

# An introduction to latent class analysis using Mplus

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# Workshop Overview

10-11:15am – Background to latent class analysis

11:15-11:30 – Coffee Break

11:30-12:30 – Estimating LC models in Mplus: Guidelines and Examples

12:30-1:30 – Lunch

1:30-2:30 – Practical

2:30-2:45 – Coffee Break

2:45-4:00 – More flexible LC models

# Some useful references

- McCutcheon, A. C. (1987). *Latent class analysis*. Beverly Hills, CA: Sage.
  - ('*Anyone with a good practical knowledge of algebra should have little difficulty reading this monograph!*'!)



# Some useful references

- Muthén & Muthén (2009). Categorical Latent Variable Modeling Using Mplus: Cross-Sectional Data (<http://www.statmodel.com/download/Topic%205.pdf>)
- Muthén, B. (2001). Latent variable mixture modeling. In G. A. Marcoulides & R. E. Schumacker (eds.), *New Developments and Techniques in Structural Equation Modeling* (pp. 1-33). Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- Uebersax, J. (2009). *A Practical Guide to Conditional Dependence in Latent Class Models*. Retrieved from <http://www.john-uebersax.com/stat/condep.htm>
- Collins, L.M. & Lanza, S.T. (2010). *Latent class and latent transition analysis for the social, behavioral, and health sciences*. New York: Wiley.

# Some useful references (applied)

- Hagenaars, J.A. & McCutcheon, A.L. (2002). Applied Latent Class Analysis. Cambridge University Press.
- Breslau, N., Reboussin, B.A. et al. (2005). The Structure of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder: latent class analysis in 2 community samples. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 62, 1343-1351.
- Reboussin, B.A., Ip, E.H., & Wolfson, M. (2008). Locally dependent latent class models with covariates: an application to under-age drinking in the USA. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A (Statistics in Society)*, 171, 877-897.
- Weich, S. McBride, O., Hussey, D. et al. (2011). Latent class analysis of co-morbidity in the Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey in England 2007: implications for DSM-5 and ICD-11. *Psychological Medicine*, 41, 2201-2212.

# Some useful online resources

- Bengt Muthén's UCLA homepage (lots of papers available to download for free):  
[http://pages.gseis.ucla.edu/faculty/muthen/full\\_paper\\_list.htm](http://pages.gseis.ucla.edu/faculty/muthen/full_paper_list.htm)
- Statistical Computing Seminars from UCLA Academic Technology Services:  
<http://www.ats.ucla.edu/stat/mplus/seminars/lca/default.htm>

# Some useful training courses (beyond this workshop)

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer window with the address bar at <http://www.essex.ac.uk/summerschool/>. The page content is the homepage of the Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis.

**Header:** Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis

**Main Navigation (Left):**

- Main
- About
- Campus
- Accommodation
- Travel
- Contact
- Courses** (highlighted)
- Application & Fees
- FAQ

**Welcome Section:**

Welcome!

The 45th Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis will take place 9 July - 17 August 2012

**Sponsors:**

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**Central Content:**

A large word cloud centered on "Analysis" contains the following words:

- Panel-Data
- Time-Series
- Survey
- Comparative
- Regression
- Mathematics
- Qualitative
- Equations
- Causality
- Data
- Network
- Research
- Models
- Advanced
- Design
- Bayesian
- Dynamic
- Population
- Logit
- Survival
- Advances
- Quantitative Theory
- Measurement Study
- Case
- Applied
- Hierarchical
- Likelihood
- Cross-Section
- Latent
- Spatial
- Longitudinal
- Mediation
- Techniques

**Taskbar (Bottom):**

Windows icons for File, Print, Copy, Paste, Find, and others. System status icons for battery, signal strength, volume, and date/time (16:56, 20/10/2011).

# Some useful training courses (beyond this workshop)

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer window displaying the Mplus website (<http://www.statmodel.com/coursesaug>). The browser's toolbar includes icons for back, forward, search, and refresh, along with tabs for Microsoft Outlook, Gmail, Hotmail, scholar, qub.ac.uk, and Mplus Short Cou... The McAfee security bar indicates a secure connection.

The Mplus website header features a purple banner with the word "Mplus" and a globe icon. The main navigation menu includes links for LOGIN, HOME, ORDER, SUPPORT, CONTACT US, and MPLUS DISCUSSION. A sidebar on the left lists various training and documentation options:

- MPLUS**: Mplus at a Glance, General Description, Mplus Programs, Pricing, Version History, System Requirements, FAQ.
- MPLUS DEMO VERSION**
- TRAINING**: Short Courses, Short Course Videos and Handouts, Web Training.
- DOCUMENTATION**: Mplus User's Guide, Technical Appendices, Mplus Web Notes.
- ANALYSES / RESEARCH**: Mplus Examples, Papers, References.
- SPECIAL MPLUS TOPICS**: Complex Survey Data, Exploratory SEM, Genetics, IRT, Missing Data, Randomized Trials.
- HOW-TO**: Using Mplus via R, Chi-Square Difference Test for MLM and MLR, Power Calculation, Monte Carlo Utility.
- SEARCH**

The main content area displays information about upcoming Mplus Short Courses:

- Upcoming Mplus Short Courses**
- Introduction to structural equation models, Miami Beach, Florida, November 11-12, 2011**: This course is taught by Paul Allison and is an abridged version of his university course that "will get you up and running in just two days". Click [here](#) for further information.
- The Big Mplus Show, Utrecht University, November 2011**: This course is a four-day workshop on structural equation modeling (SEM) using Mplus and assumes basic knowledge of Mplus. The course takes place on November 8, 15, 22, and 29 and is taught by Dr. Rens van de Schoot and Prof. Joop Hox. On each day, the morning session consists of lectures on different topics including Bayesian data analysis, and the afternoon session is a computer lab where the topics of the morning are applied on example data. November, 2011, Utrecht University, the Netherlands. Click [here](#) for further information.
- Mplus Users Meeting, Utrecht University, November 1, 2011**: The Third Mplus Users Meeting in the Netherlands will take place at Utrecht University, the Netherlands on November 1, 2011. Click [here](#) for further information.
- Missing data analysis: Your second course, Utrecht University, October 31, 2011**: The Third Mplus Users Meeting in the Netherlands is preceded by a workshop on missing data analysis given by Prof. Stef van Buuren (Utrecht University), Prof. Craig Enders (Arizona State University) and Gerko Vink (Utrecht University). 31st of October, 2011, Utrecht University, The Netherlands. Click [here](#) for further information.
- Mplus: How to get started? Utrecht University, October 25, 2011**: If you want to start working with Mplus, this course can help you getting started. This course is

The taskbar at the bottom of the screen shows several pinned icons: Windows, File Explorer, Mail, Photos, Control Panel, Start, and Internet Explorer. The system tray shows the date (20/10/2011), time (16:58), battery level, signal strength, and volume.

# Introduction

The logic of latent variables

# Religious commitment



# Happiness and Wellbeing

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## So, how do you measure wellbeing and happiness?

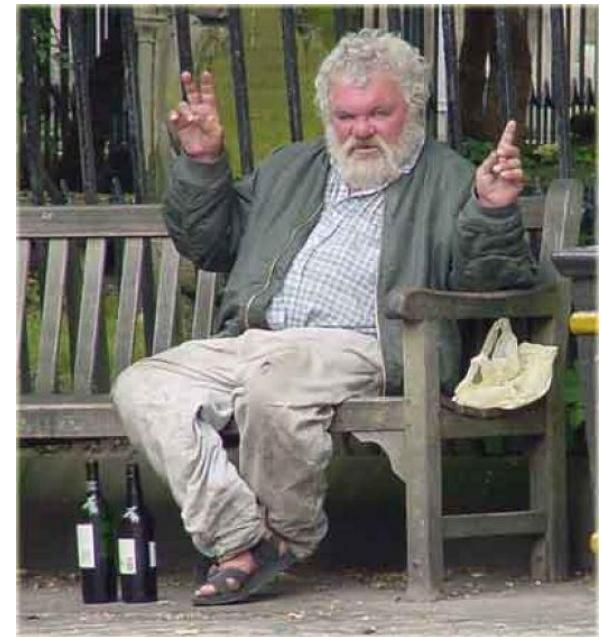
Can you really measure wellbeing and happiness? The Office for National Statistics has published plans to measure how content we are. But how would they work?



How do you measure happiness and wellbeing? The ONS thinks it knows.  
Photograph: Christopher Thomond/Guardian

How happy are you right now? Content? Satisfied? Anxious? Crucially, who else feels the way you do?

# Alcohol use disorder



# Basic orientation

- Belief: observed indicators are caused by an unobserved, or *latent*, variable of interest
- Covariation among the observed indicators is expected
- Study the patterns of interrelationships among the observed indicators to understand and characterise the underlying latent variable

# Early work on latent variables

- Used factor analysis – continuous latent variables (generally continuous observed indicators)
- Factor analysis reduces many observed variables to a few latent factors
- Latent class analysis (LCA) is a method for studying categorically scored variables that is comparable to factor analysis

# What is LCA?

- Allows researchers to empirically identify discrete latent variables from two or more discrete observed variables (Green, 1951)
- Goal - To group individuals into categories, each one of which contains individuals who are similar to each other and different from individuals in other categories (Muthén & Muthén, 2000).

# Example

(Adapted from McCutcheon, 1987)

- The Irish Contraception and Crisis Pregnancy survey (ICCP) is a national survey conducted in the Republic of Ireland in 2003 (replicated in 2010) – [www.crisispregnancy.ie](http://www.crisispregnancy.ie)
- Survey of knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour in relation to contraception, sexual health, and pregnancy

# Cross-tabulation of attitudes towards contraception - observed

	Variable B: “Carrying condoms while not in a relationship, gives the message that you are ‘easy’ or looking for sex”	Totals	
Variable A: “Find it difficult to talk to a sexual partner about contraception”	+ (Agree)	- (Disagree)	
+ (Agree)	95 (A)	55 (B)	150 (A+B)
- (Disagree)	70 (C)	80 (D)	150 (C+D)
	165 (A+C)	135 (B+D)	300 (A+B+C+D=N)

# Cross-tabulation of attitudes towards contraception - **expected**

	Variable B: “Carrying condoms while not in a relationship, gives the message that you are ‘easy’ or looking for sex”	Totals	
Variable A: “Find it difficult to talk to a sexual partner about contraception”	+ (Agree)	- (Disagree)	
+ (Agree)	(165x150)/300	(135x150)/300	150
- (Disagree)	(165x150)/300	(135x150)/300	150
	165	135	300

# Calculating $\chi^2$ – contraception attitudes example

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$$

$$\chi^2 = \frac{(95 - 82 \cdot 5)^2}{82 \cdot 5} + \frac{(55 - 67 \cdot 5)^2}{67.5} + \frac{(70 - 82 \cdot 5)^2}{82 \cdot 5} + \frac{(80 - 67.5)^2}{67.5}$$

$$\chi^2 = 1.89 + 2 \cdot 32 + 1 \cdot 89 + 2 \cdot 32$$

$$\chi^2 = 8 \cdot 42 (p < 0.01)$$

## Upper critical values of chi-square distribution with $\nu$ degrees of freedom

$\nu$	Probability of exceeding the critical value				
	0.10	0.05	0.025	0.01	0.001
1	2.706	3.841	5.024	6.635	10.828
2	4.605	5.991	7.378	9.210	13.816
3	6.251	7.815	9.348	11.345	16.266
4	7.779	9.488	11.143	13.277	18.467
5	9.236	11.070	12.833	15.086	20.515
6	10.645	12.592	14.449	16.812	22.458
7	12.017	14.067	16.013	18.475	24.322
8	13.362	15.507	17.535	20.090	26.125
9	14.684	16.919	19.023	21.666	27.877
10	15.987	18.307	20.483	23.209	29.588
11	17.275	19.675	21.920	24.725	31.264
12	18.549	21.026	23.337	26.217	32.910
13	19.812	22.362	24.736	27.688	34.528
14	21.064	23.685	26.119	29.141	36.123
15	22.307	24.996	27.488	30.578	37.697
16	23.542	26.296	28.845	32.000	39.252
17	24.769	27.587	30.191	33.409	40.790
18	25.989	28.869	31.526	34.805	42.312
19	27.204	30.144	32.852	36.191	43.820
20	28.412	31.410	34.170	37.566	45.315
21	29.615	32.671	35.479	38.932	46.797
22	30.813	33.924	36.781	40.289	48.268

# What does this result mean?

- These attitudes towards contraception are related (i.e. not independent)

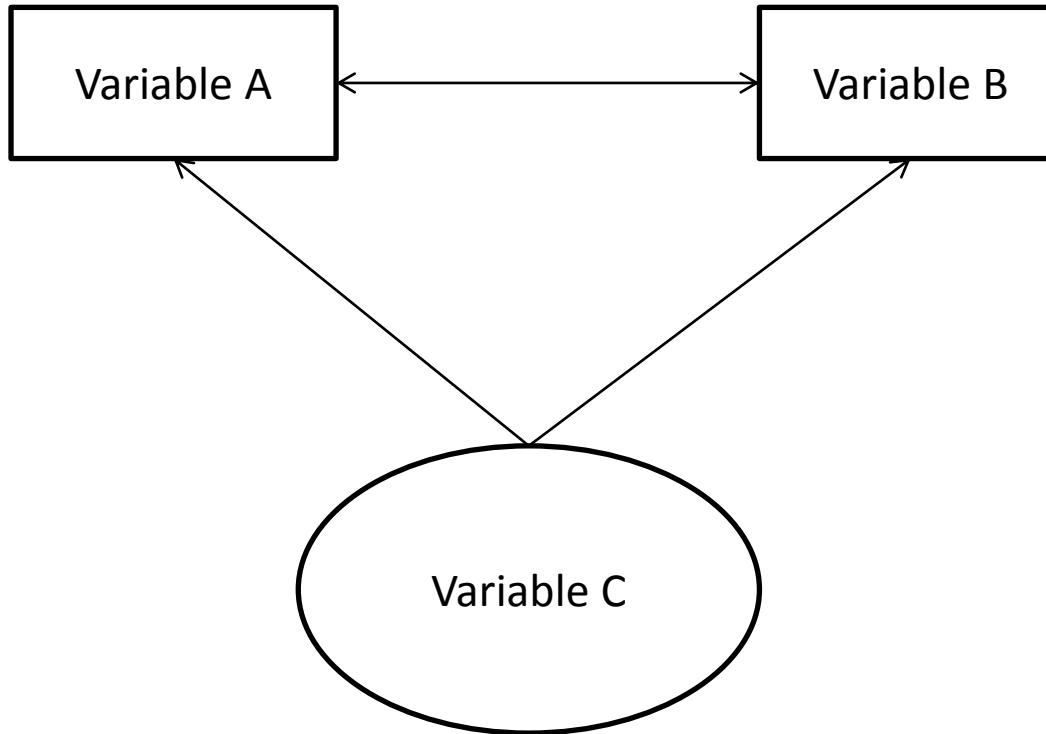


# Interpretations of relationships between two or more variables

- Causality
- Symmetrical relationships
  - Alternative indicators of same concept
  - Parts of a common ‘system’
  - Fortuitous



# Interpretations of relationships between two or more variables



# Local independence as a concept

**High Conservatism –  
'Conservative'**

	Variable B 'Carrying condoms= easy'		Totals
Variable A 'Difficult to talk to partner'	+ (Agree)	- (Disagree)	
+ (Agree)	80 (A)	20 (B)	100 (A+B)
- (Disagree)	40 (C)	10 (D)	50 (C+D)
	120 (A+C)	30 (B+D)	150 (N)

**Low Conservatism-  
'Non-Conservative'**

	Variable B 'Carrying condoms= easy'		Totals
Variable A 'Difficult to talk to partner'	+ (Agree)	- (Disagree)	
+ (Agree)	15 (A)	35 (B)	50 (A+B)
- (Disagree)	30 (C)	70( D)	100 (C+D)
	45 (A+C)	105 (B+D)	150 (N)

At each level of Variable C ('Conservatism'), variables A and B are independent of one another ( $\chi^2 = 0.0$ )

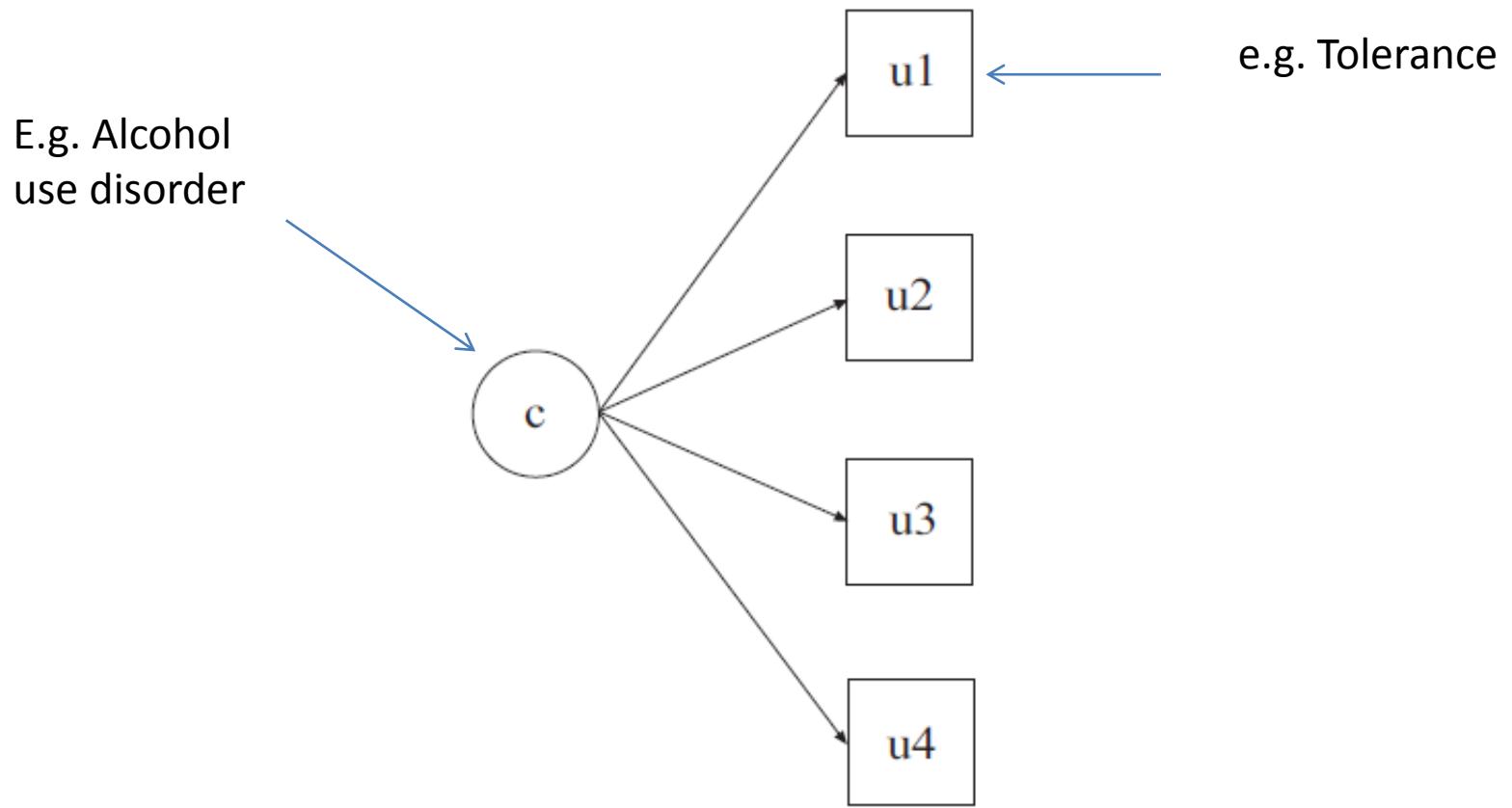
# Local independence

- Local independence – when the relationships observed among a set of variables are found to be zero within the categories of some other variable (Lazarsfeld & Henry, 1968).
- Key concept in LCA, but a strict one! (We'll return to this issue later).

# The formal latent class (LC) model

- In the example, we measured a variable (C) that explains the symmetrical relationship between A and B
- In reality, however, we are not so fortunate as to have measured that variable!!
- **Object of LC model:** to define a latent variable – specifically, a set of classes – within which the manifest variables are locally independent

# The Latent Class Model



# Model parameters

There are **two** fundamental quantities in LCA  
(Goodman, 1974)

1. Latent class probabilities
2. Conditional probabilities for each class

# Latent class probabilities ( $\pi_t^X$ )

- Describe distribution of classes of the latent variable (X) within which the observed measures are (locally) independent of one another.
  - Number of classes (T)
  - Relative sizes of the classes

# Conditional probabilities

- Comparable to factor loadings in factor analysis
- Represent the probability of an individual in a given class of the latent variable being at a particular level of the observed variables

# Conditional probability

- Recall our contraception/Conservatism example: Variables A and B were independent of one another **conditional** on Variable C
- Let's work out how to calculate the conditional probabilities by hand (even though Mplus will do this for you!)



