



In partnership with



# COVID-19 Data Repository and County-level Death Count Prediction in the US

Bin Yu

UC Berkeley Statistics, EECS, CCB



[github.com/Yu-Group/covid19-severity-prediction](https://github.com/Yu-Group/covid19-severity-prediction)

Website: [covidseverity.com](https://covidseverity.com)

MSRI Workshop on Mathematical Models for Prediction and Control of Epidemics  
August 14, 2020

On March 22, we responded to a call for data science expertise by Response4Life...

# Initial Goal: Help Aid Resource Allocation



Perspective  
Critical Supply  
Protective Equipment during the Covid-19 Pandemic

PI: Bin Yu



N. Altieri



R. Barter



J. Duncan



R. Dwivedi



K. Kumbier



X. Li



R. Netzorg



B. Park



**C. Singh**  
**(Student Lead)**



Y. Tan



T. Tang



Y. Wang



A. Agarwal



M. Shen



C. Zhang

Many others at UC Berkeley, UCSF, Stanford, Northeastern, Univ. of Chicago, UW-Madison, ...

# Overview: Current Data Repository & Prediction Pipeline (Open Source)



**COVID-19 Data Repository**  
COVID-19 Cases/Deaths + County-level Data + Hospital-level Data



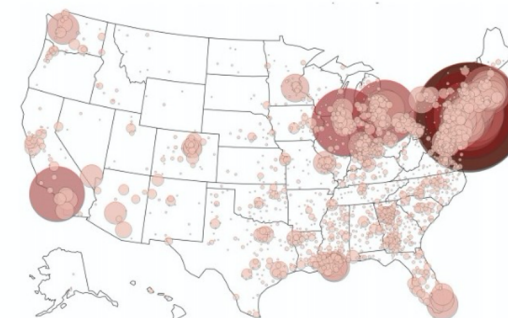
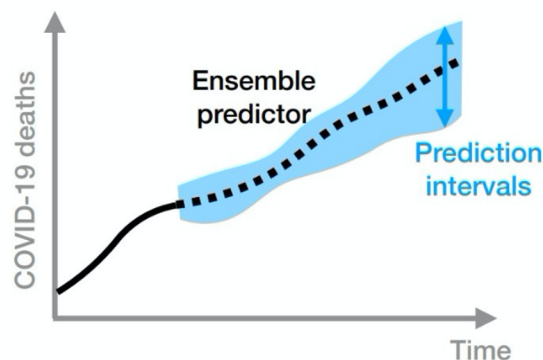
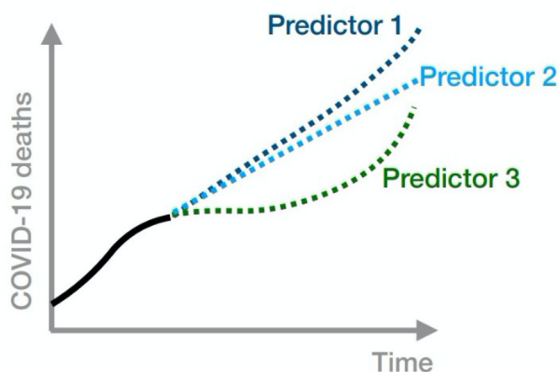
Multiple county-level predictors



CLEP Ensemble + MEPI intervals



Visualizations

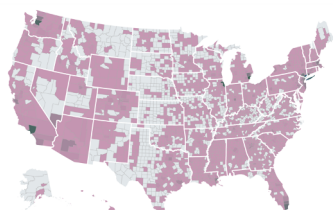


# Curating a COVID-19 Data Repository

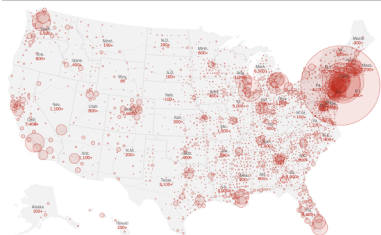
# Data curation: scraped from a variety of sources

## COVID-19 Cases/Deaths

USA FACTS



The New York Times



THE CENTER FOR SPATIAL DATA SCIENCE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

## County-level Data

(Risk Factors, Demographics, Social Mobility)



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention



esri

COVID-19 GIS Hub

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

Building a Culture of Health, County by County

USDSS UNITED STATES DIABETES SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM  
Division of Diabetes Translation, CDC



GHDx



SAFE GRAPH

CMS.gov

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

United States®  
Census  
Bureau



kinsa®



STREETLIGHT



Introducing the Unacast

Social Distancing  
Scoreboard

KHN  
KAISER HEALTH NEWS

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Apple Maps Mobility Trends Reports



COVID-19 Community Mobility Reports

## Hospital-level Data

(e.g., #ICU beds, staff)

HRSA  
Health Resources & Services Administration



ArcGIS Hub



Samuel Scarpino



## A bird's-eye view of the **hospital-level & county-level data**

- ~7000 hospitals in US
- ~200 features:
  - Geographical identifiers: address, lat/long, county
  - Type of facility (e.g., short term acute care, critical access)
  - Urban/rural
  - # total beds, # Med-Surg beds, # ICU beds
  - ICU Occupancy rate
  - #Employees, #RNs
  - Total discharges, average length of stay, average daily census
  - Hospital overall rating
- COVID-19 cases and deaths (NYT and USAFacts)
- Demographics
  - Population, population density, age structure
- Health risk factors
  - Heart disease, stroke, respiratory disease, smoking, diabetes, overall mortality
- Socioeconomic risk factors
  - Social vulnerability index, unemployment, poverty, education, severe housing
- Social distancing and mobility
  - County-to-county work commute, change in distance traveled, government orders
- Other relevant data
  - Sample of flight itineraries in 2019, Kinsa temperature data, voting data

## Data quality issues about death counts

- Undercount problems (after April 14, counts include probable deaths)



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- USAFacts and NYT data come from the same sources, but do not always agree

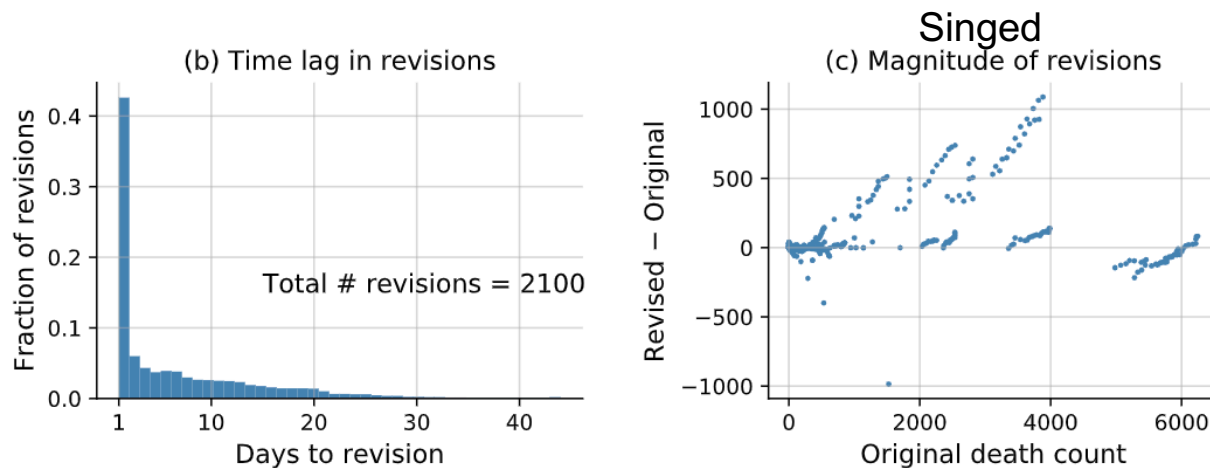
**We use USAFacts data because it does not lump NYC counties together**

## Data quality issues about death counts

- Undercount problems
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- Weekdays are different from weekends

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- Undercount problems
- USAFacts and NYT data come from the same sources, but do not always agree
- Weekdays are different from weekends
- Historical data revisions



