

**A General Program for Item-response Analysis that Employs the Stabilized  
Newton-Raphson Algorithm**

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## **Abstract**

A general program for item-response analysis is described which uses the stabilized Newton-Raphson algorithm. This program is written to be compliant with Fortran 2003 standards and is sufficiently general to handle independent variables, multidimensional ability parameters, and matrix sampling. The ability variables may be either polytomous or multivariate normal. Items may be dichotomous or polytomous. Key words: Log-linear models, exponential families.

## Acknowledgements

To facilitate flexibility of model selection and to improve statistical procedures associated with item-response theory (IRT), a computer program for item-response analysis has been constructed. The program is designed to be compliant with standards for Fortran 2003. In practice, it is implemented to be successfully compiled with PGI Fortran Version 11.1 and with gfortran 4.6.1. The program is designed to treat one-parameter logistic (1PL), two-parameter logistic (2PL), three-parameter logistic (3PL), partial credit (PC), generalized partial credit (GPC), and nominal models, as well as mixed cases in which different items satisfy different models. The program can be used with both one-dimensional and multi-dimensional latent variables. These variables can be polytomous, or they can be continuous and have normal distributions. The program is also capable of treating bi-factor models and restricted bi-factor models. Weights, matrix sampling, and independent variables are permitted. The programming is based on the stabilized Newton-Raphson algorithm (Haberman, 1988) rather than on the EM algorithm (Bock & Aitkin, 1981; Muraki, 1991). This change facilitates computation of estimated asymptotic standard deviations of parameters and thus facilitates examination of parameter identification. The program applies to IRT models that can be described in terms of linear models for natural parameters of exponential models. Section 1 discusses the data considered by the program. Section 2 describes the general class of models that can be treated. Section 3 describes the stabilized Newton-Raphson algorithm (Haberman, 1988) employed for computations and provides details concerning its properties. Section 4 provides input and output specifications.

Although the basic structure of the program is not expected to change much in the future, it should be noted that the program and documentation is expected to be updated periodically to accommodate additional procedures for model checking and additional estimates of population parameters. In addition, a graphical user interface for the program is currently being prepared. The current documentation is presented in a belief that it is better to provide documentation now for a working program than to wait a substantial period of time until a final version is produced.

## 1 Data

Data consist of item responses, examinee weights, and independent variables. As common in item-response theory, each examinee receives a collection of test items. To each item corresponds a finite number of scores. Not all examinees need to receive the same items, and the items may be multiple-choice items or constructed-response items that have a finite number of possible scores.

The  $J > 1$  items are numbered from 1 to  $J$ , and the  $n > 1$  examinees are numbered from 1 to  $n$ . If item  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J$ , is presented to examinee  $i$ , then the observed item response  $X_{ij}$  has  $G_j > 1$  possible integer values, and these values are the integers from 0 to  $G_j - 1$ . Thus  $G_j = 2$  if item  $j$  is dichotomous. If item  $j$  is not presented to examinee  $i$ , then  $X_{ij}$  is some integer that is either negative or at least  $G_j$ . Thus the examination scores can be described by an  $n$  by  $J$  array. For examinee  $i$ , the set of presented items is  $\mathcal{J}_i$ , and the indicator  $\chi_{ij}$  is 1 for  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i$  and 0 for an integer  $j$  such that  $1 \leq j \leq J$  but  $j$  is not in  $\mathcal{J}_i$ . In simple cases in which each examinee receives all items, each  $\mathcal{J}_i$  is the set of integers from 1 to  $J$ . To avoid trivial identification problems, it is always assumed that each item  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J$ , is presented to some examinee  $i$ . The array  $\mathcal{J}$  provides the set  $\mathcal{J}_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . For each examinee  $i$ , the notation  $\mathbf{X}_i$  is used for the array of item responses  $X_{ij}$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i$ , to items presented to examinee  $i$ . The notation  $\mathbf{X}$  is employed for the array of individual item responses  $\mathbf{X}_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . For each examinee  $i$ , the set of possible values of  $\mathbf{X}_i$  is  $\mathcal{X}_i$ , so that  $\mathcal{X}_i$  consists of arrays  $\mathbf{x}$  of integers  $x_j$ ,  $0 \leq x_j < G_j$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i$ . The set of possible values of  $\mathbf{X}$  is  $\mathcal{X}$ , so that  $\mathcal{X}$  consists of arrays  $\mathbf{x}$  of  $\mathbf{x}_i$  in  $\mathcal{X}_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

Associated with examinee  $i$  is a sample weight  $w_i > 0$ . In simple cases, this sample weight  $w_i$  is 1; however, other weights are often used in assessments which are parts of population surveys. In addition,  $U \geq 1$  real predicting variables are observed for each examinee. The predicting (explanatory) variables for examinee  $i$  are  $Z_{iu}$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq U$ , and the  $U$ -dimensional vector  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  has elements  $Z_{iu}$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq U$ . The  $n$  by  $U$  matrix  $\mathbf{Z}$  has row  $i$  and column  $u$  equal to  $Z_{iu}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $1 \leq u \leq U$ . The convention is adopted that  $Z_{i1} = 1$ , so that the first independent variable is simply the constant 1. The choice of predictors varies with the application. Possible predictors may be indicators for test administrations, membership in a gender group, age of the examinee, or years of education of the examinee. Thus if a single categorical predictor with  $U > 1$  categories is considered, then  $Z_{iu}$ ,  $2 \leq U$ , may be defined as 1 if the categorical predictor has value  $u$  and 0 otherwise. Some variables external to the models may also be considered. For a nonnegative integer  $U_e$ , if  $U_e = 0$ , then such variables are not present, while if  $U_e > 0$ , then the  $U_e$  variables  $Z_{eiu}$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq U_e$ , are considered.

In some cases, item responses  $X_{ij}$  used in analyses are obtained from selection of multiple-choice categories. For example, a dichotomous item might be obtained from a multiple-choice question with four presented alternatives and the possibility that an examinee will not respond at all. One alternative, say Alternative 3, leads to an item response of 1. No response or any

other alternative leads to an item response of 0. In general, the following situation may exist. For examinee  $i$  and item  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i$ , a multiple-choice category  $X_{ij}^{(c)}$  is also observed with integer values from 0 to  $G_j^{(c)} - 1$  for an integer  $G_j^{(c)} \geq G_j$ . There is a mapping  $\xi_j$  from the integers from 0 to  $G_j^{(c)} - 1$  to the integers from 0 to  $G_j - 1$  such that  $X_{ij} = \xi_j(X_{ij}^{(c)})$ . In the example with four alternatives,  $G_j^{(c)} = 5$ ,  $X_{ij}^{(c)} = 0$  corresponds to no response,  $X_{ij}^{(c)} = h$  if alternative  $h$  is selected for  $h$  from 1 to 4. Here  $\xi_j(h) = 1$  for  $h = 3$  and  $\xi_j(h)$  is 0 otherwise.

## 2 Model Definition

The models under study are latent-structure models. Their definition requires an initial consideration of random vectors and conditional probabilities. The basic latent-structure model may then be defined, and the specific class of latent-structure models to be studied can then be examined.

### 2.1 Random Vectors and Conditional Probabilities

It is assumed that the individual responses  $\mathbf{X}_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , are random vectors that are conditionally independent given the predictors  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . For some nonempty set  $\mathcal{Z}$  of  $U$ -dimensional vectors, it is assumed that  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  is in  $\mathcal{Z}$  for each examinee  $i$ . Thus  $\mathbf{Z}$  is in the set  $\mathcal{Z}^n$  of  $n$  by  $U$  matrices  $\mathbf{z}$  with rows  $\mathbf{z}_i$  in  $\mathcal{Z}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . For a possible response  $\mathbf{x}$  of examinee  $i$  in the set  $\mathcal{X}_i$  of all response arrays for that examinee and for a possible predictor vector  $\mathbf{z}$  in the set  $\mathcal{Z}$  of all possible values of the predictor vector  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ ,  $p_i(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) > 0$  denotes the conditional probability that  $\mathbf{X}_i = \mathbf{x}$  given that  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$ . It is convenient to consider several arrays of conditional probabilities. For examinee  $i$ , the array  $\mathbf{p}_i(\cdot|\mathbf{z})$  has elements  $p_i(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})$  for  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $\mathcal{X}_i$  and  $\mathbf{z}$  in  $\mathcal{Z}$ . For all  $n$  examinees,  $\mathbf{p}(\cdot|\mathbf{z})$  has elements  $\mathbf{p}_i(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}_i)$  for  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $\mathcal{X}_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , and for  $\mathbf{z}$  in  $\mathcal{Z}^n$ .

### 2.2 Latent-structure Models

The probability models under study are latent-structure models. Associated with each examinee  $i$  is a  $K \geq 1$ -dimensional random latent vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  with elements  $\theta_{ik}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . The set of possible values of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  is  $\Omega$  for each examinee  $i$ . In addition, for each presented item  $j$ , there is an underlying polytomous random variable  $Y_{ij}$  which determines the value of the observed response  $X_{ij}$ . In many cases,  $Y_{ij}$  and  $X_{ij}$  are exactly the same; however, in situations that involve models for guessing behavior or non-compensatory item response models, the more general definition

of  $Y_{ij}$  is helpful. Because  $Y_{ij}$  determines  $X_{ij}$ , the random variable  $Y_{ij}$  has  $H_j \geq G_j$  possible values. These values are integers from 0 to  $H_j - 1$ . The relationship of  $Y_{ij}$  to  $X_{ij}$  is specified by a category mapping. For simplicity, this mapping is a nondecreasing function. Thus for integers  $H_{xj}$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq G_j$ ,  $H_{0j} = 0$ ,  $H_{G_jj} = H_j$ , and  $H_{xj} < H_{(x+1)j}$  for  $0 \leq x < G_j$ . The set  $\mathcal{H}_{xj}$  consists of the integers  $h$  such that  $H_{xj} \leq h < H_{(x+1)j}$  for  $0 \leq x < G_j$ . If  $Y_{ij}$  is in  $\mathcal{H}_{xj}$  and  $0 \leq x < G_j$ , then  $X_{ij} = x$ . In the simplest cases,  $Y_{ij}$  and  $X_{ij}$  are the same, so that  $H_{xj} = x$  for  $0 \leq x < G_j$ , and  $G_j = H_j$ ; however, the more general formulation can be helpful in the treatment of models that involve guessing or in the case of non-compensatory models.

In the case of guessing, one might have  $Y_{ij} = 2Y_{ij1} + Y_{ij2}$ , where  $Y_{ij1}$  and  $Y_{ij2}$  have values 0 or 1. Thus  $H_j = 4$ . If  $G_j = 2$ ,  $H_{0j} = 0$ ,  $H_{2j} = 4$ , and  $H_{1j} = 1$ , then  $X_{ij}$  is 0 if  $Y_{ij1}$  and  $Y_{ij2}$  are both 0. Here  $Y_{ij1}$  is 1 if the examinee knows the right response, while  $Y_{ij2}$  is 1 if the examinee correctly guesses the right response. Otherwise  $X_{ij}$  is 1.

In a non-compensatory model in which a correct response requires that three conditions must be met to provide a correct solution, one might have  $Y_{ij} = 4Y_{ij1} + 2Y_{ij2} + Y_{ij3}$ , where  $Y_{ij1}$ ,  $Y_{ij2}$ , and  $Y_{ij3}$  have values 0 or 1. Thus  $H_j = 8$ . If  $G_j = 2$ ,  $H_{0j} = 0$ ,  $H_{2j} = 8$ , and  $H_{1j} = 7$ , then  $X_{ij}$  is 1 if, and only if,  $Y_{ij1}$ ,  $Y_{ij2}$ , and  $Y_{ij3}$  are all 1.

Several arrays are often employed to treat the relationships between  $X_{ij}$  and  $Y_{ij}$  for  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i$ . The array  $\mathbf{H}$  has elements  $H_{xj}$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq H_j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J$ . The random array  $\mathbf{Y}_i$  has elements  $Y_{ij}$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i$ .

The latent-structure assumptions are made that the pairs  $(\mathbf{Y}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_i)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , are conditionally independent given the predictor array  $\mathbf{Z}$ , and, for each examinee  $i$ , the local-independence assumption is made that the  $Y_{ij}$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i$ , are conditionally independent given  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . Conditional distributions of individual item responses are assumed to be consistent for all examinees in the following sense. For each item  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J$ , each nonnegative integer  $y < H_j$ , each  $\mathbf{z}$  in  $\mathcal{Z}$ , each  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  in  $\Omega$ , and each examinee  $i$  for which item  $j$  is presented ( $j$  is in  $\mathcal{J}_i$ ), a positive real number  $p_{Yj}(y|\boldsymbol{\omega})$  is the conditional probability that  $Y_{ij} = y$  given that  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i = \boldsymbol{\omega}$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$ . Thus for each examinee  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , item  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i$ , nonnegative integer  $x < G_j$ , vector  $\mathbf{z}$  in  $\mathcal{Z}$ , and vector  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  in  $\Omega$ , the conditional probability that  $X_{ij} = x$  given that  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i = \boldsymbol{\omega}$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$  is

$$p_j(x|\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{H}_{xj}} p_{Yj}(y|\boldsymbol{\omega}). \quad (1)$$

The conditional probability that  $Y_{ij} = y$ ,  $0 \leq y < H_j$ , given that  $X_{ij} = x$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i = \boldsymbol{\omega}$ , and  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$  is

then

$$p_j(y|x, \boldsymbol{\omega}) = \begin{cases} p_{X_j}(x|\boldsymbol{\omega})/p_{Y_j}(y|\boldsymbol{\omega}), & y \in H_{xj}, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

The latent-structure assumptions imply that the conditional probability that  $\mathbf{X}_i = \mathbf{x}$  in  $\mathcal{X}_i$  given  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i = \boldsymbol{\omega}$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$  is then

$$p_i(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \prod_{j \in \mathcal{J}_i} p_j(x_j|\boldsymbol{\omega}). \quad (3)$$

The added assumption is made that, for examinee  $i$ , the conditional distribution of the latent vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given the complete array  $\mathbf{Z}$  of predictors for all examinees only depends on the prediction vector  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  for examinee  $i$ . In other words, for each  $\mathbf{z}_i$  in  $\mathcal{Z}$ , the conditional distribution of  $\theta_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}_i$  is the same as the conditional distribution of  $\theta_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{z}$  if  $\mathbf{z}$  is an  $n$  by  $U$  matrix in  $\mathcal{Z}^n$  with Row  $i$  equal to  $\mathbf{z}_i$ . To describe the conditional distribution of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$ , let  $P_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\cdot|\mathbf{z})$  be the conditional distribution of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$  in  $\mathcal{Z}$ . In all cases under study, the conditional moments of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$  are defined for all  $\mathbf{z}$  in  $\mathcal{Z}$ . The notation  $\boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{z})$  is used for the conditional expectation of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$ . For  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , element  $k$  of  $\boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{z})$  is  $\mu_k(\mathbf{z})$ . The notation  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}(\mathbf{z})$  is used for the conditional covariance matrix of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$ . For  $1 \leq k \leq K$  and  $1 \leq k' \leq K$ , Row  $k$  and column  $k'$  of  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}(\mathbf{z})$  is denoted by  $\Sigma_{kk'}(\mathbf{z})$ . In addition, it is helpful in the study of Hessian matrices to let  $\mu_{k_1 k_2 k_3 3}(\mathbf{z})$  denote the conditional covariance of  $\theta_{ik_1}$  and  $\theta_{ik_2} \theta_{ik_3}$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$  and to let  $\mu_{k_1 k_2 k_3 k_4 4}(\mathbf{z})$  denote the conditional covariance of  $\theta_{ik_1} \theta_{ik_2}$  and  $\theta_{ik_3} \theta_{ik_4}$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$  for  $1 \leq k_e \leq K$  for  $1 \leq e \leq 4$ .

Under the model, the general notation

$$p_i(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) = E(p_i(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}_i)) = \int p_i(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\omega}) dP_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{Z}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}|\mathbf{z}) \quad (4)$$

may be used for  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $\mathcal{X}_i$  for the conditional probability that  $\mathbf{X}_i = \mathbf{x}$  given that  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$ . If  $\Omega$  is finite, then  $p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{Z}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}|\mathbf{z})$  denotes the conditional probability that  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i = \boldsymbol{\omega}$  in  $\Omega$  given that  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$ , and

$$p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Z}_i}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) = \sum_{\boldsymbol{\omega} \in \Omega} p_i(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\omega}) p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{Z}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}|\mathbf{z}). \quad (5)$$

By Bayes's theorem, the conditional probability that  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i = \boldsymbol{\omega}$  in  $\Omega$  given that  $\mathbf{X}_i = \mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$  is

$$p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Z}_i}(\boldsymbol{\omega}|\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \frac{p_i(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\omega}) p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{Z}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}|\mathbf{z})}{p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Z}_i}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})}. \quad (6)$$



If  $\Omega$  is the space  $R^K$  of  $K$ -dimensional vectors and if the conditional density function of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$  at  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  in  $\Omega$  is  $f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{Z}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}|\mathbf{z})$ , then

$$p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Z}_i}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) = \int p_i(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\omega}) f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{Z}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}|\mathbf{z}) d\boldsymbol{\omega}. \quad (7)$$

By Bayes's theorem, the conditional density of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given  $\mathbf{X}_i = \mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$  is

$$f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Z}_i}(\boldsymbol{\omega}|\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \frac{p_i(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\omega}) f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{Z}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}|\mathbf{z})}{p_{\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Z}_i}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z})}. \quad (8)$$

The models used in the program involve a log-linear model for the conditional distribution of  $Y_{ij}$  given  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$ , item  $j$  in the set  $\mathcal{J}_i$  of presented items for examinee  $I$  and an exponential family for the conditional distribution of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . These models apply to generalized partial credit models, one-parameter logistic models, two-parameter logistic models, three-parameter logistic models, and nominal response models but not to normal ogive models.

### 2.3 Model Definition for Items

The log-linear model for items is expressed in terms of the relationship of  $Y_{ij}$  to  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$ , where item  $j$  is presented to examinee  $i$ . For a known positive integer  $D$ , the model involves unknown location parameters  $\tau_{yj}$  for  $0 \leq y < H_j$  and unknown scale parameters  $a_{dyj}$ ,  $1 \leq d \leq D$ ,  $0 \leq y < H_j$ . In addition, the model involves a known  $D$  by  $K$  real matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  with rows  $\mathbf{A}_d$ ,  $1 \leq d \leq D$  and elements  $A_{dk}$ ,  $1 \leq d \leq D$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . In the simplest cases,  $D = K$  and  $\mathbf{A}$  is the  $K$  by  $K$  identity matrix; however, models with more complex structure are often encountered.

The conditional distribution of  $Y_{ij}$  given  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  depends only on  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$ . To facilitate model definition, let  $\mathbf{a}_{yj}$  be the  $D$ -dimensional vector with elements  $a_{dyj}$ ,  $1 \leq d \leq D$ , and let

$$\mathbf{v}'\mathbf{z} = \sum_{d=1}^D v_d z_d$$

for any  $D$ -dimensional vectors  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{z}$  with respective elements  $v_d$  and  $z_d$ ,  $1 \leq d \leq D$ . It is assumed that

$$p_{Yj}(y|\boldsymbol{\omega}) = [M_j(\boldsymbol{\omega})]^{-1} \exp(\tau_{yj} + \mathbf{a}'_{yj}\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\omega}), \quad (9)$$

where

$$M_j(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \sum_{y=0}^{H_j-1} \exp(\tau_{yj} + \mathbf{a}'_{yj}\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\omega}). \quad (10)$$

Linear models are then applied to the parameters  $\tau_{yj}$  and  $a_{dyj}$ . These models can often be expressed in terms of the logits

$$\log[p_{Yj}(y|\boldsymbol{\omega})/p_{Yj}(y'|\boldsymbol{\omega})] = \tau_{yj} - \tau_{y'j} + (\mathbf{a}_{yj} - \mathbf{a}_{y'j})' \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\omega} \quad (11)$$

## 2.4 Model Definition for Latent Vectors

The latent vectors are assumed to have a probability distribution from an exponential family. A polytomous case and a normal case are considered. For both cases, the basic parameters are a  $K$  by  $U$  matrix  $\boldsymbol{\Psi}$  with elements  $\psi_{ku}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$  and  $1 \leq u \leq U$ , and an array  $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$  with elements  $\lambda_{kk'u}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq k' \leq K$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq U$ . For any  $\mathbf{z}$  in  $\mathcal{Z}$ , let  $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{z})$  be the  $K$  by  $K$  matrix with elements

$$\Lambda_{kk'}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{z}) = \begin{cases} (1/2) \sum_{u=1}^U \lambda_{kk'u} z_u, & k < k', \\ \sum_{u=1}^U \lambda_{kk'u} z_u, & k = k', \\ (1/2) \sum_{u=1}^U \lambda_{k'ku} z_u, & k > k', \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

for  $1 \leq k \leq K$  and  $1 \leq k' \leq K$ . The absolute value of the determinant of a  $K$  by  $K$  matrix  $\boldsymbol{\Delta}$  is denoted by  $|\boldsymbol{\Delta}|$ .

### 2.4.1 The Multivariate Normal Case

In the multivariate normal case,  $-\boldsymbol{\Lambda}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{z})$  is positive definite for all  $\mathbf{z}$  in  $\mathcal{Z}$  and the density

$$f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{Z}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}|\mathbf{z}) = (2\pi)^{-K/2} |-\boldsymbol{\Lambda}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{z})|^{1/2} \exp[(1/4)\mathbf{Z}'\boldsymbol{\Psi}'[\boldsymbol{\Lambda}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{z})]^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Psi}\mathbf{z} + \boldsymbol{\omega}'\boldsymbol{\Psi}\mathbf{z} + \boldsymbol{\omega}'\boldsymbol{\Lambda}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{z})\boldsymbol{\omega}], \quad (13)$$

for  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  in  $\Omega$ , so that the conditional distribution of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$  is multivariate normal with mean

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}(\mathbf{z}) = [-2\boldsymbol{\Lambda}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{z})]^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Psi}\mathbf{z} \quad (14)$$

and covariance matrix

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}(\mathbf{z}) = [-2\boldsymbol{\Lambda}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}, \mathbf{z})]^{-1}. \quad (15)$$

For later reference, the function  $W$  on  $\Omega$  is defined so that  $W(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = 1$  for all  $K$ -dimensional vectors  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ . In the multivariate normal case,  $\mu_{k_1 k_2 k_3 3}(\mathbf{z}) = 0$  and for  $1 \leq k_e \leq K$  for  $1 \leq e \leq 3$ . In addition,

$$\mu_{k_1 k_2 k_3 k_4}(\mathbf{z}) = \Sigma_{k_1 k_3}(\mathbf{z})\Sigma_{k_2 k_4}(\mathbf{z}) + \Sigma_{k_1 k_4}(\mathbf{z})\Sigma_{k_2 k_3}(\mathbf{z}) \quad (16)$$

for  $1 \leq k_e \leq K$  for  $1 \leq e \leq 4$  (Isserlis, 1918).

### 2.4.2 The Polytomous Case

In the polytomous case,  $\Omega$  is finite and, for some positive real numbers  $W(\omega)$ ,  $\omega$  in  $\Omega$ ,

$$p_{\theta|\mathbf{z}}(\omega|\mathbf{z}) = \frac{W(\omega) \exp(\omega' \Psi \mathbf{z} + \omega' \Lambda(\lambda, \mathbf{z}) \omega)}{\sum_{\theta \in \Omega} W(\theta) \exp(\theta' \Psi \mathbf{z} + \theta' \Lambda(\lambda, \mathbf{z}) \theta)}. \quad (17)$$

In the polytomous case, no restrictions need be made on  $\Lambda(\lambda, \mathbf{z})$ . The random vector  $\theta_i$  satisfies a quadratic log-linear model (Haberman, 1979, ch. 6). This case is considered within the general diagnostic model (von Davier, 2008).

### 2.5 The Linear Model

To define the linear model, a vector  $\beta$  of dimension

$$B = (D + 1) \sum_{j=1}^J H_j + \frac{K(K + 3)U}{2} \quad (18)$$

is defined based on the parameters  $\tau_{hj}$ ,  $a_{dhj}$ ,  $\psi_{ku}$ , and  $\lambda_{kk'u}$ . Although most casual users of the program need not be concerned with this vector, knowledge of the vector definition is required for specialized applications. Let

$$b_{\tau}(0, 1) = 1, \quad (19)$$

$$b_{\tau}(0, j) = b_{\tau}(0, j - 1) + H_{j-1}, \quad 1 < j \leq J, \quad (20)$$

$$b_{\tau}(h, j) = b_{\tau}(0, j) + h, \quad 0 < h < H_j, \quad (21)$$

$$b_a(1, 0, 1) = b_{\tau}(H_j - 1, J) + 1, \quad (22)$$

$$b_a(1, 0, j) = b_a(1, 0, j - 1) + DH_{j-1}, \quad 1 < j \leq J, \quad (23)$$

$$b_a(d, 0, j) = b_a(1, 0, j) + d - 1, \quad 1 < d \leq D, \quad (24)$$

$$b_a(d, h, j) = b_a(d, 0, j) + Dh, \quad 0 < h < H_j, \quad (25)$$

$$b_{\psi}(1, 1) = b_a(D, H_J - 1, J) + 1, \quad (26)$$

$$b_{\psi}(k, 1) = b_{\psi}(1, 1) + k - 1, \quad 1 < k \leq K, \quad (27)$$

$$b_{\psi}(k, u) = b_{\psi}(k, 1) + K(u - 1), \quad 1 < u \leq U, \quad (28)$$

$$b_{\lambda}(1, 1, 1) = b_{\psi}(K, U) + 1, \quad (29)$$

$$b_{\lambda}(1, k', 1) = b_{\lambda}(1, 1, 1) + k'(k' - 1)/2, \quad 1 < k' \leq K, \quad (30)$$

$$b_{\lambda}(k, k', 1) = b_{\lambda}(1, k', 1) + k - 1, \quad 1 < k \leq k', \quad (31)$$

$$b_{\lambda}(k, k', u) = b_{\lambda}(k, k', 1) + (u - 1)K(K + 1)/2, \quad 1 < u \leq U. \quad (32)$$

Then  $\tau_{hj}$  is element  $b_\tau(h, j)$  of  $\beta$ ,  $a_{dhj}$  is element  $b_a(d, h, j)$  of  $\beta$ ,  $\psi_{ku}$  is element  $b_\psi(k, u)$  of  $\beta$ , and  $\lambda_{kk'u}$  is element  $b_\lambda(k, k', u)$  of  $\beta$ . The linear model is defined by use of a known offset vector  $\mathbf{o}$  of dimension  $B$  with elements  $o_b$ ,  $1 \leq b \leq B$ , and an integer  $C \geq 0$ . If  $C = 0$ , then  $\beta = \mathbf{o}$ . If  $C > 0$ , then the model uses a known  $B$  by  $C$  matrix  $\mathbf{T}$  with row  $b$  and column  $c$  equal to  $T_{bc}$ ,  $1 \leq b \leq B$ ,  $1 \leq c \leq C$ , where  $C \geq 1$ . It is assumed in the model that

$$\beta = \mathbf{o} + \mathbf{T}\gamma \quad (33)$$

for some  $\gamma$  in a nonempty open subset  $\Gamma$  of the space  $R^C$  of  $C$ -dimensional vectors.

Given the array  $\mathbf{H}$  of integers, the real matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , the array of sets  $\mathcal{J}$ , and the weight function  $W$  on the set  $\Omega$  of possible values of the  $\theta_i$ , the vector  $\mathbf{o}$ , the matrix  $\mathbf{T}$ , and the space  $\Gamma$ , one may define the set  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{A}, \mathcal{J}, W, \mathbf{o}, \mathbf{T}, \Gamma | \mathbf{z})$ ,  $\mathbf{z}$  in  $\mathcal{Z}^n$ , to be the collection of arrays  $\mathbf{p}(\cdot | \mathbf{z})$  such that (1) to (33) are satisfied for some  $C$ -dimensional vector  $\gamma$  in  $\Gamma$ . The model is identified for  $\mathbf{Z}$  if to any member  $\mathbf{p}(\cdot | \mathbf{z})$  of  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{A}, \mathcal{J}, W, \mathbf{o}, \mathbf{T} | \mathbf{Z})$  corresponds a unique  $\gamma$  in  $\Gamma$  such that (1) to (33) hold.

In many cases, added linear restrictions are imposed on  $\gamma$  to identify this parameter vector. Let  $V \geq 0$  be a positive integer. If  $V = 0$ , then no added restrictions are used, and the set  $\Gamma_V$  is defined to be  $\Gamma$ . If  $V > 0$ , then a  $V$  by  $C$  matrix  $\mathbf{S}$  with elements  $S_{vc}$ ,  $1 \leq v \leq V$ ,  $1 \leq c \leq C$ , and a  $V$ -dimensional vector  $\mathbf{s}$  with elements  $s_v$ ,  $1 \leq v \leq V$ , are given, and  $\gamma$  is required to satisfy the constraint  $\mathbf{S}\gamma = \mathbf{s}$ . The set of  $\gamma$  in  $\Gamma$  such that  $\mathbf{S}\gamma = \mathbf{s}$  is denoted by  $\Gamma_V$ . It is assumed that  $\Gamma_V$  is not empty. The constraint normally is selected so that to any member of  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{A}, \mathcal{J}, W, \mathbf{o}, \mathbf{T} | \mathbf{Z})$  corresponds a unique  $\gamma$  in  $\Gamma$  such that  $\mathbf{S}\gamma = \mathbf{s}$ .

It should be emphasized that numerous different selections of  $\mathbf{H}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $W$ ,  $\mathbf{o}$ , and  $\mathbf{T}$  can lead to the same set  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{A}, \mathcal{J}, W, \mathbf{o}, \mathbf{T} | \mathbf{Z})$ . For example, if  $\mathbf{M}$  is a nonsingular  $C$  by  $C$  matrix, then  $\mathbf{T}\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{M}^{-1}\gamma) = \mathbf{T}\gamma$  in (33), so that  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{A}, \mathcal{J}, W, \mathbf{o}, \mathbf{T} | \mathbf{Z})$  is the same as  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{A}, \mathcal{J}, W, \mathbf{o}, \mathbf{T}\mathbf{M} | \mathbf{Z})$ .

In practice, the matrix  $\mathbf{T}$  and the offset vector  $\mathbf{o}$  have decompositions  $\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{T}^1\mathbf{T}^2$  and  $\mathbf{o} = \mathbf{T}^1\mathbf{o}^2$ , where  $\mathbf{T}^1$  is a  $B$  by  $B^1$  matrix with elements  $T_{bb'}^1$ ,  $\mathbf{T}^2$  is a  $B^1$  by  $C$  matrix with elements  $T_{bc}^2$  and  $\mathbf{o}^2$  is a vector of dimension  $B^1$  with elements  $o_b^2$ . Thus  $\beta = \mathbf{T}^1\beta^1$ , where  $\beta^1 = \mathbf{o}^2 + \mathbf{T}^2\gamma$ . In advanced applications, users of the program may need to make explicit use of these matrices and vectors; however, in typical cases, they are automatically constructed given basic model specifications. The matrix  $\mathbf{T}^1$  and the vector  $\beta^1$  involve decompositions based on individual items. For each positive integer  $j \leq J$ , let  $H_{\tau j}$  and  $H_{adj}$ ,  $1 \leq d \leq D$ , be nonnegative integers less than  $H_j$ . If  $H_{\tau j} > 0$ , let  $\mathbf{T}_{\tau j}$  be an  $H_j$  by  $H_{\tau j}$  matrix. If  $H_{adj} > 0$ , let  $\mathbf{T}_{adj}$  be an  $H_j$  by  $H_{adj}$  matrix.

Let  $H_{aj}$  be the sum of the  $H_{adj}$  for  $1 \leq d \leq D$ . Let

$$b_\tau^1(1) = 1, \quad (34)$$

$$b_\tau^1(j) = b_\tau^1(j-1) + H_{\tau(j-1)}, \quad 1 < j \leq J, \quad (35)$$

$$b_a^1(1, 1) = b_\tau^1(J) + H_{\tau J}, \quad (36)$$

$$b_a^1(1, j) = b_a^1(1, j-1) + H_{a(j-1)}, \quad 1 < j \leq J, \quad (37)$$

$$b_a^1(d, j) = b_a^1(d-1, j) + H_{a(d-1)j}, \quad 1 < d \leq D, \quad (38)$$

$$b_\psi^1 = b_a^1(1, J) + H_{aJ}. \quad (39)$$

Then  $T_{bb'}^1$  has the following value for  $0 \leq h < H_j$ ,  $1 \leq h_{\tau j} \leq H_{\tau j}$ ,  $1 \leq h_{adj} \leq H_{adj}$ ,  $1 \leq d \leq D$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J$ :

1. Row  $h+1$  and column  $h_{\tau j}$  of  $\mathbf{T}_{\tau j}$  if  $b = b_\tau(h, j)$  and  $b' = b_\tau^1(j) + h_{\tau j} - 1$ .
2. Row  $h+1$  and column  $h_{adj}$  of  $\mathbf{T}_{adj}$  if  $b = b_a(d, h, j)$  and  $b' = b_a^1(d, j) + h_{adj} - 1$ .
3. 1 if  $b = b' + b_\psi(1, 1) - b_\psi^1$  and  $b' \geq b_\psi^1$ .
4. 0 otherwise.

Let  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_j$  denote the vector with elements  $\tau_{hj}$  for  $h$  from 0 to  $H_j - 1$ . If  $H_{\tau j} > 0$ , let  $\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\tau j}^1$  denote the vector with elements  $\beta_b^1$  for  $b$  from  $b_\tau^1(j)$  to  $b_\tau^1(j) + H_{\tau j} - 1$ . Then  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_j$  is  $\mathbf{T}_{\tau j} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\tau j}^1$ . If  $H_{\tau j}$  is 0, then  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_j$  is the 0 vector of dimension  $H_j$ .

Let  $\mathbf{a}_{dj}^1$  be the  $H_j$ -dimensional vector with elements  $a_{dhj}$  for  $0 \leq h \leq H_j - 1$ . If  $H_{adj} > 0$ , let  $\boldsymbol{\beta}_{adj}^1$  denote the vector with elements  $\beta_b^1$  for  $b$  from  $b_a^1(d, j)$  to  $b_a^1(d, j) + H_{adj} - 1$ . Then  $\mathbf{a}_{dj}^1$  is  $\mathbf{T}_{adj} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{adj}^1$ . If  $H_{adj}$  is 0, then  $\mathbf{a}_{dj}^1$  is the 0 vector of dimension  $H_j$ .

