

# From the Higgs to Huntington's: methods for learning from data

UCL HEP seminar  
24-05-19

Peter Wijeratne  
MRC Skills Development Fellow



# Acknowledgements



## UCL CMIC

Neil Oxtoby  
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Leon Aksman  
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Nonie Alexander

## UCL HDC

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Dorian Pustina  
Alexandra Shechtel

And all the participants of the PREDICT, TRACK and IMAGE-HD studies.

Interested in extracting hidden information from observed data

→ Bayesian methods

Two main schools of thought

Hypothesis-driven (informative priors)

Unfolding / inverse problems – e.g. image reconstruction

Data-driven (non-informative priors)

Latent variable inference – e.g. disease progression modelling

Physics favours the former, biology the latter

# My PhD: LHC Run 1 with ATLAS

ATLAS Trigger Crew - Mozilla Firefox

Tue 24 May, 07:23 paw

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

cern.ch https://pptevm.cern.ch/mao/ui/TriggerList.html

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WTRP TriggerWhi... Gmail - Inb... Microsoft P... TDAQWeek... Weekly run... TriggerOnli... ATLAS Trig...

Alex Cerri 165636 CTP 0h-24h: THORSTEN WENGLER

Martin Wessels 161

Primary On-Call

Online 0h-24h: PETER ALEXANDER WIJERATNE

Offline 0h-24h: JOHN BAINES

LVL1 0h-24h: STELIAN IOAN BUDA

Shifts

ACR 7h-15h: PETER ALEXANDER WIJERATNE

SCR 70962

Support

Menu 0h-24h: ANNA SFYRLA

P1HLT Release 0h-24h: HARALD JOERG STELZER

Take Screenshot

Thorsten Wengler

Trigger Signatures

Calo 0h-24h: LIWEN YAO

ID Trigger and b-jets 0h-24h: VIKASH CHAVDA

Tau and E/Gamma 0h-24h: RAINER STAMEN

Met and Jets 0h-24h: FRANCESCO RUBBO

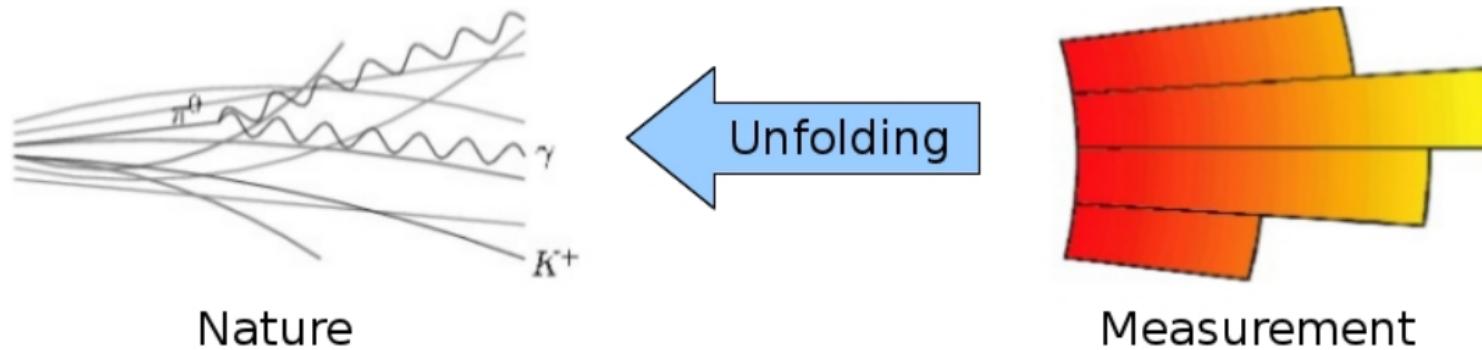
Bphys and Muons 0h-24h: MARILYN MARX

Min Bias 0h-24h: TIM MARTIN

Done

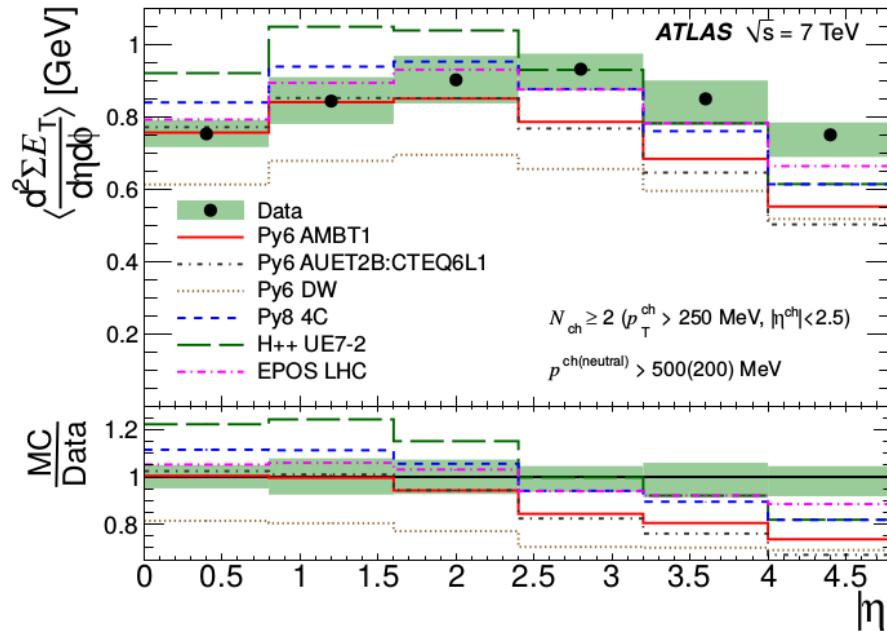
ATLAS Trigger Crew - M... TrigReport\_24May201...

For some reason, they let me near the detector



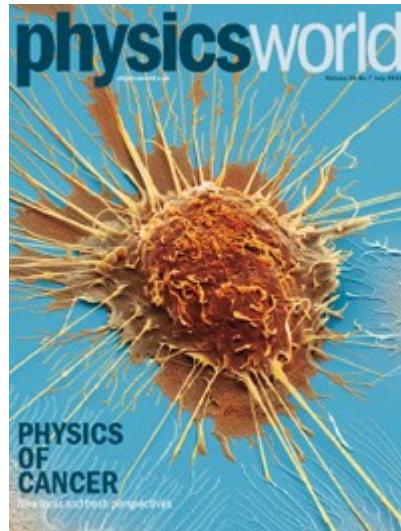
$$n(C_i^{data}) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_i} \sum_j P(T_i^{MC} \mid R_j^{MC}) n(R_j^{data})$$

- Real data are dependent on the detector used to measure them
  - Bring data back to their natural state by applying hypothesis-driven corrections derived from simulation
- "Unfolding the cause"



- Energy density (min bias + UE) was not modelled correctly in forward direction
  - Problem would only increase with luminosity
- We iteratively unfolded the data to compare directly with various models
- Tuned MC generators to data

I saw this one day in 2013



I wanted to use physics to fight cancer

I asked about for potential opportunities (thanks Simon)

I got lucky and a postdoc came up at the Centre for Medical Image Computing on jobs.ac.uk

Maths, physics and engineering scientists at the interface of basic and biomedical sciences



CMIC

Great Ormond Street Hospital



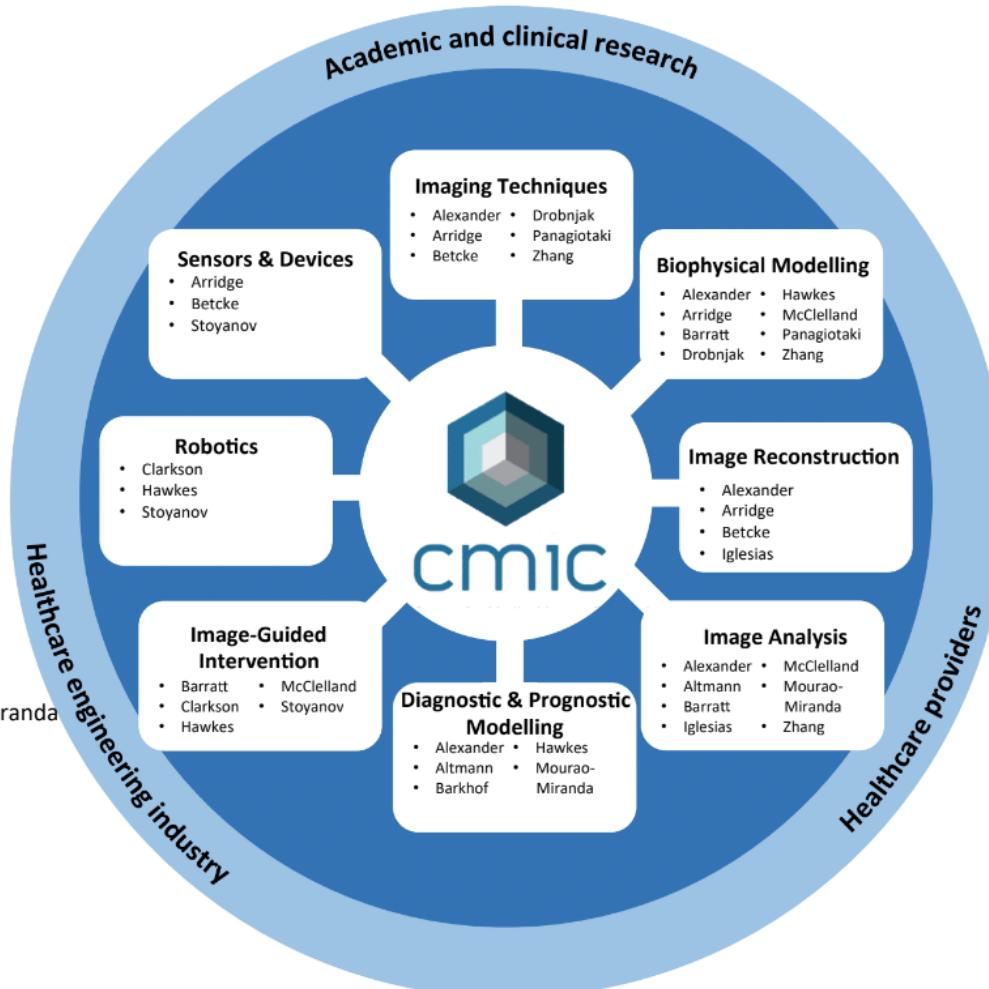
University College London Hospital

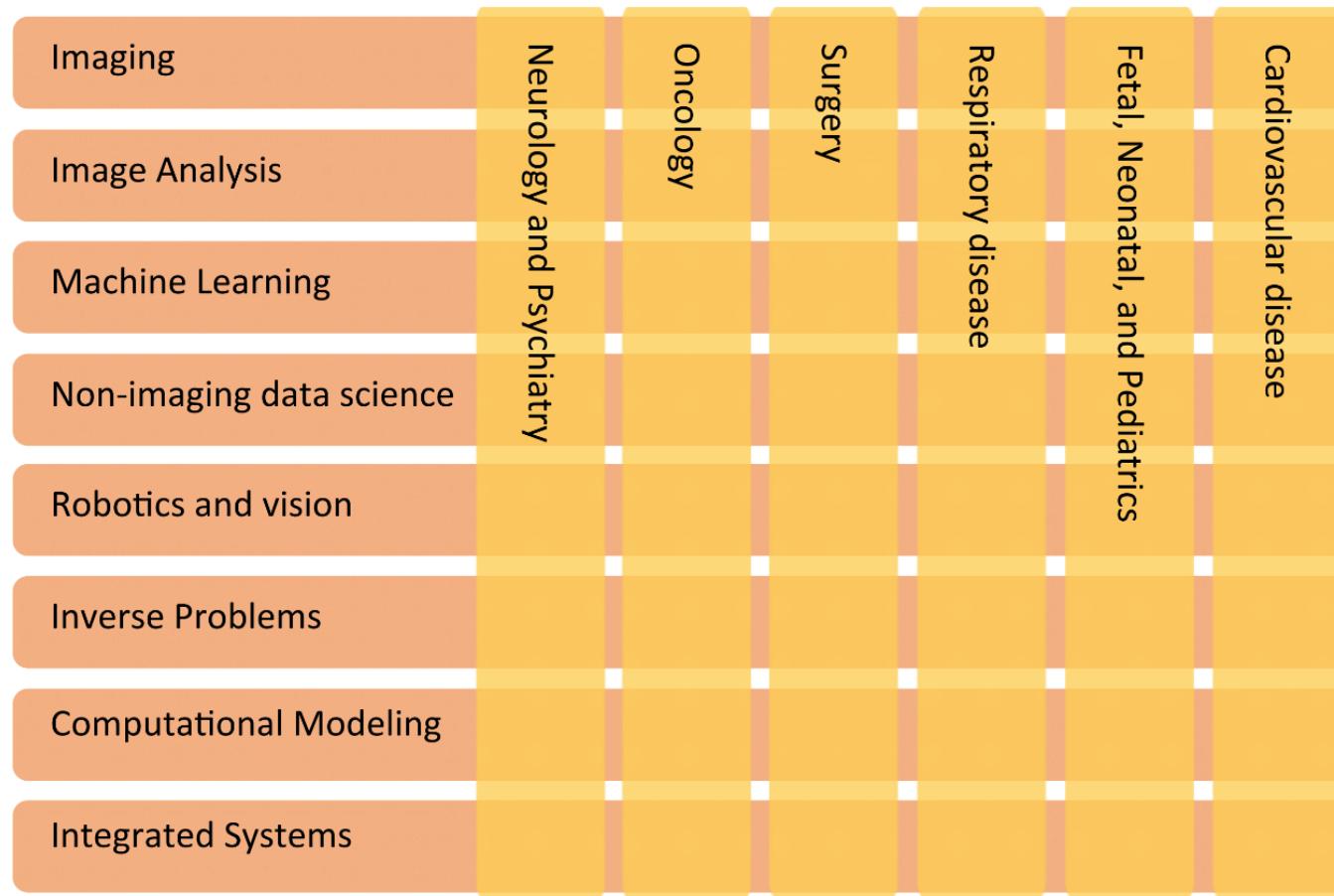


Moorfield's Eye Hospital

Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital

-  Alexander
-  Altmann
-  Arridge
-  Barkhof
-  Barratt
-  Betcke
-  Clarkson
-  Drobniak
-  Hawkes
-  Iglesias
-  McClelland
-  Mourao-Miranda
-  Panagiotaki
-  Stoyanov
-  Zhang



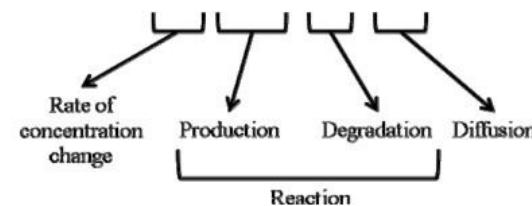




## The Chemical Basis of Morphogenesis

A. M. Turing

*Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London. Series B, Biological Sciences*, Vol. 237, No. 641. (Aug. 14, 1952), pp. 37-72.

