

# Topics in Machine Learning

## Machine Learning for Healthcare

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# Announcements

- Friday – project proposals are due; you should all have teams and have begun making your reports; book TA office hours for help/feedback
- Friday: 2 presentations
  - Class participation grade depends on your attending and asking questions
- Poll:
  - Would you be more comfortable in a bigger classroom?

# Outline

- Unsupervised disease progression modeling
  - Learning nonlinear state space models
  - Discussion of PPMI model presented by Kristen Severson (Microsoft)
- Alternative strategies for disease progression modeling:
  - Supervised learning
  - Learning from cross-sectional data

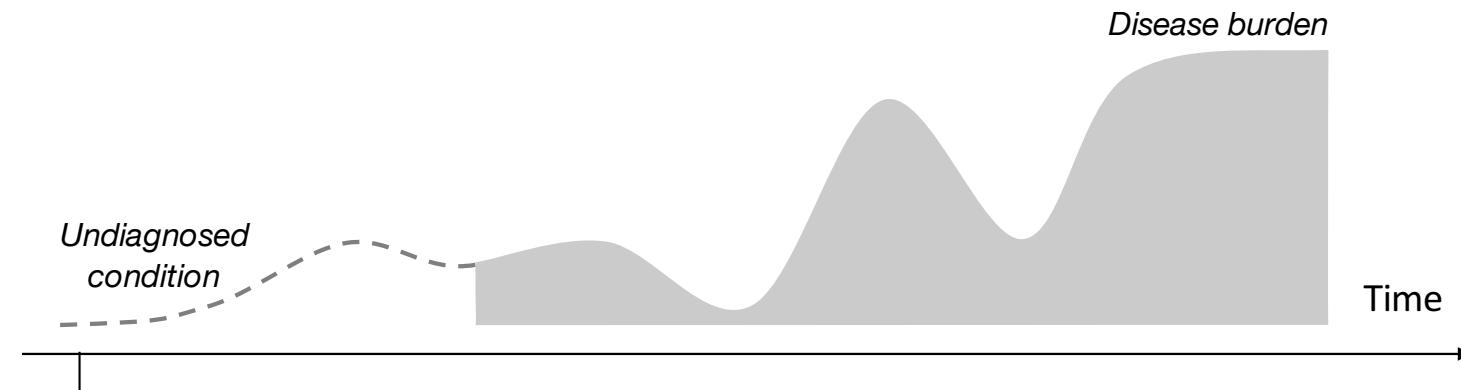
# Patient data is often sequential

Disease registries track patient data over time

Smartwatch and app sensors collect daily activity data



# Disease progression – (1)



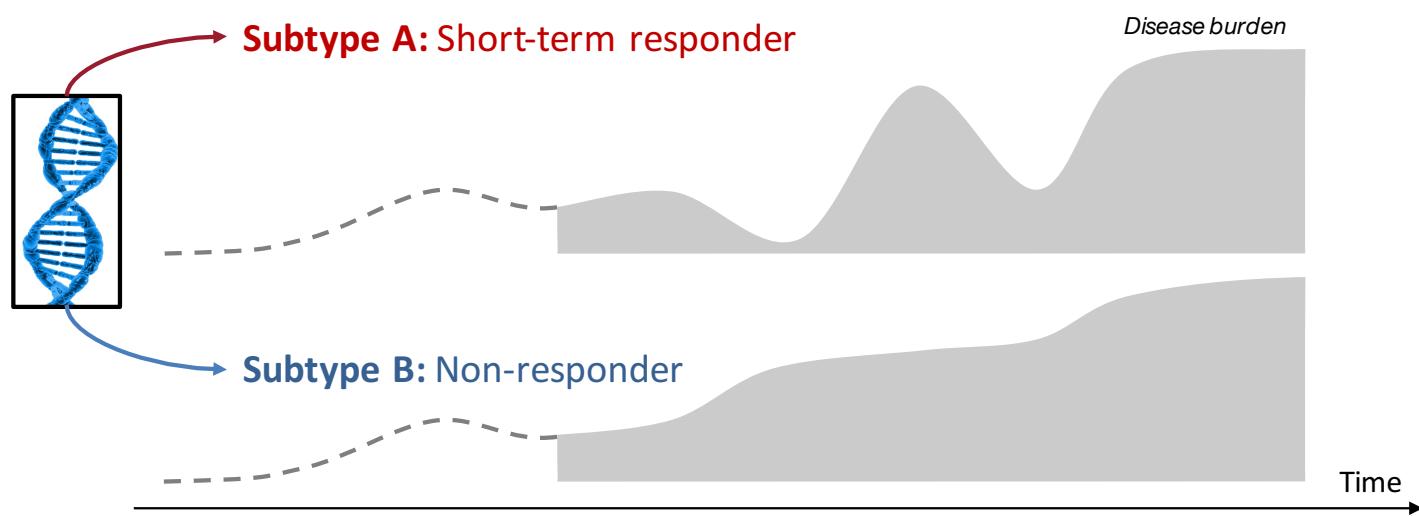
Predicted risk of developing disease or predicting outcome