There are three standard cases considered in the program for  $\mathbf{H}_{\tau j}$  and  $\mathbf{H}_{adj}$ . In the following descriptions,  $D(j)$  denotes a subset of the integers 1 to  $D$  that represents elements of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  related to item  $j$ . For example, in a between-item model (Adams, Wilson, & Wang, 1997), each  $D(j)$  has one element, so that each item response is only related to one skill.

**Generalized partial credit model** The generalized partial credit (GPC) model (Muraki, 1992)

for item  $j$  has  $G_j = H_j$ ,  $H_{\tau j} = H_j - 1$ , and  $\mathbf{T}_{\tau j}$  the cumulative matrix with row  $h$  and column  $h_{\tau j}$  equal to 0 if  $h \leq h_{\tau j}$  and equal to 1 otherwise. If  $d$  is in  $D(j)$ , then  $H_{adj} = 1$  and row  $h$  of  $\mathbf{T}_{adj}$  has the single element  $h - 1$ . If  $d$  is not in  $D(j)$ , then  $H_{adj} = 0$ . If  $G_j = H_j = 2$ , then

one has a two-parameter logistic (2PL) model for the item (Birnbbaum, 1968). Note that for each  $h$ ,  $\log[p_j(h|\boldsymbol{\omega})/p_j(h-1|\boldsymbol{\omega})]$  is an affine function of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\omega}$  with item intercept  $\tau_{hj} - \tau_{(h-1)j}$  equal to element  $b_\tau^1(j) + h - 1$  of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^1$  and with item slope (item discrimination)  $a_{dhj} - a_{d(h-1)j}$  for element  $d$  of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\omega}$  equal to element  $b_a^1(d, 1, j)$  of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^1$  if  $d$  is in  $D(j)$  and equal to 0 if  $d$  is not in  $D(j)$ . The fundamental feature here is that the slopes do not depend on the value of  $h$ .

**Nominal model** In a nominal model for item  $j$  (Bock, 1972),  $H_{\tau j}$  and  $\mathbf{T}_{\tau j}$  are defined as in the generalized partial credit model. In addition, if skill  $d$  is related to the item, then  $H_{adj} = H_j - 1$  and  $\mathbf{T}_{adj} = \mathbf{T}_{\tau j}$ . If skill  $d$  is not related to the item, then  $H_{adj} = 0$ . This case is the same as the two-parameter logistic model if  $H_j = 2$ . For each  $h$ ,  $\log[p_j(h|\boldsymbol{\omega})/p_j(h-1|\boldsymbol{\omega})]$  is an affine function of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\omega}$  with item intercept  $\tau_{hj} - \tau_{(h-1)j}$  equal to element  $b_\tau^1(j) + h - 1$  of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^1$  and with item slope (item discrimination)  $a_{dhj} - a_{d(h-1)j}$  for element  $d$  of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\omega}$  equal to element  $b_a^1(d, 1, j) + h - 1$  of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^1$  if  $d$  is in  $D(j)$  and equal to 0 if  $d$  is not in  $D(j)$ .

**3PL model** In the three-parameter logistic (3PL) model (Birnbbaum, 1968),  $G_j = 2$ ,  $H_j = 4$ ,  $H_{\tau j} = 2$ ,

$$\mathbf{T}_{\tau j} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$H_{adj} = 1,$$

$$\mathbf{T}_{adj} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

if  $d$  is in  $D(j)$ , and  $H_{adj} = 0$  if  $d$  is not in  $D(j)$ . The logit  $\log[p_j(2|\boldsymbol{\omega})/p_j(0|\boldsymbol{\omega})]$  is an affine function of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\omega}$  with item intercept  $\tau_{2j} - \tau_{0j}$  equal to element  $b_\tau^1(j)$  of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^1$  and with item slope equal for element  $d$  of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\omega}$  equal to element  $b_a^1(d, j)$  of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^1$  if  $d$  is in  $D(j)$  and equal to 0 if  $d$  is not in  $D(j)$ . The logit  $\log[p_j(1|\boldsymbol{\omega})/p_j(0|\boldsymbol{\omega})]$ , the logit of the guessing probability, is the constant  $\tau_{1j} - \tau_{0j}$  equal to element  $b_\tau^1(j) + 1$  of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^1$ , and the logit  $\log[p_j(3|\boldsymbol{\omega})/p_j(0|\boldsymbol{\omega})]$  is the sum of the logits  $\log[p_j(1|\boldsymbol{\omega})/p_j(0|\boldsymbol{\omega})]$  and  $\log[p_j(2|\boldsymbol{\omega})/p_j(0|\boldsymbol{\omega})]$ .

For examinee  $i$  and item  $j$ , the probability  $p_j(1|\boldsymbol{\omega})$  that the observed response  $X_{ij} = 1$  to

item  $j$  given that the latent vector  $\boldsymbol{\omega}_i = \boldsymbol{\omega}$  in  $\Omega$  is then

$$p_j(1|\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \frac{\exp(\tau_{1j} - \tau_{0j})}{1 + \exp(\tau_{1j} - \tau_{0j})} + \frac{1}{1 + \exp(\tau_{1j} - \tau_{0j})} \frac{\exp[\tau_{2j} - \tau_{0j} + (\mathbf{a}_{2j} - \mathbf{a}_{0j})' \mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{\omega}]}{1 + \exp[\tau_{2j} - \tau_{0j} + (\mathbf{a}_{2j} - \mathbf{a}_{0j})' \mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{\omega}]}, \quad (40)$$

while the probability  $p_j(0|\boldsymbol{\omega})$  that  $X_{ij} = 0$  given that  $\boldsymbol{\omega}_i = \boldsymbol{\omega}$  is then

$$p_j(0|\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(\tau_{1j} - \tau_{0j})} \frac{1}{1 + \exp[\tau_{2j} - \tau_{0j} + (\mathbf{a}_{2j} - \mathbf{a}_{0j})' \mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{\omega}]}. \quad (41)$$

The guessing parameter is then

$$\frac{\exp(\tau_{1j} - \tau_{0j})}{1 + \exp(\tau_{1j} - \tau_{0j})},$$

The item intercept is  $\tau_{2j} - \tau_{0j}$ , and the item discrimination for skill  $d$  is  $a_{d2j} - a_{d0j}$ .

In the Parscale program (Muraki, 1991),  $D = K = 1$ ,  $\mathbf{A}$  is the 1 by 1 identity matrix, and each item satisfies either a generalized partial credit model or a 3PL model.

The matrix  $\mathbf{T}^2$  restricts the parameter vector  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^1$ . Some restrictions are normally required to identify parameters. The following procedure applies to most typical cases. Assume that, for each integer  $b$  from 1 to  $B^1$ , the model either assumes that  $\beta_b^1$  is a given constant  $o_b^2$ , assumes that  $\beta_b^1 = \beta_{b'}^1$  for some  $b' < b$  for which no restriction is imposed on  $\beta_{b'}$ , or makes no assumption about  $\beta_b^1$ . Let  $C$  be the number of positive integers  $b$  such that no restriction is imposed on  $\beta_b^1$ . Let  $b(1)$  be the smallest positive integer  $b$  such that no assumption is made concerning  $\beta_b^1$ . For any integer  $c$  such that  $1 < c \leq C$ , let  $b(c)$  be the smallest integer  $b$  such that  $b > b(c-1)$  and no restriction is imposed on  $\beta_b^1$ . For  $1 \leq b' \leq B^1$  and  $1 \leq c \leq C$ , let  $T_{b'c}^2$  be 1 and  $o_{b'}^2 = 0$  if  $\beta_{b'}^1$  is assumed equal to  $\beta_{b(c)}^1$  for  $b(c) \leq b'$ . Let  $T_{b'c}^2 = 0$  otherwise. Let  $\gamma_c = \beta_{b(c)}^1$ .

Several cases are commonly encountered. Consider the following examples.

**Fixed guessing** In some cases in which a 3PL model is applied to item  $j$ , the probability of correct guessing is given. For example, it may be the inverse of the number of choices provided by a multiple-choice item. In such a case, the logit  $\tau_{1j} - \tau_{0j}$  of the guessing probability is also given. This logit is element  $b_\tau^1(j) + 1$  of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^2$ .

**Constant guessing** In some cases in which a 3PL model is applied to several items, it is assumed that the logit of the guessing probability is the same for all items. If  $j'$  is the smallest positive integer such that a 3PL model is applied to item  $j'$ , then element  $b_\tau^1(j) + 1$  of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^1$  is assumed equal to element  $b_\tau^1(j') + 1$  of  $\boldsymbol{\beta}^1$ .

**One-parameter models** In many cases, it is assumed that, for a given integer  $d \leq D$ ,  $a_{dhj} - a_{d(h-1)j}$  is constant for  $1 \leq h \leq H_j - 1$  whenever  $d$  is in  $D(j)$ . This assumption is found in

the one-parameter logistic model in which  $H_j = G_j = 2$  for each item  $j$  (Rasch, 1960) and two-parameter logistic model holds for each item and in the partial credit model (Masters, 1982) in which  $H_j = G_j$  for each item and each item satisfies a generalized partial credit model. In some cases, the added restriction is made that each difference  $a_{dhj} - a_{d(h-1)j}$  is 1.

**No linear term for the constant** In many cases, the linear parameters  $\psi_{k1}$  corresponding to the constant predictor are assumed 0. In the case of  $\theta_i$  with an assumed normal distribution, this requirement implies that the conditional expectation of  $\theta_i$  given  $Z_{iu} = 0$ ,  $u > 1$ , is the zero vector  $\mathbf{0}_K$ .

**Fixed diagonal quadratic terms** In many case, the quadratic parameters  $\lambda_{kk1}$  are assumed to be  $-1/2$ . If  $\theta_i$  is assumed to have a normal distribution, then the assumption made is that, for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , 1 is the conditional variance of  $\theta_{ik}$  given  $\theta_{i'k}$ ,  $i' \neq k$ , and  $Z_{iu} = 0$ ,  $u > 1$ . In this case,  $\sigma_b^2 = -1/2$  for  $b = b_\lambda^1 + (k+2)(k-1)/2$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ .

**Fixed quadratic terms** In some cases, it is assumed that  $\lambda_{kk'u} = \lambda_{kk'1}$  for  $u > 1$ .

**Independence** It is common in the multivariate normal model for  $\theta_i$  to have the independence condition that, for some positive integer  $k \leq K$ ,  $\lambda_{kk'u} = 0$  if  $k' \neq k$ . Thus  $\theta_{ik}$  is conditionally independent of  $\theta_{ik'}$ ,  $k' \neq k$ , given  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . This case also applies to models with  $\theta_i$  polytomous if  $\Omega$  is a Cartesian product of finite and nonempty real sets  $\Omega_k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ .

**Bi-factor models** In bi-factor models (Gibbons & Hedeker, 1992; Gibbons et al., 2007),  $D = K > 1$  and the  $\theta_i$  are assumed to have multivariate normal distributions and the independence model applies for each integer  $k$ . The matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is the identity matrix, and each  $D(j)$  has two elements, one of which is 1. Parameter identification is typically achieved by the requirement that the assumptions of fixed diagonal terms and no linear constant both apply.

**Restricted bi-factor models** In restricted bi-factor models, a restricted variant on a bi-factor model is employed with fewer parameters. Here  $K = D + 1 > 2$ , the  $\theta_i$  have a multivariate normal distribution, and the independence model applies for all  $k$ . The matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  has elements  $A_{dk} = 1$  for  $d = 1$  or  $d - 1 = k$  and all other elements are 0. A between-item model is assumed for the  $D(j)$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J$ . To identify parameters, one may assume that the model with no linear term for the constant applies and that  $\lambda_{111}$  is  $-1/2$ .

In one-dimensional applications with  $D = K = U = 1$ ,  $D(j)$  equals  $\{1\}$  for each item  $j$ , and  $\mathbf{A}$  the 1 by 1 identity matrix, it is quite common to have the assumption that  $\theta_{i1}$  has a standard normal distribution. In this case, both the case of no linear term for the constant and fixed



diagonal quadratic terms apply. It follows that  $o_b^2$  is 0 for  $b = B^1 - 1$  and  $-1/2$  for  $b = B^1$ . No  $\gamma_c$  corresponds to  $\psi_{11}$  or  $\lambda_{111}$ .

In a latent-regression model similar to the model in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), each item satisfies a generalized partial credit model or a 3PL model, the  $\theta_i$  are assumed to be multivariate normal,  $U > 1$ , the model with no linear term for the constant applies, and the model for fixed diagonal terms applies, and the model for fixed quadratic terms applies (Mislevy, Johnson, & Muraki, 1992).

In models for concurrent calibration for  $U > 1$  disjoint groups, the model for no linear term for the constant applies and the model for fixed diagonal terms applies. The  $Z_{iu}$ ,  $u > 1$ , are 1 for examinee  $i$  in group  $u$  and 0 otherwise.

In some cases, more general definitions of  $\mathbf{T}^2$  can be employed to include other common models. For example, the linear logistic test model (LLTM) can be employed in this fashion (Fischer, 1973). Similarly, general latent class models can be constructed (Heinen, 1996).

### 3 The Algorithm

The numerical algorithm used for maximum-marginal-likelihood estimation is a version of the stabilized Newton-Raphson algorithm (Haberman, 1988; Haberman, von Davier, & Lee, 2008) in which adaptive quadrature is employed in the multivariate normal case. To avoid trivial cases, assume that  $C > 0$ . Let  $\ell$  be the weighted log-likelihood function, so that

$$\ell(\gamma) = \ell_*(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \ell_i(\gamma), \quad (42)$$

where the log likelihood component  $\ell_i(\gamma) = \ell_{i*}(\beta)$  for examinee  $i$  is the logarithm of the probability  $p_i(\mathbf{X}_i|\mathbf{Z}_i)$  under equations (1) to (33). Note that  $\ell_i$  and  $\ell$  are functions on the space  $\Gamma$  of possible values of  $\gamma$ , whereas  $\ell_{i*}$  and  $\ell_*$  are functions on the space  $\mathcal{B}$  of possible values of  $\beta$ . The algorithm uses the gradient  $\nabla \ell_i(\gamma)$  of  $\ell_i$  at  $\gamma$  and the Hessian matrix  $\nabla^2 \ell_i(\gamma)$  of  $\ell_i$  at  $\gamma$ . The gradient of  $\ell$  at  $\gamma$  is

$$\nabla \ell(\gamma) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \nabla \ell_i(\gamma), \quad (43)$$

and the Hessian of  $\ell$  at  $\gamma$  is

$$\nabla^2 \ell(\gamma) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \nabla^2 \ell_i(\gamma). \quad (44)$$

The basic Newton-Raphson algorithm uses the functions  $\nabla \ell$  and  $\nabla^2 \ell$ . In addition, the following matrix will often be employed (Louis, 1982):

$$\Phi(\gamma) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i [\nabla \ell_i(\gamma)] [\nabla \ell_i(\gamma)]', \quad (45)$$

where for  $C$ -dimensional vectors  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  with respective elements  $u_c$  and  $v_c$  for  $1 \leq c \leq C$ ,  $\mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}'$  is the  $C$  by  $C$  matrix with row  $c$  and column  $d$  equal to  $u_c v_d$ ,  $1 \leq c \leq C$ ,  $1 \leq d \leq C$ .

A value  $\hat{\gamma}$  in  $\Gamma_V$  is a marginal-maximum-likelihood estimate of  $\gamma$  if  $\ell(\hat{\gamma}) \geq \ell(\gamma)$  for all  $\gamma$  in  $\Gamma_V$ . In discussion of the algorithm, it is assumed that  $\hat{\gamma}$  is a marginal-maximum-likelihood estimate of  $\gamma$ . In the ordinary Newton-Raphson algorithm for the unconstrained case of  $V = 0$ , an initial approximation  $\gamma_0$  to  $\hat{\gamma}$  is given, and a sequence of approximations  $\gamma_t$ ,  $t \geq 1$ , is generated by the equation

$$\gamma_{t+1} = \gamma_t - [\nabla^2 \ell(\gamma_t)]^{-1} \nabla \ell(\gamma_t), \quad t \geq 0. \quad (46)$$

If  $\nabla^2 \ell(\hat{\gamma})$  is negative definite, then a neighborhood  $O$  of  $\hat{\gamma}$  exists such that  $\gamma_t$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , converges to  $\hat{\gamma}$  whenever  $\gamma_0$  is in  $O$ . In addition, if  $|\mathbf{u}|$  denotes the maximum absolute value of an element of a  $C$ -dimensional vector  $\mathbf{u}$ , then there exists a real number  $\Delta > 0$  such that, for  $t$  sufficiently large,

$$|\gamma_{t+1} - \hat{\gamma}| < \Delta |\gamma_t - \hat{\gamma}|^2 \quad (47)$$

(Kantorovich & Akilov, 1964, pages 695–711). The constant  $\Delta$  depends on the second and third differentials of  $\ell$ .

If  $V > 0$  and to any  $\gamma$  in  $\Gamma$  corresponds a  $\gamma_V$  in  $\Gamma_V$  such that  $\ell(\gamma) = \ell(\gamma_V)$ , then the Newton-Raphson algorithm remains relevant. For any real constant  $v > 0$ , the maximum-likelihood estimate  $\hat{\gamma}$  can be obtained by maximization of

$$\ell_V(\gamma) = \ell(\gamma) - v \|\mathbf{S}\gamma - \mathbf{s}\|^2 \quad (48)$$

for  $\gamma$  in  $\Gamma$ , where, for any  $V$ -dimensional vector  $\mathbf{u}$  with elements  $u_v$ ,  $1 \leq v \leq V$ ,

$$\|\mathbf{u}\|^2 = \sum_{v=1}^V u_v^2. \quad (49)$$

Let a prime be used to denote a matrix transpose. Then  $\ell_V$  has gradient

$$\nabla \ell_V(\gamma) = \nabla \ell(\gamma) - 2v \mathbf{S}'(\mathbf{S}\gamma - \mathbf{s}). \quad (50)$$

and Hessian

$$\nabla^2 \ell_V(\gamma) = \nabla^2 \ell(\gamma) - 2\nu \mathbf{S}'\mathbf{S}. \quad (51)$$

The ordinary Newton-Raphson algorithm for the constrained case uses an initial approximation  $\gamma_0$  to  $\hat{\gamma}$  such that  $\gamma_0$  is in  $\Gamma$ , and a sequence of approximations  $\gamma_t$ ,  $t \geq 1$ , is generated by the equation

$$\gamma_{t+1} = \gamma_t - [\nabla^2 \ell_V(\gamma_t)]^{-1} \nabla \ell_V(\gamma_t), \quad t \geq 0. \quad (52)$$

If  $\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})$  is negative definite, then a neighborhood  $O$  of  $\hat{\gamma}$  exists such that  $\gamma_t$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , converges to  $\hat{\gamma}$  whenever  $\gamma_0$  is in  $O$ . In addition, there exists a real number  $\Delta > 0$  such that, for  $t$  sufficiently large, (47) holds. The constant  $\Delta$  depends on the second and third differentials of  $\ell_V$ . Note that  $\ell_V$  and  $\ell$  have the same third differentials, for they differ only by a quadratic function.

The function  $\ell_V$  can also be employed in maximum posterior likelihood in cases in which  $\gamma$  is identified without use of any linear constraints and  $\mathbf{S}$  has rank  $C$ . In this case, the corresponding prior for  $\gamma$  is normal with mean  $(\mathbf{S}'\mathbf{S})^{-1}\mathbf{S}'\mathbf{s}$  and covariance matrix  $(2\nu)^{-1}(\mathbf{S}'\mathbf{S})^{-1}$ .

In practice, the Newton-Raphson algorithm is not readily used for typical models for item responses to estimate parameters by maximum marginal likelihood. It is difficult to obtain initial approximations  $\gamma_0$  that are sufficiently accurate to ensure convergence. As a consequence, stabilization procedures are required. These procedures can involve replacement of  $\nabla^2 \ell(\gamma_t)$  by an alternative matrix and they can involve modification of step size. To avoid duplicate discussion, let  $\ell_V = \ell$  if  $V = 0$ . Thus  $\nabla \ell_V = \nabla \ell$  and  $\nabla^2 \ell_V = \nabla^2 \ell$ . In addition, let  $\Phi_V$  be  $\Phi$  if  $V$  is 0, and let  $\Phi_V$  be  $\Phi + 2\nu \mathbf{S}'\mathbf{S}$  if  $V > 0$ . The stabilized Newton-Raphson algorithm uses positive constants  $\kappa$ ,  $\tau < 2/(1 - \tau_1)$ , and  $\tau_1 < 1/2$ . Given the initial approximation  $\gamma_0$  to  $\hat{\gamma}$ , the iteration has the form

$$\gamma_{t+1} = \gamma_t + \alpha_t \mathbf{q}_t \quad t \geq 0. \quad (53)$$

The vector  $\mathbf{q}_t$  is normally  $[-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\gamma_t)]^{-1} \nabla \ell_V(\gamma_t)$ . This formula is straightforward if  $\nabla^2 \ell_V(\gamma_t)$  is negative definite. In other cases, a solution of the equation  $-\nabla \ell_V(\gamma_t) \mathbf{q}_t = \nabla_* \ell_V(\gamma_t)$  is found for some subset  $\mathcal{C}$  of the integers 1 to  $C$  such that element  $c$  of  $\mathbf{q}_t$  is 0 for any integer  $c$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ , the elements of  $\nabla_* \ell_V(\gamma_t)$  are 0 for  $c$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  and otherwise equal to those of  $\nabla \ell_V(\gamma_t)$  (Haberman, 1979, pages 582–585). The matrix formed from  $-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\gamma_t)$  by omitting row  $c$  and column  $c$  for  $c$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  is positive-definite unless  $\mathcal{C}$  includes all integers from 1 to  $C$ . In cases with  $C$  large, it is often efficient to use  $\Phi_V(\gamma_t)$  instead of  $-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\gamma_t)$ . The real number  $\alpha_t$  is always positive. It is chosen

so that  $\alpha_t |\mathbf{T}\mathbf{q}_t|$  does not exceed  $\kappa$  and  $\alpha_t \leq 1$ . If  $\mathbf{q}_t$  is the zero vector, as is the case if  $\gamma_t$  is a critical value of  $\ell_V$ , then  $\alpha_t = 1$  and  $\gamma_{t+1} = \gamma_t$ . Otherwise,  $\alpha_t$  must satisfy the constraint that

$$\ell_V(\gamma_{t+1}) - \ell_V(\gamma_t) > \tau_1 \alpha_t \mathbf{q}_t' \nabla \ell_V(\gamma_t). \quad (54)$$

The value of  $\alpha_t$  is 1 if  $|\mathbf{T}\mathbf{q}_t| \leq 1$  and if (54) holds for this choice of  $\alpha_t$ .

If  $\alpha_t$  cannot be chosen to be 1, then  $\alpha_t$  is selected by an iterative algorithm. The initial value  $\alpha_{t0}$  is the minimum of 1 and  $\kappa/|\mathbf{T}\mathbf{q}_t|$ . For any integer  $\nu \geq 0$ , let  $\alpha_{t\nu} > 0$  be given, and let

$$\gamma_{t\nu} = \gamma_t + \alpha_{t\nu} \mathbf{q}_t. \quad (55)$$

If

$$\ell_V(\gamma_{t\nu}) - \ell_V(\gamma_t) > \tau_1 \alpha_{t\nu} \mathbf{q}_t' \nabla \ell_V(\gamma_t), \quad (56)$$

then  $\alpha_{t+1} = \alpha_{t\nu}$  and  $\gamma_{t+1}$  satisfies (53). Otherwise,  $\alpha_{t(\nu+1)}$  maximizes the quadratic function

$$\ell_V(\gamma_t) + \alpha \mathbf{q}_t' \nabla \ell_V(\gamma_t) + (1/2) \alpha^2 c_{t\nu}$$

over real  $\alpha \geq \tau \alpha_{t\nu}$ , where

$$\ell(\gamma_t) + \alpha_{t\nu} \mathbf{q}_t' \nabla \ell(\gamma_t) + (1/2) \alpha_{t\nu}^2 c_{t\nu} = \ell(\gamma_{t\nu}). \quad (57)$$

Thus

$$c_{t\nu} = 2\alpha_{t\nu}^{-2} [\ell(\gamma_{t\nu}) - \ell(\gamma_t) - \alpha_{t\nu} \mathbf{q}_t' \nabla \ell(\gamma_t)], \quad (58)$$

and

$$\alpha_{t(\nu+1)} = \max[\tau \alpha_{t\nu}, -c_{t\nu}^{-1} \mathbf{q}_t' \nabla \ell(\gamma_t)]. \quad (59)$$

The constraints on  $\tau$  and  $\tau_1$  imply that

$$\tau \alpha_{t\nu} \leq \alpha_{t(\nu+1)} < [2/(1 - \tau_1)] \alpha_{t\nu} < \alpha_{t\nu}. \quad (60)$$

Application of Taylor's theorem shows that a positive  $\nu > 0$  exists such that (56) and (55) both hold.

With the stabilized Newton-Raphson algorithm, if  $\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})$  is negative definite, then there exists a neighborhood  $O_s$  of  $\hat{\gamma}$  such that  $\gamma_t$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , converges to  $\hat{\gamma}$  whenever  $\gamma_0$  is in  $O_s$ . In addition, there exists a real number  $\Delta > 0$  such that, for  $t$  sufficiently large, (49) holds. The constant  $\Delta$  is the same constant as in the Newton-Raphson algorithm. In addition,  $\mathbf{q}_t = [-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\gamma_t)]^{-1} \nabla \ell_V(\gamma_t)$  and  $\alpha_t = 1$  for  $t$  sufficiently large. The gain in practice is that the set  $O_s$  for the stabilized Newton-Raphson algorithm includes the set of all  $\gamma_0$  in  $\Gamma$  such that  $\{\gamma \in \Gamma : \ell_V(\gamma) \geq \ell_V(\gamma_0)\}$  is bounded and contains only one element at which the gradient of  $\ell_V$  is the zero vector  $\mathbf{0}_C$ .

### 3.1 Formulas for Gradients

Let (1) to (33) hold. The gradient  $\nabla \ell_V(\gamma)$  is evaluated from  $\nabla \ell(\gamma)$  as in (50) if  $V > 0$ . Otherwise,  $\nabla \ell_V(\gamma)$  is  $\nabla \ell(\gamma)$ . For evaluation of  $\nabla \ell(\gamma)$ , observe that  $\nabla \ell(\gamma)$  is  $\mathbf{T}' \nabla \ell_*(\beta)$ , where  $\nabla \ell_*(\beta)$  is the gradient of  $\ell_*$  at  $\beta$  and (33) holds. In turn,

$$\nabla \ell_*(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta), \quad (61)$$

where  $\nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , is the gradient of  $\ell_{i*}$  at  $\beta$ . Recall (19) to (32). For  $\omega$  in  $\Omega$ , let

$$\ell_{i*}(\beta|\omega) = \begin{cases} \log p_i(\mathbf{X}_i|\omega) + \log f_{\theta|\mathbf{Z}}(\omega|\mathbf{Z}_i), & \Omega = R^K, \\ \log p_i(\mathbf{X}_i|\omega) + \log p_{\theta|\mathbf{Z}}(\omega|\mathbf{Z}_i), & \Omega \text{ finite.} \end{cases} \quad (62)$$

Then element  $b$ ,  $1 \leq b \leq B$ , of the gradient  $\nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta|\omega)$  is  $\ell_{ib*}(\beta|\omega)$ . For  $1 \leq b \leq B$ ,  $0 \leq h \leq H_j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J$ ,  $1 \leq d \leq D$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ ,  $1 \leq k' \leq K$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq U$ ,  $x = X_{ij}$ , and  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{Z}_i$ ,

$$\ell_{ib*}(\beta) = \begin{cases} \chi_{ij}[p_j(h|x, \omega) - p_{Yj}(h|\omega)], & b = b(h, j, \tau), \\ \chi_{ij}[p_j(h|x, \omega) - p_{Yj}(h|\omega)]\mathbf{A}'_d \omega, & b = b(d, h, j, a), \\ z_u[\omega_k - \mu_k(\mathbf{z})], & b = b(k, u, \psi), \\ z_u[\omega_k \omega_{k'} - \mu_{kk'2*}(\mathbf{z})], & b = b(k, k', u, \lambda). \end{cases} \quad (63)$$

It follows that  $\nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta)$  is the conditional expectation of  $\nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta|\theta_i)$  given  $\mathbf{X}_i$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . By (6), if  $\Omega$  is finite, then

$$\nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta) = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} p_{\theta|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Z}_i}(\omega|\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{Z}_i) \nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta|\omega). \quad (64)$$

If  $\Omega$  is  $R^K$ , then (8) implies that

$$\nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta) = \int f_{\theta|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Z}_i}(\omega|\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{Z}_i) \nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta|\omega) d\omega. \quad (65)$$

Computation of  $\nabla \ell(\gamma)$  exploits the relationship

$$\nabla \ell(\gamma) = \mathbf{T}' \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta). \quad (66)$$

Similarly, computation of  $\Phi(\gamma)$  uses the relationship

$$\Phi(\gamma) = \mathbf{T}' \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta) [\nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta)]' \right\} \mathbf{T}. \quad (67)$$

Some reduction in computations can be achieved by noting that  $\ell_{ib*}(\beta|\omega)$  is not needed for a positive integer  $b \leq B$  if  $T_{bc}$  is 0 for all positive integers  $c \leq C$ .

Note that in practice, gradient calculations needed for computation of  $\gamma_{t+1}$  from  $\gamma_t$  for  $t \geq 0$  involve substitution of  $\gamma_t$  for  $\gamma$  in (1) to (19).

### 3.2 Formulas for Hessian Matrices

Computation of  $\nabla^2 \ell_V(\gamma)$  is similar to computation of  $\nabla \ell_V(\gamma)$ . The Hessian  $\nabla^2 \ell_V(\gamma)$  is evaluated from  $\nabla^2 \ell(\gamma)$  as in (51) if  $V > 0$ . Otherwise  $\nabla^2 \ell_V(\gamma)$  equals  $\nabla^2 \ell(\gamma)$ . The Hessian  $\nabla^2 \ell_{i*}(\beta)$  of  $\ell_{i*}(\beta)$  is evaluated by use of the gradient  $\ell_{i*}(\beta|\omega)$ , the gradient  $\nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta)$ , and the Hessian  $\nabla^2 \ell_{i*}(\beta|\omega)$  of  $\ell_{i*}(\beta|\omega)$ . For  $1 \leq b \leq B$  and  $1 \leq b' \leq B$ , let  $\ell_{ibb'*}(\gamma|\omega)$  be Row  $b$  and Column  $b'$  of  $\nabla^2 \ell_{i*}(\beta|\omega)$ .

For integers  $h$  and  $h'$ , let  $\delta_{hh'}$  be 1 for  $h = h'$  and 0 for  $h \neq h'$ . Let

$$\Pi_{hh'j}(\omega) = \delta_{hh'} p_j(h|x, \omega) - p_j(h|x, \omega) p_{j'}(h'|x, \omega) - \delta_{hh'} p_{Yj}(h|\omega) + p_{Yj}(h|x, \omega) p_{Yj'}(h'|x, \omega) \quad (68)$$

for  $0 \leq h < H_j$ ,  $0 \leq h' < H_{j'}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J$ , and  $\omega$  in  $\Omega$ . For  $1 \leq b \leq B$ ,  $1 \leq b' \leq B$ ,  $0 \leq h \leq H_j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J$ ,  $0 \leq h' \leq H_{j'}$ ,  $1 \leq j' \leq J$ ,  $1 \leq d \leq D$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ ,  $1 \leq k_1 \leq k$ ,  $1 \leq d' \leq D$ ,  $1 \leq k' \leq K$ ,  $1 \leq k_2 \leq k'$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq U$ ,  $1 \leq u' \leq U$ ,  $x = X_{ij}$ , and  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{Z}_i$ ,

$$\ell_{ibb'*}(\beta) = \begin{cases} \chi_{ij} \Pi_{hh'j}(\omega), & b = b(h, j, \tau), b' = b(h', j, \tau), j = j', \\ \chi_{ij} \Pi_{hh'j}(\omega) \mathbf{A}'_{d'} \omega, & b = b(h, j, \tau), b' = b(d', h', j', a), j = j', \\ \chi_{ij} \Pi_{hh'j}(\omega) \mathbf{A}'_d \omega, & b = b(d, h, j, a), b' = b(h', j', \tau), j = j', \\ \chi_{ij} \Pi_{hh'j}(\omega) \mathbf{A}'_d \omega \mathbf{A}'_{d'} \omega, & b = b(d, h, j, a), b' = b(d', h', j', \tau), j = j', \\ -z_u z_{u'} \mu_{kk'2}(\mathbf{z}), & b = b(k, u, \psi), b' = b(k', u', \psi), \\ -z_u z_{u'} \mu_{kk_2k'3}(\mathbf{z}), & b = b(k, u, \psi), b' = b(k_2, k', u', \lambda), \\ -z_u z_{u'} \mu_{k'k_1k}(\mathbf{z}), & b = b(k_1, k, u, \lambda), b' = b(k', u', \psi), \\ -z_u z_{u'} \mu_{k_1kk'_4}(\mathbf{z}), & b = b(k_1, k, u, \lambda), b' = b(k_2, k', u, \lambda), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (69)$$

The Hessian matrix  $\nabla^2 \ell_{i*}(\beta)$  is then the sum of the conditional expectation of  $\nabla^2 \ell_{i*}(\beta|\theta_i)$  given  $\mathbf{X}_i$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  and the conditional covariance matrix of  $\nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta|\theta_i)$  given  $\mathbf{X}_i$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . Let

$$\mathbf{K}_i(\beta|\omega) = \nabla^2 \ell_{i*}(\beta|\omega) + [\nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta|\omega) - \nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta)][\nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta|\omega) - \nabla \ell_{i*}(\beta)]' \quad (70)$$

for  $\omega$  in  $\Omega$ . If  $\Omega$  is finite, then (6) implies that

$$\nabla^2 \ell_{i*}(\beta) = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} p_{\theta|\mathbf{XZ}_i}(\omega|\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{Z}_i) \mathbf{K}_i(\beta|\omega). \quad (71)$$

If  $\Omega$  is  $R^K$ , then (8) implies that

$$\nabla^2 \ell_{i*}(\beta) = \int f_{\theta|\mathbf{XZ}_i}(\omega|\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{Z}_i) \mathbf{K}_i(\beta|\omega) d\omega. \quad (72)$$

Computation of  $\nabla^2 \ell(\boldsymbol{\gamma})$  exploits the relationship

$$\nabla^2 \ell(\boldsymbol{\gamma}) = \mathbf{T}' \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \nabla^2 \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) \right] \mathbf{T}. \quad (73)$$

As in the case of the gradient, hessian calculations needed for computation of  $\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{t+1}$  from  $\boldsymbol{\gamma}_t$  for  $t \geq 0$  involve substitution of  $\boldsymbol{\gamma}_t$  for  $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$  in (1) to (19).

