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### 1 Abstract

2 Pathological personality traits are an important inhibitor of social functioning and well-being. 3 Individual human values also possess important connections to both personality and well-4 being, but the links between human values and pathological personality traits have not been 5 directly examined. Across two studies (N = 478), we provide the first direct examination of 6 these relations by employing linear and sinusoidal methodologies assessing relations between 7 Schwartz's circular model of human values (Schwartz, 1992) and a series of personality 8 measures, including the Personality Inventory for the DSM-5 (e.g., Callousness, Intimacy 9 avoidance, Rigid perfectionism). Data for Study 1 was collected in Germany and data for 10 Study 2 in the UK. Self-transcendence values buffer against several pathological personality 11 traits that constrain psychological well-being (e.g., callousness). Conversely, self-12 enhancement values (which are motivationally opposite to self-transcendence values in 13 Schwartz's circular model of human values) were positively associated with these personality 14 traits. Several pathological personality traits were related to the 10 value types in a sinusoidal 15 waveform that was consistent with Schwartz's circular model of human values. Findings were 16 overall consistent across samples from both countries. The results help us move closer to 17 distinguishing between different processes underpinning the associations between personality 18 traits and human values.

19

Keywords: Human Values, Personality, Psychopathology, Linear associations, Sinusoidal
associations

### 23 **1. Introduction**

Human values are abstract ideals that people consider to be important guiding principles in 24 25 their lives, such as achievement, freedom, power, and equality (Rokeach, 1973; Schwartz, 26 1992). As such, these ideals play an important role in diverse attitudes and behaviour (Boer & 27 Fischer, 2013; Roccas & Sagiv, 2017), which makes them highly relevant for understanding 28 personality functioning and psychological well-being (Maio, 2016). Yet, the links between 29 values and relevant personality traits that can impact psychological well-being have not been 30 examined directly. Here, we provide a new and rigorous examination of this question across 31 two countries.

32 1.1 Background

33 It is frequently suggested that some values support psychological well-being and others act against it (for reviews see Boer, 2017; Sagiv et al., 2004; Schwartz & Sortheix, 2018). 34 35 This account is related to a common distinction between intrinsic and extrinsic values. 36 Intrinsic values are inherently satisfying to pursue, as they are directly relevant to important 37 psychological needs, such as autonomy, competence, and relatedness (Ryan & Deci, 2000). 38 In contrast, extrinsic values are less directly satisfying of psychological needs, because they 39 are more likely to involve contingent or unstable self-esteem, non-enjoyable or even 40 demeaning activities, and external pressures (Kasser, 2002). Psychological well-being is 41 positively related to achievement values (Oishi et al., 2009), intrinsic values (Sheldon, 2005), 42 and benevolence values (Kasser & Ryan, 1993) while being negatively associated with 43 extrinsic values (Kasser & Ryan, 1993).

44 This distinction between intrinsic and extrinsic values conceptually overlaps with 45 Schwartz's circular model of values (Schwartz, 1992) (Fig. 1A). Unlike other human values 46 models, this model has been extensively studied in the context of psychological well-being in 47 general and has been supported by diverse types of correlational and experimental evidence

48 (Maio, 2016). The model enables specific predictions regarding different values. For 49 example, psychological well-being is likely to be promoted by values that promote growth 50 needs (hedonism, stimulation, self-direction, universalism, benevolence, achievement, Fig. 51 1A) and undermined by values that address deficiency needs (conformity, tradition, security, 52 power, Fig. 1A) (Bilsky & Schwartz, 1994). Several studies (cited in Boer, 2017; Haslam et 53 al., 2009) support this prediction. For instance, the affective component of psychological 54 well-being is positively related to people's endorsement of self-direction, achievement, and 55 stimulation values, while being negatively associated with people's endorsement of security, 56 conformity, and tradition values (Sagiv & Schwartz, 2000). Similarly, positive affect is positively related to endorsement of self-direction, stimulation, and universalism values, 57 58 while being negatively associated with endorsement of power and conformity (Roccas et al., 59 2002).

Furthermore, people who value self-direction, universalism, and benevolence are
more likely to perceive others to value those values (Hanel et al., 2018), which can increase
people's well-being (Sagiv & Schwartz, 2000). However, it is also possible that happy people
have more cognitive resources to care about others (benevolence and universalism) or be
independent (self-direction; see also Schwartz & Sortheix, 2018).

However, little attention has been given to associations between values and 65 66 pathological personality traits and other clinically relevant constructs that undermine 67 psychological well-being. For example, pathological traits such as antagonism (e.g., manipulativeness, deceitfulness), disinhibition (e.g., irresponsibility, impulsivity), and 68 69 detachment (e.g., withdrawal, anhedonia) are negatively associated with various measures of 70 well-being (Góngora & Castro Solano, 2017). Only a few studies investigated the associations between values, psychopathology (e.g., schizotypy; Hanel & Wolfradt, 2016), 71 72 and prominent antisocial traits, especially the so-called Dark Triad (i.e., machiavellianism,

73 narcissism, and psychopathy Paulhus & Williams, 2002). For example, several studies overall 74 found that the three dimensions of the Dark Triad and sadism were positively correlated with 75 achievement and power values but negatively associated with universalism and benevolence 76 (Balakrishnan et al., 2017; Jonason et al., 2015; Kajonius et al., 2015). The underlying motives for the Dark Triad are self-serving, typically at the expense of other people (Furnham 77 78 et al., 2013), which might explain why the Dark Triad is negatively associated with values 79 that are self-transcending and positively associated with values which are self-enhancing. 80 In the present research, we are going significantly beyond past research by 81 investigating the associations between values with a wide range of personality traits to better understand the underlying associations. Specifically, we hypothesize that particular human 82 83 values as assessed from Schwartz' model (Schwartz, 1992) will be associated with personality 84 traits that undermine psychological well-being in healthy participants, such as the 25 traits 85 assessed in the Personality Inventory for the DSM-5 (PID-5). Other relevant traits are 86 assessed by (i) the Schizotypal Personality questionnaire assessing schizotypy, the motivation 87 scales (ii) BIS/BAS examining behavioural inhibition and behavioural activation, (iii) 88 Temps-A assessing temperament, (iv) Vancouver Obsessional Compulsive Inventory, the (v) 89 UPPS-P Impulsive Behaviour Scale examining impulsivity and compulsivity respectively, 90 and (vi) the six HEXACO personality traits (humility, emotional stability or neuroticism, 91 extraversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness, and openness). High levels of honesty-92 humility and extraversion putatively relate to high psychological well-being while 93 compulsivity, impulsivity, neuroticism, and schizotypy correlate with lower psychological 94 well-being (Aghababaei & Arji, 2014; Carter et al., 2016; Emmons & Diener, 1986; Fumero 95 et al., 2018; Gale et al., 2013; Pavot et al., 1990). Moreover, these relations should reveal a sinusoidal waveform when plotted with value types arrayed along an x-axis in their order of 96 97 placement along the value circle's circumference. Three examples of putative waveforms are

