

# Analysis of repeated measurements (KL MED8008)

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# Day 5

- Practical issues ...?
  - Lectures
  - Textbook
  - Software
  - Exam
- Brief review of exercise 1
- Cluster randomized trials – sample size determination
- Linear mixed effects models: models with random intercept (Textbook chapter 3)
- Sample size

# Repeated measurements

Ignoring dependency between observations may lead to...

- p-values becoming too small when doing between-patient comparisons (i.e. yield false positive results)

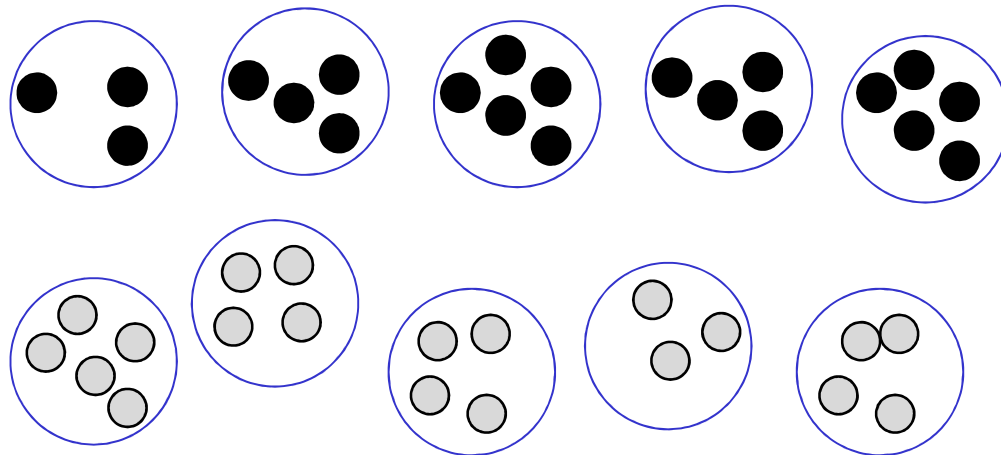
*Textbook 3.10.2 (p. 167), Veierød et al. 7.1 (p. 231)*

## Observations:

● Treatment, n=20

○ Control, n=20

○ Patients



# Repeated measurements

Ignoring dependency between observations may lead to...

- p-values becoming too large when doing within-patient comparisons (i.e. yield false negative results)

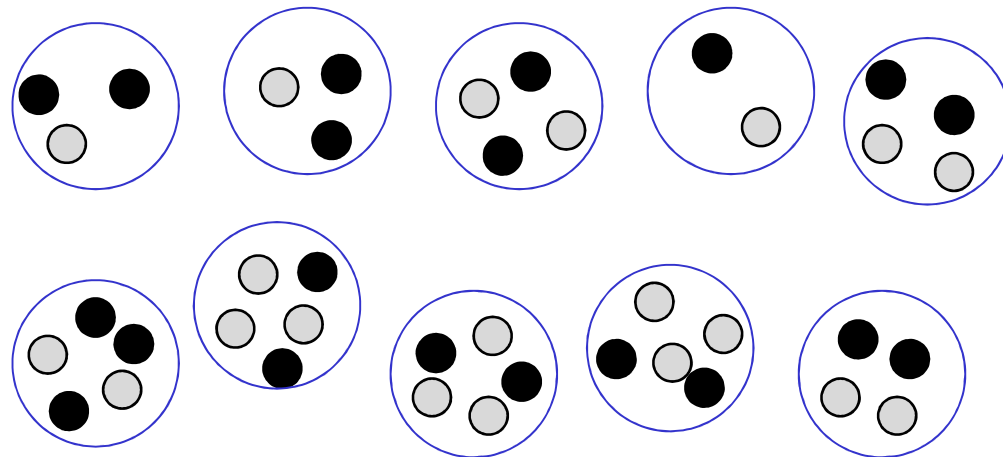
*Textbook 3.10.2 (p. 167), Veierød et al. 7.1 (p. 231)*

