

Dynamic structural equation model

James T. Thorson

```
library(tinyVAST)
set.seed(101)
```

tinyVAST includes features to fit a dynamic structural equation model

```
data(isle_royale, package="dsem")

# Convert to long-form
data = expand.grid( "time"=isle_royale[,1], "var"=colnames(isle_royale[,2:3]) )
data$logn = unlist(log(isle_royale[,2:3]))

# Define cross-lagged SEM
sem = "
  # Link, lag, param_name
  wolves -> wolves, 1, arW
  moose -> wolves, 1, MtoW
  wolves -> moose, 1, WtoM
  moose -> moose, 1, arM
  wolves -> moose, 0, corr
"

# fit model
mytiny = fit( sem = sem,
              data = data,
              times = isle_royale[,1],
              variables = colnames(isle_royale[,2:3]),
              estimate_delta0 = FALSE,
              formula = logn ~ 0 + var,
              quiet = TRUE )

#> 0: 391.97944: 0.00000 0.00000 0.0100000 0.0100000 0.0100000 0.0100000 0.0100000 1.00000 1.
#> 1: 293.47883: 0.0432878 0.108614 0.137076 0.295137 0.299864 0.700110 0.304606 0.920827 1.4844
#> 2: 272.35246: 0.0702137 0.104050 0.249882 0.504281 0.312730 0.752622 0.324146 0.124328 0.94800
#> 3: 267.11302: 0.0331173 0.130867 0.0531818 0.164741 0.302841 0.735444 0.313854 0.237609 0.9178
#> 4: 222.17865: 0.0589472 0.127187 0.106932 0.347293 0.304470 0.742269 0.315607 0.311164 0.89946
#> 5: 208.04762: 0.0717159 0.124302 0.148031 0.408069 0.302962 0.740648 0.315093 0.163017 0.78815
#> 6: 194.08329: 0.0769018 0.143464 0.104822 0.324971 0.309062 0.758708 0.321504 0.138585 0.61835
#> 7: 177.09291: 0.101268 0.155892 0.125659 0.368199 0.322378 0.788853 0.334868 0.128494 0.435963
#> 8: 165.12572: 0.135840 0.177628 0.141177 0.338710 0.292867 0.713473 0.307171 0.112514 0.286754
#> 9: 161.67079: 0.138094 0.178119 0.152983 0.363757 0.301670 0.736209 0.316790 0.117254 0.281971
#> 10: 160.40593: 0.137281 0.181960 0.147957 0.337955 0.302699 0.741241 0.320134 0.122707 0.258864
#> 11: 158.99202: 0.142354 0.185057 0.163540 0.353935 0.304947 0.751270 0.326251 0.128201 0.239372
#> 12: 157.39856: 0.146652 0.190642 0.170507 0.338697 0.297404 0.741771 0.325368 0.134777 0.229954
#> 13: 148.34749: 0.218344 0.283264 0.404687 0.271365 0.202863 0.732150 0.395346 0.242010 0.192628
#> 14: 146.52996: 0.208329 0.292242 0.391447 0.224459 0.216367 0.799418 0.419694 0.190607 0.233675
```

