

Disease progression patterns in COPD

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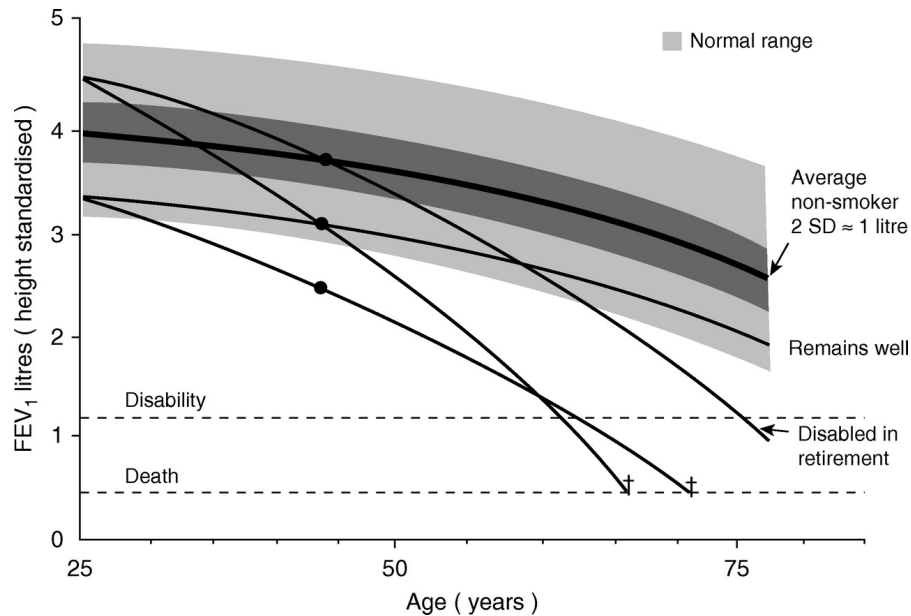
Centre for Medical Image Computing



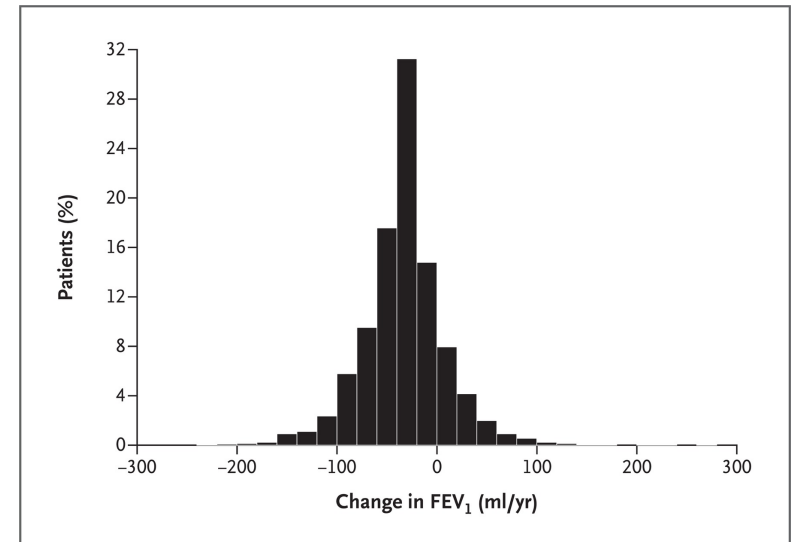
Progression Of Neurodegenerative Disease

No disclosures

COPD is heterogeneous and has a long-term progression that spans several decades

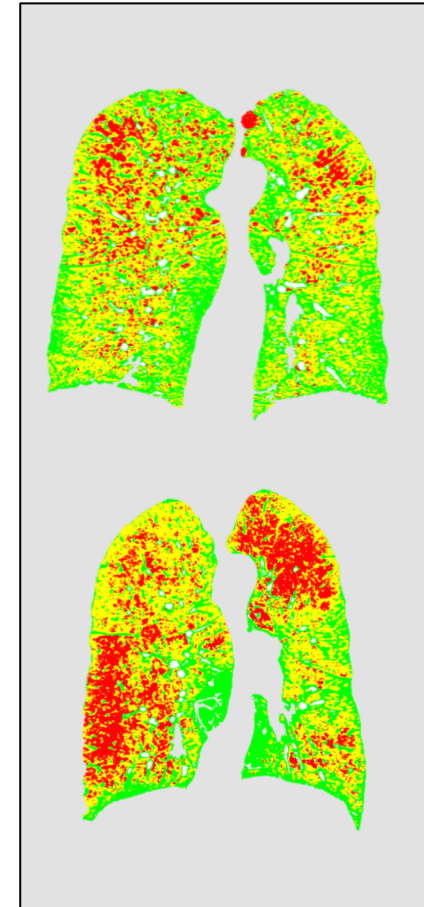
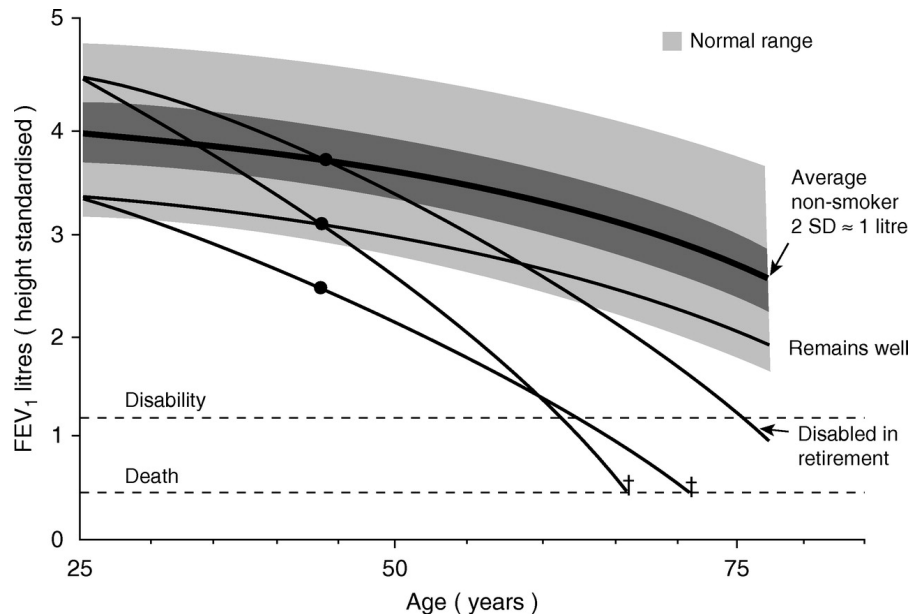


Fletcher-Peto, 1977



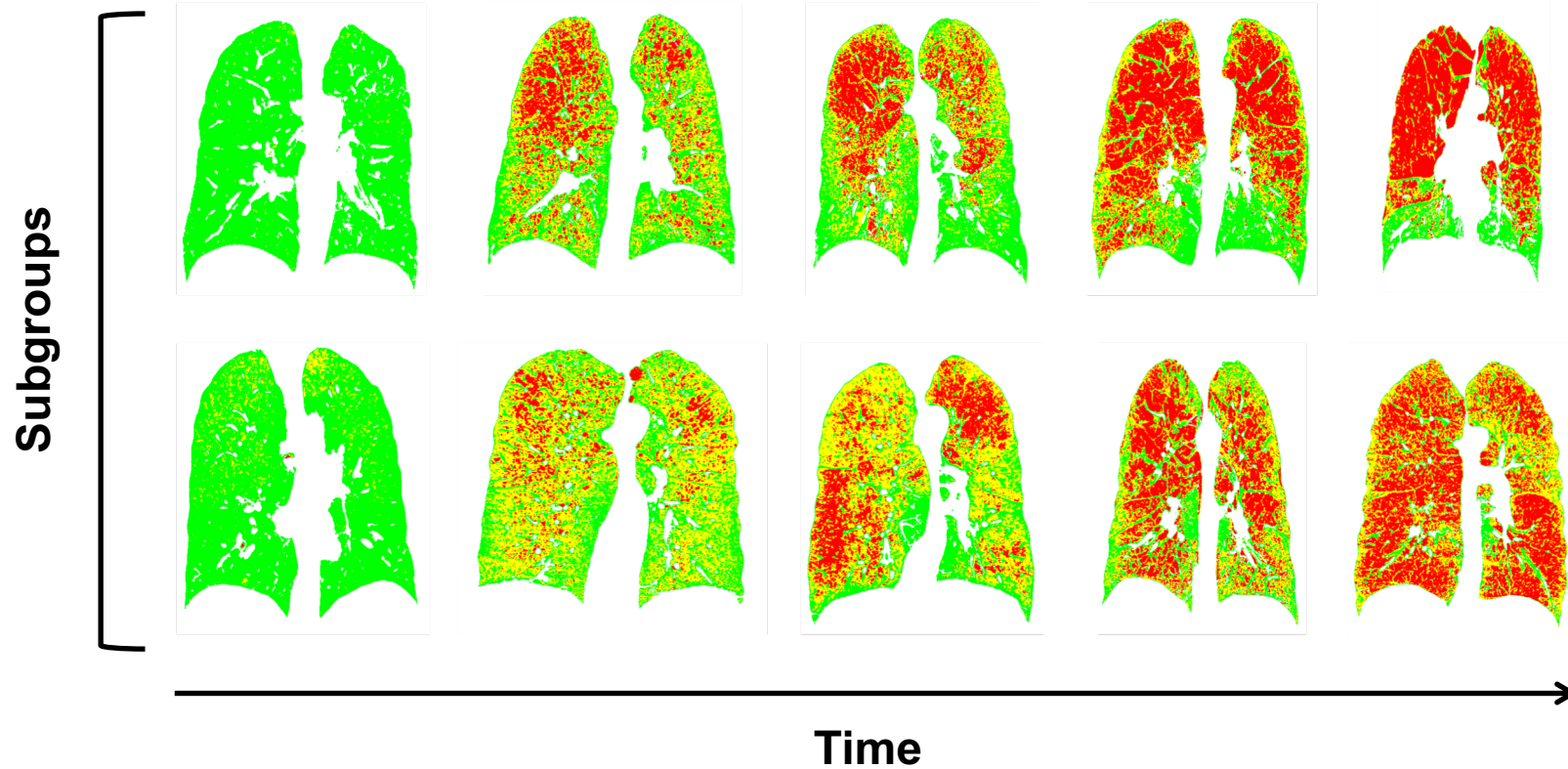
Vestbo, 2011

Lung function decline is a non-specific measure that can correspond to a range of underlying pathologies