### 3.3 Quadrature Procedures

Whenever the multivariate normal distribution is used for the latent vector, numerical quadrature procedures are used to evaluate required integrals. For each examinee  $i$ , a finite and nonempty set  $\mathcal{Q}_i$  of quadrature points in  $R^K$  is used together with a positive weight function  $\mathcal{W}_i(\mathbf{q})$  defined for each  $\mathbf{q}$  in  $\mathcal{Q}_i$ . For a finite and nonempty subset  $\mathcal{Q}$  of  $R^K$ , a positive function  $\mathcal{W}$  on  $\mathcal{Q}$ , and a real function  $\mathcal{G}$  on  $R^K$ , define

$$\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{Q}\mathcal{W}}(\mathcal{G}) = \frac{\sum_{\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathcal{W}(\mathcal{U}) \mathcal{G}(\mathcal{U})}{\sum_{\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathcal{W}(\mathcal{U})}. \quad (74)$$

If  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $B$ -dimensional vector function on  $R^K$  with elements  $\mathcal{G}_b$ ,  $1 \leq b \leq B$ , let  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{Q}\mathcal{W}}(\mathcal{G})$  be the  $B$ -dimensional vector function with elements  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{Q}\mathcal{W}}(\mathcal{G}_b)$  for  $1 \leq b \leq B$ . Similar conventions can be used for matrix-valued functions. Let

$$\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta}|\boldsymbol{\omega}) \quad (75)$$

for  $K$ -dimensional vectors  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ . One approximates  $\ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta})$  by

$$\bar{\ell}_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = \log[\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{Q}_i \mathcal{W}_i}(\exp(\mathcal{L}_i))]. \quad (76)$$

Let  $\nabla \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta}|\cdot)$  be the function with value  $\nabla \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta}|\boldsymbol{\omega})$  for  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  in  $\Omega$ . The gradient  $\nabla \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta})$  is approximated by

$$\bar{\nabla} \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = \frac{\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{Q}_i \mathcal{W}_i}(\exp(\mathcal{L}_i) \nabla \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta}|\cdot))}{\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{Q}_i \mathcal{W}_i}(\exp(\mathcal{L}_i))}. \quad (77)$$

For the Hessian matrix, let

$$\bar{\mathbf{K}}_i(\boldsymbol{\beta}|\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \nabla^2 \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta}|\boldsymbol{\omega}) + [\nabla \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta}|\boldsymbol{\omega}) - \bar{\nabla} \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta})][\nabla \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta}|\boldsymbol{\omega}) - \bar{\nabla} \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta})]' \quad (78)$$

The Hessian matrix  $\nabla^2 \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta})$  is approximated by

$$\bar{\nabla}^2 \ell_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = \frac{\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{Q}_i \mathcal{W}_i}(\exp(\mathcal{L}_i) \bar{\mathbf{K}}_i(\boldsymbol{\beta}|\cdot))}{\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{Q}_i \mathcal{W}_i}(\exp(\mathcal{L}_i))}. \quad (79)$$

### 3.4 Adaptive quadrature

The weight functions  $\mathcal{W}_i$  and sets  $\mathcal{Q}_i$  of quadrature points are permitted to depend on the examinee  $i$  in order to improve the efficiency of the quadrature procedures in terms of accuracy and computational speed. Thus quadrature is adaptive. The basic use of adaptive quadrature in estimation by maximum marginal likelihood has been explored by quite a number of investigators (for example, Naylor & Smith, 1982; Haberman, 2006a; Schilling & Bock, 2005). In the algorithm under study, adaptive quadrature is based on the function  $\mathcal{L}_i$  for each examinee  $i$ . A  $K$ -dimensional vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{im}$  is employed which approximates the location of the maximum  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{im}$  of  $\mathcal{L}_{i*}(\boldsymbol{\omega})$  over all  $K$ -dimensional vectors  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ . One then computes the Hessian matrix  $\nabla^2 \mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{im})$  of  $\mathcal{L}_i$  at  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{im}$ . The Cholesky decomposition

$$\mathbf{L}_i \mathbf{L}_i' = -\nabla^2 \mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{im}) \quad (80)$$

is available for a unique  $K$  by  $K$  matrix  $\mathbf{L}_i$  such that, for  $1 \leq k \leq K$  and  $1 \leq k' \leq K$ , Row  $k$  and Column  $k'$  is 0 if  $k < k'$  and Row  $k$  and Column  $k$  is nonnegative (Wilkinson, 1963, pages 117–120). If  $\nabla^2 \mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{im})$  is negative definite, then Row  $k$  and Column  $k$  of  $\mathbf{L}_i$  is positive for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . If  $G_j = H_j$  for each Item  $j$ , then it follows from standard properties of log-linear models and exponential families that  $\nabla^2 \mathcal{L}_i$  is a negative definite function and  $\mathcal{L}_i$  is a strictly concave function (Haberman, 1973).

Let  $\nabla^2 \mathcal{L}_i$  be negative definite. Let  $R_i$  be the linear function defined by

$$R_i(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \boldsymbol{\theta}_{im} + (\mathbf{L}_i')^{-1} \boldsymbol{\omega} \quad (81)$$

for  $K$ -dimensional vectors  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ . If the integral  $\int \mathcal{G} \exp(\mathcal{L}_i)$  is defined for a real function  $\mathcal{G}$  on  $R^K$ , then

$$\int \mathcal{G} \exp(\mathcal{L}_i) = |\mathbf{L}_i|^{-1} \int \mathcal{G}(R_i) \exp[\mathcal{L}_i(R_i)]. \quad (82)$$

The right-hand side of (82) has the attraction that  $\exp[\mathcal{L}_i(R_i(\boldsymbol{\omega}_i))]/\phi_{KV}(\boldsymbol{\omega}_i)$  is approximately constant and the determinant of  $\mathbf{L}_i$  is the product of the diagonal elements of  $\mathbf{L}_i$ . Multivariate cumulants can be used to obtain the more precise result that, for a homogeneous third-degree polynomial  $\mathcal{P}_{i3}$  on  $R^K$ , and a positive constant  $\mathcal{R}_{3i}$ ,

$$|\mathcal{L}_i(R_i(\boldsymbol{\omega}_i)) - \mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{im}) + (K/2) \log(2\pi) - \log \phi_{KV}(\boldsymbol{\omega}_i - \mathcal{P}_{i3}(\boldsymbol{\omega}_i))| < \mathcal{R}_{3i} |\boldsymbol{\omega}_i|^4 \quad (83)$$

(McCullagh & Nelder, 1989, p. 165–167). In addition,  $\mathcal{G}(R_i(\boldsymbol{\omega}_i))$  is approximately constant if  $\mathcal{G}$  is differentiable and if the maximum ratio  $|\boldsymbol{\omega}|/|\mathbf{L}_i \boldsymbol{\omega}|$  is small for  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  a nonzero  $K$ -dimensional



vector. As a consequence, evaluation of the right-hand side of (82) is readily accomplished by use of quadrature procedures designed for integrals of the form  $\int \mathcal{G}\phi_{KV}$ . Application of standard arguments from Bayesian inference to item-response theory (Holland, 1990) suggest that  $\mathcal{P}_{i3}$  is typically on the order of the inverse of the square root of the number  $J_i$  of items presented to examinee  $i$  and  $\mathcal{R}_{3i}$  is typically on the order of  $J_i^{-1}$ .

Determination of an approximation  $\theta_{im}$  to  $\hat{\theta}_i$  can be performed by the same stabilized Newton-Raphson algorithm already described for use in approximation of  $\hat{\gamma}$ . In practice,  $\gamma$  is replaced by  $\gamma_t$  in all formulas required for computation of  $\gamma_{t+1}$ .

In the program, adaptive quadrature is applied in the following fashion. A finite and nonempty set of quadrature points  $\mathcal{Q}$  in  $R^K$  and a positive function  $\mathcal{W}$  on  $\mathcal{Q}$  is given. The set  $\mathcal{Q}_i$  then consists of the vectors  $R_i(\mathcal{U})$  for  $\mathcal{U}$  in  $\mathcal{Q}$ , and

$$\mathcal{W}_i(R_i(\mathcal{U})) = |\mathbf{L}_i|^{-1}\mathcal{W}(\mathcal{U})/\phi_{KV}(\mathcal{U}) \quad (84)$$

for  $\mathcal{U}$  in  $\mathcal{Q}$ . Typically  $\mathcal{Q}$  and  $\mathcal{W}$  are selected so that, for a set  $\mathcal{S}$  of polynomials on  $R^K$ ,

$$\int \mathcal{P}\phi_{KV} = \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{Q}\mathcal{W}}(\mathcal{P}), \mathcal{P} \in \mathcal{S}. \quad (85)$$

### 3.5 Product rules

In many cases, the set  $\mathcal{Q}$  and the function  $\mathcal{W}$  are constructed by use of product rules. For each integer  $k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , a finite and nonempty real set  $\mathcal{T}_k$  and a positive real function  $\mathcal{Y}_k$  on  $\mathcal{T}_k$  are given. The set  $\mathcal{T}_k$  has  $Q_k$  members. The set  $\mathcal{Q}$  is the Cartesian product  $\prod_{k=1}^K \mathcal{T}_k$  of the  $\mathcal{T}_k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , so that  $\mathcal{U}$  is in  $\mathcal{Q}$  if, and only if, each element  $\mathcal{U}_k$  of  $\mathcal{U}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , is in  $\mathcal{T}_k$ . The set  $\mathcal{Q}$  has  $\prod_{k=1}^K Q_k$  elements. The weight function  $\mathcal{W}$  on  $\mathcal{Q}$  is  $\bigotimes_{k=1}^K \mathcal{Y}_k$ , so that

$$\mathcal{W}(\mathcal{U}) = \prod_{k=1}^K \mathcal{Y}_k(\mathcal{U}_k). \quad (86)$$

Properties of  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{Q}\mathcal{W}}$  are derived from the properties of the  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{T}_k\mathcal{Y}_k}$ . If, for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_k$  is a real function on the real line such that  $\mathcal{G}_k\phi$  is integrable and

$$\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{T}_k\mathcal{Y}_k}(\mathcal{G}_k) = \int \mathcal{G}_k\phi, \quad (87)$$

then  $\mathcal{G} = \bigotimes_{k=1}^K \mathcal{G}_k$  satisfies

$$\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{Q}\mathcal{W}}(\mathcal{G}) = \int \mathcal{G}\phi_{VK} \quad (88)$$

(Haberman, 1996, chapter 4).

The basic cases of product rules considered in the program are Gauss-Hermite quadrature and evenly spaced quadrature with normal weights; however, the program can treat other product rules as well. In addition, the program does consider alternatives to product rules in which  $\mathcal{Q}$  is a nonempty proper subset of  $\prod_{k=1}^K \mathcal{T}_k$  and a positive real weighting adjustment function  $\mathcal{A}$  on  $\mathcal{Q}$  is employed. The weight function  $\mathcal{W}'$  on  $\mathcal{Q}$  satisfies

$$\mathcal{W}'(\mathcal{U}) = \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{U})\mathcal{W}(\mathcal{U}) \quad (89)$$

for  $\mathcal{U}$  in  $\mathcal{Q}$ . Multiplication of all  $\mathcal{A}$  by the same positive constant leads to the same quadrature procedure. This result is sometimes helpful in data input.

### 3.6 Gauss-Hermite Quadrature

The most common selection of  $\mathcal{Q}$  and  $\mathcal{W}$  is based on Gauss-Hermite quadrature (Davis & Polonsky, 1965; Hochstrasser, 1965; Ralston, 1965). This approach is well known, especially in the case of one-dimensional quadrature; however, a number of variations exist in the literature concerning the exact scaling employed. In addition, many properties related to weak convergence appear to be little known.

In the Gauss-Hermite quadrature used in the program, integers  $Q_k > 1$  are given for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . The set  $\mathcal{Q}$  is defined by use of Hermite polynomials defined on the real line. For an integer  $Q \geq 0$ , the  $Q$ th Hermite polynomial is defined so that  $\mathcal{H}_0$  is the constant function 1 and, for  $Q > 0$ ,  $(-1)^Q \mathcal{H}_Q \phi$  is the  $Q$ th derivative of the standard normal density function  $\phi$  (Cramér, 1946, p. 133). For  $\mathcal{U}$  real,  $\mathcal{H}_0(\mathcal{U}) = 1$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_1(\mathcal{U}) = \mathcal{U}$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_2(\mathcal{U}) = \mathcal{U}^2 - 1$ , and

$$\mathcal{H}_{Q+1}(\mathcal{U}) = \mathcal{U}\mathcal{H}_Q(\mathcal{U}) - Q\mathcal{H}_{Q-1}(\mathcal{U}) \quad (90)$$

for  $Q > 0$ . For  $Q$  even,  $\mathcal{H}_Q$  has the symmetry property that  $\mathcal{H}_Q(\mathcal{U}) = \mathcal{H}_Q(-\mathcal{U})$  for all real  $\mathcal{U}$ . For  $Q$  odd,  $\mathcal{H}_Q$  has the anti-symmetry property that  $\mathcal{H}_Q(\mathcal{U}) = -\mathcal{H}_Q(-\mathcal{U})$  for all real  $\mathcal{U}$ .

Corresponding to  $\mathcal{H}_Q$  is a set  $\mathcal{N}_Q$  of  $Q$  real numbers such that  $\mathcal{H}_Q(\mathcal{U}) = 0$  for a real number  $\mathcal{U}$  if, and only if,  $\mathcal{U}$  is in  $\mathcal{N}_Q$ . The set  $\mathcal{N}_Q$  has the symmetry property that  $\mathcal{U}$  is in  $\mathcal{N}_Q$  if, and only if,  $-\mathcal{U}$  is in  $\mathcal{N}_Q$ .

In addition to use of standard tables (Davis & Polonsky, 1965), a number of numerical procedures can be employed to find  $\mathcal{N}_Q$  (Golub & Welsch, 1969). Corresponding to  $\mathcal{N}_Q$  is the

weight function  $\mathcal{V}_Q$  on  $\mathcal{N}_Q$  such that

$$\mathcal{V}_Q(\mathcal{U}) = \frac{Q!}{Q^2[H_{Q-1}(\mathcal{U})]^2} \quad (91)$$

for  $\mathcal{U}$  in  $\mathcal{N}_Q$ . The function  $\mathcal{V}_Q$  has the symmetry property that  $\mathcal{V}_Q(\mathcal{U}) = \mathcal{V}_Q(-\mathcal{U})$  for all  $\mathcal{U}$  in  $\mathcal{N}_Q$ . If  $Q = 2$ , then  $\mathcal{N}_Q$  is the set with elements  $-1$  and  $1$ , and  $\mathcal{V}_Q$  is always  $1/2$ . If  $Q = 3$ , then  $\mathcal{N}_Q$  consists of  $-3^{1/2}$ ,  $0$ , and  $3^{1/2}$ , and  $\mathcal{V}_Q(\mathcal{U})$  is  $1/6$  for  $\mathcal{U}$  equal  $-3^{1/2}$  or  $3^{1/2}$  and  $2/3$  for  $\mathcal{U}$  equal to  $0$ .

The set  $\mathcal{Q}$  for adaptive quadrature is then  $\prod_{k=1}^K \mathcal{N}_{Q_k}$ , and the weight function  $\mathcal{W}$  satisfies

$$\mathcal{W} = \prod_{k=1}^K \mathcal{V}_{Q_k}. \quad (92)$$

Equation (85) holds if  $\mathcal{S}$  consists of all polynomial functions  $\mathcal{P}$  on  $R^K$  such that, for each integer  $k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , for element  $k$  of the argument of the polynomial, each term of  $\mathcal{P}$  either is of odd degree or of degree no greater than  $2Q_k - 1$ . For example, consider the case of  $K = 3$  and  $Q_k = 4$  for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}$  satisfy

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U}) = 3\mathcal{U}_1\mathcal{U}_2^9\mathcal{U}_3^6 - 5\mathcal{U}_1^9\mathcal{U}_2^4$$

for  $\mathcal{U}$  in  $R^3$  with elements  $\mathcal{U}_k$  for  $1 \leq k \leq 3$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}$  is in  $\mathcal{S}$ .

A classical error formula is available for the one-dimensional case of  $K = 1$ . Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a real function on the real line which is  $2Q$  times continuously differentiable. Let the  $2Q$ th derivative of  $\mathcal{G}$  be  $\mathcal{G}_{2Q}$ . Then

$$\int \mathcal{G}\phi - \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{QW}}(\mathcal{G}) = \frac{\mathcal{G}_{2Q}(\mathcal{U})Q!}{(2Q)!} \quad (93)$$

for some real  $\mathcal{U}$ . A notable consequence of this formula is that  $\int \mathcal{G}\phi \geq \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{QW}}(\mathcal{G})$  if  $m$  is an even nonnegative integer and  $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{U}) = \mathcal{U}^m$  for all real  $\mathcal{U}$ .

Weak convergence results can be applied to  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{QW}}$  (Rao, 1973, chapter 2). It is helpful to begin with the case of  $K = 1$ . Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a measurable real function on the real line that is continuous almost everywhere with respect to Lebesgue measure. If, for some polynomial function  $\mathcal{G}^*$  on the real line,  $|\mathcal{G}| \leq \mathcal{G}^*$ , then  $\mathcal{G}\phi$  has a finite integral and  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{QW}}(\mathcal{G})$  converges to  $\int \mathcal{G}\phi$  as  $Q_1$  approaches  $\infty$  (Haberman, 1996, chapter 4). More generally, (93) can be used to show that if, for some real function function  $\mathcal{G}^*$  on the real line,  $|\mathcal{G}| \leq \mathcal{G}^*$ ,  $\mathcal{G}^*$  is infinitely differentiable with  $Q$ th derivative  $\mathcal{G}_Q$ , and for some nonnegative integer  $Q^*$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_Q$  is a nonnegative function for all  $Q \geq Q^*$ , and  $\mathcal{G}^*\phi$  has a finite integral, then  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{QW}}(\mathcal{G})$  converges to  $\int \mathcal{G}\phi$  as  $Q_1$  approaches  $\infty$  (Haberman,

1996, chapter 4). For example, for any real  $c > 0$  and real  $d < 1/2$ , this result can be applied if  $\mathcal{G}^*(\mathcal{U}) = c \exp(d\mathcal{U}^2)$  for  $\mathcal{U}$  real.

To obtain results concerning weak convergence for  $K > 1$ , one uses (87) and (86). Use of characteristic functions permits the results for  $K = 1$  to be applied to verify that  $\mathcal{G}\phi_{KV}$  has a finite integral and  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{WQ}}(\mathcal{G})$  converges to  $\int \mathcal{G}\phi_{KV}$  as  $\min_{1 \leq k \leq K} Q_k$  approaches  $\infty$  if  $\mathcal{G}$  is a Lebesgue-measurable real function on  $R^K$ ,  $\mathcal{G}$  is continuous almost everywhere with respect to Lebesgue measure, and, for some nonnegative continuous real functions  $\mathcal{G}_k^*$  on the real line,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , such that  $\mathcal{G}_k^*\phi$  has a finite integral,  $|\mathcal{G}| \leq \otimes_{k=1}^K \mathcal{G}_k^*$ . This result ensures that the integrations required in the program for adaptive quadrature can be made arbitrarily accurate by letting all  $Q_k$  be sufficiently large.

In item-response theory, the number  $Q_k$  of quadrature points needed for  $1 \leq k \leq K$  for adequate integral approximation via adaptive quadrature is normally quite small, especially for relatively high dimension  $K$  (Schilling & Bock, 2005). The basis of this result involves use of asymptotic expansions related to Laplace approximations (de Bruijn, 1970, chapter 4). Results are most favorable if  $G_j = H_j$  for each item  $j$ , and it is quite helpful in typical cases if the number  $J_i$  of items presented to an examinee  $i$  is large relative to the dimension  $K$ . It is common for values of  $Q_k$  from 3 to 5 to be adequate for practical work, and  $Q_k = 2$  may be satisfactory for tests for which  $J_i$  is large.

### 3.7 Normal weights and even spacing

A simple alternative approach to Gauss-Hermite quadrature also relies on integers  $Q_k > 1$  defined for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . Corresponding to each integer  $Q > 1$  is a set  $\mathcal{E}_Q$  with  $Q$  real members such that, for some real  $e_Q > 0$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_Q$  consists of the real numbers  $e_Q[q - (Q + 1)]/2$  for positive integers  $q \leq Q$ . The function  $\mathcal{V}_Q$  is then defined so that

$$\mathcal{V}_Q(\mathcal{U}) = \frac{\phi(\mathcal{U})}{\sum_{\mathcal{U}' \in \mathcal{E}_k} \phi(\mathcal{U})}. \quad (94)$$

The set  $\mathcal{Q}$  for adaptive quadrature is the  $\prod_{k=1}^K \mathcal{E}_{Q_k}$ . The weight function  $\mathcal{W}$  satisfies

$$\mathcal{W} = \prod_{k=1}^K \mathcal{V}_{Q_k}. \quad (95)$$

Weak convergence results again can be applied to  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{QW}}$  (Rao, 1973, chapter 2). Let  $e_Q$  approach 0 and  $e_Q Q$  approach  $\infty$  as  $Q$  approaches  $\infty$ . If each  $Q_k$  approaches  $\infty$ , then rather

similar arguments to those used for Gauss-Hermite quadrature can be used to demonstrate that  $\mathcal{I}_{WQ}(\mathcal{G})$  converges to the Lebesgue integral of  $\mathcal{G}\phi_{KV}$  when  $\mathcal{G}\phi_{KV}$  has a finite integral,  $\mathcal{G}$  is continuous almost everywhere, and  $\mathcal{G}/\phi_{KV}^d$  is bounded for some positive integer  $d < 1$ .

The program permits  $e_Q$  to be specified by the user or to be determined automatically. In the case of automatic specification,  $e_Q$  is  $2/(Q-1)^{1/3}$ . If each  $Q_k$  is 2 and  $e_Q$  is selected automatically, then quadrature with normal weights and even spacing is the same as Gauss-Hermite quadrature. The choice of  $e_Q$  is based on an examination of  $\mathcal{I}_{V_Q\mathcal{E}_Q}(\mathcal{H}_2)$  and  $\mathcal{I}_{V_Q\mathcal{E}_Q}(\mathcal{H}_4)$  for this choice for a selection of values of  $Q$ . Recall that  $\int \mathcal{H}_q\phi = 0$  for  $q \geq 1$ , and note that symmetry implies that  $\mathcal{I}_{V_Q\mathcal{E}_Q}(\mathcal{H}_q)$  is 0 for  $q$  a positive odd integer. Thus  $\mathcal{I}_{V_Q\mathcal{E}_Q}(\mathcal{H}_2)$  and  $\mathcal{I}_{V_Q\mathcal{E}_Q}(\mathcal{H}_4)$  should be near 0 if  $\mathcal{I}_{V_Q\mathcal{E}_Q}(\mathcal{G})$  is to provide good approximations for  $\int \mathcal{G}\phi$  for real functions  $\mathcal{G}$  such that  $\mathcal{G}\phi$  is integrable and  $\mathcal{G}$  has at least 5 continuous derivatives. To illustrate the quality of the approximation in the case of  $Q = 10$ , observe that  $\mathcal{I}_{V_Q\mathcal{E}_Q}(\mathcal{H}_2)$  is about  $-0.00002$  and  $\mathcal{I}_{V_Q\mathcal{E}_Q}(\mathcal{H}_4)$  is about  $-0.0004$ .

In practice, the option for even spacing is most likely to be employed with a polytomous latent vector (Haberman et al., 2008).

### 3.8 Simplex Quadrature

Even with values of  $Q_k$  of 3 or 4, as the dimension  $K$  increases, the set  $\mathcal{Q}$  for Gauss-Hermite quadrature or quadrature with normal weights and even spacing becomes quite large, for  $\mathcal{Q}$  has  $\prod_{k=1}^K Q_k$  members. As a consequence, it is appropriate to seek quadrature approaches that use very few points. Simplex quadrature provides a very simple illustration of a possible approach that only requires  $K + 1$  quadrature points. Let  $\mathbf{c}_K$ ,  $c$  real, be the  $K$ -dimensional vector with all elements  $c$ . Let  $\mathbf{I}_K$  be the  $K$  by  $K$  identity matrix. Then let  $\mathcal{Q}$  be a set of  $K + 1$  vectors of dimension  $K$  such that the following orthonormality conditions hold:

$$\sum_{\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathcal{U} = \mathbf{0}_K \tag{96}$$

and

$$\sum_{\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathcal{U}\mathcal{U}' = \mathbf{I}_K. \tag{97}$$

For  $K = 1$  and  $Q_1 = 2$ , simplex quadrature is the same as Gauss-Hermite quadrature. For  $K > 1$ , the set  $\mathcal{Q}$  must be selected. The normal selection in the program is based on Helmert contrasts.

The set  $\mathcal{Q}$  includes  $\mathcal{U}_k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K+1$ , where element  $j$  of  $\mathcal{U}_k$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq K$ , is

$$\mathcal{U}_{jk} = \begin{cases} \{(K+1)/[j(j+1)]\}^{1/2}, & j \geq k, \\ -[(K+1)j/k]^{1/2}, & j = k-1, \\ 0, & j < k-1. \end{cases} \quad (98)$$

### 3.9 Cross-polytope Quadrature

To define cross-polytope quadrature, let  $\delta_k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , be the  $K$ -dimensional vector with element  $k$  equal to 1 and other elements 0. Let  $\mathcal{Q}$  be the set that consists of the  $2K$  vectors  $K^{1/2}\delta_k$  and  $-K^{1/2}\delta_k$  for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . Then  $\mathcal{Q}$  is the set of vertices of a cross-polytope (Coxeter, 1963). With  $\mathcal{W}$  equal to the function on  $\mathcal{Q}$  always equal to  $(2K)^{-1}$ , one finds that  $\mathcal{S}$  in (85) includes all polynomials on  $R^K$  of degree no greater than 3. If  $K = 1$ , then cross-polytope quadrature is the same as simplex quadrature.

### 3.10 Variants of Gauss-Hermite quadrature

In a variety of cases, a reduced set of quadrature points is used based on Gauss-Hermite quadrature. For example, one might consider the case of  $Q_k = 3$  for  $1 \leq k \leq K = 3$ . One may consider a set  $\mathcal{Q}$  with 19 rather than 27 points. The elements of  $\mathcal{Q}$  include the zero vector  $\mathbf{0}_3$ , the 6 vectors  $3^{1/2}c\delta_k$ ,  $c$  equal  $-1$  or  $1$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq 3$ , and the 12 vectors  $3^{1/2}(c_k\delta_k + c_m\delta_m)$ ,  $c_k$  and  $c_m$  each either  $-1$  or  $1$ ,  $1 \leq k < m \leq 3$ . The function  $\mathcal{W}$  assigns weight  $1/3$  to  $\mathbf{0}_3$ , weight  $1/18$  to  $3^{1/2}c\delta_k$ , and weight  $1/36$  to the remaining 12 vectors in  $\mathcal{Q}$ . Note that in section 3.5, for  $\mathcal{T}_k = \mathcal{N}_k$  and  $\mathcal{Y}_k = \mathcal{V}_k$ , one may define  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{U})$  so that the function  $\mathcal{W}$  assigns weight  $1/3$  to  $\mathbf{0}_3$ , weight  $1/18$  to  $3^{1/2}c\delta_k$ , and weight  $1/36$  to the remaining 12 vectors in  $\mathcal{Q}$ . In this manner,  $\mathcal{S}$  in (85) includes all polynomials on  $R^3$  of degree no greater than 5.

An alternative approach can be based on fractional factorial designs for experiments (Box, Hunter, & Hunter, 2005). One can select a set  $\mathcal{Q}$  of  $K$ -dimensional vectors with all elements either  $-1$  or  $1$ . For some positive integer  $K' < K$ ,  $\mathcal{Q}$  has  $2^{K-K'}$  elements, and  $\mathcal{W}$  is the constant function on  $\mathcal{Q}$  with value  $2^{K'-K}$ . For example, one might have  $K = 8$ ,  $K' = 1$ , and  $\mathcal{Q}$  equal to the set of  $K$ -dimensional vectors  $\mathcal{U}$  with elements  $\mathcal{U}_k$  such that  $|\mathcal{U}_k| = 1$  for  $1 \leq k \leq K$  and such that  $\sum_{k=1}^K \mathcal{U}_k$  is even. In (85),  $\mathcal{S}$  includes all polynomials on  $R^8$  of degree no greater than 3.

## 4 Input and Output Specifications

Input for the program consists of a data file which contains the observations and a control file which follows Fortran 2003 rules for namelist input. The program is run from a command line. Within a Unix/Linux environment (including MacOS), the command line is opened by opening a terminal. In Windows, command prompt is used to obtain a command line. The user is expected to be able to change directories and perform other basic tasks associated with the basic commands of an operating system. Due to weaknesses in memory management in Windows, program performance is typically much better in a Linux/Unix environment.

The program name is `mirt`, and piping is normally employed on the command line to specify a control file. If `control.txt` is the name of the control file and if the executable file is in the path used to find commands, then the program is invoked with the following command:

```
mirt<control.txt
```

The control file uses namelist input records to specify the data, the model parameters, the data files, other input files, and output files. Output generally is designed to produce files with comma-separated values (csv files) readily treated by standard software for spreadsheets. A graphical user interface to simplify input and output is currently under preparation.

Each namelist input record contains a name of a namelist group and pairs of variable names and variable values. The record begins with an ampersand and is immediately followed by the name of the namelist group. One or more blank spaces must follow the name of the group. Zero or more pairs of variable names and values follow, and the record is terminated by a forward slash (/). In each pair of variable names and values, the variable name and value are separated by an equals sign. A user not very familiar with Fortran namelist input should avoid use of exclamation points and use of forward slashes not intended to terminate a record. In addition, in Fortran a blank field for an integer is interpreted as 0. The order of the pairs of names and values does not matter, and a pair need not appear if the default variable value is acceptable. It is prudent to surround a character value by apostrophes, although a pair of quotation marks may also be used. The program terminates if a namelist group is not successfully read. As indicated in the discussion of the various namelist groups, the program may also terminate if namelist variables are invalid.

In this section, the primary data employed for illustrative purposes is a language test in which four skills are tested. For most examples, data from a single test administration is employed. The test includes 34 dichotomous items that measure listening proficiency, 42 items that measure

reading proficiency, 6 attempts that measure speaking proficiency, and 2 items which measure writing proficiency. The listening items all have scores 0 or 1. Of the 42 reading items, 39 are dichotomous items with scores 0 or 2 and 3 are trichotomous items with possible scores 0, 1, or 2. The original speaking items have 5 possible scores from 0 to 4; however, the scores are transformed prior to analysis by subtracting 1 from each positive score. The writing items have original scores of 0 and the integers 2 to 10; however, 1 is subtracted from each score prior to analysis. Generally the 34 listening items are used to illustrate approaches for a test with a one-dimensional latent variable and dichotomous responses. The speaking items are used in some instances to illustrate approaches for a test with a one-dimensional latent variable and with polytomous responses. The complete test illustrates use of methods for a test with both dichotomous and polytomous items and with an underlying latent vector of dimension greater than 1. In many cases, the complete test is used with an underlying latent vector of dimension 4. The data are found in FORM1ANOV.TXT. Data from a different administration of the same test are employed to illustrate analysis when two groups of examinees are involved. These data are in form3cg.txt. These data have a slightly different format, for the writing section scores have already been transformed to the scale from 0 to 9 and there are 41 reading items, of which two trichotomous items have scores from 0 to 2 and one item has four scores from 0 to 3. This section example is used with models with a latent vector with two dimensions, one of which corresponds to all skill except speaking and the other of which corresponds to speaking. The control file listening.txt and associated output file listening.csv provides an example of a simple 2PL analysis with a normal latent variable with mean 0 and variance 1. The control file fourskill.txt with associated output file fourskill.csv illustrates a simple 2PL analysis with a normal latent vector for a between-item model.

The following namelist group names are used. They are arranged in order they appear in the control file.

- runtitle
- numberunits
- files
- units



- dataspec
- numberrecodes
- recodetable
- numberdistrecodes
- recodedisttable
- paramspec
- dimension
- linearspec
- quadsize
- nquadperdim
- griddata
- quaddim
- quadrature
- allfactorspecs
- factorspecs
- allskillspecs
- skillspecs
- allitemspecs
- itemspecs
- catspecs
- intspecs
- slopespecs

- predictorname
- designparameters
- designspecs
- constraints
- readgamma
- inputinformation
- printprogress
- output
- meanprintsspecs
- predictors
- eapoutput
- transformation
- transcomp
- polynomial
- weightedsum
- weightedsumdist
- irfspecs
- irfpoints
- numberweights
- readweight
- scalecounts
- scales

- numberweightsdist
- readweightdist
- itemscores

Variables in each namelist group are defined in the subsection for that group.

## **4.1 *runtitle***

This namelist group has the following variable:

- title

### **4.1.1 *title***

This variable is a character variable with length up to 80 characters. The default value, 'GPCM\_2PL\_Model.with.Normal.Latent.Distribution', corresponds to the default analysis. In listening.txt, 'Listening-Test:2PL-Model' is the value of title in the runtitle group. Were no entry specified for title, then the default title would be used.

### **4.1.2 *Remarks***

Because output is for files with comma-separated values (csv files), it is prudent to avoid commas, spaces, apostrophes, and quotation marks within the run title. This issue applies to all names used in the program; however, no error is reported if spaces are included.

## **4.2 *numberunits***

This namelist group has the following variable:

- count

### **4.2.1 *count***

This variable is an integer from 1 to 90. The default value is 1. It specifies the number of files employed for program output. In listening.txt, the default value is used, for no value is specified for count. In contrast, in listening1.txt, count is 9, for 9 separate output files are specified.

### 4.3 *files*

There are count namelist groups, one for each output file. The  $i$ th group corresponds to Fortran unit  $9 + i$ . Corresponding to the namelist group is the following variable:

- filename

#### 4.3.1 *filename*

The value of filename is the name of a file. To permit use of paths, this value is a character variable with up to 256 characters. The default value of filename is 'output.csv'. If the file specified cannot be opened, then the program terminates with an error message. Note that one file should not be assigned to multiple units. Examples of filename specifications can be seen in listening.txt, where all output is placed in 'listening.csv', and listening1.txt, where 9 separate output files are specified.

