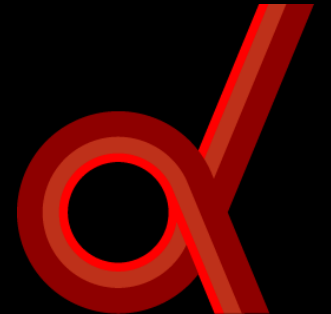


# Normative modelling: the what, when and why

Dr. Johanna Bayer

Post Doctoral Researchers  
Predictive Clinical Neuroscience Lab



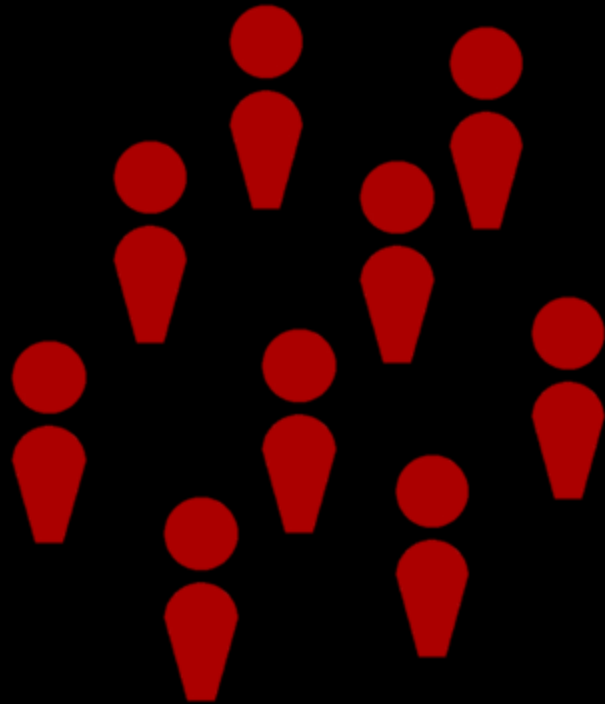
Predictive Clinical Neuroscience Lab

Slides by: @DrHannahSavage Dr. Charlotte Fraza @CharFraza

Dr. Barbora Reháková Bučková @BarboraRehak

# THE SHORTCOMINGS OF CLASSICAL STATISTICS

**CASE**



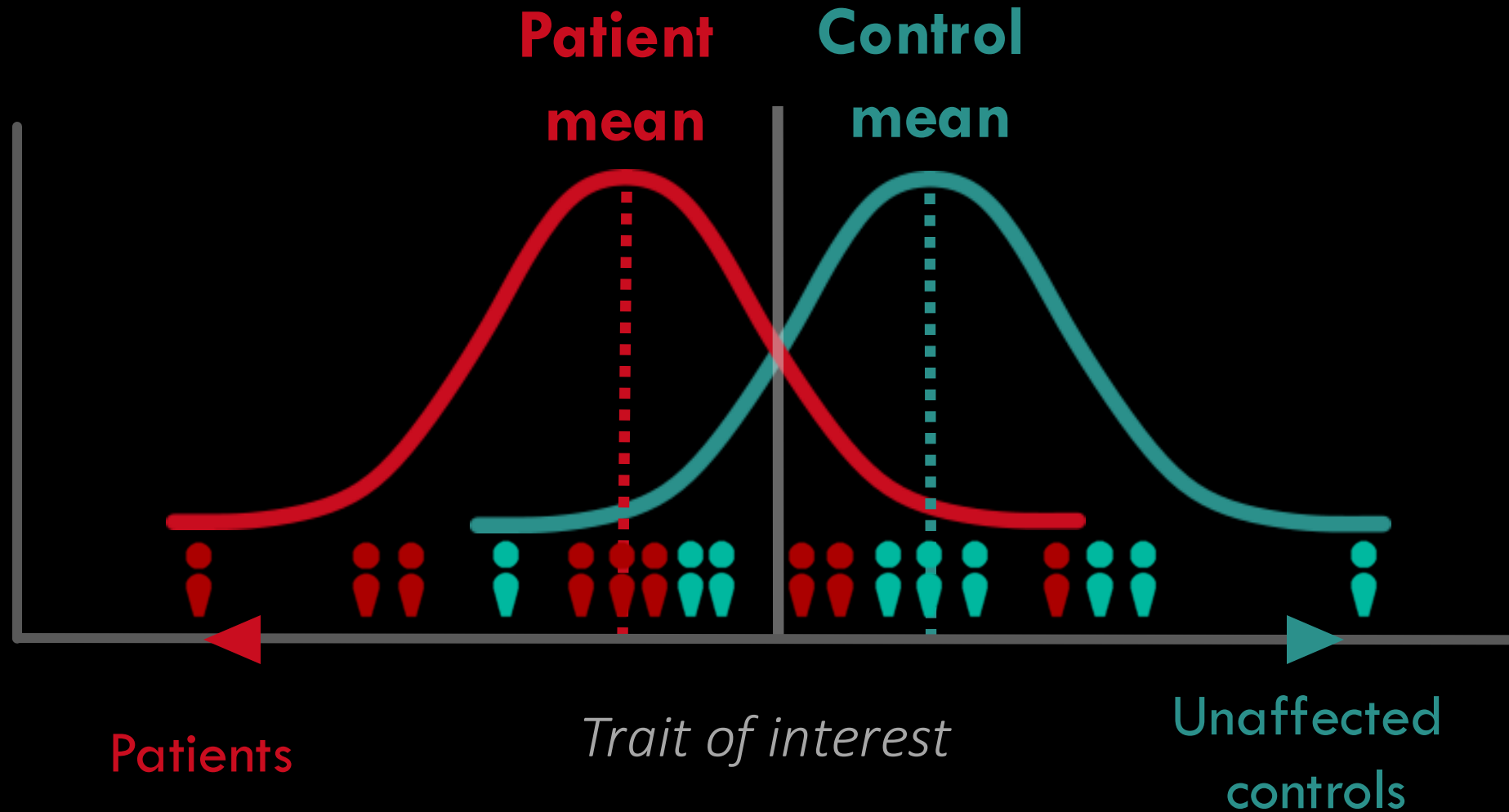
**Patients**

**CONTROL**

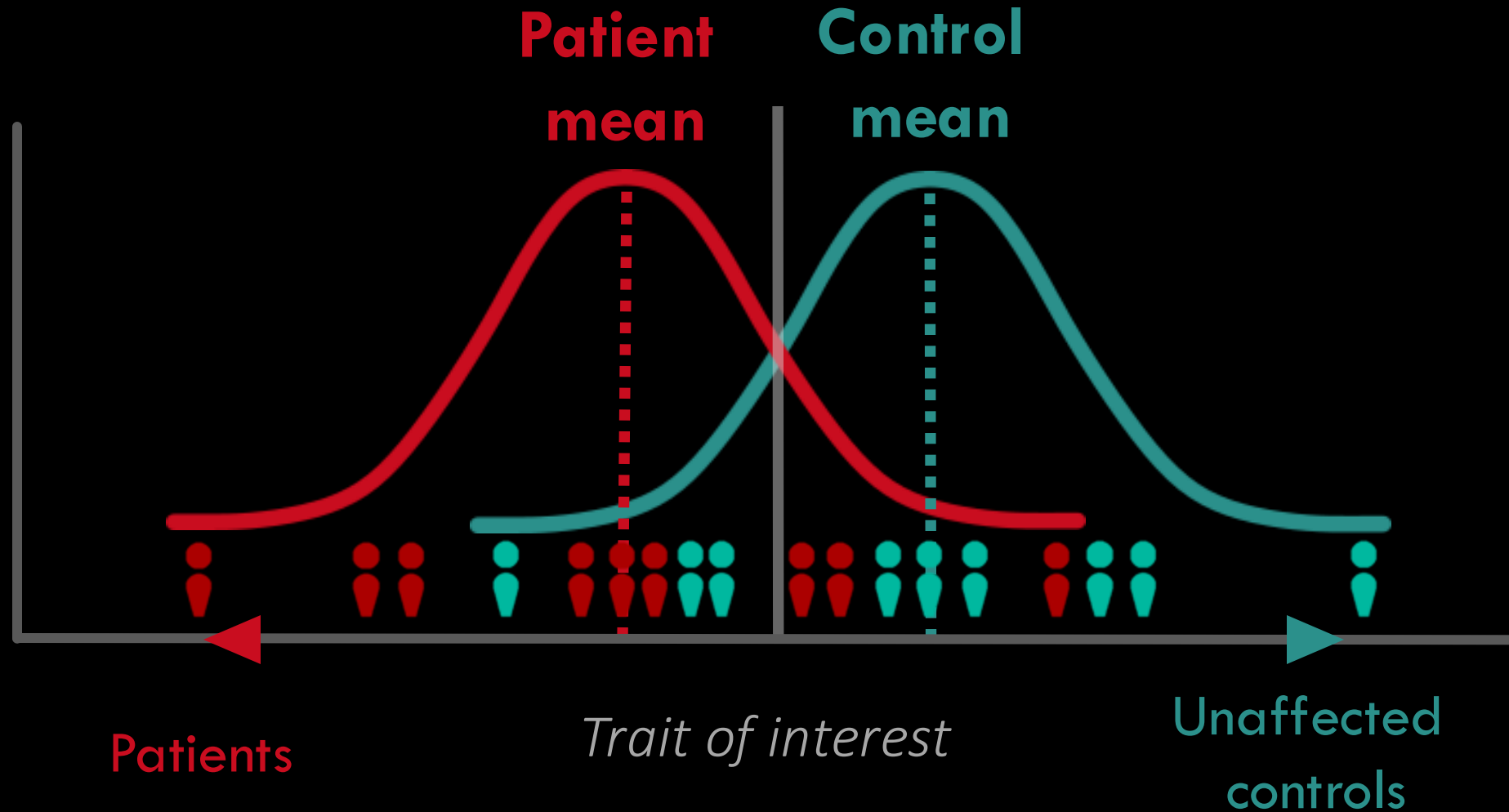


**Unaffected  
controls**

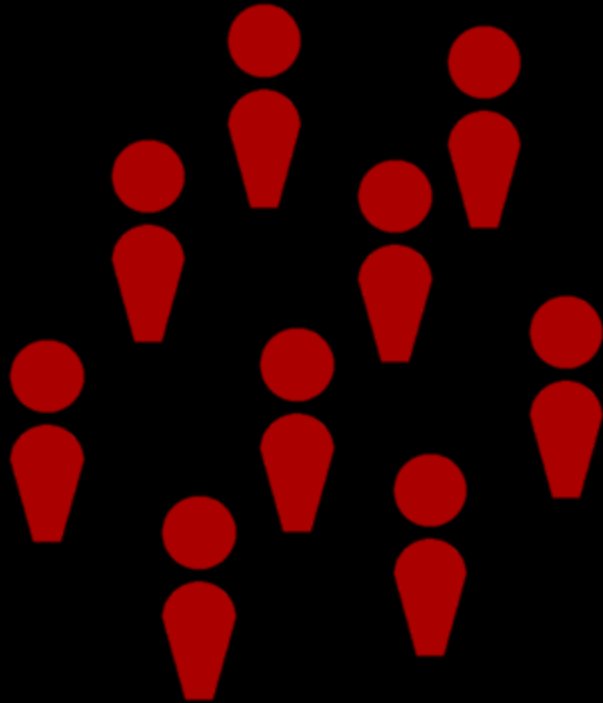
# THE SHORTCOMINGS OF CLASSICAL STATISTICS



