

# Package ‘lcsm’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Univariate and Bivariate Latent Change Score Modeling

**Date** 2020-07-24

**Version** 0.1.2

**Description** Helper functions to implement univariate and bivariate latent change score models in R using the 'lavaan' package.

For details about Latent Change Score Modeling (LCSM) see McArdle (2009) <[doi:10.1146/annurev.psych.60.110707.163612](https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.psych.60.110707.163612)> and Grimm, An, McArdle, Zonderman and Resnick (2012) <[doi:10.1080/10705511.2012.659627](https://doi.org/10.1080/10705511.2012.659627)>.

The package automatically generates 'lavaan' syntax for different model specifications and varying timepoints.

The 'lavaan' syntax generated by this package can be returned and further specifications can be added manually.

Longitudinal plots as well as simplified path diagrams can be created to visualise data and model specifications.

Estimated model parameters and fit statistics can be extracted as data frames.

Data for different univariate and bivariate LCSM can be simulated by specifying estimates for model parameters to explore their effects.

This package combines the strengths of other R packages like 'lavaan', 'broom', and 'semPlot' by generating 'lavaan' syntax that helps these packages work together.

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0)

**License** GPL-3

**Encoding** UTF-8

**URL** <https://milanwiedemann.github.io/lcsm/>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/milanwiedemann/lcsm/issues>

**LazyData** true

**Imports** lavaan (>= 0.6.2), dplyr (>= 0.7.4), tibble (>= 1.4.2), magrittr (>= 1.5), rlang (>= 0.1.6), tidyr (>= 0.8.0), ggplot2 (>= 2.2.1), broom (>= 0.5.1), semPlot (>= 1.1), stats (>= 3.5.2), stringr (>= 1.4.0), purrr (>= 0.3.4), data.table, utf8

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.1

**Suggests** testthat (>= 2.1.0), knitr (>= 1.22), rmarkdown (>= 1.12),  
shiny (>= 1.4.0)

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**NeedsCompilation** no

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---

data\_bi\_lscsm

*Longitudinal dataset with repeated measures of two constructs*

---

### Description

Example dataset with repeated measures of two constructs to illustrate how the package works.

### Usage

```
data(data_bi_lscsm)
```

**Format**

A longitudinal dataset in wide format:

- id: ID variable, unique identifier for each person
- x1: x value at time point 1
- x2: x value at time point 2
- x3: x value at time point 3
- x4: x value at time point 4
- x5: x value at time point 5
- x6: x value at time point 6
- x7: x value at time point 7
- x8: x value at time point 8
- x9: x value at time point 9
- x10: x value at time point 10
- y1: y value at time point 1
- y2: y value at time point 2
- y3: y value at time point 3
- y4: y value at time point 4
- y5: y value at time point 5
- y6: y value at time point 6
- y7: y value at time point 7
- y8: y value at time point 8
- y9: y value at time point 9
- y10: y value at time point 10

**Examples**

```
# Load data into global environment
data(data_bi_lscsm)
```

---

data\_uni\_lscsm

*Longitudinal dataset with repeated measures of one constructs*

---

**Description**

Example dataset with repeated measures of one constructs to illustrate how the package works.

**Usage**

```
data(data_uni_lscsm)
```

## Format

A longitudinal dataset in wide format:

- id: ID variable, unique identifier for each person
- x1: x value at time point 1
- x2: x value at time point 2
- x3: x value at time point 3
- x4: x value at time point 4
- x5: x value at time point 5
- x6: x value at time point 6
- x7: x value at time point 7
- x8: x value at time point 8
- x9: x value at time point 9
- x10: x value at time point 10

## Examples

```
# Load data into global environment
data(data_uni_lscsm)
```

---

extract_fit	<i>Extract fit statistics of lavaan objects</i>
-------------	---

---

## Description

Extract fit statistics of lavaan objects

## Usage

```
extract_fit(..., details = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

...	lavaan object(s)
details	Logical, if TRUE return all fit statistics. By default this is set to FALSE, a selection (chisq, npar, aic, bic, cfi, rmsea, srmr) of fit statistics is returned.

## Value

This function returns a tibble.

## References

David Robinson and Alex Hayes (2019). broom: Convert Statistical Analysis Objects into Tidy Tibbles. R package version 0.5.2. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=broom>.

## Examples

```
# First create a lavaan object
## Not run:
bi_lscsm_01 <- fit_bi_lscsm(data = data_bi_lscsm,
  var_x = names(data_bi_lscsm)[2:4],
  var_y = names(data_bi_lscsm)[12:14],
  model_x = list(alpha_constant = TRUE,
    beta = TRUE,
    phi = FALSE),
  model_y = list(alpha_constant = TRUE,
    beta = TRUE,
    phi = TRUE),
  coupling = list(delta_lag_xy = TRUE,
    xi_lag_yx = TRUE)
)

# Now extract fit statistics

extract_fit(bi_lscsm_01)

## End(Not run)
```

---

extract_param	<i>Extract labelled parameters of lavaan objects</i>
---------------	--

---

## Description

Extract labelled parameters of lavaan objects

## Usage

```
extract_param(lavaan_object, printp = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

lavaan\_object lavaan object.  
printp If TRUE convert into easily readable p values.

