

# Review

## Grammaticality judgments unreliable

- vary with context
- sensitive to relative frequency
- affected by interactions of multiple conflicting constraints, including processing constraints

## Usage data problematic

- unexamined confounds and correlations
- pooled data from different speakers
- lexical dependencies ignored
- cross-corpus differences

## Data from **controlled experiments**

- experimental items = constructed sentences
- isolated from connected discourse
- artifactual default referents

## Solutions

- use multiple sources of **converging evidence**: typological, usage-based, experimental, and introspective
- use **modern data analysis**: graphical visualization, descriptive statistics, multivariable modeling, qualitative interpretation of quantitative data

**Documentation** of *the problems from intuitions*:

Joan Bresnan. 2005. “A Few Lessons from Typology”.

**Case studies** of the *English dative alternation*:

Joan Bresnan, Anna Cueni, Tatiana Nikitina, and Harald Baayen. 2005. “Predicting the Dative Alternation.” [corpus]

Joan Bresnan. 2006. “Is syntactic knowledge probabilistic? Experiments with the English dative alternation.” [experiments]

**Case studies** of the *English genitive alternation*:

Anette Rosenbach. 2003. “Iconicity and economy in the choice between the ’s-genitive and the *of*-genitive in English.” [experiments]

Lars Hinrichs and Benedikt Szmrecsányi. 2006. “Recent changes in the function and frequency of Standard English genitive constructions: a multivariate analysis of tagged corpora.” [corpus]

**Hands-on quantitative data analysis** with syntactic, semantic, and lexical data:

R. Harald Baayen. 2006. *Practical Data Analysis for the Language Sciences with R* (forthcoming)

class project with dative data from the CHILDES database

## Methods of analysis of corpus and experimental linguistic data

- Install and learn to use R (open source statistical computing environment available for all platforms): dataframes, vector calculations
- Graphical data exploration – visualizing
  - *single random variables*: histograms, density plots, boxplots, ordered values, quantile plots
  - *two or more random variables*: barplots, mosaic plots, scatterplots, pairs plots, trellis graphics, smoothers

- Probability distributions

- *Discrete distributions*: binomial (frequency of binary-valued variable in corpus), poisson (rate of occurrence of variable in a corpus)

- *Continuous distributions*: normal distribution;  $t, F, \chi^2$

## ● Basic statistical tests

| Type of Data                  | Question?                           | If data are. . .                   | then do                     |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 numerical vector            | normal distribution?                |                                    | shapiro.test(), ks.test()   |
|                               | equal probabilities?                | counts                             | chisq.test()                |
|                               | location of mean?                   | normal                             | t.test()                    |
|                               |                                     | non-normal                         | wilcox.test()               |
| 2 independent vectors         | same distribution?                  |                                    | ks.test(), w.jitter         |
|                               | same means?                         | normal                             | t.test()                    |
|                               |                                     | non-normal                         | wilcox.test()               |
|                               | same variances?                     | normal                             | var.test()                  |
| 2 paired vectors              | same means?                         | normal                             | t.test(...,paired = T)      |
|                               |                                     | non-normal                         | wilcox.test(...,paired = T) |
|                               | functional relation?<br>correlated? | normal                             | lm()                        |
|                               |                                     | normal input                       | cor.test                    |
|                               | non-normal                          | cor.test(..., method = "spearman") |                             |
| 1 numerical vector, 1 factor  | different group means?              | normal, same variances             | lm(), anova(), aov()        |
|                               |                                     | different variances                | kruskal.test()              |
| 2 numerical vectors, 1 factor | different means? interactions?      | normal                             | lm()                        |
| 2 vectors of counts           | different proportions?              |                                    | chisq(), fisher.test()      |

Problems and pitfalls of linear regression: (i) outliers, (ii) nonlinear covariates

Snag of anova with factor levels > 2: multiple comparisons inflating chances of a significant result; use Bonferroni correction or Tukey's H(onestly)S(ignificant)D(ifference)

- Clustering and Classification
  - principle components analysis (for tables of measurements)
  - classification trees
- Regression Modeling  
(to be continued on Thursday)