

Preliminary Results, Scales and Seasonal Assessments of Three-Year-Old Students
Expanding Individual Growth & Development Indicators of Language and Early Literacy
for Universal Screening in Multi-Tiered Systems of Support with Three-Year-Olds

Technical Report #8

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This Technical Report presents preliminary findings or intermediary results of our work. Please contact the authors for a more up-to-date version or for permission before citing or distributing. For more information, email igdilab@umn.edu.

Scott McConnell, Alisha Wackerle-Hollman, and colleagues developed Individual Growth and Development Indicators, or *IGDIs*. Intellectual property from this research has been licensed to Early Learning Labs, Inc., and subsequently to Renaissance Learning for commercial development and sale. Scott and the University of Minnesota have royalty and equity interest in Renaissance Learning. These relationships have been reviewed and managed by the University of Minnesota in accordance with its conflict of interest policies.

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Abstract

This document presents preliminary results for IGDI seasonal assessments designed for 3-year-olds (IGDI3 measures). The areas of focus for this report are sample characteristics and scale characteristics. Scale characteristics are presented for each of the IGDI3 measures (oral language, alphabet knowledge, and phonological awareness). Additionally, we present results of preliminary analyses of scaling within measures when different item types are included within a measure. This document also presents a descriptive plan for our continued analyses of data from IGDI3 measures.

Preliminary Results - Contact Authors for Update

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Project Introduction

This document has been developed as part of a four year (2016 – 2020) research and development project funded by the Institute of Education Sciences, *Expanding Individual Growth & Development Indicators of Language and Early Literacy for Universal Screening in Multi-Tiered Systems of Support with 3-Year-Olds*. The overarching purpose of this project is to extend the practical array of Individual Growth and Development Indicators (IGDIs) for assessing language and early literacy development to 3-year-old preschool children in ways that inform and enhance multi-tiered systems of support, and to enrich current knowledge of the developmental course of language and early literacy development in this early preschool age group. Over the course of this project, we will develop and evaluate measures appropriate for 3-year-old children¹ in areas of oral language, phonological awareness, and alphabet knowledge, assess the psychometric characteristics of these measures (including their classification accuracy for identifying candidates for more intensive intervention) and use these measures to describe growth across time in PK3 and PK4 in ways that help describe the broader domain of language and early literacy development, and that note relations

¹ While we refer to 3-year-old children throughout this report, IGDIs are *not* age-normed nor intended to support inferences of age-based development. Rather, the focus here is development and evaluation of measures and data utilization tools that support assessment of language and early literacy skills that precede, developmentally, those measured by current IGDIs – and that, in broad terms, are likely to be developed by children more than one and less than two years prior to kindergarten entry – a “grade” we reference as PK3.

between achievement in this area and characteristics of services children receive in early childhood classrooms.

Purpose of this Report

This document presents preliminary results for IGDI seasonal assessments designed for 3-year-olds (IGDI3 measures). The areas of focus for this report are sample characteristics and scale characteristics. Scale characteristics are presented for each of the IGDI3 measures (oral language, alphabet knowledge, and phonological awareness). This document also presents a descriptive plan for our continued analyses of data from IGDI3 measures.

Preliminary Results

Sample Characteristics

This section summarizes the sample of children completing IGDI3 measures in year 3, by season (fall, winter, spring) and by domain (oral language, alphabet knowledge, and phonological awareness). Domains are sometimes referred to as measures, and are abbreviated as OL for oral language, AK for alphabet knowledge, and PA for phonological awareness.

The following table shows for each domain and formid the corresponding season of administration (fall, winter, spring), test type (computerized adaptive test CAT or linear), total number of item responses in the data set ($n_{\text{responses}}$), number of unique children (n_{children}), and the number of unique items (n_{items}). Note that, with CAT, the items within the form would be generated adaptively for each test taker. With a linear form, all children taking the form would see the same set of items.

Table of information for domains and formid

domain	formid	season	test_type	n_responses	n_children	n_items
si	011119003	spring	linear	5025	201	25
rh	041119003	spring	linear	5275	211	25
pa	221118001	fall	cat	10375	415	76
pa	221119001	winter	cat	9950	398	75
pa	221119002	spring	cat	5025	201	65
pa	221119003	spring	linear	5400	216	25
ak	271118001	fall	cat	10600	424	143
ak	271119001	winter	cat	10200	408	143
ak	271119002	spring	cat	5300	212	143
ak	271119003	spring	linear	4975	199	25
ol	281118001	fall	linear	6244	223	28
ol	281118002	fall	linear	2856	102	28
ol	281118003	fall	linear	3024	112	27
ol	281118004	fall	linear	5805	215	27
ol	281118005	fall	linear	2727	101	27
ol	281118006	fall	linear	2943	109	27
ol	281119001	winter	cat	10275	411	298
ol	281119002	spring	cat	10275	411	296

Scale Characteristics

Scale characteristics are summarized here for oral language, alphabet knowledge, and phonological awareness. Results for each measure are presented by season, fall, winter, and spring.

Oral language. Fall administration. The fall administration of OL involved six linear forms, each of which combined items, some of them overlapping across forms, from Point to Picture and Picture Naming. Point to Picture items were developed specifically for this study. Picture Naming items came from the age 4 item banks. The goal for fall administration was to evaluate the feasibility of combining both item types into a single measure.

Results from CTT item analyses are presented first, by form. Each table contains the item id, mean scored response (m, also known as p-value or item difficulty), standard deviation (sd), number of responses (n), number of children with missing responses (na), the item total correlation (itc, a measure of item discrimination), the corrected item total correlation (citc), and the alpha internal consistency for the full scale if the item were deleted (aid).

Item analysis for fall OL formid 281118001

	m	sd	n	na	itc	citc	aid
210006	0.761	0.427	222	1	0.496	0.410	0.738
210008	0.709	0.455	220	3	0.298	0.190	0.752
210012	0.740	0.440	219	4	0.409	0.313	0.746
210014	0.960	0.197	223	0	0.294	0.249	0.749
210016	0.941	0.235	222	1	0.268	0.213	0.749
210018	0.950	0.218	222	1	0.314	0.265	0.750
210030	0.933	0.251	223	0	0.287	0.229	0.751
210031	0.955	0.207	223	0	0.272	0.224	0.749
210038	0.924	0.266	223	0	0.230	0.167	0.752
210039	0.986	0.116	221	2	0.106	0.078	0.754
210040	0.630	0.484	219	4	0.451	0.349	0.742
210049	0.960	0.197	223	0	0.305	0.260	0.749
210051	0.735	0.442	223	0	0.290	0.187	0.752
210052	0.910	0.286	223	0	0.252	0.184	0.753
210054	0.769	0.422	221	2	0.477	0.390	0.746
210057	0.588	0.493	221	2	0.393	0.283	0.750
210058	0.964	0.186	223	0	0.331	0.289	0.749
210063	0.794	0.406	223	0	0.477	0.395	0.738
280083	0.444	0.498	196	27	0.411	0.299	0.742
280091	0.848	0.360	204	19	0.381	0.300	0.743
280142	0.714	0.453	203	20	0.353	0.246	0.746
280164	0.734	0.443	203	20	0.282	0.174	0.751
280200	0.572	0.496	201	22	0.460	0.353	0.741
280217	0.845	0.362	207	16	0.230	0.138	0.753
280245	0.541	0.499	205	18	0.279	0.158	0.753

	m	sd	n	na	itc	citc	aid
280257	0.462	0.500	195	28	0.343	0.226	0.746
280299	0.341	0.475	182	41	0.500	0.405	0.738
280333	0.562	0.497	201	22	0.553	0.456	0.732

