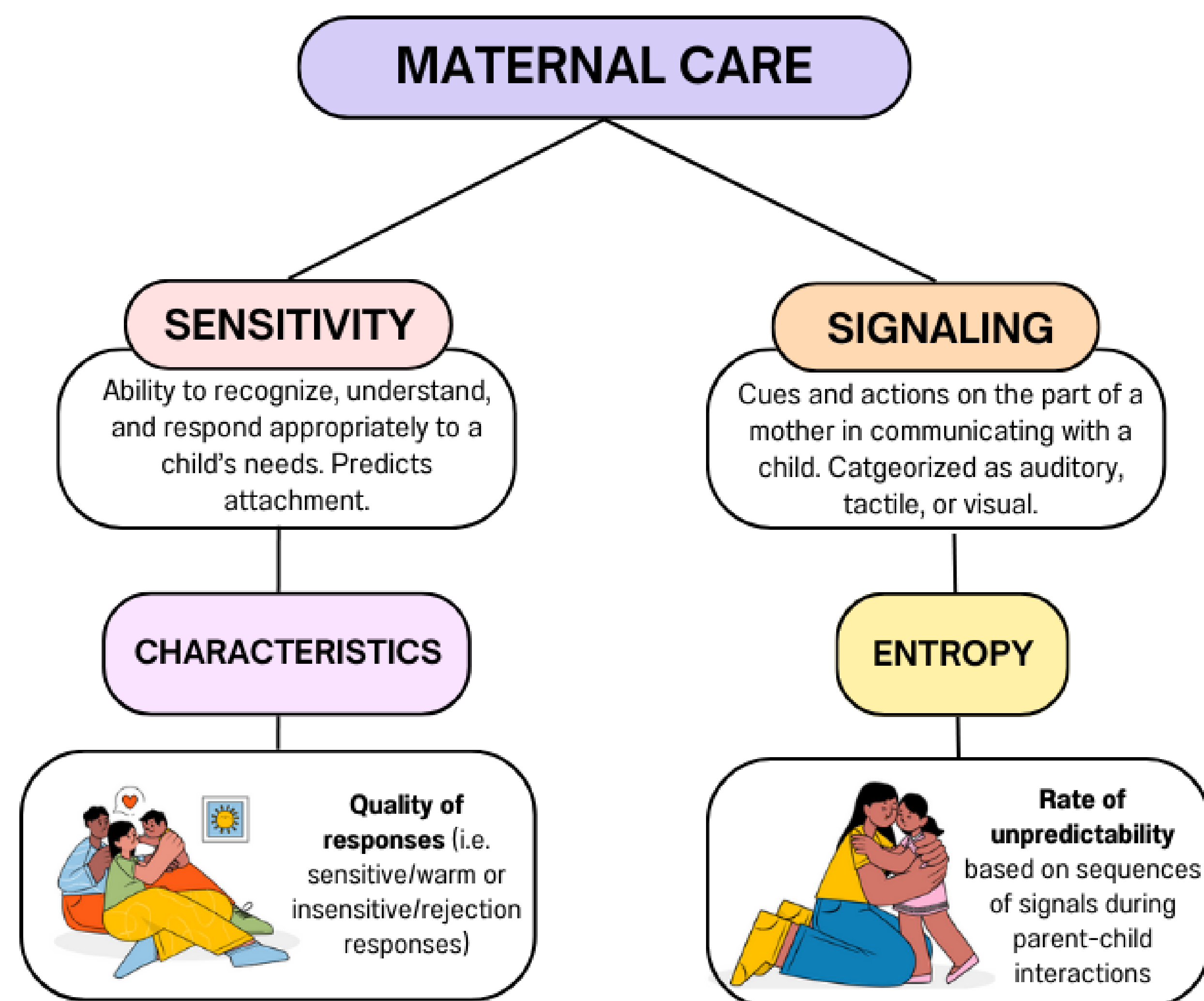




Background

Determinants of Development

- Socioeconomic status (SES) influences child socioemotional and physiological development through different environmental mechanisms related to caregiving^{4,5}
 - Lack of access to material resources^{1,5} and increased parental stress contribute to harsh-intrusive and inconsistent parenting¹



Entropy

- Rate of unpredictability in caregiver signaling^{2,3}
- Limited material resources in animal models induced chaotic and fragmented care^{2,3}
- Higher rates of entropy related to poor cognitive development across species³

Partner Support

- Degree of perceived emotional support and responsiveness can demonstrate buffering effects on distress, with cumulative effect on parenting behaviors

