Using Latent Profile Analysis to Examine Associations Between Gestational Chemical Mixtures and Child Neurodevelopment

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Abstract

In this study, we introduced Latent Profile Analysis (LPA) as a novel technique for studying gestational chemical mixtures. Using data from the Maternal-Infant Research on Environmental Chemicals Study, a longitudinal birth cohort study of pregnant Canadian women and their children, we examined the relationship between 30 gestational biomarkers and Verbal IQ, Performance IQ, and Full-Scale IQ. We generated five latent profiles: A Reference profile, a High Level profile, a Low Level profile, a High Organophosphate Pesticides profile, and a Smoking Chemicals profile. Multiple regression analysis showed strong negative associations between the Smoking Chemicals profile and IQ scores. We also found positive associations between the Low Level profile and IQ, and a negative association between the High Level profile and Verbal IQ. However, all 95% confidence intervals spanned the null. After conducting sensitivity analysis comparing LPA with k-means clustering, we concluded that LPA is a promising alternative to other clustering methods.

Keywords: Latent Profile Analysis; machine learning; gestational chemical mixtures; maternal-infant health; child neurodevelopment; MIREC

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List of Acronyms

AIC Akaike Information Criterion

BBHC β-benzene Hexachloride

BIC Bayesian Information Criterion

BKMR Bayesian Kernel Machine Regression

BPA Bisphenol A

CHMS Canadian Health Measures Survey

DAG Directed Acyclic Graph

DDE Dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene

DDT Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane

DEHP Bis-(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate

DEP Diethylphosphate

DETP Diethylthiophosphate

DMDTP Dimethyldithiophosphate

DMP Dimethylphosphate

DMTP Dimethylthiophosphate

FSIQ Full-Scale Intelligence Quotient

LCA Latent Class Analysis

LOD Limit of Detection

LPA Latent Profile Analysis

MBP Monobutyl Phthalate

MBZP Monobenzyl Phthalate

MCPP Mono-(3-carboxypropyl) Phthalate

MEHHP Mono-(2-ethyl-5-hydroxyhexyl) Phthalate

MEHP Mono-(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate

MEOHP Mono-(2-ethyl-5-oxohexyl) Phthalate

MEP Mono-ethyl Phthalate

MIREC Maternal-Infant Research on Environmental Chemicals

OCP Organochlorine Pesticides

OPP Organophosphate Pesticides

PBDE Polybrominated Diphenyl Ether

PCA Principal Component Analysis

PCB Polychlorinated Biphenyl

PIQ Performance Intelligence Quotient

VIQ Verbal Intelligence Quotient

WPPSI-III Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence - Third Edition

WQSR Weighted Quantile Sum Regression

Chapter 1.

Introduction

1.1. Background

1.1.1. Gestational Chemical Exposures and Child Neurodevelopment

Exposure to toxins during the prenatal period can severely impact health outcomes later in life^{1–4}. The central nervous system is especially vulnerable to the effects of chemical exposures during this time, as the fetus does not have a fully-formed blood-brain barrier or detoxifying enzymes to protect itself^{5–7}. As such, many studies have been conducted on the associations between gestational chemicals and child neurodevelopment^{8–18}. Researchers have discovered dozens of gestational neurotoxins; a non-comprehensive summary of these chemicals can be found in the literature review below. However, environmental epidemiologists have primarily focused on the effects of single chemicals or chemical groups in their studies. By failing to study chemical mixtures, researchers may underestimate the impact of aggregate exposures^{6,8,9,19}. Low-dose exposures that do not meet the threshold of concern individually may still have severe cumulative effects²⁰. It is therefore important for epidemiologists to shift their focus towards gestational chemical mixtures.

Many challenges arise when studying chemical mixtures. First, it is important to be pragmatic when choosing which chemical mixtures to study²⁰. Researchers must focus on more prevalent or dangerous mixtures in order to ensure public health relevance and minimize financial cost. Second, if several correlated exposure variables are included in the same multivariate model, collinearity will lead to instability and large standard errors for model parameters^{6,21,22}. Finally, epidemiologists do not yet have a standard method for evaluating mixtures²⁰. Multivariate regression analysis is commonly used to study smaller, less complex mixtures, but this method loses power when too many variables are included in the model^{6,23}. These challenges make it difficult to choose a statistical technique that can accurately estimate the effects and interactions of many chemicals at once^{20,22}. For a more in-depth discussion of the challenges of studying chemical mixtures, see Braun et al.'s 2016 review on the topic²⁰.

1.1.2. Machine Learning Techniques

To mitigate the problems listed above, researchers have turned to unsupervised machine learning techniques for studying chemical mixtures. Machine learning is a branch of

statistics in which a computer system uses algorithms to analyse complex data and detect patterns²⁴. Supervised machine learning techniques, in which the researcher specifies the patterns of interest, are a much more common form of machine learning²⁵. A popular example of supervised machine learning is regression analysis. Unsupervised machine learning techniques, in which the computer is responsible for detecting patterns without predetermination, are a promising alternative for studying chemical mixtures^{24,25}.

Several unsupervised methods have been used to study chemical mixtures. Examples include k-means clustering, principal component analysis (PCA), and Bayesian kernel machine regression (BKMR)^{9,26–29}. For the purpose of sensitivity analysis, this MSc thesis concerns itself with k-means clustering. In this technique, an algorithm uses Euclidean geometry to separate points in a dataset into distinct, non-overlapping subgroups called clusters^{25,26}. This method's relative simplicity makes it a popular choice for epidemiologists. However, it has two key disadvantages. First, the number of k-means clusters must be predetermined by the researcher, and there is not a standard way to make this decision^{25,30}. Second, this method does not provide information about classification accuracy at the level of individual data points, meaning researchers cannot see how well each point represents its respective cluster³¹. For these reasons, the results of k-means clustering can be inconsistent and highly dependent on decisions made by the researcher.

1.1.3. Latent Profile Analysis

In this MSc thesis, I introduced a novel technique to the field of environmental epidemiology called Latent Profile Analysis (LPA). LPA is an unsupervised machine learning technique in which an algorithm uses patterns in continuous independent variables to generate homogeneous subgroups called profiles^{31,32}. This technique has several advantages over other machine learning techniques. Unlike multiple linear regression analysis, LPA maintains statistical power when working with a large number of variables³². Also, because this method allows one to study the effects of mixtures as a whole, researchers do not have to be concerned about collinearity; in fact, models are easier to interpret when the independent variables are highly correlated. Unlike k-means clustering, LPA does not require the researcher to predetermine the number of profiles^{33,34}. Quality measures such as the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) can be used to choose a model after statistical analysis has begun³³. Finally, LPA is probabilistic, meaning that it generates the posterior probabilities that each data point will match each profile³¹. This allows researchers to assess classification accuracy. It is for these

reasons that I was interested in using LPA for my thesis project. Its ability to handle models with a large number of highly correlated continuous variables while providing more information than other common techniques makes it extremely promising for studying chemical mixtures.

1.2. Literature Review of Gestational Neurotoxins

1.2.1. Overview

In this section, I will be discussing a number of known gestational chemical groups and their associations with child neurodevelopment. It should be noted that due to the methodological nature of this project, this is not a comprehensive review. I did not include every known neurotoxin in my model, as this would be well outside the scope of a MSc thesis. Likewise, I will not be discussing every single study published about the neurotoxins I included in my study. The purpose of this review is to act as a brief introduction to the chemical groups that were used in my models.

1.2.2. Heavy Metals: Arsenic, Cadmium, Lead, Manganese, and Mercury

Arsenic

Arsenic is used in manufacturing and can leach into groundwater from contaminated soil³⁵. This toxin is a possible predictor of child neurodevelopment³⁶. In a 2004 study in Bangladesh, increased arsenic exposure in children was found to be associated with lower IQ scores³⁷. However, the effects of prenatal arsenic on child neurodevelopment are underresearched. A study by Wang et al. found that higher prenatal arsenic levels in cord blood were associated with lower neurodevelopment in newborns, but we have little information about the effects on later cognitive development³⁸.

Cadmium

Cadmium is a rare metal that is found as an impurity in underground pipes, which results in trace amounts leaching into drinking water³⁹. Although it has not been thoroughly researched, prenatal cadmium exposure is believed to affect neurodevelopment⁴⁰. A systematic review conducted in 2019 found that six of the nine available studies showed negative associations between prenatal cadmium exposure and neurodevelopment⁴¹. However, more study is needed to understand the exact effects of prenatal cadmium in terms of timing and dose-response.

Lead

Lead is a well-known neurotoxin that was once used in food cans, gasoline, and paints⁴². Although it was phased out of commercial use in Canada in the 1970's, Canadian mothers are

still exposed to trace amounts of this metal in food, water, and household products. Gestational lead levels have been linked to lower IQ scores in preschool-aged children, especially boys, as well as an increased likelihood of cognitive disorders later in life^{14,36,43}. Researchers have also found a synergistic interaction between prenatal lead and cadmium, which were negatively associated with neurodevelopment⁴⁰. Researchers have not found a threshold of concern below which effects do not occur^{44,45}.

Manganese

Manganese is a naturally-occurring element found in air, water, and soil⁴⁶. Although it is an essential nutrient, studies have found that when maternal blood cadmium levels are too high or too low, it can negatively impact neurodevelopment in young children^{47–49}. However, this chemical is also under-researched. A 2019 systematic review by Leonhard et al. found that they could not establish causal effects of prenatal manganese on child neurodevelopment, and concluded that more research is needed⁵⁰.

Mercury

Mercury is a neurotoxic metal used in various industrial processes⁵¹. It is persistent in the environment and bioaccumulates in animals. Commonly found in rice and seafood, this toxin enters the body by ingestion and can cross the placenta to the fetus⁵². The effects of gestational mercury exposure have been well-documented; high doses have been found to cause severe neurological issues such as Minamata disease^{17,36,53}. However, more research is needed to understand the effects of low mercury levels^{52,54}.

1.2.3. Polychlorinated Biphenyls

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are dioxin-related compounds that were once used in products such as paints, rubber, and hydraulic equipment, but were phased out of use in many countries in the late 1970's^{55,56}. Because these chemicals are persistent and bioaccumulative, pregnant mothers are still exposed to trace amounts of them in their everyday lives¹⁸. PCBs were first studied as neurotoxins in the 1980's, but the effects of low level exposures have been under-researched⁵⁷. Few studies focus on prenatal exposure to PCBs, and those that do have found inconsistent results. A systematic review by Dzwilewski and Schantz showed that prenatal PCBs are negatively associated with linguistic intelligence in older children but not in

toddlers¹⁸. More research is needed to understand the associations between this chemical group and neurodevelopment.

1.2.4. Organochlorine and Organophosphate Pesticides

Organochlorine pesticides (OCPs) have been banned in many Western countries but are still regularly used in other parts of the world⁵⁸. They are persistent and bioaccumulative, and they can spread long distances easily. Research has shown that prenatal OCP exposure can impact neurodevelopment. A review by Saravi and Dehpour in 2016 found that many types of OCPs are associated with cognitive decline and memory loss⁵⁹. When OCPs were first banned in the 1970's, organophosphate pesticides (OPPs) rose in popularity⁶⁰. Although they are less persistent in the environment than OCPs, OPPs are still considered to be dangerous and are heavily regulated in Western countries. Prenatal exposure to OPPs has been linked to negative effects on neurodevelopment in children^{61–63}.

1.2.5. Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers

Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) are persistent, bioaccumulative chemicals that are used as flame retardants in many industrial and commercial products⁶⁴. Although the most dangerous PBDE mixtures have been banned in many countries, pregnant mothers are still regularly exposed to mixtures of PBDEs⁶⁵. A review by Gibson et al. found that prenatal PBDE exposure is negatively associated with cognitive development, although the strength of the association is still not understood⁶⁶. It is possible that these relationships are sex-dependent; a recent study year found associations between PBDEs and neurodevelopment in boys but not girls⁶⁷. Further research is necessary to understand these inconsistencies.

1.2.6. Phthalates

Phthalates are used as plasticizers in many household and industrial products⁶⁸. Studies have found sex-dependent associations between gestational phthalate exposure and child neurodevelopment, although results have been inconsistent. For example, a study by Kim et al. found negative associations between phthalates and neurodevelopment in 6-month-old boys only, while another by Téllez-Rojo found negative associations between mental development indexes and phthalates in girls only^{69,70}. More research is needed to clarify these results.

1.2.7. Smoking Metabolites

Exposure to cigarette smoke during the gestational period is linked to many child health outcomes, including neurodevelopment. Cotinine, a metabolite of nicotine, is negatively associated with Verbal IQ and psychomotor function^{71–73}. Prenatal smoking has also been linked to increased conduct disorders and schizophrenia^{10,74}. However, little study has been done on how smoking chemicals interact with other chemicals. Smoking metabolites should also be studied as part of chemical mixtures to determine whether they act synergistically with other exposures.

1.2.8. Gestational Chemical Mixtures and Their Effects on Neurodevelopment

Historically, most studies on prenatal neurotoxins have failed to consider the effects of complex chemical mixtures²⁶. Most research that focuses on mixtures only includes chemicals within the same group; this approach has been used to study the effects of gestational phthalates, pesticides, PBDEs, and metals on cognitive development^{9,11,15,16,40,75}. Due to their relative simplicity, these smaller mixtures can be studied using multiple linear regression. However, a few studies have assessed the impacts of more complicated mixtures on IQ. Most of these rely on unsupervised machine learning techniques.

In 2018, Kalloo et al. used two unsupervised machine learning techniques, k-means clustering and PCA, to create clusters and components based on 43 gestational chemical exposures²⁶. Their results were later used to study the effects of chemical mixtures on child IQ in the same cohort⁸. In 2020, Tanner et al. used weighted quantile sum regression (WQSR) to study the effects of a mixture of 26 gestational chemicals on IQ¹². The same year, Guo et al. used BKMR to study the effects of a mixture of gestational heavy metals, pesticides, and phenols on IQ²⁹.

To my knowledge, LPA has not yet been used to study gestational chemical mixtures. A study by Carrol et al. in 2019 used a similar method called Latent Class Analysis (LCA) to find groups of mothers based on gestational chemical mixtures⁷⁶. Unlike LPA, this method can only create classes using categorical independent variables. The researchers chose to dichotomize their exposure biomarker concentrations, which resulted in a loss of information. Another recent study by Khorrami et al. used LPA to determine associations between air pollution and lung cancer in the general population of Tehran, Iran⁷⁷. The study used chemical exposure variables to create latent profiles showing risk stratification of different air pollutant combinations. While it

is similar to my MSc thesis, this study only used 12 chemical exposures, which were determined by geographical location instead of using biomarkers. Also, the study did not focus on chemical exposures during the gestational period.

1.3. Thesis Study Design

1.3.1. Data Example: The MIREC Study

To examine the associations between chemical mixtures and neurodevelopment, I used data from the Maternal-Infant Research on Environmental Chemicals (MIREC) Study. This is a prospective Canadian birth cohort study that began recruitment in 2008 with the aim of finding relationships between gestational exposures and maternal and child health outcomes⁷⁸. The study population includes 2001 pregnant women from 10 Canadian cities. Hundreds of chemical biomarkers were measured in maternal hair, urine, and blood. Questionnaires were also administered to the mothers throughout the pregnancy and in the years following birth. Since 2008, several follow-up studies have been conducted, including the MIREC-CD3 Neurodevelopment Study^{79,80}. In this follow-up, MIREC researchers travelled to a subset of the participants' houses and administered questionnaires to the parents and cognitive development tests to the three-year-old children. This thesis concerns itself with the scores from one of these tests, the Wechsler's Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence (WPPSI-III) test, which will be described below.

1.3.2. The Wechsler's Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence (WPPSI-III)

For this MSc thesis, I used data from the WPPSI-III test, an IQ test that measures various aspects of intelligence through a series of core and supplemental subtests (Table A.1.)^{81–83}. In WPPSI-III, subtests include the Receptive Vocabulary test, in which the child points to pictures that correspond with different words; the Information test, in which they answer general questions; the Block Design test, in which they copy three-dimensional designs; and the Object Assembly test, in which they assemble a simple puzzle. Subtest scores are generated based on time and accuracy of task completion.

The subtest results are used to calculate three main IQ scores. First, the Receptive Vocabulary and Information subtests are used to calculate Verbal IQ (VIQ), a measure of linguistic intelligence. Second, the Block Design and Object Assembly subtests are used to calculate Performance IQ (PIQ), a measure of visuospatial intelligence. Finally, the composite Full-Scale IQ (FSIQ) is a combination of VIQ and PIQ and acts as the overall IQ test result. These scores are all scaled to a standardized sample based on the results of the total Canadian population. They have mean levels of 100 and standard deviations of 15⁸¹. Scoring procedures

can be found in the WPPSI-III Administration and Scoring Manual, and require the use of WPPSI-III scoring and interpretation software⁸⁴.

1.3.3. Study Objectives

For this MSc thesis I had three main objectives. The first was to use LPA to create latent profiles based on gestational biomarkers in participants of the MIREC Study. My study population included 517 children who had complete WPPSI-III test scores and biomarker measurements. In my model, I chose to include 30 neurotoxins from the seven chemical groups described in the literature review above. These chemicals were measured in maternal blood and urine during the first trimester of pregnancy⁷⁸. Once I had generated the profiles, my second objective was to determine associations between profile membership and child IQ using regression analysis. I used the posterior probabilities of profile membership as independent variables, and VIQ, PIQ, and FSIQ as dependent variables. Finally, my last objective was to conduct sensitivity analysis using k-means clustering in order to verify my profile generation and regression results. I chose k-means clustering as a comparison method because it has a similar output to LPA, meaning the results are directly comparable^{25,26}.

This is a manuscript-based thesis. Chapter 2 will be the manuscript that I intend to submit for publication to an epidemiology or biostatistics journal in Fall 2021. Chapter 3 will include my overall conclusions, direction for future study, and implications for researchers and policymakers.

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Chapter 2.

