

# MULTITRAIT SCALING PROGRAM: MULTI

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## ABSTRACT

Item convergence within multi-item scales, or internal consistency, is commonly evaluated using Cronbach's (1951) alpha reliability coefficient. Evaluating item discrimination across scales, multitrait scaling analysis, is also desirable (Hays & Hayashi, 1990). The purpose of this paper is to describe a program to compute the necessary statistics for multitrait scaling using the SAS/STAT<sup>®</sup> software and the SAS<sup>®</sup> macro facility.

## INTRODUCTION

Item convergence within multi-item scales, or internal consistency, is commonly evaluated using Cronbach's (1951) alpha reliability coefficient. Alpha can be obtained as an option in the CORR procedure in SAS/STAT software. Evaluating item discrimination across scales, multitrait scaling analysis, is also desirable (Hays & Hayashi, 1990). In multitrait scaling analysis, items are examined with respect to how well they represent a particular scale relative to other scales. Hays and Hayashi (1990) described a microcomputer program for

multitrait scaling analysis, but a SAS/STAT procedure has not yet been developed for this purpose. This paper describes a macro, MULTI, for conducting multitrait scaling analysis.

## USING THE MULTI MACRO

Required input is the name of the data set being processed, the names and number of items in each scale, and the names and number of scales in the analysis. Up to 19 scales can be included. MULTI produces output consisting of the number of cases in the analysis, the multitrait-multitem correlation matrix, intercorrelations among scales, item and scale descriptive statistics, scale normality statistics, intercorrelations among items, and internal consistency reliability estimates for the scales (see Table 1). Correlations between items and scales in the multitrait-multitem correlation matrix are corrected for item overlap with scales (Howard & Forehand, 1962). A listing of MULTI is provided in Table 2. The program is designed to run on any operating system.

Table 1—Example Output from Multitrait Scaling Macro

NUMBER OF CASES IN ANALYSIS			
	SAMPSIZE	SE	
	5	0.44721	
MULTITRAIT MULTITEM CORRELATION MATRIX			
	item	scale1	scale2
	ITEM1	0.48*	0.97
	ITEM2	0.48*	0.31
	ITEM3	0.73	0.60*
	ITEM4	0.76	0.80*
	ITEM5	0.29	0.50*
INTERCORRELATIONS AMONG SCALES			
OBS	SCALE	SCALE1	SCALE2
1	SCALE1	1.00000	0.67278
2	SCALE2	0.67278	1.00000

ITEM AND SCALE MEANS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS

Variable	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
ITEM1	5	3.60	1.14	2.00	5.00
ITEM2	5	3.80	1.64	2.00	5.00
ITEM3	5	2.00	1.00	1.00	3.00
ITEM4	5	4.20	1.30	2.00	5.00
ITEM5	5	2.40	1.52	1.00	4.00
SCALE1	5	7.40	2.41	4.00	10.00
SCALE2	5	8.60	3.21	4.00	12.00

SKEWNESS OF SCALE SCORES (unbounded)

SCALE1	SCALE2
-0.60136	-0.60805

KURTOSIS OF SCALE SCORES (-2 → +infinity)

SCALE1	SCALE2
-0.94530	-0.68150

NORMALITY OF SCALE SCORES

Shapiro-Wilk statistic if n ≤ 2000  
Kolomogorov D statistic if n > 2000

SCALE1	SCALE2
0.95682	0.95785

INTERCORRELATIONS AMONG ITEMS

OBS	ITEMS	ITEM1	ITEM2	ITEM3	ITEM4	ITEM5
1	ITEM1	1.00000	0.48038	0.87706	0.90811	0.69398
2	ITEM2	0.48038	1.00000	0.45644	0.49010	-0.06019
3	ITEM3	0.87706	0.45644	1.00000	0.76696	0.32969
4	ITEM4	0.90811	0.49010	0.76696	1.00000	0.58158
5	ITEM5	0.69398	-0.06019	0.32969	0.58158	1.00000

