Diagnostic Classification Models

Lecture #13
ICPSR Item Response Theory Workshop

Lecture Overview

• Key definitions

• Conceptual example

• Example uses of diagnostic models in education
  • Classroom use (formative assessment)
  • Large-scale testing use (summative assessment)

• Why diagnostic models should be used instead of traditional classification methods

• Concluding remarks
More...Lecture Overview

• Background information
  • ANOVA models and the LCDM

• The LCDM
  • Parameter structure
  • One-item demonstration

• LCDM general form

• Linking the LCDM to other earlier-developed DCMs

DEFINITIONS
What are Diagnoses?

- The word and meaning of diagnosis is common in language

- The roots of the word diagnosis:
  - *gnosis*: to know
  - *dia*: from two

- Meaning of diagnoses are deeply ingrained in our society
  - Seldom merits a second thought

Definitions

- *American Heritage Dictionary* definition of diagnosis:
  - Generally
    - (a) A critical analysis of the nature of something
    - (b) The conclusion reached by such analysis
  - Medicine
    - (a) The act or process of identifying of determining the nature and cause of a disease or injury through evaluation of a patient’s history, examination, and review of laboratory data
    - (b) The opinion derived from such an evaluation
  - Biology
    - (a) A brief description of the distinguishing characteristics of an organism, as for taxonomic classification (p. 500)
Diagnosis: Defined

- A diagnosis is the *decision* that is being made based on information

- Within psychological testing, providing a test score gives the information that is used for a diagnosis
  
  - BUT, the score is not the diagnosis
  
  - For this workshop, a diagnosis is by its nature *discrete*
    - Classification

Day-to-Day Diagnosis

- Decisions happen every day:
  - Decide to wear a coat or bring an umbrella
  - Decide to study
  - Decide what to watch on TV tonight

- In all cases:
  - Information (or data) is collected
  - Inferences are made from data based on what is likely to be the true state of reality
Diagnosis (Formalized)

- In diagnostic measurement, the procedures of diagnosis are formalized:
  - We make a set of observations
    - Usually through a set of test questions
  - Based on these questions we make a decision as to the underlying state (or states) of a person
    - The decision is the diagnosis

Diagnosis (Formalized)

- Diagnoses are frequent in:
  - Educational Measurement
    - The competencies (skills) that a person has or has not mastered
      - Leads to possible tailored instruction and remediation
  - Psychiatric Assessment
    - The DSM criteria that a person meets
      - Leads to a broader diagnosis of a disorder
Workshop Terminology

- **Respondents**: The people from whom behavioral data are collected
  - Behavioral data considered test item responses for workshop
  - Not limited to only item responses

- **Items**: Test items used to classify/diagnose respondents

- **Diagnostic Assessment**: The method used to elicit behavioral data

- **Attributes**: Unobserved dichotomous characteristics underlying the behaviors (i.e., diagnostic status)
  - Latent variables linked to behaviors diagnostic classification models

- **Psychometric Models**: Models used to analyze item response data
  - Diagnostic Classification Models (DCMs) is the name of the models used to obtain classifications/diagnoses

Diagnostic Classification Model Names

- Diagnostic classification models (DCMs) have been called many different things
  - Skills assessment models
  - Cognitive diagnosis models
  - Cognitive psychometric models
  - Latent response models
  - Restricted (constrained) latent class models
  - Multiple classification models
  - Structured located latent class models
  - Structured item response theory
CONCEPTUAL EXAMPLE

Diagnostic Modeling Concepts

- Imagine that an elementary teacher wants to test basic math ability

- Using traditional psychometric approaches, the teacher could estimate an ability or test score for each respondent
  - Classical Test Theory: Assign respondents a test score
  - Item Response Theory: Assign respondents a latent (scaled) score

- By knowing each respondent’s score, the students are ordered along a continuum
Traditional Psychometrics

Mathematics Ability of SEC Mascots

Low ← Big Al \[ \text{Mr. C} \] Uga → High

- What results is a (weak) ordering of respondents
  - Ordering is called weak because of error in estimates
  - Uga > Mr. C > Big Al