## Example: Multiple myeloma

- Rare blood cancer
- MMRF CoMMpass Study has ~1000 patients

## Disease Progression – (2)

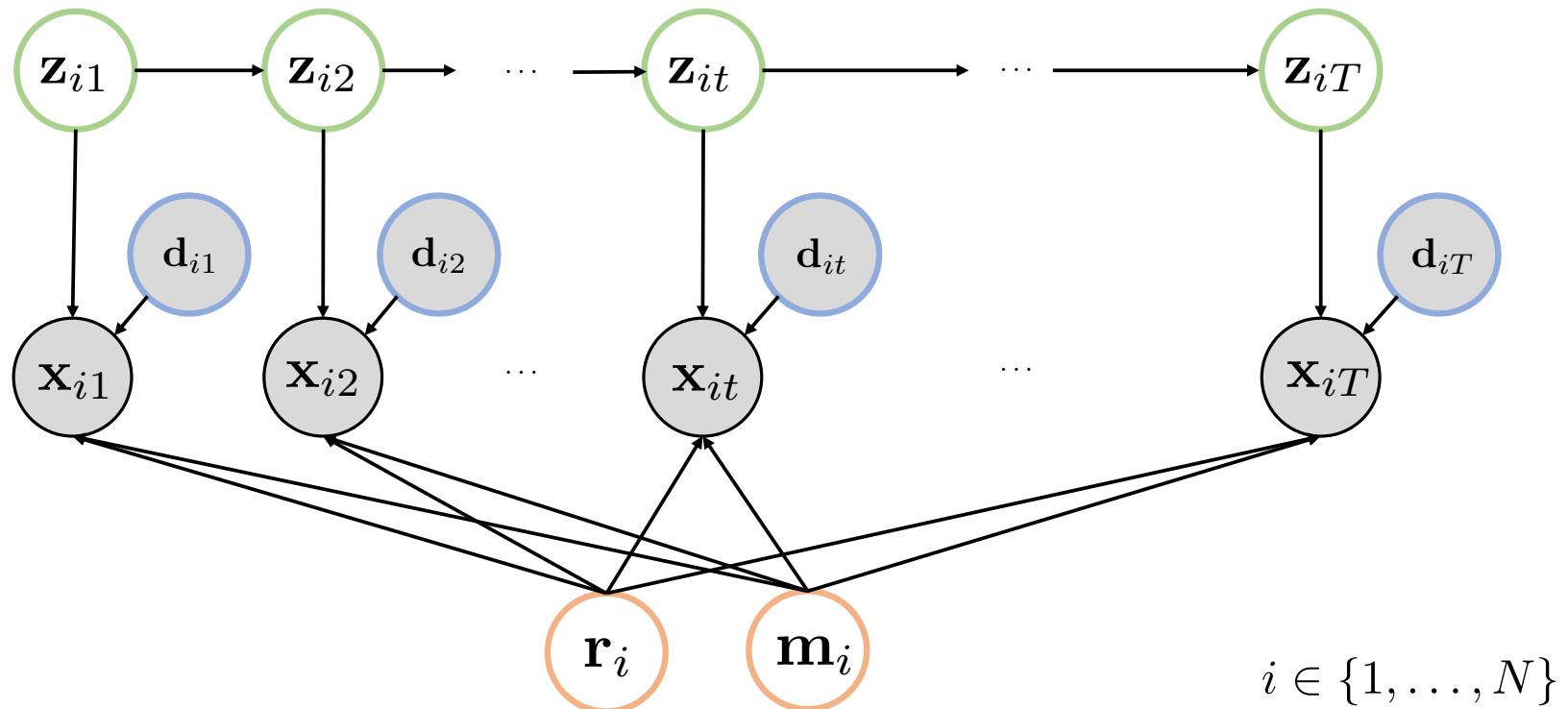


# Why do we need good unsupervised models of sequential data?

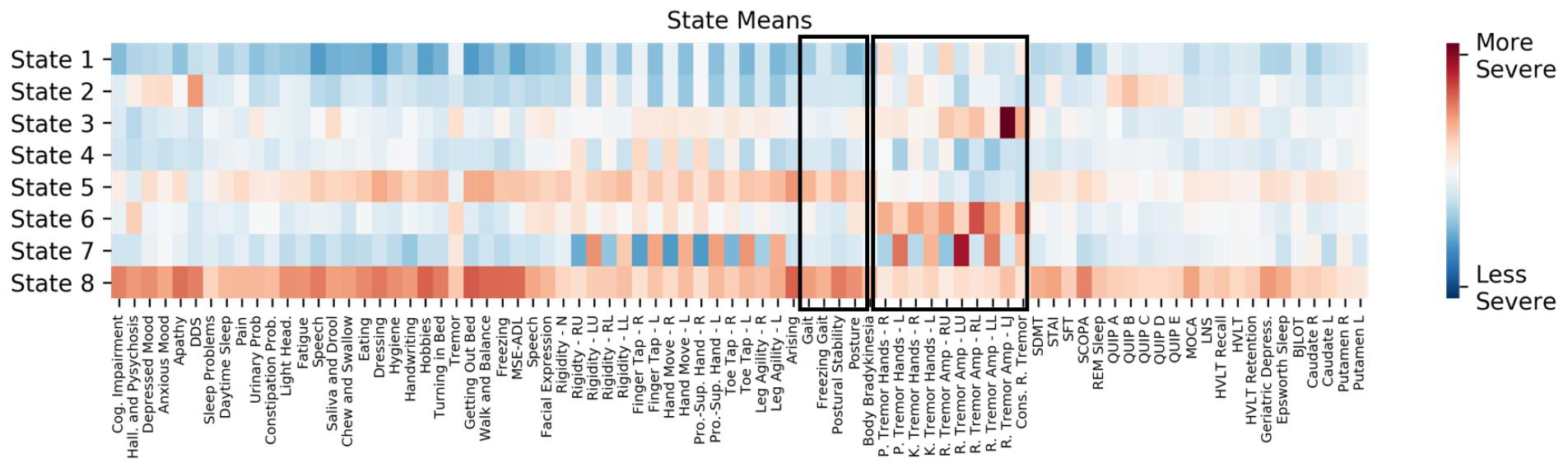
Dynamic Risk Prediction/Forecasting : Learn a representation of patient that is predictive of clinical outcomes in the future

Patient subtyping: Clustering patient trajectories to uncover subtypes corresponding to disease behaviors

# Case study 1: Personalized I-O HMMs for disease progression modeling, Severson et al, MLHC 2020



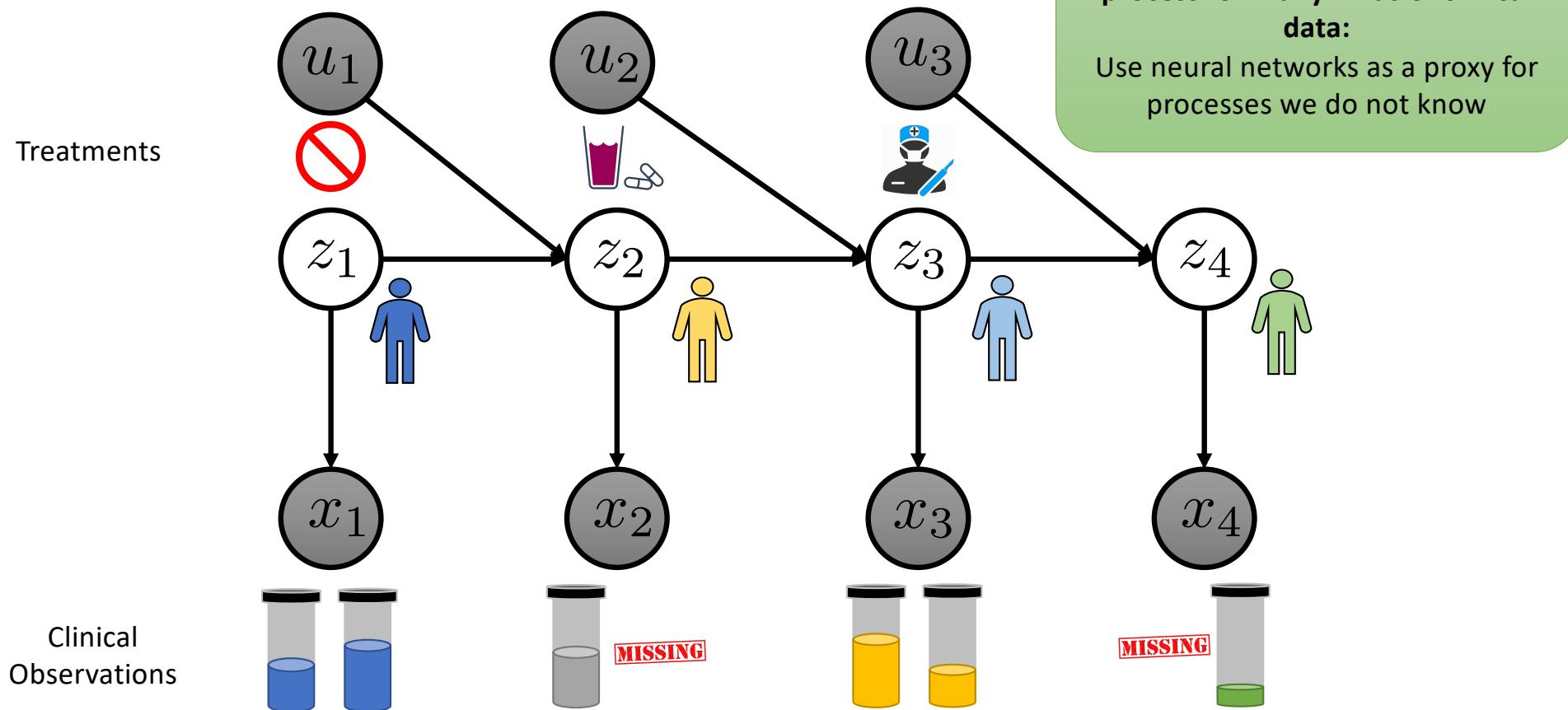
## Inferred latent states across data dimensions



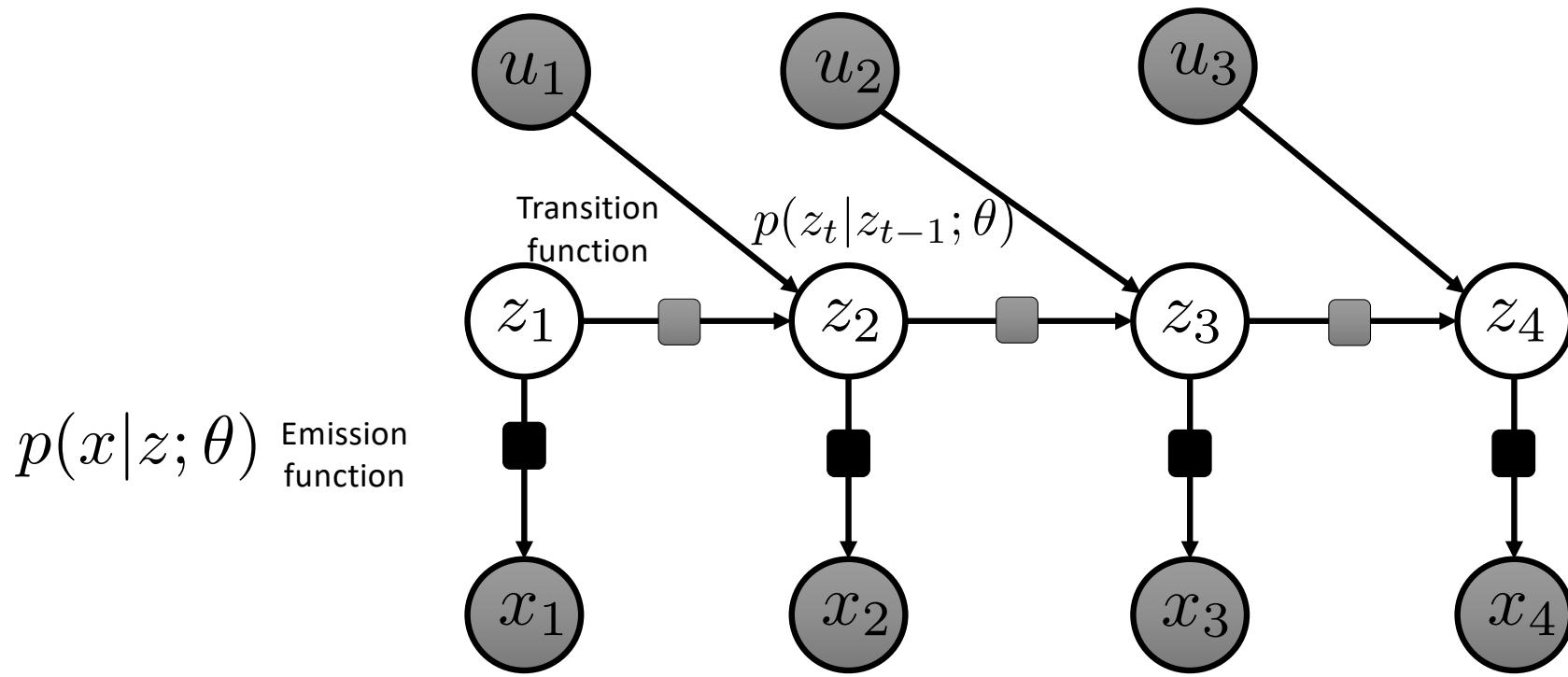
# Unsupervised disease progression in a nutshell

