

Hierarchical linear models (cont.)

Random intercept, random slope

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Independent regressions

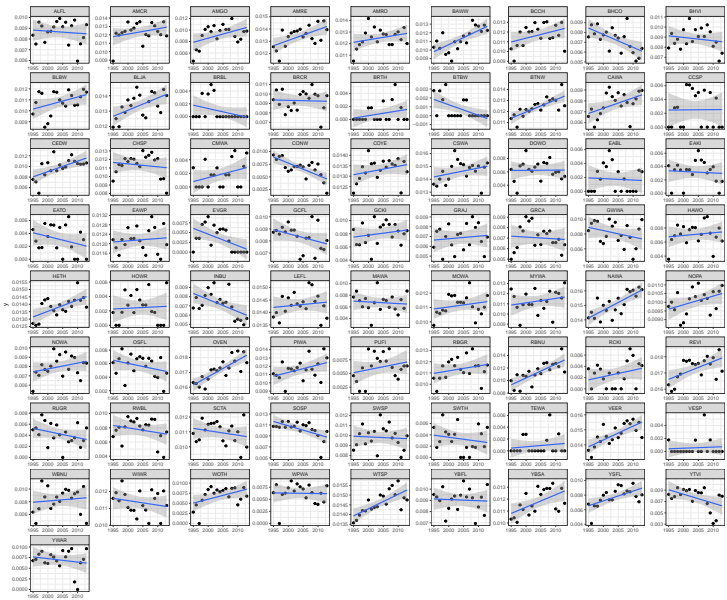
Initially, we could consider the model

$$y_{st} \overset{ind}{\sim} N(\beta_{s,0} + x_{st}\beta_{s,1}, \sigma_s^2)$$

where

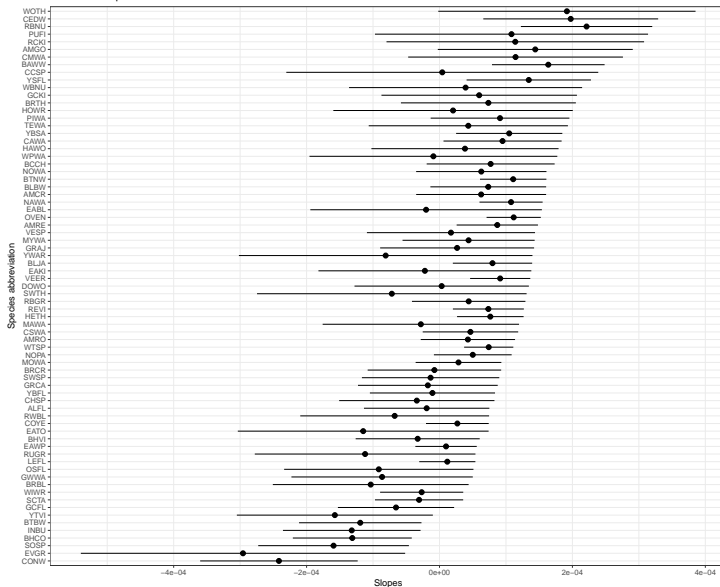
- y_{st} is the mean log count (+1) for species s at time t
- x_{st} is the year (minus 2005) for species s at time t

This model treats each species completely independently.



year

Estimated slopes and 95% confidence intervals



Random intercept, random slope model

A reasonable assumption is to treat these species exchangeably and put a distribution on the intercept and slope.

Then a **random intercept, random slope model** is

$$\begin{aligned} y_{st} &\overset{\text{ind}}{\sim} N(\beta_{s,0} + x_{st}\beta_{s,1}, \sigma^2) \\ \beta_s &\overset{\text{ind}}{\sim} N(\mu_\beta, \Sigma_\beta) \end{aligned}$$

where $\beta_s = (\beta_{s,0}, \beta_{s,1})'$ and σ^2 , μ_β , and Σ_β are parameters to be estimated.

Notice that there is now a common variance for all species.

