Using Feature Selection to Identify Gene Significance in Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis

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Overview

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- Multidrug resistant tuberculosis is a form of tuberculosis that has developed resistance to *isoniazid* and *rifampin*.
- We worked with a binary dataset of resistant and susceptible tuberculosis strains.
- We utilized feature selection to determine significant genes with four models: CART, random forest, naive bayes, and genetic learning.
- We found pncA gene was most significant in determining drug resistance.
 - These methods can be applied to other similar datasets in the future

Introduction

Tuberculosis (TB)

- Caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis
- Can be cured by administering antibiotics such as *Isoniazid, Rifampin, Pyrazinamide*, and others
- Can develop resistance to certain antibiotics, making it very difficult to cure
- Approximately 50% of patients with drug resistant tuberculosis eventually die due to the disease
- 240,000 global deaths from drug resistant tuberculosis in 2017
 - 4.1% of new cases of TB and 19% of previously treated cases are drug resistant

Goals of project

- Use feature analysis to determine genes significant in determining drug resistance
- Use results to screen for drug resistance and prescribe effective antibiotics
- Expand to other diseases

Data

Biomarkers

			1a	2a	3a	4a	5a	6a	7a	8a	9a	10a	11a	12a	13a	14a	15a	16a
		ample1			0	D					0		0		0	0 0		
	2	sample2	0		0	0 0				C	0		0		1	0		
	9	ample3			0	D C		G		Q	0		0	Ó	C	0 0		
	9	sample4			0	D C		C		C	0		0	0	0	0		
	9	ample5			0	D C				C	0		0	0	C	0 0		
	2	ample6			0	0 0				C	0		0	0	0	0 0		
	9	ample7			0	1 0				0	0		0	0	0	0	1	
Strains	2	ample8			0	0		C		G	0		0	0	0	0		
	9	ample9	0		0	1 0				C	0		0	0	0	0 0	1	
	<u>)</u>	sample10			0	D C		C	C	C	0		0	0	0	0	C	
	4	ample11			0	D C		0		C	0		0		0	0 0		
	<u>ا</u>	ample12			0	D		0	C	1	0		0	0	0	1	C	
	ń s	ample13	0		0	D C				C	0		0	0	C	0 0		1
	2	sample14			0	D C				C	0		0	0	0	0 0		
	2	ample15			0	0 0		0		0	0		0	0	(0	0	
	9	ample16			0	D C		0		0	0		0	0	1	0	1	
	2	ample17			1	D				0	0		0		0	0		
	9	ample18			0	D C				0	0		0		0	0 0		
	2	ample19			0						0		0		0	0		
	2	sample20			0	B				0	0		0	0	0	0 0		
	2	ample21	1		0						0		0			0	1	
	2	sample22			0	8				C	0		0		0	0		
	2	sample23			1						0		0	0	9	0		
	9	ample24			0	0		0		0	0		0	0	0	0	0	

480 strains of tuberculosis including drug resistant and susceptible strains 457 biomarkers showing mutated and wild type genes

Data

Each sample was labeled with an "R" or and "S" to show if it was resistant to drugs or susceptible



Methods

CART (Classification and regression trees)

- Commonly known as decision trees
 Samples are divided based on
 certain characteristics using a
 binary tree
 Important genes are determined by
 - looking at important leaf nodes



Random Forest

- Continuation of CART
 - Creates many uncorrelated decision trees. Each tree decides on what the outcome should be, and the most commonly chosen outcome is returned

Naive Bayes

 Algorithm that estimates the probability of a strain being resistant/susceptible based on prior probabilities of predictors



Genetic Learning

- Randomly generate 100 lists of weights. Each weight corresponds to a gene.
- For each strain, weights of mutated genes are added up. If the total exceeds 10, the strain is categorized as resistant, otherwise it is categorized as susceptible.
- The lists are rated on how many strains they categorize correctly.
- The best lists are used to produce new lists with a combination of their weights.
- After many generations, the lists become better at categorizing strains. We choose the first list that can correctly categorize 95% of the strains and analyze its weights.

Higher weights represent more important genes.

Average Fitness vs. Generation



Results



Naive Bayes Plot of Significant Features



Comparing Model Results side by side

Random Forest Naive Bayes Genetic Learning CART 241a 241a 241a 241a 276a 305a 120a 423a 455a 456a 208a 410a 409a 85a 396a 334a Зa 333a 289a 159a 277a 169a 202a 2a 346a 299a 252a 455a 272a 26a 184a 399a 219a 184a 218a 53a 275a 2a 305a 112a

Most Significant

Gene 241a is pncA

Functional pncA gene converts *Pyrazinamide*, a common tuberculosis drug, into its active form, pyrazinoic acid, which accumulates inside tuberculosis cells kills them.

Mutated pncA gene is strongly correlated with Pyrazinamide resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, indicated by previous studies.

Thus, feature selection is successful for finding gene of interest.

Conclusions and Future Study

Feature Selection is successful for this dataset

Useful in combating emerging crisis of antibiotic resistance

Applicable to other datasets of similar nature with further research

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