

# personalising risk prediction in diabetes using machine learning bridging the gap between RCT and RCD

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<http://glucose.ai>

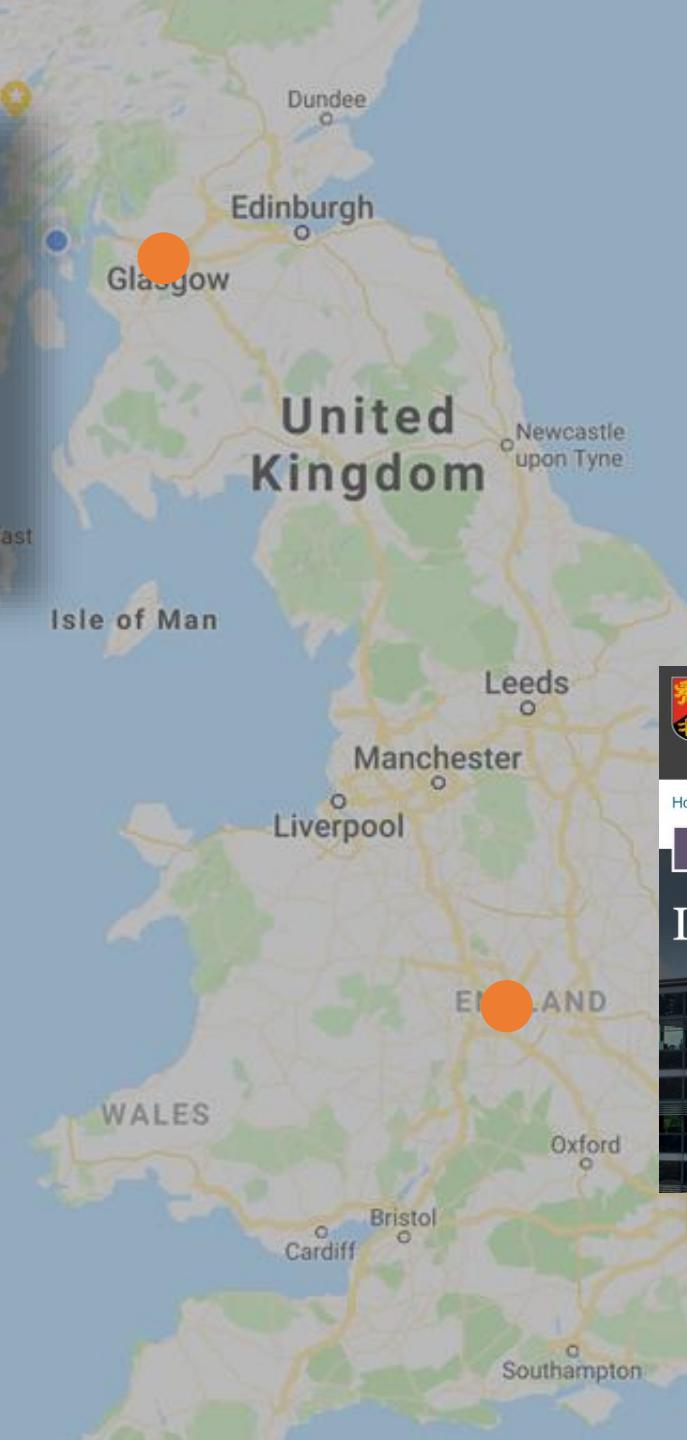


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Innovate UK



A screenshot of the University of Birmingham's website. The header features the university's logo (a crest with a book and lion) and the text "UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM". Below the header, a navigation bar includes links for "Study", "Research", "International", "Business", and "News". A sub-navigation menu for "Research" includes "Research Spotlights", "Our Researchers", "Research Areas", "Institutes", and "News". The main content area features a large image of a modern glass-fronted building with the text "The Learning Centre" visible on its side. The title "Institute of Applied Health Research" is prominently displayed above the building image.



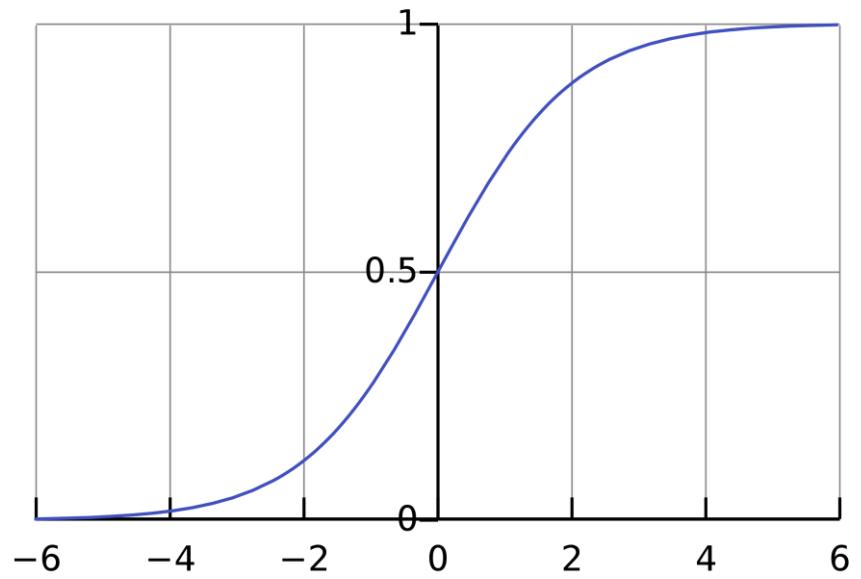
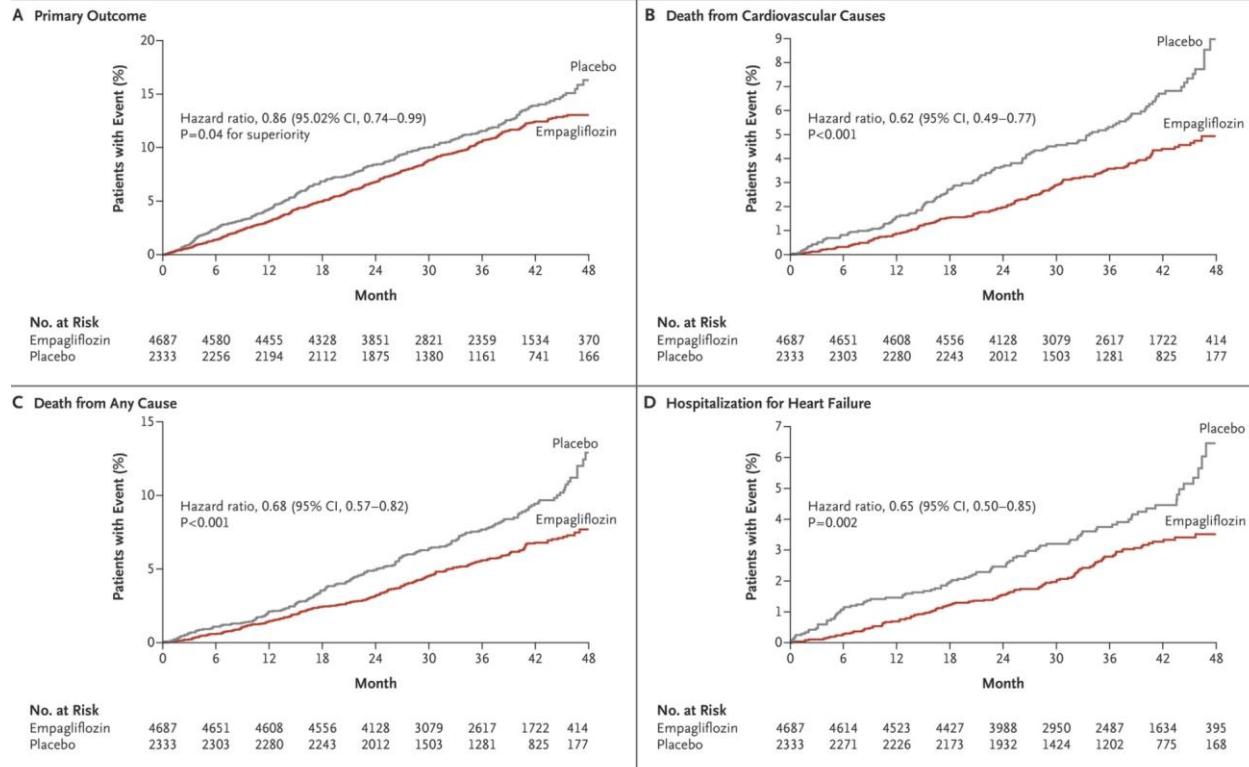
# Machine learning

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Machine learning (ML)** is the scientific study of algorithms and statistical models that computer systems use to effectively perform a specific task without using explicit instructions, relying on patterns and inference instead. It is seen as a subset of artificial intelligence.

- Predict outcomes for individuals vs populations
- Access information from complete dataset (TS / text etc)



population level outcomes

Logit as basis for many current clinical risk scoring systems

# Admission Glucose Number (AGN): A Point of Admission Score Associated With Inpatient Glucose Variability, Hypoglycemia, and Mortality

Jennifer McKechnie, BSc, MBChB<sup>1</sup>, Rahat Maitland, MD, FRCP<sup>1</sup>, Christopher A. R. Sainsbury, BSc, MD, FRCP, FFCI<sup>1</sup>, and Gregory C. Jones, MBChB, FRCP<sup>1</sup> 

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Received: 13 October 2017 | Revised: 6 December 2017 | Accepted: 17 December 2017  
DOI: 10.1111/dom.13193

WILEY

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Visit-to-visit HbA1c variability and systolic blood pressure (SBP) variability are significantly and additively associated with mortality in individuals with type 1 diabetes: An observational study

Stuart S. Wightman | Christopher A. R. Sainsbury MD | Gregory C. Jones MBChB 

  
DOI: 10.1111/dme.13621

### Short Report: Educational and Psychological Aspects

### Structured education using Dose Adjustment for Normal Eating (DAFNE) reduces long-term HbA<sub>1c</sub> and HbA<sub>1c</sub> variability

G. S. Walker<sup>1</sup>, J. Y. Chen<sup>1</sup>, H. Hopkinson<sup>2</sup> , C. A. R. Sainsbury<sup>1</sup> and G. C. Jones<sup>1</sup> 

<sup>1</sup>Diabetes Centre, Gartnavel General Hospital and <sup>2</sup>Diabetes Centre, New Victoria Hospital, Glasgow, UK

Accepted 9 March 2018

**Hypoglycemia and Clinical Outcomes in Hospitalized Patients With Diabetes: Does Association With Adverse Outcomes Remain When Number of Glucose Tests Performed Is Accounted For?**

Gregory C. Jones, MB ChB<sup>1</sup>, Joseph G. Timmons, MB ChB<sup>1</sup>, Scott G. Cunningham, PhD<sup>2</sup>, Stephen J. Cleland, MD<sup>1</sup>, and Christopher A. R. Sainsbury, MD<sup>1</sup>

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DOI: 10.1177/1932296816688012  
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? more ambitious use of data resources available

# SCI-Diabetes

>99% population coverage

~120 000 IDs with DM NHS GGC

comprehensive dataset

primary/secondary care results:

phenotyping information

HbA1c, BMI, BP, bloods, prescriptions

The screenshot shows the SCI-Diabetes website. At the top is a navigation bar with links for Home, SCI-Diabetes Features & Benefits, Our Vision, SCI-DC History, and Links ». On the right is a search bar and a logo for SCI-Diabetes. Below the navigation is a map of Scotland. A callout box over the map provides the following data for Scotland:

Scotland
Population: 5,347,600
Number of people with diabetes: 284,122
Crude Prevalence: 5.3%

Three specific regions are highlighted with callouts: Shetland, Orkney, and a larger callout for Scotland itself.

Text on the page includes:

- The Scottish Care Information – Diabetes Collaboration (SCI-DC) delivers Information Technology products designed to underpin the Managed Clinical Networks for diabetes.
- Since 2002 SCI-DC has been successfully supporting the needs of the Scottish diabetes community in providing clinical information, support for diabetic screening services and the provision of data for national and local audit programmes.
- SCI-DC delivers a single core product **SCI-Diabetes**.
- SCI-Diabetes was commissioned and is owned by the Scottish Government.
- SCI-Diabetes provides a fully integrated shared electronic patient record to support treatment of NHSScotland patients with Diabetes. It provides functionality for both Primary and Secondary Care Clinicians and includes specialty modules for Paediatrics, Podiatry, Diabetes Specialist Nursing and Dietetics.
- SCI-Diabetes is developed, maintained and supported by the SCI-DC Development Team based in Ninewells Hospital, Tayside.

At the bottom of the page, a footer note states: "Statistics are taken from the [Scottish Diabetes Survey 2015.pdf](#)".

