The interactive origin of iconiciy: Mixed effects models

Load libraries

```
library(gplots)
library(lattice)
library(ggplot2)
library(lme4)
library(party)
library(sjPlot)
```

Load data

```
finalLangs = read.csv("../data/finalLanguages/FinalLanguages.csv", stringsAsFactors = F)
# convert labels to English
finalLangs$Shape[finalLangs$Shape=="Picudo"] = "Spiky"
finalLangs$Shape[finalLangs$Shape=="Redondo"] = "Round"
```

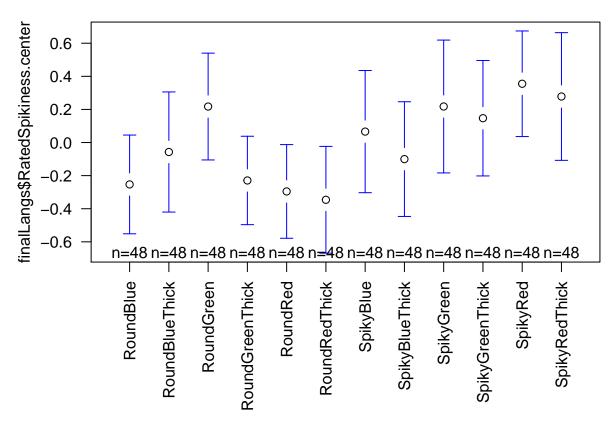
Center spikiness ratings and re-level factors.

```
finalLangs$RatedSpikiness.center =
  finalLangs$RatedSpikiness- mean(finalLangs$RatedSpikiness)

finalLangs$Cond = factor(finalLangs$Cond, levels=c("Learn", "Communication"))
finalLangs$Shape = factor(finalLangs$Shape, levels=c("Round", "Spiky"))
```

Plot the data by item (all conditions, all generations)

```
par(mar=c(8,4,2,2))
plotmeans(finalLangs$RatedSpikiness.center~finalLangs$Item, las=2, xlab="", connect=F)
```



There are differences between items

Mixed effects model

Build a series of models with random effects for Chain and Item.

```
# null model
m0 = lmer(RatedSpikiness.center ~ 1 + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item), data=finalLangs)
# + condition
m1 = lmer(RatedSpikiness.center ~ Cond + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item), data=finalLangs)
# + generation
m2 = lmer(RatedSpikiness.center ~ Cond + Gen + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item), data=finalLangs)
# + shape
m3 = lmer(RatedSpikiness.center ~ Cond + Gen + Shape + (1 | Chain)
          + (1|Item), data=finalLangs)
# + interaction between shape and generation
m4 = lmer(RatedSpikiness.center ~ Cond + (Gen * Shape) + (1 | Chain)
          + (1|Item), data=finalLangs)
# + interaction between condition and generation
m5 = lmer(RatedSpikiness.center ~ (Cond*Gen) + (Gen * Shape) + (1 | Chain)
          + (1|Item), data=finalLangs)
# + interaction between shape and condition
m6 = lmer(RatedSpikiness.center ~ (Cond*Gen) + (Gen * Shape) + (Shape:Cond)
          + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item), data=finalLangs)
# + 3-way interaction
m7 = lmer(RatedSpikiness.center ~ Cond * Gen * Shape + (1 | Chain)
          + (1|Item), data=finalLangs)
```