## Observations:

● Treatment, n=20

○ Control, n=20

○ Individual



# Cluster-randomized design

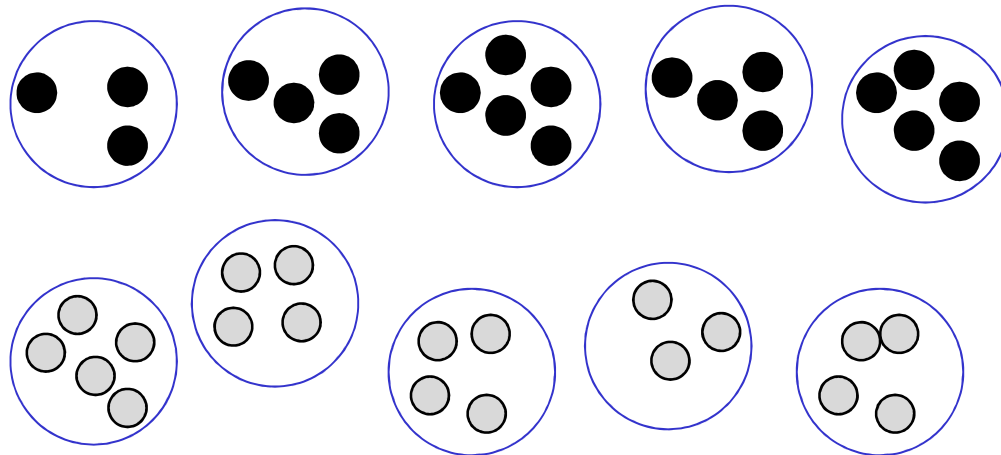
- Sometimes impossible to allocate treatment/ control to individual subjects:
  - "contamination" within general practice, household, school
  - Practical limitations within geographical area etc.
- Allocation of treatment must therefore be made to clusters of subjects:
- p-values become too small when doing between-patient comparisons (i.e. yield false positive results)

