

# Lecture 11 - GLM VII Interaction effects

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## Recap regression

## Regression model

$$Y_i = a + b * X_i + e_i$$

### Symbol      Interpretation

$Y_i$	Individual i's score on dependent variable Y
$a$	Coefficient, intercept of the regression line
$b$	Coefficient, slope of the regression line
$X_i$	Individual i's score on independent variable X
$e_i$	Individual i's prediction error

## Regression line

Predicted value (describes regression line)

$$\hat{Y}_i = a + b * X_i, \text{ and } Y_i = \hat{Y}_i + \epsilon_i$$

### Symbol      Interpretation

$\hat{Y}_i$	Individual i's <b>predicted</b> score on dependent variable Y
$a$	Coefficient, intercept of the regression line
$b$	Coefficient, slope of the regression line
$X_i$	Individual i's score on independent variable X

## The road so far

- $Y_i = a + bX$ : Bivariate linear regression
- $Y_i = a + bX$  where  $X$  is a dummy variable: comparing two groups, aka independent samples t-test
- $Y_i = a + b_1X_1 + \dots + b_kX_k$  where  $X_{1\dots k}$  are dummy variables: comparing multiple groups, aka ANOVA
- $Y_i = a + b_1X_1 + \dots + b_kX_k$  where  $X_{1\dots k}$  are continuous or dummy variables: multiple regression

Last thing we did is extend the linear model with building blocks that look like  $+bX$

## Introducing: interaction

**Interaction:** The effect of one predictor depends on the level of another predictor.

To represent this, we add a *special* building block to our regression equation:

$$Y = a + b_1X_1 + b_2X_2 + b_3(X_1 * X_2)$$

## When to use interaction?

In NL, women still take on the brunt of childrearing responsibilities (parental involvement). You hypothesize that progressive gender roles will predict greater involvement for men.

- Interaction between gender roles and sex
- Continuous and dummy

Personality dimension “agreeableness” positively predicts number of friends, but only when combined with a high level of “extraversion”.

- Include an interaction effect between agreeableness and extraversion
- Both are continuous variables

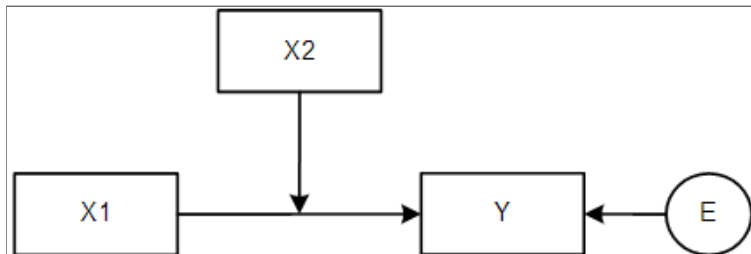
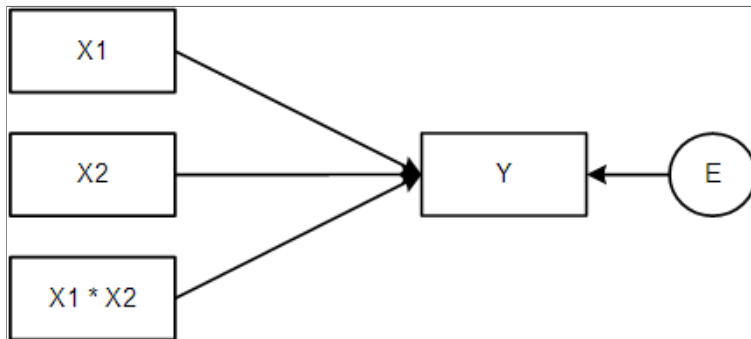
Treatment guidelines for heart failure are based mostly on research in men. There’s recent debates that commonly prescribed drugs affect recovery in men and women differently.