Item analysis for fall OL formid 281118002

	m	sd	n	na	itc	citc	aid
210008	0.673	0.471	101	1	0.409	0.305	0.786
210011	0.873	0.335	102	0	0.568	0.510	0.776
210016	0.941	0.236	102	0	0.442	0.395	0.784
210018	0.950	0.218	101	1	0.519	0.479	0.783
210024	0.970	0.171	101	1	0.343	0.306	0.788
210030	0.950	0.218	101	1	0.312	0.260	0.788
210033	0.891	0.313	101	1	0.379	0.312	0.786
210038	0.922	0.270	102	0	0.496	0.444	0.783
210039	0.980	0.139	102	0	0.450	0.423	0.787
210047	0.644	0.481	101	1	0.377	0.272	0.788
210049	0.941	0.236	102	0	0.553	0.512	0.781
210052	0.931	0.254	102	0	0.469	0.420	0.783
210053	0.765	0.426	102	0	0.450	0.362	0.782
210058	0.951	0.217	102	0	0.349	0.301	0.787
210060	0.902	0.299	102	0	0.402	0.339	0.785
210062	0.618	0.488	102	0	0.383	0.276	0.790
210063	0.861	0.347	101	1	0.403	0.329	0.785
210065	0.550	0.500	100	2	0.190	0.062	0.802
280083	0.630	0.485	92	10	0.465	0.368	0.782
280091	0.863	0.346	95	7	0.320	0.244	0.788
280142	0.818	0.388	99	3	0.293	0.204	0.790
280164	0.614	0.489	101	1	0.428	0.325	0.785
280200	0.469	0.502	98	4	0.325	0.213	0.791
280217	0.871	0.337	101	1	0.439	0.370	0.782
280245	0.446	0.500	101	1	0.304	0.190	0.793
280257	0.441	0.499	93	9	0.408	0.300	0.786
280299	0.436	0.499	94	8	0.440	0.336	0.782
280333	0.588	0.495	97	5	0.589	0.504	0.773

Item analysis for fall OL formid 281118003

	m	sd	n	na	itc	citc	aid
210007	0.955	0.207	112	0	0.409	0.354	0.729
210008	0.794	0.406	107	5	0.351	0.232	0.735
210013	0.982	0.133	112	0	0.251	0.212	0.734
210016	0.964	0.187	111	1	0.155	0.098	0.737
210018	0.964	0.187	111	1	0.403	0.354	0.728
210019	0.982	0.133	112	0	0.168	0.129	0.737
210026	0.973	0.162	112	0	0.114	0.065	0.739
210030	0.991	0.095	111	1	0.047	0.018	0.739
210038	0.955	0.207	112	0	0.144	0.082	0.737
210039	0.982	0.134	111	1	0.230	0.191	0.734
210044	0.865	0.343	111	1	0.289	0.189	0.733
210049	0.946	0.226	112	0	0.358	0.296	0.728
210050	0.964	0.187	111	1	0.447	0.400	0.726
210052	0.920	0.273	112	0	0.213	0.132	0.737
210058	0.991	0.095	111	1	0.310	0.284	0.734
210063	0.786	0.412	112	0	0.526	0.426	0.718
210064	0.732	0.445	112	0	0.521	0.412	0.716
280083	0.750	0.435	108	4	0.589	0.490	0.710
280091	0.846	0.363	104	8	0.425	0.323	0.726
280142	0.809	0.395	110	2	0.511	0.412	0.718
280164	0.583	0.495	108	4	0.303	0.155	0.739
280200	0.382	0.488	110	2	0.353	0.214	0.736
280217	0.890	0.314	109	3	0.173	0.079	0.741
280245	0.524	0.502	105	7	0.392	0.255	0.733
280257	0.429	0.497	105	7	0.395	0.258	0.734
280299	0.469	0.502	98	14	0.589	0.478	0.710
280333	0.532	0.501	109	3	0.561	0.443	0.712

Item analysis for fall OL formid 281118004

	m	sd	n	na	itc	citc	aid
210010	0.650	0.478	214	1	0.389	0.290	0.792
210015	0.850	0.357	214	1	0.341	0.265	0.790
210021	0.758	0.429	211	4	0.425	0.339	0.785

210029	0.925	0.264	214	1	0.208	0.149	0.795
210032	0.915	0.279	213	2	0.302	0.241	0.792
210034	0.514	0.501	214	1	0.231	0.118	0.800
210035	0.766	0.424	214	1	0.276	0.183	0.795
210036	0.744	0.437	215	0	0.459	0.374	0.785
210041	0.940	0.239	215	0	0.335	0.285	0.790
210042	0.901	0.299	213	2	0.321	0.257	0.790
210045	0.642	0.481	215	0	0.507	0.418	0.782
210046	0.660	0.475	212	3	0.443	0.349	0.786
210048	0.850	0.357	214	1	0.386	0.313	0.787
210055	0.665	0.473	212	3	0.373	0.274	0.790
210056	0.967	0.178	214	1	0.220	0.181	0.792
210061	0.772	0.420	215	0	0.515	0.439	0.783
210066	0.664	0.474	214	1	0.490	0.400	0.783
280014	0.967	0.179	213	2	0.365	0.328	0.789
280092	0.407	0.493	182	33	0.490	0.398	0.782
280096	0.917	0.276	205	10	0.179	0.116	0.795
280105	0.962	0.191	211	4	0.322	0.282	0.790
280109	0.709	0.456	199	16	0.538	0.457	0.778
280134	0.653	0.477	196	19	0.499	0.408	0.781
280150	0.682	0.467	192	23	0.545	0.461	0.779
280225	0.820	0.386	205	10	0.553	0.485	0.778
280248	0.283	0.452	191	24	0.260	0.160	0.795
280296	0.429	0.496	196	19	0.492	0.398	0.782

Item analysis for fall OL formid 281118005

	m	sd	n	na	itc	citc	aid
210005	0.950	0.219	100	1	0.410	0.361	0.772
210009	0.930	0.256	100	1	0.428	0.367	0.769
210010	0.752	0.434	101	0	0.294	0.185	0.778
210015	0.869	0.339	99	2	0.372	0.288	0.772
210017	0.990	0.100	101	0	0.333	0.309	0.776
210020	0.901	0.300	101	0	0.404	0.335	0.770
210023	0.870	0.338	100	1	0.499	0.428	0.764
210027	0.960	0.198	99	2	0.507	0.467	0.769
210029	0.890	0.314	100	1	0.455	0.382	0.770

	m	sd	n	na	itc	citc	aid
210032	0.870	0.338	100	1	0.496	0.425	0.766
210036	0.723	0.450	101	0	0.475	0.376	0.765
210042	0.950	0.219	100	1	0.347	0.295	0.772
210048	0.832	0.376	101	0	0.374	0.284	0.772
210055	0.713	0.455	101	0	0.156	0.037	0.788
210056	0.950	0.218	101	0	0.615	0.577	0.763
210059	0.717	0.453	99	2	0.421	0.310	0.772
210061	0.842	0.367	101	0	0.514	0.438	0.764
280014	0.969	0.173	98	3	0.512	0.476	0.770
280092	0.494	0.503	87	14	0.294	0.165	0.782
280096	0.919	0.274	99	2	0.303	0.236	0.775
280105	0.980	0.141	100	1	0.285	0.251	0.776
280109	0.857	0.352	98	3	0.513	0.442	0.762
280134	0.687	0.466	99	2	0.508	0.409	0.762
280150	0.719	0.452	96	5	0.381	0.275	0.771
280225	0.806	0.397	98	3	0.515	0.433	0.764
280248	0.367	0.485	90	11	0.243	0.123	0.784
280296	0.505	0.503	97	4	0.404	0.279	0.774

