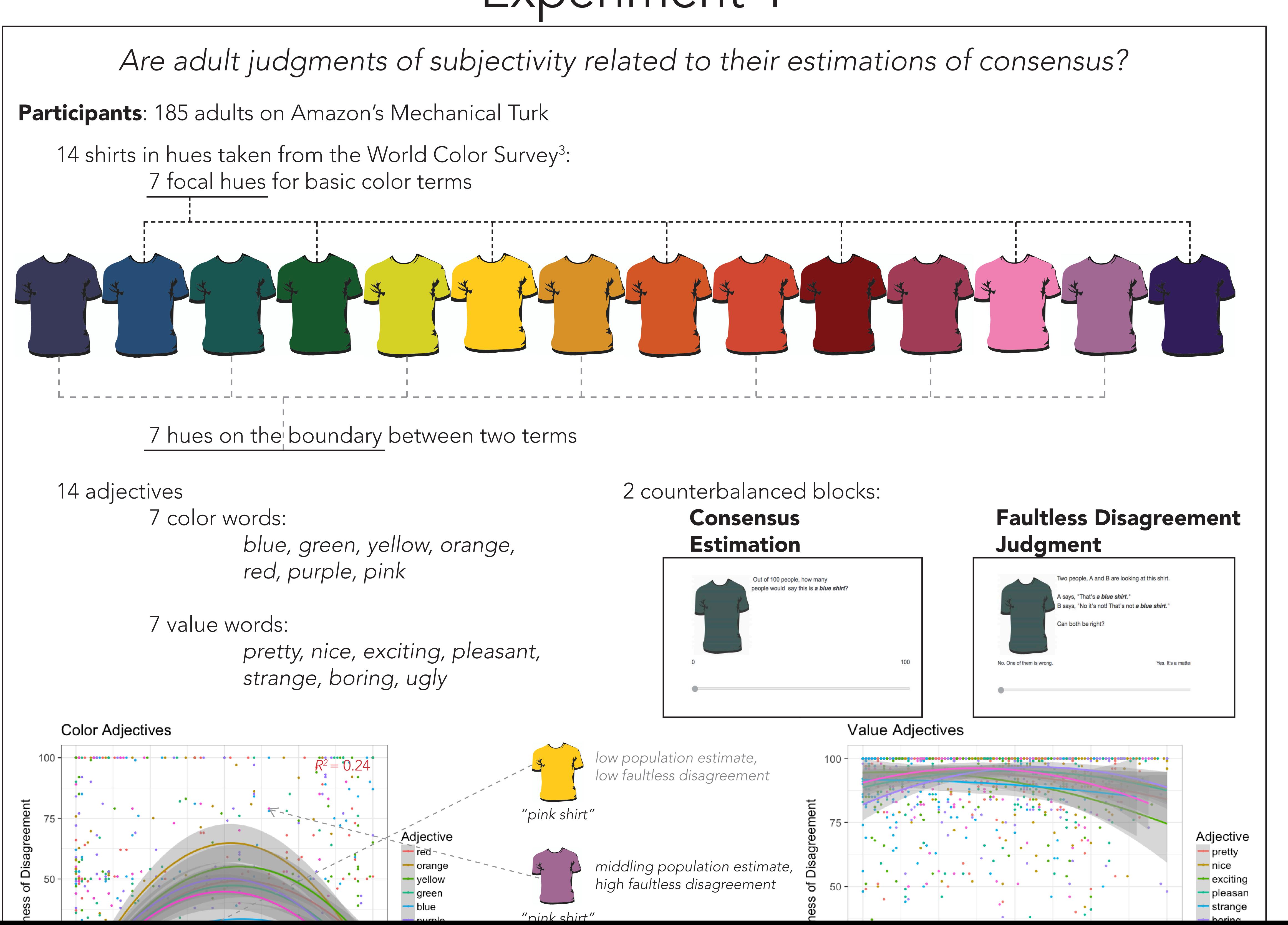
## Faultless disagreement judgments track adults' estimates of population-level consensus over adjective-referent pairs

