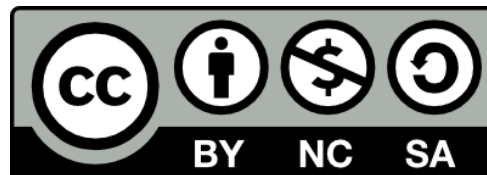




STUDENT LEARNING AND ANALYTICS AT MICHIGAN

September 27, 2013:
**Teaching Evaluations: What You Think They Tell Us, What
They Do Tell Us, and What They Don't Tell Us**

Mika LaVaque-Manty and David Cottrell, UM



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TEACHING EVALUATIONS

What you think they tell us, what they do tell us, and what they don't tell us. Sort of.



Mika LaVaque-Manty & David Cottrell, Political Science

The teaching eval project

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Context:

Widespread concern
about the existing
system

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- ▶ Response rates!

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- ▶ Response rates!
- ▶ Single metric (E&E)

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- ▶ Data reporting

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- ▶ Single metric (E&E)
- ▶ Data reporting
- ▶ Not shared with students

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- ▶ Data reporting
- ▶ Not shared with students
- ▶ The &^*#! question bank

The teaching eval project

Context:

Widespread concern about the existing system

Response:

Part of LATF charge

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- ▶ Single metric (E&E)
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Response:

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- ▶ Evaluate current tools

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 - ...and their use

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- ▶ Evaluate current tools
 - E&Es
 - ...and their use
- ▶ Consider alternatives

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- ▶ Evaluate current tools
 - E&Es
 - ...and their use
- ▶ Consider alternatives
- ▶ Develop better tools

The teaching eval project

Thanks to Kortney Briske, Anne Curzan, Phyllis Ford, William Gehring, James Holloway, Matt Kaplan, Mary Wright.

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What do we have?

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- ▶ LSA & COE evals W05-W13

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- ▶ **LSA & COE evals W05-W13**
 - ❖ **107,000 courses, 13,801 instructors (including LAB and DIS)**

What do we have?

- ▶ LSA & COE evals W05-W13
 - ❖ 107,000 courses, 13,801 instructors (including LAB and DIS)
- ▶ UM ratings on RateMyProfessors.com

What do we have?

- ▶ **LSA & COE evals W05-W13**
 - ❖ 107,000 courses, 13,801 instructors (including LAB and DIS)
- ▶ **UM ratings on RateMyProfessors.com**
 - ❖ 30,000 courses, 3,100 instructors

Some descriptive stats

“Focusing on Q1-Q4 misses out on important stuff.”

Q1

“Overall, this was an excellent course.”

Q2

“Overall, the instructor was an excellent teacher.”

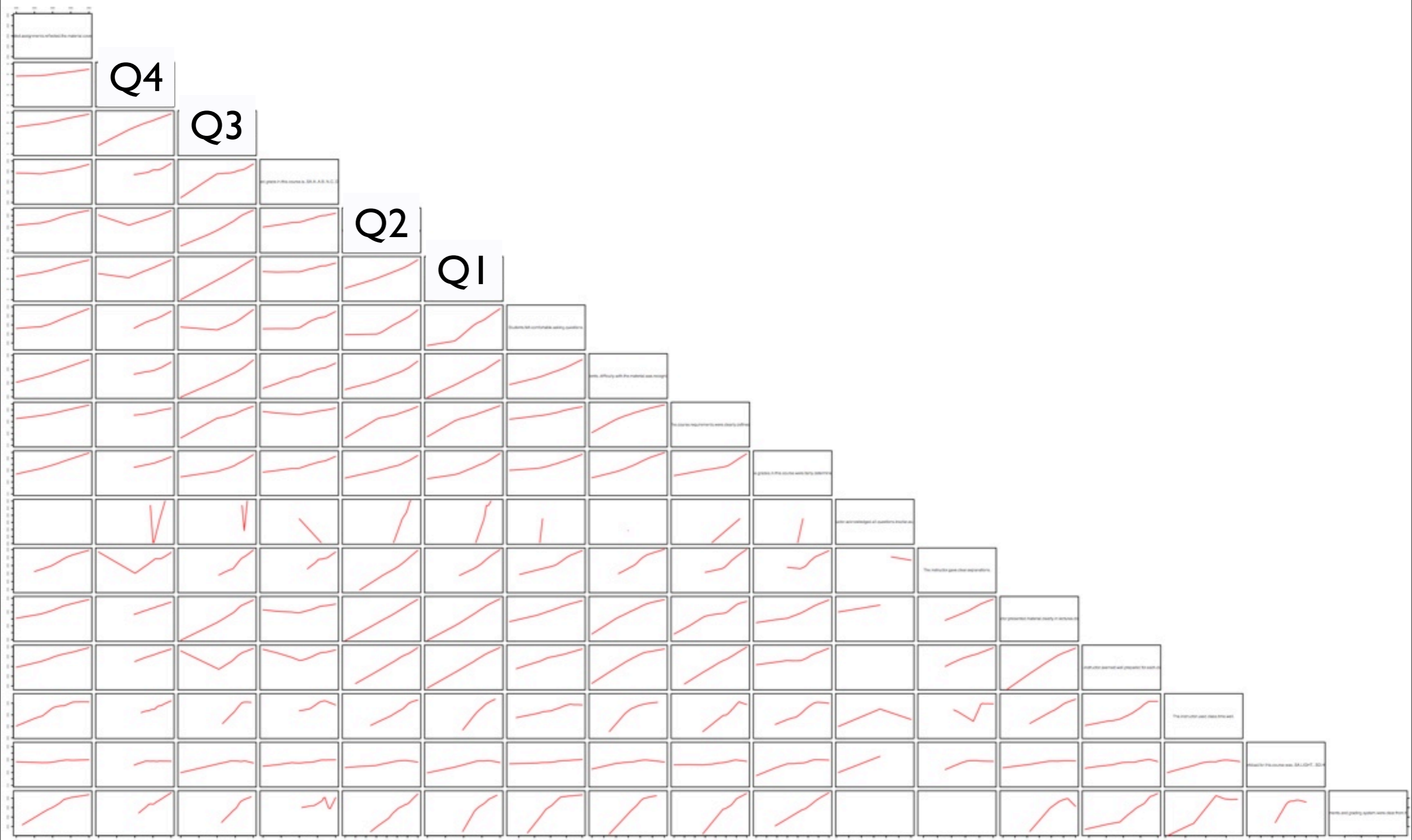
Q3

“I learned a great deal from this course.”

Q4

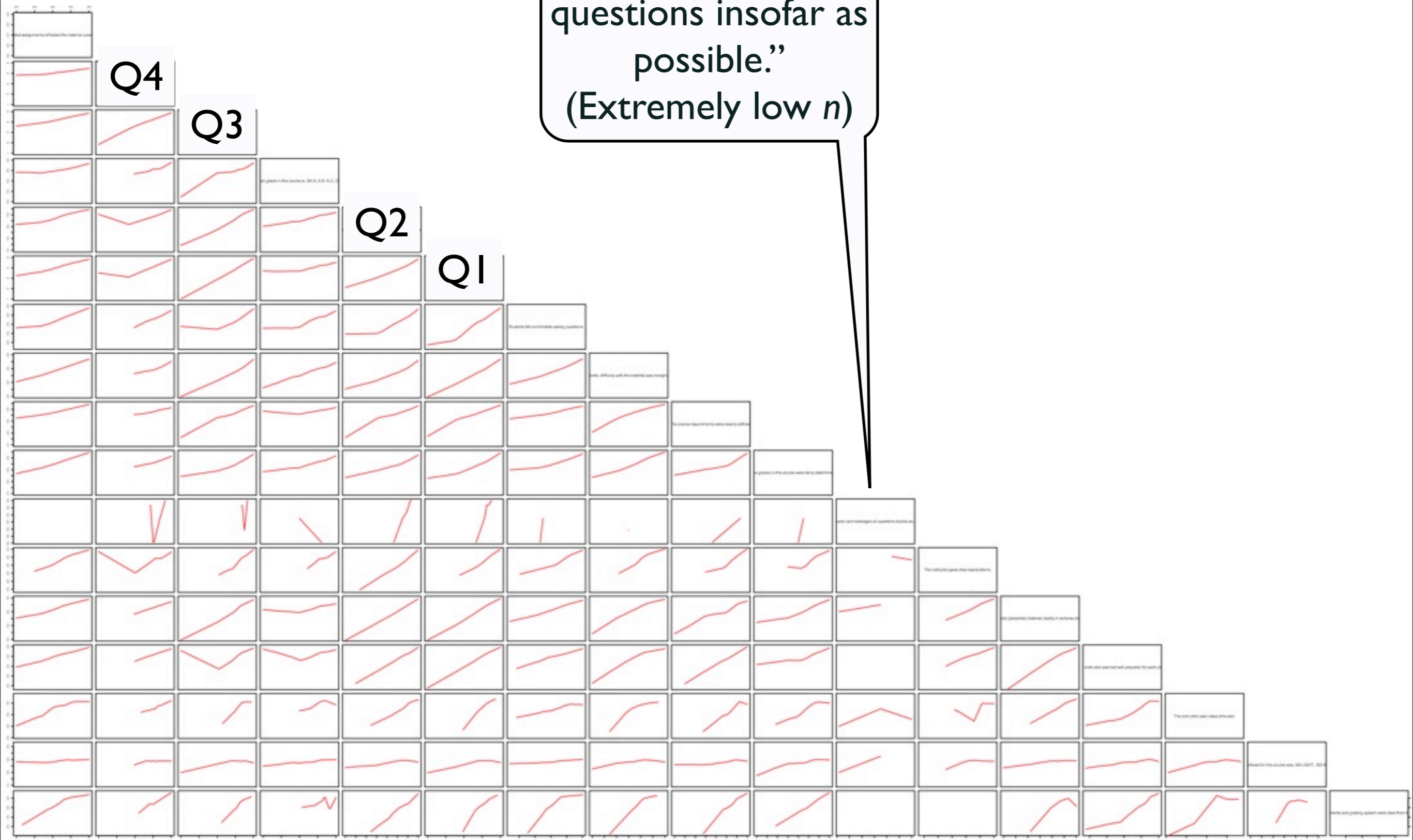
“I had a strong desire to take this course.”

(Only LSA, Fall 2011)



(Only LSA, Fall 2011)

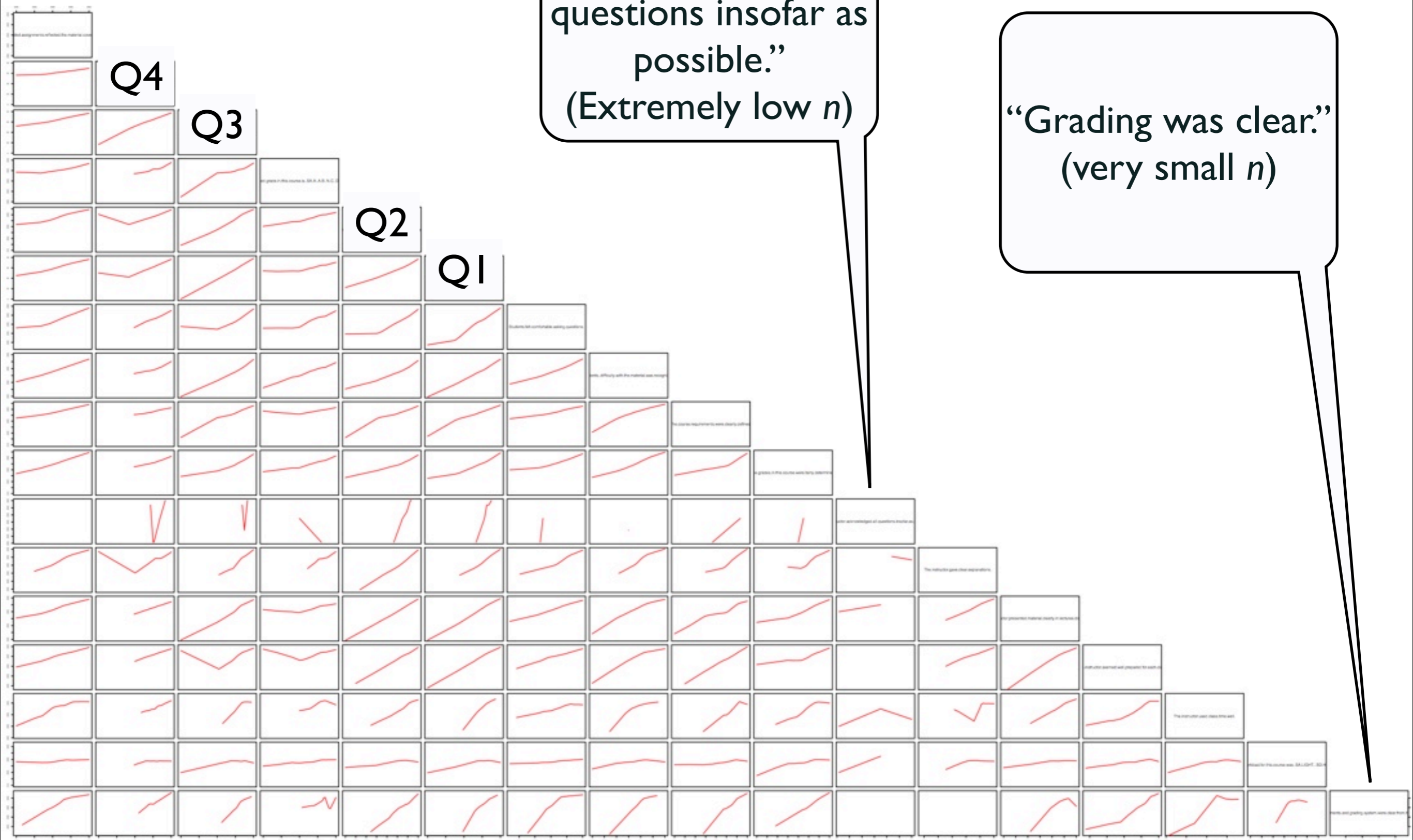
“Instructor
acknowledged
questions insofar as
possible.”
(Extremely low n)



