



GIMME, GIMME more (network models): Multiverse analysis for dynamic network models

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Analytical Flexibility in Time Series Modeling

- Time series data often require complex models

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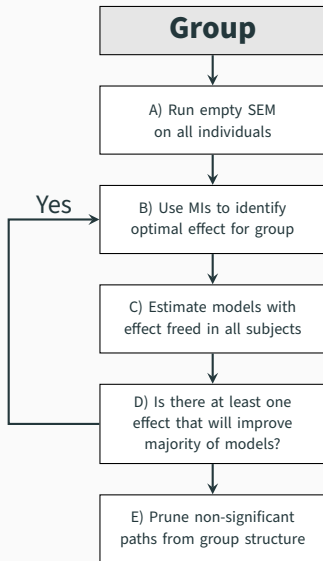
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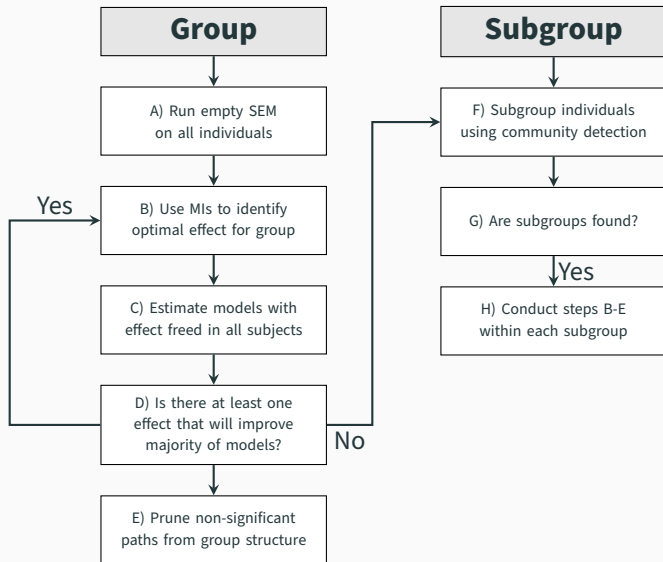
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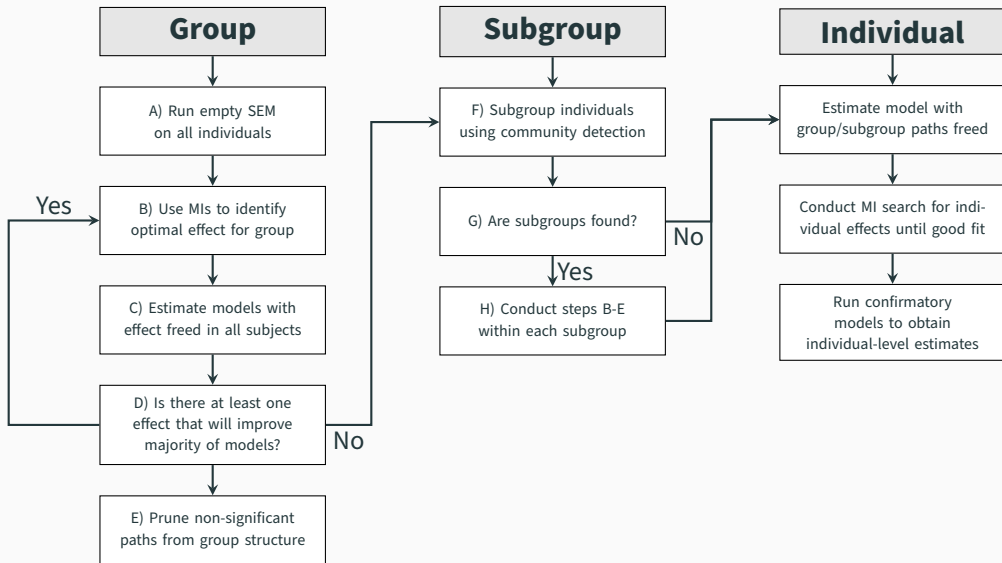
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Analytical Flexibility in Time Series Modeling