# THE SHORTCOMINGS OF CLASSICAL STATISTICS



## ON HETEROGENEITY

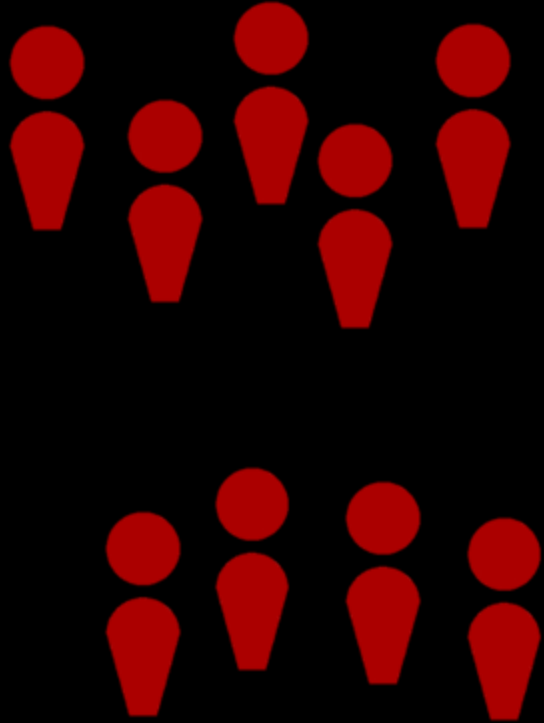


Patients



Unaffected  
controls

## ON HETEROGENEITY

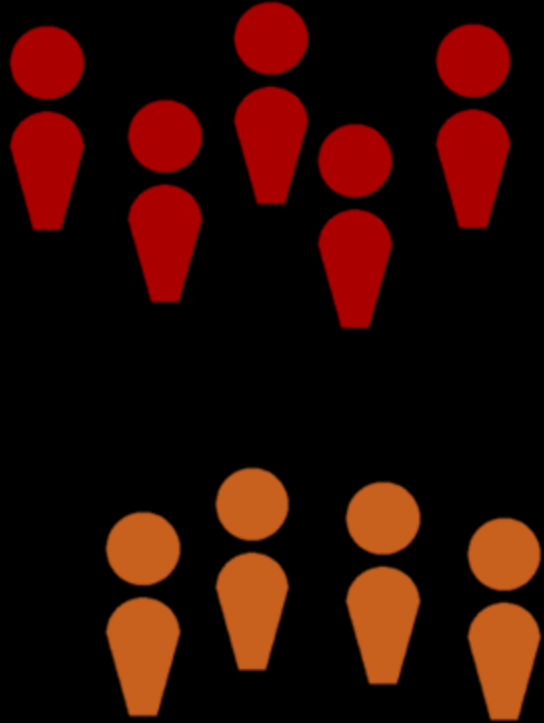


Patients



Unaffected  
controls

## ON HETEROGENEITY

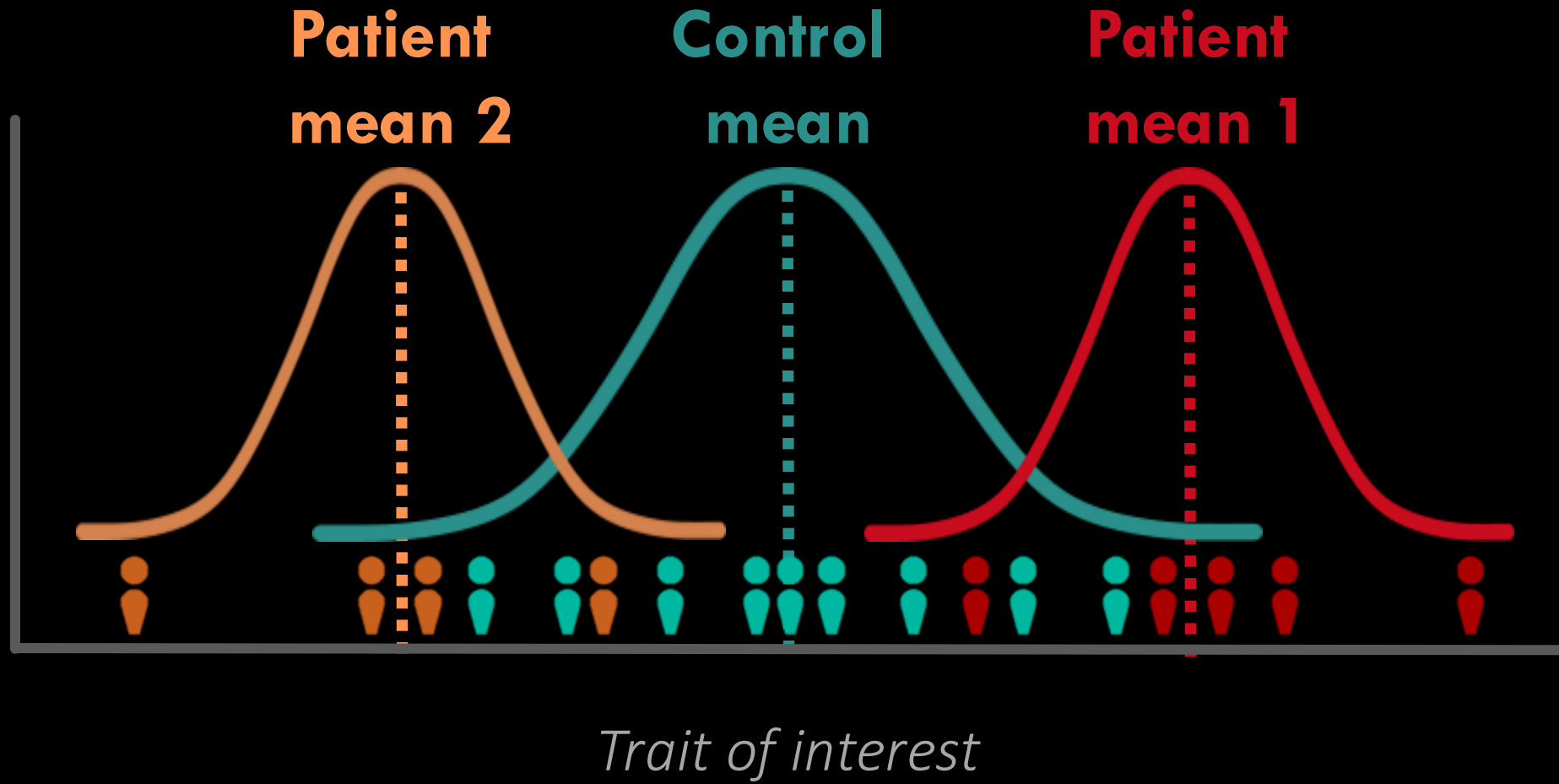


Patients



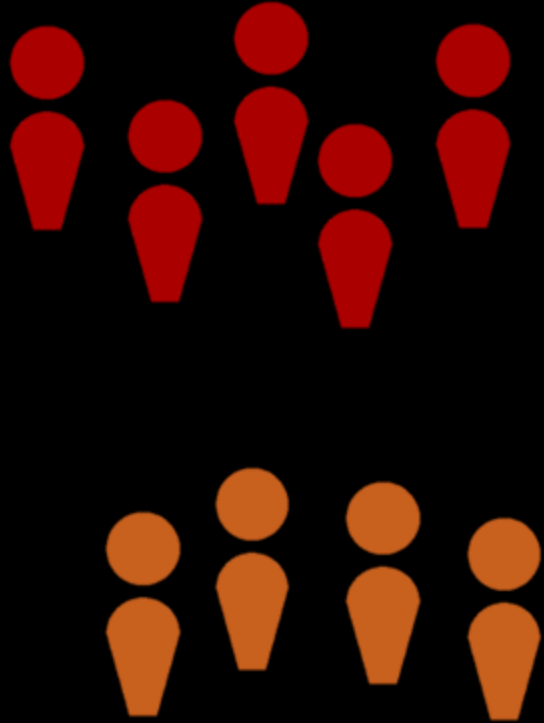
Unaffected  
controls

## ON HETEROGENEITY





## ON HETEROGENEITY



Patients



Unaffected  
controls

## ON HETEROGENEITY



Patients



Unaffected  
controls

## ON HETEROGENEITY



Patients



Unaffected  
controls

## ON HETEROGENEITY

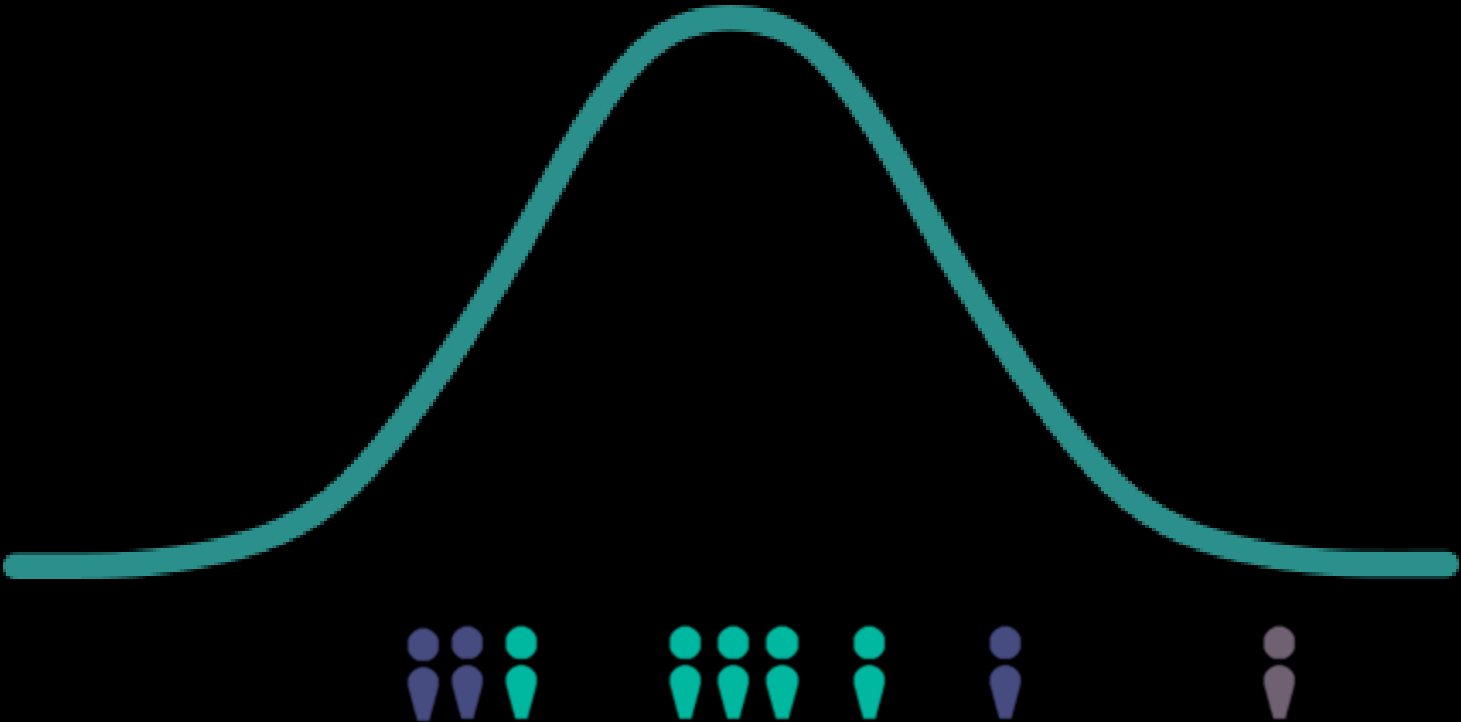


Patients

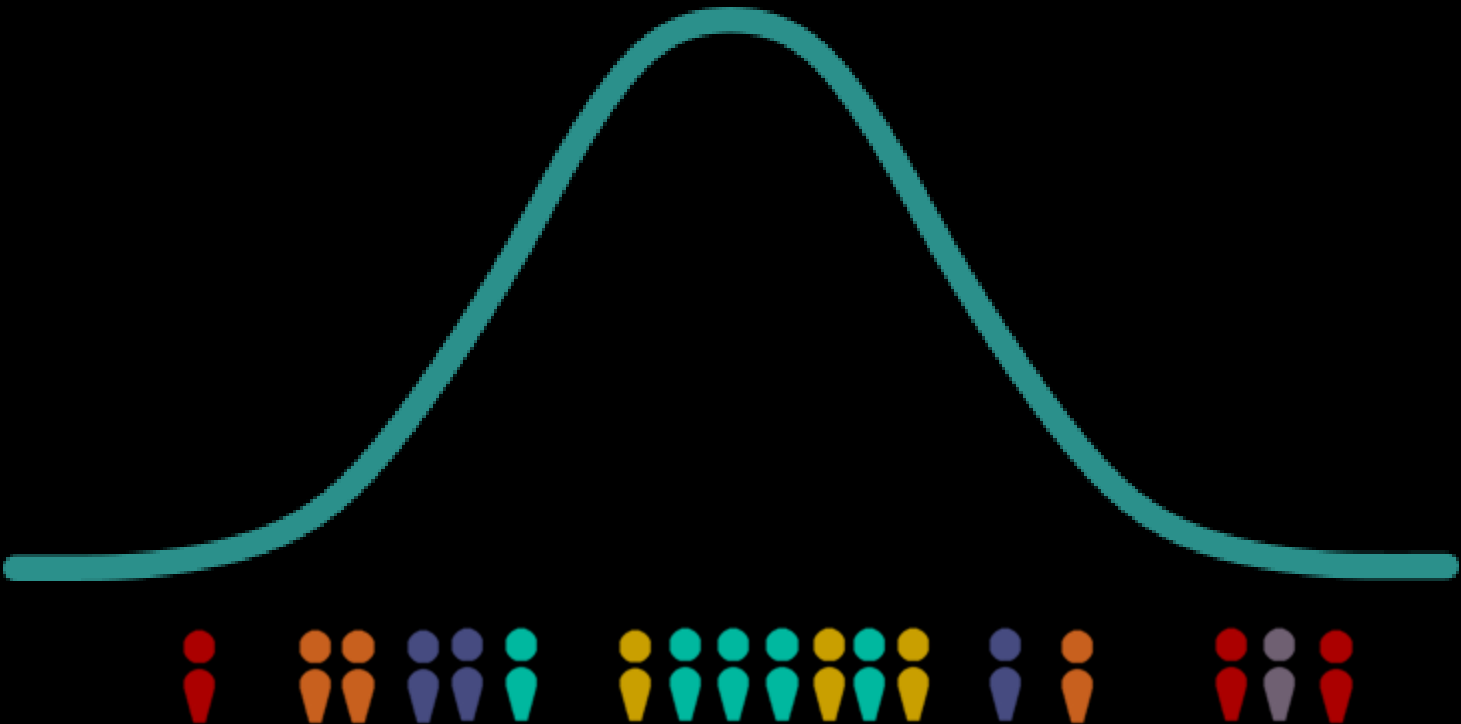


Unaffected  
controls

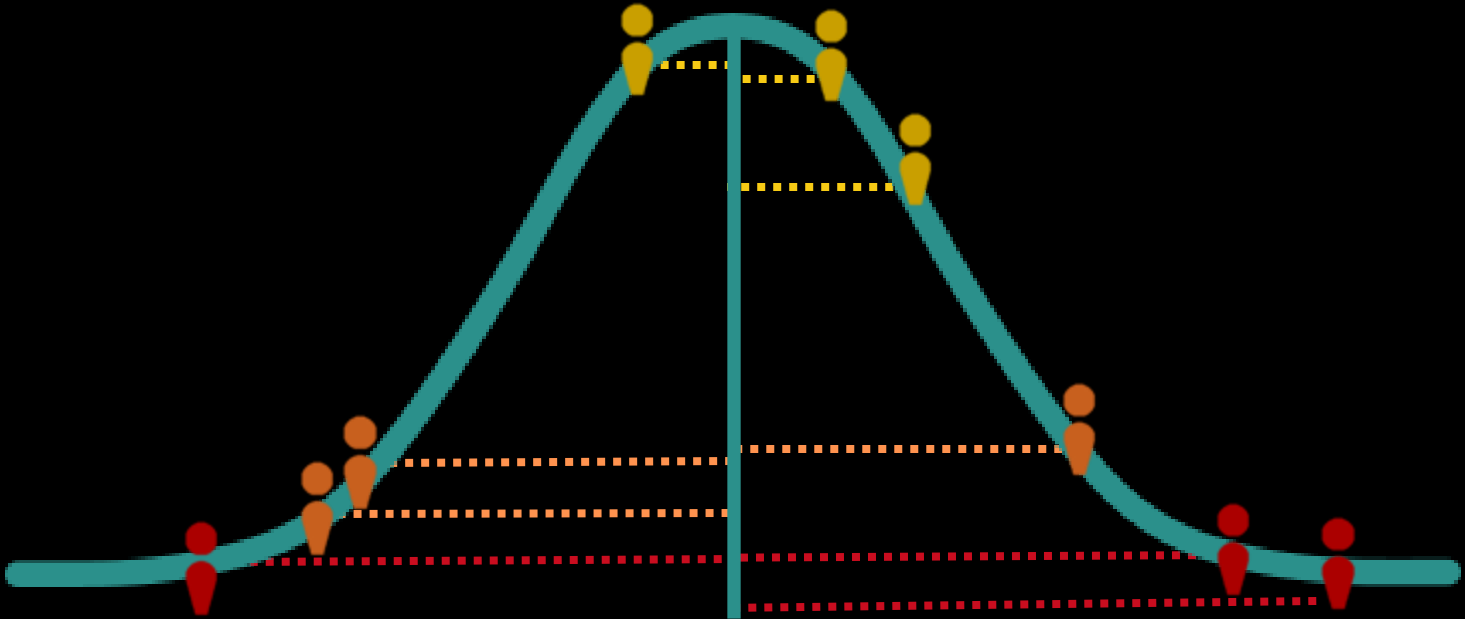
NORMATIVE MODELLING



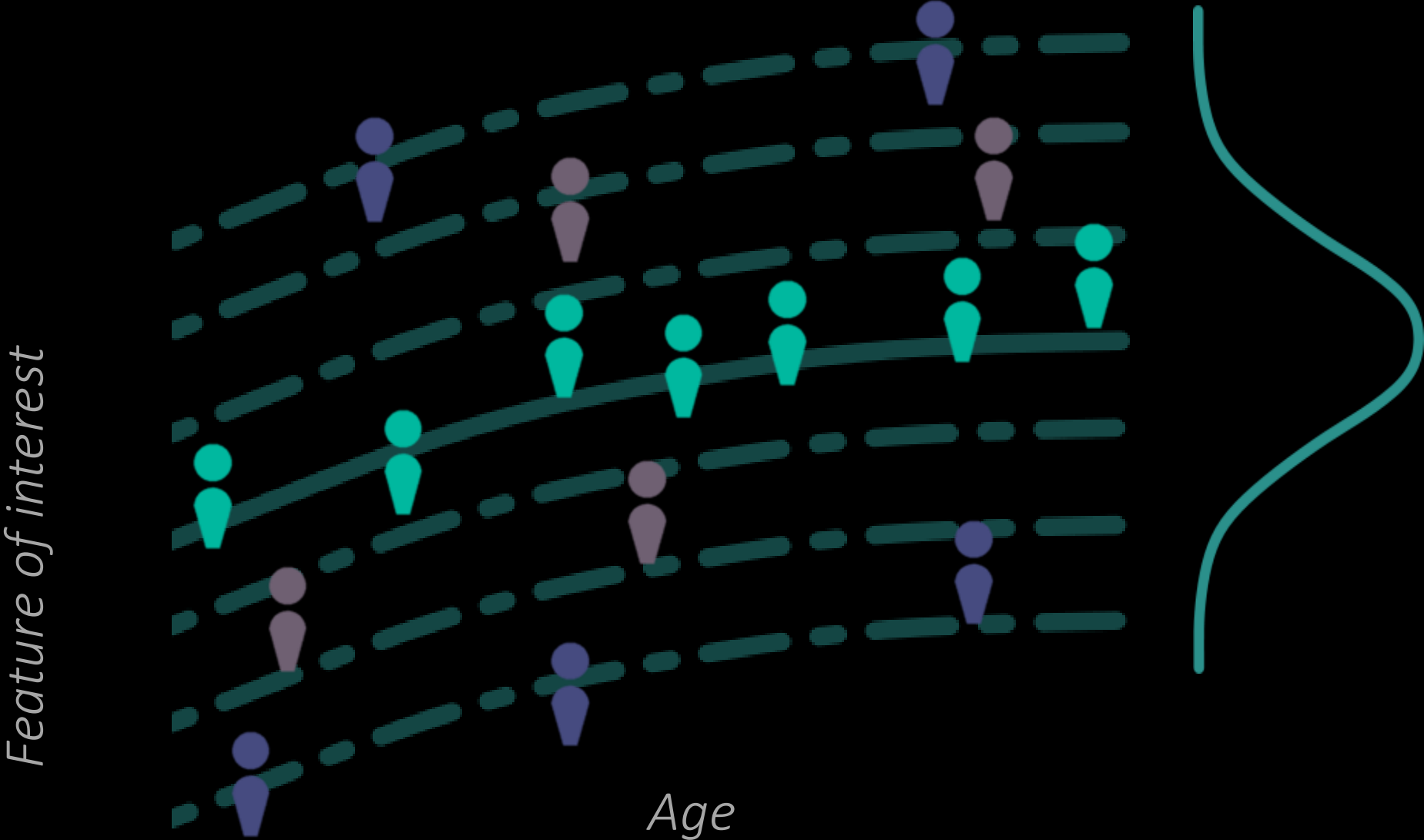
NORMATIVE MODELLING



NORMATIVE MODELLING



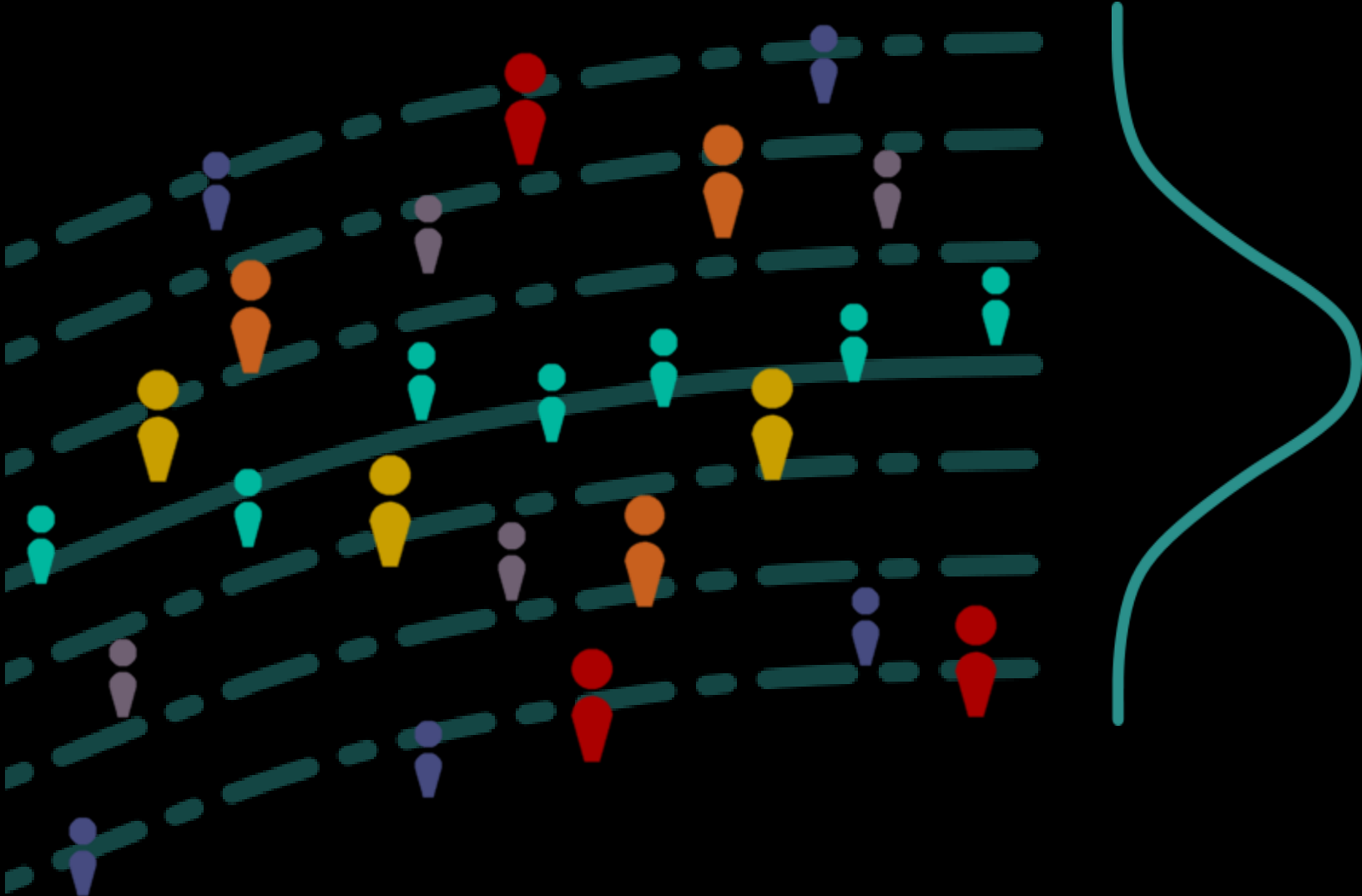
NORMATIVE MODELLING





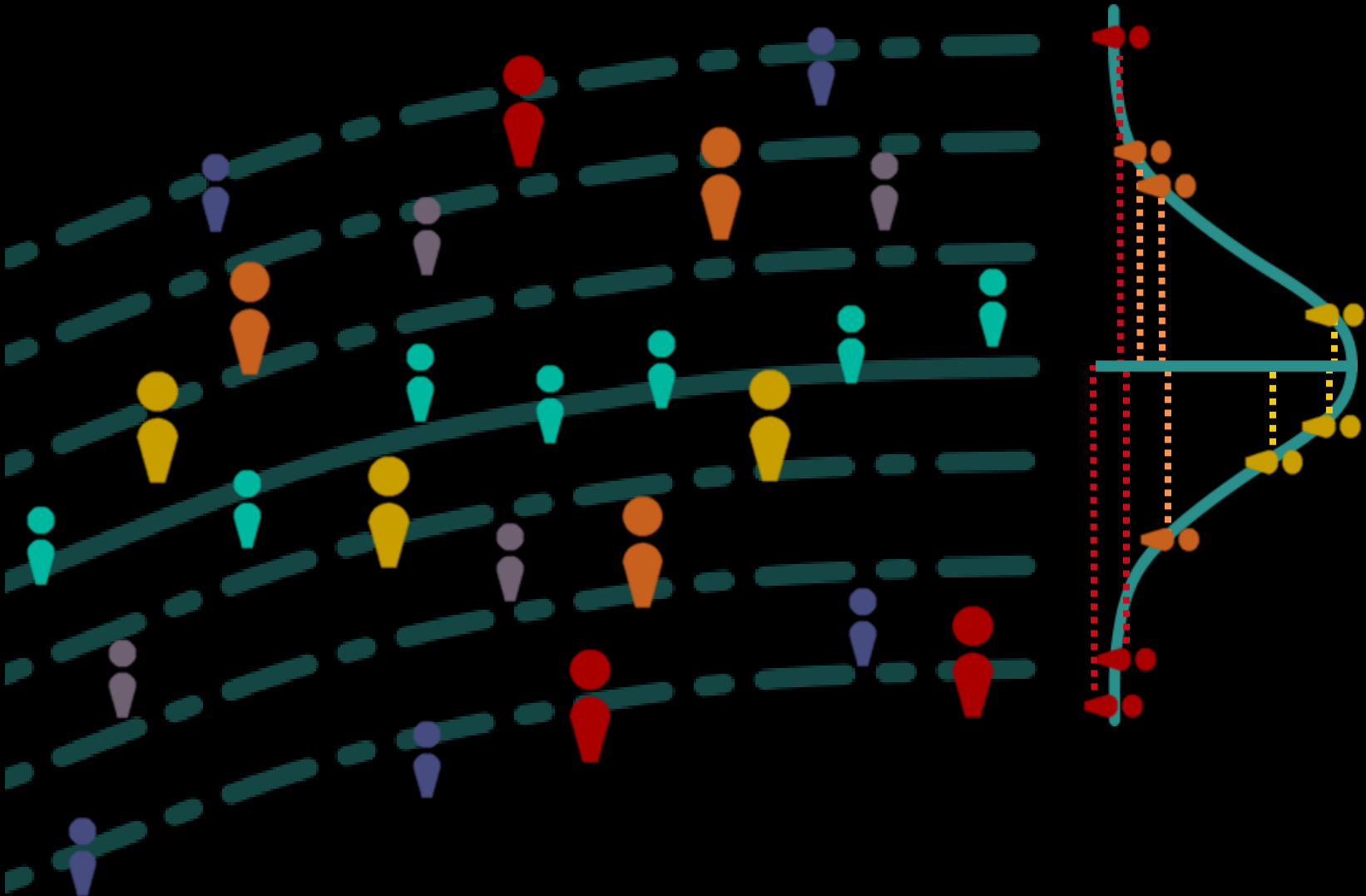
NORMATIVE MODELLING

*Feature of interest*

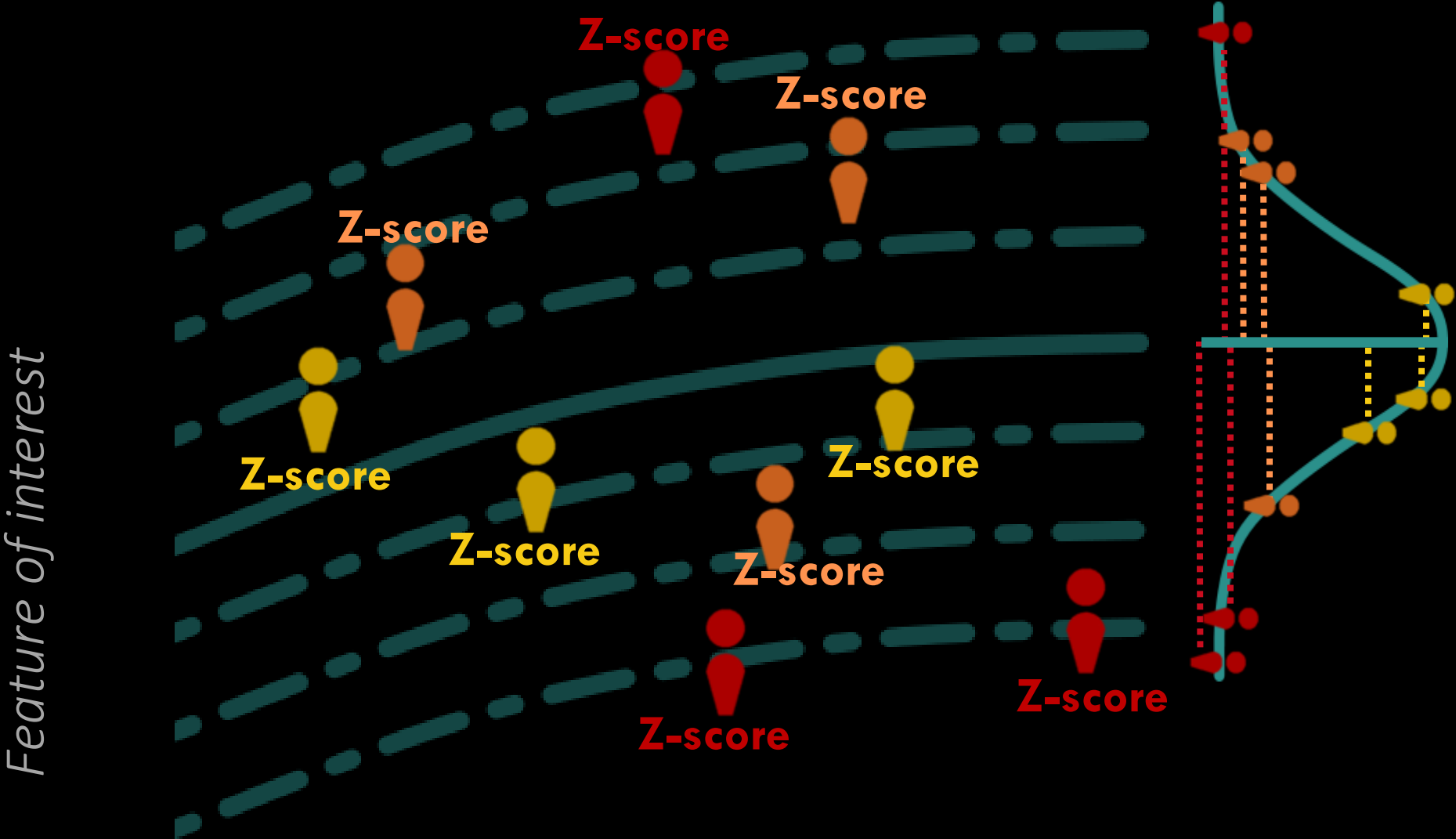


NORMATIVE MODELLING

*Feature of interest*



NORMATIVE MODELLING



## NORMATIVE MODELLING



Brain  
(BOLD signal in  
voxel, ROI)

## NORMATIVE MODELLING

$$Y = f(X, \theta) + \epsilon$$

Brain  
(BOLD signal in  
voxel, ROI)

Covariates  
(age, sex,  
task parameters)

Model  
parameters

Residuals

## NORMATIVE MODELLING

$$Y = f(X, \theta) + \epsilon$$

Brain  
(BOLD signal in  
voxel, ROI)

Covariates  
(age, sex,  
task parameters)

Model  
parameters

Residuals

Imaging measures →

Subjects ↑

Responses  
(Y)

Predictors →

Subjects ↑

Covariates  
(X)

## NORMATIVE MODELLING

$$Y = f(X, \theta) + \epsilon$$

Brain  
(BOLD signal in  
voxel, ROI)

Covariates  
(age, sex,  
task parameters)

Model  
parameters

Residuals

Gaussian  
process  
regression



Warped  
Bayesian  
linear  
regression



Generalized  
additive models  
of location scale  
and shape



Hierarchical  
Bayesian  
regression



## APPLICATIONS

Parsing  
heterogeneity

Neurobiological  
subtyping

Brain-behavior  
mappings

Other



## APPLICATIONS

Parsing  
heterogeneity

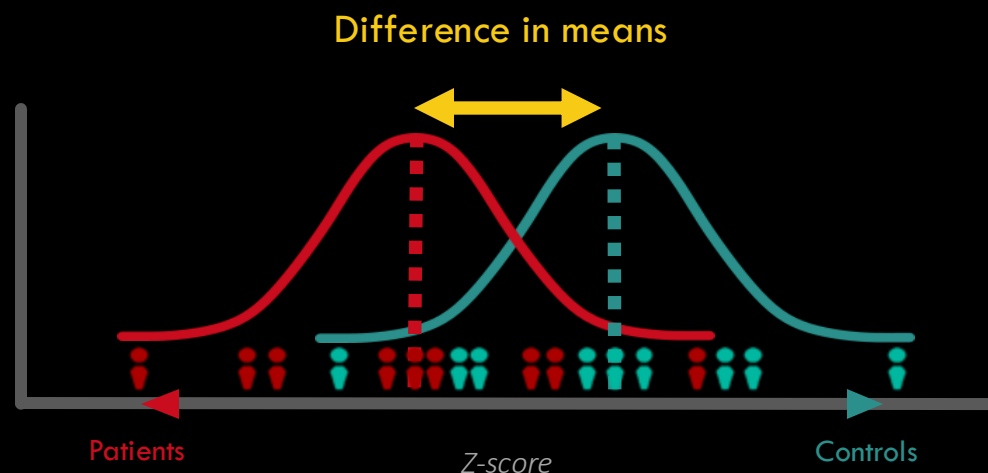
Neurobiological  
subtyping

Brain-behavior  
