



Calculating confidence intervals for fixed effects

HLM does not automatically produce confidence intervals - the user must do that after analysis using the output file contents. Also note that additional output can be obtained using the **Output Settings** option from the main menu bar.

An example using the HSB data distributed with the program is used to illustrate how to do this. For the model

WHLM: hlm2 MDM File: HSB.MDM Command File: HSB4.MLM

File Basic Settings Other Settings Run Analysis Help

Outcome	LEVEL 1 MODEL
>> Level-1 <<	MATHACH _{ij} = $\beta_{0j} + \beta_{1j}(\text{SES}_{ij} - \overline{\text{SES}}_{.j}) + r_{ij}$
Level-2	LEVEL 2 MODEL
INTRCPT1	$\beta_{0j} = \gamma_{00} + \gamma_{01}(\text{SECTOR}_j) + \gamma_{02}(\text{MEANSES}_j - \overline{\text{MEANSES}}_{.}) + u_{0j}$
MINORITY	$\beta_{1j} = \gamma_{10} + \gamma_{11}(\text{SECTOR}_j) + \gamma_{12}(\text{MEANSES}_j - \overline{\text{MEANSES}}_{.}) + u_{1j}$
FEMALE	
SES	
MATHACH	

Mixed

The following output is obtained:

Final estimation of fixed effects:

Fixed Effect	Coefficient	Standard error	t-ratio	Approx. d.f.	p-value
For INTRCPT1, β_0					
INTRCPT2, γ_{00}	12.095005	0.196824	61.451	157	<0.001
SECTOR, γ_{01}	1.226775	0.303252	4.045	157	<0.001
MEANSES, γ_{02}	5.331626	0.365539	14.586	157	<0.001
For SES slope, β_1					
INTRCPT2, γ_{10}	2.939314	0.153341	19.168	157	<0.001
SECTOR, γ_{11}	-1.644087	0.237150	-6.933	157	<0.001
MEANSES, γ_{12}	1.042828	0.295790	3.526	157	<0.001

Final estimation of fixed effects (with robust standard errors)

Fixed Effect	Coefficient	Standard error	t-ratio	Approx. d.f.	p-value
For INTRCPT1, β_0					
INTRCPT2, γ_{00}	12.095005	0.173546	69.694	157	<0.001
SECTOR, γ_{01}	1.226775	0.308341	3.979	157	<0.001
MEANSES, γ_{02}	5.331626	0.334568	15.936	157	<0.001
For SES slope, β_1					
INTRCPT2, γ_{10}	2.939314	0.147363	19.946	157	<0.001
SECTOR, γ_{11}	-1.644087	0.237434	-6.924	157	<0.001
MEANSES, γ_{12}	1.042828	0.332814	3.133	157	0.002

Note that robust standard errors are not available for all data/models. When robust standard errors are available, these should be used in the calculation.

An approximate 95% confidence interval for $\hat{\gamma}_{01}$, the estimated main effect of the level-2 predictor SECTOR is calculated as

$$\begin{aligned}
 95\% \text{ confidence interval for } \hat{\gamma}_{01} &= \text{estimated parameter} \pm 1.96((\text{standard error})) \\
 &= 1.226775 \pm 1.96(0.308484) \\
 &= (0.6221, 1.8314)
 \end{aligned}$$