The Feasibility of Remote Measurement of Infant Sleep and Motor Development

Aaron DeMasi¹, Mali Waugh¹, Wei Wang¹, and Sarah Berger²

¹City University of New York The Graduate Center

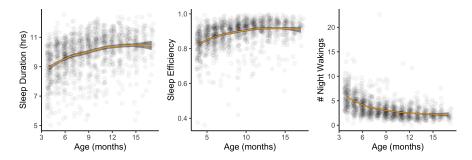
February 21, 2023

Abstract

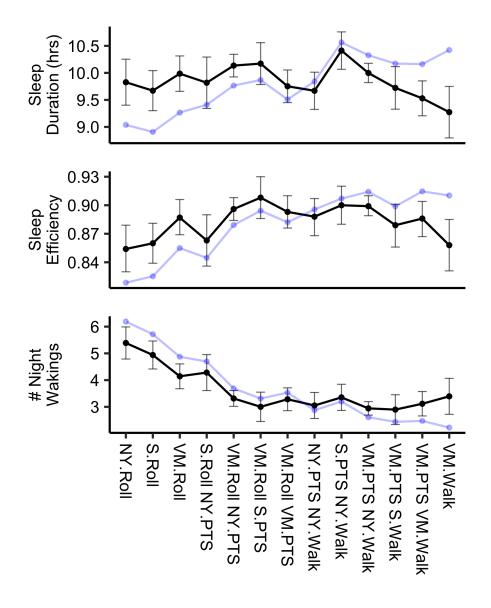
In response to the COVID-19 pandemic shut-down of in-person research laboratories, remote data collection became mainstream in developmental psychology research. The aim of this study was to test the feasibility of two remote data collection methods for studying sleep and motor development in infancy and the relationship between the two. We asked 1,371 parents of infants aged 4 to 17 months who used the Nanit baby monitor to take the on-line Survey of Well-being of Young Children (SWYC) about their infants' motor experience. Nanit uses auto-videosomnography and computer vision algorithms to calculate and report summary statistics of infants' sleep. Nanit replicated all expected developmental trends in sleep, while the SWYC only replicated some, appearing to underestimate infants at the transition between motor milestones. However, we replicated some well-established findings regarding the relationship between sleep and motor development using both measures, suggesting that both Nanit and the SWYC can feasibly be used for remote data collection, especially if some modifications were made to how researchers explained using the SWYC to caregivers. Researchers should consider alternatives to traditional research methods not only when in-person participation is difficult or impossible, but also when large samples are needed and/or simple measurement tools are sufficient.

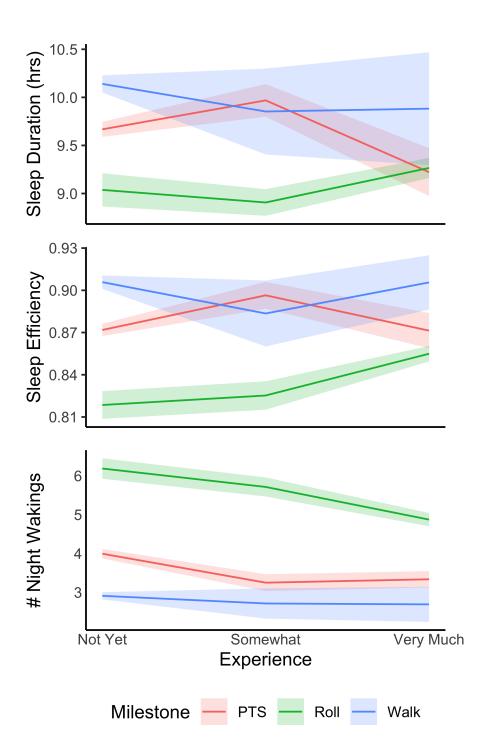
Hosted file

Blinded-SWYC-Manuscript.docx available at https://authorea.com/users/588620/articles/625751-the-feasibility-of-remote-measurement-of-infant-sleep-and-motor-development