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = F(u,v) - d_u v + D_u \Delta u$$
$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = G(u,v) - d_v v + D_v \Delta v$$


The diagram illustrates the components of the reaction-diffusion model. It shows four arrows pointing from the right towards the center: 'Rate of concentration change', 'Production', 'Degradation', and 'Diffusion'. Below these arrows, a bracket labeled 'Reaction' groups 'Production' and 'Degradation'.

## Computational Modeling

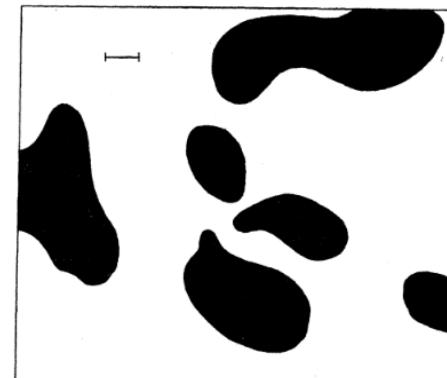
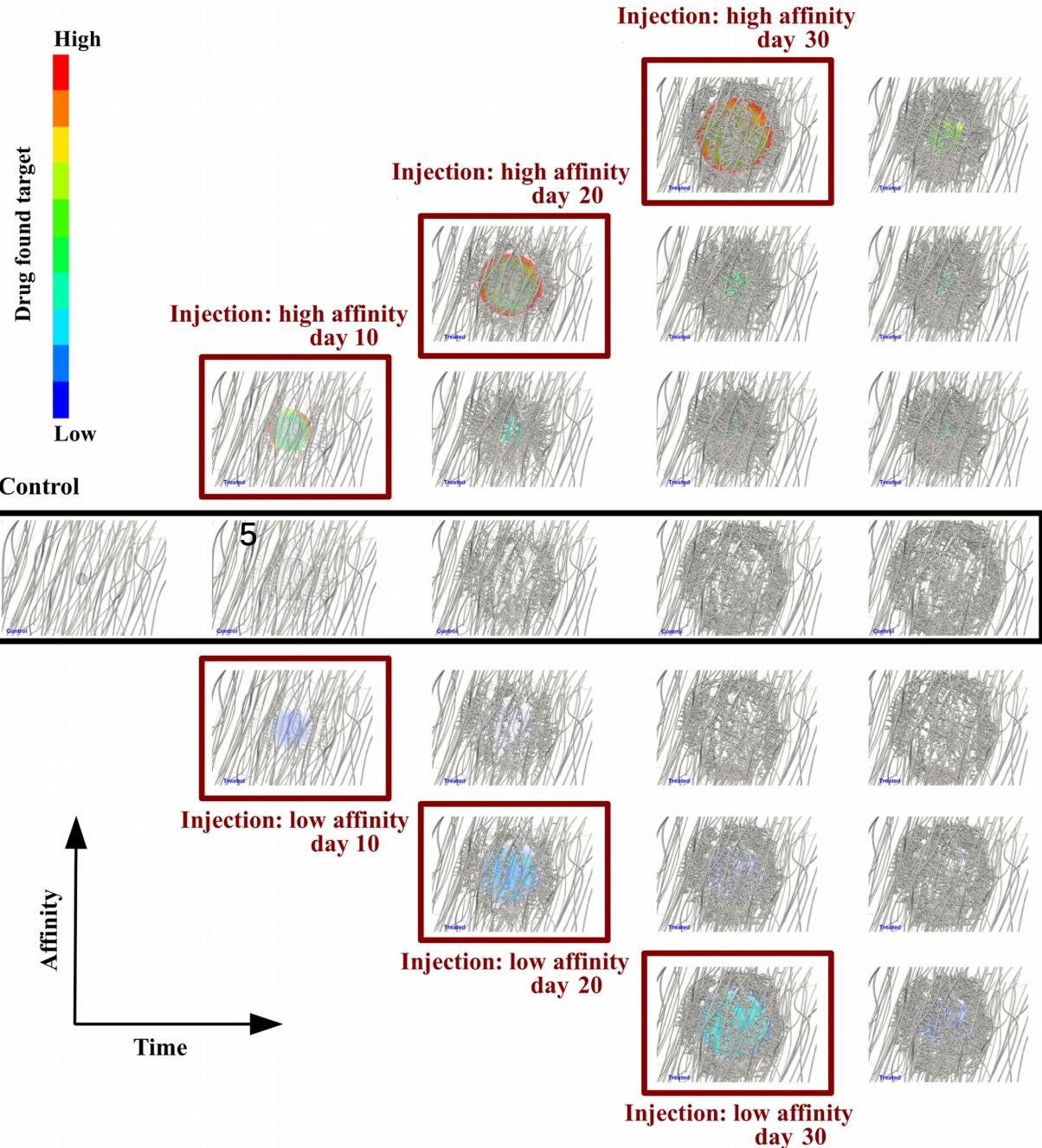
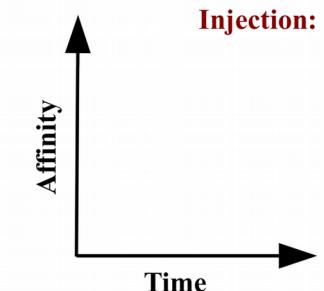


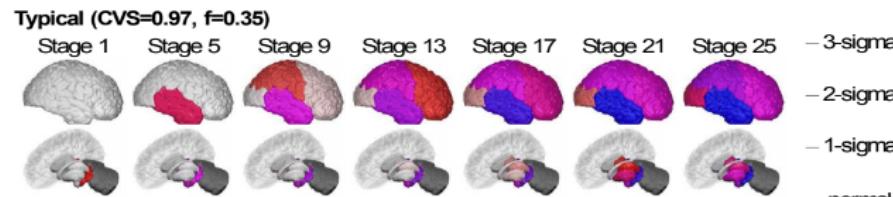
FIGURE 2. An example of a 'dappled' pattern as resulting from a type (a) morphogen system. A marker of unit length is shown. See text, §9, 11.

# Slight (3 year) diversion: biophysical modelling of drug delivery

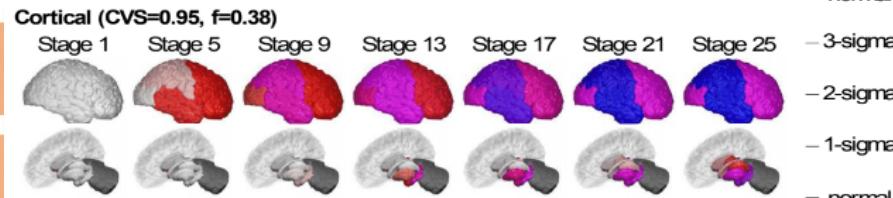
## Computational Modeling



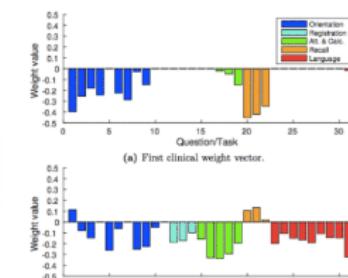
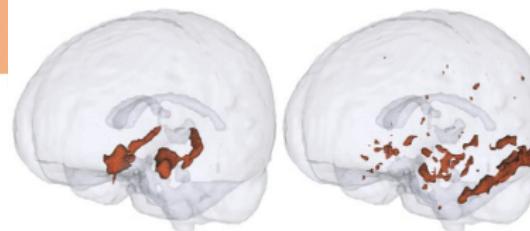
## Image Analysis



