# Package 'semmcci'

May 10, 2023

```
Title Monte Carlo Confidence Intervals in Structural Equation Modeling
```

Version 1.0.4.9000

**Description** Monte Carlo confidence intervals for free and defined parameters

in models fitted in the structural equation modeling package 'lavaan' can be generated using the 'semmcci' package.

'semmcci' has three main functions, namely, MC(), MCMI(), and MCStd().

The output of 'lavaan' is passed as the first argument

to the MC() function or the MCMI() function to generate Monte Carlo confidence intervals.

Monte Carlo confidence intervals for the standardized estimates

can also be generated by passing the output of the MC() function or the MCMI() function to the MCStd() function.

A description of the package and code examples are presented in Pesigan and Cheung (2023) <doi:10.3758/s13428-023-02114-4>.

```
URL https://github.com/jeksterslab/semmcci,
    https://jeksterslab.github.io/semmcci/
```

 $\pmb{BugReports} \ \text{https://github.com/jeksterslab/semmcci/issues}$ 

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**Encoding UTF-8** 

**Roxygen** list(markdown = TRUE)

**Depends** R (>= 3.0.0)

Imports stats, lavaan, mice, Amelia

Suggests knitr, rmarkdown, testthat, MASS, psych, bmemLavaan

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

NeedsCompilation no

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coef.semmcci

Parameter Estimates

## Description

Parameter Estimates

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'semmcci'
coef(object, ...)
```

## Arguments

object Object of class semmcci.
... additional arguments.

## Value

Returns a vector of parameter estimates.

## Author(s)

Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan

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## Examples

```
library(semmcci)
library(lavaan)
# Data ------
data("Tal.Or", package = "psych")
df <- Tal.Or
model <- "
 reaction \sim cp * cond + b * pmi
 pmi ~ a * cond
 indirect := a * b
 direct := cp
 total := cp + (a * b)
fit <- sem(data = df, model = model)</pre>
# Monte Carlo ------
unstd <- MC(
 fit,
 R = 100L, # use a large value e.g., 20000L for actual research
 alpha = 0.05
coef(unstd)
```

coef.semmccistd

Standardized Parameter Estimates

## Description

Standardized Parameter Estimates

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'semmccistd'
coef(object, ...)
```

## Arguments

```
object Object of class semmccistd.
... additional arguments.
```

### Value

Returns a vector of standardized parameter estimates.

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### Author(s)

Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan

## **Examples**

```
library(semmcci)
library(lavaan)
# Data ------
data("Tal.Or", package = "psych")
df <- Tal.Or
# Fit Model in lavaan ------
model <- "
 reaction \sim cp * cond + b * pmi
 pmi ~ a * cond
 indirect := a * b
 direct := cp
 total := cp + (a * b)
fit <- sem(data = df, model = model, fixed.x = FALSE)</pre>
# Monte Carlo ------
unstd <- MC(
 R = 100L, # use a large value e.g., 20000L for actual research
 alpha = 0.05
# Standardized Monte Carlo -----
std <- MCStd(unstd, alpha = 0.05)</pre>
coef(std)
```

confint.semmcci

Monte Carlo Confidence Intervals for the Parameter Estimates

## Description

Monte Carlo Confidence Intervals for the Parameter Estimates

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'semmcci'
confint(object, parm = NULL, level = 0.95, ...)
```

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## **Arguments**

object Object of class semmcci.

parm a specification of which parameters are to be given confidence intervals, either

a vector of numbers or a vector of names. If missing, all parameters are consid-

ered.

level the confidence level required.

... additional arguments.

#### Value

Returns a matrix of confidence intervals.

### Author(s)

Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan

```
library(semmcci)
library(lavaan)
# Data ------
data("Tal.Or", package = "psych")
df <- Tal.Or
# Fit Model in lavaan ------
model <- "
 reaction ~ cp * cond + b * pmi
 pmi ~ a * cond
 indirect := a * b
 direct := cp
 total := cp + (a * b)
fit <- sem(data = df, model = model)</pre>
# Monte Carlo -------
unstd <- MC(
 R = 100L, # use a large value e.g., 20000L for actual research
 alpha = 0.05
confint(unstd)
```

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 ${\it confint.semmccistd} \qquad {\it Monte Carlo Confidence Intervals for the Standardized Parameter Estimates}$ 

## **Description**

Monte Carlo Confidence Intervals for the Standardized Parameter Estimates

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'semmccistd'
confint(object, parm = NULL, level = 0.95, ...)
```

## Arguments

object Object of class semmccistd.

parm a specification of which parameters are to be given confidence intervals, either

a vector of numbers or a vector of names. If missing, all parameters are consid-

ered.

level the confidence level required.

... additional arguments.

#### Value

Returns a matrix of confidence intervals.

