

Quantitative Brain Amyloid PET Imaging in Patients with Alzheimer's Disease

Semi-Quantitative and Quantitative Metrics

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Basic Requirements for Tracer Kinetic Study

Trace quantities of radiotracer introduced into system (non-perturbing)

Studies conducted at high specific activity (SA), where SA is a measure of the amount of radioactivity per mass (radioactive+non-radioactive) of sample and, for radiotracer studies, is commonly expressed in proportional units (e.g., Ci/mmole)

Steady-state. The rate of transport or reaction of the system is not changing with time, amount of substance in any part of the system is constant during the measurement period and this is maintained after tracer introduction and despite the tracer kinetics

Tracer Linearity. The kinetics of the radiotracer can be completely represented by a response function (kinetic measurements are convolution of input function and system response function) due to valid application of tracer principle

Lassen and Perl 1979; Huang and Phelps 1986







Logan Graphical Method: Linear

$$\frac{\int_{0}^{T} C_{ROI}(t)dt}{C_{ROI}(T)} = \text{Slope} \frac{\int_{0}^{T} C_{p}(t) dt}{C_{ROI}(T)} + y\text{-intercept}$$
Slope = V_T (includes blood volume)

Common Analysis Methods

OUTCOMES

SUVR

* Generally fully dynamic acquisition of 90 min or 60 min



- Cerebellar Data as Input (CER90)
- Arterial Input Image-derived, population metabolites (CAR90)

Late-scan Uptake Ratio (generally static, e.g., 20 or 30 min)

- Standardized Uptake Value, scaled by inj. dose & mass (SUV)
- SUVR is Tissue:Cerebellum Ratio

Some methodological assumptions & related questions

The outcome measure

- should <u>not</u> be dependent of blood flow
- should <u>not be</u> time dependent
- should have good test-retest reproducibility over all follow-up periods

(Simplified) Reference Tissue Model

Q. Are reference tissue kinetics well-described by 1-tissue compartment model Q. Is radioligand delivery comparable for specific ROIs and reference?

Regression Method (Linear Logan; Bilinear Ichise)

Q. Are data consistent with regression assumptions ?

Q. To what extent can any noise-induced bias be minimized?

Q. Is steady-state parameter t* providing stable measures across subjects/ROIs

Late-scan Uptake Ratio

- Q. To what extent might steady-state assumptions be violated?
- Q. To what extent can any blood flow dependence be minimized?

Q. How to a compromise between accuracy, precision and study feasibility?

Compartmental Modeling

Explicit description of tracer compartments (Model Equations)

- Transport of tracer into and out of compartments Rate constants Tracer leaving compartment proportional to total amount in compartment
- All tracer injected will exist in one of multiple compartments
- Uniform radiotracer concentration within compartment
 No concentration gradients
- Model Equations

Mathematical equations describe the time rate of change of the compartmental concentrations (differential equations)

Example Assumptions

• Bi-directional Blood-Brain Barrier (BBB) Transport

Diffusion Facilitated Transport

PET

Includes vascular radioactivity concentration (V_{vasc}) Constant free fraction in blood or plasma (f_P) Homogeneous free fraction in brain (f_{ND}) No (radioactive) metabolites in brain

Plasma

Free radiotracer only crosses BBB (protein binding)

Kinetics

Transient, Steady-state, Equilibrium ...

Capillary Exchange



 Renkin-Crone model describes the extraction of tracer across the bloodbrain barrier (BBB) based upon a rigid cylinder model

Tracer, with arterial concentration C_A , is delivered to a site by the blood flow (F: mL/g/min) and extracted from the vasculature across the capillary walls into brain. Tracer remaining in the vasculature is cleared away with venous concentration C_V .

 Tracer extraction depends on tracer permeability for the capillary wall (P: cm/min) and the capillary surface area (S: cm²/g) as expressed in terms of the single pass extraction fraction (E) and PS product (cm³/g/min)

Renkin et al 1959; Crone et al 1964

Volume of Distribution (V_T)

The V_T is the volume of tissue that the tracer would distribute itself in, if it had the same concentration in brain as it does in blood.

This parameter is equivalent to the equilibrium (Eq) ratio of the brain and blood tracer concentrations

The V_T is mathematically equivalent to the partition coefficient

$$V_{T} = \frac{C_{T}}{C_{P}} \begin{vmatrix} = \frac{(mL \text{ of radiotracer in tissue water space/cm}^{3} \text{ brain tissue})}{(mL \text{ of radiotracer in plasma water space/mL blood or plasma})} (mL/cm^{3})$$

Lassen and Perl, 1979; Huang et al., 1986; Gjedde et al., 1990

Example:

If the concentration of a radiopharmaceutical at equilibrium is 100 kBq/cm³ in striatum (C_T) and 5 kBq/mL in plasma (C_P), then its volume of distribution (V_T) is 20 mL/cm³ (*Innis et al. JCBFM 2007*)

Free Fractions and Volumes of Distribution

- Free fraction of drug or radioligand in plasma is fraction of ligand not bound to plasma proteins at equilibrium, i.e., that which is freely diffusible in plasma water. The plasma free fraction is referred to as f_P and the concentration of free drug in plasma C_{FP} can be calculated as C_{FP} = f_PC_P
- Fraction of drug that is freely dissolved in tissue water, f_{ND} is expressed relative to the *nondisplaceable* compartment, $C_{FT} = f_{ND}C_{ND}$ and is, thereby, usually assumed to be equal in receptor-rich and receptor-free regions, assuming nonspecific binding is the same in both areas

$$V_{T} = C_{T}/C_{P} = V_{FT} + V_{NS} + V_{S} = V_{ND} + V_{S}$$

where $V_{ND} = C_{ND}/C_{P}$ and $V_{S} = C_{S}/C_{P}$

Reversible Ligand Binding

Innis et al. 2007



$$C_{T} = C_{S} + C_{NS} + C_{FT}$$

Furthermore, nondisplaceable (ND) uptake is the sum of the nonspecific (NS) and free ligand in tissue.

$$C_{ND} = C_{FT} + C_{NS}$$

The volume of distribution of these **3** components equals the ratio *at equilibrium* of each concentration to that of the parent radioligand (C_p) in plasma separated from radiometabolites.

$$V_{T} = C_{T} / C_{P} = V_{FT} + V_{NS} + V_{S} = V_{ND} + V_{S}$$

$$V_{NS} = C_{NS} / C_{P}$$
$$V_{ND} = C_{ND} / C_{P}$$
$$V_{S} = C_{S} / C_{P}$$

Martin

Innis et al., Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow & Metabolism (2007) 27, 1533–1539

Pharmacokinetics : Compartmental Models



A range of PET compartmental models commonly used to quantify PET radiotracers. These include models for tracers that exhibit reversible and irreversible kinetics and models that use either plasma or reference region time activity data as input

Gallezot et al., IEEE Transactions on Radiation and Plasma Medical Sciences, 2020 Gunn et al., Physics in Medicine and Biology, 2015



 $K_1 = Flow * E, (mL/cm^3/min)$

- k_2 = Rate of drug removal from tissue back to blood, (min⁻¹)
- k_3 = Pseudo-first order specific binding association rate constant ($k_{on}f_{ND}B_{avail}$), (min⁻¹)
- k_{4} = First order dissociation rate constant (k_{off}), (min⁻¹)

Pharmacokinetics : Reference Tissue Models



Gallezot et al., IEEE Transactions on Radiation and Plasma Medical Sciences, 2020 Gunn et al., Physics in Medicine and Biology, 2015 Volume of Distribution (V_T) and Binding Potential (BP)

Reversible Ligand Binding

$$V_{T} = C_{T}/C_{P} = V_{FT} + V_{NS} + V_{S} = V_{ND} + V_{S}$$

where
$$V_{ND} = C_{ND}/C_P$$
 and $V_S = C_S/C_P$

3-Tissue Compartment $V_T = K_1/k_2 (1 + k_3/k_4 + k_5/k_6)$

2-Tissue Compartment

 $V_{T} = K_{1}/k_{2} (1 + k_{3}/k_{4})$

1-Tissue Compartment

 $V_{T} = K_{1}/k_{2}$

$k_3 = k_{on} B_{avail}$ BP = $k_3/k_4 = B_{avail}/K_D$

$$k_{3} = k_{on} f_{ND} B_{avail}$$
$$BP_{ND} = k_{3}/k_{4} = f_{ND} B_{avail}/K_{D}$$

k₂ includes BP_{ND}

Binding Potentials (2T-4k)

Binding potential quantifies the equilibrium concentration of specific binding as a ratio to some other reference concentration.