Item analysis for fall OL formid 281118006

	m	sd	n	na	itc	citc	aid
210003	0.954	0.210	109	0	0.123	0.057	0.641
210004	0.972	0.166	107	2	0.328	0.280	0.630
210010	0.661	0.476	109	0	0.239	0.091	0.639
210015	0.861	0.347	108	1	0.252	0.145	0.639
210022	0.862	0.346	109	0	0.316	0.214	0.628
210025	0.954	0.210	109	0	0.358	0.299	0.627
210028	0.626	0.486	107	2	0.273	0.122	0.642
210029	0.899	0.303	109	0	0.334	0.246	0.623
210032	0.898	0.304	108	1	0.263	0.171	0.632
210036	0.692	0.464	107	2	0.409	0.275	0.624
210037	0.917	0.277	109	0	0.103	0.016	0.644
210042	0.945	0.229	109	0	0.112	0.040	0.643
210043	0.519	0.502	108	1	0.364	0.216	0.631
210048	0.935	0.248	107	2	0.328	0.255	0.629

	m	sd	n	na	itc	citc	aid
210055	0.645	0.481	107	2	0.198	0.048	0.652
210056	0.897	0.305	107	2	0.423	0.340	0.620
210061	0.879	0.328	107	2	0.430	0.339	0.621
280014	0.953	0.212	107	2	0.188	0.122	0.636
280092	0.565	0.498	92	17	0.518	0.391	0.602
280096	0.870	0.337	108	1	0.158	0.053	0.646
280105	0.991	0.097	106	3	0.155	0.125	0.639
280109	0.830	0.377	106	3	0.547	0.455	0.607
280134	0.683	0.468	101	8	0.419	0.286	0.615
280150	0.740	0.441	104	5	0.431	0.310	0.614
280225	0.821	0.385	106	3	0.368	0.257	0.630
280248	0.390	0.490	100	9	0.070	-0.087	0.670
280296	0.462	0.501	104	5	0.400	0.254	0.624

Confirmatory factor analyses were run next, with three models fit per form. The first model included all P2P and PN items, the second only the P2P items, and the third only the PN items. Models were all fit in Mplus with a single factor and categorical outcomes. Fit results are presented here with one table per form. Overall, results support the combination of P2P and PN items into one measure. Note that in formid 281118005, one item (itemid 210056) was removed from the model because of a linear dependency which negatively impacted model fit.

Model fit for fall OL formid 281118001

Items	ChiSq	RMSEA	CFI	WRMR
all	sig	0.056	0.825	1.117
P2P	sig	0.063	0.826	1.131
PN	sig	0.046	0.949	0.848

Model fit for fall OL formid 281118002

Items	ChiSq	RMSEA	CFI	WRMR
all	sig	0.039	0.968	0.873
P2P	non sig	<.001	1.000	0.713
PN	sig	0.067	0.889	0.826

Model fit for fall OL formid 281118003

Items	ChiSq	RMSEA	CFI	WRMR
all	sig	0.112	0.883	1.314
P2P	sig	0.097	0.960	1.062
PN	non sig	<.001	1.000	0.590

Model fit for fall OL formid 281118004

Items	ChiSq	RMSEA	CFI	WRMR
all	non sig	0.021	0.982	0.868
P2P	non sig	0.019	0.978	0.848
PN	non sig	<.001	1.000	0.587

Model fit for fall OL formid 281118005

Items	ChiSq	RMSEA	CFI	WRMR
all	sig	0.069	0.898	1.008
P2P	sig	0.066	0.929	0.923
PN	sig	0.067	0.897	0.864

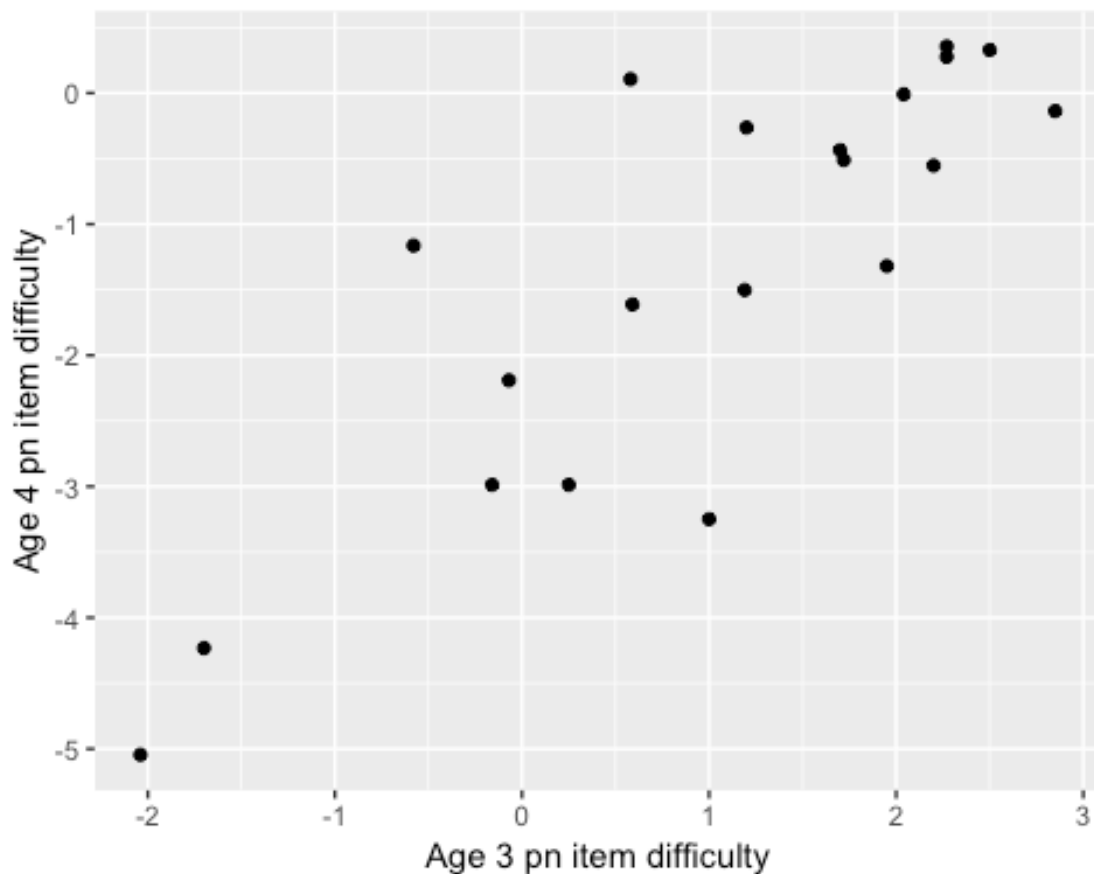
Model fit for fall OL formid 281118006

Items	ChiSq	RMSEA	CFI	WRMR
all	sig	0.081	0.777	1.134
P2P	non sig	0.034	0.937	0.825
PN	sig	0.116	0.800	1.187

Finally, Rasch modeling was used to calibrate the P2P items onto the existing PN scale, where the PN items served as anchors with known parameter values based on prior administrations from age 4 studies. This was achieved by fitting a Rasch model in

Winsteps to the full OL fall data set for age 3 across all six forms, obtaining item difficulties for all items, P2P and PN, and then linking parameters to the existing PN scale using a mean/sigma transformation.

