

Testing Measurement Invariance across Groups in Item Factor Models in Mplus version 7.11

Example data: 635 older adults (age 80-100) self-reporting on 7 items assessing the Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL) as follows. We are examining differences between men ($N=214$) and women ($N=420$).

1. Housework (cleaning and laundry),
2. Bedmaking,
3. Cooking,
4. Everyday shopping,
5. Getting to places outside of walking distance,
6. Handling banking and other business,
7. Using the telephone

Multiple Group IFA Model Syntax and Truncated Output:

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TITLE: Assess polytomous IADL items
DATA: FILE IS ADL2.dat;
VARIABLE: NAMES ARE case female cial-cia7;
              USEVARIABLES ARE cial-cia7;
              CATEGORICAL ARE cial-cia7;
              GROUPING IS female (0=Men 1=Women);
              IDVARIABLE IS case;
              MISSING ARE .;

ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA;

SAVEDATA: DIFFTEST=Configural.dat; ! Save configural info

OUTPUT: STDYX MODINDICES (3.84); !Constraints to drop p<.05

!!! CONFIGURAL MODEL FOR MEN REFERENCE GROUP
MODEL:
! Factor loadings all estimated
  IADL BY cial-cia7*;
! Item thresholds all free
  [cial$1-cia7$1*];
  [cial$2-cia7$2*];
  [cial$3-cia7$3*];
! Item residual variances all fixed=1
  cial-cia7@1;
! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification
  [IADL@0]; IADL@1;

!!! CONFIGURAL MODEL FOR WOMEN ALTERNATIVE GROUP
MODEL WOMEN:
! Factor loadings all estimated
  IADL BY cial-cia7*;
! Item thresholds all free
  [cial$1-cia7$1*];
  [cial$2-cia7$2*];
  [cial$3-cia7$3*];
! Item residual variances all fixed=1
  cial-cia7@1;
! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification
  [IADL@0]; IADL@1;

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MODEL FIT INFORMATION

Number of Free Parameters	56
Chi-Square Test of Model Fit	
Value	72.920*
Degrees of Freedom	28
P-Value	0.0000
Chi-Square Contributions From Each Group	
MEN	24.977
WOMEN	47.943

* The chi-square value for MLM, MLMV, MLR, ULMSV, WLSM and WLSMV cannot be used for chi-square difference testing in the regular way. MLM, MLR and WLSM chi-square difference testing is described on the Mplus website. MLMV, WLSMV, and ULMSV difference testing is done using the DIFFTEST option.

RMSEA (Root Mean Square Error Of Approximation)

Estimate	0.071
90 Percent C.I.	0.051 0.091
Probability RMSEA <= .05	0.040

CFI/TLI

CFI	0.999
TLI	0.998

This will serve as our baseline configural model.

56 parameters estimated = $2 \times [7 \text{ loadings} + 21 \text{ thresholds}] = 56$

Possible parameters = $2 \times ([7 \times (7+1)] / 2 + 21 \text{ thresholds}) = 98$
 DF = $98 - 56 - 14 \text{ "residuals"} = 28$

Model 1. Configural Invariance Model
(Everything separate across groups *except* for parameters needed to be constrained for identification)

UNSTANDARDIZED MODEL RESULTS (IFA MODEL SOLUTION)					UNSTANDARDIZED MODEL RESULTS (IFA MODEL SOLUTION)						
	Estimate	S.E.	Est./S.E.	Two-Tailed P-Value		Estimate	S.E.	Est./S.E.	Two-Tailed P-Value		
Group MEN					Group WOMEN						
FACTOR LOADINGS: CHANGE IN PROBIT FOR 1-UNIT CHANGE IN THETA					FACTOR LOADINGS: CHANGE IN PROBIT FOR 1-UNIT CHANGE IN THETA						
IADL	BY				IADL	BY					
CIA1		5.876	1.474	3.986	0.000	CIA1		3.084	0.305	10.123	0.000
CIA2		3.186	0.549	5.801	0.000	CIA2		3.416	0.464	7.367	0.000
CIA3		3.090	0.445	6.946	0.000	CIA3		4.883	0.919	5.313	0.000
CIA4		4.137	0.830	4.986	0.000	CIA4		3.284	0.330	9.945	0.000
CIA5		2.578	0.375	6.884	0.000	CIA5		2.202	0.196	11.258	0.000
CIA6		2.662	0.495	5.383	0.000	CIA6		1.741	0.172	10.101	0.000
CIA7		1.115	0.218	5.119	0.000	CIA7		1.056	0.156	6.786	0.000
Means: MEAN OF THETA					Means: MEAN OF THETA						
IADL		0.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	IADL		0.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
Thresholds: EXPECTED PROBIT OF Y=0 IF THETA=0					Thresholds: EXPECTED PROBIT OF Y=0 IF THETA=0						
CIA1\$1		-7.447	1.856	-4.012	0.000	CIA1\$1		-4.581	0.400	-11.450	0.000
CIA1\$2		-5.134	1.374	-3.737	0.000	CIA1\$2		-3.289	0.336	-9.796	0.000
CIA1\$3		-0.832	0.662	-1.257	0.209	CIA1\$3		-0.706	0.221	-3.189	0.001
CIA2\$1		-4.485	0.639	-7.015	0.000	CIA2\$1		-5.425	0.623	-8.712	0.000
CIA2\$2		-3.851	0.588	-6.548	0.000	CIA2\$2		-4.454	0.546	-8.158	0.000
CIA2\$3		-2.265	0.489	-4.633	0.000	CIA2\$3		-2.801	0.442	-6.337	0.000
CIA3\$1		-3.880	0.484	-8.025	0.000	CIA3\$1		-7.200	1.187	-6.064	0.000
CIA3\$2		-2.810	0.451	-6.227	0.000	CIA3\$2		-6.136	1.067	-5.752	0.000
CIA3\$3		-0.565	0.325	-1.737	0.082	CIA3\$3		-3.877	0.831	-4.666	0.000
CIA4\$1		-5.182	0.925	-5.605	0.000	CIA4\$1		-4.479	0.377	-11.866	0.000
CIA4\$2		-4.191	0.757	-5.537	0.000	CIA4\$2		-2.803	0.306	-9.166	0.000
CIA4\$3		-2.175	0.567	-3.836	0.000	CIA4\$3		-0.677	0.237	-2.852	0.004
CIA5\$1		-4.615	0.574	-8.041	0.000	CIA5\$1		-3.746	0.281	-13.345	0.000
CIA5\$2		-2.623	0.375	-7.001	0.000	CIA5\$2		-1.686	0.190	-8.880	0.000
CIA5\$3		-1.191	0.300	-3.972	0.000	CIA5\$3		-0.118	0.151	-0.780	0.435
CIA6\$1		-4.602	0.708	-6.496	0.000	CIA6\$1		-3.202	0.243	-13.152	0.000
CIA6\$2		-3.340	0.569	-5.866	0.000	CIA6\$2		-2.115	0.190	-11.134	0.000
CIA6\$3		-2.232	0.473	-4.714	0.000	CIA6\$3		-1.173	0.162	-7.255	0.000
CIA7\$1		-3.114	0.383	-8.121	0.000	CIA7\$1		-3.408	0.325	-10.500	0.000
CIA7\$2		-2.376	0.279	-8.514	0.000	CIA7\$2		-2.712	0.233	-11.637	0.000
CIA7\$3		-1.780	0.235	-7.591	0.000	CIA7\$3		-1.747	0.165	-10.580	0.000
Variances: VARIANCE OF THETA					Variances: VARIANCE OF THETA						
IADL		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	IADL		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
Residual Variances (ALL FIXED=1)					Residual Variances (ALL FIXED=1)						

