

Original Research Article

PERMUTATION TEST, NON-PARAMETRIC, AND CONFIDENCE SET APPROACHES TO MULTIGROUP ANALYSIS FOR COMPARING 2 GROUPS USING PARTIAL LEAST SQUARE STRUCTURAL EQUATION MODELING (PLS- SEM)

ABSTRACT

Partial Least Square Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM) is becoming more prominent as an alternative to Covariance Based Structural Equation Modeling (CB-SEM) due to the technique employed is much more comfortable. This research paper intends to present a guide on how to carry out the Partial Least Square to Multi-Group Analysis (PLS-MGA) by using categorical variables. In particular, the discussion of PLS-MGA is comprised of three approaches namely permutation test, non-parametric test, and non-parametric confidence set interval. All of these tests are established as non-parametric tests in which do not rely on statistical assumptions. Thus, this paper works aimed to determine which approach is much more comfortable to apply to present the guide for readers. Moreover, the practice of Square Multiple Correlation (R^2) also has been promoted to identify the importance and performance of each exogenous constructs applied. Once executed three approaches on the same data, two approaches namely permutation test and non-parametric tests suggest all of these exogenous constructs applied cannot be moderated via gender group between exogenous and endogenous constructs. In addition, the capability of R^2 is proved can be extended to determine the importance and performance of independent variables. Ultimately, this paper works success to achieve all the issues addressed.

Keywords: Partial Least Square Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM), Covariance Based Structural Equation Modeling (CB-SEM), Partial Least Square to Multi-Group Analysis (PLS-MGA), permutation test, non-parametric test, non-parametric confidence set interval test, Square Multiple Correlation, Categorical variable, importance and performance.

Introduction to CB-SEM

Recently, most of the researchers and scholars interest to implement their research using Variance Based Structural Equation Modeling (VB-SEM). Variance based structural equation modeling is perceived to overcome the limitation of Covariance Based Structural Equation Modeling (CB-SEM) in many aspects and perspective. Thus, the prevalence of this particular method has become a preference for many areas especially for social science discipline.

In particular, the strength of this method can ascertain the scholar to execute their analysis without complicated and cumbersome. Henseler et al. (2012) established SmartPLS 2.0 to carry on the VB-SEM approach and several articles have been published by many prominent researchers such as Sarstedt, Ringle, Hair, Chin and Dabbern. According to Afthanorhan (2014), VB-SEM is can be known as Partial Least Square Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM) that has been introduced by Wold (1982) and been modified to improve the capability of PLS-SEM by Lohmoller (1989). However, PLS-SEM is less popularity compare to CB-SEM in that time since there still a lot of argument to defend PLS-SEM especially for the assessment of fitness.

Thereby, most of the researchers modified this method to become more meaningful to overcome the limitation of CB-SEM. Previously, CB-SEM is perceived to be the best method for the research and quantitative analysis since the method applied provide more assessment and obey the statistical assumption provided. For instances, CB-SEM does not assume of all the items included in a model to be compute of mean but instead to analyze the research more holistic and comprehensive beyond of other methods introduced. In some other research often compute the mean of items for

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Comment [A5]: Line 11 delete due to the technique replace with because the technique employ by using PLS-SEM is much comfortable.

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Comment [A9]: Line 15, delete replace with The three approaches are established as non-parametric test in which no statistical assumption of normality is assumed.

Comment [A10]: Line 16, replace with This paper is aimed at determining which approach is much comfortable to apply

Comment [A11]: Line 18 delete promoted replace with sustained

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each variable to help them analyze their research rather than to deal with each item in line with the statistical assumption given.

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In particular, CB-SEM has two types of model, whereby measurement model and structural model regarding to the objective of this research. Basically, measurement model is commonly used for Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) to confirm which items in each construct should be retained for the subsequent steps which is structural model (Afthanorhan, 2014). In this case, the scholars were served a variety of assessment of fitness as a gauge for each measurement to justify their fitness. According to Ringle et al. (2012), the fitness of model capable to provide a meaningful finding for the structural model.

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Comment [A38]: replace with the researchers' assess the fitness of measurement model using some established bench mark.

Comment [A39]: Not in reference, it should be Hair et al. (2012)

Comment [A40]: Line 58 replace with (Hair et al., 2012)

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Comment [A42]: Line 62 citation is needed.

Moreover, CB-SEM is generally been used to minimize the correlation matrix and at the same time to stress on the covariance in a model (Hair, 2012). The procedure for this method is quite mainly for evaluation process rather than the prediction process. In fact, the scholars more interested to carry on their research based on the prediction obtained. Besides, this particular method is useful using the parametric distribution. The parametric is considered for normal data solely without emphasized on non-normal data. In general, CB-SEM needs at least 100 samples size to attain a meaningful findings. Otherwise, the results suggested would become ambiguities and of course affect the prediction process (Afthanorhan, 2014). All of these issues become wider and restricted for scholars to investigate their analysis more profound.