#> 15:	140.08045:	0.225738	0.313954	0.417170	0.247747	0.147623	0.764066	0.394473	0.180619	0.278054
#> 16:	134.20758:	0.240366	0.343996	0.446285	0.214776	0.0948538	0.799166	0.395334	0.169305	0.222377
#> 17:	131.16629:	0.250863	0.371955	0.498005	0.219067	0.0393347	0.828875	0.396977	0.175618	0.206551
#> 18:	127.66669:	0.263105	0.399929	0.533055	0.183490	-0.0190056	0.852045	0.399414	0.182196	0.205911
#> 19:	124.11699:	0.277800	0.446152	0.562137	0.190934	-0.0947508	0.873181	0.403304	0.155230	0.195441
#> 20:	118.40042:	0.312852	0.530145	0.627937	0.152709	-0.219049	0.927603	0.439546	0.168529	0.195301
#> 21:	117.92783:	0.338796	0.654110	0.677227	0.123690	-0.344532	0.906275	0.510641	0.159569	0.145851
#> 22:	110.15216:	0.356648	0.717696	0.700543	0.128534	-0.372120	0.930679	0.575301	0.146911	0.170241
#> 23:	107.54614:	0.375368	0.787620	0.717874	0.118302	-0.419856	0.911938	0.623342	0.139189	0.170661
#> 24:	103.19533:	0.424791	0.935402	0.780524	0.105800	-0.534974	0.922482	0.722012	0.158522	0.150111
#> 25:	101.68558:	0.492288	1.12347	0.747017	0.0785286	-0.657683	0.959822	0.810607	0.132680	0.142111
#> 26:	94.244117:	0.517084	1.34150	0.752566	0.119320	-0.785405	0.985749	0.831330	0.129256	0.137871
#> 27:	90.226592:	0.543544	1.60413	0.761883	0.101762	-0.802545	0.967723	0.891040	0.141854	0.125081
#> 28:	86.796561:	0.545694	1.87058	0.834900	0.0765051	-0.795957	0.969397	0.872722	0.120890	0.136411
#> 29:	83.245193:	0.598193	2.12200	0.841094	0.0773191	-0.830677	1.00824	0.820285	0.130225	0.117111
#> 30:	80.566600:	0.669509	2.36722	0.825623	0.0860949	-0.788875	1.00097	0.830899	0.131947	0.118411
#> 31:	76.468880:	0.717368	2.59846	0.800943	0.0967272	-0.722303	0.993675	0.741238	0.129476	0.120611
#> 32:	31.240247:	1.63782	5.40279	0.996746	0.0483751	-0.0279226	0.969621	0.0417952	0.116574	0.051111
#> 33:	25.233334:	1.82195	5.96514	1.00764	0.0439629	0.0980274	0.984701	-0.0864806	0.113885	0.061111
#> 34:	22.925167:	1.87341	6.12170	1.00913	0.0437779	0.128359	0.985682	-0.122445	0.113411	0.045811
#> 35:	21.536129:	1.92728	6.28088	1.01207	0.0444219	0.150916	0.987403	-0.151129	0.111700	0.058911
#> 36:	18.135929:	1.90721	6.18436	0.993389	0.0516422	0.0477958	0.990004	-0.0487405	0.109509	0.051111
#> 37:	17.964229:	1.90764	6.18469	0.991105	0.0517743	0.0465551	0.990836	-0.0489934	0.111559	0.041111
#> 38:	17.863862:	1.90810	6.18506	0.988817	0.0519411	0.0453083	0.991889	-0.0491075	0.112349	0.051111
#> 39:	17.704282:	1.91086	6.19205	0.987425	0.0521669	0.0453186	0.992522	-0.0498777	0.112357	0.051111
#> 40:	17.531216:	1.91661	6.20682	0.985240	0.0526118	0.0456338	0.993693	-0.0514659	0.112206	0.051111
#> 41:	17.292437:	1.92793	6.23688	0.984374	0.0532120	0.0481720	0.994205	-0.0548553	0.111616	0.041111
#> 42:	17.023169:	1.95153	6.29653	0.983620	0.0545119	0.0540374	0.994422	-0.0615470	0.110578	0.051111
#> 43:	16.531412:	2.02526	6.39041	0.969634	0.0632541	0.0707889	0.988609	-0.0686675	0.109142	0.041111
#> 44:	15.579043:	2.05907	6.26549	0.941085	0.0706256	0.0586444	0.989815	-0.0554867	0.112170	0.051111
#> 45:	14.244263:	2.18659	6.26209	0.941913	0.0652182	0.0425338	1.00828	-0.0776924	0.104598	0.041111
#> 46:	12.385983:	2.42401	6.09663	0.915919	0.0631891	0.0187644	1.01631	-0.0555111	0.104999	0.041111
#> 47:	12.303612:	2.42423	6.09687	0.915370	0.0633148	0.0180129	1.01644	-0.0557553	0.105042	0.051111
#> 48:	12.244870:	2.42688	6.09735	0.914883	0.0633582	0.0173413	1.01661	-0.0559350	0.105023	0.051111
#> 49:	12.166225:	2.43217	6.09860	0.913193	0.0636209	0.0151434	1.01714	-0.0564913	0.105004	0.051111
#> 50:	10.601993:	2.77919	6.13694	0.917821	0.0525167	0.00617886	1.02615	-0.0588749	0.0991225	0.011111
#> 51:	9.7728403:	2.80149	6.25968	0.886403	0.0765018	-0.0324250	1.02386	-0.0241564	0.110541	0.011111
#> 52:	9.2175173:	2.82143	6.37041	0.857444	0.0986268	-0.00358367	1.01073	-0.0460460	0.105609	0.011111
#> 53:	8.9799692:	2.91924	6.38492	0.891829	0.0758957	-0.0797135	1.00350	0.0117286	0.0998862	0.011111
#> 54:	8.9112641:	3.05368	6.32412	0.872152	0.0763886	-0.0663287	1.01025	-0.0332002	0.100954	0.011111
#> 55:	7.8821340:	3.04257	6.39419	0.882479	0.0726922	-0.0484307	0.990201	-0.0493890	0.101782	0.011111
#> 56:	7.2091192:	3.02527	6.36993	0.889085	0.0689692	-0.0604854	0.956275	-0.0348962	0.106261	0.011111
