M21 LDT ERP HC ORTHOGRAPIC SENSITIVITY N250

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Set parameters

Set chunk parameters

Load libraries

Set ggplot parameters

Define standard error of the mean function

1 Load and format data files

```
dir_path <- "CSV files"

erp_2 <- read_csv(file.path(dir_path, "m21_ldt_mea_200300_050050_1.csv"))
erp_4 <- read_csv(file.path(dir_path, "m21_ldt_mea_300500_050050_1.csv"))
dmg_lng_vsl <- read_csv(file.path(dir_path, "demo_lang_vsl_pca_hc.csv"))</pre>
```

Now we extract SubjID from the ERPset column

We then join the ERP data and language into a single data frame

Divide into word, non-word and difference wave dataframes

Then we do some more formatting and cleanup of the dataframes. We create separate columns, one for each independent variable (anteriority, laterality, morphological family size). To do this we have to use separate function from the stringr package. Run vignette ("programming", package = "dplyr") to see more about tidy-selection and tidy-evaluation.

Now we need to extract just the bins and channels that we intend to analyse. For this analysis we will use 9 channels: F3, Fz, F4, C3, Cz, C4, P3, Pz, P4. We will use themutate function from the dplyr package along with the case_when function. The case_when function is a sequence of two-sided formulas. The left hand side determines which values match this case. The right hand side provides the replacement value.

2 N250 Word Data

2.1 Nested ANOVA Model

```
#Fit ANOVA model
anova model n250 words b <- mixed(
   value ~ Orthographic_Sensitivity * family_size * base_freq +
    (1 + family_size + base_freq | SubjID) + # by-subject intercept + slopes
    (1 | SubjID:chlabel),
                                                # electrode nested within subject
 data = n250_words_b,
 method = "KR"
anova model n250 words b
|| Mixed Model Anova Table (Type 3 tests, KR-method)
|| Model: value ~ Orthographic_Sensitivity * family_size * base_freq +
|| Model: (1 + family_size + base_freq | SubjID) + (1 | SubjID:chlabel)
|| Data: n250_words_b
                                            Effect
                                                                   F p.value
11
                                                        df
                                                                0.03
                          Orthographic_Sensitivity
11 1
                                                     1, 59
                                                                        .854
                                                                1.07
                                                                        .306
11 2
                                      family_size 1, 59
              base_freq 1, 59
Orthographic_Sensitivity:family_size 1, 59
                                                                         .294
11 3
                                                                1.12
                                                                        .762
11 4
                                                                0.09
11 5
               Orthographic_Sensitivity:base_freq 1, 59
                                                                0.12
                                                                         .734
                           family_size:base_freq 1, 1523 35.14 ***
                                                                        <.001
| 7 Orthographic_Sensitivity:family_size:base_freq 1, 1523
                                                                0.02
                                                                        .884
11 ---
|| Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '+' 0.1 ' ' 1
m1 <- anova_model_n250_words_b$full_model
                                           # Extract the lmer model
ranova(m1) # Run random effects comparison
|| ANOVA-like table for random-effects: Single term deletions
11
|| Model:
| value ~ Orthographic_Sensitivity + family_size + base_freq + (1 + family_size + base_freq | SubjID) + (1 | SubjID:chlabel) + Orthographic_Sensi
                                                        npar logLik AIC
                                                                              LRT Df Pr(>Chisq)
11
                                                          16 -4489.4 9010.8
| | <none>
|| family_size in (1 + family_size + base_freq | SubjID)
                                                          13 -4803.0 9631.9 627.07 3 < 2.2e-16 ***
|| base_freq in (1 + family_size + base_freq | SubjID)
                                                          13 -4716.5 9459.0 454.13 3 < 2.2e-16 ***
                                                          15 -4684.5 9399.0 390.18 1 < 2.2e-16 ***
|| (1 | SubjID:chlabel)
|| Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
# Extract effect sizes from your ANOVA model
eta_squared(anova_model_n250_words_b, partial = TRUE)
|| # Effect Size for ANOVA (Type III)
|| Parameter
                                                 | Eta2 (partial) |
                                                         5.82e-04 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity
                                                             0.02 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| family_size
                                                             0.02 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| base_freq
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity:family_size
                                                         1.56e-03 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity:base_freq
                                                         1.97e-03 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| family_size:base_freq
                                                             0.02 | [0.01, 1.00]
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity:family_size:base_freq |
                                                         1.40e-05 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| - One-sided CIs: upper bound fixed at [1.00].
\# Compute Marginal (fixed effects only) and Conditional (fixed + random effects) R^2
r2(anova_model_n250_words_b)
|| # R2 for Mixed Models
11
11
    Conditional R2: 0.786
\Pi
       Marginal R2: 0.008
```

