

# PSYC40005 - 2018

## ADVANCED DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS

### Lecture 5: Structural equation modelling 1: Confirmatory factor analysis

Geoff Saw

Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences  
University of Melbourne  
Redmond Barry Building Room 1113  
[gsaw@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:gsaw@unimelb.edu.au)

# The agenda for this lecture

1. What is structural equation modeling?
2. Confirmatory vs exploratory factor analysis
3. Issues for CFA
4. CFA in SPSS AMOS

## GOALS OF THIS LECTURE

- To introduce the basic concept behind of structural equation modeling
- To show how SEM can combine a number of different analyses
- To distinguish between manifest and latent variables and between measurement and structural models
- To illustrate how to conduct a confirmatory factor analysis
- To show how to do this in SPSS AMOS

## Section 1

# STRUCTURAL EQUATION MODELING (SEM)

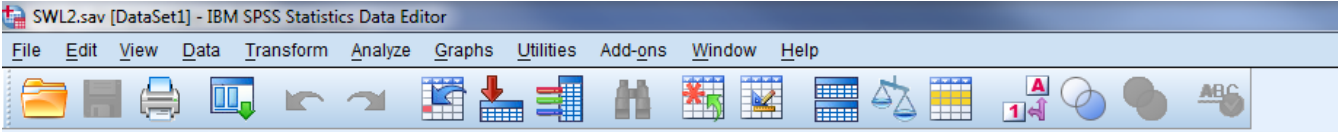
# SEM in a nutshell

(Tabachnik & Fidell, 2007)

- A collection of statistical techniques that permit analysis of relationships between one or more IVs and DVs, in possibly complex ways
  - Also known as causal modelling, causal analysis, simultaneous equation modelling, analysis of covariance structures.
  - Special types of SEM include confirmatory factor analysis and path analysis.
- SEM enables a combined analysis that otherwise requires multiple techniques
  - For instance, factor analysis and regression analysis

# Combining factor and regression analysis

- For example, a 5 item Satisfaction with Life (SWL) scale measured at 2 time points.
- Research question: Does SWL at time point 1 predict SWL at time point 2?

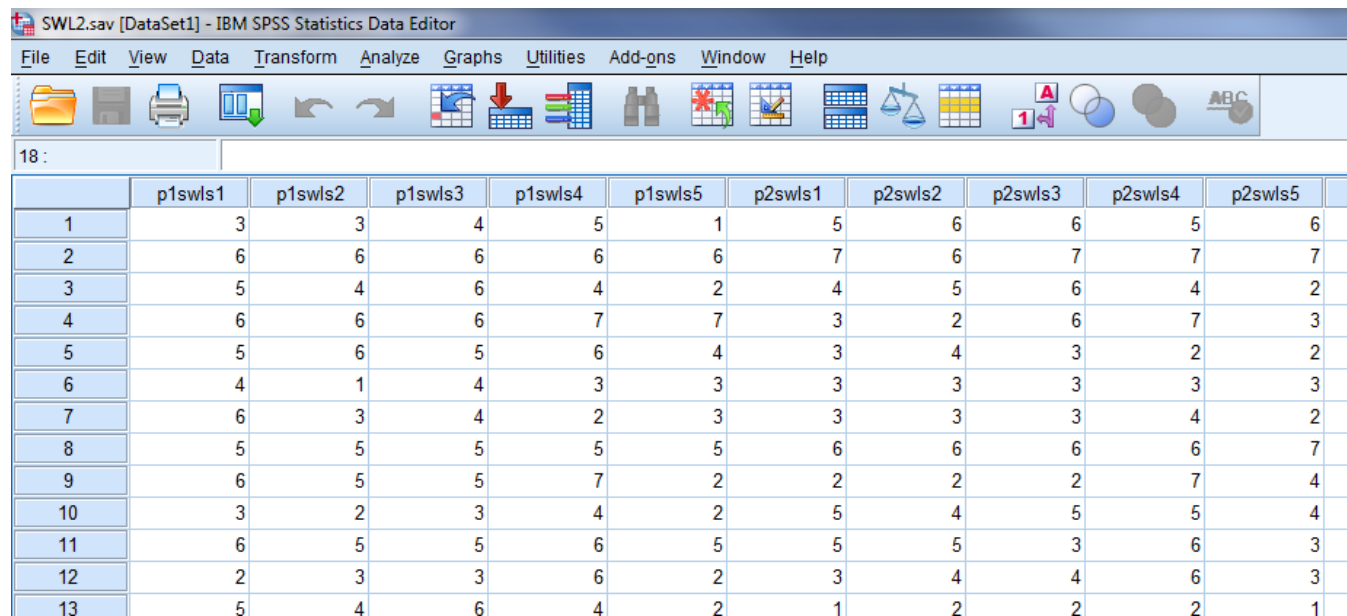


SWL2.sav [DataSet1] - IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor

|    | p1swls1 | p1swls2 | p1swls3 | p1swls4 | p1swls5 | p2swls1 | p2swls2 | p2swls3 | p2swls4 | p2swls5 |
|----|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1  | 3       | 3       | 4       | 5       | 1       | 5       | 6       | 6       | 5       | 6       |
| 2  | 6       | 6       | 6       | 6       | 6       | 7       | 6       | 7       | 7       | 7       |
| 3  | 5       | 4       | 6       | 4       | 2       | 4       | 5       | 6       | 4       | 2       |
| 4  | 6       | 6       | 6       | 7       | 7       | 3       | 2       | 6       | 7       | 3       |
| 5  | 5       | 6       | 5       | 6       | 4       | 3       | 4       | 3       | 2       | 2       |
| 6  | 4       | 1       | 4       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 3       |
| 7  | 6       | 3       | 4       | 2       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 4       | 2       |
| 8  | 5       | 5       | 5       | 5       | 5       | 6       | 6       | 6       | 6       | 7       |
| 9  | 6       | 5       | 5       | 7       | 2       | 2       | 2       | 2       | 7       | 4       |
| 10 | 3       | 2       | 3       | 4       | 2       | 5       | 4       | 5       | 5       | 4       |
| 11 | 6       | 5       | 5       | 6       | 5       | 5       | 5       | 3       | 6       | 3       |
| 12 | 2       | 3       | 3       | 6       | 2       | 3       | 4       | 4       | 6       | 3       |
| 13 | 5       | 4       | 6       | 4       | 2       | 1       | 2       | 2       | 2       | 1       |

# Combining factor and regression analysis

- Given the techniques we have learnt to date, we could perform a factor analysis of the scale at each time point, save the factor scores, and then regress the time 2 factor on the time 1 factor.



The screenshot shows the IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor window for a file named 'SWL2.sav [DataSet1]'. The menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Data, Transform, Analyze, Graphs, Utilities, Add-ons, Window, and Help. The toolbar contains various icons for file operations, data manipulation, and analysis. The data grid shows 13 rows of data with 11 columns labeled p1swls1 through p2swls5. The first column is labeled '18 :'. The data values are as follows:

|    | p1swls1 | p1swls2 | p1swls3 | p1swls4 | p1swls5 | p2swls1 | p2swls2 | p2swls3 | p2swls4 | p2swls5 |
|----|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1  | 3       | 3       | 4       | 5       | 1       | 5       | 6       | 6       | 5       | 6       |
| 2  | 6       | 6       | 6       | 6       | 6       | 7       | 6       | 7       | 7       | 7       |
| 3  | 5       | 4       | 6       | 4       | 2       | 4       | 5       | 6       | 4       | 2       |
| 4  | 6       | 6       | 6       | 7       | 7       | 3       | 2       | 6       | 7       | 3       |
| 5  | 5       | 6       | 5       | 6       | 4       | 3       | 4       | 3       | 2       | 2       |
| 6  | 4       | 1       | 4       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 3       |
| 7  | 6       | 3       | 4       | 2       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 3       | 4       | 2       |
| 8  | 5       | 5       | 5       | 5       | 5       | 6       | 6       | 6       | 6       | 7       |
| 9  | 6       | 5       | 5       | 7       | 2       | 2       | 2       | 2       | 7       | 4       |
| 10 | 3       | 2       | 3       | 4       | 2       | 5       | 4       | 5       | 5       | 4       |
| 11 | 6       | 5       | 5       | 6       | 5       | 5       | 5       | 3       | 6       | 3       |
| 12 | 2       | 3       | 3       | 6       | 2       | 3       | 4       | 4       | 6       | 3       |
| 13 | 5       | 4       | 6       | 4       | 2       | 1       | 2       | 2       | 2       | 1       |

# Combining factor and regression analysis

- Given the techniques we have learnt to date, we could perform a factor analysis of the scale at each time point, save the factor scores, and then regress the time 2 factor on the time 1 factor.

## Time 1

Factor Matrix<sup>a</sup>

|         | Factor |
|---------|--------|
|         | 1      |
| P1SWLS1 | .860   |
| P1SWLS2 | .879   |
| P1SWLS3 | .885   |
| P1SWLS4 | .714   |
| P1SWLS5 | .698   |

Extraction Method:  
Maximum Likelihood.

a. 1 factors  
extracted. 3  
iterations  
required.

## Time 2

Factor Matrix<sup>a</sup>

|         | Factor |
|---------|--------|
|         | 1      |
| P2SWLS1 | .918   |
| P2SWLS2 | .898   |
| P2SWLS3 | .878   |
| P2SWLS4 | .742   |
| P2SWLS5 | .760   |

Extraction Method:  
Maximum Likelihood.

a. 1 factors  
extracted. 4  
iterations  
required.

# Combining factor and regression analysis

- Given the techniques we have learnt to date, we could perform a factor analysis of the scale at each time point, save the factor scores, and then regress the time 2 factor on the time 1 factor.

## The Regression

**Model Summary**

| Model | R                 | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate |
|-------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1     | .616 <sup>a</sup> | .380     | .376              | .81521476                  |

a. Predictors: (Constant), SWL1

**Coefficients<sup>a</sup>**

| Model |            | Unstandardized Coefficients |            | Standardized Coefficients | t      | Sig.  |
|-------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------|-------|
|       |            | B                           | Std. Error | Beta                      |        |       |
| 1     | (Constant) | 6.009E-017                  | .062       |                           | .000   | 1.000 |
|       | SWL1       | .610                        | .060       | .616                      | 10.197 | .000  |

a. Dependent Variable: SWL2



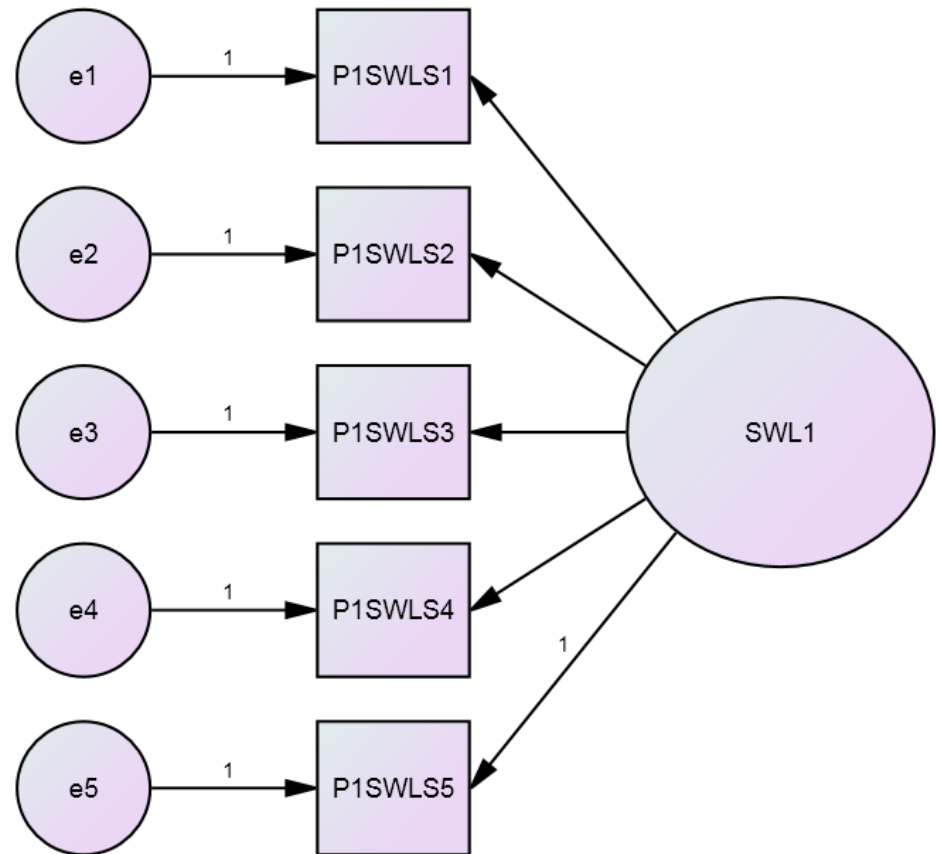
# Combining factor and regression analysis

What have we done here?

FIRST, (for each time point)

We have combined five measures into one underlying factor.

We are supposing that the one factor (the one construct), which we don't directly observe, influences each of the measures .