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#### Introduction

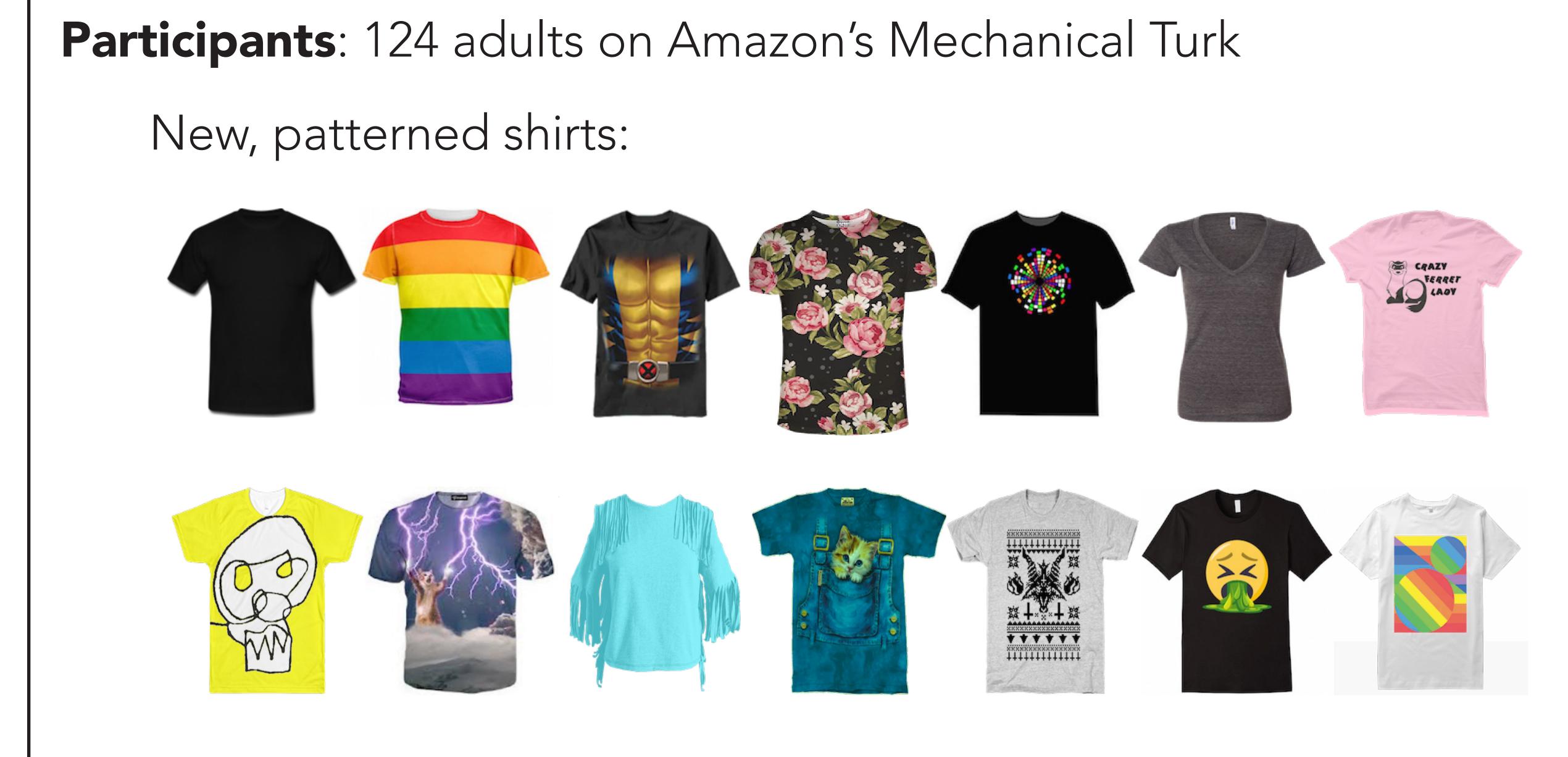
- Crosslinguistic adjective ordering preferences have been explained in terms of adjectives' subjectivity<sup>1</sup>
- Language is a conventional system...
- Adults may model their speech community in evaluating the subjectivity of a word or utterance

### Experiment 1



#### Experiment 2

Are adjectives belonging to different semantic classes fundamentally different?