ALPHA INTERNAL CONSISTENCY RELIABILITY

scale1

ALPHA	SALPHA	RII	SRII	SCOTT	K
0.62069	0.64900	0.45000	0.48038	0.48038	2

ALPHA INTERNAL CONSISTENCY RELIABILITY

scale1

ALPHA	SALPHA	RII	SRII	SCOTT	K
0.77184	0.79206	0.53000	0.55941	0.55234	3

**Table 2—MULTI Macro**

```

.....
options nonumber NOCENTER ls=182
  MPRINT MTRACE SYMBOLGEN NONUMBER
  NODATE MISSING=' ';
.....
%MACRO ALPHA;
.....
PROC CORR DATA=ALPHA1 NOPRINT NOMISS COV
  OUTP=CORROUT;
VAR
  &&ITEMS&i ;
TITLE1 'ALPHA INTERNAL CONSISTENCY RELIABILITY';
TITLE2 "&&nscal&i" ;
RUN;
.....
DATA ALPHA;
SET CORROUT;
.....
ARRAY STOT (I)
  &&ITEMS&i ;
.....
RETAIN TOT SDTOT VAR SDSUM;
.....
KK=&&nit&i;
.....
IF _N_=1 THEN DO;
  TOT=0;SDTOT=0;VAR=0;SDSUM=0;
END;
.....
IF _N_<=KK THEN DO;
  DO I=1 TO KK;
    TOT=STOT+TOT;
    IF I=_N_ THEN VAR=STOT+VAR;
  END;
END;
.....
IF _N_=(KK+2) THEN DO;
  DO I=1 TO KK;
    SDSUM=STOT+SDSUM;
  END;
END;
.....
IF _N_>(KK+3) THEN DO;
  DO I=1 TO KK;
    SDTOT=STOT+SDTOT;
  END;
END;
.....
IF _N_=(2*KK)+3) THEN DO;
  COV=TOT-VAR;
  ALPHA=(KK+COV)/((KK-1)*TOT);

```

```

RII=COV/((KK-1)*VAR);
SCOV=SDTOT-KK;
SALPHA=(KK*SCOV)/((KK-1)*SDTOT);
SRII=SCOV/((KK-1)*KK);
SCOTT=COV/((SDSUM*SDSUM)-VAR);
OUTPUT;
END;
RENAME KK=K;
.....
PROC PRINT NOOBS;
  VAR ALPHA SALPHA RII SRII SCOTT K;
RUN;
%MEND ALPHA;
.....
%MACRO MULTI(DATA=,items1 =,items2 =,items3 =,
items4 =,items5 =, items6 =,items7 =,items8 =, items9=,
items10=, items11=, items12=, items13=, items14=,
items15=, items16=, items17=, items18=, items19=, NIT1=,
NIT2=, NIT3=, NIT4=, NIT5=, NIT6=, NIT7=, NIT8=, NIT9=,
NIT10=, NIT11=, NIT12=, NIT13=, NIT14=, NIT15=, NIT16=,
NIT17=, NIT18=, NIT19=, nSCAL1 =, nSCAL2 =, nSCAL3 =,
nSCAL4 =, nSCAL5 =, nSCAL6 =, nSCAL7 =, nSCAL8 =,
nSCAL9 =, nSCAL10=, nSCAL11=, nSCAL12=, nSCAL13=,
nSCAL14=, nSCAL15=, nSCAL16=, nSCAL17=, nSCAL18=,
nSCAL19=, NSCALES=);
.....
DATA ALPHA;
SET &DATA;
.....
count=0;
do i=1 to 19;
  n=symget('nit'||left(i));
  count=count + n ;
end;
call symput('k',left(put(count,2)));
.....
%let scales=;
%do i=1 %to &nscals;
%let scales = &scales &&nscal&i ;
%end;
.....
%let items =;
%do i=1 %to 19;
%let items = &items &&items&i ;
%end;
.....
ARRAY NO (I) &ITEMS &SCALES;
KEEP=1;
DO OVER NO;
  IF NO<=.Z THEN KEEP=0;
END;
.....
DATA ALPHA1;
SET ALPHA;