| Binding potential | In vitro analog | Volume of distribution | | Rate constants | Specific compared to: | Units | Plasma sample? | f_P ? |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|
| $BP_{\rm F}$ = | $B_{ m avail}/K_{ m D}$ = | $(V_{\rm T}-V_{\rm ND})/f_{\rm P}$ | = | $\frac{K_1k_3}{f_{\rm P}k_2k_4}$ | Free plasma concentration | $mL \cdot cm^{-3}$ | Yes | Yes |
| $BP_{\rm P}$ = | $f_{\rm P}B_{\rm avail}/K_{\rm D}$ = | $V_{ m T} {-} V_{ m ND}$ | = | $\frac{K_1k_3}{k_2k_4}$ | Total plasma concentration | $mL \cdot cm^{-3}$ | Yes | No |
| $BP_{\rm ND}$ = | $f_{\rm ND}B_{\rm avail}/K_{\rm D}$ = | $(V_{\rm T} - V_{\rm ND})/V_{\rm ND}$ | = | $\frac{k_3}{k_4}$ | Nondisplaceable uptake | Unitless | No | No |

| adie 1 Definitions of three <i>in vivo</i> binding potential values | able 1 | ole I Defin | ntions of t | three <i>II</i> | n vivo | binding | potential | values |
|--|--------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|--------|---------|-----------|--------|
|--|--------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|--------|---------|-----------|--------|

Rate constants are for the two-tissue compartment model. The two rightmost columns show whether each of the three binding potential values requires measurement of the concentration of radioligand in plasma (often arterial plasma) or the measurement of its plasma free fraction f_P See Table 2 for definitions.

Innis et al 2007

Simplifies data analysis process

- Reformulate nonlinear problem to linear problem, y = mx + b
- Enables simple and routine data analysis

 e.g., linear regression rather than iterative curve fitting
 but performance can be degraded by data noise and correlation
- Results obtainable even if underlying model configuration unknown
- Linear outcomes can be more reproducible than those derived from nonlinear curve fitting
- Linear methods are amenable to parametric image generation



Patlak method (also known as Gjedde-Patlak plot) was derived for irreversible tissue uptake and widely applied to FDG

Logan method derived for reversible tissue kinetics and has been widely applied to studies of ligand-binding interactions (e.g., neuroreceptor binding studies) Generally applied to reversible kinetics ($k_4 \square > \square 0$)

Rapid dissociation rates and rates of efflux from tissue

After steady state time (t*), a linear relationship exists:

$$\frac{\int_{0}^{t} C_{ROI}(t) dt}{C_{ROI}(T)} = Slope \frac{\int_{0}^{t} C_{p}(t) dt}{C_{ROI}(T)} + y-intercept}$$
with model configuration
assumed:
 $K_{1} = -slope/intercept$ (ideally)

C_p : arterial plasma concentration of radiotracer

Not dependent on specific model configuration

Slope: measure of total radiotracer distribution volume, V_T (mL/cm³)

For ligand-binding interactions: $DVR = V_T/V_{ND}$, where $BP_{ND} = DVR - 1$ and ND is nondisplaceable tissue uptake (determined in reference region) 2) Logan et al. Nuclear Medicine & Biology, Vol. 27, pp. 661–670, 2000 3) Kimura et al. Annals Nuclear Medicine Vol. 21, No. 1, 1–8, 2007



Logan V_T HIP: 16.2 RAP: 6.9 OCC: 5.6



| # points | t* | HIP V_{T} |
|----------|-------|-------------|
| n=12 | 17.52 | 15.7 |
| n=10 | 27.52 | 16.2 |
| n=8 | 37.52 | 16.2 |
| n=6 | 47.52 | 15.9 |
| n=4 | 57.52 | 12.9 |
| | | |

Extension of linear methods to voxel basis

- Image voxel corresponds to outcome measure (e.g., K₁, K_i, DVR, BP_{ND})
- No specific model configuration (generally) required Generally can obtain result, despite noisy voxel data but bias in outcome measure can be substantial Noise-reduction by smoothing/processing methods
- Can enable direct reconstruction of parametric image Review: Rahmim and Tang (2009), Am Assoc Phys Med

Choice of the t* steady state time for integral evaluation

Can vary between regions with different kinetics

- If t* is late, regression may include only a few data points accuracy/precision trade-off
- Possible for results to vary substantially for different t* values

Potential for measurement bias

Adherence to assumptions of linear method, e.g. linear regression Sufficient linearity between dependent and independent variables? Error: uncorrelated, constant variance, normality ? Additional data processing (e.g., smoothing, averaging) may help Is it worth the cost(s)?

Need to evaluate outcome bias for given application

For radiotracer, across regions and for subject group Is bias minor or acceptable for what is gained by feasibility?

Use of alternate formulations – less prone to such bias

Strategies to improve neuroreceptor parameter estimation by multilinear regression analysis:

Ichise M et al. (2002). J Cereb Blood Flow Metab

$$C(T) = -\frac{V}{b} \int_{0}^{T} C_{p}(t) dt + \frac{1}{b} \int_{0}^{T} C(t) dt$$

Basis function approach for spectral analysis (V_T)

Reference graphical methods

Logan

MRTM

Coffee break protocol (Lammertsma)



SUVR (late scan tissue ratio)

- Standardized uptake value tissue ratio (SUVR) is a simple and feasible in vivo PET measure that improves study feasibility for patient populations and repeated follow-up imaging.
- Relative to quantitative outcomes, SUVR often favored because of low measurement variability (image-based ratio) increasing statistical power for detection of group differences and longitudinal change.

SUVR

- SUVR is surrogate measure of radiotracer volume of distribution (V_T) that is the tissue:blood concentration ratio, at equilibrium.
- Accuracy of SUVR, depends on whether equilibrium is established, when target:background tissue uptake ratio is constant, <u>when</u> dC(t)/dt = 0 in blood and brain. Violation of equilibrium leads to errors in SUVR, particularly notable after bolus injection of brain PET radiotracers with reversible kinetics (*Carson 2000; Slifstein 2008*).

Basic assumptions

- steady-state between radiotracer concentration in specific-binding region and reference region exists
- radiotracer delivery is the same to both areas

Assumptions not strictly met for leading A β and tau imaging agents because of radiotracer clearance in both the ROI and reference tissues, although tissue ratios may be fairly constant. Plasma also clearing.

Relevant for longitudinal changes in target protein deposition

• patients with accelerated cerebral atrophy that gives rise to blood flow differences across repeated follow-ups (e.g., treatment evaluation) or between specific cortical area and reference region

Carson RE (2000) PET physiological measurements using constant infusion. Nucl Med Biol 27:657-60

Slifstein M (2008) Revisiting an old issue: the discrepancy between tissue ratio-derived binding parameters and kinetic modeling-derived parameters after a bolus of the serotonin transporter radioligand 123I-ADAM. J Nucl Med 49:176-8

Rather than higher white matter uptake, Florbetapir has relatively lower cortical signal and lower noise (important for visual reads)

Koeppe et al, Human Amyloid Imaging 2012

[¹¹C]PiB 0.45 0.45 Control AD 0.40 0.40 0.35 0.35 **b**/**by*****OIO** 0.25 0.20 0.15 0.30 %ID*kg/g 0.25 0.20 0.15 0.10 0.10 0.05 0.05 0.00 0.00 0 10 20 30 80 90 0 10 40 50 60 70 20 30 90 40 50 60 70 80 Time (min) Time (min) AD Control - Precuneus Precuneus SUV SUV - Cortical Average Cortical Average Cerebellum gray Cerebellum gray --- Centrum -Centrum 3 2 1 0 20 40 80 20 60 80 Time post injection (min) Time post injection (min)

Florbetapir

Wong et al. JNM 2010

IS06: Advances in Tau imaging, SNMMI 2022, Price

Price NYU Workshop Nov. 2012

[¹¹C]PiB SUVR Tissue Ratio Time Window

McNamee et al. J Nucl Med 50:348-55 (2009)



[¹¹C]PiB Computer Simulations

| Rate constants | Contro | ol | AD | | |
|----------------|------------|--------|------------|--------|--|
| | Cerebellum | РСМ | Cerebellum | РСМ | |
| К1 | 0.2860 | 0.2907 | 0.2916 | 0.2626 | |
| К2 | 0.1517 | 0.1675 | 0.1429 | 0.1234 | |
| К3 | 0.0098 | 0.0170 | 0.0098 | 0.0471 | |
| К4 | 0.0130 | 0.0131 | 0.0077 | 0.0157 | |

SUV and DVR curves generated using average rate constants (above) and arterial blood for AD (n=11) and control (n=16) groups. Curves were generated for mid-posterior cingulate (PCM) and cerebellum

- 50-70-min time window provided good compromise between physiologic validity, stability, sensitivity, and clinical feasibility across control, MCI, and AD subjects
- 40-60-min window had many advantages and desirable for dose-limited studies

Impact of cerebral blood flow and amyloid load on SUVR bias Heeman et al. EJNMMI Research (2022) 12:29

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Fiona Heeman^{1*}, Magsood Yaqub¹, Janine Hendriks¹, Bart N. M. van Berckel¹, Lyduine E. Collij¹, Katherine R. Gray², Richard Manber², Robin Wolz², Valentina Garibotto^{3,4}¹⁰, Catriona Wimberley⁵, Craig Ritchie⁵, Frederik Barkhof^{1,6}, Juan Domingo Gispert^{7,8,9,10}, David Vállez García¹, Isadora Lopes Alves¹, Adriaan A. Lammertsma¹, on behalf of the AMYPAD Consortium

$[^{18}F]$ flutemetamol (N = 90) or $[^{18}F]$ florbetaben (N = 31

- The present study investigated whether bias in SUVR relative to DVR could be explained by factors such as underlying A β burden and relative CBF (as measured by R1). For both tracers, strong correlations were observed
- Scan Protocol : Early dynamic scan 0 to 30 min post-injection (p.i.) followed by a 60 min break and late dynamic scan from 90 to 110 min p.i.