# Value Adjectives, New Shirts

#### Summary & Conclusions

- Quadratic relation between consensus estimates and faultless disagreement judgments: lower consensus
- Relationship attenuated for value adjectives compared to color adjectives
- More faultless disagreement overall for value adjectives
- Manipulating evidence of consensus shifts judgments of faultless disagreement within an individual for the same
- Speech community consensus informs adults' perception of linguistic subjectivity, but differences among semantic classes persist

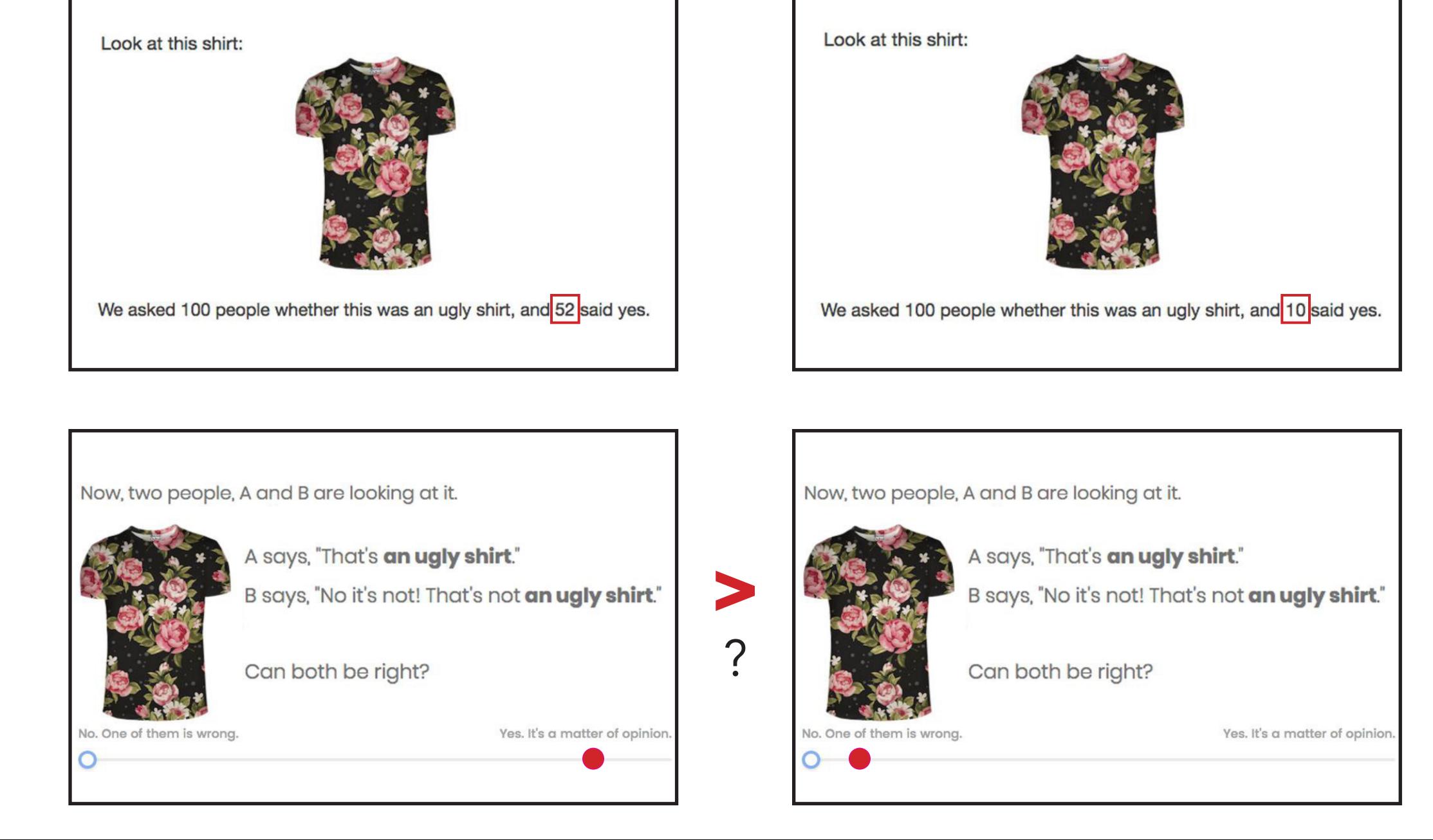
#### Experiment 3

Is the relation between consensus estimation and faultless disagreement causal? (Can we manipulate adults' perceptions of subjectivity by manipulating their beliefs about consensus?)