Introduction to PLS-SEM

Once the scholars pledges the limitations of CB-SEM in some circumstances, PLS-SEM began to capture attention among scholars to settle their problem faced. PLS-SEM is used to focus on variance that has been captured in a model and overestimate the indicator loadings (Sarstedt, 2014). In other words, if the scholars had insufficient to provide a better assessment for measurement model, PLS-SEM will be one to solve that kind of problems. Indeed, PLS-SEM has still lack fitness indices that a restriction for incremental fitness.

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Comment [A44]: Line 67 replace with established

Comment [A45]: Line 68, remove

Comment [A46]: Line 70 add respondents

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Comment [A50]: Hair et al. (2012)

Thus, some of the researchers suggested that the CB-SEM and PLS-SEM were play an important role to provide a better findings. In some research papers, the CB-SEM is preferred to evaluate the measurement model (CFA method) to evaluate the fitness of model. In other words, CFA fitness model is the first stage that should be proceeding earlier to enter the next level. Afterwards, PLS-SEM can be used in this level to achieve the objective research based on inquires of scholars. According to Hair (2012), PLS-SEM and CB-SEM were supposed to be complementing each other rather than to discriminate each approach.

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Moreover, PLS-SEM is more comprehensive to be used once the scholars and practitioners failed to satisfy the statistical assumption stipulated. For instances, if the scholars deal with the serious case to attain the large sample size in order to implement the path analysis using structural equation modeling for their research, PLS-SEM will be a great help to solve that problems.

Usually, the large sample size would be considered for parametric distribution (Afthanorhan, 2014) but small sample size can be handled using PLS-SEM (Ringle et al., 2014). In this instance, PLS-SEM used the bootstrapping technique based on the Monte Carlo simulation to resampling the calculation of parameter for each dataset. According to Ringle et al. (2014), 5,000 samples are needed to obtain the best finding. In other words, PLS-SEM is not the kind of method to assume for each model is normally distributed but supposes to execute the bootstrapping technique to normalize the dataset. According to Byrne (2010), bootstrapping techniques is a aid to transform the non-normal data set to be normal distribution. Thus, this statement is adequate to strengthen the capability of bootstrapping employ in PLS-SEM.

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Hence, t-test is prevailed for testing the significant level of causal effect between explanatory and dependent variables conformity of term sample size suggested. Previously, t-test is proved to be a best way to determine the significant level for small sample size (Arshad et al., 2010). Indeed, t-test can harm the findings if the particular method is implementing for the large sample size but since the present of bootstrapping technique in PLS-SEM is quite significant to convince the efficiency of t-test

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98 for testing significant level. Thus, the scholars who implement PLS-SEM rely on t-test to capture the
99 significant level for each model designed.

Comment [A58]: Line 99, citation is needed

100 In seeking of enjoyment to PLS-SEM, a variety of methods have been proposed based on their research
101 work. This habit is not inevitable in social science, management and marketing disciplines especially
102 for the academicians. The path analysis of PLS-SEM could be extended to be more important once this package
103 offers the Importance-Performance Matrix Analysis (IPMA) to identify the importance
104 and performance for each factor. Consequently, these researches are more meaningful and better focus on
105 how managers make decision in terms of values of their research.

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106 PLS-SEM has become increasingly preferred especially when it comes for the analysis that
107 involve higher constructs. In particular, PLS-SEM also offers a user-friendly tool to develop a structural model that has
108 potential to become as reflective or formative constructs. In fact, CB-SEM also
109 managed to be used but the mechanism to be used is quite cumbersome and takes time to do so. Thus, most of
110 the researchers intend to apply PLS-SEM that distinguishes the role of reflective and formative constructs
111 (Afthanorhan, 2014).

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112 Besides, PLS-SEM also introduces a segmentation approach that basically has been used among
113 the marketing and management sectors to identify a number of segments and types of existence for each segment.
114 In PLS-SEM, Finite Mixture Partial Least Square Structural Equation Modeling (FIMIX-
115 PLS) is the only one segmentation method constituted (Ringle, 2012). This aforementioned method is perceived
116 more relevant rather than Response Based Segmentation (REBUS-PLS). For the common knowledge, CB-
117 SEM does not provide the segmentation classes instead targeted on path analysis solely.

118 In statistical research, most of the researchers' interest is to advance their research with regards to
119 distinguishing the categorical variable (e.g., gender, race, education, salary and status) on their model. This model
120 recognized as modeling moderation but the method used been classified as multi-group analysis
121 (Afthanorhan, 2014). Multi-group analysis encourages the scholar to probe their research
122 more profound and extensive so as to be able to expand their research in a higher level. In addition, the
123 findings would become more interesting and inclusive so as to determine whether the categorical variable
124 (moderator variable) has a potential to influence the causal effect. In this case, the author employs the
125 gender (male and female) to moderate the causal effect.

