

# PrimeNet: Pre-Training for Irregular Multivariate Time Series

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Code is publicly available at <https://github.com/ranakroychowdhury/PrimeNet>

# Outline

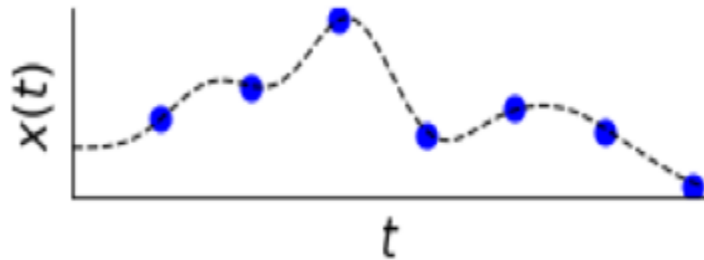
- Motivation
- Current Approaches
- Methodology
- Experiments
- Conclusion

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- **Motivation**
- Current Approaches
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# Motivation

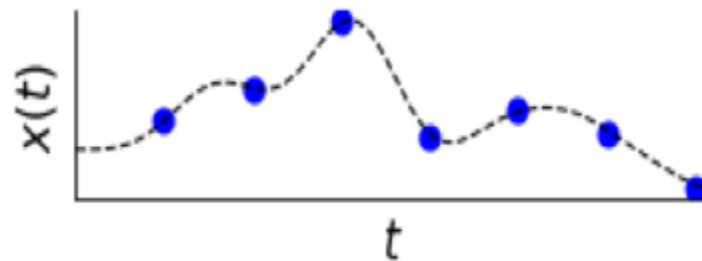
Traditional sequential modeling assumes 1) *regular*



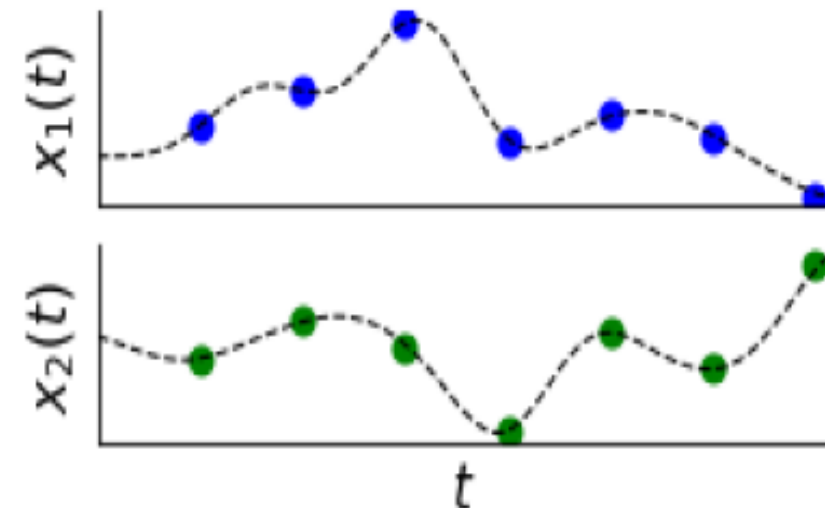
Univariate Regularly Sampled

# Motivation

Traditional sequential modeling assumes 1) *regular* and 2) *synchronous* data



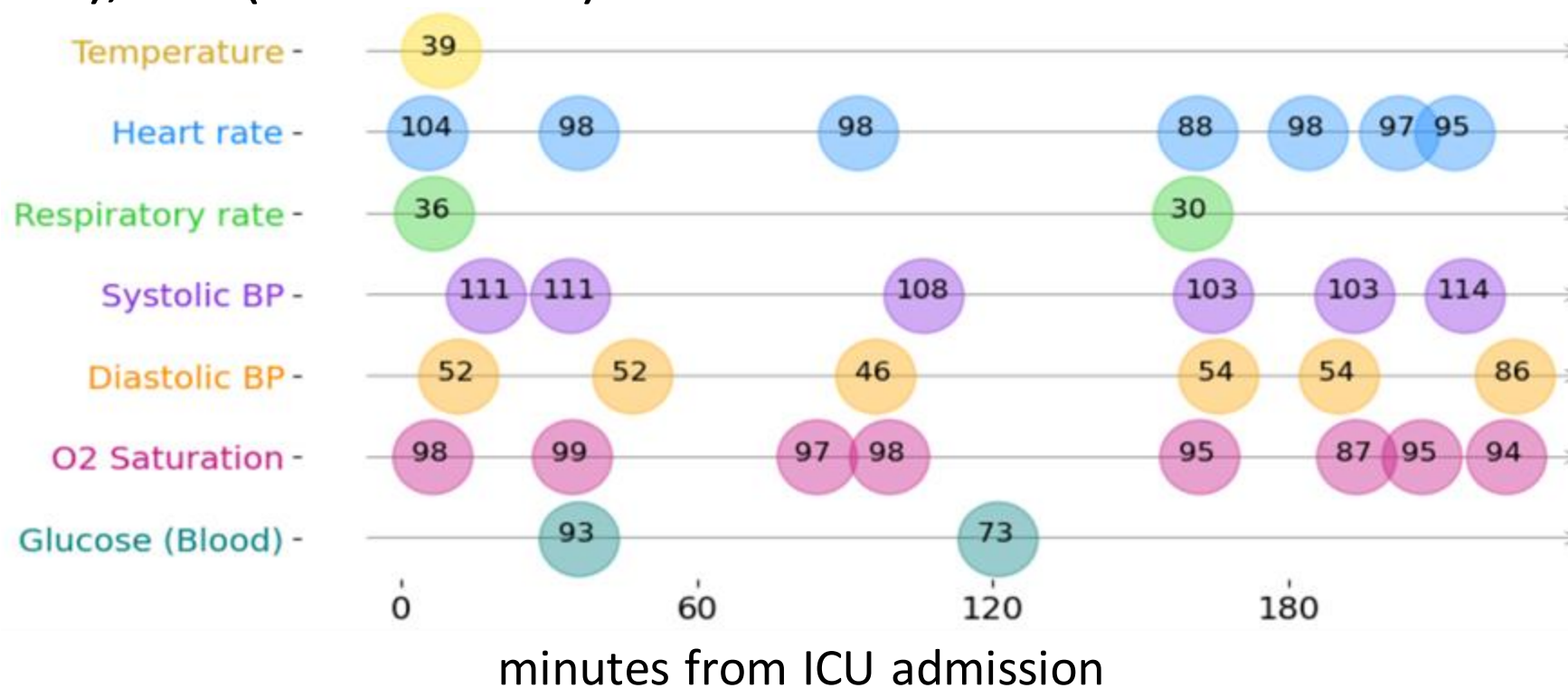
Univariate Regularly Sampled



Multivariate Regularly Sampled

# Motivation

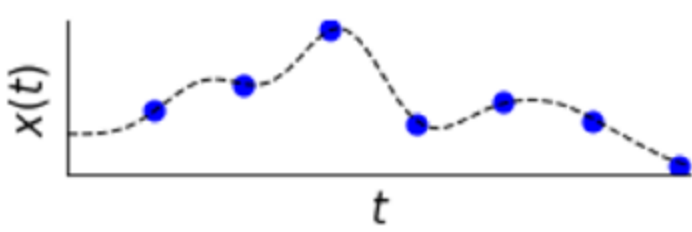
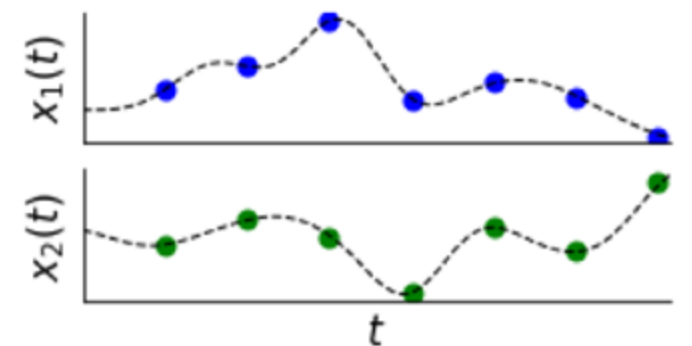
Both assumptions are violated in real-world applications, like Healthcare (Tipirneni '21), IoT (Lechner '20)



# Motivation

- Other Application include IoT, Finance
- IoT: power outage, network drop, different sampling frequency among different sensors in a system
- Finance: Consumer spending pattern, stock trading frequency

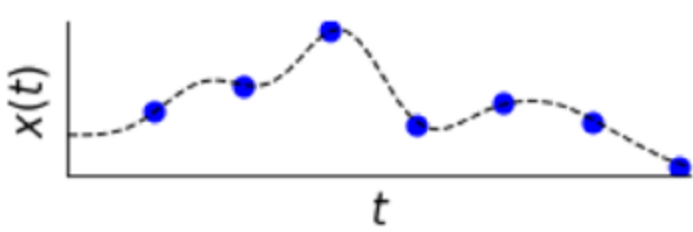
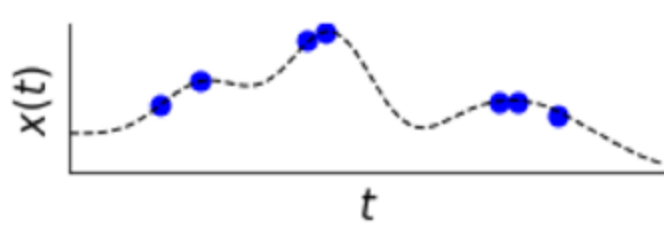
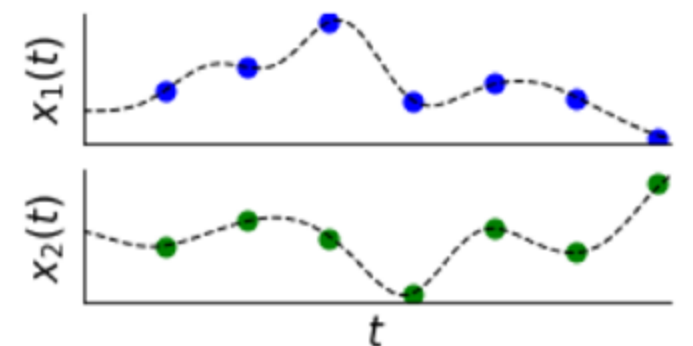
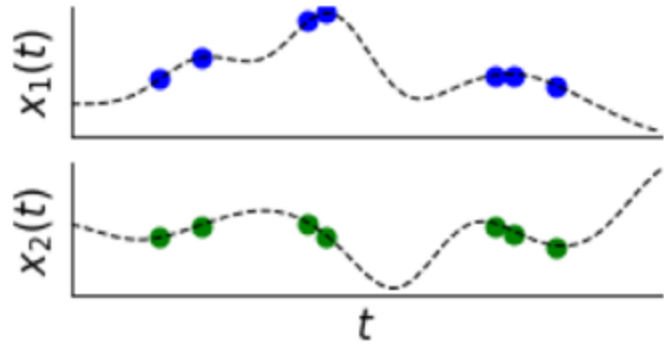
# Motivation

	Regular
Uni- variate	
Multi- variate	

Reference: Shukla, Satya Narayan, and Benjamin M. Marlin. "A survey on principles, models and methods for learning from irregularly sampled time series." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2012.00168* (2020).

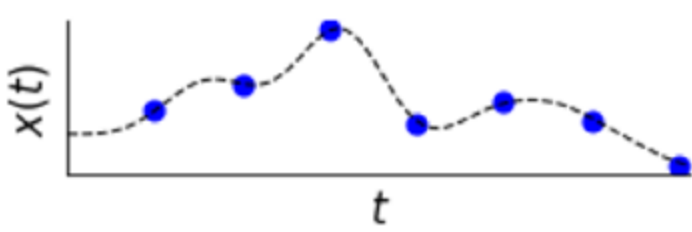
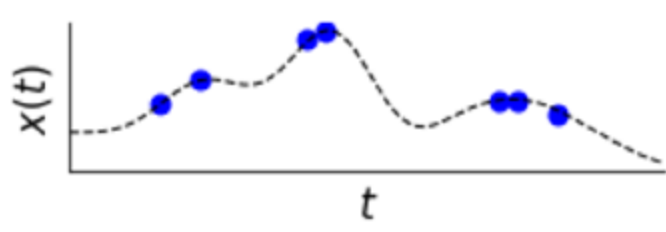

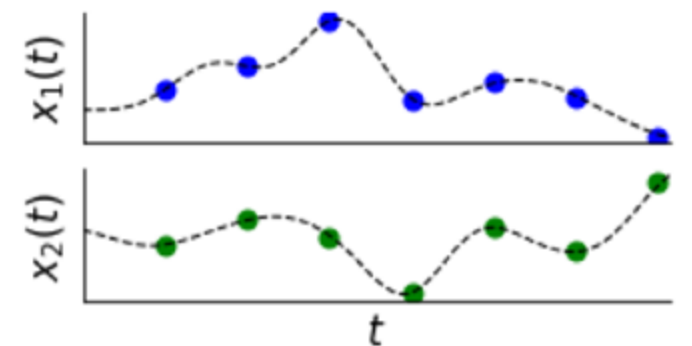
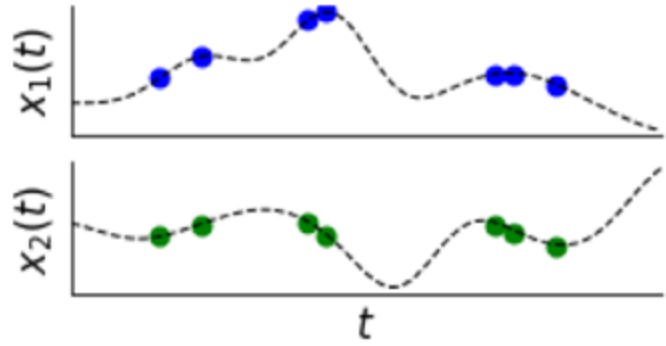
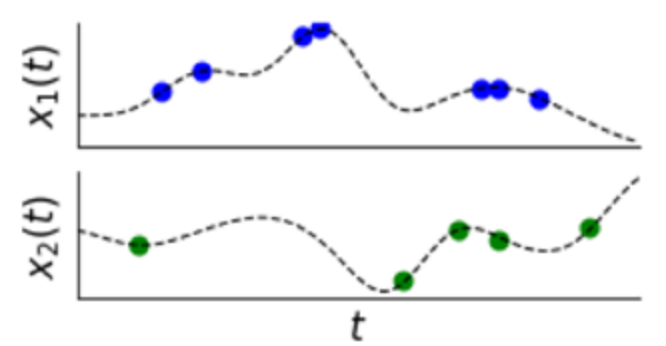


# Motivation

	Regular	Irregular and Synchronous
Uni-variate		
Multi-variate		

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# Motivation

	Regular	Irregular and Synchronous	Irregular and Asynchronous
Uni- variate	 <p>A plot of a univariate time series <math>x(t)</math> over time <math>t</math>. The data points are blue dots connected by a dashed line, showing a smooth, periodic wave with regular sampling intervals.</p>	 <p>A plot of a univariate time series <math>x(t)</math> over time <math>t</math>. The data points are blue dots connected by a dashed line, showing a smooth, periodic wave with irregular sampling intervals, but all samples occur at the same time points across different series.</p>	 <p>A plot of a univariate time series <math>x(t)</math> over time <math>t</math>. The data points are blue dots connected by a dashed line, showing a smooth, periodic wave with irregular sampling intervals and different time points for different series.</p>
Multi- variate	 <p>Two vertically stacked plots showing multivariate time series <math>x_1(t)</math> (top, blue dots) and <math>x_2(t)</math> (bottom, green dots) over time <math>t</math>. Both series show smooth, periodic waves with regular sampling intervals.</p>	 <p>Two vertically stacked plots showing multivariate time series <math>x_1(t)</math> (top, blue dots) and <math>x_2(t)</math> (bottom, green dots) over time <math>t</math>. Both series show smooth, periodic waves with irregular sampling intervals, but all samples occur at the same time points across different series.</p>	 <p>Two vertically stacked plots showing multivariate time series <math>x_1(t)</math> (top, blue dots) and <math>x_2(t)</math> (bottom, green dots) over time <math>t</math>. Both series show smooth, periodic waves with irregular sampling intervals and different time points for different series.</p>

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# Outline

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- **Current Approaches**
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# Current Approaches

Two approaches to learn from irregular time series:

1. Transform irregular to regular:
  - a. Discretization followed by interpolation

# Current Approaches

Two approaches to learn from irregular time series:

1. Transform irregular to regular:
  - a. Discretization followed by interpolation
2. Directly model irregularity:
  - a. ODE
  - b. Set
  - c. Attention

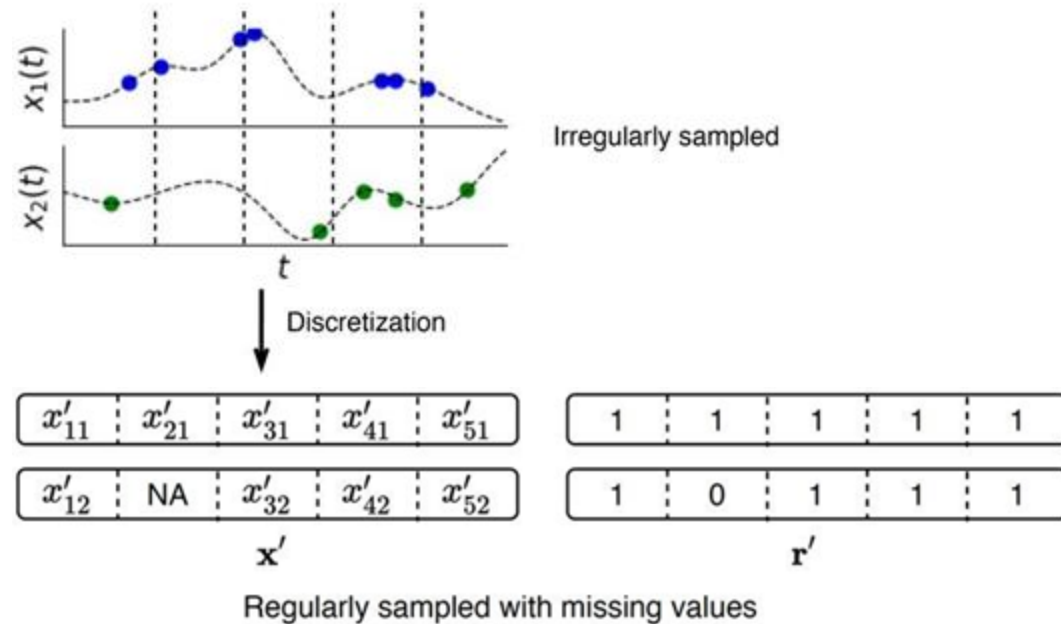
# Current Approaches

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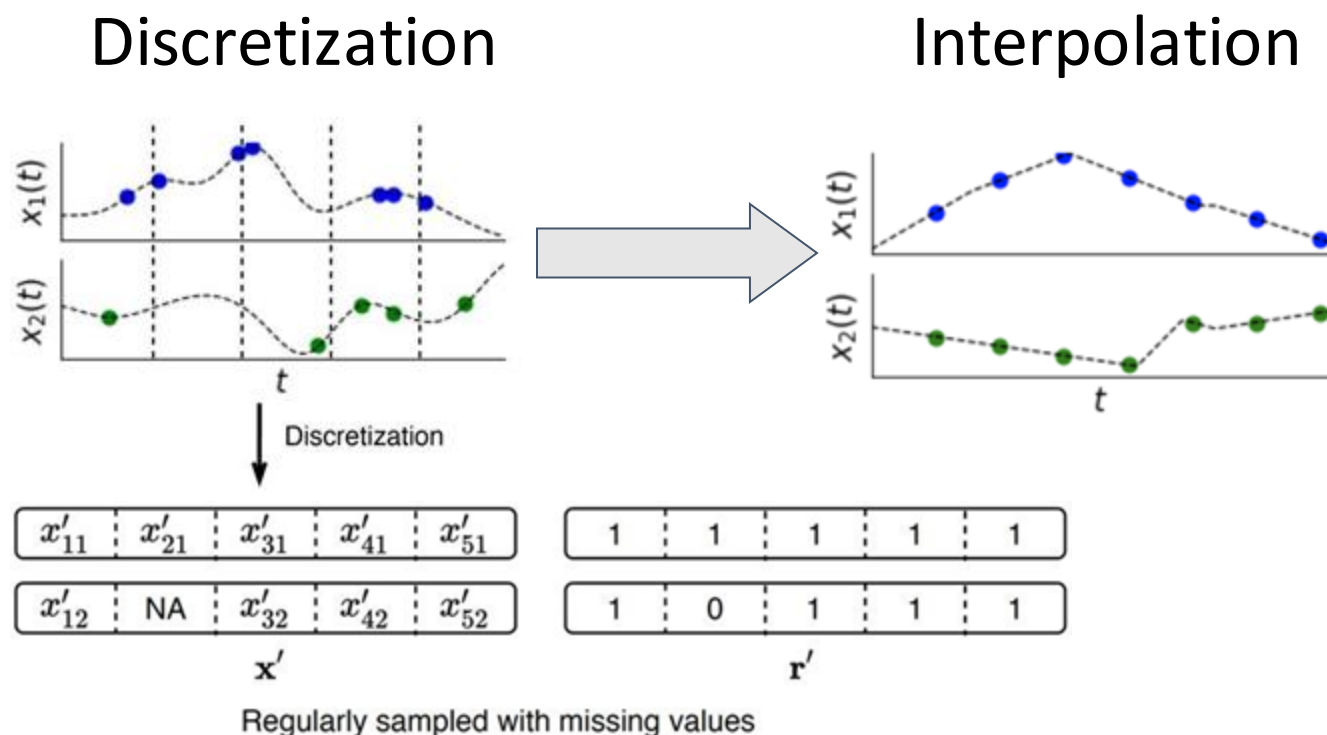
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# Approach 1

## Discretization



# Approach 1



- Narrow bins will create:
  - high missing %
  - exploding sequence
  - difficult imputation
- Wide bins will:
  - aggregate data
  - lose fine-grained details



# Approach 1

- Irregularity may be useful to end task
- Consider what frequency of doctor visit may reveal about patient health
- Discretization followed by interpolation method, abstract away the irregularity, harming performance

# Current Approaches

Two approaches to learn from irregular time series:

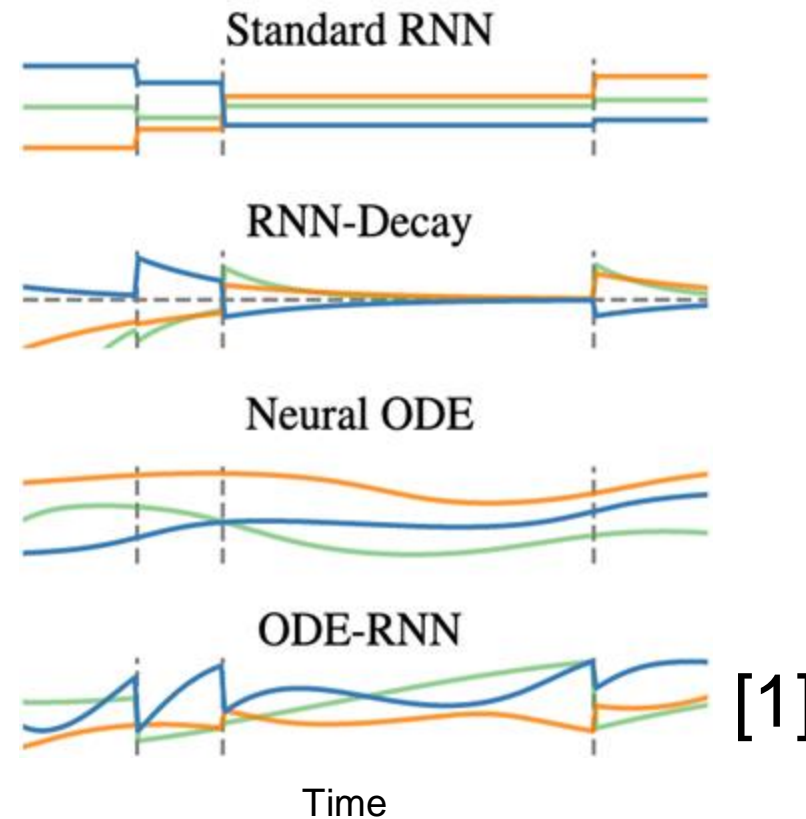
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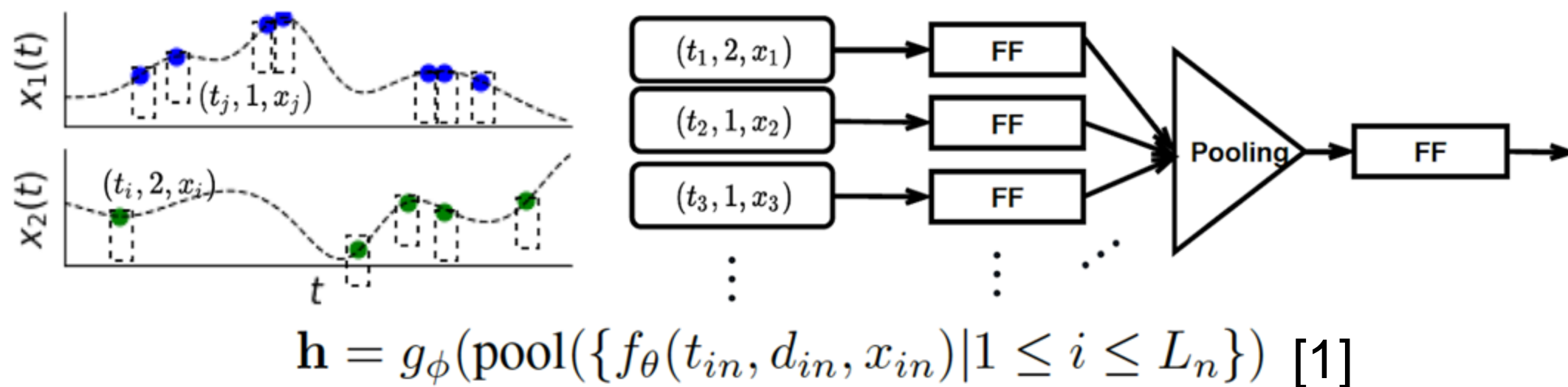
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# Approach 2: ODE



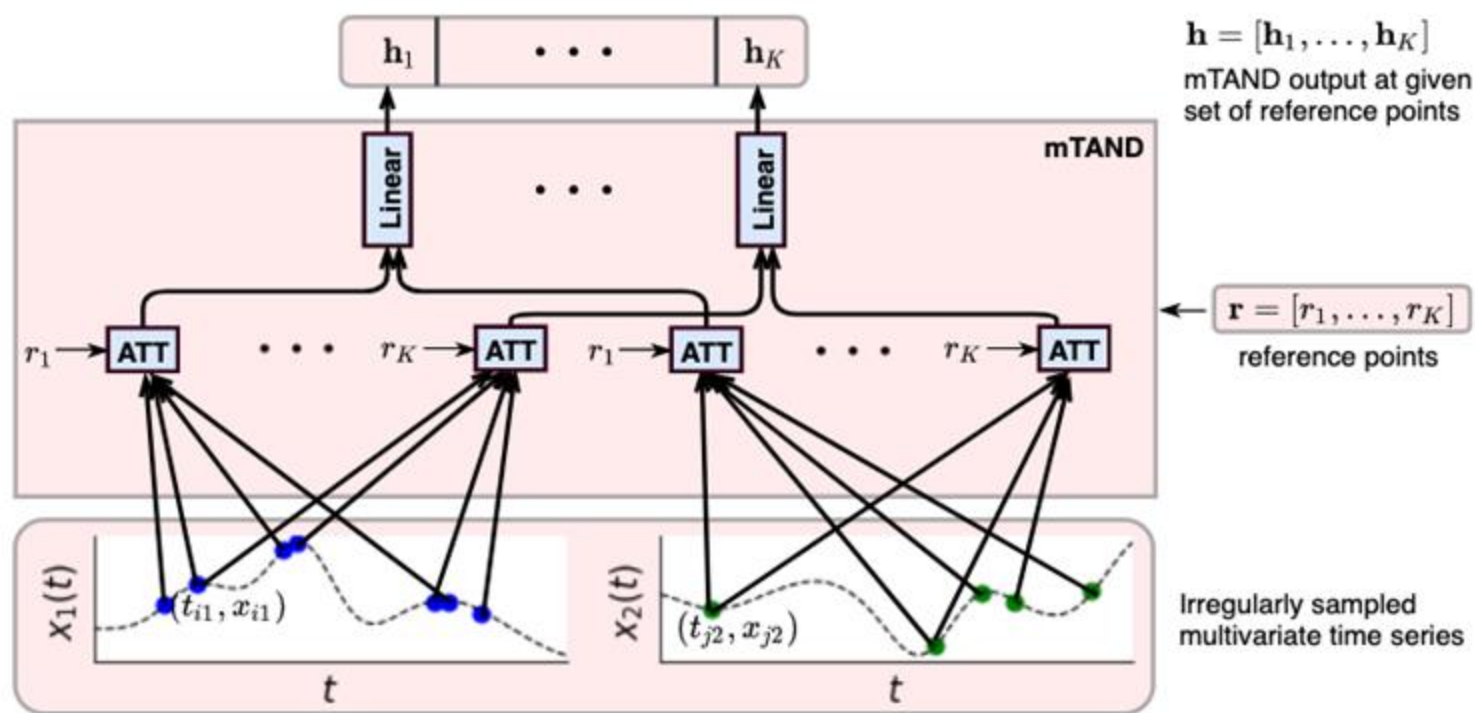
[1] Rubanova, Yulia, Ricky TQ Chen, and David K. Duvenaud. "Latent ordinary differential equations for irregularly-sampled time series." *Advances in neural information processing systems* 32 (2019).

# Approach 2: Set



- Uses set-based representation

# Approach 2: Attention



- Reference time points,  $r \rightarrow$  queries
- Observed time points,  $t \rightarrow$  keys

Fig: Time-Attention Module

[1] Shukla, Satya Narayan, and Benjamin M. Marlin. "Multi-time attention networks for irregularly sampled time series." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2101.10318* (2021).

# Research Question

How to learn *self-supervised* representation from *unlabeled irregular* multivariate time series?

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# Methodology

Designed 2 self-supervised tasks for irregular time-series:

- Contrastive Learning
- Reconstruction

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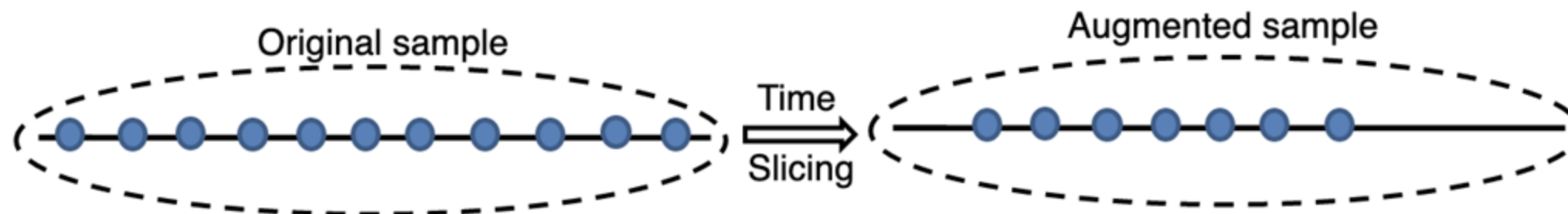
# What is Contrastive Learning?

- Requires an anchor and positive which are *similar* and
- An in-batch negative *different* from the anchor and positive
- Pulls anchor and positive closer, while pushing away the negative

$$\mathcal{L}_{CL} = -\log \frac{\exp(\tilde{X}_i \tilde{X}_j / \tau)}{\sum_{k=1}^{2B} \exp(\tilde{X}_i \tilde{X}_k / \tau)}$$

# Contrastive Learning for Time Series

- Time Slicing for *regular* time series



- A continuous subsequence forms the anchor
- A succeeding or preceding subsequence forms the positive
- Original sample has constant sampling density
- Anchor and positive has same density to that of the original sample
- Resulting in representative anchor and positive

# Contrastive Learning for Time Series

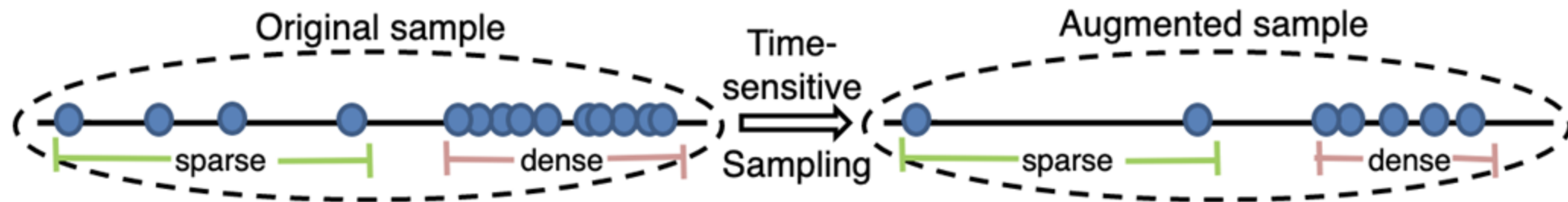
- Time Slicing for *irregular* time series



- Original sample may consist of both dense *and* sparse regions
- Anchor and positive may have densities different to the original sample
- Resulting in unrepresentative samples

# Time Contrastive Learning (TimeCL)

- Instead, we form a subsequence by *randomly sampling separately from dense and sparse regions* -> stratified sampling



- Sample randomly instead of a continuous subsequence
- Sample separately from both dense *and* sparse regions
- Resulting in more representative samples

# Methodology

Designed 2 self-supervised tasks for irregular time-series:

- Contrastive Learning -> Time Contrastive Learning (TimeCL)
- Reconstruction



# What is Reconstruction?

- Randomly mask data and reconstruct them from unmasked data
- Masked out data used as supervision/target

$$\mathcal{L}_{Reco} = \left\| \mathbf{M}_V \odot (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_U - \mathbf{X}_V) \right\|_2^2$$

# Reconstruction for Time Series

- Constant length masking for *regular* time series



- will mask constant *duration* of points throughout sample
- because sampling density is constant.
- Similar difficulty of reconstruction throughout sample.

# Reconstruction for Time Series

- Constant length masking for *irregular* time series



- will mask over *different* duration
- because sampling density varies throughout sample.
- Reconstruction is easy for dense regions but hard for sparse regions.

# Reconstruction for Time Series

- Constant length masking for *irregular* time series



- will mask over *different* duration
- because sampling density varies throughout sample.
- Reconstruction is easy for dense regions but hard for sparse regions.
- Need to adjust mask length based on signal's local density
- Mask more points from dense regions than from sparse regions
- Reconstruction is tractable across regions of different sampling density.

# Time Reconstruction (TimeReco)

- We propose constant *time* masking



- masks constant *duration*, not *length*, of data throughout sample
- Masks few points in sparse regions but more points in dense regions.
- Adjusts the mask length based on signal's local density.
- Balances difficulty of reconstruction among regions of different sampling density

# Methodology

Designed 2 self-supervised tasks for irregular time-series:

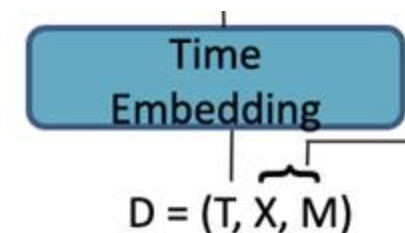
- Contrastive Learning -> Time Contrastive Learning (TimeCL)
- Reconstruction -> Time Reconstruction (TimeReco)

$$\mathcal{L} = \eta \mathcal{L}_{CL} + (1 - \eta) \mathcal{L}_{Reco}$$

# Model

- Time-Embedding Layer (Shukla '21)

$$\phi h(\mathbf{T})[i] = \begin{cases} \omega_{0h} \cdot \mathbf{T} + \alpha_{0h}, & \text{if } i = 0 \\ \sin(\omega_{ih} \cdot \mathbf{T} + \alpha_{ih}), & \text{if } 0 < i < d_r \end{cases}$$



# Model

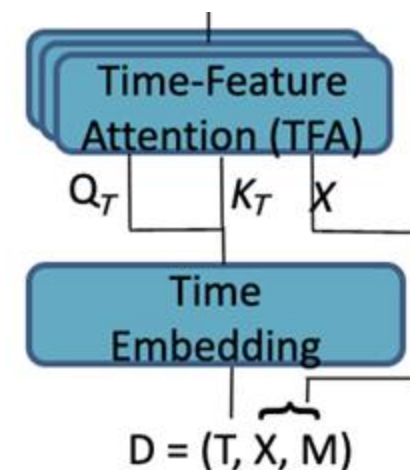
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- Time-Feature Attention (TFA) (Shukla '21)

$$\text{TFA}(\mathbf{Q}_T, \mathbf{K}_T, \mathbf{M}, \mathbf{X}) = (\mathbf{M} \odot \mathbf{A}_T)\mathbf{X},$$

$$\mathbf{A}_T = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{Q}_T \mathbf{K}_T / d_r)$$





# Model

- Time-Embedding Layer (Shukla '21)

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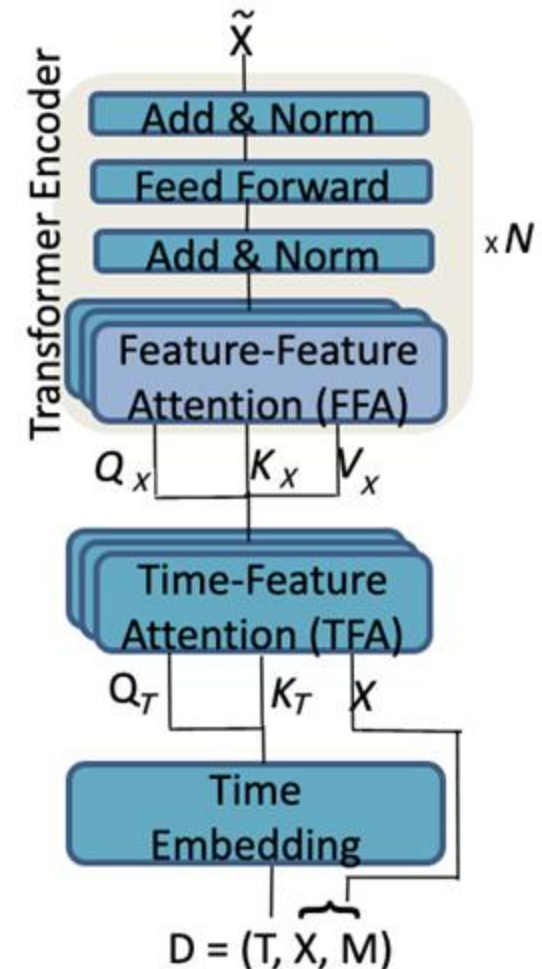
$$\text{TFA}(Q_T, K_T, M, X) = (M \odot A_T)X,$$

$$A_T = \text{softmax}(Q_T K_T / d_r)$$

- Feature-Feature Attention (FFA) (Vaswani

$$\text{FFA}(Q_X, K_X, V_X, M) = (M \odot A)V_X,$$

$$A = \text{softmax}(Q_X K_X / d_r)$$



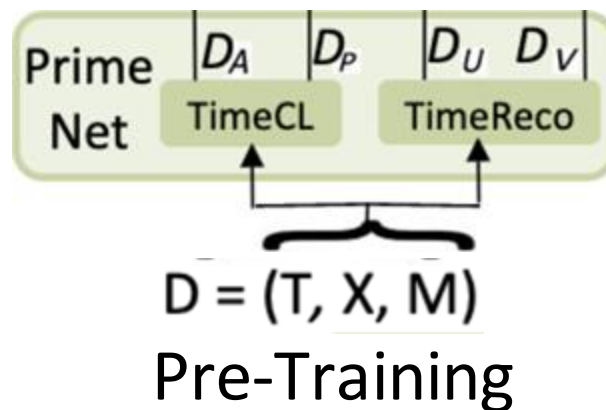
# PrimeNet

$\bar{D} = (\bar{T}, \bar{X}, \bar{M})$   
Pre-Training

# PrimeNet

Task, T

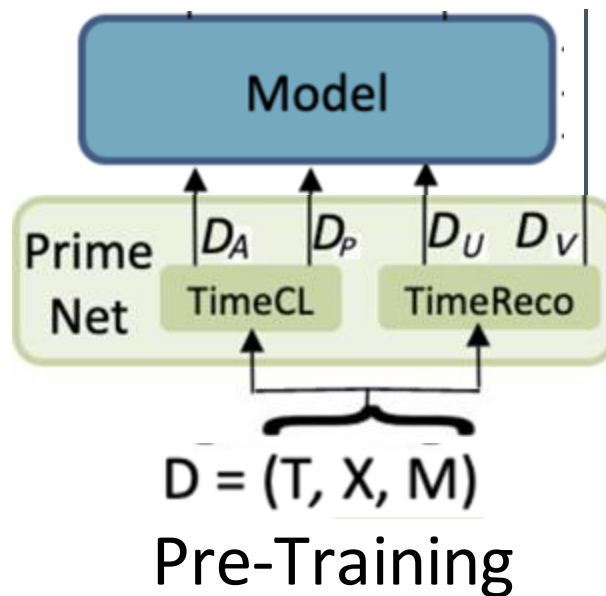
Data Augmentation  
for Task, T



# PrimeNet

Task, T

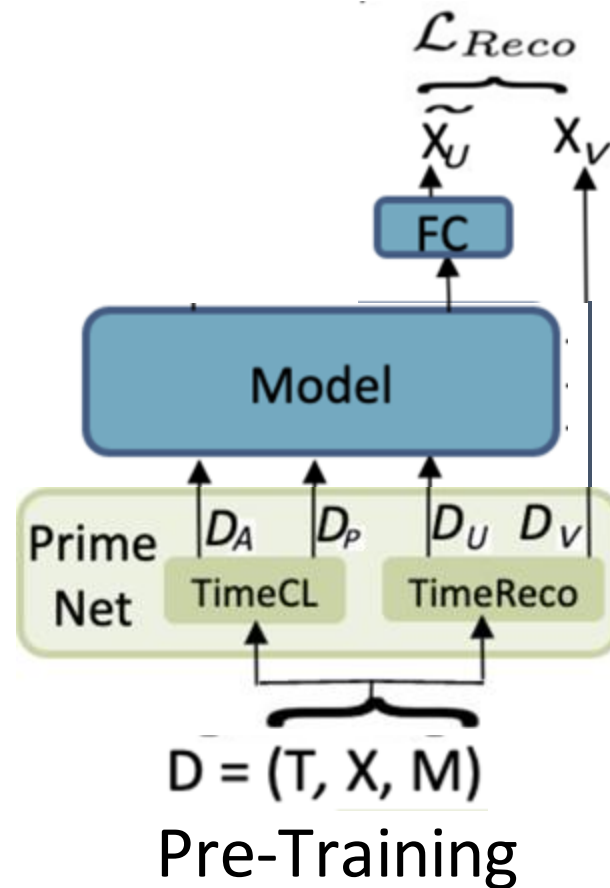
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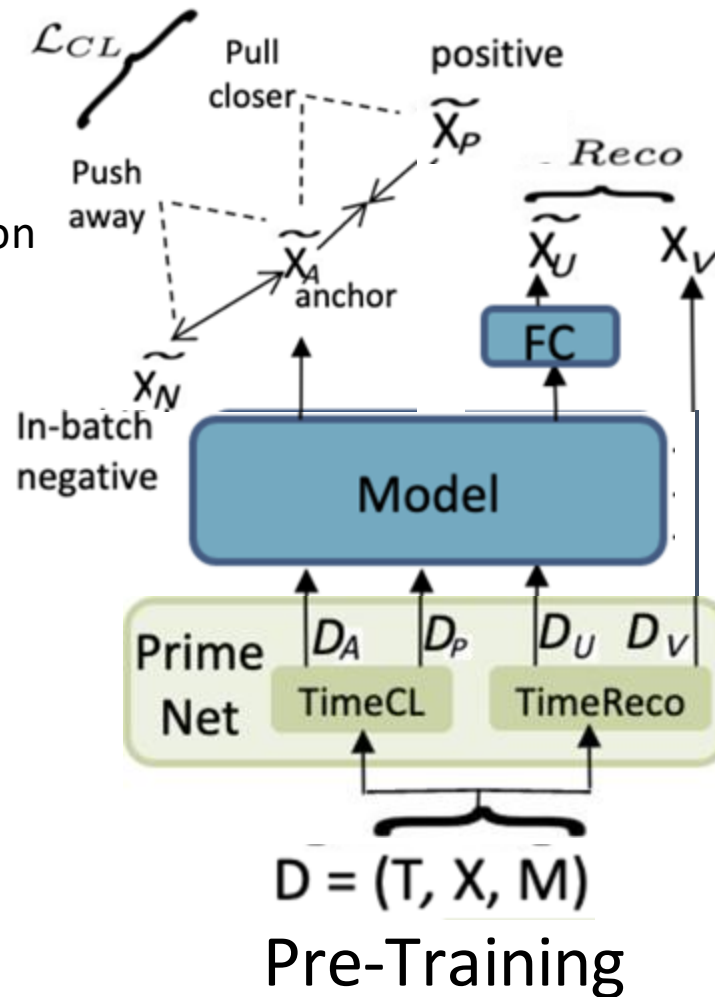
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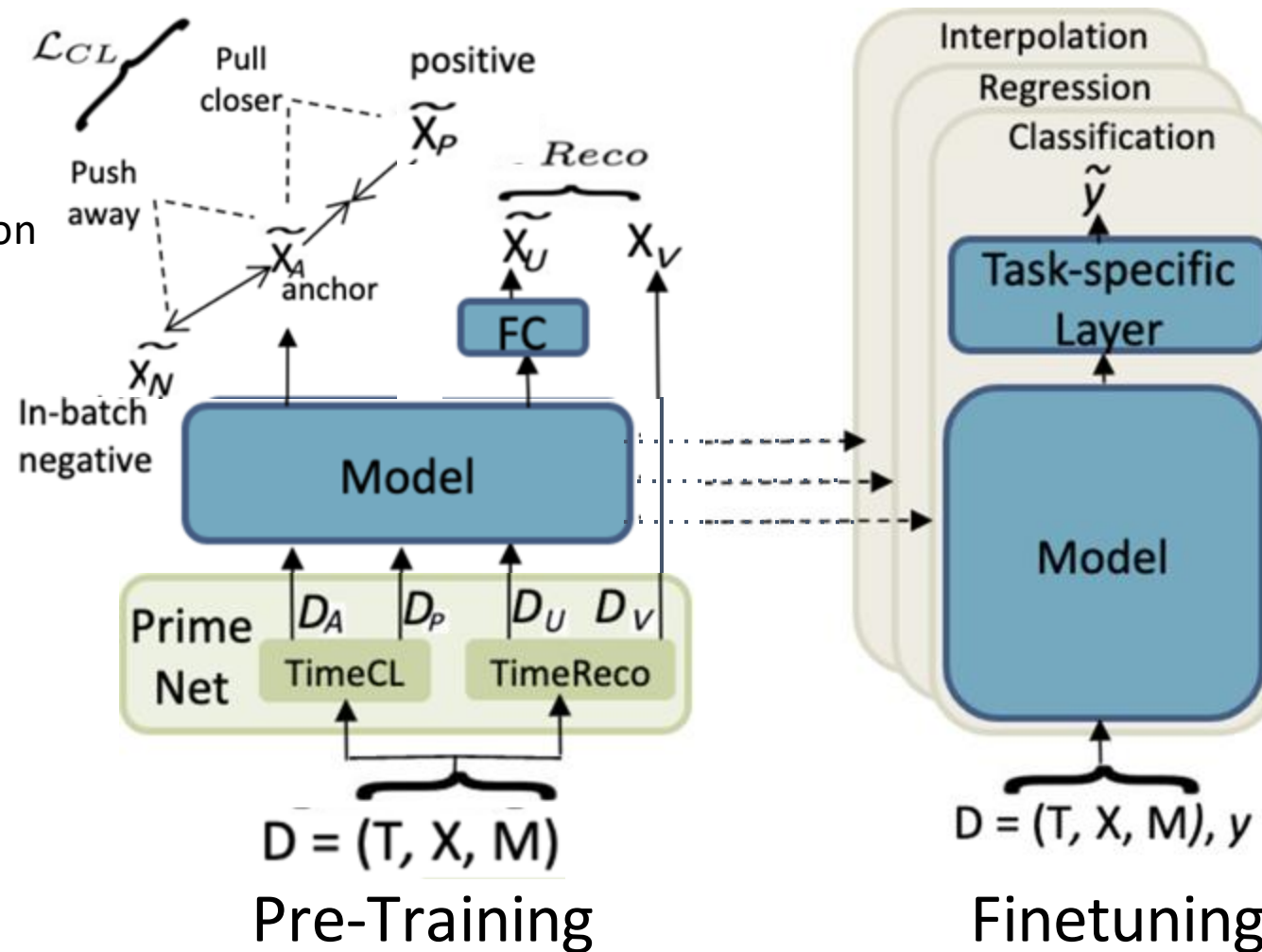
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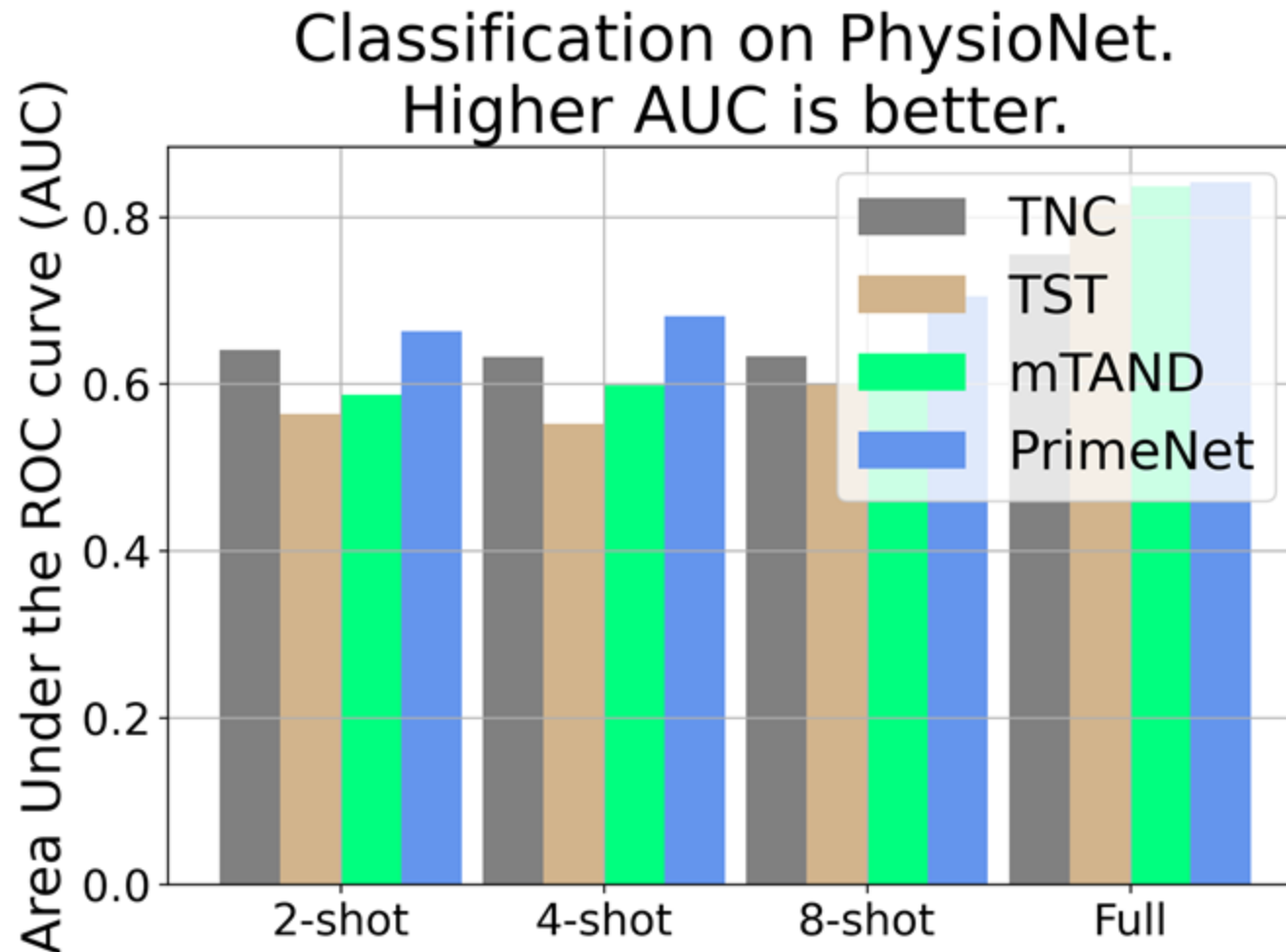
# Experiments - Datasets

- Used 4 naturally occurring irregular data from Healthcare and IoT for classification, interpolation, and regression tasks
- 48 hours of physiological data after patient admission to ICU in *PhysioNet* and *MIMIC-III* datasets
- 3D position of human body from *Activity* dataset
- Weather data from *Appliances Energy* dataset

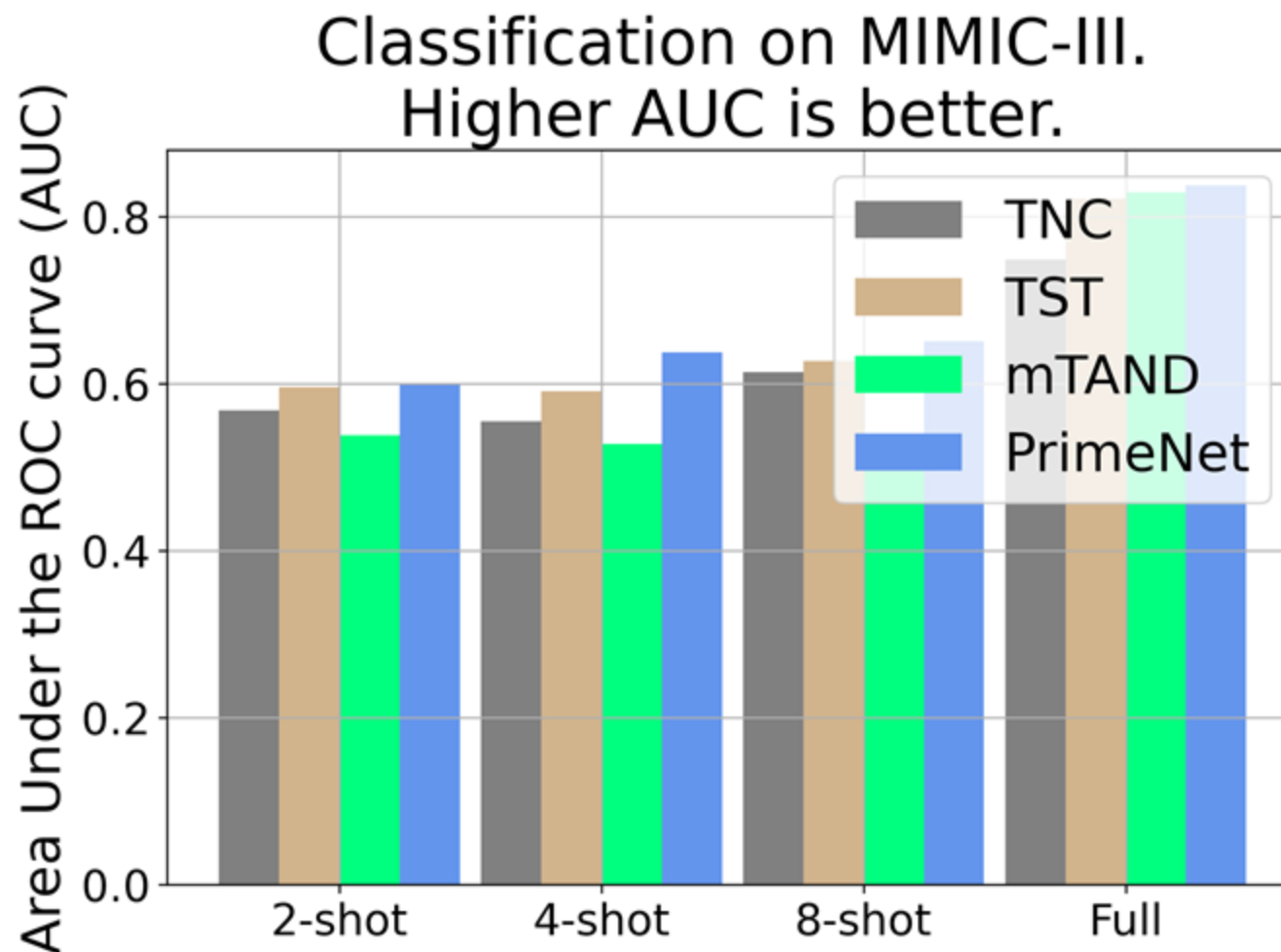
# Experiments - Baselines

- Self-supervised regular time series methods
  - TS2Vec (Yue '21), TNC (Tonekaboni '21), TST (Zerveas '21)
- