

Correlates and Turning Points of Adaptive Functioning Trajectories & Longitudinal Associations with Autism Symptoms from Early Childhood to Adolescence

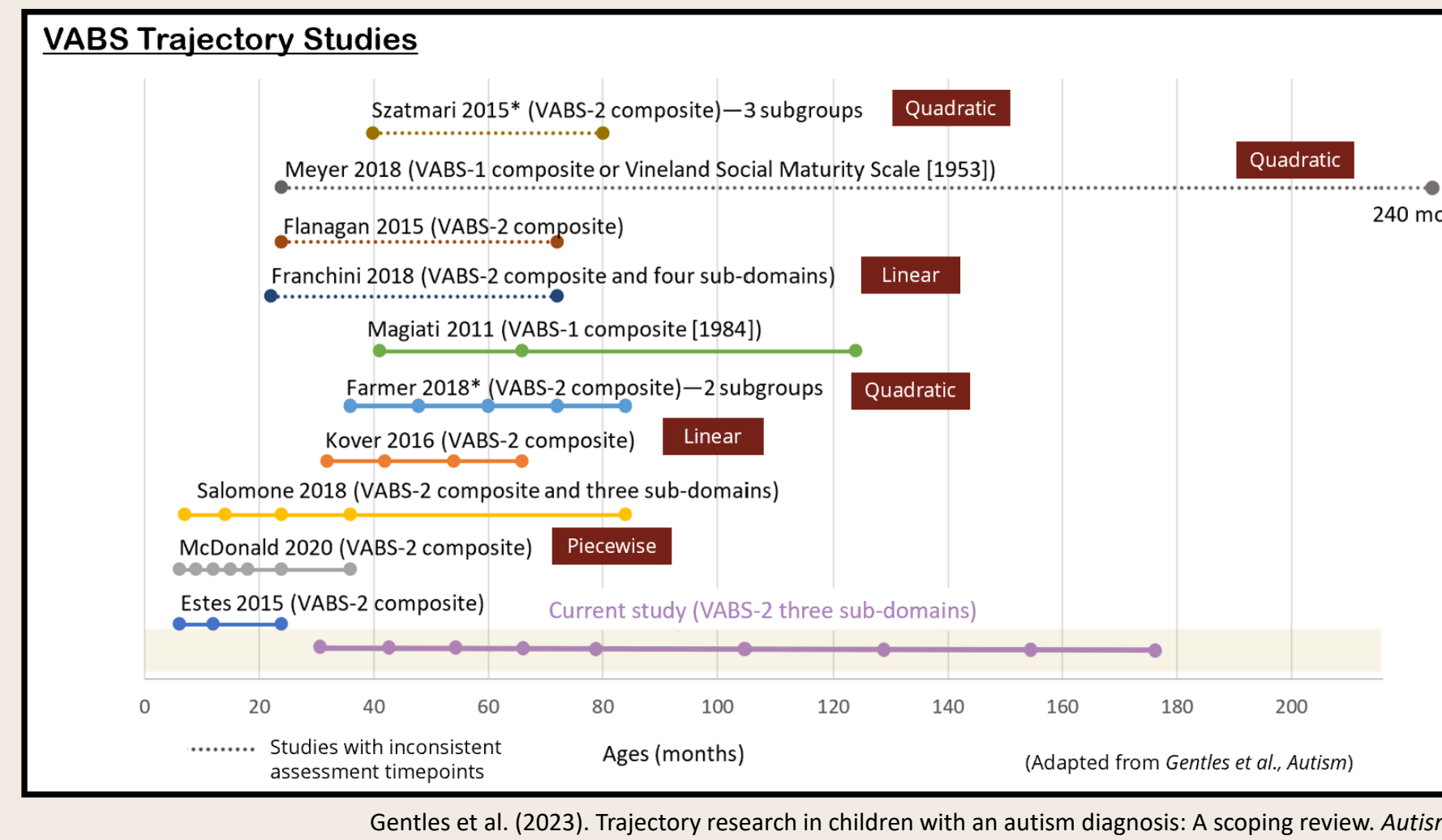
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Background

Heterogenous adaptive outcomes in autism have been observed in previous longitudinal studies.



Evidence Gaps

Associated factors/outcomes beyond baseline (e.g., autism symptoms)

Turning points of adaptive functioning trajectories to inform opportunities for change

Family characteristics as covariates of trajectories (e.g., SES, immigrant status)

Global vs. domain-level analysis
Domain-level sources of variance were often ignored.