#> 57:	6.5690422:	3.25930	6.46898	0.928772	0.0387637	-0.0808484	0.912915	-0.0258039	0.108128	0.011111
#> 58:	6.4647388:	3.38431	6.49691	0.897694	0.0438401	-0.131542	0.859167	0.00174981	0.102787	0.041111
#> 59:	6.0094698:	3.28045	6.40528	0.891718	0.0393087	-0.115254	0.874962	-0.0140661	0.104397	0.041111
#> 60:	5.9689302:	3.33960	6.44122	0.912456	0.0245201	-0.110066	0.868087	-0.0258628	0.107986	0.041111
#> 61:	5.8638005:	3.32802	6.43937	0.902297	0.0286517	-0.115498	0.866102	-0.0162072	0.106189	0.041111
#> 62:	5.8533065:	3.32976	6.44092	0.899621	0.0265515	-0.117718	0.863354	-0.0154414	0.105994	0.041111
#> 63:	5.8369695:	3.32784	6.44474	0.895017	0.0205965	-0.119828	0.860224	-0.0147989	0.105933	0.041111
#> 64:	5.8252522:	3.32267	6.44656	0.891234	0.0147373	-0.119907	0.859890	-0.0150121	0.106006	0.041111
#> 65:	5.8150263:	3.31757	6.44519	0.887772	0.00734691	-0.118604	0.861668	-0.0157502	0.106180	0.011111
#> 66:	5.8100538:	3.31829	6.44074	0.886684	0.00383683	-0.117391	0.863803	-0.0162601	0.106307	0.011111
#> 67:	5.8057767:	3.32268	6.43350	0.886859	0.00180287	-0.116420	0.865870	-0.0166919	0.106409	0.011111

```

#> 68: 5.8024395: 3.32871 6.42729 0.887611 0.00182578 -0.116075 0.866969 -0.0167799 0.106468 0.04
#> 69: 5.7993840: 3.33334 6.42372 0.889081 0.00317715 -0.116239 0.866903 -0.0167500 0.106488 0.04
#> 70: 5.7943738: 3.33804 6.42370 0.891145 0.00720984 -0.117164 0.865577 -0.0161895 0.106502 0.04
#> 71: 5.7900674: 3.33765 6.42744 0.893475 0.0110153 -0.117909 0.863814 -0.0159467 0.106501 0.04
#> 72: 5.7858147: 3.33180 6.43815 0.894587 0.0160705 -0.119029 0.861459 -0.0151682 0.106503 0.04
#> 73: 5.7844406: 3.32563 6.44344 0.894833 0.0170892 -0.118885 0.860923 -0.0153313 0.106479 0.04
#> 74: 5.7838569: 3.32280 6.44525 0.893968 0.0164722 -0.118848 0.861030 -0.0152532 0.106474 0.04
#> 75: 5.7833857: 3.32182 6.44511 0.893161 0.0152762 -0.118631 0.861396 -0.0153461 0.106475 0.04
#> 76: 5.7828398: 3.32240 6.44346 0.892416 0.0136884 -0.118495 0.861852 -0.0154185 0.106481 0.04
#> 77: 5.7824798: 3.32379 6.44209 0.892323 0.0132240 -0.118456 0.861984 -0.0154778 0.106487 0.04
#> 78: 5.7821785: 3.32534 6.44112 0.892696 0.0135242 -0.118598 0.861872 -0.0154249 0.106489 0.04
#> 79: 5.7820558: 3.32581 6.44117 0.893027 0.0140786 -0.118646 0.861714 -0.0154191 0.106489 0.04
#> 80: 5.7819968: 3.32571 6.44145 0.893196 0.0143801 -0.118710 0.861632 -0.0153690 0.106488 0.04
#> 81: 5.7819624: 3.32546 6.44167 0.893187 0.0144452 -0.118672 0.861630 -0.0153922 0.106488 0.04
#> 82: 5.7819421: 3.32527 6.44173 0.893126 0.0143472 -0.118674 0.861662 -0.0153789 0.106488 0.04
#> 83: 5.7819314: 3.32519 6.44172 0.893051 0.0142438 -0.118640 0.861694 -0.0154025 0.106488 0.04
#> 84: 5.7819258: 3.32520 6.44168 0.893020 0.0141749 -0.118647 0.861708 -0.0153949 0.106488 0.04
#> 85: 5.7819227: 3.32522 6.44165 0.893012 0.0141639 -0.118640 0.861708 -0.0154027 0.106488 0.04
#> 86: 5.7819210: 3.32525 6.44164 0.893025 0.0141778 -0.118649 0.861702 -0.0153966 0.106488 0.04
#> 87: 5.7819198: 3.32527 6.44165 0.893040 0.0142055 -0.118649 0.861695 -0.0153984 0.106488 0.04
#> 88: 5.7819193: 3.32527 6.44165 0.893049 0.0142175 -0.118653 0.861692 -0.0153949 0.106488 0.04
#> 89: 5.7819191: 3.32527 6.44166 0.893049 0.0142193 -0.118651 0.861692 -0.0153967 0.106488 0.04
#> 90: 5.7819189: 3.32526 6.44166 0.893046 0.0142142 -0.118651 0.861694 -0.0153960 0.106488 0.04
#> 91: 5.7819189: 3.32526 6.44165 0.893043 0.0142096 -0.118650 0.861695 -0.0153970 0.106488 0.04
#> 92: 5.7819188: 3.32526 6.44165 0.893041 0.0142071 -0.118650 0.861696 -0.0153967 0.106488 0.04
#> 93: 5.7819188: 3.32526 6.44165 0.893041 0.0142071 -0.118650 0.861695 -0.0153969 0.106488 0.04
#> 94: 5.7819188: 3.32526 6.44165 0.893042 0.0142081 -0.118650 0.861695 -0.0153967 0.106488 0.04
#> 95: 5.7819188: 3.32526 6.44165 0.893043 0.0142091 -0.118650 0.861695 -0.0153967 0.106488 0.04
#> 96: 5.7819188: 3.32526 6.44165 0.893043 0.0142096 -0.118650 0.861695 -0.0153966 0.106488 0.04
#> 97: 5.7819188: 3.32526 6.44165 0.893043 0.0142095 -0.118650 0.861695 -0.0153967 0.106488 0.04
#> 98: 5.7819188: 3.32526 6.44165 0.893043 0.0142093 -0.118650 0.861695 -0.0153966 0.106488 0.04