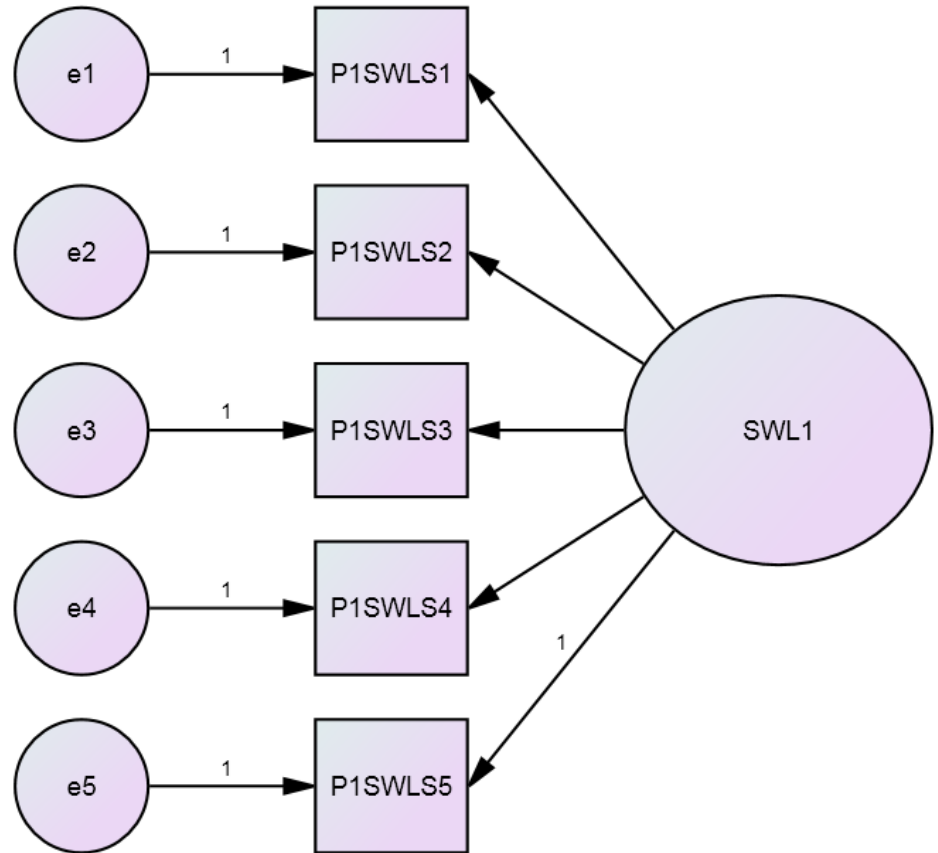
# Combining factor and regression analysis

What have we done here?

The observed measures (**manifest** variables) are represented in boxes.

The **latent factor** is represented in an oval.

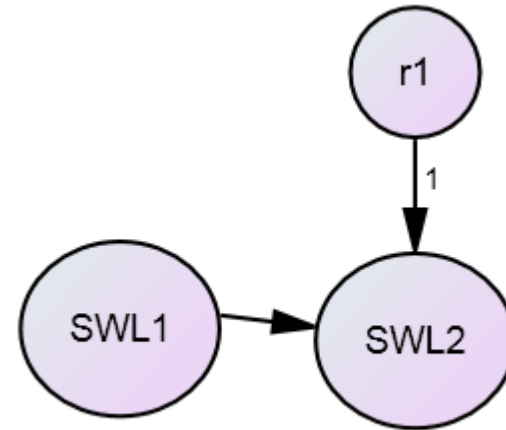
Each observed measure also has some residual variance (the e's) because it is not fully explained by the factor.



# Combining factor and regression analysis

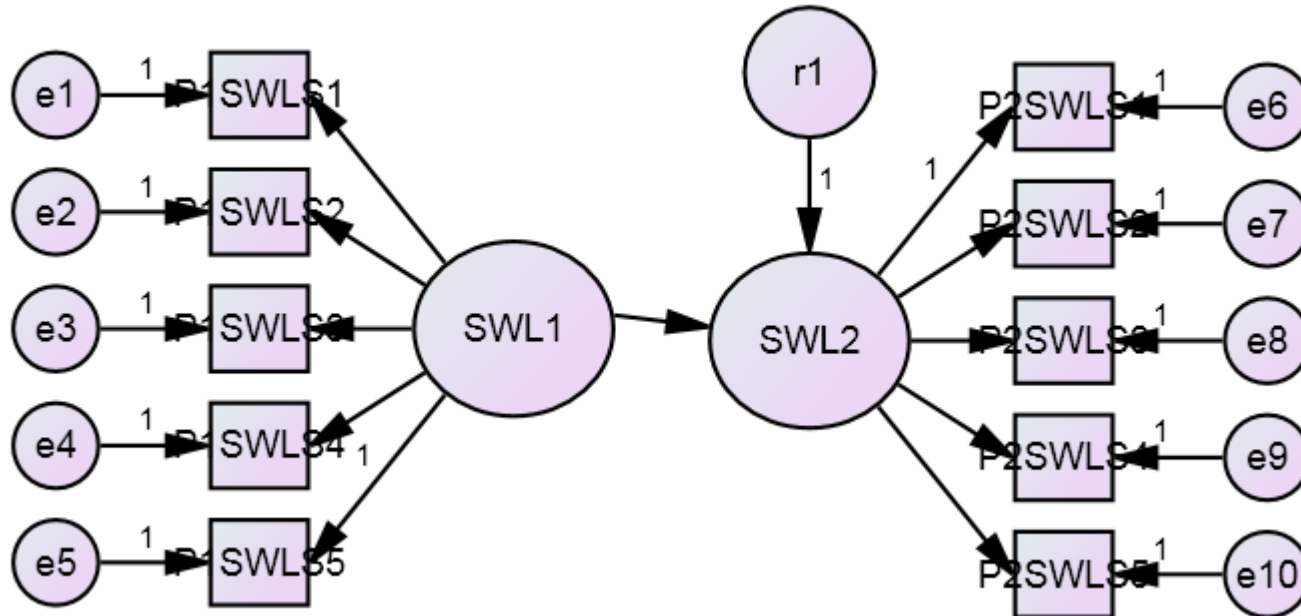
What have we done here?

Then we run a regression on two latent factors (remembering there is also a residual  $r$  in the regression equation)



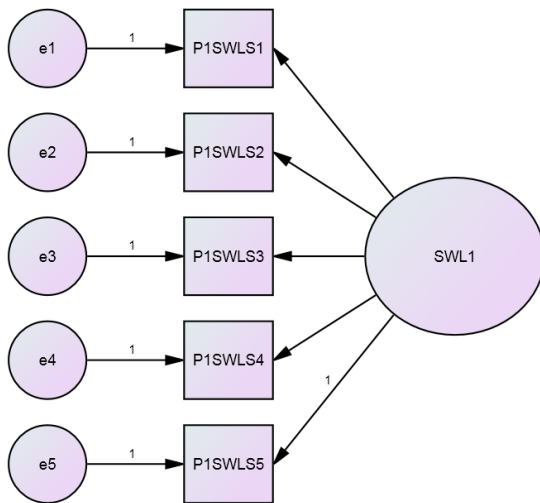
# Combining factor and regression analysis

SEM lets you do it altogether

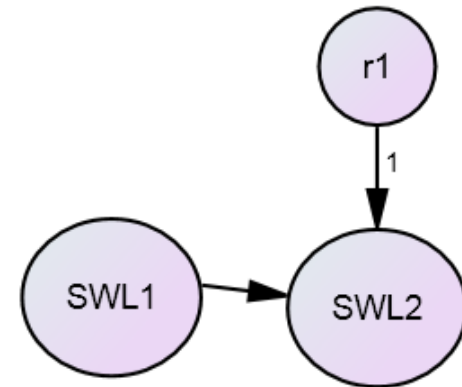


# Combining factor and regression analysis

## The measurement model



## The structural model



Confirmatory factor analysis is a measurement model.

## Section 2

# **CONFIRMATORY VS EXPLORATORY FACTOR ANALYSIS**

# CFA vs EFA

- Exploratory factor analysis can impose two kinds of restrictions.
  - restrict the number of factors
  - constrain the factor loadings to be uncorrelated with an orthogonal rotation.
- Confirmatory factor analysis can restrict factor loadings (or factor correlations or variances) to take certain values.
  - A common value: zero
  - If a factor loading was set to zero, the hypothesis is that the observed variable score was not due to the factor

# CFA vs EFA

- MOREOVER:
  - using maximum likelihood and generalized least squares estimation, CFA has a test of fit
  - SO it is possible to test the hypothesis that the factor loading is zero.
  - If data fit the model, hypothesis supported.
- Hence ***confirmatory*** factor analysis.



Example: 11 subtests of the WISC  
in a sample of learning disabled students (Tabachnik & Fidell)

Two factors: Verbal IQ and Performance IQ

**Subtests loading on Verbal:**

Information  
Comprehension  
Arithmetic  
Similarities  
Vocabulary  
Digit span

**Subtests loading on Performance:**

Picture completion  
Picture arrangement  
Block design  
Object assembly  
Coding

# Exploratory factor analysis of the WISC data

**Pattern Matrix<sup>a</sup>**

|          | Factor |      |
|----------|--------|------|
|          | 1      | 2    |
| info     | .815   |      |
| comp     | .465   |      |
| arith    | .575   |      |
| simil    | .542   |      |
| vocab    | .733   |      |
| digit    | .466   |      |
| pictcomp |        | .607 |
| parang   |        | .403 |
| block    |        | .623 |
| object   |        | .650 |
| coding   |        |      |

Extraction Method: Maximum Likelihood.

Rotation Method: Oblimin with Kaiser Normalization.

a. Rotation converged in 5 iterations.

But this is with low factor loadings suppressed – the complete solution is:

**Pattern Matrix<sup>a</sup>**

|          | Factor |       |
|----------|--------|-------|
|          | 1      | 2     |
| info     | .815   | -.029 |
| comp     | .465   | .366  |
| arith    | .575   | .012  |
| simil    | .542   | .260  |
| vocab    | .733   | .077  |
| digit    | .466   | -.095 |
| pictcomp | .040   | .607  |
| parang   | .057   | .403  |
| block    | .029   | .623  |
| object   | -.094  | .650  |
| coding   | .071   | .003  |

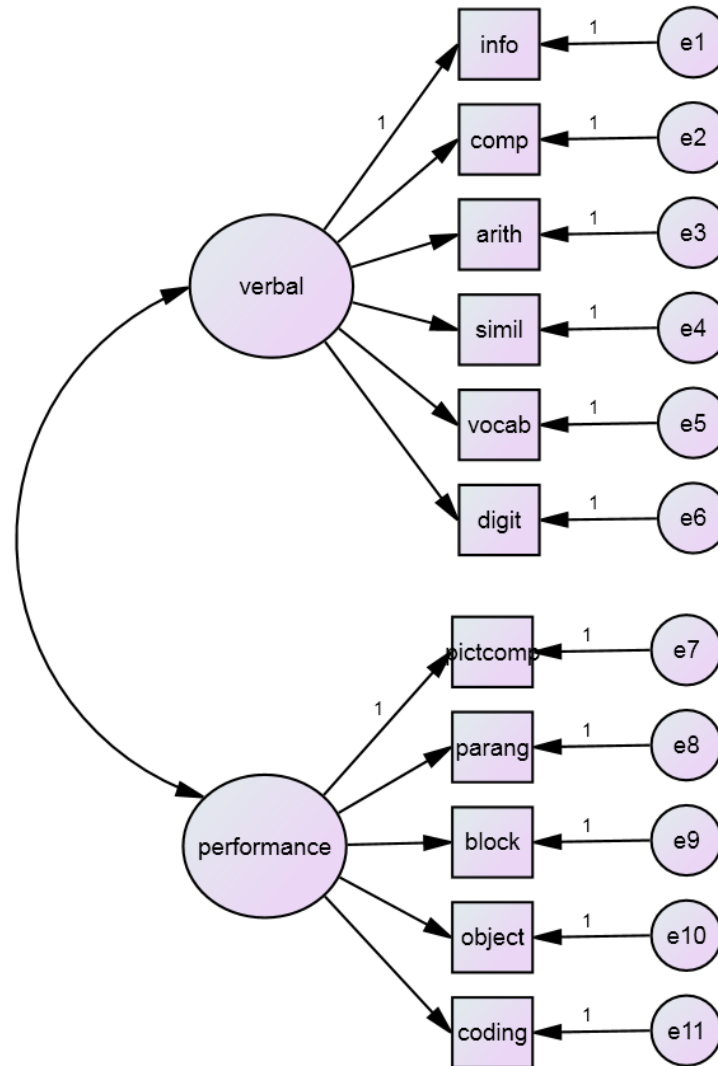
Extraction Method: Maximum Likelihood.

Rotation Method: Oblimin with Kaiser Normalization.

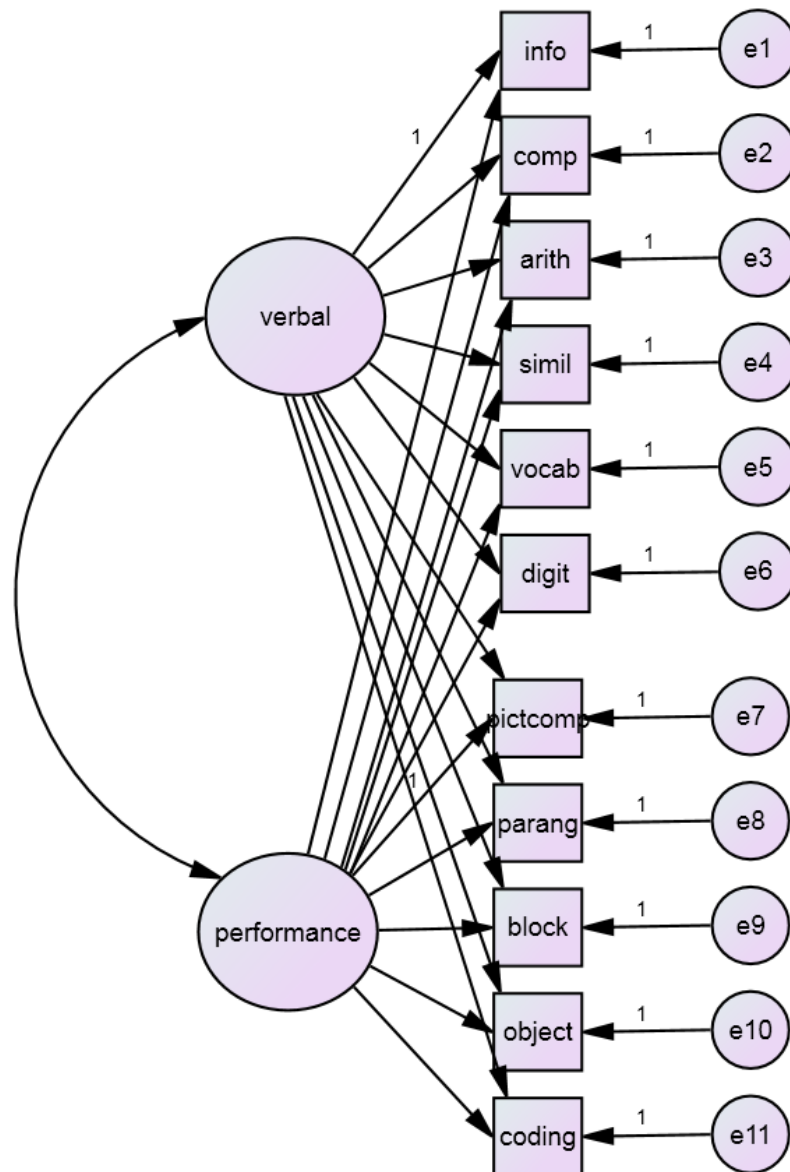
a. Rotation converged in 5 iterations.

