

# Discovering Linear Biosignatures for Treatment Response Based on Maximizing Kullback-Leibler Divergence in Linear mixed-effect Models

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# Outline:

- ① Introduction
- ② Method
  - Kullback-Leibler Divergence
  - Model
  - Algorithm
- ③ Results
  - Simulation
  - EMBARC
- ④ Discusson

# Introduction: Background

The World Health Organization has predicted that by 2020, depression will be the second-leading cause of disease burden globally.

- 18.57 % of adults are experiencing a mental health illness, equivalent to 45 million Americans.



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- 4.38 % are experiencing a severe mental health illness.
- The state prevalence of adult mental illness ranges from 16.19% in New Jersey to 25.03 % in Idaho.



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# Introduction: Challenges

- Challenges in mental health research
  - Diagnosis

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- You feel sad or irritable most of the day, nearly every day.
- You are less interested in most activities you once enjoyed.
- You suddenly lose or gain weight or have a change in appetite.
- You have trouble falling asleep or want to sleep more than usual.
- You experience feelings of restlessness.
- You feel **unusually tired** and have a lack of energy.
- You feel worthless or guilty, often about things that wouldn't normally make you feel that way.
- You have difficulty concentrating, thinking, or making decisions.
- You think about harming yourself or committing **suicide**.

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$$\binom{9}{5} + \binom{9}{6} + \binom{9}{7} + \binom{9}{8} + \binom{9}{9} = 247$$



# Introduction: Challenges

- Challenge in mental health research
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  - Classification

# Introduction: Motivation Data

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Establishing moderators and biosignatures of antidepressant response in clinical care (EMBARC)

- A multi-site, placebo-controlled randomized clinical trial

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Establishing moderators and biosignatures of antidepressant response in clinical care (EMBARC)

- A multi-site, placebo-controlled randomized clinical trial
- Participants with early onset ( $\leq 30$  years) MDD are included
- 8-week trial

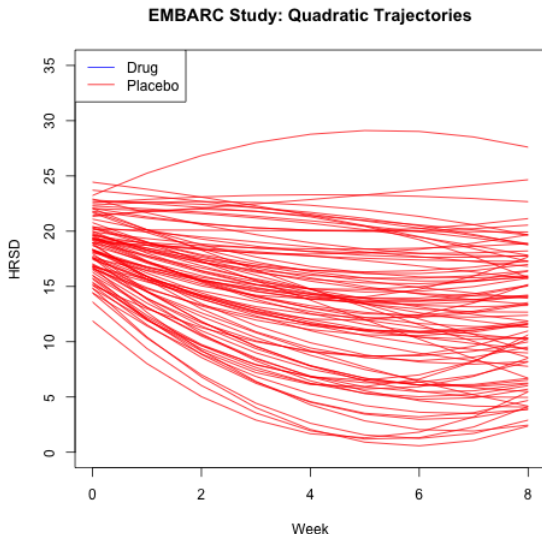
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- A multi-site, placebo-controlled randomized clinical trial
- Participants with early onset ( $\leq 30$  years) MDD are included
- 8-week trial
- Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HDRS) is used to measure a patient's level of depression