mappings

Other

## PARSING HETEROGENEITY

## APPLICATIONS



*Reminiscent of case-control design, but controlling for individual variation*

? Do patients show overlapping deviation scores in brain regions significantly different from control group ?

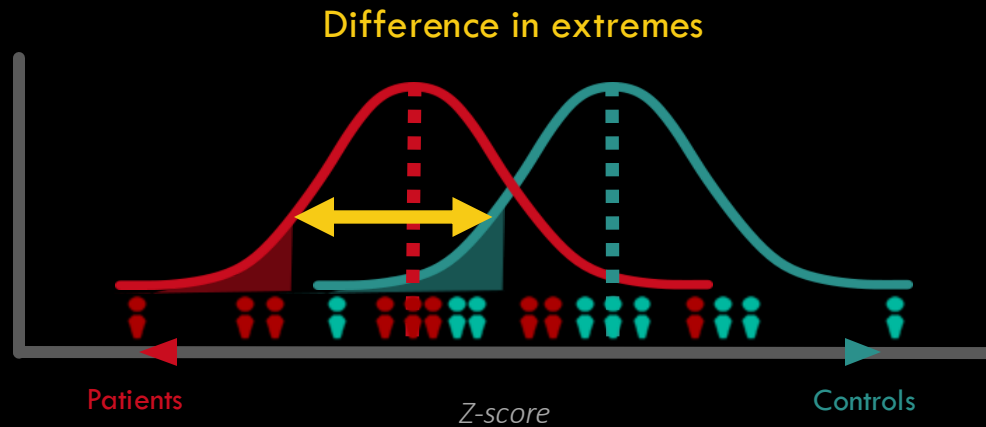


Charlotte Fraza et al., (2024) Reconceptualizing psychopathology as extreme deviations from a normative reference model. BioRxiv

? Are patients more likely to lie in the tails of distribution of (cortical thickness) ?

## PARSING HETEROGENEITY

## APPLICATIONS



- Training and evaluating the normative model on local dataset
- Using pre-trained models, evaluating on local datasets

## PARSING HETEROGENEITY

## APPLICATIONS: Structural Imaging

- Training and evaluating the normative model on local dataset

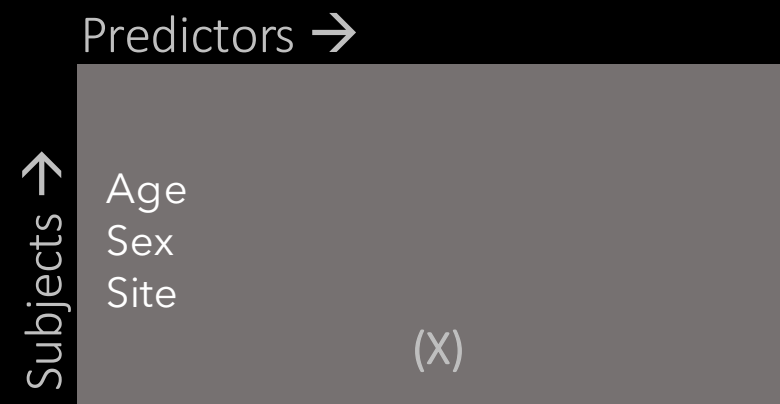
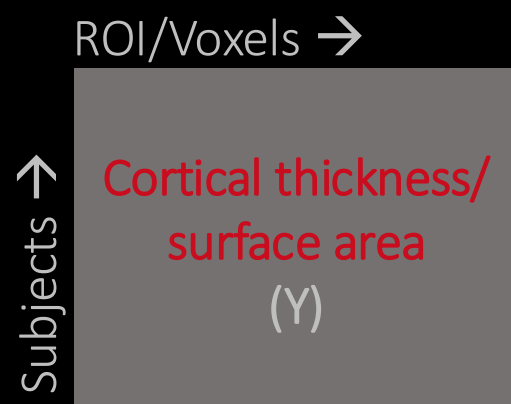
$$Y = f(X, \theta) + \varepsilon$$

Cortical thickness/  
surface area

Covariates  
(age, sex,  
site)

Model  
parameters

Residuals



PARSING HETEROGENEITY

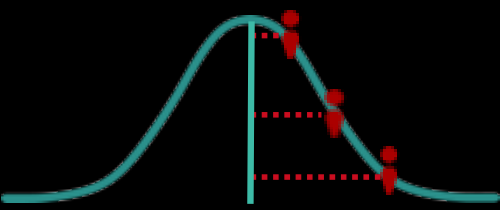
APPLICATIONS: Structural Imaging



- Training and evaluating the normative model on local dataset

Typically developing  
Autism Spectrum Disorder

Positive deviations

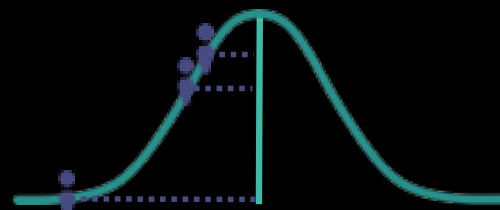
% of deviating individuals











Summary Age [6-30]					62/206= 30%
Summary Age [6-30]					125/321= 39%

Negative deviations

% of deviating individuals



Typically developing  
Autism Spectrum Disorder

Summary Age [6-30]					40/206= 19%
Summary Age [6-30]					89/321=28%



Zabihi, M., et al., (2019) Dissecting the Heterogeneous Cortical Anatomy of Autism Spectrum Disorder Using Normative Models. Biol Psychiatry Cogn Neurosci Neuroimaging, 4(6): 567-578.

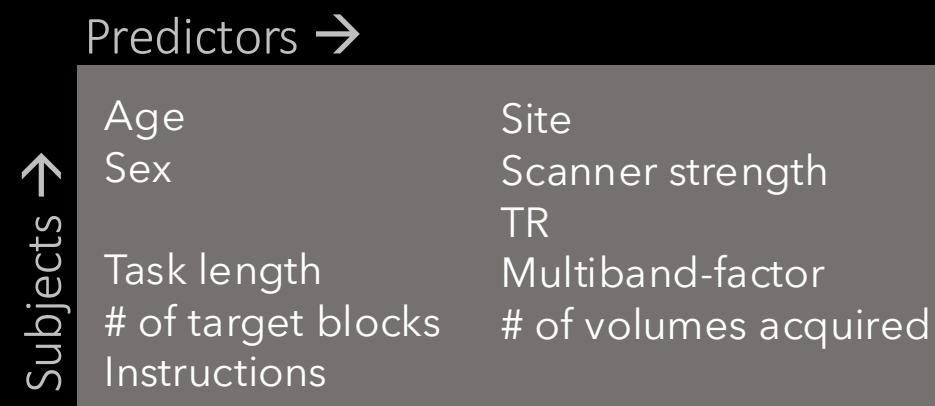
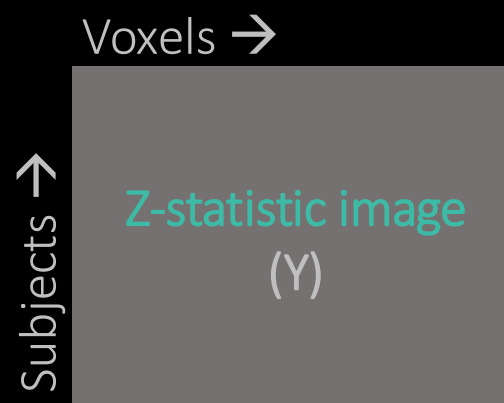
## PARSING HETEROGENEITY

## APPLICATIONS: Functional Imaging

- Training and evaluating the normative model on local dataset

$$Y = f(X, \theta) + \varepsilon$$

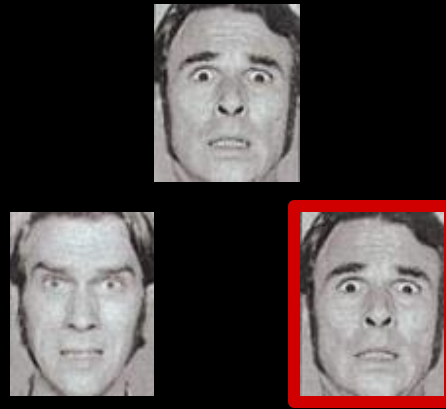
**Bold Signal**                      Covariates                      Model                      Residuals  
(age, sex,                      parameters  
Task parameters)



