# Group Analysis

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### **Program List**

- 3dttest++ (GLM: one-, two-sample, paired t, between-subjects variables)
- 3dMVM (generic AN(C)OVA)
- 3dLME (sophisticated cases: missing data, within-subject covariates)
- **3dMEMA** (similar to 3dttest++: measurement errors)
- 3dANOVA (one-way between-subject)
- 3dANOVA2 (one-way within-subject, 2-way between-subjects)
- 3dANOVA3 (2-way within-subject and mixed, 3-way between-subjects)
- **3dttest** (obsolete: one-sample, two-sample and paired *t*)
- 3dRegAna (obsolete: regression/correlation, covariates)
- GroupAna (obsolete: up to four-way ANOVA)
- 3dICC (intraclass correlation): prototype only
- 3dISC (intersubject correlation): prototype only

### **Preview**

- Concepts and terminology
- Group analysis approaches
  - ∘ GLM: 3dttest++, 3dMEMA
  - o GLM, ANOVA, ANCOVA: 3dMVM
  - 。 LME: 3dLME
  - Presumed vs. estimated HDR
- Miscellaneous
  - Issues with covariates
  - Intra-Class Correlation (ICC)
  - Inter-Subject Correlation (ISC)

### Why Group Analysis?

- Reproducibility and generalization
  - Summarization
  - Generalization: from current results to population level
  - Typically 10 or more subjects per group
  - o Individualized inferences: pre-surgical planning, lie detection, ...
- One model combining both steps?
  - + Ideal: less information loss, more accurate inferences
  - Historical
  - Computationally unmanageable, and very hard to set up
  - o Data quality check at individual level

## Simplest case

- BOLD responses from a group of 20 subjects
  - o data:  $(\beta_1, \beta_2, ..., \beta_{20})=(1.13, 0.87, ..., 0.72)$
  - o mean: 0.92
  - o standard deviation: 0.40, 0.90
  - o Do we have strong evidence for the effect?
- Modeling perspective
  - ∘ Simple GLM: one-sample *t*-test

$$\hat{\beta}_i = b + \epsilon_i, \epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

- $_{\circ}$  Statistical evidence *t*-test:  $\hat{b}/(\hat{\sigma}/n)$
- $\circ$  summarization: b (dimensional), sd, and t (dimensionless)

## **Terminology**

- Response/outcome variable: left-hand side of model
  - $\circ$  Regression  $\beta$  coefficients (plus measurement errors)
  - Structured: subjects, tasks, groups
- Explanatory variables: right-hand side of model
  - Categorical (factors) vs quantitative (covariates)
  - Fixed- vs random-effects: conventional statistics
- Models
  - Univariate GLM: Student's t-tests, regression, AN(C)OVA
  - Multivariate GLM: within-subject factors
  - LME: linear mixed-effects model
  - MEMA: mixed-effects multilevel analysis
  - BML (Bayesian multilevel model)

### **Terminology:** categorical vs quantitative

- Factors
  - Number of levels: categories
  - Within-subject (repeated-measures): tasks, conditions
  - Between-subjects
    - patients/controls, genotypes, scanners/sites, handedness, ...
    - Each subject nested within a group
  - Subjects: random-effects factor measuring randomness
    - Of no interest: random samples from a population
- Quantitative variables
  - o numeric or continuous
  - o age, IQ, reaction time, brain volume, ...
  - 3 usages of covariate
    - Quantitative
    - No interest: qualitative (scanner/site, groups) or quantitative
    - Explanatory variable

### **Terminology:** fixed vs random

- Fixed-effects variables
  - Of research interest
    - Visual vs auditory, age, ...
    - Unable to extend to something else
  - Modeled as constants, not random variables
    - Shared by all subjects
  - Not exchangeable/replaceable or extendable to something else
- Random-effects variables
  - o Of research interest?

$$\hat{\beta}_i = b + \epsilon_i, \epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

- Subjects: random samples
- Trials, regions?
- Modeled as random variables: Gaussian distributions
- Exchangeable, replaceable, generalizable
- Differentiations blurred under BML