- Questions that traditional psychometrics cannot answer:
  - Why is Big Al so low?
    - How can we get him some help?
  - How much ability is “enough” to pass?
    - How much is enough to be proficient?
  - What math skills have the students mastered?
Multiple Dimensions of Ability

- As an alternative, we could have expressed math ability as a set of basic skills:
  - Addition
  - Subtraction
  - Multiplication
  - Division

Ability from a Diagnostic Perspective
Multiple Dimensions of Ability

- The set of skills represent the multiple dimensions of elementary mathematics ability

- Other psychometric approaches have been developed for multiple dimensions
  - Classical Test Theory - Scale Subscores
  - Multidimensional Item Response Theory (MIRT)

- Yet, issues in application have remained:
  - Reliability of estimates is often poor for most practical test lengths
  - Dimensions are often very highly correlated
  - Large samples are needed to calibrate item parameters in MIRT

DCMs as an Alternative

- DCMs do not assign a single score

- Instead, a profile of mastered attributes is given to respondents
  - Multidimensional models

- DCMs provide respondents valuable information with fewer data demands
  - Higher reliability than comparable IRT/MIRT models
  - Complex item structures possible
Path Diagram of Traditional Psychometrics

Path Diagram of Diagnostic Models
Psychometric Model Comparison

**Using Traditional Models**
- Has a score of 20
- Has a 75%, a grade of “C”
- Is in the 60th percentile of math
- Scored above the cut off, passes math

**Using Diagnostic Models**
- Is proficient using addition
- Is proficient using subtraction
- Should work on Multiplication
- Should work on Division

DCM Specifics

- Let’s expand on the idea of the basic math test

- Possible items may be:
  - $2+3-1$
  - $4/2$
  - $(4 \times 2) + 3$

- Not all items measure all attributes

- A Q-matrix is used to indicate the attributes measured by each item
  - This is the *factor pattern matrix* that assigns the loadings in *confirmatory factor analysis*
The Q-Matrix

- An example of a Q-matrix using our math test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Add</th>
<th>Sub</th>
<th>Mult</th>
<th>Div</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2+3-1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4 x 2)+3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Respondent Profiles

- Respondents are characterized by profiles specifying which attributes have been mastered
  - Numeric values are arbitrary, but for our purposes
    - Mastery given a 1
    - Non-mastery given a 0
- For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Add</th>
<th>Sub</th>
<th>Mult</th>
<th>Div</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Respondent A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Respondent profile estimates are in the form of probabilities of mastery

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Expected Responses to Items

Q-matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Add</th>
<th>Sub</th>
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</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4 x 2)+3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

By knowing which attributes are measured by each item and which attributes have been mastered by each respondent, we can determine the items that will likely be answered correctly by each respondent.

Respondent Mastery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Add</th>
<th>Sub</th>
<th>Mult</th>
<th>Div</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Respondent 1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondent 2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondent 3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respondent 4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DCM Scoring and Score Reporting

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DCM Conceptual Summary

- DCMs focus on **WHY** a respondent is not performing well as compared to only focusing on **WHO**

- The models define the chances of a correct response based on the respondent’s attribute profile

- Many models have been created ranging in complexity
  - Later we discuss a general DCM
  - The general model subsumes all other latent-variable DCMs

- The model predicts how respondents will answer each item
  - Also allows for classification/diagnoses based on item responses

How do DCMs Produce Diagnoses?

- Diagnostic decisions come from comparing observed behaviors to two parts of the psychometric model:
  1. Item/variable information (item parameters)
     - How respondents with different diagnostic profiles perform on a set of test items
     - Helps determine which items are better at discriminating between respondents with differing diagnostic profiles

  2. Respondent information pertaining to the base-rate or proportion of respondents with diagnoses in the population
     - Provides frequency of diagnosis (or diagnostic profile)
     - Helps validate the plausibility of the observed diagnostic profiles
Conceptual Model Mapping in DCMs

