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Ke, Hui-xin

Graduate School of Engineering Sciences, and Research Institute of Fundamental Information Science, Kyushu University

Asano, Chooichiro

Research Institute of Fundamental Information Science, Kyushu University

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## ON THE CONDITIONAL LINEAR STRUCTURAL EQUATIONS WITH LATENT VARIABLES

By

Hui-xin KE\* and Chooichiro ASANO\*\*

### Abstract

This paper discusses the detailed models of partial, bipartial and part linear structural equation, basing on the conditional variance-covariance matrices, and gives concrete algorithms to estimate parameters by the maximum likelihood method and the generalized least square method. An illustration is provided to show how to approach the models.

### 1. Introduction

The analysis of structural equation models is well known to be very useful in assessing multivariate data in the fields of social and behavioral sciences. Recently, various models and their analytical methods were discussed and developed, e.g., [8, 9, 17, 3, 6]. Among them, Bentler-Weeks model [3, 4] was introduced to be a simple general model and has a wide range of applications.

In studying linear relationships among variables, not only the simple correlations or covariances are often needed, but also the conditional correlations or covariances among variables are important to examine, when the effects of some variables are partialled out. In statistical history, partial and multiple correlations were introduced by Yule and then the concepts of part correlation and bipartial correlation were developed by Ezekiel and so on. Roy and latter Rao generalized the concept of canonical correlation first developed by Hotelling to partial canonical correlation, which was further extended to part and bipartial canonical correlations by Timm and Carlson [18] and to  $g_1$ - and  $g_2$ -bipartial canonical correlation by Lee [12]. Recently, Lee [14] considered the analysis of conditional covariance structure models, and proposed the concepts of partial factor analysis and the partial LISREL model.

In the analysis of structural equation model, or generally, the Bentler-Weeks model, the situation is also often faced with eliminating some variables. Therefore we develop in this paper the concepts of partial, bipartial and part linear structural equation models to control the influence of some variables by the appropriate conditional distributions. Thus the estimation of parameters and the goodness-of-fit test can be dealt with analogically as the ordinary case.

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\* Graduate School of Engineering Sciences, and Research Institute of Fundamental Information Science, Kyushu University, Japan.

\*\* Research Institute of Fundamental Information Science, Kyushu University 33, Fukuoka 812, Japan.

## 2. The Partial Linear Structural Equation Model

Using the similar notations as Bentler and Weeks (1980), i.e.  $\eta = \beta_0\eta + \gamma\xi$  for the structural equation model,  $Y = \mu_y + G_y\eta$  and  $X = \mu_x + G_x\xi$  for the selection model, and  $\Sigma_{yy} = G_y\beta^{-1}\gamma\Phi\gamma'\beta'^{-1}G'_y$ ,  $\Sigma_{yx} = G_y\beta^{-1}\gamma\Phi G'_x$  and  $\Sigma_{xx} = G_x\Phi G'_x$  for the complete model, we assume that the vector  $(Y', X')'$  belongs to a multivariate normal distribution with mean vector  $\mu$  and variance-covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ .

Thus we shall provide three types of partial models.

(1) Let  $Y = (Y'_1, Y'_2)'$ , where  $Y_1$  is a  $p_1 \times 1$  random vector and  $Y_2$  is a  $p_2 \times 1$  random vector,  $(p_1 + p_2 = p)$ . Suppose  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  satisfy the following selection model,

$$Y = \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mu_y + G_y\eta = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_{y_1} \\ \mu_{y_2} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} G_{y_1} \\ G_{y_2} \end{pmatrix} \beta^{-1} \gamma \xi, \quad (2.1)$$

where  $G_{y_1}$  and  $G_{y_2}$  are known  $p_1 \times m$  and  $p_2 \times m$  selection matrices, and  $\mu_{y_1}$  and  $\mu_{y_2}$  are  $p_1 \times 1$  and  $p_2 \times 1$  mean vectors, respectively. Hence the population variance-covariance matrix of  $Y$  can be written as

$$\Sigma_{yy} = C(Y, Y') = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{y_1 y_1} & \Sigma_{y_1 y_2} \\ \Sigma_{y_2 y_1} & \Sigma_{y_2 y_2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} G_{y_1} \\ G_{y_2} \end{pmatrix} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} G'_{y_1} & G'_{y_2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.2)$$

where  $C(Y, Y')$  expresses the variance-covariance matrix of  $Y$ .

