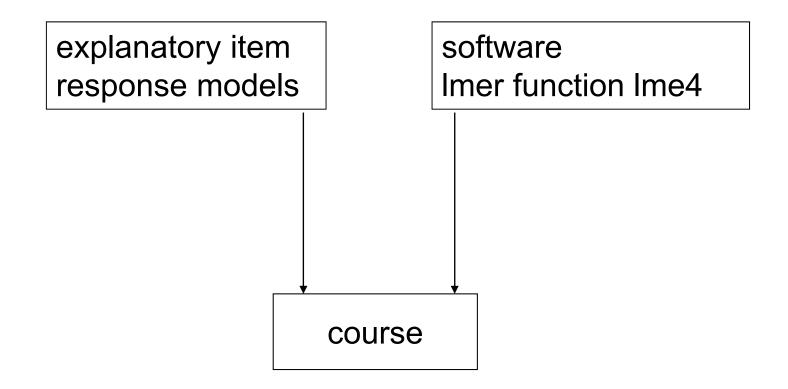
A Generalized Linear Mixed Model Approach to Item Response Modeling

Paul De Boeck U. Amsterdam & K.U.Leuven Sun-Joo Cho Peabody College Vanderbilt U.



- 1. Rijmen, F., Tuerlinckx, F., De Boeck, P., & Kuppens, P. (2003). A nonlinear mixed model framework for item response theory. *Psychological Methods*, *8*, 185-205.
- 2. De Boeck, P., & Wilson, M. (Eds.) (2004). *Explanatory item response models: A generalized linear and nonlinear approach.* New York: Springer.
- 3. De Boeck, P. et al. (2011). The estimation of item response models with the Imer function from the Ime4 package in R. *Journal of Statistical Software.*

Website: http://bearcenter.berkeley.edu/EIRM/

Statistics for Social Science and Public Policy

Paul De Boeck, Mark Wilson, Editors

Explanatory Item Response Models: A Generalized Linear and Nonlinear Approach

This edited volume gives a new and integrated introduction to item response models (predominantly used in measurement applications in psychology, education, and other social science areas) from the viewpoint of the statistical theory of generalized linear and non-linear mixed models. Moreover, this new framework allows the domain of item response models to be co-ordinated and broadened to emphasize their *explanatory* uses beyond their standard *descriptive* uses.

The basic explanatory principle is that item responses can be modelled as a function of predictors of various kinds. The predictors can be (a) characteristics of items, of persons, and of combinations of persons and items; they can be (b) observed or latent (of either items or persons); and they can be (c) latent continuous or latent categorical. Thus, a broad range of models is generated, including a wide range of extant item response models as well as some new ones. Within this range, models with explanatory predictors are given special attention in this book, but we also discuss descriptive models. Note that the "item responses" that we are referring to are not just the traditional "test data," but are broadly conceived as categorical data from a repeated observations design. Hence, data from studies with repeated observations experimental designs, or with longitudinal designs, may also be modelled.

The book starts with a four-chapter section containing an introduction to the framework. The remaining chapters describe models for ordered-category data, multilevel models, models for differential item functioning, multidimensional models, models for local item dependency, and mixture models. It also includes a chapter on the statistical background and one on useful software. In order to make the task easier for the reader, a unified approach to notation and model description is followed throughout the chapters, and a single data set is used in most examples to make it easier to see how the many models are related. For all major examples, computer commands from the SAS package are provided which can be used to estimate the results for each model. In addition, sample commands are provided for other major computer packages.

Paul De Boeck is Professor of Psychology at K.U. Leuven (Belgium), and Mark Wilson is Professor of Education at UC Berkeley (USA), They are also co-editors (along with Pamela Moss) of a new journal entitled *Measurement: Interdisciplinary Research and Perspectives.* The chapter authors are members of a collaborative group of psychometricians and statisticians centered on K.U. Leuven and UC Berkeley.



De Boeck Wilson, Editors

Explanatory Item Response Models

Statistics for Social Science and Public Policy

Paul De Boeck Mark Wilson

Editors

Explanatory Item Response Models

A Generalized Linear and Nonlinear Approach





- In 1 and 2 mainly SAS NLMIXED
- In 3 Imer function from Ime4

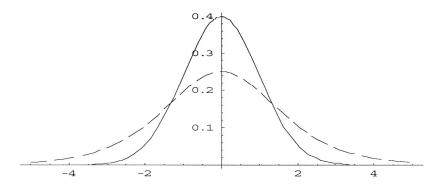
Modeling data

A basic principle
 Data are seen as resulting from a true part and an error part.

```
binary  \begin{aligned} &Y_{pi} = 1 \text{ if } V_{pi} \geq 0 \\ &Y_{pi} = 0 \text{ if } V_{pi} < 0 \\ &V_{pi} \text{ is a real defined on the interval } -\infty \text{ to } + \infty \\ &V_{pi} = \bigcap_{pi} + \epsilon_{pi} \qquad \epsilon_{pi} \sim N(0,1) \qquad \text{probit, normal-ogive} \\ & \qquad \qquad \epsilon_{pi} \sim \text{logistic}(0,3.29) \text{ logit, logistic} \end{aligned}
```

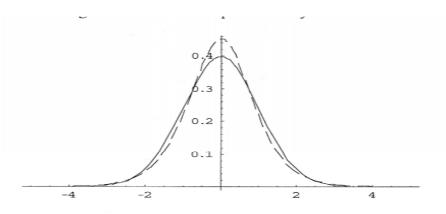
Logistic models

 Standard logistic instead of standard normal Logistic model – logit model VS Normal-ogive model – probit model density general logistic distribution: $f(x)=k \exp(-kx)/(1+\exp(-kx))^2$ $var = \pi^2/3k^2$ standard logistic: k=1, $\sigma = \pi/\sqrt{3} = 1.814$ setting σ =1, implies that k=1.814 best approximation from standard normal: k=1.7 this is the famous D=1.7 in early IRT formulas



standard (k=1) logistic vs standard normal

FIGURE 1. The logistic distribution with k = 1 and the standard normal (solid line).