```

```

IF KEEP=1;
.....
PROC CORR DATA=ALPHA1 NOPRINT OUTP=CORROUT;
VAR
  &ITEMS &SCALES;WITH &ITEMS;
RUN;
.....
DATA ALPHA;
SET CORROUT;
.....
ARRAY ITEMSD (II) &ITEMS;
ARRAY ISD (II) I1-I200;
ARRAY NIT(nscales) NITEM1-NITEM19;
ARRAY SCALED (I) S1-S19;
ARRAY CORSCALE (I) &SCALES;
RETAIN SCALED ISD II WHERE NSCALE NCASES;
.....
array item{19} nitem1 nitem2 nitem3 nitem4
  nitem5 nitem6 nitem7 nitem8 nitem9 nitem10
  nitem11 nitem12 nitem13 nitem14 nitem15
  nitem16 nitem17 nitem18 nitem19 ;
do i=1 to 19;
  item[i]=symget('nit'||left(i));
end;
.....
IF _N_=2 THEN DO i=1 TO &NSCALES;
SCALED=CORSCALE;
END;
.....
IF _N_=2 THEN DO II=1 TO &K;
ISD=ITEMSD;
END;
.....
IF _N_=3 THEN DO II=1 TO 1;
NCASES=ITEMSD;
END;
.....
IF _N_=3 THEN II=1;
.....
IF _N_ > 3 THEN DO;
IF _N_=4 THEN NSCALE=1;
IF _N_=4 THEN WHERE=1;
IF WHERE <= NIT THEN WHERE=WHERE+1;
.....
DO I=1 TO &NSCALES;
IF I=NSCALE THEN DO;
DENO=(SCALED*SCALED+ISD*ISD) -
  (2*CORSCALE*SCALED*ISD);
DENOM=sqrt(DENO);
CORSCAL=(CORSCALE*SCALED)-ISD;
CORSCALE=CORSCAL/DENOM;
END;
END;
OUTPUT;

```

```

II=II+1;
IF WHERE=NIT+1 THEN DO;
  NSCALE=NSCALE+1;
  WHERE=1;
END;
END;
.....
PROC MEANS DATA=ALPHA NOPRINT;
VAR NCASES;
OUTPUT OUT=ONE MEAN=SAMPsize;
TITLE 'NUMBER OF CASES IN ANALYSIS';
RUN;
.....
DATA;
SET ONE(KEEP=SAMPsize);
SE=1/SQRT(SAMPsize);
PROC PRINT NOOBS;RUN;
.....
data a;
length s1 s2 s3 s4 s5 s6 s7 s8 s9 s10
  s11 s12 s13 s14 s15 s16 s17 s18 s19 $ 1;
SET ALPHA(KEEP=_NAME_ &SCALES NITEM1-NITEM19);
IF _N_ <= &K;
RENAME _NAME_ =ITEM;
.....
array s{19} $ s1 s2 s3 s4 s5 s6 s7 s8 s9 s10
  s11 s12 s13 s14 s15 s16 s17 s18 s19;
array t{19} nitem1 nitem2 nitem3 nitem4 nitem5 nitem6
  nitem7 nitem8 nitem9 nitem10 nitem11 nitem12
  nitem13 nitem14 nitem15 nitem16 nitem17 nitem18
  nitem19 ;
nt=0;
do i=1 to 19;
  ot=nt;
  nt=ot + t{i};
  if ot < _N_ <= nt then s{i}="";
end;
.....
%let put=@2 item $8. +2;
%do i=1 %to &nscals;
%let put= &put &&nscal&i 4.2 s&i $ 1. +4;
%end;
data _null_;
set a end=endfile;
file print notitles header=hd;
put &put;
RETURN;
hd;
put / @1 'MULTITRAIT MULTITEM CORRELATION MATRIX';

PUT //
  @2 'item '
  @12 '&nscal1'
  @21 '&nscal2'

