

Proactive Contact Tracing

10th Doctoral Researcher Award

Prateek Gupta
(University of Oxford, The Alan Turing Institute)



**The
Alan Turing
Institute**

ML/Epi/Privacy/Econ - Multidisciplinary Team



Yoshua Bengio



Hannah Alsdurf



Tristan Deleu



Abhinav Sharma



Prateek Gupta



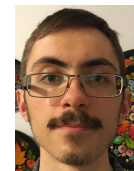
Soren
Harnois-Leblanc



Akshay Patel



Bernhard Schölkopf



Olexa Bilanuik



Tegan Maharaj



Joanna Merckx



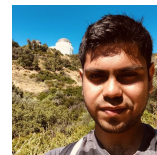
Nanoy Minoyan



Irina Rish



Meng Qu



Nasim Rahaman



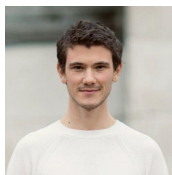
Christopher Pal



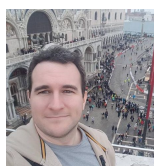
Pierre-Luc Carrier



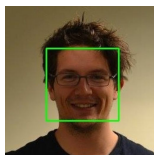
David Buckeridge



Victor Schmidt



Pierre-Luc St
Charles



Martin Weiss



Andrew Williams



Yang Zhang



Eilif B. Muller



Joumana Ghosn



Jian Tang



Gaétan Marceau Caron

To improve the digital contact tracing apps

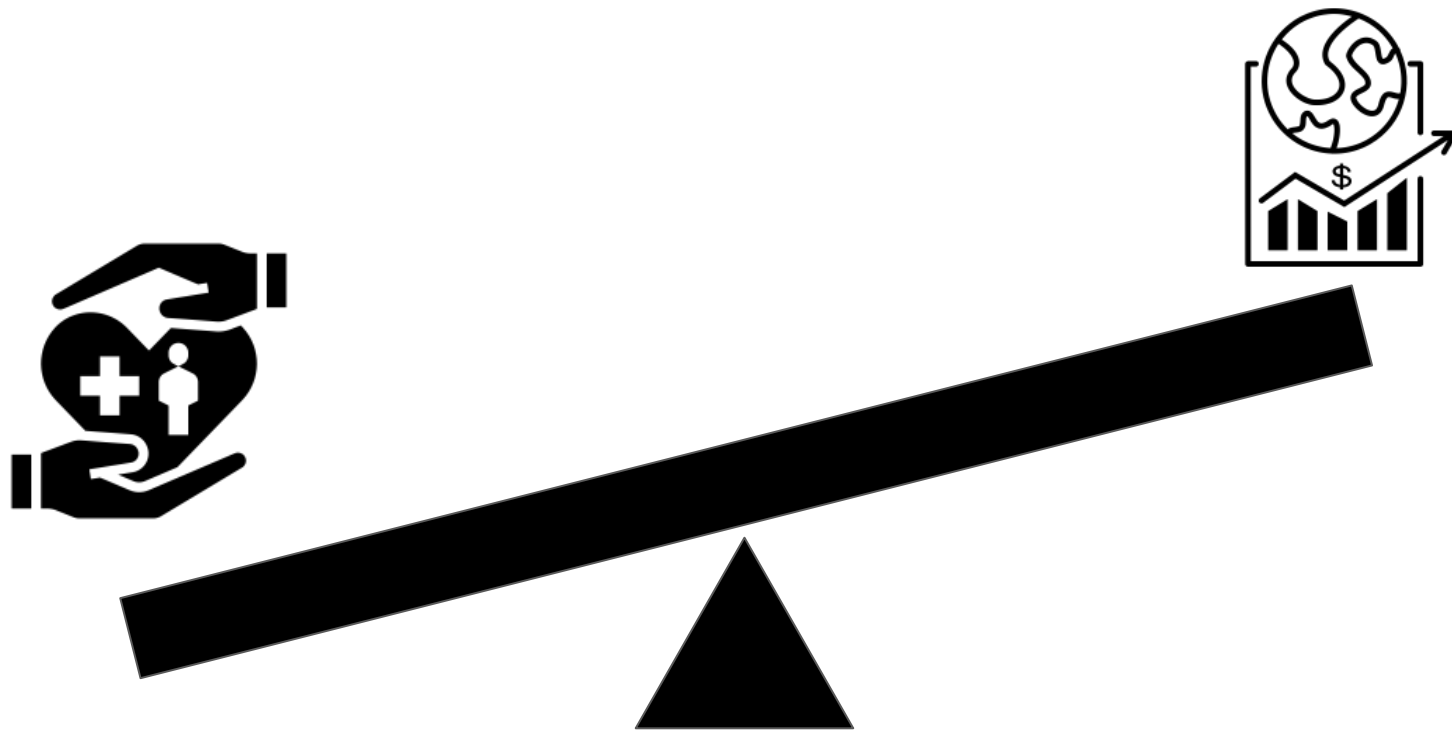
To improve the digital contact tracing apps
to help curb the viral spread

To improve the digital contact tracing apps
to help curb the viral spread
while minimizing the economic impact

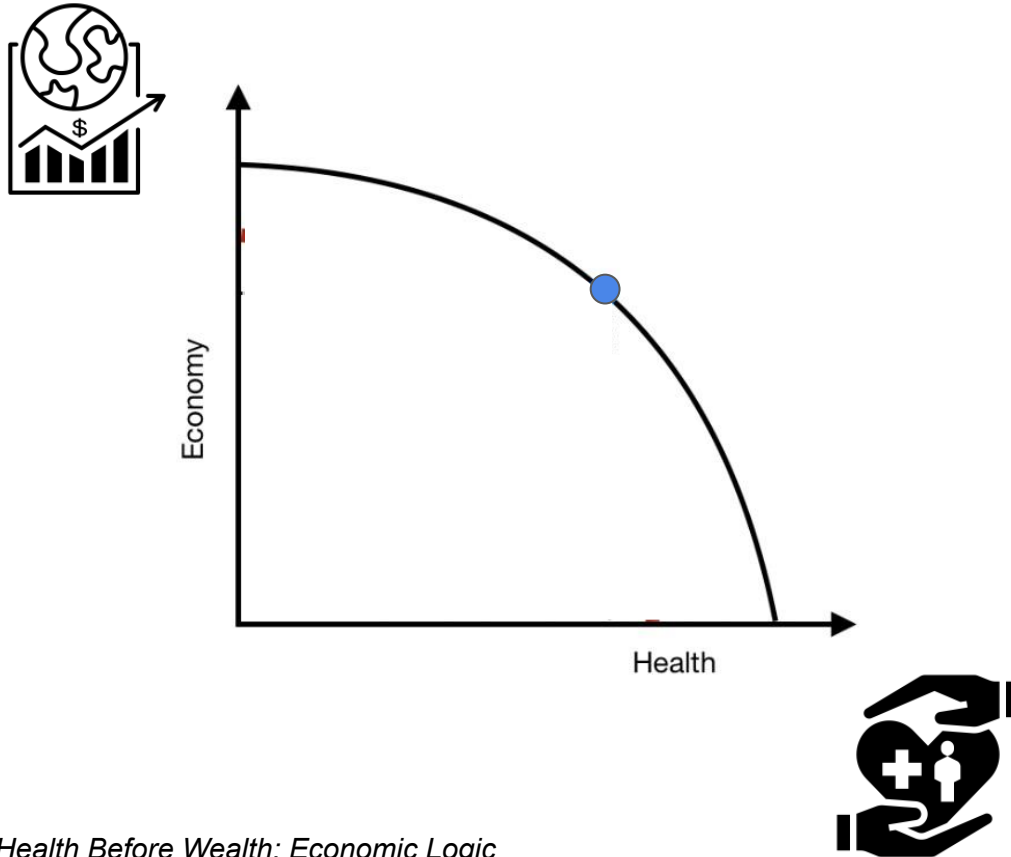
Outline

- **Problem formulation**
- **Our approach: Proactive Contact Tracing**
 - **Framework**
 - **Privacy Concerns**
 - **Models**
 - **Results**
- **Conclusion and Ongoing work**

Health vs Economy

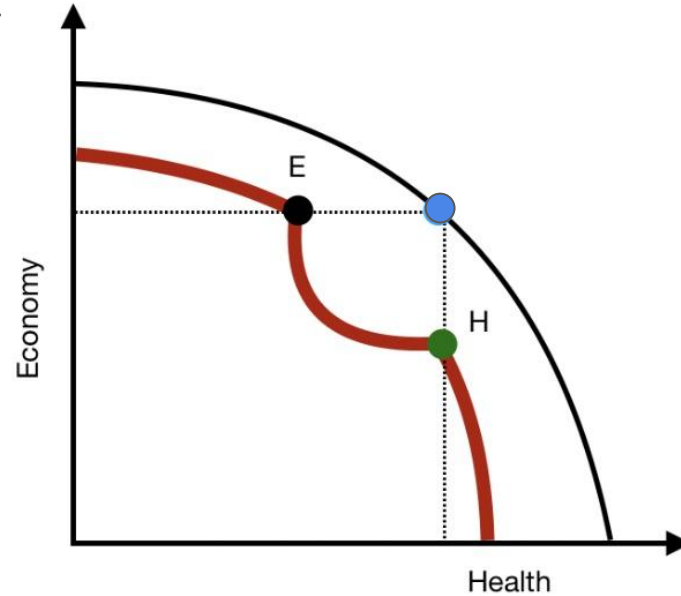


Health vs Economy: Normal times



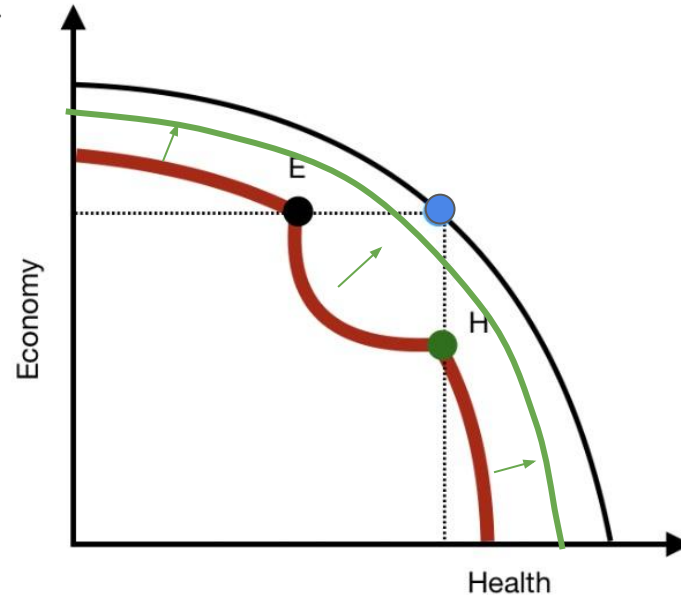
Source: Gans (2020) *"Health Before Wealth: Economic Logic"*

Health vs Economy: Pandemic times



Source: Gans (2020) "Health Before Wealth: Economic Logic"

Health vs Economy: Recovery



Source: Gans (2020) "Health Before Wealth: Economic Logic"

Contact Tracing

- ★ **Manual Contact Tracing:** Uses Public Health Experts (PHE) to **email/phone** contacts
 - Class epidemic management
 - Overwhelmed by the scale of pandemic

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Contact Tracing

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 - **Binary Contact Tracing:**
 - Uses positive/negative test results
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 - **Proactive Contact Tracing:**
 - Uses individual-features, test results, symptoms, “risk-messages”
 - Recommends Quarantine/reduced contacts/regular contacts

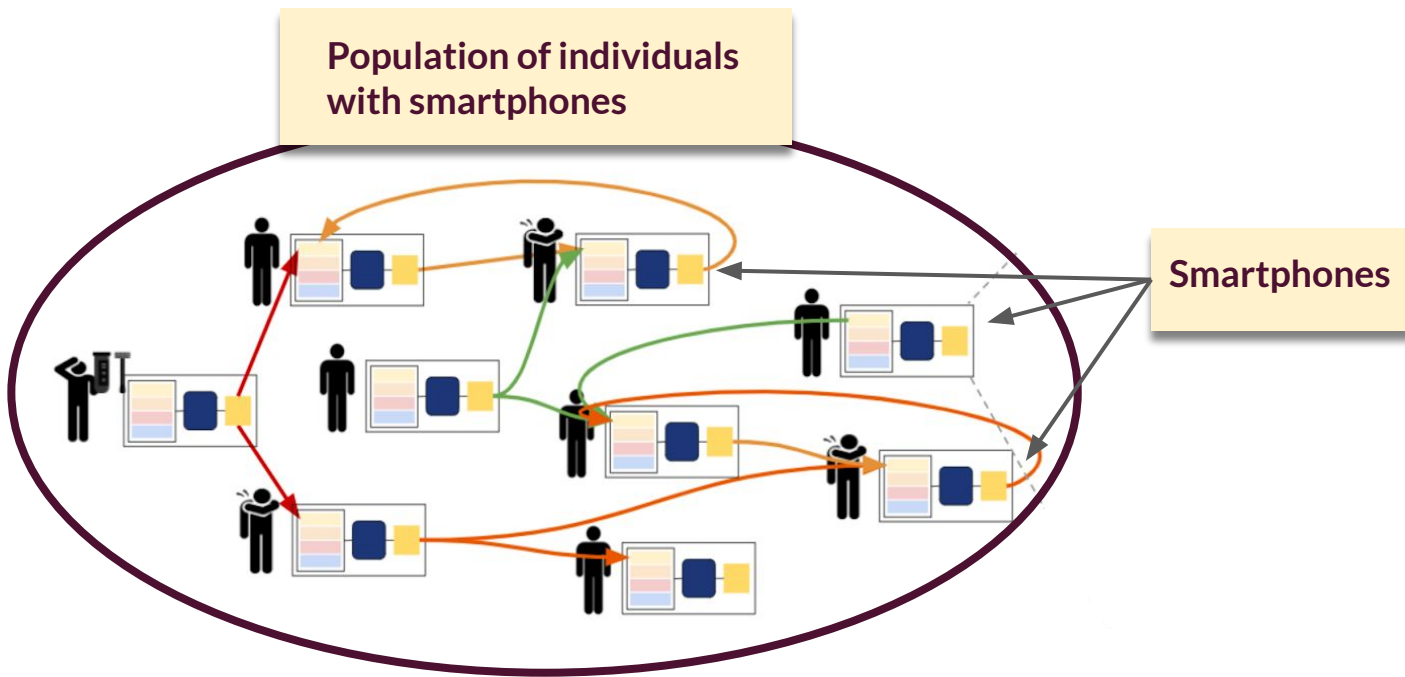
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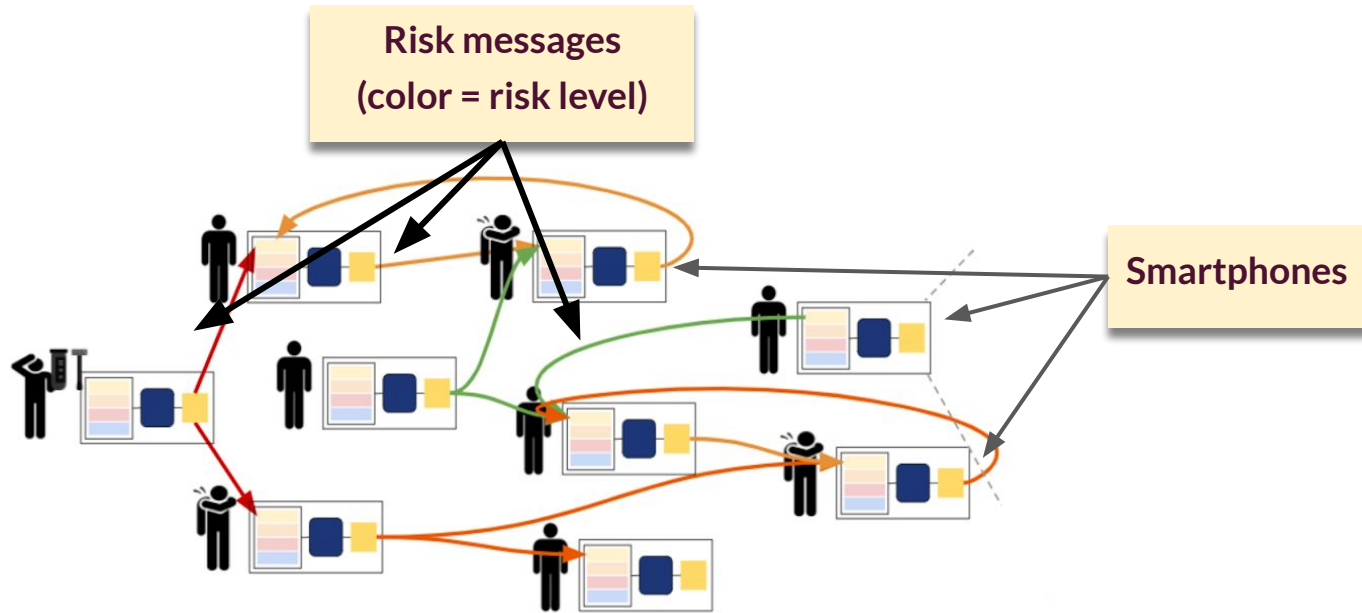
PCT Framework

Population of individuals
with smartphones

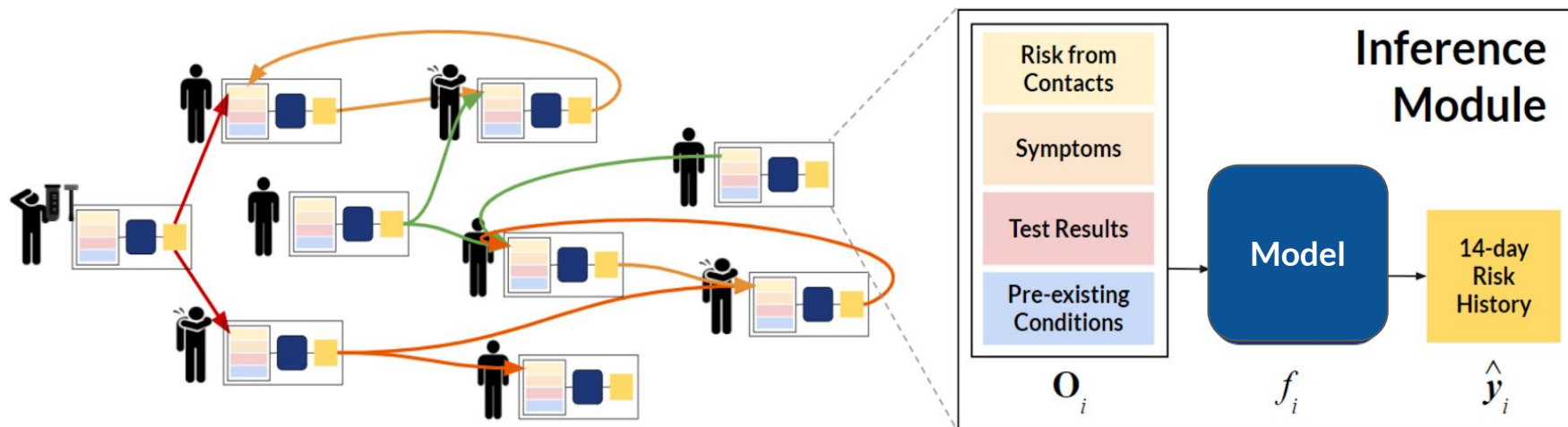
Smartphones



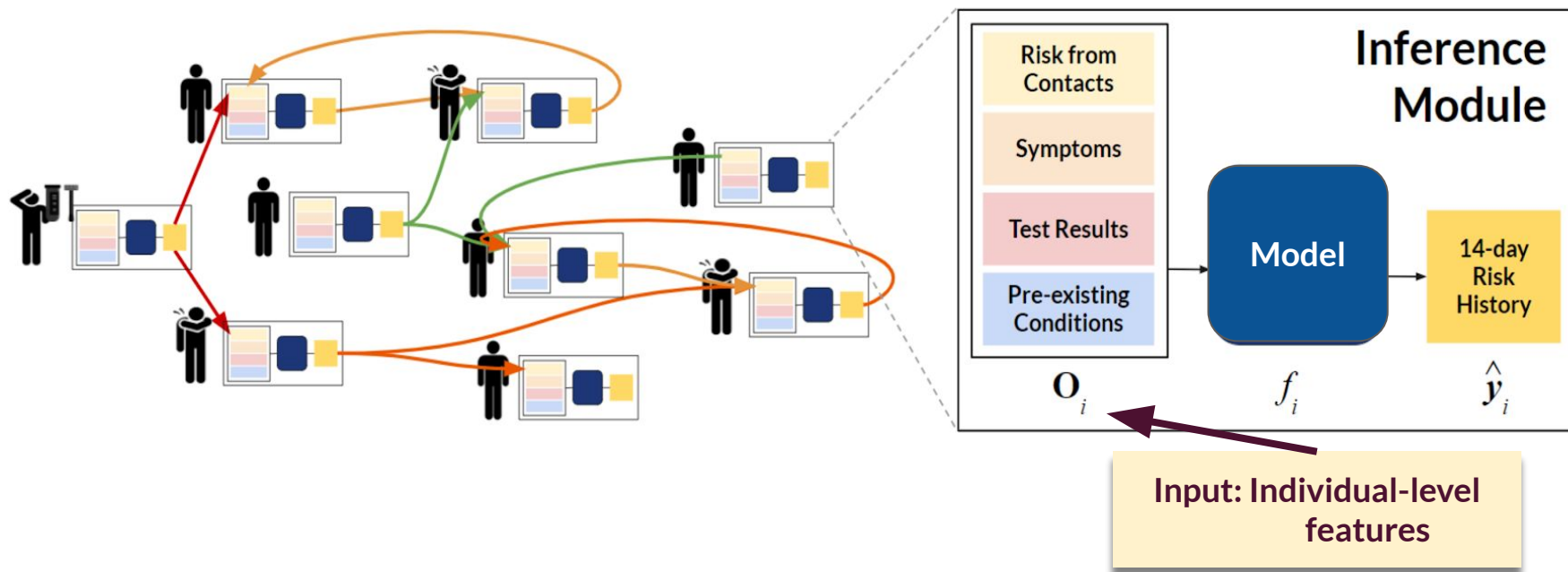
PCT Framework



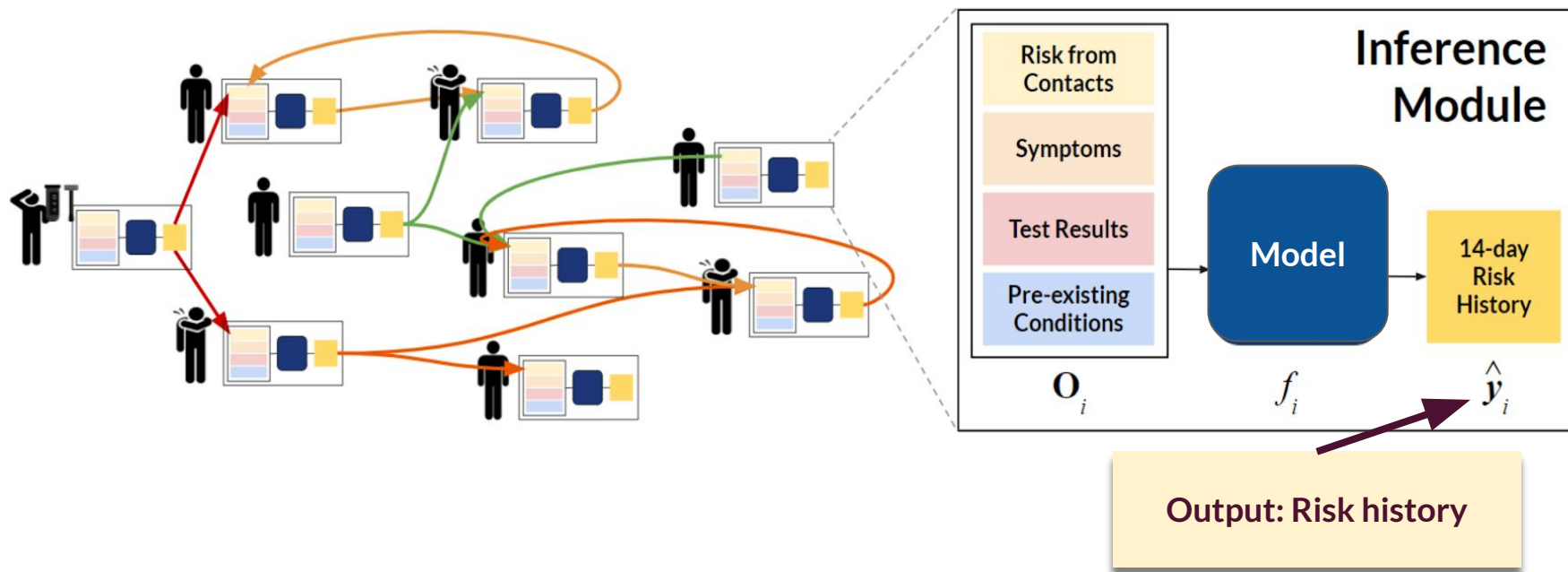
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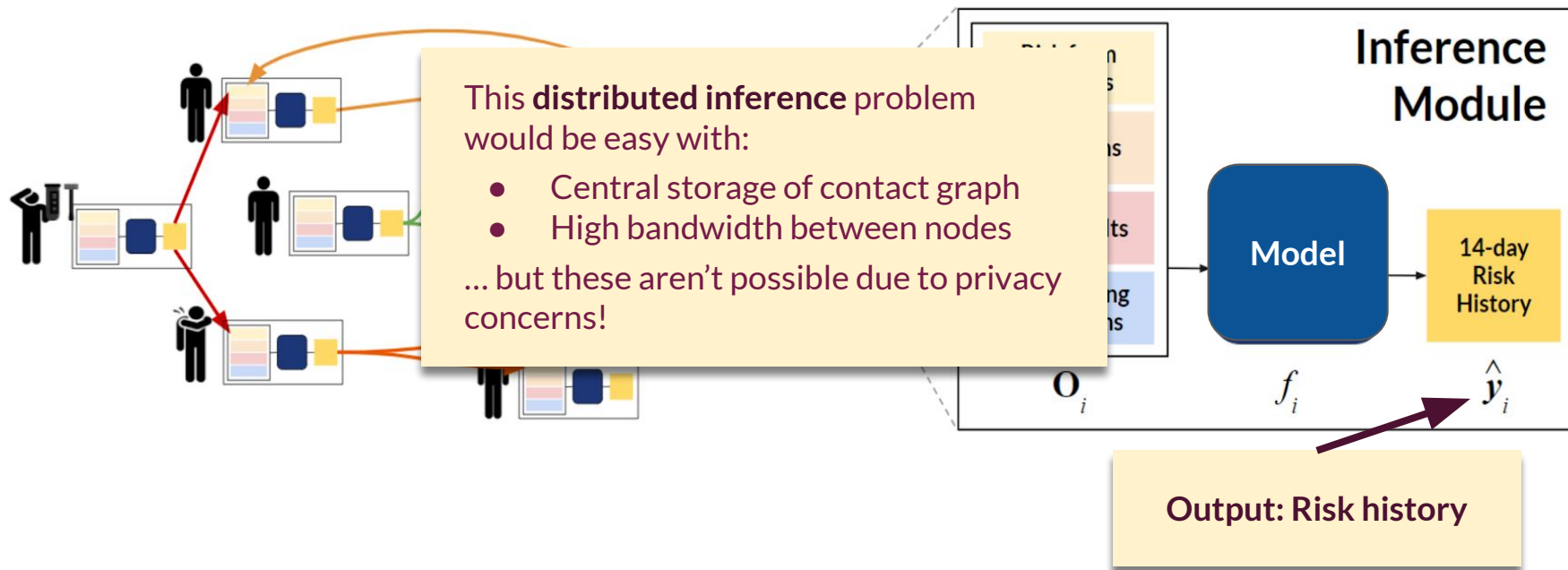
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PCT: Addressing Privacy

- ❖ No central storage of contact graph

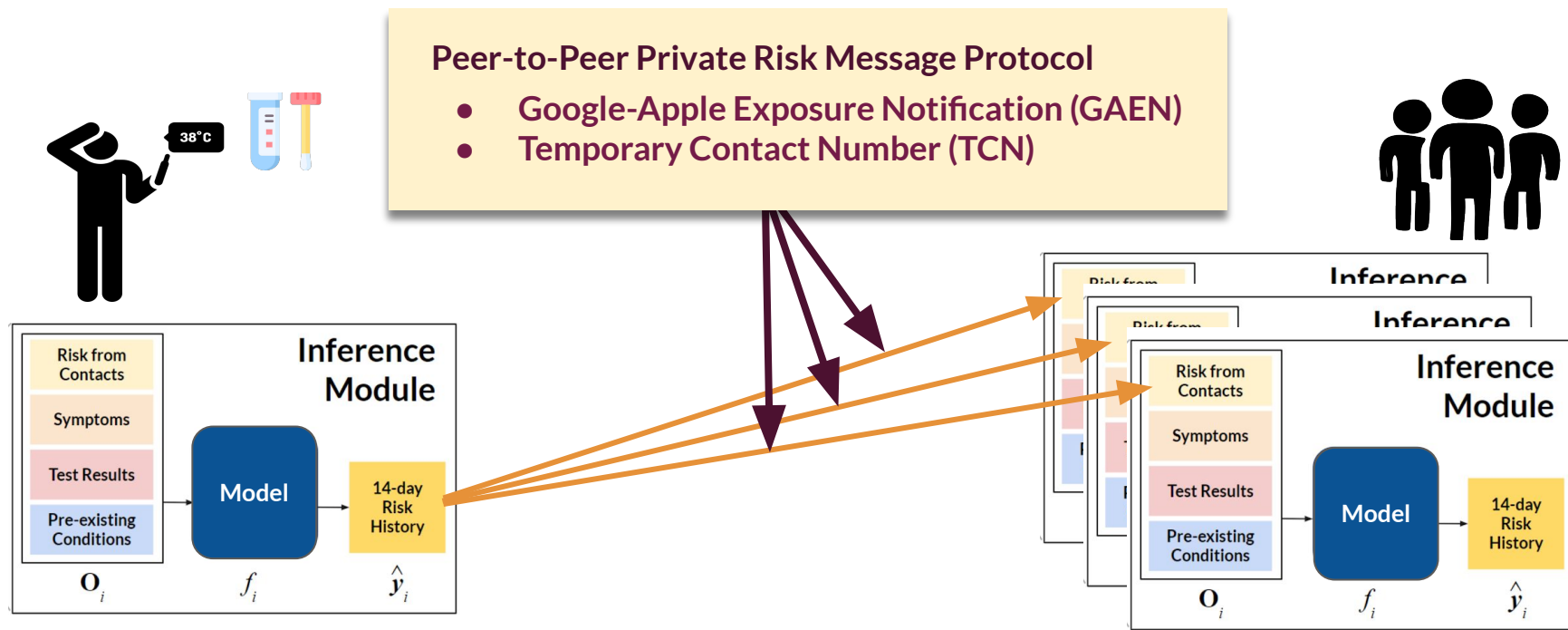
PCT: Addressing Privacy

- ❖ No central storage of contact graph
- ❖ De-identification and encryption of all data

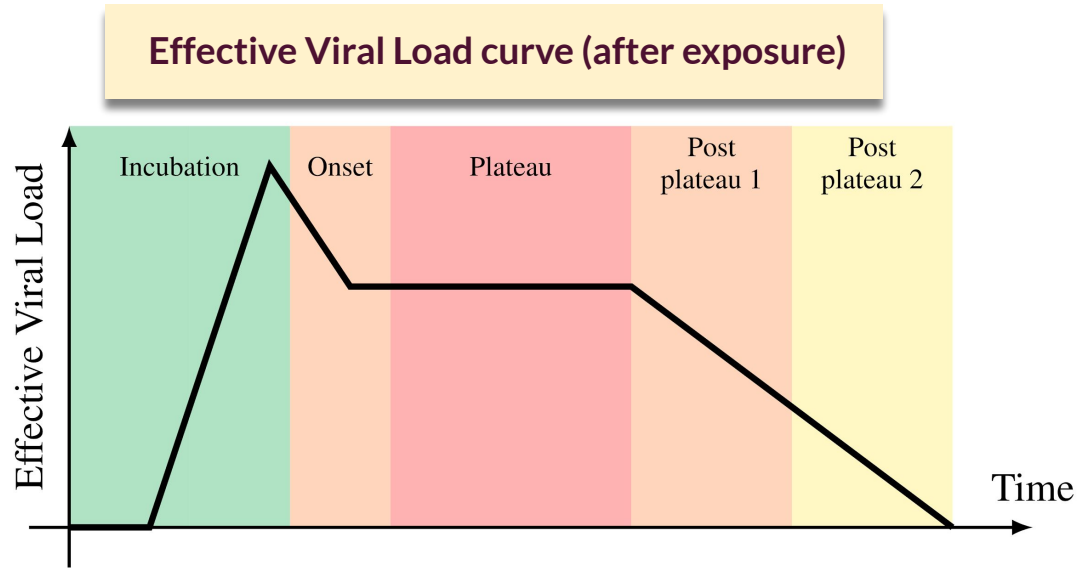
PCT: Addressing Privacy

- ❖ No central storage of contact graph
- ❖ De-identification and encryption of all data
- ❖ User information never leaves the phone

PCT: Risk Messages between phones

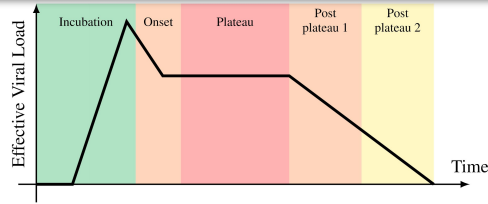


PCT: Risk Messages & Infectiousness



PCT: Risk Messages & Infectiousness

Effective Viral Load curve (after exposure)



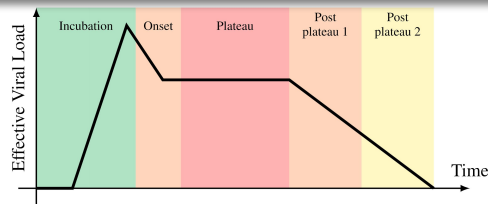
Example of target from curve

y_i Infectiousness over 14 days

.00	.00	.08	.93	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.52	.37	.20	.12	.05
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

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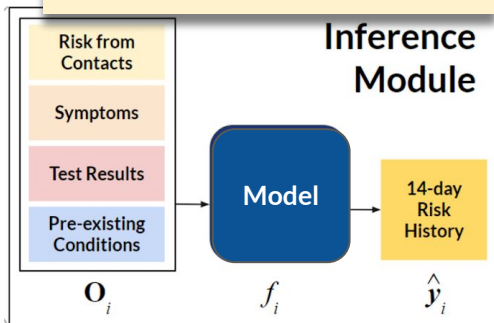
.00	.00	.08	.93	.75	.75	.75	.75	.75	.52	.37	.20	.12	.05	.00
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Example prediction

\hat{y}_i Estimated Risk History over 14 days

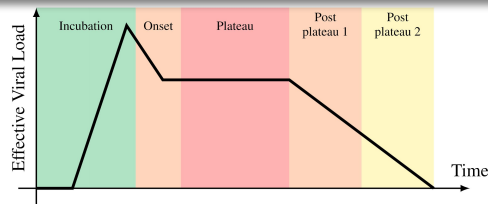
.00	.00	.12	.96	.70	.70	.70	.70	.66	.56	.45	.30	.22	.03	.01
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Inference module on each phone



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Example prediction

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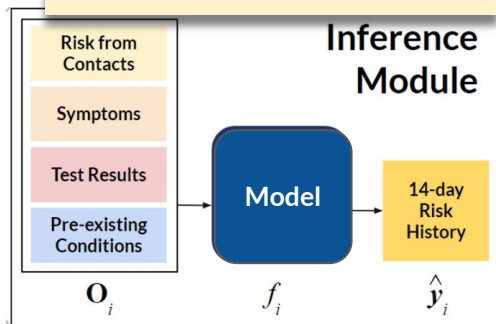
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-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Example risk levels history

\hat{y}_i Estimated Risk History (4-bits quantization)

0	0	2	13	11	7	7	7	7	7	6	4	3	1	1
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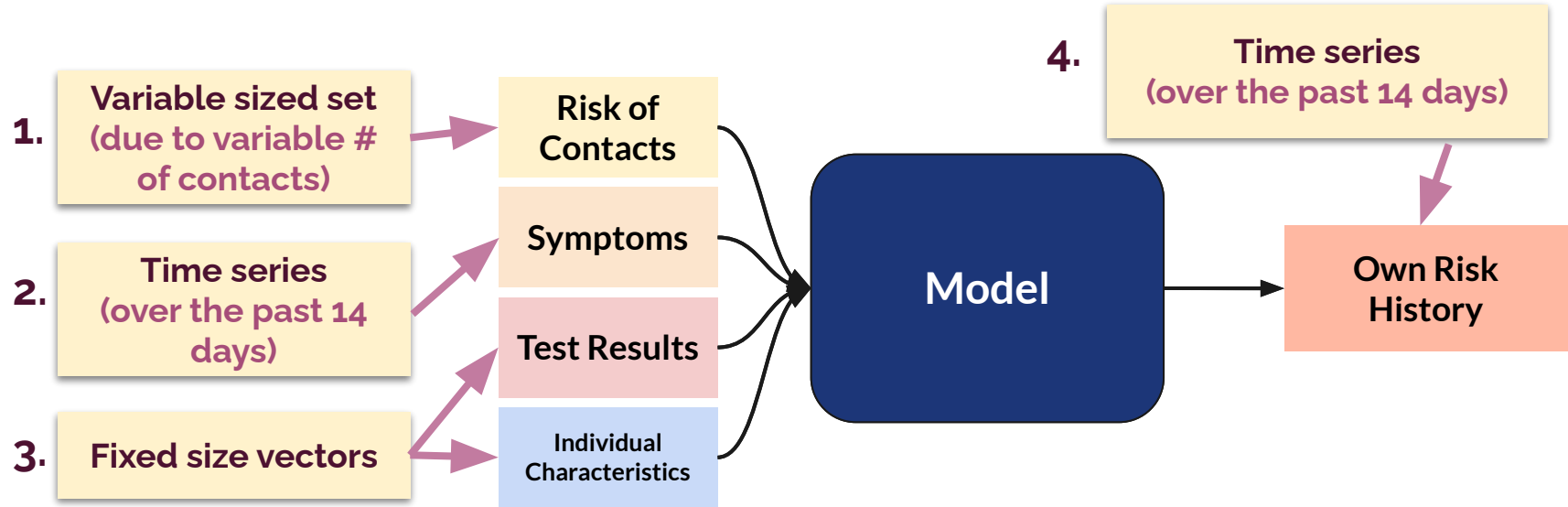
Inference module on each phone



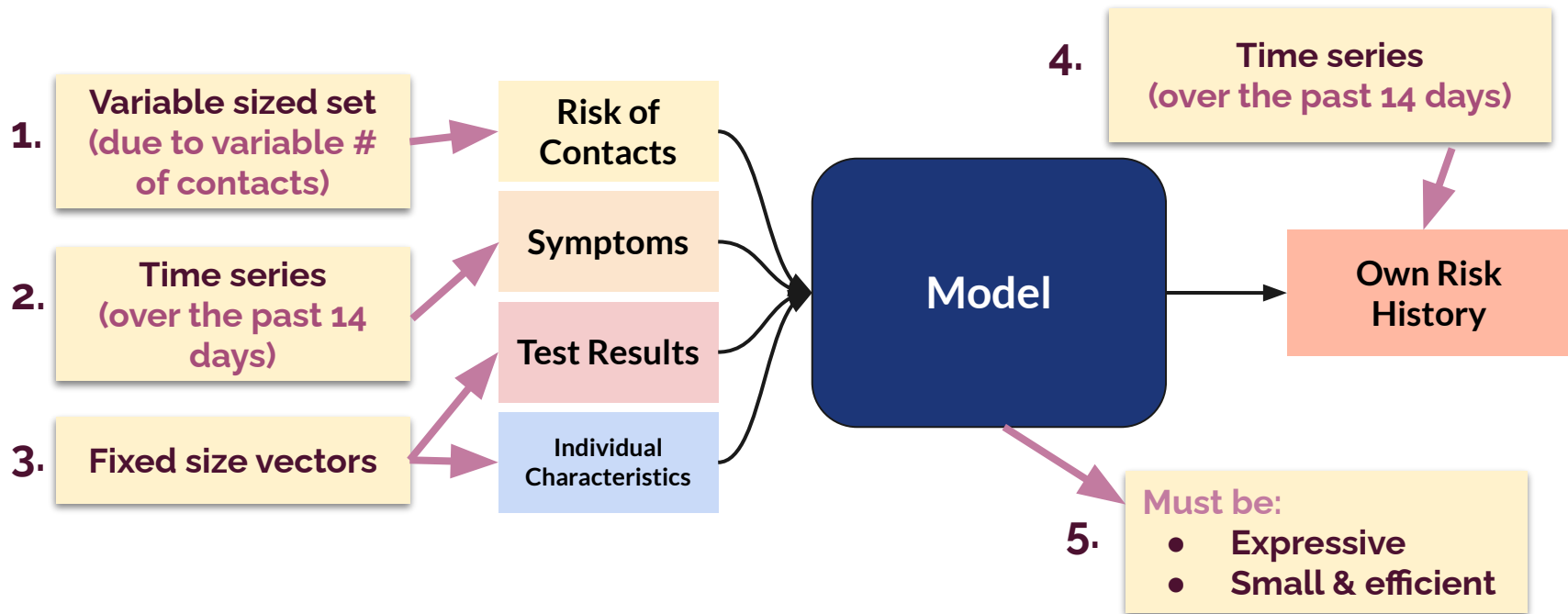
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PCT: Model Inputs & Outputs

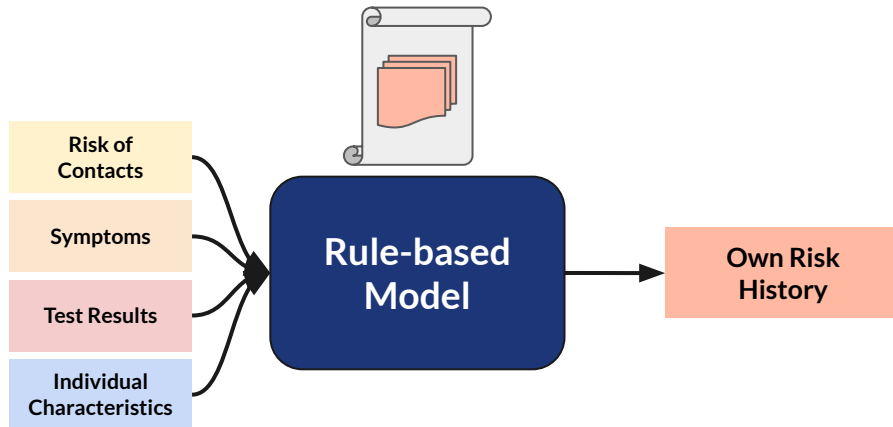


PCT: Model Inputs & Outputs



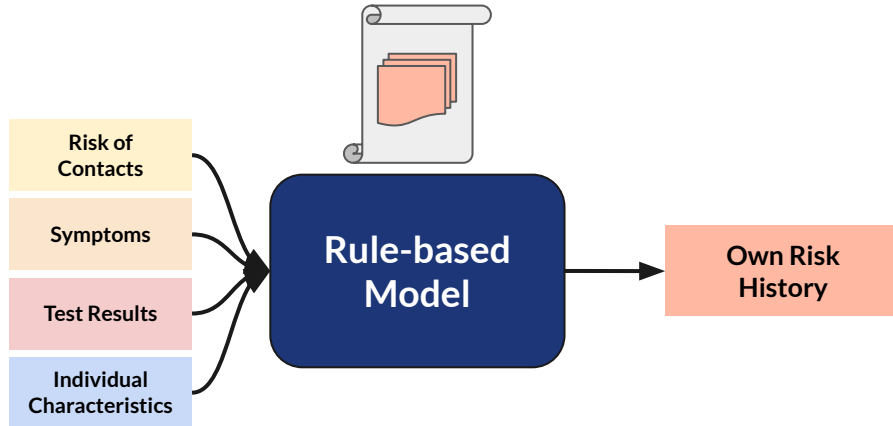
PCT: Rule-based Models

- Rules designed by PHEs



PCT: Rule-based Models

- Rules designed by PHEs
- Gupta et al. 2020 runs experiments on one such heuristic using COVI-AgentSim, an agent-based model

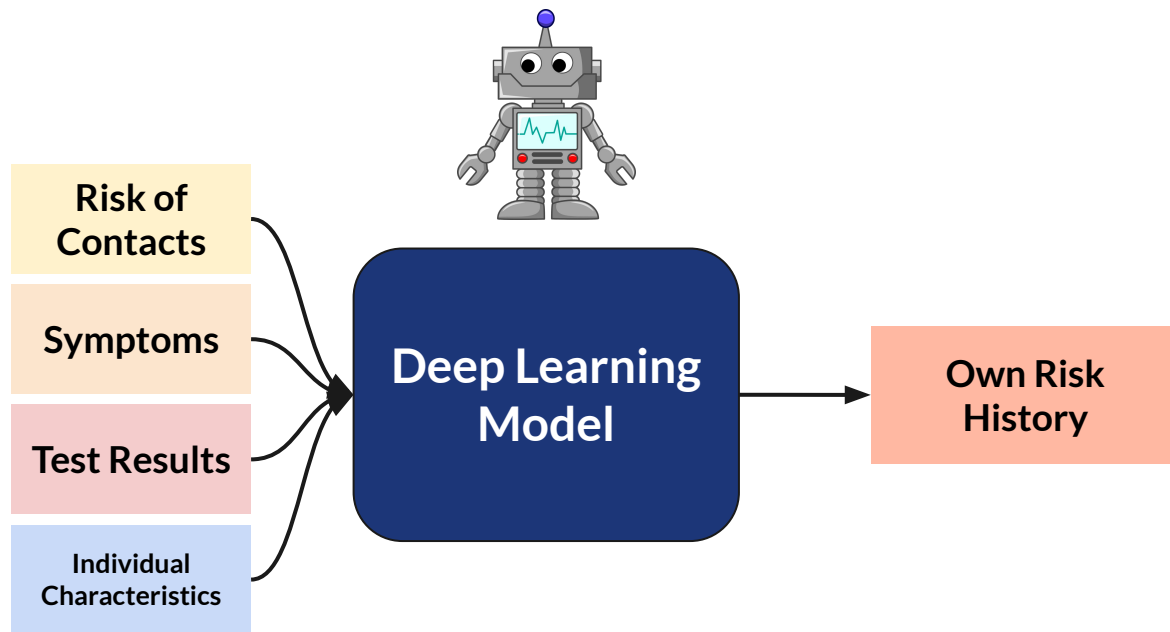


Algorithm 2 *Heuristic-FCT*

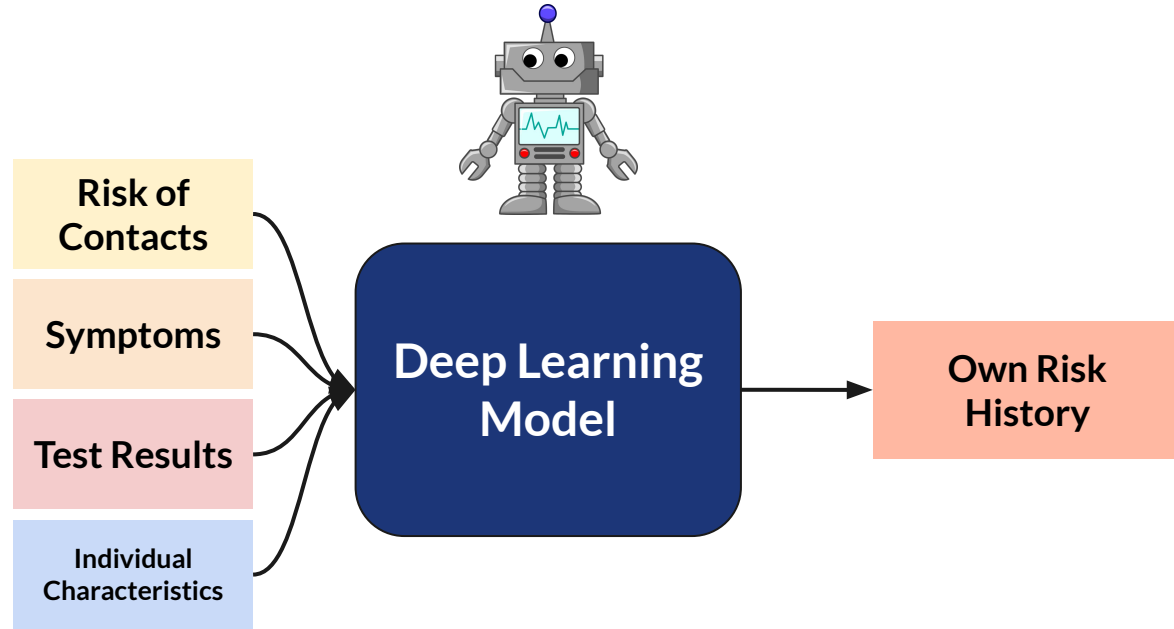
```

37: function HANDLERECOVERY( $\mathbf{S}_d^i, \mathbf{T}_d^i, M_{i,:}(\cdot), \mathbf{r}_d^i$ )
38:    $R_x \leftarrow 1$ 
39:   if  $\sum \mathbf{S}_{d,\{:,d,d-d_{max}/2\}}^i \geq 1$  or  $\sum_{d' \in D} \mathbb{1}\{\mathbf{T}_{d,d'}^i = +1\} \geq 1$  then
40:      $R_x \leftarrow 0$ 
41:   if  $\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i), d' \in D, d'' \in \{d,d-1,\dots,d-7\}} \mathbb{1}\{M_{i,j}^{d''}(d'') = r_{HIGH}\} \geq 1$  then
42:      $R_x \leftarrow 0$ 
43:   else if  $\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i), d' \in D, d'' \in \{d,d-1,\dots,d-4\}} \mathbb{1}\{M_{i,j}^{d''}(d'') = r_{MODERATE}\} \geq 1$  then
44:      $R_x \leftarrow 0$ 
45:   else if  $\sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(i), d' \in D, d'' \in \{d,d-1\}} \mathbb{1}\{M_{i,j}^{d''}(d'') = r_{MILD}\} \geq 1$  then
46:      $R_x \leftarrow 0$ 
47:   if  $R_x = 1$  then
48:      $\mathbf{r}_{d,d-d_{max}/2}^i \leftarrow 0$ 
49:   return  $\mathbf{r}_d^i, R_x$ 
50: function APPLYNEGATIVETEST( $\zeta_d^i, \mathbf{r}_d^i, \mathbf{T}_d^i, W$ )
51:    $d_n \leftarrow$  day of the latest negative test
52:    $\mathbf{r}_{d, d_n-W/2 : d_n+W/2}^i \leftarrow 0$ 
53:   if  $\mathbf{r}_{d,d}^i = 0$  then
54:      $\zeta_d^i = 0$ 
55:   return  $\mathbf{r}_d^i, \zeta_d^i$ 
56: function COMPUTE RISK( $\mathbf{T}_d^i, \mathbf{S}_d^i, M_{i,:}(\cdot), \mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{r}_{d-1}^i$ )
57:    $W \leftarrow 8$ 
58:    $\mathbf{r}_t^i, \zeta_t^i \leftarrow$  TESTRESULTS COMPUTE RISK( $\mathbf{T}_d^i$ )
59:    $\mathbf{r}_s^i, \zeta_s^i \leftarrow$  SYMPTOMS COMPUTE RISK( $\mathbf{S}_d^i$ )
60:    $\mathbf{r}_m^i, \zeta_m^i \leftarrow$  RISKMESSAGES COMPUTE RISK( $M_{i,:}(\cdot)$ )
61:    $\mathbf{r}_r, R_x \leftarrow$  HANDLERECOVERY( $\mathbf{S}_d^i, \mathbf{T}_d^i, M_{i,:}(\cdot), \mathbf{r}_{d-1}^i$ )
62:   if  $R_x = 1$  then
63:     return  $\mathbf{r}_r, 0$ 
64:    $\mathbf{r}_d \leftarrow \max(\mathbf{r}_t, \mathbf{r}_s, \mathbf{r}_m, \mathbf{r}_{d-1})$  ▷ element-wise maximum
65:    $\zeta_d^i \leftarrow \max(\zeta_t, \zeta_s, \zeta_m)$ 
66:   if  $\sum_{d' \in D} \mathbb{1}\{\mathbf{T}_{d,d'}^i = -1\} \geq 1$  then
67:      $\mathbf{r}_d^i, \zeta_d^i \leftarrow$  APPLYNEGATIVETEST( $\zeta_d^i, \mathbf{r}_d^i, \mathbf{T}_d^i, W$ )
68:   return  $\mathbf{r}_d^i, \zeta_d^i$ 
  
```

PCT: AI-based Models



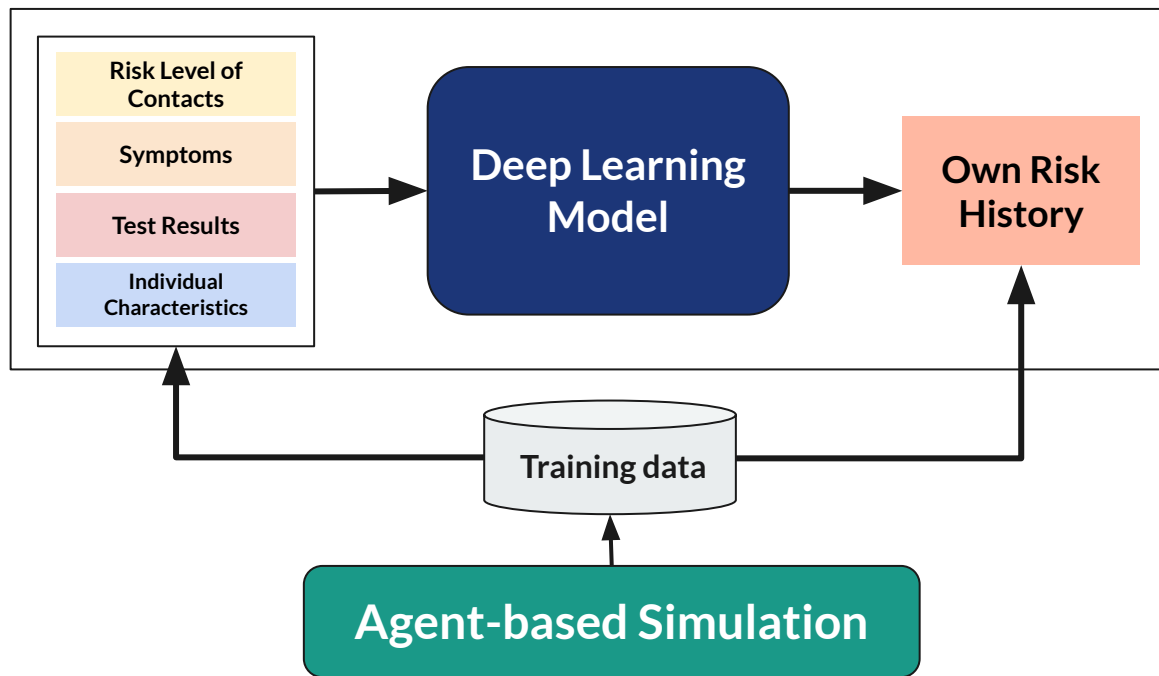
PCT: AI-based Models



Bengio et al. 2020 (ICLR - Top 20) proposes neural network architecture and training protocol for deep learning based PCT predictor

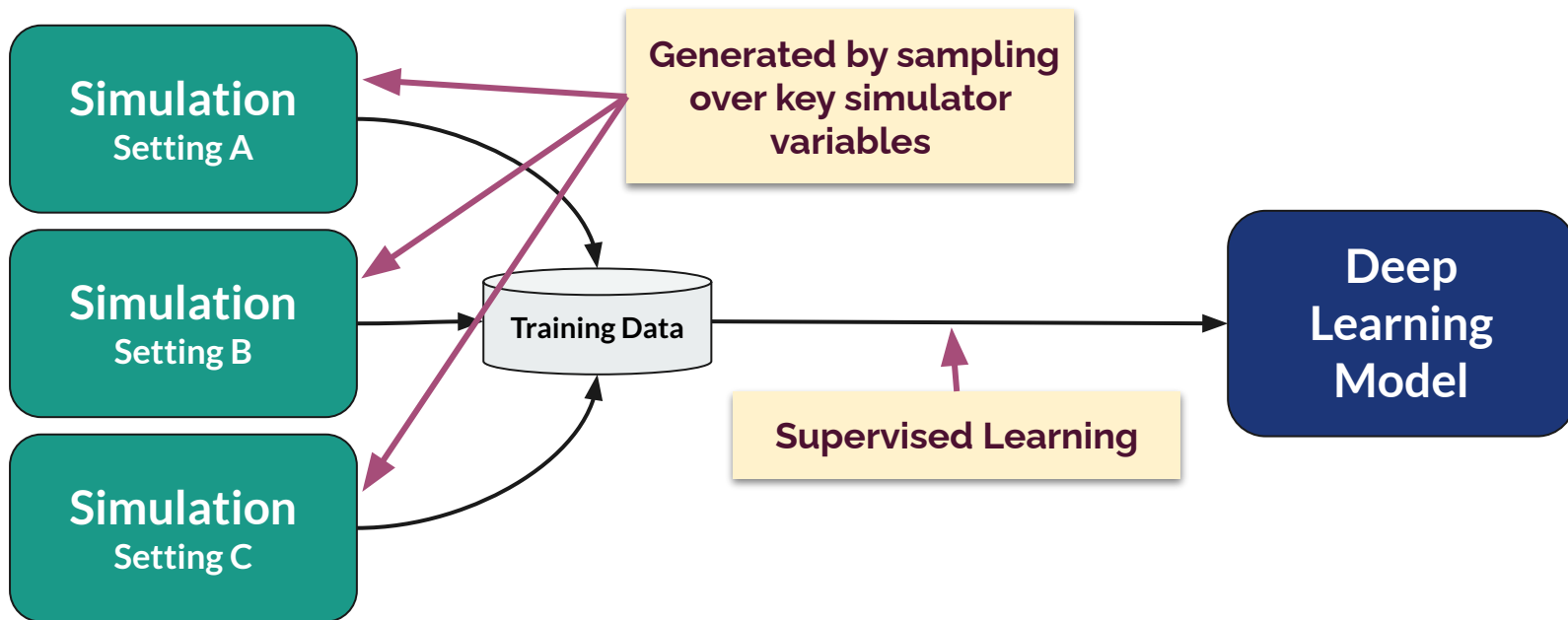
Where does the training data come from?

- ❖ Learning from simulations
 - Covi-AgentSim (Gupta et al. 2020) is used as a simulator



But simulator isn't the real world ...

- ❖ **Domain Randomization:**
 - Commonly used in robotics for sim-to-real transfer



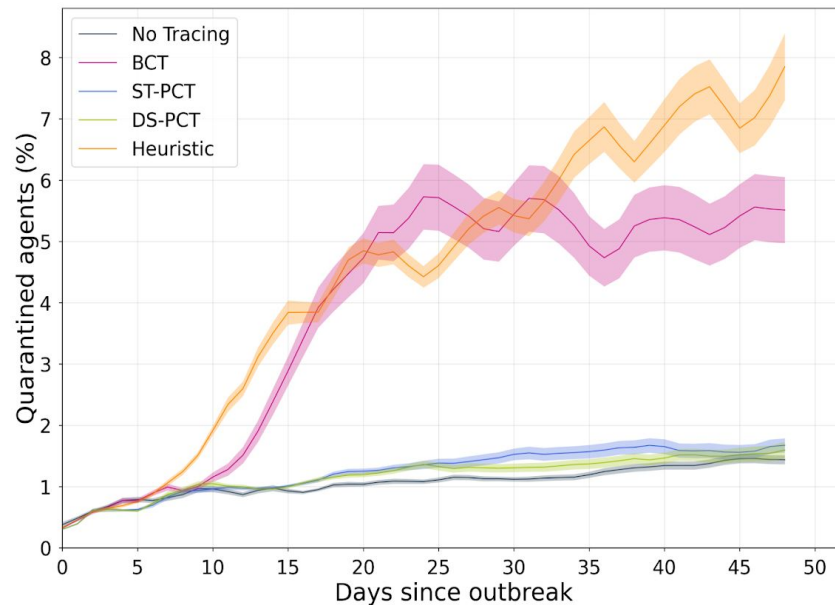
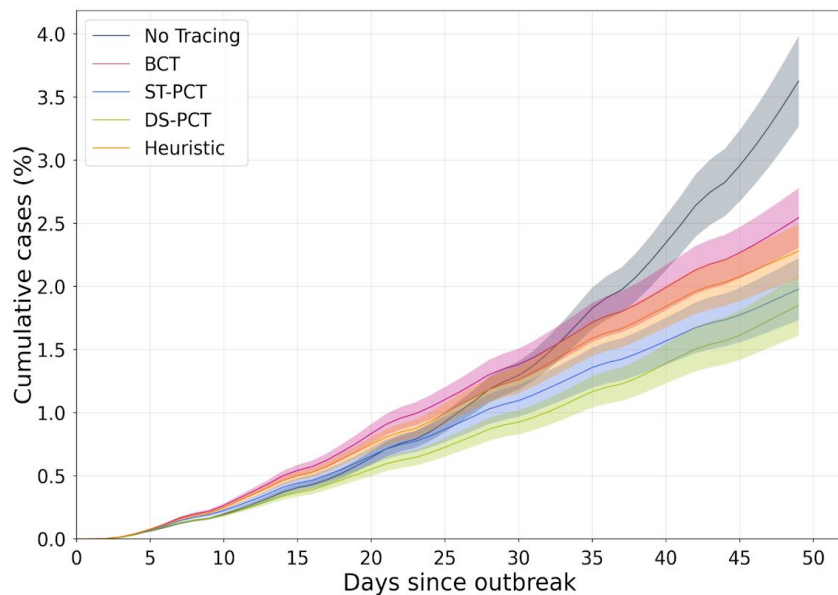
But ...

And many more challenges were identified and rectified in our ICLR submission (Bengio et al. 2020)

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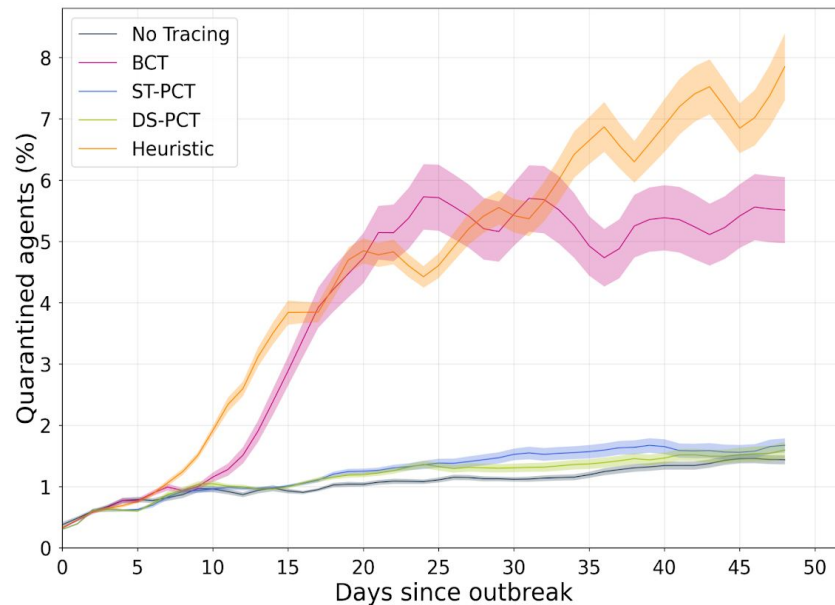
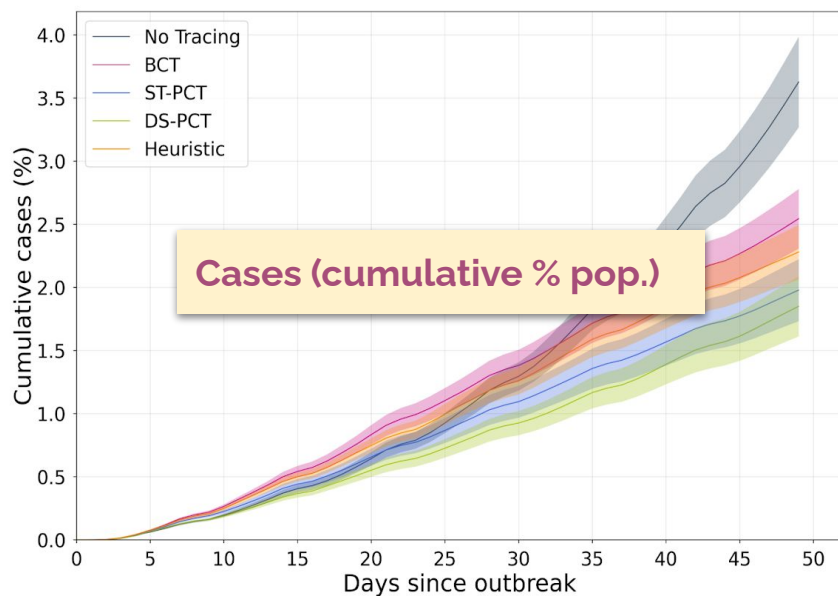
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PCT: Results



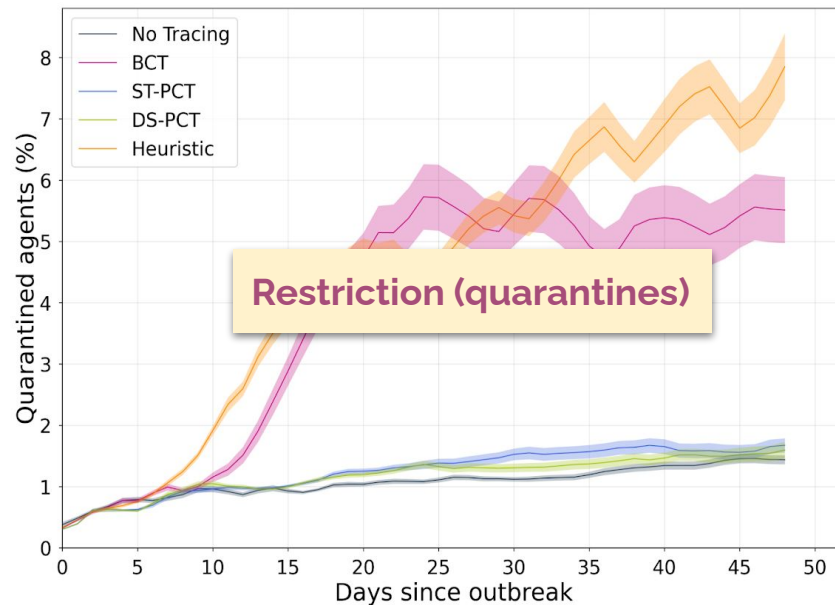
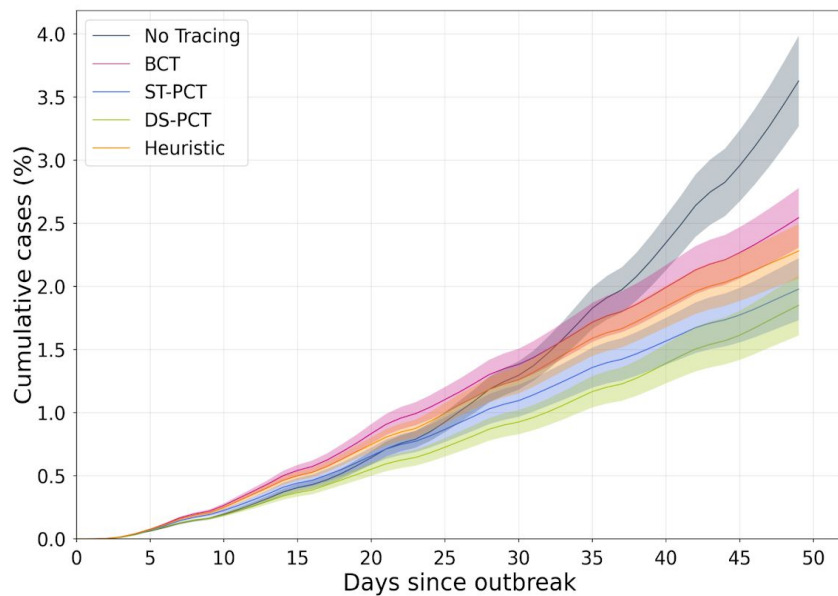
3000 agents, 60% adoption rate, Control: 4-6 average number of contacts per day

PCT: Results



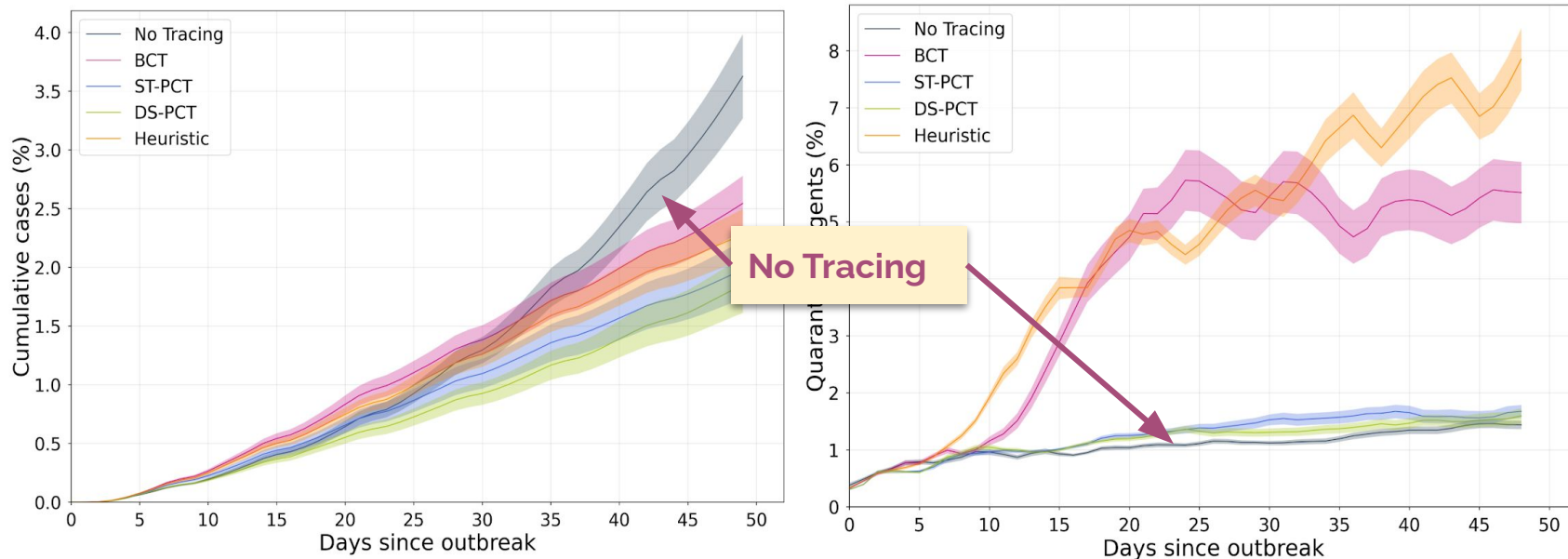
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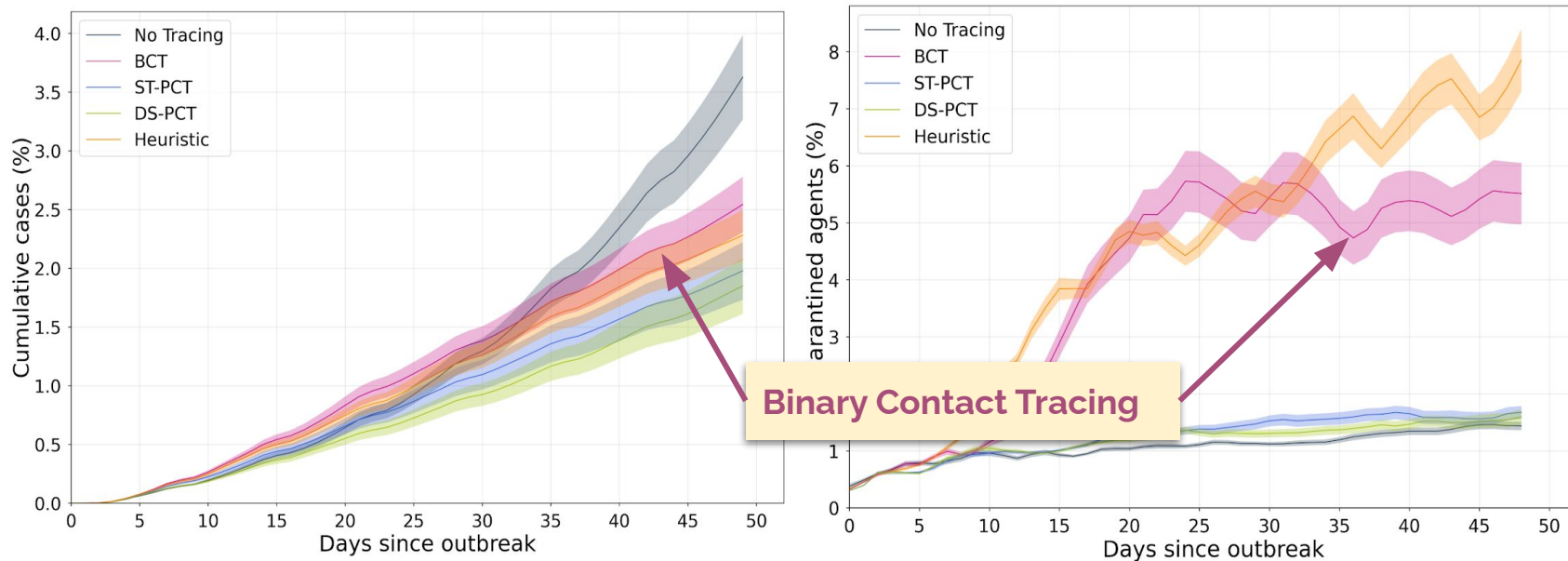
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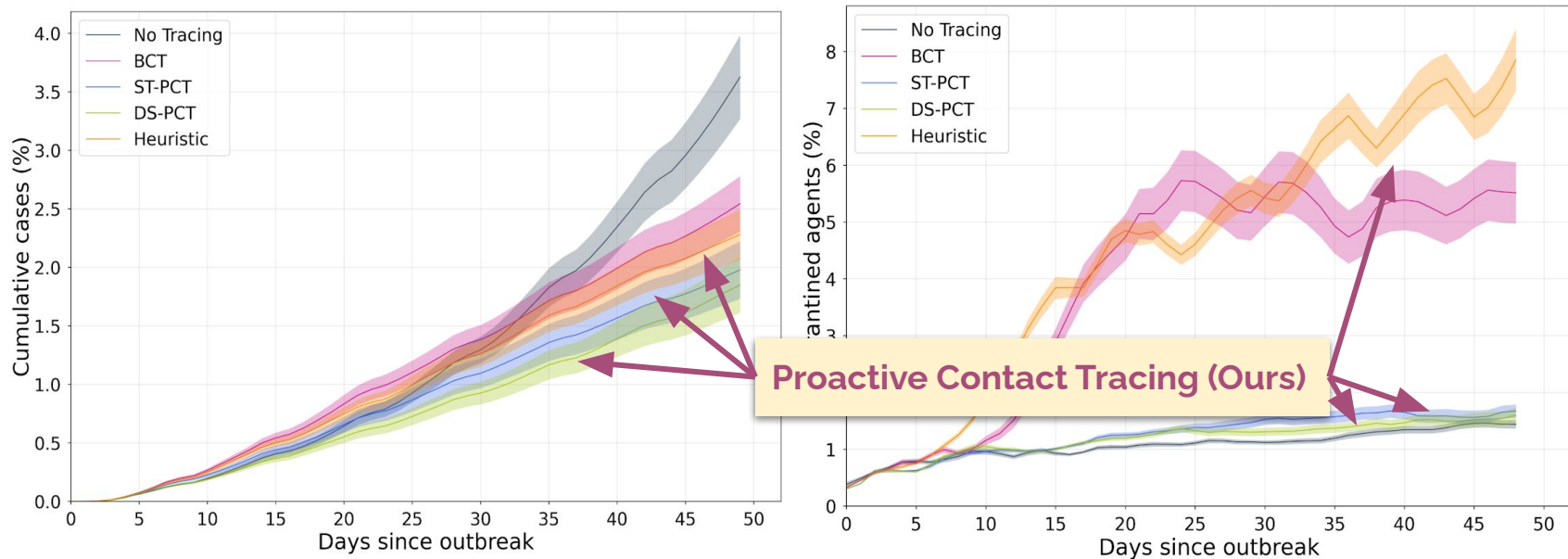
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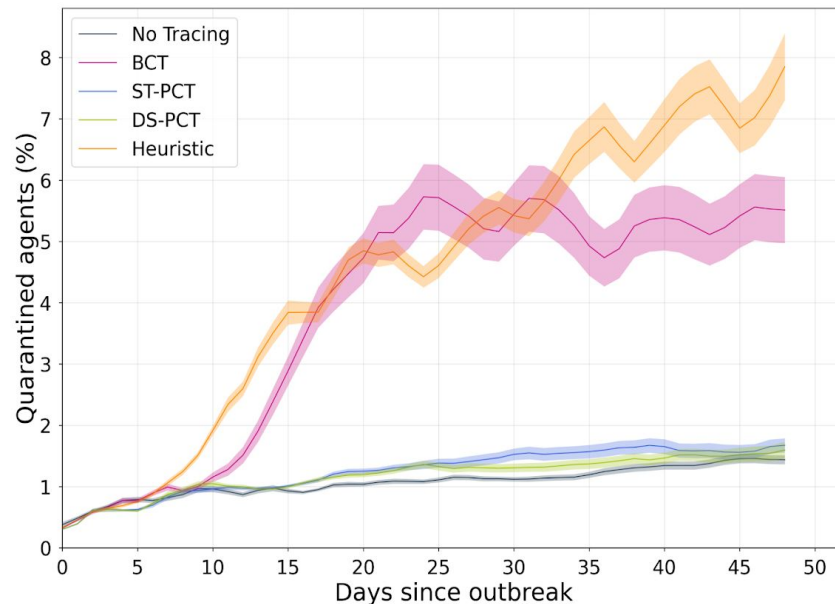
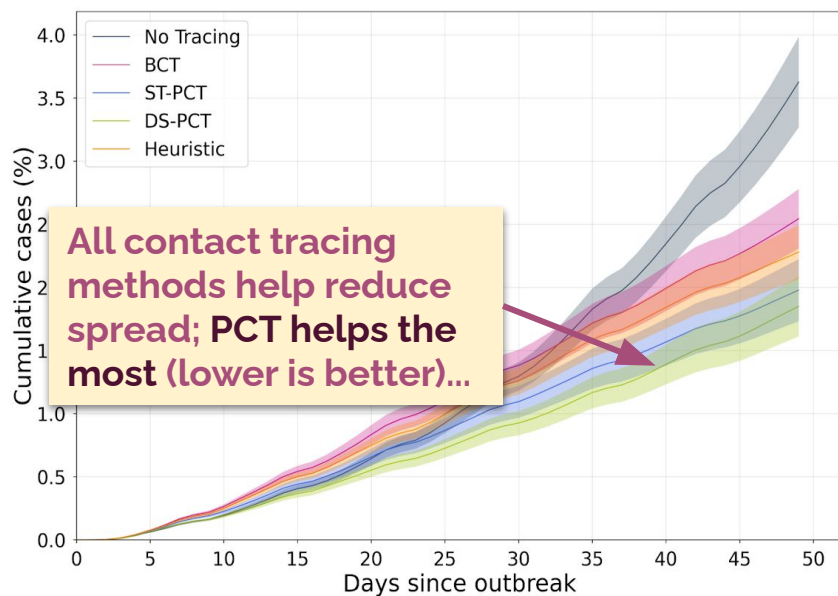
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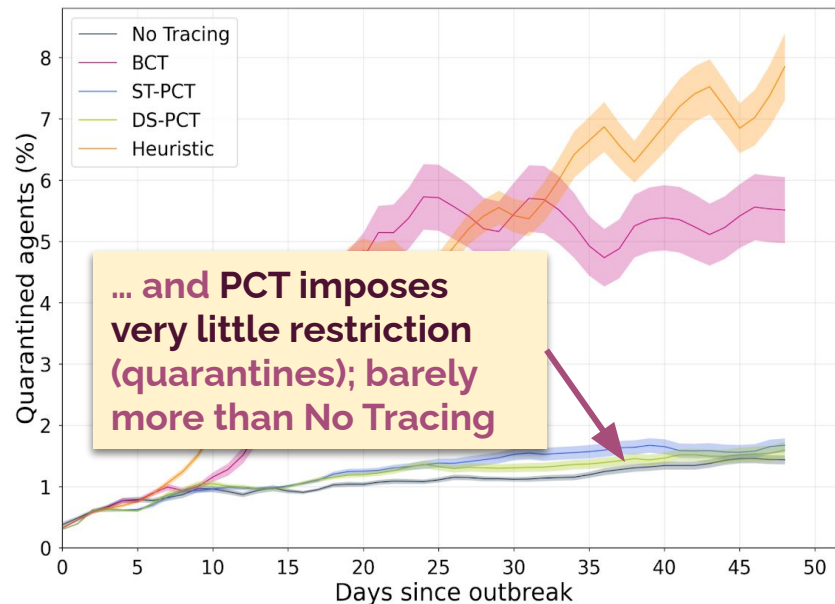
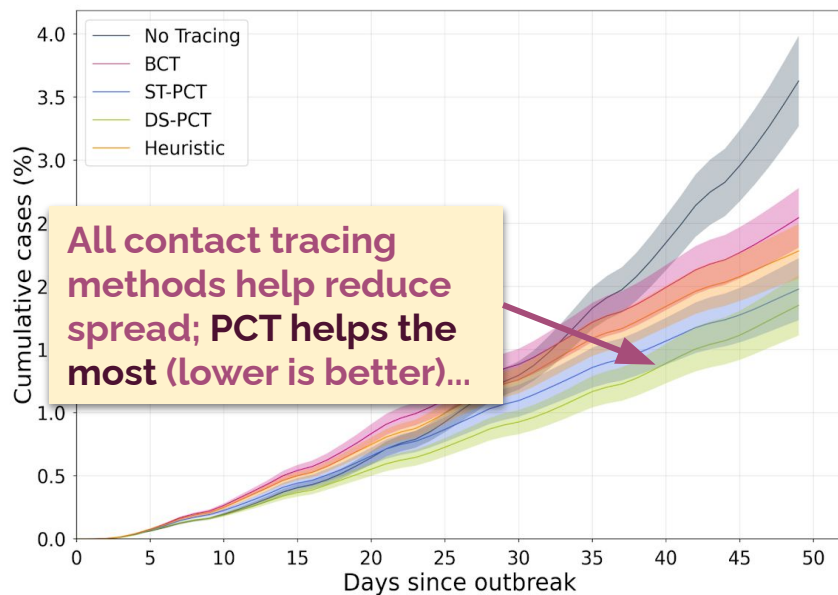
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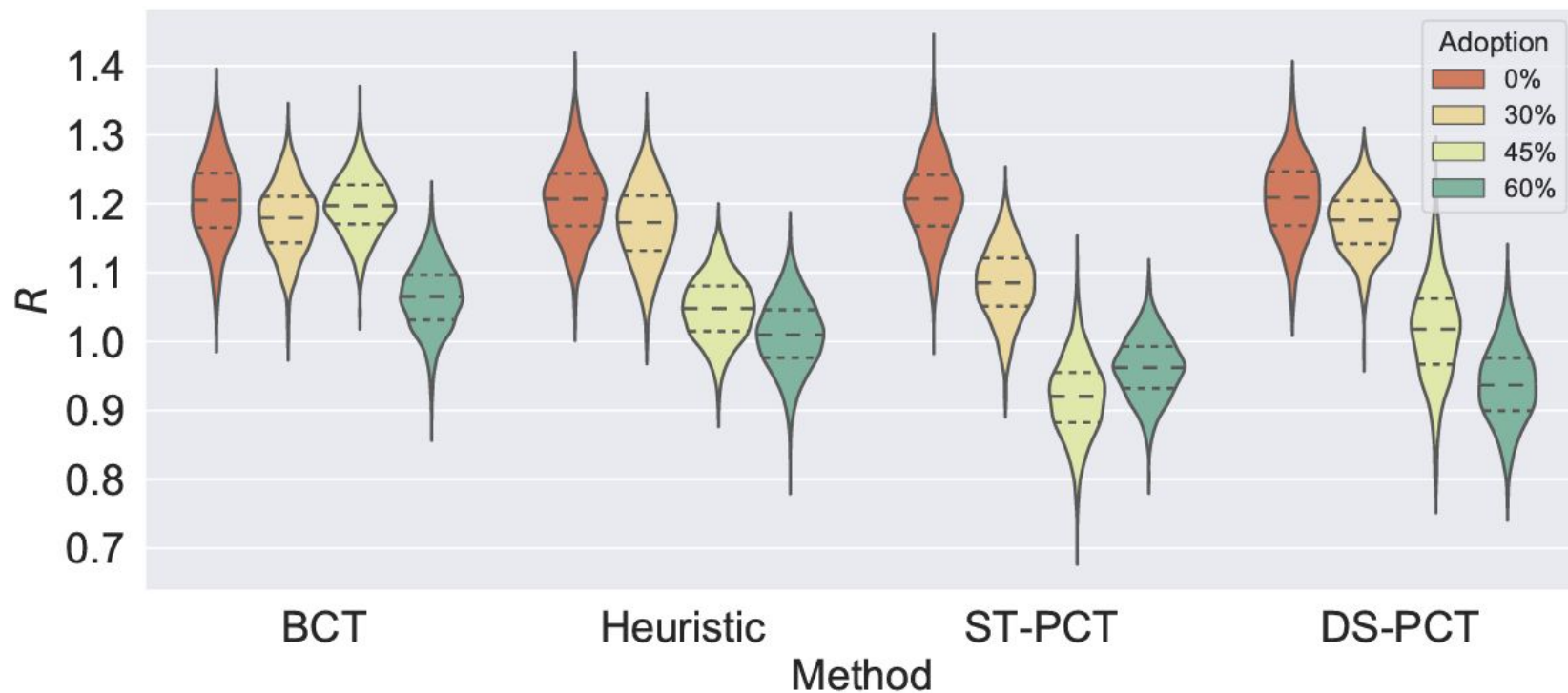
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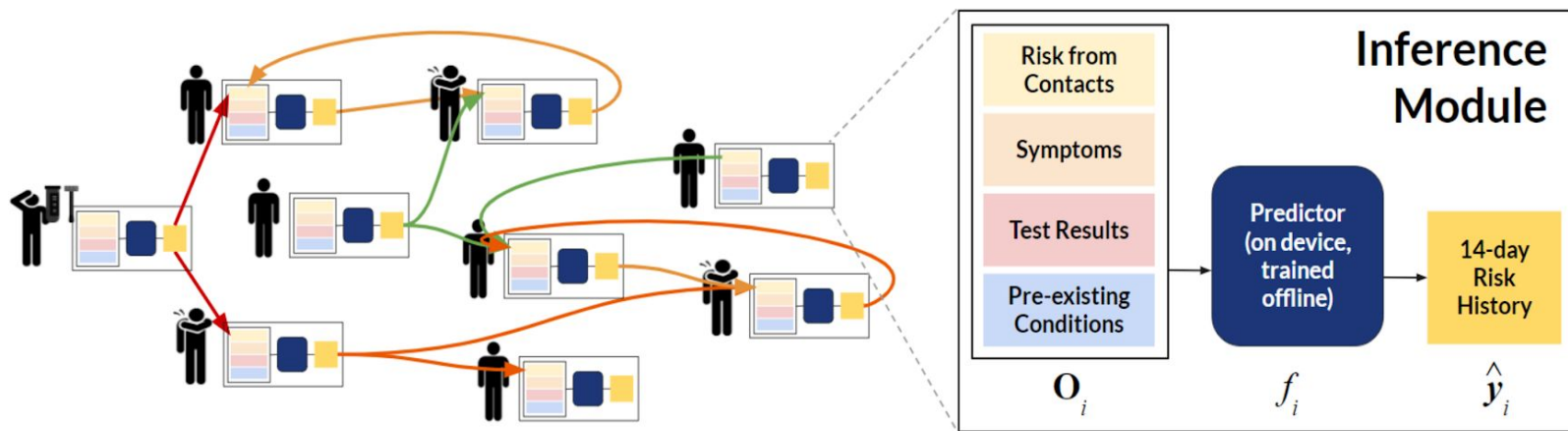
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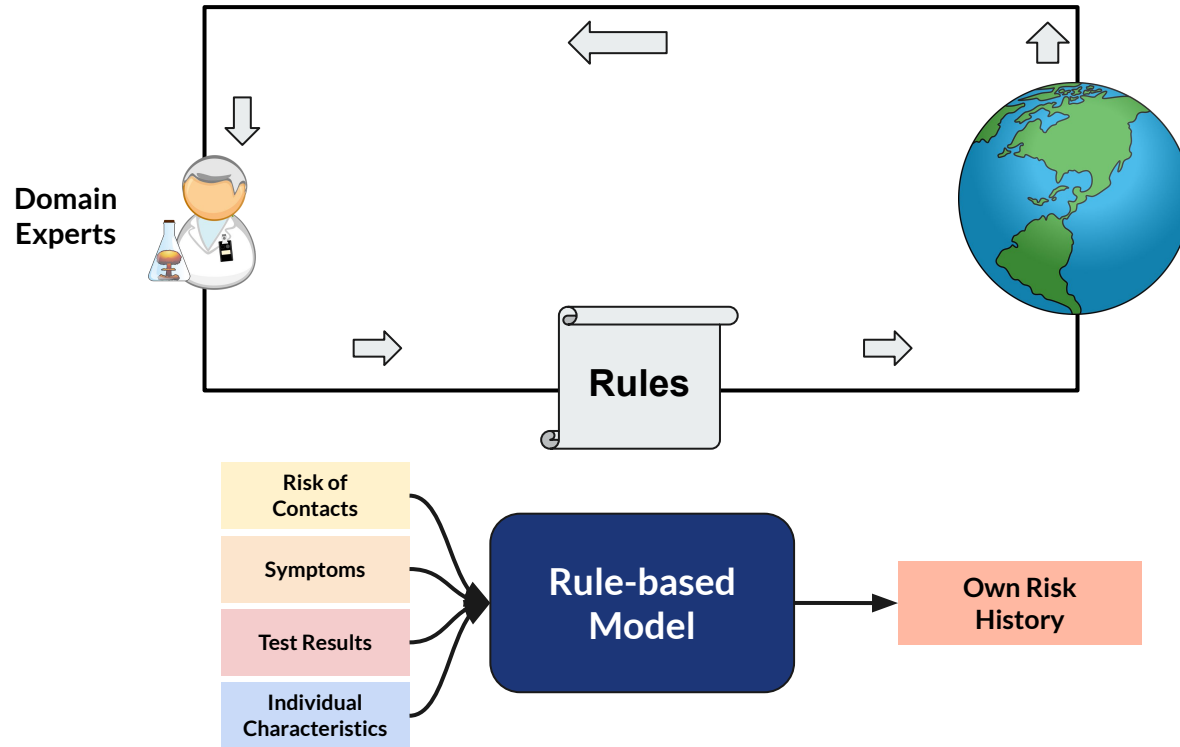
Conclusions: PCT Framework

- Common platform for collaboration among
 - epidemiologists,
 - computer scientists,
 - privacy experts,
 - user behavior researchers

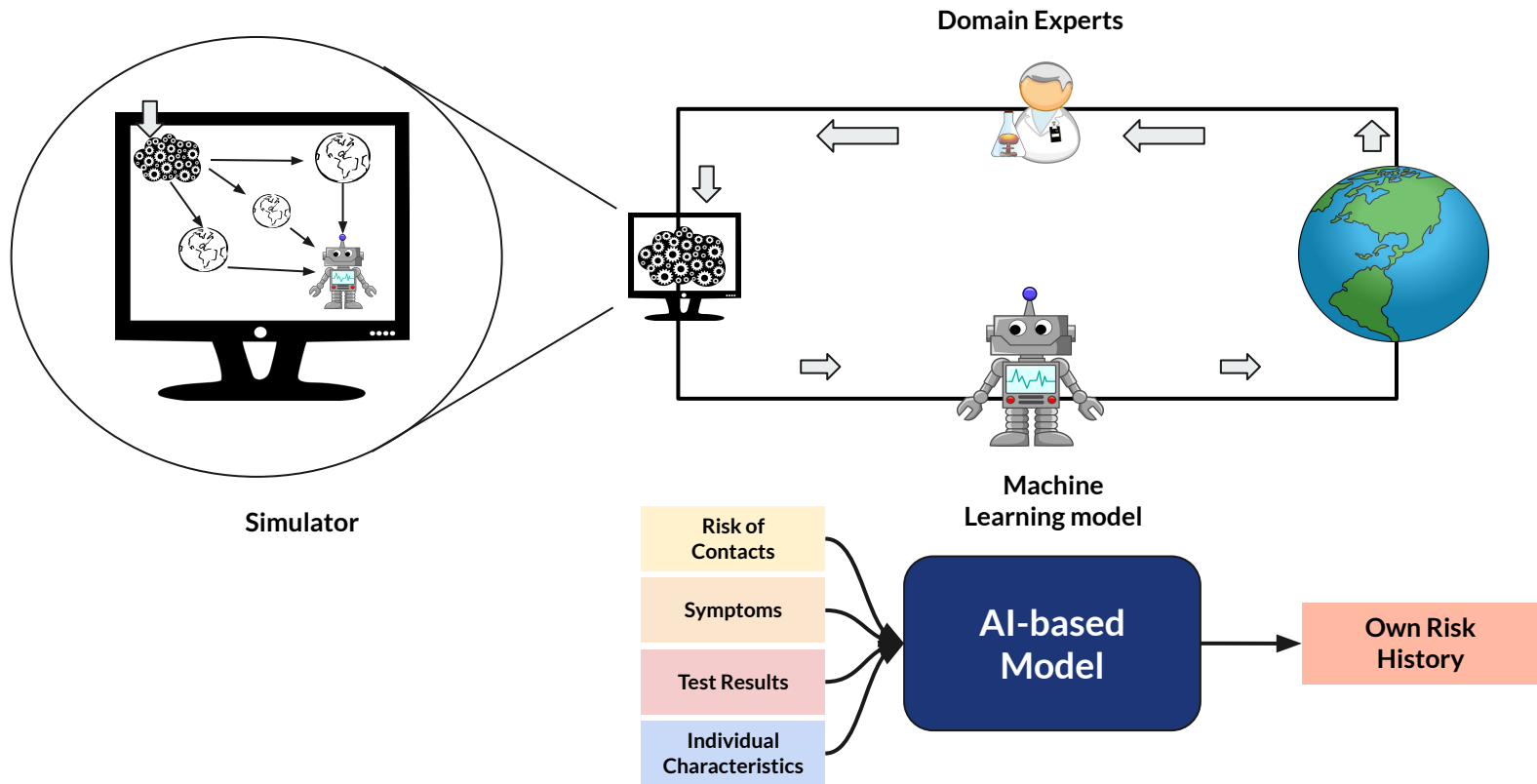
- Designed to address privacy concerns



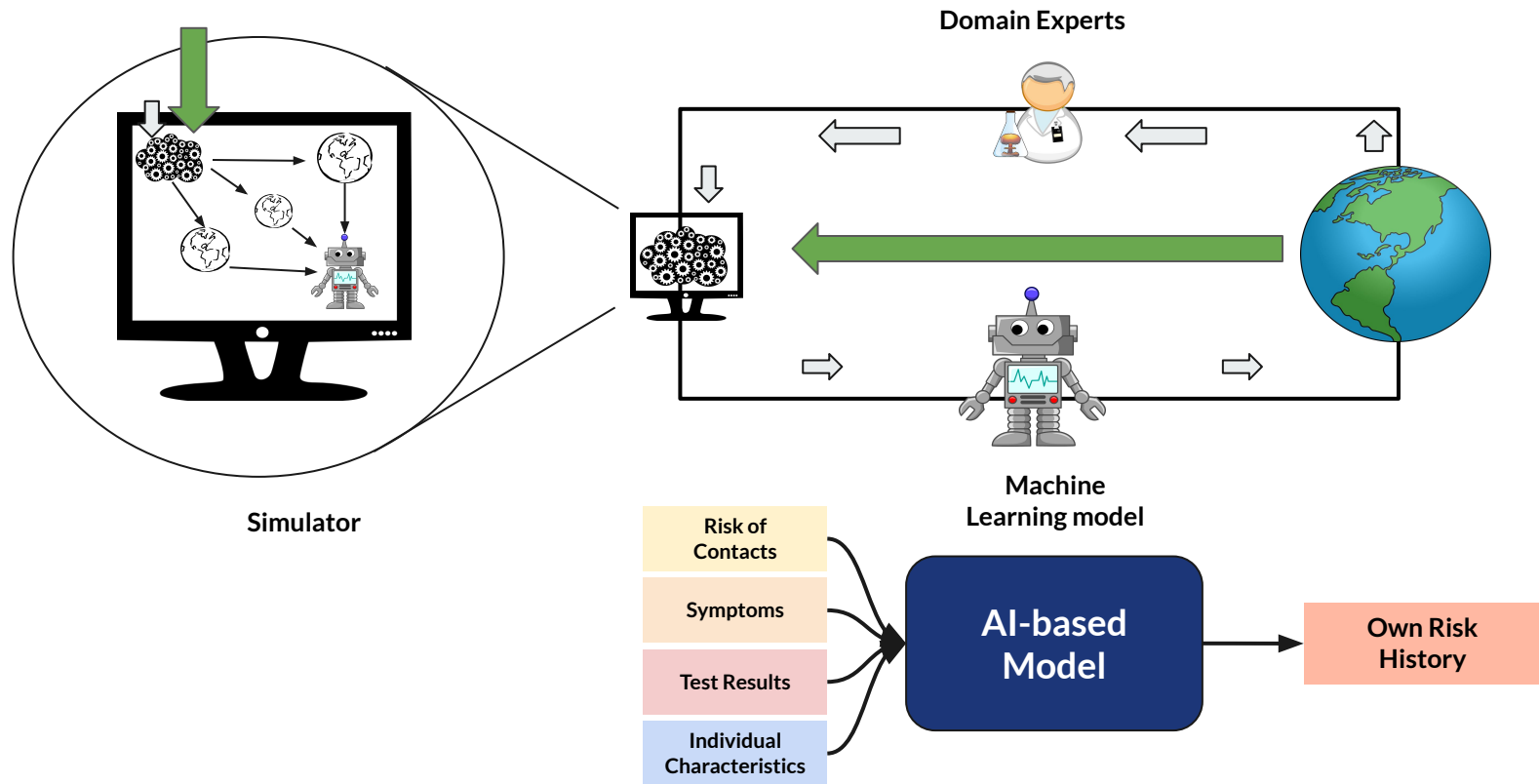
Conclusions: Rule-based PCT



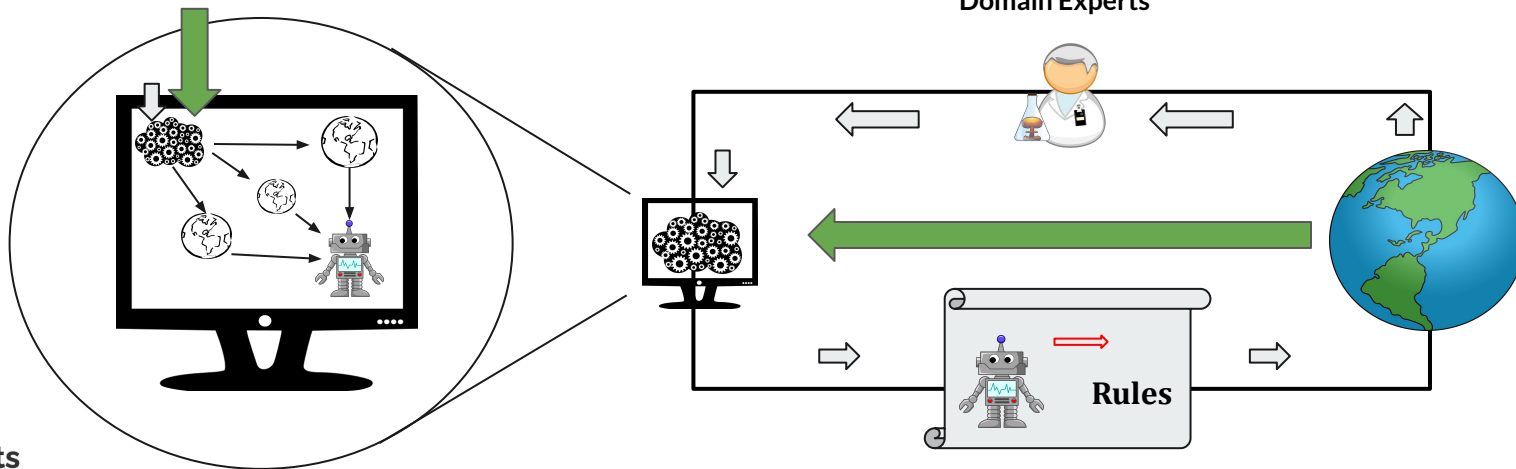
Conclusions: AI-based PCT



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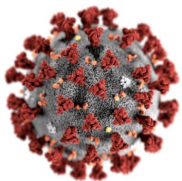


Blog: Responsible AI-based PCT



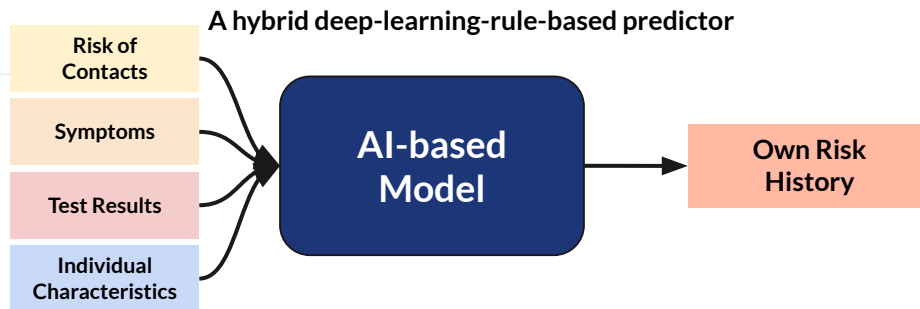
Blog Posts

2021 [🔗](#)



Contact tracing as a personalization framework

- *Why do we need contact tracing?*
- *Search for a unified framework*
- *Framework in practice*
- *Deep learning for the framework*
- *Limitations and Open Questions*
- *Why should we care now?*



COVI App



Montreal

Testing the public's trust: Quebec premier mulls adopting contact-tracing app



Protecting users' privacy integral part of COVI app's design, says CEO of Montreal's AI institute

[Kate McKenna](#) · CBC News · Posted: May 19, 2020 6:46 PM ET | Last Updated: May 19, 2020

Thank you & Resources



Slides:
www.pgupta.info/talks



Blog:
www.pgupta.info/blog



COVI White Paper:
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.08502>



Smartphone App:
<https://mila.quebec/en/project/covi/>



COVI-AgentSim Paper:
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2010.16004.pdf>



COVI-AgentSim Code:
<https://github.com/mila-iqia/COVI-AgentSim>



COVI-ML Paper:
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2010.12536.pdf>



COVI-ML Code:
<https://github.com/mila-iqia/COVI-ML>



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