Uses of Diagnostic Model Respondent Estimates
DCMs In Practice

- To demonstrate the potential benefits of using DCMs, we present a brief example of their use
  - From Henson & Templin (2008); Templin & Henson (2008)

- An urban county in a southern state wanted to improve student’s End-Of-Course (EOC) scores on the state’s 10th grade Algebra 2 exam

- A benchmark test was given in the middle of a semester
  - Formative test designed to help teachers focus instruction

- Respondents and their teachers received DCM estimates
  - Used these to characterize student proficiency levels with respect to 5 state-specified goals for Algebra 2 (standards)

DCM Study

- The benchmark test was developed for use with a DCM
  - Characteristics of the test were fixed via standard setting

- Five attributes were measured
  - Mastery was defined as meeting the proficient level for each attribute
  - Attributes were largest represented in EOC exam

- Respondents then took the EOC exam
  - 50 item test:
    - Score of 33+ considered proficient
  - Benchmark estimates linked to EOC estimates

- Next slides describe how DCMs can help guide instruction
Descriptive Statistics of Attribute Patterns

- First, the basic descriptive statistics for each possible pattern

- What we expect a respondent with a given attribute pattern to score on the EOC test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill Pattern</th>
<th>Expected Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[00000]</td>
<td>22.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[00001]</td>
<td>26.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[00011]</td>
<td>29.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[00111]</td>
<td>31.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[01111]</td>
<td>34.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[11111]</td>
<td>41.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gain by Mastery of Each Attribute

- The difference in test score between masters and non-masters of an attribute can be quantified

- Correlation between attribute and EOC score indicates amount of gain in EOC score by mastery of attribute

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Gain in Score</th>
<th>Ability Correlation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.61</td>
<td>0.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>0.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>0.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>0.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: 50 item test
Pathways to Proficiency

- DCMs can be used to form a “learning path” a respondent can follow that would most quickly lead to proficiency on the EOC test.

- The pathway tells the respondent and the teacher the sequence of attributes to learn next that will provide the biggest increase in test score.

- This mechanism may help teachers decide focus on when teaching a course:
  - Balances time spent on instruction with impact on test score.

- Provides a practical implementation of DCMs in today’s classroom testing environment.

Proficiency Road Map
• Some paths are less efficient at increasing EOC test scores
DCM Characteristics

• As mentioned previously, DCMs provide a higher level of reliability for their estimates than comparable IRT or CTT models (Templin & Bradshaw, in press)
  ➢ It is easier to place a respondent into one of two groups (mastery or non-mastery) than to locate them on a scale

• Such characteristics allow DCMs to potentially change how large scale testing is conducted
  ➢ Most EOC-type tests are for classification
    • Proficiency standards
  ➢ DCMs provide direct link to classification
    • And direct access to standards
**Theoretical Reliability Comparison**

![Graph showing theoretical reliability comparison between DCM and IRT]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reliability Level</th>
<th>DCM</th>
<th>IRT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>8 Items</td>
<td>34 Items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.85</td>
<td>10 Items</td>
<td>48 Items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.90</td>
<td>13 Items</td>
<td>77 Items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Uni- and Multidimensional Comparison**

![Bar chart comparing DCM and IRT across dimensions]

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DCMs for an EOC Test

![Graph showing reliability vs. number of items for different categories of DCMs]

- **2PL \( \rho \theta = .87 \)**

2 Category: 24 Items
3 Category: 42 Items
4 Category: 50 Items
5 Category: 54 Items

Reliability vs. Number of Items

Ramifications for Use of DCMs

- Reliable measurement of multiple dimensions is possible
  - Two-attribute DCM application to empirical data:
    - Reliabilities of 0.95 and 0.90 (compared to 0.72 and 0.70 for IRT)
  - Multidimensional proficiency standards
    - Respondents must demonstrate proficiency on multiple areas to be considered proficient for an overall content domain
  - “Teaching to the test” would therefore represent covering more curricular content to best prepare respondents

- Shorter unidimensional tests
  - Two-category unidimensional DCM application to empirical data:
    - Test needed only 24 items to have same reliability as IRT with 73 items
The Paradox of DCMs

- DCMs are often pitched as models that allow for measurement of “fine-grained” skills (e.g., Rupp & Templin, 2008)

- Paradox of DCMs:
  - Sacrifice fine-grained measurement of a latent trait for only several categories
  - Increased capacity to measure ability multidimensionally

When Are DCMs Appropriate?

