

Children *and* Family
Research Center

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



Understanding Families in Illinois Differential Response

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What information about Families?

- Stressors at the time of CPS case opening
- Family strength and stress:
 - Coping
 - Family Hardiness
 - Stress after case closure
- Family's resource and demand:
 - Support from a spouse/partner
 - Negative interaction



Methods

- Sample: 240 caregivers in Illinois differential response evaluation project
 - Experimental group: 103
 - Control group: 137
- Survey mode: Phone survey followed up by mail survey
- Survey period: April, 2011 ~ October, 2011



Stressors

- Acute and Chronic stressors at the time of case opening
- Acute: Death, Family Member, Friend, Partner/Spouse, Health and Well-Being-Self, Job/School/Financial
- Chronic: Housing/Neighborhood, Financial/Transportation, Job/School, Family Member, Friend, Partner/Spouse, Parenting, Health and Well-Being-Self



Stressors- *Pattern*

- Acute stressors:
 - More than a half of caregivers do not have any stressors under each category of acute stressors
- Chronic stressors:
 - Majority of caregivers have one or more stressors under each category of chronic stressors. Financial, job/school, health and well-being categories show this tendency the most clearly.



Coping style

- Coping style
 - Most frequently used: Active coping, Planning, Acceptance
 - Least frequently used: Substance, Disengagement, Denial
- Underlying pattern of coping
 - Positive coping
 - Social support coping
 - Negative coping



Family Hardiness

- Mean per-item score: 2.4
(False=0, Mostly False=1, Mostly True=2, True=3)
- Commitment (The highest per-item score)
- Confidence
- Challenge
- Control (The lowest per-item score)

