

TAXO Project README

About

Study Aim: test whether stuttering in adults and children is dimensional (i.e. a "spectrum") or categorical. This project aims to collaborate with researchers who have collected datasets of stuttering-related metrics, such as stuttering frequency and dysfluency durations, from a large enough population of stutterers and non-stutterers (n=300 subjects) to use taxometric procedures. Techniques will be employed from the field of taxometrics, which is a suite of tools traditionally employed in psychiatry for testing whether pathology constructs (in this case stuttering) describe discrete categories or instead a continuum of severity levels.

Overview

- Study personnel and contact info
 - Andrew Meier - Boston U (amsmeier@gmail.com)
 - Ai Leen Choo - Georgia State U
 - Ronny Boey - U. Antwerp
 - Frank Guenther; PI of grant - Boston U (fguenth@gmail.com)
- Date of data collection (range): this project will likely only use large database of stuttering subjects which have already been collected prior to the project start (2023 October)
- Location of data collection: multiple locations - see [dataset notes](#)

SCC and GitHub

- *Where the study materials are stored*
- *Explanation of the directory structure on the SCC and Github so someone new on the project can quickly find what they are looking for*
- *File naming conventions (use meaningful conventions, and not '-v2', '-revised', or '-final')*

Code

Code for this study is kept in this [Github repository](#). Major analysis scripts include those from John Ruscio's [RTaxometrics](#) software package.

Methodological info

This study uses techniques from taxometrics, which may include MAMBAC, MAXCOV, MAXEIG and L-Mode. The primary language used for analysis will be R. Original analysis and annotation method used in the creation of the datasets are specific to the collaborating labs which collected the data.

Data

- *Description of files and type of data*
- *Dictionary of variables (variable names/abbreviations and definitions, units of measurement)*
- *Treatment of missing data*