- Interaction between treatment (drug vs placebo) and sex (male vs female)
- Both are dummy variables

## How to include interaction

$$Y = a + b_1X_1 + b_2X_2 + b_3(X_1 * X_2)$$

- Calculate a new variable that is the product of the two interacting variables
- Add it to the regression model, **along with the two original variables**





# Continuous and binary

## Binary predictor

There is a difference in Parental Involvement between males (0) and females (1)

$$Y_i = a + b * X_i + \epsilon_i$$

This regression will give us:

- The mean level of involvement for males,  $a$
- The difference in mean level of involvement between males and females,  $b$
- We can calculate the mean involvement of females:  $a + b$

## Binary and Continuous Predictor

Aside from a sex difference  $X_1$ , there is an effect of gender role attitudes,  $X_2$ :

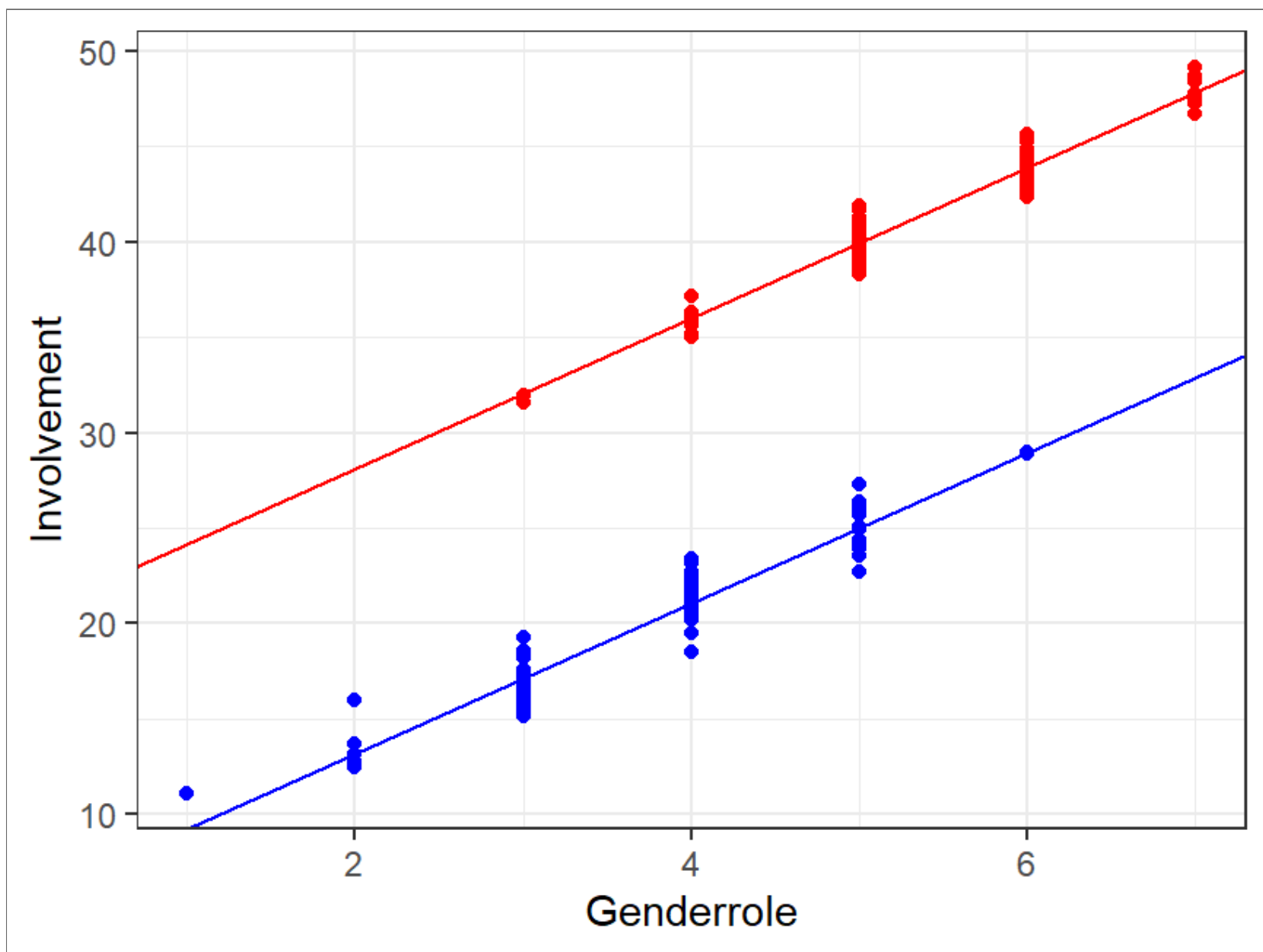
$$Y_i = a + b_1 * X_{1i} + b_2 * X_{2i} + \epsilon_i$$