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126 Truly, there are five approaches established to decide the probability level to Partial Least Square
127 Structural Equation Modeling Multi-Group Analysis (PLS-MGA) such as permutation test (Chin,
128 2003), non-parametric test (Ringle, 2014), parametric test for equal variances (Ringle, 2012;
129 Afthanorhan, 2014; N. Kock, 2014), parametric test for unequal variances (N. Kock, 2014; Afthanorhan,
130 2014), and Henseler test (Henseler, 2010). However, the aim of this research paper is to guide the readers
131 to generate the permutation and non-parametric approaches to PLS-MGA.

Comment [A62]: Permutation test

134 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

135 Theoretical framework is the most important thing that should be focused on once we want to determine the
136 objective research. As aforementioned, the four exogenous constructs are pointing outwards
137 to one endogenous construct. Repeatedly, all of these constructs should be established by literature review, in
138 particular, the study is prevailed to determine the youth perception towards volunteerism
139 program. The failed supporting of our research might produce inaccurate. The Figure 1
shows the theoretical framework as follows:

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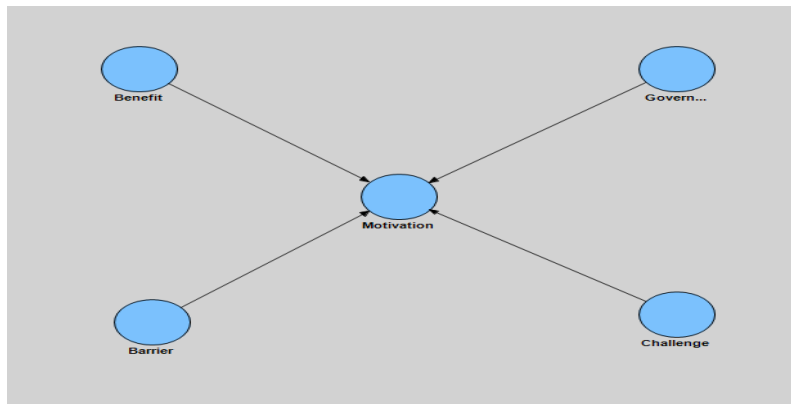


Figure1:TheoreticalFramework

ParametricTestforEqualandUnequalVariances

Parametric testisbasicallyforthenormaldataandthefindingswillbecomeimpreciseifthe scholar apply the contradict assumption (Afthanorhan, 2014). This aforementionedapproach was initiallyby Keil(2000)andthenhasbeenextendedbyChin(2003)toensuretheaccurateanalysisfor probabilitylevel.In PLS-SEM,thenormalitytestisnotprovidedincetheappliedmethodisusefulfor variousdata.Inotherwords,theparametricandnon-parametrictestisallowedtobeconducted inorder toachievetherequiredobjective research(Afthanorhan,2014).However,theimplementation ofPLS-SEMdoesnotassumeallthedataconstitutedarenormal.

Thus, the bootstrapping technique isassists researchers gain the normal data. Inprevious research,theauthorshadpublishedtheguideforparametrictestthatcomprisedof equalandunequal variances.Theequalvarianceassumptionisimportantindeterminingwhichappropriatestatisticaltest tobeuse.Thus,thebox-plottesthadprovidedinsomepackagesuchasSPSS,MINITAB,andEviewstohelp theresearchers to identify the types of variances. According toNCSS statistical software chapter206,ifthedataarenon-normal,themodifiedLevenetestcanbea greathelpfulformany non-normalsituations.Someresearchersrecommendagainstusingapreliminarytestonvarianceinwhich donothaveastronglysupported tostandthefindings. Thus,ifthescholars decideagainst these preliminarytest,theratioofthesamplesizes(largersamplesizeoverthessmallersamplesize)isequal toorgreaterthan1.5isconsideredasunequalvariancet-test(Ott,p.144,1984).

Afthanorhan(2014)statedthatseveral stepstoguidethescholars undertake theirresearch. Listofstepsisstatedasbelowfortheequalunequalvariances:

1. Buildoflatentconstructaccordingtothetheoreticalframework.
2. Assignthedataaccordingtogendergroup(Male=1,Female=2)
3. Permutethestructuralmodelbasedonspecifiedgroups
4. ExecutePLSalgorithmforeachspecifiedgroups.
5. Thet-statisticsforeachgroupswillbecarryontothenextsteps
6. Calculate theprobability levelbasedontheKeil(2000)andChin(2003)formulae for equalandunequalvariancest-test.
7. P-valuelessthan0.50consideredsignificantpaths(Rejectnullhypothesis).
8. Thep-levelforbothtestsshouldbesameevencarrythedifferentofbetacoefficient.

Themainofthisresearchpapertoaddressonthepermutationandnon-parametric test.Thus, theguideofthistestwillbeilluminatewiththeillustrationofformulaandfigures.