# Example

**High Conservatism –  
‘Conservative’**

	Variable B ‘Carrying condoms= easy’		Totals
Variable A ‘Difficult to talk to partner’	+ (Agree)	- (Disagree)	
+ (Agree)	80 (A)	20 (B)	100 (A+B)
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- (Disagree)	30 (C)	70( D)	100 (C+D)
	45 (A+C)	105 (B+D)	150 (N)

# Conditional probability

- What is the probability that a **conservative** respondent agrees that:
  - ‘Find it difficult to talk to sexual partner about contraception’ (Variable A)

Can be expressed using this equation:

$$\widehat{P}_{11}^{\bar{A}\bar{C}}$$

where  $\widehat{P}$  = Sample probability

$\bar{A}\bar{C}$  = Respondent is at level 1 of Variable A (i.e. Agree) and level 1 of Variable C (i.e. Conservative)

# Conditional probability

High Conservatism –  
‘Conservative’

	Variable B ‘Carrying condoms= easy’		Totals
Variable A ‘Difficult to talk to partner’	+ (Agree)	- (Disagree)	
+ (Agree)	80 (A)	20 (B)	100 (A+B)
- (Disagree)	40 (C)	10 (D)	50 (C+D)
	120 (A+C)	30 (B+D)	150 (N)

Calculate conditional probability

$$\hat{P}_{11}^{AC} = 100/150 = 0.667$$

The probability that a conservative respondent agrees that it is “Difficult to talk to sexual partner about contraception” is 0.667

# Conditional probability

- What is the probability that a **conservative** respondent agrees that:
  - “Carrying condoms gives the message you are ‘easy’”  
(Variable B)

Can be expressed using this equation:

$$\widehat{P}_{11}^{\bar{B}\bar{C}}$$

where  $\widehat{P}$  = Probabilities are sample estimates

$\bar{B}\bar{C}$  = Respondent is at level 1 of Variable B (i.e. Agree) and level 1 of Variable C (i.e. Conservative)

# Conditional probability

**High Conservatism –  
‘Conservative’**

	Variable B ‘Carrying condoms= easy’		Totals
Variable A ‘Difficult to talk to partner’	+ (Agree)	- (Disagree)	
+ (Agree)	80 (A)	20 (B)	100 (A+B)
- (Disagree)	40 (C)	10 (D)	50 (C+D)
	120 (A+C)	30 (B+D)	150 (N)

**Calculate conditional probability**

$$\hat{P}_{11}^{BC} = 120/150 = 0.800$$

The probability that a **conservative** respondent agrees that “Carrying condoms gives the message you are ‘easy’” is 0.800

# Conditional probability

- What is the probability that a **non-conservative** respondent agrees that:
  - ‘Find it difficult to talk to sexual partner about contraception’ (Variable A)

Can be expressed using this equation:

$$\widehat{P}_{12}^{\bar{A}\bar{C}}$$

where  $\widehat{P}$  = Probabilities are sample estimates

$\bar{A}\bar{C}$  = Respondent is at level 1 of Variable A (i.e. Agree) and level 2 of Variable C (i.e. Non-Conservative)

# Conditional probability

## Non-Conservative

	Variable B 'Carrying condoms= easy'		Totals
Variable A 'Difficult to talk to partner'	+ (Agree)	- (Disagree)	
+ (Agree)	15 (A)	35 (B)	50 (A+B)
- (Disagree)	30 (C)	70 (D)	100 (C+D)
	45 (A+C)	105 (B+D)	150 (N)

**Calculate conditional probability**

$$\hat{P}_{12}^{AC} = 50/150 = 0.333$$

The probability that a non-conservative respondent agrees that it is “Difficult to talk to sexual partner about contraception” is 0.333

# Conditional probability

- What is the probability that a **non-conservative** respondent agrees that:
  - “Carrying condoms gives the message you are ‘easy’”

Can be expressed using this equation:

$$\widehat{P}_{12}^{\bar{B}\bar{C}}$$

where  $\widehat{P}$  = Probabilities are sample estimates

$\bar{B}\bar{C}$  = Respondent is at level 1 of Variable B (i.e. Agree) and level 2 of Variable C (i.e. Non-Conservative)

# Conditional probability

## Non-Conservative

	Variable B 'Carrying condoms= easy'		Totals
Variable A 'Difficult to talk to partner'	+ (Agree)	- (Disagree)	
+ (Agree)	15 (A)	35 (B)	50 (A+B)
- (Disagree)	30 (C)	70 (D)	100 (C+D)
	45 (A+C)	105 (B+D)	150 (N)

**Calculate conditional probability**

$$\hat{P}^{AC}_{12} = 45/150 = 0.300$$

The probability that a non-conservative respondent agrees that it is “Carrying condoms gives the message you are ‘easy’” is 0.300

# Conditional probabilities

- Number of distinct conditional probabilities for each observed variable = Number of levels measured for that variable
  - Eg. If an observed variable has only 2 levels (finds it difficult to talk to a partner; does not find it difficult to talk to a partner), there will be 2 associated probabilities:

$$\pi_{1t}^{\bar{A}X} \quad \pi_{2t}^{\bar{A}X}$$

# Conditional probabilities

- Help to characterise the nature of the ‘types’ defined by each latent class
- Indicate whether observations in a given class are likely or unlikely to have characteristics of each of the observed variables
- Within each of the latent classes ( $T$ ), the conditional probabilities for each of the observed variables sum to 1

# The formal latent class (LC) model

If A and B are (observed) manifest variables  
(indexed by  $i$  and  $j$ )

- Eg: If  $A_i$  is respondent's religious identification with,  
1=Protestant, 2=Catholic, 3=Jewish, 4=Other,  
5=None; (i.e.  $i=5$ ), then  $A_2$  represents the Catholics

If X is the latent variable ('Variable C')

If T is the number of latent classes (levels)

If  $\pi$  is the probability (when 'Variable C' is latent)

# The formal latent class (LC) model

Then the formal LC model can be expressed as:

$$\pi_{ijt}^{ABX} = \pi_{it}^{\bar{A}X} \times \pi_{jt}^{\bar{B}X} \times \pi_t^X$$

(the last equation in this workshop!)





©wallnew

# Estimating LC models in Mplus

Guidelines and Examples



# Example: Alcohol Experiences

- 2 billion alcohol users worldwide; 76.3 million are diagnosable with alcohol use disorders (WHO, 2004)
- AUD are associated with a variety of medical, social, and legal consequences
- \$185 billion – cost to the US economy (Li et al., 2004)
- 2001-2002 NESARC (USA): Large survey focusing on alcohol use and associated disorders

# Alcohol Experiences

Code	In the last 12 months, did you...
S2BQ1B1	Find usual # of drinks had less effect than before
S2BQ1B3	Drink equivalent of a 1/5 bottle of liquor in one day
S2BQ1B6	Try unsuccessfully to stop/cut down on drinking more than once
S2BQ1B8	Have period when kept drinking longer than intended
S2BQ1B9B	Shake when effects of alcohol were wearing off
S2BQ1B9C	Feel anxious or nervous when effects of alcohol were wearing off
S2BQ1B9D	Have nausea when effects of alcohol were wearing off
S2BQ1B9F	Sweat/heart beat fast when effects of alcohol were wearing off
S2BQ1B10	Drink or use medicine/drugs (other than aspirin) to get over bad aftereffects of drinking
S2BQ1B13	Spent a lot of time being sick/getting over bad effects of drinking
S2BQ1B15	Give up or cut down pleasurable activities to drink
S2BQ1B16	Continue to drink even though depressed/uninterested/suspicious of others
S2BQ1B19	Have period when drinking interfered with taking care of home or family
S2BQ1B20	Have job/school troubles because of drinking
S2BQ1B24	Get in situations that increased chances of getting hurt while drinking
S2BQ1B25	Continue to drink despite causing trouble with family or friends
S2BQ1B26	Get into physical fights when or right after drinking
S2BQ1B27	Get arrested or have other legal problems because of drinking

# Things to think about...

- Before running any analysis in Mplus, there are several things to think about:
  - Sample size
  - Response patterns/Sparseness
  - Model identification
  - Theory



# Sample size

- For EFA or CFA:
  - *'The bigger the better!'*
  - 10-20 cases for each variable
  - Sample size of  $\geq 100$  is required
- Latent class models are case sensitive (i.e. they require relatively large sample sizes but general rules of thumb don't really exist)



# Sparseness

- Sparseness: Many *sampling* zeros in dataset
- Difference between sampling and structural zeros
- Sparseness leads to difficulties in model evaluation
- Importance of response patterns

# Model identification

- Identifiability: the degree to which there is sufficient information in the sample observations to estimate the parameters in a proposed model (McCutcheon, 1987).
- Mplus will tell you if your model is not identified!



# Theory

- DSM-IV: 2 mutually exclusive alcohol use disorders (abuse, dependence)
- Alcohol dependence syndrome (ADS; Edwards & Gross, 1976)
- DSM-5: addiction severity ('alcohol use disorder')

# Now we're ready to...

- Learn how to prepare an SPSS data file for analysis in Mplus
- Explore the different functions of the main commands and subcommands used in Mplus input syntax
- Understand the specific sections in the Mplus output file

# 1. Prepare data file in SPSS

The screenshot shows the IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor interface. The title bar reads "alcohol symptoms W1NESARC.sav [DataSet1] - IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor". The menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Data, Transform, Analyze, Graphs, Utilities, Add-ons, Window, and Help. Below the menu is a toolbar with various icons. The main area displays a data grid with 38 rows and 13 columns. The columns are labeled: IDNUM, PSU, STRATUM, WEIGHT, AGE, SEX, CONSUMER, S2BQ1A1, S2BQ1B1, S2BQ1A2, S2BQ1B2, S2BQ1A3, S2BQ1B3, S2BQ1A4, and S2BQ1B4. The first few rows of data are as follows:

IDNUM	PSU	STRATUM	WEIGHT	AGE	SEX	CONSUMER	S2BQ1A1	S2BQ1B1	S2BQ1A2	S2BQ1B2	S2BQ1A3	S2BQ1B3	S2BQ1A4	S2BQ1B4
16	16552	10001	109	1291.71	27	female	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
17	16865	10001	109	959.70	67	female	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
18	17087	10001	109	7965.75	41	female	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
19	18018	10001	109	4097.61	43	female	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
20	18529	10001	109	6619.08	52	female	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
21	18743	10001	109	17306.42	25	male	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
22	18775	10001	109	15367.48	74	male	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
23	20655	10001	109	2073.22	73	male	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
24	21334	10001	109	3607.88	56	female	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
25	2936	10002	108	2070.62	30	male	current drinker	No						
26	3313	10002	108	3167.29	73	female	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
27	4200	10002	108	6610.44	82	female	current drinker	No						
28	4472	10002	108	993.35	67	male	current drinker	Missing	Missing	Missing	No	No	Missing	Missing
29	5513	10002	108	8149.19	59	male	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
30	5852	10002	108	4591.16	51	male	current drinker	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
31	6773	10002	108	7314.22	64	male	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
32	7071	10002	108	5841.92	23	male	current drinker	No						
33	7194	10002	108	8657.81	18	male	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
34	8451	10002	108	7022.46	37	female	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
35	9551	10002	108	9123.22	18	female	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
36	9943	10002	108	7965.75	44	female	lifetime abstai...	Missing						
37	10449	10002	108	8133.57	28	female	current drinker	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
38	12116	10002	108	3904.55	57	male	ex-drinker	No	Missing	No	Yes	Missing	No	Missing

- Most researchers prepare their data file in SPSS first, prior to using Mplus
- You can re-structure data in Mplus – can be complicated!
- Go with what you know best ☺

## 2. Saving the data as a tab delimited file (.DAT file)

The screenshot shows the IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor interface. The title bar reads "alcohol symptoms W1NESARC.sav [DataSet1] - IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor". The menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Data, Transform, Analyze, Graphs, Utilities, Add-ons, Window, and Help. The "File" menu is currently active, with its sub-menu options visible: New, Open, Open Database, Read Text Data..., Close (Ctrl+F4), Save (Ctrl+S), Save As... (highlighted in yellow), Save All Data, Export to Database..., Mark File Read Only, Rename Dataset..., Display Data File Information, Cache Data..., Stop Processor (Ctrl+Period), Switch Server..., Repository, Print Preview, Print... (Ctrl+P), Recently Used Data, Recently Used Files, and Exit. The main data view window displays a table with 23 rows of data and 12 columns. The columns are labeled: ID, WEIGHT, AGE, SEX, CONSUMER, S2BQ1A1, S2BQ1B1, S2BQ1A2, S2BQ1B2, S2BQ1A3, S2BQ1B3, S2BQ1A4, and S2BQ1B4. The data includes variables like weight (e.g., 4270.49, 1899.53), age (e.g., 24, 33), sex (male/female), consumer status (current drinker/lifetime abstainer), and various survey responses (e.g., No, Yes, Missing). The bottom of the screen shows the Windows taskbar with icons for Start, File Explorer, Task View, Settings, and Microsoft Edge, along with the system tray showing battery level, signal strength, volume, and date/time (13:12, 15/10/2011).

- Click on the ‘File’ tab in the Data View window
- Click on the ‘Save As’ sub-menu
- This will open the dialogue box

### 3. Give the .DAT file a (short) name

The screenshot shows the IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor interface. The main window displays a data table with 38 rows and 14 columns. The columns are labeled: IDNUM, PSU, STRATUM, WEIGHT, AGE, SEX, CONSUMER, S2BQ1A1, S2BQ1B1, S2BQ1A2, S2BQ1B2, S2BQ1A3, S2BQ1B3, S2BQ1A4, and S2BQ1B4. The 'Visible' status bar at the top right indicates 'Visible: 81 of 81 Variables'. A 'Save Data As' dialog box is overlaid on the main window. The 'Look in:' dropdown shows 'LCA workshop'. The 'File name:' field contains 'alcohol symptoms W1NESARC'. The 'Save as type:' dropdown is set to 'Tab delimited (\*.dat)', which is highlighted with a yellow selection bar. Other options in the dropdown include 'SPSS 7.0 (\*.sav)', 'SPSS/PC+ (\*.sys)', 'Portable (\*.por)', 'Comma delimited (\*.csv)', 'Fixed ASCII (\*.dat)', 'Excel 2.1 (\*.xls)', and 'Excel 97 through 2003 (\*.xls)'. The bottom of the dialog box has buttons for 'Variables...', 'Save', 'Paste', 'Cancel', and 'Help'. The status bar at the bottom of the screen shows 'IBM SPSS Statistics Processor is ready', the date '15/10/2011', and the time '13:18'. The taskbar at the bottom includes icons for various applications like Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, and Microsoft Word.

- Under the ‘Save As Type’ command, change the file type from .SAV (SPSS data file) to a .DAT (Tab delimited) file

# 4. Make sure to uncheck the ‘Write variable names to spreadsheet box’

alcohol symptoms W1NESARC.sav [DataSet1] - IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor

File Edit View Data Transform Analyze Graphs Utilities Add-ons Window Help

1 : S2BQ1A2

Visible: 81 of 81 Variables

	IDNUM	PSU	STRATUM	WEIGHT	AGE	SEX	CONSUMER	S2BQ1A1	S2BQ1B1	S2BQ1A2	S2BQ1B2	S2BQ1A3	S2BQ1B3	S2BQ1A4	S2BQ1B4
16	16552	10001	109	1291.71	27	female	lifetime abstai...	Missing							
17	16865	10001	109	959.70	67	female	lifetime abstai...	Missing							
18	17087	10001	109	796											
19	18018	10001	109	409											
20	18529	10001	109	661											
21	18743	10001	109	1730											
22	18775	10001	109	1536											
23	20655	10001	109	207											
24	21334	10001	109	360											
25	2936	10002	108	207											
26	3313	10002	108	316											
27	4200	10002	108	661											
28	4472	10002	108	99											
29	5513	10002	108	814											
30	5852	10002	108	459											
31	6773	10002	108	731											
32	7071	10002	108	584											
33	7194	10002	108	868											
34	8451	10002	108	702											
35	9551	10002	108	912											
36	9943	10002	108	796											
37	10449	10002	108	8133.57	28	female	current drinker	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	N
38	12116	10002	108	3904.55	57	male	ex-drinker	No	Missing	No	Missing	Yes	Missing	No	Missing

Save As... Data View Variable View

IBM SPSS Statistics Processor is ready

EN 13:19 15/10/2011

Windows Taskbar icons: File Explorer, Control Panel, Start, Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, PDF, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Access.

## 5. Check SPSS output to ensure file conversion is correct

\*Output1 [Document1] - IBM SPSS Statistics Viewer

File Edit View Data Transform Insert Format Analyze Graphs Utilities Add-ons Window Help

Output Log

```
SAVE TRANSLATE OUTFILE='F:\LCA workshop\alcohol symptoms WINESARC.dat'
/TYPE=TAB
/MAP
/REPLACE
/CELLS=VALUES.

Data written to F:\LCA workshop\alcohol symptoms WINESARC.dat.
81 variables and 43093 cases written.

Variable: IDNUM          Type: Number   Width:  5   Dec: 0
Variable: PSU             Type: Number   Width:  5   Dec: 0
Variable: STRATUM         Type: Number   Width:  4   Dec: 0
Variable: WEIGHT           Type: Number   Width:  8   Dec: 2
Variable: AGE              Type: Number   Width:  2   Dec: 0
Variable: SEX              Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: CONSUMER         Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1A1           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1B1           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1A2           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1B2           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1A3           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1B3           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1A4           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1B4           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1A5           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1B5           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1A6           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1B6           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1A7           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1B7           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1A8           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
Variable: S2BQ1B8           Type: Number   Width:  1   Dec: 0
```

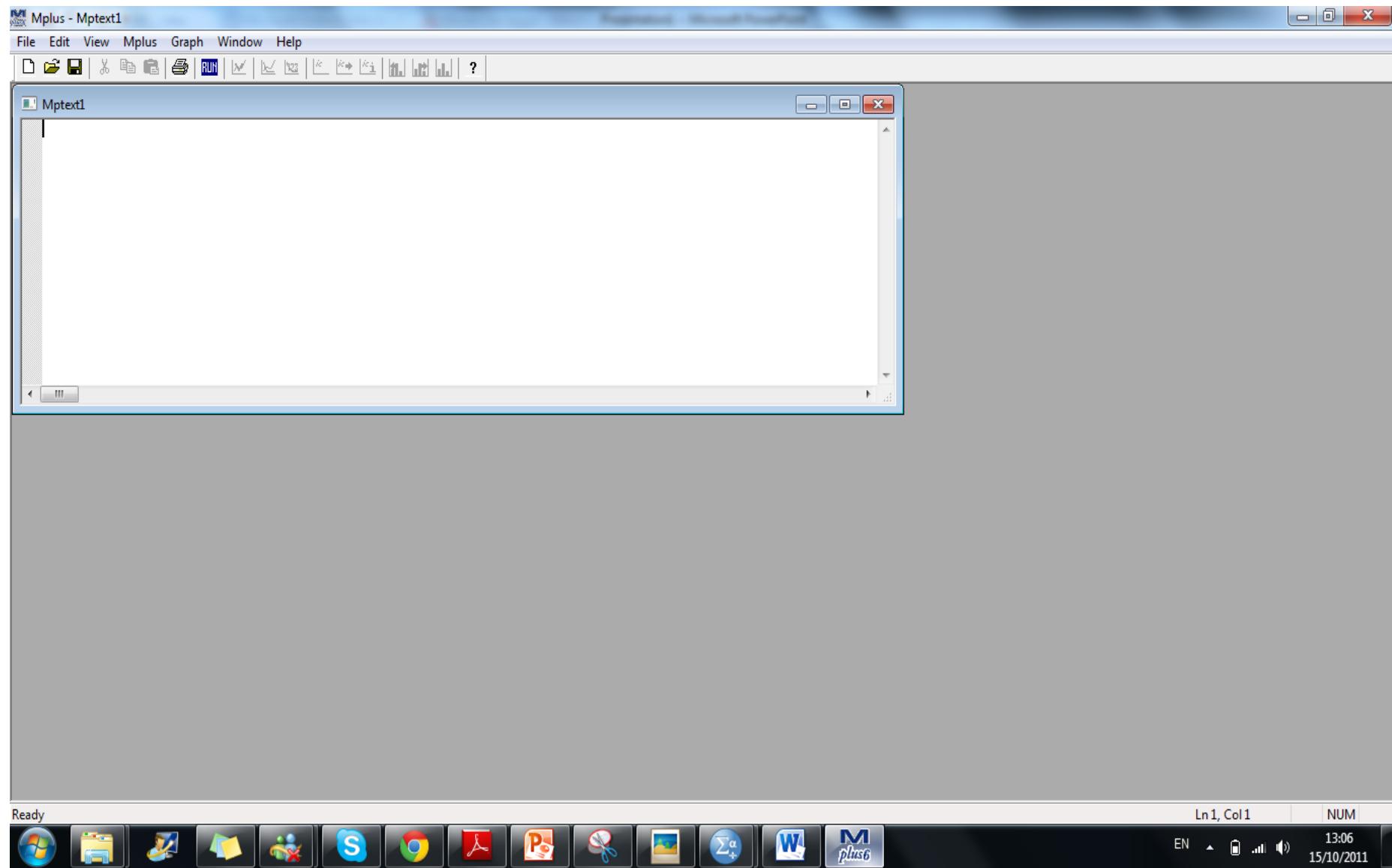
IBM SPSS Statistics Processor is ready

EN 13:23 15/10/2011

## **6. Check the format of the .DAT file using Wordpad**

(Mplus will be sure to tell you if there are any errors!)

## 7. Open Mplus



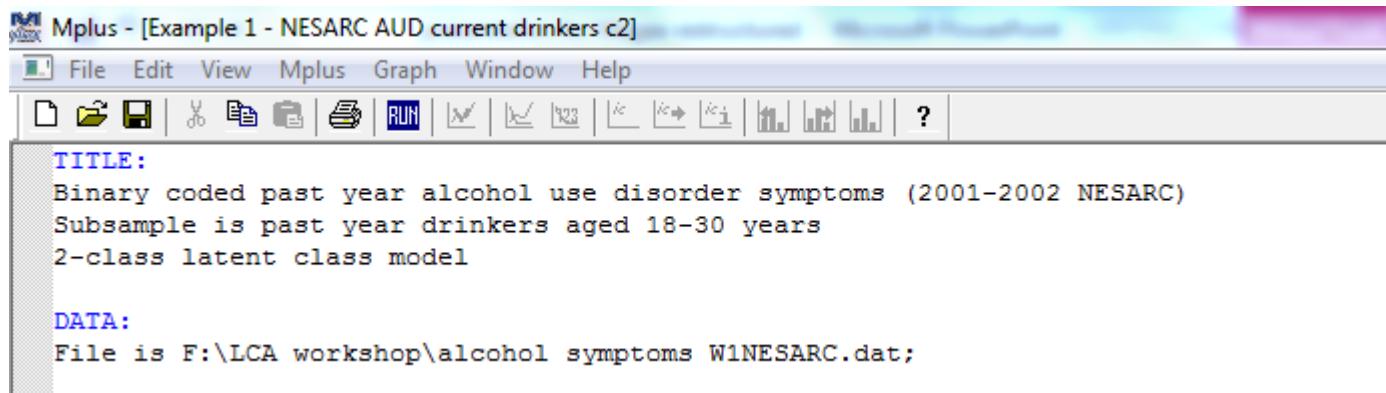
# Some general notes for writing Mplus syntax

- Any text in Mplus input that is preceded by ! will turn to **GREEN** text and will not be read by Mplus as an input command/subcommand.
- This feature is useful for writing notes for yourself about the analysis you are conducting etc.
- This feature can also be used to exclude certain pieces of syntax you may not want Mplus to include (examples will be shown during this workshop).
- Every single line of text that you do not want to include as an input instruction must be preceded by an !

