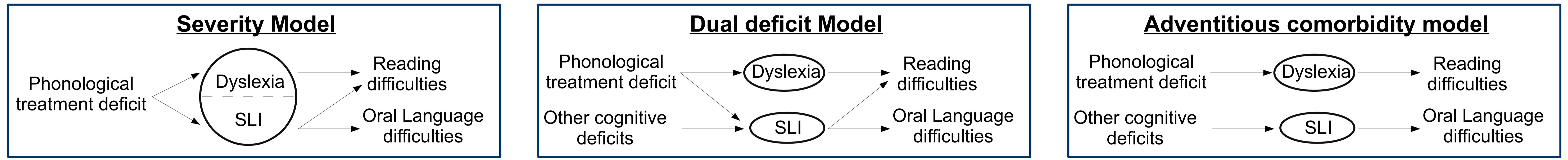


Introduction

Specific Language Impairment (SLI) affects around 3 to 10% of children. In France, 6 to 8% of children have significant difficulties in learning to read. Numerous studies have shown a link between SLI and subsequent development of reading difficulties. Three models have been developed to account for this link:



Objective

To examine the presence of a link – and to characterize it if appropriate – between a child's performance in tasks assessing his/her language skills in pre-school age and his/her subsequent reading performances.

Method

N = 106

Children born between 2000 and 2007

First consultation between 2003 and 2012

Target Group (with reading difficulties: RD+)
N = 44

With preschool SLI: RD+SLI+
N = 37
Mean Age = 5.61, SD = 1.04

Without preschool SLI: RD+SLI-
N = 7
Mean Age = 5.45, SD = 1.19

Control Group (without reading Difficulties: RD-)
N = 62

With preschool SLI: RD-SLI+
N = 50
Mean Age = 5.49, SD = 1.14

Without preschool SLI: RD-SLI-
N = 12
Mean Age = 6.07, SD = 0.55

EVALUATED DOMAINS:

- Oral Language Skills (OLS):**
- Reception:** Phonology (LORP), Lexicon (LORL), Syntax (LORS), Narrative (LORR)
 - Production:** Phonology (LOPP), Lexicon (LOPL), Syntax (LOPS), Narrative (LOPR)
- Reading Skills (RS):**
- Text reading (LETI)
 - Isolated Words reading (LEMI)
 - Isolated Graphemes reading (LEGI)
 - Text comprehension (LELA)

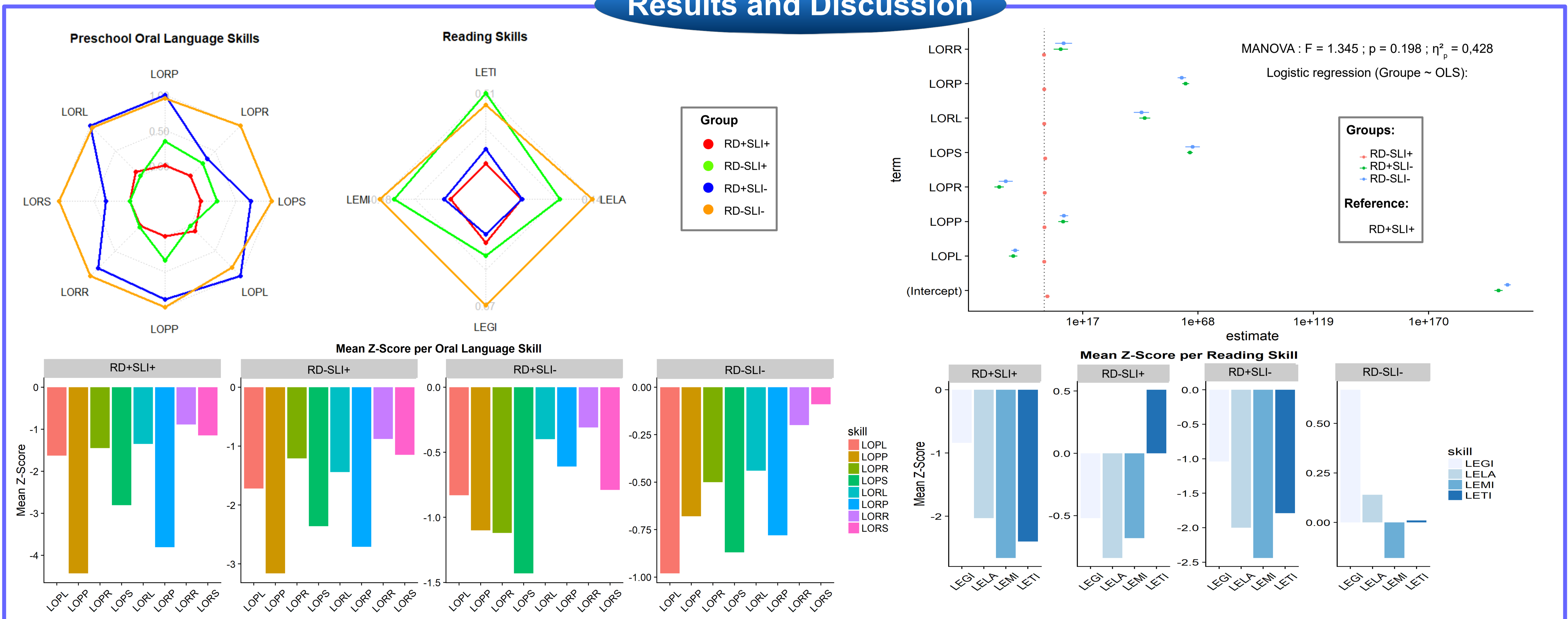
GROUP ATTRIBUTION PARAMETERS:

- Z = Mean Z Score in each evaluated domain
- RD+ if $Z < -1.65$ in any of the reading skills
- SLI+ if $Z < -1.65$ in at least two of the oral language skills

STATISTICAL ANALYSES:

- Intergroup MANOVA (4 RS * 8 OLS) and Multiple Linear Regression:
- Between RD+SLI+ and RD-SLI+
- Between RD+SLI- and RD-SLI-

Results and Discussion



Conclusion:

- No difference between RD+ and RD- whatever the difficulties in oral language.
- No OLS is a reliable predictor of the occurrence of RD.
- All results are consistent with the adventitious comorbidity model.

Limits:

- 41.51% of children included had RD: bias due to recruitment in a specialized service
- No consensus exists on which tests to use for diagnosis
- Low number of participants

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