Quantifying Physical Activity Characteristics with Accelerometry Data: Application to the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

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Background





Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center_{TM}











Overview

Goals:

- Process accelerometry National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) data from CDC
- Investigate sample NHANES to create a pipeline for clinical development
- Dataset: minute-level accelerometry data from NHANES

> Approach:

- Process minute-level accelerometry NHANES data:
 - Parse data into <u>subject-level datasets</u>
 - Obtain <u>minute-level timestamps</u> when measurements were taken
 - Quantify <u>minute-level physical activity characteristics</u> with an open-source package
- Characterize physical actigraphy, demographic, and medical characteristics of NHANES dataset
- Primary Findings:
 - Quantified subject-level and day-level physical activity characteristics with Arctools package
 - Generated exploratory visualizations and statistical analysis of NHANES characteristics and physical activity

Agenda

Accelerometry Data	 Overview of data from wearable devices Key challenges and opportunities 	
Process Data	 Quantification of physical activity characteristics with <i>Arctools</i> Summary statistics and graphics of physical activity 	
NHANES	 Overview of NHANES Quantification minute-level accelerometry data from NHANES 	
Analysis	 Characterization of NHANES with respect to physical activity Exploratory visualizations and statistical analysis 	
Conclusion	 Limitations of current approach Future research 	

Accelerometry data present challenges and opportunities

- Objective measurements of physical activity in both controlled and free-living environment
- Accelerometer measures acceleration amplitude relative to the Earth gravity
- Challenges with data heterogeneity:
 - > Sensor location: hip, wrist, ear, thigh, etc.
 - Device rotation
 - Sampling frequency
 - Device calibration
- > **Opportunities** in health research:
 - Digital biomarker development
 - Pattern of human movement





Rodrigues, Joel JPC, et al. "Enabling technologies for the internet of health things." *IEEE Access* 6 (2018): 13129-13141.

Raw accelerometry data is collected in a 3D time series format

- Raw data collected along three orthogonal axes XYZ
- Universal acceleration measurements comparable across devices
- Output is three-dimensional time series
 accelerations in gravitational units (1g = 9.8 m/s²)
- Device's frame of reference: up-down, left-right, backward-downward





Peter Hausamann, "Activity recognition from accelerometer data" (2020)

Raw data can be collapsed into minute-level data

- > Acceleration times series $\{x(t), y(t), z(t)\}$ sampled at frequency f
- > Raw data from XYZ tri-axes are **collapsed** into one value, called **minute-level**
- > Minute-level accelerometry data most popular for digital biomarker development
- Well-defined, open-source, reproducible methods to summarize minute-level accelerometry data, non-overlapping time window
 - Monitor Independent Movement Summary (MIMS)



Weekly physical activity patterns suggest active and sedentary time within a day, and differences between weekdays and weekends



Arctools R package computes physical activity summaries

- Arctools R package processes accelerometry minute-level data to quantify physical activity characteristics:
 - Control data quality (1)
 - Impute missing data (2)
- > (1) *Arctools* algorithm to **classify wear/non-wear**:
 - > 90 or more minutes of consecutive 0's: non-wear
 - > 144 or more minutes of consecutives 0's: invalid day
 - > 2 or fewer valid days: non-representative subject



Arctools package imputes missing data with median physical activity



 (2) Arctools imputes missing data with median physical activity value from valid days within one person



Arctools quantifies physical activity characteristics

- > **Arctools** output:
 - > Minute-level metric of physical activity (PA) volume (AC, MIMS, ENMO, etc.)
 - > Active minute: a minute with AC equal or above a fixed universal threshold
 - > Sedentary minute: a minute with AC below a fixed universal threshold
 - > N valid days: number of days with $\leq 10\%$ of non-wear time
 - > N days: number of unique day dates in the data collection
 - > Wear time on valid days: average number of wear time minutes across valid days



PA metrics from *Arctools* package contain much of the same information with minor variations



- (1) Active/sedentary bout: a sequence of one or more consecutive active/sedentary minutes
- (2) ASTP: active to sedentary transition probability
- (3) SATP: sedentary to active transition probability
- > Our focus: Total log Activity Count

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

- National CDC survey conducted every 2 years
- > Designed to assess health and nutritional status of adults and children in the US
- Survey takes form of interviews and physical examinations
- Oversampled traditionally underrepresented groups
- > Includes demographic, socioeconomic, medical history and examination data
- > NHANES is free and open access!





