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Recent developments in Response Styles Modeling

We present recent developments in the so-called random-thresholds IRT models that offer the possibility to include a wide range of response styles effects into psychometric modelling and control them in analysis. Some of these model specifications include factors that have clear interpretation, like "middle" or "extreme" response styles (Falck & Cai, 2016; Plieninger, 2017; Van Vaerenbergh & Thomas, 2013), whereas other enable possibly better fit to the complicated patterns observed in the data, but at the cost of lower interpretability of diagnosed response styles (the so-called "divide-by-total" models, see: Henninger, 2021; Henninger & Meiser, 2020a; 2020b). Those approaches are compared with so called IRTree modeling (Böckenholt 2012)