

Multivariate statistics

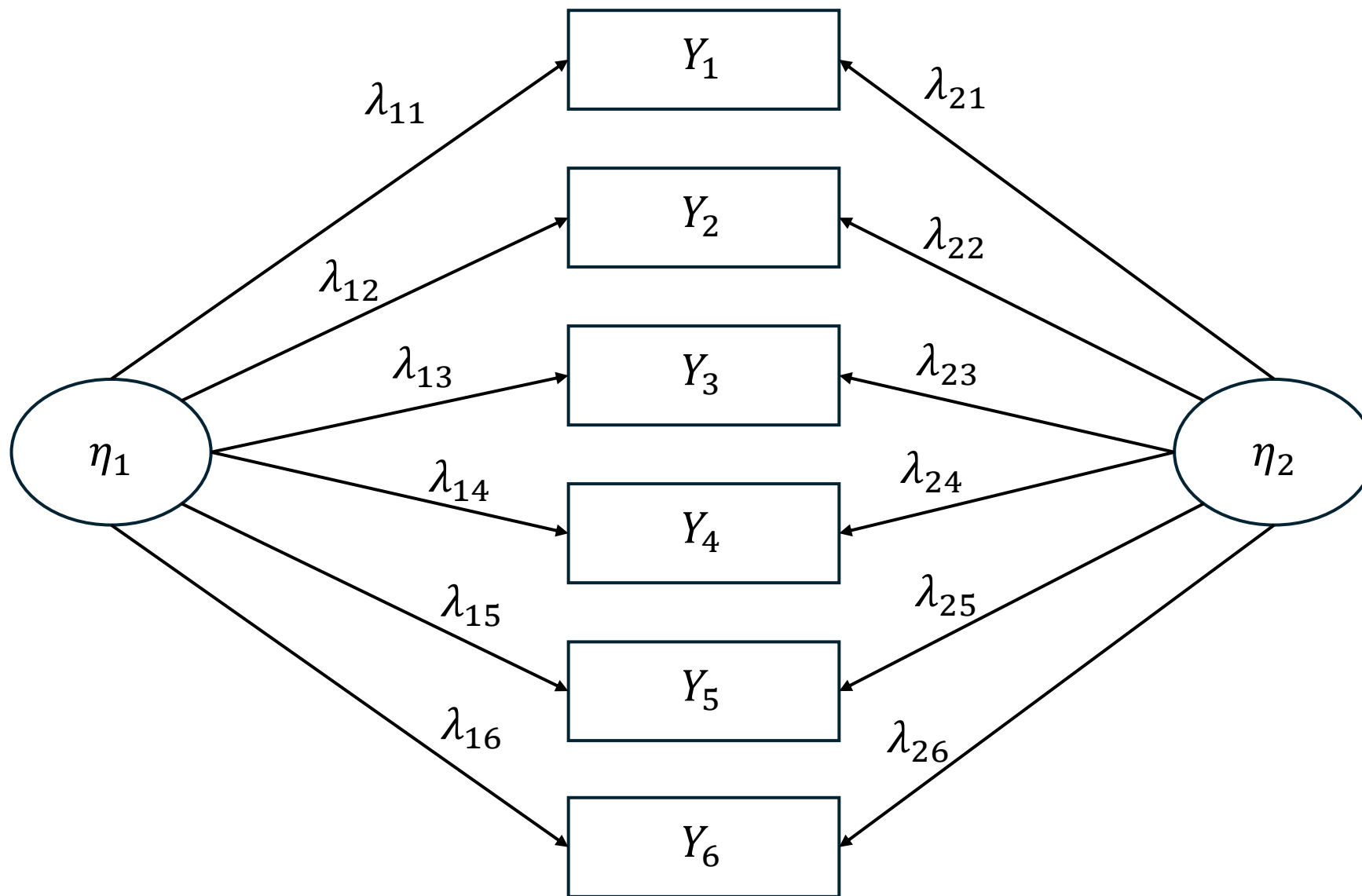
Confirmatory Factor Analysis

May 31, 2024

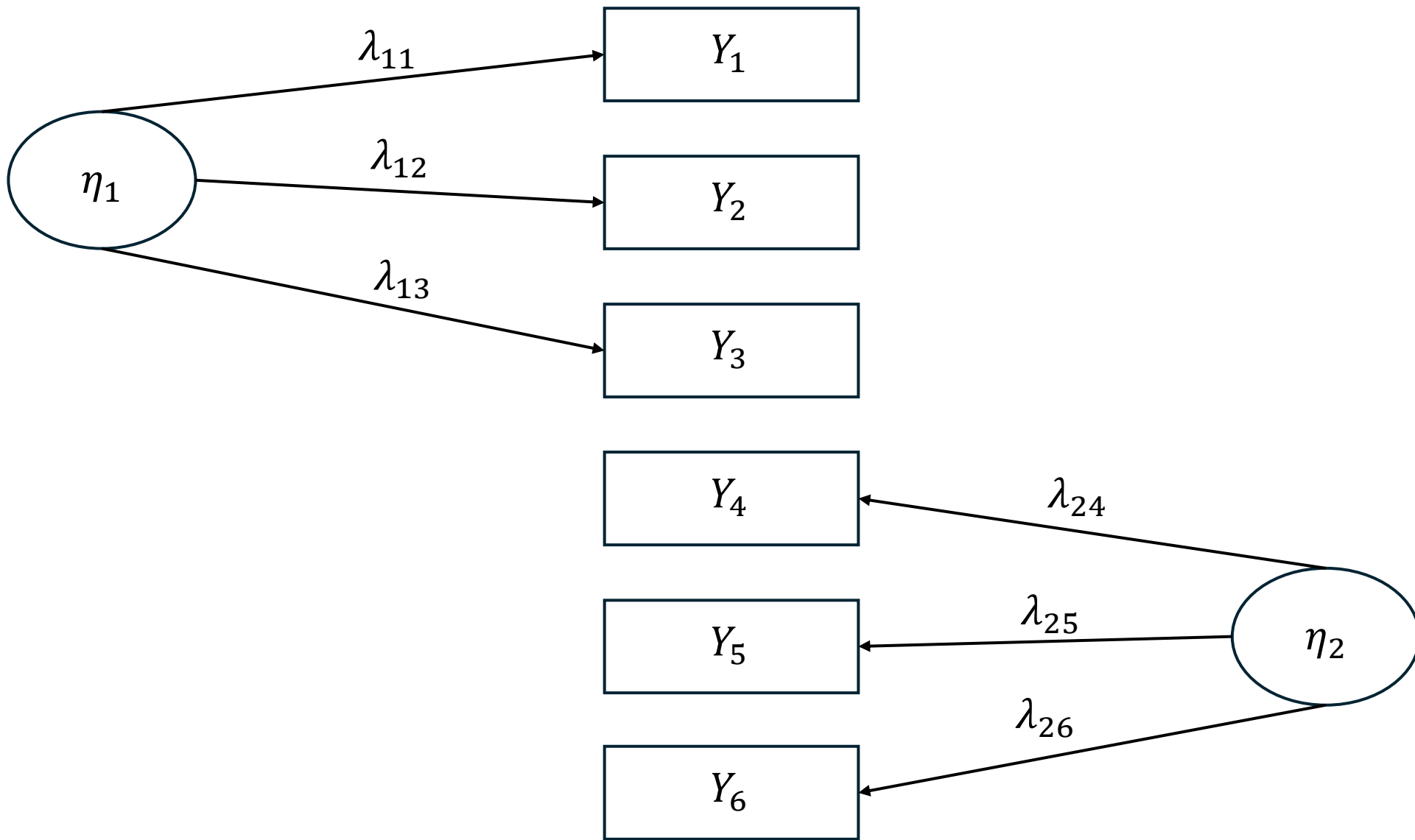
Orlando Sabogal-Cardona

@Antonio Sabogal

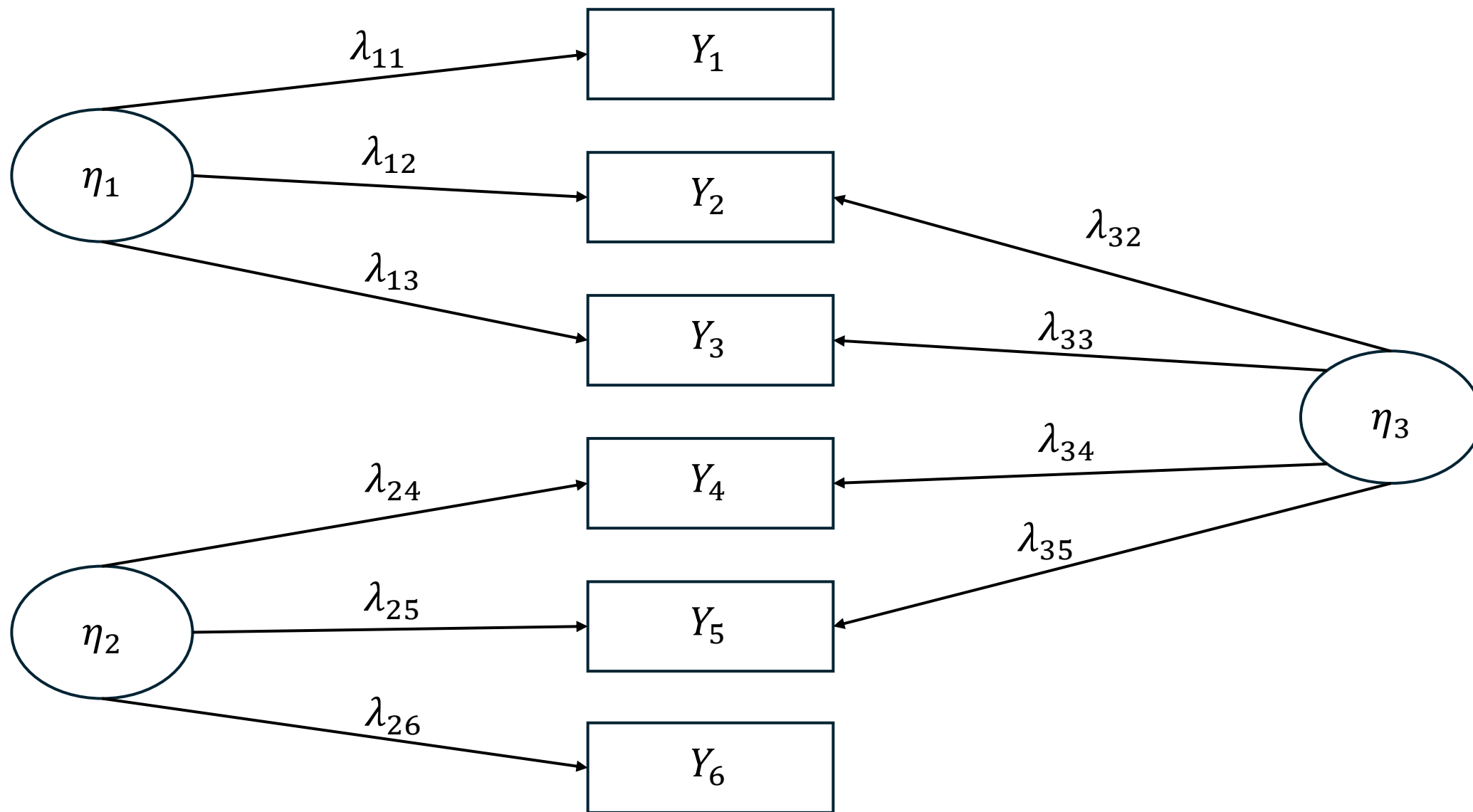
orlando.sabogal.20@ucl.ac.uk



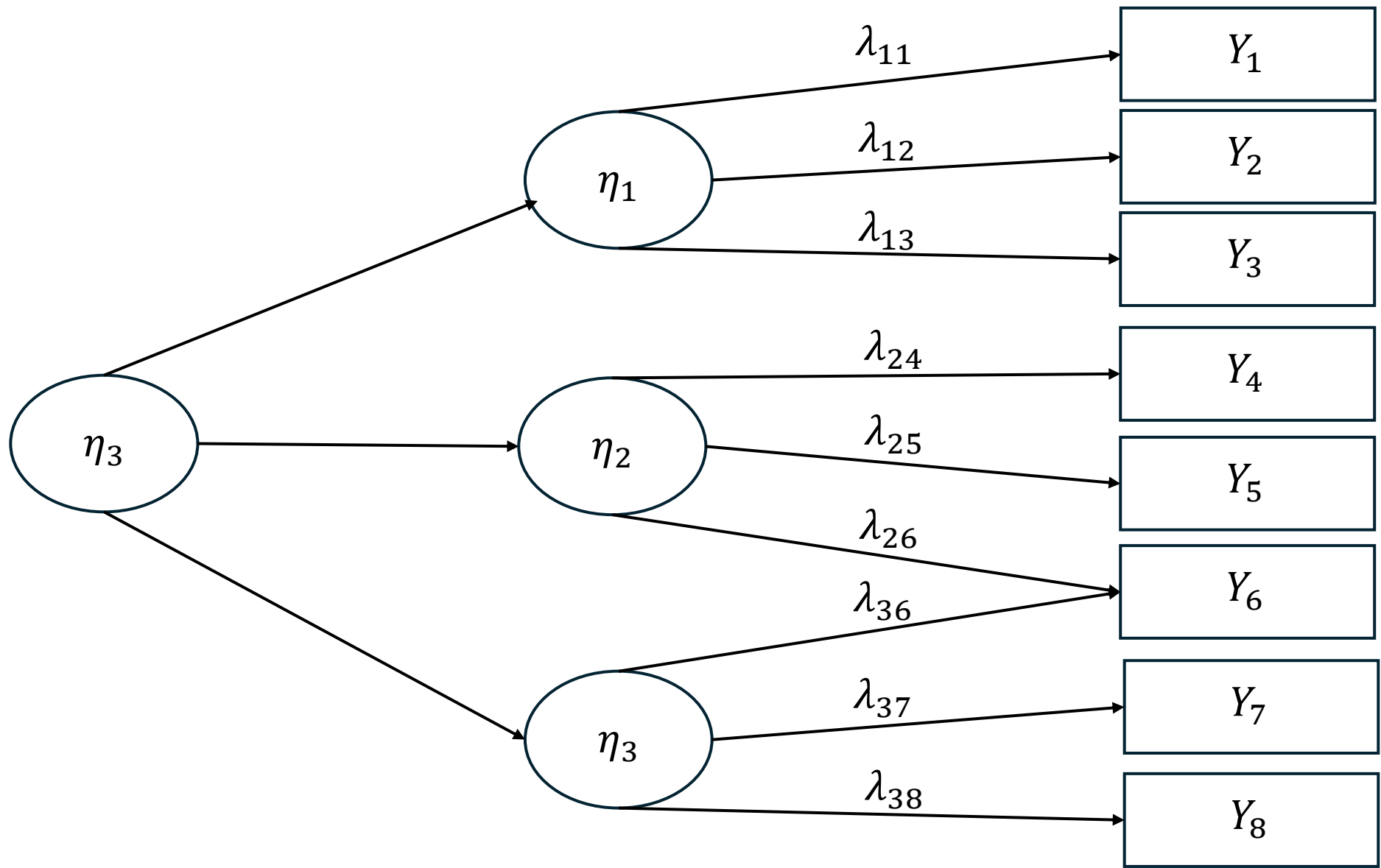
This is an EFA



This is a CFA

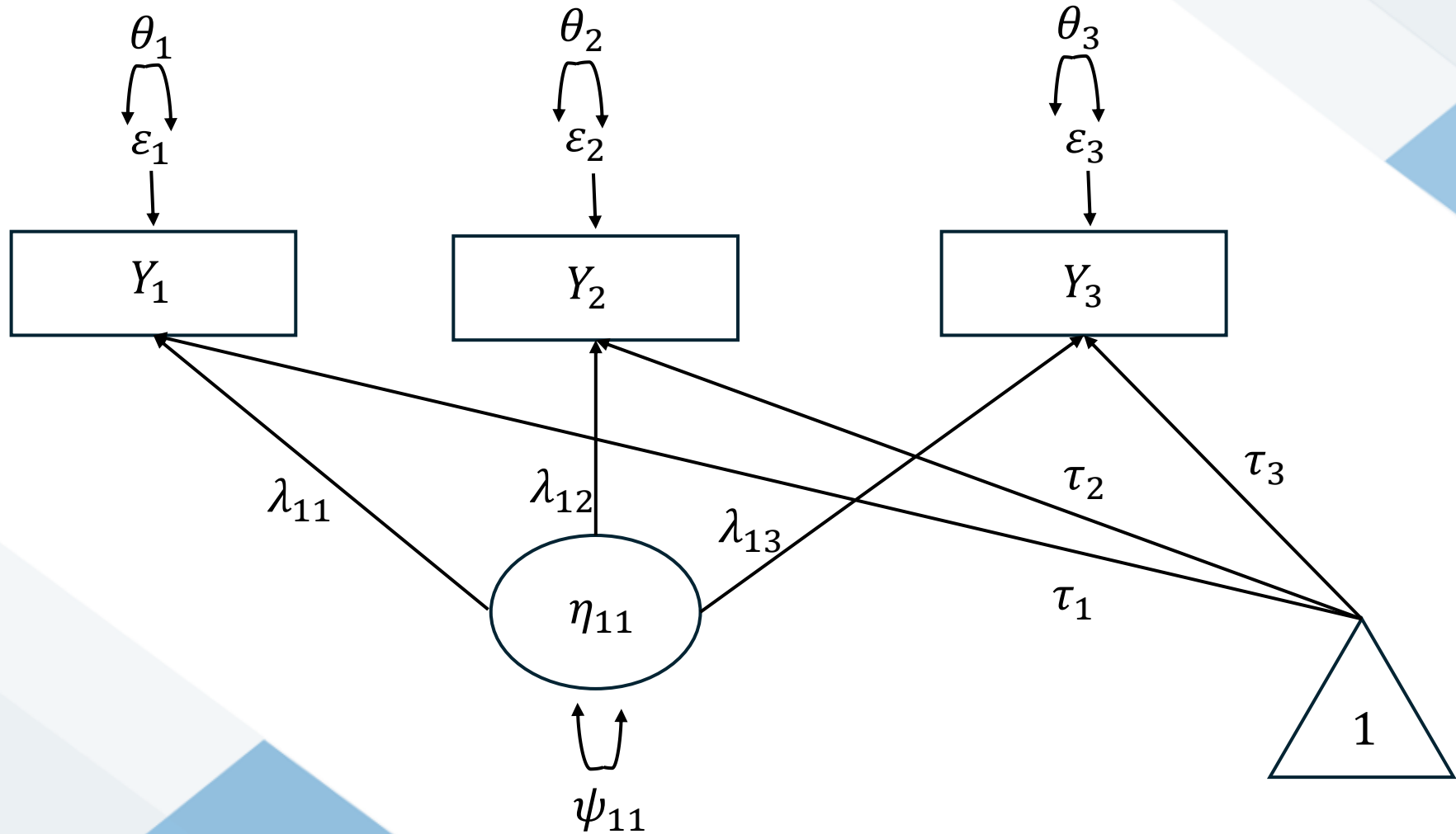


This is also a CFA

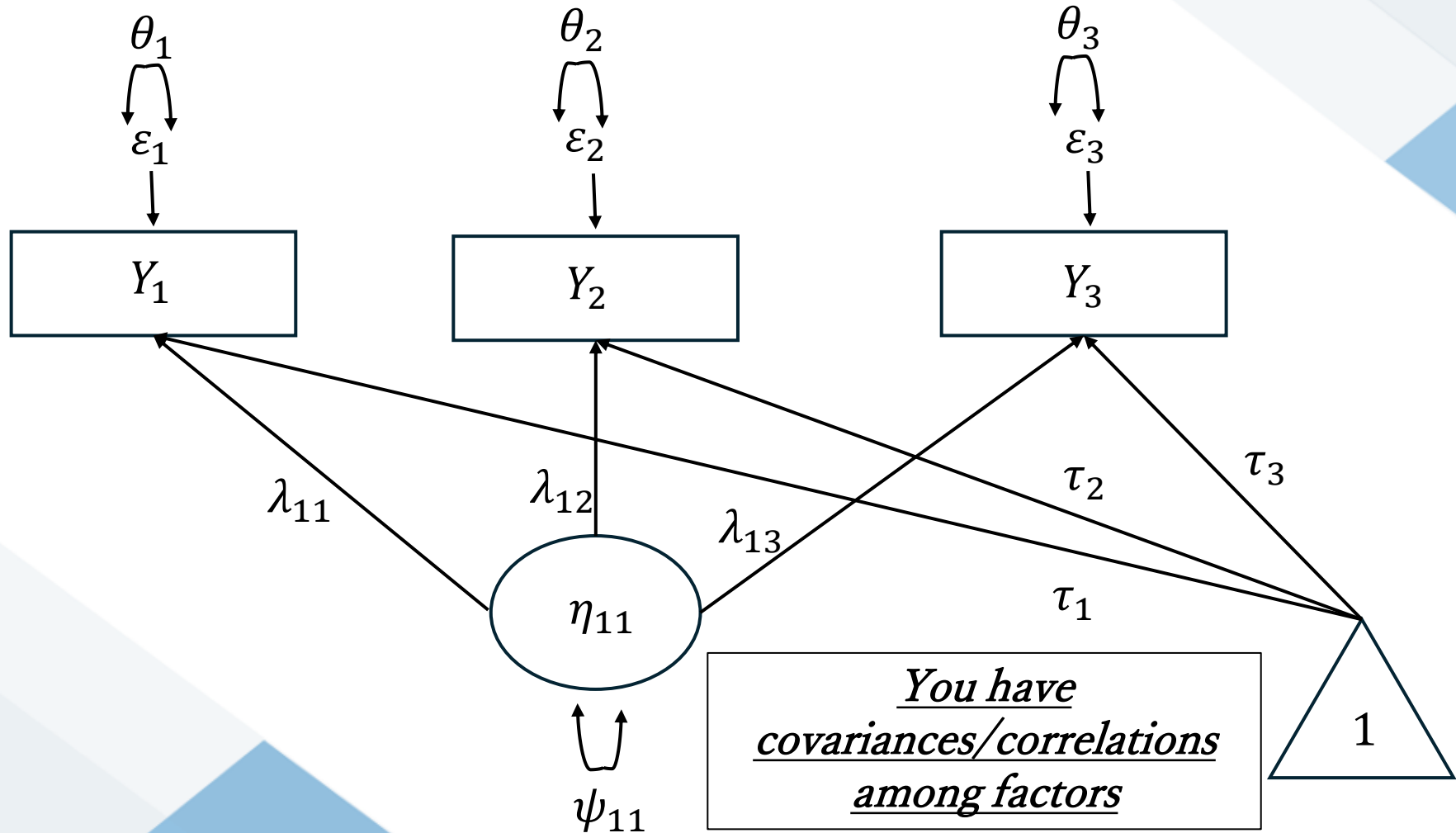


This is also a CFA

Remember...



Remember...