Manuscript

Using Latent Profile Analysis to Examine Associations Between Gestational Chemical Mixtures and Child Neurodevelopment

Authorship

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2.1. Introduction

The gestational period is a crucial time during which neurotoxic exposures can severely impact cognitive development 1-4. Although much research has been done on the effects of gestational neurotoxins, most studies have only focused on one chemical at a time 1,3,5-9. Researchers have used simple regression analysis to study many individual exposures, including lead, bisphenol A (BPA), and dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene (DDE)^{1,3,10–13}. However, comparatively little study has been done on the effects of chemical mixtures⁴. The few studies that do focus on mixtures usually restrict their models to chemicals in the same groups, such as heavy metals or polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs)^{14,15}. This leads to several problems. The first is that these studies are not reflective of reality; we are not exposed to only one chemical at a time, but instead encounter a complex mixture of chemicals from different classes every day¹⁶. Second, if there are high levels of correlation between exposure variables, studying these chemicals individually can result in collinearity and large standard errors^{4,17,18}. Third, researchers may underestimate the collective impact of a group of chemicals if each exposure only has a modest effect on neurodevelopment. Finally, the impact of mixtures may be different from the additive exposure effects, and these interactions are difficult to estimate if chemicals are studied individually¹⁹.

The gap in research on chemical mixtures is due in part to a lack of appropriate statistical methods^{2,5,9,18}. While simple statistical techniques such as regression analysis can show the effects of a few chemicals at a time, these methods are poorly equipped to handle a large number of correlated continuous variables²⁰. A few unsupervised machine learning techniques have been used to study mixtures. For example, k-means clustering is commonly used to study many variables at once. However, this is a non-probabilistic method that requires the researcher to predetermine the number of clusters, and it is difficult to assess classification accuracy²¹. For this reason, we propose that an unsupervised machine learning technique called Latent Profile Analysis (LPA) be used to study chemical mixtures.

LPA is a model-based technique that detects patterns in continuous independent variables²². Although this method is popular in psychology and behavioural sciences, it is much less common in the field of environmental epidemiology^{22–26}. The purpose of LPA is to use patterns detected by machine learning to create homogenous, probabilistic subgroups called profiles²². Computer algorithms generate a variable called the posterior probability, which is the likelihood that a data point will fall into each profile²⁰. LPA has several advantages over other

machine learning techniques. It can handle dozens of variables without losing power, making it more effective than linear regression for studying mixtures^{20,22}. Its probabilistic nature allows researchers to assess classification accuracy, providing more accurate and nuanced results than non-probabilistic clustering methods such as k-means clustering^{22–24}. Finally, LPA does not require the researcher to predetermine the number of profiles and has more rigorous methods of choosing a model than other unsupervised machine learning techniques^{20,24,25}.

The aim of this study is to introduce LPA to the field of environmental epidemiology as a tool for studying the effects of complex chemical mixtures on child neurodevelopment. We believe that the advantages of LPA over other more common statistical techniques make it well-suited for this task. In this study, we use LPA to create profiles of pregnant Canadian women based on 30 gestational chemical biomarkers, and then examine associations between profile membership and child neurodevelopment. We also conduct sensitivity analysis, comparing the results found using LPA to those found using k-means clustering.

2.2. Methods

2.2.1. Study Population

We used data from the Maternal-Infant Research on Environmental Chemicals (MIREC) Study, an ongoing Canadian birth cohort study that began in 2008^{27–29}. The primary objective of the MIREC Study is to examine the role of gestational exposures, measured using biomarkers in maternal blood, urine, and hair, in maternal and child health outcomes. Details about eligibility and exclusion criteria are outlined by Arbuckle et al. ²⁸ Briefly, participants were recruited as follows: Researchers approached 8716 adult pregnant women in 10 Canadian cities, of whom 2001 were eligible and gave their consent in either English or French (Figure B.1.). Participants had to be at least 18 years old, <14 weeks of gestation, and willing to provide cord blood samples and deliver at a local hospital. Exclusion criteria included known fetal abnormalities, a history of medical complications, or illicit drug use. At age 36-48 months, a subset of 610 participating children were included in a follow-up study called the MIREC-CD3

Neurodevelopment visit, in which researchers assessed neurodevelopment through a series of tests and questionnaires^{3,30–32}. We restricted our study to the 517 participants with available measures for all first trimester chemicals and neurodevelopment scores of interest^{29,31,32}.

The MIREC Study received ethics approval from Health Canada and the Institutional Review Board of CHU Sainte-Justine Research Centre. For this project, we also received ethics approval from the Simon Fraser University review board. All participants gave informed consent to take part in this study.

2.2.2. Neurodevelopmental Outcomes

We measured neurodevelopment using the Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence (WPPSI-III) test, which was administered during the MIREC-CD3

Neurodevelopment visit when the participants were 36-48 months old^{1,31,32}. The WPPSI-III test is designed to assess various aspects of child intelligence, and includes four subtests. Subtest scores are calculated based on time and accuracy and then combined to generate the three main IQ scores, as described in the WPPSI-III Administration and Scoring Manual^{33–35}. Scores from the Receptive Vocabulary and Information subtests are combined to generate the Verbal IQ (VIQ) score, which measures linguistic intelligence³⁴. Scores from the Block Design and Object Assembly subtests are combined to generate the Performance IQ (PIQ) score, which measures visuospatial intelligence. The overall summary measure of cognitive performance is

called the Full-Scale IQ (FSIQ), which is a composite score calculated from the VIQ and PIQ. All three IQ scores are scaled to a standardized Canadian sample with a mean of 100 and a standard deviation of 15.

2.2.3. Biomarkers of Gestational Toxicant Exposure

In our models, we included 30 potential neurotoxins measured in the first trimester: Five heavy metals (arsenic, cadmium, lead, manganese, and mercury), four organochlorine pesticides [OCPs; β-benzene hexachloride (BBHC), dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene (DDE), oxychlordane, and trans-nonachlor], five organophosphate pesticides [OPPs; diethylphosphate (DEP), diethylthiophosphate, (DETP), dimethyldithiophosphate (DMDTP), dimethylphosphate (DMP), and dimethylthiophosphate (DMTP)], seven phthalates [monobutyl phthalate (MBP), monobenzyl phthalate (MBZP), mono-(3-carboxypropyl) phthalate (MCPP), mono-(2-ethyl-5hydroxyhexyl) phthalate (MEHHP), mono-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (MEHP), mono-(2-ethyl-5oxohexyl) phthalate (MEOHP), and mono-ethyl phthalate (MEP)], seven polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs; Aroclor, PCB118, PCB138, PCB153, PCB170, PCB180, and PCB187), one polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE47), and one smoking metabolite (cotinine). These chemicals were chosen based on biomarker availability in the first trimester, as well as previous research on their neurotoxicity^{1,36–44}. The metals, OCPs, PCBs, PBDE, and cotinine were measured in the maternal blood, and the OPPs and phthalates were measured in maternal urine²⁸. Samples were stored at -20°C until analysis in the Toxicology Laboratory at the Institut national de santé publique du Québec, where they were quantified using gas chromatography/mass spectrometry.

To account for the effects of plasma-lipid levels, we adjusted the OCPs, PCBs, and PBDE for participants' plasma-lipid concentrations^{18,45}. We accounted for variation in urine dilution in the OPPs and phthalates by adjusting for specific gravity using the equation:

$$P_c = P[\frac{1.015 - 1}{SG} - 1]$$

where P_c is the standardized chemical concentration, P is the unstandardized chemical concentration, SG is the specific gravity, and 1.015 is the median specific gravity among the study participants⁴⁶.

For chemicals below the limit of detection (<LOD), we employed a single imputation "fill-in" method⁴⁷. We first log2-transformed our chemicals to reduce skewness, and then temporarily replaced the values <LOD with LOD/ $\sqrt{2}$. Using these new values and the observed chemical concentrations, we determined the mean and standard deviation of a truncated lognormal distribution. The values <LOD were then replaced with values randomly sampled from this distribution.

2.2.4. Covariates

Trained researchers assessed potential confounders by administering standardized interviews and questionnaires to the mothers during the first and third trimesters 3,30,48. To determine the appropriate covariates, we constructed a Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG) using information from previous studies (Figure B.2.) 10,49-51. We adjusted for maternal age, race, education, marital status, household income, and prenatal alcohol consumption. We did not adjust for self-reported prenatal smoking because cotinine was already a factor in profile generation. Although child sex cannot be considered a confounder, we stratified results by sex because studies have found differing effects of gestational exposures on neurodevelopment in boys and girls 1,3,8. Gestational age and birth weight were excluded from the model because they act as mediators, not confounders 52.

Measures for several of our covariates were missing in a small number of participants. Prenatal alcohol was missing for 4.3% of mothers, household income for 3.3%, and maternal education for 0.5%, which would have resulted in a total of 40 mothers (7.7%) being removed from the analysis. To avoid this, we used a single imputation approach to fill in these missing values.

2.2.5. Statistical Analysis

Descriptive Statistics

We assessed the central tendency and distribution of the gestational biomarker concentrations and the children's VIQ, PIQ, and FSIQ scores. We stratified the WPPSI-III scores by our chosen covariates to compare between demographics. To calibrate our inferences about associations between demographic characteristics, chemical mixtures, and neurodevelopment, we used linear regression analyses. We examined the relation between demographic characteristics and WPPSI-III scores, as well as the relation between the individual log2-transformed chemical concentrations and WPPSI-III scores.

Latent Profile Analysis

We used LPA to create chemical mixture profiles based on 30 chemical biomarkers. To ensure that the biomarkers had adequate levels of correlation for profile interpretation, we conducted pairwise correlation analysis on the 30 individual chemical biomarkers. We then performed LPA with the RStudio packages tidyLPA and mclust⁵³. To choose the number of profiles, we calculated the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) of 35 different models, manipulating the number of profiles from one to twelve, as well as assumptions about the variance within profiles and the covariance between chemical exposures. We chose the BIC as a quality measure because it penalizes model complexity more than other measures such as the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC)⁵⁴. In addition to the BIC, we also considered interpretability when choosing a model.

Once we had chosen the number of profiles, we generated the mothers' posterior probabilities of profile membership. We then examined the demographic characteristics of participants in each of the five profiles. Additionally, we calculated the mean chemical concentration in each profile using the formula:

$$W = \frac{\sum P_i W_i}{\sum P_i}$$

where X_i is the log2-transformed chemical concentration in mother i and P_i is the posterior probability of profile membership in mother i. We converted biomarker concentrations to z-scores to compare the profiles' overall chemical compositions and determine the patterns detected by LPA.

Regression Analysis of the Latent Profiles

We used covariate-adjusted multiple linear regression analysis to measure the association between profile membership and WPPSI-III scores, running separate regression models for VIQ, PIQ, and FSIQ. Each model included the posterior probabilities of profile membership for every profile except the reference, as shown in the following equation:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_2 Z_2 + \dots + \beta_k Z_k + \beta_{c1} C_1 + \dots + \beta_{cp} C_p$$
 [Equation 1]

where Y is the WPPSI-III score, $Z_2 \dots Z_k$ are the posterior probabilities that a mother will fall into each of the k profiles, Z_1 is the reference profile that is excluded from the model, and $C_1 \dots C_p$

are p confounders. For example, the quantity β_3 would be the change in mean IQ score as the posterior probability of membership in Profile 3 increases from 0 to 1, implying a 100% probability of inclusion in Profile 3 compared to Profile 1, adjusted for p confounders.

Sensitivity Analysis Comparing LPA with K-means Clustering

We conducted sensitivity analysis to compare LPA with k-means clustering, a more established method in the field of environmental epidemiology. Unlike LPA, k-means clustering requires that the researcher predetermine the number of clusters^{55,56}. We first ran several models and used the "elbow method" to help us make this decision. For interpretation, we generated a heat map of mean biomarker concentration z-scores and compared them with the LPA results.

Additionally, we used covariate-adjusted multiple linear regression analysis to measure the associations between class membership and WPPSI-III scores, once again running separate models for VIQ, PIQ, and FSIQ. We created dummy variables for each of the clusters (with 1 denoting membership to a cluster and 0 denoting non-membership). Each model included all dummy variables except for the reference cluster, as shown in the following equation:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_2 D_2 + \dots + \beta_k D_k + \beta_{c1} C_1 + \dots + \beta_{cn} C_n$$
 [Equation 2]

where y is the WPPSI-III score, $D_2 \dots D_k$ are the dummy variables for each of the k clusters, D_1 is the reference cluster that is excluded from the model, and $C_1 \dots C_p$ are p confounders. For example, the quantity β_3 would be the difference in the mean IQ scores of a participant in Cluster 3 compared to a participant in Cluster 1, adjusted for p confounders.

2.3. Results

2.3.1. Study Population and Descriptive Statistics

The MIREC-CD3 Neurodevelopment visit included 808 participants. 608 children took the WPPSI-III test, and 599 of those finished all subtests and received complete scores. After excluding those with missing chemical information, we included 517 MIREC participants in our study (Figure B.1.). Compared to the average Canadian mother in 2011, participants' mothers were on average older (41% in the 35+ group), predominantly white (86%), with higher education levels (68% completed an undergraduate degree or higher) and household incomes (41% over \$100, 000), and lower self-reported prenatal smoking (9%) and alcohol (17%) rates ⁵⁷. Parity was similar to the Canadian average (44% on their first child).

In covariate-adjusted regression models of participant characteristics and WPPSI-III scores, we found higher average scores in female children, as well as children with white, more educated, or low-parity mothers (Table B.1.). Prenatal smoking was negatively associated with all three IQ scores, but prenatal alcohol was positively associated with IQ. Maternal age and marital status were linked to higher VIQ but lower PIQ; however, the associations were imprecise with wide 95% confidence intervals.

We calculated the geometric means of each chemical and found them to be similar to those found by Canadian Health Measures Survey (CHMS) at the time (Table 2.1.)⁵⁸. The %>LOD was higher (>80%) for the heavy metals, phthalates, and most of the OCPs and PCBs, and lower for the OPPs, PBDE, and cotinine. We excluded all chemicals with less than 40% >LOD.

Table 2.1. Distribution of gestational chemical biomarkers in participating mothers in the MIREC study during their first trimester of pregnancy, as compared to the geometric mean concentrations found in the average Canadian mother in 2008, measured in the Canadian Health Measures Survey (n = 517).

	%	Moon (SD)	CD) CM (CCD)	Percentiles				CHMS	
	>LOD	Mean (SD)	GM (GSD)	25th	50th	75th	95th	Max	- GM ⁵⁸
Heavy metals - V	Whole Bloo	d (ug/L)							
Arsenic	96.5	1.1 (1.8)	0.8 (2.0)	0.6	8.0	1.2	2.3	34.5	0.9
Cadmium	97.5	0.3 (0.4)	0.2 (2.1)	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.7	5.1	0.4
Lead	100.0	7.2 (4.0)	6.4 (1.6)	4.6	6.2	8.5	14.1	41.4	8.9
Manganese	100.0	9.1 (2.8)	8.7 (1.4)	7.1	8.8	10.4	13.7	26.9	9.8
Mercury	91.5	1.0 (0.9)	0.6 (2.7)	0.4	0.7	1.3	2.8	7.8	0.7
OCPs - Plasma (ng/L)								
BBHC	64.0	6.3 (30.1)	2.3 (2.7)	< LOD	2.1	3.4	9.0	500.0	4.8
DDE	99.2	90.9 (212.6)	55.23 (2.2)	35.7	49.1	77.1	214.6	2,656.3	102.2
Oxychlor	92.8	2.3 (1.2)	2.0 (1.8)	1.5	2.2	3.0	4.5	8.4	2.3
Transnona	85.7	3.4 (2.3)	2.9 (1.8)	2.0	3.0	4.3	7.4	18.3	3.1
OCP Sum	NA	5.8 (3.3)	5.0 (1.7)	3.5	5.1	7.2	11.7	23.9	NA
OPPs - Urine (uç	g/L)								
DEP	73.1	7.5 (92.5)	2.6 (2.3)	< LOD	2.5	4.2	9.8	2,104.8	2.0
DETP	49.1	1.1 (1.3)	0.7 (2.5)	< LOD	< LOD	1.2	3.1	15.6	NA
DMDTP	53.0	1.2 (2.3)	0.5 (3.6)	< LOD	0.5	1.1	4.8	22.5	NA
DMP	77.4	5.1 (6.5)	3.2 (2.7)	1.8	3.3	6.2	14.7	71.5	2.6
DMTP	80.7	8.1 (11.9)	3.6 (4.0)	1.4	3.9	8.9	30.6	96.2	1.8
Phthalates - Urir	ne (ug/L)								
MBP	99.6	19.8 (37.5)	12.6 (2.3)	7.8	12.1	19.2	47.1	525.9	18.0
MBZP	99.4	8.9 (14.9)	5.4 (2.5)	3.1	4.8	9.1	25.3	182.0	9.3
MCPP	80.3	2.0 (4.7)	0.9 (3.3)	0.5	0.9	1.7	7.2	72.0	1.1
MEHHP	99.4	13.9 (24.2)	9.5 (2.2)	6.1	9.1	14.1	34.7	355.8	20.0
MEHP	98.1	3.3 (4.6)	2.3 (2.2)	1.4	2.2	3.7	9.1	53.0	3.4
MEOHP	99.4	9.2 (13.1)	6.7 (2.1)	4.4	6.5	9.5	22.7	171.1	13.0
MEP	100.0	149.6 (969.3)	33.2 (4.0)	12.4	26.0	71.5	416.0	20,800.0	50.0

DEHP Sum	NA	26.1 (40.6)	18.6 (2.1)	12.5	18.1	26.4	63.8	550.6	NA
PCBs - Plasma (ng/L)									
Aroclor	98.7	84.6 (79.7)	65.0 (2.0)	41.1	64.2	94.6	225.1	659.6	NA
PCB118	77.0	3.0 (2.5)	2.4 (1.9)	1.7	2.5	3.4	6.6	30.2	3.1
PCB138	94.2	5.8 (5.4)	4.5 (2.0)	2.9	4.5	6.6	15.1	46.8	5.5
PCB153	99.8	10.5 (10.1)	8.0 (2.0)	5.0	7.6	11.8	27.9	80.9	8.2
PCB170	58.8	2.9 (3.7)	2.0 (2.2)	< LOD	2.0	3.1	8.1	40.3	NA
PCB180	96.7	7.8 (10.1)	5.5 (2.2)	3.2	5.3	8.4	21.2	114.9	5.8
PCB187	47.2	2.3 (2.4)	1.7 (2.0)	< LOD	< LOD	2.5	5.7	26.9	NA
PCB Sum	NA	30.0 (29.3)	23.2 (2.0)	14.3	22.0	34.3	78.3	262.8	NA
PBDEs - Plasma	(ng/L)								
BDE47	65.0	15.0 (45.2)	7.3 (2.7)	< LOD	6.8	11.7	38.1	727.3	10.8
Tobacco Metabolites - Plasma (ng/L)									
Cotinine	54.4	2871.4 (17325.1)	7.7 (11.8)	< LOD	6.5	20.0	270.0	180,000.0	NA

2.3.2. Latent Profile Analysis

We created a heat map showing the correlation between 30 log2-transformed biomarkers (Figure 2.1.). We found high levels of correlation within the OCPs, the OPPs, the phthalates (except for MEP), and the PCBs. There was also correlation between several chemical groups. The PCBs, OCPs, and most of the metals were correlated, as were cotinine and cadmium, a component of cigarette smoke⁵⁹.

