

# Time Series Data

## Clarifying Practical Approaches

Ananya Joshi

### Warm-Up Until 9:35

**A.** Where are you in the project?  
Write it on a note & post on board.

0: What project?

1: I found a dataset.

2: I explored the dataset.

3: I have a project question.

4: I have ideas for approaches.

5: I finished the project.

**B.** Open up the companion doc!

<https://shorturl.at/vy089>

**C.** Make groups of max 5!

# Agenda

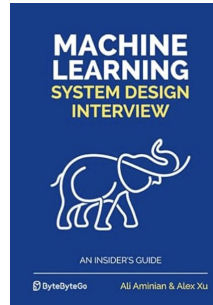
*By the end of class, you should be able to:*

- Plan out your own applied project using time series data
- Identify and compare the different components of working with time series data
- Practically apply basic skills corresponding to each of these components



## [Selected] Components of Time Series Data

1. **Curation:** What are properties of informative time series data?
2. **Task Selection:** What tasks can I complete with this data?
3. **Preparation:** How can I prepare my data before I feed it into a model?
4. **Evaluation:** How can I evaluate my approaches?



## Intern Project Activity

We are starting a new job at a healthcare startup which is deploying a smart watch. Our only objective is to develop a useful analytics tool using data from this watch\*

# Basics of Time Series Data

Time series data has measurements occurring over time.

## Examples:



Stock Prices



Hours of Sleep



G.P.A

**Think about your  
project!**

### • 60% Project

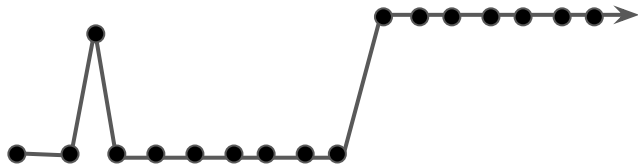
- [5pts] Assignment 0: Dataset Identification
- [20pts] Assignment 1: Problem Formulation and Dataset Exploration
- [20pts] Assignment 2: Initial Baselines, Methods, and Evaluation
- [20pts] Assignment 3: Consideration of Additional Metrics
- [20pts] Assignment 4: Final Report & Reflection
- [15pts] Poster Presentation

**Why:** Many practical projects rely on time series data because the world is changing, and projects need to keep up with these changes.

# Examples of Pitfalls

Why might your time series data look like this? (COVID-19 Cases)

## Data Curation



What would happen if you tried to cluster these values?

## Data Preparation

## Clustering of time-series subsequences is meaningless: implications for previous and future research

Published: 01 August 2005

Volume 8, pages 154–177, (2005) [Cite this article](#)

[Eamonn Keogh](#)  & [Jessica Lin](#)

## Task Selection

## Current Time Series Anomaly Detection Benchmarks are Flawed and are Creating the Illusion of Progress

Publisher: IEEE

[Cite This](#)

[PDF](#)

[Renjie Wu](#)  ; [Eamonn J. Keogh](#) [All Authors](#)

## Evaluation

# Part 1: Data Curation

The smartwatch has the following sensors that provide data per second.

- GPS
- Gyroscope
- Heart Rate Monitor
- Blood Oxygen Saturation
- Skin Temperature
- Room Temperature
- IDs of Nearby Smartwatches



**How do we identify data streams worth using?**

**Vote for up to 3 Streams Using Google Forms Link on Document!**

# Understanding Your Data

## Guiding Questions [Together]

1. What phenomena is being measured?
  - a. What values are not measurable?
  - b. How does the quality of the measurement change?
  - c. Are you ok with using this data? [fairness? bias?]
2. What aspects of the phenomena are not captured by the measurement?
3. What data standards do you need?
  - a. How will you ensure that standard is met continuously?

## Heart Rate Sensor Specifications

- Maximum 10 mV delta
- 16 bit resolution
- 30 second to 5 minute recording duration before necessary cool-down
- 300 samples per second sampling rate (max reported to watch per second)

Modified from [Kardia Mobile Specifications](#)

# 1/3 Intentional Data Aggregation/Fusion

**Example Objectives:** Surface behaviors while reducing noise, data overwhelm

**Example:** Taking the maximum over the samples in a time range (like the heart sensor)

**Guiding Question:** What assumptions am I making when (and how) I aggregate data?



**Over Time**



**Over Space**

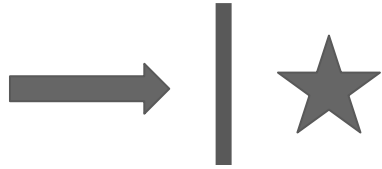


**Over Component**

**Enrichment:** Sensor takes 300 samples/second, but watch only reports per second. Compare using the max vs. average metrics with the heart monitor



# 2/3 Censoring Data - Survival Analysis



## Right Censoring

The data collection ended before the event of interest could occur.

**E.g. Missing events because of the sensor's cool down time**



## Left Censoring

The event occurred before the study began but the exact time is not known.

**E.g. Testing satisfaction among subgroup of customers who have issued a complaint**



## Interval Censoring

The event occurred sometime in the interval but it is not clear when.

**E.g. Aggregation over time**



# 3/3 Exploratory Strategies and Validation Checks

## Data Validation: *Without* Foundational Models

1. What is the form of the data that I expect?  
Think: ranges, data types, invariants
2. **What should I do with data that doesn't fit my expectations?**
3. **How can I ensure that the data remains in the form I expect?**
  - Imputation decisions
  - Deleting data
  - Retrospective & Prospective

*Committing to these design choices!*

# Activity 1: Data Curation (10 mins)

The smartwatch has the following sensors that provide data per second.

- GPS
- Gyroscope
- Heart Rate Monitor
- Blood Oxygen Saturation
- Skin Temperature
- Room Temperature
- IDs of Nearby Smartwatches
- Money Spent that Day

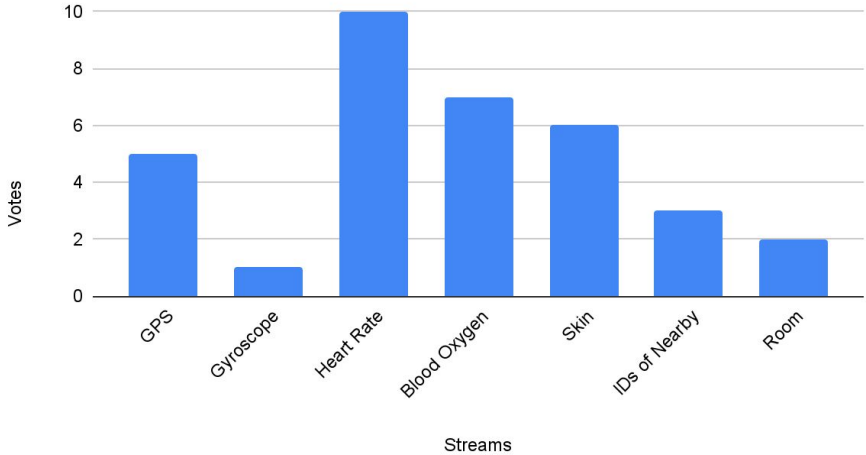
## Question:

- A. Discuss these streams considering any possible
  - a. Aggregation strategies
  - b. Censoring impacts
  - c. Validation approaches
- B. Pick 3 data streams you would use and **vote on the link!**

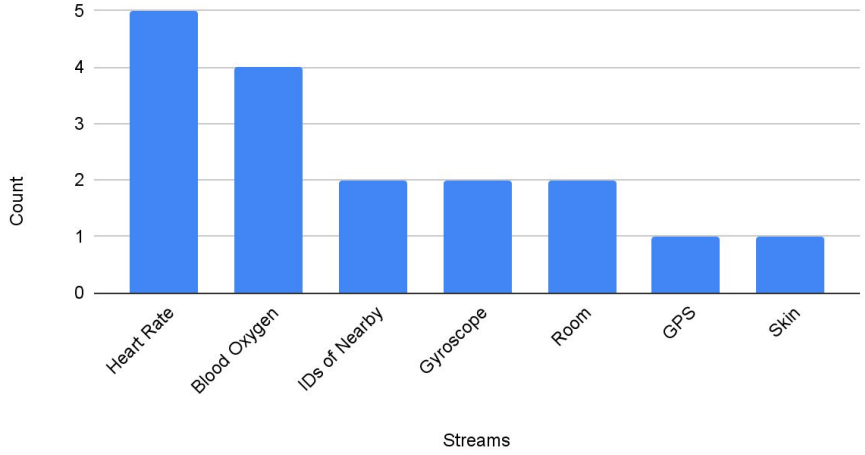
<https://forms.gle/M514x63zvd9rX7BVA>

# Debrief 1:

Initially Selected Streams



Final Streams



**How did your opinion change?**

# Part 2: Task Design

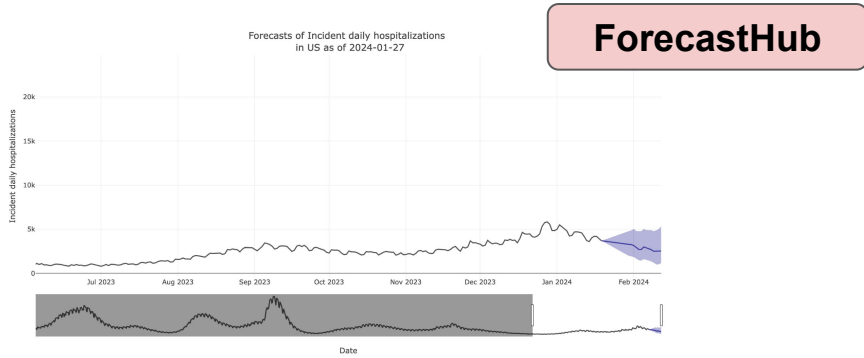
## Data Sensors Using

- GPS
- ~~— Gyroscope~~
- ~~— Heart Rate Monitor~~
- ~~— Blood Oxygen Saturation~~
- ~~— Skin Temperature~~
- ~~— Money Spent that Day~~
- Room Temperature
- IDs of Nearby Smartwatches

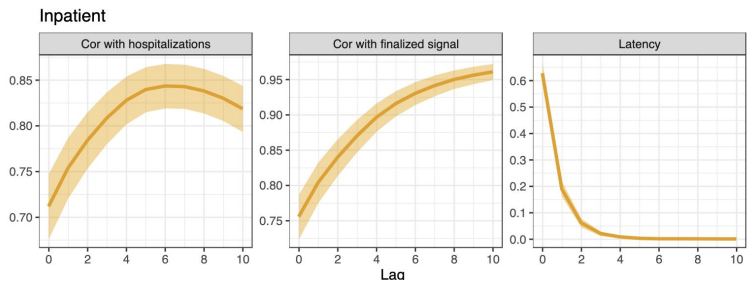
**What should we do  
with this data?**

Data Science Project Scoping Guide

# Categories of Deployable Tasks



## Predicting Hospitalizations

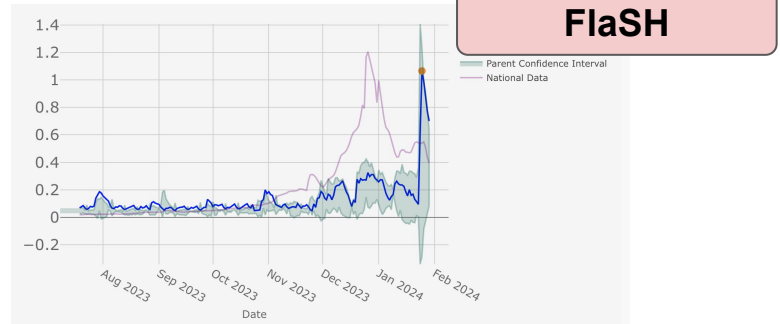


### 1. Forecasting Future Values

ID	OUTHINES SCORE	SOURCE	SIGNAL	
> 1238598187	0.998714	chnrg	smoothed_adj_outpatient_flu	
> 1238604811	0.998327	chnrg	smoothed_adj_outpatient_flu	county
> 1238675967	0.997651	chnrg	smoothed_adj_outpatient_flu	county
> 1238922276	0.999679	chnrg	smoothed_adj_outpatient_flu	hrr
> 1239070948	0.999486	chnrg	smoothed_outpatient_flu	county
> 1239096490	0.99852	chnrg	smoothed_outpatient_flu	county
> 1239420579	0.999582	chnrg	smoothed_outpatient_flu	hrr

FlaSH

### 2. Correlation Analysis



### 3. Ranking Data

### 4. Outlier Detection

# Forecasting

Active Research Area!

**Sample Question:** What might this data look like in the next two weeks?



Ensemble

Baseline

**Q1.** What could go wrong with using rolling averages aggregation strategy for forecasting?

**Q2.** What techniques can you use to identify how much you weigh each estimator for the ensemble model?

# Outlier Detection

Active Research Area!

Standard Approach follows a formula:

1.

$$\hat{X}_t$$

Predict a  
Value

Via  
Forecasting

2.

$$\hat{X}_t - X_t$$

Calculate  
Difference

In a population-sensitive way

3.

$$(\hat{X}_t - X_t) / \sigma$$

Contextualize  
Difference

4.

$$(\hat{X}_t - X_t) / \sigma > 3$$

Send alerts

Compare  
to historical values to  
rank data.

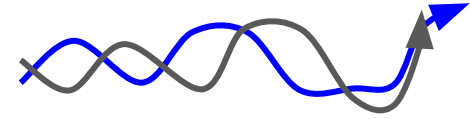
# \* Interesting Combined Strategy

1. **Correlate** Different Streams to Identify Relationships

2. **Forecast** Current Values Based on those Relationships

3. Use those forecasts to generate **Outlier** scores

4. **Rank** those outliers



$$A_{t+1} = B_t$$



$$\hat{B}_t = A_{t-1}$$

● } > 99% of  
● } historical  
values

1.  $A_t$
2.  $B_t$
3.  $C_t$



# Part 3: Data Preparation

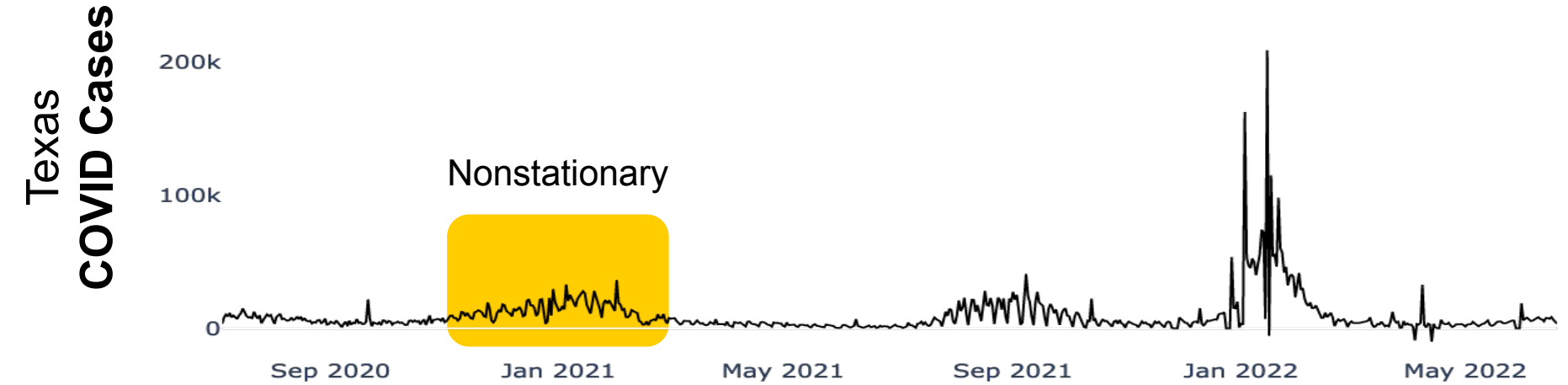
## Data Sensors Using

- GPS
  - Room Temperature
  - IDs of Nearby Smartwatches
- + Publicly available weather data.

**Business Task:** Provide city planners information on where to add more portable heaters for bus stops.

1. How might this relate to outlier detection?
2. What might be problems with the outlier detection approach here?
3. *How can we prepare the data?*

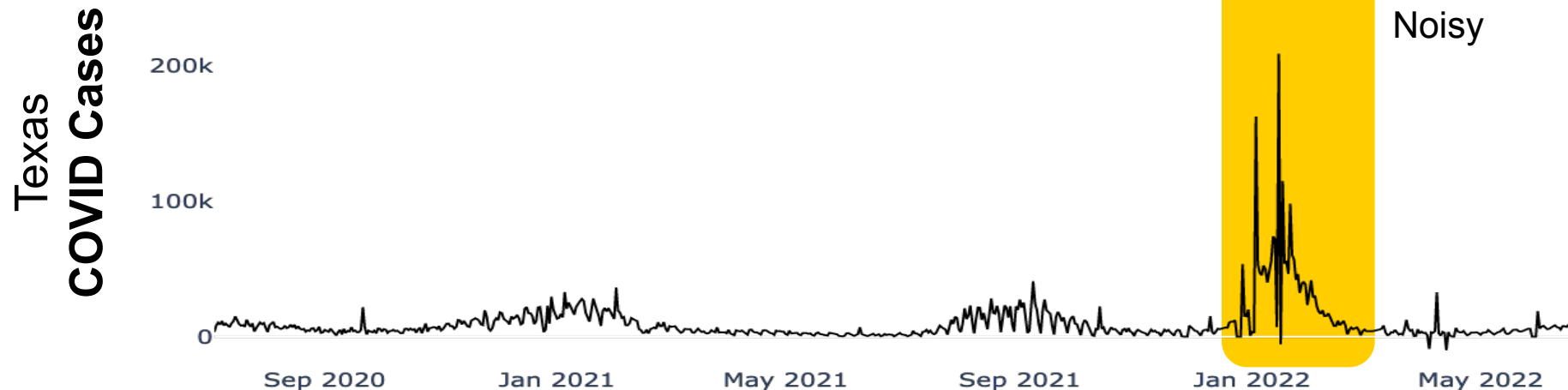
# 1/3 Addressing Data



What do you notice?

- Changepoint detection approach (How might this fail?)

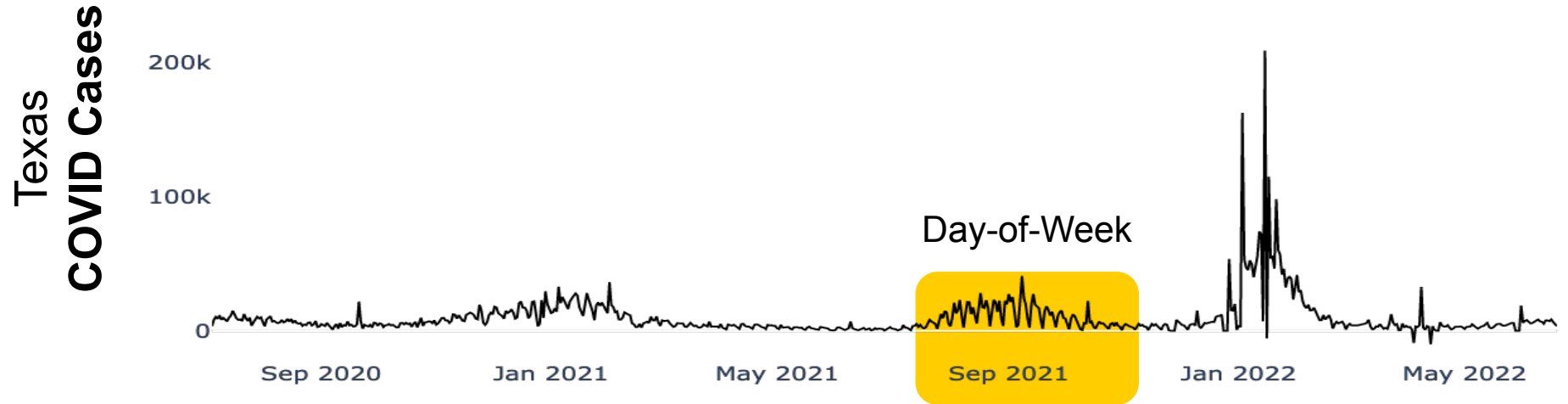
## 2/3 Addressing Data



What do you notice?

- What denoising strategies can we apply (pros/cons?)

# 3/3 Addressing Data



What do you notice?

- How can you identify seasonality in the data?
- What mechanisms can we use to reduce the impact of seasonality?

## Part 2 & 3 Activity (10 mins):

### 1. Data Streams

- GPS
- Room Temperature
- IDs of Nearby Smartwatches

+ Publicly available weather data.

**2. Business Task:** Provide city planners with data on where to add more portable heaters for bus stops.

**3. Requested Deliverable:** Flesh out a 5 step process, from input to output, for this task in your groups. Consider taking on different roles e.g.: curator, task definer, data preparer.

*Hint (if needed) at the 2 minute mark!*

# Part 4: Evaluation & Monitoring Strategies

## 1. Data Streams

- GPS
- Room Temperature
- IDs of Nearby Smartwatches

+ Public weather data

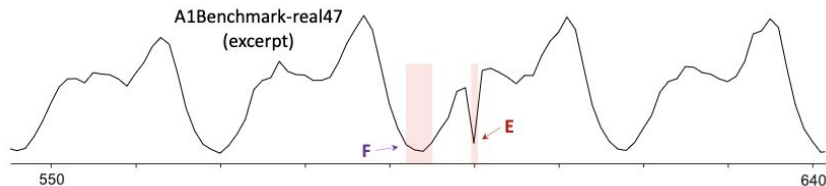
**2. Business Task:** Provide city planners with data on where to add more heated bus-stops.

**3. Simple Approach:** Every week, we estimate bus stop temperatures (with some noise estimate), detect regions which deviate from their historical average, and rank them by the magnitude of deviation.

**4. Does it actually work?**

# Designing an Evaluation when you have Labels

Do these labels even mean anything?



Wu and Keogh et. al.

**Current Time Series Anomaly Detection Benchmarks are Flawed and are Creating the Illusion of Progress**

Publisher: IEEE

[Cite This](#)

[PDF](#)

Renjie Wu ; Eamonn J. Keogh [All Authors](#)

## Common Pitfalls:

1. Are only global outliers labeled?  
Could these be detected using 1 line of code?
2. Are there too many outliers (e.g. > 1%) ?
3. Are there any explanations available for the classification?
4. Left-censoring bias affecting anomaly detection sets.

## What new challenges do we have when using synthetic labels?

# Designing an Evaluation when you Need Labels

Step 1  
Collect demonstration data  
and train a supervised policy.

A prompt is  
sampled from our  
prompt dataset.



A labeler  
demonstrates the  
desired output  
behavior.



This data is used to  
fine-tune GPT-3.5  
with supervised  
learning.

Step 2  
Collect comparison data and  
train a reward model.

A prompt and  
several model  
outputs are  
sampled.



A labeler ranks the  
outputs from best  
to worst.



This data is used  
to train our  
reward model.

Step 3  
Optimize a policy against the  
reward model using the PPO  
reinforcement learning algorithm.

A new prompt is  
sampled from  
the dataset.



The PPO model is  
initialized from the  
supervised policy.



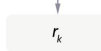
The policy generates  
an output.



The reward model  
calculates a reward  
for the output.



The reward is used  
to update the  
policy using PPO.



## Keep In Mind:

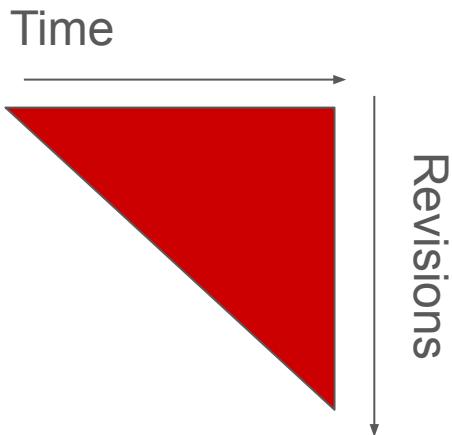
1. Pre-registration before data collection begins is important.
2. People (even experts) don't agree. How will you address this?
3. You may need to design your own metrics.
4. Is there a way to get proxy evaluation data?

OpenAI's Evaluation Strategy (openai.com)  
+ Synthetic Strategies

**What are other ways to evaluate your time series experiments?**



# Putting it All Together: A FlaSH Demonstration



**Data Curation**

Rank outliers from the most recently received raw data at Delphi daily so that data reviewers can find notable events of interest from the data, quickly.

**Task Identification**



**Preparation / Method**



**Evaluation Strategies**

**Quick Tour of Delphi's FlaSH Project**

# Reflections & Takeaways

**[Curating, Task Selection, Preparing, Evaluating]**

**Questions:**

- How well did our initial imputation/validation strategies serve us?
- Which components can save you the most time in time series analysis?
- Which components need the most external feedback/information?
- What other aspects of a time series project falls outside these components?
- Which components is the most often ignored?

**This is an iterative process that should be routinely revised for deployed tools!**

# Thank you!

*By the end of class, you should be able to:*

- Plan out your own applied project using time series data
- Identify and compare the different components of working with time series data
- Practically apply basic skills corresponding to each of these components

## Quick Survey

<https://forms.gle/HMLvNDA8GExTYG4a7>

Email: [aajoshi@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:aajoshi@andrew.cmu.edu)



# Metrics & Meanings Activity

1. What metric will help me better understand my model's anomaly detection performance ?
  - A. Accuracy =  $(TP + TN) / (TP + TN + FP + FN)$
  - B. Balanced Accuracy =  $TP / (TP + FN) + TN / (TN + FP)$
2. My classifier has a threshold, and I want to see how the performance of this classifier varies over time. Which is better for anomaly or outlier detection?
  - A. ROC Curve
  - B. B. Pr-K Curve
3. Which gives me more information if I am making a list of outliers?
  - A. Precision :  $TP / (TP + FP)$
  - B. Recall :  $TP / (TP + FN)$

		Predicted	
		Yes	No
Actual	Yes	<b>True Positives (TP)</b>	<b>False Negatives (FN)</b>
	No	<b>False Positives (FP)</b>	<b>True Negatives (TN)</b>