#### Predicting time-to-event outcomes based on high-dimensional multivariate longitudinal information

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# Motivating example: Renal graft failure

- Patients with kidney transplant between 1983 and 2000 at U.H.Leuven
- Clinical interest:

Continuous prediction of long-term success of graft (> 10 years)

#### • Conditional on:

▷ not losing graft during first year

▷ not dying in the first 10 years for reasons not related to transplantation.

# Motivating example (cont'd)

- Information: 949 patients, with 1-78 visits per patient
   > 341 patients with functioning graft after 10 years
   > 91 patients with a graft failure before 10 years
   > 517 patients with functioning graft, but FU < 10 yrs</li>
- Prediction based on longitudinal measurements of:
  - ▷ Haematocrit Level
  - $\triangleright$  Filtration Rate
  - $\triangleright$  Proteinuria
  - ▷ Blood Pressure

#### Haematocrit level



# **Glomerular filtration rate (GFR)**

#### Non-failures

Failures



## **Presence of proteinuria**



#### Mean blood pressure



## Aim of the analysis

$$H_i(t) = P_i(t \le F_i \le 120 \mid \boldsymbol{y}_i^{\le t}), \quad \forall t$$

Specification of conditional distribution for  $(F_i \mid \mathbf{Y}_i^{\leq t})$  problematic due to:

- > Unbalanced nature of the longitudinal data
- $\triangleright$  The different outcome types in  $oldsymbol{Y}_i$
- $\triangleright$  The running time t

$$\begin{split} f(F_i, \boldsymbol{Y}_i) &= f(\boldsymbol{Y}_i | F_i) f(F_i) \\ & & & \downarrow \\ f(F_i, \boldsymbol{Y}_i^{\leq t}) &= f(\boldsymbol{Y}_i^{\leq t} | F_i) f(F_i) \\ & & \downarrow + \text{Bayes rule} \\ H_i(t) &= P_i(t \leq F_i \leq 120 \mid \boldsymbol{y}_i^{\leq t}) \\ &= \frac{f_i(\boldsymbol{y}_i^{\leq t} \mid t \leq F_i \leq 120) P(F_i \leq 120) F_i \geq t)}{f_i(\boldsymbol{y}_i^{\leq t} \mid t \leq F_i \leq 120) P(F_i \leq 120) P(F_i > 120) F_i \geq t)} \end{split}$$

#### **Prior probabilities**



Time-specific prior probabilities from Kaplan-Meier estimate:



### **Models for longitudinal outcomes**

 $H_{i}(t) = \frac{f_{i}(\boldsymbol{y}_{i}^{\leq t}|t \leq F_{i} \leq 120)P(F_{i} \leq 120|F_{i} \geq t)}{f_{i}(\boldsymbol{y}_{i}^{\leq t}|t \leq F_{i} \leq 120)P(F_{i} \leq 120|F_{i} \geq t) + f_{i}(\boldsymbol{y}_{i}^{\leq t}|F_{i} > 120)P(F_{i} > 120|F_{i} \geq t)}$ 

• Mixed model for each outcome separately:

 $Y_{1i}|b_{1i} \sim G_{1i}(\psi_1, b_{1i}), \quad \dots, \quad Y_{4i}|b_{4i} \sim G_{4i}(\psi_4, b_{4i})$ 

• Linear, generalized linear, and non-linear mixed models possible

• Joint model through joint distribution for all random effects:

$$(\boldsymbol{b'_{1i}},\ldots,\boldsymbol{b'_{4i}})' \sim N(\mathbf{0},D)$$

• Advantage: Model building for each outcome separately

## **Description of non-failures**

$$H_{i}(t) = \frac{f_{i}(\boldsymbol{y}_{i}^{\leq t}|t \leq F_{i} \leq 120)P(F_{i} \leq 120|F_{i} \geq t)}{f_{i}(\boldsymbol{y}_{i}^{\leq t}|t \leq F_{i} \leq 120)P(F_{i} \leq 120|F_{i} \geq t) + f_{i}(\boldsymbol{y}_{i}^{\leq t}|F_{i} > 120)P(F_{i} > 120|F_{i} \geq t)}$$

- Outcomes measured during first 10 yrs.
- If failure, then only after 10 yrs.
- Assumption: Models do not depend on  $F_i$

#### **Mixed models for non-failures**

#### • Haematocrit:

$$Y_{1i}(t) = \beta_{01} + b_{01i} + (\beta_{11} + b_{11i})t + \varepsilon_{1i}(t)$$

• GFR:

$$Y_{2i}(t) = \beta_{02} + b_{02i} + (\beta_{12} + b_{12i})t + \varepsilon_{2i}(t)$$

#### • Proteinuria:

$$\mathsf{logit}\{P(Y_{3i}(t))\} = \beta_{03} + b_{03i} + \beta_{13}t$$

• Mean Blood Pressure:

$$Y_{4i}(t) = \beta_{04} + b_{04i} + (\beta_{14} + b_{14i})t + \varepsilon_{4i}(t)$$

#### **Description of failures**

 $H_{i}(t) = \frac{f_{i}(\boldsymbol{y}_{i}^{\leq t}|t \leq F_{i} \leq 120)P(F_{i} \leq 120|F_{i} \geq t)}{f_{i}(\boldsymbol{y}_{i}^{\leq t}|t \leq F_{i} \leq 120)P(F_{i} \leq 120|F_{i} \geq t) + f_{i}(\boldsymbol{y}_{i}^{\leq t}|F_{i} > 120)P(F_{i} > 120|F_{i} \geq t)}$ 