### 4.4 *units*

This namelist group has the following variables to specify Fortran units associated with specific portions of the output. For each variable, the default value is 10, the unit which corresponds to the name of the first output file. In listening.txt, this default value is used for all output; however, output is somewhat more complex in listening1.txt. The portions of the output correspond to the following variables:

- unitalpha
- unitbeta
- unitbetacov
- unitbetacov\_complex
- unitbetacov\_louis
- unitbetacov\_sandwich
- uniteap
- uniteapscale

- uniteapskill
- uniteaptrans
- uniteapwt
- unitfreq
- unitgrad
- unitguess
- unitinfo
- unitinfodist
- unitirf
- unititeration
- unititerationstart
- unitmargin
- unitmargins2
- unitmarginwtsum
- unitmargin2
- unitmeans
- unitml
- unitmp
- unitobservedscale
- unitobsscale
- unitobsscalerel
- unitoutdata

- `unitparam`
- `unitparamcov`
- `unitparamcov_complex`
- `unitparamcov_louis`
- `unitparamcov_sandwich`
- `unitpost`
- `unitpreditem`
- `unitprob`
- `unitprobdist`
- `unitpwt`
- `unitpwtdist`
- `unitrel`
- `unitrelskill`
- `unitreltrans`
- `unitrelwt`
- `unitreswt`
- `unitreswtdist`
- `unitscalerel`
- `unitthetaitem`
- `unittitle`
- `unitwtitem`

#### 4.4.1 *unitalpha*

The unit for  $\theta_{im}$  and  $\mathbf{L}_i$ . The specification for  $\mathbf{L}_i$  involves a  $K$  by  $K$  matrix  $\bar{\mathbf{L}}_i$  such that the element in row  $k$  and column  $k' < k$  of the matrix is the element in row  $k$  and column  $k'$  of  $\mathbf{L}_i$  divided by the element in row  $k'$  and column  $k'$  of  $\mathbf{L}_i$  and the element in row  $k' \leq k$  and column  $k$  of the matrix is the element in row  $k$  and column  $k'$  of  $\mathbf{L}_i$  multiplied by the element in row  $k'$  and column  $k'$  of  $\mathbf{L}_i$ . This unit is only useful for adaptive quadrature. It can assist in recalculations. In listening1.txt, unitalpha is not specified and takes its default value of 10. In listeninga.txt, the unit is 11, which corresponds to listeningalpha.csv.

#### 4.4.2 *unitbeta*

The unit used for a list which, for each integer  $b$  from 1 to  $B$  includes the name of parameter  $\beta_b$ , the estimated parameter  $\hat{\beta}_b$ , the estimated asymptotic standard deviation  $\hat{\sigma}(\hat{\beta}_b)$  of  $\hat{\beta}_b$  derived from the square root of row  $b$  and column  $b$  of the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix

$$\widehat{\text{Cov}}(\hat{\beta}) = \mathbf{T}[-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1}[-\nabla^2 \ell(\hat{\gamma})][-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \mathbf{T}' \quad (99)$$

of  $\hat{\beta}$ , the estimated asymptotic standard deviation  $\hat{\sigma}_L(\hat{\beta}_b)$  of  $\hat{\beta}_b$  derived from the square root of row  $b$  and column  $b$  of the Louis (Louis, 1982) estimate

$$\widehat{\text{Cov}}_L(\hat{\beta}) = \mathbf{T}[\Phi_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \Phi(\hat{\gamma}) [\Phi_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \mathbf{T}' \quad (100)$$

of the asymptotic covariance matrix of  $\hat{\beta}$ , and the estimated asymptotic standard deviation  $\hat{\sigma}_S(\hat{\beta}_b)$  of  $\hat{\beta}_b$  derived from the square root of row  $b$  and column  $b$  of the sandwich estimated asymptotic covariance matrix

$$\widehat{\text{Cov}}_S(\hat{\beta}) = \mathbf{T}[-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \Phi(\hat{\gamma}) [-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \mathbf{T}' \quad (101)$$

obtained without the assumption that the model holds (Huber, 1967; White, 1980; Haberman, 1989). If the Louis approximation is used for the negative Hessian matrix in implementation of the Newton-Raphson algorithm, then these three estimated asymptotic standard deviations are all the same. If complex sampling is used, then the estimated asymptotic standard deviation  $\hat{\sigma}_C(\hat{\beta}_b)$  of  $\hat{\beta}_b$  derived from the square root of row  $b$  and column  $b$  of the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix

$$\widehat{\text{Cov}}_S(\hat{\beta}) = \mathbf{T}[-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \widehat{\text{Cov}}(\nabla \ell(\hat{\gamma})) [-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \mathbf{T}'. \quad (102)$$

In listening9.txt, unitbeta is 11. An example of output appears in listeningbeta.csv. In this example, all expressions for standard errors yield rather similar results. The third column is  $\hat{\sigma}(\hat{\beta}_b)$ , the fourth column is  $\hat{\sigma}_L(\hat{\beta}_c)$ , and the fifth column is  $\hat{\sigma}_S(\hat{\beta}_b)$ . In listeningp2.txt, an artificial example of complex sampling is provided in which primary sampling units are defined in terms of a sequence number. In this case, unitbeta is 11. The corresponding file is listeningpbeta.csv. Because the example is artificial, the added column for  $\hat{\sigma}_C(\hat{\beta}_b)$  is quite similar to the other columns.

#### 4.4.3 *unitbetacov*

The unit for the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix  $\widehat{\text{Cov}}(\hat{\beta})$ . In listening9.txt, unitbetacov is 12, and the corresponding file is listeningbetacov.csv.

#### 4.4.4 *unitbetacov\_complex*

The unit for the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix  $\widehat{\text{Cov}}_C(\hat{\beta})$ . In listeningp2.txt, unitbetacov\_complex is 12, and the corresponding file is listeningpbetacov.csv.

#### 4.4.5 *unitbetacov\_louis*

The unit for the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix  $\widehat{\text{Cov}}_L(\hat{\beta})$ . In listening9.txt, unitbetacov\_louis is 13, and the corresponding file is listeningbetacov\_louis.csv.

#### 4.4.6 *unitbetacov\_sandwich*

The unit for the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix  $\widehat{\text{Cov}}_S(\hat{\beta})$ . In listening9.txt, unitbetacov\_sandwich is 11, and the corresponding file is listeningbetacov\_sandwich.csv.

#### 4.4.7 *uniteap*

The unit for the estimated conditional expected (expected *a priori* or EAP) value  $\hat{\theta}_i$  of  $\theta_i$  given  $X_{ij}$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i \cap \mathcal{J}'$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  and the estimated covariance matrix of  $\theta_i$  given  $X_{ij}$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i \cap \mathcal{J}'$ , and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  for each examinee  $i$ , where  $\mathcal{J}'$  is a subset of  $\mathcal{J}$  that may be equal to  $\mathcal{J}$  (Bock & Aitkin, 1981; Haberman & Sinharay, 2010). In listening1.txt, uniteap is 11. The corresponding file is listeningeap.csv. Because the latent variable has dimension 1 in this example and because observations do not have identifiers such as customer numbers, the three columns



consist of a sequence number, an EAP ("Mean\_Listening") and an estimated conditional variance ("Cov\_Listening\_Listening") of the latent variable given the item responses. Note that the conditional covariance of Listening and Listening shown in the output is obviously the same as the conditional variance of Listening.

#### 4.4.8 *uniteapscale*

The unit for the estimated conditional expected value of functions of weighted sums of item scores. The weights have integer values and are defined by readweight. The functions are defined in scalecounts and scales. An example appears in listening10b.txt. Here uniteapscale is 11, which corresponds to listeningeapscale.csv. In this example, the weighted sum is the sum of item scores for the 34 Listening items. There are three scale scores used, each of which corresponds to membership in an interval of possible weighted sums.

#### 4.4.9 *uniteapskill*

The unit for the estimated conditional expected value of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given  $X_{ij}$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i \cap \mathcal{J}'$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  and the estimated covariance matrix of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given  $X_{ij}$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i \cap \mathcal{J}'$ , and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  for each examinee  $i$ . In listening1.txt, uniteapskill is not specified and takes its default value of 10. In this case, no request is ever made for the transformed EAP values, for the dimension of the  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  is 1. In threefacte.txt, transformed EAP values are requested. Here uniteapskill is 11. The corresponding file is threefacteapskill.csv. In this example, the skills are Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing. To each observation corresponds a sequence number, four conditional means, and 16 conditional covariances.

#### 4.4.10 *uniteaptrans*

The unit for the estimated conditional expected values  $\hat{\mathbf{g}}_i$  of transformations  $\mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_i)$  of dimension dimtrans of the latent vectors  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given  $X_{ij}$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i \cap \mathcal{J}'$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  and the estimated covariance matrix of the transformations  $\mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_i)$  given  $X_{ij}$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i \cap \mathcal{J}'$ , and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  for each examinee  $i$ . The transformation  $\mathbf{g}$  is defined in transformation, transcomp, and transcomp. In listeningtrans.txt, uniteaptrans is 11. The function  $\mathbf{g}$  has dimension 1, and element  $g_1(\boldsymbol{\theta}_i)$  of  $\mathbf{g}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_i)$  is 1 if  $\theta_{1i} < 0.5$ , 0.5 if  $\theta_{1i} = 0.5$ , and 0 otherwise. The corresponding file is listeningeaptran.csv. To each observation corresponds a sequence number, a conditional mean, and a conditional variance.

#### 4.4.11 uniteapwt

The unit for the estimated conditional expected value  $\widehat{\mathbf{TS}}_i$  of  $\mathbf{TS}_i$  and conditional covariance matrix of  $\mathbf{TS}_i$  given  $\mathbf{X}_i$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , where  $\mathbf{TS}_i$  is the sum  $\sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}'} \mathbf{IS}_j(Y'_{ij})$ ,  $\mathbf{IS}_j$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}'$ , is a specified DS-dimensional vector function on the integers 0 to  $H_j - 1$ , and the  $Y'_{ij}$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}'$ , are random variables such that  $0 \leq Y'_{ij} < H_j$  and such that the  $Y'_{ij}$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}'$ , and  $\mathbf{Y}_i$  are conditionally independent given  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . The conditional expected value of  $\mathbf{TS}_i$  given  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  is denoted by  $\widetilde{\mathbf{TS}}_i$ , and  $\widehat{\mathbf{TS}}_i$  is the conditional expected value of  $\widehat{\mathbf{TS}}_i$  given  $\mathbf{X}_i$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . As in (9), it is assumed that the conditional probability that  $Y'_{ij}$  equals  $y$ ,  $0 \leq y < H_j$ , given  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i = \boldsymbol{\omega}$  in  $\Omega$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$  in  $\mathcal{Z}$  is  $p_{Y_j}(y|\boldsymbol{\omega})$  (Haberman & Sinharay, 2010). In listening1.txt, uniteapwt is 19. The corresponding file is listeningeapwt.csv. The sum of the item scores for Listening is considered. The format is the same as in listeningeap.csv; however, the scale of results is quite different, for the sums are integers from 0 to 34.

#### 4.4.12 unitfreq

The unit for the estimated frequencies, relative frequencies, and corresponding standard errors of the multiple-choice selections  $X_{ij}^{(c)}$ . For example in distfreq.txt, the frequencies are placed in distfreq.csv. In the case of the initial item, there are two item scores 0 and 1. For the item score 0, there are 1,478 examinees. Of these examinees, 8 selected the first distractor category 0, so that the fraction of examinees with item score 0 with this distractor selection is  $8/1478=0.00541$ .

#### 4.4.13 unitgrad

The unit for the gradients  $\nabla \ell_i(\hat{\gamma})$  from the observations  $i$ . In listening1.txt, unitgrad is 14. The corresponding file is listeninggrads.csv. To each observation corresponds a sequence number and the 68 elements of the gradient. Column labels identify the parameter corresponding to the column, so that "Listening item27\_slope" corresponds to the slope parameter for item 27. This output is generally only relevant for methods of analysis not incorporated into the program.

#### 4.4.14 unitguess

The unit for the test statistics for presence of guessing (Haberman, 2006b). These tests are performed on dichotomous items ( $H_j = 2$ ). Under the fitted model, the test statistic for an

item has an approximate standard normal distribution. Under (40) and (41), the test statistic approaches  $\infty$  with probability 1 as the sample size increases. For an example, see `listening8.txt`, where `unitguess` is 11, and the corresponding output file `listeningguess.csv`. The adjusted residual is the test statistic. In the example, items are present with significant evidence against the 2PL model. For items 29 and 30, which have positive adjusted residuals that exceed 10, certainly might be better fit by a 3PL model rather than a 2PL model. On the other hand, items 5 and 6 may suggest a problem with the 2PL model that does not indicate any benefit from a 3PL model, for the adjusted residuals are negative.

#### 4.4.15 *unitinfo*

The unit used for a summary of information measures used to assess model performance. The log likelihood is provided. The model dimension is  $C$  if  $\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})$  is negative definite. Otherwise, the model dimension is the rank of  $\nabla^2 \Phi_V(\hat{\gamma})$ . The estimated expected log penalty per presented item

$$\text{PE} = \frac{-\ell(\hat{\gamma})}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i J_i} \quad (103)$$

is supplied. The measure is between 0 and the logarithm of the largest number of observed categories associated with an item, so that the measure cannot exceed  $\log(2)$  if all items are dichotomous. This measure has been applied to item-response theory in the case of equal weights and  $J_i$  constant (Sinharay, Haberman, & Lee, 2011). Without the normalization by number of items, the measure has been employed for model evaluation outside of item-response theory (Gilula & Haberman, 1994, 1995, 2001). The logarithmic penalty function itself has a much longer history in statistics (Mosteller & Wallace, 1964; Savage, 1971). The estimated asymptotic standard error of PE is the same as in the case of chained log-linear models for multinomial responses (Gilula & Haberman, 1995). In addition, a version AK of PE based on the Akaike approach (Akaike, 1974) is provided in which the model dimension is added to the numerator in (103), and a version GH of PE based on the Gilula-Haberman approach (Gilula & Haberman, 1994, 1995) is provided in which the trace of  $[-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \Phi(\hat{\gamma})$  is added to the numerator in (103) if  $-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})$  is nonsingular. If the Louis approximation to the negative Hessian matrix is used in computation of maximum likelihood estimates, the GH and AK are the same. If complex sampling is used, then the Gilula-Haberman version of PE is also calculated with  $\Phi(\hat{\gamma})$  replaced by the estimated covariance matrix  $\widehat{\text{Cov}}(\nabla \ell(\gamma))$  of  $\nabla \ell(\gamma)$  based on complex sampling. Complex

sampling options are described in section 4.5. In listening.txt, unitinfo is not specified and takes its default value of 10 which corresponds to listening1.csv. For sample output, see rows 23 to 28 of listening.csv. The penalty label corresponds to the estimated expected log penalty per presented item. The label "SE\_Penalty" corresponds to the standard error of this estimate. This standard error applies to the Gilula-Haberman and Akaike measures as well. Due to the large sample size, all penalty estimates are quite similar and close to 0.5, a value somewhat lower than the upper bound of  $\log(2) = 0.693$ . The Gilula-Haberman and Akaike measures always exceed the basic penalty estimate. As in the example, the Gilula-Haberman and Akaike measures are usually quite close, especially in large samples. They sometimes differ more noticeably when models fit badly.

#### 4.4.16 *unitinfodist*

The unit used for a summary of information measures used to assess prediction of distractors by the model. The default value is 10. The log likelihood is provided for the predicted distractor probabilities. The model dimension is  $C$  plus the number of distractor categories with positive frequencies minus the number of item score categories with positive frequencies if  $\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})$  is negative definite. Otherwise,  $C$  is replaced by the rank of  $\nabla^2 \Phi_V(\hat{\gamma})$ . If the Louis approximation to the negative Hessian matrix is used in computation of maximum likelihood estimates, the GH and AK are the same. The estimated expected penalty per item is then found based on the log likelihood for distractors. If complex sampling is used, then the Gilula-Haberman version of the estimated expected penalty is found based on complex sampling. Complex sampling options are described in section 4.5. In distent.txt, unitinfodist is 11, and the results are in distent.csv.

#### 4.4.17 *unitirf*

The unit for information on item response functions  $p_j(x|\omega)$  for categories from 0 to  $G_j - 1$  and items  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}$  for selected values of  $\omega$  in  $\Theta$ . A conditional and an unconditional estimated item response function is obtained (Haberman, Sinharay, & Chon, 2013). The unconditional estimate is the regular maximum likelihood estimate. The conditional estimate is a weighted average of the corresponding category indicator for cases in which the item is observed. For observation  $i$ , the weight is the product of the sample weight for the observation by the ratio between the estimated conditional probability of the observed response vector  $\mathbf{X}_i$  given  $\omega$  and the estimated unconditional probability of the observed  $\mathbf{X}_i$ . Adjusted residuals may also be obtained

(Haberman et al., 2013). Examples of input and output include `listeningirf.txt`, where `unitirf=11` corresponds to `listeningirf.csv`, `listeningirfr.txt`, where `unitirf=11` corresponds to `listeningirfr.csv`, and `fourskilllirf.txt`, where `unitirf=11` corresponds to `fourskilllirf.csv`. Results provide some indication of model error in all cases.

#### **4.4.18 *unititeration***

The unit for summary information concerning iterations using the full sample. For each iteration  $t$ , the step size  $\alpha_t$  and the log likelihood  $\ell(\gamma_{t+1})$  are recorded. As will be discussed under the `namelist` record for the group `printprogress`, this unit is not relevant if iteration information is sent to standard output. In `listening.txt`, `unititeration` is not specified and takes its default value of 10, so that results are in `listening.csv`. In `listening.csv`, the summary is found in rows 18 to 22. There are 3 iterations, each step size is 1, and the log likelihood changes from  $-162545$  to  $-162543$ .

#### **4.4.19 *unititerationstart***

The unit for summary information concerning initial iterations using a systematic sample of observations. The output is the same as for `unititeration`, save for the initial label for the iteration data. In `listening.txt`, `unititerationstart` is not specified and takes its default value of 10, so that results are in `listening.csv`. In `listening.csv`, the summary is found in rows 9 to 17. There are 7 iterations, each step size is 1, and the log likelihood changes from  $-17897.1$  to  $-16902.3$ . Note that the log likelihood for initial iterations is much smaller than for the regular iterations (rows 18 to 22) due to use of a systematic sample of size 1,000 rather than the full sample of 9,617 examinees.

#### **4.4.20 *unitmargin***

The unit for summary information concerning marginal distributions of individual item responses. If requested, output includes observed and fitted frequency distributions, reliability coefficients of individual item responses. If `printmarginres` is `.TRUE.` in output, then adjusted residuals (or generalized residuals) are also provided. Adjusted residuals are computed throughout the program in a manner quite similar to the approach in Haberman (2009); Haberman and Sinharay (2013). They are constructed to have approximate standard normal distributions in

large samples if the model is satisfied. In `listening1.txt`, `unitmargin` is 16, so that results are in `listeningmarg.csv`. The columns specify item names, category numbers, item frequencies, observed category frequencies, standard errors for observed category frequencies, fitted category frequencies, observed category proportions (or relative frequencies), standard errors of observed category proportions, fitted category proportions, standard deviations of category indicators, standard errors of measurement of category indicators, reliabilities of category indicators, residuals for category frequencies, standard errors for these residuals, residuals for category proportions, standard errors for these residuals, and the common adjusted residuals for both category frequencies and category proportions. For example, for category 1 of Item 1, the item was presented to all 9,617 examinees and was answered correctly by 6,876 of them. The standard error of the number answered correctly was about 44. As should be the case for any 2PL model with no restrictions on item parameters, the fitted category frequency is essentially the same as the observed category frequency. Any discrepancy simply reflects the fact that the algorithm terminates after a finite number of iterations, so that  $\hat{\gamma}$  is not computed exactly. The observed category proportion is 0.7150, so that 71.5 per cent of examinees provided a correct response to this item. The standard error associated with this proportion is 0.0046, so that the proportion is relatively well determined. The standard deviation 0.451 of the category indicator is the estimated standard deviation of the indicator variable which is 1 for a correct answer and 0 otherwise. The standard error of measurement 0.428 for this category indicator ("`Std_err_cat_ind`") is the square root of the estimated conditional variance of the indicator variable given the latent variable. The reliability 0.102 of the category indicator is  $1 - (0.428/0.451)^2$ . It is the estimated reliability of the category indicator when regarded as a test with a single item. The residual for the category frequency, the standard error for the residual, the residual for the category proportion, and the standard error for this residual are all close to 0, for the observed and fitted quantities are the same except for errors in numerical approximation. As a consequence, the adjusted residual is reported to be 0. For a case in which the adjusted residuals are more notable, consider `writing.txt` and `writing.csv`. Here a test of writing with two items is considered with 10 categories per item. A quadratic model is used for logarithms of conditional probabilities of item categories given the latent variable, so that the estimated expected frequencies in `writingmarg.csv` may not equal the corresponding observed values. Indeed there are clearly substantial discrepancies between observed values and estimated expected values, and quite large adjusted residuals are found in a

number of cases.

#### 4.4.21 *unitmargins2*

The unit for a summary for observed and fitted frequency cross products of item scores. Corresponding to any observed value  $h$  of item  $j$ ,  $0 \leq h < H_j$ , is an item score  $\zeta_{hj}$  determined in itemscores. If item  $j$  is presented to examinee  $i$  and  $X_{ij} = h$ , then examinee  $i$  has item score  $\zeta_{hj}$  on item  $j$ . If `printmargins2res` is `.TRUE.`, then adjusted residuals are also provided. In `listening12.txt`, `unitmargins2` is 11, and the corresponding file is `listeningmargs2.csv`. The table format is similar to the format for marginal frequencies described in `unitmargin`; however, categories are not found in the table. For example, consider the entry for Item 1 and Item 2. In this example,  $\zeta_{hj} = h$  for  $0 \leq h \leq 1$  and  $1 \leq j \leq J = 34$ , so that the item score for each item  $j$  and examinee  $i$  is  $X_{ij}$ . Here 9,617 examinees were presented with both items. The product  $X_{i1}X_{i2}$  is either 0 or 1, with  $X_{i1}X_{i2} = 1$  only if  $X_{i1} = X_{i2} = 1$ , the total of cross products of 5,942 indicates that 5,942 examinees answered both items correctly. The corresponding standard error is 47.7. The estimated expected number of examinees with this combination of responses is 5,850, the estimated total of cross products. The observed fraction of examinees with a correct response to both items is 0.6179, the average cross product, and the corresponding standard error is 0.0050. The estimated probability that an examinees answers both items correctly is 0.6083, the estimated average cross product. For the total of the cross products, the residual is 92.0, and the corresponding standard error is 16.1. For the average of the cross products, the residual is 0.0096, and the corresponding standard error is 0.0017. The adjusted residual of 5.71 clearly indicates a problem with the model, although the actual size of the residuals does not indicate a very large discrepancy.

#### 4.4.22 *unitmarginwtsum*

The unit for a summary for observed and fitted frequency distributions for weighted sums of item scores. Output includes observed and fitted frequency distributions for the marginal weighted sums specified in `readweight`. If `printmarginwtsum` is `.TRUE.` in output, then adjusted residuals are also provided. In `listening1.txt`, `unitmarginwtsum` is 18, so that output is found in `listeningmargwtsum.csv`. This output is for the sum of Listening scores for the 34 Listening items. Summaries are provided for exact weighted sums and for cumulative weighted sums. For

example, consider the entry for the score 10. There are 9,617 examinees for which the score could be computed. Of these examinees, 125 have a sum score of 10, and the standard error associated with this frequency is 11.1. On the other hand, 376 examinees had a sum score of 10 or less, and the corresponding standard error of this frequency was 19.0. The estimated expected number of examinees with a score of 10 is 112.3, while the estimated expected number of examinees with a score of 10 or less is 403.5. In terms of proportions or relative frequencies, the observed fraction of examinees with a score of 10 is 0.0130, and the corresponding standard error is 0.0036. The observed fraction of examinees with a score of 10 or less is 0.0391, and the corresponding standard error is 0.0020. The estimated probability of a score of 10 is 0.0117, and the estimated probability of a score of 10 or less is 0.0420. The residual for the number of examinees with a score of 10 is  $12.7 = 125 - 112.3$ , and the associated standard error is 10.2. The residual for the number of examinees with a score of 10 or less is  $-27.5$ , and the corresponding standard error is 10.3. In terms of proportions, the residual for the fraction of examinees with a score of 10 is 0.00132, and the corresponding standard error is 0.00102. The residual for the fraction of examinees with a score of 10 or less is  $-0.00286$ , and the corresponding standard error is 0.00107. The resulting adjusted residuals are 1.25 for the number (or fraction) of examinees with a score of 10 and  $-2.67$  for the number (or fraction) of examinees with a score of 10 or less. The latter adjusted residual suggests some problem with model error, although a comparison of observed and fitted values suggests that the actual discrepancy is not very large.

#### 4.4.23 *unitmargin2*

The unit for a summary for observed and fitted frequency distributions of pairs of item responses. If `printmargin2res` is `.TRUE.`, then adjusted residuals are also provided. In `listening1.txt`, `unitmargin2` is 17, and the corresponding file is `listeningmarg2.csv`. The table format is rather similar to the format for marginal frequencies described in `unitmargin`. For example, consider the entry for Item 1, Category 1, and Item 2, Category 1. Here results are essentially the same as the results discussed in `unitmargins2`. A total of 9,617 examinees were presented with both items, and 5,942 answered both correctly. The corresponding standard error is 47.7. The estimated expected number of examinees with this combination of responses is 5,850. The observed fraction of examinees with a correct response to both items is 0.6179, and the corresponding standard error is 0.0050. The estimated probability that an examinee answers



both items correctly is 0.6083. For the frequency of the combination of responses, the residual is 92.0, and the corresponding standard error is 16.1. For the proportions of examinees with both responses correct, the residual is 0.0096, and the corresponding standard error is 0.0017. The adjusted residual of 5.71 clearly indicates a problem with the model, although the actual size of the residuals does not indicate a very large discrepancy.

#### 4.4.24 *unitmeans*

The unit for output of the mean and covariance matrix of  $\theta_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . The output format is essentially the same as described in *uniteap*; however, because the number of distinct values of  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  is often limited, an option exists to provide a selection of  $\mathbf{z}$  in predictors and to report the mean and covariance matrix of  $\theta_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i = \mathbf{z}$ . Several examples are available. In *listening11.txt*, *unitmeans* is 11. The output is for means and covariances is in *listeningmeans.csv*. Here only the trivial predictor is used, and the mean and variance of  $\theta_i$  are fixed to be 0 and 1, respectively, so that  $\mathbf{z}$  is just the one-dimensional vector with the single element 1. For a slightly more complex case, in *Four3Cn25twogq1.txt*, *unitmeans* is unspecified and has the default value 10, so that output is in *Four3Cn25twogq1.csv*.

#### 4.4.25 *unitml*

The unit for output of what are often called maximum-likelihood estimates  $\tilde{\theta}_i$  of the latent vectors  $\theta_i$  or of functions  $\mathbf{g}(\tilde{\theta}_i)$  of the  $\tilde{\theta}_i$ . The elements of  $\tilde{\theta}_i$  are  $\tilde{\theta}_{ik}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . The name is not necessarily reasonable given that these vectors are random variables, but these estimates are often encountered (Lord, 1980) under this terminology. If *dimtrans* is not positive, then the location  $\tilde{\theta}_i$  of the maximum of  $\log \hat{p}_i(\mathbf{X}_i; \omega)$  over  $\omega$  in  $\Theta$  is provided, where  $\hat{p}_i(\mathbf{X}_i; \omega)$  is the value of  $p_i(\mathbf{X}_i; \omega)$  for  $\beta = \hat{\beta}$ , and the inverse of the negative Hessian matrix at  $\tilde{\theta}_i$  is given. If *dimtrans* is positive and  $\mathbf{g}$  is the function of dimension *dimtrans* defined by transformation, transcomp, and polynomial, then  $\mathbf{g}(\tilde{\theta}_i)$  is given. In *listening15.txt*, *unitml* is 11. The output file is *listeningml.csv*.

#### 4.4.26 *unitmp*

The unit for output of  $\theta_{im}$  and the inverse of  $-\nabla^2 \mathcal{L}_i(\theta_{im})$ . This output is used for maximum a posteriori (MAP) likelihood estimation of the latent vectors  $\theta_i$  (Lord, 1980; Bock & Aitkin, 1981). In *listening1.txt*, *unitmp* is 15. The output file is *listeningmap.csv*. The output is similar

to listeningeap.csv, although in listeningmap.csv, the second column is the MAP estimate and the third column is the inverse of the negative Hessian matrix at the MAP estimate for the observation specified in the first column.

#### **4.4.27 *unitobservedscale***

The unit for output of observed scale scores. Definitions are quite similar to those described in uniteapscale, except that observed rather than conditional expected scores are involved. In addition, an indicator is added for missing data. The indicator is F (.FALSE.) for observation  $i$  if a response value  $X_{ij}$  is either less than 0 or greater than  $r_j - 1$  and the weights corresponding to item  $j$  are not constant. Otherwise, T (.TRUE.) is the indicator value. In listening10c.txt, this unit is 11 and corresponds to listeningobservedscale.csv. As in listening10b.txt, one set of weights and three scales are used.

#### **4.4.28 *unitobsscale***

The unit for output of summary statistics and residual tests for observed scale scores defined as described in uniteapscale and unitobservedscale. The exact output is determined by printobsscale and printobsscaleres. At least sums and means and associated standard errors are produced for observed scale scores. For minimal output, see listening10d.txt and the corresponding file listeningobsscale.csv associated with unitobsscale equal to 11. Because the scales correspond to cut points, the sum of the means of the three scales is 1. For maximal output, see listening10f.txt and the file listeningobsscaleres.csv that corresponds to unitobsscale in this case. Here output includes standard errors for sums and averages of residuals and adjusted residuals. One of the three adjusted residuals does provide some indication of model error.

#### **4.4.29 *unitobsscalerel***

The unit for output of the reliability estimates for observed scale scores. The reliability is the ratio of the sample covariance of the observed scale scores and corresponding estimated EAP scale scores and the sample variance of the observed scale scores. For an example, see listening10e.txt and the corresponding file listeningobsscalerel.csv that corresponds to unitobsscalerel. The reliabiliities here are relatively low. even in comparison with the reliability results for EAP scale scores in listeningscalerelb.csv. This difference appears to reflect the restriction of observed scale

score to the values 0 and 1. Such a restriction is not present in the EAP case.

#### 4.4.30 *unitoutdata*

The unit for a basic data summary that shows the number  $n$  of observations used from the input file, the number  $J$  of items in the analysis, the number  $U$  of predictors, and the filename of the input file. In listening.txt, unitoutdata is not specified and takes its default value of 10. For sample output, see rows 1 to 8 in listening.csv. Here one finds that 9,617 observations are available, 34 items are present, there is only one predictor, the constant predictor, the data file is 'FORM1ANOX.TXT', the total numbers of items presented to examinees is  $9617 \times 34 = 326978$ , and the average number of items presented per examinee is 34, for each examinee is presented with each item.

#### 4.4.31 *unitparam*

The unit used for a list which, for each integer  $c$  from 1 to  $C$  includes the name of parameter  $\gamma_c$ , the estimated parameter  $\hat{\gamma}_c$ , the estimated asymptotic standard deviation  $\hat{\sigma}(\hat{\gamma}_c)$  of  $\hat{\gamma}_c$  derived from the square root of row  $c$  and column  $c$  of the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix

$$\widehat{\text{Cov}}(\hat{\gamma}) = [-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} [-\nabla^2 \ell(\hat{\gamma})] [-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \quad (104)$$

of  $\hat{\gamma}$ , the estimated asymptotic standard deviation  $\hat{\sigma}_L(\hat{\gamma}_c)$  of  $\hat{\gamma}_c$  derived from the square root of row  $c$  and column  $c$  of the Louis (Louis, 1982) estimate

$$\widehat{\text{Cov}}_L(\hat{\gamma}) = [\Phi_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \Phi(\hat{\gamma}) [\Phi_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \quad (105)$$

of the asymptotic covariance matrix of  $\hat{\gamma}$ , and the estimated asymptotic standard deviation  $\hat{\sigma}_S(\hat{\gamma}_c)$  of  $\hat{\gamma}_c$  derived from the square root of row  $c$  and column  $c$  of the sandwich estimated asymptotic covariance matrix

$$\widehat{\text{Cov}}_S(\hat{\gamma}) = [-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \Phi(\hat{\gamma}) [-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \quad (106)$$

obtained without the assumption that the model holds (Huber, 1967; White, 1980; Haberman, 1989). If the Louis approximation is used for the negative Hessian matrix in implementation of the Newton-Raphson algorithm, then these three estimated asymptotic standard deviations are all the same. If complex sampling is used, then the estimated asymptotic standard deviation  $\hat{\sigma}_C(\hat{\gamma}_c)$  of

$\hat{\gamma}_c$  is derived from the square root of row  $c$  and column  $c$  of the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix

$$\widehat{\text{Cov}}_S(\hat{\gamma}) = [-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1} \widehat{\text{Cov}}(\nabla \ell(\gamma)) [-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\hat{\gamma})]^{-1}. \quad (107)$$

In `listening.txt`, `unitparam` is not specified and takes its default value of 10. An example of output appears in rows 29 to 98 of `listening.csv`. In this example, all expressions for standard errors yield rather similar results. The third column is  $\hat{\sigma}(\hat{\gamma}_c)$ , the fourth column is  $\hat{\sigma}_L(\hat{\gamma}_c)$ , and the fifth column is  $\hat{\sigma}_S(\hat{\gamma}_c)$ . In `listeningp.txt`, an artificial example of complex sampling is provided in which primary sampling units are defined in terms of a sequence number. In this case, `unitparam` is not specified, so that unit 10 is used for output. The corresponding file is `listeningp.csv`. Rows 31 to 100 contain the information on parameter estimates. Because the example is artificial, the added column for  $\hat{\sigma}_C(\hat{\gamma}_c)$  is quite similar to the other columns.

#### 4.4.32 *unitparamcov*

The unit for the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix  $\widehat{\text{Cov}}(\hat{\gamma})$ . In `listening1.txt`, `unitparamcov` is 12, and the corresponding file is `listeningcov.csv`.

#### 4.4.33 *unitparamcov\_complex*

The unit for the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix  $\widehat{\text{Cov}}_C(\hat{\gamma})$ . In `listeningp1.txt`, `unitparamcov_complex` is 11, and the corresponding file is `listeningparamcovp.csv`.

#### 4.4.34 *unitparamcov\_louis*

The unit for the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix  $\widehat{\text{Cov}}_L(\hat{\gamma})$ . In `listeningcl.txt`, `unitparamcov_louis` is 11, and the corresponding file is `listeningcovl.csv`.