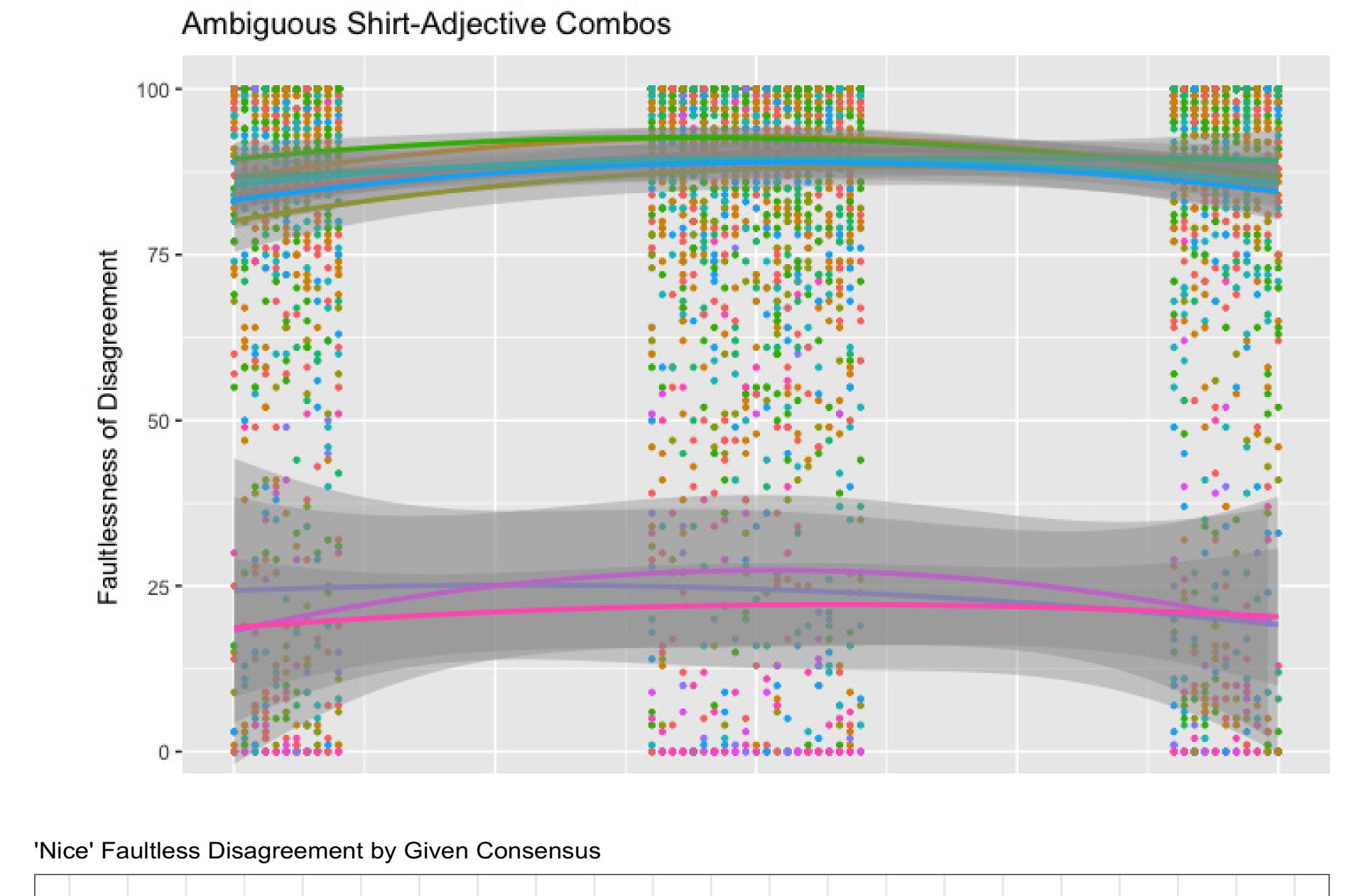
Participants: 150 adults on Amazon's Mechanical Turk