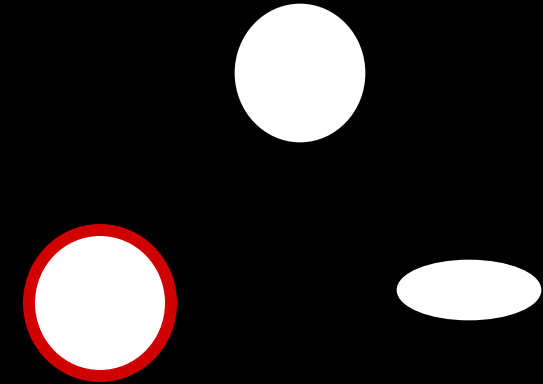
## PARSING HETEROGENEITY

## APPLICATIONS: Functional Imaging

- Training and evaluating the normative model on local dataset



MATCH FACES/EMOTION

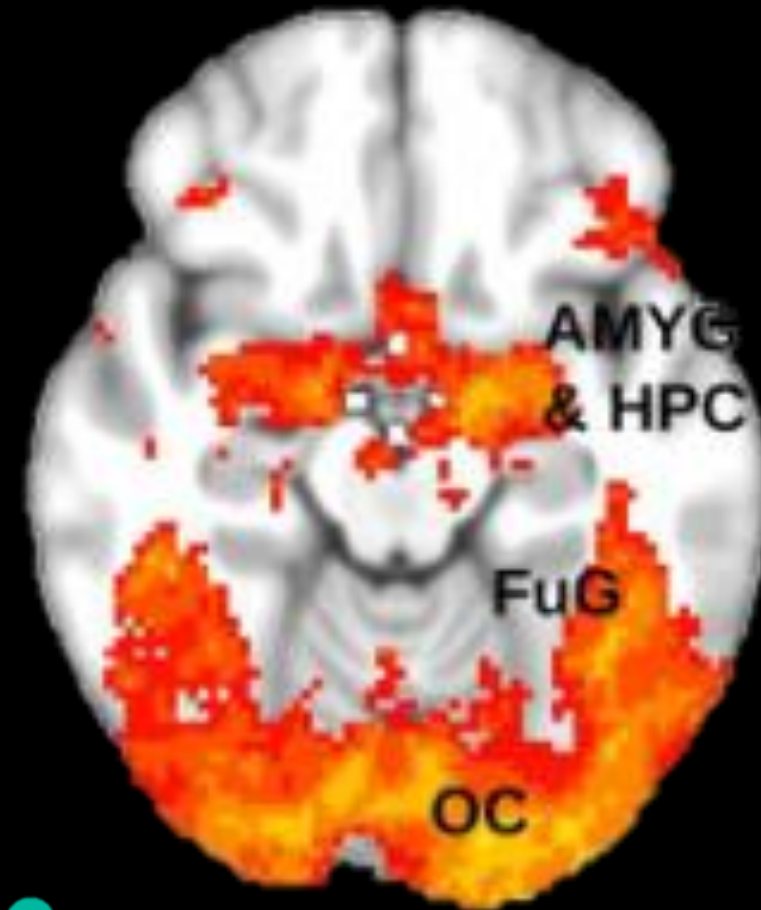
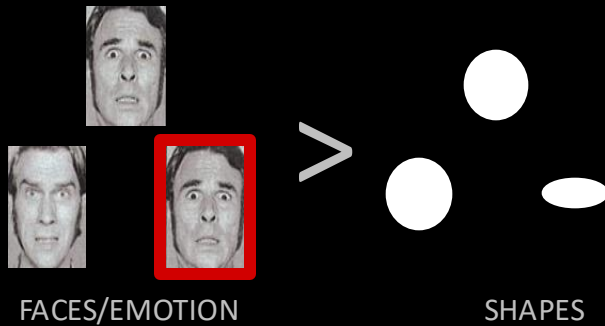


MATCH SHAPES

## PARSING HETEROGENEITY

## APPLICATIONS: Functional Imaging

- Training and evaluating the normative model on local dataset



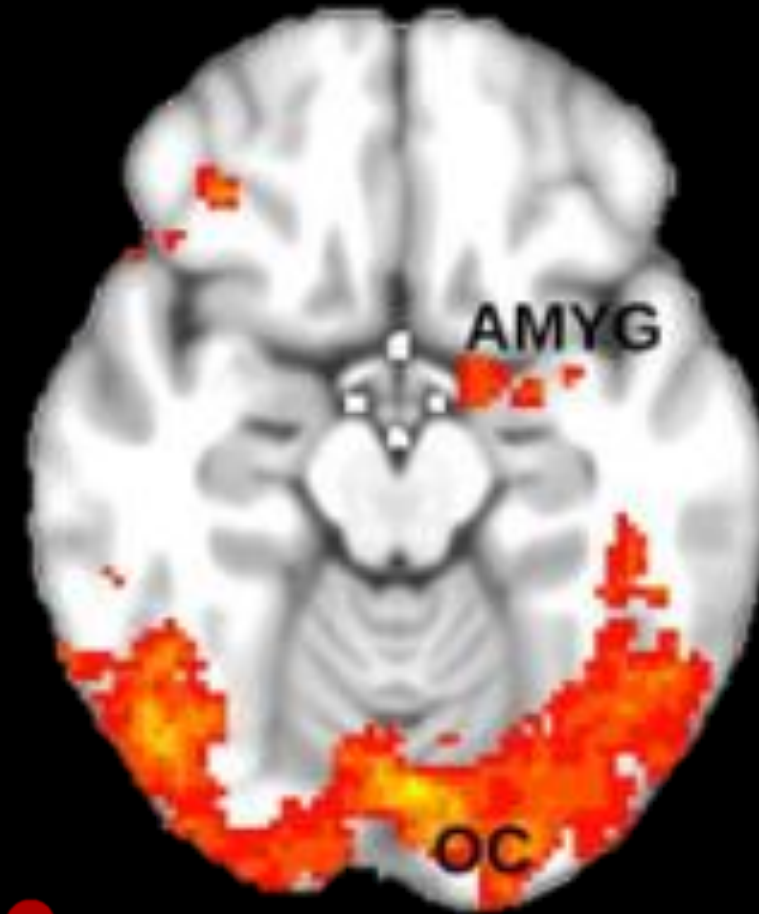
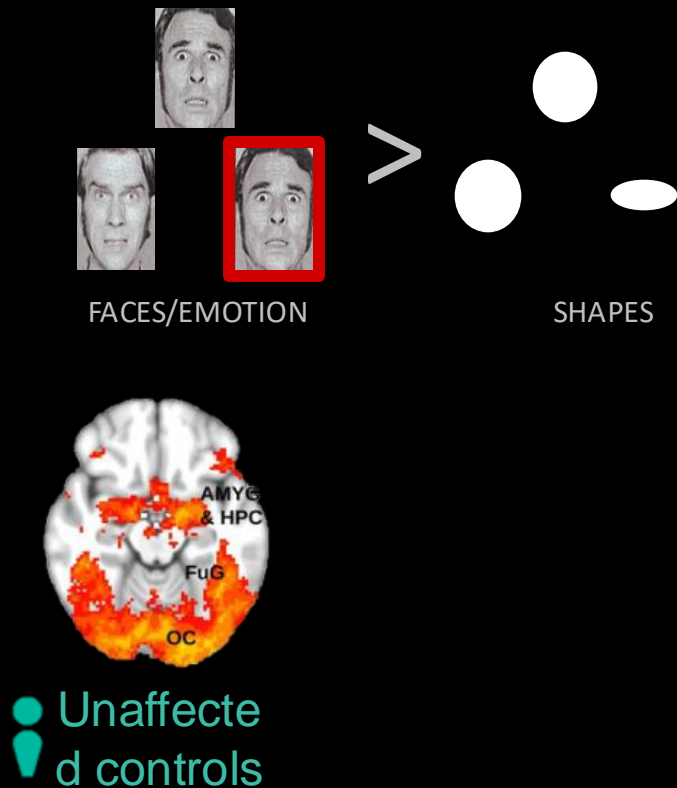
Unaffected controls



## PARSING HETEROGENEITY

## APPLICATIONS: Functional Imaging

- Training and evaluating the normative model on local dataset

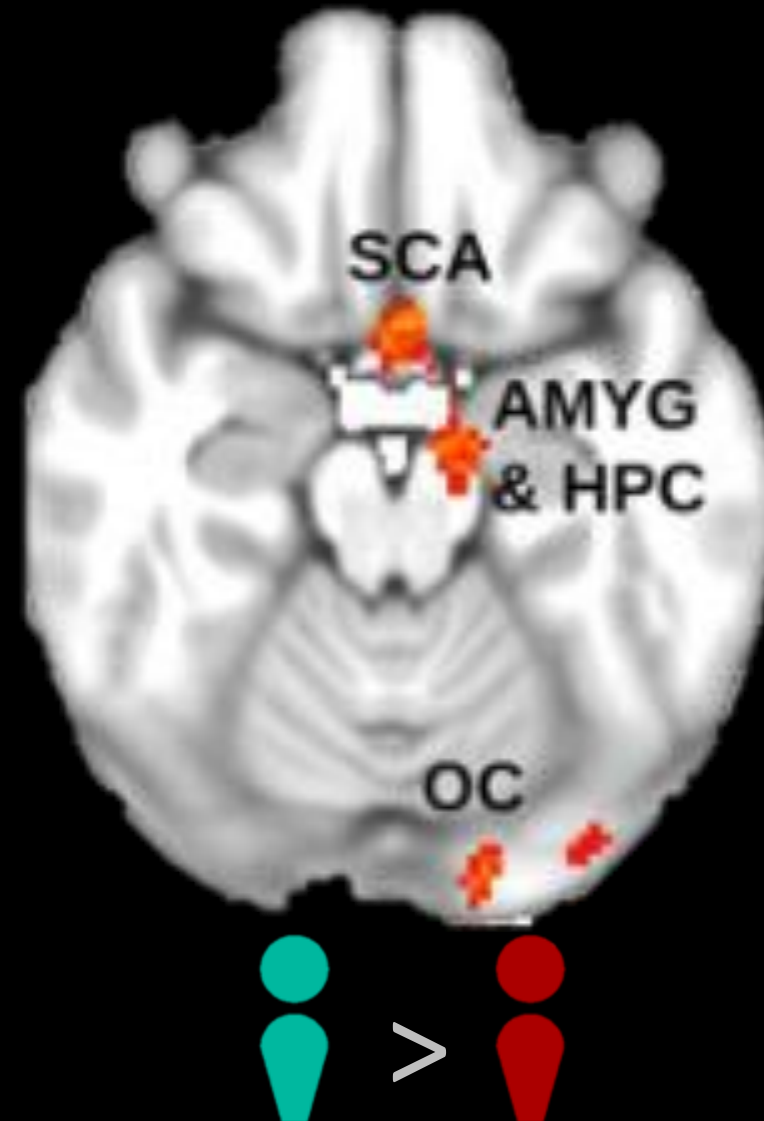
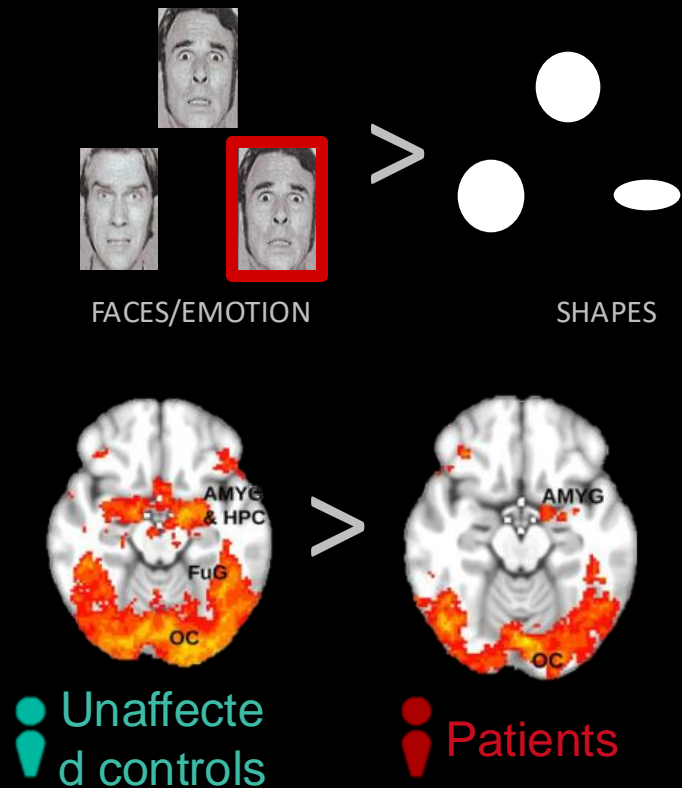


 Patients

## PARSING HETEROGENEITY

## APPLICATIONS: Functional Imaging

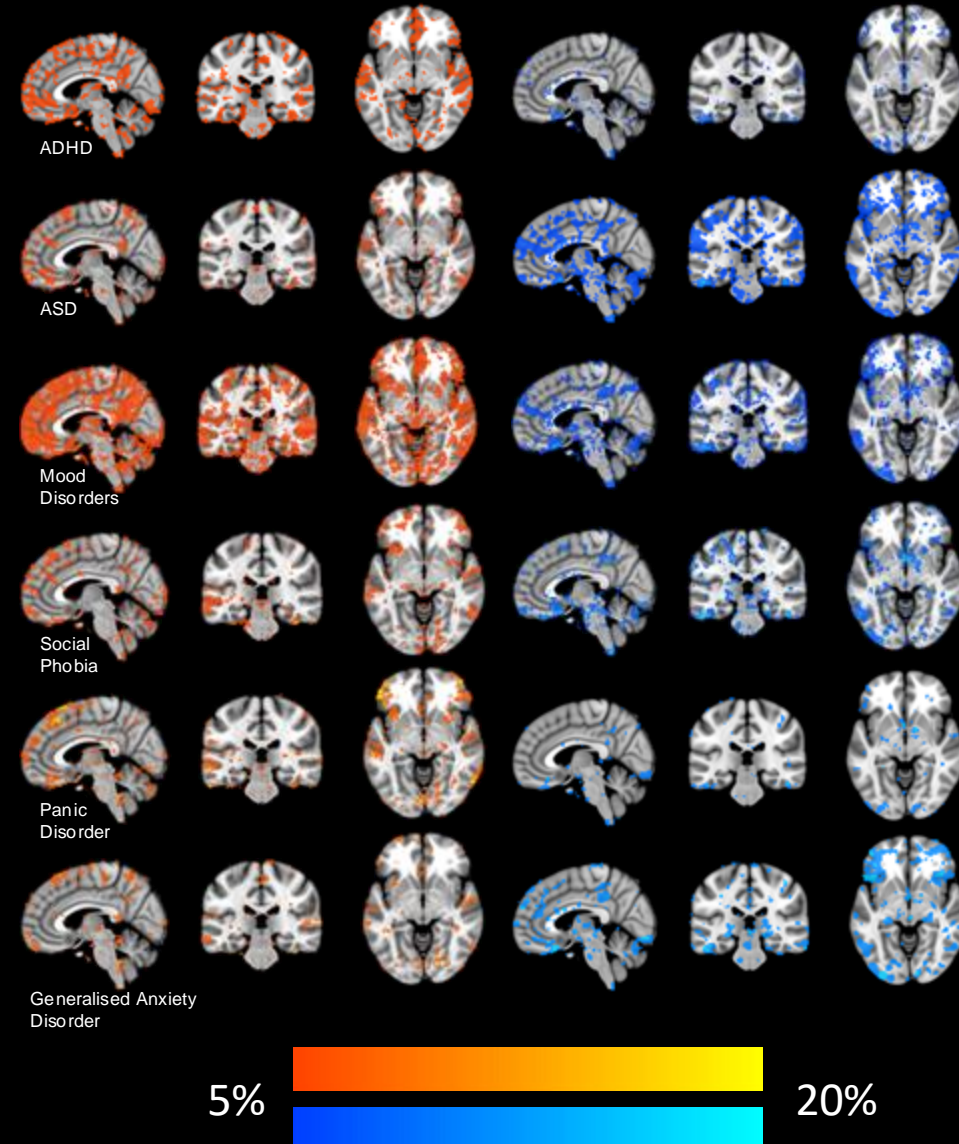
- Training and evaluating the normative model on local dataset



## PARSING HETEROGENEITY

## APPLICATIONS: Functional Imaging

- Training and evaluating the normative model on local dataset



Hannah Savage et al., (2024) Dissecting task-based fMRI activity using normative modelling: an application to the Emotional Face Matching Task. *Communications Biology* 7.1: 888.

## PARSING HETEROGENEITY

## APPLICATIONS: Functional Imaging

- Using pre-trained models, evaluating on local datasets

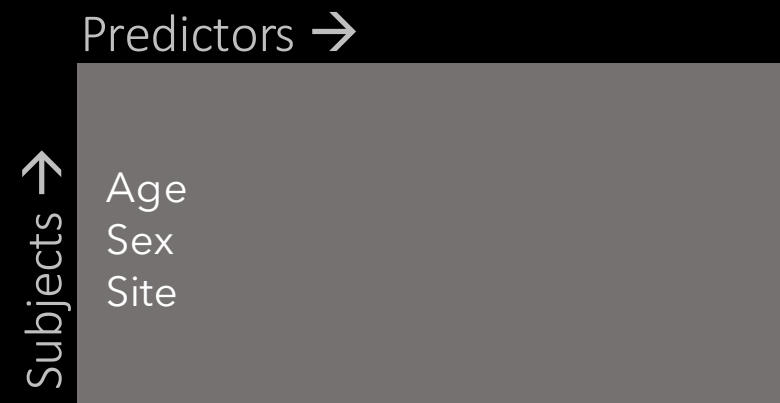
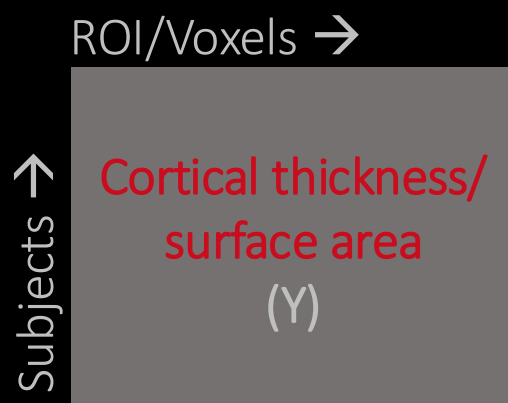
$$Y = f(X, \theta) + \varepsilon$$

Cortical thickness/  
surface area

Covariates  
(age, sex,  
site)

