



MODELING AND SIMULATING READER STUDIES TO SUPPORT THE EVALUATION OF IMAGE-BASED ALGORITHMS

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Abstract

- A growing part of the medical device portfolio of CDRH includes image-based detection (e.g., find the tumor) and classification algorithms (e.g., classify an abnormality as benign or malignant). Whatever the health condition, imaging technology, or algorithm architecture (neural networks, random forests, regressions), submissions of the "software as a medical device" often include a reader study, a study in which clinicians make evaluations with and without the algorithm. Comparing the evaluations against a reference truth, we can compare the performance impact of the algorithm. The statistical analysis of such studies is not trivial since it is well known that there is a range of skill among clinicians and their evaluations are noisy. Furthermore, the studies often have multiple clinicians evaluating the same cases, leading to correlations in the data. FDA guidance recommends an MRMC (multi-reader multicase) analysis paradigm in which a reader-averaged performance metric is analyzed (variance estimates, confidence intervals, and p-values) to account for the variability (and correlations) from readers and cases. To support such analyses, we have developed, published, and shared on GitHub statistical methods and software, data, and examples. Such development relies on simulations of MRMC studies to validate the statistical methods. In this talk, we will discuss reader studies, performance metrics, and the corresponding MRMC structures of uncertainty. We will present a simulation model that has served us well in validating MRMC analyses of detection and classification metrics. To address studies of algorithms that yield quantitative values and the within- and betweenclinician agreement of such values, we have been developing new MRMC methods that analyze differences in quantitative values. To support this work, we are investigating and will present a new simulation model that better represents such data.
- 25 minutes presentation time

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Outline













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Reader Studies



Would you recall patient? Yes No

Being more quantitative in reporting your Numeric Rating:

- Are there no dense areas and no abnormal findings? If so, perhaps your Numeric Rating should be 1-25?
- Are there dense areas or benign findings, but not enough to prompt a decision to recall? If so, perhaps your *Numeric Rating* should be 75-100.
- Are the visual cues somewhere in the middle?



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Reader Studies

Compare clinician performance with a new imaging system to a reference imaging system

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Reader Studies Example: Evaluating Computer Aids

- Modality: Images with computer aid vs. images without computer aid
- Task/Performance 1: Recall women with cancer
 - Binary patient management decision
 - Sensitivity, specificity
- Task/Performance 2: Score cancer confidence
 - More information. Goal is to rank.
 - Area under the ROC curve



- **Readers:** Radiologists
- Cases: Breast cancer screening population

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Reader Studies Example: Evaluating Computer Aids

RCC

- Modality: Images with computer aid vs. images without computer aid
- Task/Performance 1: Recall women with cancer
 - Binary patient management decision
 - Sensitivity, specificity

Task/Performance 2: Score cancer confidence

- More information. Goal is to rank.

Most Normal

Area under the ROC curve

1

Readers: Radiologists



LCC

RMLO

 Cases: Breast cancer screening population

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Quick Primer on Sensitivity, Specificity, and Area Under the ROC curve

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Entire ROC curve



Different readers use different thresholds

Significant and important source of variability in sensitivity and specificity.

Prevalence effect

- As prevalence increases so does sensitivity (at the expense of specificity)
- The more cancers you see the more cases you call cancer

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• Average over readers:

$$\widehat{AUC}_{\cdot} = \frac{1}{N_R N_0 N_1} \sum_{r=1}^{N_R} \sum_{k=1}^{N_1} \sum_{k'=1}^{N_0} s(X_{rk} - Y_{rk'})$$

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MRMC Analysis

MRMC: Multi-reader, Multi-case Analysis

- Analysis
 - Estimate variances, confidence intervals
 - Perform hypothesis tests
- Account for reader and case variability
- Account for reader and case correlations
- Results Generalize to Population of Readers and Cases

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MRMC Analysis Variance Components

- Main Random Effects
 - case variability difficulty
 - reader variability skill
 - reader/case interaction training, experience, cases encountered

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MRMC Analysis Variance Components

• Main Random Effects

- case variability
 Non-disease + *Disease* + *Interaction*
- reader variability
- reader/case interaction
 Non-disease + Disease + Interaction

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MRMC Analysis Publications and Software



