

RUMMss *Simulation Studies Program*

USER MANUAL

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The **RUMMss** program is an extension of an earlier data simulation program, SimsRasch (Andrich & Luo, 1997 - 2003). The program generates data files according to the Rasch class of models and some deviations from them. An example of data that can be generated that violate the Rasch class of models can be items with a discrimination that is not 1. Another violation that can be simulated is dependence between items. Two types of dependence can be specified: a) Trait dependence where subsets of items have varying levels of dependence between their underlying traits; and b) Response dependence where a person's response to an item depends on the response to a previous item. Characteristics of the persons as well as the items are typically specified.

Figure 1 shows the screen when starting the program. There is a **Data specifications** section at the top with three buttons (**Components, Persons, Items**) and a **Data generation** section below with three buttons (**Generate data, Show data, Show reports**). To generate a data file first enter data specifications (top section) and then click on the **Generate data** button in the section below. After data has been generated the **Show data** and **Show reports** buttons become active so the user can look at what was generated. End the program using the **Exit** button at the bottom of the screen or choose **Exit** under the **File** menu. **Note:** The user has to exit the program first and then start the program again to generate another file.

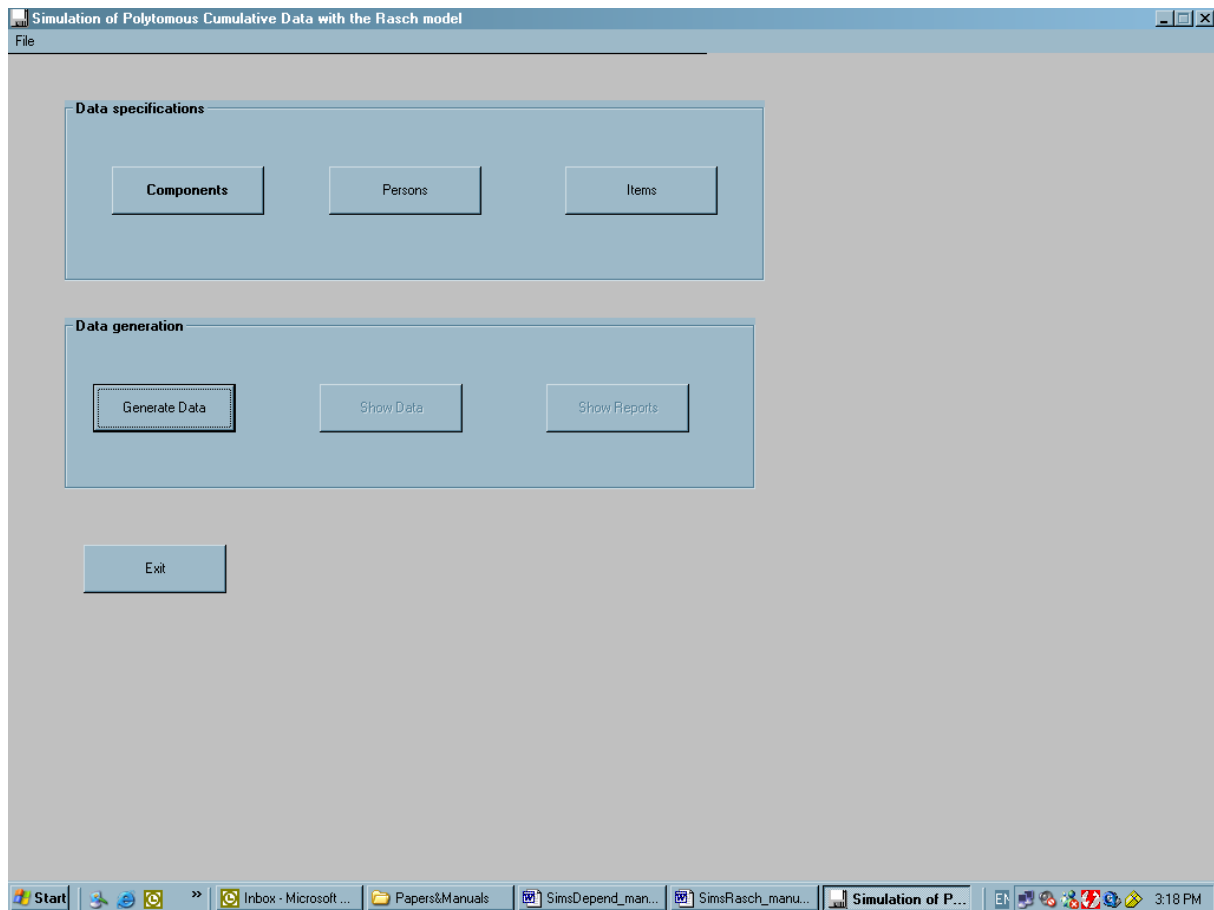


Figure 1. RUMMss screen when starting the program.

1. Components

The first thing to do when generating a data file is to supply information in the **Components** form.

- On the main screen choose **Components**
- On the **Components** form select the **number of components**

With number of components is meant number of *subsets* of items or number of *dimensions* in the data. When simulating unidimensional data the number of components = 1. To simulate multidimensional data (trait dependence) the number of components > 1.

- If **number of components** = 1 then all items belong to the same set (no trait dependence). This is the default.
- If **number of components** = 2 then dependence can be specified since there are two components. Next specify the correlation between the components. It

can be specified as the correlation coefficient r or the constant c where $c = (1-r)/r$. (see appendix 1 for an explanation of the constant c)

- If **number of components** > 2 varying dependencies can be specified between the components. There is a choice of *same correlation* between all the components or *different correlations* between the components. If *same correlation* is chosen specify r or c as before. If the *different correlation* option is chosen then only c 's can be specified, one for each component (Click in the cell for each component and type the c value or press enter after first value has been typed to copy). The r 's can then be displayed by clicking on the **Show correlation matrix** button. Figure 2 shows the Components form.
- When finished specifying components and their correlations click on the **Done** button to return to the main screen.

