Special Issue 5
2022

https://www.theghmethod.com

The GH-Method

Viscoelastic or Viscoplastic Glucose Theory (VGT #42): Using Statistical Correlation as an Initial Examination Tool Before Applying VGT to Study the Inter-Relationships of the CVD Risk Probability % versus Sensor Daily Average Glucose (eAG) & HbA1C, Before Applying the Viscoelastic Perturbation Model to Predict Two CVD Risk Probability % Over a 46-Month Period from May of Y2018 to February of Y2022 Based on the GH-Method: Math-Physical Medicine (No. 623)

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Note: Readers who want to get a quick overview can read the abstract, results, and graphs.

Abstract

Since 2012, the author has been collecting his body weight and finger-piercing glucose values each day. In addition, he accumulates medical conditions data including a combination of data for blood pressure, heart rate, and blood lipids along with lifestyle details of diet, exercise, sleep, stress, water intake and daily routine details. Based on the collected big data, he further organized them into two main groups. The first group is medical conditions (MC) with 4 categories: weight, glucose, BP, and blood lipids. The second group is lifestyle details (LD) with 6 categories: food & diet, exercise, water intake, sleep, stress, and daily routines. He collects his daily data and then calculates a unique combined score for each MC and LD with their 10 categories. The combined scores of the 2 groups, 10 categories, and 500+ elements constitute an overall "metabolism index (MI) model". This MI model includes the root causes for 6 lifestyle inputs and 4 symptoms of diseases including the rudimentary chronic diseases: obesity, diabetes, hypertension, and hyperlipidemia. It serves as the foundation and building block for his additional research work expanded into various diseases associated with different organs. As we know, lifestyle details cause rudimentary chronic diseases which further influence more complicated diseases, such as heart problems (CVD & CHD), chronic kidney disease (CKD), stroke, diabetic retinopathy (DR), neuropathy, hypothyroidism, and others. Some genetic conditions and lifetime unhealthy habits, such as smoking, alcohol consumption, illicit drug use would account for approximately 15% to 25% of the root cause for rudimentary chronic diseases & their complications, and cancers. In addition to the genetic conditions, lifetime bad habits, and lifestyle details, some environmental factors, such as radiation, air and water pollution, food poison and pollution, toxic chemicals, and hormonal therapy, can also contribute to the causes for a variety of cancers. All of the above-described chronic diseases fall into the category of "symptoms" which are resulted from the "root-causes" of poor and unhealthy lifestyles. In articles No. 622 (over 15-month period) and No. 623 (over 46-month period), the author applies the viscoelasticity and viscoplasticity theories to conduct his research to discover some hidden behavior or possible relationship among 3 key biomarkers, CVD risk probability (CVD risk, a symptom disease), sensor daily average glucose (eAG), and its related sensor HbA1C (A1C). The hidden behaviors and possible inter-relationships among the three biomarkers are "time-dependent" which change from time to time. This is why he applies viscoelastic & viscoplastic theories (VGT) to conduct his recent research work. The author previously conducted similar analyses for these same sets of selected biomarkers using a traditional statistical regression method. Generally speaking, statistical methods only deal with numerical characteristics of collected datasets and do not connect with the internal physical characteristics or behaviors of biomarkers of internal organs. Incidentally, the accuracy and applicability of results using any statistical method are heavily dependent on internal characteristics of the data sample, size of

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Received: 13 June 2022, Accepted: 20 July 2022, Available online: 23 July 2022