# The Mplus Input Commands

- Mplus has several command headings that, when typed into an input file and followed by a colon (:), will turn **BLUE** automatically.
- The main command headings are: **TITLE**, **DATA**, **VARIABLES**, **ANALYSIS**, **MODEL**, **SAVEDATA**, **OUTPUT**, and **PLOT**.
- Mplus recognises these commands as key elements of the input to run the programme.
- Generally, all of these command headings are used when running a latent class model.
- Many of the command headings have subcommands, which are used to tell Mplus exactly how to run the model you are specifying.

# TITLE and DATA



Mplus - [Example 1 - NESARC AUD current drinkers c2]

File Edit View Mplus Graph Window Help

TITLE:  
Binary coded past year alcohol use disorder symptoms (2001-2002 NESARC)  
Subsample is past year drinkers aged 18-30 years  
2-class latent class model

DATA:  
File is F:\LCA workshop\alcohol symptoms WINESARC.dat;

**TITLE:** Optional

**DATA:** Provides information about the data that is to be analysed

# VARIABLE

```
VARIABLE:  
NAMES are IDNUM PSU STRATUM WEIGHT AGE SEX CONSUMER  
S2BQ1A1 S2BQ1B1 S2BQ1A2 S2BQ1B2 S2BQ1A3 S2BQ1B3 S2BQ1A4 S2BQ1B4  
S2BQ1A5 S2BQ1B5 S2BQ1A6 S2BQ1B6 S2BQ1A7 S2BQ1B7 S2BQ1A8 S2BQ1B8  
S2BQ1A9A S2BQ1B9A S2BQ1A9B S2BQ1B9B S2BQ1A9C S2BQ1B9C  
S2BQ1A9D S2BQ1B9D S2BQ1A9E S2BQ1B9E S2BQ1A9F S2BQ1B9F  
S2BQ1A9G S2BQ1B9G S2BQ1A9H S2BQ1B9H S2BQ1A9I S2BQ1B9I  
S2BQ1A10 S2BQ1B10 S2BQ1A11 S2BQ1B11 S2BQ1A12 S2BQ1B12  
S2BQ1A13 S2BQ1B13 S2BQ1A14 S2BQ1B14 S2BQ1A15 S2BQ1B15  
S2BQ1A16 S2BQ1B16 S2BQ1A17 S2BQ1B17 S2BQ1A18 S2BQ1B18  
S2BQ1A19 S2BQ1B19 S2BQ1A20 S2BQ1B20 S2BQ1A21 S2BQ1B21  
S2BQ1A22 S2BQ1B22 S2BQ1A23 S2BQ1B23 S2BQ1A24 S2BQ1B24  
S2BQ1A25 S2BQ1B25 S2BQ1A26 S2BQ1B26 S2BQ1A27 S2BQ1B27  
S2BQ1A28 S2BQ1B28 S2BQ1A29 S2BQ1B29;  
  
USEVARIABLES are S2BQ1B1 S2BQ1B3 S2BQ1B6 S2BQ1B8  
S2BQ1B9B S2BQ1B9C S2BQ1B9D S2BQ1B9F S2BQ1B10  
S2BQ1B13 S2BQ1B15 S2BQ1B16 S2BQ1B19 S2BQ1B20  
S2BQ1B24 S2BQ1B25 S2BQ1B26 S2BQ1B27;  
  
CATEGORICAL are S2BQ1B1-S2BQ1B27;  
  
IDVARIABLE IS IDNUM;  
WEIGHT IS WEIGHT;  
CLUSTER IS PSU;  
STRATIFICATION IS STRATUM;  
  
CLASSES = c(2);  
  
MISSING are all (-9);  
  
SUBPOPULATION is (CONSUMER EQ 1) AND (AGE LE 30);
```

VARIABLE: provides information about the variables in the data file to be analysed

# ANALYSIS and MODEL

```
ANALYSIS:  
type = complex mixture;  
starts = 50 5;  
  
MODEL:  
%Overall%
```

**ANALYSIS:** describes the technical details of the analysis including the type of analysis and the statistical estimator

**MODEL:** describes the model to be estimated.

# SAVEDATA, OUTPUT, and PLOT

```
SAVEDATA:  
File is AUD c2.dat;  
Save is cprob;  
  
OUTPUT:  
tech10 tech11;  
  
PLOT:  
type = plot3;  
series = S2BQ1B1-S2BQ1B27(*);
```

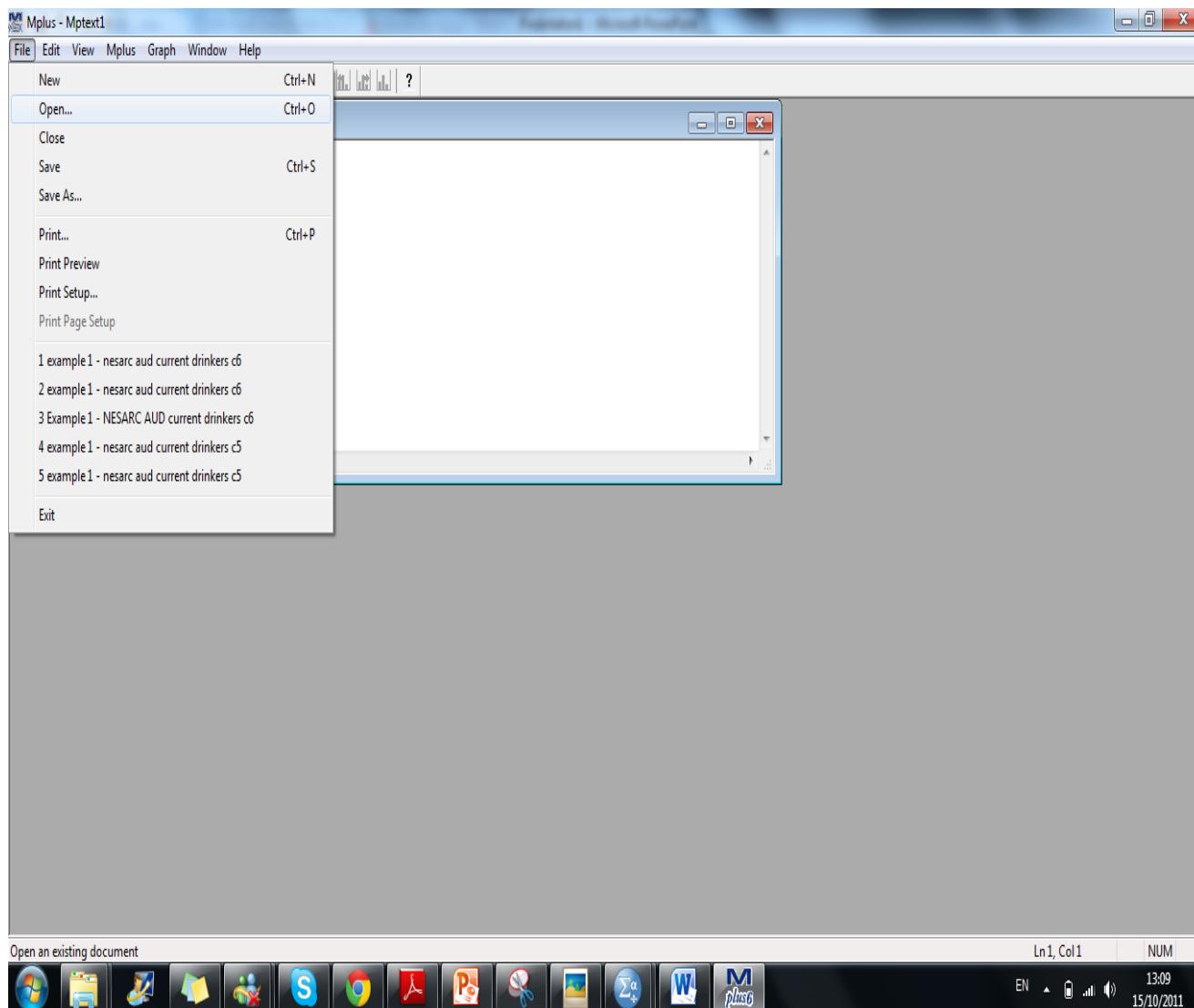


**SAVEDATA:** Used to save the analysis data, auxiliary variables, and a variety of analysis results

**OUTPUT:** Optional

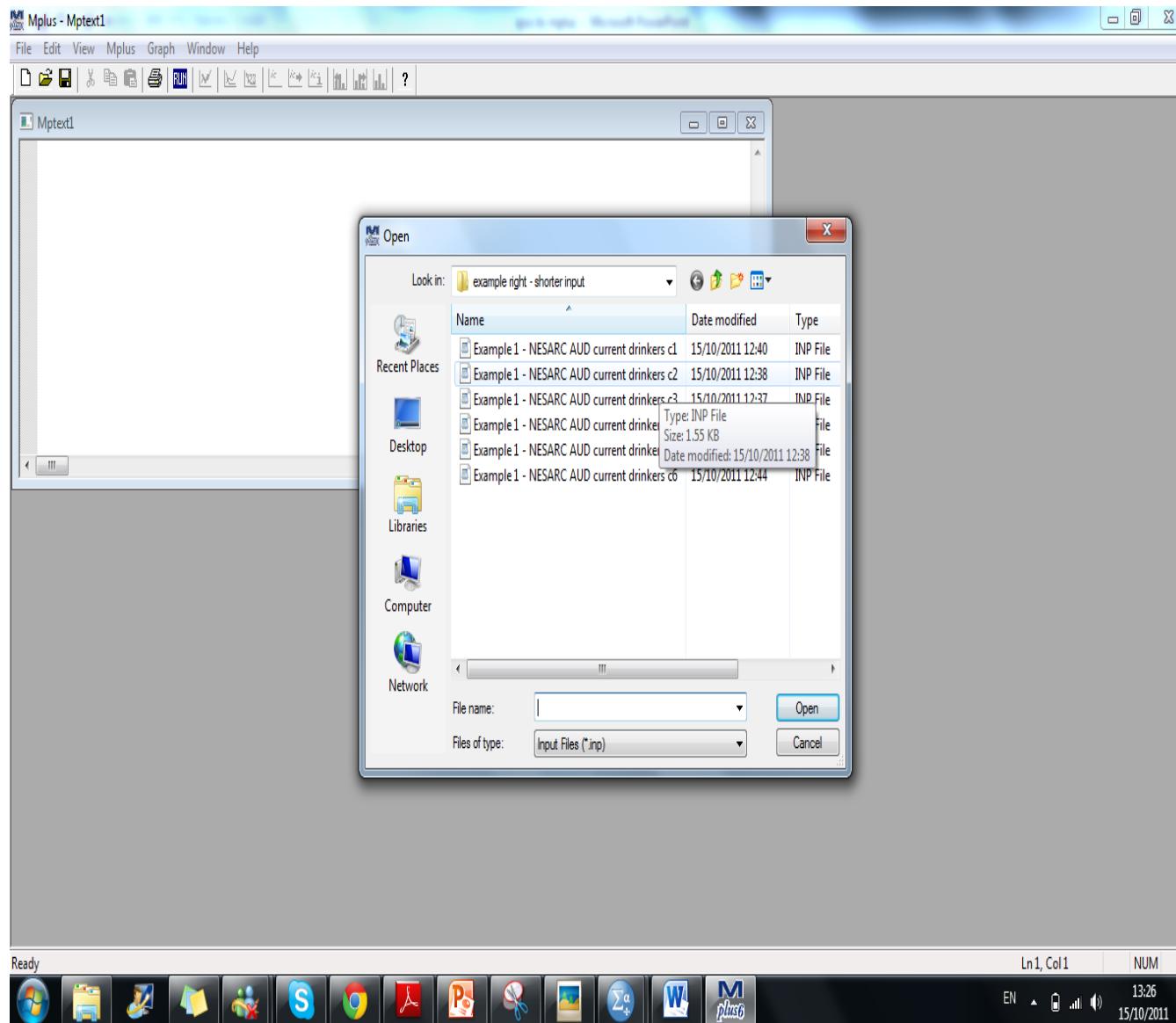
**PLOT:** Optional

## 8. Opening an Mplus Input File



- Under the ‘File’ tab:
  - a) Click ‘New’ if you want to create a new syntax file
  - b) Click ‘Open’ if you want to open a saved syntax file

## 9. Opening an existing Mplus Input File



- Mplus will open an Input file as the default
- If you want to view an output or graphic file, change the 'Files of type' option

# 10. Minimized view of Mplus Input file

Mplus - Example 1 - NESARC AUD current drinkers c2

File Edit View Mplus Graph Window Help

Mptext1

Example1 - NESARC AUD current drinkers c2

**TITLE:**  
Binary coded past year alcohol use disorder symptoms (2001-2002 NESARC)  
Subsample is past year drinkers aged 18-30 years  
2-class latent class model

**DATA:**  
File is F:\LCA workshop\alcohol symptoms W1NESARC.dat;

**VARIABLE:**  
NAMES are IDNUM PSU STRATUM WEIGHT AGE SEX CONSUMER  
S2BQ1A1 S2BQ1B1 S2BQ1A2 S2BQ1B2 S2BQ1A3 S2BQ1B3 S2BQ1A4 S2BQ1B4  
S2BQ1A5 S2BQ1B5 S2BQ1A6 S2BQ1B6 S2BQ1A7 S2BQ1B7 S2BQ1A8 S2BQ1B8  
S2BQ1A9A S2BQ1B9A S2BQ1A9B S2BQ1B9B S2BQ1A9C S2BQ1B9C  
S2BQ1A9D S2BQ1B9D S2BQ1A9E S2BQ1B9E S2BQ1A9F S2BQ1B9F  
S2BQ1A9G S2BQ1B9G S2BQ1A9H S2BQ1B9H S2BQ1A9I S2BQ1B9I  
S2BQ1A10 S2BQ1B10 S2BQ1A11 S2BQ1B11 S2BQ1A12 S2BQ1B12  
S2BQ1A13 S2BQ1B13 S2BQ1A14 S2BQ1B14 S2BQ1A15 S2BQ1B15  
S2BQ1A16 S2BQ1B16 S2BQ1A17 S2BQ1B17 S2BQ1A18 S2BQ1B18  
S2BQ1A19 S2BQ1B19 S2BQ1A20 S2BQ1B20 S2BQ1A21 S2BQ1B21  
S2BQ1A22 S2BQ1B22 S2BQ1A23 S2BQ1B23 S2BQ1A24 S2BQ1B24  
S2BQ1A25 S2BQ1B25 S2BQ1A26 S2BQ1B26 S2BQ1A27 S2BQ1B27  
S2BQ1A28 S2BQ1B28 S2BQ1A29 S2BQ1B29;

USEVARTART.ES are S2R01B1 S2R01B3 S2R01B6 S2R01B8

# 11. Maximized view of Mplus Input file (part 1)

Mplus - [Example 1 - NESARC AUD current drinkers c2]

File Edit View Mplus Graph Window Help

TITLE:  
Binary coded past year use disorder symptoms (2001-2002 NESARC)  
Subsample is past year drinkers aged 18-30 years  
2-class latent class model

DATA:  
File is F:\LCA workshop\alcohol symptoms W1NESARC.dat;

VARIABLE:  
NAMES are IDNUM PSU STRATUM WEIGHT AGE SEX CONSUMER  
S2BQ1A1 S2BQ1B1 S2BQ1A2 S2BQ1B2 S2BQ1A3 S2BQ1B3 S2BQ1A4 S2BQ1B4  
S2BQ1A5 S2BQ1B5 S2BQ1A6 S2BQ1B6 S2BQ1A7 S2BQ1B7 S2BQ1A8 S2BQ1B8  
S2BQ1A9A S2BQ1B9A S2BQ1A9B S2BQ1B9B S2BQ1A9C S2BQ1B9C  
S2BQ1A9D S2BQ1B9D S2BQ1A9E S2BQ1B9E S2BQ1A9F S2BQ1B9F  
S2BQ1A9G S2BQ1B9G S2BQ1A9H S2BQ1B9H S2BQ1A9I S2BQ1B9I  
S2BQ1A10 S2BQ1B10 S2BQ1A11 S2BQ1B11 S2BQ1A12 S2BQ1B12  
S2BQ1A13 S2BQ1B13 S2BQ1A14 S2BQ1B14 S2BQ1A15 S2BQ1B15  
S2BQ1A16 S2BQ1B16 S2BQ1A17 S2BQ1B17 S2BQ1A18 S2BQ1B18  
S2BQ1A19 S2BQ1B19 S2BQ1A20 S2BQ1B20 S2BQ1A21 S2BQ1B21  
S2BQ1A22 S2BQ1B22 S2BQ1A23 S2BQ1B23 S2BQ1A24 S2BQ1B24  
S2BQ1A25 S2BQ1B25 S2BQ1A26 S2BQ1B26 S2BQ1A27 S2BQ1B27  
S2BQ1A28 S2BQ1B28 S2BQ1A29 S2BQ1B29;

USEVARIABLES are S2BQ1B1 S2BQ1B3 S2BQ1B6 S2BQ1B8  
S2BQ1B9B S2BQ1B9C S2BQ1B9D S2BQ1B9F S2BQ1B10  
S2BQ1B13 S2BQ1B15 S2BQ1B16 S2BQ1B19 S2BQ1B20  
S2BQ1B24 S2BQ1B25 S2BQ1B26 S2BQ1B27;

CATEGORICAL are S2BQ1B1-S2BQ1B27;

IDVARIABLE IS IDNUM;  
WEIGHT IS WEIGHT;  
CLUSTER IS PSU;  
STRATIFICATION IS STRATUM;

CLASSES = c(2);

MISSING are all (-9);

Run Mplus

Ln 1, Col 1 NUM

EN 16:24 15/10/2011

S W plus6



## 12. Maximized view of Mplus Input file (part 2)

Mplus - [Example 1 - NESARC AUD current drinkers c2]

File Edit View Mplus Graph Window Help

S2BQ1A28 S2BQ1B28 S2BQ1A29 S2BQ1B29;

USEVARIABLES are S2BQ1B1 S2BQ1B3 S2BQ1B6 S2BQ1B8  
S2BQ1B9B S2BQ1B9C S2BQ1B9D S2BQ1B9F S2BQ1B10  
S2BQ1B13 S2BQ1B15 S2BQ1B16 S2BQ1B19 S2BQ1B20  
S2BQ1B24 S2BQ1B25 S2BQ1B26 S2BQ1B27;

CATEGORICAL are S2BQ1B1-S2BQ1B27;

IDVARIABLE IS IDNUM;  
WEIGHT IS WEIGHT;  
CLUSTER IS PSU;  
STRATIFICATION IS STRATUM;

CLASSES = c(2);

MISSING are all (-9);

SUBPOPULATION is (CONSUMER EQ 1) AND (AGE LE 30);

**ANALYSIS:**  
type = complex mixture;  
starts = 50 5;

**MODEL:**  
%Overall%

**SAVEDATA:**  
File is AUD c2.dat;  
Save is cprob;

**OUTPUT:**  
tech10 tech11;

**PLOT:**  
type = plot3;  
series = S2BQ1B1-S2BQ1B27 (\*);

Ready

Ln 1, Col 1 NUM

EN 16:33 15/10/2011



# Estimating latent class models

- A one-class model - the ‘complete independence’ test
- If a one-class model is a good fit: the observed variables are not interrelated, and therefore no latent variable is needed since there is no relationship between the manifest variables that requires explanation (RARELY happens!)
- Generally 1-6 class models are estimated (maybe more!)

File Edit View Mplus Graph Window Help



S2BQ1A28 S2BQ1B28 S2BQ1A29 S2BQ1B29;

USEVARIABLES are S2BQ1B1 S2BQ1B3 S2BQ1B6 S2BQ1B8

S2BQ1B9B S2BQ1B9C S2BQ1B9D S2BQ1B9F S2BQ1B10

S2BQ1B13 S2BQ1B15 S2BQ1B16 S2BQ1B19 S2BQ1B20

S2BQ1B24 S2BQ1B25

CATEGORICAL are

IDVARIABLE IS ID

WEIGHT IS WEIGHT

CLUSTER IS PSU;

STRATIFICATION I

CLASSES = c(5);

MISSING are all

SUBPOPULATION is

**ANALYSIS:**

type = complex m

starts = 50 5;

**MODEL:**

%Overall%

**SAVEDATA:**

File is AUD c5.dat;

Save is cprob;

**OUTPUT:**

tech10 tech11;

**PLOT:**

type = plot3;

series = S2BQ1B1-S2BQ1B27(\*);

cl C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe

Mplus VERSION 6  
MUTHEN & MUTHEN

Running input file 'f:\lca workshop\alcohol symptoms\example right - shorter input\example 1 - nesarc aud current drinkers c5.inp'...





