# Chapter 8

#### **Chapter Precap**

- Prior predictive checks and the importance of these for model building.
- How to specify more specific prior probabilities for individual model parameters.
- We introduce heteroscedastic models, that is, models with error terms that vary from observation to observation.
- We present a 'simple' model that includes only variation in the error term across two conditions.
- We present a 'complex' model that features listener-dependent error terms fit using shrinkage, in addition to the equivalent of listener 'random effects' for the error term.
- Finally, we discuss building identifiable models, models supported by the available data, collinearity, linear dependence, and saturated models.

#### **More About Priors**

• I many cases (in linguistics) the prior will have little to no practical effect.

 Use domain knowledge to get priors in the ballpark: 12 lightyears or 12 nanometers?

• Sometimes this is easy (human height), sometimes this is not so easy (the effect of lexical frequency on log reaction times).

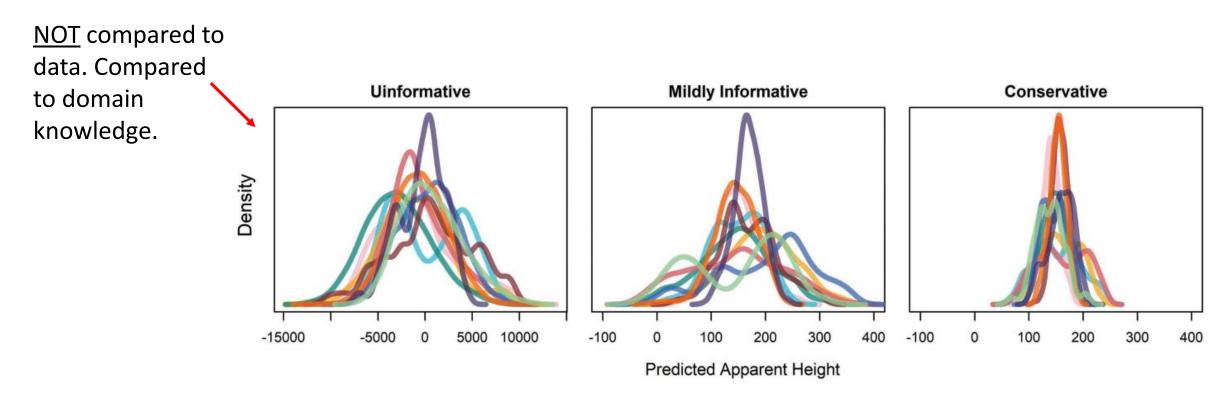
#### **Prior Predictive Checks**

• Create fake data sampling only from the prior (ignore the likelihood i.e. the data).

#### **Prior Predictive Checks**

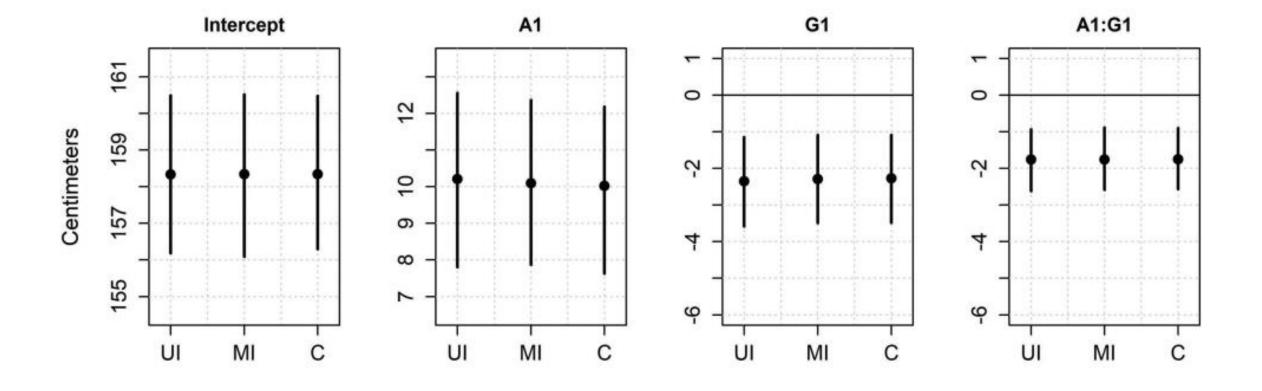
```
priors = c(brms::set_prior("student t(3,156, 1000)", class = "Intercept"),
                                         brms::set prior("student t(3,0, 1000)", class = "b"),
Uninformative
                                         brms::set prior("student t(3,0, 1000)", class = "sd"),
    Priors
                                         brms::set prior("lkj corr cholesky (1000)", class = "cor"),
                                         brms::set prior("student t(3,0, 1000)", class = "sigma"))
                              priors = c(brms::set prior("student t(3,156, 12)", class = "Intercept"),
   Mildly
                                         brms::set prior("student t(3,0, 12)", class = "b"),
                                         brms::set prior("student t(3,0, 12)", class = "sd"),
 informative
                                         brms::set prior("lkj corr cholesky (12)", class = "cor"),
    Priors
                                         brms::set prior("student t(3,0, 12)", class = "sigma"))
                              priors = c(brms::set prior("student t(3,156, 6)", class = "Intercept"),
                                          brms::set prior("student t(3,0, 6)", class = "b"),
 Conservative
                                         brms::set prior("student t(3,0, 6)", class = "sd"),
    Priors
                                          brms::set prior("lkj corr cholesky (2)", class = "cor"),
                                          brms::set prior("student t(3,0, 6)", class = "sigma"))
```