(Only LSA, Fall 2011)

“Instructor
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“Grading was clear.”
(very small n)

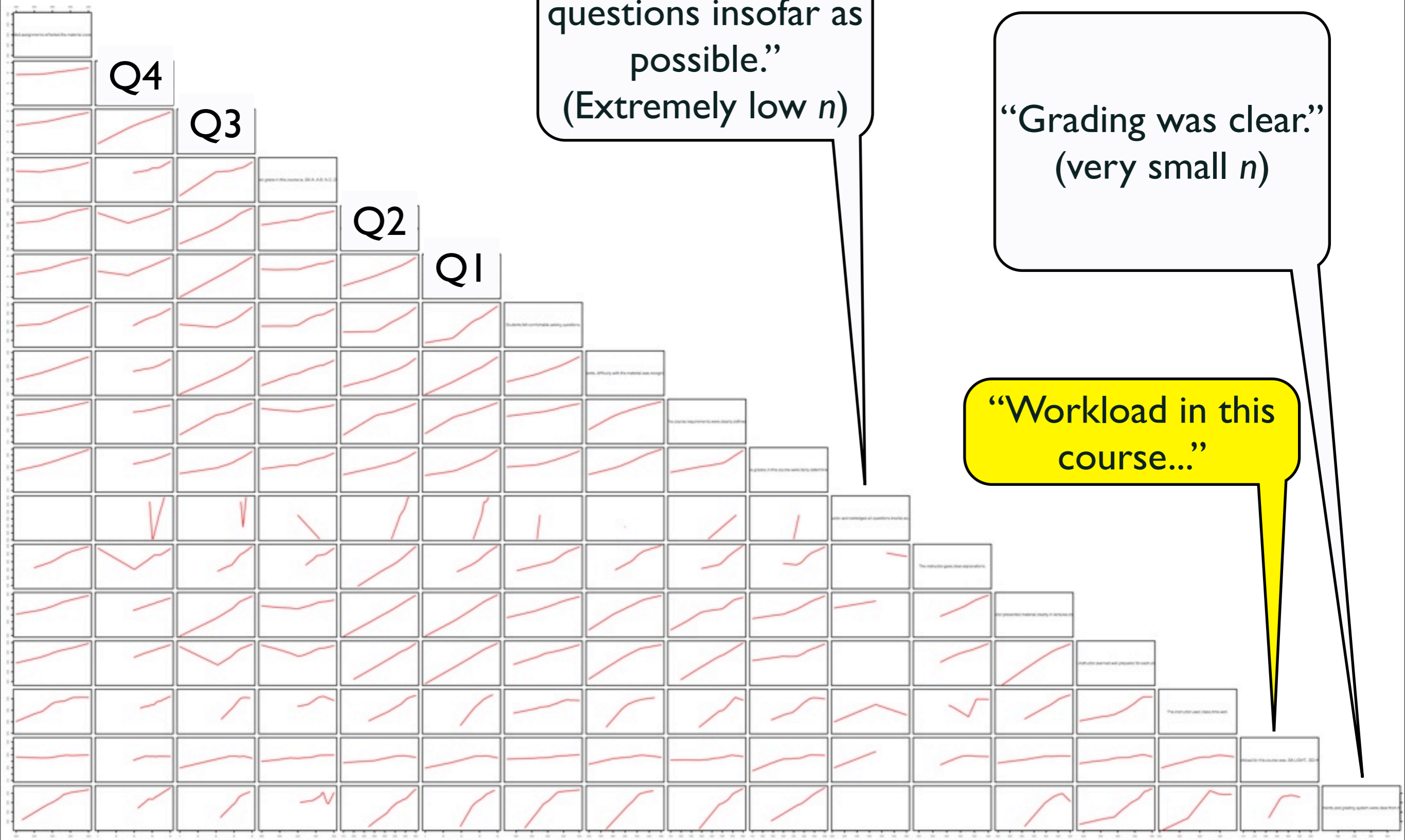


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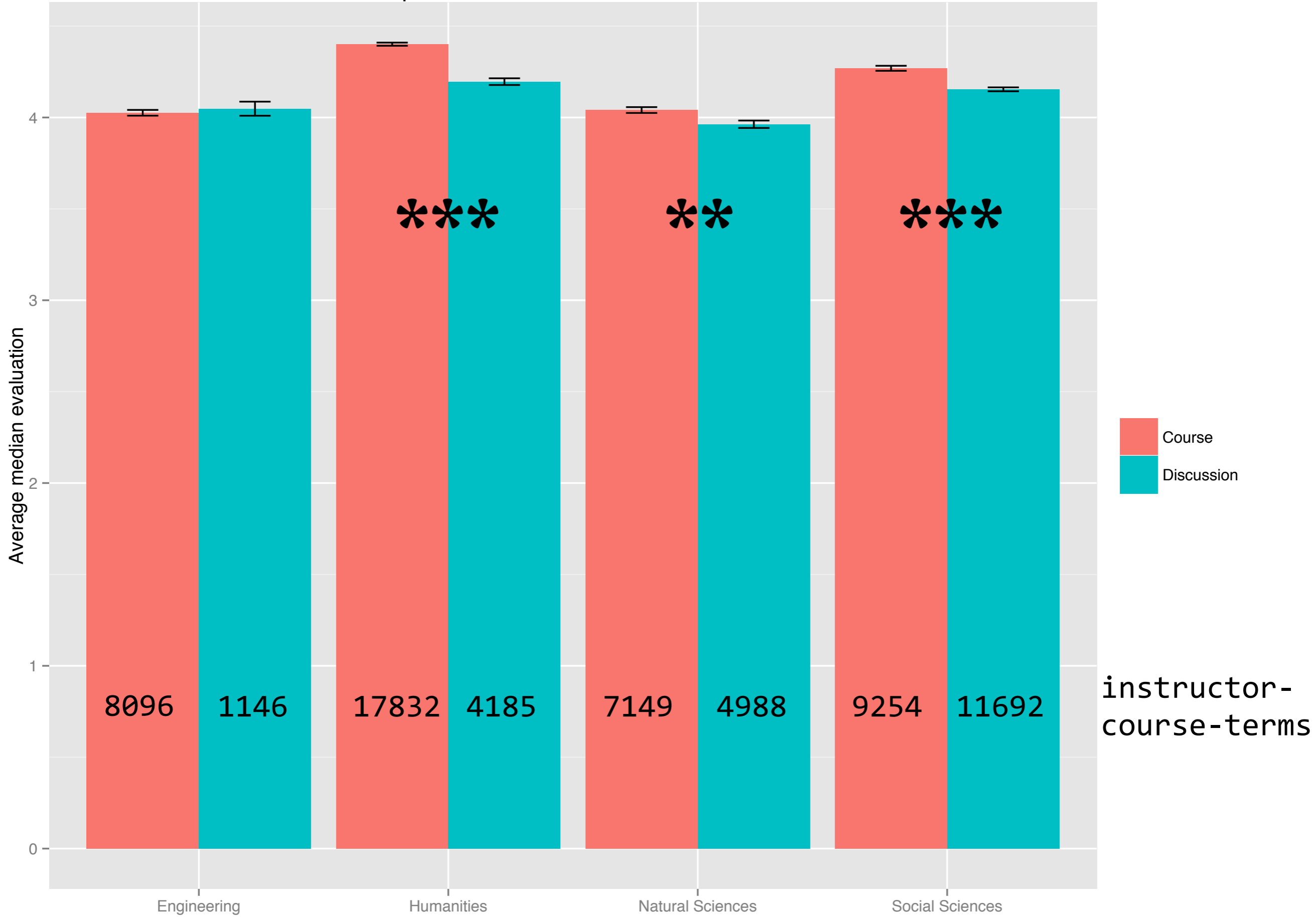
“Grading was clear.”
(very small n)

“Workload in this
course...”