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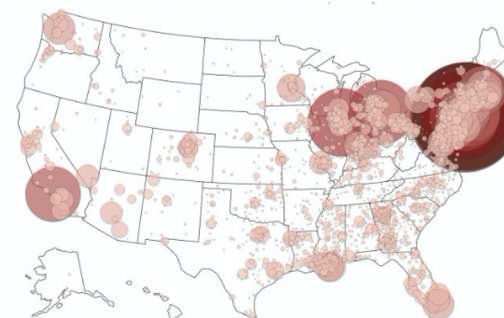
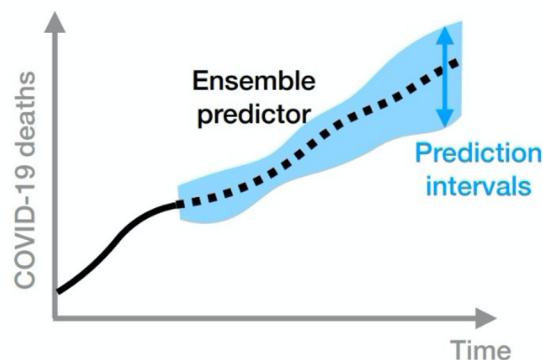
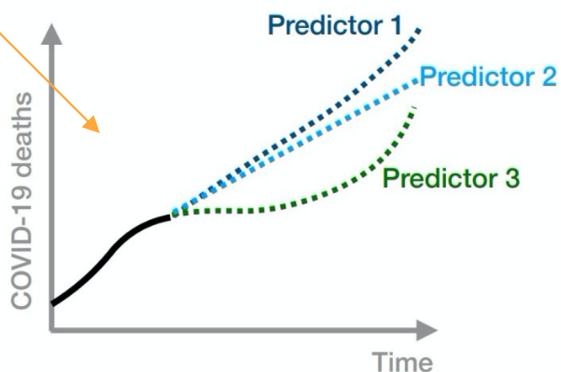
**COVID-19 Data Repository**  
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Multiple county-level predictors

CLEP Ensemble + MEPI intervals

Visualizations



# Forecasting county death counts

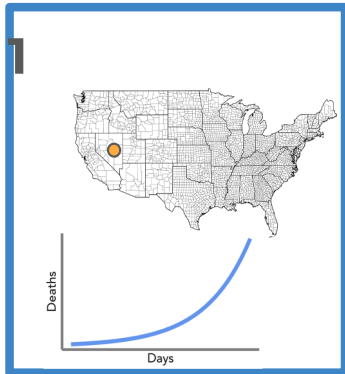
## Curses

- Very dynamic data
- Long-term predictions have to deal with feedback
- We want to predict for all 7000 counties in the US because of R4L

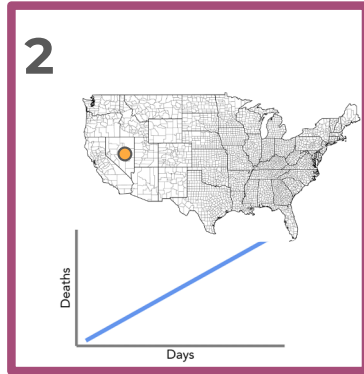
## Curses and blessings

- Very dynamic data
- Long-term predictions have to deal with feedback
- We want to predict for all 7000 counties in the US because of R4L
  
- Everyday, we get new observed data to measure our predictions against -- great reality check and keeps one honest
- For PPE supplies, one week prediction is adequate (we can actually do 14 day reasonably well)

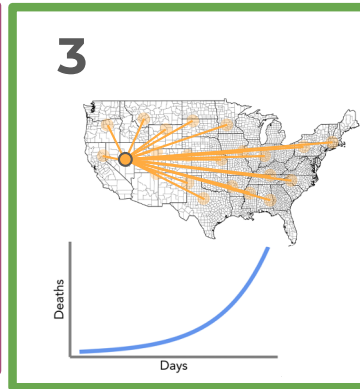
# Individual Linear and Exponential Predictors



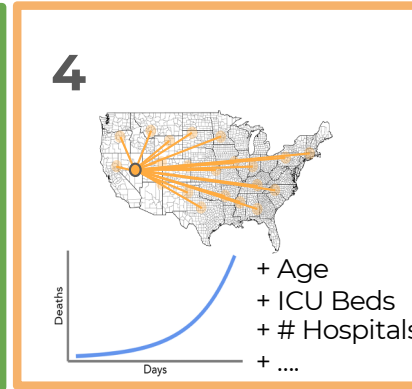
Separate-county exponential predictor



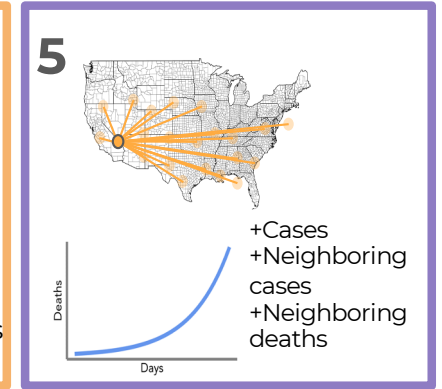
Separate-county linear predictor



Shared-county exponential predictor



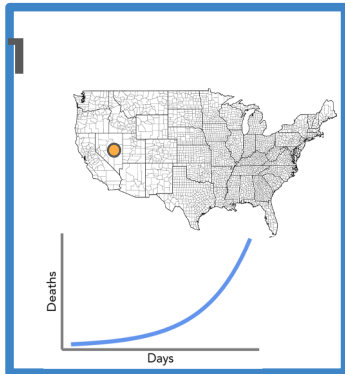
Shared-county exponential predictor + demographics



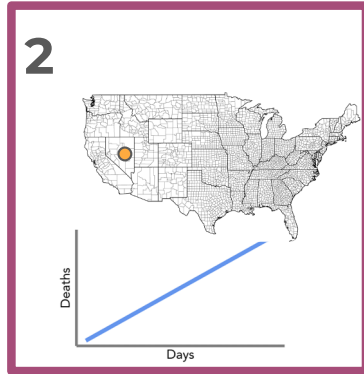
Expanded Shared-county exponential predictor



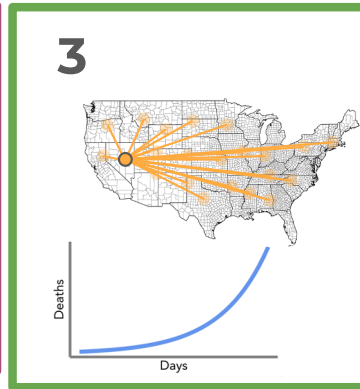
# Combined Linear and Exponential Predictors (CLEP)



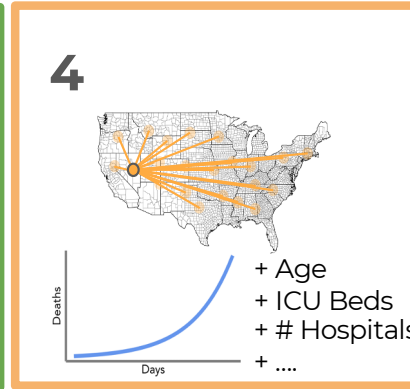
Separate-county exponential predictor



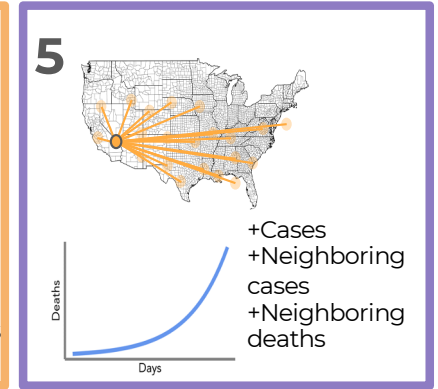
Separate-county linear predictor



Shared-county exponential predictor



Shared-county exponential predictor + demographics



Expanded Shared-county exponential predictor

Calculate a **weighted average of the predictions**: higher weight to the models with better (recent) historical performance<sup>[1]</sup>

[1]. Schuller-Yu-Huang-Edler "Perceptual audio coding using adaptive pre-and post-filters and lossless compression." *IEEE Transactions on Speech and Audio Processing* 10.6 (2002): 379-390.

## Combined Linear and Exponential Predictors (CLEP)

Calculate a weighted average of the predictions: higher weight to the models with better (recent) historical performance<sup>[1]</sup>

$$w_t^m \propto \exp \left( -c(1 - \mu) \sum_{i=t_0}^{t-1} \mu^{t-i} \ell(\hat{y}_i^m, y_i) \right)$$

Without  $\mu$ , the weights are well motivated through Rissanen's predictive MDL (Minimum Description Length) principle, and  $\mu$  in (0,1) allows adaptation to changing dynamics.