## Value

This function returns a tibble with labelled parameters.

## References

David Robinson and Alex Hayes (2019). broom: Convert Statistical Analysis Objects into Tidy Tibbles. R package version 0.5.2. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=broom>

**Examples**

```
# First create a lavaan object
bi_lscsm_01 <- fit_bi_lscsm(data = data_bi_lscsm,
                           var_x = names(data_bi_lscsm)[2:4],
                           var_y = names(data_bi_lscsm)[12:14],
                           model_x = list(alpha_constant = TRUE,
                                           beta = TRUE,
                                           phi = FALSE),
                           model_y = list(alpha_constant = TRUE,
                                           beta = TRUE,
                                           phi = TRUE),
                           coupling = list(delta_lag_xy = TRUE,
                                           xi_lag_yx = TRUE)
                           )

# Now extract parameter estimates
extract_param(bi_lscsm_01)
```

---

fit\_bi\_lscsm

*Fit bivariate latent change score models*


---

**Description**

Fit bivariate latent change score models.

**Usage**

```
fit_bi_lscsm(
  data,
  var_x,
  var_y,
  model_x,
  model_y,
  coupling,
  mimic = "Mplus",
  estimator = "MLR",
  missing = "FIML",
  return_lavaan_syntax = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

data	Wide dataset.
var_x	List of variables measuring one construct of the model.
var_y	List of variables measuring another construct of the model.
model_x	List of model specifications (logical) for variables specified in var_x.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• alpha_constant (Constant change factor),</li> <li>• alpha_piecewise (Piecewise constant change factors),</li> <li>• alpha_piecewise_num (Changepoint of piecewise constant change factors),</li> <li>• alpha_linear (Linear change factor),</li> <li>• beta (Proportional change factor),</li> <li>• phi (Autoregression of change scores).</li> </ul>
model_y	<p>List of model specifications for variables specified in var_y.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• alpha_constant (Constant change factor),</li> <li>• alpha_piecewise (Piecewise constant change factors),</li> <li>• alpha_piecewise_num (Changepoint of piecewise constant change factors),</li> <li>• alpha_linear (Linear change factor),</li> <li>• beta (Proportional change factor),</li> <li>• phi (Autoregression of change scores).</li> </ul>
coupling	<p>List of model specifications (logical) for coupling parameters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• coupling_piecewise (Piecewise coupling parameters),</li> <li>• coupling_piecewise_num (Changepoint of piecewise coupling parameters),</li> <li>• delta_xy (True score y predicting subsequent change score x),</li> <li>• delta_yx (True score x predicting subsequent change score y),</li> <li>• xi_xy (Change score y predicting subsequent change score x),</li> <li>• xi_yx (Change score x predicting subsequent change score y).</li> </ul>
mimic	See <a href="#">lavaan</a> .
estimator	See <a href="#">lavaan</a> .
missing	See <a href="#">lavaan</a> .
return_lavaan_syntax	Logical, if TRUE return the lavaan syntax used for simulating data. To make it look beautiful use the function <a href="#">cat</a> .
...	Additional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">lavaan</a> .

## Value

This function returns a lavaan class object.

## References

- Ghisletta, P., & McArdle, J. J. (2012). Latent Curve Models and Latent Change Score Models Estimated in R. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 19(4), 651–682. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705511.2012.713275>.
- Grimm, K. J., Ram, N., & Estabrook, R. (2017). *Growth Modeling—Structural Equation and Multilevel Modeling Approaches*. New York: The Guilford Press.

McArdle, J. J. (2009). Latent variable modeling of differences and changes with longitudinal data. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 60(1), 577–605. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.psych.60.110707.163612>.

Yves Rosseel (2012). lavaan: An R Package for Structural Equation Modeling. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 48(2), 1-36. <http://www.jstatsoft.org/v48/i02/>.

## Examples

