

General Linear Models with Interactions: Testing Moderation!

- Topics:
 - Slopes of predictors within interactions: from unique main (marginal) effects to unique simple (conditional) effects
 - The 4 possible kinds of interactions
 - Model-implied slopes as linear combinations of model slopes
 - Regions of significance for when simple slopes “turn on or off”
 - Interactions with categorical predictors
 - Interactions with quantitative predictors with nonlinear effects
 - Special uses of interaction terms to create nested effects
 - “ANOVA with a hole in it”
 - Missing (or impossible) predictor data

GLM with an Interaction:

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(x_i) + \beta_2(z_i) + \beta_3(x_i)(z_i) + e_i$$

- **Interaction slopes (β_3 here) test “Moderation”**: whether a predictor’s slope depends on the value of another predictor
 - Either predictor can be “the moderator” (is interpretive distinction only)
- **Interactions can always be tested** for any combination of categorical or quantitative predictors, although traditionally...
 - **In “ANOVA”**: By default, includes all possible interactions of categorical predictors
 - Oddly, nonsignificant interactions are usually kept in the model
 - **In “ANCOVA”**: Quantitative predictors (“covariates”) are not included in interaction terms → this is the “homogeneity of regression assumption”
 - But you don’t have to assume this—it is always a testable hypothesis!
 - **In “Regression”**: No default—effects of predictors are as you specify
 - Requires most thought, but also allows the most flexibility

Main Effects of Predictors within Interactions

- **“Main effect” slopes** of predictors that are included in interaction terms should always remain in the model regardless of their significance
 - e.g., given $\beta_3(x_i)(z_i)$, you must keep $\beta_1(x_i)$ and $\beta_2(z_i)$ in the model, too
 - Why? Because an interaction term creates an over-additive (enhancing) or under-additive (dampening) effect, so what it is additive to must be included for the interaction to correctly represent an “interaction”
- **Role of a two-way interaction is to adjust the “main effect” slopes** of the two predictors involved
 - But the idea of a **“marginal”** main effect slope (that holds for everyone) **no longer applies**: The main effect slopes become **“simple”** main effect slopes that are **conditional on each interacting predictor = 0**
- Note that this is a **different type of conditionality** than just “holding the other predictors constant” (which means constant at any value)
 - Simple main effect slopes are **held constant** (conditional on) the **0 value** of the interacting predictor(s)—these slopes would be different if 0 were defined differently by centering the interacting predictor elsewhere
 - This language can be confusing, so next is a taxonomy that may help...

A Taxonomy of Fixed Effect Interpretations

- In most common linear models, fixed effects will be either:
 - an **intercept** that provides an expected (conditional) y_i outcome,
 - or a **slope** for the difference in y_i per unit difference in x_i predictor
- **All slopes** can be described as falling within one of three categories: **bivariate marginal**, **unique marginal**, or **unique conditional**
 - In models with only **one fixed slope**, that slope's main effect is **bivariate marginal** (is uncontrolled and applies across all persons)
 - In models with **more than one fixed slope**, each slope's main effect is **unique** (it controls for the overlap in contribution with each other slope)
 - If a predictor is not part of an interaction term, its **unique effect is marginal** (it controls for the other slopes, but its effect still applies across all persons)
 - If a predictor is part of one or more interaction terms, its **unique effect is conditional**, which means it is **specific to each interacting predictor = 0**
 - **Unique conditional** effects are also called “**simple main effects**” (**simple slopes**)

NEW →

Practice Labeling Fixed Slopes—Choices:

bivariate marginal, unique marginal, or unique conditional

Model: $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(w_i) + e_i$

- Label for β_1 slope of $w_i = \textit{bivariate marginal}$

Model: $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(w_i) + \beta_2(x_i) + \beta_3(z_i) + \beta_4(x_i)(z_i) + e_i$

- Label for β_1 slope of $w_i = \textit{unique marginal}$
- Label for β_2 slope of $x_i = \textit{unique conditional on } z = 0$
- Label for β_3 slope of $z_i = \textit{unique conditional on } x = 0$
- Label for β_4 slope of $x_i z_i$ interaction term = *unique marginal*

The 4 Possible Kinds of Interactions

- There are only 4 kinds of interactions: they make each of their main effect slopes more/less positive/negative
 - **More** positive or more negative → effect becomes **stronger**, known as “over-additive” interaction
 - **Less** positive or less negative → effect becomes **weaker**, known as “under-additive” interaction
- Model: $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(w_i) + \beta_2(x_i) + \beta_3(z_i) + \beta_4(x_i)(z_i) + e_i$

