

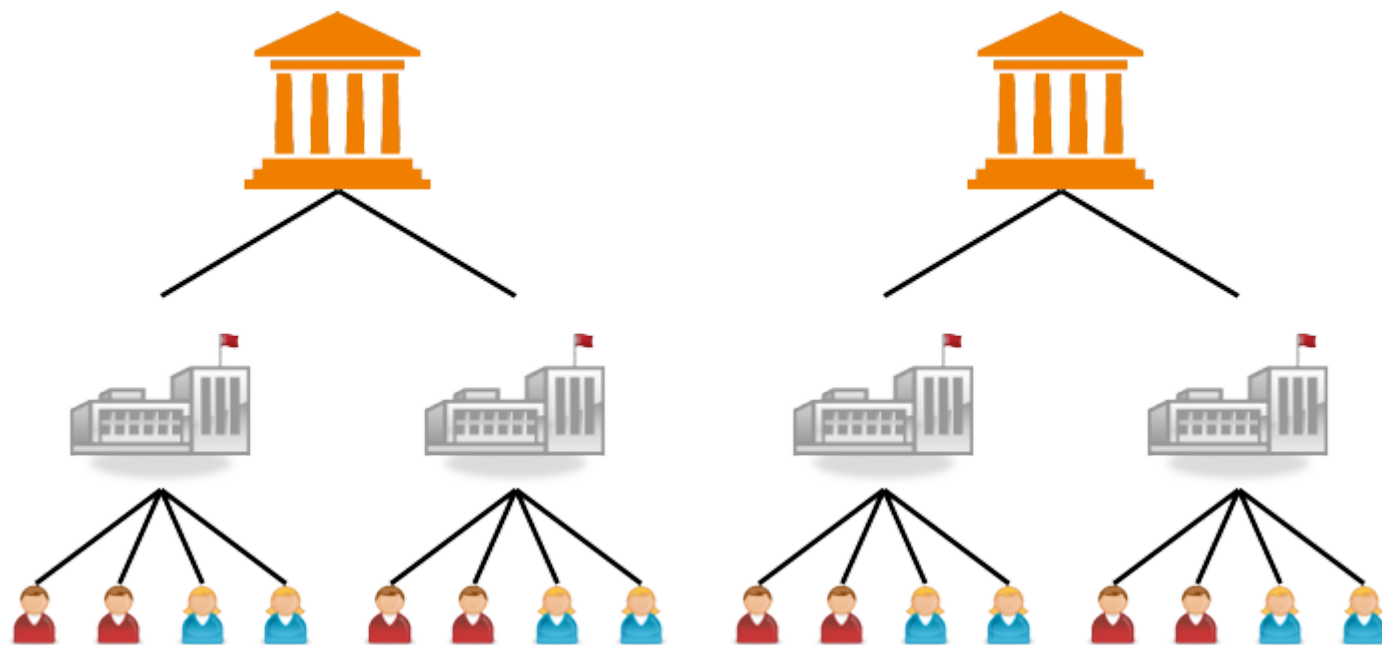
# Introduction to Multilevel Analysis

PSYC 575

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# Learning Objectives

Other names used for MLM

Types of data structure MLM handles

# Naming and History of MLM

# Alternative names for MLM:

- Hierarchical linear model: Education/Sociology/Psychology <sup>1</sup>
- Variance component model: Statistics <sup>2</sup>
- Mixed model/mixed-effect model: Statistics, biomedical
- Random coefficient model: Econometrics

[1]: Raudenbush & Bryk, 1986

[2]: Aitkin et al., 1981

# History of MLM

MLM naturally handles data coming from different "levels"

Robinson (1950)<sup>1</sup>

- State level: Correlation between % illiterate and % foreign born:
  - $r = -.53$
- Individual level: Within-state correlation between illiteracy and foreign born status:
  - $r = .12$

