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# PhysioNet CinC Challenge 2019 — Early Prediction of Sepsis from Clinical Data

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- 1** The challenge – the data
- 2** From data cleaning to feature generation
- 3** Training of time-specific metalearners
- 4** Results



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# 1. The challenge – the data

## Challenge description



### 20<sup>th</sup> PhysioNet Computing in Cardiology Challenge – [► project page](#)

#### Objective

“The goal [...] is the **early detection of sepsis using physiological data**. [...] we define sepsis according to the Sepsis-3 guidelines, i.e., a two-point change in the patient’s Sequential Organ Failure Assessment (SOFA) score and clinical suspicion of infection [...].”

- ▶ Designing and implementation of a working, open-source algorithm
- ▶ Automatically identify a patient’s risk of sepsis and make a positive or negative prediction of sepsis for every time interval based only on the clinical data
- ▶ Team with best predictions for the patients in the hidden test set wins



## Training dataset

40,336 patient ids | 1,552,210 dates | 2,932 sepsis patients

Vital signs

HR, O2Sat, Temp, SBP, MAP, DBP, Resp, EtCO2

Laboratory values

BaseExcess, HCO3, FiO2, pH, PaCO2, SaO2, AST, BUN, Alkalinephos, Calcium, Chloride, Creatinine, Bilirubin\_direct, Glucose, Lactate, Magnesium, Phosphate, Potassium, Bilirubin\_total, TroponinI, Hct, Hgb, PTT, WBC, Fibrinogen, Platelets

Demographics

Age, Gender, Unit1 (MICU), Unit2 (SICU), HospAdmTime, ICULOS

Outcome

SepsisLabel For sepsis patients, SepsisLabel is 1 if  $t \geq t_{\text{sepsis}} - 6$  and 0 if  $t < t_{\text{sepsis}} - 6$ . For non-sepsis patients, SepsisLabel is 0.



Training files are available as delimited csv files:

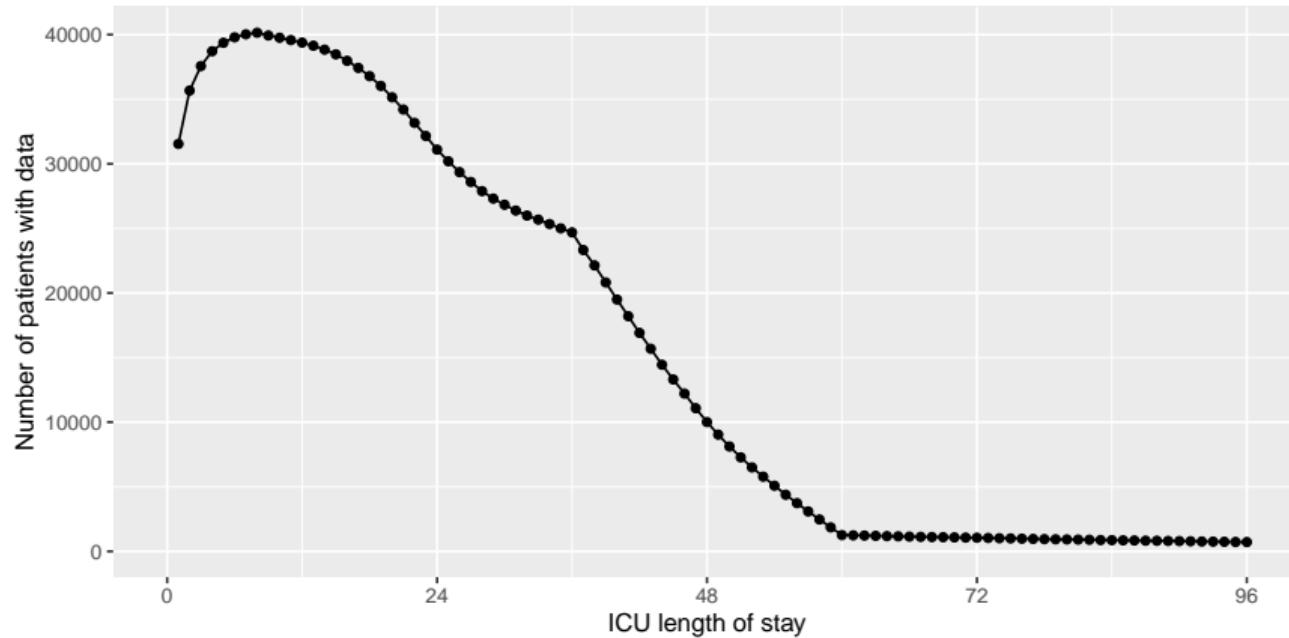
HR	O2Sat	Temp	...	HospAdmTime	ICULOS	SepsisLabel
NaN	NaN	NaN	...	-50	1	0
86	98	NaN	...	-50	2	0
75	NaN	NaN	...	-50	3	1
99	100	35.5	...	-50	4	1

For data screening to manually revisit false predictions we implemented an interactive Sepsis Challenge Patient Explorer [▶ Sepsis Challenge Patient Explorer](#) with R Shiny.