## Subjects:

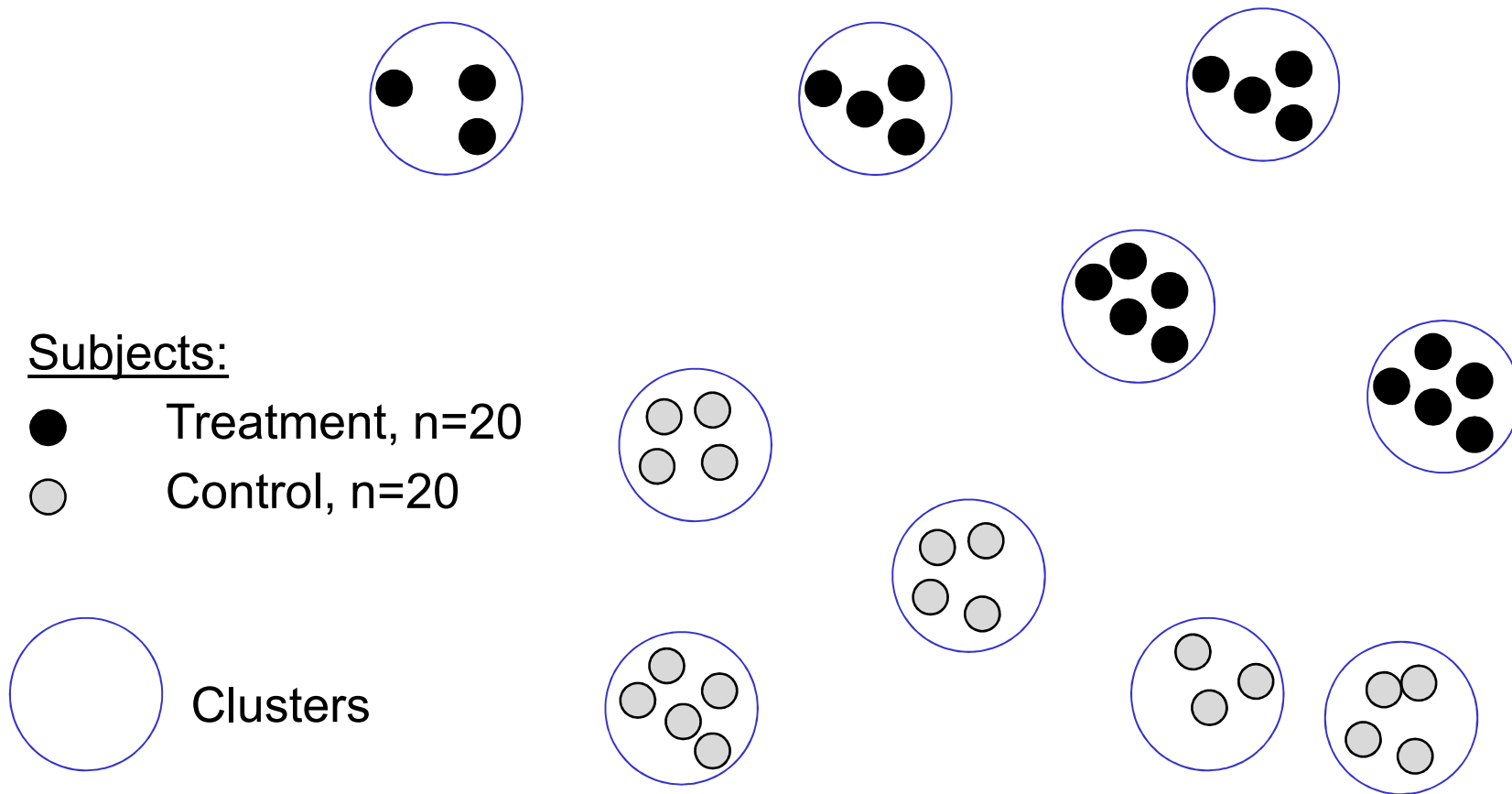
● Treatment, n=20

○ Control, n=20

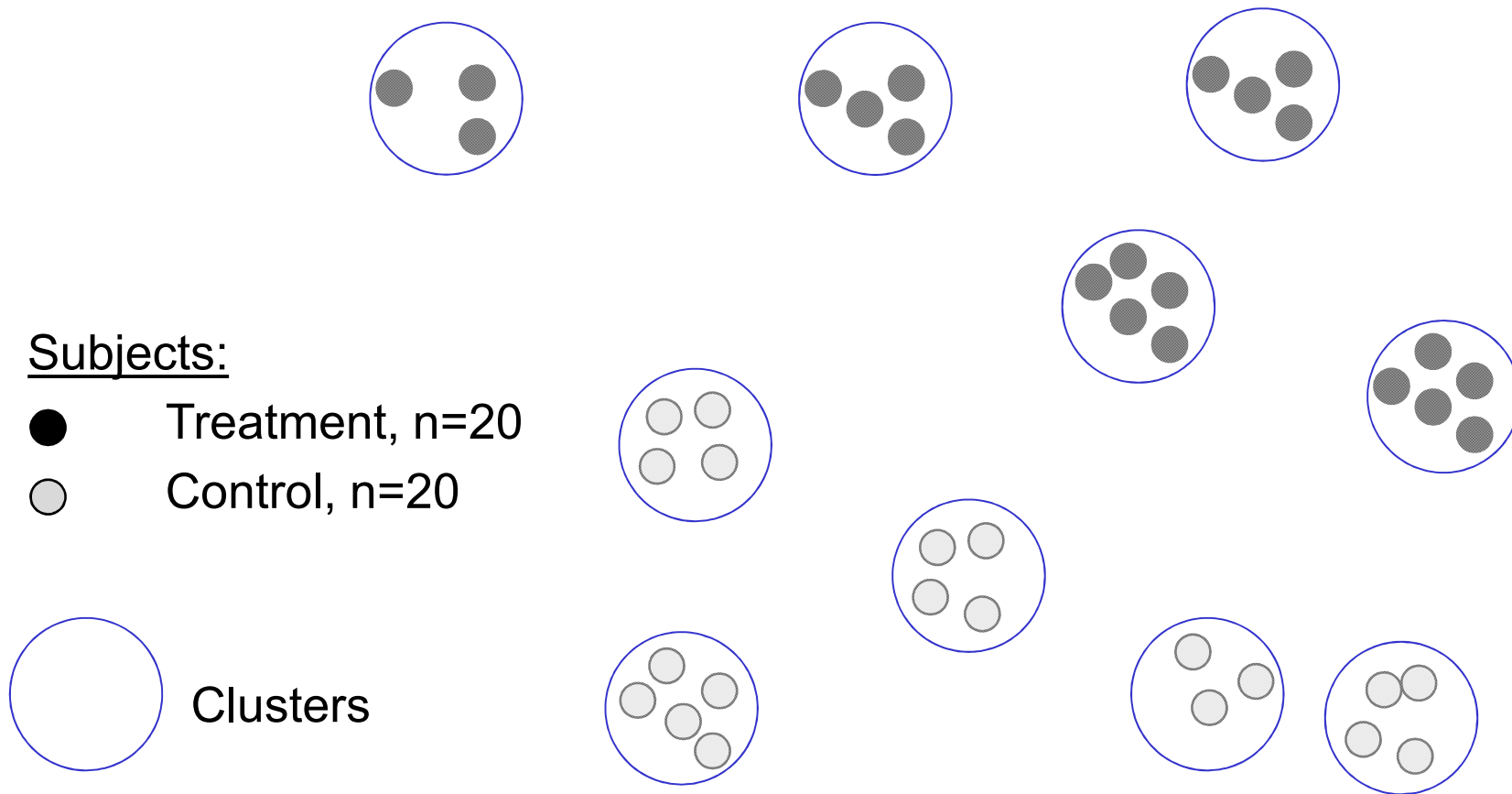
○ Clusters



# So... how large is "n" in each group? 20?



# Or perhaps 5...?



# It depends... on the ICC!

- ICC = intra-class (cluster) correlation
- ICC summarizes the extent that the *subjects within a cluster* are similar, relative to the clusters

$$ICC = \frac{\sigma_j^2}{\sigma_j^2 + \sigma_{ij}^2}$$

$$\text{Total variance} = \sigma_j^2 + \sigma_{ij}^2$$

$$\sigma_j^2 = \text{cluster variance}$$

$$\sigma_{ij}^2 = \text{residual variance (subject)}$$

- If subjects within a cluster are dissimilar,  $\sigma_j^2 = 0$  and  $ICC = 0$
- If subjects within a cluster are identical,  $\sigma_j^2 = 1$ ,  $\sigma_{ij}^2 = 0$  and  $ICC = 1$

# Some aspects ...

- Ignoring clusters during trial planning may lead to increased type II error (i.e. lower power than required)
- Ignoring clusters during trial analysis may lead to increased type I error ("too sensitive")
- Power does not increase substantially when the cluster size  $k$  exceeds  $1/ICC$

Some examples:

$ICC = 0.01, k = 1/0.01 = 100$  (i.e. max reasonable cluster size is 100)

$ICC = 0.05, k = 1/0.05 = 20$

$ICC = 0.1, k = 1/0.1 = 10$

Campbell, M. J., A. Donner, et al. (2007).  
*Stat Med* 26(1): 2-19.

Machin D, Campbell M, Tan SB, Tan SH.  