Results: Despite high correlations (GCA: $R2 \ge 0.85$), large overestimation and proportional bias of SUVR relative to DVR was observed. Negative associations were observed between both SUVR or SUVRbias and *R*1, albeit non-significant.

Conclusion: The present findings demonstrate that bias in SUVR relative to DVR is strongly related to underlying A β burden. Furthermore, in a cohort consisting mainly of cognitively unimpaired individuals, the effect of relative CBF on bias in SUVR appears limited.

Amyloid IQ



FIGURE 1. Logistic growth model describing A β PET imaging signal over time as function of PET NS, *K*, *T*₅₀, and *r*.

$$SUVr(t) = NS + A\beta(t)$$

= NS + $\frac{K}{1 + e^{-r(t-T_{50})}}$, Eq. 1

Longitudinal Model of Aß Accumulation

We introduce a logistic growth model to describe the accumulation of A β in the human brain. The model assumes that the rate of change of A β concentration is proportional to the product of the current concentration of A β and a term limiting growth due to the *K* of the local environment. The model is defined by the following differential equation:

$$\frac{dA\beta(t)}{dt} = rA\beta(t) \left(1 - \frac{A\beta(t)}{K}\right).$$
 Eq. 2

Solving the differential equation yields a function for the concentration of $A\beta$ over time:

$$A\beta(t) = \frac{K}{1 + e^{-r(t - T_{50})}}.$$
 Eq. 3

In vivo PET amyloid tracers are quantified in terms of the SUVr between a target region containing amyloid and a reference region containing only background NS, and therefore:

$$SUVr(t) = NS + A\beta(t).$$
 Eq. 4

Substituting Equation 3 for $A\beta(t)$ into equation 4 yields the bottom line of Equation 1, which describes the temporal evolution of the in vivo PET A β signal over time (with the 4 parameters NS, *r*, *T*₅₀, and *K*).

Whittington, J Nucl Med 2018; 59:822-827

Definition of $A\beta_L$

Introduce the logistic growth model to provide a mathematical description of a sigmoidal increase in Ab concentration over time, where

- t is the time through the accumulation process (a t of 0 corresponds to a time point at which Ab levels are minimal) SUVr(t) is th
- Ab(t) is the concentration of Ab at time t,
- NS is the tracer nonspecific binding,
- r is the exponential uninhibited growth rate.

• T₅₀ is the time of half-maximal Ab concentrat

 $SUVr(t) = NS + A\beta(t)$ = NS + $\frac{K}{1 + e^{-r(t - T_{50})}}$, Eq. 1



FIGURE 1. Logistic growth model describing A β PET imaging signal over time as function of PET NS, *K*, *T*₅₀, and *r*.

Summary across approaches (Strengths/weaknesses)

- Atrophy
- Variability and noise
- Influence of off-target uptake (e.g., voxel erosion/partial volume correction)
- Multiple Radioligands (e.g., multi-site -- harmonization)
 - different distribution in gray and white matter ?
 - differing kinetics in controls and/or control vs. patients
- Underlying Analysis Assumptions
 - What is being lost and what is gained by simplification
Quantifying the Variability of Amyloid-β PET in Centiloid Units

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 JDG has received doses of [18F]flutemetamol for ALFA+ and AMYPAD from GE Healthcare, research support from Roche Diagnostics, Hoffmann-La Roche and Philips Nederlands, consultant fees from Roche Diagnostics and speaker's fees from Biogen and Philips Nederlands.

Quantification of Amyloid-β PET: SUVR



- SUVR (Standard Uptake Value Ratio)
 - The most widely used metric to quantify Aβ load from PET scans
- Convenient:
 - 'Static acquisition' (like in clinical practice)
 - Ratio between target and reference ROIs (insensitive to calibration errors)
- Provides a single value summarizing
 Aβ load in the whole brain
 - Can be used to generate parametric SUVR images



The Centiloid (CL) Method

 Designed to render universal metrics of amyloid load





AD subjects

100

- Irrespective of
 - Tracer
 - Reference Region
 - Quantification Pipeline



| | Calibration Method |
|--------------|--|
| Tracer | Equation |
| PIB | CL = 79.72 × SUVR _{PIB} – 93.04 |
| NAV4694 | CL = 85.18 × SUVR _{NAV} - 87.56 |
| Florbetaben | CL = 153.4 × SUVR _{FBB} - 154.9 |
| Flutemetamol | CL = 121.42 × SUVR _{FTM} - 121.16 |
| Florbetapir | CL = 175.56 × SUVR _{FBP} - 182.64 |

Klunk et al. Alz & Dement 2015; http://gaain.org/centiloid-project

Centiloid provides a universal metric to quantify Aß burden



 Table 2 Centiloid Values Corresponding to Alzheimer's

 Disease Neuropathologic Changes (ADNC)

| Centiloid unit (CL) | Neuropathology | | | |
|---------------------|--|--|--|--|
| <15 | No A β plaques | | | |
| 15-24 | Sparse $A\beta$ plaques | | | |
| >25 | Moderate or frequent $A\beta$ neuritic plaques "positive scan" | | | |
| >40 | Tau PET abnormal | | | |
| >50 | Likely to meet ADNC criteria | | | |
| 100 | Typical mild or moderate AD | | | |

Krishnadas et al. Semin Nucl Med. 2021

barcelonaβeta

Pemberton et al. EJNMMI 2022

Prognostic Value of Centiloid Levels



- CL = 15-18.5 predicts cognitive decline in the PACC in clinically normal individuals
 - Median follow-up: HABS: 4.21 (SD = 2.34); AIBL: 7.48 (1.97); ADNI: 2.05 (1.60) years



1.05 1.10

1,15 1,20 1,25

BL ADNI PIB DVR cutoff

1.30

0.8

1.0

Abbreviations: Aβ = β-amyloid; ADNI = Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative; ABL = Australian Imaging, Biomarker and Lifestyle; CL = Centiloid; DVR = distribution volume ratio; HABS = Harvard Aging Brain Study; MCI = mild cognitive impairment; NA = not applicable; PACC5 = Preclinical Alzheimer Cognitive Composite 5 version; PiB = Pittsburgh compound B; SUVR = standardized uptake value ratio.

Descriptives are shown for both each full sample and dichotomized into Aβ+/– groups using gaussian mixture model (figure 1). Means (SDs) are displayed for continuous variables and numbers (percents) for categorical variables. To demonstrate which variables varied across sample, 1-way analysis of variance *F* statistics are reported in the final column for continuous variables and χ statistics for categorical variables, so well as *p* values. Some participants in HABS did not have *APOE* data available, so total with genetic data are also displayed. Education was measured differently in AIBL and is not directly comparable to education in HABS or ADNI. Baseline PET measures are provided for within-sample description and baseline CL for between-sample comparison.