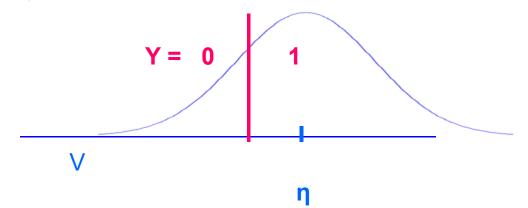
logistic k=1.8 vs standard normal

FIGURE 2. The logistic distribution with k=1.8 and the standard normal (solid line).

copied from Savalei, Psychometrika 2006

binary data

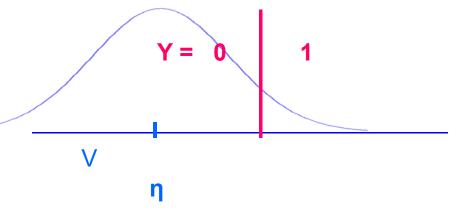
error distribution



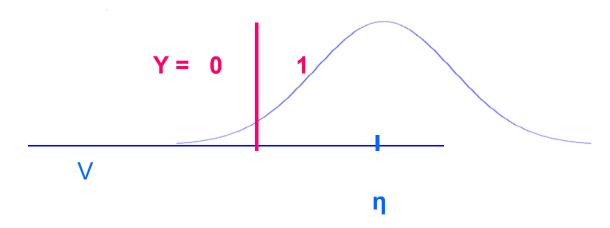
moving hat model

$$V_{pi} = \eta_{pi} + \varepsilon_{pi}$$
$$\eta_{pi} = \Sigma_k \beta_{k(r)} X_{pik}$$

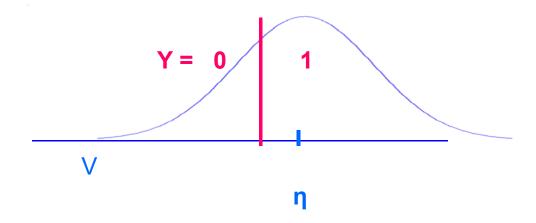
error distribution

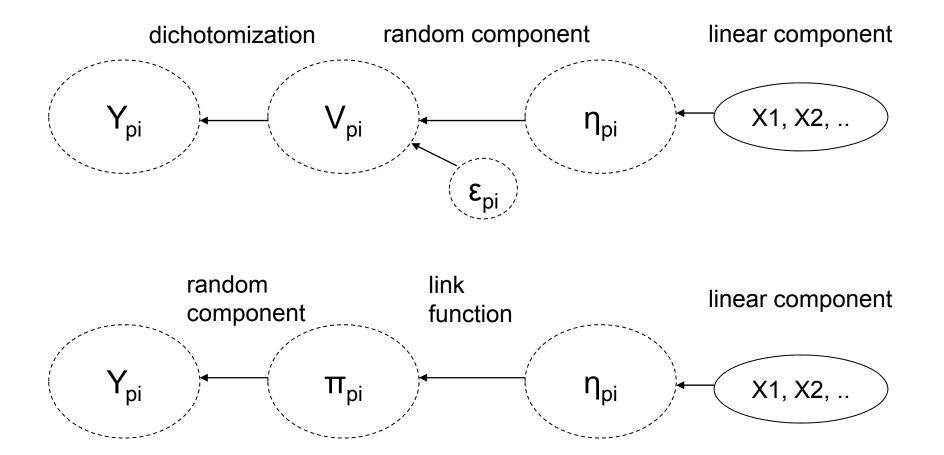


error distribution

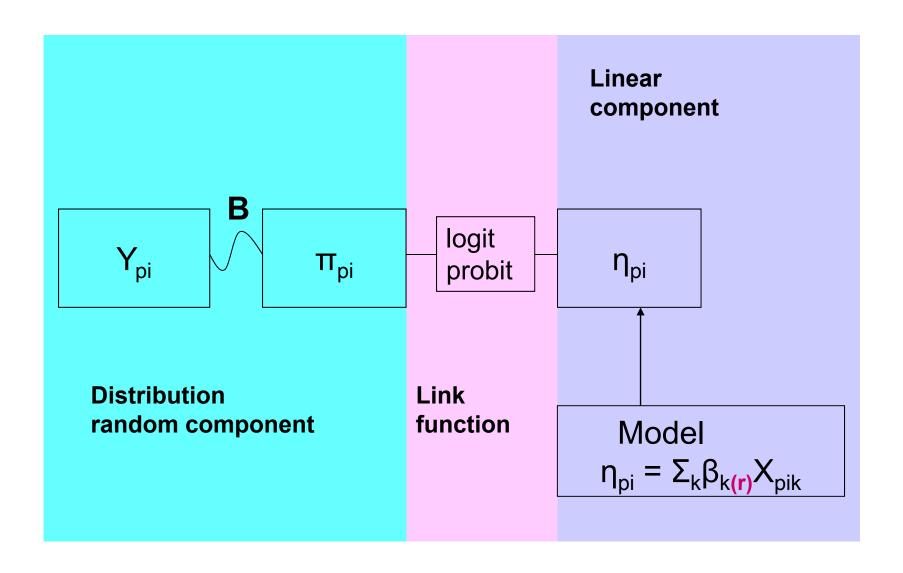


error distribution





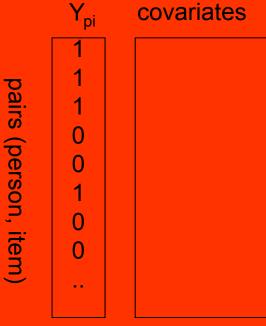
Logit and probit models



Long form

Wide form is P x I array

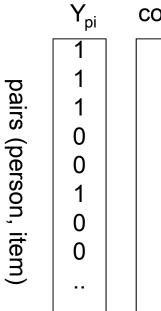
Long form is vector with length PxI



Long form

Wide form is P x I array

Long form is vector with length PxI





Content

- 1. Item covariate models
- 2. Person covariate models
- 3. Person x item covariate models
- 4. Random item models Models for ordered-category data
- 5. Estimation and testing

