

FGAI4H-F-013-A01

Zanzibar, 3-5 September 2019

Source: TG-Outbreaks topic driver

Title: TDD update: Outbreaks (AI for Outbreak Detection)

Purpose: Discussion

Contact: Martina Fischer E-mail: fischerma@rki.de
Topic driver
Robert Koch Institute, Germany

Abstract: This PPT summarizes the activities for the TG-Outbreaks, for presentation and discussion during the meeting.



Topic Group:

Disease Outbreak Detection

Data & Benchmarking challenges

Dr. Martina Fischer
Robert Koch-Institute, Berlin, Germany

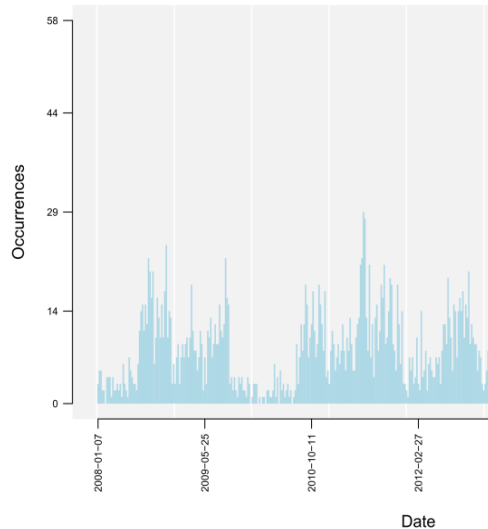
Zanzibar 3rd-5th Sept 2019

Background

- Infectious disease outbreaks pose a major risk to public health
- Early detection of outbreaks can prompt fast interventions
- Case data are collected by diverse surveillance systems
- AI algorithms can be applied to detect aberrant case numbers based on these data collections
- AI algorithms have the potential to increase the timeliness and accuracy of outbreak detection

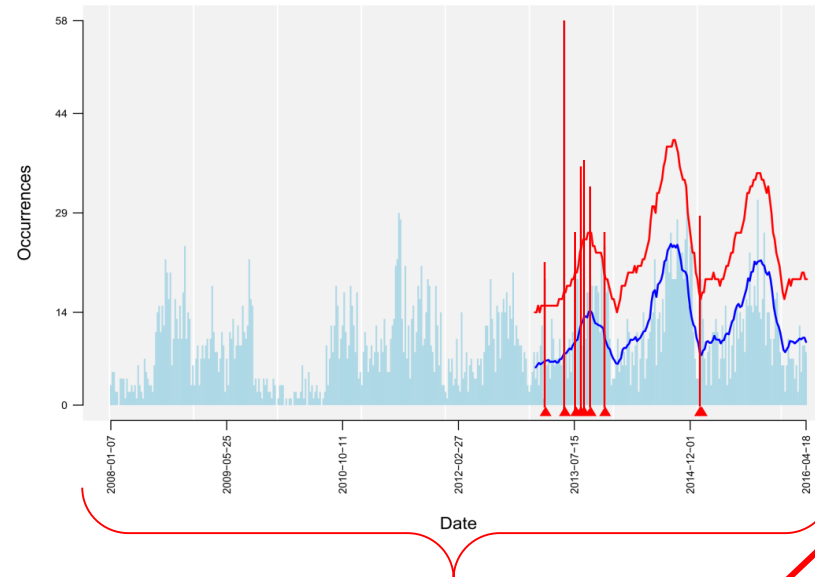
Objective

Data



(spatio-)temporal data
(reported cases of
infection, symptom
counts, etc.)

AI task



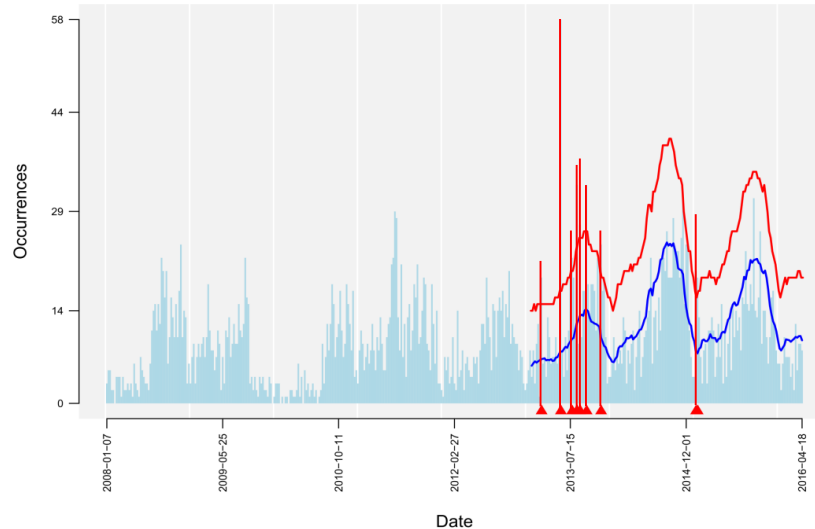
*Detection of aberrant
case numbers (▲)*