Results

Look inside main model

```
summary(m7)
```

```
## Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']
## Formula: RatedSpikiness.center ~ Cond * Gen * Shape + (1 | Chain) + (1 |
##
       Item)
##
      Data: finalLangs
##
## REML criterion at convergence: 1767.9
##
## Scaled residuals:
      Min
                1Q Median
                                3Q
                                       Max
## -1.8411 -0.8370 -0.1665 0.7906 2.3066
##
## Random effects:
## Groups
            Name
                         Variance Std.Dev.
## Item
             (Intercept) 0.01058 0.1029
             (Intercept) 0.18043 0.4248
## Chain
## Residual
                         1.17881 1.0857
## Number of obs: 576, groups: Item, 12; Chain, 8
##
## Fixed effects:
##
                                     Estimate Std. Error t value
## (Intercept)
                                     0.022530
                                                0.299064
                                                           0.075
## CondCommunication
                                     0.096751
                                                0.418750
                                                           0.231
## Gen
                                    -0.033860
                                                0.052978
                                                          -0.639
## ShapeSpiky
                                    -0.003530
                                                0.297764
                                                          -0.012
## CondCommunication:Gen
                                                0.074923
                                                          -0.862
                                    -0.064573
## CondCommunication:ShapeSpiky
                                    -0.032181
                                                0.412642
                                                          -0.078
## Gen:ShapeSpiky
                                     0.002764
                                                0.074923
                                                           0.037
## CondCommunication:Gen:ShapeSpiky 0.189234
                                                0.105957
                                                           1.786
##
## Correlation of Fixed Effects:
               (Intr) CndCmm Gen
                                    ShpSpk CndC:G CnC:SS Gn:ShS
##
## CondCmmnctn -0.700
## Gen
               -0.620 0.443
## ShapeSpiky -0.498 0.341 0.623
## CndCmmnct:G 0.438 -0.626 -0.707 -0.440
## CndCmmnc:SS 0.345 -0.493 -0.449 -0.693
                                           0.635
## Gen:ShpSpky 0.438 -0.313 -0.707 -0.881 0.500
## CndCmm:G:SS -0.310 0.443 0.500 0.623 -0.707 -0.899 -0.707
```

Test the differences between model fits.

refitting model(s) with ML (instead of REML)

```
anova(m0,m1,m2,m3,m4,m5,m6,m7)
```

```
## Data: finalLangs
```

```
## Models:
## m0: RatedSpikiness.center ~ 1 + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item)
## m1: RatedSpikiness.center ~ Cond + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item)
## m2: RatedSpikiness.center ~ Cond + Gen + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item)
## m3: RatedSpikiness.center ~ Cond + Gen + Shape + (1 | Chain) + (1 |
## m3:
           Item)
## m4: RatedSpikiness.center ~ Cond + (Gen * Shape) + (1 | Chain) +
## m4:
           (1 | Item)
## m5: RatedSpikiness.center ~ (Cond * Gen) + (Gen * Shape) + (1 | Chain) +
## m5:
           (1 | Item)
## m6: RatedSpikiness.center ~ (Cond * Gen) + (Gen * Shape) + (Shape:Cond) +
           (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item)
## m6:
## m7: RatedSpikiness.center ~ Cond * Gen * Shape + (1 | Chain) + (1 |
## m7:
           Item)
     \mathsf{Df}
            AIC
##
                   BIC logLik deviance
                                          Chisq Chi Df Pr(>Chisq)
      4 1779.7 1797.1 -885.83
                                 1771.7
## mO
## m1
      5 1781.2 1803.0 -885.61
                                 1771.2 0.4475
                                                        0.5035471
                                                     1
      6 1782.8 1808.9 -885.40
                                 1770.8 0.4234
                                                        0.5152634
## m3 7 1777.7 1808.2 -881.87
                                                        0.0078704 **
                                 1763.7 7.0627
                                                     1
## m4 8 1776.4 1811.3 -880.21
                                 1760.4 3.3049
                                                        0.0690737
## m5 9 1778.1 1817.3 -880.05
                                 1760.1 0.3156
                                                     1 0.5742584
## m6 10 1768.1 1811.6 -874.04
                                 1748.1 12.0326
                                                        0.0005228 ***
                                                     1
## m7 11 1766.9 1814.8 -872.43
                                 1744.9 3.2087
                                                     1
                                                        0.0732495 .
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

There was a significant main effect of shape (beta = -0.0035, std.err = 0.3, Wald t = -0.012 log likelihood difference = 3.5, df = 1, Chi Squared = 7.06, p = 0.0079).

There was a significant interaction between shape and condition (beta = -0.032, std.err = 0.41, Wald t = -0.078 log likelihood difference = 6, df = 1, Chi Squared = 12.03, p = 0.00052).

There was a marginal interaction between shape and generation (beta = 0.0028, std.err = 0.075, Wald t = 0.037 log likelihood difference = 1.7, df = 1, Chi Squared = 3.3, p = 0.069).

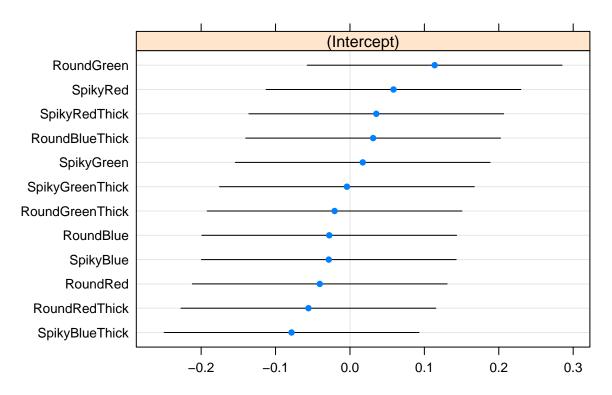
There was a marginal three-way interaction between shape, condition and generation (beta = 0.19, std.err = 0.11, Wald t = 1.8 log likelihood difference = 1.6, df = 1, Chi Squared = 3.21, p = 0.073).

Plot the random effects.