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- Many analytical choices: Model selection, preprocessing, model specification, interpretation...
- Often, only one set of choices is conducted and reported
- Robustness to arbitrary choices is underappreciated





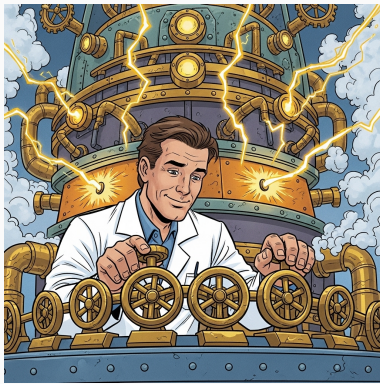


This Study

- Investigate the impact of **arbitrary** alternative modeling decisions on previously published results
- Previous multiverse studies: Focus on measurement (Dejonckheere et al., 2018) or preprocessing (Weermeijer et al., 2022)

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Personality Dataset (Wright et al., 2019):

- $n = 94$ participants with personality disorder diagnosis, average $t = 91.48$ (1x/day)
- Items: Affect, interpersonal behavior, stress, and functioning (all sum scores), and daily functioning (5-point Likert)

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Emotion Dataset (Kullar et al., 2024):

- $n = 105$, average $t = 62.31$ ($SD = 8.11$)
- Items: Nine momentary emotions (Likert 7-point)

GIMME Variations

1. Group threshold $\in \{50\%, 60\%, \mathbf{75\%}, 80\%\}$
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Five parameters refer to the fit indices used for model selection:

3. RMSEA cutoff $\in \{.03, \mathbf{.05}, .08\}$
4. SRMR cutoff $\in \{.03, \mathbf{.05}, .08\}$
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6. CFI cutoff $\in \{.90, \mathbf{.95}, .97\}$
7. Fit measures satisfying the cutoffs $\in \{1, \mathbf{2}, 3\}$

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Conducted a small simulation study showing the arbitrariness of these choices

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 - On average, ~ 2 paths different in presence/absence from reference fit
 - For those different effects: Absolute average difference of ~ 0.13
 - For 12 individuals, the most central node was identical to the reference model in less than one-third of all specifications

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 - On average, ~ 9 paths different in absence/presence from reference fit

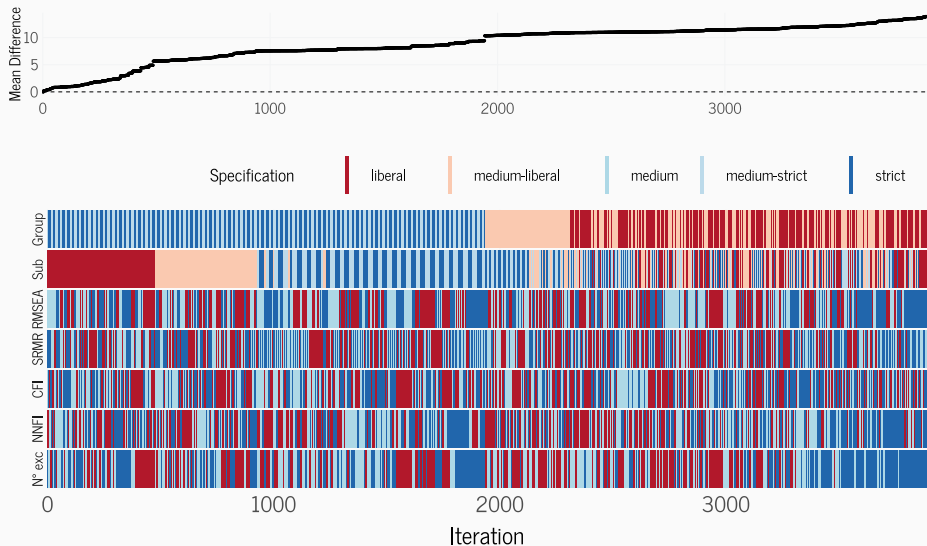
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- **Individual**
 - On average, ~ 9 paths different in absence/presence from reference fit
 - For those different effects: Absolute average difference of 0.2

