

# Propositions

accompanying the thesis

## ‘Essays at the Intersection of Psychology, Biology, and Entrepreneurship’

by

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- I. Optimism explains both the willingness to become an entrepreneur and the strategic posture of the entrepreneur. This is not true for overconfidence. (Chapter 2)
- II. The positive effect of positive affect on entrepreneurial orientation is larger in absolute value than the negative effect of negative affect on entrepreneurial orientation. (Chapter 3)
- III. The impact of positive affect on entrepreneurial success is driven by the key aspects of the entrepreneurial process such as opportunity recognition, acquisition of financial and human resources, development of broad social networks, capacity to respond effectively to highly dynamic environments, and tolerance for intense levels of stress. (Chapter 4)
- IV. Self-report measures of entrepreneurship can be associated with self-report measures of impulsivity. Behavioral and electrophysiological measures obtained from well-known psychological paradigms cannot substitute nor complement these self-report measures of impulsivity. However, this is not a reason to ignore measurement levels other than self-report when explaining entrepreneurship. (Chapter 5)
- V. There is no correlation between self-report measures of impulsivity (and related constructs) and behavioral and electrophysiological measures obtained from impulsivity tasks such as the Eriksen Flanker task, the Go/No-Go task, the Reward task, and the Balloon Analog Risk task. (Chapter 6)
- VI. Academic entrepreneurial commercialization and personal attitude towards entrepreneurship amongst academics cannot be explained by the hyperactivity dimension of ADHD, while they can be explained by the attention deficit dimension.
- VII. It is fundamentally wrong to use Cronbach’s alpha as a measure of internal consistency in an Eriksen Flanker experiment.

- VIII. Studies assessing the functional relevance of electrophysiological measures (in particular electroencephalography) usually have sample sizes of 20 to 40 participants. This is generally too small and leads to a lower chance that established effects are genuinely true.
- IX. To avoid early stigmatization, the treatment of full-blown psychiatric disorders should not merely focus on the problems associated with the disorder, but should also take possible positive effects of psychiatric symptoms into account.
- X. Academic competition includes competition amongst authors, competition for journal space, and competition for funding. The authentic goal of science is lost because of competition for journal space and funding.
- XI. Calling your scholarly study 'your baby' is wrong.