

## Lab 1 *Factor analysis*

### Exercise 2 Social mobility in UK

The data are based on information provided by 713 male or female married respondents to a survey carried out in 1949. The variables relate to the respondent, his or his spouse, father, father-in-law, and firstborn son. The file socmob.txt contains the full correlation matrix. The 10 variables are coded as follows:

X1=Husband's father's occupational status

X2=Wife's father's occupational status

X3=Husband's further education

X4=Husband's qualifications

X5=Husband's occupational status

X6=Wife's further education

X7=Wife's qualifications

X8=Firstborn's further education

X9=Firstborn's qualifications

X10=Firstborn's occupational status

Perform first an exploratory factor analysis and then a confirmatory factor analysis on this data set.

1. Load the correlation matrix socmob.txt and explore the correlation matrix in order to evaluate if a factor model can be fitted.

```
cormat <- read.table("socmob.txt")
```

```
cormat
```

2. Estimate a factor model with 1, 2, 3 and 4 factors using the Maximum Likelihood method and select the best model using the Chi-square test. Use the function factanal.

```
cormat <- as.matrix(cormat)
```

```
n <- 713
```

```
formula <- "V1 + V2 + V3 + V4 + V5 + V6 + V7 + V8 + V9 + V10"
```

```
f1 <- factanal(formula, factors = 1, covmat = cormat, n.obs = n, rotation = "none")
```

```
f2 <- factanal(formula, factors = 2, covmat = cormat, n.obs = n, rotation = "none")
```

```
f3 <- factanal(formula, factors = 3, covmat = cormat, n.obs = n, rotation = "none")
```

```
f4 <- factanal(formula, factors = 4, covmat = cormat, n.obs = n, rotation = "none")
```

```
names(f1)
```

```
Chisq <- round(c(f1$STATISTIC, f2$STATISTIC, f3$STATISTIC, f4$STATISTIC),
```

3)

**Chisq**

**df <- c(f1\$dof, f2\$dof, f3\$dof, f4\$dof)**

**pvalues <- round(c(f1\$PVAL, f2\$PVAL, f3\$PVAL, f4\$PVAL), 4)**

**pvalues**

**f4**

3. Compute the communalities and comment them. Which percentage of the variance of the model is explained by the three-factor model?

**comm <- 1 - f3\$uniquenesses**

**comm**

**percVar <- sum(comm)/nrow(cormat)**

**percVar**

4. Compute the reproduced correlation matrix and the discrepancy between the observed and reproduced correlation.

**repcorr <- loadings(f3) %\*% t(loadings(f3))**

**round(matcor-repcorr, 3)**

5. Apply different orthogonal and oblique rotations and interpret the solutions obtained.

**loadings(f3)**

**print(f3, cutoff = 0.2)**

**library(GPArotation)**

**Varimax(loadings(f3))**

**quartimax(loadings(f3))**

**oblimin(loadings(f3))**

6. On the basis of the previous analysis perform a confirmatory factor analysis using the function `cfa` in `lavaan`.

**library(lavaan)**

**socmob.model <- "**

**F1 = V8 + V9 + V10**

**F2 = V1 + V2 + V5 + V10**

**F3 = V3 + V4 + V6 + V7"**

**fit <- cfa(socmob.model, sample.cov = cormat, sample.nobs = n, std.lv = TRUE)**

**summary(fit, fit.measures = T)**