- $a$ : Mean level of involvement for males who score 0 on gender role
- $b_1$ : Difference in mean level of involvement between males and females,  $b$
- $b_2$ : Increase in involvement associated with a 1-point increase in gender roles

## Distinct intercepts

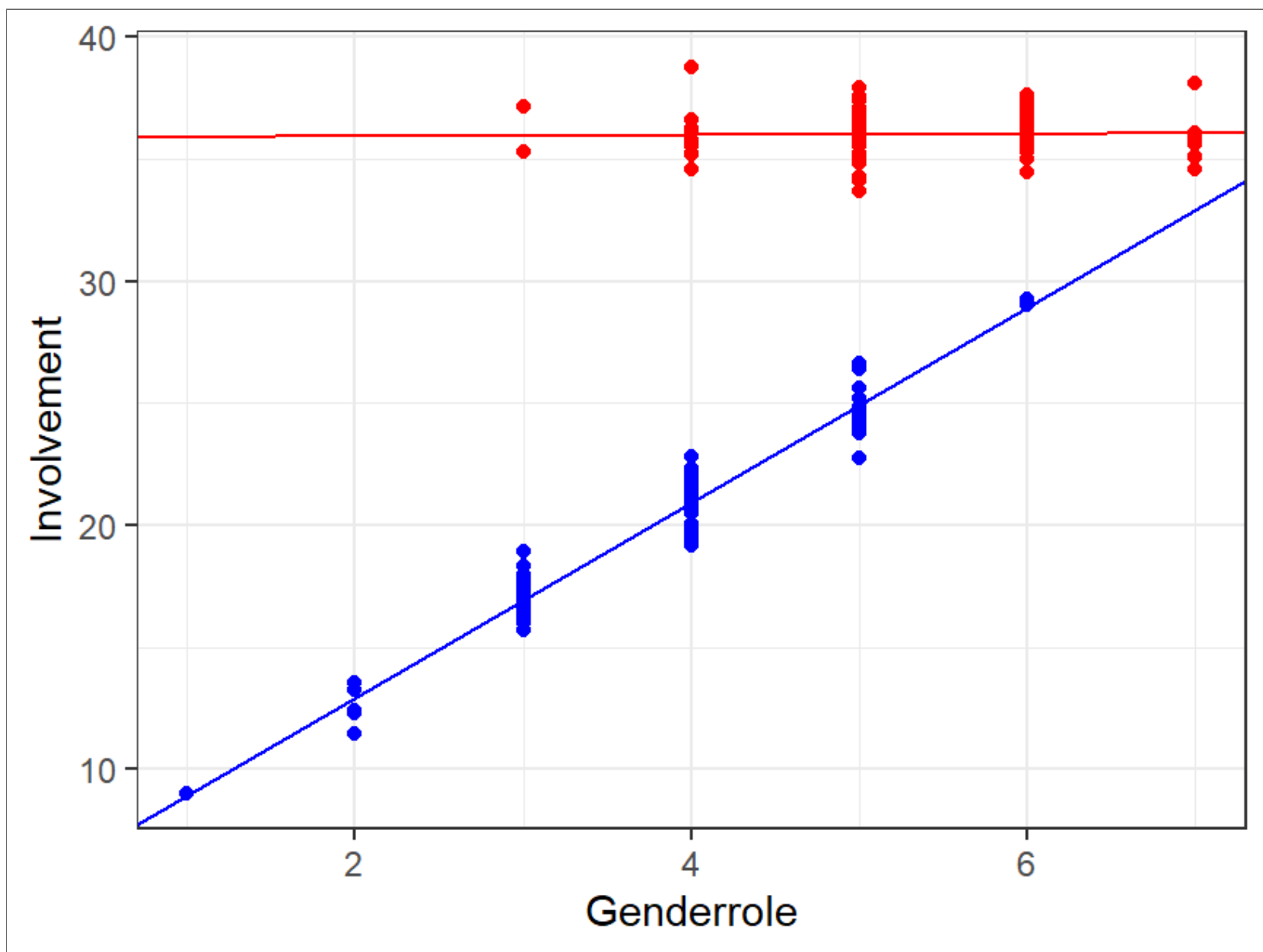
$$Y_i = a + b_1 * X_{1i} + b_2 * X_{2i} + \epsilon_i$$