There were 20 PN items in the fall OL administration that served as anchors to the existing PN scale. Having calibrated these items within the fall OL administration first, we can compare their item locations from age 3 with the existing values from age 4. The following plot shows a linear relationship between the two, without any significant outliers, which supports the linking of scales. Age 3 results, as theta values, are on the x-axis and age 4 results are on y. Note that there is a shift downward in item difficulty from x to y, with items tending to have higher locations for age 3 (more difficult, ranging from about theta -2 to 3) than for age 4 (less difficult, ranging from about theta -5 to 0).



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After finding the linear transformation coefficients ($A = 1.17$, $B = -2.51$), the fall OL item locations, from the original Winsteps calibration, were all converted to the age 4 scale. These linked item locations were then used to estimate ability, referred to as theta, for each child based on the items they responded to.

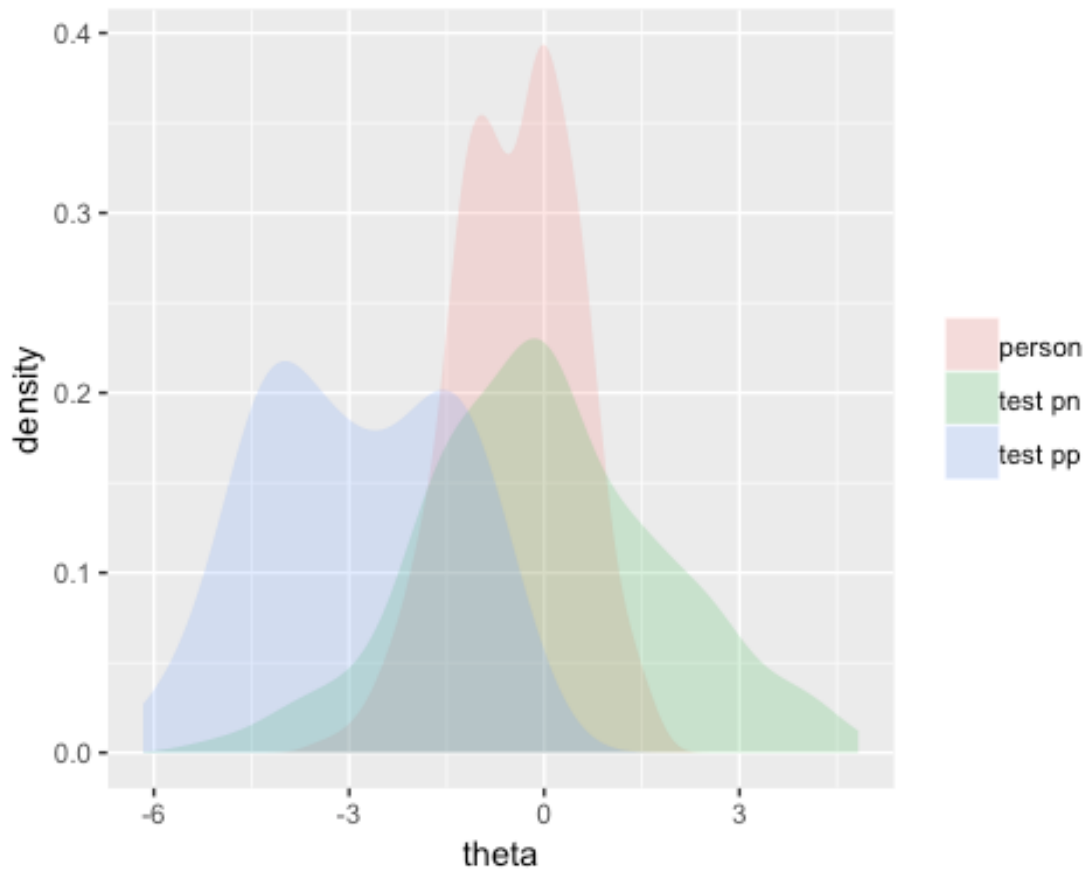
The following table contains descriptive statistics for children participating in the fall OL administration. The mean, median, sd, skewness (skew), kurtosis (kurt), minimum (min), maximum (max), number of children (n), and children with missing values (na) are shown in columns for ability estimates (theta), number of items administered (n_items), total number correct treating missings as zeros (total), and proportion correct (prop, total over n_items). Note that the mean theta is below zero, as expected for a scale that is defined by an older age group. The n_items reveals that some children responded to as many as 110 items, with an average of 54. On average, children responded correctly to 75 percent of the items they saw.

Descriptive statistics for fall OL ability estimation

	mean	median	sd	skew	kurt	min	max	n	na
theta	-0.451	-0.374	0.935	-0.253	2.738	-3.487	1.667	434	0
n_items	54.376	55.000	5.261	0.388	48.046	27.000	110.000	434	0
total	41.094	43.000	8.572	-0.704	4.894	11.000	82.000	434	0
prop	0.754	0.782	0.138	-0.737	3.161	0.273	0.982	434	0

The following plot compares distributions of ability and item difficulty along the theta scale. Note that the y-axis is scaled relative to each distribution (as what are called densities) so that a comparison in terms of counts of items and persons is not possible. Instead, the plot is helpful for determining the alignment in locations for items and test takers. Different color shading is used for P2P and PN items, which tend to capture lower and higher theta values respectively. The items shown were not all administered in the

fall, but serve to demonstrate the full scope of the OL bank after linking to age 4 PN.



