

# PREDICTING JOB APPLICANT ATTRIBUTES FROM INTERVIEW DATA

intro to Data Science final project



# The Problem

During an interview, we can observe various traits such as attentiveness, calmness, confidence, communication skills, and creativity. **However, predicting a candidate's persistence, a crucial trait for many roles, is challenging.** Can we leverage machine learning to predict a candidate's persistence based on their responses and observed traits during an interview?



# **S.M.A.R.T Goal**



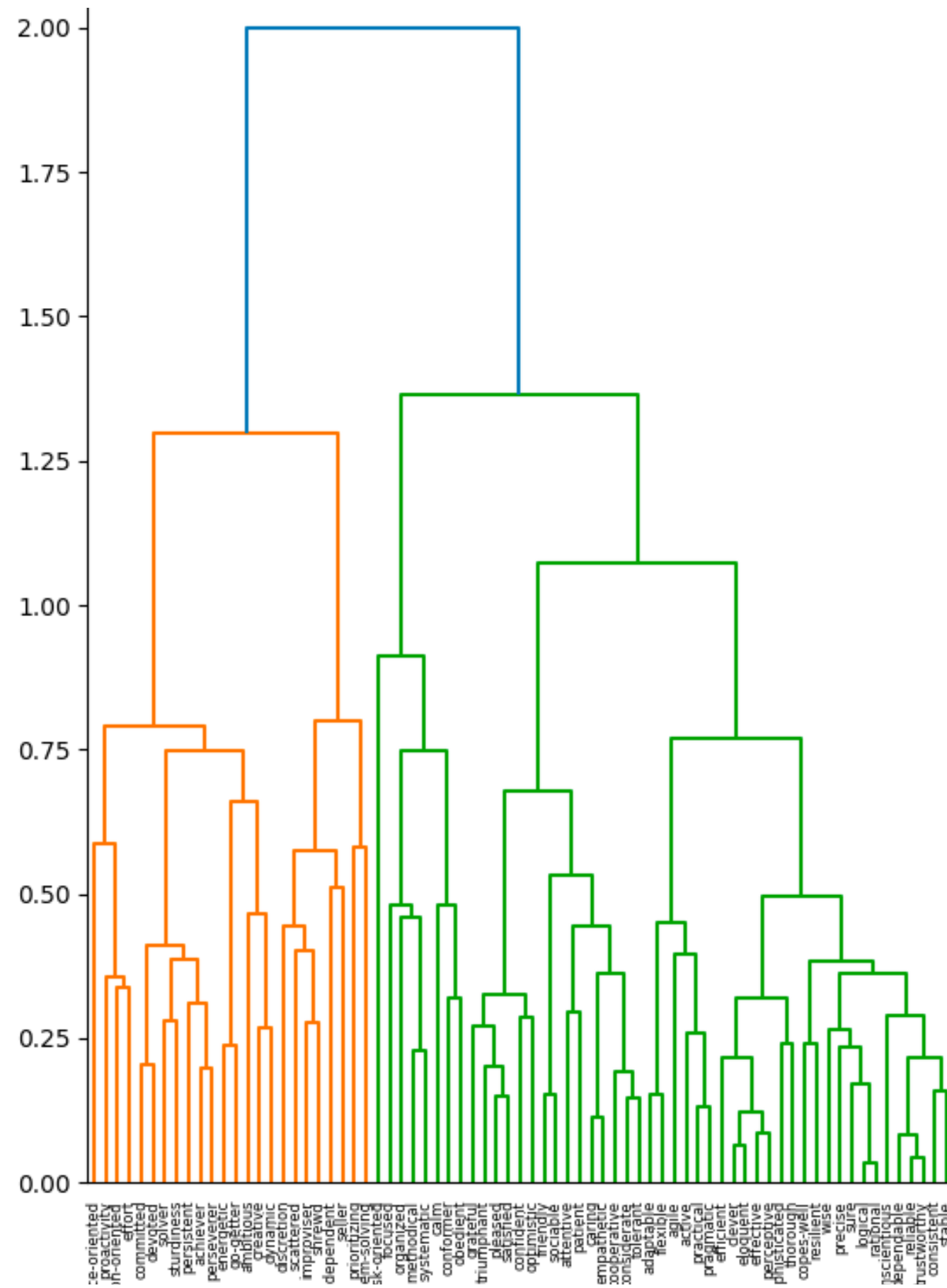
## **The Goal**

**To develop by the end of the course a machine learning model that can predict at over 90% accuracy complex personality traits such as persistence, based on first impressions from an interview**