We generated 35 models, changing the number of profiles and the assumptions for variance and covariance to attain the lowest BIC. The highest quality models included a model with five profiles and equal variance and covariance (BIC = 40697) and a model with two profiles and varying variance and covariance (BIC = 40405). Accounting for interpretability, we chose the model with five profiles.

Figure 2.2. shows the LPA results. We found one profile with mean biomarker concentrations similar to those of the total group (the Reference profile), one with high biomarker concentrations (the High Level profile), one with low biomarker concentrations (the Low Level profile), one with high OPPs and low levels of every other chemical (the High OPPs profile), and one with high levels of cotinine and cadmium (the Smoking Chemicals profile). Certain chemicals had greater levels of variation between the profiles than others (Figure 2.2.). Specifically, there was high variance of PCB and smoking chemical concentrations between profiles.

Table 2.2. shows the demographic characteristics of participants in each of the five profiles. For this table, participants were assigned to whichever profile they matched most closely based on their posterior probabilities. We found that the Reference group was comparatively larger (n = 365) and the High Level, Low Level, High OPPs, and Smoking Chemicals profiles were comparatively smaller (n = 33, 20, 79, and 20 respectively). We also examined the spread of the posterior probabilities between profiles to assess classification accuracy. The mothers in the three smaller profiles tended to have high posterior probabilities (mean >0.99), as did those in the Reference profile (mean = 0.97), whereas mothers in the High OPPs profile had lower posterior probabilities (mean = 0.88). The demographic characteristics of the Reference profile were similar to those of the total sample, although mothers were more often white with higher socioeconomic status. The High Level profile had children with much older, non-white mothers. Both the High OPPs profile and the Low Level profile had younger, unmarried mothers with lower socioeconomic status, and the Low Level profile contained mostly girls (80%). The Smoking Chemicals profile tended to have younger, non-white, unmarried

mothers with much lower socioeconomic status and high levels of prenatal smoking, although it should be noted that not every mother in this profile reported prenatal smoking.

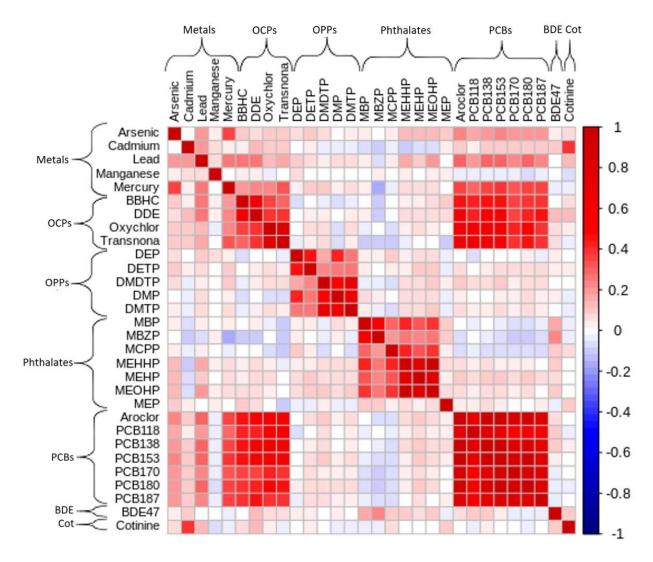


Figure 2.1. Correlation heat map of 30 log2-transformed chemicals measured in participating mothers in the MIREC study during their first trimester of pregnancy (n = 517).

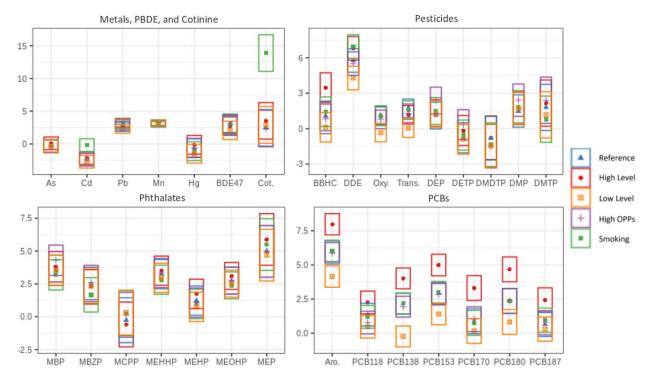


Figure 2.2. Mean log2-transformed chemical compositions of the five profiles generated by Latent Profile Analysis, with boxes showing standard deviation (n = 517).

Table 2.2. Demographic characteristics for total study population and for participants in each latent profile. Participants were assigned in whichever profile they matched most closely using the highest posterior probability.

	Total	Reference	High Level	Low Level	High OPPs	Smoking Chemicals
	n = 517	n = 365	n = 33	n = 20	n = 79	n = 20
Child Sex						
Male	49	49	48	20	54	50
Female	51	51	52	80	46	50
Maternal Age						
19-30	21	17	12	50	29	40
30-35	39	41	30	30	34	30
35+	41	42	58	20	37	30
Maternal Race						
White	86	90	73	85	78	70
Other	14	10	27	15	22	30
Maternal Education						
Highschool	5	3	6	15	10	20
College	27	25	24	25	37	45
Undergrad	39	40	42	60	29	30
Grad	29	33	27	0	24	5
Marital Status						
Married	72	75	70	60	68	55
Unmarried	28	25	30	40	32	45
Household Income						
< 40 000	10	6	9	20	17	45
40 000 - 80 000	29	27	33	30	34	25
80 000 - 100 000	21	22	12	30	20	10
> 100 000	41	45	46	20	29	20
Parity						
0	44	45	42	45	37	50
1	41	41	46	20	47	35
2	12	11	12	15	13	15

3+	3	3	0	20	4	0
Prenatal Smoking						_
No	91	94	91	100	95	30
Yes	9	6	9	0	5	70
Prenatal Alcohol						_
No	83	82	82	95	87	75
Yes	17	18	18	5	13	25

2.3.3. Regression Analysis of the Latent Profiles

We conducted covariate-adjusted regression analysis (as shown in Equation 1) to measure the association between the posterior probabilities and the three WPPSI-III scores (Table 2.3.). We used the Reference Profile as the reference in our analysis, as this profile was the most representative of the average mother. The Smoking Chemicals profile had a strong negative association with VIQ, PIQ, and FSIQ in both boys and girls, although there was uncertainty in the effect estimates with wide 95% confidence intervals. In the High Level profile, we found a negative association with VIQ in both boys and girls; however, the results for PIQ and FSIQ were inconsistent. In the Low Level and High OPPs profiles, we found a positive association with all three IQ scores in girls but not boys. For all regression coefficients the 95% confidence intervals covered the null value.

Notably, the beta coefficients found using group membership were higher than those of the individual chemical biomarkers or survey questions. For example, in the Smoking Chemicals Profile, the mean FSIQ for all children was 5.7 points [95% CI (11.0, -0.4)] lower than that of the Reference Profile (Table 2.3.). In contrast, the self-reported prenatal smoking variable only showed a 3.8 point [95% CI (-0.2, 7.9)] decrease of FSIQ in all children compared to those with non-smoking mothers (Table B.1.). Furthermore, doubling the cotinine biomarker resulted in only a 0.2 point [95% CI (-0.2, 0.5)] decrease for FSIQ in all children (Table B.2.). Since the log2-cotinine levels in the Smoking Chemicals profile are roughly 12 greater than those of the Reference profile, this means that cotinine by itself would only account for a 2.4 point decrease in FSIQ (Table B.2.; Figure 2.2.). Effect estimates also differed from the additive effects of each of the chemicals. For example, the coefficients in the High Level profile were higher than those of the individual PCBs, but lower than the combined effects of all the PCBs.

Table 2.3. Covariate-adjusted linear regression coefficients showing the associations between latent profile membership and WPPSI-III scores, adjusted for maternal age, race, education, and marital status, household income, parity, and prenatal alcohol, compared to medium level Reference Profile, with 95% confidence intervals. Results are shown for all children, and then stratified by sex (n = 517).

	VIQ (95% CI)	PIQ (95% CI)	FSIQ (95% CI)					
Intercept (Reference Level Profile)								
All	105.2	97.2	101.4					
Boys	104.6	99.7	102.7					
Girls	106.6	94.7	100.4					
High Level F	High Level Profile							
All	-3.1 (-7.6, 1.3)	2.2 (-3.1, 7.5)	-0.5 (-5.1, 4.2)					
Boys	-4.4 (-11.3, 2.6)	-0.7 (-8.7, 7.4)	-2.8 (-10.2, 4.5)					
Girls	-2.5 (-8.2, 3.1)	2.9 (-4.3, 10.0)	0.3 (-5.7, 6.2)					
Low Level P	rofile							
All	0.5 (-5.3, 6.4)	4.7 (-2.2, 11.7)	3.0 (-3.1, 9.1)					
Boys	-3.2 (-17.0, 10.5)	-0.2 (-16.1, 15.7)	-2.2 (-16.8, 12.3)					
Girls	0.3 (-5.9, 6.6)	6.1 (-1.9, 14.0)	3.6 (-2.9, 10.2)					
High OPPs I	Profile							
All	1.1 (-2.4, 4.5)	-0.3 (-4.4, 3.8)	0.6 (-3.1, 4.2)					
Boys	-2.3 (-7.6, 3.0)	-2.0 (-8.2, 4.1)	-2.4 (-8.0, 3.2)					
Girls	3.4 (-1.1, 8.0)	0.3 (-5.5, 6.1)	2.3 (-2.5, 7.1)					
Smoking Ch	emicals Profile							
All	-3.7 (-9.5, 2.2)	-6.4 (-13.3, 0.6)	-5.7 (-11.9, 0.4)					
Boys	-4.7 (-13.8, 4.3)	-7.8 (-18.3, 2.7)	-7.1 (-16.7, 2.5)					
Girls	-2.7 (-10.2, 4.8)	-6.6 (-16.2, 2.9)	-5.3 (-13.2, 2.6)					

2.3.4. Sensitivity Analysis Comparing LPA and K-means Clustering

The "elbow method" of determining the number of clusters showed that 5-8 clusters were appropriate for this study population. We chose a model with five clusters generated by k-means clustering to compare with the LPA results. The clusters were similar to the profiles generated by LPA; Figure 2.3. shows a cluster with low to middling biomarker concentrations, one with high biomarker concentrations, one with low biomarker concentrations, one with high OPPs, and one with high concentrations of smoking chemicals. While these patterns were similar to the ones detected by LPA, there were some key differences between the clusters and the profiles. First, the Reference, High Level, Low Level, and High OPPs clusters were all of similar sizes (n = 119, 111, 131, 138 respectively), although the Smoking Chemicals cluster was comparatively small (n = 18; Table B.3.). Second, the range of mean z-scores was smaller in some of the clusters, showing weaker patterns in the High Level and Low Level clusters (Figure 2.3.). Finally, the Reference cluster had lower mean biomarker concentrations and was less representative of the overall population than the Reference profile.

When we conducted covariate-adjusted linear regression analysis shown in Equation 2, we found that the Smoking Chemicals cluster had a consistent negative association with all WPPSI-III scores, although 95% confidence intervals consistently covered the null (Table B.4.). The High Level cluster had negative associations with VIQ and FSIQ, but not PIQ. The Low Level cluster was positively associated with VIQ but negatively associated with PIQ and FSIQ. We found no consistent trends in the High OPPs cluster. No noteworthy patterns were detected when we stratified by child sex.

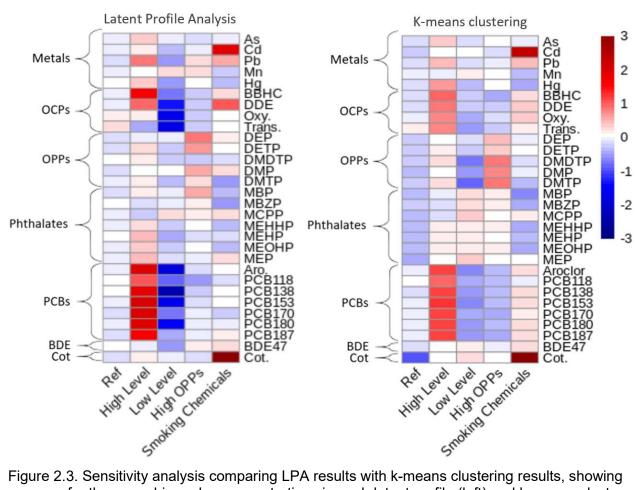


Figure 2.3. Sensitivity analysis comparing LPA results with k-means clustering results, showing z-scores for the mean biomarker concentrations in each latent profile (left) and k-means cluster (right; n = 517).

2.4. Discussion

Using LPA, we generated five clearly defined latent profiles which showed risk stratification of gestational chemical mixtures. We found a High Level profile, a Low Level profile, a High OPPs profile, a Smoking Chemicals profile, and a medium level Reference profile. We verified the accuracy of the profiles in a sensitivity analysis comparing LPA with k-means clustering. Unlike k-means clustering, LPA does not have a bias towards creating profiles of equal size, and this allows for the generation of very small profiles with high classification accuracy. The large size of the Reference profile in our study indicates that this profile acted as a catch-all group for mothers who did not fit any of the other patterns.

We found a strong negative association between the Smoking Chemicals profile and VIQ, PIQ, and FSIQ when compared to the Reference profile, although the 95% confidence intervals spanned the null. Furthermore, the magnitude of the regression coefficients for the Smoking Chemicals profile in relation to WPPSI-III scores were larger than the corresponding regression coefficients for self-reported prenatal smoking and the cotinine biomarker by itself (Table 2.3.; Table B.1.; Table B.2.). We did not expect the effect estimates of the Smoking Chemicals profile to be so much greater than the cotinine biomarker, which is a measure that is less prone to error than self-reported smoking. Although more research is needed in this area, our results suggest that the latent profile detected by LPA may be a better tool for studying the health effects of smoking than these measures.

In both boys and girls, the High Level profile had a negative association with VIQ but not PIQ, although the 95% confidence intervals spanned the null. As shown in Figure 2.2., the High Level profile had a higher concentration of PCBs than any of the other chemicals, and can therefore be interpreted as a highly concentrated PCB mixture. We found that the associations in Table 2.3. were reflective of trends in the individual PCBs, which were all negatively associated with VIQ, but had inconsistent associations with PIQ. See Table B.3. for comparison. Our findings are consistent with the literature; studies have shown significant negative relationships between PCBs and VIQ, but not PIQ^{60,61}. Studies have been done on VIQ-PIQ discrepancies and their impact on child development and developmental disorders, but more research is needed to determine why these differences occur^{62–65}.

Both the Low Level profile and the High OPPs profile were positively associated with IQ scores in girls but not boys. This result is consistent with previous studies that have shown that some chemicals may have differing effects on boys and girls^{1,3,8}. However, the results in the

Low Level profile may be partly due to the unequal sex distribution; it may be that the larger group of girls are more indicative of the actual patterns for this profile. It should also be noted that the exposure concentrations of the OPP profile were similar to those of the Reference profile, as the OPPs did not show high levels of variance between profiles. This profile also had the lowest classification accuracy of the five. This may explain the inconsistent effect of membership in the profile on IQ.

When we conducted sensitivity analysis using k-means clustering, we found that the five clusters had similar patterns to the five profiles, albeit less pronounced. We found that k-means clustering had three main disadvantages: The unclear method of choosing a model, the tendency towards choosing clusters of the same size, and the non-probabilistic nature of cluster assignment. We chose to use a model with five clusters because that was the number of profiles LPA generated, but this would have been a more difficult decision had we not done LPA first. The clusters were mostly the same size (except for the smaller Smoking Chemicals cluster). This may have resulted in lower classification accuracy, which would explain the lower biomarker variance between clusters. However, because this method does not generate posterior probabilities, we could not assess classification accuracy. Although the small sizes of some of the latent profiles may make them less applicable to large groups of the general population, they are still indicative of patterns within the population, and we found them to be more effective at detecting harmful chemical mixtures than the more generalized clusters. We therefore conclude that LPA is a more useful method for studying the effects of gestational chemical mixtures.

This study builds on other work that has used unsupervised machine learning techniques to estimate the health effects of chemical mixtures. Several similar studies have been done using k-means clustering, which is why we chose this method for sensitivity analysis^{2,66–68}. PCA has also been used to determine new variables for chemical mixtures^{36,67,69}. One recent study by Carroll et al. used Latent Class Analysis (LCA) to study phthalate and phenols⁷⁰. LCA is similar to LPA, but it only works with categorical independent variables⁷¹. Therefore, chemical exposures were dichotomized in the study, reducing accuracy⁷⁰. Had we chosen to use this method, we could not have differentiated the profiles nearly as well, and would have missed information about the spread of the PCBs and the existence of the reference group, among other results. Finally, a recent study by Khorrami et al. used LPA to find associations between mixtures of air pollutants and lung cancer⁷². In this study, however,

pollutant concentration was ascertained using geographical location, not chemical biomarkers. Also, that study did not focus on gestational chemical exposures.