[1]: p. 354, <https://doi.org/10.2307/2087176>

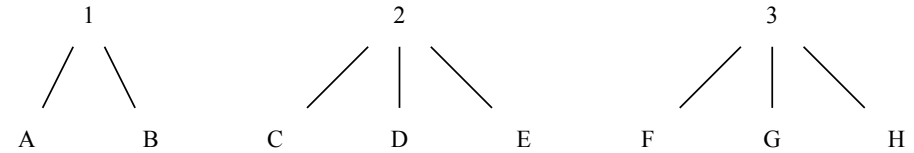
# Usage of MLM

# Hierarchical Data Structure

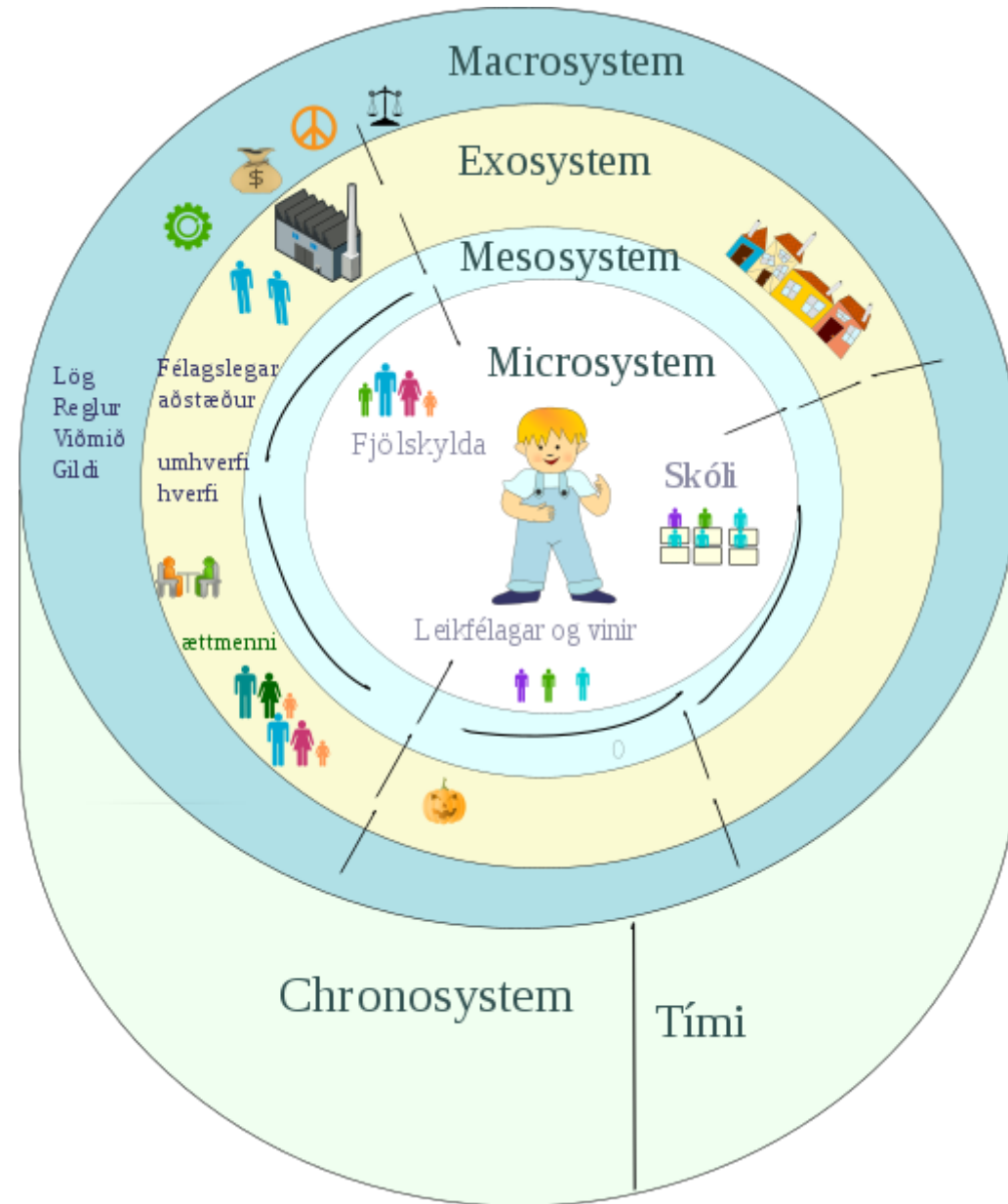
Multiple units at a lower level nested within a unit at a higher level

Level 1	Level 2
Clients	Therapist
Classrooms	School
Employees	Organization
People	Family
Citizens	Country
Measurements	Person

## Network Graph







Once you know that hierarchies exist, you see them everywhere.

Kreft & de Leeuw (1998, p. 1)

When it comes to regression, multilevel regression deserves  
to be the default approach

McElreath (2020, p. 400)

# Sampling the Literature

PsycINFO, past 3 months, with keywords

"multilevel model\*" OR "mixed model\*" OR "mixed-effect model\*" OR "hierarchical linear model"

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## Classification



Health & Mental Health Treatment & Prevention (48)

Psychological & Physical Disorders (27)

Neurological Disorders & Brain Damage (15)

Educational Psychology (12)

Developmental Psychology (11)

More >

- Critical factors influencing interorganizational relationships between juvenile probation and behavioral health agencies
- Factors associated with preferred pre-exposure prophylaxis dosing regimen among men who have sex with men in real-world settings: A mixed-effect model analysis
- Longitudinal investigation of the role of cognitive reserve in the evolution of dementia in outpatients prescribed AChEI
- Validation of the early childhood teacher experiences scale in head start
- The cost of academic focus: Daily school problems and biopsychological adjustment in chinese american families
- A randomized pilot study of mindfulness-based stress reduction in a young adult cancer sample: Feasibility, acceptability, and changes in patient reported outcomes
- Do social workers lead differently? Examining associations with leadership style and organizational factors

# Software

## General stat software

- R (**lme4**, **brms**, nlme)
- SAS
- SPSS
- Stata

## Specialized software

- HLM
- MLwiN
- Mplus

# Resources

- Centre for Multilevel Modeling, University of Bristol  
<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/cmm/learning/multilevel-models/>
- Textbook examples (with syntax for different software), Institute for Digital Research and Education, UCLA  
<https://stats.idre.ucla.edu/other/examples/>
- GLMM FAQ by Ben Bolker  
<https://bbolker.github.io/mixedmodels-misc/glmmFAQ.html>
- Curran-Bauer Analytics, Multilevel Modeling Archives <https://curranbauer.org/category/news-and-updates/multilevel-modeling/>
- Multilevel Modeling Discussion List (Listserv) <https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=multilevel>