# CONSTRAINED HARMONIZATION ALGORITHM FOR POOLING MULTI-SITE DATASETS







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We discuss novel datasets pooling methods for the analysis of AD imaging datasets using harmonization constraint techniques.

### INTRODUCTION

- Pooling datasets from multiple studies can significantly improve statistical power.
- Deep learning in scientific / biomedical problems suffer from small sample sizes at individual sites/institutions.
- Off-the-shelf models may utilize site-specific artifacts rather than disease-specific features in making predictions
- Fairness constraints can be adopted to harmonize the performance of models across scanners/sites.

## METHODS

(a) Pooling across Sites

Freesurfer summaries of Wisconsin ADRC and German DZNE

(b) Pooling across Scanners

MR images ADNI on scanners - Phillips, GE and Siemens.

A constraint to equalize the performance of the trained classifier across the domains added to the optimization objective.

Naïve pooling method and harmonization constraint approach are compared.

# RESULTS

Harmonization

#AD Samples ADRC / DZNE Error rate

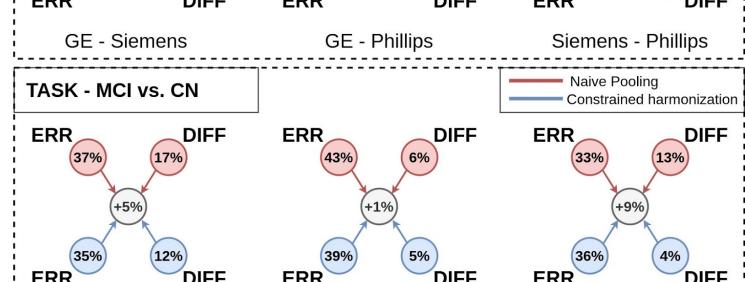
Naive Pooling 30 / 60Constrained (8% gain)

TASK - AD vs. CN

TASK - AD vs. CN

Difference in

Error rates



# CONCLUSIONS

ADRC / DZNE

56 / 92

We provide a harmonization constraint based algorithm to mitigate site specific differences when performing analysis of pooled brain imaging datasets in AD studies

TASK - MCI vs. CN

Error rate

Difference in

Error rates

11%

(7% gain)

### REFERENCES

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