

Tissue Phenomics

From Tissue to Biomarkers

Carolina Vanegas
on behalf of

N. Harder, R. Huss and N. Brieu
November 10th, 2016

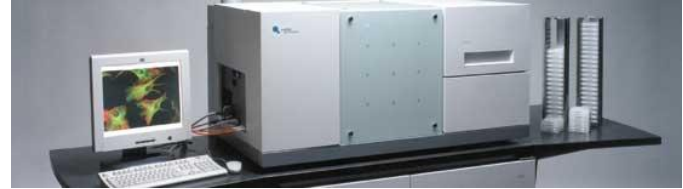


Tissue Phenomics

Image Analysis and Data Mining for Discovering
Novel **Prognostic** and Predictive Markers
From Histopathological Data

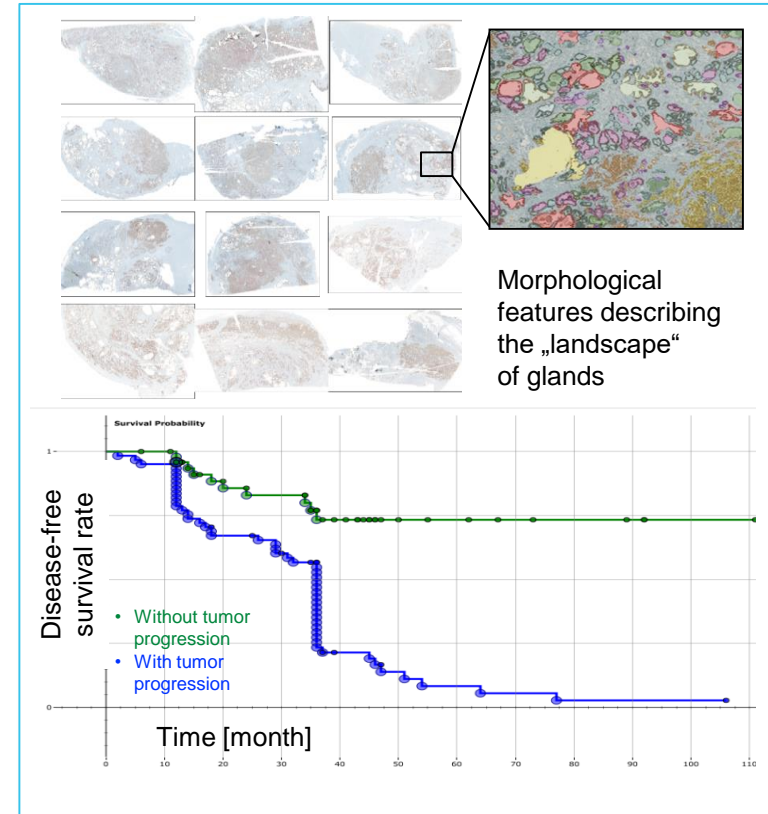
Tissue Phenomics

- Big data approach to quantitative histopathology
- Comprehensive screening of phenes which predict clinical outcome
- Phenes are mathematical descriptions of spatial patterns detected in tissue which have biomedical relevance
- Automated workflow from assay development to phene validation enables automatic multiparametric optimization