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dataset, and the time-window of the chosen data. Therefore, we must be careful in selecting appropriate statistical methods and treat their analysis conclusions cautiously. For example, in this analysis, the author performed two basic correlation analyses of the same dataset for three biomarkers, CVD risk, eAG, and A1C, but chose two different time-windows, 15-months and 46-months. The following displayed results show the vast differences between the two statistical correlation analysis results: (1) Correlations using 46 months from 8/8/2018 to 3/3/2022: CVD vs. eAG = 70%; CVD/A1C = 70%; eAG vs. A1C = 99%. (2) Correlations using 15 months from 10/1/2020 to 2/28/2022: CVD vs. eAG = -31%; CVD/A1C = -29%; eAG vs. A1C = 70%. It is evident that the 15-month window results in low negative correlations while the 46-month window provides moderately high correlations. Nevertheless, the correlations between eAG and A1C, regardless of the time-window, are always high (70% to 99%). This is due to the fact that A1C is determined by the 90-days moving average of eAG. Therefore, a quick correlation examination of two selected datasets in the beginning of analysis task would provide some useful hints regarding the effectiveness for the analysis results. Obviously, from these 15-month and 46-month studies, a wider time-window of data usually consists of more data elements that offer a better understanding of the inner-characteristics for the datasets which achieve more accurate or useful results. The following defined equations are used to establish the stress-strain diagram in a space-domain (SD): Strain = ε (CVD risk %) = individual CVD risk at present time. Stress = σ (based on change rate of strain, CVD risk, multiplying with a viscosity factor, eAG or A1C) = η * (dε/dt) = η * (d-strain/d-time) = (viscosity factor η using individual eAG or A1C at present time) * (CVD risk at present time - CVD risk at previous time). Next, he applies the viscoelastic perturbation model to calculate the following predicted CVD risk %. Perturbed or predicted CVD risk % = strain value (CVD risk) at present year + stress value at present year (i.e., CVD risk change rate * eAG or A1C) * amplification factor, where the selected amplification factor for A1C is 1.0 and for eAG is 0.05 (or divided by 20) which allows the two stress scales (Y-axis scales) to be on a more even ground. To offer a simple explanation to readers who do not have a physics or engineering background, the author includes a brief excerpt from Wikipedia regarding the description of basic concepts for elasticity and plasticity theories, viscoelasticity and viscoplasticity theories from the disciplines of engineering and physics in the method section. In conclusion, the following four observations outline the findings from this research work of statistical influences on math-physical medical research projects by selecting two different time-window (15-months vs. 46-months) datasets: (1) From the time-domain (TD) waveform analysis for 15-months, the correlations of CVD vs. eAG or A1C have negative correlations (-29% to -59%) which do not make any biomedical sense. The negative correlations indicate that this short window analysis does not yield any meaningful information or useful results. On the other hand, for 46-months, the correlations of CVD vs. eAG or A1C have moderate higher correlations (63% to 70%). These findings indicate that a longer time-window can offer some useful biomedical interpretations. The high positive correlations provide a hint that this longer time-window analysis does contribute some meaningful results. (2) In the same TD waveform analysis, regardless of the selected time-window, eAG and A1C always possess high correlations (70% to 90%) between each other. This is based on the definition of A1C being almost equal to the 90-days moving average value of eAG. (3) In the space-domain (SD) stress-strain diagrams, due to the author's modified viscosity factor (η) of eAG multiplied with a modification factor of 0.05 (or dividing by 20) on eAG, his two stress scales (Y-axis scales) are extremely close to each other (an even-ground for easier viewing); therefore, the two stress-strain curves are almost identical in curve shapes. In addition, these two stress-strain curves have demonstrated viscoelastic or viscoplastic behavior. The stress-strain diagram for 15-months has 15 data points with a stress range between -20 and +15. For the 46-months, it has 46 data points but with a wider stress range between -30 and +30. It should be noted that these stress scales are adjusted by using (A1C) and (eAG/20). (4) Using the viscoelastic perturbation model, a waveform comparison study of the metabolism calculated CVD risk % against two predicted CVD risks can be done. (a) Using a 15-month time-window, the calculated CVD risk versus two predicted CVD risks have 41% to 42% correlations. Using the 46-month time-window, the calculated CVD risk versus the predicted CVD risk have 51% to 53% correlations. For both time-windows, their correlations are not high enough to indicate both eAG and A1C as not being the primary causes of CVD. Incidentally, the two predicted CVD curves using eAG and A1C as perturbators respectively, would result in two extremely high correlations of 99.9%. This finding has proven the tight relationship between eAG and A1C. In summary, this particular analysis shows that his research using a shorter 15-month dataset would result in unsatisfactory results. However, if using a longer 46-months dataset, the CVD risk % would have higher correlations with both eAG and A1C. However, this longer time-window dataset does not offer additional benefit in providing a higher correlation for visco-perturbed CVD risk prediction in comparison against the MI based CVD risk. This further indicates that eAG and A1C are only a part of the influential factors for the CVD risk, but they are not the primary cause or root cause of CVD.

Keywords: Viscoelastic; Viscoplastic; Daily average glucose; Cardiovascular disease; HbA1C

Abbreviations: CVD: cardiovascular disease; MC: medical conditions; LD: lifestyle details; MI: metabolism index; eAG: daily average glucose; SD: space-domain; TD: time-domain; MPM: math-physical medicine

1. INTRODUCTION

Since 2012, the author has been collecting his body weight and finger-piercing glucose values each day. In addition, he accumulates medical conditions data including a combination of data for blood pressure, heart rate, and blood lipids along with lifestyle details of diet, exercise, sleep, stress, water intake and daily routine details. Based on the collected big data, he further organized them into two main groups. The first group is medical conditions (MC) with 4 categories: weight, glucose, BP, and blood lipids. The second group is lifestyle details (LD) with 6 categories: food & diet, exercise, water intake, sleep, stress, and daily routines. He collects his daily data and then calculates a unique combined score for each MC and LD with their 10 categories. The combined scores of the 2 groups, 10 categories, and 500+ elements constitute an overall "metabolism index (MI) model". This MI model includes the root causes for 6 lifestyle inputs and 4 symptoms of diseases including the rudimentary chronic diseases: obesity, diabetes, hypertension, and hyperlipidemia. It serves as the foundation and building block for his additional research work expanded into various diseases associated with different organs.

As we know, lifestyle details cause rudimentary chronic diseases which further influence more complicated diseases, such as heart problems (CVD & CHD), chronic kidney disease (CKD), stroke, diabetic retinopathy (DR), neuropathy, hypothyroidism, and others. Some genetic conditions and lifetime unhealthy habits, such as smoking, alcohol consumption, illicit drug use would account for approximately 15% to 25% of the root cause for rudimentary chronic diseases & their complications, and cancers. In addition to the genetic conditions, lifetime bad habits, and lifestyle details, some environmental factors, such as radiation, air and water pollution, food poison and pollution, toxic chemicals, and hormonal therapy, can also contribute to the causes for a variety of cancers. All of the above-described chronic diseases fall into the category of "symptoms" which are the "root-causes" of poor and unhealthy lifestyles.