warning
signal

hint on potential
outbreak event

Objective

AI task

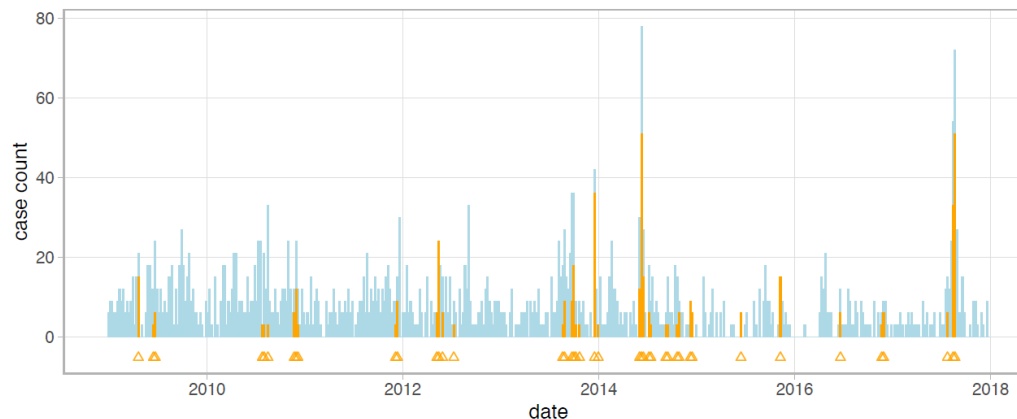


Detection of
aberrant
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warning
signal

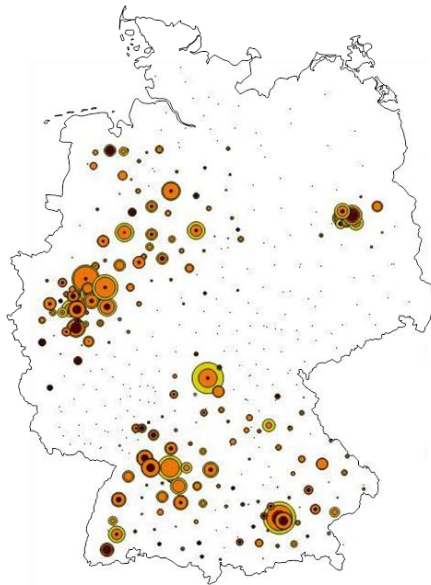
hint on potential
outbreak event

Benchmarking



Test Data:
confirmed
outbreak
labels ▲

Example: German reporting system

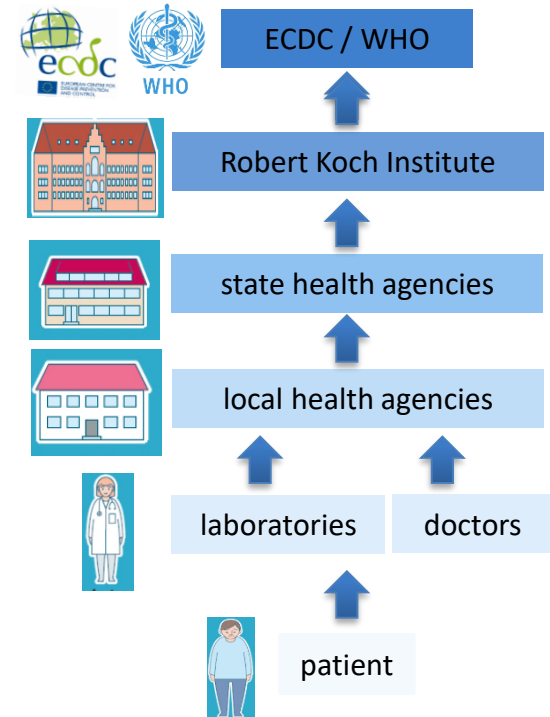


Notifiable pathogens (Infection Protection Act)

