



## Reading labels from an external file

In some cases, it is useful to place the variable names in an external file rather than in the syntax file itself. An example of such an analysis is discussed in this section.

The example is based on data from Duncan, Haller & Portes (1968). Of interest is the way in which a person's peers (e.g., best friends) influence his or her decisions (e.g., choice of occupation). We anticipate that the relation between respondent's ambition (RespAmbition) and best friend's ambition (BFriendAmbition) must be reciprocal. As a test of this model, a sample of Michigan high-school students were paired with their best friends and measured on a number of background variables. In addition, scaled measures of occupational and educational aspiration were obtained to serve as indicators of a latent variable AMBITION.

The observed measures in the study are:

- $x_2$  = respondent's intelligence (RespIntelligence)
- $x_3$  = respondent's socioeconomic status (RespSocEconStat)
- $x_4$  = best friend's socioeconomic status (BFriendSES)
- $x_5$  = best friend's intelligence (BFriendIntel)
- $y_1$  = respondent's occupational aspiration (RespOccupAspire)
- $y_2$  = respondent's educational aspiration (RespEducAspire)
- $y_3$  = best friend's educational aspiration (BFriendEducAsp)
- $y_4$  = best friend's occupational aspiration (BFriendOccupAsp)
- $\eta_1$  = respondent's ambition (RespAmbition)
- $\eta_2$  = best friend's ambition (BFriendAmbition)

The correlation matrix to be analyzed here is stored in the file **EX55.COR**. Syntax is given in the file **EX55A\_16.LIS**:

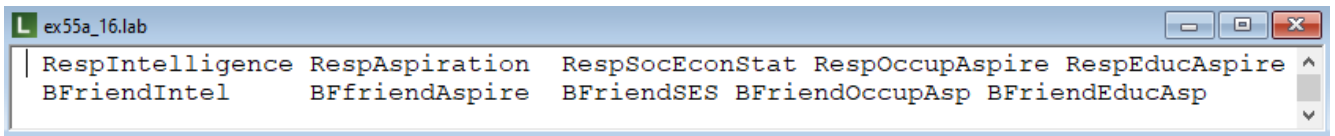
```
Peer Influences on Ambition: Model with BE(2,1) = BE(1,2) and PS(2,1) = 0
DA NI=10 NO=329
LA FI=EX55_16.LAB
KM FI=EX55.COR
SELECT
4 5 10 9 2 1 3 8 6 7
```

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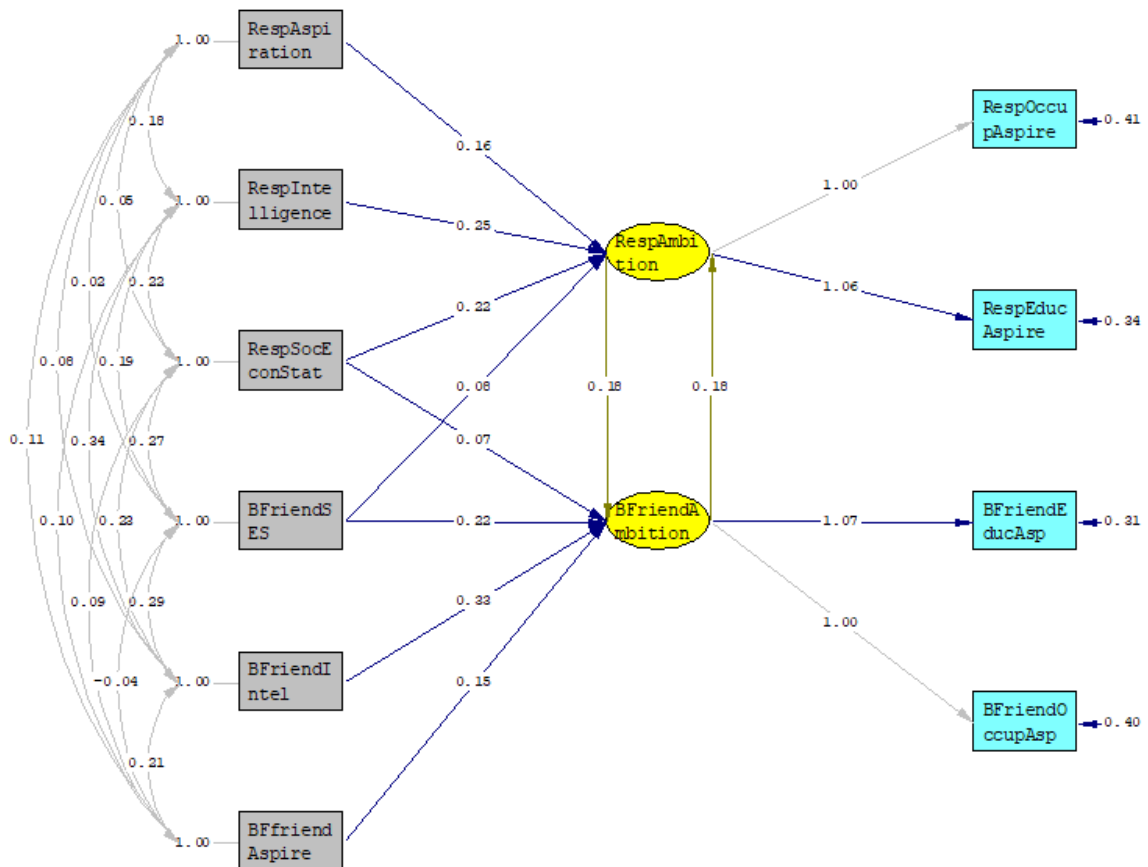
MO NY=4 NE=2 NX=6 FIXED-X BE=FU PS = DI
LE
RespAmbition BFriendAmbition
FR LY(2,1) LY(3,2) BE(1,2)
FI GA(5)-GA(8)
VA 1 LY(1) LY(8)
EQ BE(1,2) BE(2,1)
OU SE TV EF SS

```

The LAB file, containing the variable names, is as follows:



Note that the names are given in free format, separated by a blank between each pair of names. The labels continue in the second line of the file. The path diagram for this model is shown below.



Chi-Square=26.98, df=17, P-value=0.05835, RMSEA=0.042