Early Childhood Longitudinal Study (ECLS)

The ECLS data set contains information about 2,177 second graders from 235 schools who participated in a national study on school readiness. The study includes a variety of child, parent, and school variables, of which I have selected a few. More about this data set can be found at https://nces.ed.gov/ecls/index.asp. To simplify things, I have included only complete data, and, to stay within the HLM student version limits, I have selected a subset of schools. The school identifier is `schoolid`.

Child-level Variables

Variable name	Description	Values
reading	IRT derived reading ability scores (the main dependent variable for our analyses)	Range: 50-116
lang	Whether household speaks English or not	0 = English, 1 = Non-English or multiple languages
intprob	Teacher's rating of the child's internalizing behaviors (e.g., fearfulness, social withdrawl)	1 to 4 (higher scores indicate more bad behaviors)
perskills	Teacher's ratings of the child's interpersonal skills	1 to 4 (higher scores indicate better interpersonal skills)
bmi	Body mass index (ratio of weight to height)	Higher values indicate heavier body weight

School-level Variables

Variable name	Description	Values
percmeal	Percentage of students qualifying for free and reduced lunch at the school	1 = 0% TO 24% 2 = 25% to 49% 3 = 50% to 74% 4 = 75% to 100%
percmin	Percentage of students at the school that are non-white (all race and Latino groups combined)	1 = 0% TO 24% 2 = 25% to 49% 3 = 50% to 74% 4 = 75% to 100%
schsize	Number of student in the school	1 = 0-149 students 2 = 150-299 students 3 = 300-499 students 4 = 500-749 students 5 = 750 and above students

The SPSS data set which can be used in SPSS or R is called ecls2011.sav, and the HLM data set is called ecls2011mdm.