

Feature selection methods for early predictive biomarker discovery using untargeted metabolomic data

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DYNAMICS OF METABOLIC PHENOTYPE AND EARLY CHANGES



METABOLOMICS: A POWERFUL PHENOTYPING TOOL

comprehensive and integrative vision of biological systems









UNTARGETED MS-BASED METABOLOMICS



 Need to optimize two parameters:
(1) the biomarker performance
(2) the number of metabolites used in the predictive model. METABOLIC PROFILES: MULTIPLE BIOMARKERS



1) Can the clinician measure the biomarker?

- a) Accurate and reproducible analytical method(s)
- b) Pre-analytical issues (including stability) evaluated and manageable
- c) Assay is accessible
- d) Available assays provide high through-put and rapid turn-around
- e) Reasonable cost

2) Does the biomarker add new information?

- a) Strong and consistent association between the biomarker and the outcome or disease of interest in multiple studies
- b) Information adds to or improves upon existing tests
- c) Decision-limits are validated in more than one study
- d) Evaluation includes data from community-based populations

3) Will the biomarker help the clinician to manage patients ?

- a) Superior performance to existing diagnostic tests, or
- b) Evidence that associated risk is modifiable with specific therapy, or
- c) Evidence that biomarker-guided triage or monitoring enhances care
- d) Consider each of multiple potential uses (SEE PANEL B)

Morrow et al., 2014



UNTARGETED METABOLOMICS AND PREDICTION



lons = variables



- Data from instrument signal: noisy, variable
- Range of linearity, missing data
- High redundancy / degree of correlation:
- one metabolite gives several ions
- several metabolites are in the same pathway
- High number of variables compared to the number of samples
- Need ways to extract information from the data
- Obtain reliable, predictive information
- Ignore random variation (noise)

DISCOVERY OF THE BEST PREDICTIVE FEATURES EVIDENCE FOR BIOLOGICAL MECHANISMS





Knowledge

ALTERNATIVE TOOLS AND METHODS

Statistical methods:

- Univariate analyses ANOVA
- Clustering methods,
- e.g., k-means, HAC;
- Principal components analysis (PCA), PLS regression, PLS-DA

• Data mining methods:

- Supervised classification: Random Forest, Support Vector Machine (SVM)...
- Visualization with unsupervised methods: Formal concept analysis (FCA);
- Association rules;





- II- supervised
- III- explanatory/inductive methods

Adapted from Vernocchi et al., 2012







Studying a workflow describing the **general feature selection process**, using knowledge discovery and data mining methodologies to propose advanced solutions **for predictive biomarker discovery from untargeted metabolomic data**





DATA COLLECTION

Case / Control study within the GAZEL cohort



n=112 men 52-64 y.o, overweight 25≤BMI<30

Cases: T2D in 2009, free of T2D in 2004 Controles : matched for age and BMI classes



Untargeted metabolomics







UPLC QToF Bruker Impact II

HSS T3 150 x 2.1mm 1.8µm A : water + 0.1% FA B : ACN + 0.1% FA 0.4mL/min

Pereira H. et al, Metabolomics 2010



- Data extraction: XCMS Centwave. Prefilter (3,500), S/N=3
- Data cleaning: batch correction, noise removal, normalization, transformation

Signals > 2 blanks, CVpool < 1.25CVsamples, CV<30%, deisotope data



DATA CHARACTERISTICS

- 1,195 m/z variables 111 individuals

 ANOVA: 52 significant ions (4.3%) (p-value <0.5 after BH correction)

2.4% ions with correlation coefficient > 0.5, with 576 ions with a least one correlation >0.8.



Correlation networks of the ions with correlations higher than 0.5 showed highly correlated clusters due to both analytical and biological origins







FEATURE SELECTION



To reduce the computational cost
To improve the identification of specific markers

HOW ?

- Non-informative metabolites filtering:
- (1) those with very small intensities close to the limit of detection;
- (2) those only detected in very few individuals;
- (3) those that are near-constant irrespective of the difference in clinical outcome

ALTERNATIVE ALGORITHMS:

As a pre processing step : use of a statistical filter (t-test)

As a learning step : link the feature ranking to the classification task (wraper methods...)



EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN









- Top 200 ranked features selected
- ➤ 107 ions (9%) with p-value <0.1</p>



RESULTS AND VISUALIZATION

MISVM-RFEAC MLSVM-RFb-Kup CorRFAce CorRFRIB Ace ON REVENSION SVM-REW COR-RF-Gin **B**FALCE 2 **PMM** Features/ jons m/z 383 m/z 227 m/x 114 m/x 165 m/x 145 10/2 97 **m/z** 441 m/x 109 **m/z 203 m/z 219** m/z 198 m/z 263 **m/z 187** m/z 132 m/z 204 1 m/z 261 m/z 162 1 1 m/z 2841 **m/2 603** m/z 148 1 m/z 575 **m/z 69** m/z 325 1 1 m/z 405 1 m/2.929**m/z 58** 1 1 m/z 336 m/z 146 m/z 104 **m/**z 120 m/z 558 m/z 231 1 1 m/z 132* m/x 93 1 m/z 907 1 m/z 279 . **m/z** 104* **m/z 90** m/z 268 1 н m/z 288/ m/z 287 m/z 167 1 - 1 m/z 288 1 1 п. m/z 257 1 1 m/z 141 1 1 1 1 m/z 275 1 11 m/z 148* 1 11 1 1 **m/**2.92 1 1 1