Model  
parameters

Residuals

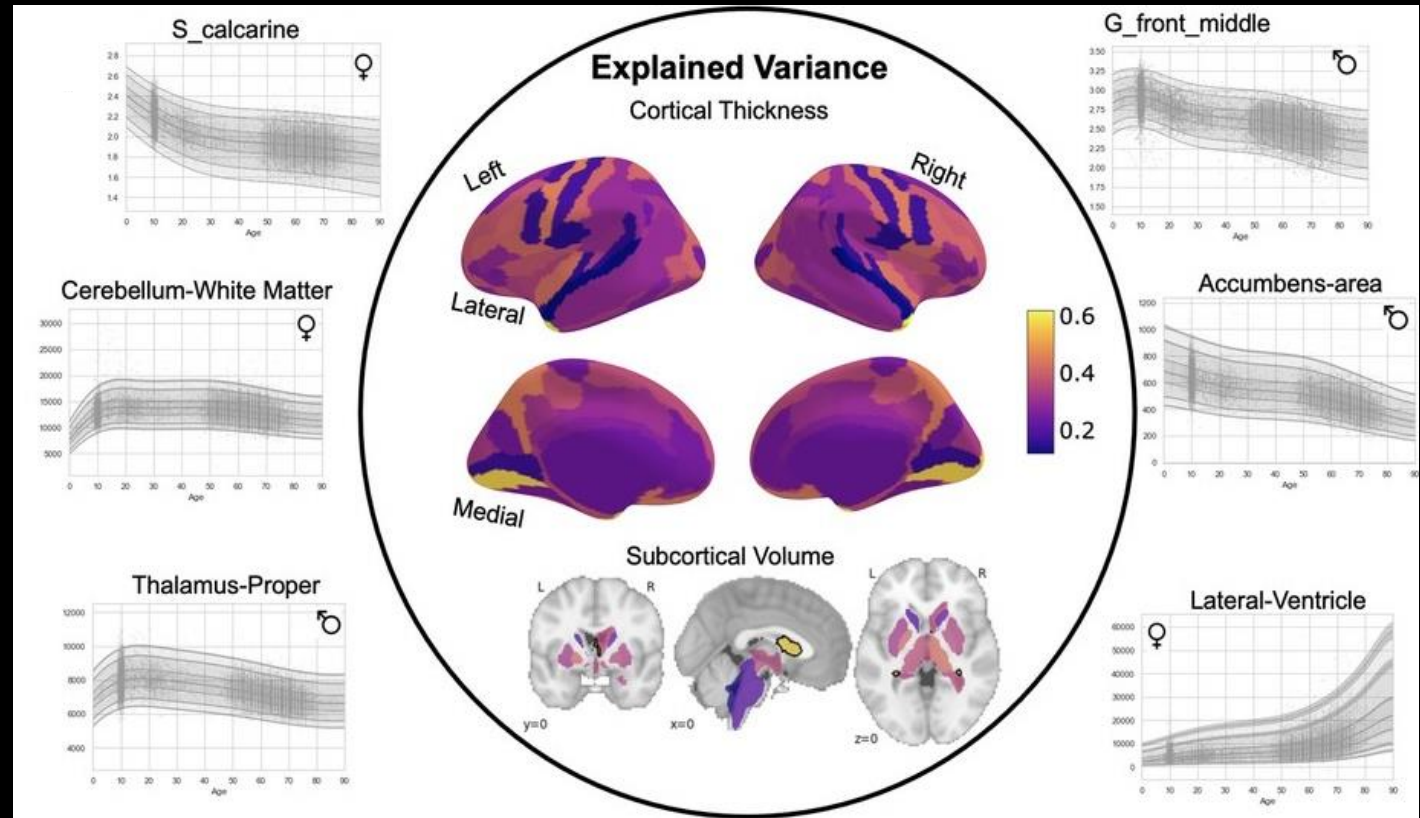


## PARSING HETEROGENEITY

## APPLICATIONS: Functional Imaging

- Using pre-trained models, evaluating on local datasets
  - 58,836 individuals
  - 82 scan sites
  - aged 2–100

Normative models for cortical thickness and subcortical volumes derived from Freesurfer



Saige Rutherford et al.,  
(2022) Charting brain growth  
and aging at high spatial  
precision. *eLife* 11:e72904.



## PARSING HETEROGENEITY

## APPLICATIONS: Functional Imaging

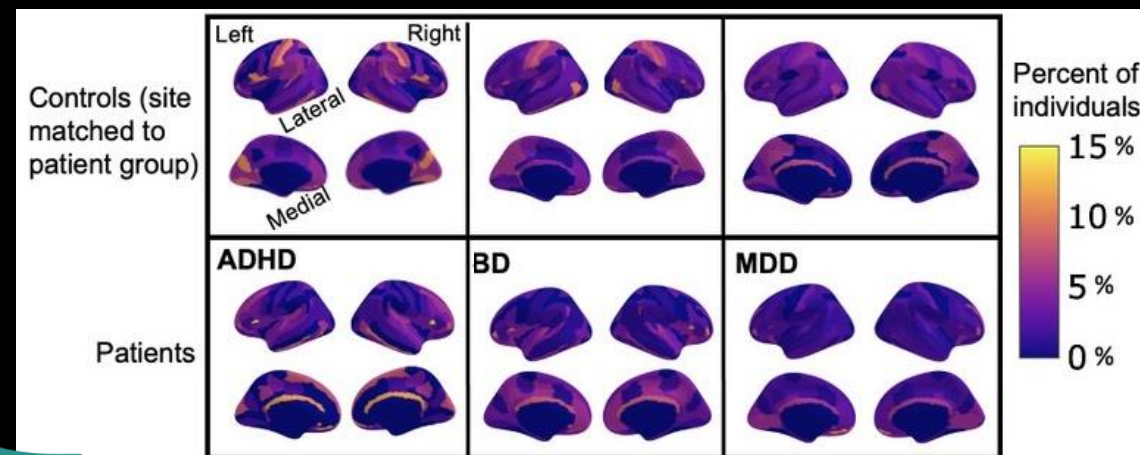
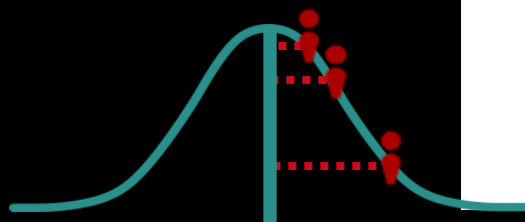
- Using pre-trained models, evaluating on local datasets
- 58,836 individuals
- 82 scan sites
- aged 2–100

Normative models for cortical thickness and subcortical volumes derived from Freesurfer

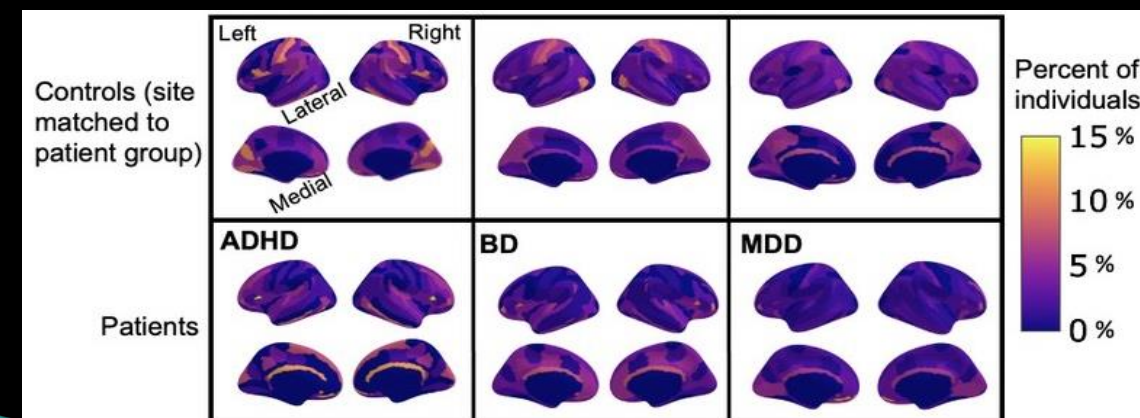
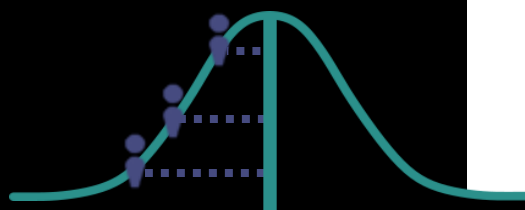


Saige Rutherford et al.,  
(2022) Charting brain growth  
and aging at high spatial  
precision. *eLife* 11:e72904.

Positive deviations



Negative deviations



## APPLICATIONS

Parsing  
heterogeneity

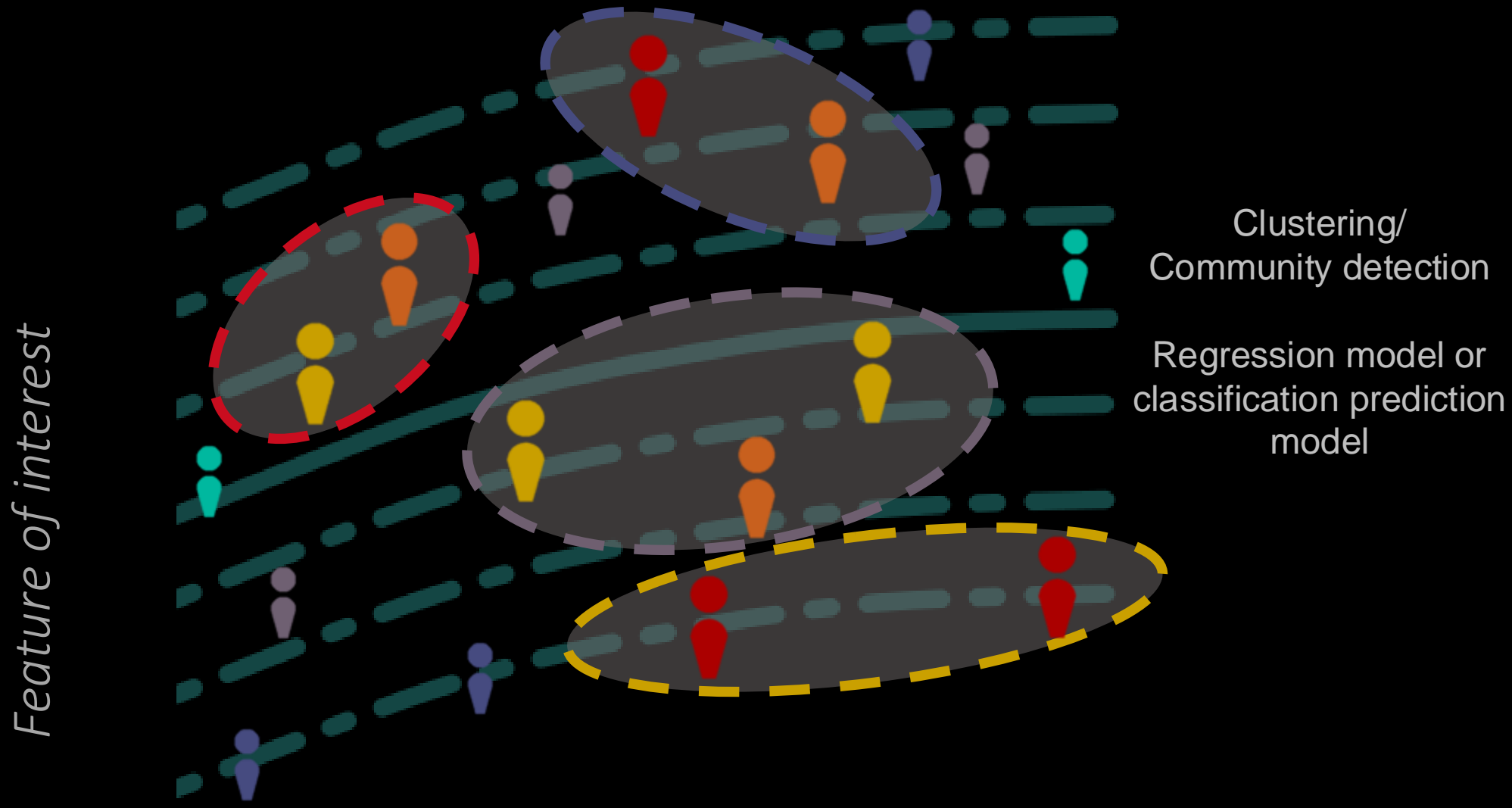
**Neurobiological  
subtyping**

Brain-behavior  
mappings

Other

NEUROBIOLOGICAL SUBTYPING

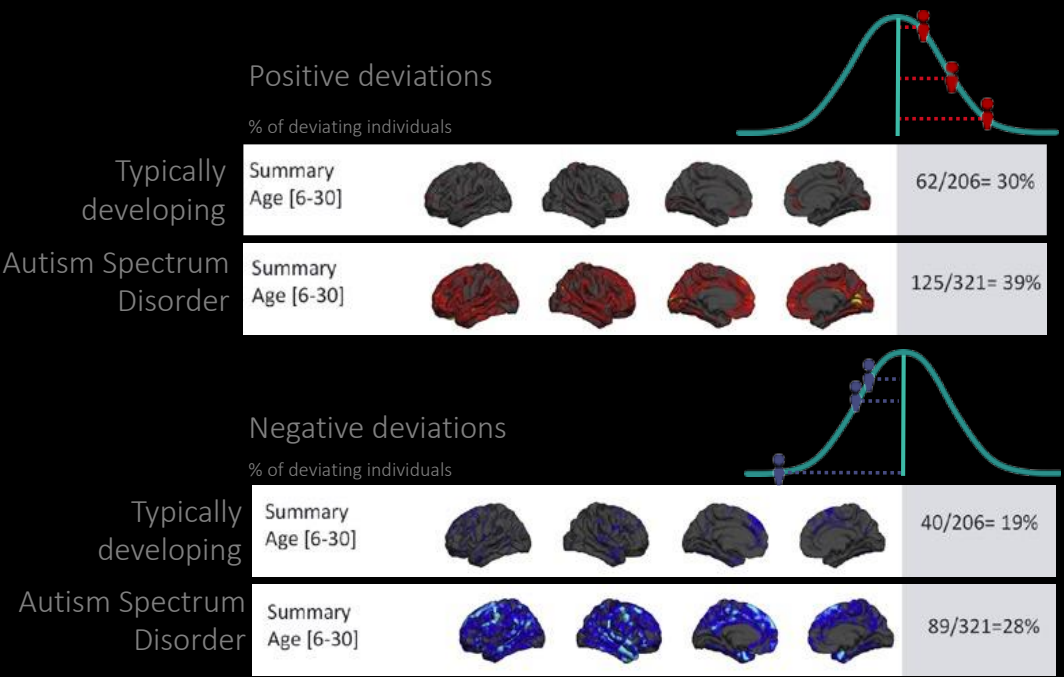
APPLICATIONS



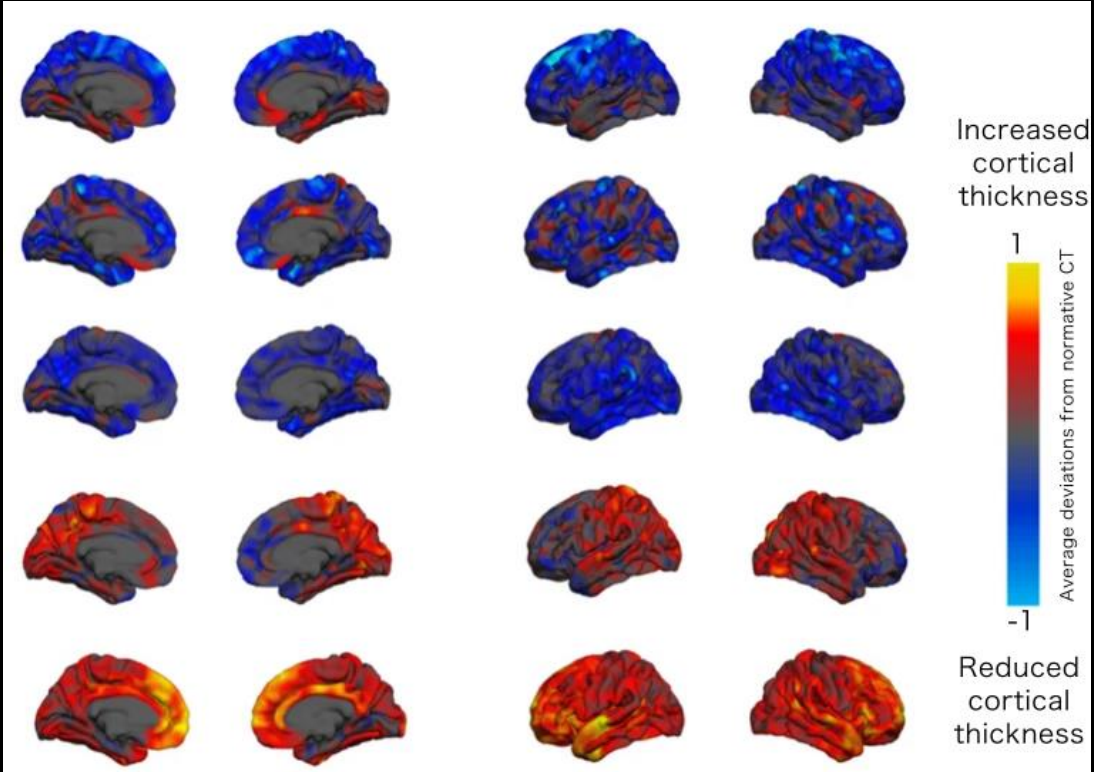


NEUROBIOLOGICAL SUBTYPING

APPLICATIONS



5 CLUSTERS



## APPLICATIONS

Parsing  
heterogeneity

Neurobiological  
subtyping

Brain-behavior  
mappings

Other

BRAIN-BEHAVIOR MAPPINGS

APPLICATIONS

1.