One-Shot Estimate of MRMC Variance: AUC ¹	
Brandon D. Gallas	A Framework for Random-Effects ROC Analysis: Biases with the Bootstrap and
Academic Radiology, 2006 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acra.2005.11.030	BRANDON D. GALLAS ¹ , ANDRIY BANDOS ² , FRANK W. SAMUELSON ¹ , AND ROBERT F. WAGNER ¹
	¹ NIBIB/CDRH Laboratory for the Assessment of Medical Imaging Systems, Silver Spring, Maryland, USA ² Department of Biostatistics, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA
 Published iMRMC Software 2013: Java Application - Google Code Retired 	Communications in Statistics - Theory and Methods, 2009 https://doi.org/10.1080/03610920802610084
 2015: Java Application – GitHub <u>https://github.com/DIDSR/iMRMC</u> 2017: R Package – CRAN <u>https://github.com/DIDSR/iMRMC</u> 	

project.org/web/packages/iMRMC/index.html

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MRMC Simulation





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MRMC Simulation





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MRMC Simulation





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MRMC Simulation Roe and Metz Model (1997)



- Multiple modalities (fixed effect)
- Multiple readers
- Multiple cases

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MRMC Simulation Roe and Metz Model (1997)

- Simulation model for ROC scores
 - Multiple modalities (fixed effect)
 - Multiple readers
 - Multiple cases

Signal-present scores

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{ijk1} &= \tau_{i1} \\ &+ C_{k1} &+ [\tau C]_{ik1} \\ &+ R_{j1} &+ [\tau R]_{ij1} \\ &+ [RC]_{jk1} + [\tau RC]_{ijk1} \end{aligned}$$



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MRMC Simulation Roe and Metz Model: Updates




Study Designs Fully-Crossed

- Fully-crossed study
 - All readers read all cases
 - Readers and cases are paired across modalities

<u>Data Array</u> Rows = readers Cols = cases



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Study Designs Fully-Crossed

- Fully-crossed study
 - All readers read all cases
 - Readers and cases are paired across modalities

Remove truth labels to unclutter study design concepts.



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Study Designs Split-Plot

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- Fully-crossed study is burdensome
 - All readers read all cases
 - Readers and cases are paired across modalities
- Split-plot study
 - Readers and cases split into 2 groups
 - Data is fully-crossed within a group



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Study Designs Split-Plot

- Fully-crossed is burdensome
 - A lot of reads per reader
 - A lot of reads total
- Split-plot studies can save time (and money)
 - Half the reads per reader
 - Half the reads total



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Study Designs



- Treat arbitrary study designs
- Publications and Software

1 1 1	ELSEVIER	Available online at www.sciencedirect.com	Neural etworks om/locate/neunet	
	NII	2008 Special Issue Reader studies for validation of CAD systems [★] Brandon D. Gallas [*] , David G. Brown BIB/CDRH Laboratory for the Assessment of Medical Imaging Systems, FDA, Silver Spring, MD, 20993-0002, United States	Mu	Iti-reader ROC Studies with Split-plot Designs:
L		Received 22 August 2007; received in revised form 7 December 2007; accepted 11 December 2007 https://doi.org/10.1080/03610920802610084		A Comparison of Statistical Methods Nancy A. Obuchowski, PhD, Brandon D. Gallas, PhD, Stephen L. Hillis, PhD
				Academic Radiology, 2012 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acra.2012.09.012
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TABLE 3. Resources Needed for Different Study Designs

				Number of Image	
Study Design	Number of Readers (J)	Number of Patients*	Total Number of Image Interpretations	Interpretations per Reader	Statistical Efficiency [†]
					,
Two-block split-plot	6 (3/block)	120 (30 + 30)	720	120	1.0
Three-block split-plot	9 (3/block)	120 (20 + 20)	720	80	1.2
Four-block split-plot	12 (3/block)	120 (15 + 15)	720	60	1.33
Fully paired A	6	60 (30 + 30)	720	120	0.83
Fully paired B	6	120 (60 + 60)	1440	240	1.16
Unpaired reader	12	120 (60 + 60)	1440	120	0.90

Examine trade off between

Resources

- Number of Readers
- Number of cases
- Number of observations

Statistical efficiency

 $\frac{var(\hat{A} \mid \mathsf{Two-block \ split-plot})}{var(\hat{A} \mid \mathsf{Study \ design \ X})}$

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Take-away 1. It is possible (fairly easy) to compare study designs.