PermutationApproach

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UNDER PEER REVIEW

In this case, the paper address on the permutation approach. Permutation test can be known as randomization test that does not rely on statistical assumption to attain the normal data. A randomization test is conducted by enumerating all possible permutations of the groups while leaving the data values in the original order. In this case, the groups will be testis gender groups (male and female). The difference is calculated for each permutation that provided in each specified groups and the number of permutation that result in a different with a magnitude greater than or equal to the actual difference is counted. This test is freely distributed since the test is stipulated by self-researchers. The proportions should be counted based on the number of permutation tried gives the significant level of the test.

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According to Edgington (1987), at least 1,000 permutation by selected should be counted. Besides, Ringle et al. (2014) suggest to permute by 5,000 permutations since the bootstrapping technique will be calculated in the lower rate. In this case, the author also uses the same scale of Ringle to provide all the possible permutation. The steps in permutation are almost the same as previous approaches since only has different in obtaining of probability level. List of steps are stated as below:

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1. Build of latent construct according to the theoretical framework.
2. Assign the data according to gender group (Male=1, Female=2)
3. Permute the structural model based on specified groups
4. Execute PLS algorithm for each specified groups.
5. The output of path coefficient for each specified groups will be appear in default report.
6. Extract the value of path coefficient (Original Mean) for each path in structural model of specified groups (Male and Female).
7. Calculate the difference of each specified groups (e.g.; $\pi_{\text{male}} - \pi_{\text{female}}$)
8. Calculate the probability value (p-level) based on this formula below:

$$P\text{-level} = \frac{t}{n+1}$$

Non-Parametric Approach

Previously, the authors had published one article regarding on the parametric approach to multi-group analysis using PLS-SEM. However, the methodology used is inappropriate since the applied method (PLS-SEM) is a non-parametric approach. Thus, the practice of parametric approach to multi-group analysis is quite unfair to determine the significant of causal effect when comparing two groups in structural model. Consequently, the authors provide non-parametric approach based on Ringle et al. (2012) proposed.

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There are several steps provided to guide the scholars attain their analysis regarding on the non-parametric approach to multi-group analysis:

1. The database is split into two according to the moderating variable. In this case, the authors choose gender variable to assign for each database (e.g.; Male and Female)
2. Run the PLS path modeling algorithm separately for each group (male and female)
3. The two implied parameters B1 and B2 are estimated in those samples. In this case, the authors had 159 cases for male and 293 for female. Once to execute the bootstrapping technique to attain the probability level for each constructs in structural model, 5,000 sampling would be a great used.
4. Using bootstrapping, estimation of the above mentioned parameters in each sample.
5. Thus, the significance of the test alpha, the probability would be wrong if we reject the null hypothesis that the population parameter B2 in group 2 (Female) is higher to the population parameter B1 in group one (Male) one can be calculated as follows (Joaquin Manzano, 2012):

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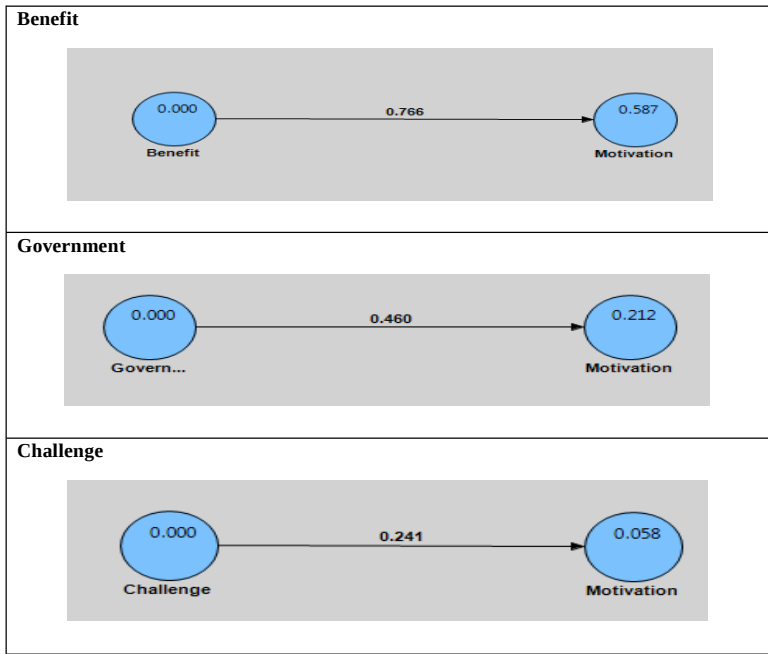
275 produced between exogenous and endogenous constructs. All of these constructs had been executed
276 with the same skill to provide the results. In Table 1, I have presented four types of figures which represent
277 of each construct.

278 Based on the result presented, the construct identified as Benefit is the most important and
279 performance since the causal effect and square multiple correlations are the highest respectively. Of addressing
280 the significance total variation, the interpretation should be stressed on the same thing
281 towards other factors. In this instance, Challenge factor is expected to be the poorest performance and
282 less importance. Thus, this research may be able to be extended to promote the capability of Benefit
283 factor for the future research.