Here, males and females have separate intercepts:



## Distinct regression lines

But what if we not only want to estimate distinct intercepts, but also distinct slopes for men and women?



## Interaction effect

For one binary predictor (male = 0, female = 1) and gender roles:

$$\hat{Y}_i = a + b_1 * X_{1i} + b_2 * X_{2i} + b_3 * (X_{1i} * X_{2i})$$

Symbol	Interpretation
$\hat{Y}_i$	Individual predicted value for Y (involvement)
$a$	Expected value for men who score 0 on gender role
$b_1$	Mean difference between men and women who score 0 on gender role
$b_2$	Effect of gender role for men
$b_3$	Difference in the effect of gender role between men and women



## Complete the formula

$$\hat{Y}_i = a + b_1 * X_{1i} + b_2 * X_{2i} + b_3 * (X_{1i} * X_{2i})$$

**Complete for men:**

- $$\hat{Y}_i = a + b_1 * 0 + b_2 * X_{2i} + b_3 * (0 * X_{2i}) =$$
$$a + b_2 * X_{2i}$$
- So the regression line for men is  $a + b_2 * X_{2i}$

**Complete for women:**

- $$\hat{Y}_i = a + b_1 * 1 + b_2 * X_{2i} + b_3 * (1 * X_{2i}) =$$
$$a + b_1 + b_2 * X_{2i} + b_3 * X_{2i}$$
- So the regression line for women is  $(a + b_1) + (b_2 + b_3) * X_{2i}$
- An extra “bump” on top of the intercept and slope

## Examples

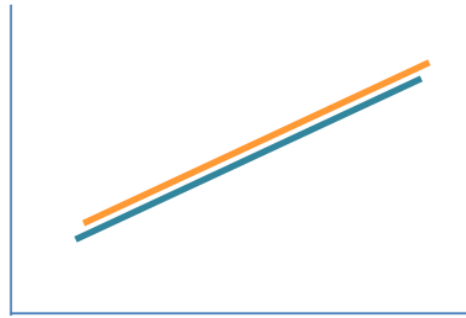
Which parameters are non-zero?

$$\hat{Y}_i = a + b_1 X_{1i} + b_2 X_{2i} + b_3 (X_{1i} X_{2i})$$

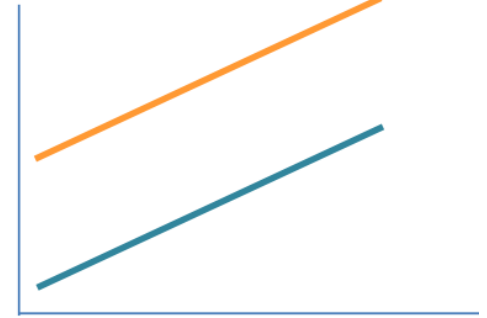
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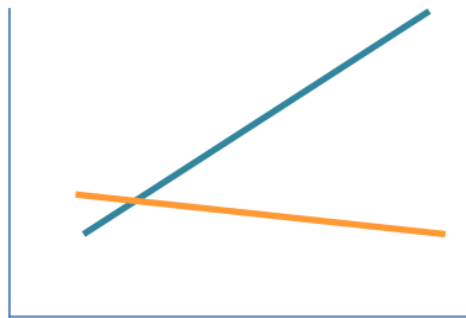
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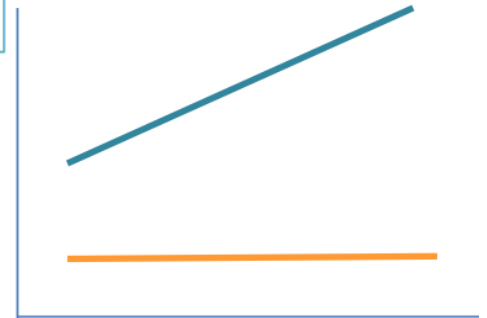
**4**



**5**



**6**



## Simple Effects

## Simple effects

If the interaction is significant, we might ask:

| What is the effect of X1 on Y for each level of G?

