

# SEM for those who think they don't care

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# SEM —The short story

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\Gamma}\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\alpha} + \boldsymbol{\zeta}$$

Where:

- $\mathbf{y}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\zeta}$  are vector
- $\mathbf{y}$  and  $\mathbf{x}$  may contain both latent and observed variables
- $\boldsymbol{\zeta}$  is a vector of errors
- $Cov(\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\zeta}) = 0$

# SEM —The short story

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- $\zeta$  is a vector of errors
- $Cov(\mathbf{X}, \zeta) = 0$

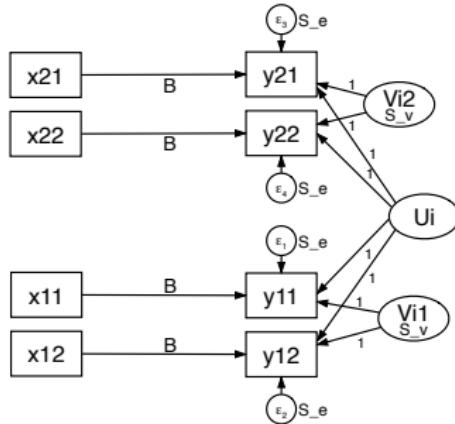
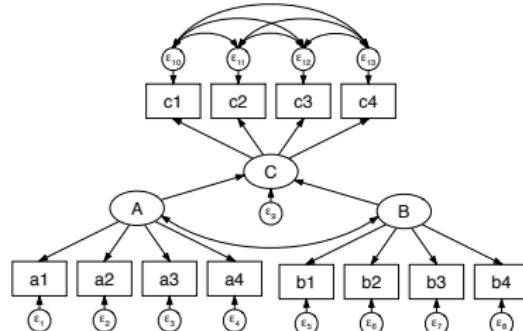
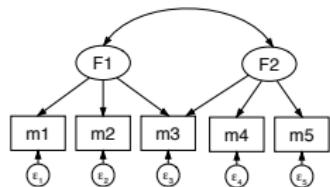
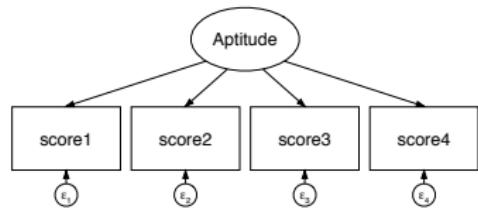
Some interesting things to note:

- $y$ 's can depend on other  $y$ 's
- Ignore (mostly) the extensively published rumors that  $\mathbf{y}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}$ , and/or  $\zeta$  must be multivariate normal

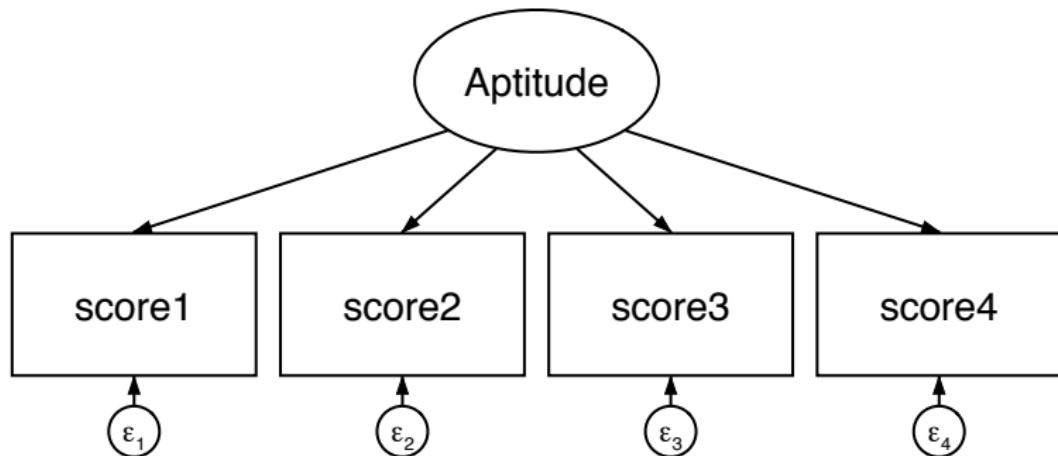
SEM subsumes and extends most linear models.

