

Hooray, significance! So what?

Learning more about your data using Bayesian data analysis

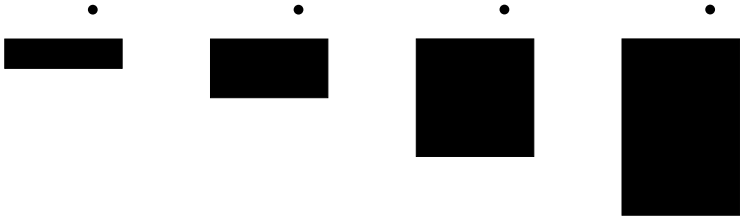
Thomas Kluth

Language & Cognition Group, CITEC, Universität Bielefeld

July 6, 2017, data science meetup Münster



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The circle is above the object.

- difference in acceptability?



thin rectangle



thick rectangle



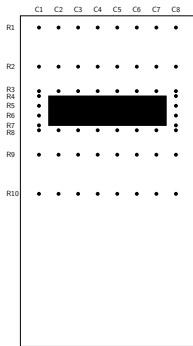
square



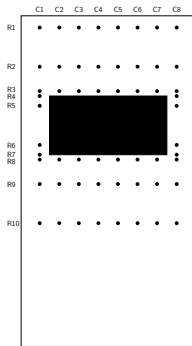
tall rectangle

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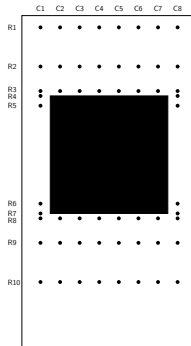
- difference in acceptability? → empirical study
- 4 rectangles \times 2 prepositions



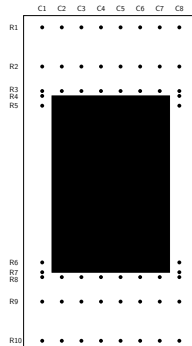
thin rectangle



thick rectangle



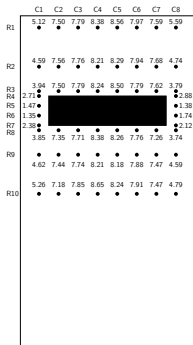
square



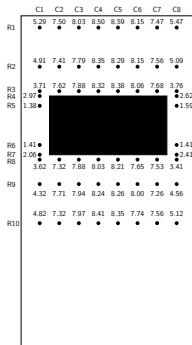
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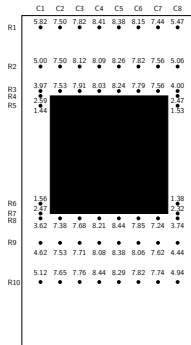
- difference in acceptability? → empirical study
- 4 rectangles × 2 prepositions × 28 locations



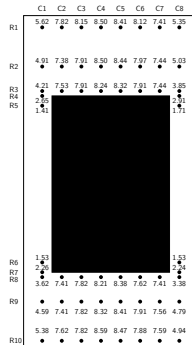
thin rectangle



thick rectangle



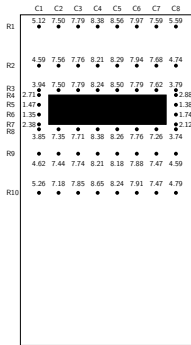
square



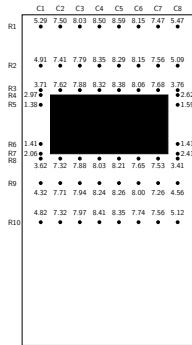
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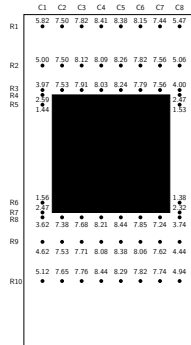
- difference in acceptability? → empirical study
- 4 rectangles × 2 prepositions × 28 locations × 34 subjects
→ 7616 ratings (1–9 rating scale)



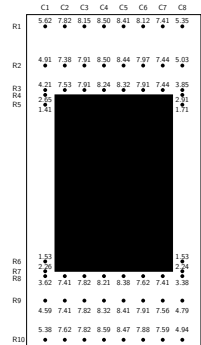
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square



tall rectangle

The circle is above the object.