S2BQ1A28 S2BQ1B28 S2BQ1A29 S2BQ1B29;

USEVARIABLES are S2BQ1B1 S2BQ1B3 S2BQ1B6 S2BQ1B8

S2BQ1B9B S2BQ1B9C S2BQ1B9D S2BQ1B9F S2BQ1B10

S2BQ1B13 S2BQ1B15 S2BQ1B16 S2BQ1B19 S2BQ1B20

S2BQ1B24 S2BQ1B2

CATEGORICAL are

16	-0.70957874D+05	1.7237536	0.0000243	EM	0.01	5.4
17	-0.70956455D+05	1.4187848	0.0000200	EM	0.01	5.4
18	-0.70955285D+05	1.1697513	0.0000165	EM	0.01	5.4
19	-0.70954317D+05	0.9683916	0.0000136	EM	0.01	5.4
20	-0.70953513D+05	0.8040336	0.0000113	EM	0.01	5.4
21	-0.70952843D+05	0.6698804	0.0000094	EM	0.01	5.4
22	-0.70952283D+05	0.5602959	0.0000079	EM	0.01	5.5
23	-0.70951812D+05	0.4706297	0.0000066	EM	0.01	5.5
24	-0.70951415D+05	0.3970877	0.0000056	EM	0.01	5.5
25	-0.70951078D+05	0.3366059	0.0000047	EM	0.01	5.5
26	-0.70950792D+05	0.2867245	0.0000040	EM	0.01	5.5
27	-0.70950546D+05	0.2454730	0.0000035	EM	0.01	5.5
28	-0.70950335D+05	0.2112705	0.0000030	EM	0.01	5.5
29	-0.70950152D+05	0.1828440	0.0000026	EM	0.01	5.5
30	-0.70949993D+05	0.1591640	0.0000022	EM	0.01	5.5
31	-0.70949853D+05	0.1393934	0.0000020	EM	0.01	5.5
32	-0.70949731D+05	0.1228490	0.0000017	EM	0.01	5.6
33	-0.70949622D+05	0.1089708	0.0000015	EM	0.01	5.6
34	-0.70949524D+05	0.0972988	0.0000014	EM	0.01	5.6
35	-0.70949437D+05	0.0874538	0.0000012	EM	0.01	5.6
36	-0.70949358D+05	0.0791233	0.0000011	EM	0.01	5.6
37	-0.70949286D+05	0.0720493	0.0000010	EM	0.01	5.6
38	-0.70949220D+05	0.0660184	0.0000009	EM	0.01	5.6
39	-0.70949159D+05	0.0608546	0.0000009	EM	0.01	5.6

**SAVEDATA:**

File is AUD c5.dat;

Save is cprob;

**OUTPUT:**

tech10 tech11;

**PLOT:**

type = plot3;

series = S2BQ1B1-S2BQ1B27(\*);

C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe

16	-0.70957874D+05	1.7237536	0.0000243	EM	0.01	5.4
17	-0.70956455D+05	1.4187848	0.0000200	EM	0.01	5.4
18	-0.70955285D+05	1.1697513	0.0000165	EM	0.01	5.4
19	-0.70954317D+05	0.9683916	0.0000136	EM	0.01	5.4
20	-0.70953513D+05	0.8040336	0.0000113	EM	0.01	5.4
21	-0.70952843D+05	0.6698804	0.0000094	EM	0.01	5.4
22	-0.70952283D+05	0.5602959	0.0000079	EM	0.01	5.5
23	-0.70951812D+05	0.4706297	0.0000066	EM	0.01	5.5
24	-0.70951415D+05	0.3970877	0.0000056	EM	0.01	5.5
25	-0.70951078D+05	0.3366059	0.0000047	EM	0.01	5.5
26	-0.70950792D+05	0.2867245	0.0000040	EM	0.01	5.5
27	-0.70950546D+05	0.2454730	0.0000035	EM	0.01	5.5
28	-0.70950335D+05	0.2112705	0.0000030	EM	0.01	5.5
29	-0.70950152D+05	0.1828440	0.0000026	EM	0.01	5.5
30	-0.70949993D+05	0.1591640	0.0000022	EM	0.01	5.5
31	-0.70949853D+05	0.1393934	0.0000020	EM	0.01	5.5
32	-0.70949731D+05	0.1228490	0.0000017	EM	0.01	5.6
33	-0.70949622D+05	0.1089708	0.0000015	EM	0.01	5.6
34	-0.70949524D+05	0.0972988	0.0000014	EM	0.01	5.6
35	-0.70949437D+05	0.0874538	0.0000012	EM	0.01	5.6
36	-0.70949358D+05	0.0791233	0.0000011	EM	0.01	5.6
37	-0.70949286D+05	0.0720493	0.0000010	EM	0.01	5.6
38	-0.70949220D+05	0.0660184	0.0000009	EM	0.01	5.6
39	-0.70949159D+05	0.0608546	0.0000009	EM	0.01	5.6

Ready

Ln 50, Col 15

NUM

EN 12:43  
15/10/2011

# Class Enumeration

- Can be a tricky business!!
- Parsimonious model
- Information ('goodness of fit') statistics can be used to evaluate model fit
- Theoretical meaning
- Stability of model





Mplus VERSION 6  
MUTHEN & MUTHEN  
10/15/2011 12:38 PM

## INPUT INSTRUCTIONS



TITLE:  
Binary coded past year alcohol use disorder symptoms (2001-2002 NESARC)  
Subsample is past year drinkers aged 18-30 years  
2-class latent class model

DATA:  
File is F:\LCA workshop\alcohol symptoms W1NESARC.dat;

VARIABLE:  
NAMES are IDNUM PSU STRATUM WEIGHT AGE SEX CONSUMER  
S2BQ1A1 S2BQ1B1 S2BQ1A2 S2BQ1B2 S2BQ1A3 S2BQ1B3 S2BQ1A4 S2BQ1B4  
S2BQ1A5 S2BQ1B5 S2BQ1A6 S2BQ1B6 S2BQ1A7 S2BQ1B7 S2BQ1A8 S2BQ1B8  
S2BQ1A9A S2BQ1B9A S2BQ1A9B S2BQ1B9B S2BQ1A9C S2BQ1B9C  
S2BQ1A9D S2BQ1B9D S2BQ1A9E S2BQ1B9E S2BQ1A9F S2BQ1B9F  
S2BQ1A9G S2BQ1B9G S2BQ1A9H S2BQ1B9H S2BQ1A9I S2BQ1B9I  
S2BQ1A10 S2BQ1B10 S2BQ1A11 S2BQ1B11 S2BQ1A12 S2BQ1B12  
S2BQ1A13 S2BQ1B13 S2BQ1A14 S2BQ1B14 S2BQ1A15 S2BQ1B15  
S2BQ1A16 S2BQ1B16 S2BQ1A17 S2BQ1B17 S2BQ1A18 S2BQ1B18  
S2BQ1A19 S2BQ1B19 S2BQ1A20 S2BQ1B20 S2BQ1A21 S2BQ1B21  
S2BQ1A22 S2BQ1B22 S2BQ1A23 S2BQ1B23 S2BQ1A24 S2BQ1B24  
S2BQ1A25 S2BQ1B25 S2BQ1A26 S2BQ1B26 S2BQ1A27 S2BQ1B27  
S2BQ1A28 S2BQ1B28 S2BQ1A29 S2BQ1B29;

USEVARIABLES are S2BQ1B1 S2BQ1B3 S2BQ1B6 S2BQ1B8  
S2BQ1B9B S2BQ1B9C S2BQ1B9D S2BQ1B9F S2BQ1B10  
S2BQ1B13 S2BQ1B15 S2BQ1B16 S2BQ1B19 S2BQ1B20  
S2BQ1B24 S2BQ1B25 S2BQ1B26 S2BQ1B27;

CATEGORICAL are S2BQ1B1-S2BQ1B27;

IDVARIABLE IS IDNUM;  
WEIGHT IS WEIGHT;  
CLUSTER IS PSU;

Output begins with a copy of the input



```
IDVARIABLE IS IDNUM;  
WEIGHT IS WEIGHT;  
CLUSTER IS PSU;  
STRATIFICATION IS STRATUM;  
  
CLASSES = c(2);  
  
MISSING are all (-9);  
  
SUBPOPULATION is (CONSUMER EQ 1) AND (AGE LE 30);  
  
ANALYSIS:  
type = complex mixture;  
starts = 50 5;  
  
MODEL:  
%Overall%  
  
SAVEDATA:  
File is AUD c2.dat;  
Save is cprob;  
  
OUTPUT:  
tech10 tech11;  
  
PLOT:  
type = plot3;  
series = S2BQ1B1-S2BQ1B27(*);
```

```
*** WARNING  
Data set contains cases with missing on all variables.  
These cases were not included in the analysis.  
Number of cases with missing on all variables: 16240  
1 WARNING(S) FOUND IN THE INPUT INSTRUCTIONS
```

Mplus often issues warnings –  
Some are more serious than others!

This warning alerts us that there are cases with  
missing data on all of the variables in the analysis (we  
expected this!)





Binary coded past year alcohol use disorder symptoms (2001-2002 NESARC)

Subsample is past year drinkers aged 18-30 years

2-class latent class model

## SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Number of groups

1

Number of observations

6746

Repeat of TITLE for analysis

Number of dependent variables

18

Number of independent variables

0

Number of continuous latent variables

0

Number of categorical latent variables

1

This tells us we have only 1 group and 6746 cases were included in the analysis (*Check this is what you intended*)

18 dependent variables included in the analysis

1 categorical latent variable

## Observed dependent variables

## Binary and ordered categorical (ordinal)

S2BQ1B1	S2BQ1B3	S2BQ1B6	S2BQ1B8	S2BQ1B9B	S2BQ1B9C
S2BQ1B9D	S2BQ1B9F	S2BQ1B10	S2BQ1B13	S2BQ1B15	S2BQ1B16
S2BQ1B19	S2BQ1B20	S2BQ1B24	S2BQ1B25	S2BQ1B26	S2BQ1B27

## Categorical latent variables

C

## Variables with special functions



These are the survey design variables

Stratification STRATUM

Cluster variable PSU

Weight variable WEIGHT

ID variable IDNUM

## Estimator MLR

## Information matrix OBSERVED

## Optimization Specifications for the Quasi-Newton Algorithm for

## Continuous Outcomes

Maximum number of iterations 100

Convergence criterion 0.100D-05

## Optimization Specifications for the EM Algorithm

Maximum number of iterations 500





Estimator MLR ←  
Information matrix OBSERVED  
Optimization Specifications for the Quasi-Newton Algorithm for  
Continuous Outcomes  
  Maximum number of iterations 100  
  Convergence criterion 0.100D-05  
Optimization Specifications for the EM Algorithm  
  Maximum number of iterations 500  
  Convergence criteria  
    Loglikelihood change 0.100D-06  
    Relative loglikelihood change 0.100D-06  
    Derivative 0.100D-05  
Optimization Specifications for the M step of the EM Algorithm for  
Categorical Latent variables  
  Number of M step iterations 1  
  M step convergence criterion 0.100D-05  
  Basis for M step termination ITERATION  
Optimization Specifications for the M step of the EM Algorithm for  
Censored, Binary or Ordered Categorical (Ordinal), Unordered  
Categorical (Nominal) and Count Outcomes  
  Number of M step iterations 1  
  M step convergence criterion 0.100D-05  
  Basis for M step termination ITERATION  
  Maximum value for logit thresholds 15  
  Minimum value for logit thresholds -15  
  Minimum expected cell size for chi-square 0.100D-01  
Maximum number of iterations for H1 2000  
Convergence criterion for H1 0.100D-03  
Optimization algorithm EMA  
Random Starts Specifications  
  Number of initial stage random starts 50  
  Number of final stage optimizations 5  
  Number of initial stage iterations 10  
  Initial stage convergence criterion 0.100D+01  
  Random starts scale 0.500D+01  
  Random seed for generating random starts 0  
Link LOGIT

This section of the output  
outlines the procedure Mplus  
used to run the analysis



Input data file(s)

F:\LCA workshop\alcohol symptoms W1NESARC.dat

Input data format FREE

## UNIVARIATE PROPORTIONS AND COUNTS FOR CATEGORICAL VARIABLES

S2BQ1B1		
Category 1	0.893	23887.930
Category 2	0.107	2852.054
S2BQ1B3		
Category 1	0.934	25041.562
Category 2	0.066	1759.300
S2BQ1B6		
Category 1	0.975	26154.740
Category 2	0.025	670.967
S2BQ1B8		
Category 1	0.853	22847.521
Category 2	0.147	3931.052
S2BQ1B9B		
Category 1	0.972	26037.262
Category 2	0.028	756.480
S2BQ1B9C		
Category 1	0.973	26047.424
Category 2	0.027	732.579
S2BQ1B9D		
Category 1	0.788	21103.145
Category 2	0.212	5686.684
S2BQ1B9F		
Category 1	0.944	25243.566
Category 2	0.056	1502.920
S2BQ1B10		
Category 1	0.955	25587.010
Category 2	0.045	1201.210
S2BQ1B13		
Category 1	0.982	26338.828
Category 2	0.018	472.070

This tells you what data file was analysed and the format of that file

This section tells you the proportion and number of cases falling into each category of the observed variables



RANDOM STARTS RESULTS RANKED FROM THE BEST TO THE WORST LOGLIKELIHOOD VALUES

Final stage loglikelihood values at local maxima, seeds, and initial stage start numbers:

-73295.292	568859	49
-73295.292	573096	20
-73295.292	963053	43
-73295.292	153942	31
-73295.292	195873	6



Check to ensure that the best loglikelihood value was replicated

WARNING: THE VARIANCE CONTRIBUTION FROM A STRATUM WITH A SINGLE CLUSTER (PSU) IS BASED ON THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SINGLE CLUSTER VALUE AND THE OVERALL CLUSTER MEAN.

THE MODEL ESTIMATION TERMINATED NORMALLY

#### TESTS OF MODEL FIT

##### Loglikelihood

H0 Value	-18413.214
H0 Scaling Correction Factor	1.569
for MLR	

##### Information Criteria

Number of Free Parameters	37
Akaike (AIC)	36900.428
Bayesian (BIC)	37152.646
Sample-Size Adjusted BIC	37035.069
(n* = (n + 2) / 24)	

Ready

Ln 229, Col 1

NUM



EN 16:44  
27/10/2011

# Global maximum

- When estimating LC models using ML techniques, there are several solutions around which a model can converge (local maxima)
- Only one solution is best (global maximum)
- If model converges around a specific local maximum, instead of global maximum, the best fitting solution can be missed
- Different sets of random starting values important!

Mplus - [example 1 - nesarc aud current drinkers c2] File Edit View Mplus Graph Window Help

RANDOM STARTS RESULTS RANKED FROM THE BEST TO THE WORST LOGLIKELIHOOD VALUES

Final stage loglikelihood values at local maxima, seeds, and initial stage start numbers:

-73295.292	568859	49
-73295.292	573096	20
-73295.292	963053	43
-73295.292	153942	31
-73295.292	195873	6

Check to ensure that the best loglikelihood value was replicated

WARNING: THE VARIANCE CONTRIBUTION FROM A STRATUM WITH A SINGLE CLUSTER (PSU) IS BASED ON THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SINGLE CLUSTER VALUE AND THE OVERALL CLUSTER MEAN.

THE MODEL ESTIMATION TERMINATED NORMALLY

This just lets you know that the Mplus was able to estimate the model you specified

TESTS OF MODEL FIT

Loglikelihood

H0 Value	-18413.214
H0 Scaling Correction Factor	1.569
for MLR	

Useful for comparing across models

Information Criteria

Number of Free Parameters	37
Akaike (AIC)	36900.428
Bayesian (BIC)	37152.646
Sample-Size Adjusted BIC	37035.069
(n* = (n + 2) / 24)	

Information criteria – generally reported

Ready

Ln 229, Col 1 NUM

EN 16:44 27/10/2011

# Loglikelihood

- The best solution is the solution with the largest loglikelihood
- If the best (highest) loglikelihood value is not replicated in at least two final stage solutions and preferably more, it is possible that a local solution has been reached

# Goodness of fit indices

- Akaike Information Criterion (AIC; Akaike, 1974)
- Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC; Schwartz, 1978)
- Sample-size adjusted BIC (SSABIC; Sclove, 1987)
- LC model with the smallest values on these three statistics is considered to be the best fitting model



Chi-Square Test of Model Fit for the Binary and Ordered Categorical  
(Ordinal) Outcomes\*\*

Pearson Chi-Square

Value	132555.049
Degrees of Freedom	261967
P-Value	1.0000

Likelihood Ratio Chi-Square

Value	131810.145
Degrees of Freedom	261967
P-Value	1.0000

\*\* Of the 5058700 cells in the latent class indicator table, 139  
were deleted in the calculation of chi-square due to extreme values.

Generally reported for nested models

Chi-Square Test for MCAR under the Unrestricted Latent Class Indicator Model

Pearson Chi-Square

Value	2404332.630
Degrees of Freedom	4796428
P-Value	1.0000

Likelihood Ratio Chi-Square

Value	2404305.714
Degrees of Freedom	4796428
P-Value	1.0000

This notice is generally common when  
analysing many observed variables

# Chi-square test

- Mplus will output values for:
  - Likelihood Ratio Test ( $L^2$ )
- $L^2$  can be useful particularly for more hypothesis-driven models (i.e. confirmatory LCA)
- Once the number of classes ( $T$ ) in the latent variable ( $X$ ) has been established, hypotheses about the values of the conditional probabilities and latent class probabilities can be tested.

Mplus - [example 1 - nesarc and current drinkers c2]

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FINAL CLASS COUNTS AND PROPORTIONS FOR THE LATENT CLASSES BASED ON THE ESTIMATED MODEL

Latent Classes

1	1140.99118	0.16914
2	5605.00882	0.83086

Start of main output/results for latent class model

FINAL CLASS COUNTS AND PROPORTIONS FOR THE LATENT CLASS PATTERNS BASED ON ESTIMATED POSTERIOR PROBABILITIES

Latent Classes

1	1140.99103	0.16914
2	5605.00897	0.83086

Outlines the number of cases in each class (should agree)

CLASSIFICATION QUALITY

Entropy 0.882

Degree of classification accuracy

CLASSIFICATION OF INDIVIDUALS BASED ON THEIR MOST LIKELY LATENT CLASS MEMBERSHIP

Class Counts and Proportions

Latent Classes

1	1031	0.15276
2	5715	0.84724

Extent to which these counts and proportions concur with final class counts depends on classification accuracy

Ready

Ln 229, Col 1 NUM

EN 16:48 27/10/2011

# Entropy

- Entropy statistic - ranges from 0 to 1
- Standardised summary measure of the classification accuracy of placing participants into classes based on their model-based posterior probabilities.
- Higher entropy values reflect better classification of individuals (Ramaswany et al., 1993).

Average Latent Class Probabilities for Most Likely Latent Class Membership (Row) ←  
by Latent Class (Column)

	1	2
1	0.937	0.063
2	0.031	0.969

Summary of how well model is classifying people into groups

MODEL RESULTS ← Detailed model results

Latent Class 1	Two-Tailed			
	Estimate	S.E.	Est./S.E.	P-Value
S2BQ1B1\$1	0.257	0.097	2.640	0.008
S2BQ1B3\$1	0.659	0.103	6.383	0.000
S2BQ1B6\$1	2.037	0.136	14.939	0.000
S2BQ1B8\$1	-0.487	0.110	-4.439	0.000
S2BQ1B9B\$1	1.697	0.129	13.164	0.000
S2BQ1B9C\$1	1.813	0.127	14.321	0.000
S2BQ1B9D\$1	-0.878	0.098	-8.936	0.000
S2BQ1B9F\$1	0.999	0.097	10.244	0.000
S2BQ1B10\$1	1.335	0.123	10.888	0.000
S2BQ1B13\$1	2.177	0.147	14.837	0.000
S2BQ1B15\$1	2.852	0.186	15.344	0.000
S2BQ1B16\$1	1.884	0.139	13.557	0.000
S2BQ1B19\$1	2.516	0.167	15.079	0.000
S2BQ1B20\$1	2.546	0.193	13.218	0.000
S2BQ1B24\$1	0.735	0.113	6.490	0.000
S2BQ1B25\$1	1.930	0.140	13.795	0.000
S2BQ1B26\$1	1.298	0.107	12.093	0.000
S2BQ1B27\$1	2.202	0.128	17.213	0.000

Thresholds (\$) – conditional model estimates based on class membership – can be difficult to interpret!

