

# Modeling Neurodegenerative Disease Risk and Progression

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# Motivation



**Diseases have a time dimension!**

**We need to understand and model time series data to address important questions in Precision Medicine**

- Earlier disease diagnosis / prevention
- Disease progression / prognosis

## Early diagnosis: time-to-event models

- Alzheimer's Disease risk model

## Progression: multivariate time series clustering

- Alzheimer's Disease progression

## Simulation of multivariate patient trajectories

- Talk tomorrow

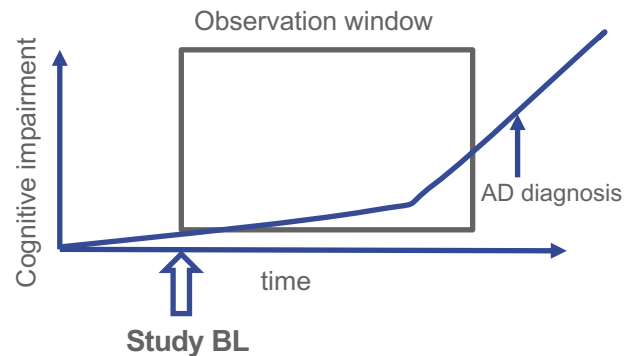
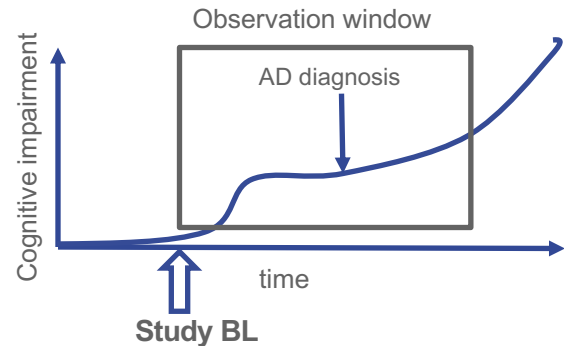
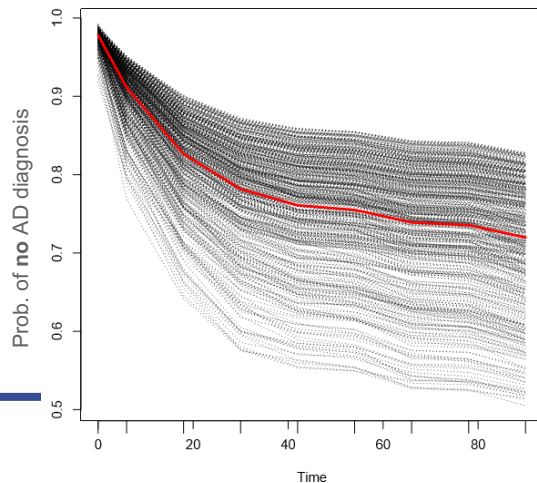
# Early Disease Diagnosis

4

We don't know, how long patients have been in a pre-symptomatic phase, before entering the study

Actual AD diagnosis can fall outside the observation window: right censored data

Use well-established theory from survival analysis



$$h(t|x) = h_0(t)\exp(-f(x))$$

# Using Multi-Scale Data for Predicting Alzheimer's Disease and Reconstruction of Biological Mechanisms

5

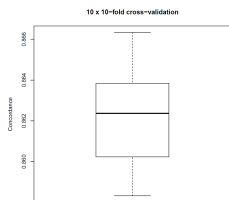


Multi-scale baseline data (~900 normal / MCI patients):

- Clinical features, incl. neuropsychological assessment scores
- Genetic variants (SNPs)
- Neuro-images (MRT)

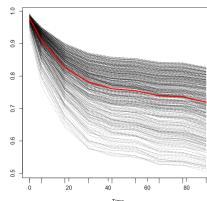


Prediction performance:  
~86% C-index



Multi-modal  
gradient boosted  
Cox regression

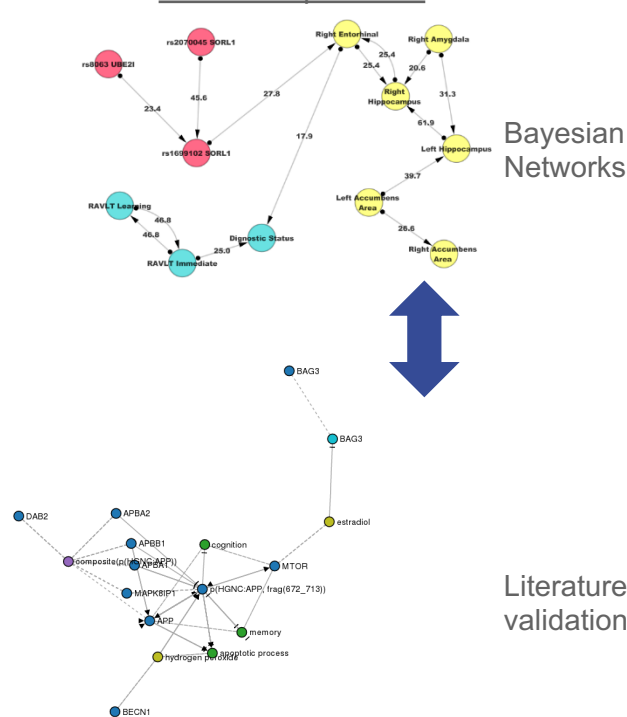
Disease risk



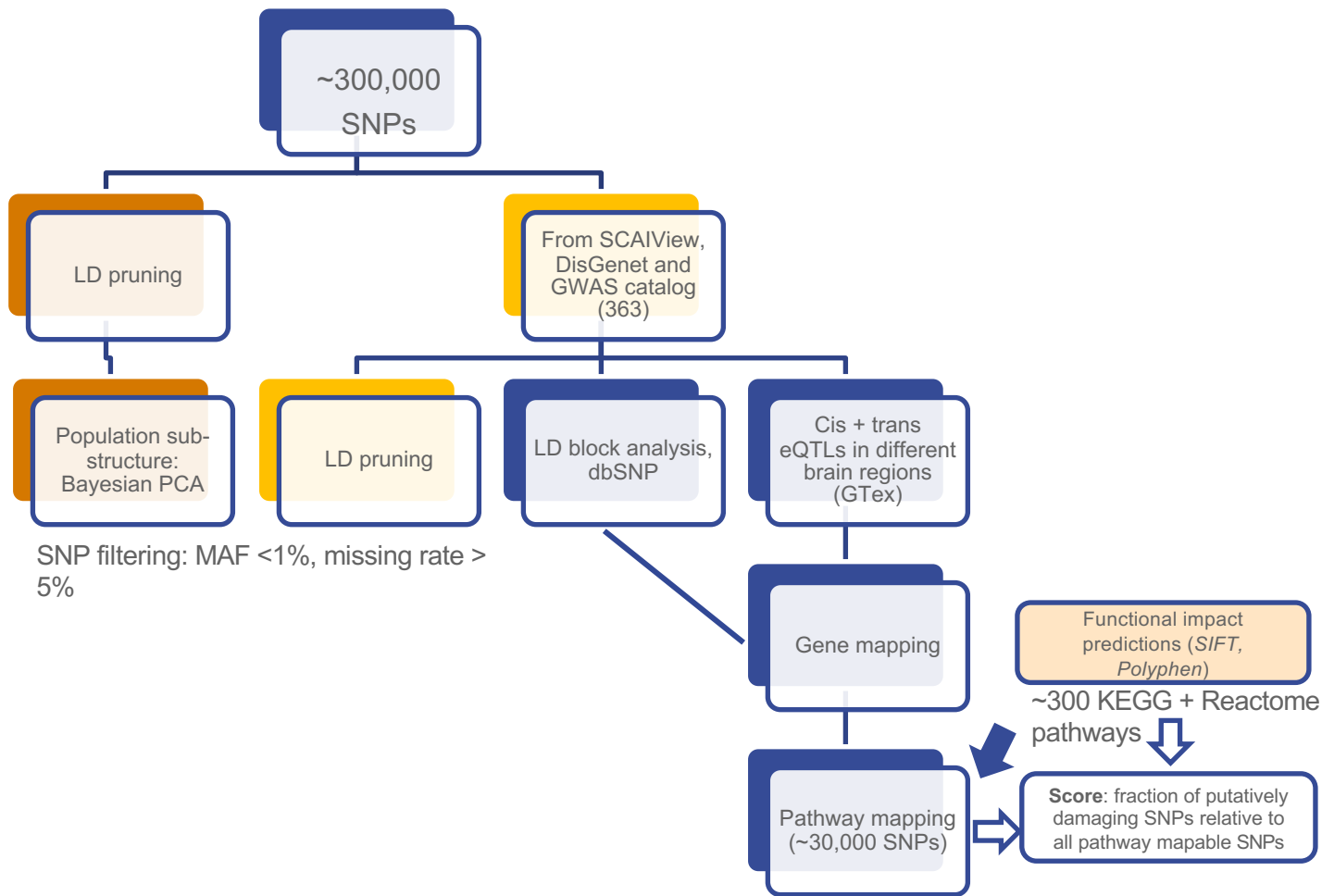
## Goals:

- Predicting disease risk to allow for early therapeutic intervention
- At least partial understanding of transition mechanisms

Model interpretation:



Jointly with predictive  
model training



# Model interpretation via Bayesian Networks

A)



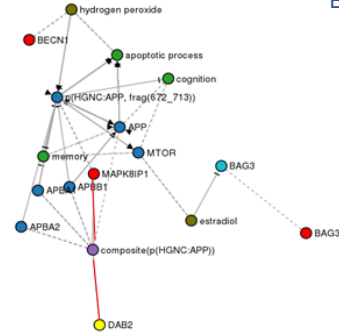
Suggested in  
Nighot et al., 2016

Literature  
validation

OpenBEL  
(Kodamullile et al., 2015)

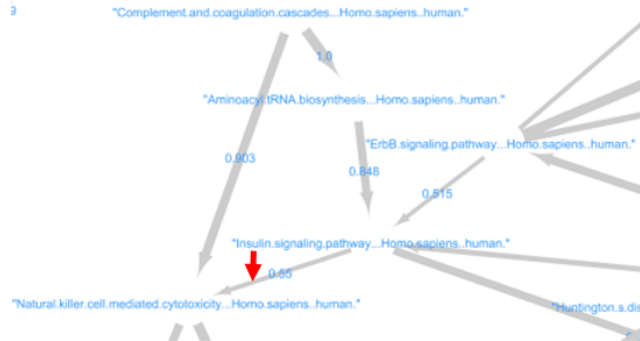


Adherens junction -  
autophagy



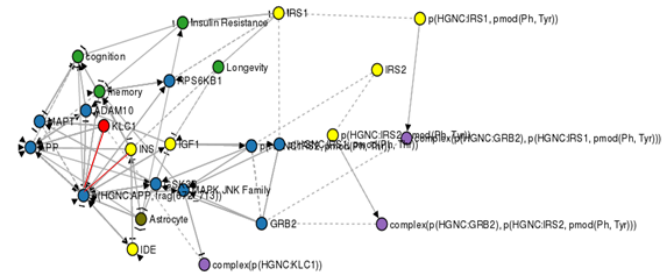
Pathway mapping for OpenBEL:  
NeuroMMSig (Domingo-Fernandez et al.,  
Bioinformatics, 2017)

B)

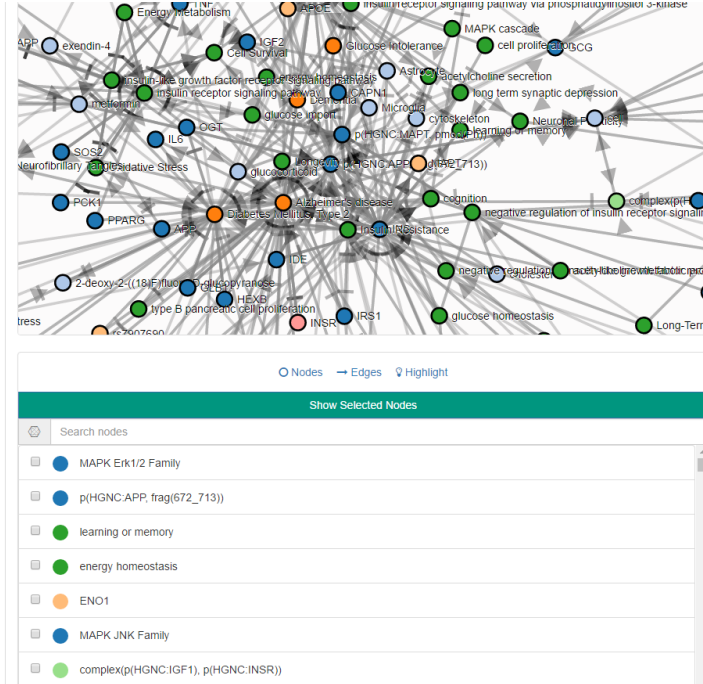
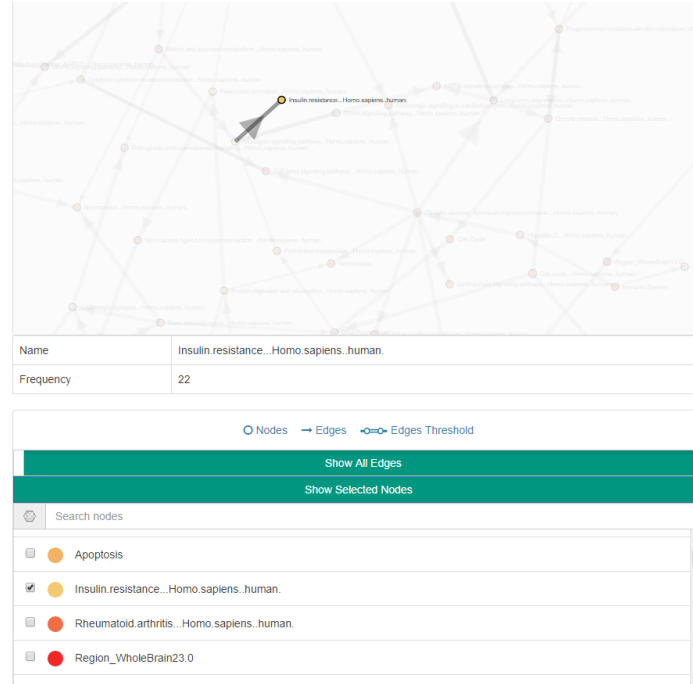


Suggested in  
Lorini et al., 1994

Insulin signaling - NK cell  
mediated cytotoxicity



# An Interactive Web Viewer for Bayesian Networks and Literature Derived Mechanisms

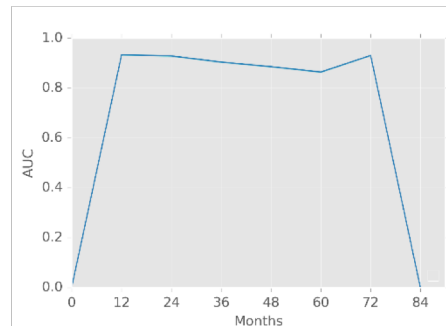
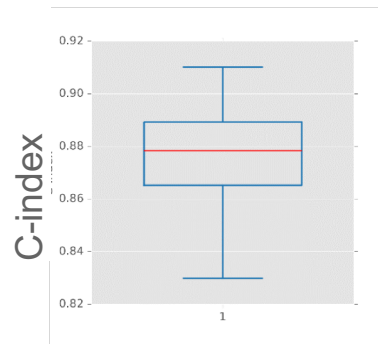
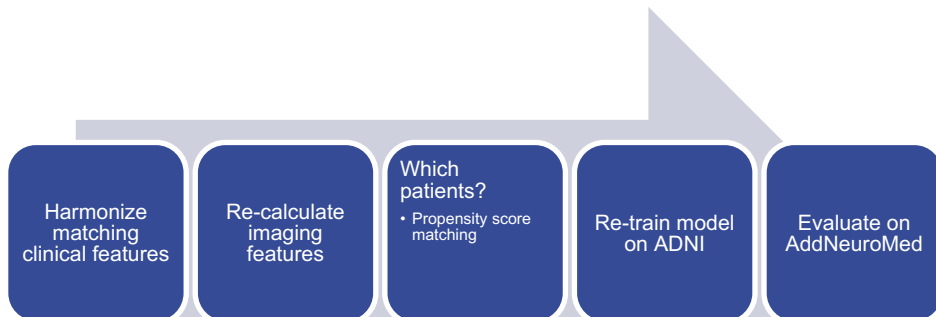


