

Confounding Potential Plot


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November 14, 2013

Very Low Birth Weight Infants dataset¹
32 Variables 644 Observations

birth


	n	missing	unique	Mean	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95
	644	0	537	84.75	82.05	82.45	83.51	84.90	86.07	86.90	87.19



lowest : 81.51 81.51 81.55 81.56 81.59
highest: 87.46 87.47 87.47 87.47 87.48

exit


	n	missing	unique	Mean	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95
	636	8	535	84.85	82.19	82.56	83.59	84.96	86.17	87.01	87.34



lowest : 68.53 81.05 81.17 81.54 81.55
highest: 87.72 87.72 87.80 87.84 96.87

hospstay

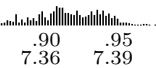
	n	missing	unique	Mean	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95
	636	8	152	40.21	1	3	16	37	62	98	129



lowest : -6574 -295 -293 -291 -288
highest: 276 300 442 797 3668

lowph

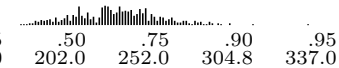
	n	missing	unique	Mean	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95
	604	40	73	7.202	6.94	7.01	7.13	7.21	7.31	7.36	7.39



lowest : 6.53 6.70 6.72 6.74 6.76, highest: 7.48 7.49 7.50 7.52 7.55

pltct : platelet count

	n	missing	unique	Mean	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95
	597	47	266	201.5	69.6	97.2	143.0	202.0	252.0	304.8	337.0



lowest : 16 24 28 34 38, highest: 399 416 418 462 571


race

	n	missing	unique
	639	5	4

white (255, 40%), black (364, 57%), native American (16, 3%)
oriental (4, 1%)

bwt : birth weight [g]

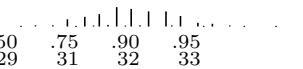
	n	missing	unique	Mean	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95
	644	0	137	1104	641.5	741.5	910.0	1135.0	1320.0	1440.0	1480.0



lowest : 400 430 460 480 500, highest: 1475 1480 1490 1500 1580

gest : gestational age [weeks]

	n	missing	unique	Mean	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95
	643	1	24	28.98	25	26	27	29	31	32	33



lowest : 22.0 23.0 24.0 25.0 25.5, highest: 34.0 35.0 36.0 38.0 40.0

inout

	n	missing	unique
	644	0	2

born at Duke (528, 82%), transported (116, 18%)

twtn

	n	missing	unique
	644	0	2

FALSE (509, 79%), TRUE (135, 21%)

¹See O'Shea M, Savitz DA, Hage ML, Feinstein KA: Prenatal events and the risk of subependymal / intraventricular haemorrhage in very low birth weight neonates. Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology 1992;6:352-362. See also, <http://biostat.mc.vanderbilt.edu/wiki/pub/Main/DataSets/vlbw.html>.

lol

n	missing	unique	Mean	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95
288	356	40	8.497	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	9.00	20.00	26.65

lowest : 0 1 2 3 4, highest: 72 102 104 174 192

magsulf

n	missing	unique	Sum	Mean
420	224	2	56	0.1333

meth

n	missing	unique	Sum	Mean
563	81	2	246	0.4369

toc: tocolysis - mother treated with β -adrenergic drug

n	missing	unique	Sum	Mean
563	81	2	127	0.2256

delivery

n	missing	unique
644	0	2

abdominal (312, 48%), vaginal (332, 52%)

apgl

n	missing	unique	Mean	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95
631	13	10	4.903	1	1	2	5	7	8	9

Frequency	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	5	91	68	57	45	68	79	79	102	37
%	1	14	11	9	7	11	13	13	16	6

vent

n	missing	unique	Sum	Mean
635	9	2	368	0.5795

pneumo

n	missing	unique	Sum	Mean
640	4	2	127	0.1984

pda

n	missing	unique	Sum	Mean
637	7	2	134	0.2104

cld

n	missing	unique	Sum	Mean
598	46	2	160	0.2676

pvh

n	missing	unique
513	131	3

absent (349, 68%), possible (41, 8%), definite (123, 24%)

ivh

n	missing	unique
514	130	3

absent (430, 84%), possible (10, 2%), definite (74, 14%)

ipe

n	missing	unique
514	130	3

absent (461, 90%), possible (17, 3%), definite (36, 7%)

year

n	missing	unique	Mean	.05	.10	.25	.50	.75	.90	.95
644	0	537	84.75	82.06	82.45	83.52	84.90	86.07	86.90	87.19

lowest : 81.51 81.51 81.55 81.56 81.59
highest: 87.46 87.47 87.47 87.47 87.48

sex
 n missing unique
 643 1 2
 female (317, 49%), male (326, 51%)

dead
 n missing unique Sum Mean
 644 0 2 124 0.1925

cesarean
 n missing unique
 644 0 2
 FALSE (332, 52%), TRUE (312, 48%)

definite.ivh
 n missing unique
 514 130 2
 FALSE (440, 86%), TRUE (74, 14%)

white
 n missing unique
 639 5 2
 FALSE (384, 60%), TRUE (255, 40%)

male
 n missing unique
 643 1 2
 FALSE (317, 49%), TRUE (326, 51%)

txported
 n missing unique
 644 0 2
 FALSE (528, 82%), TRUE (116, 18%)