- Outcomes measured until moment of failure
- Implication: Models depend on  $F_i$ :

$$f_{i}(\boldsymbol{y}_{i}^{\leq t} \mid t \leq F_{i} \leq 120)$$

$$= \sum_{k=t}^{119} f_{i}(\boldsymbol{y}_{i}^{\leq t} \mid k \leq F_{i} \leq k+1)P(k \leq F_{i} \leq k+1)/P(t \leq F_{i} \leq 120)$$

$$\approx \sum_{k=t}^{119} f_{i}(\boldsymbol{y}_{i}^{\leq t} \mid F_{i} = k + \frac{1}{2})P(k \leq F_{i} \leq k+1)/P(t \leq F_{i} \leq 120)$$

#### **Mixed models for failures**

#### • Haematocrit:

 $Y_{1i}(t) = \beta_{01} + \gamma_{01}F_i + b_{01i} + (\beta_{11} + \gamma_{11}F_i + b_{11i})t + \varepsilon_{1i}(t)$ 

• GFR:  

$$Y_{2i}(t) = \begin{cases} \phi_0 + b_{02i} + \beta_{12}[t - \phi_2] + \varepsilon_{2i}(t) & \text{if } t \le \phi_2 \\ \phi_0 + b_{02i} + \beta_{32}[t - \phi_2] + \varepsilon_{2i}(t) & \text{if } t > \phi_2 \\ & \text{with } \phi_0 = \beta_{02} + \gamma_{02}F_i \text{ and } \phi_2 = \beta_{22} + \gamma_{22}F_i \end{cases}$$

• Proteinuria:

$$\mathsf{logit}\{P(Y_{3i}(t))\} = \beta_{03} + \gamma_{03}F_i + b_{03i} + (\beta_{13} + \gamma_{13}F_i)t$$

• Mean Blood Pressure:

$$Y_{4i}(t) = \beta_{04} + \gamma_{04}F_i + b_{04i} + (\beta_{14} + \gamma_{14}F_i + b_{14i})t + \varepsilon_{4i}(t)$$

#### **Mixed models: Summary**

	Non-Failures	Failures
Haematocrit:	LMM (2)	LMM (2)
GFR:	LMM (2)	NLMM (1)
Proteinuria:	GLMM(1)	GLMM (1)
Mean Blood Pressure:	LMM (2)	LMM (2)

 $\implies 2 mixed models with many random effects (7 \& 6)$  $\implies computational difficulties$ 

#### Joint mixed model: Pairwise approach

- Fit all 6 bivariate models using (RE)ML:  $(Y_1, Y_2), (Y_1, Y_3), (Y_1, Y_4), (Y_2, Y_3), (Y_2, Y_4), (Y_3, Y_4)$
- Equivalent to maximizing pseudo likelihood:  $p\ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}) = \ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}_{1,2}|\boldsymbol{Y}_1, \boldsymbol{Y}_2) + \ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}_{1,3}|\boldsymbol{Y}_1, \boldsymbol{Y}_3) + \ldots + \ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}_{3,4}|\boldsymbol{Y}_3, \boldsymbol{Y}_4)$
- Asymptotic properties (from pseudo likelihood theory):  $\sqrt{N}(\widehat{\Theta} - \Theta) \sim MVN(\mathbf{0}, J^{-1}KJ^{-1})$ 
  - J and K consist of first and second-order derivatives of  $p\ell.$
- Multiple estimates for same parameters are averaged

Fieuws & Verbeke, Biometrics (2006)

### **Association between markers ?**

L.R. test for no association in each pairwise model:

	No	Non-failures		Failures			
Markers	$\Delta$ dev.	#	p	$\Delta$ dev.	#	p	
1,2:	82.8	4	< 0.0001	18.9	2	< 0.0001	
1,3:	18	2	0.0001	7.2	2	0.027	
1,4:	6.4	4	0.17	2.6	4	0.63	
2,3:	22.4	2	< 0.0001	0.3	1	0.58	
2,4:	8.1	4	0.09	0.1	2	0.95	
3,4:	7.4	2	0.025	6.1	2	0.047	

- Training and validation dataset (50% of patients)
- Example for 1 failure from validation dataset:



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## Median posterior probability, GFR only

• All failures in validation dataset:



# **Discriminant analysis using 4 markers**

Strategies:

- Decision based on highest posterior probability
- Joint model assuming uncorrelated markers
- Joint model allowing markers to be correlated

- 46 patients in validation set who fail
- Median posterior probabilities to fail within the remaining period
- As a function of time: years before failure

• Only Haematocrit:



• Only GFR:



• Only Proteinuria:



• Only Mean Blood Pressure:



• Highest posterior probability over all four markers:



• All four markers, using joint model with uncorrelated markers:



• All four markers, using joint model with correlated markers:



- 171 patients in validation set who do not fail
- Median posterior probabilities to fail within the remaining period
- As a function of time: years since transplantation

• Only Haematocrit:



• Only GFR:



• Only Proteinuria:



• Only Mean Blood Pressure:



• Highest posterior probability over all four markers:



• All four markers, using joint model with uncorrelated markers:



• All four markers, using joint model with correlated markers:



## Conclusions

- Discriminant analysis based on many outcomes, measured longitudinally, in an unbalanced design, is technically possible
- Allowing the longitudinal markers to be correlated considerably improves predictions
- A pattern-mixture approach allows for continuous updating of posterior probabilities
- Various mixed models can be combined and fitted using pairwise fitting approach