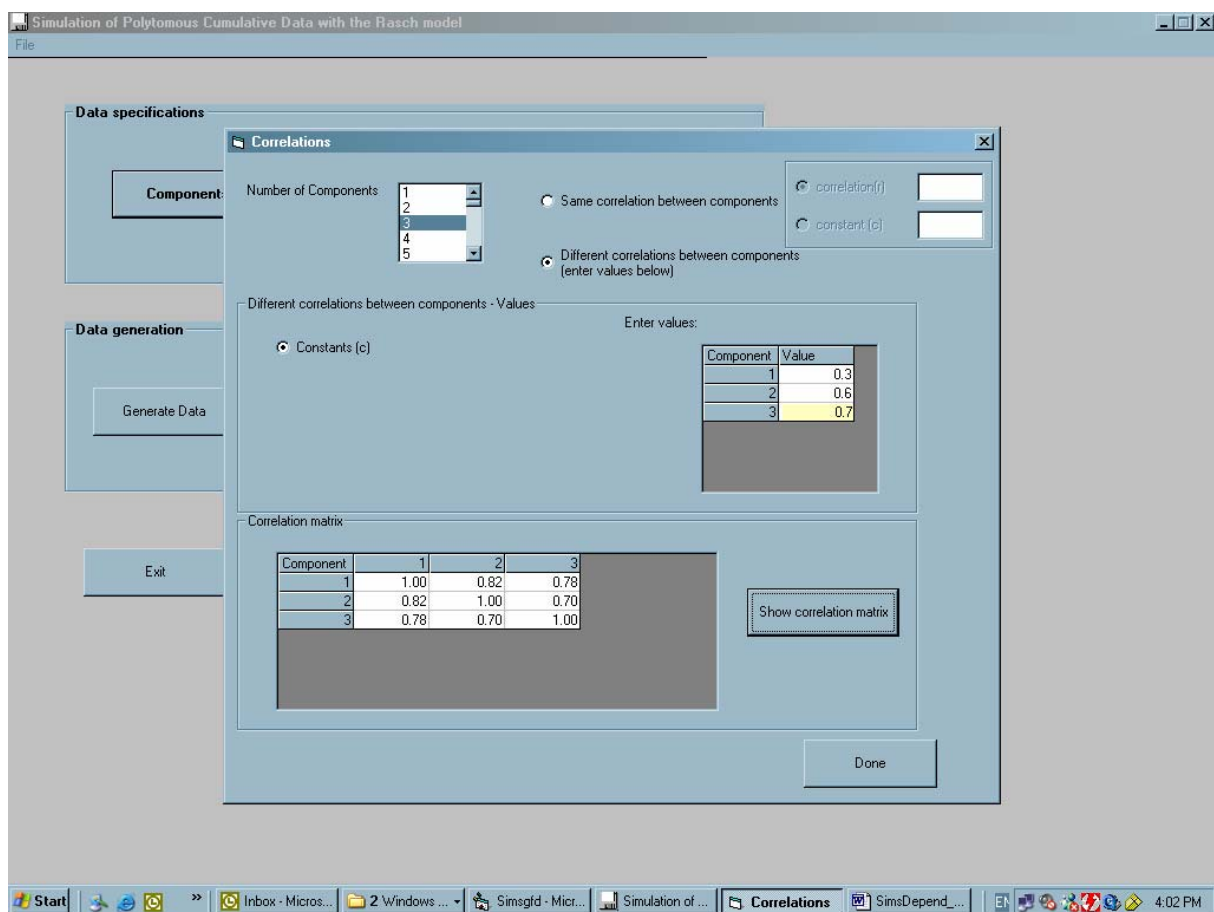


Figure 2. The Components form

2. Persons

- Now click on the **Persons** button on the main screen.
 - On the Persons form specify the following Person details:
 - Number of persons:** Type in the number of persons to generate data for. The default is 1000.
 - Rnd seed:** If a random seed number is not entered the program picks a number to start generating random person locations from. If entered by the user specify a number between 0 and 32000.
 - Id Prefix:** In the ID prefix box the user can type in alpha or numeric characters to appear as part of a person ID in the generated data file. The rest of the ID is the sequential number of the person generated.
 - Component Person Distribution:** A **mean, standard deviation, minimum and maximum** value can be specified for the person locations in each component. If not entered by the user the default values are 0, 2, -15 and 15 respectively. A set of person locations will be generated with minimum, maximum, mean and standard deviation values as specified. Click in each cell and type the value or press enter after the first value has been typed to copy. Figure 3 shows the Person form with values entered for 3 components.
- The common person location (β in appendix 1) can be written to the data file or omitted depending on whether the **Write simulated person location (common ability) to the generated data file** box is checked.
- Persons with extreme scores can be included in or excluded from the data file depending on whether the **Exclude extreme scores** box is checked.
- When finished specifying Person details click on **Done** button to return to the main screen.