## **data context**

- i. Large amounts of routinely collected data (RCD) are **unused** in clinical decision making
- ii. Clinical decisions are largely made on the basis of summary information (averages / snapshots)
- iii. Clinical guidelines are based on randomised controlled trial (RCT) data
- iv. RCTs not representative of the vast majority of the real world population (comorbid, elderly individuals excluded)
- v. RCD (retrospective cohort studies) analyses not highly regarded due to potential hidden biases etc

**we think in RCT-space, but work in RCD-space**

## **overall approach**

- i. Tackle the problem of summary data use by constructing analyses that use time series information
- ii. Extend analyses into additional data types (text)
- iii. Calibrate RCD cohort investigations to RCT trial data – understand associations and biases
- iv. Explore the effect size of interventions in populations that reflect the real world (comorbid, elderly etc)

predict the response (effect size within a specified domain) to an  
**arbitrary intervention** in an **arbitrary population** (or individual)

report effect size in both RCD and RCT-space

- predict optimum therapy choice for an individual / population (decision support)
- predict at-risk populations for adverse events (decision support)
- investigate potential for indication expansion for existing therapies (trial design)
- Investigate sources and size of hidden biases

## CASE 1

**58 y male**

Type 2 Diabetes - 8y duration

No other diagnoses

HbA1c 67

## CASE 2

**73 y male**

Type 2 Diabetes - 3y duration

COPD

HbA1c 67

## CASE 3

**80 y female**

Type 2 Diabetes - 20y duration

COPD, Psoriatic Arthritis, Ca Breast

HbA1c 67

Increasing complexity  
More like real world  
Less like evidence / guidelines  
Harder clinical decision making

## Case 1

CASE 1

58 y male

Type 2 Diabetes - 8y duration

No other diagnoses

HbA1c 67

clinical context simple

actual decision making remains difficult

guidelines (in DM at least) ambiguous / open

fine for specialists – not so much for generalists / primary care etc

theme 1

**drug response prediction in diabetes:  
(virtual n=1 drug trial)  
myDiabetesIQ**

related projects – DeepMind collaboration / similarOme

Innovate UK (Digital Health Technology Catalyst)  
1M grant 2018-2021



Funding competition

## Digital health technology catalyst 2017 round 1

UK businesses can apply for a share of up to £8 million to speed up development of new digital technology healthcare solutions.

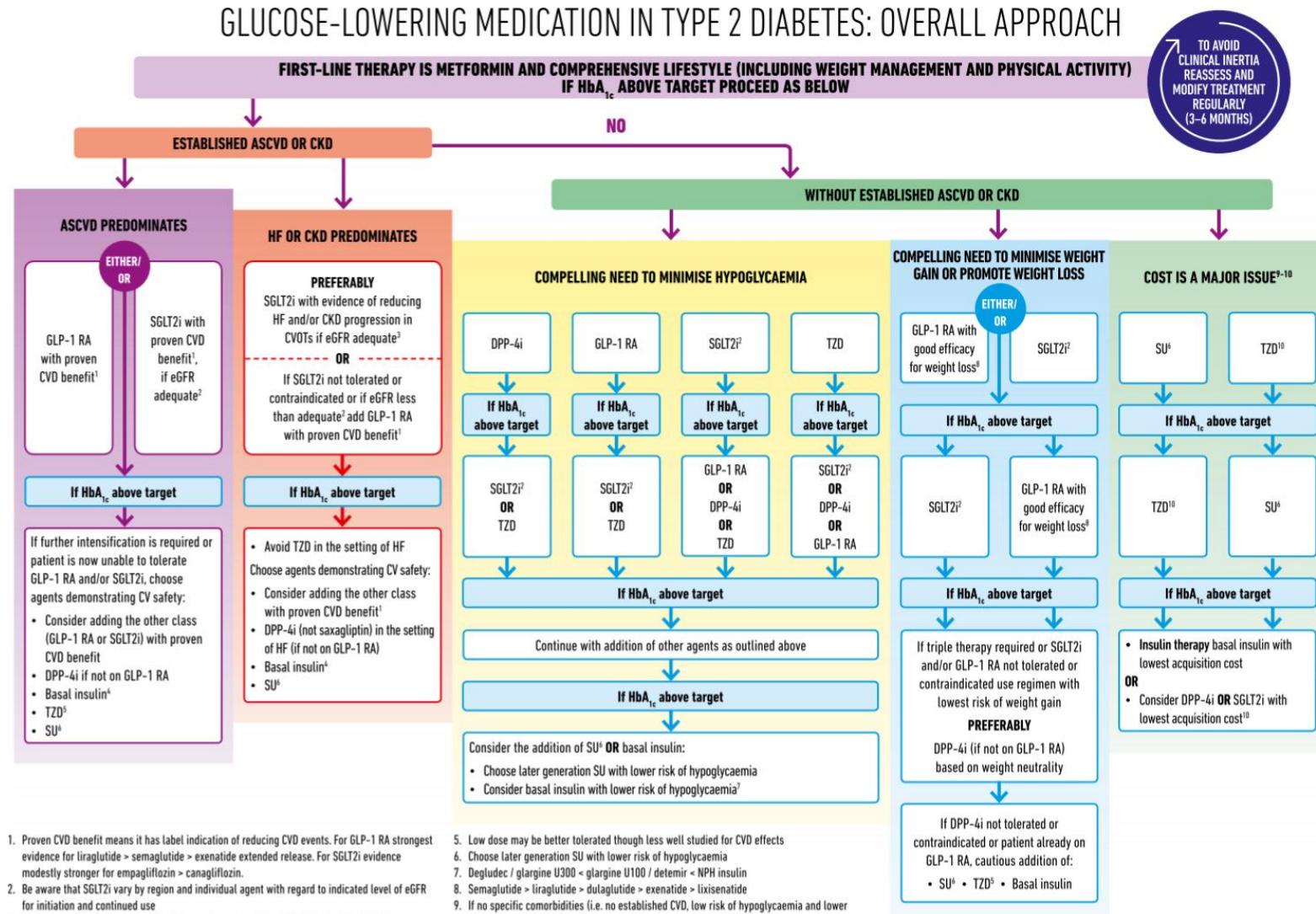
**Competition opens:** Monday 31 July 2017

**Competition closes:** Wednesday 11 October 2017 12:00pm

**Competition: Digital Health Technology Catalyst 2017 Round 1**

**Project Title: MyDiabetesIQ**

# GLUCOSE-LOWERING MEDICATION IN TYPE 2 DIABETES: OVERALL APPROACH



- Proven CVD benefit means it has label indication of reducing CVD events. For GLP-1 RA strongest evidence for liraglutide > semaglutide > exenatide extended release. For SGLT2i evidence modestly stronger for empagliflozin > canagliflozin.
- Be aware that SGLT2i vary by region and individual agent with regard to indicated level of eGFR for initiation and continued use
- Both empagliflozin and canagliflozin have shown reduction in HF and reduction in CKD progression in CVOTs
- Degludec or U100 glargine have demonstrated CVD safety
- Low dose may be better tolerated though less well studied for CVD effects
- Choose later generation SU with lower risk of hypoglycaemia
- Degludec / glargin U300 < glargin U100 / detemir < NPH insulin
- Semaglutide > liraglutide > dulaglutide > exenatide > lixisenatide
- If no specific comorbidities (i.e. no established CVD, low risk of hypoglycaemia and lower priority to avoid weight gain or no weight-related comorbidities)
- Consider country- and region-specific cost of drugs. In some countries TZDs relatively more expensive and DPP-4i relatively cheaper

**Fig. 2** Glucose-lowering medication in type 2 diabetes: overall approach

what is the next best drug(s) for my patient?

**virtual n = 1 drug trial**

eg what drug should I prescribe to give this patient the best chance of having an HbA1c <60mmol/mol, with a reduction in blood pressure and BMI in 1 year?

taking into account their individual history of:

- HbA1c / BMI / blood pressure
- previously prescribed combinations of drug therapies
- how previous drugs have impacted on HbA1c / BMI / blood pressure
- sex
- age
- ethnicity