Ready

Ln 353, Col 1

NUM



EN 16:49  
27/10/2011



## Latent Class 2

## Thresholds

S2BQ1B1\$1	3.192	0.114	27.948	0.000
S2BQ1B3\$1	4.645	0.226	20.554	0.000
S2BQ1B6\$1	5.014	0.218	22.965	0.000
S2BQ1B8\$1	2.934	0.113	26.071	0.000
S2BQ1B9B\$1	6.024	0.503	11.971	0.000
S2BQ1B9C\$1	5.431	0.316	17.177	0.000
S2BQ1B9D\$1	2.074	0.088	23.643	0.000
S2BQ1B9F\$1	4.345	0.191	22.789	0.000
S2BQ1B10\$1	4.451	0.164	27.205	0.000
S2BQ1B13\$1	7.674	0.772	9.939	0.000
S2BQ1B15\$1	8.339	0.821	10.158	0.000
S2BQ1B16\$1	7.102	0.810	8.766	0.000
S2BQ1B19\$1	15.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
S2BQ1B20\$1	10.105	3.177	3.181	0.001
S2BQ1B24\$1	4.036	0.153	26.459	0.000
S2BQ1B25\$1	6.406	0.421	15.212	0.000
S2BQ1B26\$1	5.036	0.263	19.166	0.000
S2BQ1B27\$1	5.082	0.261	19.503	0.000

## Categorical Latent Variables

## Means

C#1	-1.592	0.074	-21.644	0.000
-----	--------	-------	---------	-------

## RESULTS IN PROBABILITY SCALE

## Latent Class 1

S2BQ1B1				
Category 1	0.564	0.024	23.548	0.000
Category 2	0.436	0.024	18.210	0.000
S2BQ1B3				
Category 1	0.659	0.023	28.407	0.000
Category 2	0.341	0.023	14.698	0.000
S2BQ1B6				

Conditional probability that people within LC1 endorse item '*Find usual # of drinks had less effect than before*'



Mplus - [example 1 - nesarc aud current drinkers c2]

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S2BQ1B6

Category 1	0.885	0.014	63.567	0.000
Category 2	0.115	0.014	8.291	0.000

S2BQ1B8

Category 1	0.381	0.026	14.706	0.000
Category 2	0.619	0.026	23.939	0.000

S2BQ1B9B

Category 1	0.845	0.017	50.093	0.000
Category 2	0.155	0.017	9.177	0.000

S2BQ1B9C

Category 1	0.860	0.015	56.310	0.000
Category 2	0.140	0.015	9.187	0.000

S2BQ1B9D

Category 1	0.294	0.020	14.406	0.000
Category 2	0.706	0.020	34.664	0.000

S2BQ1B9F

Category 1	0.731	0.019	38.106	0.000
Category 2	0.269	0.019	14.037	0.000

S2BQ1B10

Category 1	0.792	0.020	39.148	0.000
Category 2	0.208	0.020	10.306	0.000

S2BQ1B13

Category 1	0.898	0.013	66.932	0.000
Category 2	0.102	0.013	7.588	0.000

S2BQ1B15

Category 1	0.945	0.010	98.550	0.000
Category 2	0.055	0.010	5.692	0.000

S2BQ1B16

Category 1	0.868	0.016	54.541	0.000
Category 2	0.132	0.016	8.290	0.000

S2BQ1B19

Category 1	0.925	0.012	80.200	0.000
Category 2	0.075	0.012	6.476	0.000

S2BQ1B20

Category 1	0.927	0.013	71.432	0.000
Category 2	0.073	0.013	5.597	0.000

S2BQ1B24

Category 1	0.676	0.025	27.240	0.000
Category 2	0.324	0.025	13.059	0.000

Conditional probability that people in LC1 endorse '*Give up or cut down pleasurable activities to drink*'

Ready

Ln 352, Col 1

NUM



S2BQ1B25				
Category 1	0.873	0.015	56.389	0.000
Category 2	0.127	0.015	8.185	0.000
S2BQ1B26				
Category 1	0.786	0.018	43.434	0.000
Category 2	0.214	0.018	11.857	0.000
S2BQ1B27				
Category 1	0.900	0.011	78.496	0.000
Category 2	0.100	0.011	8.683	0.000
Latent Class 2				
S2BQ1B1				
Category 1	0.961	0.004	221.778	0.000
Category 2	0.039	0.004	9.117	0.000
S2BQ1B3				
Category 1	0.990	0.002	464.817	0.000
Category 2	0.010	0.002	4.468	0.000
S2BQ1B6				
Category 1	0.993	0.001	693.944	0.000
Category 2	0.007	0.001	4.611	0.000
S2BQ1B8				
Category 1	0.950	0.005	175.976	0.000
Category 2	0.050	0.005	9.358	0.000
S2BQ1B9B				
Category 1	0.998	0.001	822.999	0.000
Category 2	0.002	0.001	1.992	0.046
S2BQ1B9C				
Category 1	0.996	0.001	725.354	0.000
Category 2	0.004	0.001	3.177	0.001
S2BQ1B9D				
Category 1	0.888	0.009	102.115	0.000
Category 2	0.112	0.009	12.830	0.000
S2BQ1B9F				
Category 1	0.987	0.002	409.458	0.000
Category 2	0.013	0.002	5.313	0.000
S2BQ1B10				
Category 1	0.988	0.002	530.029	0.000
Category 2	0.012	0.002	6.183	0.000

Conditional probability that people in LC2 endorse '*Feel anxious or nervous when effects of alcohol were wearing off*'

Mplus - [example 1 - nesarc aud current drinkers c2]

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S2BQ1B13

Category 1	1.000	0.000	2788.331	0.000
Category 2	0.000	0.000	1.296	0.195

S2BQ1B15

Category 1	1.000	0.000	5096.276	0.000
Category 2	0.000	0.000	1.219	0.223

S2BQ1B16

Category 1	0.999	0.001	1499.859	0.000
Category 2	0.001	0.001	1.235	0.217

S2BQ1B19

Category 1	1.000	0.000	0.000	1.000
Category 2	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.000

S2BQ1B20

Category 1	1.000	0.000	7700.640	0.000
Category 2	0.000	0.000	0.315	0.753

S2BQ1B24

Category 1	0.983	0.003	377.544	0.000
Category 2	0.017	0.003	6.672	0.000

S2BQ1B25

Category 1	0.998	0.001	1439.851	0.000
Category 2	0.002	0.001	2.379	0.017

S2BQ1B26

Category 1	0.994	0.002	589.235	0.000
Category 2	0.006	0.002	3.831	0.000

S2BQ1B27

Category 1	0.994	0.002	622.220	0.000
Category 2	0.006	0.002	3.861	0.000

LATENT CLASS ODDS RATIO RESULTS

Latent Class 1 Compared to Latent Class 2

S2BQ1B1

Category > 1	18.812	2.294	8.200	0.000
--------------	--------	-------	-------	-------

S2BQ1B3

Category > 1	53.829	12.238	4.399	0.000
--------------	--------	--------	-------	-------

S2BQ1B6

Category > 1	19.630	4.947	3.968	0.000
--------------	--------	-------	-------	-------

Ready

Ln 352, Col 1 NUM

EN 16:59 27/10/2011

Conditional probability of zero  
for people in LC 2 to endorse-  
**'Have period when drinking  
interfered with taking care of  
home or family' OR  
'Have job/school troubles  
because of drinking'**

Probability of experiencing alcohol-related problems in the last 12 months across latent classes 1 and 2 (2-class model)

	In the last 12 months, did you...	Class 1	Class 2
S2BQ1B1	Find usual # of drinks had less effect than before	<b>0.436</b>	0.039
S2BQ1B3	Drink equivalent of a 1/5 bottle of liquor in one day	<b>0.341</b>	0.010
S2BQ1B6	Try unsuccessfully to stop/cut down on drinking more than once	0.115	0.007
S2BQ1B8	Have period when kept drinking longer than intended	<b>0.619</b>	0.050
S2BQ1B9B	Shake when effects of alcohol were wearing off	0.155	0.002
S2BQ1B9C	Feel anxious or nervous when effects of alcohol were wearing off	0.140	0.004
S2BQ1B9D	Have nausea when effects of alcohol were wearing off	<b>0.706</b>	<b>0.112</b>
S2BQ1B9F	Sweat/heart beat fast when effects of alcohol were wearing off	0.269	0.013
S2BQ1B10	Drink or use medicine/drugs to get over bad aftereffects of drinking	0.208	0.012
S2BQ1B13	Spent a lot of time being sick/getting over bad effects of drinking	0.102	0.000
S2BQ1B15	Give up or cut down pleasurable activities to drink	0.055	0.000
S2BQ1B16	Continue to drink though depressed/uninterested/suspicious of others	0.132	0.001
S2BQ1B19	Have period when drinking interfered with taking care of home or family	0.075	0.000
S2BQ1B20	Have job/school troubles because of drinking	0.073	0.000
S2BQ1B24	Get in situations that increased chances of getting hurt while drinking	<b>0.324</b>	0.017
S2BQ1B25	Continue to drink despite causing trouble with family or friends	0.127	0.002
S2BQ1B26	Get into physical fights when or right after drinking	0.214	0.006
S2BQ1B27	Get arrested or have other legal problems because of drinking	0.100	0.006



View graphs Alt+V

Attach graph file

View descriptive statistics

Individual data

Histograms

Add traceline

0.000

Insert

0.000

Delete

0.000

Properties

0.000

Show/Hide legend

0.000

Line series

0.000

Scatterplots

0.000

Axis Properties

0.000

Export plot to

0.000

Save graph data

0.000

S2BQ1B6

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B8

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B9B

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B9C

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B9D

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B9F

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B10

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B13

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B15

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B16

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

## RESULTS IN PROBABIL

Latent Class 1

S2BQ1B1

Category 1

Category 2

S2BQ1B3

Category 1

Category 2

S2BQ1B6

Category 1

Category 2

S2BQ1B8

Category 1

Category 2

S2BQ1B9B

Category 1

Category 2

S2BQ1B9C

Category 1

Category 2

0.140 0.015 9.187 0.000

S2BQ1B9D

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B9F

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B10

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B13

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B15

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

S2BQ1B16

Category 1

0.000

Category 2

0.000

!!!

View graphs

Ln 478, Col 10

NUM

EN 13:54  
05/11/2011



## RESULTS IN PROBABILITY SCALE

## Latent Class 1

## S2BQ1B1

Category 1	0.564	0.024	23.548	0.000
Category 2	0.436	0.024	18.210	0.000

## S2BQ1B3

Category 1	0.659	0.023	28.407	0.000
Category 2	0.341	0.023	14.698	

## S2BQ1B6

Category 1	0.885	0.014	63.567	
Category 2	0.115	0.014	8.291	

## S2BQ1B8

Category 1	0.381	0.026	14.706	
Category 2	0.619	0.026	23.939	

## S2BQ1B9B

Category 1	0.845	0.017	50.093	
Category 2	0.155	0.017	9.177	

## S2BQ1B9C

Category 1	0.860	0.015	56.310	
Category 2	0.140	0.015	9.187	

## S2BQ1B9D

Category 1	0.294	0.020	14.406	
Category 2	0.706	0.020	34.664	

## S2BQ1B9F

Category 1	0.731	0.019	38.106	0.000
Category 2	0.269	0.019	14.037	0.000

## S2BQ1B10

Category 1	0.792	0.020	39.148	0.000
Category 2	0.208	0.020	10.306	0.000

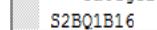
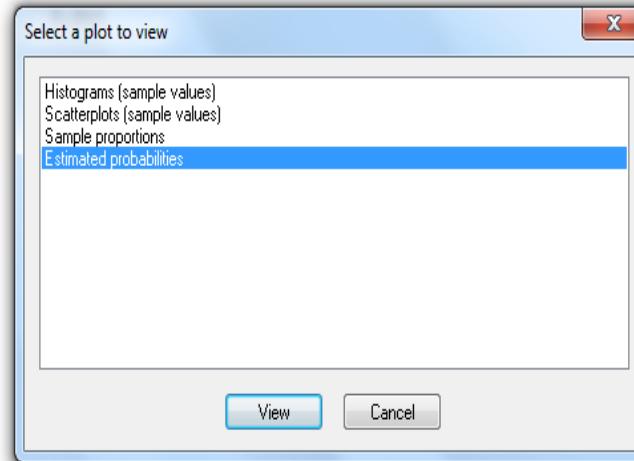
## S2BQ1B13

Category 1	0.898	0.013	66.932	0.000
Category 2	0.102	0.013	7.588	0.000

## S2BQ1B15

Category 1	0.945	0.010	98.550	0.000
Category 2	0.055	0.010	5.692	0.000

## S2BQ1B16





## RESULTS IN PROBABILITY SCALE

## Latent Class 1

## S2BQ1B1

Category 1	0.564	0.024	23.548	0.000
Category 2	0.436	0.024	18.210	0.000

## S2BQ1B3

Category 1	0.659	0.023	28.407	0.000
Category 2	0.341	0.023	14.698	0.000

## S2BQ1B6

Category 1	0.885	0.014	63.567	0.000
Category 2	0.115	0.014	8.291	0.000

## S2BQ1B8

Category 1	0.381	0.026	14.706	0.000
Category 2	0.619	0.026	23.939	0.000

## S2BQ1B9B

Category 1	0.845	0.017	50.093	0.000
Category 2	0.155	0.017	9.177	0.000

## S2BQ1B9C

Category 1	0.860	0.015	56.310	0.000
Category 2	0.140	0.015	9.187	0.000

## S2BQ1B9D

Category 1	0.294	0.020	14.406	0.000
Category 2	0.706	0.020	34.664	0.000

## S2BQ1B9F

Category 1	0.731	0.019	38.106	0.000
Category 2	0.269	0.019	14.037	0.000

## S2BQ1B10

Category 1	0.792	0.020	39.148	0.000
Category 2	0.208	0.020	10.306	0.000

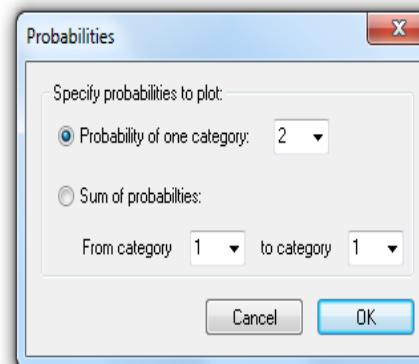
## S2BQ1B13

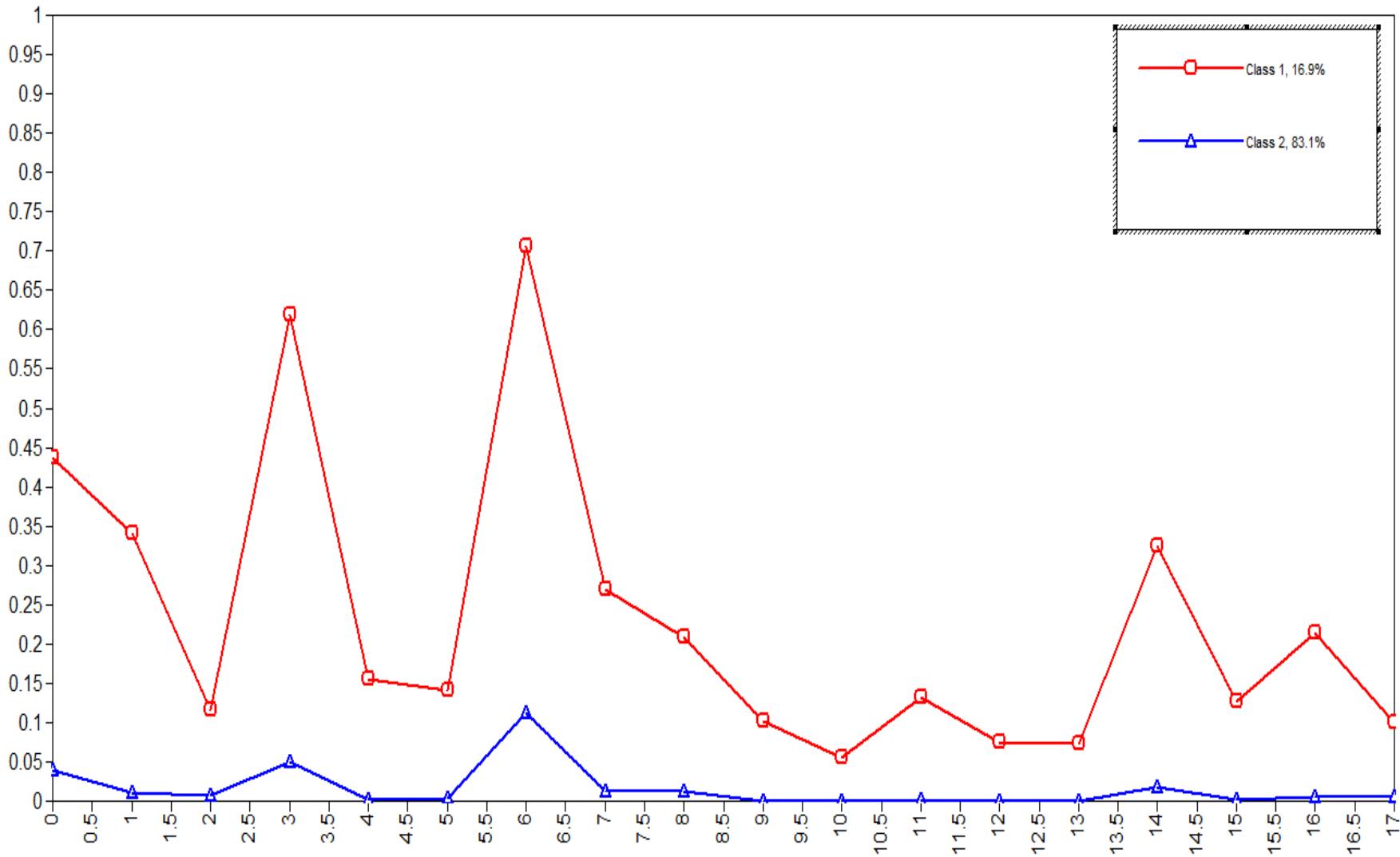
Category 1	0.898	0.013	66.932	0.000
Category 2	0.102	0.013	7.588	0.000

## S2BQ1B15

Category 1	0.945	0.010	98.550	0.000
Category 2	0.055	0.010	5.692	0.000

## S2BQ1B16





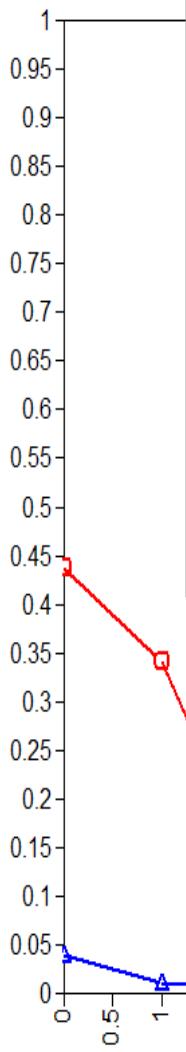


View graphs

Alt+V

?