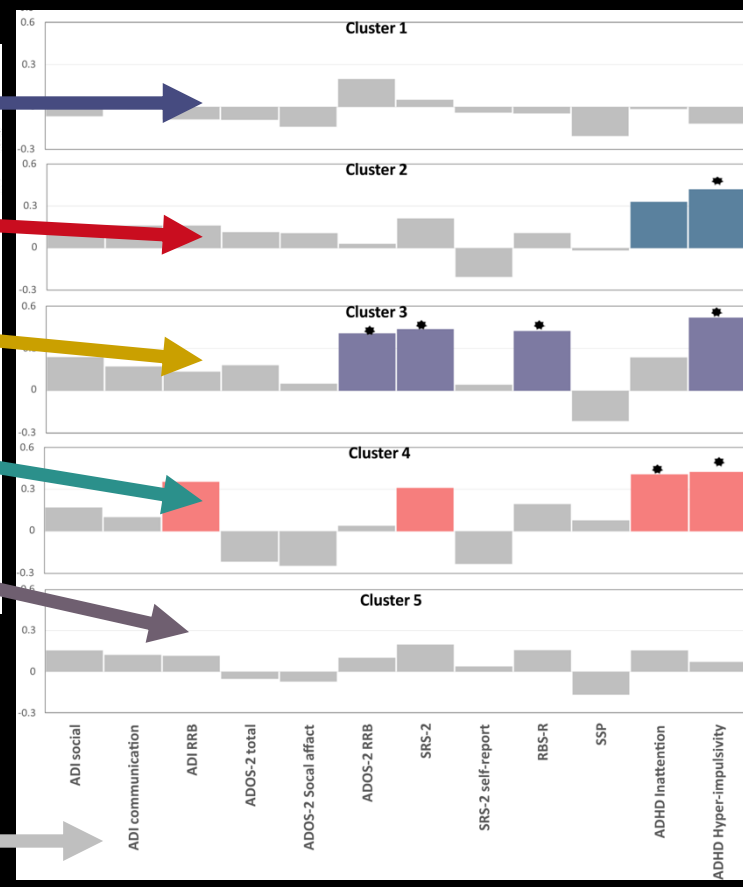
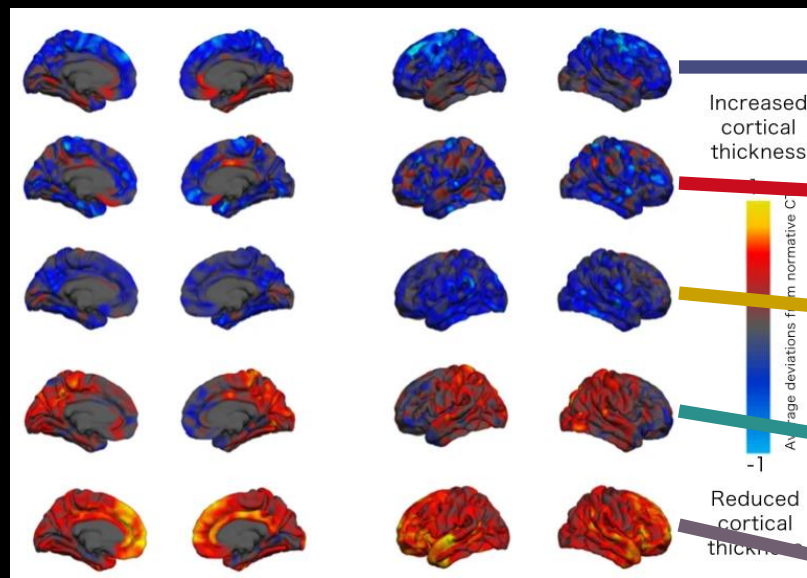
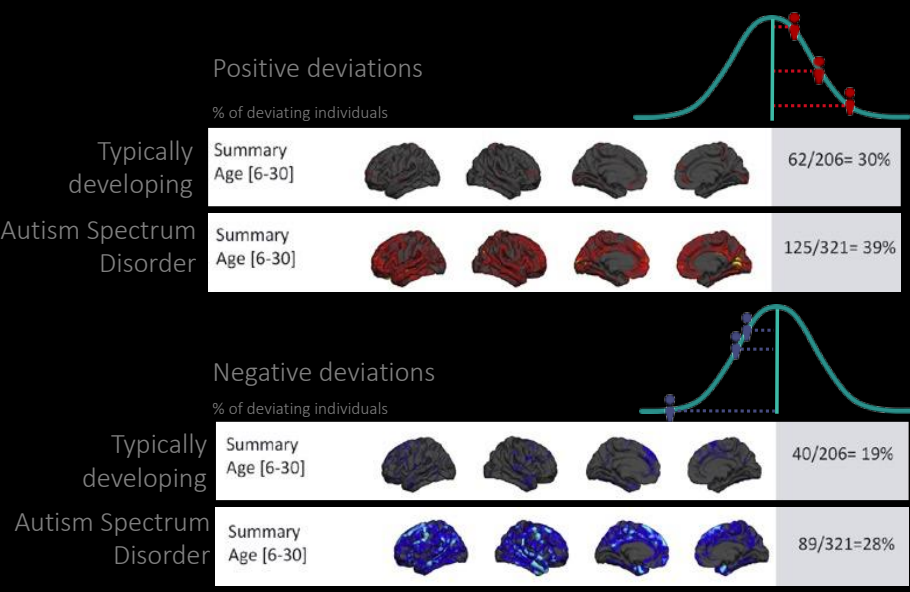
Parse heterogeneity

2.

Neurobiological subtyping

3.

Brain-behavior mappings



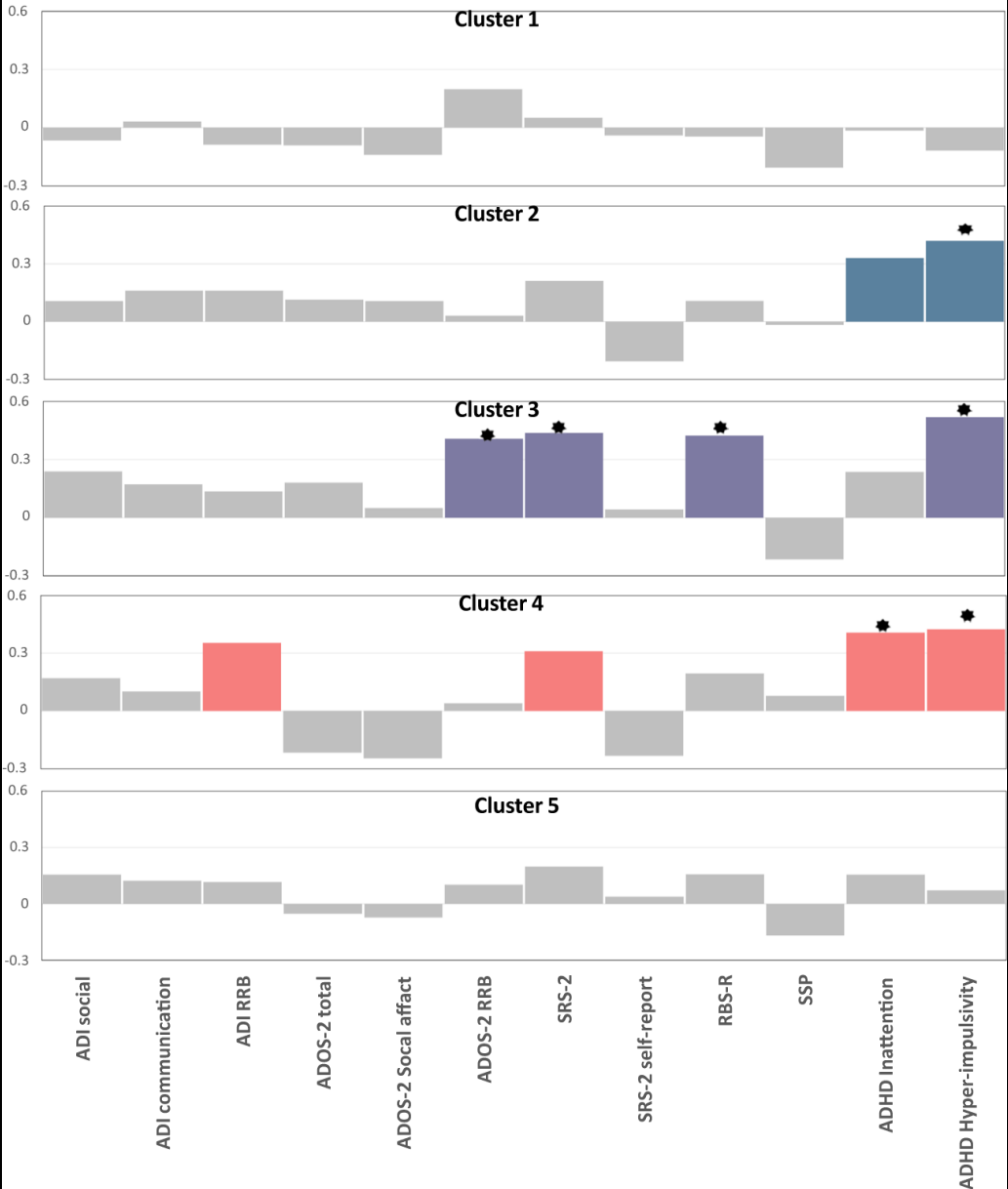
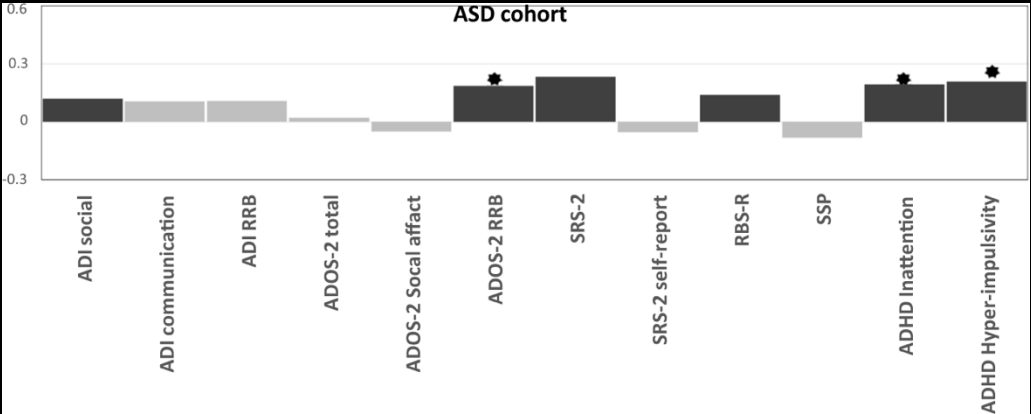
Zabihi, M., et al., (2020) Fractionating autism based on neuroanatomical normative modeling. Translational Psychiatry, 10.1: 384.

Behavioral scales

BRAIN-BEHAVIOR MAPPINGS

APPLICATIONS

- Relate identified deviation scores to behavioral measures related to psychopathology or disease severity

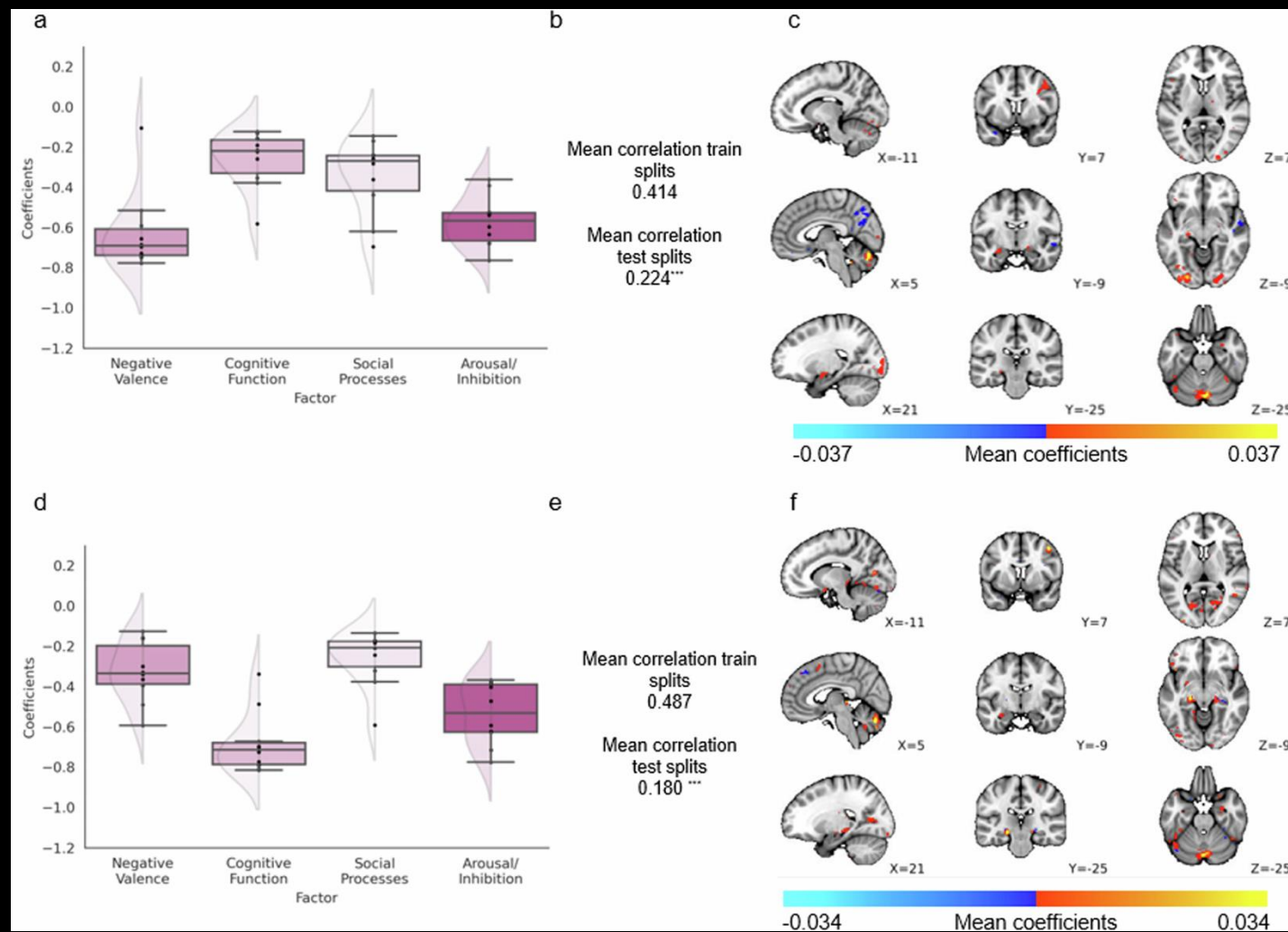


Zabihi, M., et al., (2020) Fractionating autism based on neuroanatomical normative modeling. Translational Psychiatry, 10.1: 384.

## BRAIN-BEHAVIOR MAPPINGS

- Relate identified deviation scores to behavioral measures related to psychopathology or disease severity

## APPLICATIONS



## APPLICATIONS

Parsing  
heterogeneity

Neurobiological  
subtyping

Brain-behavior  
mappings

Other

OTHER

APPLICATIONS



DTI

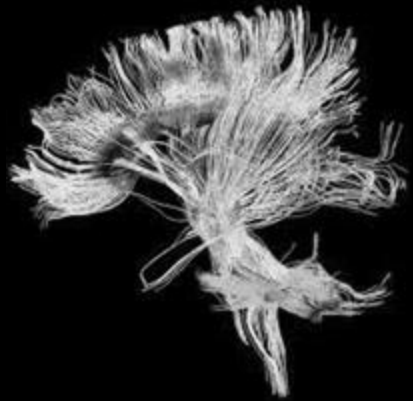
**Ramona Cirstian**

ramona.cirstian@donders.ru.nl



## OTHER

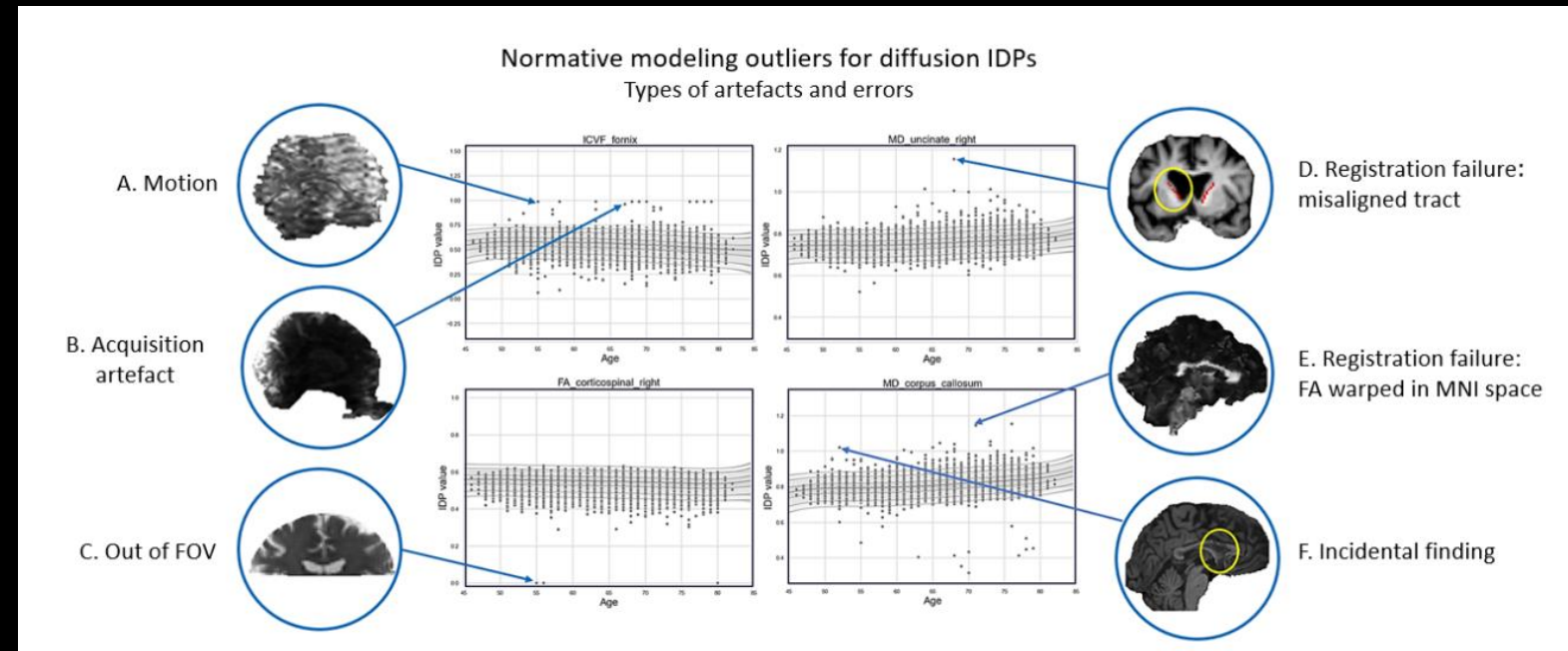
## APPLICATIONS



DTI

Ramona Cirstian

ramona.cirstian@donders.ru.nl



Ramona Cirstian et al., (2024) Objective QC for diffusion MRI data: artefact detection using normative modelling. *Imaging Neuroscience* 2: 1-14.



OTHER

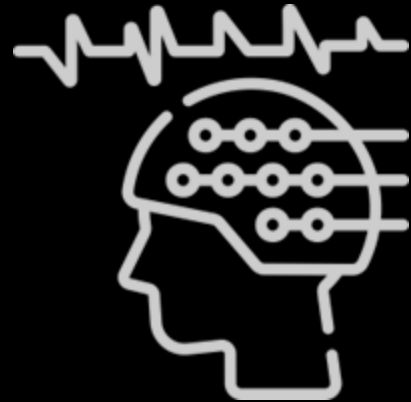
APPLICATIONS



DTI

Ramona Cirstian

ramona.cirstian@donders.ru.nl



EEG

Seyed Mostafa Kia

S.M.Kia@tilburguniversity.edu

## OTHER

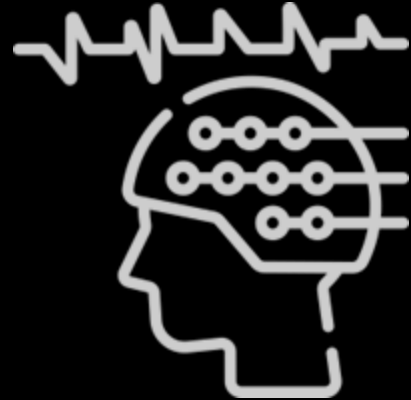
## APPLICATIONS



DTI

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ramona.cirstian@donders.ru.nl



EEG

**Seyed Mostafa Kia**

S.M.Kia@tilburguniversity.edu



Psychometrics

## OTHER

## APPLICATIONS

## PRECOGNITION

Learning Latent Cognitive Profiles to Predict Psychosis

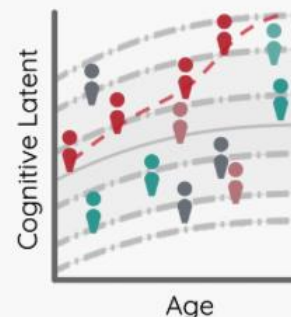


## Psychometrics



## Focus groups

This project is dedicated to including individuals with **lived experiences of psychosis**, a commitment reflected in our team which comprises experts with firsthand knowledge of psychosis. The cornerstone of our research is in organizing focus groups to understand the lives of people living with psychosis and identify how cognition impacts their daily functioning.