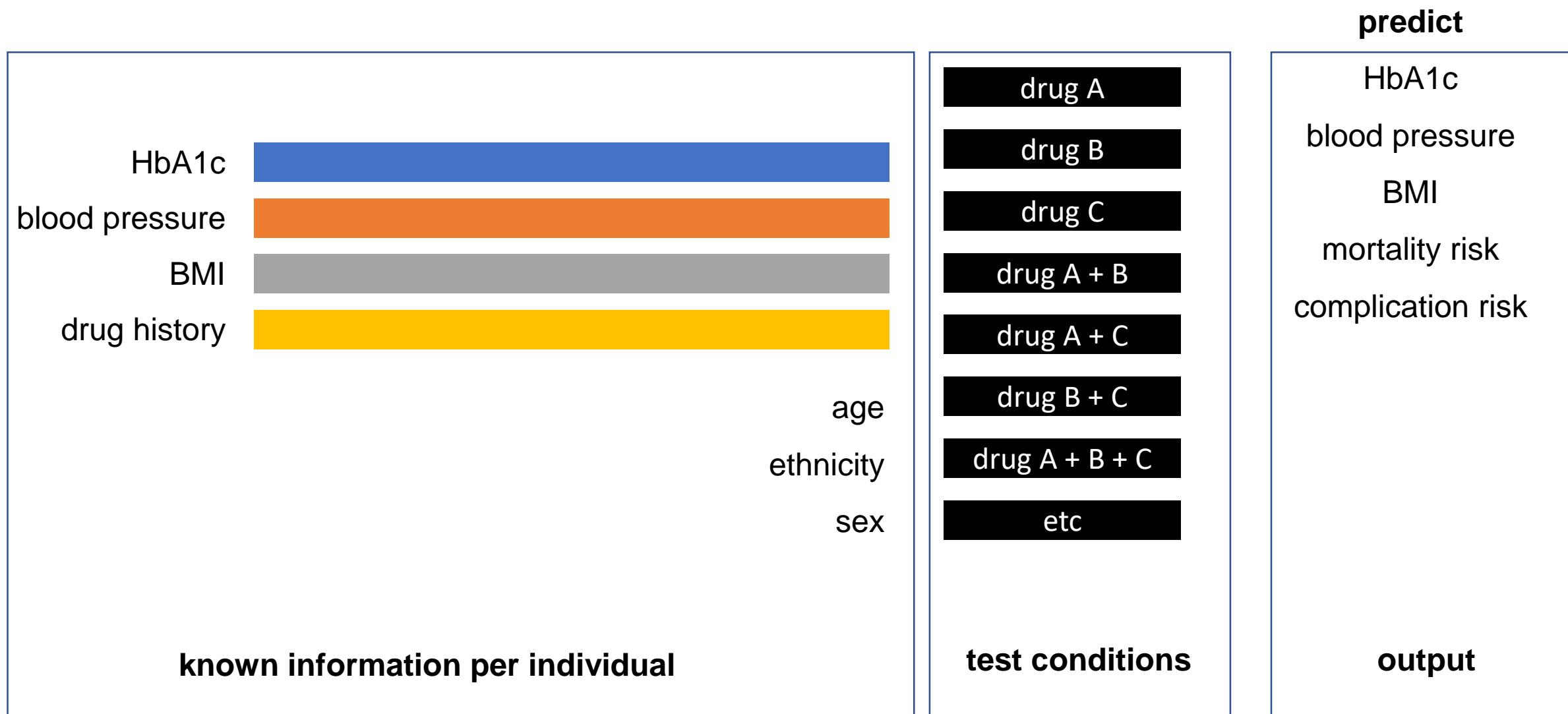


time series

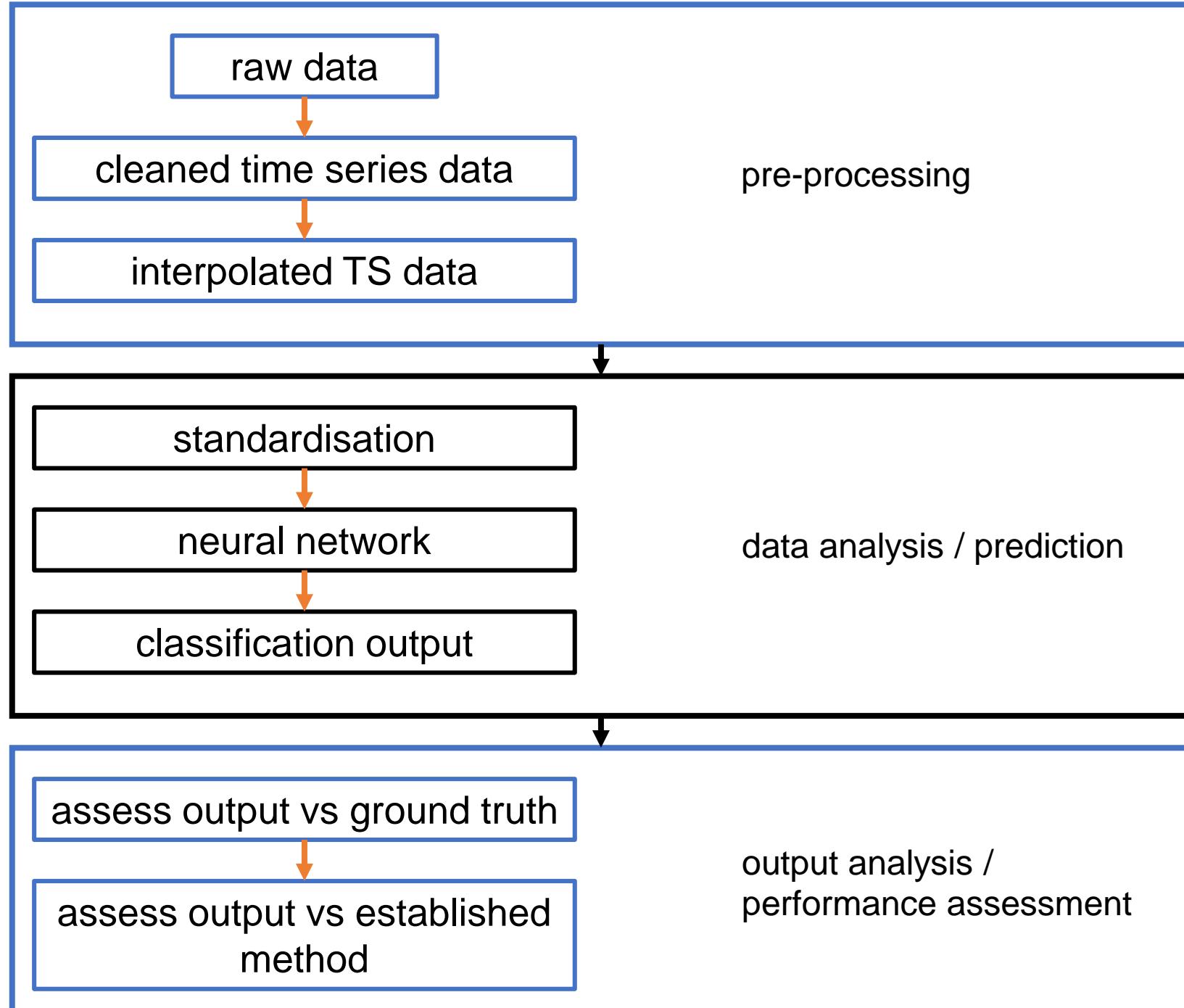
A blue curly brace is positioned to the right of the last three items of the list, grouping them together.

stable over time

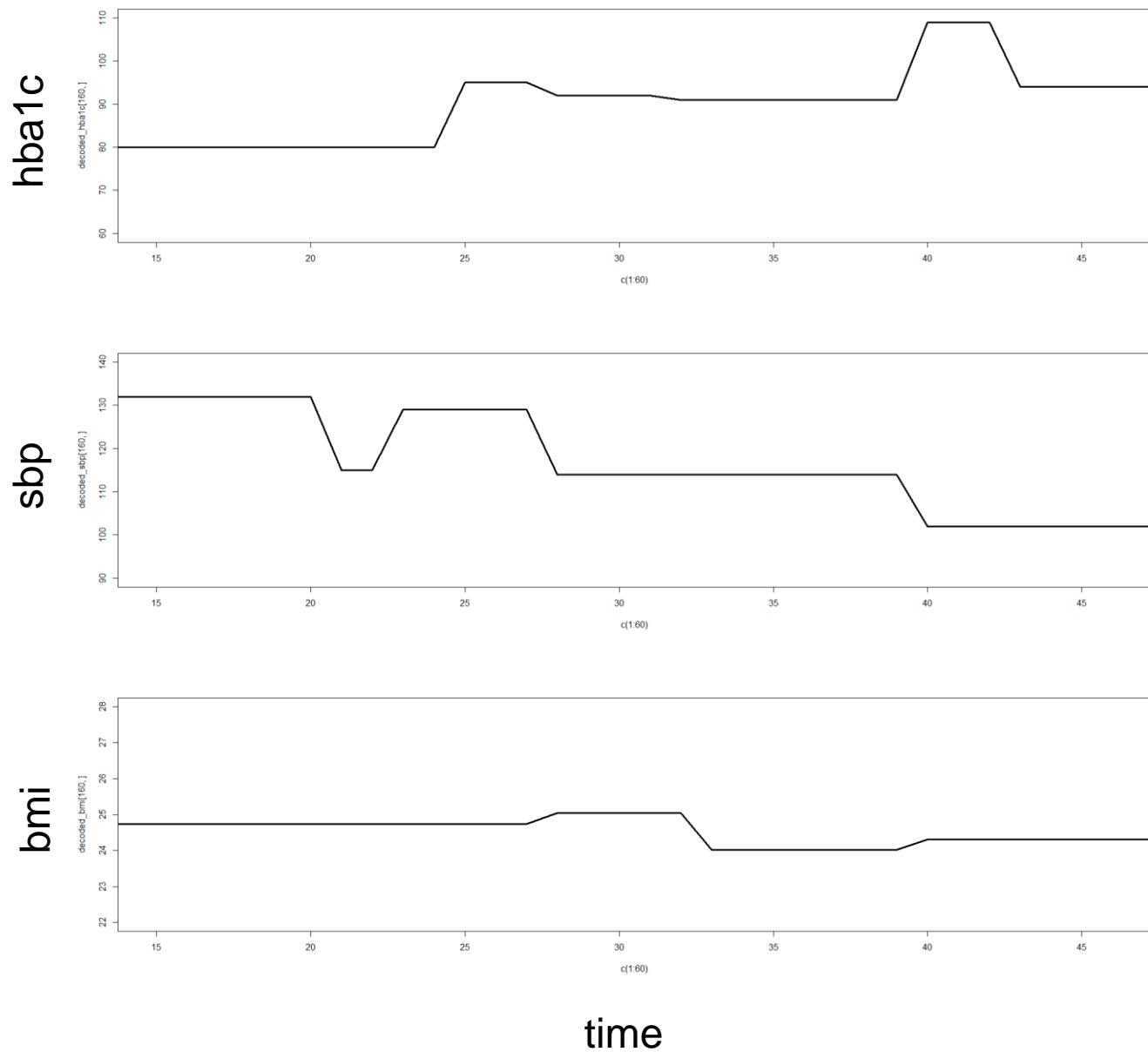
# Methods – general approach



# Workflow



# managing time series data – numerical data

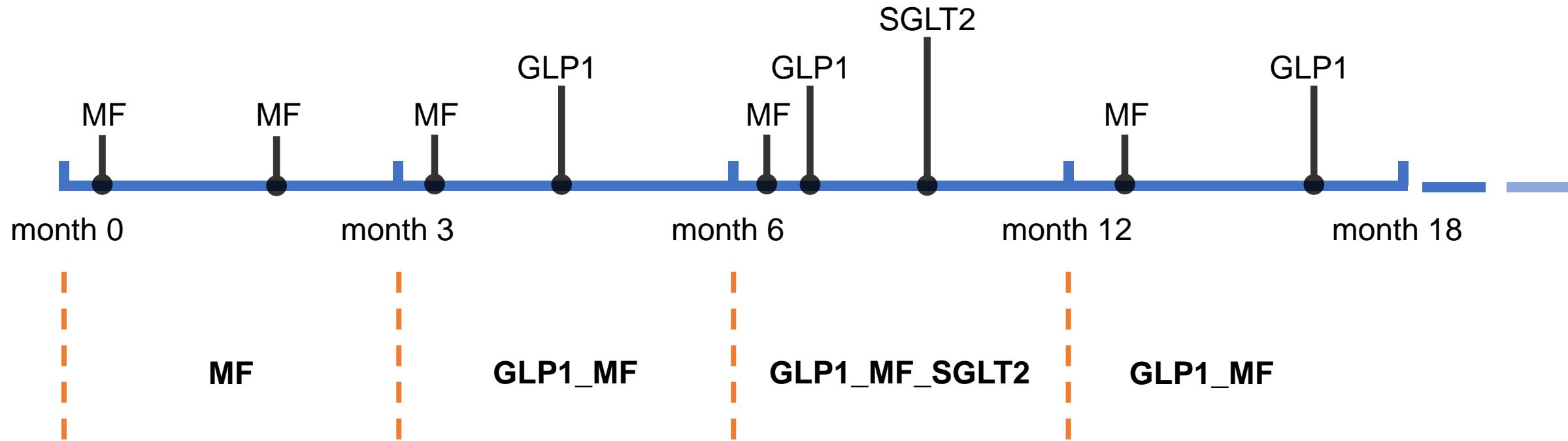


# managing time series data – prescription data

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# managing time series data – 3

drug combinations as words - for natural language processing approach



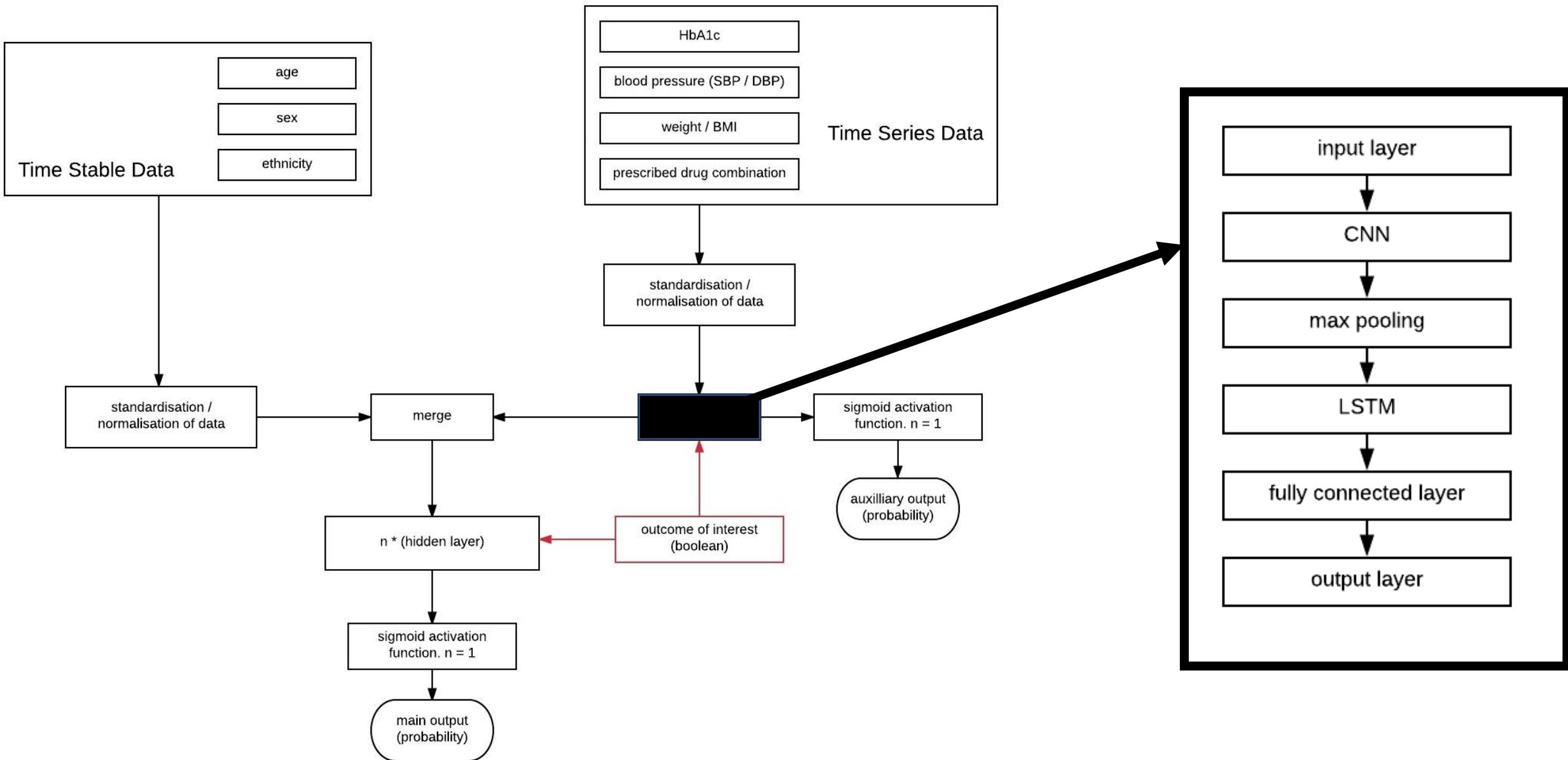
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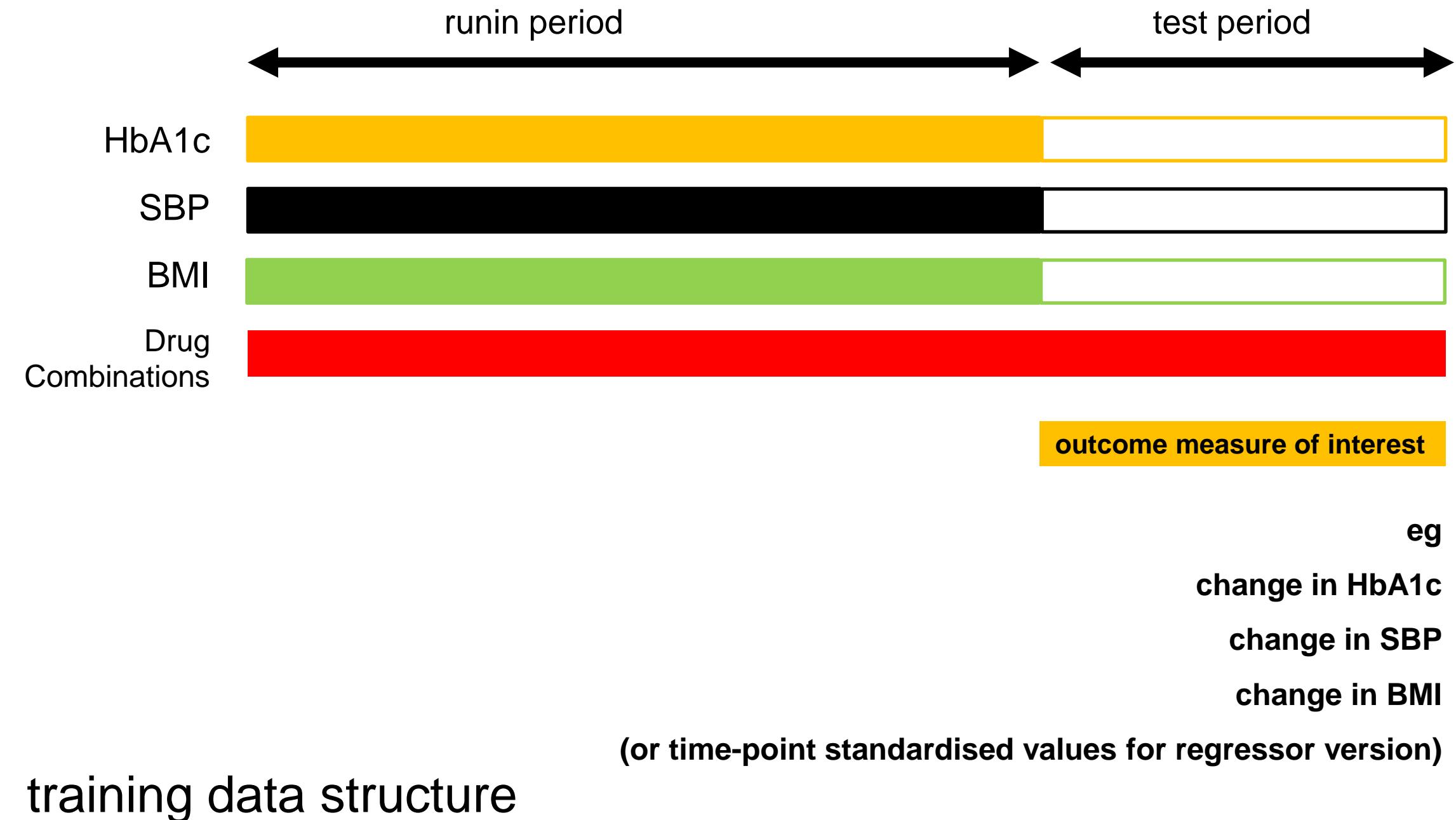


