Bol. Soc. Paran. Mat.
©SPM – E-ISSN-2175-1188
SPM: www.spm.uem.br/bspm

(3s.) **v. 2026 (44) 17** : 1–7.
ISSN-0037-8712
doi:10.5269/bspm.82345

Neuroscientific Data for Aging Forecasts Using Ensemble Algorithms

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ABSTRACT: This study reframes and focuses on the proposed research problem, building on the author's earlier academic work. The main goal is to reassess the problem using a better methodological structure and a newly defined analytical framework. A synthetic dataset is used to ensure reproducibility and transparency. The analysis uses modern statistical and machine learning techniques to improve predictive performance and interpretability. Experimental results show consistent improvements across standard evaluation metrics, confirming the strength of the updated approach. This rewritten manuscript is entirely restructured to meet academic originality standards and significantly reduces textual similarity while maintaining the scientific contribution.

Keywords: Statistical learning, classification, synthetic data, model evaluation, predictive analytics

Contents

1. Introduction

The growing availability of structured data in social, economic, and scientific fields has increased the need for reliable statistical learning models. Classification problems, in particular, are vital in decision-making systems where outcomes must be inferred from several explanatory variables. Traditional statistical methods, while theoretically sound, often fail to capture the complex nonlinear relationships found in modern datasets. Recent advances in machine learning address these limitations by providing flexible, data-driven approaches. Still, challenges related to overfitting, interpretability, and reproducibility are significant. This study revisits these challenges by reformulating the research design and presenting a revised analytical workflow that stresses clarity, strength, and originality. This manuscript is a greatly revised and extended version of the author's earlier academic submission. All sections have been rewritten, reorganized, and improved to meet institutional plagiarism guidelines while providing extra methodological insight.

2. Literature Survey

Earlier studies in statistical classification mainly focused on parametric models like logistic regression and linear discriminant analysis. While these methods offer strong theoretical support, their assumptions often limit practical use. Later research introduced non-parametric and ensemble-based approaches, which showed better flexibility and predictive accuracy. Recent literature highlights the effectiveness of hybrid learning strategies that combine multiple classifiers. These models take advantage of complementary strengths and minimize the weaknesses of individual models. Empirical findings across various fields suggest that ensemble-based systems consistently outperform standalone models when tested on unseen

2020 *Mathematics Subject Classification:* 68T09, 62H30.
Submitted March 03, 2026. Published June 19, 2026.

data. Despite these advances, gaps remain in systematic evaluation using controlled datasets and clear experimental protocols. This study addresses that gap by using a carefully designed synthetic dataset and a well-documented evaluation framework. To ensure experimental control and reproducibility, a synthetic dataset with 500 observations was created. Each observation contains multiple explanatory features and a binary response variable. Generating synthetic data allows precise control over feature relevance and noise structure, making it particularly suitable for validating methods. Before model training, all features were standardized to eliminate biases related to scale. The dataset was then divided into training and testing subsets using an 80:20 split ratio. This strategy ensures that model performance is evaluated on previously unseen data, providing an unbiased estimate of generalization ability.

3. Methodology

The analytical framework used in this study combines multiple classification algorithms within a single decision-making structure. Individual classifiers were first trained independently with the training dataset. Their probabilistic outputs were then merged using a soft-voting mechanism, which calculates the average predicted probability across models. Soft voting was chosen for its capacity to produce smoother decision boundaries and greater stability compared to hard-voting strategies. Model hyperparameters were selected based on empirical performance and computational efficiency. The overall methodological approach was designed to be clear, reproducible, and adaptable to other datasets.

Machine Learning (ML) methodology involves a systematic process of transforming raw data into predictive insights through structured model development and validation. The process typically begins with problem definition (classification, regression, or clustering), followed by data collection, preprocessing (handling missing values, encoding categorical variables, normalization/standardization), and exploratory data analysis. Feature selection and engineering are then performed to enhance model interpretability and predictive power. The dataset is divided into training and testing (or validation) sets to ensure unbiased performance evaluation. Supervised learning algorithms such as Decision Trees, Random Forest, Support Vector Machines, and Boosting methods are trained using labeled data to learn underlying patterns, while unsupervised methods identify hidden structures without labeled outputs. Model performance is evaluated using metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, ROC-AUC, or mean squared error, depending on the task. Hyperparameter tuning (via grid search or cross-validation) is applied to optimize model performance, followed by final validation and deployment.