- Gather and collect all the time-varying data about patients
- Train a model to do unsupervised learning
- Using the model:
  - Introspect and attempt to interpret the model parameters
  - Use the model to forecast data into the future

# State Space Models



# Deep Markov Models



Structured Inference Networks for Nonlinear State Space Models, RGK, US, DS, AAAI 2017

# Unsupervised learning of nonlinear state space models

- *Previous work:*
  - Dual Extended Kalman Filters (Wan et al., 1996),
  - Particle filters (Schon et al., 2011),
  - Expectation Maximization (Briegel et al, 1999, Ghahramani et al, 1999),
  - Nonlinear dynamic factor analysis (Valpola, 2002)
- **Goals:**
  - Difficult to scale to high dimensional data, did not leverage modern hardware
  - Expensive test time inference

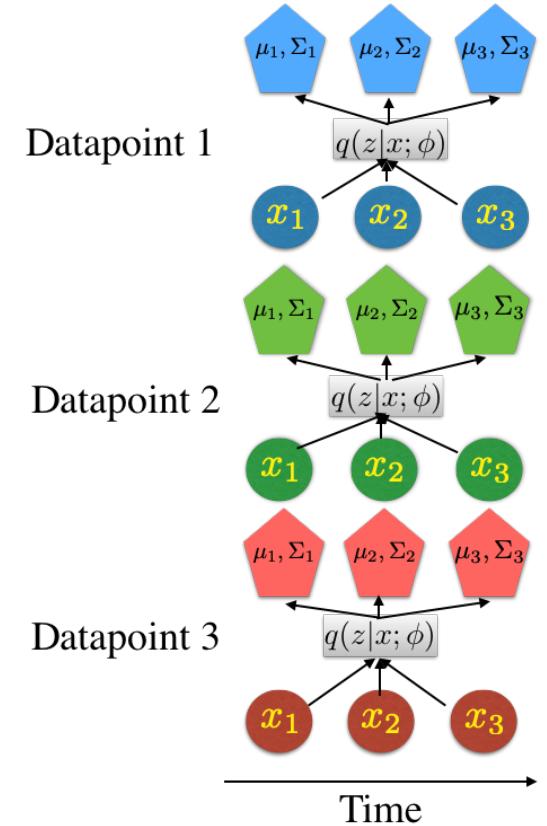
# Technical challenge: Variational learning via maximum likelihood

Loss function

$$\log p(\vec{x}; \theta) = \log \int_z p(\vec{x}, \vec{z}; \theta) \geq \underbrace{\int_z q(\vec{z}|\vec{x}; \phi) \log \frac{p(\vec{x}, \vec{z}; \theta)}{q(\vec{z}|\vec{x}; \phi)}}_{\text{ELBO: } \mathcal{L}(\vec{x}; \phi, \theta)}$$

The variational distribution is over multiple different variables.

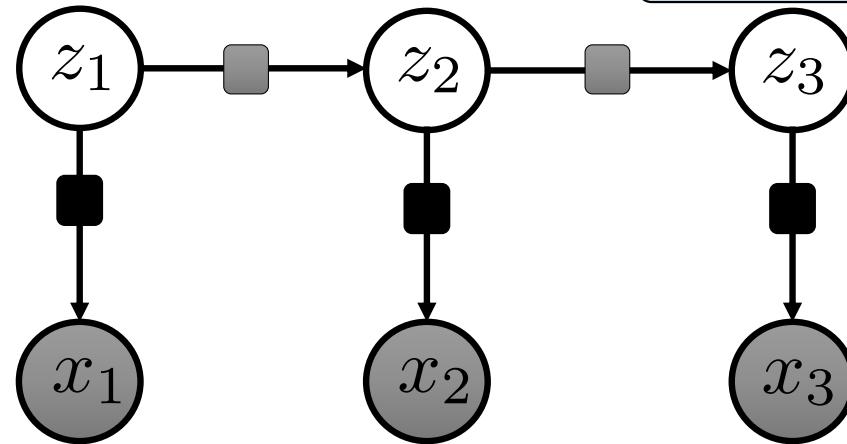
How should we design an inference network over multiple latent variables?



# Key Idea

## Mimic the factorization of the true posterior

$$p(\vec{z}|\vec{x}) = p(z_1, z_2, z_3|x_1, x_2, x_3) = p(z_1|x_{1:3})p(z_2|z_1, x_{1:3})p(z_3|z_1, z_2, x_{1:3})$$



$$z_2 \perp x_1 | z_1$$

$$p(z_2|z_1, x_{1:3}) = p(z_2|z_1, x_{2:3})$$

$$z_3 \perp x_1, x_2, z_1 | z_2$$

$$p(z_3|z_1, z_2, x_{1:3}) = p(z_3|z_2, x_3)$$

# Factorization of the true posterior

$$p(\vec{z}|\vec{x}) = p(z_1, z_2, z_3|x_1, x_2, x_3) = p(z_1|x_{1:3})p(z_2|z_1, x_{1:3})p(z_3|z_1, z_2, x_{1:3})$$
$$p(\vec{z}|\vec{x}) = p(z_1|x_{1:3})p(z_2|z_1, x_{2:3})p(z_3|z_2, x_3)$$

Factorization of the variational distribution:  $q(\vec{z}|\vec{x}) = q(z_1|x_{1:3})q(z_2|z_1, x_{2:3})q(z_3|z_2, x_3)$

According to the formula, at each time step we need:

a) previous latent state

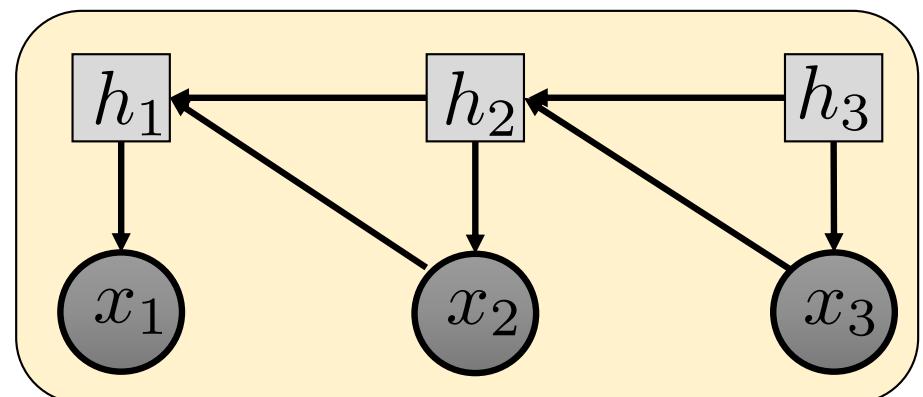
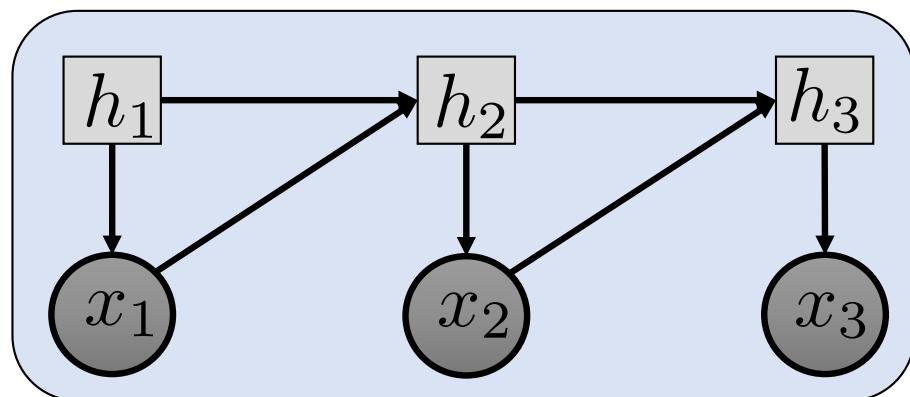
b) all future observations

To build a representation of all future observations, we'll borrow a tool from Deep Learning  
Recurrent Neural Networks