I'm not going to talk about what most SEMers (SEMians?) use SEM for.

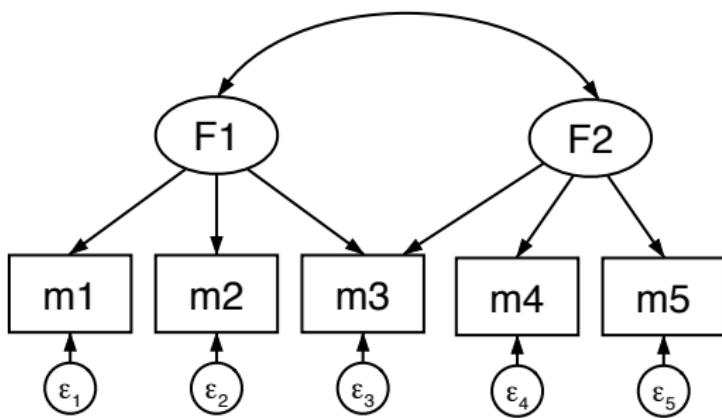
# Path diagrams



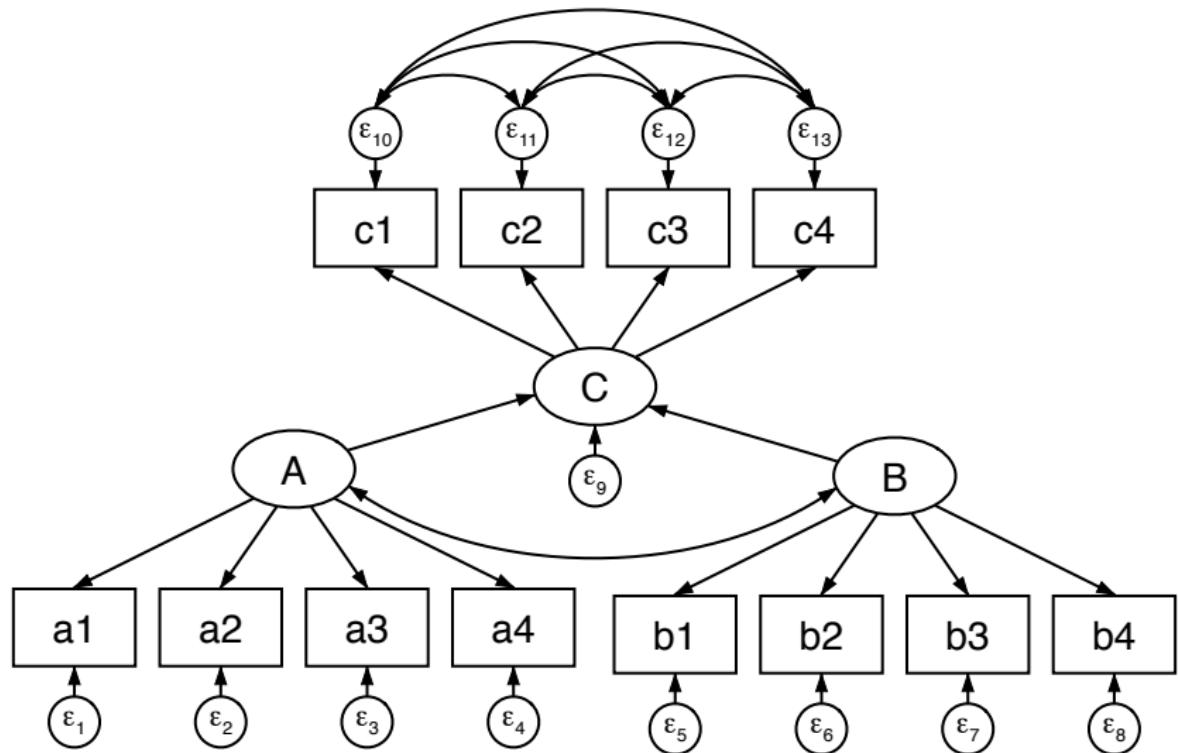
# Measurement models/components



# Multiple factor models (confirmatory or otherwise)



# Full SEM models



# I am also not going to talk about

- Extensions to linear and multivariate regression
- Extensions to SURE (including missing values in some  $y$ 's)
- MIMIC models
- Correlations with missing data
- High-order CFA models
- Correlated uniqueness models
- SEM of latent endogenous variables measured by indicators/measurements

# Simultaneous systems and other forms of endogeneity

$$y_1 = \beta_1 y_2 + \beta_2 x_1 + \beta_3 x_2 + \epsilon_1$$

$$y_2 = \beta_4 y_1 + \beta_5 x_1 + \beta_6 x_3 + \epsilon_2$$

# Simultaneous systems and other forms of endogeneity

$$y_1 = \beta_1 y_2 + \beta_2 x_1 + \beta_3 x_2 + \epsilon_1$$

$$y_2 = \beta_4 y_1 + \beta_5 x_1 + \beta_6 x_3 + \epsilon_2$$

```
. reg3 (y1 y2 x1 x2) (y2 y1 x1 x3)
```

# Simultaneous systems and other forms of endogeneity

$$y_1 = \beta_1 y_2 + \beta_2 x_1 + \beta_3 x_2 + \epsilon_1$$

$$y_2 = \beta_4 y_1 + \beta_5 x_1 + \beta_6 x_3 + \epsilon_2$$

```
. reg3 (y1 y2 x1 x2) (y2 y1 x1 x3)  
. sem (y1 <- y2 x1 x2) (y2 <- y1 x1 x3), cov(e.y1*e.y2)
```

# Simultaneous systems and other forms of endogeneity

$$y_1 = \beta_1 y_2 + \beta_2 x_1 + \beta_3 x_2 + \epsilon_1$$

$$y_2 = \beta_4 y_1 + \beta_5 x_1 + \beta_6 x_3 + \epsilon_2$$

```
. reg3 (y1 y2 x1 x2) (y2 y1 x1 x3)  
. sem (y1 <- y2 x1 x2) (y2 <- y1 x1 x3), cov(e.y1*e.y2)
```

## SEM extensions

- control and constrain the structure of the error covariance matrix
- Obtain SEs, confidence intervals (CIs), etc. that are robust to lack of independence groups of observations —option **vce(cluster <group>)**.
- Handle missing data in the dependent variables, so long as it is missing on observables.
- Estimate via GMM (generalized method of moments) —option **method(adf)**.