Profs vs. GSIs

Q2 comparison between courses and discussion



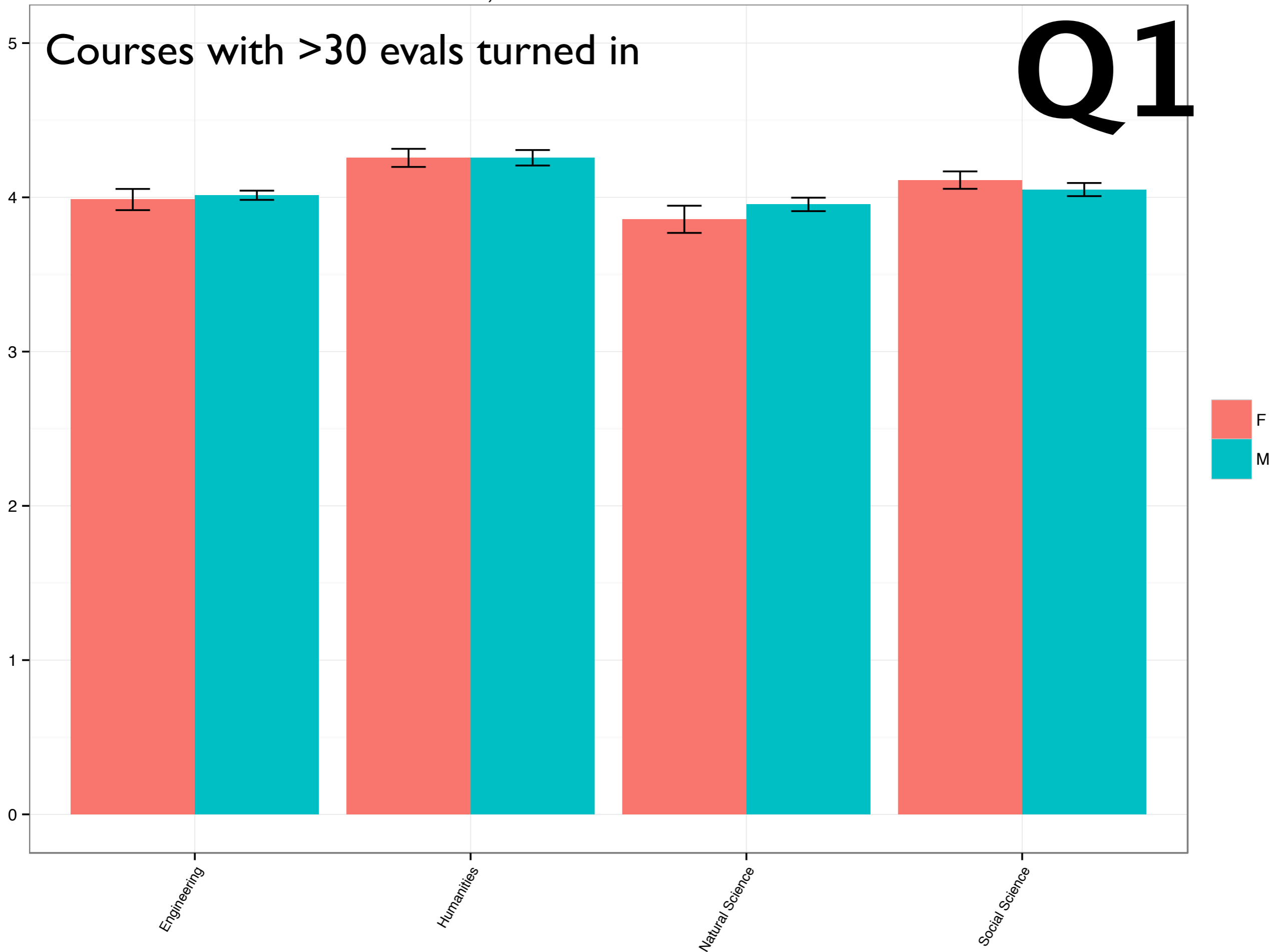
instructor-
course-terms

Gender

Overall, this was an excellent course

Courses with >30 evals turned in

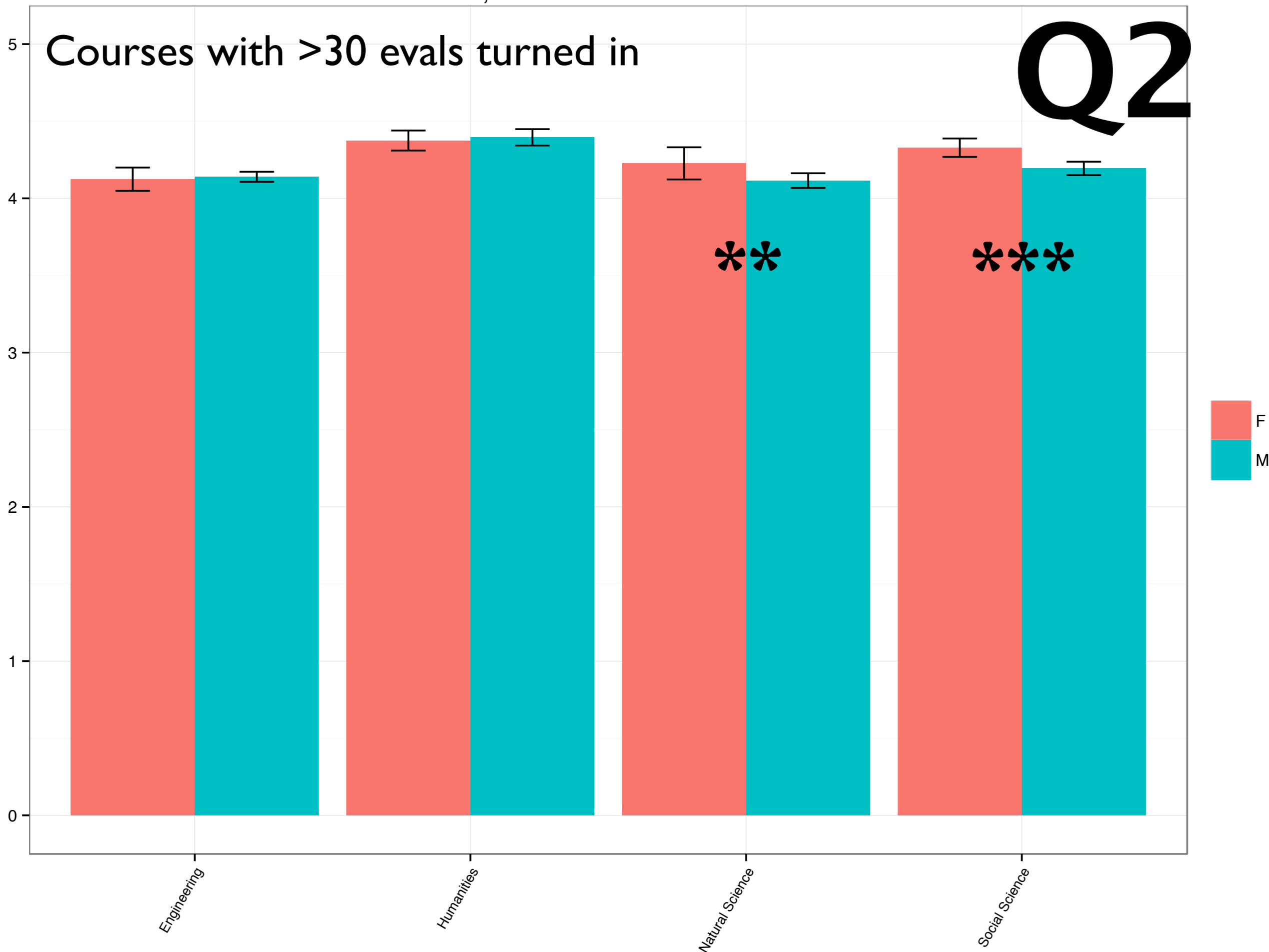
Q1



Overall, this was an excellent teacher

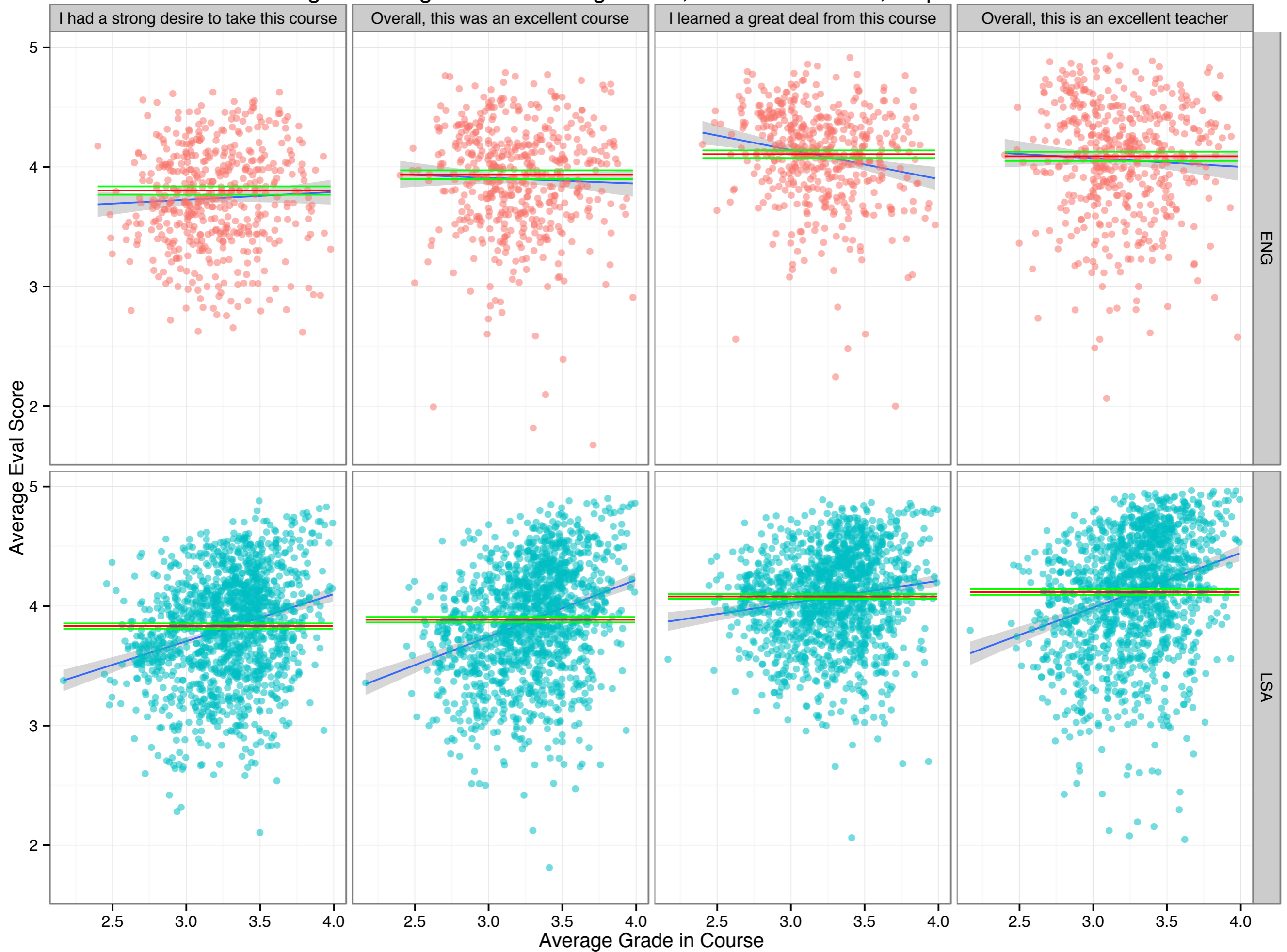
Courses with >30 evals turned in

Q2



“You can buy good evals by giving out good grades.”

Average course grade and average evals, FA2008-WN2012, responses > 30

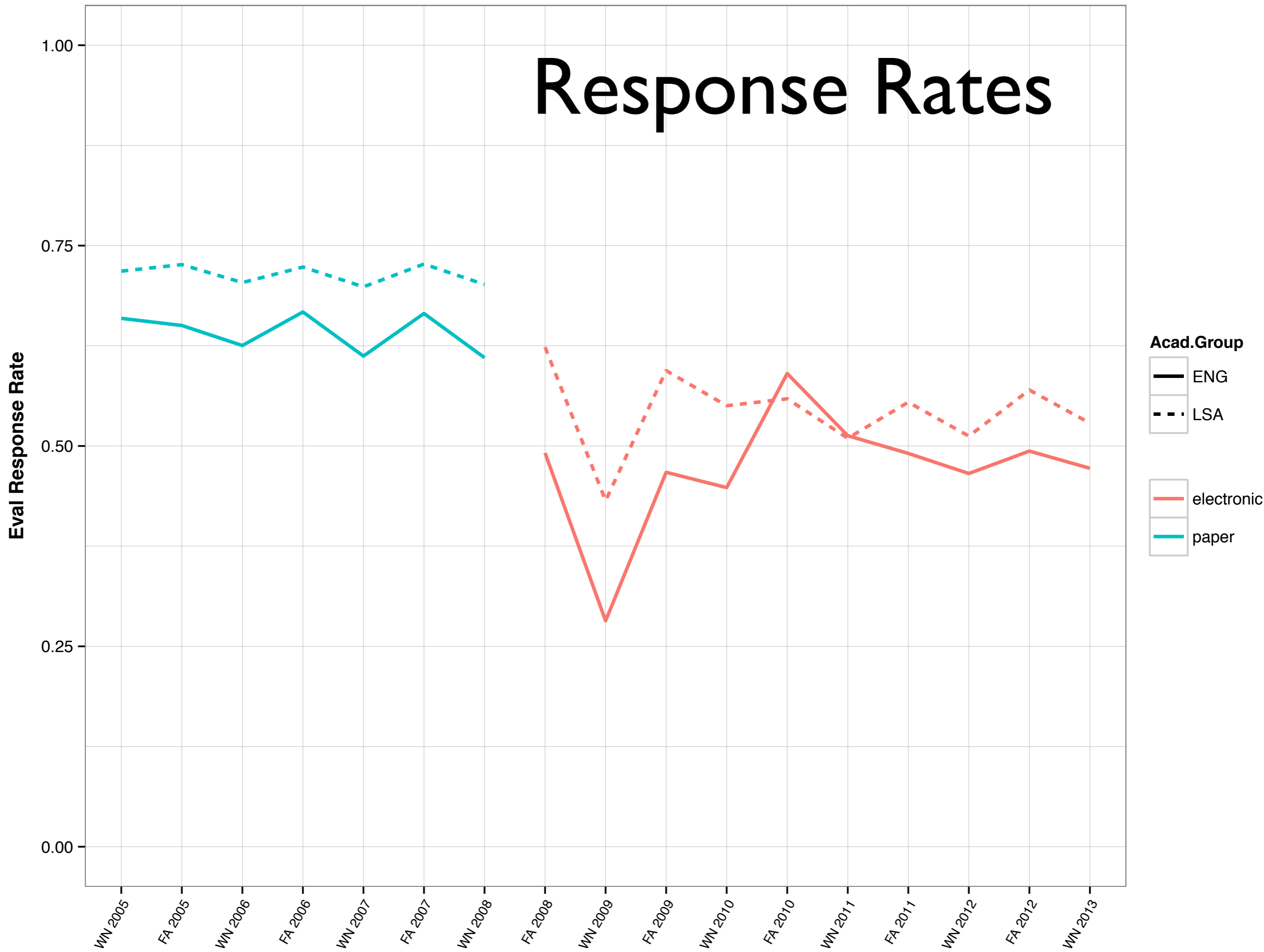


ENG

LSA

“Going electronic was a disaster.”