1. Item covariate models

- open R console
- setwd(" ")
- library(lme4)

Data

?VerbAgg

24 items with a 2 x 2 x 3 design

- situ: other vs self two frustrating situations where an other person is to be blamed two frustrating situations where one is self to be blamed
- mode: want vs do wanting to be verbally agressive vs doing
- btype: cursing, scolding, shouting three kinds of being verbally agressive
- e.g., "A bus fails to stop. I would want to curse" yes perhaps no 316 respondents
- Gender: F (men) vs M (women)
- Anger: the subject's Trait Anger score as measured on the State-Trait Anger Expression Inventory (STAXI)

str(VerbAgg) head(VerbAgg)

1. Rasch model 1PL model

$$\beta_1$$
 β_2
 β_3
 β_4

fixed

$$\theta_{\mathsf{p}}$$

random

$$\eta_{pi} = \theta_p X_{i0} - \Sigma_k \beta_i X_{ik}$$

$$\eta_{pi} = \theta_p - \beta_i$$

$$\pi_{pi} = \exp(\eta_{pi}) / (1 + \exp(\eta_{pi}))$$



$$\theta_p \sim N(0, \sigma^2_{\theta})$$

Note on 2PL: Explain that in 2PL the constant X_{i0} is replaced with discrimination parameters

```
Imer(r2 ~ ....., family=binomial("logit"), data=VerbAgg)
Imer(r2 ~ ....., family=binomial, VerbAgg)
                                                                       logistic model
Imer(r2 ~ ....., family=binomial("probit"), data=VerbAgg)
                                                                       normal-ogive
Imer(r2 ~ ....., family=binomial("probit"), VerbAgg)
                                                                      probit model
item + (1 |id),
                              first item is intercept, other item parameters
                              are differences with first
                              \beta_0 = \beta_1, \beta_2 - \beta_1, \beta_3 - \beta_1, ...
or
-1 + item + (1 |id) no intercept, only the common item parameters
0 + item + (1 | id)
item is item factor
id is person factor
1 is 1-covariate
(a|b) effect of a is random across levels of b
```

to avoid correlated error output:

print(modelname, cor=F)

2. LLTM model

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \eta_{pi} = \theta_p X_{i0} - \Sigma_k \beta_k X_{ik} \\ \eta_{pi} = \theta_p - \Sigma_k \beta_k X_{ik} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \theta_p \sim N(0, \, \sigma^2_\theta) \end{array}$$

-1+mode+situ+btype+(1|id), family=binomial, VerbAgg

contrasts

treatment	sum	helmert	poly
dummy	effect		
00	1 0	-1 -1	linear
10	0 1	1 -1	quadratic
01	-1-1	0 2	

without intercept always

100

010

001

• Imer treatment coding with intercept

want	other	curse	0000
want	other	scold	0010
want	other	shout	0001
want	self	curse	0100
want	self	scold	0110
want	self	shout	0 1 0 1
do	other	curse	1000
do	other	scold	1010
do	other	shout	1001
do	self	curse	1100
do	self	scold	1110
do	self	shout	1101

Imer treatment coding without intercept

want other	curse	01000
want other	scold	01010
want other	shout	01001
want self	curse	01100
want self	scold	01110
want self	shout	01101
do other	curse	10000
do other	scold	10010
do other	shout	10001
do self	curse	10100
do self	scold	10110
do self	shout	10101

btype	treatment	sum	helmert	mode	treatm	ent sum	helmert
curse	0 0	10	-1-1	want	0	1	-1
scold	1 0	0 1	1-1	do	1	-1	1
shout	0 1	-1-1	0 2				

main effects and interactions

✓ mode:btype is for cell means independent of coding

√ dummy coding

main effects: mode+btype or

C(mode,treatment) + C(btype,treatment)

main effects & interaction: mode*btype or

C(mode,treatment) *C(btype,treatment)

✓ effect coding

main effects: 1+C(mode,sum)+ C(btype,sum)

main effects & interaction: C(mode,sum)*C(btype,sum)

remember there are two items per cell

$$\eta_{pi} = \theta_p - \Sigma_k \beta_k X_{ik} + \epsilon_i$$

fixed random

$$\beta_1$$
 β_2
 β_3

1111

 $\theta_p \epsilon_i$



$$\theta_{p} \sim N(0, \sigma_{\theta}^{2})$$

 $\epsilon_{i} \sim N(0, \sigma_{\epsilon}^{2})$

```
Imer(r2 ~ mode + situ + btype + (1 |id) + (1|item),
or
Imer(r2 ~ - 1 + mode + situ + btype + (1 |id) + (1|item),
family=binomial, data=VerbAgg)
```

- two types of multidimensional models
 - random-weight LLTM
 - multidimensional 1PL

fixed random

4. Random-weight LLTM

1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1

 β_1 β_2

 $\beta_{p1} \\ \beta_{p2}$

$$\eta_{pi} = \Sigma_k \beta_{pk} X_{ik} - \Sigma_k \beta_k X_{ik}$$



$$(\beta_{p1}, \beta_{p2}) \sim$$
 $N(0, 0, \sigma^2_{\theta 1}, \sigma^2_{\theta 2}, \sigma_{\theta 1\theta 2})$

Imer(r2 ~ mode + situ + btype + (-1 + mode|id),
family=binomial, data=VerbAgg)