## Lifespan Cognitive Models

Driven by the information from focus groups, we aim to **develop lifespan cognitive reference models** that capture various aspects of cognition, such as processing speed, working memory, and verbal learning, among others. These models will be based on existing data resources of tens of thousands of participants across Europe.



## Individual Outcomes

Our overall aim is to **predict functional outcomes in individuals with psychosis** by using the cognitive lifespan models. These models will enable us to understand the progression of the disorder at an individual level and predict the early onset of psychosis. Using our framework, we hope to take the first steps towards individualized disease prediction and understanding.

OTHER

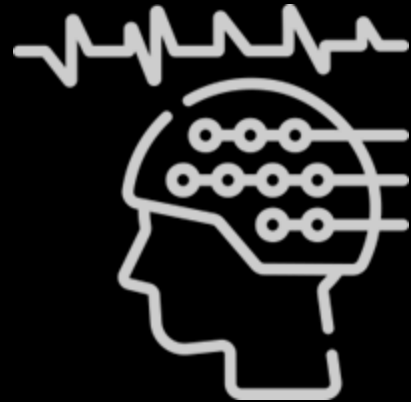
APPLICATIONS



DTI

Ramona Cirstian

ramona.cirstian@donders.ru.nl



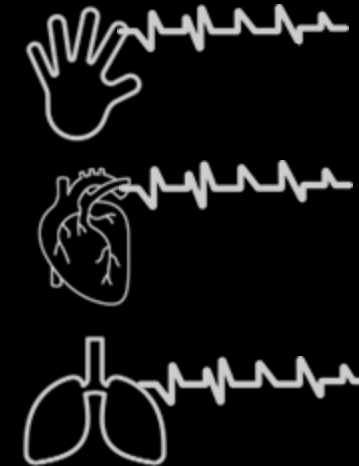
EEG

Seyed Mostafa Kia

S.M.Kia@tilburguniversity.edu



Psychometrics



Physiology

OTHER

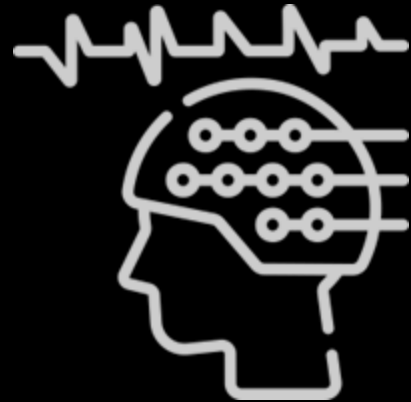
APPLICATIONS



DTI

Ramona Cirstian

ramona.cirstian@donders.ru.nl



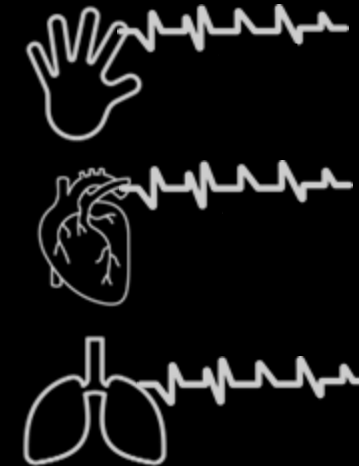
EEG

Seyed Mostafa Kia

S.M.Kia@tilburguniversity.edu



Psychometrics



Physiology



Longitudinal

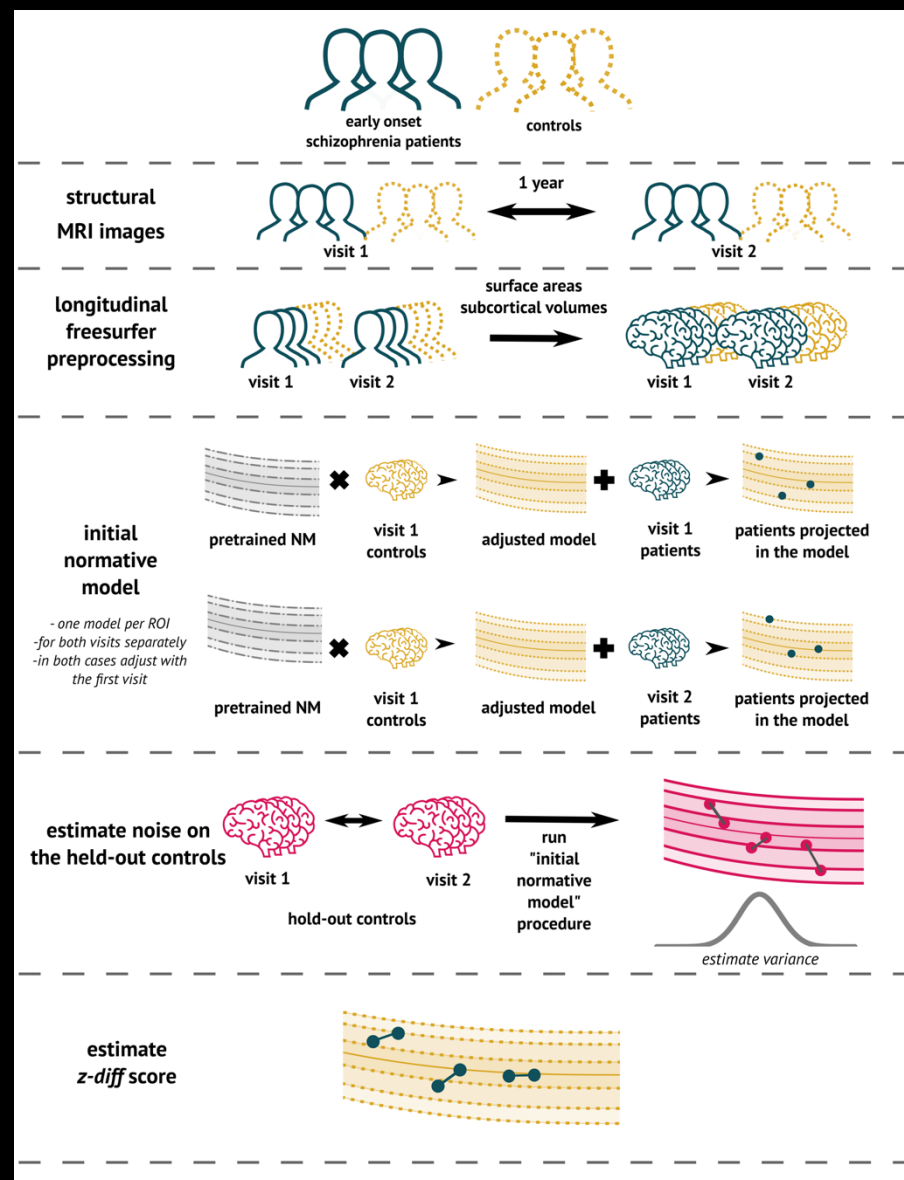
## OTHER



## Longitudinal models from cross sectional data

- Lack of methods for evaluating longitudinal changes
- Lack of resources to construct a fully longitudinal model
- Use pre-trained models and longitudinal controls to estimate a “healthy change”

## APPLICATIONS



Barbora Rehak Bučková et al., (2024) Using normative models pre-trained on cross-sectional data to evaluate longitudinal changes in neuroimaging data *BioArxiv*.

## OTHER



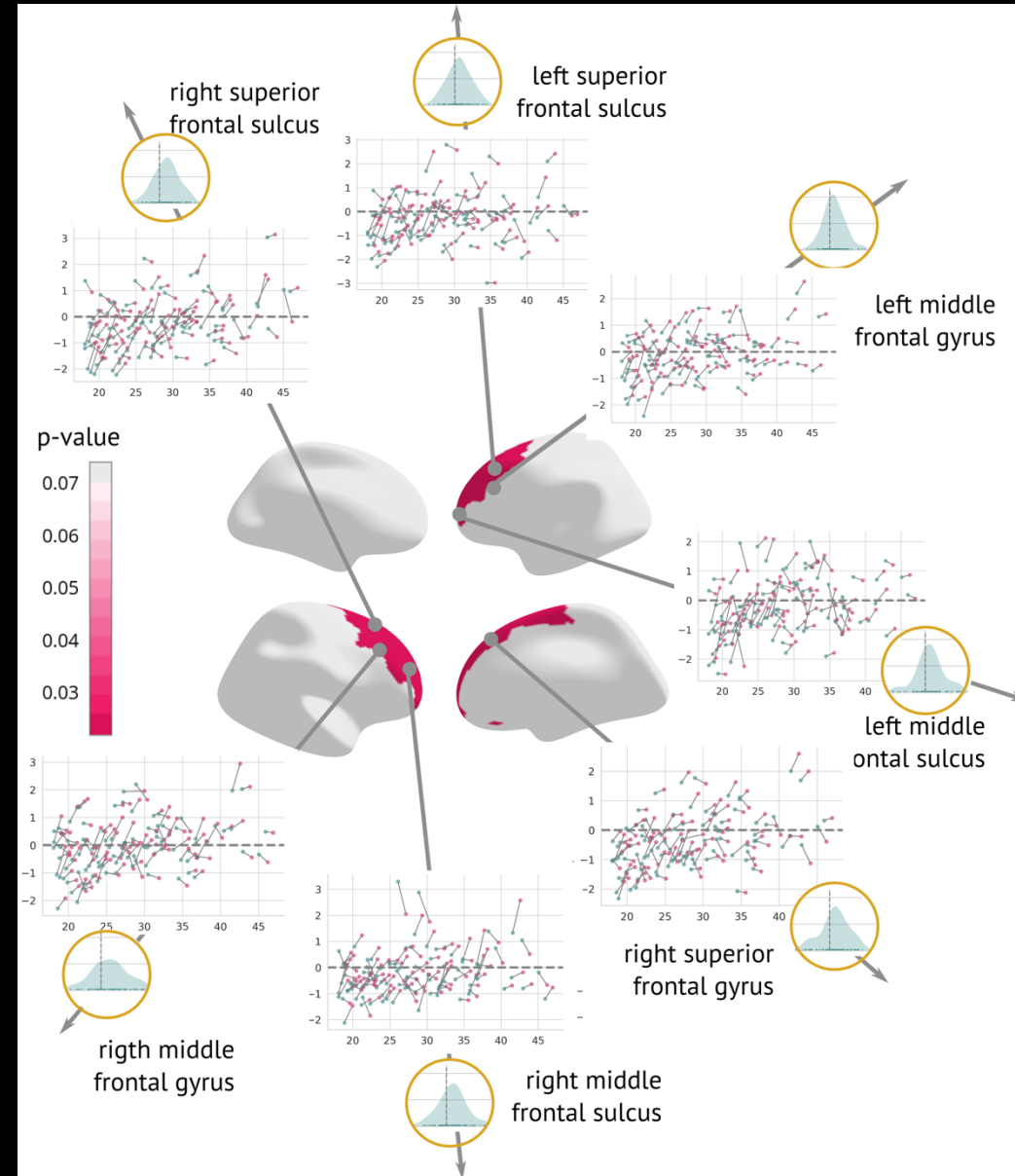
## Longitudinal models from cross sectional data

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- Lack of resources to construct a fully longitudinal model
- Use pre-trained models and longitudinal controls to estimate a “healthy change”




Barbora Rehak Bučková et al., (2024) Using normative models pre-trained on cross-sectional data to evaluate longitudinal changes in neuroimaging data *BioArxiv*.


## APPLICATIONS




[https://github.com/CharFraza/CPC\\_ML\\_tutorial](https://github.com/CharFraza/CPC_ML_tutorial)

## Tasks

Task 1: Fitting normative models from scratch  [Open in Colab](#)

Task 2: Applying pre-trained normative models  [Open in Colab](#)


Task 3: Interpreting and visualizing the outputs of normative models  [Open in Colab](#)

Task 4: Using the outputs (Z-scores) as features in predictive model  [Open in Colab](#)