We are interested in the structure of the model after elimination of the influence of the variables  $Y_2$ . Consider the conditional variance-covariance matrix of  $(Y'_1, X')'$ , when  $Y_2 = y_2$  is given. Using the well known formula

$$\Sigma_{11.2} = \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \Sigma_{21},$$

we have

$$C\left(\begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ X \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ X \end{pmatrix}' \middle| y_2\right) = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{y_1 y_1 \cdot y_2} & \Sigma_{y_1 x \cdot y_2} \\ \Sigma_{x y_1 \cdot y_2} & \Sigma_{x x \cdot y_2} \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_{y_1 y_1 \cdot y_2} &= G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G'_{y_1} - G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G'_{y_2} \Sigma_{y_2 y_2}^{-1} G_{y_2} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G'_{y_1} \\ &= G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma (\Phi - \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G'_{y_2} \Sigma_{y_2 y_2}^{-1} G_{y_2} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi) \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G'_{y_1}, \\ \Sigma_{y_1 x \cdot y_2} &= G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma (\Phi - \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G'_{y_2} \Sigma_{y_2 y_2}^{-1} G_{y_2} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi) G'_x, \\ \Sigma_{x x \cdot y_2} &= G_x (\Phi - \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G'_{y_2} \Sigma_{y_2 y_2}^{-1} G_{y_2} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi) G'_x. \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

Consider the variance-covariance matrix of  $\xi$  and  $Y_2$ , then we have

$$C\left(\begin{pmatrix} \xi \\ Y_2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \xi \\ Y_2 \end{pmatrix}'\right) = \begin{pmatrix} \Phi & \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G'_{y_2} \\ G_{y_2} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi & \Sigma_{y_2 y_2} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.4)$$

Thus the conditional variance-covariance matrix of  $\xi | y_2$  can be obtained as

$$C(\xi, \xi' | y_2) = \Phi - \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G'_{y_2} \Sigma_{y_2 y_2}^{-1} G_{y_2} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi = \Phi_2. \quad (2.5)$$

This means that the elements in  $\Phi_2$  give the partial covariances among variables in  $\xi$  with  $Y_2$  held constant. Therefore we can rewrite the conditional model in the following way. Let

$$Y^\# = Y_1 | y_2, \quad X^\# = X | y_2, \quad \eta^\# = \eta | y_2, \quad \xi^\# = \xi | y_2, \quad (2.6)$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \eta^\# &= \beta_0 \eta^\# + \gamma \xi^\#, \quad Y^\# = \mu_{y_1} + G_{y_1} \eta^\#, \quad X^\# = \mu_x + G_x \xi^\#, \\ \Sigma_{y^\# y^\#} &= G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_2 \gamma' \beta^{-1} G'_{y_1}, \quad \Sigma_{y^\# x^\#} = G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_2 G'_x, \\ \Sigma_{x^\# x^\#} &= G_x \Phi_2 G'_x, \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

which are of the same form as the ordinary Bentler-Weeks model. We may call (2.6) and (2.7) the type-1 partial linear structural equation model with  $Y_2$  partialled out. Thus, after  $Y_2$  being controlled,  $\eta | y_2$ ,  $\xi | y_2$ ,  $Y_1 | y_2$  and  $X | y_2$  still construct a Bentler-Weeks model.

(2) Let

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mu_x + G_x \xi = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_{x_1} \\ \mu_{x_2} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} G_{x_1} \\ G_{x_2} \end{pmatrix} \xi, \quad (2.8)$$

where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are  $q_1 \times 1$  and  $q_2 \times 1$  ( $q_1 + q_2 = q$ ) random vectors,  $\mu_{x_1}$  and  $\mu_{x_2}$  are  $q_1 \times 1$  and  $q_2 \times 1$  mean vectors, and  $G_{x_1}$  and  $G_{x_2}$  are  $q_1 \times n$  and  $q_2 \times n$  selection matrices, respectively. By the similar discussion, we then have the following type-2 partial linear structural equation model with the effects of the variables  $X_2$  being controlled.