5. multidimensional 1PL model

1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1

$$\beta_{p1}$$
 β_{p2}

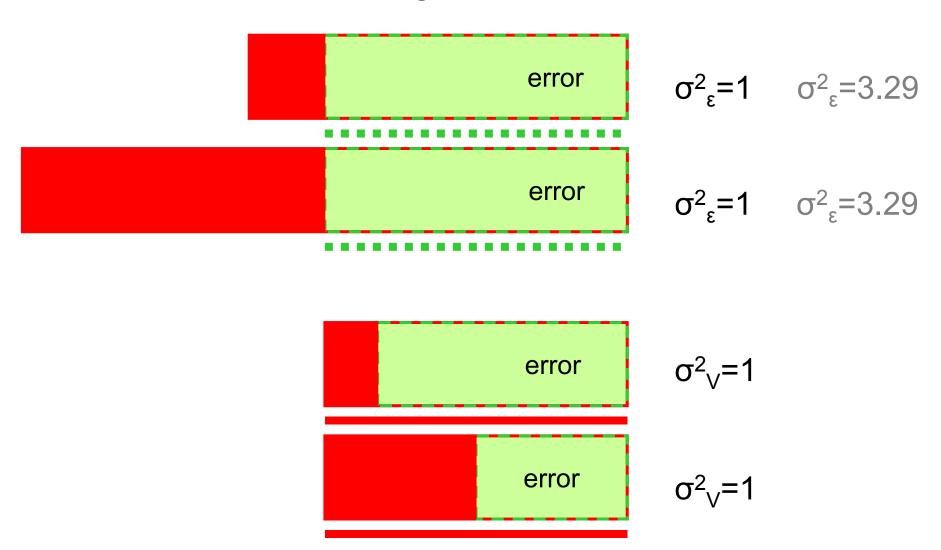
$$\eta_{pi} = \Sigma_k \beta_{pk} X_{ik} - \beta_i$$



$$(\beta_{p1}, \beta_{p2}) \sim N(0, 0, \sigma^2_{\theta 1}, \sigma^2_{\theta 2}, \sigma_{\theta 1\theta 2})$$

Note on factor models, how they differ from IRT models Note on rotational positions

variance partitioning



 item covariate based multidimensional models a non-identified model and four possible identified models

```
100
          100
                         10
                                 1000
                   10
100
          100
                   10
                         10
                                 1000
101
          101
                   10
                         0 1
                                 0 1 0 0
          101
                         0 1
101
                   10
                                 0100
110
                                 0010
          0 1 0
110
                   0 1
                                 0010
          0 1 0
                   0 1
                         0 1
                                 0001
          0 1 1
111
          0 1 1
                   0 1
                         0 1
                                 0001
```

Illustration of non-identified model

```
-1 + item + (mode + situ + btype |id)

-1 + item + (-1 + mode + situ + btype |id)

-1 + item + (-1 + mode |id) + (-1 + situ |id) + (-1 + btype |id)

-1 + item + (mode:situ:btype |id)
```

how many dimensions?

rotations

```
VerbAgg$do=(VerbAgg$mode=="do")+0.
VerbAgg$want=(VerbAgg$mode=="want")+0.
VerbAgg$dowant=(VerbAgg$mode=="do")-1/2.
```

- 1. simple structure orthogonal
- (-1+do|id)+(-1+want|id)
- 2. simple structure correlated
- (-1+mode|id)
- 3. general plus bipolar
- (1+dowant|id)
- 4. general plus bipolar uncorrelated
- (1|id)+(-1+dowant|id)
- 2 and 3 are equivalent
- 1 and 4 are constrained solutions all four are confirmatory

estimation of person parameters and random effects in general

three methods

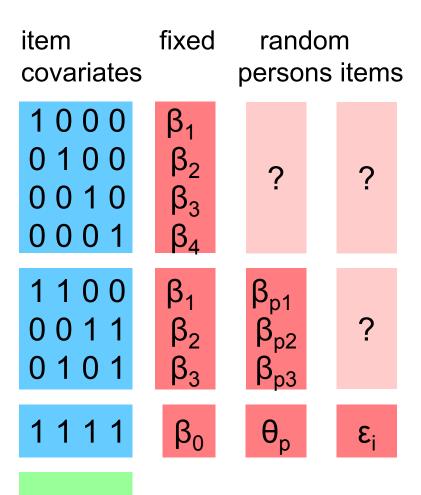
- ML maximum likelihood flat prior
- MAP mode a posteriori normal prior, mode of posterior
- EAP expected a posteriori normal prior, mean of posterior, and is therefore a prediction

irtoys does all three
Imer does MAP
ranef(model)

se.ranef(model) for standard errors

Conflicts?

Extensions?



Y

3. Person-by-item covariate models

i1	i2	i3
1	1	1
1	0	1
0	0	0
0	0	0
1	0	1
1.00	0.50	1.00
i1	i2	i3
	14	13
1	1	1
1 0	1	1
1	1 1	1 0
1 0	1 1 0	1 0 0

DIF as discrepancy between within-group structure of differences between-group structure of differences

covariates of person-item pairs

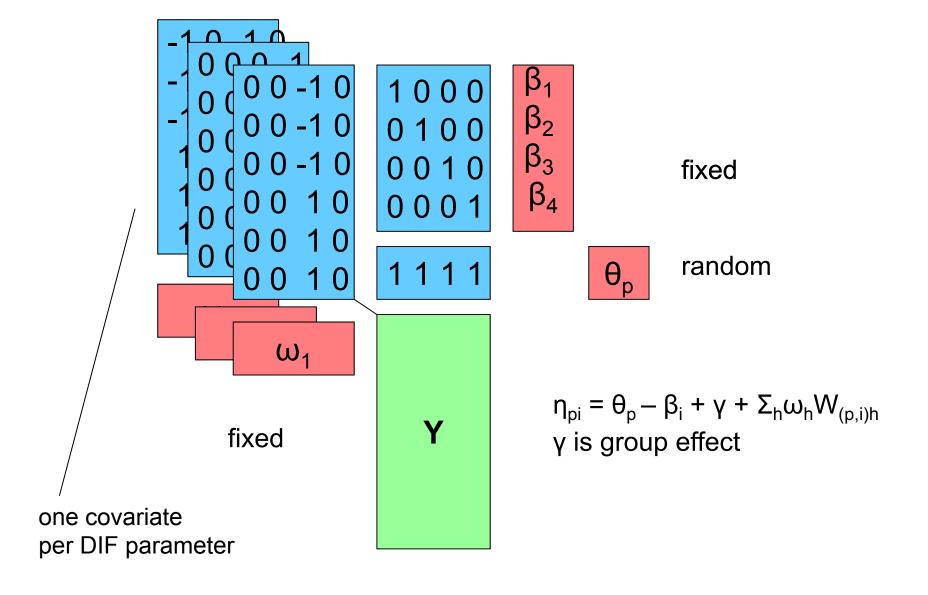
external covariates

e.g., differential item functioning an item functioning differently depending on the group person group x item e.g., strategy information per pair person-item