#### **Prior Predictive Checks**



#### No Effect on Results!

UI: Uninformative MI: Mildly informative C: Conservative



#### More Specific Priors

```
# we omit empty columns to let the output fit on the page
bmmb::prior_summary(model_mildly_informative)[,-c(5:9)]
##
                   prior
                             class
                                        coef group
                                                    source
##
      student t (3,0, (12)
                                                      user
      student t (3,0, 12)
##
                                          A1
                                                   default
      student t(3,0, 12)
##
                                       A1:G1 default
##
      student t(3,0,12)
                                                   default
                                          G1
   student t(3,156, 12) Intercept
                                                      user
   lkj corr cholesky (2)
                                                      user
##
   lkj corr cholesky (2)
                                                 L default
      student t (3,0, 12)
##
                                sd
                                                      user
##
      student t (3,0, 12)
                                sd
                                                 L default
##
      student t(3,0, 12)
                                          A1
                                                 L default
                                sd
##
      student t(3,0, 12)
                                      A1:G1 L default
                                sd
##
      student t(3,0, 12)
                                sd
                                          G1 L default
##
      student t(3,0, 12)
                                sd Intercept
                                                 L default
##
      student t(3,0, 12)
                                sd
                                                 S default
##
      student t(3,0,12)
                                sd/Intercept
                                                 S default
       student t(3,0,12)
                             sigma
                                                      user
```

#### More Specific Priors

```
priors =
 c(set prior("student t(3,156, 6)", class = "Intercept"),
   set prior("student t(3,0, 6)", class = "b"),
    set prior("student t(3,0, 10)", class = "b", coef = "A1")
   set prior("student t(3,0, 3)", class = "b", coef = "G1"),
   set prior("student t(3,0, 10)", class = "sd"),
   set prior("student t(3,0,5)", class = "sd", coef = "A1", group="L"),
   set prior("student t(3,0, 1.5)", class = "sd", coef = "G1", group="L"),
   set prior("lkj corr cholesky (2)", class = "cor"),
                                                                bmmb::prior summary(prior informative)[,-c(5:8)]
   set prior("student t(3,0, 6)", class = "sigma"))
                                                                                               class
                                                                                                          coef group
                                                                                     prior
                                                                        student t(3,0, 6)
                                                                       student t(3,0, 10)
                                                                       student t(3,0, 10)
                                                                                                         A1:G1
                                                                        student t(3,0, 3)
                                                                      student t(3,156, 6) Intercept
                                                                    1ki corr cholesky (2)
                                                                    1kj corr cholesky (2)
                                                                       student t(3,0, 10)
                                                                                                  sd
                                                                       student t(3,0, 10)
                                                                                                  sd
                                                                        student t(3,0,5)
                                                                                                  sd
                                                                        student t(3,0,5)
                                                                                                         A1:G1
                                                                                                  sd
                                                                      student t(3,0, 1.5)
                                                                                                  sd
                                                                      student t(3,0, 1.5)
                                                                                                  sd Intercept
```

A1

G1

A1

G1

sd

sigma

sd Intercept

student t(3,0, 1.5)

student t(3,0, 1.5)

student t(3,0,6)

L

L

L

#### Data and Research Questions

```
library (brms)
library (bmmb)
data (exp_data)
options (contrasts = c('contr.sum', 'contr.sum'))
```

- L: A number from 1 to 15 indicating which *listener* responded to the trial.
- height: A number representing the *height* (in centimeters) reported for the speaker on each trial.
- S: A number from 1 to 139 indicating which *speaker* produced the trial stimulus.
- G: The apparent gender of the speaker indicated by the listener, f (female) or m (male).
- A: The apparent age of the speaker indicated by the listener, a (adult) or c (child).
  - (Q1) Does our error standard deviation vary as a function of apparent speaker age?
  - (Q2) Does our error standard deviation vary as a function of the listener?

