

Acknowledgments

`sem` and `gsem` were developed by StataCorp.

Neither command would exist without the help of two people outside of StataCorp. We must thank these two people profusely. They are

Jeroen Weesie, Department of Sociology at Utrecht University, The Netherlands

Sophia Rabe-Hesketh, University of California, Berkeley

Jeroen Weesie is responsible for the existence of the SEM project at StataCorp. While spending his sabbatical with us, Jeroen expressed—repeatedly—the importance of SEM, and that enthusiasm for SEM was disregarded—repeatedly. Not until after his sabbatical did StataCorp see the light. At that point, we had him back, and back, and back, so that he could inspire us, guide us, tell us what we had right, and, often, tell us what we had wrong.

Jeroen helped us with the math, the syntax, and system design, and, when we were too thick-headed, he even wrote code. By the date of first shipment, all code had been rewritten by us, but design and syntax for SEM still now and forever will show Jeroen's influence.

Thank you, Jeroen Weesie, for teaching us SEM.

Sophia Rabe-Hesketh contributed a bit later, after the second project, GSEM, was well underway. GSEM stands for generalized SEM. Sophia is the coauthor of the community-contributed command `gllamm` and knows as much about multilevel and structural equation modeling as anybody, and probably more. She helped us a lot through her prolific published works; we did have her visit a few times, though, mainly because we knew that features in GSEM would overlap with features in GLLAMM, and we wanted to straighten out any difficulties that competing features might cause.

About the competing features, Sophia cared nothing. About the GSEM project, she was excited. About syntax and computational methods—well, she straightened us out the first day, even on things we thought we had settled. Today, enough of the underlying workings of GSEM are based on Sophia's and her coauthors' publications that anyone who uses `gsem` should cite [Rabe-Hesketh, Skrondal, and Pickles \(2004\)](#).

We are indebted to the works of Sophia Rabe-Hesketh, Anders Skrondal of the University of Oslo and the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, and Andrew Pickles of King's College London.

Reference

Rabe-Hesketh, S., A. Skrondal, and A. Pickles. 2004. Generalized multilevel structural equation modeling. *Psychometrika* 69: 167–190. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF02295939>.

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