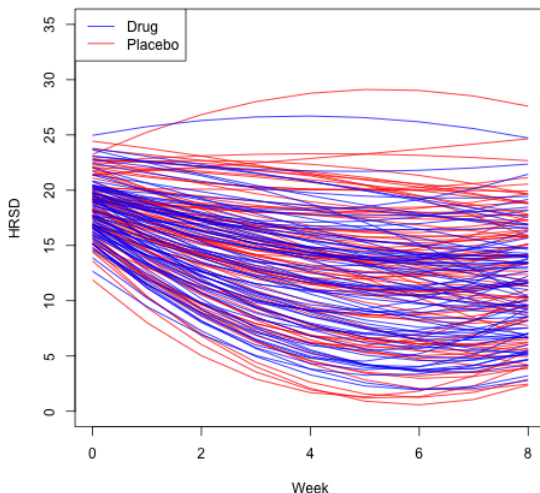
# Motivation Data: EMBARC





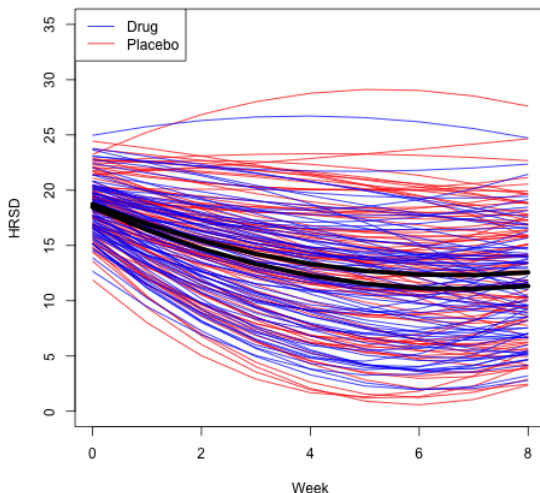
# Motivation Data: EMBARC

EMBARC Study: Quadratic Trajectories



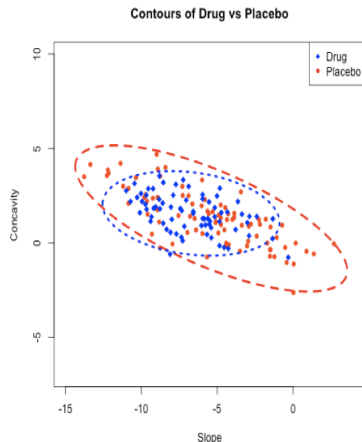
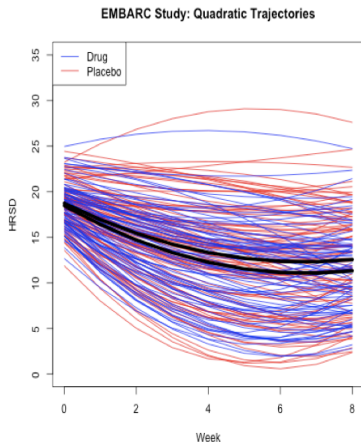
# Motivation Data: EMBARC

EMBARC Study: Quadratic Trajectories



# EMBARC

## Slope vs Concavity



# EMBARC

## Slope vs Concavity

- [link](#)
- Separate the two distributions
- How far the two distributions are: **Purity**

# Kullback-Leibler divergence

Recall Kullback-Leibler divergence:

In statistics, the Kullback-Leibler (KL) divergence is a measure of how one probability distribution  $F_1$  is different from a second reference probability distribution  $F_2$ . For distributions  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  of a continuous random variable, the KL divergence is defined as:

$$D_{KL}(F_1||F_2) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f_1(x) \log\left(\frac{f_1(x)}{f_2(x)}\right) dx \quad (1)$$

where  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  denote the probability density of  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ .

# Kullback-Leibler divergence

## KL divergence

$$D_{KL}(F_1||F_2) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f_1(x) \log\left(\frac{f_1(x)}{f_2(x)}\right) dx$$

It has properties:

- The Kullback–Leibler Divergence is always non-negative:

$$D_{KL}(F_1||F_2) \geq 0, \quad D_{KL}(F_2||F_1) \geq 0$$

- The KL Divergence  $D_{KL}(F_1||F_2)$  can be thought of as something like a measurement of how far the distribution  $F_1$  is from the distribution  $F_2$ .

# Model

In our setting, we assume the outcomes are from a linear mixed model:

$$Y = S\beta + b + \epsilon,$$

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# Model

In our setting, we assume the outcomes are from a linear mixed model:

$$Y = S(\beta + b + \Gamma(w)) + \epsilon,$$

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# Model

In our setting, we assume the outcomes are from a linear mixed model:

$$Y = S(\beta + b + \Gamma(w)) + \epsilon, \quad (2)$$

- $w = \alpha'x$  is the combination of the input baseline covariates.
- $\mathbf{S}$  is the matrix of times (intercept, linear, and quadratic term)
- $\beta$  is the vector of covariates for fixed effects of  $S$
- $b$  is the vector of random effects
- $\Gamma$  is the vector of fixed effects of the baseline covariates.
- $\alpha'x$  is the combination of the input baseline covariates.
- $\alpha$  has the restriction that  $\|\alpha\| = 1$

