

# Measuring Brain Health with Survival Modeling

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## Background

We applied survival modeling methods on UK Biobank data to evaluate the features in the Framingham Heart Study and the McCance Brain Care Score (M-BCS), recently developed (but not yet used) by the McCance Center for Brain Health (Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston) to predict risk of stroke and cognitive decline. This project extends the features recognized as important as part of the Framingham heart study and validates the features that are included as part of the McCance brain care score.

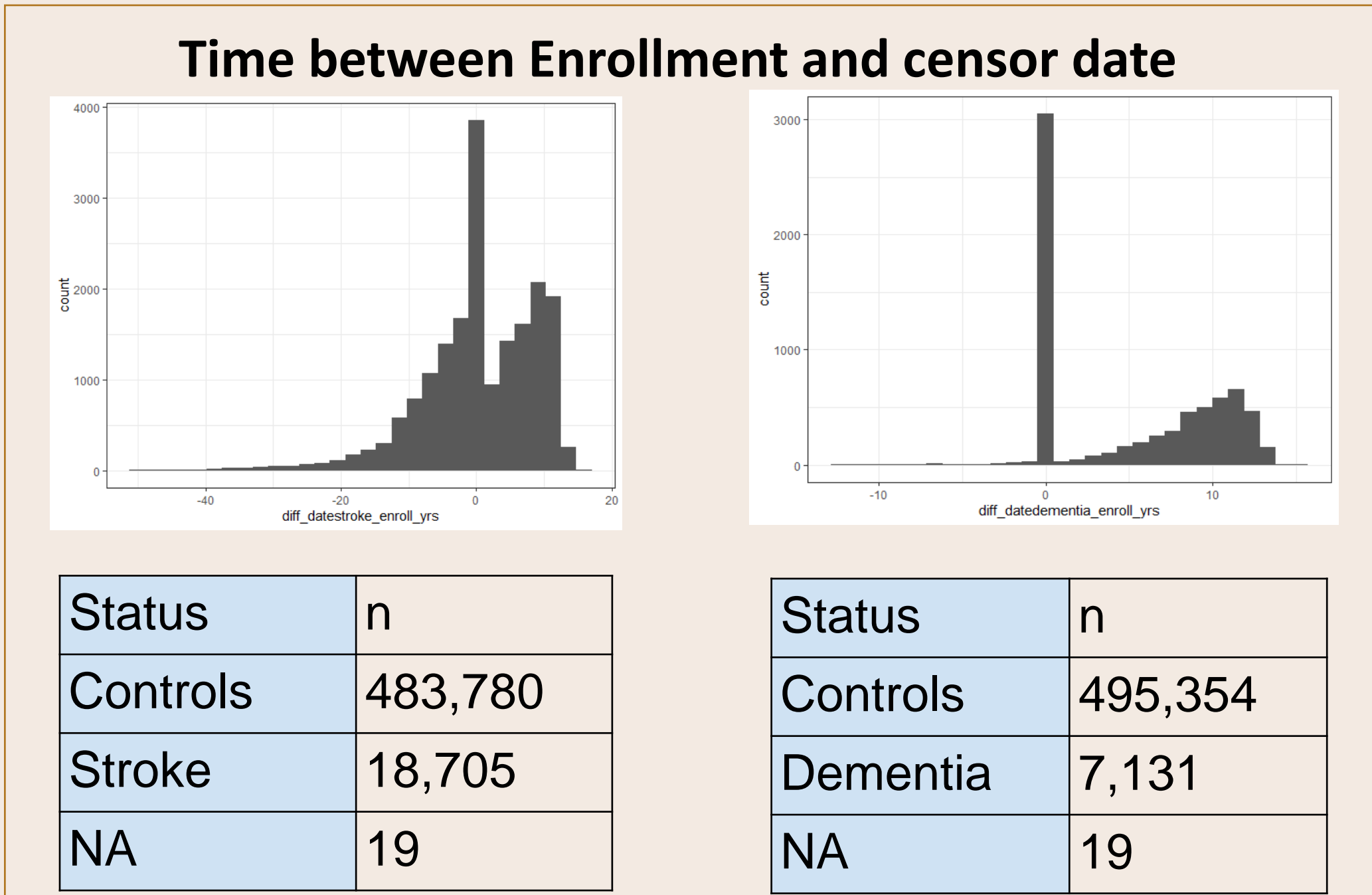


Figure 1. Total number of healthy controls and stroke (top left) and dementia(top right) patients included in UKBB. Counts of cases and controls for stroke (bottom left) and dementia (bottom right)

