Urinary Biomarkers for Pancreatic Cancer

Log Theme
09 - Introduction Machine Learning

Lisa Hu

414264

Bio-Informatics

Hanzehogeschool Groningen, ILST

Dave Langers (LADR) & Bart Barnard (BABA)

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Contents

1	Dat	ta description	2
2	Rea	ading the data	3
3	Mai	nipulate the data	5
	3.1	REG1A vs. REG1B	6
	3.2	Log transformation	8
4	Ana	alyse the data	10
	4.1	Boxplots	10
	4.2	Correlation matrix	
	4.3	PCA	13
5	Mac	chine Learning	14
	5.1	Quality Metrics	14
	5.2	Weka: Model exploration	15

1 Data description

The data can be found on kaggle.com: Urinary biomarkers for pancreatic cancer The files are saved as ~/data/Data.csv and ~/data/Documentation.csv for easier access.

The following packages were used:

- \bullet readr
- pander
- dplyr
- FSA
- ggplot2
- \bullet ggpubr
- ggbiplot
- ggnewscale
- RWeka

Weka (v3.8.6) was used for the Machine Learning part.

2 Reading the data

To create an insight on the data, a codebook is generated (see file ~/data/codebook.txt). This information originates from the ~/data/Documentation.csv. This file was given with the data file and can be found on the website.

Table 1: Codebook explaining each column in the given data (Continues below)

Name	Full Name	Type	Unit
sample_id	Sample ID	chr	_
$patient_cohort$	Patient's Cohort	chr	-
$sample_origin$	Sample Origin	chr	-
age	Age of subject	dbl	-
sex	Sex of subject	chr	-
diagnosis	Diagnosis	dbl	-
stage	Stage	chr	-
benign_sample_diagnosis	Benign Sample's Diagnosis	chr	-
$plasma_CA19_9$	Blood plasma CA19-9	dbl	U/ml
creatinine	Creatinine	dbl	mg/ml
LYVE1	LYVE1	dbl	ng/ml
REG1B	REG1B	dbl	ng/ml
TFF1	TFF1	dbl	ng/ml
REG1A	REG1A	dbl	ng/ml

Table 2: Further explanation of the columns

Name	Description
sample_id	Unique string identifying each subject
patient_cohort	Cohort $1 = $ previously used samples; Cohort 2
	= newly added samples
$sample_origin$	BPTB: Barts Pancreas Tissue Bank, London,
	UK; ESP: Spanish National Cancer Research
	Centre, Madrid, Spain; LIV: Liverpool
	University, UK; UCL: University College
	London, UK
age	Age in years
sex	M = male; F = female
diagnosis	1 = control (no cancer); 2 = benign
	hepatobiliary disease; 3 = PDA (pancreatic
	cancer)
stage	The stage of the disease (IA, IB, IIA, IIB, III,
	IV)

Name	Description
benign_sample_diagnosis plasma_CA19_9	The diagnosis for those with a benign diagnosis Blood plasma levels of CA19-9 monoclonal antibody, usually elevated when pancreatic cancer
creatinine	Urinary biomarker of kidney function
LYVE1	Urinary levels of Lymphatic Vessel Endothelial Hyaluronan receptor 1
REG1B	Urinary levels of Regenerating Family Member 1 Beta
${ m TFF1}$	Urinary levels of Trefoil Factor 1
REG1A	Urinary levels of Regenerating Family Member 1 Alpha

3 Manipulate the data

A lot of the rows contain empty strings instead of NA, which has to be fixed first. Besides that, the columns sample_id, patient_cohort, sample_origin, and benign_sample_diagnosis in the dataset significant value for the analysis and are therefor dropped. A column diagnosis_group was added for a comparison test.

```
# Change the empty strings to NA
dataset[dataset == ""] <- NA</pre>
# Remove unnecessary columns
drop <- c("sample_id", "patient_cohort", "sample_origin", "benign_sample_diagnosis")</pre>
dataset <- dataset[,!(names(dataset) %in% drop)]</pre>
# Group the samples
dataset <- dataset %>%
  mutate(
    ## Factor for order of age
    diagnosis_group = factor(
      dplyr::case_when(
        diagnosis == 1 ~ "Control",
        diagnosis == 2 ~ "Benign",
        stage == "I" ~ "I-IIA",
        stage == "IA" ~ "I-IIA",
        stage == "IB" ~ "I-IIA",
        stage == "II" ~ "I-II",
        stage == "IIA" ~ "I-IIA",
        stage == "IIB" ~ "I-II",
        stage == "III" ~ "III-IV",
        stage == "IV" ~ "III-IV" ),
      level = c("Control", "Benign", "I-IIA", "I-II", "III-IV")
    ),
    ## Factor if there's a blood sample or not
    blood = factor(
      dplyr::case_when(
        plasma_CA19_9 >= 0 \sim "yes",
        TRUE ~ "no"),
      level = c("yes", "no")
```