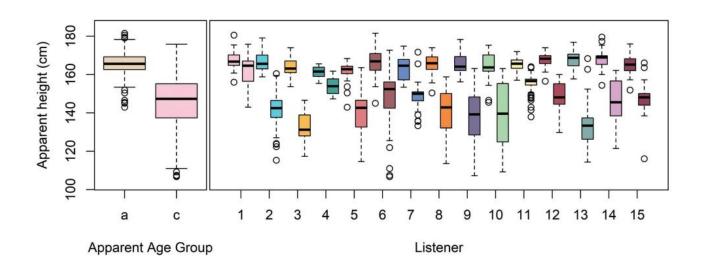
### Homoskedasticity

 Most regression models only predict variation in means.

height<sub>[i]</sub> ~ N(
$$\mu_{[i]}$$
, $\sigma$ )  

$$\mu_{[i]} = x_1 + x_2 + ... + x_p$$

• A single error variance is assumed for all data (i.e.,  $\sigma$  doesn't get a subscript).

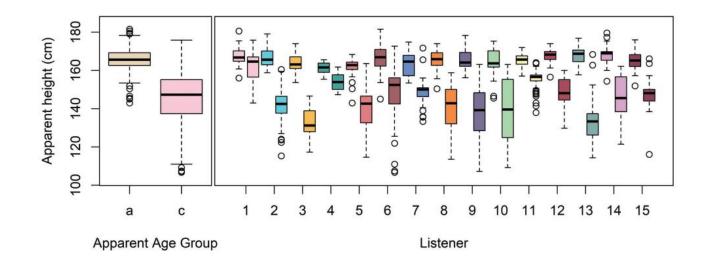


### Heteroskedasticity

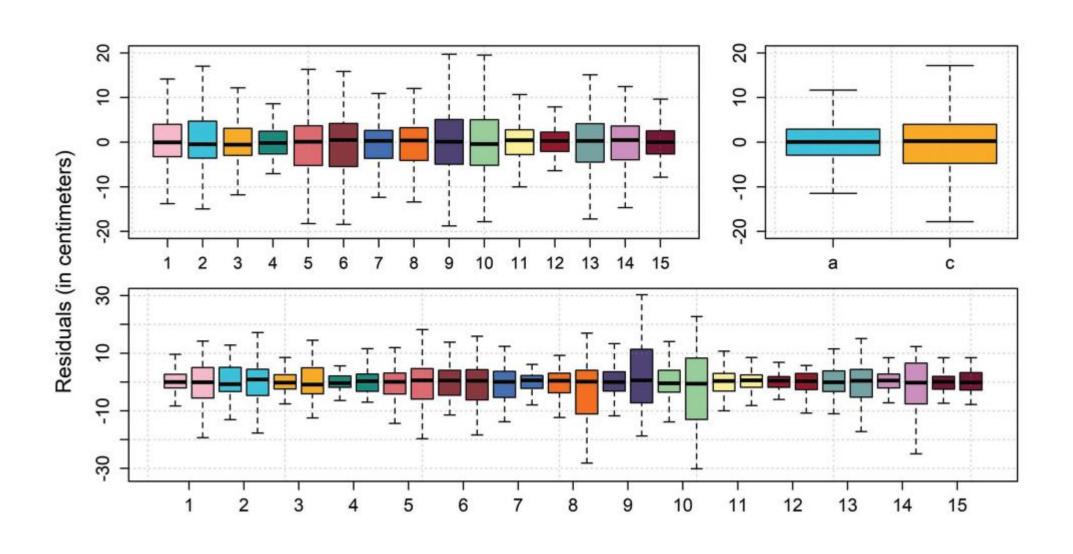
- With Bayesian models it is trivial to model variation in error variances as well.
- Different error variances can exist for different data (i.e.,  $\sigma$  does get a subscript).