```

```

@30 "&nscal3"
@39 "&nscal4"
@48 "&nscal5"
@57 "&nscal6"
@66 "&nscal7"
@75 "&nscal8"
@84 "&nscal9"
@93 "&nscal10"
@102 "&nscal11"
@111 "&nscal12"
@120 "&nscal13"
@129 "&nscal14"
@138 "&nscal15"
@147 "&nscal16"
@156 "&nscal17"
@165 "&nscal18"
@174 "&nscal19"
/;
/
PUT @2 '-----';
RUN;
-----;
*/
/
DATA in.scale;
SET ALPHA(KEEP=_NAME_ &SCALES);
IF _N_ <=&K;
RENAME _NAME_=ITEM;
TITLE ' MULTITRAIT MULTIITEM CORRELATION MATRIX';
PROC PRINT ROUND UNIFORM;
RUN;
-----;
*/
PROC CORR DATA=ALPHA1 NOPRINT OUTP=CORROUT;
VAR
&SCALES;
RUN;
-----;
DATA;
SET CORROUT(KEEP=_NAME_ &SCALES);
IF _N_ >3;
RENAME _NAME_=SCALE;
TITLE 'INTERCORRELATIONS AMONG SCALES';
PROC PRINT;
RUN;
-----;
PROC MEANS DATA=ALPHA1 MAXDEC=2 FW=10;
VAR
&ITEMS &SCALES;
TITLE 'ITEM AND SCALE MEANS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS';
RUN;
-----;
PROC UNIVARIATE DATA=ALPHA1 NOPRINT NORMAL;
VAR

```

```

&SCALES;
OUTPUT OUT=ONE SKEWNESS=&SCALES;
TITLE 'SKEWNESS OF SCALE SCORES (unbounded)';
RUN;
-----;
DATA;
SET ONE;
PROC PRINT NOOBS;RUN;
-----;
PROC UNIVARIATE DATA=ALPHA1 NOPRINT NORMAL;
VAR
&SCALES;
OUTPUT OUT=ONE KURTOSIS=&SCALES;
TITLE 'KURTOSIS OF SCALE SCORES (-2-> +infinity)';
RUN;
-----;
DATA;
SET ONE;
PROC PRINT NOOBS;RUN;
-----;
PROC UNIVARIATE DATA=ALPHA1 NOPRINT NORMAL;
VAR
&SCALES;
OUTPUT OUT=ONE NORMAL=&SCALES;
TITLE1 'NORMALITY OF SCALE SCORES';
TITLE2 'Shapiro-Wilk statistic if n <= 2000';
TITLE3 'Kolmogorov D statistic if n > 2000';
RUN;
-----;
DATA;
SET ONE;
PROC PRINT NOOBS;RUN;
-----;
DATA;
SET ALPHA(KEEP=_NAME_ &ITEMS);
IF _N_ <=&K;
RENAME _NAME_=ITEMS;
TITLE1 'INTERCORRELATIONS AMONG ITEMS';
TITLE2 '';
TITLE3 '';
PROC PRINT;
%do i=1 %to &nscals;
%ALPHA;
%end;
-----;
%MEND MULTI;
-----;
DATA NEW;
INPUT
ID 1-2
ITEM1 4
ITEM2 5
ITEM3 6
ITEM4 7

```

```

ITEM5      8;
CARDS;
01 55354
02 45351
03 42254
04 35142
05 22121
;
DATA NEW;
SET NEW;
SCALE1=MEAN(ITEM1,ITEM2)*2;
SCALE2=MEAN(ITEM3,ITEM4,ITEM5)*3;

```

```

.....
%MULTI (DATA=NEW,items1=ITEM1 ITEM2,
items2=ITEM3 ITEM4 ITEM5, items3=, items4=, items5=,
items6=, items7=, items8=, items9=, items10=, items11=,
items12=, items13=, items14=, items15=, items16=, items17=,
items18=,items19=, NIT1=2,NIT2=3,NIT3=0,NIT4=0,NIT5=0,
NIT6=0,NIT7=0,NIT8=0,NIT9=0,NIT10=0, NIT11=0, NIT12=0,
NIT13=0, NIT14=0, NIT15=0, NIT16=0, NIT17=0, NIT18=0,
NIT19=0, nscal1=scale1, nscal2=scale2, nscal3=3, nscal4=4,
nscal5=5, nscal6=6, nscal7=7,nscal8=8, nscal9=9, nscal10=10,
scal11=11,nscal12=12,nscal13=13,nscal14=14,nscal15=15,
nscal16=16,nscal17=17, nscal18=18,nscal19=19,ncales=2);

```

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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