[1]. Schuller-Yu-Huang-Edler "Perceptual audio coding using adaptive pre-and post-filters and lossless compression." *IEEE Transactions on Speech and Audio Processing* 10.6 (2002): 379-390.

CLEP details with M predictors for k day (ahead) prediction

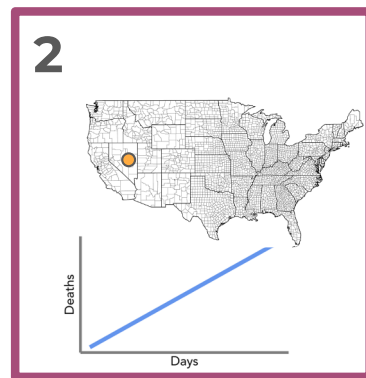
$$\hat{y}_{t+k-1}^{\text{CLEP}} = \sum_{m=1}^M w_t^m \hat{y}_{t+k-1}^m.$$

$$w_t^m \propto \exp \left( -0.5 \sum_{i=t-7}^{t-1} (0.5)^{t-i-1} \left| \sqrt{\hat{y}_i^m} - \sqrt{y_i} \right| \right)$$

using the past 7 day errors for each predictor and forgetting factor 0.5

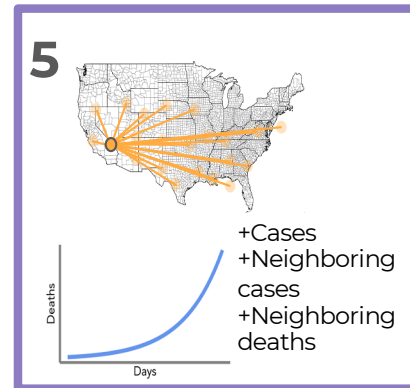
# Combined Linear and Exponential **Predictor (CLEP)**

A combination of two predictors performs well



Separate-county linear predictor

+



Expanded Shared-county exponential  $k=7$  for 7-day prediction

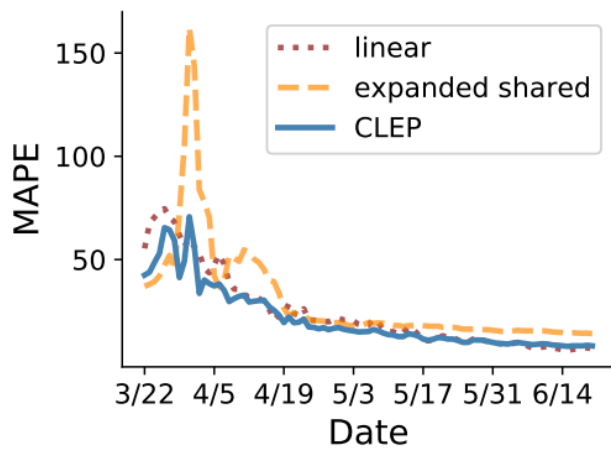
$$E[\text{deaths}_t | t] = \exp \left( \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log(\text{deaths}_{t-1} + 1) + \beta_2 \log(\text{cases}_{t-k} + 1) + \beta_3 \log(\text{neigh\_deaths}_{t-k} + 1) + \beta_4 \log(\text{neigh\_cases}_{t-k} + 1) \right)$$

Calculate a **weighted average of the predictions**: higher weight to the models with better historical performance<sup>[1]</sup>

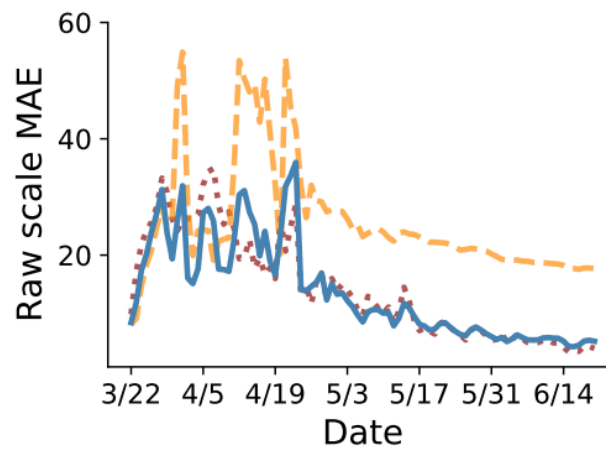
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Absolute error results over March 22 – June 20 (7-day prediction)

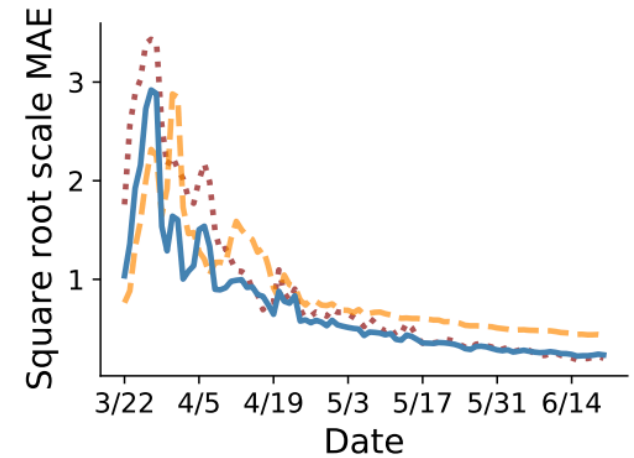
CLEP is combining linear and expanded shared (with monotonicity)



(a) MAPE



(b) Raw-scale MAE



(c) Square-root-scale MAE

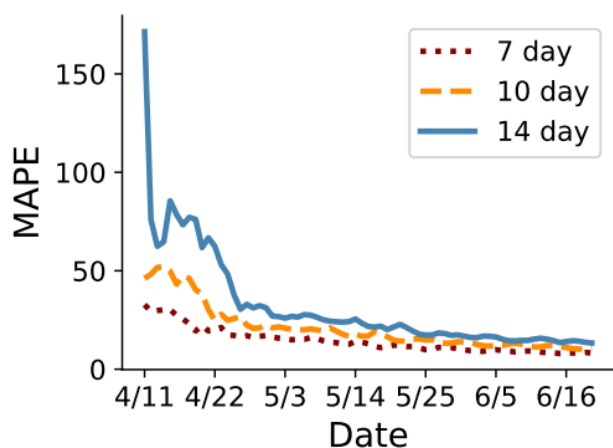
$$\text{Raw-scale MAE}_t = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}_t|} \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}_t} |\hat{y}_t^c - y_t^c|$$

$$\text{MAPE}_t(\% \text{ error}) = 100 \times \frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}_t|} \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}_t} \frac{|\hat{y}_t^c - y_t^c|}{y_t^c}$$

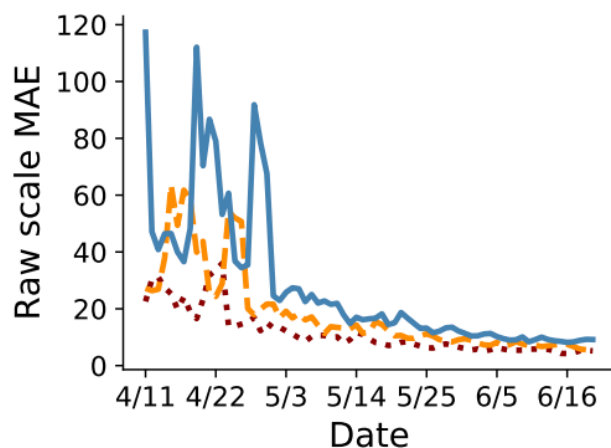
$$\text{Sqrt-scale MAE}_t = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{C}_t|} \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}_t} \left| \sqrt{\hat{y}_t^c} - \sqrt{y_t^c} \right|$$