Attach graph file



View descriptive statistics

Individual data

Histograms

Add traceline

Insert

Delete

Properties

Show/Hide legend

Line series

Scatterplots

Axis Properties

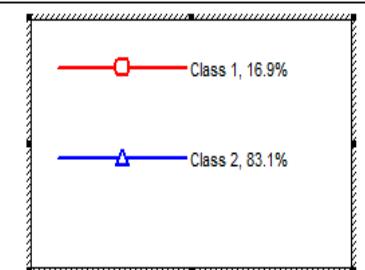
Export plot to

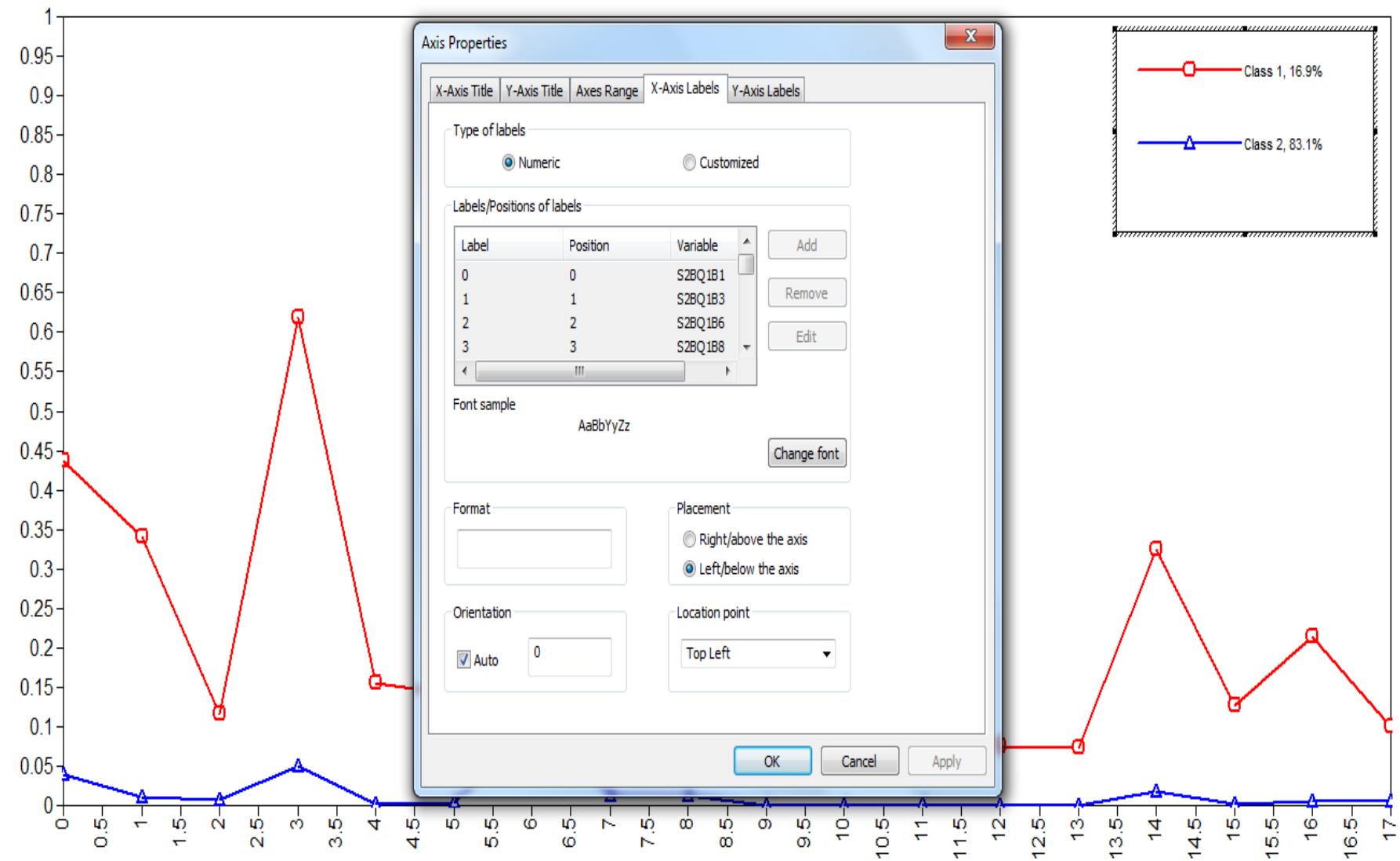
Save graph data

Edit settings

Load settings

Save settings







## Axis Properties

X-Axis Title Y-Axis Title Axes Range X-Axis Labels Y-Axis Labels

Type of labels

 Numeric Customized

Labels/Positions of labels

Label	Position	Variable
0	0	S2BQ1B1
1	1	S2BQ1B3
2	2	S2BQ1B6
3	3	S2BQ1B8

Add

Remove

Edit

Font sample

AaBbYyZz

Change font

Format

Orientation

 Auto

0

Placement

 Right/above the axis  
 Left/below the axis

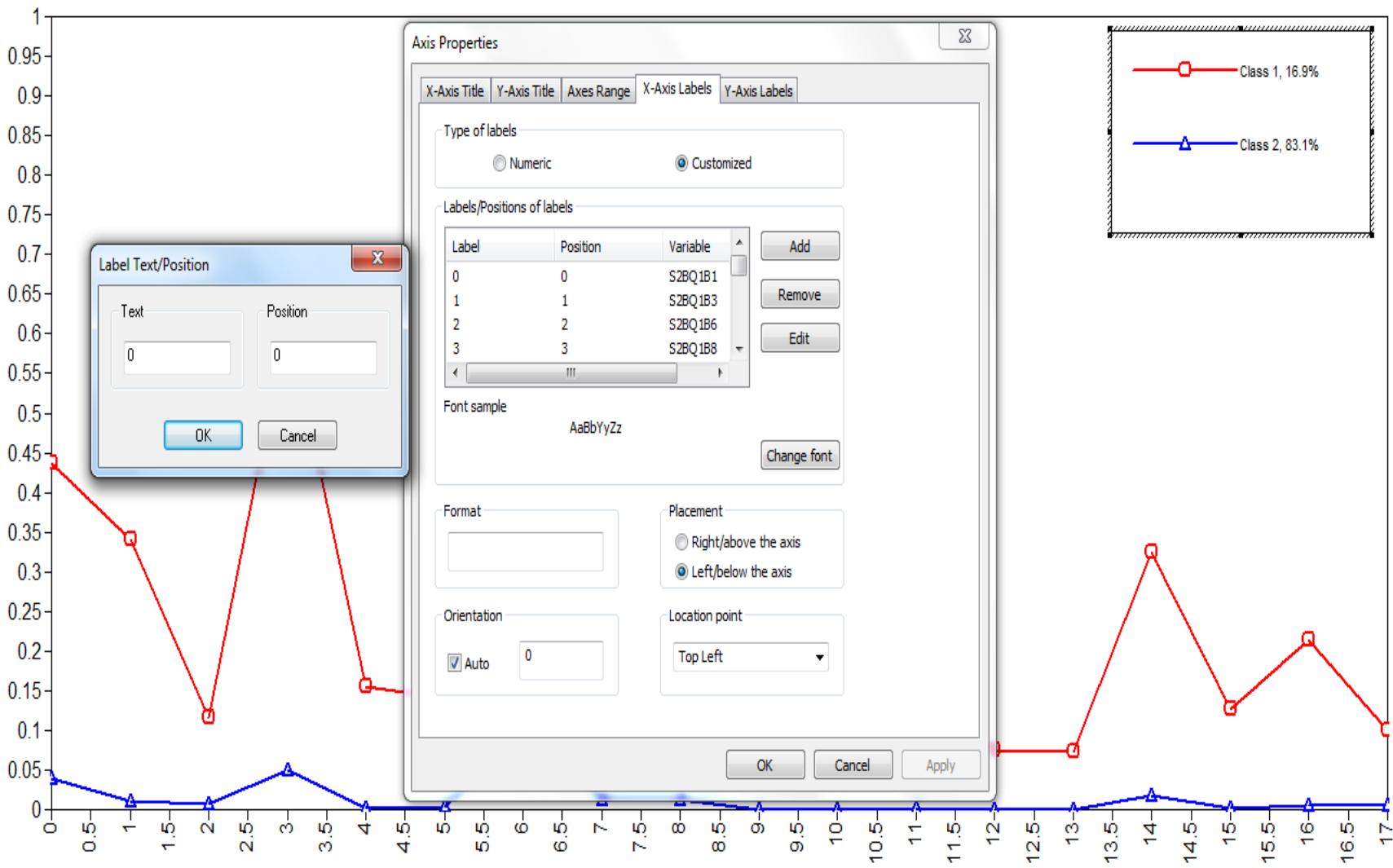
Location point

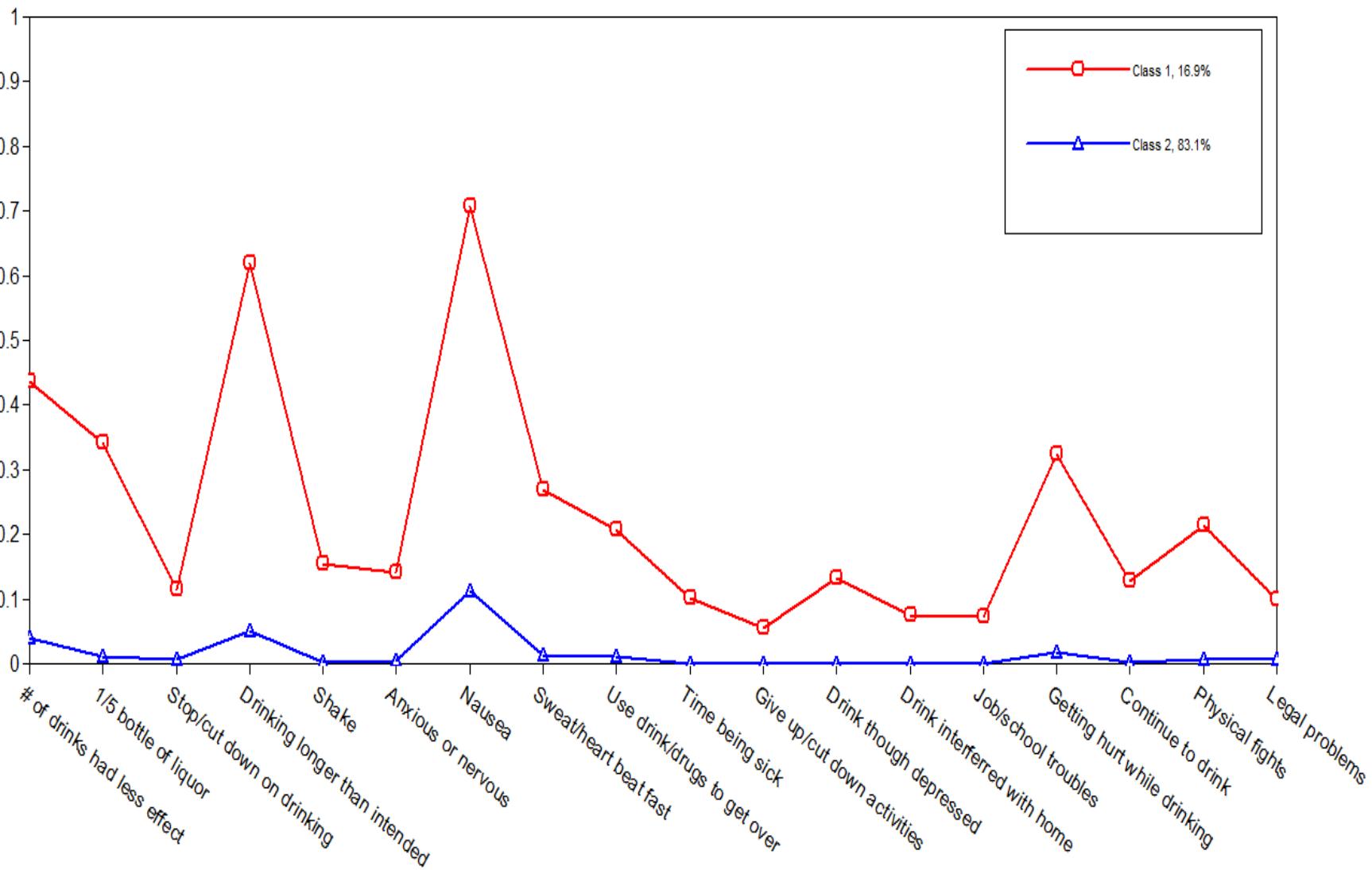
Top Left

OK

Cancel

Apply







S2BQ1B13				
Category 1	1.000	0.000	2788.331	0.000
Category 2	0.000	0.000	1.296	0.195
S2BQ1B15				
Category 1	1.000	0.000	5096.276	0.000
Category 2	0.000	0.000	1.219	0.223
S2BQ1B16				
Category 1	0.999	0.001	1499.859	0.000
Category 2	0.001	0.001	1.235	0.217
S2BQ1B19				
Category 1	1.000	0.000	0.000	1.000
Category 2	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.000
S2BQ1B20				
Category 1	1.000	0.000	7700.640	0.000
Category 2	0.000	0.000	0.315	0.753
S2BQ1B24				
Category 1	0.983	0.003	377.544	0.000
Category 2	0.017	0.003	6.672	0.000
S2BQ1B25				
Category 1	0.998	0.001	1439.851	0.000
Category 2	0.002	0.001	2.379	0.017
S2BQ1B26				
Category 1	0.994	0.002	589.235	0.000
Category 2	0.006	0.002	3.831	0.000
S2BQ1B27				
Category 1	0.994	0.002	622.220	0.000
Category 2	0.006	0.002	3.861	0.000

## LATENT CLASS ODDS RATIO RESULTS

Latent Class 1 Compared to Latent Class 2

S2BQ1B1				
Category > 1	18.812	2.294	8.200	0.000
S2BQ1B3				
Category > 1	53.829	12.238	4.399	0.000
S2BQ1B6				
Category > 1	19.630	4.947	3.968	0.000

(Output truncated)

Odds ratios expressing the likelihood of members in LC2 experiencing a specific alcohol experience, compared to members of LC1





TECHNICAL 10 OUTPUT

## MODEL FIT INFORMATION FOR THE LATENT CLASS INDICATOR MODEL PART

## RESPONSE PATTERNS

No.	Pattern	No.	Pattern
1	00000000000000000000	2	10000000000000000000
3	01000000000000000000	4	11000000000000000000
5	00100000000000000000	6	10100000000000000000
7	01100000000000000000	8	11100000000000000000
9	00010000000000000000	10	10010000000000000000
11	01010000000000000000	12	11010000000000000000
13	00110000000000000000	14	10110000000000000000
15	01110000000000000000	16	11110000000000000000
17	00001000000000000000	18	10001000000000000000
19	01001000000000000000	20	00101000000000000000
21	10101000000000000000	22	00011000000000000000
23	10011000000000000000	24	01011000000000000000
25	11011000000000000000	26	00111000000000000000
27	11111000000000000000	28	00000100000000000000
29	10000100000000000000	30	01000100000000000000
31	00100100000000000000	32	00010100000000000000
33	10010100000000000000	34	01010100000000000000
35	11010100000000000000	36	00110100000000000000
37	11110100000000000000	38	00001100000000000000
39	10001100000000000000	40	11001100000000000000
41	00101100000000000000	42	00011100000000000000
43	00111100000000000000	44	00000010000000000000
45	10000010000000000000	46	01000010000000000000
47	11000010000000000000	48	00100010000000000000
49	10100010000000000000	50	01100010000000000000
51	00010010000000000000	52	10010010000000000000
53	01010010000000000000	54	11010010000000000000
55	00110010000000000000	56	10110010000000000000
57	11110010000000000000	58	00001010000000000000
59	10001010000000000000	60	01001010000000000000

Tech10 (output truncated here) –  
helpful to explore # of response  
patterns

Ready



Ln 545, Col 1

NUM

EN 17:06 27/10/2011



## RESPONSE PATTERN FREQUENCIES AND CHI-SQUARE CONTRIBUTIONS

Response Pattern	Frequency Observed	Frequency Estimated	Standardized Residual (z-score)	Chi-square Contribution Pearson	Chi-square Contribution Loglikelihood	Deleted
1	4289.95	4136.76	2.37	5.67	200.81	
2	136.84	173.41	-1.72	7.70	-67.24	
3	28.13	42.09	-1.32	4.63	-23.31	
4	10.66	3.47	2.36	14.90	23.67	
5	20.90	28.05	-0.83	1.82	-12.82	
6	3.91	1.59	1.12	3.39	6.94	
7	1.24	0.57	0.54	0.78	1.89	
8	1.66	0.25	1.72	7.93	6.23	
9	165.28	227.20	-2.55	16.87	-104.25	
10	21.64	14.81	1.09	3.15	16.10	
11	2.99	5.98	-0.75	1.43	-3.30	
12	5.04	3.08	0.68	1.25	4.86	
13	3.44	2.43	0.39	0.41	2.28	
14	1.55	0.81	0.50	0.66	1.94	
15	0.36	0.52	-0.13	0.05	-0.27	
16	2.18	0.39	1.75	8.23	7.46	
17	4.70	10.84	-1.14	3.48	-7.96	
18	3.75	1.06	1.60	6.82	9.38	
19	0.47	0.53	-0.05	0.01	-0.13	
20	1.68	0.18	2.20	12.91	7.56	
21	0.00	0.09	-0.18	0.09	0.00	
22	1.73	1.90	-0.08	0.01	-0.37	
23	0.00	1.08	-0.64	1.08	0.00	
24	0.00	0.71	-0.52	0.71	0.00	
25	0.60	0.55	0.04	0.00	0.09	
26	0.25	0.18	0.10	0.03	0.15	
27	0.00	0.07	-0.16	0.07	0.00	
28	15.89	18.85	-0.42	0.46	-5.76	
29	0.00	1.32	-0.70	1.32	0.00	
30	0.00	0.56	-0.46	0.56	0.00	
31	0.13	0.22	-0.11	0.03	-0.14	
32	5.93	2.18	1.55	6.45	11.73	
33	0.48	0.98	-0.31	0.25	-0.70	
34	0.00	0.64	-0.49	0.64	0.00	

Tech10 (output – truncated)





THE TOTAL PEARSON CHI-SQUARE CONTRIBUTION FROM EMPTY CELLS IS 606.61

UNIVARIATE MODEL FIT INFORMATION

Variable	Estimated Probabilities		
	H1	H0	Standardized (z-score)
<b>S2BQ1B1</b>			
Category 1	0.894	0.893	0.012
Category 2	0.106	0.107	-0.012
Univariate Pearson Chi-Square			0.000
Univariate Log-Likelihood Chi-Square			0.000
<b>S2BQ1B3</b>			
Category 1	0.934	0.934	-0.004
Category 2	0.066	0.066	0.004
Univariate Pearson Chi-Square			0.000
Univariate Log-Likelihood Chi-Square			0.000
<b>S2BQ1B6</b>			
Category 1	0.975	0.975	-0.001
Category 2	0.025	0.025	0.001
Univariate Pearson Chi-Square			0.000
Univariate Log-Likelihood Chi-Square			0.000
<b>S2BQ1B8</b>			
Category 1	0.853	0.853	0.005
Category 2	0.147	0.147	-0.005
Univariate Pearson Chi-Square			0.000
Univariate Log-Likelihood Chi-Square			0.000
<b>S2BQ1B9B</b>			
Category 1	0.972	0.972	-0.003
Category 2	0.028	0.028	0.003
Univariate Pearson Chi-Square			0.000
Univariate Log-Likelihood Chi-Square			0.000
<b>S2BQ1B9C</b>			
Category 1	0.972	0.973	-0.049
Category 2	0.028	0.027	0.049
Univariate Pearson Chi-Square			0.006

(Output truncated)



## Mplus - [example 1 - nesarc aud current drinkers c2]

File Edit View Mplus Graph Window Help



## BIVARIATE MODEL FIT INFORMATION

(Output truncated)

Variable	Variable	Estimated Probabilities		
		H1	H0	Standardized Residual (z-score)
S2BQ1B1	S2BQ1B3			
Category 1	Category 1	0.858	0.853	0.670
Category 1	Category 2	0.035	0.040	-1.190
Category 2	Category 1	0.076	0.081	-0.872
Category 2	Category 2	0.030	0.025	1.488
Bivariate Pearson Chi-Square		11.468		
Bivariate Log-Likelihood Chi-Square		11.330		
S2BQ1B1	S2BQ1B6			
Category 1	Category 1	0.878	0.877	0.130
Category 1	Category 2	0.015	0.016	-0.307
Category 2	Category 1	0.097	0.098	-0.144
Category 2	Category 2	0.010	0.009	0.419
Bivariate Pearson Chi-Square		0.768		
Bivariate Log-Likelihood Chi-Square		0.759		
S2BQ1B1	S2BQ1B8			
Category 1	Category 1	0.798	0.794	0.536
Category 1	Category 2	0.095	0.099	-0.712
Category 2	Category 1	0.055	0.059	-0.910
Category 2	Category 2	0.052	0.047	0.994
Bivariate Pearson Chi-Square		5.990		
Bivariate Log-Likelihood Chi-Square		5.988		
S2BQ1B1	S2BQ1B9B			
Category 1	Category 1	0.876	0.877	-0.178
Category 1	Category 2	0.018	0.017	0.486
Category 2	Category 1	0.096	0.095	0.198
Category 2	Category 2	0.010	0.011	-0.579
Bivariate Pearson Chi-Square		1.615		
Bivariate Log-Likelihood Chi-Square		1.634		
S2BQ1B1	S2BQ1B9C			
Category 1	Category 1	0.876	0.877	-0.052
Category 1	Category 2	0.017	0.017	0.163
Category 2	Category 1	0.096	0.096	0.032
Category 2	Category 2	0.010	0.010	-0.128

Ready



Ln 545, Col 1

NUM

EN 17:10 27/10/2011



## TECHNICAL 11 OUTPUT

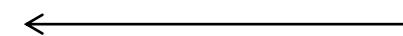
Random Starts Specifications for the k-1 Class Analysis Model

Number of initial stage random starts	50
Number of final stage optimizations	5

VUONG-LO-MENDELL-RUBIN LIKELIHOOD RATIO TEST FOR 1 ( $H_0$ ) VERSUS 2 CLASSES

H0 Loglikelihood Value	-88648.163
2 Times the Loglikelihood Difference	140469.898
Difference in the Number of Parameters	19
Mean	768.362
Standard Deviation	2265.525
P-Value	0.0000

## LC-MENDELL-RUBIN ADJUSTED LRT TEST



Usually reported

Value	139748.669
P-Value	0.0000

## PLOT INFORMATION

The following plots are available:

- Histograms (sample values)
- Scatterplots (sample values)
- Sample proportions
- Estimated probabilities

## SAVEDATA INFORMATION



If you asked Mplus to save data from the analysis,  
this information will be presented here

Order and format of variables

S2BQ1B1	F10.3
S2BQ1B3	F10.3
S2BQ1B6	F10.3

Ready

Ln 2542, Col 75

NUM



EN 17:11  
27/10/2011

# Lo-Mendell-Rubin Adjusted Likelihood Ratio Test (LMR-LRT)

- LMR-LRT (Lo et al., 2001)
- Used to compare models with different number of classes
- A non-significant value suggests that the model with one fewer class is a better explanation of the data

Mplus - [example 1 - nesarc aud current drinkers c2]

File Edit View Mplus Graph Window Help



```
S2BQ1B15      F10.3  
S2BQ1B16      F10.3  
S2BQ1B19      F10.3  
S2BQ1B20      F10.3  
S2BQ1B24      F10.3  
S2BQ1B25      F10.3  
S2BQ1B26      F10.3  
S2BQ1B27      F10.3  
WEIGHT        F10.3  
IDNUM         I6  
CPROB1        F10.3  
CPROB2        F10.3  
C              F10.3  
STRATUM       I6  
PSU            I6
```

Save file  
AUD c2.dat

Save file format  
19F10.3 I6 3F10.3 2I6

Save file record length 5000

Beginning Time: 12:38:44  
Ending Time: 12:39:16  
Elapsed Time: 00:00:32

MUTHEN & MUTHEN  
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Web: www.StatModel.com  
Support: Support@StatModel.com

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Ready

Ln 3682, Col 40 NUM



EN 17:12 27/10/2011

# Statistical fit indices do not always provide a clear-cut answer!!

## Deciding On The Number Of Classes For The ASB Items

Number of Classes	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Loglikelihood</b>	-48,168.475	-42,625.653	-41,713.142	-41,007.498	-40,808.314	-40,604.231
# par.	17	35	53	71	89	107
<b>BIC</b>	96,488	85,563	83,898	82,647	82,409	82,161
<b>ABIC</b>		85,452	83,730	82,421	82,126	81,821
<b>AIC</b>	96,370	85,321	83,532	82,157	81,795	81,422
<b>2*LogL k – 1 vs. k #par. diff. = 18</b>		11,085.644	1,825.022	1,411.288	398.368	408.166
<b>TECH14 LRT p-value for k-1</b>		.0000	.0000	.0000	.0000	.0000
<b>TECH11 LRT p-value for k-1</b>	NA	.0000	.0000	.0000	.0000	.0019
<b>Entropy</b>	NA	.838	.743	.742	.741	.723

# Substantive/Theoretical meaning

- No ‘guidelines’ for how to determine if model fits in with existing theory
- Need to examine the resulting class to see if they fit in with previous research or your own hypotheses