1.2

1.4

BL ADNI FBP SUVR

1.6

1.8

Prognostic Value of Centiloid Levels



CL = 26 optimally predicts progression to dementia 6 years after PET in a mixed sample (CN/SCD/MCI) with cognitive complaints

Table 1 Characteristics of the participants

| | All | Visually negative | Visually borderline | Visually positive | | | 1 | | 1 | , | | |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|------|-----|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---|
| Number included | 160 | 91 | 7 | 62 | | | | | | | AUC=0.88 | / |
| Age (years) | 71.4±7.5 (54-86) | 70.6±7.2 (54-86) | 71.0 ± 8.8 (59-82) | 72.4 ± 7.9 (54-83) | | | | SUVIET | | | | |
| ε4 carriers: number (%) | 66 ε4 (46%) 16 missing | 19 ε4 (23%) 8 missing | 4 ε4* (67%) 1 missing | 43 ε4** (78%) 7 missing | | 0.8 | SUVIET.41 | ntiloid=12 Sical threshold | | | / | |
| Education (years) | 14.4 ± 4.6 (6-20) | 14.0 ± 4.7 (6-20) | 16.3 ± 2.9 (12–18) | 14.7 ± 4.5 (6–18) | | | SUN Predictive th | ~<079j | | | / | |
| Female: number (%) | 81 ♀ (51%) | 46 ♀ (51%) | 4 ♀ (57%) | 31 ♀ (50%) | | | *Visualiloida | r | | / | | |
| Baseline MMSE score (/30) | 27.3 ± 1.8 (24-30) | 27.9±1.7 (24-30) | 27.7 ± 1.4 (26–30) | 26.4±1.6** (24-30) | _£_ | 0.6 | - threshold | | | / | | |
| Clinical diagnoses (CN/SCD/MCI) | 31/35/94 | 26/25/40 | 3/2/2 | 2/8/52** | .≥ | | Ĩ, | | | / | | |
| Neocortical flutemetamol SUVr | 1.50±0.33 (0.91-2.44) | 1.25 ± 0.09 (0.91–1.47) | $1.48 \pm 0.11^{**}$ (1.28–1.62) | 1.87±0.21** (1.43-2.44) | nsit | |) | | / | | | |
| Centiloids | 36.2 ± 41.2 (-33-140) | 3.9±11.7 (-33-44) | 39.9±8.5** (29–53) | 82.4±41.2** (45–140) | Se | 0.4 | | / | / | | | 2 |
| Number with long clinical follow-up [§] | 98 | 58 | 2 | 38 | | | | / | N=00 = a | n demonted m | atiente et basaline | _ |
| Clinical diagnoses (CN/SCD/MCI) | 28/24/46 | 24/19/15 | 2/0/0 | 2/5/31 ** | | | | / | Follow-u | n-demented p | atients at baseline | , |
| Centiloids | 36.1 ± 41.2 (-32-140) | 5.4±12.3 (-32-44) | 31.1±3.3** (29–33) | 83.2±21.6** (49–140) | | 0.2 | · / | | or: 4 to 8 | years withou | t dementia (n=52) | |
| Number of patients demented after follow-up (%) | 46 (47%) | 10 (17%) | 1 (50%) | 35 (92%) | | | / | | Sens.=0. | 89; Spec.=0.7 | 5; Prediction=0.82 | 2 |
| Clinical follow-up duration (years) § | $4.8 \pm 1.9 \ (1.1 - 8.0)$ | $5.8 \pm 1.6 \ (1.1 - 8.0)$ | 5.7±2.1 (4.2-7.2) | 3.2 ± 1.3 ** (2.0-6.4) | | | / | | Sens0 | -0.5 76: Spec.=0.8 | 4: Prediction=0.8 | 1 |
| Number followed using PET | 34 | 33 | 1 | 0 | | 0 | / | | - Sens0. | 70, Spec0.8 | 4, FIEulclion-0.00 | , |
| PET follow-up duration (years) | $3.1 \pm 0.9 \ (1.5 - 6.2)$ | $3.1 \pm 0.9 \ (1.5 - 6.2)$ | 2.8 | / | | 0 | 02 | (| 14 | 0.6 | 0.8 | |
| Number of patients visually positive after follow-up (%) | 4 (12%) | 3 (9%) | 1 (100%) | / | | | 0.2 | 1 | , - Spe | cificity | 0.0 | |

Mean \pm SD (min-max), *p < 0.05, **p < 0.001 compared to the visually negative group. One patient was recruited but excluded from the study because of a presenilin 1 mutation

Aim: Impact of Pipeline Choices on Centiloid Units

- CL enables the derivation of universal reference values
- Aim: Quantifying the impact of pipeline design options in absolute Centiloid units
 - Bias
 - Uncertainty
- Is it tracer-dependent?







MNI space

Native space









GAAIN cortical VOI



Tissue-based RR

GAAIN RR

Aim: Impact of Practical Pipeline Choices on Centiloid Units



- Typical choices for a Centiloid (CL) pipeline
 - Space
 - MNI, Native
 - Definition of <u>Target</u> and <u>Reference Regions</u>
 - **GAAIN**, AAL composite + Tissue segmentation
 - Reference Region
 - Whole Cerebellum, Cerebellar Grey, Pons, Brainstem+Cerebellum, etc...





MNI space

Native space



Composite target





GAAIN cortical VOI



GAAIN RR



Material and Methods: Subjects, Scans and CL Pipelines



Karolinska Institutet (KI)

Stockholm (Sweden)

- Participants (N=330) from the AMYPAD Diagnostic and Patient Management Study (DPMS)¹
 - Subjective Cognitive Decline plus (SCD+)
 - Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI)
 - Dementia
- With T1w MRI and PET available
 - 18F-Flutementamol
 - 18F-Florbetaben
- 32 Centiloid (MR-aided; SPM12) pipelines were deployed, calibrated and validated:
 - 4 Reference Regions (WC, CG, Pons, WCB)
 - 2 Reference Region Type (GAAIN, Atlas Composite + Tissue segmentation)
 - 2 Target Region Types (GAAIN, Atlas Composite + Tissue segmentation)
 - 2 Spaces (MNI and Native)



GAAIN CL

University of Cologne (UKK)

Cologne (Germany)

VU University Medical Cente

Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

Amsterdam (VUmc)

¹Altomare *et al.* Alz & Dement 2022



Repeated-measure model estimated with Generalized Estimating Equations (GEE)

Centiloid ~ Intercept + visual read + MMSE + Tracer + Space + Target Type + Reference Region + Reference Region Type

| FTM | •MNI | GAAIN | •WC | GAAIN |
|-----|--------|-----------|------|--------------|
| FBB | Native | Composite | ■CG | Tissue-based |
| | | | Pons | |
| | | | WCB | |

• Factor types:

- Modeling CL distribution
- Does Tracer introduce a bias in CL quantification?
- Pipeline design factors of interest

Material and Methods: Statistical Analysis



- Measures of interest:
 - Difference in marginal means (bias)
 - 95%Cl of marginal means (uncertainty)

| Reference | e CL Values |
|-----------|---|
| 2.5-3.5 | Test-Retest variability |
| 5-7 | Biological variability (SD, YC) |
| 10-12 | Absence of pathology Cut-off of abnormality |
| 24-26 | Sparse pathology Cut-off of Positive Visual Read |
| 50 | Likely to meet ADNC criteria |
| 60-85 | Changes associated with experimental anti- amyloid monoclonal antibodies |
| 100 | Typical of mild or moderate AD |

Results: Sample



| Demographics | N=330 |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Age (Mean±SD) | 70.52±7.23 |
| Sex (Female%) | 138 (41.8%) |
| MMSE (Mean±SD) | 25.67±4.14 |
| Clinical status | SCD+: 110 (33.0%) |
| | MCI: 134 (40.6%) |
| | Dementia: 86 (26.1%) |
| Tracer | FTM: 207 (62.7%) |
| | FBB: 123 (37.3%) |
| Visual Read | Negative: 148 (44.8%) |
| | Positive: 182 (55.2%) |
| Centiloid (Mean±SD) | 46.33±48.86 |



Centiloid

Results: Overview



| Tests of Model Effects | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|----|---------|--|--|--|
| Source | Type III | | | | | |
| | Wald Chi-Square | df | P-value | | | |
| (Intercept) | 71.684 | 1 | <0.001 | | | |
| Visual read | 516.25 | 1 | <0.001 | | | |
| MMSE | 19.076 | 1 | <0.010 | | | |
| Reference region | 164.191 | 3 | <0.001 | | | |
| Reference region type (GAAIN vs tissue-based) | 84.601 | 1 | <0.001 | | | |
| Target (GAAIN vs AAL-composite) | 36.668 | 1 | <0.001 | | | |
| Space (MNI vs Native) | 9.564 | 1 | 0.002 | | | |
| Tracer | 0.321 | 1 | 0.571 | | | |
| Dependent Variable: Centiloid Model: (Intercept), Visual read, MMSE, Target Type, Reference region, Reference region type, Space, Tracer | | | | | | |

Results: Reference Region



| Reference region | Mean Diff | Std. Error |
|----------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Whole cerebellum | Ref | Ref |
| Cerebellum grey matter | 3.365 | 0.388 |
| Whole cerebellum+Brainstem | -3.048 | 0.238 |
| Pons | -12.427 | 0.981 |



Reference VOIs:

- Cerebellar gray (blue)
- Whole cerebellar (blue+yellow)
- Pons (green)
- Whole cerebellum plus brainstem (all colors combined)

(*) the red area represents that part of the WC+B that does not overlap either the WC or the Pons

| Reference region | Mean | Std. Error | 95% Wald Confidence Interval | | |
|----------------------------|--------|------------|------------------------------|--------|-------|
| | | | Lower | Upper | Diff |
| Whole cerebellum | 42.115 | 1.504 | 39.167 | 45.063 | 5.896 |
| Cerebellum grey matter | 45.480 | 1.590 | 42.362 | 48.598 | 6.236 |
| Whole cerebellum+Brainstem | 39.066 | 1.467 | 36.190 | 41.942 | 5.752 |
| Pons | 29.688 | 1.612 | 26.527 | 32.848 | 6.321 |

95% Confidence Interval

(Repeated Measures) ~ 6 CL

Klunk et al. Alz & Dement 2015; http://gaain.org/centiloid-project

What happens with the pons?