- Estimate direct, indirect, and total effects of all regressors, including the y's —**estat teffects**

# Multilevel random effects models

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk}$$

# Simulating multilevel random effects

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

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# Simulating multilevel random effects

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_{ij} + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

. set obs 3

---

---

---

---

---

# Simulating multilevel random effects

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_{ij} + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

```
. gen i = _n
```

i

---

1

---

2

---

3

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Simulating multilevel random effects

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_{ij} + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

```
. gen Ui = rnormal()
```

i	Ui
---	----

1	$\mu_1$
---	---------

2	$\mu_2$
---	---------

3	$\mu_3$
---	---------

# Simulating multilevel random effects

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_{ij} + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

. expand 2

i	Ui
1	$\mu_1$
2	$\mu_2$
3	$\mu_3$
1	$\mu_1$
2	$\mu_2$
3	$\mu_3$

# Simulating multilevel random effects

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

. by i, sort: gen j = \_n

i	Ui	j
1	$\mu_1$	1
2	$\mu_2$	1
3	$\mu_3$	1
1	$\mu_1$	2
2	$\mu_2$	2
3	$\mu_3$	2

# Simulating multilevel random effects

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

```
. gen Vij = rnormal()
```

i	Ui	j	Vij
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_2$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_3$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_4$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_5$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$