Slope of x_i is $\beta_2 =$	Interaction Slope is $\beta_4 =$	So β_4 makes effect of x_i ??? per unit higher z_i
10	2	More positive
-10	2	Less negative
10	-2	Less positive
-10	-2	More negative

Section Review: Thinking about Interactions

1. Practice with hypothesized interaction directionality (see excel spreadsheet)
2. Provide an example of testing moderation from your own world (research, employment, this class project)

What AI has to say about “kinds” of interactions

- **Synergistic Interaction:** The effect of the focal variable becomes **stronger** as the level of the moderator variable increases.
- **Enhancing Interaction:** Stronger effects at higher levels of the moderator.
- **Strengthening Interaction:** The effect of the predictor becomes stronger as the moderator increases.
- **Non-Crossover Interaction:** Modifies the **magnitude** of the focal variable's effect without changing its direction. For instance, a promotional campaign might consistently boost sales, but the impact becomes greater for wealthier people.

What AI has to say about “kinds” of interactions

- **Antagonistic Interaction:** Effect of the focal variable becomes **weaker** as the level of the moderator variable increases. Opposing effects between predictors and the moderator. *When the predictor and moderator work against each other leading to a negative interaction.*
- **Buffering Interaction:** Weaker effects at higher levels of the moderator. The effect of the predictor becomes weaker as the moderator increases.
- **Weakening Interaction:** Effect of the predictor becomes weaker as the moderator increases.
- **Reversing Interaction:** Effects flip direction at different levels of the moderator. The effect diminishes, crosses zero, and reverses direction as the moderator increases.
- **Crossover Interaction (Disordinal):** Direction of the focal variable's effect changes depending on the level of the moderator. Effects switch direction across levels of the moderator. Neither stronger nor weaker but opposite effects occur.

Fixed Effects: Why Centering Matters

- y_i = Student achievement (GPA as percentage out of 100)
- x_i = Parent **attitudes** about education (measured on 1–5 scale)
- z_i = Parent **education** level (measured in years of education)

$$GPA_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(Att_i) + \beta_2(Ed_i) + \beta_3(Att_i)(Ed_i) + e_i$$

$$GPA_i = 30 + 1(Att_i) + 2(Ed_i) + 0.5(Att_i)(Ed_i) + e_i$$

- Interpret β_0 : predicted GPA when att=0 and ed=0
- Interpret β_1 : change in GPA per unit att *when ed=0*
- Interpret β_2 : change in GPA per unit ed *when att=0*
- Interpret β_3 : **Attitude** as Moderator: change in ed slope per unit att
Education as Moderator: change in att slope per unit ed
- **Predicted GPA** for **Attitude = 3** and **Ed = 12**?
 $75 = 30 + 1*(3) + 2*(12) + 0.5*(3)*(12)$

How Centering Changes the Fixed Effects

- y_i = Student achievement (GPA as percentage out of 100)
- x_i = Parent **attitudes** about education (now centered at **3**)
- z_i = Parent years of **education** (now centered at **12**)

$$GPA_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(Att_i - 3) + \beta_2(Ed_i - 12) + \beta_3(Att_i - 3)(Ed_i - 12) + e_i$$

$$GPA_i = 75 + 7(Att_i - 3) + 3.5(Ed_i - 12) + 0.5(Att_i - 3)(Ed_i - 12) + e_i$$

- Interpret β_0 : predicted GPA for att=3 and ed=12
- Interpret β_1 : change in GPA per unit att *when ed=12*
- Interpret β_2 : change in GPA per unit ed *when att=3*
- Interpret β_3 : **Attitude** as Moderator: change in ed slope per unit att
Education as Moderator: change in att slope per unit ed
- But how did I know what the new fixed effects would be???