Methods



48 metabolites selected with at least 6 methods



PREDICTIVE MODEL BUILDING

Logistic regressions

$$Y = f(X_1, X_2, X_3...)$$

Prediction equation Low number of input variables required Elimination of correlated features

Random Forest

Decision tree Supports high number of input variables







PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Indicators

Sensibility = VP/(VP+FN)

- Ratio of case predicted case
- **Specificity** = VN/(VN+FP)
 - Ratio of controls predicted controls

ROC curve (receiver operating characteristic)

- Determine an optimal threshold
- AUC (area under the curve): global model efficacy

Validation

Evaluation on training set

- Calculate indicators by predicting samples from training sets
- Optimistic evaluation (surestimate predictive capacity)

4th Workshop on Holistic Analytical Methods for Systems Biology Studies 17-19 April 2016

cross-validation

Iterative methods

		Measured			
		case	Control		
Predicted	case	TP	FP		
	Control	FN	TN		

TP : true positive FP : false positive TN : true negative

FN : false negative



Evaluation on validation set

- Calculate indicators by predicting samples from an independant validation
- Ideal when the subject number is big enough



FEATURE SELECTION FOR PREDICTIVE MODEL BUILDING



Interest of working on reduced dataset

Metrics	Sensitivity	Specificity	Accuracy	Precision	Misclassification (%)	OOB error
1.195-Rf-acc	0.81	0.65	0.73	0.71	27	0.261
200-Rf-acc	0.86	0.82	0.84	0.84	16	0.154
48-Rf-acc	0.93	0.80	0.87	0.83	13	0.131
40-Rf-acc	0.85	0.88	0.87	0.87	13	0.131
30-Rf-acc	0.83	0.90	0.87	0.90	13	0.131
20-Rf-acc	0.90	0.85	0.88	0.86	12	0.119
10-Rf-acc	0.85	0.86	0.85	0.85	15	0.142
5-Rf-acc	0.86	0.85	0.85	0.86	14	0.142



PREDICTIVE MODELS

For prediction, the subset of the 48 stable top-ranked features was selected and different alternative techniques were used: RF, VarSeIRF and logistic regression

- All final predictive models included 5 variables
- > 11 selected variables in total



Predictive capacity of the 11 selected variables

Features	AUC	+tests	95 % CI
m/z 145	0.795	1.448E-6	0.657 - 0.896
m/z 97	0.787	1.597E-6	0.657 - 0.898
m/z 325	0.773	2.233E-5	0.627 - 0.896
m/z 268	0.759	4.564E-6	0.614 - 0.866
m/z 263	0.753	5.996E-6	0.642 - 0.874
m/z 219	0.712	1.177E-4	0.162 - 0.798
m/z 162	0.656	0.00195	0.225 - 0.710
m/z 288*	0.634	0.00499	0.252 - 0.708
m/z 148	0.630	0.01778	0.238 - 0.624
m/z 198	0.619	0.01368	0.197 - 0.594
m/z 167	0.541	0.01796	0.190 - 0.715





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	AUC	95% CI	Misclassification (%)	False positive	False negative
RF	0.830	0.72 - 0.94	19.8	9	13
VarSelRF	0.845	0.76 - 0.94	22.5	14	11
Logistic regression	0.820	0.75 - 0.89	18.0	10	10
Univariate analyses - top 5	0.831	0.73 - 0.93	23.4	12	14
Univariate analyses - top 11	0.869	0.67 - 0.96	18.9	12	9

using the same number of features (5), univariate and multivariate modeling gave similar predictive results.



EVALUATION OF THE FEATURE SELECTION METHODS

Ranking of the 11 selected variables:

Footuros	RF-	RF-	Cor-RF-	Cor-	Cor-RF-	Cor-RF-	MI-SVM-	MI-SVM-	SVM-	Anova-
reatures	Acc	Gini	Gini	RF-Acc	RFE-Acc	RFE-Kap	RFE-Acc	RFE-Kap	RFE-W	p-value
m/z 145	1	1	1	2	46	53	100	125	323	2
m/z 97	2	2	3	1	142	185	63	67	159	3
m/z 325	5	4	7	5	210	220	38	37	1118	8
m/z 268	13	3	-	-	-	-	168	181	22	4
m/z 263	10	8	5	7	198	249	28	27	166	5
m/z 219	12	15	13	12	84	76	61	65	1022	12
m/z 162	438	31	20	26	211	221	39	38	103	17
m/z 288*	19	53	25	29	140	152	-	-	976	22
m/z 148	384	30	27	86	87	98	66	70	471	38
m/z 198	199	117	150	496	48	36	70	84	167	34
m/z 167	16	70	45	24	505	586	144	154	13	39

RF combined with ANOVA provided the best feature selection



CORRELATION NETWORKS









- Interest of feature selection methods to identify hidden information in such high dimensional datasets
- Importance of working on reduced datasets to obtain better performances in predictive models
- RF in parallel to ANOVA provided the best feature selection for predictive biomarker discovery

Our recommendation would be to explore these data mining methods !









MAPPING















From metabolomics to systems biology

"When a thing was new, people said, 'It is not true'. Later, when the truth became obvious, people said, 'Anyway, it is not important.' And when its importance could not be denied, people said, 'Anyway, it is not new." William James (1842–1920).

Goodacre et al., 2004



Thanks for your attention



