

Bayesian inference and Gibbs sampling.

The final representation of our genotype-phenotype SEM model is:

$$\eta = B\eta + \Pi \tilde{g} + \varepsilon$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ \tilde{v} \end{pmatrix} = \Lambda\eta + K\tilde{y} + \delta,$$

where latent variables $\tilde{g}$, $\tilde{y}$ and $\tilde{v}$ mimic ordinal observed variables g , y and v . Let the size of the dataset be n and it contains matrices of observations for g , y and v variables: G of size $(n_g \times n)$, Y of size $(n_y \times n)$ and V of size $(n_v \times n)$, respectively. At each iteration of an MCMC method, we generate matrices of observation for respective latent variables - $\tilde{G}$ for $\tilde{g}$, $\tilde{Y}$ for $\tilde{y}$ and $\tilde{V}$ for $\tilde{v}$ - by the same way. For example, the element in $\tilde{G}$ at i -th row and j -column is randomly drawn from standard normal distribution truncated to the support $s(G, i, j) = (l(G, i, j), r(G, i, j))$:

$$l(G, i, j) = Q\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n [G_{ik} < G_{ij}]\right), r(G, i, j) = Q\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n [G_{ik} \leq G_{ij}]\right),$$

where $Q(\cdot)$ is the quantile function associated with the standard normal distribution, $[\dots]$ are the Iverson brackets (Knuth 1992). Thereby, we generated elements in $\tilde{G}$, $\tilde{Y}$ and $\tilde{V}$ form truncated normal distributions independently from other parameters and variables in the model:

- (i) $\forall (i, j) \in \{1..n_g\} \times \{1..n\}$: generate $\tilde{G}_{ij}$ from $\text{tr}\mathcal{N}(0, 1, s(G, i, j))$;
- (ii) $\forall (i, j) \in \{1..n_y\} \times \{1..n\}$: generate $\tilde{Y}_{ij}$ from $\text{tr}\mathcal{N}(0, 1, s(Y, i, j))$;
- (iii) $\forall (i, j) \in \{1..n_v\} \times \{1..n\}$: generate $\tilde{V}_{ij}$ from $\text{tr}\mathcal{N}(0, 1, s(V, i, j))$.

To obtain the posterior distribution for latent variables η , we applied the approach proposed in (Lee 2007) at p.83. Then, for j -th sample, we denote the values of latent variables η as $H_{.j}$ and draw it from multivariate normal distribution:

- (iv) $\forall j \in \{1..n\}$: generate $H_{.j}$ from $\text{mv}\mathcal{N}((\Sigma_\eta^{-1} + \Lambda^\top \Theta_\delta^{-1} \Lambda) \Lambda^\top \Theta_\delta^{-1} \tilde{P}_{.j}, (\Sigma_\eta^{-1} + \Lambda^\top \Theta_\delta^{-1} \Lambda))$, where $\Sigma_\eta = C(\Pi \Pi^\top + \Theta_\varepsilon) C^\top$, $C = (I - B)^{-1}$ and $\tilde{P}_{.j} = (U_{.j}^\top, \tilde{V}_{.j}^\top)^\top - K \tilde{G}_{.j}$

Parameters in the structural part

We performed the Bayesian inference of posterior distributions for parameters in the structural part ($B, \Pi, \Theta_\varepsilon$) similarly to (Lee 2007) at p.84. Let consider an equation in the structural part corresponding to i -th latent variable η_i :

$$\eta_i = \Gamma_i \omega_i + \varepsilon_i,$$

where Γ_i is a set of parameters in i -th rows of B and Π ; ω_i contains subsets of η and $\tilde{g}$ corresponding to positions of parameters in i -th rows of B and Π ; ε_i is i -th component in the vector of random errors and it is normally distributed with zero mean and variance equal to $\Theta_{\varepsilon i}$. We set the inverse Gamma and multivariate normal prior distributions for $\Theta_{\varepsilon i}$ and Γ_i respectively:

$$\Theta_{\varepsilon i} \sim \mathcal{IG}(\alpha_{0\varepsilon i}, \beta_{0\varepsilon i}),$$

$$\Gamma_i \sim \mathcal{mvN}(\mathbf{F}_{0i}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{\varepsilon i} \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{0i}),$$