In articles No. 622 (over 15-month period) and No. 623 (over 46-month period), the author applies the viscoelasticity and viscoplasticity theories to conduct his research to discover some hidden behavior or possible relationship among 3 key biomarkers, CVD risk probability (CVD risk, a symptom disease), sensor daily average glucose (eAG), and its related sensor HbA1C (A1C). The hidden behaviors and possible inter-relationships among the three biomarkers are "time-dependent" which change from time to time. This is why he applies viscoelastic & viscoplastic theories (VGT) to conduct his recent research work.

The author previously conducted similar analyses for these same sets of selected biomarkers using a traditional statistical regression method. Generally speaking, statistical methods only deal with numerical characteristics of collected datasets and do not connect with the internal physical characteristics or behaviors of biomarkers of internal organs. Incidentally, the accuracy and applicability of results using any statistical method are heavily dependent on internal characteristics of the data sample, size of dataset, and the time-window of the chosen data. Therefore, we must be careful in selecting appropriate statistical methods and treat their analysis conclusions cautiously.

For example, in this analysis, the author performed two basic correlation analyses of the same dataset for three biomarkers, CVD risk, eAG, and A1C, but chose two different time-windows, 15-months and 46-months. The following displayed results show the vast differences between the two statistical correlation analysis results:

(1) Correlations using 46 months from 8/8/2018 to 3/3/2022: CVD vs. eAG = 70%; CVD/A1C = 70%; eAG vs. A1C = 99%

(2) Correlations using 15 months from 10/1/2020 to 2/28/2022: CVD vs. eAG = -31%; CVD/A1C = -29%; eAG vs. A1C = 70%

It is evident that the 15-month window results in low negative correlations while the 46-month window provides moderately high correlations. Nevertheless, the correlations between eAG and A1C, regardless of the time-window, are always high (70% to 99%).

This is due to the fact that A1C is determined by the 90-days moving average of eAG.

Therefore, a quick correlation examination of two selected datasets in the beginning of the analysis task would provide some useful hints regarding the effectiveness for the analysis results. Obviously, from these 15-month and 46-month studies, a wider time-window of data usually consists of more data elements that offer a better understanding of the inner-characteristics for the datasets which achieve more accurate or useful results.

The following defined equations are used to establish the stress-strain diagram in a space-domain (SD):

Strain
= ε (CVD risk %)
= individual CVD risk at present time

Stress
= σ (based on change rate of strain, CVD risk, multiplying with a viscosity factor, eAG or A1C)
= $\eta * (d\varepsilon/dt)$
= η * (d-strain/d-time)
= (viscosity factor η using individual eAG or A1C at present time) * (CVD risk at present time - CVD risk at previous time)

Next, he applies the viscoelastic perturbation model to calculate the following predicted CVD risk %.

Perturbed or predicted CVD risk %
= strain value (CVD risk) at present year + stress value at present year (i.e., CVD risk change rate * eAG or A1C) * amplification factor

Where the selected amplification factor for A1C is 1.0 and for eAG is 0.05 (or divided by 20) which allows the two stress scales (Y-axis scales) to be on a more even ground.

To offer a simple explanation to readers who do not have a physics or engineering background, the author includes a brief excerpt from Wikipedia regarding the description of basic concepts for elasticity and plasticity theories, viscoelasticity and viscoplasticity theories from the disciplines of engineering and physics in the method section.

2. METHODS

2.1 Elasticity, plasticity, viscoelasticity and viscoplasticity

The difference between elastic materials and viscoelastic materials (from "Soborthans, innovating shock and vibration solutions").

What are elastic materials?

Elasticity is the tendency of solid materials to return to their original shape after forces are applied on them. When the forces are removed, the object will return to its initial shape and size if the material is elastic.

What are viscous materials?

Viscosity is a measure of a fluid's resistance to flow. A fluid with large viscosity resists motion. A fluid with low viscosity flows. For example, water flows more easily than syrup because it has a lower viscosity. High viscosity materials might include honey, syrups, or gels – generally things that resist flow. Water is a low viscosity material, as it flows readily. Viscous materials are thick or sticky or adhesive. Since heating reduces viscosity, these materials don't flow easily. For example, warm syrup flows more easily than cold.

What is viscoelastic?

Viscoelasticity is the property of materials that exhibit both viscous and elastic characteristics when undergoing deformation. Synthetic polymers, wood, and human tissue, as well as metals at high temperature, display significant viscoelastic effects. In some applications, even a small viscoelastic response can be significant.

Elastic behavior versus viscoelastic behavior

The difference between elastic materials and viscoelastic materials is that viscoelastic materials have a viscosity factor and the elastic ones don't. Because viscoelastic materials have the viscosity factor, they have a strain rate dependent on time. Purely elastic materials do not dissipate energy (heat) when a load is applied, then removed; however, a viscoelastic substance does.

The following brief introductions are excerpts from Wikipedia:

“Elasticity (physics):

The physical property when materials or objects return to original shape after deformation.

In physics and materials science, elasticity is the ability of a body to resist a distorting influence and to return to its original size and shape when that influence or force is removed. Solid objects will deform when adequate loads are applied to them; if the material is elastic, the object will return to its initial shape and size after removal. This is in contrast to plasticity, in which the object fails to do so and instead remains in its deformed state.