<http://neurommsig.scai.fraunhofer.de/bayesian>



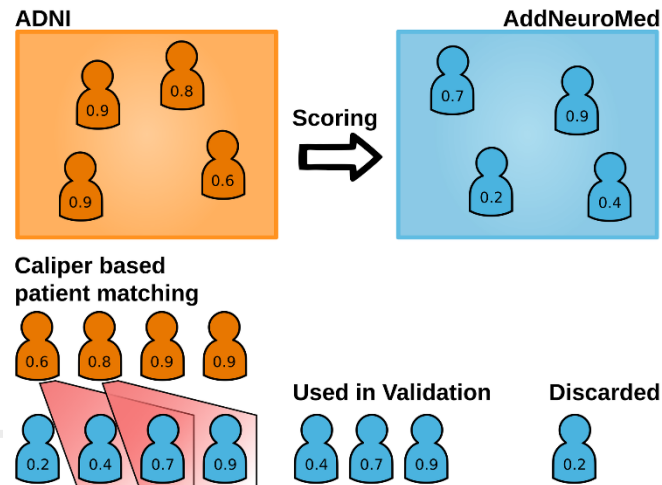
# Independent Validation of the AD Risk Model

## AddNeuroMed cohort: 771 patients



	Age	Females	Education	0 APOE4	1 APOE4	2 APOE4
<b>CTL</b>						
ADNI	74.8	50.1%	16.3	301 (72.5%)	103 (24.8%)	11 (2.7%)
ANM	74.5	59.4%	12.3	380 (74.7%)	118 (23.2%)	11 (2.5%)
<b>MCI</b>						
ADNI	73.0	59.1%	15.9	431 (49.8%)	341 (39.4%)	94 (10.9%)
ANM	76.0	54.7%	10.0	160 (60.4%)	95 (35.8%)	10 (3.8%)
<b>AD</b>						
ADNI	75.0	55.3%	15.2	160 (37.3%)	113 (33.4%)	65 (19.2%)
ANM	78.6	62.9%	9.4	197 (45.7%)	178 (41.3%)	56 (13.0%)

**Table 8:** Demographic composition of each diagnosis cohort from ADNI and AddNeuroMed. Age and education averages are reported in years. **0, 1, 2 APOE4:** Number of individuals with 0, 1, 2 APOE4 alleles. Percentages give the fraction of the respective data set with the corresponding value. **Females:** Fraction of female individuals. **ANM:** AddNeuroMed



# Case Studies

## Early diagnosis: time-to-event models

- Alzheimer's Disease risk model

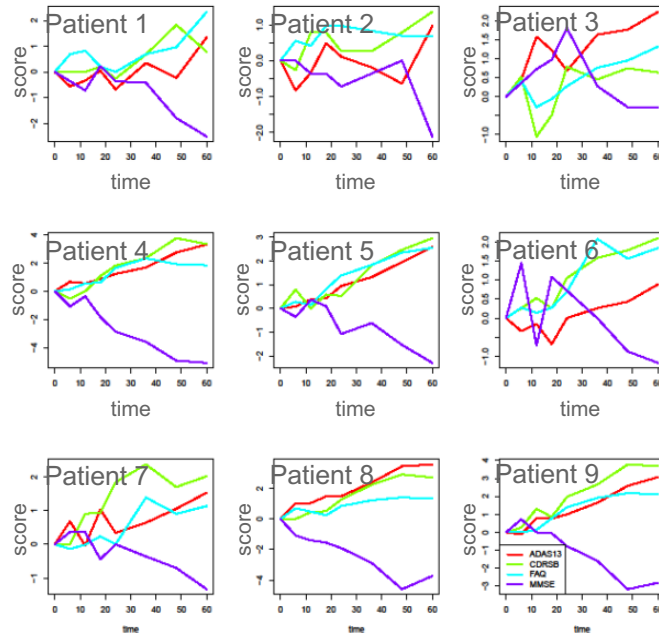
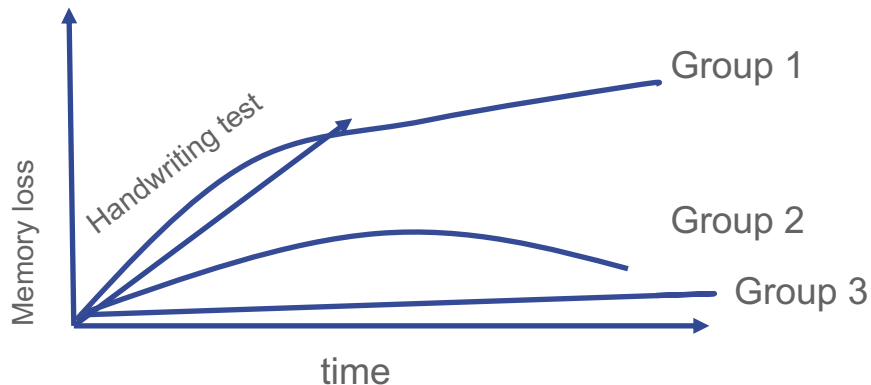
## Progression: multivariate time series clustering

- Alzheimer's Disease progression

## Simulation of multivariate patient trajectories

- Talk tomorrow

# How to find multivariate disease progression clusters?



**Disease progression in many diseases is highly heterogeneous**

- Examples: Parkinson's, Alzheimer's

**Multiple scores can be used to describe different aspects of disease severity**

**No existing standard technique**

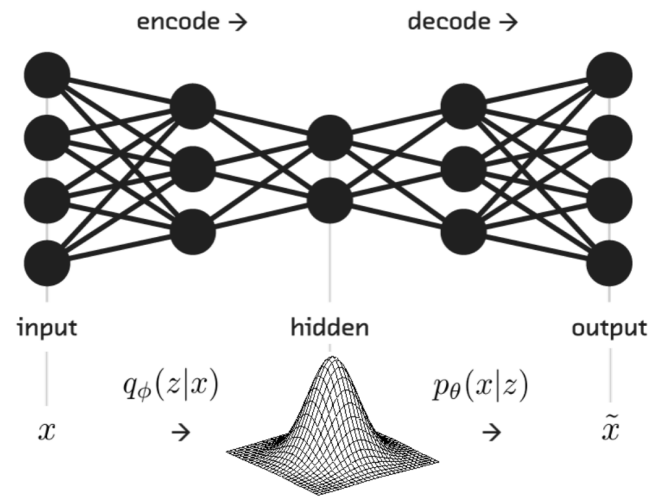
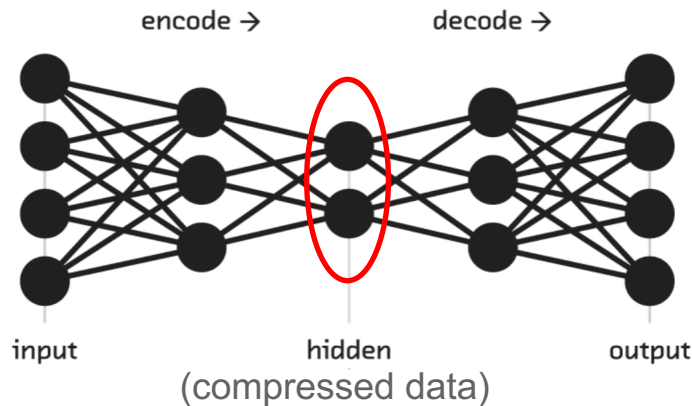
# Background: Variational Autoencoders