CFA (you already know this)

The common factor model



$Y = \Lambda \xi + \varepsilon$

↓

Used to predict the covariance/correlation matrix

↓

$\Sigma = \Lambda \Psi \Lambda' + \Theta$

Y : Matrix of observed indicator variables

ξ : Matrix of factors

Λ : Factor loading matrix

ε : Matrix of unique factors (source in variance not associated with ε)

S : Observed covariance or correlation matrix

Σ : Model correlation or covariance matrix

Ψ : Correlation matrix of the factors

Θ : Diagonal matrix of unique error variances

n : number of observations
 p : number of observed variables
 $Y: n * p$
 $\Lambda: p * m$
 $\xi: n * m$
 $\varepsilon: n * p$

m : number of factors
 $S: p * p$
 $\Sigma: p * p$
 $\Psi: m * m$
 $\Theta: p * p$

Make " Σ " as similar to " S " as possible

$$\min(\Sigma - S)$$

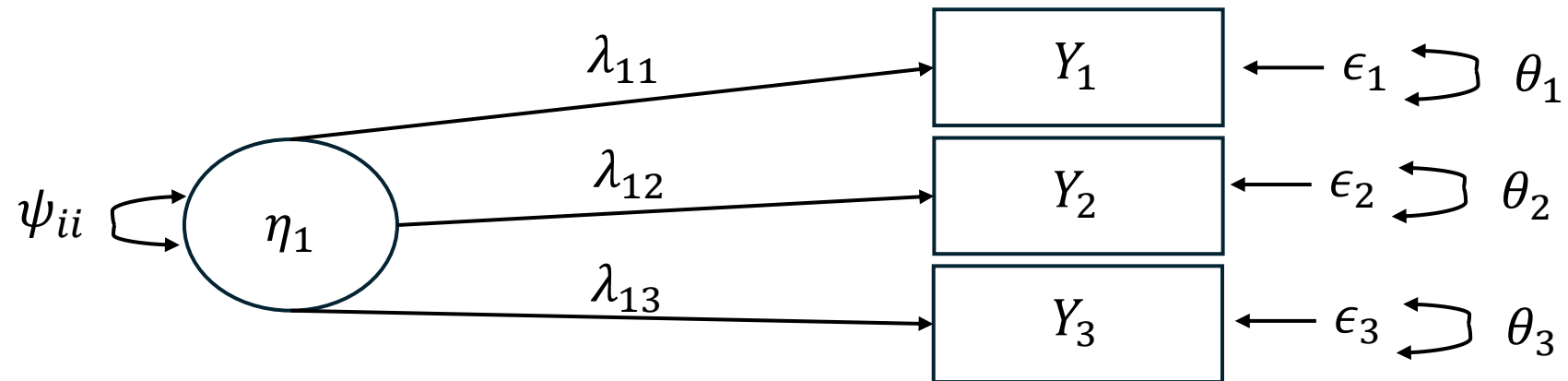
$$\Sigma = \Lambda \Psi \Lambda' + \Theta$$

$$\min(\Sigma - S)$$

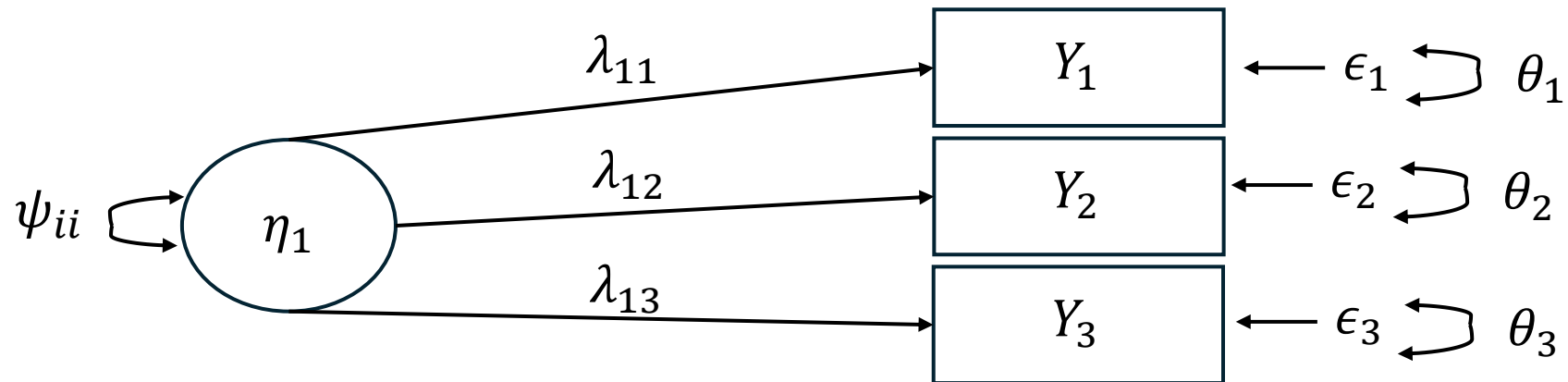
$$\Sigma = \Lambda \Psi \Lambda' + \Theta$$



Does this make sense to you?



