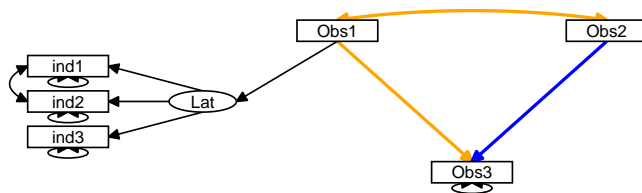


Steps to Fitting a Model in lavaan

1. Draw your model on a piece of paper!

Color any paths you may be interested in.



2. Write out your model specification

Remember to use modifiers and to set fixed values where you need to!

Don't forget lavaan's defaults!

2.1. Define each latent variable by its indicators (=)

```
Lat =~ ind1 + ind2 + ind3
```

2.2. Build the regression formula for each endogenous variable according to its *incoming* arrows (~)

```
Lat ~ Obs1
Obs3 ~ b * Obs1 + c * Obs2
```

2.3. Define the co/variances for each two headed arrow (~~)

These include auto-correlations,
and possibly any error / disturbances / uniqueness variances.

```
Obs1 ~~ a * Obs2
ind1 ~~ ind2

Lat ~~ 0 * Lat
```

2.4. Define any computed parameters (paths, differences...) (:=)

```
indirect_path := a * b
direct_path := c
total := indirect_path + direct_path
```

2.5. Don't forget to add self-regressors

...if you have any covariances between **latent** and **observed** variables.

3. Fit the model (sem() / cfa() / growth() / lavaan())

4. Plot your model and look at the parameter table

Make sure there are no missing (or too many) arrows / parameters!

5. Carry on...

Assess fit, test hypotheses...