IfSG §7.1

Adenoviren	Ebolavirus	Lassaivirus	Rickettsia prowazekii
Bacillus anthracis	EHEC	Legionella spp.	Rubellavirus
Bordetella pertussis	Francisella tularensis	Leptospira interrogans	Salmonella Paratyphi
Borrelia recurrentis	FSME-Virus	Listeria monocytogenes	Salmonella Typhi
Brexitia	Gelbfebervirus	Marburgvirus	Salmonella, sonnei
Brucella sp.	Giardia lamblia	Masernvirus	Shigella sp.
Campylobacter sp.	Haemophilus influenzae	Mumpsvirus	Trichinella spiralis
Chlamydia pneumoniae	Hantaviren	Mycobacterium tuberculosis	Varizella-Zoster-Virus
Clostridium botulinum	Hepatitis-B-Virus	Nesleria meningitidis	Yersinia enterocolitica
Corynebacterium diphtheriae	Hepatitis-C-Virus	Norovirus; Stuhl	Yersinia pestis
Coxsackievirus	Hepatitis-D-Virus	Poliovirus	
Cryptosporidium parvum	Hepatitis-E-Virus	Rabiesvirus	
E. coli	Influenzaviren		

German Reporting System

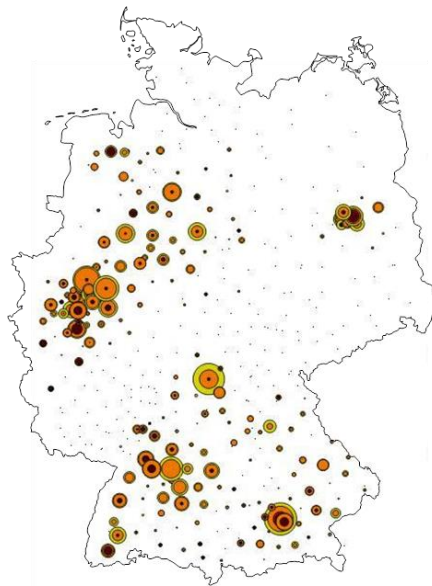


Aim:

Early outbreak detection for
fast *intervention*

Surveillance of > 80 pathogens
and > 400 counties
recording ~ 500.000 cases/year
detection ~ 20.000 outbreaks/year

Example: German reporting system

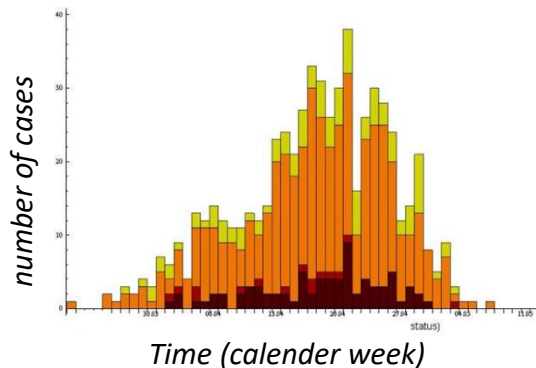


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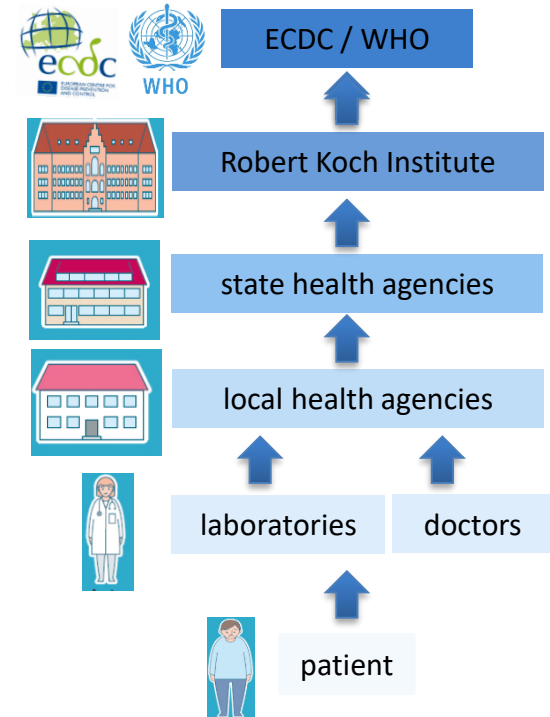
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Aggregate case data into timeseries:

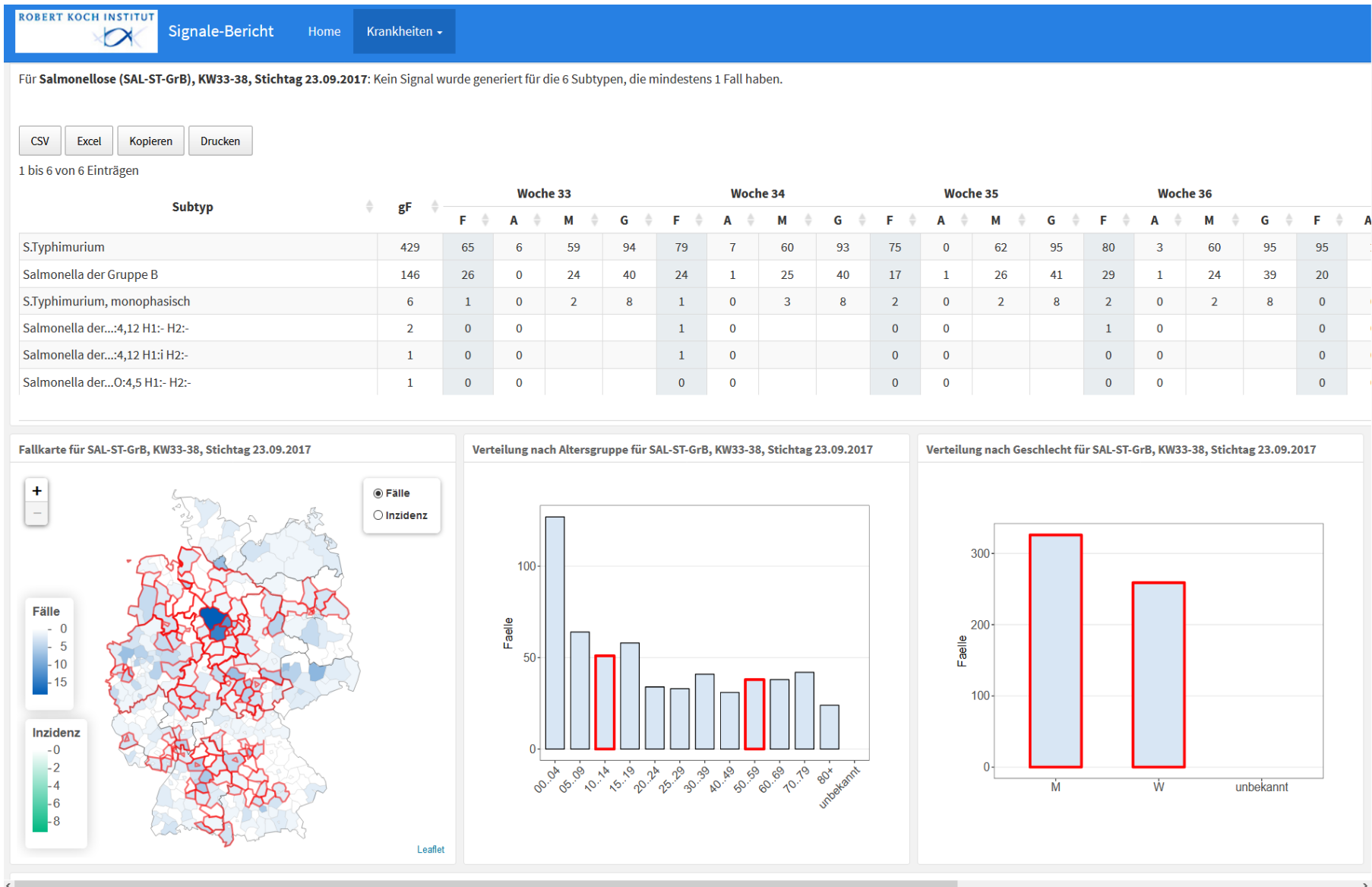


German Reporting System



Surveillance of > 80 pathogens
and > 400 counties
recording ~ 500.000 cases/year
detection ~ 20.000 outbreaks/year