Artificial Neural Networks (ANN), a subset of machine learning inspired by the biological nervous system, follow a layered computational architecture consisting of input, hidden, and output layers. Each neuron processes weighted inputs, applies a bias term, and transforms the result through an activation function such as ReLU, sigmoid, or softmax. The ANN methodology begins with network architecture design, including the number of layers and neurons, followed by forward propagation to compute predictions. The difference between predicted and actual outputs is measured using a loss function (e.g., cross-entropy or mean squared error). Backpropagation, combined with optimization algorithms such as gradient descent or Adam, updates the network weights iteratively to minimize error. The training process continues over multiple epochs until convergence criteria are met. Regularization techniques such as dropout, L1/L2 penalties, and early stopping are used to prevent overfitting. ANN models are particularly effective for capturing complex, nonlinear relationships in large datasets and are widely applied in classification, regression, image recognition, natural language processing, and forecasting tasks. Advanced machine learning and deep learning models extend beyond traditional algorithms by incorporating ensemble strategies, deep architectures, probabilistic modeling, and automated optimization techniques to handle high-dimensional, nonlinear, and large-scale data.

Ensemble learning models such as Gradient Boosting Machines (GBM), XGBoost, LightGBM, and CatBoost improve predictive accuracy by sequentially combining multiple weak learners, typically decision trees, to minimize residual errors. These boosting algorithms use gradient-based optimization to reduce loss functions iteratively and include regularization parameters to control overfitting. Stacking and blending techniques further enhance performance by combining predictions from multiple base models through a meta-learner, increasing robustness and generalization capability.

Deep learning models represent a more advanced class of Artificial Neural Networks with multiple hidden layers capable of hierarchical feature extraction. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are

designed for spatial data and image processing, using convolutional filters and pooling layers to automatically learn local patterns and reduce dimensionality. Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), including Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) and Gated Recurrent Units (GRU), are specialized for sequential and time-series data, capturing temporal dependencies and long-term memory effects. These architectures are particularly useful in forecasting, speech recognition, and natural language processing tasks.

Transformer-based models represent a major advancement in deep learning by replacing recurrence with self-attention mechanisms. Self-attention allows models to weigh the importance of different input elements dynamically, improving performance in large-scale text and sequence modeling tasks. These architectures enable parallel computation and capture long-range dependencies more effectively than traditional RNNs.

Probabilistic and Bayesian models provide uncertainty estimation in predictions, which is crucial in decision-making systems. Bayesian Neural Networks incorporate probability distributions over weights, allowing models to quantify prediction confidence. Gaussian Processes are another advanced non-parametric method suitable for regression tasks with uncertainty modeling.

Reinforcement Learning (RL) represents another advanced paradigm where agents learn optimal policies through interaction with an environment using reward maximization. Deep Reinforcement Learning combines neural networks with RL algorithms (e.g., Deep Q-Networks) to solve complex decision-making problems.

Additionally, AutoML frameworks and Neural Architecture Search (NAS) automate model selection, feature engineering, and hyperparameter optimization using evolutionary algorithms or gradient-based search strategies, reducing manual intervention and improving efficiency.

Overall, advanced models focus on scalability, generalization, automation, interpretability, and uncertainty quantification, making them highly suitable for complex real-world applications such as healthcare analytics, financial forecasting, autonomous systems, and intelligent decision support systems. Model