```
dotplot(ranef(m7, condVar=T))
```

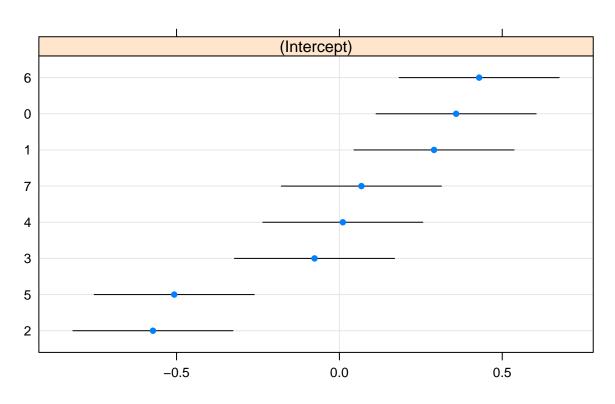
\$Item



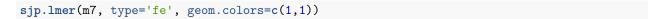


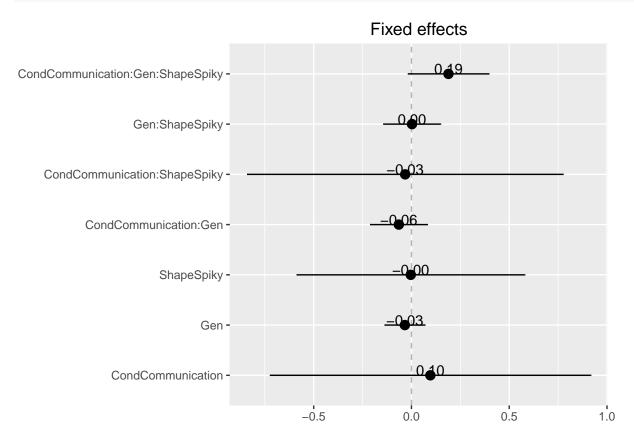
\$Chain

Chain



Plot the fixed effects with error estiamtes from the final model. The 3-way interaction between condition, generation and shape is marginally significant:



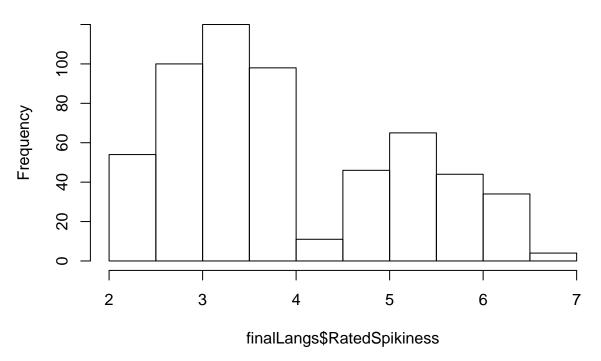


Mixed effects model with binarised spikiness ratings

The spikiness ratings are not normally distributed:

hist(finalLangs\$RatedSpikiness)

Histogram of finalLangs\$RatedSpikiness



So we binarise the variable into spiky/not spiky:

```
finalLangs$RatedSpikiness.bin = finalLangs$RatedSpikiness >4
```

Run a series of models. Note that intermediate models 5 and 6 do not converge, but the final model 7 does.