Model 2a. Metric Invariance Model (IFA loadings held equal across groups – IRT discriminations can still vary via factor variances)

<pre> ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA; DIFFTEST=Configural.dat; ! Compare against configural SAVEDATA: DIFFTEST=MetricA.dat; ! Save metric info !!! METRIC MODEL FOR MEN REFERENCE GROUP MODEL: ! Factor loadings all estimated IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item thresholds all free [cia1\$1-cia7\$1*]; [cia1\$2-cia7\$2*]; [cia1\$3-cia7\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cia1-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification [IADL@0]; IADL@1; !!! METRIC MODEL FOR WOMEN ALTERNATIVE GROUP MODEL WOMEN: ! Factor loadings all NOW HELD EQUAL IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item thresholds all free [cia1\$1-cia7\$1*]; [cia1\$2-cia7\$2*]; [cia1\$3-cia7\$3*]; ! Item residual variances STILL FIXED TO 1 cia1-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=0 and variance NOW FREE [IADL@0]; IADL*; </pre>	<pre> Number of Free Parameters 50 Chi-Square Test of Model Fit Value 64.669* Degrees of Freedom 34 P-Value 0.0012 Chi-Square Contributions From Each Group MEN 30.849 WOMEN 33.820 THIS IS THE TEST OF METRIC INVARIANCE Chi-Square Test for Difference Testing Value 9.530 Degrees of Freedom 6 P-Value 0.1459 RMSEA (Root Mean Square Error Of Approximation) Estimate 0.053 90 Percent C.I. 0.033 0.073 Probability RMSEA <= .05 0.367 CFI/TLI CFI 0.999 TLI 0.999 </pre> <p>The DIFFTEST chi-square is nonsignificant, and no modification indices for freeing loadings were indicated, so it looks like metric invariance holds between men and women.</p> <p>In addition, the modification indices do not suggest removing any loading constraints, so we can proceed accordingly by testing scalar invariance.</p>
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Full metric invariance solution (factor loadings constrained)

Group MEN					Group WOMEN				
	Estimate	S.E.	Est./S.E.	Two-Tailed P-Value		Estimate	S.E.	Est./S.E.	Two-Tailed P-Value
IADL BY - CHANGE IN PROBIT FOR ONE-UNIT CHANGE IN THETA					IADL BY				
CIA1	3.915	0.397	9.868	0.000	CIA1	3.915	0.397	9.868	0.000
CIA2	4.019	0.566	7.096	0.000	CIA2	4.019	0.566	7.096	0.000
CIA3	4.771	0.697	6.847	0.000	CIA3	4.771	0.697	6.847	0.000
CIA4	4.055	0.489	8.289	0.000	CIA4	4.055	0.489	8.289	0.000
CIA5	2.601	0.283	9.191	0.000	CIA5	2.601	0.283	9.191	0.000
CIA6	2.269	0.250	9.063	0.000	CIA6	2.269	0.250	9.063	0.000
CIA7	1.210	0.166	7.292	0.000	CIA7	1.210	0.166	7.292	0.000
Means					Means				
IADL	0.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	IADL	0.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
Thresholds - EXPECTED PROBIT OF Y=0 IF THETA=0					Thresholds				
CIA1\$1	-5.052	0.492	-10.262	0.000	CIA1\$1	-4.819	0.407	-11.840	0.000
CIA1\$2	-3.481	0.485	-7.181	0.000	CIA1\$2	-3.458	0.344	-10.063	0.000
CIA1\$3	-0.564	0.395	-1.429	0.153	CIA1\$3	-0.744	0.231	-3.213	0.001
CIA2\$1	-5.566	0.691	-8.051	0.000	CIA2\$1	-5.324	0.529	-10.069	0.000
CIA2\$2	-4.775	0.656	-7.279	0.000	CIA2\$2	-4.372	0.471	-9.289	0.000
CIA2\$3	-2.809	0.536	-5.237	0.000	CIA2\$3	-2.748	0.393	-6.997	0.000
CIA3\$1	-5.822	0.765	-7.612	0.000	CIA3\$1	-5.913	0.620	-9.530	0.000
CIA3\$2	-4.225	0.699	-6.045	0.000	CIA3\$2	-5.042	0.576	-8.761	0.000
CIA3\$3	-0.850	0.487	-1.744	0.081	CIA3\$3	-3.186	0.485	-6.563	0.000
CIA4\$1	-5.085	0.575	-8.847	0.000	CIA4\$1	-4.595	0.385	-11.923	0.000
CIA4\$2	-4.110	0.530	-7.754	0.000	CIA4\$2	-2.877	0.315	-9.136	0.000
CIA4\$3	-2.138	0.459	-4.655	0.000	CIA4\$3	-0.696	0.242	-2.873	0.004
CIA5\$1	-4.653	0.454	-10.242	0.000	CIA5\$1	-3.696	0.263	-14.036	0.000
CIA5\$2	-2.644	0.330	-8.018	0.000	CIA5\$2	-1.664	0.182	-9.164	0.000
CIA5\$3	-1.201	0.277	-4.332	0.000	CIA5\$3	-0.116	0.149	-0.782	0.434
CIA6\$1	-4.011	0.399	-10.055	0.000	CIA6\$1	-3.409	0.264	-12.910	0.000
CIA6\$2	-2.911	0.325	-8.966	0.000	CIA6\$2	-2.251	0.203	-11.073	0.000
CIA6\$3	-1.945	0.292	-6.657	0.000	CIA6\$3	-1.248	0.172	-7.278	0.000
CIA7\$1	-3.263	0.341	-9.556	0.000	CIA7\$1	-3.326	0.291	-11.444	0.000
CIA7\$2	-2.489	0.243	-10.251	0.000	CIA7\$2	-2.647	0.204	-13.001	0.000
CIA7\$3	-1.865	0.210	-8.898	0.000	CIA7\$3	-1.705	0.145	-11.790	0.000
Variances					Variances				
IADL	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	IADL	0.693	0.154	4.492	0.000
Residual Variances					Residual Variances				
CIA1	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA1	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
CIA2	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA2	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
CIA3	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA3	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
CIA4	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA4	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
CIA5	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA5	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
CIA6	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA6	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
CIA7	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA7	1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000

Model 3a. Full Threshold Invariance Model (IFA thresholds held equal across groups – IRT difficulties can still vary via factor diffs)