Model-Implied Predicted Outcomes

- **Predicted outcomes = expected outcomes = conditional means**

➤ ALL model effects must be included (or else are assumed = 0)

$$\widehat{GPA}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(Att_i - 3) + \beta_2(Ed_i - 12) + \beta_3(Att_i - 3)(Ed_i - 12)$$

R: Values are multipliers in glht in order of the fixed effects output:

```
glhtName = glht(model=ModelName, linfct=rbind(
```

```
"Yhat: Att=5 Ed=16" c(1, 2, 4, 8),
```

```
"Yhat: Att=1 Ed=9" c(1, -2, -3, 6),
```

```
"Yhat: Att=3 Ed=20" c(1, 0, 8, 0)))
```

Model-Implied Predictor Simple Slopes

- Example equation for predicted GPA using centered predictors:
$$\widehat{GPA}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(Att_i - 3) + \beta_2(Ed_i - 12) + \beta_3(Att_i - 3)(Ed_i - 12)$$
- This model equation provides predictions for:
 - Expected outcome given any combination of predictor values
 - Any conditional (simple) main effect slopes implied by interaction term
 - **Any slope can be found as: what it is + what *modifies* it**
- Three steps to get any model-implied simple main effect slope:
 1. **Identify** all terms in model involving the predictor of interest
 2. **Factor out** common predictor variable to find slope linear combination
 3. **Compute** estimate and SE for slope linear combination
 - *By "compute" of course I mean "ask the program to do this for you"*

Model-Implied Predictor Simple Slopes

- Example equation for predicted GPA using centered predictors:

$$\widehat{GPA}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(Att_i - 3) + \beta_2(Ed_i - 12) + \beta_3(Att_i - 3)(Ed_i - 12)$$

1. **Identify** all slopes in model involving the predictor of interest

To get attitudes slope: $Est = \beta_1(Att_i - 3) + \beta_3(Att_i - 3)(Ed_i - 12)$

To get education slope: $Est = \beta_2(Ed_i - 12) + \beta_3(Att_i - 3)(Ed_i - 12)$

2. **Factor out** predictor of interest to find the slope's linear combination

To get attitudes slope: $Est = [\beta_1 + \beta_3(Ed_i - 12)]$ **that will multiply** $(Att_i - 3)$

To get education slope: $Est = [\beta_2 + \beta_3(Att_i - 3)]$ **that will multiply** $(Ed_i - 12)$

- Btw, the SEs for the new slopes provided by the program come from:

➤ $SE^2 =$ sampling variance of slope estimate \rightarrow e.g., $Var(\beta_1) = SE_{\beta_1}^2$

attitudes slope: $SE^2 = Var(\beta_1) + Var(\beta_3)(Ed_i - 12) + 2Cov(\beta_1, \beta_3)(Ed_i - 12)$

education slope: $SE^2 = Var(\beta_2) + Var(\beta_3)(Att_i - 3) + 2Cov(\beta_2, \beta_3)(Att_i - 3)$

Model-Implied Predictor Simple Slopes

- To request predicted simple slopes (= simple main effects):

- Include **ONLY** the fixed effects that contain the predictor of interest

$$\widehat{GPA}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(Att_i - 3) + \beta_2(Ed_i - 12) + \beta_3(Att_i - 3)(Ed_i - 12)$$

→ attitudes slope: *Est* = [$\beta_1 + \beta_3(Ed_i - 12)$] that multiplies ($Att_i - 3$)

→ education slope: *Est* = [$\beta_2 + \beta_3(Att_i - 3)$] that multiplies ($Ed_i - 12$)

R: Values are multipliers in GLHT in order of fixed effects:

```
glhtName = glht(model=ModelName, linfct=rbind(
```

```
"Att Slope if Ed=10" c(0, 1, 0, -2),
```

```
"Att Slope if Ed=18" c(0, 1, 0, 6),
```

```
"Ed Slope if Att=2" c(0, 0, 1, -1),
```

```
"Ed Slope if Att=5" c(0, 0, 1, 2)))
```

Regions of Significance for Simple Slopes

- For quantitative predictors, there may not be specific values of the moderator at which you want to know the slope's significance...
- For example, with age*woman (in which 0=man, 1=woman here):

$$\hat{y}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(\text{Age}_i - 85) + \beta_2(\text{Woman}_i) + \beta_3(\text{Age}_i - 85)(\text{Woman}_i)$$

→ **age slope:** $Est = \beta_1 + \beta_3(\text{Woman}_i)$ that multiplies $(\text{Age}_i - 85)$

→ **gender slope:** $Est = \beta_2 + \beta_3(\text{Age}_i - 85)$ that multiplies (Woman_i)