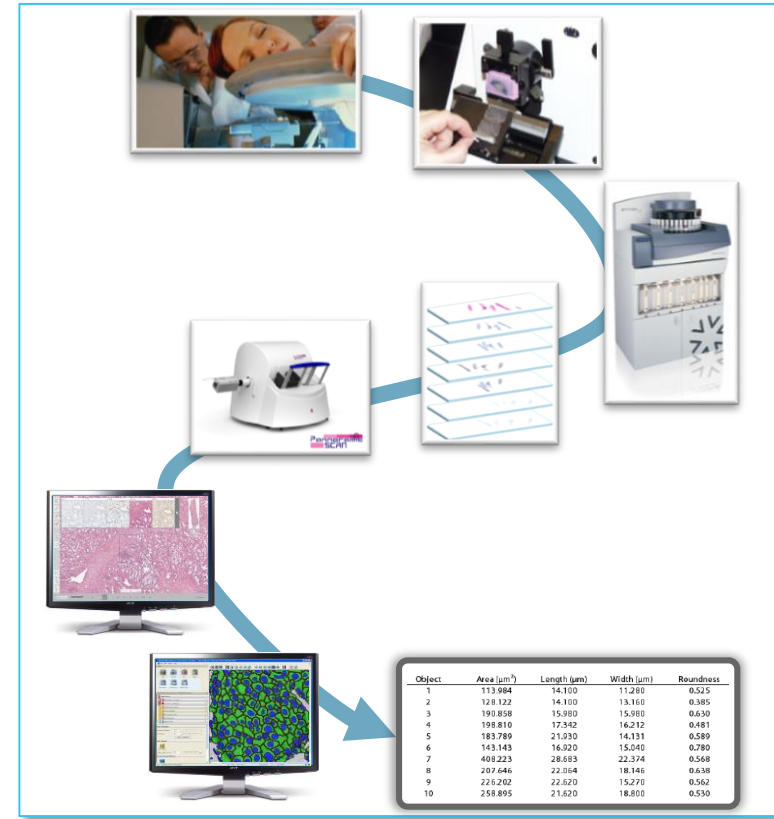
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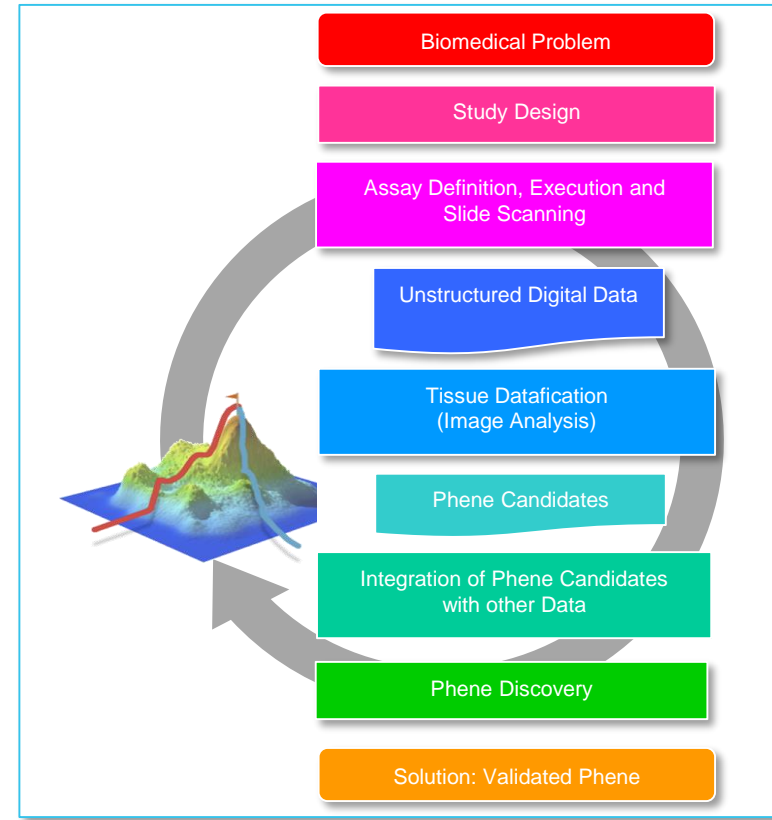
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Discovering Prognostic Factors for Prostate Cancer Tumor Progression