```
mcontrol = glmerControl(optCtrl = list(maxfun = 500000))
mb0 = glmer(RatedSpikiness.bin ~ 1 + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item),
            data=finalLangs, family=binomial, control = mcontrol)
mb1 = glmer(RatedSpikiness.bin ~ Cond + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item),
            data=finalLangs, family=binomial, control = mcontrol)
mb2 = glmer(RatedSpikiness.bin ~ Cond + Gen + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item),
            data=finalLangs, family=binomial, control = mcontrol)
mb3 = glmer(RatedSpikiness.bin ~ Cond + Gen + Shape + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item),
            data=finalLangs, family=binomial, control = mcontrol)
mb4 = glmer(RatedSpikiness.bin ~ Cond + (Gen * Shape) + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item),
            data=finalLangs, family=binomial, control = mcontrol)
mb5 = glmer(RatedSpikiness.bin ~ (Cond*Gen) + (Gen * Shape) + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item),
            data=finalLangs, family=binomial, control = mcontrol)
## Warning in checkConv(attr(opt, "derivs"), opt$par, ctrl = control
## $checkConv, : Model failed to converge with max|grad| = 0.00112016 (tol =
## 0.001, component 1)
mb6 = glmer(RatedSpikiness.bin ~ (Cond*Gen) + (Gen * Shape) + (Shape:Cond) + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item),
            data=finalLangs, family=binomial, control = mcontrol)
```

Results

Look inside main model

```
summary(mb7)
```

```
## Generalized linear mixed model fit by maximum likelihood (Laplace
     Approximation) [glmerMod]
  Family: binomial (logit)
## Formula: RatedSpikiness.bin ~ Cond * Gen * Shape + (1 | Chain) + (1 |
##
      Data: finalLangs
## Control: mcontrol
##
##
        AIC
                 BIC
                       logLik deviance df.resid
##
      722.9
               766.4
                      -351.4
                                 702.9
                                            566
##
## Scaled residuals:
      Min
               1Q Median
                                3Q
                                       Max
## -1.4001 -0.7152 -0.4951 0.9714 2.5752
##
## Random effects:
## Groups Name
                       Variance Std.Dev.
           (Intercept) 0.06298 0.2510
## Chain (Intercept) 0.30153 0.5491
## Number of obs: 576, groups: Item, 12; Chain, 8
##
## Fixed effects:
                                    Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
##
## (Intercept)
                                    -0.80967
                                               0.50900 -1.591
## CondCommunication
                                                0.72308
                                                          0.162
                                                                   0.871
                                     0.11711
                                                0.10567
                                                          0.582
## Gen
                                     0.06152
                                                                   0.560
## ShapeSpiky
                                                0.60063
                                                          0.874
                                                                   0.382
                                     0.52479
## CondCommunication:Gen
                                    -0.25227
                                                0.16195 -1.558
                                                                   0.119
## CondCommunication:ShapeSpiky
                                                0.83301 -0.074
                                                                   0.941
                                    -0.06135
## Gen:ShapeSpiky
                                    -0.16967
                                                0.15042 -1.128
                                                                   0.259
## CondCommunication:Gen:ShapeSpiky 0.39112
                                                0.21894
                                                         1.786
                                                                   0.074 .
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Correlation of Fixed Effects:
               (Intr) CndCmm Gen
##
                                    ShpSpk CndC:G CnC:SS Gn:ShS
## CondCmmnctn -0.675
## Gen
              -0.736 0.518
## ShapeSpiky -0.600 0.398 0.623
```

```
## CndCmmnct:G 0.480 -0.751 -0.653 -0.407

## CndCmmnc:SS 0.407 -0.617 -0.449 -0.679 0.652

## Gen:ShpSpky 0.518 -0.364 -0.703 -0.871 0.459 0.628

## CndCmm:G:SS -0.356 0.556 0.483 0.599 -0.740 -0.893 -0.687
```

Test model comparison:

anova(mb0,mb1,mb2,mb3,mb4,mb5,mb6,mb7)