## Predictive Analysis with Logistic Regression

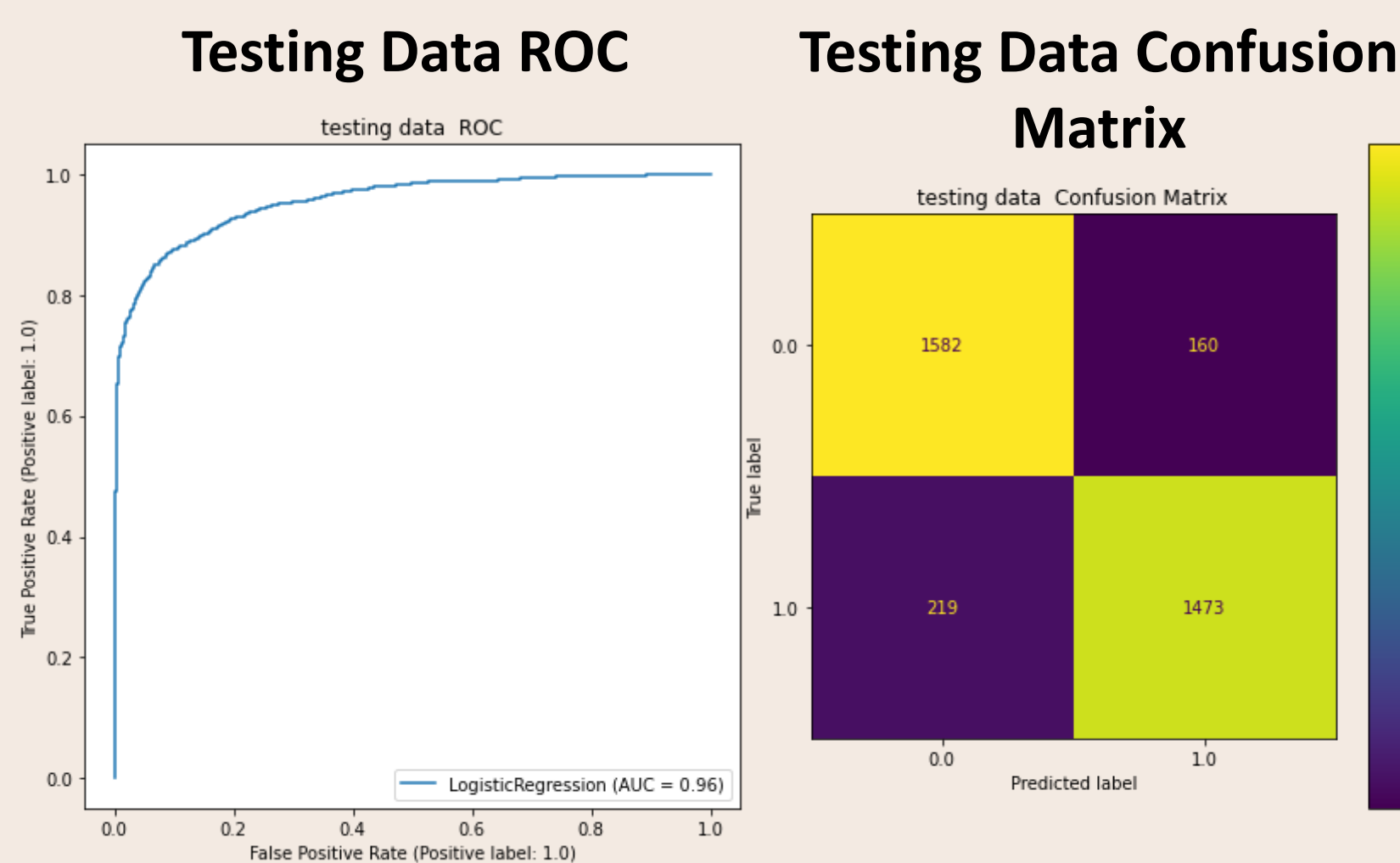


Figure 2. Training performance of Logistic model to predict stroke outcome.