$$Y_1 = \lambda_{11}\eta_1 + \epsilon_1$$



$$Y_1 = \lambda_{11}\eta_1 + \epsilon_1$$

$$\text{var}(\epsilon_i) = \theta_i$$

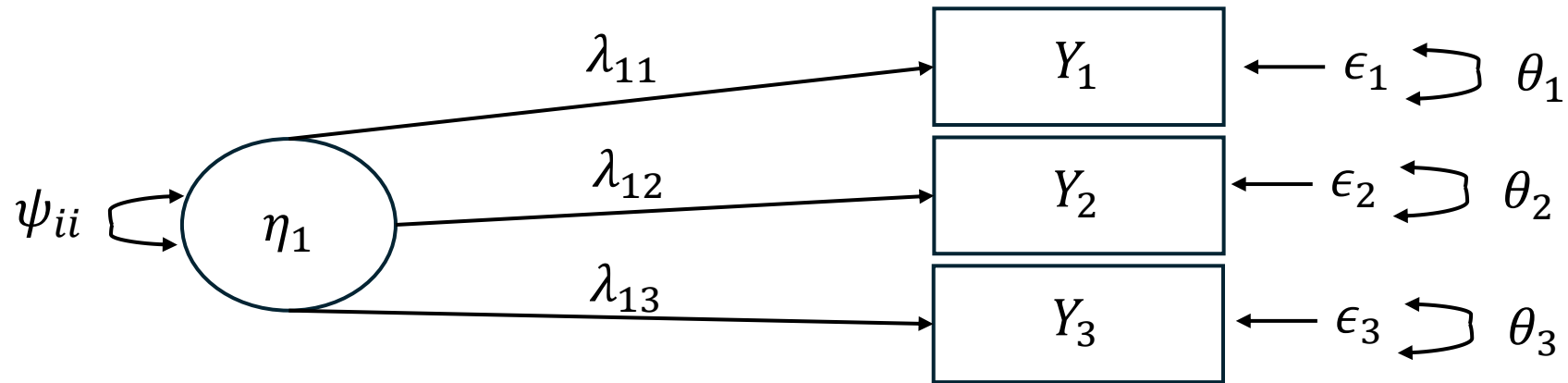
$$\text{var}(\eta_i) = \psi_{ii}$$

$$\text{cov}(\eta_i, \eta_j) = \psi_{ij}$$

$$\text{var}(aX + bY) = a^2\text{var}(X) + b^2\text{var}(Y)$$

See:

[https://statproofbook.github.io/P/var-lincomb.html#:~:text=Theorem%3A%20The%20variance%20of%20the,v\(X%2CY\).](https://statproofbook.github.io/P/var-lincomb.html#:~:text=Theorem%3A%20The%20variance%20of%20the,v(X%2CY).)



$$Y_1 = \lambda_{11}\eta_1 + \epsilon_1$$

$$\text{var}(Y_1) = \text{var}(\lambda_{11}\eta_1 + \epsilon_1)$$

$$\text{var}(Y_1) = \lambda_{11}^2 \text{var}(\eta_1) + \text{var}(\epsilon_1)$$

$$\text{var}(Y_1) = S_{11}^2 = \lambda_{11}^2 \psi_{11} + \theta_1$$

$$\text{var}(\epsilon_i) = \theta_i$$

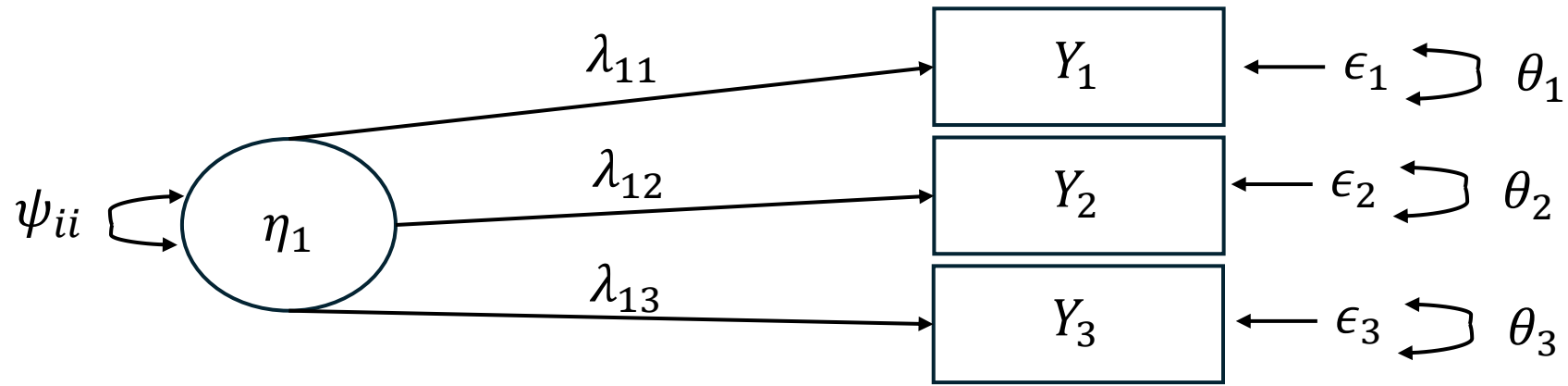
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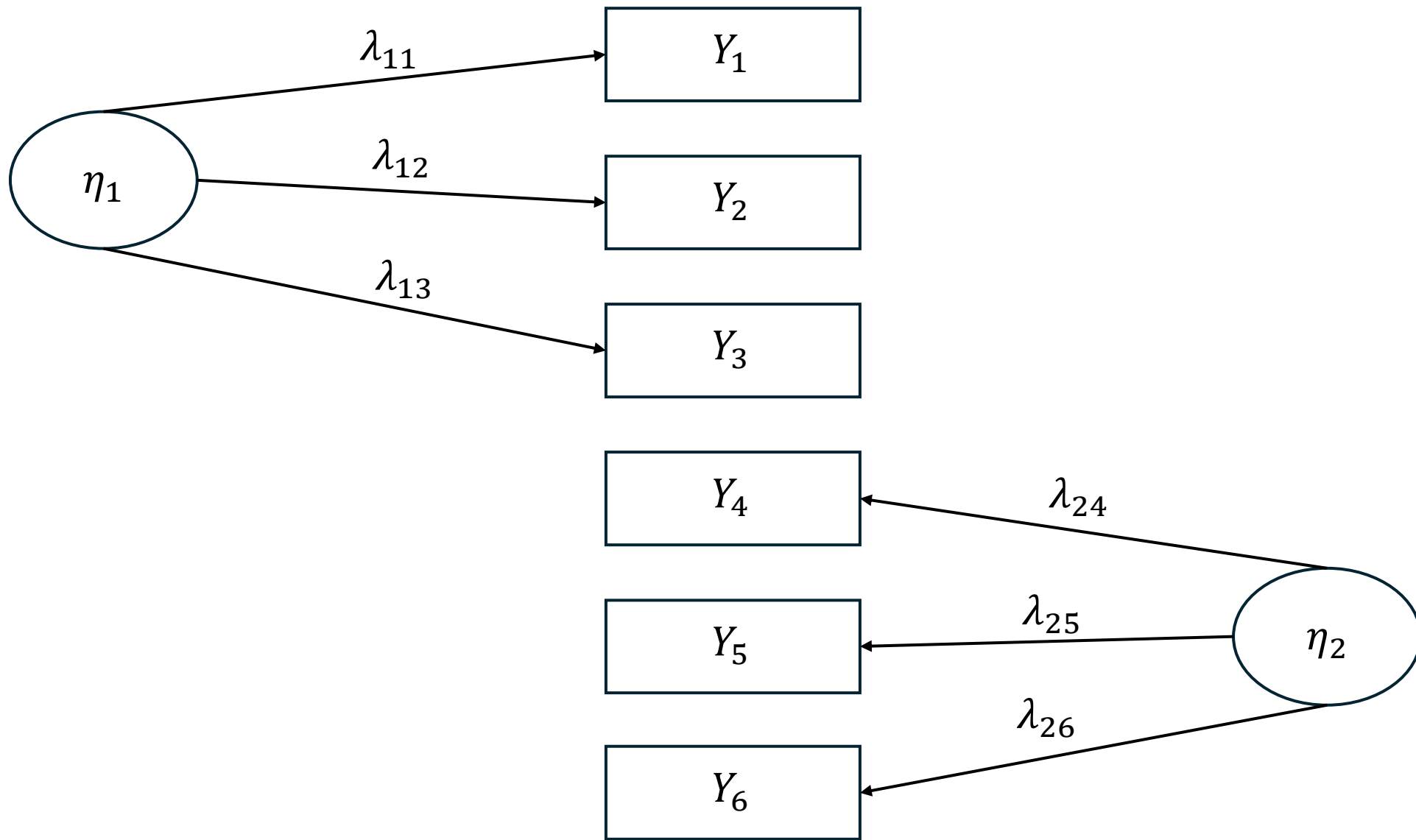
$$Y_1 = \lambda_{11}\eta_1 + \epsilon_1$$

$$Y_2 = \lambda_{21}\eta_1 + \epsilon_2$$

$$\text{cov}(aX + bY, cX + dY) = ac\text{Cov}(X, X) + ad\text{Cov}(X, Y) + bc\text{Cov}(Y, X) + bd\text{Cov}(Y, Y)$$

$$\text{cov}(Y_1, Y_2) = \text{cov}(\lambda_{11}\eta_1 + \epsilon_1, \lambda_{21}\eta_1 + \epsilon_1)$$

