# **Proposed Solution Functionalities**

Georgia Tech Analytics Practicum 2015 -- Breast Cancer Research Platform Sarah Bartlett, Lauren Crabtree, Andrea McCarter, Siddharth Shah

### **Purpose**

This document describes the functionalities required for the proposed breast cancer research platform solution in the areas of Data Exploration, Visualization, and Analysis. It is designed to specify the layout, flow, and user interaction of the proposed system as imagined. A mockup is provided for each specified functionality, where applicable, in order to illustrate the capabilities more clearly than words sometimes can. This document does not detail implementation requirements or technical specifications.

#### **Overview**

A breast cancer researcher would like to perform a deep-dive analysis to discover survival patterns in the population of women with breast cancer and to determine the key factors affecting differences in survival rates. It is around this high-level usage scenario that we propose a solution consisting of 4 ordered areas: Browse Data, Create Dataset, Visualize, and Analyze. A user may navigate between them at any time and save results in projects that can be accessed at a later time.

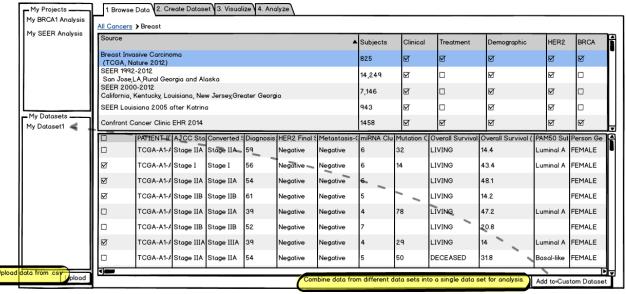


Figure 1 Overview.

## **Data Exploration**

## **Connectivity and Data Availability**

The system will:

- 1. Connect, synchronize, and integrate with publicly available data sets.
- 2. Connect to EHR systems that implement the FHIR API.
- 3. Accept uploaded data sets in .csv format.

  The user can select the "Upload" button, select a .csv file from their file system, and select "Ok". When this happens the system will import the file as a custom data set.

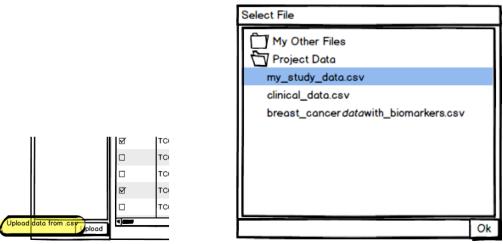


Figure 2 Data Connectivity 1.

### **Data Browsing and Collecting**

In the "Browse Data" tab, the system will support the ability to browse through the available data sets and see relevant information about each data set so that they can select subjects from 1 or more data source for analysis.

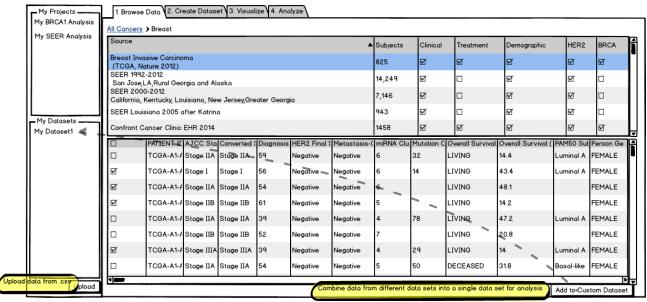


Figure 3 Data Exploration Mockup

- 1. Browse available data sets and identify:
  - Number of patients
  - Source of data
  - Date of collection
  - Whether the data contains demographic, clinical, treatment, HER2, or BRCA relevant variables.

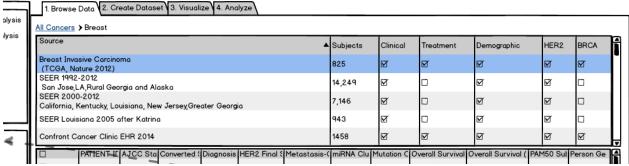


Figure 4 Data Exploration 1.