Our study has several limitations. The first is that mothers in the MIREC cohort tend to be older, wealthier, more educated, more likely to be white, and less likely to report prenatal smoking and drinking than the Canadian average²⁸. Therefore, we may not be accurately reflecting the exposure patterns found in more vulnerable populations. Secondly, there were several chemicals with relatively low %>LODs, and the imputation method we used may have underestimated the variance for these chemicals⁴⁷. Third, due to high levels of correlation, it can be difficult to distinguish between the effects of gestational exposures and chemicals in the postnatal environment^{60,73}. Fourth, while much work has been done to ensure the validity of the WPPSI-III test, IQ tests for children often have problems with accuracy^{34,74}. Regardless of the training of test administrators, scores can vary based on the children's levels of cooperation, motivation, or fatigue, especially in children with intellectual disabilities⁷⁵. Fifth, exposure misclassification for non-persistent chemicals may have affected the analysis results 18. For example, the poorly defined profiles for phthalates in Figure 2.2. may be due to the fact that phthalate exposure is measured with error. Finally, the complexity of LPA results can make them difficult to interpret, leading some researchers to prefer simpler methods such as LCA or k-means clustering^{26,70}. In certain situations, the simpler methods are more useful. For example, when all the profiles have high classification accuracy, the posterior probabilities are all so close to 0 or 1 that a probabilistic method becomes unnecessary²⁶. However, despite these limitations, we believe that LPA is a promising technique that is worthy of more study.

In conclusion, we recommend the use of LPA as a technique for studying chemical mixtures. Although further research is needed to understand LPA's capabilities, we believe that this is an effective alternative to other clustering methods. This technique can find patterns in large, complex datasets while avoiding many of the disadvantages of other machine learning techniques. It generates a helpful new variable that can be used to study the effects of chemical mixtures on other health outcomes.

2.5. Declarations

2.5.1. Competing Interests

None declared.

2.5.2. **Funding**

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2.5.3. Disclosure

JMB was financially compensated for his services as an expert witness for plaintiffs in litigation related to second-hand tobacco smoke exposures.

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Chapter 3.

Conclusion

3.1. Summary

In summary, this MSc thesis showed that LPA is a promising technique for studying chemical mixtures, and that it compares favourably to k-means clustering. This study contributes to the growing field on appropriate statistical measures for the analysis of chemical mixtures^{1–3}. For my first objective, I used LPA to generate five latent profiles of MIREC participants based on 30 gestational biomarkers. These five profiles were found using patterns in exposure mixtures in different subgroups of the population, highlighting common mixtures in pregnant Canadian women. They identified subgroups with very high and low levels of PCBs respectively, as well as one with high OPPs, and one with high smoking chemicals.

This thesis also contributes to the field of gestational chemical mixtures and their effects on neurodevelopment^{4–8}. For my second objective, I not only showed the risk stratification of different chemical mixtures and how they impact IQ scores, but also confirmed that PIQ and VIQ can be affected differently. I found that the Smoking Chemicals profile was associated with a large decrease in all three IQ scores in both sexes, that the High Levels profile was negatively associated with VIQ, and that the Low Level and High OPPs profile were positively associated with IQ in girls but not boys. However, these associations were imprecise and had wide 95% confidence intervals which covered the null values, perhaps due to a small sample size.

For my third and final objective, I conducted sensitivity analysis using k-means clustering. I repeated my first two objectives using this method, first creating five clusters, and then regressing cluster membership against IQ. The clusters I generated had similar patterns to the latent profiles. However, this method's bias toward clusters of the same size led to less chemical variation between the clusters and weaker regression results. I found that, while k-means clustering was faster and easier to use than LPA, the difficulty choosing a model and lack of information about classification accuracy resulted in less useful results than those of LPA. From my experiment I concluded that LPA shows potential as a method for studying chemical mixtures and that it compares favourably against k-means clustering. However, more research is needed to understand LPA's capabilities in terms of number of predictor variables for profile generation and statistical power for determining effects. Future directions of work are discussed in Section 3.3.

3.2. Relevance for Policymakers and Environmental Health Researchers

There are two main reasons that stakeholders would find my research relevant to their work; some will be more interested in the methodology I employed, and some will be more interested in my results. From a methodological perspective, this study is relevant to epidemiologists because it introduces a new machine learning technique that can be used to study complex chemical mixtures. Although most neurotoxins are still studied one at a time, exposure mixtures are becoming an increasingly common topic of study for environmental epidemiology^{6,7,9,10}. However, researchers are still exploring new techniques for tackling this issue². Many problems arise when studying complex chemical mixtures; researchers must choose the appropriate mixtures to study, and contend with collinearity in highly correlated datasets, the loss of power when a large number of variables are included in the model, and interactions between individual chemicals¹. LPA is a method that helps avoid these issues. It finds the strongest patterns in a population, allowing researchers to prioritize more common mixtures. It does not lose power when more variables are added to the model. Finally, it allows one to study the effects of mixtures as a whole, avoiding problems with interactions or collinearity. I believe that epidemiologists would do well to consider this method for studies beyond the scope of my thesis.

This work is also relevant to several groups who may be interested in the profiles I generated. Researchers studying gestational exposures need to shift their focus away from single chemical exposures and towards chemical mixtures^{7,9,11}. While excellent work has been done in this field on single exposures, studies on mixtures can more accurately reflect the harm of chemicals during pregnancy. That said, it is important to focus on the mixtures that are most relevant to society¹. My work highlights several specific chemical mixtures that deserve more attention, as they are found in specific subgroups of the population. For example, the High and Low Level profiles show that we need to be paying attention to PCB exposure during pregnancy, because this biomarker varies wildly between mothers and is negatively associated with VIQ. Also, the subgroup of young mothers with higher levels of OPP exposure may be the result of our shift away from OCPs¹². It will be important to keep an eye on this group in the future.

Environmental epidemiologists need to convey the importance of chemical mixtures to policymakers. Oftentimes, policymakers will focus on single chemical exposures, and will

emphasize "safe" doses extrapolated from studies on high level exposures ^{13–15}. This is a point of contention in environmental epidemiology. Studies have shown that many chemicals, such as lead, phthalates, and air pollution, have no safe threshold of exposure ^{11,13,15}. We are beginning to understand that low-dose chemical exposures, especially during vulnerable times such as the gestational period, are far from benign. Despite this, policymakers still ascribe some chemicals a threshold below which neurotoxic effects are negligible, and use these thresholds to make policy decisions ¹⁵. However, any messaging about "safe" doses ignores the fact that exposure to many simultaneous low-dose chemicals can be just as dangerous as exposure to high levels of a single chemical ¹⁴. Government officials and policymakers need to reframe their understanding of this complex issue.

Finally, this study is relevant to one very important group of stakeholders: Pregnant mothers. Information regarding gestational exposures is large in volume and contradictory¹⁶. This can be overwhelming for parents trying to make decisions about their children's health. The onus should not be on pregnant mothers to avoid every potential neurotoxin; this would be impossible given these chemicals' pervasiveness in our environment. However, it is important that people understand that gestational chemical exposures can severely impact child neurodevelopment. Effective knowledge translation about the neurotoxicity of chemical groups such as smoking metabolites, pesticides, and PCBs may help mothers make informed decisions¹¹. Obstetricians, gynecologists, and pediatricians can provide guidance and early intervention in this area. Using patient-centred actions and communication strategies, these health workers can help mitigate the impacts of gestational neurotoxins.

3.3. Future Topics of Study

My research demonstrates the promising nature of LPA for studying gestational chemical mixtures, which is something that has not been done before in the field of environmental epidemiology. Most applications of LPA in the literature have been in the fields of psychology and behavioural sciences; LPA has been used to study mental health treatment outcomes, noncognitive skill, emotional labour strategies, and PTSD symptoms^{17–20}. However, further research is necessary to understand LPA's capabilities, including the number of predictor variables that can be used in a model, the level of correlation the variables can have, and the applicability of profiles between populations. My study opens the doors for a wide variety of new research focusing on LPA and the effects of chemical mixtures.

First, the profiles I generated could be used in future research to study other child health outcomes, such as birth weight or behavioural disorders. This would allow us to understand the effects of these specific chemical mixtures more fully. These studies would have the advantage of being fast and easy to conduct, as profile generation was the most time-consuming part of my project.

This research could also be repeated with a different cohort to further assess these profiles' applicability in other populations. It would be beneficial to test LPA with a larger sample size of Canadian women to see if similar profiles are generated and to try to get adequate power for significant results. It would also be ideal to study populations with higher biomarker concentrations, which tend to be quite low in Canadian women¹². Finally, repeating this study with a different cohort could confirm the effect sizes of these chemical mixtures on IQ, which were much higher than those of our individual chemical exposures.

If future researchers use LPA to study neurodevelopment, they may choose to use different chemical mixtures to generate the latent profiles. For this project, I used the 30 known neurotoxins that were available in a large portion of my study population^{21–28}. Future studies could be conducted to test the limits of how many chemical exposures LPA can handle at once. I would also be interested in conducting similar research without using cotinine as a variable, as it was a very strong driver of chemical profile membership and I would like to see how the profiles would be generated without it.

Finally, environmental epidemiologists may conduct studies using other measures to form profiles. While this is, to my knowledge, the first study to use LPA on gestational chemical mixtures, many studies have been conducted in other fields using different variables that are

relevant to human health ^{17–20}. I am interested in seeing LPA used on other variables in the field of environmental epidemiology. In particular, I would like to try creating profiles based on both chemical exposures and other demographic variables. Although we did not choose to do this for this project, it is possible to adjust for covariates directly in the model²⁹. Overall, I am excited to explore LPA's capabilities further in future projects.

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Appendices

Appendix A. Supplementary Materials for Chapter 1

Table A.1.	Descriptions of WPPSI-III subtests for younger age band (aged two years and six months to three years and eleven months).	58
Table A.2.	Unadjusted linear regression coefficients showing the associations between MIREC participant demographic characteristics and unadjusted mean WPPSI-III scores, with 95% confidence intervals (n = 517).	59
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Table A.1.Descriptions of WPPSI-III subtests for younger age band (aged two years and six months to three years and eleven months). *

Subtest	Туре	Composites	What the child does
Receptive Vocabulary	Core	VIQ, FSIQ, and GLC	Points to the picture that corresponds to certain words
Information	Core	VIQ and FSIQ	Answers general information questions (verbally or by pointing)
Block Design	Core	PIQ and FSIQ	Uses blocks to copy a design
Object Assembly	Core	PIQ and FSIQ	Completes puzzles
Picture Naming	Supplemental	GLC and VIQ (substitute)	Names objects from picture

^{*}From Gordon B. Test Review: Wechsler, D. (2002). The Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence, Third Edition (WPPSI-III). San Antonio, TX: The Psychological Corporation. Canadian Journal of School Psychology. 2004;19(1-2):205-220.

Table A.2.Unadjusted linear regression coefficients showing the associations between MIREC participant demographic characteristics and unadjusted mean WPPSI-III scores, with 95% confidence intervals (n = 517).

	VIQ (95% CI)	PIQ (95% CI)	FSIQ (95% CI)
Child Sex			
Intercept	106.7 (105.2, 108.3)	100.9 (99.1, 102.7)	104.2 (102.6, 105.8)
Male	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)
Female	5.3 (3.2, 7.5)	4.2 (1.6, 6.7)	5.5 (3.2, 7.8)
Maternal Age			
Intercept	107.8 (105.4, 110.3)	104.0 (101.2, 106.9)	106.7 (104.1, 109.2)
19-29	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)
30-34	1.3 (-1.8, 4.3)	-0.2 (-3.7, 3.4)	0.6 (-2.6, 3.7)
35+	2.8 (-0.2, 5.8)	-2.3 (-5.7, 1.2)	0.3 (-2.8, 3.5)
Maternal Race			
Intercept	110.0 (108.8, 111.2)	103.5 (102.1, 104.9)	107.6 (106.3, 108.8)
White	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)
Other	-3.6 (-6.8, -0.4)	-3.1 (-6.8, 0.6)	-3.8 (-7.1, -0.5)
Maternal Education			
Intercept	102.5 (97.9, 107.1)	94.9 (89.4, 100.4)	98.5 (93.7, 103.4)
Highschool	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)
College	2.7 (-2.4, 7.7)	6.0 (0.0, 12.0)	4.6 (-0.7, 9.9)
Undergrad	7.7 (2.8, 12.6)	9.6 (3.7, 15.4)	9.8 (4.7, 14.9)
Grad	11.3 (6.3, 16.3)	9.9 (3.9, 15.8)	12.0 (6.8, 17.3)
Marital Status			
Intercept	110.5 (109.2, 111.8)	102.2 (100.7, 103.8)	107.2 (105.8, 108.5)
Married	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)
Unmarried	-3.6 (-6.0, -1.1)	2.9 (0.0, 5.8)	-0.5 (-3.1, 2.0)
Household Income			
Intercept	105.6 (102.0, 109.1)	103.9 (99.7, 108.1)	105.1 (101.4, 108.8)
<40 000	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)
40 000 - 80 000	1.6 (-2.5, 5.7)	-2.0 (-6.8, 2.8)	-0.2 (-4.5, 4.1)

80 000 - 100 000	4.2 (-0.1, 8.5)	-1.4 (-6.4, 3.6)	1.9 (-2.6, 6.3)
>100 000	6.3 (2.4, 10.2)	0.1 (-4.5, 4.7)	3.9 (-0.3, 8.0)
Parity			
Intercept	111.2 (109.5, 112.9)	104.6 (102.6, 106.5)	108.9 (107.1, 110.6)
0	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)
1	-2.1 (-4.5, 0.3)	-2.3 (-5.1, 0.5)	-2.5 (-5.0, 0.0)
2	-5.0 (-8.6, -1.3)	-3.3 (-7.6, 0.9)	-4.8 (-8.6, -1.1)
3+	-8.6 (-14.9, -2.2)	-4.6 (-11.9, 2.8)	-7.7 (-14.3, -1.1)
Prenatal Smoking			
Intercept	109.8 (108.6, 111)	103.4 (102.0, 104.7)	107.4 (106.2, 108.6)
No	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)
Yes	-4.0 (-8.0, 0.0)	-3.7 (-8.3, 0.9)	-4.2 (-8.4, -0.1)
Prenatal Alcohol			
Intercept	109.3 (108.1, 110.5)	102.3 (100.9, 103.7)	106.5 (105.2, 107.8)
No	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)
Yes	1.0 (-2.0, 4.0)	4.6 (1.2, 8.0)	3.0 (-0.1, 6.1)

Table A.3.Unadjusted linear regression coefficients showing the associations between prenatal chemical exposures (two-fold increase in chemical exposure) and WPPSI-III scores in participants from the MIREC Study, with 95% confidence intervals (n = 517).

	VIQ (95% CI)	PIQ (95% CI)	FSIQ (95% CI)	
Heavy Metals				
Arsenic	-1.2 (-2.3, 0.0)	-0.4 (-1.7, 1.0)	-1.0 (-2.2, 0.2)	
Cadmium	-1.0 (-2.1, 0.0)	-1.0 (-2.2, 0.2)	-1.2 (-2.3, -0.1)	
Lead	-0.8 (-2.5, 0.8)	1.2 (-0.7, 3.1)	0.2 (-1.5, 1.9)	
Manganese	-0.8 (-3.4, 1.7)	-1.4 (-4.4, 1.6)	-1.3 (-4.0, 1.4)	
Mercury	0.4 (-0.4, 1.2)	0.7 (-0.2, 1.6)	0.6 (-0.2, 1.4)	
OCPs				
BBHC	0.1 (-0.7, 0.9)	0.0 (-0.9, 0.9)	0.1 (-0.7, 0.9)	
DDE	-0.2 (-1.3, 0.8)	-0.4 (-1.5, 0.8)	-0.3 (-1.4, 0.7)	
Oxychlor	1.5 (0.2, 2.8)	1.3 (-0.2, 2.9)	1.6 (0.2, 3.0)	
Transnona	1.2 (-0.1, 2.5)	0.9 (-0.6, 2.4)	1.1 (-0.2, 2.5)	
Sum of OCP	1.4 (0.0, 2.8)	1.2 (-0.4, 2.8)	1.4 (0.0, 2.9)	
OPPs				
DEP	-0.5 (-1.4, 0.4)	-0.6 (-1.6, 0.5)	-0.6 (-1.6, 0.3)	
DETP	0.1 (-0.7, 1.0)	0.5 (-0.5, 1.4)	0.4 (-0.5, 1.2)	
DMDTP	0.7 (0.1, 1.3)	0.3 (-0.4, 1.0)	0.6 (0.0, 1.2)	
DMP	0.2 (-0.6, 1.0)	0.1 (-0.8, 1.0)	0.2 (-0.6, 1.0)	
DMTP	0.5 (-0.1, 1.1)	0.1 (-0.5, 0.8)	0.4 (-0.2, 1.0)	
Phthalates				
MBP	-0.5 (-1.5, 0.4)	-1.1 (-2.1, 0.0)	-0.9 (-1.9, 0.1)	
MBZP	-0.3 (-1.2, 0.5)	0.1 (-0.9, 1.1)	-0.2 (-1.1, 0.7)	
MCPP	-0.4 (-1.1, 0.2)	-1.1 (-1.9, -0.4)	-0.9 (-1.5, -0.2)	
MEHHP	-0.2 (-1.2, 0.8)	-0.7 (-1.9, 0.4)	-0.5 (-1.5, 0.6)	
MEHP	-0.6 (-1.6, 0.4)	-0.6 (-1.7, 0.5)	-0.6 (-1.7, 0.4)	
MEOHP	-0.2 (-1.3, 0.9)	-0.8 (-2.1, 0.4)	-0.5 (-1.6, 0.6)	
MEP	-0.4 (-1.0, 0.2)	-0.1 (-0.7, 0.6)	-0.3 (-0.9, 0.3)	
Sum of DEHP	-0.3 (-1.3, 0.8)	-0.8 (-2.0, 0.5)	-0.5 (-1.6, 0.6)	

PCBs				
Aroclor	0.5 (-0.6, 1.6)	0.5 (-0.8, 1.8)	0.5 (-0.6, 1.7)	
PCB118	0.4 (-0.9, 1.6)	1.4 (0.0, 2.8)	1.0 (-0.3, 2.2)	
PCB138	0.4 (-0.7, 1.5)	0.1 (-1.1, 1.4)	0.3 (-0.9, 1.4)	
PCB153	0.6 (-0.6, 1.7)	.7) 0.6 (-0.7, 1.9) 0.6 (-0.5		
PCB170	0.6 (-0.4, 1.6)	0.9 (-0.3, 2.1)	0.8 (-0.2, 1.9)	
PCB180	0.9 (-0.1, 1.9)	0.8 (-0.4, 1.9)	0.9 (-0.1, 2.0)	
PCB187	1.0 (-0.2, 2.1)	0.5 (-0.8, 1.8)		
Sum of PCB	0.6 (-0.6, 1.8)	0.7 (-0.6, 2.1)		
PBDEs			_	
BDE47	-0.8 (-1.6, 0.0)	-0.3 (-1.2, 0.6)	-0.6 (-1.4, 0.2)	
Smoking Metabolite	es			
Cotinine	-0.4 (-0.7, -0.1)	-0.3 (-0.6, 0.1)	-0.4 (-0.7, -0.1)	
			·	

Appendix B. Supplementary Materials for Chapter 2

Table B.1.	Covariate-adjusted linear regression coefficients showing the relationship between participant demographic characteristics and mean WPPSI-III scores, adjusted for child sex, maternal age, race, and education, marital status, household income, and prenatal smoking and alcohol, with 95% confidence intervals (n = 517).	62
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Table B.1.Covariate-adjusted linear regression coefficients showing the relationship between participant demographic characteristics and mean WPPSI-III scores, adjusted for child sex, maternal age, race, and education, marital status, household income, and prenatal smoking and alcohol, with 95% confidence intervals (n = 517).