# ICU Length of Stay



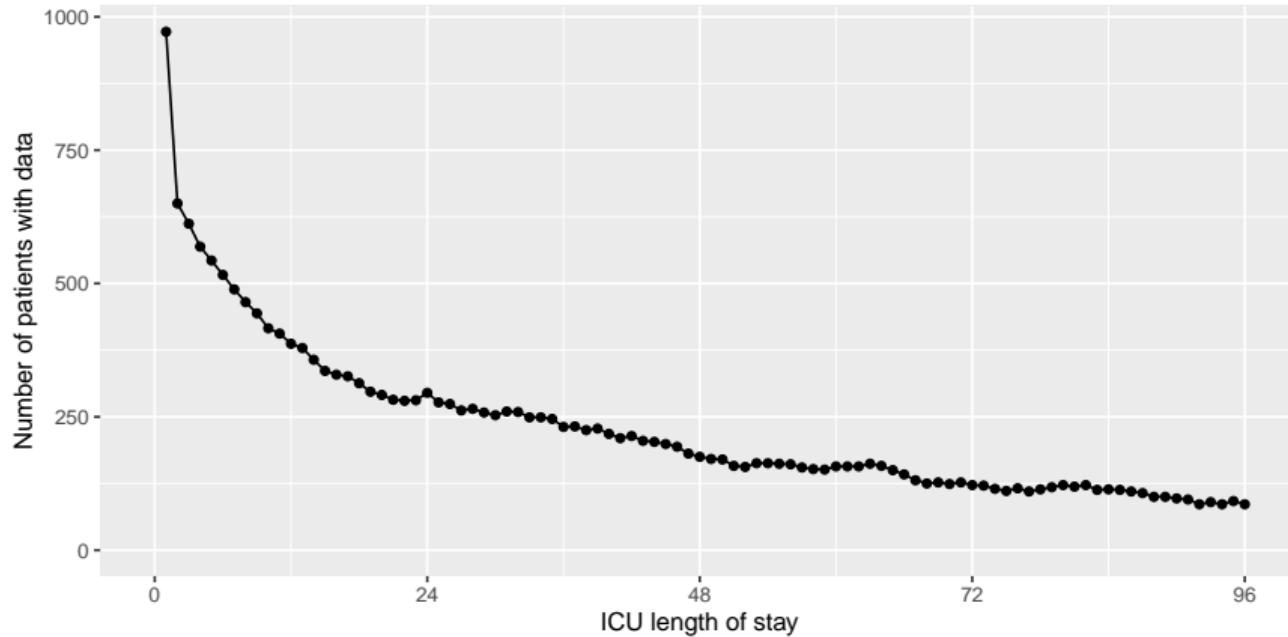
All patients



# ICU Length of Stay



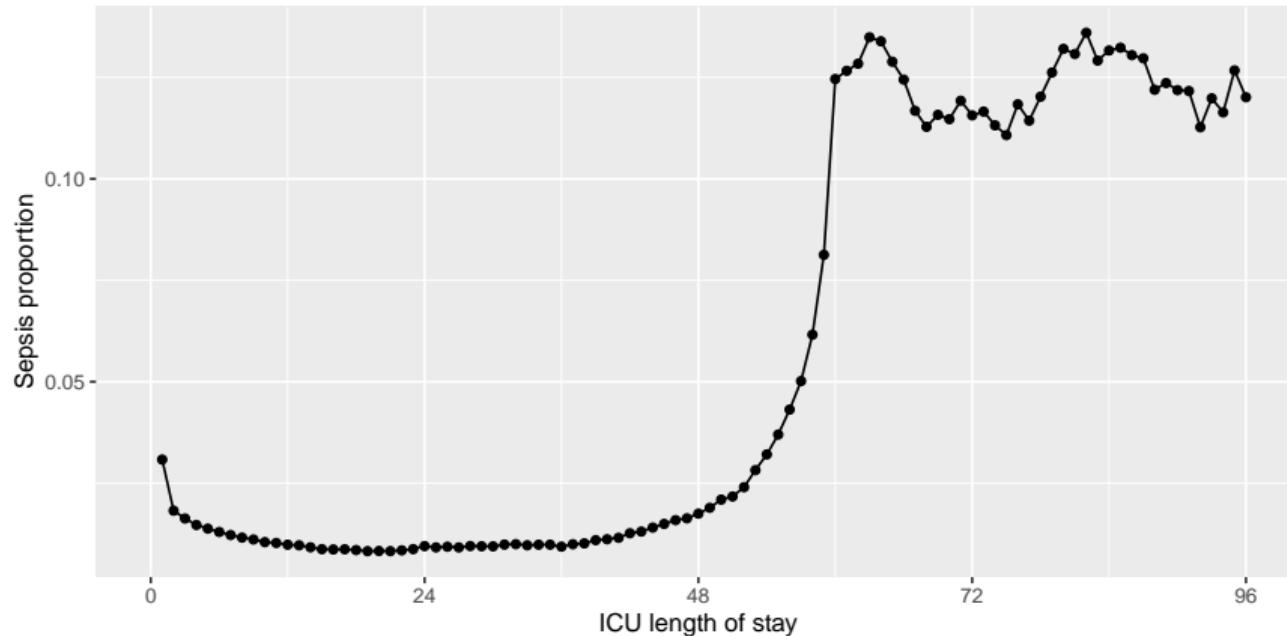
## Sepsis patients



# ICU Length of Stay



Sepsis ratio



# Challenge Scoring

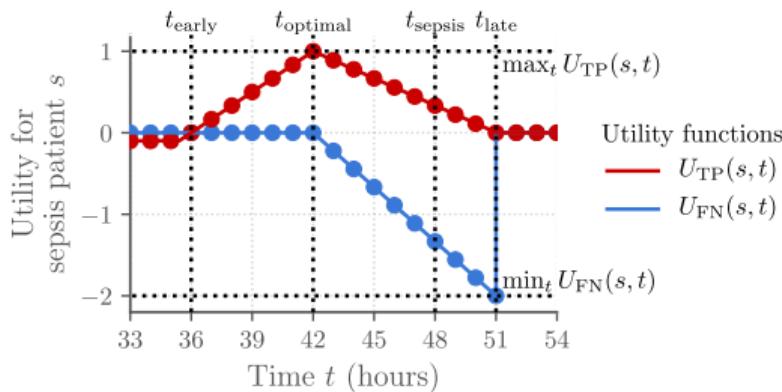


The early prediction of sepsis is potentially life-saving, and we challenge participants to **predict sepsis 6 hours before** the clinical prediction of sepsis. **The utility function rewards early predictions and penalizes late predictions as well as false alarms.** Late prediction of sepsis is potentially life-threatening. Predicting sepsis in non-sepsis patients (or predicting sepsis very early in sepsis patients) consumes limited hospital resources.

# Challenge Scoring



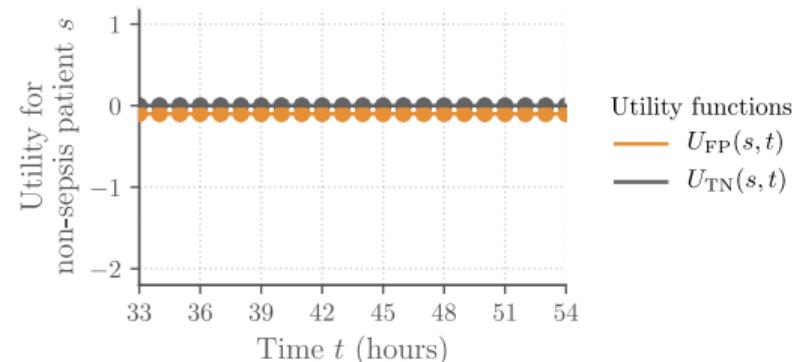
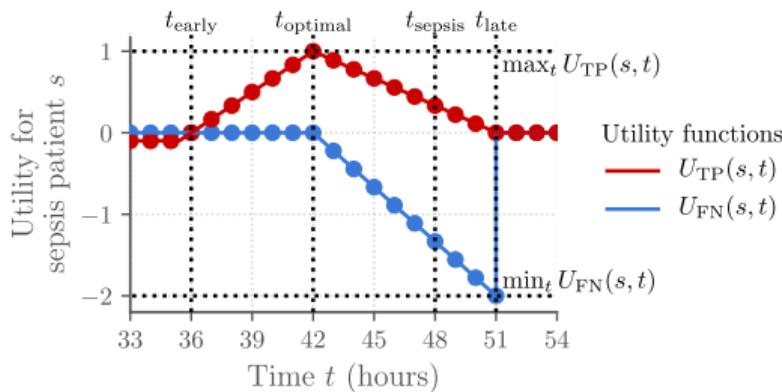
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# Challenge Scoring



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# Challenge Scoring



- ▶ Each prediction (each line in the data file) will be scored by the utility function  $U(s, t)$  (patient  $s$ , time interval  $t$ ):

$$U(s, t) = \begin{cases} UTP(s, t), & \text{positive prediction at time } t \text{ for sepsis patient } s \\ UFN(s, t), & \text{positive prediction at time } t \text{ for non-sepsis patient } s \\ UFP(s, t), & \text{negative prediction at time } t \text{ for sepsis patient } s \\ UTN(s, t), & \text{negative prediction at time } t \text{ for non-sepsis patient } s \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

- ▶ Score for a classifier:

$$U_{\text{total}} = \sum_{s \in S} \sum_{t \in T(s)} U(s, t) \quad (2)$$

- ▶ Normalized classifier score:

$$U_{\text{normalized}} = \frac{U_{\text{total}} - U_{\text{no predictions}}}{U_{\text{optimal}} - U_{\text{no predictions}}} \quad (3)$$



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## 2. From data cleaning to feature generation

# Data Cleaning



- ▶ Vitals and lab values were screened for physiological plausibility
- ▶ 2263 values (mainly within blood pressure variables, respiration rate and oxygen levels) removed

```
clean_vars <- function(x) {  
  x %>%  
    mutate(hr = if_else(hr > 180, NA_real_, hr),  
          o2sat = if_else(o2sat < 50, NA_real_, o2sat),  
          temp = if_else(temp < 32 | temp > 43, NA_real_, temp),  
          map = if_else(map > 200, NA_real_, map),  
          dbp = if_else(dbp > 150, NA_real_, dbp),  
          resp = if_else(resp > 50, NA_real_, resp),  
          base_excess = if_else(base_excess < -30 | base_excess > 30, NA_real_, base_excess),  
          hco3 = if_else(hco3 < 10 | hco3 > 50, NA_real_, hco3),  
          fi_o2 = if_else(fi_o2 > 100, NA_real_, fi_o2),  
          sa_o2 = if_else(sa_o2 < 50, NA_real_, sa_o2),  
          chloride = if_else(chloride < 70 | chloride > 145, NA_real_, chloride),  
          potassium = if_else(potassium > 10, NA_real_, potassium),  
          hct = if_else(hct < 15 | hct > 70, NA_real_, hct),  
          platelets = if_else(platelets > 1000, NA_real_, platelets),  
          ventilated = if_else(!is.na(et_co2), TRUE, FALSE))  
}
```

# Rhythms of Data Availability



- ▶ Identification of data availability rhythm from remaining 12,036,860 values

vars	n0	n1	n2	n3	q0	q1	q2
hr	1398740	87915	8904	6524	0.90	0.96	0.96
o2sat	1349202	94193	13086	9352	0.87	0.93	0.94
temp	525111	56587	49411	160226	0.34	0.37	0.41
sbp	1325945	97290	11865	8200	0.85	0.92	0.92
map	1358496	99527	11949	6842	0.88	0.94	0.95
dbp	1065282	68661	9376	7266	0.69	0.73	0.74
resp	1313516	100718	15486	10159	0.85	0.91	0.92
et_co2	57636	3407	562	367	0.04	0.04	0.04

## Rolling windows



- ▶ Implementation of rolling windows of 6, 12, 24 and 48 hours for frequently repeated features:  
heart rate, oxygen saturation, temperature, systolic/diastolic/mean atrial blood pressure,  
respiration rate and serum glucose
- ▶ Compute quantiles, quantile ranges, and differences and quotients to the actual value:  
Quantiles (0.05, 0.10, 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 0.90, 0.95) represents the  
course of a disease without outliers

ICU LOS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
map_raw		75.3	86.0		91.3		77.0	76.3	88.3	87.3
map_roll.t6.p50		75.3	80.7	80.7	86.0	86.0	81.5	81.5	82.7	87.3
map_roll.t6.p75		75.3	83.3	83.3	88.7	88.7	87.3	87.3	89.1	88.3

# Imputation



- ▶ **Last observation carried forward** method copies last available lab or vital values to the next dates if new data is missing
- ▶ Close to the medical perspective of decision making  
(lab values from blood samples are usually measured unsteadily)