2.2 Significant Effects

Effect	df	F	p.value	
family_size:base_freq	1, 1523	35.14 ***	<.001	6.76e-03

2.2.1 Main Effects

No significant main effects

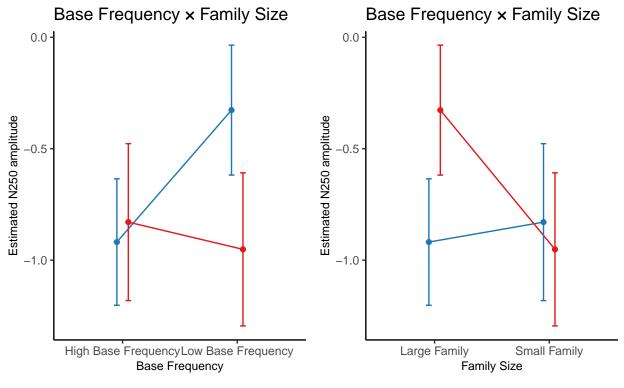
2.2.2 Interactions

```
# `base_freq` x `family_size` interaction
# Estimated marginal means for the family_size \times base_freq interaction
emm <- emmeans(anova_model_n250_words_b, ~ family_size * base_freq)</pre>
# Look at the table of estimated means
emm
                                              SE df lower.CL upper.CL
|| family_size base_freq
                                     emmean
|| Large Family High Base Frequency -0.919 0.284 60.4 -1.49
   Small Family High Base Frequency -0.829 0.352 59.9
                                                           -1.53
                                                                    -0.125
| Large Family Low Base Frequency -0.327 0.292 60.3
|| Small Family Low Base Frequency -0.952 0.344 59.9
                                                           -1.64
                                                                   -0.264
|| Results are averaged over the levels of: Orthographic_Sensitivity
|| Degrees-of-freedom method: kenward-roger
|| Confidence level used: 0.95
{\it \# Simple \ effects \ of \ family\_size \ at \ each \ level \ of \ base\_freq}
contrast(emm, method = "pairwise", by = "base_freq", adjust = "holm")
|| base_freq = High Base Frequency:
                                            SE df t.ratio p.value
|| contrast
                                estimate
|| Large Family - Small Family -0.0895 0.266 65.5 -0.337 0.7375
|| base_freq = Low Base Frequency:
|| contrast
                                estimate
                                            SE df t.ratio p.value
|| Large Family - Small Family 0.6246 0.266 65.5 2.350 0.0218
|| Results are averaged over the levels of: Orthographic_Sensitivity
|| Degrees-of-freedom method: kenward-roger
# Simple effects of base_freq at each level of family_size
contrast(emm, method = "pairwise", by = "family_size", adjust = "holm")
|| family_size = Large Family:
                                             estimate SE df t.ratio p.value
II contrast
|| High Base Frequency - Low Base Frequency -0.592 0.23 68 -2.576 0.0122
11
|| family_size = Small Family:
                                              estimate SE df t.ratio p.value
II contrast
|| High Base Frequency - Low Base Frequency
                                                0.122 0.23 68 0.532 0.5967
\Pi
|| Results are averaged over the levels of: Orthographic_Sensitivity
|| Degrees-of-freedom method: kenward-roger
# Interaction contrasts (e.g., difference of differences)
contrast(emm, interaction = "pairwise", adjust = "holm")
                                                                          estimate SE df t.ratio p.value
|| family size pairwise
                                base_freq_pairwise
|| Large Family - Small Family High Base Frequency - Low Base Frequency -0.714 0.12 1523 -5.928 <.0001
11
|| Results are averaged over the levels of: Orthographic_Sensitivity
|| Degrees-of-freedom method: kenward-roger
```

For large-family words, N250 amplitude is more negative when base frequency is high than when it is low. For small-family words, base frequency has little effect. For low-frequency bases, small-family words elicit more negative amplitudes than large-family words.

