# Imputation of Missing Behavioral Measures in Connectome-based Predictive Modelling

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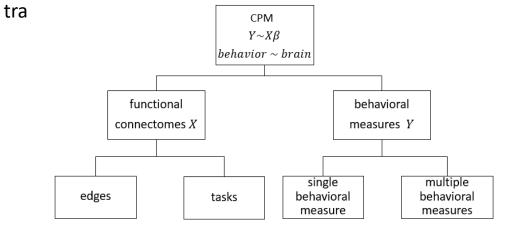






# Introduction

- Currently, most fMRI studies only consider complete cases. In other words, participants with missing behavioral or imaging data are simply removed from analysis, introducing potential selection biases, reducing statistical power, and hurting generalization.
- In this work, we introduce a data imputation step to connectomebased predictive modeling (CPM) to improve brain-based models of behavior by including participants with missing data in model



# Dataset

#### 1. Human Connectome Project (HCP)

500 subjects, 7 tasks, 10 behavioral measures standard preprocessing pipeline

268-node parcellation

**2. Consortium for Neurospsychiatric Phenomics (CNP)** 172 subjects, 6 tasks, 7 behavioral measures

# method

- 1. ridge regression Connectome-based Predictive Modeling (rCPM)
- Ten fold cross-validation
- Each connectome is vectorized and the edges are taken as features.
- Then edges of connectivity matrices that are significantly correlated with the phenotypic measure of interest are selected.
- Prediction performance was evaluated by the cross-validated  $R^2$ ,  $R_{CV}^2 = 1 \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i \hat{y})^2}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i \bar{y})^2}$

### 2. Data imputation methods:

- 1) mean imputation
- 2) missForest
  - Implemented in R package **missForest**
- 3) Regularized Iterative Principal Component Analysis
  - Expectation-maximization algorithm for a PCA fixed-effects model

$$\hat{z}_{ij}^{rPCA} = \sum_{s=1}^{S} \left( \frac{\lambda_s - \frac{np}{\min(n-1,p)} \hat{\sigma}^2}{\lambda_s} \right) \sqrt{\lambda_s} u_{is} v_{js}$$
$$= \sum_{s=1}^{S} \left( \sqrt{\lambda_s} - \frac{\frac{np}{\min(n-1,p)} \hat{\sigma}^2}{\sqrt{\lambda_s}} \right) u_{is} v_{js}$$

• Implemented in R package missMDA

## Simulation

 $Y = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\}$ **1.Single behavioral Measure** y<sub>k</sub>

- $\{X, Y\}_{obs}, \{X, Y\}_{miss}$
- $\{X, Y\}_{obs} \rightarrow \{X, Y\}_{train_0}, \{X, Y\}_{test}$
- concatenate  $\{X, Y\}_{train_0}, \{X, Y\}_{miss} \rightarrow \{X, Y\}_{train}$
- impute {*Y*}<sub>train</sub>
- $\{X, y_k\}_{train}, \{X, y_k\}_{test}$

#### 2.Latent Phenotype

- $\{X, Y\}_{train}$ ,  $\{X, Y\}_{test}$
- impute {*Y*}<sub>train</sub>
- impute {*Y*}<sub>*pca*</sub>
- $\{Y\}_{train} \xrightarrow{pca} y_{pc_{train}}$
- $\{Y\}_{test} \xrightarrow{pca_{train}} y_{pc_{test}}$
- $\{X, y_{pc}\}_{train}$ ,  $\{X, y_{pc}\}_{test}$

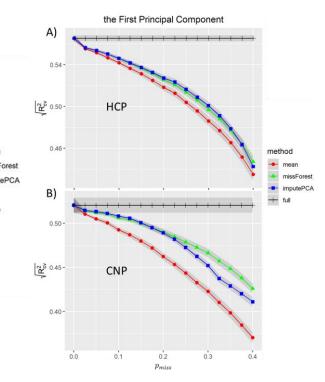
# Result

#### PMAT PMAT A) 2 0.36 0.33 method 0.30 0.200 0.250 0.300 0.350 0.4 imputePCA pmiss p<sub>miss</sub> Verbal Recall II Verbal Recall II B) 0.425 comp Q 0.375 0.350 0.325 -0.6 0.025 0.100 0.150 0.200 0.250 0.300 0.350 0.400 Pmiss Pmiss

Predicting single behavioral measure

**Figure 1.** Performance of rCPM with embedded data imputation in predicting A) PMAT (HCP dataset) B) Verbal Recall II (CNP dataset). Prediction performance ( $\sqrt{R_{cv}^2}$ ) and imputation accuracy (nrmse) over a range of missing data percentage from 2.5% to 40% are shown. The shadow areas represent the 95% confidence interval calculated from multiple repeats of missing different data.

### Predicting latent variable



**Figure 2.** Performance of rCPM when using data imputation in predicting a latent factor (i.e., the 1<sup>st</sup> principal component) of all behavioral measures in A) HCP dataset and B) CNP dataset over a range of missing data percentages from 2.5% to 40%. The shadow areas represent the 95% confidence interval calculated from multiple repeats of missing different data.

HCP Behavior	full	comp	mean	imputePCA	missForest
PMAT	0.408	0.379	0.361	0.394	0.384
ReadEng	0.394	0.378	0.364	0.394	0.389
PicVocab	0.457	0.432	0.413	0.433	0.430
$1^{st}$ pc	0.565	NA	0.512	0.519	0.519
CNP Behavior	full	comp	mean	imputePCA	missForest
CNP Behavior Verbal Recall II	full 0.416	comp 0.392	mean 0.378	imputePCA 0.405	missForest 0.403
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Verbal Recall II	0.416	0.392	0.378	0.405	0.403

Table 1. rCPM data performance with differentdata imputation methods for each testedbehavioral variable averaged over all missingdata percentage. Bolded values indicate thebest performance data imputation method foreach tested behavioral variable.

### **Discussion and Conclusion**

- Imputation embedded rCPM using either imputePCA or missForest significantly outperforms simpler methods for handling missing data, such as only using complete cases or mean imputation.
- Future work will include using both the imaging and behavioral data to impute missing behavioral data and testing for cases where the data is not missing completely at random. Overall, our results suggest that data imputation may be valuable for CPM studies with missing behavioral data.

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