# Model

In our setting, we assume the outcomes are from a linear mixed model:

$$Y = S(\beta + b + \Gamma(w)) + \epsilon,$$

Define the covariate matrix of  $S$  as  $z$ . The  $z$  contains both fixed effects and random effects.

$$z = \beta + b + \Gamma w$$

That is, we have distributions for the mixed-effect model coefficients  $z$  given  $w = \alpha'x$ , where

$$z|w \sim N(\beta_j + \Gamma_j w, D_j),$$

for treatment  $j = 1, 2$ .

# Assumptions

Based on the KL divergence, we define the *purity* of the data, which represents how much the differences between the treatment group distribution  $f_1(x)$  and the placebo group distribution  $f_2(x)$ .

The assumptions:

- $f_1(z|w) \sim N(\mu_1, D_1)$ ,  $\mu_1 = \beta_1 + \Gamma_1 w$
- $f_2(z|w) \sim N(\mu_2, D_2)$ ,  $\mu_2 = \beta_2 + \Gamma_2 w$
- $X \sim MVN(\mu_x, \Sigma_x)$

# Purity Functions

Subject Purity Function  $g(\alpha'x)$  Define the **purity function** regard to a subject with baseline biosignature  $x$  (i.g. the **purity function** given  $\alpha$  and the baseline biosignature  $x$ ) as:

$$\begin{aligned}
 g(\alpha'x) &= D_{KL}(F_1||F_2) + D_{KL}(F_2||F_1) \\
 &= \int \log(f_1(z|\alpha'x))f_1(z|\alpha'x)dz - \int \log(f_2(z|\alpha'x))f_1(z|\alpha'x)dz \\
 &\quad + \int \log(f_2(z|\alpha'x))f_2(z|\alpha'x)dz - \int \log(f_1(z|\alpha'x))f_2(z|\alpha'x)dz
 \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

where

- $f_1(z|w) \sim N(\mu_1, D_1)$ ,  $\mu_1 = \beta_1 + \Gamma_1 w$
- $f_2(z|w) \sim N(\mu_2, D_2)$ ,  $\mu_2 = \beta_2 + \Gamma_2 w$

# Purity Functions

Data Purity Function  $\text{purity}(\alpha)$  Define

- $f_w$  as the distribution of the combination of baseline signature
- $w = \alpha'x$

The purity function regards to the whole data set is defined as:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{purity}(\alpha) &= \int g(\alpha'x) f_w(\alpha'x) d\alpha'x \\ &= E(g(\alpha'x))\end{aligned}\tag{4}$$

Estimate:

$$\hat{\text{purity}}(\alpha) = \bar{g}(\alpha'x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i^n g(\alpha'x_i)$$

# Purity Calculation

$$g(\alpha'x) = \int f_1 \log f_1 - \int f_1 \log f_2 + \int f_2 \log f_2 - \int f_2 \log f_1$$

- $\int f_1 \log f_1 = -\frac{p}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \log(|D_1|) - \frac{p}{2}$
- $\int f_2 \log f_2 = -\frac{p}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \log(|D_2|) - \frac{p}{2}$
- $\int f_1 \log f_2 =$   
 $-\frac{p}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \log(|D_2|) - \frac{1}{2} (tr(D_2^{-1} D_1) + (\mu_1 - \mu_2)' D_2^{-1} (\mu_1 - \mu_2))$
- $\int f_2 \log f_1 =$   
 $-\frac{p}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \log(|D_1|) - \frac{1}{2} (tr(D_1^{-1} D_2) + (\mu_1 - \mu_2)' D_1^{-1} (\mu_1 - \mu_2))$

# Purity Calculation

The dataset's purity, which is the expectation of the  $g()$  function is:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{purity}(\alpha) &= E(g(\alpha'x)) \\ &= A_0 + \frac{A_1}{2} + A_2\mu'_x\alpha + \frac{A_3}{2}[\alpha'\Sigma_x\alpha + \alpha'\mu_x\mu'_x\alpha] \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where