	VIQ (95% CI)	PIQ (95% CI)	FSIQ (95% CI)	
Intercept	105.4	97.1	101.3	
Child Sex				
Male	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	
Female	4.7 (2.6, 6.8)	4.0 (1.4, 6.5)	5.0 (2.8, 7.2)	
Maternal Age				
19-29	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	
30-34	-0.7 (-3.8, 2.4)	-2.2 (-5.9, 1.4)	-1.8 (-5.0, 1.5)	
35+	1.5 (-1.7, 4.7)	-3.7 (-7.6, 0.1)	-1.3 (-4.7, 2.1)	
Maternal Race				
White	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	
Other	-3.4 (-6.6, -0.2)	-1.6 (-5.4, 2.3)	-2.8 (-6.1, 0.5)	
Maternal Education				
Undergrad	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	
College	0.5 (-4.7, 5.7)	6.3 (0.0, 12.6)	3.5 (-1.9, 9.0)	
Undergrad	4.6 (-0.6, 9.8)	9.9 (3.6, 16.1)	8.2 (2.7, 13.6)	
Grad	7.4 (2.0, 12.8)	10.6 (4.1, 17.1)	10.1 (4.5, 15.8)	
Marital Status				
Married	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	
Unmarried	-2.3 (-4.8, 0.2)	3.2 (0.2, 6.2)	0.4 (-2.3, 3.0)	
Household Income				
<40 000	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	
40 000 - 80 000	-1.2 (-5.4, 3.0)	-3.7 (-8.7, 1.3)	-2.7 (-7.1, 1.7)	
80 000 - 100 000	0.6 (-3.8, 5.0)	-2.6 (-7.9, 2.6)	2.6) -0.9 (-5.5, 3.7)	
>100 000	0.6 (-3.7, 4.9)	-2.2 (-7.4, 3.0)	-0.7 (-5.2, 3.8)	
Parity				
0	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref) 0.0		

1	-2.3 (-4.7, 0.0)	-1.2 (-4.0, 1.7)	-2.0 (-4.4, 0.5)
2	-4.8 (-8.4, -1.3)	-2.3 (-6.6, 2.0)	-4.1 (-7.9, -0.3)
3+	-7.9 (-14.1, -1.8)	-5.8 (-12.2, 0.6)	
Prenatal Smoking			_
No	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)
Yes	-2.3 (-6.2, 1.5)	-4.9 (-9.5, -0.2)	-3.8 (-7.9, 0.2)
Prenatal Alcohol			
No	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)	0.0 (ref)
Yes	2.1 (-0.8, 4.9) 5.0 (1.6, 8.4) 3.9		3.9 (0.9, 6.8)

Table B.2.Covariate-adjusted linear regression coefficients showing the associations between individual chemical biomarkers (2-fold increase in chemical concentration) and WPPSI-III scores in MIREC participants, adjusted for maternal age, race, education, marital status, household income, parity, and prenatal smoking and alcohol, and stratified by child sex, with 95% confidence intervals (n = 517).

	VIQ (95% CI)	PIQ (95% CI)	FSIQ (95% CI)	
Heavy Metals	114 (00/0 01)	1 14 (00 /0 01)	1 313 (30 / 00 / 01)	
Arsenic				
All	-1.3 (-2.5, -0.2)	-0.9 (-2.2, 0.5)	-1.3 (-2.5, -0.1)	
Boys	-1.6 (-3.3, 0.1)	-0.4 (-2.3, 1.5)	-1.2 (-3.0, 0.6)	
Girls	-0.7 (-2.2, 0.9)	-0.7 (-2.7, 1.3)	-0.8 (-2.4, 0.8)	
Cadmium				
All	-1.0 (-2.1, 0.2)	-0.8 (-2.2, 0.5)	-1.1 (-2.3, 0.1)	
Boys	-1.7 (-3.5, 0.2)	-1.6 (-3.8, 0.5)	-1.9 (-3.9, 0.0)	
Girls	-0.2 (-1.6, 1.2)	-0.1 (-2.0, 1.7)	-0.2 (-1.7, 1.3)	
Lead				
All	-1.5 (-3.1, 0.2)	0.4 (-1.6, 2.3)	-0.6 (-2.4, 1.1)	
Boys	-0.9 (-3.4, 1.6)	0.8 (-2.1, 3.7)	0.1 (-2.6, 2.7)	
Girls	-2.5 (-4.7, -0.3)	-0.2 (-3.0, 2.6)	-1.6 (-3.9, 0.7)	
Manganese				
All	-0.1 (-2.6, 2.4)	-0.6 (-3.5, 2.4)	-0.4 (-3.0, 2.2)	
Boys	-0.5 (-4.1, 3.1)	-0.8 (-5.0, 3.4)	-0.8 (-4.6, 3.0)	
Girls	-0.3 (-3.7, 3.1)	-1.0 (-5.3, 3.3)	-0.8 (-4.4, 2.8)	
Mercury				
All	-0.1 (-0.9, 0.7)	0.5 (-0.4, 1.5)	0.2 (-0.6, 1.1)	
Boys	0.2 (-1.1, 1.4)	0.7 (-0.8, 2.1)	0.4 (-0.9, 1.8)	
Girls	-0.1 (-1.1, 0.9)	0.8 (-0.5, 2.1)	0.3 (-0.7, 1.4)	
OCPs				
BBHC				
All	-0.4 (-1.2, 0.4)	0.1 (-0.9, 1.1)	-0.2 (-1.0, 0.7)	
Boys	-0.5 (-1.8, 0.8)	0.1 (-1.4, 1.6) -0.2 (-1.6, 1.		

Girls	-0.4 (-1.5, 0.7) -0.1 (-1.5, 1.3)		-0.3 (-1.4, 0.9)	
DDE				
All	-1.0 (-2.1, 0.1)	-0.3 (-1.6, 1.1)	-0.7 (-1.9, 0.4)	
Boys	-1.5 (-3.2, 0.2)	-0.4 (-2.4, 1.6)	-1.2 (-3.0, 0.6)	
Girls	-0.4 (-1.9, 1.0)	-0.2 (-2.1, 1.7)	-0.3 (-1.9, 1.2)	
Oxychlor				
All	-0.1 (-1.5, 1.4)	1.2 (-0.5, 2.9)	0.6 (-0.9, 2.1)	
Boys	-0.5 (-3.0, 2.0)	1.9 (-1.0, 4.7)	0.7 (-1.9, 3.3)	
Girls	0.2 (-1.6, 2.0)	1.2 (-1.1, 3.5)	0.7 (-1.2, 2.6)	
Transnona				
All	-0.7 (-2.1, 0.7)	0.6 (-1.1, 2.3)	-0.2 (-1.7, 1.3)	
Boys	-1.6 (-3.8, 0.7)	0.0 (-2.6, 2.7)	-1.0 (-3.4, 1.4)	
Girls	-0.4 (-2.2, 1.5)	1.2 (-1.1, 3.6)	0.3 (-1.6, 2.3)	
Sum of OCP				
All	-0.6 (-2.2, 0.9)	0.9 (-1.0, 2.8)	0.0 (-1.6, 1.7)	
Boys	-1.4 (-4.0, 1.1)	0.7 (-2.2, 3.6)	-0.5 (-3.2, 2.1)	
Girls	-0.3 (-2.3, 1.8)	1.5 (-1.1, 4.1)	0.5 (-1.6, 2.7)	
OPPs				
DEP				
All	-0.3 (-1.1, 0.6)	-0.6 (-1.7, 0.4)	-0.5 (-1.4, 0.4)	
Boys	-1.3 (-2.8, 0.1)	-0.7 (-2.4, 1.0)	-1.2 (-2.7, 0.4)	
Girls	0.4 (-0.6, 1.5)	-0.6 (-1.9, 0.8)	-0.1 (-1.1, 1.0)	
DETP				
All	0.3 (-0.5, 1.1)	0.5 (-0.5, 1.4)	0.4 (-0.4, 1.3)	
Boys	-0.5 (-1.7, 0.7)	-0.2 (-1.6, 1.1)	-0.4 (-1.6, 0.9)	
Girls	1.0 (-0.1, 2.1)	1.3 (-0.1, 2.7)	1.3 (0.1, 2.4)	
DMDTP				
All	0.4 (-0.2, 1.0)	0.1 (-0.6, 0.7)	0.3 (-0.3, 0.9)	
Boys	0.6 (-0.4, 1.6)	-0.2 (-1.3, 0.9)	0.3 (-0.7, 1.3)	
Girls	0.1 (-0.6, 0.8)	0.1 (-0.8, 1.0)	0.1 (-0.6, 0.9)	
DMP				
All	0.2 (-0.6, 0.9)	-0.2 (-1.1, 0.7)	0.0 (-0.8, 0.8)	

Boys	-0.2 (-1.4, 1.0)	-0.1 (-1.4, 1.3)	-0.1 (-1.4, 1.1)	
Girls	0.4 (-0.6, 1.4)	-0.5 (-1.8, 0.7)	0.0 (-1.0, 1.1)	
DMTP				
All	0.2 (-0.3, 0.8)	-0.2 (-0.9, 0.5)	0.0 (-0.5, 0.6)	
Boys	0.2 (-0.6, 1.1)	-0.1 (-1.2, 0.9)	0.1 (-0.8, 1.0)	
Girls	0.3 (-0.4, 0.9)	-0.2 (-1.1, 0.6)	0.0 (-0.7, 0.7)	
Phthalates				
MBP				
All	-0.3 (-1.2, 0.6)	-1.0 (-2.1, 0.0)	-0.8 (-1.7, 0.2)	
Boys	-0.9 (-2.3, 0.5)	-1.6 (-3.2, -0.1)	-1.4 (-2.9, 0.0)	
Girls	0.7 (-0.5, 1.9)	-0.2 (-1.7, 1.3)	0.3 (-1.0, 1.5)	
MBZP				
All	0.0 (-0.8, 0.8)	0.1 (-0.9, 1.1)	0.0 (-0.8, 0.9)	
Boys	0.1 (-1.2, 1.4)	0.3 (-1.2, 1.8)	0.2 (-1.1, 1.6)	
Girls	0.0 (-1.0, 1.1)	0.0 (-1.4, 1.3)	-0.1 (-1.2, 1.0)	
MCPP				
All	-0.2 (-0.8, 0.4)	-0.9 (-1.7, -0.2)	-0.6 (-1.3, 0.0)	
Boys	-0.1 (-1.0, 0.8)	-0.7 (-1.7, 0.4)	-0.4 (-1.3, 0.5)	
Girls	0.1 (-0.7, 1.0)	-0.9 (-2.0, 0.2)	-0.4 (-1.3, 0.5)	
MEHHP				
All	-0.3 (-1.3, 0.6)	-0.9 (-2.0, 0.3)	-0.6 (-1.6, 0.4)	
Boys	-0.5 (-1.9, 1.0)	-1.0 (-2.7, 0.7)	-0.8 (-2.3, 0.8)	
Girls	0.4 (-0.8, 1.7)	-0.3 (-1.9, 1.3)	0.1 (-1.3, 1.4)	
MEHP				
All	-0.7 (-1.7, 0.3)	-0.8 (-1.9, 0.3)	-0.8 (-1.8, 0.2)	
Boys	-0.5 (-1.9, 0.9)	-0.6 (-2.3, 1.0)	-0.6 (-2.1, 0.9)	
Girls	-0.2 (-1.5, 1.1)	-0.6 (-2.2, 1.0)	-0.5 (-1.8, 0.9)	
MEOHP				
All	-0.4 (-1.4, 0.7)	-1.0 (-2.3, 0.2)	-0.8 (-1.9, 0.3)	
Boys	-0.3 (-1.9, 1.3)	-1.1 (-2.9, 0.7)	-0.7 (-2.4, 1.0)	
Girls	0.3 (-1.1, 1.7)	-0.6 (-2.3, 1.2)	-0.2 (-1.6, 1.3)	

MEP

All	-0.2 (-0.8, 0.3)	0.0 (-0.6, 0.7)	-0.1 (-0.7, 0.4)	
Boys	0.7 (-0.2, 1.6)	0.4 (-0.7, 1.4)	0.7 (-0.3, 1.6)	
Girls	-0.8 (-1.5, -0.2)	-0.2 (-1.1, 0.6)	-0.6 (-1.3, 0.1)	
Sum of DEHP				
All	-0.4 (-1.5, 0.6)	-1.0 (-2.2, 0.3)	-0.7 (-1.8, 0.3)	
Boys	-0.5 (-2.0, 1.1)	-1.1 (-2.8, 0.7)	-0.8 (-2.4, 0.8)	
Girls	0.3 (-1.0, 1.7)	-0.4 (-2.2, 1.3)	-0.1 (-1.5, 1.4)	
PCBs				
Aroclor				
All	-0.9 (-2.1, 0.3)	0.5 (-0.9, 1.9)	-0.3 (-1.5, 1.0)	
Boys	-1.1 (-2.9, 0.8)	0.5 (-1.6, 2.7)	-0.4 (-2.3, 1.6)	
Girls	-1.1 (-2.7, 0.4)	0.3 (-1.7, 2.2)	-0.5 (-2.2, 1.1)	
PCB118				
All	-1.1 (-2.4, 0.2)	1.0 (-0.5, 2.5)	-0.1 (-1.5, 1.2)	
Boys	-1.7 (-3.6, 0.2)	0.4 (-1.8, 2.6)	-0.8 (-2.8, 1.2)	
Girls	-0.6 (-2.2, 1.1)	1.5 (-0.6, 3.6)	0.5 (-1.3, 2.2)	
PCB138				
All	-1.0 (-2.2, 0.2)	0.0 (-1.4, 1.4)	-0.6 (-1.8, 0.6)	
Boys	-1.2 (-3.1, 0.8)	0.2 (-2.0, 2.4)	-0.6 (-2.7, 1.4)	
Girls	-1.0 (-2.4, 0.5)	-0.3 (-2.1, 1.6)	-0.7 (-2.3, 0.8)	
PCB153				
All	-0.8 (-2.0, 0.4)	0.6 (-0.8, 2.1)	-0.2 (-1.4, 1.1)	
Boys	-0.9 (-2.8, 1.0)	0.5 (-1.7, 2.7)	-0.3 (-2.3, 1.7)	
Girls	-1.1 (-2.7, 0.4)	0.5 (-1.4, 2.5)	-0.4 (-2.0, 1.2)	
PCB170				
All	-0.3 (-1.4, 0.7)	1.1 (-0.2, 2.3)	0.4 (-0.7, 1.5)	
Boys	-0.5 (-2.2, 1.1)	0.7 (-1.2, 2.5)	0.0 (-1.7, 1.8)	
Girls	-0.6 (-2.0, 0.7)	1.1 (-0.7, 2.8)	0.2 (-1.2, 1.6)	
PCB180				
All	-0.2 (-1.3, 0.8)	0.9 (-0.3, 2.2)	0.4 (-0.8, 1.5)	
Boys	-0.3 (-2.0, 1.4)	1.1 (-0.9, 3.0)	0.4 (-1.4, 2.2)	
Girls	-0.7 (-2.0, 0.7)	0.5 (-1.2, 2.2)	-0.1 (-1.5, 1.3)	

PCB187			_	
All	0.2 (-1.0, 1.4)	0.8 (-0.6, 2.2)	0.6 (-0.7, 1.8)	
Boys	0.3 (-1.6, 2.1)	0.5 (-1.6, 2.7)	0.4 (-1.6, 2.4)	
Girls	-0.2 (-1.7, 1.3)	0.9 (-0.9, 2.8)	0.4 (-1.2, 1.9)	
Sum of PCBs				
All	-0.9 (-2.1, 0.4)	0.8 (-0.7, 2.2)	-0.1 (-1.4, 1.2)	
Boys	-1.1 (-3.0, 0.9)	0.6 (-1.6, 2.9)	-0.3 (-2.4, 1.8)	
Girls	-1.0 (-2.6, 0.5)	0.6 (-1.4, 2.6)	-0.3 (-2.0, 1.4)	
PBDEs				
BDE47				
All	-0.6 (-1.3, 0.2)	-0.2 (-1.1, 0.7)	-0.4 (-1.2, 0.4)	
Boys	-1.0 (-2.1, 0.2)	-0.2 (-1.6, 1.2)	-0.6 (-1.9, 0.6)	
Girls	0.1 (-0.8, 1.1)	0.0 (-1.2, 1.3)	0.1 (-0.9, 1.2)	
Smoking Metabolites	1			
Cotinine				
All	-0.1 (-0.5, 0.2)	-0.1 (-0.6, 0.3)	-0.2 (-0.5, 0.2)	
Boys	-0.1 (-0.7, 0.4)	0.0 (-0.7, 0.6)	-0.1 (-0.7, 0.5)	
Girls	-0.1 (-0.6, 0.4)	-0.1 (-0.7, 0.5)	-0.1 (-0.6, 0.3)	

Table B.3.Demographic characteristics for the total study population and for participants in each cluster generated by k-means clustering.