# Recurrent Neural Networks

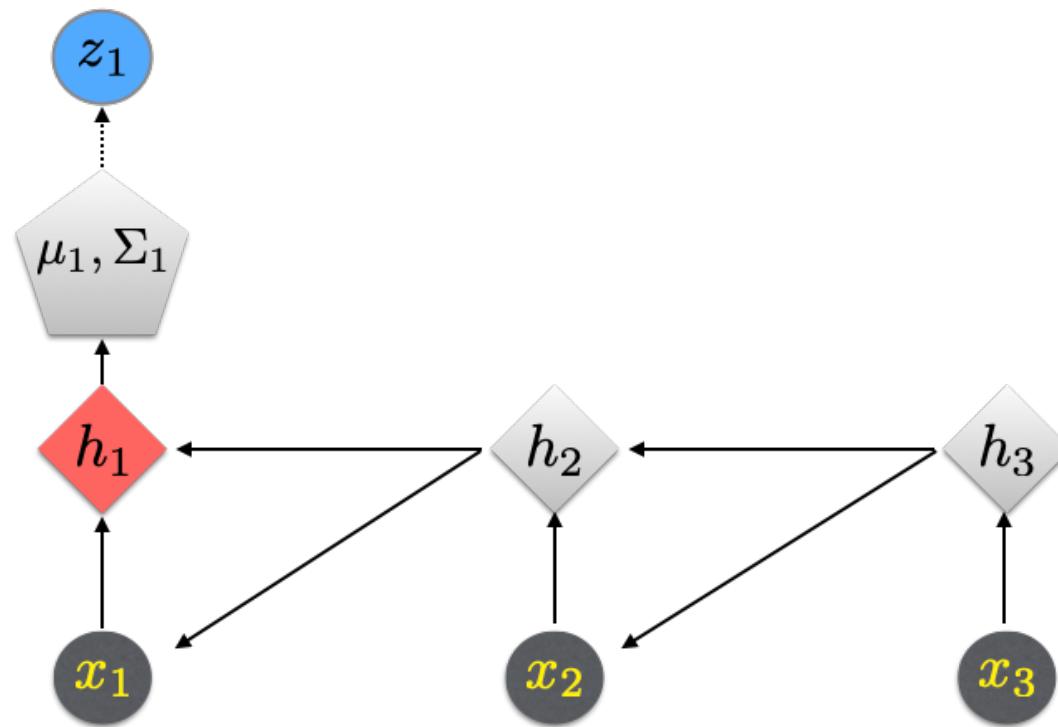
- Auto-regressive sequential models of data
- A forward-RNN models  $p(x_1, x_2, x_3) = p(x_1|h_1)\hat{p}(h_2|h_1)p(x_2|h_2)\hat{p}(h_3|h_2)p(x_3|h_3)$ 
  - Each **hidden state** summarizes the variables in the **past**

**Key Idea:** By running an RNN backward, we can use it to summarize the variables in the **future**



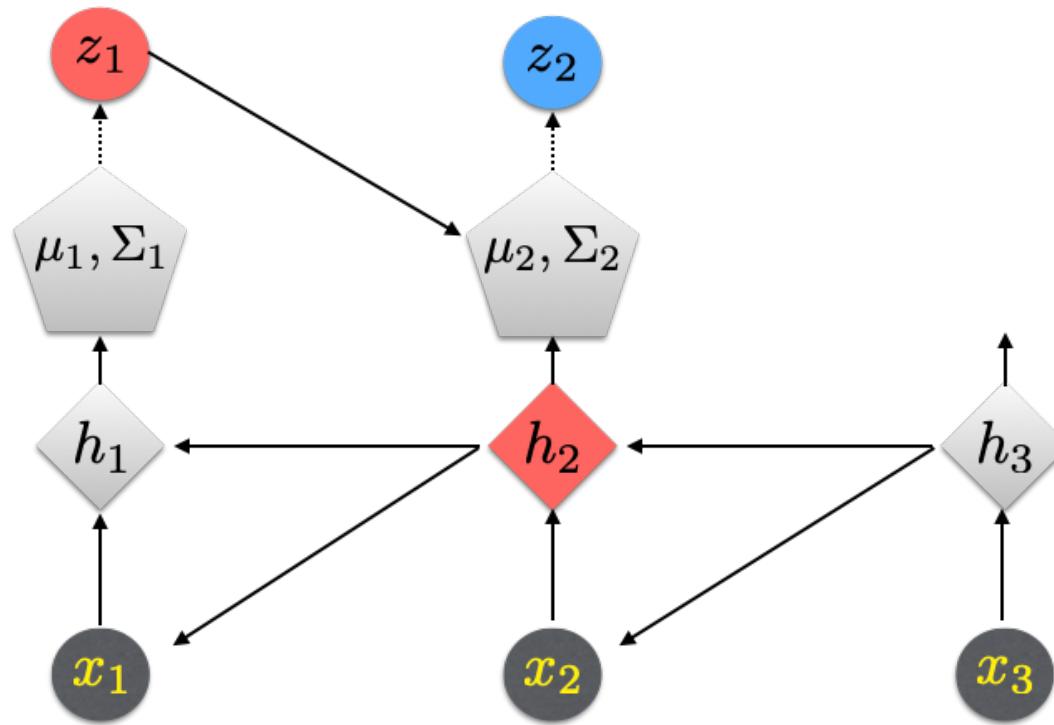
# Structured Inference Network

$$q(\vec{z}|\vec{x}) = q(z_1|x_1, x_2, x_3)q(z_2|z_1, x_2, x_3)q(z_3|z_2, x_3)$$



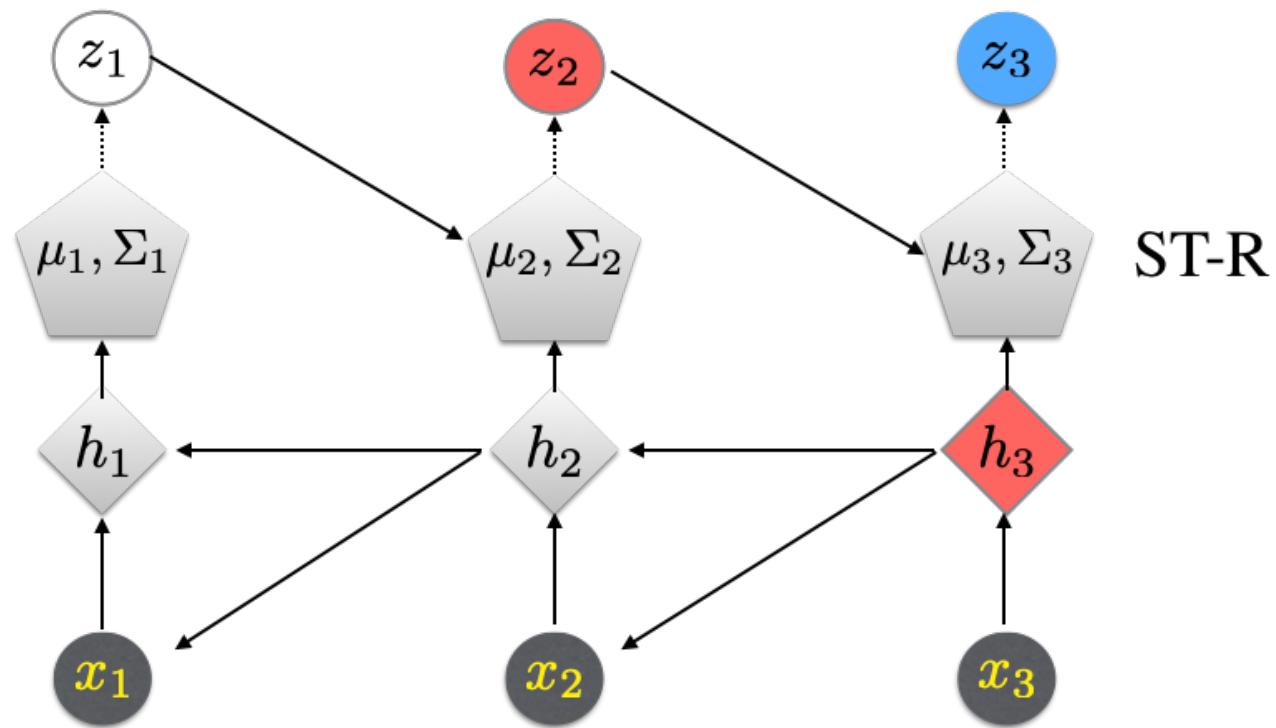
# Structured Inference Network

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# Structured Inference Network

$$q(\vec{z}|\vec{x}) = q(z_1|x_1, x_2, x_3)q(z_2|z_1, x_2, x_3)q(z_3|z_2, x_3)$$



# Mini-Recap of Structured Inference Networks

**Question:** How to select among a large set of factorizations for the variational distribution

**Idea 1:** Use the factorization of the true posterior

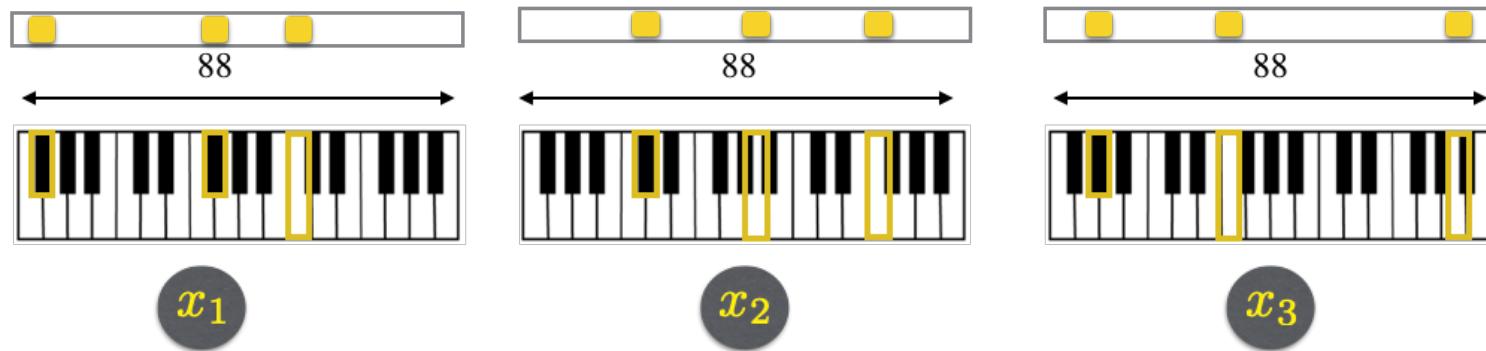
**Idea 2:** Use conditional independence statements in the model to simplify the factorization

**Idea 3:** Give a practical model by combining insights with advances in deep learning

# Evaluation of unsupervised time-series models

- **Metrics:**
  - (Upper bounds on ) negative held-out log likelihood

# Polyphonic Music Dataset (Boulanger-Lewandowski et al., 2012)



# Use the model the generate music!



Captures some short- and long-term patterns.