Response Rates



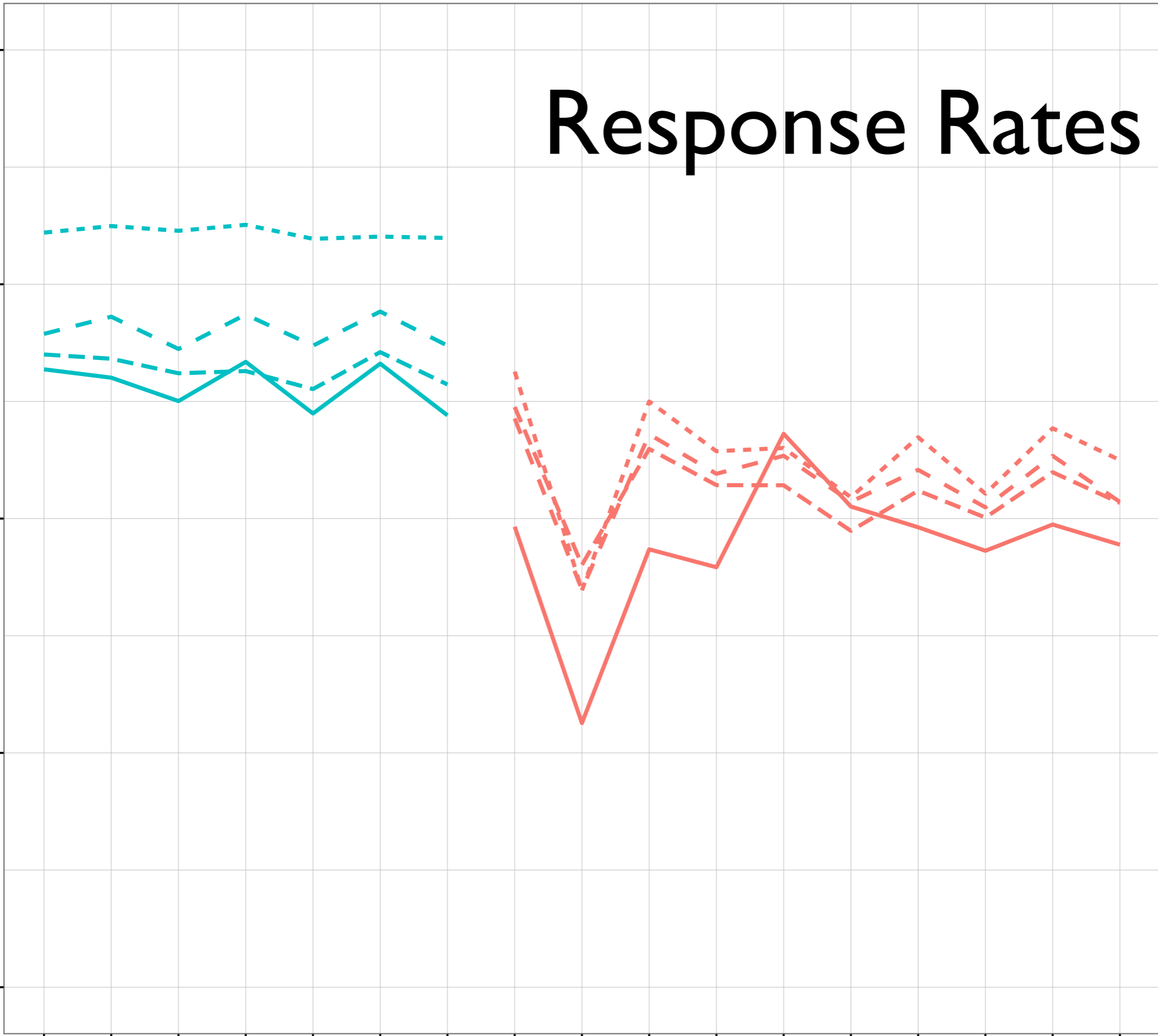
Response Rates

Eval Response Rate

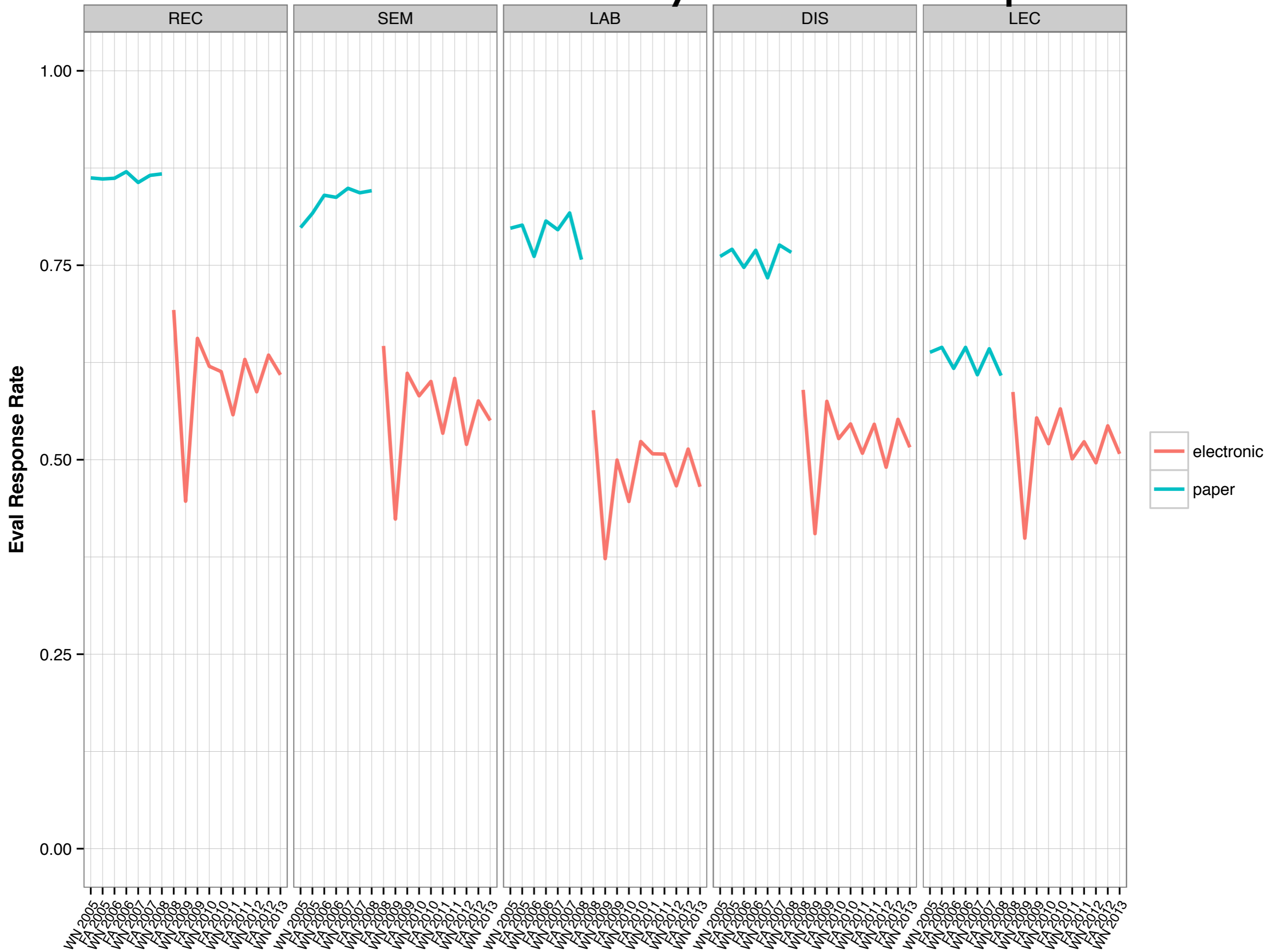
1.00
0.75
0.50
0.25
0.00

WN 2005 FA 2005 WN 2006 FA 2006 WN 2007 FA 2007 WN 2008
FA 2008 WN 2009 FA 2009 WN 2010 FA 2010 WN 2011 FA 2011 WN 2012 FA 2012 WN 2013

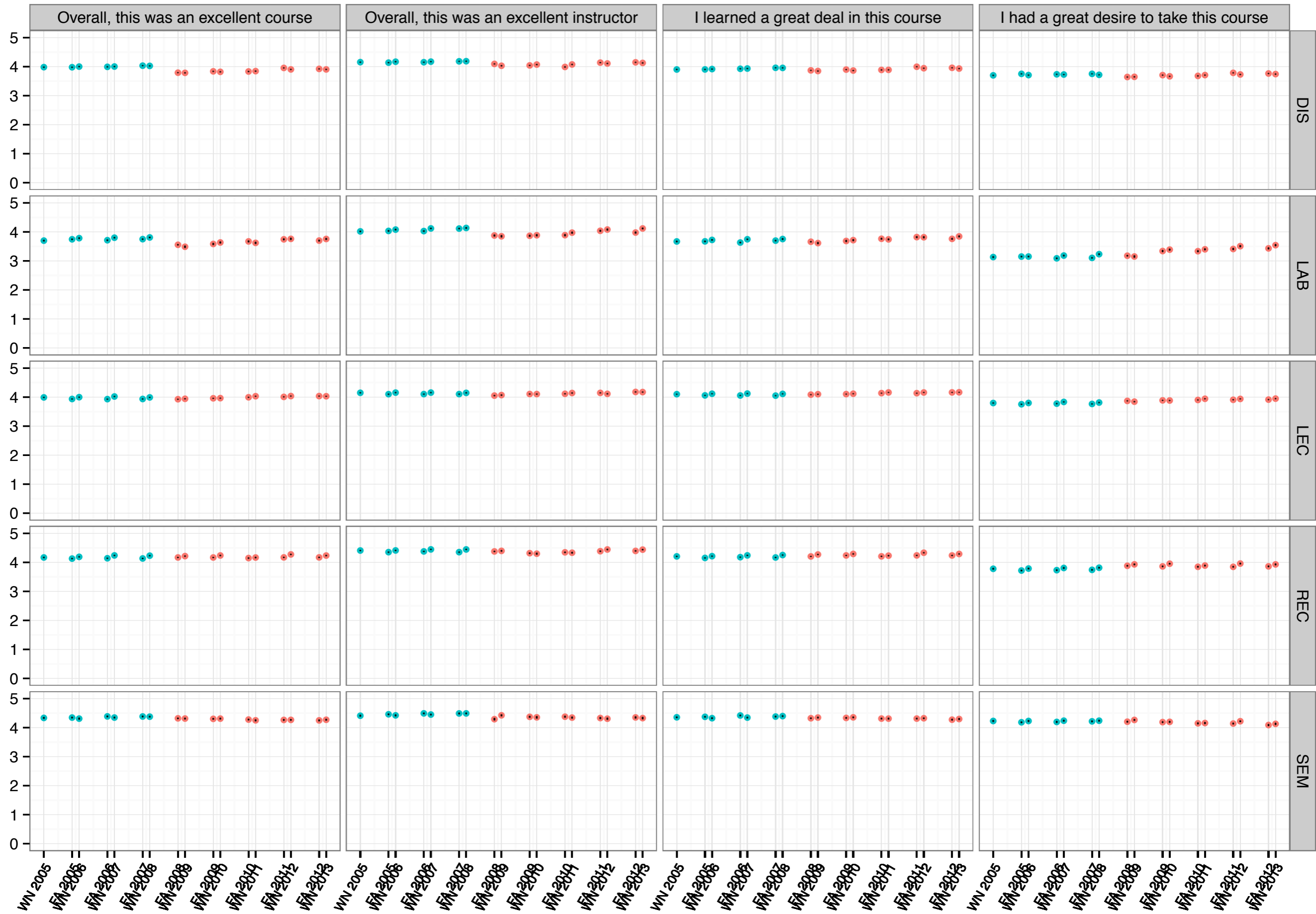
- Division**
- Engineering
 - Humanities
 - Natural Sciences
 - Social Sciences
- electronic
paper