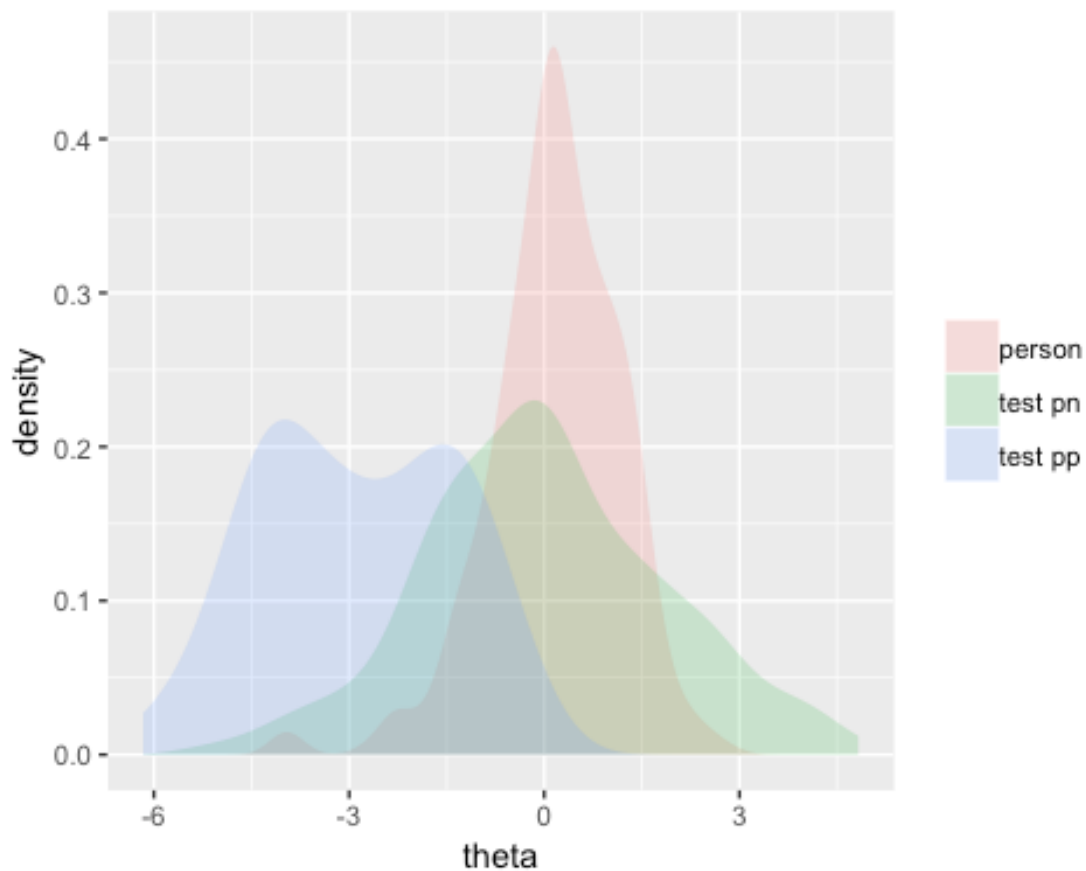
Winter administration. The winter administration of OL involved a single formid and was based on CAT with test length 25 items. These items could come from P2P, PN, or both, depending on the performance of the test taker. Prior to estimating theta for children, item parameters from the data export were replaced with those from the linking above prior to estimating theta.

The table below shows descriptive statistics for the winter OL administration. Mean theta was slightly higher in winter than for fall, as expected, with a maximum value of 2.815. The number of items was fixed at 25, and did not vary over children.

Descriptive statistics for winter OL ability estimation

	mean	median	sd	skew	kurt	min	max	n	na
theta	0.171	0.18	1.009	-0.758	4.940	-4	2.815	411	0
n_items	25.000	25.00	0.000	NaN	NaN	25	25.000	411	0
total	10.645	11.00	2.224	-0.701	5.313	0	16.000	411	0
prop	0.426	0.44	0.089	-0.701	5.313	0	0.640	411	0

The plot below compares distributions of items and children across the theta scale, with shaded curves for P2P and PN items, as well as winter ability estimates. Note that the item curves display distributions of items available in the OL test bank, not necessarily items administered.



Spring administration. The spring administration of OL also involved a single formid and was based on CAT with test length 25 items. These items could again come

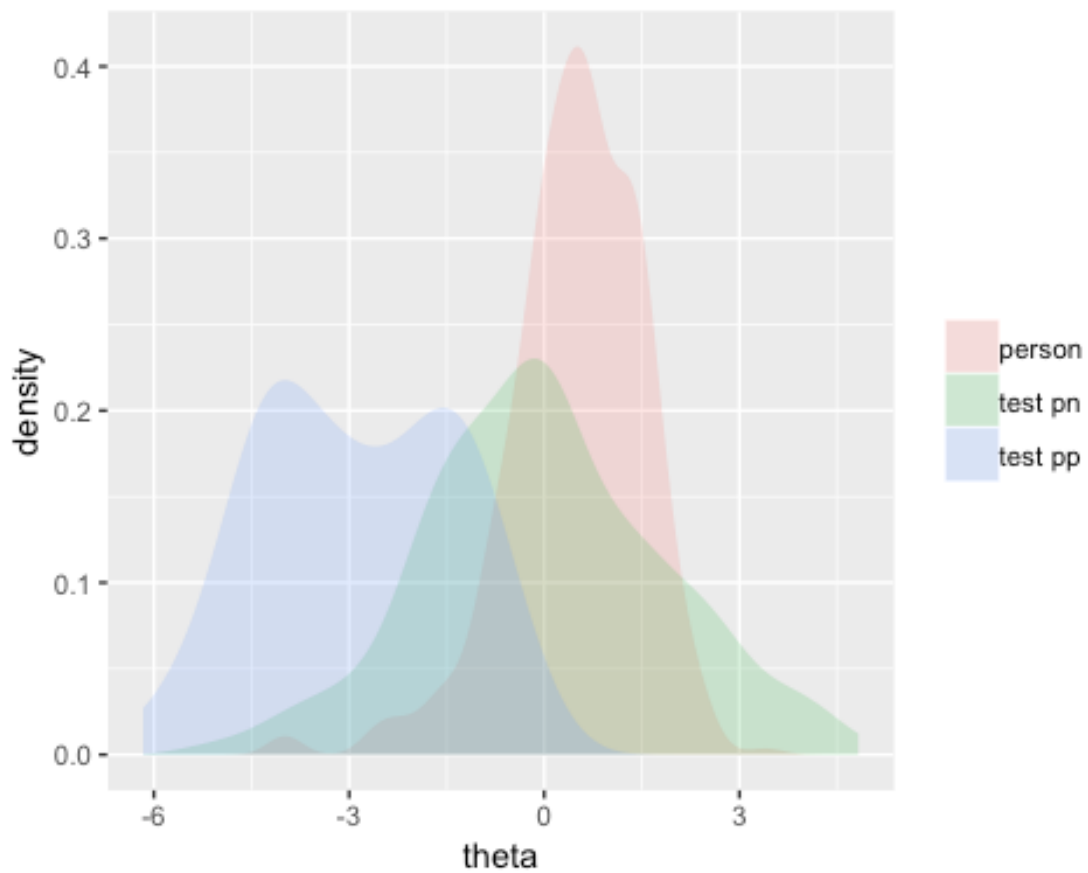
from P2P, PN, or both, depending on the performance of the test taker. Prior to estimating theta for children, item parameters from the data export were replaced with those from the linking above prior to estimating theta.

The table below shows descriptive statistics for the spring OL administration. Mean theta was slightly higher in spring than for winter, as expected. The number of items was again fixed at 25, and did not vary over children.