### **Terminology:** main effects

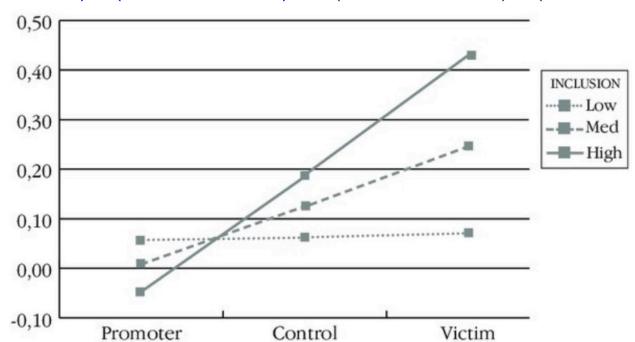
- Main effect for a fixed-effects factor
  - o Omnibus: overall inference or summarization
    - Evidence for differences across 3 levels
    - Conventional ANOVA framework
    - *F*-statistic: not detailed enough
    - Further partitions: post hoc inferences via pairwise comparisons
    - *F*-statistic as a two-sided test?

1) 
$$A > B$$
, 2)  $A < B$ , 3)  $A \ne B$ 

### **Terminology:** interactions

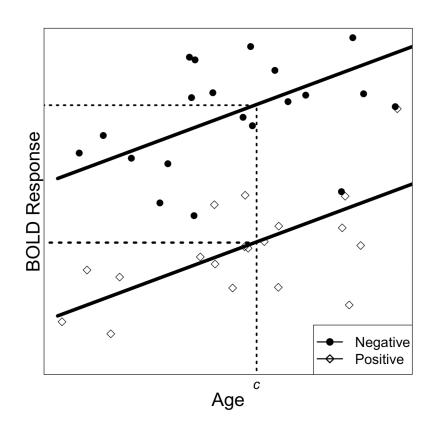
- Interaction effect between 2 or more factor
  - o Omnibus: overall inference or summarization
    - Conventional ANOVA framework
    - *F*-statistic: not detailed enough
    - Further partitions: post hoc inferences via pairwise comparisons
  - ∘ 2 × 2 design: difference of difference
    - *F*-test for interaction = *t*-test of

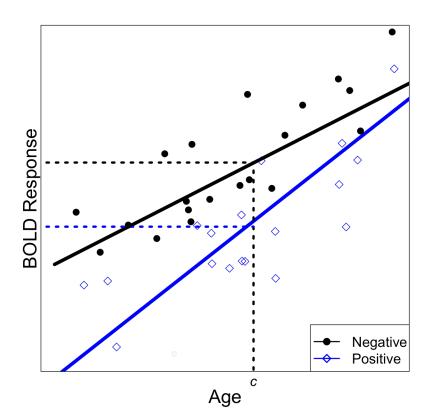
(A1B1 - A1B2) - (A2B1 - A2B2) or (A1B1 - A2B1) - (A1B2 - A2B2)



### **Terminology**

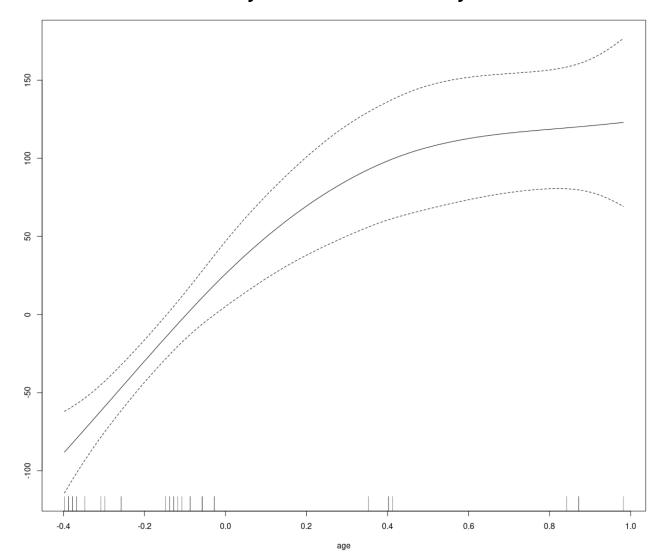
- Interaction effect involving a quantitative variable
  - By default: linearity (age, modulation, ...)
    - Controlling: misconception covariate out?
    - Effect of interest
  - Interaction between a factor and a quantitative variable





## **Terminology**

- Interaction effect involving a quantitative variable
  Validity of linearity
  - Nonlinear: difficult! Polynomials? Theory-driven?