## Author(s)

Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan

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MC

Monte Carlo Confidence Intervals

### **Description**

Calculates Monte Carlo confidence intervals for free and defined parameters.

## Usage

```
MC(
   object,
   R = 20000L,
   alpha = c(0.001, 0.01, 0.05),
   decomposition = "eigen",
   pd = TRUE,
   tol = 1e-06,
   seed = NULL
)
```

### **Arguments**

object Object of class lavaan.

R Positive integer. Number of Monte Carlo replications.

alpha Numeric vector. Significance level  $\alpha$ .

decomposition Character string. Matrix decomposition of the sampling variance-covariance

matrix for the data generation. If decomposition = "chol", use Cholesky decomposition. If decomposition = "eigen", use eigenvalue decomposition. If

decomposition = "svd", use singular value decomposition.

pd Logical. If pd = TRUE, check if the sampling variance-covariance matrix is posi-

tive definite using tol.

tol Numeric. Tolerance used for pd.

seed Integer. Random seed for reproducibility.

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#### **Details**

A sampling distribution of parameter estimates is generated from the multivariate normal distribution using the parameter estimates and the sampling variance-covariance matrix. Confidence intervals for free and defined parameters are generated using the simulated sampling distribution. Parameters can be defined using the := operator in the lavaan model syntax.

#### Value

Returns an object of class semmcci which is a list with the following elements:

R Number of Monte Carlo replications.

**alpha** Significance level  $\alpha$  specified.

lavaan lavaan object.

decomposition Matrix decomposition used to generate multivariate normal random variates.

**thetahat** Parameter estimates  $\hat{\theta}$ .

**thetahatstar** Sampling distribution of parameter estimates  $\hat{\theta}^*$ .

mi A list of multiply imputed data for MCMI(). NA for MC()

#### Author(s)

Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan

#### References

MacKinnon, D. P., Lockwood, C. M., & Williams, J. (2004). Confidence limits for the indirect effect: Distribution of the product and resampling methods. *Multivariate Behavioral Research*, 39(1), 99-128. doi:10.1207/s15327906mbr3901\_4

Pesigan, I. J. A., & Cheung, S. F. (2023). Monte Carlo confidence intervals for the indirect effect with missing data. *Behavior Research Methods*. doi:10.3758/s13428023021144

Preacher, K. J., & Selig, J. P. (2012). Advantages of Monte Carlo confidence intervals for indirect effects. *Communication Methods and Measures*, 6(2), 77–98. doi:10.1080/19312458.2012.679848

### See Also

Other Monte Carlo in Structural Equation Modeling Functions: MCMI(), MCStd()

```
library(semmcci)
library(lavaan)

# Data ------
data("Tal.Or", package = "psych")

df <- Tal.Or

# Fit Model in lavaan -----
model <- "
    reaction ~ cp * cond + b * pmi</pre>
```

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MCMI

Monte Carlo Confidence Intervals (Multiple Imputation)

## **Description**

Calculates Monte Carlo confidence intervals for free and defined parameters. Missing values are handled using multilple imputation.

## Usage

```
MCMI(
    object,
    R = 20000L,
    alpha = c(0.001, 0.01, 0.05),
    decomposition = "eigen",
    pd = TRUE,
    tol = 1e-06,
    adj = FALSE,
    seed_mc = NULL,
    seed_mi = NA,
    fun = "mice",
    imp = NULL,
    ...
)
```

## Arguments

object Object of class lavaan.

R Positive integer. Number of Monte Carlo replications.

alpha Numeric vector. Significance level  $\alpha$ .

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decomposition	Character string. Matrix decomposition of the sampling variance-covariance matrix for the data generation. If decomposition = "chol", use Cholesky decomposition. If decomposition = "eigen", use eigenvalue decomposition. If decomposition = "svd", use singular value decomposition.
pd	Logical. If pd = TRUE, check if the sampling variance-covariance matrix is positive definite using tol.
tol	Numeric. Tolerance used for pd.
adj	Logical. If adj = TRUE, use Li, Raghunathan, and Rubin (1991) sampling covariance matrix adjustment. If adj = FALSE, use the multivariate version of Rubin's (1987) sampling covariance matrix.
seed_mc	Integer. Random seed for the Monte Carlo method.
seed_mi	Integer. Random seed for multiple imputation.
fun	Character string. Multiple imputation function. If fun = "mice", use mice::mice(). If fun = "amelia", use Amelia::amelia().
imp	Optional argument. A list of multiply imputed data sets.
•••	Additional arguments to pass to fun. If fun = "mice", DO NOT supply data, seed, or print. If fun = "amelia", DO NOT supply x or p2s.