```
# Fit
fit_bi_lscsm(data = data_bi_lscsm,
             var_x = names(data_bi_lscsm)[2:4],
             var_y = names(data_bi_lscsm)[12:14],
             model_x = list(alpha_constant = TRUE,
                           beta = TRUE,
                           phi = FALSE),
             model_y = list(alpha_constant = TRUE,
                           beta = TRUE,
                           phi = TRUE),
             coupling = list(delta_lag_xy = TRUE,
                             xi_lag_yx = TRUE)
             )
```

---

fit\_uni\_lscsm

*Fit univariate latent change score models*

---

## Description

Fit univariate latent change score models.

## Usage

```
fit_uni_lscsm(
  data,
  var,
  model,
  mimic = "Mplus",
  estimator = "MLR",
  missing = "FIML",
  return_lavaan_syntax = FALSE,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

data	A data frame in "wide" format, i.e. one column for each measurement point and one row for each observation.
var	Vector, specifying the variable names of each measurement point sequentially.
model	List of model specifications (logical) for variables specified in var.



- alpha\_constant (Constant change factor),
- alpha\_piecewise (Piecewise constant change factors),
- alpha\_piecewise\_num (Changepoint of piecewise constant change factors,
- alpha\_linear (Linear change factor),
- beta (Proportional change factor),
- phi (Autoregression of change scores).

mimic	See <a href="#">lavaan</a> .
estimator	See <a href="#">lavaan</a> .
missing	See <a href="#">lavaan</a> .
return_lavaan_syntax	Logical, if TRUE return the lavaan syntax used for simulating data. To make it look beautiful use the function <a href="#">cat</a> .
...	Additional arguments to be passed to <a href="#">lavaan</a> .

## Value

This function returns a lavaan class object.

## References

- Ghisletta, P., & McArdle, J. J. (2012). Latent Curve Models and Latent Change Score Models Estimated in R. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 19(4), 651–682. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705511.2012.713275>.
- Grimm, K. J., Ram, N., & Estabrook, R. (2017). *Growth Modeling—Structural Equation and Multilevel Modeling Approaches*. New York: The Guilford Press.
- McArdle, J. J. (2009). Latent variable modeling of differences and changes with longitudinal data. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 60(1), 577–605. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.psych.60.110707.163612>.
- Yves Rosseel (2012). lavaan: An R Package for Structural Equation Modeling. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 48(2), 1-36. <http://www.jstatsoft.org/v48/i02/>.

## Examples

```
# Fit univariate latent change score model
fit_uni_lscsm(data = data_uni_lscsm,
              var = names(data_uni_lscsm)[2:4],
              model = list(alpha_constant = TRUE,
                          beta = FALSE,
                          phi = FALSE))
```

---

plot_lscsm	<i>Plot simplified path diagram of univariate and bivariate latent change score models</i>
------------	--

---

### Description

Plot simplified path diagram of univariate and bivariate latent change score models

### Usage

```
plot_lscsm(
  lavaan_object,
  layout = NULL,
  lavaan_syntax = NULL,
  return_layout_from_lavaan_syntax = FALSE,
  lscsm = c("univariate", "bivariate"),
  lscsm_colours = FALSE,
  curve_covar = 0.5,
  what = "path",
  whatLabels = "est",
  edge.width = 1,
  node.width = 1,
  border.width = 1,
  fixedStyle = 1,
  freeStyle = 1,
  residuals = FALSE,
  label.scale = FALSE,
  sizeMan = 3,
  sizeLat = 5,
  intercepts = FALSE,
  fade = FALSE,
  nCharNodes = 0,
  nCharEdges = 0,
  edge.label.cex = 0.5,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

lavaan_object	lavaan object of a univariate or bivariate latent change score model.
layout	Matrix, specifying number and location of manifest and latent variables of LCS model specified in lavaan_object.
lavaan_syntax	String, lavaan syntax of the lavaan object specified in lavaan_object. If lavaan_syntax is provided a layout matrix will be generated automatically.
return_layout_from_lavaan_syntax	Logical, if TRUE and lavaan_syntax is provided, the layout matrix generated for <a href="#">semPaths</a> will be returned for inspection of further customisation.

lscsm	String, specifying whether lavaan_object represent a "univariate" or "bivariate" LCS model.
lscsm_colours	Logical, if TRUE the following colours will be used to highlight different parts of the model: Observed variables (White); Latent true scores (Green); Latent change scores (Blue) ; Change factors (Yellow).
curve_covar	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
what	See <a href="#">semPlot</a> . "path" to show unweighted grey edges, "par" to show parameter estimates as weighted (green/red) edges
whatLabels	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> . "label" to show edge names as label, "est" for parameter estimates, "hide" to hide edge labels.
edge.width	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
node.width	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
border.width	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
fixedStyle	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
freeStyle	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
residuals	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
label.scale	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
sizeMan	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
sizeLat	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
intercepts	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
fade	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
nCharNodes	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
nCharEdges	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
edge.label.cex	See <a href="#">semPaths</a> .
...	Other arguments passed on to <a href="#">semPaths</a> .

**Value**

Plot

**References**

Sacha Epskamp (2019). *semPlot: Path Diagrams and Visual Analysis of Various SEM Packages'* Output. R package version 1.1.1. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=semPlot>

**Examples**