Prostate Cancer

Prostate cancer

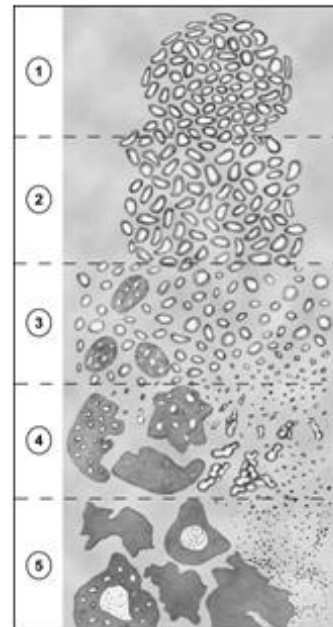
- Second most frequently diagnosed cancer in men in 2012 (15% of all male cancers) [World Cancer Report 2014, WHO]
- Increasing incidence with increasing age

Gleason score

- Sum of pattern-number of the primary (major) and secondary (minor) grades (e.g., 7a=3+4)

Gleason score	6	7	8-10
	Low risk	Intermediate risk	High risk

[NCCN guidelines, NCCN.org]



- Small, uniform glands
- More space between glands
- Infiltration of cells from glands at margins
- Irregular masses of cells with few glands
- Lack of glands, sheets of cells

[J.I. Epstein,
Am J Surg Pathol, 2005]

Project Goals

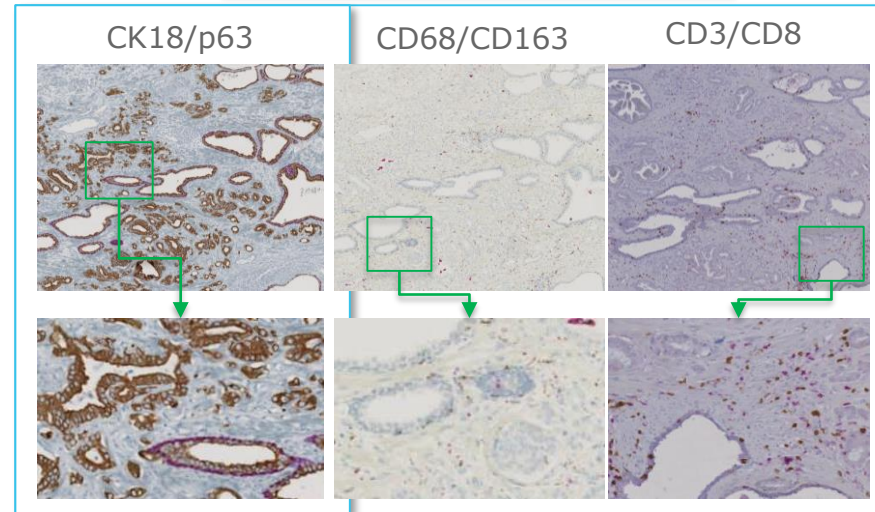
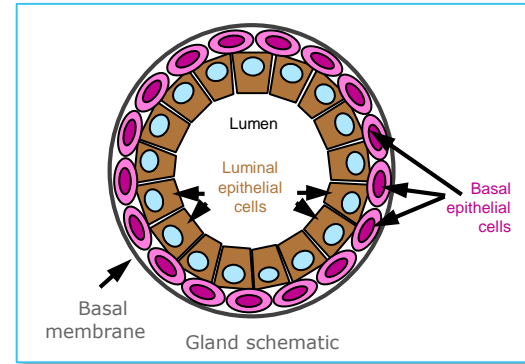
- Goal 1:** Development of a prognostic test to automatically **predict tumor progression** based on resected prostate tissue with high accuracy and **stratify patients** into treatment groups
- Goal 2:** Test should have an **improved prognostic power** compared to the state-of-the-art method, the Gleason score (assigned by pathologists)
- Data:** Tissue sections from prostate resections of selected patients (whole slide images)



Two Novel Prognostic Markers

For Prostate Cancer Progression

- **Spatial relationship of glands**
 - **CK18/p63**
Tumor vs. non-tumor glands
- **Tumor-associated Macrophages and T-cells**
 - **CK18/p63**
Tumor vs. non-tumor glands
 - **CD68/CD163**
M1/M2 Tumor Associated Macrophages (TMAs)
 - **CD3/CD8**
Tumor infiltrating T-cells (TILs)