- Simulation
- Modeling

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Take-away 2. You pay a price when you don't pair readers across modalities

- More readers, more cases, more observations
- More variability lower efficiency

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Take-away 3. For the same number of observations, a split-plot study is more efficient.

• Need more cases.

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TABLE 3. Resources Needed for Different Study Designs

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Take-away 4. You can be more efficient by splitting more.

• Need more readers

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- Why are split-plot studies efficient?
 - Avoid diminishing returns
 - Observations on a case are correlated

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TABLE 3. Resources Needed for Different Study Designs

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• My rules of thumb:

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- Need 20 cases per class per reader
 -> Need to estimate individual reader performance.
- Need at least 3 readers per case
 - -> Need to estimate reader variability.

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- Simulation informed theory
 - More groups = less variance





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 Simulation informed theory – More groups = less variance



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2018

MRMC Tools



Select an input method: Please choose input file mode V Reset	
Welcome to use iMRMC software	
Please choose one kind of input file	GitHu
Statistical Analysis:	-
AUC =	
Large Sample Approx(Normal): p-Value = Conf. Int. = Reject Null? =	
T-test with df(BDG) = : p-Value = Conf. Int. = Reject Null? =	
Hillis Approx Show Variance Component	
Study Design: # of Split-Plot Groups 1 Paired Readers? () Yes No Pair Normal Cases? () Yes No Pair Disease Cases? () Yes No	
Size MLE Significance level 0.05 Effect Size 0.05 #Reader 0 #Normal 0 #Diseased 0 Size a Trial Explore Experiment Size	
Sizing Analysis: S.E=	
Large Sample Approx(Normal): Power=	
T-test with BDG(df) = : , Lambda= , Power=	
Hillis Approx	
Save Stat Analysis Save Size Analysis Analyze All Modalities	

MRMC Tools iMRMC Software, GitHub Repository



• GitHub:

- Version Control
- Collaboration
- Issue tracking
- Dissemination
- Java Package
- R Package
 - Hosted at CRAN
- iMRMC features
 - Size MRMC study
 - Analyze MRMC study
 - Produce ROC curves
- Wiki

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- Adapt for binary data
- Links to data packages

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$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet $	ps://github.com/DIDSR/iMRMC NClhub 📄 data collection 📄 Code 📄 Pr	rojects 🗎 IntlMeet	140% ••• 🛛 🌟	III\ 🖸 🗶 🚥 dict 📄 library 📄 maps	 ● ◆ ↑
Search or jump to) <i>(</i>) Pul	lls Issues	Marketplace Exp	plore 🖞 -	+- 👰- ^
DIDSR/imrmo		 Unwatch 	- 9 ★ Un	star 10 දී Fo	ork 11
<> Code (!) Issues	16 13 Pull requests 1	● Act	tions 🛄 Proje	ects 🕮 Wiki	
१° master →	Go to file	Add file -	⊻ Code -	About	礅
bdg Add iMRMC_	1.2.3.tar.gz and iMRMC_1.2	on M	1ay 6 🕚 1,154	iMRMC user ma and other resou	anual Irces
.settings	eliminating a superfluous tru	ınk layer	5 years ago	C didsr.github.i	o/imrmc/
MatlabFunction	iRoeMetz: Update numerical	calcula	3 years ago	🛱 Readme	
Rpackage	Improve error checking in do	DIMRMC	4 months ago	ৰ্ষ্ট View license	
bin	Add author name and descri	ption f	6 months ago		
lib	Numerical button: calculate	signal-r	4 years ago	Releases 12	
src	Add author name and descri	ption f	6 months ago	iMRMC-v4.0. on Apr 15, 2019	Latest

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MRMC Analysis Publications and Software



Me	dical Imaging
Medicallmaging.SPIEDigitalLibr	ary.org
	https://doi.org/10.1117/1.JMI.6.1.015501, 2019
Impact of distribut imaging	of prevalence and case ion in lab-based diagnostic studies
Brandon D. G Weijie Chen Elodia Cole	allas