3.1 REG1A vs. REG1B

After the data manipulation, it looks a bit like this:

Table 3: A quick summary of the dataset (continued below)

age	sex	diagnosis	stage	plasma_CA19_9
Min. :26.00	Length:590	Min. :1.000	Length:590	Min.: 0.0
1st Qu.:50.00	Class :character	1st Qu.:1.000	Class :character	1st Qu.: 8.0
Median:60.00	Mode :character	Median $:2.000$	Mode :character	Median: 26.5
Mean $:59.08$	NA	Mean $:2.027$	NA	Mean: 654.0
3rd Qu.:69.00	NA	3rd Qu.:3.000	NA	3rd Qu.: 294.0
Max. :89.00	NA	Max. $:3.000$	NA	Max. :31000.0
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA's :240

Table 4: Table continues below

creatinine	LYVE1	REG1B	TFF1	REG1A
Min. :0.05655	Min.: 0.000129	Min.: 0.0011	Min. : 0.005	Min.: 0.00
1st Qu.:0.37323	1st Qu.: 0.167179	1st Qu.: 10.7572	1st Qu.: 43.961	1st Qu.: 80.69
Median: 0.72384	Median: 1.649862	Median: 34.3034	Median: 259.874	Median: 208.54
Mean $:0.85538$	Mean: 3.063530	Mean: 111.7741	Mean: 597.869	Mean: 735.28
3rd Qu.:1.13948	3rd Qu.: 5.205037	3rd Qu.: 122.7410	3rd Qu.: 742.736	3rd Qu.: 649.00
Max. :4.11684	Max. :23.890323	Max. $:1403.8976$	Max. :13344.300	Max. :13200.00
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA's :284

diagnosis_group	blood
Control:183	yes:350
Benign: 208	no :240
I-IIA: 27	NA
I-II: 75	NA
III-IV: 97	NA
NA	NA
NA	NA

A lot of missing values can be seen in the REG1A column and imputation is not an option: Any type of imputation here can lead to data imbalance. REG1A and REG1B are very much alike, since both are regenerative proteins for the pancreas. Maybe a significance in performance can be traced when compared to each other:

Table 6: Adjusted p-values of Kruskal-Wallis test, Dunn's multiple comparisons; ns - not significant. The header shows the groups that were compared. (Table continues below)

	Control - I-II	Control - I-IIA	Control - III-IV
REG1A	1.928479e-05	ns	4.837915e-07
REG1B	3.864924e-15	0.0002123534	5.789369e-17

```
pander(comparison[,c(1,3,5)], split.tables = 100, booktabs = T)
```

	Benign - I-II	Benign - I-IIA	Benign - III-IV
REG1A	0.000768779	ns	4.494778e-05
REG1B	1.200471e-12	0.001777207	3.927231e-14

```
dataset <- dataset[,!(names(dataset) %in% "REG1A")]</pre>
```

Although performance between the two is similar, a Kruskal-Wallis test with Dunn's multiple comparisons shows that REG1B outperforms REG1A when the control and benign samples are compared to the I-IIA PDAC samples. Therefor, REG1B was used further on in the experiments and REG1A is dropped.

3.2 Log transformation

The summary earlier also showed very high maximum values, but rather low medians. A log-transformation is applied to correct this.