98 shown in Fig.1B. For example, pathological traits (hostility, grandiosity) might be positively 99 correlated with achievement and power, uncorrelated with orthogonal values such as stimulation and conformity, and negatively correlated with benevolence and universalism 100 101 (Fig.1B, line A). The resulting waveform resembles a sine wave. But this waveform has not 102 yet been tested for its reliability in the context of wide range of traits related to personality. 103 Fig. 1. A: The circumplex structure of personal values. B: Plot of hypothesized relationships between three external variables (line graphs A, B and C) and the 10 values 104 105 from the circumplex structure.







Note. PO: power; AC: achievement; HE: hedonism; ST: stimulation; SD: selfdirection; UN: universalism; BE: benevolence; TR: tradition; CO: conformity; SE: security.
Each dot/point could represent a correlation coefficient (Fig. 1A: Copied under a CC BY
licence from Hanel, 2016; Fig. 1B: Redrawn based on the concept proposed by Schwartz,
1992).

125 The prediction of a sinusoidal waveform is a powerful aspect of Schwartz's model, but another important aspect is the support obtained across samples from over 80 nations 126 127 (Schwartz et al., 2012). Such extensive cross-cultural support may imply that values express 128 evolutionarily conserved motives. Indeed, using a twin-study methodology, previous research 129 demonstrated that the shared variance between human values and personality traits has a 130 significant heritable component (Schermer et al., 2008; Schermer et al., 2011), paving the way for testing whether human values are related to specific personality genetic components 131 132 (for an overview see Fischer, 2017). There is now evidence showing a direct link between the

133 values assessed in Schwartz's model and several neurobiological markers including cortical 134 (Zacharopoulos et al., 2017), subcortical (Zacharopoulos, Lancaster, Bracht, et al., 2016) and 135 genetic data (Zacharopoulos, Lancaster, Maio, et al., 2016). Zacharopoulos and colleagues 136 (Zacharopoulos, Lancaster, Maio, et al., 2016) found that human values are related in a 137 sinusoidal manner to the polygenic score for neuroticism (which is itself linked to 138 psychopathology Van Os et al., 2001). Nonetheless, there are various indicators of 139 personality psychopathology that have not yet been linked to values in past research. 140 1.2 The Present Research

141 The present research provides a comprehensive examination of the link between 142 measures assessing pathological personality traits and human values. Based on the research 143 described above, we postulate that intrinsic values (e.g., hedonism, stimulation, and self-144 direction) will be negatively associated, whereas extrinsic values (e.g., achievement and 145 power) will be positively associated with pathological personality traits. Specifically, Study 1 146 (conduced in Germany) tested these proposed relations between personality psychopathology 147 and values using the PID-5, and in Study 2 (conducted in Wales), we replicated and extended 148 the findings using various other measures, including schizotypy, compulsivity, and 149 impulsivity.

### 150 **2. Study 1**

151 *2.1 Method* 

152 2.1.1 Participants

153 Three-hundred ninety-one individuals studying various academic subjects at the Martin-

Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (Germany) who were between 18 and 39 (304 women;

mean age= $21.51 \pm 3.73$  SD) participated in the study. The study was in line with the ethical

156 requirements of the Institute of Psychology at Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg.

157 Participants were verbally informed that the study was about personality and values, that their

participation was voluntary, and their responses would be anonymous. Data collection took place during class hours in one large lecture hall. In line with the local common practice, the researchers implied consent when the participants remained in the lecture hall and started completing the survey (a few students decided not to participate and left). After completion, which took 30-40 minutes, participants were debriefed. The data were collected in Halle/Saale (Germany).

164 *2.1.2 Procedure* 

165 First, participants completed the short version of the Schwartz Value Survey (SSVS) 166 (Lindeman & Verkasalo, 2005) in its German translation (Boer, 2014). The SSVS consists of ten items, one for each value type in Schwartz's circular model of values (Schwartz, 1992). 167 168 For example, power was measured with "Power. (Social status and prestige, control or 169 dominance over people and resources)." Participants rated the importance of their values on a 170 6-point scale, ranging from 1 (completely unimportant) to 6 (very important). The reliability 171 and validity of the SSVS were found to be good (Lindeman & Verkasalo, 2005). For 172 example, a multidimensional scaling analysis using Torgerson revealed that the ten items replicated Schwartz's model (Schwartz, 1992) (cf. Fig. 1A), thus indicating that the 173 174 correlations among the value type items were as proposed. Supplementary Material 1.1 175 shows only two minor deviations: The position of achievement and power was reversed, as 176 was the position of security and tradition/conformity. Deviations within one higher order 177 value type (e.g., conservation) are considered as unproblematic and in line with the model prediction (Bilsky et al., 2011). In scoring the responses, we followed the recommendation to 178 179 center the values on an individual basis (Schwartz, 1992, 2003).

180 Next, participants completed the full Personality Inventory for DSM-5 (PID-5) with

181 220 items (Association, 2013). The PID-5 assesses 25 personality trait facets: anhedonia,

182 anxiousness, attention-seeking, callousness, deceitfulness, depressivity, distractibility,

eccentricity, emotional lability, grandiosity, hostility, impulsivity, intimacy avoidance, 183 184 irresponsibility, manipulativeness, perceptual dysregulation, perseveration, restricted 185 affectivity, rigid perfectionism, risk-taking, separation insecurity, submissiveness, 186 suspiciousness, unusual beliefs and experiences, and withdrawal. Example items included 187 "I'm good at making people do what I want them to do" (manipulativeness), "I can be mean 188 when I need to be" (hostility), and "I usually do what others think I should do" 189 (submissiveness). Responses were given on a 4-point scale, ranging from 0 (very false or 190 often false) to 3 (very true or often true). The internal consistency of the PID-5 was 191 acceptable to very good (see Table 1). Since several variables were not normally distributed 192 when statistically assessed for normality, we additionally report the results based on 193 Spearman correlations, which produced similar results as can be seen in Supplementary 194 Material 2.1.