```

```
mytiny
```

```
#> $call
```

```
#> fit(data = data, formula = logn ~ 0 + var, sem = sem, estimate_delta0 = FALSE,
```

```
#> times = isle_royale[, 1], variables = colnames(isle_royale[,
```

```
#> 2:3]), quiet = TRUE)
```

```
#>
```

```
#> $opt
```

```
#> $opt$par
```

```
#> alpha_j alpha_j beta_z beta_z beta_z beta_z beta_z beta_z
```

```
#> 3.32526215 6.44165380 0.89304284 0.01420930 -0.11865012 0.86169491 -0.01539665 0.106488
```

```
#>
```

```
#> $opt$objective
```

```
#> [1] 5.781919
```

```
#>
```

```
#> $opt$convergence
```

```
#> [1] 0
```

```
#>
```

```
#> $opt$iterations
```

```
#> [1] 98
```

```
#>
```

```
#> $opt$evaluations
```

```
#> function gradient
```

```

#>      125      99
#>
#> $opt$message
#> [1] "relative convergence (4)"
#>
#>
#> $sdrep
#> sdreport(.) result
#>           Estimate   Std. Error
#> alpha_j      3.32526215 2.483419e-01
#> alpha_j      6.44165380 2.116017e-01
#> beta_z       0.89304284 8.420604e-02
#> beta_z       0.01420930 1.279148e-01
#> beta_z      -0.11865012 6.477637e-02
#> beta_z       0.86169491 7.080254e-02
#> beta_z      -0.01539665 6.067738e-02
#> beta_z       0.10648808 9.881848e-03
#> beta_z       0.04810383 4.460377e-03
#> log_sigma -12.52451040 1.805702e+04
#> Maximum gradient component: 1.345814e-05
#>
#> $run_time
#> Time difference of 0.2891929 secs