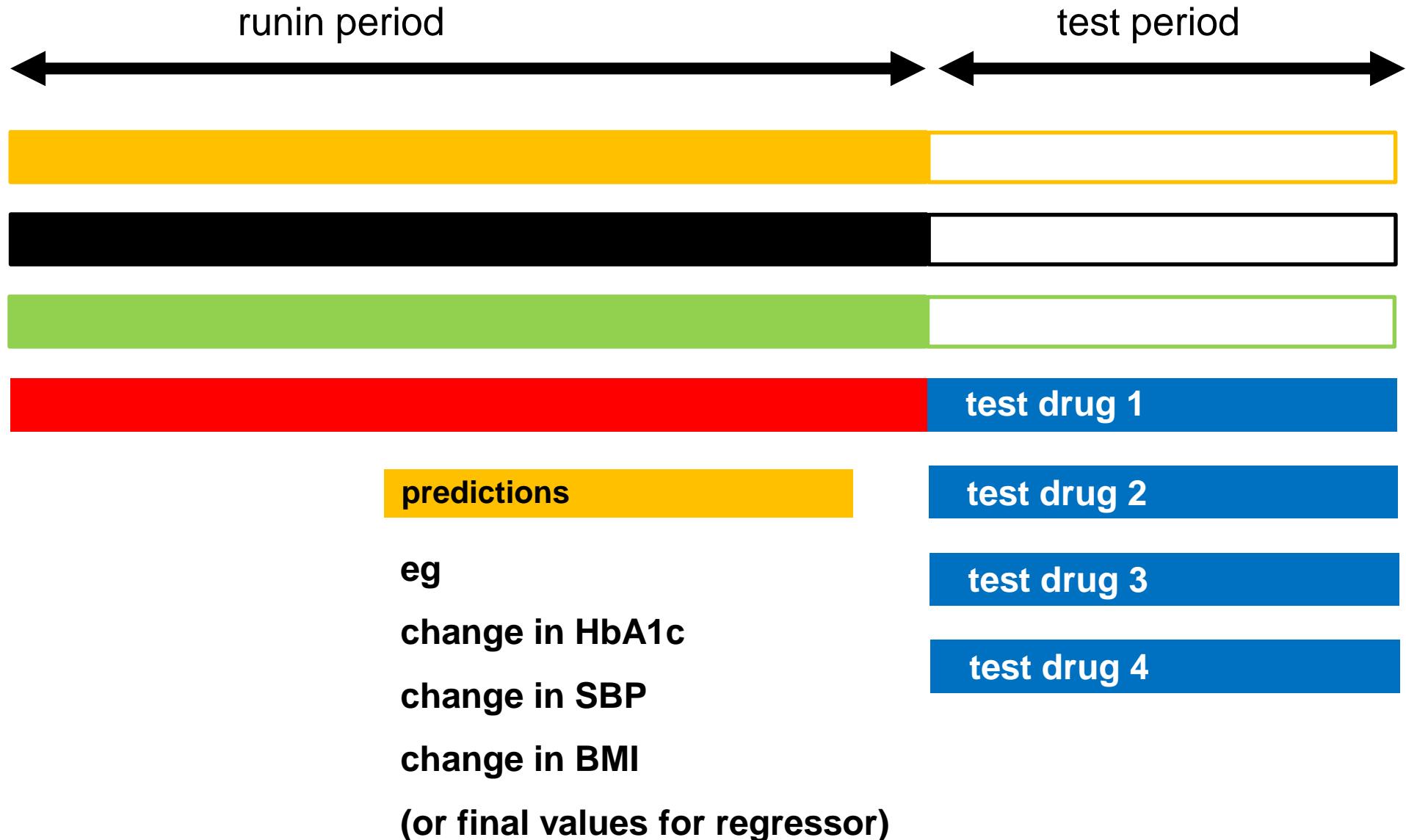
Embedding → numerical vector



input into RNN / LSTM

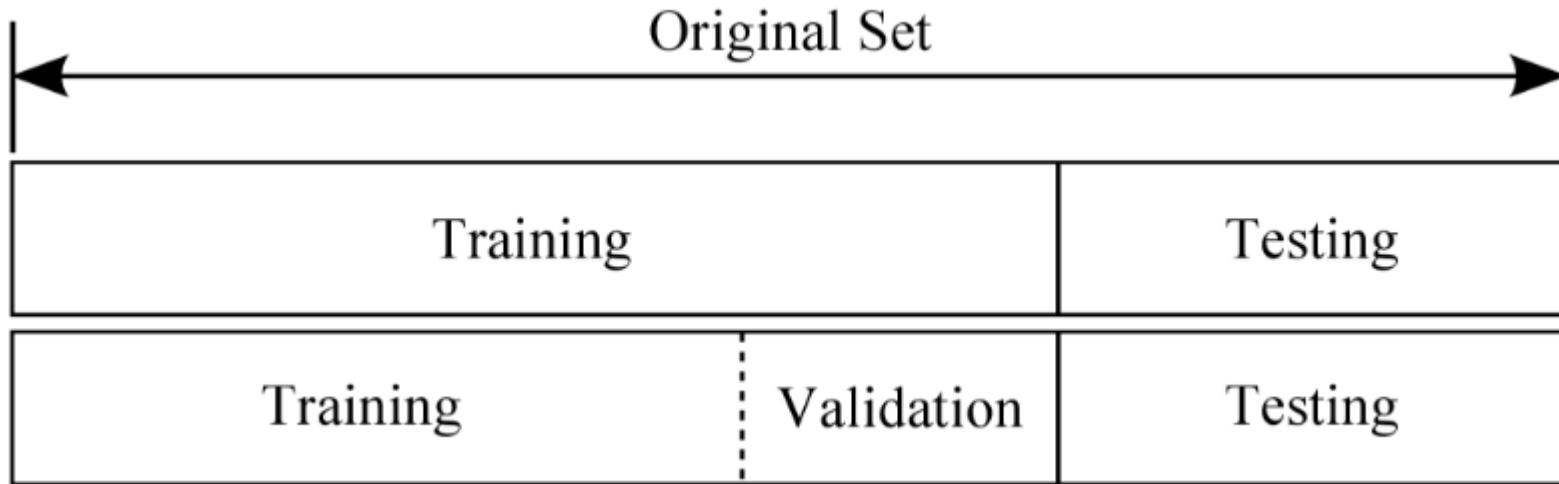






using the model to predict response

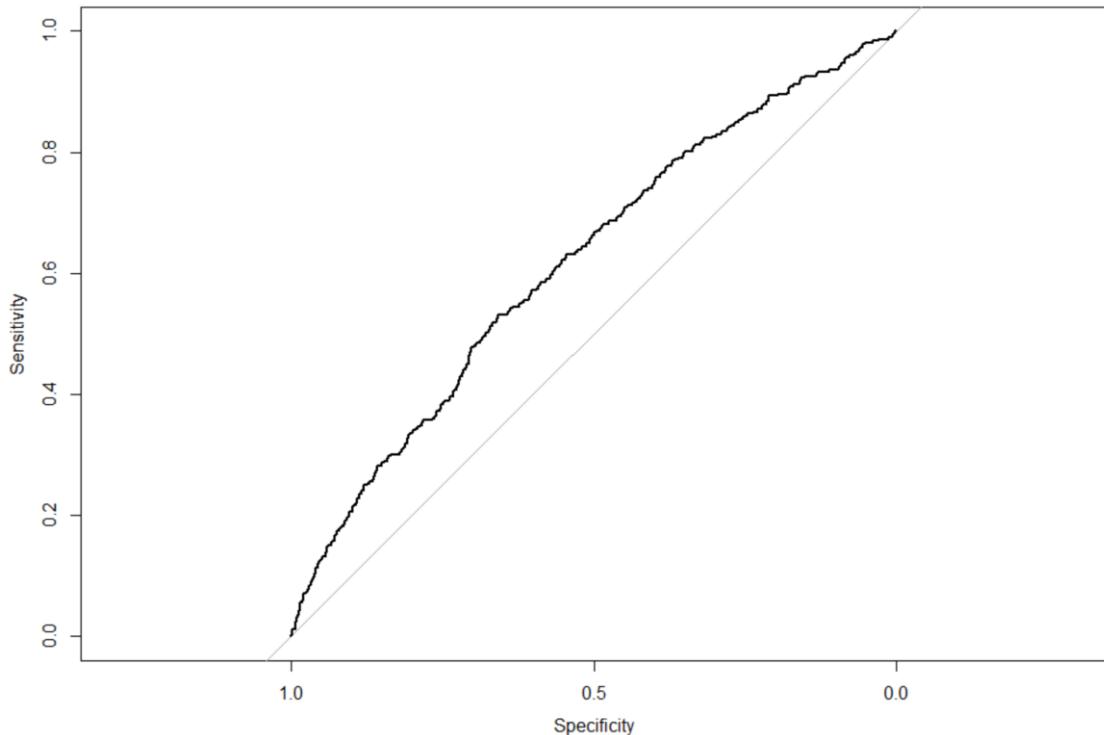
# training, validation and withheld test sets