height<sub>[i]</sub> ~ N(
$$\mu_{[i]}$$
,  $\sigma_{[i]}$ )
$$\mu_{[i]} = x_1 + x_2 + ... + x_p$$

$$\sigma_{[i]} = x_{\sigma 1} + x_{\sigma 2} + ... + x_{\sigma p} \longleftarrow$$



## Heteroskedasticity



#### Description of Our Model

Chapter 6 height 
$$\sim A + G + A:G + (A + G + A:G|L) + (1|S)$$

Together in one model

New component, similar to chapter 5.

```
model\_formula = brms::bf(height ~ A*G + (A*G|L) + (1|S), sigma ~ A + (A|L))
```

#### Description of Our Model

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{height}_{[i]} - \operatorname{t}\left(v, \mu_{[i]}, \sigma_{[i]}\right) \\ & \mu_{[i]} = \operatorname{Intercept} + A + G + A : G + \\ & L_{\left[\mathsf{L}_{[i]}\right]} + A : L_{\left[\mathsf{L}_{[i]}\right]} + G : L_{\left[\mathsf{L}_{[i]}\right]} + S_{\left[\mathsf{S}_{[i]}\right]} \\ & \log\left(\sigma_{[i]}\right) = \operatorname{Intercept}_{\sigma} + A_{\sigma} \\ & Priors : \\ & S_{\left[\bullet\right]} \sim \operatorname{t}\left(3,0,\sigma_{S}\right) \\ & \left[\begin{array}{c} L_{\left[\bullet\right]} \\ A : L_{\left[\bullet\right]} \\ G : L_{\left[\bullet\right]} \\ A : G : L_{\left[\bullet\right]} \end{array}\right] \sim \operatorname{MVNormal} \begin{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \end{bmatrix}, \Sigma \\ & 0 \\$$

#### Fitting the Model

```
model formula = brms::bf(height \sim A*G + (A*G|L) + (1|S),
                         sigma ~ A)
priors =
  c(set prior("student t(3, 156, 12)", class = "Intercept"),
    set prior("student t(3, 0, 12)", class = "b"),
    set prior("student t(3, 0, 12)", class = "sd"),
    set prior("gamma(2, 0.1)", class = "nu"),
    set prior("normal(0, 1.5)", class = "Intercept", dpar = "sigma"),
    set prior("normal(0, 1.5)", class = "b", dpar = "sigma"),
    set prior("lkj corr cholesky (2)", class = "cor"))
prior A sigma =
 brms::brm (model formula, data = exp data, chains = 4, cores = 4,
             warmup = 1000, iter = 3500, thin = 2, family="student",
             prior = priors, sample prior = "only")
```

#### Inspecting the Fixed Effects

```
fixef (model A sigma)
##
                Estimate Est.Error
                                    02.5
                                           097.5
  Intercept
                158.383 1.10922 156.193 160.6196
  sigma Intercept 1.724
                         0.03265 1.659 1.7881
                11.271
                          1.19021 8.915 13.6901
  G1
                          0.59091 - 4.271 - 1.9084
                -3.067
               -1.528 0.43464 -2.403 -0.6654
  A1:G1
  sigma A1
                         0.02199 -0.290 -0.2036
                -0.247
```

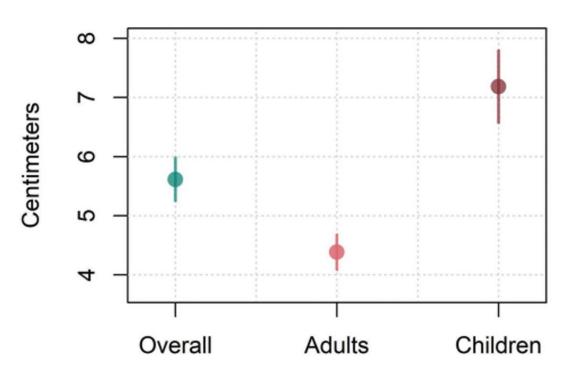
In log units. Must exponentiate values to get original units, i.e.,  $\sigma = \exp(\text{sigma\_Intercept})$ 