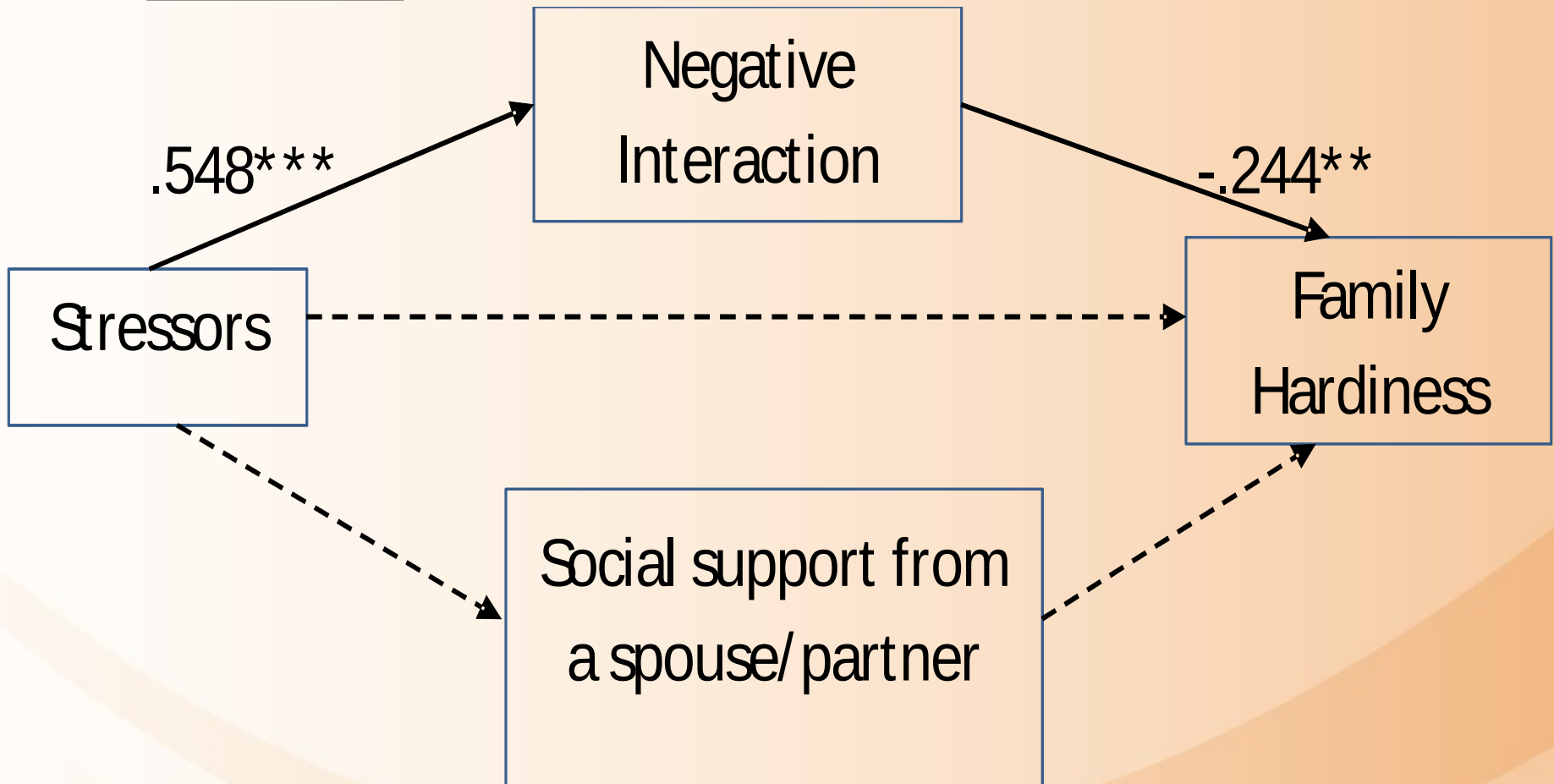


- Stress (1.33 / per item)
 - (0=Never, 1=Almost never, 2=Sometimes, 3= Fairly often, 4=Very often)
- Support from a spouse/partner
 - No spouse/partner: 89
 - Have a spouse/partner: 151 (3.19 /per item)
 - (0=Never, 1=Almost never, 2=Sometimes, 3= Fairly often, 4=Very often)
- Negative interaction (.98/ per item)
 - (0=Never, 1=Once in a while, 2=Fairly often, 3=Very often)