284 In particular, square multiple correlations is important to help the manager make the decision to
285 ensure whether each chosen factor is appropriate for further studies. To date, all of these factors should be retained
286 since this research had a good reason to support all of this research even some constructs provide less contribution.
287

288 However, the item that should be retained on each construct should be conform to achieve of the statistical
289 assumption which is basically higher than 0.60 of outer loadings. Moreover, the reliability and validity for each
290 construct should be performed in order to prevent inaccurate findings. The accurate finding would perform
291 the meaningful research that has potential to contribute in all areas
292 including social science, marketing, business, management and other disciplines.

293 **Square Multiple Correlation (R^2)**



Comment [A90]: re structure this sentence again

Barrier

Table1:SquareMultipleCorrelation

Then, this research assemble the entire exogenous construct exert on endogenous construct which is namely structural model. In this approach, the authors ensure the assessment of structural model is achieved. For instances, all of the factors achieved the requirement of predictive relevance (Q) which is higher than 0. Ringle (2005) indicates that the upper 0 means the factor employ in this areas are relevant to researched. Table 2 present the original sample, sample mean, standard error and T-statistics for each path once executed the bootstrapping technique in Smart PLS 2.0.

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The findings suggest that three out of four construct namely Barrier, Benefit and Government has significant impact on Motivation. Instead, only one path between Challenge factor and Motivation is expected does not have significant impact. In particular, Benefit factor is perceived the most soft statistics which means that Benefit is the most contributed conformity of square multiple correlation test previously. Afterwards, this research paper will be extending to practice Non-parametric, Non-parametric confidence set interval and Permutation approaches to Multi-group analysis in PLS-SEM.

Full Model	Original Sample (O)	Sample Mean (M)	Standard Error (STERR)	T Statistics (O/STERR)
Barrier->Motivation	0.082066	0.083236	0.031514	2.604121***
Benefit->Motivation	0.683311	0.681209	0.037681	18.133986***
Challenge->Motivation	0.017979	0.022381	0.031034	0.579353
Government->Motivation	0.127794	0.129892	0.035932	3.556564***

Table2:Full Model

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Firstly, the author carries on permutation to multi-group analysis followed by other approaches. All findings related on this approaches are presented in Table 3:

FullModel	OriginalSample (O)	Sample Mean(M)	StandardError (STERR)	P-Value
Barrier->Motivation	0.082066	0.083236	0.031514	2.604121***
Benefit->Motivation	0.683311	0.681209	0.037681	18.133986***
Challenge->Motivatio	0.017979	0.022381	0.031034	0.579353
Government->Motivation	0.127794	0.129892	0.035932	3.556564***
Male	OriginalSample (O)	Sample Mean(M)	StandardError (STERR)	TStatistics (O/STERR)
Barrier->Motivation	0.078119	0.0813	0.052801	1.479489
Benefit->Motivation	0.688298	0.6868	0.064688	10.640206***
Challenge->Motivatio	0.012209	0.0274	0.054873	0.222503
Government->Motivation	0.124517	0.1250	0.061750	2.016464**
Female	OriginalSample (O)	Sample Mean(M)	StandardError (STERR)	TStatistics (O/STERR)
Barrier->Motivation	0.0776	0.0785	0.0398	1.9520**
Benefit->Motivation	0.6922	0.6890	0.0468	14.7998***
Challenge->Motivatio	0.0134	0.0214	0.0381	0.3518
Government->Motivation	0.1197	0.1237	0.0447	2.6780***
PermutationTest	Male	Female	Difference	TStatistics (P-value)
Barrier->Motivation	0.078119	0.0776	0.000519	0.5556
Benefit->Motivation	0.688298	0.6922	0.0039	0.3333
Challenge->Motivatio	0.012209	0.0134	0.00119	0.5556
Government->Motivation	0.124517	0.1197	0.004817	0.5556

310

311 A Non Parametric Approach to Multi-group Analysis

Non-Parametric	Male	Female	ErrorProbability	P-Value
Barrier->Motivatio	0.078119	0.0776	0.518000	0.4820
Benefit->Motivatio	0.688298	0.6922	0.464300	0.5357
Challenge->Motivatio	0.012209	0.0134	0.552800	0.4472
Government->	0.124517	0.1197	0.127794	0.872206

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Motivation				
Non-Parametric Confidence Set Interval	Male	Female	Lower and Upper (95% bias corrected)	Confidence Interval
Barrier->Motivation	0.078119	0.0776	[0.073943, 0.083057]	Falls in Range (N.S)
Benefit->Motivation	0.688298	0.6922	[0.683641, 0.694358]	Falls in Range (N.S)
Challenge->Motivation	0.012209	0.0134	[0.017037, 0.025763]	Not in Range (Sig)
Government->Motivation	0.124517	0.1197	[0.118582, 0.128819]	Falls in Range (N.S)