Prognostic factor I

Spatial Relationship of Glands

ISBI 2016 – Co-occurrence features characterizing gland distribution patterns
as new prognostic markers in prostate cancer whole slide images

Spatial relationship of glands

■ The patient cohort

98 selected patients

Age \leq 75 years

Staging: pT2

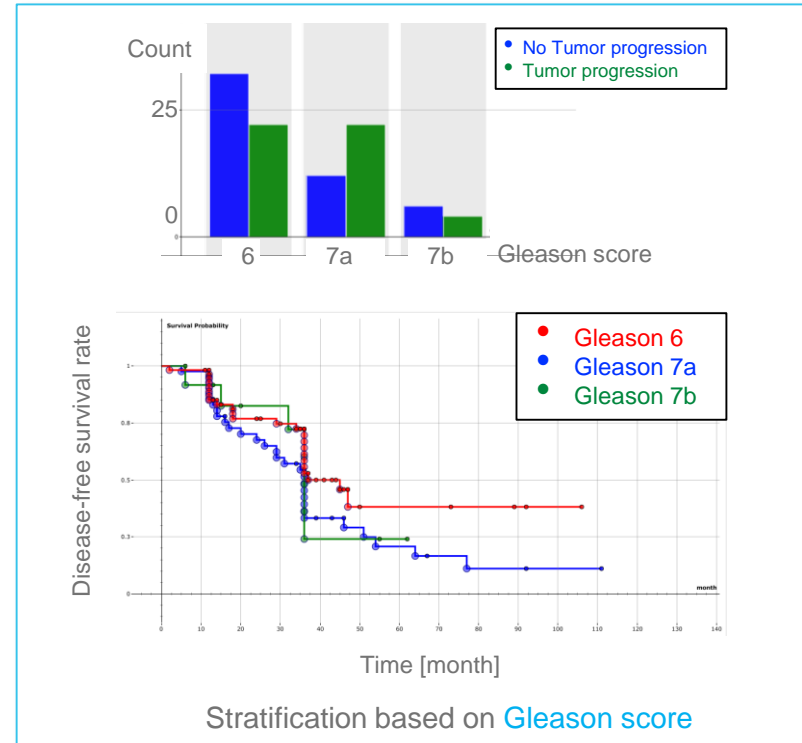
Resection border: R0

Gleason-Score: 3+3 (6), 3+4 (7a), 4+3 (7b)

Low- to intermediate-risk patients after
Radical Prostatectomy

Clinical outcome data available

Observation times of 2 to 118 month



Spatial relationship of glands

■ Image Analysis

● Automatic Segmentation

- P63 marked regions
- Glands (epithelium and lumen)

● Classification of glands

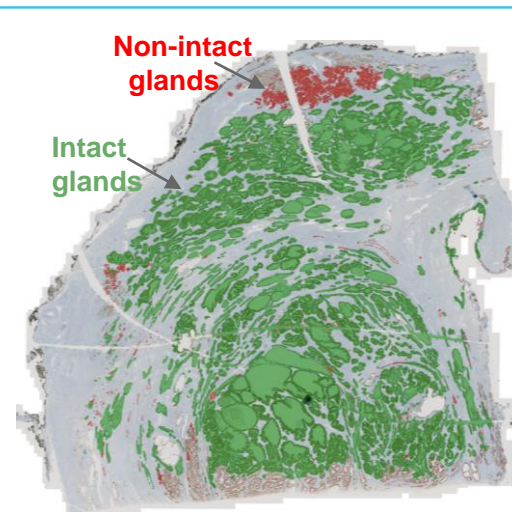
Size: Small, Medium, and Large
AND

Functional: Intact (with p63)/ Non Intact (no p63)