195

### 2.2 Sinusoidal Relationship Analyses

To test the sinusoidal prediction of Schwartz's model (Schwartz, 1992), we utilized a
recently developed sinusoidal test (Hanel et al., 2017; Zacharopoulos et al., 2017;
Zacharopoulos, Lancaster, Maio, et al., 2016). For the full description of the sinusoidal
relationship analyses, please see Supplementary Material 3. In short, it tests how well the 10
correlation coefficient can be described by a sine wave. The test returns the *Sinusoidal Fit Index* (SFI) which ranges between 0 (perfect fit) and 1 (very poor fit).

202 2.3 Results

A summary of the results can be found in Table 1. The focus of the present analysis is the correlation pattern. This pattern allows us to differentiate which value types are associated with pathological personality traits. The correlations' magnitude was mostly small, consistent with previous research (Hanel & Wolfradt, 2016), but in line with the predicted pattern. For example, power tended to correlate more positively with callousness, deceitfulness, and 208 grandiosity, whereas benevolence correlated mostly negatively with these traits. We 209 computed 10 one-sample t-tests to ascertain whether the correlation coefficients are 210 significantly above or below 0. The 25 PID-facets were, on average, positively associated 211 with power (p < .001) and hedonism (p = .002), but negatively with benevolence and 212 tradition (both ps < .001). The remaining six value types were often unrelated to the PID-213 facets.

214 To further investigate whether different values types are differentially associated with 215 the PID-5 facets, we investigated whether the correlation coefficients of the value type power 216 and each PID-5 facet are significantly different from the correlations between the value type 217 benevolence and each PID-5 facet, using Fisher's r-to-z transformation (two-tailed p-values in 218 Table 1, last column). We focused on power and benevolence because they were on average 219 most strongly correlated with the PID-5 facets. The differences between the correlation 220 coefficients (power vs benevolence) across PID-5 facets were often large. Overall, the 25 221 PID-5 facet correlations with power were significantly different from the corresponding 222 correlations with benevolence, t(24) = 6.54, p < .001, d = 2.44), because the sign of the 223 correlation coefficients was often in the opposite direction.

224 After investigating the linear associations, we tested the sinusoidal patterns of association between the human values and each of the 25 PID-5 facets. We placed the 10 225 226 human values types on the x-axis in an order that follows the circular structure (Fig. 1) and 227 plotted the ten correlation coefficients between each of the 10 human value types (x-axis, 228 power, achievement, hedonism, stimulation, self-direction, universalism, benevolence, 229 tradition, conformity, security) and the 25 PID-5 facets (y-axis). We then applied the 230 Sinusoidal Fit Index to test whether the 10 points (i.e., correlation coefficients) followed a sine-wave. Results indicated a robust sinusoidal pattern of association between the 10 human 231 232 value types and separation insecurity (SFI=.07), but not for any other variables obtained from

- 233 Study 1. The results were very similar when we computed Spearman's rank correlation
- 234 coefficients (see Supplementary Materials 2.1).

### 235 **Table 1**

	РО	AC	HE	ST	SD	UN	BE	TR	CO	SE	SFI	$\mathbb{R}^2$	α	P>B
Anhedonia	.17***	.11*	09	22***	03	.11*	12*	09	$.10^{*}$	.05	.68	.19	.85	<.001
Anxiousness	.09	.11*	.03	20***	15**	0	09	07	.09	.15**	.30	.10	.90	.029
Attention seeking	.18***	.06	.18***	.02	.08	06	07	13**	13**	16**	.34	.11	.87	.002
Callousness	.40***	.15**	.12	09	.05	16**	23***	09	19***	08	.40	.27	.85	<.001
Deceitfulness	.31***	.12*	.14**	10*	.04	12*	15**	17***	10*	01	.33	.16	.88	<.001
Depressivity	.13**	.01	.02	14**	04	.11*	09	12*	.09	.03	.78	.12	.93	.008
Distractibility	.04	17***	.17***	0	.03	$.10^{*}$	0	14**	.06	05	.87	.11	.85	NS
Eccentricity	.12*	.03	$.10^{*}$	.05	.12*	.07	<b></b> 11*	15**	07	16**	.34	.08	.94	.005
Emotional lability	04	01	.06	08	08	.10*	.09	06	04	.13**	.95	.05	.85	NS
Grandiosity	.27***	.15**	.09	14**	.05	09	16**	06	14**	03	.44	.12	.78	<0.001
Hostility	.26***	$.10^{*}$	.19***	10*	.02	03	14**	18***	<b></b> 11*	05	.38	.15	.84	<.001
Impulsivity	.05	07	.04	.14**	.05	.02	02	0	09	16**	.44	.05	.83	NS
Intimacy avoidance	.12*	07	05	.04	.12*	.07	17***	03	.05	11*	.92	.12	.84	<.001
Irresponsibility	.07	03	.09	.06	.14**	$.11^{*}$	.01	20***	12*	05	.38	.11	.71	NS
Manipulativeness	.26***	.14**	.19***	04	.04	13**	12*	13**	17***	12*	.32	.14	.80	<.001
Perceptual dysregulation	.10*	0	.05	.06	.07	.08	02	15**	09	07	.39	.06	.83	NS
Perseveration	.14**	.03	.12*	13**	04	.06	09	10*	.04	07	.76	.09	.80	.005
Restricted affectivity	.20***	.03	.02	04	.04	04	19***	04	.04	12*	.70	.12	.81	<.001
Rigid perfectionism	.18***	.16**	04	14**	11*	05	12*	04	.06	.04	.24	.08	.87	<.001
Risk taking	07	12*	.01	.41***	.17***	.04	.02	03	11*	30***	.32	.23	.91	NS
Separation insecurity	.13**	.02	02	18***	18***	07	06	.01	.15**	.13**	.07+	.08	.84	.021
Submissiveness	.04	.02	0	26***	17***	03	07	.02	.29***	$.10^{*}$	.29	.14	.80	NS
Suspiciousness	.18***	.15**	01	18***	12*	.01	13**	10*	.07	$.10^{*}$	.30	.12	.68	<.001
Unusual belief experiences	.03	06	.03	.05	.09	.06	03	02	05	09	.33	.02	.79	NS
Withdrawal	.11*	.04	02	16**	.03	.11*	22***	01	.08	01	.86	.20	.89	<.001
Mean r	.14	.04	.06	05	.01	.01	09	08	01	04				.005
$\mathbb{R}^2$	.27	.18	.16	.28	.14	.15	.16	.12	.19	.19				