- Low correlation between 11C-PIB and 18F-tracers
- Smallest Ref Region: Low test-retest variability



Devous et al. JNM. 2018

Table 3Regional cor-relation coefficients forPiB and FBB SUVRs

^aValues for the neocor-

tex comprise the aver-

frontal, parietal, cingu-

late, lateral occipital and

age SUVRs for the

lateral temporal

cortices.

Region

| ice Bron | · | P |
|--------------------------|------|----------|
| Dorsolateral prefrontal | 0.94 | < 0.0001 |
| Ventrolateral prefrontal | 0.96 | < 0.0001 |
| Orbitofrontal | 0.96 | < 0.0001 |
| Gyrus rectus | 0.94 | < 0.0001 |
| Anterior cingulate | 0.94 | < 0.0001 |
| Posterior cingulate | 0.96 | < 0.0001 |
| Parietal | 0.94 | < 0.0001 |
| Lateral occipital | 0.92 | < 0.0001 |
| Lateral temporal | 0.96 | < 0.0001 |
| Mesial temporal | 0.82 | < 0.0001 |
| Caudate nuclei | 0.98 | < 0.0001 |
| Putamen | 0.95 | < 0.0001 |
| Thalamus | 0.84 | < 0.0001 |
| Pons | 0.50 | 0.03 |
| White matter | 0.63 | 0.003 |
| Neocortex ^a | 0.97 | < 0.0001 |
| | | |

23



| ABLE 3: est-Retest | Region- Variabilit | Wise y | Slope, | Linear | Fit, | and | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------|----------------|------|-----|--|
| IOV | | ¹⁸ F- | Fluteme | etamol | | | |
| | Versus ¹ | ¹ C-PI | B | Test-Retest, % | | | |
| | m | r | | Mean | | SD | |
| СОМ | 0.99 | 0.9 | 1 | 1.5 | | 0.7 | |
| FRO | 1.00 | 0.9 | 2 | 1.4 | | 0.4 | |

| COM | 0.99 | 0.91 | 1.5 | 0.7 |
|-----|------|------|-----|-----|
| FRO | 1.00 | 0.92 | 1.4 | 0.4 |
| PAR | 1.01 | 0.92 | 2.1 | 1.8 |
| LTC | 0.99 | 0.91 | 1.8 | 0.8 |
| POC | 1.01 | 0.91 | 1.2 | 0.5 |
| ANC | 0.91 | 0.88 | 2.0 | 0.9 |
| MTC | 0.74 | 0.83 | 3.8 | 2.4 |
| OCC | 1.03 | 0.89 | 0.9 | 0.5 |
| STR | 0.88 | 0.84 | 0.9 | 0.5 |
| SWM | 0.22 | 0.36 | 3.2 | 2.1 |
| PON | 0.50 | 0.63 | 3.1 | 2.7 |

Second and third columns: region-wise slope (m) of the linear fit and the Pearson correlation coefficient (r) from the correlation between SUVR from ¹¹C-PIB and ¹⁸Fflutemetamol scan data from 20 Alzheimer disease and 20 mild cognitive impairment subjects. Fourth and fifth columns: mean test-retest variability (percentage) and SD over 5 Alzheimer disease subjects for each brain region when using ¹⁸F-flutemetamol positron emission tomography. ¹¹C-PIB = ¹¹C-Pittsburgh compound B; SD = standard deviation; COM = composite cortical volume of interest; FRO = lateral frontal cortex; PAR = lateral parietal cortex; LTC = lateral temporal cortex; POC = posterior cingulate; ANC = anterior cingulate; MTC = medial temporal cortex; OCC = occipital; STR = striatum; SWM = subcortical white matter; PON = pons.

Villemagne et al. EJNMMI. 2012

Vandenberghe *et al.* Ann. Neurol. 2010

Results: Reference Region Type



| Reference region | Mean Diff | Std. Error |
|------------------|-----------|------------|
| GAAIN VOI | Ref | Ref |
| Tissue-based | -3.576 | 0.389 |





GAAIN RR

| Reference region type | Mean | Std. | 95% Wald Confidence Interval | | |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|------------------------------|--------|-------|
| | | Error | Lower | Upper | Diff |
| GAAIN VOI | 40.875 | 1.481 | 37.972 | 43.778 | 5.806 |
| Tissue-based | 37.299 | 1.479 | 34.398 | 40.200 | 5.802 |

Results: Target Type



| Reference region | Mean Diff | Std. Error |
|------------------|-----------|------------|
| GAAIN CRTX | Ref | Ref |
| AAL composite | 2.484 | 0.410 |



Composite target

GAIN cortical VOI

| Target type | Mean | Std. | 95% Wald Confidence Interval | | nterval |
|---------------|--------|-------|------------------------------|--------|---------|
| | | Error | Lower | Upper | Diff |
| GAAIN CRTX | 37.845 | 1.456 | 34.991 | 40.699 | 5.708 |
| AAL composite | 40.329 | 1.507 | 37.375 | 43.283 | 5.908 |

Results: Target Type



| Reference region | Mean Diff | Std. Error |
|------------------|-----------|------------|
| MNI | Ref | Ref |
| Native | -1.212 | 0.392 |



MNI space

Native space

| Quantification space | Mean | Std. | 95% Wald Confidence Interval | | |
|----------------------|--------|-------|------------------------------|--------|-------|
| | | Error | Lower | Upper | Diff |
| MNI | 38.481 | 1.415 | 35.707 | 41.255 | 5.548 |
| Native | 39.693 | 1.543 | 36.669 | 42.718 | 6.049 |

Results: Tracer



| Reference region | Mean Diff | Std. Error |
|------------------|-----------|------------|
| FTM-FBB | -1.857 | 3.276 |
| FBB-FTM | 1.857 | 3.276 |



| Tracer | Mean | Std. | 95% Wald Confidence Interval | | nterval |
|--------------|--------|-------|------------------------------|--------|---------|
| | | Error | Lower | Upper | Diff |
| Flutemetamol | 25.830 | 1.945 | 22.017 | 29.644 | 7.627 |
| Florbetaben | 26.825 | 3.859 | 19.260 | 34.390 | 15.130 |

Centiloid Sensitivity to Effective Image Resolution

659 scans from AMYPAD DPMS & PNHS

• FBB: 158, FTM: 501

22 sites, 30 different PET scanners



- Image resolution harmonized⁸ to 8 mm FWHM
- CL calculated with Standard Pipeline (WC)
- Difference in CL pre-post harmonization
 - FTM: Mean: 1.12 CL (95%CI: -2.25, 4.48)
 - FBB: Mean: -0.35 CL (95%CI: -3.88, 4.57)



⁸Shekari *et al.* EANM 22

Between-Pipeline Comparison



Standard Centiloid Pipeline @ BBRC (PET+MR) vs AMYPYPE (PET-Only)



Buckley et al. EANM 2019



Pros:

 More accurate measure of amyloid burden 4

- Lower (~30%-50%) test-retest variability
- Insensitive to time window for PET imaging
- Account for variability in cerebral blood flow

Cons:

- Require dynamic acquisitions
 - Longer scanner time, higher cost, more participant burden
- Not possible to convert to standard units (i.e. Centiloids)
 - Lack of Head-to-Head dynamic acquisitions btw 11C-PIB and 18F-Tracers