<pre> ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA; DIFFTEST=MetricA.dat; SAVEDATA: DIFFTEST=ScalarA.dat; ! Save full scalar info !!! FULL SCALAR MODEL FOR MEN REFERENCE GROUP MODEL: ! Factor loadings all estimated IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item thresholds all free [cia1\$1-cia7\$1*]; [cia1\$2-cia7\$2*]; [cia1\$3-cia7\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cia1-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification [IADL@0]; IADL@1; !!! FULL SCALAR MODEL FOR WOMEN ALTERNATIVE GROUP MODEL WOMEN: ! Factor loadings all STILL HELD EQUAL IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item thresholds NOW HELD EQUAL IF LEFT OFF (LESS TYPING) ! Item residual variances STILL FIXED to 1 cia1-cia7@1; ! Factor mean NOW FREE and variance STILL FREE [IADL*]; IADL*; </pre> <p>The DIFFTEST chi-square is significant, and the modification indices suggest that item 3 threshold 3 is the biggest problem. Let's see what happens when we free the item 3 threshold 3 between groups.</p>	<pre> MODEL FIT INFORMATION Number of Free Parameters 30 Chi-Square Test of Model Fit Value 153.911* Degrees of Freedom 54 P-Value 0.0000 Chi-Square Contributions From Each Group MEN 97.304 WOMEN 56.607 THIS IS THE TEST OF FULL METRIC VS. FULL SCALAR A INVARIANCE Chi-Square Test for Difference Testing Value 119.661 Degrees of Freedom 20 P-Value 0.0000 RMSEA (Root Mean Square Error Of Approximation) Estimate 0.076 90 Percent C.I. 0.062 0.091 Probability RMSEA <= .05 0.001 CFI/TLI CFI 0.997 TLI 0.998 MODEL MODIFICATION INDICES M.I. E.P.C. Std E.P.C. StdYX E.P.C. Group MEN Means/Intercepts/Thresholds [CIA1] 4.797 -0.711 -0.711 -0.174 [CIA3] 46.520 -2.718 -2.718 -0.540 [CIA4] 9.640 1.037 1.037 0.244 [CIA5] 24.673 1.118 1.118 0.396 [CIA6] 8.398 0.606 0.606 0.243 [CIA1\$3] 4.082 0.504 0.504 0.123 [CIA3\$2] 6.986 1.021 1.021 0.203 [CIA3\$3] 46.123 2.136 2.136 0.424 [CIA4\$3] 7.420 -0.708 -0.708 -0.167 [CIA5\$2] 7.205 -0.525 -0.525 -0.186 [CIA5\$3] 11.782 -0.561 -0.561 -0.199 [CIA6\$3] 3.882 -0.319 -0.319 -0.128 </pre>
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Model 3b. Partial Threshold Invariance Model (freeing item 3 threshold 3 between groups)

<pre> ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA; DIFFTEST=MetricA.dat; ! Compare against metric SAVEDATA: DIFFTEST=ScalarB.dat; ! Save partial scalar info !!! PARTIAL SCALAR MODEL FOR MEN REFERENCE GROUP MODEL: ! Factor loadings all estimated IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item thresholds all free [cia1\$1-cia7\$1*]; [cia1\$2-cia7\$2*]; [cia1\$3-cia7\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cia1-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification [IADL@0]; IADL@1; !!! PARTIAL SCALAR MODEL FOR WOMEN ALTERNATIVE GROUP MODEL WOMEN: ! Factor loadings all STILL HELD EQUAL IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item 3 threshold 3 NOW FREE between groups [cia3\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cia1-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=FREE and variance STILL FREE [IADL*]; IADL*; Threshold for Men... CIA3\$1 -6.680 0.798 -8.373 0.000 CIA3\$2 -5.568 0.748 -7.448 0.000 CIA3\$3 -0.891 0.512 -1.739 0.082 Threshold for Women... CIA3\$1 -6.680 0.798 -8.373 0.000 CIA3\$2 -5.568 0.748 -7.448 0.000 CIA3\$3 -4.146 0.683 -6.068 0.000 </pre>	<pre> MODEL FIT INFORMATION Number of Free Parameters 31 Chi-Square Test of Model Fit Value 115.561* Degrees of Freedom 53 P-Value 0.0000 Chi-Square Contributions From Each Group MEN 68.946 WOMEN 46.615 THIS IS THE TEST OF METRIC VS. PARTIAL SCALAR B INVARIANCE Chi-Square Test for Difference Testing Value 63.048 Degrees of Freedom 19 P-Value 0.0000 RMSEA (Root Mean Square Error Of Approximation) Estimate 0.061 90 Percent C.I. 0.046 0.076 Probability RMSEA <= .05 0.111 CFI/TLI CFI 0.998 TLI 0.999 MODEL MODIFICATION INDICES M.I. E.P.C. Std E.P.C. StdYX E.P.C. Group MEN Means/Intercepts/Thresholds [CIA1] 9.581 -1.016 -1.016 -0.247 [CIA3] 10.724 -1.682 -1.682 -0.329 [CIA4] 4.838 0.748 0.748 0.173 [CIA5] 16.673 0.934 0.934 0.326 [CIA6] 4.734 0.459 0.459 0.182 [IADL] 999.000 0.000 0.000 0.000 [CIA1\$3] 7.206 0.673 0.673 0.164 [CIA3\$2] 9.284 1.200 1.200 0.235 [CIA4\$3] 4.317 -0.546 -0.546 -0.127 [CIA5\$2] 4.783 -0.434 -0.434 -0.152 [CIA5\$3] 7.638 -0.456 -0.456 -0.159 </pre> <p>The DIFFTEST chi-square is still significant, and the modification indices suggest that the other thresholds of item 3 are a problem. Let's see what happens when we free the item 3 threshold 2 between groups.</p>
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Model 3c. Partial Threshold Invariance Model (also freeing item 3 threshold 2 between groups)

<pre> ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA; DIFFTEST=MetricA.dat; ! Compare against metric SAVEDATA: DIFFTEST=ScalarC.dat; ! Save partial scalar info !!! PARTIAL SCALAR MODEL FOR MEN REFERENCE GROUP MODEL: ! Factor loadings all estimated IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item thresholds all free [cia1\$1-cia7\$1*]; [cia1\$2-cia7\$2*]; [cia1\$3-cia7\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cia1-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification [IADL@0]; IADL@1; !!! PARTIAL SCALAR MODEL FOR WOMEN ALTERNATIVE GROUP MODEL WOMEN: ! Factor loadings all STILL HELD EQUAL IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item 3 threshold 2 and 3 FREE between groups [cia3\$2* cia3\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cia1-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=FREE and variance STILL FREE [IADL*]; IADL*; Thresholds for Men... CIA3\$1 -6.686 0.790 -8.465 0.000 CIA3\$2 -4.374 0.726 -6.026 0.000 CIA3\$3 -0.879 0.506 -1.735 0.083 Different Thresholds for Women... CIA3\$2 -6.060 0.761 -7.966 0.000 CIA3\$3 -4.194 0.679 -6.179 0.000 </pre>	<pre> MODEL FIT INFORMATION Number of Free Parameters 32 Chi-Square Test of Model Fit Value 106.996* Degrees of Freedom 52 P-Value 0.0000 Chi-Square Contributions From Each Group MEN 62.255 WOMEN 44.741 THIS IS THE TEST OF METRIC VS. PARTIAL SCALAR C INVARIANCE Chi-Square Test for Difference Testing Value 51.190 Degrees of Freedom 18 P-Value 0.0000 RMSEA (Root Mean Square Error Of Approximation) Estimate 0.058 90 Percent C.I. 0.042 0.073 Probability RMSEA <= .05 0.195 CFI/TLI CFI 0.998 TLI 0.999 MODEL MODIFICATION INDICES M.I. E.P.C. Std E.P.C. StdYX E.P.C. Group MEN Means/Intercepts/Thresholds [CIA1] 11.976 -1.145 -1.145 -0.279 [CIA2] 4.308 -0.732 -0.732 -0.172 [CIA5] 14.240 0.868 0.868 0.305 [CIA1\$3] 8.264 0.716 0.716 0.175 [CIA5\$2] 3.980 -0.393 -0.393 -0.138 [CIA5\$3] 6.678 -0.423 -0.423 -0.149 </pre> <p>The DIFFTEST chi-square is still significant, and the modification indices suggest that item 1 threshold 3 is a problem. Let's see what happens when we free the item 1 threshold 3 between groups.</p>
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Model 3d. Partial Threshold Invariance Model (also freeing item 1 threshold 3 between groups)