Emotion Results

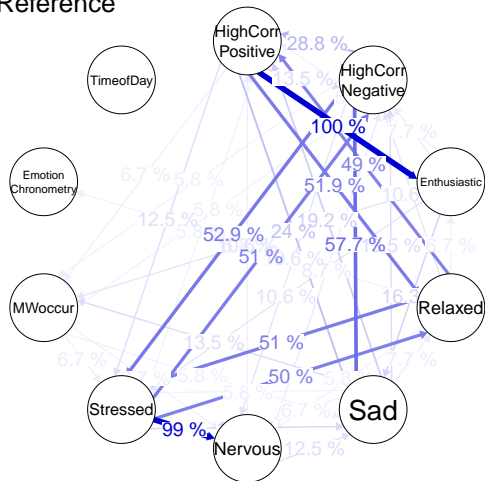
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 - For those different effects: Absolute average difference of 0.2
 - For 30 individuals, the most central node was identical to the reference model in less than one-third of all specifications

Emotion Results

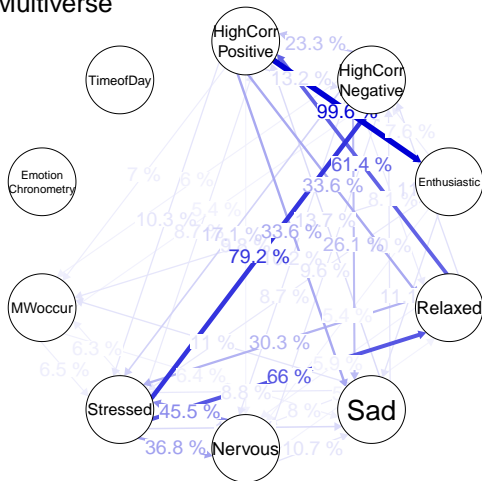


Emotion Results

Reference



Multiverse



Specification Curve Analysis

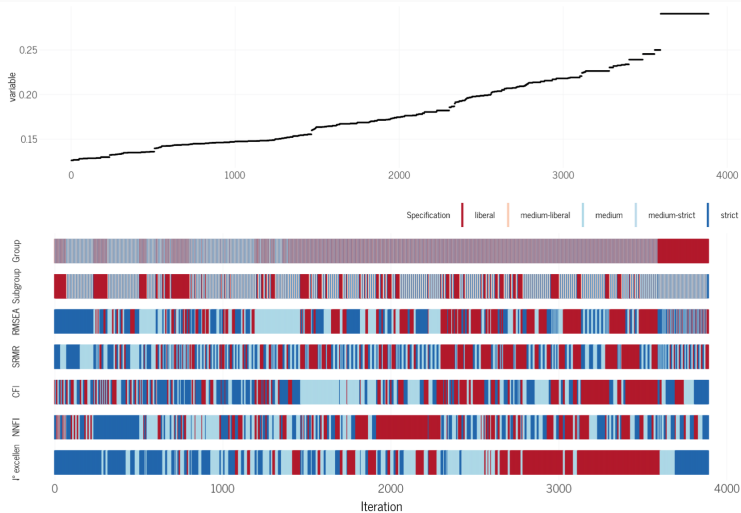
A Specification Curve Analysis (SCA) plot is a visual tool used to analyze the effects of a variable across different specifications.

Select a variable from the dropdown menu to explore its impact as ordered by its size across specifications.

Rendering of the plot can take some time. This plot is not interactive to speed up computation time.

Select Column:

Homogeneity



Takeaways

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- Different specifications could strongly affect main conclusions


Broader implications:

- Multiverse has often focused on preprocessing, but is relevant for algorithmic decisions
- Interesting relationship between simulation studies and multiverse analyses

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Paper & Slides

References i

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https:

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