- $A_0 = -p + \frac{1}{2}\text{tr}(D_2^{-1}D_1) + \frac{1}{2}\text{tr}(D_1^{-1}D_2)$
- $A_1 = (\beta_1 - \beta_2)'(D_1^{-1} + D_2^{-1})(\beta_1 - \beta_2)$
- $A_2 = (\beta_1 - \beta_2)'(D_1^{-1} + D_2^{-1})(\Gamma_1 - \Gamma_2)$
- $A_3 = (\Gamma_1 - \Gamma_2)'(D_1^{-1} + D_2^{-1})(\Gamma_1 - \Gamma_2)$

All  $A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3$  are scalars.

# Purity Optimization

## Data Purity

$$\text{purity}(\alpha) = A_0 + \frac{A_1}{2} + A_2\mu'_x\alpha + \frac{A_3}{2}[\alpha'\Sigma_x\alpha + \alpha'\mu_x\mu'_x\alpha]$$

### Goal:

Find the  $\alpha$  that maximizes the purity function.

- Method to find the extreme value:

- Derivation

$A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3$  are also functions of  $\alpha$

- Newton-Raphson



# Algorithm

We could summarize the above purity calculation function as

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## Algorithm 1 Purity Calculation and Optimization

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- 1: Select baseline covariates  $x$ , with dimension  $p$ .
- 2: Initial an  $\alpha$ . Calculate  $w = \alpha'x$
- 3: Fit the models  $Y = S(\beta + b + \Gamma(w)) + \epsilon$  from data in group 1 and group 2, separately.
- 4: Estimate  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \Gamma_1, \Gamma_2, D_1, D_2$
- 5: Calculate purity based on the function

$$\text{purity}(\alpha) = A_0 + \frac{A_1}{2} + A_2\mu'_x\alpha + \frac{A_3}{2}[\alpha'\Sigma_x\alpha + \alpha'\mu_x\mu'_x\alpha]$$

- 6: Optimize the  $\text{purity}(\alpha)$  function with Newton Raphson algorithm. Obtain the  $\hat{\alpha}^*$  that maximizes the purity function. =0

# Simulation Setting

## Model

$$Y_j = S_j(\beta_j + b_j + \Gamma_j(w)) + \epsilon, \quad W = \alpha'x, \quad j \in \{1, 2\}$$

- Time points matrix  $S$ : week 0, 1, 2, ..., 7

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_0 & t_0^2 \\ 1 & t_1 & t_1^2 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & t_7 & t_7^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- $\beta_1 = (0, 3, 0.9)'$ ,  $\beta_2 = (0, 3.1, 1)'$
- $\Gamma_1 = (0, 1, 0)'$ , angle between the two  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  directions range between 0, 30, 60, 90, 120, 150, and 180 degrees.
- $\|\Gamma_1\| = \|\Gamma_2\| = 1$

# Simulation Setting

- $b_i \sim N(0, D_i)$ ,  $D_1, D_2$  (randomly generated matrices):

$$D_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1.45 & -0.11 & 0.20 \\ -0.11 & 0.17 & -0.08 \\ 0.20 & -0.08 & 0.22 \end{pmatrix}, \quad D_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1.02 & -0.23 & 0.15 \\ -0.23 & 0.68 & 0.25 \\ 0.15 & 0.25 & 1.36 \end{pmatrix}$$

- The covariates are equally correlated ( $\rho = 0.5$ ) and normal:  
 $X \sim N(0, \Sigma_X)$
- True  $\alpha_0 = (0.5, 0.5, 0.5, 0.5)'_4$  for  $p = 4$  dimensional covariates
- True  $\alpha_0 = (0.25, 0.25, \dots, 0.25)'_{16}$  for  $p = 16$  dimensional covariates
- $\|\alpha\| = 1$