Model the progression of  
disease

Forecast patient  
biomarkers

## What can we do with Deep Markov Models?

Sequential treatment  
effects

Generate new examples  
of complex data

# Case Study 1: Disease progression of diabetic patients

**Dataset:** Clinical data from a major insurance claims provider

**Dataset size:** 5000 diabetic patients. Each patient's data (over 4 years) is grouped into three month intervals, yielding a sequence of length 18.

**Experiment:** Vary the complexity of the transition and emission function in the Deep Markov Model

## Observations

- 48 binary observations at each time step
- A1c level (a protein for which a high level indicates that the patient is diabetic)
- Glucose (blood sugar)
- Demographics: Age, Gender
- ICD-9 diagnosis codes for co-morbidities

# Modeling diabetic patients

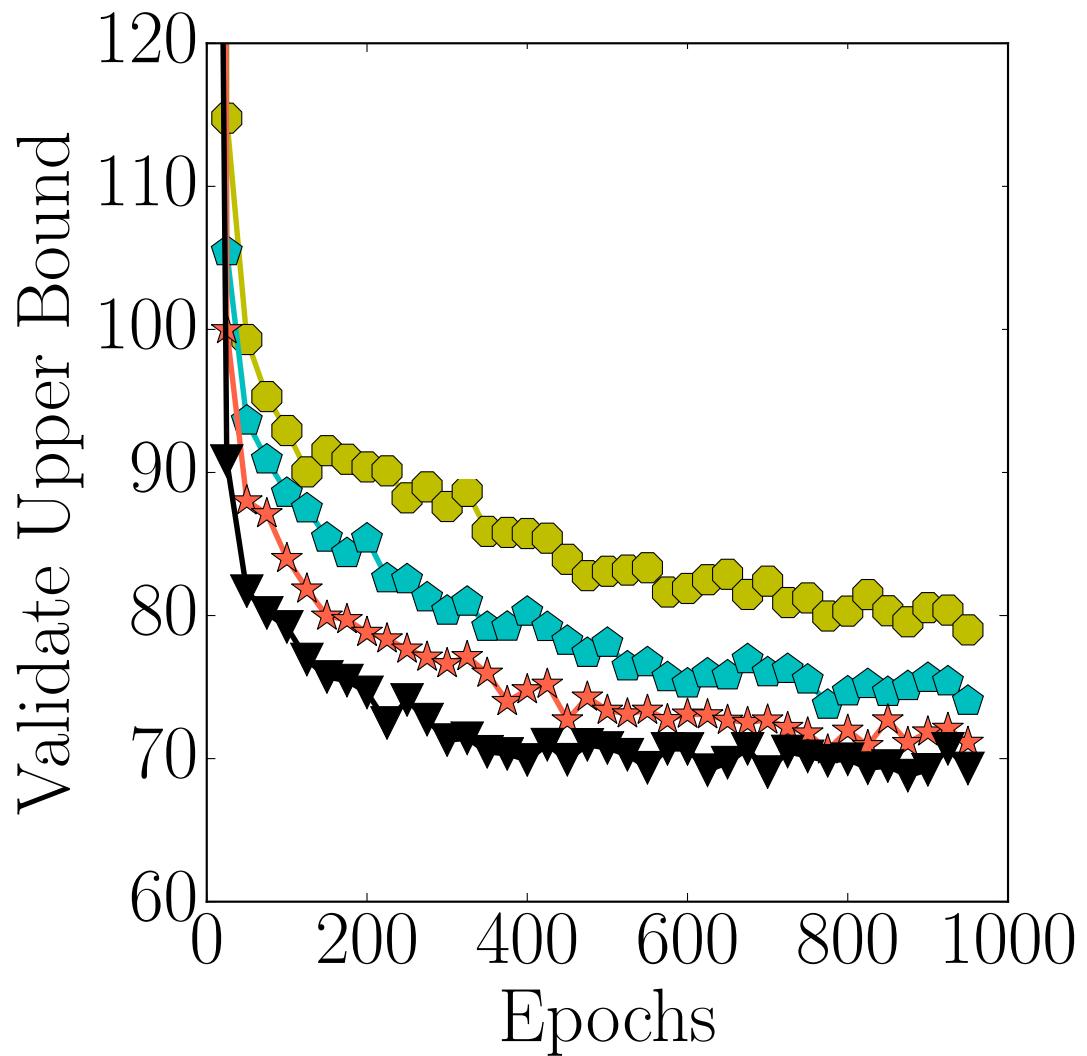
## Metrics:

(Upper bounds on)  
negative  
held-out log likelihood

Linear State  
Space Model

Deep Markov  
Model

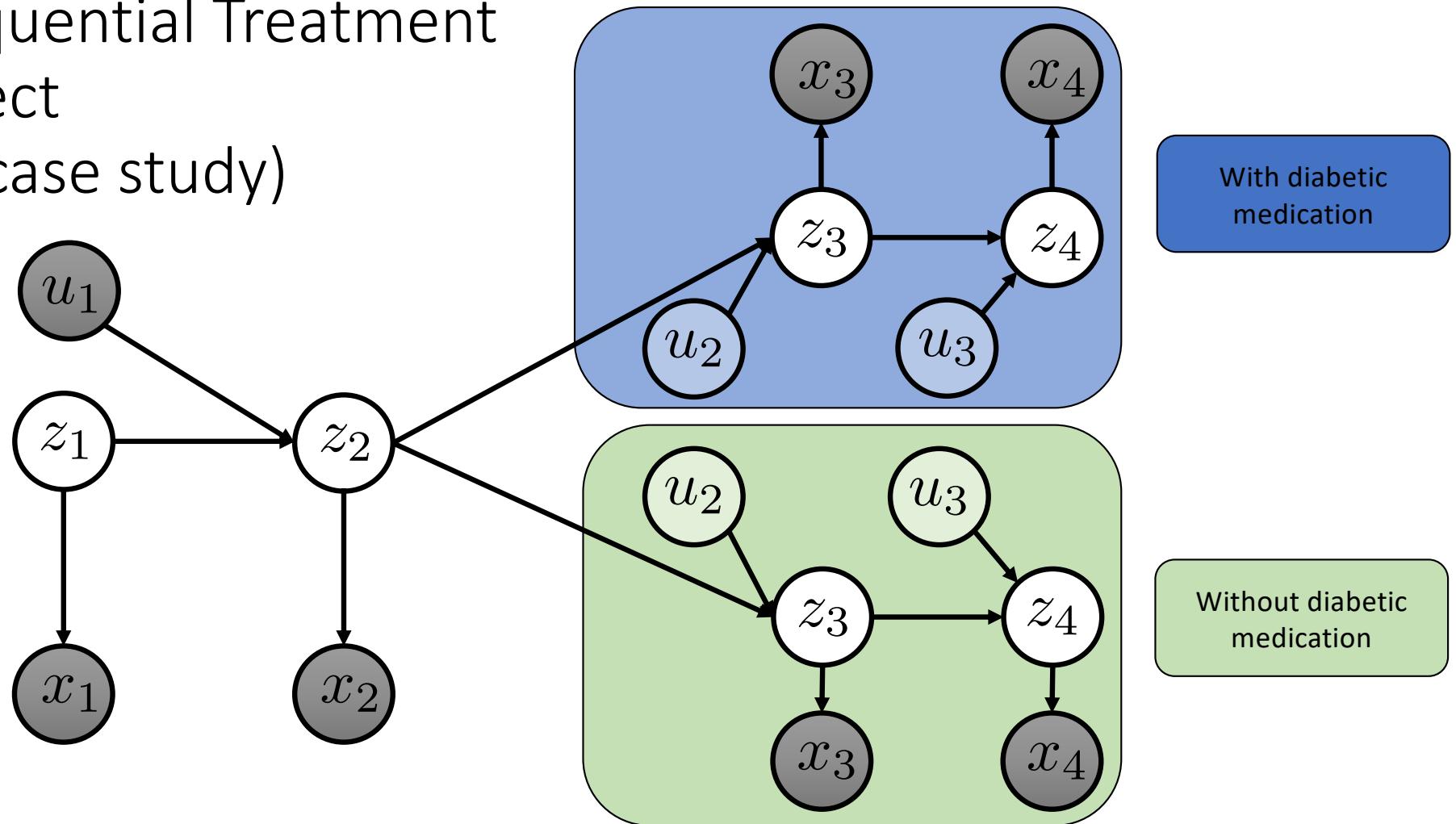
There is benefit here, to using a nonlinear functions, i.e. Deep Markov Model, to model the sequence of clinical observations



