Detecting Pre-Symptomatic Cognitive Impairment through Epigenetic Biomarkers and Machine Learning for Early Intervention

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Background:

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE



Progressive type of dementia that affects **memory** and other **important cognitive functions**.

While treatment and medication can temporarily help with symptoms, **there is no cure**.

STATISTICS

5.8 MILLION

cases in 2020 (US)



13.8 MILLION cases by 2050 (US)

1 in 3

Seniors die with Alzheimer's or another form of dementia.

500,000 Americans die every year because of Alzheimer's.

DIAGNOSIS ISSUES

There is no single test that can definitively determine whether a person has Alzheimer's Disease.



Diagnosis for Alzheimer's often comes **too late** and the damage already done is **irreversible**.



Confirmatory diagnosis such as PET scans are **expensive** and CSF procedures are **invasive**.



Background (1/2)











Background:

RECENT FINDINGS

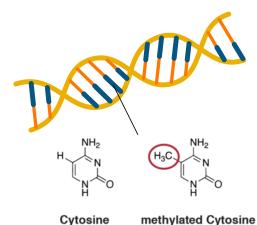
Studies have suggested that epigenetic mechanisms like **DNA** methylation play a role in the development of Alzheimer's.



These epigenetic mechanisms may hold **the key** to the potential creation of a pre-clinical **prediction model**.

DNA METHYLATION

DNA methylation is a **vital epigenetic process** by which a methyl group (CH3) is added to DNA, typically affecting **gene expression**.



SPECULATION

Specific CpG (Cytosine - Phosphate -Guanine) sites in the promoter region become **abnormally methylated**



Possibly leads to the development of Alzheimer's Disease



Background (2/2)



Materials

Procedure

Results

Application

Objective:

HYPOTHESIS

Can DNA Methylation be used as a biomarker to diagnose Alzheimer's Disease?

DEFINITION REFRESHER

- **Biomarker:** A measurable substance that is indicative of some phenomenon
- \triangleright **DNA Methylation:** A biological process where methyl groups are added to DNA
- **Alzheimer's Disease:** A common type of dementia that affects memory



OBJECTIVE

Create a method of detecting pre-symptomatic cognitive impairment that is simple, inexpensive, and minimally invasive

GENERAL DESIGN GOAL

Static Models

Determine whether a patient has cognitive impairment

Progressive Models

Predict status in 2 years based on current condition







Procedure

Results

Application

Materials:

DATASETS

GEO (Gene Expression Omnibus):

- GSE153712 (Peripheral Blood)
- 832,602 CpG Sites
- 161 AD (Alzheimer's Disease)
- 94 MCI (Mild Cognitive Impairment)
- 471 ND (No Disease)
- GSE156984 (Brain):
- 728,553 CpG Sites
- 127 AD (Alzheimer's Disease)
- 117 ND (No Disease) \triangleright

ADNI (University of Southern California):

- Dataset (Peripheral Blood)
 - 865859 CpG Sites
 - 400 AD (Alzheimer's Disease)
 - 895 MCI (Mild Cognitive Impairment)
 - 610 ND (No Disease)

*Samples (ADNI) followed disease progression

PROGRAMS



Anaconda 3 (Python Language):

- Built ML Models using scikit-learn (Jupyter Notebook)
- RStudio (R Language):
- Format datasets



Linux (Amazon Web Services):

Download and process datasets



WinSCP:

Transfer files between Linux and personal laptop



Microsoft Excel:

Observe data and perform t test to get p-value

MACHINE LEARNING

Machine Learning Algorithms:

- SVC (Support Vector Classifier)
- LogisticRegression
- RandomForest
- GradientBoostingClassifier

import pandas as pd import imblearn from sklearn.model selection import train test split from sklearn.model_selection import GridSearchCV

from sklearn.linear_model import Lasso

from sklearn.linear model import LogisticRegression from sklearn.svm import LinearSVC from sklearn.linear model import Ridge

from sklearn.svm import SVR. SVC from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier

from sklearn.metrics import roc_curve, roc_auc_score,auc, accuracy_score,recall_score,make_scorer from sklearn.metrics import confusion_matrix, precision_score,classification_report,f1_score from sklearn.preprocessing import MinMaxScaler, RobustScaler

import collections from collections import Counter from sklearn.datasets import make_classification from imblearn.over_sampling import SMOTE

