# Composite Monsters

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| <pre>library(ggplot2) library(maps) library(mapproj) library(party) library(lattice) library(rsq) library(car) library(lme4) library(MuMIn) library(sjPlot)</pre>                                  |  |

```
library(glmmTMB)
library(lmtest)
library(ggpubr)
library(ape)
library(caper)
library(phytools)
library(stringr)
library(forcats)
library(forcats)
library(fields)
library(RColorBrewer)
library(brms)
```

### Load data

Load the main data and make sure the categorical variables are treated appropriately.

```
d = read.csv("../data/clean/monsters.csv", stringsAsFactors = F)
```

For convenience, make a labelled monster variable.

Make sure class and caste are categorical variables

```
d$class.stratified = factor(d$class.stratified, labels = c("Not stratified", "Class stratified"))
d$caste.stratified = factor(d$caste.stratified, labels = c("Not stratified", "Caste stratified"))
```

Urbanization as ordered category

Agriculture as ordered category

Population Density as ordered category

Fixity of Residence as ordered category

Land Transport as ordered category

Contact as an ordered category

Money as ordered category

Political Integration as ordered category

Social Stratification as ordered category

Technological Specialization as ordered category

Writing and Records as ordered category

Market Exchange as ordered category

Collapse land transport categories 4 and 5

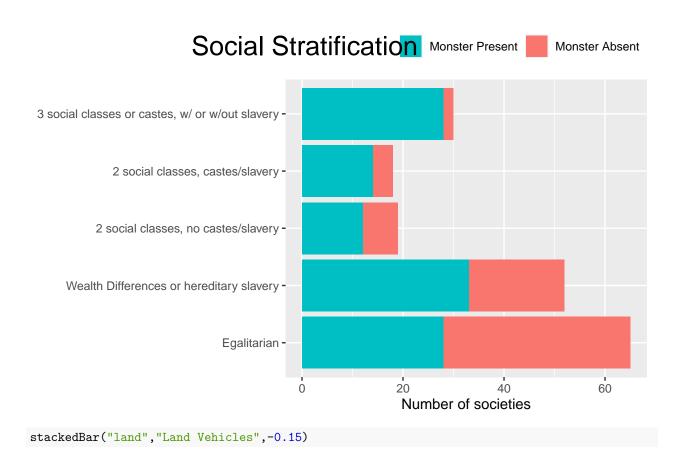
```
d$land = forcats::fct_collapse(d$land,
    "Human only" = c("Human only"),
    "Pack Animals" = c("Pack Animals"),
    "Draft Animals" = c("Draft Animals"),
    "Wheeled Vehicles" = c("Animal-drawn vehicles", "Automotive vehicles"))
```

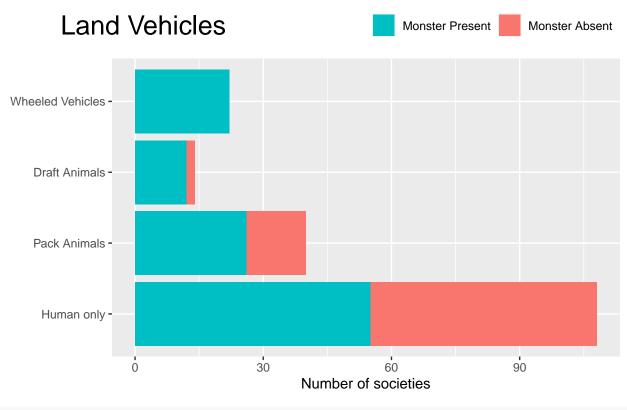
Collapse technological specialization

Collapse True writing in Writing

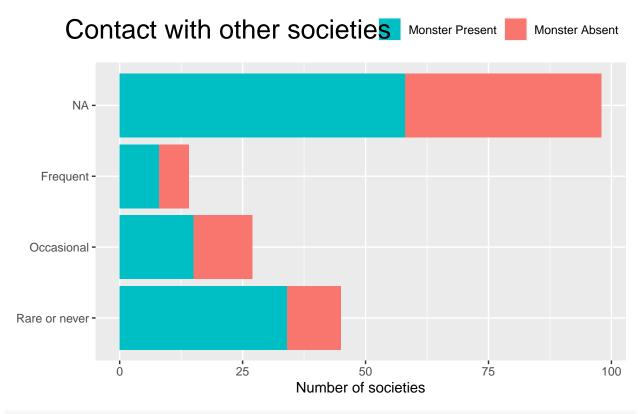
## Data plots

```
stackedBar = function(var,xtitle,hjust=-0.7){
  gx = ggplot(d,aes_string(fill="monster_present2",x=var)) +
   geom_bar() +
   ylab("Number of societies") +
    scale_fill_discrete(guide = guide_legend(reverse = TRUE)) +
   theme(legend.position = "top",
          legend.justification = c(1,0),
          axis.title.y = element_blank(),
          legend.title = element_blank(),
          plot.title = element_text(hjust = hjust, vjust=-6, size = 20)) +
   ggtitle(xtitle)+
    coord_flip()
  fn=paste0("../results/bar/Bar_",gsub(" ","_",xtitle),".pdf")
  pdf(fn,width=8,height=4)
 plot(gx)
 dev.off()
  gx
}
stackedBar("strata", "Social Stratification")
```

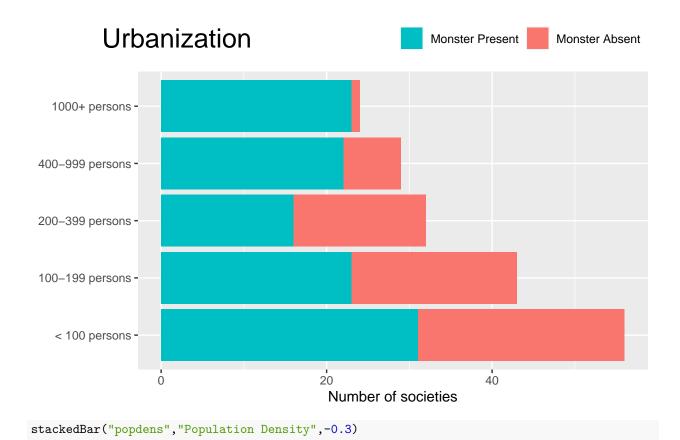


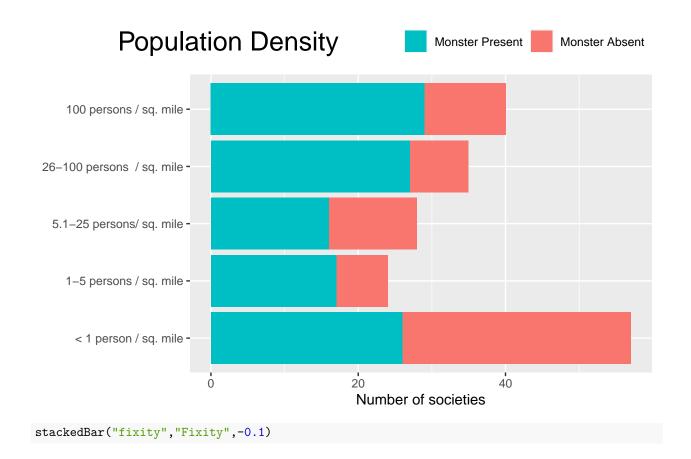


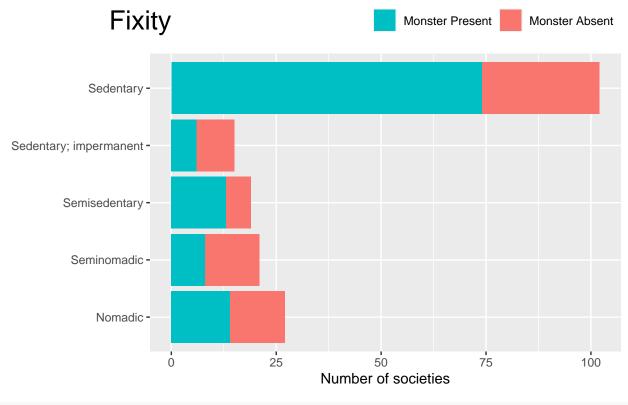
stackedBar("contact","Contact with other societies",-0.15)

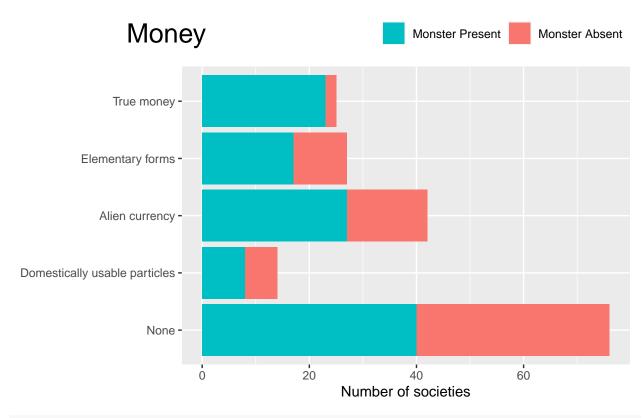


stackedBar("urban", "Urbanization", -0.1)