$$\text{cov}(Y_1, Y_2) = \lambda_{11}\lambda_{12}\psi_{11}$$



$$\Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{11} & 0 \\ \lambda_{12} & 0 \\ \lambda_{13} & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_{24} \\ 0 & \lambda_{25} \\ 0 & \lambda_{26} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Psi = \begin{bmatrix} \psi_{11} & \psi_{12} \\ \psi_{21} & \psi_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Theta = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \theta_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \theta_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \theta_4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \theta_5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \theta_6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{11} & 0 \\ \lambda_{12} & 0 \\ \lambda_{13} & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_{24} \\ 0 & \lambda_{25} \\ 0 & \lambda_{26} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Psi = \begin{bmatrix} \psi_{11} & \psi_{12} \\ \psi_{21} & \psi_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Theta = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \theta_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \theta_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \theta_4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \theta_5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \theta_6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Lambda\Psi = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{11} & 0 \\ \lambda_{12} & 0 \\ \lambda_{13} & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_{24} \\ 0 & \lambda_{25} \\ 0 & \lambda_{26} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \psi_{11} & \psi_{12} \\ \psi_{21} & \psi_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{11}\psi_{11} & \lambda_{11}\psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{12}\psi_{11} & \lambda_{12}\psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{13}\psi_{11} & \lambda_{13}\psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{24}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{24}\psi_{22} \\ \lambda_{25}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{25}\psi_{22} \\ \lambda_{26}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{26}\psi_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Lambda\Psi\Lambda' = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{11}\psi_{11} & \lambda_{11}\psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{12}\psi_{11} & \lambda_{12}\psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{13}\psi_{11} & \lambda_{13}\psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{24}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{24}\psi_{22} \\ \lambda_{25}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{25}\psi_{22} \\ \lambda_{26}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{26}\psi_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{11} & \lambda_{12} & \lambda_{13} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda_{24} & \lambda_{25} & \lambda_{26} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Lambda\Psi\Lambda' = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{11}^2\psi_{11} & \lambda_{11}\lambda_{21}\psi_{11} & \lambda_{11}\lambda_{31}\psi_{11} & \lambda_{11}\lambda_{42}\psi_{12} & \lambda_{11}\lambda_{52}\psi_{12} & \lambda_{11}\lambda_{62}\psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{21}\lambda_{11}\psi_{11} & \lambda_{21}^2\psi_{11} & \lambda_{21}\lambda_{31}\psi_{11} & \lambda_{21}\lambda_{42}\psi_{12} & \lambda_{21}\lambda_{52}\psi_{12} & \lambda_{21}\lambda_{62}\psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{31}\lambda_{11}\psi_{11} & \lambda_{31}\lambda_{21}\psi_{11} & \lambda_{31}^2\psi_{11} & \lambda_{31}\lambda_{42}\psi_{12} & \lambda_{31}\lambda_{52}\psi_{12} & \lambda_{31}\lambda_{62}\psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{42}\lambda_{11}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{42}\lambda_{21}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{42}\lambda_{31}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{42}^2\psi_{22} & \lambda_{42}\lambda_{52}\psi_{22} & \lambda_{42}\lambda_{62}\psi_{22} \\ \lambda_{52}\lambda_{11}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{52}\lambda_{21}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{52}\lambda_{31}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{52}\lambda_{42}\psi_{22} & \lambda_{52}^2\psi_{22} & \lambda_{52}\lambda_{62}\psi_{22} \\ \lambda_{62}\lambda_{11}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{62}\lambda_{21}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{62}\lambda_{31}\psi_{21} & \lambda_{62}\lambda_{42}\psi_{22} & \lambda_{62}\lambda_{52}\psi_{22} & \lambda_{62}^2\psi_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Sigma = \Lambda \Psi \Lambda' + \Theta$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{11}^2 \psi_{11} + \theta_1 & \lambda_{11} \lambda_{21} \psi_{11} & \lambda_{11} \lambda_{31} \psi_{11} & \lambda_{11} \lambda_{42} \psi_{12} & \lambda_{11} \lambda_{52} \psi_{12} & \lambda_{11} \lambda_{62} \psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{21} \lambda_{11} \psi_{11} & \lambda_{21}^2 \psi_{11} + \theta_2 & \lambda_{21} \lambda_{31} \psi_{11} & \lambda_{21} \lambda_{42} \psi_{12} & \lambda_{21} \lambda_{52} \psi_{12} & \lambda_{21} \lambda_{62} \psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{31} \lambda_{11} \psi_{11} & \lambda_{31} \lambda_{21} \psi_{11} & \lambda_{31}^2 \psi_{11} + \theta_3 & \lambda_{31} \lambda_{42} \psi_{12} & \lambda_{31} \lambda_{52} \psi_{12} & \lambda_{31} \lambda_{62} \psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{42} \lambda_{11} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{42} \lambda_{21} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{42} \lambda_{31} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{42}^2 \psi_{22} + \theta_4 & \lambda_{42} \lambda_{52} \psi_{22} & \lambda_{42} \lambda_{62} \psi_{22} \\ \lambda_{52} \lambda_{11} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{52} \lambda_{21} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{52} \lambda_{31} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{52} \lambda_{42} \psi_{22} & \lambda_{52}^2 \psi_{22} + \theta_5 & \lambda_{52} \lambda_{62} \psi_{22} \\ \lambda_{62} \lambda_{11} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{62} \lambda_{21} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{62} \lambda_{31} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{62} \lambda_{42} \psi_{22} & \lambda_{62} \lambda_{52} \psi_{22} & \lambda_{62}^2 \psi_{22} + \theta_6 \end{pmatrix}$$