Sample Size Tables for Clinical Studies. 3  
ed. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell; 2009.

# Cluster randomization – sample size

Starting point:

$m_{cluster} = c \cdot k$  = total number of subjects in each group (treatment/ control)  
 $c$  = number of clusters  
 $k$  = number of subjects in each cluster (i.e. cluster size)

Three problems:

1. Given  $n$  in each group [from usual calculations], how large is  $m_{cluster}$ ?
2. Given  $m_{cluster}$  and  $k$ , how many clusters ( $c$ ) are required?
3. Given  $n$  [from usual calculations] and  $c$ , what is the cluster size ( $k$ )?

# Cluster randomized trial – ICC adjustment

Principle:

- Low ICC: every subject within cluster adds information
- High ICC: each subject adds little information

In practice, guess the ICC, and calculate the "Design Effect" (DE).  
(DE is a multiplication factor for increasing the sample size)

$$DE = 1 + (k - 1) \cdot ICC$$

$k$  = number of subjects within each cluster

Examples:

$$ICC = 0, k = 5 \quad DE = 1 + (5 - 1) \cdot 0 = 1 + 0 = 1 \quad (\text{reference})$$

$$ICC = 0.2, k = 5 \quad DE = 1 + (5 - 1) \cdot 0.2 = 1 + 4 \cdot 0.2 = 1 + 0.8 = 1.8 \quad (80 \% \text{ increase})$$

$$ICC = 0.5, k = 5 \quad DE = 1 + (5 - 1) \cdot 0.5 = 1 + 4 \cdot 0.5 = 1 + 2 = 3 \quad (300 \% \text{ increase})$$