Except for “Coding”, the factor structure seems to be reasonably reproduced.

# The hypothesized model



# The EFA model



# The estimated CFA loadings

|          | Verbal | Performance |
|----------|--------|-------------|
| Info     | 0.76   | 0           |
| Comp     | 0.69   | 0           |
| Arith    | 0.57   | 0           |
| Simil    | 0.70   | 0           |
| Vocab    | 0.77   | 0           |
| Digit    | 0.39   | 0           |
| Pictcomp | 0      | 0.60        |
| Parang   | 0      | 0.47        |
| Block    | 0      | 0.68        |
| Object   | 0      | 0.57        |
| Coding   | 0      | 0.07        |

Verbal – Performance correlation 0.59

**Pattern Matrix<sup>a</sup>**

|          | Factor |      |
|----------|--------|------|
|          | 1      | 2    |
| info     | .815   |      |
| comp     | .465   |      |
| arith    | .575   |      |
| simil    | .542   |      |
| vocab    | .733   |      |
| digit    | .466   |      |
| pictcomp |        | .607 |
| parang   |        | .403 |
| block    |        | .623 |
| object   |        | .650 |
| coding   |        |      |

Extraction Method: Maximum Likelihood.

Rotation Method: Oblimin with Kaiser Normalization.

a. Rotation converged in 5 iterations.

**Factor Correlation Matrix**

| Factor | 1     | 2     |
|--------|-------|-------|
| 1      | 1.000 | .458  |
| 2      | .458  | 1.000 |

Extraction Method: Maximum Likelihood.

Rotation Method: Oblimin with Kaiser Normalization.

## Section 3

# SEVEN ISSUES FOR CFA

# Issues for CFA:

## 1. Sample size

- Wolf et al (2013) show “one size fits all” rules work poorly in this context.
- Jackson (2003) provides support for the  $N:q$  rule.
  - Ratio of cases ( $N$ ) to parameters being estimated ( $q$ )
  - $> 20:1$  recommended.  $< 10:1$  likely to cause problems.
- Absolute sample size harder to assess
  - $N = 200$  is common, but may be too small.
  - Barrett (2007) suggests journal editors routinely reject any CFA with  $N < 200$ .

# Issues for CFA:

## 2. Significance testing

- Kline (2016) reports a diminished emphasis on significance testing, because:
  - We emphasise testing the whole model rather than individual effects
  - Large-sample requirement means even trivial effects may be statistically significant
  - p-value estimates could change if we used a different method to estimate model parameters
  - Greater general awareness of issues with significance testing.



# Issues for CFA:

## 3. Distributional assumptions

- The default estimation technique (maximum likelihood) assumes multivariate normality.
  - Possible to transform variables to obtain normality
  - Widaman (2012): maximum likelihood estimation appears relatively robust to moderate violations of distributional assumptions.
  - Some robust methods of estimation are available (Tabachnik & Fidell, 2013)
- CFA generally assumes continuous variables
  - Some programs allow for ordered categorical data

# Issues for CFA:

## 4. Identification

- Necessary but insufficient requirements for identification
  1. Model degrees of freedom must be  $\geq 0$
  2. All latent variables must be assigned a scale
- Estimation is based on the solving of a number of complex equations
- Constraints need to be placed on the model (not the data) in order for these equations to be solved unambiguously
- Model is *identified* if it's theoretically possible for a unique estimate of every model parameter to be derived

# Issues for CFA:

## 4. Identification

- CFA seeks parameter estimates that can best reproduce the variance-covariance matrix of the data.
  - Parameters include factor loadings, factor correlations and unique variances (residuals)
- If the number of variables in the data is  $n$  than the number of observations (cells in the variance-covariance matrix) is  $n(n+1)/2$
- A model in which the number of free parameters to be estimated is equal to this number is said to be a ***just-identified*** model

# Issues for CFA:

## 4. Identification (Loehlin, 1992)

### Underidentified

Not identified. Not possible to uniquely estimate all the model's free parameters (usually because there are more free parameters than observations, and thus model  $df < 0$ )

You'll need to respecify your model

### Just-identified

Identified and has the same number of observations as free parameters (model  $df = 0$ )

Model will reproduce your data exactly, but won't test your theory

### Overidentified

Identified and has more observations than free parameters (model  $df > 1$ )

Permits discrepancies between model and data, permits tests of model fit, and of theory

$$10 = 2x + y$$

Unidentified [x = 5, y = 0]

$$10 = 2 \times 5 + 0$$

Unidentified [x = 3.50, y = 3]

$$10 = 2 \times 3.50 + 3$$

$$10 = 2x + y$$



$$10 = 2x + y$$

$$2 = x - y$$

Just-identified  $[x = 4, y = 2]$

$$10 = 2x + y$$

$$2 = x - y$$

$$10 = 2x + y$$

$$2 = x - y$$

$$5 = x + 2y$$

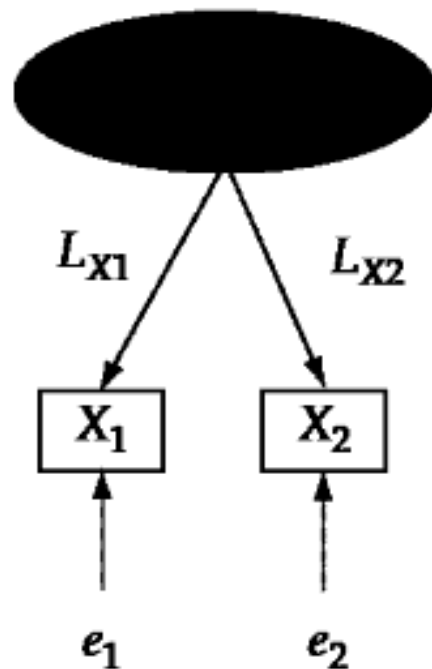
## Overidentified

$$10 = 2x + y$$

$$2 = x - y$$

$$5 = x + 2y$$

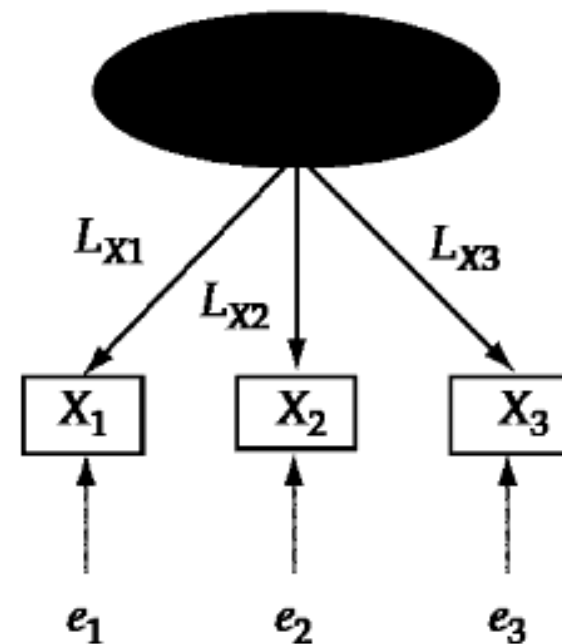
## Underidentified



Four parameters to estimate  
( $L_{X1}, L_{X2}, e_{11}, e_{22}$ )

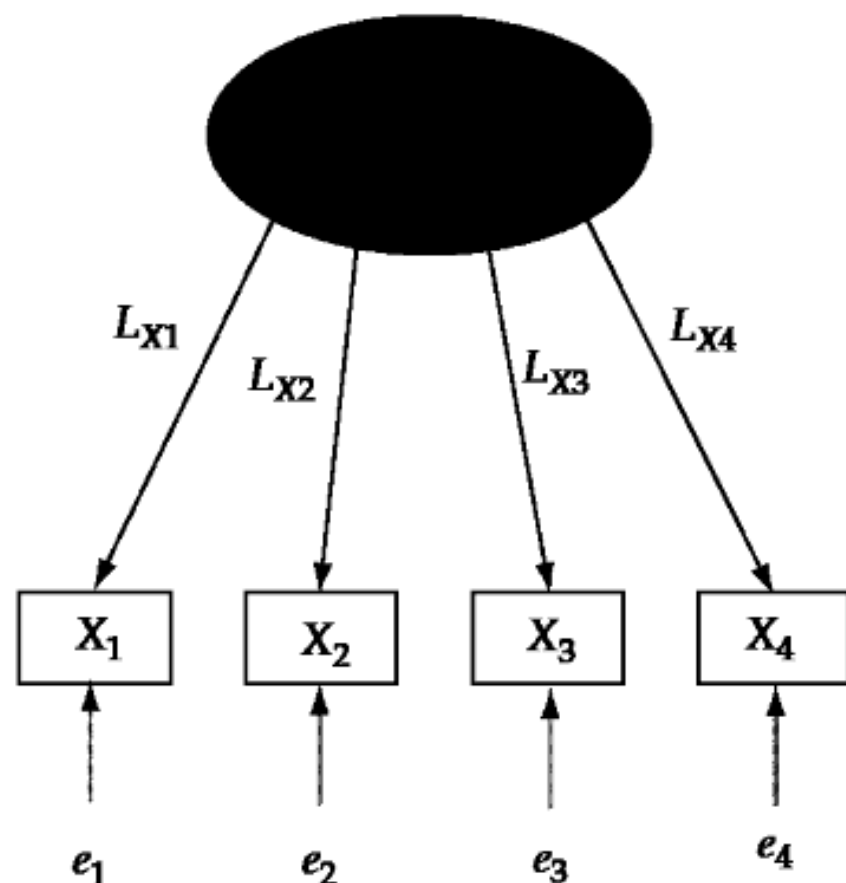
| S     | $X_1$         | $X_2$         |
|-------|---------------|---------------|
| $X_1$ | <b>var(1)</b> | cov(1,2)      |
| $X_2$ | cov(1,2)      | <b>var(2)</b> |

## Just Identified



Six parameters to estimate

| S     | $X_1$         | $X_2$         | $X_3$         |
|-------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| $X_1$ | <b>var(1)</b> | cov(1,2)      | cov(1,3)      |
| $X_2$ | cov(1,2)      | <b>var(2)</b> | cov(2,3)      |
| $X_3$ | cov(1,3)      | cov(2,3)      | <b>var(3)</b> |



Eight paths to estimate

### Symmetric Covariance Matrix

|       | $X_1$ | $X_2$ | $X_3$ | $X_4$ |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| $X_1$ | 2.01  |       |       |       |
| $X_2$ | 1.43  | 2.01  |       |       |
| $X_3$ | 1.31  | 1.56  | 2.24  |       |
| $X_4$ | 1.36  | 1.54  | 1.57  | 2.00  |

10 unique variance-covariance terms

### Model Fit:

$$\chi^2 = 14.9$$

$$df = 2$$

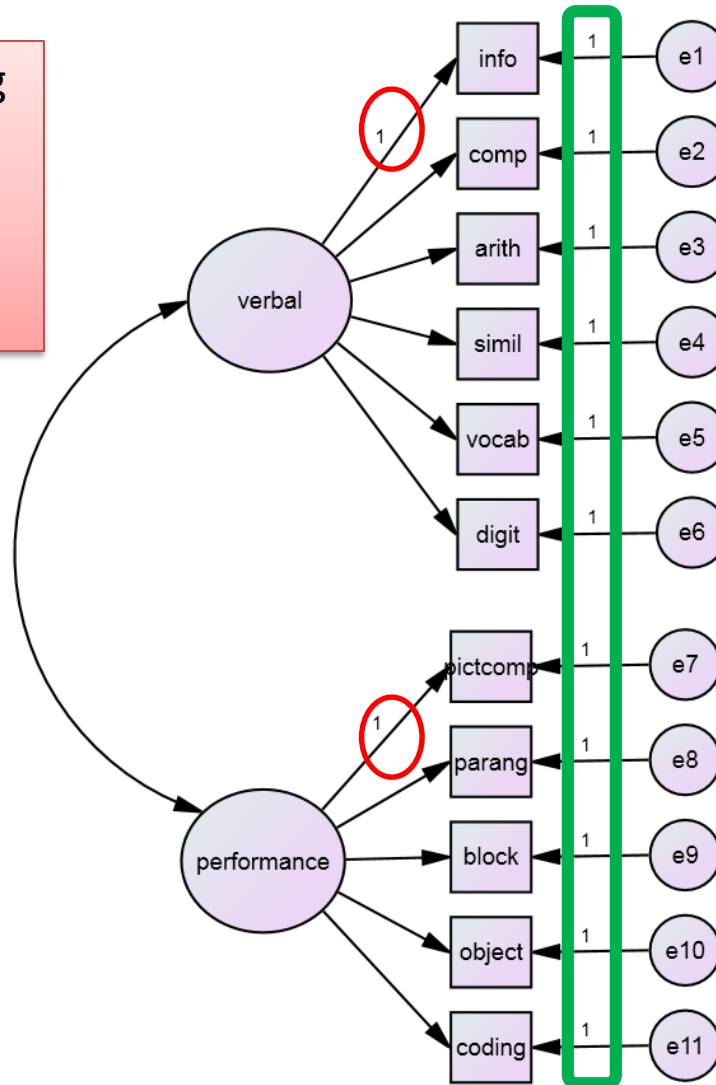
$$p = .001$$

$$CFI = .99$$

# Issues for CFA:

## 4. Identification

Setting one loading per factor to a coefficient of 1 determines a scale for the factor



Setting the residual path coefficient from each error term to its observed variable determines a scale for variance of the error terms.