# Simulation Setting

Table: Scenario settings

Scenario	$N$	$p$	$D$ matrix	Initial $\alpha$
1	400	4	Estiamted: $\hat{D}_1, \hat{D}_2$	$\alpha_0$
2	400	4	True $D_1, D_2$	$\alpha_0$
3	400	4	Estiamted: $\hat{D}_1, \hat{D}_2$	$\alpha_0 + N(0, 0.1)$
4	400	4	True $D_1, D_2$	$\alpha_0 + N(0, 0.1)$
5	2000	16	Estiamted: $\hat{D}_1, \hat{D}_2$	$\alpha_0$
6	2000	16	True $D_1, D_2$	$\alpha_0$
7	2000	16	Estiamted: $\hat{D}_1, \hat{D}_2$	$\alpha_0 + N(0, 0.1)$
8	2000	16	True $D_1, D_2$	$\alpha_0 + N(0, 0.1)$

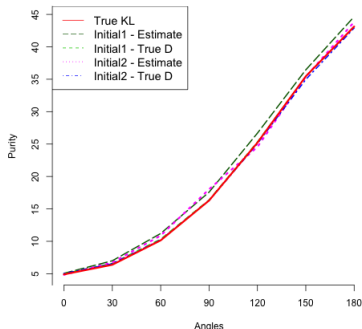
# of simulated data: 100

# Simulation Results: Purity Estimation

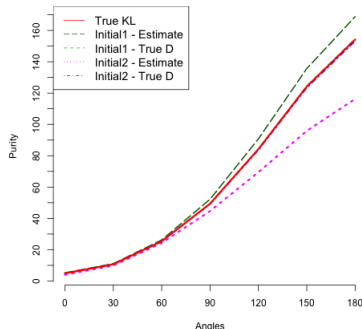
Simulation results for  $p = 4$  and  $p = 16$  predictors, sample size  $n = 200$  per treatment arm.

- Initial 1: true  $\alpha$  used as initial starting point in search
- Initial 2: Random starting value for  $\alpha$
- Estimate: Random effect covariance matrix estimated
- True D: True random effect covariance matrix used

Purity Estimation Comparison ( $p = 4$ )



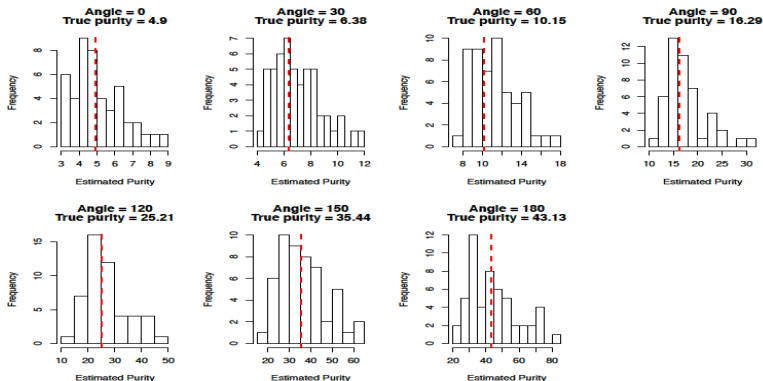
Purity Estimation Comparison ( $p = 16$ )



# Purity Histogram

Purity Distributions as angle between  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  varies

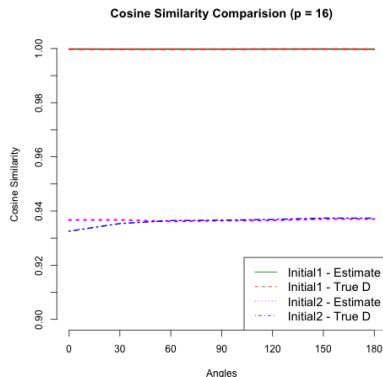
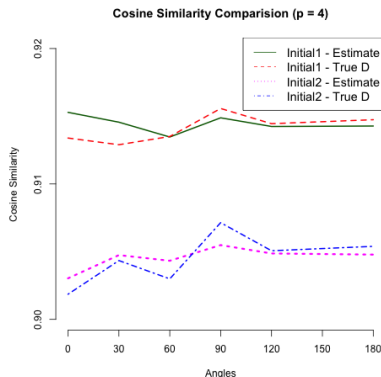
- $p = 4$  predictors, sample size  $n = 200$  per treatment arm