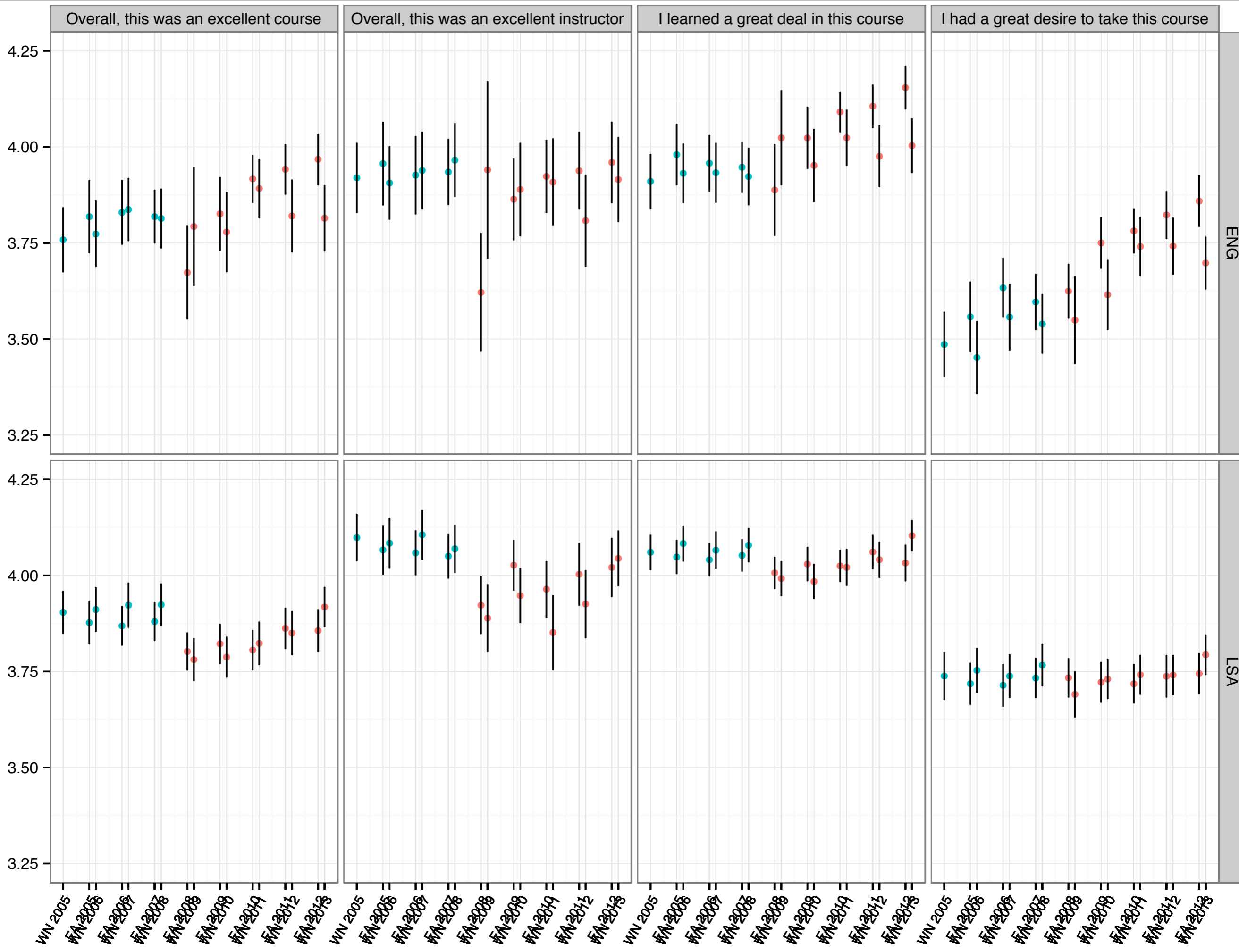


...by Course Component



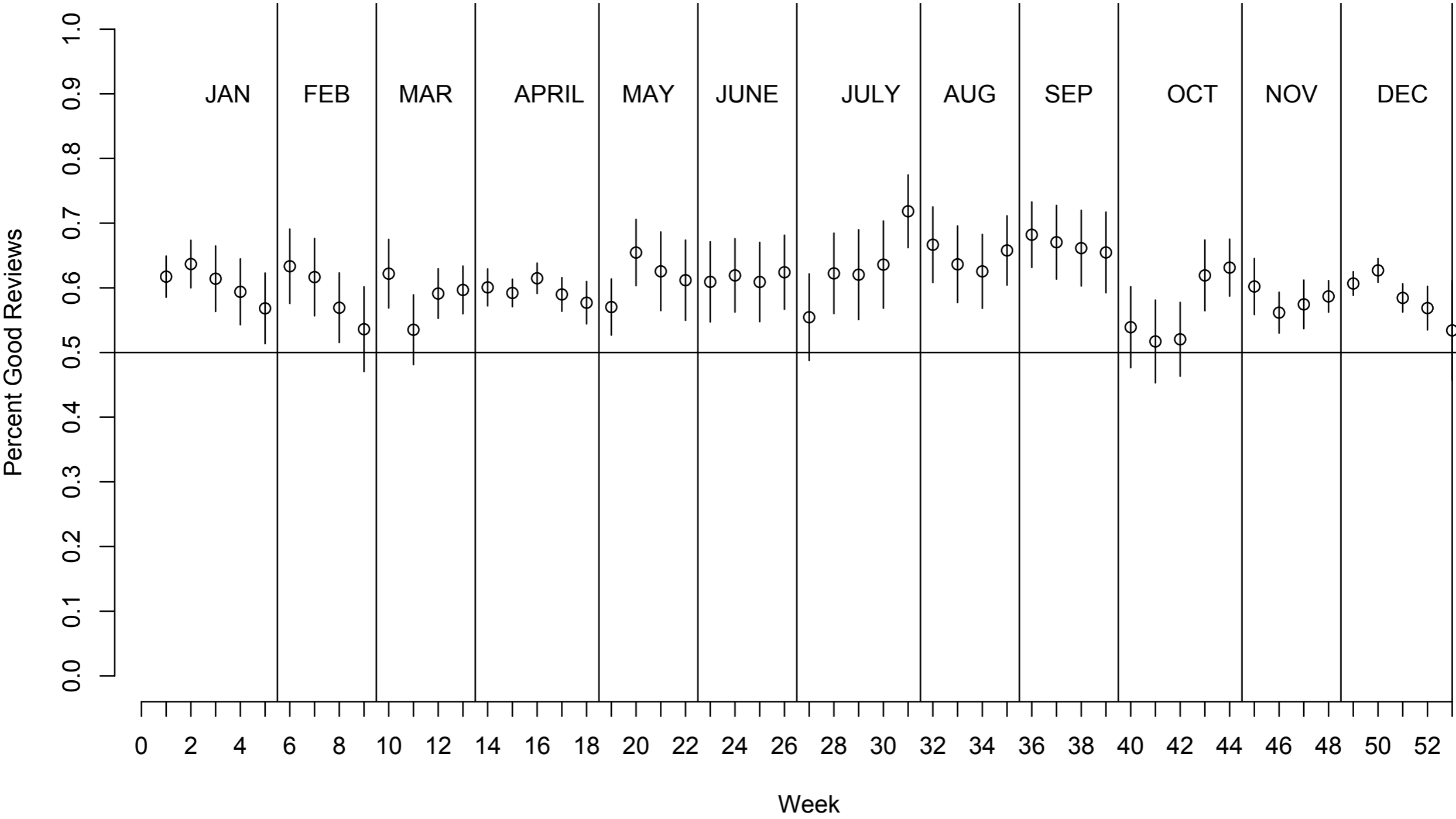
What happened to ratings, though?





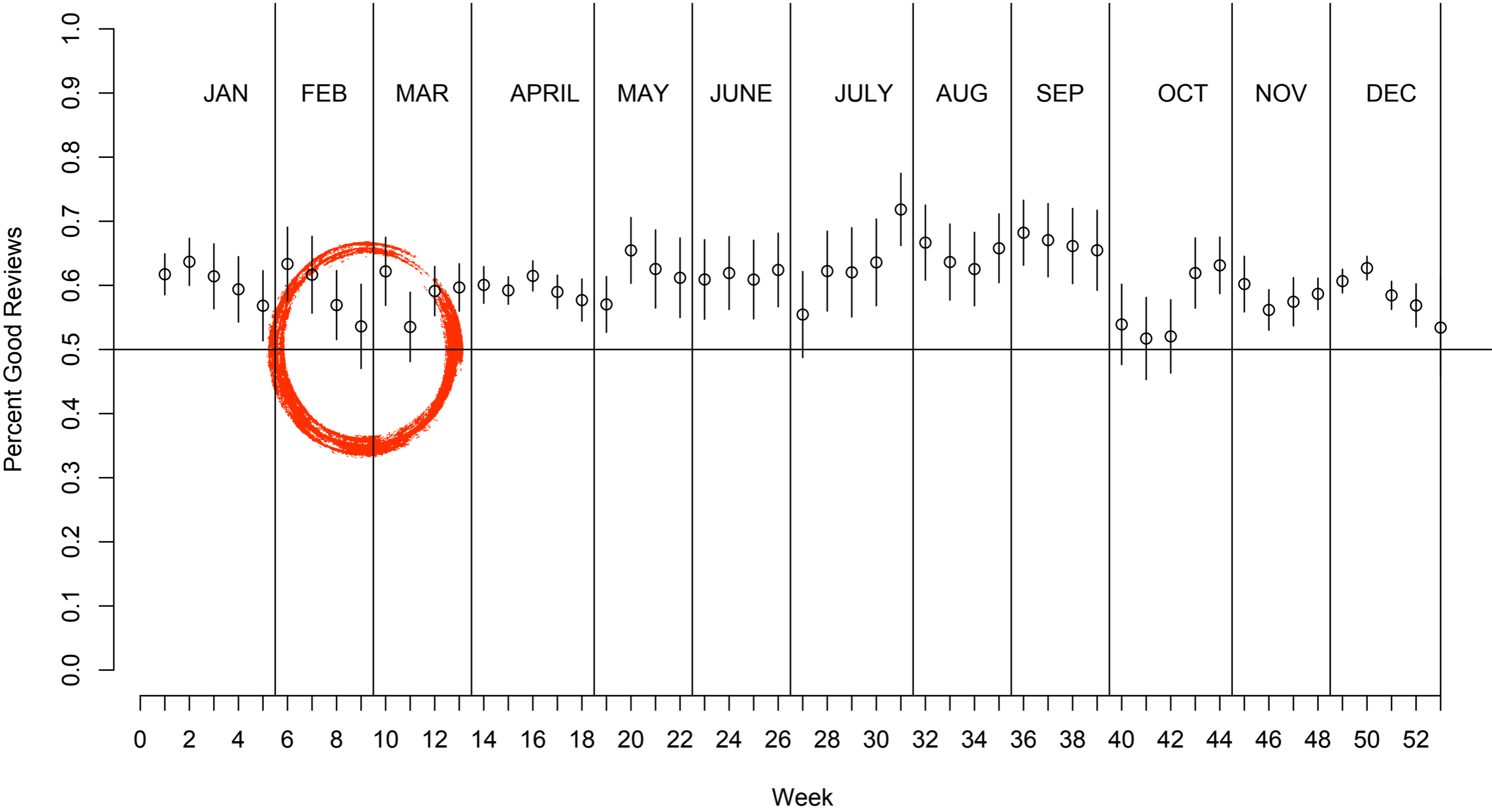
RateMyProfessors.com (RMP)

The week-to-week probability of receiving a good review
(with 95% confidence intervals)



