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ERRATUM

In The Minimum Average Correlation Between Equivalent Sets of Uncorrelated Factors, Volume 36, Number 1, pages 21–30 an error has been found by R. P. McDonald (personal communication):

In sec. 6 of this paper, I attempted to show that all sets of equivalent uncorrelated factors must be related by the matrix T in eq. (3.3). The statement "To this end we first note that (ξ', ζ') and $(\xi^{*\prime}, \zeta^{*\prime})'$ are linearly related because both related linearly to η in (2.2)." is not true if both vectors contain random variables, as is assumed in the rest of the proof.

The argument I give subsequently only suffices to claim that all sets of linearly related equivalent uncorrelated factors relate by T in eq. (3.3). Therefore, the wording "another set of uncorrelated factors" (line 4 in Theorem 4) should be replaced by "another set of linearly related uncorrelated factors" to render Theorem 4 correct.

It should be noted that this additional qualification in the necessity part of Theorem 4 has no effect on any of the results and conclusions in my work on factor indeterminacy because the unrestricted necessity claim was not used in this work. Rather, as I already pointed out in my paper (p. 28, loc. cit.) "If T in (3.3) were only sufficient, but not necessary for relating two equivalent sets of uncorrelated factors, then all the results developed so far would still hold, except that possibly other sets of equivalent factors might exist which are not related by T in (3.3). In this case, r would have been an upper bound to the minimum average correlation." Thus, if it could be shown that such other factors exist, it would further aggravate, not weaken, the indeterminacy problem of the factor model.

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