#### 4.4.35 *unitparamcov\_sandwich*

The unit for the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix  $\widehat{\text{Cov}}_S(\hat{\gamma})$ . In `listeningcs.txt`, `unitparamcov_sandwich` is 11, and the corresponding file is `listeningcovs.csv`.

#### 4.4.36 *unitpost*

The unit for the estimates, for each examinee  $i$ , of the posterior distribution. For the case of latent classes, the posterior probability is estimated that  $\theta_i = \omega$  in  $\Omega$  given the observed

responses  $\mathbf{X}_i$ . In the normal case, the posterior probability is estimated that  $\theta_i$  is equal to  $\mathcal{U}$  in  $\mathcal{Q}_i$  given that  $\theta_i$  is in  $\mathcal{Q}_i$  and given the observed responses  $\mathbf{X}_i$ . In listening1.txt, unitpost is 13, and the corresponding file is hreflisteningpost.csvlisteningpost.csv. Output includes the observation identification and pairs of locations and weights. Thus for the first examinee, the first location is  $-0.286$  and the first weight is  $0.00313$ .

#### 4.4.37 *unitpreditem*

The unit for totals and averages of products of category indicators and predictors. In Four3C25twog.txt, the value 12 is used, and the corresponding file is Four3Cn25twogpreditem.csv. In this example, the predictor is an indicator for membership in Group 2, where examinees are in Group 1 or Group 2. Thus the row for Category 1 of Item 1 indicates that the item was presented to 21,238 examinees, and 7,897 of these examinees answered the item correctly and also belonged to Group 2. The standard error of this number of correct responses from Group 2 is 70. Under the model used in the example, the estimated expected number of examinees who responded correctly and were in Group 2 is 8,537. A similar analysis is expressed in terms of fractions. The fraction of examinees presented the item who answered correctly and were in Group 2 was 0.3718, and the corresponding standard error is 0.0004. The corresponding estimated expected fraction under the model is 0.4020. The residual for the number of examinees with the correct answer and membership in Group 2 is  $-640$ , and the corresponding standard error is 23. For proportions, the residual is  $-0.0302$ , and the corresponding standard error is 0.0011 proportion, so that the adjusted residual is  $-27.3$ , a very small value for an adjusted residual. It follows clearly from this adjusted residual and others in the file that failure to account for group membership induces an appreciable model error.

#### 4.4.38 *unitprob*

The unit for the estimate for each examinee  $i$  of the probability  $p(\mathbf{X}_i)$ . In listening3.txt, unitprob is 11, which corresponds to listeningprob.csv. Output consists of the observation identification and the probability. This output can be used for various model comparisons (Gilula & Haberman, 2001).

#### 4.4.39 *unitprobdist*

The unit for the estimate for each examinee  $i$  of the probability of the observed array  $\mathbf{X}_i^{(c)}$  of multiple-choice categories  $X_{ij}^{(c)}$ ,  $j$  in  $\mathcal{J}_i$ , under the assumption that, conditional on the item responses  $\mathbf{X}_i$  and predictors  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{X}_i^{(c)}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  are independent. In `distprobd.txt`, `unitprobdist` is 11, which corresponds to `distprobdist.csv`. Output can be employed for model comparisons related to distractor analysis.

#### 4.4.40 *unitpwt*

The unit used to provide output for each examinee concerning upper and lower conditional significance levels of tests of consistency with the model of observed weighted sums provided by `readweight`. The weighted sums involve item responses. In `listening14.txt`, `unitpwt` is 12, the unit corresponding to `listeningpwt.csv`.

#### 4.4.41 *unitpwtdist*

The unit used to provide output for each examinee concerning upper and lower conditional significance levels of tests of consistency with the model of observed weighted sums provided by `readweightdist`. The weighted sums involve multiple-choice responses. In `distpwt.txt`, `unitpwtdist` is 11, the unit corresponding to `distpwt.csv`.

#### 4.4.42 *unitrel*

The unit for the estimated reliability coefficients for the elements  $\hat{\theta}_{ik}$  of  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_i$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$  (Haberman & Sinharay, 2010). In `listening1.txt`, `unitrel` is not specified and takes its default value of 10, which corresponds to file `listening1.csv`. The output is found on rows 99 to 110. The average of conditional means is the average of the EAP values  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . The covariance matrix of conditional means is the sample covariance matrix (not corrected for bias) of the  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_i$ . The conditional covariance matrix is the average of the estimated conditional covariance matrices of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  given  $\mathbf{X}_i$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . The estimated unconditional covariance matrix for  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  is the sum of the conditional covariance matrix of conditional means and the conditional covariance matrix. For  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , the reliability coefficient of element  $\hat{\theta}_{ik}$  of  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_i$  is then the ratio of the estimated variance of  $\hat{\theta}_{ik}$  to the estimated unconditional variance of element  $\theta_{ik}$  of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$ . In the example,  $K = 1$ . As should be the case given a model in which the  $\theta_{i1}$  are standard normal variables, the average EAP

of  $-0.00174$  is quite close to 0 and the estimated conditional variance 0.9987 of  $\theta_{i1}$  is close to 1. The reliability estimate for the EAP is 0.867, the ratio of 0.866, the estimated variance of  $\hat{\theta}_{i1}$ , to 0.9987.

#### 4.4.43 *unitrelskill*

The unit for the estimated reliability coefficients for the  $D$  elements of  $\mathbf{A}\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_i$ . In `threefacte.txt`, `unitrelskill` is not specified and takes its default value of 10. The corresponding output is in `threefacte.csv` in rows 100 to 113. The format is quite similar to the format described in `unitrel`; however, results are for the EAP values  $\mathbf{A}\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_i$ . In `threefacte.csv`, the skills are Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing. The reliability estimates range from 0.917 for Reading to 0.871 for Writing. The estimated variances of the elements of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  exceed 1 due to model assumptions.

#### 4.4.44 *unitreltrans*

The unit for the estimated reliability coefficients for the elements of  $\hat{\mathbf{g}}_i$ , where, as in `uniteaptrans`,  $\mathbf{g}$  is of dimension `dimtrans` and is defined by transformation, `transcomp`, and polynomial. In `listeningtrans.txt`, `unitreltrans` is not specified and takes its default value of 10. The corresponding output is in `listeningtran.csv` in rows 225 to 253. The format is quite similar to the format described in `unitrel`.

#### 4.4.45 *unitrelwt*

The unit for the estimated reliability coefficients for the elements of  $\widehat{\mathbf{TS}}_i$ . In these reliability coefficients, estimated variances of elements of  $\widehat{\mathbf{TS}}_i$  are compared to estimated variances of elements of  $\widetilde{\mathbf{TS}}_i$ . In `listening1.txt`, `unitrelwt` is not specified and takes its default value of 10, and results appear in rows 113 to 126 of `listening1.csv`. Results are for the sum of the item scores for the 34 Listening items. The format of results is quite similar to the format described in `unitrel`, except that the estimated means and variances of the sums of the item scores are on a much different scale than are the underlying means and variances of the latent variable.

#### 4.4.46 *unitreswt*

The unit for individual adjusted residuals for weighted sums provided by `weightedsum`. The weighted sums involve item responses. In `listening13.txt`, `unitreswt` is 11 and corresponds to

listeningreswt.csv.

#### **4.4.47 *unitreswtdist***

The unit for individual adjusted residuals for weighted sums provided by `weightedsumdist`. The weighted sums involve multiple-choice responses. In `distreswt.txt`, `unitreswtdist` is 11 and corresponds to `distreswtdist.csv`.

#### **4.4.48 *unitscalerel***

The unit for the estimated reliability coefficients for the elements of the EAP estimates described in `uniteapscale`. Estimated variances of elements of EAP estimates are compared to estimated variances of elements of the vector of scaled scores. For a trivial illustration, see `listening10.txt`, where `unitscalerel=11` corresponds to `listeningscalerel.csv`. This example is trivial, for the result is the same as in `unitrelwt` under the default specification in `scales`. A less trivial example is in `listening10b.txt`, where `unitscalerel=12` corresponds to `listeningscalerelb.csv`. Here three scales are used, each with values 0 or 1. See also the two-scale example in `listening10a.txt`, where `unitscalerel=11` corresponds to `listeningscalerela.csv`.

#### **4.4.49 *unitthetaitem***

The unit for totals and averages of products of category indicators and transformed latent variables. The default value is 10. In `listening7.txt`, the value 11 is used, and the corresponding file is `listeningtheta.csv`. In this example, the one transformed latent variable represents Listening. The observed total is the weighted sum of the products of the category indicator and the estimated conditional expectation of the transformed latent variable given the item responses, and the fitted total is the weighted sum of the estimated conditional expected product given the item responses of the transformed latent variable and the conditional probability given the latent variable of the item response category. In the example, which is from a 2PL model, the observed and fitted totals are virtually the same, as are the corresponding averages. This result follows from the maximum-likelihood equations. Thus the adjusted residuals are reported as 0. For a less trivial case, consider the Rasch model of `listening7r.txt` and the corresponding analysis in `listeningrtheta.csv`. Here the observed and fitted totals and averages do differ to a noticeable extent, and many adjusted residuals are rather large in magnitude.



#### **4.4.50 *unittitle***

The unit for the title of the analysis. In listening1.txt, unittitle is not specified and takes its default value of 10. The title appears in the first row of listening1.csv.

#### **4.4.51 *unitwtitem***

The unit for totals and averages of products of category indicators and weighted sums. In listening6.txt, unitwtitem is 11, and the corresponding file is listeningwtitem.csv. The weighted sum is the sum of the 34 item scores. For the category indicators for a given item, the weighted sum is computed based on all other items. The format is essentially the same as described in unitpreditem. Note that the adjusted residuals suggest model error, although the differences between observed and fitted values are relatively small.

### **4.5 *dataspec***

This namelist group has the following variables:

- fileformat
- filename
- nexternal
- nitems
- nobs
- nobstart
- npred
- complx
- distract
- recode
- recodedist
- stratify

- useid
- usepsu
- weight

#### 4.5.1 *fileformat*

The format for the data file. The default is '\*', which corresponds to list-directed input. If the value is not the asterisk '\*', then the format is in the standard form for a Fortran 2003 format. The order of reading is examinee identification, item responses  $X_{ij}$  for  $j$  from 1 to  $J$ , multiple-choice categories  $X_{ij}^{(c)}$  for  $j$  from 1 to  $J$ , predictors  $Z_{iu}$ ,  $2 \leq u \leq U$ , weight  $w_i$ , external variables  $Z_{iu}$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq U_e$ , stratum number, and number of the primary sampling unit within the stratum. Note that not all variables need be present. For example, with the default weighting, the weight variable is the constant 1 and is not read. The examinee identification is a character variable, the item responses are integers, the predictors, weights, and external variables are floating-point numbers, the numbers for the stratum and primary sampling unit are integers. In listening.txt, 34 item responses are read, and they are located from columns 22 to 55. If the data cannot be read by using fileformat, then the program terminates with an error message. It is important to note that tab coding often permits variables to be read out of order. For example, in listeningp.txt, the sequence 'T4,i2' permits reading of a PSU code in columns 4 and 5 of the input record after the 34 Listening items have been read.

#### 4.5.2 *filename*

The name of the data file. The default value is 'data.txt'. The name may include path information relative to the directory in which the program was called, so that one may have filename with values such as 'data.txt' or '~\data\data.txt'. The filename can be up to 256 characters long. The program terminates with an error message if the file cannot be opened. In listening.txt, the filename is 'FORM1ANOX.TXT'.

#### 4.5.3 *nexternal*

The number  $U_e$  of external variables  $Z_{iue}$  used in construction of summary statistics and residuals. The value should be a nonnegative integer, and the default value of 0 corresponds to no

external variables. The value of `nexternal` is set to 0 if the read value is negative. In `listening.txt`, `nexternal` is not specified, so that no external variables are used. On the other hand, `nexternal` is 1 in `Four3Cntwoge.txt`. In this example, there are two examinee groups, and a comparison of the observed data and the fitted model examines the association of group membership with indicators for item categories. Results are in `Four3Cntwoge.csv`, `Four3Cn25twogeap.csv`, and `Four3Cn25twogepreditem.csv`.

#### **4.5.4 *nitems***

The total number  $J$  of items in the analysis. The program terminates with an error message if a positive integer is not supplied. The default setting is 0, so that this entry must be specified. In `listening.txt`, `nitems` is 34, so that 34 items are read.

#### **4.5.5 *nobs***

The number  $n$  of observations in the data file. The default is 0. A value of 0 or less results in the number of observations being determined by reading the input data. If `nobs` is positive and less than the number of observations in the input file, then only the first `nobs` observations are used in the analysis. The program terminates with an error message if  $n \leq 2$ . In `listening.txt`, `nobs` is not specified, so  $n$  is determined by reading the input data. On the other hand, in `Four3Cn25twog0.txt`, the choice of `nobs` equal to 10004 results in an analysis of the data restricted to Group 1. Results are in `Four3Cn25twog0.csv`. They may be compared with results for complete data in `Four3Cntwoge.csv`.

#### **4.5.6 *nobsstart***

The number of observations used for initial determination of starting values. The default value of 1000 is also used if `nobsstart` is specified but is not positive. Once the data are read, `nobsstart` is the minimum of the input value of `nobsstart` and the number `nobs` of observations to be analyzed. To simplify computations, the observations are selected by systematic sampling.

#### **4.5.7 *npred***

The number  $U$  of predictors  $Z_{iu}$ . The value 1 is the default and is also used if `npred` is less than 1. In `listening.txt`, `npred` is not specified, so that  $U = 1$ . In `Four3Cn25twog.txt`, two groups

are present, so that npred is 2.

#### **4.5.8 *complx***

A logical variable which is `.FALSE.` if complex sampling is not used and `.TRUE.` if complex sampling is used. The default value is `.FALSE.`, and the variable `complx` is set to `.TRUE.` if `stratify` is `.TRUE.`, if `usepsu` is `.TRUE.`, or if `weight` is `.TRUE.` and `.TRUE.` is also the read value of `complx`. In `Four3Cn25twog1c.txt`, `.TRUE.` is the value of `complx`; however, this selection has no practical effect, as is evident by examination of `Four3Cn25twog1c.csv`. Note that the results for standard errors for complex sampling are the same as those for sandwich estimation of standard errors.

#### **4.5.9 *distract***

A logical variable which is `.TRUE.` if distractor analysis is to be performed and `.FALSE.`, the default, otherwise. This in `distprobd.txt`, where probabilities of observed combinations of distractors are estimated, `.TRUE.` is the variable value.

#### **4.5.10 *recode***

A logical variable which is only `.TRUE.` if some recoding of item responses is required. The value `.FALSE.` is the default. In `speaking.txt`, `recode` is `.TRUE.`, so that recoding is employed.

#### **4.5.11 *recodedist***

A logical variable which is only `.TRUE.` if some recoding of categories is required for multiple-choice selections. The value `.FALSE.` is the default, and `recodedist` is `.FALSE.` if `.FALSE.` is the value of `distract`. Recoding for multiple-choice selections is essentially the same as for item responses.

#### **4.5.12 *stratify***

A logical variable which is `.FALSE.`, the default, if stratified sampling is not used and `.TRUE.` if sampling is stratified. In `listenings.txt` and in `listeningsps.txt`, `.TRUE.` is the value of `stratify`. Results appear in `listeningsps.csv`.

#### **4.5.13 *useid***

A logical variable which is `.TRUE.` if examinee identifications are used in output that includes results for individual examinees and `.FALSE.`, the default, otherwise. The examinee identification, if present, is a character variable with length no greater than 32. When examinee identification is not provided, a sequence number is used instead in output files for individual examinees. For example, this practice is seen in `listeningeap.csv`

#### **4.5.14 *usepsu***

A logical variable which is `.FALSE.`, the default, if multistage sampling is not used and `.TRUE.` if multistage sampling is used. In `listeningp.txt`, `.TRUE.` is the value of `usepsu`. This specification affects the values of the estimated asymptotic standard deviations in `listeningp.csv` reported for complex sampling (Fuller, 2009, pp. 64–68).

#### **4.5.15 *weight***

A logical variable which is `.FALSE.`, the default, if examinee weights are all 1 and are not to be read. If `weight` is `.TRUE.`, then the weight variable is read during data input. An error message results if any values of the weight variable are negative. In `Four3Cn25twog1.txt`, `.TRUE.` is the value of `weight`. Because the weight variable is 0 or 1, the practical effect is to confine analysis to Group 2. Results in `Four3Cn25twog1.csv` may be compared with those in `Four3Cn25twoge.csv` to illustrate the effects on parameter estimates of confining attention to Group 2. Note that the results for standard errors for complex sampling are the same as those for sandwich estimation of standard errors.

### **4.6 *numberrecodes***

If `recode` is `.TRUE.` in the `namelist` group `dataspec`, then the `namelist` group `numberrecodes` is read. This `namelist` group has the following single variable:

- `numbercodes`

#### **4.6.1 *numbercodes***

The variable `numbercodes` is an integer array with `nitems` elements. Element  $j$  of `numbercodes` is the number of values of item  $j$  which require recoding. Thus this element must be a nonnegative

integer. The default value is 0, and any negative value is replaced by 0. If some element of `numbercodes` is positive, then a namelist input record for the group `recodetable` is required for each item for which the corresponding element of `numbercodes` is positive. The records are ordered by increasing item number. In `speaking.txt`, there are 4 recodes for each of the 6 item.

## **4.7 *recodetable***

The group `recodetable` contains the following variable:

- `recode_tab`

### **4.7.1 *recode\_tab***

The variable `recode_tab` is a two-dimensional integer array with 2 rows and with number of columns equal to the corresponding element of `numbercodes`. For each column, the first row is a value of the item that is to be changed to the value in the second row. For example, in `speaking.txt`, each item is recoded so that code 0 remains 0 but each code from 1 to 4 is reduced by 1.

## **4.8 *numberdistrecodes***

If `recodedist` is `.TRUE.` in the namelist group `dataspec`, then the namelist group `numberdistrecodes` is read. This namelist group has the following single variable:

- `numberdistcodes`

### **4.8.1 *numberdistcodes***

The variable `numberdistcodes` is an integer array with `nitems` elements. Element  $j$  of `numberdistcodes` is the number of distractor values of item  $j$  which require recoding. Thus this element must be a nonnegative integer. The default value is 0, and any negative value is replaced by 0. If some element of `numberdistcodes` is positive, then a namelist input record for the group `recodedisttable` is required for each item for which the corresponding element of `numberdistcodes` is positive. The records are ordered by increasing item number.

## **4.9 *recodedisttable***

The group `recodedisttable` contains the following variable:

- recodedist\_tab

#### 4.9.1 *recodedist\_tab*

The variable recodedist\_tab is a two-dimensional integer array with 2 rows and with number of columns equal to the corresponding element of numberdistcodes. For each column, the first row is a value of the item that is to be changed to the value in the second row.

#### 4.10 *paramspec*

This namelist group specifies the basic parameters for the numerical algorithm for computation of maximum-likelihood estimates. The following variable names are used:

- maxit
- maxita
- nr
- twostages
- changemin
- kappa
- maxdalpha
- tau
- tol
- tola
- tolres
- tolsing

These specifications are often not modified at all, as is the case in listening.txt.

#### 4.10.1 *maxit*

The maximum value of  $t$  for each stage of iterations. The variable is an integer, and the default value is 50. A choice of `maxit` of 0 or less results in no iterations. This selection can sometimes be relevant when basic computations have already been performed but some additional output is desired.

#### 4.10.2 *maxita*

The maximum number of iterations for approximation of the location of the maximum posterior density of  $\theta_i$  given  $\mathbf{X}_i$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . The variable is an integer. If `maxita` is 0 or less, then quadrature is not adaptive. The default is 10.

#### 4.10.3 *nr*

The logical variable that indicates whether the stabilized Newton-Raphson algorithm is used. If the indicator has its default value of `.TRUE.`, then the customary stabilized Newton-Raphson algorithm is used. If the indicator is `.FALSE.`, then in (53),  $\mathbf{q}_t$  is  $[\Phi_V(\gamma_t)]^{-1} \nabla \ell_V(\gamma_t)$  even if  $[-\nabla^2 \ell_V(\gamma_t)]$  is positive definite. This modification is similar to use of the Fisher scoring algorithm (Fisher, 1925) rather than the Newton-Raphson algorithm in evaluation of maximum-likelihood estimates. The motivation involves reduction in the computations per iteration; however, the number of iterations needed to achieve satisfactory convergence is typically increased. This option is most attractive when the number of items is very large, say more than 100, or the number of quadrature points is large. The option prevents some analysis of effects of specification error on asymptotic variances and covariances. One comparison can be obtained with `fourskill.tex` and `fourskilll.tex`. In the second case, iterations were completed in about a sixth of the time required in the first case. For comparison of results, see `fourskill.csv` and `fourskilll.csv`. Note that the numerical results are slightly different, but the differences have relatively little impact.

#### 4.10.4 *twostages*

Normally there are two stages to computation of the maximum-likelihood estimates. In the first stage, a subsample of `nobsstart` observations is used to obtain an approximation to maximum-likelihood estimates for the full sample. In the second stage, computations for the full sample begin with the approximations from the first stage. If `twostages` is `.FALSE.`, then the first



stage is omitted. Otherwise, the first stage is not omitted. In the default case, `.TRUE.` is the value of `twostages`. In `listeningst.txt`, `twostages` is `.FALSE.` because the final results of `listening.csv` are used as input, so that the initial stage serves no purpose.

#### **4.10.5 *changemin***

In (56), the value of  $\tau_1$ . The default value of 0.0625 is used if the read value of `changemin` is not positive or is at least 1/2. The variable is real.

#### **4.10.6 *kappa***

The maximum permitted value of  $\alpha_t |\mathbf{Tq}_t|$ . The default value 2.0 is used if the read value of `kappa` is not positive. The variable is real.

#### **4.10.7 *maxdalpha***

In adaptive quadrature, `maxdalpha` is the maximum permitted change during iterations with the full data in the elements of the approximation to the location of the maximum of the conditional density of  $\theta_i$  given  $\mathbf{X}_i$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . The variable is real. The default value 3.0 of `maxdalpha` is used if the read value is not positive.

#### **4.10.8 *tau***

For a regular iteration  $t$ , the smallest permitted ratio of  $\alpha_{t(\nu+1)}/\alpha_{t\nu}$  for  $\nu \geq 0$ . The variable is real. The default value 0.1 is used if the read value of `tau` is not positive or is at least 1.

#### **4.10.9 *tol***

The convergence criterion for iterations. Iterations terminate once  $\ell_V(\gamma_{t+1}) - \ell_V(\gamma_t)$  is less than `tol` times  $\ell_V(\gamma_t)$ . The variable is real. The default value 0.00001 is used whenever the input value of `tol` is not positive. In `listeningacc.txt`, `tol` is set to  $10^{-8}$  and the quadrature specification in `quadsizes` uses 10 points rather than the default of 5 points. Results are in `listeningacc.csv`. The difference between results in `listening.csv` obtained with default settings is clearly quite small.

#### **4.10.10 *tola***

For regular iterations, the convergence criterion for approximation of the location of the maximum of the posterior density of  $\theta_i$  given  $\mathbf{X}_i$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . This criterion is only relevant for the

case in which a model is used in which  $\theta_i$  has a multivariate normal distribution. The search stops for examinee  $i$  and iteration  $t$  once the change of  $\mathcal{L}_i$  is less than `tola`. The variable is real, and the default value of 0.0001 is used if the read value of `tola` is not positive.

#### **4.10.11 *tolres***

Tolerance for adjusted residuals (Haberman, 2009). Due to approximations errors encountered in use of iterative algorithms, adjusted residuals are not meaningful if the denominator used in their calculation is very small. If the estimated variance of a residual is less than `tolres` times the estimated variance of the corresponding observation or if the estimated variance of the observation is 0, then the adjusted residual is reported to be 0. The default value 0.01 is used if the input value of `tolres` is not positive.

#### **4.10.12 *tolsing***

The criterion for  $-\nabla^2\ell_V(\gamma_t)$  to be regarded as positive definite at regular iteration  $t \geq 0$ . The constant `tolsing` is real. If `tolsing` is not positive, then the default value 0.000001 is used. The criterion for positive definiteness is that a Cholesky decomposition of  $-\nabla^2\ell(\gamma_t)$  can be computed and that, for each positive integer  $c$  no greater than  $C$ , the square of row  $c$  and column  $c$  of the decomposition is greater than row  $c$  and column  $c$  of  $-\nabla^2\ell(\gamma_t)$ . This criterion is also applied to  $\Phi_V(\gamma_t)$ .

### **4.11 *dimension***

This namelist group specifies the dimensions  $K$  and  $D$  and provides information concerning **A**.

The group contains the following variables.

- `dimlatin`
- `dimlatout`
- `custom`

#### 4.11.1 *dimlatin*

The dimension  $K$  of the latent vectors  $\theta_i$ . The variable is an integer. Any read value less than 1 is changed to 1, and the default value is 1. Thus the default value is used in listening1.txt, but the value 4 is used in fourskill.txt.

#### 4.11.2 *dimlatout*

The dimension  $D$  of the transformed latent vectors  $\mathbf{A}\theta_i$ . The variable is an integer. Any read value less than 1 is changed to 1, and the default value is 1. As in the examples for dimlatin, the default value is used in listening1.txt, but the value 4 is used in fourskill.txt.

#### 4.11.3 *custom*

A logical variable with .FALSE. as its default value. The variable is .TRUE. if, and only if, the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  does not assume its default value. In the default case, for  $1 \leq d \leq D$  and  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , Row  $d$  and Column  $k$  of  $\mathbf{A}$  is 1 if, and only if,  $k = d + K - D$ ,  $D < K$  and  $k \leq K - D$ , or  $D > K$  and  $d \leq D - K$ . Thus for  $K = D$ ,  $\mathbf{A}$  is the identity matrix. The default identity matrix applies in listening1.txt and fourskill.txt. In the restricted bifactor model in fourskillbi.txt,  $\mathbf{A}$  has the default value for  $K = 5$  and  $D = 4$ . All elements in the first column of  $\mathbf{A}$  are one. The last four columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  form the identity matrix.

### 4.12 *linearspec*

If custom of dimension is .TRUE., then the next namelist record is for the group linearspec with the following variable:

- lin\_tran

#### 4.12.1 *lin\_tran*

The variable lin\_tran is a real  $D$  by  $K$  array with the same default specifications as  $\mathbf{A}$  has in dimension. For instance, in threefact.txt, an analysis is conducted with three factors and four skills. The general factor applies equally to all skills. The productive factor contrasts speaking and writing against listening and reading. The oral factor contrasts listening and speaking against reading and writing.

### 4.13 *quadsize*

This namelist provides the basic specification of quadrature points. The following variables are used:

- *dimsize*
- *nquad*
- *cross*
- *equalpoints*
- *even*
- *fullgrid*
- *gausshermite*
- *grid*
- *normal*
- *simplex*
- *pspread*

#### 4.13.1 *dimsize*

This integer variable provides the number  $Q_k$  of quadrature points for each  $k$  from 1 to  $K$  if a grid is used and the value  $Q_k$  is constant for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . This number is reduced to 30 if Gauss-Hermite quadrature is used and the input record has *dimsize* greater than 30. The default value is 5, and the default value is used if the read value is less than 2. For example, in *fourskill.txt*, the choice of *dimsize* equal 3 implies that each  $Q_k$  is 3 for  $k$  from 1 to 4.

#### 4.13.2 *nquad*

This integer variable is the number  $Q$  of quadrature points. The default value is 0; however, in simplex quadrature, *nquad* is set to  $K + 1$  no matter what the namelist record contains, while in cross-polytope quadrature, *nquad* is set to  $2K$  no matter what the namelist record contains. In

the case of a grid, nquad is set to the product  $Q^*$  of the number  $Q_k$  of quadrature points in each dimension  $k$  for  $1 \leq k \leq K$  if a full grid is specified or if the read value of nquad is less than 2 or greater than  $Q^*$ . If a grid is not used and neither simplex nor cross-polytope quadrature is used, then nquad must be an integer greater than 1. If this condition on nquad is not satisfied, then the program terminates with an error message. The file threefact19.txt provides an example in which nquad is set to 19 as in Section 3.10.

#### **4.13.3 cross**

This logical variable has default value `.FALSE.`, and the value is `.TRUE.` if, and only if, cross-polytope quadrature is used. This choice is considered in `fourskillcr.txt`. One may compare the corresponding results in `fourskillcr.csv` to those in `fourskill.csv`. It appears that in this example, there is some appreciable loss in use of the cross-polytope approach.

#### **4.13.4 equalpoints**

This logical variable has a default value of `.TRUE.`, and is `.TRUE.` if, and only if, all  $Q_k$  are equal. An example with this variable `.FALSE.` is provided in `fourskillmew.txt` for a polytomous latent vector with fewer values for the writing factor than for the other factors. Results are in `fourskillmew.csv`

#### **4.13.5 even**

This logical variable, which has a default value of `.FALSE.`, is `.TRUE.` if quadrature points are based on a grid and if evenly-spaced quadrature points are used. The variable is `.FALSE.` otherwise. If a grid is not used, then `.FALSE.` becomes the value of even no matter how this variable was specified in the namelist group. The use of `even=.TRUE.` is illustrated in `fourskillme.txt`, which is a polytomous analogue of `fourskill.txt` with four points per dimension. For results, see `fourskillme.csv`. Note that in terms of estimated expected penalty per item, the polytomous model used here performs a bit less well than does the multivariate normal model of `fourskill.csv`; however, differences are relatively small.

#### **4.13.6 *fullgrid***

This logical variable, which has a default value of `.TRUE.`, is `.TRUE.` if, and only if, a full grid is used, so that quadrature rules are defined as in Section 3.5. In `threefact19.txt`, `.FALSE.` is the value of `fullgrid`, so that the quadrature points of Section 3.10 can be used. Results are in `threefact19.csv`. They may be compared with results in `threefact.csv`, where a full grid was used. Differences in estimates, log likelihoods, and information measures are small but not negligible.

#### **4.13.7 *gausshermite***

This logical variable, which has a default value `.TRUE.`, is `.FALSE.` if Gauss-Hermite quadrature is not used and `.TRUE.` otherwise. Whatever value is read in the namelist input, the variable is set to `.FALSE.` if `.FALSE.` is the value of `grid` or if `.TRUE.` is the value of `even`.

#### **4.13.8 *grid***

This logical variable, which has default value `.TRUE.`, is `.TRUE.` if, and only if, quadrature points are selected from the possible quadrature points associated with a product rule (Section 3.5). For consistency, `grid` is set to `.FALSE.` if `.TRUE.` is the value of either `cross` or `simplex`.

#### **4.13.9 *normal***

This logical variable, which has default value of `.TRUE.`, is `.TRUE.` if the latent vectors have normal distributions. Otherwise, latent vectors are polytomous and have values determined by the quadrature points used. For example, `normal` is `.FALSE.` in the polytomous analogue `fourskillm.txt` to `fourskill.txt`. Results found in `fourskillm.csv` are similar but a bit less satisfactory than the corresponding normal results in `fourskill.csv`. Note the modest increase in the estimated expected log penalty per item and in the corresponding Akaike and Gilula-Haberman measures.

#### **4.13.10 *simplex***

This logical variable, which has default value `.FALSE.`, is `.TRUE.` only if simplex quadrature is used. The indicator is set to `.FALSE.` if cross-polytope quadrature is specified by `cross`. This option is used in `fourskillsi.txt`. Results are in `fourskillsi.csv`. They are appreciably different than results in `fourskill.csv`, although they are remarkably similar given that simplex quadrature only involve 5 quadrature points rather than the 81 used in `fourskill.csv`.

#### 4.13.11 *pspread*

This real variable determines the range of the quadrature points for even spacing. The range defined by *pspread* is used if the variable is positive. Otherwise, the range is determined by the program. For an example with *pspread* specified, see *fourskillme.txt*. The specification of 4.5 together with the use of *dimsize* equal to 4 leads to points at  $-2.25$ ,  $-0.75$ ,  $0.75$ , and  $2.25$ .

#### 4.14 *nquadperdim*

If *grid* is *.TRUE.* and if *equalpoints* is *.FALSE.* in *quadsizes*, then the  $Q_k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , are obtained from *nquadperdim*. This namelist group includes the following variable:

- *Q*

##### 4.14.1 *Q*

The variable *Q* is an integer array with values  $Q_k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . Any read value of  $Q_k$  less than 2 is changed to the default value of 5. If Gauss-Hermite quadrature is used, then any read value of  $Q_k$  greater than 30 is changed to 30. This namelist appears in *fourskillmew.txt*, where  $Q_k = 4$  for  $k < 4$  and  $Q_4 = 3$ . Results in *fourskillmew.csv* are quite similar to those in *fourskillme.csv* obtained with  $Q_k = 4$  for  $1 \leq k \leq 4$ .

#### 4.15 *griddata*

This namelist group is read if *fullgrid* is *.FALSE.* and *grid* is *.TRUE.* in *quadsizes*. An example is *threefact19.txt*. The following variables are used:

- *coords*
- *cw*

##### 4.15.1 *coords*

The variable is an integer array with  $K$  rows and  $Q$  columns. Note that  $K$  is *dimlatin* in dimension and  $Q$  is *nquad* in *quadsizes*. Row  $k$  and column  $q$  is  $i_{kq}$  for  $1 \leq k \leq K$  and  $1 \leq q \leq Q$ . Specifications are based on an ordering of the sets  $\mathcal{T}_k$  of section 3.5 that specify possible values of element  $k$  of a quadrature vector. Let  $\mathcal{T}_k$  consist of the real numbers  $\mathcal{M}_{ik}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq Q_k$ , where  $\mathcal{M}_{ik}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq Q_k$ , is increasing in  $i$ . The set  $\mathcal{Q}$  is determined by  $Q$  index vectors  $\mathbf{i}_q$  of dimension

$K$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq Q$ . Element  $k$  of  $\mathbf{i}_q$  is  $i_{kq}$ , and  $\mathcal{Q}$  contains the vectors  $\mathcal{U}_q$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq Q$ , where element  $k$  of  $\mathcal{U}_q$  is  $\mathcal{U}_{kq} = \mathcal{M}_{i_{kq}k}$  for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . The integer array coords of dimension  $K$  by  $Q$  has row  $k$  and column  $q$  equal to  $i_{kq}$ . The default values of  $\mathbf{i}_q$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq Q$ , satisfy the constraints that  $\mathbf{i}_1$  is the  $K$ -dimensional array with all elements 1. For  $1 \leq q < Q$ ,  $\mathbf{i}_{q+1}$  is obtained by  $\mathbf{i}_q$  by the rule that if  $k(q)$  is the smallest positive integer with  $i_{k(q)q} < Q_k$ , then  $i_{k(q+1)} = 1$  for  $k < k(q)$ ,  $i_{k(q)(q+1)} = i_{k(q)q} + 1$ , and  $i_{k(q+1)} = i_{kq}$  for  $k > k(q)$ . The program stops with an error message if any read  $i_{kq}$  is not positive or is greater than  $Q_k$ . In threefact19.txt, coords is defined as in section 3.10.