### Recovering predicted Sigmas

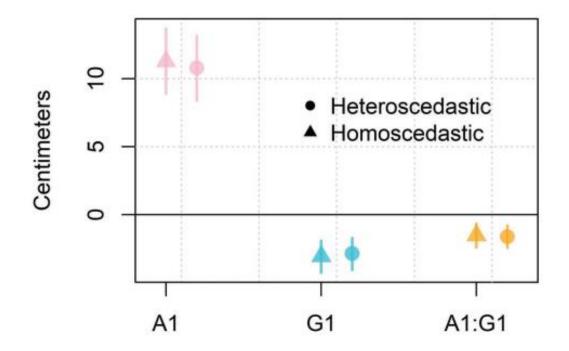
You <u>MUST</u> combine parameters <u>before</u> exponentiating.
Otherwise, the results will be <u>totally wrong</u>.

```
sigmas = short_hypothesis(
  model_A_sigma,
  c("exp(sigma_Intercept) = 0",  # overall sigma
  "exp(sigma_Intercept + sigma_A1) = 0",  # adult sigma
  "exp(sigma_Intercept - sigma_A1) = 0"))  # child sigma
```

```
sigmas[,-5]
## Estimate Est.Error Q2.5 Q97.5
## H1 5.609 0.1830 5.253 5.978
## H2 4.382 0.1526 4.085 4.680
## H3 7.184 0.3115 6.573 7.793
```



#### **Model Comparison**



## A 'Complex' Model

• Our last model had only a 'fixed effect' for apparent age.

sigma ~ A

• If we were predicting the mean, we would want to include random effects for listener.

• We can include these in our prediction of sigma as well.

 $sigma \sim A + (A|L)$ 

#### Our Model Formula

• When we have 'the same' random effects across formulas, we need to let our model know this.

```
model\_formula = brms::bf(height ~ A*G + (A*G|L) + (1|S), sigma ~ A + (A|L))
```

 We do this by putting the same indicator between pipes (|inhere|) before a random effect.

```
model_formula = brms::bf(height \sim A*G + (A*G|x|L) + (1|y|S), sigma \sim A + (A|x|L) + (1|y|S))
```

 Our model will estimate the correlation of random effects across predicted variables!

### **Model Description**

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{height}_{[i]} \sim \operatorname{N}\left(\mu_{[i]}, \sigma_{[i]}\right) \\ \mu_{[i]} &= \operatorname{Intercept} + A + G + A : G + \\ L_{\left[\mathsf{L}_{[i]}\right]} + A : L_{\left[\mathsf{L}_{[i]}\right]} + G : L_{\left[\mathsf{L}_{[i]}\right]} + A : G : L_{\left[\mathsf{L}_{[i]}\right]} + S_{\left[\mathsf{S}_{[i]}\right]} \\ \log\left(\sigma_{[i]}\right) &= \operatorname{Intercept}_{\sigma} + A_{\sigma} + A_{\sigma} : L_{\sigma\left[\mathsf{L}_{[i]}\right]} + L_{\sigma\left[\mathsf{L}_{[i]}\right]} \end{aligned}$$

#### Priors:

$$\begin{bmatrix} L_{[\bullet]} \\ A: L_{[\bullet]} \\ G: L_{[\bullet]} \\ A: G: L_{[\bullet]} \\ L_{\sigma[\bullet]} & \longleftarrow \end{bmatrix} \sim \text{MVNormal} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \Sigma$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} Intercept \sim t(3,156,12) \\ A \sim t(3,0,12) \\ \sigma, \sigma_L, \sigma_{A:L}, \sigma_S \sim t(3,0,12) \\ \sigma, \sigma_L, \sigma_{A:L}, \sigma_S \sim t(3,0,12) \\ Intercept_{\sigma} \sim N(0,1.5) \\ A \sim N(0,1.5) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$S_{[\bullet]} \sim N(0, \sigma_S)$$

Intercept ~ 
$$t(3,156,12)$$
  
 $A \sim t(3,0,12)$ 

Intercept<sub>\sigma</sub> ~ N(0,1.5)  

$$A_{\sigma}$$
 ~ N(0,1.5)  
 $\sigma_{L_{\sigma}}$ ,  $\sigma_{A_{\sigma}:L_{\sigma}}$  ~ N(0,1.5)