236	Statistical	results	summary	from	Study	1	
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237 *Notes.* All  $R^2$ s of the bottom row are significant at p < .001, all  $R^2$ s of column  $\ge .04$  are

significant at p < .05. All  $rs \ge .10$  are significant at p < .05, all  $\ge .13$  at p < .01, and all rs

239  $\geq$  .17 at *p* < .001 (all two-tailed). Significant values are in bold. PO: Power, AC:

240 Achievement, HE: Hedonism, ST: Stimulation, SD: Self-direction, UN: Universalism, BE:

241 Benevolence, TR: Tradition, CO: Conformity, SE: Security.

242 \*p < .05, \*\*p < .01, \*\*\*p < .001

243 2.4 Discussion

244 The results indicated that individuals who attached more importance to power, 245 achievement, and hedonism values exhibited higher pathological traits, whereas individuals 246 who attached more importance to benevolence, tradition, and conformity exhibited lower 247 pathological traits as assessed by the PID-5 facets. Power, achievement, and hedonism values 248 focus on self-promotion, whereas benevolence and tradition promote getting along well with others. Thus, this pattern of associations is consistent with prior theory and evidence 249 250 indicating that positive connectedness to others is a critical aspect buffering against 251 pathological personality traits.

252 **3. Study 2** 

253 Study 1 showed that some value types are systematically related to pathological 254 personality traits. In Study 2, we tested whether these findings of Study 1 could be replicated 255 using a different set of personality measures and self-assessment tools focusing on specific 256 syndromes, such as impulsivity, obsessive-compulsiveness, and schizotypy.

257 *3.1 Method* 

258 3.1.1 Participants and Procedure

Eighty-seven university students between 19 and 42 (56 females; mean age= $23.97 \pm$ 

260 3.92 SD) participated in the study. Respondents were informed that the study examined

261 value-morality judgments. They completed a measure of human values and several measures

262 of personality and personality psychopathology. The study was approved by the ethics

263 committee of the School of Psychology at Cardiff University (EC.12.01.10.3071).

264 Participants provided written informed consent. Since several variables were not normally

265 distributed when statistically assessed for normality, we additionally report the results based

266 on Spearman correction, which produced similar results as can be seen in Supplementary

267 Material 2.2. The study was conducted in Cardiff, Wales (United Kingdom).

268 *3.1.2 Measures* 

Participants completed the Schwartz Value Survey (SVS; Schwartz, 1992). This 56-269 270 item scale can be used to measure the value types shown in Fig. 1. Participants were asked to 271 rate the importance of each of the 56 values as a guiding principle in their lives, using a 272 quasi-bipolar 9-point scale ranging from -1 (opposed to my values), 0 (not important), 4 273 (important), to 7 (of supreme importance). Examples of SVS items are as follows: "Equality: Equal opportunity for all" (Universalism); "Pleasure: Gratification of desires" (Hedonism); 274 275 "Obedient: Dutiful meeting obligations" (Conformity). The average score across the 56 items 276 was calculated and subtracted from each of the 56 initial raw scores before calculating the 277 average of the value scores within each of the 10 value types. Schwartz recommends this 278 procedure to help control superfluous individual variations in rating styles (Schwartz, 1992). 279 The internal consistencies of the values scales as assessed with Cronbach's alpha were low to 280 good (>.6 for all ten value types).

281 A set of questionnaires was administered to assess personality and psychopathological traits: the HEXACO Personality Inventory-Revised (HEXACO-PI-R; Lee & Ashton, 2004) 282 283 measured six major dimensions of personality, UPPS-P Impulsive Behaviour Scale 284 (Whiteside & Lynam, 2001) measured impulsivity, the Vancouver Obsessional Compulsive Inventory (VOCI: Thordarson et al., 2004) assessed compulsivity, the Behavioural Inhibition 285 286 and Activation Scales (BIS/BAS; Carver & White, 1994) assessed motivation, the 287 Schizotypal Personality Questionnaire (SPQ; Raine, 1991) assessed schizotypy, and the TEMPS-A-short version assessed affective temperament (Akiskal et al., 2005). 288

289 *3.2 Results* 

As in Study 1, we again assessed the relations between the 10 human value types and the trait measures (Table 2) while also calculating the corresponding sinusoidal fit indices. Consistent with the previous findings, participants who attached higher importance to benevolence values exhibited lower scores on the pathological personality traits in several measures (including constricted affect, state anxiety, positive urgency, lack of premeditation, obsessions), although the negative correlations did not consistently reach significance.

As in Study 1, we then investigated the extent to which the personality traits were associated with the 10 human value types in a sinusoidal manner as predicted by Schwartz's circular model of values (Schwartz, 1992). We consider any sinusoidal associations with an SFI score of less than .20 to be significant. Results indicated a robust sinusoidal pattern of association between the 10 human value types and Reward Responsiveness (SFI=.16) from BAS, Agreeableness (SFI=.16) from HEXACO, and Checking (SFI=.12) from VOCI.