```
## Data: finalLangs
## Models:
## mb0: RatedSpikiness.bin ~ 1 + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item)
## mb1: RatedSpikiness.bin ~ Cond + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item)
## mb2: RatedSpikiness.bin ~ Cond + Gen + (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item)
## mb3: RatedSpikiness.bin ~ Cond + Gen + Shape + (1 | Chain) + (1 |
            Item)
## mb3:
## mb4: RatedSpikiness.bin ~ Cond + (Gen * Shape) + (1 | Chain) + (1 |
## mb4:
            Item)
## mb5: RatedSpikiness.bin ~ (Cond * Gen) + (Gen * Shape) + (1 | Chain) +
## mb5:
            (1 | Item)
## mb6: RatedSpikiness.bin ~ (Cond * Gen) + (Gen * Shape) + (Shape:Cond) +
            (1 | Chain) + (1 | Item)
## mb7: RatedSpikiness.bin ~ Cond * Gen * Shape + (1 | Chain) + (1 |
## mb7:
            Item)
      Df
             AIC
                    BIC logLik deviance
                                           Chisq Chi Df Pr(>Chisq)
## mb0
       3 729.66 742.72 -361.83
                                  723.66
       4 731.64 749.07 -361.82
                                  723.64
                                         0.0130
                                                         0.9092167
## mb1
                                                      1
## mb2 5 733.09 754.87 -361.54
                                  723.09
                                         0.5560
                                                         0.4558874
## mb3 6 730.23 756.37 -359.12
                                  718.23 4.8538
                                                      1
                                                         0.0275855 *
## mb4
       7 732.22 762.71 -359.11
                                  718.22
                                         0.0115
                                                      1
                                                         0.9147795
## mb5 8 734.12 768.97 -359.06
                                                         0.7517608
                                  718.12 0.1001
                                                      1
## mb6 9 724.09 763.29 -353.04
                                  706.09 12.0352
                                                         0.0005221 ***
                                  702.88 3.2044
## mb7 10 722.88 766.44 -351.44
                                                         0.0734423 .
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

There was a significant main effect of shape (beta = 0.52, std.err = 0.6, Wald t = 0.87, Wald p = 0.38 log likelihood difference = 2.4, df = 1, Chi Squared = 4.85, p = 0.028).

There was a significant interaction between shape and condition (beta = -0.061 , std.err = 0.83 , Wald t = -0.074 , Wald p = 0.94 log likelihood difference = 6 , df = 1 , Chi Squared = 12.04 , p = 0.00052).

There was no significant interaction between shape and generation (beta = -0.17, std.err = 0.15, Wald t = -1.1, Wald p = 0.26 log likelihood difference = 0.0057, df = 1, Chi Squared = 0.01, p = 0.91).

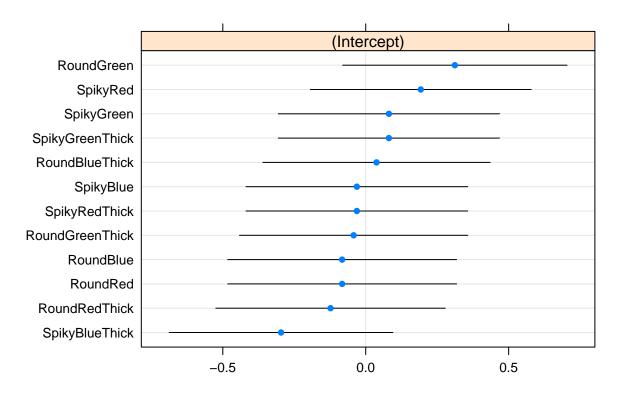
There was a marginal three-way interaction between shape, condition and generation (beta = 0.39, std.err = 0.22, Wald t = 1.8, Wald p = 0.074 log likelihood difference = 1.6, df = 1, Chi Squared = 3.2, p = 0.073).

