

## THEORY



**ABC-X Model**  
(Hill, 1949; Malia, 2006)

Parenting stress influences the entire family system with possible long-term negative consequences. (e.g., Cox & Paley, 2003; Miragoli et al., 2018)

Coparenting quality is linked to behavior outcomes and has the potential to serve as a family resource. (e.g., Choi et al., 2019; Solmeyer & Feinberg, 2011)

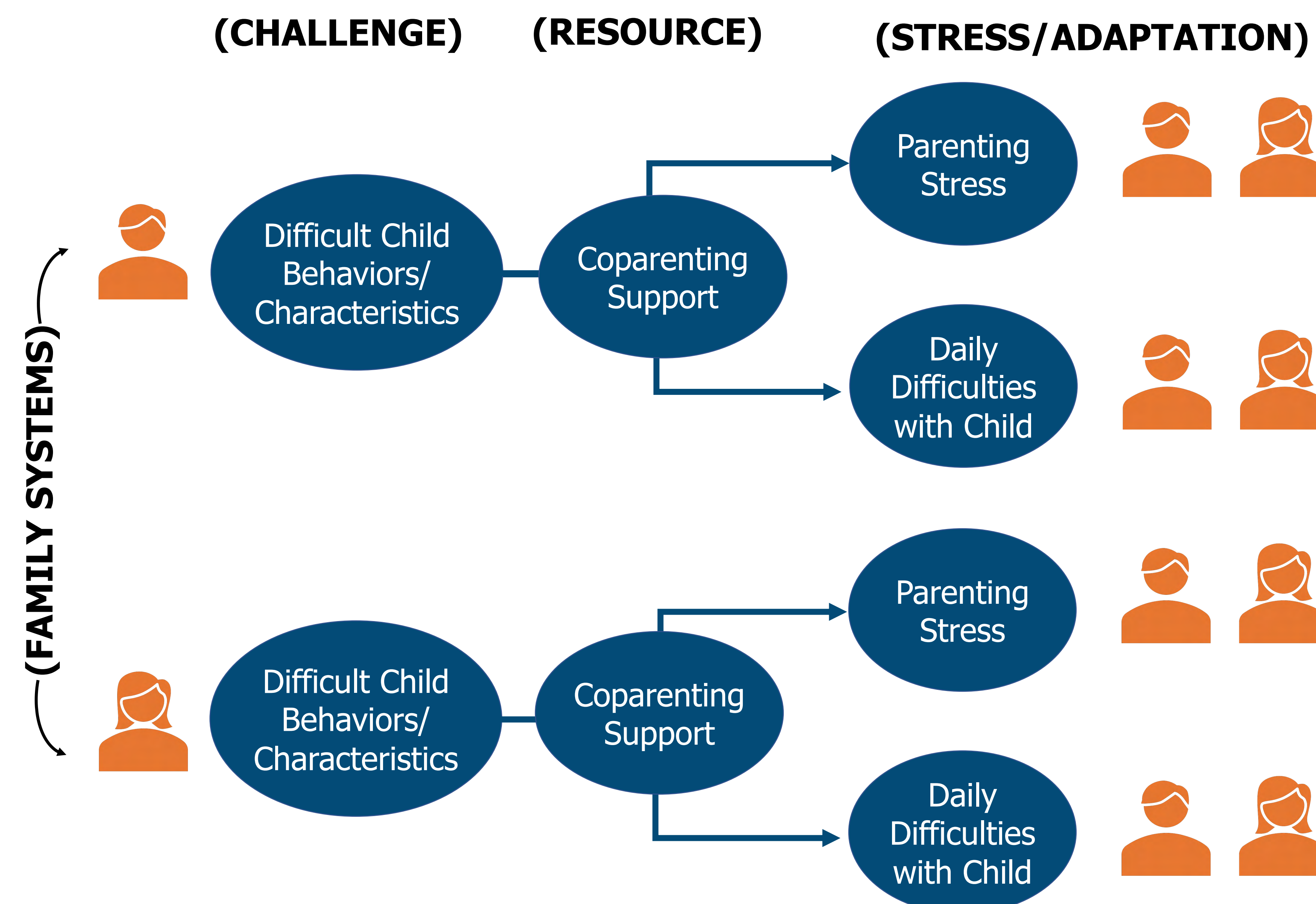


**Family Systems**  
(Cox & Paley, 1997, 2003)

Mothers and fathers do not experience parenting or the parenting role in the same way. (e.g., Allen & Hawkins, 1999; Cabrera et al., 2014)