- At High Base Frequency: Large vs. Small family → no difference (p = .74). Family size doesn't matter when base frequency is high.
- Within Small Family: High vs. Low base frequency → not significant (p = .60). Small-family words are unaffected by base frequency.
- At Low Base Frequency: Large vs. Small family \rightarrow significant difference (p = .022). Small-family words yield more negative amplitudes than large-family words, but only when base frequency is low.
- Within Large Family: High vs. Low base frequency \rightarrow significant (p = .012). Large-family words show more negative amplitudes when their base frequency is high.

2.3 Plots



3 N250 Nonword Data

3.1 Compute the ANOVA

```
anova_model_n250_nonwords <- mixed(</pre>
   value ~ Orthographic_Sensitivity * family_size * complexity +
    (1 + family_size + complexity | SubjID) +  # by-subject intercept + slopes
(1 | SubjID:chlabel),  # electrode nested within subject
        = n250_nonwords,
 data
 method = "KR"
anova model n250 nonwords
|| Mixed Model Anova Table (Type 3 tests, KR-method)
|| Model: value ~ Orthographic_Sensitivity * family_size * complexity +
           (1 + family_size + complexity | SubjID) + (1 | SubjID:chlabel)
|| Data: n250_nonwords
                                               Effect
                            Orthographic_Sensitivity 1, 59 0.05 family_size 1, 59 0.11
|| 1
|| 2
|| 3
                                           complexity 1, 59
                                                                0.01
                Orthographic_Sensitivity:family_size 1, 59
                                                                0.00
                Orthographic_Sensitivity:complexity 1, 59 0.20
family_size:complexity 1, 1523 1.92
|| 5
                                                                          .653
|| 7 Orthographic_Sensitivity:family_size:complexity 1, 1523 4.58 *
|| Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '+' 0.1 ' ' 1
m1 <- anova_model_n250_nonwords$full_model  # Extract the lmer model
ranova(m1) # Run random effects comparison
|| ANOVA-like table for random-effects: Single term deletions
| value ~ Orthographic_Sensitivity + family_size + complexity + (1 + family_size + complexity | SubjID) + (1 | SubjID:chlabel) + Orthographic_Sensitivity
                                                            npar logLik AIC LRT Df Pr(>Chisq)
                                                             16 -4507.1 9046.2
|| family_size in (1 + family_size + complexity | SubjID)
                                                             13 -4722.5 9471.1 430.90 3 < 2.2e-16 ***
|| complexity in (1 + family_size + complexity | SubjID)
                                                            13 -4855.6 9737.3 697.12 3 < 2.2e-16 ***
|| (1 | SubjID:chlabel)
                                                              15 -4708.3 9446.5 402.33 1 < 2.2e-16 ***
|| Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
# Extract effect sizes from your ANOVA model
eta_squared(anova_model_n250_nonwords, partial = TRUE)
|| # Effect Size for ANOVA (Type III)
| | Parameter
                                                     | Eta2 (partial) |
                                                                               95% CI
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity
                                                             8.51e-04 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| family_size
                                                             1.90e-03 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| complexity
                                                             1.48e-04 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity:family_size
                                                             2.97e-06 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity:complexity
                                                             3.44e-03 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| family_size:complexity
                                                             1.26e-03 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity:family_size:complexity |
                                                             3.00e-03 | [0.00, 1.00]
|| - One-sided CIs: upper bound fixed at [1.00].
{\it \# Compute Marginal (fixed effects only) \ and \ Conditional (fixed + random effects) \ R^2}
r2(anova_model_n250_nonwords)
|| # R2 for Mixed Models
11
     Conditional R2: 0.759
11
        Marginal R2: 0.002
```

3.2 Main Effects

No main effects.

3.3 Interactions

A three way interaction between

• Sensitivity × Family Size × Complexity: significant (p = .033).