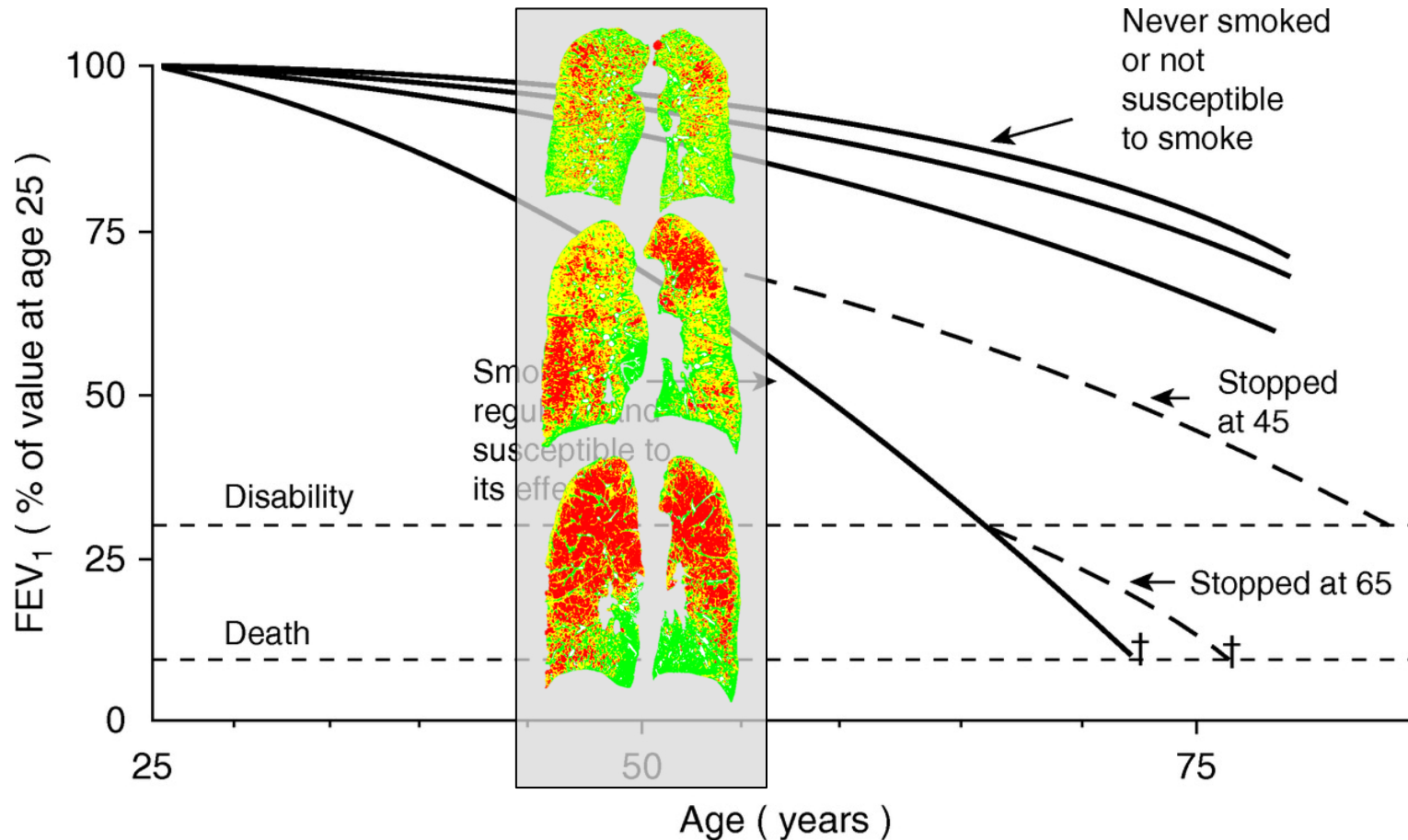


Fletcher-Peto, 1977

Hypothetical description of COPD progression



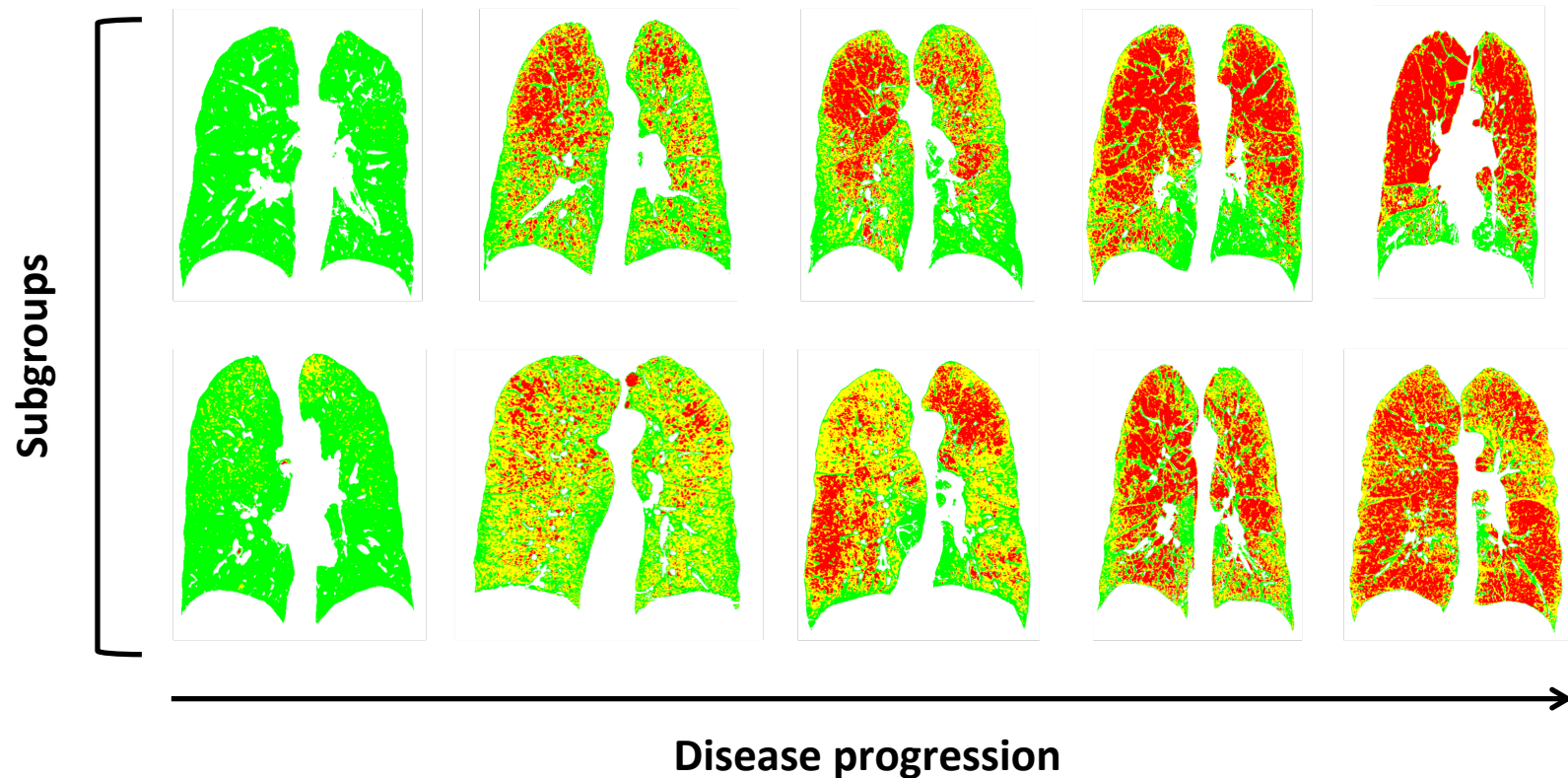
Disentangling imaging trajectories is complicated by long-term natural history of COPD



Fletcher-Peto, 1977

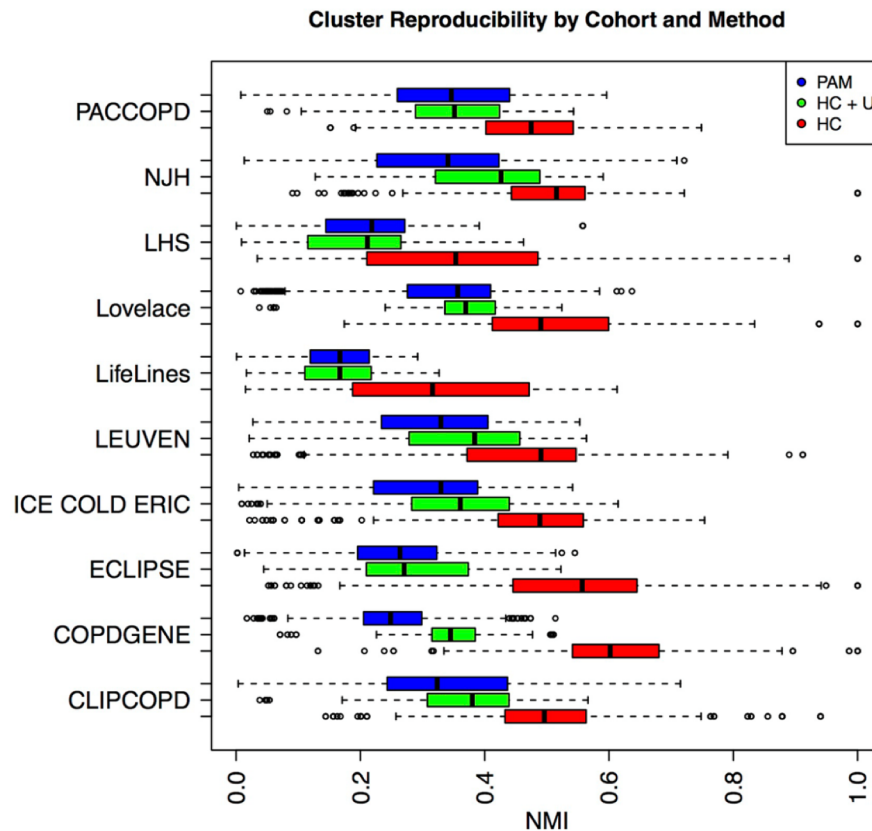
Objectives

- Demonstrate use of a novel machine learning technique to identify subgroups of COPD with distinct progression patterns
- Apply technique to image-based markers from COPDGene study