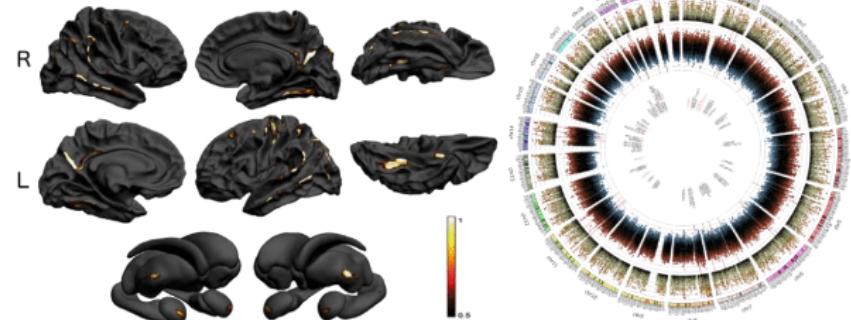
## Machine Learning

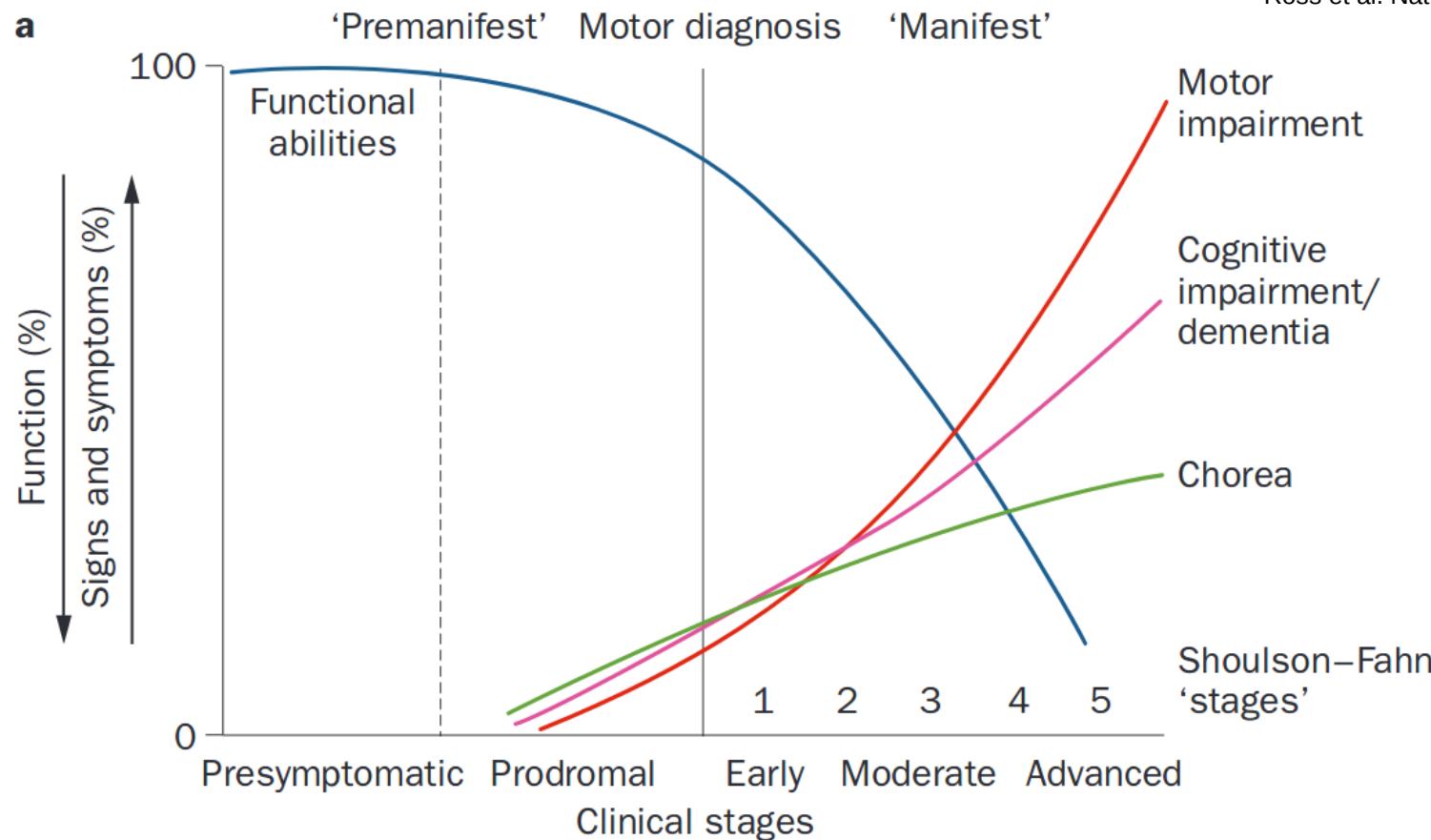


## Non-imaging data science



## Computational Modeling

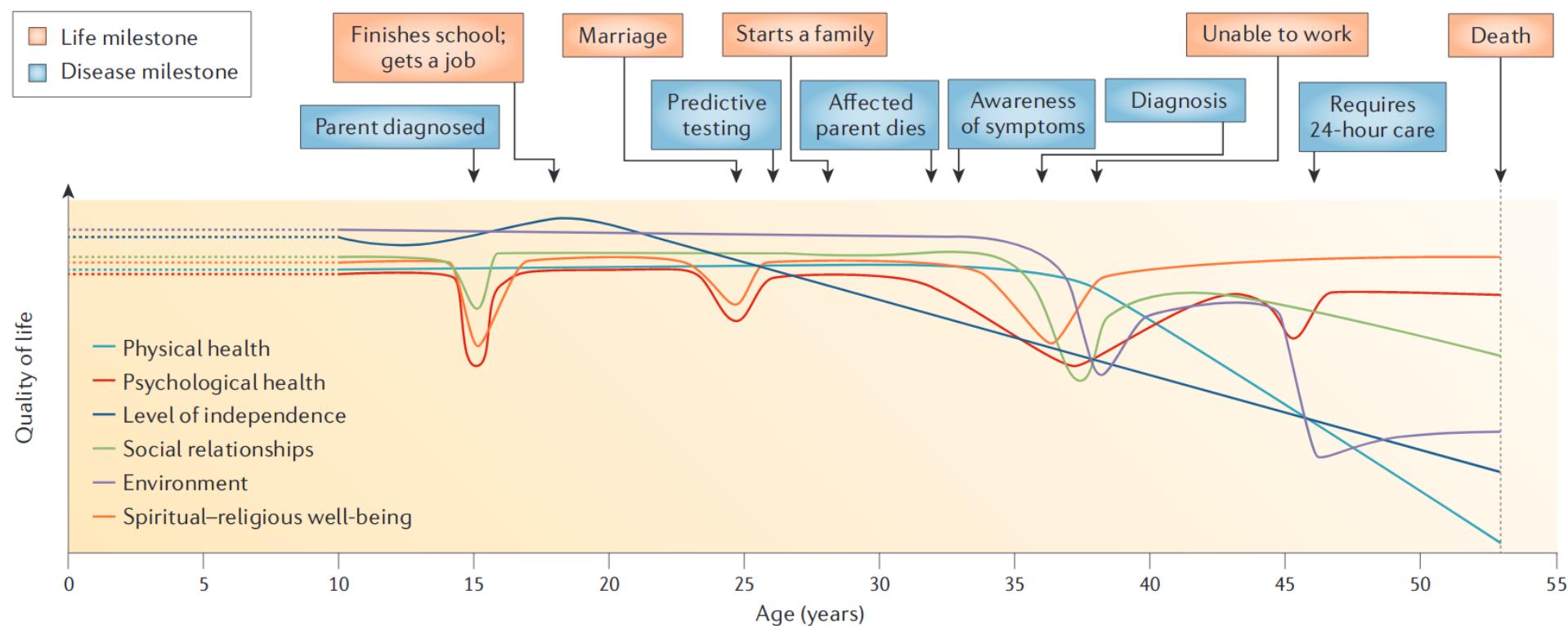




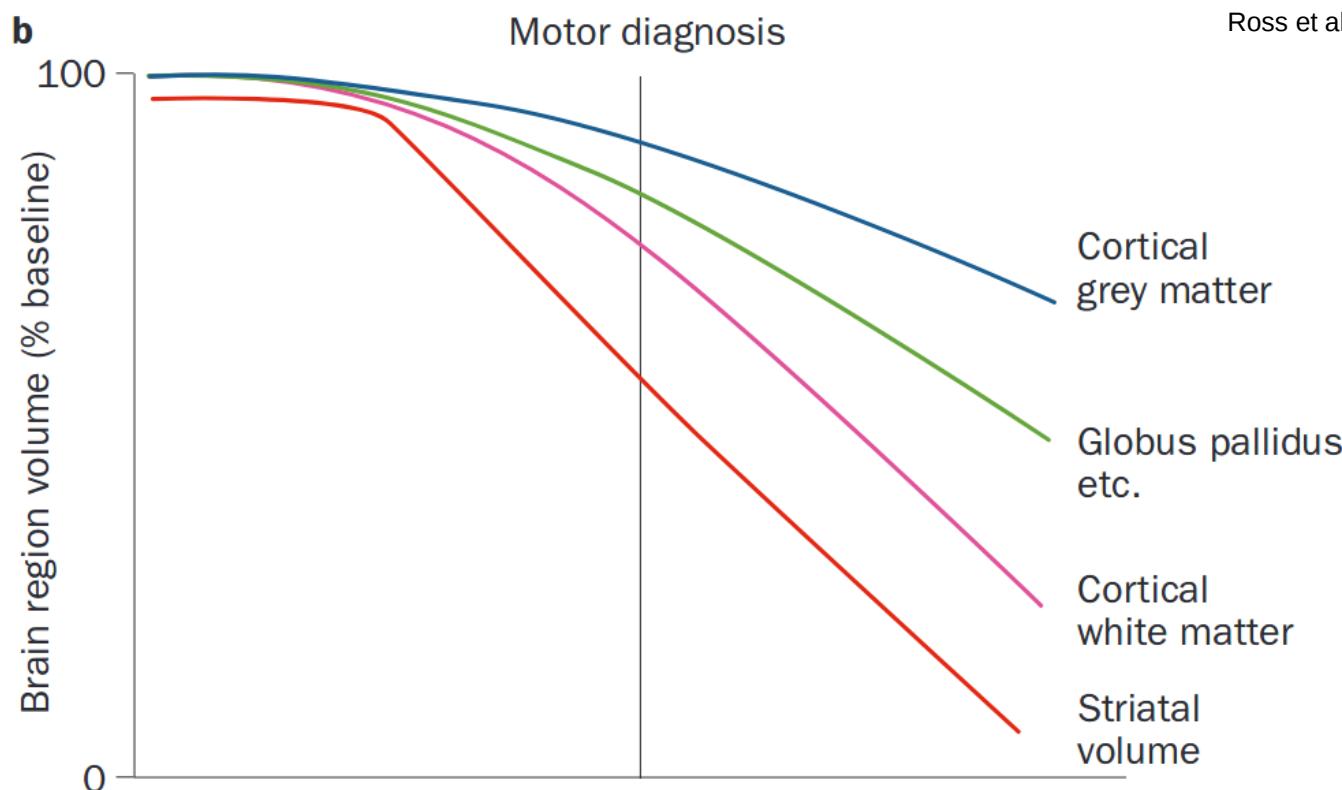
Slowly progressive, hereditary brain disease that causes changes in movement, thinking and behaviour

Autosomal dominant inheritance – 50% chance, everyone with gene will get HD

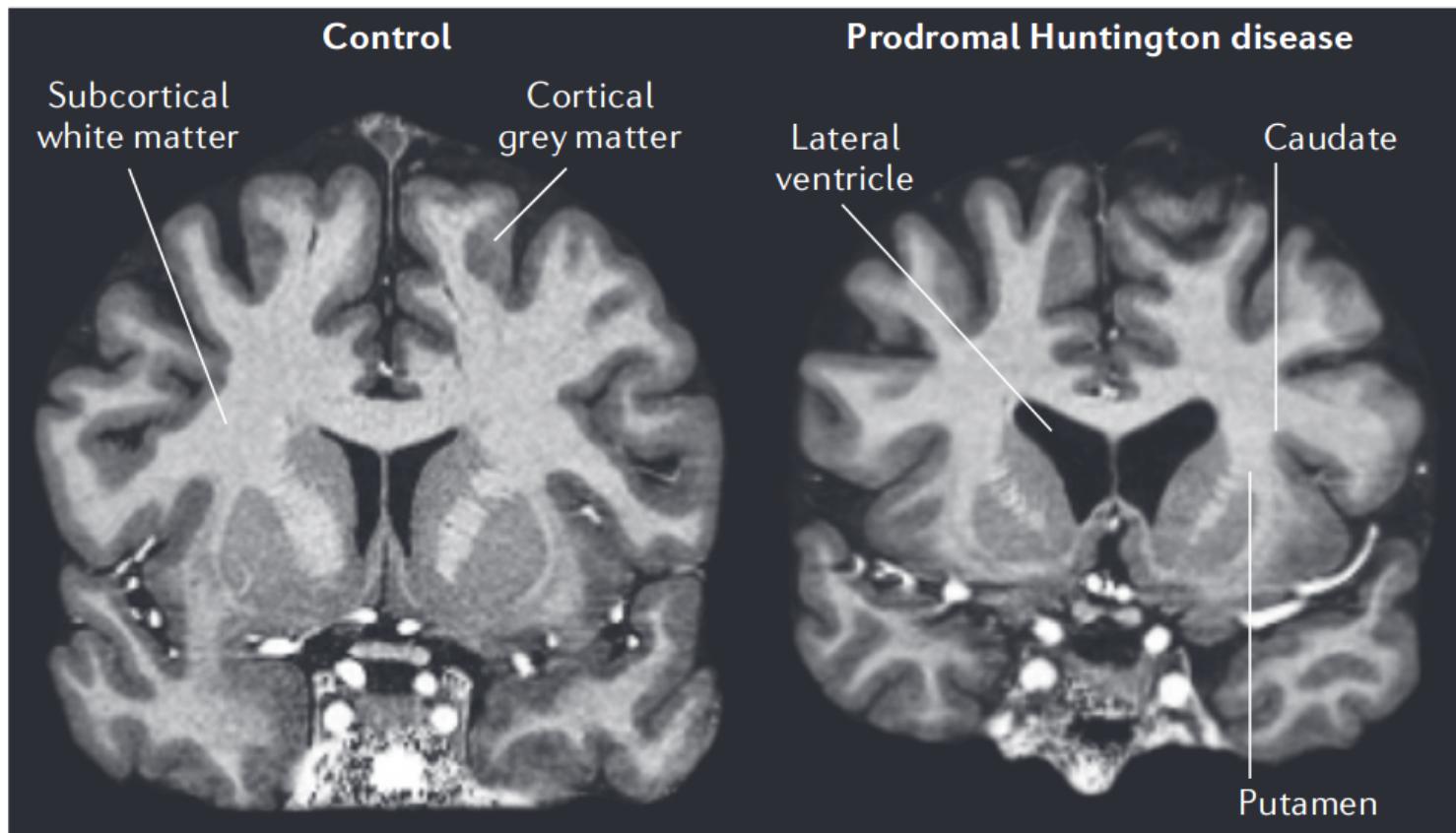
# Huntington's disease



Diagnosis made at onset of movement disorder, typically with chorea and impaired voluntary movement

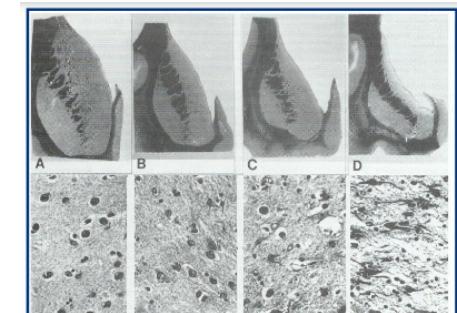


Brain changes in HD – specific regions of the brain are atrophied

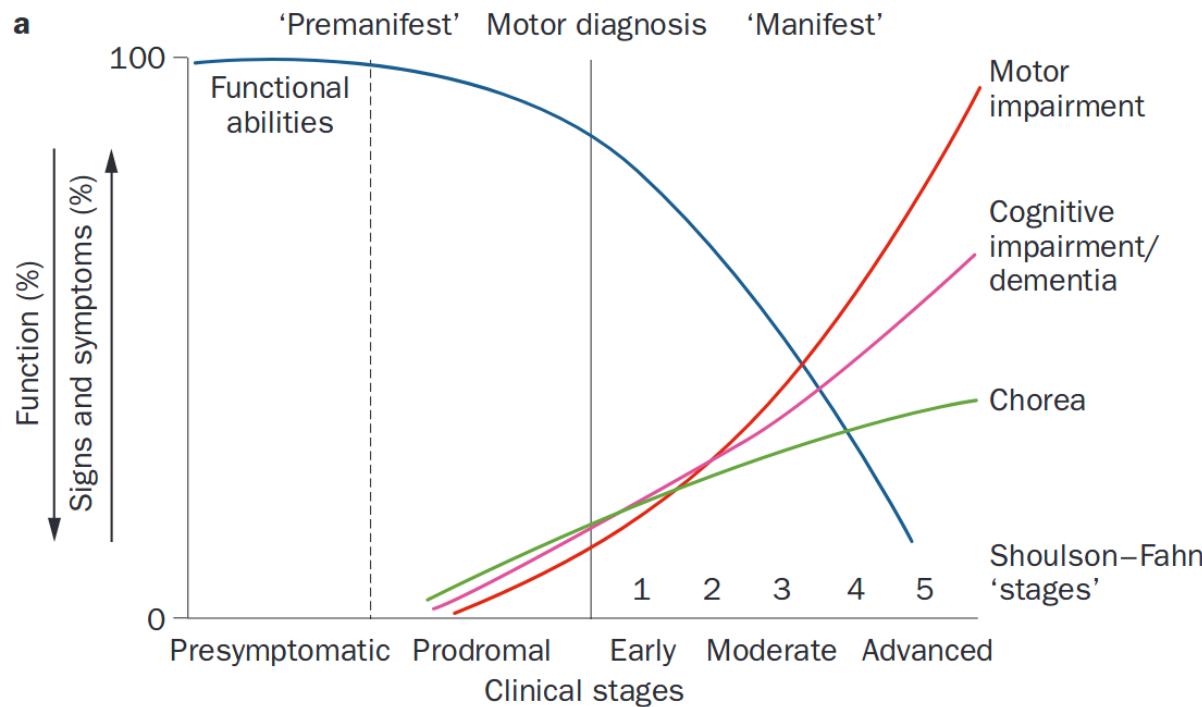


MRI provides spatial intensity measurements that depend on tissue properties

Observed changes reflected by microscopy (histology)

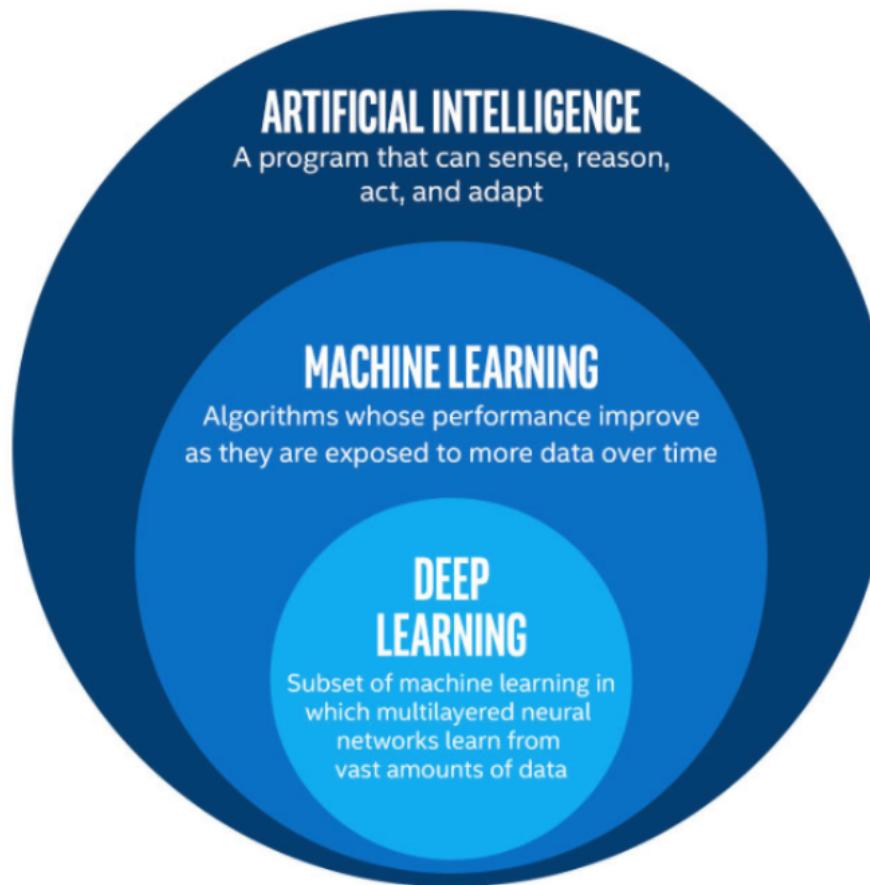


Can we estimate where a patient is along their disease path?