- difference in acceptability? → empirical study
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→ 7616 ratings (1–9 rating scale)
- prediction¹: lower ratings for taller rectangles

¹Kluth, Burigo, Schultheis, and Knoeferle (submitted); Regier (1996); Regier and Carlson (2001)

Null Hypothesis Significance Testing // NHST

- prediction: difference in ratings across rectangles
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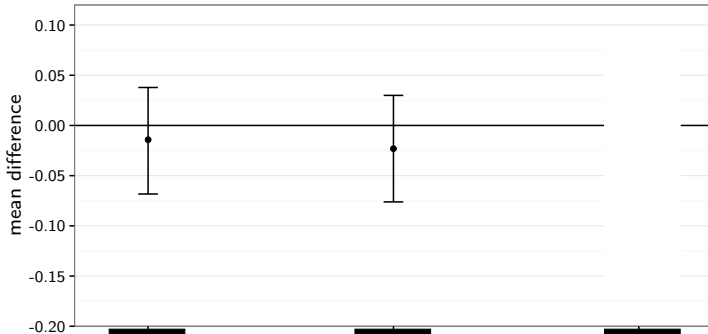
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- paired t-test

paired t-test // prediction confirmed?

relative distance effect, 'über' & 'unter' ratings

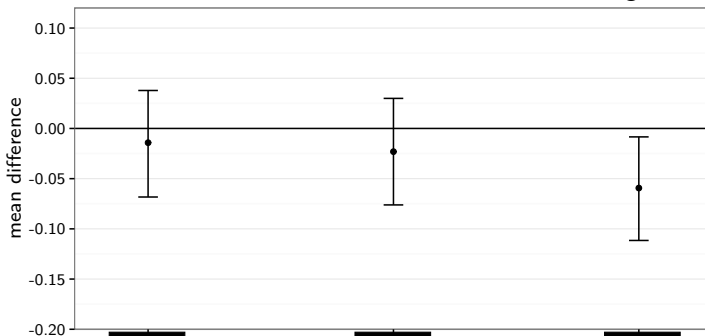


baseline rectangle

error bars depict 95% confidence intervals

paired t-test // prediction confirmed!

relative distance effect, 'über' & 'unter' ratings

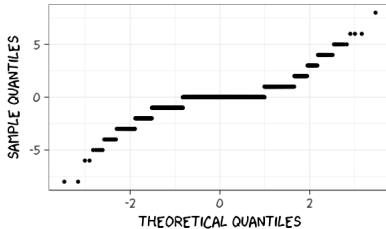


baseline rectangle

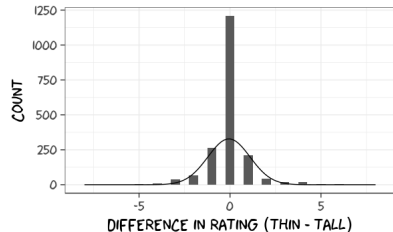
error bars depict 95% confidence intervals

Look at your data! // normality assumption violated!

NORMAL Q-Q PLOT

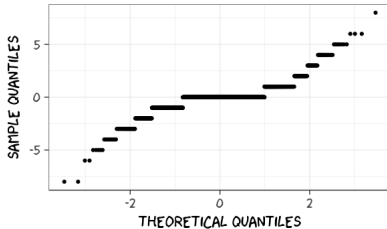


EMPIRICAL AND ASSUMED DISTRIBUTION

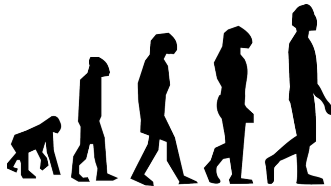
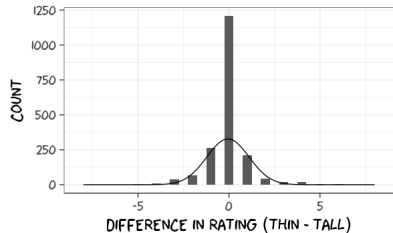


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NORMAL Q-Q PLOT



EMPIRICAL AND ASSUMED DISTRIBUTION



Bayesian regression model // using brms

predict *rating* by *rectangle* (thin, thick, square, tall)