CENTERS FOR DISEASE" CONTROL AND PREVENTION

Study sample includes two NHANES cohorts 2011-2012 and 2013-2014

- Wear Physical Activity Monitor (PAM)
- Device manufactured by ActiGraph LLC
- > Sampling frequency is at 80 Hz
- > PA amplitude recorded on triaxial scale (MIMS scale)





NHANES is a well-characterized data source

- Demographics information
 - Body Mass Index (kg/m^2)
 - Biological Sex
 - > Age
 - Race
 - Highest education level
 - > Marital status for people 20+
 - Pregnancy status
 - Annual household income groups
 - Number of people in the participant's household

- Medical history
 - Diabetes
 - Asthma
 - Congestive heart failure
 - Cancer
 - Stroke
 - Liver condition
- Physical Examination data
 - > Spirometry
 - Audiology

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And many more!

hanes

NHANES Flow Chart



The two cohorts have similar physical activity estimates

NHA	NES adults with Actig	Jraphy		
		Co		
Characteristic	Overall , N = 8,903	2011-2012 , N = 4,517	2013-2014 , N = 4,386	
Total log AC per valid day				
Mean (SD)	2,231 (438)	2,185 (479)	2,279 (385)	
Median (IQR)	2,273 (2,003, 2,519)	2,244 (1,968, 2,491)	2,303 (2,037, 2,545)	
Range	29, 3,974	29, 3,974	40, 3,942	
Unknown	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Average number of active minutes per valid day				Two cohorts have
Mean (SD)	482 (148)	471 (153)	492 (141)	characteristics
Median (IQR)	486 (385, 586)	481 (377, 576)	492 (395, 596)	1
Range	0, 1,177	0, 1,177	0, 990	
Unknown	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Average number of sedentary minutes per valid day				
Mean (SD)	957 (147)	968 (153)	947 (141)	
Median (IQR)	953 (853, 1,054)	958 (863, 1,062)	947 (844, 1,044)	
Range	263, 1,440	263, 1,440	450, 1,440	-
Unknown	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	-

17 PA: physical activity

Median age was 49 years and approximately 37% of the sample was obese

	NHANES adults with Actigraphy						
		Co	hort				
Characteristic	Overall , N = 8,903 ⁷	2011-2012 , N = 4,517 ¹	2013-2014 , N = 4,386 ¹				
age in years							
Mean (SD)	49 (18)	49 (18)	50 (18)				
Median (IQR)	49 (34, 64)	49 (33, 63)	50 (35, 64)				
Range	19, 80	19, 80	19, 80				
Unknown	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)				
BMI Categories							
severely underweight	16 (0.2%)	9 (0.2%)	7 (0.2%)				
underweight	159 (1.8%)	88 (1.9%)	71 (1.6%)				
normal weight	2,491 (28%)	1,300 (29%)	1,191 (27%)				
overweight	2,806 (32%)	1,416 (31%)	1,390 (32%)				
obesity class I	1,874 (21%)	930 (21%)	944 (22%)				
obesity class II	840 (9.4%)	406 (9.0%)	434 (9.9%)				
obesity class III	621 (7.0%)	310 (6.9%)	311 (7.1%)				
Unknown	96 (1.1%)	58 (1.3%)	38 (0.9%)				
¹ n (%)							

The NHANES study oversampled black individuals

	NHANES adults	s with Actigraphy				
		Cohort				
Characteristic	Overall , N = 8,903 ¹	2011-2012 , N = 4,517 ¹	2013-2014 , N = 4,386 ⁷			
biological sex						
female	4,634 (52%)	2,306 (51%)	2,328 (53%)			
male	4,269 (48%)	2,211 (49%)	2,058 (47%)			
race						
Asian	1,032 (12%)	585 (13%)	447 (10%)			
White	3,599 (40%)	1,677 (37%)	1,922 (44%)			
Black	2,124 (24%)	1,222 (27%)	902 (21%)			
Hispanic	1,887 (21%)	905 (20%)	982 (22%)			
Other Race	261 (2.9%)	128 (2.8%)	133 (3.0%)			
Unknown	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)			
annual household income grou	ips					
\$0 to \$24,999	2,605 (29%)	1,417 (31%)	1,188 (27%)			
\$25,000 to \$44,999	1,779 (20%)	906 (20%)	873 (20%)			
\$45,000 to \$74,999	1,467 (16%)	685 (15%)	782 (18%)			
\$75,000 to \$99,999	746 (8.4%)	374 (8.3%)	372 (8.5%)			
\$100,000 and over	1,509 (17%)	726 (16%)	783 (18%)			
Unknown	797 (9.0%)	409 (9.1%)	388 (8.8%)			
¹ n (%)						