internal covariates

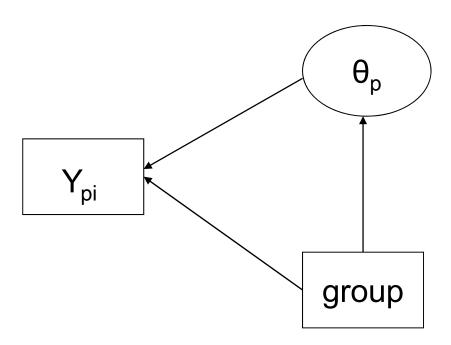
responses being depending on other responses

e.g., do responses depending on want responses local item dependence – LID; e.g., learning during the test, during the experiment dynamic Rasch model

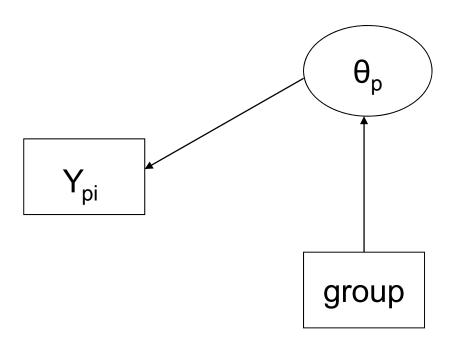


1. **DIF model** Differential item functioning

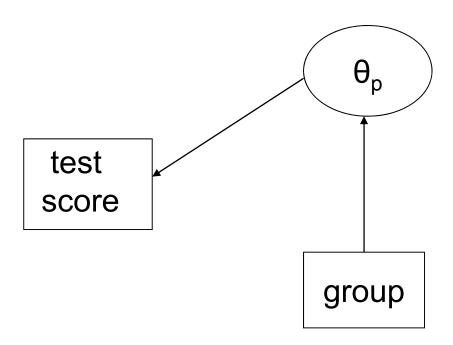
unfair (because of DIF)



fair (no DIF)



fair (lack of differential test funtioning)



DIF approaches with Imer

- 1. simultaneous test:
- interaction items x group to identify DIF items, use effect coding to see the item difficulties in the two groups, use Gender:item
- 2. itemwise test
- interaction of each item in turn with group item1 x group, next item 2 x group, etc.
- 3. random item approach

DIF approaches

```
difficulties in the two groups – equal mean abilities
VerbAgg$M=(VerbAgg$Gender=="M")+0.
VerbAgg$F=(VerbAgg$Gender=="F")+0.
-1+Gender:item+(-1+M|id)+(-1+F|id)
simultaneous test all items – equal mean difficulties
-1+C(Gender,sum)*C(item,sum)+(-1+M|id)+(-1+F|id)
-- difference with reference group
-1+Gender*item+(-1+M|id)+(-1+F|id)
itemwise test
VerbAgg$i1=(VerbAgg$item=="S1wantcurse")+0.
VerbAgg$i2=(VerbAgg$item=="S1WantScold")+0.
                                         (pay attention to item labels)
e.g., item 3
-1+Gender+i1+i2+i4+i5...+i24+Gender*i3+(-1+M|id)+(-1+F|id)
```

result depends on equating therefore a LR test is recommended

gender DIF for all do items of the curse and scold type

dif=with(VerbAgg, factor(0 + (Gender=="F" & mode=="do" & btype!="shout")))

-1 +item + Gender + dif + (1|id)

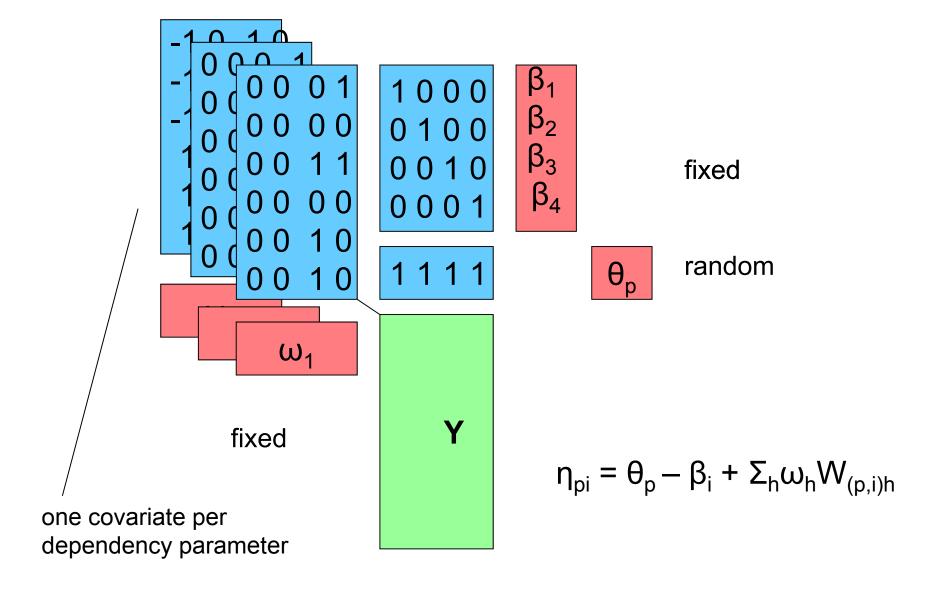
random across persons

-1 +item + Gender + dif + (1 + dif|id)