Aims of the Present Study

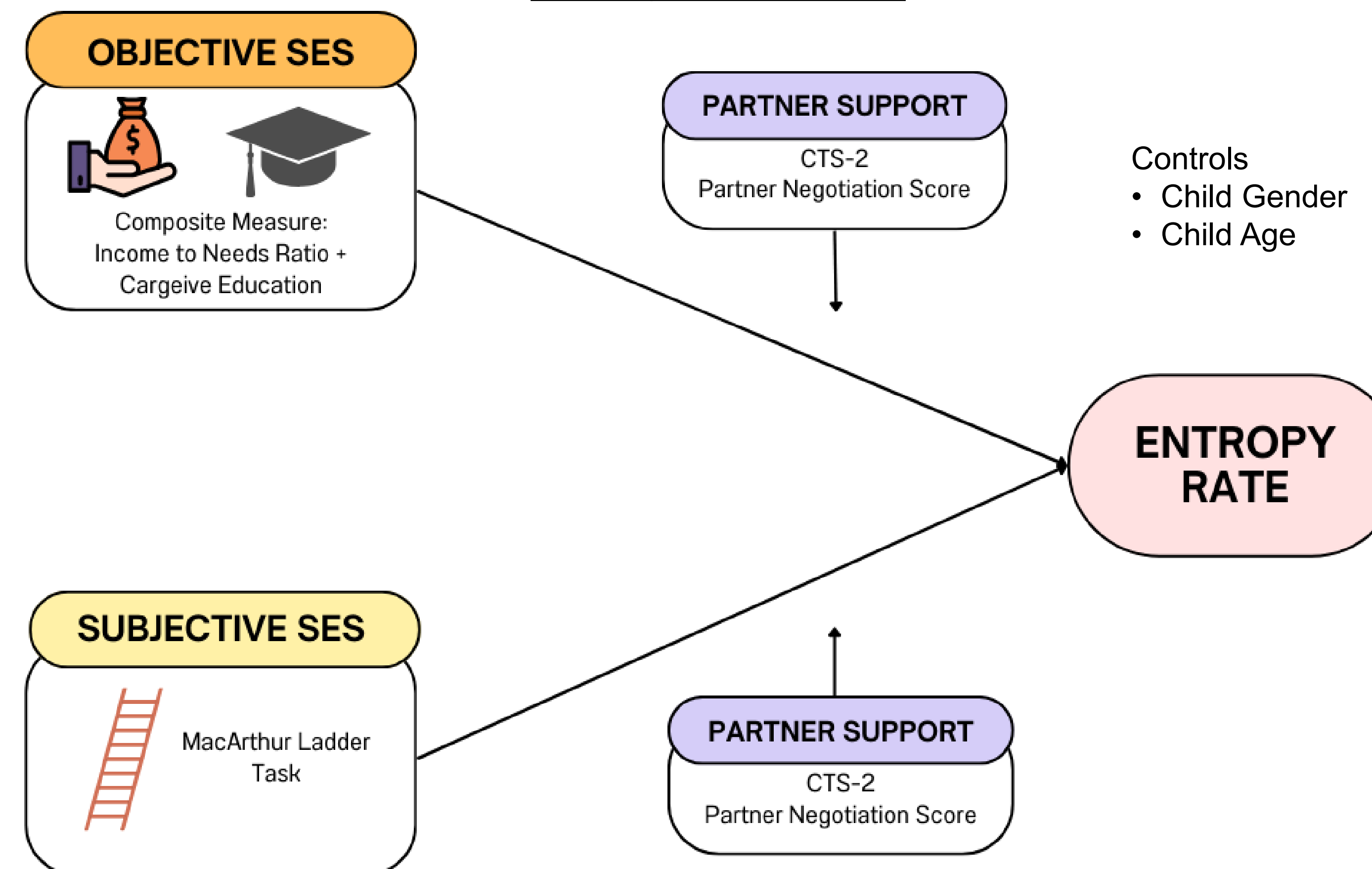
1. Investigate relationship between SES and entropy, given the potential parallels between animal models and human models
2. Examine objective and subjective dimensions of SES
3. Understand the moderating role of partner support

Current Study

- Data came from the Wellness Health and Life Experiences (WHALE) Study, examining early adversity and brain and behavioral development
 - Child Gender: 52% female
 - Child Race: 38.95% White, 46.32% Black
 - Mean Child Age: 5.96 years (SD = 0.87)