## TUTORIAL I.

## ESTIMATING LIFESPAN NORMATIVE MODELS



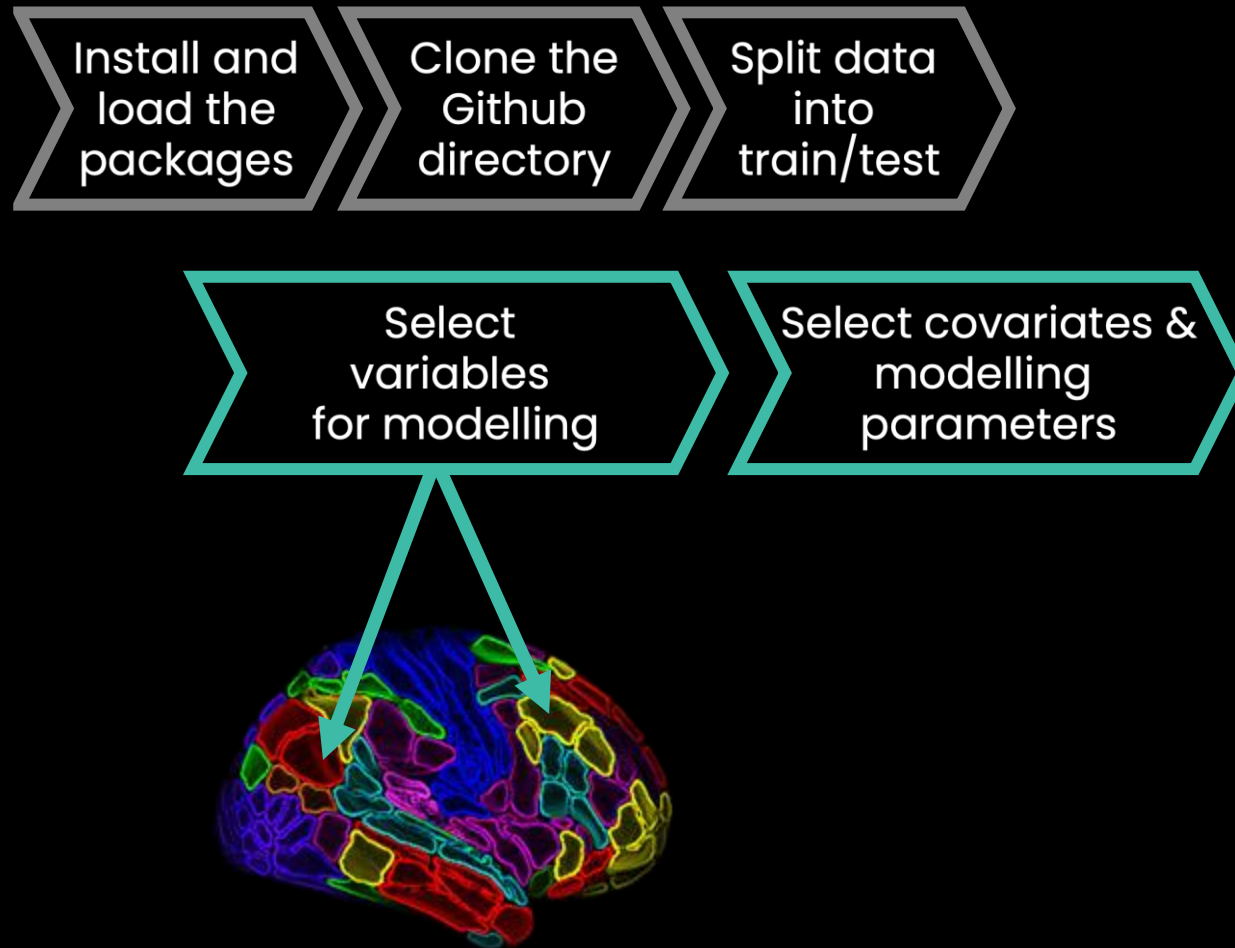
Install and  
load the  
packages

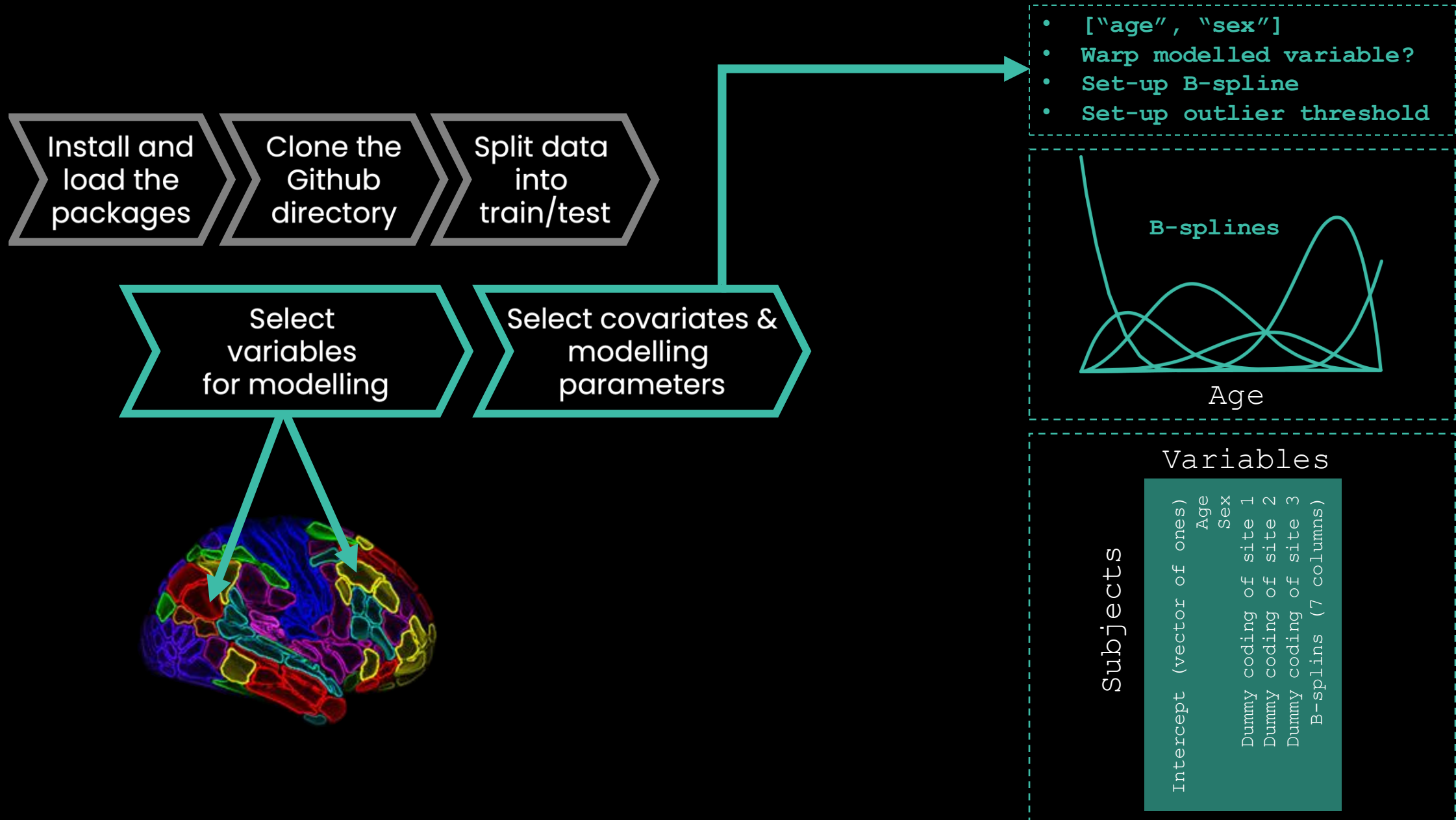
Clone the  
Github  
directory

Split data  
into  
train/test

## TUTORIAL I.

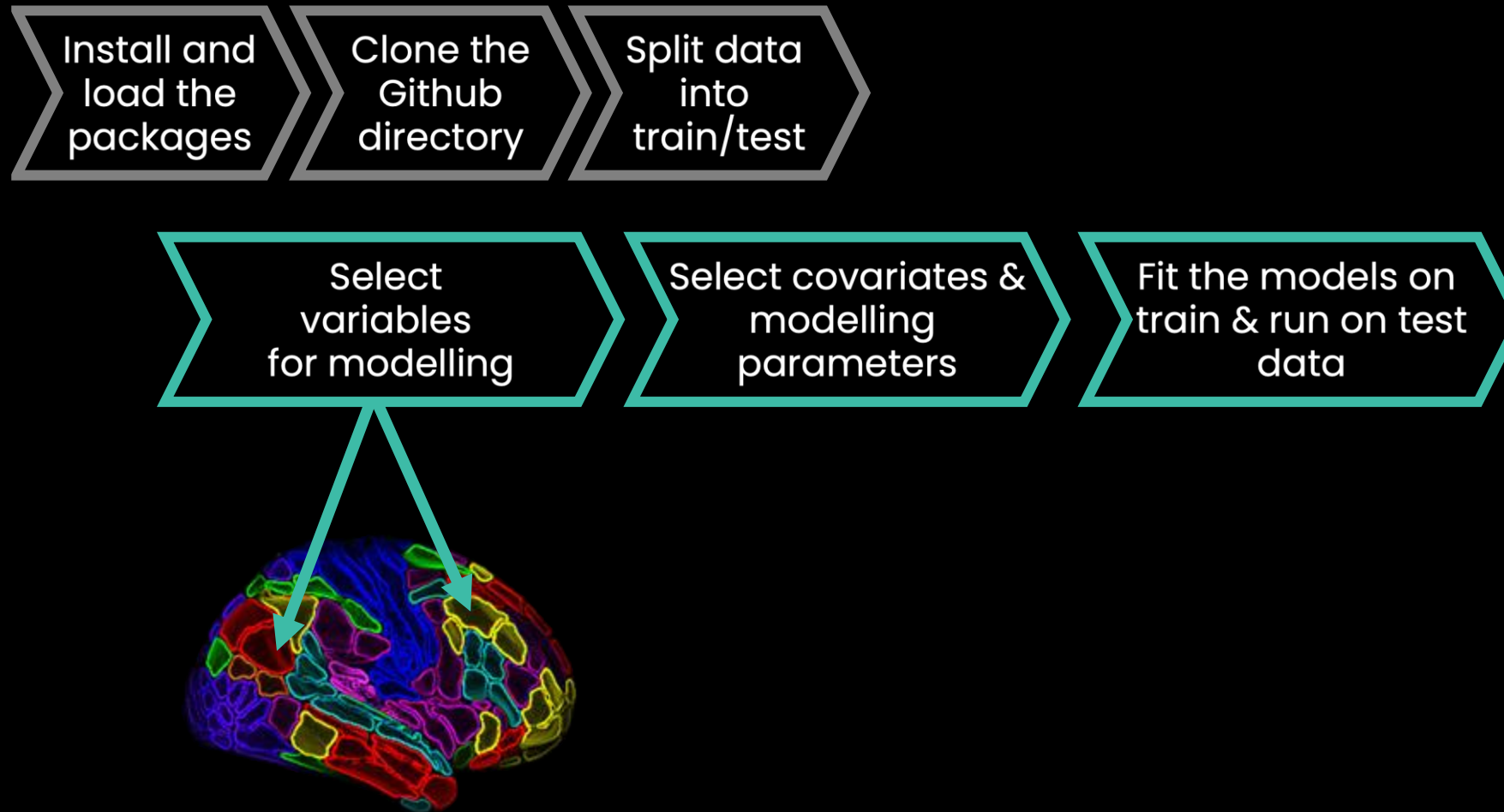
## ESTIMATING LIFESPAN NORMATIVE MODELS





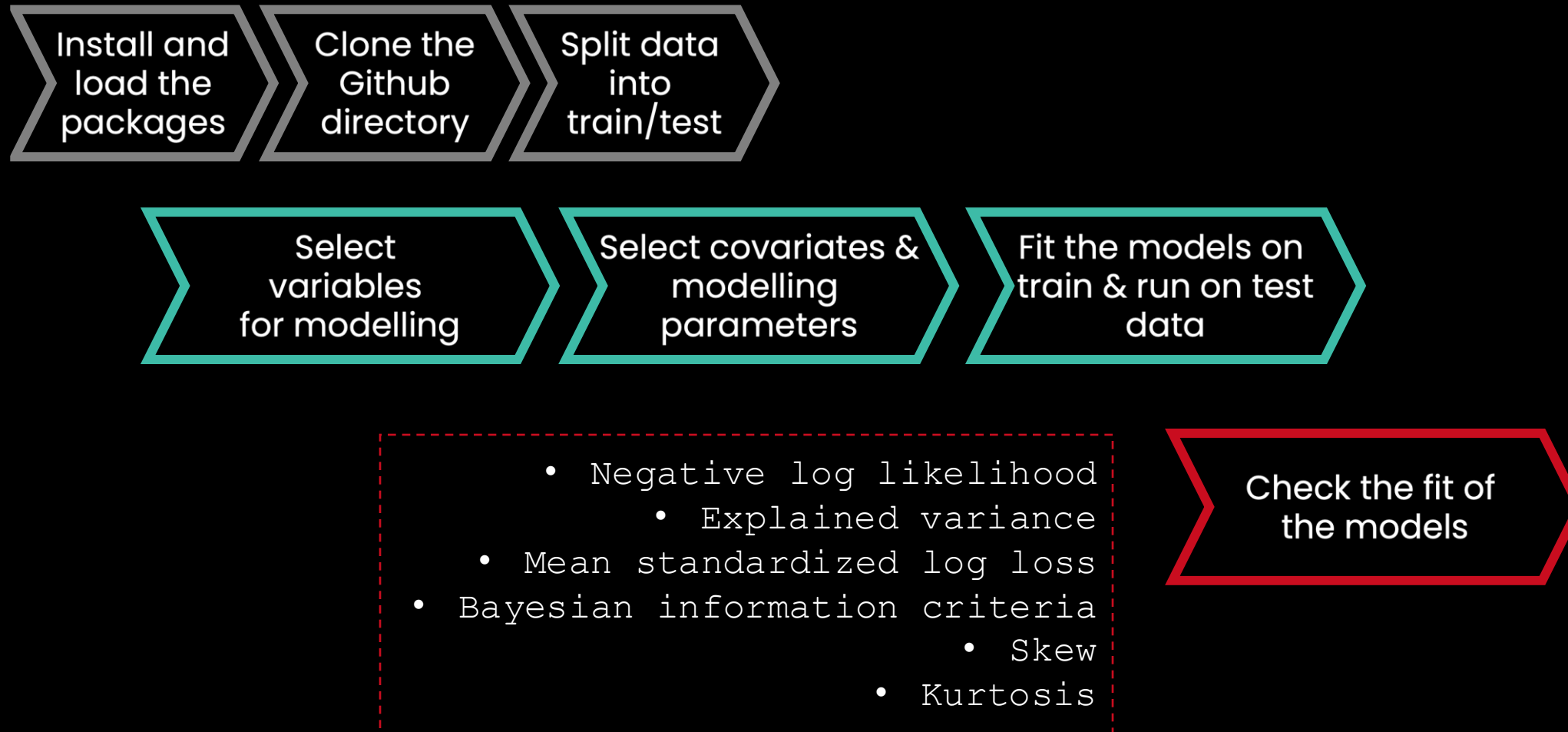
## TUTORIAL I.

## ESTIMATING LIFESPAN NORMATIVE MODELS



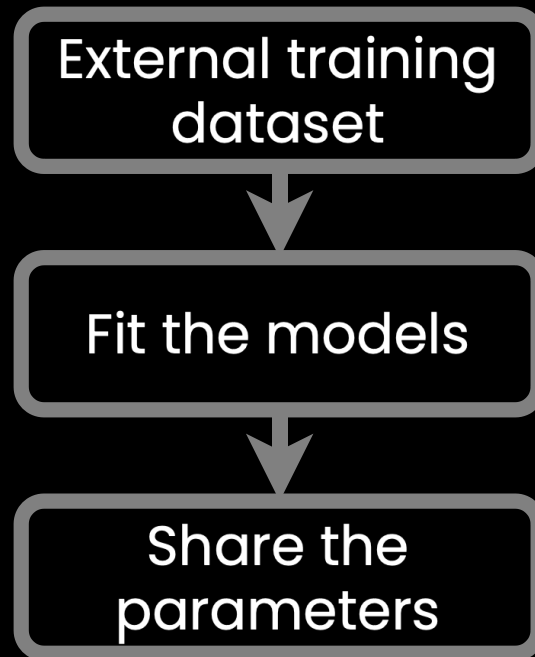
## TUTORIAL I.

## ESTIMATING LIFESPAN NORMATIVE MODELS



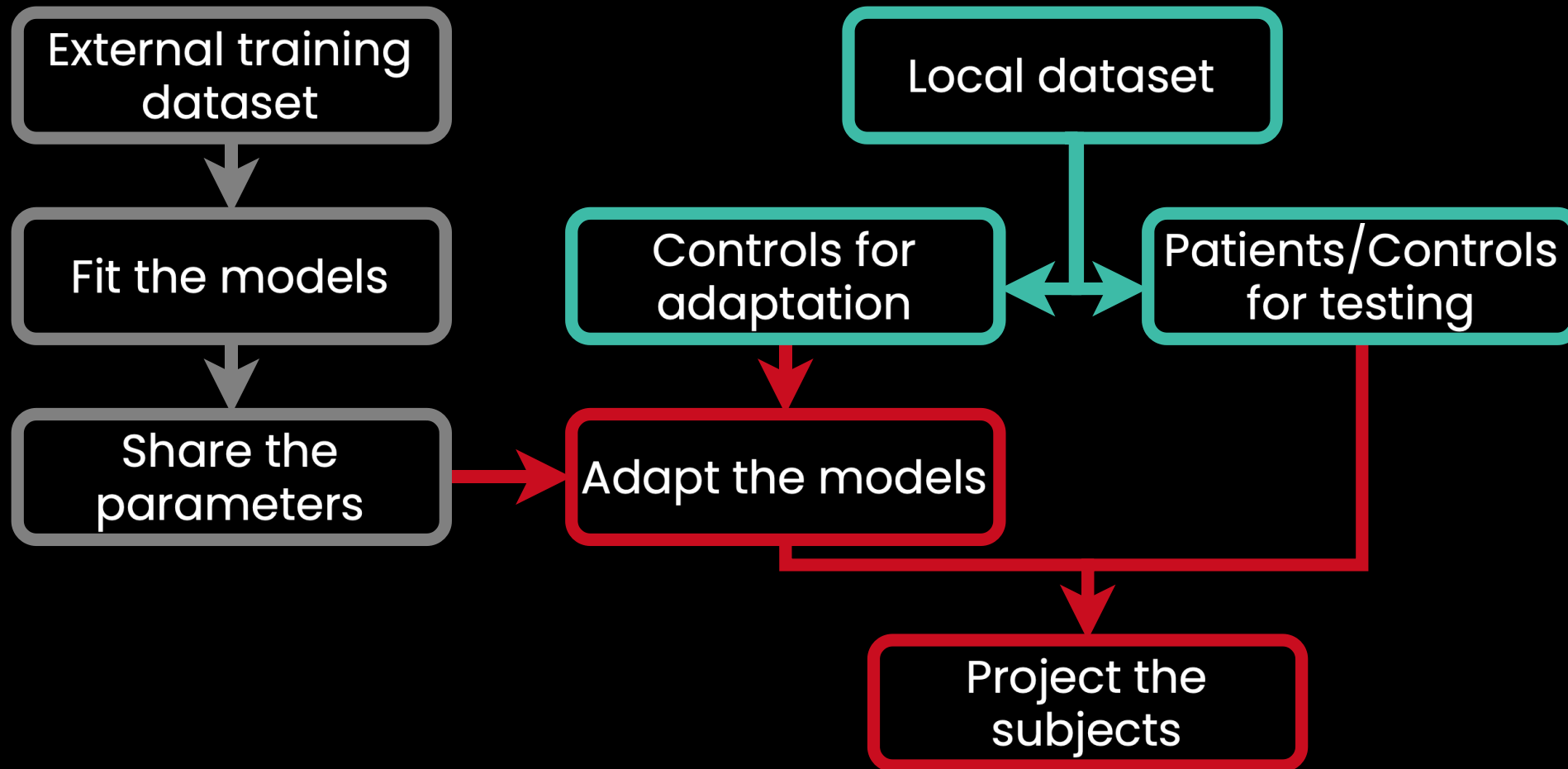
## TUTORIAL II.

## APPLYING PRE-TRAINED NORMATIVE MODELS



## TUTORIAL II.

## APPLYING PRE-TRAINED NORMATIVE MODELS



## TUTORIAL II.

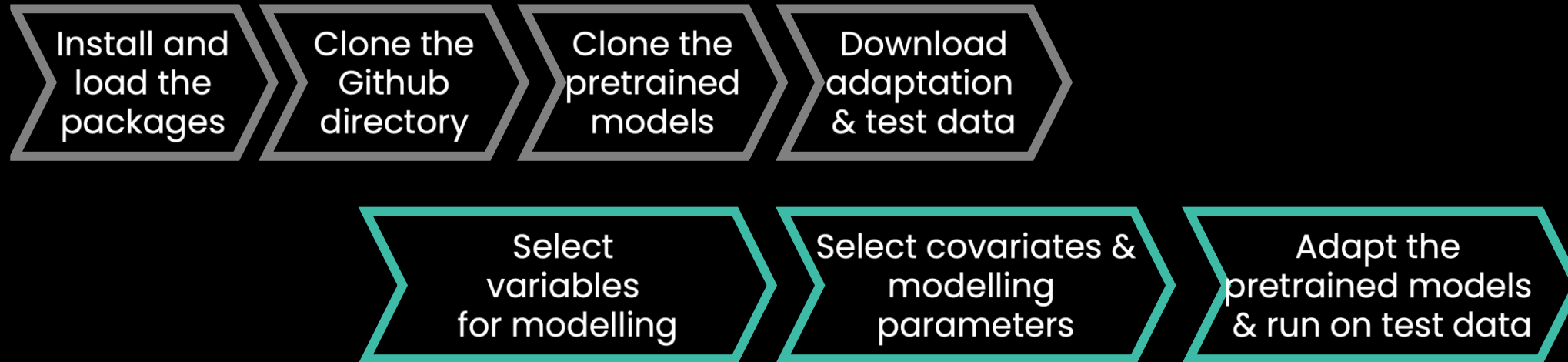
## APPLYING PRE-TRAINED NORMATIVE MODELS





## TUTORIAL II.

## APPLYING PRE-TRAINED NORMATIVE MODELS



## TUTORIAL II.

## APPLYING PRE-TRAINED NORMATIVE MODELS

Install and  
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packages

Clone the  
Github  
directory

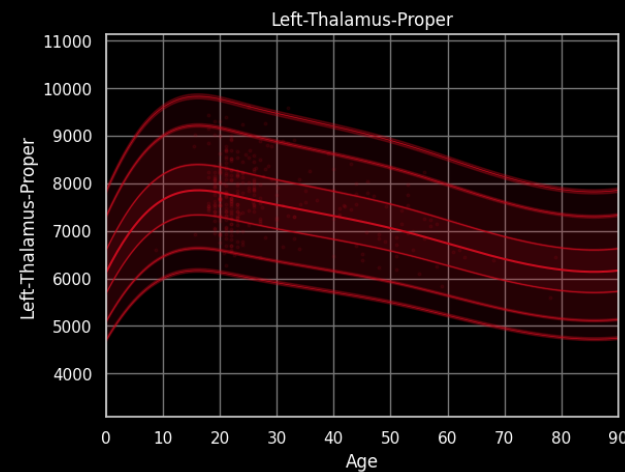
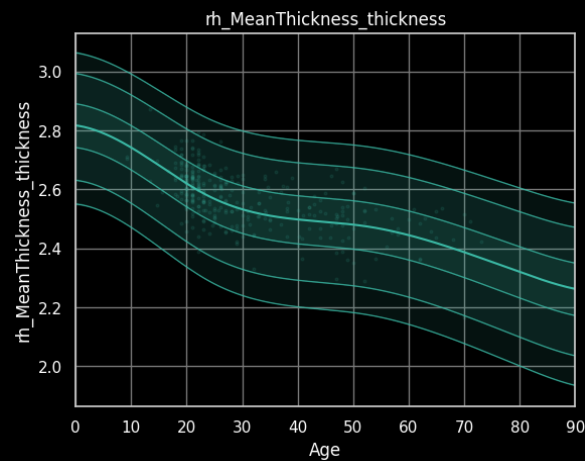
Clone the  
pretrained  
models

Download  
adaptation  
& test data

Select  
variables  
for modelling

Select covariates &  
modelling  
parameters

Adapt the  
pretrained models  
& run on test data



Visualize



Download the toolbox here:  
[github.com/amarquand](https://github.com/amarquand)



[pcnportal.dccn.nl](https://pcnportal.dccn.nl)



<https://pcntoolkit.readthedocs.io>

# Predictive Clinical Neuroscience Lab

## Professor Andre Marquand



THANK YOU!

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