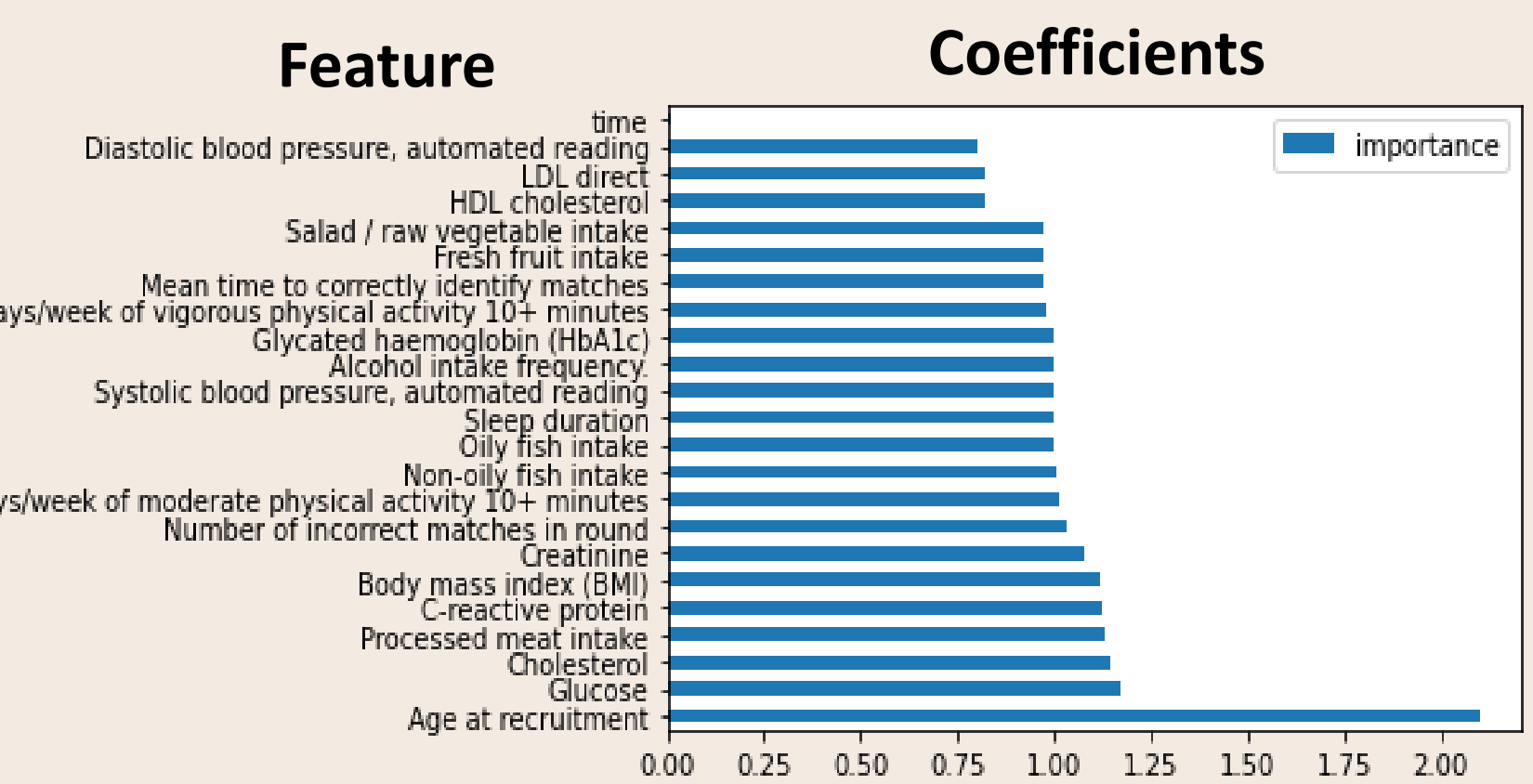


Figure 3. Feature importance by coefficient

A logistic regression analysis was performed on the data to predict disease outcome of samples given their features. The model was trained using L2 regularization. The training AUC is 0.889. The feature importance was calculated by extracting the coefficients. The results shown in figure 3 are from the stroke subset. Feature coefficients other than age have a similar value which means that they all contribute similarly to risk of developing stroke. Age would make sense in this context to have a large coefficient.