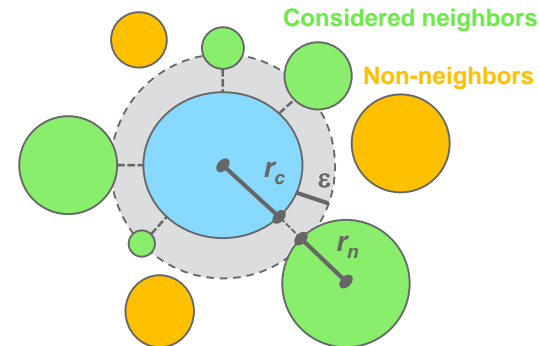
● Co-occurrence features

- Analogy to classical Haralick features [1]
- Co-occurrence matrices of differently classified neighboring glands are computed
- Different distances and directions are considered
- 2140 features are generated in total

[1] Harder N. *et al.*, "Co-occurrence features characterizing gland distribution patterns as new prognostic markers in prostate cancer whole-slide images," *Proc. IEEE ISBI 2016*, pp. 807-810, 2016.



Segmentation Result



Gland Neighborhood Graph

Spatial relationship of glands

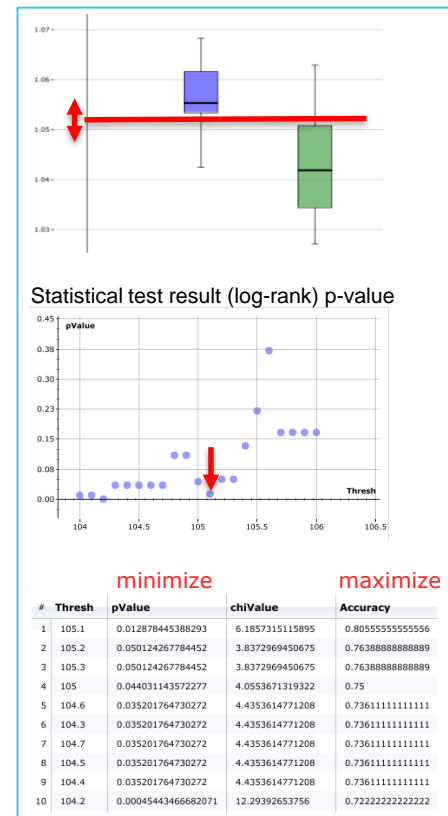
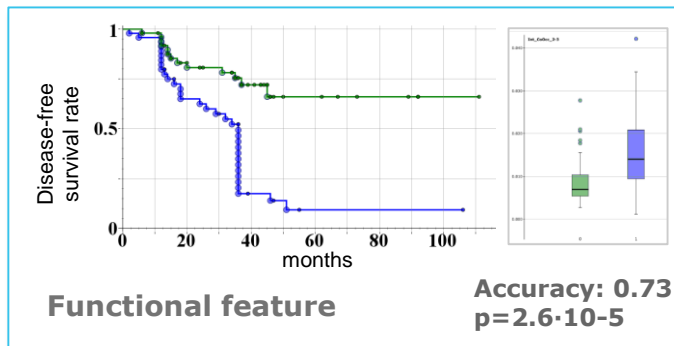
■ Data Mining

The stratification performance is systematically tested for each feature with log-rank test

- Cross validation {
- 1. Optimize the threshold** for classifying patients per feature w.r.t. the mean accuracy and the log-rank test p-value
 - 2. Rank features** according to their best classification accuracy

■ Prognostic Biomarkers

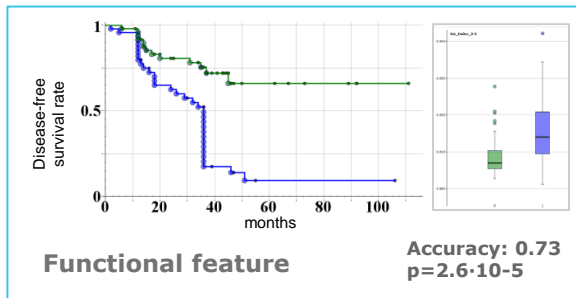
Co-occurrence probability of small-non-intact to medium-intact