3.3.1 Simple Contrasts

Compare High vs Low Orthographic Sensitivity within each combination of Family Size and Complexity

This gives you: 4 contrasts: one for each Family Size × Complexity combination. Each shows whether High vs Low Orthographic Sensitivity differs significantly

If simple effects aren't significant, try looking at interaction contrasts, which test differences in the differences. You're now asking: Does the effect of Sensitivity change more in some complexity/family combinations than others?

```
# 1. Get the EMM grid for all combinations
(emm1 <- emmeans(anova_model_n250_nonwords, ~ Orthographic_Sensitivity * family_size * complexity))
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity family_size complexity emmean
                                                         SE df lower.CL upper.CL
   High Orthographic
                          Large Family Complex
                                                -0.495 0.400 60.2
                                                                   -1.29
                          Large Family Complex
                                                -0.607 0.449 60.2
   Low Orthographic
                          Small Family Complex
   High Orthographic
                                                -0.785 0.377 60.4
                                                                   -1.54
                                                                          -0.0312
   Low Orthographic
                          Small Family Complex
                                                -0.632 0.423 60.4
                                                                   -1.48
                                                                          0.2138
11
|| High Orthographic
                          Large Family Simple
                                                -0.609 0.398 60.2
                                                                   -1.40
                                                                           0.1858
|| Low Orthographic
                          Large Family Simple
                                                -0.713 0.446 60.2
                                                                   -1.61
                                                                           0.1799
|| High Orthographic
                          Small Family Simple
                                                -0.471 0.393 60.3
                                                                   -1.26
                                                                           0.3151
|| Low Orthographic
                          Small Family Simple
                                                -0.829 0.441 60.3
                                                                   -1.71
                                                                           0.0542
|| Degrees-of-freedom method: kenward-roger
|| Confidence level used: 0.95
# "Simple effects" contrasts:
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity = High Orthographic, family_size = Large Family:
                 estimate SE df t.ratio p.value
11
   Complex - Simple 0.115 0.377 64.8 0.304 0.7619
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity = Low Orthographic, family_size = Large Family:
                estimate SE df t.ratio p.value
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity = High Orthographic, family_size = Small Family:
               estimate SE df t.ratio p.value
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity = Low Orthographic, family_size = Small Family:
                estimate SE df t.ratio p.value
|| Degrees-of-freedom method: kenward-roger
# b) Effect of family_size within each Sensitivity × complexity cell
(contrast(emm1, method = "pairwise", by = c("Orthographic_Sensitivity", "complexity"),
    simple = "family_size", adjust = "holm"))
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity = High Orthographic, complexity = Complex:
                             estimate
                                       SE df t.ratio p.value
   contrast
|| Large Family - Small Family 0.2902 0.301 68.5 0.963 0.3388
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity = Low Orthographic, complexity = Complex:
                                       SE df t.ratio p.value
|| contrast
                             estimate
|| Large Family - Small Family 0.0246 0.338 68.5 0.073 0.9422
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity = High Orthographic, complexity = Simple:
                             estimate
                                       SE df t.ratio p.value
|| Large Family - Small Family -0.1380 0.301 68.5 -0.458 0.6482
|| Orthographic_Sensitivity = Low Orthographic, complexity = Simple:
|| contrast
                             estimate
                                       SE df t.ratio p.value
|| Large Family - Small Family 0.1160 0.338 68.5 0.343 0.7326
|| Degrees-of-freedom method: kenward-roger
# c) Effect of Sensitivity within each family_size × complexity cell
(contrast(emm1, method = "pairwise", by = c("family_size", "complexity"),
    simple = "Orthographic_Sensitivity", adjust = "holm"))
|| family_size = Large Family, complexity = Complex:
                                                SE df t.ratio p.value
                                     estimate
  High Orthographic - Low Orthographic
                                       0.113 0.601 60.2 0.187 0.8520
|| family_size = Small Family, complexity = Complex:
                                     estimate SE df t.ratio p.value
|| High Orthographic - Low Orthographic -0.153 0.566 60.4 -0.270 0.7880
```

```
|| family_size = Large Family, complexity = Simple:
                                                  SE df t.ratio p.value
| contrast
                                       estimate
|| High Orthographic - Low Orthographic
                                         0.103 0.598 60.2 0.172 0.8637
11
|| family_size = Small Family, complexity = Simple:
                                                  SE df t.ratio p.value
11
  contrast
                                       estimate
|| High Orthographic - Low Orthographic
                                         0.357 0.591 60.3 0.604 0.5481
|| Degrees-of-freedom method: kenward-roger
```

3.3.2 Interaction Contrasts

The interaction contrast tests:

Is the difference in the effect of A across levels of B different at Complex vs. Simple levels?

