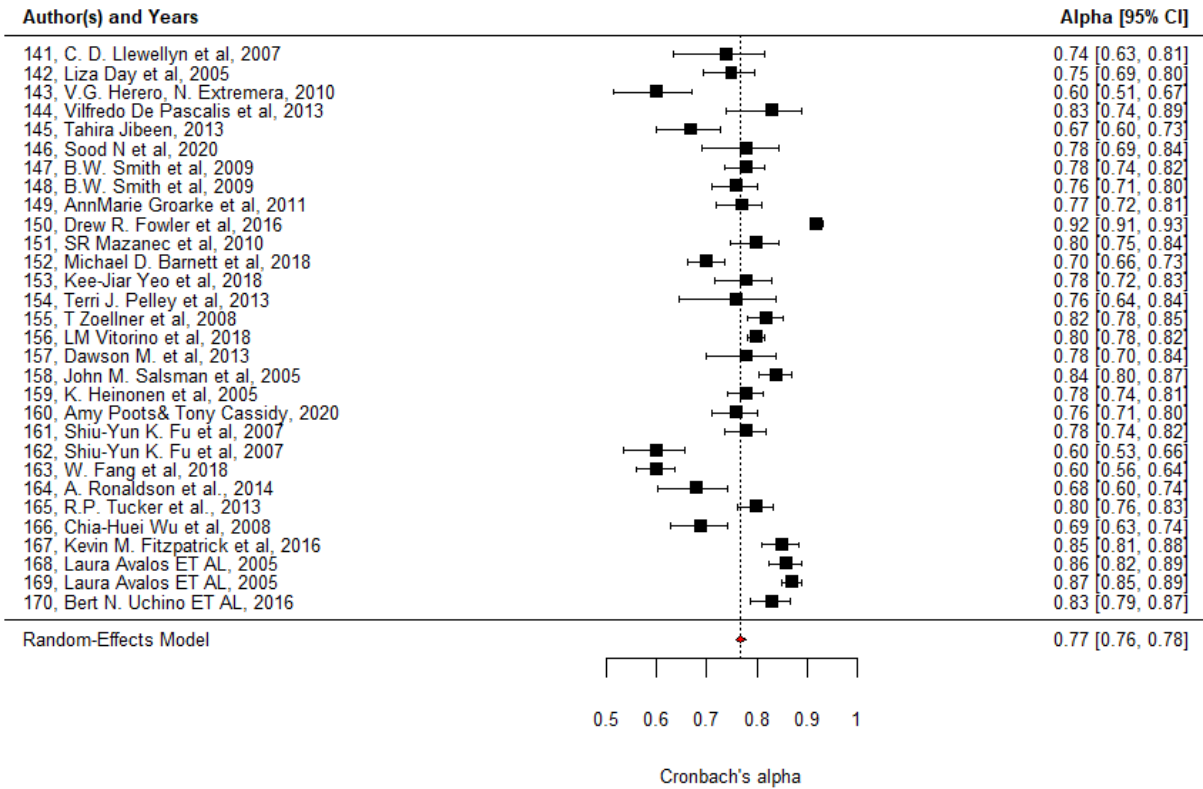


Figure 7. Forest Plot authors and years from numbers 141 to 170

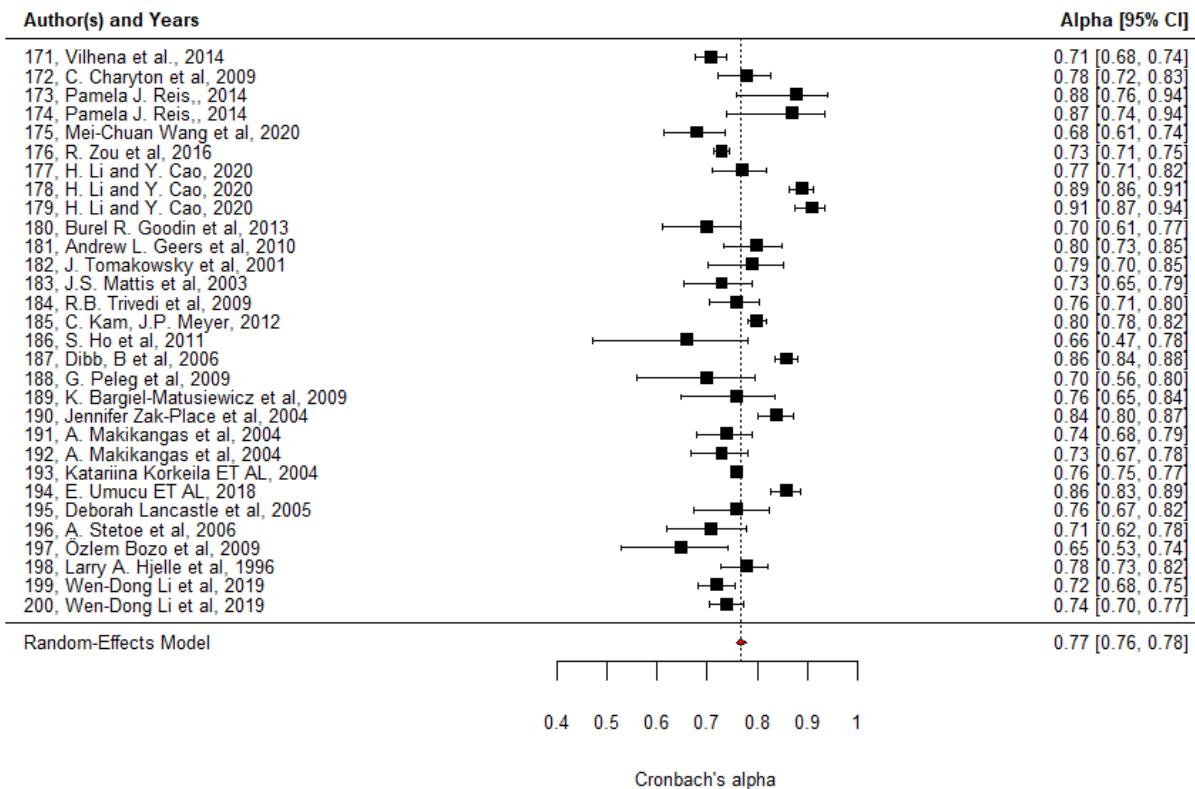


