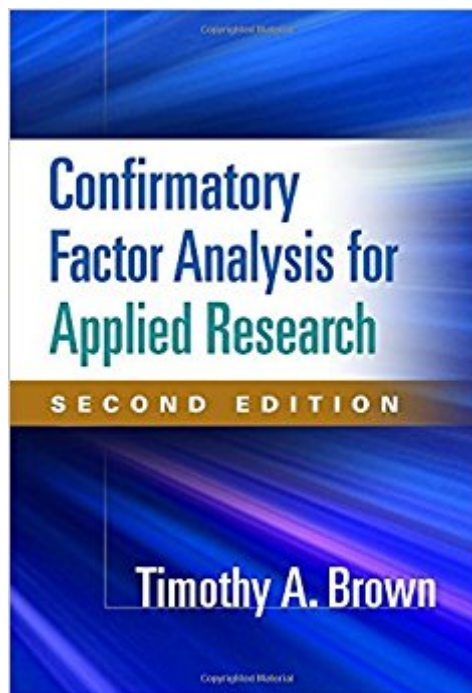




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Confirmatory Factor Analysis For Applied Research, Second Edition (Methodology In The Social Sciences)



Synopsis

With its emphasis on practical and conceptual aspects, rather than mathematics or formulas, this accessible book has established itself as the go-to resource on confirmatory factor analysis (CFA). Detailed, worked-through examples drawn from psychology, management, and sociology studies illustrate the procedures, pitfalls, and extensions of CFA methodology. The text shows how to formulate, program, and interpret CFA models using popular latent variable software packages (LISREL, Mplus, EQS, SAS/CALIS); understand the similarities and differences between CFA and exploratory factor analysis (EFA); and report results from a CFA study. It is filled with useful advice and tables that outline the procedures. The companion website (www.guilford.com/brown3-materials) offers data and program syntax files for most of the research examples, as well as links to CFA-related resources. New to This Edition *Updated throughout to incorporate important developments in latent variable modeling. *Chapter on Bayesian CFA and multilevel measurement models. *Addresses new topics (with examples): exploratory structural equation modeling, bifactor analysis, measurement invariance evaluation with categorical indicators, and a new method for scaling latent variables. *Utilizes the latest versions of major latent variable software packages.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Brown's writing is excellent; this book does a clearer and better job of explaining CFA

concepts than any other I have read. It has had a very positive impact on the quality of applied CFA studies in the social and behavioral sciences. I will continue to use the second edition in my graduate measurement theory course; it enables my students to greatly improve the quality of their dissertation research. This is the best book I've seen for providing graduate students with the skills they need to develop and evaluate measures of psychological constructs."--G. Leonard Burns, PhD, Department of Psychology, Washington State University

"I am a big fan of this book. When something goes wrong in SEM, it is almost always due to a faulty measurement model, so students need to have a thorough understanding of latent trait measurement models before learning how to evaluate structural models. That is why this book is so important. My students regularly comment on how accessible the text is. I very much like the examples of study results, which students can use as templates for their own reports. The numerically worked examples throughout are extremely helpful at demystifying the process."--Lesa Hoffman, PhD, Institute for Lifespan Studies, University of Kansas

"This book occupies a unique and important position in the field. It describes the use of CFA to address a wide range of important social science research questions that are too often ignored or underdeveloped in books on structural equation modeling. The text helps readers understand the nuances of CFA in a way that is deep yet incredibly accessible. I highly recommend this book to students and experienced social scientists interested in applying this powerful approach in their research."--Noel A. Card, PhD, Department of Educational Psychology, University of Connecticut

"The most comprehensive reference text on CFA for experienced researchers. Other texts typically devote a chapter or two to the subject, but Brown's coverage is wide and deep. Frankly, what gives this book value to me is that it is a reference text that can be used for instruction. Aided by clear examples, simplified tables, and helpful visual depictions, readers easily gain an understanding of how to run popular modeling software and correctly interpret the output. Perhaps one of the finest jewels in this book is the explanation of non-positive definite matrices, the bane of LISREL users. I also find the thread throughout the book on explaining equivalent models very important."--Randall MacIntosh, PhD, Professor of Sociology, California State University, Sacramento