- Which situations lend themselves more naturally to such diagnosis?

  - The purpose of the diagnostic assessment matters most

  - DCMs provide classifications directly
    - Optimally used when tests are used for classification
      - EOC Tests
      - Licensure/certification
      - Clinical screening
      - College entrance
      - Placement tests

  - DCMs can be used as coarse approximations to continuous latent variable models
    - i.e., EOG example (2-5 category levels shown)
BENEFITS OF DCMS OVER TRADITIONAL CLASSIFICATION METHODS

Previous Methods for Classification

- Making diagnoses on the basis of test responses is not a new concept
  - Classical test theory
  - Item response theory
  - Factor analysis

- Process is a two-stage procedure
  1. Scale respondents
  2. Find appropriate cut-scores

- Classify respondents based on cut-scores
Problems with the Two-Stage Approach

• The two-stage procedure allows for multiple sources of error to affect the results

1. The latent variable scores themselves: estimation error
   - Uncertainty is typically not accounted for in the subsequent classification of respondents (i.e., standard errors)
   - The classification of respondents at different locations on the score continuum with multiple cut-scores is differentially precise
     • Uncertainty of the latent variable scores varies as a function of the location of the score

2. Latent variable assumptions: that latent variable scores follow a continuous, typically normal, distribution
   - Estimates reflect the assumed distribution
   - Can introduce errors if the assumption is incorrect

3. Cut-score determination
   - Standard setting is imprecise when used with general abilities
     • Standard setting methods can be directed to item performance
   - Some theoretical justification needs to be provided for such a cut-off
Why are DCMs Better for Classification?

- The need for a two-stage procedure to set cut-scores for classification is eliminated when DCMs are used
  - Reduces classification error
- Quantifies and models the measurement error of the observable variables
  - Controlling for measurement error when producing the diagnosis
- DCMs have a natural and direct mechanism for incorporating base-rate information into the analysis
  - No direct way to do so objectively in two-stage procedures
- Item parameters provide information as to the diagnostic quality of each item
  - Not directly estimable in two-stage approaches
  - Can be used to build tests that optimally separate respondents
Development of Psychometric Models

- Over the past several years, numerous DCMs have been developed
  - We will focus on DCMs that use latent variables for attributes

- Each DCM makes assumptions about how mastered attributes combine/interact to produce an item response
  - Compensatory/disjunctive/additive models
  - Non-compensatory/conjunctive/non-additive models

- With so many models, analysts have been unsure which model would best fit their purpose
  - Difficult to imagine all items following same assumptions

General Models for Diagnosis

- Recent developments have produced very general diagnostic models
  - General Diagnostic Model (GDM; von Davier, 2005)
  - Loglinear Cognitive Diagnosis Model (LCDM; Henson, Templin, & Willse, 2009)
    - Focus of this session

- The general DCMs (GDM; LCDM) provide great flexibility
  - Subsume all other latent variable DCMs
  - Allow for both additive and non-additive relationships between attributes and items
  - Sync with other psychometric models allowing for greater understanding of modeling process
Notation Used Throughout Session

- **Attributes**: $a = 1, \ldots, A$
- **Respondents**: $r = 1, \ldots, R$
- **Attribute Profiles**: $\alpha_r = [\alpha_{r1}, \alpha_{r2}, \ldots, \alpha_{rA}]$
  - $\alpha_{ra}$ is 0 or 1
- **Latent Classes**: $c = 1, \ldots, C$
  - We have $C = 2^A$ latent classes – one for each possible attribute profile
- **Items**: $i = 1, \ldots, I$
  - Restricted to dichotomous item responses ($X_{ri}$ is 0 or 1)
- **Q-matrix**: Elements $q_{ia}$ for an item $i$ and attribute $a$
  - $q_{ia}$ is 0 or 1