Table 8: Summary of the data after the log transformation (continued below)

age	sex	diagnosis	stage	plasma_CA19_9
Min. :26.00	Length:590	Min. :1.000	Length:590	Min.: 0.000
1st Qu.:50.00	Class:character	1st Qu.:1.000	Class:character	1st Qu.: 2.197
Median:60.00	Mode :character	Median : 2.000	Mode :character	Median: 3.314
Mean $:59.08$	NA	Mean $:2.027$	NA	Mean: 3.882
3rd Qu.:69.00	NA	3rd Qu.:3.000	NA	3rd Qu.: 5.687
Max. :89.00	NA	Max. $:3.000$	NA	Max. $:10.342$
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA's :240

creatinine	LYVE1	REG1B	TFF1	diagnosis_group	blood
Min. :0.05501	Min. :0.000129	Min. :0.001104	Min. :0.005279	Control:183	yes:350
1st Qu.:0.31717 Median :0.54455	1st Qu.:0.154584 Median	1st Qu.:2.464467 Median	1st Qu.:3.805664 Median	Benign :208 I-IIA : 27	no :240 NA
	:0.974503	:3.563973	:5.563994		
Mean $:0.56738$	Mean $:1.054778$	Mean $:3.607996$	Mean $:4.979594$	I-II:75	NA
3rd Qu.:0.76056	3rd Qu.:1.825361	3rd Qu.:4.818184	3rd Qu.:6.611675	III-IV:97	NA
Max. $:1.63254$	Max. :3.214479	Max. $:7.247720$	Max. :9.498920	NA	NA
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

The samples are then grouped by diagnosis for easier access of the different samples. Table 10 shows the different amounts of samples per diagnosis and Table 11 shows the amount of which are also blood samples.

```
# Different diagnosis and blood groups
control <- subset(dataset, diagnosis == 1)
benign <- subset(dataset, diagnosis == 2)
pdac <- subset(dataset, diagnosis == 3)

# Demographics
demograph <- dataset %>%
    group_by(sex, diagnosis, stage) %>% tally()
demograph.blood <- dataset %>%
    group_by(sex, blood) %>% tally()
pander(demograph, booktabs = T,
    caption = "\\label{tab:demo}Demographic of the samples")
```

Table 10: Demographic of the samples

sex	diagnosis	stage	n
F	1	NA	115
F	2	NA	101
F	3	I	1
\mathbf{F}	3	$_{ m IB}$	6
\mathbf{F}	3	II	3
\mathbf{F}	3	IIA	6
\mathbf{F}	3	IIB	33
\mathbf{F}	3	III	27
\mathbf{F}	3	IV	7
${ m M}$	1	NA	68
${ m M}$	2	NA	107
${ m M}$	3	IA	3
${ m M}$	3	$_{ m IB}$	6
${ m M}$	3	II	4
\mathbf{M}	3	IIA	5
\mathbf{M}	3	IIB	35
${ m M}$	3	III	49
M	3	IV	14

Table 11: Demographic of the blood samples

sex	blood	n
F	yes	179
F	no	120
${ m M}$	yes	171
M	no	120

4 Analyse the data

It is important to know which variables are important and how they interact with each other. This chapter will focus on that with different methods.

4.1 Boxplots

(Boxplots print on the next page)

The boxplots show that outliers are not localized in a specific diagnosis group, but rather spread over the groups, and the biomarkers are more expressed in the PDAC patients than the "healthy" groups.

Boxplots visualizing the biomarkers b а 0 10.0 -1.5 log(Creatinine) (mg/ml) log(CA19.9) (U/ml) 7.5 **-**5.0 -2.5 -0.0 -0.0 -2 Diagnosis ½ Diagnosis 3 3 Benign Control d С е 3 **-**6 **-**7.5 log(REG1B) (ng/ml) log(TFF1) (ng/ml) log(LYVE1) (ng/ml) 8 2.5 0 -0.0 -2 Diagnosis 2 Diagnosis 2 Diagnosis 3 3

Figure 1: Boxplots visualizing the spreads of the different biomarkers per diagnosis.