<pre> ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA; DIFFTEST=MetricA.dat; ! Compare against metric SAVEDATA: DIFFTEST=ScalarD.dat; ! Save partial scalar info !!! PARTIAL SCALAR MODEL FOR MEN REFERENCE GROUP MODEL: ! Factor loadings all estimated IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item thresholds all free [cia1\$1-cia7\$1*]; [cia1\$2-cia7\$2*]; [cia1\$3-cia7\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cial-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification [IADL@0]; IADL@1; !!! PARTIAL SCALAR MODEL FOR WOMEN ALTERNATIVE GROUP MODEL WOMEN: ! Factor loadings all STILL HELD EQUAL IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item 3 threshold 2 and 3, item 1 threshold 3 FREE between groups [cia3\$2* cia3\$3*]; [cia1\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cial-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=FREE and variance STILL FREE [IADL*]; IADL*; </pre>	<pre> Number of Free Parameters 33 Chi-Square Test of Model Fit Value 99.865* Degrees of Freedom 51 P-Value 0.0001 Chi-Square Contributions From Each Group MEN 57.085 WOMEN 42.780 THIS IS THE TEST OF METRIC VS. PARTIAL SCALAR D INVARIANCE Chi-Square Test for Difference Testing Value 41.247 Degrees of Freedom 17 P-Value 0.0009 RMSEA (Root Mean Square Error Of Approximation) Estimate 0.055 90 Percent C.I. 0.039 0.071 Probability RMSEA <= .05 0.288 CFI/TLI CFI 0.999 TLI 0.999 Thresholds for Men... CIA1\$1 -5.528 0.494 -11.180 0.000 CIA1\$2 -4.139 0.459 -9.027 0.000 CIA1\$3 -0.579 0.405 -1.429 0.153 CIA3\$1 -6.880 0.823 -8.361 0.000 CIA3\$2 -4.464 0.747 -5.974 0.000 CIA3\$3 -0.895 0.516 -1.733 0.083 Different Thresholds for Women... CIA1\$3 -1.673 0.408 -4.096 0.000 CIA3\$2 -6.267 0.794 -7.893 0.000 CIA3\$3 -4.399 0.712 -6.177 0.000 MODEL MODIFICATION INDICES M.I. E.P.C. Std E.P.C. StdYX E.P.C. Group MEN Means/Intercepts/Thresholds [CIA1] 4.520 -0.898 -0.898 -0.217 [CIA2] 5.852 -0.869 -0.869 -0.201 [CIA5] 10.959 0.778 0.778 0.270 [CIA2\$3] 4.321 0.584 0.584 0.135 [CIA5\$3] 4.772 -0.360 -0.360 -0.125 </pre>
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The DIFFTEST chi-square is still significant. Let's try item 5 threshold 3....

Model 3e. Partial Threshold Invariance Model (also freeing item 5 threshold 3 between groups)

<pre> ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA; DIFFTEST=MetricA.dat; ! Compare against metric SAVEDATA: DIFFTEST=ScalarE.dat; ! Save partial scalar info !!! PARTIAL SCALAR MODEL FOR MEN REFERENCE GROUP MODEL: ! Factor loadings all estimated IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item thresholds all free [cia1\$1-cia7\$1*]; [cia1\$2-cia7\$2*]; [cia1\$3-cia7\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cial-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification [IADL@0]; IADL@1; !!! PARTIAL SCALAR MODEL FOR WOMEN ALTERNATIVE GROUP MODEL WOMEN: ! Factor loadings all STILL HELD EQUAL IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item 3 threshold 2 and 3, item 1,5 threshold 3 FREE between groups [cia3\$2* cia3\$3*]; [cia1\$3*]; [cia5\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cial-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=FREE and variance still FREE [IADL*]; IADL*; </pre>	<pre> Number of Free Parameters 34 Chi-Square Test of Model Fit Value 95.447* Degrees of Freedom 50 P-Value 0.0001 Chi-Square Contributions From Each Group MEN 53.258 WOMEN 42.189 THIS IS THE TEST OF METRIC VS. PARTIAL SCALAR E INVARIANCE Chi-Square Test for Difference Testing Value 35.350 Degrees of Freedom 16 P-Value 0.0036 RMSEA (Root Mean Square Error Of Approximation) Estimate 0.054 90 Percent C.I. 0.037 0.070 Probability RMSEA <= .05 0.341 CFI/TLI CFI 0.999 TLI 0.999 Thresholds for Men... CIA1\$1 -5.443 0.490 -11.110 0.000 CIA1\$2 -4.046 0.454 -8.919 0.000 CIA1\$3 -0.573 0.401 -1.429 0.153 CIA3\$1 -6.699 0.799 -8.382 0.000 CIA3\$2 -4.378 0.731 -5.992 0.000 CIA3\$3 -0.877 0.506 -1.732 0.083 CIA5\$1 -4.334 0.340 -12.752 0.000 CIA5\$2 -2.311 0.287 -8.043 0.000 CIA5\$3 -1.227 0.285 -4.298 0.000 Different Thresholds for Women... CIA1\$3 -1.541 0.409 -3.769 0.000 CIA3\$2 -6.074 0.770 -7.889 0.000 CIA3\$3 -4.209 0.691 -6.090 0.000 CIA5\$3 -0.658 0.278 -2.370 0.018 MODEL MODIFICATION INDICES M.I. E.P.C. Std E.P.C. StdYX E.P.C. Group MEN Means/Intercepts/Thresholds [CIA2] 4.616 -0.773 -0.773 -0.181 [CIA5] 6.245 0.756 0.756 0.266 [CIA5\$2] 3.920 -0.383 -0.383 -0.135 </pre>
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The DIFFTEST chi-square is still significant. Let's try item 5 threshold 2....

Model 3f. Partial Threshold Invariance Model (also freeing item 5 threshold 2 between groups)

<pre> ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA; DIFFTEST=MetricA.dat; ! Compare against metric SAVEDATA: DIFFTEST=ScalarF.dat; ! Save partial scalar info !!! PARTIAL SCALAR MODEL FOR MEN REFERENCE GROUP MODEL: ! Factor loadings all estimated IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item thresholds all free [cia1\$1-cia7\$1*]; [cia1\$2-cia7\$2*]; [cia1\$3-cia7\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cial-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification [IADL@0]; IADL@1; !!! PARTIAL SCALAR MODEL FOR WOMEN ALTERNATIVE GROUP MODEL WOMEN: ! Factor loadings all STILL HELD EQUAL IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item 3 threshold 2 and 3, item 1 threshold 3, ! item 5 thresholds 2 and 3 FREE between groups [cia3\$2* cia3\$3*]; [cia1\$3*]; [cia5\$2* cia5\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cial-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=FREE and variance still FREE [IADL*]; IADL*; </pre>	<pre> Number of Free Parameters 35 Chi-Square Test of Model Fit Value 91.604* Degrees of Freedom 49 P-Value 0.0002 Chi-Square Contributions From Each Group MEN 50.317 WOMEN 41.287 THIS IS THE TEST OF METRIC VS. PARTIAL SCALAR F INVARIANCE Chi-Square Test for Difference Testing Value 29.886 Degrees of Freedom 15 P-Value 0.0123 RMSEA (Root Mean Square Error Of Approximation) Estimate 0.052 90 Percent C.I. 0.035 0.069 Probability RMSEA <= .05 0.387 CFI/TLI CFI 0.999 TLI 0.999 MODEL MODIFICATION INDICES M.I. E.P.C. Std E.P.C. StdYX E.P.C. Group MEN Means/Intercepts/Thresholds [CIA4] 4.975 0.802 0.802 0.188 [CIA6] 4.570 0.469 0.469 0.187 [CIA4\$3] 4.529 -0.536 -0.536 -0.125 </pre> <p>The DIFFTEST chi-square is still significant. Let's try item 4 threshold 3....</p>
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Model 3g. Partial Threshold Invariance Model (also freeing item 4 threshold 3 between groups)