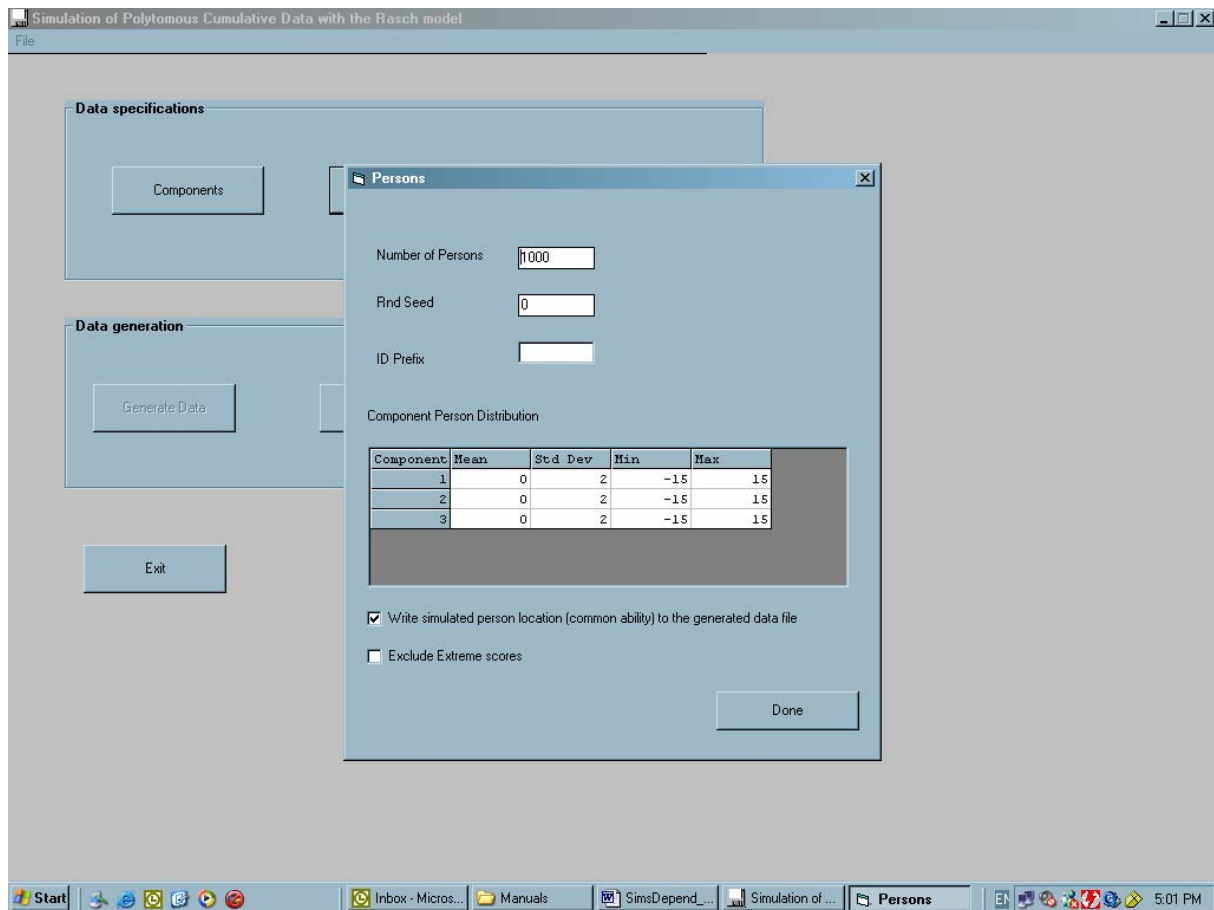


Figure 3. The Persons form

3. Items

- Now click on the **Items** button on the main screen to specify the Items details. First specify the **Number of Items** and then press **ENTER**. When enter is pressed the number of lines in the Item specifications frame is adjusted so that there is one line for each item. So each item has a line for its specifications.
- Then specify the details for each item by selecting from the tabs called **Natural parameters**, **Thresholds**, **Discrimination**, **Item reversal** and **Response Dependency**. Not all these options have to be specified.

3.1 Natural parameters

The first specifications are the natural parameters of **Maximum score**, **Location**, **Item unit**, **Skewness**, and **Kurtosis** for each item. Before that can be specified enter the **Component** that the item belongs to in to the Components column, for example if 2 components were

specified on the Components form then type a 1 if the item belongs to component 1 or a 2 if the item belongs to the second component. **NB.** First specify **all** the items belonging to component 1, and then specify **all** items belonging to component 2. Click in the cell and type the value or press enter after a value has been typed to copy the value to the next line. Components are shaded differently to help in distinguishing the specifications for each component.

To enter a **Maximum score** click in a cell next to the item number and enter the value (Click in the cell and type the value or press enter after a value has been typed to copy). The maximum score for a dichotomous item is 1. For dichotomous items only the **Component**, **Maximum score** and **Location** need to be specified. These are *the minimum required item specifications* that have to be entered for each dichotomous item. Item unit, skewness and kurtosis are not available for an item once a user has entered a maximum score of 1 for the item, that is, they are not available for dichotomous items. For polytomous items Item unit, Skewness and Kurtosis can be entered. Alternatively thresholds can be entered (see section 3.2 - Thresholds).

When a cell in the **Location** column is clicked a **Location specification** frame appears. Either type in each location in a cell or use the Location specification frame to specify minimum and maximum values, leaving the program to generate location values. To do that specify the minimum and maximum values, select which **Component** to generate location values for and click the **Done** button. The program will generate locations between those values and specify the increment that was used. The generated location values are displayed in the Location column. Location values can be generated for each component separately or with the 'ALL' option under **Component** the locations will be generated for all items simultaneously.

Figure 4 shows the Items form with some location values entered for the 15 items. Once Natural parameters have been specified the user can proceed by selecting any of the other tabs at the top of the Item specifications frame. If there are no further item specifications a data file can be generated at this point.