### Example: 2 × 3 Mixed ANCOVA

- Explanatory variables
  - Factor A (Group): 2 levels (patient and control)
  - Factor B (Condition): 3 levels (pos, neg, neu)
  - Factor S (Subject): 15 ASD children and 15 healthy controls
  - Quantitative covariate: Age
- Piecemeal: multiple *t*-tests too tedious
  - Group comparison + age effect
  - Pairwise comparisons among three conditions
    - Assumption: same age effect across conditions
  - Difficulties with *t*-tests
    - Main effect of Condition: 3 levels plus age?
    - Interaction between Group and Condition
    - Age effect across three conditions?

### Classical ANOVA: 2 × 3 Mixed ANOVA

- Factor A (Group): 2 levels (patient and control)
- Factor B (Condition): 3 levels (pos, neg, neu)
- Factor S (Subject): 15 ASD children and 15 healthy controls
- Covariate (Age): cannot be modeled; no correction for sphericity violation

$$F_{(a-1,a(n-1))}(A) = \frac{MSA}{MSS(A)},$$
 
$$F_{(b-1,a(b-1)(n-1))}(B) = \frac{MSB}{MSE},$$
 
$$G_{(a-1)(b-1),a(b-1)(n-1))}(AB) = \frac{MSAB}{MSE}$$

3dANOVA3 -type 5 (equal #

of subjects across groups)

where

$$MSA = \frac{SSA}{a-1} = \frac{1}{a-1} \left( \frac{1}{bn} \sum_{j=1}^{a} Y_{.j.}^{2} - \frac{1}{abn} Y_{...}^{2} \right),$$

$$MSB = \frac{SSB}{b-1} = \frac{1}{b-1} \left( \frac{1}{an} \sum_{k=1}^{b} Y_{..k}^2 - \frac{1}{abn} Y_{...}^2 \right),$$

$$MSAB = \frac{SSAB}{(a-1)(b-1)} = \frac{1}{(a-1)(b-1)} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{a} \sum_{k=1}^{b} Y_{.jk} - \frac{1}{bn} \sum_{i=1}^{a} Y_{.j.}^{2} - \frac{1}{an} \sum_{k=1}^{b} Y_{..k}^{2} + \frac{1}{abn} Y_{...}^{2}\right),$$

$$MSS(A) = \frac{SSS(A)}{a(n-1)} = \frac{1}{a(n-1)} \left(\frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{a} Y_{ij.}^{2} - \frac{1}{bn} \sum_{j=1}^{a} Y_{.j.}^{2}\right),$$

$$MSE = \frac{1}{a(b-1)(n-1)} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{a} \sum_{k=1}^{b} Y_{ijk}^{2} - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{a} \sum_{k=1}^{b} Y_{.jk} - \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{a} Y_{ij.}^{2} + \frac{1}{bn} \sum_{j=1}^{a} Y_{.j.}^{2} + \frac{1}{abn} Y_{...}^{2} \right)$$

### Univariate GLM: 2 x 3 mixed ANOVA

Group: 2 levels (patient and control)

Condition: 3 levels (pos, neg, neu)