Figure 8. Forest Plot authors and years from numbers 171 to 200

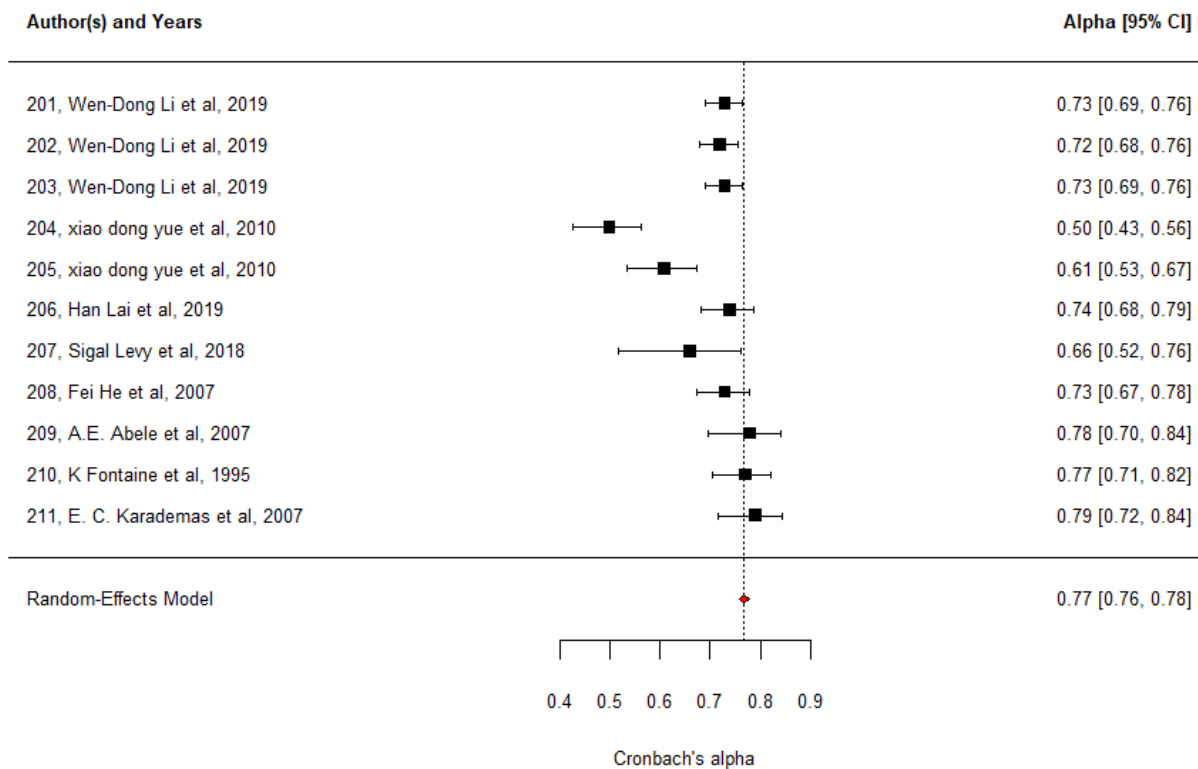


Figure 9. Forest Plot authors and years from numbers 201 to 211