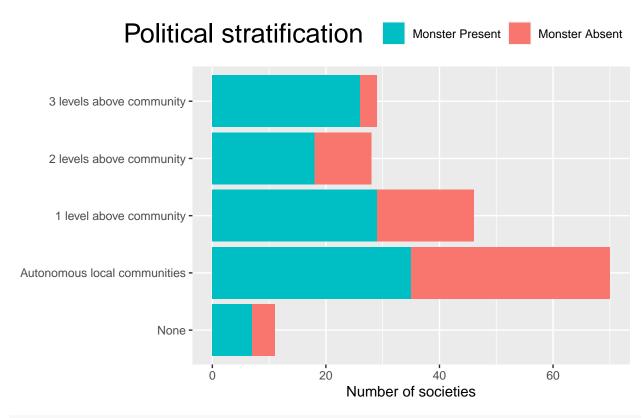




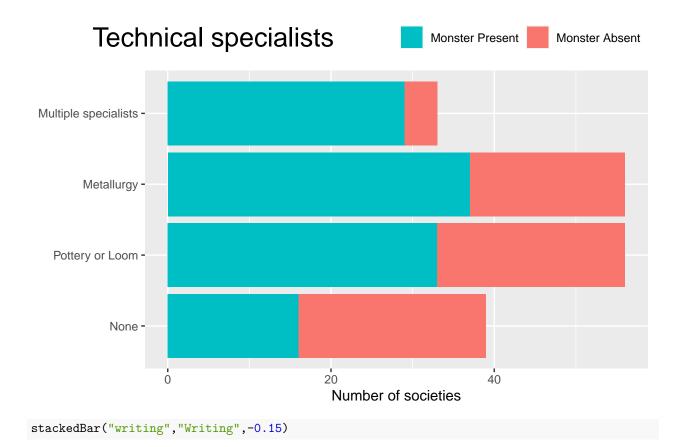


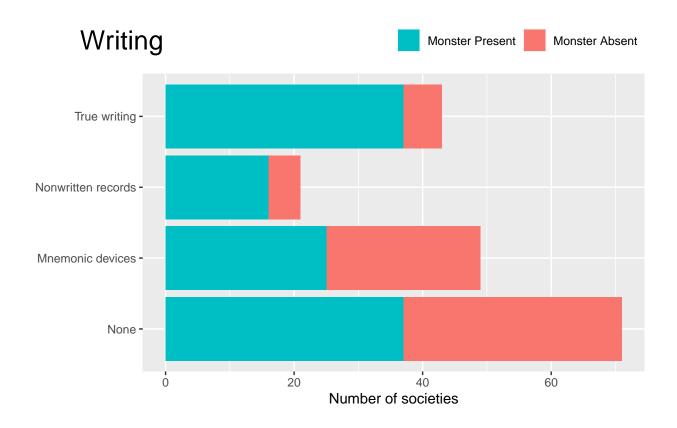


stackedBar("politic", "Political stratification", -0.35)



stackedBar("tech", "Technical specialists", -0.2)





## Hypothesis tests

## Are composite monsters universal?

```
table(d$monster_present)

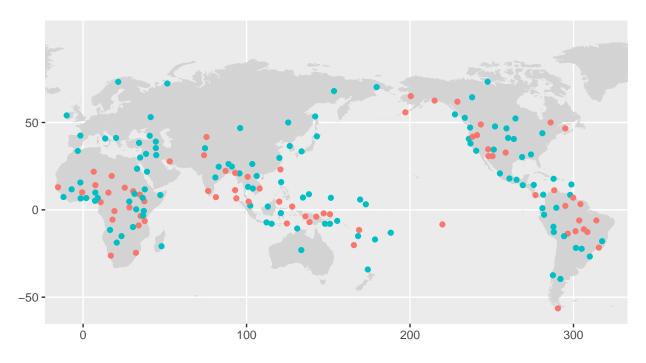
##
## FALSE TRUE
## 69 115
prop.table(table(d$monster_present))

##
## FALSE TRUE
## 0.375 0.625
```

Composite monsters were present in 115 societies (62.5%) and absent in 69. These represent societies that speak languages from 62 different language families, including 5 isolates.

Plot map of the world:





```
pdf("../results/MonsterMap.pdf",width=8,height=5)
monsterMap
dev.off()
```

## pdf ## 2

## \$p.value ## [1] 0.5156121

There does not appear to be a high degree of geographic clustering. Indeed, running Moran's I test for geospatial autocorrelation shows that there is no significant spatial clustering:

```
# Distance between points
mdists = rdist.earth(cbind(d$longitude, d$latitude),miles = F)
# Invert
mdists.inv <- 1/mdists
diag(mdists.inv) <- 0
Moran.I(d$monster_present, mdists.inv)

## $observed
## [1] 0.001120952
##
## $expected
## [1] -0.005464481
##
## $sd
## [1] 0.0101295
##</pre>
```

## Phylogenetic signal

The SCCS sample aims for maximum diversity across the world. This is not ideal for testing whether the presence of composite monsters has a phylogenetic signal. Still, some formal tests can be run.

The raw data folder includes phylogenetic trees based on linguistic properties, downloaded from https://github.com/D-PLACE/dplace-data/tree/master/phylogenies/. The D-PLACE database links these languages to SCCS societies. In the tests below, we look at Austronesian (Gray et al., 2009) and Bantu (Grollemund et al., 2015). Similar phylogenies are available for Indo-Europen, Semitic and Uto-Aztecan languages, but these only contain 3 or fewer societies in the SCCS.

Two formal tests of phylogenetic signal are computed. First, the D statistic for binary traits (Fritz & Purvis, 2010). The statistic reflects the estimated number of changes along the phylogeny to produce the observed data at the tips. A statistic near 0 suggests that the trait is highly conserved (strong signal), and a near 1 suggests the trait is similar to a random trait (no phylogenetic signal). Values above 1 indicate that related societies are more different than would be expected by chance (overdispersion). This statistic is compared to two models of cultural evolution: random distribution (where the tips are shuffled and the trait is re-calcualted), and Brownian motion (a continuous trait which takes a random walk is simulated and converted to a binary one).

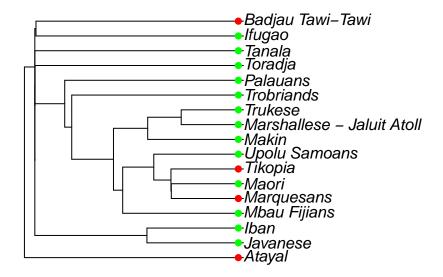
The second statistic is Pagel's lambda (Pagel, 1999). It indicates the extent of the scaling of the branch lengths that would be required for the data to fit a model of Brownian motion. Values close to 0 have low phylogenetic signal, and values close to 1 have high phylogenetic signal.

```
# Function to run phylogenetic tests
runPhylogenyTest = function(treeFile, treeLabelFile,plotType="flat"){
# Load trees
  tree = read.nexus(treeFile)
  treeLabels = read.csv(treeLabelFile,stringsAsFactors = F)
  # Taxa data has multiple codes per locus
  # So identify SCCS ID
  treeLabels$SCCSID = str_extract(treeLabels$soc_ids,"SCCS[0-9]+")
  # Set labels of tree to be D-PLACE xd-ids
  tree$tip.label = treeLabels[match(tree$tip.label,treeLabels$taxon),]$SCCSID
  # Remove tips that aren't in D-PLACE
  # (remove tips that are now named "")
  tree = drop.tip(tree,"")
  # Find tips in tree that aren't in our data:
  notInMonsters = tree$tip.label[!tree$tip.label %in% d$id]
  # Remove these tips from the tree
  tree = drop.tip(tree, notInMonsters)
  # subset of data in tree
  dx = d[d$id %in% tree$tip.label,]
  # Choose colours for the tips
  chosenVariableToPlot = "monster present"
  tipColours = c("red", "green")[1 + dx[,chosenVariableToPlot]]
  names(tipColours) = dx$id
  tipColours = tipColours[tree$tip.label]
  # Convert labels back to names
```

```
tree$tip.label = dx[match(tree$tip.label,dx$id),]$pref_name_for_society
  if(plotType=="flat"){
    plot(tree)
    tiplabels(pch=16,col=tipColours,adj = 0.4)
    tree$tip.label = iconv(tree$tip.label,sub='')
    plot.phylo(tree,align.tip.label=0)
    tiplabels(pch=16,col=tipColours)
    dx$pref_name_for_society = iconv(dx$pref_name_for_society,sub="")
  }
  tree = di2multi(tree)
  # Calculate phylogenetic signal
  # (Phylo - D)
  pd = phylo.d(data=dx[,c("pref_name_for_society", "monster_present")],
          phy=tree,
          names.col = pref_name_for_society,
          binvar = monster_present,permut = 100000)
  print(pd)
  # Pagel's Lambda
  x = dx$monster_present
  names(x) = dx$pref_name_for_society
  print(phylosig(tree,x,method="lambda"))
}
```

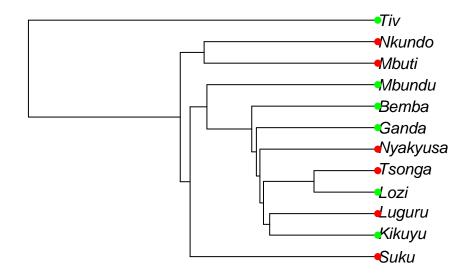
#### Austronesian

```
Tree from Gray et al. (2009)
```



```
## Calculation of D statistic for the phylogenetic structure of a binary variable
##
##
    Data: data
     Binary variable : monster_present
##
     Counts of states: FALSE = 4
##
                        TRUE = 13
##
##
     Phylogeny: phy
     Number of permutations: 1e+05
##
##
## Estimated D : 0.8878351
## Probability of E(D) resulting from no (random) phylogenetic structure : 0.41429
## Probability of E(D) resulting from Brownian phylogenetic structure
##
##
## Phylogenetic signal lambda: 6.6107e-05
## logL(lambda) : -9.54299
Bantu
Tree from Grollemund et al. (2015)
runPhylogenyTest("../data/raw/trees/Bantu/summary.trees",
                 "../data/raw/trees/Bantu/taxa.csv")
```

