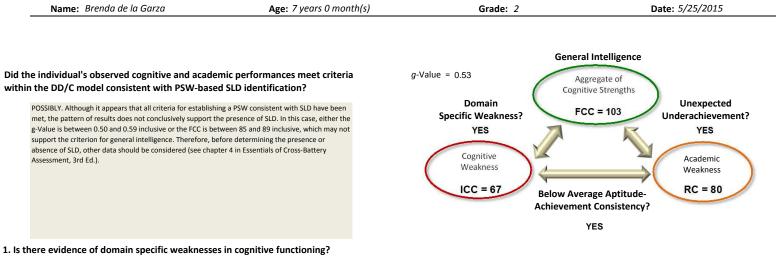


The small box on the left in this section addresses the first component of the criterion through consideration of the degree to which the meaning of the scores is consistent based on their respective magnitudes (e.g., are they both indicative of a weakness relative to most people?). The small box on the right addresses the second component through evaluation of the extent to which the cognitive weakness, either collectively (e.g., via the ICC) or individually, is empirically related to the academic weakness, as suggested by mainly correlational research. Relationships that are LOW suggest that the cognitive weakness may not be a contributory factor in the academic weakness. However, in all cases, clinical judgment should be exercised. The larger box directly above yields a decision with respect to the consistency criterion based on consideration of both the magnitude of the reported and selected cognitive and academic weaknesses and the strength of the relationship between them.



Dual-Discrepancy/Consistency Model: Summary of PSW Analyses for SLD

YES. The difference between the individual's estimate of intact cognitive abilities (FCC=103) and the score representing the area of specific cognitive weakness (ICC=67) is statistically significant. This finding means that there is likely a true or real difference between the estimate of overall cognitive strengths and the identified area of specific cognitive weakness for the individual. In addition, there is an unusually large difference between actual performance in the specific cognitive area (SS=67) and expected performance (SS=102) as predicted by overall cognitive strengths. That is, based on the individual's estimate of cognitive strengths, it was predicted that the individual would perform much better in the specific cognitive area. In fact, the size of the difference between the individual's actual and predicted performance in the specific cognitive area occurs very infrequently. The results of these analyses suggest that the individual's PSW consists of a domain-specific cognitive weakness (particularly when the actual SS<90), an inclusionary criterion for SLD.

2. Is there evidence of unexpected underachievement?

YES. The difference between the individual's estimate of intact cognitive abilities (FCC=103) and the score representing the area of specific academic weakness (RC=80) is statistically significant. This finding means that there is likely a true or real difference between the estimate of overall cognitive strengths and the identified area of specific academic weakness for the individual. In addition, there is an unusually large difference between actual performance in the specific academic area (SS=80) and expected performance (SS=102) as predicted by overall cognitive strengths). That is, based on the individual's estimate of cognitive strengths, it was predicted that the individual would perform much better in the specific academic area. In fact, the size of the difference between the individual's actual and predicted performance in the specific academic area occurs very infrequently. The results of these analyses suggest that the individual's PSW is marked by unexpected underachievement (particularly when the actual SS<90), an inclusionary criterion for SLD.

3. Is there evidence of a below-average aptitude-achievement consistency?

YES. The specific cognitive (SS=67 for ICC) and academic (SS=80 for RC) scores are indicative of normative weaknesses or deficits compared to same age peers (SS<85). In addition, there is research to support a relationship between the Inhibiting Cognitive Composite and Reading Comprehension which indicates that the ICC is comprised of one or more cognitive areas that are related to Reading Comprehension. Therefore, this combination of scores provides evidence that assists in explaining the nature of the individual's observed learning difficulties. Overall, these findings indicate support for a below average aptitude-achievement consistency.