Plot random effects of final model

```
dotplot(ranef(mb7, condVar=T))
```

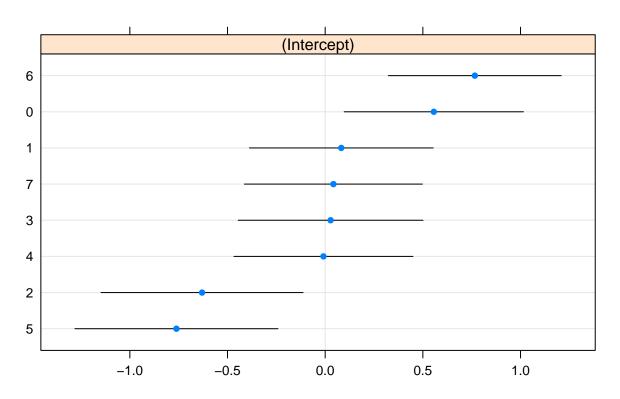
```
## $Item
```





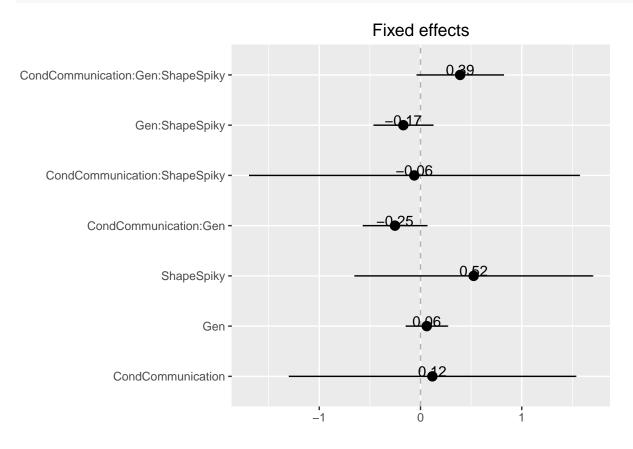
\$Chain

Chain



Plot fixed effects with standard error from final model.

sjp.lmer(mb7, type='fe', geom.colors=c(1,1))



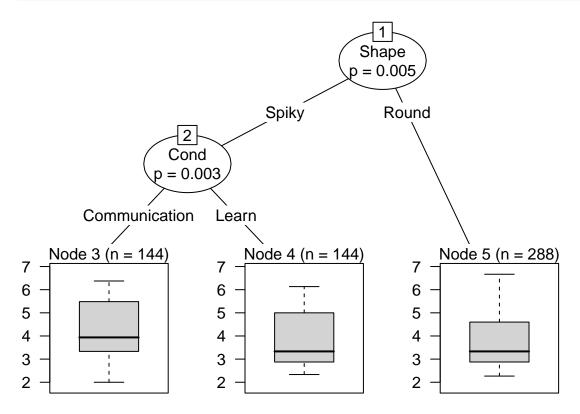
Binary tree analysis

We use a binary decision tree to predict spikiness ratings by condition, generation, item shape, item colour and item border type.

The results agree with those above, namely that the main effects are for shape, but spiky meanings are rated as more spiky in the communication condition

```
finalLangs2 = finalLangs
finalLangs2$Shape = factor(finalLangs2$Shape)
finalLangs2$Colour = factor(finalLangs2$Colour)
finalLangs2$Border = factor(finalLangs2$Border)
finalLangs2$Cond = factor(finalLangs2$Cond)

cx = ctree(RatedSpikiness~Cond+Gen+Shape+Colour+Border, data=finalLangs2)
plot(cx)
```



Accuracy

Note that the column *Human* in the data indicates whether the signal was sent by a human. This is always the case in the communication condition, but only true for half of the trials in the learning condition. In the learning condition, when *Human* is FALSE, the human participant is guessing meaning from the signal sent by the program.

Load data

```
datax = read.csv("../results/IncreaseInIconicity.csv", stringsAsFactors = F)
alldatx = read.csv("../results/AllTrialData.csv", stringsAsFactors = F)
```

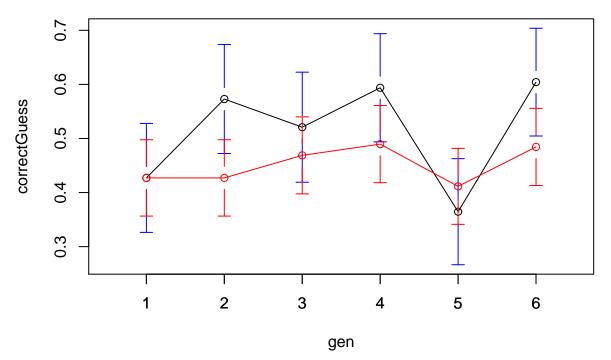
The mean proportion of correct guesses in the communication condition was 45.14%. The mean proportion of correct guesses by the human participant in the learning condition was 51.39