##

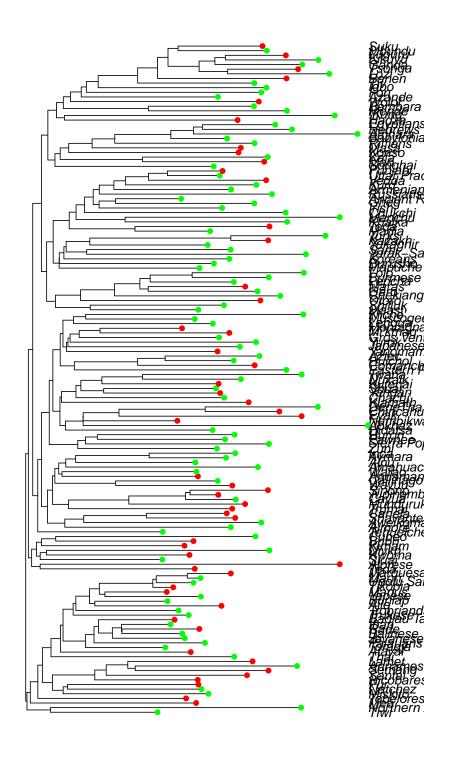


```
##
## Calculation of D statistic for the phylogenetic structure of a binary variable
##
     Data: data
##
##
     Binary variable:
                       monster_present
##
     Counts of states:
                       FALSE = 6
##
                        TRUE = 6
##
     Phylogeny: phy
     Number of permutations: 1e+05
##
##
## Estimated D : 2.115693
## Probability of E(D) resulting from no (random) phylogenetic structure : 0.61609
## Probability of E(D) resulting from Brownian phylogenetic structure
##
##
## Phylogenetic signal lambda: 8.08671e-05
## logL(lambda) : -8.70973
```

## Global

Tree from Jäger (2018). This is a global tree of languages, calculated from an analysis of the forms of basic vocabulary words. While this may not be ideal for the current questions, it's the best currently available global tree of languages.

```
runPhylogenyTest(
   "../data/raw/trees/Global/JaegerGlobalTree_SCSS.tree",
   "../data/raw/trees/Global/taxa.csv", plotType = "big")
```



```
##
## Calculation of D statistic for the phylogenetic structure of a binary variable
##
##
    Data: data
##
    Binary variable : monster_present
##
     Counts of states: FALSE = 52
##
                       TRUE = 93
    Phylogeny: phy
##
##
    Number of permutations: 1e+05
##
## Estimated D : 1.136271
## Probability of E(D) resulting from no (random) phylogenetic structure : 0.67589
## Probability of E(D) resulting from Brownian phylogenetic structure
##
##
## Phylogenetic signal lambda: 6.6107e-05
## logL(lambda) : -101.456
```

#### **Summary**

In all cases above, both tests suggest a low phylogenetic signal. There is some evidence of overdispersion. However, the current sample of cultures is not ideal to test whether the presence of composite monsters follows laws of cultural evolution. Rather, the conclusion at this point is that there is little historical signal to control for, which is expected given that we're using the SCCS sample.

## Explanatory factors

#### Ethnographic coverage

## -12.787657 -5.507996 ## sample estimates:

##

Coding presence and absence from ethnographic sources can be affected by the amount of ethnographic materials available. Although we use multiple sources, HRAF was the main source, and indeed, we found that the presence of monsters can be predicted by a greater number of sources and source pages in HRAF:

```
t.test(d$HRAFNumPages~d$monster_present)
```

```
##
##
   Welch Two Sample t-test
##
## data: d$HRAFNumPages by d$monster_present
## t = -6.1379, df = 149.87, p-value = 7.135e-09
## alternative hypothesis: true difference in means between group FALSE and group TRUE is not equal to
## 95 percent confidence interval:
## -1844.8263 -946.3041
## sample estimates:
## mean in group FALSE mean in group TRUE
              1139.043
                                  2534.609
##
t.test(d$HRAFNumSources~d$monster_present)
##
##
   Welch Two Sample t-test
##
## data: d$HRAFNumSources by d$monster_present
## t = -4.9589, df = 181.98, p-value = 1.618e-06
## alternative hypothesis: true difference in means between group FALSE and group TRUE is not equal to
## 95 percent confidence interval:
```

On average, societies with monsters present were covered by sources 20.5 and 2534.6 pages. Societies with monsters absetn were coded by 11.4 sources and 1139 pages.

20.53913

This is an alternative explanation for the presence and absence of monsters, so we control for this in the explantory model below. The number of pages and number of sources are highly correlated, so we choose just one variable. The number of pages is a stronger predictor than the number of sources, and using the log of the number of pages makes this variable normally distributed and still stronger associated:

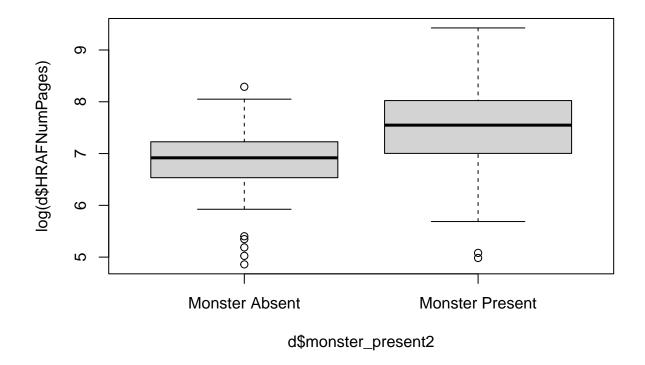
```
t.test(log(d$HRAFNumSources)~d$monster_present)
```

2.202489

## mean in group FALSE mean in group TRUE 11.39130

```
##
##
   Welch Two Sample t-test
##
## data: log(d$HRAFNumSources) by d$monster_present
## t = -5.5784, df = 148, p-value = 1.123e-07
## alternative hypothesis: true difference in means between group FALSE and group TRUE is not equal to
## 95 percent confidence interval:
## -0.7837906 -0.3737391
## sample estimates:
## mean in group FALSE mean in group TRUE
```

2.781254



So we will control for log number of pages in HRAF.

```
d$HRAFNumPages.log = log(d$HRAFNumPages)
```

#### Social stratification

Is the presence of composites associated with increased social stratification?

Fisher's exact test of the association between monster presence and class stratification as an ordered variable

```
tx = table(d$strata,d$monster_present2)
tx
```

| ## |  |                 |         |
|----|--|-----------------|---------|
| ## |  | ${\tt Monster}$ | Absent  |
| ## | Egalitarian  |                 | 37      |
| ## | Wealth Differences or hereditary slavery             |                 | 19      |
| ## | 2 social classes, no castes/slavery                  |                 | 7       |
| ## | 2 social classes, castes/slavery                     |                 | 4       |
| ## | 3 social classes or castes, $w/$ or $w/$ out slavery |                 | 2       |
| ## |  |                 |         |
| ## |  | ${\tt Monster}$ | Present |
| ## | Egalitarian  |                 | 28      |
| ## | Wealth Differences or hereditary slavery             |                 | 33      |
| ## | 2 social classes, no castes/slavery                  |                 | 12      |
| ## | 2 social classes, castes/slavery                     |                 | 14      |

```
3 social classes or castes, w/ or w/out slavery
                                                                        28
round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2)
##
##
                                                          Monster Absent
##
     Egalitarian
                                                                    56.92
##
     Wealth Differences or hereditary slavery
                                                                    36.54
     2 social classes, no castes/slavery
                                                                    36.84
##
##
     2 social classes, castes/slavery
                                                                    22.22
     3 social classes or castes, w/ or w/out slavery
##
                                                                     6.67
##
##
                                                          Monster Present
                                                                     43.08
##
     Egalitarian
##
     Wealth Differences or hereditary slavery
                                                                     63.46
     2 social classes, no castes/slavery
                                                                     63.16
##
##
     2 social classes, castes/slavery
                                                                     77.78
##
     3 social classes or castes, w/ or w/out slavery
                                                                     93.33
# Rank correlation
cor(as.numeric(d$strata),
    as.numeric(d$monster_present2), method="kendall")
## [1] 0.3217255
fisher.test(tx)
##
    Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data
##
##
## data: tx
## p-value = 2.236e-05
## alternative hypothesis: two.sided
The strata variable is derived from two earlier measures of class stratification and caste stratification. These
variables are highly correlated, but since 'strata' has more ordered levels and therefore a more specific
hypothesis, we use this instead of the other two. We note below that the association with composite monsters
is significant for the class stratification variable, but not significant for caste stratification variable.
Fisher test of the association between monster presence and class stratification:
tx = table(d$class.stratified,d$monster_present2)
print(tx)
##
##
                        Monster Absent Monster Present
##
     Not stratified
                                     41
                                                       35
     Class stratified
                                                      80
print(round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2))
##
##
                        Monster Absent Monster Present
##
     Not stratified
                                  53.95
                                                   46.05
     Class stratified
                                  25.93
                                                   74.07
fisher.test(tx)
```