where $\mathbf{F}_{0i}$ is the ML estimate for Γ_i , $\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{0i}$ is the Identity matrix; parameters for inverse Gamma distribution are taken as in (Lee 2007) at p.76: $\alpha_{0\varepsilon i} = 9, \beta_{0\varepsilon i} = 4$. Let the dataset for ω_i be the matrix $\boldsymbol{\Omega}_i$ of size $(n_{\omega_i} \times n)$; the dataset for η_i be the horizontal vector H_i of length n . During the Bayesian inference of posterior distributions, we obtained the following parameters of posterior distributions:

$$\begin{aligned}\boldsymbol{\Phi}_i &= (\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{0i}^{-1} + \boldsymbol{\Omega}_i \boldsymbol{\Omega}_i^T)^{-1}, \\ \mathbf{F}_i &= \boldsymbol{\Phi}_i [\boldsymbol{\Phi}_{0i}^{-1} \mathbf{F}_{0i} + \boldsymbol{\Omega}_i H_i^T], \\ \alpha_{\varepsilon i} &= \alpha_{0\varepsilon i} + n/2, \\ \beta_{\varepsilon i} &= \beta_{0\varepsilon i} + \frac{1}{2} [H_i H_i^T + \mathbf{F}_{0i}^T \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{0i}^{-1} \mathbf{F}_{0i} - \mathbf{F}_i^T \boldsymbol{\Phi}_i^{-1} \mathbf{F}_i].\end{aligned}$$

Then, values of Γ_i and $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\varepsilon i}$ are drawn in the following order:

- (v) generate $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\varepsilon i}$ form $\mathcal{IG}(\alpha_{\varepsilon i}, \beta_{\varepsilon i})$,
- (vi) generate Γ_i form $\mathcal{mvN}(\mathbf{F}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{\varepsilon i} \boldsymbol{\Phi}_i)$.

Parameters in the measurement part

As for the structural part, we performed the Bayesian inference of posterior distributions for parameters in the measurement part ($\Lambda, \mathbf{K}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{\delta}$) similarly to (Lee 2007) at p.84. Let consider an equation in the measurement part corresponding to i -th phenotype p_i :

$$p_i = \mathbf{A}_i \mathbf{w}_i + \delta_i,$$

where $\mathbf{A}_i$ is a set of parameters in i -th rows of Λ and $\mathbf{K}$; $\mathbf{w}_i$ contains subsets of $\boldsymbol{\eta}$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$ corresponding to positions of parameters in i -th rows of Λ and $\mathbf{K}$; δ_i is i -th component in the vector of random errors and it is normally distributed with zero mean and variance equal to $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\delta i}$. We set the inverse Gamma and multivariate normal prior distributions for $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\delta i}$ and $\mathbf{A}_i$ respectively

$$\begin{aligned}\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\delta i} &\sim \mathcal{IG}(\alpha_{0\delta i}, \beta_{0\delta i}), \\ \mathbf{A}_i &\sim \mathcal{mvN}(\mathbf{D}_{0i}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{\delta i} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{0i})\end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{D}_{0i}$ is the ML estimate for $\mathbf{A}_i$, $\boldsymbol{\Psi}_{0i}$ is the Identity matrix; parameters for inverse Gamma distribution are taken as in (Lee 2007) at p.76: $\alpha_{0\delta i} = 9, \beta_{0\delta i} = 4$. Let the dataset for $\mathbf{w}_i$ be the matrix $\mathbf{W}_i$ of size $(n_{\mathbf{w}_i} \times n)$; the dataset for p_i be the horizontal vector P_i of length n . During the Bayesian inference of posterior distributions, we obtained the following parameters of posterior distributions:

$$\begin{aligned}
\Psi_i &= (\Psi_{0i}^{-1} + W_i W_i^\top)^{-1}, \\
D_i &= \Psi_i [\Psi_{0i}^{-1} D_{0i} + W_i P_i^\top], \\
\alpha_{\delta i} &= \alpha_{0\delta i} + n/2, \\
\beta_{\delta i} &= \beta_{0\delta i} + \frac{1}{2} [P_i P_i^\top + D_{0i}^\top \Psi_{0i}^{-1} D_{0i} - D_i^\top \Psi_i^{-1} D_i].
\end{aligned}$$

Then, values of A_i and $\theta_{\delta i}$ are drawn in the following order:

- (vii) generate $\theta_{\delta i}$ form $\mathcal{IG}(\alpha_{\delta i}, \beta_{\delta i})$,
- (viii) generate A_i form $\mathcal{mvN}(D_i, \theta_{\delta i} \Psi_i)$.

Scripts are available at <https://github.com/iganna/mtmlsem>.