

Università degli Studi di Padova

Random subsampling techniques for sea bass mortality prediction

Giovanni Gaio, Simone Moretti July 22, 2025

Overview



- Motivation: Identifying impactful SNPs in sea bass mortality
- Dataset: Genomic SNP data, mortality outcomes, and annotations
- Method: Subsampling techniques with XGBoost
- Results: Accuracy/F1 vs. subsampling rate
- Conclusion: Subsampling preserves predictive power

SNPs and Sea Bass Mortality



- VNN is a widespread lethal disease in sea life.
- SNPs may increase or decrease the chance of death.
- Goal: Predict mortality based on SNP profiles.

Challenges with Genomic Data



- Each fish: over 6 million SNP positions.
- Sample size: only 990 sea bass individuals.
- Traditional models overfit due to data dimensionality.

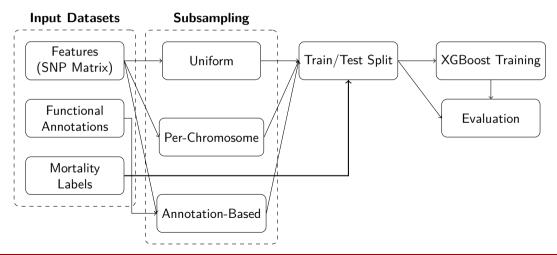
Machine Learning Approach



- Use XGBoost classifier for mortality prediction.
- Need to reduce feature space: apply subsampling.
- Evaluate performance on subsampled datasets.

Pipeline Overview





SNP Dataset Structure



- 990 rows (fish), each with 6,072,853 SNP features.
- SNP values: 0 (no mutation), 1 (heterozygous), 2 (homozygous alt).
- Each fish is paired with a mortality label.

7 of 23

Annotation Metadata



- Annotations include function: Promoter, Enhancer, Open Chromatin.
- Tissue number (0–25) indicates location-specific relevance.

Uniform Subsampling



- Randomly sample a fixed proportion p of all SNPs.
- Simple but may cause imbalance across chromosomes.

Per-Chromosome Subsampling



- Ensures balanced representation from each chromosome.
- Randomly sample same number of SNPs per chromosome.

Annotation-Based Subsampling



- Filter SNPs by biological annotation.
- Then apply uniform subsampling to relevant regions.

Subsampling Strategy Comparison

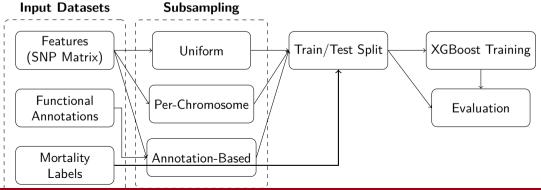


- Trade-offs in simplicity, biological interpretability, and balance.
- Aim: maximize predictive power while reducing dimensionality.

Control of Randomness



- XGBoost random seed fixed.
- Train-test split fixed
- Subsampling is the only random step.



Subsampling Ratios

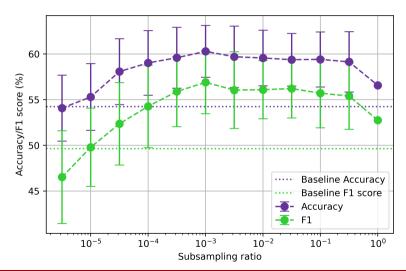


- ullet Subsampled with multiple p values: log-spaced varying from the whole genome to few SNPs.
- Trained model for each combination of model and subsample rate.
- Multiple runs for each pair of parameters.

14 of 23

Results: uniform subsampling



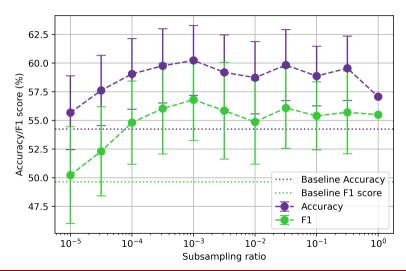


Results: observations



Results: uniform subsampling on each chromosome





Results: observations



Results: annotated subsampling (function)



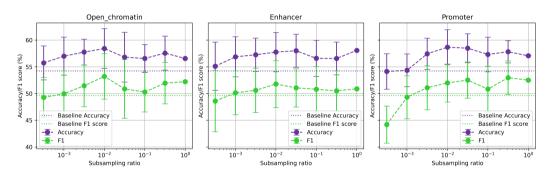


Figure: Plot of accuracy and F1 scores when subsampling uniformly on each chromosome.

Results: annotated subsampling (tissue number)



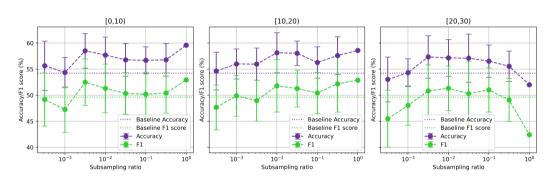


Figure: Plot of accuracy and F1 scores when subsampling uniformly on each chromosome.

Results: observations



Conclusions



- Random SNP subsampling retains model effectiveness.
- No strong trend between rate and accuracy (outside extremes): this may be good.
- There doesn't seem to be specific regions of the genome containing the information determining the disease effects.



The results don't show any meaningful trend

We showed that subsampling allows the use of more complex models



Thank You

Random subsampling techniques for sea bass mortality prediction

23 of 23