# Simulating multilevel random effects

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

. expand 2

i	Ui	j	Vij
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_2$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_3$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_4$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_5$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_2$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_3$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_4$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_5$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$

# Simulating multilevel random effects

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

. by i j, sort: gen k = \_n

i	Ui	j	Vij	k
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	1
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_2$	1
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_3$	1
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_4$	1
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_5$	1
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	1
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	2
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_2$	2
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_3$	2
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_4$	2
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_5$	2
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	2

# Simulating multilevel random effects

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

```
. gen Eijk = rnormal()
```

i	Ui	j	Vij	k	Eijk
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	1	$\epsilon_1$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_2$	1	$\epsilon_2$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_3$	1	$\epsilon_3$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_4$	1	$\epsilon_4$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_5$	1	$\epsilon_5$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	1	$\epsilon_6$
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	2	$\epsilon_7$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_2$	2	$\epsilon_8$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_3$	2	$\epsilon_9$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_4$	2	$\epsilon_{10}$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_5$	2	$\epsilon_{11}$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	2	$\epsilon_{12}$

# Simulating multilevel random effects

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

```
. gen x = uniform()
```

i	Ui	j	Vij	k	Eijk	x
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	1	$\epsilon_1$	$x_1$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_2$	1	$\epsilon_2$	$x_2$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_3$	1	$\epsilon_3$	$x_3$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_4$	1	$\epsilon_4$	$x_4$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_5$	1	$\epsilon_5$	$x_5$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	1	$\epsilon_6$	$x_6$
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	2	$\epsilon_7$	$x_7$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_2$	2	$\epsilon_8$	$x_8$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_3$	2	$\epsilon_9$	$x_9$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_4$	2	$\epsilon_{10}$	$x_{10}$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_5$	2	$\epsilon_{11}$	$x_{11}$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	2	$\epsilon_{12}$	$x_{12}$

# Simulating multilevel random effects

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

```
. gen y = x + ui + vij + eijk
```

i	ui	j	vij	k	eijk	x	y
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	1	$\epsilon_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_2$	1	$\epsilon_2$	$x_2$	$y_2$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_3$	1	$\epsilon_3$	$x_3$	$y_3$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_4$	1	$\epsilon_4$	$x_4$	$y_4$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_5$	1	$\epsilon_5$	$x_5$	$y_5$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	1	$\epsilon_6$	$x_6$	$y_6$
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	2	$\epsilon_7$	$x_7$	$y_7$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_2$	2	$\epsilon_8$	$x_8$	$y_8$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_3$	2	$\epsilon_9$	$x_9$	$y_9$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_4$	2	$\epsilon_{10}$	$x_{10}$	$y_{10}$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_5$	2	$\epsilon_{11}$	$x_{11}$	$y_{11}$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	2	$\epsilon_{12}$	$x_{12}$	$y_{12}$

# Sorting by groups

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

i	Ui	j	Vij	k	Eijk	x	y
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	1	$\epsilon_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	2	$\epsilon_2$	$x_2$	$y_2$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_2$	1	$\epsilon_3$	$x_3$	$y_3$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_2$	2	$\epsilon_4$	$x_4$	$y_4$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_3$	1	$\epsilon_5$	$x_5$	$y_5$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_3$	2	$\epsilon_6$	$x_6$	$y_6$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_4$	1	$\epsilon_7$	$x_7$	$y_7$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_4$	2	$\epsilon_8$	$x_8$	$y_8$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_5$	1	$\epsilon_9$	$x_9$	$y_9$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_5$	2	$\epsilon_{10}$	$x_{10}$	$y_{10}$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	1	$\epsilon_{11}$	$x_{11}$	$y_{11}$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	2	$\epsilon_{12}$	$x_{12}$	$y_{12}$