Bayesian regression model // using brms

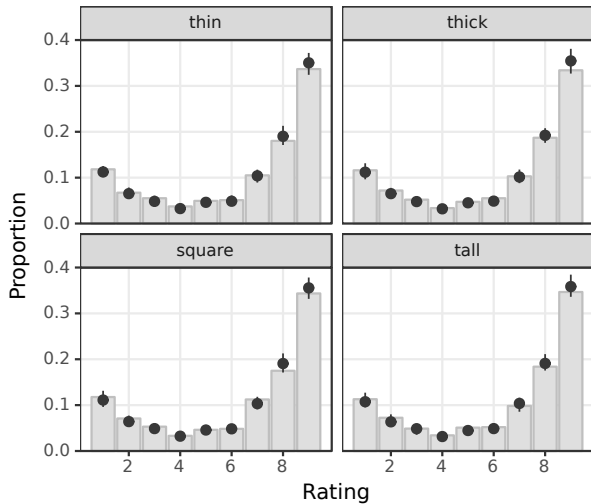
predict *rating* by *rectangle* (thin, thick, square, tall)

R code

```
regressionModel = brm(  
  rating ~ rectangle + (1 | subject),  
  family = cumulative(), # ordinal regression  
  data = ratingDataFrame)
```

necessary R packages: brms, rstan

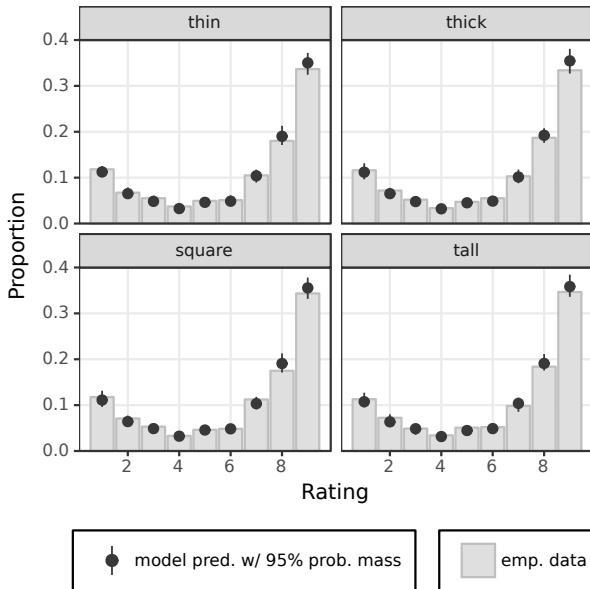
(Bürkner, in press; Stan Development Team, 2016)



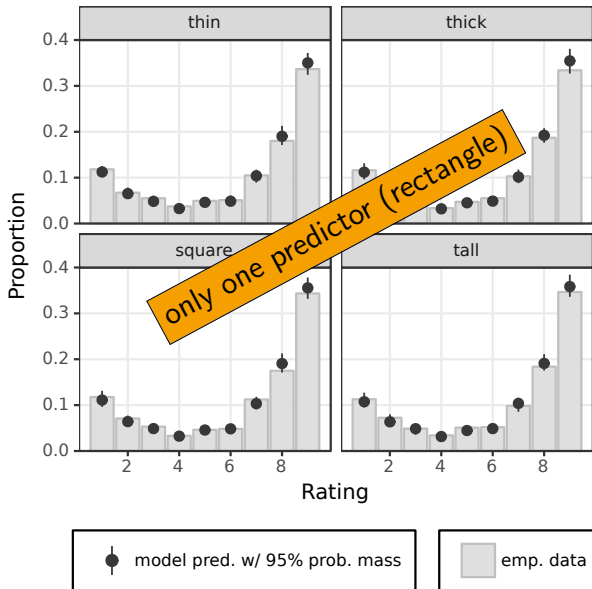
model pred. w/ 95% prob. mass



emp. data



no regression slope is credibly different from zero
→ no credible difference in ratings → prediction not confirmed



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Learn from your data! // beyond binary answers ...