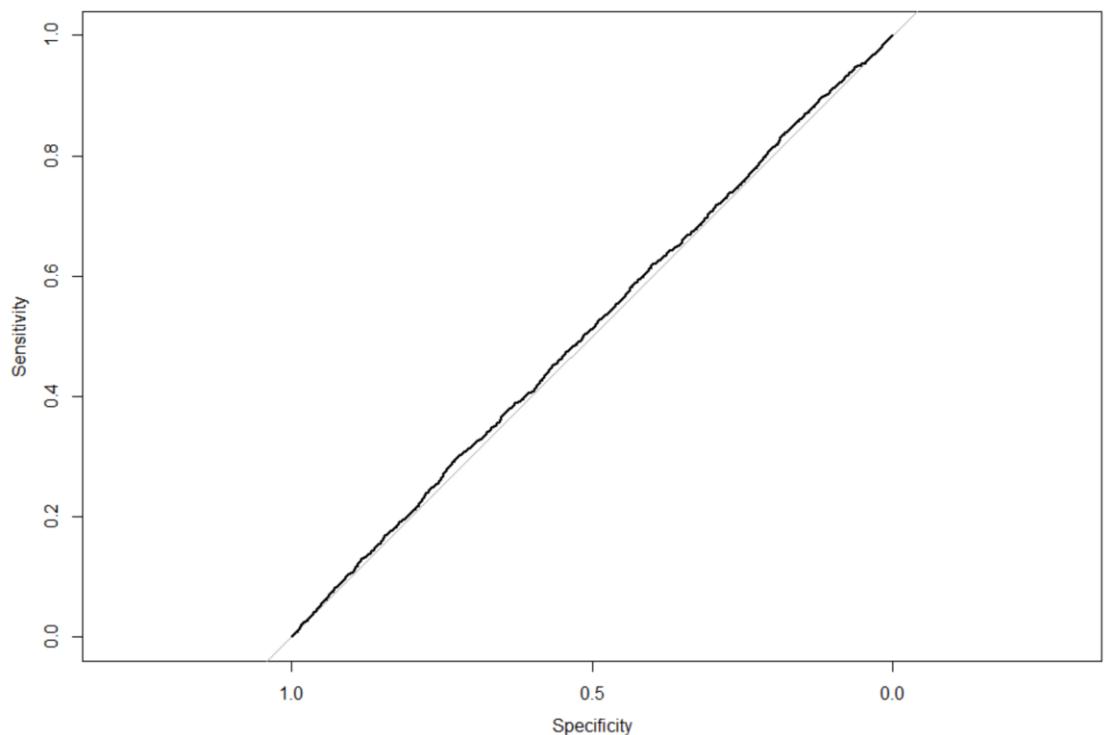
nn output vs logistic regression  
HbA1c TS vs HbA1c median / CV

**predicting mortality at 3y**

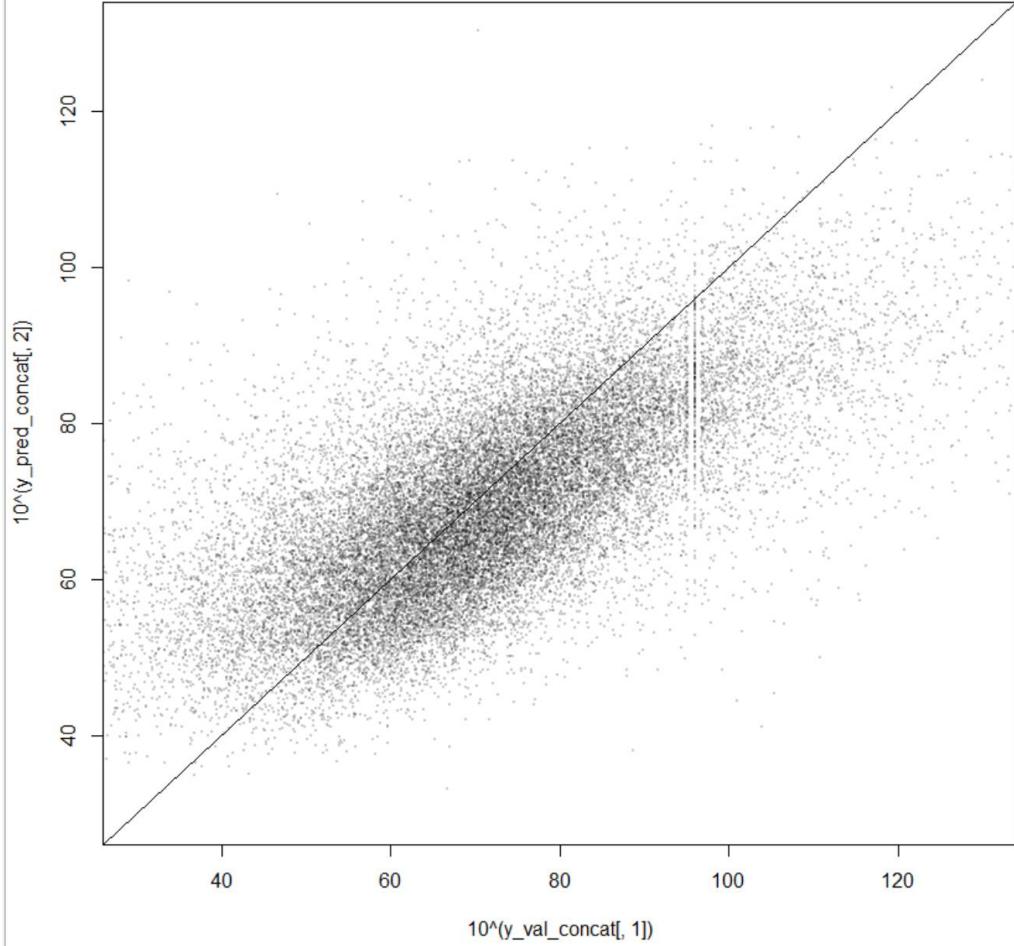
8 year runin analysis : outcome: all-cause mortality at 3y



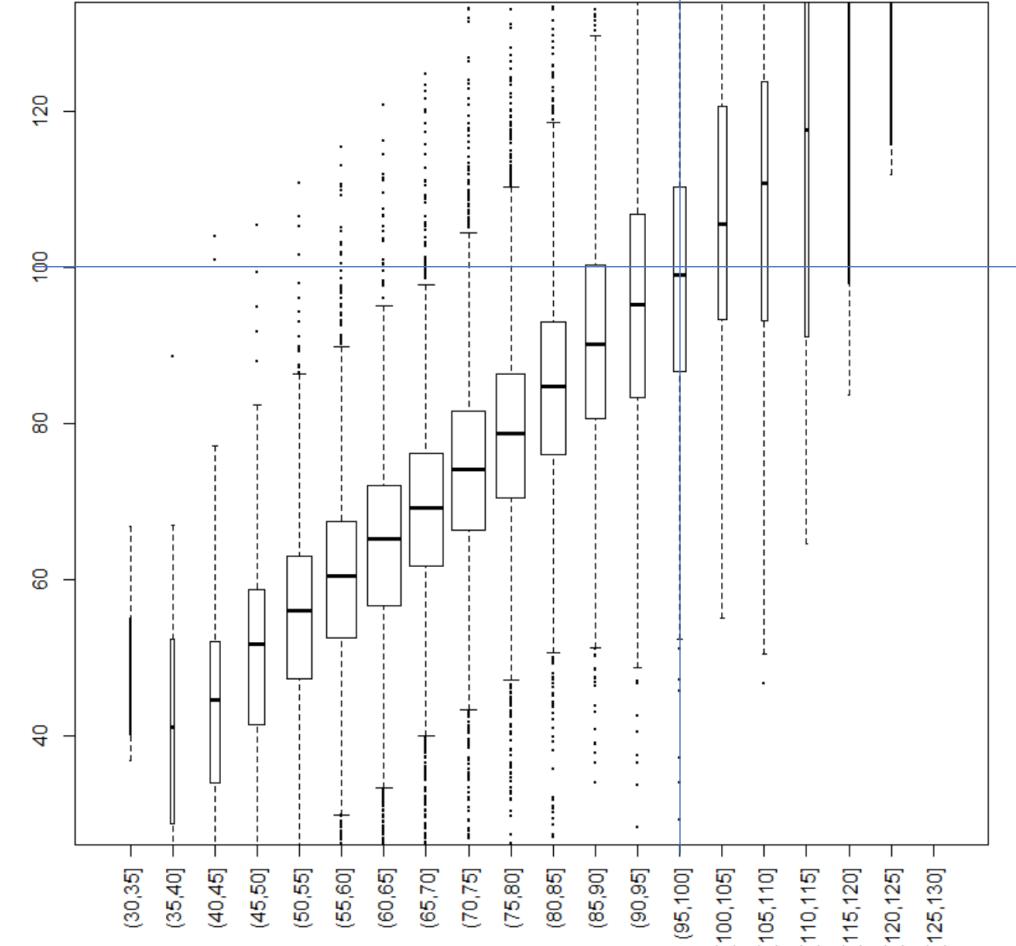
nn output  
AUROC 0.6



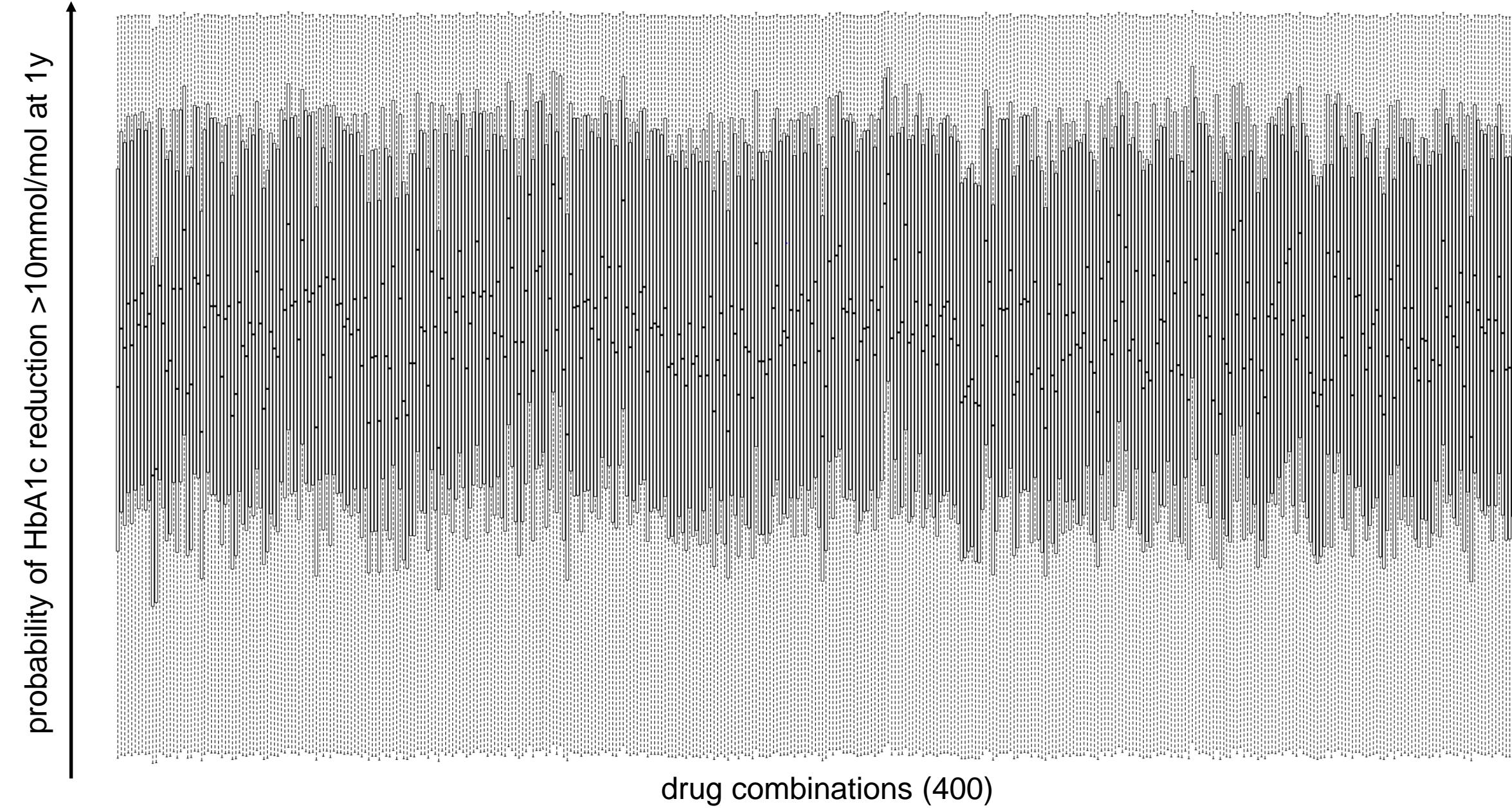
logistic regression  
AUROC 0.51



T1 multistep n=26860  
target = gradient of line



probability of HbA1c reduction >10mmol/mol at 1y n = 1450 (initial HbA1c >60mmol/mol)