2. Select records from one or more datasets and save to custom data set. The user may select all records or only certain cohorts by using check boxes on the left or at the top of the column. Selecting "Add to Custom Dataset" will prompt them to choose an existing data set under "My Datasets" or to create a new one.

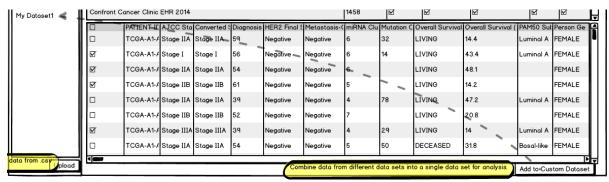


Figure 5 Data Exploration 2.

#### **Prepare Data for Analysis**

From the "Create Dataset" tab the user can:

- 1. Reduce and combine subsets into a single data set suitable for analysis.
- 2. Remove variables that are not of interest.
- 3. Merge variables of the same type for subjects originating in a different data set.

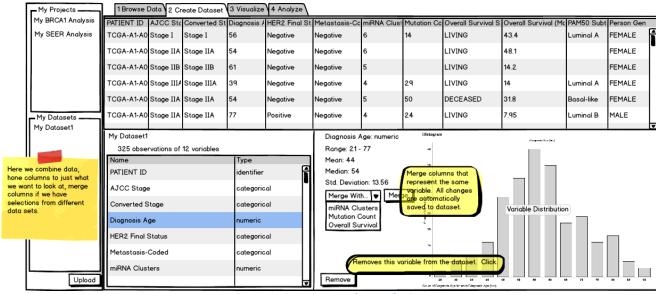


Figure 6 Prepare Data for Analysis.

#### **Visualization**

### **Descriptive Statistics**

While still in the "Create Dataset" view, each variable in the data set may be selected in order to view descriptive statistics about it. For numeric variables this would be the mean, median, standard deviation, and data range. For categorical variables this would be a list of each category present in the data. For both numeric and categorical variables a visual display of the distribution of each will be shown in the form of a histogram or a bar chart.

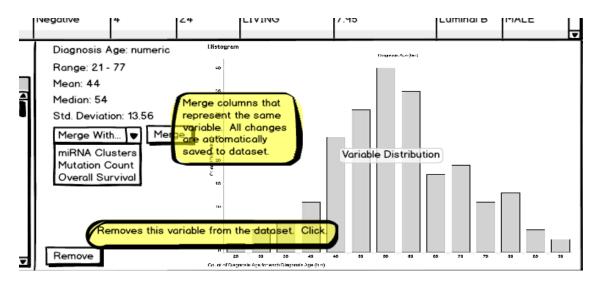


Figure 7 Descriptive Statistics.

#### **Comparative Visualization**

A researcher can further explore their data in the "Visualize" view. Initially the system will allow the visual comparison of 2 variables but it may be expanded in time to include more extensive visualizations. The proposed "out of the box" charts are box and whisker plots (box plots) and scatter plots. In either case, the user will select the two variables they wish to compare, select the chart type, and click "Plot".

1. Box plots show the distribution of a numeric variable against a categorical variable's values. There are horizontal ticks for the minimum, median, and maximum values, and the box contains the values that lie within the 1<sup>st</sup> quartile to the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

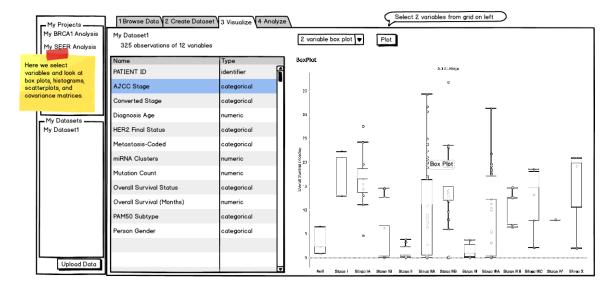


Figure 8 Box Plots.

2. Scatter plots compare two numeric variables. Each data point is plotted individually on the graph based on its x and y variables, for x and y representing the two numeric variables.