## For categorical moderator

Easy trick to obtain the effect for each category:

- Create  $k$  dummies for a categorical variable with  $k$  categories (instead of the usual  $k-1$ )
- Compute interaction term with each dummy
- Specify regression with all these interaction effects, and without the main effect of the continuous variable

## Formulas

Standard model:

$$\hat{Y}' = b_0 + b_1 X_1 + b_2 D_2 + b_3 D_3 + b_4 (D_2 X_1) + b_5 (D_3 X_1)$$

- Main effect of the continuous predictor and k-1 dummies
- Interaction effect with k-1 dummies

$$\hat{Y}' = b_0 + b_1 D_2 + b_2 D_3 + b_3 (D_1 X_1) + b_4 (D_2 X_1) + b_5 (D_3 X_1)$$

- Main effect of k-1 dummies
- NO main effect of  $X_1$
- k interaction terms (so the effect of  $X_1$  is split across all k categories)

## Filling in Formulas

Effect of  $X_1$  for group 1 ( $D_2 = 0, D_3 = 0$ ):

$$\hat{Y}' = b_0 + b_1 X_1 + b_2 * 0 + b_3 * 0 + b_4(0 * X_1) + b_5(0 * X_1) = b_0 + b_1 * X_1$$

Effect of  $X_1$  for group 2 ( $D_2 = 1, D_3 = 0$ ):

$$\hat{Y}' = b_0 + b_1 X_1 + b_2 * 1 + b_3 * 0 + b_4(1 * X_1) + b_5(0 * X_1) = (b_0 + b_2) + (b_1 + b_4)X_1$$

Using the model with all interaction effects:

Effect of  $X_1$  for group 1 ( $D_2 = 0, D_3 = 0$ ):

$$\hat{Y}' = b_0 + b_1 * 0 + b_2 * 0 + b_3(1 * X_1) + b_4(0 * X_1) + b_5(0 * X_1) = b_0 + b_3 * X_1$$

Effect of  $X_1$  for group 2 ( $D_2 = 1, D_3 = 0$ ):

$$\hat{Y}' = b_0 + b_1 * 1 + b_2 * 0 + b_3(0 * X_1) + b_4(1 * X_1) + b_5(0 * X_1) = (b_0 + b_1) + b_4 X_1$$

## Two continuous predictors



## Difference with previous example

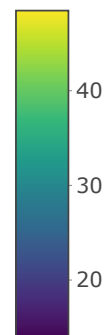
- An interaction between one binary and one continuous predictor results in **two regression lines**
  - One for each unique value of the binary predictor
- An interaction between two continuous predictors also gives us a unique regression line for every value of each predictor
  - But both predictors can take on infinite unique values

## Binary vs continuous interaction

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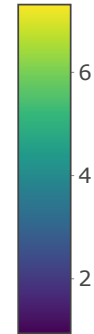
# Multiple regression

Multiple regression demo



# Multiple regression with interaction

Multiple regression demo



## Complete the formula

$$\hat{Y}_i = a + b_1 * X_{1i} + b_2 * X_{2i} + b_3 * (X_{1i} * X_{2i})$$

- Y is involvement, X1 is gender roles, X2 is work
- Imagine we have found these coefficients:

$$\hat{Y}_i = 12.50 + 1.50 * X_{1i} - .20 * X_{2i} + 0.07 * (X_{1i} * X_{2i})$$

What's the effect of gender roles for someone who works 40 hours?

$$\hat{Y}_i = 12.50 + 1.50 * X_{1i} - .20 * 40 + 0.07 * (40 * X_{1i})$$

$$\hat{Y}_i = (12.50 - .20 * 40) + (1.50 + 0.07 * 40) * X_{1i} = 4.5 + 4.3 * X_{1i}$$