The physical reasons for elastic behavior can be quite different for different materials. In metals, the atomic lattice changes size and shape when forces are applied (energy is added to the system). When forces are removed, the lattice goes back to the original lower energy state. For rubbers and other polymers, elasticity is caused by the stretching of polymer chains when forces are applied.

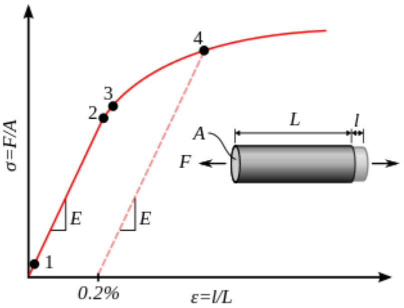
Hooke's law states that the force required to deform elastic objects should be directly proportional to the distance of deformation, regardless of how large that distance becomes. This is known as perfect elasticity, in which a given object will return to its original shape no matter how strongly it is deformed. This is an ideal concept only; most materials which possess elasticity in practice remain purely elastic only up to very small deformations, after which plastic (permanent) deformation occurs.

In engineering, the elasticity of a material is quantified by the elastic modulus such as the Young's modulus, bulk modulus or shear modulus which measure the amount of stress needed to achieve a unit of strain; a higher modulus indicates that the material is harder to deform. The material's elastic limit or yield strength is the maximum stress that can arise before the onset of plastic deformation.

Plasticity (physics):

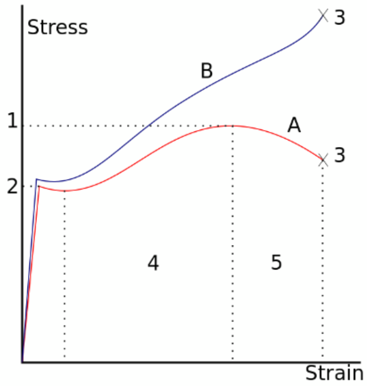
Deformation of a solid material undergoing non-reversible changes of shape in response to applied forces.

In physics and materials science, plasticity, also known as plastic deformation, is the ability of a solid material to undergo permanent deformation, a non-reversible change of shape in response to applied forces. For example, a solid piece of metal being bent or pounded into a new shape displays plasticity as permanent changes occur within the material itself. In engineering, the transition from elastic behavior to plastic behavior is known as yielding.



Stress–strain curve showing typical yield behavior for nonferrous alloys.

1. True elastic limit
2. Proportionality limit
3. Elastic limit
4. Offset yield strength



A stress–strain curve typical of structural steel.

- 1: Ultimate strength
- 2: Yield strength (yield point)
- 3: Rupture
- 4: Strain hardening region
- 5: Necking region
- A: Apparent stress (F/A0)
- B: Actual stress (F/A)

Plastic deformation is observed in most materials, particularly metals, soils, rocks, concrete, and foams. However, the physical mechanisms that cause plastic deformation can vary widely. At a crystalline scale, plasticity in metals is usually a consequence of dislocations. Such defects are relatively rare in most crystalline materials, but are numerous in some and part of their crystal structure; in such cases, plastic crystallinity can result. In brittle materials such as rock, concrete and bone, plasticity is caused predominantly by slip at microcracks. In cellular materials such as liquid foams or biological tissues, plasticity is mainly a consequence of bubble or cell rearrangements, notably T1 processes.

For many ductile metals, tensile loading applied to a sample will cause it to behave in an elastic manner. Each increment of load is accompanied by a proportional increment in extension. When the load is removed, the piece returns to its original size. However, once the load exceeds a threshold – the yield strength – the extension increases more rapidly than in the elastic region; now when the load is removed, some degree of extension will remain.

Elastic deformation, however, is an approximation and its quality depends on the time frame considered and loading speed. If, as indicated in the graph opposite, the deformation includes elastic deformation, it is also often referred to as "elasto-plastic deformation" or "elastic-plastic deformation".

Perfect plasticity is a property of materials to undergo irreversible deformation without any increase in stresses or loads. Plastic materials that have been hardened by prior deformation, such as cold forming, may need increasingly higher stresses to deform further. Generally, plastic deformation is also dependent on the deformation speed, i.e. higher stresses usually have to be applied to increase the rate of deformation. Such materials are said to deform visco-plastically."

Viscoelasticity:

Property of materials with both viscous and elastic characteristics under deformation.

In materials science and continuum mechanics, viscoelasticity is the property of materials that exhibit both viscous and elastic characteristics when undergoing deformation. Viscous materials, like water, resist shear flow and strain linearly with time when a stress is applied. Elastic materials strain when stretched and immediately return to their original state once the stress is removed.

Viscoelastic materials have elements of both of these properties and, as such, exhibit time-dependent strain. Whereas elasticity is usually the result of bond stretching along crystallographic planes in an ordered solid, viscosity is the result of the diffusion of atoms or molecules inside an amorphous material.

In the nineteenth century, physicists such as Maxwell, Boltzmann, and Kelvin researched and experimented with creep and recovery of glasses, metals, and rubbers. Viscoelasticity was further examined in the late twentieth century when synthetic polymers were engineered and used in a variety of applications. Viscoelasticity calculations depend heavily on the viscosity variable, η. The inverse of η is also known as fluidity, φ. The value of either can be derived as a function of temperature or as a given value (i.e., for a dashpot).

