

*ESM 2. Mathematical formulations*

*ESM 2a.* Global (cumulative) logits (or graded response model), originally proposed by Samejima (1969), see Bacci, Bartolucci & Gnaldi (2014), chap. 2:

$$g_x[\boldsymbol{\lambda}_j(\boldsymbol{\theta})] = \log \frac{\lambda_{x|\theta}^{(j)} + \dots + \lambda_{l_j-1|\theta}^{(j)}}{\lambda_{0|\theta}^{(j)} + \dots + \lambda_{x-1|\theta}^{(j)}} = \log \frac{p(X_j \geq x|\theta)}{p(X_j < x|\theta)}, \quad x = 1, \dots, l_j - 1$$

and its multidimensional extension (Bacci, Bartolucci & Gnaldi 2014, chap. 3.1, Eq. 7):

$$\log \frac{p(X_j \geq x|\boldsymbol{\Theta} = \boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(X_j < x|\boldsymbol{\Theta} = \boldsymbol{\theta})} = \gamma_j \left( \sum_{d=1}^s \delta_{jd} \theta_d - \beta_{jx} \right), \quad x = 1, \dots, l_j - 1$$

*ESM 2b.* Local (adjacent categories) logits (generalized partial credit model), originally proposed by Muraki (1992), see Bacci, Bartolucci & Gnaldi (2014), chap. 2:

$$g_x[\boldsymbol{\lambda}_j(\boldsymbol{\theta})] = \log \frac{\lambda_{x|\theta}^{(j)}}{\lambda_{x-1|\theta}^{(j)}} = \log \frac{p(X_j = x|\theta)}{p(X_j = x - 1|\theta)}, \quad x = 1, \dots, l_j - 1$$

*ESM 2c.* continuation ratio logits (sequential model), originally proposed by Fienberg (1980), see Bacci, Bartolucci & Gnaldi (2014), chap. 2:

$$g_x[\boldsymbol{\lambda}_j(\boldsymbol{\theta})] = \log \frac{\lambda_{x+1|\theta}^{(j)} + \dots + \lambda_{l_j-1|\theta}^{(j)}}{\lambda_{x|\theta}^{(j)}} = \log \frac{p(X_j > x|\theta)}{p(X_j = x|\theta)}, \quad x = 1, \dots, l_j - 1$$