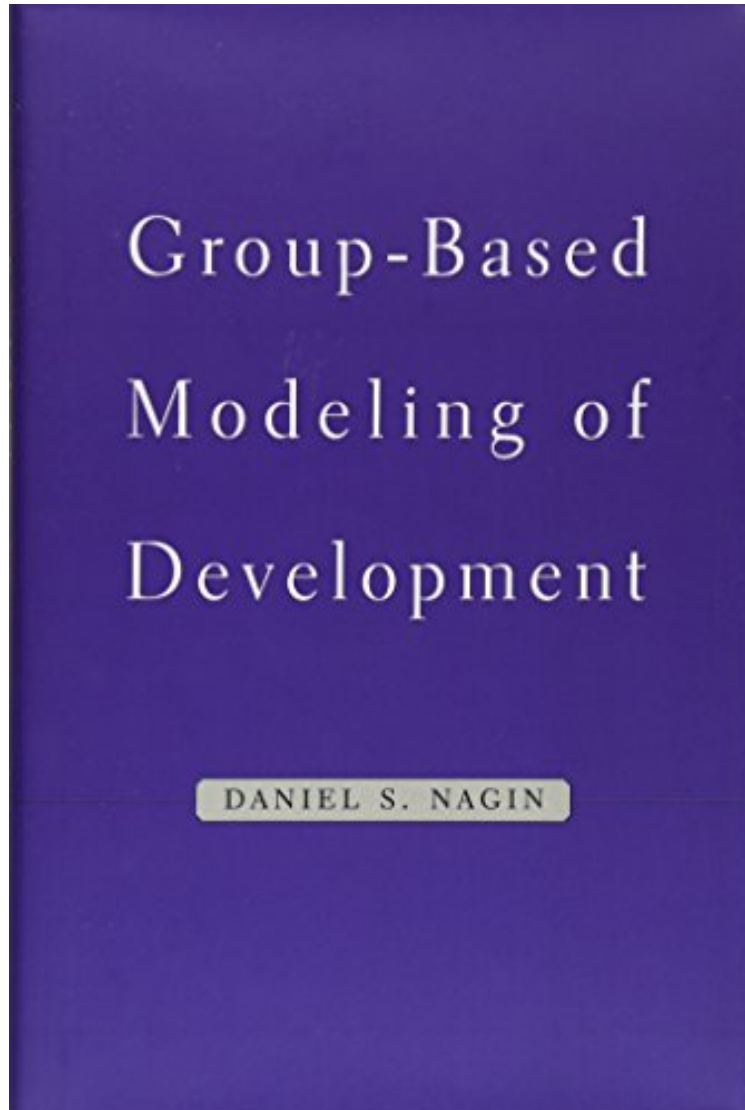


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Group-Based Modeling of Development

Daniel S. Nagin

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Daniel S. Nagin : Group-Based Modeling of Development before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Group-Based Modeling of Development:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent referenceBy Jim BobNagin's writing is clear and intuitive. The techniques he's describing are all fairly sophisticated and he presents their interpretation, rationale, and limitations in a way that most practicing sociologists and psychologists would be able to understand.The only thing I wish he spent a little more time doing was to explain the circumstances where group based trajectory modeling is superior to growth mixture modeling. They are very similar techniques and at the moment growth mixture modeling has more

developed diagnostic tools. At times, then, I wonder why I wouldn't use growth mixture modeling instead of GBTM. Nagin does not do a very good job of arguing for when the technique in this book is superior or desirable relative to that one.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Clearly written and great methodologyBy sociologist09I really like this book and the new traj program in Stata. The chapters are clearly outlined and explained in English for those of us who do not learn using equations. Highly recommended.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five starsBy L.Y.Easy to understand. Great book.

This book provides a systematic exposition of a group-based statistical method for analyzing longitudinal data in the social and behavioral sciences and in medicine. The methods can be applied to a wide range of data, such as that describing the progression of delinquency and criminality over the life course, changes in income over time, the course of a disease or physiological condition, or the evolution of the socioeconomic status of communities. Using real-world research data from longitudinal studies, the book explains and applies this method for identifying distinctive time-based progressions called developmental trajectories. Rather than assuming the existence of developmental trajectories of a specific form before statistical data analysis begins, the method allows the trajectories to emerge from the data itself. Thus, in an analysis of data on Montreal school children, it teases apart four distinct trajectories of physical aggression over the ages 6 to 15, examines predictors of these trajectories, and identifies events that may alter the trajectories. Aimed at consumers of statistical methodology, including social scientists, criminologists, psychologists, and medical researchers, the book presents the statistical theory underlying the method with a mixture of intuition and technical development.

Nagin's book provides a thorough and accessible treatment of the statistical method for analyzing longitudinal data to which he has contributed so much in the last decade. The hallmark of this method is its identification of a set of distinct trajectories of change over time in order to capture a sample's diversity in patterns of development. Nagin and his colleagues have applied, refined, and extended this approach over the past decade and this book is the culmination that brings it all together. (D. Wayne Osgood, The Pennsylvania State University)Daniel Nagin's work on developmental trajectories represents a fundamental component of modern thinking about delinquency. Further, as a paradigm for behavior modeling, his approach has great potential throughout the social sciences. This is an important book. (Steven Durlauf, University of Wisconsin-Madison)About the AuthorDaniel S. Nagin is Teresa and H. John Heinz III University Professor of Public Policy and Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University.