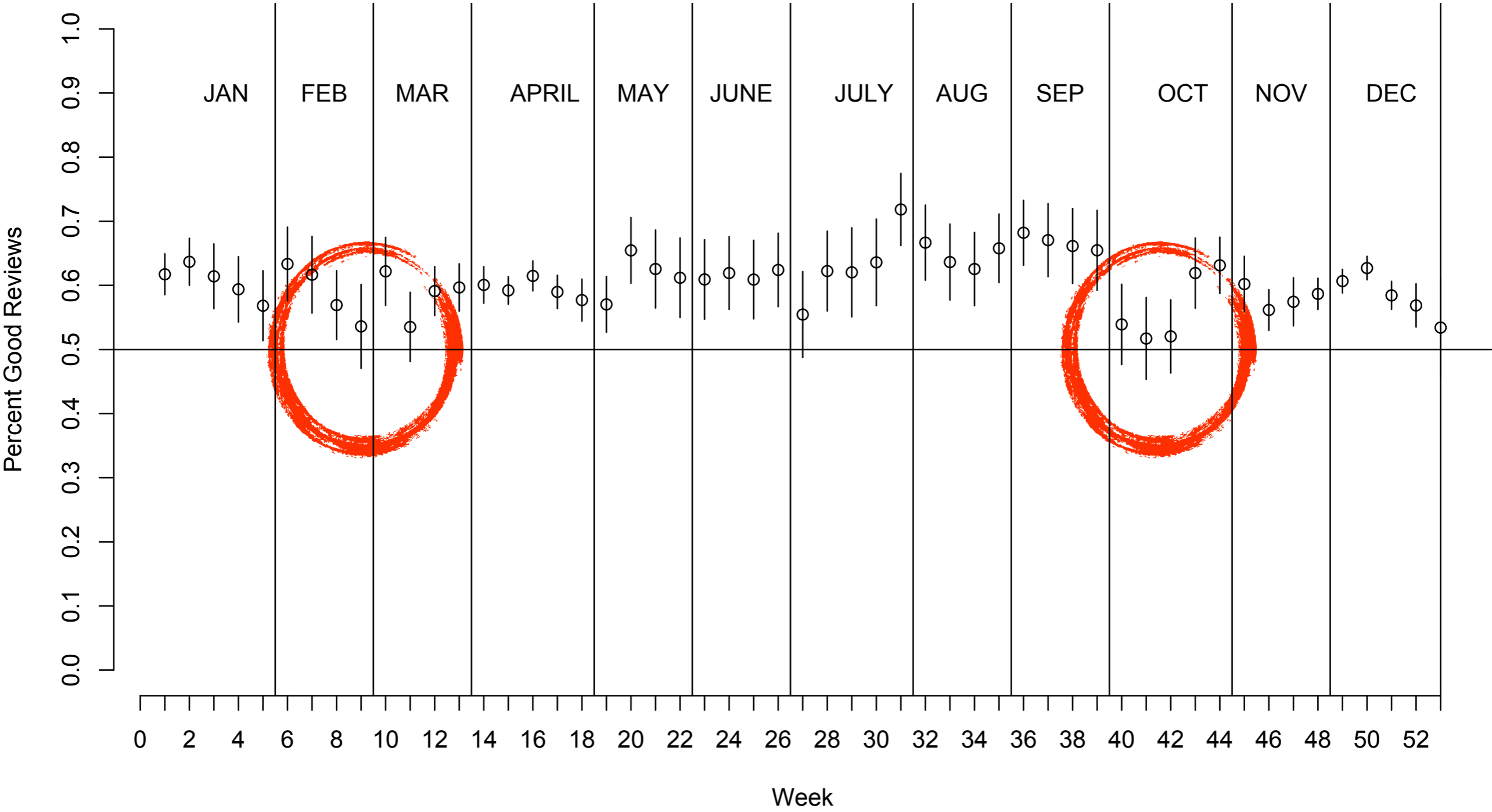
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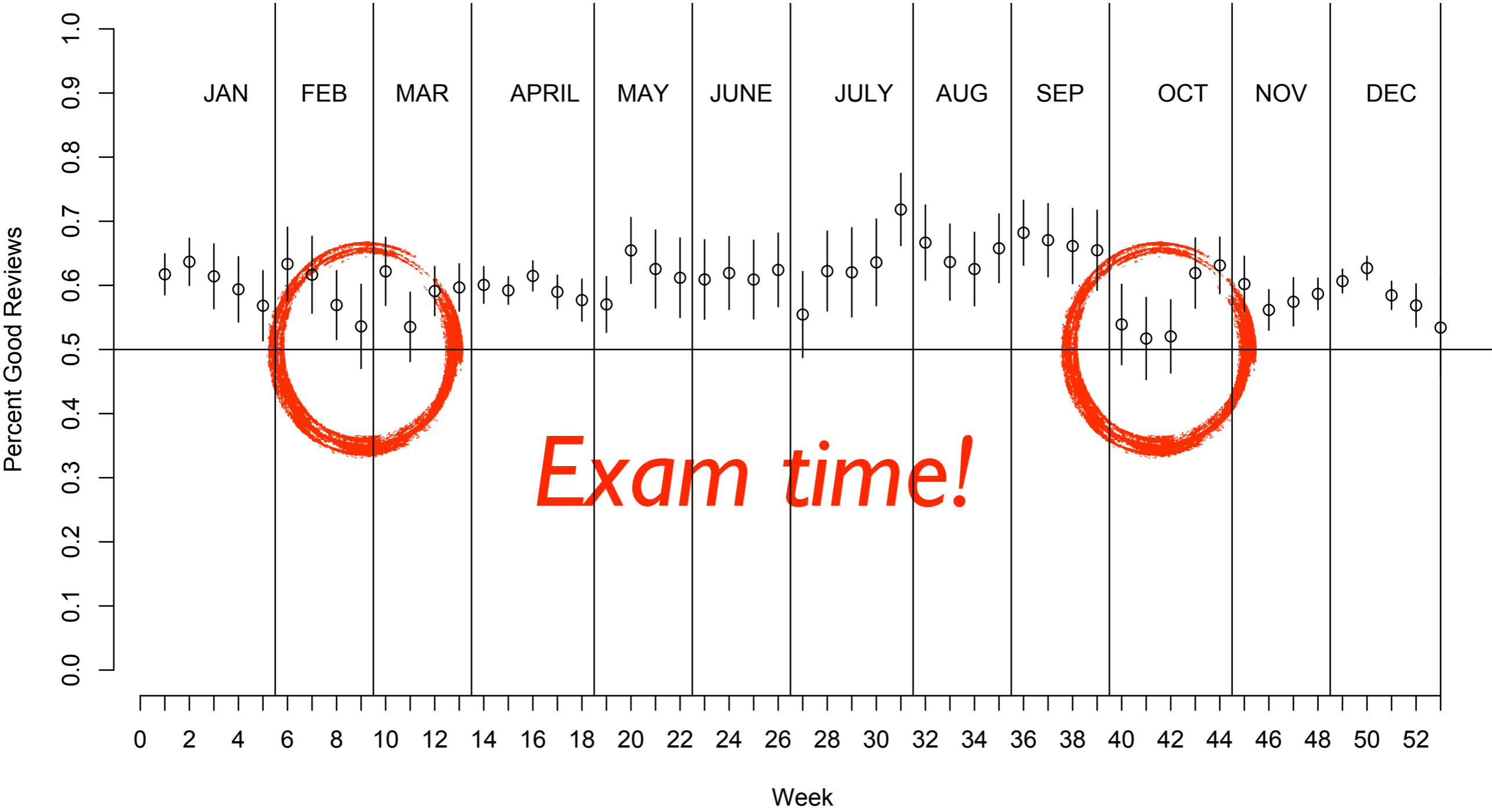
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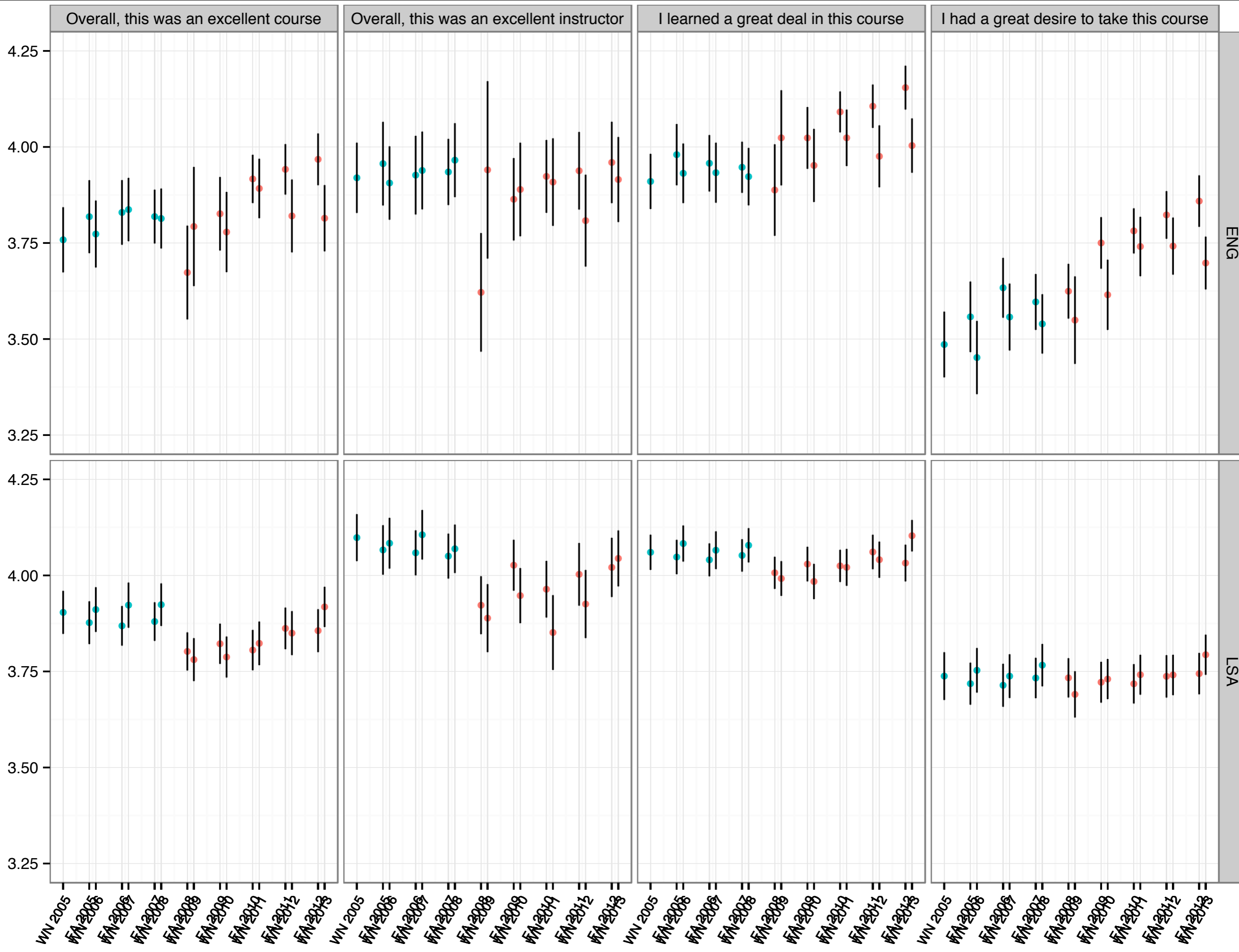


RateMyProfessors.com (RMP)

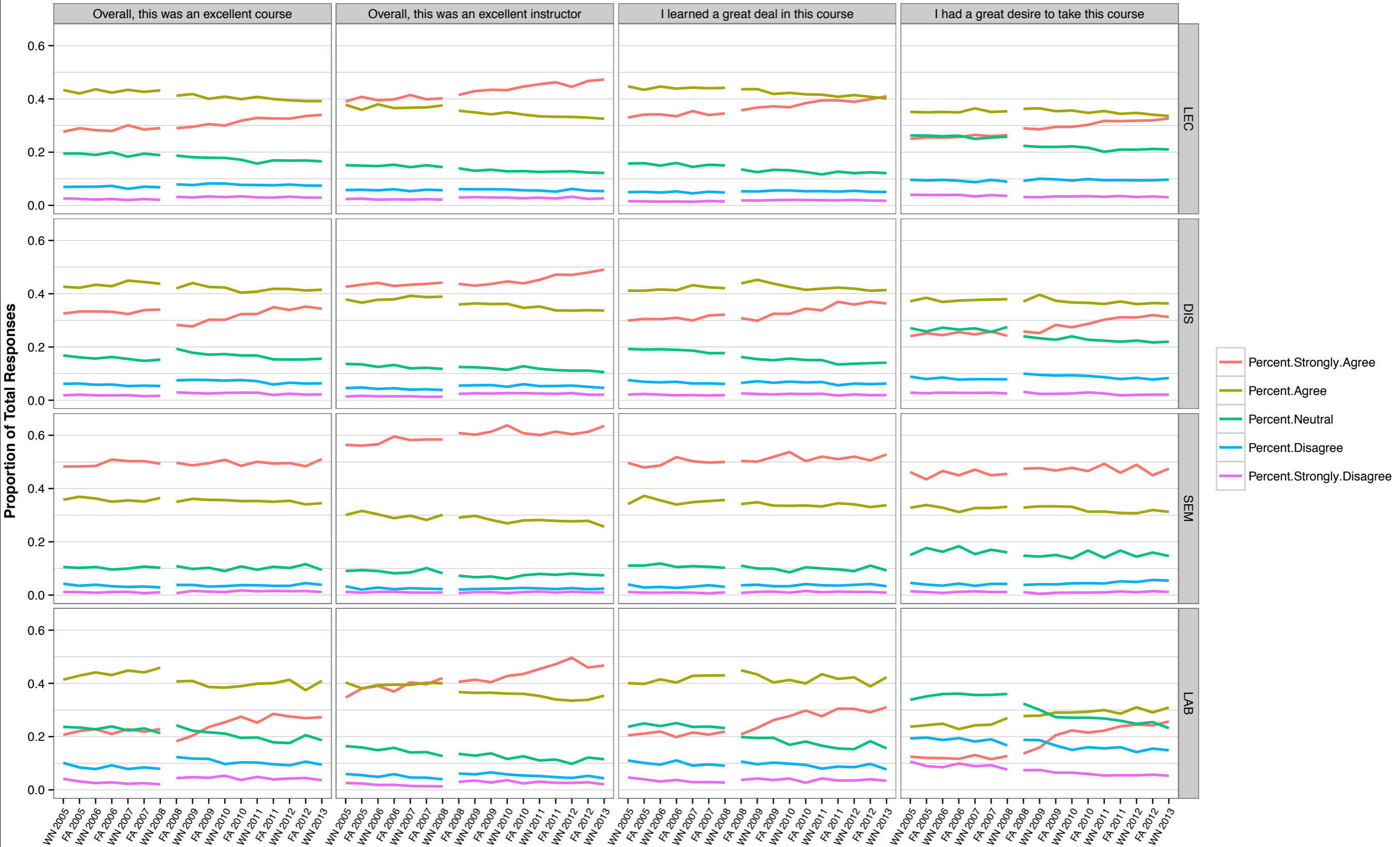
The week-to-week probability of receiving a good review
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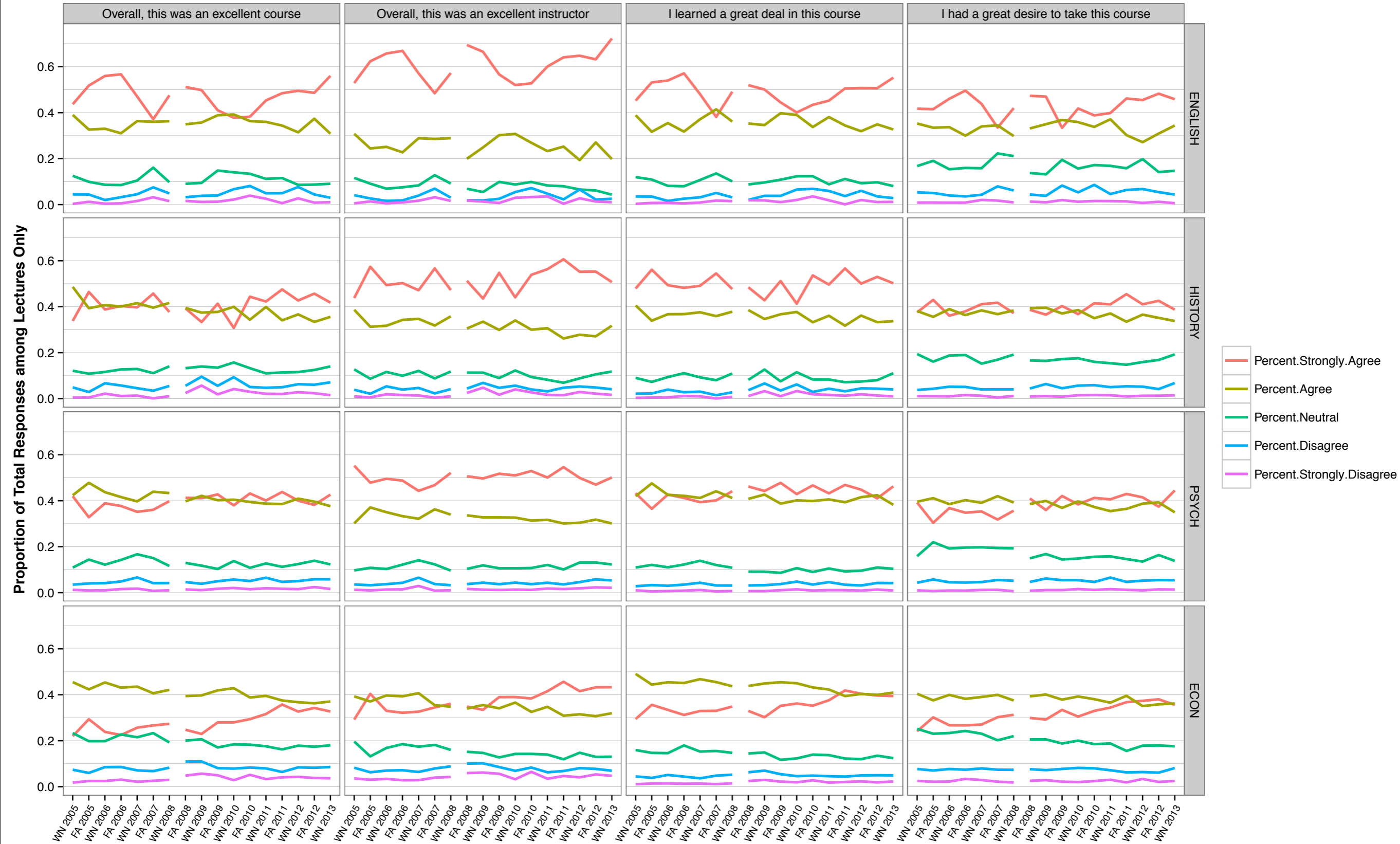
Exam time!