# **Insight from text data**

Innovate UK   
@innovateuk

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INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY  
UK Research and Innovation

10:30 AM - 29 Mar 2019

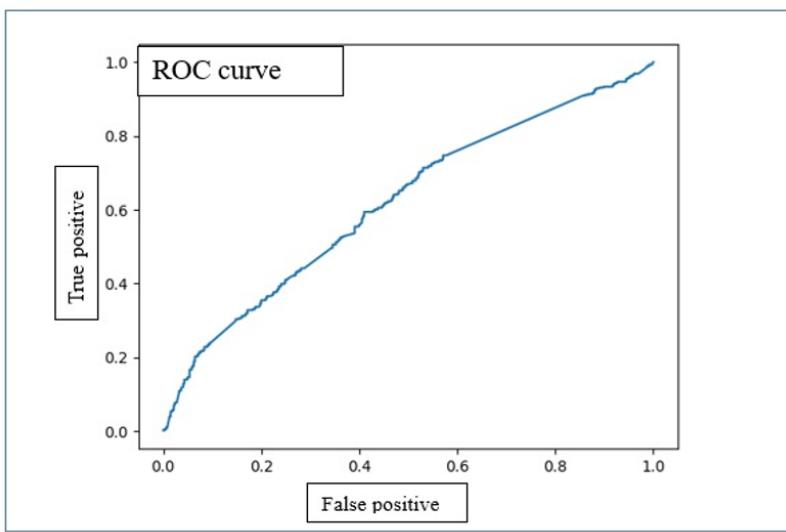
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## free-text entries

Embedding  
(trainable dimensionality reduction)

CNN  
bidirectional RNN

**Clinically significant outcomes**  
eg  
mortality  
readmission  
HbA1c

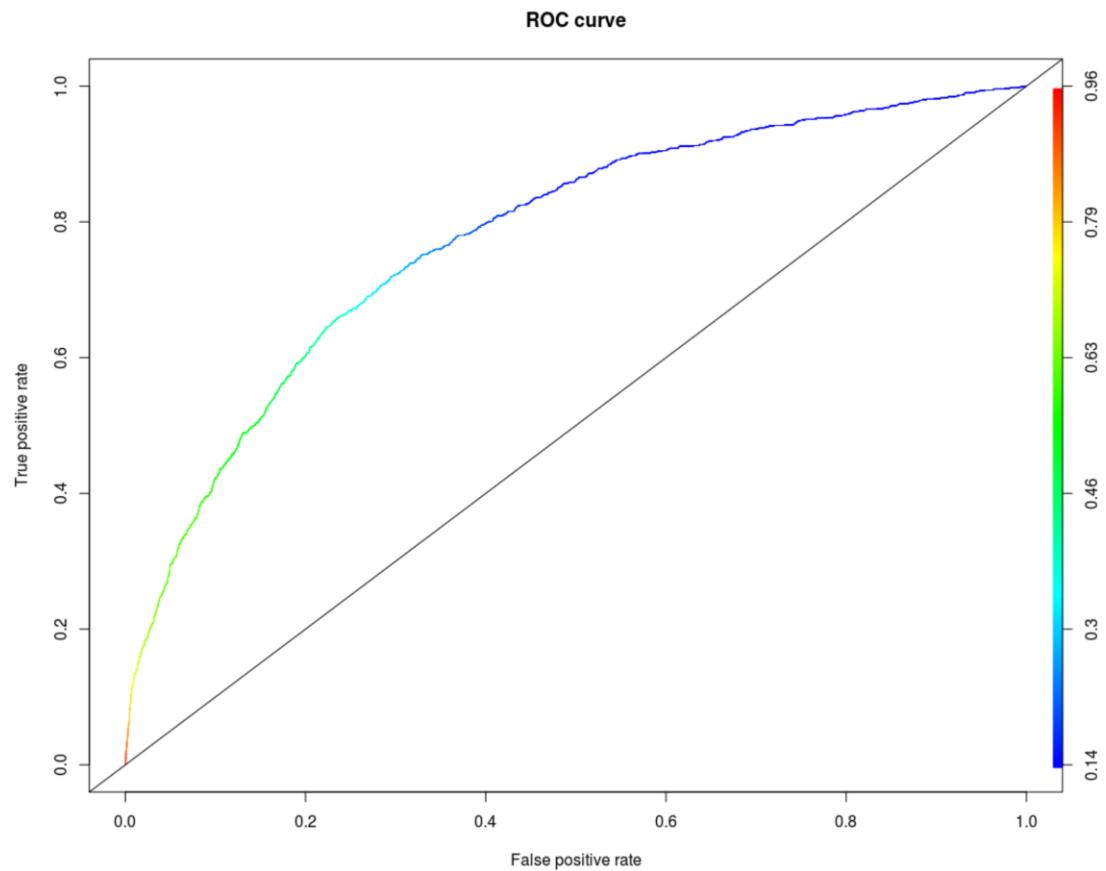


Initial results - 3 year runin analysis

Target: 1y mortality

AUROC 0.63

(current best performance 0.76)



input features

**demographic data**

**numeric categorical TS**

**numeric continuous TS**

**categorical TS**

**text**

training targets

**mortality**

**hospital admission**

**HbA1c**

**Blood Pressure**

**BMI**

final output

**optimum drug  
(per domain)**

**what will the output look like?**

# Timing of information delivery

Ad hoc

- at time of consultations / other clinical contact
- on request
- via SCI diabetes frontend

'Surveillance' analysis: tackle therapeutic inertia

- batch analysis: custom group / clinic / population level
- ? 3 / 6 / 12 monthly
- lead to prompting of prescription change if seems beneficial
- ?ultimately opt-out / automatic prescribing approaches

Most granular

Detail of level of risk per domain (HbA1c / mortality etc)

Treatment options in detail – likely effect of each treatment on each domain

Best option drug / combination

Least granular / summary data / action points

# Various levels of possible output at individual level:

	A	B	C	D	A+B	A+C	A+D	
HbA1c	75	78	82	87	76	78	86	granular prediction detail
BP	140	135	154	143	134	132	145	
BMI	26.4	28.2	27.3	31.3	32.2	28.2	24.2	

HbA1c: drug A  
BP: drug A+C  
BMI: drug C+D  
Mortality: drug A+C

use drug A + C

domain recommendations

single recommendation

The diagram illustrates a vertical flow of information. It starts with a table showing granular prediction detail for HbA1c, BP, and BMI. An arrow points down to a row of domain recommendations: 'HbA1c: drug A', 'BP: drug A+C', 'BMI: drug C+D', and 'Mortality: drug A+C'. A final arrow points down to a single recommendation: 'use drug A + C'.

## **Case 2**

**CASE 2** 73 y male

Type 2 Diabetes - 3y duration

COPD

HbA1c 67

clinical context slightly more complex

no good evidence to guide management

forced to extrapolate from multiple (siloed) disease area guidelines

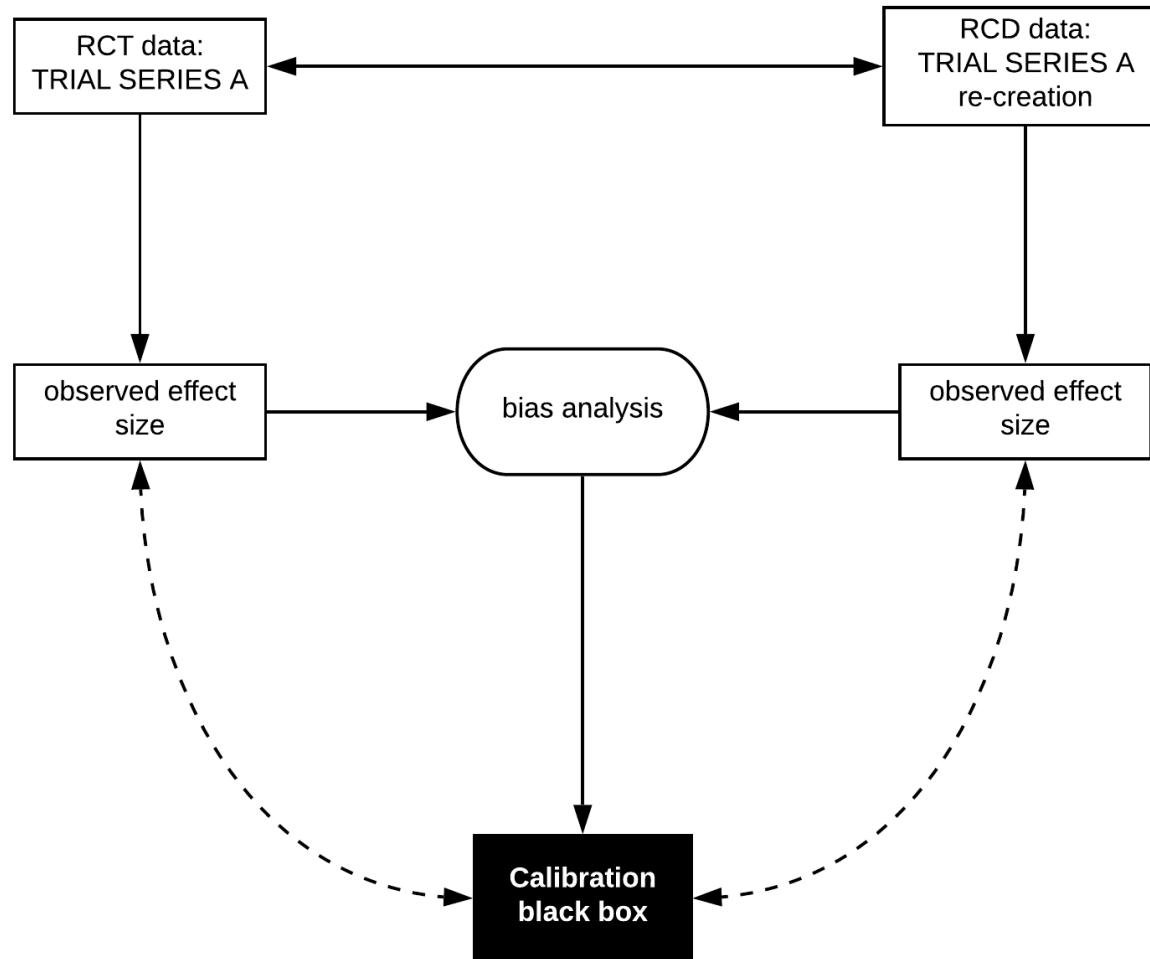
but – many examples in the real world.

can we use the examples within RCD to explore treatment options, and relate this to current evidence