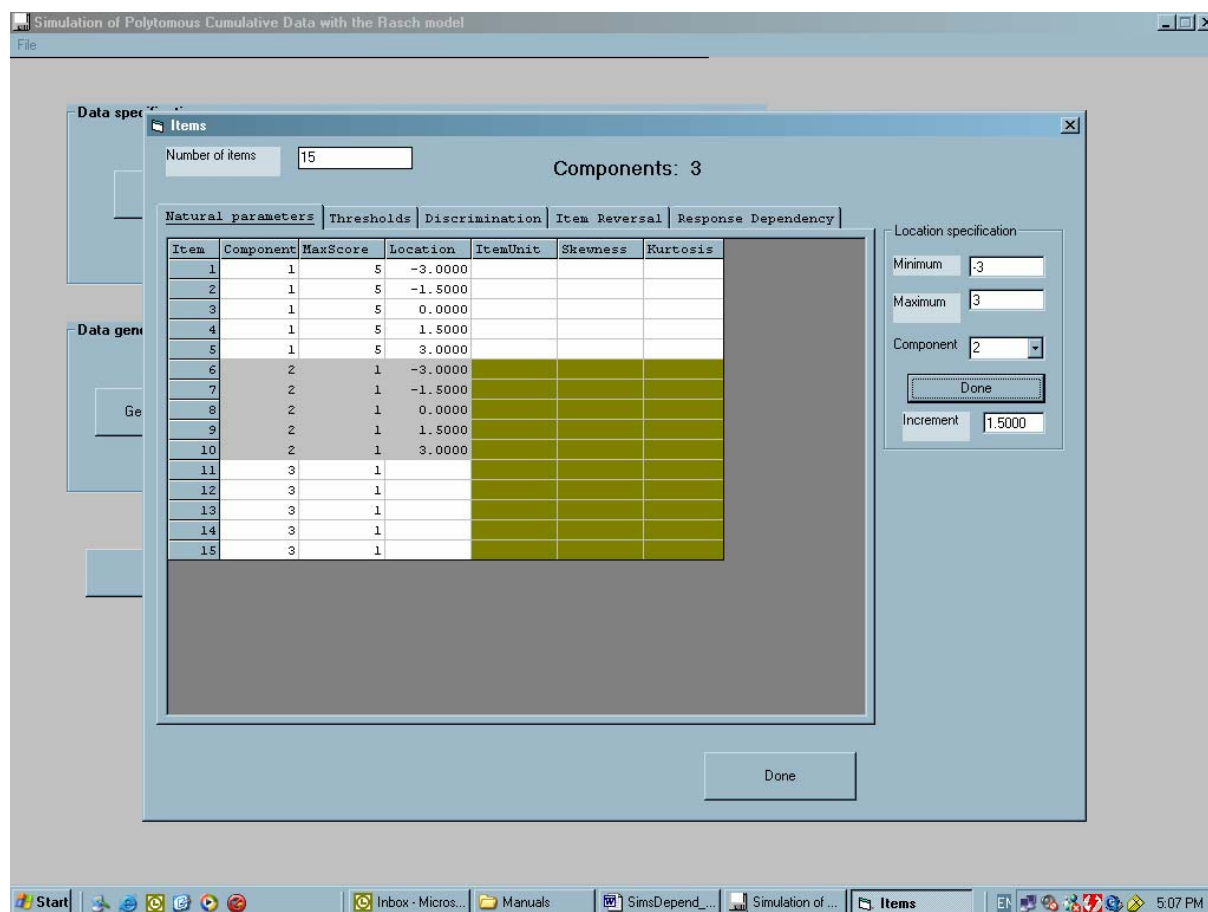


Figure 4. The Items form: Natural parameters

3.2 Thresholds

Thresholds do not need to be entered for dichotomous items as they will be 0. To enter thresholds for polytomous items click on the **Thresholds** tab at the top of the **Item specifications** frame. Figure 5 shows the Items form when the Thresholds tab has been selected.

Threshold values can be entered manually, read in from a RUMM2020 (Andrich, Sheridan & Luo, 1997 - 2005) anchor template file (*.anc) or generated by the program:

- To read from an anchor template file (threshold format) simply click on the **Read ALL from file** button on the **Generate thresholds** frame and then select the file at the “Open file” dialog box prompt. Only *.anc files with header “ANCHOR THRESHCENT” can be read in this way. The file should contain **centralised** thresholds for **all** items. (Save such an anchor template file from within RUMM2020 on the Item Threshold estimates window by clicking the Centralised thresholds

checkbox, then selecting all the items and clicking on the **Save anchor template** button.)

- To enter a threshold value manually for an item click in the cell and type in the value. To copy that value to the next line simply press ‘enter’.
- To generate thresholds for an item type in a minimum and maximum value in the ‘Generate thresholds’ frame and click on the ‘Generate for an item’ button. Click on the ‘Copy to next line’ to copy those thresholds to the next line.