Table 3: Findings of Non-Parametric Test

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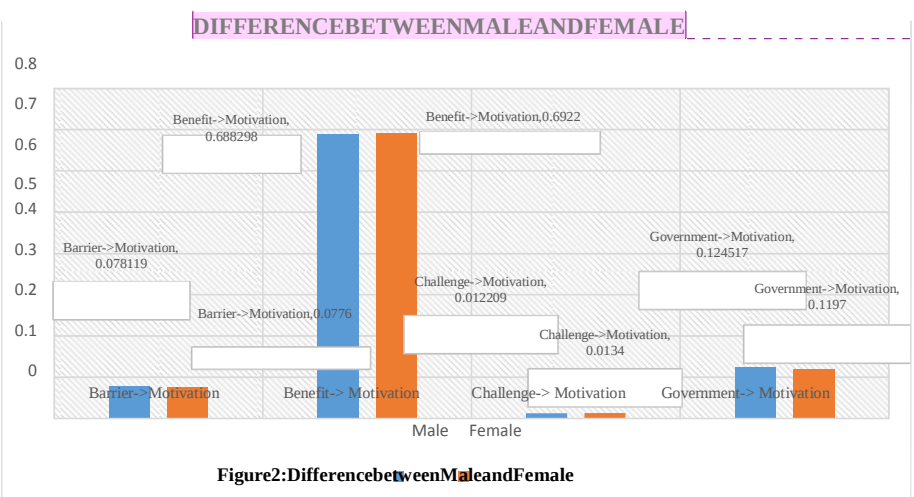
*: P-level ≤ 0.10 ; **: P-level ≤ 0.05 ; ***: P-level ≤ 0.01 ; N.S: Not Significant; Sig: Significant

Table 3 is not only presents the finding of permutation, non-parametric, and non-parametric confidence set interval approaches but the result for each groups including for male and female are laid out. By inspecting through for each approach including the full model, almost all approaches suggest the similar findings unless non-parametric confidence set approaches. The first part, the authors separate the full model to be group 1 (Male) and group 2 (Female) and execute using PLS algorithm. PLS algorithm is developed by Lindgren et al. (2005) and the true name is kernel PLS algorithm. But, now this approach has been expanded to be known as Wide Kernel PLS algorithm by Mevik et al. (2011).

For male group, there are two independent factors namely Benefit and Government have significant impact on Motivation due to the value is absolute greater than 1.96. Previously, the Barrier factor is a significant impact on Motivation before separately. Thus, it can be proved that the significant impact is influenced by characteristics of each group. In other words, Male groups do not have any obstacle to affect the Motivation factor. However, this particular group agrees to indicate that the Benefit and Government can affect their Motivation to prone volunteerism program. In addition, they decide the Challenge factor is not effect on Motivation. Thus, the related parties should be address that Male group do not have any problem to be active in volunteerism program and they certified this program is good for their country.

For female groups, they have a different view to explain the significant of volunteerism. They agree that Benefit, Barrier and Government can affect their Motivation to participate in volunteerism program. But, they also have a same view with the Male group to suggest that Challenge factor do not affect the Motivation. Thus, the related parties should provide an affirmative action to identify whether this factor may one of the main problems to prevent the active in volunteerism program. Besides, Female groups indicate the Barrier factor is one of the factors hinder them to prone in particular program. This is because some of their parents do not give permission to let their daughter to involve of suggested program.

For permutation test which is one of the free distribution in which do not rely on statistical assumption executed. As aforementioned, permutation test is appropriate to conduct multi-group analysis to identify whether the gender groups is influenced on Motivation. The findings suggest that all of these factors agree the causal effect between exogenous and endogenous constructs do not affect by gender groups. Based on the Table 3, the authors present characteristics of table for permutation test that should be addressed. In this case, original sample (path analysis) for male and female are represented followed by different and probability value. Different values are attained based on the different between mean of male and female respectively. The last column present of probability level that can be calculated based on the previously formula given. This method needs bilateral steps to consider for the whole perspective in order to prevent unfair assumption. The different between male and female can be presented as below:



Comment [A96]: Be below the figure

For non-parametric test to multi-group analysis, the authors also present the original sample mean of male and female as a permutation test. However, the third column is error probability that will be calculated by the PLS-Hubona sheet. The last column is probability level counted based on the formula: $1 - \text{Error Probability}$. In order to illuminate the step of non-parametric test, the author shows the steps as below:

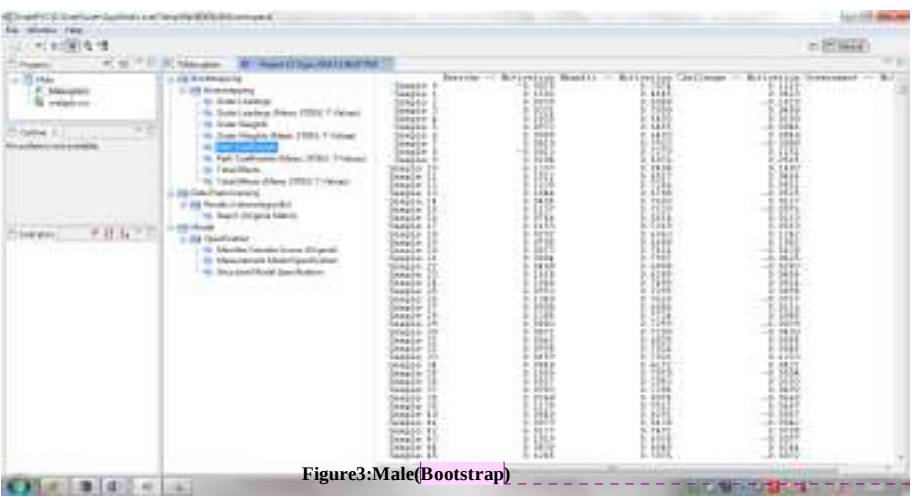


Figure3: Male (Bootstrap)