## Estimation using `xtmixed`

```
. xtmixed y x || i: || j:
```

# Reshape 1

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

```
. egen ij = group(i j)  
. reshape wide eijk y x, i(ij) j(k)
```

				k = 1			k = 2		
i	Ui	j	Vij	Eij1	x1	y1	Eij2	x2	y2
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$\epsilon_2$	$x_2$	$y_2$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_3$	$x_3$	$y_3$	$\epsilon_4$	$x_4$	$y_4$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_5$	$x_5$	$y_5$	$\epsilon_6$	$x_6$	$y_6$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_7$	$x_7$	$y_7$	$\epsilon_8$	$x_8$	$y_8$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_9$	$x_9$	$y_9$	$\epsilon_{10}$	$x_{10}$	$y_{10}$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_{11}$	$x_{11}$	$y_{11}$	$\epsilon_{12}$	$x_{12}$	$y_{12}$

Variable names above are not quite what **reshape** gives.

# Reshape 2

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

- . drop ij
- . reshape wide eij1 eij2 y1 y1 x1 x2, i(i) j(k)

i	Ui	j = 1				j = 2											
		Vi1	Ei11	x11	y11	Vi1	Ei12	x12	y12	Vi2	Ei21	x21	y21	Vi2	Ei22	x22	y22
1	$\mu_1$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_2$	$x_2$	$y_2$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_3$	$x_3$	$y_3$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_4$	$x_4$	$y_4$
2	$\mu_2$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_5$	$x_5$	$y_5$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_6$	$x_6$	$y_6$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_7$	$x_7$	$y_7$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_8$	$x_8$	$y_8$
3	$\mu_3$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_9$	$x_9$	$y_9$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_{10}$	$x_{10}$	$y_{10}$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_{11}$	$x_{11}$	$y_{11}$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_{12}$	$x_{12}$	$y_{12}$

# Reshape 2

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

- . drop ij
- . reshape wide eij1 eij2 y1 y1 x1 x2, i(i) j(k)

i	Ui	j = 1				j = 2											
		Vi1	Ei11	x11	y11	Vi1	Ei12	x12	y12	Vi2	Ei21	x21	y21	Vi2	Ei22	x22	y22
1	$\mu_1$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_2$	$x_2$	$y_2$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_3$	$x_3$	$y_3$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_4$	$x_4$	$y_4$
2	$\mu_2$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_5$	$x_5$	$y_5$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_6$	$x_6$	$y_6$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_7$	$x_7$	$y_7$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_8$	$x_8$	$y_8$
3	$\mu_3$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_9$	$x_9$	$y_9$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_{10}$	$x_{10}$	$y_{10}$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_{11}$	$x_{11}$	$y_{11}$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_{12}$	$x_{12}$	$y_{12}$

Think of each bounded column set as a linear regression.

# Reshape 2

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

```
. drop ij  
. reshape wide eij1 eij2 y1 y1 x1 x2, i(i) j(k)
```

i	Ui	j = 1				j = 2											
		Vi1	Ei11	x11	y11	Vi1	Ei12	x12	y12	Vi2	Ei21	x21	y21	Vi2	Ei22	x22	y22
1	$\mu_1$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_2$	$x_2$	$y_2$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_3$	$x_3$	$y_3$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_4$	$x_4$	$y_4$
2	$\mu_2$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_5$	$x_5$	$y_5$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_6$	$x_6$	$y_6$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_7$	$x_7$	$y_7$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_8$	$x_8$	$y_8$
3	$\mu_3$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_9$	$x_9$	$y_9$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_{10}$	$x_{10}$	$y_{10}$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_{11}$	$x_{11}$	$y_{11}$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_{12}$	$x_{12}$	$y_{12}$

Think of each bounded column set as a linear regression.  
Estimate them all as a multivariate regression.