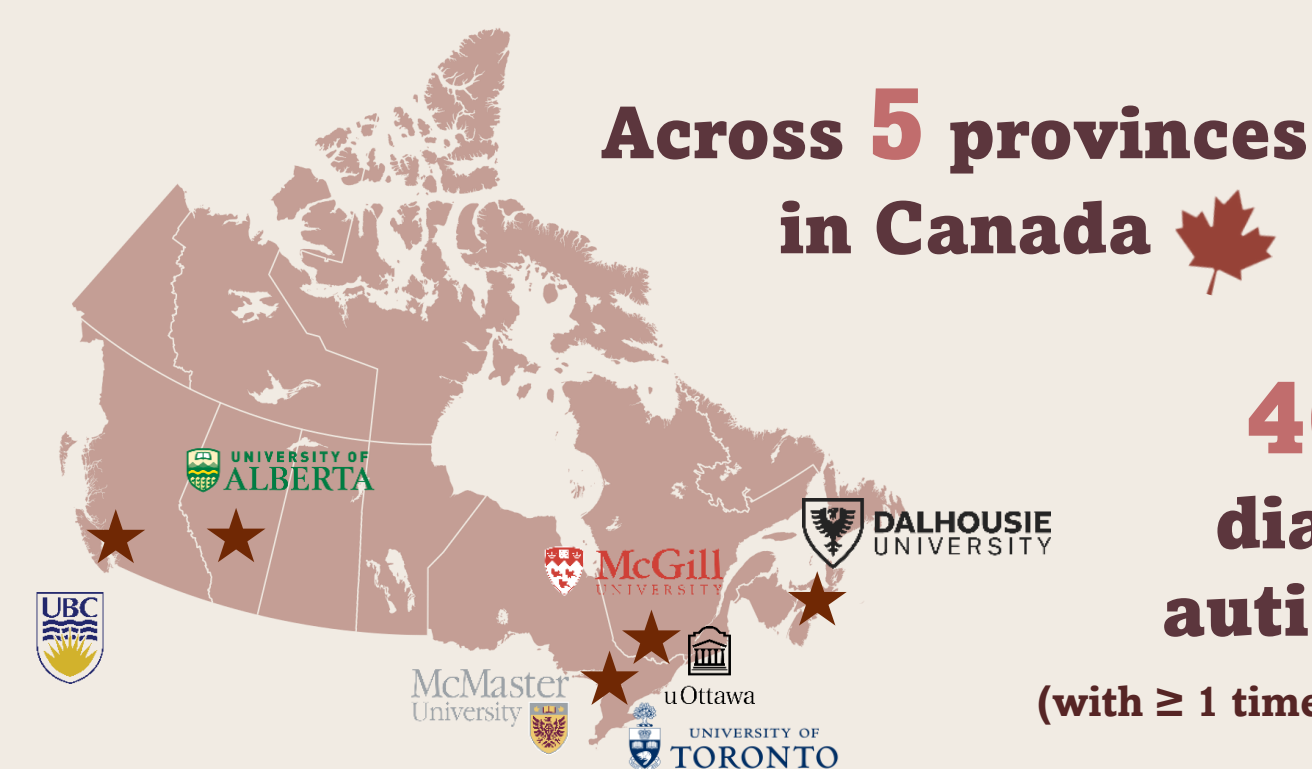
Data waves vs. chronological ages as time metrics
Between-person age differences and within-person change were conflated.

Research Questions

- What is the **best-fitting shape** of the latent trajectories of VABS subdomains? Are there **turning points** at certain ages?
- How many **VABS trajectory subgroups** can be identified? Is the subgroup membership associated with **child and family characteristics**?
- Do these VABS trajectory subgroups differ by **the changes of autism symptoms** from early to late childhood?

Methods

Participants



406 children diagnosed with autism at ages 2-5
(with ≥ 1 timepoint of VABS data available)

≥ 15 years of follow-up
(2005-current)

Measures & Timeline

10 waves of data collection

Outcome Measures VABS-II ADOS

Domain-level Standardized Scores

| Study Entry | Sequential Design | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-----------|
| | Dx | 6mos | 12mos | | | | | | | |
| Wave | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Age (yrs) | 2-5 | 2.5-5.5 | 3-6 | 5.5-7.5 | 7.5-8 | 8-9.5 | 9.5-10 | 10-12 | 12-14 | 14-17 |
| VABS | X | X | X | X | | X | | X | | X (12-17) |
| ADOS | X | X | X | | | | | X | | |
| FBIQ (Family Background) | X | X | X | | X | X | X | X | | X |

Analysis