- Age slopes are only relevant for limited specific values of categorical predictor *woman*:


```
glhtName = glht(model=ModelName, linfct=rbind(
"Age Slope for Men"   c(0, 1, 0, 0),
"Age Slope for Women" c(0, 1, 0, 1)))
```

- But there are many potential ages for which to request gender differences...

```
glhtName = glht(model=ModelName, linfct=rbind(
"Gender Diff at Age=80" c(0, 0, 1, -5),
"Gender Diff at Age=90" c(0, 0, 1, 5)))
```

Regions of Significance for Simple Slopes

- An alternative approach for continuous moderators is known as **regions of significance** (see explanations in [Hoffman 2015; chapter 2](#); [Finsaas & Goldstein, 2021](#))
- Rather than ask if the simple main effect of gender is still significant at an arbitrary age, we can compute the **boundary ages** where gender slope becomes non-significant
- We know that: $EST / SE = t\text{-value} \rightarrow$ if $|t| > |1.96|$, then $p < .05$
- So we work backwards to find the EST and SE such that:

$$\pm t = \pm 1.96 = \frac{\text{Slope Estimate}}{\sqrt{\text{Variance of Slope Estimate}}}, \text{ where:}$$
$$\text{Gender Slope (Gender Difference) Estimate} = \beta_2 + \beta_3 (\text{Age} - 85)$$
$$\text{Variance of Slope Estimate} = \text{Var}(\beta_2) + \boxed{2\text{Cov}(\beta_2\beta_3)(\text{Age} - 85)} + \text{Var}(\beta_3)(\text{Age} - 85)^2$$


- Need to request "asymptotic covariance matrix" (COVB)
 - Covariance matrix of fixed effect *estimates* (SE^2 is on the diagonal)

Regions of Significance for Simple Slopes

$$\pm t = \pm 1.96 = \frac{\text{Slope Estimate}}{\sqrt{\text{Variance of Slope Estimate}}}, \text{ where:}$$
$$\text{Gender Slope (Gender Difference) Estimate} = \beta_2 + \beta_3 (\text{Age} - 85)$$
$$\text{Variance of Slope Estimate} = \text{Var}(\beta_2) + 2\text{Cov}(\beta_2\beta_3)(\text{Age} - 85) + \text{Var}(\beta_3)(\text{Age} - 85)^2$$

- For example, age*woman (0=man, 1=woman), age = moderator:
 $\hat{y}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(\text{Age}_i - 85) + \beta_2(\text{Woman}_i) + \beta_3(\text{Age}_i - 85)(\text{Woman}_i)$
- $\beta_2 = -0.5306^*$ at age=85, $\text{Var}(\beta_2) \rightarrow SE^2$ for β_2 was 0.06008
- $\beta_3 = -0.1104^*$ unconditionally, $\text{Var}(\beta_3) \rightarrow SE^2$ for β_3 was 0.00178
- Covariance of $\beta_2 SE$ and $\beta_3 SE$ was 0.00111
- **Regions of Significance for Moderator of Age = 60.16 to 79.52**
 - The gender effect β_2 is predicted to be significantly negative above age 79.52, non-significant from ages 79.52 to 60.16, and significantly positive below age 60.16 (because non-parallel lines will cross eventually).

When There's More than One Interaction

- Model: $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(w_i) + \beta_2(x_i) + \beta_3(z_i) + \beta_4(x_i)(z_i) + \beta_5(w_i)(z_i) + e_i$
- Now all main effect slopes are “unique conditional” (simple):
 - β_1 = diff in y_i per one-unit w_i specifically when $z_i = 0$
 - β_2 = diff in y_i per one-unit x_i specifically when $z_i = 0$
 - β_3 = diff in y_i per one-unit z_i specifically when $w_i = 0$ and $x_i = 0$
- Interaction slopes (β_4 and β_5) are “unique marginal”
 - β_4 is now controlling for β_5 , but interpretation of β_4 is unchanged:
 - How slope of x_i is moderated by z_i : β_4 = diff in β_2 per one-unit z_i
 - How slope of z_i is moderated by x_i : β_4 = diff in β_3 per one-unit x_i
 - New β_5 has two equally correct interpretations:
 - How slope of w_i is moderated by z_i : β_5 = diff in β_1 per one-unit z_i
 - How slope of z_i is moderated by w_i : β_5 = diff in β_3 per one-unit w_i