Lopes-Alves *et al.* Alz Res & Ther. 2021



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| Table 2. Correlations and test-retest results between 2T4k_V _B -derived DVR values and those seen with |
|---|
| the tested parametric methods. |

| | All subjects | Controls | | AD | |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|------|----------------|-------|
| Parametric | r ² | r ² | TRT | r ² | TRT |
| methods | (slope) | (slope) | (%) | (slope) | (%) |
| SUVr ₅₀₋₇₀ | 0.92 | 0.84 | 3.35 | 0.85 | 7.78 |
| | 1.16 | 1.06 | | 1.12 | |
| 90 min | | | | | |
| RPM | 0.95 | 0.84 | 1.09 | 0.92 | 3.05 |
| | 0.92 | 0.88 | | 0.91 | |
| SRTM2 | 0.91 | 0.61 | 1.12 | 0.88 | 2.07 |
| | 0.83 | 0.61 | | 0.83 | |
| rLogan | 0.94 | 0.77 | 0.85 | 0.90 | 3.33 |
| - | 0.88 | 0.75 | | 0.85 | |
| SA | 0.91 | 0.70 | 8.12 | 0.92 | 18.19 |
| | 0.88 | 0.83 | | 0.92 | |
| Logan | 0.95 | 0.86 | 9.43 | 0.93 | 16.25 |
| Ū. | 0.84 | 0.79 | | 0.80 | |
| MRTM0 | 0.92 | 0.76 | 0.88 | 0.86 | 3.17 |
| | 1.03 | 1.01 | | 1.00 | |
| MRTMI | 0.93 | 0.83 | 0.62 | 0.87 | 3.8 |
| | 0.97 | 0.95 | | 0.93 | |
| MRTM2 | 0.83 | 0.47 | 2.04 | 0.74 | 3.29 |
| | 0.96 | 0.76 | | 0.89 | |
| MRTM3A | 0.91 | 0.74 | 0.58 | 0.91 | 2.88 |
| | 1.01 | 0.93 | | 1.00 | |
| MRTM3B | 0.85 | 0.53 | 1.62 | 0.77 | 2.69 |
| | 0.98 | 0.84 | | 0.94 | |
| 60 min | | | | | |
| RPM | 0.90 | 0.73 | 0.69 | 0.84 | 2.58 |
| | 0.92 | 0.86 | | 0.92 | |
| SRTM2 | 0.88 | 0.51 | 1.10 | 0.83 | 1.88 |
| | 0.81 | 0.54 | | 0.79 | |
| rLogan | 0.90 | 0.64 | 0.77 | 0.84 | 2.15 |
| 0 | 0.84 | 0.66 | | 0.81 | |
| SA | 0.79 | 0.70 | 7.73 | 0.65 | 17.46 |
| | 0.85 | 0.72 | | 0.80 | |
| Logan | 0.88 | 0.75 | 8.22 | 0.82 | 14 57 |
| Logan | 0.78 | 0.65 | 0.22 | 071 | 14.57 |

Note: Parametric methods in comparison to plasma input-derived $2T4k_VB}$ (V_T or DVR values) using 90 min scan data. The following optimized settings were used for each parametric method (RPM= 0.01–0.1, 50 basis functions; SRTM2 = 0.01–0.1, 50 basis functions; rLogan = 30–90 min; Logan = 30–90 min; Spectral analyses = 0.000167–0.008 (start-end), 50 basis functions. Test-retest results were based upon the average variation of all regions of interest.

- Pros:
 - More accurate measure of amyloid burden
 - Lower (~30%-50%) test-retest variability
 - Insensitive to time window for PET imaging
 - Account for variability in cerebral blood flow
- Cons:
 - Require dynamic acquisitions
 - Longer scanner time, higher cost, more participant burden
 - Not possible to convert to standard units (i.e. Centiloids)
 - Lack of Head-to-Head dynamic acquisitions btw 11C-PIB and 18F-Tracers





The average difference between the last and first frames (115&85min) was 6(±8) CL in the AD group

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- More accurate measure of amyloid burden
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- Account for variability in cerebral blood flow
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 - Lack of Head-to-Head dynamic acquisitions btw 11C-PIB and 18F-Tracers



Heeman et al. EJNMMI Res 2022



- Suited for detecting small differences in amyloid rates of accumulation
 - E.g. primary prevention

Table 2 Sample size requirements per trial arm, for three hypothetical trial scenarios, comparing differences between using DVR/ SUVR, a cortical/early composite ROI, and restricting the inclusion to APOE-E4 carriers or not

| | Whole population | | | | APOE- E4 | APOE- £4 carriers only | | | |
|--|------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--|
| | SUVR | SUVR | | DVR | | SUVR | | | |
| | Cortical ROI | Early ROI | Cortical ROI | Early ROI | Cortical ROI | Early ROI | Cortical ROI | Early ROI | |
| Secondary prevention to detect 20% reduction in accumulation (CL > 20.1) | 176 | 167 | 143 | 140 | 116 | 125 | 83 | 97 | |
| Early secondary prevention to detect 20% reduction in accumulation (20.1 < CL \leq 49.4) | 44 | 51 | 39 | 38 | 52 | 56 | 47 | 43 | |
| Primary prevention to detect 20% reduction in accumulation (CL \leq 20.1) | 855 | 509 | 1508 | 734 | 724 | 455 | 1162 | 630 | |

Secondary prevention subjects with intermediate-to-high burden (CL > 20.1)





10

20

30

40

50

Required sample size per arm (N)

60

70

Primary prevention subjects with low burden (CL < 20.1)



Lopes-Alves et al. Alz Res & Ther. 2021

Other ratio methods

Other ways to express the ratio between the target and reference regions exist:

Z-score:

- SUVR normalized to the mean and SD of a reference group
- Since are linear mappings, they SUVR, CL and Z-scores all share the same statistical properties



Other methods to define the target and reference regions

Jovalekic et al. CTAD 22

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| Main | Aβ load | Aβ index | CLNMF | AMPSS |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| charact eristics | Whittington et al., 2019 | Leuzy et al., 2020 | Bourge at et al., 2021 | Prosser et al. |
| Key idea | Image decomposition into 2 components: non-specific binding and Aβ carrying capacity determined viα logistic growth model | Image decomposition via principal component analysis isolatesspecific binding | Image decomposition <i>via</i> non-negative matrix factorisation (NMF) | Support vector machine to produce probabilities score from little to no specific binding through to AD-like scans |
| Assumptions | Spatially synch ronised accumulation according to the maximum amyloid carrying capacity of each region | Second principal component represents specific binding | First component represents specific binding | - |
| Range | % unb ounded | -1 to 1 unbounded | 0 to 100 0 and 100 are anch or points | % bou nded (o r unb ounded using a logit tran sform) |
| Reference region independent | No | No | No | Yes |
| MR independent | No | Yes (but N o for training) | No | No |
| Specificity when processing scans from different tracers | Needs to match NS_K image scale [40] | Principal components specific to each tracer | NMF components specific to each tracer | Training on tracer specific datasets |
| Possible application fortau | Implemented [41] | Not implem ented , comparable approach by Cho <i>et al.</i> [42] | N/A | Not implem ented |
| Validation | Against SUVr on ADNI [35] and GAAIN data [40] | Against SUVr, CSF, visual read and neurop athology on BioFINDER and ADNI data [36,39] | Against standard CL on GAAIN and AIBL data [37] | Against SUVr and CSF Aβ42 using ADNI data |
| Availability | Available v <i>i</i> a Invicros's IQ Analytics Platform | Software freely available for research upon request | Op en source https://doi.org/10.25919 /5f8400a0b6a1e. | Plans to make it open source |
| Implementation in studies | Zammit et al., 2019, 2021 [4 3,44] | Haller et al., 2021 [45] | - | - |
| Main strengths | Increased sensitivity for longitudinal change in amyloid load Imp lemented for all amyloid tracers (PiB [44]; ¹⁸F tracers [40]) Imp lemented for tau [41] | - MR indepen dent - Reference region indepen dent - Software includes pre- processing - Fully automatic process (~20 seconds) | Ro bustness to change in tracer in a longitudinal setting Improve longitudinal consistency compared to CL Implemented for all amyloid tracers Relies on a reference | Reference region indepen dent |
| Main limitations | Relies on a reference region | Relies on a reference region for training | region - Sub-optimal decomposition for ¹⁸ F tracers | Sensitivity to training set |
| Po ssible imp rovements | - | Allow for more principal components | Independencefrom MR using CapAIBL [46] | Independent from MR |

Other ratio metrics



AMPSS = amyloid pattern similarity score (Prosser et al., AAIC, 2020)

Other ratio metrics

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Correlation between amyloid metrics and non-displaceable binding potential BP_{ND} , evaluated with dynamic acquisition scans from Insight46 data. The 95% confidence interval for r_{rm} was built using 2,000 bootstrap replicates. The dotted lines represent the regression for the metrics averaged per subject

Bollack et al. in preparation

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Other ratio metrics

| | Insight46 | |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | $20 \le CL \le 50$ | CL > 20 |
| Ν | 39 | 67 |
| BP _{ND} | 93 [58, 507] | 105 [74,394] |
| CL | 96 [85, 307] | 117 [105,348] |
| Aβ load | 81 [83, 218] | 111 [110,312] |
| $A\betaindex$ | 131 [107, 489] | 147 [135,533] |
| CL | 71 [70, 184] | 74 [82,173] |
| AMPSS | 558 [334, 4772] | 553 [358,4590] |

Samples size estimates ($\alpha = 0.05$; 1- $\beta = 80\%$) required to detect a 25% decrease in annualized amyloid accumulation. Two scenarios were assessed: a secondary prevention trial focusing on early accumulators (20<CL \leq 50), and a secondary prevention trial for individuals with at least moderate amyloid burden (CL \square 20).

