

Tutorial 1 Factor Analysis

Find me at <http://tbates.github.io/Multivariate-Stats-Course>

1. Find and load the `bfi` dataset (in the `psych` package).

```
library(psych) # bfi is autoloading
```

- what columns contain the Big-Five Inventory data?
1:25 called A1-5 C1-5 etc.

2. Find a package in R that does parallel analysis

- What is its name?

```
paran
```

- What is the name of the function?

```
paran
```

- *tutor note*: Share the package and function we wish to work with to the group.

3. Read the help

- What parameters does this parallel analysis function take?
- What do they do?

4. Use the function to determine how many factors are in the `bfi` dataset

- Do rows with missing data break `paran`?

```
Yes
```

- Does parallel analysis function need to be given *just* the columns you need to analyse?

```
Yes
```

- How many complete cases exist in these personality data?

```
sum(complete.cases(bfi)) = 2236
```

```
df = bfi[complete.cases(bfi), 1:25]
```

- Run the function?

```
paran::paran(df)
```

- How many factors exist in these personality data?

```
5
```

- What is a scree plot and how do you plot it with this function?

```
paran::paran(df, graph= TRUE)
```

5. Find R's built in factor analysis function

- What is it?

```
factanal
```

- *tutor note* - share this answer with the class if they don't get it

- What parameters does this function need?

```
data and factors at a minimum
```

- What are its options? Discuss.

6. Run an `fa`, extracting the predicted number of factors from `paran`

```
fa = factanal(df, factors = 5)
```

- What does uniqueness mean?

```
how much of each item is NOT explained by the factors
```

- Are items fairly unique in general?

yes, often well-over half their variance

- Was what you ran by default oblique or orthogonal?

orthogonal

- What is the name of an oblique rotation?

let me google that for you

promax

- *tutor-note* share the correct answer before continuing.

7. Use the oblique rotation

```
fa = factanal(df, factors = 5, rotation= "promax")
```

- Is the structure “simple” now?

yes

- What does that mean?

items have one high loading and all the rest are small

- What are the factors? (Name them based on high loadings)

look at high-loadings on the print out

- What do the empty cells mean?

print out hides small values

8. Try and alter how the result prints out

- The factor analysis object has a special print method, which supports sorting and hiding small values!

```
print(fa, cutoff = .3, sort = TRUE)
```

- Are the factors independent?

- What component of the print out tells us this?

9. Create scores for each subject (hint, the factor analysis function has a scores parameter)

```
fa = factanal(df, factors = 5, scores = "Bartlett", data = df,  
na.action = na.exclude)
```

10. Add these to the dataset.

```
df$f1= fa$scores[, "Factor1"]
```

Bravo!

Extra credit if you finish early

1. Try doing all of this with IQ data set Holzinger from psych
2. Do an FA on some of your own data, or... anything else: practise creates skill.
3. Play with the options to paran and factanal

To prepare for next week's tutorials and lectures

1. Install the package umx
2. Read the ?umxRAM help, and run one model from its help examples
3. Advanced credit: Try and re-run one of the factor analyses using umxFactanal

Scientific as opposed to statistical Questions:

1. Do you think personality has 5 or 6 major domains?
2. Is the BFI data good?
3. What would happen to the parallel analysis if we sampled facets better?
4. What could go wrong if the data have a hierarchical structure like we know personality does?