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt import pickle import warnings from sklearn.ensemble import GradientBoostingClassifier warnings.filterwarnings("ignore")

* Import Data Wrangling Libraries and Machine Learning Algorithms













Background

Objective

Materials

STATIC MODELS **PICTURES** Figure 1: GSE156984 Downloadable Files Download Datasets and other Important Files **Download family** Use wget in Linux to download GSE156984 SOFT [7] SOFT formatted family file(s) MINIML [2] MINIML formatted family file(s) dataset and Series Matrix File TXT [7] Series Matrix File(s) Use wget to download GSE153712 Series Matrix Supplementary file Download File type/resource GSE156984 IFG Matrix processed.txt.gz 412.5 Mb (ftp)(http) TXT File and normalized value file using load() in R GSE156984 IFG Matrix signal intensities.txt.gz 588.4 Mb (ftp)(http) GSE156984 RAW.tar 161.2 Mb (http)(custom) TAR Process and Format Data GSE156984 STG Matrix processed.txt.gz 426.6 Mb (ftp)(http) TXT GSE156984_STG_Matrix_signal_intensities.txt.gz 579.4 Mb (ftp)(http) Unzip files in Linux and format each file Figure 2: GSE153712 File Received from Extract sample ID's and disease status from Dr Marta Nabais Series Matrix file for each dataset Calculate cell composition of samples (GSE153712) Transfer Files to Personal Computer Use WinSCP to transfer all files need from Linux to personal computer Attach .csv to end of the filenames, which allows it to be opened in Microsoft Excel

Results

Application

Conclusion Acknowledgements

Procedure (1/4)

STATIC MODELS (cont.)

Find Important CpG Sites

- Attach status and samples to datasets in Excel
- Sort files by status and perform t test. For GSE153712, do t test in terms of different status combinations (AD vs. ND, AD vs. MCI, MCI vs. ND)
- Record sites with a p-value under 1E-5
- Find similar sites between GSE156984. AD vs. ND. AD vs. MCI, and MCI vs. ND site list

Create Machine Learning Models

- Create 3 models using 4 machine learning algorithms with only data from MCI and ND
 - 1) 6 similar sites (1E-5)
 - 2) Sites with p-value < 1E-5 (594)
 - 3) Collection of 5 models with different amounts of sites (1E-5) found using lasso

*Cell Composition and Gender were also considered in the ML Models

PICTURES

Figure 3: Reading in Lasso_300probes

```
#Readina in Excel Files
X = pd.read_excel("Training/Data/GSE153712_lassoCoefficient_300_Data.xlsx", index_col=0).T
y = pd.read_excel("Training/Data/GSE153712_Status.xlsx", index_col=0).T
print(X.shape)
print(y.shape)
(565, 300)
(565, 1)
#Split into Training and Testing
X_trainval, X_test, y_trainval, y_test = train_test_split(X, y, stratify=y, random_state=10)
#Checking Distribution
print(X_trainval.shape)
print(X test.shape)
print(y_trainval.shape)
print(v test.shape)
```

Figure 4: Finding Best Parameters for SVC

```
#Finding the Best Parameters for SVC
params grid = [{'kernel':['rbf'], 'C':[0.001,0.01,0.1,1,10,100,300],
                                  gamma':[0.00001,0.0002,0.001,0.01,0.1,1]},
               {'kernel': ['linear'], 'C':[0.001, 0.01, 0.1, 1, 10, 100]}]
grid_search = GridSearchCV(SVC(), params_grid, cv=5)
grid_search.fit(X_train,y_train)
#Model Accuracy - Training Set
print("Training Set Accuracy: {:.3f}".format(grid_search.score(X_train,y_train)))
print()
#Model Accuracy - Testina Set
print("Validation Set Accuracy: {:.3f}".format(grid_search.score(X_valid,y_valid)))
print()
#Best Parameters (SVC)
print("Best Parameters:", grid_search.best_params_
```