# Issues for CFA:

## 4. Identification

### How do we get identified CFA models?

- Method used in this subject to scale the factors: set a reference variable for each factor.
- Factor loading (unstandardized pattern coefficient) for one of the variables is fixed at a non-zero value [usually 1.0].
  - In our example we set verbal  $\rightarrow$  info = 1.0, and performance  $\rightarrow$  pictcomp = 1.0.
  - Fixing the factor loading of one variable to 1.0, scales the factor in a metric related to the explained variance of the reference variable.



# Issues for CFA:

## 4. Identification

### How do we get identified CFA models?

- If there are at least two factors, then the model will be identified for only two variables loading per factor,
  - if the factor is correlated with another factor
  - and one of the variable loadings is fixed to a non-zero value.

For some more complex models these last two rules may not apply.

Computer programs are often able to detect a model that is not identified, and you will get an error message

Identification heuristics exist for humans to identify some of the other cases – not part of this course but see Kline (2016) for further reference.

# Issues for CFA:

## 5. Methods of estimation

- As for EFA, the most commonly used are
  - Unweighted Least Squares,
  - Generalized Least Squares, and
  - Maximum Likelihood
- ML is often preferred, but assumes normality
- If you're picking between two methods and they yield substantially different results, report both

# Issues for CFA:

## 6. Assessment of fit

- Model Test statistics (discrepancy between model covariance matrix and sample covariance matrix can be reasonably attributed to sampling error?)
  - Chi Square
- Approximate Fit indexes
  - Absolute (proportions of covariances in sample data matrix explained by model)
    - Standardized Root Mean square Residual [SRMR]
  - Comparative (relative improvement in fit compared to a baseline)
    - Comparative Fit Index [CFI]
  - Parsimony (model-sample discrepancy adjusted for sample size and number of parameters)
    - Root Mean Square Error of Approximation [RMSEA]
- May be best to cite one of each kind

# Issues for CFA:

## 7. Setting up a CFA

### How to specify a CFA model?

- use equation  $\Sigma = \Lambda\Phi\Lambda' + \Psi$ ,
  - specify values for the elements of the matrices  $\Lambda$ , (factor loadings);  $\Phi$ , (factor correlations) and  $\Psi$  (unique variances). LISREL
- specify regression equations.
  - EQS and MPLUS, also AMOS but we won't use it
- draw diagram (AMOS default)

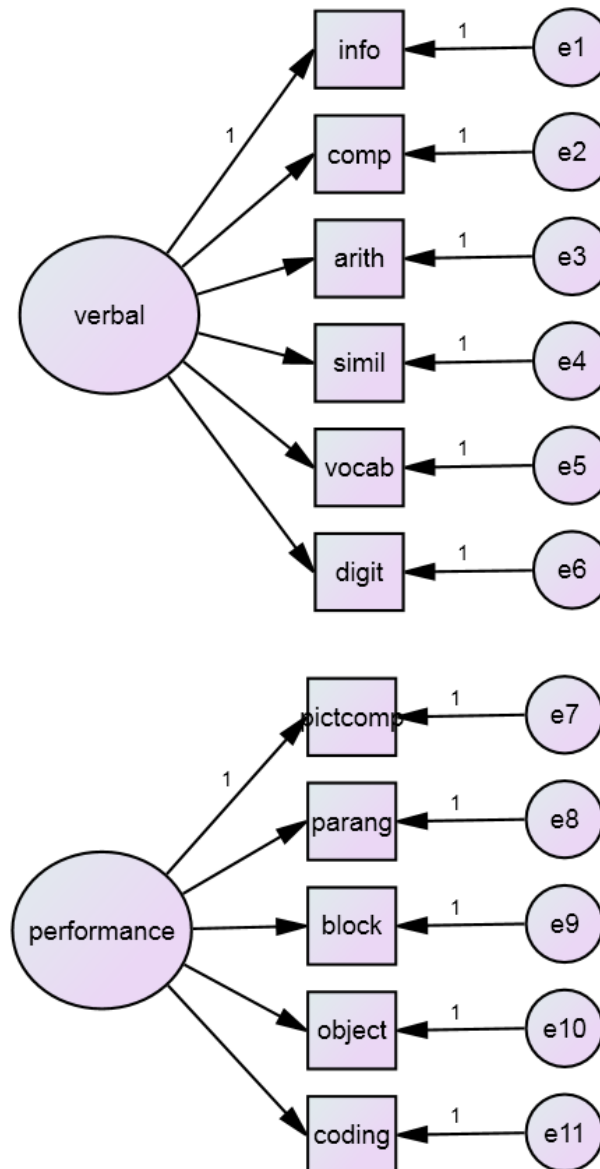
## Section 4

# CFA IN AMOS

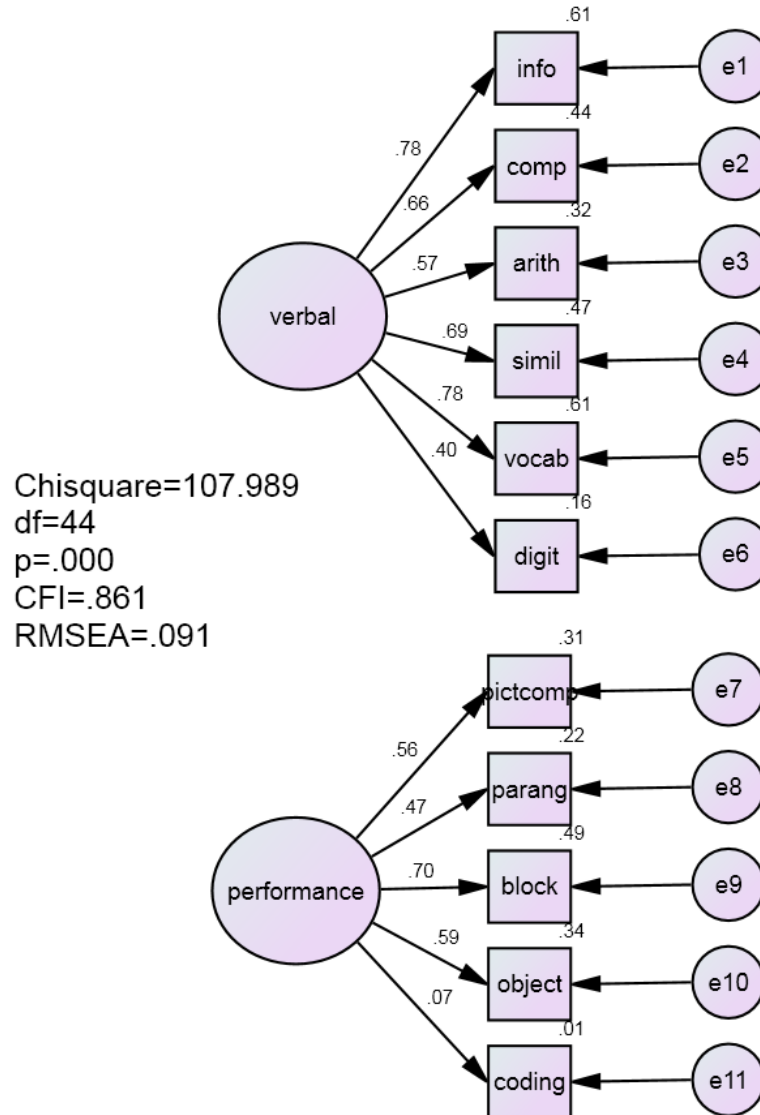
# Drawing conventions

- observed variable: *rectangle*
- unobserved common variable: *ellipse*
- unobserved unique or residual component: *circle*
- relationship
  - **correlation:** *curved, double-headed arrow*;
  - **regression:** *straight single-headed arrow* aligned with direction of prediction.