Demographics of two NHANES cohorts

NHANES adults with Actigraphy

		Co	hort
Characteristic	Overall , N = 8,903 ¹	2011-2012 , N = 4,517 ¹	2013-2014 , N = 4,386 ¹
highest education level			
less than 9th grade	746 (8.4%)	409 (9.1%)	337 (7.7%)
9-11th grade	1,176 (13%)	599 (13%)	577 (13%)
high school graduate	1,902 (21%)	934 (21%)	968 (22%)
college or AA degree	2,636 (30%)	1,315 (29%)	1,321 (30%)
college graduate or above	2,206 (25%)	1,134 (25%)	1,072 (24%)
Unknown	237 (2.7%)	126 (2.8%)	111 (2.5%)
number of people in the participant's family			
1	1,248 (14%)	638 (14%)	610 (14%)
2	2,594 (29%)	1,383 (31%)	1,211 (28%)
3	1,615 (18%)	823 (18%)	792 (18%)
4	1,470 (17%)	752 (17%)	718 (16%)
5	1,976 (22%)	921 (20%)	1,055 (24%)
number of children aged 5 years or younger			
0	7,150 (80%)	3,658 (81%)	3,492 (80%)
1	1,234 (14%)	611 (14%)	623 (14%)
2	427 (4.8%)	213 (4.7%)	214 (4.9%)
3	92 (1.0%)	35 (0.8%)	57 (1.3%)
¹ n (%)			

The ratio of family income to poverty was ~2:1

	NHANES adults with Actigraphy					
		Co	phort			
Characteristic	Overall , N = 8,903 ¹	2011-2012 , N = 4,517 ¹	2013-2014 , N = 4,386 ⁷			
six-month time period						
May 1 through October 31	4,561 (51%)	2,354 (52%)	2,207 (50%)			
November 1 through April 30	4,342 (49%)	2,163 (48%)	2,179 (50%)			
pregnancy status, for women 20-44 y	rs old					
no	1,689 (19%)	849 (19%)	840 (19%)			
yes	85 (1.0%)	40 (0.9%)	45 (1.0%)			
Unknown	7,129 (80%)	3,628 (80%)	3,501 (80%)			
ratio of family income to poverty						
Mean (SD)	2.44 (1.65)	2.40 (1.67)	2.47 (1.64)			
Median (IQR)	1.97 (1.02, 3.97)	1.88 (0.98, 3.97)	2.06 (1.04, 3.93)			
Range	0.00, 5.00	0.00, 5.00	0.00, 5.00			
Unknown	659 (7.4%)	345 (7.6%)	314 (7.2%)			
¹ n (%)						

Self-reported diabetes, asthma, and cancer were common health conditions in the cohort