Descriptive statistics for spring OL ability estimation

	mean	median	sd	skew	kurt	min	max	n	na
theta	0.483	0.527	1.030	-0.898	5.139	-4	3.407	411	0
n_items	25.000	25.000	0.000	NaN	NaN	25	25.000	411	0
total	11.136	11.000	2.255	-0.640	5.488	0	19.000	411	0
prop	0.445	0.440	0.090	-0.640	5.488	0	0.760	411	0

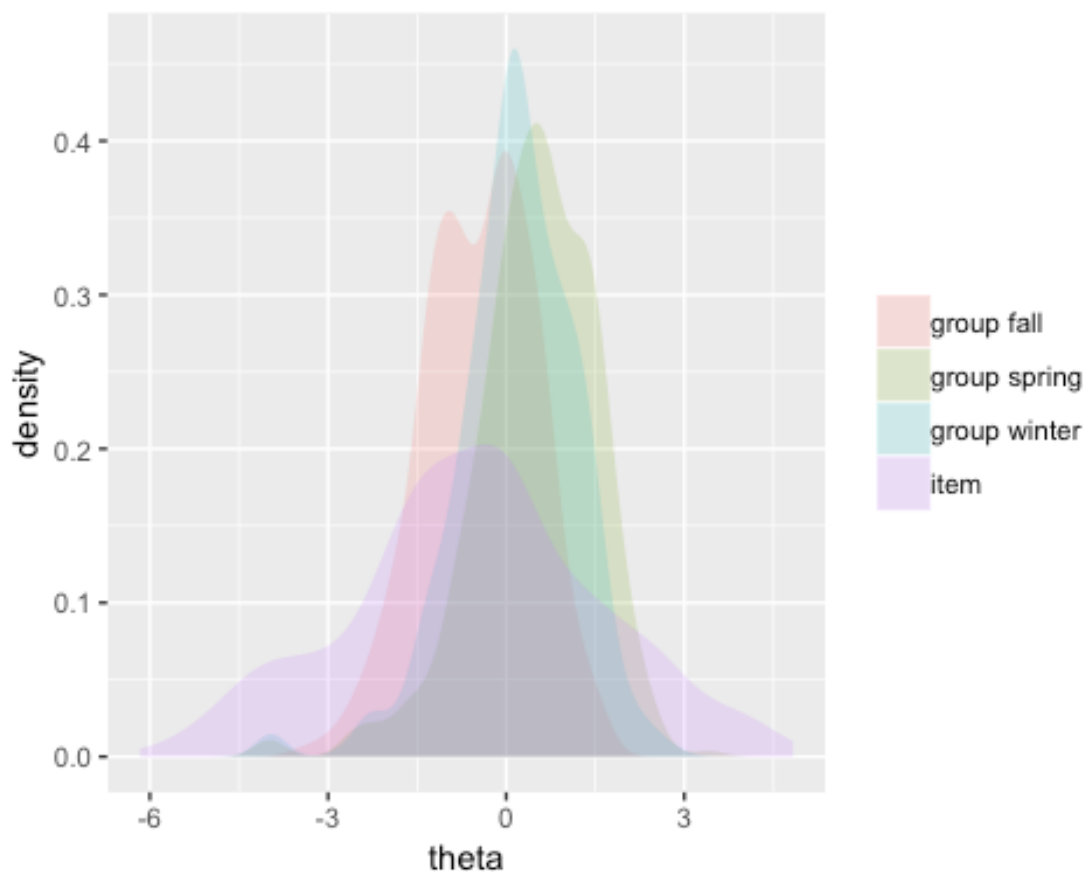
The plot below compares distributions of items and children across the theta scale, with shaded curves for P2P and PN items, as well as spring ability estimates. Item curves again display distributions of items available in the OL test bank, not necessarily items administered.



Pdate

Preliminary Results - C

Finally, the plot below displays distributions of ability estimates across the theta scale for fall, winter, and spring administrations of OL. Item locations are shown in a single distribution, rather than being divided into P2P and PN.



Alphabet knowledge. The fall, winter, and spring administrations of alphabet knowledge (AK) all employed CAT with test length set to 25 items. The AK bank contained 143 items and four different types of tasks: letter find (lf, 20 items), letter naming (ln, 52 items), letter orientation (lo, 19 items), and point to letter (pl, 52 items). The spring AK administration also included a linear test with 25 items, administered to a subset of 199 children.

The following three tables provide descriptive statistics for AK ability estimates in the fall, winter, and spring administrations. Mean theta increased from -0.244 in the

fall to 0.198 in the winter and 0.599 in the spring. Total and proportion correct increased slightly, but remained close to 50 percent, as is the target performance level for the CAT algorithm. Note that the spring data included both the CAT and linear test forms.

Descriptive statistics for fall AK ability estimation

	mean	median	sd	skew	kurt	min	max	n	na
theta	-0.244	-0.477	1.319	0.512	2.564	-2.697	3.296	424	0
n_items	25.000	25.000	0.000	NaN	NaN	25.000	25.000	424	0
total	11.559	11.500	4.844	0.125	3.407	0.000	25.000	424	0
prop	0.462	0.460	0.194	0.125	3.407	0.000	1.000	424	0

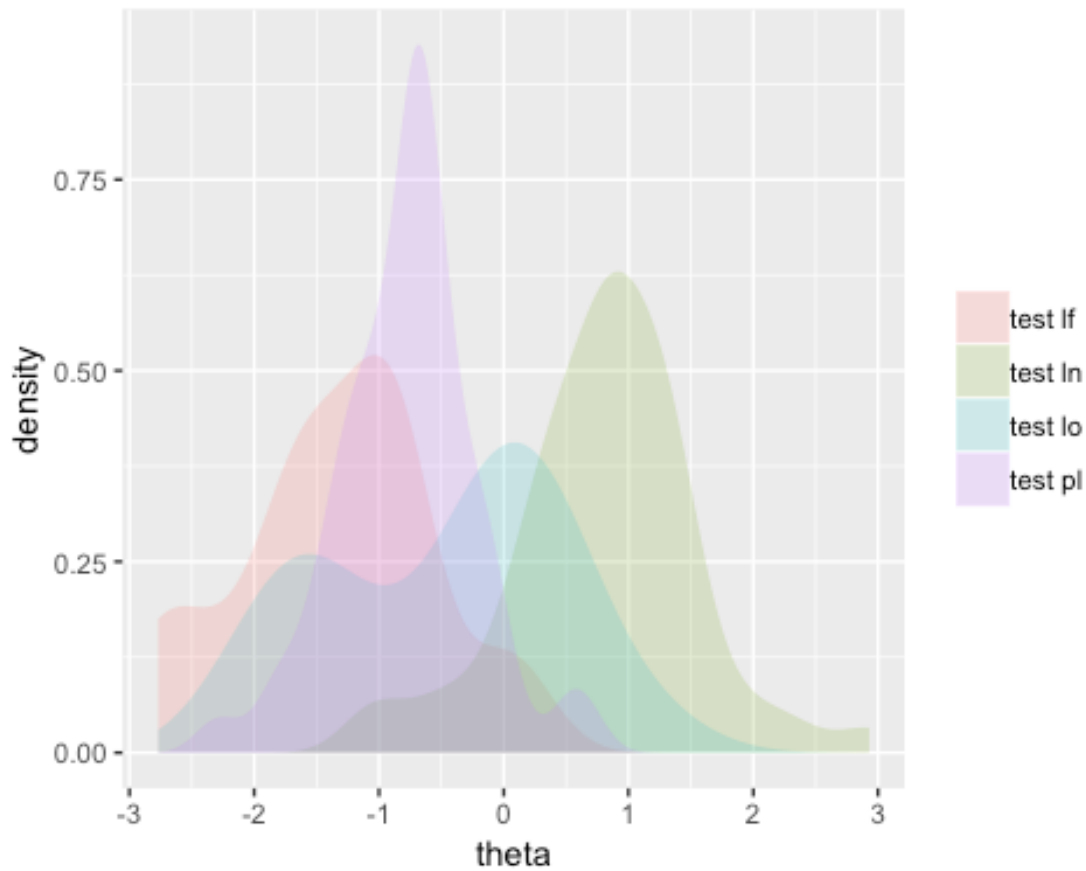
Descriptive statistics for winter AK ability estimation