$$Y^\# = Y | x_2, \quad X^\# = X_1 | x_2, \quad \eta^\# = \eta | x_2, \quad \xi^\# = \xi | x_2, \quad (2.9)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \eta^\# &= \beta_0 \eta^\# + \gamma \xi^\#, \quad Y^\# = \mu_y + G_y \eta^\#, \quad X^\# = \mu_{x_1} + G_{x_1} \xi^\#, \\ \Sigma_{y^\# y^\#} &= G_y \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_2^\# \gamma' \beta^{-1} G'_y, \quad \Sigma_{y^\# x^\#} = G_y \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_2^\# G'_{x_1}, \\ \Sigma_{x^\# x^\#} &= G_{x_1} \Phi_2^\# G'_{x_1}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

where  $\Phi_2^\# = \Phi - \Phi G'_{x_2} \Sigma_{x_2 x_2}^{-1} G_{x_2} \Phi$  is the conditional variance-covariance matrix of  $\xi$  given  $X_2$ , that is  $\xi | x_2$ . Hence, the type-2 partial model is also a Bentler-Weeks model.

(3) In the third type, we have both partitioned random vectors

$$Y = (Y'_1, Y'_2)' \quad \text{and} \quad X = (X'_1, X'_2)'$$

as showed in (2.1) and (2.8) and consider the situation, where the effects of both  $Y_2$  and  $X_2$  have been controlled. Let

$$\begin{aligned} Y^\# &= Y_1 | (y_2, x_2), \quad X^\# = X_1 | (y_2, x_2), \\ \eta^\# &= \eta | (y_2, x_2), \quad \xi^\# = \xi | (y_2, x_2). \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

This time the conditional variance-covariance matrix of  $Y_1$  given both  $y_2$  and  $x_2$  is as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_{y^\# y^\#} &= C(Y^\#, Y^\#) = C(Y_1, Y'_1 | y_2, x_2) = \Sigma_{y_1 y_1 \cdot y_2 x_2} = \Sigma_{y_1 y_1 \cdot x_2} - \Sigma_{y_1 y_2 \cdot x_2} \Sigma_{y_2 y_2 \cdot x_2}^{-1} \Sigma_{y_2 y_1 \cdot x_2} \\ &= G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_2^\# \gamma' \beta^{-1} G'_{y_1} - G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_2^\# \gamma' \beta^{-1} G'_{y_2} \Sigma_{y_2 y_2 \cdot x_2}^{-1} G_{y_2} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_2^\# \gamma' \beta^{-1} G'_{y_1} \\ &= G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_{22} \gamma' \beta^{-1} G'_{y_1}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

where  $\Phi_{22} = \Phi_2^\# - \Phi_2^\# \gamma' \beta^{-1} G'_{y_2} \Sigma_{y_2 y_2 \cdot x_2}^{-1} G_{y_2} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_2^\#$ , and  $\Phi_{22}$  is the conditional variance-covariance matrix of  $\xi$  given both  $y_2$  and  $x_2$ . That is

$$C(\xi^\#, \xi^\#) = C(\xi, \xi' | y_2, x_2) = \Phi_{22}. \quad (2.13)$$

Similarly, we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_{y^\#x^\#} &= C(Y_1, X_1' | y_2, x_2) = G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_{22} G_{x_1}', \\ \Sigma_{x^\#x^\#} &= C(X_1, X_1' | y_2, x_2) = G_{x_1} \Phi_{22} G_{x_1}'.\end{aligned}\quad (2.14)$$

Let

$$\eta^\# = \beta_0 \eta^\# + \gamma \xi^\#, \quad (2.15)$$

$$Y^\# = \mu_{y_1} + G_{y_1} \eta^\#, \quad X^\# = \mu_{x_1} + G_{x_1} \xi^\#.$$

In this case, (2.11), (2.12), (2.14) and (2.15) form the type-3 partial linear structural equation model, we call, which is also a Bentler-Weeks model with both  $Y_2$  and  $X_2$  partialled out.

### 3. The Bipartial Linear Structural Equation Model

Let us now consider a structure of the model after controlling both effects of  $Y_2$  on  $Y_1$  and of  $X_2$  on  $X_1$ . This leads us to the bipartial linear structural equation model. Consider the following conditional random vectors