Bollack et al. in preparation

Regional Staging Methods



• Visual detection of amyloid in the striatum associated with cognitive decline



Hanseeuw et al. Alzheimers Dement. 2018

Global vs Regional Amyloid

Amyloid imaging to prevent Atzheimer's Disease

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- Little topographical variability of Amyloid deposition in AD
 - Exception: Occipital uptake in cognitively unimpaired individuals
- Regional positivity can be used to stage amyloid accumulation and disease progression







Collij et al. EJNMMI 2021

Global vs Regional Amyloid: Regional Staging Methods



- Little topographical variability of Amyloid deposition in AD
 - Exception: Occipital uptake in cognitively unimpaired individuals
- Regional positivity can be used to stage amyloid accumulation and disease progression





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Michalowska et al. Mol Psyatr. 2022

Global vs Regional Amyloid: Spatial Patterns of Variability

- Little topographical variability of Amyloid deposition in AD
 - Exception: Occipital uptake in cognitively unimpaired individuals
- Regional positivity can be used to stage amyloid accumulation and disease progression





Michalowska *et al.* Mol Psyatr. 2022

Collij et al. Neurology 2022

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- **Contexts of Use** of quantitative amyloid-β PET are expanding
- The Centiloid concept provides a universal metric of amyloid-β load that is comparable across quantification methods
- It is therefore important to identify and quantify sources of error in Centiloids
- A statistical framework has been developed to quantify the impact of pipeline design options in absolute Centiloid units
Conclusions: Centiloid Sources of Variability



- The Centiloid method is robust to pipeline design alternatives, as well as across pipelines
 - Within-pipeline:
 - Bias below test-retest variability (3.5 CL)
 - Sole exception: Pons as reference region (ΔCL = 12 CL)
 - Within-pipeline (95% CI) uncertainty around 6 CL
 - Impact of effective image resolution <5 CL</p>
 - Between-pipeline:
 - Mean absolute error: 5-8 CL
 - Between-pipeline 95% CI (individual error bound): 13 CL, at the level of thresholds for abnormality
- Tracer had no impact on Centiloid values, no matter the pipeline

Conclusions: Other Metrics of Aß burden



• Kinetic modeling (BP_{ND}/DVR) brings moderate improvements (wrt SUVR/CL) in:

- Accuracy (bias ~30% cross-sectional; ~15% longitudinal)
- Precision (test retest ~50%)
- Robustness to:
 - Technical confounders (10 min delay in imaging window -> ΔCL <3 CL)
 - Physiological confounders (±25% change in global CBF-> 5% change in SUVR/CL)
- Require dynamic acquisitions
 - Infrequently used in clinical practice and trials
- Conversion to Centiloids is not possible due to the lack of full dynamic H2H data
- Other 'ratio' metrics (Aβ load, Aβ index, CL_{NMF}, etc...)
 - Moderately improved precision with respect to standard Centiloid pipeline
 - Derived of the optimal definition of target and reference regions
 - Can be scaled to the Centiloid

Conclusions: Limitations of Centiloid Method

Limitations of Centiloid:

- Inherent limitations of 'ratio' methods
- Need for H2H reference datasets vs 11C-PIB
- Assumption of linear association with 11C-PIB
 - Non-linear alternatives: NoDim (Properzi et al 2019)
- Global metric
 - However, there is little regional variability in AD
 - Global CL tracks well regional cerebral spread



1.5

PiB SUVr

2

0.5

1

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- Taken together, limitations have a small impact on accuracy, precision, robustness and utility
- The Centiloid is a well-established, robust and useful method to render absolute units of Aβ burden



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THANK



Quantifying the Variability of Amyloid-β PET in Centiloid Units

Backup Slides





Quantitative Amyloid Imaging: Context of Use in Clinical Trials (I)

- Assessment of treatment response (phamacodynamic endpoint)
- Surrogate endpoint of efficacy



*P<0.05, **P<0.01, ***P<0.001, ****P<0.0001. †Adjusted mean change from baseline by Mixed Model Repeated Measures (MMRM). The Mixed Model Repeated Measures (MMRM) uses treatment group, visit, clinical subgroup (MCI due to AD, Mild AD), the presence or absence of ongoing AD treatment at baseline, APOE4 status (positive, negative), region, treatment group-by-visit interaction as factors, and baseline value as covariate. For PET analysis N=306 at 12 months and N=277 at 18 months.

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https://www.eisai.com/ir/library/presentations/pdf/4523_180726.pdf

Quantitative Amyloid Imaging: Context of Use in Clinical Trials (I)

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Quantitative Amyloid Imaging: Context of Use in Clinical Trials (II)

Inclusion Criterion

- Trials in Symptomatic Populations: Positive Visual Read (VR)
- Prevention Trials (e.g. AHEAD 3-45)



https://www.bioarctic.se/en/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/11/ctad-2020-sperling-oc2-final.pdf



Quantitative Amyloid Imaging: Context of Use in Clinical Trials (III)

- Support Clinical Dose selection / Cessation of Treatment
 - Donanemab Phase II trial
 - If 11<CL<25: Dose reduced to 700 mg (from 1400 mg)</p>
 - If CL<11 or 2 consecutive scans with CL<25: Participant switched to placebo</p>
 - 27.4% (w28) and 54.7% (w56) of participants



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Mintun et et al. NEJM 2022

Potential Use of Quantitative Amyloid PET in Clinical Practice?

Contexts of Use of quantitative amyloid-β PET (in CL) are expanding

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- 1. Pharmacodynamic / Target Engagement
- 2. Surrogate Endpoint of Efficacy
- 3. Dose selection / Treatment Cessation
- 4. Patient selection (prevention trials)

Potential clinical utility when anti-amyloid drugs are approved

Potential Use of Quantitative Amyloid PET in Clinical Practice?



- Contexts of Use of quantitative amyloid-β PET are expanding
- Potential clinical utility when anti-amyloid drugs are approved
- Likely, in combination with blood-based biomarkers

| Table 1. Some examples of blood-based markers use in clinical trials | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------|---|--------------|--|----------------------|--|
| Study | Clinicaltrial.gov identifier | Phase | Population | Therapy | Blood biomarker | Role | |
| AHEAD 3-45 | NCT04468659 | III | Preclinical AD | Lecanemab | Aβ42/40 ratio | Prescreening | |
| AUTONOMY | NCT04619420 | п | Early symptomatic AD | JNJ-63733657 | p-tau217 | Prescreening | |
| BAN2401-G000-201 Core and Open Label Extension | NCT01767311 | п | Early symptomatic AD | Lecanemab | Aβ42/40 ratio p-tau 181 | Pharmacodynamic | |
| DIAN-TU | NCT04623242 | II/III | Preclinical and early symptomatic AD | Gantenerumab | Aβ42/40 ratio p-tau181 | Pharmacodynamic | |
| EMERGE | NCT02484547 | III | Early symptomatic AD | Aducanumab | p-tau 181 | Pharmacodynamic | |
| ENGAGE | NCT02477800 | III | Early symptomatic AD | Aducanumab | p-tau 181 | Pharmacodynamic | |
| EVOKE | NCT04777396 | III | Early symptomatic AD | Semaglutide | p-tau181, NfL, GFAB | Pharmacodynamic | |
| EVOKE-PLUS | NCT04777409 | III | Early symptomatic AD | Semaglutide | p-tau181, NfL, GFAB | Pharmacodynamic | |
| INVOKE-2 | NCT04592874 | П | Early symptomatic AD | AL002 | PrecivityAD™ (algorithm derived from Aβ42/40 ratio, APOE genotype and age) | Prescreening | |
| PROSPECT-ALZ | NCT05063539 | п | Early symptomatic AD | LY3372689 | p-tau217 | Prescreening | |
| TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 2 | NCT04437511 | III | Early symptomatic AD | Donanemab | p-tau181 p-tau217 | Exploratory endpoint | |
| TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 3 | NCT05026866 | III | Preclinical AD | Donanemab | p-tau217 | Exploratory endpoint | |

Aß, Amyloid-beta; AD, Alzheimer's Disease; APOE, Apolipoprotein E; NfL, Neurofilament Light chain; P-tau, phosphorylated tau.