Patient stage is a latent variable – it generates the observed measurements, but is not measured directly (unlike in physics events, where we know time)

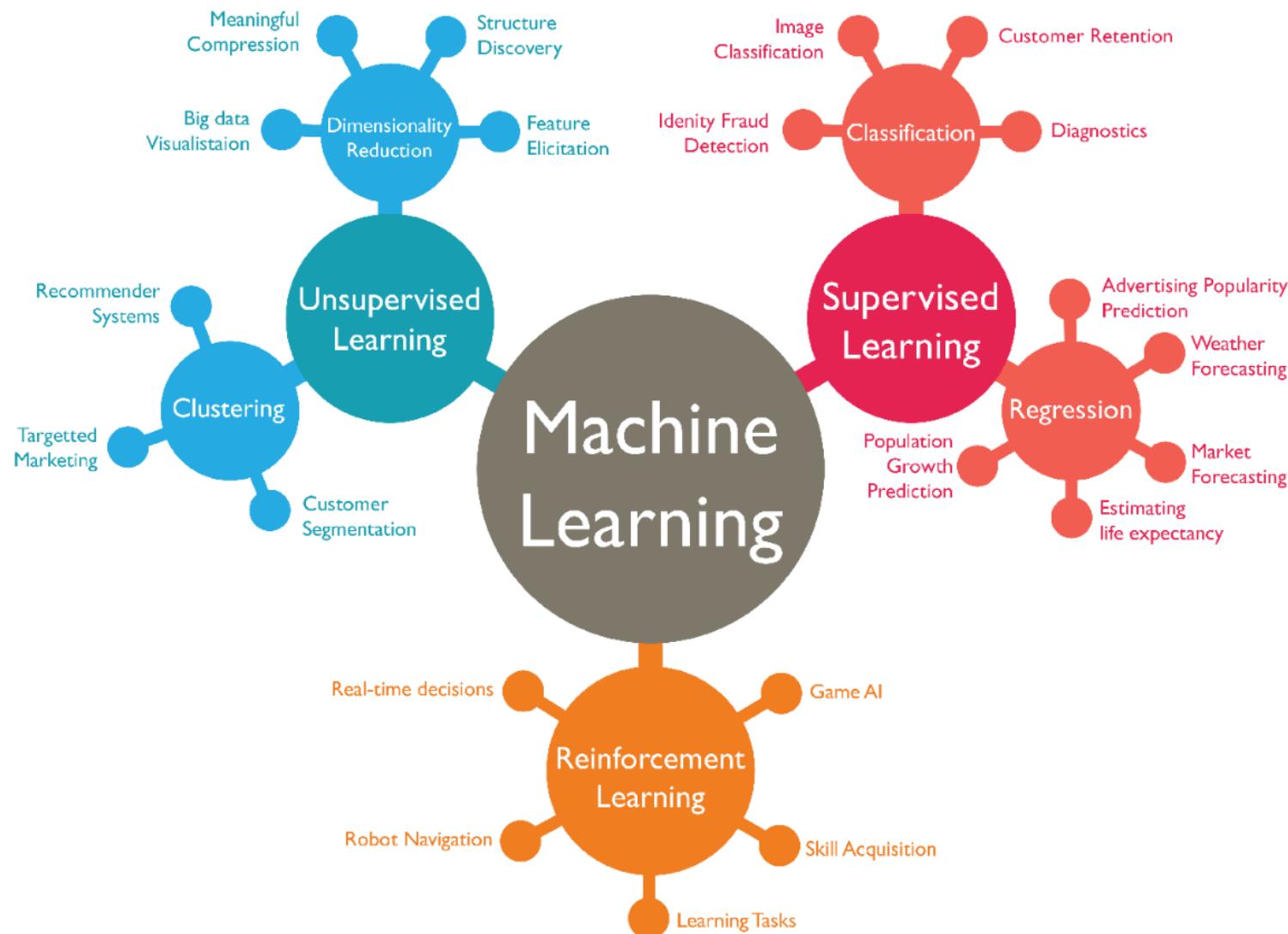
→ Infer using machine learning methods



Can think of machine learning as “data-driven AI”

Deep learning learns its own feature space

- + improved performance over standard ML methods
- difficulty in interpretability



## What machine learning does well

1. Model-free identification of trends and patterns
2. Improves with data availability
3. Requires minimal (or no) human intervention

## What machine learning doesn't do well

1. Causal mechanisms
2. Data intensive
3. Interpretability

We want to diagnose and prognose patients – don't really need to understand mechanisms

## Basic sciences

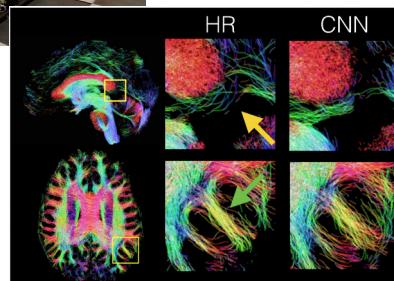


**cmic**

Centre for Medical Image Computing

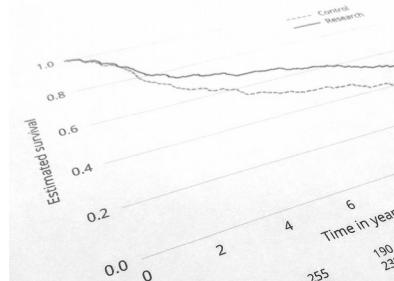


**Cluster computing**



**Imaging +  
machine  
learning**

UCL EPSRC CDT in  
 **Medical Imaging**



**Statistical  
methods**

## Clinical sciences



**HUNTINGTON'S  
DISEASE CENTRE**



**Leonard Wolfson  
Experimental Neurology Centre**



 **wellcome  
centre  
human  
neuroimaging**



Biomarker: any biological measurement that tracks disease progression

Event: transition of a biomarker from a normal to abnormal state (Markovian)

Sequence: order of events over sample of interest

Cross-sectional: data from a single time-point

- Construct a picture of how disease plays out over time
- Express in terms of symptoms, pathologies and biomarkers
- Reconstruction must exploit cross-sectional data, where possible

Longitudinal  
Clustering

Continuous  
Trajectories

Mechanistic  
(Network)

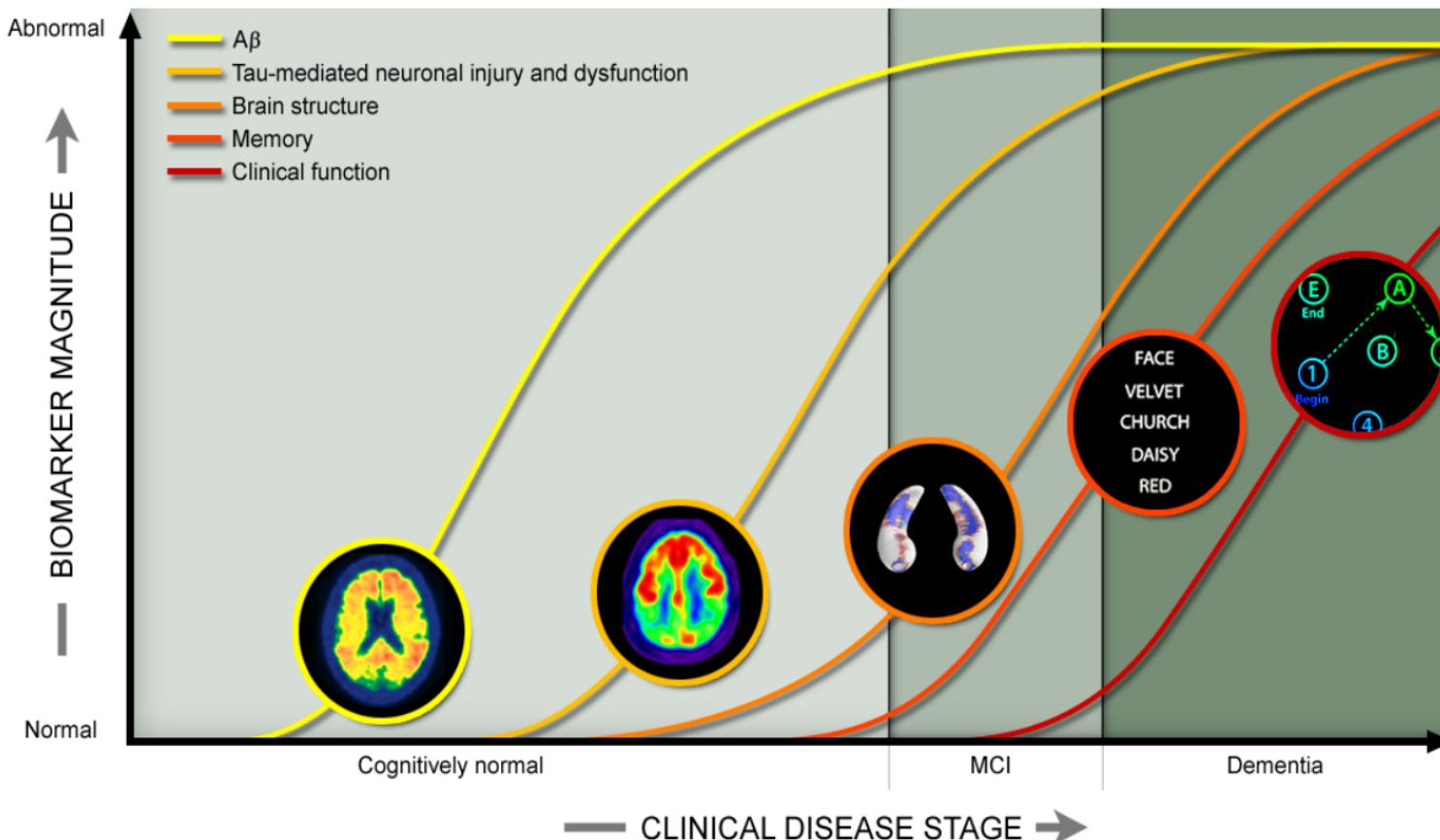
Clinical  
Translation

Discrete  
Trajectories  
(Event-Based Model)

E-Health  
Records

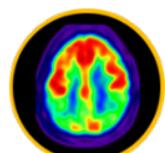
# High level: Disease progression modelling

<http://adni.loni.usc.edu/study-design/#background-container>

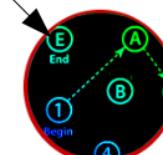
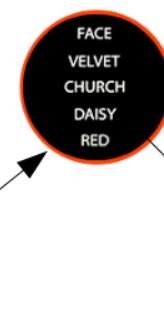
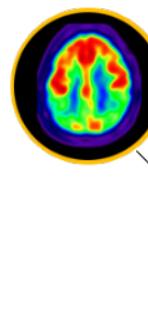


A picture of how components of a disease progresses over time

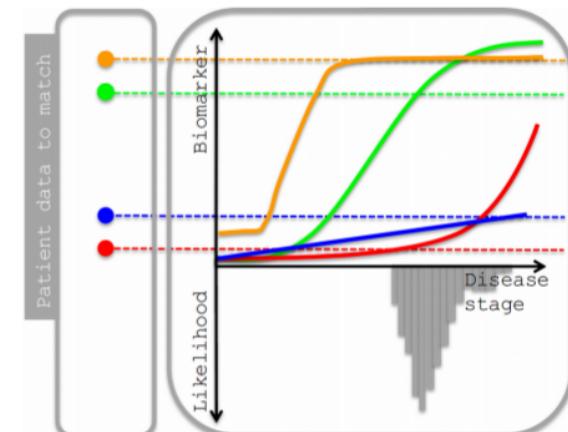
Disease progression models learn patterns of disease-related changes from data



Machine learning



Patient data

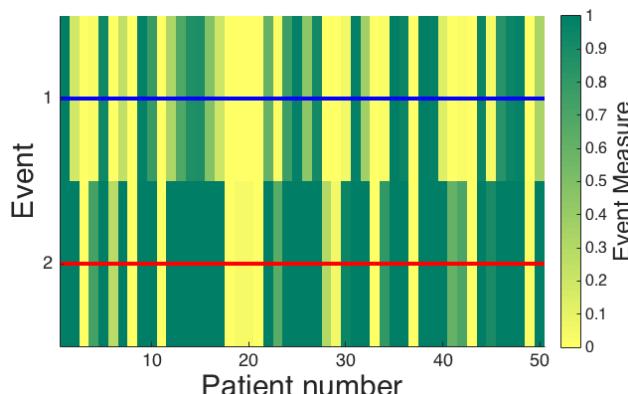
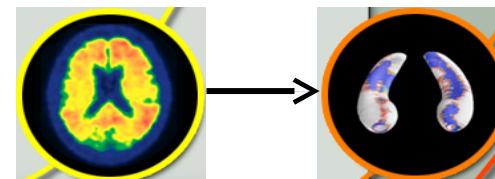
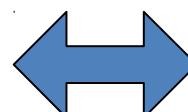
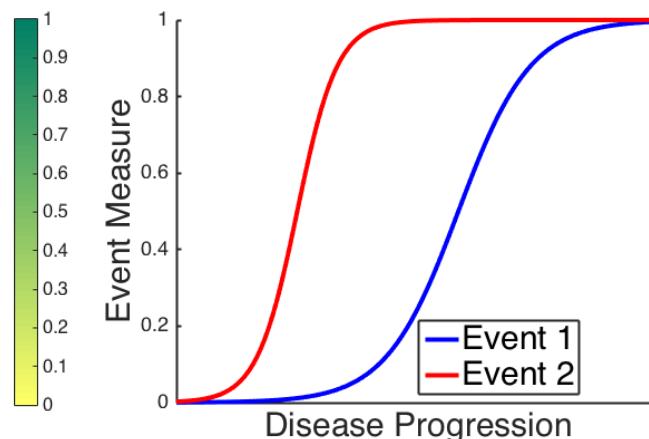


Disease progression model

- Can use models to infer temporal ordering of changes
- Can also stage and stratify patients → clinical trial design

EBM estimates ordering of **binary events** from data – normal or abnormal

Data can be cross-sectional and any combination of types (imaging, clinical, genetic...)