# Simulation Results

- Cosine Similarity: a measure of similarity between two (high-dimensional) vectors

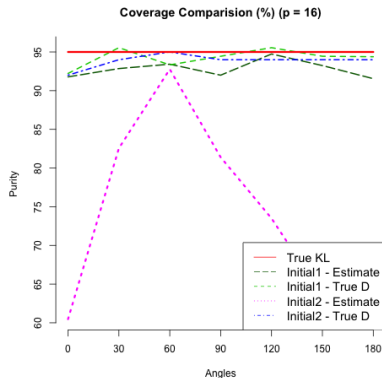
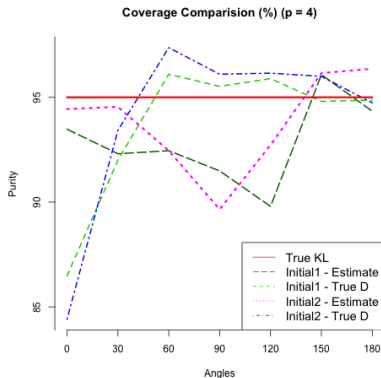
$$\text{Similarity} = \cos(\theta) = \alpha' \hat{\alpha}, \quad \|\alpha\| = \|\hat{\alpha}\| = 1$$



# Simulation Results

- Coverage (95 % confidence interval)

$$KL_0 \in (\hat{K}L - 1.96\hat{\sigma}_{KL}, \hat{K}L + 1.96\hat{\sigma}_{KL})$$





## Example: EMBARC data analysis

### The EMBARC Study

Establishing moderators and biosignatures of antidepressant response in clinical care (EMBARC)

- A multi-site, placebo-controlled randomized clinical trial
- Participants with early onset ( $\leq 30$  years) MDD are included
- 8-week trial
- Hamilton Depression Rating Scale (HDRS) is used to measure a patient's level of depression
- $N = 160$ : 87 in control arm and 73 in intervention arm

# Covariates (baseline biosignature)

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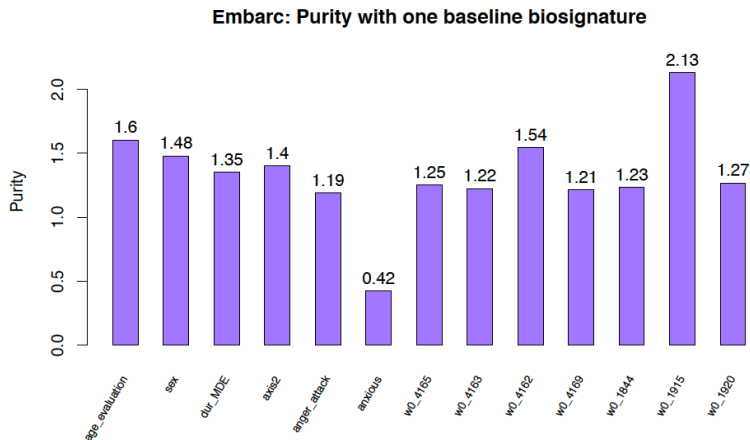
Covariate name	Description
age_evaluation	Age at baseline
dur_MDE	Duration of current major depressive episode
age_MDE	Age of first major depressive episode
axis2	Severity of the most severe Axis II diagnosis at baseline
anger_attack	Severity of anger attacks at baseline
anxious	Severity of anxiety at baseline

# Covariates (baseline bio-signature)

## Behavior Measures

Covariate name	Description
w0_4165	Interference Reaction Time in negative trials
w0_4167	Interference Reaction Time in non-negative trials
w0_4163	Interference Reaction Time in all trials
w0_4162	Total number of correct trials
w0_4169	Median Reaction time for correct trials
w0_1844	Number of valid recalled words in the Word Fluency task
w0_1916	Flanker Accuracy
w0_1915	Flanker Reaction Time
w0_1920	Accuracy effect