ICU LOS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
map_raw		75.3	86.0		91.3		77.0	76.3	88.3	87.3
map_roll.t6.p50		75.3	80.7	80.7	86.0	86.0	81.5	81.5	82.7	87.3
map_roll.t6.p75		75.3	83.3	83.3	88.7	88.7	87.3	87.3	89.1	88.3
map_LOCF		75.3	86.0	86.0	91.3	91.3	77.0	76.3	88.3	87.3

# Making Missingness Explicit



- ▶ Introducing binary variables to indicate whether the values were carry-forwarded
- ▶ introducing numerical variables showing the up-to-dateness such that machine learning models are able to learn the relevance of out-dated variables  
(0 means newly measured, 6 means measured 6 hours ago)

<b>ICU LOS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
map_raw		75.3	86.0		91.3		77.0	76.3	88.3	87.3
map_LOCF		75.3	86.0	86.0	91.3	91.3	77.0	76.3	88.3	87.3
map_miss	T	F	F	T	F	T	F	F	F	F
map_miss_val	NA	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0

## Clinical Scores



- ▶ **ShockIndex** (hr/sbp)
- ▶ **qSOFA** (sbp and resp)
- ▶ **SOFA** and partial SOFA scores (respiration, renal function, platelets, liver function, sofa\_renal, sofa\_plate, mean arterial pressure), SOFA from worst 24h partial scores
- ▶ **SIRS** scores, SIRS criteria, worst 24h SIRS score, SIRS criteria with hard temperature thresholds,
- ▶ **NEWS** and partial NEWS scores  
(respiration, oxygen saturation, systolic blood pressure, pulse rate, temperature)
- ▶ **cNEWS** uses linear regression  
(gender, age, NEWS, log(resp), temp, log(sbp), log(dpb), log(hr), o2sat, o2support)

## Clinical Scores



### ► Rolling versions using robust measures

qSOFA\_t6 uses 25% and 75% quantiles of last 6h

shockIndex\_t6 uses 25% and 75% quantiles of last 6h

SIRS\_t24 and partial scores uses 25%, 75% quantiles for temperature and 90% quantiles of last 24h  
for heart rate and respiratory rate

NEWS\_t6 uses 50% quantiles of respiratory rate, heart rate and systolic bp of last 6h

### ► Size of the tibble is now **1,552,210 x 427 ≈ 578 MB**



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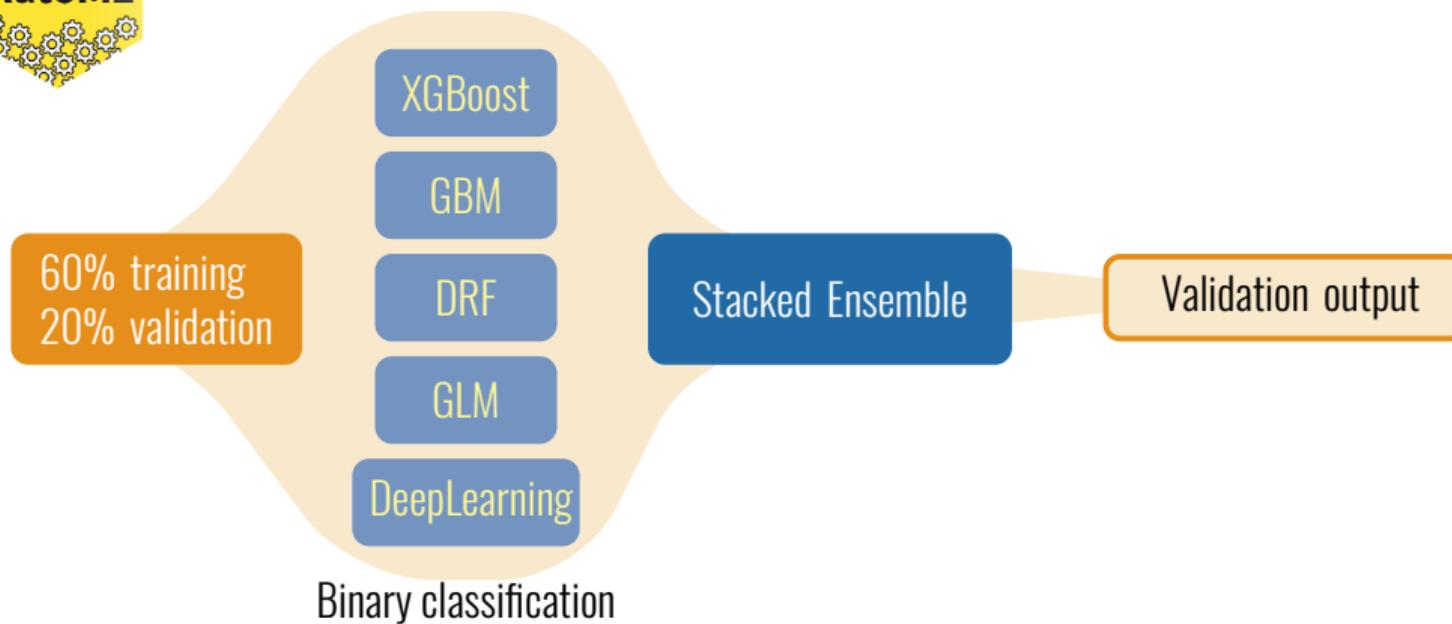


### 3. Training of time-specific metalearners

# Ensemble Learning with H2O.ai



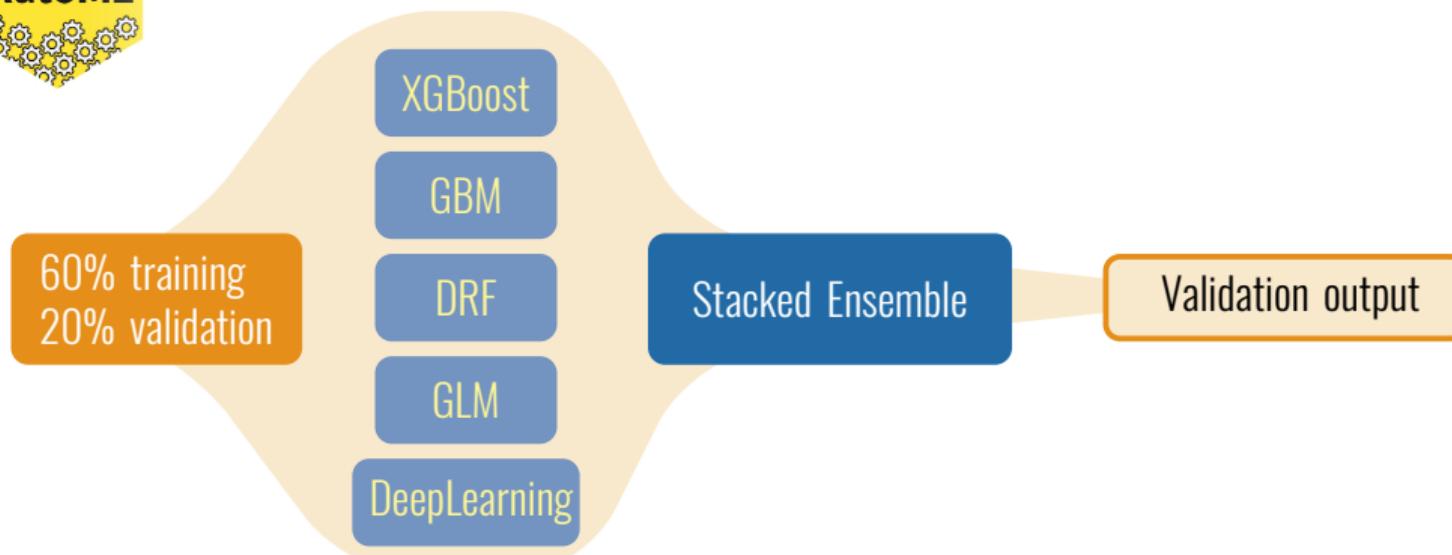
The H2O software provides a stacked ensemble implementation for Python, R, and Spark



# Ensemble Learning with H2O.ai



The optimal H2O parameter setting was identified (stopping metric, feature set, balancing)