NHANES adults with Actigraphy				NHANES adults with Actigraphy			
		Co	phort			Co	bhort
Characteristic	Overall , N = 8,903 ⁷	2011-2012 , N = 4,517 ⁷	2013-2014 , N = 4,386 ⁷	Characteristic	Overall , N = 8,903 ¹	2011-2012 , N = 4,517 ¹	2013-2014 , N = 4,386 ⁷
health condition				congestive heart fa	ilure		
excellent	783 (8.8%)	414 (9.2%)	369 (8.4%)	no	8,356 (94%)	4,222 (93%)	4,134 (94%)
very good	2,225 (25%)	1,138 (25%)	1,087 (25%)	yes	301 (3.4%)	160 (3.5%)	141 (3.2%)
good	3,344 (38%)	1,653 (37%)	1,691 (39%)	Unknown	246 (2.8%)	135 (3.0%)	111 (2.5%)
fair	303 (3.4%)	151 (3.3%)	152 (3.5%)	cancer			
poor	1,648 (19%)	795 (18%)	853 (19%)	no	7,830 (88%)	4,002 (89%)	3,828 (87%)
Unknown	600 (6.7%)	366 (8.1%)	234 (5.3%)	yes	842 (9.5%)	390 (8.6%)	452 (10%)
diabetes				Unknown	231 (2.6%)	125 (2.8%)	106 (2.4%)
no	7,496 (84%)	3,832 (85%)	3,664 (84%)	stroke			
borderline	238 (2.7%)	100 (2.2%)	138 (3.1%)	no	8,321 (93%)	4,196 (93%)	4,125 (94%)
yes	1,164 (13%)	583 (13%)	581 (13%)	yes	346 (3.9%)	196 (4.3%)	150 (3.4%)
Unknown	5 (<0.1%)	2 (<0.1%)	3 (<0.1%)	Unknown	236 (2.7%)	125 (2.8%)	111 (2.5%)
asthma				liver condition			
no	7,553 (85%)	3,833 (85%)	3,720 (85%)	no	8,309 (93%)	4,215 (93%)	4,094 (93%)
yes	1,342 (15%)	680 (15%)	662 (15%)	yes	355 (4.0%)	176 (3.9%)	179 (4.1%)
Unknown	8 (<0.1%)	4 (<0.1%)	4 (<0.1%)	Unknown	239 (2.7%)	126 (2.8%)	113 (2.6%)

Total log activity counts

Metric of PA volume and it is normally distributed



Scatterplot shows up and downward trend in age



Scatterplot shows U shape of physical activity and BMI

65, 3,207



58, 3,562

40, 3,318

29, 3, 392

83, 3,366

53, 3,201

25

Obesity class III - BMI > 40

857, 2,329

Range

Men and women have similar physical activity distributions



Ratio of income to poverty strongly associated with income groups



Among ethnic groups, Hispanics have a higher distribution of physical activity



No pattern in physical activity across educational levels



Mean (SD)	2,246 (485)	2,263 (464)	2,256 (461)	2,216 (421)	2,205 (388)
Median (IQR)	2,289 (2,002, 2,598)	2,305 (2,012, 2,591)	2,289 (2,002, 2,575)	2,269 (1,987, 2,488)	2,244 (2,012, 2,449)
Range	53, 3,413	40, 3,338	67, 3,392	29, 3,562	59, 3,343

Characteristic

Widowed people move the least, followed by divorced individuals Number of obs: 8669



Mean (SD)

Range

Age distribution across marital groups



Characteristic	married , N = 4,388	widowed , N = 714	divorced , N = 988	separated, N = 280	never married, N = 1,691	living with partner, $N = 608$
age in years						
Mean (SD)	52 (16)	72 (10)	56 (12)	51 (14)	36 (15)	38 (14)
Median (IQR)	52 (39, 64)	75 (66, 80)	56 (47, 65)	52 (42, 60)	30 (23, 47)	35 (27, 46)
Range	20, 80	31, 80	24, 80	21, 80	20, 80	20, 80

31 2 subjects with Activity Count above 3800 units were removed for graphics

No physical activity differences by Asthmatic status



People with self-reported past Cancer move less



Significant p-values but small effect size

Significant p-values but the effect size is medium based on AC scale (AC median is 2273)

Univariat	Univariate Linear Model							
Characteristic	Ν	Beta	95% Cl⁷	p-value				
BMI Categories	8,807			<0.001				
normal weight		_						
severely underweight		-384	-597, -170					
underweight		-138	-208, -69					
overweight		-6.5	-30, 17					
obesity class I		-21	-47, 4.8					
obesity class II		-46	-80, -12					
obesity class III		-103	-141, -65					
Body Mass Index (kg/m^2)	8,807	-3.0	-4.3, -1.6	<0.001				
biological sex	8,903			<0.001				
female		_						
male		-35	-53, -17					
¹ CI = Confidence Interval								