Plot the correct guesses by generation:

```
plotmeans(correctGuess~gen,alldatx[alldatx$condition=='Learn' & !alldatx$Human,], n.label = F)
plotmeans(correctGuess~gen,alldatx[alldatx$condition=='Comm',],add=T,col=2,barcol=2, n.label = F)

## Warning in axis(1, at = 1:length(means), labels = legends, ...): "add" is
## not a graphical parameter

## Warning in plot.xy(xy.coords(x, y), type = type, ...): "add" is not a
## graphical parameter
```



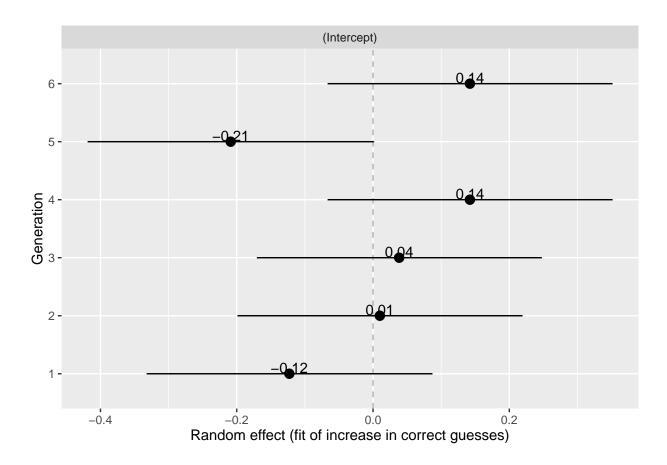
Mixed effects model

Binomial mixed effects model, with random effects for chain, target item. Test whether there are differences between conditions.

```
## Data: alldatx[alldatx$condition == "Comm" | (!alldatx$Human), ]
## Models:
## m0: correctGuess ~ 1 + (1 | chain) + (1 | target.meaning)
## m1: correctGuess ~ 1 + (1 | chain) + (1 | target.meaning) + (1 |
## m2: correctGuess ~ condition + (1 | chain) + (1 | target.meaning) +
## m2:
           (1 | gen)
           AIC
                  BIC logLik deviance Chisq Chi Df Pr(>Chisq)
##
## m0 3 2375.7 2392.0 -1184.8
                                2369.7
## m1 4 2372.8 2394.6 -1182.4
                                2364.8 4.9062
                                                   1
                                                        0.02676 *
## m2 5 2373.1 2400.4 -1181.5
                                2363.1 1.6748
                                                        0.19562
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

There was no significant main effect of condition (beta = 0.26, std.err = 0.19, Wald t = 1.4, Wald p = 0.17 log likelihood difference = 0.84, df = 1, Chi Squared = 1.67, p = 0.2).

There was a significant difference between generations (log likelihood difference = 2.5, df = 1, Chi Squared = 4.91, p = 0.027). There is a weak trend for the proportion of correct guesses to increase by generation, as shown by the estimates for the random effects for generation:



Iconicity and accuracy

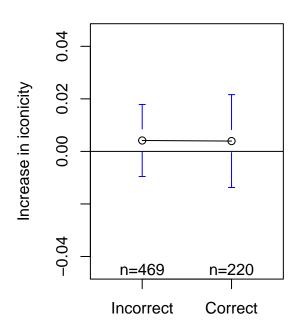
Innovations are either more or less iconic than the words they replace. There is no difference in how accurate the guesses are in terms of choosing the right item (see below, left), but the innovation tends to be more iconic when the shape of a meaning is guessed correctly (spiky or round). That is, the iconicity is helping participants guess the shape of a target meaning correctly.

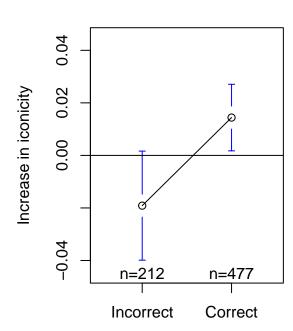
Note that this analysis only makes sense for the communication condition.