## Reshape 2

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

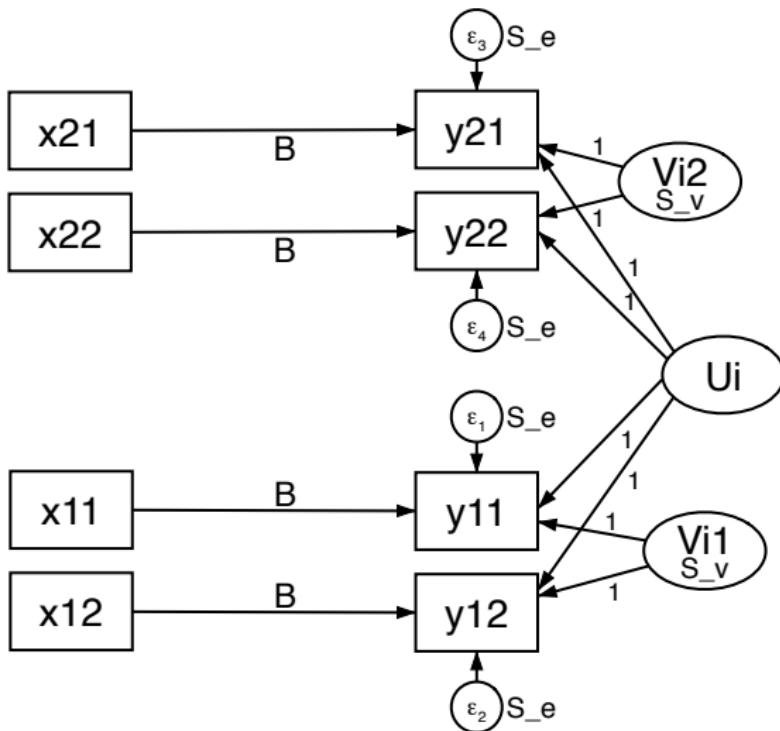
```
. drop ij  
. reshape wide eij1 eij2 y1 y1 x1 x2, i(i) j(k)
```

i	Ui	j = 1				j = 2											
		Vi1	Ei11	x11	y11	Vi1	Ei12	x12	y12	Vi2	Ei21	x21	y21	Vi2	Ei22	x22	y22
1	$\mu_1$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_2$	$x_2$	$y_2$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_3$	$x_3$	$y_3$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_4$	$x_4$	$y_4$
2	$\mu_2$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_5$	$x_5$	$y_5$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_6$	$x_6$	$y_6$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_7$	$x_7$	$y_7$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_8$	$x_8$	$y_8$
3	$\mu_3$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_9$	$x_9$	$y_9$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_{10}$	$x_{10}$	$y_{10}$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_{11}$	$x_{11}$	$y_{11}$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_{12}$	$x_{12}$	$y_{12}$

Think of each bounded column set as a linear regression.  
Estimate them all as a multivariate regression.

With some creative constraints we can retrieve the estimator for a multilevel random-effects model.

# Path diagram for multilevel RE model



This is the same as `xtmixed`

# Estimation by `xtmixed`

```
. xtmixed y x || i: || j: , var
```

Computing standard errors:

Mixed-effects ML regression

Number of obs = 400

Group Variable	No. of Groups	Observations per Group		
		Minimum	Average	Maximum
i	100	4	4.0	4
j	200	2	2.0	2

Wald chi2(1) = 222.20  
Prob > chi2 = 0.0000

y	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]
x	.9807039	.0657916	14.91	0.000	.8517547 1.109653
_cons	-.0073976	.226301	-0.03	0.974	-.4509395 .4361442

Random-effects Parameters	Estimate	Std. Err.	[95% Conf. Interval]
i: Identity			
var(_cons)	3.982254	.7418897	2.764083 5.737292
j: Identity			
var(_cons)	1.755509	.3283723	1.2167 2.532925
var(Residual)	1.043474	.1047343	.8571284 1.270332

LR test vs. linear regression: chi2(2) = 301.42 Prob > chi2 = 0.0000

Note: LR test is conservative and provided only for reference.