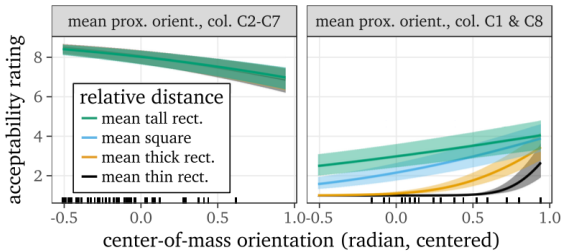
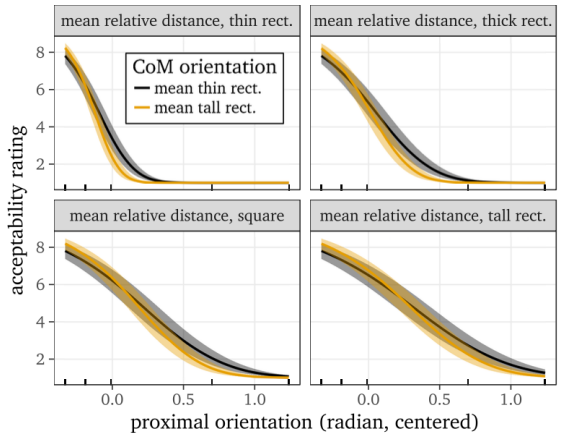
- factors hypothesized to affect rating:
 - center-of-mass orientation
 - proximal orientation
 - relative distance

Learn from your data! // beyond binary answers ...

- factors hypothesized to affect rating:
 - center-of-mass orientation
 - proximal orientation
 - relative distance

R code

```
regressionModel = brm(  
  rating ~ CoMOrient * proxOrient * relDist +  
           (1 | subject),  
  family = cumulative(), # ordinal regression  
  data = ratingDataFrame)
```



Why Bayes? // selected reasons

regression more powerful than standard tests, but why *Bayesian* regression?

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- Bayesian parameter estimation allows to interpret the **whole probability distribution of regression parameters**
- Bayesian statistics allows to **intuitively discuss** the results
 - valid² statement: $\geq 95\%$ *probability that prediction is true*

²depends on the results

Why Bayes? // selected reasons

regression more powerful than standard tests, but why *Bayesian* regression?

- Bayesian parameter estimation allows to interpret the **whole probability distribution of regression parameters**
- Bayesian statistics allows to **intuitively discuss** the results
 - valid² statement: $\geq 95\%$ *probability that prediction is true*
- including **prior information** from previous studies directly into the regression analysis is part of the Bayesian framework

²depends on the results

Thank you!

list of useful resources follows on the next slides

References

- Kluth, T., Burigo, M., Schultheis, H., & Knoeferle, P. (submitted). Does direction matter? Linguistic asymmetries reflected in visual attention. *Cognition*.
- Bürkner, P.-C. (in press). brms: An R package for Bayesian multilevel models using Stan. *Journal of Statistical Software*.
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- McElreath, R. (2016). *Statistical Rethinking: A Bayesian Course with Examples in R and Stan*. CRC Press.
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- Stan Development Team. (2016). *RStan: the R interface to Stan*. (R package version 2.14.1)

Useful resources // selected R packages

- `rstan` (R interface for STAN),
<https://cran.r-project.org/package=rstan>, STAN is a programming language itself, for more information including interfaces to other languages see mc-stan.org
- `brms` (Bayesian regression modeling using STAN), well documented, very responsive package author,
<https://cran.r-project.org/package=brms>, Bürkner (in press)
- `rstanarm`, similar to `brms`; faster but less flexible,
<https://cran.r-project.org/package=rstanarm>
- `bayesplot`, provides great visualizations, compatible with `brms` and `rstanarm`, <https://cran.r-project.org/package=bayesplot>
- `BEST` (Bayesian estimation supersedes the t-test),
<https://cran.r-project.org/package=BEST>
- Bayesian First Aid,
<http://sumsar.net/blog/2014/01/bayesian-first-aid/>

Useful resources // selected tutorials & literature

- tutorial: <https://mvuorre.github.io/post/2017/how-to-compare-two-groups-with-robust-bayesian-estimation-using-r-stan-and-brms/>, based on Kruschke (2013)
- full data set including working and commented R scripts: Kluth (2017); accompanying the article Kluth et al. (submitted); not available yet, but stay tuned, should be online in a few months (check <https://www.techfak.de/~tkluth>)
- books: Kruschke (2015); McElreath (2016)
- annotated reading list: Etz, Gronau, Dablander, Edelsbrunner, and Baribault (in press)