When There's More than One Interaction

- Model: $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(w_i) + \beta_2(x_i) + \beta_3(z_i) + \beta_4(x_i)(z_i) + \beta_5(w_i)(z_i) + e_i$
- Model-implied slopes of w_i , x_i and z_i are **linear combinations**: (1) find common terms, (2) factor out the predictor the slope is for, and (3) then the term in brackets is model-implied predictor slope
 - Slope of w_i : $\beta_1(w_i) + \beta_5(w_i)(z_i) \rightarrow [\beta_1 + \beta_5(z_i)](w_i)$
 - Slope of x_i : $\beta_2(x_i) + \beta_4(x_i)(z_i) \rightarrow [\beta_2 + \beta_4(z_i)](x_i)$
 - Slope of z_i : $\beta_3(z_i) + \beta_4(x_i)(z_i) + \beta_5(w_i)(z_i) \rightarrow [\beta_3 + \beta_4(x_i) + \beta_5(w_i)](z_i)$
- More than one interaction slope will be necessary for **categorical** predictors (i.e., ordinal or nominal predictors with 3+ groups)
 - I will continue to show you the longer but more transparent way using binary-coded contrasts to represent group differences \rightarrow matches model equation
 - An alternative is to let the program create the contrast for you factor variables in R
 - Can be more convenient but more prone to misinterpretation (so I'm not doing it here)

Reviewing Categorical Predictors

Comparing outcome means across **4 groups** requires creating **3 new binary predictors** to be included **simultaneously** along with the intercept—for example, using “**indicator-coded**” predictors so Control= Reference

Treatment Group	d1: C vs T1?	d2: C vs T2?	d3: C vs T3?
1. Control	0	0	0
2. Treatment 1	1	0	0
3. Treatment 2	0	1	0
4. Treatment 3	0	0	1

- Model: $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(d1_i) + \beta_2(d2_i) + \beta_3(d3_i) + e_i$

➤ The model gives us **the predicted outcome mean for each category** as follows:

Control (Ref) Mean	Treatment 1 Mean	Treatment 2 Mean	Treatment 3 Mean
β_0	$\beta_0 + \beta_1(d1_i)$	$\beta_0 + \beta_2(d2_i)$	$\beta_0 + \beta_3(d3_i)$

➤ Model directly provides 3 mean differences (control vs. each treatment), and indirectly provides another 3 mean differences (differences between treatments) as **linear combinations of the fixed effects...**

Reviewing Categorical Predictors

Control (Ref) Mean = 10	Treatment 1 Mean = 12	Treatment 2 Mean = 15	Treatment 3 Mean = 19
β_0	$\beta_0 + \beta_1(d1_i)$	$\beta_0 + \beta_2(d2_i)$	$\beta_0 + \beta_3(d3_i)$

Model: $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(d1_i) + \beta_2(d2_i) + \beta_3(d3_i) + e_i$

Given the means above, here are the pairwise category differences:

- | | <u>Alt Group</u> | <u>Ref Group</u> | <u>Difference</u> |
|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • C vs. T1 = | $(\beta_0 + \beta_1)$ | (β_0) | $= \beta_1 = 2$ |
| • C vs. T2 = | $(\beta_0 + \beta_2)$ | (β_0) | $= \beta_2 = 5$ |
| • C vs. T3 = | $(\beta_0 + \beta_3)$ | (β_0) | $= \beta_3 = 9$ |
| • T1 vs. T2 = | $(\beta_0 + \beta_2)$ | $(\beta_0 + \beta_1)$ | $= \beta_2 - \beta_1 = 5 - 2 = 3$ |
| • T1 vs. T3 = | $(\beta_0 + \beta_3)$ | $(\beta_0 + \beta_1)$ | $= \beta_3 - \beta_1 = 9 - 2 = 7$ |
| • T2 vs. T3 = | $(\beta_0 + \beta_3)$ | $(\beta_0 + \beta_2)$ | $= \beta_3 - \beta_2 = 9 - 5 = 4$ |

Interactions Involving Categorical Predictors

- When using manually-created binary contrasts for predictors with 3 or more categories, **interactions must be specified with ALL binary predictors** (done for you when using a factor variable)
- e.g., **Adding an interaction of 4-category “group” with age (0=85):**
 - New predictors we must create for the model:
 - $d1 = 0, 1, 0, 0$ → difference between Control and Treat1
 - $d2 = 0, 0, 1, 0$ → difference between Control and Treat2
 - $d3 = 0, 0, 0, 1$ → difference between Control and Treat3