```
lavaan_syntax_uni <- fit_uni_lscsm(data = data_bi_lscsm,
  var = c("x1", "x2", "x3", "x4", "x5"),
  model = list(alpha_constant = TRUE,
    beta = TRUE,
    phi = TRUE),
  return_lavaan_syntax = TRUE,
  return_lavaan_syntax_string = TRUE)
```

```
lavaan_object_uni <- fit_uni_lscsm(data = data_bi_lscsm,
                                   var = c("x1", "x2", "x3", "x4", "x5"),
                                   model = list(alpha_constant = TRUE,
                                               beta = TRUE,
                                               phi = TRUE))

plot_lscsm(lavaan_object = lavaan_object_uni,
           what = "cons", whatLabels = "invisible",
           lavaan_syntax = lavaan_syntax_uni,
           lscsm = "univariate")
```

---

plot\_trajectories      *Plot individual trajectories*

---

## Description

Plot individual trajectories

## Usage

```
plot_trajectories(
  data,
  id_var,
  var_list,
  line_colour = "blue",
  group_var = NULL,
  point_colour = "black",
  line_alpha = 0.2,
  point_alpha = 0.2,
  point_size = 1,
  smooth = FALSE,
  smooth_method = "loess",
  smooth_se = FALSE,
  xlab = "X",
  ylab = "Y",
  scale_x_num = FALSE,
  scale_x_num_start = 1,
  random_sample_frac = 1,
  seed = 1234,
  title_n = FALSE,
  connect_missing = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

data	Dataset in wide format.
id_var	String, specifying id variable.
var_list	Vector, specifying variable names to be plotted in sequential order.
line_colour	String, specifying colour of lines.
group_var	String, specifying variable name of group, each group will get individual colour lines. This overwrites the line_colour argument. Also consider other options to look at trajectories like <a href="#">facet_wrap</a> which may be more appropriate.
point_colour	String, specifying, colour of points.
line_alpha	Numeric, specifying alpha of lines.
point_alpha	Numeric, specifying alpha of points.
point_size	Numeric, size of point
smooth	Logical, add smoothed conditional means using <a href="#">geom_smooth</a> .
smooth_method	String, specifying method to be used for calculating average line, see <a href="#">geom_smooth</a> .
smooth_se	Logical, specifying whether to add standard error of average line or not.
xlab	String for x axis label.
ylab	String for y axis label.
scale_x_num	Logical, if TRUE print sequential numbers starting from 1 as x axis labels, if FALSE use variable names.
scale_x_num_start	Numeric, if scale_x_num = TRUE this is the starting value of the x axis.
random_sample_frac	The fraction of rows to select (from wide dataset), default is set to 1 (100 percent) of the sample.
seed	Set seed for random sample if random_sample_frac argument is used.
title_n	Logical, specifying whether to print title with number and percentage of cases used for the plot.
connect_missing	Logical, specifying whether to connect points by id_var across missing values.

**Value**

ggplot2 object

**Examples**

```
# Create plot for construct x
plot_trajectories(data = data_bi_lscsm,
  id_var = "id",
  var_list = c("x1", "x2", "x3", "x4", "x5",
    "x6", "x7", "x8", "x9", "x10"))

# Create plot for construct y specifying some other arguments
plot_trajectories(data = data_bi_lscsm,
```

```

id_var = "id",
var_list = c("y1", "y2", "y3", "y4", "y5",
             "y6", "y7", "y8", "y9", "y10"),
xlab = "Time", ylab = "Y Score",
connect_missing = FALSE, random_sample_frac = 0.5)

```

---

rename_lcsms_vars	<i>Rename variables for univariate and bivariate latent change score models</i>
-------------------	---

---

### Description

Rename variables for univariate and bivariate latent change score models

### Usage

```
rename_lcsms_vars(data, var_x, var_y)
```

### Arguments

data	Dataset in wide format
var_x	List of variables measuring first construct
var_y	List of variables measuring second construct

### Value

Dataset in wide format with renamed variables

---

select_bi_cases	<i>Select cases based on minimum number of available session scores on two longitudinal measures</i>
-----------------	--

---

### Description

Select cases based on minimum number of available session scores on two longitudinal measures

### Usage

```
select_bi_cases(data, id_var, var_list_x, var_list_y, min_count_x, min_count_y)
```

**Arguments**

data	A data frame in "wide" format, i.e. one column for each measurement point and one row for each observation.
id_var	String, specifying id variable.
var_list_x	Vector, specifying variable names of construct X in sequential order.
var_list_y	Vector, specifying variable names of construct Y in sequential order.
min_count_x	Numeric, specifying minimum number of available scores for construct X.
min_count_y	Numeric, specifying minimum number of available scores for construct Y.