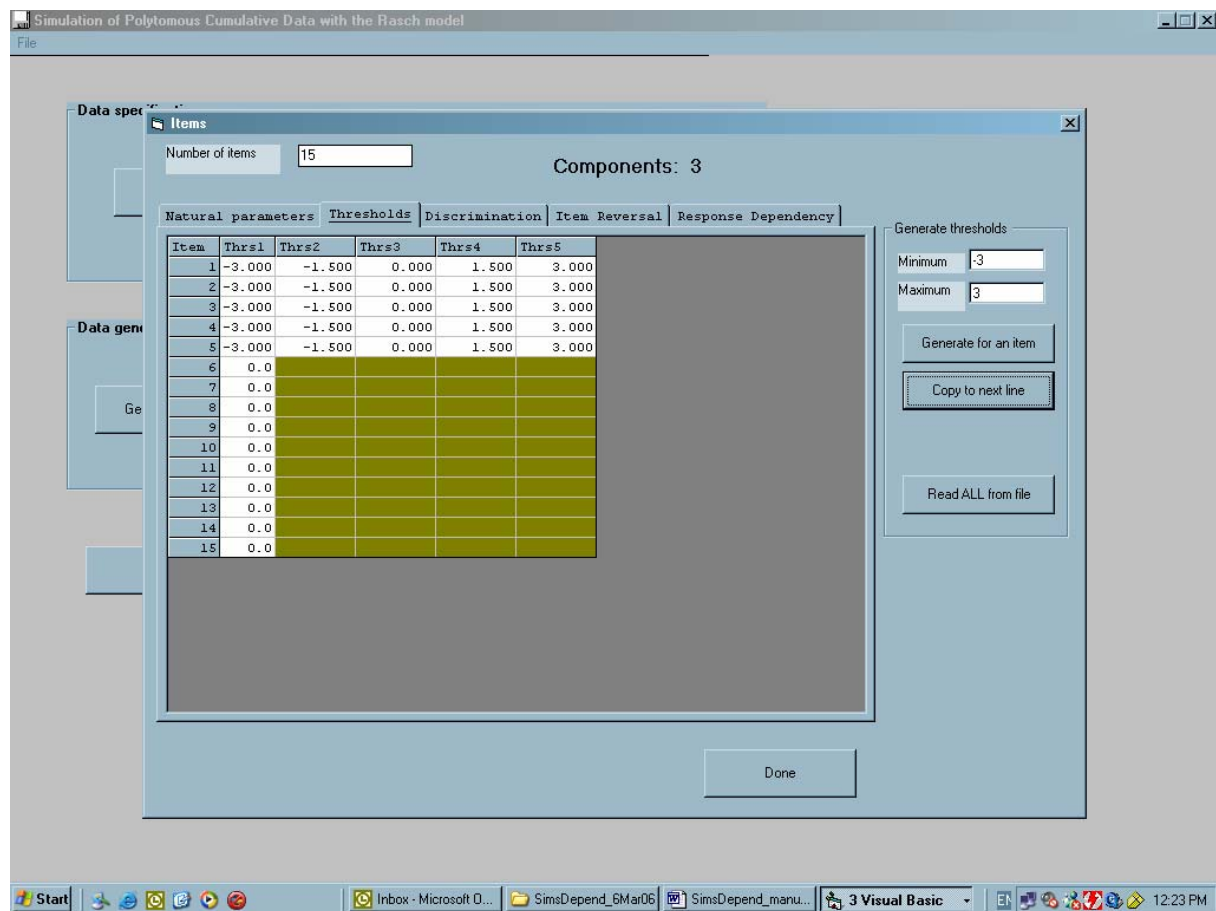


Figure 5. The Items form: Thresholds

3.3 Discrimination

In the Rasch models, discriminations for all items are the same and have a default value of 1. Specifying different discriminations generates data that do not fit Rasch models. To change the discrimination for an item click on the **Discriminations** tab at the top of the **Item specifications** frame. Click in the required cell and change the value.

3.4 Item reversal

Items in questionnaires (e.g. attitude questionnaires) sometimes need to be scored in reverse. The **Item Reversal** option simulates this situation. Click on the **Item reversal** tab at top of the **Item specifications** frame and **double click** in the cell for an item that has to be scored negatively. An 'R' appears indicating that that item will be reverse scored. A double click in the cell will change the 'R' back to a space.

3.5 Response Dependence

To generate data with response dependence for certain items click on the **Response Dependence** tab at the top of the **Item specifications** frame. To simulate response dependency specify, in the **Dependent on Item** column, which item that particular item is dependent on. Then specify, in the **Dependency Value** column, by how much. For example, if a person's response to item 5 is dependent on their response to item 4 type 4 in the **Dependent on Item** column for item 5 and type a value greater than 0 in the **Dependency Value** column for item 5. The greater the dependency value the greater the response dependency. Figure 6 shows how to enter values so that item 5 is dependent on item 4 with a dependency value of 2.

Response dependency is then simulated in one of two ways: a) **changing the thresholds** of the dependent item so as to increase or decrease the probability of an **identical** response (polytomous items), or b) **changing the item difficulty** of the dependent item so as to increase or decrease the probability of a **similar** response (dichotomous and polytomous items). With item 5 dependent on item 4 for example, whether the probability is increased or decreased for item 5 depends on how the person scored on item 4. The default method changes the thresholds. See Appendix 2 for further explanation of the simulation algorithm.

Note: The Component column here only indicates, as a guide to the user, which component an item belongs to. The component values can not be changed here.

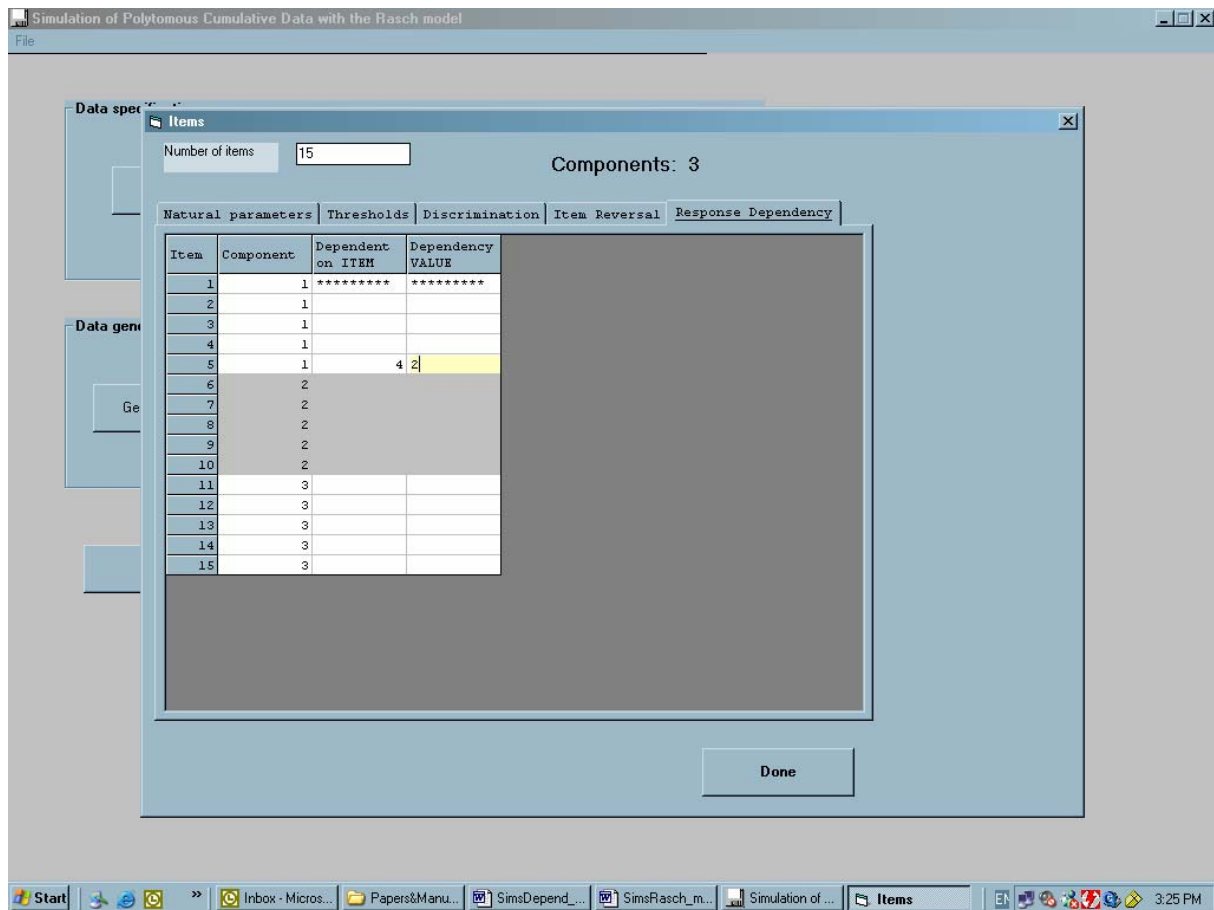


Figure 6. Items form: Response dependence

4. Generate data

- After the Component, Person and Item specifications have been entered now click on the **Generate data** button to generate the data file.
- Three dialog boxes appear one after the other requesting a file name to save the simulation specifications, data file and report files. Click **OK** to all.