# Uncorrelated factors

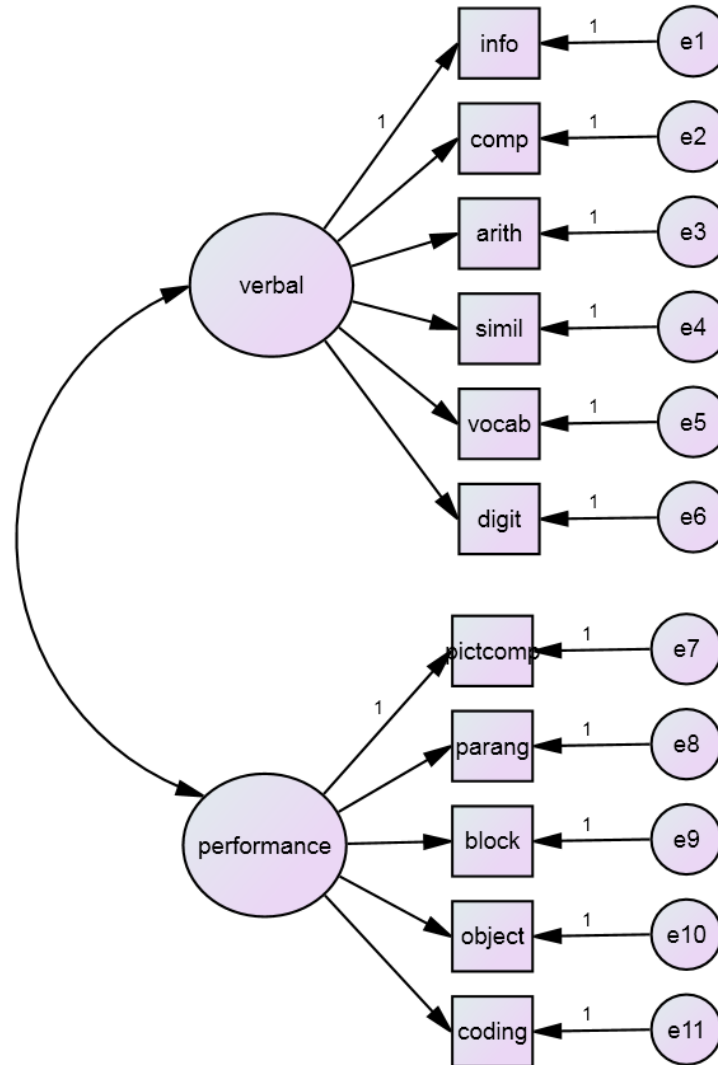


# Uncorrelated factors

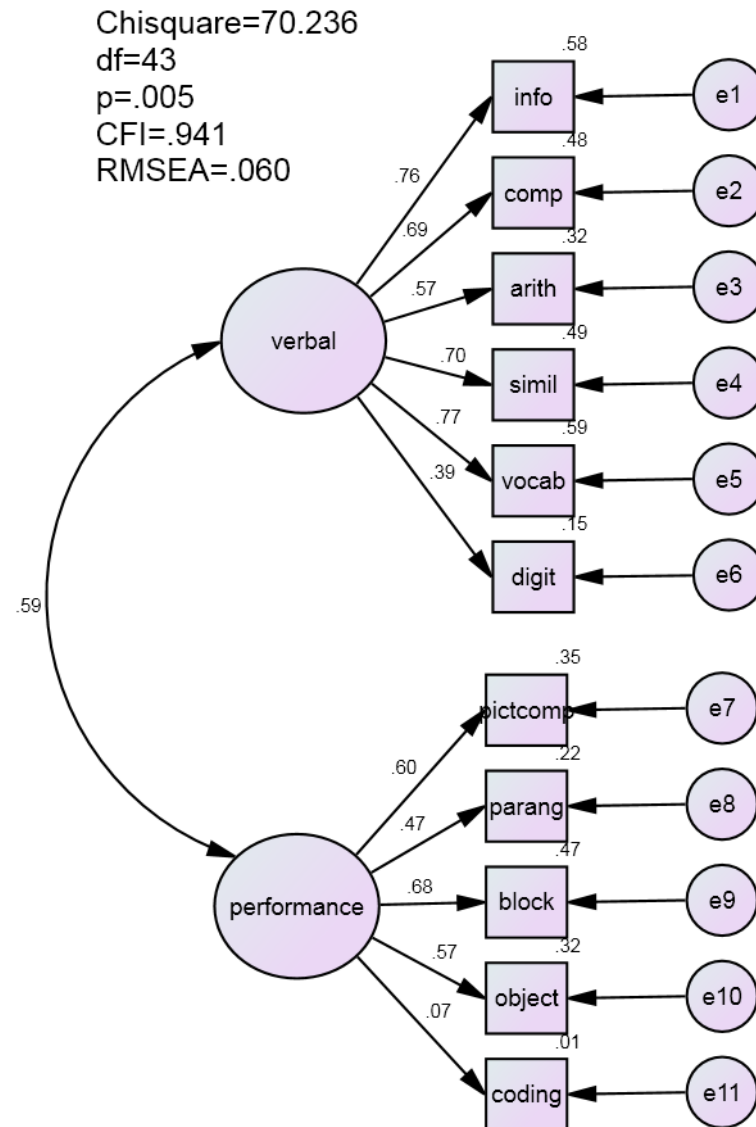




# Correlated factors

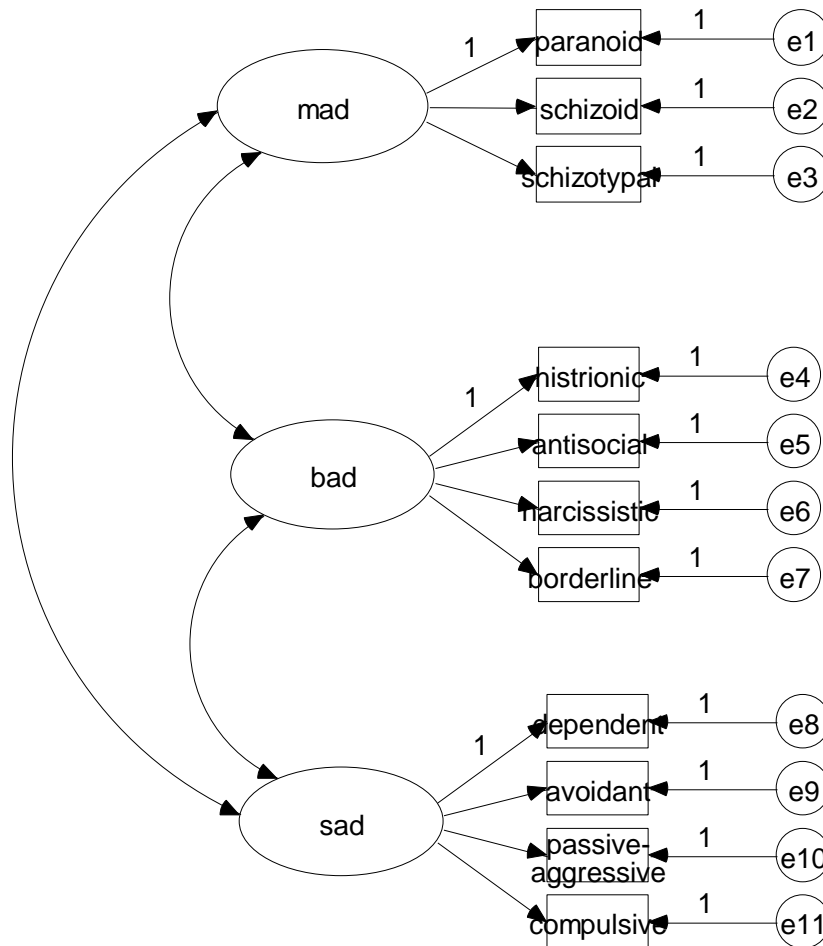


# Correlated factors



# Correlated factors

If you've got three factors, don't forget to put correlations between all of them!



# Using AMOS

- **AMOS** (**A**nalysis of **MO**ment **S**tructures)
- separate from SPSS
- but linked
- models defined by drawing them

## Running AMOS

- Open datafile in SPSS
- Find AMOS on the Analysis pull-down list
- Wait – Amos is a separate program and has to start up

Unnamed project : Group number 1 : Input

File Edit View Diagram Analyze Tools Plugins Help

Group number 1

Default model

Unstandardized estimates  
Standardized estimates

chap2.1  
chap3.1  
split  
split2  
SWL  
wisc  
wisc2

Not estimating any user-defined estimand.

Unnamed project : Group number 1 : Input

File Edit View Diagram Analyze Tools Plugins Help

Group number 1

Default model

chap2.1  
chap3.1  
split  
split2  
SWL  
wisc  
wisc2

Not estimating any user-defined estimand.

Enables selection of dataset: either the open working file or a dataset saved elsewhere

Data Files

| Group Name     | File      | Variable | Value | N       |
|----------------|-----------|----------|-------|---------|
| Group number 1 | <working> |          |       | 175/175 |

File Name Working File Help

View Data Grouping Variable Group Value

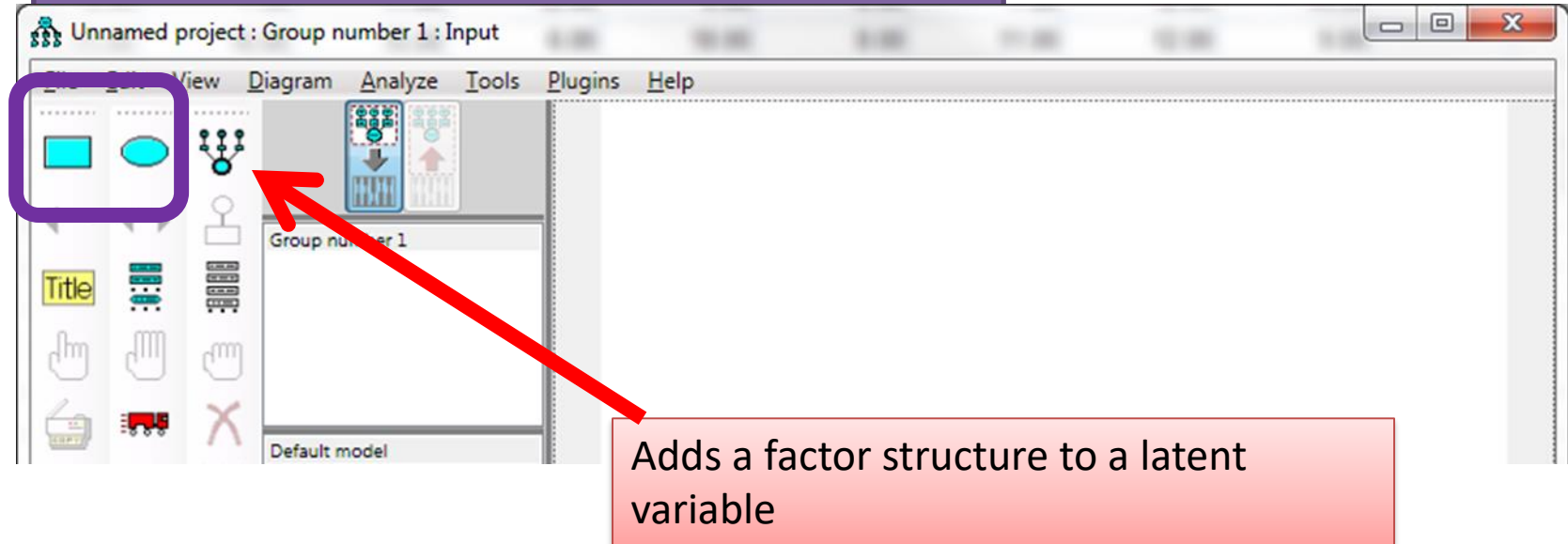
OK Cancel

☐ Allow non-numeric data ☐ Assign cases to groups

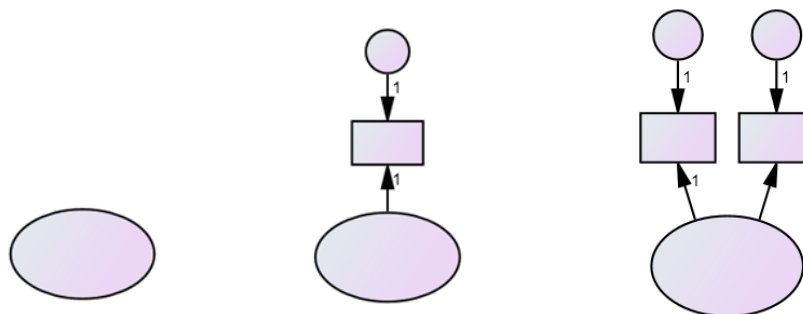
# Instructions to draw a diagram.

- About eighty drawing and modelling operations.
- four different ways to pick the operation you want to perform:
  - Using the mouse to press a button in a toolbox (*this method will be our focus here*)
  - Using the mouse or the keyboard to select an item from a pull-down menu
  - Pressing a "hot key" on the keyboard (for some operations)
  - Using the second mouse button to select an item from a pop-up menu (for some operations).

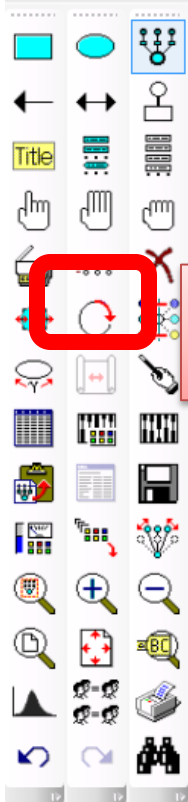
## To draw observed and latent variables



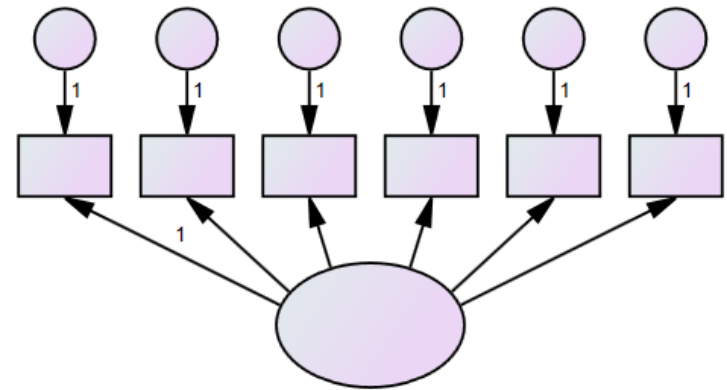
Draw the central ellipse to represent an factor – then click on the ‘factor structure’ button – then click on the ellipse, repeatedly until you have enough observed variables.

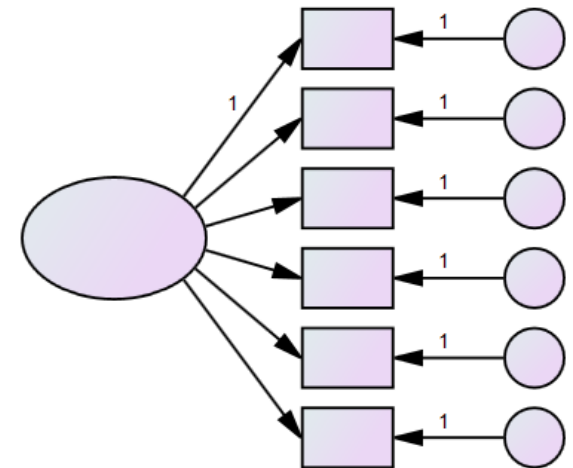
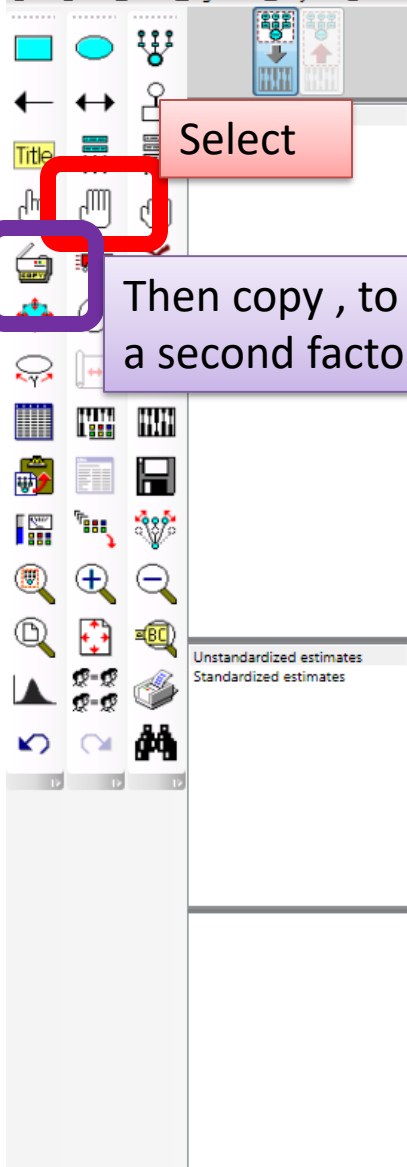






Rotates the factor structure





File Edit View

Then add correlations between factors

Group number 1

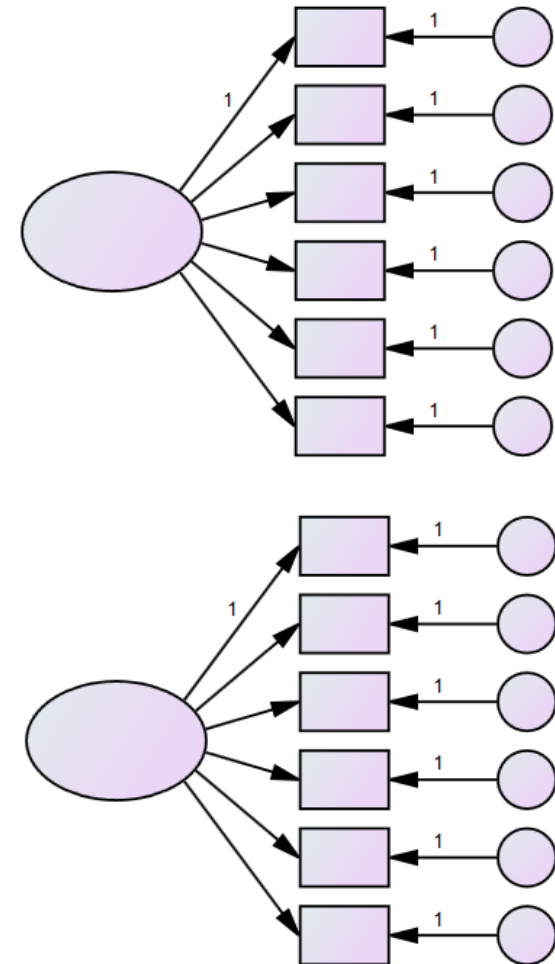
If need be, delete some of the observed variables to get the correct number.

Default model

Try the reshape button if you need to pretty it up

Unstandardized estimates  
Standardized estimates

chap2.1  
chap3.1  
split  
split2  
SWL  
wisc  
wisc2



File Edit View Diagram Analyze Tools Plugins Help

Labelling the rectangles – the observed variables. This button lists all the variables in the dataset. Drag the relevant variables into the right boxes.