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
ANOVA MODELS
Background Information – ANOVA

• The LCDM models the probability of a correct response to an item as a function of the latent attributes of a respondent

\[
\begin{align*}
\alpha = 0 &\quad \rightarrow \quad P(X=1) \\
\alpha = 1 &\quad \rightarrow \quad P(X=1)
\end{align*}
\]

• The latent attributes are categorical, meaning a respondent can have only a few possible statuses
  ➢ Each status corresponds to a predicted probability of a correct response

\[
\begin{align*}
\alpha = 0 &\quad \rightarrow \quad P(X=1) \\
\alpha = 1 &\quad \rightarrow \quad P(X=1)
\end{align*}
\]

• As such, the LCDM is very similar to an ANOVA model
  ➢ Predicting the dependent variable as a function of the experimental group of a respondent

ANOVA Refresher

• As a refresher on ANOVA, let’s imagine that we are interested in the factors that have an effect on work output (denoted by Y)

• We design a two-factor study where work output may be affected by:
  ➢ Lighting of the workplace
    • High or Low
  ➢ Temperature
    • Cold or Warm

• This experimental design is known as a 2-Way ANOVA
ANOVA Model

• Here is the 2 x 2 Factorial design:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Low Lighting</th>
<th>High Lighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cold</td>
<td>$\overline{Y}_{\text{Cold},\text{Low}}$</td>
<td>$\overline{Y}_{\text{Cold},\text{High}}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warm</td>
<td>$\overline{Y}_{\text{Warm},\text{Low}}$</td>
<td>$\overline{Y}_{\text{Warm},\text{High}}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• The ANOVA model for a respondent’s work output is

$$Y_{rtl} = \mu + A_t + B_l + (AB)_{tl} + \varepsilon_{rtl}$$

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ANOVA Model

• The ANOVA model allows us to test for the presence of:

- A main effect associated with Temperature ($A_t$)

- A main effect associated with Lighting ($B_l$)

- An interaction effect associated with Temperature and Lighting ($AB)_{tl}$

$$Y_{rtl} = \mu + A_t + B_l + (AB)_{tl} + \varepsilon_{rtl}$$

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ANOVA with Dummy Coded Variables

- The ANOVA model can also be re-written using two dummy-coded variables $D_{rt}$ and $D_{rl}$
  - Becomes a linear model (i.e., regression model)

- $D_{rt}$
  - $D_{rt} = 0$ for respondents in \textit{cold temperature} condition
  - $D_{rt} = 1$ for respondents in \textit{warm temperature} condition

- $D_{\text{light}}$
  - $D_{rl} = 0$ for respondents in \textit{low lighting} condition
  - $D_{rl} = 1$ for respondents in \textit{high lighting} condition

The ANOVA model then becomes:

\[
Y_{ril} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 D_{rt} + \beta_2 D_{rl} + \beta_{11} D_{rt} D_{rl} + e_{ril}
\]
**ANOVA Effects Explained**

\[ Y_{ril} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 D_{rl} + \beta_1 D_{rl} + \beta_{l^*l} D_{rl} D_{rl} + e_{itl} \]

- \( \beta_0 \) is the mean for the cold and low light condition (reference group)
  - The intercept
- \( \beta_1 \) is the change of the mean when comparing cold to warm temperature for a business with low lights (Simple Main Effect)
- \( \beta_1 \) is the change of the mean when comparing low to high lights for a business with a cold temperature (Simple Main Effect)
- \( \beta_{l^*l} \) is additional mean change that is not explained by the shift in temperature and shift and lights, when both occur (2-Way Interaction)
- Respondents from in the same condition have the same predicted value

**ANOVA and the LCDM**

- The ANOVA model and the LCDM take the same modeling approach
  - Predict a response using dummy coded variables
    - In LCDM dummy coded variables are latent attributes
  - Using a set of main effects and interactions
    - Links attributes to item response
  - Where possible, we may look for ways to reduce the model
    - Removing non-significant interactions and/or main effects
Differences Between LCDM and ANOVA

