

A self-report measure for familiarity with mental silence

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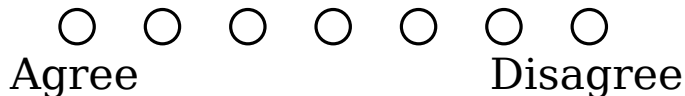
08 Mar 2013



[http://people.virginia.edu/~jnp3bc/subjectiveTime/
mental.gif](http://people.virginia.edu/~jnp3bc/subjectiveTime/mental.gif)



“Complete mental silence” is bunk. Anyone who thinks that he or she has experienced “complete mental silence” needs to have his or her head examined.



$$\forall x \in \{0, 1, \dots, m_i\}, \quad P_{ijx} = \frac{\exp \left[\sum_{k=0}^x \alpha_{ik} (\theta_j - \delta_{ik}) \right]}{\sum_{h=0}^{m_i} \left[\exp \sum_{k=0}^h \alpha_{ik} (\theta_j - \delta_{ik}) \right]}$$

where θ_j is person j 's trait level, δ_{ik} is the difficulty of the item i at category k , α_{ik} is the discrimination of the item i at category k , and summing across all persons j , item parameters α and δ are centered at zero

$$\sum_j \alpha_{ij} (\theta - \delta_{ij}) \equiv 0.$$



	Total	Women	Men
Subjects Pool	570	395	173
Web Surfers	362	203	151

Ten subjects did not disclose their sex.

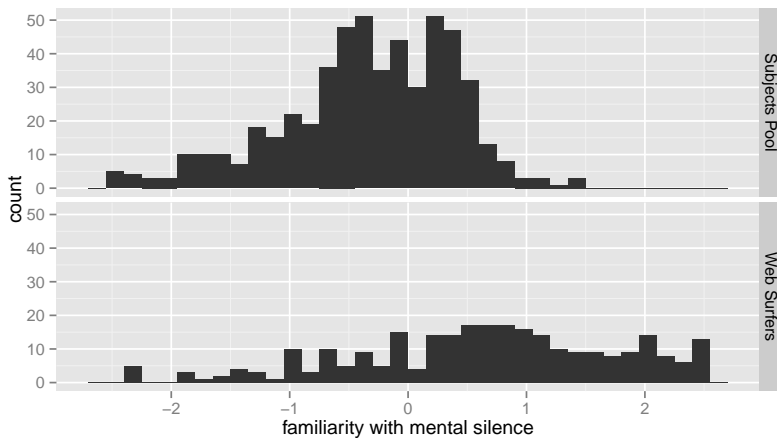
Age:

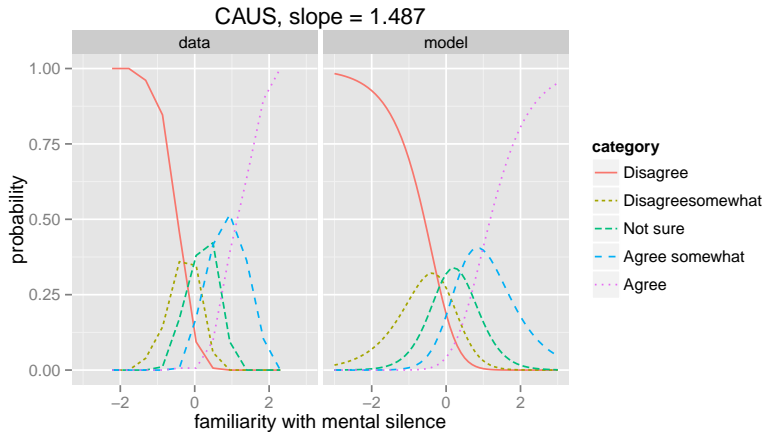
	Min	25th	Median	75th	Max
Subjects Pool	17	18	19	19	29
Web Surfers	13	26	37	51	83