##

Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data

```
##
## data: tx
## p-value = 0.000183
## alternative hypothesis: true odds ratio is not equal to 1
## 95 percent confidence interval:
## 1.713883 6.549615
## sample estimates:
## odds ratio
     3.323246
Test caste stratification:
tx = table(d$caste.stratified,d$monster_present2)
##
##
                      Monster Absent Monster Present
##
                                   60
     Not stratified
##
     Caste stratified
                                                    19
round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2)
##
##
                      Monster Absent Monster Present
##
     Not stratified
                                39.47
                                                60.53
##
     Caste stratified
                                32.14
                                                67.86
fisher.test(tx)
##
##
    Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data
##
## data: tx
## p-value = 0.5304
## alternative hypothesis: true odds ratio is not equal to 1
## 95 percent confidence interval:
## 0.5484573 3.6902188
## sample estimates:
## odds ratio
##
     1.374433
```

#### Increased travel

Do composite monsters reflect an increased interest in intersociety cultural differences accompanying increased long-distance travel? Murdock and Provost's (1973) scale of Land Transport serves as our proxy measure for increased long-distance travel in SCCS societies.

```
tx = table(d$land,d$monster_present2)
tx
##
##
                       Monster Absent Monster Present
##
     Human only
                                    53
                                                     55
                                                     26
##
     Pack Animals
                                    14
     Draft Animals
                                     2
                                                     12
##
     Wheeled Vehicles
                                     0
                                                     22
##
```

```
round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2)
##
##
                      Monster Absent Monster Present
##
                               49.07
                                               50.93
     Human only
                                               65.00
##
    Pack Animals
                               35.00
##
    Draft Animals
                               14.29
                                               85.71
    Wheeled Vehicles
                               0.00
                                              100.00
# Rank correlation
cor(as.numeric(d$land),
    as.numeric(d$monster_present2), method="kendall")
## [1] 0.3114226
fisher.test(tx)
##
## Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data
##
## data: tx
## p-value = 4.865e-06
## alternative hypothesis: two.sided
tx = table(d$fixity,d$monster_present2)
tx
##
##
                            Monster Absent Monster Present
     Nomadic
##
                                        13
                                                         14
##
     Seminomadic
                                        13
                                                         8
##
     Semisedentary
                                         6
                                                         13
##
     Sedentary; impermanent
                                         9
                                                         6
     Sedentary
                                        28
                                                        74
round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2)
##
##
                            Monster Absent Monster Present
    Nomadic
                                     48.15 51.85
##
##
    Seminomadic
                                     61.90
                                                     38.10
##
     Semisedentary
                                     31.58
                                                     68.42
     Sedentary; impermanent
                                     60.00
                                                     40.00
##
     Sedentary
                                     27.45
                                                     72.55
##
cor(as.numeric(d$fixity),
    as.numeric(d$monster_present2),method="kendall")
## [1] 0.2038183
fisher.test(tx)
## Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data
##
## data: tx
## p-value = 0.005584
## alternative hypothesis: two.sided
```

#### Contact with other societies

```
From Ross (1983)
tx = table(d$contact,d$monster_present2)
tx
##
##
                    Monster Absent Monster Present
##
     Rare or never
                                11
                                                 15
##
     Occasional
                                12
##
     Frequent
                                                  8
                                 6
round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2)
##
##
                    Monster Absent Monster Present
##
     Rare or never
                             24.44
                                              75.56
                             44.44
                                              55.56
##
     Occasional
##
     Frequent
                             42.86
                                              57.14
cor(as.numeric(d$contact),
    as.numeric(d$monster_present2), method="kendall")
## [1] NA
fisher.test(tx)
##
##
   Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data
##
## data: tx
## p-value = 0.1576
## alternative hypothesis: two.sided
```

#### Urbanisation

In the case of the Bronze Age Near East and Mediterranean, Wengrow (2013, 74) has argued that "urban and state-like societies" provided a setting conducive for composites. If this is generalizable to a global ethnographic sample, we ought to find composite beings associated with an increased Urbanization and/or an increased Level of Political Integration (Murdock and Provost 1973).

Test urbanization:

```
tx = table(d$urban,d$monster_present2)
##
##
                      Monster Absent Monster Present
##
     < 100 persons
                                   25
##
     100-199 persons
                                   20
                                                    23
##
     200-399 persons
                                   16
                                                    16
##
     400-999 persons
                                    7
                                                    22
                                                    23
     1000+ persons
                                    1
round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2)
##
##
                      Monster Absent Monster Present
##
     < 100 persons
                               44.64
                                                55.36
```

```
##
     100-199 persons
                              46.51
                                               53.49
##
     200-399 persons
                              50.00
                                               50.00
                              24.14
##
     400-999 persons
                                               75.86
     1000+ persons
                               4.17
                                               95.83
##
# Rank correlation
cor(as.numeric(d$urban),
    as.numeric(d$monster_present2),method="kendall")
## [1] 0.2084927
fisher.test(tx)
## Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data
##
## data: tx
## p-value = 0.0003196
## alternative hypothesis: two.sided
Test political integration:
tx = table(d$politic,d$monster_present2)
tx
##
##
                                  Monster Absent Monster Present
                                               4
##
    None
##
    Autonomous local communities
                                               35
                                                               35
##
     1 level above community
                                               17
                                                               29
##
     2 levels above community
                                               10
                                                               18
    3 levels above community
                                               3
                                                               26
round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2)
##
##
                                  Monster Absent Monster Present
##
    None
                                           36.36
## Autonomous local communities
                                           50.00
                                                           50.00
##
    1 level above community
                                           36.96
                                                            63.04
                                                            64.29
##
     2 levels above community
                                           35.71
    3 levels above community
                                           10.34
                                                            89.66
# Rank correlation
cor(as.numeric(d$politic),
    as.numeric(d$monster_present2),method="kendall")
## [1] 0.206354
fisher.test(tx)
## Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data
##
## data: tx
## p-value = 0.004399
## alternative hypothesis: two.sided
```

## **Technology**

Wengrow (2014) sees Bronze Age composite figures as operating according to the same underlying logic as particular crafting technologies and bureaucratic technologies of writing and record-keeping (the latter also highlighted by Graeber (2015, xvii)). Are composite beings globally associated with greater specialization in crafting or recording-keeping technologies?

Technology specialists:

```
tx = table(d$tech,d$monster_present2)
##
                           Monster Absent Monster Present
##
##
     None
                                        23
##
     Pottery or Loom
                                        23
                                                        33
                                        19
                                                        37
##
     Metallurgy
     Multiple specialists
                                        4
                                                        29
##
round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2)
##
##
                           Monster Absent Monster Present
##
                                    58.97
                                                     41.03
     None
##
     Pottery or Loom
                                    41.07
                                                     58.93
##
     Metallurgy
                                    33.93
                                                     66.07
     Multiple specialists
                                                     87.88
##
                                    12.12
# Rank correlation
cor(as.numeric(d$tech),
    as.numeric(d$monster_present2),method="kendall")
## [1] 0.2715461
fisher.test(tx)
##
    Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data
##
##
## data: tx
## p-value = 0.0003985
## alternative hypothesis: two.sided
Writing technology:
tx = table(d$writing,d$monster_present2)
tx
##
                         Monster Absent Monster Present
##
##
     None
                                     34
                                                      37
##
     Mnemonic devices
                                     24
                                                      25
##
     Nonwritten records
                                      5
                                                      16
     True writing
                                      6
                                                      37
round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2)
##
##
                         Monster Absent Monster Present
##
     None
                                  47.89
                                                   52.11
```

```
Mnemonic devices
                                 48.98
                                                  51.02
##
                                                  76.19
##
    Nonwritten records
                                 23.81
                                                  86.05
##
    True writing
                                 13.95
# Rank correlation
cor(as.numeric(d$writing),
    as.numeric(d$monster_present2),method="kendall")
## [1] 0.2497125
fisher.test(tx)
##
## Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data
##
## data: tx
## p-value = 0.0002826
## alternative hypothesis: two.sided
Other measures
Money
tx = table(d$money,d$monster_present2)
tx
##
                                   Monster Absent Monster Present
##
##
                                                36
##
    Domestically usable particles
                                                6
                                                                8
##
     Alien currency
                                                15
                                                                27
##
     Elementary forms
                                                10
                                                                17
##
                                                 2
                                                                23
     True money
round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2)
##
                                   Monster Absent Monster Present
##
                                             47.37
                                                             52.63
##
     None
                                                             57.14
##
     Domestically usable particles
                                            42.86
                                             35.71
                                                             64.29
##
     Alien currency
                                             37.04
                                                             62.96
##
     Elementary forms
##
     True money
                                             8.00
                                                             92.00
# Rank correlation
cor(as.numeric(d$money),
    as.numeric(d$monster_present2),method="kendall")
## [1] 0.2055975
fisher.test(tx)
##
## Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data
## data: tx
## p-value = 0.006705
## alternative hypothesis: two.sided
Agriculture
```

```
tx = table(d$ag,d$monster_present2)
tx
##
##
                            Monster Absent Monster Present
##
    None
                                        18
##
     10% food supply
                                         9
                                                          8
##
     10 %; secondary
                                         4
                                                          6
##
    Primary; not intensive
                                         26
                                                         37
    Primary; intensive
                                         12
                                                         45
round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2)
##
##
                            Monster Absent Monster Present
##
     None
                                     48.65
                                                     51.35
##
     10% food supply
                                      52.94
                                                     47.06
                                                      60.00
##
     10 %; secondary
                                      40.00
##
    Primary; not intensive
                                      41.27
                                                      58.73
##
     Primary; intensive
                                      21.05
                                                      78.95
# Rank correlation
cor(as.numeric(d$ag),
   as.numeric(d$monster_present2),method="kendall")
## [1] 0.2054279
fisher.test(tx)
##
  Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data
##
## data: tx
## p-value = 0.02321
## alternative hypothesis: two.sided
Population density
tx = table(d$popdens,d$monster_present2)
##
##
                                Monster Absent Monster Present
##
     < 1 person / sq. mile
                                             31
                                                             26
                                                             17
##
     1-5 persons / sq. mile
                                             12
##
     5.1-25 persons/ sq. mile
                                                             16
##
     26-100 persons / sq. mile
                                             8
                                                             27
     100 persons / sq. mile
                                                             29
##
                                             11
round(100*prop.table(tx,1),2)
##
##
                                Monster Absent Monster Present
##
     < 1 person / sq. mile
                                         54.39
                                                          45.61
##
     1-5 persons / sq. mile
                                         29.17
                                                          70.83
##
                                         42.86
                                                          57.14
     5.1-25 persons/ sq. mile
##
     26-100 persons / sq. mile
                                        22.86
                                                          77.14
                                         27.50
##
     100 persons / sq. mile
                                                          72.50
```

```
# Rank correlation
cor(as.numeric(d$popdens),
    as.numeric(d$monster_present2),method="kendall")

## [1] 0.20032
fisher.test(tx)

##
## Fisher's Exact Test for Count Data
##
## data: tx
## p-value = 0.01286
## alternative hypothesis: two.sided
```