	mean	median	sd	skew	kurt	min	max	n	na
theta	0.198	0.155	1.408	0.064	2.245	-3.575	3.04	408	0
n_items	25.000	25.000	0.000	NaN	NaN	25.000	25.00	408	0
total	13.463	13.000	4.369	0.407	2.909	0.000	24.00	408	0
prop	0.539	0.520	0.175	0.407	2.909	0.000	0.96	408	0

Descriptive statistics for spring AK ability estimation

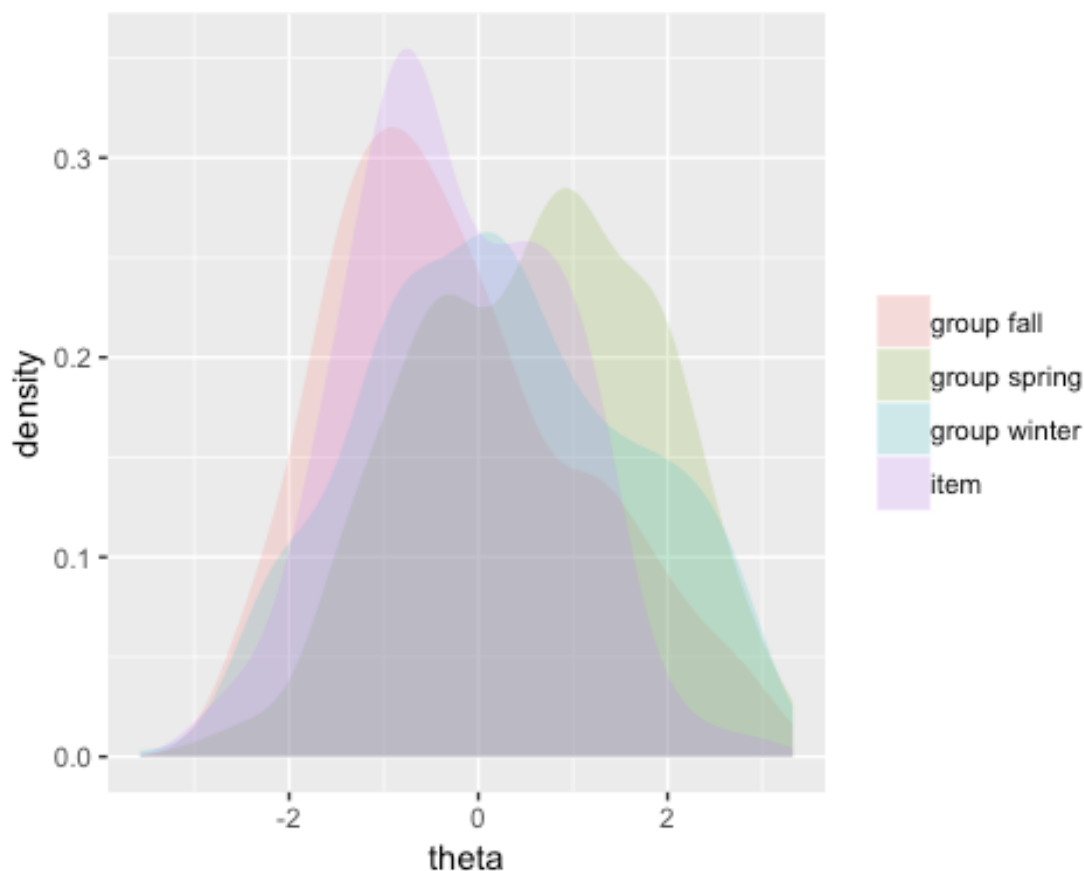
	mean	median	sd	skew	kurt	min	max	n	na
theta	0.599	0.70	1.265	-0.172	2.373	-3.059	3.324	410	0
n_items	25.000	25.00	0.000	NaN	NaN	25.000	25.000	410	0
total	14.644	14.00	5.477	0.111	2.016	2.000	25.000	410	0
prop	0.586	0.56	0.219	0.111	2.016	0.080	1.000	410	0

The plots below compare distributions of items and children across the theta scale, with shaded curves for the four tasks, as well as seasonal ability estimates. The first plot shows just the distributions of items, whereas the second shows all items as a single distribution, with fall, winter, and spring ability distributions as well.



update

Preliminary A



Phonological awareness. Like ak, the fall, winter, and spring administrations of phonological awareness (pa) employed CAT with test length set to 25 items. Spring included a linear test form with 25 items administered to 216 children. The PA bank contained 76 items all of the same task, referred to as robot blending.

The following three tables provide descriptive statistics for PA ability estimates in the fall, winter, and spring administrations. Mean theta increased from -0.426 in the fall to -0.044 in the winter administration, and to 0.189 in the spring.

Descriptive statistics for fall PA ability estimation

	mean	median	sd	skew	kurt	min	max	n	na
theta	-0.426	-0.471	0.832	0.328	3.504	-2.604	2.268	415	0
n_items	25.000	25.000	0.000	NaN	NaN	25.000	25.000	415	0

	mean	median	sd	skew	kurt	min	max	n	na
total	13.239	12.000	4.107	0.775	3.402	4.000	25.000	415	0
prop	0.530	0.480	0.164	0.775	3.402	0.160	1.000	415	0