$$R \sim LKJCorr(2)$$

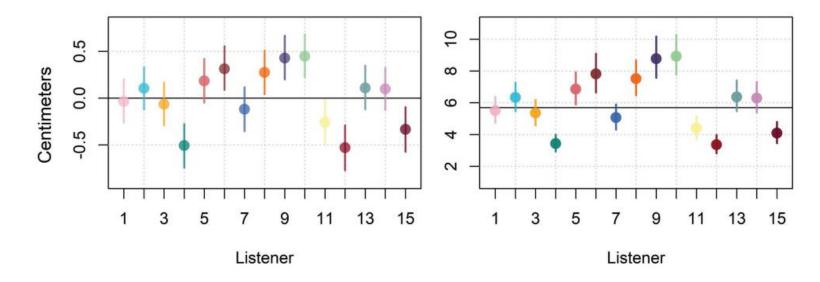
#### Fitting the Model

```
# Fit the model yourself
model formula = brms::bf(height \sim A*G + (A*G|x|L) + (1|S),
                         sigma \sim A + (A|x|L)
priors =
  c(set prior("student t(3, 156, 12)", class = "Intercept"),
    set prior("student t(3, 0, 12)", class = "b"),
    set prior("student t(3, 0, 12)", class = "sd"),
    set prior("gamma(2, 0.1)", class = "nu"),
    set_prior("normal(0, 1.5)", class = "Intercept", dpar = "sigma");
    set_prior("normal(0, 1.5)", class = "b", dpar = "sigma")
    set_prior("normal(0, 1.5)", class = "sd", dpar = "sigma")
    set prior("lkj corr cholesky (2)", class = "cor"))
model A L sigma =
  brms::brm (model formula, data = exp data, chains = 4, cores = 4,
             warmup = 1000, iter = 3500, thin = 2, family="student",
             prior = priors)
```

### Inspecting the Results

```
bmmb::short summary (model A L sigma)
## ...
## sd(sigma Intercept)
                           0.36 0.08 0.24 0.54
## sd(sigma A1)
                            0.17 0.04 0.10
                                                0.27
## ...
                                         -0.67 0.16
## cor(A1, sigma A1)
                         -0.29 0.22
## cor(G1, sigma A1)
                          0.22 0.24 -0.27 0.65
## cor(A1:G1, sigma A1)
                         0.12 0.24 -0.35 0.58
## cor(sigma Intercept, sigma A1) -0.44 0.21 -0.79 0.05
## ...
##
## Population-Level Effects:
      Estimate Est.Error 1-95% CI u-95% CI
## Intercept 158.29 1.10 156.15 160.51
## sigma_Intercept 1.74 0.10 1.55 1.93
## A1
    11.28 1.18 8.98 13.64
## G1 -2.92 0.57 -4.06 -1.80
## A1:G1 -1.63 0.42 -2.47 -0.77
## sigma A1 -0.23 0.05 -0.33 -0.14
##
## Family Specific Parameters:
## Estimate Est.Error 1-95% CI u-95% CI
## nu
       8.07
              1.54
                     5.71
                         11.72
```

#### Listener-dependent Error Terms



#### **Model Comparison**

Our new model is much better.

```
model_A_L_sigma = add_criterion(model_A_L_sigma, "loo")
```

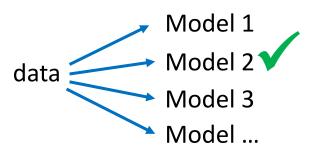
#### Answering our Research Questions

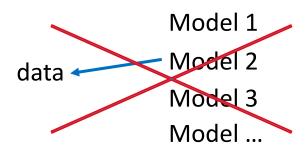
- (Q1) Does our error standard deviation vary as a function of apparent speaker age?
- (Q2) Does our error standard deviation vary as a function of the listener?

- Yes, and yes.
- Some tougher questions are: Which is the 'better/rea' model? Which model should we report?

#### Underdetermination

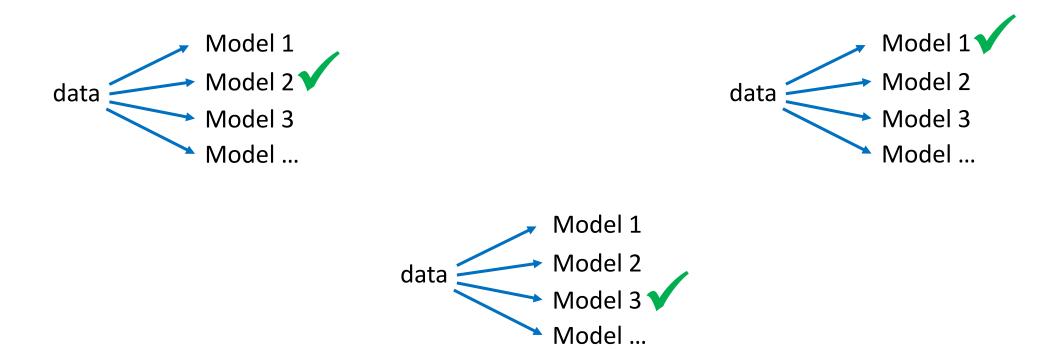
• Given some observations, there are always multiple different interpretations/models.