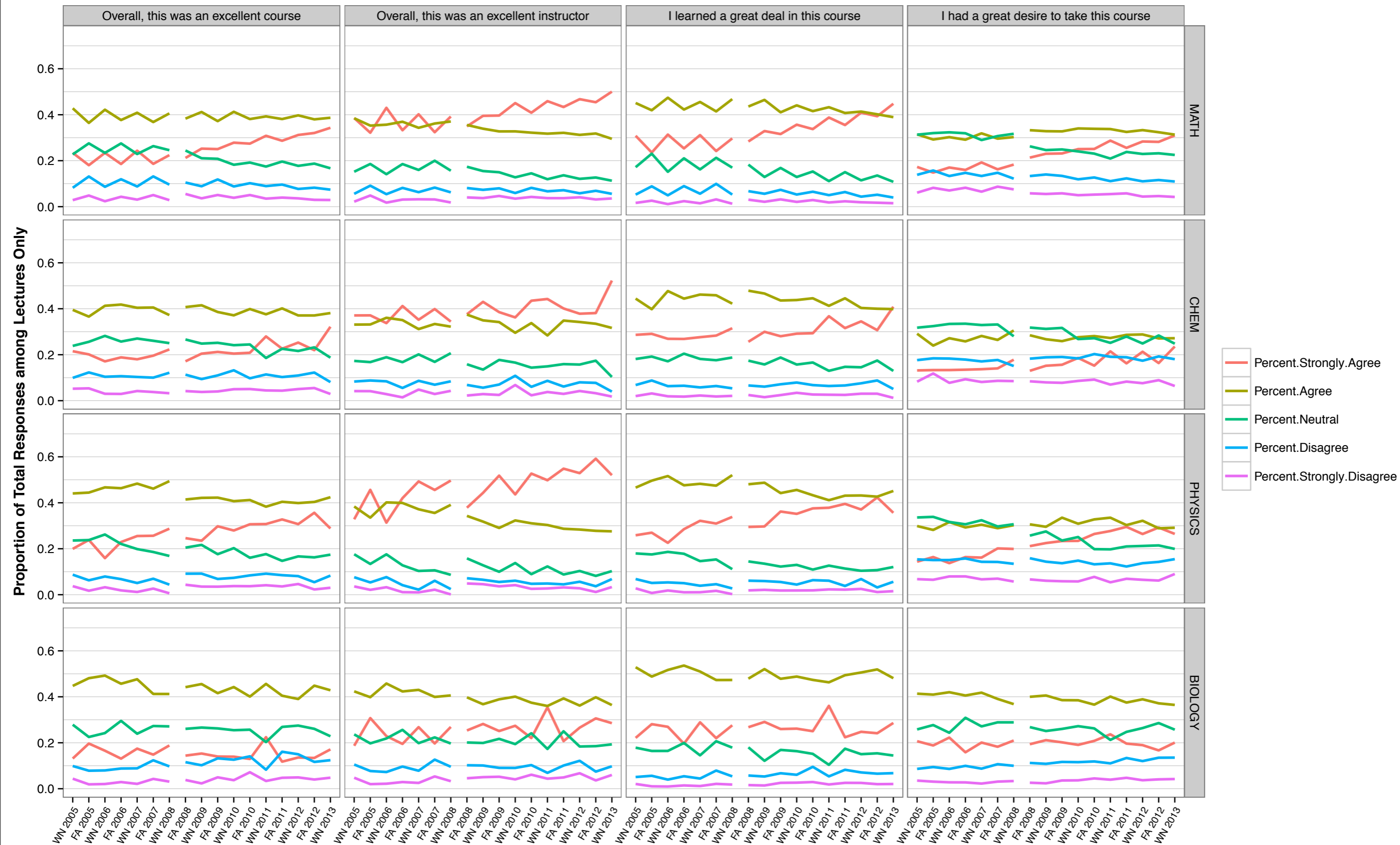
Distribution of responses



Distribution of responses: English, History, Psych, Econ



Distribution of responses: Math, Chem, Physics, Bio

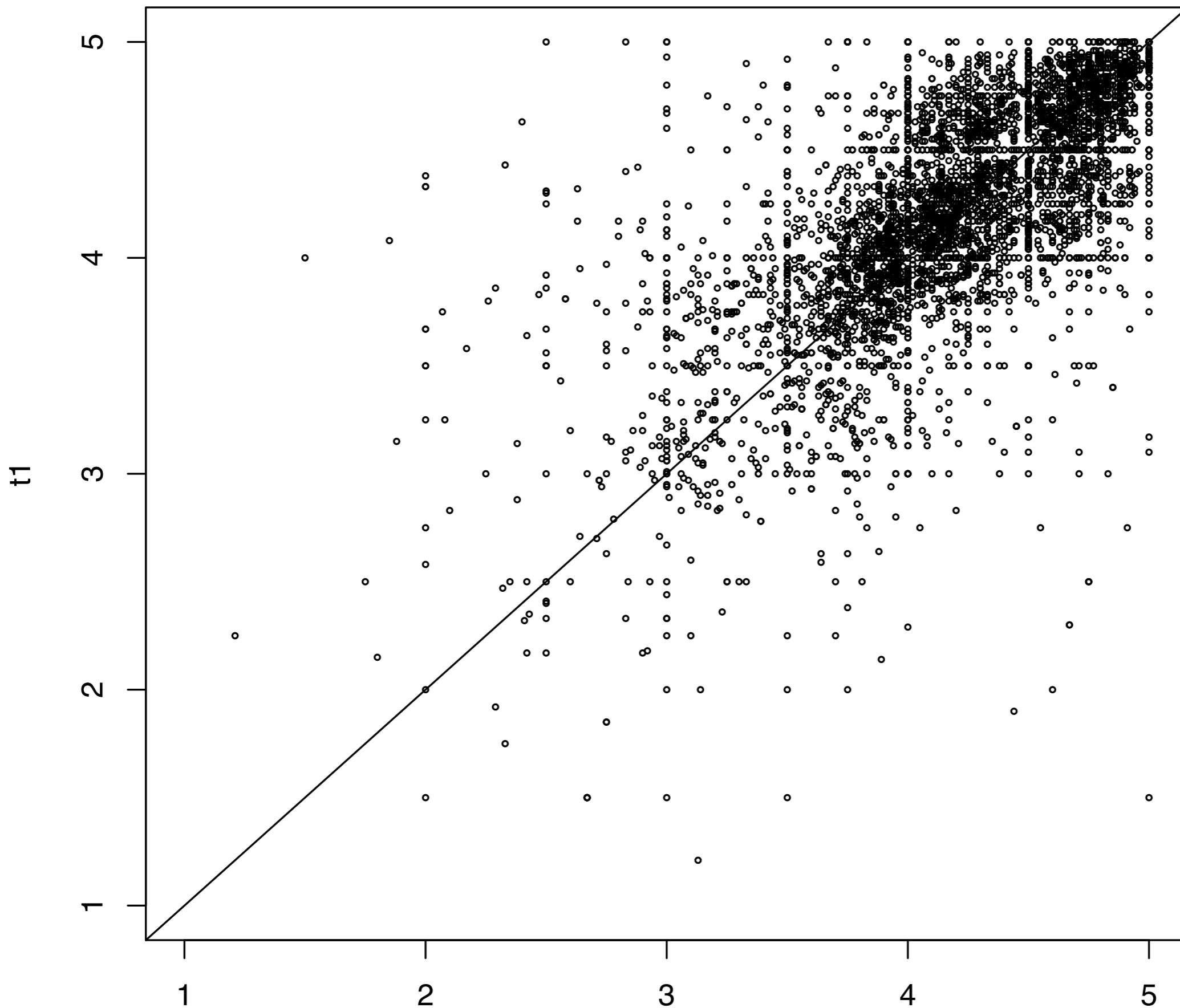


**But it's not the rate as much the
real numbers.**

Year t compared to year t+1: Fall/Winter terms, F08–W13

$R^2 = 0.41$

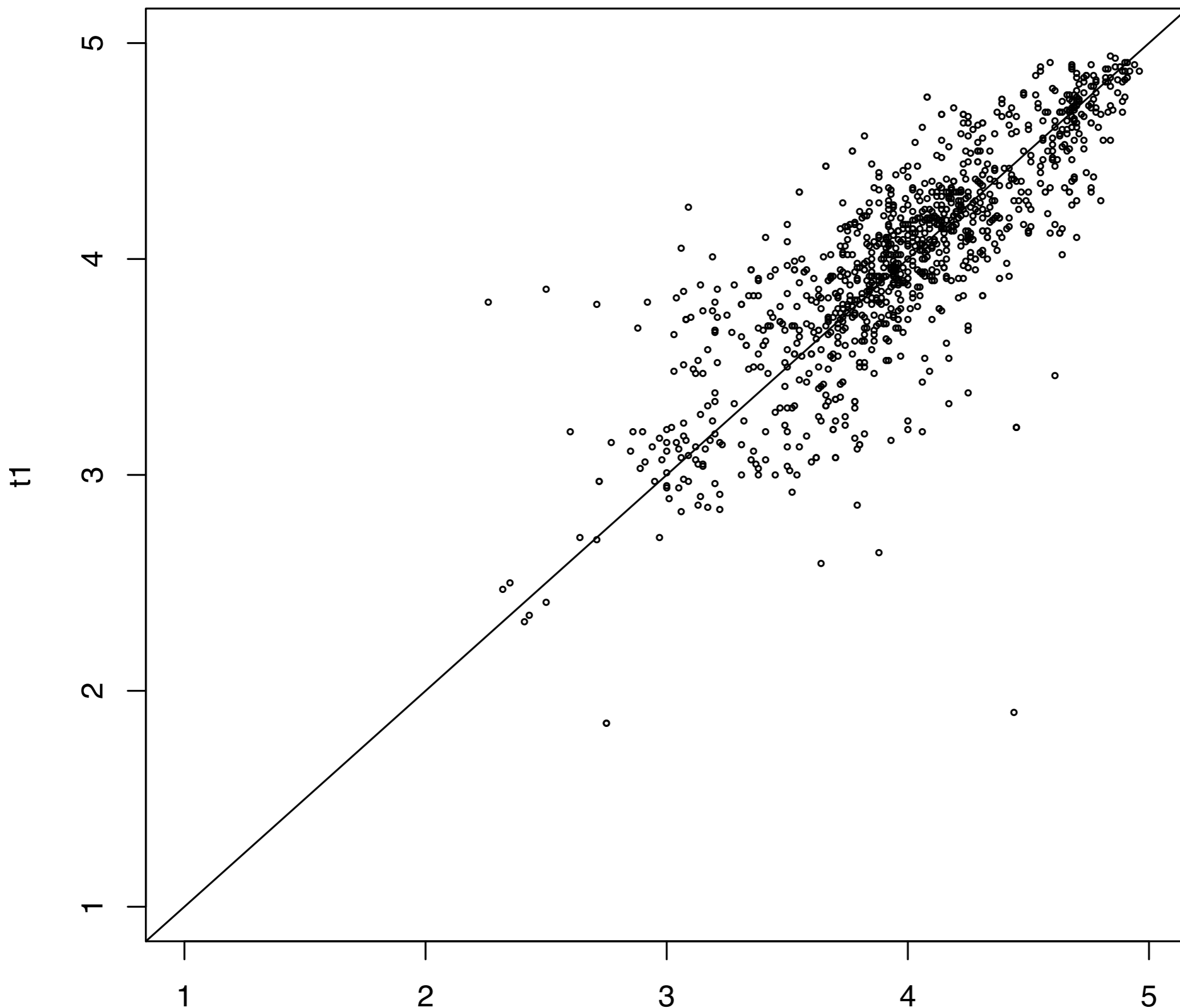
All
LEC
and
REC



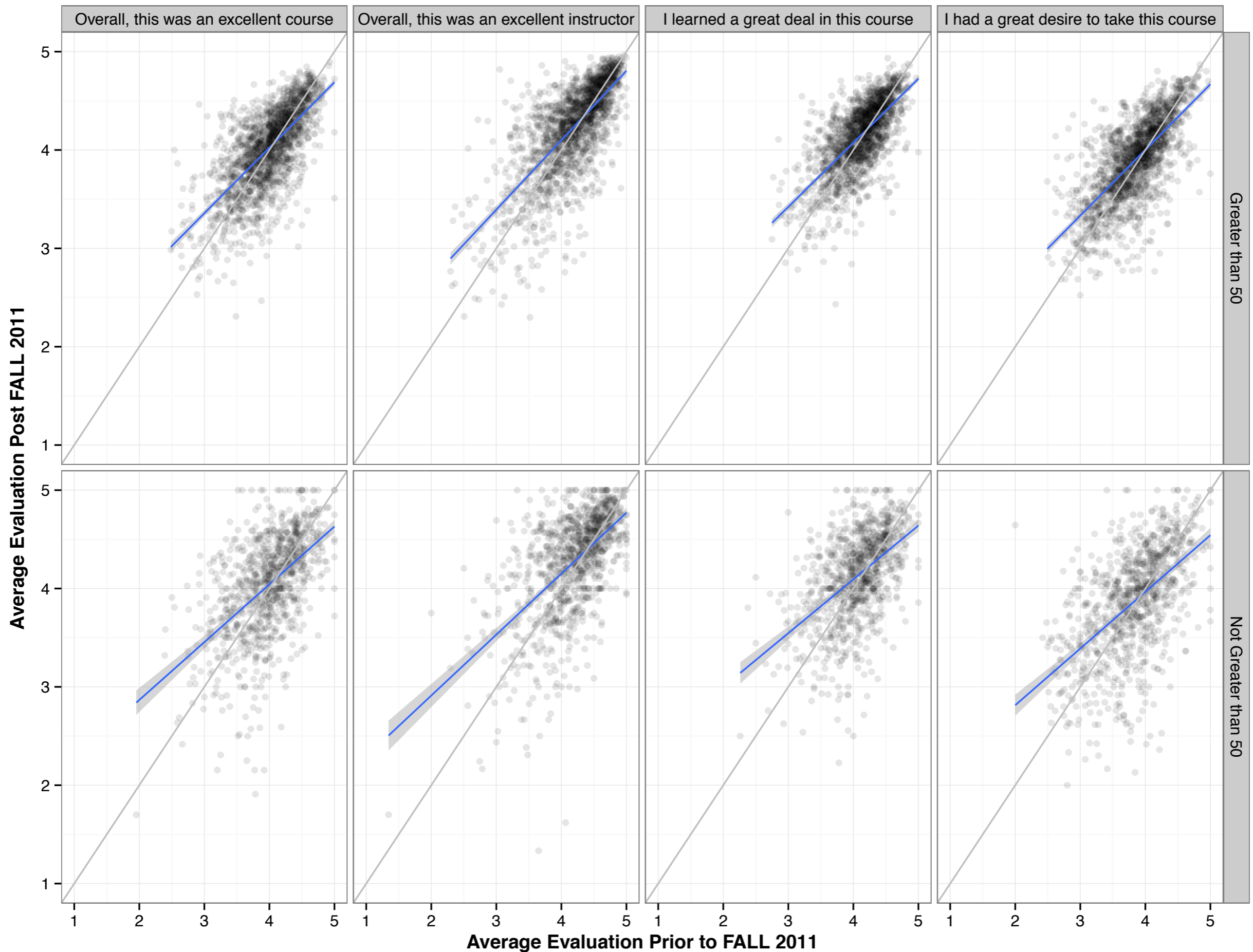
Year t compared to year t+1: Fall/Winter terms, F08–W13