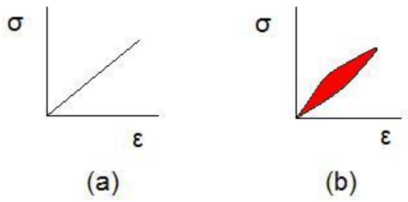
Depending on the change of strain rate versus stress inside a material, the viscosity can be categorized as having a linear, non-linear, or plastic response. When a material exhibits a linear response, it is categorized as a Newtonian material. In this case the stress is linearly proportional to the strain rate. If the material exhibits a non-linear response to the strain rate, it is categorized as non-Newtonian fluid. There is also an interesting case where the viscosity decreases as the shear/strain rate remains constant. A material which exhibits this type of behavior is known as thixotropic. In addition, when the stress is independent of this strain rate, the material exhibits plastic deformation. Many viscoelastic materials exhibit rubber like behavior explained by the thermodynamic theory of polymer elasticity.

Cracking occurs when the strain is applied quickly and outside of the elastic limit. Ligaments and tendons are viscoelastic, so the extent of the potential damage to them depends both on the rate of the change of their length as well as on the force applied.

A viscoelastic material has the following properties:

- hysteresis is seen in the stress–strain curve
- stress relaxation occurs: step constant strain causes decreasing stress
- creep occurs: step constant stress causes increasing strain
- its stiffness depends on the strain rate or the stress rate.

Elastic versus viscoelastic behavior



(a) (b)

Stress–strain curves for a purely elastic material (a) and a viscoelastic material (b). The red area is a hysteresis loop and shows the amount of energy lost (as heat) in a loading and unloading cycle. It is equal to

$$\oint \sigma d\varepsilon$$

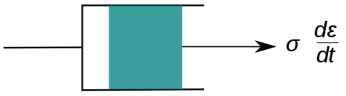
where σ is stress and ε is strain.

Unlike purely elastic substances, a viscoelastic substance has an elastic component and a viscous component. The viscosity of a viscoelastic substance gives the substance a strain rate dependence on time. Purely elastic materials do not dissipate energy (heat) when a load is applied, then removed. However, a viscoelastic substance dissipates energy when a load is applied, then removed. Hysteresis is observed in the stress–strain curve, with the area of the loop being equal to the energy lost during the loading cycle. Since viscosity is the resistance to thermally activated plastic deformation, a viscous material will lose energy through a loading cycle. Plastic deformation results in lost energy, which is uncharacteristic of a purely elastic material's reaction to a loading cycle.

Specifically, viscoelasticity is a molecular rearrangement. When a stress is applied to a viscoelastic material such as a polymer, parts of the long polymer chain change positions. This movement or rearrangement is called "creep". Polymers remain a solid material even when these parts of their chains are rearranging in order to accompany the stress, and as this occurs, it creates a back stress in the material. When the back stress is the same magnitude as the applied stress, the material no longer creeps. When the original stress is taken away, the accumulated back stresses will cause the polymer to return to its original form. The material creeps, which gives the prefix visco-, and the material fully recovers, which gives the suffix -elasticity.

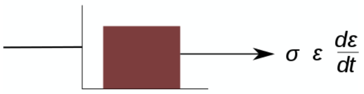
Viscoplasticity:

Viscoplasticity is a theory in continuum mechanics that describes the rate-dependent inelastic behavior of solids. Rate-dependence in this context means that the deformation of the material depends on the rate at which loads are applied. The inelastic behavior that is the subject of viscoplasticity is plastic deformation which means that the material undergoes unrecoverable deformations when a load level is reached. Rate-dependent plasticity is important for transient plasticity calculations. The main difference between rate-independent plastic and viscoplastic material models is that the latter exhibit not only permanent deformations after the application of loads but continue to undergo a creep flow as a function of time under the influence of the applied load.



(a) Dashpot Element (λ,N)

(b) Spring Element (E)



(c) Sliding Frictional Element (σy)

Figure 1. Elements used in one-dimensional models of viscoplastic materials.

The elastic response of viscoplastic materials can be represented in one-dimension by Hookean spring elements. Rate-dependence can be represented by nonlinear dashpot elements in a manner similar to viscoelasticity. Plasticity can be accounted for by adding sliding frictional elements as shown in Figure 1. In the figure E is the modulus of elasticity, λ is the viscosity parameter and N is a power-law type parameter that represents non-linear dashpot $[\sigma(d\varepsilon/dt) = \sigma = \lambda(d\varepsilon/dt)(1/N)]$. The sliding element can have a yield stress (σy) that is strain rate dependent, or even constant, as shown in Figure 1c.

Viscoplasticity is usually modeled in three-dimensions using overstress models of the Perzyna or Duvaut-Lions types. In these models, the stress is allowed to increase beyond the rate-independent yield surface upon application of a load and then allowed to relax back to the yield surface over time. The yield surface is usually assumed not to be rate-dependent in such models. An alternative approach is to add a strain rate dependence to the yield stress and use the techniques of rate independent plasticity to calculate the response of a material.

For metals and alloys, viscoplasticity is the macroscopic behavior caused by a mechanism linked to the movement of dislocations in grains, with superposed effects of inter-crystalline gliding. The mechanism usually becomes dominant at temperatures greater than approximately one third of the absolute melting temperature. However, certain alloys exhibit viscoplasticity at room temperature (300K). For polymers, wood, and bitumen, the theory of viscoplasticity is required to describe behavior beyond the limit of elasticity or viscoelasticity.