Spatial relationship of glands

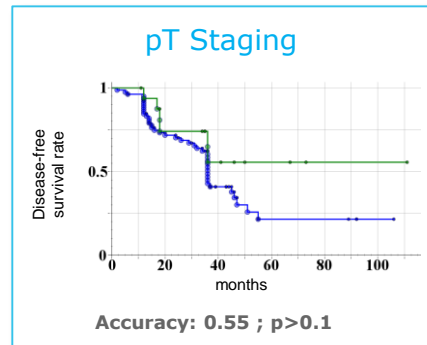
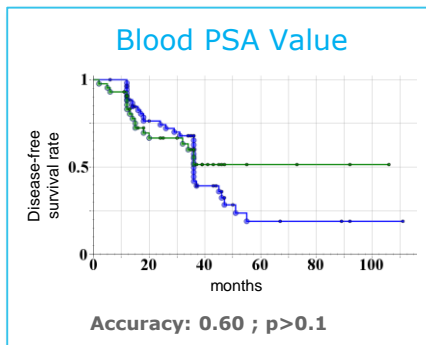
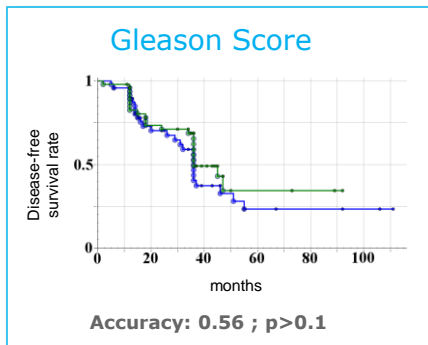
■ Comparison to clinical features

Image Analysis
& Data Mining



- No tumor progression
- Tumor progression

Clinical
Features



Prognostic factor II

Tumor-Associated Macrophages and T-cells

SITC 2016 - Tumor-associated Macrophages (TAMs) as a prognostic marker
for prostate cancer progression