Potential Use of Quantitative Amyloid PET in Clinical Practice?



- Contexts of Use of quantitative amyloid-β PET are expanding
- Potential clinical utility when anti-amyloid drugs are approved
- Likely, in combination with blood-based biomarkers

| Table 3. Appropriate and inappropriate uses of blood-based markers in clinical practice | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Appropriate use | Inappropriate use | | | | |
| What blood-based markers? | p-tau, Aβ42/40 alone or in combination with other biomarkers, in individuals with typical amnestic presentation NfL to explore neurodegenerative process | 1. Any biomarker quantified in an unregulated, non-certified, non-accredited laboratory | | | | |
| When to use blood-based markers? | In individuals with objective cognitive impairment (possible or probable AD, MCI/dementia) If suspicion of AD, as part of the initial diagnostic workup If any contraindication or patient aversion to LP (CSF biomarkers) | Instead of the cognitive testing In cognitively unimpaired individuals, except context of clinical research Use to determine disease severity in patients having already received a diagnosis of AD APOE4 carriers with no cognitive impairment | | | | |
| Where to use blood-based markers? | In primary care to help PCP referring patients to specialists in memory disorders In primary and specialty care to aid in diagnosis of AD (positive biomarkers along with classical cognitive presentation). In clinical trials (Research Setting) | 1. In any facility in the absence of trained physicians | | | | |
| How to interpretate blood-based markers? | Holistic approach, model combining blood-based biomarkers and cognitive performance. Need to perform CSF biomarkers or PET if clinical presentation, structural imaging or other evaluative tests conflict with the blood-based biomarker test result | 1. Interpretation of biomarkers without considering the history, clinical exam, cognitive testing, and patient autonomy | | | | |

Aβ, Amyloid-beta; AD, Alzheimer Disease; CSF, Cerebrospinal Fluid; LP, Lumbar Puncture; PCP; Primary Care Physician; NfL, Neurofilament light Chain; P-tau, phosphorylated tau.

Other ratio metrics





Bland-Altman plots indicating bias between test and retest measurements. Dashed lines indicate the mean, lower and upper limit of agreement (+/- 1.96 standard deviation from the mean)

Bollack et al. in preparation

Other ratio metrics

| barcelona | βeta |
|-----------------------|------|
| BRAIN RESEARCH CENTER | |

| | Insight46 | | | | | AIBL | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| | ARC | | | | CV | ARC | | | | CV |
| | All | CL ≤ 15 | 20 ≤ CL ≤ 50 | CL > 20 | All | All | CL ≤ 15 | 20 ≤ CL ≤ 50 | CL > 20 | All |
| Ν | 438 | 331 | 39 | 67 | 438 | 185 | 100 | 11 | 52 | 185 |
| BPND | 0.011 ± 0.019 | 0.0079 ± 0.017 | 0.027 ± 0.016 | 0.025 ± 0.018 | 1.63 [1.32 <i>,</i> 2.24] | | | N/A | | |
| CL | 2.35 ± 3.47 | 1.53 ± 2.76 | 6.10 ± 3.76 | 5.53 ± 3.52 | 1.47 [1.27, 1.74] | 0.51 ± 13.78 | -0.11 ± 12.48 | 2.95 ± 13.43 | 2.36 ± 15.71 | 28.89 [6.62, >100] |
| Aβ load | 0.0091 ± 0.015 | 0.0052 ± 0.012 | 0.029 ± 0.016 | 0.025 ± 0.014 | 1.68 [1.43 <i>,</i> 2.03] | 0.013 ± 0.037 | 0.0090 ± 0.025 | 0.016 ± 0.022 | 0.019 ± 0.048 | 2.85 [3.06, 3.06] |
| Aβ index | 0.013 ± 0.028 | 0.0077 ± 0.027 | 0.036 ± 0.026 | 0.037 ± 0.028 | 2.23 [1.75, 3.17] | 0.021 ± 0.076 | 0.012 ± 0.044 | 0.037 ± 0.14 | 0.032 ± 0.093 | 3.62 [3.38, 5.03] |
| CL _{NMF} | 2.077 ± 3.036 | 1.21 ± 2.26 | 5.94 ± 3.14 | 5.21 ± 2.79 | 1.46 [1.27, 1.75] | 2.37 ± 5.60 | 1.62 ± 5.55 | 3.64 ± 4.20 | 3.50 ± 5.51 | 2.36 [2.49, 2.49] |
| AMPSS | 0.021 ± 0.0401 | 0.0171 ± 0.0366 | 0.0364 ± 0.0542 | 0.0375 ± 0.0521 | 1.91 [1.57, 2.43] | 0.0087 ± 0.1132 | 0.0056 ± 0.11 | 0.031 ± 0.068 | 0.015 ± 0.11 | 12.85 [4.59, >100] |

Annualised rates of change in amyloid deposition and coefficients of variation in AIBL and Insight46 datasets. Values are described as mean ± standard deviation. Confidence intervals for the coefficients of variation were built via bootstrap resampling using 2,000 replicates

Other metrics: BPnd / DVR



Pros:

- More accurate measure of amyloid burden
- Insensitive to time window for PET imaging
- Lower (~50%) test-retest variability
- Account for variability in cerebral blood flow
- Cons:
 - Require dynamic acquisitions
 - Longer scanner time, higher cost, more participant burden
 - Not possible to convert to standard units (i.e. Centiloids)
 - Lack of Head-to-Head dynamic acquisitions btw 11C-PIB and 18F-Tracers



Quantitative Brain Amyloid PET Imaging Methodology, Metrics, Analytical Validity $Amyloid^{|Q|}$

Roger Gunn, Ph.D.

Invicro & Imperial College London

Acknowledgements: Alex Whittington (Invicro)

Neuraceq[™] Data (LMI: Santiago Bullich & Andrew Stephens) Amyvid[™] Data (ADNI)





Spatiotemporal Distribution of β-Amyloid in Alzheimer Disease Is the Result of Heterogeneous Regional Carrying Capacities

Alex Whittington¹, David J. Sharp¹, and Roger N. Gunn¹⁻³ for the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative 2018, JNM

Amyloid Load: A More Sensitive Biomarker for Amyloid Imaging

Alex Whittington^{1,2} and Roger N. Gunn¹⁻³; for the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative









Sources of Variability in Cross-sectional and Longitudinal Quantitative A & PET

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 School of Medical and Health Sciences, Edith Cowan University, Perth, Australia







Effect of change of tracer/scanner on longitudinal studies



NeuroImage

NeuroImage

Non-negative matrix factorisation improves Centiloid robustness in longitudinal studies

Pierrick Bourgeat^{a,*}, Vincent Doré^{a,b}, James Doecke^a, David Ames^c, Colin L. Masters^d, Christopher C. Rowe^{b,e}, Jurgen Fripp^a, Victor L. Villemagne^{b,e}, the AIBL research group

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^d The Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health, University of Melbourne, Parkville, Melbourne, Australia

^eDepartment of Medicine, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia



A β PET images can be modeled as a sum of a specific and non-specific binding components. Non-negative matrix factorization is a machine learning technique which is trained to estimate these components. The resulting specific binding component, which represents A β burden, can be then transformed into Centiloids.



Effect of change of tracer/scanner on longitudinal studies



NeuroImage



Non-negative matrix factorisation improves Centiloid robustness in longitudinal studies

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Effect of digital PET scanners



Head-to-Head comparison between Philips Gemini TF64 and Siemens Biograph Vision 600 for brain amyloid Centiloid quantitation

S Li, P Bourgeat, S Bozinovski, K Huang, R Guzman, R Williams, J Fripp, VL Villemagne, CC Rowe, V Dore



Digital PET scanner

- ~15% higher values
- Higher resolution
- Half the injected dose





Session III: Quantitative Brain Amyloid PET Imaging Methodology, Metrics, Analytical Validity

FDA-CDER-CDRH, SNMMI, and MITA Workshop: Quantitative PET Brain Amyloid November 17, 2022



Disclaimer

Any mention or discussion of specific approaches, methods, commercial products, trade names, organizations, their sources, or their use in connection with material reported in this workshop is not to be construed as either an actual or implied endorsement of such products, methods, or approaches by FDA, the Department of Health and Human Services, or United States Government.

Session III: Topics for Discussion



- Do you envision AI/ML analysis techniques playing a significant role in amyloid quantitation in the future?
- What factors contribute to the variability with different quantitative metrics? Which factor do you think contributes the most variability?
- How to address variability with longitudinal metrics and best practices for controlling variability?
- Is there enough added value with amyloid quantitation considering the variability introduced?
- Centiloid composite measures vs regional (and what is the usefulness of regional values?)
- Value of z-score when looking at regional data and composite Centiloid thresholds.