Shirt-adjective combinations from Exps. 1 & 2 receiving 40-60% average consensus estimates (103 total combinations)

Participants given consensus information, for each shirt-adjective pair, both:

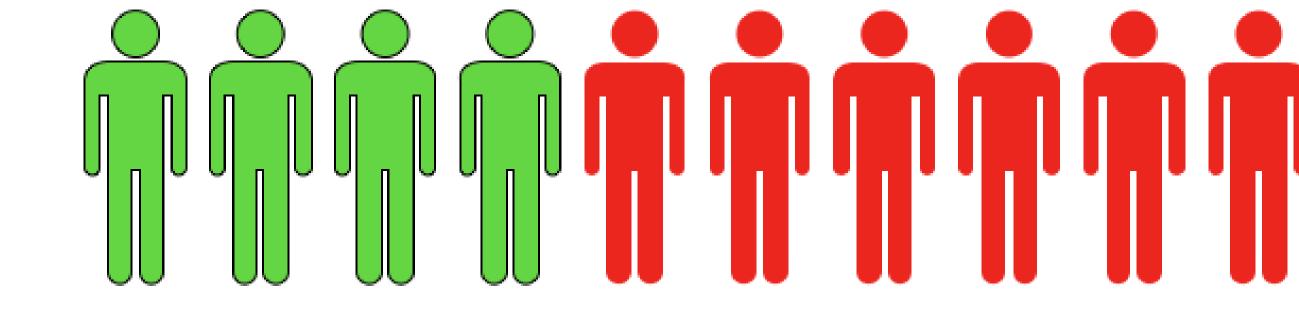


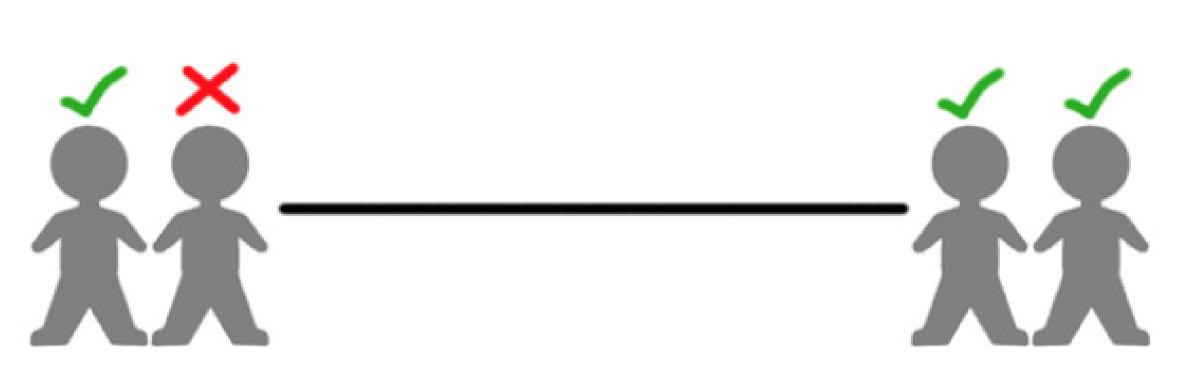
low consensus: 40-60% high consensus: 0-10 or 90-100%



#### Future Directions

- What is the relationship between consensus, subjectivity, and uncertainty? (e.g., How confident are you that this shirt is blue?)
- Children struggle with both judging faultless disagreement<sup>4</sup> and modeling interpretive diversity
- How do they estimate consensus?
- Do their faultless disagreement judgments track with their estimates of population-level consensus?





#### References

- 1. Scontras, G., Degen, J., & Goodman, N. D. (2017). Subjectivity predicts adjective ordering preferences. Open Mind, 1(1), 53-66.
- 2. Barker, C. (2013). Negotiating taste. Inquiry, 56 (2-3), 240-257.
- 3. Cook, R., Kay, P., & Regier, T. World Color Survey Data Archives, http://www.icsi.berkeley.edu/wcs/data.html
- 4. Foushee, R., & Srinivasan, M. (2017). Could both be right? Children's and adults' sensitivity to subjectivity in language. In Proceedings of the 39th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (pp. 379-384).