#### 4.15.2 *cw*

The real array cw contains the  $Q$  elements  $\mathcal{A}_q$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq Q$ . The default value of  $\mathcal{A}_q$  is 1. The program stops with an error message if any read  $\mathcal{A}(\mathcal{U}_q)$  is not positive. In threefact19.txt, values from section 3.10 have been multiplied by 36 to simplify input.

### 4.16 *quaddim*

If grid is .TRUE. but both even and gausshermite are .FALSE., then the namelist group quaddim is used to define  $\mathcal{M}_{ik}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}_k(\mathcal{M}_{ik})$  are read for  $1 \leq i \leq Q_k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . For  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , the namelist group quaddim is read. An example with evenly weighted and evenly spaced points is found in listeninge.txt, where a polytomous latent variable is used. Results in listeninge1.csv are rather similar to those in listening.csv. The following variables are in this namelist group:

- points
- weights

#### 4.16.1 *points*

This real array of dimension  $Q_k$  contains  $\mathcal{M}_{ik}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq Q_k$ . Default values for  $\mathcal{M}_{ik}$  are  $q_{ik} = c_k[(2i - Q_k - 1)/2]$ , where  $c_k = \{12/[(Q_k - 1)(Q_k + 1)]\}^{1/2}$ . In listeninge1.txt, 7 points are evenly spaced from  $-1.5$  to  $1.5$ .

#### 4.16.2 *weights*

This real array of dimension  $Q_k$  contains  $\mathcal{Y}_k(\mathcal{M}_{ik})$  for  $1 \leq i \leq Q_k$ . Default values of  $\mathcal{Y}_k(\mathcal{M}_{ik})$  are 1. The default selection is used in listeninge1.txt.



The default definitions result in  $Q_k^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{Q_k} q_{ik}^2 = 1$ , so that (85) holds if  $\mathcal{S}$  consists of all polynomial functions  $\mathcal{P}$  on  $R^K$  such that, for each integer  $k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , for element  $k$  of the argument of the polynomial, each term of  $\mathcal{P}$  either is of odd degree or of degree no greater than 2.

#### 4.17 quadrature

The namelist group quadrature is read if in quadsize, .FALSE. is the common value of cross, grid, and simplex. The group depends on the number  $Q$  of quadrature points specified by nquad and the dimension  $K$  specified by dimlatin. The following variables are in this group:

- vecpoints
- weights

##### 4.17.1 vecpoints

The two-way real array vecpoints has dimension  $K$  by  $Q$ . If  $\mathcal{Q}$  has members  $\mathcal{M}_q$  with elements  $\mathcal{M}_{kq}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq Q$ , then row  $k$  and column  $q$  of vecpoints is  $\mathcal{M}_{kq}$ . The default value of each element of vecpoints is 0. An illustration is provided in threeskill.txt, which considers a model for the Listening, Reading, and Speaking skills. Here there are 12 quadrature points, so that nquad is 12. In vecpoints, quadrature points  $c_k \delta_k + c_m \delta_m$  are specified, where  $|c_k| = |c_m| = (3/2)^{1/2}$  and  $1 \leq k < m \leq K = 3$ . As evident from weights, points are evenly weighted. This example is similar to the example in Section 3.10, but (85) holds for  $\mathcal{S}$  consisting of polynomials with terms with the degree of each element no greater than 3. Results in threeskill.csv may be compared with results in threeskill5.csv for the default quadrature. Results are similar but differences are not negligible.

In listeningu.txt, a somewhat different case is considered. The set  $\Omega$  of possible values of  $\theta_i$  consists of the pairs  $(-1, 0)$ ,  $(0, 0)$ , and  $(0, 1)$ , and the 1 by 2 matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  has both elements 1. As a result,  $\mathbf{A}\theta_i$  has a single element  $\theta_{i+} = \theta_{i1} + \theta_{i2}$  with possible values  $-1$ ,  $0$ , and  $1$ . Clearly there is a one-to-one correspondence between  $\theta_{i*}$  and  $\theta_i$ , so that the model specifications in allfactorspecs lead in effect to a 2PL model for Listening with a polytomous latent variable  $\theta_{i+}$  with values  $-1$ ,  $0$ , and  $1$ . Results are in listeningu.csv. Note that, in terms of the information measures PE, GH, and AK, they are relatively similar to those in listening.csv for the 2PL model with a standard normal distribution for the latent variable. The scaling of parameters is not the

same, so that estimated item parameters are somewhat different. The two linear parameters are logarithms of ratios of probabilities. The first ratio is  $P(\theta_{i+} = 0)/P(\theta_{i+} = -1)$ . The second ratio is  $P(\theta_{i+} = 1)/P(\theta_{i+} = 0)$ . Knowledge of the two linear parameters determines the distribution of  $\theta_{i+}$ .

#### 4.17.2 *weights*

The real array weights has dimension  $Q$ . Element  $q$  of weights is  $\mathcal{W}(\mathcal{M}_q)$ . The default value of each element of weights is 1. This default value is used in `threeskill.txt` and `listeningu.txt`. In `listeningbinw.txt`, a nontrivial array weights is employed. In this example, which involves a special case of a restricted bi-factor model, the  $\mathcal{M}_{kq}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K = 7$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq Q = 1000$ ,  $q$  odd, are computer-generated pseudo-random numbers with independent standard normal distributions, and  $\mathcal{M}_{k(q+1)} = -\mathcal{M}_{kq}$ . The weights are obtained by an adjustment by minimum discriminant information (Haberman, 1984) to ensure that (85) holds for  $\mathcal{S}$  including all polynomials  $\mathcal{P}$  on the space  $R^7$  of seven-dimensional vectors such that, for each integer  $k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq 7$ , for element  $k$  of the argument of the polynomial, each term of  $\mathcal{P}$  has odd degree or degree less than 4. Results in `listeningbinw.csv` are fairly close to those in `listeningbi.csv` obtained with Gauss-Hermite quadrature for  $Q_k = 3$  for  $1 \leq k \leq 7$ . It should be noted that this example is relatively difficult for adaptive quadrature due to use of item sets with only 5 or 6 members. The weighting in `listeningbinw.txt` is quite important. The use of even weights and 1,000 sets of normal random numbers in `listeningbin.txt` is somewhat less successful for computation of parameter estimates, as is evident by comparison of `listeningbin.csv`, `listeningbinw.csv`, and `listeningbi.csv`. The basic issue is that in `listeningbi.txt`, (85) does not hold even for polynomials  $\mathcal{P}$  of degree no greater than 2.

#### 4.18 *allfactorspecs*

The namelist group `allfactorspecs` provides factor specifications that apply to all elements  $\theta_{ik}$  of the latent vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  of person  $i$ . The following variables are in this group:

- `factor_specs`
- `fix_diag`
- `fixquad`

- independence
- nolin
- noquad

#### 4.18.1 *factor\_specs*

If `factor_specs` is `.TRUE.`, then individual factor information is read with the namelist group `factorspecs` for each integer  $k$  from 1 to  $K$ . If `factor_specs` is `.FALSE.`, the default value, then no individual factor information is read, and the factor names are 'Factork' for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . In `listening.txt`, the only setting of `allfactorspecs` that is not the default value is `factor_specs`. This setting is used to name the factor in `factorspecs`.

#### 4.18.2 *fix\_diag*

In (12), the  $\lambda_{kk1}$  are  $-1/2$  if `fix_diag` is `.TRUE.`, the default value, and this constraint is not imposed if `.FALSE.` is the value of `fix_diag`. In the case of a normal distribution for the latent vectors,  $\lambda_{kk1}$  implies that 1 is the conditional variance of  $\theta_{ik}$  given  $\theta_{ik'}$ ,  $k' \neq k$ , and the predictors  $Z_{iu} = \delta_{u1}$ ,  $1 \leq u \leq U$ . Thus in the normal case,  $\theta_{ik}$  has variance 1 if  $K = 1$  and  $U = 1$ , while  $\lambda_{121}$  is the correlation coefficient of  $\theta_{1i}$  and  $\theta_{2i}$  if  $K = 2$  and  $U = 1$ . A somewhat nontrivial use of `fix_diag` equal `.FALSE.` is found in `fourskillbi.txt` in the case of a restricted bi-factor model. In this example, this selection of `fix_diag` is made because it applies to all but one of the  $K = 5$  elements of  $\theta_i$ . A related but different case is considered in `listeningbinw.txt`, where a restricted bi-factor model is employed to treat item sets. The variances associated with the item sets are assumed equal but not necessarily the same as the variance for the Listening factor.

#### 4.18.3 *fixquad*

If the logical variable `fixquad` is `.TRUE.`, its default value, then  $\lambda_{kk'u} = 0$  for  $u > 1$ . Thus in the normal case, the conditional covariance matrix of the  $\theta_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  is constant for all examinees  $i$ . If `fixquad` is `.FALSE.`, then  $\lambda_{kk'u}$  is not assumed to be 0 for  $u > 1$ . In `Four3Cn25twogq.txt`, `fixquad` is `.FALSE.`, so that the means and covariance matrices of the  $\theta_i$  both depend on the group to which the examinee belongs. The results in `Four3Cn25twogq.csv` suggest that the gain in model fit is quite limited relative to the results in `Four3Cn25twog.csv` in which the covariance

matrix of the  $\theta_i$  is not affected by group membership. The added estimates of the  $\lambda_{kk'2}$  do appear to be nonzero; however, they are quite small and the changes in information measures are also quite small.

#### **4.18.4 independence**

If the logical variable independence is `.TRUE.`, then  $\lambda_{kk'u} = 0$  for  $k \neq k'$  and  $1 \leq u \leq U$ , so that, conditional on the predictors  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ , the  $\theta_{ik}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , are independent. If independence is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then the elements  $\theta_{ik}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , are not conditionally independent given the  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . In the restricted bi-factor model in `fourskillbi.txt`, `.TRUE.` is the value of independence.

#### **4.18.5 nolin**

If the logical variable nolin is `.TRUE.`, its default value, then  $\psi_{k1} = 0$  for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . In the normal case, this condition implies that the conditional expectation of each  $\theta_{ik}$  is 0 given that  $Z_{iu} = \delta_{u1}$  for  $1 \leq u \leq U$ . If nolin is `.FALSE.`, then the  $\psi_{k1}$  are not set to 0 for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . This case arise in the constrained case of a 2PL model in `listeningc.txt`. In the normal case, nolin equal `.FALSE.` corresponds to a mean of  $\theta_i$  that need not be  $\mathbf{0}_K$ . Thus in `listeningc.txt`, the mean of the latent variable is not set to 0. Instead linear constraints are imposed on item parameters. In `listeningu.txt`, nolin equals `.FALSE.` corresponds to the use of the linear parameters discussed in `vecpoints`.

#### **4.18.6 noquad**

If the logical variable noquad is `.TRUE.`, then the  $\lambda_{kku}$  are all 0. If noquad is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then  $\lambda_{kku}$  need not be 0. This condition cannot apply in the normal case, but it can be employed in the polytomous case for the construction of quite general models. In `listeningu.txt`, the use of noquad equals `.TRUE.` permits use of the linear parameters discussed in `vecpoints` to define the distribution of  $\theta_{i+}$ .

### **4.19 factorspecs**

If the logical variable factorspecs is `.TRUE.` in `allfactorspecs`, then individual factor specifications are provided by the  $K$  namelist records with group name `factorspecs`. The  $k$ th

namelist record corresponds to factor  $k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ . Default values are taken from allfactorspecs when variable names are common to the namelist record factorspecs and the namelist record allfactorspecs. The following variables are in the namelist group:

- factor\_name
- fix\_diag
- independence
- nolin
- pred\_lin\_map
- pred\_quad\_map

#### **4.19.1 factor\_name**

The character variable factor\_name is the name of the factor. The name can contain up to 32 characters. In accordance with standard Fortran practice, the name should be enclosed by a pair of apostrophes or a pair of quotation marks. The default value 'Factor $k$ ' is used if no name is specified. For a simple example, see listening.txt, where 'Listening' is the name of the one factor. In fourskillbi.txt, factor names apply to a general factor and to four factors for specific skills.

#### **4.19.2 fix\_diag**

If the logical variable fix\_diag is .TRUE., then  $\lambda_{kk1}$  is  $-1/2$ . Otherwise  $\lambda_{kk1}$  is not fixed. The default value is the value of fix\_diag. This feature is used in threefact4.txt to establish a general factor with a fixed variance and a productive and written factors with unknown variances. Another use is in listeningbinw.txt, where the variances for the item sets are fixed but not the variance associated with Listening.

#### **4.19.3 independence**

If the logical variable independence is .TRUE., then  $\lambda_{kk'u} = 0$  for  $k' \neq k$  and  $1 \leq u \leq U$ , so that  $\theta_{ik}$  is conditionally independent given  $\theta_{ik'}$ ,  $k' \neq k$ , and  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ .

#### 4.19.4 *nolin*

If the logical variable *nolin* is `.TRUE.`, then  $\psi_{k1} = 0$ . Otherwise,  $\psi_{k1}$  is not set to 0. The default value is the value of *nolin*. This case arise in the constrained case of a 2PL model in `listeningc.txt`. Results of `listeningc1.csv` and `listeningc.csv` are the same.

#### 4.19.5 *pred\_lin\_map*

The logical array `pred_lin_map` of length `npred` indicates which elements of  $\psi_{ku}$  are assumed to be 0. For predictor  $u$ ,  $\psi_{ku}$  is not assumed 0 if element  $u$  of `pred_lin_map` is `.FALSE.` and is assumed 0 if `.TRUE.` is the value of element  $u$  of `pred_lin_map`. The default setting has the first element of `pred_lin_map` equal to `.TRUE.` if `.FALSE.` is the value of *nolin* in `allfactorspecs` and the first element of `pred_lin_map` equal to `.FALSE.` if `.TRUE.` is the value of *nolin* in `allfactorspecs`. In addition, the default setting of `pred_lin_map` is `.TRUE.` for all other elements of `pred_lin_map`. If *nolin* in `allfactorspecs` and *nolin* in `factorspecs` differ, then  $\psi_{k1}$  is assumed 0 if, and only if, `.TRUE.` is the value of *ofnolin* in `factorspecs`. In `Four3Cp.txt`, it is assumed that  $\psi_{31}$ ,  $\psi_{32}$ ,  $\psi_{41}$ , and  $\psi_{42}$  are 0. This assumption implies that the conditional means of the latent variables for Speaking and Writing given the latent variables for Listening and Reading do not depend on the group. For results, see `Four3Cp.csv`, `Four3Cpeap.csv`, and `Four3Cpitem.csv`.

#### 4.19.6 *pred\_quad\_map*

The logical dimlatin by `npred` array `pred_quad_map` indicates which elements of  $\lambda_{kk'u}$  are assumed to be 0. The convention is used that  $\lambda_{k'ku}$  and  $\lambda_{kk'u}$  are the same. For predictor  $u$  and factor  $k$ ,  $\lambda_{kk'u}$  is not assumed 0 if row  $k'$  and column  $u$  of `pred_quad_map` is `.TRUE.` and is assumed 0 if `.FALSE.` is the value of row  $k$  and column  $u$  of `pred_quad_map`. The default setting has `.TRUE.` the value of all elements of `pred_quad_map`. The following rules are used to reconcile conflicts:

- if `noquad` is `.TRUE.`, then each  $\lambda_{kk'u}$  is 0.
- if `fixquad` is `.TRUE.`, then  $\lambda_{kk'u}$  is 0 for any  $u > 1$ .
- if `independence` is `.TRUE.`, then  $\lambda_{kk'u} = 0$  and  $\lambda_{k'ku} = 0$  for  $k' \neq k$ .
- if  $k > k'$  and row  $k'$  and column  $u$  of `pred_quad_map` for the  $k$ th name list `factorspecs` differs from row  $k$  and col

for the  $k'$ th namelist factorspecs, then the specification from the  $k$ th namelist takes precedence.

An application appears in Four3Cp.txt.

## 4.20 *allskillspecs*

General specifications for the elements of the skill latent vector  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  are provided by the namelist group allskillspecs. This group includes the following variables:

- rasch\_model
- rasch\_slope\_1
- repeat\_names
- skill\_specs

### 4.20.1 *rasch\_model*

The logical variable rasch\_model, which has default value .FALSE., determines whether a 1PL or partial credit model is used. If rasch\_model is .TRUE., then  $a_{dhj} - a_{d(h-1)j}$  is constant over skills  $d$ , categories  $h$ , and items  $j$  such that skill  $d$  in  $D(j)$  applies to item  $j$ . For a simple case with rasch\_model equal .TRUE., see listeningr.txt and listeningr.csv.

### 4.20.2 *rasch\_slope\_1*

The logical variable rasch\_slope\_1, which has default value .FALSE., determines whether the slope parameter associated with a skill is 1 under a 1PL model or partial credit model. If rasch\_slope\_1 is .TRUE., then  $a_{dhj} - a_{d(h-1)j}$  is 1 for each skill  $d$ , category  $h$  from 1 to  $H_j - 1$ , and item  $j$  for which skill  $d$  in  $D(j)$  applies to item  $j$ . If rasch\_slope\_1 is .TRUE., then .TRUE. is also the value of rasch\_model. An example with rasch\_slope\_1 equal .TRUE. is found in listeningr1.txt. Output is in listeningr1.csv. As in this example, rasch\_slope\_1 equal .TRUE. is usually associated with fix\_diag equal .FALSE. in allfactorspecs. Note that the information measures and item intercepts are the same in listeningr.csv and listeningr1.csv and the square of the estimated common item discrimination 1.152 in listeningr.csv corresponds to minus the inverse of 2 times the quadratic parameter  $-0.3775$  in listeningr1.csv.

#### 4.20.3 *repeat\_names*

The logical variable `repeat_names`, which has default value `.FALSE.` if  $D \neq K$  and default value `.TRUE.` if  $D = K$ , determines if skill names are derived from factor names. If `repeat_names` is `.TRUE.`, then the name of Skill  $d$  is set to the name of Factor  $d$  for  $1 \leq d \leq \min(D, K)$ . If `repeat_names` is `.FALSE.` and  $1 \leq d \leq K$  or `repeat_names` is `.TRUE.`,  $D > K$ , and  $K < d \leq D$ , then Skill  $d$  has default name 'Skill $d$ '. For example, in `listening.txt`, `allskillspecs` does not specify `repeat_names`, so that the default setting is used. Thus the one skill has the name 'Listening' that corresponds to the one factor name.

#### 4.20.4 *skill\_specs*

The logical variable `skill_specs`, which has default value `.FALSE.`, determines if individual specifications are provided for each skill. If `skill_specs` is `.TRUE.`, then a namelist record for the group `skillspecs` is provided for each of the  $D$  elements of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$ . The value `.TRUE.` is used in `fourskill.txt` due to the use of the Rasch model for one skill out of four.

### 4.21 *skillspecs*

If `skill_specs` in the namelist group `allskillspecs` is `.TRUE.`, then the control file must contain  $D$  namelist records for the group `skillspecs`. Record  $d$ ,  $1 \leq d \leq D$ , corresponds to element  $d$  of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$ . Each namelist group `skillspecs` includes the following variables:

- `skill_name`
- `rasch_model`
- `rasch_slope_1`

#### 4.21.1 *skill\_name*

This character variable provides the name of the skill for element  $d$  of  $\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$ . The name can contain up to 32 characters. In accordance with standard Fortran practice, the name should be enclosed by a pair of apostrophes or a pair of quotation marks. The default value is the value determined in `allskillspecs`. In `fourskillbi.txt`, the four skills correspond to the last four factors rather than the first four factors, so that their names are separately listed.



#### 4.21.2 *rasch\_model*

This logical variable is `.TRUE.` if, and only if,  $a_{dhj} - a_{d(h-1)j}$  is assumed constant for skill  $d$  in  $D(j)$  for integers  $h$  from 1 to  $H_j - 1$ . The default value is the value of `rasch_model` in `allskillspecs`. This option is used in `fourskill.txt` for the Writing skill due to the existence of only two items associated with this skill. Note that in `fourskill.csv`, only one slope parameter is associated with the two Writing items.

#### 4.21.3 *rasch\_slope\_1*

This logical variable is `.TRUE.` if, and only if,  $a_{dhj} - a_{d(h-1)j}$  is 1 for skill  $d$  in  $D(j)$  for integers  $h$  from 1 to  $H_j - 1$ . If `rasch_slope_1` is `.TRUE.`, then `.TRUE.` is also the value of `rasch_model`. The default value is the value of `rasch_slope_1` in `allskillspecs`.

### 4.22 *allitemspecs*

General item specifications are provided by the namelist group `allitemspecs`. This group includes the following variables:

- `int_dim`
- `num_cat`
- `num_cat_obs`
- `num_choices`
- `slope_dim`
- `between_item`
- `cat_map`
- `constguess`
- `fixguess`
- `guessing`
- `item_specs`

- nommod
- special\_item\_int
- special\_item\_slope
- set\_guess

#### 4.22.1 *int\_dim*

The integer variable `int_dim` is the default number of parameters used to define item intercepts. If `guessing` is `.TRUE.`, then `int_dim` is 2. If `guessing` is `.FALSE.`, then the default value of `int_dim` is one less than `num_cat`. In addition, if `guessing` is `.FALSE.`, then `int_dim` is set to 0 for a read value of `int_dim` is negative, and `int_dim` is set to one less than `num_cat` if `int_dim` is at least `num_cat`. In `writing.txt`, `int_dim` is 2, for a quadratic model is employed for the logarithm of the conditional probability given the latent variable that an item response has a specified value.

#### 4.22.2 *num\_cat*

The integer variable `num_cat` is the default number  $H_j$  of underlying item categories for each item  $j$ . If `guessing` is `.FALSE.` and `num_cat` is unspecified or any integer less than `num_cat_obs`, then `num_cat` is `num_cat_obs`. Note that `num_cat_obs` is at least 2. If `guessing` is `.TRUE.` and if `num_cat_obs` is 2, then `num_cat` is 4.

#### 4.22.3 *num\_cat\_obs*

The integer variable `num_cat_obs` is the default number  $G_j$  of observed item categories for each item  $j$ . If `num_cat_obs` is unspecified or less than 2, then `num_cat_obs` is 2. For example, in `speaking.txt`, `num_cat_obs` is 4.

#### 4.22.4 *num\_choices*

The integer variable `num_choices` is the default number of multiple-choice categories for an item  $j$ . The variable is 0, its default value, or negative if the default number of multiple-choice items is not known or if the number of possible responses is not finite. In `listeninggf.txt`, which treats a 3PL model with a fixed `guessing` parameter, the value 4 is used. This choice leads to a guessing probability of 1/4. As evident from PE, AK, and GH in `listeninggf.csv` and `listening.csv`,

this choice of a fixed guessing parameter leads to a less satisfactory description of the data than does the simple 2PL model.

#### **4.22.5 *slope\_dim***

The integer array `slope_dim` has  $D$  elements. For  $1 \leq d \leq D$ , element  $d$  is the default number of slope parameters for each item for skill  $d$ . If element  $d$  is less than 0, then it is replaced by 0. If element  $d$  is greater than one less than `num_cat`, then it is replaced by one less than `num_cat`. The default value is 1 for each element of `slope_dim`.

#### **4.22.6 *between\_item***

The logical variable `between_item` is `.TRUE.`, its default value, if a between-item model is used. The variable `between_item` is `.FALSE.` if a between-item model is not used. In the bi-factor model in `fourskillubi.txt`, `.FALSE.` is the value of `between_item`.

#### **4.22.7 *cat\_map***

The logical variable `cat_map` is `.TRUE.` if the default values of the  $H_{xj}$  do not satisfy  $H_{xj} = x$  for  $1 \leq x \leq G_j - 1$ . Otherwise, `cat_map` is `.FALSE.`, its default value. If `num_cat_obs` and `num_cat` are the same or if `guessing` is `.TRUE.` then `.FALSE.` is the value of `cat_map`.

#### **4.22.8 *constguess***

The logical variable `constguess` is `.TRUE.` if, and only if, a constant guessing parameter is used for all items associated with a 3PL model for a dichotomous item. The default value is `.TRUE.`; however, `constguess` is set to `.FALSE.` if `fixguess` is `.TRUE.`, `fixguess` in `itemspecs` is `.TRUE.` for some item  $j$ , or if `guessing` is `.FALSE.` and `.FALSE.` is the value of `guessing` in `itemspecs` for each item  $j$ . In `listeningggg.txt`, a general 3PL model is defined, so that `.FALSE.` is the value of `constguess`. As evident from `listeningggg.csv`, this selection leads to substantial numerical problems and very poorly identified estimates. In `listeningg.txt`, the default value of `constguess` is used and results in `listeningg.csv` are far more satisfactory.

#### **4.22.9 *fixguess***

The logical variable `fixguess` is `.TRUE.` if a fixed guessing parameter is associated with a 3PL model for a dichotomous response. The variable is `.FALSE.`, its default value, if the guessing

parameter is not fixed or if `.FALSE.` is the value of guessing. This option is used in `listeninggf.txt` with `num_choices` equal 4.

#### ***4.22.10 guessing***

The logical variable `guessing` is `.TRUE.` if a 3PL model is used for dichotomous responses. The variable is `.FALSE.`, its default value, otherwise. In `listeningg.txt`, `guessing` is `.TRUE.` and `constguess` is not specified, so that a 3PL model is applied to each item, and a constant guessing parameter is used. Results are in `listeningg.csv`.

#### ***4.22.11 item\_specs***

The logical variable `item_specs` is `.TRUE.` if individual item specifications are provided in `itemspecs` for each item  $j$ . If `item_specs` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then no individual item specifications are obtained, and item name of item  $j$  is set to `'Itemj'`. If `between_item` is `.TRUE.` and if  $D > 1$  (`dimlatout` exceeds 1 in dimension), then `.TRUE.` is the value of `item_specs`. In addition, `.TRUE.` is the value of `item_specs` if `.TRUE.` is the value of `cat_map`, `special_item_int`, or `special_item_slope`. In `listening.txt`, the default value of `item_specs` is used, so that individual item specifications are not read. In `fourskill.txt`, individual item specifications are required.

#### ***4.22.12 nommod***

The logical variable `nommod` is `.TRUE.` if the default item specification for each item is a nominal model. The variable is `.FALSE.`, its default value, if a nominal model is not specified for each item. For an illustration, see `speakingm.txt` and `speakingm.csv`.

#### ***4.22.13 special\_item\_int***

If `special_item_int` is `.TRUE.`, then a nonstandard parametrization is used for the item intercept. Thus the standard parameter definitions for a generalized partial credit model, nominal model, or 3PL model do not apply to the item. The indicator is `.FALSE.` if `int_dim` is 0. This option is used in `writing.txt`.

#### ***4.22.14 special\_item\_slope***

If `special_item_slope` is `.TRUE.`, then a nonstandard parametrization is used for the item slopes. If each element of `slope_dim` is 0, then `.FALSE.` is the value of `special_item_slope`. In

writingsl.txt, .TRUE. is the value of special\_item\_slope. An attempt is made to analyze with the original scores of 0 and the integers 2 to 10. As evident from writingsl.csv, this attempt does not appear to have improved results relative to writing.csv.

#### **4.22.15 *set\_guess***

The real variable set\_guess is the standard guessing parameter  $\tau_{1j} - \tau_{0j}$  for each item  $j$  for which a 3PL is used. The value is used for this guessing parameter is fixguess is .TRUE., and the value is used as a starting value in iterations if fixguess is .FALSE. but .TRUE. is the value of guessing. If num\_choices is greater than 1 and set\_guess is not specified, then set\_guess is minus the logarithm of 1 less than num\_choices. This choice corresponds to guessing without any knowledge at all. If num\_choices is not positive and set\_guess is not specified, then set\_guess is set to  $-1$ .

#### **4.23 *itemspecs***

If item\_specs is .TRUE. in allitemspecs, then a namelist record with group name itemspecs is read for each item from 1 to  $J$ . For each item, except for the variables item\_name and skill\_num, interpretations and default values are from the allitemspecs group; however, the values are now specific to the item. The following variables are used in the record for the namelist group for item  $j$ :

- item\_name
- cat\_map
- int\_dim
- num\_cat
- num\_cat\_obs
- num\_choices
- skill\_num
- slope\_dim
- between\_item

- fixguess
- guessing
- nommod
- special\_item\_int
- special\_item\_slope
- set\_guess

#### 4.23.1 *item\_name*

The item name is a character variable specified by `item_name`. The name must have no more than 32 characters. The default value is 'Item $j$ ' for the  $j$ th item.

#### 4.23.2 *cat\_map*

The logical variable `cat_map` is `.TRUE.` if a special category mapping is required for the  $j$ th item. The variable is `.FALSE.` if no such mapping is required. The default value is the value of `cat_map` in `allitemspecs`. The variable is set to `.FALSE.` if `num_cat_obs` is the same as `num_cat`, so that  $G_j = H_j$ . The default category mapping has  $H_{xj} = x$  for  $0 \leq x < G_j$ .

#### 4.23.3 *int\_dim*

The integer variable `int_dim` has default value  $H_j - 1$  for item  $j$  unless `int_dim` in `allitemspecs` is not one less than the specified value of `num_cat` in `allitemspecs`. In this latter case, the default value of `int_dim` is the value of `int_dim` specified in `allitemspecs`. For example, in `threefact.txt`, `int_dim` assumes its default value for all items except for those associated with Speaking (`skill_num=3`) and Writing (`skill_num=4`). For the 34 Listening items (`skill_num=1`), `num_cat_obs` and `num_cat` are unspecified, so that the default value 2 is used for the number  $G_j = H_j$  of underlying categories and the default value of  $1 = 2 - 1$  is used for `int_dim`. For 39 of the 42 Reading items (`skill_num=2`), `num_cat_obs` and `num_cat` are unspecified, so that the default value 2 is used for the number  $H_j$  of underlying categories and the default value of  $1 = 2 - 1$  is used for `int_dim`. For 3 Reading items, `num_cat_obs` is 3 and `num_cat` is unspecified, so that  $G_j = H_j = 3$  and `int_dim` is set to  $3 - 1 = 2$ . In the case of the 6 Speaking items and 2 Writing items, `int_dim`

is specified to be 2. If `int_dim` is specified to be negative, then the default value of `int_dim` is used. If `guessing` is `.TRUE.` and `num_cat_obs` is 2, then `int_dim` is set to 2.

#### **4.23.4 *num\_cat***

The integer variable `num_cat` is the number  $H_j$  of underlying categories for item  $j$ . The default is the value of `num_cat` in `allitemspecs`, and any value less than 2 is changed to 2. The value of `num_cat` is changed to `num_cat_obs` if the `namelist` input and the default values otherwise result in `num_cat_obs` exceeding `num_cat`. If `guessing` is `.TRUE.` and `num_cat_obs` is 2, then `num_cat` is set to 4. Note that if `guessing` is `.TRUE.` in `allitemspecs` and `guessing` is `.FALSE.` in `itemspecs`, then `num_cat` typically needs to be explicitly specified when it is not 4.

#### **4.23.5 *num\_cat\_obs***

The integer variable `num_cat_obs` is the number  $G_j$  of observed categories for item  $j$ . The default is the value of `num_cat_obs` in `allitemspecs`, and any value less than 2 is changed to 2. In `fourskill.txt`, `num_cat_obs` is 3 for three Reading items (`skill_num=2`), `num_cat_obs` is 4 for 6 Speaking items (`skill_num=3`), and `num_cat_obs` is 10 for 2 Writing items (`skill_num=4`).

#### **4.23.6 *num\_choices***

The integer variable `num_choices` is only relevant if a 3PL model is employed for item  $j$ . If `num_choices` is positive, then `num_choices` is the number of choices for item  $j$ . For example, this value is 4 if item  $j$  is a multiple-choice item with four choices. The default value of `num_choices` is provided by `num_choices` in `allitemspecs`. For an example with many different values of `num_choices`, see `distreswt.txt`.

#### **4.23.7 *skill\_num***

The integer variable `skill_num` provides the skill number associated with item  $j$  if only one skill is associated with the item. The default value is 1. If `skill_num` has a read value less than 1, then the value is changed to 1, while the value is changed to  $D$  if `skill_num` has a read value greater than the number  $D$  of skills. In `fourskill.txt`, `skill_name` is 1 for 34 Listening items, 2 for 42 Reading items, 3 for 6 Speaking items, and 4 for two Writing items.

#### **4.23.8 *slope\_dim***

The integer array `slope_dim` has  $D$  elements. Element  $d$ ,  $1 \leq d \leq D$ , provides the dimensions of the parameterization for the slope parameters  $a_{dhj}$ ,  $0 \leq h \leq H_j - 1$ , for item  $j$ . The default value is provided by `slope_dim` in `allitemspecs`. If the input record has an element of `slope_dim` less than 0, then the element is changed to 0. If the input record has an element of `slope_dim` greater than  $H_j - 1$  or if `nommod` is `.TRUE.`, then the element is changed to  $H_j - 1$ . If `between_item` is `.TRUE.`, then element  $d$  of `slope_dim` is changed to 0 whenever  $d$  is unequal to `skill_num`. In `fourskillubi.txt`, `slope_dim` is set for each item to produce a slope parameter for the general skill and a slope parameter for the specific skill. Results are in `fourskillubi.csv`. They may be compared to results in `fourskillbi.csv` for the restricted bi-factor model. The statistics PE, AK, and GH indicate that the improvement in data description from the unrestricted model is somewhat limited in this case.

#### **4.23.9 *between\_item***

The logical variable `between_item` is defined as in `allitemspecs` in the sense that only one skill applies to item  $j$ . The default value is the value of `between_item` in `allitemspecs`.

#### **4.23.10 *fixguess***

The logical variable `fixguess` is `.TRUE.` if a 3PL model is used for item  $j$  with a fixed guessing parameter. Otherwise, `.FALSE.` is the value of `fixguess`. The default value of `fixguess` is the value of `fixguess` in `allitemspecs`. The variable `fixguess` is set to `.FALSE.` if `.FALSE.` is the value of `guessing`.

#### **4.23.11 *guessing***

The logical variable `guessing` is `.TRUE.` if a 3PL model is used for item  $j$ . Otherwise, `.FALSE.` is the value of `guessing`. The default value of `guessing` is the value of `guessing` in `allitemspecs`. The variable `fixguess` is set to `.FALSE.` if `.FALSE.` is the value of `guessing`, if `num_cat_obs` is greater than 2, or if `.TRUE.` is the value of `nommod`.