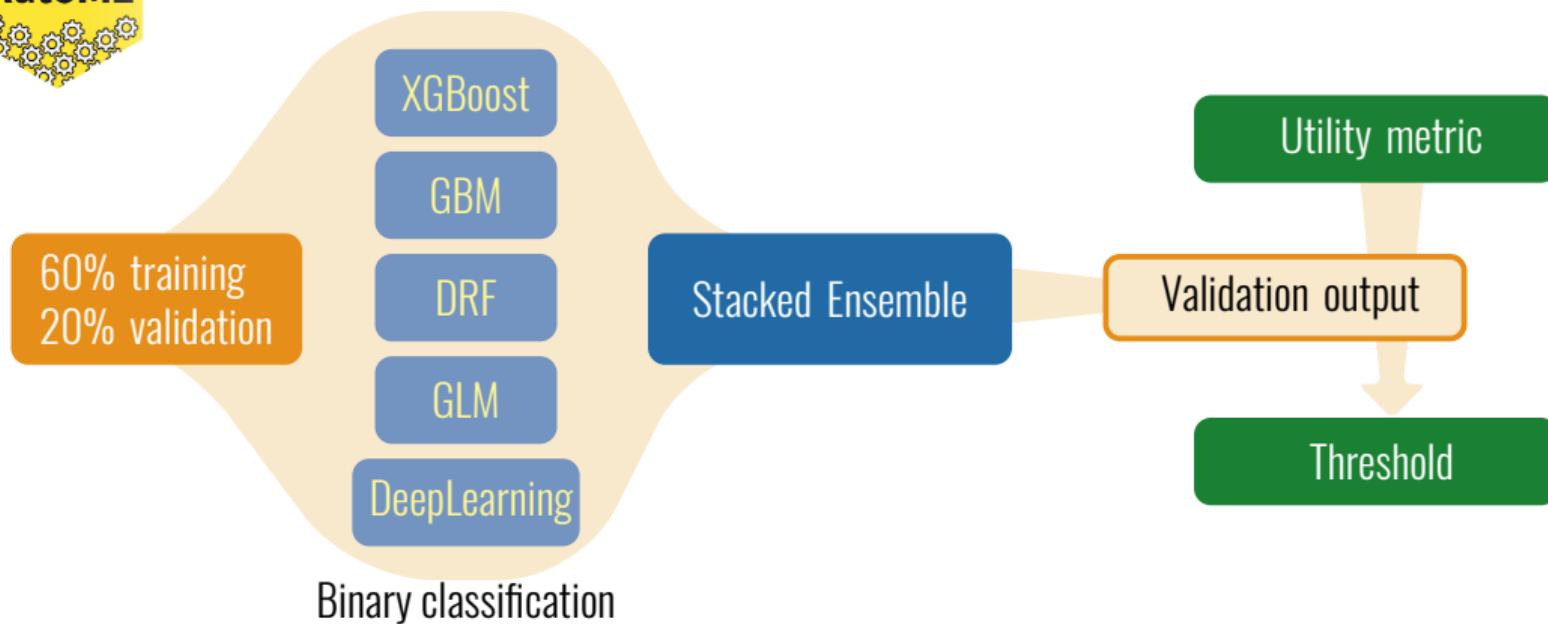


Binary classification, 5-fold cross-validation, logloss stopping metric, class-sampling (.1,2)