“Save the batch file as” dialog box

An option exists of saving the data file specifications to a batch file. These specifications can then be edited on another occasion and used to generate another data file. Batch files are saved with a **.sim* suffix.

“Save the output file as” dialog box

The suffix **.dat* is used for the data file.

“Save the report file as” dialog box

Four report files are generated automatically with **.txt* suffixes: The first is a summary report, the second shows the initial Betas generated, the third shows

the A's (see appendix), and the fourth shows the final Betas generated (see Appendix 1 – simulation algorithm).

- The program also generates automatically two RUMM2020 template files: the Data Design template file (*.itm) and the Item Specification template file (*.spc). These files will have the same name as the data file but with the suffixes *.itm* and *.spc*.

5. Data file and Reports

Click on the **Show data** and **Show reports** buttons to inspect the data and reports.

6. File menu

To read in a Batch file of simulation specifications:

- From the **File** menu choose **Batch**
- In the **Open** file dialog box select the name of the batch file that has to be opened and click **OK**. The simulation specifications will appear in the respective Component, Persons and Items forms.

Appendix 1: A simulation algorithm for trait dependence

The algorithm for simulating *trait dependence* allows for different components in data, with each component consisting of a set of items. The latent traits underlying the responses to these components (respectively β_1, β_2, \dots etc.) can be correlated amongst each other to varying degrees. The probability of a correct response on an item is thus increased or decreased through a changed person ability β depending on the component.

Consider the case of an assessment with two components. Let B_1 and B_2 be the two latent variables which are assessed by two sets of items, called components above. The latent variable B_1 is involved in responding to component 1 and the latent ability B_2 is involved in responding to component 2. B_1 and B_2 are correlated to varying degrees, sometimes approaching 1. Let β, β_1 and β_2 be three other variables which are not correlated with each other. Let β be the common component of B_1 and B_2 , which is the source of the correlation between them. Let β_1 and β_2 reflect the unique aspects of each of the components of items. Let the distributions of β, β_1 and β_2 be identical, normally distributed with mean 0 and standard deviation 1.

To construct a value for B_1 and B_2 for each person, the first step is to simulate three independent standard normal random deviates β, β_1 and β_2 .

$$\text{Then define } B_1 = a_1 + \frac{b_1}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} A_1 \text{ and } B_2 = a_2 + \frac{b_2}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} A_2$$

where $A_1 = \beta + c \beta_1$ and $A_2 = \beta + c \beta_2$

The source of the correlation between B_1 and B_2 is the common latent variable β ; the source of the correlation not being 1.0 is the presence of β_1 and β_2 with $c > 0$. With $c > 0$ independence is violated because the correlation among item responses within a component is greater than the correlation among items from different components (This is shown under *Special: correlation within a component*).

It can be shown that B_1 and B_2 have the respective means a_1 and a_2 , respective standard deviations b_1 and b_2 , and a correlation $r_{12} = \frac{1}{1+c^2}$ and $c^2 = \frac{1-r_{12}}{r_{12}}$. (This is shown in *B₁ and B₂: Means, Standard deviations and correlation*). Using these definitions and relationships we can generate latent variables B_1 and B_2 which have any correlation, mean and standard deviation we require.

Extending the simulation algorithm: more than two components

More than two components and common correlation

If we require, say, three components of items, define B_1 and B_2 as above, and define a third variable B_3 so that

$$B_3 = a_3 + \frac{b_3}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} A_3 \text{ where } A_3 = \beta + c \beta_3$$

If we require the *same correlation* between components, for example all components to be correlated at $r = 0.6$ then $c = \sqrt{\frac{1-r}{r}} = 0.82$. Note that since r is the same between all components the same constant c is used to define B_1 , B_2 and B_3 .

More than two components and different correlations

Now consider the case of three components of items with *different correlations* among the components: r_{12} , r_{13} and r_{23} . Since $r_{12} \neq r_{13} \neq r_{23}$ the constant values used to define B_1 , B_2 and B_3 will be different as well and defined as c_1 , c_2 and c_3 .

$$\text{Let } B_1 = a_1 + \frac{b_1}{\sqrt{1+c_1^2}} A_1 \text{ where } A_1 = \beta + c_1 \beta_1$$

$$\text{and } B_2 = a_2 + \frac{b_2}{\sqrt{1+c_2^2}} A_2 \text{ where } A_2 = \beta + c_2 \beta_2, \text{ etc.}$$

For the sake of simplicity define $E_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+c_1^2}}$, $E_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+c_2^2}}$, and $E_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+c_3^2}}$.

Then it can be shown that $r_{12} = E_1 E_2$, $r_{13} = E_1 E_3$ and $r_{23} = E_2 E_3$.

In the case of three components of items the three correlations are independent of each other. However, consider the case of four components that are all correlated differently with each other. This results in six correlations (r_{12} , r_{13} , r_{14} , r_{23} , r_{24} and r_{34}) that then define c_1 , c_2 , c_3 and c_4 . These six correlations can not be independent of each other and in the correlation matrix there will be relationships among the correlations. The correlation matrix is defined as in Table A1.