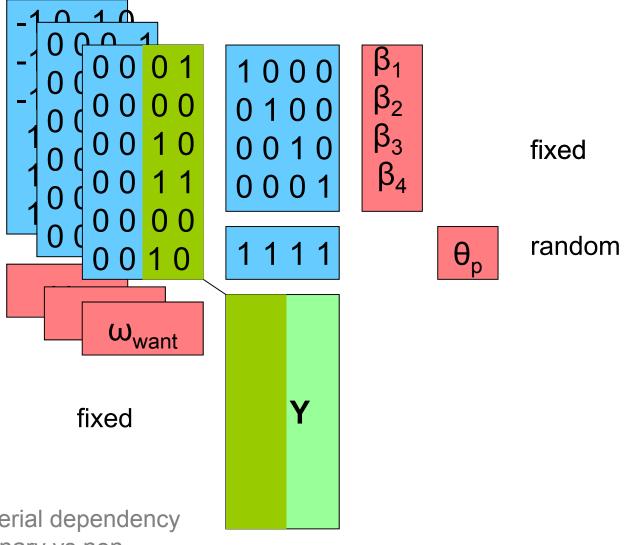
F = man

M = woman

dummy coding vs contrast coding (treatment vs sum or helmert) makes a difference for the item parameter estimates

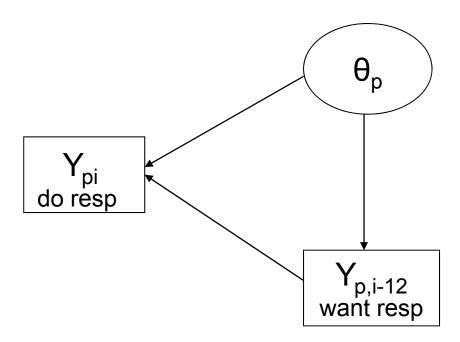


2. LID model Local item dependence



Note on serial dependency and stationary vs nonstantionary models (making use of random item models)

$$\eta_{pi} = \theta_p - \beta_i + \omega_{want} X_{i,do} Y_{p,i-12}$$



dep = with(VerbAgg, factor ((mode=="do")*(r2 [mode=="want"]=="Y")))

-1 + item + dep + (1|id)

random across persons

-1 + item + dep + (1+dep|id)

other forms of dependency

which other forms of dependency do you think are meaningful? and how to implement them?

Remove for two examples

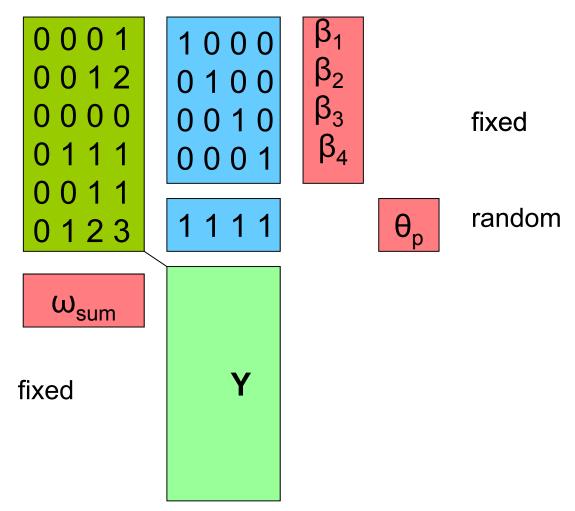
other forms of dependency

which other forms of dependency do you think are meaningful? and how to implement them?

For example:

- serial dependencyY W
 - 1 -
- _ 1 1
 - 1 1
 - 0 4
 - 0 1
 - UU
 - 0 0
 - 1 C
 - 1 1

 situational dependency random effect per situation after defining a new factor (situation)



3. Dynamic Rasch model

$$\eta_{pi} = \theta_p - \beta_i + \omega_{sum} W_{(p,i)sum}$$

```
long = data.frame(id=VerbAgg$id, item=VerbAgg$item, r2=VerbAgg$r2) wide=reshape(long, timevar=c("item"), idvar=c("id"), dir="wide")[,-1]=="Y" prosum=as.vector(t(apply(wide,1,cumsum)))
```

```
-1 + item + prosum + (1|id)
random across persons
-1 + item + prosum + (1+prosum|id)
```

Preparing a new dataset

Most datasets have a wide format

Dataset

100000a

011000b

010101c

111110a

110011b

111000c

011100a

100011b

Type these data into a file "datawide.txt"

From wide to long

```
widedat=read.table(file="datawide.txt")
widedat$id=paste("id", 1:8, sep="")
  or
  widedat$id=paste("id",1:nrow(widedata),sep="")
library(reshape)
long=melt(widedat, id=7:8)
names(long)=c("con","id","item","resp")
```

Change type

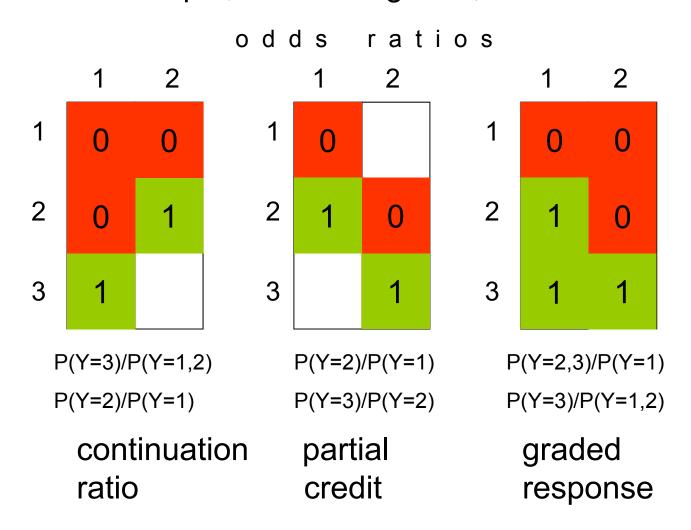
from factor to numeric long\$connum=as.numeric(factor(long[,1]))

from numeric to factor long\$confac=factor(long[,5])