**Idea: Compress data into a lower dimensional representation**

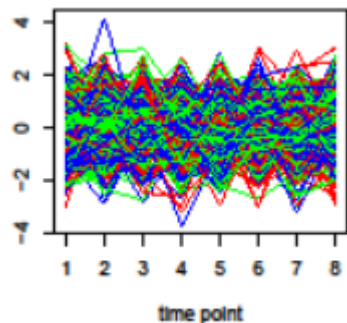
- Objective minimize reconstruction error

**Variational autoencoder: make this representation smooth**

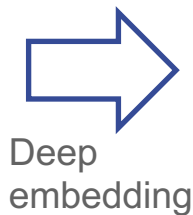
- Map each input data point to a Gaussian



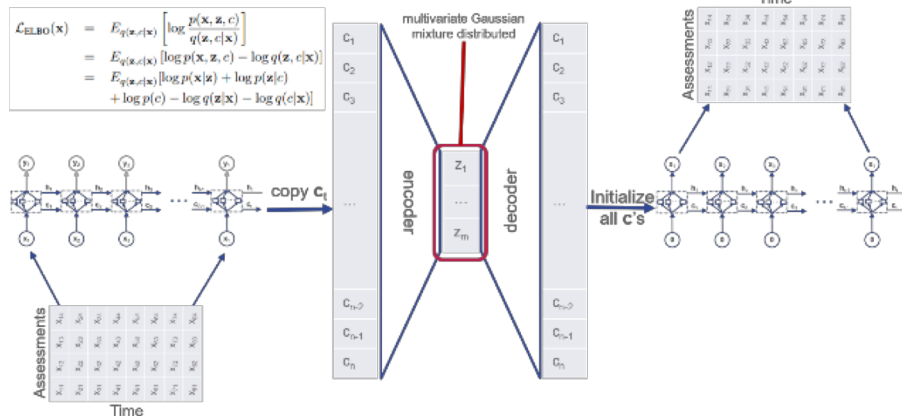
# Method: Latent Gaussian Mixtures of Recurrent Variational Autoencoders



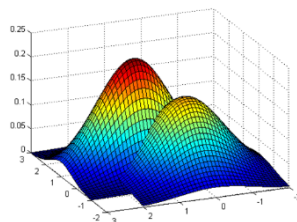
Multivariate  
time series data



Deep  
embedding



Latent  
probabilistic  
clustering



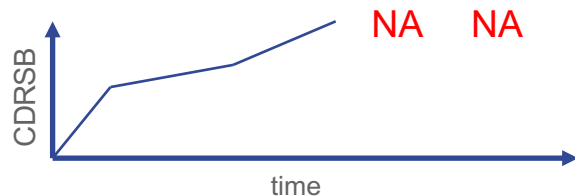
Cluster  
assignment

**Challenge: patient drop-out → missing data not at random**

**Appropriate missing data model is needed**

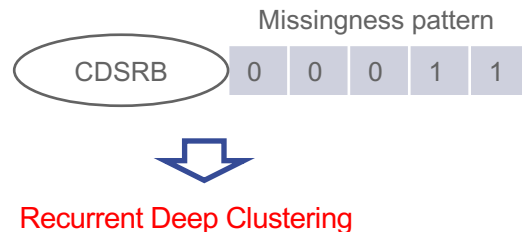
# Dealing with Missing Data

Imputation would assume no correlation between missingness and measured features → **wrong approach**



## Our approach:

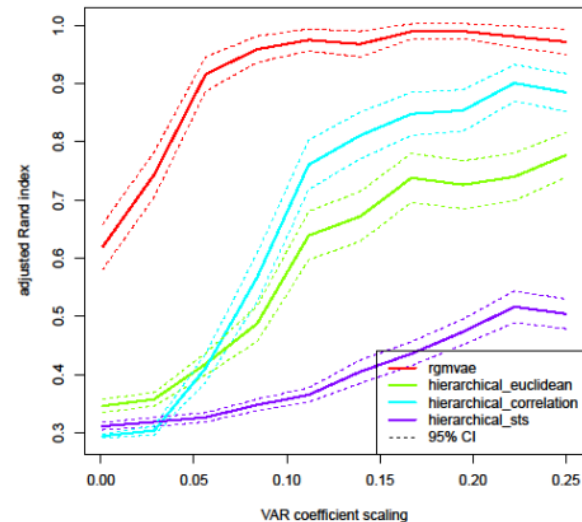
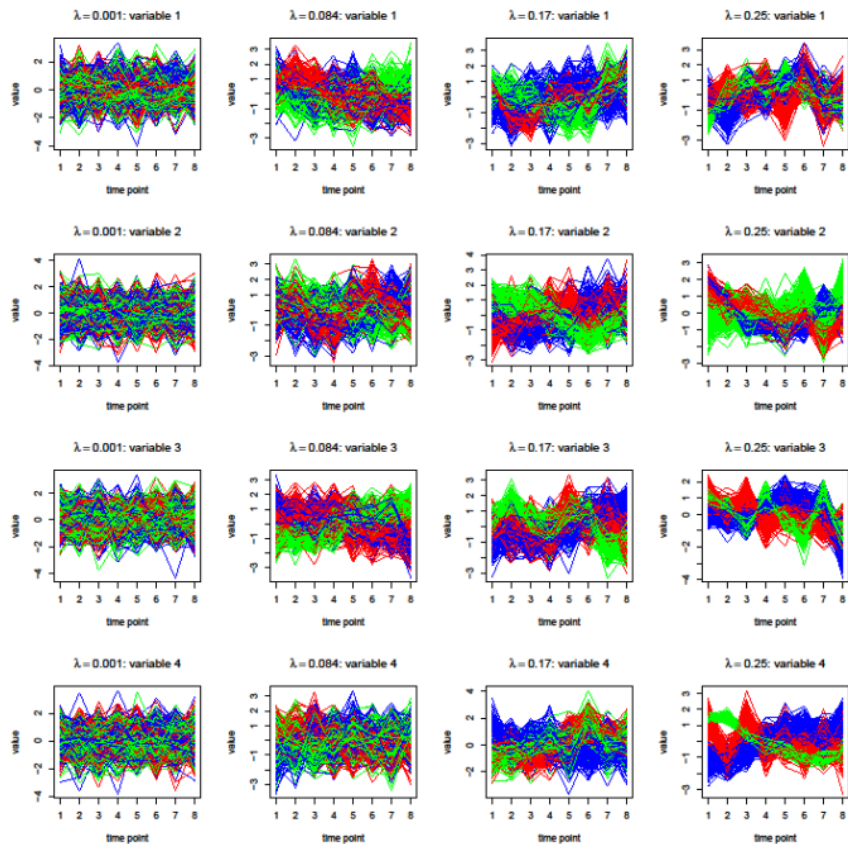
- Indicator variables encode missingness pattern → augment input to neural network → „implicit“ imputation
- Consider only observed data in reconstruction term in ELBO criterion (element-wise multiplication with indicator variable)