**theme 2**

**RCD / RCT calibration**

**Extend in RCD to multimorbidity and map to RCT space**



**recreation of trials in real world data  
exploration of bias and generation of calibration tool**

# A Comparison of Approaches to Advertising Measurement: Evidence from Big Field Experiments at Facebook\*

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Florian Zettelmeyer

Kellogg School of Management  
Northwestern University and NBER

Neha Bhargava  
Facebook

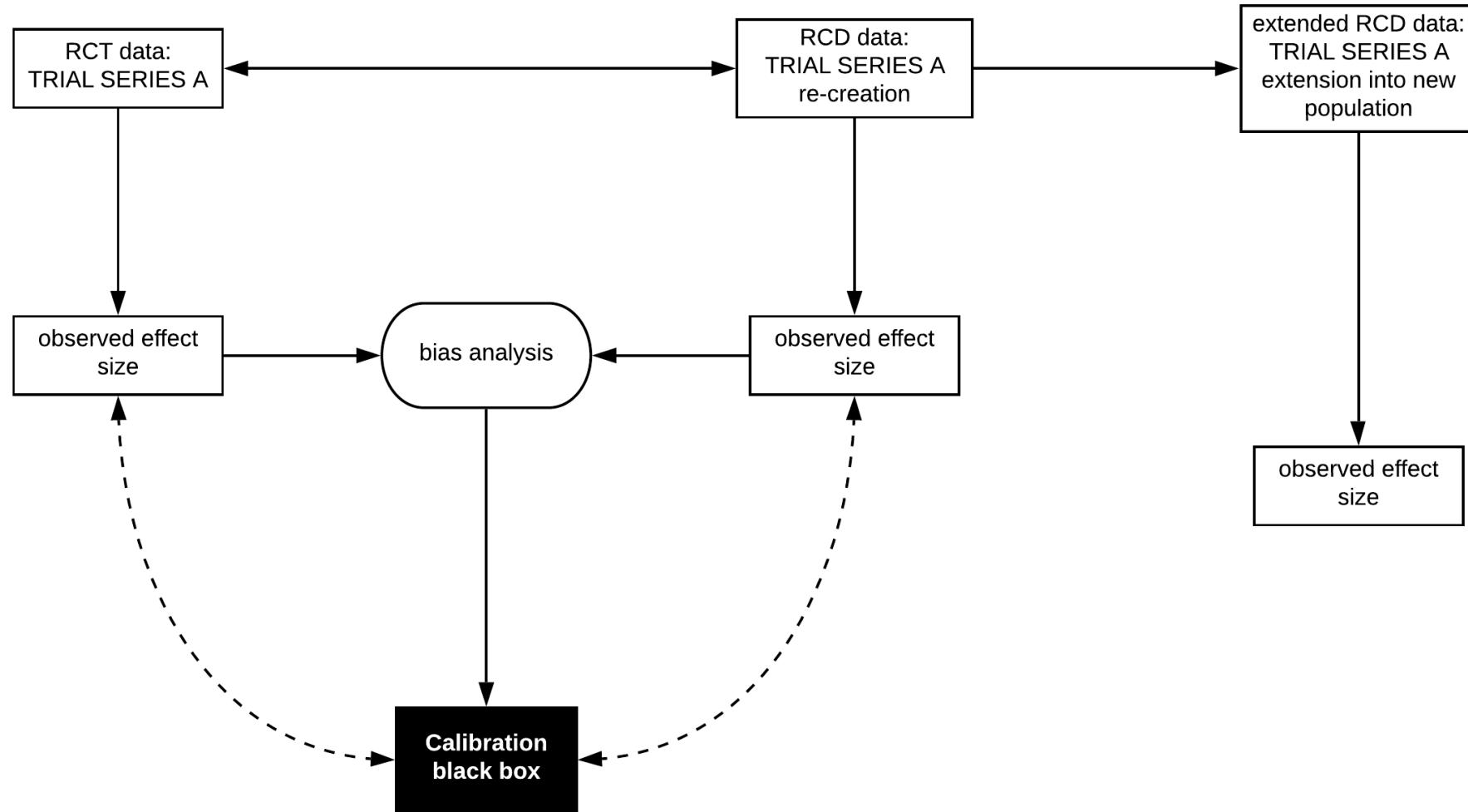
Dan Chapsky  
Facebook

September 23, 2018

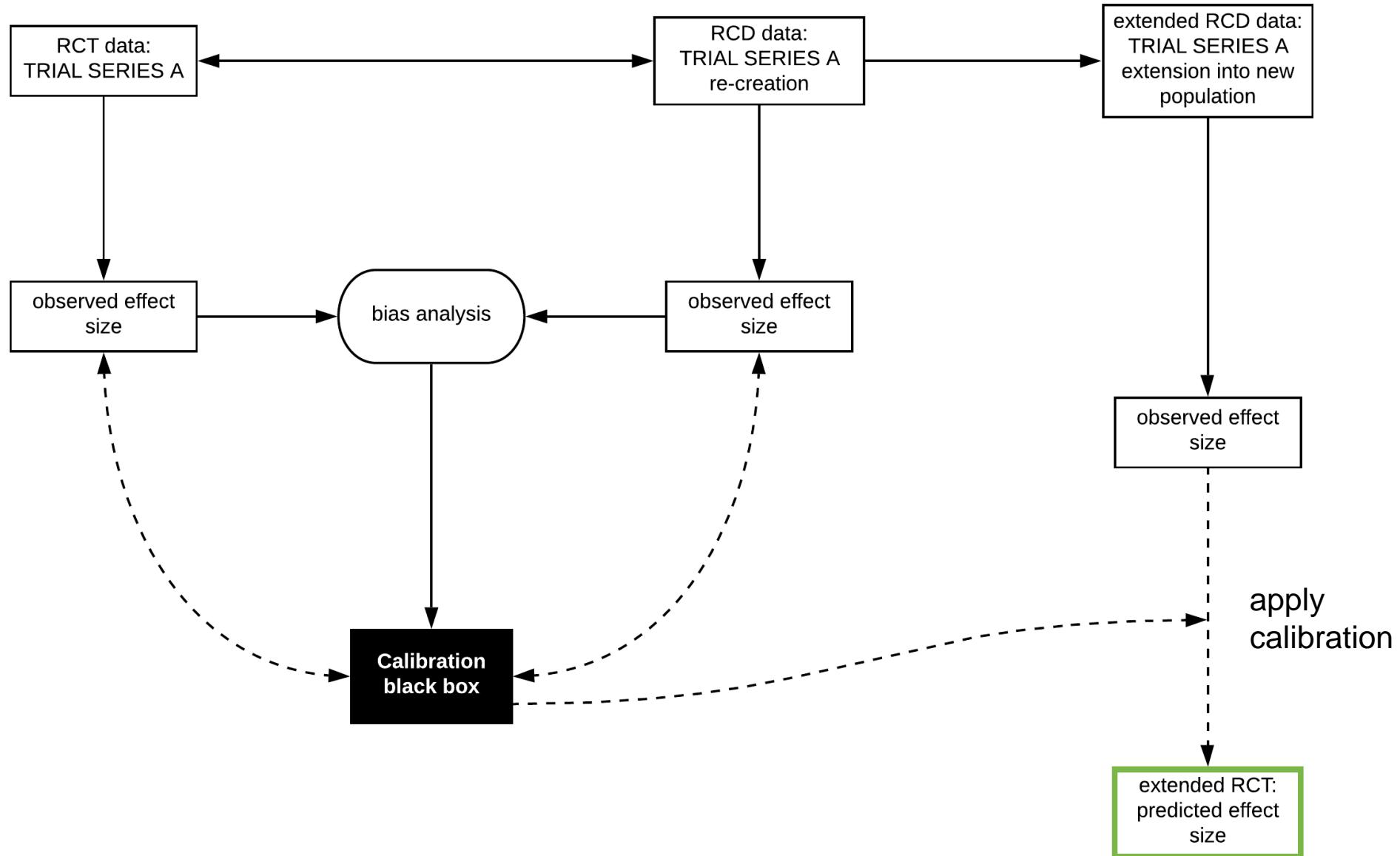
## Abstract

Measuring the causal effects of digital advertising remains challenging despite the availability of granular data. Unobservable factors make exposure endogenous, and advertising's effect on outcomes tends to be small. In principle, these concerns could be addressed using randomized controlled trials (RCTs). In practice, few online ad campaigns rely on RCTs, and instead use observational methods to estimate ad effects. We assess empirically whether the variation in data typically available in the advertising industry enables observational methods to recover the causal effects of online advertising. Using data from 15 US advertising experiments at Facebook comprising 500 million user-experiment observations and 1.6 billion ad impressions, we contrast the experimental results to those obtained from multiple observational models. The observational methods often fail to produce the same effects as the randomized experiments, even after conditioning on extensive demographic and behavioral variables. In our setting, advances in causal inference methods do not allow us to isolate the exogenous variation needed to estimate the treatment effects. We also characterize the incremental explanatory power our data would require to enable observational methods to successfully measure advertising effects. Our findings suggest that commonly used observational approaches based on the data usually available in the industry often fail to accurately measure the true effect of advertising.

[Gordon, Brett R., Florian Zettelmeyer, Neha Bhargava, and Dan Chapsky.  
n.d. "A Comparison of Approaches to Advertising Measurement: Evidence  
from Big Field Experiments at Facebook." \*SSRN Electronic Journal.\*  
\[https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3033144.\]\(https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3033144\)](#)



extension of trial into new (eg comorbid) population



**apply calibration to express results in RCT space**

## **Case 3**

**CASE 3**

**80 y female**

Type 2 Diabetes - 20y duration

COPD, Psoriatic Arthritis, Ca Breast

HbA1c 67

clinical context much more complex

no good evidence to guide management

forced to extrapolate from multiple (siloed) disease area guidelines

this time – not so many examples in the real world.

? can we use generative techniques to develop multiple unobserved examples of the rare class

**theme 3**

**generative techniques to augment RCD**

related projects – synthetic datasets, rare class identification

## **requirements for synthetic data generator**

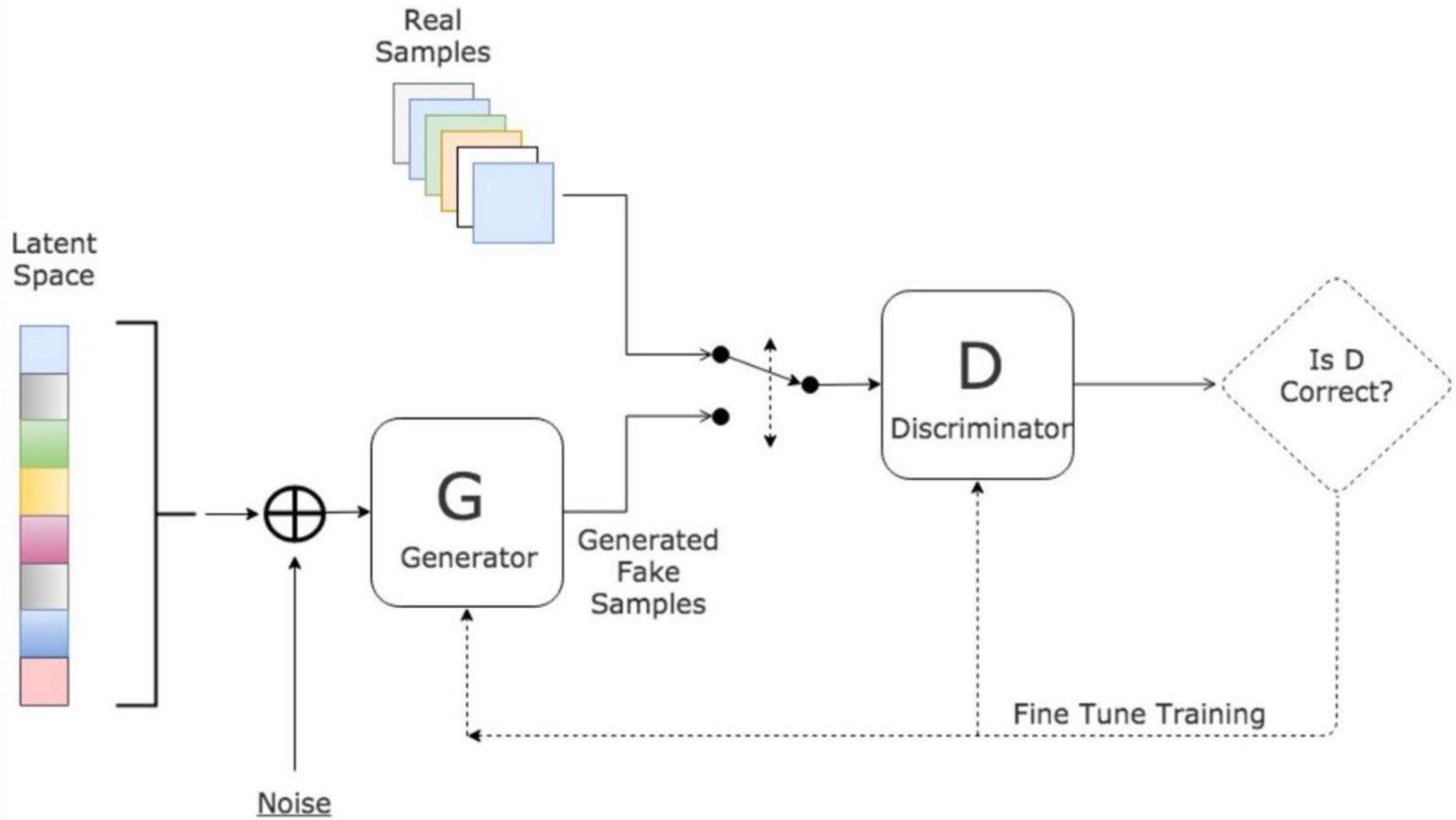
- generate multi-dimensional time series data
- reflect distributions of individual parameters
- include interactions/associations between parameters over time
- allow training models on synthetic data that will perform well on real data

## Potential applications of synthetic data generator

synthetic data generation

- upsampling rare classes
- potential to help with another problem – data sharing

rare class identification - difficult as small sample size to work from (but may be confident in label accuracy)



# Differentially Private Generative Adversarial Network

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## ABSTRACT

Generative Adversarial Network (GAN) and its variants have recently attracted intensive research interests due to their theoretical foundation and excellent empirical performance. These tools provide a promising direction for studies where data availability is limited. One common concern with GANs is that the density of the learned generative distribution could concentrate on the training data points, meaning that the model can easily remember training samples due to the high complexity of deep networks. This becomes a major concern when GANs are applied to private or sensitive data such as medical records, and the concentration of distribution may reveal critical patient information. To address this issue, in this paper we propose a differentially private GAN (DPGAN) model, in order to achieve differential privacy in GANs by adding carefully controlled noise to gradients during the learning procedure. We provide a rigorous proof for the privacy guarantee, as well as comprehensive empirical evidence to support our analysis, where we demonstrate that our method can generate high quality data points at a reasonable privacy level.