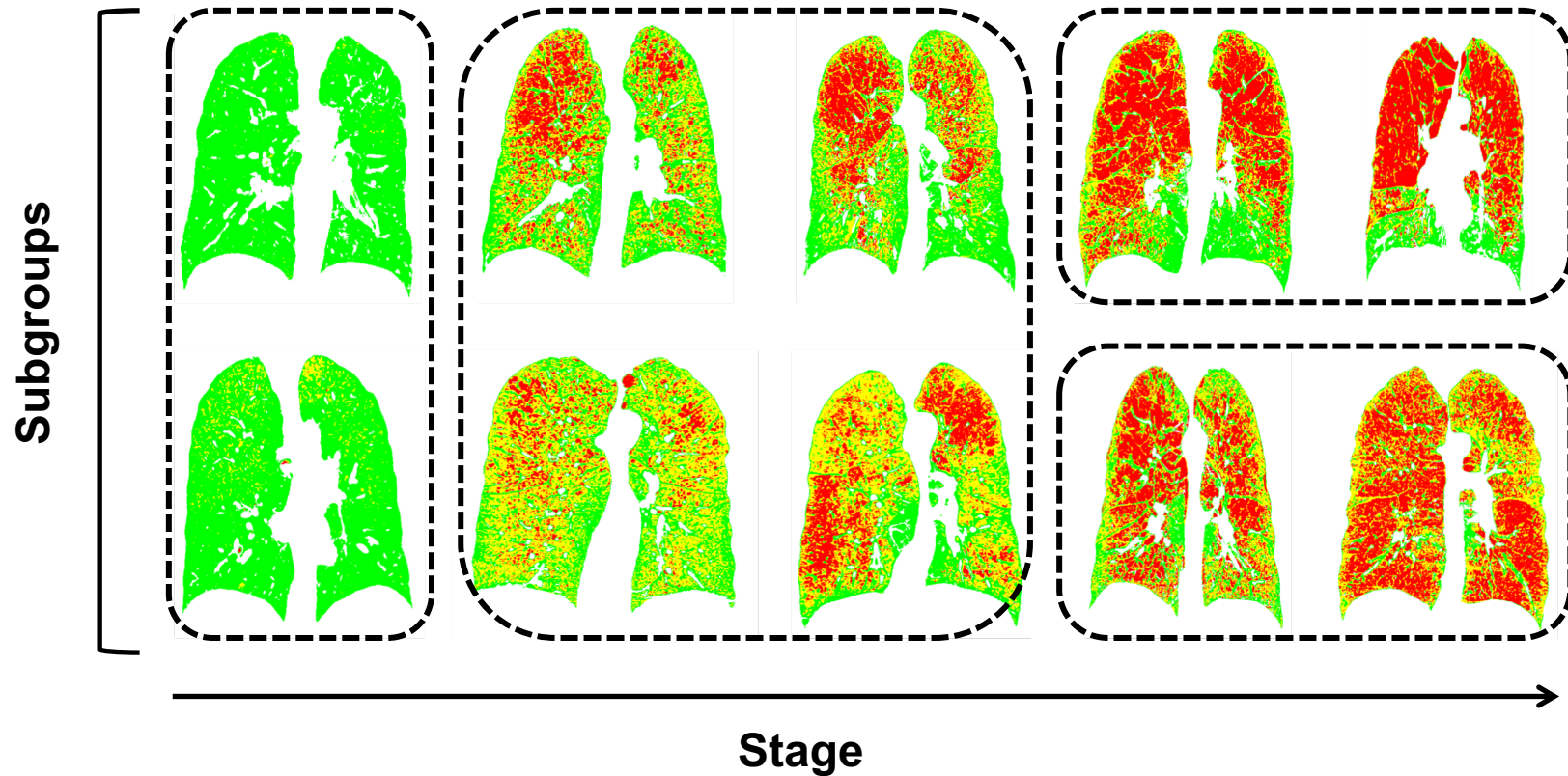


Previous studies investigating heterogeneity use clustering

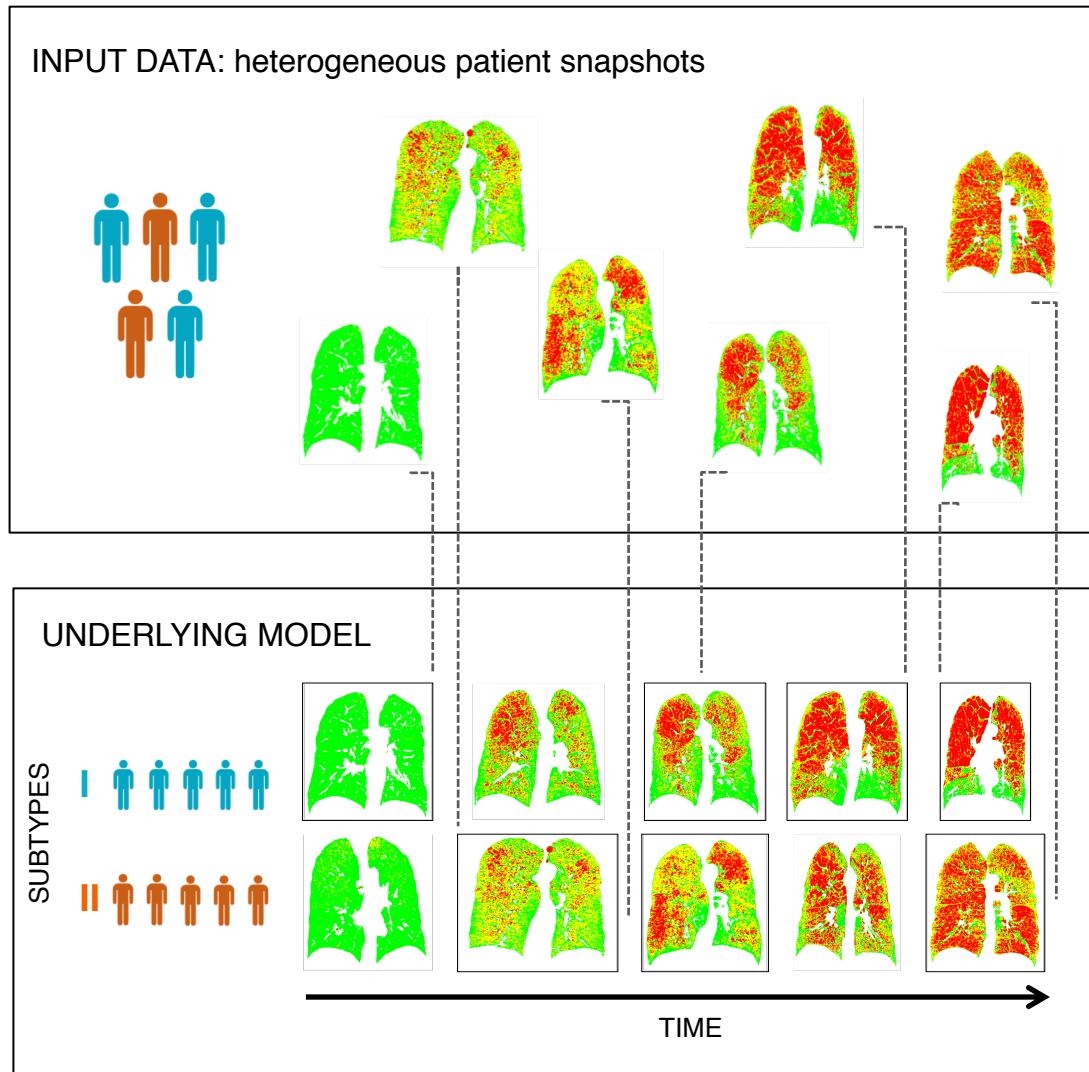
- Clustering associates individuals with similar biomarker profiles
- Doesn't describe the progression of the disease
- Results highly variable (Castaldi et al. 2017)



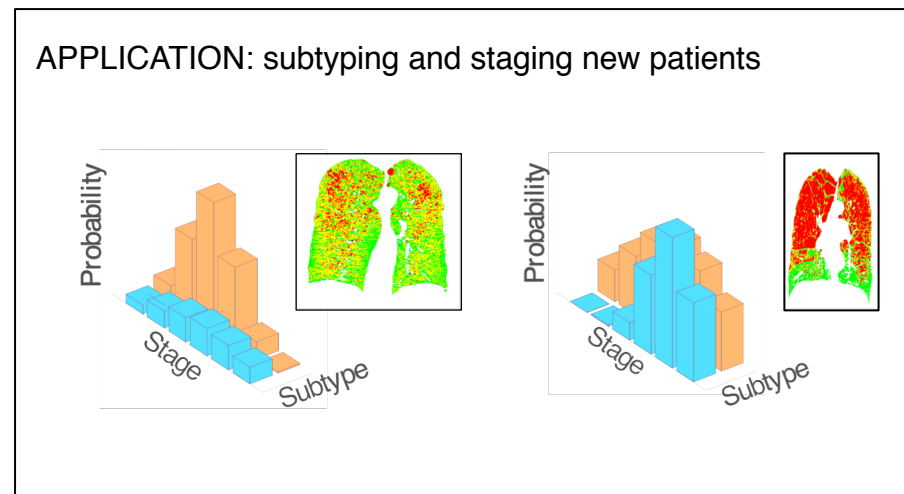
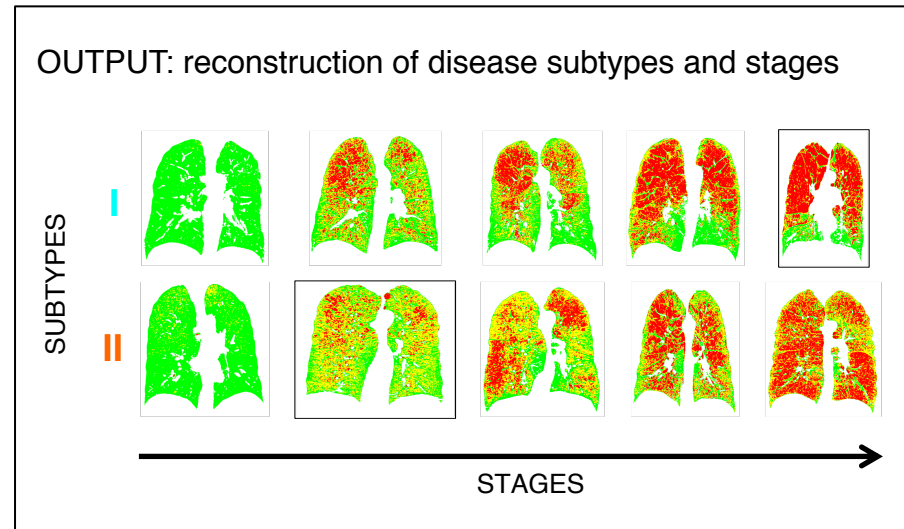
Clustering conflates disease subtypes and stages



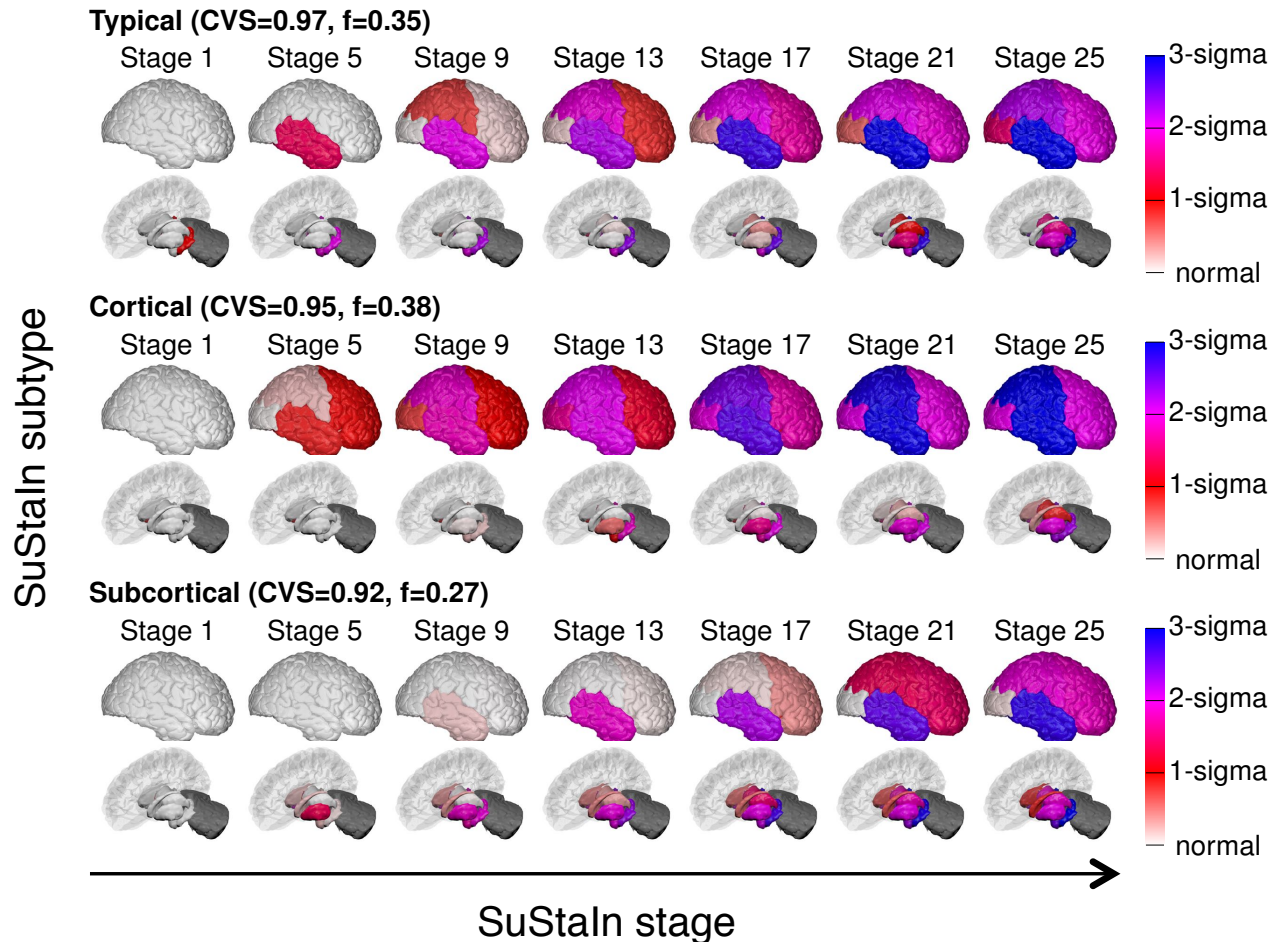
Subtype and Stage Inference (SuStain)



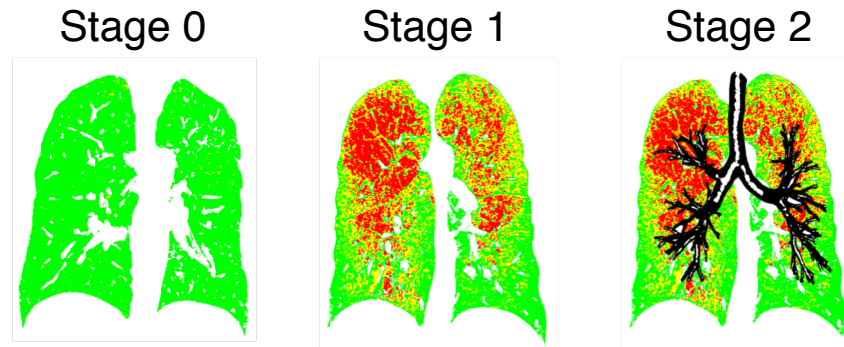
Subtype and Stage Inference (SuStaln)



SuStain initially developed for Alzheimer's disease, but naturally extends to COPD

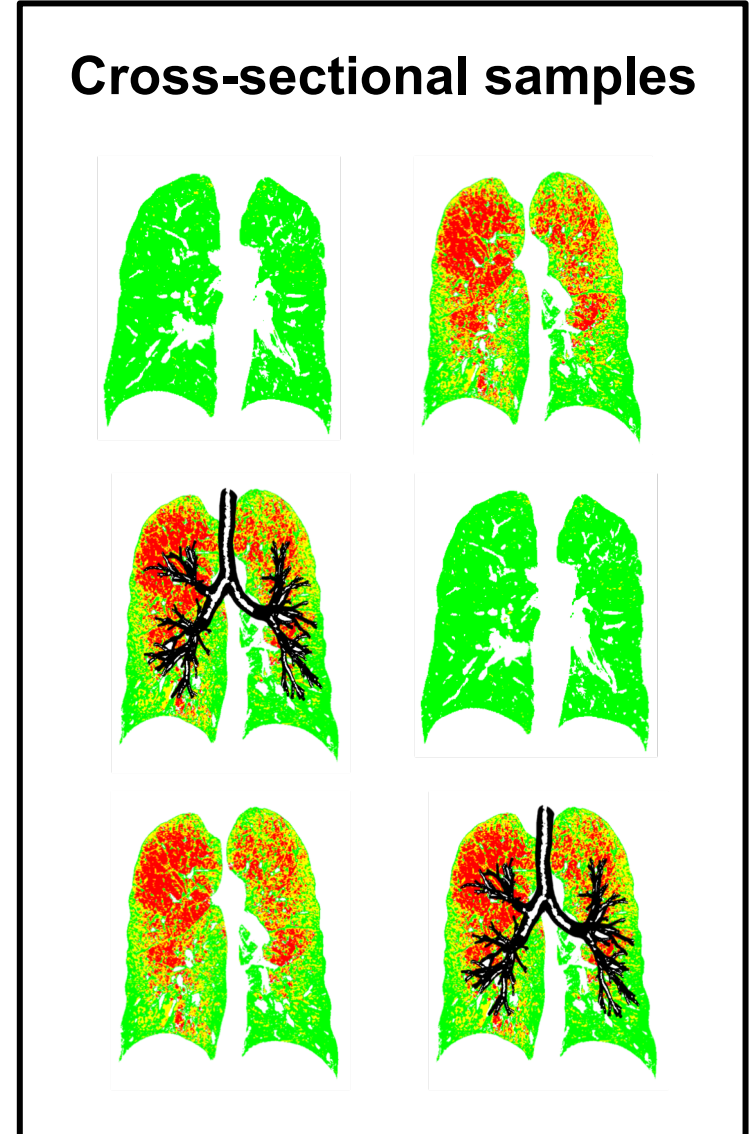
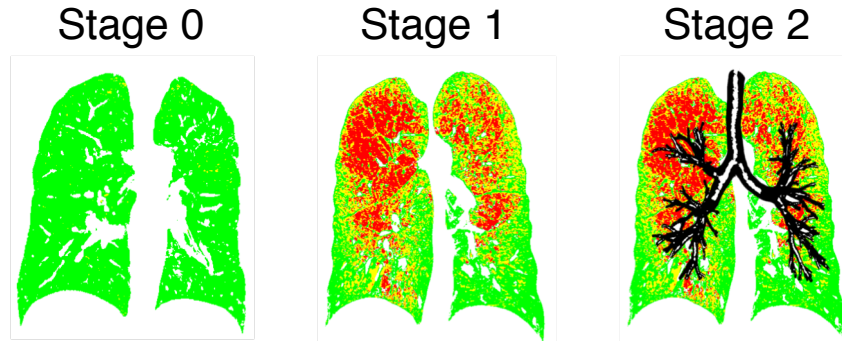