**Value**

tibble

**Examples**

```
select_bi_cases(data_bi_lscsm,
                id_var = "id",
                var_list_x = names(data_bi_lscsm)[2:11],
                var_list_y = names(data_bi_lscsm)[12:21],
                min_count_x = 7,
                min_count_y = 7)
```

---

select_uni_cases	<i>Select cases based on minimum number of available session scores on one longitudinal measure</i>
------------------	---

---

**Description**

Select cases based on minimum number of available session scores on one longitudinal measure

**Usage**

```
select_uni_cases(data, id_var, var_list, min_count, return_id_only = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

data	Dataset in wide format.
id_var	String, specifying id variable.
var_list	Vector, specifying variable names in sequential order.
min_count	Numeric, specifying minimum number of available scores
return_id_only	Logical, if TRUE only return ID. This is needed for select_bi_cases

**Value**

tibble

**Examples**

```
select_uni_cases(data_uni_lscsm,
                 id_var = "id",
                 var_list = names(data_uni_lscsm)[-1],
                 min_count = 7)
```

---

sim_bi_lscsm	<i>Simulate data from bivariate latent change score model parameter estimates</i>
--------------	---

---

**Description**

This function simulate data from bivariate latent change score model parameter estimates using [simulateData](#).

**Usage**

```
sim_bi_lscsm(
  timepoints,
  model_x,
  model_x_param = NULL,
  model_y,
  model_y_param = NULL,
  coupling,
  coupling_param = NULL,
  sample.nobs = 500,
  na_x_pct = 0,
  na_y_pct = 0,
  ...,
  var_x = "x",
  var_y = "y",
  change_letter_x = "g",
  change_letter_y = "j",
  return_lavaan_syntax = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

timepoints	See <a href="#">specify_bi_lscsm</a>
model_x	See <a href="#">specify_bi_lscsm</a>
model_x_param	List, specifying parameter estimates for the LCS model that has been specified in the argument 'model_x': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gamma_1x1: Mean of latent true scores x (Intercept),</li> <li>• sigma2_1x1: Variance of latent true scores x,</li> <li>• sigma2_ux: Variance of observed scores x,</li> </ul>



- $\alpha_{g2}$ : Mean of change factor ( $g_2$ ),
- $\alpha_{g3}$ : Mean of change factor ( $g_3$ ),
- $\sigma_{g2}$ : Variance of change factor ( $g_2$ ),
- $\sigma_{g3}$ : Variance of change factor ( $g_3$ ),
- $\sigma_{g2 \times 1}$ : Covariance of change factor ( $g_2$ ) with the initial true score  $x$  ( $1 \times 1$ ),
- $\sigma_{g3 \times 1}$ : Covariance of change factor ( $g_3$ ) with the initial true score  $x$  ( $1 \times 1$ ),
- $\sigma_{g2g3}$ : Covariance of change factors ( $g_2$  and  $g_3$ ),
- $\phi_x$ : Autoregression of change scores  $x$ .

model\_y

See [specify\\_bi\\_lcs](#)

model\_y\_param

List, specifying parameter estimates for the LCS model that has been specified in the argument 'model\_y':

- $\gamma_{1y1}$ : Mean of latent true scores  $y$  (Intercept),
- $\sigma_{1y1}$ : Variance of latent true scores  $y$ ,
- $\sigma_{uy}$ : Variance of observed scores  $y$ ,
- $\alpha_{j2}$ : Mean of change factor ( $j_2$ ),
- $\alpha_{j3}$ : Mean of change factor ( $j_3$ ),
- $\sigma_{j2}$ : Variance of change factor ( $j_2$ ),
- $\sigma_{j3}$ : Variance of change factor ( $j_3$ ),
- $\sigma_{j2 \times 1}$ : Covariance of change factor ( $j_2$ ) with the initial true score  $x$  ( $1 \times 1$ ),
- $\sigma_{j3 \times 1}$ : Covariance of change factor ( $j_3$ ) with the initial true score  $x$  ( $1 \times 1$ ),
- $\sigma_{j2j3}$ : Covariance of change factors ( $j_2$  and  $j_3$ ),
- $\phi_y$ : Autoregression of change scores  $y$ .

coupling

See [specify\\_bi\\_lcs](#)

coupling\_param

List, specifying parameter estimates coupling parameters that have been specified in the argument 'coupling':