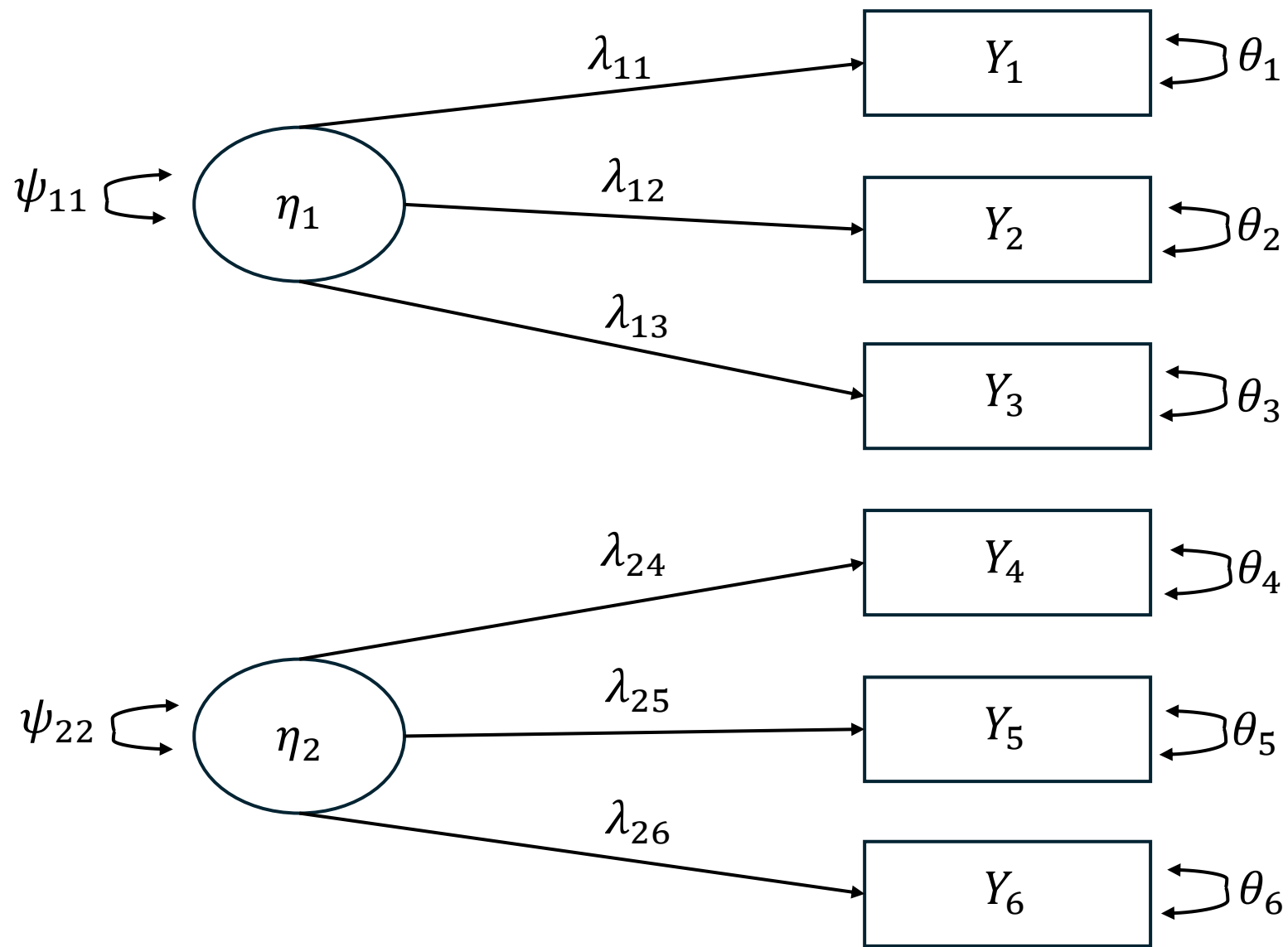
$$\min(\Sigma - S)$$

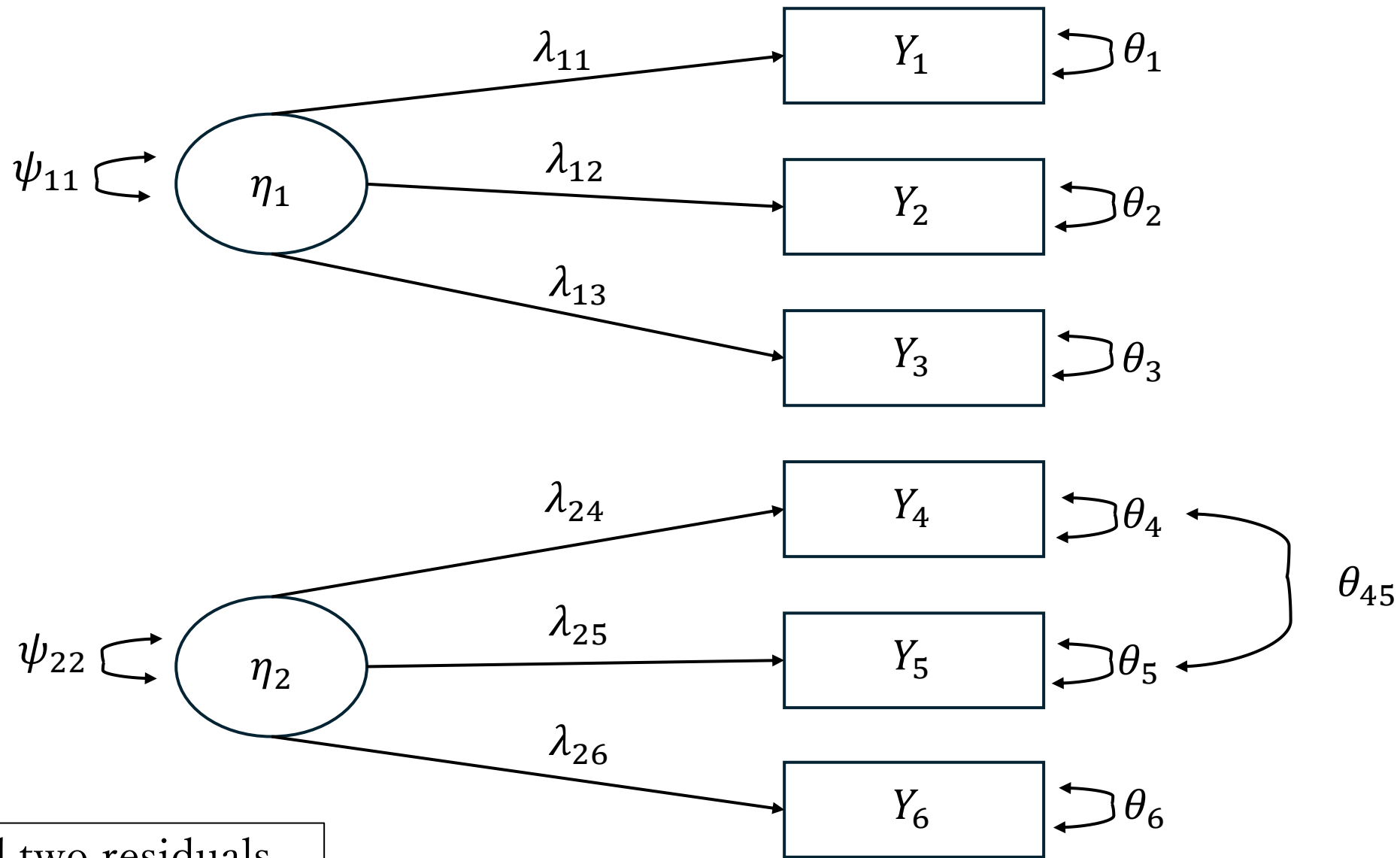
$$\Sigma = \Lambda \Psi \Lambda' + \Theta$$

Model parameters

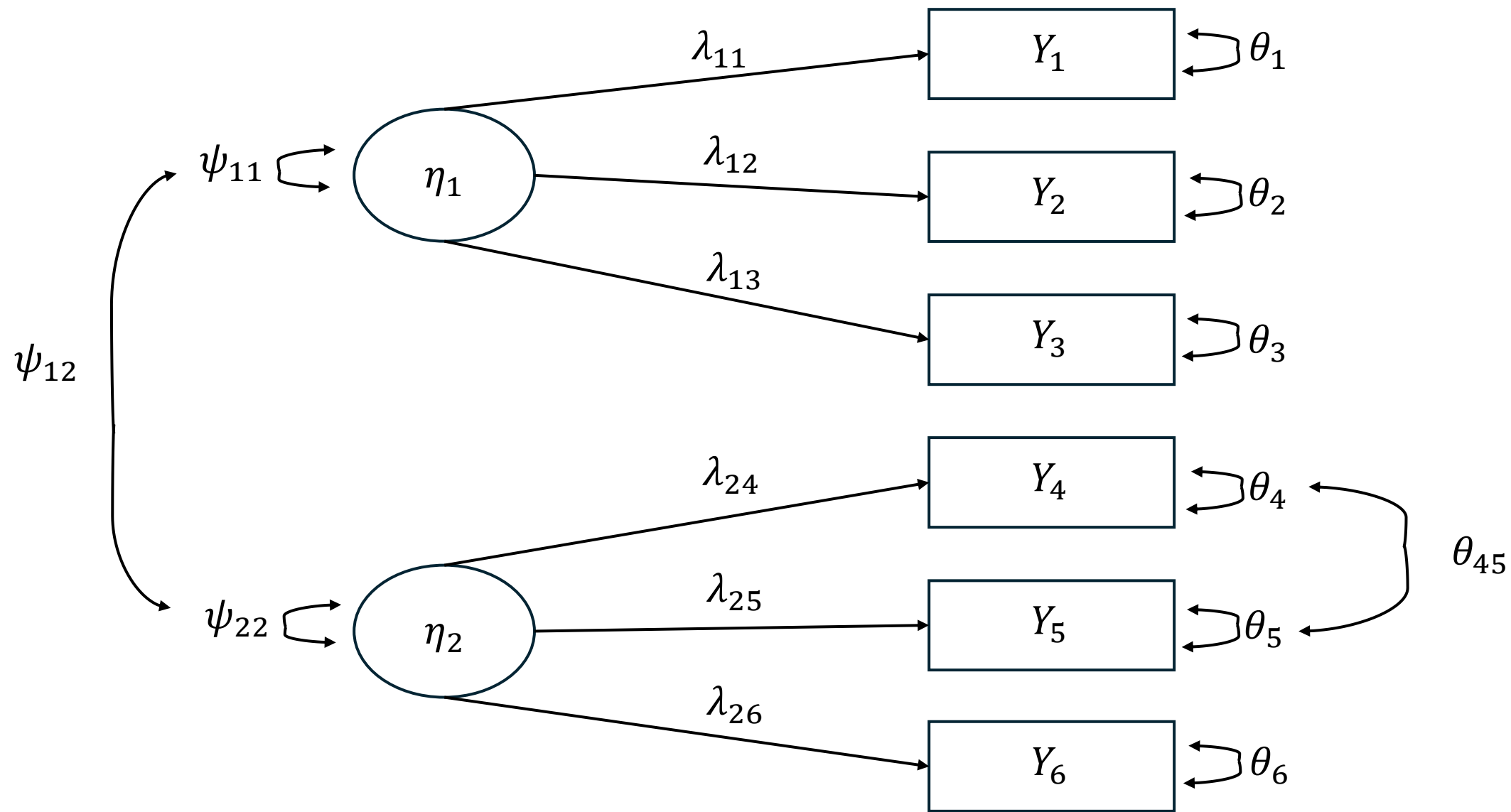
Quantities that the model aims to estimate from the data:

- Factor loadings
- Factor variances
- Factor Covariances
- Measurement error
- Residual covariances (error covariances)
- Intercepts





Why would two residuals
correlate?



Model parameters

How many pieces of information do you have?

Model parameters

How many pieces of information do you have?

HINT:

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{11}^2 \psi_{11} + \theta_1 & \lambda_{11} \lambda_{21} \psi_{11} & \lambda_{11} \lambda_{31} \psi_{11} & \lambda_{11} \lambda_{42} \psi_{12} & \lambda_{11} \lambda_{52} \psi_{12} & \lambda_{11} \lambda_{62} \psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{21} \lambda_{11} \psi_{11} & \lambda_{21}^2 \psi_{11} + \theta_2 & \lambda_{21} \lambda_{31} \psi_{11} & \lambda_{21} \lambda_{42} \psi_{12} & \lambda_{21} \lambda_{52} \psi_{12} & \lambda_{21} \lambda_{62} \psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{31} \lambda_{11} \psi_{11} & \lambda_{31} \lambda_{21} \psi_{11} & \lambda_{31}^2 \psi_{11} + \theta_3 & \lambda_{31} \lambda_{42} \psi_{12} & \lambda_{31} \lambda_{52} \psi_{12} & \lambda_{31} \lambda_{62} \psi_{12} \\ \lambda_{42} \lambda_{11} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{42} \lambda_{21} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{42} \lambda_{31} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{42}^2 \psi_{22} + \theta_4 & \lambda_{42} \lambda_{52} \psi_{22} & \lambda_{42} \lambda_{62} \psi_{22} \\ \lambda_{52} \lambda_{11} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{52} \lambda_{21} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{52} \lambda_{31} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{52} \lambda_{42} \psi_{22} & \lambda_{52}^2 \psi_{22} + \theta_5 & \lambda_{52} \lambda_{62} \psi_{22} \\ \lambda_{62} \lambda_{11} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{62} \lambda_{21} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{62} \lambda_{31} \psi_{21} & \lambda_{62} \lambda_{42} \psi_{22} & \lambda_{62} \lambda_{52} \psi_{22} & \lambda_{62}^2 \psi_{22} + \theta_6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Model parameters

How many pieces of information do you have?

$$\frac{p(p + 1)}{2}$$

p: number of observed variables

Degrees of freedom

In the context of CFA degrees of freedom refer to the number of independent pieces of information available to estimate the model parameters minus the number of parameters to be estimated. Degrees of freedom are crucial for determining model identification and for conducting statistical tests to assess model fit.