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(d1_i) + \beta_2(d2_i) + \beta_3(d3_i) + \beta_4(Age_i - 85) + \beta_5(d1_i)(Age_i - 85) + \beta_6(d2_i)(Age_i - 85) + \beta_7(d3_i)(Age_i - 85) + e_i$$

- F -test needed to lump together the interaction slopes (β_5 , β_6 , and β_7) to test the “omnibus” (overall) group*age interaction
- Group difference slopes (β_1 , β_2 , and β_3) are “simple main effects” each conditional on age = 85
- Age slope (β_4) is a “simple main effect” specific to the control group (when interactions = 0)
- Model provides age slopes for each group, as well as group differences at any age as linear combinations...

Interactions Involving Categorical Predictors

- **Adding an interaction of 4-category “group” with age (0=85):**

- New predictors we must create for the model:
 - $d1 = 0, 1, 0, 0$ → difference between Control and Treat1
 - $d2 = 0, 0, 1, 0$ → difference between Control and Treat2
 - $d3 = 0, 0, 0, 1$ → difference between Control and Treat3

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(d1_i) + \beta_2(d2_i) + \beta_3(d3_i) + \beta_4(Age_i - 85) + \beta_5(d1_i)(Age_i - 85) + \beta_6(d2_i)(Age_i - 85) + \beta_7(d3_i)(Age_i - 85) + e_i$$

- **Equations for model-implied effects: [slope] (predictor)**

- Effect of Age in Control group: $[\beta_4 + \beta_5(0) + \beta_6(0) + \beta_7(0)](Age_i - 85)$
- Effect of Age in Treat1 group: $[\beta_4 + \beta_5(1) + \beta_6(0) + \beta_7(0)](Age_i - 85)$
- Effect of Age in Treat2 group: $[\beta_4 + \beta_5(0) + \beta_6(1) + \beta_7(0)](Age_i - 85)$
- Effect of Age in Treat3 group: $[\beta_4 + \beta_5(0) + \beta_6(0) + \beta_7(1)](Age_i - 85)$
- Control vs. Treat1 for any age: $[\beta_1 + \beta_5(Age_i - 85)](d1_i)$
- Control vs. Treat2 for any age: $[\beta_2 + \beta_6(Age_i - 85)](d2_i)$
- Control vs. Treat3 for any age: $[\beta_3 + \beta_7(Age_i - 85)](d3_i)$
- T1 vs T2 for any age: $[\beta_2 + \beta_6(Age_i - 85)](d2_i) - [\beta_1 + \beta_5(Age_i - 85)](d1_i)$
- T1 vs T3 for any age: $[\beta_3 + \beta_7(Age_i - 85)](d3_i) - [\beta_1 + \beta_5(Age_i - 85)](d1_i)$
- T2 vs T3 for any age: $[\beta_3 + \beta_7(Age_i - 85)](d3_i) - [\beta_2 + \beta_6(Age_i - 85)](d2_i)$

Multiple-DF Interactions More Generally

- Interactions can be tested between any predictors, including quantitative predictors that require more than one slope...
- Do piecewise education slopes differ between men and women?
(inspired by Lecture 4 models predicting annual income)

$$\text{income}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(\text{lessHS}_i) + \beta_2(\text{gradHS}_i) + \beta_3(\text{overHS}_i) + \beta_4(\text{MvW}_i) \\ + \beta_5(\text{MvW}_i)(\text{lessHS}_i) + \beta_6(\text{MvW}_i)(\text{gradHS}_i) + \beta_7(\text{MvW}_i)(\text{overHS}_i) + e_i$$

- Use R function R2compare to lump together β_5 , β_6 , and β_7 for DF=3 F -test of interaction
 - Simple slopes β_1 , β_2 , and β_3 give education effect for $\text{MvW}_i = 0$
 - Interactions β_5 , β_6 , and β_7 give DIFF in education effect for $\text{MvW}_i = 1$
 - So simple slopes for each subsample of education for $\text{MvW}_i = 1$ are given by:
 $\beta_1 + \beta_5$ for lessHS_i , $\beta_2 + \beta_6$ for gradHS_i , and $\beta_3 + \beta_7$ for overHS_i
- Btw, how many new fixed effects would be needed if we add a third gender category?

What about 3-way interactions???