Univariate Linear Model						
Characteristic	Ν	Beta	95% Cl¹	p-value		
race	8,903			<0.001		
White		_	_			
Asian		64	34, 94			
Black		65	42, 88			
Hispanic		186	161, 210			
Other Race		51	-3.6, 105			
annual household income groups	8,106			<0.001		
\$0 to \$24,999		_	_			
\$25,000 to \$44,999		50	24, 77			
\$45,000 to \$74,999		67	39, 95			
\$75,000 to \$99,999		81	46, 117			
\$100,000 and over		58	30, 85			
CI = Confidence Interval						

Significant p-values but small effect size

Ratio of family income to poverty is strongly associated with income groups (Spearman Correlation = 0.88)

Univariate Lir	near Mo	odel		
Characteristic	Ν	Beta	95% Cl¹	p-value
race	8,903			<0.001
White		_	_	
Asian		64	34, 94	
Black		65	42, 88	
Hispanic		186	161, 210	
Other Race		51	-3.6, 105	
annual household income groups	8,106			<0.001
\$0 to \$24,999		_	_	
\$25,000 to \$44,999		50	24, 77	
\$45,000 to \$74,999		67	39, 95	
\$75,000 to \$99,999		81	46, 117	
\$100,000 and over		58	30, 85	
¹ CI = Confidence Interval				

Univariate Li	near M	odel		
Characteristic	Ν	Beta	95% Cl ⁷	p-value
age in 10 years	8,903	-50	-55, -45	<0.001
ratio of family income to poverty	8,244	0.25	-5.5, 6.0	>0.9
six-month time period	8,903			0.046
May 1 through October 31		_	_	
November 1 through April 30		-19	-37, -0.37	
education level among adults	8,666			<0.001
less than 9th grade		_	_	
9-11th grade		18	-22, 58	
high school graduate		9.7	-27, 47	
college or AA degree		-30	-65, 5.7	
college graduate or above		-42	-78, -5.4	
¹ CI = Confidence Interval				

Significant p-values but small effect size

Univariate Linear	Model				
Characteristic	Ν	Beta	95% Cl¹	p-value	_
marital status for people > 20 yrs old	8,671			<0.001	
married		_			
widowed		-227	-261, -193		
divorced		-69	-98, -39		
separated		51	-1.3, 103		
never married		-23	-47, 0.83		effect size based on AC scale
living with partner		111	74, 147		(AC median is 2273)
pregnancy status, for women 20-44 yrs old	1,774			0.026	
no		_	—		
yes		-107	-201, -13		
number of people in the participant's family	8,903	64	57, 70	<0.001	-
number of children aged 5 years or younger	8,903	106	90, 121	<0.001	
¹ CI = Confidence Interval					-

Significant p-values but small effect size

Univariate Linear Model							
Characteristic	Ν	Beta	95% Cl¹	p-value			
health condition	8,303			<0.001			
poor		—	—				
excellent		89	52, 125				
very good		66	38, 93				
fair		-151	-204, -98				
good		48	22, 73				
asthma	8,895			0.3			
no		—	—				
yes		-15	-40, 11				
cancer	8,672			<0.001			
no		_	_				
yes		-178	-209, -147				
¹ CI = Confidence Interval							

Significant p-values, medium effect size based on AC scale (AC median is 2273)

Univariate Linear Model						
Characteristic	Ν	Beta	95% Cl ¹	p-value		
diabetes	8,898			<0.001		
no		_	—			
borderline		-39	-94, 17			
yes		-179	-206, -153			
congestive heart failure	8,657			<0.001		
no		_	—			
yes		-267	-317, -217			
stroke	8,667			<0.001		
no		_	_			
yes		-314	-360, -267			
liver condition	8,664			0.13		
no		_	_			
yes		-36	-82, 11			
¹ CI = Confidence Interval						







Conclusion

- > Accelerometry data is very challenging to work with
 - > Complex data structure there's still a lot to unfold
 - Complex data processing procedure with many steps
- > Only medium to low association with TLAC determined despite statistical significance
 - > Physical activity volume *might* not be an ideal digital biomarker
 - > Further work is warranted

Future Work

- > Research on alternative physical activity characteristics
- Continue exploring the NHANES
- Create an R shiny app
- > Expand functionality of *Arctools* to incorporate more biomarkers
- Understand day-to-day variability of physical activity
- > Develop a framework for using NHANES data as baseline for drug development

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Thank you

Question?