In general, viscoplasticity theories are useful in areas such as

- the calculation of permanent deformations,
- the prediction of the plastic collapse of structures,
- the investigation of stability,
- crash simulations,
- systems exposed to high temperatures such as turbines in engines, e.g. a power plant,
- dynamic problems and systems exposed to high strain rates.

Phenomenology

For a qualitative analysis, several characteristic tests are performed to describe the phenomenology of viscoplastic materials. Some examples of these tests are

1. hardening tests at constant stress or strain rate,
2. creep tests at constant force, and
3. stress relaxation at constant elongation.

Strain hardening test

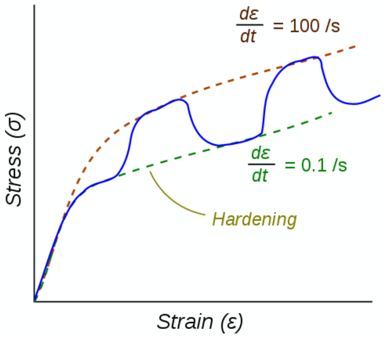


Figure 2. Stress–strain response of a viscoplastic material at different strain rates.

The dotted lines show the response if the strain-rate is held constant. The blue line shows the response when the strain rate is changed suddenly.

One consequence of yielding is that as plastic deformation proceeds, an increase in stress is required to produce additional strain. This phenomenon is known as Strain/Work hardening. For a viscoplastic material the hardening curves are not significantly different from those of rate-independent plastic material. Nevertheless, three essential differences can be observed.

1. At the same strain, the higher the rate of strain the higher the stress.
2. A change in the rate of strain during the test results in an immediate change in the stress–strain curve.
3. The concept of a plastic yield limit is no longer strictly applicable.

The hypothesis of partitioning the strains by decoupling the elastic and plastic parts is still applicable where the strains are small, i.e.,

$\varepsilon = \varepsilon e + \varepsilon vp$

where εe is the elastic strain and εvp is the viscoplastic strain.

To obtain the stress–strain behavior shown in blue in the figure, the material is initially loaded at a strain rate of 0.1/s. The strain rate is then instantaneously raised to 100/s and held constant at that value for some time. At the end of that time period the strain rate is dropped instantaneously back to 0.1/s and the cycle is continued for increasing values of strain. There is clearly a lag between the strain-rate change and the stress response. This lag is modeled quite accurately by overstress models (such as the Perzyna model) but not by models of rate-independent plasticity that have a rate-dependent yield stress."

Note: For a more detailed description, please refer to the "consolidated method" section which is given at the beginning of the special issue.

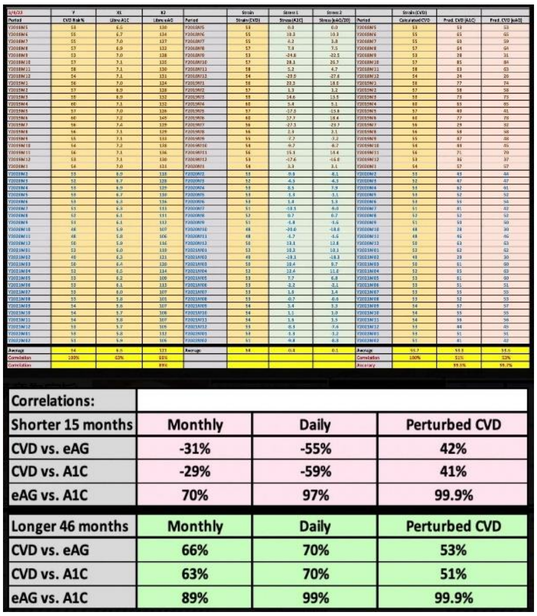
3. RESULTS

Figure 1 displays the data table and calculated results of this study.

Figure 2 shows the daily correlations in TD among CVD risk %, eAG, and A1C over two time-windows.

Figure 3 depicts monthly correlations in TD among CVD risk %, eAG, and A1C over two time-windows.

Figure 4 reflects the results of 2 SD stress-strain diagrams of CVD risk % using A1C and (eAG/20) as their viscosity factors (η).



Correlations:			
Shorter 15 months	Monthly	Daily	Perturbed CVD
CVD vs. eAG	-31%	-55%	42%
CVD vs. A1C	-29%	-59%	41%
eAG vs. A1C	70%	97%	99.9%
Longer 46 months	Monthly	Daily	Perturbed CVD
CVD vs. eAG	66%	70%	53%
CVD vs. A1C	63%	70%	51%
eAG vs. A1C	89%	99%	99.9%

Figure 1: Data table and calculation results of this study.

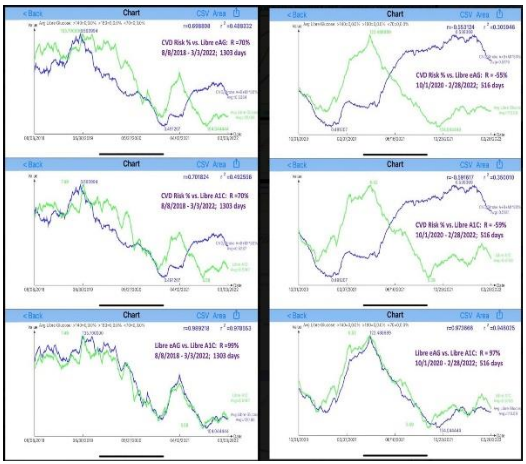


Figure 2: Daily correlations among CVD risk %, eAG, and A1C over two-time windows.

