**What’s your type? Psychophysics of variable fonts: Reading speed and comprehension measures**

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**References:**

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**Introduction**

Variable fonts allow designers to manipulate how text appears along many continuous axes. This produces text that looks very different, from a single font file, and these continuous axes lend themselves to researchers using psychophysical techniques to study them.

**Research Question**

Which axes within a variable font have the largest effects on reading speed and comprehension? Does this vary by task?

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**Exp 1: Lexical Decision Task**

**Methods**

- **Font Setting**
  - Older Adults (55-70)
  - Younger Adults (55-70)

**Exp 2: Passage-level Reading**

**Methods**

- **N = 14**

**Conclusions**

The effects of axis manipulations within a variable font depend on task and age.

Consistent with previous work, extreme manipulations of font weight decrease reading speed.

What’s next? Examining individual differences in optimal font settings and the combined effects of manipulations across multiple axes.

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