Mathematically

```
You're testing:
                    [[(A_1 - A_2) \text{ in } B_1] - [(A_1 - A_2) \text{ in } B_2] \text{ in Condition } C_1] - [[(A_1 - A_2) in B_1] - [(A_1 - A_2) in B_2] \text{ in Condition } C_2]
# Interaction contrasts (difference-of-differences)
# Compare (complexity effect in large vs small family) across sensitivity
(contrast(emm1, interaction = c("pairwise", "pairwise"), by = NULL, adjust = "holm"))
     Orthographic_Sensitivity_pairwise family_size_pairwise complexity_pairwise High Orthographic - Low Orthographic Large Family - Small Family Complex - Simple
                                                                                                                                                                                                       SE
                                                                                                                                        complexity_pairwise estimate
                                                                                                                                                                                                                 df t.ratio p.value
                                                                                                                                                                                       0.52 0.243 1523 2.140 0.0325
11
11
|| Degrees-of-freedom method: kenward-roger
# (contrast(emm1, interaction = c("pairwise", "pairwise"), combine = TRUE, adjust = "bonferroni"))
# Optionally: get confidence intervals
(confint(contrast(emm1, interaction = c("pairwise", "pairwise"))))
                                                                                                                                                                                                              df lower.CL upper.CL
       Orthographic_Sensitivity_pairwise
                                                                              family_size_pairwise
                                                                                                                                                                                                        SE
                                                                                                                                         complexity pairwise estimate
|| High Orthographic - Low Orthographic Large Family - Small Family Complex - Simple
                                                                                                                                                                                        0.52 0.243 1523 0.0433
11
|| Degrees-of-freedom method: kenward-roger
| | Confidence level used: 0.95
all_contr <- contrast(emm1, interaction = c("pairwise", "pairwise"), combine = TRUE, adjust = "bonferroni")
# 1. Summarize contrasts
sumc <- summary(all_contr)</pre>
# Construct a contrast name string
contrast_name <- paste( sumc$Orthographic_Sensitivity_pairwise, sumc$family_size_pairwise,</pre>
   sumc$complexity_pairwise,sep = "
                                                                         ") # or whatever separator you prefer
# 2. Extract values
est <- sumc$estimate
se <- sumc$SE
df_contr <- sumc$df
# 3. Use the sigma you found
lm_mod <- anova_model_n250_nonwords$full_model</pre>
sigma_val <- sigma(lm_mod)</pre>
# 4. Compute d and its SE
d <- est / sigma val
se_d <- se / sigma_val
# 5. Confidence intervals for d (t critical)
alpha <- 0.05
tcrit <- qt(1 - alpha/2, df_contr)
ci low <- d - tcrit * se_d
ci_high <- d + tcrit * se_d
# 6. Make table
d_table <- data.frame( contrast = contrast_name,</pre>
                                              d = d, se_d = se_d, df = df_contr, ci_low = ci_low, ci_high = ci_high)
d table
                                                                                                                                                                  contrast
                                                                                                                                                                                                                               df
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              ci low
| 1 High Orthographic - Low Orthographic - Large Family - Small Family - Complex - Simple 0.3677209 0.1718511 1523 0.03063102 0.7048107
 Compute the \ effect \ of \ Complexity \ (Complex - Simple) \ within \ each \ Orthographic \ Sensitivity \times Family \ Size \ combination. \ High \ Sensitivity - Family \ Size \ Complexity \ (Complex - Simple) \ within \ each \ Orthographic \ Sensitivity \times Family \ Size \ combination. \ High \ Sensitivity - Family \ Size \ Complexity \ (Complex - Simple) \ within \ each \ Orthographic \ Sensitivity - Family \ Size \ Complexity \ (Complex - Simple) \ within \ each \ Orthographic \ Sensitivity - Family \ Size \ Complexity \ (Complex - Simple) \ within \ each \ Orthographic \ Sensitivity - Family \ Size \ Complex \ (Complex - Simple) \ within \ each \ Orthographic \ Sensitivity - Family \ Size \ Complex \ (Complex - Simple) \ within \ each \ Orthographic \ Sensitivity - Family \ Size \ Complex \ (Complex - Simple) \ within \ each \ (Complex - Simple) \ within \ (Complex - Simple \ (
Large Family: Complex - Simple = -0.495 - (-0.609) = +0.114
```