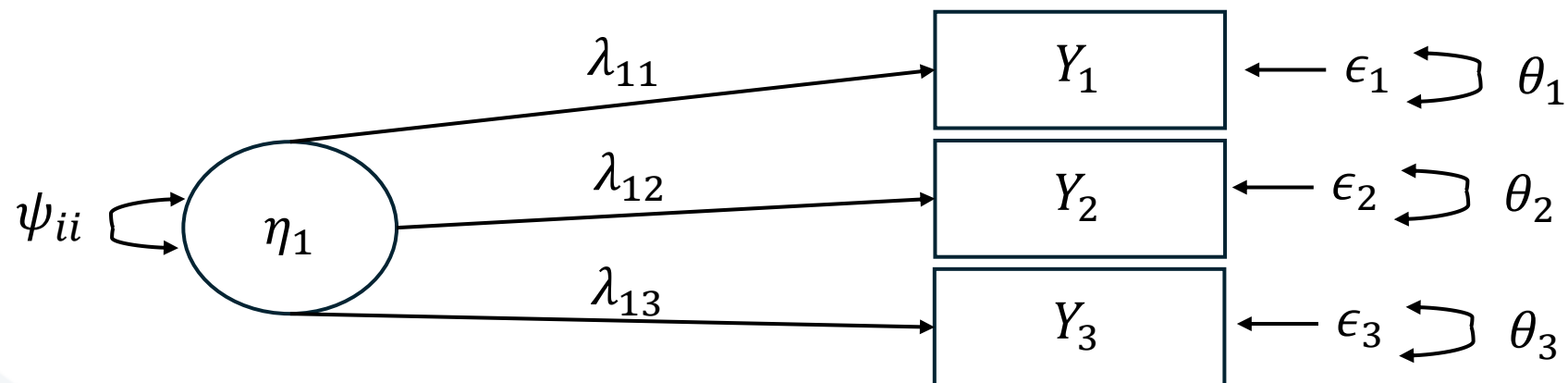
Degrees of freedom

Positive Degrees of Freedom (Over-identified Model):
Such models are testable, and statistical tests can be performed to assess model fit.

Zero Degrees of Freedom (Just-identified Model): These models fit the data perfectly by definition but are not testable in terms of fit.

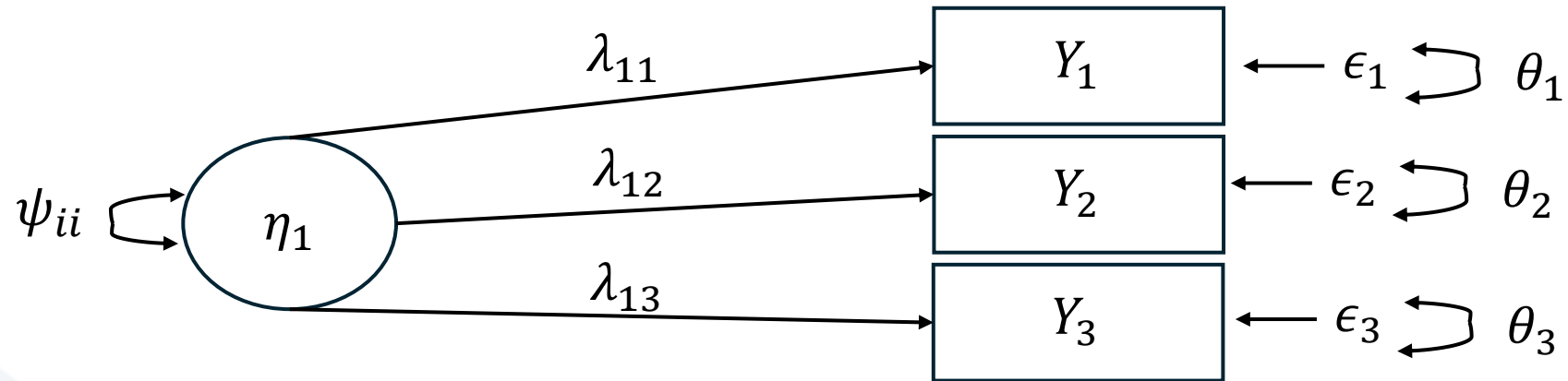
Negative Degrees of Freedom (Under-identified Model):
Such models cannot be estimated uniquely.

How many parameters?



$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{11} \\ \lambda_{12} \\ \lambda_{13} \end{bmatrix} \psi_{11} [\lambda_{11} \quad \lambda_{12} \quad \lambda_{13}] + \begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \theta_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \theta_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

How many parameters?



$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{11} \\ \lambda_{12} \\ \lambda_{13} \end{bmatrix} \psi_{11} [\lambda_{11} \quad \lambda_{12} \quad \lambda_{13}] + \begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \theta_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \theta_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

7 parameters and 6 pieces of information

Scaling the latent variable

- Since latent variables are not directly observed, their scales are not inherently defined.
- The model would be “under-identified” (conceptually) because there would be an infinite number of solutions that fit the data equally well.
- Scaling the latent variable refers to the process of fixing their scale or metric
- Scaling makes the model identifiable and interpretable.

Scaling the latent variable

There are two primary methods:

- Fixing a factor loading to 1: Sets the scale of the latent variable to be the same as that of the selected indicator variable
- Fixing the Variance of the Latent Variable to 1: This standardizes the latent variable, meaning it has a mean of 0 and a variance of 1.

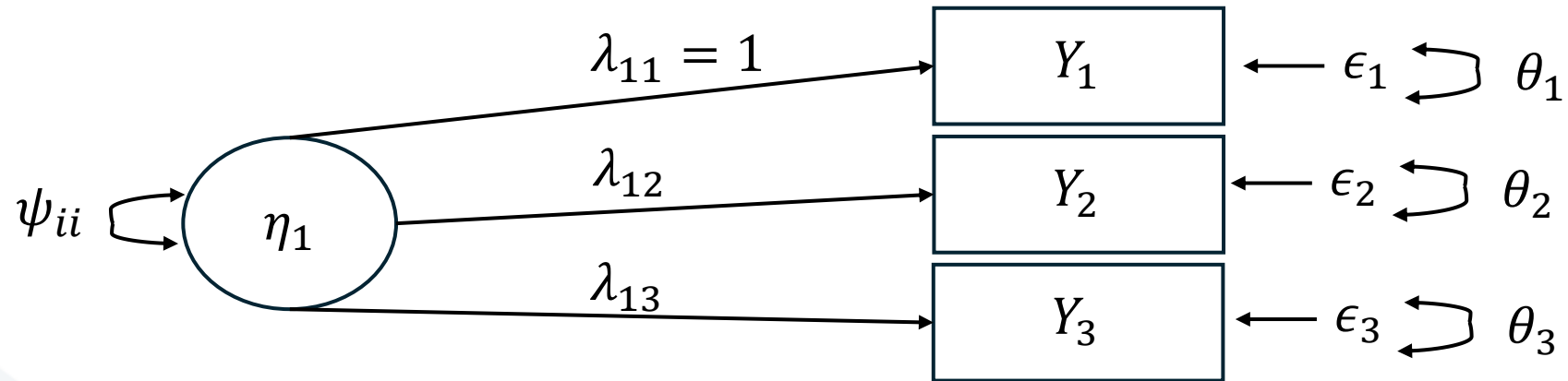
Scaling the latent variable

There are two primary methods:

- Fixing a factor loading to 1 (marker method): Sets the scale of the latent variable to be the same as that of the selected indicator variable
- Fixing the Variance of the Latent Variable to 1: This standardizes the latent variable, meaning it has a mean of 0 and a variance of 1.

...Actually, you do not have to choose...

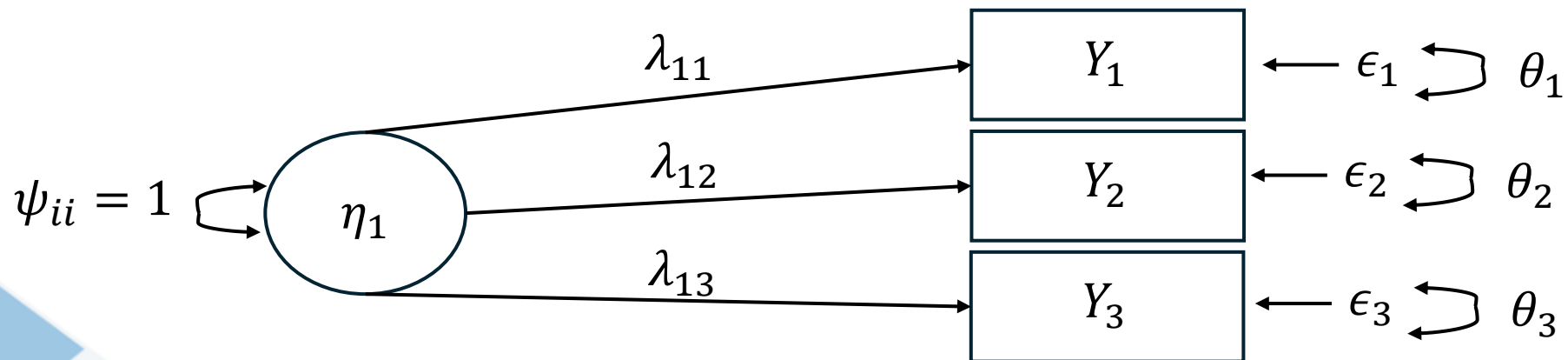
Marker method



$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \lambda_{12} \\ \lambda_{13} \end{bmatrix} \psi_{11} [1 \quad \lambda_{12} \quad \lambda_{13}] + \begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \theta_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \theta_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

6 parameters and 6 pieces of information

Variance standardization



$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{11} \\ \lambda_{12} \\ \lambda_{13} \end{bmatrix} 1[\lambda_{11} \quad \lambda_{12} \quad \lambda_{13}] + \begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \theta_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \theta_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

6 parameters and 6 pieces of information

Note:

Technically, you can fix any parameter to any value you want.