Mother and father differences uniquely influence the family system. (Bowen, 1978; Cox & Paley, 2003; McBride et al. 2002)

## RESEARCH QUESTIONS



## METHODS

### SAMPLE

- 96 Mother-Father couples of young children (M = 3.22 years) in the US.
- Majority of participants identified as White (87.1% Mothers, 89.1% Fathers),

### MEASURES

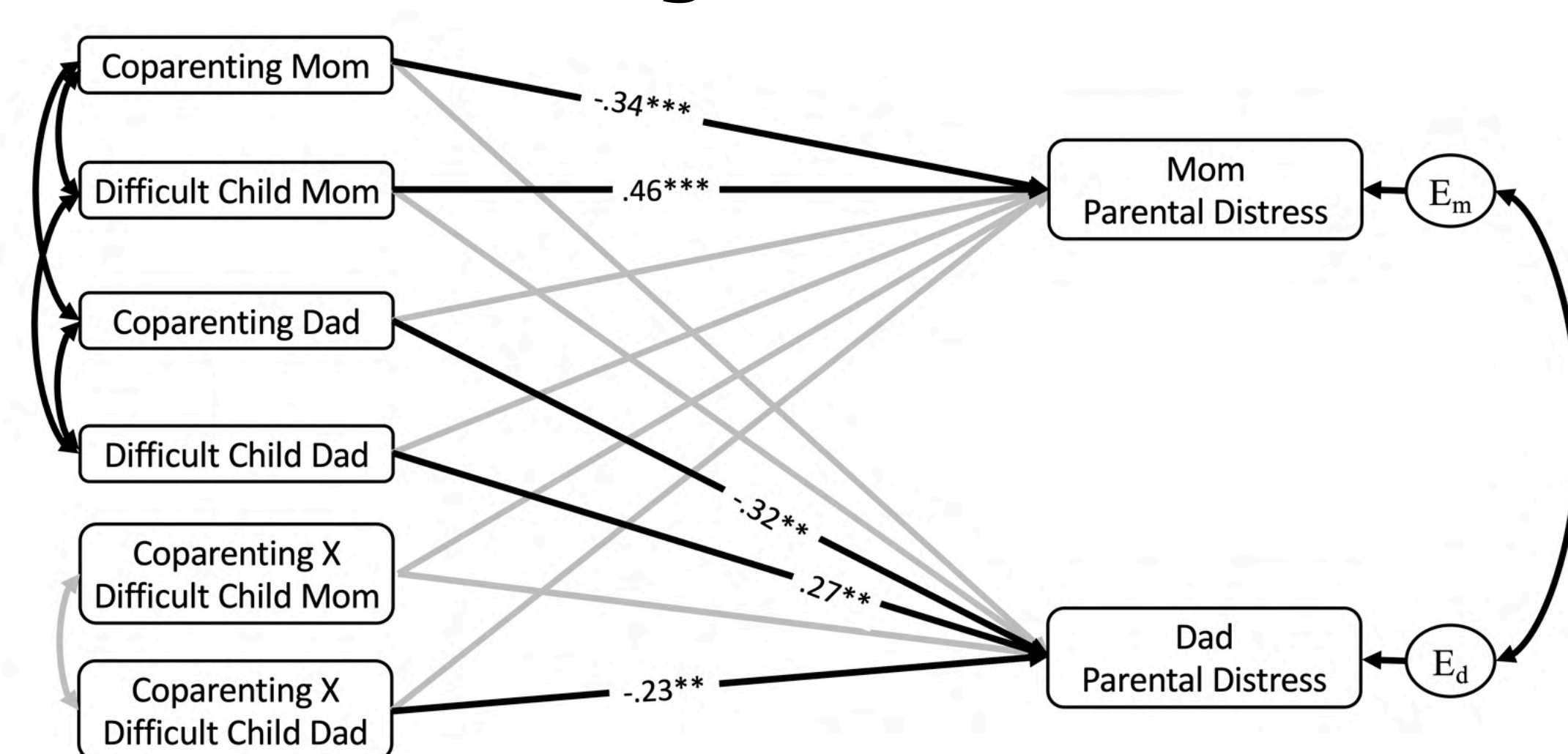
- Parenting Stress Index (Abidin, 1990)
- Parenting Alliance Measure (Abidin & Konold, 1999)
- Combined daily diary report of argument, tension, disagreement and disciplinary problems with child.

