Dr. Steinley,

We appreciate your review of our manuscript, *Seeing the Impossible: Visualizing Latent Variable Models with flexplavaan (MET-2021-0683)*. We appreciate the positive review and the excellent feedback. In addition to responding the to feedback from the editor and reviewer, we have also made minor changes in the manuscript to improve readability. Below, we outline the changes we have made in response to the excellent feedback. We hope these changes make the manuscript more readable and intuitive. It is our belief that these changes have improved the paper and that the paper is ready for publication.

Editor Comments

“After my own reading, I am somewhat torn on the reviewer's recommendation regarding the Jedi example.  I do think that having both examples in the paper causes a bit of "paper bloat", but I also think that having a simple example to walk readers through this process is good (in fact, it is such a departure from how SEM models are usually assessed, I think it is necessary).

There could be some merit to mentioning the empirical example to let readers know the nature of what is coming -- however, I leave that final decision to you.”

Response: We have decided to keep the example in the paper. However, we have referenced the empirical example earlier in the paper. This was an excellent suggestion. This is found on Page 11.

“Beyond this issue, the only thing that is strictly necessary is tightening up some of the notation.  Specifically, making sure that everything is defined when it is introduced.  For example, on page 13, probably should define explicitly what $\sigma(x,y)$ is in the numerator.  The same goes for all the notation on this page.”

Response: This was an excellent suggestion. We have added definitions for all the notation. These are found on Pages 13-14.

“Similarly, the notation in Figure 2 should be defined -- ideally in the figure note, if possible (that keeps readers from having to jump between figures and text).  To be clear, you should leave the description in the footnote -- just perhaps add some more to the figure.”

Response: This was also a good suggestion. We have added text in the note for Figure 2 about what each symbol means.

Reviewer Comments

“- I would not start with the 'toy example' (Example Data) with the Jedi, which might be a good classroom exercise, but here readers might benefit from an earlier introduction of the actual example coming on p. 21 "Applied Example: Social Distress & Wellbeing"; working with both of them might load the manuscript and the reader's patience a bit too much, and they seem to provide similar evidence, visual too.”

Response: We appreciate the suggestion, but we decided not to remove the example. That particular dataset was specifically tailored to illustrate the values of the plots in an easy and interesting way. If we removed it, we think some of the clarity will be lost. However, we agree that the paper was a little long. For that reason, we cut down the length of the applied example.

“- Happy to have found a typo to mention... Reference #1  
Using mplus individual residual plots for diagnostic and model evaluation in sem.  
->  
Using Mplus individual residual plots for diagnostic and model evaluation in SEM”

Response. Good catch! This was corrected in this revision.