# Ensemble Learning with H2O.ai



The optimal threshold for utility maximization was identified



# Ensemble Learning with H2O.ai



60% training  
20% validation

XGBoost

GBM

DRF

GLM

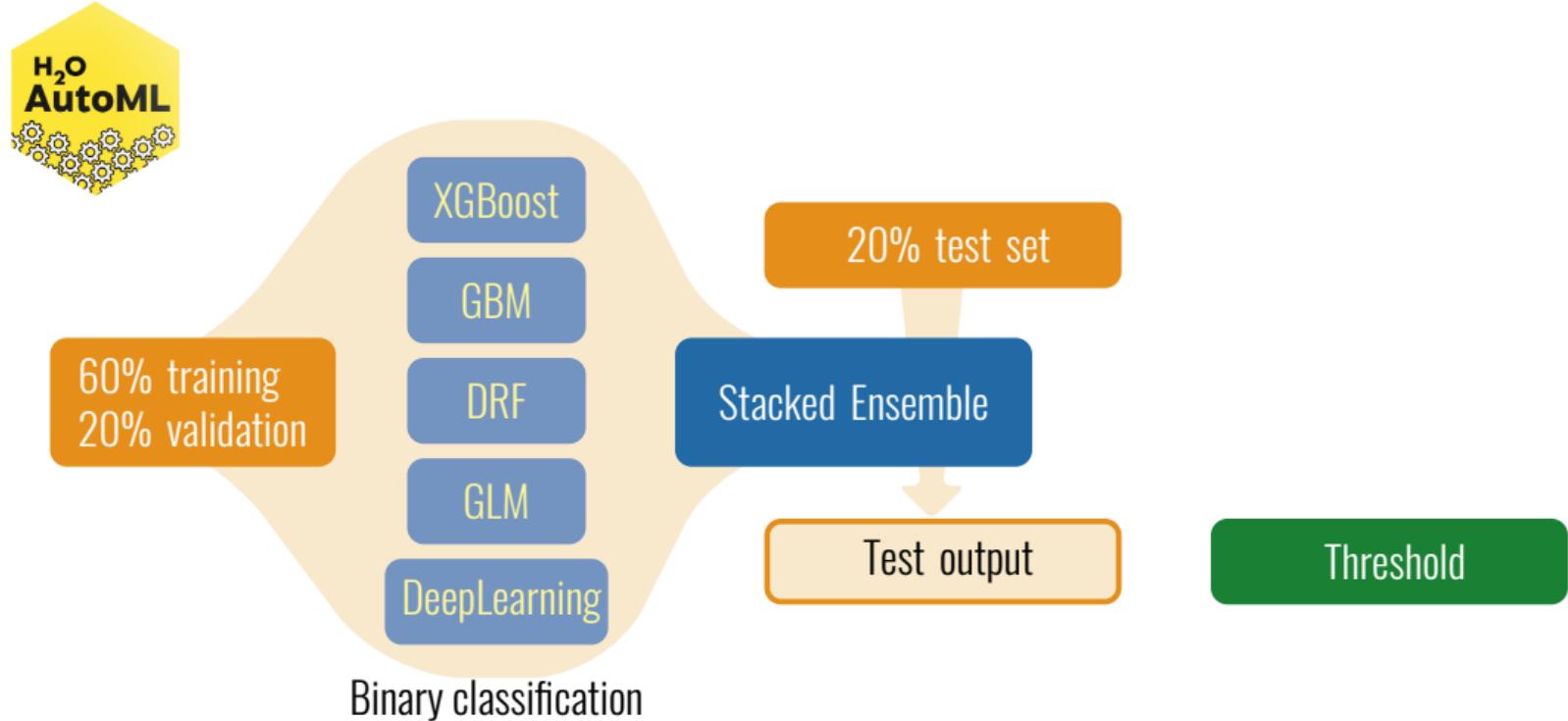
DeepLearning

Stacked Ensemble

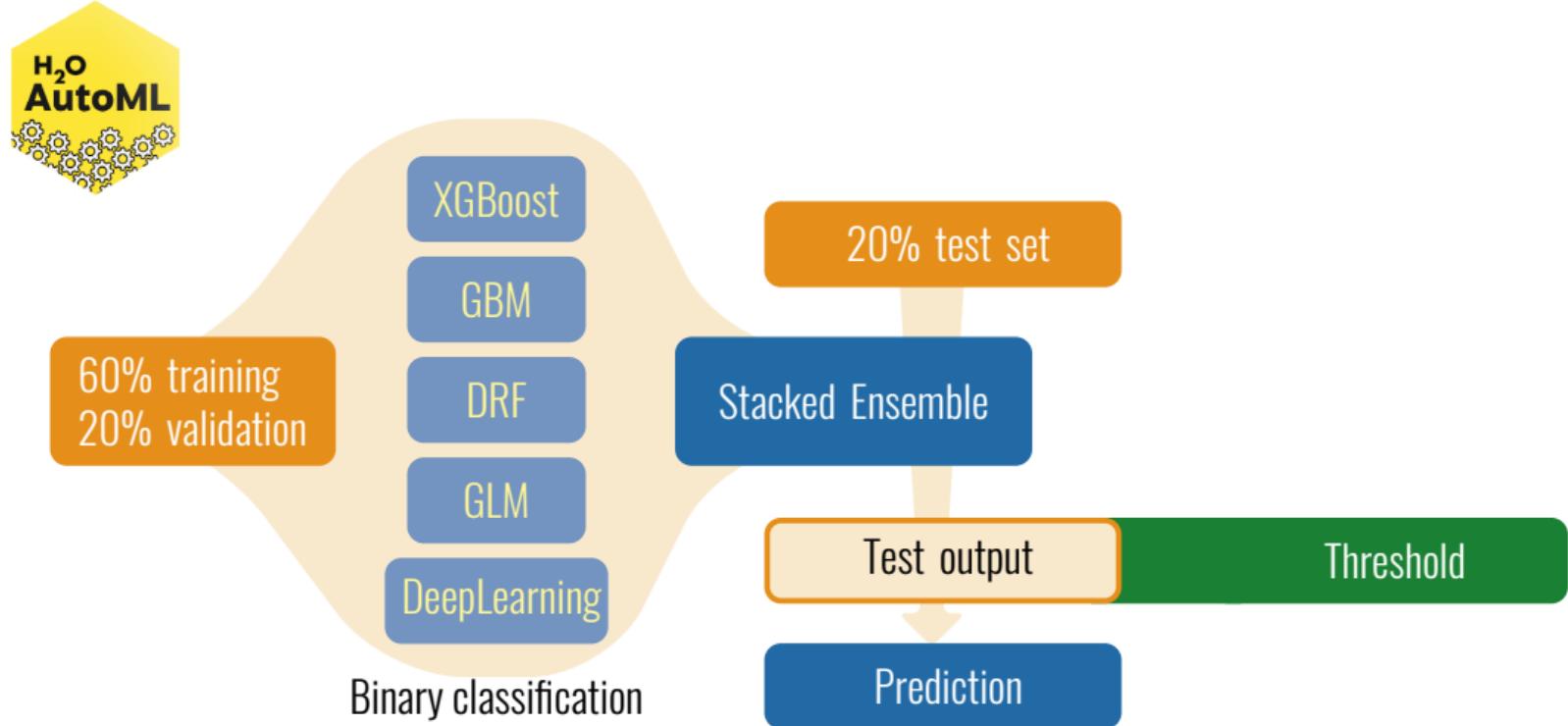
Threshold

Binary classification

# Ensemble Learning with H2O.ai



# Ensemble Learning with H2O.ai

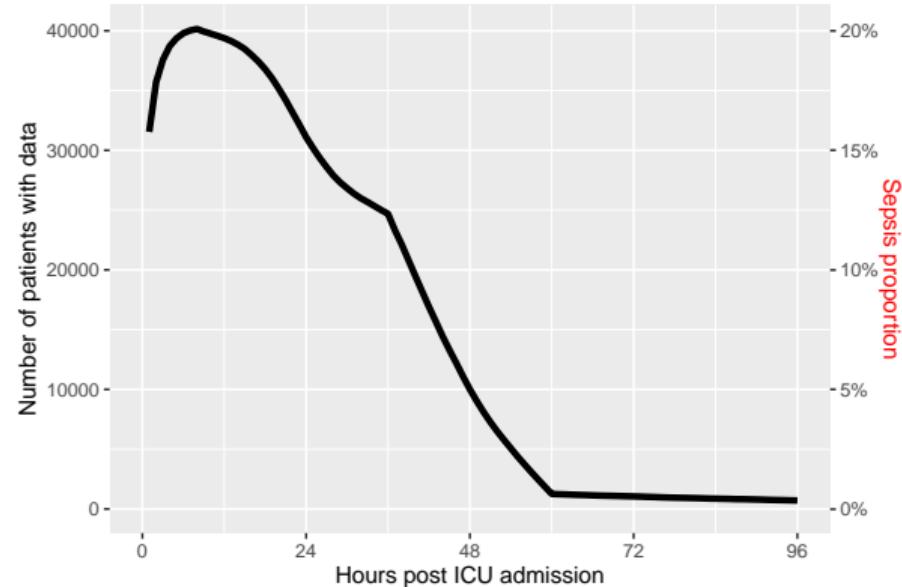


# Training Data?



## Contra using all the data:

- ▶ Long-stay patients over-represented
- ▶ Redundant data
- ▶ Mixing home-acquired, hospital-acquired and ICU-acquired sepsis
- ▶ Spectrum of pathogens and source of infection changes
- ▶ Long-stay patients are usually subject to a higher exposure to develop sepsis

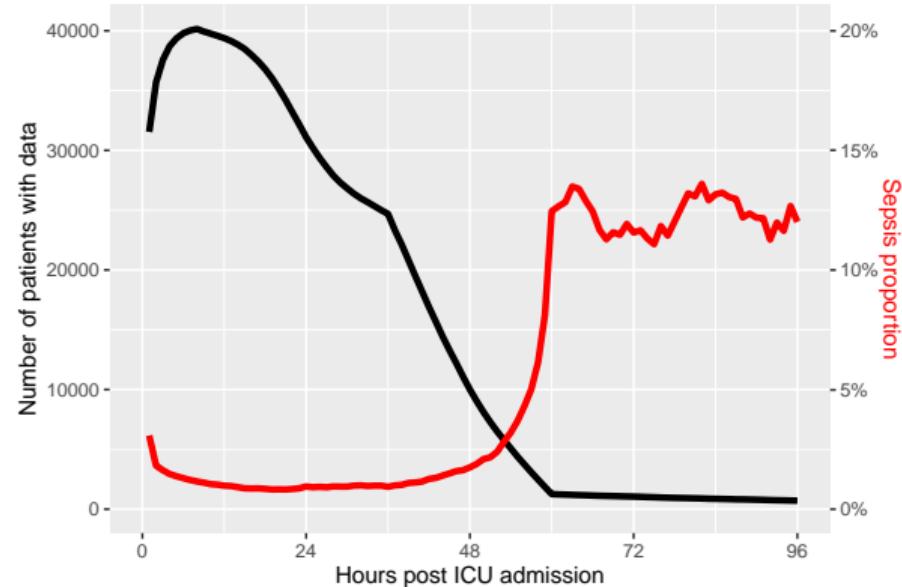


# Training Data?



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# LOS-specific Metalearner



## SE: ICU LOS <6

Trained on admission values (<20 NA)

## SE: ICU LOS >48

Trained on data( $ICULOS > 48$ )

## SE: ICU LOS = 6

Trained on data( $1 \leq ICULOS \leq 12$ )

## SE: ICU LOS = 7

Trained on data( $1 \leq ICULOS \leq 13$ )

⋮

⋮

## SE: ICU LOS = 48

Trained on data( $42 \leq ICULOS \leq 54$ )

