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Graph Matching improves the Similarity of Structural Brain Networks

Anna Calissano¹, Theodore Papadopoulo²,

Xavier Pennec¹, Samuel Deslauriers-Gauthier²

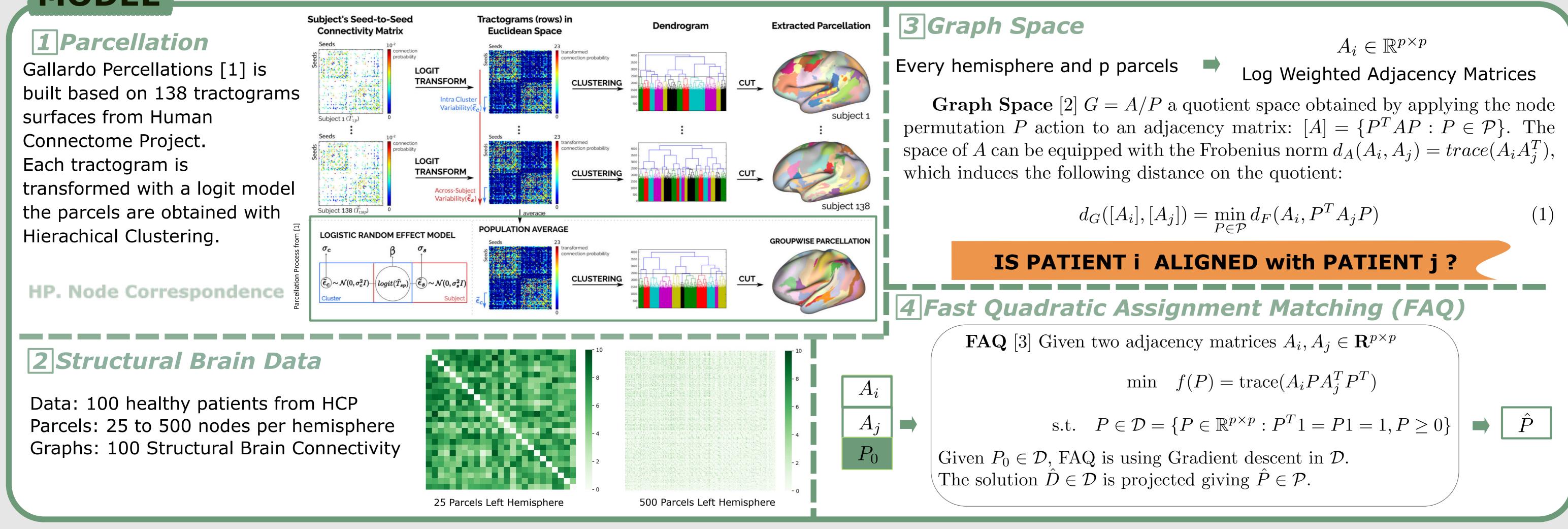
Inria Centre at Université Côte d'Azur (1. EPIONE team, 2. Cronos team)

ABSTRACT

Structural parcellations are often built under the assumption of parcels' correspondences across patients. In the current work, we test the robustness of this hypothesis using graph matching strategies. Given the structural parcellation built in [1], we analyse a set of patients at different parcellation granularity (from 50 up to 1000 parcels). The aim of the analysis is to test via graph matching if the graphs obtained with a given parcellation should be considered as labelled or unlabelled. The results show a node correspondence for low resolution and the requirement of an unlabelled embedding for higher number of parcels. We showcase the graph matching results for the different parcellations as well as the importance of a correct geometrical embedding for unlabelled graphs to compute graph-valued statistics.



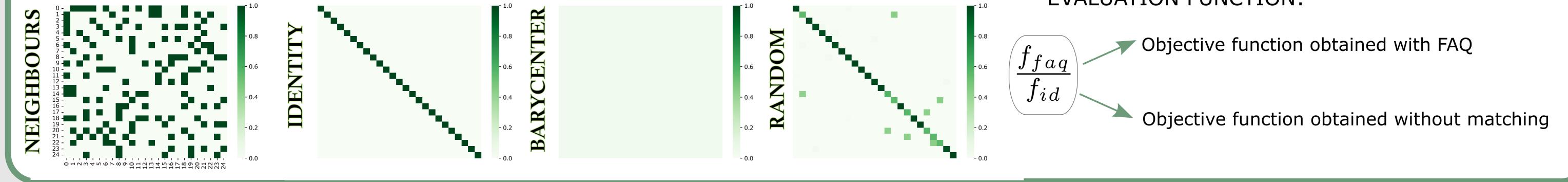
MODEL



SIMULATIONS PARAMETERS

Initialization: four different initial values are compared

EVALUATION FUNCTION:

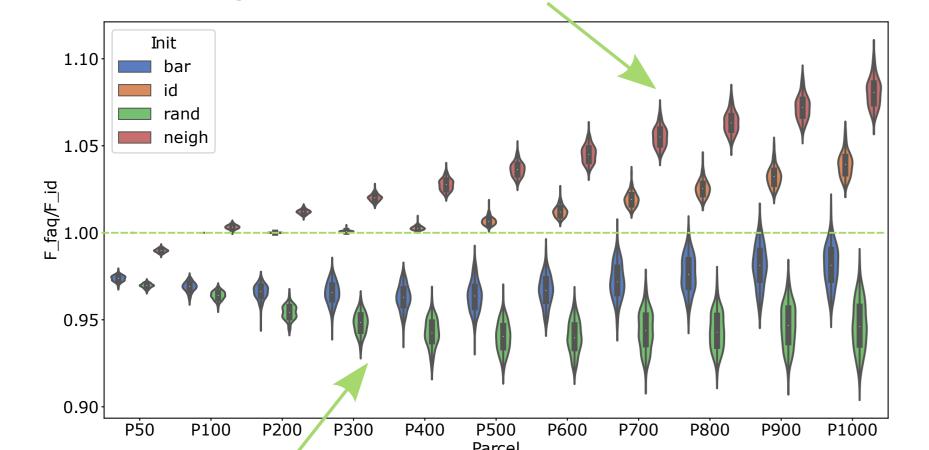


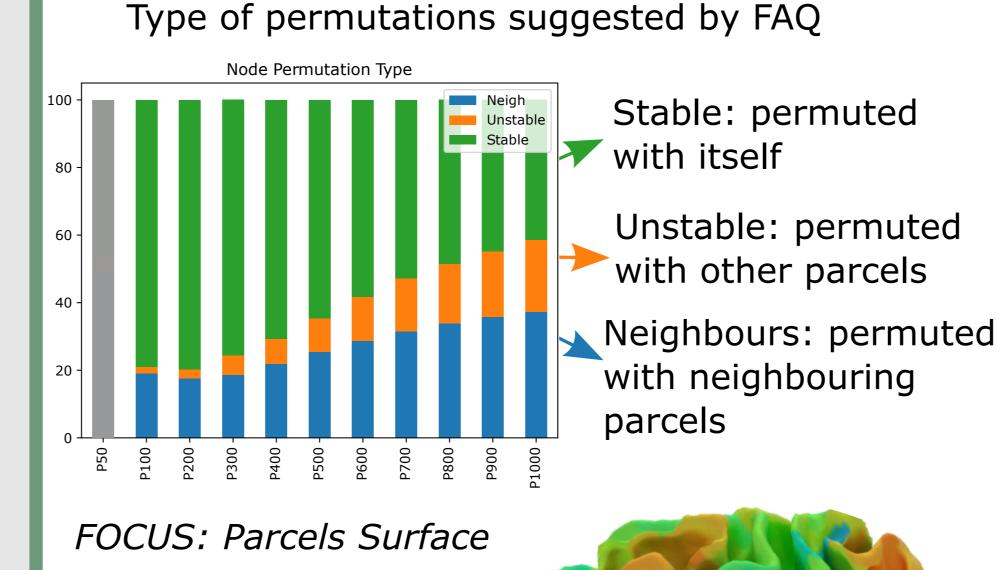
Goal: Neighbouring Initialization

Goal: Comparing the Initializations

Violin Plot comparing the different initializations at different parcels, showing the sample distribution of the ratio between the FAQ and the non-matching.

Neighbours and Identity initializations suggest that matching should be performed over 200 parcels.





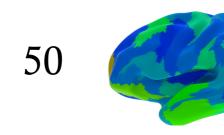
Some regions are often permuted (red) while others are more stable (green). A few regions are rarely permuted (blue). In most cases, permutations occur with direct neighbours (not shown).

Focus: Permutation Type on Surface

Any Permutation

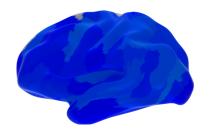
Permutations with 2nd or higher order Neighbours

Permutations with 3rd or higher order Neighbours



150

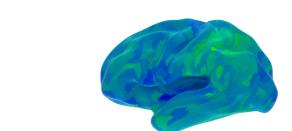
300





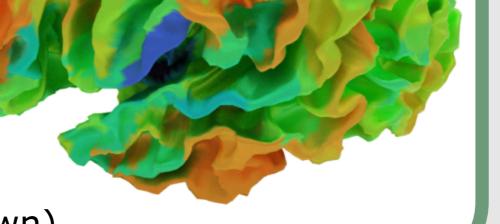








Random and Barycenter initializations underperform, finding suboptimal solutions.



0.01		

For each regions, we considered the rate at which a regions was permuted. Gray indicates a permutation rate below 1%.

CONCLUSION

THE ALIGNMENT DEPENDS ON THE PARCELLATIONS

In this work, we studied the alignment across patients for structural brain connectivity network at different granularity of parcellations. We used the FAQ graph matching strategy as state of the art method to perform alignment. As the dimension of the parcels decreases, the parcels start being mis-aligned. The matching procedure shows how the optimal matching is realized with neighbouring parcels. Analyzing graphs without alignment is a model choice, which should be taken with caution when the dimension of the parcels decreases.

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[1] Gallardo, G., Wells III, W., Deriche, R., & Wassermann, D. (2018). Groupwise structural parcellation of the whole cortex: A logistic random effects model based approach. NeuroImage, 170, 307-320. [2] Jain, B. J., & Obermayer, K. (2009). Structure Spaces. Journal of Machine Learning Research, 10(11). [3] Vogelstein, J. T., Conroy, J. M., Lyzinski, V., Podrazik, L. J., Kratzer, S. G., Harley, E. T., Fishkind, D. E., and Vogelstein, R., & Priebe, C. E. (2015). Fast approximate quadratic programming for graph matching. PLOS one, 10(4), e0121002.