Difficult to incorporate covariates

Broken orthogonality of matrix

No correction for sphericity violation

Subject: 3 ASD children and 3 healthy controls

Subject: 5 ASD chitaren and 5 heateny controls														
$\operatorname{Subj}$			$X_0$	$X_1$	$X_2$	$X_3$	$X_4$	$X_5$	$X_6$	$X_7$	$X_8$	$X_9$		
1	$\beta_{11}$	. /	$^{\prime}$ 1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0		$\delta_{11}$
1	$\beta_{12}$		1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0		$\delta_{12}$
1	$\beta_{13}$		1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	1	0	0	0		$\delta_{13}$
2	$\beta_{21}$		1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0		$\delta_{21}$
2	$\beta_{22}$		1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	$/\alpha_0$	$\delta_{22}$
2	$\beta_{23}$		1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	1	0	0	$\alpha_1$	$\delta_{23}$
3	$\beta_{31}$		1	1	1	0	1	0	-1	-1	0	0	$\alpha_2$	$\delta_{31}$
3	$\beta_{32}$		1	1	0	1	0	1	-1	-1	0	0	$\alpha_3$	$\delta_{32}$
3	£ 20	=	1	1	-1	-1	-1	71	-1	-1	0	0	+	<i>J</i> 3;
4	$\beta_{41}$		1	-1	1	0	-1	0	0	0	1	0	$\mathcal{Z}_5$	$\mathfrak{s}_{41}$
4	$\beta_{42}$		1	-1	0	1	0	-1	0	0	1	0	$\alpha_6$	$\delta_{42}$
4	$\beta_{43}$		1	-1	-1	-1	1	1	0	0	1	0	$\alpha_7$	$\delta_{43}$
5	$\beta_{51}$		1	-1	1	0	-1	0	0	0	0	1	$\alpha_8$	$\delta_{51}$
5	$\beta_{52}$		1	-1	0	1	0	-1	0	0	0	1	$\setminus \alpha_9$	$\delta_{52}$
5	$\beta_{53}$		1	-1	-1	-1	1	1	0	0	0	1		$\delta_{53}$
6	$\beta_{61}$		1	-1	1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	-1		$\delta_{61}$
6	$\beta_{62}$		1	-1	0	1	0	-1	0	0	-1	-1		$\delta_{62}$
6	$\beta_{63}$	\	1	-1	-1	-1	1	1	0	0	-1	-1	1	$\left\langle \delta_{63} \right\rangle$

### **Univariate GLM: problematic implementations**

#### Two-way mixed ANOVA

Between-subjects Factor A (Group): 2 levels (patient, control)

Within-subject Factor B (Condition): 3 levels (pos, neg, neu)

1) Omnibus tests

$$F_A = rac{MSA}{MSA(C)}$$
Correct
 $F_A = rac{MSA}{MSE}$ , Incorrect
 $F_B = rac{MSB}{MSE}$ ,  $F_B = rac{MSB}{MSE}$ ,
 $F_{AB} = rac{MSAB}{MSE}$ 

- 2) Post hoc tests (contrasts)
- Incorrect t-tests for factor A due to incorrect denominator
- Incorrect t-tests for factor B or interaction effect AB when weights do not add up to 0

### Univariate GLM: problematic implementations

#### Two-way repeated-measures ANOVA

Within-subjects Factor A (Object): 2 levels (house, face)

Within-subject Factor B (Condition): 3 levels (pos, neg, neu)

1) Omnibus tests

$$F_{A}=rac{MSA}{MSAC}, \ F_{A}=rac{MSA}{MSE}, \ F_{B}=rac{MSB}{MSE}, \ F_{AB}=rac{MSAB}{MSE}, \ F_{AB}=rac{MSB}{MSB}, \ F_{A$$

- 2) Post hoc tests (contrasts)
- **Incorrect** t-tests for both factors A and B due to incorrect denominator
- Incorrect t-tests for interaction effect AB if weights don't add up to 0

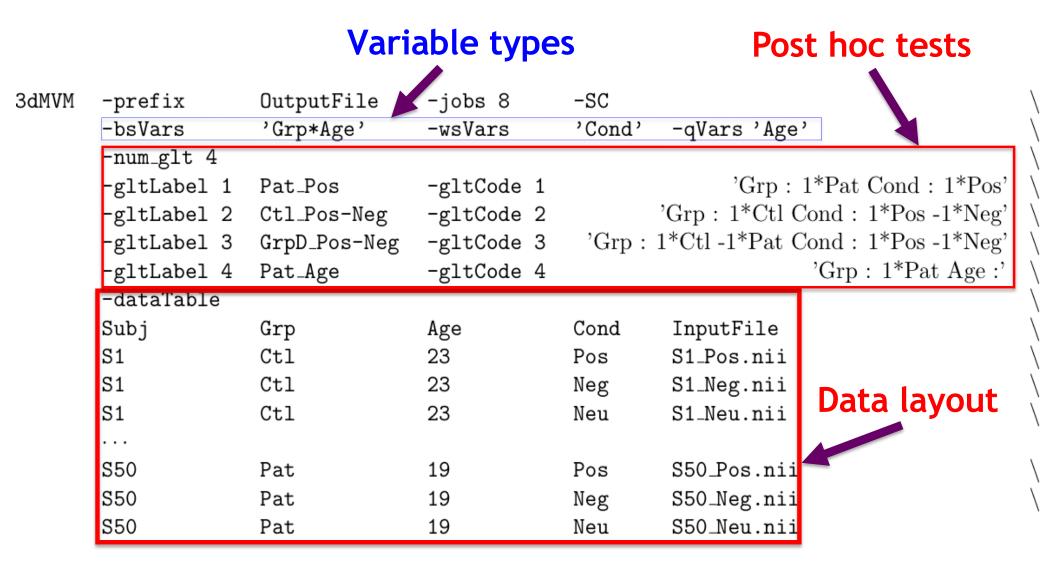
### **Better Approach:** Multivariate GLM