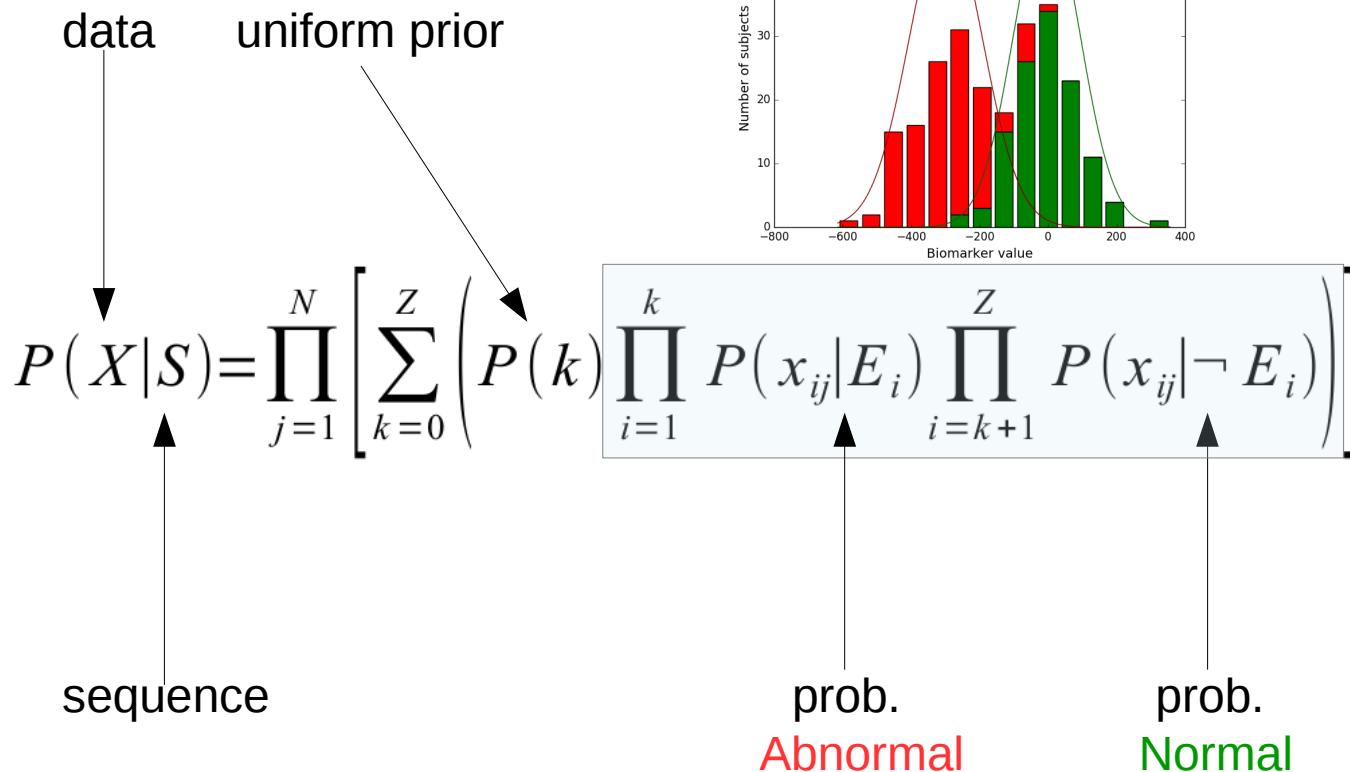


Simple example: 2 event measures

More patients have greater abnormality in Event 2 than Event 1

→ Event 2 **measurably abnormal** before Event 1

More formally: EBM is a generative model of observed data from unknown sequence

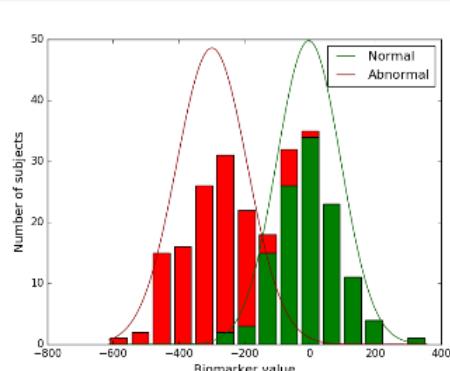


- The EBM needs likelihood distributions for normal and abnormal subjects  
→ Learn directly from data

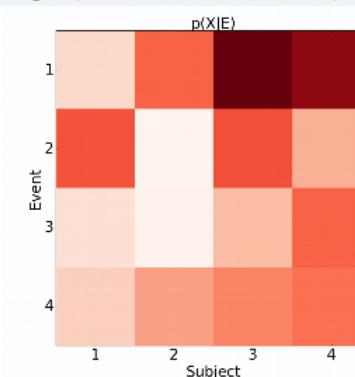
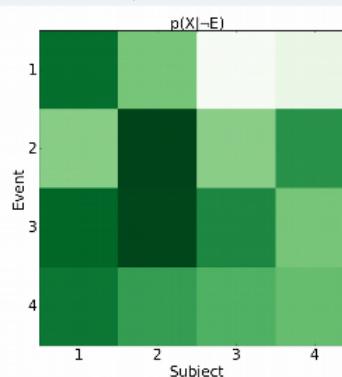
# Example: Event-based model (EBM)

## Event-based model

1. Fit mixture models to biomarkers

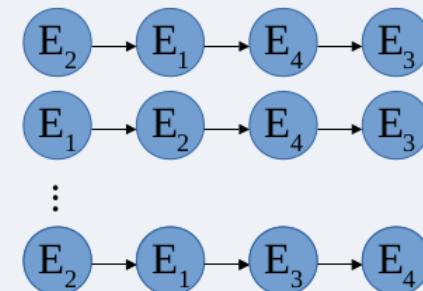
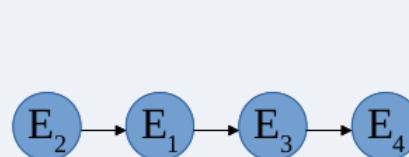
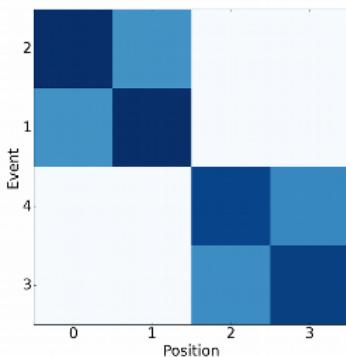


2. Calculate likelihoods of normality (event not occurred) and abnormality (event occurred)

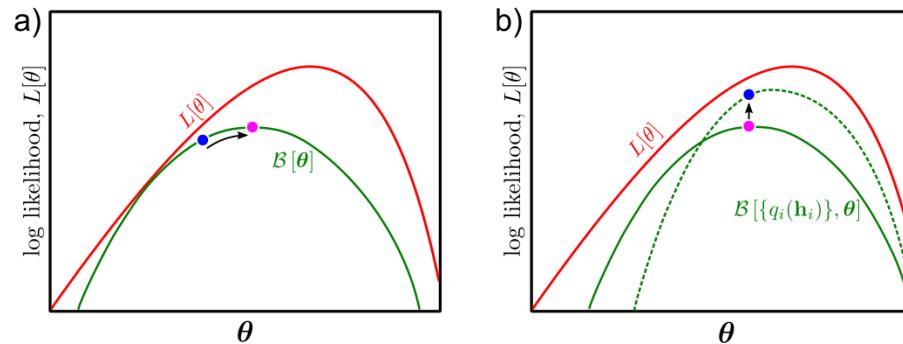


3. Estimate most likely sequence by Markov Chain Monte Carlo sampling

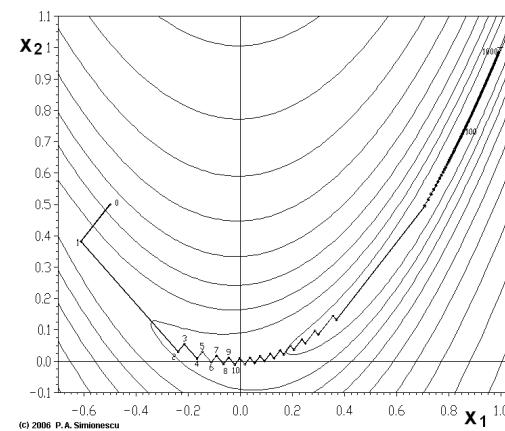
Positional variance diagram



## 1. Mixture model fitting – Expectation Maximisation

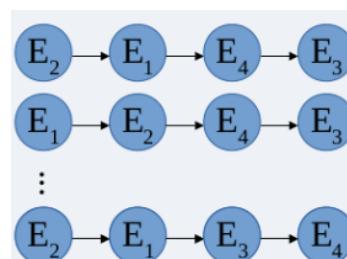


## 2. Latent variable (sequence) fitting – Gradient Ascent

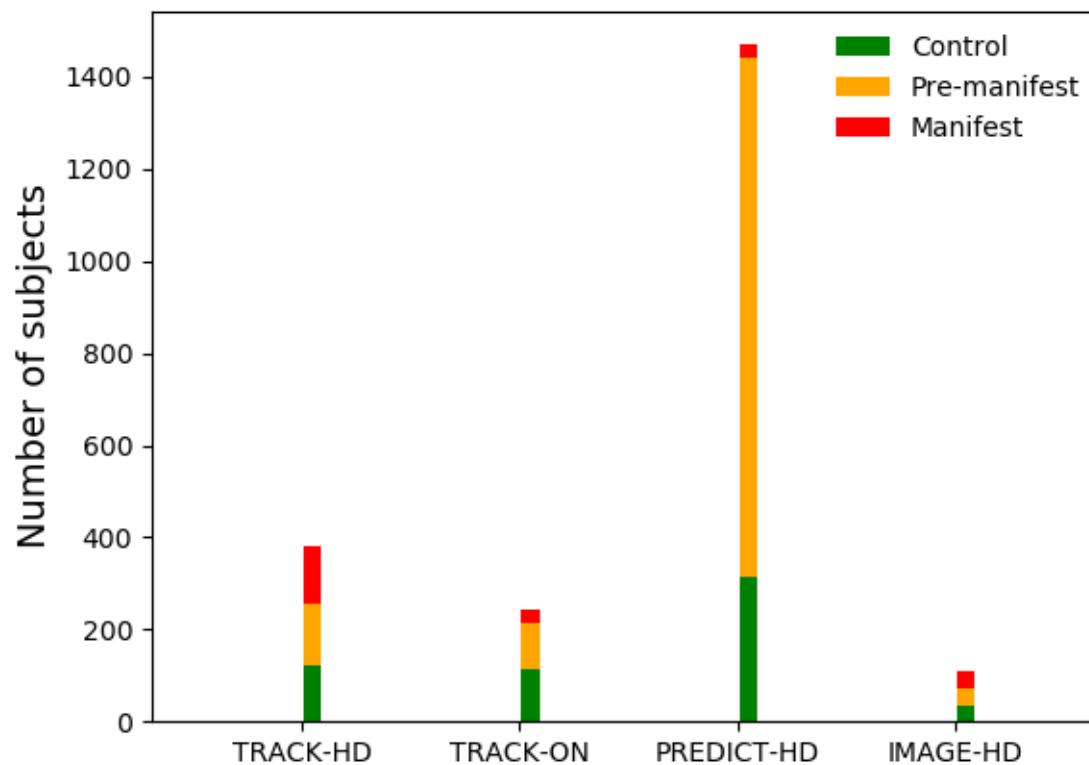


[wikipedia.org/wiki/gradient\\_descent](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/gradient_descent)

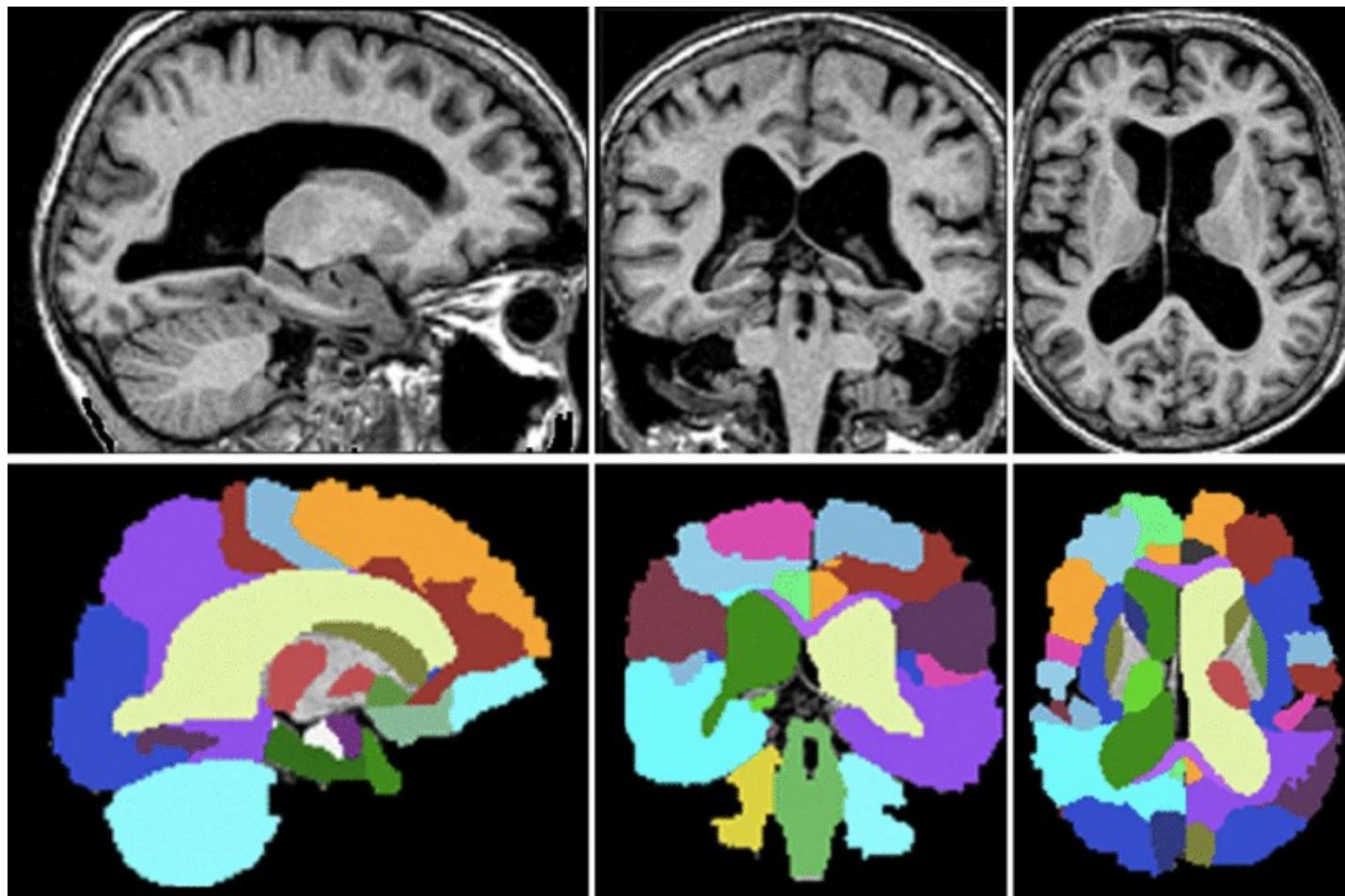
## 3. Uncertainty estimation – Markov Chain Monte Carlo