Tumor-associated macrophages and T-cells

■ The patient cohort

89 selected patients

Age \leq 75 years

Staging: pT2

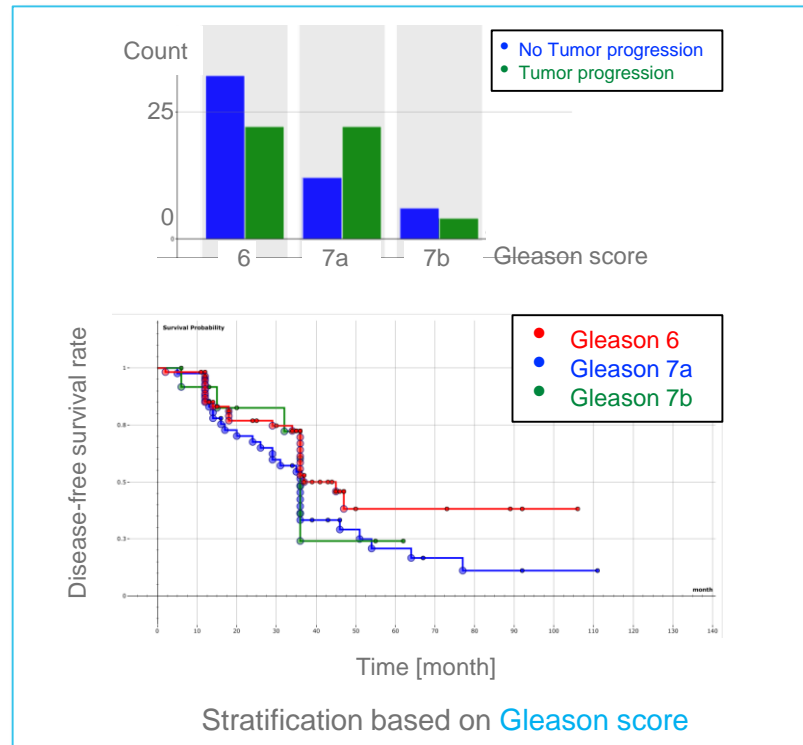
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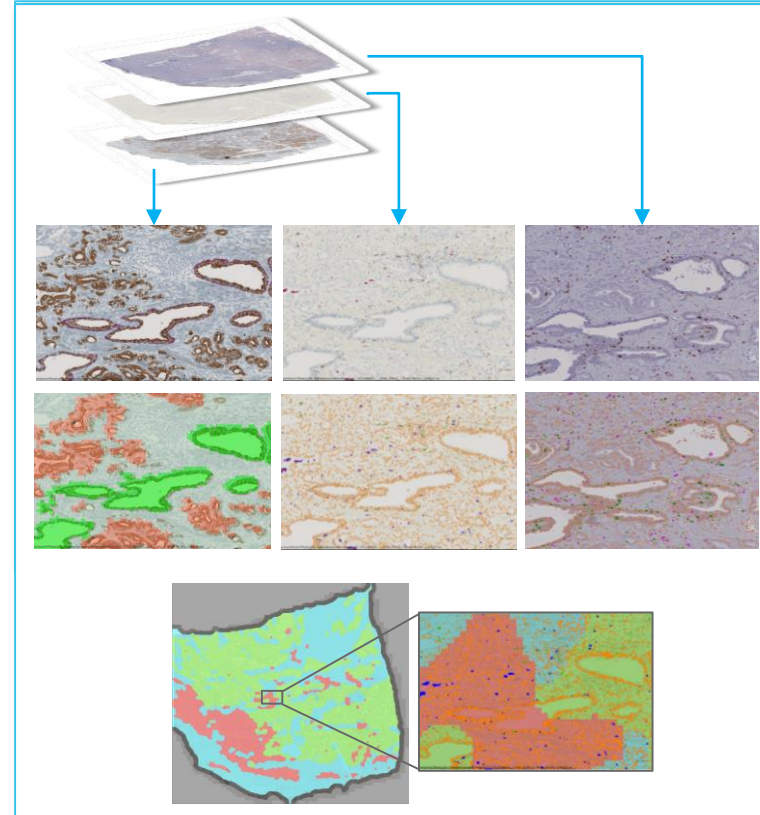
Observation times of 2 to 118 month



Tumor-associated macrophages and T-cells

■ Image Analysis

- **Three double stain images** CK18/p63, CD68/CD163, and CD3/CD8
- **Object detection** in each image
 - CK18/p63
 - Segmentation of tumor and non-tumor regions
 - CD68/CD163
 - Detection of M1 (cytotoxic) and M2 (tumor growth promoting) macrophages
 - CD3/CD8
 - Detection of cytotoxic and other T cells
- **Co-Registration**
- **Joint region-based quantification** of TAMs and Tumor Infiltrating Lymphocytes