Reconstructing temporal progression from cross-sectional data

A

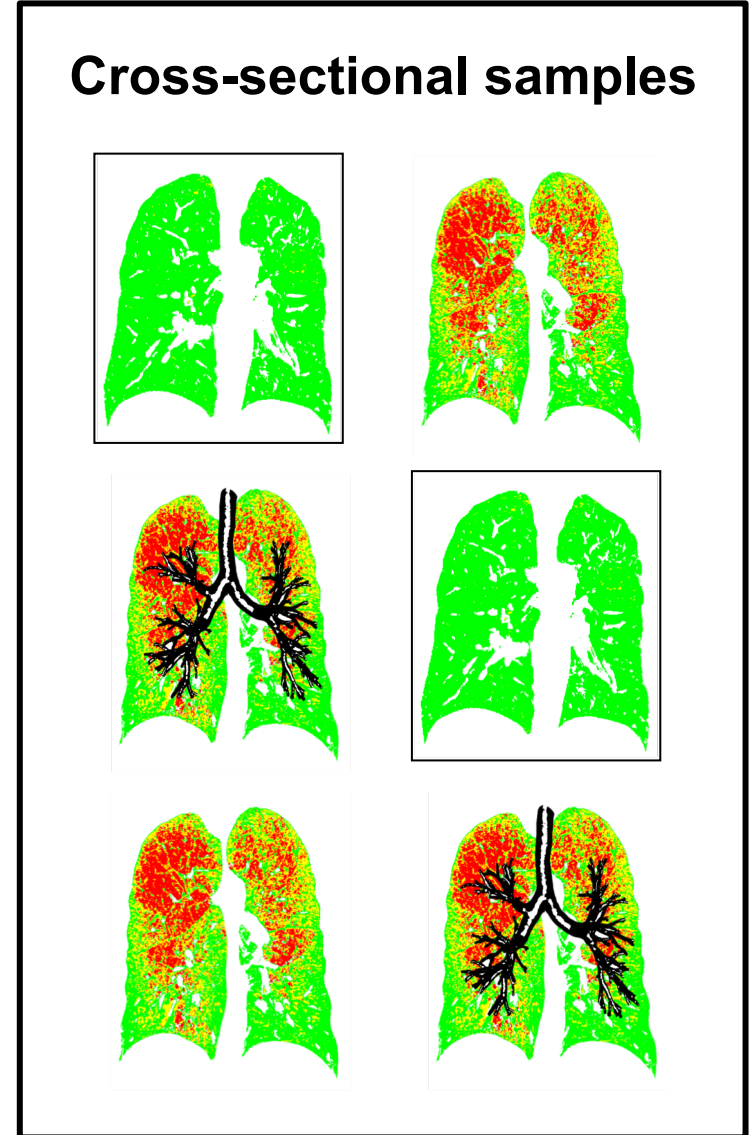
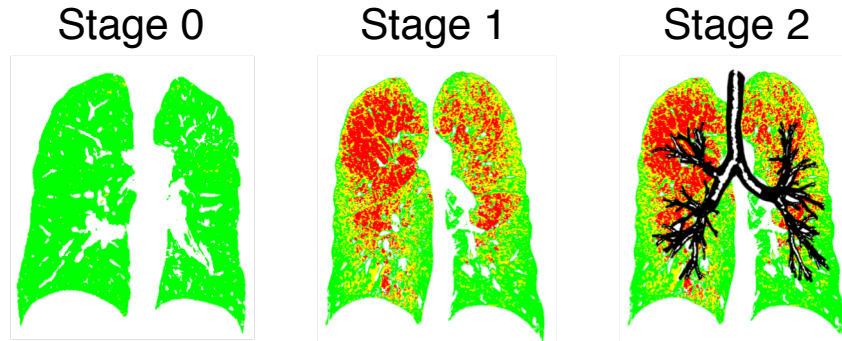
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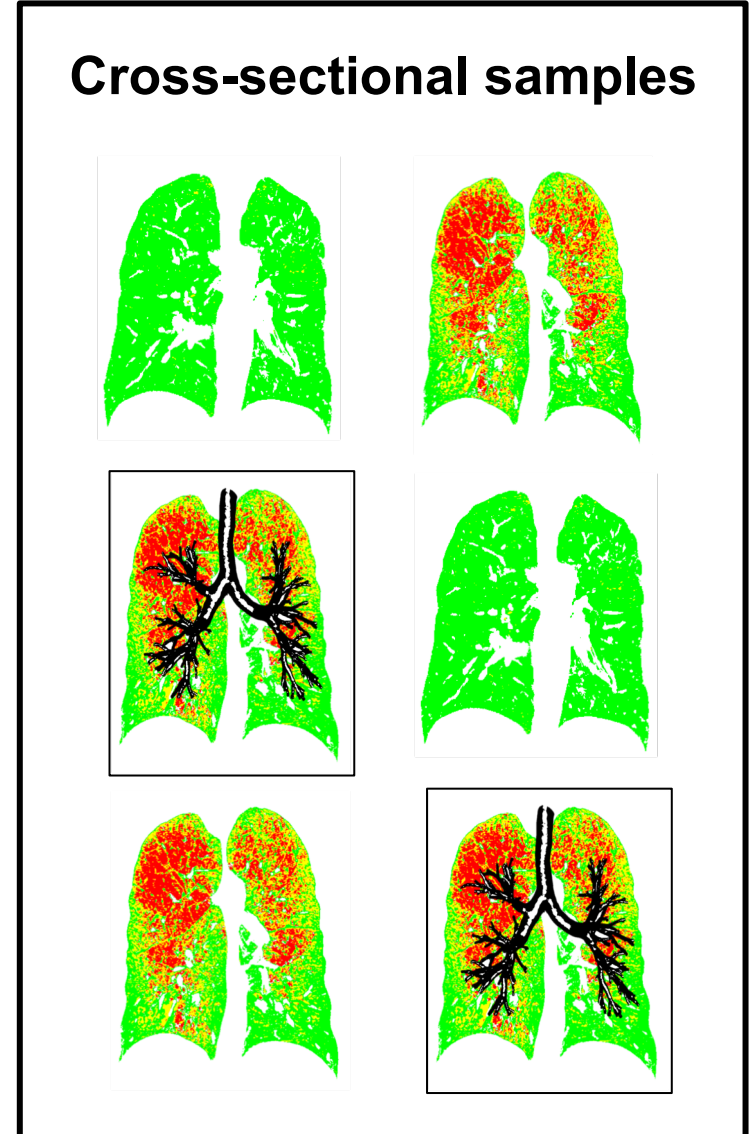
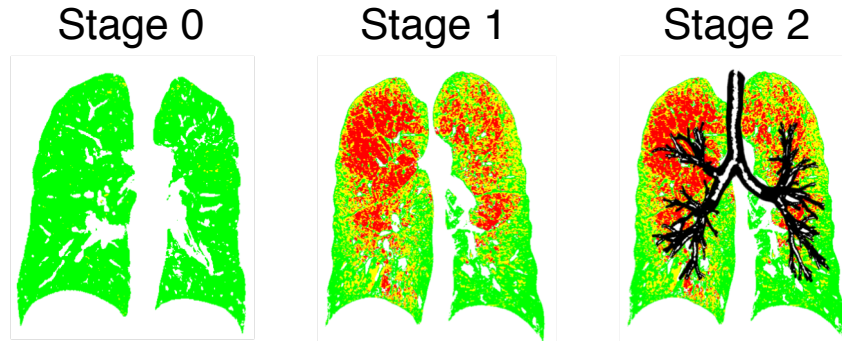
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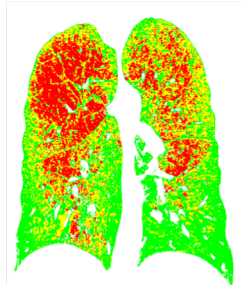
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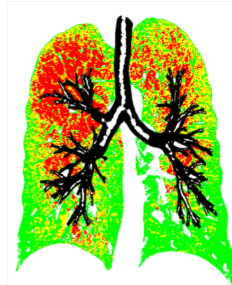
Stage 0



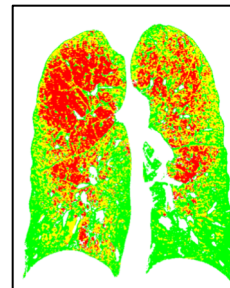
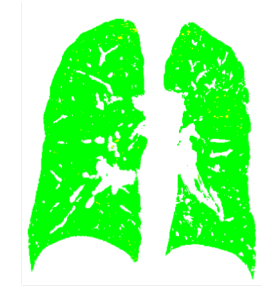
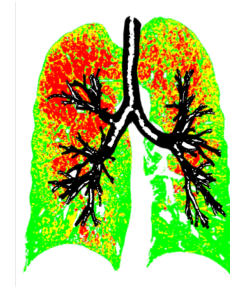
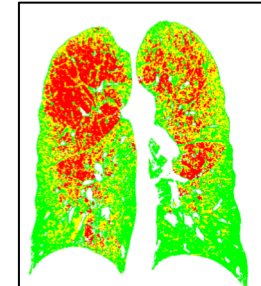
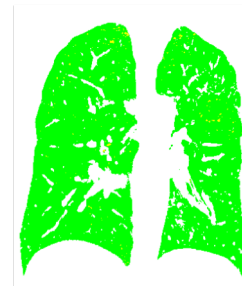
Stage 1



Stage 2

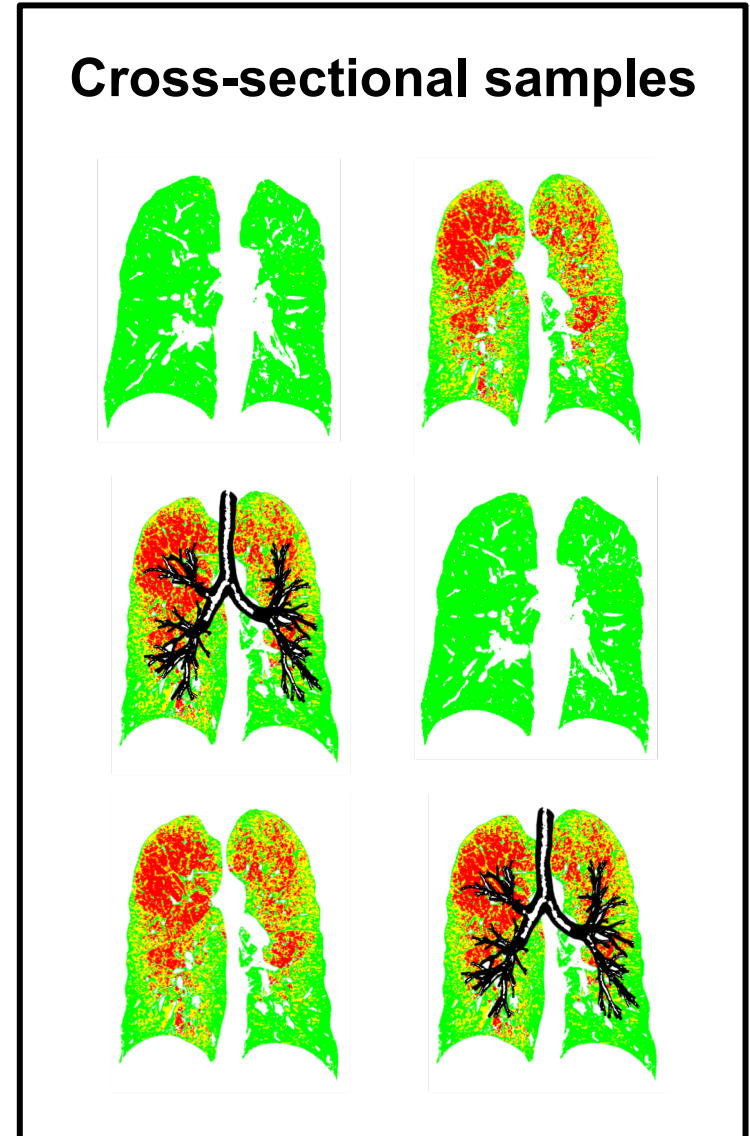
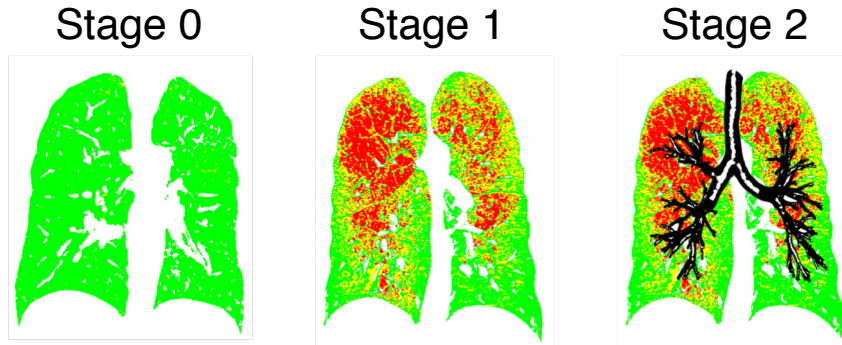