#### Researcher Degrees of Freedom

• The decisions a researcher makes during design or analysis that affect the model used and conclusions reached.

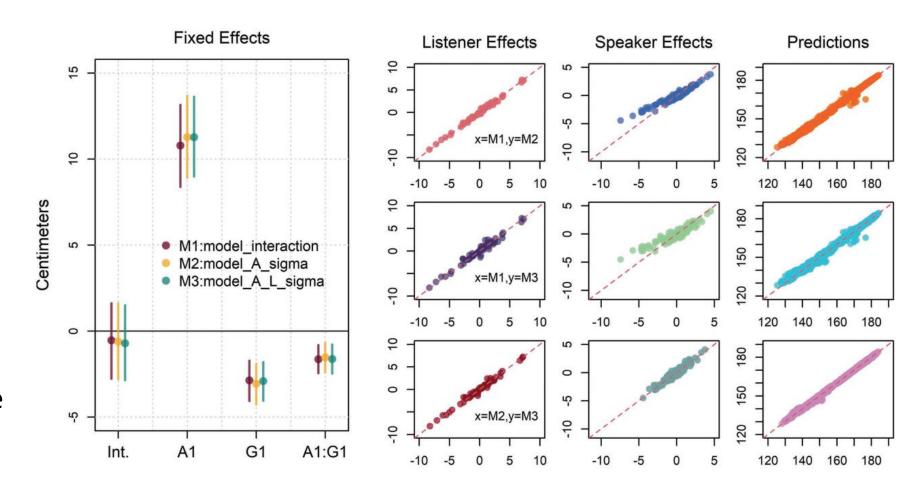


### Which Model To Report?

- Our models represent different information.
- When considering which to report, we can consider two things:
  - 1. Which parameters/information are we interested in?
  - 2. How much do these differ across models?
    - 2a. If they differ, why?

### Which Model To Report?

- Fixed effects are about the same.
- Speaker effects differ in heteroskedastic models.
- Do you care about the variation in the errors?



### **Should** You fit the Model?

- As we progress, you can fit more and more complicated models.
- But should you?

- Two things to worry about:
  - Identifiability: the ability to estimate unique, independent values for all your parameters.
  - Support: Having enough data to realistically estimate all your parameters.

### Collinearity

 A set of predictor vectors is linearly independent when there is no vector of non-zero numbers that can be used to combine our predictors such that they <u>always</u> equal zero.

$$0 = x_1 \cdot a_1 + x_2 \cdot a_2 + \ldots + x_n \cdot a_n$$

If this is possible the x predictors are not linearly dependent.

### Collinearity

 You <u>cannot</u> fit a model using height in meters and height in centimeters, and estimate both effects independently.

These predictors are linearly dependent!

$$x_1 \cdot a_1 + x_2 \cdot a_2 = 0$$
  
vtl · 1 + vtl<sub>m</sub> · -100 = 0

### Collinearity

```
model bad 1 =
 brms::brm (height ~ vtl m + vtl, data = exp data, chains = 4, cores = 4,
      warmup = 1000, iter = 3500, thin = 2,
      prior = c(brms::set_prior("normal(176, 50)", class = "Intercept"),
               brms::set prior("normal(0, 15)", class = "sigma")))
## Population-Level Effects:
##
  Estimate Est.Error 1-95% CI u-95% CI Rhat Bulk ESS Tail ESS
## Intercept 45.69 2.37 41.17 50.47 1.00 4031 4425
## vtl m 1383.91 246800.93 -531293.80 343951.54 2.12 5
```

-5.28 2468.01 -3430.88 5321.56 2.12

## vtl

13

13

### **Semi-Collinearity**

- Linear dependence is binary.
- Correlation is a continuous measure of linear dependence (basically).

```
cor (exp_data$vtl_m, exp_data$vtl)
## [1] 1
```

What is we make our predictors almost linearly dependent?

```
set.seed(1)
exp_data$vtl_m_noise = exp_data$vtl_m +
   rnorm (length(exp_data$vtl_m),0,sd(exp_data$vtl_m)/10)

cor (exp_data$vtl, exp_data$vtl_m_noise)
## [1] 0.9946
```