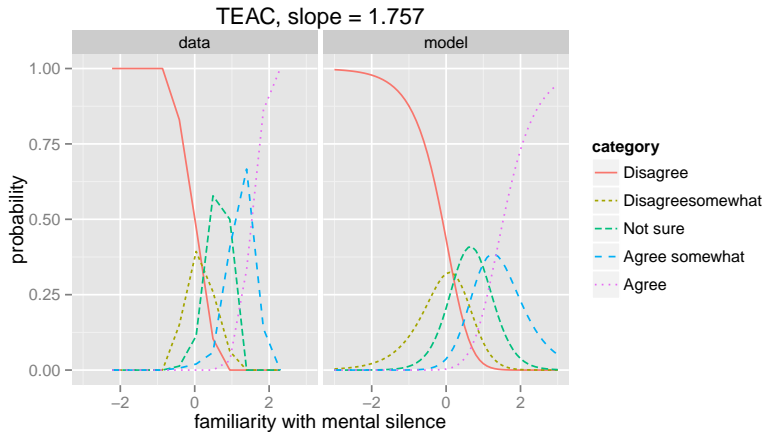


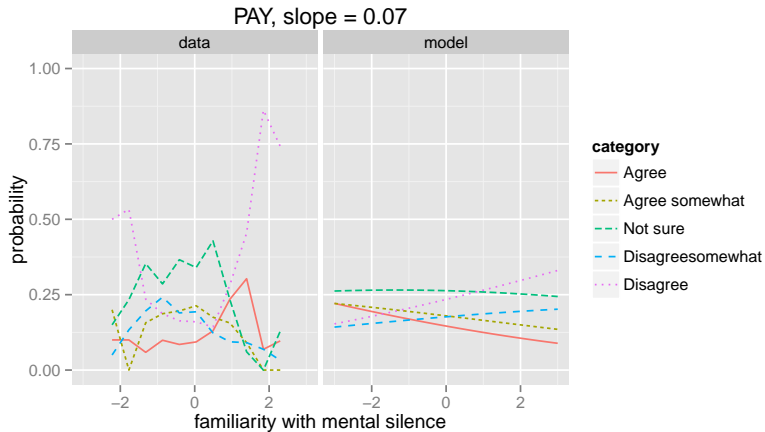
	Min	25th	Median	75th	Max
item location SE	0.04	0.06	0.12	0.17	1.13
item slope SE	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.13
person SE	0.24	0.24	0.28	0.36	0.64

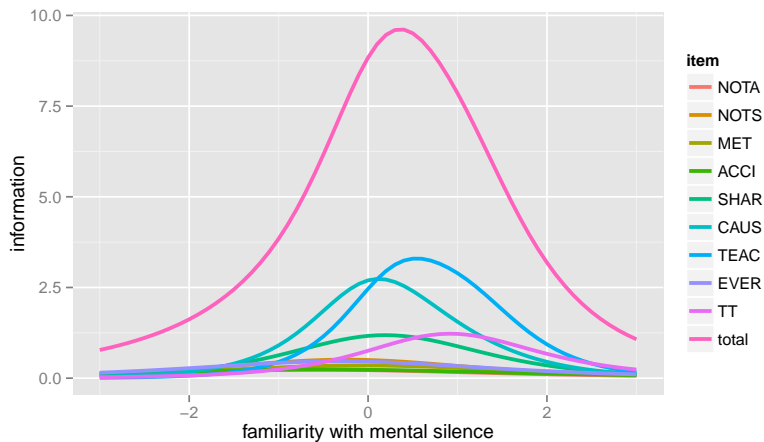












	Min	25th	Median	75th	Max
Person infit	0.10	0.43	0.67	1.06	3.23
Person outfit	0.10	0.41	0.60	0.90	3.20



3 highest infits (response patterns that are least expected)

	399	810	67
Infit	3.23	3.23	2.8
msNotAny	Agree	Agree	Disagree
msNotSelf	Agree	Agree	Disagree
msMet	Agree	Agree	Agree
msAccident	Agree	Agree	Disagree
msShared	Agree	Agree	Disagree
msCause	Agree	Agree	Agree
msTeach	Agree	Agree	Agree
msEvery	Agree	Agree	Agree
msPay	Agree	Agree	Agree
msTrainTeach	Agree	Agree	Agree



2 lowest infits (response patterns that are too good to be true)

	362	472
Infit	0.1	0.12
msNotAny	Disagree somewhat	Not sure
msNotSelf	Disagree somewhat	Not sure
msMet	Agree somewhat	Disagree somewhat
msAccident	Agree somewhat	Disagree somewhat
msShared	Agree somewhat	Disagree somewhat
msCause	Agree somewhat	Disagree
msTeach	Not sure	Disagree
msEvery	Not sure	Not sure
msPay	Not sure	Not sure
msTrainTeach	Not sure	Disagree



Thank you

Your name here?

David Germano, Jean Hu, Michael Kubovy, Susanna Williams



How familiar are you with the notion of complete mental silence?

- ▶ This is the first time I have thought about it.
- ▶ The notion has crossed my mind, but I'm not sure what it means to me.
- ▶ I have discussed it with friends.
- ▶ I have read something about it.
- ▶ I study the topic with interest.



I intentionally create favorable conditions to allow myself to experience complete mental silence.

- ▶ Agree
- ▶ Agree somewhat
- ▶ Not sure
- ▶ Disagree somewhat
- ▶ Disagree



How certain are you about whether it is ethical to pay money in exchange for learning how to experience complete mental silence?

- ▶ This is the first time I have thought about it.
- ▶ The question has crossed my mind but I'm not sure.
- ▶ I have discussed it with friends but I'm not sure.
- ▶ I have a gut feeling about whether it is ethical.
- ▶ My mind is made up about whether it is ethical.