Pathways to family strength

- Model 1

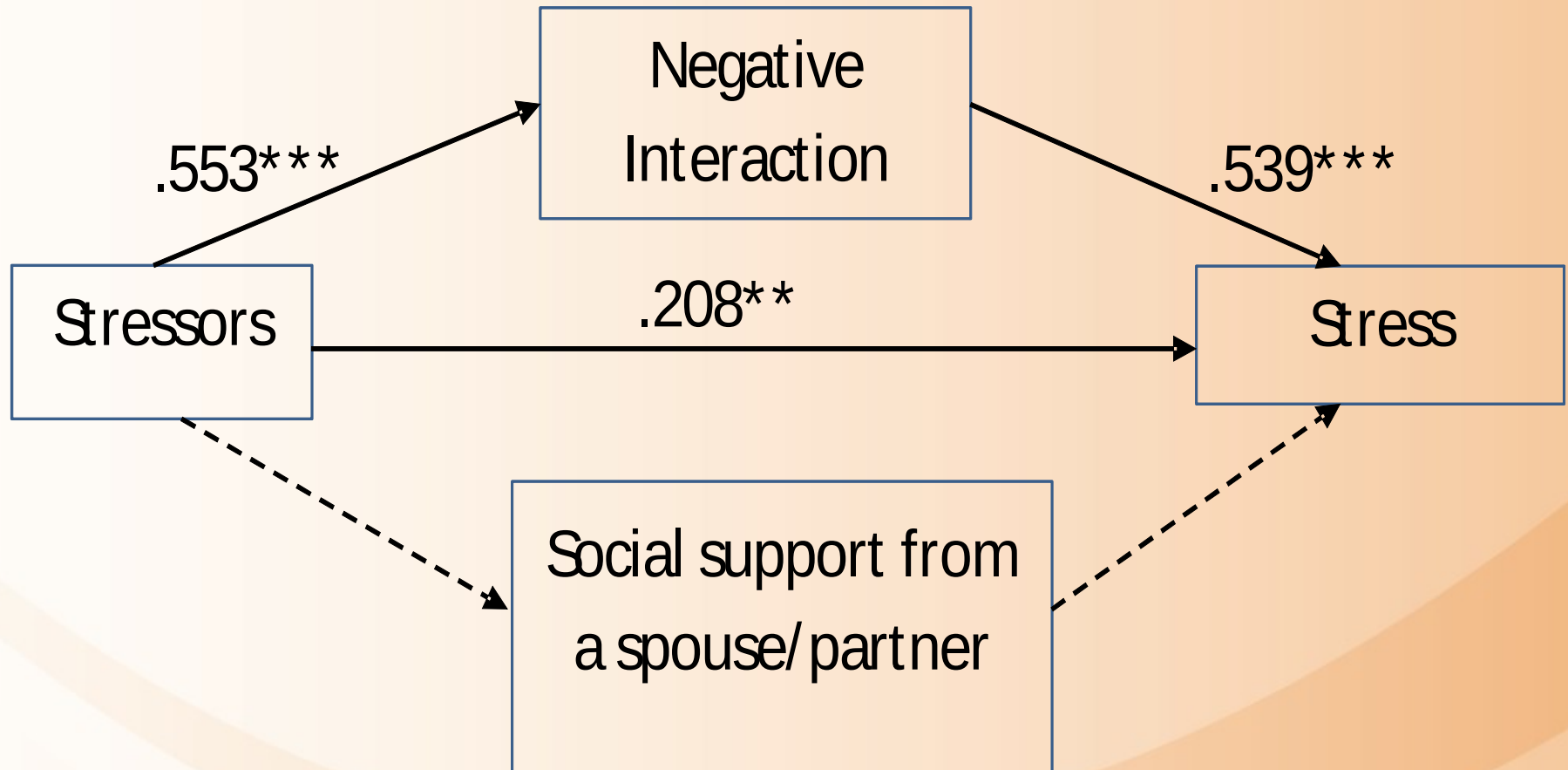


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Pathways to family weakness

- Model 2

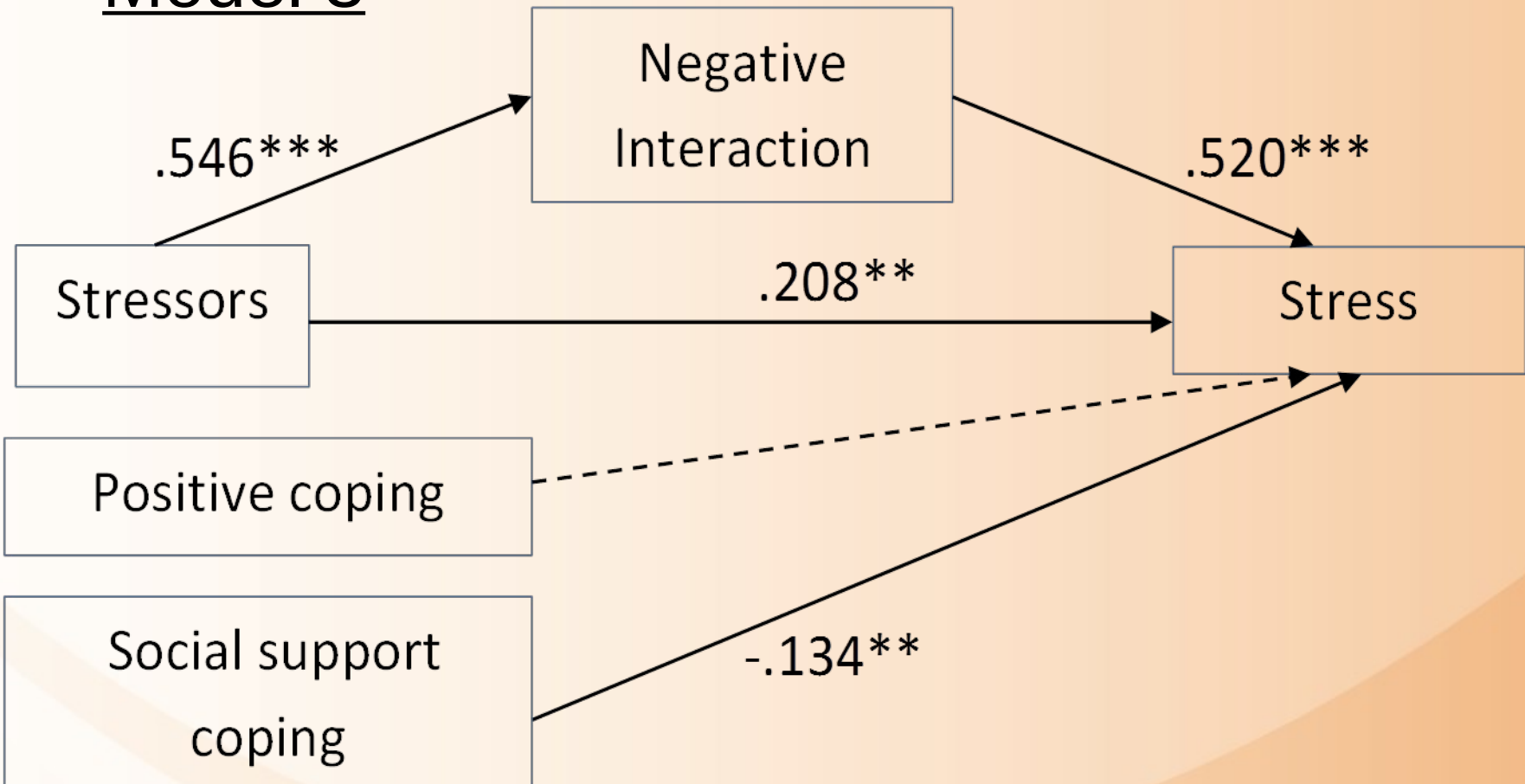


