

If you have a situation where the number of variables is different between two groups, the easiest solution differs depending on whether the variable is an independent variable or a dependent variable.

For an independent variable, it is best to create zeroes for that variable in the group that does not have that variable using the DEFINE command. You also need to use VARIANCES=NOCHECK; in the DATA command.

For a dependent variable, it is best to create a missing value flag for that variable in the group that does not have that variable using the DEFINE command. You also need to fix the residual variance of the variable to a very small value, or hold it equal to the other group (the estimate will not be affected by the group that has missing data). Fixing it to zero creates a non-invertible estimated covariance matrix. Note that this output shows only one missing data pattern for both groups whereas females have two patterns. If you do the analysis in two steps, saving the data and then analyzing it, you see two missing data patterns for females and get the same results as doing it in one step.