4a. Ordered-category data 4b. Structural Equation Models

a. Ordered-category data

Models for ordered-category data three types of odds ratios (green vs red) for example, three categories, two odds ratios



P(Y=3) follows Rasch model
$$P_1(\theta_1)$$

P(Y=2|Y\neq 3) follows Rasch model $P_2(\theta_2)$

and is independent of P(Y=3)

$$P(Y=3) \qquad P_{1}(\theta_{1})$$

$$P(Y=2)=P(Y\neq3)P(Y=2|Y\neq3) \qquad (1-P_{1}(\theta_{1})) \times P_{2}(\theta_{2})$$

$$P(Y=1)=P(Y\neq3)P(Y\neq2|Y\neq3) \qquad (1-P_{1}(\theta_{1})) \times (1-P_{2}(\theta_{2}))$$

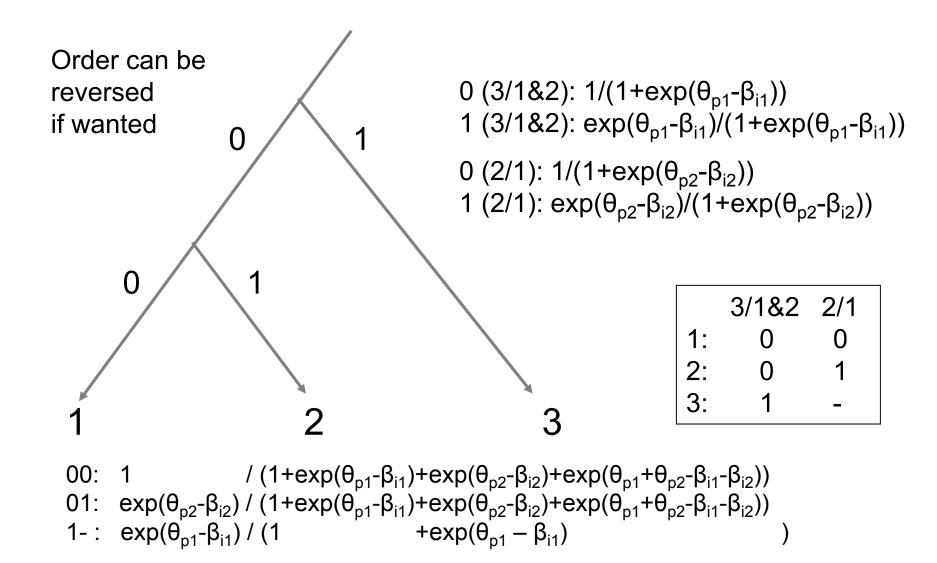
Continuation ratio model is similar to discrete survival model

Choices are like decisive events in time

A one indicates that the event occurs, so that later observations are missing

A zero indicates that the event has not yet occured, so that later observations are possible

Continuation ratio model choice tree



partial credit model

is value of object divided by sum of values An object has a feature of all objects value of object = product of feature values if the feature is encountered not-f1: exp(0)on the way to $\exp(\theta_{p1})\exp(\beta_{i1})$ f1: **f1** the object not-f2: exp(0)**f2**: $\exp(\theta_{p2})\exp(\beta_{i2})$ **f2** $/(1+\exp(\theta_{p2}-\beta_{i2})+\exp(\theta_{p1}+\theta_{p2}-\beta_{i1}-\beta_{i2}))$ 00: $/(1+\exp(\theta_{p2}-\beta_{i2})+\exp(\theta_{p1}+\theta_{p2}-\beta_{i1}-\beta_{i2}))$ $\exp(\theta_{p2}-\beta_{i2})$ 10: $\exp(\theta_{p1} - \beta_{i1} + \theta_{p2} - \beta_{i2}) / (1 + \exp(\theta_{p2} - \beta_{i2}) + \exp(\theta_{p1} + \theta_{p2} - \beta_{i1} - \beta_{i2}))$

Choice probability

extend dataset: replace each item response with two, except when missing:

- 1 00
- 2 01
- 3 1-

transformation can be done using Tutzcoding function in R. VATutz=Tutzcoding(VerbAgg, "item", "resp")

label for

recoded responses: tutz

subitems: newitems

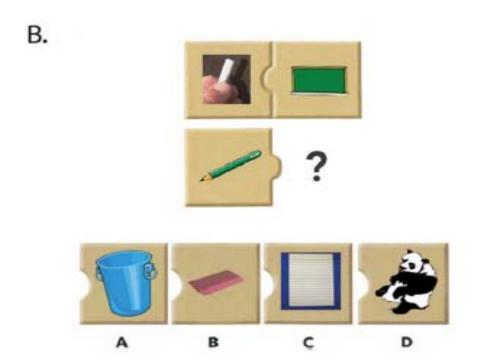
subitem factor: category

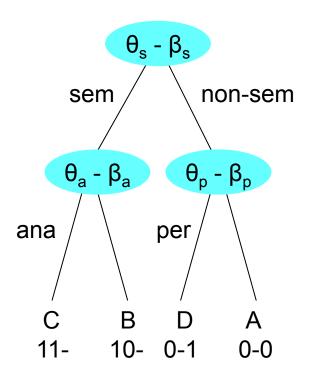
estimation of common model modelTutz=Imer(tutz~-1+newitem+(1|id), family=binomial,VATutz)

more Tutz models

```
rating scale version
-1+item+category+(1|id)
gender specific rating scale model
-1+C(Gender,sum)*C(category,sum)+item+(1|id)
multidimensional: subitem specific dimensions
-1+newitem+(-1+category|id)
-1+item+category+(-1+category|id) rating scale version
```