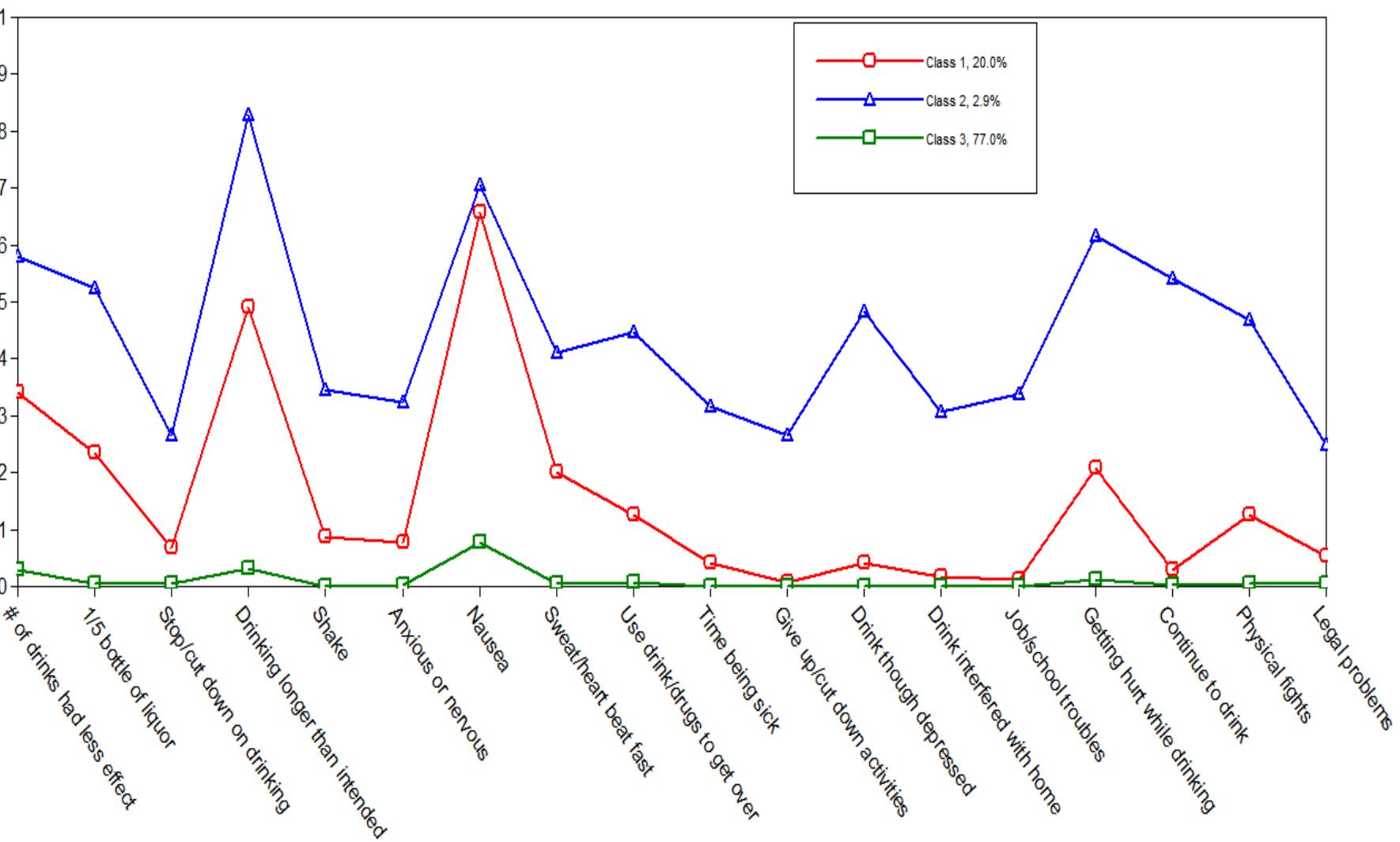
# Alcohol experiences: Results

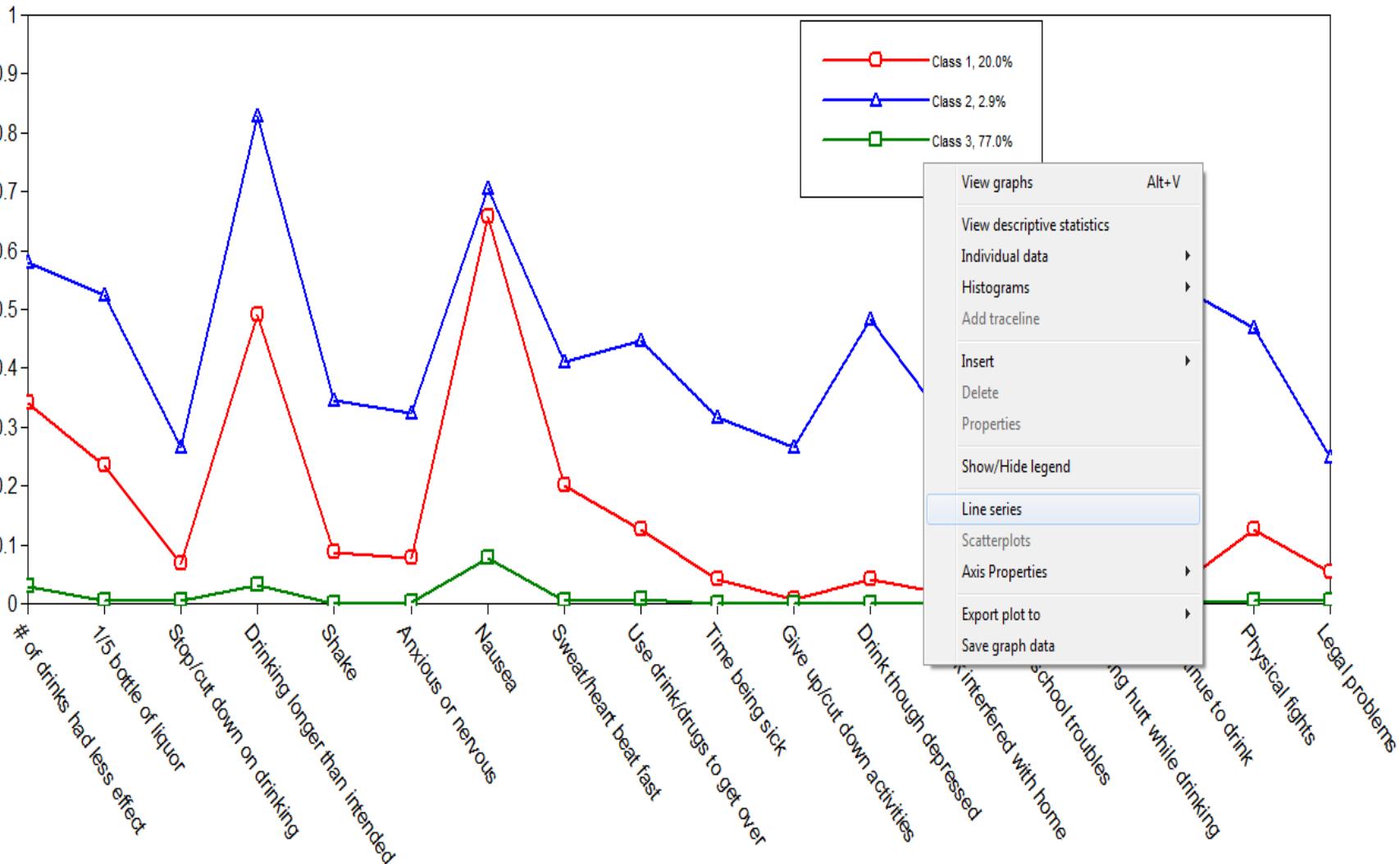
Table 1 Results from latent class analysis of 18 alcohol experiences -  
2001-2002 National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions (n=6746)

# of LC	Loglikelihood	Best H0 replicated	# parameters	AIC	BIC	SSABIC	LMR-LRT ( <i>p</i> )	Entropy
1	-22270.156	Yes	18	44576.313	44699.013	44641.814	NA	NA
2	-18413.214	Yes	37	36900.428	37152.646	37035.069	139748.669 ( <i>p</i> < 0.001)	0.882
3	-17911.373	Yes	56	35934.746	36299.481	36138.527	110199.111 ( <i>p</i> < 0.001)	0.865
4	-17823.187	Yes	75	35796.375	36307.627	36069.296	106399.850 ( <i>p</i> = 0.2294)	0.828
5	-17553.530	Yes	94	35695.060	36335.830	36037.121	105839.995 ( <i>p</i> = 0.0166)	0.811
6	-17753.530	Yes	113	35626.493	36396.781	36037.694	105394.308 ( <i>p</i> < 0.0001)	0.802

## Probability of experiencing alcohol-related problems in the last 12 months across latent classes 1, 2 and 3 (3-class model)

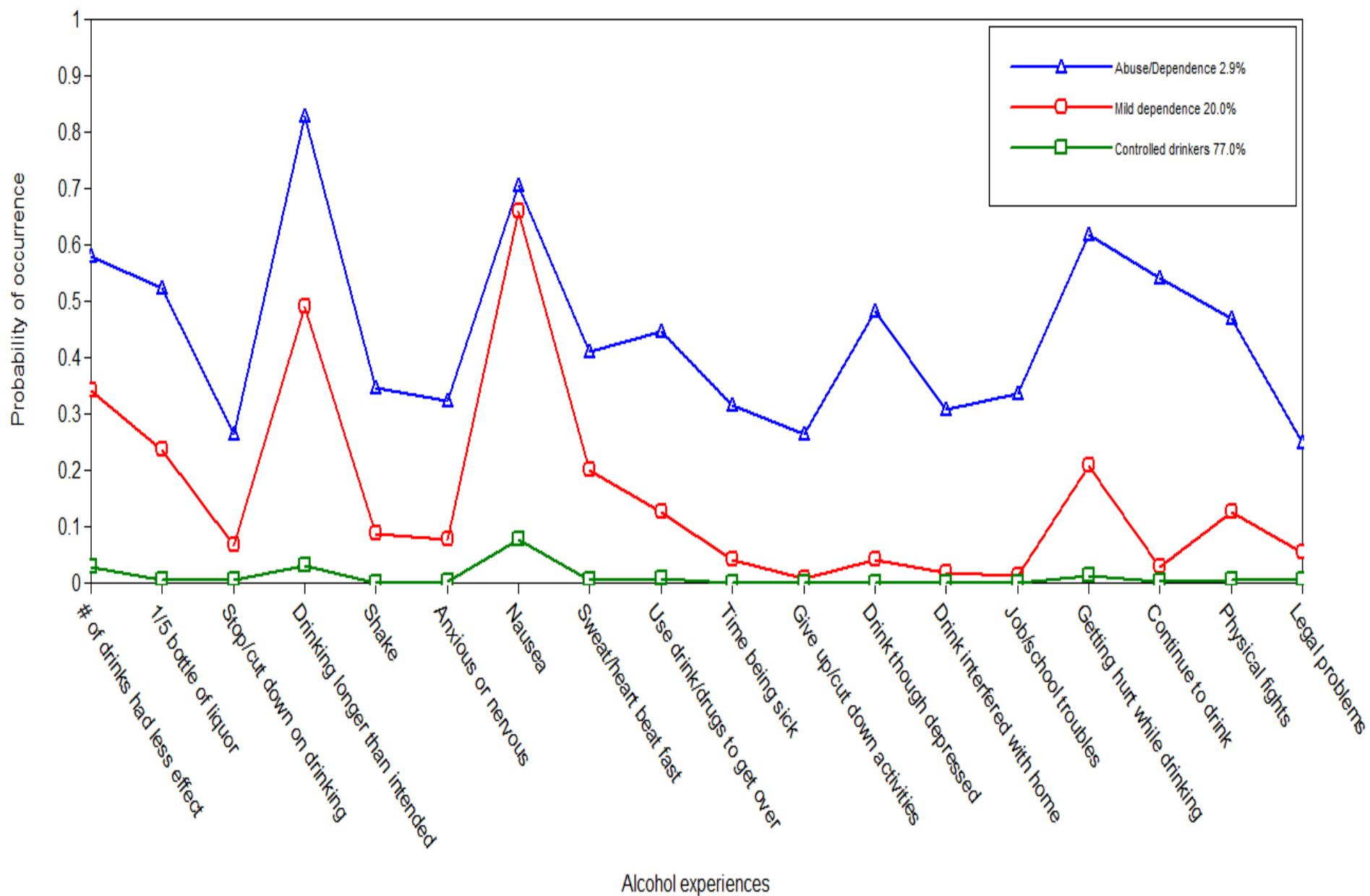
	In the last 12 months, did you...	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
S2BQ1B1	Find usual # of drinks had less effect than before	0.341	<b>0.580</b>	0.028
S2BQ1B3	Drink equivalent of a 1/5 bottle of liquor in one day	0.235	<b>0.523</b>	0.004
S2BQ1B6	Try unsuccessfully to stop/cut down on drinking more than once	0.067	0.265	0.005
S2BQ1B8	Have period when kept drinking longer than intended	<b>0.490</b>	<b>0.829</b>	0.031
S2BQ1B9B	Shake when effects of alcohol were wearing off	0.088	0.346	0.000
S2BQ1B9C	Feel anxious or nervous when effects of alcohol were wearing off	0.078	0.342	0.003
S2BQ1B9D	Have nausea when effects of alcohol were wearing off	<b>0.658</b>	<b>0.706</b>	0.078
S2BQ1B9F	Sweat/heart beat fast when effects of alcohol were wearing off	0.201	0.410	0.005
S2BQ1B10	Drink or use medicine/drugs to get over bad aftereffects of drinking	0.126	0.447	0.008
S2BQ1B13	Spent a lot of time being sick/getting over bad effects of drinking	0.041	0.316	0.000
S2BQ1B15	Give up or cut down pleasurable activities to drink	0.007	0.265	0.000
S2BQ1B16	Continue to drink though depressed/suspicious of others	0.042	0.483	0.001
S2BQ1B19	Have period when drinking interfered with taking care of home or family	0.018	0.307	0.000
S2BQ1B20	Have job/school troubles because of drinking	0.012	0.337	0.000
S2BQ1B24	Get in situations that increased chances of getting hurt while drinking	0.207	<b>0.617</b>	0.013
S2BQ1B25	Continue to drink despite causing trouble with family or friends	0.028	<b>0.542</b>	0.002
S2BQ1B26	Get into physical fights when or right after drinking	0.125	0.469	0.004
S2BQ1B27	Get arrested or have other legal problems because of drinking	0.054	0.249	0.005

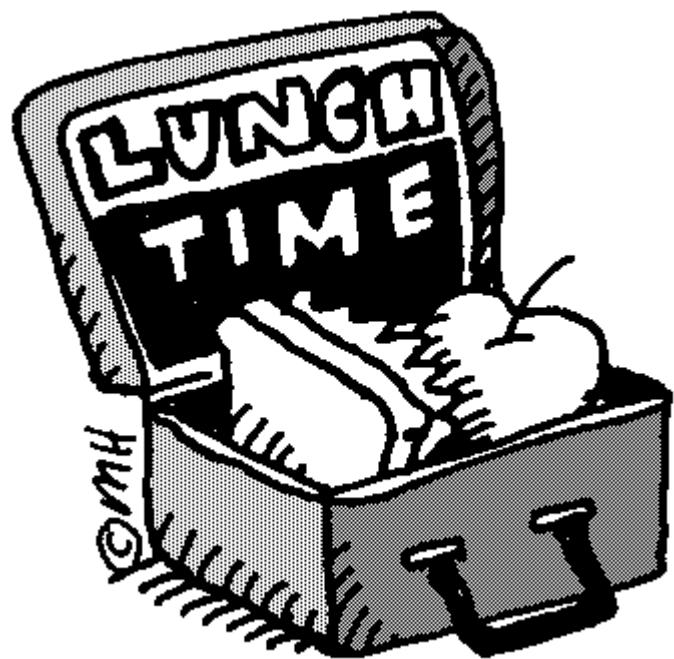




- View graphs Alt+V
- View descriptive statistics
- Individual data
- Histograms
- Add traceline
- Insert
- Delete
- Properties
- Show/Hide legend
- Line series
- Scatterplots
- Axis Properties
- Export plot to
- Save graph data







Now it's over to you...

Practical

# Stressful life events

- Stress and its impact on general health
- 2007 Adult Psychiatry Morbidity Survey in England (McManus et al., 2009)



# SPSS file name is: life events (practical).sav

<b>Variable names</b>	<b>Details</b>
idnum	Serial number of individual
weight	Weight to use with phase one data
cluster	PSU - use to control for survey design (1)
strata	STRATA - use to control for survey design (2)
sex	Sex of selected respondent
marital	De facto marital status of selected respondent
<b>injury</b>	Serious injury to you or close family member
<b>separate</b>	Separation due to marital difficulties/divorce etc.
<b>sacked</b>	Being made redundant or sacked from your job
<b>police</b>	Problem with police involving court appearance
<b>bullied</b>	Bullying
<b>abused</b>	Sexual abuse

# Task (40 minutes)

- Save SPSS file as a .DAT file
- Create an Mplus input file for a latent class model
- Run a series of latent class models, varying the number of latent class from 1-4
- Fill in the details of the goodness of fit indices in the table in the handout
- Compare and contrast resulting models using the goodness of fit indices to decide on the best model
- Create a graph and a table to represent the probability scale for your chosen model

So, how did you get on?

## **REVIEW OF PRACTICAL SESSION**

**It's time for a break!**

[Close](#)



4:26 PM  
6/4/2011

# **EXTENDING THE BASIC LC MODEL**

(And some common error messages Mplus likes to issue!)

# So far we have learned how to:

- Estimate LC models in an exploratory way – the ‘*unrestricted*’ model (McCutcheon, 1987)
- Using a single population/group
- Local independence assumption upheld

(Life isn’t always this simple!)

# We might need to extend the basic LC model when...

- We need to relax the local independence assumption
- We have *a priori* hypotheses about the structure of a latent variable (i.e. testing a ‘restricted’ LC model)
- We have more than one group (e.g. multi-country data)

# Relaxing the local independence assumption

## Latent Class Analysis and Psychiatry Research

To the Editor:

The statistical procedure, latent class analysis (LCA), has been increasingly applied to problems of psychiatric typology. In the last two years, nearly two dozen major articles making use of LCA have appeared in the psychiatry literature.[1,2] These articles have been of a very high quality, but certain methodological issues have received insufficient attention. Some major concerns are as follows:

- **Conditional dependence**

An essential assumption of LCA is that of "conditional independence." This requires that all observed variables (e.g., symptoms) be statistically independent (roughly, uncorrelated) within each latent class. Many studies have analyzed symptoms that would appear to violate this assumption a priori. For example, "increased appetite" and "decreased appetite" [2] can scarcely be independent for any group of patients. Such dependent items exert a distorting influence on results. Generally, they promote emergence of extra, spurious latent classes as the estimation algorithm tries to reconcile conditional independence assumptions with the data.

The problem can be lessened by eliminating clearly dependent items from analysis, or by combining them to form a single item.[1] Simple graphical methods can be used to verify conditional independence.[3] Extensions of LCA exist that accommodate dependent items.[4-5] [for more information, see [A Practical Guide to Local Dependence in Latent Class Models.](#)]

- **Local maxima**

LCA is subject to the problem of "local maxima," where the computer program, trying to find best-fitting values for quantities such as the population base rates of the latent classes, instead converges on values that are not best-fitting; the phenomenon is more common when the number of latent classes exceeds two or three. There is no reason to think such nonoptimal values will be even approximately the same as the true optimal values. Extra computation, such as beginning estimation several times with different initial parameter values, is needed for reasonable assurance that the best solution is found. Some LCA programs do this automatically. The recent articles have mostly not addressed this issue, raising concerns about how well reported results reflect best-fitting solutions.

# Relaxing the local independence assumption

- Fewer classes might actually be better?
- Fit may be improved by introducing local dependencies between indicators that have high residuals – as an alternative to creating another class (Magidson & Vermunt, 2000).
- More advanced LC model!

# Relaxing the local independence assumption

*J R Stat Soc Ser A Stat Soc.* 2008 October ; 171(4): 877–897. doi:10.1111/j.1467-985X.2008.00544.x.

## Locally dependent latent class models with covariates: an application to under-age drinking in the USA

Beth A. Reboussin, Edward H. Ip, and Mark Wolfson

*Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, USA*

Since the two-class model exhibited a significant amount of local dependences based on our residual diagnostic statistics that are shown in Fig. 1 and the three-class model provided a substantively meaningful classification of under-age drinkers, we explored whether we could improve the fit of the three-class model by relaxing local independence assumptions and thereby avoid introduction of a possibly spurious fourth class. We began by fitting a series of local dependence models for pairs of items identified through residual diagnostics in Fig. 1 as exhibiting some evidence of local dependence under the three-class model. First, we fit the least restrictive model, the unstructured model (5), that allowed the local dependence to be different for each pair of items and to vary by latent class. Because some of the local dependences that were identified through residual diagnostics were not statistically significant under this model, we used a backward elimination procedure to simplify the model. The item pair with the least significant local dependence was removed first and the model was refitted. Each subsequent step removed the least significant local dependence in the model until all the remaining local dependences had  $p$ -values that were smaller than 0.05. The final model resulted in statistically significant local dependences between

- a. binge drinking and becoming drunk ( $\gamma_{23m}$ ),
- b. becoming drunk and experiencing headaches ( $\gamma_{37m}$ ), and
- c. being unable to remember what happened while drinking and social problems ( $\gamma_{68m}$ ).

# Relaxing the local independence assumption

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## The Structure of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

*Latent Class Analysis in 2 Community Samples*

Naomi Breslau, PhD; Beth A. Reboussin, PhD; James C. Anthony, PhD; Carla L. Storr, ScD

*Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2005;62:1343-1351*

weight of evidence, the better the fit is. Finally, we examined the bivariate residuals between pairs of indicators. In general, bivariate residuals larger than 3.84 identify correlations between the associated variable pairs that have not been adequately explained by the model at  $\alpha = .05$ .<sup>34</sup>

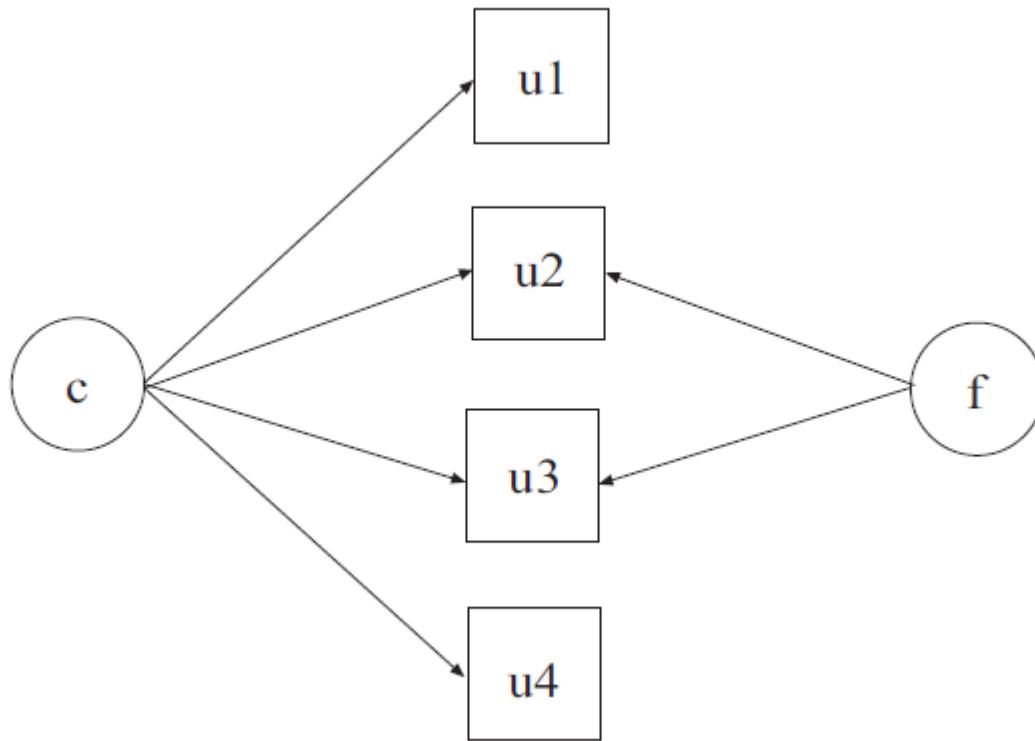
As an alternative to adding a class to improve model fit, advanced LCA allows for residual interdependence of pairs of indicators by introducing local dependencies (direct effect) in a pair of indicators that have high residuals.<sup>31</sup> We used this technique in this study. Alternative techniques, outlined in Magidson and Vermunt<sup>32</sup> (ie, deleting one in the pair of indicators, combining them into a single “and/or” item, and adding a latent variable), yielded similar results, in terms of the number and size of latent classes and response probabilities, but less adequate model fit (not displayed).