#### **Details**

A sampling distribution of parameter estimates is generated from the multivariate normal distribution using the parameter estimates and the sampling variance-covariance matrix obtained using multiple imputation. Confidence intervals for free and defined parameters are generated using the simulated sampling distribution. Parameters can be defined using the := operator in the lavaan model syntax.

### Value

Returns an object of class semmcci which is a list with the following elements:

R Number of Monte Carlo replications.

**alpha** Significance level  $\alpha$  specified.

lavaan lavaan object.

decomposition Matrix decomposition used to generate multivariate normal random variates.

**thetahat** Parameter estimates  $\hat{\theta}$ .

**thetahatstar** Sampling distribution of parameter estimates  $\hat{\theta}^*$ .

mi A list of multiply imputed data for MCMI(). NA for MC()

#### References

Li, K. H., Raghunathan, T. E., & Rubin, D. B. (1991). Large-sample significance levels from multiply imputed data using moment-based statistics and an F reference distribution. Journal of the American Statistical Association, 86 (416), 1065–1073. doi:10.1080/01621459.1991.10475152

Pesigan, I. J. A., & Cheung, S. F. (2023). Monte Carlo confidence intervals for the indirect effect with missing data. *Behavior Research Methods*. doi:10.3758/s13428023021144

Rubin, D. B. (1987). Multiple imputation for nonresponse in surveys. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

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### See Also

Other Monte Carlo in Structural Equation Modeling Functions: MCStd(), MC()

## **Examples**

```
library(semmcci)
library(lavaan)
# Data with Missing Values ------
data("Tal.Or", package = "psych")
df <- mice::ampute(Tal.Or)$amp</pre>
# Fit Model in lavaan ------
model <- "
 reaction ~ cp * cond + b * pmi
 pmi ~ a * cond
 indirect := a * b
 direct := cp
 total := cp + (a * b)
# Fit the model in lavaan using the default listwise deletion method.
fit <- sem(data = df, model = model)</pre>
# Monte Carlo ------
MCMI(
 fit,
 R = 100L, # use a large value e.g., 20000L for actual research
 alpha = 0.05,
 m = 5 \# use a large value e.g., 100L for actual research
)
```

MCStd

Standardized Monte Carlo Confidence Intervals

#### **Description**

Calculates standardized Monte Carlo confidence intervals for free and defined parameters.

## Usage

```
MCStd(object, alpha = c(0.001, 0.01, 0.05))
```

## **Arguments**

```
object of class semmcci. Output of the MC() function. alpha Numeric vector. Significance level \alpha.
```

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#### **Details**

The empirical sampling distribution of parameter estimates from the argument object is standardized, that is, each randomly generated vector of parameters is standardized. Defined parameters are computed from the standardized component parameters. Confidence intervals are generated using the standardized empirical sampling distribution.

### Value

Returns an object of class semmccistd which is a list with the following elements:

R Number of Monte Carlo replications.

alpha Significance level  $\alpha$  specified.

lavaan lavaan object.

decomposition Matrix decomposition used to generate multivariate normal random variates.

the tahat Parameter estimates  $\hat{\theta}$ .

the tahatstar Sampling distribution of parameter estimates  $\hat{\theta}^*$ .

ci Confidence intervals.

thetahat\_std Standardized parameter estimates  $\hat{\theta}_{\mathrm{std}}$ .

thetahatstar\_std Standardized sampling distribution of parameter estimates  $\hat{\theta}_{\mathrm{std}}^*$ .

#### Author(s)

Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan

#### References

Pesigan, I. J. A., & Cheung, S. F. (2023). Monte Carlo confidence intervals for the indirect effect with missing data. *Behavior Research Methods*. doi:10.3758/s13428023021144

#### See Also

Other Monte Carlo in Structural Equation Modeling Functions: MCMI(), MC()

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```
direct := cp
 total := cp + (a * b)
fit_complete_data <- sem(data = df, model = model, fixed.x = FALSE)</pre>
# Monte Carlo ------
complete_data <- MC(</pre>
 fit_complete_data,
 R = 100L, # use a large value e.g., 20000L for actual research
 alpha = 0.05
# Standardized Monte Carlo ------
MCStd(complete_data, alpha = 0.05)
# MCMI() -----
# Data -----
df <- mice::ampute(Tal.Or)$amp</pre>
# Fit Model in lavaan -------
fit_missing_data <- sem(data = df, model = model, fixed.x = FALSE)</pre>
# Monte Carlo ------
missing_data <- MC(</pre>
 fit_missing_data,
 R = 100L, # use a large value e.g., 20000L for actual research
 alpha = 0.05
# Standardized Monte Carlo ------
MCStd(missing_data, alpha = 0.05)
```

print.semmcci

Print Method for Object of Class semmcci

### **Description**

Print Method for Object of Class semmcci

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'semmcci'
print(x, digits = 4, ...)
```

## Arguments

```
x an object of class semmcci.digits Integer indicating the number of decimal places to display.... further arguments.
```

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### Value

Returns a matrix of estimates, standard errors, number of Monte Carlo replications, and confidence intervals.