- Group: 2 levels (patient and control)
- Condition: 3 levels (pos, neg, neu)
- Subject: 3 ASD children and 3 healthy controls
- Age: quantitative covariate

$$\boldsymbol{B}_{n\times m} = \boldsymbol{X}_{n\times q} \boldsymbol{A}_{q\times m} + \boldsymbol{D}_{n\times m}$$

### MVM Implementation in AFNI

- Program 3dMVM
  - No dummy coding needed!
  - Symbolic coding for variables and post hoc testing



### **Improvement 1**: precision information

- Conventional approach:  $\beta_s$  as response variable
  - Assumptions
    - no measurement errors
    - all subjects have same precision
  - All subjects are treated equally
- More precise method:  $\beta$ s plus precision
  - t-statistic contains precision
  - $\circ$   $\beta$ s and their *t*-stats as input
  - βs weighted based on precision
  - Only available for GLM types: 3dMEMA
  - Regions with substantial cross-subject variability
- Best approach: combining all subjects in one big model
  - Currently not feasible

### One group: Example

• 3dttest++:  $\beta$  as input only

```
3dttest++ -prefix Vis -mask mask+tlrc -zskip
-setA 'FP+tlrc[Vrel#0_Coef]'

'FR+tlrc[Vrel#0_Coef]'

.....

Voxel value = 0 → treated it as missing
'GM+tlrc[Vrel#0_Coef]'
```

• **3dMEMA**: **\beta** and **t**-statistic as input

```
3dMEMA -prefix VisMEMA -mask mask+tlrc -setA Vis

FP 'FP+tlrc[Vrel#0_Coef]' 'FP+tlrc[Vrel#0_Tstat]'

FR 'FR+tlrc[Vrel#0_Coef]' 'FR+tlrc[Vrel#0_Tstat]'

.....

GM 'GM+tlrc[Vrel#0_Coef]' 'GM+tlrc[Vrel#0_Tstat]'

-missing_data 0 ✓ Voxel value = 0 → treated it as missing
```

#### Paired comparison: Example

• 3dttest++: comparing two conditions

```
3dttest++ -prefix Vis Aud
 -mask mask+tlrc -paired -zskip \
 -setA 'FP+tlrc[Vrel#0 Coef]'
       'FR+tlrc[Vrel#0 Coef]'
       'GM+tlrc[Vrel#0 Coef]'
 -setB 'FP+tlrc[Arel#0 Coef]'
       'FR+tlrc[Arel#0 Coef]'
       'GM+tlrc[Arel#0 Coef]'
```

#### Paired Comparison: Example

- 3dMEMA: accounting for differential accuracy
  - Contrast as input

```
3dMEMA -prefix Vis_Aud_MEMA
    -mask mask+tlrc -missing_data 0
    -setA Vis-Aud

FP 'FP+tlrc[Vrel-Arel#0_Coef]' 'FP+tlrc[Vrel-Arel#0_Tstat]' \
FR 'FR+tlrc[Vrel-Arel#0_Coef]' 'FR+tlrc[Vrel-Arel#0_Tstat]' \
......
GM 'GM+tlrc[Vrel-Arel#0_Coef]''GM+tlrc[Vrel-Arel#0_Tstat]'
```