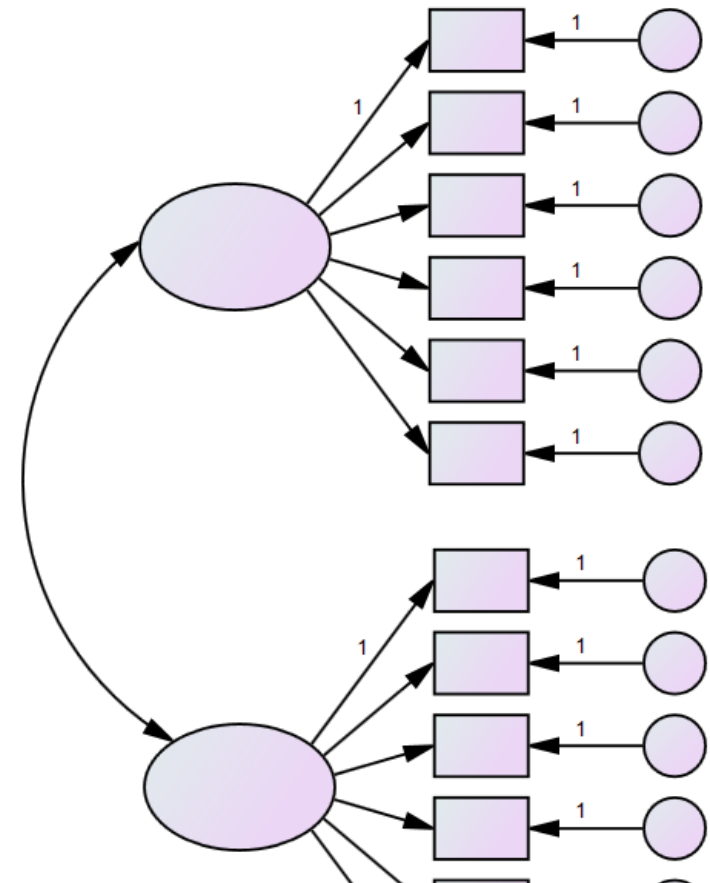
Default model

Unstandardized estimates  
Standardized estimates

Variables in Dat...

- client
- agemate
- info
- comp
- anth
- simil
- vocab
- digit
- pictcomp
- parang
- block
- object
- coding

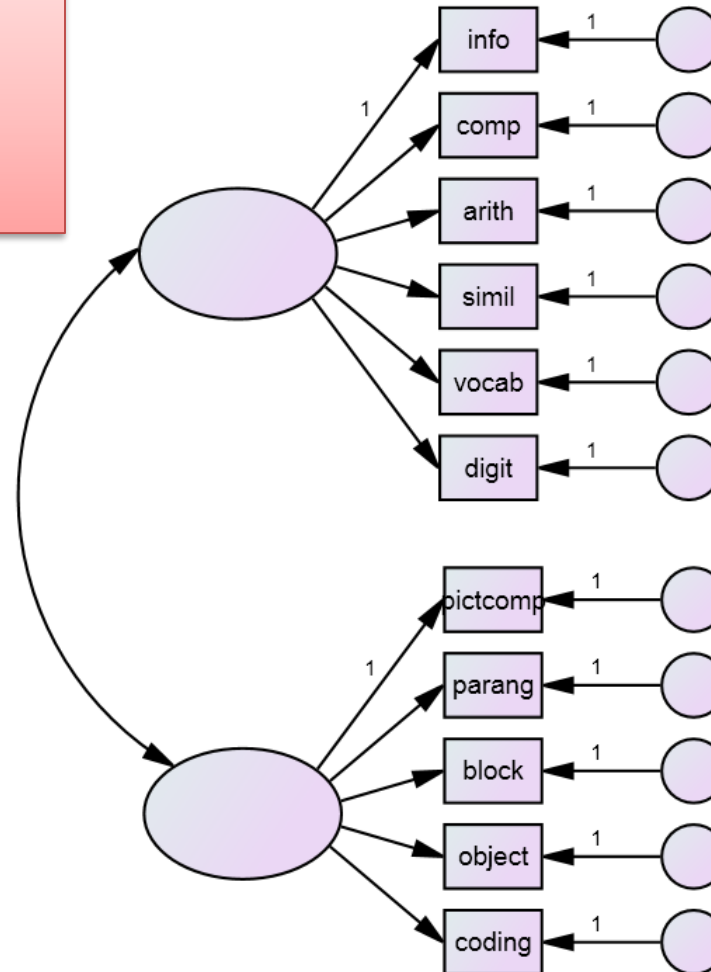
chap2.1  
chap3.1  
split  
split2  
SWL  
wisc

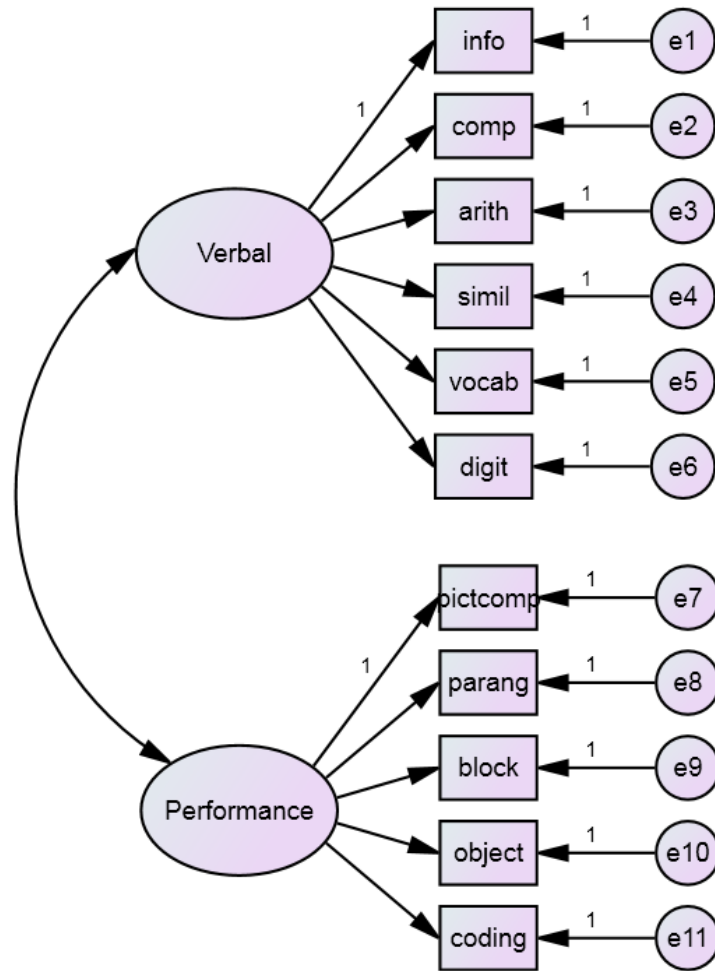


Every rectangle must have a name from your SPSS file and no ellipse (or circle) must have a name from your SPSS file.

Naming latent factors and variables.  
Right click on the ellipse to produce  
the Object Properties window.  
This enables you to give a name to  
the latent variable.

The screenshot shows a window titled "Object Properties" with a standard Windows-style title bar (minimize, maximize, close buttons). Inside the window, there are several tabs: "Text", "Parameters", "Colors", "Format", and "Visibility". The "Text" tab is currently selected. Within this tab, there are two dropdown menus: "Font size" (set to 18) and "Font style" (set to Regular). Below these, there are two text input fields: "Variable name" (containing the text "Verbal") and "Variable label" (which is empty). To the right of the "Variable label" field are two buttons: "Set Default" and "Undo".

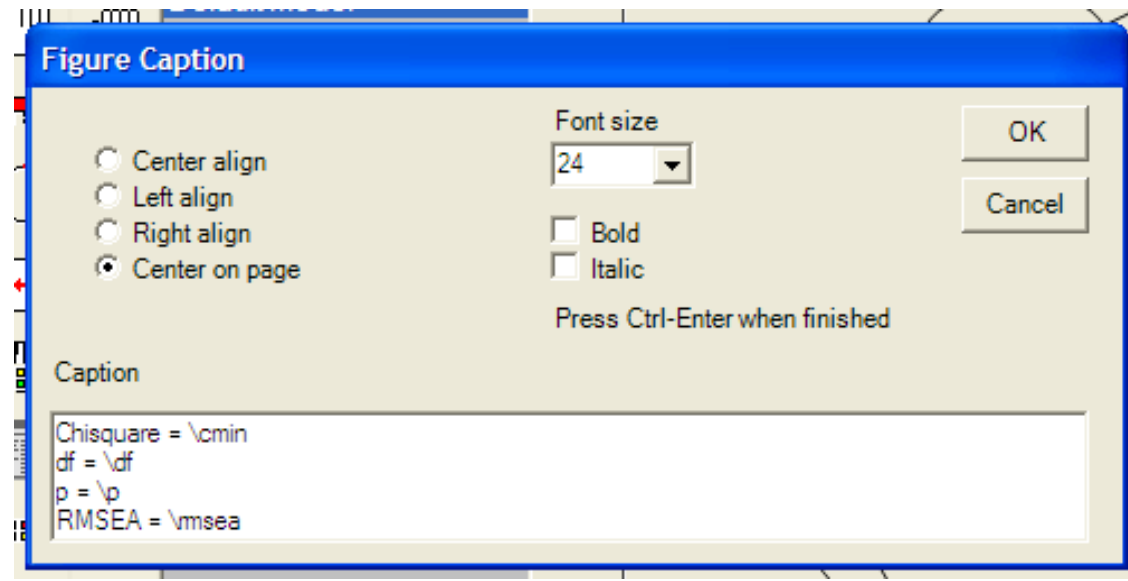




Another useful action is to insert the fit statistics onto the drawing.

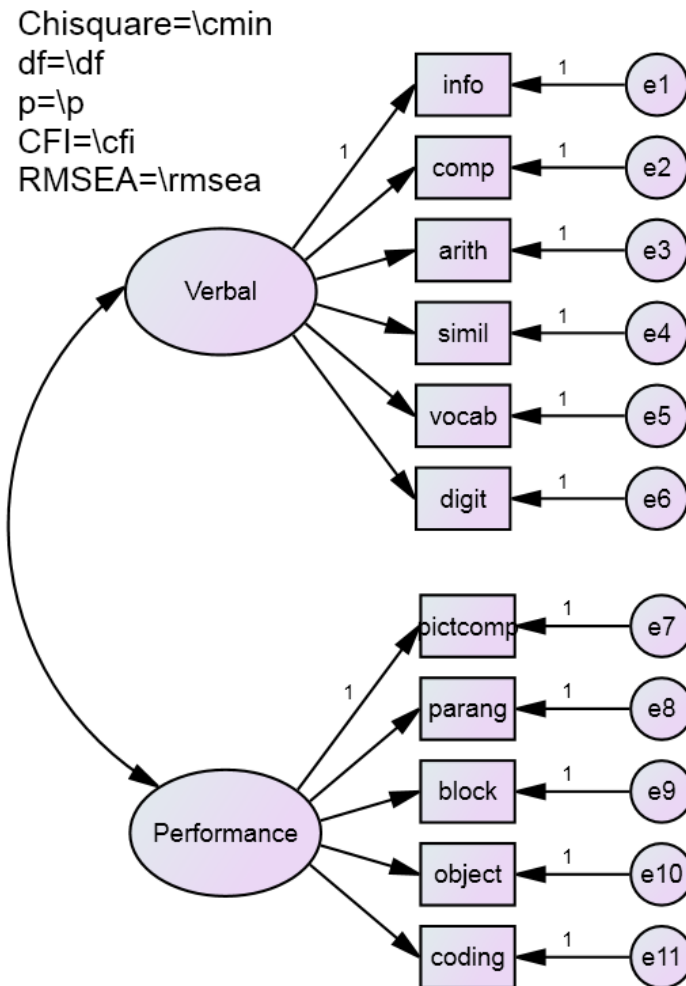
Do this by

clicking on the title button  which brings up a box



The text that is preceded by a backslash ‘\’ is a keyword recognized by AMOS. Most of the keywords are self explanatory [cmin for chisquare is a little cryptic]

Another useful index of fit, the comparative fit index or CFI is represented by \cfi





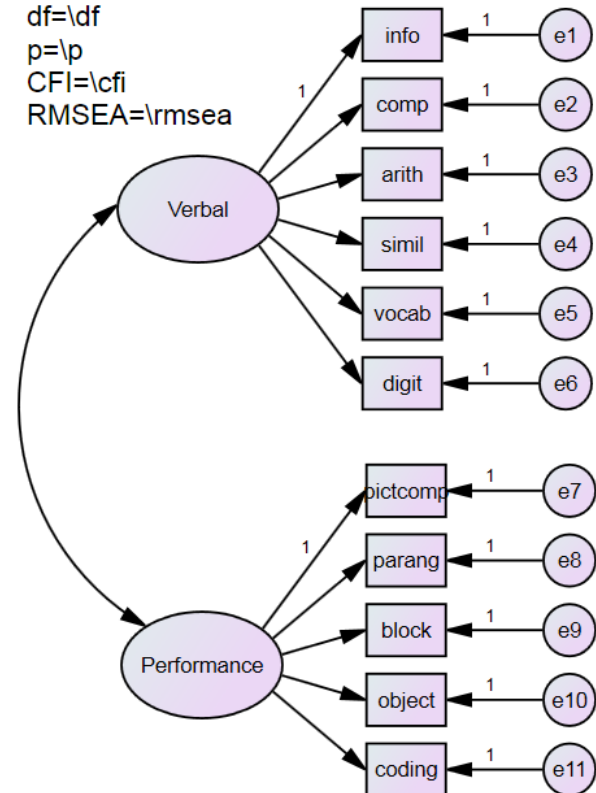
Group number 1

Analysis properties

Unstandardized estimates  
Standardized estimates

chap2.1  
chap3.1  
split  
split2  
SWL  
wisc  
wisc2

Chisquare= $\chi^2$   
df=degrees of freedom  
p=p-value  
CFI=Comparative Fit Index  
RMSEA=Root Mean Square Error of Approximation



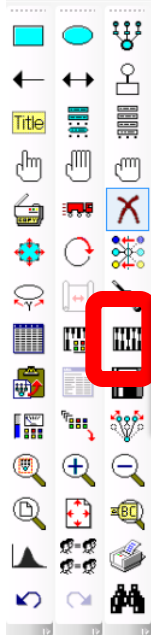
# Analysis properties

The 'Analysis Properties' dialog box is shown with the 'Estimation' tab selected. The 'Discrepancy' section has five radio buttons: 'Maximum likelihood' (selected), 'Generalized least squares', 'Unweighted least squares', 'Scale-free least squares', and 'Asymptotically distribution-free'. The 'Estimate means and intercepts' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Emulsi6' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Chicorrect' checkbox is unchecked. Below these, a section titled 'For the purpose of computing fit measures with incomplete data:' contains three radio buttons: 'Fit the saturated and independence models' (selected), 'Fit the saturated model only', and 'Fit neither model'.