Background





Procedure (2/4)

Application

PROGRESSIVE MODELS



- Use R program minfi to download and convert original .idat file to beta (methylation) file
- Get annotation and merge Excel file from ADNI

Process and Format Data

Use script to split beta file, format each file through R. and calculate cell composition of samples

Format and Evaluate Information Excel File

- Combine annotation and merge file using a script that matches RID # and sample examination date
- Find 4 different groups of samples based on status
 - 1) ND \rightarrow ND (in 2 years)
 - 2) ND \rightarrow MCI (in 2 years)
 - 3) MCI \rightarrow MCI (in 2 years)
 - 4) MCI → AD (in 2 years)

PICTURES

Figure 5: ADNI Website (Access to Data Granted)



Figure 6: ADNI Cell Composition File

```
CD8T, CD4T, NK, Bcell, Mono, Gran
200223270003 R01C01,0.166,0.127,0.071,0.088,0.121,0.507
00223270003 R02C01,0.053,0.054,0.061,0.049,0.093,0.744
200223270003 R03C01,0.116,0.04,0.065,0.046,0.083,0.718
00223270003 R04C01,0.052,0.052,0.056,0.045,0.097,0.738
200223270003 R05C01,0.079,0.075,0.1,0.064,0.127,0.612
200223270003 R06C01,0.169,0.08,0.075,0.088,0.117,0.556
200223270003 R07C01,0.074,0.06,0.076,0.03,0.083,0.733
00223270003 R08C01, 0.138, 0.087, 0.064, 0.052, 0.107, 0.618
200223270006 R01C01, 0.139, 0.172, 0.063, 0.049, 0.107, 0.541
00223270006 R02C01,0.159,0.182,0.116,0.076,0.14,0.408
```









PROGRESSIVE MODELS (cont.)

Discover Significant CpG Sites

- Find DNA methylation values present in the beta files of each sample in every status group
- Use the R library matrixTests to perform t tests * (ND \rightarrow ND vs ND \rightarrow MCI) and (MCI \rightarrow MCI vs. MCI \rightarrow AD)
- Create list of probes that a p-value under 1E-5 for ND vs MCI and MCI vs AD and find/record the methylation values of these specific probes

Create Machine Learning Models

- Using 4 machine learning algorithms, create 2 models with one having data from (ND→ND vs. **ND**→MCI) and the other model having $(MCI \rightarrow MCI \lor s MCI \rightarrow AD).$
 - 1) List of 79 sites (1E-5: ND→ND vs. MCI→AD)
 - 2) List of 80 sites (1E-5: MC →MCl vs. MCl→AD)

*Cell Composition and Gender were also considered in the ML Models

PICTURES

Figure 6: Scaling Data using MinMaxScaler

```
from sklearn.preprocessing import MinMaxScaler
scaler=MinMaxScaler()
```

```
scaler.fit(X train)
scaler.fit(X test)
scaler.fit(X valid)
```

MinMaxScaler()

```
X_train_scaled = scaler.transform(X_train)
X test scaled = scaler.transform(X test)
X valid scaled = scaler.transform(X valid)
```

Figure 7: Code for AUC (RandomForest)

```
forest_auc = roc_auc_score(y_test, forest.predict_proba(X_test_scaled)[:,1])
fpr forest, tpr forest, thresholds = roc_curve(y_test, forest.predict_proba(X_test_scaled)[:,1])
plt.plot(fpr_forest, tpr_forest, lw=lw, label='ROC curve (area = %0.2f). RF' % forest_auc)
plt.plot([0, 1], [0, 1], color='black', lw=lw, linestyle='--')
plt.xlabel("False Positive Rate")
plt.ylabel("True Positive Rate")
plt.legend(loc=4)
plt.savefig('Training/Output/AUC_Forest_Training', figsize=(10, 10), dpi=300)
```

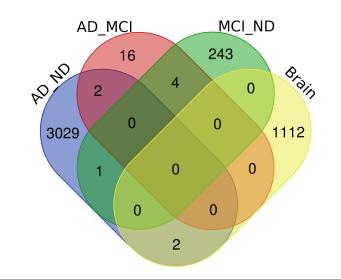


Background



SIGNIFICANT SITES (p-value < 1E-5): GSE156984 Brain & GSE153712 Blood

Figure 8: Venn Diagram of GSE156984 and GSE153712 Probes (1E-5)