### Semi-Collinearity: Not that Bad

#### Semi-Collinearity: Could be Better

```
model good =
 brms::brm (height ~ vtl, data = exp data, chains = 4, cores = 4,
      warmup = 1000, iter = 3500, thin = 2,
      prior = c(brms::set prior("normal(176, 50)", class = "Intercept"),
               brms::set prior("normal(0, 15)", class = "sigma")))
## Population-Level Effects:
      Estimate Est.Error 1-95% CI u-95% CI Rhat Bulk ESS Tail ESS
##
## Intercept = 45.72 2.38 41.04 50.40 1.00 5052 4679
## vtl 8.55 0.18
                               8.21 8.90 1.00 5072 4831
model bad 2 =
 brms::brm (height ~ vtl m noise + vtl, data = exp data, chains = 4,
        cores = 4, warmup = 1000, iter = 3500, thin = 2, prior = priors)
## Population-Level Effects:
##
       Estimate Est.Error 1-95% CI u-95% CI Rhat Bulk ESS Tail ESS
## Intercept \( \bigsim \) 45.75 \( 2.36 \) 41.16 \( 50.35 \) 1.00
                                                     4523
                                                             4087
## vtl_m_noise -201.86 175.11 -544.11 139.03 1.00 3504 3697
## vtl == 10.57 1.76
                                7.14 14.01 1.00
                                                     3439
                                                             3866
```

- You can't fit models where the value of one categorical predictors can be guessed based on the vlues of other predictors.
- This is again a problem of linear dependence.
- This is why we can't estimate both levels of a two-group factor.

```
x[,1] + x[,2]*(-1) + x[,3]*(-1)
## [1] 0 0 0 0
```

• And also why we can't estimate all levels of a four level factor.

```
x[,1] + x[,2]*(-1) + x[,3]*(-1) + x[,4]*(-1) + x[,5]*(-1)
## [1] 0 0 0 0
```

And also why we can't include group, age, and gender.

```
x = cbind (intercept=rep(1,4), C1=c(1,0,0,0), C2=c(0,1,0,0), C3=c(0,0,1,0),A1=c(0,0,1,1), G1=c(0,1,0,1),A1G1=c(1,0,0,1))
```

```
x[,1]*1 + x[,2]*(-1) + x[,3]*(-1) + x[,5]*(-1)
## [1] 0 0 0 0
x[,1]*1 + x[,3]*(-1) + x[,4]*(-1) + x[,7]*(-1)
## [1] 0 0 0 0
```

```
model bad 3 =
 brms::brm (height ~ C + A*G, data = exp data, chains = 4, cores = 4,
      warmup = 1000, iter = 3500, thin = 2,
      prior = c(brms::set prior("normal(176, 15)", class = "Intercept"),
               brms::set prior("normal(0, 15)", class = "sigma")))
## Population-Level Effects:
##
            Estimate Est.Error 1-95% CI u-95% CI Rhat Bulk ESS Tail ESS
## Intercept
              157.98
                    0.20 157.57 158.35 1.06
                                                                 78
                                                        61
## C1
             1066.31 2604.72 -4431.79 5158.68 2.07
                                                                 18
              496.91 1751.32 -2543.19 3708.83 1.87 6
## C2
                                                                 13
              74.39 2086.76 -4113.31 2801.74 1.99
                                                                 21
## C3
## A1
              793.68 1363.24 -2383.78 3019.96 1.90 6
                                                                 12
## G1
              567.63 2171.69 -4107.90 3364.23 2.04
                                                                 18
## A1:G1
              283.89 1112.60 -2295.30 2141.73 2.26
                                                                 18
```

#### Saturated Models

- Saturated models have one parameter for every observation.
- Without shrinkage this means that there is no random variation in the model, i.e., the error cannot be estimated.

This model crashes my session of R.

### **Nearly-Saturated Models**

• A model can be 'nearly'-saturated.

• What if you have 2 observations per speaker per listener. You <u>can</u> fit this model (probably), but <u>should</u> you?

Follow up: What is your n?

Think of your n for each individual parameter rather than overall.

#### Exercises: Week 7

Use the data in 'exp\_ex' to do one of the following. You may also use your own data to answer a related question. In any case, describe the model, present and explain the results. More requirements:

- You must include a model at least this complex: y ~ A\*B + (A\*B|L), meaning two
  factors and an interaction.
- Fit a <u>new</u> model, not like in the book and not like for week 6.
- Include at least two non-book figures.
- Recreate the predicted group means and report them.
- Report and interpret at least one simple effect.