<pre> ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA; DIFFTEST=MetricA.dat; ! Compare against metric SAVEDATA: DIFFTEST=ScalarG.dat; ! Save partial scalar info !!! PARTIAL SCALAR MODEL FOR MEN REFERENCE GROUP MODEL: ! Factor loadings all estimated IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item thresholds all free [cia1\$1-cia7\$1*]; [cia1\$2-cia7\$2*]; [cia1\$3-cia7\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cia1-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification [IADL@0]; IADL@1; !!! PARTIAL SCALAR MODEL FOR WOMEN ALTERNATIVE GROUP MODEL WOMEN: ! Factor loadings all STILL HELD EQUAL IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item 3 threshold 2 and 3, item 1 threshold 3, ! item 5 thresholds 2 and 3, item 4 threshold 3 FREE between groups [cia3\$2* cia3\$3*]; [cia1\$3*]; [cia5\$2* cia5\$3*]; [cia4\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cia1-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=FREE and variance still FREE [IADL*]; IADL*; </pre>	<pre> Number of Free Parameters 36 Chi-Square Test of Model Fit Value 87.391* Degrees of Freedom 48 P-Value 0.0004 Chi-Square Contributions From Each Group MEN 46.648 WOMEN 40.742 THIS IS THE TEST OF METRIC VS. PARTIAL SCALAR G INVARIANCE Chi-Square Test for Difference Testing Value 24.426 Degrees of Freedom 14 P-Value 0.0407 RMSEA (Root Mean Square Error Of Approximation) Estimate 0.051 90 Percent C.I. 0.033 0.068 Probability RMSEA <= .05 0.444 CFI/TLI CFI 0.999 TLI 0.999 MODEL MODIFICATION INDICES M.I. E.P.C. Std E.P.C. StdYX E.P.C. Group MEN Means/Intercepts/Thresholds [CIA6] 6.640 0.574 0.574 0.231 </pre> <p>Although the DIFFTEST chi-square is still technically significant, no other modifications to un-constrain the remaining thresholds will improve fit.</p> <p>I'm calling it done.</p>
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Model 4a. Partial Residual Variance Invariance Model (thresholds unconstrained between groups from ScalarG)
This last step for testing measurement invariance proceeds backwards.
Because freeing the residual variances is adding parameters, we must estimate this free residuals model first.

<pre> ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA; SAVEDATA: DIFFTEST=ResidualFreeA.dat; ! Save free residual info !!! RESIDUAL FIXED MODEL FOR MEN REFERENCE GROUP MODEL: ! Factor loadings all estimated IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item thresholds all free [cia1\$1-cia7\$1*]; [cia1\$2-cia7\$2*]; [cia1\$3-cia7\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cia1-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification [IADL@0]; IADL@1; !!! RESIDUAL FREE MODEL FOR WOMEN ALTERNATIVE GROUP MODEL WOMEN: ! Factor loadings all STILL HELD EQUAL IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item 3 threshold 2 and 3, item 1 threshold 3, ! item 5 thresholds 2 and 3, item 4 threshold 3 FREE between groups [cia3\$2* cia3\$3*]; [cia1\$3*]; [cia5\$2* cia5\$3*]; [cia4\$3*]; ! Item residual variances NOW FREE cia1-cia7*; ! Factor mean=FREE and variance still FREE [IADL*]; IADL*; </pre>	<pre> (Number of Free Parameters 43 Chi-Square Test of Model Fit Value 80.223* Degrees of Freedom 41 P-Value 0.0002 Chi-Square Contributions From Each Group MEN 34.586 WOMEN 45.636 RMSEA (Root Mean Square Error Of Approximation) Estimate 0.055 90 Percent C.I. 0.037 0.073 Probability RMSEA <= .05 0.305 CFI/TLI CFI 0.999 TLI 0.999 Residual Variances for Men... CIA1 1.000 0.000 999.000 999.000 CIA2 1.000 0.000 999.000 999.000 CIA3 1.000 0.000 999.000 999.000 CIA4 1.000 0.000 999.000 999.000 CIA5 1.000 0.000 999.000 999.000 CIA6 1.000 0.000 999.000 999.000 CIA7 1.000 0.000 999.000 999.000 Residual Variances for Women... CIA1 2.243 1.286 1.744 0.081 CIA2 0.538 0.224 2.406 0.016 CIA3 0.264 0.118 2.239 0.025 CIA4 1.063 0.540 1.970 0.049 CIA5 0.940 0.378 2.490 0.013 CIA6 1.627 0.639 2.546 0.011 CIA7 0.725 0.192 3.768 0.000 </pre>
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Model 4b. Residual Variance Invariance Model (testing all items)

We now constrain the residual variances to be equal between groups and test decrease in fit.

```

ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA;
          DIFFTEST=ResidualFreeA.dat; ! Compare to free residual

SAVEDATA: DIFFTEST=ResidualFixedB.dat; ! Save fixed residual info

!!! RESIDUAL FIXED MODEL FOR MEN REFERENCE GROUP
MODEL:
! Factor loadings all estimated
  IADL BY cia1* (L1)
        cia2* (L2)
        cia3* (L3)
        cia4* (L4)
        cia5* (L5)
        cia6* (L6)
        cia7* (L7);
! Item thresholds all free
  [cia1$1-cia7$1*];
  [cia1$2-cia7$2*];
  [cia1$3-cia7$3*];
! Item residual variances all fixed=1
  cial-cia7@1;
! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification
  [IADL@0]; IADL@1;

!!! RESIDUAL FREE MODEL FOR WOMEN ALTERNATIVE GROUP
MODEL WOMEN:
! Factor loadings all STILL HELD EQUAL
  IADL BY cia1* (L1)
        cia2* (L2)
        cia3* (L3)
        cia4* (L4)
        cia5* (L5)
        cia6* (L6)
        cia7* (L7);
! Item 3 threshold 2 and 3, item 1 threshold 3,
! item 5 thresholds 2 and 3, item 4 threshold 3 FREE between groups
  [cia3$2* cia3$3*];
  [cia1$3*];
  [cia5$2* cia5$3*];
  [cia4$3*];
! Item residual variances NOW FIXED
  cial-cia7@1;

! Factor mean=FREE and variance still FREE
  [IADL*]; IADL*;
  