• Conventional approach 
$$f(t) = t^q e^{-t}/(q^q e^{-q}) (q=4)$$

- Presumed curve (empirical and approximate): BLOCK(d,1)
- Fixing HDR shape and capturing magnitude with one number
- $\circ$  Simple and straightforward: one  $\beta$  per effect
- o Not ideal: HDR varies across regions, tasks/conditions, groups, subjects

#### More accurate HDR modeling

- o Data driven (no assumptions about HDR shape): TENTzero, CSPLINzero
- Estimating both shape and magnitude with multiple effect estimates
- $\circ$  More complicated: multiple  $\beta$ s per task/condition
- More challenging: how to make inferences?  $H_0$ :  $\beta_1$ =0,  $\beta_2$ =0, ...,  $\beta_k$ =0

#### Middle

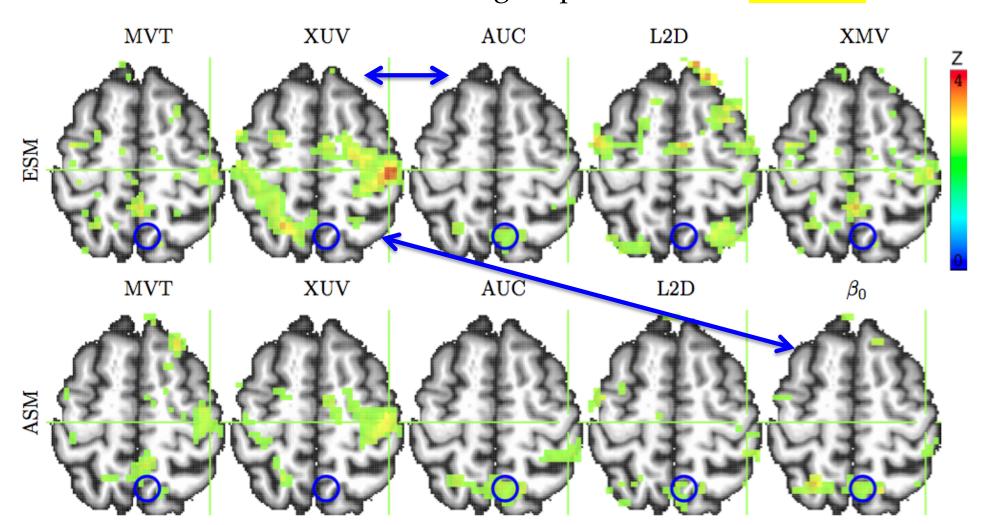
- Adjust major HDR curve with 2/3 auxiliary functions: SPMG2/3
- $\circ$  Focus: magnitude ( $\beta$ ) associated with major HDR curve

- Group analysis with HDR estimates: TENTzero, CSPLINzero
  - $\circ$  NHST:  $H_0$ :  $\beta_1$ =0,  $\beta_2$ =0, ...,  $\beta_k$ =0
  - Area under curve (AUC) approach
    - Reduce to one number: use area as magnitude approximation
    - Ignore shape subtleties
    - Shape information loss: (undershoot, peak location/width)
  - Better approach: maintaining shape integrity
    - Take individual  $\beta$ s to group analysis (MVM)
    - One group with one condition: 3dLME
    - Other scenarios: treat  $\beta$ s as levels of a factor (e.g., Time)  $\frac{3dMVM}{}$ \*\* Task or group effect: F-stat for interaction between task group and

Time, complemented with main effect for task/group (AUC)