## Defining Risk with CoxPH Modeling

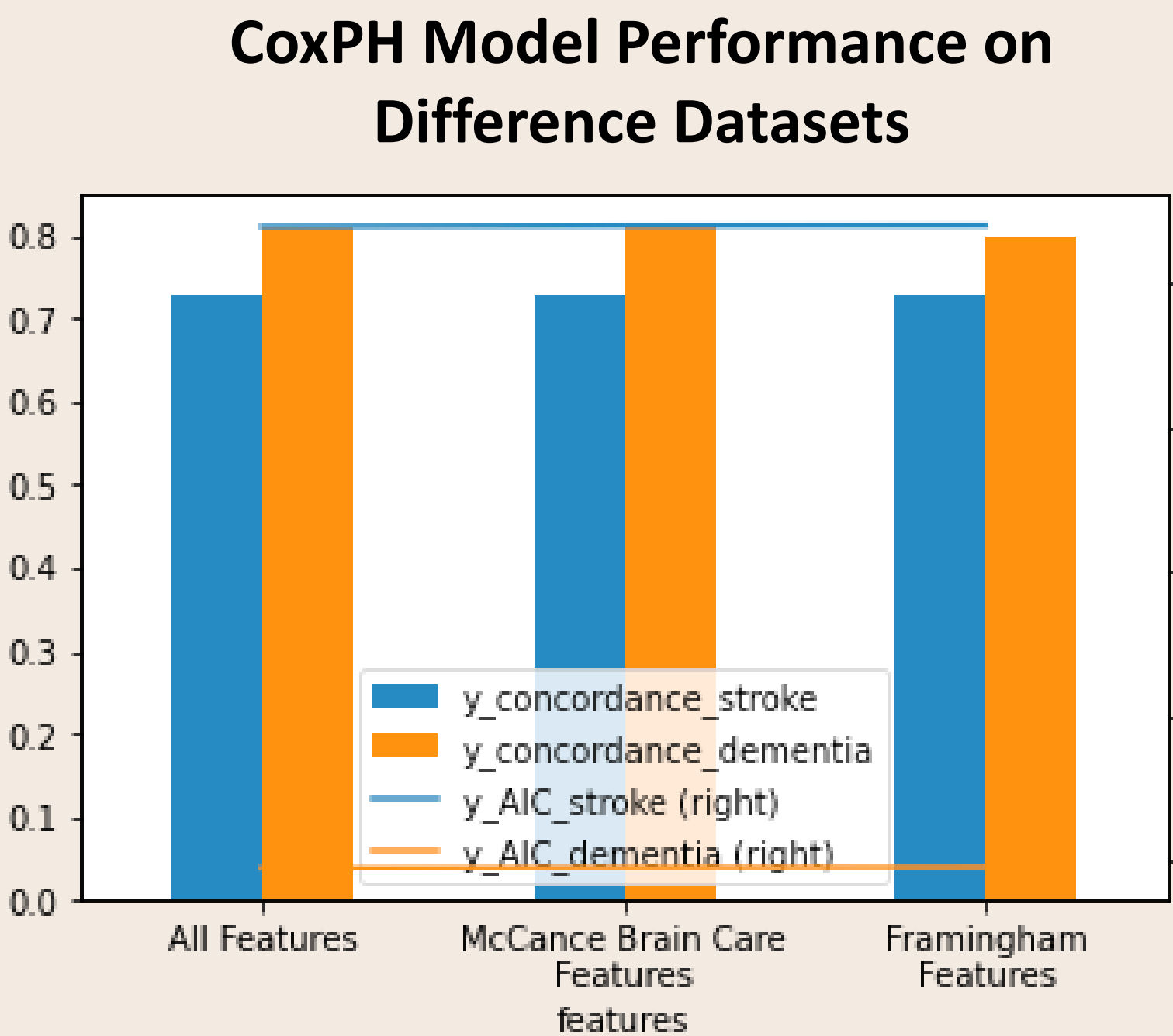


Figure 4. CoxPH Model Performance on features from the UKBB McCance Brain care and Framingham studies was measured by looking at the concordance and the Akaike information criterion (AIC). We compared these scores for the features in the UKBB, MCB and Framingham datasets.