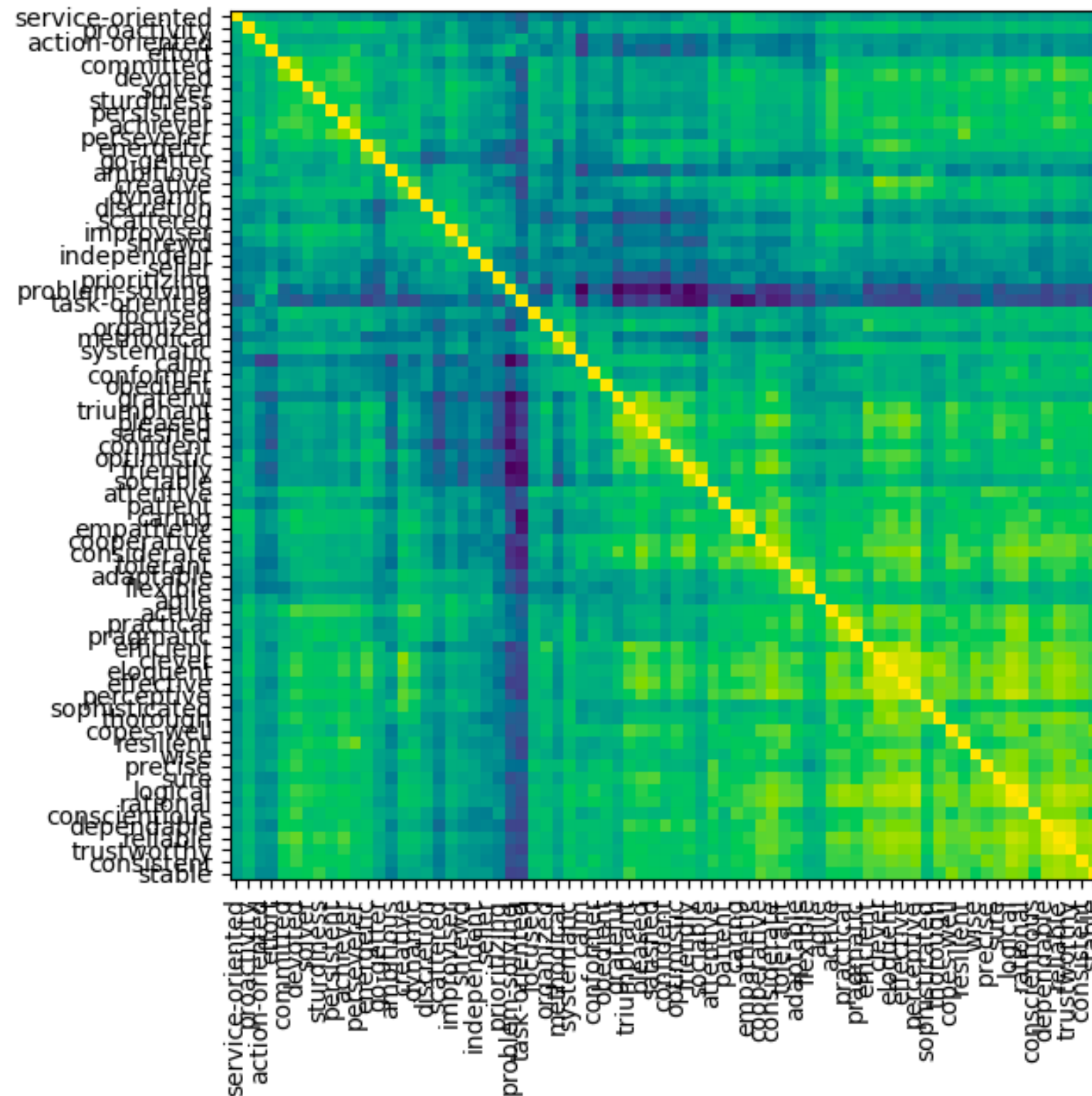
## **How do we get there?**

**By using advanced machine learning methods like XGBoost and Polynomial Regression, we can train a model on interview data to accurately predict complex personality traits**

## Hierarchical clustering using Ward's linkage



## Correlated features clusters



# Data preparation

Manual differentiation	Correlation matrix	Variance Thresholding	Multi-collinear features clustering	Split data
<p>We manually split the dataset between simple and complex traits</p> <p>8 complex traits</p>	<p>Show basic correlation between traits</p>	<p>Prune features that are relatively invariant</p> <p>Dropped 9 highly invariant features</p>	<p>Unify groups of highly correlated features</p> <p>Left with 40 independent features</p>	<p>We used a 80-20 split</p> <p>The split kept all instances of specific person in the same group (test/train)</p>

# HOW WE DO IT: MODELING



## Gradient Boosted Decision Trees (XGBoost)

A collection of decision trees that learn from past mistakes, making it more accurate with each iteration

## Polynomial regression

Models the relationship between the independent and dependent variables as an equation capturing nuanced relationships between variables.

# EVALUATION XGBOOST



Traits	Accuracy	MSE	Test/Train Accuracy Ratio
Persistent	94%	0.0027	94%
Considerate	100%	0.0004	100%
Seller	96%	0.0021	96%
Committed	93%	0.0043	93%

# EVALUATION POLYNOMIAL REGRESSION



Traits	Accuracy	MSE	Test/Train Accuracy Ratio
proactivity	96%	0.0025	96%
independent	99%	0.0017	99%
go-getter	100%	0.0005	100%
organized	93%	0.0028	97.8%



# RESULTS

**HIGH PREDICTION RATE**

**POLY > XGBOOST**

# FURTHER INVESTIGATION



**How would our model perform using "real-world" data?**

**Use publicly available HR datasets  
or build one ourselves**

Do you have  
any questions?