# Cluster randomization – sample size

1. If  $n$  is the (originally) calculated sample size in each group, how many subjects do you really need in each group:

$$m_{cluster} = DE \cdot n = c \cdot k$$

2. Given  $m_{cluster}$  and  $k$ , how many clusters ( $c$ ) are required?

$$c = \frac{DE \cdot n}{k} = \frac{m_{cluster}}{k}$$

3. Given  $n$  and  $c$ , how large do the clusters become ( $k$ )?

$$k = \frac{n \cdot (1 - ICC)}{(c - ICC \cdot n)}$$

# "Design Effect"

## for different values of $k$ (cluster size) and $ICC$

	$ICC$								
$k$	0.01	0.05	0.1	0.15	0.2	0.25	0.3	0.35	0.4
1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
2	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4
3	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8
4	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.2
5	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.6
15	1.1	1.7	2.4	3.1	3.8	4.5	5.2	5.9	6.6
25	1.2	2.2	3.4	4.6	5.8	7.0	8.2	9.4	10.6
35	1.3	2.7	4.4	6.1	7.8	9.5	11.2	12.9	14.6
45	1.4	3.2	5.4	7.6	9.8	12.0	14.2	16.4	18.6
55	1.5	3.7	6.4	9.1	11.8	14.5	17.2	19.9	22.6
65	1.6	4.2	7.4	10.6	13.8	17.0	20.2	23.4	26.6
75	1.7	4.7	8.4	12.1	15.8	19.5	23.2	26.9	30.6
85	1.8	5.2	9.4	13.6	17.8	22.0	26.2	30.4	34.6
95	1.9	5.7	10.4	15.1	19.8	24.5	29.2	33.9	38.6

# Example

$$k = \frac{n \cdot (1 - ICC)}{(c - ICC \cdot n)}$$

$k$  = number of individuals in each cluster

- $n = 25, ICC = 0.05, c = 10$        $k = 25 \cdot (1 - 0.05) / (10 - 0.05 \cdot 25) = 2.7$
- $n = 25, ICC = 0.05, k = 3$        $m_{cluster} = DE \cdot n = (1 + (4-1) \cdot 0.05) \cdot 25 = 28$
- $m_{cluster} = 28, k = 3$        $c = 28/3 = 9$

# Linear mixed effects model

# Example

```
. regress post pre
```

Source	SS	df	MS
Model	6323.33822	1	6323.33822
Residual	12970.9695	50	259.419389
Total	19294.3077	51	378.319759

```
Number of obs =      52
F( 1,      50) =     24.37
Prob > F       =     0.0000
R-squared      =     0.3277
Adj R-squared =     0.3143
Root MSE      =     16.107
```

post	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
pre	$\hat{\beta}_1$ .8252027	.1671432	4.94	0.000	.4894858 1.16092
_cons	$\hat{\beta}_0$ 23.54709	9.79174	2.40	0.020	3.8798 43.21438

# Linear model

$$y_{ij} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot x_{1ij} + \dots + \beta_p \cdot x_{pij} + \xi_{ij}$$

$x_{1ij} \dots x_{pij}$  covariates (predictor variables, possibly categorical)

$\xi_{ij}$  error term,  $\xi_{ij} \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$

# Linear mixed effects model

But unrealistic that  $\xi_{ij}$  is independent of  $x_{ij}$

Define  $\xi_{ij} = \zeta_j + \varepsilon_{ij}$     $\zeta_j \sim N(0, \psi)$     $\varepsilon_{ij} \sim N(0, \theta)$

$$y_{ij} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot x_{2ij} + \dots + \beta_p \cdot x_{pij} + \zeta_j + \varepsilon_{ij}$$

$$y_{ij} = (\beta_0 + \zeta_j) + \beta_2 \cdot x_{2ij} + \dots + \beta_p \cdot x_{pij} + \varepsilon_{ij}$$