$$a = p(X \mid S') / p(X \mid S_t)$$

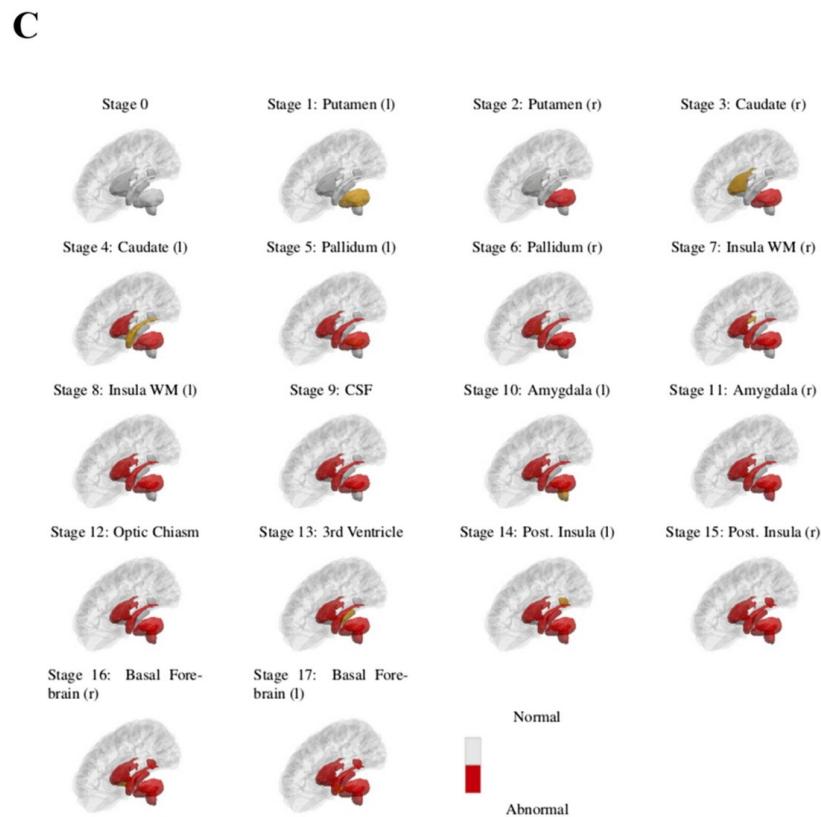
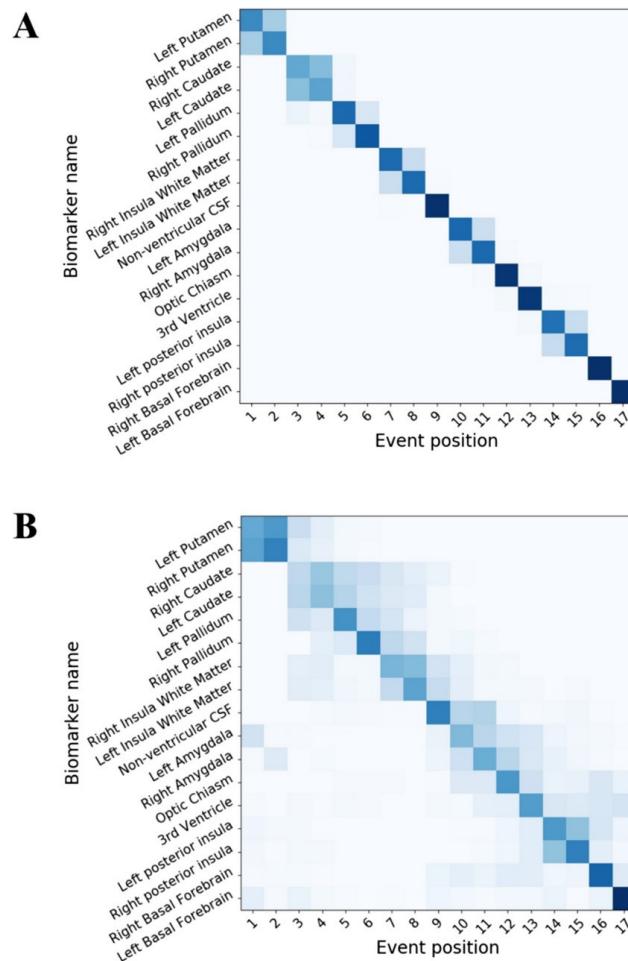


1. Build model on TRACK-HD
2. Cross-validate using PREDICT-HD and IMAGE-HD
3. Test predictive utility using TRACK-ON and PREDICT-HD

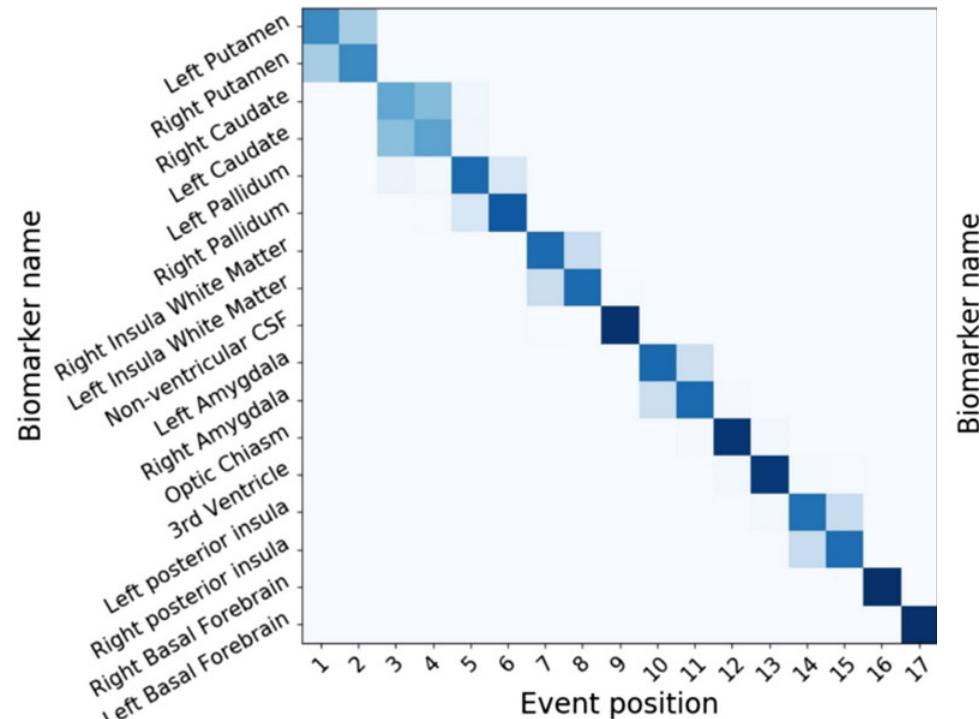


Extract regional brain volumes using Geodesic Information Flows\*

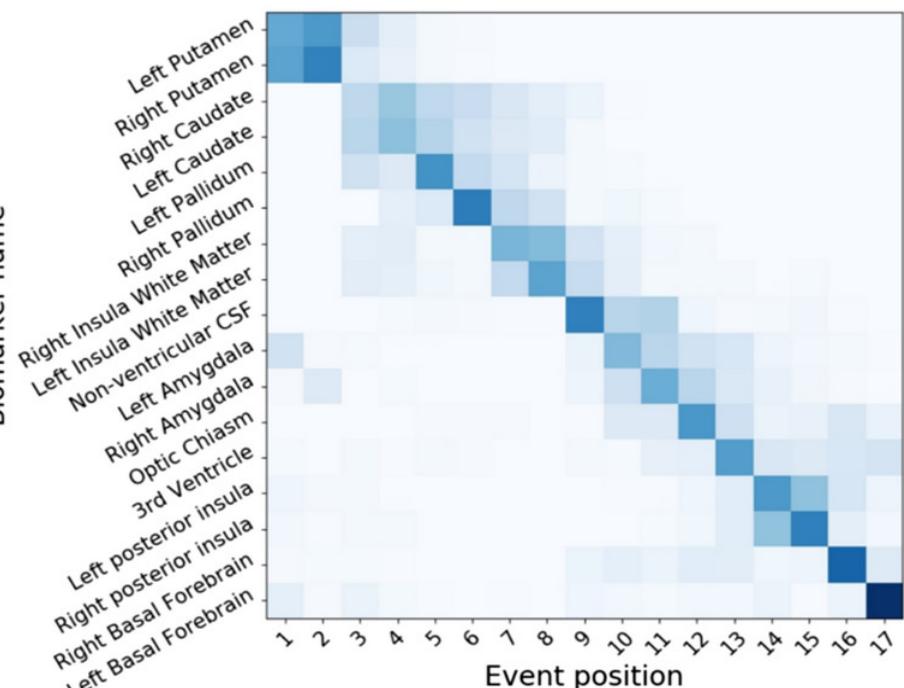
→ Reduces inter-subject variability by using spatially variant graphs to connect morphologically similar subjects



Direct model fit



Bootstrapped model fit



- Dark diagonal components indicate strong event ordering
- Lighter indicate possible event permutations

# Atrophy progression

Stage 0



Stage 1: Putamen (l)



Stage 2: Putamen (r)



Stage 3: Caudate (r)

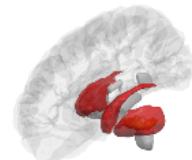


Central

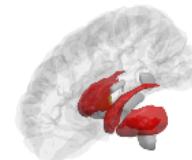
Stage 4: Caudate (l)



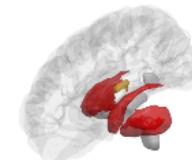
Stage 5: Pallidum (l)



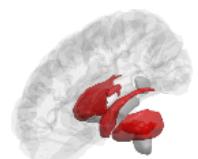
Stage 6: Pallidum (r)



Stage 7: Insula WM (r)



Stage 8: Insula WM (l)



Stage 9: CSF



Stage 10: Amygdala (l)



Stage 11: Amygdala (r)



HD  
progression

Stage 12: Optic Chiasm



Stage 13: 3rd Ventricle



Stage 14: Post. Insula (l)

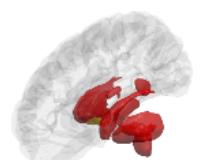


Stage 15: Post. Insula (r)

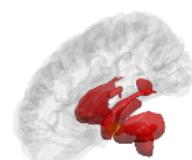


Peripheral

Stage 16: Basal Forebrain (r)



Stage 17: Basal Forebrain (l)



Normal

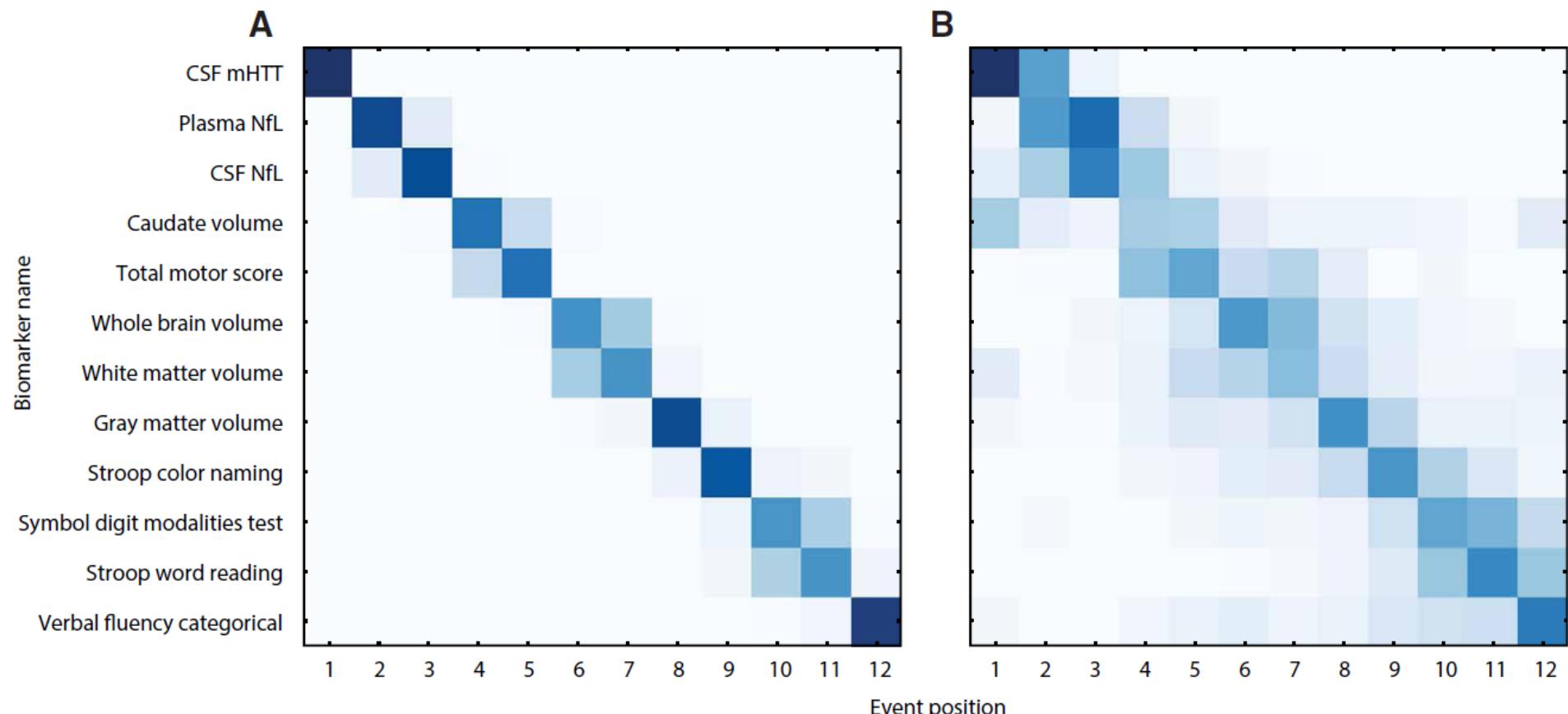


Abnormal

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE

## Evaluation of mutant huntingtin and neurofilament proteins as potential markers in Huntington's disease

Lauren M. Byrne<sup>1\*†</sup>, Filipe B. Rodrigues<sup>1†</sup>, Eileanor B. Johnson<sup>1</sup>, Peter A. Wijeratne<sup>2</sup>, Enrico De Vita<sup>3,4</sup>, Daniel C. Alexander<sup>2,5</sup>, Giuseppe Palermo<sup>6</sup>, Christian Czech<sup>6</sup>, Scott Schobel<sup>6</sup>, Rachael I. Scahill<sup>1</sup>, Amanda Heslegrave<sup>7</sup>, Henrik Zetterberg<sup>7,8,9,10</sup>, Edward J. Wild<sup>1\*</sup>