GSE156984 (Brain):

GSE153712 (MCI vs. ND):

> 1114 CpG Sites

➤ 248 CpG Sites

GSE153712 (AD vs. ND):

GSE153712 (AD vs. MCI):

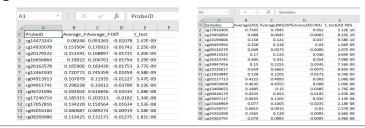
> 3034 CpG Sites

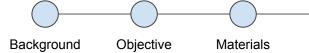
➤ 22 CpG Sites

GSE156984 & GSE153712 Comparison:

8 Shared CpG Sites

Figure 9: *GSE156984 & GSE153712 Probe Sites*











6 SIGNIFICANT SITES SELECTED FOR STATIC MODEL #1

19 Sites (8 similar sites, Top 10 MCI-ND, cg07773593):

AD vs. MCI + AD vs. ND = cg07347869, cg05234135

AD vs. ND + MCI vs. ND = cg04876500

AD vs. MCI + MCI vs.ND = cg14706655, cg17422516, cg09234764, **cg09044631**

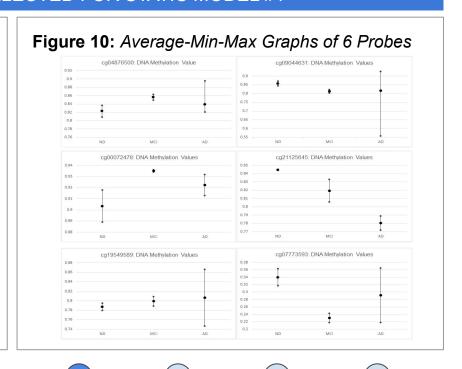
AD vs. ND + Brain: cg09559780, cg06532212

Another Probe (Featured in other studies): cq07773593

MCI vs. ND (Top 10 Sites)

cg07241675, cq00072478, cq21125645, cg22471641, cg20630239, cg10948751, cg03700990, cg01747278, cg00862028, cq19549589

*Selected Sites based on Methylation Change Correlation from ND Disease to Mild Cognitive Impairment and Alzheimer's (Fig. 10)









Procedure

Results (2/6)

Application

SIGNIFICANT SITES (p-value < 1E-5) SELECTED FOR PROGRESSIVE MODELS

 $ND \rightarrow ND \text{ vs. } ND \rightarrow MCI$:

> 79 CpG Sites

 $MCI \rightarrow MCI \text{ vs. } MCI \rightarrow AD:$

> 80 CpG Sites

Figure 11: ADNI Sites



Figure 12: Top 20 Sites for the ND to MCI Conversion in Two Years The DAVID functional analysis shows association with neurological disease.