## CCS CONCEPTS

• Computing methodologies → Neural networks; • Systems organization → Neural networks; • Security and privacy → Privacy-preserving protocols;

## KEYWORDS

Deep Learning; Differential Privacy; Generative model

arXiv:1802.06739

## REAL-VALUED (MEDICAL) TIME SERIES GENERATION WITH RECURRENT CONDITIONAL GANS

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## ABSTRACT

Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) have shown remarkable success in generating realistic-looking data. In this work, we propose a Recurrent GAN (RGAN) and Recurrent Conditional GAN (RCGAN) that can produce realistic *real-valued multi-dimensional time series*, with an emphasis on their application to medical data. RGANs make use of recurrent neural networks (RNNs) in the generator and the discriminator. In the case of RCGANs, both the generator and the discriminator are conditioned on auxiliary information. We demonstrate our methods in a set of toy datasets, where we show visually and quantitatively (using standard likelihood and maximum mean discrepancy) that they can successfully generate realistic time-series. We also describe novel evaluation methods for GANs, where we generate a synthetic labelled training dataset, and evaluate on a *real test dataset*. We illustrate the performance of a model trained on the *synthetic data*, and vice-versa. We further demonstrate that RCGANs can generate time-series data for supervised training, with only minor degradation in performance on *real test data*. This is demonstrated on digit classification from ‘serialised’ MNIST and training an early warning system on a medical dataset of 17,000 patients from an intensive care unit. We further discuss and analyse the privacy concerns that arise when using RCGANs to generate realistic synthetic medical time series and demonstrate results from differentially private training of the RCGAN.

## Privacy-preserving generative deep neural networks support clinical data sharing

Authors: Brett K. Beaulieu-Jones<sup>1</sup>, Zhiwei Steven Wu<sup>2</sup>, Chris Williams<sup>3</sup>, Casey S. Greene<sup>3\*</sup>

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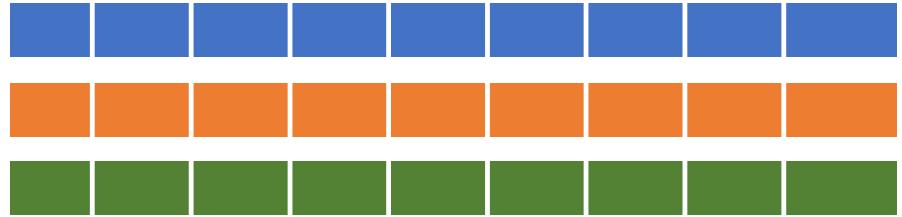
**One Sentence Summary:** Deep neural networks can generate shareable biomedical data to allow reanalysis while preserving the privacy of study participants.

**Abstract:** Though it is widely recognized that data sharing enables faster scientific progress, the sensible need to protect participant privacy hampers this practice in medicine. We train deep neural networks that generate synthetic subjects closely resembling study participants. Using the SPRINT trial as an example, we show that machine-learning models built from simulated participants generalize to the original dataset. We incorporate differential privacy, which offers strong guarantees on the likelihood that a subject could be identified as a member of the trial. Investigators who have compiled a dataset can use our method to provide a freely accessible public version that enables other scientists to perform discovery-oriented analyses. Generated data can be released alongside analytical code to enable fully reproducible workflows, even when privacy is a concern. By addressing data sharing challenges, deep neural networks can facilitate the rigorous and reproducible investigation of clinical datasets.

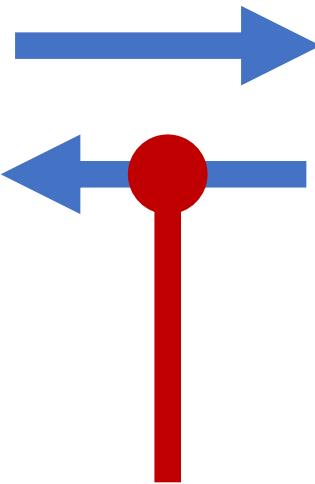
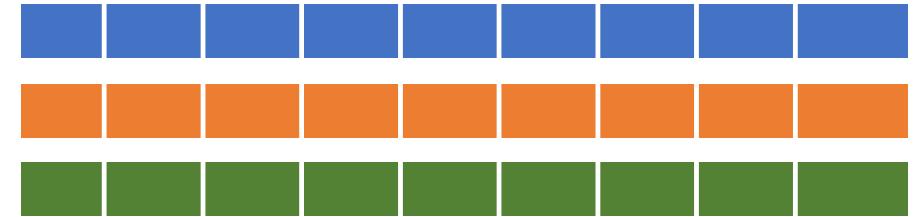
arXiv:1706.02633

<https://doi.org/10.1101/159756>

real time-series data

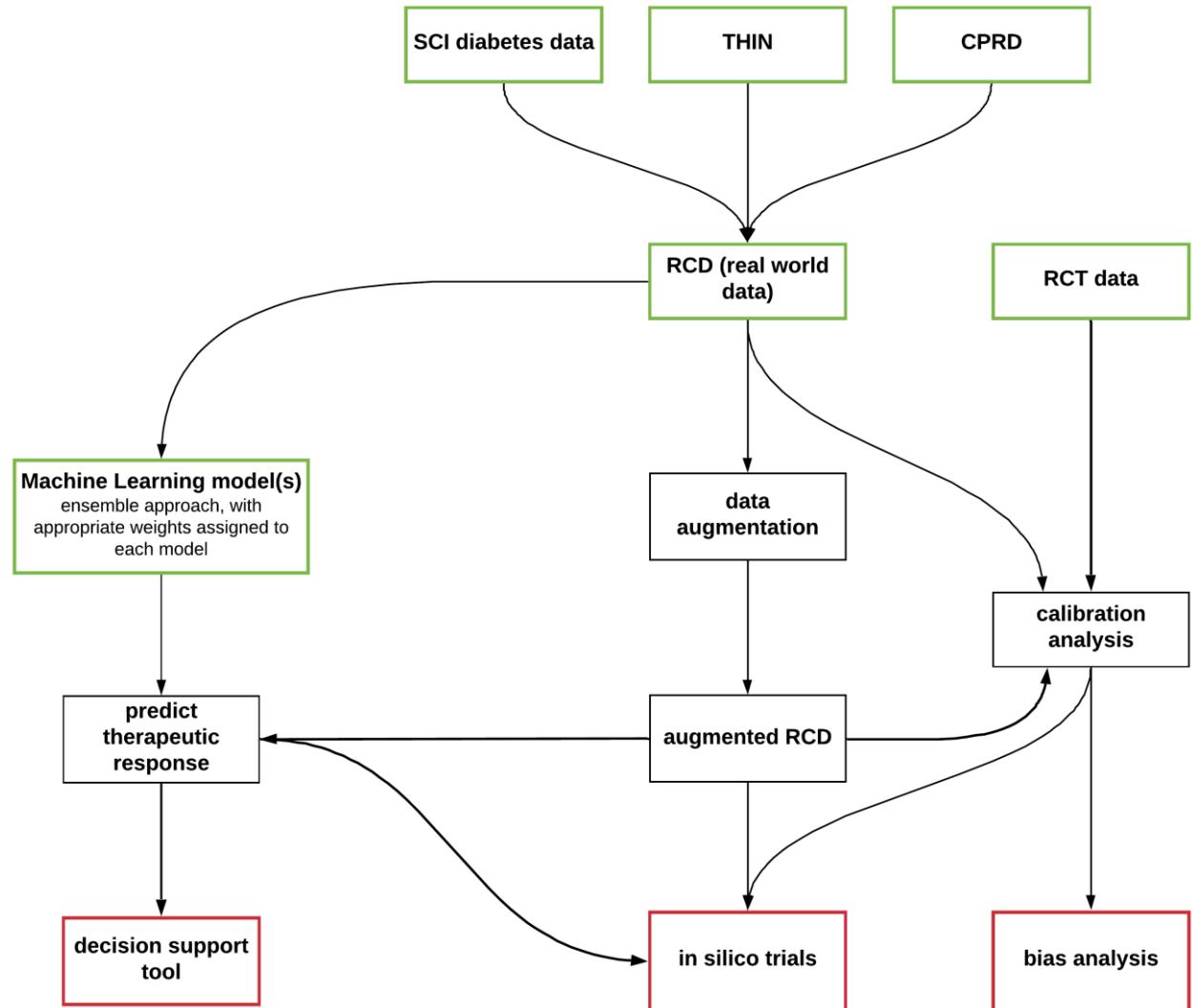


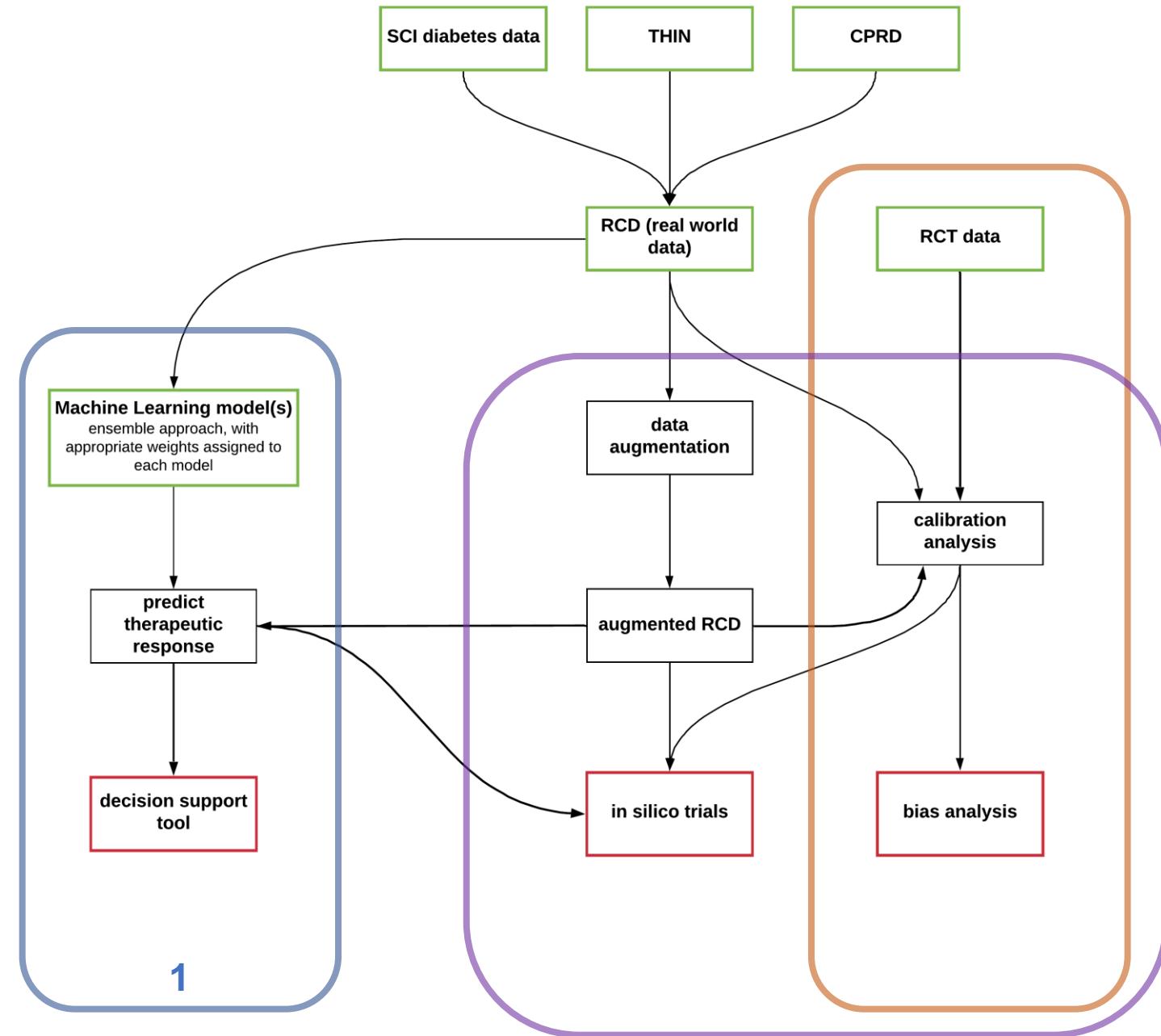
synthetic time-series data



## **differential privacy** inhibits data leakage

- quality vs security tradeoff
- privacy budgets
- computational limits





## Theme 1

Drug response prediction

Largely application / implementation problem

## Theme 2

RCD / RCT calibration / bias analysis

Application + methodological problems

## Theme 3

Generative techniques / synthetic data

Largely methodological

predict the response (effect size within a specified domain) to an  
**arbitrary intervention** in an **arbitrary population** (or individual)

report effect size in both RCD and RCT-space

- predict optimum therapy choice for an individual / population (decision support)
- predict at-risk populations for adverse events (decision support)
- investigate potential for indication expansion for existing therapies (trial design)
- Investigate sources and size of hidden biases

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