Description   Syntax   Options   Remarks and examples   Also see

Description

These options affect some minor issues of how sem and gsem interpret what you type.

Syntax

sem *paths* ..., ... *syntax_options*

gsem *paths* ..., ... *syntax_options*

syntax_options	Description
latent(*names*)	explicitly specify latent variable names
nocapslatent	do not treat capitalized *Names* as latent

where *names* is a space-separated list of the names of the latent variables.

Options

latent(*names*) specifies that *names* is the full set of names of the latent variables. sem and gsem
ordinarily assume that latent variables have the first letter capitalized and observed variables have the
first letter lowercased; see [SEM] **sem and gsem path notation**. When you specify latent(*names*),
sem and gsem treat the listed variables as the latent variables and all other variables, regardless of
capitalization, as observed. latent() implies nocapslatent.

nocapslatent specifies that having the first letter capitalized does not designate a latent variable. This
option can be used when fitting models with observed variables only where some observed variables
in the dataset have the first letter capitalized.

Remarks and examples

We recommend using the default naming convention. If your dataset contains variables with the first
letter capitalized, it is easy to convert the variables to have lowercase names by typing

```
. rename *, lower
```

See [D] **rename group**.

Also see

[SEM] **sem** — Structural equation model estimation command

[SEM] **gsem** — Generalized structural equation model estimation command

[SEM] **sem and gsem path notation** — Command syntax for path diagrams

For suggested citations, see the FAQ on citing Stata documentation.