## Combined model

Various measures above co-occur with the presence of composite monsters. However, many sociocultural variables correlate with each other, making it unclear which variables are directly associated. How might we determine which of these variables are most important when accounting for the presence of composite beings in our global ethnographic sample?

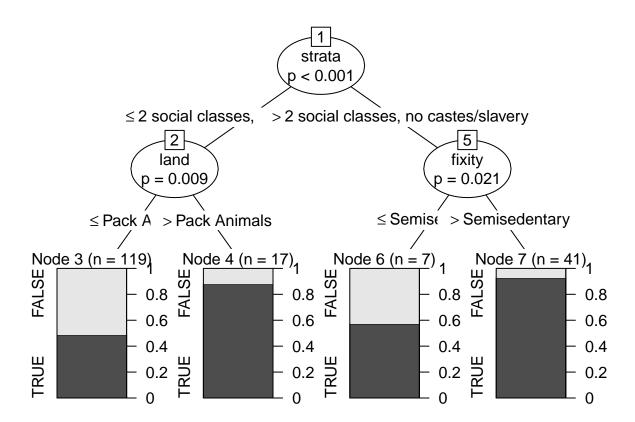
Below, we use a machine learning method (decision trees and random forests) to identify the most efficient combination of variables to predict the presence of composite monsters. We then entered these variables into a predictive regression model to test significance.

Decision trees are a computational method of making predictions by dividing the data into sub-sets (see Strobl, Malley & Tutz, 2009). The algorithm works out the most efficient series of binary questions to ask about a set of independent variables in order to make a guess about the dependent value of a data point. The method is robust to correlations between independent variables and to small sub-sample sizes, and it can detect interactions and non-linearities in the data.

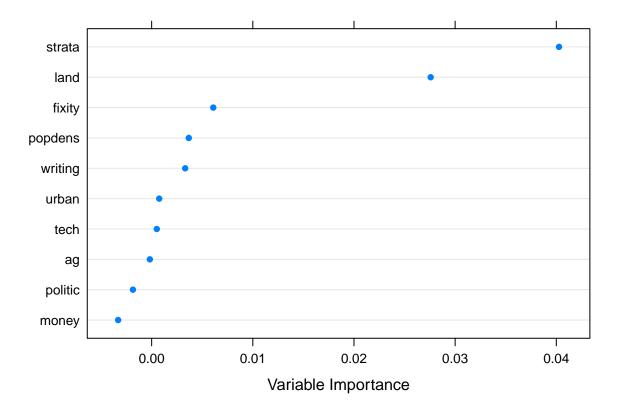
A single tree is the most efficient set of questions for the given dataset. However, small differences in the sample could lead to very different trees. One way of evaluating the relative importance of variables is to calculate a large number of decision trees using random sub-samples of data and independent variables. Each variable receives an "importance" score based on how many trees it is selected for and how high in the tree the variable is placed.

For use of decision trees in social science, see Roberts, Torreira & Levinson (2015).

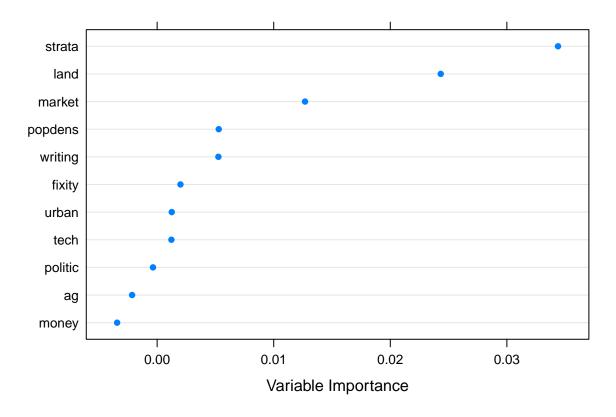
#### Decision tree for selecting variables



Now we calculate the importance scores with a random forest. The variable 'market' has many missing values, limiting the number of complete observations. So the first forest is run without this variable:



Random forest including market:



The "market" variable seems relatively important, though strata and land are still the most important. Since including 'market' limits the data sample size, we will not include it in the combined model.

#### Predictive model

Below we fit a binomial regression model, predicting whether a monster is present or absent. The independent variables are added to the model one by one in the order identified by the random forests procedure. In order to obtain a relatively simple model that is not over-fitted, we stop when adding variables does not significantly increase the fit of the model to the data. This is evaluated using a likelihood ratio test.

For the ordered factors, use (reverse) Helmert coding, so each coefficient compares the current level to the previous level of the variable.

```
contrasts(d$strata) = contr.helmert(5)
contrasts(d$land) = contr.helmert(4)
contrasts(d$fixity) = contr.helmert(5)
```

Build a series of models, each adding a variable. Start with the baseline model, using just the log number of pages of documentation:

```
##
## Call:
  glm(formula = factor(monster_present) ~ 1 + HRAFNumPages.log,
       family = "binomial", data = d)
##
##
## Deviance Residuals:
##
      Min
                 10
                      Median
                                   30
                                           Max
## -1.9277 -1.1566
                      0.6247
                                        1.9705
                               0.8994
##
## Coefficients:
##
                    Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
## (Intercept)
                                  1.623 -4.330 1.49e-05 ***
                      -7.026
## HRAFNumPages.log
                       1.051
                                  0.227
                                          4.632 3.63e-06 ***
##
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## (Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)
##
##
      Null deviance: 243.46 on 183 degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 216.10 on 182 degrees of freedom
## AIC: 220.1
##
## Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4
```

Add the cultural variables in the order suggested by the random forests analysis:

```
m1 = update(m0, ~.+strata)
m2 = update(m1, ~.+land)
m3 = update(m2, ~.+fixity)
```

Use a likelihood ratio test to test whether adding each variable increases the fit of the model

```
lrtest(m0,m1,m2,m3)
```

```
## Likelihood ratio test
##
## Model 1: factor(monster_present) ~ 1 + HRAFNumPages.log
```

```
## Model 2: factor(monster_present) ~ HRAFNumPages.log + strata
## Model 3: factor(monster_present) ~ HRAFNumPages.log + strata + land
## Model 4: factor(monster_present) ~ HRAFNumPages.log + strata + land +
##
       fixity
##
     #Df
          LogLik Df
                       Chisq Pr(>Chisq)
## 1
      2 -108.048
         -98.776 4 18.5446 0.0009655 ***
      9 -91.645 3 14.2632
## 3
                             0.0025680 **
## 4 13 -88.743
                  4 5.8037
                             0.2142917
## ---
## Signif. codes:
                  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

Including strata and land improve the model, but fixity does not.

Test if the interaction between strata and land is significant:

```
m4 = update(m2, ~.+ strata:land)
lrtest(m2,m4)
```

```
## Likelihood ratio test
##
## Model 1: factor(monster_present) ~ HRAFNumPages.log + strata + land
## Model 2: factor(monster_present) ~ HRAFNumPages.log + strata + land +
## strata:land
## #Df LogLik Df Chisq Pr(>Chisq)
## 1 9 -91.645
## 2 20 -89.471 11 4.3471 0.9586
```

No, so stick with model 2 (strata and land). The summary below shows how each level of strata and land change the estimate of the likelihood of monsters being present. Each estimate compares the current level to the prior level. It appears as if the critical threshold for strata is between Egalitarian and other societies. For land, the critical threshold is between those with only human or pack animal transport, and other societies. These results reflect the decision tree.

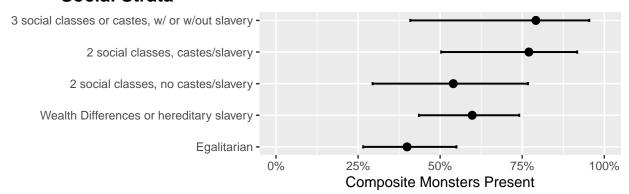
#### summary(m2)