$$Y^\# = Y_1 | y_2, \quad X^\# = X_1 | x_2. \quad (3.1)$$

The corresponding variance and covariance matrices can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_{y^\#y^\#} &= C(Y_1, Y_1' | y_2) = \Sigma_{y_1 y_1 \cdot y_2} = G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_{22} \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G_{y_1}', \\ \Sigma_{x^\#x^\#} &= C(X_1, X_1' | x_2) = \Sigma_{x_1 x_1 \cdot x_2} = G_{x_1} \Phi_{22} G_{x_1}', \\ \Sigma_{y^\#x^\#} &= C(Y_1 | y_2, X_1' | x_2) = \Sigma_{(y_1 \cdot y_2)(x_1 \cdot x_2)} = \Sigma_{y_1 x_1} - \Sigma_{y_1 y_2} \Sigma_{y_2 y_2}^{-1} \Sigma_{y_2 x_1} \\ &\quad - \Sigma_{y_1 x_2} \Sigma_{x_2 x_2}^{-1} \Sigma_{x_2 x_1} + \Sigma_{y_1 y_2} \Sigma_{y_2 y_2}^{-1} \Sigma_{y_2 x_2} \Sigma_{x_2 x_2}^{-1} \Sigma_{x_2 x_1} = G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi G_{x_1}' \\ &\quad - G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G_{y_2}' \Sigma_{y_2 y_2}^{-1} G_{y_2} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi G_{x_1}' - G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi G_{x_2}' \Sigma_{x_2 x_2}^{-1} G_{x_2} \Phi G_{x_1}' \\ &\quad + G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G_{y_2}' \Sigma_{y_2 y_2}^{-1} G_{y_2} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi G_{x_2}' \Sigma_{x_2 x_2}^{-1} G_{x_2} \Phi G_{x_1}' \\ &= G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma (\Phi_2 \Phi^{-1} \Phi_2') G_{x_1}'.\end{aligned}\quad (3.2)$$

Let  $\Phi_{22}^\# = \Phi_2 \Phi^{-1} \Phi_2'$ , and let two quasi random vectors be  $\xi^\# = \xi | y_2$  and  $\xi^{\# \#} = \xi | x_2$ . Then we have

$$C(\xi^\#, \xi^{\# \#}) = \Phi_2, \quad C(\xi^{\# \#}, \xi^{\# \#}) = \Phi_2^\#, \quad C(\xi^\#, \xi^{\# \#}) = \Phi_{22}^\#. \quad (3.3)$$

Let

$$\eta^\# = \eta | y_2 \quad \text{and} \quad \eta^{\# \#} = \eta | x_2. \quad (3.4)$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}\eta^\# &= \beta_0 \eta^\# + \gamma \xi^\#, \quad \eta^{\# \#} = \beta_0 \eta^{\# \#} + \gamma \xi^{\# \#}, \\ Y^\# &= \mu_{y_1} + G_{y_1} \eta^\#, \quad X^\# = \mu_{x_1} + G_{x_1} \xi^{\# \#},\end{aligned}\quad (3.5)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_{y^\#y^\#} &= G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_{22} \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G_{y_1}', \\ \Sigma_{y^\#x^\#} &= G_{y_1} \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_{22}^\# G_{x_1}', \\ \Sigma_{x^\#x^\#} &= G_{x_1} \Phi_{22}^\# G_{x_1}'.\end{aligned}\quad (3.6)$$

This is a bipartial linear structural equation model, and is a quasi Bentler-Weeks model, with elimination of both the effects of  $Y_2$  on  $Y_1$  and of  $X_2$  on  $X_1$ .

#### 4. The Part Linear Structural Equation Model

For Bentler-Weeks model, a “complete” latent variable model is considered. However, when the problem is to analyze some kind of longitudinal data, in which the same quantitative measurements are obtained at two or more occasions and all the measured variables are assumed to be functions of some latent variables, we may have two sets of observed data  $Y^{(1)}$  and  $Y^{(2)}$  but without  $X$  variables. In these two sets, sometimes there may be nuisance variables. In such situation, it leads us to a part linear structural equation model by eliminating the effects of them.

Assume that longitudinal data  $Y^{(1)}$  and  $Y^{(2)}$  can be expressed by the partitioned form

$$Y = \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \\ Y_3 \\ Y_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \mu_3 \\ \mu_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} G_1 \\ G_2 \\ G_3 \\ G_4 \end{pmatrix} \eta, \quad (4.1)$$

where  $Y_2$  and  $Y_4$  are the respective  $p_2 \times 1$  and  $p_4 \times 1$  nuisance variables in  $Y^{(1)}$  and  $Y^{(2)}$ , and are distinguished from  $Y_1$  ( $p_1 \times 1$ ) and  $Y_3$  ( $p_3 \times 1$ ), i.e.  $p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4 = p$ ,  $\mu_i$  and  $G_i$  have the same meanings as the former sections for  $i=1, 2, 3, 4$ .