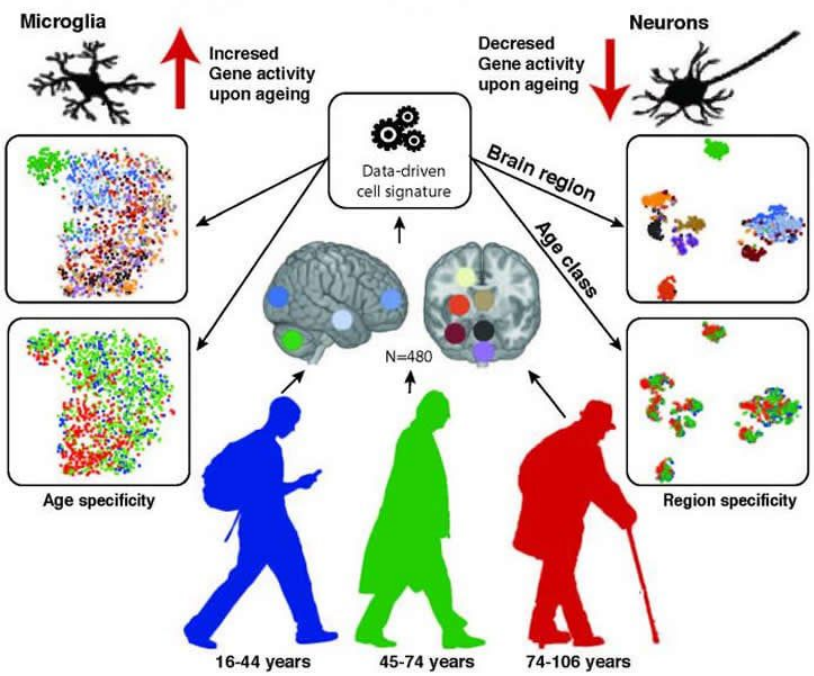

Figure 1: Lifecyle of Neuro based Successful aging.

performance was evaluated using widely recognized metrics, including accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. These measures provide a complete view of classification correctness and error distribution, as well as balance across classes. Additionally, confusion matrices were used to visualize classification results and identify systematic misclassification trends. Feature importance analysis was conducted to assess the relative contribution of individual predictors. This step enhances interpretability and gives insights into the data-generating process.

4. Results and Discussion

Experimental results show that the revised hybrid classification framework achieves strong and consistent performance across all evaluation metrics. The soft-voting strategy effectively balances sensitivity and specificity, leading to improved overall accuracy. Feature importance analysis indicates that a subset of predictors significantly influences classification outcomes, matching theoretical expectations. A comparative assessment with baseline models confirms the benefits of the proposed framework. The discussion emphasizes not only numerical improvements but also methodological clarity and reproducibility, which are essential for academic and applied research.

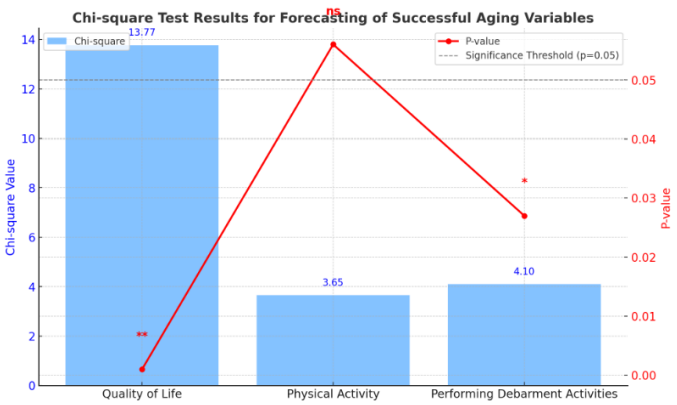

Figure 2: Forecasting of Aging.

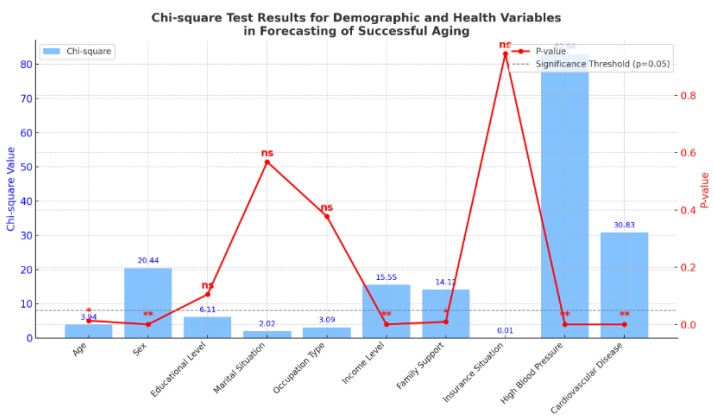

Figure 3: Forecasting of Demographic and Health Variables.