	Total	Ref	High Level	Low Level	High OPPs	Smoking Chemicals
	n = 517	n = 119	n = 111	n = 131	n = 138	n = 18
Child Sex						
Male	49	46	47	56	46	50
Female	51	54	53	44	54	50
Maternal Age						
19-30	21	13	7	30	27	39
30-35	39	41	30	37	47	28
35+	41	46	63	34	26	33
Maternal Race						
White	86	93	77	85	86	89
Other	14	7	23	15	14	11
Maternal Education						
Highschool	5	3	2	10	4	22
College	27	19	23	35	29	39
Undergrad	39	45	36	31	43	39
Grad	29	34	40	24	24	0
Marital Status						
Married	72	84	72	69	68	50
Unmarried	28	16	28	31	32	50
Household Income						
< 40 000	10	4	9	13	8	39
40 000 - 80 000	29	24	26	37	30	17
80 000 - 100 000	21	26	17	18	23	11
> 100 000	41	46	48	32	39	33
Parity						
0	44	34	55	38	47	50
1	41	48	37	44	38	33

2	12	14	7	13	12	17
3+	3	4	1	5	4	0
Prenatal Smoking						
No	91	97	92	93	95	11
Yes	9	3	8	7	5	89
Prenatal Alcohol						
No	83	83	78	90	83	56
Yes	17	17	22	10	17	44

Table B.4.Covariate-adjusted linear regression coefficients showing the associations between membership in k-means clusters and WPPSI-III scores, adjusted for maternal age, race, education, marital status, household income, parity, and prenatal alcohol, compared to medium level Reference class membership. Results shown for all children, and then stratified by sex, with 95% confidence intervals (n = 517).

	VIQ (95% CI)	PIQ (95% CI)	FSIQ (95% CI)
Intercept			
All	105.0	99.1	102.4
Boys	103.2	99.3	101.5
Girls	106.6	98.0	102.4
High Level			
All	-1.3 (-4.6, 2.0)	0.1 (-3.8, 4.0)	-0.8 (-4.2, 2.7)
Boys	-2.2 (-7.3, 3.0)	0.9 (-5.1, 6.8)	-0.7 (-6.2, 4.7)
Girls	-0.3 (-4.5, 3.9)	-1.1 (-6.4, 4.2)	-0.8 (-5.4, 3.4)
Low Level			
All	0.3 (-2.9, 3.4)	-2.2 (-6.0, 1.5)	-1.1 (-4.4, 2.3)
Boys	0.6 (-4.2, 5.4)	-1.3 (-6.9, 4.2)	-0.3 (-5.4, 4.8)
Girls	0.7 (-3.5, 4.9)	-2.6 (-7.9, 2.8)	-1.1 (-5.6, 3.3)
High OPPs			
All	0.4 (-2.7, 3.5)	-1.9 (-5.6, 1.7)	-0.7 (-3.9, 2.6)
Boys	-1.9 (-6.9, 3.1)	-3.2 (-9.0, 2.6)	-2.7 (-8.1, 2.6)
Girls	2.4 (-1.4, 6.3)	-0.7 (-5.6, 4.1)	-0.7 (-2.9, 5.1)
Smoking Chemi	cals		
All	-2.6 (-9.0, 3.9)	-7.3 (-14.9, 0.3)	-5.6 (-12.4, 1.1)
Boys	-3.5 (-13.4, 6.3)	-5.3 (-16.7, 6.0)	-5.0 (-15.4, 5.4)
Girls	-1.6 (-9.9, 6.6)	-9.0 (-19.5, 1.6)	-5.6 (-14.7, 2.7)

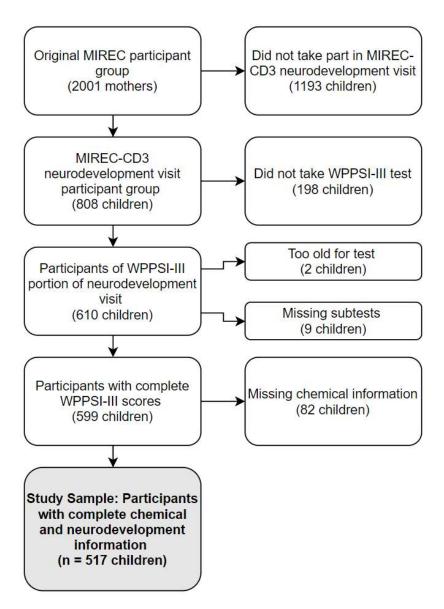


Figure B.1.Study sample flow chart.

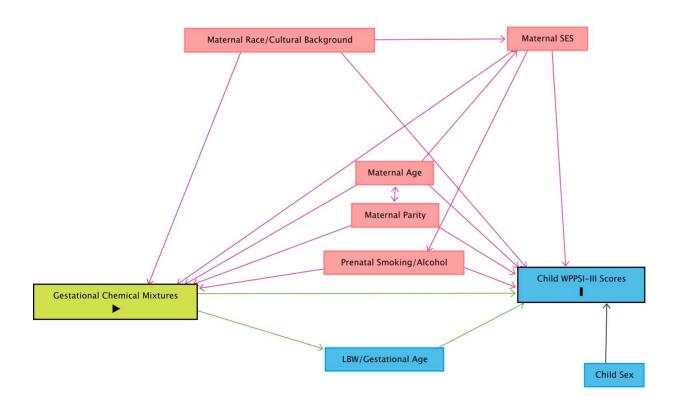


Figure B.2.

Directed acyclic graph (DAG) showing confounders and mediators of the effects of gestational chemical mixtures on child WPPSI-III scores.

Appendix C. LPA Code

```
```{r basic prep}
packages
library(mclust)
library(tidyLPA)
library(dplyr)
library(plyr)
library(ggplot2)
library(pheatmap)
library(readr)
library(readxl)
library (Weighted. Desc. Stat)
library(ggpubr)
preparing the data:
all data <- read csv("AY MIREC Analysis July22 2020.csv")
all data <- filter(all data, sex2!="NA")</pre>
chem data <- all data[,c(2:10, 12:23, 25:31, 33, 38)]</pre>
chem data <- rename(chem data, c("log2.arsenic.t1" = "As", "log2.cadmium.t1"</pre>
= "Cd", "log2.lead.t1" = "Pb", "log2.manganese.t1" = "Mn",
"log2.mercury.t1" = "Hg", "log2.bbhc.t1" = "BBHC", "log2.dde.t1" = "DDE",
"log2.oxychlor.t1" = "Oxy.", "log2.transnona.t1" = "Trans.", "log2.dep.t1" =
"DEP", "log2.detp.t1" = "DETP", "log2.dmdtp.t1" = "DMDTP", "log2.dmp.t1" = "DMP", "log2.dmtp.t1" = "DMTP", "log2.mbpp.t1" = "MBP", "log2.mbzp.t1" =
"MBZP", "log2.mcpp.t1" = "MCPP", "log2.mehhp.t1" = "MEHHP", "log2.mehp.t1" =
"MEHP", "log2.meohp.t1" = "MEOHP", "log2.mep.t1" = "MEP", "log2.aroclor.t1" =
"Aro.", "log2.pcb118.t1" = "PCB118", "log2.pcb138.t1" = "PCB138",
"log2.pcb153.t1" = "PCB153", "log2.pcb170.t1" = "PCB170", "log2.pcb180.t1" =
"PCB180", "log2.pcb187.t1" = "PCB187", "log2.bde47.t1" = "BDE47",
"log2.cot.t1" = "Cot."))
chemicals <- c("As", "Cd", "Pb", "Mn", "Hg", "BBHC", "DDE", "Oxy.", "Trans.", "DEP", "DETP", "DMDTP", "DMP", "DMTP", "MBP", "MBZP", "MCPP", "MEHHP",
"MEHP", "MEOHP", "MEP", "Aro.", "PCB118", "PCB138", "PCB153", "PCB170",
"PCB180", "PCB187", "BDE47", "Cot.")
```{r choosing number of profiles and assumptions about variance/covariance}
# Model 1 = equal variance and covariance set to zero
chem data %>%
  estimate profiles (models = 1, n profiles = c(1:12)) %>%
  compare solutions(statistics = c("BIC", "AIC"))
# Model 2 = varying variance and covariance set to zero
chem data %>%
  estimate profiles (models = 2, n profiles = c(1:10)) %>%
  compare solutions(statistics = c("BIC", "AIC"))
# Model 3 = equal variance and equal covariance
chem data %>%
  estimate profiles (models = 3, n profiles = c(1:8)) %>%
```

```
compare solutions(statistics = c("BIC", "AIC"))
# Model 4 = varying variance and varying covariance
chem data %>%
  estimate profiles (models = 4, n profiles = c(1:5)) %>%
  compare solutions(statistics = c("BIC", "AIC"))
# The BIC chose Model 3 with 5 profiles and Model 4 with 2 profiles. For
interpretation I'll be using the one with 5 profiles.
```{r estimating profiles and making the dataset}
Generating profiles (~5 minutes):
profile.estimate <- (chem data %>%
 estimate profiles(models=3, n profiles = 5))
finding the posterior probabilities:
probabilities <- get data(profile.estimate)</pre>
probabilities <- data.frame("class" = probabilities$Class, "prob ref" =</pre>
probabilities$CPROB2, "prob_high" = probabilities$CPROB1, "prob low" =
probabilities$CPROB5, "prob opp" = probabilities$CPROB4, "prob smoking" =
probabilities$CPROB3, "child sex" = all data$sex2)
probabilities <- filter(probabilities, child sex!="NA")</pre>
making the final dataset:
final chem <- data.frame("subject id" = all data$subject.id, "class" =</pre>
probabilities$class, "prob ref" = probabilities$prob ref, "prob high" =
probabilities$prob high, "prob low" = probabilities$prob low, "prob opp" =
probabilities$prob opp, "prob smoking" = probabilities$prob smoking,
"arsenic" = all data$log2.arsenic.t1, "cadmium" = all data$log2.cadmium.t1,
"lead" = all data$log2.lead.t1, "manganese" = all data$log2.manganese.t1,
"mercury" = all data$log2.mercury.t1, "bbhc" = all data$log2.bbhc.t1, "dde" =
all data$log2.dde.t1, "oxychlor" = all data$log2.oxychlor.t1, "transnona" =
all_data$log2.transnona.t1, "dep" = all_data$log2.dep.t1, "detp" =
all data$log2.detp.t1, "dmdtp" = all data$log2.dmdtp.t1, "dmp" =
all_data$log2.dmp.t1, "dmtp" = all_data$log2.dmtp.t1, "mbp" =
all data$log2.mbp.t1, "mbzp" = all data$log2.mbzp.t1, "mcpp" =
all_data$log2.mcpp.t1, "mehhp" = all_data$log2.mehhp.t1, "mehp" =
all_data$log2.mehp.t1, "meohp" = all_data$log2.meohp.t1, "mep" =
all data$log2.mep.t1, "aroclor" = all data$log2.aroclor.t1, "pcb118" =
all_data$log2.pcb118.t1, "pcb138" = all_data$log2.pcb138.t1, "pcb153" =
all_data$log2.pcb153.t1, "pcb170" = all_data$log2.pcb170.t1, "pcb180" =
all_data$log2.pcb180.t1, "pcb187" = all_data$log2.pcb187.t1, "bde47" =
all data$log2.bde47.t1, "cot" = all data$log2.cot.t1, "birth length" =
all data$birth.length, "birth weight" = all data$birth.wt, "gest age" =
all data$gest.age, "preterm birth" = all data$preterm2, "lbw" =
imputed data$1bw2, "lga" = all_data$1ga2, "live_birth" =
all data$live.birth2, "child sex" = all data$sex2, "small for ga" =
all data$sga2, "alc" = imputed data$alc2, "city" = all data$city10, "couple"
= all data$couple2, "mom education" = imputed data$edu4, "household income" =
imputed data$income4, "living status" = all data$living.status2, "married" =
all data$married2, "maternal age" = all data$mom.age3, "mom birthplace" =
all data$mom.birthplace2, "maternal obesity" = all data$obese2, "parity" =
all data$parity4, "prepreg bmi" = all data$prepreg.bmi4, "race aboriginal" =
```

```
all data$race.aboriginal2, "race asian2" = all data$race.asian2,
"race black2" = all data$race.black2, "race latin2" = all data$race.latin2,
"race other2" = all data$race.other2, "race white2" = all data$race.white2,
"test site" = all data$site11, "smoker" = all data$smoker2, "wppsi 1" =
all data$wppsi.1, "wppsi 2" = all data$wppsi.2, "wppsi 3" = all data$wppsi.3,
"wppsi 4" = all data$wppsi.4, "wppsi 5" = all data$wppsi.5, "viq" =
all data$viq, "piq" = all data$piq, "fsiq" = all data$fsiq,
"general language" = all data$general.language)
final chem <- filter(final chem, child sex!="NA")</pre>
```{r weighted mean values for each chemical in each profile}
# Calculating mean biomarker concentrations of each chemical weighted by
posterior probabilities:
weighted mean high <- weighted mean ref <- weighted mean smoking <-
weighted mean opp <- weighted mean low <- weighted sd high <- weighted sd ref
<- weighted sd smoking <- weighted sd opp <- weighted sd low <- rep(0,30)
for(w in 1:30) {
  weighted mean high[w] <- weighted.mean(final chem[, (7+w)],</pre>
final chem$prob high)
  weighted sd high[w] <- w.sd(final chem[,(7+w)], final chem$prob high)</pre>
  weighted mean ref[w] <- weighted.mean(final chem[, (7+w)],</pre>
final chem$prob ref)
  weighted sd ref[w] \leftarrow w.sd(final chem[,(7+w)], final chem$prob ref)
  weighted mean smoking[w] <- weighted.mean(final chem[,(7+w)],</pre>
final chem$prob smoking)
  weighted sd smoking[w] <- w.sd(final chem[,(7+w)], final chem$prob smoking)
  weighted mean opp[w] <- weighted.mean(final chem[,(7+w)],</pre>
final chem$prob opp)
  weighted sd opp[w] <- w.sd(final chem[,(7+w)], final chem$prob opp)
  weighted mean low[w] <- weighted.mean(final chem[, (7+w)],</pre>
final chem$prob low)
  weighted sd low[w] <- w.sd(final chem[,(7+w)], final chem$prob low)
weighted means <- data.frame(chemicals, weighted mean ref, weighted sd ref,
weighted mean high, weighted sd high, weighted mean low, weighted sd low,
weighted mean opp, weighted sd opp, weighted mean smoking,
weighted sd smoking)
. . .
```{r calculating z scores}
\# Converting means to z-scores for heat map:
z arsenic <- z cadmium <- z lead <- z manganese <- z mercury <- z bbhc <-
z dde <- z oxychlor <- z transnona <- z dep <- z detp <- z dmdtp <- z dmp <-
z dmtp <- z mbp <- z mbp <- z mcpp <- z mehhp <- z mehp <- z meohp <- z mep
<- z_aroclor <- z_pcb118 <- z pcb138 <- z pcb153 <- z pcb170 <- z pcb180 <-
z pcb187 <- z bde47 <- z cotinine <- rep(0,517)</pre>
for (z in 1:517) {
```

```
z arsenic[z] <- (final chem$arsenic[z]-</pre>
mean(final chem$arsenic))/sd(final chem$arsenic)
 z cadmium[z] <- (final chem$cadmium[z]-</pre>
mean(final chem$cadmium))/sd(final chem$cadmium)
 z lead[z] <- (final chem$lead[z]-mean(final chem$lead))/sd(final chem$lead)</pre>
 z manganese[z] <- (final chem$manganese[z]-</pre>
mean(final chem$manganese))/sd(final chem$manganese)
 z mercury[z] <- (final chem$mercury[z]-</pre>
mean(final chem$mercury))/sd(final chem$mercury)
 z bbhc[z] <- (final chem$bbhc[z]-mean(final chem$bbhc))/sd(final chem$bbhc)</pre>
 z dde[z] \leftarrow (final chem\$dde[z]-mean(final chem\$dde))/sd(final chem\$dde)
 z oxychlor[z] <- (final chem$oxychlor[z]-</pre>
mean(final chem$oxychlor))/sd(final chem$oxychlor)
 z transnona[z] <- (final chem$transnona[z]-</pre>
mean(final chem$transnona))/sd(final chem$transnona)
 z dep[z] <- (final chem$dep[z]-mean(final chem$dep))/sd(final chem$dep)</pre>
 z_{detp[z]} <- (final_chem\$detp[z]-mean(final_chem\$detp))/sd(final_chem\$detp)
 z dmdtp[z] <- (final chem$dmdtp[z]-</pre>
mean(final chem$dmdtp))/sd(final chem$dmdtp)
 z dmp[z] <- (final chem$dmp[z]-mean(final chem$dmp))/sd(final chem$dmp)</pre>
 z dmtp[z] <- (final chem$dmtp[z]-mean(final chem$dmtp))/sd(final chem$dmtp)</pre>
 z mbp[z] <- (final chem$mbp[z]-mean(final chem$mbp))/sd(final chem$mbp)</pre>
 z mbzp[z] <- (final chem$mbzp[z]-mean(final chem$mbzp))/sd(final chem$mbzp)</pre>
 z mehhp[z] <- (final chem$mehhp[z]-</pre>
mean(final chem$mehhp))/sd(final chem$mehhp)
 z mehp[z] <- (final chem$mehp[z]-mean(final chem$mehp))/sd(final chem$mehp)</pre>
 z meohp[z] <- (final chem$meohp[z]-</pre>
mean(final chem$meohp))/sd(final chem$meohp)
 z mep[z] <- (final chem$mep[z]-mean(final chem$mep))/sd(final chem$mep)</pre>
 z \ aroclor[z] \leftarrow (final \ chem$aroclor[z] -
mean(final chem$aroclor))/sd(final chem$aroclor)
 z pcb118[z] \leftarrow (final chem$pcb118[z] -
mean(final chem$pcb118))/sd(final chem$pcb118)
 z_pcb138[z] \leftarrow (final_chem$pcb138[z] -
mean(final chem$pcb138))/sd(final chem$pcb138)
 z \text{ pcb153}[z] \leftarrow (\text{final chem} \text{$pcb153}[z] -
mean(final chem$pcb153))/sd(final chem$pcb153)
 z pcb170[z] \leftarrow (final chem$pcb170[z] -
mean(final chem$pcb170))/sd(final chem$pcb170)
 z pcb180[z] \leftarrow (final chem$pcb180[z] -
mean(final chem$pcb180))/sd(final chem$pcb180)
 z pcb187[z] \leftarrow (final chem$pcb187[z] -
mean(final chem$pcb187))/sd(final chem$pcb187)
 z_bde47[z] \leftarrow (final_chem$bde47[z] -
mean(final chem$bde47))/sd(final chem$bde47)
 z cotinine[z] <- (final chem$cot[z]-</pre>
mean(final chem$cot))/sd(final chem$cot)
z scores <- data.frame(final chem$subject id, final chem$class,</pre>
final chem$prob ref, final chem$prob high, final chem$prob low,
final chem$prob opp, final chem$prob smoking, z arsenic, z cadmium, z lead,
z manganese, z mercury, z bbhc, z dde, z oxychlor, z transnona, z dep,
z detp, z dmdtp, z dmp, z dmtp, z mbp, z mbzp, z mcpp, z mehhp, z mehp,
z meohp, z mep, z aroclor, z pcb118, z pcb138, z pcb153, z pcb170, z pcb180,
z pcb187, z bde47, z cotinine)
```