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Pathways to family weakness

- Model 3

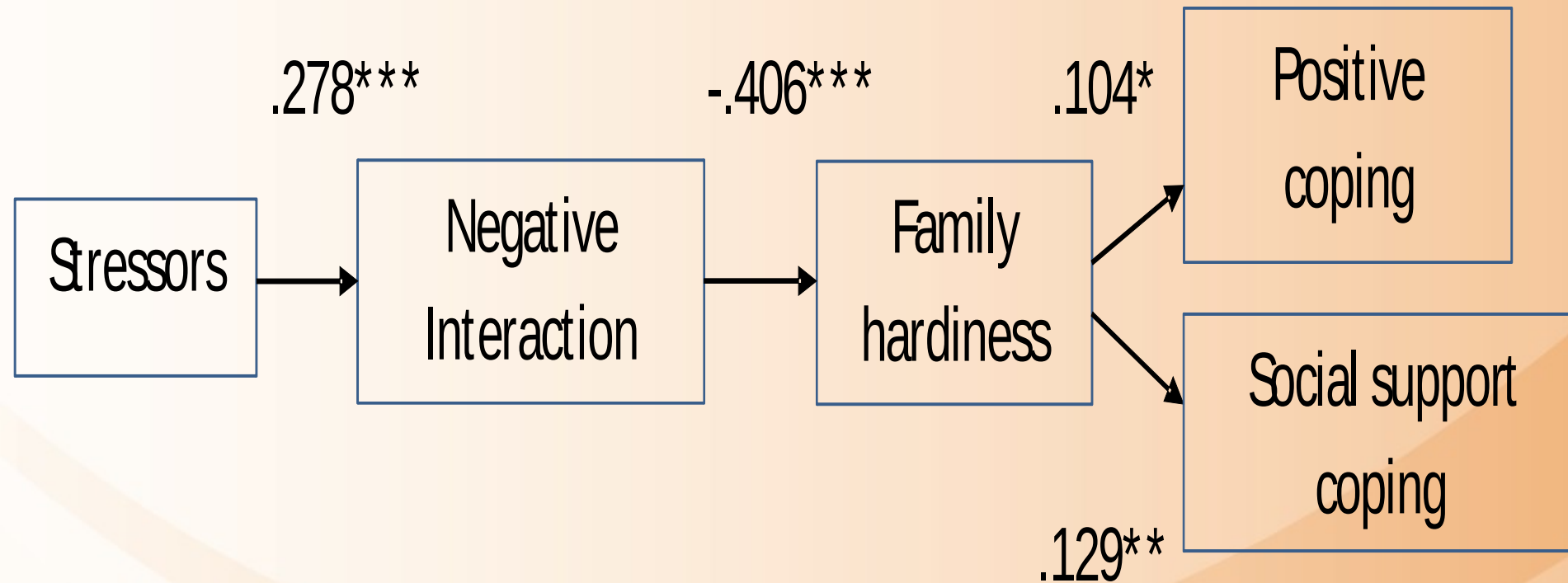


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Pathways to family strength

- Model 4



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