| AND A SECOND | Methylation | 100 march 1955 1 m | | | Chromo- | ASSESSED AND THE T | | | erent i u socieración |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------------|----------|---------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Probe ID | MCI in 2 yrs | ND in 2 yrs | Difference | P value | some | Position | Gene | Biological Pathway | Disease Class |
| cg13051418 | 0.143 | 0.084 | 0.059 | 2.25E-07 | 12 | 115139149 | | *** | |
| cg15323871 | 0.420 | 0.350 | 0.070 | 5.29E-07 | 14 | 60043906 | C14orf38 | | |
| cg02578584 | 0.866 | 0.913 | -0.047 | 1.43E-06 | 8 | 8325700 | | | |
| cg14700531 | 0.598 | 0.540 | 0.059 | 1.68E-06 | 8 | 733412 | | | |
| cg09374293 | 0.448 | 0.558 | -0.110 | 1.92E-06 | 21 | 48081242 | PRMT2 | Transcription regulation | Neurological |
| cg05666456 | 0.358 | 0.273 | 0.085 | 2.57E-06 | 4 | 170214340 | | | |
| cg01642550 | 0.336 | 0.296 | 0.040 | 5.6E-06 | 16 | 89098327 | | | |
| cg13581422 | 0.254 | 0.332 | -0.078 | 5.97E-06 | 3 | 130236522 | | | |
| cg24547873 | 0.488 | 0.541 | -0.053 | 6.32E-06 | 1 | 17086558 | MST1P9 | Macrophage stimulation | |
| cg26954114 | 0.573 | 0.479 | 0.094 | 7.55E-06 | 15 | 96838120 | | | |
| cg17024257 | 0.706 | 0.653 | 0.053 | 7.94E-06 | 3 | 171528758 | PLD1 | Signal transduction | Metabolic |
| cg20737388 | 0.533 | 0.648 | -0.115 | 8E-06 | 11 | 73668626 | DNAJB13 | HSP40 co-chaperone | Neurological |
| cg03812172 | 0.531 | 0.707 | -0.176 | 1E-05 | 7 | 44184403 | GCK | Glycogen biosynthesis | Neurological. Immune |
| cg14168690 | 0.317 | 0.219 | 0.098 | 1.1E-05 | 21 | 32819053 | TIAM1 | Protein localization | Neurological. Metabloic |
| cg13455439 | 0.399 | 0.487 | -0.088 | 1.53E-05 | 11 | 69934128 | ANO1 | Chloride channel | |
| cg15865243 | 0.703 | 0.632 | 0.072 | 1.62E-05 | 12 | 34496342 | | | |
| cg23692114 | 0.447 | 0.413 | 0.034 | 1.69E-05 | 2 | 75154873 | LINC01291 | | |
| cg13649415 | 0.715 | 0.755 | -0.039 | 1.74E-05 | 3 | 46621737 | TDGF1 | Cell differentiation | Metabolic |
| cg00240732 | 0.432 | 0.375 | 0.057 | 1.76E-05 | 7 | 70923396 | WBSCR17 | Membrane trafficking | Neurological. Immune |
| cg08707819 | 0.351 | 0.311 | 0.039 | 1.83E-05 | 14 | 103059391 | RCOR1 | Neural cell differentiation | |





Procedure Results (3/6)

Application

BEST STATIC MODEL (Detect Current MCI)

Figure 13: Lasso_300_probes Model Accuracy

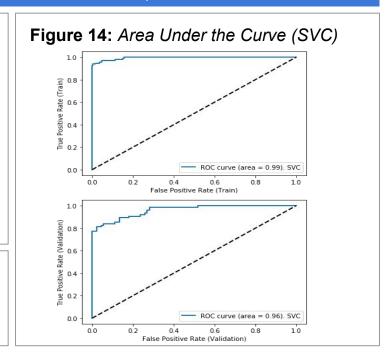
| Model (Algorithms): | Training Accuracy: | Validation Accuracy: | Testing Accuracy: |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| SVC | 95.9% | 89.6% | 78.9% |
| LogisticRegression | 97.8% | 82.3% | 71.1% |
| RandomForest | 97.5% | 84.8% | 70.4% |
| GradientBoosting | 96.1% | 82.9% | 67.6% |

Training: Train the model (Sees data and learns from it)

Validation: Evaluate the given model. Helps fine tune the algorithm's

hyperparameters

Testing: Unbiased evaluation of the final model





PROGRESSIVE MODEL (Predict ND to MCI Conversion in 2 Years)

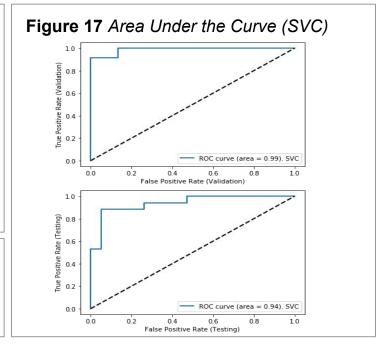
Figure 15: $ND \rightarrow ND$ vs. $ND \rightarrow MCI$ Model Accuracy

| Model (Algorithms): | Training Accuracy: | Validation Accuracy: | Testing Accuracy: |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| SVC | 98.7% | 96.3% | 86.1% |
| LogisticRegression | 98.7% | 96.3% | 83.3% |
| RandomForest | 97.5% | 81.5% | 77.8% |
| GradientBoosting | 94.9% | 81.5% | 66.7% |