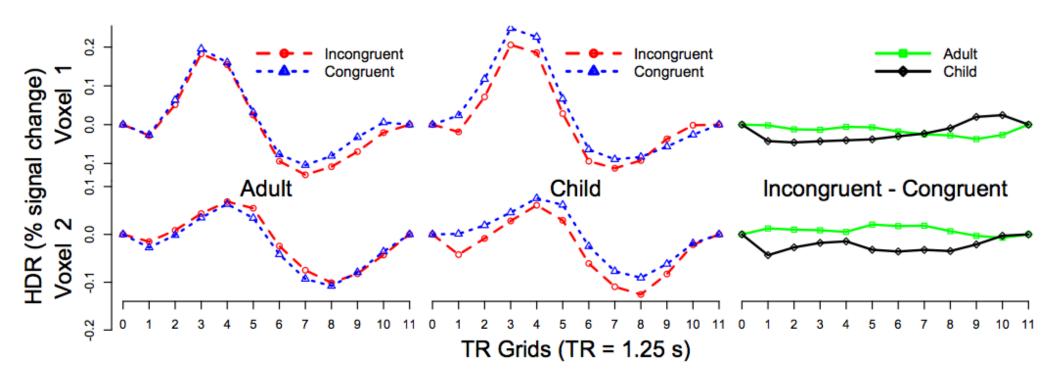
Chen et al. (2015). Detecting the subtle shape differences in hemodynamic responses at the group level. Front. Neurosci., 26 October 2015.

- 2 groups (children, adults), 2 conditions (congruent, incongruent), 1 quantitative covariate (age)
- 2 methods: HRF modeled by 10 (tents) and 3 (SPMG3) bases
- Effect of interaction: interaction group:condition 3dMVM



- Advantages of ESM over FSM
  - More likely to detect HDR shape subtleties
  - Visual verification of HDR signature shape (vs. relying significance testing: *p*-values)

Study: Adults/Children with Congruent/Incongruent stimuli (2 × 2)



### Dealing with quantitative variables

#### Reasons to consider a covariate

- Effect of interest
- Model improvement: accounting for data variability

#### Frameworks

- o ANCOVA: between-subjects factor (e.g., group) + quantitative variable
- o Broader frameworks: regression, GLM, MVM, LME, BML
- Assumptions: linearity, homogeneity of slopes (interaction)

#### Interpretations

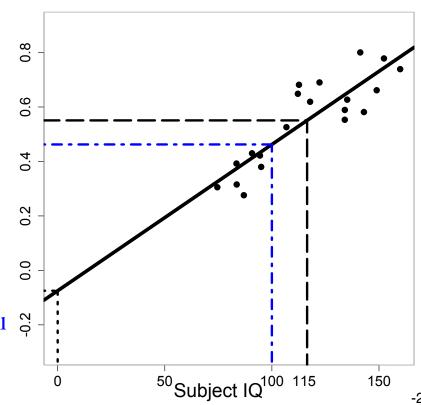
- Effect of interest: slope, rate, marginal effect
- Regress/covariate out x? head motion at individual level
- "Controlling x at ...", "holding x constant": centering

## Quantitative variables: centering

Model

$$\hat{\beta}_i = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 * x_{1i} + \alpha_2 * x_{2i} + \epsilon_i$$

- $\circ \alpha_1$ ,  $\alpha_2$  slope
- $\circ$   $\alpha_0$  intercept: group effect when x=0
  - Not necessarily meaningful
  - Linearity may not hold
  - Centering for interpretability
  - Mean or median centering?
- When a factor is involved
  - Complicated: within-level or grand centering



https://afni.nimh.nih.gov/pub/dist/doc/htmldoc/STATISTICS/center.html

### **IntraClass Correlation (ICC)**

- Reliability (consistency, agreement/reproducibility) across two or more measurements of a condition/task
  - sessions, scanners, sites, studies, twins
  - Classic example (Shrout and Fleiss, 1979): n targets are rated by k raters
  - Relationship with Pearson correlation
    - Pearson correlation: two different types of measure: e.g., BOLD response vs. RT
    - ICC: same measurement
  - Modeling frameworks: ANOVA, LME
  - 3 types ICC: ICC(1,1), ICC(2,1), ICC(3,1) one-, two-way random- and mixed-effects ANOVA
- Whole-brain voxel-level ICC
  - ∘ ICC(2,1): 3dLME –ICC or 3dLME –ICCb
  - o 3dICC: ICC(1,1), ICC(2,1) and ICC(3,1)