Random intercept and random slope model in R

```
m2 = lmer(y~I(year-2005) + (I(year-2005)|abbrev), d)
summary(m2)
```

```
Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']
Formula: y ~ I(year - 2005) + (I(year - 2005) | abbrev)
Data: d
```

```
REML criterion at convergence: -13786.6
```

```
Scaled residuals:
```

	Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
	-4.6888	-0.5157	0.0381	0.5437	3.6365

```
Random effects:
```

Groups	Name	Variance	Std.Dev.	Corr
abbrev	(Intercept)	1.799e-05	4.242e-03	
	I(year - 2005)	5.998e-09	7.745e-05	0.49
Residual		2.015e-06	1.419e-03	

```
Number of obs: 1387, groups: abbrev, 73
```

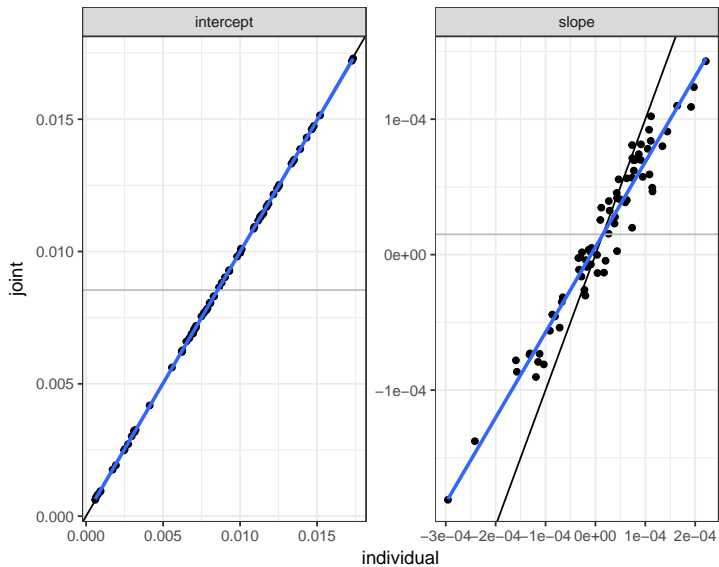
```
Fixed effects:
```

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value
(Intercept)	8.543e-03	4.980e-04	17.156
I(year - 2005)	1.502e-05	1.143e-05	1.314

```
Correlation of Fixed Effects:
```

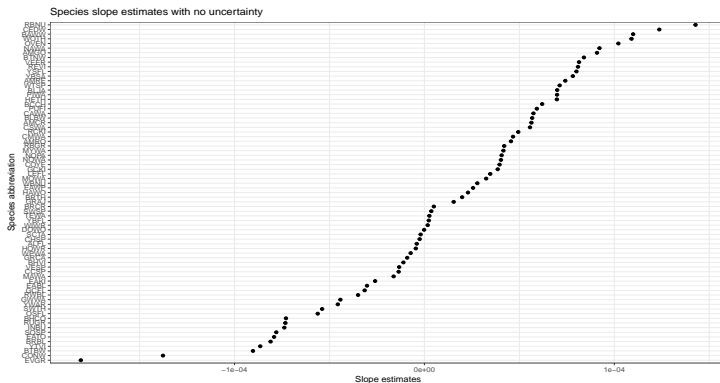
	(Intr)
I(yer-2005)	0.393

Shrinkage of point estimates



Which species have significant decline?

The quantities of interest here are $\beta_{s,1}$ and whether these quantities are negative, i.e. indicating an average decrease in counts over time. But how can we calculate pvalues or confidence intervals for the random effects themselves?



Bayesian random intercept, random slope model

The model

$$\begin{aligned}y_{st} &\overset{\text{ind}}{\sim} N(\beta_{s,0} + x_{st}\beta_{s,1}, \sigma^2) \\ \beta_s &\overset{\text{ind}}{\sim} N(\mu_\beta, \Sigma_\beta)\end{aligned}$$

and a prior

$$p(\sigma, \mu_\beta, \Sigma_\beta) \propto p(\sigma)p(\mu_\beta)p(\Sigma_\beta)$$

and

- $\sigma \sim Ca^+(0, 1)$,
- $p(\mu_\beta) \propto 1$, and
- $\Sigma_\beta \sim ?$

Conjugate prior for a covariance matrix

The natural conjugate prior for a covariance matrix is the **inverse-Wishart** distribution, which has density

$$p(\Sigma) \propto |\Sigma|^{-(\nu+d+1)/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\text{tr}(S\Sigma^{-1})\right)$$

with $\nu > d - 1$ and S is a positive definite matrix. The expected value is

$$E[\Sigma] = \frac{S}{\nu - d - 1}$$

for $\nu > d + 1$. We write $\Sigma \sim IW(\nu, S^{-1})$.