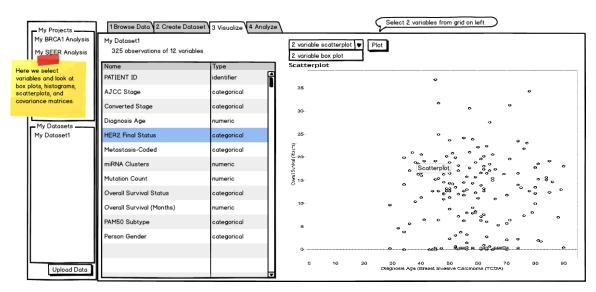


Figure 9 Scatter Plot.

## **Analysis**

A researcher can conduct in-depth analyses on their custom data set from the "Analyze" view. Initially, the platform will provide two main types of analysis: survival analysis and predictive modeling. Predictive modeling will consist of logistic regression, ordinary regression, and decision trees. For all analyses, an option will be provided for imputing missing values using a probabilistic algorithm. Results of any analyses may be saved to the project and viewed later.

#### **Survival Analysis**

The system will support basic Kaplan-Meier survival analysis with up to one grouping variable.

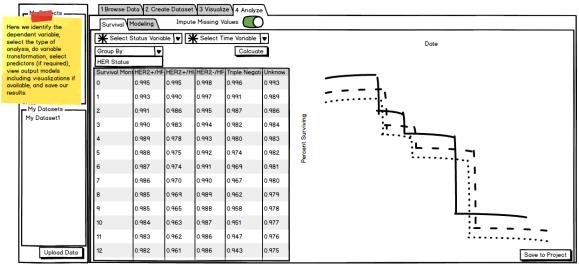


Figure 10 Survival Analysis.

- 1. Select survival status variable, time variable, and an optional grouping variable and select "Calculate".
- 2. Survival Tables are calculated and shown under the variable selection.
- 3. The survival curve is plotted to the right. If grouping was selected, a line is plotted for each series belonging to a category.

#### **Predictive Modeling**

Initially, the system will provide the ability to do 3 types of predictive modeling: logistic regression, decision trees, and ordinary regression (for non-classification variables such as number of months surviving).

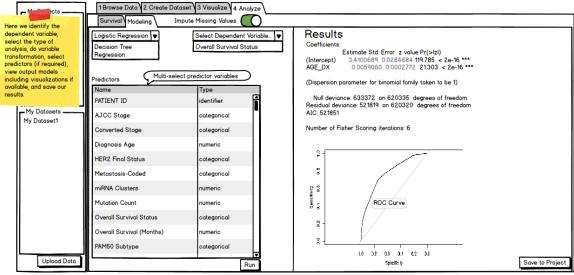


Figure 11 Predictive Modeling Logistic Regression.

- 1. Select type of model, dependent variable, and predictors. Predictors are selected via multi-select in the grid containing all variables except the variable selected for prediction. Select "Run".
- 2. Results of the model are displayed.
- 3. If applicable, the system will produce a visualization of the results.
  - a. Logistic Regression (shown): ROC curve
  - b. Decision Tree: tree visualization
  - c. Standard Regression: a plot of the regression line through a scatter plot of the actual values.

## **Appendix**

# A. Table of Figures Figure 1 Overview

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#### B. FHIR

FHIR is an API specification designed to help all health are systems speak a common language in order to make it easier to share data between them. It contains:

Model specifications for common health artifacts

Serialization formats

RESTful API query specification

A framework for extending the specification as needed

Resources for clinical, administrative, and infrastructure

Clinical resources of interest (not comprehensive)

DeviceObservation

Observation

DiagnosticReport

CarePlan

Medication

It is a trial standard, widely embraced but still early stage of adoption. It is not a software system but a set of rules for implementers of a software system to follow

Wherever we have a requirement to specify a common data format or any communication interface between systems we should defer to the FHIR standard and favor data sources that plan to implement it.

How FHIR fits into an EHR <a href="http://www.hl7.org/fhir/ehr-fm.html">http://www.hl7.org/fhir/ehr-fm.html</a>
Technical documentation for SMART on FHIR <a href="http://docs.smarthealthit.org">http://docs.smarthealthit.org</a>