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Advances in factor analysis and structural equation models.

Author: Joreskog KG; Sorbom D; Magidson J

Source: New York, New York, University Press of America, 1979. xxviii, 242 p.

Abstract: The articles in this book develop the basic ideas of causal modeling and illustrate them for a wide range of applications in the social sciences. Causal modeling requires researchers to think through all the conceptual implications associated with a given specification. A causal model is said to be misspecified (and inadequate) if the assumptions are incorrect and do not allow the desired causal interpretation of the parameters. A common source of misspecification derives from the omission of a major causative factor that is correlated with at least 1 predictor variable included in the model. Causal modeling in the social sciences is especially challenging and complex because the causes of a given outcome are typically unknown or not susceptible to direct observation. Moreover, the observed patterns among the variables may be consistent with a variety of causal explanations. Thus it is often desirable to formulate and test a variety of models. Some models may be ruled out on common sense grounds. For example, although educational aspirations may differ by race, aspirations cannot cause race. Other models might be rejected only if they yield inferences inconsistent (within statistical limits) with the pattern of relationships actually observed. Causal modeling can be used to state theory more exactly, to test theory more precisely, and to yield a more thorough understanding of data. The methods in this book do not provide final answers to the question of model specification. What they offer the researcher is the flexibility to formulate and test a variety of causal models and to guide the analysis toward more adequate explanations of the relationships embedded in data.

Language: [English](#)

Year: [1979](#)

Keywords: [Mathematical Model](#) | [Theoretical Models](#) | [Research Methodology](#) | [Factor Analysis](#) | [Statistical Studies](#) | [Data Analysis](#) | [Social Sciences](#) | [Computer Programs and Programming](#) | [Studies](#) | [Science](#) | [Sociocultural Factors](#) | [Computers](#) | [Information Communication Technology](#) | [Information](#)

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