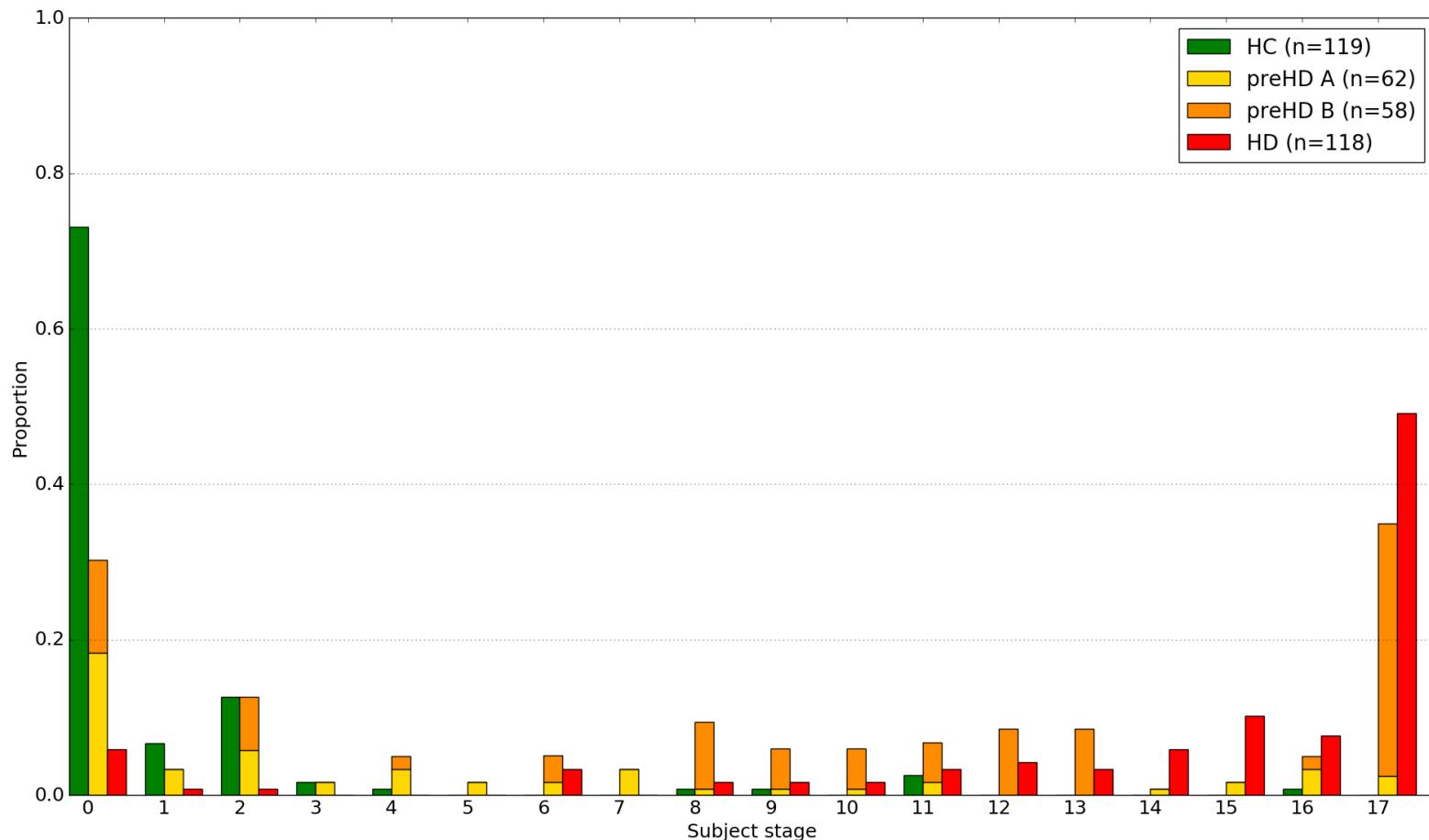
- Biofluid markers change before imaging and clinical markers

Simplest way is to take the stage that maximises the likelihood for each patient

$$\operatorname{argmax}_k P(X_j | \bar{S}, k) = \operatorname{argmax}_k P(k) \prod_{i=1}^k P(x_{ij} | E_i) \prod_{i=k+1}^l P(x_{ij} | \neg E_i)$$

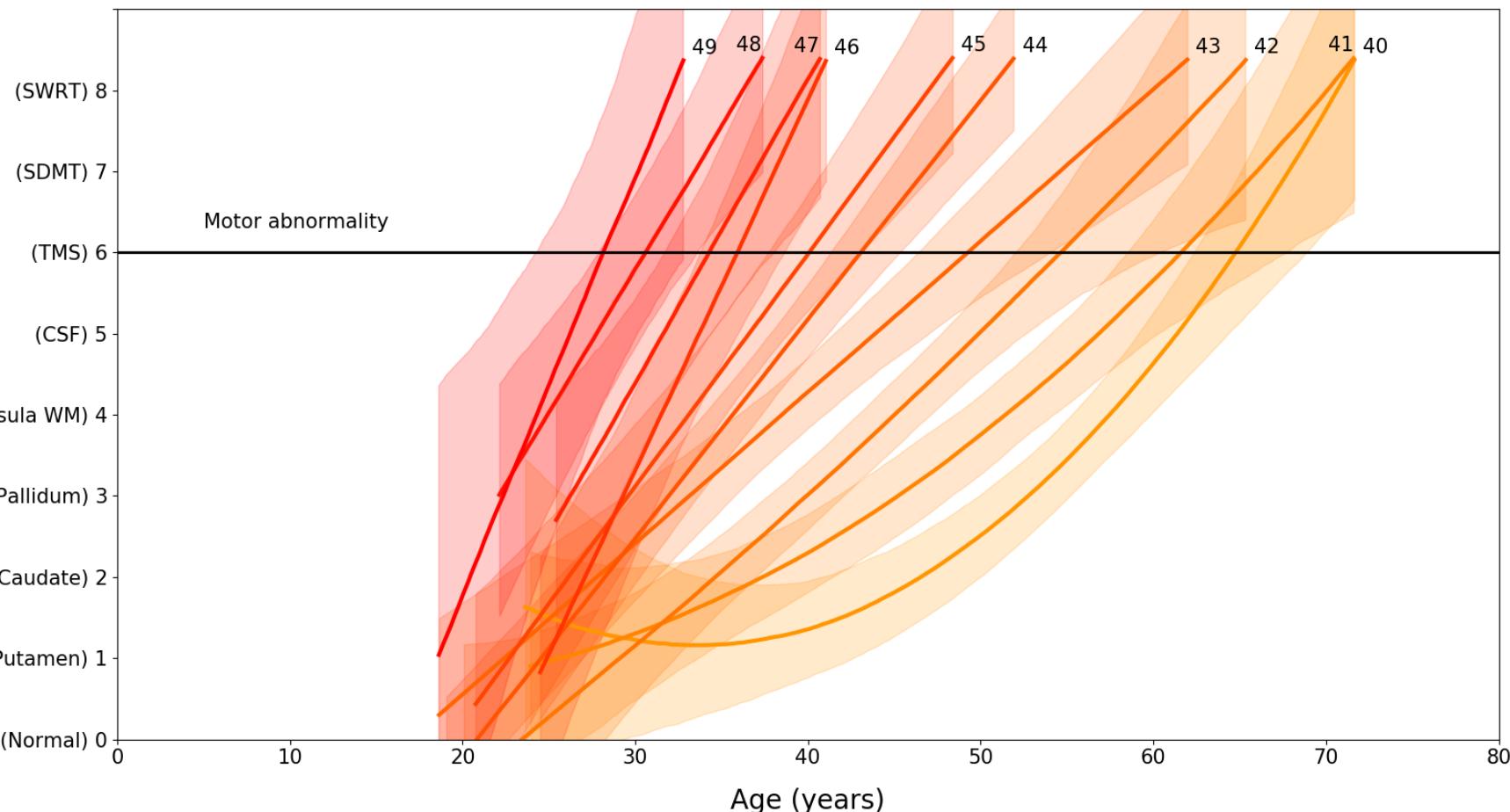
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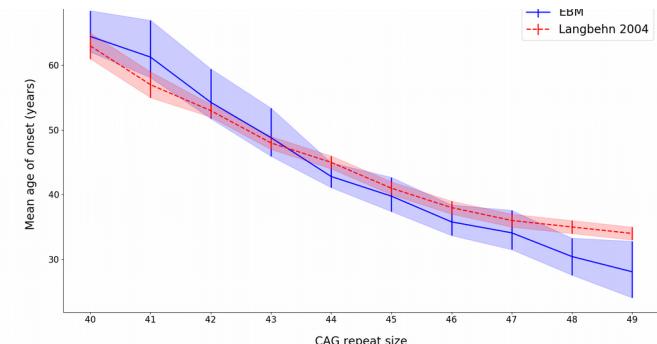


# Extending EBM-HD + cross-validation

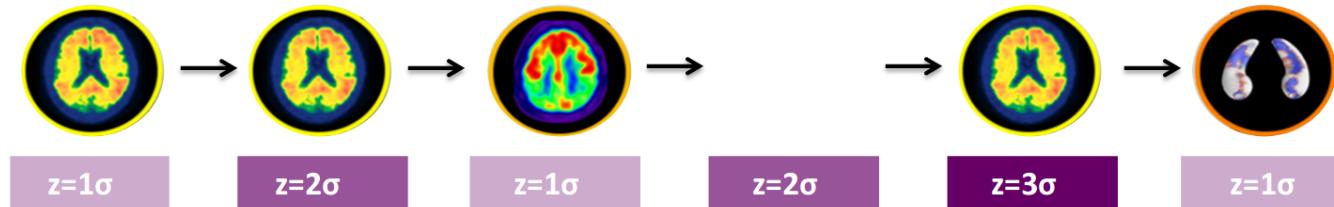
EBM stage



- Estimate age at event e.g.  
for CAG 40, WM atrophy at ~60 years old  
for CAG 49, WM atrophy at ~25 years old
- Age of onset agrees well with gold standard

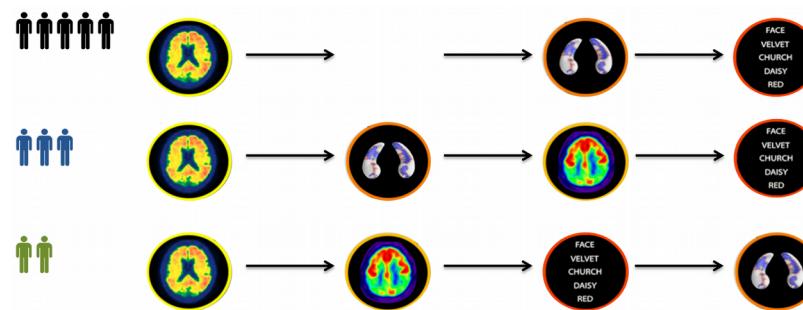


1. Continuous generalisation of EBM: instead of instantaneous abnormality, markers are a linear combination of z-scores



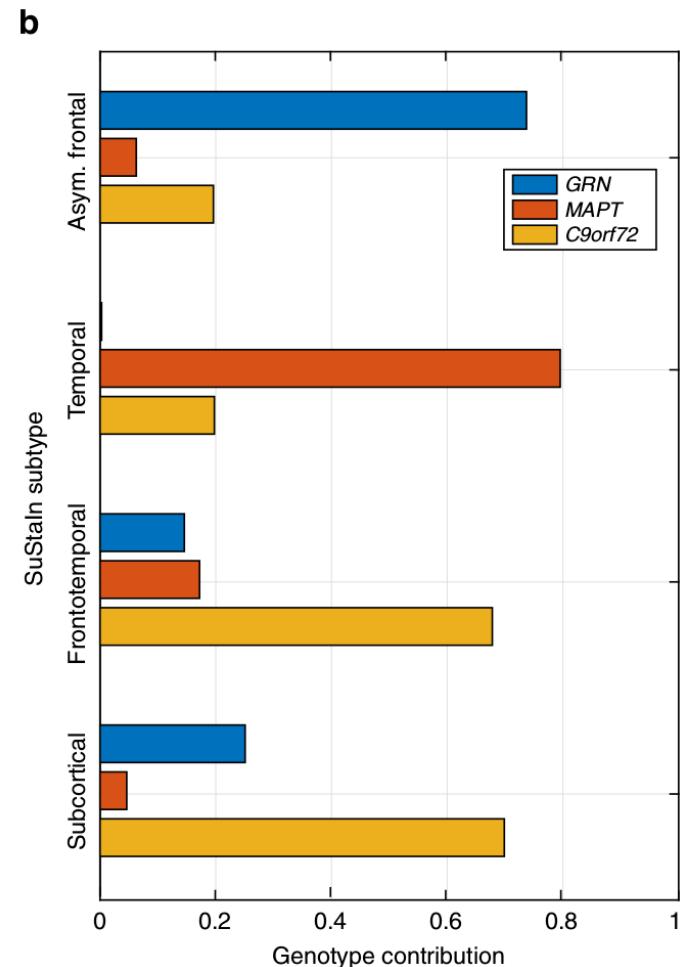
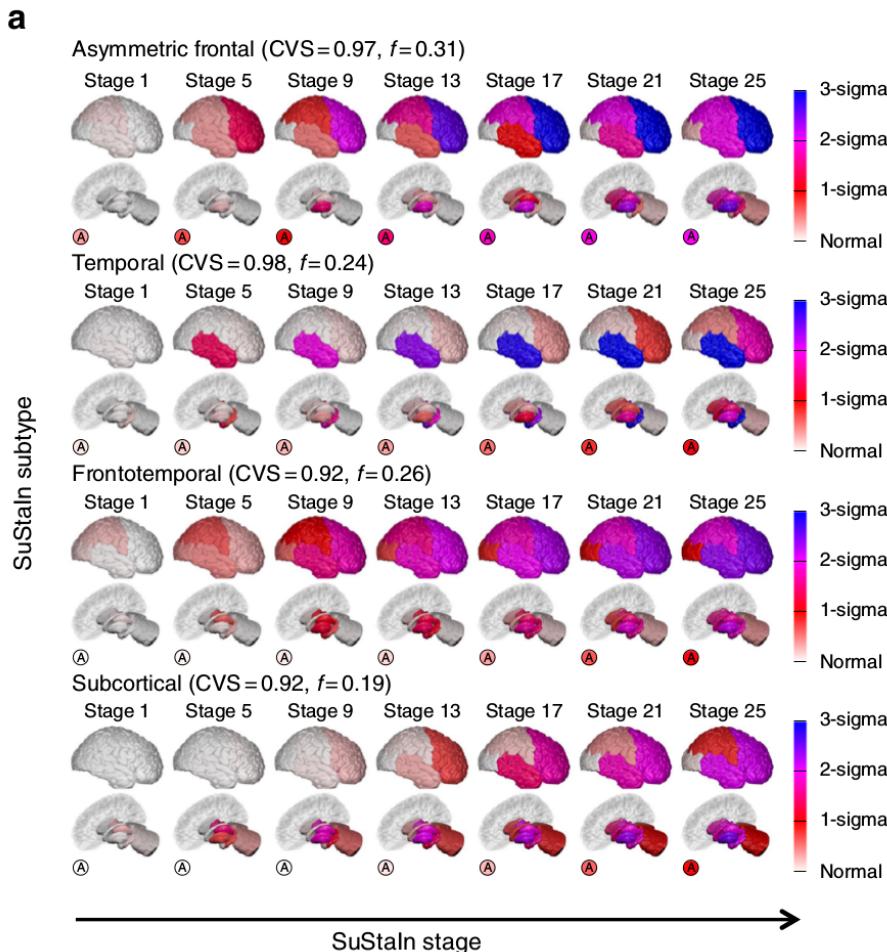
“Z-score model”