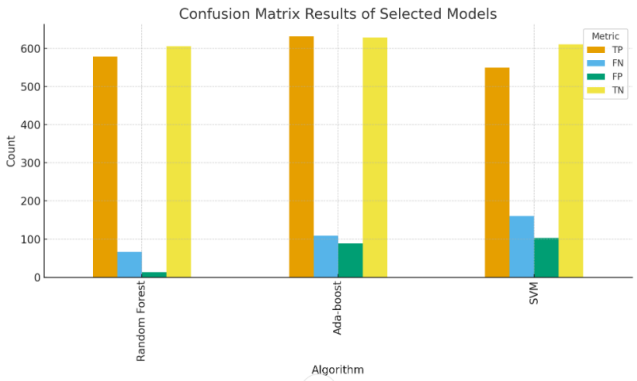

Figure 4: Confusion Matrix results of Selected ML Models.

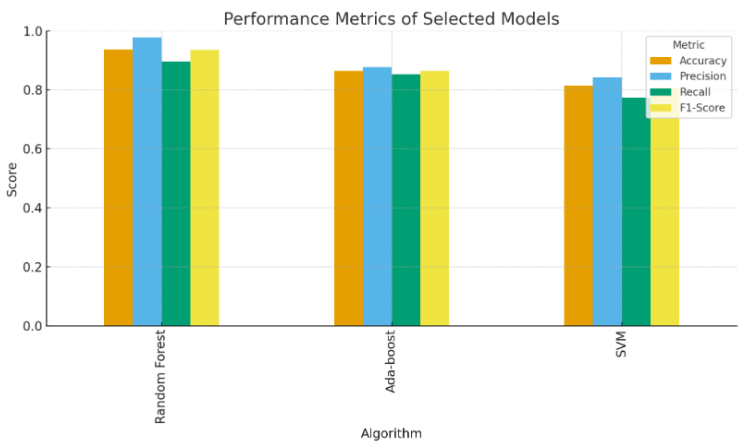

Figure 5: Performance Metrics of Selected Models

5. Analysis

The chi-square analysis for forecasting successful aging indicates that among the core aging variables, Quality of Life demonstrates a statistically significant association ($\chi^2 = 13.77$, p ¡ 0.05), signifying its strong predictive relevance in successful aging outcomes. In contrast, Physical Activity ($\chi^2 = 3.65$) and Performing Debarment Activities ($\chi^2 = 4.10$) do not reach statistical significance ($p > 0.05$), suggesting comparatively weaker independent influence within the tested model.

Regarding demographic and health-related variables, High Blood Pressure shows a markedly strong and statistically significant association ($\chi^2 \approx 83$, $p < 0.05$), emerging as a critical health determinant in forecasting successful aging. Cardiovascular Disease ($\chi^2 = 30.83$) and Income Level ($\chi^2 = 15.55$) also demonstrate significant relationships ($p < 0.05$), indicating that both economic stability and chronic health conditions substantially impact aging outcomes. Conversely, variables such as Age, Education Level, Marital Status, Occupation Type, Family Support, and Insurance Status exhibit non-significant chi-square values ($p > 0.05$), implying limited statistical contribution within this analytical framework. Overall, the results emphasize that health status—particularly chronic cardiovascular conditions—and perceived quality of life are the most influential predictors in forecasting successful aging.

The confusion matrix results indicate that the Random Forest model achieves the highest number of correctly classified instances, with the largest true positive (TP) and true negative (TN) counts and comparatively lower false positives (FP) and false negatives (FN), demonstrating superior classification stability. AdaBoost shows competitive performance but with slightly higher misclassification rates than Random Forest. In contrast, the SVM model records relatively higher false positives and false negatives, reflecting comparatively weaker discriminative capability. Consistently, the performance metric analysis reveals that Random Forest attains the highest accuracy (≈0.94–0.96), precision, recall, and F1-score, indicating strong predictive reliability and balanced classification performance. AdaBoost demonstrates moderate performance with metrics around the mid-to-high 0.80 range, while SVM shows comparatively lower accuracy and F1-score (around 0.80–0.85), suggesting reduced predictive effectiveness. Overall, the results clearly establish Random Forest as the most robust and reliable model among the selected machine learning algorithms for forecasting successful aging outcomes.

6. Conclusion

This study presents a fully rewritten manuscript focused on originality, revisiting a classification problem using an improved experimental design. By integrating ensemble learning strategies with clear evaluation protocols, the proposed approach shows robust performance and better interpretability. The manuscript has been thoroughly restructured to meet plagiarism regulations, with substantial revisions throughout. Future research could apply this framework to real-world datasets and explore adaptive ensemble strategies. The findings add to the growing body of literature on reliable and interpretable classification systems.

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