# Estimation by sem

	OIM					
	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
Structural						
y_1_1 <=						
x_1_1	.9806737	.071335	13.75	0.000	.8408596	1.120488
Vi_1	1	3.82e-17	2.6e+16	0.000	1	1
Ui	1	2.22e-18	4.5e+17	0.000	1	1
_cons	-.0073968	.2263024	-0.03	0.974	-.4509414	.4361478
y_1_2 <=						
x_1_2	.9806737	.071335	13.75	0.000	.8408596	1.120488
Vi_1	1	6.04e-23	1.7e+22	0.000	1	1
Ui	1	5.02e-17	2.0e+16	0.000	1	1
_cons	-.0073968	.2263024	-0.03	0.974	-.4509414	.4361478
y_2_1 <=						
x_2_1	.9806737	.071335	13.75	0.000	.8408596	1.120488
Ui	1	1.73e-46	5.8e+45	0.000	1	1
Vi_2	1	1.53e-45	6.5e+44	0.000	1	1
_cons	-.0073968	.2263024	-0.03	0.974	-.4509414	.4361478
y_2_2 <=						
x_2_2	.9806737	.071335	13.75	0.000	.8408596	1.120488
Ui	1	(constrained)				
Vi_2	1	(constrained)				
_cons	-.0073968	.2263024	-0.03	0.974	-.4509414	.4361478
Variance						
e.y_1_1	1.04347	.1047932			.8570298	1.270469
e.y_1_2	1.04347	.1047932			.8570298	1.270469
e.y_2_1	1.04347	.1047932			.8570298	1.270469
e.y_2_2	1.04347	.1047932			.8570298	1.270469
Vi_1	1.755525	.3287012			1.216269	2.533871
Ui	3.982251	.7418907			2.764078	5.737291
Vi_2	1.755525	.3287012			1.216269	2.533871
Covariance						
x_1_1						
Vi_1	0	(constrained)				
Ui	0	(constrained)				
Vi_2	0	(constrained)				
...						

LR test of model vs. saturated: chi2(25) = 35.81, Prob > chi2 = 0.0745

# Unbalanced data

- Different number of observations in some groups?

# Unbalanced data

- Different number of observations in some groups?
- No worries?

# Unbalanced data

- Different number of observations in some groups?
- No worries?
- add `method(mlmv)`

Results in the same estimator as `xtmixed` with unbalanced panels

# Unbalanced long

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

i	Ui	j	Vij	k	Eijk	x	y
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	1	$\epsilon_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	2	$\epsilon_2$	$x_2$	$y_2$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_2$	1	$\epsilon_3$	$x_3$	$y_3$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_2$	2	$\epsilon_4$	$x_4$	$y_4$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_3$	1	$\epsilon_5$	$x_5$	$y_5$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_3$	2	$\epsilon_6$	$x_6$	$y_6$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_4$	1	$\epsilon_7$	$x_7$	$y_7$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_4$	2	$\epsilon_8$	$x_8$	$y_8$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_5$	1	$\epsilon_9$	$x_9$	$y_9$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_5$	2	$\epsilon_{10}$	$x_{10}$	$y_{10}$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	1	$\epsilon_{11}$	$x_{11}$	$y_{11}$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	2	$\epsilon_{12}$	$x_{12}$	$y_{12}$

