Problem session 7 PSYC 5322

Guertin and Bailey (1970) reported the following two-factor model to account for the correlations among several subscales of the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale (WAIS):

	Factor	Factor Loadings	
Subtest	1	2	
1. Information	.63	34	
2. Digit Span	.42	13	
3. Vocabulary	.66	41	
4. Block Design	.62	.40	
5. Picture Arrangement	.47	.11	
6. Object Assembly	.59	.40	

ullet Use the factor loadings to plot each subtest as a point in the two-dimensional factor space. Use Factor 1 for the x-axis and Factor 2 for the y-axis.

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• Based on the factor loadings, what is the estimated correlation between scores on the Digit Span and Information subtests?

• Based on the factor loadings, what is the estimated correlation between scores on the Vocabulary and Picture Arrangement subtests?

• Compute the common variance and unique variance for each subtest.

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For this exercise, you'll do a factor analysis on N=615 responses from the Abbreviated Math Anxiety Scale. You'll need to download the AMAS.csv file from Canvas and open it in JASP. Participants are asked to rate their perceived anxiety when thinking about the following situations (1=low anxiety, 5= high anxiety):

- 1. Having to use the tables in the back of a mathematics book.
- 2. Thinking about an upcoming mathematics test one day before.
- 3. Watching a teacher work an algebraic equation on the blackboard.
- 4. Taking an examination in a mathematics course.
- 5. Being given a homework assignment of many difficult problems which is due the next class meeting.
- 6. Listening to a lecture in mathematics class.
- 7. Listening to another student explain a mathematics formula.
- 8. Being given a "pop" quiz in a mathematics class.
- 9. Starting a new chapter in a mathematics book.
- Compute a correlation matrix for the 9 items and report the correlations between the following two pairs of items: Items 1 and 2, and Items 3 and 6.

• Perform an exploratory factor analysis using the initial JASP defaults (Number of factors = parallel analysis, Rotation = Oblique/promax, highlighted loadings > 0.3). How many factors do you end up with? Which items load on which factors?

• Compute the common variance and unique variance for Items 3 and 8. Explain what these numbers mean.

• Compute the model estimated correlations between Items 1 and 2 and Items 3 and 6. How do these estimated correlations compare with the actual correlations you obtained in (a) above?

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- What is the correlation between the two factors?
- Based on the pattern of loadings in (b), can you interpret the factors of the scale?

• What happens to the model fit when you manually choose one less factor? Is this "reduced" model acceptable? Cite the appropriate statistic(s) to justify your answer.