#### 4.23.12 *nommod*

The logical variable `nommod` is `.TRUE.` if a nominal model is used for item  $j$ . Otherwise, `.FALSE.` is the value of `nommod`. The default value of `nommod` is the value of `nommod` in `allitemspecs`. The variable `fixguess` is set to `.FALSE.` if `.FALSE.` is the value of `guessing`, if `num_cat_obs` is greater than 2, or if `.TRUE.` is the value of `nommod`.

#### 4.23.13 *special\_item\_int*

The logical variable `special_item_int` is `.TRUE.` if a special definition of the parameterization is required for the item intercepts  $\tau_{hj}$ ,  $0 \leq h \leq H_j - 1$ . Otherwise, `.FALSE.` is the value of `special_item_int`. The default value is the value of `special_item_int` in `allitemspecs`. The value of `special_item_int` is `.TRUE.` for Speaking and Writing items in `threefact.txt`.

#### 4.23.14 *special\_item\_slope*

The logical variable `special_item_slope` is `.TRUE.` if a special definition of the parameterization is required for the item slopes  $a_{dhj}$ ,  $1] \leq d \leq D$ ,  $0 \leq h \leq H_j - 1$ . Otherwise, `.FALSE.` is the value of `special_item_slope`. The default value is the value of `special_item_slope` in `allitemspecs`. In `Four1Am81.txt`, `special_item_slope` is `.TRUE.` for the last two items, where the actual item scores are 0, 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9, and 10.

#### 4.23.15 *set\_guess*

The real variable `set_guess` is the guessing parameter  $\tau_{1j} - \tau_{0j}$  for item  $j$  if a 3PL is used. The default value is the value of `set_guess` in `allitemspecs`. The value is used for this guessing parameter if `fixguess` is `.TRUE.`, and the value is used as a starting value in iterations if `fixguess` is `.FALSE.` but `.TRUE.` is the value of `guessing`. If `num_choices` is greater than 1, `set_guess` is not specified, and `set_guess` is not specified in `allitemspecs`, then `set_guess` is minus the logarithm of 1 less than `num_choices`.

Additional item specifications are read if, for any item, `.TRUE.` is the value of `cat_map`, `special_item_int`, or `special_item_slope`. Each record for item  $j$  is read before any record for item  $j'$  is read for  $j' > j$ .

#### 4.24 *catspecs*

If `cat_map` is `.TRUE.`, then the namelist record is read for group `catspecs`. This group includes the following variable:

- `cat_array`

##### 4.24.1 *cat\_array*

The real array `cat_array` has size  $G_j - 1$ . The values of `cat_array` are the  $H_{xj}$ ,  $1 \leq x \leq G_j - 1$ . The default value for element  $x$  of `cat_array` is  $x$ .

#### 4.25 *intspeccs*

If `special_item_int` is `.TRUE.`, then the namelist group `intspeccs` is read. The following variable is in this group:

- `int_array`

##### 4.25.1 *int\_array*

The real array `int_array` has dimension  $H_j$  by `int_dim`. This array specifies  $\mathbf{T}_{\tau j}^1$ . The default mapping corresponds to the customary mapping for a generalized partial credit model or nominal model if no guessing parameter is used and corresponds to the 3PL parameter if the guessing parameter is used. This option is employed in `threefact.txt` for intercepts for Speaking and Writing.

#### 4.26 *slopespecs*

If `special_item_slope` is `.TRUE.`, then the namelist record for the group `slopespecs` is read for  $1 \leq d \leq D$  for any integer  $d$  such that element  $d$  of `slope_dim` is positive. The group has the following variable:

- `slope_array`

##### 4.26.1 *slope\_array*

The variable `slope_array` is a two-dimensional real array. The first dimension is  $H_j$  and the second dimension is element  $d$  of `slope_dim`. The array defines  $\mathbf{T}_{ad}^2$ . In `Four1Am81.txt`, `int_array`

and slope\_array are selected to reflect linear and quadratic terms based on the actual item scores of 0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10. Results are in Four1Am81.csv.

#### **4.27 *predictorname***

The namelist group predictorname is used to specify names of predictors. The group includes the following variable:

- pred\_name

##### **4.27.1 *pred\_name***

This variable is an array of character variables, each of length no greater than 32 characters. The number of elements in the array is the sum of npred and nexternal. The initial elements of the array correspond to predictors in the model. The last elements are external predictors not used in the model. The default name for the initial predictor name is 'Constant', and, for either npred greater than 1 or nexternal positive, the default name of predictor  $u$  is 'Predictor  $u - 1$ '. For any example, see Four3Cn25twog.txt and Four3Cn25twog.csv, where a model for two groups is used.

#### **4.28 *designparameters***

The namelist group designparameters provides alternative parameterizations for the parameter vector  $\gamma$ . The following variables are in this namelist group:

- constdim
- constdim1
- dimdesign
- proposit
- specialtrans

##### **4.28.1 *constdim***

The integer variable constdim is the the number of linear constraints on  $\gamma$ . The default value is 0, and any negative value is changed to 0. In listeningc.txt, constdim is 2, for constraints are imposed on the sum of the item discriminations and the sum of the item slopes. In

listeningc.txt and listeningc.csv, constdim is 2, for constraints are imposed on the sum of the item discriminations and the sum of the item slopes.

#### **4.28.2 *constdim1***

The integer variable constdim1 is the the number of linear constraints on  $\gamma$  which do not involve constraints required to identify parameters in the model. The default value is 0, and any negative value is changed to 0. In addition, if constdim1 exceeds constdim, then constdim1 is set to constdim. The difference between constdim and constdim1 is the  $V$  used in section 2.5. In listeningc2.txt and listeningc2.csv, the single constraint is that the first two item intercepts are the same. This constraint is not needed to identify parameters, so that constdim1 and constdim are both 1.

#### **4.28.3 *dimdesign***

The integer variable dimdesign is the value of the dimension  $C$  of  $\gamma$ . If not specified,  $C$  is the value computed from the standard model calculations. Processing stops unless dimdesign is positive. For a very simple example, consider speakingn.txt and speakingn.csv. Here the actual model considered is that the six Speaking responses are independently and identically distributed random variables. For such a model, only 3 independent parameters are needed, so that dimdesign is 3.

#### **4.28.4 *proport***

The logical variable proport is .TRUE., its default value, if the quadratic constraint matrix is proportional to the sample size. This variable is only relevant if constdim is positive. In listeningggcc.txt and listeningggcc.csv, this variable is set to .FALSE. in order to employ maximum posterior likelihood in which each parameter  $\gamma_c$ ,  $1 \leq c \leq C = 102$ , has an independent prior normal distribution with mean 0 and variance 0.5. Here the  $\gamma_c$  parameters include 34 item intercepts, 34 logits of item guessing parameters, and 34 item discriminations.

#### **4.28.5 *specialtrans***

If this logical variable is .TRUE., then custom parameter names and custom values of  $\mathbf{T}^2$  and  $\mathbf{o}^2$  are read. The default value of .FALSE. results in use of customary parameter names and values

of  $\mathbf{T}^2$  and  $\mathbf{o}^2$ . In speakingn.txt, .TRUE. is the value of specialtrans, for a special linear model must be constructed for the parameters in the generalized partial credit model.

#### 4.29 *designspecs*

If specialtrans is .TRUE., then the namelist group designspecs specifies the special design to be used. The following variables are in designspecs

- param\_name
- offsettran
- transition

##### 4.29.1 *param\_name*

The character variable param\_name is an array with  $C$  elements, each of which can have up to 64 characters. In speakingn.txt, the parameter names represent the common ratios  $\log[P(X_{ij} = k + 1)/P(X_{ij} = k)]$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq 6$ , for  $k$  from 0 to 2. The default for element  $c$  of param\_name is 'Parameter $c$ '.

##### 4.29.2 *offsettran*

The real array offsettran has dimension  $B^1$  and is equal to  $\mathbf{o}$  in (33). In speakingn.txt, offsettran is just an array of 26 elements, each of which is 0. The default value of each element of offsettran is 0.

##### 4.29.3 *transition*

The two-dimensional real array transition has dimension  $B^1$  by  $C$ . Note that the array is read in standard Fortran order, so that rows vary faster than columns. In speakingn.txt, transition is a 26 by 3 array with all elements 0 or 1. In column  $k$ , values of 1 correspond to the common differences  $\tau_{kj} - \tau_{(k-1)j}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq 6$ . The default value of row  $b^1$  and column  $c$  of transition is 1 for  $b^1 = c$  and 0 for  $b^1 \neq c$ .

#### 4.30 *constraints*

If in designparameters, constdim is positive, then linear constraints are specified by the namelist group constraints. The following variables are in the group:

- `const_mat`
- `const_vec`

#### 4.30.1 *const\_mat*

The variable `const_mat` is a real array with row dimension  $C$  and column dimension `constdim`. The initial `constdim1` columns are not required to identify parameters. The remaining columns provide the transpose  $\mathbf{S}'$  of the matrix  $\mathbf{S}$  of section 2.5. The default value of each element of `const_mat` is 0 if the row and column are different and 1 if the row and column are the same. In `listeningc.txt`, `constdim` is 2 in `designparameters` and `fix_diag` and `nolin` in `allfactorspecs` are `.FALSE.`, so that  $C = 70$ . The choice of  $\mathbf{S}'$  corresponds to linear constraints on the sums  $\sum_{j=1}^{34} \gamma_j$  and  $\sum_{j=35}^{68} \gamma_j$ , where  $\gamma_j = \tau_{1j} - \tau_{0j}$  and  $\gamma_{34+j} = a_{11j} - a_{10j}$  for  $1 \leq j \leq 34$ . In `listeningc2.txt`, the linear constraint is on the difference between  $\gamma_1$  and  $\gamma_2$ .

#### 4.30.2 *const\_vec*

The real array `const_vec` is the array with size `constdim`. The first `constdim1` elements correspond to the first `constdim1` columns of `const_mat`. The remaining elements provide the vector  $\mathbf{s}$  in section 2.5. The default element of `const_vec` is 0. For example, in `listeningc.txt`, `const_vec` is the real array with elements 0 and 34, so that the average value of  $\tau_{1j} - \tau_{0j}$  is 0 and the average value of  $a_{11j} - a_{10j}$  is 1. Results are found in `listeningc.csv`. In `listeningc2.txt`,  $\gamma_1 - \gamma_2$  is 0, so that  $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2$ . Results are found in `listeningc2.csv`.

### 4.31 *readgamma*

The namelist group `readgamma` specifies initial values  $\gamma_0$  for the computation of estimated parameter vector  $\hat{\gamma}$ . The following variables are in the group:

- `gammafile`
- `usegammafile`
- `skip`
- `gammas`

#### 4.31.1 *gammafile*

This character variable with up to 256 characters is the name of the file from which  $\gamma_0$  is to be read if `.TRUE.` is the value of `usegammafile`. The default is 'gammas.csv'. In `listeningst1.txt`, the estimates from `listening.csv` are used to set  $\gamma_0$ . Naturally, results in `listeningst1.csv` are very similar to those in `listening.csv`.

#### 4.31.2 *usegammafile*

This logical variable with default value `.FALSE.` is `.TRUE.` if  $\gamma_0$  is obtained from an external file specified by `gammafile`, as is the case in `listeningst1.txt`.

#### 4.31.3 *skip*

This integer variable specifies the number of lines to skip in `gammafile` if `usegammafile` is `.TRUE.` in order to find the parameter estimates from a file of comma-separated-values with the same format as used in `unitparam`. The default value is 2, the value found if a previous use of the program has produced a parameter file that corresponds to `unitparam` in a case in which `unitparam` is different from other unit numbers specified in `units`. In `listeningst1.txt`, the value is 31, for `listening.csv` also contains a data summary and iteration summaries. A negative value of `skip` is replaced by 0.

#### 4.31.4 *gammas*

The real array `gammas` of  $C$  elements provides starting values for computation of  $\hat{\gamma}$ . Element  $c$  of `gammas` is the starting value for  $\hat{\gamma}_c$ . If `gammas` is unspecified and if `usegammafile` is `.FALSE.`, then the program produces its own crude starting values. For example, these default starting values are used in `listening.txt`. In `listeningst.txt`, the estimates from `listening.csv` are used as input.

### 4.32 *inputinformation*

If the model employed assumes that  $\theta_i$  is normally distributed, so that `normal` is `.TRUE.` in `quadsizes`, then the namelist group `inputinformation` is used to specify initial values for  $\theta_{im}$  and  $\mathbf{L}_i$  for each observation  $i$ . The following variables are included in this namelist group:

- `fileformat`

- filename
- readalpha

An example of use of this namelist group can be seen in listeningb.txt, which uses output from listeninga.txt. In listening.txt, one has a typical case in which default values are used for this namelist group.

#### 4.32.1 *fileformat*

This character variable specifies the file format. The variable has up to 256 characters. List-directed input is used if '\*', the default value, is the value of fileformat. Each record includes the  $K$  elements of  $\theta_{im}$  and the  $K$  by  $K$  array  $\bar{\mathbf{L}}_i$ . In listeningb.txt, this variable is '\*', so that input is list-directed.

#### 4.32.2 *filename*

This character variable has up to 256 characters, and 'alpha.csv' is its default value. The value is 'listeningalpha.csv' in listeningb.txt.

#### 4.32.3 *readalpha*

This logical variable with default value .FALSE. is true if, and only if,  $\theta_{im}$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{L}}_i$  are to be read for each observation number  $i$ . The specification for  $\mathbf{L}_i$  involves a  $K$  by  $K$  matrix  $\bar{\mathbf{L}}_i$  such that the element in row  $k$  and column  $k' < k$  of the matrix is the element in row  $k$  and column  $k'$  of  $\mathbf{L}_i$  divided by the element in row  $k'$  and column  $k'$  of  $\mathbf{L}_i$  and the element in row  $k' \leq k$  and column  $k$  of the matrix is the element in row  $k$  and column  $k'$  of  $\mathbf{L}_i$  multiplied by the element in row  $k'$  and column  $k'$  of  $\mathbf{L}_i$ . The default initial value for each  $\theta_{im}$  is the  $K$ -dimensional vector with all elements 0 and the default initial value of  $\mathbf{L}_i$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{L}}_i$  is the  $K$  by  $K$  identity matrix. In listeningb.txt, .TRUE. is the value of the variable. Obviously results in listeninga.csv are quite similar to those in listeningb.csv.

### 4.33 *printprogress*

The namelist group printprogress specifies printing of iteration results. The group includes the following logical variables:



- `printprogstart`
- `printprogstartstd`
- `printprog`
- `printprogstd`

A typical example with all default settings is found in `listening.txt`. The resulting iteration summaries can be found in `listening.csv`. For each stage, the summary includes the iteration number, the number of steps required within the iteration, and the log-likelihood at the end of the iteration. The summary can be used to indicate convergence problems or unusually slow speed of computation, an important feature in complex models for large data files.

#### ***4.33.1 printprogstart***

This variable is `.TRUE.`, its default value, if iteration progress for the preliminary stage is to be printed to a file. If only one stage exists, then this variable is ignored.

#### ***4.33.2 printprogstartstd***

This variable is `.TRUE.`, its default value, if iteration progress for the preliminary stage is to be printed to standard output. If only one stage exists, then this variable is ignored. Note that iteration progress can be sent both to a file and to standard output. This option is helpful for monitoring program progress.

#### ***4.33.3 printprog***

This variable is `.TRUE.`, its default value, if iteration progress for the main stage is to be printed to a file.

#### ***4.33.4 printprogstd***

This variable is `.TRUE.`, its default value, if iteration progress for the main stage is to be printed to standard output.

#### 4.34 *output*

Basic output specifications are provided by the namelist group output. The variables in the group are all logical variables in which a value `.TRUE.` implies printing the desired output and `.FALSE.` implies not printing. When requested, adjusted residuals are provided via a slight variation of a procedure developed for one-dimensional latent vectors (Haberman, 2009). Output files have comma-separated values. Examples appear in the discussion of units. The following variables are used:

- `printalpha`
- `printbeta`
- `printbetacov`
- `printbetacov_complex`
- `printbetacov_louis`
- `printbetacov_sandwich`
- `printeap`
- `printeapscale`
- `printeapskill`
- `printeaptrans`
- `printeapwt`
- `printent`
- `printentdist`
- `printfreq`
- `printgrad`
- `printguess`

- `printirf`
- `printirfres`
- `printmargin`
- `printmarginres`
- `printmargins2`
- `printmargins2res`
- `printmarginwtsum`
- `printmarginwtsumres`
- `printmargin2`
- `printmargin2res`
- `printmeans`
- `printml`
- `printmp`
- `printobservedscale`
- `printobsscale`
- `printobscalere1`
- `printobsscaleres`
- `printparam`
- `printparamcov`
- `printparamcov_complex`
- `printparamcov_louis`
- `printparamcov_sandwich`

- printpreditem
- printpredtitemres
- printpost
- printprob
- printprobdist
- printpwt
- printpwtdist
- printrel
- printrelskill
- printreltrans
- printrelwt
- printreswt
- printreswtdist
- printscalerel
- printthetaitem
- printthetaitemres
- printwtitem
- printwtitemres

#### 4.34.1 *printalpha*

If the logical variable `printalpha` is `.TRUE.`, then the Fortran unit specified by `unitalpha` in `units` is used to store comma-separated values for  $\theta_{im}$  and  $\mathbf{L}_i$  that have the format used for input from filename of `inputinformation`. For example, in `listeninga.txt`, the output is sent to `listeningalpha.csv`. This output is read in `listeningb.txt`. If `printalpha` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then values of  $\theta_{im}$  and  $\mathbf{L}_i$  are not stored in an output file.

#### **4.34.2 *printbeta***

If the logical variable `printbeta` is `.TRUE.`, then estimates of  $\beta$  and corresponding estimated asymptotic standard errors are provided in the output file associated with unit `unitbeta`. If `printbeta` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these estimates are not provided. In `listening9.txt`, the estimates are found in `listeningbeta.csv`.

#### **4.34.3 *printbetacov***

If the logical variable `printbetacov` is `.TRUE.`, then the standard estimated asymptotic covariance matrix of  $\hat{\beta}$  is provided in the output file associated with unit `unitbetacov`. If `printbetacov` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then this estimated asymptotic covariance matrix is not supplied. In `listening9.txt`, the estimates are found in `listeningbetacov.csv`.

#### **4.34.4 *printbetacov\_complex***

If the logical variable `printbetacov_complex` is `.TRUE.`, then the output file associated with unit `unitbetacov_complex` is used to provide the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix of  $\hat{\beta}$  based on complex sampling. If `printbetacov_complex` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then this estimated asymptotic covariance matrix is not supplied. In `listeningp2.txt`, the estimated covariance matrix is in `listeningpbetacov.csv`.

#### **4.34.5 *printbetacov\_louis***

If the logical variable `printbetacov_louis` is `.TRUE.`, then the Louis estimated asymptotic covariance matrix of  $\hat{\beta}$  is provided in the output file associated with unit `unitbetacov_louis`. If `printbetacov_louis` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then this estimated asymptotic covariance matrix is not supplied. In `listening9.txt`, the estimated covariance matrix is in `listeningbetacov_louis.csv`.

#### **4.34.6 *printbetacov\_sandwich***

If the logical variable `printbetacov_sandwich` is `.TRUE.`, then the sandwich estimated asymptotic covariance matrix of  $\hat{\beta}$  is provided in the output file associated with unit `unitbetacov_sandwich`. If `printbetacov_sandwich` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then this estimated asymptotic covariance matrix is not supplied. In `listening9.txt`, the estimated covariance matrix is in `listeningbetacov_sandwich.csv`.

#### 4.34.7 *printeap*

If the logical variable `printeap` is `.TRUE.`, then EAP vectors and corresponding conditional covariance matrices for the underlying latent vectors  $\theta_i$  are provided in comma-separated format. The output unit is specified by `uniteap` in units. The initial output record provides a title. The second record specifies column interpretations. Each subsequent record corresponds to an individual. Details concerning EAP output are determined in the namelist group `eapoutput`. Examples of use of `printeap` equal to `.TRUE.` is found in `listening1.txt` and `fourskillle.txt`. If `printeap` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then EAP vectors and corresponding conditional covariance matrices are not saved in an output file.

#### 4.34.8 *printeapscale*

If the logical variable `printeapscale` is `.TRUE.`, if `numweights` is positive in the namelist group `numberweights`, and if `numberscales` is positive in some namelist group `scalecounts`, then EAP vectors and corresponding conditional covariance matrices are provided for a vector of transformed integrally-weighted sums. The output unit is specified by `uniteapscale` in units. The output format is essentially the same as for the output that results if `.TRUE.` is the value of `printeap`. Details concerning EAP output are determined in the namelist groups `eapoutput` and `scales`. If `printeapscale` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, `numweights` is not positive, or `numberscales` is never positive, then EAP output for scale scores is not provided. An example of `printeapscale` equal to `.TRUE.` is found in `listening10b.txt`. The corresponding output file is `listeningeapscale.csv`.

#### 4.34.9 *printeapskill*

If the logical variable `printeapskill` is `.TRUE.`, then EAP vectors and corresponding conditional covariance matrices are provided for the transformed latent vectors  $\mathbf{A}\theta_i$ . The output unit is specified by `uniteapskill` in units. The format is essentially the same as that used for output when `.TRUE.` is the value of `printeap`. Details concerning EAP output are determined in the namelist group `eapoutput`. An example of `printeapskill` equal `.TRUE.` is found in `threefacte.txt`. Note the output in `threefacteapskill.csv`. If `printeapskill` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then the EAP output for skills is not saved in an output file.

#### **4.34.10 *printeaptrans***

If the logical variable `printeaptrans` is `.TRUE.`, then EAP vectors  $\hat{\mathbf{g}}_i$  and corresponding conditional covariance matrices are provided. The output unit is specified by `uniteaptrans` in units. As in `uniteaptrans`,  $\mathbf{g}$  has dimension `dimtrans` and is defined in `transformation`, `transcomp`, and `polynomial`. The format is essentially the same as that used for output when `.TRUE.` is the value of `printeap`. Examples of `printeaptrans` equal `.TRUE.` are found in `listeningtrans.txt`, `listeningtrans1.txt`, and `fourfacttrans.txt`. Note the output in `listeningeaptran.csv`, `listeningeaptrans1.csv`, and `fourfacteaptran.txt`. If `printeaptrans` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then the EAP output for transformations is not saved in an output file.

#### **4.34.11 *printeapwt***

If the logical variable `printeapwt` is `.TRUE.` and if `dimwtsum` is positive in the namelist group `eapoutput`, then EAP vectors and corresponding conditional covariance matrices are provided for a vector of weighted sums. The output unit is specified by `uniteapwt` in units. The output format is essentially the same as for the output that results if `.TRUE.` is the value of `printeap`. Details concerning EAP output are determined in the namelist groups `eapoutput` and `weightedsum`. If `dimwtsum` is not positive or if `printeapwt` has its default value `.FALSE.`, then EAP output for weighted sums is not provided. An example of `printeapwt` equal to `.TRUE.` is found in `listening1.txt`. The corresponding output file is `listeningeapwt.csv`.

#### **4.34.12 *printent***

If the logical variable `printent` is `.TRUE.`, its default value, then an information summary for distractors is provided in the output file that corresponds to `unitinfodist`. For a description of the output for this option, see `unitinfodist`. If `printentdist` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then the information summary is not provided.

#### **4.34.13 *printentdist***

If the logical variable `printentdist` is `.TRUE.`, then an information summary is provided in the output file that corresponds to `unitinfo`. For a description of the output for this option, see `unitinfo`. If `printent` is `.FALSE.`, then the information summary is not provided.

#### **4.34.14 *printfreq***

If the logical variable `printfreq` is `.TRUE.` and `distract` is `.TRUE.`, then a table of frequencies of multiple-choice selections is provided in the unit specified in `unitfreq`. If the logical variable `printfreq` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, or if `distract` is `.FALSE.`, then this table is not provided.

#### **4.34.15 *printgrad***

If the logical variable `printgrad` is `.TRUE.`, then gradient  $\nabla \ell_i(\hat{\gamma})$  is provided for each person  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , in the file associated with unit `unitgrad`. If `printgrad` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then this output is not provided. For example, in `listening1.txt`, the gradients are found in `listeninggrads.csv`.

#### **4.34.16 *printguess***

If the logical variable `printguess` is `.TRUE.`, then guessing tests are performed for all items  $j$  with  $H_j = 2$  and results are placed in the file associated with unit `unitguess`. If `printguess` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then this output is not provided. For example, in `listening8.txt`, the test statistics are found in `listeningguess.csv`.

#### **4.34.17 *printirf***

If the logical variable `printirf` is `.TRUE.`, then a summary of item response functions is provided in the file corresponding to unit `unitirf`. If `printirf` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then this summary is not provided. See `unitirf` for further details. In `listeningirf.txt`, the summary is sent to `listeningirf.csv`.

#### **4.34.18 *printirfres***

If the logical variable `printirfres` is `.TRUE.`, then the summary of item response functions on `unitirf` includes information on residuals. If `printirfres` is `.TRUE.`, then `.TRUE.` is also the value of `printirf`. If `.FALSE.`, the default value, is the value of `printmarginres`, then adjusted residuals are not supplied on `unitirf`. For an example with `printirfres` equal `.TRUE.`, see `listeningirfr.txt` and `listeningirfr.csv`.



#### **4.34.19 *printmargin***

If the logical variable `printmargin` is `.TRUE.`, then a summary of marginal distributions of items is provided in the file corresponding to unit `unitmargin`. If `printmargin` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then this summary is not provided. See `unitmargin` for further details. In `listening1.txt`, the summary is sent to `listeningmarg.csv`.

#### **4.34.20 *printmarginres***

If the logical variable `printmarginres` is `.TRUE.`, then the summary of marginal distributions of items on `unitmargin` includes information on residuals. If `printmarginres` is `.TRUE.`, then `.TRUE.` is also the value of `printmargin`. If `.FALSE.`, the default value, is the value of `printmarginres`, then adjusted residuals are not supplied on `unitmargin`. For an example with `printmarginres` equal `.TRUE.`, see `listening1.txt` and `listeningmarg.csv`.

#### **4.34.21 *printmargins2***

If the logical variable `printmargins2` is `.TRUE.`, then a summary of observed and fitted cross products of item scores is provided in the file associated with `unitmargins2`. If `printmargins2` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then the summary is not provided. In `listening12.txt`, the summaries are found in `listeningmargs2.csv`.

#### **4.34.22 *printmargins2res***

If the logical variable `printmargins2res` is `.TRUE.`, then the summary of cross products of item scores includes information on residuals. If the logical variable `printmargins2res` is `.TRUE.`, then `.TRUE.` is also the value of `printmargins2`. If `printmargins2res` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then the adjusted residuals are not provided. In `listening12a.txt`, the adjusted residuals are found in `listeningmargs2a.csv`.

#### **4.34.23 *printmarginwtsum***

If the logical variable `printmarginwtsum` is `.TRUE.`, then a summary of the marginal distribution of weighted sums of item scores is provided in the file associated with `unitmarginwtsum`. If `printmarginwtsum` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then the summary is not provided. In `listening1.txt`, the summary of the marginal distribution of the sum of the response

scores is found in listeningmargwtsum.csv. In listening1.txt, the adjusted residuals are found in listeningmargwtsum.csv.

#### **4.34.24 *printmarginwtsumres***

If the logical variable printmarginwtsumres is .TRUE., then the summary of marginal distributions of weighted sums provided in the output file associated with unitmarginwtsum includes information on residuals. If printmarginwtsumres is .TRUE., then .TRUE. is also the value of printmarginwtsum. If printmarginwtsumres is .FALSE., its default value, then information on residuals is not provided for marginal weighted sums. In listening1.txt, the adjusted residuals are found in listeningmargwtsum.csv.

#### **4.34.25 *printmargin2***

If the logical variable printmargin2 is .TRUE., then a summary of observed and fitted marginal distributions of item pairs is provided in the file associated with unitmargin2. If printmargin2 is .FALSE., its default value, then the summary is not provided. In listening1.txt, the summaries are found in listeningmarg2.csv.

#### **4.34.26 *printmargin2res***

If the logical variable printmargin2res is .TRUE., then the summary of marginal distributions of item pairs includes information on residuals. If the logical variable printmargin2res is .TRUE., then .TRUE. is also the value of printmargin2. If printmargin2res is .FALSE., its default value, then the adjusted residuals are not provided. In listening1.txt, the adjusted residuals are found in listeningmarg2.csv.

#### **4.34.27 *printmeans***

If the logical variable printmeans is .TRUE., if either npredlist is positive in meanprintspecs or allmeans in meanprintspecs is .TRUE., then means and covariances of  $\theta_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  are provided for all observations or for a selected set of possible values of  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  in the file corresponding to unitmeans. If printmeans is .FALSE., then this output is not provided. Output examples include listeningmeans.csv, fourskillme1.csv, Four3Cn25twogq1.csv, and twoskillmeans.csv.

#### **4.34.28 *printml***

If the logical variable `printml` is `.TRUE.`, then maximum likelihood estimates  $\tilde{\theta}_i$  or  $\mathbf{g}(\tilde{\theta}_i)$  are provided as described in `unitml`. If `printml` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these estimates are not provided. If `maxita` is not positive or if `normal` is `.FALSE.`, then `.FALSE.` is the value of `printml`. In `listening15.txt`, the estimates  $\tilde{\theta}_{i1}$  are given in `listeningml.csv` together with associated inverse information estimates (inverse negative Hessians). In `listening16.txt`, the estimates  $\max(-4, \min(4, \tilde{\theta}_{i1}))$  are given in `listeningm1t.csv`. The estimates in `listeningm1t.csv` are thus never greater than 4 or less than -4. In contrast, values in `listeningm1t.csv` have absolute values greater than 12 in some cases. These extreme values really reflect a computational issue. In some cases, the true value of  $\tilde{\theta}_{i1}$  is really  $\infty$ , but the computational algorithm only yields finite values.

#### **4.34.29 *printmp***

If the logical variable `printmp` is `.TRUE.`, then maximum a posteriori estimates and estimated information matrices are provided for examinees in the file associated with unit `unitmp`. This command is only used if the model uses a normal distribution for the latent vector. If `printmp` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these estimates are not provided. In `listening1.txt`, the estimates are found in `listeningmap.csv`. If `maxita` is not positive or if `normal` is `.FALSE.`, then `.FALSE.` is the value of `printmp`.

#### **4.34.30 *printobservedscale***

If the logical variable `printobservedscale` is `.TRUE.`, then observed scale scores are provided for each observation in the unit specified by `unitobservedscale`. If `printobservedscale` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these scores are not provided. For an example, see `listening10c.txt` and `listeningobservedscale.csv`.

#### **4.34.31 *printobsscale***

If the logical variable `printobsscale` is `.TRUE.`, then basic summary statistics are provided in the unit specified by `unitobsscale` for observed scale scores. If `printobsscale` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these summary statistics are not provided. For an example, see `listening10d.txt` and `listeningobsscale.csv`.

#### **4.34.32 *printobsscalerel***

If the logical variable `printobsscalerel` is `.TRUE.`, then reliability estimates are provided for observed scale scores in the unit specified by `unitobsscalerel`. If `printobsscalerel` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these reliability estimates are not provided. For an example, see `listening10e.txt` and `listeningobsscalerel.csv`.

#### **4.34.33 *printobsscaleres***

If the logical variable `printobsscaleres` is `.TRUE.`, then residuals for summary statistics for observed scale scores are provided in the unit specified by `unitobsscale`. If `printobsscaleres` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these residuals are not provided. If `printobsscaleres` is `.TRUE.`, then `.TRUE.` is also the value of `printobsscale`. For an example, see `listening10f.txt` and `listeningobsscaleres.csv`.

#### **4.34.34 *printparam***

If the logical variable `printparam` is `.TRUE.`, its default value, then estimates of  $\gamma$  and corresponding estimated asymptotic standard errors are provided in the output file associated with unit `unitparam`. If `printparam` is `.FALSE.`, then these estimates are not provided. For example, in `listening.txt`, estimates are in `listening.csv`.

#### **4.34.35 *printparamcov***

If the logical variable `printparamcov` is `.TRUE.`, then the standard estimated asymptotic covariance matrix of  $\hat{\gamma}$  is provided in the output file associated with unit `unitparamcov`. If `printparamcov` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then this estimated asymptotic covariance matrix is not supplied. In `listening1.txt`, the estimates are found in `listeningcov.csv`.

#### **4.34.36 *printparamcov\_complex***

If the logical variable `printparamcov_complex` is `.TRUE.`, then the output file associated with unit `unitparamcov_complex` is used to provide the estimated asymptotic covariance matrix of  $\hat{\gamma}$  based on complex sampling. If `printparamcov_complex` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then this estimated asymptotic covariance matrix is not supplied. In `listeningcc.txt`, the estimated covariance matrix is in `listeningcovc.csv`.

#### **4.34.37 *printparamcov\_louis***

If the logical variable `printparamcov_louis` is `.TRUE.`, then the Louis estimated asymptotic covariance matrix of  $\hat{\gamma}$  is provided in the output file associated with unit `unitparamcov_louis`. If `printparamcov_louis` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then this estimated asymptotic covariance matrix is not supplied. In `listening1.txt`, the estimated covariance matrix is in `listeningcovl.csv`.

#### **4.34.38 *printparamcov\_sandwich***

If the logical variable `printparamcov_sandwich` is `.TRUE.`, then the sandwich estimated asymptotic covariance matrix of  $\hat{\gamma}$  is provided in the output file associated with unit `unitparamcov_sandwich`. If `printparamcov_sandwich` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then this estimated asymptotic covariance matrix is not supplied. In `listeningcs.txt`, the estimated covariance matrix is in `listeningcovs.csv`.

#### **4.34.39 *printpost***

If the logical variable `printpost` is `.TRUE.`, then a posterior distribution of  $\theta_i$  is provided for each observation  $i$  in the file associated with unit `unitpost`. The posterior distribution is specified by the quadrature points and the weights used for that observation to compute the log likelihood function. If `printpost` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then posterior distributions are not provided. In `listening1.txt`, the posterior distributions are found in `listeningpost.csv`.

#### **4.34.40 *printpreditem***

If the logical variable `printpreditem` is `.TRUE.`, then observed and fitted totals and averages over all examinees are obtained for products of category indicator functions for examinee  $i$  and predictors  $Z_{iu}$  for  $u > 1$ . If `printpreditem` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these sums are not obtained. To illustrate the case of `printpreditem` and `printpreditemres` set to `.TRUE.`, see `Four3Cn25twog.txt` and `Four3Cn25twogpreditem.csv`. In this case, the predictor is an indicator for membership in Group 2 rather than Group 1, so that the observed average for an item is the fraction of observations with both a correct response to the item and membership in Group 2. Thus a positive residual indicates that, in Group 2, more examinees answered the item correctly than expected from the fitted model.