# Technical Validation (Simulated Data)

decreasing noise  $\rightarrow$

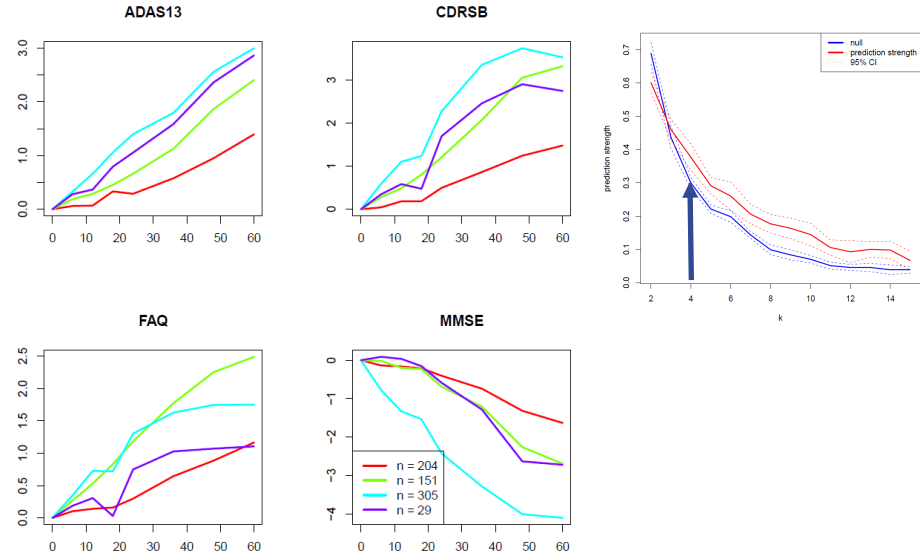
4 variables



**Proposed method outperforms naive approaches**

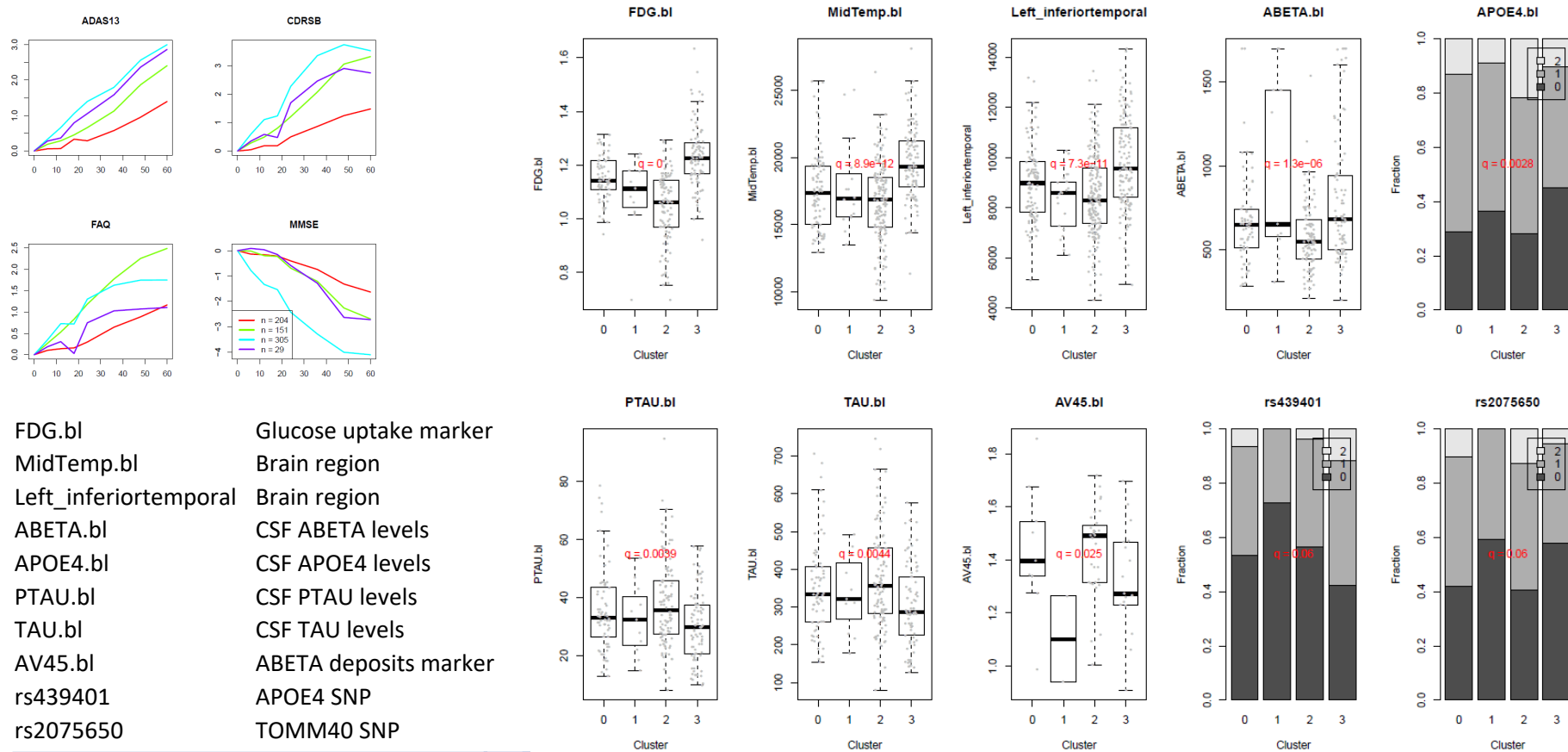
# Clustering Results for Alzheimer's Disease

Method yields clearly separated progression clusters for Alzheimer's





# Interpretation of Clusters: Alzheimer's Disease

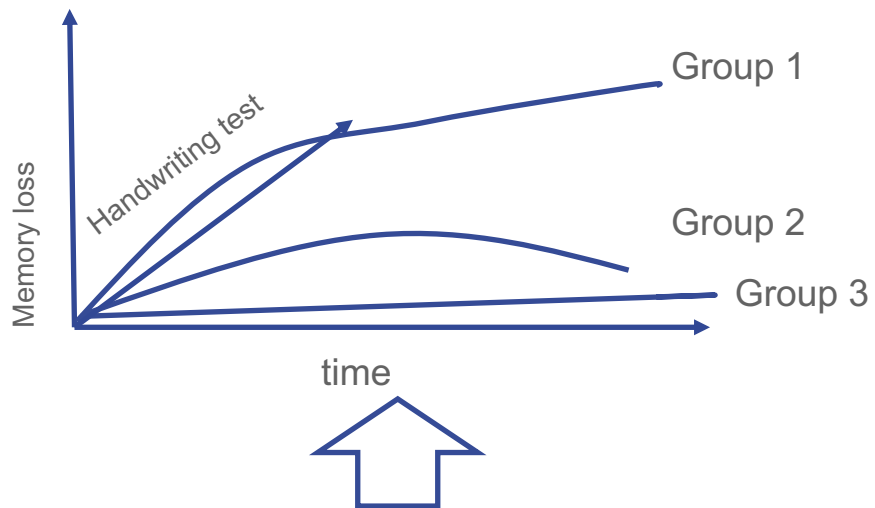


FDG.bl  
 MidTemp.bl  
 Left\_inferiortemporal  
 ABETA.bl  
 APOE4.bl  
 PTAU.bl  
 TAU.bl  
 AV45.bl  
 rs439401  
 rs2075650