If you have missing data, you have to tick estimate means and intercepts, else usually use the defaults on Estimation

The 'Analysis Properties' dialog box is shown with the 'Output' tab selected. The 'Minimization history' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Indirect, direct & total effects' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Standardized estimates' checkbox is checked. The 'Factor score weights' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Squared multiple correlations' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Covariances of estimates' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Sample moments' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Correlations of estimates' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Implied moments' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Critical ratios for differences' checkbox is unchecked. The 'All implied moments' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Tests for normality and outliers' checkbox is checked. The 'Residual moments' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Observed information matrix' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Modification indices' checkbox is checked. The 'Threshold for modification indices' is set to 4.

Some suggestions for Output – you can try others as well. Standardized estimates will enable scales in terms of correlations rather than covariances



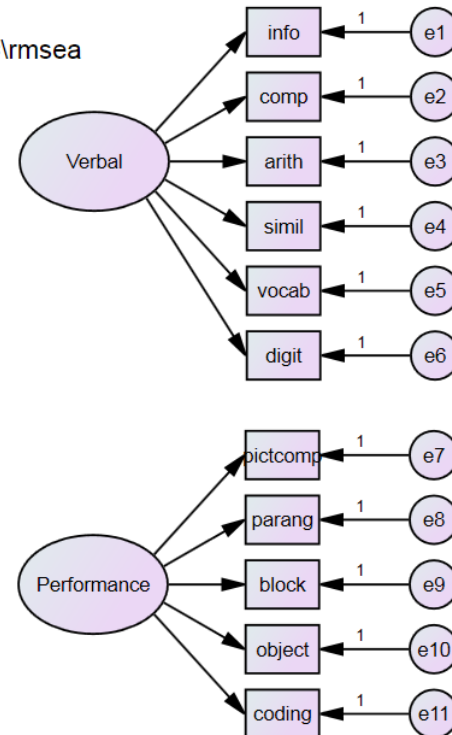
Group number 1

Unstandardized estimates  
Standardized estimates

You're now ready  
to run the model!

If you run an  
uncorrelated model you  
will get a warning  
message, but you can  
proceed.

Chisquare=\lcm  
df=\ldf  
p=\lp  
CFI=\lcfi  
RMSEA=\lrmsea



### Amos Warnings

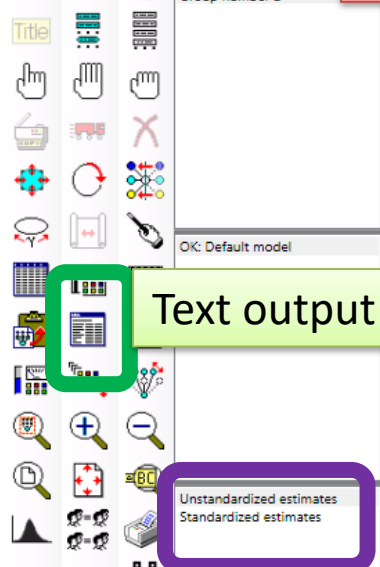
Proceed with the analysis

Cancel the analysis

Amos will require the following pairs of variables to be uncorrelated:

\* Verbal <> Performance

Shows results on the diagram

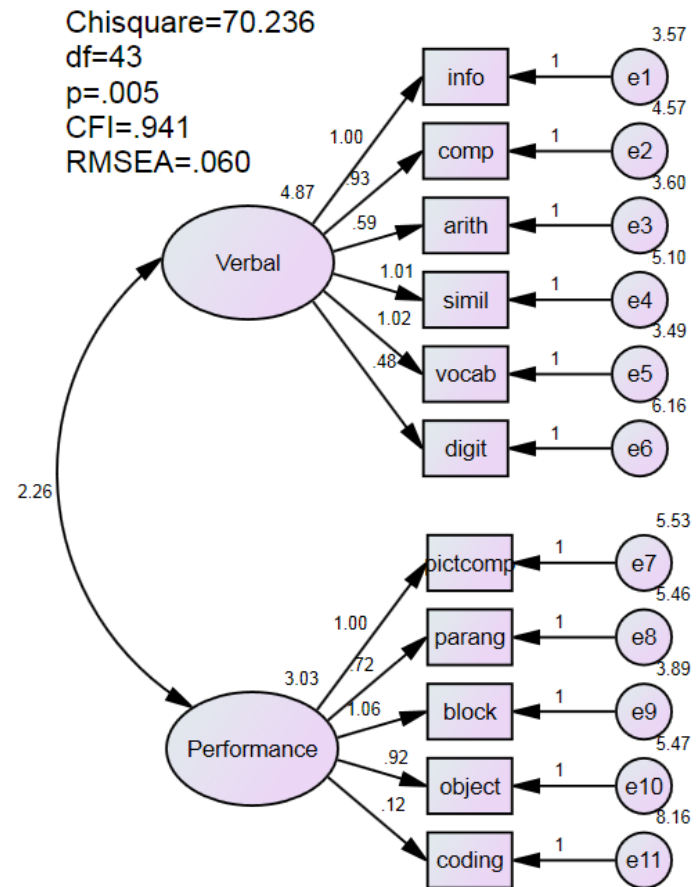


Text output

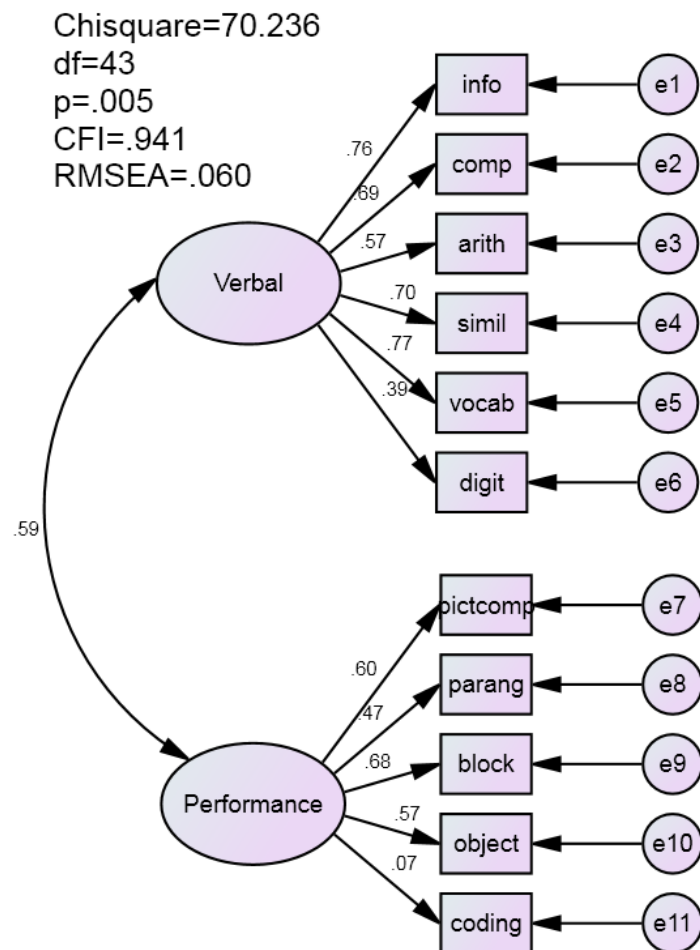
You can change to standardized estimates if you want.

Scanning StatisticsData373!  
Default model  
Minimization  
Iteration 8  
Minimum was achieved  
Writing output  
Chi-square = 70.2, df = 43

chap2.1  
chap3.1  
split  
split2  
SWL  
wisc  
wisc2



## Standardized results



## Text output

The screenshot shows the 'Amos Output' window for a file named 'wisc.amw'. The left sidebar contains a tree view of the output sections: Analysis Summary, Notes for Group, Variable Summary, Parameter Summary, Assessment of normality, Observations farthest from the centroid (Mahalanobis distance), Notes for Model, Estimates, Modification Indices, Model Fit, and Execution Time. The 'Notes for Model' section is selected, and its content is displayed in the main area on the right. The output includes the following text:

**Notes for Model (Default model)**

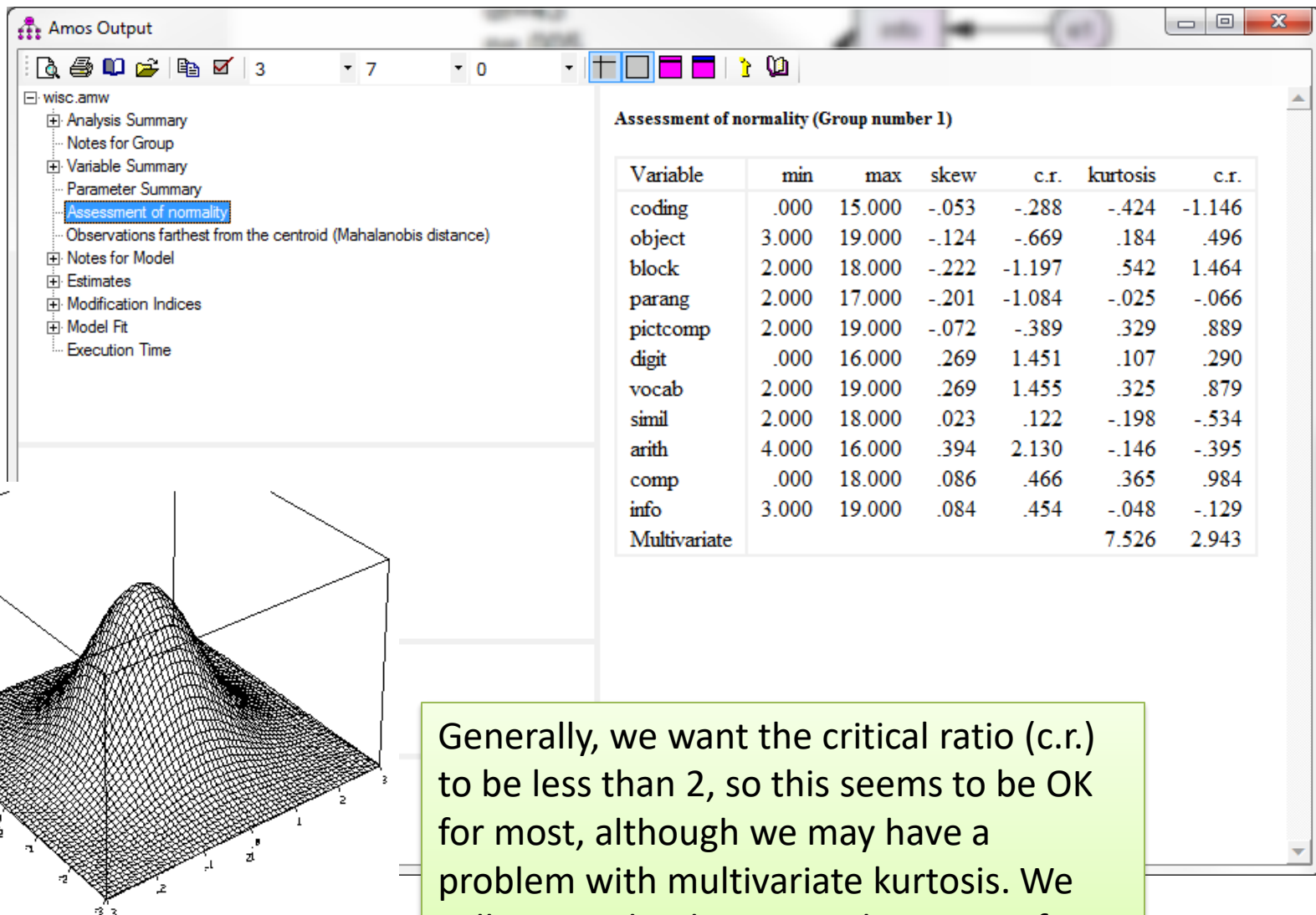
**Computation of degrees of freedom (Default model)**

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Number of distinct sample moments:             | 66 |
| Number of distinct parameters to be estimated: | 23 |
| Degrees of freedom (66 - 23):                  | 43 |

**Result (Default model)**

Minimum was achieved  
Chi-square = 70.236  
Degrees of freedom = 43  
Probability level = .005

## Assessment of normality output



Generally, we want the critical ratio (c.r.) to be less than 2, so this seems to be OK for most, although we may have a problem with multivariate kurtosis. We will proceed, relying on robustness of ML estimation (Widaman, 2012).

