



National Academy of Sciences: Exploring the Bidirectional Relationship Between AI and Neuroscience  
Session 2: R&D Considerations for Neuroscience & AI

*Harnessing Rapidly Advancing AI in Pharmaceutical Development to  
Enhance Patients' Lives Today*

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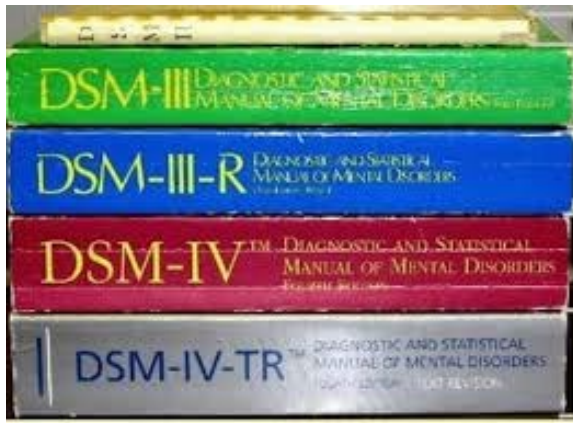
# Disclosure & Disclaimers

**Dr. Wittenberg is a full -time employee of J&J Innovative Medicines, and a J&J stockholder**

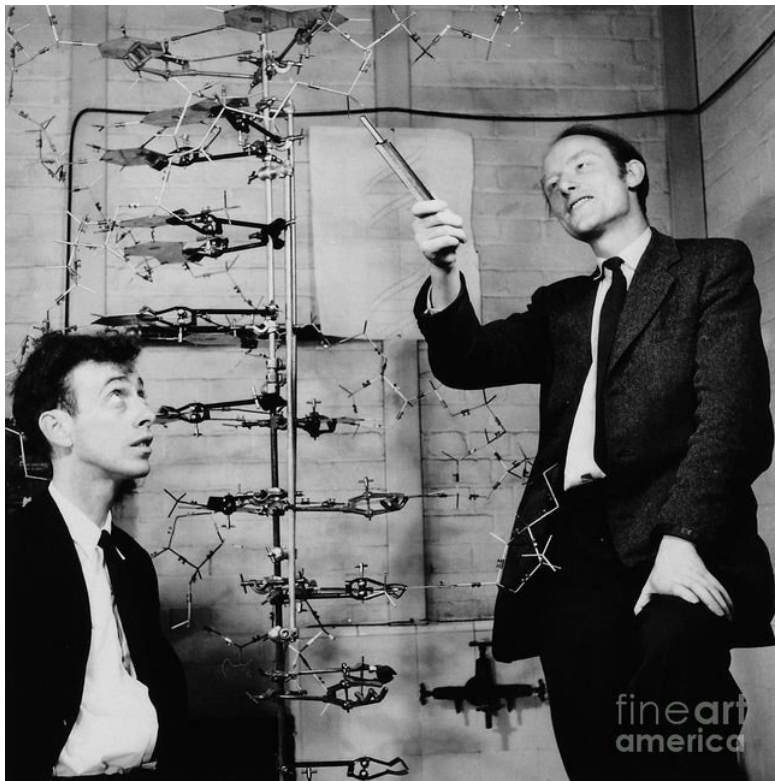
**The views expressed in this presentation are those of Dr. Wittenberg, and do not reflect the views of J&J Innovative Medicine**

# Precision Neuroscience

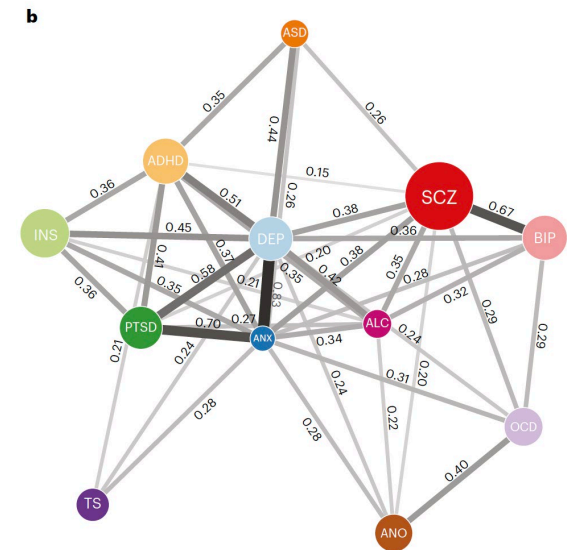
Clinical Diagnoses  
Based on Symptoms



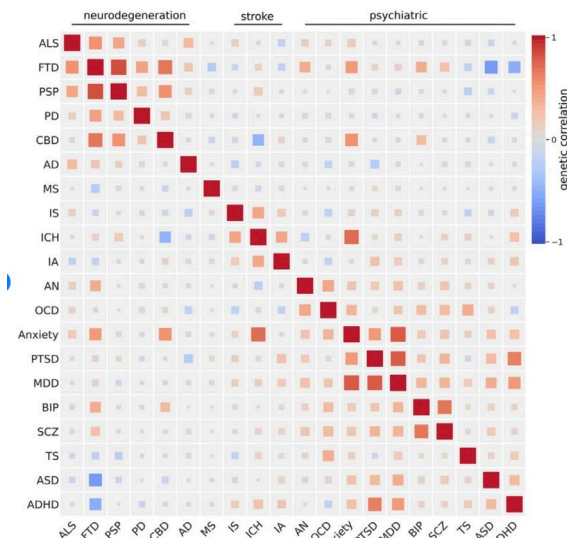
Diseases Defined  
Before Modern Biology



High Genetic Correlation  
Among Diseases

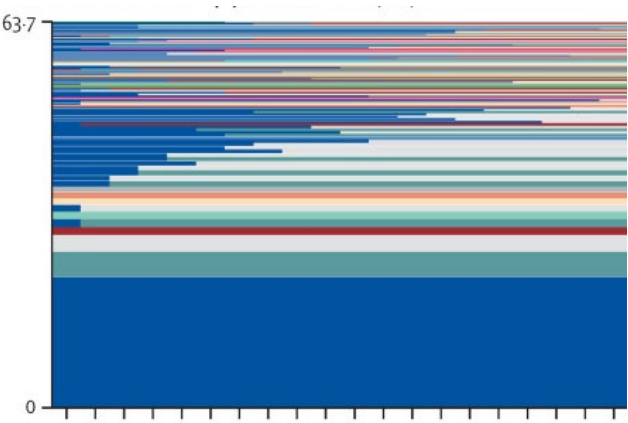


Romero et al., Nature Genetics 2022



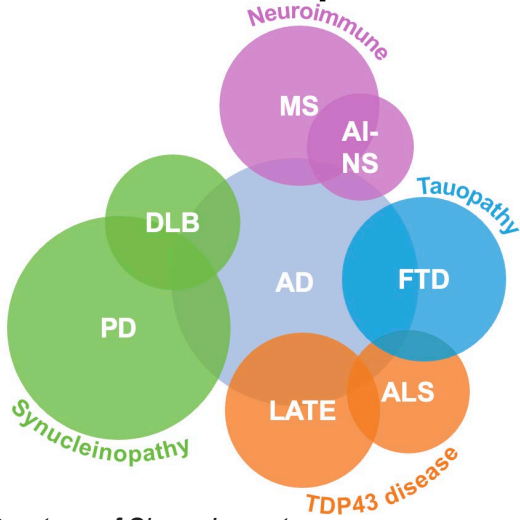
Van Rheenen et al., Nature Genetics 2021

Diagnoses Change  
Over Time



Jørgensen et al., Lancet Psych 2023

Biological Pathology  
Overlaps



Courtesy of Simon Lovestone

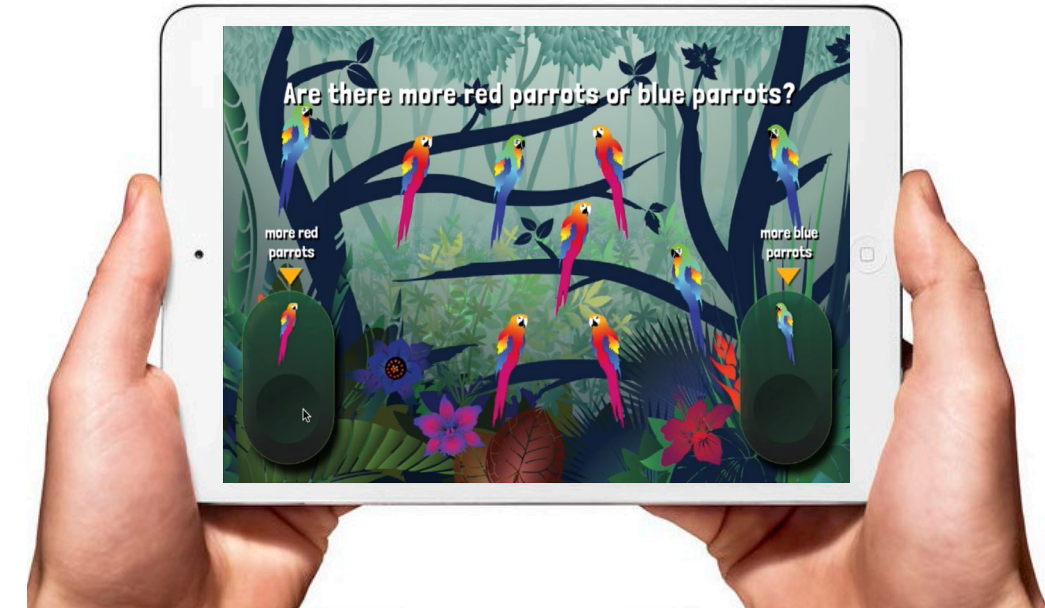
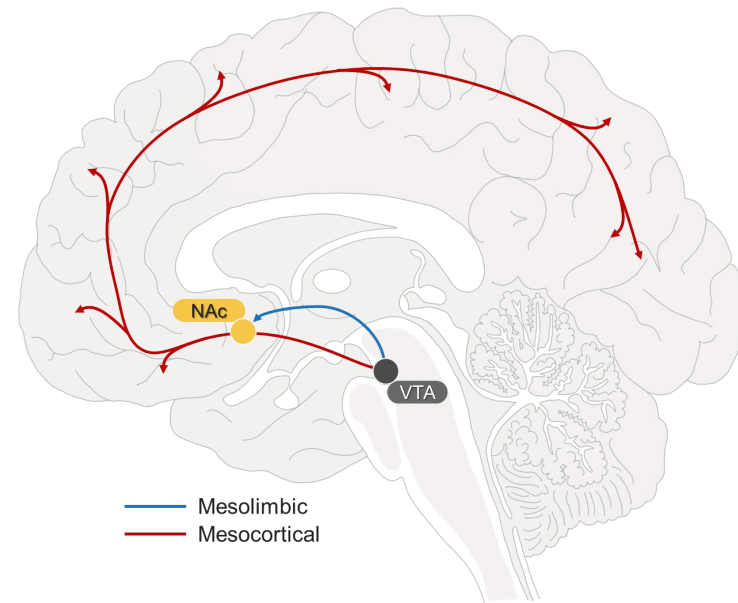


# Precision Measures





# Digital Measures Access Neural Computations



**Reinforcement learning** is based on algorithms that learn by maximizing future rewards.

- Early ML modeled after dopaminergic reward signaling

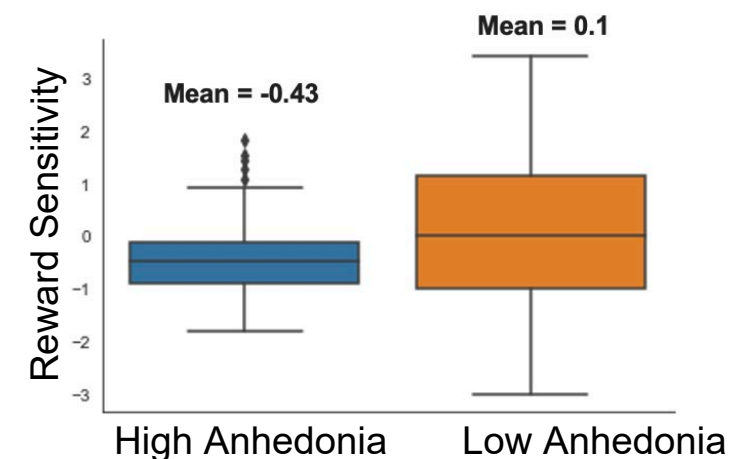
**Reward learning in humans is quantifiable:** we can measure how subjects perform during reward learning tasks fitting parameters to game play.

$$Q_{t+1} = Q_t + \underbrace{\epsilon}_{\text{Learning rate}} (\underbrace{\rho}_{\text{Reward sensitivity}} r_t - Q_t)$$

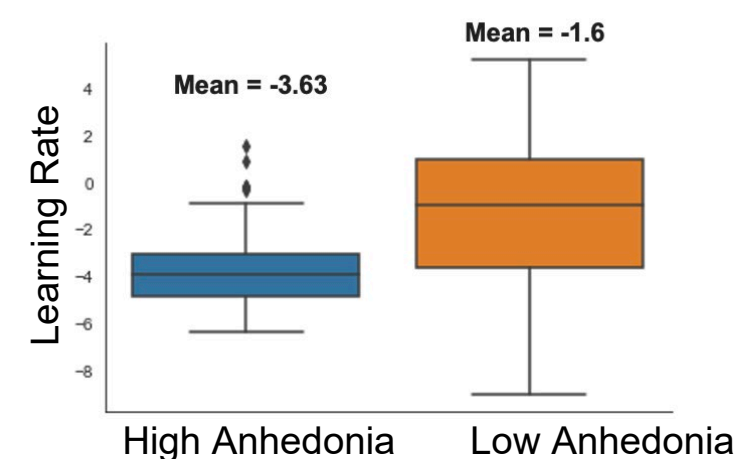
**Reward Sensitivity** ~ determines how good your performance gets

**Learning rate** ~ determines how fast you get there

**Lower Reward Sensitivity**  
(p=0.014)

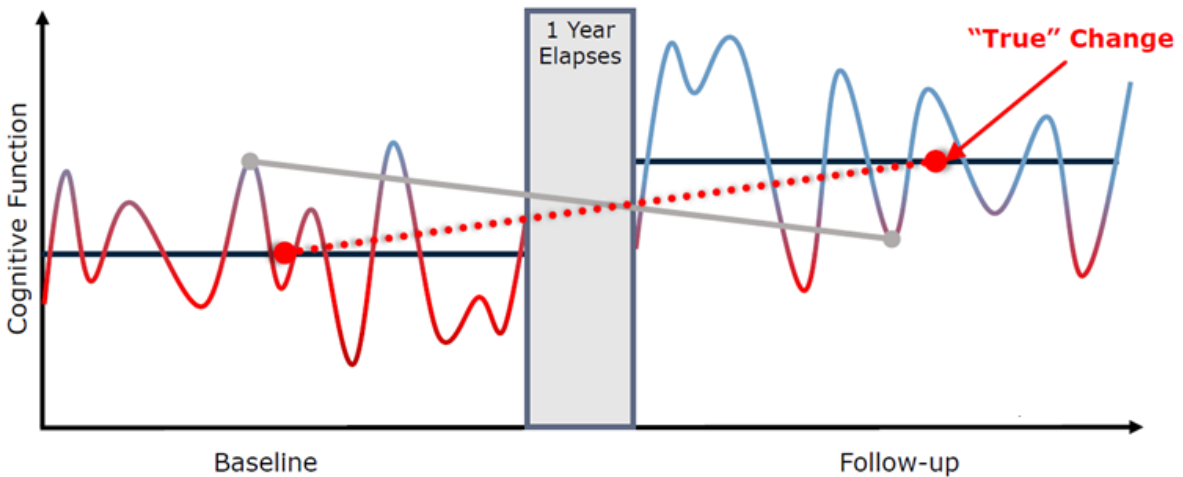


**Lower Learning Rate**  
(p=1.5e07)



# Digital Measures Unveil Hidden Symptoms

## The Hubble View of Cognition and Function



## Altoida: Multi-Modal AR app



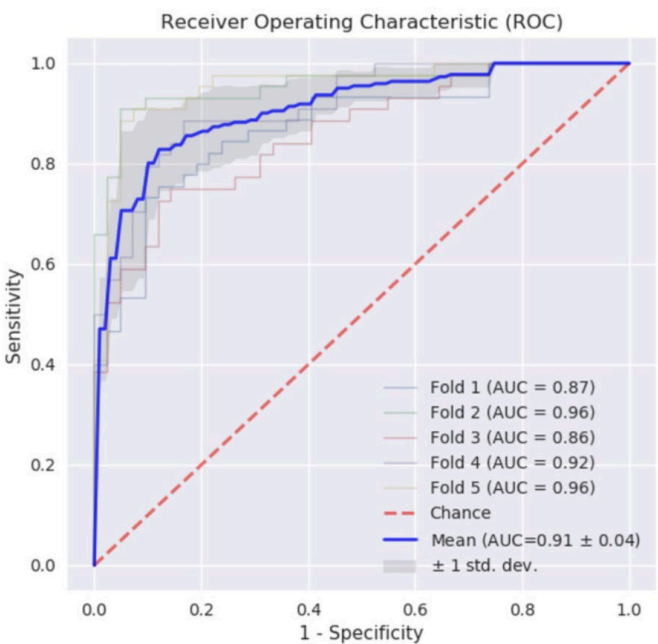
10 minute in-home task

Integration of hundreds of measures extracted from sensor data

Multi-modal, inclusive of task performance and sensor data

Courtesy of Altoida

## Development of Digital Neuro Signature (DNS)



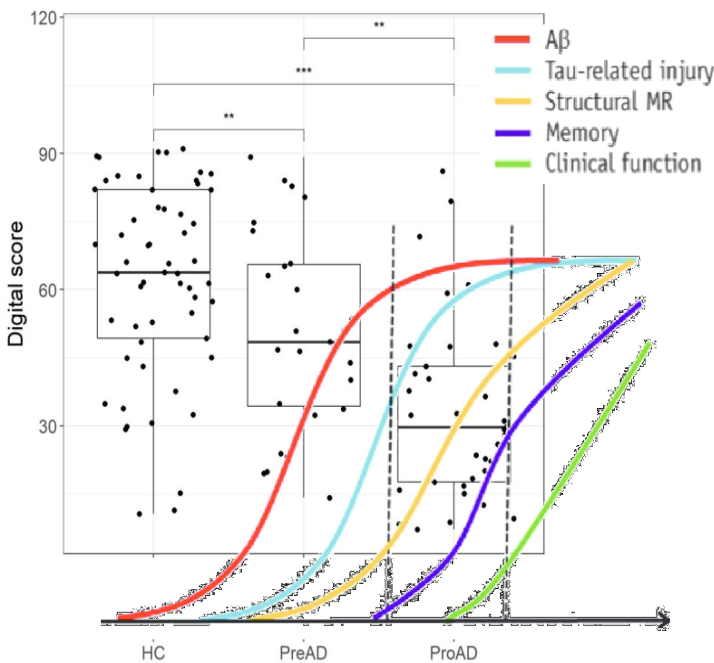
100 MCI-AD Converters

113 NonConverters

XGBoost model trained to predict from baseline data 3-year conversion to MCI.

Buegler et al., Alzheimer's & Dementia: Diagnosis, Assessment & Disease Monitoring 2020

## Evaluation of DNS in IMI RADARAD



Digital measures can detect preclinical AD

Previously defined as patients with measurable amyloid and tau pathology with *no cognitive symptoms*.

Muurling et al., NPJ Digital Medicine 2023



# The Increasing Power of Prediction

Tau PET is currently the best biomarker predictor of cognitive decline

www.nature.com/mp

ARTICLE OPEN

Alzheimer's disease profiled by fluid and imaging markers: tau PET best predicts cognitive decline

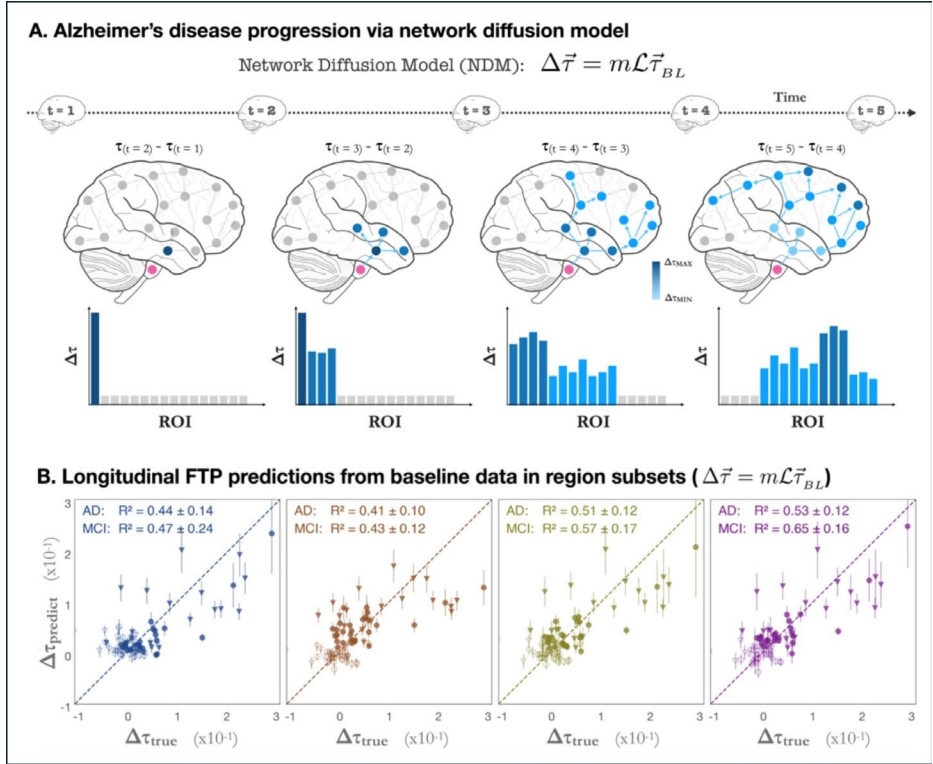
Marco Buccì<sup>1</sup>, Konstantinos Chiotis<sup>1,2</sup> and Agneta Nordberg<sup>1,3</sup>✉ for the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative

© The Author(s) 2021

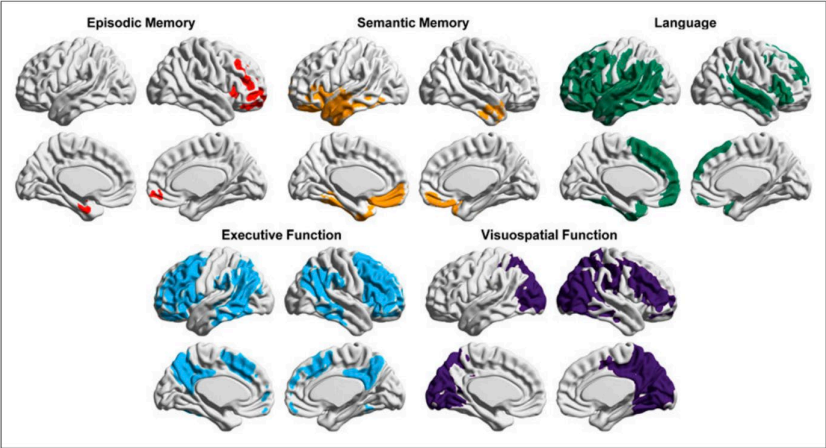
Molecular Psychiatry

Check for updates

Tau PET spread is predictable along the connectome



Tau PET deposition pattern predicts cognitive deficit



Tanner and Rabinovici, J. Nuclear Med 2021

Towards Digital Twins



- Parameterize patient-specific model from measurements
- Model / simulate impact of treatment or intervention options on future state
- Inform decision-making

Adjusting for Covariates in Randomized Clinical Trials for Drugs and Biological Products Guidance for Industry

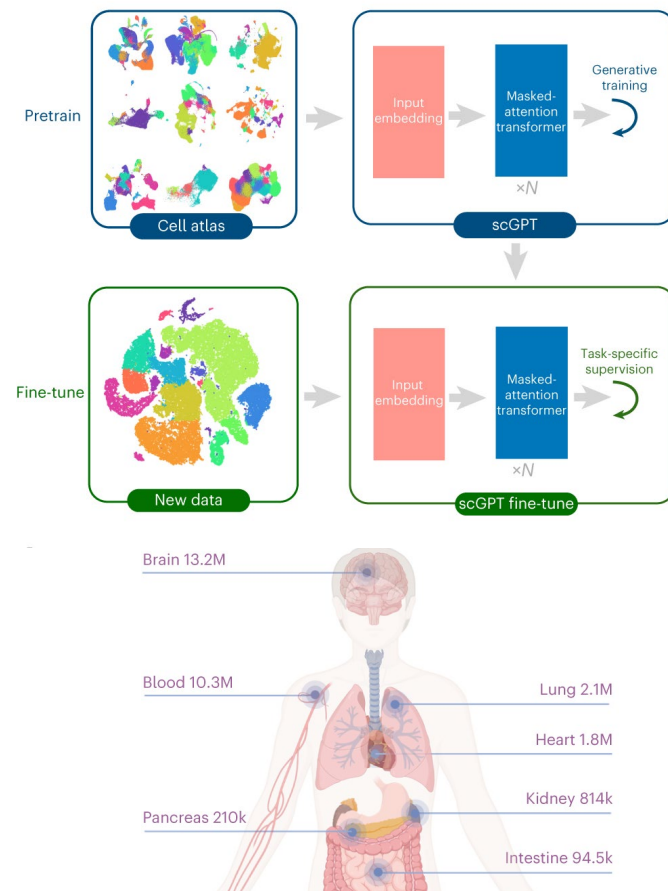
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)  
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)  
Oncology Center of Excellence (OCE)

May 2023  
Biostatistics

# A Foundational Perspective on Scale

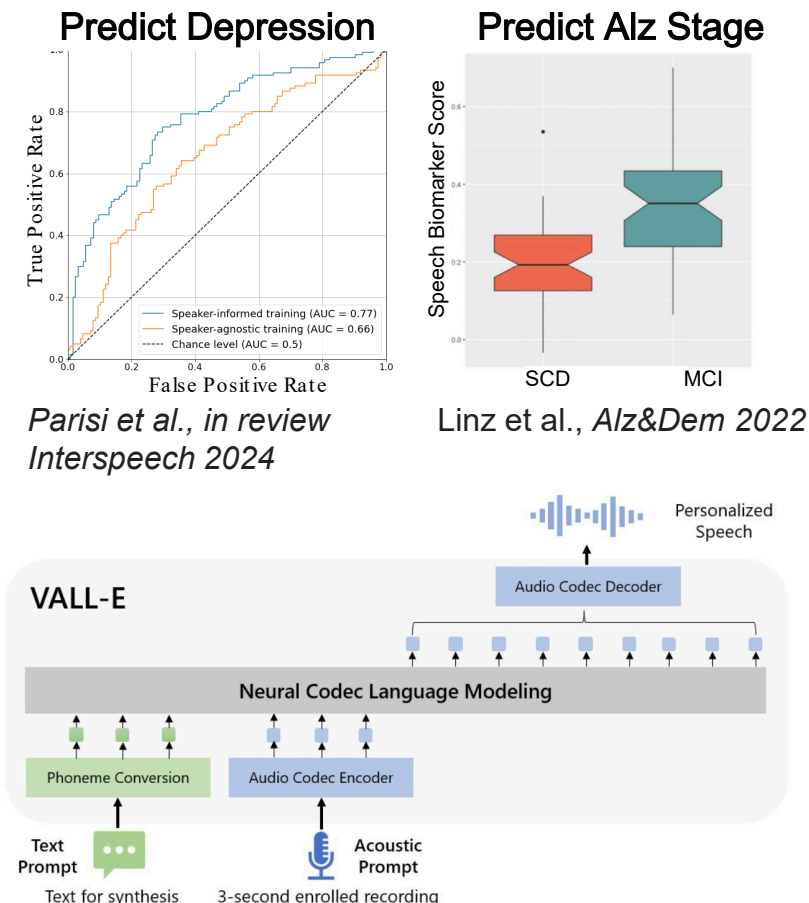
Where, today, is data being aggregated at a large enough scale for foundational models to be near-term transformational?

## Cells



**scGPT:** >30 Million human cells  
Cui et al, *Nature Methods* 2024

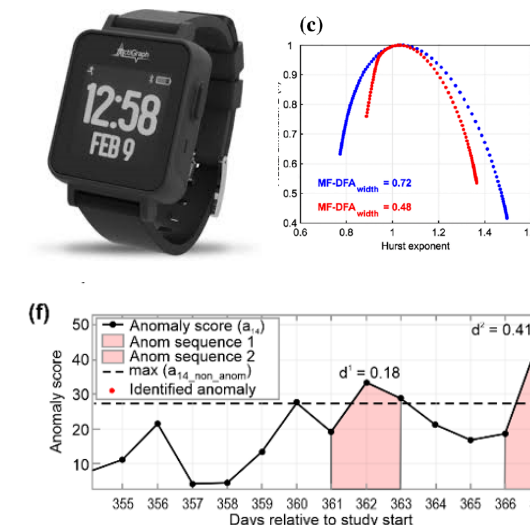
## Speech



**VALL-E:** 60h speech, 7k speakers  
Wang et al, *arXiv* 2023

100 M Amazon Echo sold/yr

## Activity

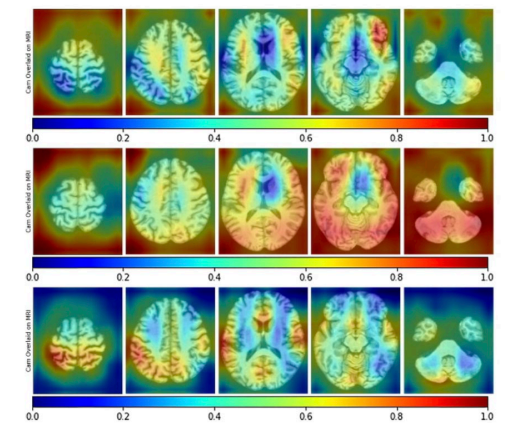


N-of-1 anomaly detection model predicts relapse 2 weeks prior to clinical visit

Vairavan et al., *Sci Rep* 2023

>60 M Activity-measuring devices sold/yr (Apple, Fitbit, ...)

## MRI



Deep learning models fit to MRI to predict positive in amyloid, tau, neurodegeneration.

N=500-3000

Lew et al., *Radiology* 2023

~10M Brain MRI per year in US Healthcare Setting



# A Foundational Perspective on the Healthcare System





“All that exists is the seed of what will emerge from it” – Marcus Aurelius

*Thank You*

