Multilevel Dynamic Twin Modeling

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Author Note

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Supplemental: Specification of correlated random means μ_{ij} in Mplus

In the multilevel model we assume that the trait scores μ_{ij} are multivariate normally distributed (twin member 1 is jointly distributed with twin member 2), where MZ twin member 1 and MZ twin member 2 are modeled with the same mean $\gamma_{\mu MZ}$ and variance $\psi^2_{\mu MZ}$, and a covariance $\psi_{\mu MZ1MZ2}$, and DZ twin member 1 and DZ twin member 2 are modeled with the same mean $\gamma_{\mu DZ}$ and variance $\psi^2_{\mu DZ}$, and a covariance $\psi_{\mu DZ1DZ2}$. In Mplus DSEM v8 the option of specifying a level 2 covariance matrix with variables that have the same variance $(\mu_{MZ1j}$ and μ_{MZ2j} , and μ_{DZ1j} and μ_{DZ2j}), but have different covariances is not provided. Given that there is no particular reason to assume that the group level variances and means of two members of the same twins are different, we specified the above variance-covariance structure by introducing latent variables.

Specifically, we specify for the MZ twins: $\mu_{1j} = C_j + \omega_{1j}$ and $\mu_{2j} = C_j + \omega_{2j}$. Here C_j is a shared latent variable for both members of the same twin, and its variance is equal to the covariance $\psi_{\mu MZ1MZ2}$ of the means of MZ members 1 and MZ members 2; note that this covariance is hence restricted to be positive. The residuals ω_{ij} capture the part of the random means that is unique to each twin member. The residual variances of ω_{1j} for twin members 1 and ω_{2j} for twin members 2 are restricted to be equal. Hence, we get the following total variance for the random means of MZ twins: $\psi_{\mu MZ}^2 = var(C_j) + var(\omega_j)$. The same structure is implemented for the DZ twins.

Supplemental: Mplus model code

DATA: FILE = Mplus_MZDZWich_zen.dat; ANALYSIS: TYPE IS TWOLEVEL RANDOM; ESTIMATOR=bayes; FBITER=(200000); PROC=2;BSEED=5 6; SAVEDATA: bparameters=bp_szen_ziclv_mulat3_2v.dat; save = fs(1000); file=fs_szen_ziclv_mulat3_2v.dat;

phiedz1| Edz1 on Edz1&1; !random autoregressive effect for dz twin 1 for E1_dz phiedz2| Edz2 on Edz2&1; !random autoregressive effect for dz twin 2 for E2_dz phiadz1 | Adz1 on Adz1&1; !random autoregressive effect for dz twin 1 for A1_dz phiadz2 | Adz2 on Adz2&1; !random autoregressive effect for dz twin 2 for A2_dz phiemz1| Emz1 on Emz1&1; !random autoregressive effect for mz twin 1 for E1_mz phiemz2| Emz2 on Emz2&1; !random autoregressive effect for mz twin 2 for E2_mz phiamz | Amz on Amz&1; !random autoregressive effect, the same for both mz twins

!scaling in the variances of the factors:

Edz1@1;

Edz2@1;

Adz1@1; Adz2@1; Emz1@1; Emz2@1; Amz@1;

!Random logtransformed residual variances for the measurement model of each twin: logvdzen1 |dzen1; logvdzen2 |dzen2; logvmzen1 |mzen1; logvmzen2 |mzen2;

!Correlations among the different A and E factors fixed to zero:

Edz1 with Edz2@0; Edz1 with Adz1@0 ; Edz2 with Adz2@0 ; Edz1 with Adz2@0 ; Edz2 with Adz1@0 ;

!specify a latent variable on which both Adz factor load, random effect here results
!in random correlations between the A factors of the dz twins

Dzcov by Adz1@1 Adz2@1; cordz | Dzcov;

!Correlations among the different A and E factors fixed to zero: Emz1 with Emz2@0; Emz1 with Amz@0 ; Emz2 with Amz@O ; Emz1 with Edz1@O; Emz1 with Edz2@O; Emz1 with Adz1@O; Emz1 with Adz2@O;

Emz2 with Edz1@0;

Emz2 with Edz2@0;

Emz2 with Adz1@0;

Emz2 with Adz2@0;

Amz with Edz1@0;

Amz with Edz2@0;

Amz with Adz1@0;

Amz with Adz2@0;

%BETWEEN%

[dzen1*.55](1); !average mean phenotype for dz1 dzen1*0.3 (20); !variance mean phenotype for dz1 [dzen2*.55](1); !average mean phenotype for dz2 (same as dz1) dzen2*0.3 (20); !variance mean phenotype for dz2 (same as dz1) [mzen1*.55](1); !average mean phenotype for mz1 mzen1*0.3 (30); !variance mean phenotype for mz1 [mzen2*.55](1); !average mean phenotype for mz2 (same as mz1) mzen2*0.3 (30); !variance mean phenotype for mz2 (same as mz1) dzmucor by dzen1@1 dzen2@1; !allow means of dz twins to correlate via latent variabl
mzmucor by mzen1@1 mzen2@1; !allow means of mz twins to correlate via latent variab
dzmucor with mzmucor@0;

[cordz@.5]; !mean correlation among A factors of the dz twins set to 0.5 cordz*0.01; !variance correlation among A factors of the dz twins

!means and variances for the random autoregressive coefficients

- [phiedz1*.3] (3);
- phiedz1*.01 (4);
- [phiedz2*.3](3);
- phiedz2*.01 (4);
- [phiemz1*.3] (3);
- phiemz1*.01 (4);
 - [phiemz2*.3](3);
- phiemz2*.01 (4);

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[phiadz1*.7](5);
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- phiadz1*.005(6);
- [phiadz2*.7](5);
- phiadz2*.005(6);
- [phiamz*.7](5);
- phiamz*.005(6);

!means and variances for the random loadings
 [fadz1*.55](7);
 [fadz2*.55](7);

fadz1*.008(8); fadz2*.008(8); [famz1*.55](7); [famz2*.55](7); famz1*.008(8); famz2*.008(8); [fedz1*.63](9); [fedz2*.63](9); fedz1*.01(10); fedz2*.01(10);

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[femz1*.63](9);
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[femz2*.63](9);

femz1*.01(10);

femz2*.01(10);

!means and variances for the random logtransformed residual variances
[logvdzen1*-.6] (12);
[logvmzen1*-.6] (12);
[logvmzen2*-.6] (12);
logvdzen1*.1 (11);
logvdzen1*.1 (11);

logvmzen1*.1 (11);

logvmzen2*.1 (11);

PLOT: TYPE IS PLOT1 PLOT2 PLOT3; OUTPUT:TECH1 TECH8;