Example: weekly case data of *Salmonella*



Data sources for outbreak detection algorithms

Different surveillance systems:

- national/ mandatory reporting systems
- (syndromic) surveillance systems:
 - Near-real-time syndromic surveillance:
e.g. routine data from emergency departments and hospitals
(e.g. *ESEG-project in Germany*)
 - Antibiotic Resistance Surveillance (*ARS project in Germany*)
 - ...

potential other data sources:

- publicly available sources (e.g. meteorological data,..)
- online data sources (wikipedia, google clicks, HealthTweets, Twitter, etc.)
- near real-time symptom data by self-assessment health apps
- ...

Benchmarking challenges: (1) Data

- Definition label ,Outbreak'
 - Exact start/end-time point → size of outbreaks often unknown
 - Number of epidemiologically connected cases?
 - Confirmation by simple lab test or molecular analysis
- Label uncertainties
 - How to deal with unlabelled outbreak cases for benchmarking?
 - Minor peaks (with no confirmation): outbreak **or** random variation?
- Data diversity
 - Highly diverse outbreak data patterns of the different pathogens
 - Detection necessary per pathogen and per feature combinations (regions, risk groups,...)
- Test data
 - Needs to reflect national/international outbreak realities
 - Each country relies on individual national disease surveillance systems.
 - How do we optimally define a test set (undisclosed) to serve as a gold standard for benchmarking?

Benchmarking challenges: (2) Metrics

- ❖ Definition of epidemiologically relevant [metrics](#) for AI-algorithm evaluation:
 - [Sensitivity & Specificity](#)
 - ➔ How to strike the balance?
 - precise + early detection of outbreaks
 - minimize number of false alarms
 - accounting for case numbers: missed large outbreaks penalized more than missed small ones
 - precise outbreak size detection
 - [Timeliness](#)
 - by time (days/weeks) passed
 - by number of occurred cases before outbreak detection
 - [Pathogen-specific](#)
 - specific metrics according to pattern diversity?
- ❖ Metrics & test data need to be usable for evaluation comparison of AI and established statistical models for outbreak detection

Current members in topic group:

- Robert-Koch-Institute (National Public Health Institute Germany), involving members from different groups within the institute
 - Dr. Alexander Ullrich, Infection epidemiology, Signale team (RKI, Unit 31)
 - Dr. Stéphane Ghozzi, Infection epidemiology, Signale team (RKI, Unit 31)
 - Dr. Benedikt Zacher, Infection epidemiology, Nosocomial infections (RKI, Unit 37)
 - Dr. Bernhard Renard, Bioinformatics (RKI, Unit MF1)
 - Dr. Martina Fischer, Method development and research infrastructure (RKI, Dep. MF)
 - Dr. Janina Esins, Method development and research infrastructure (RKI, Dep. MF)

Interested in topic group:

Name	Affiliation
Philippe Verstraete, Dr. Giovanna Gutierrez	Co-founders of "Milan and Associates", consultancy in epidemic intelligence, outbreak response, and more
Elaine Nsoesie, PhD	Assistant Professor of Global Health; School of Public Health; Boston University
Victor Akelo, MD, MPH	Co-lead for Child health and mortality Prevention Surveillance (CHAMPS) project in Kenya
Claire Jarashow, PhD, MPH	Chief, Epidemiology and Data Unit; Acute Communicable Disease Control; LA County Department of Public Health
Sharon Greene, PhD, MPH	Director, Data Analysis Unit; Bureau of Communicable Disease; NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Contacted by us for participation in topic group:

Name	Affiliation
Dr. Andre Charlett	Public Health England; National Infection Service;
Alex J Elliot, PhD	* Statistics, Modelling and Economics
Roger Morbey, PhD	* Real-time Syndromic Surveillance

Call for participation

Contributions by:

- Collecting **labelled test data**
→ data stream directly linked to outbreak labels (expert/lab confirmed) of high value.
- **AI models** and algorithms for outbreak detection
→ contributing to the development of a viable benchmarking framework
- **General support** on different aspects of this topic (data, methods, benchmarking, etc.)