Goodness of fit measures (model fit statistics)

Goodness of fit measures (model fit statistics)

We need to assess how well the proposed model matches the observed data

$$\min(\Sigma - S)$$

First recommendation: check the residuals

There are plenty of GoF!

Model Chi-square test

Null Hypothesis: $\Sigma(\theta) = \Sigma$

Alternative Hypothesis: $\Sigma(\theta) \neq \Sigma$

- This test assesses the discrepancy between the observed covariance matrix and the model-implied covariance matrix.
- A non-significant chi-square indicates a good fit, meaning there is little difference between the observed and predicted covariances.
- A significant chi-square ($p < 0.05$) suggests a poor fit.
- Sensitive to sample size; large samples may lead to significant chi-square even for models that fit well.
- Requires multivariate normality.

SRMR

SRMR: Standardized Root Mean Square Residual

Evaluates the “reasonability” of: $(\Sigma - S)$

- Based on the residual correlation matrix (the variance-covariance could be difficult to interpret due to scale).
- Square root of the average difference of elements in the residual correlation matrix.

$$SRMR = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i \leq j} r_{ij}^2}{p(p+1)/2}}$$

It ranges from 0 (perfect fit) to 1 (worst fit), though it can go slightly above 1

RMSEA

RMSEA: Root Mean Square Error of Approximation

It considers complexity (penalty for model parsimony)

It ranges from 0 (perfect fit)
to 1 (worst fit), though it
can go slightly above 1

CFI

CFI: Comparative Fit Index

Takes advantage of a baseline model: the null (independence) model where covariances are zero.

TLI

TLI: Tucker-Lewis Index

It considers complexity (penalty for model parsimony)

CFI and TLI range from 0 (worst fit) to 1 (perfect fit).

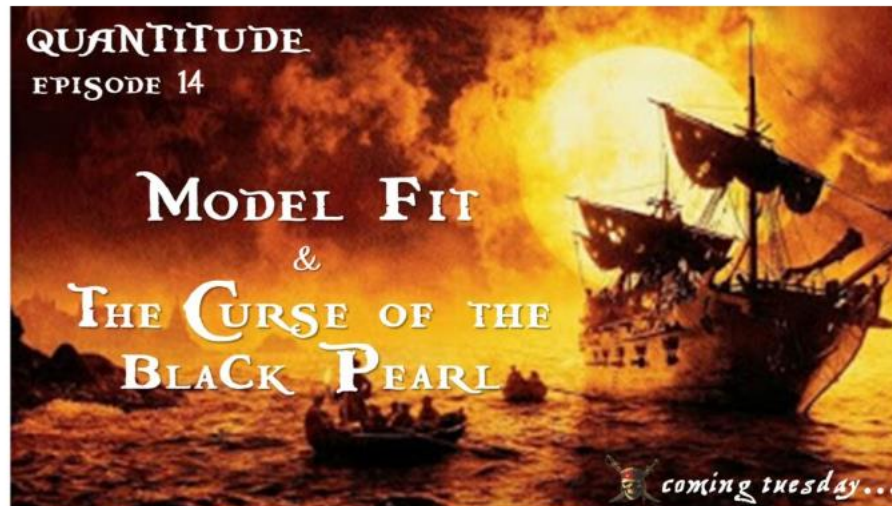
Fit type	Index	Interpretation for guidance
Absolute	RMR/SRMR	≤ 0.08 = good fit
	WRMR	≤ 1.00 = good fit
Parsimonious	PRATIO	Between 0.00 (saturated model) and 1.00 (parsimonious model)
	RMSEA	≤ 0.05 = very good fit ≤ 0.06 and ≤ 0.08 = good fit
	AIC	Comparative index: the lower value of this index, the better the fit
	BIC	Comparative index: the lower value of this index, the better the fit
Incremental	CFI	≥ 0.90 and ≤ 0.94 = good fit ≥ 0.95 = very good fit
	TLI	≥ 0.90 and ≤ 0.94 = good fit ≥ 0.95 = very good fit

Table 1.11. *Some goodness-of-fit indices available in lavaan*

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S1E14: Model Fit & The Curse of the Black Pearl

February 11, 2020



<https://quantitudepod.org/episode-14-model-fit-the-curse-of-the-black-pearl/>

EFA vs CFA

Is EFA a data driven approach?

Is EFA exploratory?

Is CFA confirmatory?

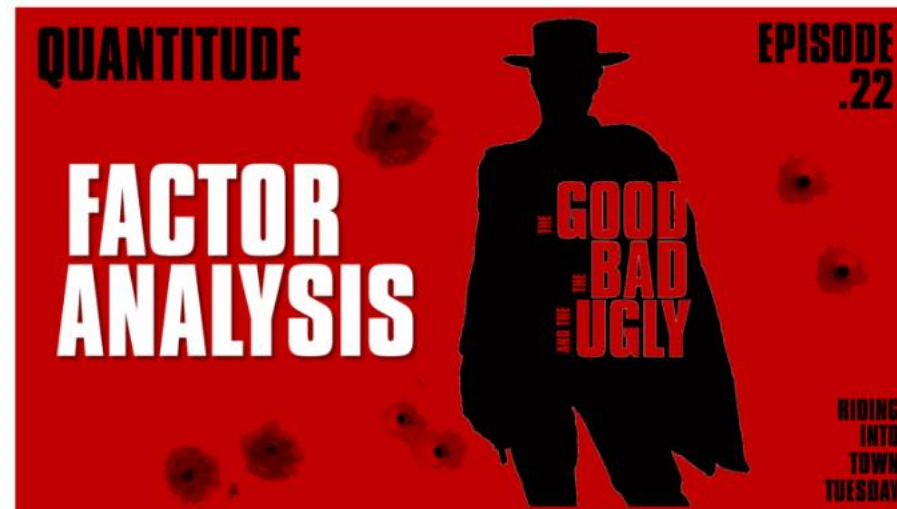
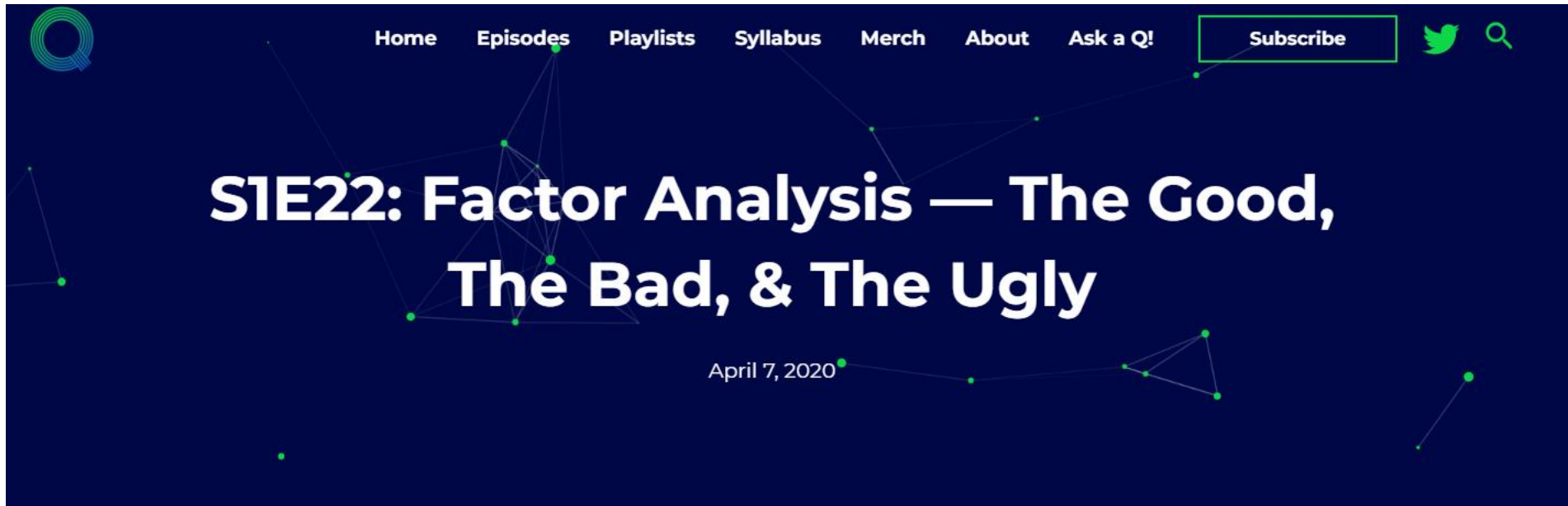
Is EF for scale development and construct validation?

EFA: no prior restrictions

CFA: you must specify several aspects

Danger Zone

Modification indices
Error correlations
Estimation methods



<https://quantitudepod.org/episode-22-factor-analysis-the-good-the-bad-the-ugly/>

Go to the tutorial!

Thank you!

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