Comment [A97]: Should

1. Split data into two groups (Male and Female) and execute respectively. In this case, the authors start on male groups and the result were appeared in default report.
2. Then, execute Bootstrap technique to obtain the standard error and T-statistics for male group.
3. The result was presented for each path and sample. In the first column is present Barrier Motivation. Thus, the scholar should copy the first column and paste in the column of 100 bootstrap values of group 1.

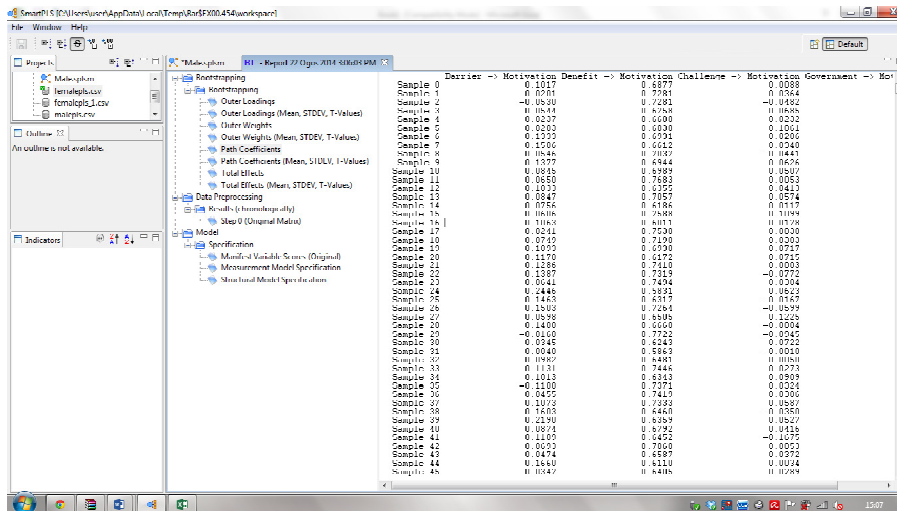


Figure4:Female(Bootstrap)

1. The process for female group is similar as male group.
2. Since the authors copy Barrier Motivation from Male data, thus, the same factor should be addressed and paste in 100 bootstrap values of group 2.
3. Parameter of group 1 represent for original mean of Male group as well as for Female group for parameter group 2.
4. Figure 5 present an example of PLS-Hubonato execute the non-parametric multi-group analysis as follows:

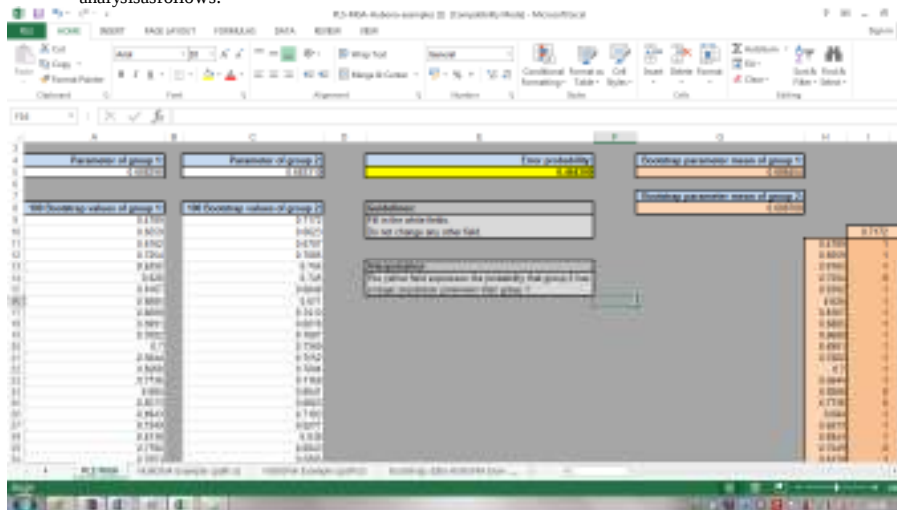


Figure5:Non-ParametricTest

For Non-parametric confidence set interval test, only one out of four independent factor is indicate as a significant impact on Motivation which is Challenge factor. By inspecting through for

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each approaches applied, non-parametric confidence set interval test is the only one suggests the difference result. Thus, it can be perceived that the different approaches will effect of four findings to carry on the research more profound. However, this approach is agreed to indicate that the other factor are do not significant impact in line of previous approaches.