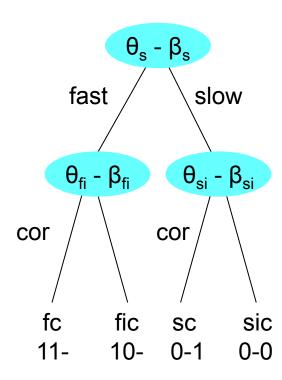
Branching variants





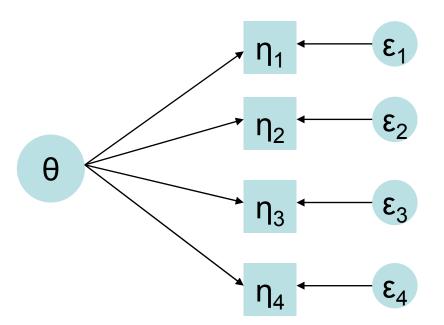
Branching variants

fast and slow intelligence



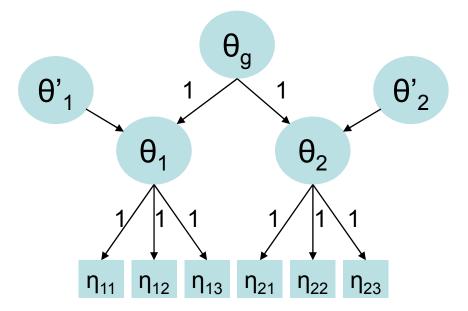
b. SEMs

• 2PL



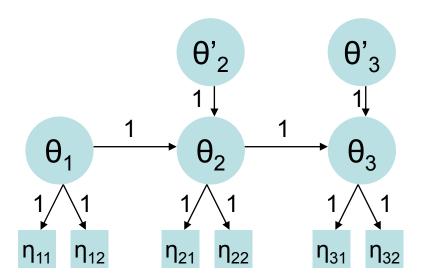
-1 + item + (-1+item1|id) + (-1+item2|id) + ... + (1|id)

Higher-order (Rasch?) models



```
-1 + (1|item) + (-1+want|id) + (-1+do|id) + (1|id)
compare with
-1 + (1|item) + (-1+mode|id)
```

Integrated process SEM



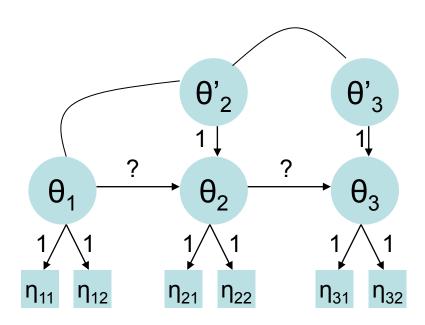
```
-1 + item + (1+scoldcurse+curse|id)
```

shout 1 0 0

scold 1 1 0

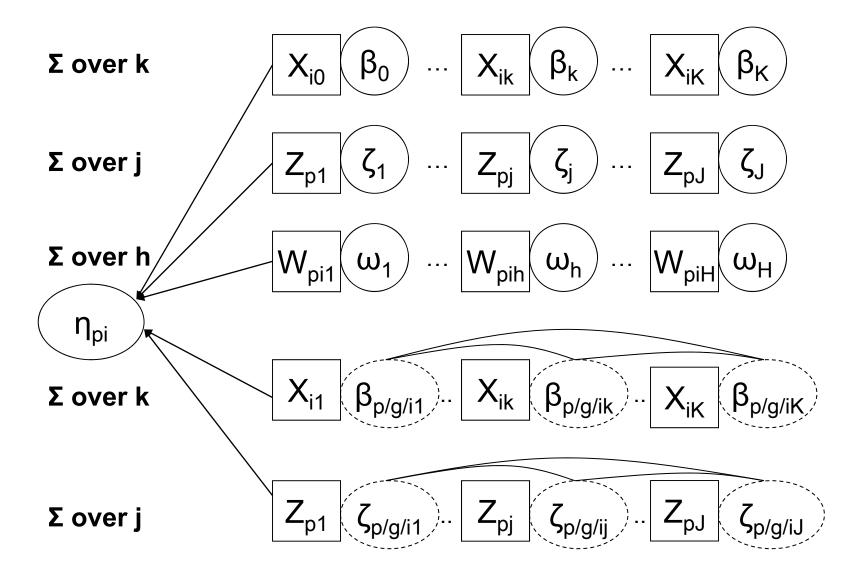
curse 1 1 1

Mediation process SEM



```
-1 + item + (1+shoutscold|id)+(-1+shoutscold+curse|id)
+ (-1+curse|id)
```

shout 1 0 0 scold 1 1 0 curse 1 1 1



5. Estimation and testing

Estimation

Laplace approximation of integrand

issue: integral is not tractable solutions

- 1. approximation of integrand, so that it is tractable
- 2. approximation of integral Gaussian quadrate: non-adaptive or adaptive
- 3. Markov chain Monte Carlo

differences

- underestimation of variances using 1
- much faster using 1
- 1 is not ML, but most recent approaches are close

approximation of integrand:

PQL, PQL2, Laplace6

MLwiN: PQL2

HLM: Laplace6

GLIMMIX: PQL

Imer: Laplace

Laplace6>Laplace>PQL2>PQL

- approximation of the integral SAS NLMIXED, gllamm, ltm, and many other
- MCMC
 WinBUGS, mlirt

Other R-programs

- Itm (Rizopoulos, 2006)
 1PL, 2PL, 3PL, graded response model included in irtoys
 Gaussian quadrature
- eRm (Mair & Hatzinger, 2007)
 Rasch, LLTM, partial credit model, rating scale model conditional maximum likelihood -- CML
- mlirt (Fox, 2007)
 2PNO binary & polytomous, multilevel

irtoys

calls among other things Itm

Illustration of Itm with irtoys

testing

problems

- strictly speaking no ML
- testing null hypothesis of zero variance
 LR Test does not apply
 - conservative test
 - mixture of $\chi^2(r)$ and $\chi^2(r+1)$ with mixing prob $\frac{1}{2}$ m0=lmer(.. m1=lmer(.. anova(m0,m1)

```
z-tests
AIC, BIC AIC= dev + 2N_{par}
BIC= dev + log(P)N_{par}
```