$\mathcal{C}_t$  contains counties with at least 10 deaths on day t

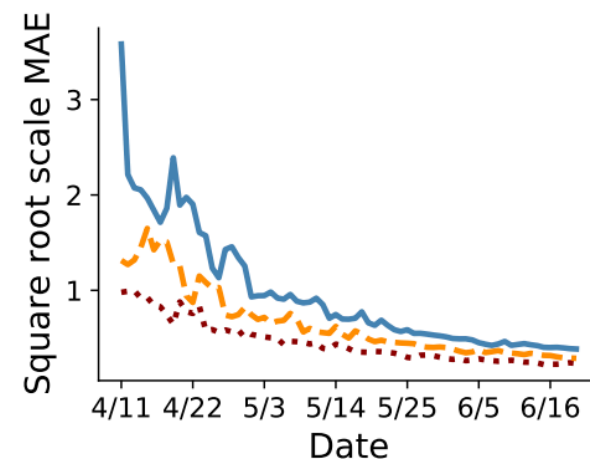
Absolute error results over March 22 – June 20 (7-, 10-, 14- day ahead)



(a) MAPE



(b) Raw-scale MAE



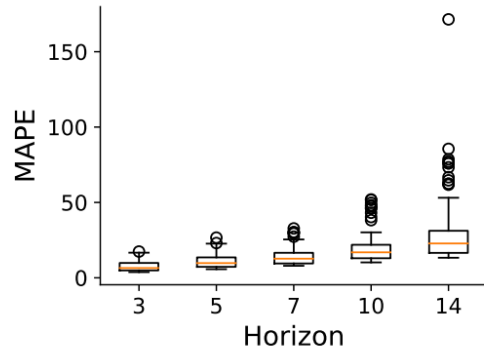
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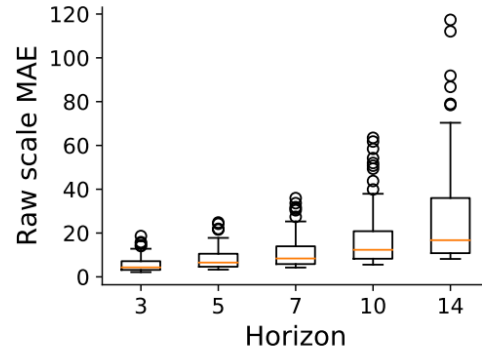
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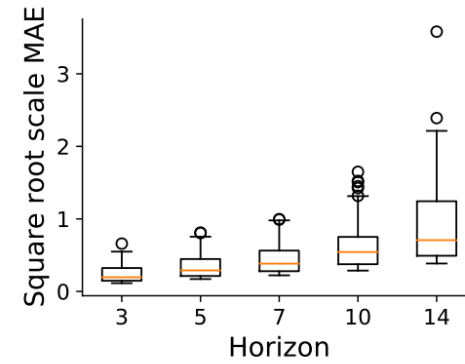
The further into the future, the larger the prediction error



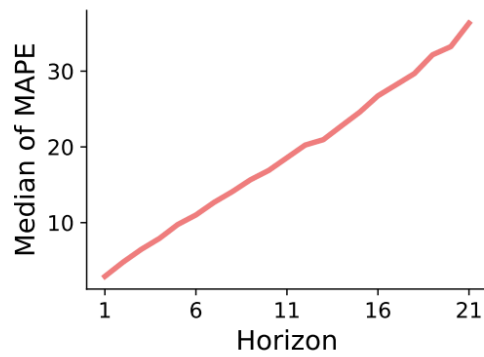
(a)



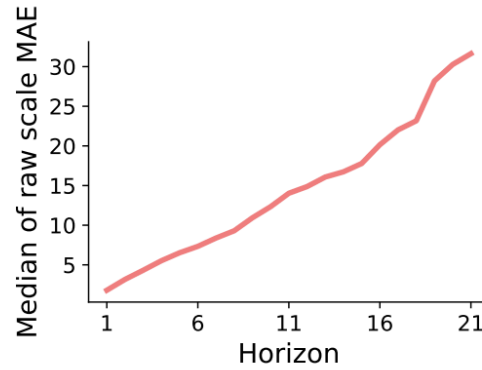
(b)



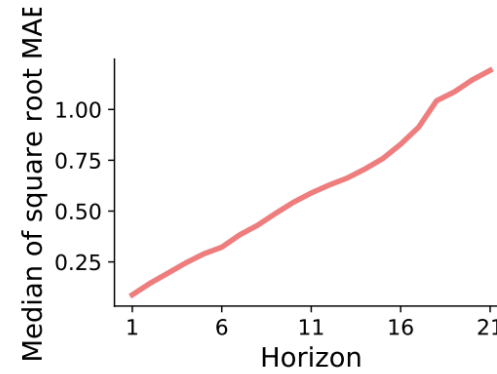
(c)



(d)



(e)



(f)

# Overview: Current Data Repository & Prediction Pipeline (Open Source)



**COVID-19 Data Repository**  
COVID-19 Cases/Deaths + County-level Data + Hospital-level Data



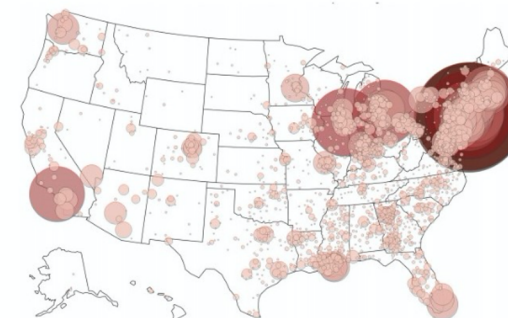
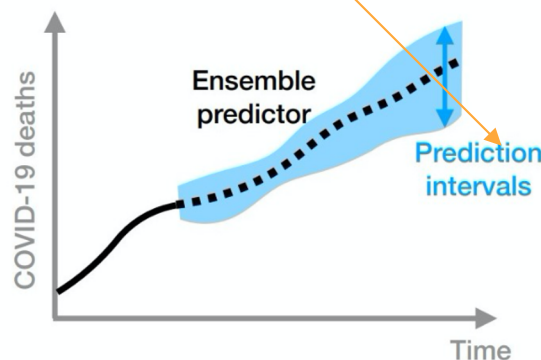
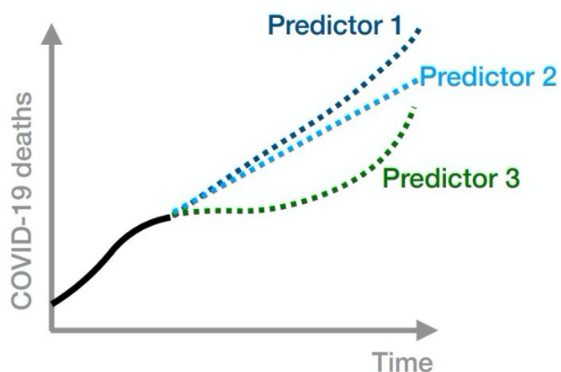
Multiple county-level predictors