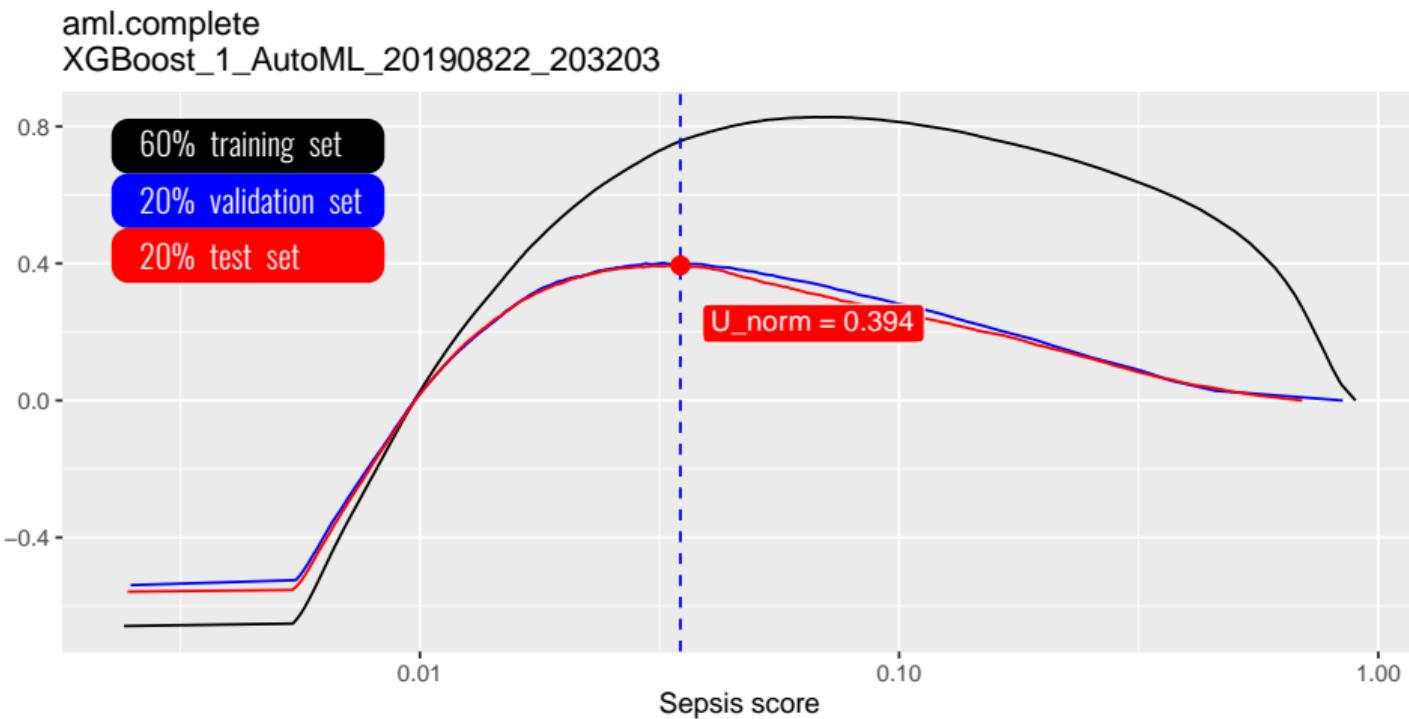


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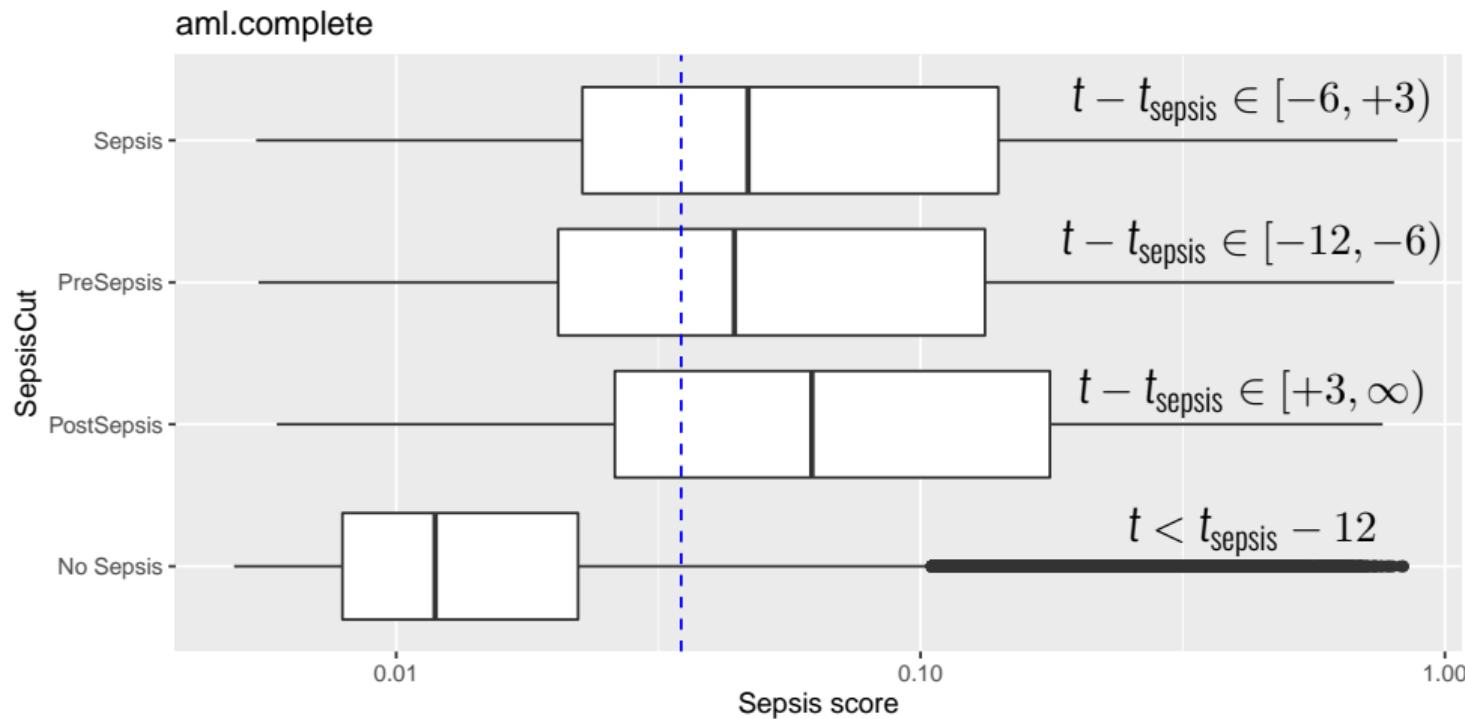


## 4. Results

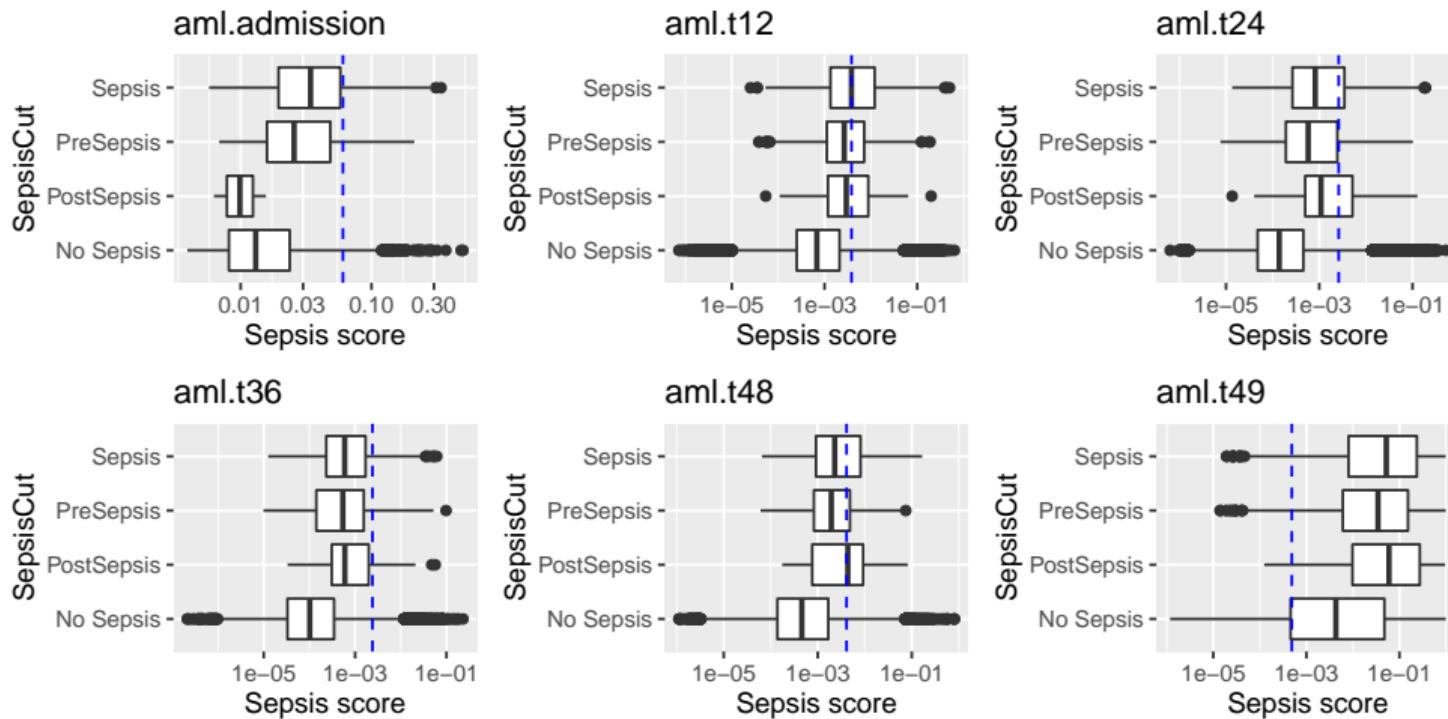
# How Stable is the Thresholding?



# Is the Classification Good?



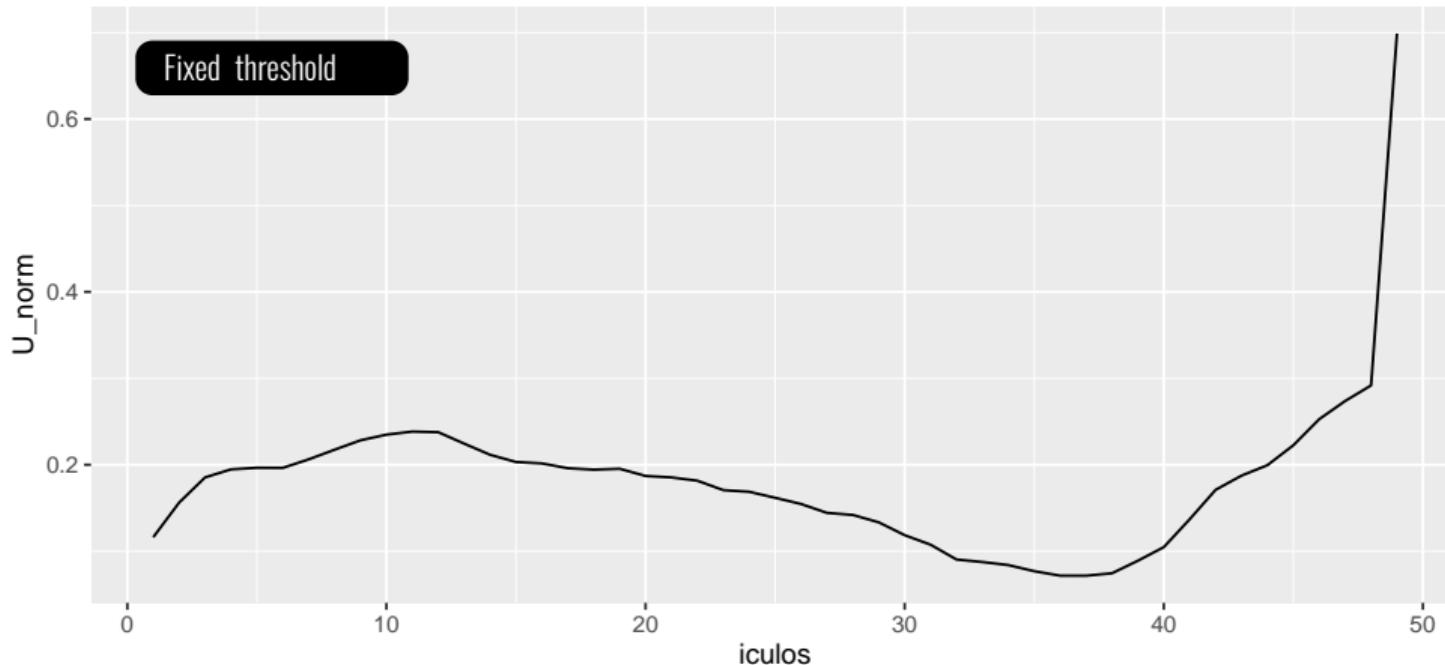
# Is the Classification Good?