### ANALYSES

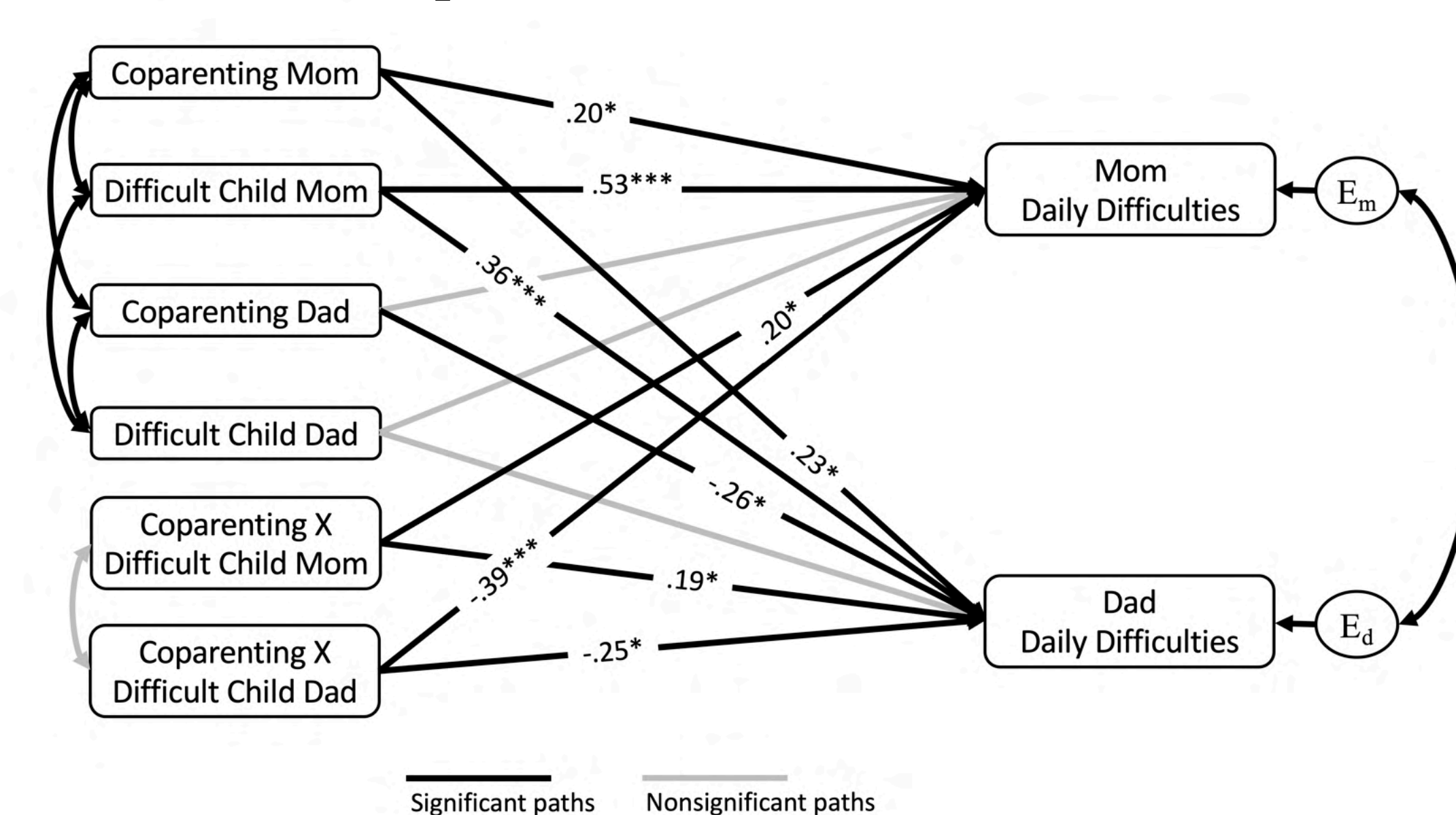
- Actor-Partner Interdependence Models (Cook & Kenny, 2005)
- Significant interactions were probed post hoc with Johnson-Newman technique (Preacher et al., 2006)