```

Because DIFFTEST is nonsignificant, we can constrain the residual variances for the invariant items to be the same. Now we are ready to examine structural invariance (equality of the factor variance and factor mean).

```

(Model fit is same as Scalar G)

TEST OF PARTIAL SCALAR G VS. RESIDUAL VARIANCE INVARIANCE
Chi-Square Test for Difference Testing
      Value          14.319
Degrees of Freedom      7
      P-Value          0.0458

MODEL MODIFICATION INDICES
      M.I.      E.P.C.  Std E.P.C.  StdYX E.P.C.
Group MEN
Variances/Residual Variances
CIA3          9.421      1.755      1.755      0.072
CIA6          7.699     -0.670     -0.670     -0.108

After freeing residual variance for item 3....

ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA;
          DIFFTEST=ResidualFreeA.dat; ! Compare to free residual

SAVEDATA: DIFFTEST=ResidualFixedC.dat; ! Save fixed residual info

MODEL WOMEN:
! Item residual variances NOW FIXED except for item 3
  cial-cia7@1;
  cia3*;

Number of Free Parameters          37
Chi-Square Test of Model Fit
      Value          79.843*
Degrees of Freedom          47
      P-Value          0.0020

Chi-Square Contributions From Each Group
      MEN          39.742
      WOMEN         40.101

TEST OF PARTIAL SCALAR G VS. PARTIAL RESIDUAL VARIANCE INVARIANCE

Chi-Square Test for Difference Testing
      Value          8.930
Degrees of Freedom      6
      P-Value          0.1776

RMSEA (Root Mean Square Error Of Approximation)
      Estimate          0.047
      90 Percent C.I.      0.028  0.064
      Probability RMSEA <= .05      0.591

CFI/TLI
      CFI          0.999
      TLI          0.999
  
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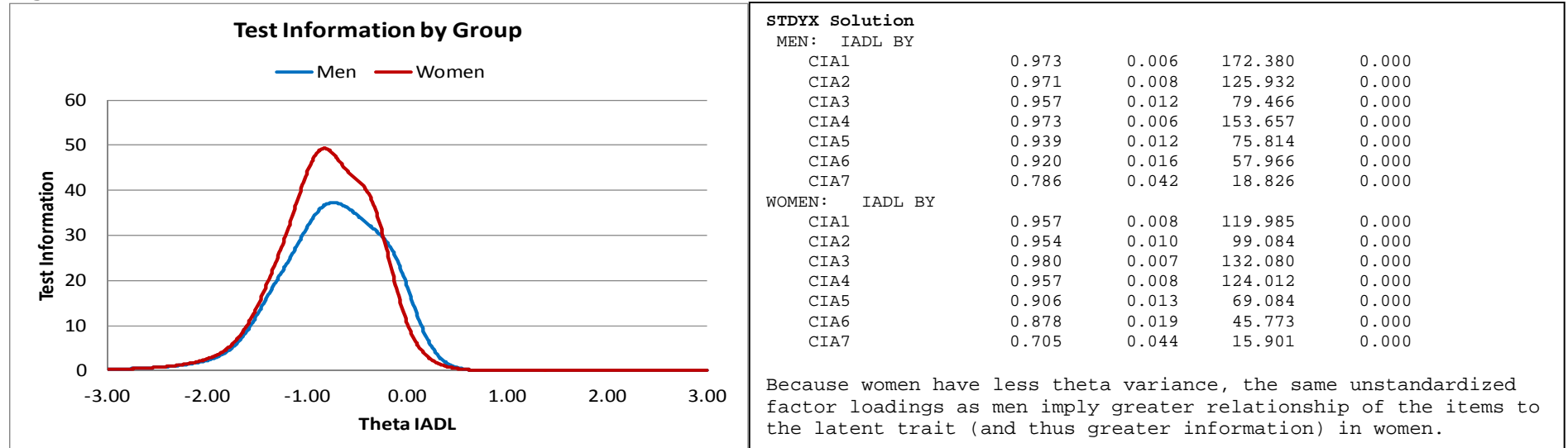
Final Model: Partial Measurement Invariance (solution from Model 4c)

UNSTANDARDIZED MODEL RESULTS (IFA MODEL SOLUTION)					UNSTANDARDIZED MODEL RESULTS (IFA MODEL SOLUTION)						
	Estimate	S.E.	Est./S.E.	Two-Tailed P-Value		Estimate	S.E.	Est./S.E.	Two-Tailed P-Value		
Group MEN					Group WOMEN						
FACTOR LOADINGS: CHANGE IN PROBIT FOR 1-UNIT CHANGE IN THETA					FACTOR LOADINGS: CHANGE IN PROBIT FOR 1-UNIT CHANGE IN THETA						
IADL	BY				IADL	BY					
CIA1		4.227	0.463	9.137	0.000	CIA1		4.227	0.463	9.137	0.000
CIA2		4.054	0.561	7.222	0.000	CIA2		4.054	0.561	7.222	0.000
CIA3		3.287	0.488	6.730	0.000	CIA3		3.287	0.488	6.730	0.000
CIA4		4.197	0.509	8.253	0.000	CIA4		4.197	0.509	8.253	0.000
CIA5		2.729	0.304	8.977	0.000	CIA5		2.729	0.304	8.977	0.000
CIA6		2.346	0.263	8.915	0.000	CIA6		2.346	0.263	8.915	0.000
CIA7		1.270	0.176	7.208	0.000	CIA7		1.270	0.176	7.208	0.000
Means: MEAN OF THETA					Means: MEAN DIFFERENCE OF THETA IN WOMEN						
IADL		0.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	IADL		-0.194	0.106	-1.833	0.067
Thresholds: EXPECTED PROBIT OF LOWER CATEGORY WHEN THETA=0					Thresholds: NEGATIVE OF EXPECTED PROBIT WHEN THETA=0						
CIA1\$1		-5.634	0.572	-9.848	0.000	CIA1\$1		-5.634	0.572	-9.848	0.000
CIA1\$2		-4.185	0.519	-8.065	0.000	CIA1\$2		-4.185	0.519	-8.065	0.000
CIA1\$3		-0.606	0.425	-1.426	0.154	CIA1\$3		-1.570	0.466	-3.369	0.001 housework
CIA2\$1		-5.787	0.642	-9.016	0.000	CIA2\$1		-5.787	0.642	-9.016	0.000
CIA2\$2		-4.914	0.600	-8.192	0.000	CIA2\$2		-4.914	0.600	-8.192	0.000
CIA2\$3		-3.261	0.532	-6.131	0.000	CIA2\$3		-3.261	0.532	-6.131	0.000 bed making
CIA3\$1		-4.344	0.567	-7.664	0.000	CIA3\$1		-4.344	0.567	-7.664	0.000
CIA3\$2		-2.975	0.487	-6.104	0.000	CIA3\$2		-3.866	0.534	-7.234	0.000
CIA3\$3		-0.598	0.347	-1.725	0.085	CIA3\$3		-2.677	0.415	-6.447	0.000 cooking
CIA4\$1		-5.283	0.543	-9.738	0.000	CIA4\$1		-5.283	0.543	-9.738	0.000
CIA4\$2		-3.755	0.486	-7.719	0.000	CIA4\$2		-3.755	0.486	-7.719	0.000
CIA4\$3		-2.206	0.478	-4.619	0.000	CIA4\$3		-1.491	0.471	-3.164	0.002 shopping
CIA5\$1		-4.330	0.354	-12.225	0.000	CIA5\$1		-4.330	0.354	-12.225	0.000
CIA5\$2		-2.756	0.353	-7.803	0.000	CIA5\$2		-2.173	0.313	-6.949	0.000
CIA5\$3		-1.252	0.293	-4.269	0.000	CIA5\$3		-0.643	0.300	-2.144	0.032 get around
CIA6\$1		-3.873	0.325	-11.932	0.000	CIA6\$1		-3.873	0.325	-11.932	0.000
CIA6\$2		-2.737	0.287	-9.544	0.000	CIA6\$2		-2.737	0.287	-9.544	0.000
CIA6\$3		-1.754	0.267	-6.566	0.000	CIA6\$3		-1.754	0.267	-6.566	0.000 banking
CIA7\$1		-3.475	0.284	-12.224	0.000	CIA7\$1		-3.475	0.284	-12.224	0.000
CIA7\$2		-2.761	0.222	-12.445	0.000	CIA7\$2		-2.761	0.222	-12.445	0.000
CIA7\$3		-1.934	0.183	-10.562	0.000	CIA7\$3		-1.934	0.183	-10.562	0.000 telephone
Variances: VARIANCE OF THETA					Variances: VARIANCE OF THETA						
IADL		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	IADL		0.612	0.137	4.461	0.000
Residual Variances (ALL FIXED=1)					Residual Variances (NOT ALL FIXED=1)						
CIA1		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA1		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
CIA2		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA2		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
CIA3		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA3		0.267	0.123	2.160	0.031
CIA4		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA4		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
CIA5		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA5		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
CIA6		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA6		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000
CIA7		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000	CIA7		1.000	0.000	999.000	999.000

Model 5a. Testing Factor Variance Invariance