```
##
## Call:
  glm(formula = factor(monster_present) ~ HRAFNumPages.log + strata +
##
       land, family = "binomial", data = d)
##
## Deviance Residuals:
##
       Min
                                    3Q
                 10
                      Median
                                            Max
##
  -2.2020
           -0.9245
                      0.2582
                                0.8527
                                         2.2348
##
## Coefficients:
##
                     Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
                     -1.00702 320.70264 -0.003 0.997495
## (Intercept)
## HRAFNumPages.log
                      0.88462
                                  0.25915
                                            3.414 0.000641 ***
## strata1
                      0.40201
                                  0.21616
                                            1.860 0.062916 .
## strata2
                      0.05579
                                  0.18875
                                            0.296 0.767572
## strata3
                      0.29020
                                  0.15977
                                            1.816 0.069322
## strata4
                      0.19904
                                  0.17218
                                            1.156 0.247684
## land1
                      0.14775
                                  0.22529
                                            0.656 0.511953
## land2
                      0.62914
                                  0.28226
                                            2.229 0.025820 *
## land3
                      4.08881 320.69720
                                            0.013 0.989827
## ---
```

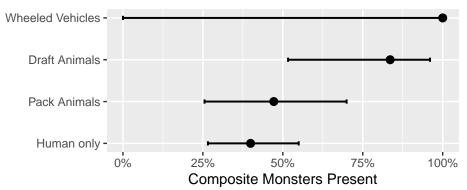
```
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## (Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)
##
       Null deviance: 243.46 on 183 degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 183.29 on 175 degrees of freedom
## AIC: 201.29
##
## Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 17
F-test to confirm the claims above for each variable:
car::Anova(m2)
## Analysis of Deviance Table (Type II tests)
## Response: factor(monster_present)
                   LR Chisq Df Pr(>Chisq)
## HRAFNumPages.log
                     13.882 1 0.0001947 ***
## strata
                      9.746 4 0.0449313 *
## land
                      14.263 3 0.0025680 **
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
Pseudo R-squared for model:
MuMIn::r.squaredLR(m2)
## [1] 0.2789094
## attr(,"adj.r.squared")
## [1] 0.3801417
Plotting the model results
We want the plot to reflect the confidence intervals around the estimates.
Plot the model:
plt = plot_model(m2,"pred")
## Data were 'prettified'. Consider using `terms="HRAFNumPages.log [all]"` to get smooth plots.
p1 = plt[[2]] + coord_flip(ylim=c(0,1)) +
  ggtitle("")+
  theme(axis.title.y = element_blank(),
        panel.grid.minor.y = element_blank()) +
  ylab("Composite Monsters Present")
p2 = plt[[3]] + coord_flip(ylim=c(0,1)) +
  ggtitle("")+
  theme(axis.title.y = element_blank(),
        panel.grid.minor.y = element_blank()) +
  ylab("Composite Monsters Present")
bigplot = ggarrange(p1,
          ggarrange(ggplot() + theme_void(),
                    p2,nrow=1,widths = c(1,3),
                    labels=c("","")),
          ncol = 1, labels=c("Social Strata", "Land Vehicles"))
```

#### bigplot

#### **Social Strata**



### **Land Vehicles**



```
pdf("../results/BigPlot.pdf",width=6,height=4)
bigplot
dev.off()
```

## pdf ## 2

Below we fit a mixed effects model with random effects for language family. This strategy is used to control for the historical relatedness of societies. However, the result is a fit that essentially ignores the random effects and is almost identical to the fixed-effects model above. In other words, the relatedness of societies does not seem to affect the results.

## Warning in vcov.merMod(object, use.hessian = use.hessian): variance-covariance matrix computed from ## not positive definite or contains NA values: falling back to var-cov estimated from RX

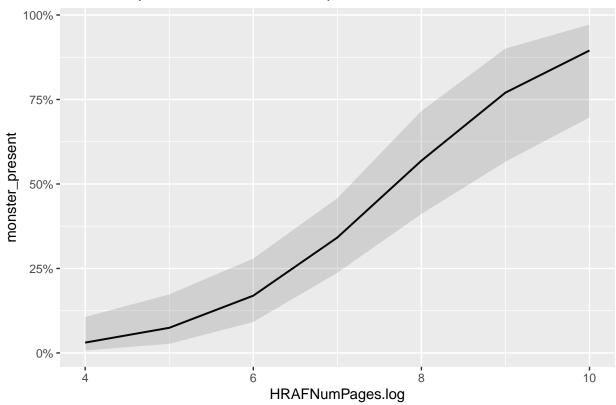
```
## Warning in vcov.merMod(object, correlation = correlation, sigm = sig): variance-covariance matrix con
## not positive definite or contains NA values: falling back to var-cov estimated from RX
## Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace
    Approximation) [glmerMod]
## Family: binomial (logit)
## Formula: factor(monster present) ~ 1 + HRAFNumPages.log + strata + land +
      (1 | language_family)
##
     Data: d
##
##
       AIC
               BIC
                     logLik deviance df.resid
##
     203.3
                      -91.6
              235.4
                              183.3
                                         174
##
## Scaled residuals:
      Min
              1Q Median
## -3.1293 -0.7269 0.1809 0.6543 3.3084
## Random effects:
## Groups
                  Name
                             Variance Std.Dev.
## language_family (Intercept) 0.02674 0.1635
## Number of obs: 184, groups: language_family, 81
##
## Fixed effects:
##
                   Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
## (Intercept)
                   -1.02089 554.96872 -0.002 0.998532
## HRAFNumPages.log 0.89145
                            0.25991 3.430 0.000604 ***
                              0.21700 1.868 0.061738 .
## strata1
                    0.40540
                              0.19084 0.296 0.767018
## strata2
                    0.05654
                              0.16010 1.821 0.068563 .
## strata3
                    0.29159
## strata4
                    0.19997
                              0.17287 1.157 0.247365
                              0.22707 0.652 0.514289
## land1
                    0.14809
## land2
                    0.63508
                              0.28417
                                        2.235 0.025425 *
## land3
                    4.10854 554.96556 0.007 0.994093
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Correlation of Fixed Effects:
             (Intr) HRAFNP strat1 strat2 strat3 strat4 land1 land2
## HRAFNmPgs.1 -0.003
## strata1
              0.000 -0.107
## strata2
             0.001 -0.140 -0.001
## strata3
             0.000 0.090 -0.015 -0.178
             ## strata4
## land1
              0.000 0.126 -0.133 -0.007 -0.030 -0.311
## land2
              1.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 0.000
## optimizer (Nelder_Mead) convergence code: 0 (OK)
## unable to evaluate scaled gradient
## Model failed to converge: degenerate Hessian with 1 negative eigenvalues
```

### Bayesian estimation

The estimation above has a large uncertainty for the probability of composite monsters for societies with wheeled vehicles. This is despite 100% of societies with wheeled vehicles having composite monsters. To test whether this is due a to poor model convergence, we use a different framework for estimating the model parameters. Below we use a Bayesian estimation using brms, using uniformative priors. We demonstrate that the coefficient estimates are almost identical, but that the estimate for the confidence interval for societies with wheeled vehicles is much narrower, which fits better with the overall data.

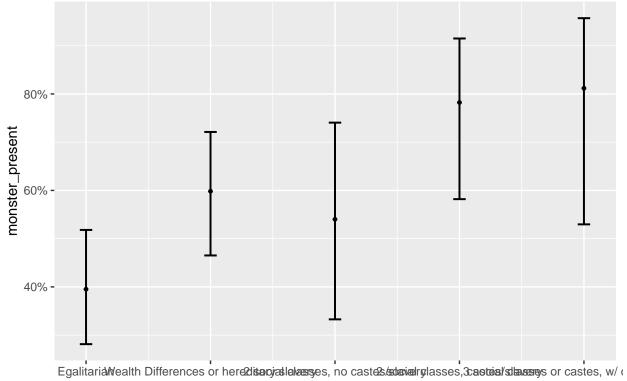
## \$HRAFNumPages.log

### Predicted probabilities of monster\_present



## ## \$strata

## Predicted probabilities of monster\_present

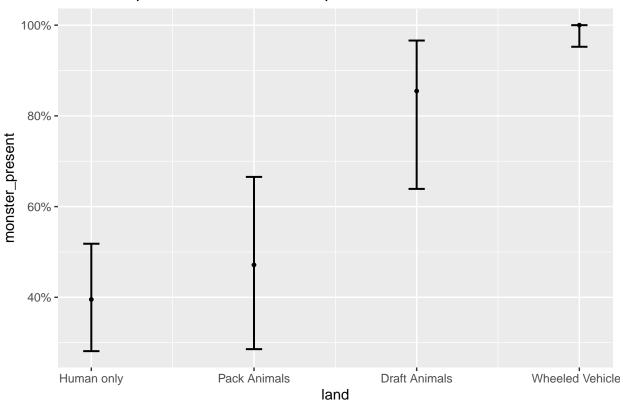


strata

##

## \$land





#### summary(mB)

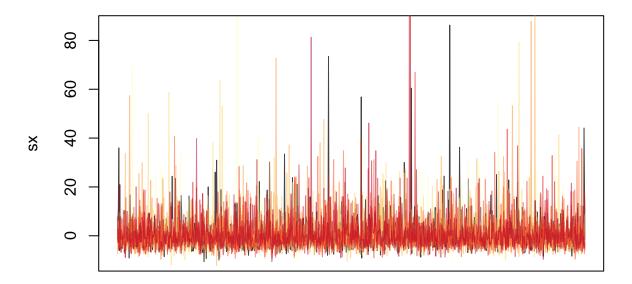
Family: bernoulli