"I highly recommend this book to colleagues and students who teach and apply structural equation modeling. The book provides an invaluable resource for applied researchers concerning concepts, procedures, and problems in CFA, as well as how to interpret and report analysis results. An especially valuable feature is the many detailed examples that are worked out in detail and presented along with syntax and output from leading software packages. The Appendices at the end of several chapters expand on many technical points the reader might fail to grasp otherwise."--James G. Anderson, PhD, Department of Sociology, Purdue University

"The book does

an excellent job of walking through the steps in an analysis. It is wonderfully user friendly in the way it presents each step, discusses major decisions to be made, and presents code and output. Not only do I think this is the best book out there for learning CFA, but I also think it is a fantastic way to learn introductory structural equation modeling methods."--Scott J. Peters, PhD, Department of Educational Foundations, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater "A strength of this book is the style of the author's presentation. Many important concepts are explained in plain language, rather than by mathematical formula. The book reads as though you were listening to a lecture. It provides the learner with an extensive understanding of the theory and applications of CFA. I also strongly recommend this book to practitioners who are in need of a comprehensive reference for better applications of CFA."--Akihito Kamata, PhD, Department of Education Policy and Leadership and Department of Psychology, Southern Methodist University "Very helpful tables are used to summarize each step of a method or procedure. Chapter 3 is the heart of the textbook. It is a beautiful introduction to CFA. Summaries at the beginning and end of each chapter, an extensive number of substantive examples, figures and tables, appendices, software input and output files, as well as a sophisticated structure make each chapter very easy to follow. Provides readers with clear recommendations and guidelines of how to deal with problems as well as a comprehensive overview of the most important aspects of CFA that an applied researcher should know. Given these outstanding qualities, I strongly believe that [this text] will continue to have a strong impact on applied researchers and graduate students. The first edition has become a benchmark textbook in the field of introductory psychometrics, and the carefully revised second edition will widen its readership and make an impact very soon."

(Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics 2016-01-01)

Timothy A. Brown, PsyD, is Professor in the Department of Psychology and Director of Research at the Center for Anxiety and Related Disorders at Boston University. He has published extensively in the areas of the classification of anxiety and mood disorders, the psychopathology and risk factors of emotional disorders, psychometrics, and applied research methods. In addition to conducting his own grant-supported research, Dr. Brown serves as a statistical investigator or consultant on numerous federally funded research projects. He has been on the editorial boards of several scientific journals, including a longstanding appointment as Associate Editor of the Journal of Abnormal Psychology.

A very helpful text for connecting my graduate instruction in CFA in 1994 to today's conceptual

issues and the practical problems of running the analyses. The annotated computer input program file examples helped me link up LISREL 2 with where the analyses are today in LISREL 9.1. In the 20 years, common problems are now able to easily addressed with computer software and that's perfect for me: a researcher who is familiar with the major issues but needs to "brush up" on newer approaches to the older, vexing problems. The later chapters shed more light on higher order and bi-level factor models, which were not even attempted in earlier texts of the day. The earlier chapters present a more systematic presentation of the basic tenets of CFA. This text has already been of great use to me as I seek to use CFA to address applied issues in to the measurement of human performance using video simulation in the field of education.

I love this book. The first edition is one of the most dog-eared books on my shelf. I routinely recommend it to doctoral students and colleagues just getting started in trying to figure out the details of exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis. The second edition is even better, with expanded coverage of emerging methodologies like Bayesian estimation of CFA models, exploratory structural equation modeling, etc... Highly recommended.

Fantastic coverage of measurement models and extensions thereof. The author exemplifies the concepts elucidated in the book with examples that illustrate the syntax of various SEM programs (e.g., LISREL). The reader of this book will leave with a thorough knowledge of CFA.

A vital reference for conducting CFAs.

Excellent

This is a good reference. Slightly pricey I thought.

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