Cross-sectional samples



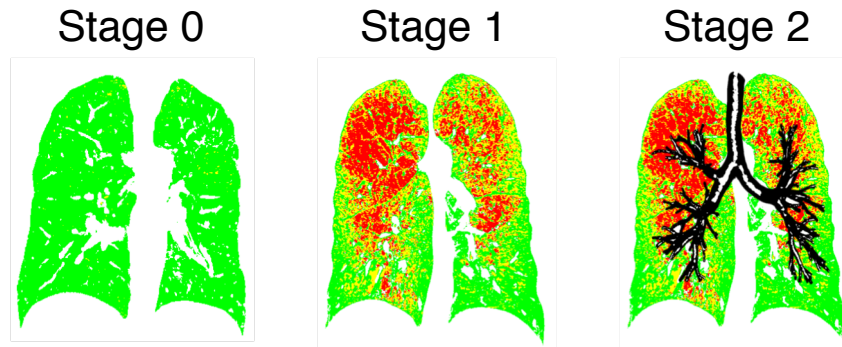
Reconstructing temporal progression from cross-sectional data

A

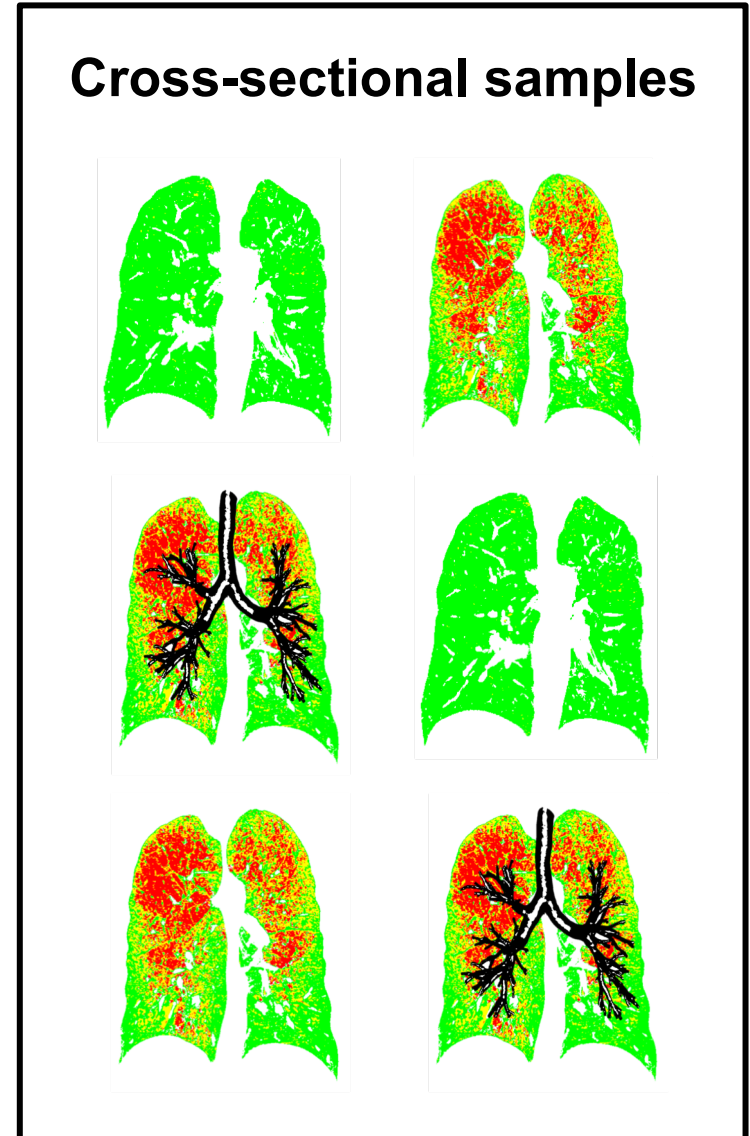


Reconstructing temporal progression from cross-sectional data

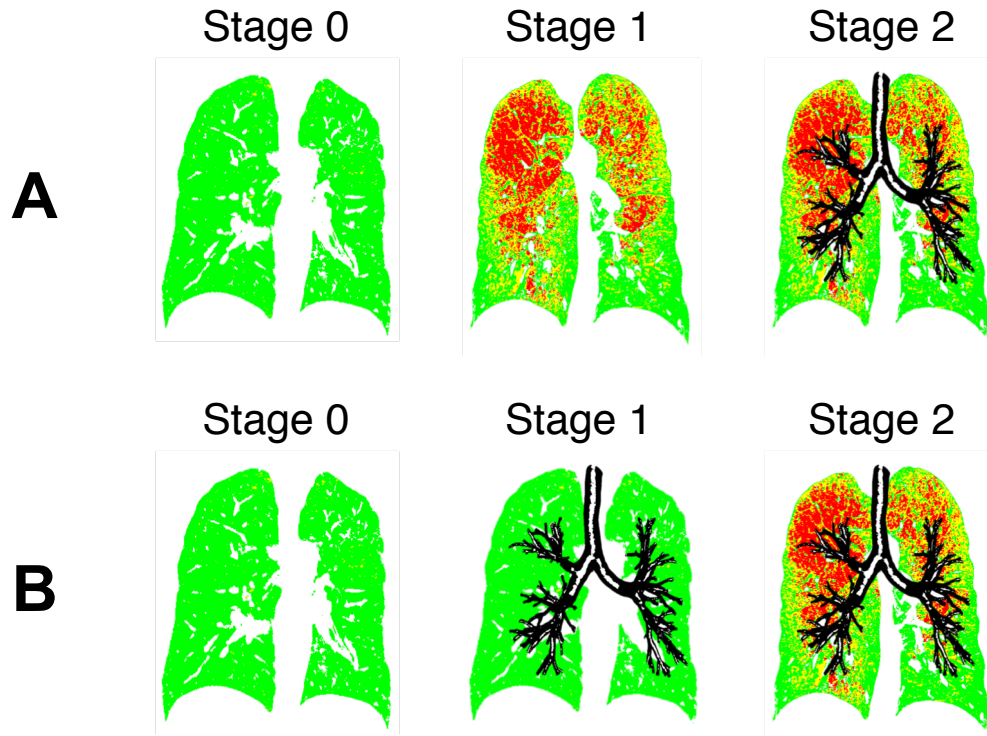
A



Emphysema precedes airway wall thickening

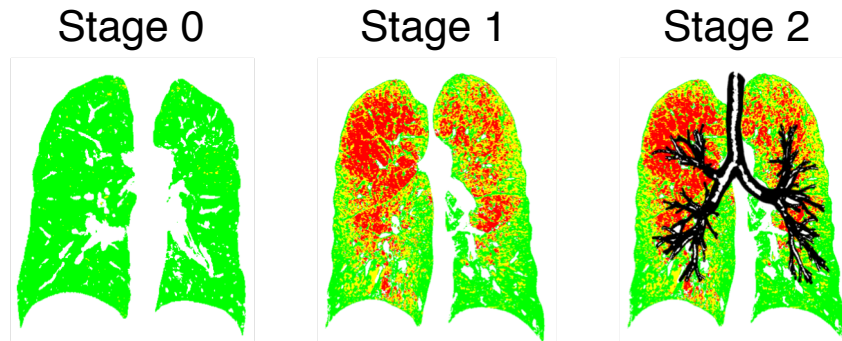


Reconstructing temporal progression from cross-sectional data

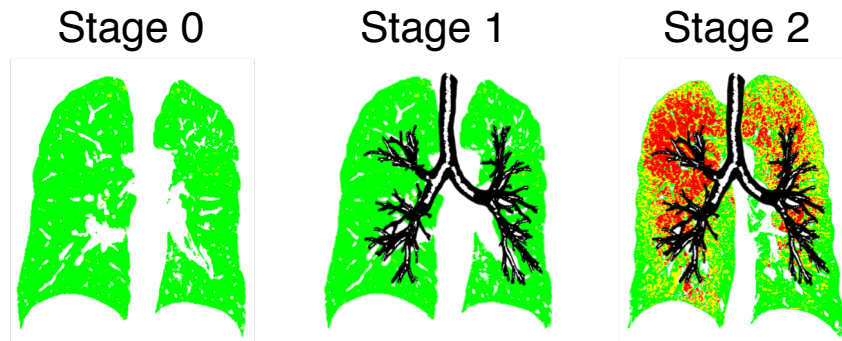


Reconstructing temporal progression from cross-sectional data

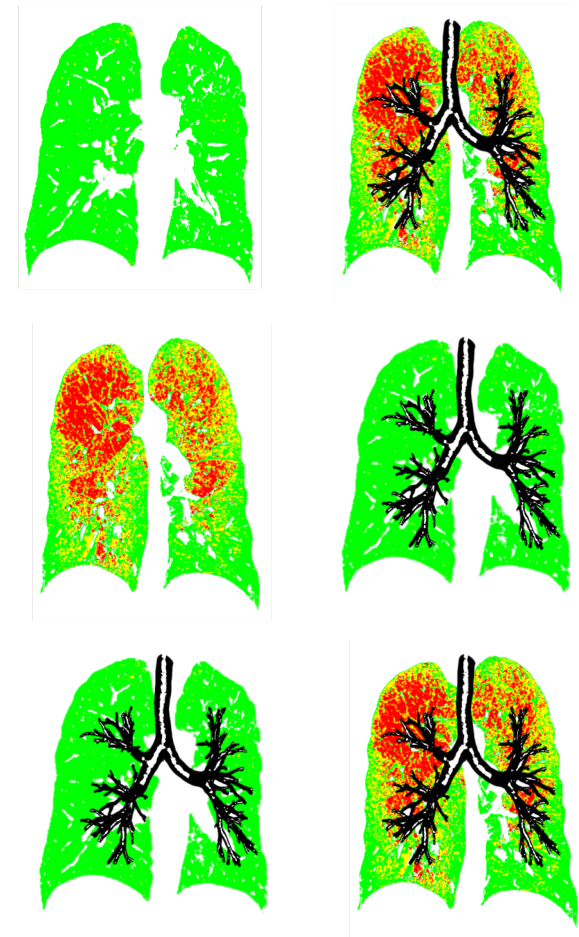