Example of Barrier Motivation in Group 2 (Female):

Average Mean: 0.0785
Standard Error: 0.0398
Sample Size for female group: 293
95% confidence level = 1.96 (Refer z-test table)
Confidence Interval: $\frac{0.0785 \pm 1.96 \times 0.0398}{\sqrt{293}} = 0.002325$
 $= 0.002325 \times 1.96 (95\% \text{ confidence level})$
Margin = 0.004547
Upper Interval: $0.0785 + 0.004547 = 0.083057$
Lower Interval: $0.0785 - 0.004547 = 0.073943$
The process of other exogenous constructs is similar as above.

CONCLUSION

This research paper intends to carry on the multi-group analysis using three proposed approaches namely permutation test, non-parametric test, and non-parametric confidence set interval. To date, the authors use the same data by the distinct approaches to determine whether these approaches would provide the same or different findings. All of these approaches are known non-parametric, meaning that, they do not rely on any statistical assumption and freely for researchers to further their studies. Moreover, the authors interest to present the scholar on how to implement these approaches so that the readers know very well which approach is easy to implement based on their knowledge. Based on our experience and observation, non-parametric confidence set approach is the easiest way to provide the probability level rather than the other approaches. However, if the other researcher interest to apply non-parametric test, the scholars are advised to attain the spreadsheet of Henseler (2009) to ascertain them carry on their research. Moreover, the permutation test also can be performed but the scholars should be careful since the bilateral mechanism is applied.

The first part is about the usage of Square Multiple Correlation (R^2) that has been carry on this research. In basically, R^2 is used to let the researcher identify whether their research is adequate or not for their research. However, the authors suggest that this method is not only limited to justify the structural model but also helps the scholars to identify which one of the independent variable is importance and performance regardless of statistical assumption. This approach is justify since the most importance and performance factor namely Benefit construct is constantly performed for the subsequent analysis.

Afterwards, the authors performed three approaches to carry on the multi-group analysis on the basis of formula and step by step provided. Based on the findings presented, two approaches namely permutation test and non-parametric tests suggest the similar result, in particular, gender groups do not influence the causal effect between four independent variable on Motivation (endogenous construct). Nevertheless, non-parametric confidence set interval reveal that the Challenge factor is the only one factor has significant influenced by gender group on Motivation, in awhile, other factors provide the same result.

RECOMMENDATION

This subtopic is exist to improve the limitation that has been faced by author to accomplish the research work. The first things is about the sample size used should be enlarged for the future research in order to ensure the findings more accurate and meaningful. This is because the sample size can be a main problem that causes the approach present different result. These second things are about the moderator variable applied. In this case, the author stress on gender group to be a moderator variable based on the literature review has a potential to moderate the influence between exogenous and endogenous construct. However, almost approaches suggest that this gender group do not have

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Comment [A99]: no need for citation

Comment [A100]: the importance of SMC has been established by researchers what is the significance of your findings related to previous reseatch

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Comment [A102]: VB-SEM could be accomplish irrespective of the sample size

potential to influence the capability of Motivation. Thus, it might be a good reason for authors to propose other categorical or continuous factors to support their theoretical in the next research.

The third part, the authors suggest this approach should be employed in SmartPLS 2.0 since the practice of multi-group analysis has become a main research for academicians to extend their research. The fourth part, PLS-SEM is more interesting once the developers also provide the approaches for more than two groups in multi-group analysis. The last part is about the assessment for measurement and structural models should be performed. This is because some researchers are interested to justify their work based on assessment in order to justify their work to readers.

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Comment [A103]: Not complete

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Comment [A104]: Did not conform to any
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Page 1: [1] Comment [A14]	Abdulwahab	19-Nov-14 2:46:00 PM
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Line 24-27 The keywords should be reduced to 5

Page 1: [2] Comment [A16]	Abdulwahab	19-Nov-14 2:48:00 PM
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Line 32 for many research area

Page 1: [3] Comment [A17]	Abdulwahab	19-Nov-14 2:50:00 PM
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Line 34 by the researcher in executing their with ease.

Page 1: [4] Comment [A18]	Abdulwahab	19-Nov-14 2:53:00 PM
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Page 1: [5] Comment [A19]	Abdulwahab	19-Nov-14 2:55:00 PM
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Line 37 wrong citation the year in parenthesis must be shown.

Page 1: [6] Comment [A23]	Abdulwahab	19-Nov-14 3:00:00 PM
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Line 39 replace by (Lohmoller, 1989).

Page 1: [7] Comment [A24]	Abdulwahab	19-Nov-14 3:13:00 PM
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Line 40 popular compared to

Page 1: [8] Comment [A28]	Abdulwahab	19-Nov-14 3:02:00 PM
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Line 42, replace by Most researchers

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Line 42 , Prior researches list the researchers

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