

Climate Change Anxiety and Hope Both Predict Action: A Moderation Analysis

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Introduction

- Climate change anxiety has been found to motivate climate change actions.
- Climate change hope was also found to be positively associated with climate change action.
- The present study examines:
 - Whether overall climate change hope moderates the relation between anxiety and action.
 - Whether overall hope (and its subcomponents of personal-sphere and collective-sphere willpower and waypower) moderate the relation of anxiety to action.

Method

- 500 MTurk workers in the United States.
 - CloudResearch's Approved Participants
 - We removed 15 climate change deniers
- 485 participants
 - 203 female, 279 male, 3 non-binary
 - Ages 19 to 76 (M = 39.63, SD = 11.81)
 - 82.9% Caucasian/White, 8.5% as African American/Black, and 5.2% as Asian
- Participants completed three scales
 - Climate Change Anxiety Scale (Clayton & Karazsia, 2020)
 - Climate Change Hope Scale (Li & Monroe, 2017)
 - Climate Change Action Inventory (Barchard et al., 2021)

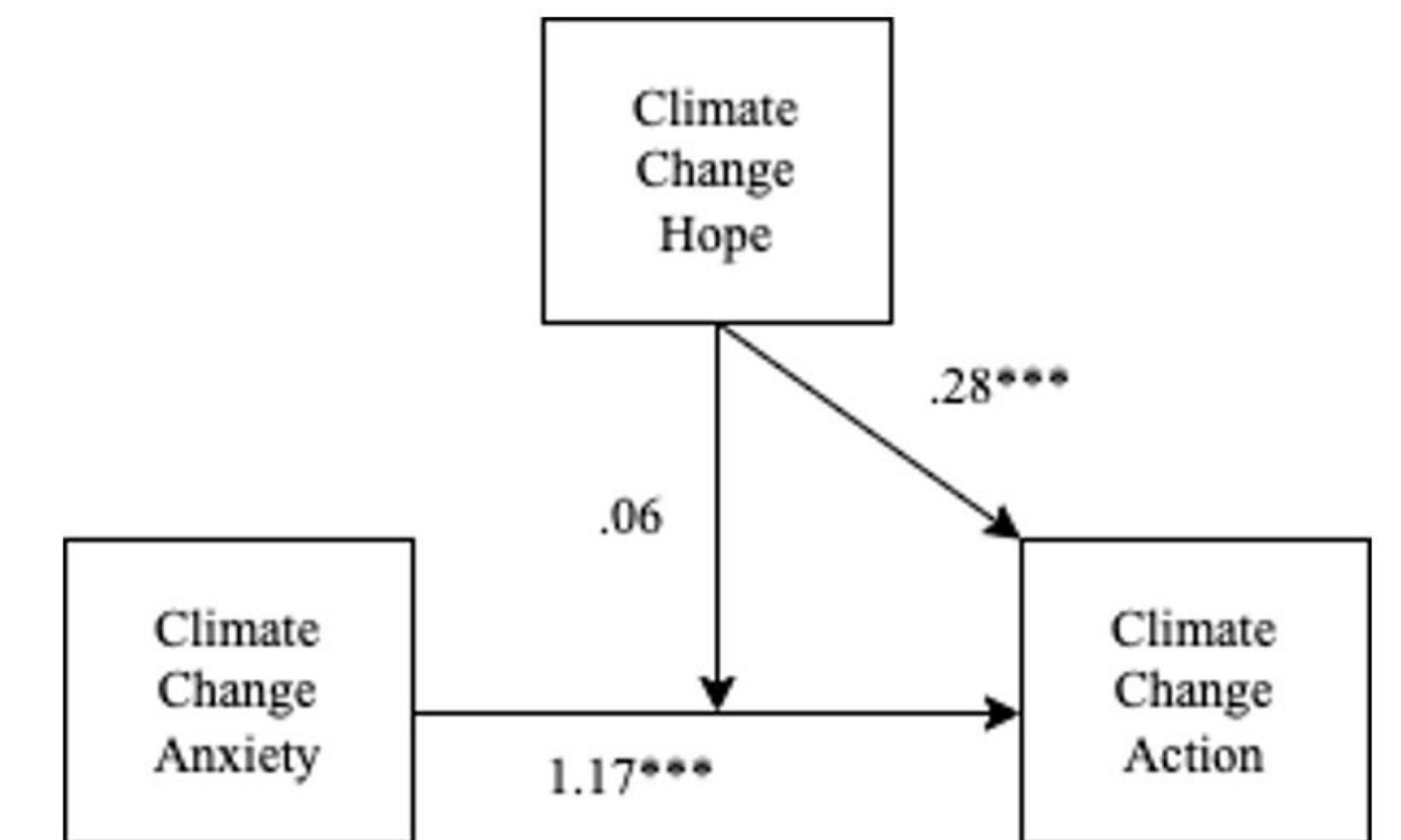
Results and Discussion

- Anxiety strongly predicted action.
- Additionally, hope (including both personal-sphere willpower and waypower) weakly predicted action.
- However, neither overall climate change hope nor the subscales of Personal- and Collective-sphere Willpower and Waypower moderated the relation between anxiety and action.
- Thus, people who are anxious about climate change engage in similar amounts of action regardless of their level of hope.