• The LCDM and the ANOVA model differ in two ways:
  ➢ Instead of a continuous outcome such as work output the LCDM models a function of the probability of a correct response
    • The logit of a correct response (defined next)
  ➢ Instead of observed “factors” as predictors the LCDM uses discrete latent variables (the attributes being measured)

• Attributes are given dummy codes (act as latent factors)
  ➢ $\alpha_{ra} = 1$ if respondent $r$ has mastered attribute $a$
  ➢ $\alpha_{ra} = 0$ if respondent $r$ has not mastered attribute $a$
Building the LCDM

- To demonstrate the LCDM, consider the item 2+3-1=?
  from our basic math example
  - The item measured addition (attribute 1) and subtraction (attribute 2)

- Only attributes defined by the Q-matrix are modeled for an item

- The LCDM provides the logit of a correct response as a function of
  the latent attributes mastered by a respondent:

\[
\text{logit}(X_{ri} = 1 | \alpha_r) = \lambda_{i,0} + \lambda_{i,1,(1)} \alpha_{r1} + \lambda_{i,1,(2)} \alpha_{r2} + \lambda_{i,2,(1,2)} \alpha_{r1} \alpha_{r2}
\]

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LCDM Explained

- \( \text{logit}(X_{ri} = 1 | \alpha_r) \) is the logit of a correct response to item \( i \) by
  respondent \( r \)

- \( \lambda_{i,0} \) is the intercept
  - The logit for non-masters of addition and subtraction
  - The reference group is respondents who have not mastered
    either attribute (\( \alpha_{r1} = 0 \) and \( \alpha_{r2} = 0 \))

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**LCDM Explained**

\[
\text{logit}(X_{ri} = 1 | \alpha_r) = \lambda_{i,0} + \lambda_{i,1,(1)} \alpha_{r1} + \lambda_{i,1,(2)} \alpha_{r2} + \lambda_{i,2,(1,2)} \alpha_{r1} \alpha_{r2}
\]

- \( \lambda_{i,1,(1)} \) is the **main effect** for addition (attribute 1)
  - The increase in the logit for mastering addition (in someone who has not also mastered subtraction)

- \( \lambda_{i,1,(2)} \) is the **main effect** for subtraction (attribute 2)
  - The increase in the logit for mastering subtraction (in someone who has not also mastered addition)

- \( \lambda_{i,2,(1,2)} \) is the **interaction** between addition and subtraction (attributes 1 and 2)
  - Change in the logit for mastering both addition & subtraction

---

**Understanding LCDM Notation**

- The LCDM item parameters have several subscripts:

\[
\lambda_{i,e(a_1, \ldots)}
\]

- Subscript #1 – \( i \): the item to which parameters belong
- Subscript #2 – \( e \): the level of the effect
  - 0 is the intercept
  - 1 is the main effect
  - 2 is the two-way interaction
  - 3 is the three-way interaction
- Subscript #3 – (\( a_1, \ldots \)): the attributes to which the effect applies
  - Same number of attributes listed as number in Subscript #2
LCDM: A NUMERICAL EXAMPLE

LCDM with Example Numbers

- Imagine we obtained the following estimates for the simple math item:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Estimate</th>
<th>Effect Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\lambda_{i,0}$</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>Intercept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\lambda_{i,1,(1)}$</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Addition Simple Main Effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\lambda_{i,1,(2)}$</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Subtraction Simple Main Effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\lambda_{i,2,(1,2)}$</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Addition/Subtraction Interaction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### LCDM Predicted Logits and Probabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$\alpha_1$</th>
<th>$\alpha_2$</th>
<th>LCDM Logit Function</th>
<th>Logit</th>
<th>Probability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$\lambda_{i,0} + \lambda_{i,1,1}(0) + \lambda_{i,2}(0)(0)$</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>0.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$\lambda_{i,0} + \lambda_{i,1,1}(0) + \lambda_{i,2}(0)(1)$</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>0.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$\lambda_{i,0} + \lambda_{i,1,1}(0) + \lambda_{i,2}(1)(0)$</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$\lambda_{i,0} + \lambda_{i,1,1}(1) + \lambda_{i,2}(1)(1)$</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Logit Response Function**