302

# **304 Table 2**

# 305 Statistical results summary from Study 2.

	РО	AC	HE	ST	SD	UN	BE	TR	СО	SE	SFI	R <sup>2</sup>	P>B
BIS/BAS													
Drive	.109	.201	.147	.283**	.07	192	294**	065	115	008	.20	.233*	<.05
Fun-seeking	095	172	.145	.353**	007	.058	06	.025	.081	079	.74	.214*	NS
Reward responsiveness	.208	.129	.192	.212*	085	248*	218*	072	069	.146	.16	.161	<.05
BIS	.12	.186	096	220*	127	196	.059	.172	077	023	.60	.232*	NS
SPQ													
Ideas of reference	.082	083	052	133	061	007	203	.053	.024	.135	.53	.127	NS
Odd beliefs or magical thinking	032	106	196	031	.039	.101	044	025	.045	.068	.62	.079	NS
Unusual Perceptual Experiences	104	036	039	.029	.129	.106	11	065	.015	016	.64	.056	NS
Odd or Eccentric Behaviour	279**	028	143	.13	.330**	.333**	074	102	116	151	.27	.243*	NS
Excessive social anxiety	018	005	.024	077	.124	.096	16	.042	174	.089	.91	.124	NS
No close friends	006	058	081	026	.176	.124	16	.071	116	024	.79	.157	NS
Odd speech	208	243*	039	.024	.184	.221*	065	.045	055	02	.35	.182	NS
Constricted affect	049	068	.003	.085	.211	.195	247*	.068	063	105	.63	.215*	NS
Suspiciousness	.086	075	071	113	099	036	21	.161	007	.247*	.49	.142	NS
TEMPS-A													
Cyclothymic	177	001	077	.094	.164	.156	106	006	142	12	.29	.124	NS
Dysthymic	.067	.017	081	034	.204	.212	158	116	088	101	.73	.156	NS
Irritable	075	.01	.079	.099	.059	.003	248*	.027	026	.033	.72	.114	NS
Hyperthymic	011	.081	125	.282**	.028	048	021	118	.144	12	.89	.174	NS
Anxious	.059	.08	.017	125	204	107	132	.074	075	.240*	.33	.174	NS
UPPS-P													
(Negative) Urgency	.097	016	.214*	.042	11	007	245*	.015	1	.087	.53	.144	NS
(lack of) Premeditation	.009	.052	.254*	.305**	.066	.101	355**	113	203	.133	.38	.252*	<.05
(lack of) Perseverance	.032	138	.201	.023	06	.057	159	.202	032	.019	1.0	.163	NS
Sensation seeking	232*	094	.006	.349**	.091	.053	171	.002	.274*	002	.90	.314**	NS
(Positive) Urgency	.058	078	.117	.088	016	.091	295**	.036	071	015	.78	.151	<.05
VOCI													
Contamination	.118	073	.068	098	127	.063	18	.051	041	.246*	.65	.184	NS
Checking	.118	.107	005	094	197	186	107	.04	.041	.309**	.12	.153	NS
Obsessions	.11	041	029	.052	.006	.045	214*	017	015	.118	.77	.080	NS
Hoarding	001	007	.035	.047	005	.146	185	.022	207	.142	.87	.164	NS
Just Right	.054	049	177	065	.062	.078	17	043	.087	.112	.85	.141	NS
Indecisiveness	.171	.06	012	061	007	093	056	028	029	.067	.30	.051	NS
VOCI Total	.128	006	047	05	048	.01	191	.002	019	.2	.52	.108	NS
HEXACO													
Honesty-Humility	481***	229*	274*	184	.165	.327**	.398***	052	.109	181	.18	.348***	<.001

Emotionality	.211*	.13	094	250*	303**	247*	.182	013	.027	.098	.35	.337***	NS
Extraversion	011	029	.012	.076	03	.014	.048	.056	026	102	.66	.032	NS
Agreeableness	228*	125	111	144	057	.126	.288**	.137	.078	127	.16	.144	<.01
Conscientiousness	047	.037	257*	113	.012	137	.161	122	.267*	.077	.65	.216*	NS
Openness	328**	.019	149	.162	.511***	.407***	.059	331**	272*	195	.24	.356***	<.05
Altruism	269*	143	191	229*	116	.123	.434***	012	004	107	.33	.317***	<.001
STATE ANXIETY	.078	.086	.002	.055	.167	.083	238*	088	038	113	.56	.132	NS

306

307Notes. \* p < .05, \*\* p < .01, \*\*\* p < .001, SFI= sinusoidal fit index, R<sup>2</sup>: the amount of308explained variance with the value types as predictors and the variable in the first column as309the dependent variable, P>B: p-value when investigated whether the correlation coefficients310of the value type power and each variable in the first column facet are significantly different311from the correlations between the value type benevolence and that variable, using Fisher's r-312to-z transformation.

### 313 3.3 Discussion

314 The results indicated that individuals who attached more importance to power and 315 achievement values exhibited on average higher scores on obsessional compulsiveness 316 (VOCI) and drive, whereas individuals who attached more importance to benevolence and 317 universalism exhibited lower scores on these measures. Consistent with the aforementioned 318 link between benevolence values and connectedness to others (Study 1 Discussion), it is also 319 noteworthy that participants who attached more importance to self-transcendence values 320 (e.g., benevolence) or less importance to self-enhancement values (e.g., power, achievement) 321 scored higher on several personality traits that promote good relations with others, including 322 honesty-humility and agreeableness.

323 **4. General Discussion** 

The present research provides a novel investigation of the linear and sinusoidal associations between values and a wide range of measures assessing pathological personality traits as well as non-clinical personality traits. Two main results emerged from this research. First, we demonstrated across two studies conducted in Germany and the United Kingdom,
that benevolence and some conservation values (but only in the German sample) buffer
against several pathological personality traits that constrain psychological well-being.
Conversely, self-enhancement values (especially power) were positively associated with
these psychological tendencies.

Interestingly, benevolence was more strongly negatively associated with many psychopathological traits than universalism. We believe this is because people higher in benevolence care more for "people with whom one is in frequent personal contact" whereas people higher in universalism care more for humanity in general (Schwartz, 1992). Many of the psychopathological traits we investigated have negative consequences for people with whom one is in close contact (e.g., callousness, hostility, obsessions).

338 It is worth noting that tradition was negatively associated with a range of pathological 339 traits including deceitfulness, hostility, or irresponsibility in the German sample but not in the British sample (i.e., Study 1 but not Study 2). This suggests that valuing tradition can buffer 340 341 against pathological traits that might have direct negative consequences for other people. 342 Indeed, the goal of tradition values is "respect, commitment, and acceptance of the customs 343 and ideas that one's culture or religion impose on the self" (Schwartz, 1992). In contrast, 344 hostility, deceitfulness, and irresponsibility are strong indicators of disrespecting others. 345 However, we can only speculate why these associations appeared only in the German sample 346 but not the British sample. In terms of cultural values, average income, life expectancy, or 347 education levels, the UK and Germany are very similar (Hofstede, 2001; UNDP, 2015).

However, one noticeable difference is the number of young people who identify
themselves as religious. Among 16 to 29-year-olds, 45% of Germans but 70% of British
participants identified themselves as non-religious (Bullivant, 2018). This difference can

351 contribute to explaining the different patterns of correlations we obtained, assuming that 352 higher levels of religiosity increase the likelihood of being in a religious community. For 353 example, Hanel et al. (Hanel et al., 2019) sampled students studying the same subject at the same institution as our Study 1 participants, albeit from a different cohort. The authors found 354 355 that religiosity, which is strongly associated with tradition values (Saroglou et al., 2004), 356 tended to be negatively associated with schizotypy, another pathological trait, but only among 357 those students who were members of a religious community. That is, a higher percentage of 358 German participants might have been a religious community member than the British 359 participants, which could potentially explain this difference. Moreover, PID-5 and HEXACO 360 are trait-based measures. Such measures usually rely on factor analyses of the results which 361 are not always replicable as they can vary between samples and depend on several factors, 362 including the variables inserted in the analysis (Goldberg, 1992). Moreover, it was previously 363 argued that only certain traits (extraversion, agreeableness, and conscientiousness) were 364 replicated across cultures, and other studies found inconsistent results regarding the sixth-365 factor dimensions (Becker, 1999; De Raad et al., 2010; Thalmayer et al., 2011). Nevertheless, 366 future research is needed to shed more light onto this cross-country difference in these 367 correlations.