## Complete the formula

$$\hat{Y}_i = a + b_1 * X_{1i} + b_2 * X_{2i} + b_3 * (X_{1i} * X_{2i})$$

Imagine we have found these coefficients:

$$\hat{Y}_i = 12.50 + 1.50 * X_{1i} - .20 * X_{2i} + 0.07 * (X_{1i} * X_{2i})$$

What's the effect of work hours for someone who scores 0 on gender roles?

$$\hat{Y}_i = 12.50 + 1.50 * 0 - .20 * X_{2i} + 0.07 * (0 * X_{2i})$$

$$\hat{Y}_i = (12.50 + 1.50 * 0) - (.20 + 0.07 * 0) * X_{2i} = 12.50 - .20 * X_{2i}$$

## Centering

As the effect of  $X_1$  is now dependent on the value of  $X_2$ , and vice versa, it's essential to **center the variables**

Not centering...

- Makes coefficients hard to interpret
- Introduces (artificial) multicollinearity

When you center, the interpretation is:

- $a$ : Expected value of  $Y$  for people who score average on all predictors
- $b_1$ : Slope of predictor 1 for people who score average on predictor 2
- $b_2$ : Slope of predictor 2 for people who score average on predictor 1

# Simple Slopes



## Simple Slopes

If the interaction is significant, we might ask:

| What is the effect of X1 on Y for different levels of X2?

With a categorical moderator, we obtained the effect of X1 for each discrete level of X2

With a continuous moderator, we need to pick specific values of X2

## Which one is the moderator?

Mathematically, there is no difference between saying:

- The effect of  $X_1$  depends on the value of  $X_2$
- The effect of  $X_2$  depends on the value of  $X_1$
- Because  $X_1 * X_2$  is the same as  $X_2 * X_1$

Theory makes the difference! You decide which variable moderates the effect of the other

## Use centering

Remember that multiple regression gives you the effect of each predictor while controlling all other predictors at zero

- You can change the zero-value
- You've done this before: by centering variables you make the zero value equal to "the mean" of that variable
- With centered predictors centered at the mean, regression with interaction gives us the effect of  $X_1$  for people with an average score on  $X_2$

## Center to high and low values

To get the effect of X1 for people who score high on X2, just center X2 to a high value!

- Center X2 at +1 SD
- Center X2 at -1 SD

Recompute the regression for each of these re-centered variables

## Simple slopes steps

1. Center the interacting predictors at their mean value
2. Compute the interaction term
3. Determine whether the interaction is significant
4. Center X2 at +1SD
5. Re-compute the interaction term
6. Note the effect of X1 for this level of X2
7. Center X2 at -1SD
8. Re-compute the interaction term
9. Note the effect of X1 for this level of X2

## Important

- To center at +1SD you have to **subtract** 1 SD from the centered variable
  - To center at -1SD you have to **add** 1 SD from the centered variable
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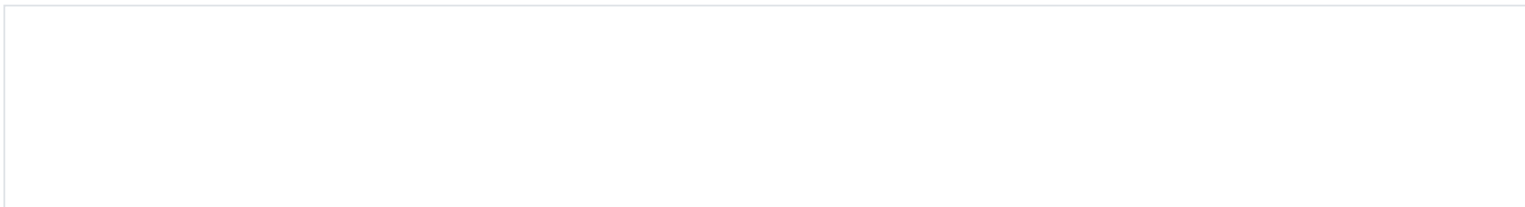
## Important 2

After changing how a variable is centered, you have to re-compute the interaction term

- Make sure you always use the correctly centered variable and its corresponding interaction term
- Using syntax helps prevent mistakes

## Error

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