Chen et al. (2017), Human Brain Mapping 39(3) DOI:10.1002/hbm.23909

### Naturalistic scanning

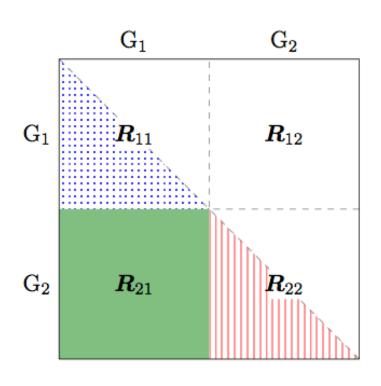
- Subjects view a natural scene during scanning
  - Visuoauditory movie clip (e.g., <a href="http://studyforrest.org/">http://studyforrest.org/</a>)
  - o Music, speech, games, ...
- Duration: a few minutes or more
- Close to naturalistic settings: minimally manipulated
- Effect of interest: intersubject correlation (ISC) 3dTcorrelate
  - Extent of synchronization/entrainment
- Whole-brain voxel-wise analysis: 3dISC

Hasson et al., 2004. Intersubject synchronization of cortical activity during natural vision. Science 303:1634-1640.

## ISC group analysis

- Voxel-wise ISC matrix (usually Fisher-transformed)
  - o One group

- o Two groups
  - Within-group ISC: R11, R22
  - Inter-group ISC: R21
  - 3 group comparisons: R11 vs R22,
     R11 vs R21, R22 vs R21



### **Complexity of ISC analysis**

- 2 ISC values associated with a common subject are correlated with each other: 5 subjects, 10 ISC values
- $\rho \neq 0$  characterizes non-independent relationship

	$Z_{21}$	$Z_{31}$	$Z_{41}$	$Z_{51}$	$Z_{32}$	$Z_{42}$	$Z_{52}$	$Z_{43}$	$Z_{53}$	$Z_{54}$
$Z_{21}$	$\int 1$	ρ	ρ	$\rho$	$\rho$	$\rho$	$\rho$	0	0	0
$Z_{31}$	ρ	1	ho	ρ	ρ	0	0	$\rho$	ρ	0
$Z_{41}$	ρ	ρ	1	$\rho$	0	$\rho$	0	ρ	0	ρ
$Z_{51}$	ρ	ρ	$\rho$	1	0	0	ho	0	$\rho$	ρ
$Z_{32}$	ρ	ρ	0	0	1	ho	ho	ho	$\rho$	0
$Z_{42}$	ρ	0	$\rho$	0	ho	1	ho	$\rho$	0	ρ
$Z_{52}$	ρ	0	0	$\rho$	$\rho$	$\rho$	1	0	$\rho$	ρ
$Z_{43}$	0	ρ	ρ	0	ho	$\rho$	0	1	$\rho$	ρ
$Z_{53}$	0	ρ	0	ho	ho	0	ho	$\rho$	1	ρ
$Z_{54}$	0	0	$\rho$	ho	0	ho	ho	ho	$\boldsymbol{\rho}$	1 /

Challenge: how to handle this irregular correlation matrix?

### **ISC**: LME approach

Modeling via effect partitioning: crossed random-effects LME

$$z_{ij} = b_0 + \theta_i + \theta_j + \epsilon_{ij}, \quad i \neq j$$
 $\theta_i, \theta_j \overset{iid}{\sim} G(0, \zeta^2) \text{ and } \epsilon_{ij} \overset{iid}{\sim} G(0, \eta^2)$ 
cross-subject within-subject

Charactering the relatedness among ISCs via LME

$$\rho = Corr(z_{ij}, z_{jl}) = \frac{Cov(z_{ij}, z_{jl})}{\sqrt{Var(z_{ij})Var(z_{jl})}} = \frac{\zeta^2}{2\zeta^2 + \eta^2}$$
$$0 \le \rho = \frac{\zeta^2}{2\zeta^2 + \eta^2} = \frac{\zeta^2}{\sigma^2} \le 0.5$$

Chen et al, 2016. Untangling the Relatedness among Correlations, Part II: Inter-Subject Correlation Group Analysis through Linear Mixed-Effects Modeling. Neuroimage. NeuroImage 147:825-840

### **Summary**

- Concepts and terminology
- Group analysis approaches
  - ∘ GLM: 3dttest++, 3dMEMA
  - o GLM, ANOVA, ANCOVA: 3dMVM
  - 。 LME: 3dLME
  - Presumed vs. estimated HDR
- Miscellaneous
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