Title

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sem and gsem syntax options — Options affecting interpretation of syntax

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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

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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