4.2 Correlation matrix

```
cor_matrix <- cor(dataset[,c(1,6:9)])
heatmap(cor_matrix, scale = "column", Colv = NA, Rowv = NA, main = "Correlation heatmap")</pre>
```

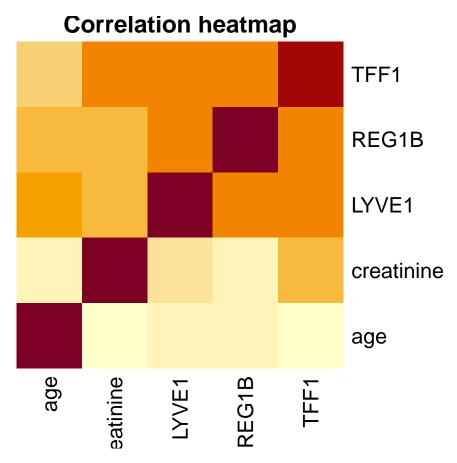


Figure 2: Heatmap of how correlated the different variables are. Gradient:correlation = dark-light:1-0

The heatmap shows that there is not much correlation between creatinine and age, and the other variables. The other outstanding one has to be the TFF1 biomarker, being the most correlated variable to others.

4.3 PCA

A principal component analysis (PCA) enables the visualization of multidimensional data. The vectors in the plot indicate how related the variables are with each other: an angle $<90^{\circ}$ = positively correlated, $\sim90^{\circ}$ = low correlation, $>^{\circ}$ = negatively correlated. To determine the angle, take one vector and measure clockwise to the next vector. Every point close to the origin have values close to the mean for all variables.

PCA of different biomarkers

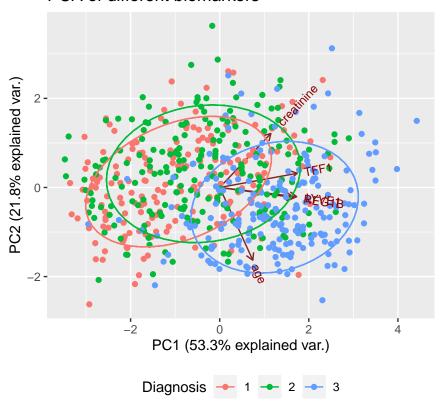


Figure 3: PCA plot using PC1 and PC2. The colors indicate the diagnosis: 1 = Control, 2 = Benign, 3 = PDAC

While the control and benign group show relative distance from the PDAC group, there is a still a lot of overlapping samples with the benign and PDAC groups. As earlier concluded from the heatmap, the creatinine and age variables are not that correlated to the other variables. REG1B and LYVE1 are basically on top of each other, with TFF1 really close.

5 Machine Learning

5.1 Quality Metrics

Accuracy is the most important quality metric to measure the performance of an algorithm. Though it is easy to choose an algorithm this way, there are always multiple algorithms one can take as final option. Hence, other quality metrics have to be taken in account to make the optimal choice.

For this project, the model is a finished product, trained and tested with the already collected data. New samples for this model are manually inserted by the acting physician, thus speed is not a relevant metric. Naturally, it is of more importance a patient with a malignant cancer should not be classified as benign, rather than a patient with a benign case being classified as malignant. These errors can be visualized in a confusion matrix, which almost all algorithms output.

5.1.1 Confusion Matrix

A standard confusion matrix is a 2x2 matrix which shows all the correct hits and rejections, and errors. In Weka, a confusion matrix looks a bit like this:

Table 12: Example of a confusion matrix

In this example, the correctly classified "healthy" instances are true positive (TP) and correctly classified "Malignant" instances are true negative (TN). The "healthy" instances that were classified as "Malignant" are false positive (FP) and malignant instances that were classified as benign are false negative (FN).

5.1.2 Sensitivity and False Positive Rate

Generally important for machine learning algorithms, but also for this project: Sensitivity and False Positive Rate (FPR). Also known as the true positive rate (TPR), sensitivity is calculated as $\frac{TP}{TP+FN}$. The FPR is calculated as $\frac{FP}{FP+TN}$. The FPR can also be derived from the True Negative Rate (TNR): FPR = 1 - TNR These two???????????