Descriptive statistics for winter PA ability estimation

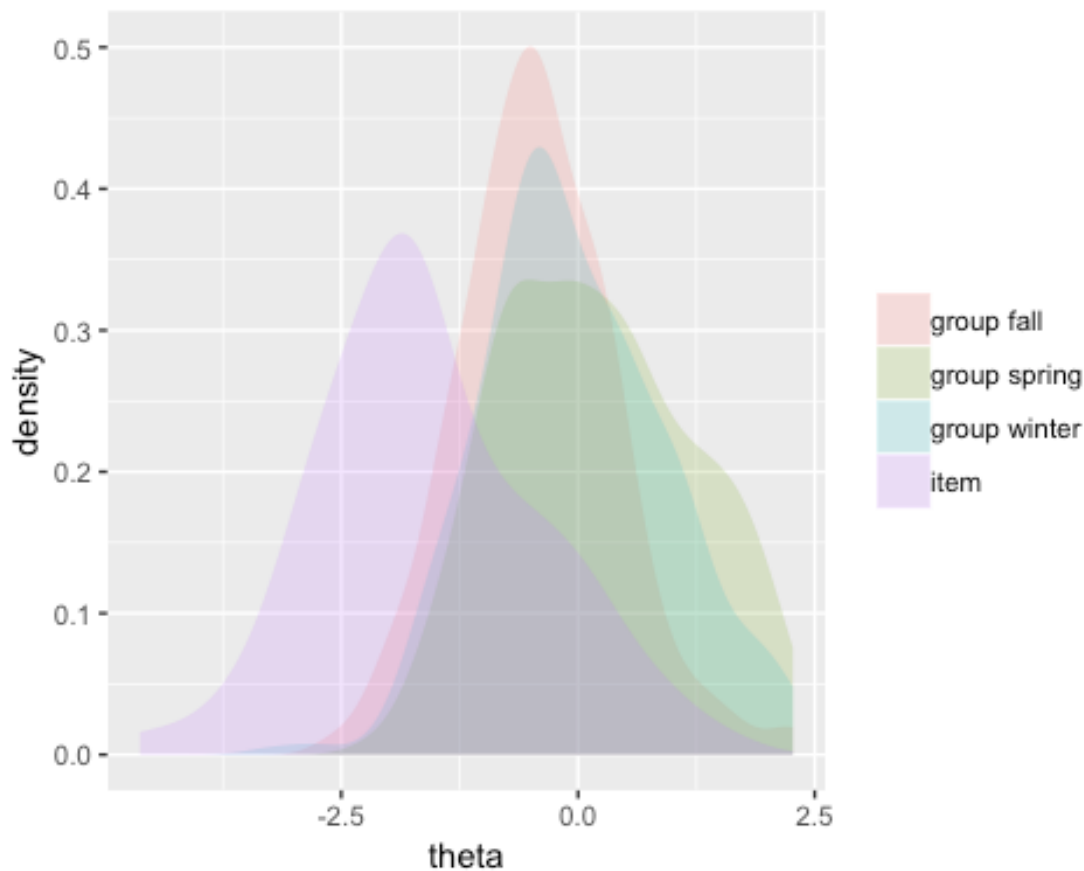
	mean	median	sd	skew	kurt	min	max	n	na
theta	-0.044	-0.152	0.974	0.155	2.901	-3.269	2.269	398	0
n_items	25.000	25.000	0.000	NaN	NaN	25.000	25.000	398	0
total	14.535	14.000	4.563	0.449	2.397	3.000	25.000	398	0
prop	0.581	0.560	0.183	0.449	2.397	0.120	1.000	398	0

Descriptive statistics for spring PA ability estimation

	mean	median	sd	skew	kurt	min	max	n	na
theta	0.189	0.12	1.016	0.152	2.174	-2.226	2.269	404	0
n_items	25.000	25.00	0.000	NaN	NaN	25.000	25.000	404	0
total	16.626	17.00	5.145	-0.043	1.776	5.000	25.000	404	0
prop	0.665	0.68	0.206	-0.043	1.776	0.200	1.000	404	0

Preliminary Results - Contact Authors for Update

The plot below compares distributions of items and children across the theta scale, with shaded curves for items as well as fall and winter ability estimates.



Comparing Measures

Results were compared across seasons and measures. After merging all ability estimates into a single data frame, there were 313 children who had complete data (that is, estimated theta values) across all nine administrations (three seasons, three measures each). Correlations (r) were estimated for these 313 children, shown in the following table. Within measures, correlations across seasons were strongest overall for ak, with r ranging from 0.77 to 0.82. Correlations across season were weaker for ol, with r ranging from 0.66 to 0.76, and for pa, with r ranging from 0.49 to 0.67. Correlations across measures were weaker overall, as expected.

	fall_ak	fall_ol	fall_pa	spring_ak	spring_ol	spring_pa	winter_ak	winter_ol	winter_pa
fall_ak	1.00	0.35	0.32	0.77	0.23	0.19	0.82	0.33	0.16
fall_ol	0.35	1.00	0.38	0.33	0.66	0.34	0.36	0.69	0.32
fall_pa	0.32	0.38	1.00	0.29	0.26	0.49	0.28	0.35	0.54
spring_ak	0.77	0.33	0.29	1.00	0.36	0.31	0.82	0.36	0.24
spring_ol	0.23	0.66	0.26	0.36	1.00	0.48	0.28	0.76	0.32
spring_pa	0.19	0.34	0.49	0.31	0.48	1.00	0.23	0.44	0.67
winter_ak	0.82	0.36	0.28	0.82	0.28	0.23	1.00	0.35	0.21
winter_ol	0.33	0.69	0.35	0.36	0.76	0.44	0.35	1.00	0.36
winter_pa	0.16	0.32	0.54	0.24	0.32	0.67	0.21	0.36	1.00

Correlations were also estimated using pairwise complete data, where any children with scores on a pair of measures in a given season contributed to the correlation for those measures and season. The next table shows these pairwise correlations along with corresponding counts of test takers in parentheses.

	fall_ak	fall_ol	fall_pa	spring_ak	spring_ol	spring_pa	winter_ak	winter_ol	winter_pa
fall_ak	1.00 (424)	0.36 (424)	0.27 (410)	0.76 (371)	0.28 (370)	0.25 (366)	0.81 (348)	0.34 (355)	0.15 (346)
fall_ol	0.36 (424)	1.00 (434)	0.41 (415)	0.35 (380)	0.69 (379)	0.42 (375)	0.38 (356)	0.65 (363)	0.34 (354)
fall_pa	0.27 (410)	0.41 (415)	1.00 (415)	0.29 (364)	0.29 (363)	0.50 (360)	0.27 (344)	0.34 (351)	0.53 (345)
spring_ak	0.76 (371)	0.35 (380)	0.29 (364)	1.00 (410)	0.41 (398)	0.35 (396)	0.80 (352)	0.36 (356)	0.26 (345)
spring_ol	0.28 (370)	0.69 (379)	0.29 (363)	0.41 (398)	1.00 (411)	0.54 (391)	0.35 (347)	0.74 (350)	0.34 (341)
spring_pa	0.25 (366)	0.42 (375)	0.50 (360)	0.35 (396)	0.54 (391)	1.00 (404)	0.27 (344)	0.43 (348)	0.68 (339)
winter_ak	0.81 (348)	0.38 (356)	0.27 (344)	0.80 (352)	0.35 (347)	0.27 (344)	1.00 (408)	0.41 (400)	0.23 (386)

winter	0.34	0.65	0.34	0.36	0.74	0.43	0.41	1.00	0.37
_ol	(355)	(363)	(351)	(356)	(350)	(348)	(400)	(411)	(388)
winter	0.15	0.34	0.53	0.26	0.34	0.68	0.23	0.37	1.00
_pa	(346)	(354)	(345)	(345)	(341)	(339)	(386)	(388)	(398)

Upcoming Results

The next steps for analyses will focus contrasting groups analysis and classification accuracy. Through contrasting groups analysis, we seek to answer what Rasch scale score best discriminates individuals identified by their teacher as making adequate progress, as compared to those individuals not making adequate progress and in need of additional intervention, for each data collection format in Fall of PK3. Regarding classification accuracy, we seek to understand to what extent do the results meet a priori standards for screening in educational settings (i.e., sensitivity, specificity, area under the curve) using teacher-assigned group as criterion and IGDI scores as predictors.