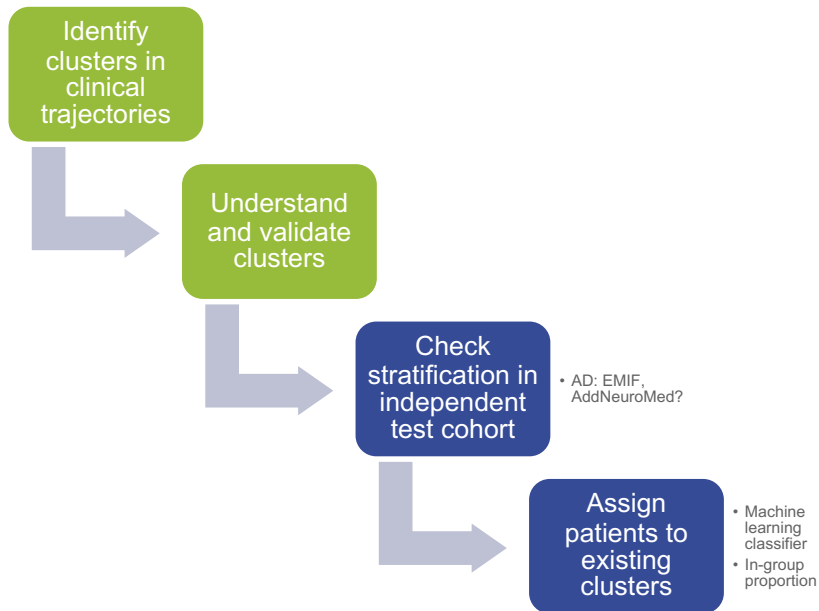
Glucose uptake marker  
 Brain region  
 Brain region  
 CSF ABETA levels  
 CSF APOE4 levels  
 CSF PTAU levels  
 CSF TAU levels  
 ABETA deposits marker  
 APOE4 SNP  
 TOMM40 SNP

*multinomial logistic regression-based likelihood ratio test  
(corrected for age, gender and education)*

# Conceptual Idea of Next Steps



Baseline data: genetic, clinical, imaging



# Summary of Case Studies

## Early diagnosis: time-to-event models

- Alzheimer's Disease risk model

### Method

Gradient  
boosted Cox  
regression,  
Bayesian  
Networks

## Progression: multivariate time series clustering

- Alzheimer's Disease

Recurrent  
Neural  
Networks

## Simulation of multivariate patient trajectories

- Tomorrow's talk

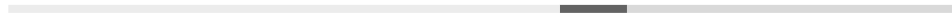
Bayesian  
Networks,  
autoencoders

# Conclusion

**Time series analysis is extremely relevant to understand diseases and to answer important questions in Precision Medicine**

- Early disease diagnosis
- Disease progression / prognosis

**Multitude of methods, right method depends on actual application question**

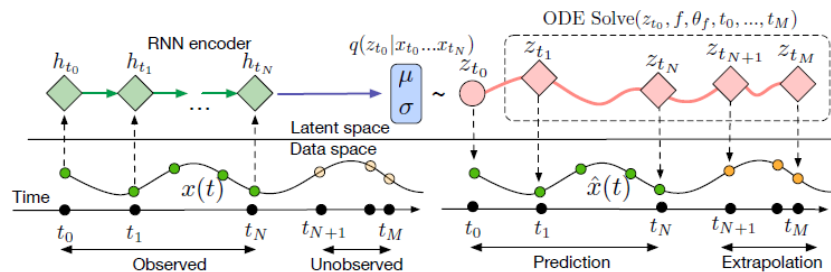
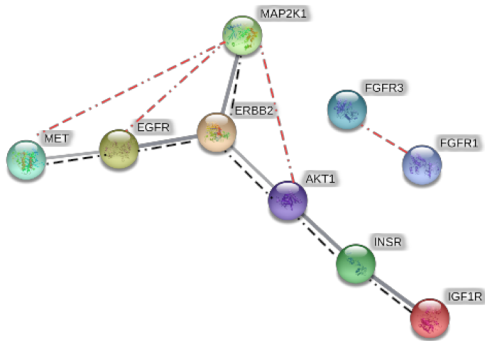


# Outlook: Learning the Hidden Dynamics of Disease Development and Progression

## Can we learn the mechanism behind disease progression?

- Time series predictions for each individual
- Extrapolation out of domain of training data possible