5.2 Weka: Model exploration

For the exploration of the model, the data is cleaned it contains only the biomarkers and the classification labels (Control, Benign or PDAC).

```
# Set working directory to this folder
setwd("../data")
# Read dataset
dataset <- read.csv("../data/Data.csv")</pre>
# Change the empty strings to NA
dataset[dataset == ""] <- NA</pre>
# Group the samples
dataset$sex <- factor(dataset$sex)</pre>
dataset <- dataset %>%
  mutate(
    diagnosis = factor(
      dplyr::case_when(
        diagnosis == 1 ~ "Control",
        diagnosis == 2 ~ "Benign",
        stage == "I" ~ "PDAC",
        stage == "IA" ~ "PDAC",
        stage == "IB" ~ "PDAC",
        stage == "II" ~ "PDAC",
        stage == "IIA" ~ "PDAC",
        stage == "IIB" ~ "PDAC",
        stage == "III" ~ "PDAC",
        stage == "IV" ~ "PDAC"),
      level = c("Control", "Benign", "PDAC")
    )
  )
# Drop unnecessary columns
drop <- c("sample_id", "patient_cohort", "sample_origin", "benign_sample_diagnosis",</pre>
          "REG1A", "stage")
dataset <- dataset[,!(names(dataset) %in% drop)]</pre>
# Move diagnosis and stage to last column
dataset <- dataset %>% select(-3, everything())
# Log transform and meann centering
log.data <- log(dataset[3:7] +1)</pre>
dataset[3:7] <- log.data</pre>
```

The ~/data/wekafiles/base.exp file contains all the options used for a baseline run in Weka. The data is run through different types of algorithms with 10-fold cross validation:

```
# Read the results
result <- read_csv("../data/weka_out/base.csv")
# Make algorithm names readable
result <- algorithm.names(result)
# Results
x <- result %>%
group_by(Key_Scheme) %>%
```

Table 13: Results of the different algorithms from Weka

Algorithm	Accuracy	Sensitivity	FPR	AUROC
ZeroR	35.25	0	0	0.5
OneR	49.51	0.4612	0.2047	0.6283
NaiveBayes	60.07	0.5645	0.1982	0.8165
Logistic	65.2	0.528	0.1551	0.8173
SimpleLogistic	64.31	0.5296	0.1629	0.814
SMO	62.81	0.4258	0.1165	0.7721
IBk	52.37	0.3905	0.1085	0.641
J48	59.08	0.5536	0.1935	0.7674
RandomForest	65.61	0.6581	0.1601	0.8502

These results show a relative low accuracy and sensitivity. Some algorithms also have a low ROC value, putting the cutoff at 0.8: OneR, SMO, IBk and J48 will not be used. As for the remaining three: NaiveBayes has by far the lowest accuracy of them and is therefor also dropped. Leaving the options Logistic and RandomForest. Since earlier shown there is a linear correlation between the different variables, the Logistic algorithm would be more fitting for this type of data.

5.2.1 Data imbalance

To prepare the data for the optimization, the data needs to be split into groups: one file containing Control and PDAC samples, another file containing Benign and PDAC samples:

```
# Random split for training and test sets (50/50)
set.seed(391)
train.rows <- sort(sample(seq_len(nrow(dataset))), size = floor(0.7*nrow(dataset))))</pre>
training <- dataset[train.rows,]</pre>
test <- dataset[-train.rows,1:7]</pre>
control <- subset(training,</pre>
                  training$diagnosis == "Control" | training$diagnosis == "PDAC")
benign <- subset(training,</pre>
                        training$diagnosis == "Benign" | training$diagnosis == "PDAC")
# Export dataset
write.csv(dataset, "../data/wekafiles/cleaned_data.csv", row.names = F, quote = F, na="")
write.csv(control, "../data/wekafiles/control_train.csv", row.names = F, quote = F, na="")
write.csv(benign, "../data/wekafiles/benign_train.csv", row.names = F, quote = F, na="")
write.csv(test, "../data/wekafiles/test.csv", row.names = F, quote = F, na="")
# Set working directory back to log folder
setwd("../log")
```

5.2.2 Algorithm optimization

For the optimization of the algorithm, Weka's ThresholdSelector classifier will be used. This algorithm allows a threshold on the probability output of the given classifier. It is important that the FPR is as low as possible, since no patient wants to be diagnosed healthy when there is something serious swarming around. Therefor, the ThresholdSelector's designated class is set to second class value, since the "PDAC" instances are after the healthy instances. The measure to set the threshold is TPR. Again, these options can be imported from ~/data/wekafiles/optimization.exp.

```
# Read the optimization results
opt.res <- read_csv("../data/weka_out/optimization.csv")</pre>
# Make algorithm names readable
opt.res <- algorithm.names(opt.res)</pre>
opt.res <- opt.res %>%
 mutate(
    Options = factor(opt.res$Key_Scheme_options,
                      level = unique(opt.res$Key_Scheme_options),
                     labels = c("-", "0.550", "0.575", "0.600", "0.625", "0.650", "0.675"))
  )
opt.res$Options <- paste(opt.res$Key_Scheme, paste0("(", opt.res$Options, ")"))</pre>
# Call the wanted results
x <- opt.res %>%
  group_by(Key_Dataset, Options) %>%
  summarise_at(vars(Percent_correct, True_positive_rate, False_positive_rate),
               list(mean = weighted.mean))
names(x) <- c("Dataset", "Algorithm (threshold)", "Accuracy", "TPR", "FPR")</pre>
cap <- "Results of the ThresholdSelector with different thresholds "</pre>
```

