

Question:

I am trying to conduct a test of discriminant validity between 2 factors using MLR as my estimator, following the Satorra-Bentler chi-square test

My question is: If I run,

Model 1 = 2 factors (3 items each)

Model 2 = 1 factor (all 6 items)

- (a) Is Model 2 considered a nested model which overcomes the issue of testing parameters on the border of admissible parameter space? (e.g., where the 2 factors have a correlation of 1)
- (b) If I get a negative SB scaled chi-square difference (I do), what would be the modified parameter constraint added to Model 1 to obtain the 'c10' scaling correction factor (i.e., following 'Mplus Webnotes Number 12, Asparouhov & Muthen, 2013)?

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Answer:

- (a) Strictly speaking there is a bit of a problem in using LRT for this purpose (overfactoring) see

<http://www.statmodel.com/download/Schmitt%202011-Jour%20of%20Psychoed%20Assmt%20-%20EFA%20and%20CFA.pdf>

and

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10705510701301891>

You might want to consider using BIC or just T-test for the correlation between the two factors being different from 1.

- (b) M10 would be easiest to do if the factor variance in M0 is fixed to 1, then all you need to do in M10 is [f1@1](#); [f2@1](#); f1 with f2\*1;