## Parameter estimates: Unstandardized

|          |      |             | Estimate | S.E. | C.R.  | P    |
|----------|------|-------------|----------|------|-------|------|
| info     | <--- | Verbal      | 1.000    |      |       |      |
| comp     | <--- | Verbal      | .926     | .108 | 8.585 | ***  |
| arith    | <--- | Verbal      | .589     | .084 | 6.993 | ***  |
| simil    | <--- | Verbal      | 1.012    | .116 | 8.739 | ***  |
| vocab    | <--- | Verbal      | 1.020    | .107 | 9.521 | ***  |
| digit    | <--- | Verbal      | .477     | .100 | 4.791 | ***  |
| pictcomp | <--- | Performance | 1.000    |      |       |      |
| parang   | <--- | Performance | .719     | .156 | 4.601 | ***  |
| block    | <--- | Performance | 1.060    | .187 | 5.659 | ***  |
| object   | <--- | Performance | .921     | .177 | 5.200 | ***  |
| coding   | <--- | Performance | .119     | .147 | .807  | .419 |

### Covariances: (Group number 1 - Default model)

|        |      |             | Estimate | S.E. | C.R.  | P   | 1 |
|--------|------|-------------|----------|------|-------|-----|---|
| Verbal | <--> | Performance | 2.263    | .516 | 4.385 | *** |   |

## Parameter estimates: Standardized

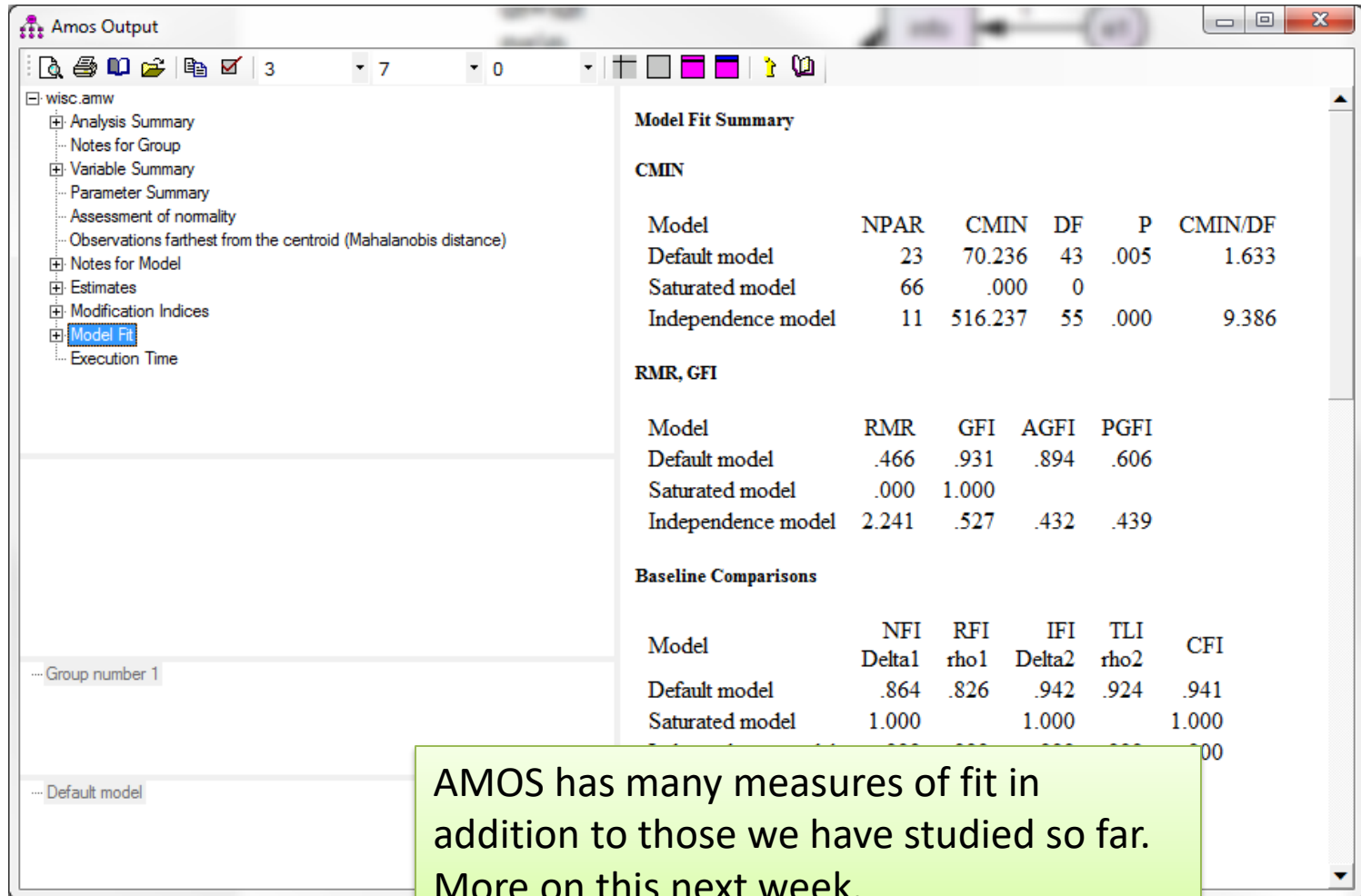
|          |      |             | Estimate |
|----------|------|-------------|----------|
| info     | <--- | Verbal      | .760     |
| comp     | <--- | Verbal      | .691     |
| arith    | <--- | Verbal      | .565     |
| simil    | <--- | Verbal      | .703     |
| vocab    | <--- | Verbal      | .770     |
| digit    | <--- | Verbal      | .390     |
| pictcomp | <--- | Performance | .595     |
| parang   | <--- | Performance | .473     |
| block    | <--- | Performance | .683     |
| object   | <--- | Performance | .566     |
| coding   | <--- | Performance | .072     |

### Correlations: (Group number 1 - Default model)

|        |      |             | Estimate |
|--------|------|-------------|----------|
| Verbal | <--> | Performance | .589     |



## Measures of fit



The screenshot shows the 'Amos Output' window for a file named 'wisc.amw'. The left sidebar contains a tree view with the following items: Analysis Summary, Notes for Group, Variable Summary, Parameter Summary, Assessment of normality, Observations farthest from the centroid (Mahalanobis distance), Notes for Model, Estimates, Modification Indices, Model Fit (highlighted), and Execution Time. The main area displays three tables of fit statistics.

**Model Fit Summary**

**CMIN**

| Model              | NPAR | CMIN    | DF | P    | CMIN/DF |
|--------------------|------|---------|----|------|---------|
| Default model      | 23   | 70.236  | 43 | .005 | 1.633   |
| Saturated model    | 66   | .000    | 0  |      |         |
| Independence model | 11   | 516.237 | 55 | .000 | 9.386   |

**RMR, GFI**

| Model              | RMR   | GFI   | AGFI | PGFI |
|--------------------|-------|-------|------|------|
| Default model      | .466  | .931  | .894 | .606 |
| Saturated model    | .000  | 1.000 |      |      |
| Independence model | 2.241 | .527  | .432 | .439 |

**Baseline Comparisons**

| Model           | NFI<br>Delta1 | RFI<br>rho1 | IFI<br>Delta2 | TLI<br>rho2 | CFI   |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------|
| Default model   | .864          | .826        | .942          | .924        | .941  |
| Saturated model | 1.000         |             | 1.000         |             | 1.000 |

AMOS has many measures of fit in addition to those we have studied so far. More on this next week.

## Modification indices:

These tell us which additional covariances would most improve the model

Amos Output

Analysis Summary  
Notes for Group  
Variable Summary  
Parameter Summary  
Assessment of normality  
Observations farthest from the centroid (Mahalanobis distance)  
Notes for Model  
Estimates  
  Scalars  
    Regression Weights:  
    Standardized Regression Weights:  
    Covariances:  
    Correlations:  
    Variances:  
Modification Indices  
Model Fit

**Covariances: (Group number 1 - Default model)**

|         |             | M.I.  | Par Change |
|---------|-------------|-------|------------|
| e7 <--> | e11         | 4.221 | -1.137     |
| e6 <--> | e11         | 4.897 | 1.207      |
| e5 <--> | e8          | 4.059 | -.785      |
| e3 <--> | e10         | 6.280 | -.938      |
| e2 <--> | Performance | 8.955 | .978       |
| e2 <--> | e7          | 4.581 | .953       |

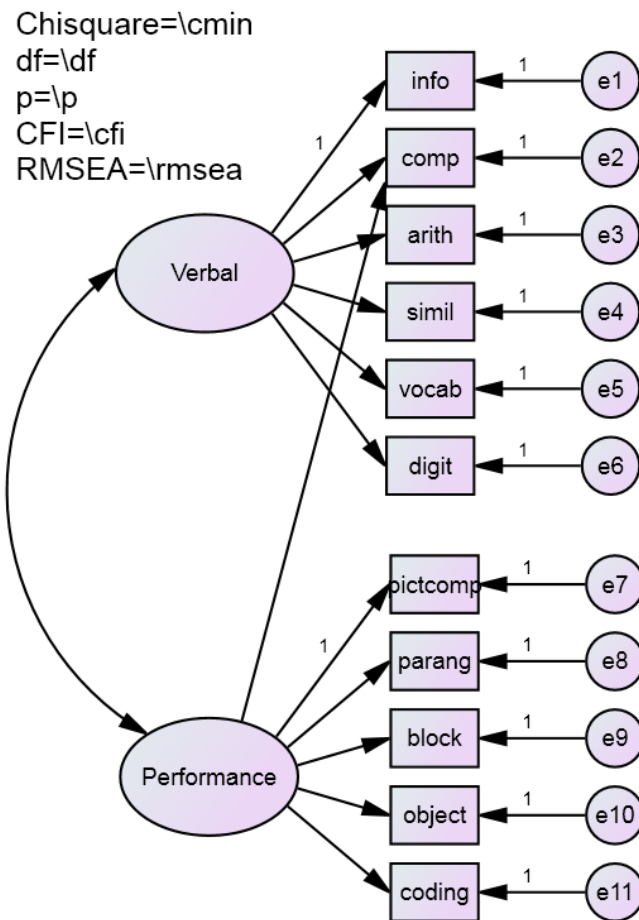
**Variances: (Group number 1 - Default model)**

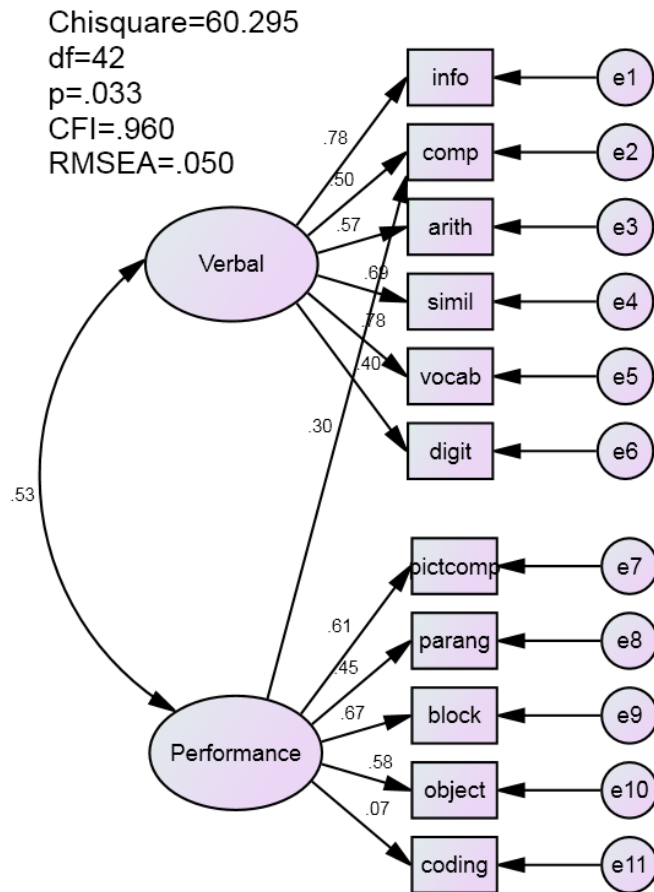
|  |  | M.I. | Par Change |
|--|--|------|------------|
|--|--|------|------------|

**Regression Weights: (Group number 1 - Default model)**

|               |             |  | M.I.  | Par Change |
|---------------|-------------|--|-------|------------|
| coding <---   | digit       |  | 4.509 | .171       |
| object <---   | arith       |  | 5.513 | -.194      |
| pictcomp <--- | coding      |  | 4.194 | -.138      |
| digit <---    | coding      |  | 4.608 | .143       |
| vocab <---    | parang      |  | 4.065 | -.122      |
| arith <---    | object      |  | 4.276 | .109       |
| comp <---     | Performance |  | 4.569 | .252       |
| comp <---     | object      |  | 5.317 | .142       |
| comp <---     | pictcomp    |  | 7.109 | .159       |

Of the two factors, Verbal and Performance, the best improvement would come by loading *comprehension* on Performance.





IN THIS LECTURE, you learnt

- the basic idea behind structural equation modeling
- that SEM can combine regression and factor analysis
- the differences between manifest and latent variables and between measurement and structural models
- how to conduct a confirmatory factor analysis in AMOS

# References

- Barrett, P. (2007). Structural equation modelling: Adjudging model fit. *Personality and Individual differences*, 42(5), 815-824.
- Jackson, D. L. (2003). Revisiting sample size and number of parameter estimates: Some support for the N: q hypothesis. *Structural equation modeling*, 10(1), 128-141.
- Kline, R. B. (2016). *Principles and practice of structural equation modeling*. Guilford Press.
- Loehlin, J. C. (1992). *Latent variable models*. Erlbaum.
- Tabachnick, B. G., & Fidell, L. S. (2013). *Using multivariate statistics*. Pearson.
- Widaman, K. (2012). Exploratory factor analysis and confirmatory factor analysis. In H. Cooper (Ed.) *APA Handbook of Research Methods in Psychology, Vol 3* (pp.361-389).
- Wolf, E. J., Harrington, K. M., Clark, S. L., & Miller, M. W. (2013). Sample size requirements for structural equation models: An evaluation of power, bias, and solution propriety. *Educational and psychological measurement*, 73(6), 913-934.