## Case Study 2: Treatment effect

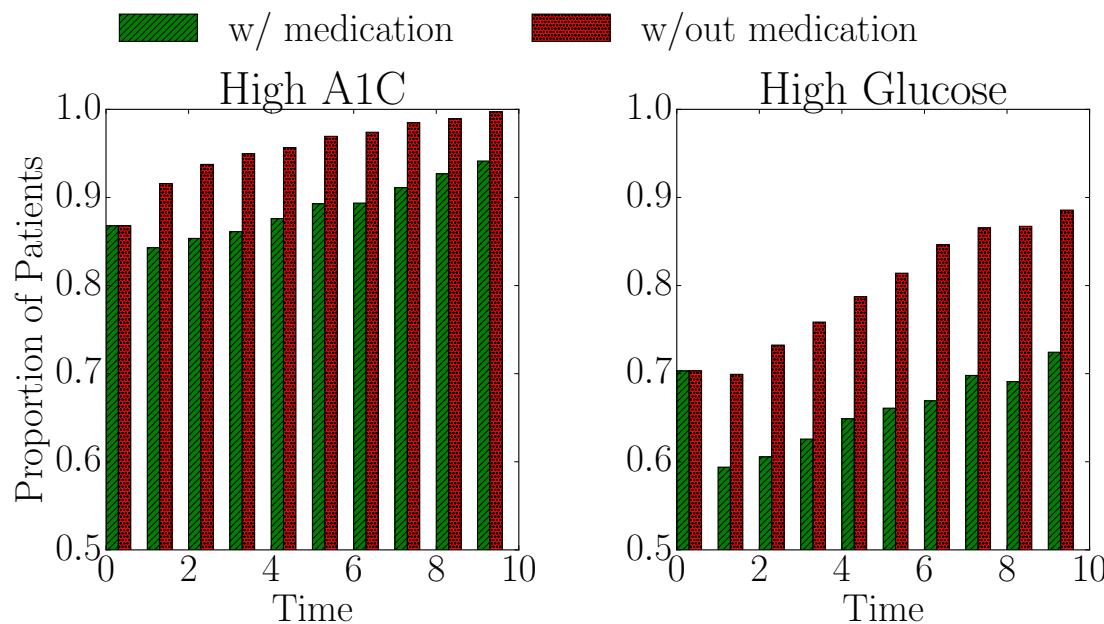


# Sequential Treatment Effect (A case study)



# Proof of concept

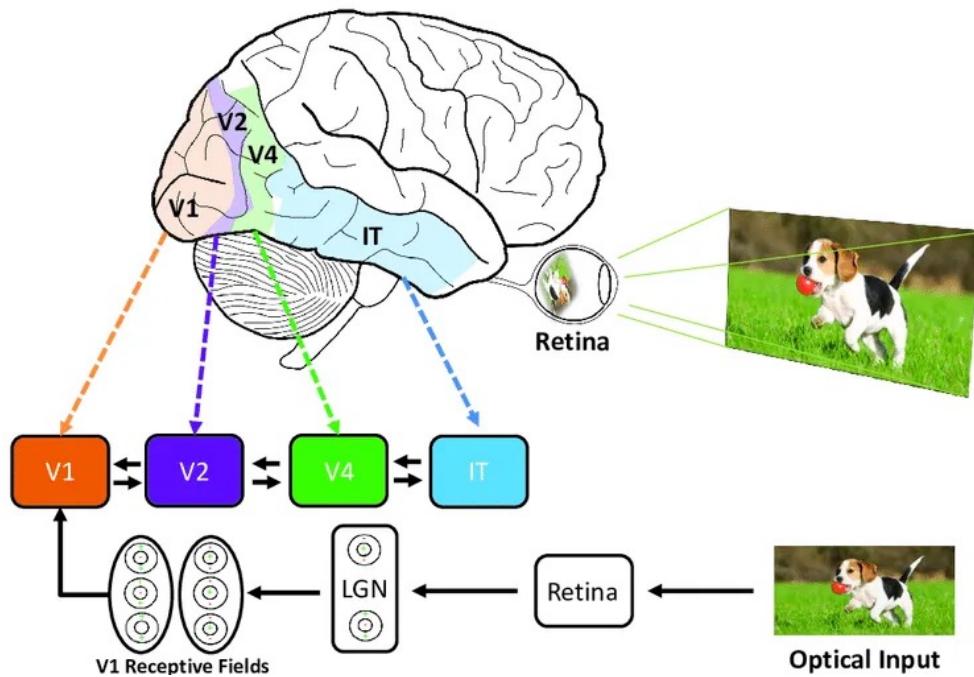
## Sequential treatment effect



**Figure:** Comparing glucose levels from simulating with the model under the factual and the counterfactual

Deep Markov Models  
can be a powerful tool in  
estimators of  
sequential treatment  
effects

# Case Study 3: Inductive Biases for Treatment effect

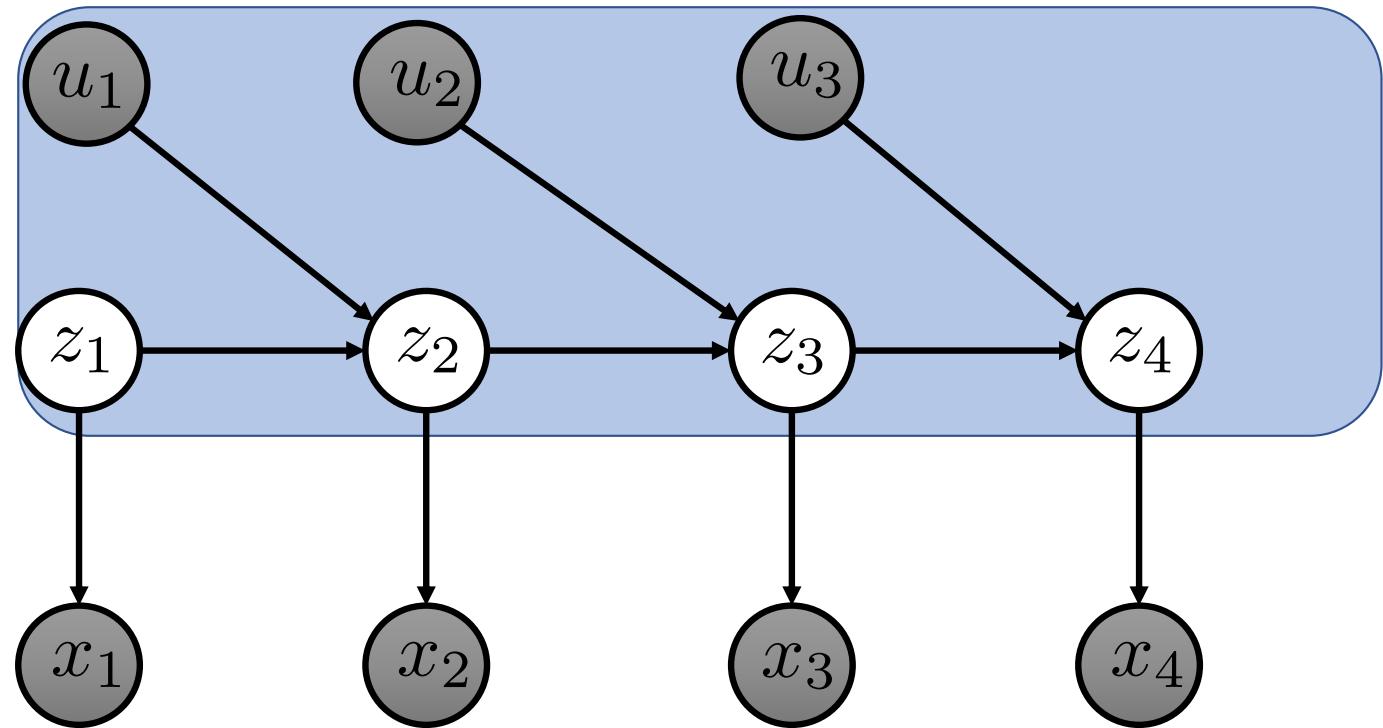


Source: <https://blog.knoldus.com/machinex-starts-with-why-ft-convolutional-neural-network/amp/>

# Inductive biases for treatment effect

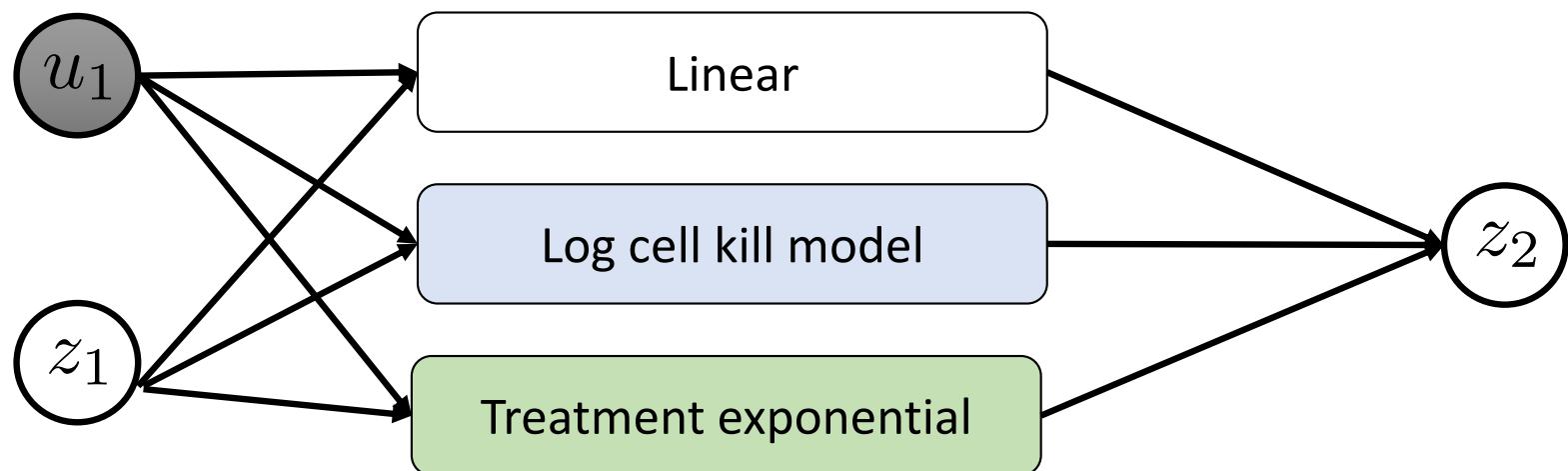
$$p(z_t | z_{t-1}, u_{t-1}; \theta)$$

Developed new neural network architectures inspired by the pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic modeling literature