- Model: $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(w_i) + \beta_2(x_i) + \beta_3(z_i) + \beta_4(x_i)(z_i) + \beta_5(w_i)(z_i) + \beta_6(x_i)(w_i) + \beta_7(w_i)(x_i)(z_i) + e_i$
- **Simple main effects make the predicted outcome higher or lower**
 - 1 possible interpretation for each simple main effect slope
 - Each simple main effect is conditional on other interacting predictors = 0
- **Each 2-way interaction (3 of them in a 3-way model) makes its simple main effect slopes (more/less) (positive/negative)**
 - So there are 2 possible interpretations for each 2-way interaction
 - Each "simple" 2-way interaction is conditional on third predictor = 0
- **The 3-way interaction makes each of its 2-way simple interaction slopes (more/less) (positive/negative)**
 - So there are 3 possible interpretations of a 3-way interaction!
 - Is highest-order term in model, so is unconditional (marginal)

3-Way Interactions Follow the Same Rules

- Model: $y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(w_i) + \beta_2(x_i) + \beta_3(z_i) + \beta_4(x_i)(z_i) + \beta_5(w_i)(z_i) + \beta_6(x_i)(w_i) + \beta_7(w_i)(x_i)(z_i) + e_i$
- **Model-implied simple (conditional) main effect slopes:**
 - Effect of w_i : $[\beta_1 + \beta_5(z_i) + \beta_6(x_i) + \beta_7(x_i)(z_i)](w_i)$
 - Effect of x_i : $[\beta_2 + \beta_4(z_i) + \beta_6(w_i) + \beta_7(w_i)(z_i)](x_i)$
 - Effect of z_i : $[\beta_3 + \beta_4(x_i) + \beta_5(w_i) + \beta_7(w_i)(x_i)](z_i)$
- **Model-implied simple (conditional) 2-way interactions:**
 - Effect of x_i by z_i : $[\beta_4 + \beta_7(w_i)](x_i)(z_i)$
 - Effect of w_i by z_i : $[\beta_5 + \beta_7(x_i)](w_i)(z_i)$
 - Effect of x_i by w_i : $[\beta_6 + \beta_7(z_i)](x_i)(w_i)$

Intermediate Summary

- Interactions create “**moderation**”: the idea that the effect (slope) of one predictor **depends** upon the value of another predictor
- Predictors’ **main effect slopes** will change once they are included in an interaction term, because **they now mean different things**:
 - Former “marginal main effect slopes” become “conditional (or simple) effect slopes” specifically when the interacting predictor = 0 (not just “holding constant”)
 - Need to have **0 as a meaningful value** for each predictor for that reason
- **Rules for interpreting conditional (or simple) fixed slopes**:
 - Predicted outcomes are conditional on (get adjusted by) main effect slopes
 - Positive slopes create higher outcomes; negative slopes create lower outcomes
 - Main effect slopes are conditional (get adjusted by) on two-way interactions
 - Interactions make main effect slopes more/less positive or more/less negative
 - Btw, three-way interactions do the same thing to two-way interactions
 - Highest-order interaction slope is unconditional—it will stay the same regardless of centering

Categorical Predictors with Issues

- Experimental designs with fully crossed conditions lend themselves to analysis of variance-type models
- What happens when things go wrong? Two examples:
 - ANOVA with a hole in it
 - Predictors that don't apply or weren't measured for everyone
- These designs can be analyzed using **nested effects**
 - Different programs specify these differently, so I'll show them using a common language of pseudo-interaction terms
 - What look like "interactions" act like switches instead to turn effects on/off...

A Traditional View of ANOVA

"ANOVA" usually provides F -tests for **marginal mean differences...**

$$F(df=1) \rightarrow a \text{ v. } b$$

$$F(df=2) \rightarrow 1 \text{ v. } 2 \text{ v. } 3$$

$$F(df=2) \rightarrow a \text{ v. } b * 1 \text{ v. } 2 \text{ v. } 3$$

Is this **really** what you want to know?

Means	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$
\bar{a}	$\bar{a1}$	$\bar{a2}$	$\bar{a3}$
\bar{b}	$\bar{b1}$	$\bar{b2}$	$\bar{b3}$

ANOVA as a General Linear Model

$$\begin{aligned}
 y_i = & \beta_0 + \beta_1(a1\ v.\ b1_i) \\
 & + \beta_2(a1\ v.\ a2_i) + \beta_3(a1\ v.\ a3_i) \\
 & + \beta_4(a1\ v.\ b1_i)(a1\ v.\ a2_i) \\
 & + \beta_5(a1\ v.\ b1_i)(a1\ v.\ a3_i) + e_i
 \end{aligned}$$

The focus is now on **differences between specific conditions** as created by the β fixed effects.