²College of Staten Island





Variables	n	%			
Race/Ethnicity					
African American	5	0.04%			
Asian	40	2.91%			
Chose not to answer	15	1.09%			
Hispanic	31	2.26%			
Not asked	894	65.21%			
Other	16	1.17%			
White	370	26.99%			
Highest degree					
Graduate	183	13.35%			
College	241	17.58%			
Some college	34	2.48%			
High school	15	1.09%			
Less than high school	1	0.07%			
Chose not to answer	3	0.22%			
Not asked	894	65.21%			
Country					
United States	366	26.70%			
Canada	62	4.52%			
United Kingdom	22	1.61%			
Australia	5	0.37%			
Israel	4	0.29%			
Ireland	2	0.15%			
Mexico	2	0.15%			
Other	12	8.75%			
Not asked	896	65.35%			
Annual Household Income					
> \$200,000	114	8.32%			
\$150,000-200,000	83	6.05%			
\$100,000-150,000	105	7.66%			
\$75,000-100,000	52	3.79%			
\$50,000-75,000	50	3.65%			
\$25,000-50,000	15	1.09%			
< \$25,0000	6	0.44%			
Chose not to answer	52	3.79%			
Not asked	894	65.21%			

Milestone subgroups	n
Not Yet Roll ^e	57
Somewhat Roll ^e	95
Very Much Roll ^e	147
Somewhat Roll and Not Yet PTSe	27
Very Much Roll and Not Yet PTSe	217
Very Much Roll and Somewhat PTSe	40
Very Much Roll and Very Much PTSe	66
Not Yet PTS and Not Yet Walke	48
Somewhat PTS and Not Yet Walke	47
Very Much PTS and Not Yet Walke	317
Very Much PTS and Somewhat Walke	43
Very Much PTS and Very Much Walke	110
Very Much Walke	117
Excluded subgroups	
Not Yet Roll and Not Yet PTSe	6
Somewhat Roll and Somewhat PTSe	6
Somewhat Roll and Very Much PTS	8
Not Yet PTS and Very Much Walk	1
Somewhat PTS and Somewhat Walke	1
Somewhat PTS and Very Much Walk	2
Somewhat Walk ^e	4
Not Yet Walke	12

			Age (months)													
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Not Yet	N	45	12	4	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		\boldsymbol{z}	9.24	-0.33	-3.32	-3.16	-3.43	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Roll	Somewhat	N	61	34	26	13	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		z	6.35	1.41	-1.26	-2.77	-4.83	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Very Much	N	55	92	125	103	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		z	-11.50	-1.04	3.23	4.46	6.45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PTS	Not Yet	N	-	-	127	78	45	25	12	6	3	3	0	-	-	-
		z	-	-	11.05	6.60	2.54	-2.43	-3.93	-4.78	-4.69	-4.38	-4.37	-	-	-
	Somewhat	N	-	-	16	16	14	24	13	6	6	1	0	-	-	-
		z	-	-	0.03	1.13	1.3	3.06	0.49	-1.47	-0.97	-2.47	-2.48	-	-	-
	Very Much	N	-	-	12	24	38	78	86	94	78	74	60	-	-	-
		z	-	-	-8.21	-5.37	-2.43	0.52	2.71	4.16	3.89	4.29	4.28	-	-	-
	Not Yet	N	-	-	-	-	-	119	101	82	52	39	19	10	2	0
		z	-	-	-	-	-	4.83	4.15	2.25	-0.08	-1.18	-2.86	-4.79	-4.57	-3.89
Walk	Somewhat	N	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	11	11	7	5	3	1	0
		z	-	-	-	-	-	-1.93	-0.21	1.39	2.07	0.72	0.44	-0.74	-1.08	-1.31
	Very Much	N	-	-	-	-	-	5	3	13	24	32	36	54	38	25
		z	-	-	-	-	-	-5.68	-5.53	-3.69	-0.84	1.28	3.69	6.84	6.70	5.87