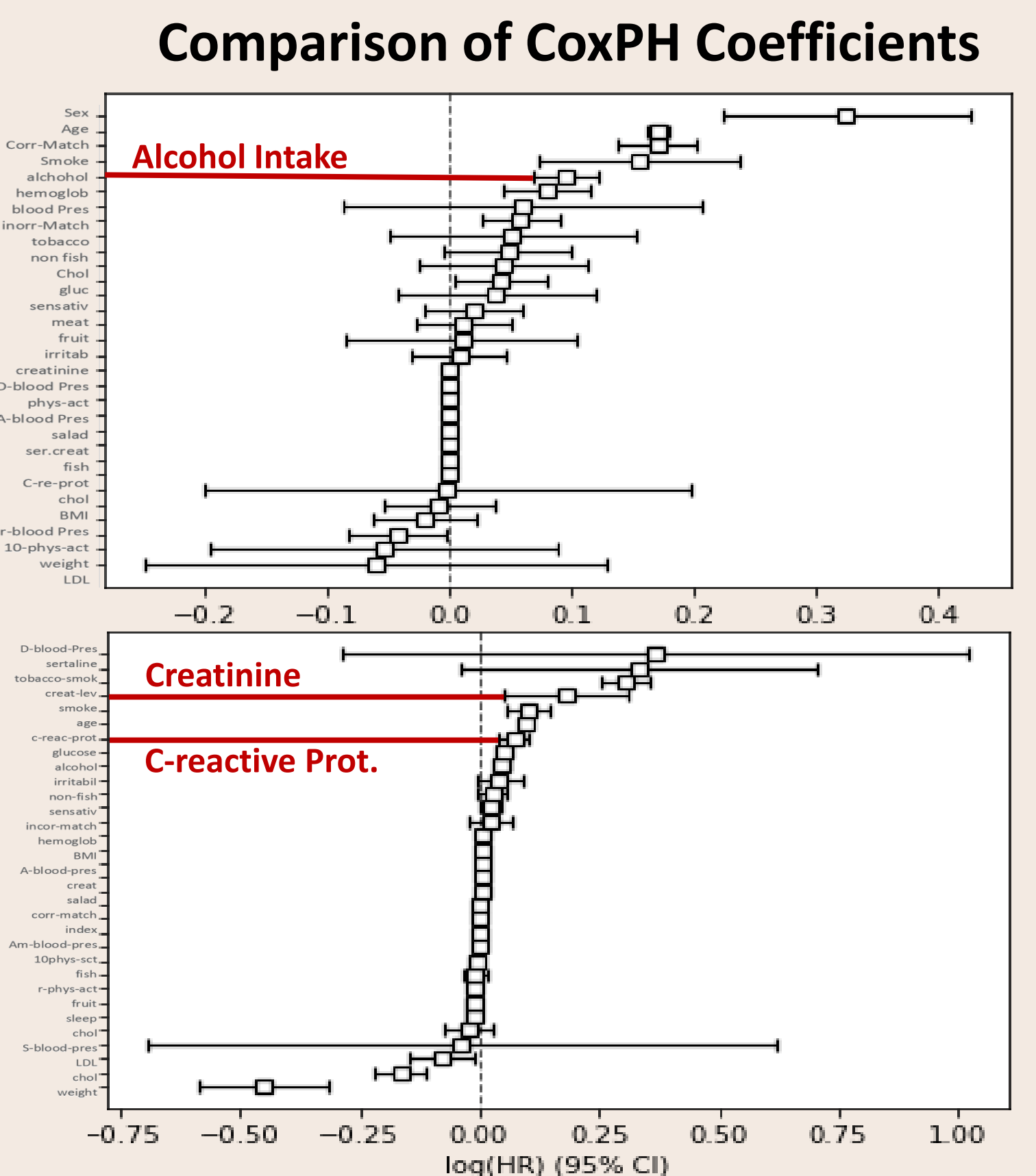
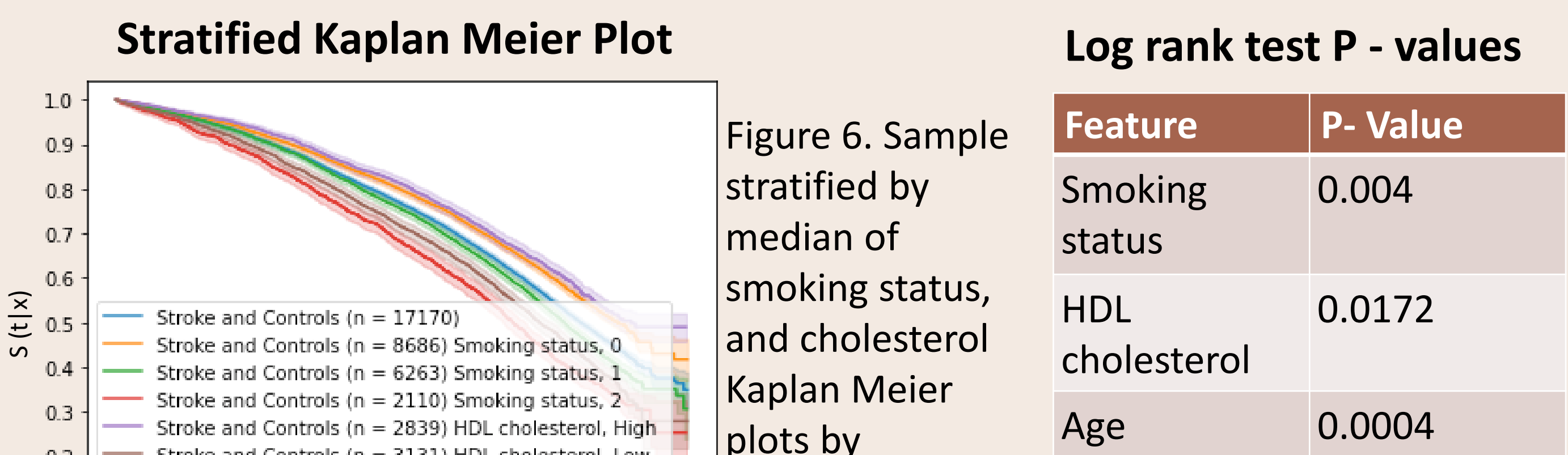


Figure 5. Significant coefficients for model ran on Stroke (top left) and Dementia samples (bottom left). CoxPH survival curves for stroke (bottom right) and dementia samples (top right)

## Survival with Stratification



Equation 1. Log Rank test:  $O_1$  and  $O_2$  are the total numbers of observed events in groups 1 and 2, respectively, and  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  the total numbers of expected events.

$$\chi^2(\log \text{rank}) = \frac{(O_1 - E_1)^2}{E_1} + \frac{(O_2 - E_2)^2}{E_2}$$

We stratify the population by smoking status and cholesterol and generate Kaplan Meier survival models. A log rank test as shown in Equation 3 is then performed to understand if there is a difference in survival between groups. The p value was calculated with a Chi squared statistical.