Table 14: Results of the ThresholdSelector with different thresholds (Control vs. PDAC).

Algorithm (threshold)	Accuracy	TPR	FPR
Logistic (-)	85.23	0.8454	0.1412
ThresholdSelector (0.550)	86.39	0.8844	0.1558
ThresholdSelector (0.575)	87.1	0.9027	0.1594
ThresholdSelector (0.600)	87.33	0.9181	0.1695
ThresholdSelector (0.625)	87.43	0.9303	0.1792
ThresholdSelector (0.650)	87.18	0.941	0.1944
ThresholdSelector (0.675)	86.62	0.9464	0.2103

Table 15: Results of the ThresholdSelector with different thresholds (Benign vs. PDAC).

Algorithm (threshold)	Accuracy	TPR	FPR
Logistic (-)	79.23	0.794	0.2108
ThresholdSelector (0.550)	80.07	0.8264	0.2276
ThresholdSelector (0.575)	80.22	0.8443	0.2436
ThresholdSelector (0.600)	80.04	0.8581	0.2618
ThresholdSelector (0.625)	79.51	0.8636	0.2786
ThresholdSelector (0.650)	79.27	0.8775	0.2981
ThresholdSelector (0.675)	78.8	0.8893	0.3201

The results of the Logistic classifier shows the base algorithm without the optimization. Though the accuracy is high, the FPR is too. The FPR needs to be as low as possible without the expense of the accuracy and TPR, so the highest TPR and lowest FPR possible. Using the Analyse tab in the Weka Experimenter, Paired T-Tests can be performed to see which algorithm is significant different on the given comparison field. Comparing with a significance of 0.05, the best option for the Control model is the one with a cutoff of 0.600, whereas the Benign model would be best with a cutoff of 0.550. These two highest cutoffs that show no significant raise in FPR when compared to the Logistic algorithm.

5.2.3 ROC curve

```
# Read the ROC files
roc.control <- read.arff("../data/weka_out/roc_control.arff")
roc.benign <- read.arff("../data/weka_out/roc_benign.arff")

# Plot FPR against TPR + gradient of Threshold
ggplot(data = roc.control, aes(`False Positive Rate`, `True Positive Rate`)) +
    geom_point(aes(colour = Threshold)) +
    scale_color_gradientn(colors = c('#3f5efb', '#fc466b'), name = "Control-PDAC") +
    new_scale_color() +
    geom_point(data = roc.benign, aes(colour = Threshold)) +
    scale_color_gradientn(colors = c('#22c1c3', '#fdbb2d'), name = "Benign-PDAC") +
    ggtitle("ROC curves of the two models")</pre>
```

ROC curves of the two models

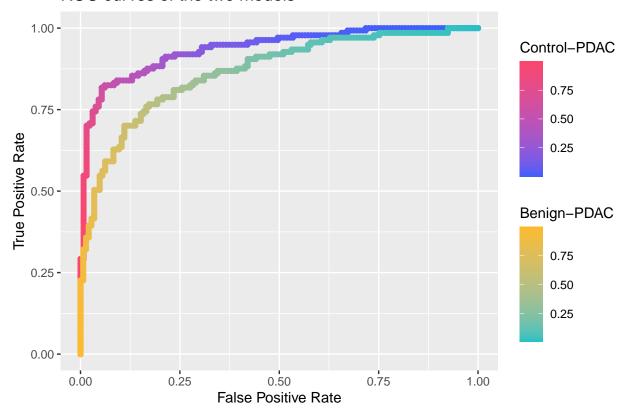


Figure 4: ROC curve of the two models. Gradient shows the thresholds