Table A1 Correlation matrix for four components

Component	1	2	3	4
1	$R_{11} = 1$	$R_{12} = E_1 E_2$	$R_{13} = E_1 E_3$	$R_{14} = E_1 E_4$
2	$R_{21} = E_2 E_1$	$R_{22} = 1$	$R_{23} = E_2 E_3$	$R_{24} = E_2 E_4$
3	$R_{31} = E_3 E_1$	$R_{32} = E_3 E_2$	$R_{33} = 1$	$R_{34} = E_3 E_4$
4	$R_{41} = E_4 E_1$	$R_{42} = E_4 E_2$	$R_{43} = E_4 E_3$	$R_{44} = 1$

Note that given all the four values of E (E_1 , E_2 , E_3 and E_4) in one row or one column of the matrix the entire six correlation coefficients can be calculated. Thus six correlations are generated from four latent variables, indicating that the six correlations cannot be entirely independent.

Using this simulation rationale we can generate data sets with components of items that are correlated according to a given correlation. In the case of more than two components the traits underlying the components can be correlated equally or the traits can have different correlations with each other, though when the number of components is greater than three, the correlations are not totally independent.

B₁ and B₂: Means, Standard deviations and correlation

Let the correlation between the intermediate A_1 and A_2 be r_{12} . It will be shown that this is the same correlation as that between B_1 and B_2 when the latter are fully defined.

$$\text{Then } r_{12} = \frac{\text{cov}[A_1, A_2]}{\sqrt{V[A_1]}\sqrt{V[A_2]}} \quad (\text{A1})$$

However, $\text{cov}[A_1, A_2] = \text{cov}[\beta + c\beta_1, \beta + c\beta_2] = \text{cov}[\beta, \beta] = V[\beta]$. This follows because the correlation among β, β_1, β_2 is mutually 0.

$$\text{That is } \text{cov}[A_1, A_2] = V[\beta] = 1. \quad (\text{A2})$$

Now

$$V[A_1] = V[\beta + c\beta_1] = V[\beta] + c^2V[\beta_1] \quad (\text{A3})$$

and

$$V[A_2] = V[\beta + c\beta_2] = V[\beta] + c^2V[\beta_2] \quad (\text{A4})$$

and this follows again because the correlation among β, β_1, β_2 is mutually 0.

Substituting (A2), (A3) and (A4) into (A1) gives

$$r_{12} = \frac{V[\beta]}{\sqrt{V[\beta] + c^2V[\beta_1]}\sqrt{V[\beta] + c^2V[\beta_2]}} \quad (\text{A5})$$

However, $V[\beta] = V[\beta_1] = V[\beta_2] = 1$.

Therefore, on simplifying (A5)

$$r_{12} = \frac{1}{1 + c^2} \quad (\text{A6})$$

$$\text{and } c^2 = \frac{1 - r_{12}}{r_{12}} \quad (\text{A7})$$

Clearly if $c = 0$, then $r_{12} = 1$, as it should be. The greater the value of c , the smaller the correlation.

Thus any correlation between A_1 and A_2 , (and therefore between B_1 and B_2), can be defined in terms of c .

Now we define B_1 and B_2 :

$$\text{Define } B_1 = a_1 + \frac{b_1}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} A_1 \quad \text{and } B_2 = a_2 + \frac{b_2}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} A_2 \quad (\text{A8})$$

Then the means of B_1 and B_2 are respectively a_1 and a_2 ,

their variances are b_1^2 and b_2^2 , and their intercorrelation is

$$r_{12} = \frac{1}{1+c^2}.$$

This is proved below. First note that

$$E[A_1] = E[\beta + c\beta_1] = E[\beta] + cE[\beta_1] = 0 + 0 = 0 = E[A_2]$$

and

$$V[A_1] = V[\beta + c\beta_1] = V[\beta] + c^2V[\beta_1] = 1 + c^2 = V[A_2].$$

Then

$$E[B_1] = E\left[a_1 + \frac{b_1}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} A_1\right] = E[a_1] + E\left[\frac{b_1}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} A_1\right] = a_1 + 0 = a_1,$$

and likewise $E[B_2] = a_2$.

$$V[B_1] = V\left[a_1 + \frac{b_1}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} A_1\right] = \frac{b_1^2}{(1+c^2)} V[A_1] = \frac{b_1^2}{(1+c^2)} (1+c^2) = b_1^2$$

and likewise, $V[B_2] = b_2^2$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Finally, } \text{COV}[B_1, B_2] &= \text{COV}\left[a_1 + \frac{b_1}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} A_1, a_2 + \frac{b_2}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} A_2\right] \\
&= \text{COV}\left[\frac{b_1}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} A_1, \frac{b_2}{\sqrt{1+c^2}} A_2\right] \\
&= \frac{b_1 b_2}{1+c^2} \text{COV}[A_1, A_2] \\
&= \frac{b_1 b_2}{1+c^2} (1) = \frac{b_1 b_2}{1+c^2} \quad (\text{from A2: } \text{COV}[A_1, A_2] = \text{V}[\beta]=1).
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \frac{\text{COV}[B_1, B_2]}{\sqrt{\text{V}[B_1]}\sqrt{\text{V}[B_2]}} = \frac{b_1 b_2}{1+c^2} \frac{1}{b_1 b_2} = \frac{1}{1+c^2} = r_{12} \quad (\text{from A6}).$$

Special: Correlation within a component

Consider the correlation among responses within component 1:

$$r_{11} = \frac{\text{cov}[A_1, A_1]}{\sqrt{\text{V}[A_1]}\sqrt{\text{V}[A_1]}} = \frac{\text{cov}[A_1, A_1]}{\text{V}[A_1]} \quad (\text{A9})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{COV}[A_1, A_1] &= \text{COV}[\beta + c \beta_1, \beta + c \beta_1] \\
&= \text{E}[(\beta + c \beta_1)(\beta + c \beta_1)] - \text{E}[\beta + c \beta_1]\text{E}[\beta + c \beta_1] \\
&= \text{E}[\beta^2 + c \beta_1 \beta + c \beta_1 \beta + c^2 \beta_1 \beta_1] - 0 * 0 \\
&= \text{E}[\beta^2] + c^2 \text{E}[\beta_1^2] \\
&= \text{V}[\beta] + c^2 \text{V}[\beta_1]
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\text{V}[A_1] = \text{V}[\beta + c\beta_1] = \text{V}[\beta] + c^2 \text{V}[\beta_1]$$

then

$$r_{11} = \frac{\text{cov}[A_1, A_1]}{\sqrt{\text{V}[A_1]}\sqrt{\text{V}[A_1]}} = \frac{\text{V}[\beta] + c^2 \text{V}[\beta_1]}{\text{V}[\beta] + c^2 \text{V}[\beta_1]} = 1$$