Figure 16: SVC Fitted Model

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Background Objective

ctive Materials

Procedure

Results (5/6)

Application

PROGRESSIVE MODEL (Predict MCI to AD Conversion in 2 Years)

Figure 18: $MCI \rightarrow MCI$ vs. $MCI \rightarrow AD$ Model Accuracy

| Model (Algorithms): | Training Accuracy: | Validation Accuracy: | Testing Accuracy: |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| SVC | 97.6% | 88.1% | 90.9% |
| LogisticRegression | 93.5% | 88.1% | 90.9% |
| RandomForest | 97.6% | 76.2% | 74.8% |
| GradientBoosting | 97.6% | 69.0% | 60.0% |

Figure 19: SVC Fitted Model

Objective

Background

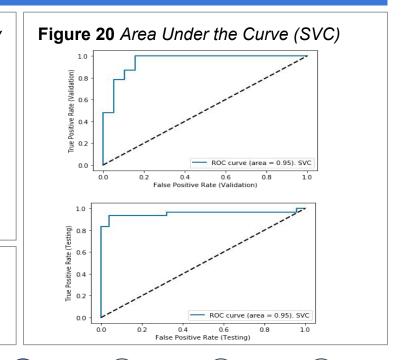


Materials

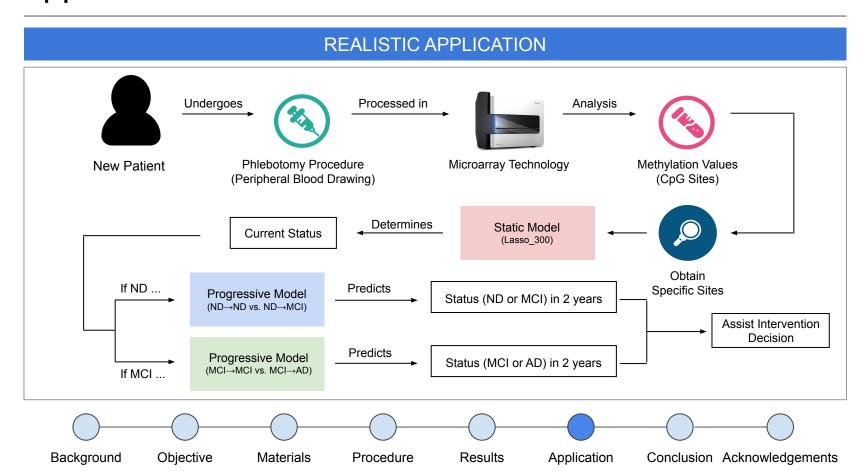
Procedure

Results (6/6)

Application



Application:



Conclusion:

CONCLUSION



Discovered Numerous CpG Sites with an Association to Alzheimer's Disease

- ➤ GSE156984 (Brain): 1114 CpG Sites ➤ GSE153712 (AD vs. ND): 3034 CpG Sites
- ➤ GSE153712 (MCI vs. ND): 248 CpG Sites ➤ GSE153712 (AD vs. MCI): 22 CpG Sites
- Comparison: 8 Shared CpG Sites



Created Several Accurate Machine Learning Models

- ➤ Best Static Model (Lasso-3oo):
 - > Training Accuracy: 95.9%, Validation Accuracy: 89.6%, Testing Accuracy: 78.9%
 - > Determines the patient's current status (No Disease or Mild Cognitive Impairment)
- ➤ Progressive Model (ND → ND vs. ND → MCI):
 - > Training Accuracy: 98.7%, Validation Accuracy: 96.3%, Testing Accuracy: 86.1%
 - > Determines status in 2 years if current status is ND (No Disease or Mild Cognitive Impairment)
- ➤ Progressive Model (MCI → MCI vs. MCI → AD):
 - Training Accuracy: 97.6%, Validation Accuracy: 88.1%, Testing Accuracy: 90.9%
 - > Determines status in 2 years if current status is MCI (Mild Cognitive Impairment or Alzheimer's Disease)



Acknowledgements:

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