```
##
    Links: mu = logit
## Formula: as.numeric(monster_present) ~ HRAFNumPages.log + strata + land
     Data: d (Number of observations: 184)
##
     Draws: 8 chains, each with iter = 1e+05; warmup = 1000; thin = 1;
##
            total post-warmup draws = 792000
##
##
## Population-Level Effects:
                    Estimate Est.Error 1-95% CI u-95% CI Rhat Bulk_ESS Tail_ESS
##
## Intercept
                         0.59
                                   7.63
                                           -7.05
                                                     17.92 1.00
                                                                  136274
                                                                             77692
## HRAFNumPages.log
                         0.94
                                   0.27
                                            0.44
                                                      1.49 1.00
                                                                  653689
                                                                            527827
                                           -0.01
## strata1
                         0.41
                                   0.22
                                                      0.85 1.00
                                                                  674775
                                                                            553332
## strata2
                         0.06
                                   0.20
                                           -0.32
                                                      0.45 1.00
                                                                  652492
                                                                            536109
                                                      0.66 1.00
## strata3
                         0.32
                                   0.17
                                            0.00
                                                                  672869
                                                                            500784
## strata4
                         0.23
                                   0.19
                                           -0.10
                                                      0.64 1.00
                                                                  601915
                                                                            450238
## land1
                         0.16
                                   0.23
                                           -0.30
                                                      0.61 1.00
                                                                  614183
                                                                            554478
## land2
                         0.71
                                   0.31
                                            0.16
                                                      1.38 1.00
                                                                  633173
                                                                            444496
## land3
                         5.95
                                            0.38
                                                     23.02 1.00
                                                                  135096
                                   7.38
                                                                             75405
## Draws were sampled using sampling(NUTS). For each parameter, Bulk_ESS
## and Tail_ESS are effective sample size measures, and Rhat is the potential
```

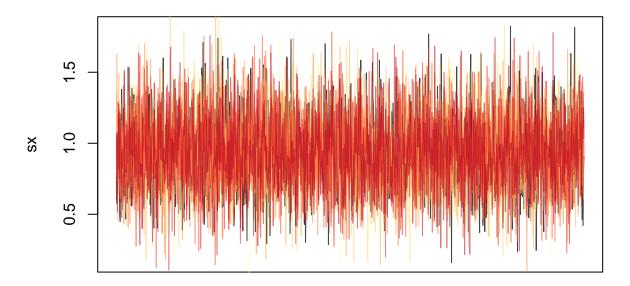
## scale reduction factor on split chains (at convergence, Rhat = 1).

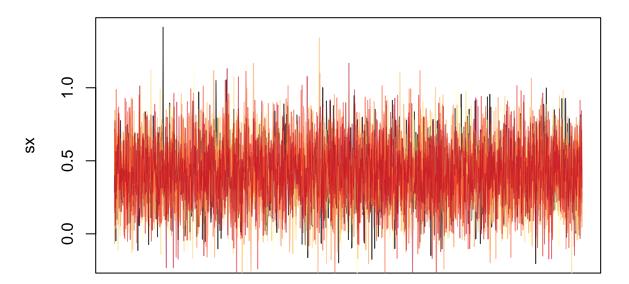
Plot model convergence:

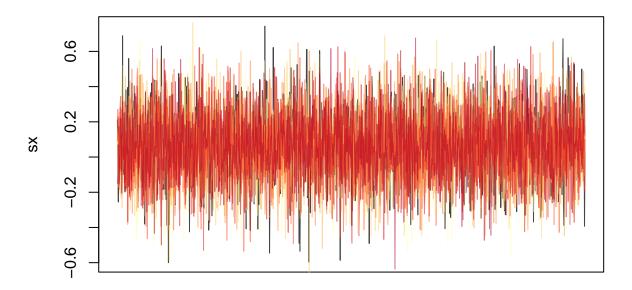
## **b\_Intercept**

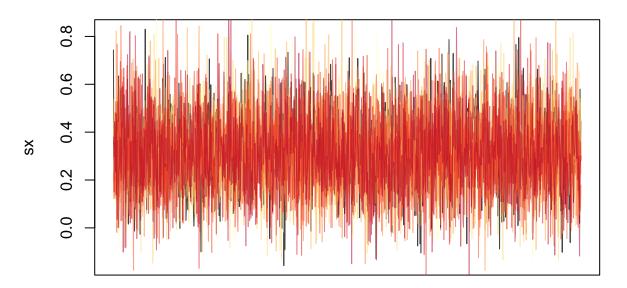


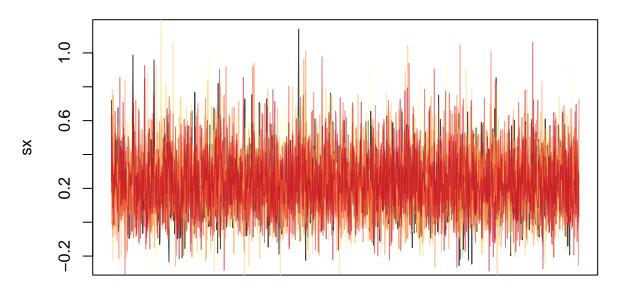
## b\_HRAFNumPages.log



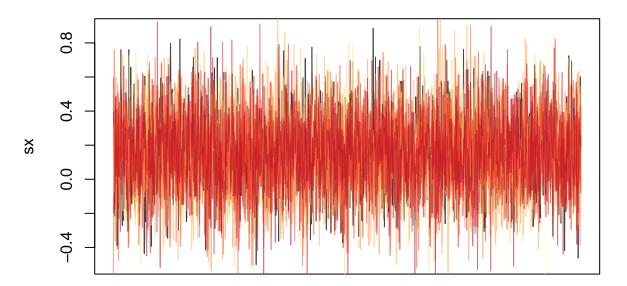




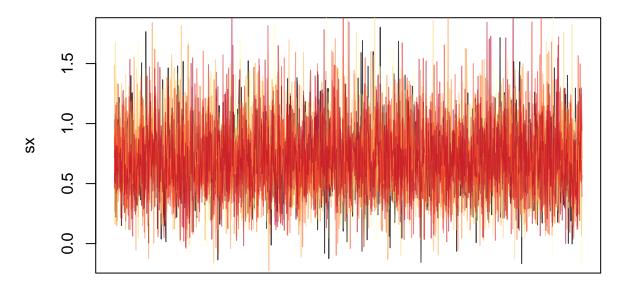




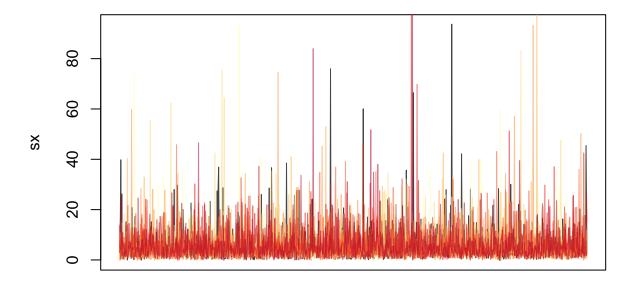
# b\_land1



## b\_land2



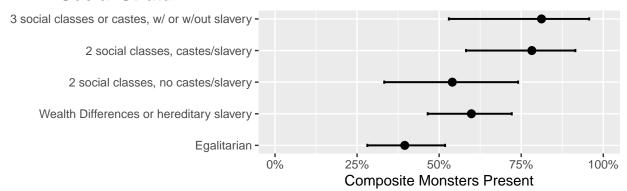
### b\_land3



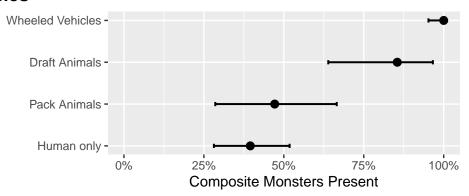
#### Plot the results:

```
pltB = plot_model(mB, "pred")
## Data were 'prettified'. Consider using `terms="HRAFNumPages.log [all]"` to get smooth plots.
p1B = pltB[[2]] + coord_flip(ylim=c(0,1)) +
  ggtitle("")+
  geom_point(size=2.5)+
  theme(axis.title.y = element_blank(),
        panel.grid.minor.y = element_blank()) +
  ylab("Composite Monsters Present")
p2B = pltB[[3]] + coord_flip(ylim=c(0,1)) +
  ggtitle("")+
  geom_point(size=2.5)+
  theme(axis.title.y = element_blank(),
        panel.grid.minor.y = element_blank()) +
  ylab("Composite Monsters Present")
bigplotB = ggarrange(p1B,
          ggarrange(ggplot() + theme_void(),
                    p2B,nrow=1,widths = c(1,3),
                    labels=c("","")),
          ncol = 1, labels=c("Social Strata","Land Vehicles"))
bigplotB
```

### **Social Strata**



### **Land Vehicles**

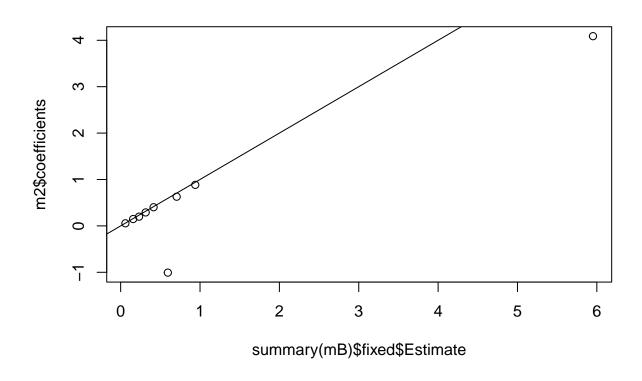