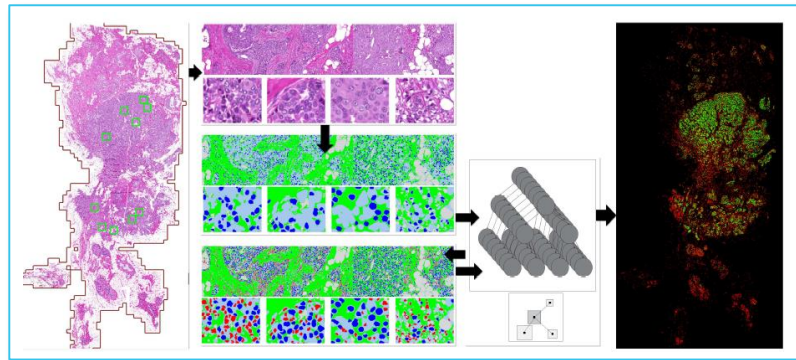


Tumor-associated macrophages and T-cells

■ Generic Image Analysis Solutions

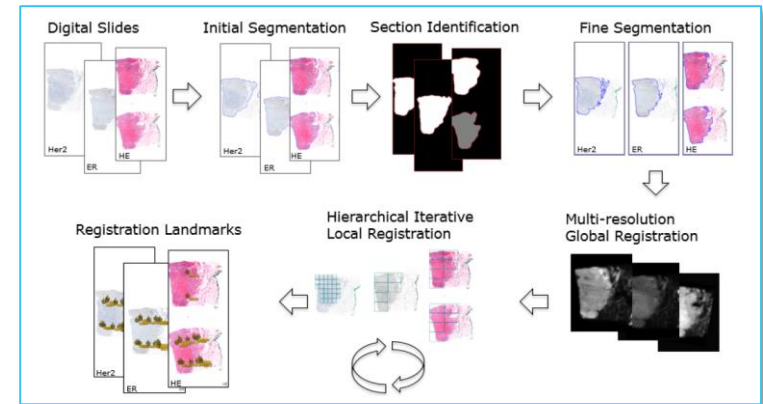
● Object Detection [1]

- Auto-adaptive machine learning
- Selection of representative tiles
- Fishing of well-defined objects using shape and size constraints
- Training slide-specific Random Forest models



● Registration [2]

- Global initial alignment of the tissue sections
- Local refinement of interesting regions
- Multiresolution approach



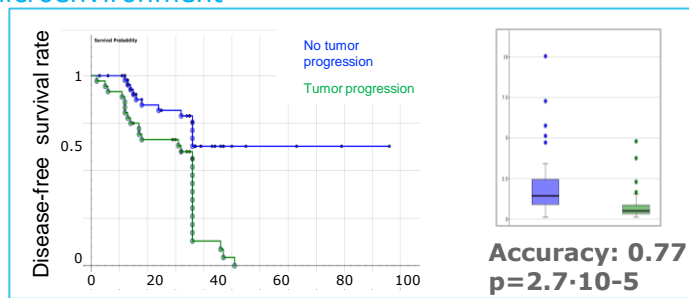
Tumor-associated macrophages and T-cells

■ Features

- Features are generated by **combining** the image based measurements
- For instance,
 - **Densities** (number positive cells per area)
 - **Ratios** of positive cells in different tissue sections

■ Prognostic Biomarkers

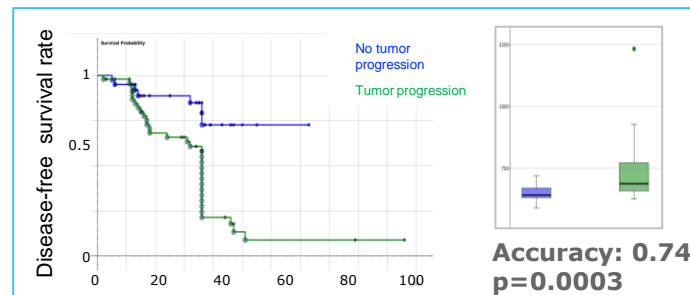
Prostate cancer patients without tumor progression show a significantly higher ratio of CD8+ (cytotoxic t-cells) to CD163+ (M2) cell densities in the tumor microenvironment



■ Data Mining

- The stratification performance is systematically tested for each feature with **log-rank** test
- **Optimize the threshold**
- **Rank features w.r.t accuracy and p-value**

Prostate cancer patients without tumor progression show a significantly lower average distance of CD3+ (non-cytotoxic t-cells) to CD8+ (cytotoxic t-cells) cells in the tumor microenvironment



Conclusion

Conclusion

■ **Tissue Phenomics:**

- Generic Image analysis and Data mining enable the discovery of better biomarkers
 - Extract features from Whole Slide Images → image analysis
 - Correlate with clinical outcome data → data mining
-
- As an example, the discovery of **two biomarkers** showing **prognostic potential** to predict tumor progression and survival time
 - Based on spatial organization of glands
 - Based on co-localized TILs and TAMS
-
- Potential high impact for prostate cancer patient treatment decisions

Thank you

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