# Compare variance components

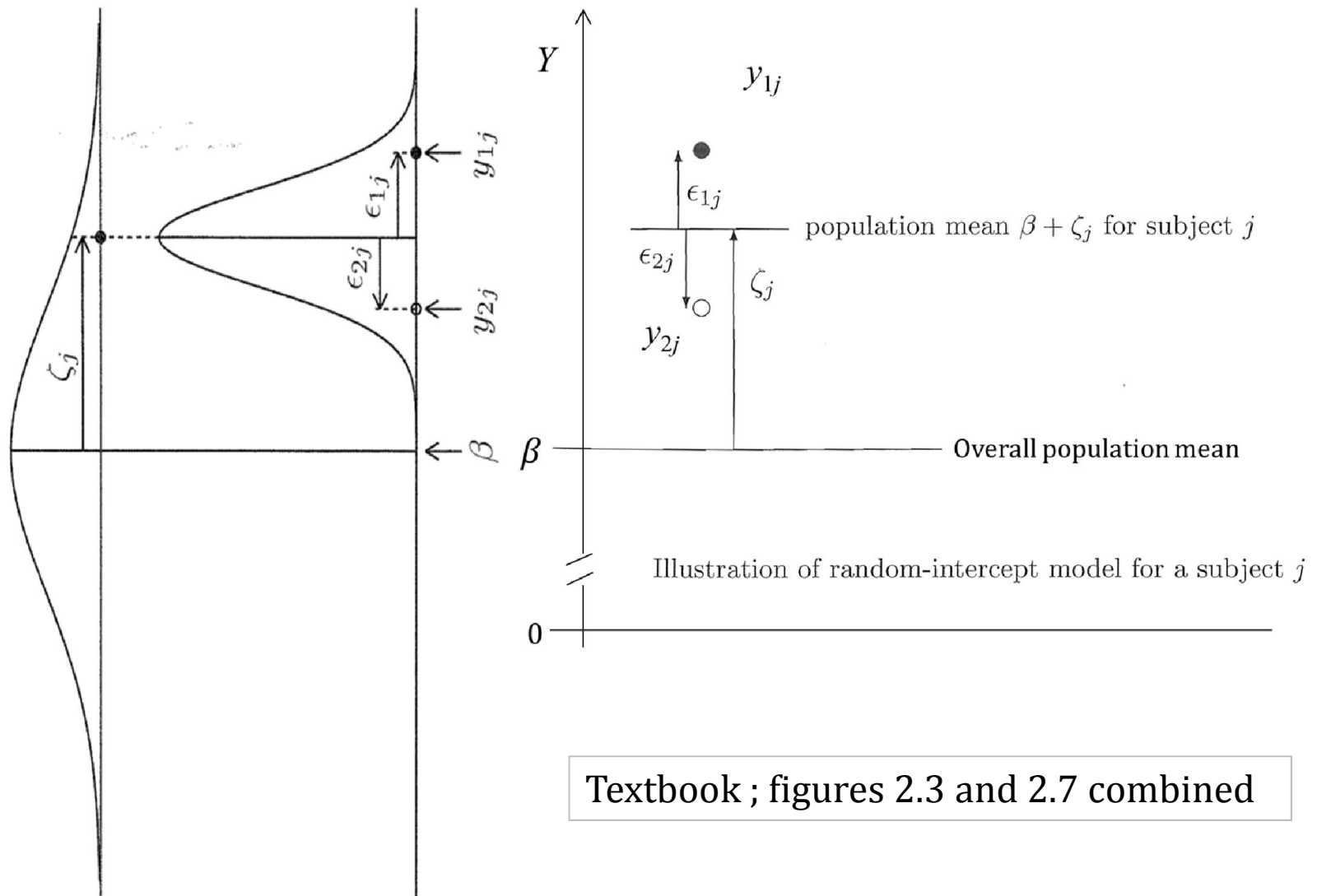
$$y_{ij} = \beta + \zeta_j + \varepsilon_{ij}$$

$i$  = children nested within mother

$j$  = mother

$\zeta_j \sim N(0, \psi)$        $\psi$  : between-subject variance

$\varepsilon_i \sim N(0, \theta)$        $\theta$  : within-subject variance



Textbook ; figures 2.3 and 2.7 combined

# Linear mixed effects model

- Involves both fixed and random factors/ effects; is thus *mixed*
- A starting point: grouped or clustered observations of a continuous outcome variable
- The groups are "internally similar": observations within the group are correlated
- Groups are "drawn" at random from the population of similar groups or clusters
- It is the intention to generalize to this population
- Examples:
  - Repeated observations on the same subject
  - Observations on different schools, hospitals, cities, countries...