# "Records" are just not there

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk} \quad I=3, J=2, K=2$$

i	Ui	j	Vij	k	Eijk	x	y
1	$\mu_1$	1	$\nu_1$	2	$\epsilon_2$	$x_2$	$y_2$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_2$	1	$\epsilon_3$	$x_3$	$y_3$
1	$\mu_1$	2	$\nu_2$	2	$\epsilon_4$	$x_4$	$y_4$
<hr/>							
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_3$	1	$\epsilon_5$	$x_5$	$y_5$
2	$\mu_2$	1	$\nu_3$	2	$\epsilon_6$	$x_6$	$y_6$
2	$\mu_2$	2	$\nu_4$	1	$\epsilon_7$	$x_7$	$y_7$
<hr/>							
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_5$	1	$\epsilon_9$	$x_9$	$y_9$
3	$\mu_3$	1	$\nu_5$	2	$\epsilon_{10}$	$x_{10}$	$y_{10}$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	1	$\epsilon_{11}$	$x_{11}$	$y_{11}$
3	$\mu_3$	2	$\nu_6$	2	$\epsilon_{12}$	$x_{12}$	$y_{12}$

# Unbalanced wide

$$y_{ijk} = \beta x_{ijk} + \mu_i + \nu_j + \epsilon_{ijk}$$

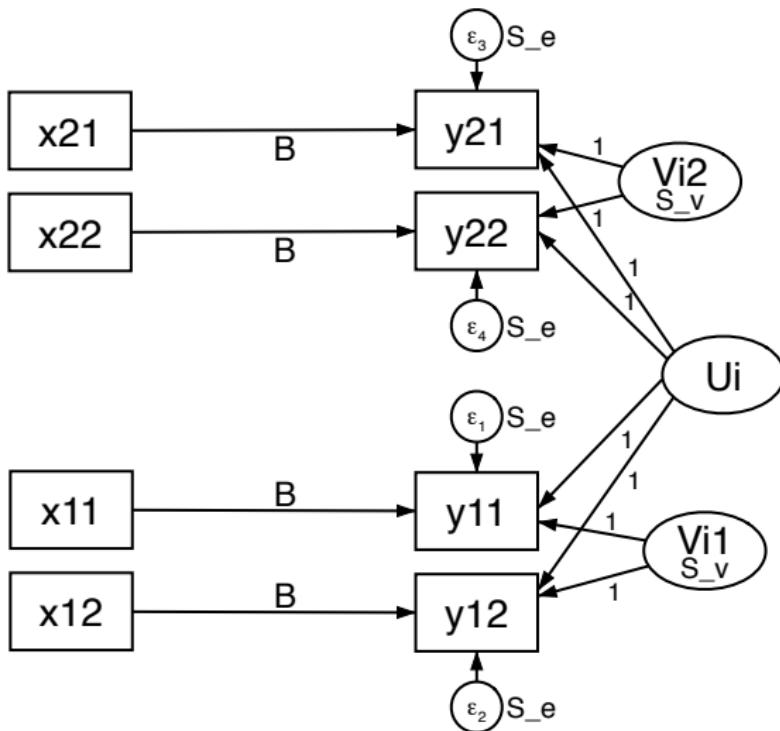
$$I = 3, J = 2, K = 2$$

$j = 1$

$j = 2$

i	Ui	k = 1				k = 2				k = 1				k = 2			
		Vi1	Ei11	x11	y11	Vi1	Ei12	x12	y12	Vi2	Ei21	x21	y21	Vi2	Ei22	x22	y22
1	$\mu_1$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_2$	$x_2$	$y_2$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_3$	$x_3$	$y_3$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_4$	$x_4$	$y_4$
2	$\mu_2$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_5$	$x_5$	$y_5$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_6$	$x_6$	$y_6$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_7$	$x_7$	$y_7$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_8$	$x_8$	$y_8$
3	$\mu_3$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_9$	$x_9$	$y_9$	$\nu_1$	$\epsilon_{10}$	$x_{10}$	$y_{10}$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_{11}$	$x_{11}$	$y_{11}$	$\nu_2$	$\epsilon_{12}$	$x_{12}$	$y_{12}$

# Why do we care?



# I should also mention

For the multilevel RE model (and all the other models) SEM supports:

- robust and cluster-robust SEs
- estimation by GMM
- survey data
- missing data – MAR
- heteroskedastic effects at any level
- correlated effects at any level

# Uninterested in SEM?

So was I.  
I'm interested now.