CLEP Ensemble + MEPI intervals

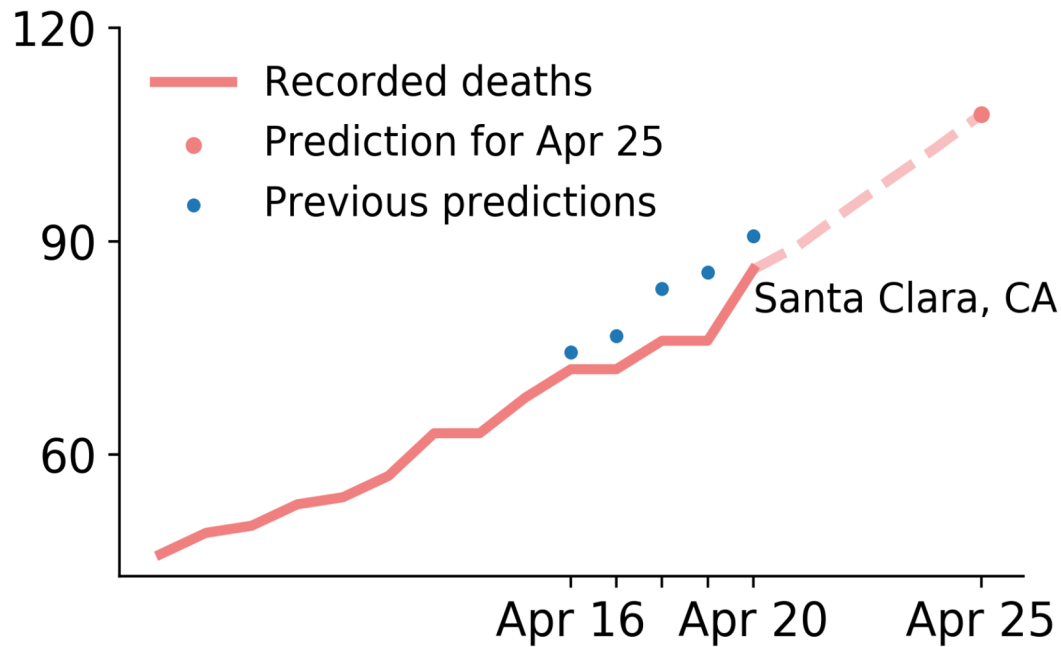


Visualizations





## Prediction Intervals based on conformal prediction[2]

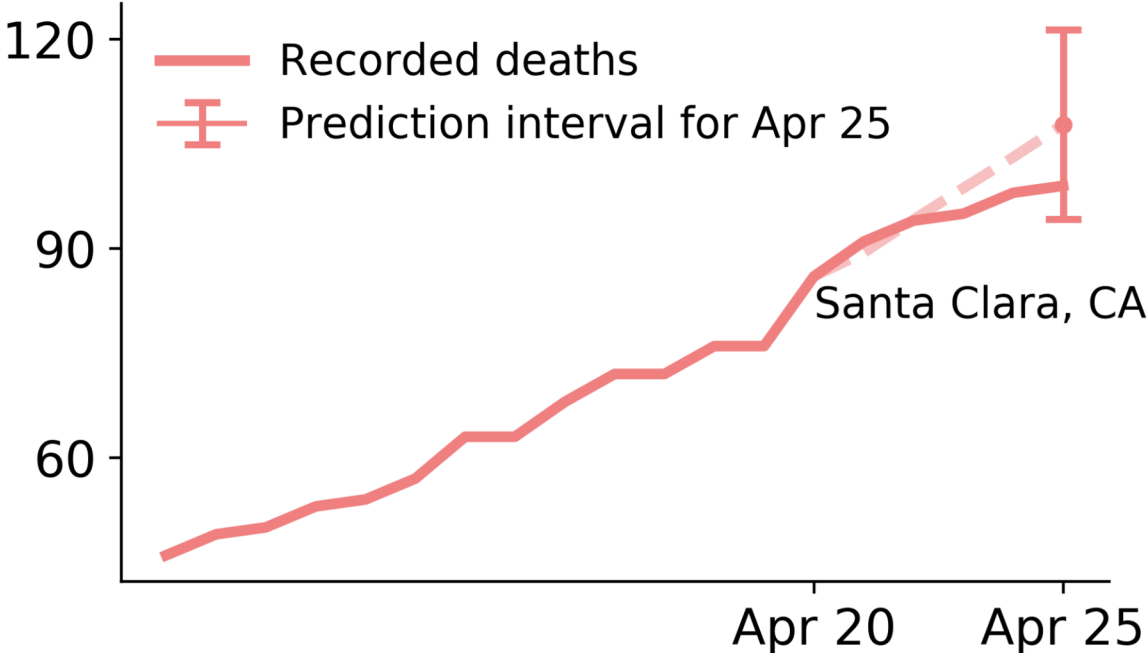


Previous 5-day-ahead rel. prediction errors (%)

Apr 16	3.3%	} Take the max
Apr 17	6.5%	
Apr 18	9.6%	
Apr 19	12.6%	
Apr 20	5.5%	
Apr 25	?	

[2]. G. Shafer and V. Vovk "A tutorial on conformal prediction." *JMLR* (2008): 371-421.

Prediction Intervals:



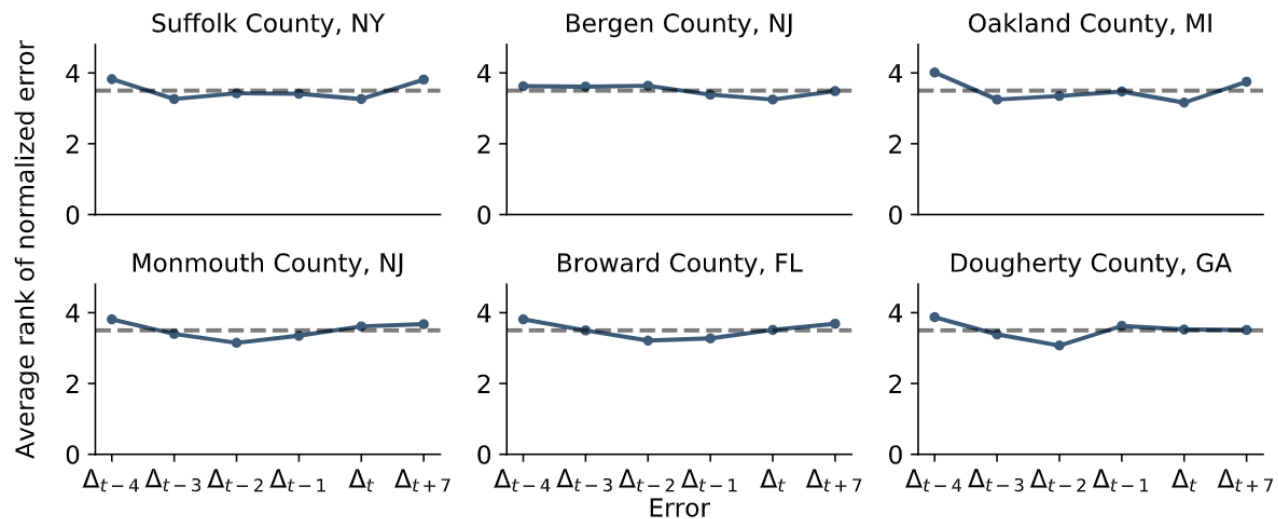
Predicted range of error  
Apr 25 **[-12.6%, 12.6%]**

Actual error:  
Apr 25 **8.8%**

## Exchangeability assumption on normalized prediction errors

- If the normalized prediction errors are exchangeable, then the MEPI coverage is  $5/6=83\%$
- Checking this assumption using observed normalized prediction errors

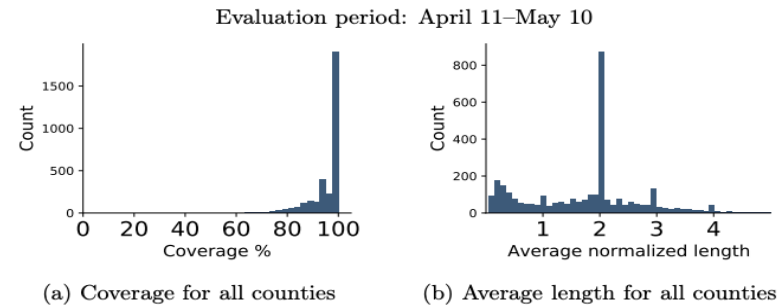
Average rankings around 3.5 as expected under assumption



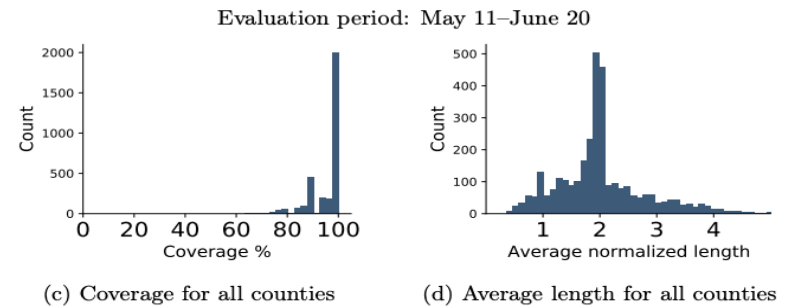
(b) Six randomly-selected counties

# Empirical evaluation of coverage of prediction intervals

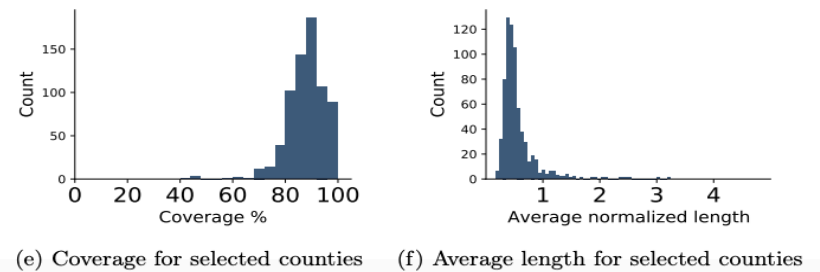
- April 11- May 10



- May 11- June 20



- April 11 - June 20  
(over selected days with deaths > 10)