Request  
Tech10 in  
Mplus

Some  
researchers  
use 1.96 as  
cut-off

# Relaxing the local independence assumption

## EXAMPLE 7.16: LCA WITH PARTIAL CONDITIONAL INDEPENDENCE

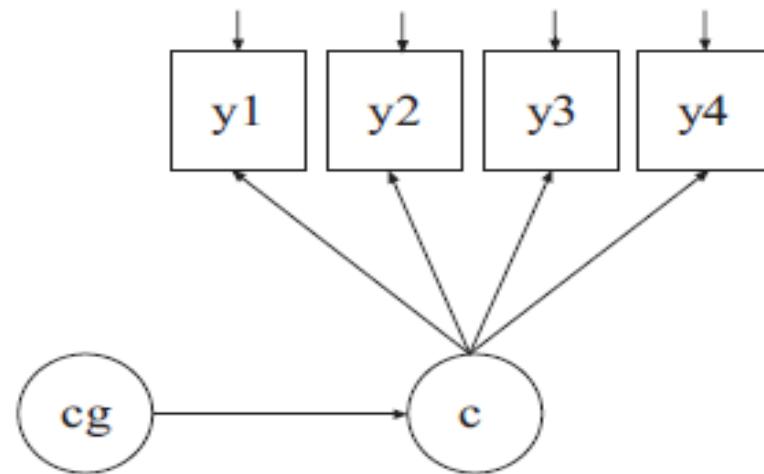


(Source: Muthén & Muthén, 1998-2010)

# Hypothesis-drive LC models

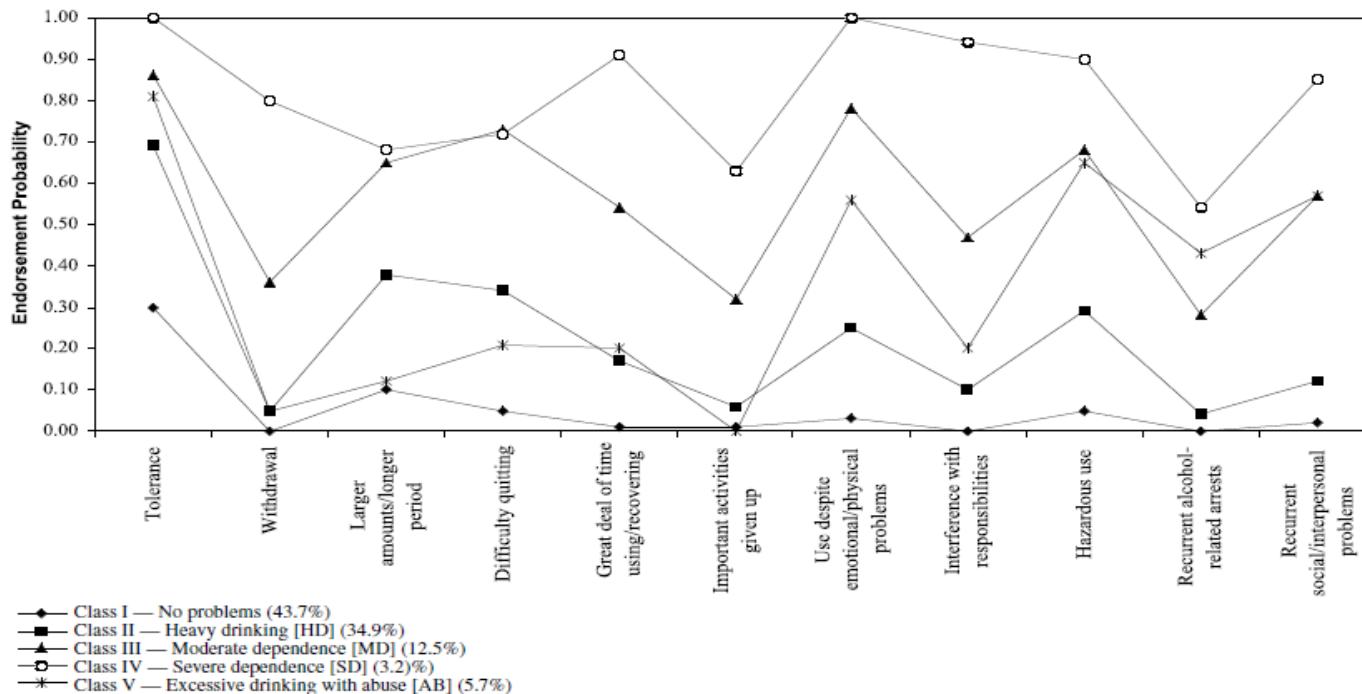
- Test whether latent structure of a construct varies across subgroups using multiple-group LCA
  - Lynskey et al. (2005) - AUD
  - Chung & Breslau (2006) - PTSD

## EXAMPLE 7.21: MIXTURE MODELING WITH KNOWN CLASSES (MULTIPLE GROUP ANALYSIS)



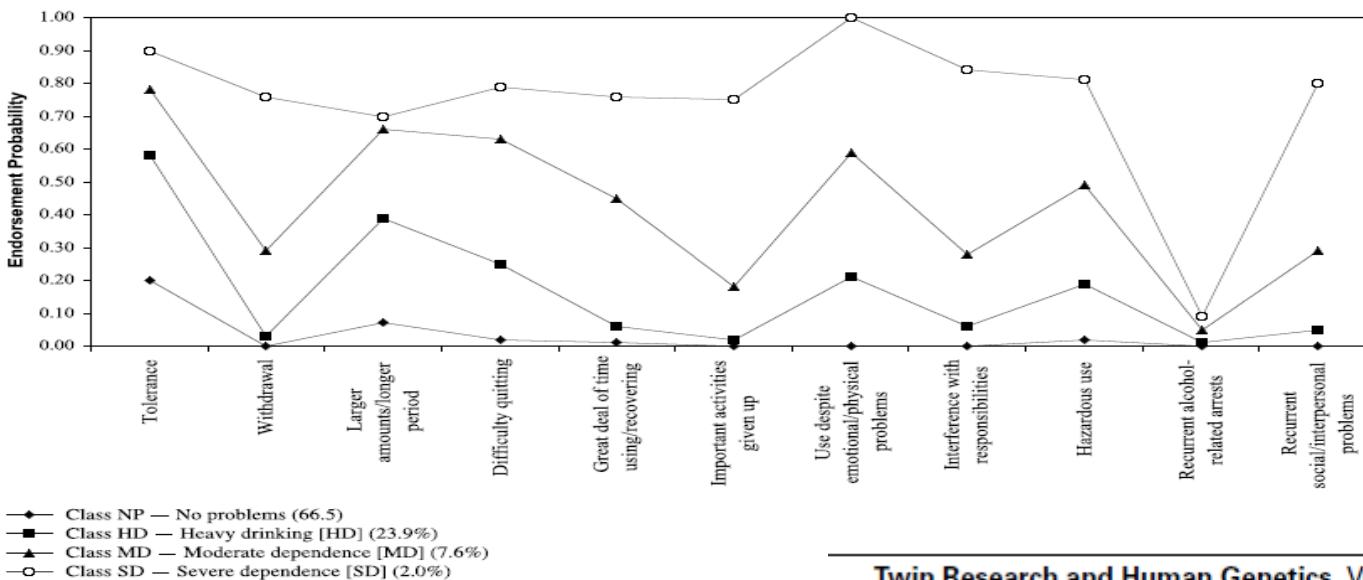
(Source: Muthén & Muthén, 1998-2010)

(a) Men



Lynskey et al.  
(2005)

(b) Women



# LC models with covariates

- Exploring nature of LCs in relation to covariates is common (see Clark & Muthen, 2011)
- Helps to define characteristics of classes (e.g. in terms of demographic factors)
- Two main methods:
  - Regression of most likely class membership on the covariates (e.g. Shevlin et al. 2007; Reboussin & Anthony, 2008)
  - Including the covariates in the analysis while forming the latent classes (e.g. Clark & Muthen, 2011)

# Mplus saves information – as outlined in output

SAVEDATA INFORMATION

→ Should be located near the end of the output

Order and format of variables

INJURY	F10.3
SEPARATE	F10.3
SACKED	F10.3
POLICE	F10.3
BULLIED	F10.3
ABUSED	F10.3
WEIGHT	F10.3
IDNUM	I9
CPROB1	F10.3
CPROB2	F10.3
CPROB3	F10.3
C	F10.3
STRATA	I4
CLUSTER	I4

→ Mplus assigns each person in the sample to their most likely class

Save file

10 nov c3.dat

→ This is the file name to look for (it will be saved where you saved the input file)

Save file format

7F10.3 I9 4F10.3 2I4

# Read text data saved in Mplus into SPSS

Screenshot of IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor showing the "Open Data" dialog box.

The "Open Data" dialog box is displayed, showing the file path "life events". The file "10 nov c3.dat" is selected. The "File name:" field contains "10 nov c3.dat" and the "Files of type:" dropdown is set to "Text (\*.txt, \*.dat)".

The main SPSS window shows a blank dataset with 23 rows and 17 columns, all labeled "var". The status bar at the bottom left says "Read Text Data..." and the bottom right says "IBM SPSS Statistics Processor is ready".

Taskbar icons include Windows, Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, and Mplus.

# Series of stages...

Screenshot of IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor showing the Text Import Wizard - Step 1 of 6.

The wizard is asking if the text file matches a predefined format. The "No" radio button is selected.

The preview window shows the first few lines of the data file:

```
628 840 1 81 28.5  
630 2400 0 73 40.33  
632 10200 0 83 31.08  
633 870 0 93 31.17  
635 17400 0 83 41.91
```

The preview table shows the structure of the data:

	var1	var2	var3	v
1				
2				
3				
4				

The data file content is displayed below the preview table:

```
Text file: F:\LCA workshop\life events\28 oct c3.dat
```

	0	10	20	30	40	50	60
1	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
3	1.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	
4	1.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
5	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.000	0.000	

Buttons at the bottom of the wizard dialog include: < Back, Next >, Finish, Cancel, Help.

The Data View tab is selected in the bottom left.

The status bar at the bottom right shows: IBM SPSS Statistics Processor is ready, EN, 14:16, 06/11/2011.

# The finished data file in SPSS

Class to which each case is assigned



	INJURY	SEPARATE	SACKED	POLICE	BULLIED	ABUSED	WEIGHT	IDNUM	CPROB1	CPROB2	CPROB3	C	STRATA	CLUSTER	var	var
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.204	11103072	.001	.959	.040	Low stress	94	103		
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	.779	11103102	.001	.959	.040	Low stress	94	103		
3	1	0	0	0	1	0	.602	11103112	.058	.672	.270	Low stress	94	103		
4	1	0	0	0	0	0	1.087	11103132	.005	.886	.109	Low stress	94	103		
5	1	1	1	1	0	0	.660	11103162	.022	.012	.966	Moderate stress	94	103		
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.126	11103172	.001	.959	.040	Low stress	94	103		
7	0	0	0	0	0	0	.779	11103192	.001	.959	.040	Low stress	94	103		
8	1	1	0	0	1	0	.768	11103202	.228	.317	.454	Moderate stress	94	103		
9	0	1	0	0	0	0	1.205	11103212	.004	.867	.129	Low stress	94	103		
10	1	0	1	0	0	0	1.087	11103222	.006	.534	.459	Low stress	94	103		
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.846	11103232	.001	.959	.040	Low stress	94	103		
12	0	0	0	0	1	0	1.535	11103242	.008	.873	.119	Low stress	94	103		
13	0	0	1	0	0	0	1.689	11103262	.001	.774	.225	Low stress	94	103		
14	0	0	0	0	0	0	.661	11103282	.001	.959	.040	Low stress	94	103		
15	0	1	1	0	0	1	.884	11109012	.294	.200	.506	Moderate stress	230	109		
16	0	1	0	0	1	0	.473	11109022	.048	.641	.311	Low stress	230	109		
17	1	0	1	0	1	0	1.129	11109032	.043	.251	.705	Moderate stress	230	109		
18	1	0	1	0	0	0	.486	11109042	.006	.534	.459	Low stress	230	109		
19	0	1	0	0	0	0	.884	11109052	.004	.867	.129	Low stress	230	109		
20	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.356	11109062	.001	.959	.040	Low stress	230	109		
21	0	1	0	1	0	0	.564	11109072	.019	.201	.780	Moderate stress	230	109		
22	1	0	1	0	0	1	.443	11109082	.355	.208	.437	Moderate stress	230	109		
23	0	1	0	0	0	0	.885	11109092	.004	.867	.129	Low stress	230	109		
24	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.117	11109122	.001	.959	.040	Low stress	230	109		
25	0	1	0	0	1	0	.898	11109132	.048	.641	.311	Low stress	230	109		
26	0	0	0	0	1	0	2.108	11109152	.008	.873	.119	Low stress	230	109		
27	0	0	1	0	0	0	.798	11109162	.001	.774	.225	Low stress	230	109		
28	0	1	1	0	0	0	.898	11109182	.005	.488	.507	Moderate stress	230	109		
29	1	1	1	0	0	0	.798	11109192	.023	.240	.736	Moderate stress	230	109		

# Exploring relationship between class-membership and covariates

- Use the ‘C’ variable to conduct multinomial logistic regression analysis (if you have 3 or more classes)
- Choose a Reference class (usually largest class, but can be theory driven)
- Create ‘dummy variables’ for covariates (if necessary)
- Can run regression analysis in SPSS or Mplus

# LC models including covariates

## Mplus Discussion

Anonymous posted

4) When predictors of the latent class membership are included into LCA, model results, including latent class probabilities and conditional probabilities, often change. Does this mean we should always make model selection and interpret model results based on LCA model with predictors, and not report the model results without predictors?

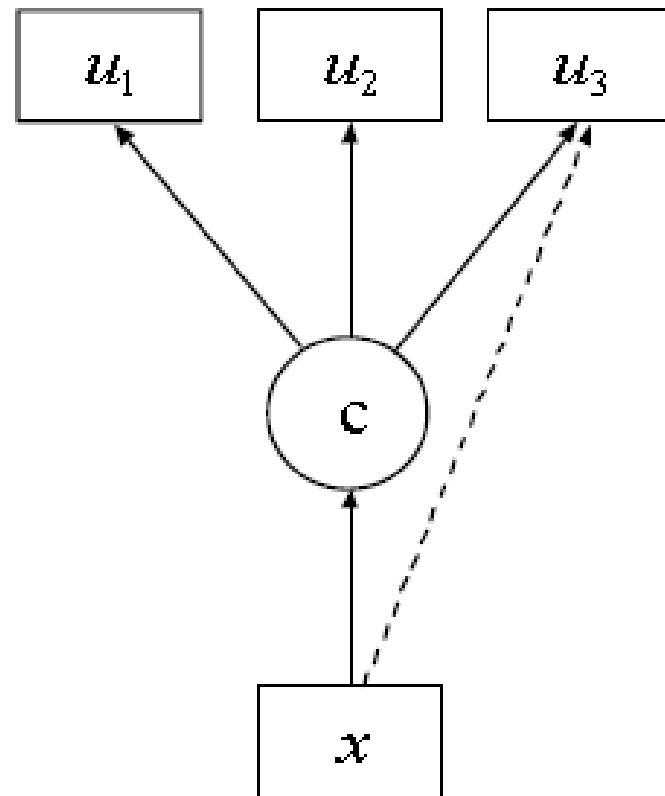
bmuthen posted

4) Yes, I think the final model should include covariates. I have a draft paper that discusses this issue, which I will be happy to send to you later this summer (remind me). For example, if the true model has covariates  $x$  influencing a latent class variable  $c$  and also have direct influence on the indicators  $u$ , then excluding  $x$  in the analysis will produce incorrect classification because of the direct influence of  $x$  on  $u$ .

## Relating Latent Class Analysis Results to Variables not Included in the Analysis

Shaunna L. Clark & Bengt Muthén  
University of California, Los Angeles

# LC model with a covariate



Source: Muthén & Muthén, 2009

# Stressful life events (3c) – with one covariate

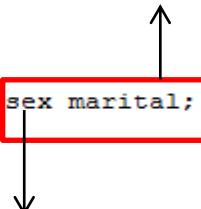
```
TITLE: 2007 APMS Latent class analysis of stressful life events  
3-class model, 6 life events, binary coded items  
Two covariates (sex, marital) included
```

```
DATA:  
file is  
F:\LCA workshop\life events practical.dat;
```

Scored as 1=Married/Cohabiting; 0 = Other

```
VARIABLE:  
NAMES are idnum weight cluster strata sex marital  
injury separate sacked police bullied abused;
```

```
USEVARIABLES are injury separate sacked police bullied abused  
CATEGORICAL are injury separate sacked police bullied abused;
```



```
IDVARIABLE= idnum;  
CLASSES = c(3);  
WEIGHT IS weight;  
CLUSTER IS cluster;  
STRATIFICATION IS strata;
```

```
Missing are all (-9);
```

Scored as 1=Male; 2=Female

```
ANALYSIS:  
type = complex mixture;  
starts = 500 20;
```

```
MODEL:  
%Overall%  
c#1 c#2 on sex marital;
```

```
OUTPUT:  
tech10 tech11 cinterval;
```

```
PLOT:  
type = plot3;  
series = injury separate sacked police bullied abused(*)
```

LC3 is the  
reference  
group

# LC model with covariate (sex) – 3c life events example

CONFIDENCE INTERVALS FOR THE LOGISTIC REGRESSION ODDS RATIO RESULTS

Categorical Latent Variables

		Lower .5%	Lower 2.5%	Lower 5%	Estimate	Upper 5%	Upper 2.5%	Upper .5%
C#1	ON							
	SEX	1.196	1.470	1.634	2.834	4.917	5.463	6.715
	MARITAL	0.353	0.382	0.398	0.494	0.612	0.638	0.691
C#2	ON							
	SEX	0.004	0.007	0.008	0.024	0.072	0.088	0.132
	MARITAL	1.281	1.407	1.476	1.897	2.437	2.557	2.808

Output truncated

Women more likely than men to be assigned to LC 1, compared to LC3, controlling for marital status

Married/cohabiting respondents more likely than men to be assigned to LC 2, compared to LC3, controlling for sex

ANY FINALLY...

# **SOME COMMON ERROR MESSAGES IN MPLUS**

# Error/warning messages (not serious)

\*\*\* ERROR in DATA command

The file specified for the FILE option cannot be found. Check that this file exists: F:\LCA workshop\stressful events (practical.dat

\*\*\* WARNING

Variable name contains more than 8 characters.

Only the first 8 characters will be printed in the output.

Variable: S11AQ1A10

WARNING: THE VARIANCE CONTRIBUTION FROM A STRATUM WITH A SINGLE CLUSTER (PSU) IS BASED ON THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SINGLE CLUSTER VALUE AND THE OVERALL CLUSTER MEAN.

WARNING: WHEN ESTIMATING A MODEL WITH MORE THAN TWO CLASSES, IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF RANDOM STARTS USING THE STARTS OPTION TO AVOID LOCAL MAXIMA.

THE CHI-SQUARE TEST CANNOT BE COMPUTED BECAUSE THE FREQUENCY TABLE FOR THE LATENT CLASS INDICATOR MODEL PART IS TOO LARGE.

# Error/warning messages (may require attention!)

IN THE OPTIMIZATION, ONE OR MORE LOGIT THRESHOLDS APPROACHED AND WERE SET AT THE EXTREME VALUES. EXTREME VALUES ARE -15.000 AND 15.000.

WARNING: THE BEST LOGLIKELIHOOD VALUE WAS NOT REPLICATED. THE SOLUTION MAY NOT BE TRUSTWORTHY DUE TO LOCAL MAXIMA. INCREASE THE NUMBER OF RANDOM STARTS.

WARNING: THE LATENT VARIABLE COVARIANCE MATRIX (PSI) IN CLASS 2 IS NOT POSITIVE DEFINITE. THIS COULD INDICATE A NEGATIVE VARIANCE/RESIDUAL VARIANCE FOR A LATENT VARIABLE, A CORRELATION GREATER OR EQUAL TO ONE BETWEEN TWO LATENT VARIABLES, OR A LINEAR DEPENDENCY AMONG MORE THAN TWO LATENT VARIABLES. CHECK THE TECH4 OUTPUT FOR MORE INFORMATION. PROBLEM INVOLVING VARIABLE ANG.

<http://www.statmodel.com/cgi-bin/discus/discus.cgi?pg=topics>

Mplus Discussion

Any questions???