# Inductive Biases for the Transition Function

$$p(z_t | z_{t-1}, u_{t-1}; \theta)$$

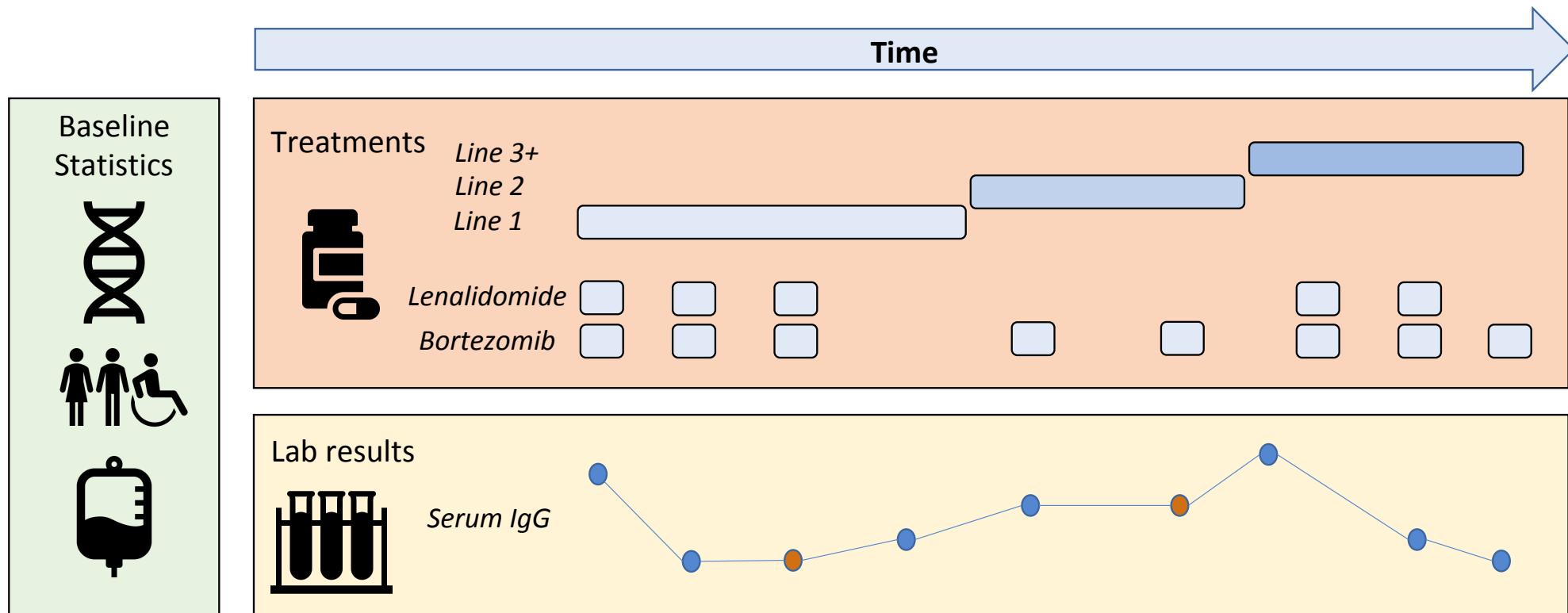


Cancer log-kill revisited, Norton, 2014

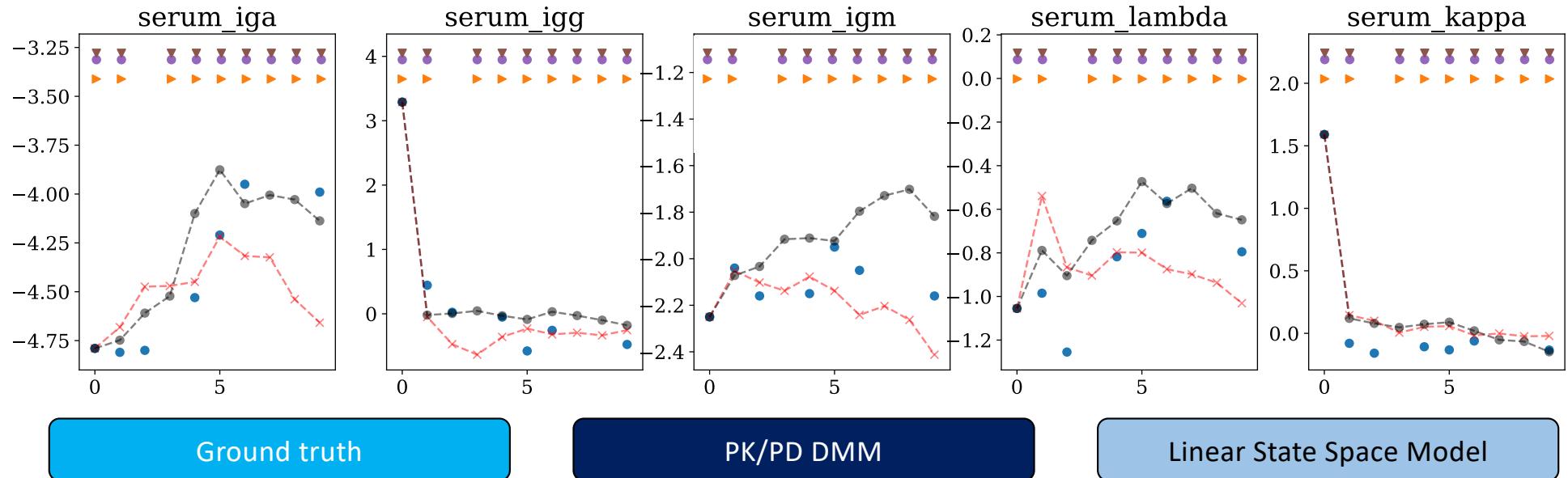
A Bayesian nonparametric approach for estimating individualized treatment-response curves, Xu et. al 2016



# MULTIPLE MYELOMA Research Foundation



# Forecasting



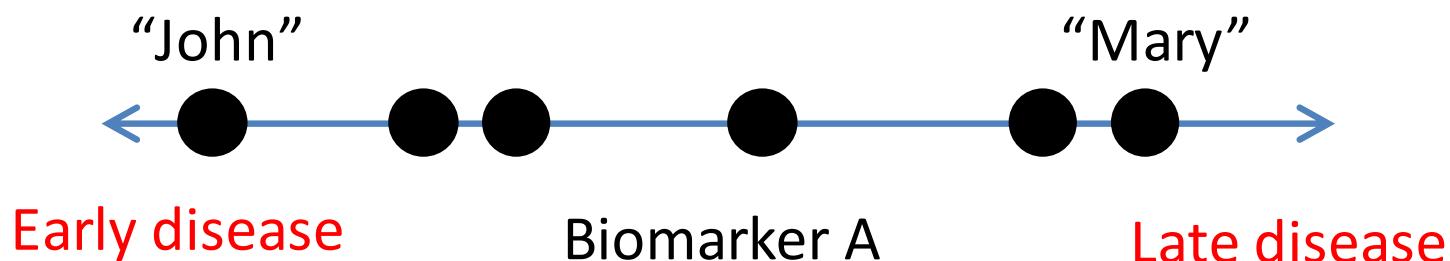
PK/PD DMM better at forecasting patient biomarkers

# Supervised learning for disease progression

- Did not cover (but useful for further reading):
  - Supervised techniques for modeling the progression of diseases
  - [\*\*Modeling Disease Progression via Fused Sparse Group Lasso, Zhou et. Al, KDD 2012\*\*](#)
- **Key idea:**
  - Predict disease status in 6, 12, 24, 36 months with a single model (multi-task learning)
  - Have different weights for different time-horizons
  - The tasks are related so tie the weights together via a group-lasso penalty
  - Look at weights to assess the features most predictive of disease state