$R^2 = 0.65$

Large
LEC
and
REC
(>70)



Consistency of evaluations for a course over time.



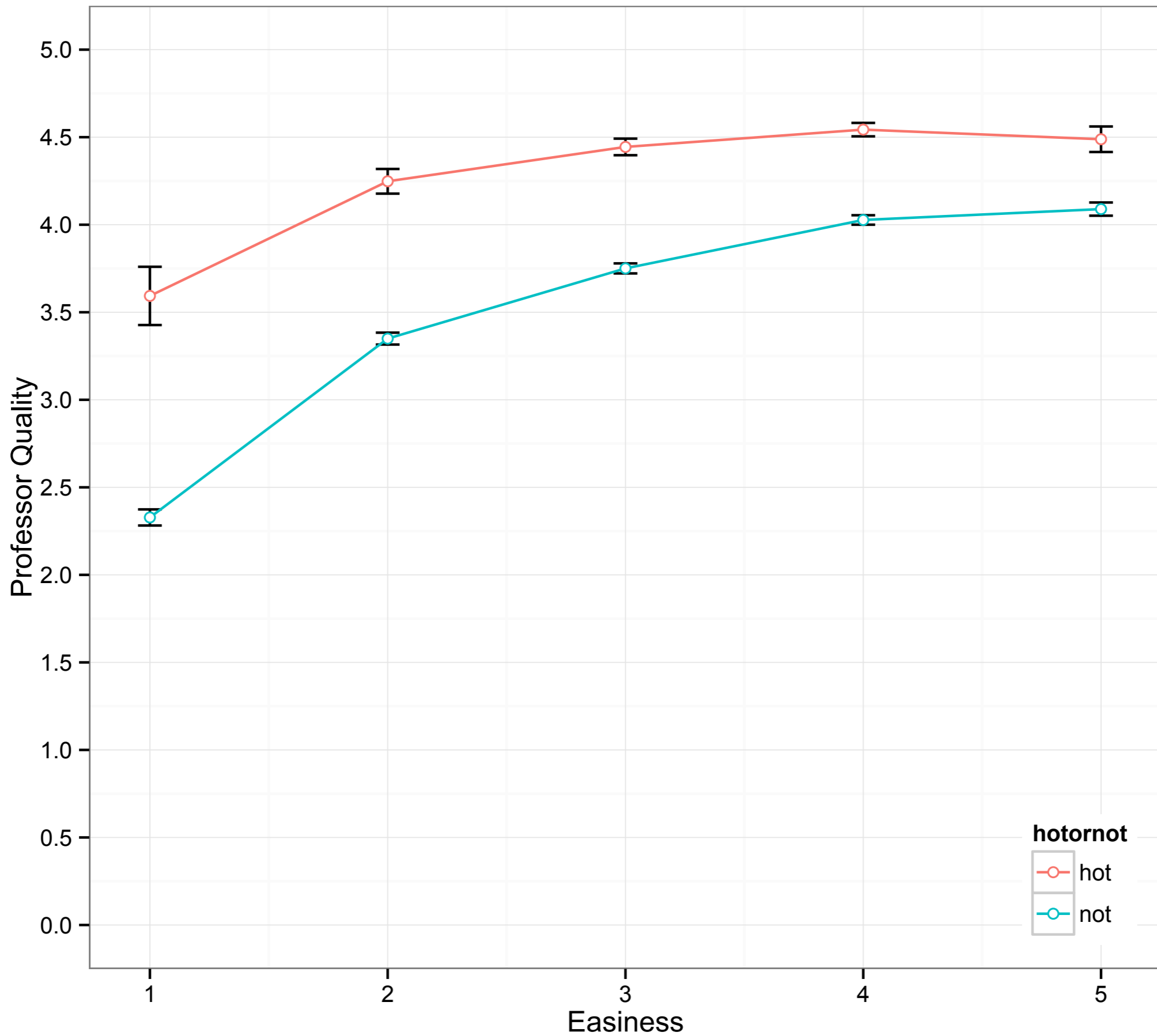


“Rate”

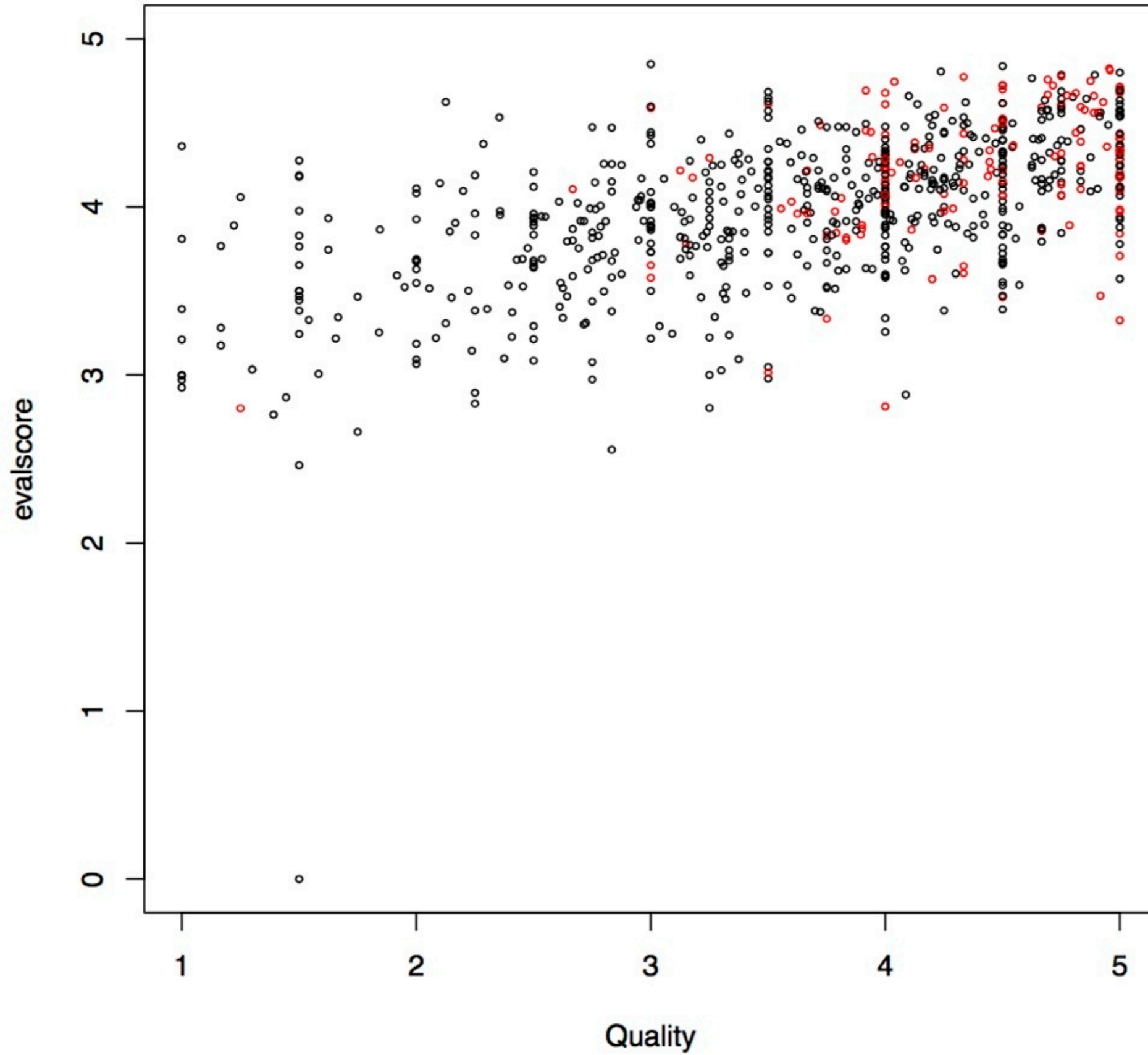
my

professors...

THE EFFECT OF EASINESS ON THE EVALUATION OF PROFESSOR QUALITY
FOR UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN PROFESSORS ON RATEMYPROFESSOR.COM



Relationship between average university evalascore and RMP quality rating



Thank you.