Special cases:

- If $\nu = d + 1$ and S is diagonal, then each of the correlations in Σ has a marginal uniform prior.
- Jeffreys prior

$$p(\Sigma) = |\Sigma|^{-(d+1)/2}$$

Issues with the inverse-Wishart distribution

If $\Sigma \sim IW(\nu, S)$, then $\Sigma_{ii} \sim IG([\nu - (d - 1)]/2, S_{ii}/2)$. In particular, if $\nu = d + 1$ and $S = I$ (to ensure marginally uniform priors on the correlations), then $\Sigma_{ii} \sim IG(1, 1/2)$.

The problems

- although the correlations are marginally uniform, they are not independent *a priori* of the variances (diagonal elements of Σ),
- the inverse gamma distribution has a region near zero of extremely low density that can cause extreme bias toward larger values for truly small variances,
- this in turn causes the correlation to be shrunk toward zero.

Deconstructing the covariance matrix

Let

$$\Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma)\Omega\text{diag}(\sigma)$$

where

- σ is a vector of standard deviations
- Ω is a correlation matrix

which results in the standard deviations and correlations being independent *a priori*.

Now we can put whatever prior we want on σ and Ω , e.g. $\sigma_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} Ca^+(0, ?)$.

LKJ correlation matrix prior

The LKJ (Lewandowski, Kurowicka, and Joe 2009) distribution is

$$p(\Omega) = |\Omega|^{\eta-1}$$

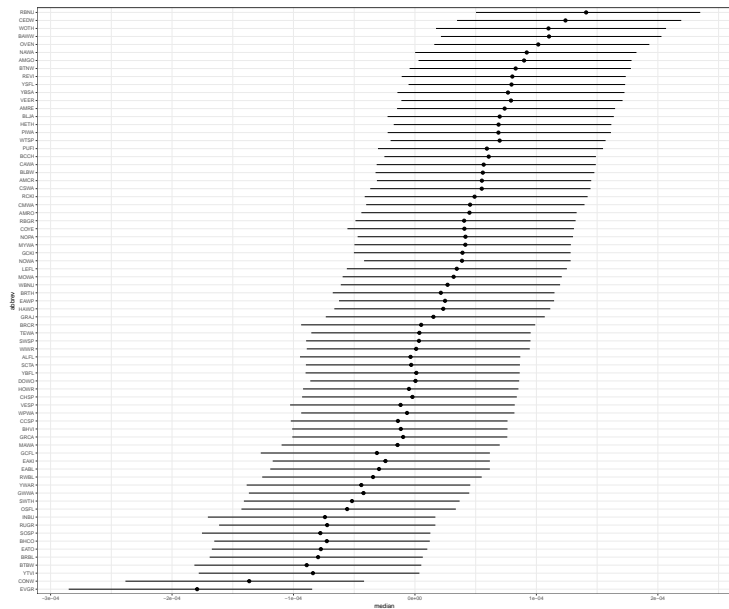
where Ω is a correlation matrix with implicit dimension d and $\eta > 0$ is the shape parameter.

- if $\eta = 1$, then the density is uniform over correlation matrices of dimension d
- if $\eta > 1$, the identity matrix is the modal correlation matrix with a sharper peak in the density for larger values of η
- if $\eta < 1$, the density has a trough at the identity matrix.

```

model = "
data {
  int<lower=1> n_species;
  int<lower=1> n_years;
  vector[n_years] y[n_species];
  matrix[n_years,2] X;
}
parameters {
  real<lower=0> sigma;
  vector[2] beta[n_species];
  vector[2] mu_beta;
  vector<lower=0>[2] sigma_beta;
  corr_matrix[2] L;
}
model {
  sigma ~ cauchy(0,1);
  sigma_beta ~ cauchy(0,1);
  L ~ lkj_corr(1.0);
  beta ~ multi_normal(mu_beta, diag_matrix(sigma_beta) * L * diag_matrix(sigma_beta));
  for (s in 1:n_species) y[s] ~ normal(X*beta[s], sigma);
}
"