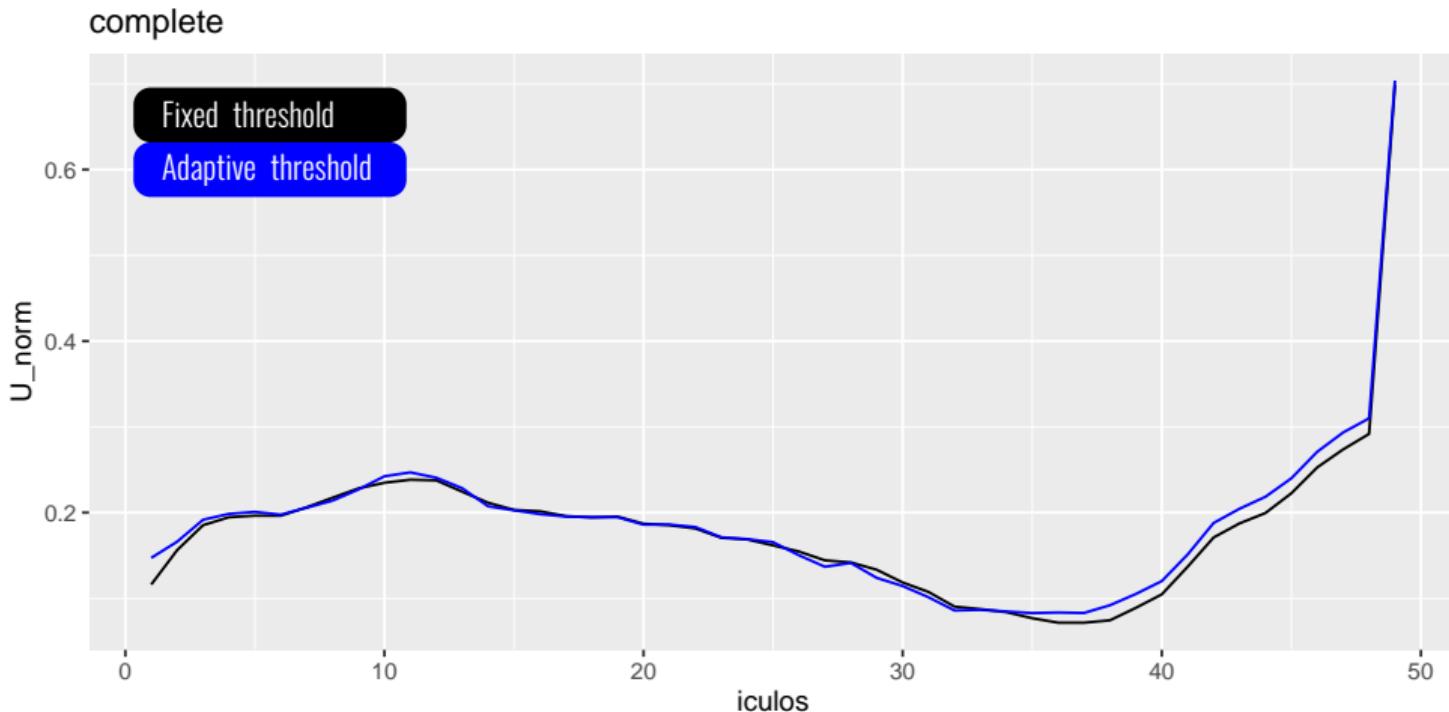
# LOS-specific Utility Scores



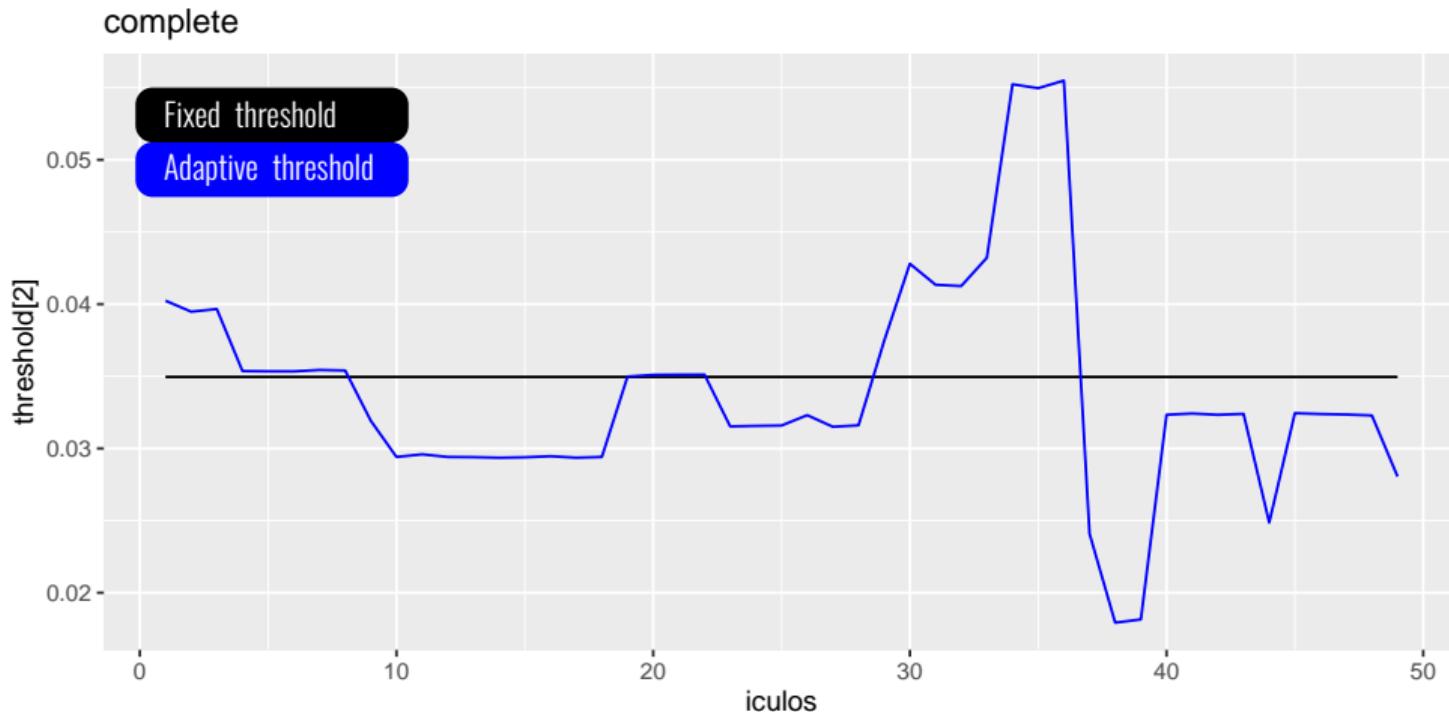
complete



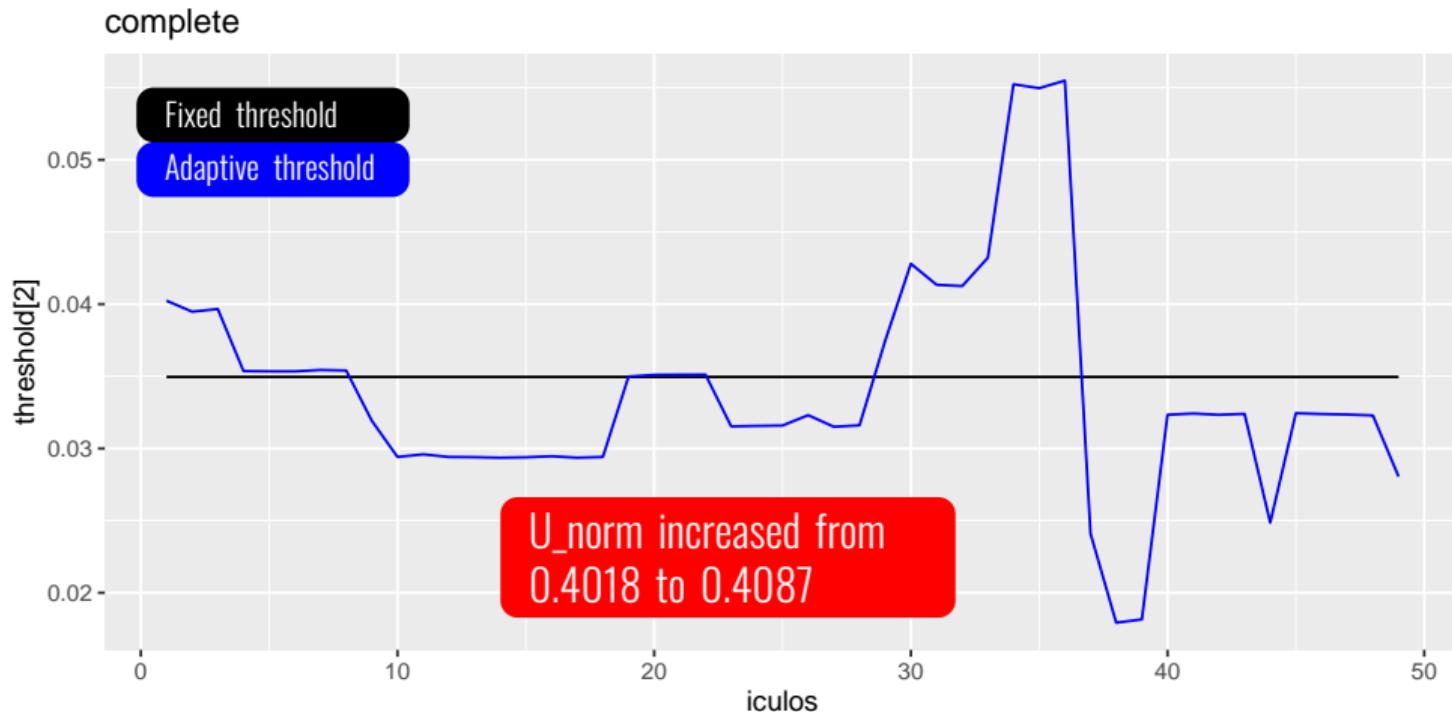
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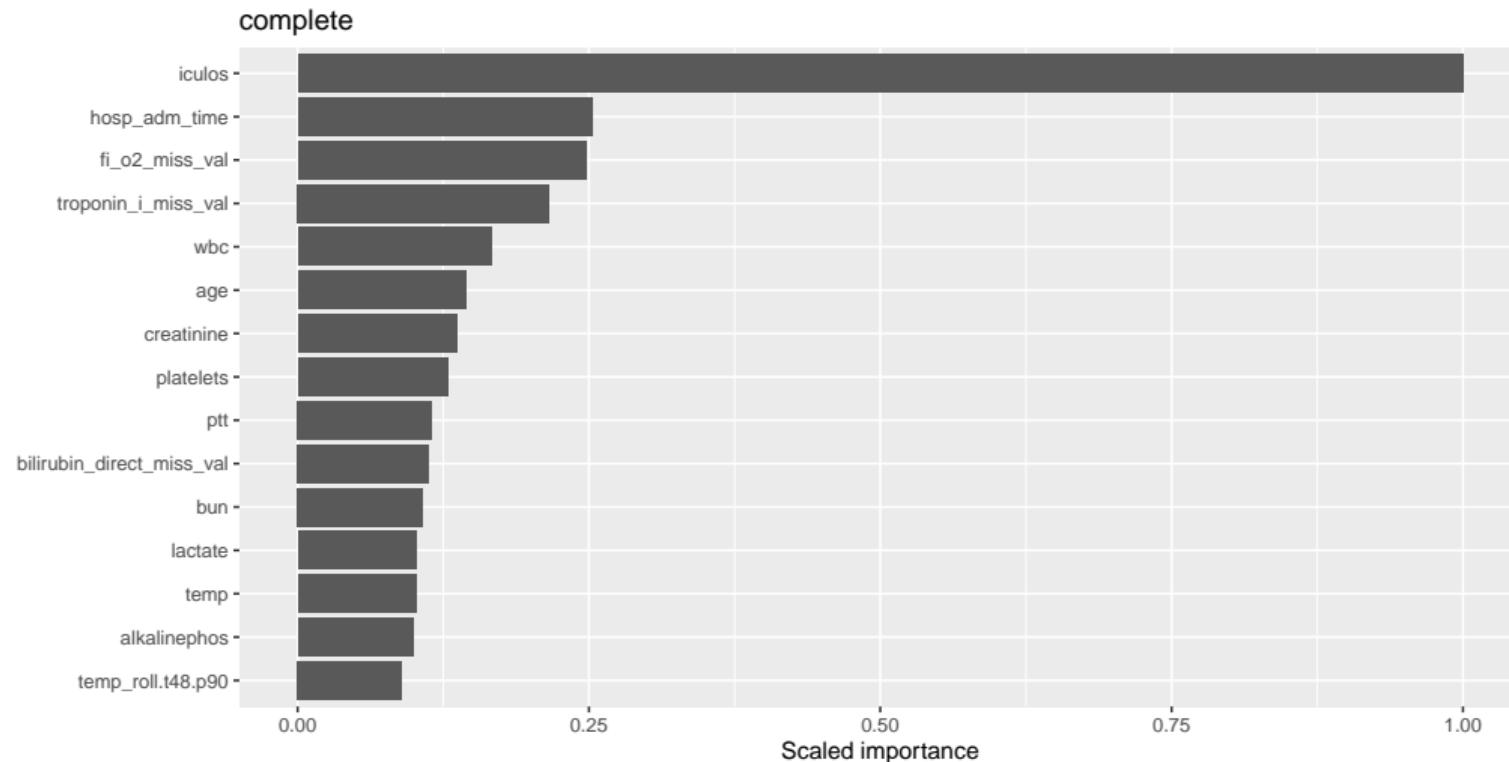