### Author(s)

Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan

### **Examples**

```
library(semmcci)
library(lavaan)
# Data -----
data("Tal.Or", package = "psych")
df <- Tal.Or
model <- "
 reaction \sim cp * cond + b * pmi
 pmi ~ a * cond
 indirect := a * b
 direct := cp
 total := cp + (a * b)
fit <- sem(data = df, model = model)</pre>
# Monte Carlo ------
unstd <- MC(
 fit,
 R = 100L, # use a large value e.g., 20000L for actual research
 alpha = 0.05
)
print(unstd)
```

print.semmccistd

Print Method for Object of Class semmccistd

## **Description**

Print Method for Object of Class semmccistd

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'semmccistd'
print(x, digits = 4, ...)
```

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## Arguments

x an object of class semmccistd.digits Integer indicating the number of decimal places to display.... further arguments.

### Value

Returns a matrix of estimates, standard errors, number of Monte Carlo replications, and confidence intervals.

## Author(s)

Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan

```
library(semmcci)
library(lavaan)
# Data -----
data("Tal.Or", package = "psych")
df <- Tal.Or
# Fit Model in lavaan ------
model <- "
 reaction ~ cp * cond + b * pmi
 pmi ~ a * cond
 indirect := a * b
 direct := cp
 total := cp + (a * b)
fit <- sem(data = df, model = model, fixed.x = FALSE)</pre>
unstd <- MC(
 fit,
 R = 100L, # use a large value e.g., 20000L for actual research
 alpha = 0.05
)
# Standardized Monte Carlo ------
std <- MCStd(unstd, alpha = 0.05)</pre>
print(std)
```

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summary.semmcci

Summary Method for an Object of Class semmcci

## **Description**

Summary Method for an Object of Class semmcci

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'semmcci'
summary(object, digits = 4, ...)
```

### **Arguments**

```
object Object of class semmcci.
digits Digits to print.
... additional arguments.
```

### Value

Returns a matrix of estimates, standard errors, number of Monte Carlo replications, and confidence intervals.

## Author(s)

Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan

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```
fit,
  R = 100L, # use a large value e.g., 20000L for actual research
  alpha = 0.05
)
summary(unstd)
```

summary.semmccistd

Summary Method for an Object of Class semmccistd

## Description

Summary Method for an Object of Class semmccistd

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'semmccistd'
summary(object, digits = 4, ...)
```

## **Arguments**

object Object of class semmccistd.
digits Digits to print.
... additional arguments.

#### Value

Returns a matrix of estimates, standard errors, number of Monte Carlo replications, and confidence intervals.

#### Author(s)

Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan

```
library(semmcci)
library(lavaan)

# Data ------
data("Tal.Or", package = "psych")

df <- Tal.Or

# Fit Model in lavaan ------
model <- "
    reaction ~ cp * cond + b * pmi
    pmi ~ a * cond
    indirect := a * b
    direct := cp</pre>
```

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vcov.semmcci

Sampling Covariance Matrix of the Parameter Estimates

## **Description**

Sampling Covariance Matrix of the Parameter Estimates

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'semmcci'
vcov(object, ...)
```

## Arguments

object Object of class semmccistd.
... additional arguments.

### Value

Returns a matrix of the variance-covariance matrix of parameter estimates.

### Author(s)

Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan

```
library(semmcci)
library(lavaan)

# Data ------
data("Tal.Or", package = "psych")
```

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vcov.semmccistd

Sampling Covariance Matrix of the Standardized Parameter Estimates

## Description

Sampling Covariance Matrix of the Standardized Parameter Estimates

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'semmccistd'
vcov(object, ...)
```

## **Arguments**

object Object of class semmccistd.... additional arguments.

#### Value

Returns a matrix of the variance-covariance matrix of standardized parameter estimates.

### Author(s)

Ivan Jacob Agaloos Pesigan

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```
library(semmcci)
library(lavaan)
# Data ------
data("Tal.Or", package = "psych")
df <- Tal.Or
# Fit Model in lavaan ------
model <- "
 reaction \sim cp * cond + b * pmi
 pmi ~ a * cond
 indirect := a * b
 direct := cp
 total := cp + (a * b)
fit <- sem(data = df, model = model, fixed.x = FALSE)</pre>
# Monte Carlo ------
unstd <- MC(
 fit,
 R = 100L, # use a large value e.g., 20000L for actual research
 alpha = 0.05
# Standardized Monte Carlo ------
std <- MCStd(unstd, alpha = 0.05)</pre>
vcov(std)
```

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