```
Finding the weighted means of the z scores
weighted zmean high <- weighted zmean ref <- weighted zmean smoking <-
weighted zmean opp <- weighted zmean low <- weighted zsd high <-
weighted zsd ref <- weighted zsd smoking <- weighted zsd opp <-
weighted zsd low <- rep(0,30)</pre>
for(w in 1:30) {
 weighted zmean high[w] <- weighted.mean(z scores[, (7+w)],</pre>
z scores$final chem.prob high)
 weighted zsd high[w] <- w.sd(z scores[, (7+w)],</pre>
z scores$final chem.prob high)
 weighted zmean ref[w] <- weighted.mean(z scores[, (7+w)],</pre>
z scores$final chem.prob ref)
 weighted_zsd_ref[w] <- w.sd(z_scores[,(7+w)], z_scores$final_chem.prob_ref)</pre>
 weighted zmean smoking[w] <- weighted.mean(z scores[, (7+w)],</pre>
z scores$final chem.prob smoking)
 weighted_zsd_smoking[w] <- w.sd(z_scores[,(7+w)],</pre>
z scores$final chem.prob smoking)
 weighted zmean opp[w] <- weighted.mean(z scores[, (7+w)],</pre>
z scores$final chem.prob opp)
 weighted zsd opp[w] <- w.sd(z scores[, (7+w)], z scores$final chem.prob opp)</pre>
 weighted zmean low[w] <- weighted.mean(z scores[, (7+w)],</pre>
z scores$final chem.prob low)
 weighted_zsd_low[w] <- w.sd(z_scores[,(7+w)], z_scores\$final_chem.prob_low)
weighted zmeans <- data.frame(chemicals, weighted zmean ref,
weighted zsd ref, weighted zmean high, weighted zsd high, weighted zmean low,
weighted zsd low, weighted zmean opp, weighted zsd opp,
weighted zmean smoking, weighted zsd smoking)
```{r heatmap of z scores}
# colour:
breaksList = seq(-3,3, by = 0.1)
col <- colorRampPalette(c("navy", "blue", "white", "red",</pre>
"red4")) (length(breaksList))
#labels:
x lab <- c("Ref", "High Level", "Low Level", "High OPPs", "Smoking
Chemicals")
# using pheatmap because it lets me do a legend and play with the labels,
which heatmap and heatmap.2 don't let me do:
pheatmap(weighted zmeans[,-c(1,3,5,7,9,11)],
        Colv=NA, Rowv=NA, cluster rows = FALSE, cluster cols = FALSE, #
getting rid of the the dendrogram and the clustering
        cellwidth = 20, # changing the size of the cells
        color=col, breaks = breaksList, # picking the colours
        labels col = x lab, labels row = chemicals, angle col = 45) # row and
column labels
```

```
```{r plotting the profiles}
mean and sd biomarker concentrations in each profile
heavy metals, cotinine, and bde47:
metals bde cot <- c("As", "Cd", "Pb", "Mn", "Hg", "BDE47", "Cot.")
metals plot <- plot profiles(profile.estimate, rawdata=FALSE, ci=NULL,</pre>
variables = metals bde cot) + rremove("xlab") + rremove("ylab") +
rremove("legend") + theme(text = element text(size=9.75))
metals plot
OCPs and OPPs:
pesticides <- c("BBHC", "DDE", "Oxy.", "Trans.", "DEP", "DETP", "DMDTP",
"DMP", "DMTP")
pesticides_plot <- plot_profiles(profile.estimate, rawdata=FALSE, ci=NULL,</pre>
variables = pesticides) + rremove("xlab") + rremove("ylab") +
rremove("legend") + theme(text = element text(size=9.75))
pesticides plot
Phthalates:
phthalates <- c("MBP", "MBZP", "MCPP", "MEHHP", "MEHP", "MEOHP", "MEP")
phthalates_plot <- plot_profiles(profile.estimate, rawdata=FALSE, ci=NULL,</pre>
variables = phthalates) + rremove("xlab") + rremove("ylab") +
rremove("legend") + theme(text = element text(size=9.75))
phthalates plot
PCBs:
pcbs <- c("Aro.", "PCB118", "PCB138", "PCB153", "PCB170", "PCB180", "PCB187")</pre>
pcbs plot <- plot profiles(profile.estimate, rawdata=FALSE, ci=NULL,</pre>
variables = pcbs) + rremove("xlab") + rremove("ylab") + rremove("legend") +
theme(text = element text(size=9.75))
pcbs plot
ggarrange (metals plot, pesticides plot, phthalates plot, pcbs plot, nrow=2,
ncol=2)
```{r unadjusted probabilistic multiple regression analysis}
# regression analysis with all the probabilistic profiles in one model,
unadjusted
# VIO
lm unadj all viq <- lm(final chemviq \sim final chem<math>prob high +
final chem$prob low + final chem$prob opp + final chem$prob smoking +
final chem$prob ref)
summary(lm unadj all viq)
lm unadj all viq$coefficients
# PIQ
```

```
lm unadj all piq <- lm(final chempiq \sim final chemprob high +
final chem$prob low + final chem$prob opp + final chem$prob smoking +
final chem$prob ref)
summary(lm unadj all piq)
# FSIO
lm unadj all fsiq <- lm(final chem$fsiq ~ final chem$prob high +</pre>
final chem$prob low + final chem$prob opp + final chem$prob smoking +
final chem$prob ref)
summary(lm unadj all fsiq)
```{r stratifying by sex}
final boys <- filter(final chem, child sex==0)</pre>
final_girls <- filter(final_chem, child_sex==1)</pre>
VIQ for boys:
lm unadj all boys vig <- lm(final boys$vig ~ final boys$prob high +</pre>
final boys$prob low + final boys$prob opp + final boys$prob smoking +
final boys$prob ref)
summary(lm unadj all boys viq)
PIQ for boys:
lm unadj all boys piq <- lm(final boys$piq ~ final boys$prob high +</pre>
final_boys$prob_low + final_boys$prob_opp + final boys$prob smoking +
final boys$prob ref)
summary(lm unadj all boys piq)
FSIQ for boys:
lm unadj all boys fsiq <- lm(final boys$fsiq ~ final boys$prob high +</pre>
final boys$prob low + final boys$prob opp + final boys$prob smoking +
final boys$prob ref)
summary(lm unadj all boys fsiq)
VIQ for girls:
lm unadj all girls viq <- lm(final girls$viq ~ final girls$prob high +</pre>
final girls$prob low + final girls$prob opp + final girls$prob smoking +
final girls$prob ref)
summary(lm unadj all girls viq)
PIQ for girls:
lm unadj all girls piq <- lm(final girls$piq ~ final girls$prob high +</pre>
final girls$prob low + final girls$prob opp + final girls$prob smoking +
final girls$prob ref)
summary(lm unadj all girls piq)
FSIQ for girls:
lm unadj all girls fsiq <- lm(final girls$fsiq ~ final girls$prob high +</pre>
final girls$prob low + final girls$prob opp + final girls$prob smoking +
final girls$prob ref)
summary(lm unadj all girls fsiq)
```

```
```{r dummy variables for other demographics}
final chem <- mutate(final chem, sex male = ifelse(child sex == 0, 1, 0),
sex female = ifelse(child sex == 1, 1, 0), age nineteen = ifelse(maternal age
== 1, 1, 0), age thirty = ifelse(maternal age == 2, 1, 0), age thirtyfive =
ifelse (maternal age == 3, 1, 0), maternal race = ifelse (race aboriginal == 1
| race asian2 == 1 | race black2 == 1 | race latin2 == 1 | race other2 == 1,
1, 0), edu hs = ifelse(mom education == 1, 1, 0), edu college =
ifelse(mom_education == 2, 1, 0), edu_undergrad = ifelse(mom_education == 3,
1, 0), edu grad = ifelse(mom education == 4, 1, 0), income under forty =
ifelse(household income == 1, 1, 0), income forty = ifelse(household income
== 2, 1, 0), income eighty = ifelse(household income == 3, 1, 0),
income hundred = ifelse(household income == 4, 1, 0), parity_zero =
ifelse(parity == 1, 1, 0), parity_one = ifelse(parity == 2, 1, 0), parity_two
= ifelse(parity == 3, 1, 0), parity_three_plus = ifelse(parity == 4, 1, 0),
non smoker = ifelse(smoker == 0, 1, \overline{0}), \overline{\text{smoker}} = ifelse(smoker == 1, 1, 0),
no prenatal alc = ifelse(alc == 0, 1, 0), prenatal alc = ifelse(alc == 1, 1,
0))
# Updating the stratified dataset:
final boys <- filter(final chem, child sex==0)</pre>
final girls <- filter(final chem, child sex==1)</pre>
```{r adjusted linear regression}
all children:
lm adj all viq <- lm(final chem$viq ~ final chem$prob high +
final chem$prob low + final chem$prob opp + final chem$prob smoking +
final chem$prob ref + final chem$age thirty + final chem$age thirtyfive +
final chem$race other2 + final chem$edu college + final chem$edu undergrad +
final chem$edu grad + final chem$married + final chem$income forty +
final chem$income eighty + final chem$income hundred + final chem$parity one
+ final chem$parity two + final chem$parity three plus +
final chem$prenatal alc)
summary(lm adj all viq)
lm adj all piq <- lm(final chem$piq ~ final chem$prob high +</pre>
final chem$prob low + final chem$prob opp + final chem$prob smoking +
final_chem$prob_ref + final_chem$age_thirty + final_chem$age_thirtyfive +
final_chem$race_other2 + final_chem$edu_college + final_chem$edu_undergrad +
final chem$edu grad + final chem$married + final chem$income forty +
final chem$income eighty + final chem$income hundred + final chem$parity one
+ final chem$parity two + final chem$parity three plus +
final chem$prenatal alc)
summary(lm adj all piq)
lm adj all fsiq <- lm(final chem$fsiq ~ final chem$prob high +</pre>
final chem$prob low + final chem$prob opp + final chem$prob smoking +
final chem$prob ref + final chem$age thirty + final chem$age thirtyfive +
final chem$race other2 + final chem$edu college + final chem$edu undergrad +
final chem$edu grad + final chem$married + final chem$income forty +
final chem$income eighty + final chem$income hundred + final chem$parity one
```

```
+ final chem$parity two + final chem$parity three plus +
final chem$prenatal alc)
summary(lm adj all fsiq)
boys:
lm adj boys viq <- lm(final boys$viq ~ final boys$prob high +</pre>
final boys$prob low + final boys$prob opp + final boys$prob smoking +
final boys$prob ref + final boys$age thirty + final boys$age thirtyfive +
final boys$race other2 + final boys$edu college + final boys$edu undergrad +
final boys$edu grad + final boys$married + final boys$income forty +
final boys$income eighty + final boys$income hundred + final boys$parity one
+ final boys$parity two + final boys$parity three plus +
final boys$prenatal alc)
summary(lm_adj_boys_viq)
lm adj boys piq <- lm(final boys$piq ~ final boys$prob high +</pre>
final_boys$prob_low + final_boys$prob_opp + final_boys$prob_smoking +
final boys$prob ref + final boys$age thirty + final boys$age thirtyfive +
final_boys$race_other2 + final_boys$edu college + final boys$edu undergrad +
final boys$edu grad + final boys$married + final boys$income forty +
final boys$income eighty + final boys$income hundred + final boys$parity one
+ final boys$parity two + final boys$parity three plus +
final boys$prenatal alc)
summary(lm adj boys piq)
lm adj boys fsiq <- lm(final boys$fsiq ~ final_boys$prob_high +</pre>
final boys$prob low + final boys$prob opp + final boys$prob smoking +
final boys$prob ref + final boys$age thirty + final boys$age thirtyfive +
final boys$race other2 + final boys$edu college + final boys$edu undergrad +
final boys$edu grad + final boys$married + final boys$income forty +
final boys$income eighty + final boys$income hundred + final boys$parity one
+ final_boys$parity_two + final_boys$parity three plus +
final boys$prenatal alc)
summary(lm adj boys fsiq)
#girls:
lm adj girls viq <- lm(final girls$viq ~ final girls$prob high +</pre>
final girls$prob low + final girls$prob opp + final girls$prob smoking +
final girls$prob ref + final girls$age thirty + final girls$age thirtyfive +
final girls$race other2 + final girls$edu college + final girls$edu undergrad
+ final girls$edu grad + final girls$married + final girls$income forty +
final girls$income eighty + final girls$income hundred +
final_girls$parity_one + final_girls$parity_two +
final_girls$parity_three_plus + final_girls$prenatal_alc)
summary(lm_adj_girls_viq)
lm adj girls piq <- lm(final girls$piq ~ final girls$prob high +</pre>
final girls$prob low + final girls$prob opp + final girls$prob smoking +
final girls$prob ref + final girls$age thirty + final girls$age thirtyfive +
final girls$race other2 + final girls$edu college + final girls$edu undergrad
+ final girls$edu grad + final girls$married + final girls$income forty +
final girls$income eighty + final girls$income hundred +
final girls$parity one + final girls$parity two +
final girls$parity three plus + final girls$prenatal alc)
summary(lm adj girls piq)
```

```
lm_adj_girls_fsiq <- lm(final_girls$fsiq ~ final_girls$prob_high +
final_girls$prob_low + final_girls$prob_opp + final_girls$prob_smoking +
final_girls$prob_ref + final_girls$age_thirty + final_girls$age_thirtyfive +
final_girls$race_other2 + final_girls$edu_college + final_girls$edu_undergrad
+ final_girls$edu_grad + final_girls$married + final_girls$income_forty +
final_girls$parity_one + final_girls$income_hundred +
final_girls$parity_one + final_girls$parity_two +
final_girls$parity_three_plus + final_girls$prenatal_alc)
summary(lm_adj_girls_fsiq)</pre>
```

## **Appendix D. K-means Clustering Code**

```
```{r basic prep}
# loading packages
library(dplyr)
library(pheatmap)
library(readr)
library(readxl)
set.seed(314)
# preparing the data:
all data <- read csv("AY MIREC Analysis July22 2020.csv")
all data <- filter(all data, sex2!="NA")</pre>
imputed_data <- read_csv("AY MIREC Analysis Feb 2021.csv")</pre>
chem data \leftarrow all data[,c(2:10, 12:23, 25:31, 33, 38)]
# renaming the variables:
chem data <- dplyr::rename(chem data, Arsenic = log2.arsenic.t1, Cadmium =</pre>
log2.cadmium.t1, Lead = log2.lead.t1, Manganese = log2.manganese.t1, Mercury
= log2.mercury.t1, BBHC = log2.bbhc.t1, DDE = log2.dde.t1, Oxychlor =
log2.oxychlor.t1, Transnona = log2.transnona.t1, DEP = log2.dep.t1, DETP =
log2.detp.t1, DMDTP = log2.dmdtp.t1, DMP = log2.dmp.t1, DMTP = log2.dmtp.t1,
MBP = log2.mbp.t1, MBZP = log2.mbzp.t1, MCPP = log2.mcpp.t1, MEHHP =
log2.mehhp.t1, MEHP = log2.mehp.t1, MEOHP = log2.meohp.t1, MEP = log2.mep.t1,
Aroclor = log2.aroclor.t1, PCB118 = log2.pcb118.t1, PCB138 = log2.pcb138.t1,
PCB153 = log2.pcb153.t1, PCB170 = log2.pcb170.t1, PCB180 = log2.pcb180.t1,
PCB187 = log2.pcb187.t1, BDE47 = log2.bde47.t1, Cotinine = log2.cot.t1)
```{r determining the number of k-clusters}
5 clusters would be best, since I had 5 profiles, but first I want to check
to make sure it's an appropriate number here
first with the elbow method:
ss within \leftarrow rep(0, 30)
for(t in 1:30) {
 ss within[t] <- (kmeans(as.matrix(chem data), centers = t, iter.max = 10,
nstart=30))$tot.withinss
plot(c(1:30), ss within)
It looks like the "crook of the elbow" is between 5 and 8 clusters. This is
not an exact method so I'll try a second one: minimizing the SS within in the
cluters but maximizing the SS between them:
ss within <- ss between <- ss ratio <- rep(0,30)
for(u in 1:30) {
 ss within[u] <- (kmeans(as.matrix(chem data), centers = u, iter.max = 10,
nstart=30))$tot.withinss
 ss between[u] <- (kmeans(as.matrix(chem data), centers = u, iter.max = 10,
nstart=30))$betweenss
 ss ratio[u] <- ss between[u]/ss within[u]</pre>
```