Thus consider the conditional random vector

$$Y^\# = \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 | y_2 \\ Y_3 | y_4 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.2)$$

Then

$$\Sigma_{y^\# y^\#} = C \left( \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 | y_2 \\ Y_3 | y_4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 | y_2 \\ Y_3 | y_4 \end{pmatrix}' \right) = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{11 \cdot 2} & \Sigma_{(1 \cdot 2)(3 \cdot 4)} \\ \Sigma_{(3 \cdot 4)(1 \cdot 2)} & \Sigma_{33 \cdot 4} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4.3)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_{11 \cdot 2} &= G_1 \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_2 \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G_1', \\ \Sigma_{33 \cdot 4} &= G_3 \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_4 \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G_3', \\ \Sigma_{(1 \cdot 2)(3 \cdot 4)} &= G_1 \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi_{24} \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G_3', \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_2 &= \Phi - \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G_2' \Sigma_{22}^{-1} G_2 \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi = C(\xi, \xi' | y_2), \\ \Phi_4 &= \Phi - \Phi \gamma' \beta'^{-1} G_4' \Sigma_{44}^{-1} G_4 \beta^{-1} \gamma \Phi = C(\xi, \xi' | y_4), \\ \Phi_{24} &= \Phi_2 \Phi^{-1} \Phi_4 = C(\xi | y_2, \xi' | y_4), \end{aligned} \quad (4.5)$$

where  $\Phi = C(\xi, \xi')$ .

For this case, we can define the part linear structural equation model as a kind of quasi Bentler-Weeks model in the following way

$$\begin{aligned} \eta^\# &= B_0 \eta^\# + \Gamma \xi^\#, \\ Y^\# &= \mu + G \eta^\#, \\ \Sigma^\# &= \Sigma_{y^\# y^\#} = G B^{-1} \Gamma \Phi^\# \Gamma' B'^{-1} G', \end{aligned} \quad (4.6)$$

where

$$\eta^\# = \begin{pmatrix} \eta | y_2 \\ \eta | y_4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \xi^\# = \begin{pmatrix} \xi | y_2 \\ \xi | y_4 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\begin{aligned}
B_0 &= \begin{pmatrix} \beta_0 & 0 \\ 0 & \beta_0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma \end{pmatrix}, \\
G &= \begin{pmatrix} G_1 & 0 \\ 0 & G_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mu = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_3 \end{pmatrix}, \\
\Phi^* &= C(\xi^*, \xi^{*'}) = \begin{pmatrix} \Phi_2 & \Phi_{24} \\ \Phi_{42} & \Phi_4 \end{pmatrix}, \\
B &= I - B_0.
\end{aligned} \tag{4.7}$$

The orders of the matrices in (4.7) are  $2m \times 1$ ,  $2n \times 1$ ,  $2m \times 2m$ ,  $2m \times 2n$ ,  $(p_1 + p_3) \times 2m$ ,  $(p_1 + p_3) \times 1$ ,  $2n \times 2n$  and  $2m \times 2m$ , respectively.

Note that the concept of "part model" described in this section is somewhat different from Timm and Carlson [18]. While the latter is based on the part correlation coefficient between  $Y$  and  $X$  after partialling out  $Z$  from  $X$ , but not from  $Y$ , the former is only a part of the ordinary Bentler-Weeks model without  $X$ -variables in it.

## 5. Estimation of the Models and Test of Goodness-of-fit

Since the conditional models in above sections are either Bentler-Weeks models or quasi Bentler-Weeks models, the usual methods of estimation and goodness-of-fit test can be used here without difficulty.

Therefore, saving the space, we only discuss the case for the part model and omit the partial and bipartial models.