Methods and Measures

Analytical Plan



Measures

Socioeconomic Status

Objective SES Composite

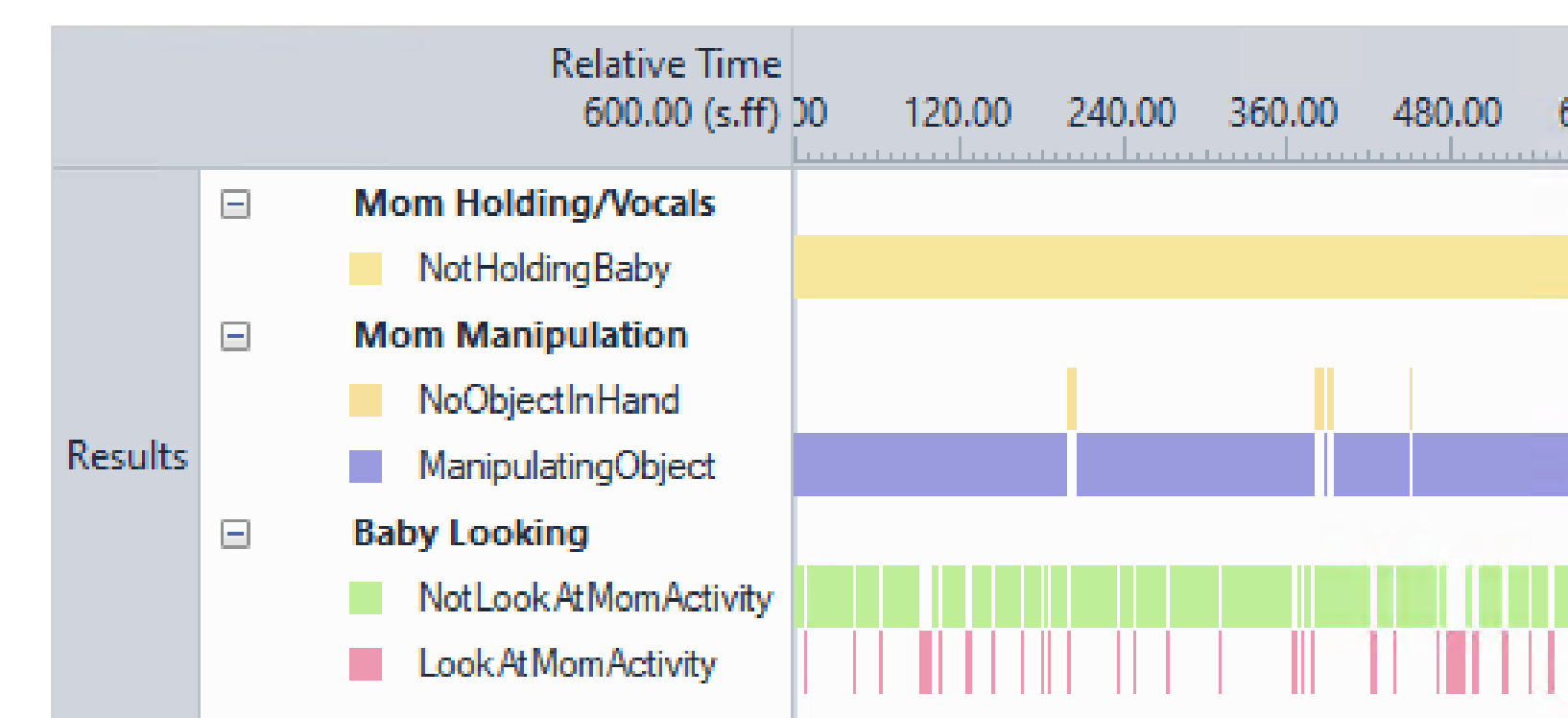
- Income to needs ratio
- Caregiver primary education level

Subjective SES

- MacArthur Scale of Subjective Social Status
- Participants rank relative perceived social status on a visual ladder

Entropy

- Parent-Child Interaction Task: recorded 10-minute play activity with caregiver and child
- Coded for various caregiver sensory signals
 - (i.e. auditory, tactile, visual)

