



**Women in  
Data Science  
Worldwide**

**WiDS Datathon 2025  
#WiDSDatathon**

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# Workshop Goals

- Challenge Task Overview
- Timeline and general outline
- Kaggle page
- Categorical variable description
- Functional Connectome Matrices





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## **WiDS Long-term Vision**

We envision a future in which women are fully integrated and represented in all areas of Data Science, and share equally in Decision Making, Economic Prosperity, and Opportunities.





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## WiDS Mission

To change the field of data science across the globe by **elevating, educating, and empowering** women to achieve 30% representation of women in data science by 2030.



## Datathon 2025 Goals

- Lowering barriers to entry into data science
- Encourage students to hone their data science skills, in subjects such as: data wrangling, processing and preparing for machine learning along with fitting and testing a machine learning model
- We hope by the end of this challenge you feel more confident to enter the field of data science
- Provide women a sense of belonging





# WiDS Datathon Impact



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**78%**

versus a typical Kaggle  
competition with less  
than 20% female

**Female**



**51%**

characterized themselves as  
beginners, 11% were advanced  
/experts in the field

**Beginners**



**62%**

have not previously  
participated in a machine  
learning or predictive  
analytics competition

**No Prior  
Experience**



**73%**

respondents said they  
gained new skills in  
data science

**New Skills**



Join us, and participate in the annual WiDS Datathon  
[widsworldwide.org/learn/datathon](https://widsworldwide.org/learn/datathon)



## WiDS Datathon Challenge Overview

*The WiDS Datathon was developed with Ann S. Bowers Women's Brain Health Initiative in collaboration with Cornell University and UC Santa Barbara. Datasets and support are provided by the Healthy Brain Network (HBN), the signature scientific initiative of the Child Mind Institute, and the Reproducible Brain Charts project (RBC).*

Neuropsychiatric disorders that occur in development, like anxiety, depression, autism, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD, often differ in how and to what extent they affect males and females. ADHD occurs in about 11% of adolescents, with around 14% of boys and 8% of girls having a diagnosis. **There is some evidence that girls with ADHD can often go undiagnosed**, as they tend to have more inattentive symptoms which are harder to detect. Girls with ADHD who are undiagnosed will continue suffering from symptoms that burden their mental health and capacity to function.



# WiDS Datathon Challenge Task

*This datathon challenge aims to answer this question:*

**What brain activity patterns are associated with ADHD; are they different between males and females, and, if so, how?**

To work towards the answer to this question, participants will be tasked with building a **multi outcome model to predict both an individual's sex and their ADHD diagnosis** using functional brain imaging data of adolescents and their socio-demographic, emotions, and parenting information.

A multi-outcome model is designed to predict multiple target variables simultaneously using a single machine learning model.

(female:1, male:0, ADHD: 1 ; no ADHD 0)





# WiDS Datathon 2025

Unraveling the Mysteries of the Female Brain: Sex Patterns in ADHD

[Overview](#) [Data](#) [Code](#) [Models](#) [Discussion](#) [Leaderboard](#) [Rules](#) [Team](#) [Submissions](#) [Settings](#)

## Overview

Join the WiDS Datathon to hone your data science skills while solving an interesting and critical social impact challenge! Using fMRI data, you will be tasked with building a model to predict both an individual's sex and their ADHD diagnosis.

### Start

an hour ago

## Description

### Background / Context:

The WiDS Datathon Global Challenge was developed with [Ann S. Bowers Women's Brain Health Initiative \(WBHI\)](#) in collaboration with Cornell University and UC Santa Barbara. Datasets and support are provided by the Healthy Brain Network (HBN), the signature scientific initiative of the [Child Mind Institute](#), and the Reproducible Brain Charts (RBC).

Neuropsychiatric disorders that occur in development, like anxiety, depression, autism, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD, often differ in how and to what extent they affect males and females. ADHD occurs in about 5% of adolescents, with around 14% of boys and 8% of girls having a diagnosis. There is some evidence that girls with ADHD can often go undiagnosed, as they tend to have more inattentive symptoms which are harder to detect. Girls with ADHD who are undiagnosed will continue suffering with symptoms that burden their mental health and capacity to function.

For more domain context see the following videos: [The Role of AI in Advancing Women's Brain Health Research](#) and [Sex-specific differences in the healthy and disordered brain](#)

Submit Prediction



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### Competition Host

widsdatathon



### Prizes & Awards

Kudos [Edit](#)

Does not award Points or Medals

# Hosted on Kaggle

Kaggle is one of the most popular machine learning platforms in the world. Users can share code, data, and ideas, and collaborate on projects.

Check it out: [Kaggle](#)

[Tutorials & Resources](#)

[Team Formation](#)

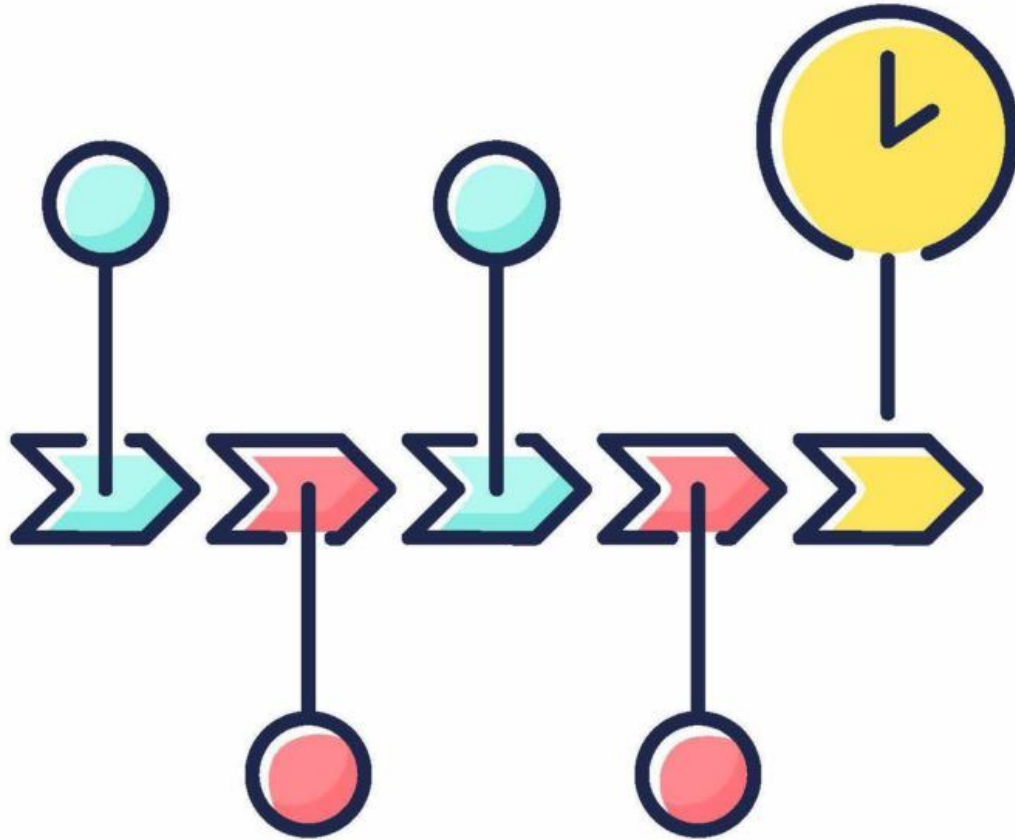
[Awards & Recognition](#)

[Team](#)

# Challenge Timeline



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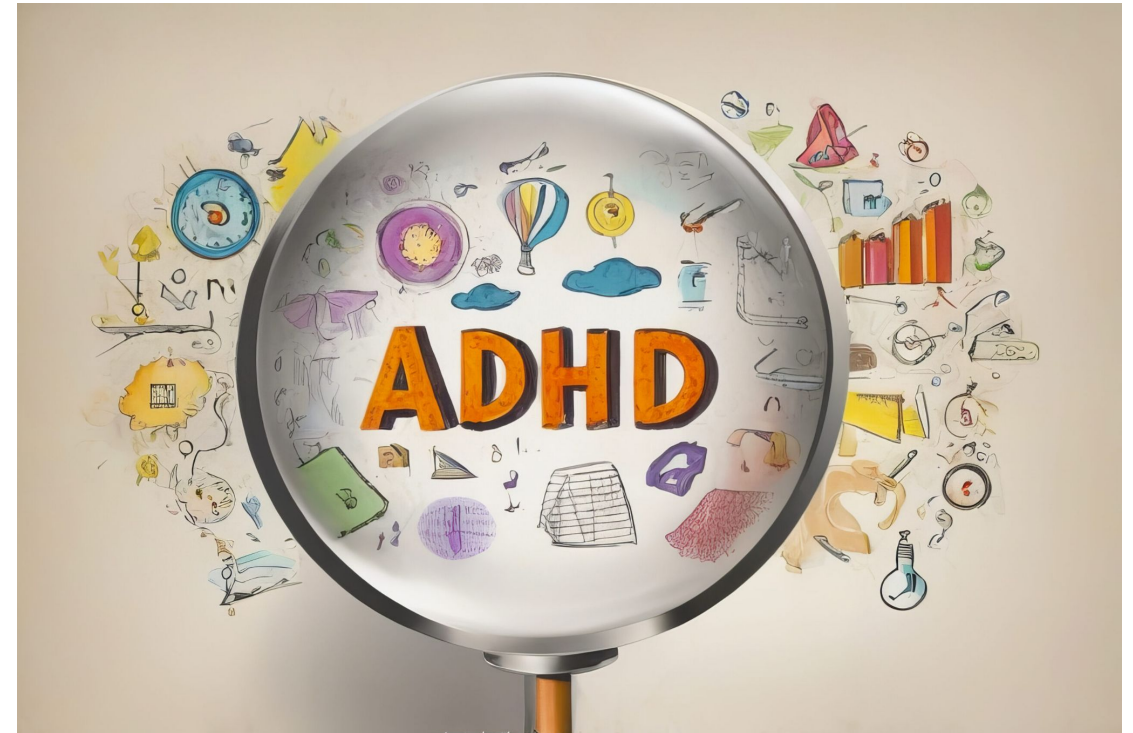
- Challenge launches January 7th!
- You have until April 27th to submit your teams
- You have until April 30th to submit your results on kaggle

# The Dataset



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- **Training folder** (1,200+ subjects):
  - **Targets:**
    - ADHD Diagnosis
    - Sex
  - **Functional MRI Connectome Matrices**
  - **Socio-demographic Information:**
    - Quantitative Metadata
    - Categorical Metadata
- **Test folder** (300+ subjects):
  - **Functional MRI Connectome Matrices**
  - **Socio-Demographic Information**





# Functional MRI Connectome Matrices

## What is fMRI?

- Resting-state Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI)
- Measures brain activity using **Blood Oxygen Level-Dependent** (BOLD) contrast.
  - Active brain regions consume more oxygen → blood flow increases to those regions → fMRI detects changes in blood oxygen levels to infer neural activity.

## What is Functional Connectivity?

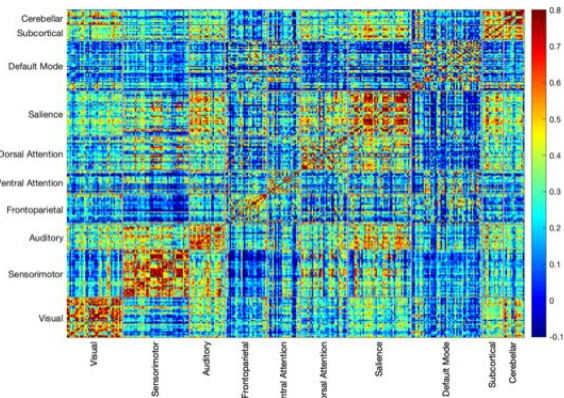
- Describes interactions between different brain regions.
- Originally represented as a **Matrix**, where rows and columns represent brain regions and the cells the **correlation** between activity in paired regions.
- The matrix was **transformed into a dataset**, with each column representing the interaction between two brain regions (e.g. Region 0 ↔ Region 1 )

## What do the interactions mean?

- **Positive values:** Brain regions are more active together
- **Negative values:** Brain regions are less active together



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participant_id	0throw_1thcolumn	0throw_2thcolumn	0throw_3thcolumn	0throw_4thcolumn
70z8Q2xdTXM3	0.0934730255256336	0.1469023438487970	0.0678925633843087	0.0151411151994212
WHWymJu6zNZi	0.029579748150484	0.1793233783007680	0.1129332102999940	0.0382909950599437
4PAQp1M6EyAo	-0.0515796811041808	0.1397339475203460	0.0682950218190208	0.046990703137188
obEacy4Of68I	0.0162734004730087	0.2047015410840510	0.1159800052901390	0.043102511558928
s7WzzDcmDOhF	0.0657705599446428	0.0987136527971691	0.0976039908636495	0.1129884882306060

# Metadata and Descriptions of Variables



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**Healthy Brain Network (HBN)** is the community-based initiative of the Child Mind Institute. HBN openly shares phenotypic and neuroimaging data to study mental health and learning disorders in the developing brain.

- There are qualitative (categorical) and quantitative data types
- Use data as predictor of ADHD diagnosis and sex

## Demographics

- Participants include both females and males, aged 5-22 years
- Race, ethnicity, handedness, year of participation, color vision score

## MRI information

- Location and age of participant during the MRI scan process

## Social Status

- **Barratt Simplified Measure of Social Status**
- Parents' levels of education and occupation

# Metadata and Descriptions of Variables



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## Parenting

- **Alabama Parenting Questionnaire**
- Domains of parenting relevant to etiology and treatment of child externalizing problems
- Positive involvement, supervision/monitoring, use of positive discipline, consistency in the use of such discipline, use of corporal punishment

## Emotions

- **Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire**
- Measures emotional and behavioral well-being of participants
- Asks the caregiver if the participant has experienced a problem
- Problem's degree of chronicity, distress, social impairment, and burden to others



# HBN DATA

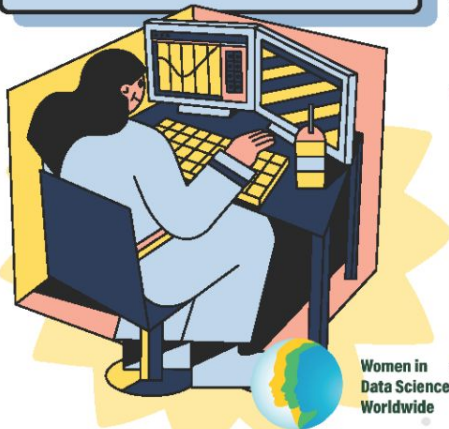
WiDS Datathon Global Challenge 2025

## MRI

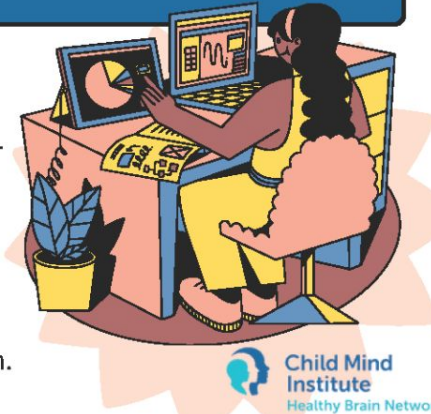
HBN collects **Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)** data, including structural MRI, functional MRI (fMRI), and diffusion tensor MRI (DTI).

## FUNCTIONAL CONNECTIVITY

As part of the **RBC initiative**, functional connectivity matrices are created from **resting-state fMRI data**, by correlating brain activity across different regions.



The **Healthy Brain Network (HBN)** is the **community-based research initiative** of the **Child Mind Institute**. HBN openly shares phenotypic and neuroimaging data to study **mental health and learning disorders** in the developing brain.



## PHENOTYPES

HBN collects phenotypic data from **>140 assessments** across several domains. Check out the **comprehensive list of HBN assessments!**

## DEMOGRAPHICS

HBN participants include both **females** and **males**, aged **5-22 years**. Participant's **race, ethnicity, handedness, year of participation**, and **color vision score** are provided.

## EMOTIONS

The **Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire** measures **emotional and behavioral well-being** of children and adolescents across core areas.

## PARENTING

The **Alabama Parenting Questionnaire** measures different **domains of parenting** that are relevant to the etiology and treatment of child externalizing problems.

## SOCIAL STATUS

The **Barratt Simplified Measure of Social Status** is a proxy for socio-economic status. It lists parents' levels of **education** and **occupations**.

## DIAGNOSES

HBN provides **no-cost diagnostic evaluations** to children and adolescents. Each participant is provided with up to 10 diagnoses. Check out the **HBN diagnostic process!**

## ADHD

Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is defined by **inattention, and/or hyperactivity/impulsivity** symptoms that can impact functioning or development.

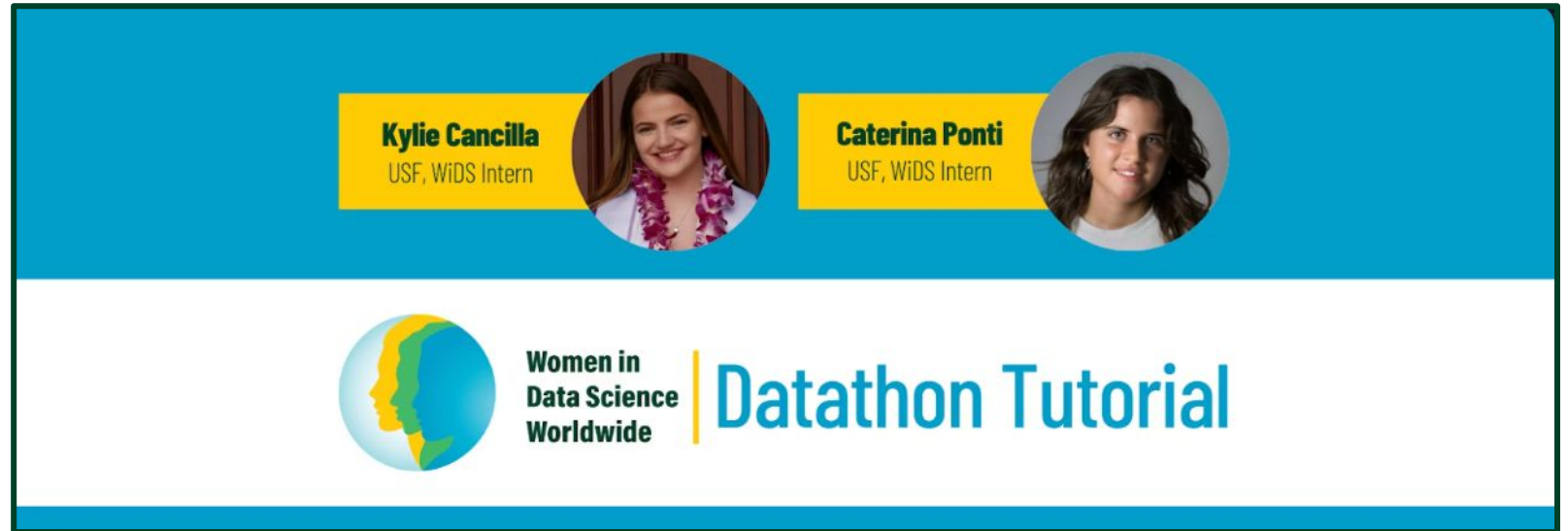
## TYPES

The DSM-5 classifies ADHD into three types based on the predominant symptoms: **Inattentive Type, Hyperactive/Impulsive Type, and Combined Type**.

## CERTAINTY

As part of the HBN protocol, clinicians assign a **level of certainty** to diagnoses: **Confirmed, Presumptive, Requires Confirmation, Rule-Out, and By-History**.

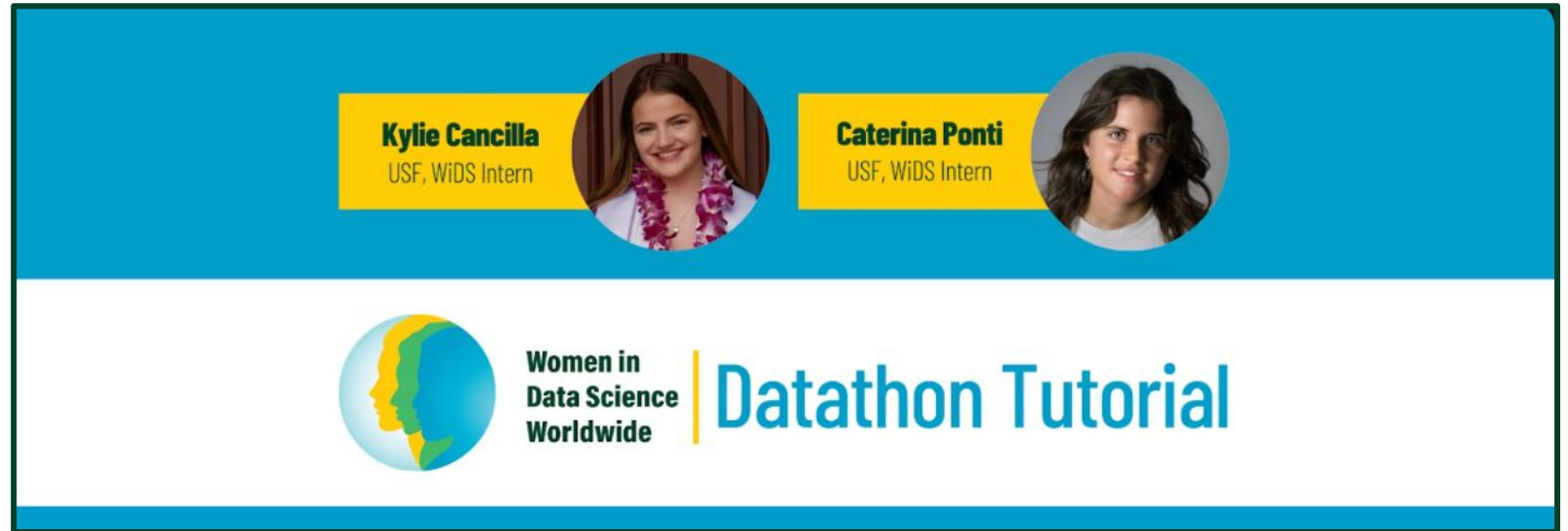
# Save the Date: January 22, 2025



## Workshop Topic: Preprocessing and Preparation of the Dataset

- A. Encoding categorical variables
- B. Merging Metadata and Functional Connectivity Matrix on indices
- C. NaNs values

# Save the Date: February 5, 2025



## Workshop Topic: Building and Evaluating a Machine Learning Model

- A. Building the Multi-Output Model
- B. Accuracy score
- C. Explaining F1-score as the metric for model evaluation



# THANK YOU!

## Questions?