High Sensitivity- Small Family: Complex - Simple = -0.785 - (-0.471) = -0.314

```
Low Sensitivity - Large Family: Complex - Simple = -0.607 - (-0.713) = +0.106
Low Sensitivity - Small Family: Complex - Simple = -0.632 - (-0.829) = +0.197
```

Compute the difference of differences: compare how the effect of complexity differs across sensitivity groups: (High Sensitivity complexity effect) - (Low Sensitivity complexity effect)

For Large Family:

```
High: +0.114

Low: +0.106

Difference: 0.114 - 0.106 = +0.008

For Small Family:

High: -0.314

Low: +0.197

Difference: -0.314 - (+0.197) = -0.511
```

This is a reversal of the complexity effect between High and Low sensitivity participants for Small Family nonwords — and that's the core of your significant 3-way interaction.

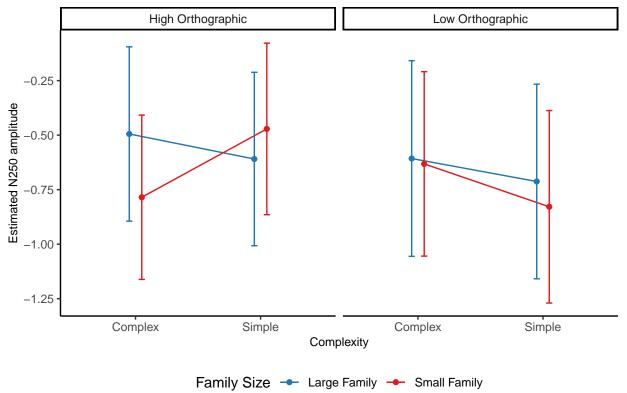
Now take the difference of these differences (Small - Large): -0.511 - 0.008 = -0.519. That's the interaction contrast estimate: -0.52, p = .0325

The three-way interaction reflects the fact that High and Low sensitivity participants show opposite complexity effects — but only in the Small Family condition. In Large families, their complexity effects are essentially the same.

In Small families, High sensitivity participants respond more negatively to complex items, white Low sensitivity participants respond more negatively to simple items.

This crossover in the complexity effect is what drives the significant interaction — even though none of the simple effects are individually significant.





Interpretation - This is an interaction contrast (a "contrast of contrasts") across your three factors (Orthographic Sensitivity \times Family Size \times Complexity).

• Specifically, it is testing whether the difference (Complex - Simple) for (Large Family vs. Small Family) differs between the two levels of Orthographic Sensitivity.

The contrast is asking: "Is the effect of complexity, in the contrast Large vs. Small family, different in High Orthographic vs.Low Orthographic participants?"

- The estimate = 0.52 is the difference in differences (i.e. the slope difference) on your response metric (N250 amplitude).
 - $-SE=0.243, df=1523, t=2.140 \rightarrow \text{ yields } p=0.0325, \text{ so it is statistically significant (given Bonferroni correction, etc.)}.$
- Because you used adjust = "bonferroni" and combine = TRUE, this contrast is part of a "family" of interaction contrasts that have been adjusted for multiple comparisons.

So in more conversational terms: you have evidence that High Orthographic readers show a different complexity × family size effect than Low Orthographic readers — in particular, in how the complexity effect (Complex vs. Simple) differs when comparing Large vs. Small family

Suggests that sensitivity does influence the N250, but only in how it modulates the joint effect of family size and complexity. In other words: the way family size and complexity interact depends on whether participants are orthographically sensitive or not.

- Marginal $R^2 = 0.2$ -> the fixed predictors (including sensitivity) account for very little variance overall.
- Conditional $R^2 = 76$ -> most variance is indeed explained by subjects and electrodes (as anticipated).

Most of the variability in N250 amplitude reflects differences across participants and electrode sites, as expected for ERP data. Orthographic sensitivity did not produce an overall shift in N250 responses, but it did moderate the combined influence of family size and morphological complexity. This interaction was statistically significant but accounted for only a very small portion of the variance. Thus, orthographic sensitivity may play a role in how multiple lexical factors are integrated during early morphological processing, though the effect is subtle.