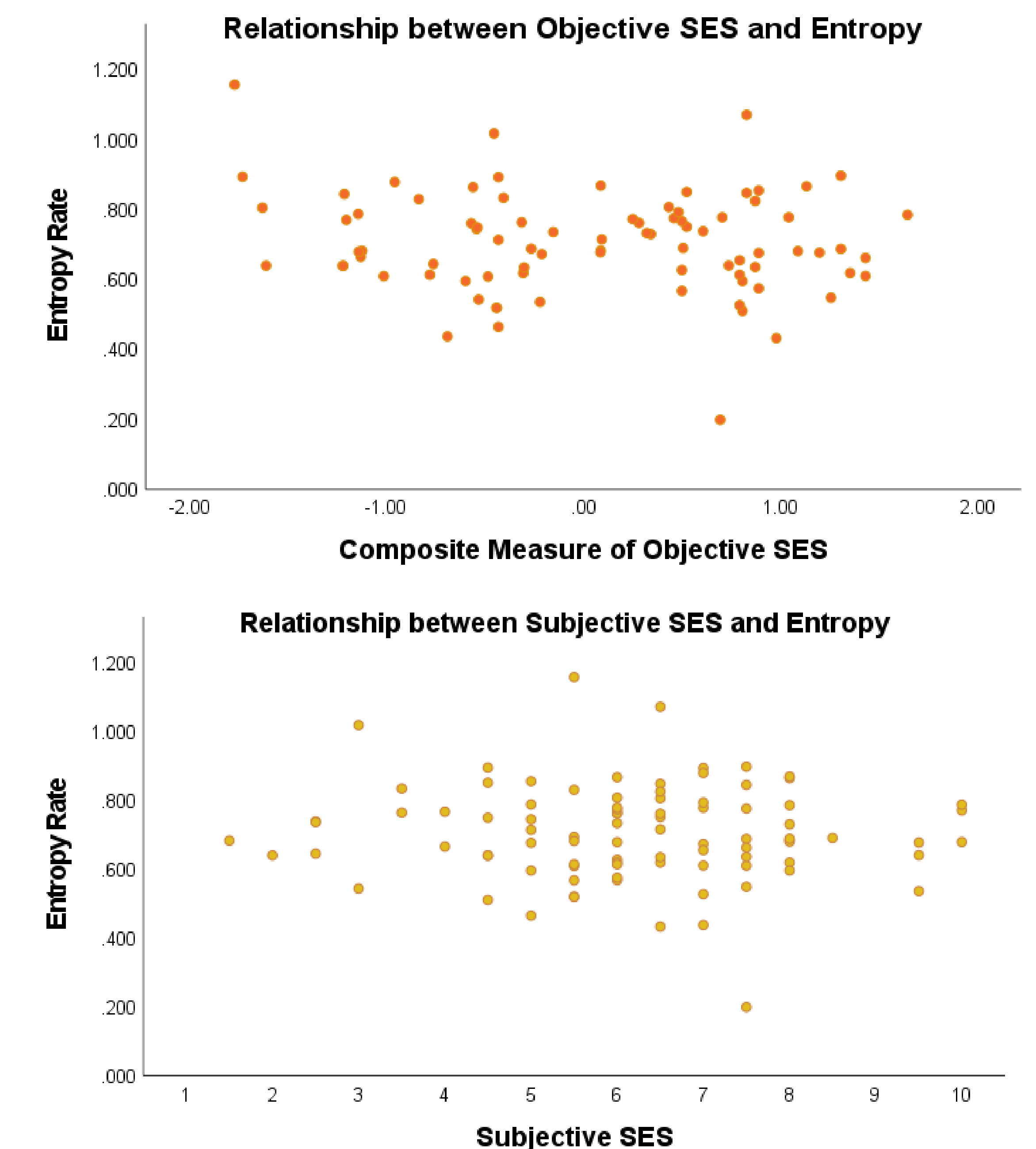


Moderator: Partner Support

- Conflict Tactic Scales – 2: Partner negotiation subscore

Results

Associations between SES and Entropy



Partner support did not moderate the association between SES and entropy

Discussion

Reflections

- Contrasts literature in that access to resources may affect entropy differently in animals vs human models
- May need a more comprehensive SES measure
- Differences in developmental periods may impact general caregiver signaling predictability

Limitations

- Smaller sample size (95 out of 301)
- Utilizing CTS-2 Partner Negotiation to measure partner support
- Examining parent-child interactions in a lab setting vs a home setting
- Other potential covariates, focusing on caregiver demographics

Future Studies

- Conduct analyses on full cohort study
- Focus on parenting stress as a mediator

Acknowledgements

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Questions?  Contact me at masitaw@email.unc.edu!

Scan for a pdf version of this poster and a list of references!