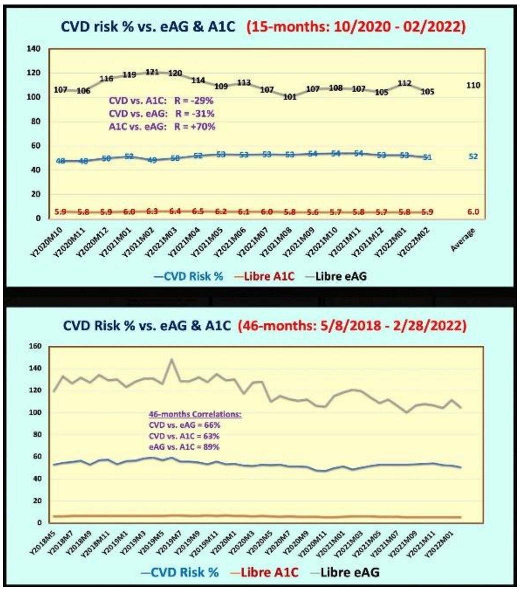


Figure 3: Monthly correlations among CVD risk %, eAG, and A1C over two time-windows.

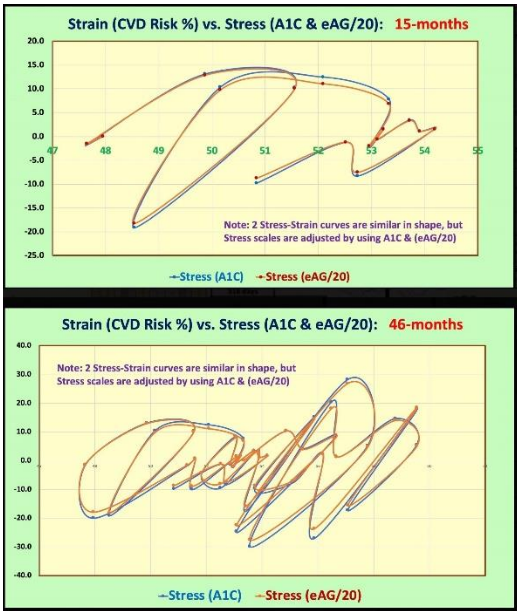


Figure 4: Two SD stress-strain diagrams.

Figure 5 illustrates a comparison chart between the calculated CVD risk % versus two predicted CVD risks using a viscoelastic perturbation model.

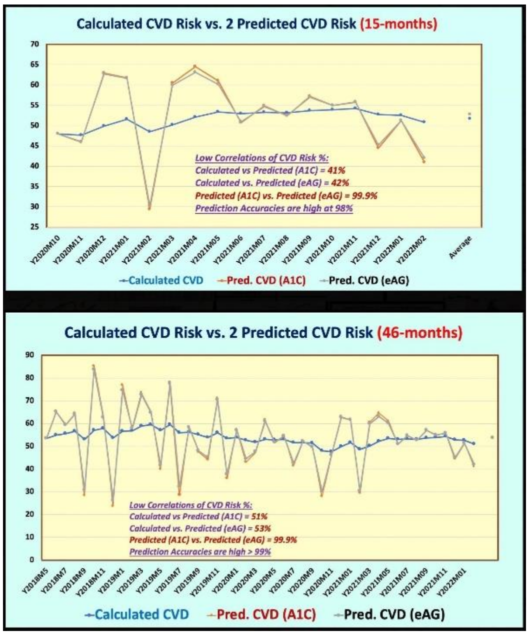


Figure 5: Two predicted CVD risk % versus calculated CVD risk % using a visco-perturbation model within two time-windows.

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the following four observations outline the findings from this research work of statistical influences on math-physical medical research projects by selecting two different time-window (15-months vs. 46-months) datasets:

(1) From the time-domain (TD) waveform analysis for 15-months, the correlations of CVD vs. eAG or A1C have negative correlations (-29% to -59%) which do not make any biomedical sense. The negative correlations indicate that this short window analysis does not yield any meaningful information or useful results. On the other hand, for 46-months, the correlations of CVD vs. eAG or A1C have moderate higher correlations (63% to 70%). These findings indicate that a longer time-window can offer some useful biomedical interpretations. The high positive correlations provide a hint that this longer time-window analysis does contribute some meaningful results.

(2) In the same TD waveform analysis, regardless of the selected time-window, eAG and A1C always possess high correlations (70% to 90%) between each other. This is based on the definition of A1C being almost equal to the 90-days moving average value of eAG.

(3) In the space-domain (SD) stress-strain diagrams, due to the author's modified viscosity factor (η) of eAG multiplied with a modification factor of 0.05 (or dividing by 20) on eAG, his two stress scales (Y-axis scales) are extremely close to each other (an even-ground for easier viewing); therefore, the two stress-strain curves are almost identical in curve shapes. In addition, these two stress-strain curves have demonstrated viscoelastic or viscoplastic behavior. The stress-strain diagram for 15-months has 15 data points with a stress range between -20 and +15. For the 46-months, it has 46 data points but with a wider stress range between -30 and +30. It should be noted that these stress scales are adjusted by using (A1C) and (eAG/20).