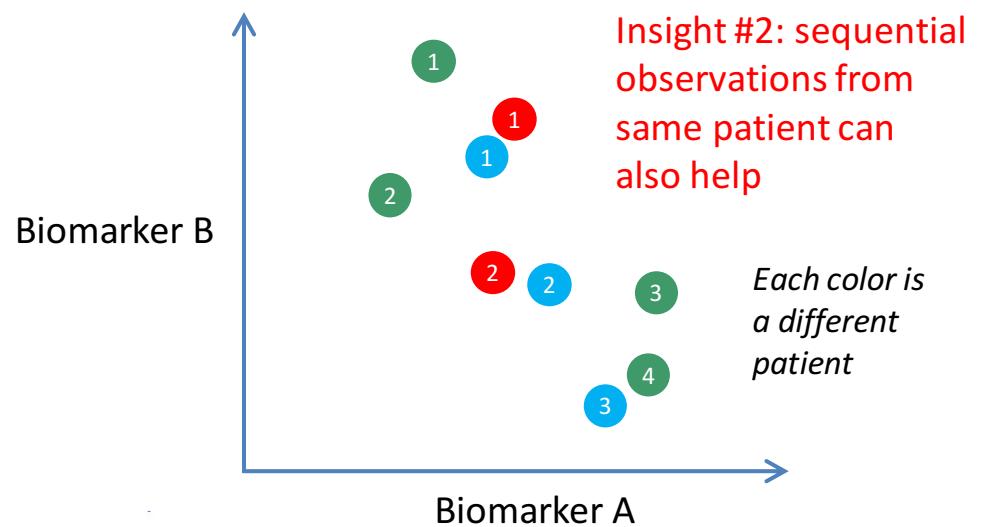
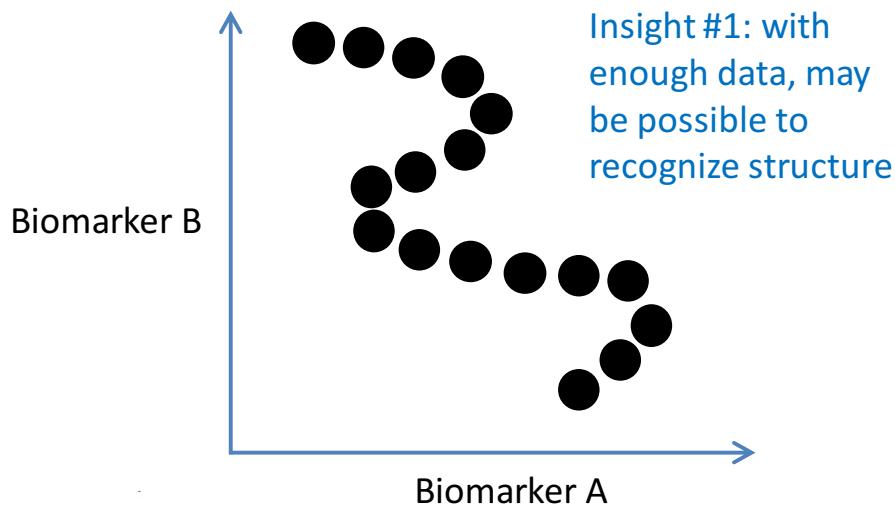
## Cross-sectional data

- Thus far we've discussed models built on disease cohorts (many patients, many time-points)
- Only 1 time-point per patient (but potentially many patients)
- Goal is to construct a time-line that is shared by all or groups of patients

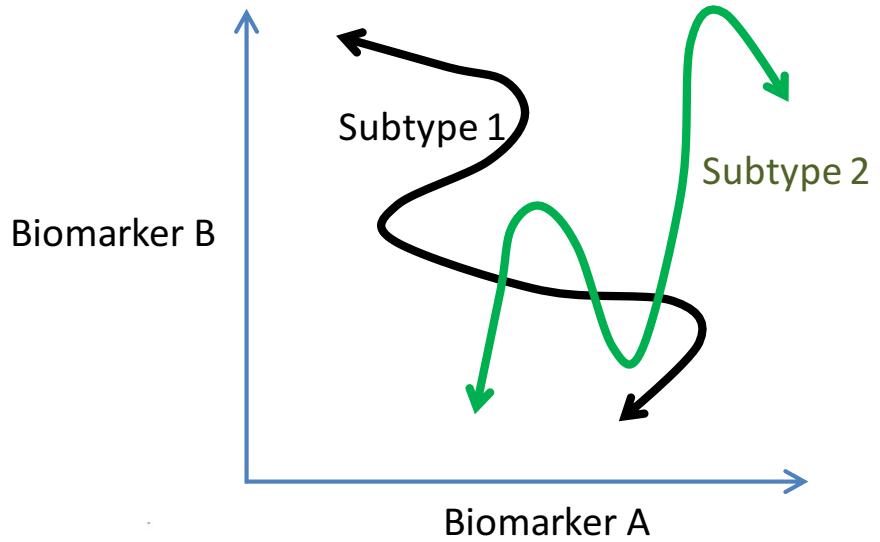
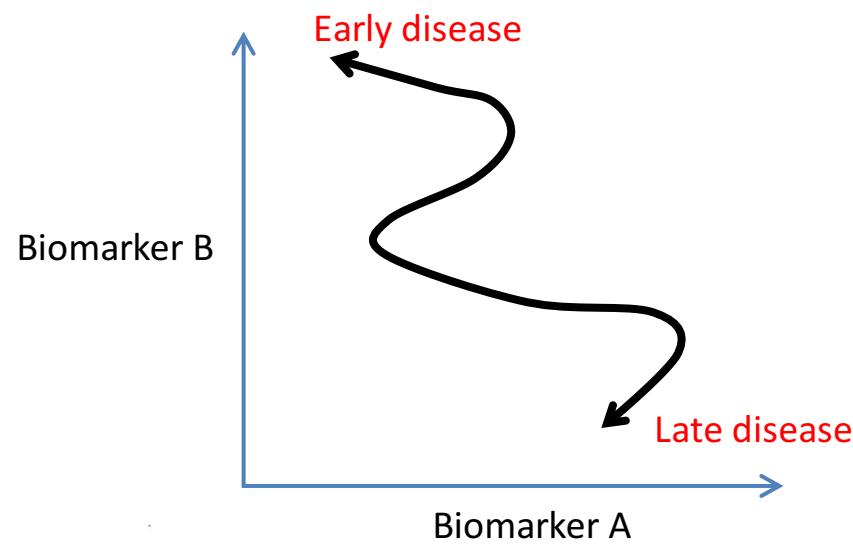


Slide credits: David Sontag

# Insights to identify structure



# Goals with cross-sectional data



# Creating trees in time

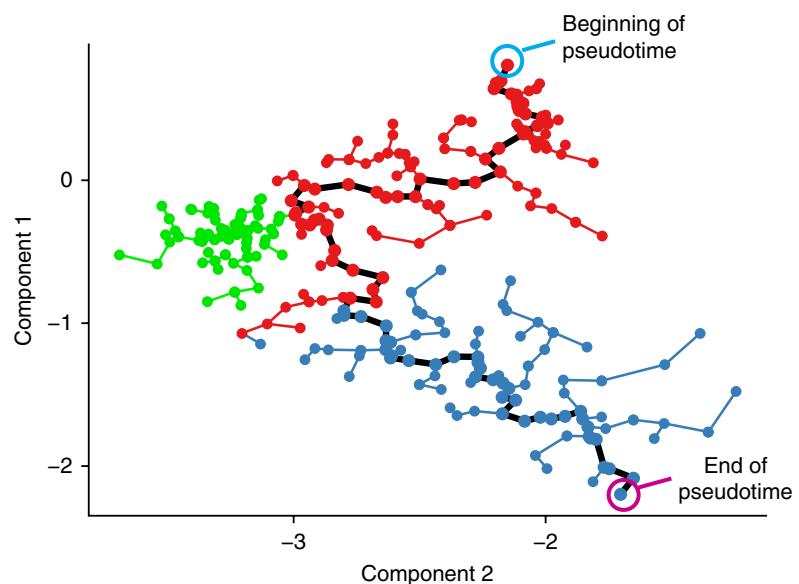
Reduce dimensionality of features via  
PCA/ICA

Build minimum spanning tree while  
treating lower dimensional representations  
as nodes

Use topological sort to identify time-axis

## MST-based approach (Monocle)

● Proliferating cell    ● Differentiating myoblast    ● Interstitial mesenchymal cell



[Trapnell et al., *Nature Biotechnology*, 2014]

# Subtype and Stage Inference (SuStIn)

- Generative model for a data point:
  - Sample subtype  $c \sim \text{Categorical}(f_1, \dots, f_C)$
  - Sample stage  $t \sim \text{Categorical}(\text{uniform})$
  - For each biomarker  $i$ , sample  $x_i \sim \mathcal{N}(g_{c,i}(t), \sigma_i)$
- Means are enforced to be monotonically increasing and piece-wise linear:

Explicitly incorporate variation due to sub-type and stage into a probabilistic model

$$g(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{z_1}{t_{E_{z_1}}} t, & 0 < t \leq t_{E_{z_1}} \\ z_1 + \frac{z_2 - z_1}{t_{E_{z_2}} - t_{E_{z_1}}} (t - t_{E_{z_1}}), & t_{E_{z_1}} < t \leq t_{E_{z_2}} \\ \vdots \\ z_{R-1} + \frac{z_R - z_{R-1}}{t_{E_{z_R}} - t_{E_{z_{R-1}}}} (t - t_{E_{z_{R-1}}}), & t_{E_{z_{R-1}}} < t \leq t_{E_{z_R}} \\ z_R + \frac{z_{max} - z_R}{1 - t_{E_{z_R}}} (t - t_{E_{z_R}}), & t_{E_{z_R}} < t \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

Shown here for one choice of  $c, i$  – no parameter sharing across biomarkers or subtypes

[Young et al., *Brain* 2014; Young et al., *Nature Communications* 2018]

Questions?