# EMBARC: Purity with one baseline biosignature

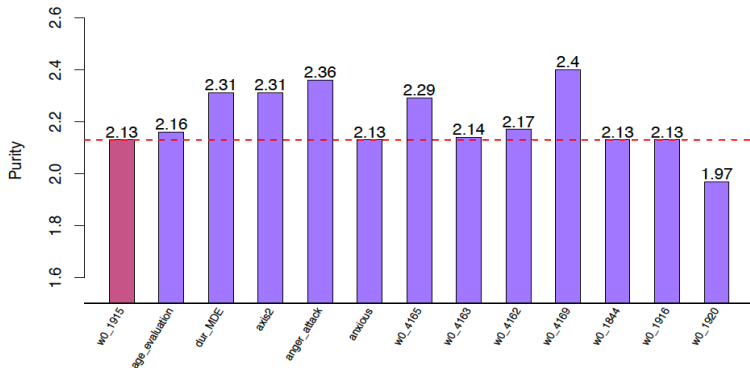


# EMBARC: Purity with two baseline biosignature

w0\_1915: Flanker Reaction Time

Purity is calculated with w0\_1915 and one of the other covariates.

Figure: Purity calculated with w0\_1915 and another covariate



# EMBARC: Purity with All Baseline Variables

Covariates	$\alpha_j$
Age at baseline	-0.05
Duration of current major depressive episode	0.22
Age of first major depressive episode	0.21
Severity Axis II diagnosis at baseline	0.18
Severity of anger attacks at baseline	0.03
Severity of anxiety at baseline	0.27
Interference Reaction Time (negative trials)	0.32
Interference Reaction Time (non-negative trials)	-0.60
Interference Reaction Time (all trials)	-0.13
Total number of correct trials	-0.18
Median Reaction time for correct trials	0.09
# of valid recalled words (Word Fluency task)	-0.10
Flanker Accuracy	0.22
Flanker Reaction Time	-0.43
Accuracy effect	-0.17

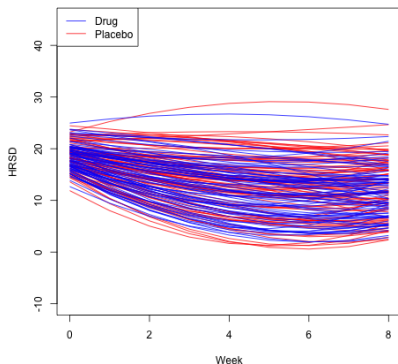
The Purity = 5.45

# EMBARC: Individual Purity

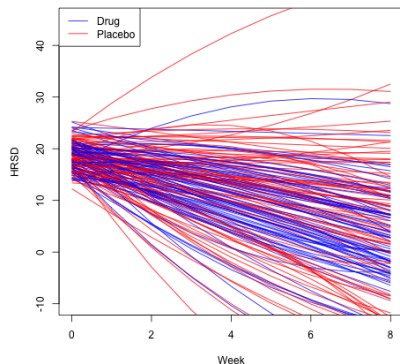
# EMBARC: Individual Purity Trajectory

Fit model without or with biosignatures (used the estimated  $\alpha$ )

Quadratic Trajectories



Quadratic Trajectories (with biosignatures)

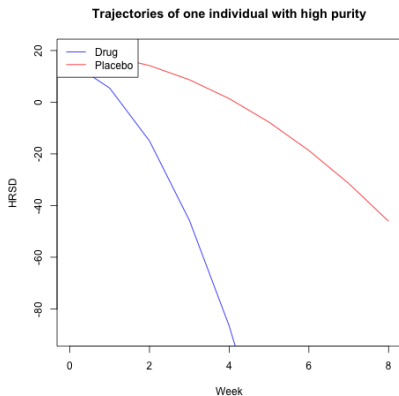




# EMBARC: Individual Purity

One subject:

- $\alpha'x = -2.76$
- Individual purity: 26.16



# Conclusion

- EMBARC study had two arms: Placebo and Treatment
- Methodology described here finds a **biosignature** that separates the two treatment groups conditional on baseline covariate biosignature.
- Simulations showed that the linear combination of biosignatures can be estimated accurately
- Comparison of purity within a study and comparison of purity with different studies.

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# Thank you!