2. Total model is mixture of linear z-score models: grouped into clusters with distinct progression patterns

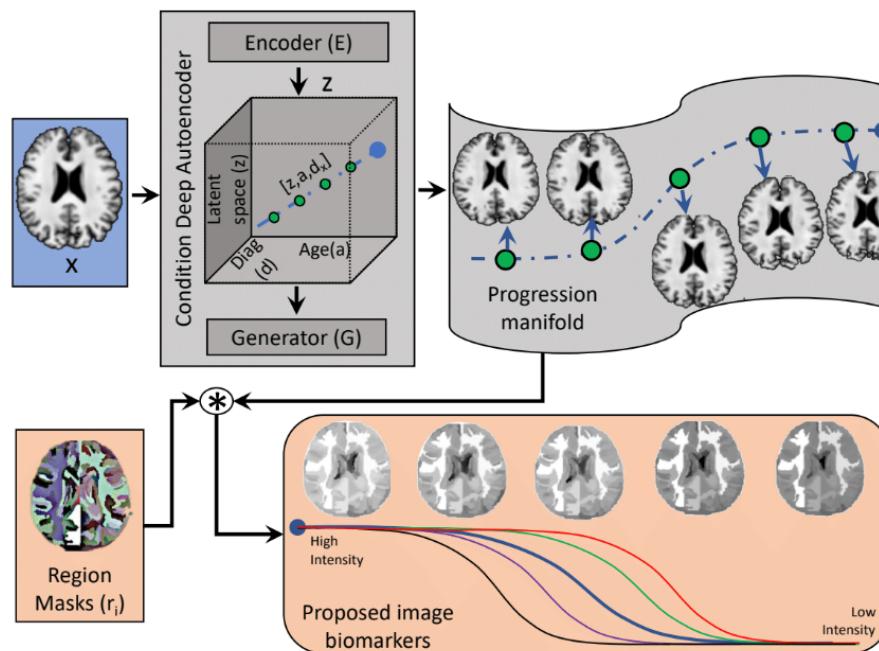


“Algorithm”

# SuStain: Subtype and Stage Inference



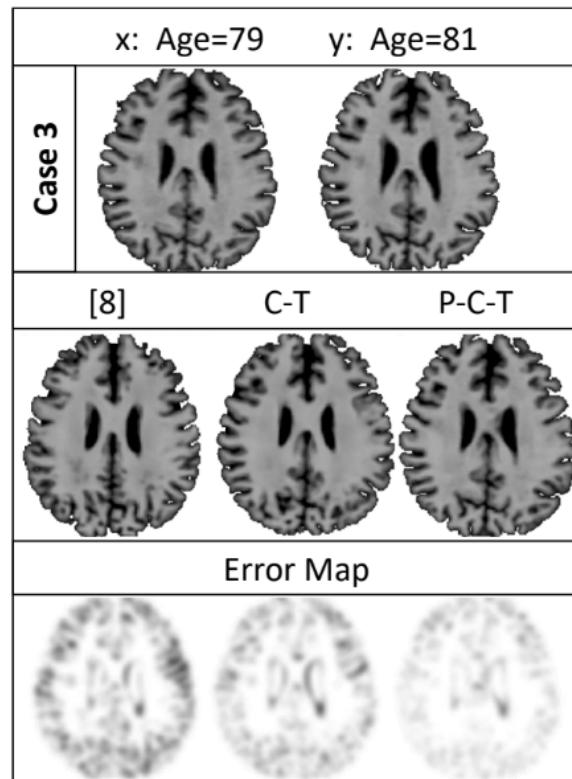
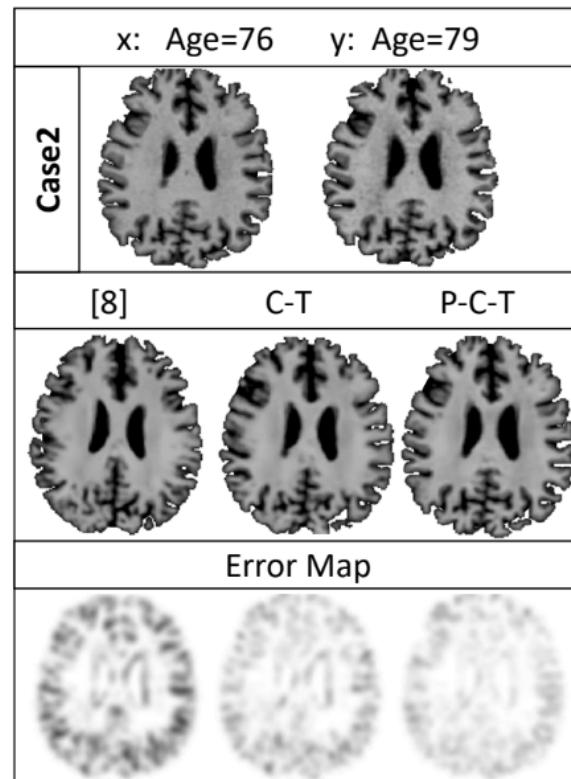
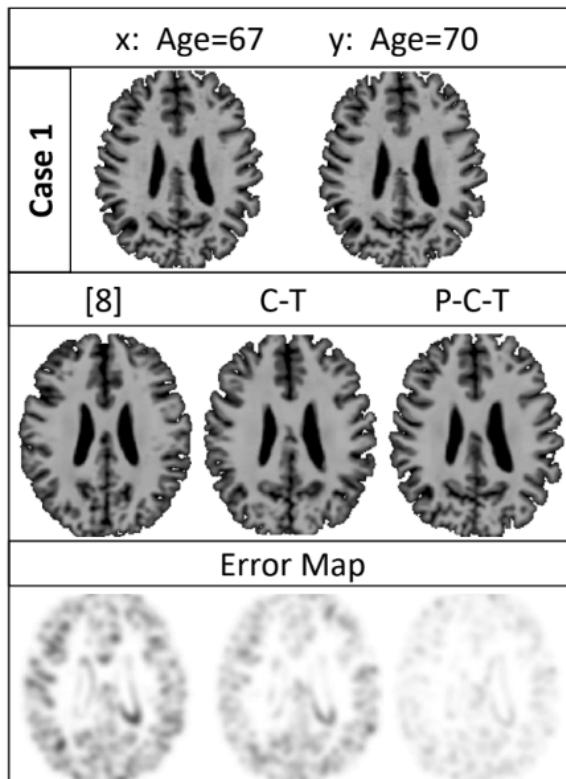
Gain this extra information just by generalising event-based model  
 – pretty neat



Deep learning disease trajectories using generative adversarial networks

- also used in HEP e.g. CaloGAN, Paganini, Oliveira, Nachman. 2017.

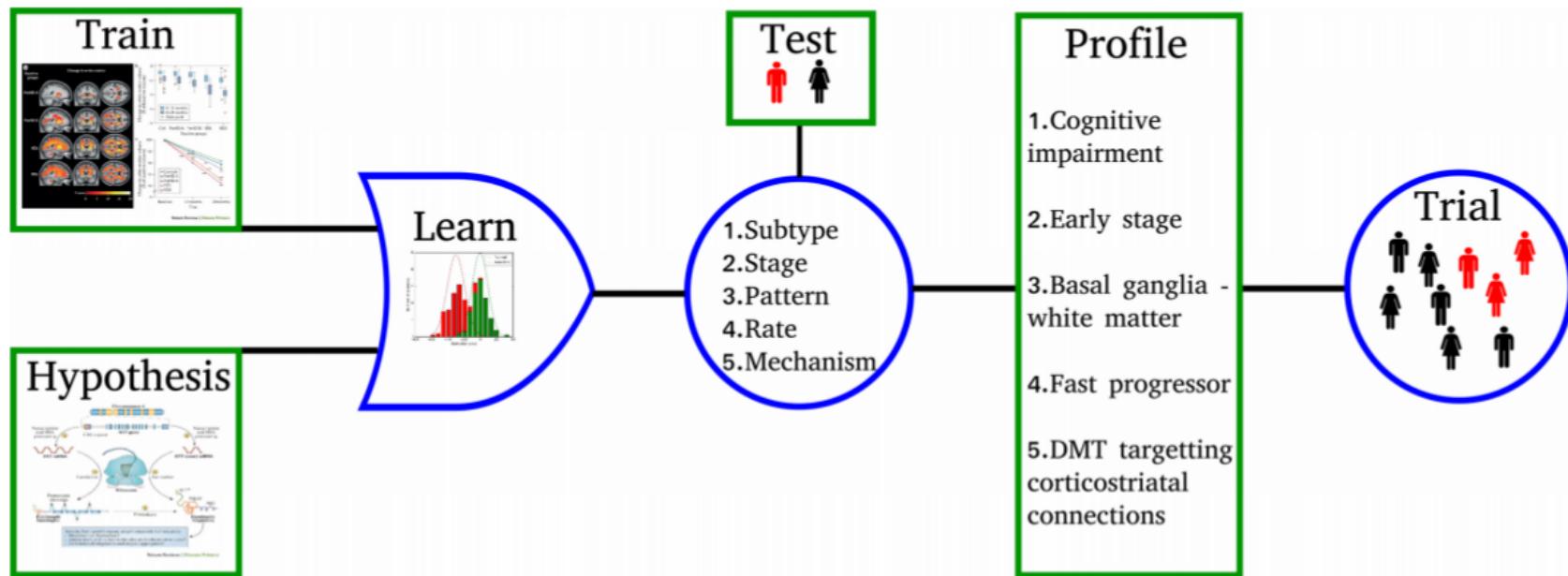
# Simulating brain atrophy



Deep learning disease trajectories using generative adversarial networks

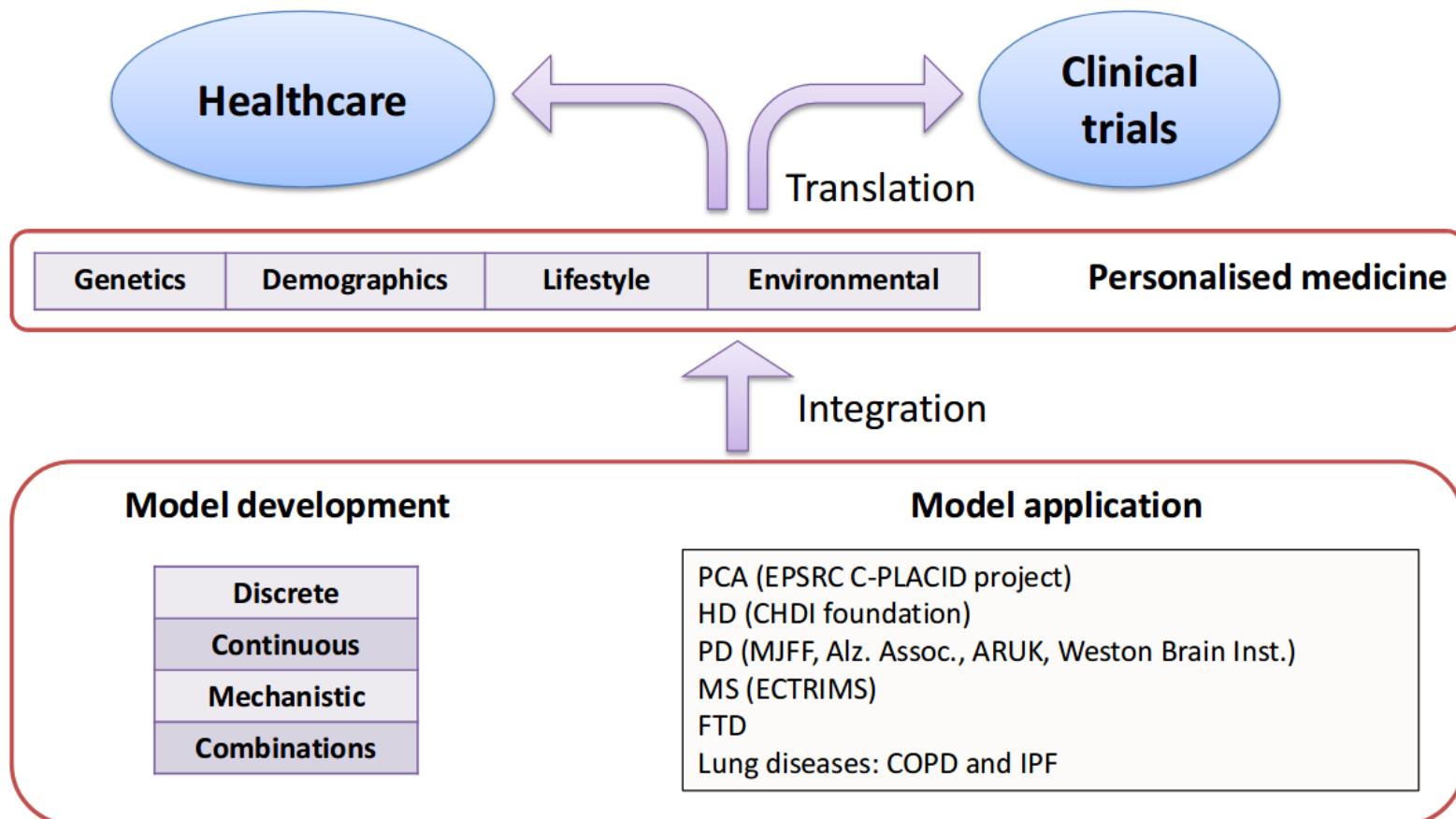
- also used in HEP e.g. CaloGAN, Paganini, Oliveira, Nachman. 2017.

Patient data + machine learning = personalised profiles for clinical trial design



Model can be used for both prospective and retrospective analysis

- Save money and time
- Optimise trial design



- Presented computational methods to extract information from large and varied datasets
- Machine learning methods are suitable for medical problems – i.e. inferring patterns from complex systems
- Still much to do – can we understand the mechanisms themselves?
- What can HEP and CS learn from each other?