```
pdf("../results/BigPlot_Bayesian.pdf",width=6,height=4)
bigplotB
dev.off()
```

## pdf ## 2

Compare estimates between the standard and Bayesian models, the major difference is for wheeled vehicles: plot(summary(mB)\$fixed\$Estimate, m2\$coefficients)

abline(0,1)



## [1] 0.9325302

#### Unclear cases

In nine cases, possible composite beings were identified, but either the available descriptions were too vague or else the sources were an insufficient match to the SCCS time period or community. In the analyses above, these cases were assumed to have composite beings. Here we test whether that assumption is affecting the results.

Since the number of unclear cases is small, we can run the test with all possible combinations of presence and absence (there are 512 possible combinations), re-run the test, and see if the result changes. Note that controls for multiple comparisons are not needed: we're not claiming that any one significant result proves the hypothesis: we're expecting that ALL tests below should be significant in order for the hypothesis to be robust.

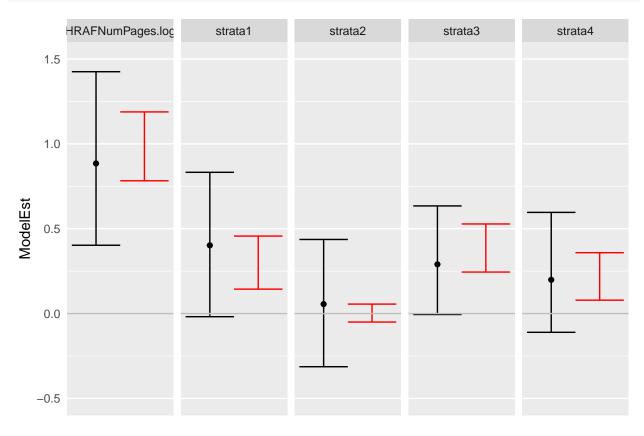
```
# Order by unclear so unclear cases are at the top
d = d[order(d$monster_unclear, decreasing = T),]
# Generate all possible combinations of presence/absence for
# the nine cases
possibleCombinationsOfUnclearCases =
  expand.grid(c(T,F),c(T,F),c(T,F),c(T,F),c(T,F),c(T,F),c(T,F),c(T,F),c(T,F))
testUnclear = function(varToTest){
   print(paste("*",varToTest,"*"))
   fx1 = fisher.test(
      table(d[!d$monster unclear,]$monster present,
            d[!d$monster unclear,varToTest]))
   print("Excludnig unclear cases:")
   print(fx1$p.value)
    # For each possible combination ...
   rangeOfFisherPValues =
    apply(possibleCombinationsOfUnclearCases,1,
        function(X){
          # ... replace the nine cases with the possible combination
          mPresent = d$monster_present
          mPresent[1:9] = X
          # Run the fisher test again
          fx = fisher.test(table(mPresent,d[,varToTest]))
          fx$p.value
        })
    # Return the range of values
    print("Range of possible values:")
   range(rangeOfFisherPValues)
}
testUnclear("strata")
## [1] "* strata *"
## [1] "Excludnig unclear cases:"
## [1] 8.634055e-06
## [1] "Range of possible values:"
## [1] 3.930482e-07 5.713377e-04
testUnclear("land")
## [1] "* land *"
## [1] "Excludnig unclear cases:"
## [1] 1.108596e-05
```

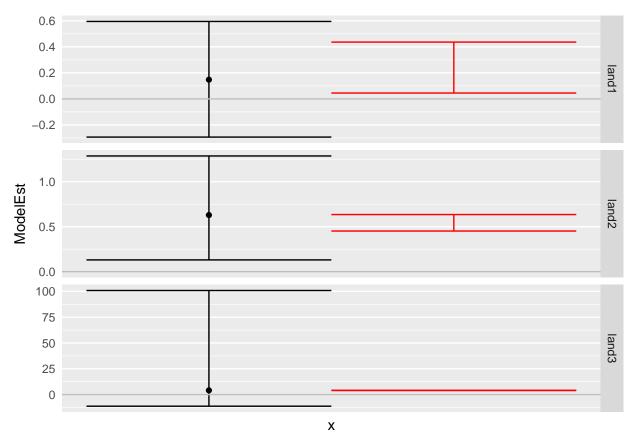
```
## [1] "Range of possible values:"
## [1] 1.543862e-06 4.087067e-05
testUnclear("urban")
## [1] "* urban *"
## [1] "Excludnig unclear cases:"
## [1] 0.001089126
## [1] "Range of possible values:"
## [1] 0.0001685333 0.0034510031
testUnclear("politic")
## [1] "* politic *"
## [1] "Excludnig unclear cases:"
## [1] 0.007202879
## [1] "Range of possible values:"
## [1] 0.001197838 0.020952802
testUnclear("tech")
## [1] "* tech *"
## [1] "Excludnig unclear cases:"
## [1] 0.0009060922
## [1] "Range of possible values:"
## [1] 0.0000791471 0.0092628589
testUnclear("writing")
## [1] "* writing *"
## [1] "Excludnig unclear cases:"
## [1] 4.373475e-05
## [1] "Range of possible values:"
## [1] 3.461887e-06 1.627860e-03
```

All main tests are still significant when excluding the 9 unclear cases. In addition, for all main variables, there is no combination of the 9 unclear cases that increases the p-value above 0.05. This suggests the main qualitative conclusions are not affected by the unclear cases.

In the code below, we re-run the combined model (m2) with all possible combinations of the uncertain data.

The results show that the range of coefficient estiamtes from the possible models above (red lines) are within the 95% confidence intervals of the coefficients for the main models (black lines):





We run a similar test below where all possible combinations are run, and we calculate the p-value from the F-test of the main combined model (m2).

Range of p-values for land show that all are below 0.05:

```
range(rangeOfFTestProbs[2,])
```

```
## [1] 0.0002909898 0.0034112405
```

The range of p-values for Strata show that 5 out of 512 tests have p-values above 0.05:

```
range(rangeOfFTestProbs[1,])
```

```
## [1] 8.990634e-05 7.418215e-02
```

We can see which settings of these tests lead to non-significance:

```
# Table of strata for the uncertain condition
d[1:9,c("pref_name_for_society","strata")]
```

```
##
       pref_name_for_society
## 34
                       Wolof 3 social classes or castes, w/ or w/out slavery
## 58
                      Kazakh
                                             2 social classes, castes/slavery
## 97
                     Alorese
                                     Wealth Differences or hereditary slavery
                                                                   Egalitarian
## 112
                         Lesu
## 126
                     Mi'kmaq
                                                                   Egalitarian
## 128
                       Aleut
                                             2 social classes, castes/slavery
## 138
                   Havasupai
                                                                   Egalitarian
## 150
              Tohono O'odham
                                                                   Egalitarian
## 163
                  Saramaccan
                                                                   Egalitarian
# Table where each column is a different combination
   of settings for the monster_present variable
cbind(d[1:9,c("pref name for society")],
    t(possibleCombinationsOfUnclearCases[
      which(rangeOfFTestProbs[1,]>0.05),]))
```

```
##
                          36
                                   40
                                           48
                                                   56
                                                            296
## Var1 "Wolof"
                          "FALSE" "FALSE" "FALSE" "FALSE"
                                                            "FALSE"
## Var2 "Kazakh"
                          "FALSE"
                                   "FALSE" "FALSE" "FALSE"
## Var3 "Alorese"
                          "TRUE"
                                   "FALSE" "FALSE" "FALSE"
## Var4 "Lesu"
                          "TRUE"
                                   "TRUE"
                                           "FALSE" "TRUE"
                                                            "TRUE"
## Var5 "Mi'kmaq"
                          "TRUE"
                                   "TRUE"
                                           "TRUE"
                                                    "FALSE" "TRUE"
## Var6 "Aleut"
                          "FALSE"
                                  "FALSE"
                                           "FALSE" "FALSE"
                                                            "FALSE"
                          "TRUE"
## Var7 "Havasupai"
                                   "TRUE"
                                           "TRUE"
                                                   "TRUE"
                                                            "TRUE"
## Var8 "Tohono O'odham"
                          "TRUE"
                                   "TRUE"
                                           "TRUE"
                                                    "TRUE"
                                                            "TRUE"
## Var9 "Saramaccan"
                          "TRUE"
                                   "TRUE"
                                           "TRUE"
                                                    "TRUE"
                                                            "FALSE"
```

The uncertain cases include 5 egalitarian societies and 3 that have at least 2 social classes with castes/slavery. The non-significant results emerge when at least 4 of the egalitarian societies these have composite monsters, while the 3 more hierarchical societies have none. That is, when the data is exactly against the predicted direction.

#### References

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