## Idea: learn latent ODE (PhD project of Zahra Nasrollah)

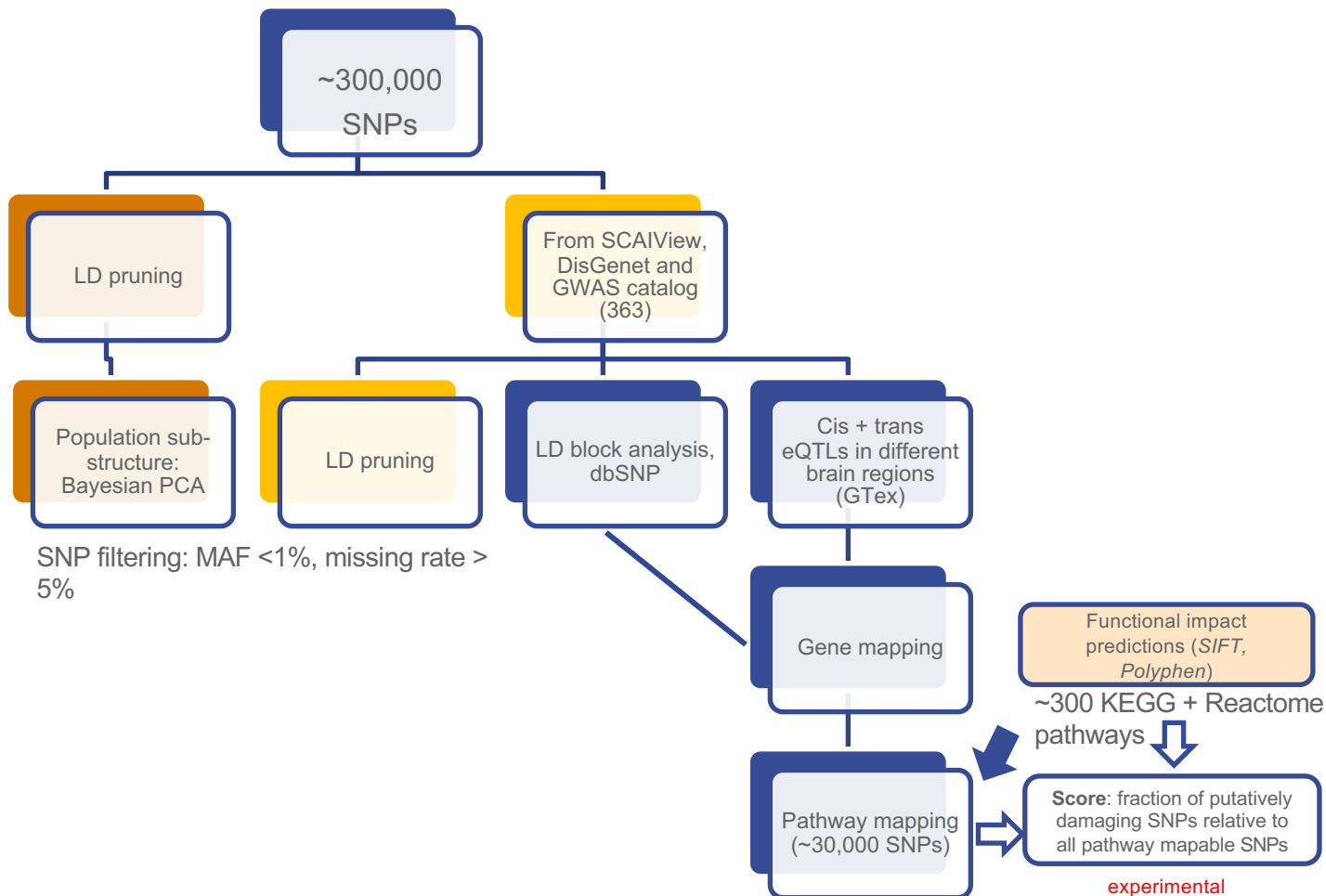


Chen et al., Proc NIPS 2018

# Backup

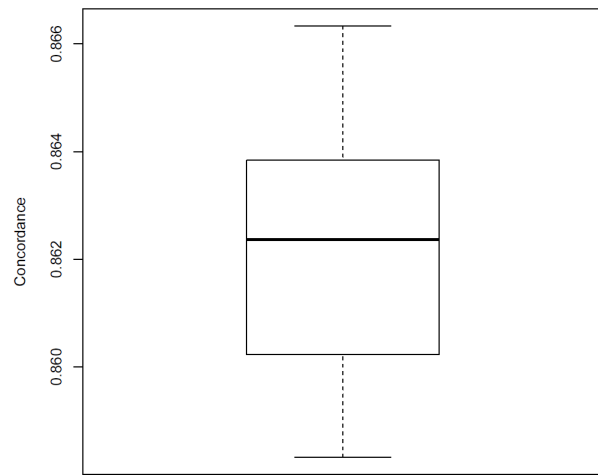


Jointly with predictive  
model training

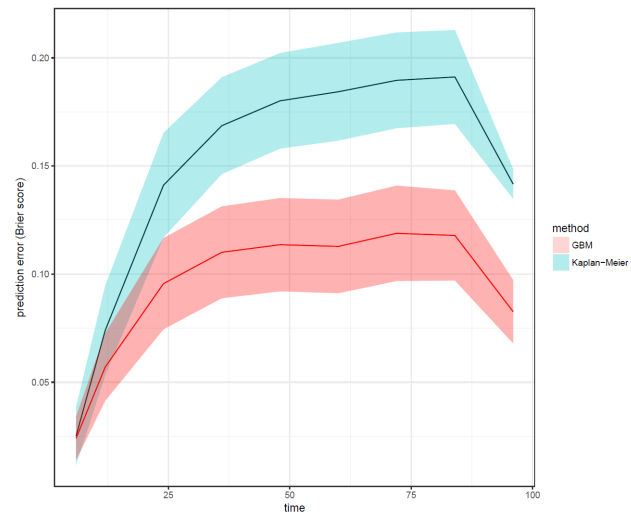


A)

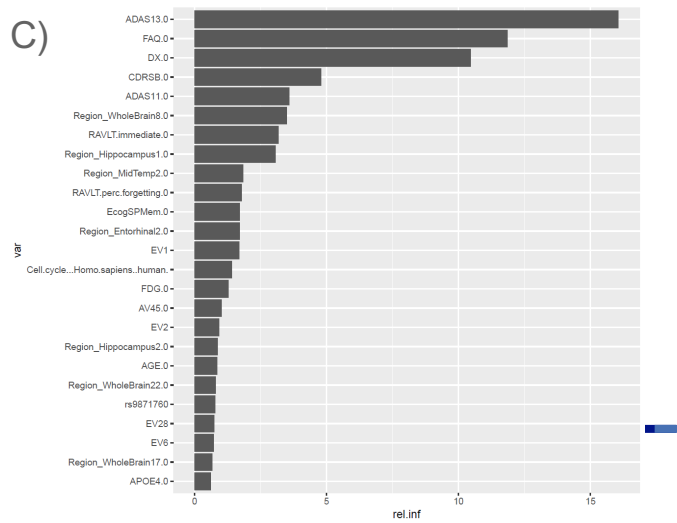
10 x 10-fold cross-validation



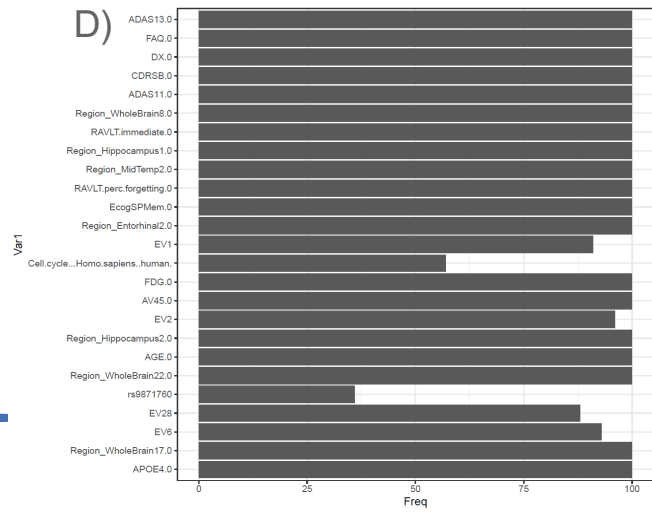
B)



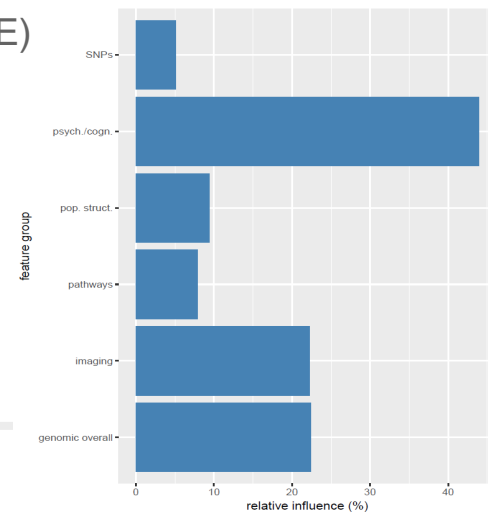
C)



D)

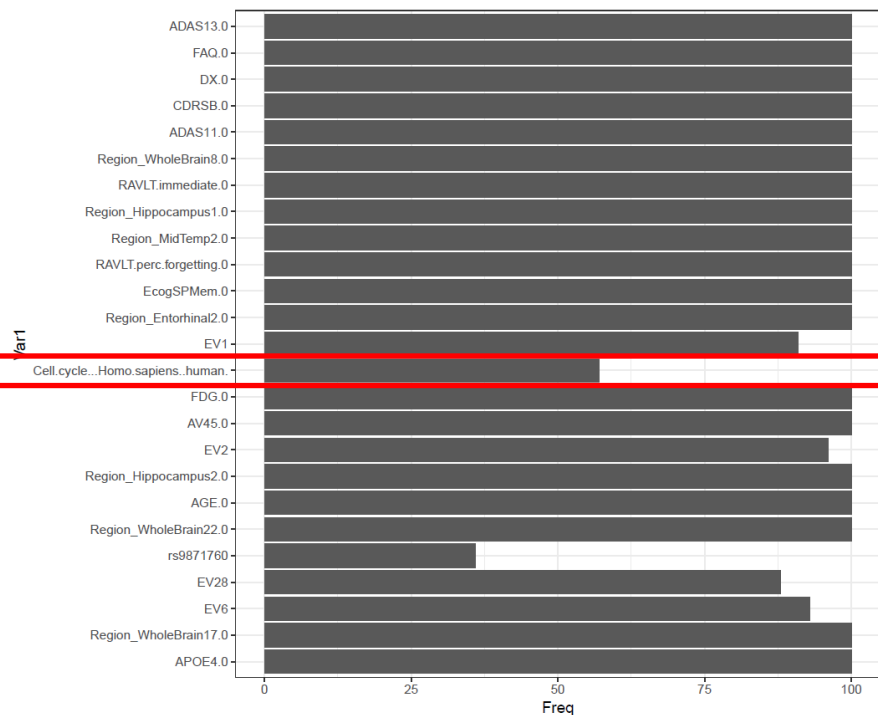
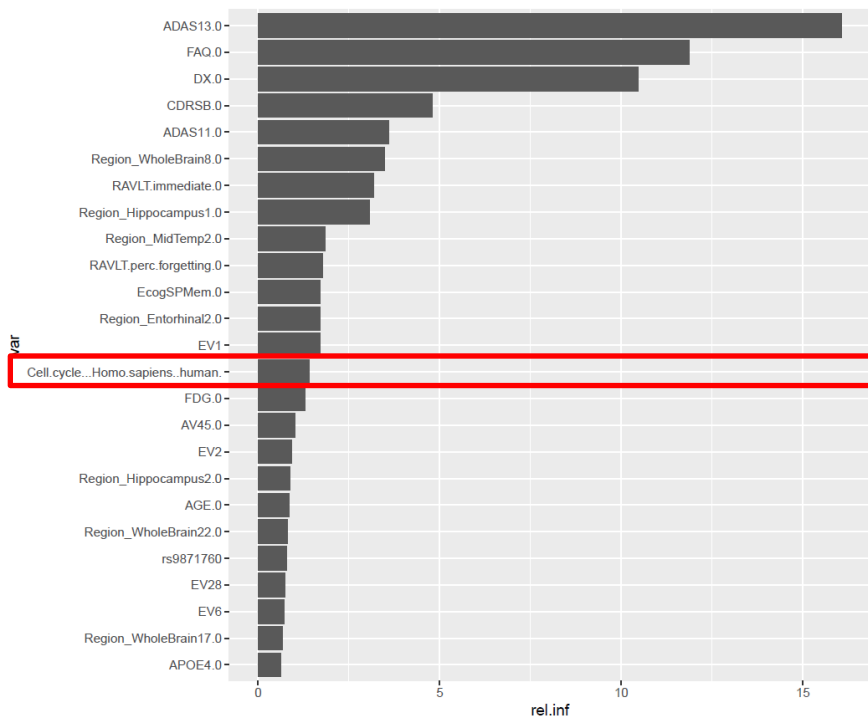


E)





# Top Relevant Features



**AD may be caused by aberrant re-entry of different neuronal populations into the cell division cycle (Nagy et al., Neuroscience, 1998)**

# Results of Predictive Modeling

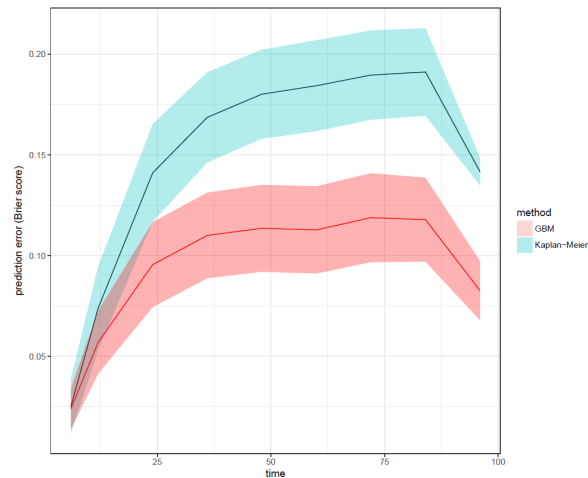
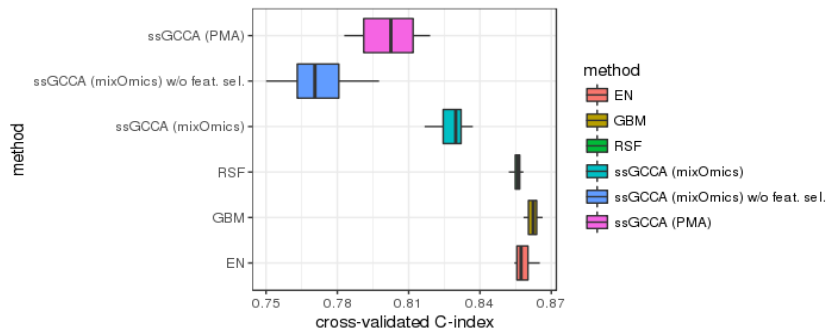
## 10 times repeated 10-fold cross-validation: ~86% C-index

- 50% = chance level
- 100% = perfect

## Multi-modal GBM significantly outperforms other methods

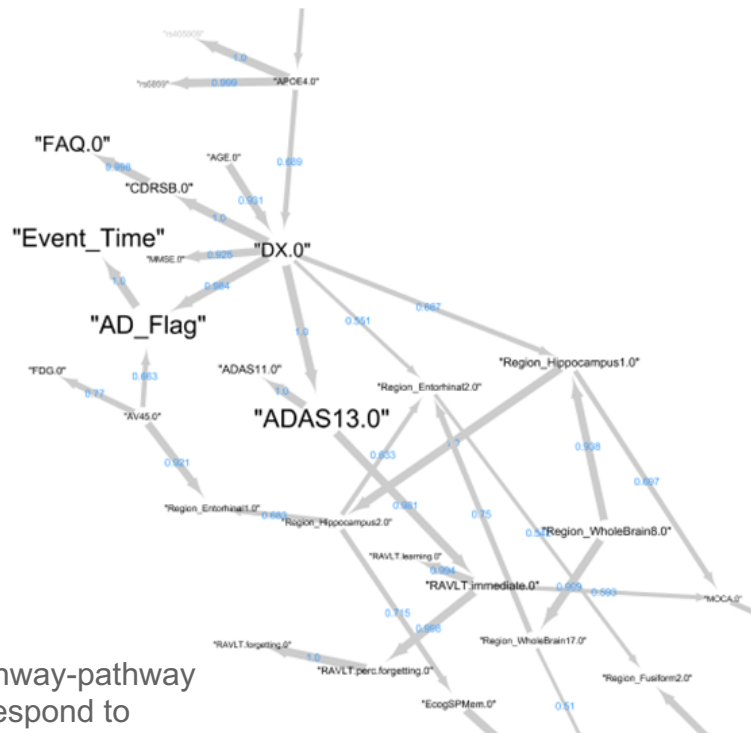
- Similar performance of single GBM, but more features selected

## Prediction error over time: gradient boosting outperforms Kaplan-Meier estimator



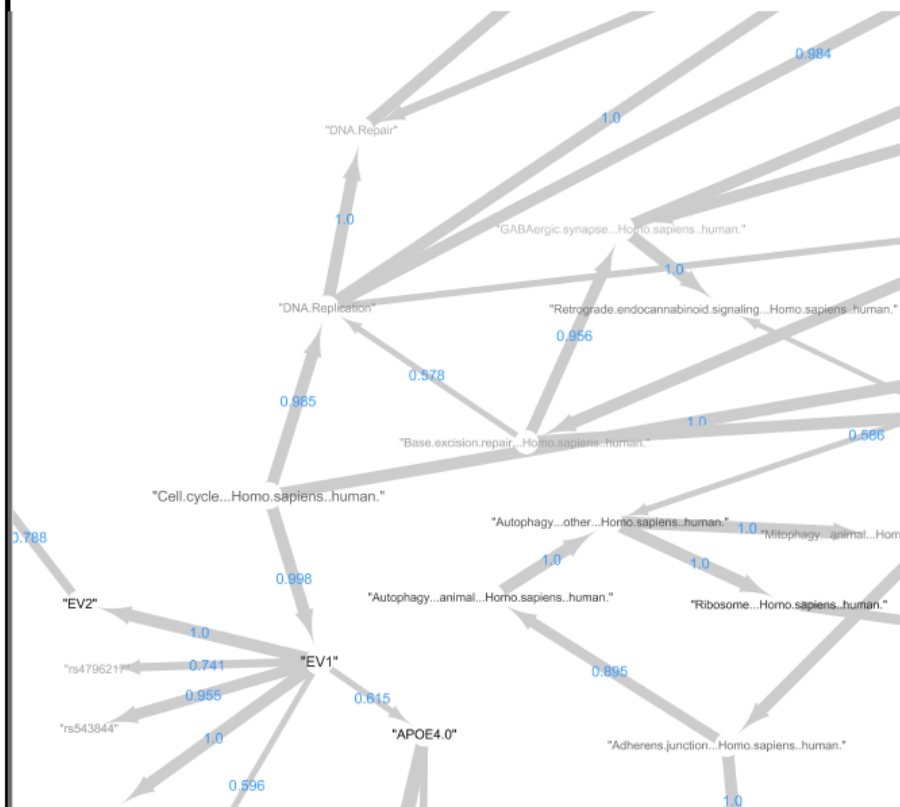
# Results of BN Structure Learning (Example Zooms)

A)



83% of pathway-pathway edges correspond to significant overlap of gene sets (FDR < 5%)

B)



# An Interactive Web Viewer for Bayesian Networks and Literature Derived Mechanisms