YYYY
 n missing unique
 644 0 7

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Frequency	29	83	107	122	130	119	54
%	5	13	17	19	20	18	8

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics by delivery

	N	abdominal			vaginal		
		$N = 312$			$N = 332$		
gestational age <small>weeks</small>	643	28	29	31	27	29	31
birth weight <small>g</small>	644	950	1172	1310	879	1100	1320
twm	644	28%	$\frac{87}{312}$		14%	$\frac{48}{332}$	
white	639	46%	$\frac{144}{310}$		34%	$\frac{111}{329}$	
inout : transported	644	11%	$\frac{35}{312}$		24%	$\frac{81}{332}$	
male	643	50%	$\frac{155}{311}$		52%	$\frac{171}{332}$	
yyyy : 1981	644	4%	$\frac{13}{312}$		5%	$\frac{16}{332}$	
1982		12%	$\frac{39}{312}$		13%	$\frac{44}{332}$	
1983		18%	$\frac{56}{312}$		15%	$\frac{51}{332}$	
1984		16%	$\frac{50}{312}$		22%	$\frac{72}{332}$	
1985		21%	$\frac{64}{312}$		20%	$\frac{66}{332}$	
1986		19%	$\frac{58}{312}$		18%	$\frac{61}{332}$	
1987		10%	$\frac{32}{312}$		7%	$\frac{22}{332}$	

a b c represent the lower quartile a , the median b , and the upper quartile c for continuous variables.

N is the number of non-missing values.

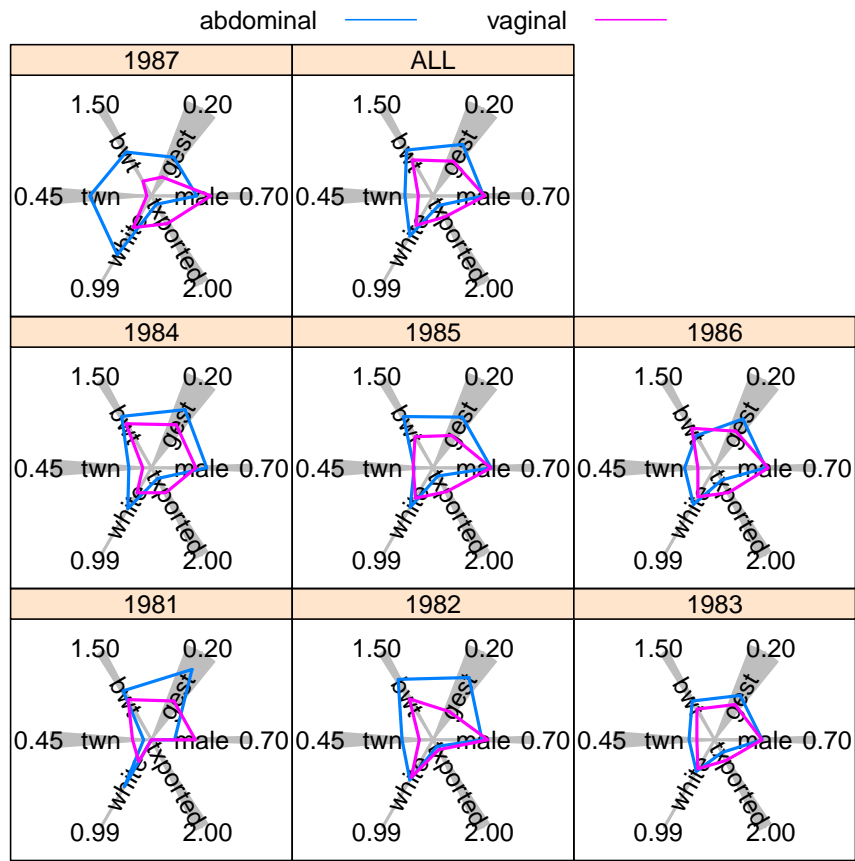


Figure 1: **Trellised radar plot.** The ALL panel can be seen to correspond to the ‘standard Table 1’ shown in Table 1 above. The trellis can be seen therefore to produce a disaggregated ‘Table 1’, in this case exploring the possibility of a secular trend in potential confounding.