Climate Change Anxiety and Hope Both Predict Climate Change Action

Figure 1

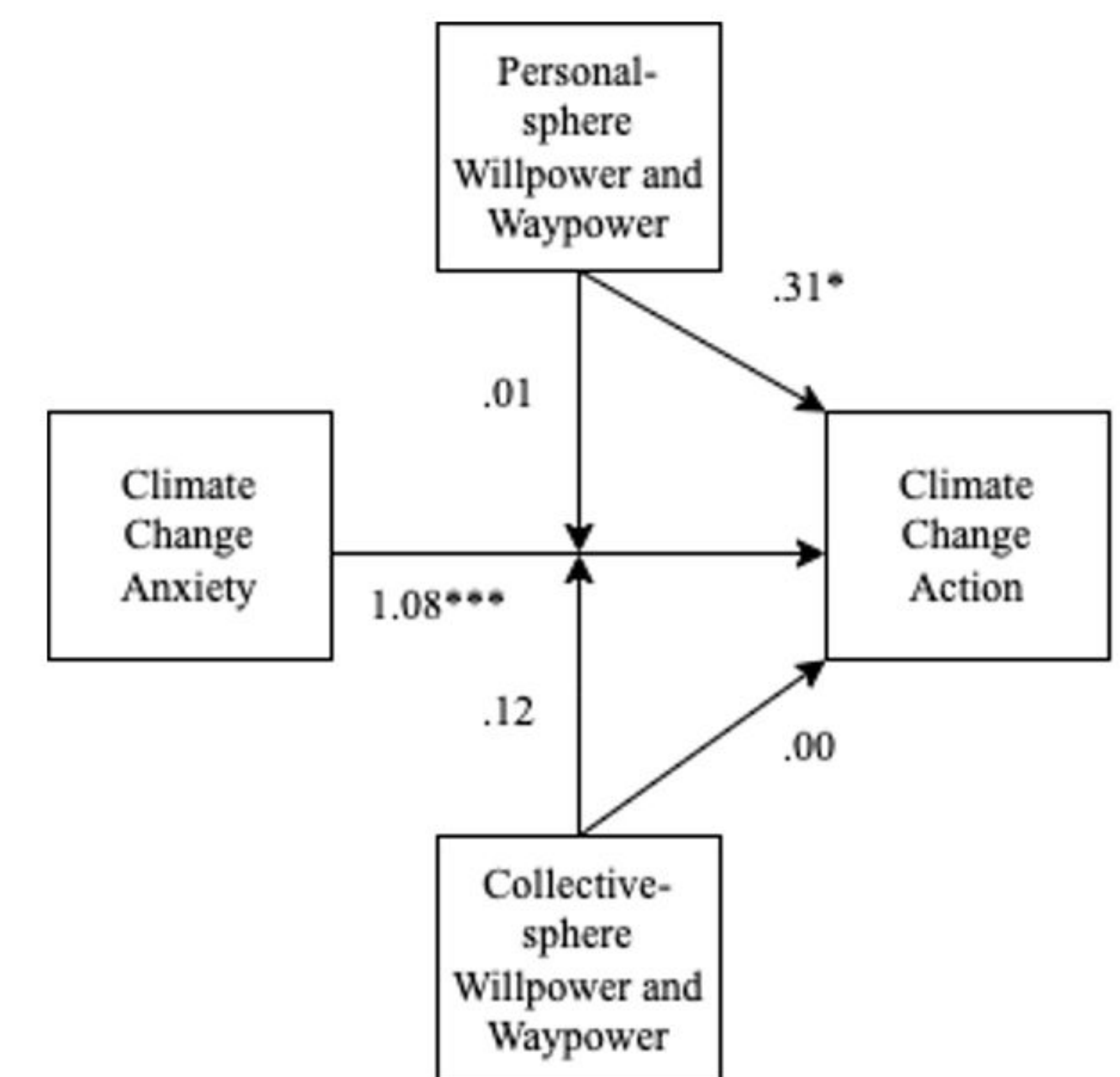
The Effects of Climate Change Hope on the Relation Between Anxiety and Action



*** $p < .001$

Figure 2

The Effects of Collective- and Personal-Sphere Willpower and Waypower On the Relation Between Anxiety and Action



* $p < .05$. *** $p < .001$