## Evaluating Constant Hazard Assumption

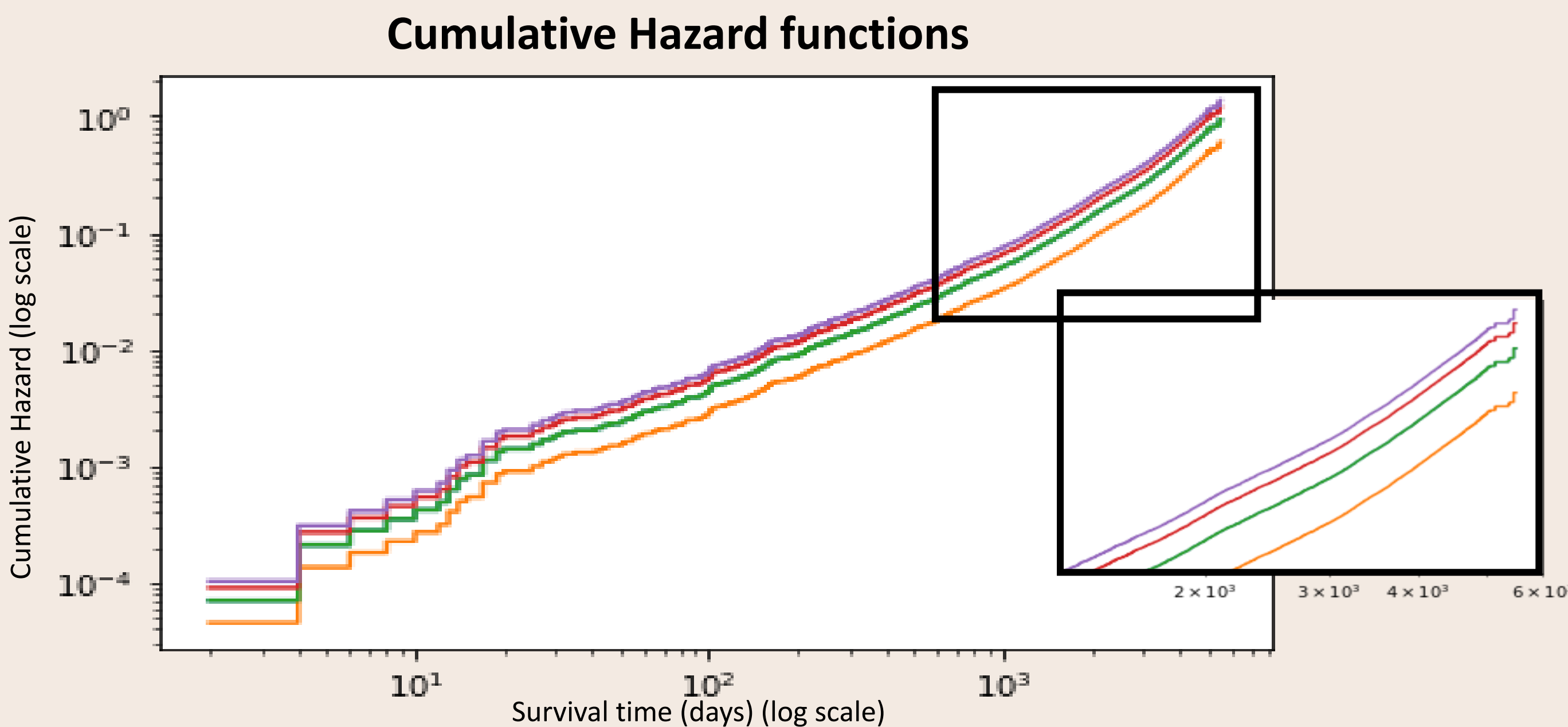


Figure 7. Cumulative Hazard functions for stroke CPH models

### Scaled Schoenfeld Over Time for Fresh Fruit Intake and Age

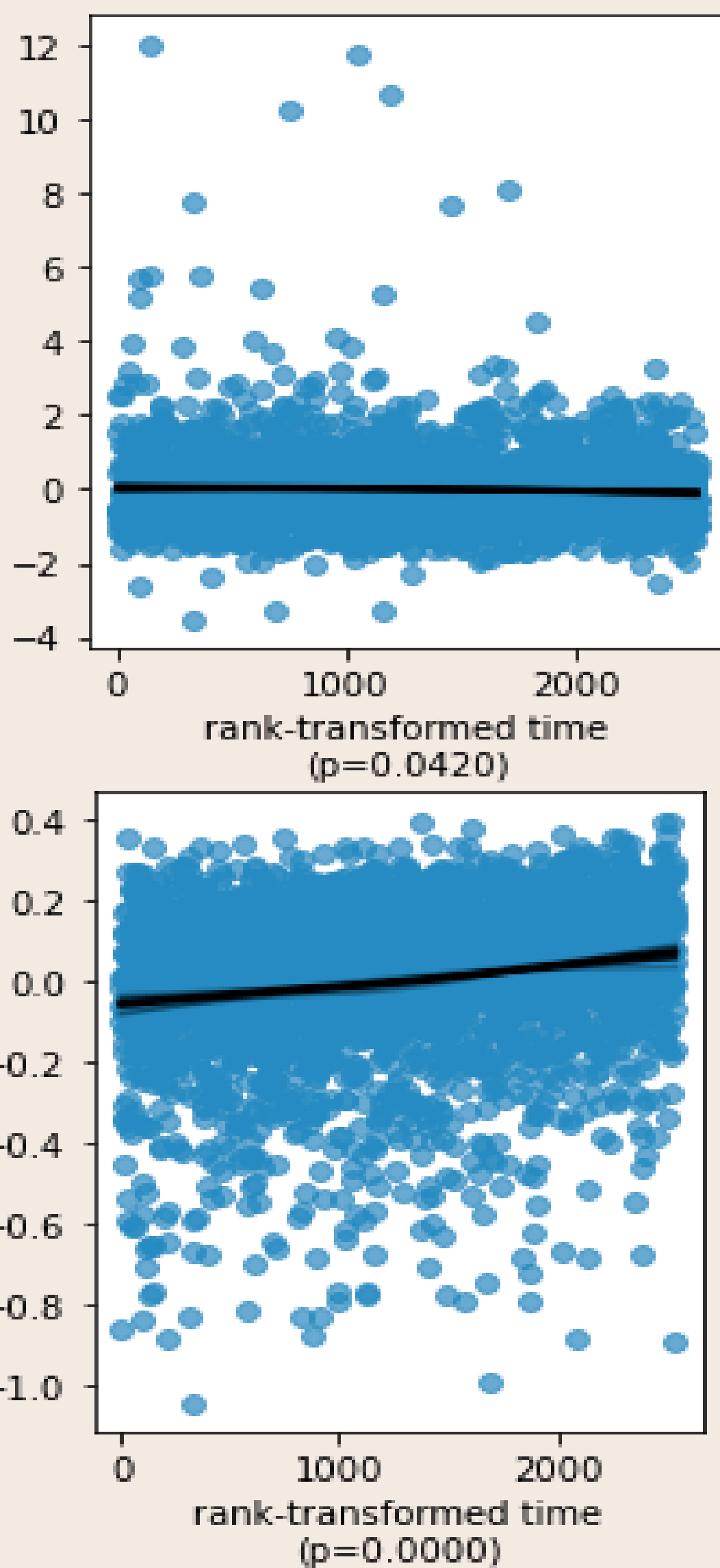


Figure 8. Scaled Schoenfeld Over Time for Fruit Intake and Age. P values are shown.

The Cox Proportional Hazards model relies on the assumption that the proportional hazards Eq. 1 stay constant over time. The cumulative hazard function is used which can be calculated by taking the derivative of the hazard function. To test if this assumption hold for our data, we calculated the cumulative hazards as shown and plot it against the survival time. If there is a constant hazard over time, then the slopes of these functions should be parallel as it appears to be. We then used the Schoenfeld residuals test to further check the assumption for each variable to see if residuals change over time.