368 Second, by employing a recently developed methodology to detect sinusoidal patterns 369 specifically, we were able to capture all of the available information in the relations between 370 human values and pathological personality traits. In particular, we detected robust sinusoidal 371 relationships with a range of traits (including Reward Responsiveness from BAS,

372 Agreeableness from HEXACO and Checking from VOCI, Separation Insecurity from 25

373 PID-5 facets). Of additional interest, the individual correlations between the pathological

374 personality traits and human values were often below conventional levels of significance

375 when viewed individually. Still, the pattern was highly reliable when viewed together using

376 the sinusoidal test. The sinusoidal approach has two important advantages. First, a single SFI, 377 as opposed to a single correlation, is calculated by taking into account the association between an external variable and all 10 human values at a time; the number of comparisons 378 379 when using this approach is reduced 10 times. Second, this approach allows researchers to 380 detect sinusoidal links that are undetectable at the linear level. The findings extend our 381 previous demonstrations of the utility of the sinusoidal methodology for testing theoretical 382 predictions from Schwartz's circular model of values (Schwartz, 1992), and we recommend 383 its use in future research using the model.

In both studies, we used different measures for values and psychopathological constructs in samples from two countries. This was done to test whether our findings are independent of specific measurements and are robust across countries (Boer et al., 2011). Further, since our results are cross-sectional, we do not know whether values impact psychopathological traits or vice versa. Recent evidence suggests that the link between values and well-being is bi-directional (Grosz et al., 2021), but it is unclear whether this generalises to personality traits.

#### 391 **5. Conclusion**

392 In sum, our results are consistent with the hypothesis that some values (i.e., self-393 transcendence) support personality traits underpinning well-being, while other values (i.e., 394 self-enhancement) oppose these traits. These findings might pave the way for developing 395 human value change interventions to cultivate dispositions that support well-being. Indeed, 396 several studies have found that human values are malleable (Cileli, 2000; Inglehart, 1997; 397 Klages, 2005; Sheldon, 2005; Verkasalo et al., 2006), and some interventions have been 398 successful at changing values (Bardi & Goodwin, 2011; but see Manfredo et al., 2017 for an 399 opposing view). These include interventions that ask participants to generate reasons for 400 values (Bernard et al., 2003), or deliver feedback that challenges individuals to consider the

fit between their values and self-concept (Maio et al., 2009; Rokeach, 1975). The use of these
methods may also lead to additional insights into the mechanisms through which values and
personality psychopathology are interlinked. Lastly, our findings will motivate future studies
examining the predictive role of human values in developing personality psychopathology in
clinical populations.

- 410
- 411 Supplementary Material
- 412 **Supplementary Material 1.**
- 413 *1.1. Result of a multidimensional scaling analysis from our Study 1 with the Short*



414 Schwartz's Value Scale.



1.2. Result of a multidimensional scaling analysis from our Study 2 with the





### 422 Supplementary Material 2

423 2.1. Replication of the main analyses when using Spearman correlations in Study 1.

	РО	AC	HE	ST	SD	UN	BE	TR	CO	SE	SFI	<b>R</b> <sup>2</sup>	α	P>B
Anhedonia	0.15	0.14	-0.09	-0.21	-0.05	0.11	-0.07	-0.08	0.10	0.06	0.66	.19	.85	<.001
Anxiousness	0.07	0.12	0.02	-0.21	-0.14	0.03	-0.04	-0.07	0.10	0.17	0.40	.10	.90	.029
Attention seeking	0.17	0.06	0.18	0.05	0.08	-0.06	-0.05	-0.11	-0.10	-0.16	0.34	.11	.87	.002
Callousness	0.33	0.13	0.14	-0.01	0.05	-0.13	-0.17	-0.11	-0.14	-0.15	0.38	.27	.85	<.001
Deceitfulness	0.27	0.06	0.18	-0.09	0.04	-0.09	-0.10	-0.15	-0.03	-0.09	0.47	.16	.88	<.001
Depressivity	0.10	0.01	0.03	-0.16	-0.07	0.13	-0.01	-0.09	0.13	0.04	0.78	.12	.93	.008
Distractibility	0.06	-0.15	0.17	-0.02	0.02	0.09	-0.01	-0.14	0.07	-0.06	0.91	.11	.85	NS
Eccentricity	0.11	0.03	0.11	0.05	0.10	0.09	-0.05	-0.13	-0.03	-0.15	0.40	.08	.94	.005

Emotional	-0.05	-0.02	0.08	-0.12	-0.08	0.12	0.09	-0.05	-0.03	0.15	0.92	.05	.85	NS
lability														
Grandiosity	0.21	0.15	0.07	-0.13	0.05	-0.10	-0.08	-0.04	-0.12	-0.06	0.53	.12	.78	<0.001
Hostility	0.25	0.07	0.21	-0.11	0.00	-0.05	-0.12	-0.17	-0.08	-0.08	0.43	.15	.84	<.001
Impulsivity	0.04	-0.09	0.05	0.14	0.05	-0.01	-0.04	0.03	-0.05	-0.18	0.58	.05	.83	NS
Intimacy avoidance	0.12	-0.07	-0.04	0.07	0.10	0.12	-0.11	-0.03	0.05	-0.15	0.84	.12	.84	<.001
Irresponsibility	0.07	-0.06	0.13	0.04	0.11	0.13	0.01	-0.17	-0.05	-0.09	0.47	.11	.71	NS
Manipulativeness	0.23	0.10	0.22	-0.02	0.03	-0.11	-0.06	-0.10	-0.13	-0.16	0.41	.14	.80	<.001
Perceptual dysregulation	0.06	-0.03	0.06	0.04	0.04	0.10	0.03	-0.11	-0.03	-0.08	0.53	.06	.83	NS
Perseveration	0.12	0.03	0.14	-0.12	-0.05	0.06	-0.08	-0.10	0.04	-0.08	0.77	.09	.80	.005
Restricted affectivity	0.18	0.05	0.03	-0.01	0.03	-0.02	-0.08	-0.06	0.05	-0.14	0.74	.12	.81	<.001
Rigid perfectionism	0.16	0.17	-0.07	-0.15	-0.13	-0.03	-0.08	-0.05	0.05	0.05	0.31	.08	.87	<.001
Risk taking	-0.08	-0.14	0.02	0.41	0.15	0.02	0.00	-0.01	-0.07	-0.29	0.38	.23	.91	NS
Separation insecurity	0.10	0.02	0.00	-0.17	-0.20	-0.06	-0.04	0.04	0.15	0.12	0.10	.08	.84	.021
Submissiveness	0.05	0.05	-0.02	-0.23	-0.17	0.00	-0.06	0.01	0.26	0.09	0.29	.14	.80	NS
Suspiciousness	0.19	0.14	-0.02	-0.19	-0.11	-0.01	-0.11	-0.08	0.08	0.07	0.31	.12	.68	<.001
Unusual belief experiences	0.01	-0.05	0.03	0.04	0.07	0.08	0.03	-0.02	0.01	-0.10	0.34	.02	.79	NS
Withdrawal	0.08	0.08	0.00	-0.15	0.03	0.09	-0.09	-0.04	0.08	-0.04	0.91	.20	.89	<.001
Mean r	0.12	0.03	0.07	-0.05	0.00	0.02	-0.05	-0.07	0.01	-0.05	0.53			.005
<b>R</b> <sup>2</sup>	.27	.18	.16	.28	.14	.15	.16	.12	.19	.19				

