Readme PLS:

The data on 106 university spinoff active in sustainable energy technologies, was collected through a multi-source method, involving in-depth interviews with firm founders, sending email questionnaire and telephone inquiries with CEO or CTO of the firms. Additionally, desk research was conducted, which included exploring firms' websites, websites of investment consortia detailing investment rounds and acquisitions, and specialized journals like Nordic Green. The data collection, essentially a reconstruction of the firms' past development, commenced in 2015 and continued until late 2018. The objective was to produce longitudinal data spanning from 1999, the earliest year of firm foundation, to 2018. Further details about the data collection process are provided in Chapter 3, Section 3.2.2 of the related thesis titled:

Overall 106 young university spinoffs (USOs) from five European countries of The Netherlands, Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden which were active in the field of sustainable energy technologies was selected. The university spinoffs were stablished from 1999 till 2016 and they were observed until 2018. TO the best of our knowledge, all the existing USOs which meet our criteria, were involved in the data base and the population of the data could meaningfully represent the USOs in sustainable energy at the mentioned time period.

The data table involves 160 USOs and 35 characteristics related to these firms. The name of USOs are not publicly published due to the confidentiality. However they are available by request. The data base is provided in the separate file named data table. The categorization of some of the variables are clear (such as name of cities or universities or ages of firms and dates) and directly mentioned in the data base, but some other variables are presented by codes. To make it more clear for the readers, Table 1. shows the codes of categorizations when it is needed.

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| **Variables** | **Measurements, Codes** |
| Var2  City | 1= In metropolitan area  2= Adjacent, 80Km from metropolitan area  3= large cities far from metropolitan, Pop. >250,000  4= smaller cities far from metropolitan |
| Var3  City with two  Cat. | 1= In metropolitan area  2= Not in metropolitan area |
| Var5  Type of University | 1= Technical university  0 = General university |
| Var6  Sector of energy | 1= Electricity  2= Heat  3= Transportation  4=Not specified for one sector  5=Energy saving |
| Var8  Type of energy | 1= Solar  2= Bioenergy  3=Wind  4=Hydro  5=Battery/Energy storage  6=Automotive  7=Hydrogen/Fuel cell  8=Saving energy substantially  9=More sustainable way of fossil fuel exploitation |
| Var10  Firm survival at 2018 | 0=Survived  1= Not survived |
| Var11  Status of firm at 2018 | 1=Survival  2=bankruptcy  3=Acquisition |
| Var15  Radicalness of innovation | 1=Incremental  2=Radical |
| Var16  Type of market | 1=Established market  2=Emerging market  3=New market |
| Var17  Diversification strategy | 1=Diversified in product or market  2= Focus |
| Var19  Categorized Founding team size | 1= one person  2= Two persons  3= Three or four persons  4= More than four persons |
| Var20  Founding team business experience | 0=No  1=yes |
| Var21  Highest educational degree of founders | 1=PhD  2=Master |
| Var22  When marketing person joined | 1=From the beginning  2=Before age 5  3= At fifth years or later  4=Never |
| Var24  If marketing person joined | 0= No  1= yes |
| Var26  Time of first formal collaboration | 1= At the beginning  2= before age 5  3=At fifth years or later  4=Never |
| Var27  If had formal collaboration | 0= No  1= yes |
| Var 28  Time of receiving first subs. investment | 1= At the beginning  2= before age 5  3=At fifth years or later  4=Never |
| Var29  If Received investment | 0= No  1= yes |
| Var 31  Category of Market introduction | 1= Within 5 years (in market within 5 years or not in market within 5 years)  2=After 5 years (in market after 5 years or not in market after 5 years) |
| Var 32  If had market introduction | 0= No  1=yes |
| Var33  National innovation system | 1=Higher level  2 = Lower lever |
| Var34  Country | 1=Finland  2=Sweden  3=NL  4=Norway  5=Denmark |
| Var35  Type of Business | 1=Service oriented or software  2=Manufacturing oriented |

Table Categorizations of variables, referring to the file of data table