![Logit Response Function](image)

**Probability Response Function**

![Probability Response Function](image)

---

### LCDM Interaction Plots

- The LCDM interaction term can be investigated via plots
- **No interaction**: parallel lines for the logit
  - Compensatory RUM (Hartz, 2002)

**Logit Response Function**

![Logit Response Function](image)

**Probability Response Function**

![Probability Response Function](image)
Strong Positive Interactions

- **Positive interaction**: over-additive logit model
  - Conjunctive model (i.e., all-or-none)
  - DINA model (Haertel, 1989; Junker & Sijtsma, 1999)

Logit Response Function

| Logit(X=1|α) | α1=0 | α1=1 |
|----------|------|------|
| α2=0     |      |      |
| α2=1     |      |      |

Probability Response Function

| P(X=1|α) | α1=0; α2=0 | α1=0; α2=1 | α1=1; α2=0 | α1=1; α2=1 |
|-------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| α1=0  |            |            |            |            |
| α1=1  |            |            |            |            |

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Strong Negative Interactions

- **Negative interaction**: under-additive logit model
  - Disjunctive model (i.e., one-or-more)
  - DINO model (Templin & Henson, 2006)

Logit Response Function

| Logit(X=1|α) | α1=0 | α1=1 |
|----------|------|------|
| α2=0     |      |      |
| α2=1     |      |      |

Probability Response Function

| P(X=1|α) | α1=0; α2=0 | α1=0; α2=1 | α1=1; α2=0 | α1=1; α2=1 |
|-------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| α1=0  |            |            |            |            |
| α1=1  |            |            |            |            |

Lecture #13: 78 of 86
Less Extreme Interactions

- Extreme interactions are unlikely in practice
- Below: positive interaction with positive main effects

Logit Response Function

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Logit Response Function</th>
<th>Probability Response Function</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Graph" /></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Graph" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Possible Attribute Patterns

| Possible Attribute Patterns | P(X=1|α) |
|----------------------------|-------|
| α1=0; α2=0                 | 0.1   |
| α1=0; α2=1                 | 0.2   |
| α1=1; α2=0                 | 0.4   |
| α1=1; α2=1                 | 0.8   |

GENERAL FORM OF THE LCDM
More General Versions of the LCDM

- The LCDM is based on the General Diagnostic Model by von Davier (GDM; 2005)
  - The GDM allows for both categorical and continuous latent variables

- For items measuring more than two attributes, higher level interactions are possible
  - Difficult to estimate in practice

- The LCDM appears in the psychometric literature in a more general form
  - See Henson, Templin, & Willse (2009)

General Form of the LCDM

- The LCDM specifies the probability of a correct response as a function of a set of attributes and a Q-matrix:

\[ \lambda_T h(q_i, \alpha_r) = \sum_{a=1}^{A} \alpha_{ra} q_{ia} + \sum_{a=1}^{A-1} \sum_{b>a} \alpha_{ra} \alpha_{rb} q_{ia} q_{ib} + \ldots \]

- The term in the exponent is the logit we have been using, where:

  - Intercept
  - Logit \((X_{ri} = 1|\alpha_r)\)
  - Main Effects
  - Two-Way Interactions
  - Higher Interactions
WRAPPING UP

Concluding Remarks

- DCMs provide direct link between diagnosis and behavior
  - Provide diagnostic classifications directly
  - Diagnoses set by psychometric model parameters

- DCMs are effective if classification is the ultimate purpose
  - Reduce error by removing judgments necessary in two-stage approach

- DCMs can be used in many contexts
  - Can be used to create highly informative tests
  - Can be used to measure multiple dimensions
Concluding Remarks

• The LCDM uses an ANOVA-like approach to map latent attributes onto item responses
  ➢ Uses main effects and interactions for each attribute
  ➢ Uses a logit link function

• Multiple diagnostic models are subsumed by the LCDM

Up Next...

• Comparing IRT models with other statistical models