Elodia Cole Robert Ochs Nicholas Petrick Etta D. Pisano Berkman Sahiner Frank W. Samuelson Kyle J. Myers



https://didsr.github.io/viperData/

GitHub Wiki Page: iMRMC-Datasets

https://github.com/DIDSR/iMRMC/ wiki/iMRMC-Datasets

viperData R package

- Data
- R scripts
- R Markdown Files

Supplementary Materials

- Study Designs (Split-Plot)
- Sizing analysis
- Histograms of reader scores and ROC curves

All analyses fully reproducible

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- Slides originally presented at
- SIIM: Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine



• Play recorded audio (with fingers crossed)

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High-throughput truthing (HTT) Collaborators

Collaboration of Volunteers

Engage stakeholders through the Alliance for Digital Pathology



Involve experts & the community.

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HTT Core Collaborators

Project mgmt.

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PathPresenter team

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Rajendra Singh, MD Icahn School of Medicine at Mt Sinai

Krushnavadan Acharya, MCA

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High-throughput truthing (HTT) Project

Demonstration project

- Collect multi-reader image annotations to establish biomarker truth
- Annotations support validation of an algorithm
- Pursue FDA qualification of a <u>Medical Device Development Tool</u>

 Application: Stromal Tumor Infiltrating Lymphocytes (sTILs) are prognostic in breast cancer







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Standardized Annotations Yield a Biomarker



- Quantitative Biomarker
- Density of sTILs: 0-100

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- Pathologist
 - Takes time
 - Requires training
 - Noisy
 - Board Certification
 - Algorithm
 - Fast
 - Requires training
 - Reproducible
 - Regulatory permission

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Whole Slide Images: Digital Scans of Glass slides



- Breast Cancer Biopsies
- Square Regions of Interest control the evaluation areas

Current selection by pathologist:

- Areas in tumor (~50%)
- Areas in tumor margin (~20%)
- Other (~30%)

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Whole Slide Images: Digital Scans of Glass slides



- Breast Cancer Biopsies
- Square Regions of Interest control the evaluation areas

Study to prepare the study. Cover the range of scores.

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Whole Slide Image to Patient



Zoom Out

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Patients

Define the patient

population

Subgroup Des	Planned for MDDT?	
	<40 years old	Yes
Age	40-60 years old	Yes
	>60 years old	Yes
- .	Luminal A	Maybe
Breast	Luminal B	Maybe
Cancer	Triple-negative	Yes
Subtypes	HER2 positive	Maybe
Subtypes	Normal-like	Maybe
	0	Yes
Breast	I	Yes
Cancer	II	Yes
Stagos	III	Yes
Stages	IV	Yes
Detiente	Therapy 1	No
Patients	Therapy 2	No
After	Therapy 3	No
Therapy		

TILs always look the same. Background "context" looks different.

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Update: Choices & Challenges

	Digital Modes		Microscope Mode
	PathPresenter	caMicroscope	eeDAP
nReaders	7	8	7
nObs at USCAP	850	300	440
nObs post USCAP	232	572	0
nObs Total	1082	872	440



Total Obs	
2394	ļ
2394	

Data-collection test run

- Alliance Meeting
- USCAP Annual Meeting
- Feb. 28, 2020

Four workstations

- 2 microscopes
- 2 digital platform

64 slides (balance sampling within and across specimens)

- 8 batches of 8 slides
- 10 ROIs per slide
- 30 minute sessions

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Agreement: Start with a scatter plot

• Two readers, batch001

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- Plot axes scaled log base 10
- Circle size proportional with number of observations
- Flip reader7281 <-> reader5139 == Flip x <-> y

Combine to Symmetrize



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Summary and Future Work

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Summary



MRMC variance of AUC framework allows study sizing

- Variance components
- Coefficients that correspond to experiment size
- Framework (and simulation) allow study of tradeoffs
 - Resources (Number of readers, cases, and observations)
 - Statistical efficiency

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- Split-plot studies are less burdensome than fullycrossed studies
 - Avoid diminishing returns from collecting correlated data

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Future (Current) Work (to support the HTT project)

- Cluster / Nested Data
 - Multiple regions per case
 - Building simulation

- Quantitative Measurements
 - Between-reader agreement
 - Within-reader agreement
 - Algorithm-reader agreement
 - Generalizing MRMC methods and simulation
 - Correlation, Mean-squared error





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