# Overview: Current Data Repository & Prediction Pipeline (Open Source)



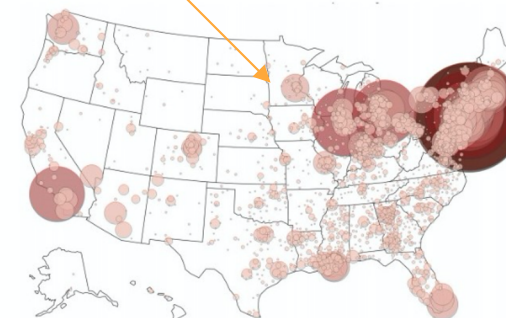
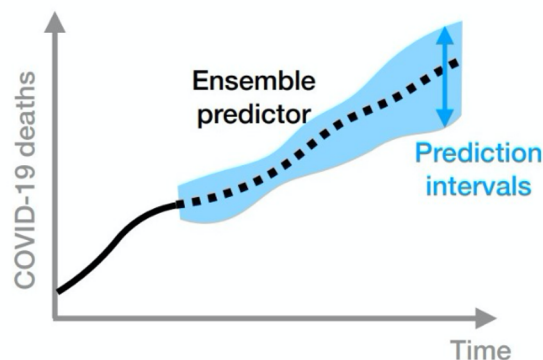
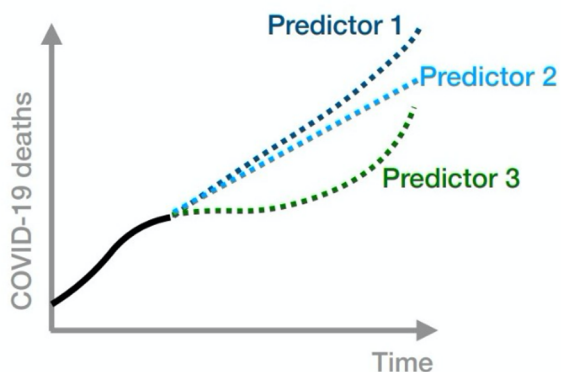
**COVID-19 Data Repository**  
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Multiple county-level predictors

CLEP Ensemble + MEPI intervals

Visualizations



## **Covidseverity.com is an automated AI system**

1. Data (daily county case and death numbers) from USAFacts is scrapped automatically to our AWS instance
2. Our CLEP prediction algorithm runs on updated data on AWS automatically (Thanks to AWS and NSF)
3. Predictions, prediction intervals, plots, and maps are generated and displayed automatically

This AI system could not spot that “1525” on May 21 for King County, WA was an error. Humans in the loop would be better.

**Future of AI should be human-machine collaboration**

Image credit: trademed.com.



# Data and code at [covidseverity.com](https://covidseverity.com) (searchable by county)

## COVID-19 SEVERITY PREDICTION

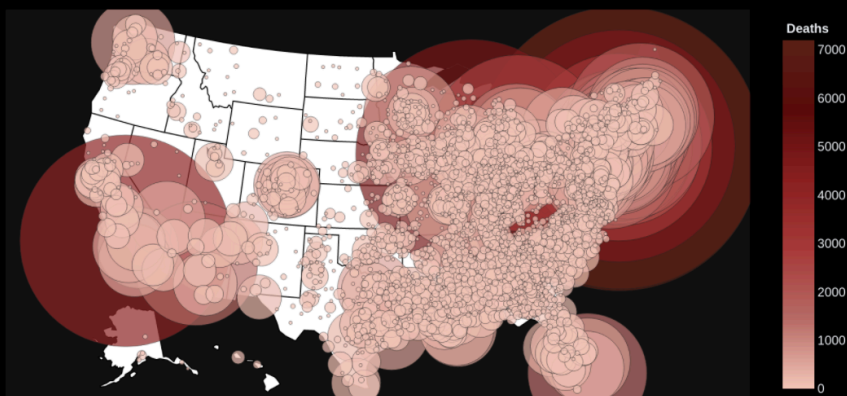
Visualizations Data Models

Our COVID-19 county dashboard allows for an in-depth look at COVID-19 cases and deaths in counties across the United States.

GO TO DASHBOARD

### Predicted Cumulative COVID-19 Deaths

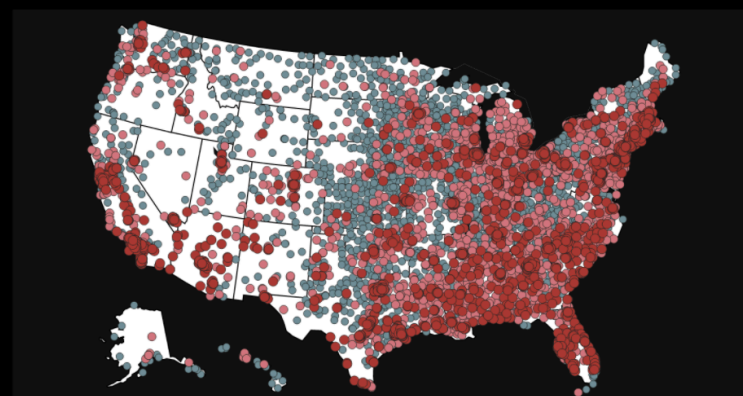
Use the slider below the map to change date.



VIEW INTERACTIVE MAP IN FULLSCREEN

### Hospital-Level COVID-19 Pandemic Severity Index (CPSI)

Use the slider below the map to change date.