Means	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$
\bar{a}	$\bar{a1}$	$\bar{a2}$	$\bar{a3}$
\bar{b}	$\bar{b1}$	$\bar{b2}$	$\bar{b3}$

ANOVA as a General Linear Model

- Software will compute any **simple slopes (differences)** you ask for
 - LMATRIX in SPSS GLM; ESTIMATE in SAS PROC GLM; NEW in Mplus
 - LINCOM or MARGINS in STATA; GLHT in R; CUSTOM TEST in JMP
- Seeing questions through linear models saves **nontraditional designs**
 - Not fully crossed on purpose or by accident... “ANOVA with a hole in it”

Means	$\bar{1}$	$\bar{2}$	$\bar{3}$
\bar{a}	β_0	$\beta_0 + \beta_2$	$\beta_0 + \beta_3$
\bar{b}	$\beta_0 + \beta_1$	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_4$	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 + \beta_3 + \beta_5$

A Nontraditional ANOVA Design

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(g3 \text{ v. } g1_i) + \beta_2(g2 \text{ v. } g1_i) + \beta_3(g1_i)(t \text{ v. } c_i) + \beta_4(g2_i)(t \text{ v. } c_i) + e_i$$

β_3 and β_4 are not interaction terms. Instead, they are **nested** effects.

You are allowed to use any C effects you want to represent the C means, even in fully crossed designs!

Means	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Control	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 + \beta_3$	$\beta_0 + \beta_2 + \beta_4$	
Treatment	$\beta_0 + \beta_1$	$\beta_0 + \beta_2$	β_0

A Nested-Effects General Linear Model

- Example: predicting outcomes by dementia type and dementia timing in persons with OR without dementia
 - Type and timing cannot be measured for persons without dementia!
 - So this requires the following new variables, created as follows:

DemType	demYes	demAorV	demtime5
None	0	0	0
AD (Alzheimer's)	1	-0.5	demtime-5
VA (Vascular)	1	0.5	demtime-5

- **demYES** keeps track of diagnosis at all
- **demAorV** distinguishes different diagnoses
- **demtime** is years since diagnosis (centered at 5 when applicable)

A Nested-Effects General Linear Model

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1(\text{demYes}_i) + \beta_2(\text{demAorV}_i) + \beta_3(\text{demYes}_i)(\text{demtime}_i - 5) + \beta_4(\text{demAorV}_i)(\text{demtime}_i - 5) + e_i$$

Fixed Effect	Interpretation
β_0 : Intercept	Expected outcome for persons without dementia
β_1 : demYes	Simple slope for difference between persons without dementia or with dementia at 5 years (averaged across AD and VA dementia types)
β_2 : demAorV	Simple slope for outcome difference between persons with VA instead of AD type dementia (at 5 years)
β_3 : demYes*demtime5	Because the main effect of demtime5 is NOT in the model, β_3 is NOT an interaction term: Slope for outcome difference per year of dementia <i>only in persons with dementia</i> (averaged across AD and VA dementia types)
β_4 : demAorV*demtime5	Because the main effect of demAorV IS in the model, β_4 IS an interaction term: Difference in slope for effect of years for VA instead of AD type

Other Uses for GLM Nested Effects

- **Nested effects** are main effects specified to apply selectively to subsamples of the possible cases contributing to the model
- They have lots of potential—but relatively unknown—uses
 - “If and how much” effects of semi-continuous predictors, for example:
 - Difference between groups of “younger” and “older” adults; + slope for years of age within “older” adults (see Hoffman 2015 ch. 12)
 - Presence and severity of abuse: difference between groups of “not abused” and “abused” persons; + slope for severity of abuse within “abused” group (for which severity > 0)
 - Missing, refused to answer, or other incomplete predictor data:
 - Difference between groups of “incomplete” versus “complete” predictor values; + slope for predictor values in “complete” group
 - Predictor effects that only apply to one outcome in a multivariate GLM predicting multiple outcomes simultaneously—see unit 5 from this class:
<https://www.lesahoffman.com/PSQF6270/index.html>