Appendix 2: Simulation algorithm for response dependence

Response dependence is simulated by making a person's response on an item be a function of the person's response to a previous item. Specifically, response dependence is simulated by making the probability of a person's correct response on an item increase as a function of the correct response, and decrease as a function of the incorrect response, on a previous item on which it depends. How much the probability increased or decreases can be determined in two ways:

a) *Enhanced similar response*: Simulating dependence is effected through changing the difficulty δ by adding or subtracting a constant, d , from the *difficulty* of the dependent item,

or

b) *Enhanced identical response*: Simulating dependence is effected through changing the difficulty δ , but indirectly through a constant d (or fractions of d) being added to or subtracted from the *thresholds* (polytomous items only).

Simulation algorithm for an enhanced similar response

This algorithm describes how to simulate data for ordered categories and it specialises to the dichotomous case.

Consider two items, item j dependent on item i . Let $x_{nj} \in \{0,1,2\dots m_j\}$ be the integer response variable for person n with ability β_n responding to item j with difficulty δ_j . $\tau_{1j}, \tau_{2j}, \dots, \tau_{mj}$ are the thresholds between the graded responses and m_j is the maximum score of item j . Let $x_{ni} \in \{0,1,2\dots m_i\}$ be the integer response variable for item i and m_i the maximum score of that item.

A person's high score response on item i (higher than the middle category for the item or the average of the scores of the two middle categories in case of an even number of categories) increases the probability of a high score on the dependent item j and a low score on item i . A

person's low score response on item i (lower than the middle category for the item or the average of the scores of the two middle categories in case of an even number of categories) decreases the probability of a higher score on the dependent item j in the following way:

$$\Pr\{x_{nj} | x_{ni}\} = [\exp(x_{nj}(\beta_n - \delta_j) - (2(x_{ni} - m_i)/m_i + 1)d - \sum_{k=1}^x \tau_{kj})] / \sum_{x=0}^{m_j} [\exp(x_{nj}(\beta_n - \delta_j) - (2(x_{ni} - m_i)/m_i + 1)d - \sum_{k=1}^x \tau_{kj})] \quad (\text{A10})$$

For example, consider item i with 5 categories, $x_{ni} \in \{0,1,2,3,4\}$. For each value of x_{ni} shown below $\beta_n - \delta_j - (2(x_{ni} - m_i)/m_i + 1)d$ works out to:

$$\text{If } x_{ni} = 0 \text{ then } \beta_n - \delta_j - (2(0-4)/4 + 1)d = \beta_n - \delta_j - (-c) = \beta_n - \delta_j + d$$

$$\text{If } x_{ni} = 1 \text{ then } \beta_n - \delta_j - (2(1-4)/4 + 1)d = \beta_n - \delta_j - (-1/2c) = \beta_n - \delta_j + 1/2d$$

$$\text{If } x_{ni} = 2 \text{ then } \beta_n - \delta_j - (2(2-4)/4 + 1)d = \beta_n - \delta_j - (0) = \beta_n - \delta_j$$

$$\text{If } x_{ni} = 3 \text{ then } \beta_n - \delta_j - (2(3-4)/4 + 1)d = \beta_n - \delta_j - (1/2c) = \beta_n - \delta_j - 1/2d$$

$$\text{If } x_{ni} = 4 \text{ then } \beta_n - \delta_j - (2(4-4)/4 + 1)d = \beta_n - \delta_j - (c) = \beta_n - \delta_j - d$$

Note that when $x_{ni} = 0$ then d will be added to δ_j , decreasing the probability of a high response on item j. When $x_{ni} = m_i$ then d will be subtracted from δ_j , increasing the probability of a high response on item j. d or fractions of d are added to or subtracted from δ_j depending on the distance of x_{ni} from 0 or m_i .

Simulation algorithm for an enhanced identical response

This algorithm affects the probability of a correct response on an item through changing the thresholds (τ_1, τ_2, \dots etc.) of the item. To increase the likelihood of a response in the same category for item j as item i the thresholds of the dependent item j are 'moved' in such a way as to 'enlarge' that category by d.

$$\Pr\{x_{nj} | x_{ni} = m_i\} =$$

$$[\exp(x_{nj}(\beta_n - \delta_j) - \sum_{k=1}^x (\tau_{kj} - d))] / \sum_{x=0}^{m_j} [\exp(x_{nj}(\beta_n - \delta_j) - \sum_{k=1}^x (\tau_{kj} - d))]$$

and

$$\Pr\{x_{nj} \mid x_{ni} = 0_i\} =$$

$$[\exp(x_{nj}(\beta_n - \delta_j) - \sum_{k=1}^x (\tau_{kj} + d))] / \sum_{x=0}^{m_j} [\exp(x_{nj}(\beta_n - \delta_j) - \sum_{k=1}^x (\tau_{kj} + d))]$$

and

$$\Pr\{x_{nj} \mid 0 < x_{ni} < m_i, x_{ni}\} =$$

$$[\exp(x_{nj}(\beta_n - \delta_j) - \sum_{k=1}^x (\tau_{kj} - d/2))] / \sum_{x_{nj}=0}^{m_j} [\exp(x_{nj}(\beta_n - \delta_j) - \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^{x_{ni}} (\tau_{kj} - d/2) + \sum_{k=x_{ni}+1}^{x_{nj}} (\tau_{kj} + d/2) \right\})]$$

References

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