```
}
plot(c(1:30), ss ratio)
Still hard to see, but there does seem to be a bit of a hockey stick look
between clusters 5 and 6
5 clusters should be fine
 ```{r k-means clustering with 5 clusters}
# k-means clustering results if we set the number for clusters to 5 (to match
clusters5 <- kmeans(chem data, centers=5, iter.max = 10, nstart=30)</pre>
clusters5
 ```{r calculating z-scores of k-clusters}
z arsenic <- z cadmium <- z lead <- z manganese <- z mercury <- z bbhc <-
z_{de} < -z_{oxychlor} < -z_{transnona} < -z_{de} < -z_{det} < -z_{dmdtp} < -z_{dm}
z_{m} = -z_{m} = -z
<- z aroclor <- z pcb118 <- z pcb138 <- z pcb153 <- z pcb170 <- z pcb180 <-
z \text{ pcb187} \leftarrow z \text{ bde47} \leftarrow z \text{ cotinine} \leftarrow \text{rep}(0,5)
for (z in 1:5) {
 z arsenic[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,1]-</pre>
mean(chem data$Arsenic))/sd(chem data$Arsenic)
 z cadmium[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,2]-</pre>
mean(chem data$Cadmium))/sd(chem data$Cadmium)
 z lead[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,3]-</pre>
mean(chem data$Lead))/sd(chem data$Lead)
 z manganese[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,4]-</pre>
mean (chem data$Manganese)) /sd (chem data$Manganese)
 z mercury[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,5]-</pre>
mean(chem data$Mercury))/sd(chem data$Mercury)
 z bbhc[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,6]-</pre>
mean(chem data$BBHC))/sd(chem data$BBHC)
 z dde[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,7]-mean(chem data$DDE))/sd(chem data$DDE)</pre>
 z oxychlor[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,8]-</pre>
mean(chem data$Oxychlor))/sd(chem data$Oxychlor)
 z transnona[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,9]-</pre>
mean(chem data$Transnona))/sd(chem data$Transnona)
 z \text{ dep}[z] \leftarrow (\text{clusters5}\text{centers}[z,10]-\text{mean}(\text{chem data}\text{DEP}))/\text{sd}(\text{chem data}\text{DEP})
 z detp[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,11]-</pre>
mean(chem data$DETP))/sd(chem data$DETP)
 z dmdtp[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,12]-</pre>
mean(chem data$DMDTP))/sd(chem data$DMDTP)
 z dmp[z] <- (clusters5\$centers[z,13]-mean(chem data\$DMP))/sd(chem data\$DMP)
 z dmtp[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,14]-</pre>
mean(chem data$DMTP))/sd(chem data$DMTP)
 z mbp[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,15]-mean(chem data$MBP))/sd(chem data$MBP)</pre>
 z mbzp[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,16]-</pre>
mean(chem data$MBZP))/sd(chem data$MBZP)
```

```
z mcpp[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,17]-</pre>
mean(chem data$MCPP))/sd(chem data$MCPP)
 z mehhp[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,18]-</pre>
mean(chem data$MEHHP))/sd(chem data$MEHHP)
 z mehp[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,19]-</pre>
mean(chem data$MEHP))/sd(chem data$MEHP)
 z meohp[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,20]-</pre>
mean(chem data$MEOHP))/sd(chem data$MEOHP)
 z mep[z] \leftarrow (clusters5\$centers[z,21]-mean(chem data\$MEP))/sd(chem data\$MEP)
 z aroclor[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,22]-</pre>
mean(chem data$Aroclor))/sd(chem data$Aroclor)
 z pcb118[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,23]-</pre>
mean(chem data$PCB118))/sd(chem data$PCB118)
 z pcb138[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,24]-</pre>
mean(chem data$PCB138))/sd(chem data$PCB138)
 z pcb153[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,25]-</pre>
mean(chem data$PCB153))/sd(chem data$PCB153)
 z pcb170[z] \leftarrow (clusters5$centers[z,26]-
mean(chem data$PCB170))/sd(chem data$PCB170)
 z pcb180[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,27]-</pre>
mean(chem data$PCB180))/sd(chem data$PCB180)
 z pcb187[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,28]-</pre>
mean(chem data$PCB187))/sd(chem data$PCB187)
 z bde47[z] \leftarrow (clusters5$centers[z,29] -
mean(chem data$BDE47))/sd(chem data$BDE47)
 z cotinine[z] <- (clusters5$centers[z,30]-</pre>
mean(chem data$Cotinine))/sd(chem data$Cotinine)
}
z scores <- data.frame(z arsenic, z cadmium, z lead, z manganese, z mercury,
z_bbhc, z_dde, z_oxychlor, z_transnona, z_dep, z_detp, z_dmdtp, z_dmp,
z dmtp, z mbp, z mbzp, z mcpp, z mehhp, z mehp, z meohp, z mep, z aroclor,
z pcb118, z pcb138, z pcb153, z pcb170, z pcb180, z pcb187, z bde47,
z_cotinine)
```{r}
# Making the heat map with z-scores:
# getting the colour ready
breaksList = seq(-3, 3, by=0.1)
col <- colorRampPalette(c("navy", "blue", "white", "red",</pre>
"red4"))(length(breaksList))
#labels:
x lab <- c("Low Level", "Ref", "High OPPs", "High Smoking", "High Level")
chemicals <- c("As", "Cd", "Pb", "Mn", "Hg", "BBHC", "DDE", "Oxy.", "Trans.",
"DEP", "DETP", "DMDTP", "DMP", "DMTP", "MBP", "MBZP", "MCPP", "MEHHP",
"MEHP", "MEOHP", "MEP", "Aroclor", "PCB118", "PCB138", "PCB153", "PCB170",
"PCB180", "PCB187", "BDE47", "Cot.")
# heat map:
pheatmap(t(z scores), # the t transposes it (switches rows and columns) so
that it faces the right way
        Colv=NA, Rowv=NA, cluster rows = FALSE, cluster cols = FALSE, #
getting rid of the dendrogram and the clustering
```

```
cellwidth = 20, # changing the size of the cells
        color=col, breaks = breaksList, # colouring the chart
        labels col = x lab, labels row = chemicals, angle col = 45) # picking
the colours
. . .
```{r}
changing the order to better compare:
reorder <-z scores[c(2,5,1,3,4),]
x lab <- c("Ref", "High Level", "Low Level", "High OPPs", "Smoking
Chemicals")
pheatmap(t(reorder), # the t transposes it (switches rows and columns) so
that it faces the right way
 Colv=NA, Rowv=NA, cluster rows = FALSE, cluster cols = FALSE, #
getting rid of the the dendrogram and the clustering
 cellwidth = 20, # changing the size of the cells
 color=col, breaks = breaksList, # colouring the chart
 labels col = x lab, labels row = chemicals, angle col = 45) # picking
the colours
```{r}
# making a final dataset with dummy variables for each cluster
x1 <- ifelse(clusters5$cluster == 1, 1, 0)</pre>
x2 \leftarrow ifelse(clusters5$cluster == 2, 1, 0)
x3 \leftarrow ifelse(clusters5$cluster == 3, 1, 0)
x4 \leftarrow ifelse(clusters5$cluster == 4, 1, 0)
x5 \leftarrow ifelse(clusters5$cluster == 5, 1, 0)
final chem <- data.frame("subject id" = all data$subject.id, "cluster" =</pre>
clusters5$cluster, "high_cluster" = x5, "ref_cluster" = x2, "low_cluster" =
x1, "opp_cluster" = x3, "smoking_cluster" = x4, "Arsenic" =
all data$log2.arsenic.t1, "Cadmium" = all data$log2.cadmium.t1, "Lead" =
all data$log2.lead.t1, "Manganese" = all data$log2.manganese.t1, "Mercury" =
all data$log2.mercury.t1, "BBHC" = all data$log2.bbhc.t1, "DDE" =
all_data$log2.dde.t1, "Oxychlor" = all data$log2.oxychlor.t1, "Transnona" =
all data$log2.transnona.t1, "DEP" = all data$log2.dep.t1, "DETP" =
all data$log2.detp.t1, "DMDTP" = all data$log2.dmdtp.t1, "DMP" =
all_data$log2.dmp.t1, "DMTP" = all_data$log2.dmtp.t1, "MBP" =
all data$log2.mbp.t1, "MBZP" = all_data$log2.mbzp.t1, "MCPP" =
all_data$log2.mcpp.t1, "MEHHP" = all_data$log2.mehhp.t1, "MEHP" =
all_data$log2.mehp.t1, "MEOHP" = all_data$log2.meohp.t1, "MEP" =
all data$log2.mep.t1, "Aroclor" = all data$log2.aroclor.t1, "PCB118" =
all data$log2.pcb118.t1, "PCB138" = all data$log2.pcb138.t1, "PCB153" =
all_data$log2.pcb153.t1, "PCB170" = all_data$log2.pcb170.t1, "PCB180" = all_data$log2.pcb180.t1, "PCB187" = all_data$log2.pcb187.t1, "BDE47" =
all data$log2.bde47.t1, "Cotinine" = all data$log2.cot.t1, "birth weight" =
all data$birth.wt, "gest age" = all data$gest.age, "preterm birth" =
all data$preterm2, "lbw" = all data$lbw2, "lga" = all data$lga2, "child sex"
= all data$sex2, "small for ga" = all data$sga2, "alc" = imputed data$alc2,
"city" = all data$city10, "mom education" = imputed data$edu4,
```

```
"household income" = imputed data$income4, "married" = all data$married2,
"maternal age" = all data$mom.age3, "parity" = all data$parity4,
"race_aboriginal" = all_data$race.aboriginal2, "race asian2" =
all_data$race.asian2, "race_black2" = all_data$race.black2, "race_latin2" =
all data$race.latin2, "race other2" = all data$race.other2, "race white2" =
all data$race.white2, "smoker" = all data$smoker2, "wppsi 1" =
all data$wppsi.1, "wppsi 2" = all data$wppsi.2, "wppsi 3" = all data$wppsi.3,
"wppsi 4" = all data$wppsi.4, "wppsi 5" = all data$wppsi.5, "viq" =
all data$viq, "piq" = all data$piq, "fsiq" = all data$fsiq)
final chem
```{r demographic dummy variables}
final chem <- mutate(final chem, sex male = ifelse(child sex == 0, 1, 0),
sex_female = ifelse(child_sex == 1, 1, 0), age_nineteen = ifelse(maternal_age
== 1, 1, 0), age_thirty = ifelse(maternal_age == 2, 1, 0), age_thirtyfive =
ifelse(maternal age == 3, 1, 0), maternal race = ifelse(race aboriginal == 1
| race asian2 == 1 | race black2 == 1 | race latin2 == 1 | race other2 == 1,
1, 0), edu hs = ifelse(mom education == 1, 1, 0), edu college =
ifelse (mom education == 2, 1, 0), edu undergrad = ifelse (mom education == 3,
1, 0), edu grad = ifelse(mom education == 4, 1, 0), income under forty =
ifelse (household income == 1, 1, 0), income forty = ifelse (household income
== 2, 1, 0), income_eighty = ifelse(household_income == 3, 1, 0),
income hundred = ifelse(household income == 4, 1, 0), parity zero =
ifelse(parity == 1, 1, 0), parity_one = ifelse(parity == 2, 1, 0), parity_two
= ifelse(parity == 3, 1, 0), parity three plus = ifelse(parity == 4, 1, 0),
non_smoker = ifelse(smoker == 0, 1, 0), smoker = ifelse(smoker == 1, 1, 0),
no prenatal alc = ifelse(alc == 0, 1, 0), prenatal alc = ifelse(alc == 1, 1,
0))
```{r unadjusted regression analysis}
# unadjusted regression analysis
klm unadj all viq <- lm(final chem$viq ~ final chem$high cluster +
final chem$low cluster + final chem$opp cluster + final chem$smoking cluster
+ final chem$ref cluster)
summary(klm unadj all vig)
klm unadj all viq$coefficients
klm_unadj_all_piq <- lm(final_chem$piq ~ final_chem$high_cluster +
final chem$low cluster + final chem$opp cluster + final chem$smoking cluster
+ final chem$ref cluster)
summary(klm unadj all piq)
# FSIQ
klm unadj all fsiq <- lm(final chem$fsiq ~final chem$high cluster +
final chem$low cluster + final chem$opp cluster + final chem$smoking cluster
+ final chem$ref cluster)
summary(klm unadj all fsiq)
```

```
```{r adjusted regression analysis}
adjusted regression analysis
VIO
klm adj all viq <- lm(final chem$viq ~ final chem$high cluster +
final chem$low cluster + final chem$opp cluster + final chem$smoking cluster
+ final chem$ref cluster + final chem$age thirty + final chem$age thirtyfive
+ final chem$race other2 + final chem$edu college + final chem$edu undergrad
+ final chem$edu grad + final chem$married + final chem$income forty +
final_chem$income_eighty + final chem$income hundred + final chem$parity one
+ final chem$parity two + final chem$parity three plus +
final chem$prenatal alc)
summary(klm adj all viq)
klm adj all viq$coefficients
PIQ
klm adj all piq <- lm(final chem$piq ~ final chem$high cluster +
final chem$low cluster + final chem$opp cluster + final chem$smoking cluster
+ final chem$ref cluster + final chem$age thirty + final chem$age thirtyfive
+ final chem$race other2 + final chem$edu college + final chem$edu undergrad
+ final chem$edu grad + final chem$married + final chem$income forty +
final chem$income eighty + final chem$income hundred + final chem$parity one
+ final chem$parity two + final chem$parity three plus +
final chem$prenatal alc)
summary(klm adj all piq)
FSIO
klm adj all fsig <- lm(final chem$fsig ~ final chem$high cluster +
final chem$low cluster + final chem$opp cluster + final chem$smoking cluster
+ final_chem$ref_cluster + final_chem$age_thirty + final_chem$age_thirtyfive
+ final chem$race other2 + final chem$edu college + final chem$edu undergrad
+ final chem$edu grad + final chem$married + final chem$income forty +
final chem$income eighty + final chem$income hundred + final chem$parity one
+ final chem$parity two + final chem$parity three plus +
final chem$prenatal alc)
summary(klm adj all fsiq)
```{r unadjusted regression stratified by sex}
# stratifying by sex
final boys <- filter(final chem, child_sex == 0)</pre>
final_girls <- filter(final_chem, child_sex == 1)</pre>
# unadjusted regression analysis - boys
klm unadj boys viq <- lm(final boys$viq ~ final boys$high cluster +
final boys$low cluster + final boys$opp cluster + final boys$smoking cluster
+ final boys$ref cluster)
summary(klm unadj boys viq)
klm unadj boys viq$coefficients
# PIQ
```

```
klm unadj boys piq <- lm(final boys$piq ~ final_boys$high_cluster +</pre>
final boys$low cluster + final boys$opp cluster + final boys$smoking cluster
+ final boys$ref cluster)
summary(klm unadj boys piq)
# FSIO
klm unadj boys fsiq <- lm(final boys$fsiq ~ final boys$high cluster +
final boys$low cluster + final boys$opp cluster + final boys$smoking cluster
+ final boys$ref cluster)
summary(klm unadj boys fsiq)
# unadjusted regression analysis - girls
# VIO
klm_unadj_girls_viq <- lm(final_girls$viq ~ final_girls$high_cluster +</pre>
final girls$low cluster + final girls$opp cluster +
final_girls$smoking_cluster + final_girls$ref_cluster)
summary(klm unadj girls viq)
klm unadj girls viq$coefficients
# PIQ
klm unadj girls piq <- lm(final girls$piq ~ final girls$high cluster +
final girls$low cluster + final girls$opp cluster +
final girls$smoking cluster + final girls$ref cluster)
summary(klm unadj girls piq)
# FSIO
klm unadj girls fsiq <- lm(final girls$fsiq ~ final girls$high cluster +
final girls$low cluster + final girls$opp cluster +
final girls$smoking cluster + final girls$ref cluster)
summary(klm unadj girls fsiq)
```{r}
adjusted regression analysis - boys
VIQ
klm adj boys viq <- lm(final boys$viq ~ final boys$high cluster +
final boys$low cluster + final boys$opp cluster + final boys$smoking cluster
+ final boys$ref cluster + final boys$age thirty + final boys$age thirtyfive
+ final boys$race other2 + final boys$edu college + final boys$edu undergrad
+ final boys$edu grad + final boys$married + final boys$income forty +
final_boys$income_eighty + final_boys$income_hundred + final_boys$parity_one
+ final boys$parity two + final boys$parity three plus + +
final boys$prenatal alc)
summary(klm adj boys viq)
klm unadj boys viq$coefficients
PIQ
klm adj boys piq <- lm(final boys$piq ~ final boys$high cluster +
final boys$low cluster + final boys$opp cluster + final_boys$smoking_cluster
+ final boys$ref cluster + final boys$age thirty + final boys$age thirtyfive
+ final boys$race other2 + final boys$edu college + final boys$edu undergrad
+ final boys$edu grad + final boys$married + final boys$income forty +
final boys$income eighty + final boys$income hundred + final boys$parity one
```

```
+ final boys$parity two + final boys$parity three plus +
final boys$prenatal alc)
summary(klm adj boys piq)
FSIO
klm adj boys fsiq <- lm(final boys$fsiq ~ final boys$high cluster +
final boys$low cluster + final boys$opp cluster + final boys$smoking cluster
+ final boys$ref cluster + final boys$age thirty + final boys$age thirtyfive
+ final boys$race other2 + final boys$edu college + final boys$edu undergrad
+ final boys$edu grad + final boys$married + final boys$income forty +
final boys$income eighty + final boys$income hundred + final boys$parity one
+ final boys$parity two + final boys$parity three plus +
final boys$prenatal alc)
summary(klm_adj_boys_fsiq)
adjusted regression analysis - girls
VIO
klm adj girls viq <- lm(final girls$viq ~ final girls$high cluster +
final girls$low cluster + final girls$opp cluster +
final girls$smoking cluster + final girls$ref cluster +
final girls$age thirty + final girls$age thirtyfive + final girls$race other2
+ final girls$edu college + final girls$edu undergrad + final girls$edu grad
+ final_girls$married + final_girls$income_forty + final_girls$income_eighty
+ final girls$income hundred + final girls$parity one +
final girls$parity two + final girls$parity three plus +
final girls$prenatal alc)
summary(klm adj girls viq)
klm unadj girls viq$coefficients
klm adj girls piq <- lm(final girls$piq ~ final girls$high cluster +
final girls$low cluster + final girls$opp cluster +
final girls$smoking cluster + final girls$ref cluster +
final girls$age thirty + final girls$age thirtyfive + final girls$race other2
+ final girls$edu college + final girls$edu undergrad + final girls$edu grad
+ final girls$married + final girls$income forty + final girls$income eighty
+ final girls$income hundred + final girls$parity one +
final girls$parity two + final girls$parity three plus +
final girls$prenatal alc)
summary(klm adj girls piq)
FSIO
klm adj girls fsiq <- lm(final girls$fsiq ~ final girls$high cluster +
final girls$low_cluster + final_girls$opp_cluster +
final girls$smoking cluster + final girls$ref cluster +
final girls$age thirty + final girls$age thirtyfive + final girls$race other2
+ final girls$edu college + final girls$edu undergrad + final girls$edu grad
+ final girls$married + final girls$income forty + final girls$income eighty
+ final girls$income hundred + final girls$parity one +
final girls$parity two + final girls$parity three plus +
final girls$prenatal alc)
summary(klm adj girls fsiq)
```