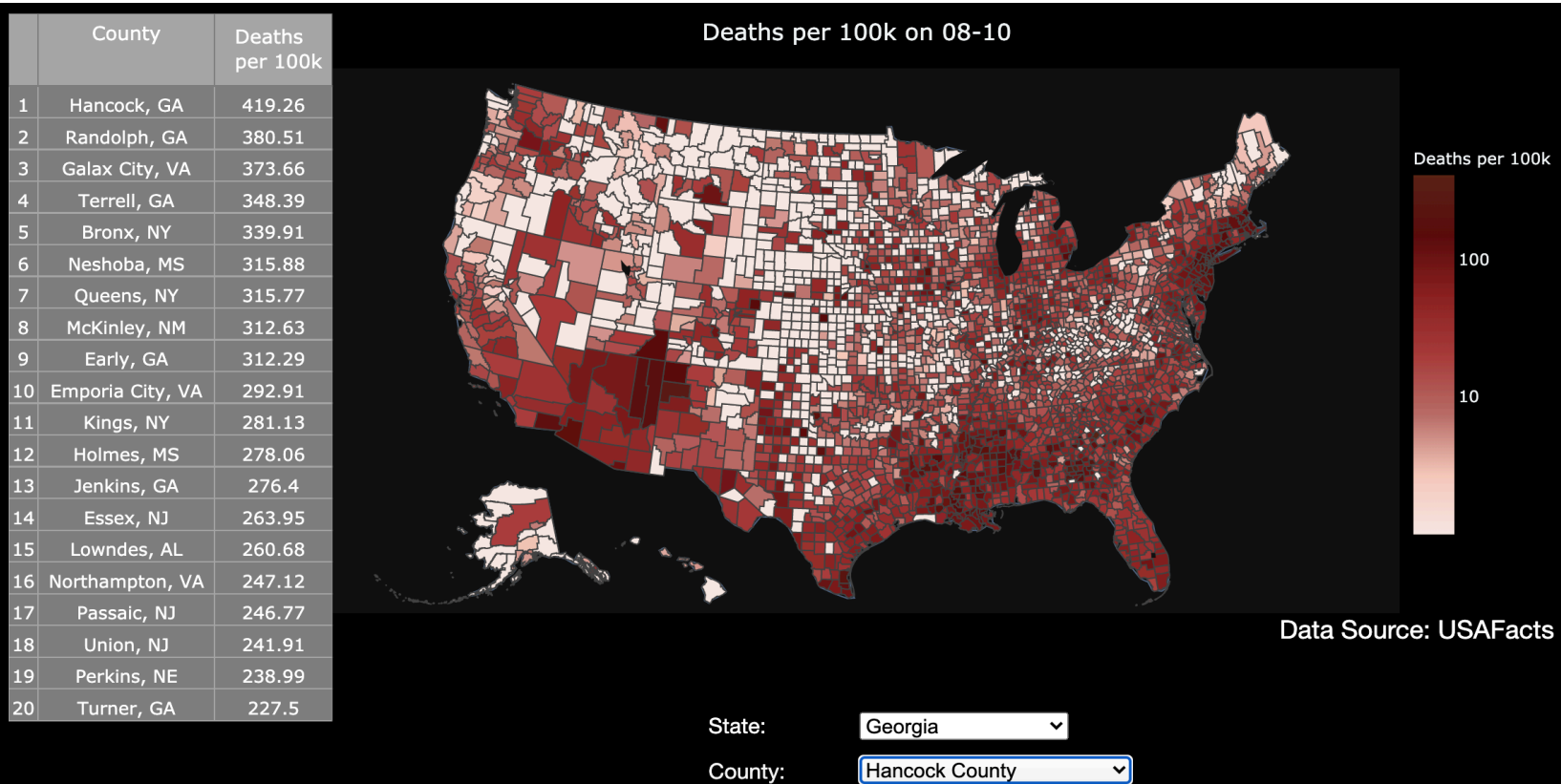


VIEW INTERACTIVE MAP IN FULLSCREEN

# Ranking counties using 8 metrics

[Cumulative Cases](#)
[Cumulative Deaths](#)
[New Cases](#)
[New Deaths](#)
[Cases per 100k](#)
[Deaths per 100k](#)
[New Cases per 100k](#)