424 *Note*. All  $R^2$ s of the bottom row are significant at p < .001, all  $R^2$ s of column  $\ge .04$  are

425 significant at p < .05. All  $rs \ge .10$  are significant at p < .05, all  $\ge .13$  at p < .01, and all rs

426  $\geq$  .17 at *p* < .001 (all two-tailed). Significant values are in bold. PO: Power, AC:

427 Achievement, HE: Hedonism, ST: Stimulation, SD: Self-direction, UN: Universalism, BE:

428 Benevolence, TR: Tradition, CO: Conformity, SE: Security.

430 2.2. *Replication of the main analyses when using Spearman correlations in Study 2.* 

	РО	AC	HE	ST	SD	UN	BE	TR	СО	SE	SFI	R <sup>2</sup>	P>B
BIS/BAS													
Drive	.13	.229*	.094	.284**	.046	222*	310**	039	008	.058	.28	.233*	<.05
Fun-seeking	133	188	.157	.396***	.022	.103	075	.048	.07	091	.68	.214*	NS
Reward responsiveness	.201	.127	.230*	.183	036	272*	217*	021	035	.203	.19	.161	<.05
BIS	.167	.230*	148	208	044	240*	.034	.091	05	018	.62	.232*	NS
SPQ													
Ideas of reference	.079	04	.031	098	.034	.015	221*	015	.065	.068	.74	.127	NS
Odd beliefs or magical thinking	026	093	054	.015	023	055	017	04	002	.13	.83	.079	NS

# Pathological Personality Traits and Human Values-- 24

Unusual Perceptual Experiences	108	008	002	004	.068	.07	104	042	.069	.016	.91	.056	NS
Odd or Eccentric Behaviour	255*	.033	151	.044	.328**	.303**	093	076	089	083	.44	.243*	NS
Excessive social anxiety	004	.032	.04	073	.093	.024	141	.055	162	.094	.90	.124	NS
No close friends	.014	101	073	055	.152	.105	181	.089	163	.011	.89	.157	NS
Odd speech	181	197	.03	.016	.133	.188	094	.043	.011	032	.48	.182	NS
Constricted affect	04	12	008	.044	.213*	.197	235*	.1	0	142	.70	.215*	NS
Suspiciousness	.028	108	004	055	098	042	257*	.173	006	.144	.71	.142	NS
TEMPS-A													
Cyclothymic	17	02	.003	.082	.161	.122	064	027	111	101	.16	.124	NS
Dysthymic	.054	.026	.087	012	.189	.209	147	108	183	05	.49	.156	NS
Irritable	106	.03	.082	.124	.088	.022	198	.043	.012	.021	.74	.114	NS
Hyperthymic	028	.114	075	.282**	.029	063	024	146	.182	131	.86	.174	NS
Anxious	.145	.045	.021	17	276*	154	139	.117	.023	.254*	.16	.174	NS
(Nagative) Urgency	138	019	242*	026	064	057	103	036	029	17	36	144	NS
(lack of) Premeditation	031	.015	193	255*	004	139	- 357**	- 037	- 198	.17	53	252*	< 05
(lack of) Perseverance	018	- 16	225*	.235	- 063	.155	- 191	2	- 055	006	.55	163	NS
Sensation seeking	193	119	.06	.410***	.07	.087	175	.022	.243*	038	.85	.314**	NS
(Positive) Urgency	.103	086	.129	.051	006	.049	237*	.053	039	.039	.81	.151	NS
VOCI													
Contamination	.112	055	.109	088	18	.023	189	.139	049	.279**	.60	.184	NS
Checking Obsessions	.151 .071	.139 .073	.019 .065	.034 .08	124 .073	230* .018	268* 268*	.012 04	.055 119	.308** .181	.18 .52	.153 .080	<.05 NS
Hoarding	.073	068	.14	.075	.006	.098	253*	.07	094	.16	.84	.164	NS
Just Right	.063	049	082	072	.013	003	128	.029	.131	.155	.48	.141	NS
Indecisiveness	.152	.046	.043	1	004	105	044	011	057	.126	.36	.051	NS
VOCI Total	.129	.011	.025	051	084	098	179	.078	.09	.239*	.23	.108	NS
HEXACO													
Honesty-Humility	443***	222*	250*	144	.172	.308**	.365**	12	.097	207	.21	.348***	<.001
Emotionality	.233*	.153	1	275**	230*	267*	.158	05	.016	.127	.36	.337***	NS
Extraversion	031	009	037	.18	163	122	.169	052	.026	029	1.0	.032	NS
Agreeableness	279**	15	139	15	006	.183	.251*	.023	.113	189	.19	.144	<.01
Conscientiousness	.003	.037	243*	142	.007	21	.181	114	.204	.072	.65	.216*	NS
Openness	388***	016	191	.155	.590***	.435***	.098	348**	212*	221*	.26	.356***	<.01
Altruism	283**	17	178	208	051	.076	.444***	042	046	147	.34	.317***	<.001
STATE ANXIETY	.082	.065	.107	.04	.163	.055	261*	068	05	089	.46	.132	<ns< td=""></ns<>

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432 Notes. \* p < .05, \*\* p < .01, \*\*\* p < .001, SFI= sinusoidal fit index, R<sup>2</sup>: the amount of 433 explained variance with the value types as predictors and the variable in the first column as 434 the dependent variable, P>B: p-value when investigated whether the correlation coefficients 435 of the value type power and each variable in the first column facet are significantly different 436 from the correlations between the value type benevolence and that variable, using Fisher's r-437 to-z transformation.