<pre> ANALYSIS: ESTIMATOR IS WLSMV; PARAMETERIZATION=THETA; DIFFTEST=ResidualFixedC.dat; ! Compare to fixed residual SAVEDATA: !!! RESIDUAL FIXED MODEL FOR MEN REFERENCE GROUP MODEL: ! Factor loadings all estimated IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item thresholds all free [cia1\$1-cia7\$1*]; [cia1\$2-cia7\$2*]; [cia1\$3-cia7\$3*]; ! Item residual variances all fixed=1 cia1-cia7@1; ! Factor mean=0 and variance=1 for identification [IADL@0]; IADL@1; !!! RESIDUAL FREE MODEL FOR WOMEN ALTERNATIVE GROUP MODEL WOMEN: ! Factor loadings all STILL HELD EQUAL IADL BY cia1* (L1) cia2* (L2) cia3* (L3) cia4* (L4) cia5* (L5) cia6* (L6) cia7* (L7); ! Item 3 threshold 2 and 3, item 1 threshold 3, ! item 5 thresholds 2 and 3, item 4 threshold 3 FREE between groups [cia3\$2* cia3\$3*]; [cia1\$3*]; [cia5\$2* cia5\$3*]; [cia4\$3*]; ! Item residual variances NOW FIXED except for item 3 cia1-cia7@1; cia3*; ! Factor mean=FREE and variance NOW FIXED [IADL*]; IADL@1; </pre>	<pre> MODEL FIT INFORMATION Number of Free Parameters 36 Chi-Square Test of Model Fit Value 90.531* Degrees of Freedom 48 P-Value 0.0002 Chi-Square Contributions From Each Group MEN 43.802 WOMEN 46.729 THIS IS THE TEST OF FACTOR VARIANCE INVARIANCE Chi-Square Test for Difference Testing Value 6.183 Degrees of Freedom 1 P-Value 0.0129 RMSEA (Root Mean Square Error Of Approximation) Estimate 0.053 90 Percent C.I. 0.036 0.069 Probability RMSEA <= .05 0.369 CFI/TLI CFI 0.999 TLI 0.999 </pre> <p>Because DIFFTEST is significant, this means that the women have significantly less variance in the latent factor than men. Further, we know from the previous model solution that the factor mean for women was marginally different from 0 (the factor mean for men), and thus we don't have to test it anyway. So we call it done, and let the theta mean and variance differ between groups.</p>
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Figures from Partial Measurement Invariance Model 4c:



Because women have less theta variance, the same unstandardized factor loadings as men imply greater relationship of the items to the latent trait (and thus greater information) in women.

The thresholds predict the probit of $y = \text{lower}$ response for something with $\Theta = 0$.

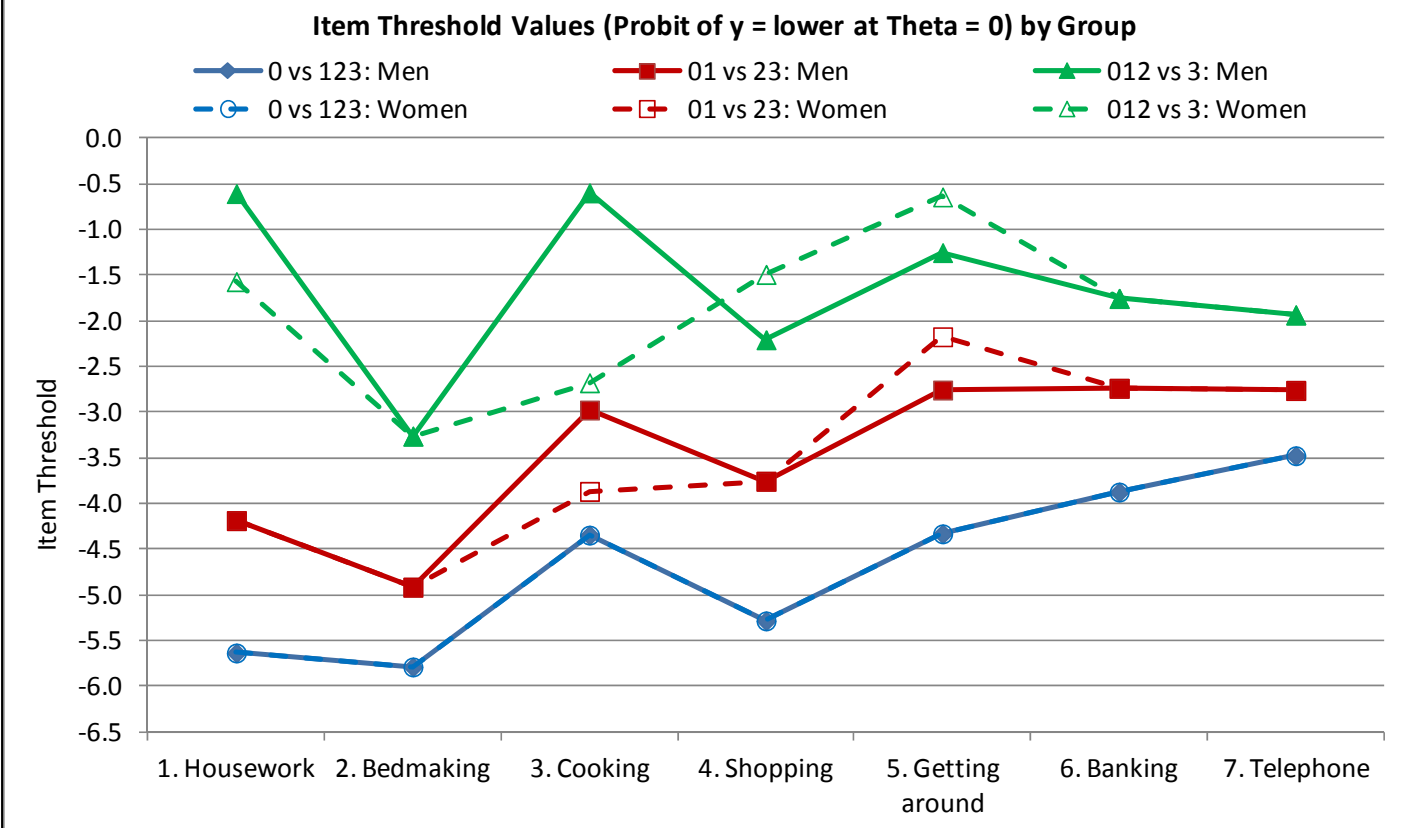
So, holding IADL ability constant at the combined sample factor mean of 0....

Item 1: Women have a **lower** probability of not being able to do housework than men.

Item 3: Women have a **lower** probability of not being able to do cook than men.

Item 4: Women have a **greater** probability of not being able to shop than men.

Item 5: Women have a **greater** probability of not being able to get around than men.



Example write-up of these IFA analyses:

The extent to which an item factor model measuring independent daily living (with seven observed items) exhibited measurement invariance and structural invariance between men and women was examined using Mplus v. 7.11 (Muthén & Muthén, 1998-2012). WLSMV estimation including a probit link and the THETA parameterization was used to estimate all models (Muthén & Muthén, 1998-2012). Thus, model fit statistics describe the fit of the item factor model to the polychoric correlation matrix among the items for each group. Nested model comparisons were conducted using the DIFFTEST procedure. A configural invariance model was initially specified in which a single factor was estimated simultaneously in each group. The factor variance was fixed to 1 and the factor mean was fixed to 0 in each group for identification, such that all item factor loadings (one per item) and thresholds (three per item given four response options) were then estimated. The residual variances are not uniquely identified in the configural invariance model and as such were all constrained to 1 in both groups. As shown in Table 1, the configural invariance model had good fit. The analysis proceeded by applying parameter constraints in successive models to examine potential decreases in fit resulting from measurement or structural non-invariance between men and women, with men as the reference group.

Equality of the unstandardized item factor loadings between groups was then examined in a metric invariance model. The factor variance was fixed to 1 in men for identification but was freely estimated in women; the factor mean was fixed to 0 in both groups for identification. All factor loadings were constrained equal across groups, all item thresholds were estimated, and all residual variances were constrained to 1 across groups. The metric invariance model did not fit significantly worse than the configural invariance model, DIFFTEST (6) = 9.53, $p = .15$. The modification indices did not suggest any points of localized misfit for the constrained loadings. The fact that metric invariance (i.e., “weak invariance”) held indicates that the items were related to the latent factor equivalently across groups, or more simply, that the same latent factor was being measured in each group. However, because the factor variances were permitted to vary across groups (such that women showed less variability in the latent factor), the “a” discrimination parameters from the item response version of the model were not equivalent across groups (i.e., the equality constraints were applied to the factor loadings only).

Equality of the unstandardized item thresholds across groups was then examined in a scalar invariance model. The factor variance and mean were fixed to 1 and 0, respectively, in men for identification, but the factor variance and mean were then estimated for women. All factor loadings and item thresholds were constrained equal across groups; all residual variances were still constrained equal to 1 in both groups. The full scalar invariance model A fit significantly worse than the metric invariance model, DIFFTEST (20) = 119.66, $p < .001$. The modification indices suggested that threshold 3 of item 3 was the largest source of the misfit and should be freed. After doing so, the partial scalar invariance model B still had significantly worse fit than the full metric invariance model, DIFFTEST (19) = 63.05, $p < .001$. The modification indices suggested that threshold 2 of item 3 was the largest remaining source of the misfit and should be freed. After doing so, the new partial scalar invariance model C (with thresholds 2 and 3 for item 3 freed) still fit significantly