(4) Using the viscoelastic perturbation model, a waveform comparison study of the metabolism calculated CVD risk % against two predicted CVD risks can be done. (a) Using a 15-month time-window, the calculated CVD risk versus two predicted CVD risks have 41% to 42% correlations. Using the 46-month time-window, the calculated CVD risk versus the predicted CVD risk have 51% to 53% correlations. For both time-windows, their correlations are not high enough to indicate both eAG and A1C as not being the primary causes of CVD. Incidentally, the two predicted CVD curves using eAG and A1C as perturbators respectively, would result in two extremely high correlations of 99.9%. This finding has proven the tight relationship between eAG and A1C.

In summary, this particular analysis shows that his research using a shorter 15-month dataset would result in unsatisfactory results. However, if using a longer 46-months dataset, the CVD risk % would have higher correlations with both eAG and A1C. However, this longer time-window dataset does not offer additional benefit in providing a higher correlation for visco-perturbed CVD risk prediction in comparison against the MI based CVD risk. This further indicates that eAG and A1C are only a part of the influential factors for the CVD risk, but they are not the primary cause or root cause of CVD.

5. REFERENCES

For editing purposes, the majority of the references in this paper, which are self-references, have been removed. Only references from other authors' published sources remain. The bibliography of the author's original self-references can be viewed at www.eclairemd.com.

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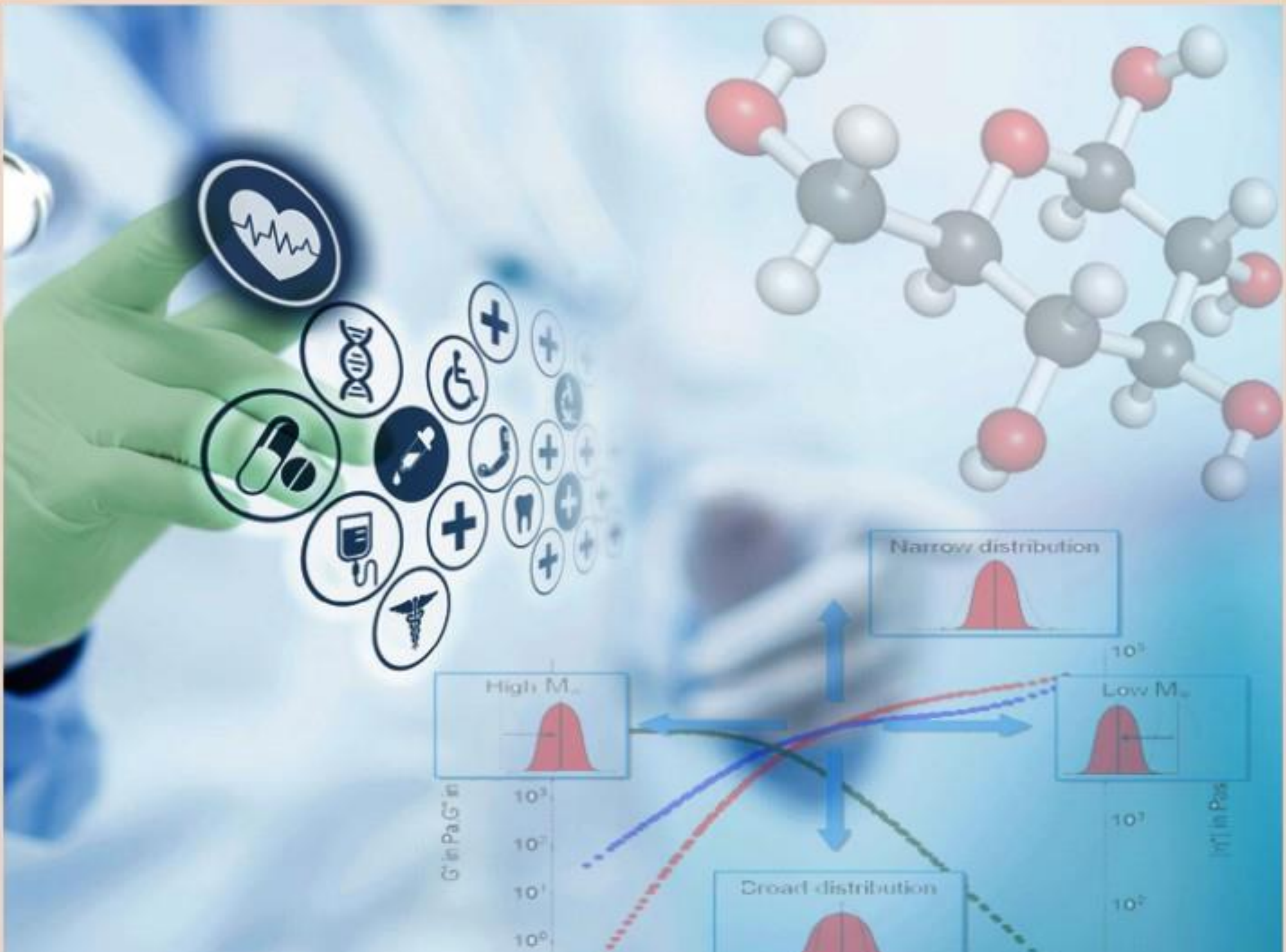

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