A



B

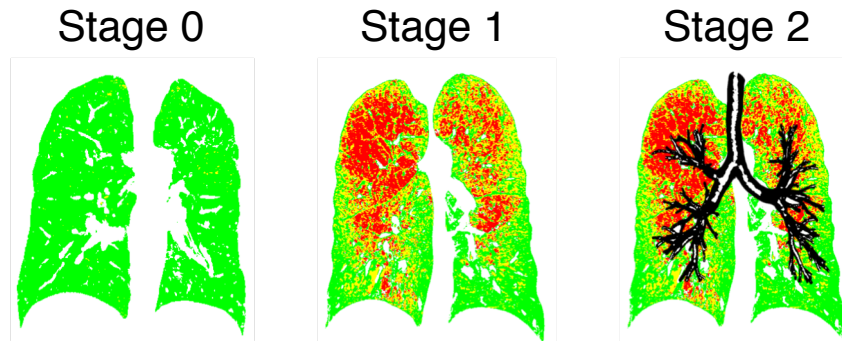


Cross-sectional samples

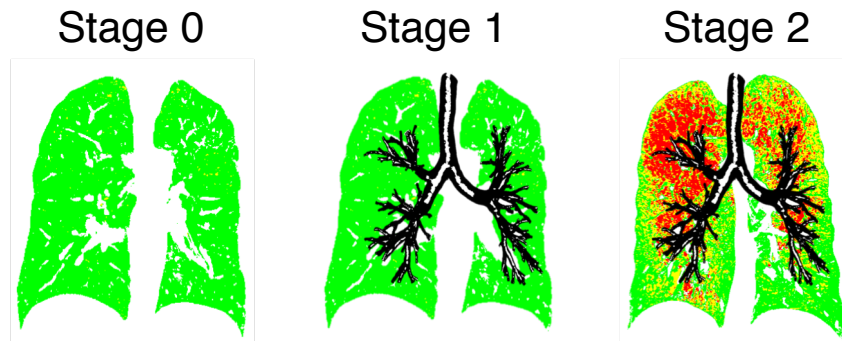


Reconstructing temporal progression from cross-sectional data

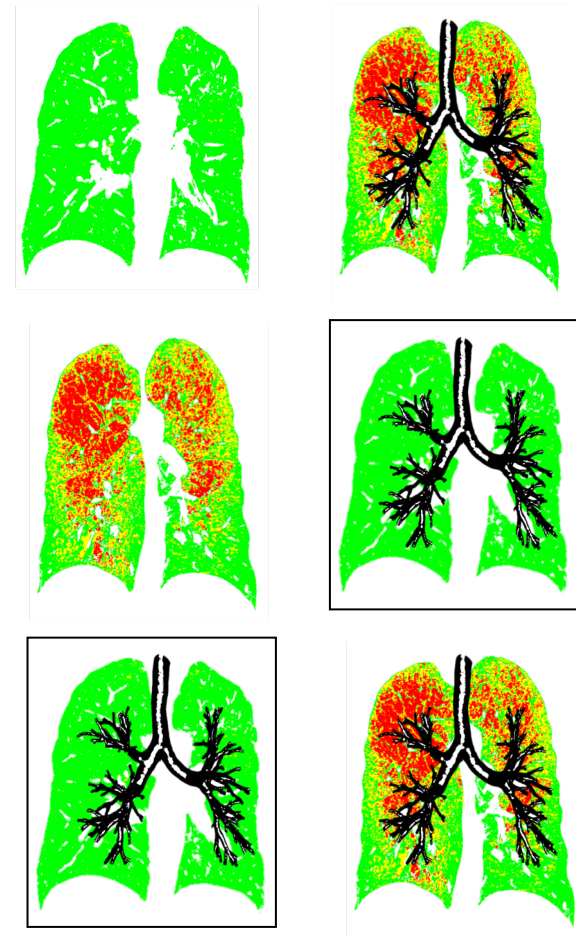
A



B

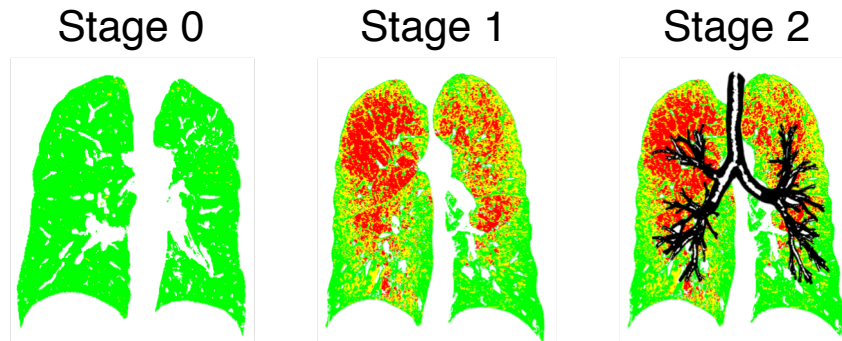


Cross-sectional samples

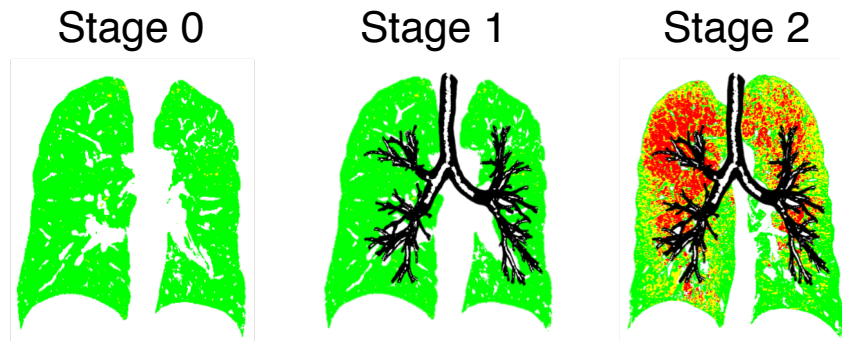


Reconstructing temporal progression from cross-sectional data

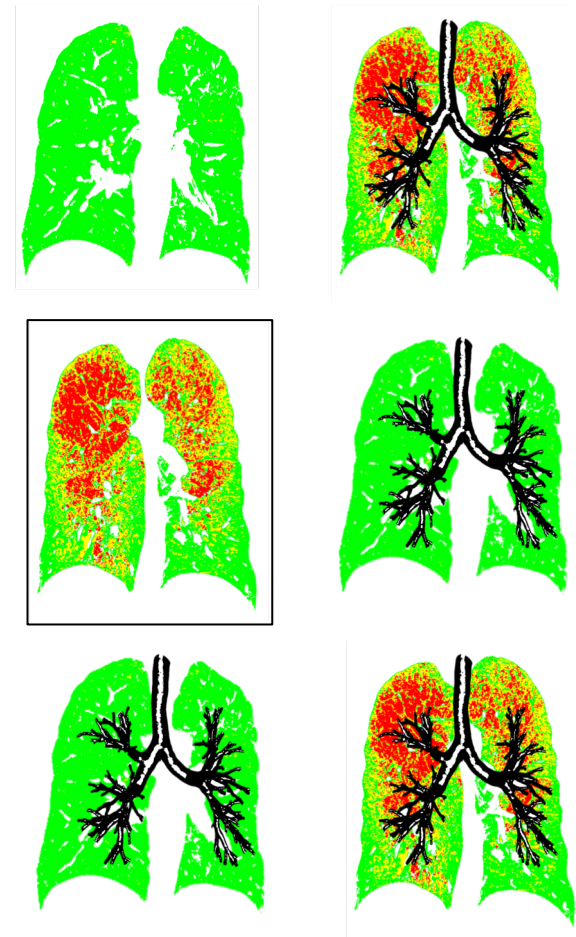
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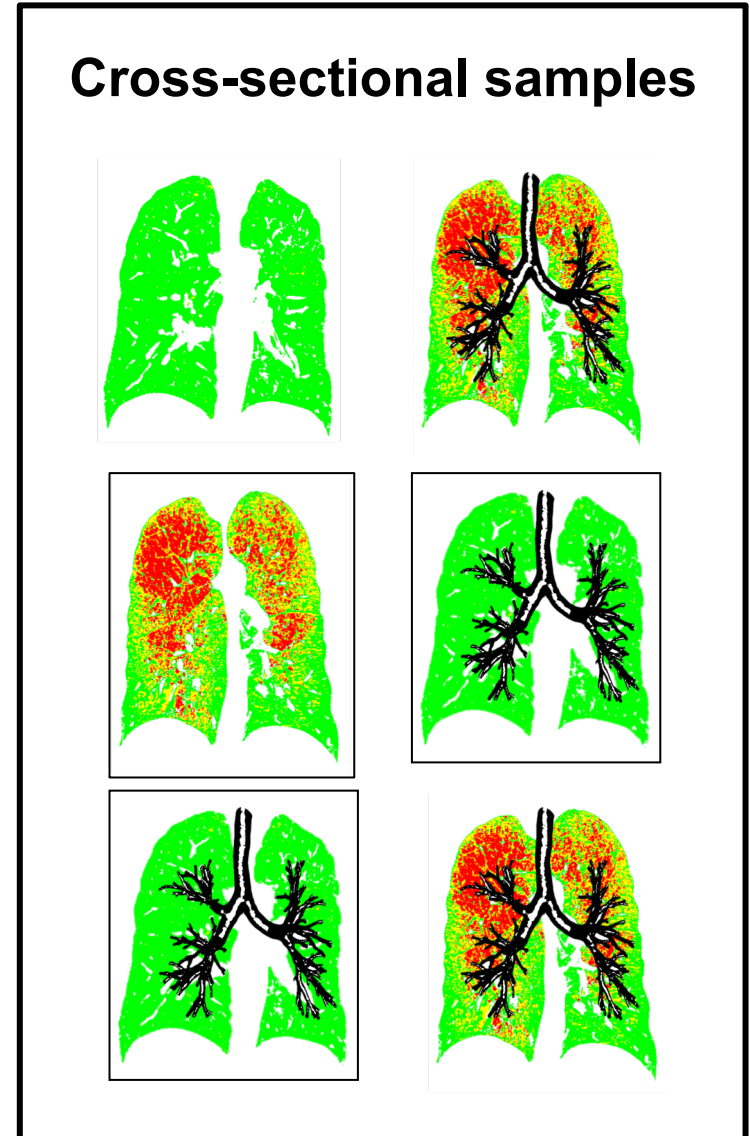
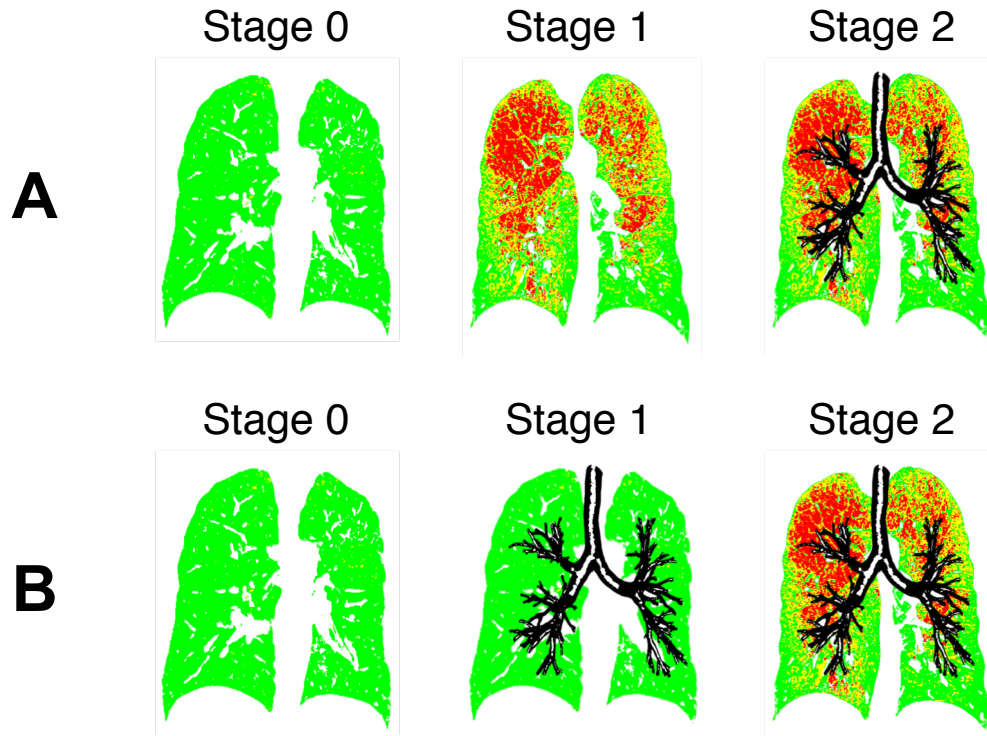
B