worse than the full metric invariance model, DIFFTEST (18) = 51.19, $p < .001$. The modification indices suggested that threshold 3 of item 1 was the largest remaining source of the misfit and should be freed. After doing so, the new partial scalar invariance model D (with the thresholds 2 and 3 for item 3 and threshold 3 for item 1 freed) still fit significantly worse than the full metric invariance model, DIFFTEST (17) = 41.247, $p < .001$. The modification indices suggested that threshold 3 of item 5 was the largest remaining source of the misfit and should be freed. After doing so, the new partial scalar invariance model E (with the thresholds 2 and 3 for item 3 and threshold 3 for items 1 and 5 freed) still fit significantly worse than the full metric invariance model, DIFFTEST (16) = 35.35, $p < .004$. The modification indices suggested that threshold 2 of item 5 was the largest remaining source of the misfit and should be freed. After doing so, the new partial scalar invariance model F (with the thresholds 2 and 3 for items 3 and 5 and threshold 3 for item 1 freed) still fit significantly worse than the full metric invariance model, DIFFTEST (15) = 29.89, $p = .012$. The modification indices suggested that threshold 3 of item 4 was the largest remaining source of the misfit and should be freed. After doing so, the new partial scalar invariance model G (with the thresholds 2 and 3 for items 3 and 5 and threshold 3 for items 1, 4 and 5 freed) still fit significantly worse than the full metric invariance model, DIFFTEST (14) =

24.43, $p = .041$. However, the modification indices did not indicate any remaining sources of misfit due to constrained thresholds, and thus the partial scalar invariance model G was retained. The factor that partial scalar invariance (i.e., “strong invariance”) held indicates that items 2, 6, and 7 have the same expected response at the same absolute level of the trait, or more simply, that the observed differences in the proportion of responses in each category for those items was due to factor mean differences only. However, at the same absolute level of the IADL factor, threshold 3 for item 1 and thresholds 2 and 3 for item 3 were more difficult for men, indicating that men have a greater probability of not being able to do housework or cook, whereas threshold 3 for item 4 and thresholds 2 and 3 for item 5 were less difficult in men, indicating that men have a lower probability of not being able to shop or get around. Because the factor mean was permitted to vary across groups (such that women were less able overall than men), the “b” parameters from the item response version of the model were not equivalent across groups (i.e., the equality constraints were applied to the item thresholds only).

Equality of the unstandardized residual variances across groups was then examined in a residual variance invariance model. The model comparison at this step proceeded backwards, such that a model with all residual variances freely estimated in the women was fitted first, and then compared with a model in which all residual variances were fixed to 1 in the women. The residual variances in the men were all fixed to 1 for identification in both models, and the rest of the model parameters were estimated as described for the last partial scalar invariance model G. The model with the residual variances constrained to 1 (to be equal to the men) fit significantly worse than the model with those residual variances freed, DIFFTEST (7) = 14.32, $p = .046$. The modification indices suggested that the residual variance for item 3 the largest remaining source of misfit and should be freed. After doing so, the new partial residual variance invariance model B did not fit significantly worse than the partial scalar invariance model G, DIFFTEST (6) = 8.93, $p = .178$, indicating that residual variance for item 3 was significantly smaller for women than men. The fact that partial residual variance invariance (i.e., “strict invariance”) held indicates that the amount of item variance not accounted for by the factor was the same across groups in all other items.

After achieving partial measurement invariance as was just described, structural invariance was then tested with one additional model. The factor variance in the women (which had been estimated freely) was constrained to 1 (i.e., to be equal to the factor variance in men), resulting in a significant decrease in fit relative to the last partial residual invariance model B, DIFFTEST (1) = 6.18, $p = .013$. Thus, women showed significantly less variability in ability to live independently (factor variance of 0.61) than did men (factor variance of 1.0). The factor mean for women in the partial measurement invariance model was marginally different from 0 (difference = -0.19 , SE = 0.11, $p = .067$), indicating that women were marginally less able to live independently than men (factor mean of 0). Test information functions were similar across groups (although slightly larger for women between Theta = -1 and 0), and indicated acceptable reliability (i.e., information > 4) only between a Theta of -2 and 0. Thus, high-functioning individuals will not be measured adequately with these seven items.

In conclusion, these analyses showed that partial measurement invariance was obtained across men and women – that is, the relationships of the items to the latent factor of independent living were equivalent between men women. However, items 1 and 3 (housework and cooking) were systematically more difficult for men than women at the same level of the latent trait, whereas items 4 and 5 (shopping and getting around) was more difficult for women than men. These analyses also showed that structural invariance was not obtained, such that women were less variable and less able on average than men. Model parameters from the final model are given in Table 2.

Table 1 provides fit of each model

Table 2 provides final model parameters