

# Using HTC to develop precision mental health algorithms

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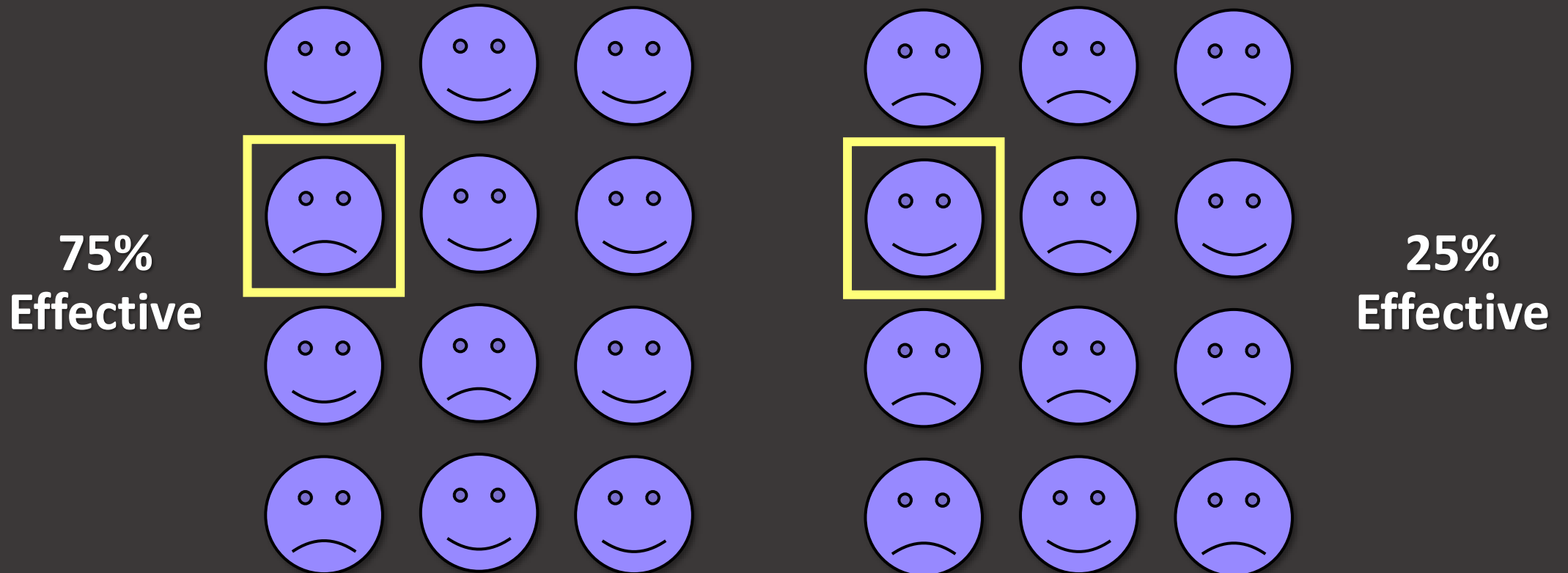
University of Wisconsin-Madison

HTCondor Week

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# Background: Traditional Treatment Assignment

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# Background: Precision Mental Health

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*The application of precision medicine to mental health conditions*

**Goal: to use individual differences to select the treatment with the highest predicted treatment efficacy for a given patient**

- 1. Increase likelihood of treatment success **within an individual****
- 2. Improve treatment effectiveness rates **across the population****

# Background: Machine Learning

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- Offers a path forward for precision mental health
- Maps onto complexity of people and clinical phenomena
- Prioritizes out-of-sample prediction

# Model Fitting

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Models include:

- Treatment condition
- ~400 individual difference predictors
- Outcome (treatment success at 6 months)



Data used for  
model fitting



Data used for  
model evaluation

# Model Fitting

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- **Model configurations include:**
  - **Statistical algorithms (e.g., elastic net logistic regression, random forest, k-nearest neighbors, neural networks)**
  - **Algorithm-specific characteristics (e.g., hyperparameters, number of hidden layers)**
  - **Feature sets & feature engineering decisions**

# Model Fitting

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- **Example:**
  - **Statistical algorithm: random forest**
  - **Algorithm-specific characteristics: 3 hyperparameters with varying levels, total of 100 combinations**
  - **Feature sets & feature engineering decisions: models with self-report items or self-report scales**
  
- **Total: 200 models to fit**

# Jobs Setup

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- **To maximize parallelism of CHTC, we break down model fitting into the smallest jobs possible**
  - **Single combination of statistical algorithm, algorithm characteristics, and feature characteristics run as one job**
- **Jobs are run across CHTC and Open Science Grid machines**
- **We aggregate jobs locally to select the model configuration that performed best across cross-validated iterations**



# Computing Time

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- Each model takes anywhere from 1 – 5 minutes to run
- Even running in parallel locally, it would take days to fit single scenarios
  - This is ~650 computing hours just for the previous example scenario!
- Computing time multiplied by “intended” scenarios as well as testing and iteration

# Using CHTC & HTCondor

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- **Most important feature is the CHTC support team!**
- **Also helpful are clear documentation and walkthroughs**
- **Have also benefitted from within-lab collaboration across multiple projects using CHTC**

# Impact

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- **Precision mental health research and algorithm building will only be possible with this kind of computing power**
- **Allows me to maximize time, resources, and person power**
- **Allows me to expand my research and funding opportunities**
  - **Incorporating genetics**
  - **UW Seed Grant**
  - **Fellowship application**



**Thank you!**