Equation 1. Hazard Function

$$h(t) = -\frac{d}{dt} [\log S(t)]$$

Equation 2. Cumulative Hazard Function

$$H(t) = -\log S(t)$$

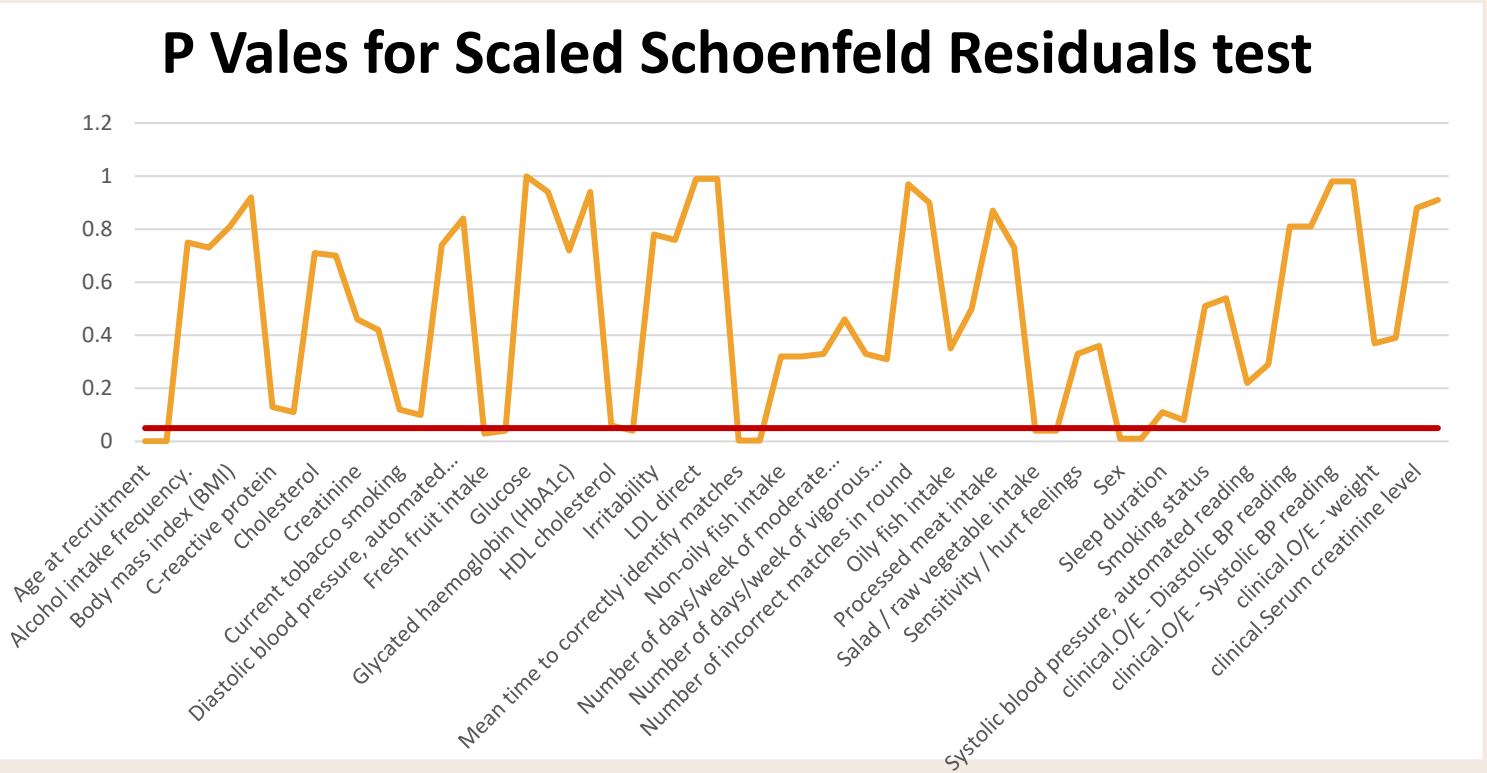
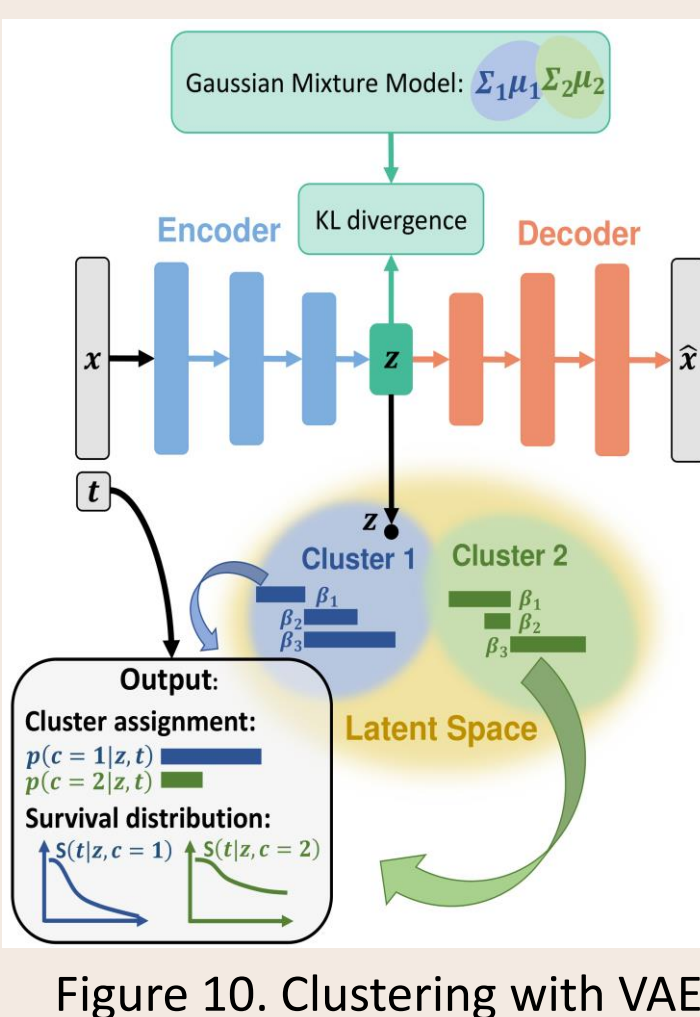


Figure 9. Schoenfeld Residuals test p- values. The red line shows a cut-off value of .05. Most values fall above this threshold.

## Conclusions & Future Directions



- We find possible correlative significance for stroke diagnosis in Creatinine, and C-Reactive which are not included in previous brain care score.
- Clustering survival data using Variational Autoencoders VAE.
- Deep survival models that provide transparency regarding feature importance.