```

Hierarchical model for the variances

The model

$$\begin{aligned}y_{st} &\stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} N(\beta_{s,0} + x_{st}\beta_{s,1}, \sigma_s^2) \\ \beta_s &\stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} N(\mu_\beta, \Sigma_\beta) \\ \sigma_s &\stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} LN(\mu_\sigma, \tau_\sigma)\end{aligned}$$

and a prior

$$p(\mu_\sigma, \tau_\sigma, \mu_\beta, \Sigma_\beta) \propto p(\mu_\sigma)p(\tau_\sigma)p(\mu_\beta)p(\Sigma_\beta)$$

and

- $p(\mu_\sigma) \propto 1$,
- $\tau_\sigma \sim Ca^+(0, 1)$,
- $p(\mu_\beta) \propto 1$, and
- Σ_β as before

```

model2 = "
data {
  int<lower=1> n_species;
  int<lower=1> n_years;
  vector[n_years] y[n_species];
  matrix[n_years,2] X;
}
parameters {
  real<lower=0> sigma[n_species];
  real mu;
  real<lower=0> tau;
  vector[2] beta[n_species];
  vector[2] mu_beta;
  vector<lower=0>[2] sigma_beta;
  corr_matrix[2] L;
}
model {
  tau ~ cauchy(0,1);
  sigma ~ lognormal(mu,tau);
  sigma_beta ~ cauchy(0,1);
  L ~ lkj_corr(1.0);
  beta ~ multi_normal(mu_beta, diag_matrix(sigma_beta) * L * diag_matrix(sigma_beta));
  for (s in 1:n_species) y[s] ~ normal(X*beta[s], sigma[s]);
}
"

```

```
In file included from C:/Users/jarad/Documents/R/win-library/3.3/BH/include/boost/config.hpp:39:0,
                 from C:/Users/jarad/Documents/R/win-library/3.3/BH/include/boost/math/tools/config.hpp:13,
                 from C:/Users/jarad/Documents/R/win-library/3.3/StanHeaders/include/stan/math/rev/core/var.hpp:1,
                 from C:/Users/jarad/Documents/R/win-library/3.3/StanHeaders/include/stan/math/rev/core/geom_vv.hpp:1,
                 from C:/Users/jarad/Documents/R/win-library/3.3/StanHeaders/include/stan/math/rev/core/geom_mv.hpp:1,
                 from C:/Users/jarad/Documents/R/win-library/3.3/StanHeaders/include/stan/math/rev/core/geom_vv.hpp:12,
                 from C:/Users/jarad/Documents/R/win-library/3.3/StanHeaders/include/stan/math/rev/mat.hpp:4,
                 from C:/Users/jarad/Documents/R/win-library/3.3/StanHeaders/include/stan/math.hpp:4,
                 from C:/Users/jarad/Documents/R/win-library/3.3/StanHeaders/include/src/stan/model/model_header.hpp:1,
                 from file27a44a6b4ad3.cpp:8:
C:/Users/jarad/Documents/R/win-library/3.3/BH/include/boost/config/compiler/gcc.hpp:186:0: warning: "BOOST_NO_CXX11_RVALUE_REFERENCES"
# define BOOST_NO_CXX11_RVALUE_REFERENCES
~
<command-line>:0:0: note: this is the location of the previous definition
ccplus.exe: warning: unrecognized command line option "-Wno-ignored-attributes"
```

SAMPLING FOR MODEL '6f90fb3aa950384573fb103b06a9d4ff' NOW (CHAIN 1).

```
Chain 1, Iteration: 1 / 2000 [ 0%] (Warmup)
Chain 1, Iteration: 200 / 2000 [ 10%] (Warmup)
Chain 1, Iteration: 400 / 2000 [ 20%] (Warmup)
Chain 1, Iteration: 600 / 2000 [ 30%] (Warmup)
Chain 1, Iteration: 800 / 2000 [ 40%] (Warmup)
Chain 1, Iteration: 1000 / 2000 [ 50%] (Warmup)
Chain 1, Iteration: 1001 / 2000 [ 50%] (Sampling)
Chain 1, Iteration: 1200 / 2000 [ 60%] (Sampling)
Chain 1, Iteration: 1400 / 2000 [ 70%] (Sampling)
Chain 1, Iteration: 1600 / 2000 [ 80%] (Sampling)
Chain 1, Iteration: 1800 / 2000 [ 90%] (Sampling)
```