Suppose that  $Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_N$  are a random sample of observations from a population  $N(\mu, \Sigma)$ , where  $Z_i = (Y'_{1i}, Y'_{2i}, Y'_{3i}, Y'_{4i})'$  is a  $p \times 1$  partitioned vector with four sub-vectors of dimensions  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  and  $p_4$ , respectively. Let  $S = (S_{ij})$  be the partitioned sample variance-covariance matrix, where  $i, j = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . Let  $\theta$  be a  $t \times 1$  vector of unconstrained parameters in  $\Phi^*, \gamma$  and  $\beta_0$ , ( $\theta_0$  is the true vector of  $\theta$ ), and  $\Sigma$  be a function of  $\theta$ . Let

$$S^* = \begin{pmatrix} S_{11 \cdot 2} & S_{(1 \cdot 2)(3 \cdot 4)} \\ S_{(3 \cdot 4)(1 \cdot 2)} & S_{33 \cdot 4} \end{pmatrix} \tag{5.1}$$

be the conditional sample variance-covariance matrix, where

$$\begin{aligned}
S_{11 \cdot 2} &= S_{11} - S_{12} S_{22}^{-1} S_{21}, \\
S_{33 \cdot 4} &= S_{33} - S_{34} S_{44}^{-1} S_{43}, \\
S_{(1 \cdot 2)(3 \cdot 4)} &= S_{13} - S_{12} S_{22}^{-1} S_{23} - S_{14} S_{44}^{-1} S_{43} + S_{12} S_{22}^{-1} S_{24} S_{44}^{-1} S_{43},
\end{aligned} \tag{5.2}$$

and let  $\Sigma^*$  be the corresponding partitioned conditional variance-covariance matrix of the population.  $S^*$  is proved to be an unbiased estimator of  $\Sigma^*$  by use of the results from Anderson [1]. The estimator of  $\theta$  is obtained by minimizing an objective function or a fit function which describes the difference between  $S^*$  and  $\Sigma^*$ . According to Browne [5], the G. L. S. estimator  $\hat{\theta}$  of  $\theta$  results from minimizing

$$Q(\theta) = \text{tr}\{[S^* - \Sigma^*(\theta)]W\}^2/2, \tag{5.3}$$

and the M. L. estimator  $\tilde{\theta}$  of  $\theta$  is obtained by minimizing

$$F(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^*(\boldsymbol{\theta})| + \text{tr}\{\mathbf{S}^*[\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^*(\boldsymbol{\theta})]^{-1}\} - \log |\mathbf{S}^*| - (p_1 + p_3), \quad (5.4)$$

where  $\mathbf{W}$  is a weighted matrix to converge asymptotically to a positive definite matrix, and usually  $\mathbf{W}$  is chosen as  $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{S}^{*-1}$ . The algorithms may be Gauss-Newton algorithm and Scoring algorithm [15]. Clearly speaking, the basic steps in Gauss-Newton algorithm for minimizing  $Q(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  and in Scoring algorithm for minimizing  $F(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  are

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}_{k+1} = \boldsymbol{\theta}_k - \alpha_k \mathbf{H}_k^{-1} \mathbf{g}_k, \quad (0 \leq \alpha_k \leq 1) \quad (5.5)$$

and

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}_{k+1} = \boldsymbol{\theta}_k - \alpha_k \mathbf{I}_k^{-1} \mathbf{q}_k, \quad (0 \leq \alpha_k \leq 1) \quad (5.6)$$

respectively, where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H}_k &= (\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\theta}) (\mathbf{W} \otimes \mathbf{W}) (\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\theta})', \\ \mathbf{g}_k &= (\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\theta}) (\mathbf{W} \otimes \mathbf{W}) \text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* - \mathbf{S}^*), \\ \mathbf{I}_k &= (\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\theta}) (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{*-1} \otimes \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{*-1}) (\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\theta})', \\ \mathbf{q}_k &= (\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\theta}) (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{*-1} \otimes \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{*-1}) \text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* - \mathbf{S}^*), \end{aligned} \quad (5.7)$$

and  $\text{vec } \mathbf{X}$  is a vector consisting of all elements of  $\mathbf{X}$  taken row by row. For the case when there are functional constraints on parameters, the results are given in Ke and Asano [10].

The derivative  $\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\theta}$  can be worked out first with respect to  $\boldsymbol{\theta}^*$ , which is a vector of all elements in  $\boldsymbol{\Phi}^*$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\beta}_0$ , to get

$$(\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\theta}^*)' = [(\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\Phi}^*)', (\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\gamma})', (\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_0)'] \quad (5.8)$$

and then the appropriate rows corresponding to constants or linear constraints are eliminated [10].