```
par(mfrow=c(1,2))
ylimx = c(-0.045, 0.045)
plotmeans(increaseIconicity ~ paste(condition, correctGuess),
          data = datax[datax$Human & datax$condition=="Comm",],
          ylim=ylimx, legends = c("Incorrect", "Correct"),
          xlab='',
          ylab="Increase in iconicity")
title("Guessing Item")
abline(h=0)
plotmeans(increaseIconicity ~ paste(condition, correctSpikiness),
          data = datax[datax$Human& datax$condition=="Comm",],
          ylim=ylimx,legends = c("Incorrect", "Correct"),
          xlab='',
          ylab="Increase in iconicity")
title("Guessing Shape")
abline(h=0)
```



Guessing Shape





Mixed effects model for accuracy and iconicity

m0: increaseIconicity \sim 1 + (1 | chain) + (1 | gen)

(1 | gen) + (1 | meaning)

(1 | meaning)

m0 4 -694.34 -676.20 351.17 -702.34

AIC

m2:

Df

##

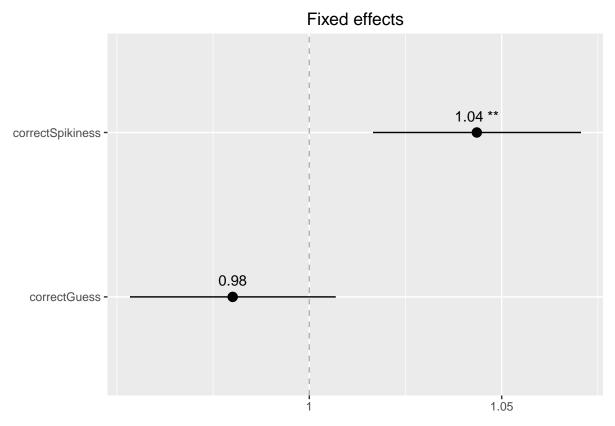
m1: increaseIconicity ~ correctGuess + (1 | chain) + (1 | gen) +

m2: increaseIconicity ~ correctGuess + correctSpikiness + (1 | chain) +

A mixed effects model predicting the increase in iconicity by whether the reciever selected the correct target item, and by whether the reciever selected an item which matched the target in the shape dimension, with random effects for chain, generation and item. Note that it would make more intuitive sense to predict accuracy by increase in iconicity, but this way we can compare the effects of item accuracy versus shape accuracy.

BIC logLik deviance Chisq Chi Df Pr(>Chisq)

```
## m1 6 -690.34 -663.13 351.17 -702.34 0.0004
                                                          0.999820
## m2 7 -698.34 -666.59 356.17 -712.34 9.9963
                                                          0.001569 **
                                                      1
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
summary(m2)
## Linear mixed model fit by REML ['lmerMod']
## Formula:
## increaseIconicity ~ correctGuess + correctSpikiness + (1 | chain) +
##
       (1 | gen) + (1 | meaning)
      Data: datax[datax$condition == "Comm", ]
##
##
## REML criterion at convergence: -689.9
##
## Scaled residuals:
##
       Min
                1Q Median
                                3Q
                                       Max
## -3.3006 -0.3909 -0.0257 0.4642 3.2271
##
## Random effects:
## Groups
            Name
                         Variance Std.Dev.
## meaning (Intercept) 0.00000 0.0000
   gen
             (Intercept) 0.00000 0.0000
##
             (Intercept) 0.00000 0.0000
## chain
## Residual
                         0.02091 0.1446
## Number of obs: 689, groups: meaning, 12; gen, 6; chain, 4
##
## Fixed effects:
##
                         Estimate Std. Error t value
                                    0.009932 -1.925
## (Intercept)
                        -0.019121
## correctGuessTRUE
                        -0.019429
                                    0.013283
                                               -1.463
## correctSpikinessTRUE  0.042482
                                    0.013417
                                                3.166
##
## Correlation of Fixed Effects:
               (Intr) cGTRUE
## crrctGsTRUE 0.000
## crrctSpTRUE -0.740 -0.457
There was a significant main effect of guessing the shape correctly (beta = 0.042, std.err = 0.013, Wald t =
3.2 \log likelihood difference = 5, df = 1, Chi Squared = 10, p = 0.0016).
Plot the fixed effects:
sjp.glmer(m2, type='fe', geom.colors=c(1,1) )
```



Note that the model is probably overfitted, since the random effects are singulative. But the effect is clear from the plot of the raw data.