```

We can then compare this with package `dsem`

```

library(dsem)

# Keep in wide-form
dsem_data = ts( log(isle_royale[,2:3]), start=1959)
family = c("normal", "normal")

# initial first without delta0 (to improve starting values)
mydsem = dsem( sem = sem,
              tsdata = dsem_data,
              estimate_delta0 = FALSE,
              quiet = TRUE,
              getsd = FALSE,
              family = family )

mydsem
#> $par
#>      beta_z      beta_z      beta_z      beta_z      beta_z      beta_z      beta_z
#> 0.895834720 0.007358847 -0.109332511 0.875012562 -0.017355229 0.378795847 -0.172873038 -1.
#>
#> $objective
#> [1] 7.739638
#>
#> $iterations
#> [1] 79
#>
#> $evaluations
#> function gradient
#>      96      80

```

```

#>
#> $time_for_MLE
#> Time difference of 0.06666994 secs
#>
#> $max_gradient
#> [1] 7.714655e-07
#>
#> $Convergence_check
#> [1] "There is no evidence that the model is not converged"
#>
#> $number_of_coefficients
#> Total Fixed Random
#> 133 9 124
#>
#> $AIC
#> [1] 33.47928
#>
#> $diagnostics
#> Param starting_value Lower MLE Upper final_gradient
#> 1 beta_z 0.01 -Inf 0.895834720 Inf 4.785205e-09
#> 2 beta_z 0.01 -Inf 0.007358847 Inf -5.078683e-09
#> 3 beta_z 0.01 -Inf -0.109332511 Inf -2.031211e-08
#> 4 beta_z 0.01 -Inf 0.875012562 Inf -5.821149e-08
#> 5 beta_z 0.01 -Inf -0.017355229 Inf -5.373382e-09
#> 6 beta_z 1.00 -Inf 0.378795847 Inf 2.119351e-09
#> 7 beta_z 1.00 -Inf -0.172873038 Inf -7.714655e-07
#> 8 lnsigma_j 0.00 -Inf -15.799262455 Inf 1.628788e-12
#> 9 lnsigma_j 0.00 -Inf -11.977331517 Inf 2.141499e-09
#>
#> $time_for_run
#> Time difference of 0.06832981 secs

```