Cross-sectional samples

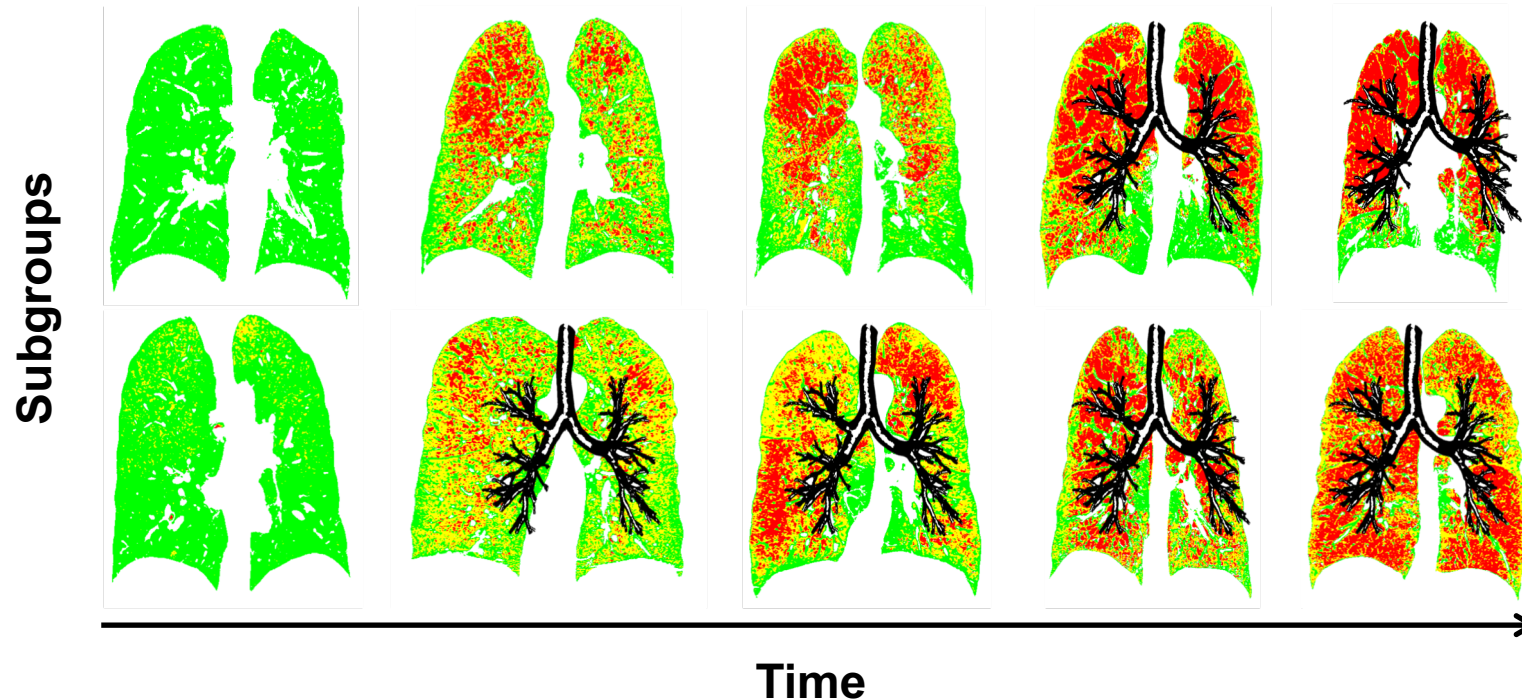


Reconstructing temporal progression from cross-sectional data



Two subtype progression patterns:
Emphysema precedes airway wall thickening
Airway wall thickening precedes emphysema

SuStaln formulates this idea mathematically and generalises it to multiple subtypes and biomarkers



- Stages are indexed as a biomarker reaching a new z-score relative to a control population
- SuStaln estimates the optimal number of subtypes

Application of SuStaln to COPDgene dataset

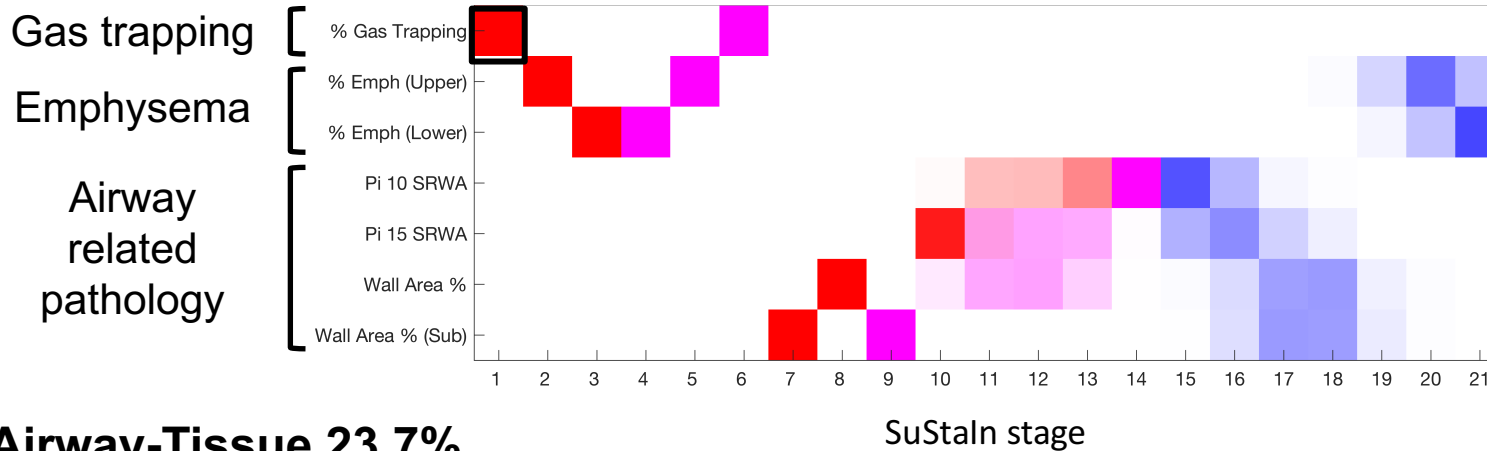
- Selected a set of 1349 patients (GOLD stage 1-4) with cross-sectional CT imaging measures available
- Seven image based-markers
- Measured relative to a set of 1151 smoking controls

Tissue		Airway
Gas trapping	Emphysema	Airway related pathology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % Gas trapping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % Upper lobe emphysema • % Lower lobe emphysema 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pi10 square root airway wall area • Pi15 square root airway wall area • % Segmental wall area • % Sub-segmental wall area

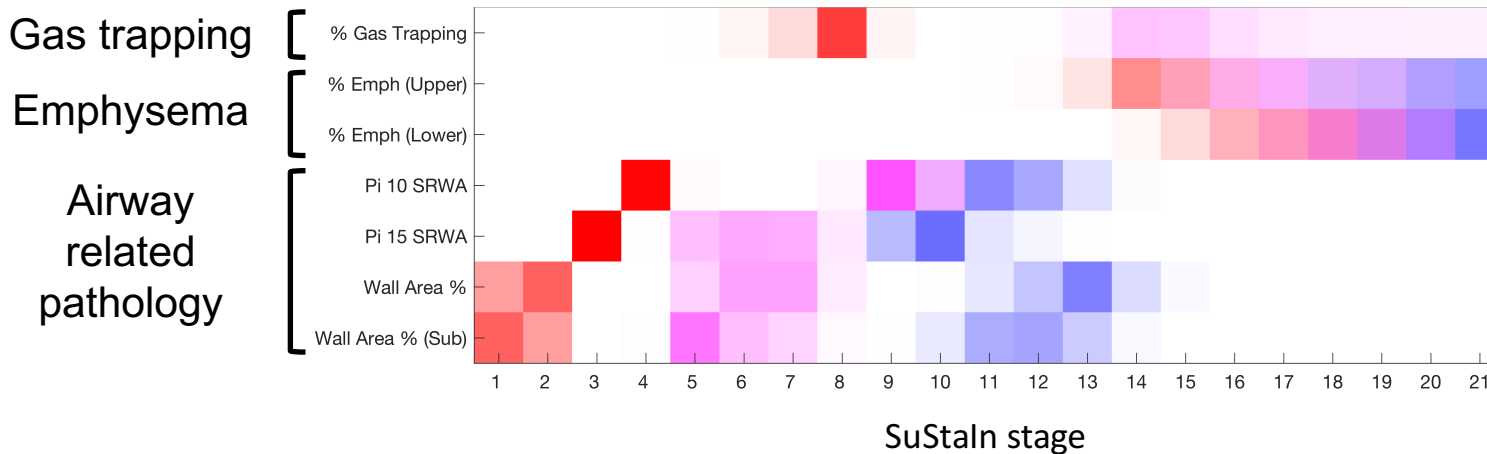
SuStaln identifies a Tissue-Airway and an Airway-Tissue group

Tissue-Airway 76.3%

Gas trapping



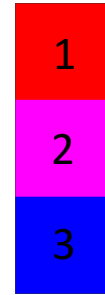
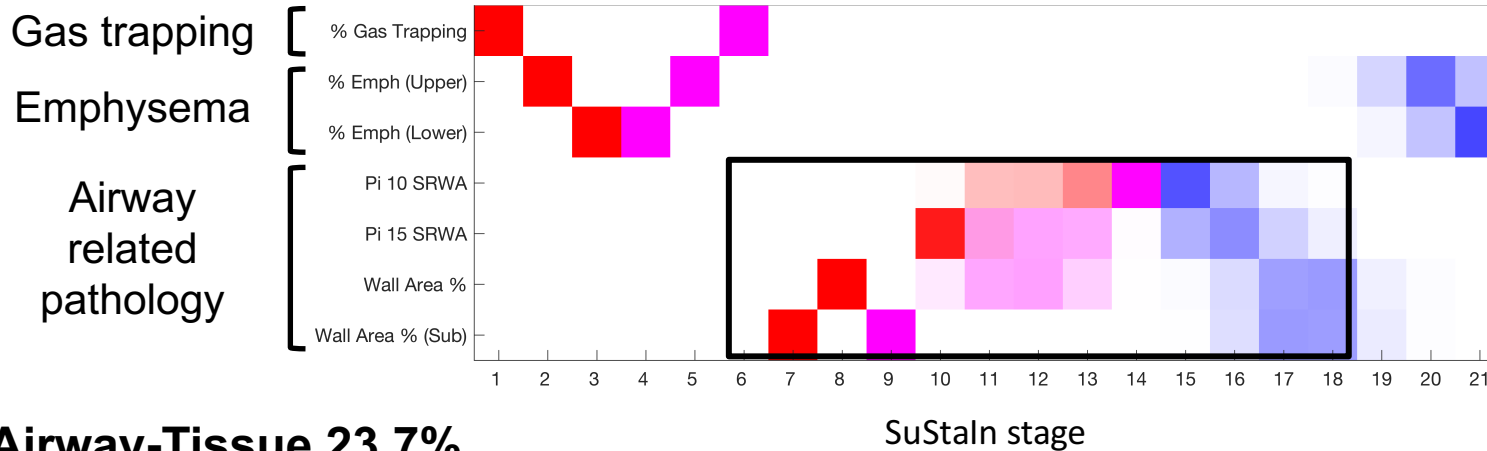
Airway-Tissue 23.7%



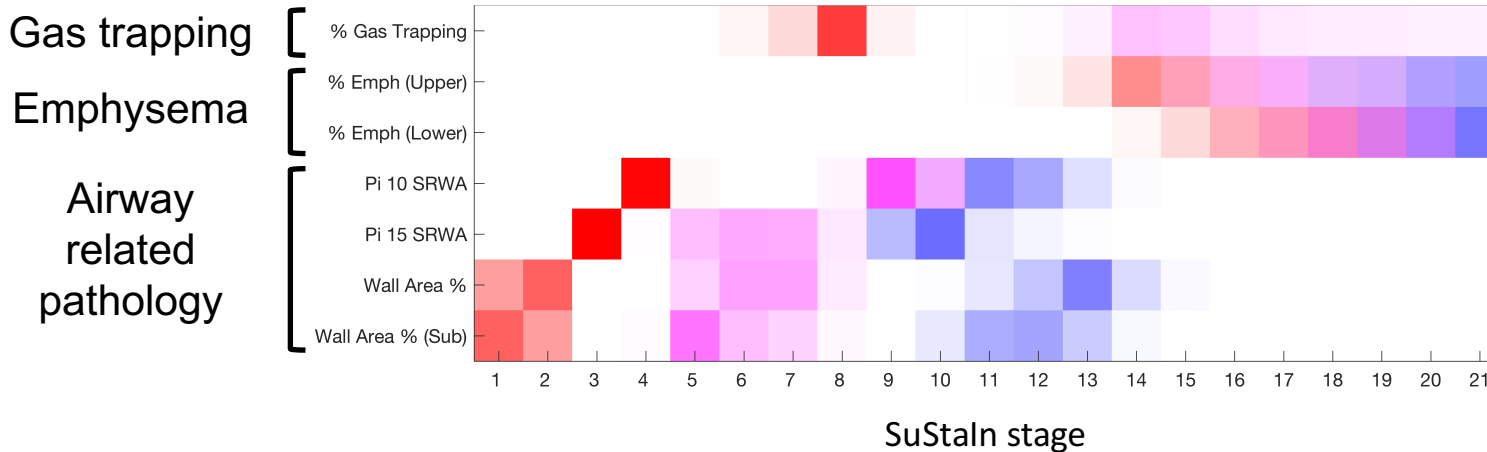
SuStaln identifies a Tissue-Airway and an Airway-Tissue group