New Deaths per 100k



D. Wang

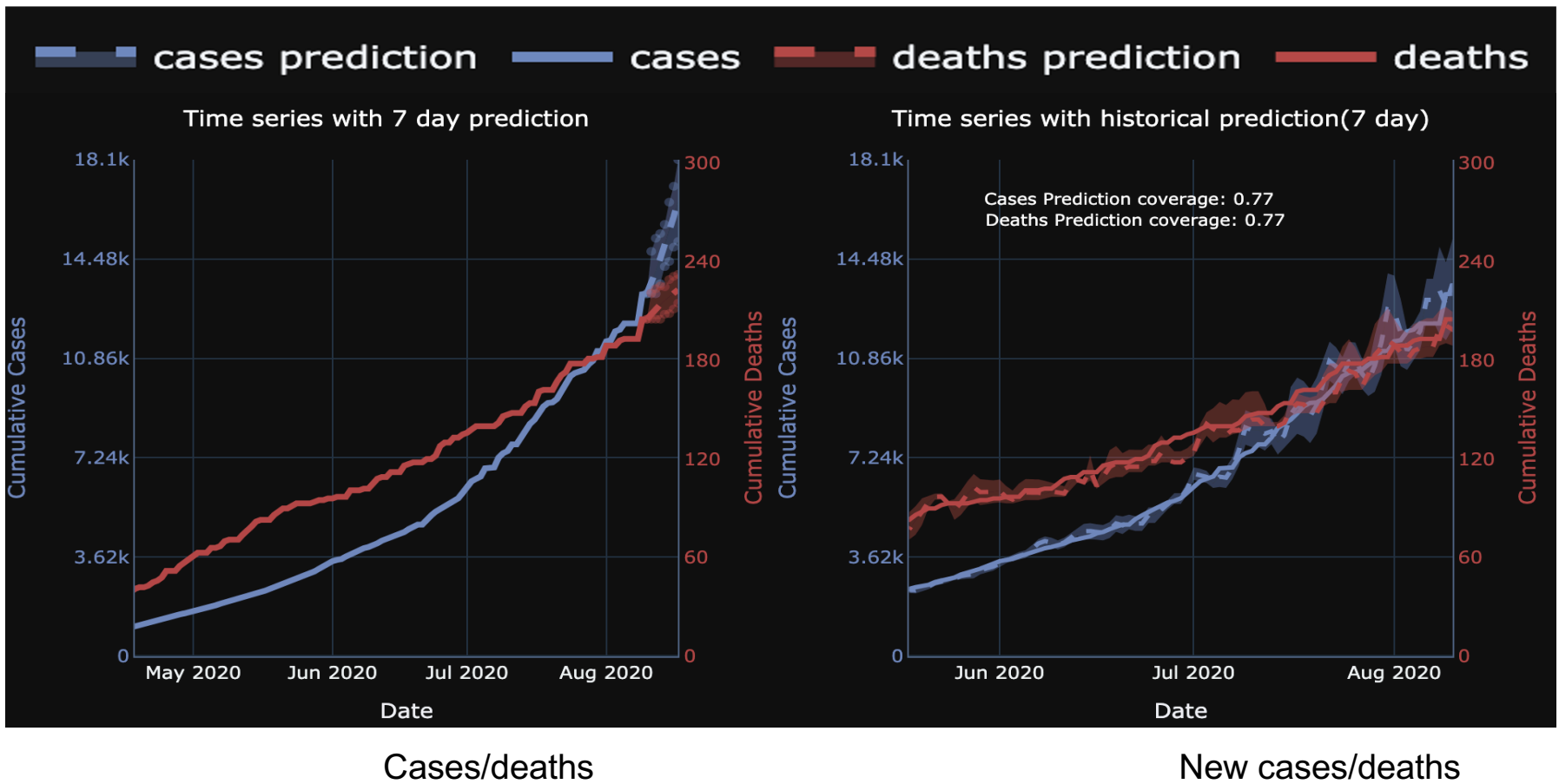


P. Norvig

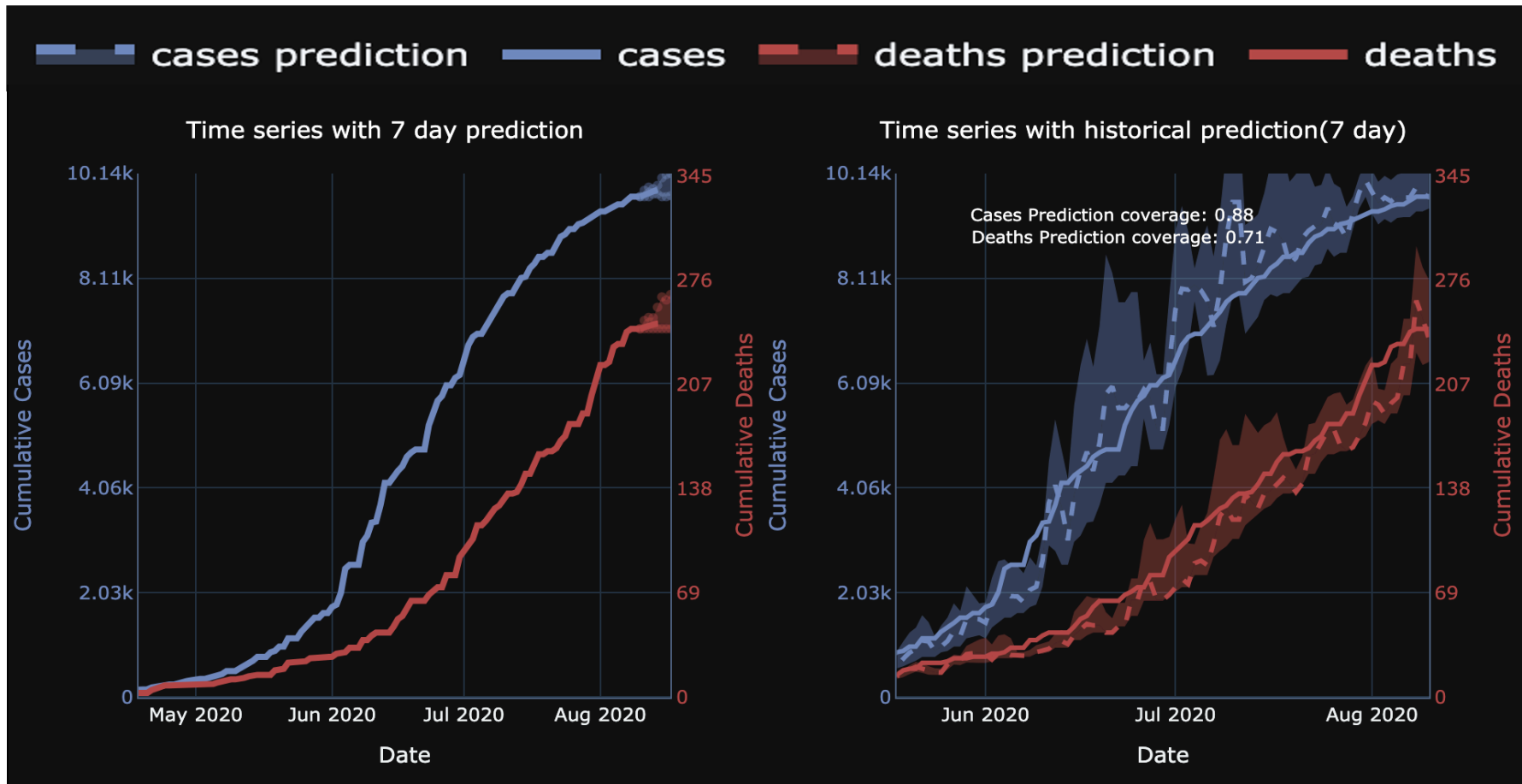
Thanks to Google



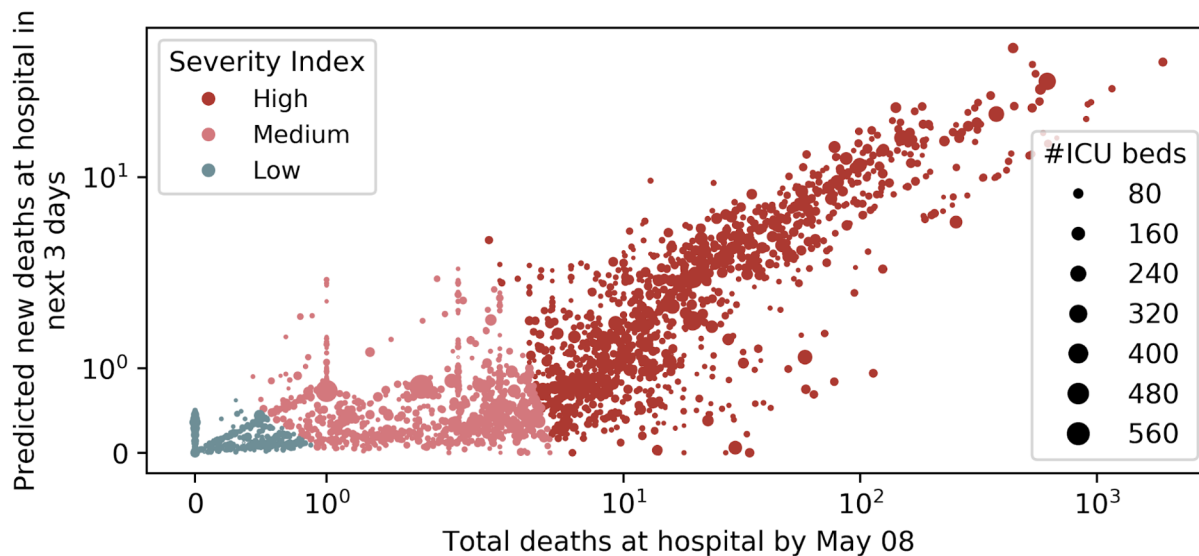
# 7-day prediction: Alameda County, CA (county search)



# 7-day prediction: Imperial County, CA (county search)



# Severity Index to help PPE distribution at [covidseverity.com](https://covidseverity.com)

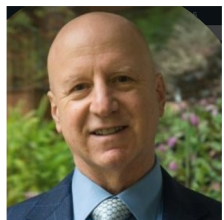


A score\* for each hospital based on:

1. Predicted cumulative deaths
1. Predicted daily deaths

\* county level predicted deaths are distributed to hospitals proportional to #employees

# 5000 Face Shields arrived at Temple Univ Hospital on May 8



D. Landwirth



R. Brenan (both from R4L)



# Data and code at [covidseverity.com](https://covidseverity.com) (searchable by county)

## COVID-19 SEVERITY PREDICTION

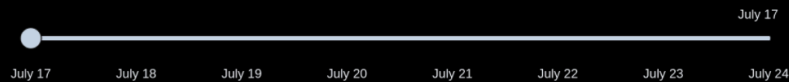
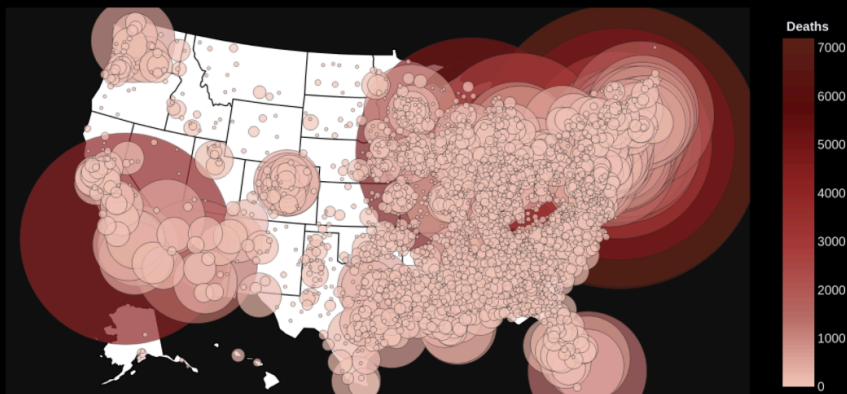
[Visualizations](#) [Data](#) [Models](#)

Our COVID-19 county dashboard allows for an in-depth look at COVID-19 cases and deaths in counties across the United States.

[GO TO DASHBOARD](#)

### Predicted Cumulative COVID-19 Deaths

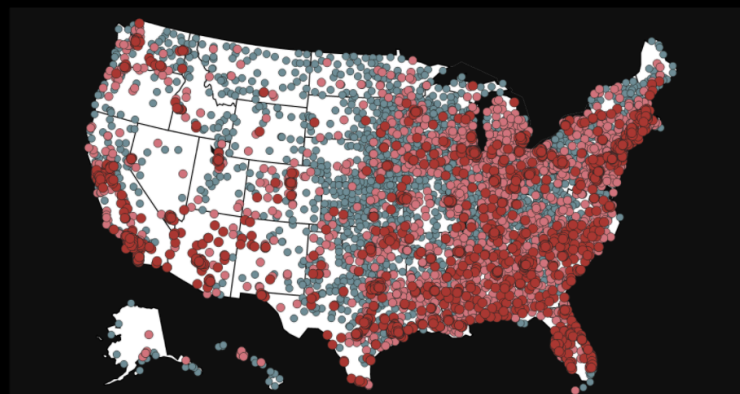
Use the slider below the map to change date.



[VIEW INTERACTIVE MAP IN FULLSCREEN](#)

### Hospital-Level COVID-19 Pandemic Severity Index (CPSI)

Use the slider below the map to change date.



[VIEW INTERACTIVE MAP IN FULLSCREEN](#)

Paper at <https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.07882> and under revision for Harvard Data Science Review (HDSR)

**CURATING A COVID-19 DATA REPOSITORY AND FORECASTING  
COUNTY-LEVEL DEATH COUNTS IN THE UNITED STATES**

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at.AP] 9 Aug 2020

## CLEP and MEPI ideas are generally applicable

- CLEP weighting can be used to combine other predictors including those from agent based models.
- MEPI is agnostic to predictors (under e exchangeability)
- They can be applied to other time series data such as **hospitalization**



## Summary

- Data repository a popular resource for other covid-19 activities

In a period of two weeks, 12K visits with 1.1K unique visitors; 108 clones with 53 unique cloners

- CLEP and MEPI: transparent, and fast, generally applicable to other series (under exchangeability of recent prediction errors for MEPI)
- Continued support to Response4Life
- Results and blog on CSDS atlas at Univ of Chicago

# Current directions

- **Our CLEP is at CDC forecast hub** <https://covid19forecasthub.org/>
- **Hospitalization prediction)**
- **Adaptive tuning** of CLEP
- **Causal investigation (e.g. impact of social distancing; matching of counties)**

Question for the experts

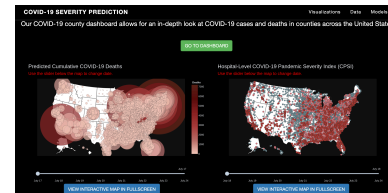
**How can ML short-term predictions help with agent-based models?**

Thank you!

Data and code at

[github.com/Yu-Group/covid19-severity-prediction](https://github.com/Yu-Group/covid19-severity-prediction)

Visualization at [covidseverity.com](https://covidseverity.com)



Paper at <https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.07882>