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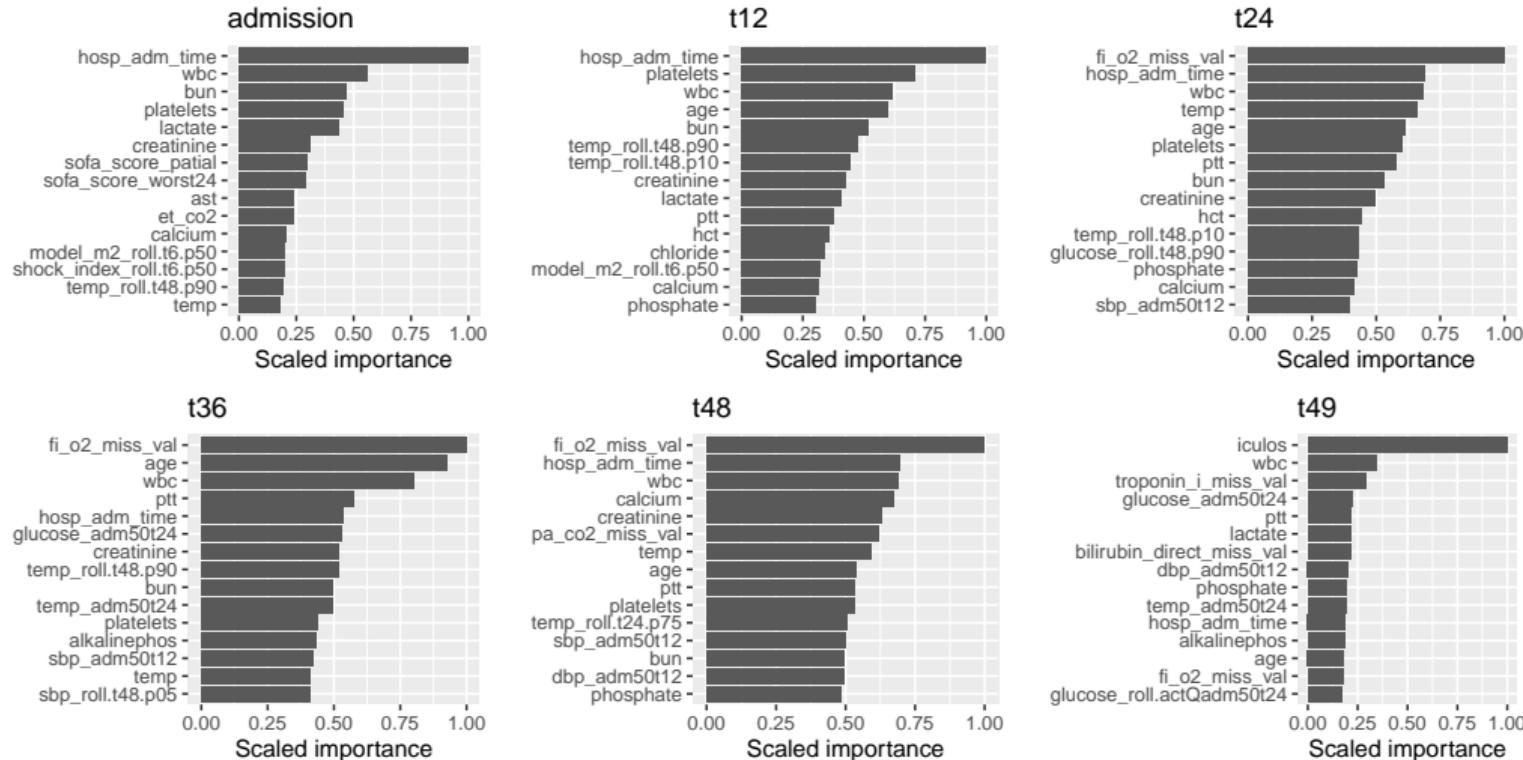
# LOS-specific Utility Scores



# Which Variables are Important?



# Which Variables are Important?





**Happy to discuss at  
Poster 52**

4th Floor Foyer  
12:00–14:00



**SEPSIS**



**DIALOG**



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