Tissue-Airway 76.3%

Gas trapping → Emphysema → Airway related pathology



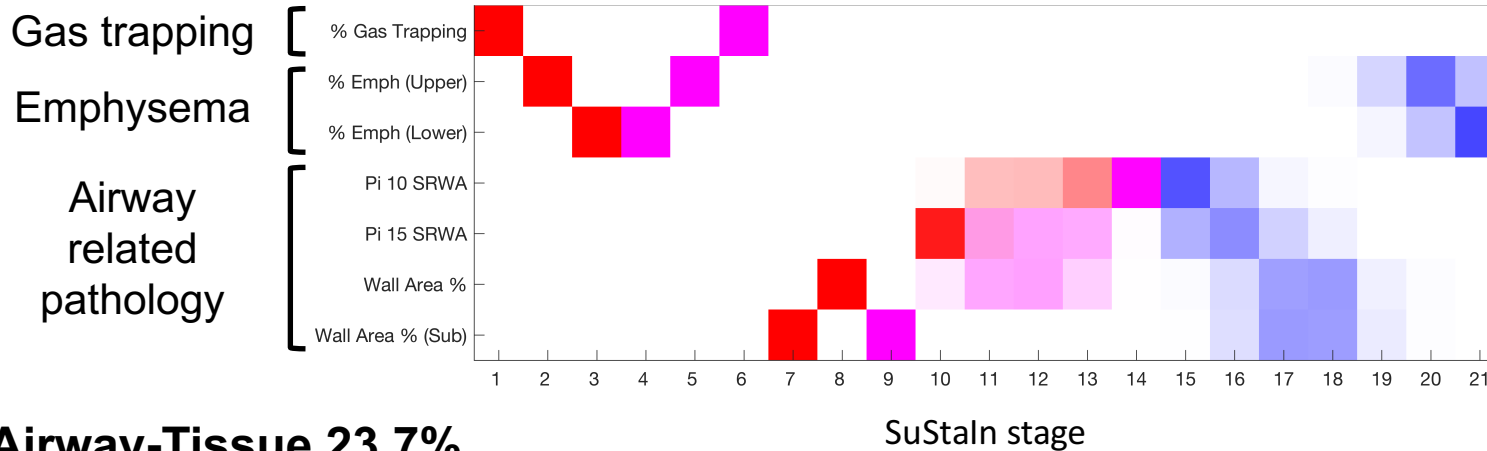
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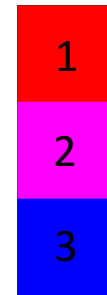
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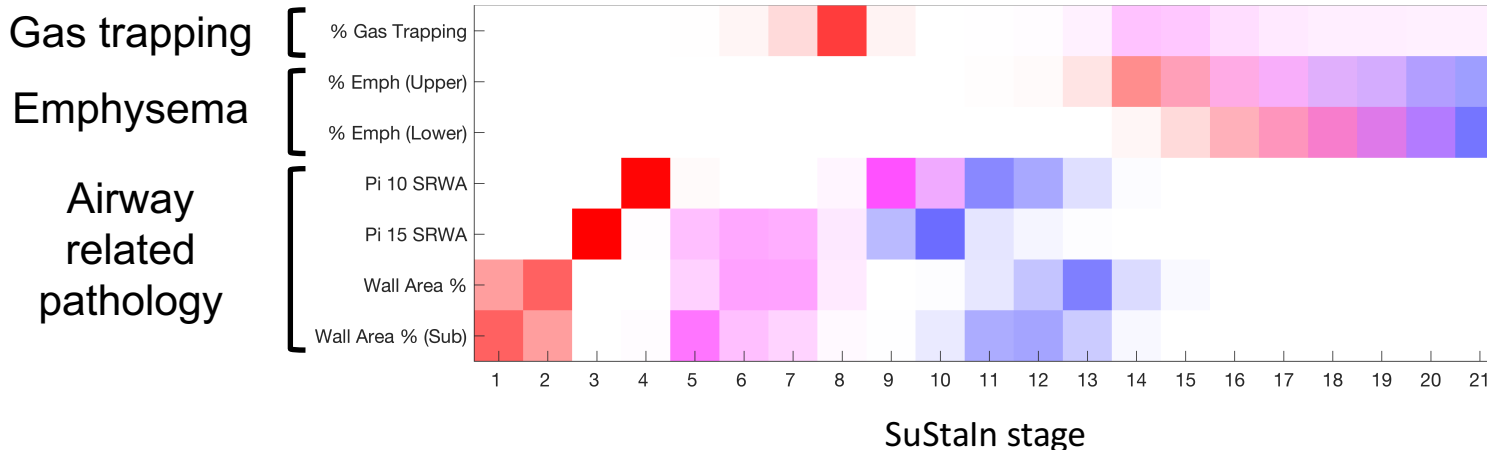


More men
Older
Lower BMI



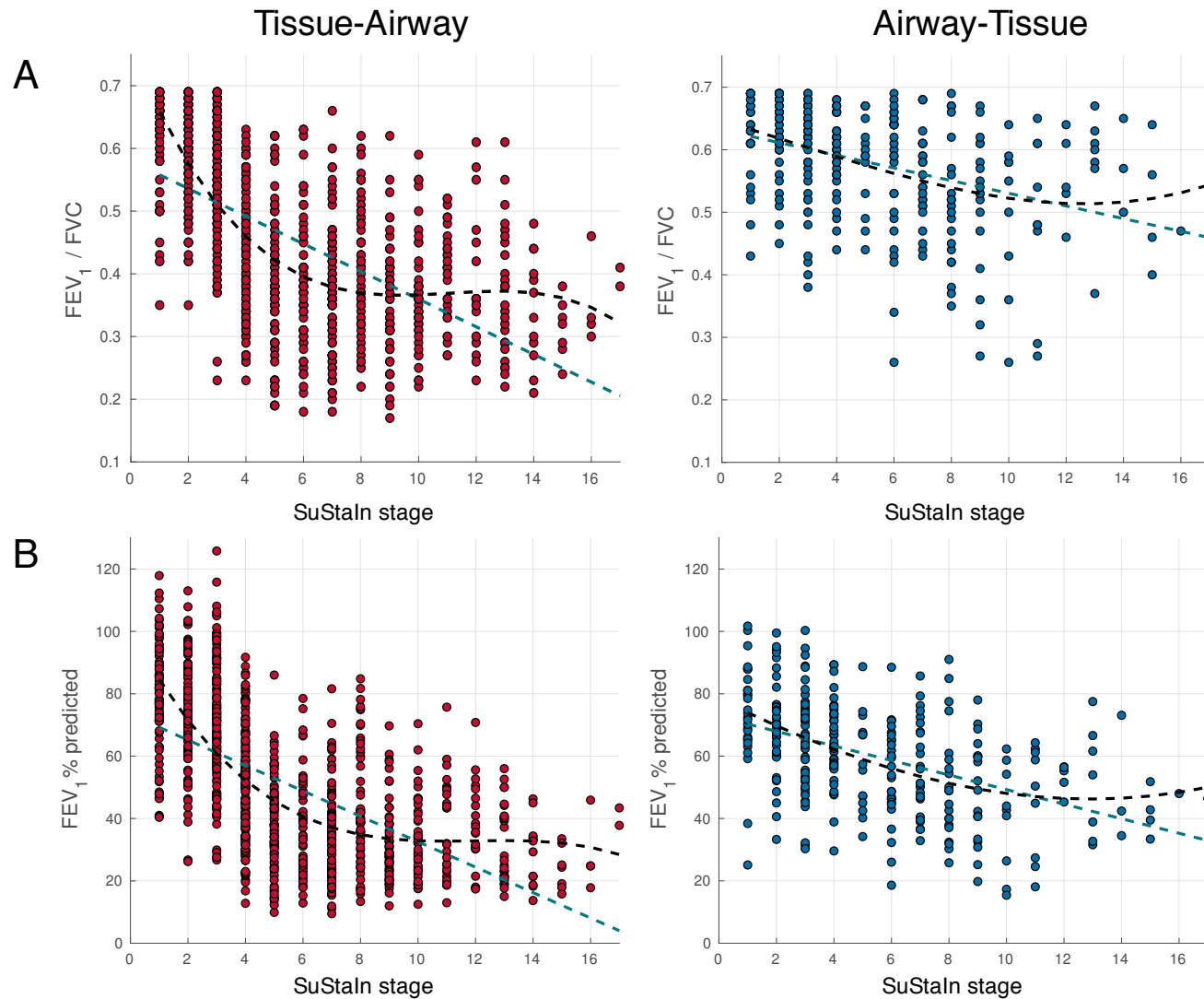
Airway-Tissue 23.7%

Airway related pathology → Emphysema



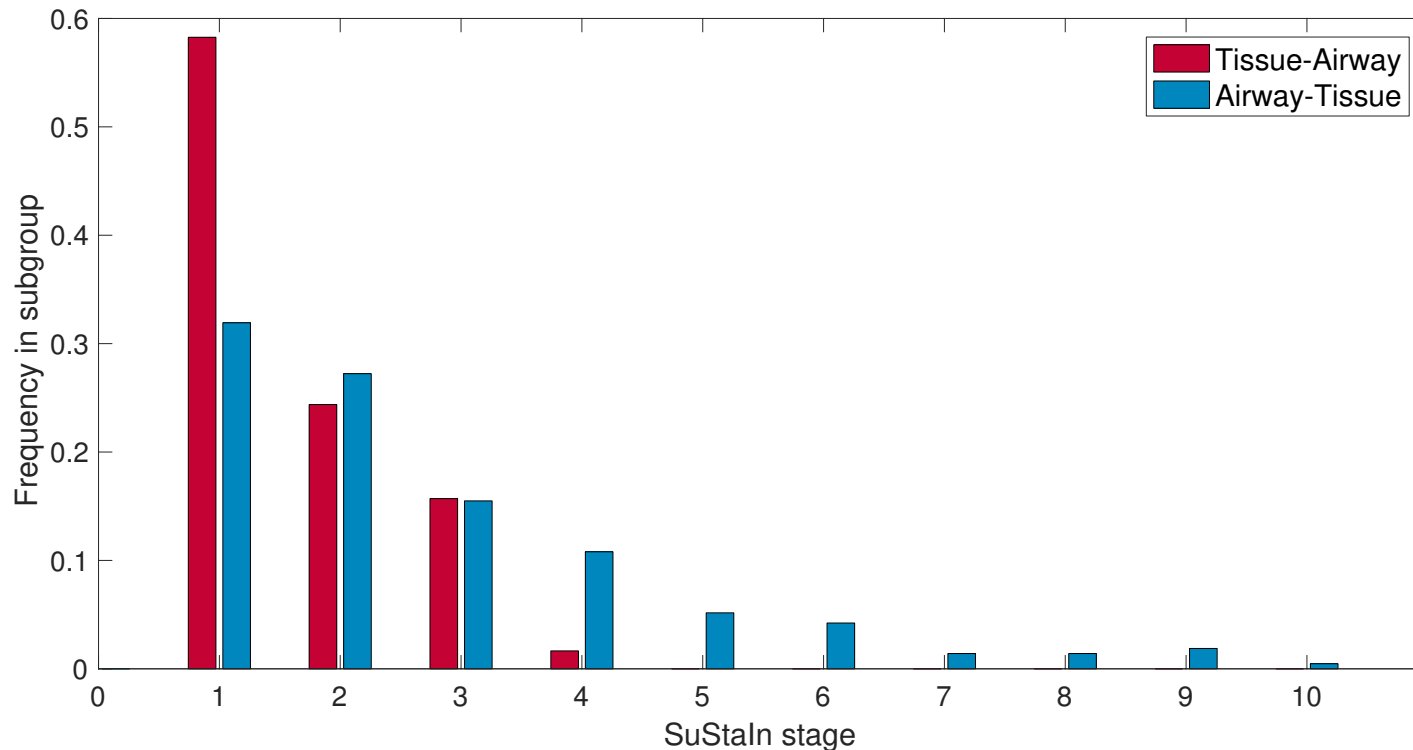
More women
Younger
Higher BMI

Subtypes correlate with decline in lung function



Early stages of COPD may be identifiable in a group of smoking controls

61% Stage 0 (no abnormalities)
 39% Stage 1+
 11% Stage 3+



Summary

- Identify two COPD subgroups that mirror classical descriptions of COPD phenotypes
- **Tissue-airway**: emphysema and low BMI
- **Airway-tissue**: chronic bronchitis and high BMI

- In each subgroup, SuStaln stage is significantly correlated with lung function decline

- Early stages may be identifiable in a fraction of smoking controls

Acknowledgements

Felix Bragman

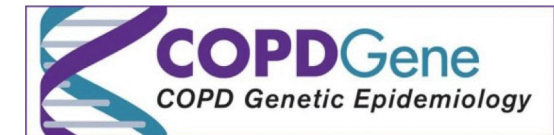
John Hurst

Daniel Alexander

David Hawkes

The logo for the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), consisting of the letters 'EPSRC' in a bold, purple, sans-serif font, flanked by two horizontal teal lines.

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Pre-print SuStaln Nature Comms

bioRxiv <https://doi.org/10.1101/236604>

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