# Winer revisited

- Linear model
- Robust linear model (but this *really* requires large «n»)
- Linear *mixed* model

# Winer revisited

- Reaction time (score) with four drugs was measured repeatedly in the same 5 persons:

	person	score_1	score_2	score_3	score_4
1.	1	30	28	16	34
2.	2	14	18	10	22
3.	3	24	20	18	30
4.	4	38	34	20	44
5.	5	26	28	14	30

Winer 1991 in Stata manual: [R] anova

```
. use winer, clear
(T4.3 -- Winer, Brown, Michels)
```

```
. list
```

	person	drug	score
1.	1	1	30
2.	1	2	28
3.	1	3	16
4.	1	4	34
5.	2	1	14
6.	2	2	18
7.	2	3	10
8.	2	4	22
9.	3	1	24
10.	3	2	20
11.	3	3	18
12.	3	4	30
13.	4	1	38
14.	4	2	34
15.	4	3	20
16.	4	4	44
17.	5	1	26
18.	5	2	28
19.	5	3	14
20.	5	4	30



```
. regress score i.drug, robust cluster(person)
```

Linear regression

```
Number of obs =      20
F( 3,      4) =    47.85
Prob > F      =    0.0014
R-squared     =    0.4680
Root MSE     =    7.0427
```

(Std. Err. adjusted for 5 clusters in person)

score	Coef.	Robust Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]	
drug						
2	-.8	1.770593	-0.45	0.675	-5.715955	4.115955
3	-10.8	2.808024	-3.85	0.018	-18.59633	-3.003675
4	5.6	.8154753	6.87	0.002	3.335878	7.864122
_cons	26.4	4.270831	6.18	0.003	14.54227	38.25773

```
. margins i.drug
```

```
Adjusted predictions
Model VCE      : Robust
```

```
Number of obs =      20
```

```
Expression    : Linear prediction, predict()
```

	Margin	Delta-method Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
drug						
1	26.4	4.270831	6.18	0.000	18.02932	34.77068
2	25.6	3.18826	8.03	0.000	19.35113	31.84887
3	15.6	1.874833	8.32	0.000	11.92539	19.27461
4	32	3.898718	8.21	0.000	24.35865	39.64135

```
. xtmixed score i.drug || person:
```

```
Performing EM optimization:
```

```
Performing gradient-based optimization:
```

```
Iteration 0: log likelihood = -55.795093
```

```
Iteration 1: log likelihood = -55.795093
```

```
Computing standard errors:
```

```
Mixed-effects ML regression  
Group variable: person
```

```
Number of obs      =      20  
Number of groups   =       5  
  
Obs per group: min =       4  
                  avg =      4.0  
                  max =       4
```

```
Log likelihood = -55.795093  
wald chi2(3)      =      92.85  
Prob > chi2       =      0.0000
```

score	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
drug						
2	-.8	1.734358	-0.46	0.645	-4.19928	2.59928
3	-10.8	1.734358	-6.23	0.000	-14.19928	-7.40072
4	5.6	1.734358	3.23	0.001	2.20072	8.99928
_cons	26.4	2.817092	9.37	0.000	20.8786	31.9214

Random-effects Parameters	Estimate	Std. Err.	[95% Conf. Interval]	
person: Identity				
sd(_cons)	5.670981	1.899121	2.941741	10.93231
sd(Residual)	2.742261	.5006661	1.91735	3.922078

```
LR test vs. linear regression: chibar2(01) = 18.78 Prob >= chibar2 = 0.0000
```

```
. margins i.drug
```

```
Adjusted predictions          Number of obs   =          20
```

```
Expression   : Linear prediction, fixed portion, predict()
```

	Margin	Delta-method Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
drug						
1	26.4	2.817092	9.37	0.000	20.8786	31.9214
2	25.6	2.817092	9.09	0.000	20.0786	31.1214
3	15.6	2.817092	5.54	0.000	10.0786	21.1214
4	32	2.817092	11.36	0.000	26.4786	37.5214

# Birthweight and smoking

Dataset «smoking», Textbook pp. 91 →