## RESULTS

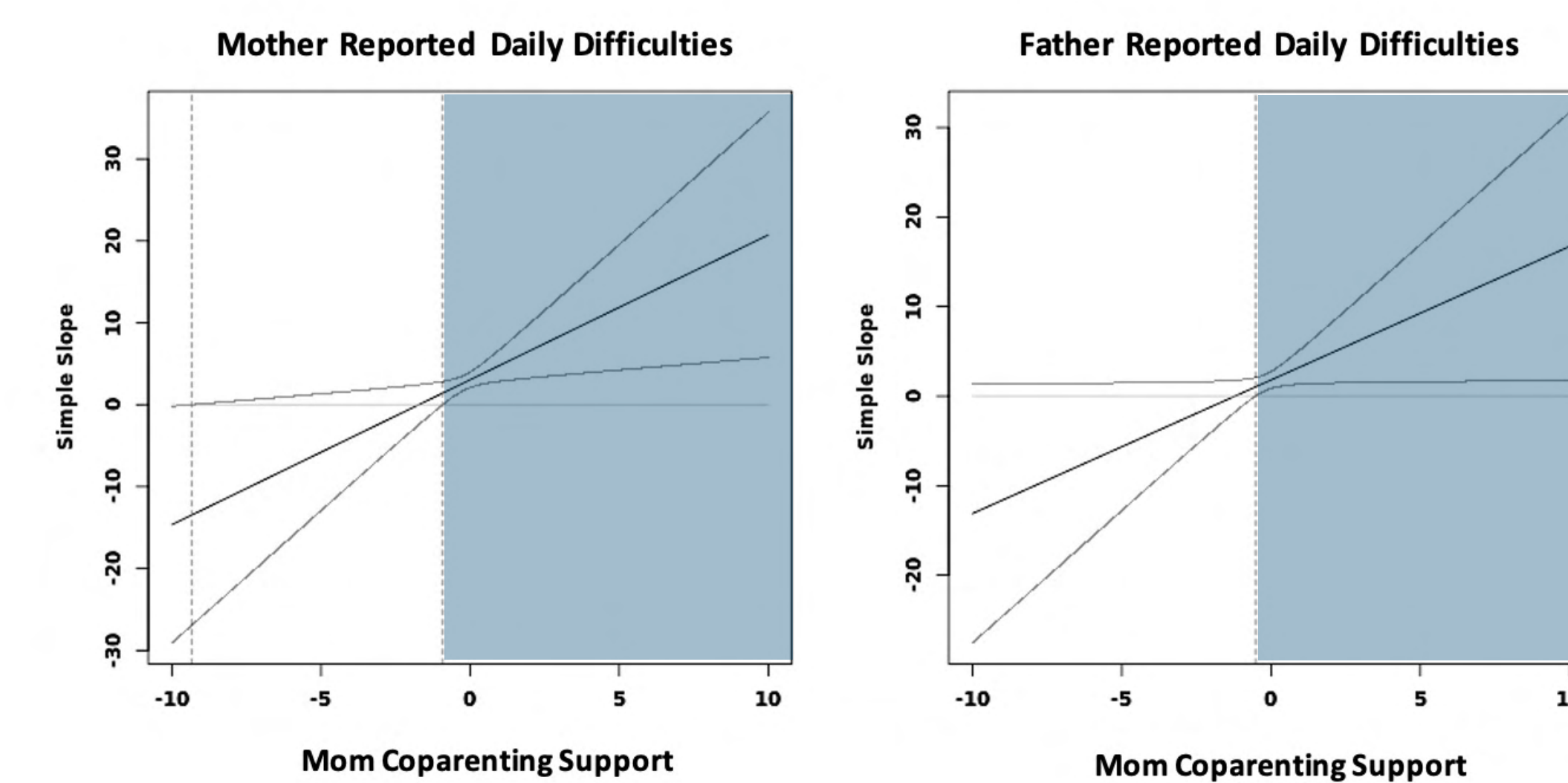
### Parenting Stress Model



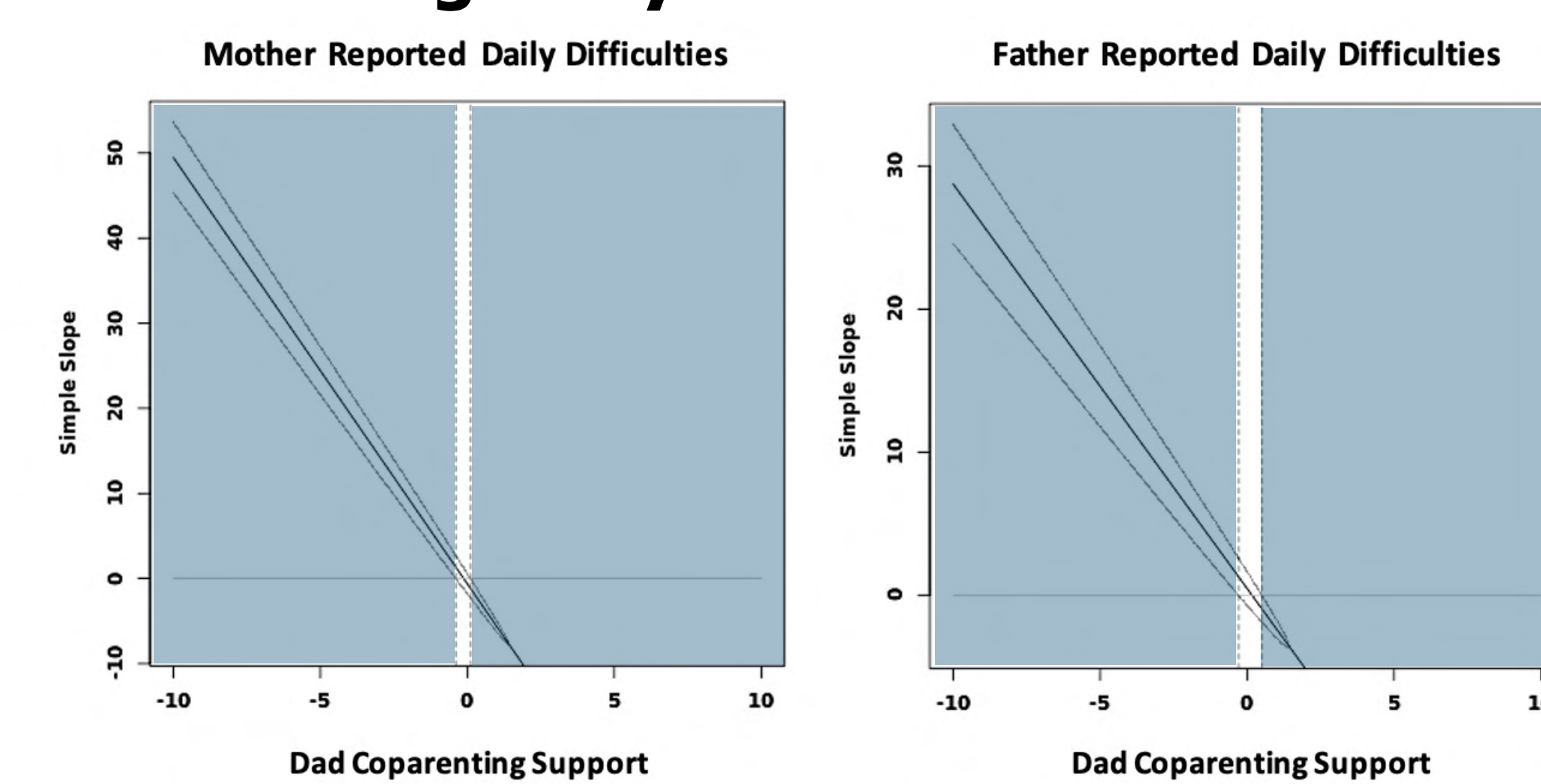
### Daily Difficulties Model



### Mom Difficult Child x Coparenting Support Predicting Daily Difficulties with Children



### Dad Difficult Child x Coparenting Support Predicting Daily Difficulties with Children



## DISCUSSION

**Only dad's** parenting distress associated with difficult children was **moderated by coparenting support**

When **dad's** perceived **coparenting support is better than average**, there is **no association between difficult children and father's parenting distress**

**Mom's** coparenting support moderated association between difficult children and daily problems for **both mom and dad**, but **only at higher levels** → **MORE PROBLEMS**

**Dad's** coparenting support moderated association between difficult children and daily problems for **both mom and dad** at **all levels except near the mean** → **FEWER PROBLEMS**