#### **4.34.41 *printpredtitemres***

If the logical variable `printpredtitemres` is `.TRUE.`, then residuals are obtained for observed and fitted totals and averages over all examinees for products of category indicator functions for examinee  $i$  and predictors  $Z_{iu}$  for  $u > 1$ . If `printpredtitemres` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these residuals are not obtained. If `printpredtitemres` is `.TRUE.`, then `.TRUE.` is also the value of `printpreditem`.

#### **4.34.42 *printprob***

If the logical variable `printprob` is `.TRUE.`, then the estimated marginal probability for the observed response for each observation is provided in the file specified by unit `unitprob`. If `printprob` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then estimated marginal probabilities are not provided. In `listening3.txt`, the estimates are found in `listeningprob.csv`.

#### **4.34.43 *printprobdist***

If the logical variable `printprobdist` is `.TRUE.`, then the estimated marginal probability for the observed response for each observation is provided in the file specified by unit `unitprobdist`. If `printprobdist` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then estimated marginal probabilities are not provided. In `distprobd.txt`, the estimates are found in `distprobdist.csv`.

#### **4.34.44 *printpwt***

If the logical variable `printpwt` is `.TRUE.`, then upper and lower significance levels are provided for each observation for each of the `numweights` weighted sums defined by `readweight`. Significance levels are conditional on observed responses for any item for which `.TRUE.` is the value assigned to the item by `eap_mask`. For example, in `listening14.txt`, significance levels are found for sums of item scores for the last 17 items given the first 17 items. Results are found in `listeningpwt.csv`.

#### **4.34.45 *printpwtdist***

If the logical variable `printpwtdist` is `.TRUE.`, then upper and lower significance levels are provided for each observation for each of the `numweightsdist` weighted sums defined by `readweightdist`. Significance levels are conditional on observed selections of multiple choices

for any item for which `.TRUE.` is the value assigned to the item by `eap_mask`. For example, in `distpwt.txt`, significance levels are found for the number of selections of the multiple-choice category 0 among the last 14 items. This category corresponds to an omitted response. Results are found in `distpwt.csv`. It is clear that in numerous cases, this number of 0 categories is not consistent with the model for selection of multiple-choice categories.

#### **4.34.46 *printrel***

If the logical variable `printrel` is `.TRUE.`, then estimated reliability coefficients for the elements  $\hat{\theta}_{ik}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq K$ , of the EAP  $\hat{\theta}_i$  of the underlying latent vector  $\theta_i$  are provided in the file corresponding to unit `unitrel`. Output also includes the estimated covariance matrices of  $\hat{\theta}_i$ ,  $\theta_i - \hat{\theta}_i$ , and  $\theta_i$ . If the logical variable `printrel` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these estimated reliability coefficients and covariance matrices are not provided. In `listening1.txt`, the estimates are found in `listening.csv`.

#### **4.34.47 *printrelskill***

If the logical variable `printrelskill` is `.TRUE.`, then estimated reliability coefficients for the elements of the EAP  $\mathbf{A}\hat{\theta}_i$  of the transformed latent vector  $\mathbf{A}\theta_i$  are provided in the file corresponding to unit `unitrelskill`. Output also includes estimated covariance matrices of  $\mathbf{A}\hat{\theta}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{A}\theta_i - \mathbf{A}\hat{\theta}_i$ , and  $\mathbf{A}\theta_i$ . If the logical variable `printrelskill` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these estimated reliability coefficients and covariance matrices are not provided. In `threefact.txt`, the estimates are found in `threefact.csv`.

#### **4.34.48 *printreltrans***

If the logical variable `printreltrans` is `.TRUE.`, then estimated reliability coefficients for the elements of  $\hat{\mathbf{g}}_i$  are provided in the file corresponding to unit `unitreltrans`. Output also includes estimated covariance matrices of  $\hat{\mathbf{g}}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{g}(\theta_i) - \hat{\mathbf{g}}_i$ , and  $\mathbf{g}(\theta_i)$ . If the logical variable `printreltrans` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these estimated reliability coefficients and covariance matrices are not provided. In `listeningtrans.txt`, the estimates are found in `listeningtran.csv`.

#### 4.34.49 *printrelwt*

If the logical variable `printrelwt` is `.TRUE.`, then estimated reliability coefficients for the elements of the EAP  $\widehat{\mathbf{TS}}_i$  of the expected weighted sum  $\mathbf{TS}_i$  given the latent vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i$  and the covariate vector  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  are provided in the file corresponding to unit `unitrelwt`. Output also includes estimated covariance matrices for  $\widehat{\mathbf{TS}}_i$ ,  $\widetilde{\mathbf{TS}}_i - \widehat{\mathbf{TS}}_i$ , and  $\widetilde{\mathbf{TS}}_i$ . If the logical variable `printrelwt` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these estimated reliability coefficients and covariance matrices are not provided. In `listening1.txt`, the estimates are found in `listening1.csv`. In this example,  $\mathbf{TS}_i$  is the sum score for the test for examinee  $i$ ,  $\widetilde{\mathbf{TS}}_i$  is the test characteristic function at  $\theta_{i1}$  for the sum score for the Listening test.

#### 4.34.50 *printreswt*

If the logical variable `printreswt` is `.TRUE.`, then individual residuals are found based on the weighted sums defined in `eapoutput` and `weightedsum`. If `printreswt` is `.FALSE.`, then these residuals are not found. In `listening14.txt`, these residuals are found for sums of item scores for the last 17 items given item responses for the first 17 items. Results are in `listeningreswt.csv`. Output includes observed and fitted values, raw residuals, estimated standard errors of raw residuals, adjusted residuals, and estimated asymptotic variances and covariances of raw residuals.

#### 4.34.51 *printreswtdist*

If the logical variable `printreswtdist` is `.TRUE.` and `distract` is `.TRUE.`, then individual residuals are found based on the weighted sums defined in `eapoutput` and `weightedsumdist`. If `printreswtdist` is `.FALSE.`, then these residuals are not found. In `distreswt.txt`, these residuals are found for the number of multiple-choice selections of 0 in the last 14 items given responses for the first 62 items. Results are in `distreswt.csv`. Output includes observed and fitted values, raw residuals, estimated standard errors of raw residuals, adjusted residuals, and estimated asymptotic variances and covariances of raw residuals. Results are consistent with those in `distpwt.csv` in the sense that many observations have numbers of 0 choices that are clearly unusual under the model.

#### 4.34.52 *printscalere*

If the logical variable `printscalere` is `.TRUE.`, then estimated reliability coefficients for the elements of the EAP of the scale scores are provided in the file corresponding to unit `unitscalere`.



Output also includes estimated covariance matrices for EAP estimates, the differences between scale scores and EAP estimates, and scale scores. If the logical variable `printscalerel` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these estimated reliability coefficients and covariance matrices are not provided. In `listening10.txt`, the estimates are found in `listeningcalerel.csv`. In `listening10a.txt`, the estimates are found in `listeningcalerela.csv`.

#### **4.34.53 *printthetaitem***

If the logical variable `printthetaitem` is `.TRUE.`, then observed and fitted totals and averages over all examinees are obtained for products of category indicator functions and transformed latent variables. If `printthetaitem` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these sums and averages are not obtained. To illustrate the case of `printthetaitem` and `printthetaitemres` set to `.TRUE.`, see `listening7r.txt` and `listeningrtheta.csv`. The case of `printthetaitem` equal `.TRUE.` and `printthetaitemres` set to `.FALSE.` is seen in `listening7nres.txt` and `listeningnrestheta.csv`.

#### **4.34.54 *printthetaitemres***

If the logical variable `printthetaitemres` is `.TRUE.`, then residuals are obtained for observed and fitted totals and averages over all examinees for products of category indicator functions and transformed latent variables. If `printthetaitemres` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these residuals are not obtained. If `printthetaitemres` is `.TRUE.`, then `.TRUE.` is also the value of `printthetaitem`. Note the examples described in `printthetaitem`.

#### **4.34.55 *printwtitem***

If the logical variable `printwtitem` is `.TRUE.`, then observed and fitted totals and averages over all examinees are obtained for products of category indicator functions for examinee  $i$  and weighted sums defined in `readweight`. For category indicators for an item, products are based on removing the contribution to the weighted sum provided by that item. Thus for the first item and a weighted sum that is just the sum of item scores, the product involves the category indicator for the item and the sum of item scores for the remaining items. If `printwtitem` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these sums are not obtained. To illustrate the case of `printwtitem` and `printwtitemres` set to `.TRUE.`, see `listening6.txt`, `listeningr.txt`, `listeningwtitem.csv`, and `listeningrwtitem.csv`.

#### **4.34.56 *printwtitemres***

If the logical variable `printwtitem` is `.TRUE.`, then residuals are obtained for observed and fitted totals and averages over all examinees for products of category indicator functions for examinee  $i$  and weighted sums defined in `readweight`. The convention described in `printwtitem` is followed to define products. If `printwtitem` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then these residuals are not obtained. If `printwtitemres` is `.TRUE.`, then `.TRUE.` is also the value of `printwtitem`.

#### **4.35 *meanprintspecs***

If `printmeans` is `.TRUE.`, then `meanprintspecs` is read to determine if estimated means and covariances of  $\theta_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  are to be produced for all observations or for specific possible values of  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . The following two variables are in the group:

- `npredlist`
- `allmeans`

##### **4.35.1 *npredlist***

The integer variable `npredlist` is the number of values of predictor vectors to employ in computations of means and covariances of  $\theta_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i$ . Negative values are changed to 0, the default value. If `allmeans` is `.TRUE.`, then `npredlist` is ignored. In `Four3Cn25twogq1.txt`, `npredlist` is 2, for two groups are examined. In `listening11.txt`, `npredlist` is 1, for only one predictor vector is used.

##### **4.35.2 *allmeans***

The logical variable `allmeans` is `.TRUE.` if estimated means and covariances of  $\theta_i$  given  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  are provided for all observations. If `allmeans` is `.FALSE.`, its default value, then estimated means and covariances are only provided for the predictor vectors defined in `predictors`. In all examples used for illustration, only a limited number of distinct  $\mathbf{Z}_i$  are present, so that `.FALSE.` is the value of `allmeans`.

#### **4.36 *predictors***

If `printmeans` is `.TRUE.` in output, if `allmeans` is `.FALSE.` in `meanprintspecs`, and if `npredlist` is positive in `meanprintspecs`, then the `namelist` group `predictors` is read. This group contains the

following two variables:

- valuelabels
- predvalues

#### **4.36.1 *valuelabels***

The character array valuelabels has npredlist elements, each of which is a character variable of length no more than 32. For vector  $k$ , the default value is 'Vector $k$ '. In listening11.txt, the one vector has label 'Common\_value'. In Four3Cn25twogq1.txt, the values 'Group1' and 'Group2' are used.

#### **4.36.2 *predvalues***

The npred by npredlist real array predvalues provides predictor vectors. Column  $k$  is predictor vector  $k$ . The default vector has initial element 1 and any other element 0. In listening11.txt, the default vector is used. In Four3Cn25twogq1.txt, the first predictor is (1,0) and the second is (1,1). In this particular example, both means and covariance matrices in Four3Cn25twogq1.csv differ for the two groups.

### **4.37 *eapoutput***

If printeap, printeapskill, printeapwt, printrel, printrelskill, or printrelwt is .TRUE., then the namelist group eapoutput specifies characteristics of EAP estimates to be computed. The group has the following members:

- betafile
- usebetafile
- skip
- dimtrans
- dimwtsum
- dimwtsumdist

- eap\_mask
- alt\_beta

#### **4.37.1    *betafile***

This character variable with up to 256 characters is the name of the file from which alt\_beta is to be read if .TRUE. is the value of usebetafile. The default is 'betas.csv'. In Four3Cn25twog2b.txt, the estimates from lFour3Cn25twog2betab.csv are used to set alt\_beta to yield results in . The file lFour3Cn25twog2betab.csv was obtained from the file lFour3Cn25twog2beta.csv produced by Four3Cn25twogb.txt by removal of the linear effect associated with group, so that all EAP estimates and conditional covariance matrices for examinees were obtained as if all examinees were from the first group.

#### **4.37.2    *usebetafile***

This logical variable with default value .FALSE. is .TRUE. if alt\_beta is obtained from an external file specified by betafile, as is the case in Four3Cn25twog2b.txt.

#### **4.37.3    *skip***

This integer variable specifies the number of lines to skip in betafile if usebetafile is .TRUE. in order to find the parameter estimates from a file of comma-separated-values with the same format as used in unitbeta. The default value is 2, the value found if a previous use of the program has produced a parameter file that corresponds to unitbeta in a case in which unitbeta is different from other unit numbers specified in units. In Four3Cn25twog2b.txt, the default value is employed. A negative value of skip is replaced by 0.

#### **4.37.4    *dimtrans***

The integer variable dimtrans provides the dimension of the function **g** in uniteaptrans. If dimtrans is not positive, then no function **g** is considered. The default value of dimtrans is 0. In listeningtrans.txt, the dimension dimtrans is 1.

#### 4.37.5 *dimwtsum*

The integer variable `dimwtsum` provides the dimension DS of the weighted sum  $\mathbf{TS}_i$ . If `dimwtsum` is not positive, then no weighted sum is considered. The default value of `dimwtsum` is 0. In `listening2.txt`, a single weighted sum is used, so that `dimwtsum` is 1. This weighted sum is the sum of the item scores for the Listening section. It is used in reliability estimation and in determination of EAP values. See `listening2.csv` and `listeningeapwt.csv`.

#### 4.37.6 *dimwtsumdist*

The integer variable `dimwtsumdist` provides the dimension  $DS^{(c)}$  of the weighted sum  $\mathbf{TS}_i^{(c)}$ . If `dimwtsumdist` is not positive, then no weighted sum is considered. The default value of `dimwtsumdist` is 0.

#### 4.37.7 *eap\_mask*

The logical array `eap_mask` has  $J$  elements. If element  $j$  of `eap_mask` is `.TRUE.`, its default value, then response  $X_{ij}$  is used to compute the EAP. If element  $j$  of element of `eap_mask` is `.FALSE.`, then  $X_{ij}$  is not employed to compute EAP values for observation  $i$ . This option is sometimes relevant when data include both operational sections and external anchors, and EAP information is desired for the operational items. In `listening4.txt`, EAP estimates are based on the first 28 of the 34 items. Results are in `listening4.csv` and `listening4eap.csv`.

#### 4.37.8 *alt\_beta*

The real array `alt_beta` has the same dimension of  $\hat{\beta}$ . It can be employed to change values of  $\hat{\beta}$ . For each element of `alt_beta`, the default value is the corresponding element of  $\hat{\beta}$ . In `Four3Cn25twog2.txt`, EAP estimates are obtained as if all examinees were from the first group. In `Four3Cn25twog.txt`, ordinary EAP estimates are obtained. This issue can arise from fairness consideration in an examination. It is not usually appropriate to give two examinees with identical responses different scores because they are in different groups. Results are in `Four3Cn25twog2.csv` and `Four3Cn25twog2eap.csv` for the EAP estimates that ignore group differences and in `Four3Cn25twog.csv` and `Four3Cn25twogeap.csv` for the conventional EAP estimates. The results are obviously the same for members of Group 1. Differences for members of Group 2 are quite small.

### ***4.38 transformation***

If `dimtrans` is positive and if `printaptrans` or `printreltrans` is `.TRUE.`, then transformation is used to provide the basic information needed to define the function `g`. The following variables are used:

- `transnames`
- `components`

#### ***4.38.1 transnames***

The character array `transnames` has `dimtrans` elements of length no greater than 32 that provide names for elements of `g`. The default values are `'Transformation $k$ '` for integers  $k$  from 1 to `dimtrans`. In `listeningtrans.txt`, the one name used is `'High'`.

#### ***4.38.2 components***

The integer variable `components` is the number of components in the definition of `g`. The default value is `dimtrans`. This value is used if the read value is less than 1. For example, in `listeningtrans`, `components` is 1.

### ***4.39 transcomp***

For each component, a namelist group `transcomp` defines an interval, a polynomial degree, and an element of `g` associated with the component. The following variables are used.

- `degree`
- `elementout`
- `lbmask`
- `ubmask`
- `base`
- `inweight`
- `lb`
- `ub`

#### **4.39.1 *degree***

The integer variable `degree` provides the degree of the polynomial associated with the component. The default value is 1, and the degree is set to 0 if the value read is negative. In `listeningtrans.txt`, the value of `degree` is 0, so that the component is a constant function within its associated interval.

#### **4.39.2 *elementout***

The integer variable `elementout` indicates the element of the transformation  $\mathbf{g}$  corresponding to the component. The default is the minimum of `dimtrans` and the number of the component. The value of `elementout` is set to 1 if the value read is negative and set to `dimtrans` if the value read exceeds `dimtrans`. In `listeningtrans.txt`, `elementout` is unspecified and one component is present, so that `elementout` is 1.

#### **4.39.3 *lbmask***

The logical variable `lbmask` is `.TRUE.` if the associated interval has a lower bound and is `.FALSE.`, the default value, otherwise. In `listeningtrans.txt`, `lbmask` is unspecified, so `.FALSE.` is its value.

#### **4.39.4 *ubmask***

The logical variable `ubmask` is `.TRUE.` if the associated interval has an upper bound and is `.FALSE.`, the default value, otherwise. In `listeningtrans.txt`, `ubmask` is `.TRUE.`, so that an upper bound is used.

#### **4.39.5 *base***

The real variable `base` is the base for computation of polynomials. The default value is 0. In `listeningtrans.txt`, `base` is unspecified, so the default of 0 is employed.

#### **4.39.6 *inweight***

The variable `inweight` is an array with `dimlatin` elements. For the component, the polynomial used is a linear combination of  $\theta_i$  with coefficients from `inweight`. In the default case, `inweight` has elements 0 except for the element corresponding to the minimum of the component number

and dimtrans. In listeningtrans.txt, inweight is unspecified, so the one element of inweight is 1 and the polynomial for the component is a function of  $\theta_{i1}$ . In this case, the component is 0 if  $\theta_{i1}$  is greater than the upper bound of 0.5. The component is a polynomial function of  $\theta_{i1}$  if  $\theta_{i1}$  is less than 0.5, and the component is half the polynomial function of  $\theta_{i1}$  if  $\theta_{i1}$  is 0.5. In contrast, in fourfacttrans.txt, the four elements of inweight are 1, so that the polynomial is a function of the sum  $\theta_{i1} + \theta_{i2} + \theta_{i3} + \theta_{i4}$ . Because neither a lower bound nor an upper bound is provided, the component is simply a polynomial function of the sum of the elements of  $\theta_i$ .

#### **4.39.7 lb**

The real variable lb provides a lower bound of the interval associated with the component if lbmask specifies that a lower bound exists. In listeningtrans.txt, lb is unspecified, as is expected given that lbmask is also not specified.

#### **4.39.8 ub**

The real variable ub provides an upper bound of the interval associated with the component if ubmask specifies that an upper bound exists. In listeningtrans.txt, ub is 0.5, and the component applies to the interval from  $-\infty$  to 0.5.

### **4.40 polynomial**

For each component, a namelist group polynomial define the polynomial associated with that component. The following variable is in the group.

- coefficients

#### **4.40.1 coefficients**

The polynomial coefficients are provided in coefficients, a real array with *degree* + 1 elements. Element  $k$  of the array corresponds to the coefficient of the polynomial summand of degree  $k$  for  $k$  from 0 to degree. The default value of each coefficient is 0 except for the coefficient for degree 1, which has a default of 1. In listeningtrans.txt, the coefficient for degree 0 is 1, so that the function  $\mathbf{g}(\theta_i)$  has a single element with value 0 for  $\theta_{i1} > 0.5$ , 0.5 for  $\theta_{i1} = 0.5$ , and value 1 for  $\theta_{i1} < 0.5$ . In fourfacttrans.txt, the default coefficients are used and the degree is 1, so that  $\mathbf{g}(\theta_i)$  reduces to the sum of the elements of  $\theta_i$ . In listeningtrans1.txt, degree is 1, no bounds are specified, and



the coefficient of the constant term is 50, and the coefficient of the linear term is 20, so that the function of  $\theta$  is  $50 + \theta_{i1}$ .

#### 4.41 *weightedsum*

If DS is positive and if printeapwt or printrelwt is .TRUE., then an input record for the namelist group weightedsum is read for each dimension  $d$  from 1 to DS. This group has the following two variables:

- weight\_name
- weight\_sum

##### 4.41.1 *weight\_name*

This character variable of length no greater than 32 provides a name for the  $d$ th weighted sum. The default value for weight\_name is the name of skill  $d$  (see skill\_name) if either  $d$  is no greater than DS and  $DS \leq D$  or  $d$  is not greater than  $D$  and  $DS > D$ . If DS is 1 and  $D > 1$ , then the default value is 'Total', while for DS greater than 1 but less than  $D$ , the default value for  $d$  equal DS is 'Remainder'. If DS is  $D + 1$  and  $D > 1$ , then the default value for  $d = D + 1$  is 'Total'. If DS exceeds  $D + 1$  and  $d > D + 1$  or DS is  $D + 1$ ,  $D = 1$ , and  $d > D$ , then the default value is 'Sum\_ $d$ '. In listening2.txt, weightname is 'Listening\_sum'.

##### 4.41.2 *weight\_sum*

The real array weight\_sum has dimension  $\sum_{j \in J} H_j$ . Element  $\sum_{j'=1}^j H_{j'} + (h - H_j)$  corresponds to element  $d$  of  $\mathbf{IS}_j(h - 1)$  for  $1 \leq h \leq H_j$  and  $1 \leq j \leq J$ . The default value for element  $\sum_{j'=1}^j H_{j'} + (h - H_j)$  of the array is  $g$  if  $h$  is in  $\mathcal{H}_{gj}$  for  $0 \leq g \leq G_j - 1$ , the number of slope parameters for skill  $d$  is positive, and either  $d$  is no greater than DS and  $DS \leq D$  or  $d$  is not greater than  $D$  and  $DS > D$ . If DS is  $D + 1$ ,  $d = D + 1$ , and  $D > 1$ , then the default value is  $g$  if  $h$  is in  $\mathcal{H}_{gj}$ . Otherwise, the default value is 0. In listening2.txt, the default value is used, so that the weighted sum is simply the sum of the Listening item scores. Note results in listening2.csv and listeningeapwt.csv. For a more complex case, consider listening5.txt, listening5.csv, and listeningeap5.csv. In this case, the Listening sum is divided into two components, the sum for the first half of the test and the sum for the second half of the test. Because reported reliability

estimates are for expected sums given the latent variable, these estimates are quite similar for the the two sums of scores for halves of the test and for the total sum. This situation would be quite different were reliability estimates from classical test theory computed for the these three sums of item scores.

#### 4.42 *weightedsumdist*

If  $DS^{(c)}$  is positive, then an input record for the namelist group *weightedsumdist* is read for each dimension  $d$  from 1 to  $DS^{(c)}$ . This group has the following two variables:

- *weight\_name\_dist*
- *weight\_sum\_dist*

##### 4.42.1 *weight\_name\_dist*

This character variable of length no greater than 32 provides a name for the  $d$ th weighted sum. The default value for *weight\_name\_dist* is the name of skill  $d$  (see *skill\_name*) if either  $d$  is no greater than  $DS^{(c)}$  and  $DS^{(c)} \leq D$  or  $d$  is not greater than  $D$  and  $DS^{(c)} > D$ . If  $DS^{(c)}$  is 1 and  $D > 1$ , then the default value is 'Total', while for  $DS^{(c)}$  greater than 1 but less than  $D$ , the default value for  $d$  equal  $DS^{(c)}$  is 'Remainder'. If  $DS^{(c)}$  is  $D + 1$  and  $D > 1$ , then the default value for  $d = D + 1$  is 'Total'. If  $DS^{(c)}$  exceeds  $D + 1$  and  $d > D + 1$  or  $DS^{(c)}$  is  $D + 1$ ,  $D = 1$ , and  $d > D$ , then the default value is 'Sum\_ $d$ '. In *distreswt.txt*, the value 'Last' is used.

##### 4.42.2 *weight\_sum\_dist*

The real array *weight\_sum\_dist* has dimension  $\sum_{j \in J} G_j^{(c)}$ . Element  $\sum_{j'=1}^j G_{j'}^{(c)} + (g - G_j^{(c)})$  corresponds to element  $d$  of  $\mathbf{IS}_j^{(c)}(g - 1)$  for  $1 \leq g \leq G_j^{(c)}$  and  $1 \leq j \leq J$ , where  $\mathbf{IS}_j^{(c)}$  is a  $DS^{(c)}$ -dimensional function on the integers from 0 to  $G_j^{(c)} - 1$ . The default value for element  $d$  of  $\mathbf{IS}_j^{(c)}(g - 1)$  is  $\xi_j(g - 1)$  if the number of slope parameters for skill  $d$  is positive, and either  $d$  is no greater than  $DS^{(c)}$  and  $DS^{(c)} \leq D$  or  $d$  is not greater than  $D$  and  $DS^{(c)} > D$ . If  $DS^{(c)}$  is  $D + 1$ ,  $d = D + 1$ , and  $D > 1$ , then the default value is  $\xi_j(g - 1)$ . Otherwise, the default value is 0. In *distreswt.txt*, the selection gives weight of 1 to each category response 0 for the last 14 items and gives all other categories weight 0, so that the number of selections of 0 is counted for the last 14 items.

### 4.43 *irfspecs*

If `printirf` is `.TRUE.`, then `irfspecs` provides the number of points in  $\Theta$  to employ with the item response functions and specifies whether default or custom points are desired. The namelist group has the following elements.

- `irfcount`
- `custompoints`

#### 4.43.1 *irfcount*

The number of different points to use for item response functions for each category and item is provided by the integer variable `irfcount`. The default value is `nquad`, the number  $Q$  of quadrature points. A value which is not positive results in no examination of item response functions. In `listeningirf.txt`, default settings are employed, so that, as evident in `listeningirf.csv`, evaluation is made at the 5 points  $-2.85697$ ,  $-1.35563$ ,  $0$ ,  $1.35563$ , and  $2.8597$  used for Gauss-Hermite quadrature. In `listeningirfr.txt`, `irfcount` is 7, so that special points are requested.

#### 4.43.2 *custompoints*

The logical variable `custompoints` is `.TRUE.` only if points in  $\Theta$  are to be used other than those specified for quadrature or for defining multinomial latent vectors. The default is `.FALSE.`; however, `custompoints` is set to `.TRUE.` if `irfcount` is not `nquad`. This setting of `.TRUE.` applies in `listeningirfr.txt`.

### 4.44 *irfpoints*

If `custompoints` is `.TRUE.`, then `irfpoints` is used to provide a list of points in  $\Theta$  for evaluation of item response functions. The following is the one variable in the group `irfpoints`

- `thetas`

#### 4.44.1 *thetas*

The real array `thetas` has  $K$  rows and `irfcount` columns. Each column is a vector in  $\Theta$  at which item response functions are to be computed. In `listenignirfr.txt`, the points used are  $-1.5$ ,  $-1$ ,  $-0.05$ ,  $0$ ,  $0.5$ ,  $1$ , and  $1.5$ .

#### 4.45 *numberweights*

If `printmarginwtsum`, `printwtitem`, `printeapscale`, `printscalere`, `printobservedscale`, `printobsscale`, `printobsscalere`, or `printobsscaleres` is `.TRUE.`, then `numberweights` provides the number of weighted sums used for marginal distributions. This namelist group has the following element:

- `numweights`

##### 4.45.1 *numweights*

The integer variable `numweights` is the number of weighted sums used for marginal distributions. The default value of `numweights` is 0, and any read negative value of `numweights` is changed to 0. If `numweights` is positive, then `numweights` namelist groups `readweight` are read. In `listening1.txt`, `numweights` is 1, so that one weighted sum is used.

#### 4.46 *readweight*

The namelist group `readweight` has the following variables:

- `weightname`
- `weight`

##### 4.46.1 *weightname*

The character variable `weightname` has length no greater than 32. Default values are determined as in the case of `weight_name` for the  $d$ th group, except that DS is replaced by `numweights`. In `listening1.txt`, `weightname` is the name `'Listening_sum'` assigned to the sum of the item scores.

##### 4.46.2 *weight*

The integer array `weight` has  $\sum_{j=1}^J G_j$  elements  $w_{gjd}$ ,  $0 \leq g \leq G_j - 1$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J$ , and the sum  $W_{id} = \sum_{j=1}^J w_{X_{ij}jd}$  is considered for each examinee  $i$  such that item  $j$  is presented whenever  $w_{gjd}$  is not constant for  $0 \leq g \leq G_j - 1$ . The distribution of the weighted sum under the model is computed by use of a recursive function. The algorithm is closely related to a procedure of Lord and Wingersky (1984) for dichotomous items that was generalized by Thissen, Pommerich,

Billeaud, and Williams (1995). In `listening1.txt`, the default option for `weight` applies, so that the sum of the item scores is computed. Results are found in `listeningmargwtsum.csv`. Both the marginal distribution and adjusted residuals are provided. An examination of the adjusted residuals shows some model deviation, although the absolute size of errors is relatively small.

#### **4.47 *scalecounts***

If `printeapscale` or `printscalere` is `.TRUE.` and if `numweights` is positive, then the `namelist` group `scalecounts` appears after each `namelist` group `readweight`. Associated with `scalecounts` is the following integer value:

- `numberscales`

##### **4.47.1 *numberscales***

The number of scale scores associated with `readweight` is `numberscales`. The default value is 0, and any read value less than 0 is changed to 0. Examples appear in `listening10.txt`, where 1 scale is specified, `listening10a.txt`, where 2 scales are specified, and `listening10b.txt`, where 3 scales are defined.

#### **4.48 *scales***

If `printeapscale` or `printscalere` is `.TRUE.`, if `numweights` is positive, and if `numberscales` is positive, then `scalecounts` is followed by the `namelist` group `scales` associated with the weight in `weight`. This group includes the following variables:

- `scalenames`
- `scalevalues`

##### **4.48.1 *scalenames***

This array of character variables of length no greater than 32 and size `numberscales` provides names for all scale scores associated with the weight defined by `weight`. Default values are `'Scale1'`, `'Scale2'`, etc. Nontrivial cases are in `listening10a.txt` and `listening10b.txt`.

#### 4.48.2 *scalevalues*

This integer array has *numberscales* rows and a column for each integer between the minimum and maximum possible weighted sum defined by *readweight*. The default value for a row and column is 1 less than the sum of the column number and the minimum weighted sum. Nontrivial examples are in *listening10a.txt* and *listening10b.txt*.

#### 4.49 *numberweightsdist*

If *distract* is *.TRUE.* and *printpwtdist* is *.TRUE.*, then *numberweightsdist* provides the number of weighted sums used for distractors. This namelist group has the following element:

- *numweightsdist*

##### 4.49.1 *numweightsdist*

The integer variable *numweightsdist* is the number of weighted sums used for distractors. The default value of *numweightsdist* is 0, and any read negative value of *numweightsdist* is changed to 0. If *numweightsdist* is positive, then *numweightsdist* namelist groups *readweightdist* are read. For example, in *distpwt.txt*, *numberweightsdist* is 1, so that one weighted sum is considered.

#### 4.50 *readweightdist*

The namelist group *readweightdist* has the following variables:

- *weightnamedist*
- *weightdist*

##### 4.50.1 *weightnamedist*

The character variable *weightnamedist* has length no greater than 32. Default values are determined as in the case of *weight\_name\_dist* for the *d*th group, except that  $DS^{(c)}$  is replaced by *numweightsdist*. In *distpwt.txt*, 'Last' is the value of this variable.

##### 4.50.2 *weightdist*

The integer array *weightdist* has  $\sum_{j=1}^J G_j^{(c)}$  elements  $w_{gjd}$ ,  $0 \leq g \leq G_j^{(c)} - 1$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J$ , and the sum  $\sum_{j=1}^J w_{X_{ij}^{(c)}jd}^{(d)}$  is considered for each examinee *i* such that item *j* is presented whenever

$w_{gjd}$  is not constant for  $0 \leq g \leq G_j^{(c)} - 1$ . The distribution of the weighted sum under the model is computed by use of a recursive function. The algorithm is closely related to a procedure of Lord and Wingersky (1984) for dichotomous items that was generalized by Thissen et al. (1995). In `distpwt.txt`, the definition of `weightdist` corresponds to the definition of `weight_sum_dist` in `distreswt.txt`.

#### **4.51 *itemscores***

The namegroup `itemscores`, which is read if `printmargins2` is `.TRUE.`, contains the following real array:

- `scores`

##### **4.51.1 *scores***

The real array `scores` has  $\sum_{j=1}^J H_j$  elements. If  $1 \leq j \leq J$  and  $0 \leq h < H_j$ , then element  $1 + h - H_j + \sum_{j'=1}^j H_{j'}$  of the array is the item score  $\zeta_{hj}$ . The default value of scores has  $\zeta_{hj} = h$ . The default value is found in `listening12.txt` and `listening12a.txt`. A special item score is used in `writingsl1.txt` to correspond to a scoring system in which reported scores can be 0 or any integer from 2 through 10. Corresponding output is in `writingsl1.csv`. For a comparison with the default item scores, see `writingsl2.txt` and `writingsl2.csv`. Note that either selection of item scores indicate obvious model error.

#### **4.52 *Projected additions***

Additional summaries and associated residuals are planned that involve totals and averages of products of category indicators and either predicting variables or external variables. Further summary statistics are also planned in which conditional and unconditional expectations are compared for functions of observed responses, predicting variables, external variables, and latent vectors.

Simplified procedures are planned for fixing specific parameter values and for imposition of linear constraints on parameters that are not required for model identification. For example, options are planned to permit specification of values for all item discriminations without resorting to `designspecs`. Currently, one can readily specify that all item discriminations associated with a

skill must be the same or must be 1; however, one cannot readily impose other restrictions on item discriminations.

Procedures are planned to automate dummy coding of predictors and to automate use of interactions of predictor variables.

Plans exist to compute a variety of functions of model parameters upon request. For example, item difficulties and associated estimated asymptotic standard errors are planned. In addition, the estimated covariance matrix and correlation matrix of the underlying latent vector or the transformed latent vector are to be reported if requested.

To facilitate efficient computation when the dimension  $K$  is relatively large or when each examinee receives only a small fraction of the items, additional quadrature options are planned. Special attention will be given to hierarchical structures such as bi-factor models (Gibbons & Hedeker, 1992; Gibbons et al., 2007).

Methods for model comparison and methods for selection of subsets of observations for analysis have not yet been implemented.

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