- $\sigma_{su}$ : Covariance of residuals  $x$  and  $y$ ,
- $\sigma_{1 \times 1}$ : Covariance of intercepts  $x$  and  $y$ ,
- $\sigma_{g2 \times 1}$ : Covariance of change factor  $x$  ( $g_2$ ) with the initial true score  $y$  ( $1 \times 1$ ),
- $\sigma_{g3 \times 1}$ : Covariance of change factor  $x$  ( $g_3$ ) with the initial true score  $y$  ( $1 \times 1$ ),
- $\sigma_{j2 \times 1}$ : Covariance of change factor  $y$  ( $j_2$ ) with the initial true score  $x$  ( $1 \times 1$ ),
- $\sigma_{j3 \times 1}$ : Covariance of change factor  $y$  ( $j_3$ ) with the initial true score  $x$  ( $1 \times 1$ ),
- $\sigma_{j2g2}$ : Covariance of change factors  $y$  ( $j_2$ ) and  $x$  ( $g_2$ ),
- $\sigma_{j2g3}$ : Covariance of change factors  $y$  ( $j_2$ ) and  $x$  ( $g_3$ ),
- $\sigma_{j3g2}$ : Covariance of change factors  $y$  ( $j_3$ ) and  $x$  ( $g_2$ ),
- $\delta_{con_{xy}}$ : Change score  $x$  ( $t$ ) determined by true score  $y$  ( $t$ ),

- `delta_con_yx`: Change score  $y(t)$  determined by true score  $x(t)$ ,
- `delta_lag_xy`: Change score  $x(t)$  determined by true score  $y(t-1)$ ,
- `delta_lag_yx`: Change score  $y(t)$  determined by true score  $x(t-1)$ ,
- `xi_con_xy`: Change score  $x(t)$  determined by change score  $y(t)$ ,
- `xi_con_yx`: Change score  $y(t)$  determined by change score  $x(t)$ ,
- `xi_lag_xy`: Change score  $x(t)$  determined by change score  $y(t-1)$ ,
- `xi_lag_yx`: Change score  $y(t)$  determined by change score  $x(t-1)$

<code>sample.nobs</code>	Numeric, number of cases to be simulated, see <a href="#">specify_uni_lscsm</a>
<code>na_x_pct</code>	Numeric, percentage of random missing values in the simulated dataset [0,1]
<code>na_y_pct</code>	Numeric, percentage of random missing values in the simulated dataset [0,1]
<code>...</code>	Arguments to be passed on to <a href="#">simulateData</a>
<code>var_x</code>	See <a href="#">specify_bi_lscsm</a>
<code>var_y</code>	See <a href="#">specify_bi_lscsm</a>
<code>change_letter_x</code>	See <a href="#">specify_bi_lscsm</a>
<code>change_letter_y</code>	See <a href="#">specify_bi_lscsm</a>
<code>return_lavaan_syntax</code>	Logical, if TRUE return the lavaan syntax used for simulating data. To make it look beautiful use the function <a href="#">cat</a> .

## Value

tibble

## References

- Ghisletta, P., & McArdle, J. J. (2012). Latent Curve Models and Latent Change Score Models Estimated in R. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 19(4), 651–682. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705511.2012.713275>.
- Grimm, K. J., Ram, N., & Estabrook, R. (2017). *Growth Modeling—Structural Equation and Multilevel Modeling Approaches*. New York: The Guilford Press.
- Kievit, R. A., Brandmaier, A. M., Ziegler, G., van Harmelen, A.-L., de Mooij, S. M. M., Moutoussis, M., ... Dolan, R. J. (2018). Developmental cognitive neuroscience using latent change score models: A tutorial and applications. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 33, 99–117. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dcn.2017.11.007>.
- McArdle, J. J. (2009). Latent variable modeling of differences and changes with longitudinal data. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 60(1), 577–605. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.psych.60.110707.163612>.
- Yves Rosseel (2012). lavaan: An R Package for Structural Equation Modeling. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 48(2), 1-36. <http://www.jstatsoft.org/v48/i02/>.