We can work out the following results

$$\begin{aligned} \partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\Phi}^* &= (\boldsymbol{\Gamma}' \mathbf{B}'^{-1} \mathbf{G}' \otimes \boldsymbol{\Gamma}' \mathbf{B}'^{-1} \mathbf{G}'), \\ \partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\gamma} &= \mathbf{D}_{mn} (\mathbf{B}'^{-1} \mathbf{G}' \otimes \boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}' \mathbf{B}'^{-1} \mathbf{G}') (\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E}_{qq}), \\ \partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\beta}_0 &= \mathbf{D}_{mn} (\mathbf{B}'^{-1} \mathbf{G}' \otimes \mathbf{B}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Gamma} \boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}' \mathbf{B}'^{-1} \mathbf{G}') (\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E}_{qq}) \end{aligned} \quad (5.9)$$

where  $q = p_1 + p_3$ , and  $\mathbf{E}_{qq}$  denotes  $\partial \mathbf{X}' / \partial \mathbf{X}$  for matrix  $\mathbf{X} (q \times q)$  without constants or functionally dependent elements.  $\mathbf{D}_{mn} = (d_{gh})$  is an  $mn \times 4mn$  matrix with typical elements

$$d_{gh} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } h = g + (2m + k)n, \text{ where } (k-1)n + 1 \leq g \leq kn, 1 \leq k \leq m, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (5.10)$$

It has been proved and also for the constrained case that the obtained G.L.S. estimator  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$  possesses the following asymptotic properties under some imposed regularity conditions, Browne [5] and Lee and Bentler [13],

- (1) it is consistent,
- (2) it is asymptotically equivalent to the maximum likelihood estimator,
- (3) the asymptotic distribution of  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} - \boldsymbol{\theta}$  is  $N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{M}_0)$ , where

$$\mathbf{M}_0 = 2n^{-1} [(\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_0^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\theta}) (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_0^{*-1} \otimes \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_0^{*-1}) (\partial \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_0^* / \partial \boldsymbol{\theta})']^{-1},$$



(4) the asymptotic distribution of  $nQ(\hat{\theta})$  is Chi-square with degrees of freedom  $q(q+1)/2-t$ .

The property (3) can be used to obtain the standard errors of estimator  $\hat{\theta}$  and the property (4) to test the goodness-of-fit of the proposed model.

## 6. A Numerical Illustration

We shall illustrate the proposed idea and methods by using a part of the longitudinal data, Jöreskog and Sörbom [8]. The data consist of scores in the following six tests recorded in two grades.

$Y_1(\text{MATH})$ : mathematics,  $Y_2(\text{SCI})$ : science,  
 $Y_3(\text{SS})$ : social studies,  $Y_4(\text{READ})$ : reading,  
 $Y_5(\text{SCATV})$ : verbal part of SCAT(Scholastic Aptitude Test),  
 $Y_6(\text{SCATQ})$ : Quantitative part of SCAT,

where the data were analyzed by Lee and Poon [16] with a constrained factor analytic model and by Ke and Asano [11] with a linear structural equation model.

In this paper, the data are further analyzed on a part linear structural equation model for the first variables (MATH) in two grades held constant, by the proposed algorithm. The solution for the part conditional structural equation model is presented in Table 1, and the results of the unconditional model in Table 2, that is, the data were analyzed by simply deleting the first variables in two grades without any

**Table 1. Results for the conditional part model**

—with two variables controlled—

		$F_1^{(1)}$	$F_2^{(1)}$	$\Lambda$	$F_1^{(2)}$	$F_2^{(2)}$	$\Psi_{(i,i)}$
SCI	$Y_2^{(1)}$	.0079	.4735				.2699
SS	$Y_3^{(1)}$	.2306	.1850				.1944
READ	$Y_4^{(1)}$	0*	.5508				.2505
SCATV	$Y_5^{(1)}$	0*	.5714				.1736
SCATQ	$Y_6^{(1)}$	.1524	0*				.4028
SCI	$Y_2^{(2)}$				.0613	.4433	.3230
SS	$Y_3^{(2)}$				.0755	.5117	.2168
READ	$Y_4^{(2)}$				0*	.6116	.1073
SCATV	$Y_5^{(2)}$				0*	.5828	.1623
SCATQ	$Y_6^{(2)}$				.8235	0*	-.1763
		$F_1^{(1)}$	$F_2^{(1)}$	$\Phi$	$F_1^{(2)}$	$F_2^{(2)}$	$\Psi_{(i+6,i)}$
							.0525
	$F_1^{(1)}$	1*					.0239
	$F_2^{(1)}$	.8847	1*				.0418
	$F_1^{(2)}$	-.2782	-.0727		1*		.0743
	$F_2^{(2)}$	-.0135	.6240		.2447	1*	.1572