438

#### 439 Supplementary Material 3

### 440 Sinusoidal Relationship Analyses

This test examines whether values are systematically related to an external variable (e.g., anxiety). This test is important because other statistics, such as the amount of explained variance  $R^2$ , cannot fully test the model's circular distribution. For example, a high  $R^2$  can occur when one value type is highly correlated with an external variable, whereas the other value types are unrelated. Conversely, a low  $R^2$  still can occur even when the value types are systematically related to the external variables in the predicted sinusoidal manner.

447 To test the sinusoidal pattern, the correlation coefficients with the 10 value types were
448 calculated. The fit of the sinusoidal function presented below (1) was calculated using the
449 programming language R.

450 (1) 
$$\hat{y} = f(x) = a + b \sin(c^*x + d)$$

In equation 1, ŷ is the estimated numerical value (e.g., estimated correlation coefficients), x is
a vector containing the numbers 1 to 10, parameter a is the y-offset that moves the function
up and down along the ordinate (y-axis), parameter b determines the amplitude of the sinus
wave on the y-axis, parameter c is the period of the sine wave, and parameter d (x-offset)
moves the sinusoidal function along the x-axis (Hanel et al., 2017).

456 The script used to calculate the sinusoidal fit index is composed of mathematical 457 functions available in R. Here, we describe the main functions used in the Sinusoidal Fit 458 Index. To optimize the four parameters (a, b, c, d) of the sine function (equation 1) we used 459 the 'brute force method', an exploratory approach used to determine the starting points for 460 the actual optimization function. This determination was achieved using the R command 461 optim (general-purpose optimization function, https://stat.ethz.ch/R-manual/R-462 devel/library/stats/html/optim.html; R version 3.6.3). The R command optim is often used for 463 optimizations and only searches for local minima (i.e., stabilizes to the closest local minima) 464 - as do all optimization algorithms. The optim function takes 4 arguments-inputs (the a, b, c, and d of the eq1) and produces 4 outputs through Nelder–Mead, quasi-Newton and 465 466 conjugate-gradient algorithms (Nash, 1990; Nelder & Mead, 1965). For all four parameters, 467 50 numerical values were selected, resulting in 50x50x50x50 = 6,250,000 combinations 468 (selection procedure further explained below). Specifically, we tested which of 6,250,000 469 combinations of the four parameters in the sinusoidal function result in a sine function with 470 the smallest deviation from the empirical data. The selection of numerical values (i.e., the 471 6,250,000 combinations) was employed to achieve a range that is as large as necessary -472 more combinations can increase the fit slightly – but still manageable in computational terms. For each parameter, the numerical values were selected from a specific range 473 474 according to Schwartz's theoretical predictions (Schwartz, 1992). The 50 numerical values selected for the parameter a were -1, -.96, -.92, ..., .96, 1. In other words, parameter a was 475 476 restricted between -1 to 1 because this is the possible range for a correlation coefficient. The 477 same restrictions were applied to parameter b, which determines the amplitude of the sinus 478 wave on the y-axis (i.e., the distance between the turning points of the sinusoidal function). 479 The parameter c, the period of the sine wave, was allowed to range between 85-95% of a full

480 sine wave. This restriction was based on the circular model's assumption that "the distances 481 between the values around the circle may not be equal" (Schwartz et al., 2012). 482 Given that the first value type was plotted at x = 1, the parameter d (x-offset), which moves 483 the sinusoidal function along the x-axis, was set to the interval [1 + 10/2, 1 - 10/2]. The 484 parameter d was restricted to 10, which is the number of correlation coefficients between the 485 external variable and the 10 value types. This restriction is useful because there was no 486 hypothesis regarding the exact starting point of the sine wave for each parameter. To be able 487 to define a lower and upper bound given these constraints, a method developed by Byrd, Lu, 488 Nocedal, and Zhu (Byrd et al., 1995) was used. This is a "limited memory quasi-Newton 489 algorithm for solving large nonlinear optimization problems with simple bounds on the 490 variables" (p. 1).

491 To estimate the model fit indices for the sinusoidal function, we calculated the sum of
492 the squared residuals divided by the variance. This Sinusoidal Fit Index (SFI, Hanel et al.,
493 2017) and is presented below (equation 2).

494 (2) 
$$SFI = \frac{\frac{1}{K-1} \sum_{k=1}^{K} (y_k - \hat{y}_k)^2}{\frac{1}{K-1} \sum_{k=1}^{K} (y_k - \bar{y}_k)^2}$$

In this equation (2), K represents the number of correlation coefficients, yk represents the
correlation coefficients, ŷk represents the estimated correlation coefficient through the
optimization function, and yk represents the mean of the correlation coefficients. The
denominator is the formula for the variance.

To obtain the number of false-positive results for the SFI, three simulations of m = 100,000 samples each were conducted with the programming language R. To simulate a random pattern of correlation coefficients, we tested the following two assumptions regarding the distribution of the correlation coefficients. (1) We sampled 10 numbers (i.e., number of human values) between -.5 and .5, assuming a uniform distribution. The range from -.5 to .5 represents the interval in which most correlations between values and external variables 505 usually fall (the pattern of results remained the same when we extended the range to -.7 to .7).

506 (2) We sampled k numbers from a normal distribution with  $\sim N(0, .1)$ , and (3)  $\sim N(0, .3)$ .

507 Numbers >|1| were restricted to -1 or 1, respectively.

The proportion of false positives was well below 1% for all three simulations for SFI
< .20. The percentage of false positives was slightly larger if a uniform distribution was</li>

510 assumed. The percentage of false positives for an SFI < .20 was 0.49 (i.e., less than 5 false-

511 positive results per one thousand comparisons), assuming a normal distribution. This means

512 that 200 SFI tests will yield merely one false-positive result. Therefore, our statistical

513 threshold is considerably more conservative than typical statistical thresholds (i.e.,  $p \le .05$ ).

514 The percentage of false positives are 0.20%, 0.05% and 0.005% for SFI <.15, SFI <.10 and

515 SFI  $\leq .05$ , respectively. Please note that the main reason for our cut-off values (SFI  $\leq .20$ )

516 was the careful examination of many plots and not the simulations' results. An SFI of > .20

517 can still be considered as following a sine wave, but it is harder to recognize an SFI of .30 as

518 following a sine wave. We note that this cut-off is somewhat subjective and therefore report

519 the exact SFI-values in case readers prefer a different threshold.

520

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