**Examples**

```
# Simulate data from bivariate LCS model parameters
sim_bi_lscsm(timepoints = 12,
             na_x_pct = .05,
             na_y_pct = .1,
             model_x = list(alpha_constant = TRUE, beta = TRUE, phi = FALSE),
             model_x_param = list(gamma_lx1 = 21,
                                   sigma2_lx1 = .5,
                                   sigma2_ux = .2,
                                   alpha_g2 = -.4,
                                   sigma2_g2 = .4,
                                   sigma_g2lx1 = .2,
                                   beta_x = -.1),
             model_y = list(alpha_constant = TRUE, beta = TRUE, phi = TRUE),
             model_y_param = list(gamma_ly1 = 5,
                                   sigma2_ly1 = .2,
                                   sigma2_uy = .2,
                                   alpha_j2 = -.2,
                                   sigma2_j2 = .1,
                                   sigma_j2ly1 = .02,
                                   beta_y = -.2,
                                   phi_y = .1),
             coupling = list(delta_lag_xy = TRUE,
                              xi_lag_yx = TRUE),
             coupling_param = list(sigma_su = .01,
                                   sigma_ly1lx1 = .2,
                                   sigma_g2ly1 = .1,
                                   sigma_j2lx1 = .1,
                                   sigma_j2g2 = .01,
                                   delta_lag_xy = .13,
                                   xi_lag_yx = .4),
             return_lavaan_syntax = FALSE)
```

---

 sim\_uni\_lscsm

*Simulate data from univariate latent change score model parameter estimates*

---

**Description**

This function simulate data from univariate latent change score model parameter estimates using [simulateData](#).

**Usage**

```
sim_uni_lscsm(
  timepoints,
  model,
  model_param = NULL,
```

```

var = "x",
change_letter = "g",
sample.nobs = 500,
na_pct = 0,
...,
return_lavaan_syntax = FALSE
)

```

## Arguments

timepoints	See <a href="#">specify_uni_lscsm</a>
model	See <a href="#">specify_uni_lscsm</a>
model_param	List, specifying parameter estimates for the LCS model that has been specified in the argument 'model' <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gamma_1x1: Mean of latent true scores x (Intercept),</li> <li>• sigma2_1x1: Variance of latent true scores x,</li> <li>• sigma2_ux: Variance of observed scores x,</li> <li>• alpha_g2: Mean of change factor (g2),</li> <li>• alpha_g3: Mean of change factor (g3),</li> <li>• sigma2_g2: Variance of constant change factor (g2).</li> <li>• sigma2_g3: Variance of constant change factor (g3),</li> <li>• sigma_g21x1: Covariance of constant change factor (g2) with the initial true score x (1x1),</li> <li>• sigma_g31x1: Covariance of constant change factor (g3) with the initial true score x (1x1),</li> <li>• sigma_g2g3: Covariance of change factors (g2 and g2),</li> <li>• phi_x: Autoregression of change scores x.</li> </ul>
var	See <a href="#">specify_uni_lscsm</a>
change_letter	See <a href="#">specify_uni_lscsm</a>
sample.nobs	Numeric, number of cases to be simulated, see <a href="#">specify_uni_lscsm</a>
na_pct	Numeric, percentage of random missing values in the simulated dataset [0,1]
...	Arguments to be passed on to <a href="#">simulateData</a>
return_lavaan_syntax	Logical, if TRUE return the lavaan syntax used for simulating data. To make it look beautiful use the function <a href="#">cat</a> .

## Value

tibble

## Examples

```

# Simulate data from univariate LCS model parameters
sim_uni_lscsm(timepoints = 10,
              model = list(alpha_constant = TRUE, beta = FALSE, phi = TRUE),

```

```

model_param = list(gamma_lx1 = 21,
                  sigma2_lx1 = 1.5,
                  sigma2_ux = .2,
                  alpha_j2 = -.93,
                  sigma2_j2 = .1,
                  sigma_j2lx1 = .2),
return_lavaan_syntax = FALSE,
sample.nobs = 1000,
na_pct = .3)

```

specify\_bi\_lscsm

*Specify lavaan model for bivariate latent change score models***Description**

Specify lavaan model for bivariate latent change score models

**Usage**

```

specify_bi_lscsm(
  timepoints,
  var_x,
  model_x,
  var_y,
  model_y,
  coupling,
  change_letter_x = "g",
  change_letter_y = "j"
)

```

**Arguments**

timepoints	Number of timepoints.
var_x	Vector, specifying variables measuring one construct of the model.
model_x	List, specifying model specifications (logical) for variables specified in var_x. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• alpha_constant (Constant change factor),</li> <li>• alpha_piecewise (Piecewise constant change factors),</li> <li>• alpha_piecewise_num (Changepoint of piecewise constant change factors),</li> <li>• alpha_linear (Linear change factor),</li> <li>• beta (Proportional change factor),</li> <li>• phi (Autoregression of change scores).</li> </ul>
var_y	Vector, specifying variables measuring another construct of the model.
model_y	List, specifying model specifications (logical) for variables specified in var_y.