Note: An asterisk indicates that the parameter was fixed at this value

**Table 2. Results for the unconditional model**

—with two variables deleted—

		$F_1^{(1)}$	$F_2^{(1)}$	$F_1^{(2)}$	$F_2^{(2)}$	$\Psi_{(i,i)}$
		$\Lambda$				
SCI	$Y_2^{(1)}$	.9516	— .1157			.2809
SS	$Y_3^{(1)}$	1.6448	— .7994			.1135
READ	$Y_4^{(1)}$	0*	.8600			.2543
SCATV	$Y_5^{(1)}$	0*	.9170			.1449
SCATQ	$Y_6^{(1)}$	.6778	0*			.5219
SCI	$Y_2^{(2)}$			.7665	.0640	.3039
SS	$Y_3^{(2)}$			.7837	.1251	.1777
READ	$Y_4^{(2)}$			0*	.9103	.1432
SCATV	$Y_5^{(2)}$			0*	.9264	.1221
SCATQ	$Y_6^{(2)}$			.7275	0*	.4743
		$\Phi$				
		$F_1^{(1)}$	$F_2^{(1)}$	$F_1^{(2)}$	$F_2^{(2)}$	$\Psi_{(i+6,i)}$
						.0668
	$F_1^{(1)}$	1*				.0108
	$F_2^{(1)}$	.9650	1*			.0478
	$F_1^{(2)}$	.9503	.9027	1*		.0592
	$F_2^{(2)}$	.9026	.9490	.9096	1*	.2594

**Table 3. Results for the complete model**

		$F_1^{(1)}$	$F_2^{(1)}$	$F_1^{(2)}$	$F_2^{(2)}$	$\Psi_{(i,i)}$
		$\Lambda$				
MATH	$Y_1^{(1)}$	.9261	0*			.1358
SCI	$Y_2^{(1)}$	.1493	.6901			.2728
SS	$Y_3^{(1)}$	.4208	.4395			.1509
READ	$Y_4^{(1)}$	0*	.8565			.2541
SCATV	$Y_5^{(1)}$	0*	.9044			.1648
SCATQ	$Y_6^{(1)}$	.7902	0*			.3535
MATH	$Y_1^{(2)}$			.9075	0*	.1512
SCI	$Y_2^{(2)}$			.1775	.6392	.3104
SS	$Y_3^{(2)}$			.1291	.7505	.2053
READ	$Y_4^{(2)}$			0*	.9222	.1060
SCATV	$Y_5^{(2)}$			0*	.9071	.1547
SCATQ	$Y_6^{(2)}$			.7912	0*	.3538
		$\Phi$				
		$F_1^{(1)}$	$F_2^{(1)}$	$F_1^{(2)}$	$F_2^{(2)}$	$\Psi_{(i+6,i)}$
						— .0558
						.0614
	$F_1^{(1)}$	1*				.0233
	$F_2^{(1)}$	.8213	1*			.0394
	$F_1^{(2)}$	.9475	.7667	1*		.0789
	$F_2^{(2)}$	.8278	.9584	.8354	1*	.1309

Note: An asterisk indicates that the parameter was fixed at this value

conditional model.

It will be noted from Table 1 and Table 2 that the results for conditional and unconditional cases are quite different, in view of the factor loadings and factor correlations. In fact, the factors have completely different meanings in these two cases. For the conditional part model (case 1), factors  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  still keep the similar meanings as the complete model with six variables in Table 3 computed out by the algorithm in Ke and Asano [11], that is,  $F_1$  shows the mathematical and quantitative ability, while  $F_2$  the reading and verbal ability. It can be understood that after eliminating the effects of MATH, most of the loading coefficients of the first factor  $F_1$  become very small. But the loading of SCATQ on  $F_1^{(2)}$  in the second grade gets larger. This may be due to the changes in the tests SCATQ and MATH from the earlier to the later grades. "In the earlier grade, these tests consist mainly of arithmetic items whereas in the later grade they are made up of items measuring logical reasoning and presented in verbal form" [8]. For the unconditional model (case 2), we have nothing to do with the variable MATH at all. Factor  $F_1$  may show highly the general knowledge for science and society, and  $F_2$  the ability for reading and verbalism. Also it will be pointed out that the correlation between two factors in case 2 is rather large, while the correlation in case 1 is not so significant.

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