NEURAL CORRESPONDENCE MAPPING

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Background & Problem Definition (Adita)

Data Sources & Preprocessing (Adita)

NCM Package Overview (Erik)

NCM Package Demo (Erik)

Modeling (Arlens)

Pipeline Overview (Robert)

Cloud Infrastructure Demo (Robert)

Findings & Conclusion (Arlens)



Today's Presentation

Background

1990 - "Decade of the Brain"

Declared by George Bush to enhance public awareness of the benefits to be derived from brain research, leading to lots and lots of research and major advances....

We still know very little about the brain today

Diverse methods in data processing, sampling & brain atlases between different labs

- Older studies cannot easily be compared to newer studies
- Studies utilize different coordinate systems
- Scientific papers contain high level summaries
- No common repository

Facilitate semi-automatic hypothesis generation to speed research discovery by providing a flexible and extendable library for merging disparate neuroscience data into a common coordinate system





PROBLEM DEFINITION

Why is this important?

- Standardization for Scientific Research
 - "The future of scientific progress will be aided by bridging the gap between the millions of published research articles and modern databases such as the Allen brain atlas (ABA)."

- Voytek et al.

• Possible Use Case

• Brain injury/trauma is typically very difficult to treat/rehabilitate due to uncertainty of all functional correlations to specific brain areas. Our library could make it easier for doctors to help patients through tailored therapies.



Data Sources

ALLEN BRAIN ATLAS

Gene expressions

- MRI voxel coordinates
- 20,787 genes with multiple readings for 946 probes x 6 brains

NEUROSYNTH

Terms from Neuroscience published research

- MNI-XYZ and Taliaracs coordinates
- 3,200 terms from 14,371 publications



ECOG

Neural power spectra

- MNI-XYZ coordinates
- Time series
- 1,723 electrode readings
- 110 subjects

Data Preprocessing

- The datasets we worked with are not required for using the NCM package, but they allowed us to demonstrate the potential of the package.
- All data required some preprocessing/cleaning & formatting in order to be utilized by the package.
- The NCM package is set up to work with preprocessed, clean data that is formatted to align with the package.
- Since our project requires a 2 step preprocessing method (cleaning then mapping with package) we will be focusing on the second step.

Neural Correspondence Mapping Python Package



NCM Python Package

MNI-XYZ



MRI-voxel



 \diagdown

HCP-MMP Atlas



4.64 5.21 5.78 6.35 6.92 7.49 8.06 8.6

 Modularized class based structure which takes in disparate Neuroscience data and maps it to the same generalized spatial frame to allow for further analysis

Basic Package Transformation Requirements

- 1. Ingestion of feature data and required parcellation scheme
- 2. Identifying the type of transformation desired
- 3. Deciding the desired mapping technique



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Ingestion of Feature Data & Required Parcellation Scheme

• Data must be in either MNI-XYZ or MRI-voxel coordinates for ingestion

• Atlas defined in Nifti files



MNI-XYZ



MRI-voxel





Identifying the Type of Transformation

• Full Brain vs. Single Sided

• Mirrored or Unmirrored



Mirrored Parcel

Unmirrored Parcel

Desired Mapping Technique

• No "right" answer

- Possible Mapping Techniques:
 - **Method 1**: Project to nearest parcel & average feature representation
 - Method 2: Calculate mean parcel location and distance for average weighted feature representation
 - Distance based Gaussian weighting function
 - Varies based on parcel size











Package Final Result

Disparate precise data mapped to a generalized parcellation schema while preserving accuracy





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NCM Demo

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737	10.840025	10.709327	9.837552	9.259373	9.758753	9.029801	10.684216	10.889349	8.101776	8.639627	 7.968856	7.914093	8.033839	8.262465	8.14
740	7.456360	7.416313	6.223476	6.978941	7.181507	7.370230	6.808955	6.872047	6.070466	6.623760	 5.167980	6.306512	5.505834	5.877171	6.10

5 rows × 2664 columns

In [5]: #converting dataframe mni-xyz coordinates to numpy array
xyz_coordinates = annotation[['mni_x','mni_y','mni_z']].to_numpy()
features = expression.to_numpy()
Only testing on first 1000 features for speed purposes
test_features = features[:1000]
print('Coordinate Array Shape: '+str(xyz_coordinates.shape))
print('Feature Array Shape: '+str(test_features.shape))

Coordinate Array Shape: (2664, 3) Feature Array Shape: (1000, 2664)

Visualization of all ABA probe measurements in MNI-XYZ



Modeling

For modeling, the ABA dataset was the best candidate.

Q: Given parcel gene expressions for all other parcels, can we predict all gene expressions for a specific parcel?

ABA Data		Y		
(21000x180)	parcel1	parcel2	parcel3	parcel3
geneA	0.456	0.456	0.456	0.456
geneB	0.456	0.456	0.456	0.456
geneC	0.456	0.456	0.456	0.456
	0.456	0.456	0.456	0.456
GeneX	0.456	0.456	0.456	0.456

Modeling

xgBoost

Gradient boosted ensemble method

- gamma: 0.25
- learning_rate: 0.05
- max_depth: 10
- n_estimators: 400
- subsample: 0.75

Adaboost

Gradient boosted ensemble method

- learning_rate: 1.0 loss: 'linear'
- n_estimators: 100

Random Forest

Bagging-based ensemble method

- n_estimators: 1400
- Min_samples_split: 2
- Min_samples_leaf: 2
 - max_features: auto
 - bootstrap: True

XCJBOOST

Model (Type)	Best Model Parameters	Cross - Validation	Train / Val / Test (%)	GridsearchCV Parameter Space	16 - 14 - 12 -	
xgBoost Regressor (Gradient Boosted Ensemble Method)	'gamma': 0.25 'learning_rate': 0.05 'max_depth': 10 'n_estimators': 400 'subsample': 0.75	3-fold CV	56/24/20	'N_estimators':[50, 100, 400], 'Max_depth':[3, 5, 10], 'Learning_rate':[0.05, 0.1, 0.5], 'Subsample':[0.5,.75, 1], 'gamma': [0.25, 0.5, 1, 3]	Lo 10 - B - B - B - B - C	ō

• Achieved MSE of 0.02 using locally trained xgBoost model.

• These were the best results with respect to accuracy and speed.



Modeling

• xgBoost on AWS Sagemaker to leverage powerful compute & integrated storage via S3

Parallelized Bayesian hyperparameter tuning jobs for improved accuracy

Model storage and documentation



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• Deployment possibilities as a model endpoint

Modeling

- White parcel is our target and the parcels in varying colors are the parcels with significant importance.
- The black regions signify parcels which had little to no influence on predicting the target value.
- Accuracy was robust across different parcels and different distributions of gene expression values.



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Pipeline Architecture



Pipeline Architecture



ETL Branch



Modeling Branch



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Neural Correspondence Mapping





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Findings

A package could be developed in Python to ingest, transform & visualize disparate neuroscience data

AWS computing could be leveraged to expand the functionality & efficiency of the package

Interesting and unintuitive associations between parcels for a given gene can generate hypotheses about physical or functional interactions

The package could be utilized to perform modeling of gene expressions showing that gene expressions can be predicted accurately

Modularity & scalability of the package supports further enhancements & collaborative development



Fhank you!





Arlens Zeqollari

Aspiring Random Number Generator

Erik Hoye

BERT Watcher

Robert Reeves

Stadium Announcer

"...the work you've done is really awesome, and I hope my lab can pick it up and run with it." - Professor Bradley Voytek



Adita Zeqollari

Top contributor to Netflix's recommendation engine training data