- alpha\_constant (Constant change factor),
  - alpha\_piecewise (Piecewise constant change factors),
  - alpha\_piecewise\_num (Changepoint of piecewise constant change factors),
  - alpha\_linear (Linear change factor),
  - beta (Proportional change factor),
  - phi (Autoregression of change scores).
- coupling List, specifying coupling parameters.
- coupling\_piecewise (Piecewise coupling parameters),
  - coupling\_piecewise\_num (Changepoint of piecewise coupling parameters),
  - delta\_con\_xy (True score y predicting concurrent change score x),
  - delta\_lag\_xy (True score y predicting subsequent change score x),
  - delta\_con\_yx (True score x predicting concurrent change score y),
  - delta\_lag\_yx (True score x predicting subsequent change score y),
  - xi\_con\_xy (Change score y predicting concurrent change score x),
  - xi\_lag\_xy (Change score y predicting subsequent change score x),
  - xi\_con\_yx (Change score x predicting concurrent change score y),
  - xi\_lag\_yx (Change score x predicting subsequent change score y).
- change\_letter\_x String, specifying letter to be used as change factor for construct x in lavaan syntax.
- change\_letter\_y String, specifying letter to be used as change factor for construct y in lavaan syntax.

## Value

Lavaan model syntax including comments.

## References

- Ghisletta, P., & McArdle, J. J. (2012). Latent Curve Models and Latent Change Score Models Estimated in R. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 19(4), 651–682. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705511.2012.713275>.
- Grimm, K. J., Ram, N., & Estabrook, R. (2017). *Growth Modeling—Structural Equation and Multilevel Modeling Approaches*. New York: The Guilford Press.
- McArdle, J. J. (2009). Latent variable modeling of differences and changes with longitudinal data. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 60(1), 577–605. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.psych.60.110707.163612>.
- Yves Rosseel (2012). lavaan: An R Package for Structural Equation Modeling. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 48(2), 1-36. <http://www.jstatsoft.org/v48/i02/>.

**Examples**

```
# Specify bivariate LCS model
lavaan_bi_lscsm_01 <- specify_bi_lscsm(timepoints = 10,
                                     var_x = "x",
                                     model_x = list(alpha_constant = TRUE,
                                                  beta = TRUE,
                                                  phi = TRUE),
                                     var_y = "y",
                                     model_y = list(alpha_constant = TRUE,
                                                  beta = TRUE,
                                                  phi = TRUE),
                                     coupling = list(delta_lag_xy = TRUE,
                                                  delta_lag_yx = TRUE),
                                     change_letter_x = "g",
                                     change_letter_y = "j")

# To look at string simply return the object
lavaan_bi_lscsm_01

# To get a readable output use cat() function
cat(lavaan_bi_lscsm_01)
```

specify\_uni\_lscsm

*Specify lavaan model for univariate latent change score models***Description**

Specify lavaan model for univariate latent change score models

**Usage**

```
specify_uni_lscsm(timepoints, model, var, change_letter = "g")
```

**Arguments**

timepoints	Number of timepoints.
model	List of model specifications (logical) for the variables specified in variable. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• alpha_constant: Constant change factor,</li> <li>• alpha_piecewise: Piecewise constant change factors,</li> <li>• alpha_piecewise_num: Changepoint of piecewise constant change factors,</li> <li>• alpha_linear: Linear change factor,</li> <li>• beta: Proportional change factor,</li> <li>• phi: Autoregression of change scores.</li> </ul>
var	String, specifying letter to be used for of variables (Usually x or y).
change_letter	String, specifying letter to be used for change factor (Usually g or j).

**Value**

Lavaan model syntax including comments.

**References**

Ghisletta, P., & McArdle, J. J. (2012). Latent Curve Models and Latent Change Score Models Estimated in R. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 19(4), 651–682. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705511.2012.713275>.

Grimm, K. J., Ram, N., & Estabrook, R. (2017). *Growth Modeling—Structural Equation and Multilevel Modeling Approaches*. New York: The Guilford Press.

McArdle, J. J. (2009). Latent variable modeling of differences and changes with longitudinal data. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 60(1), 577–605. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.psych.60.110707.163612>.

Yves Rosseel (2012). lavaan: An R Package for Structural Equation Modeling. *Journal of Statistical Software*, 48(2), 1-36. <http://www.jstatsoft.org/v48/i02/>.

**Examples**

```
# Specify univariate LCS model
lavaan_uni_lscsm_01 <- specify_uni_lscsm(timepoints = 10,
                                       model = list(alpha_constant = TRUE,
                                                  beta = TRUE,
                                                  phi = TRUE),
                                       var = "x",
                                       change_letter = "g")

#' # To look at string simply return the object
lavaan_uni_lscsm_01

# To get a readable output use cat() function
cat(lavaan_uni_lscsm_01)
```



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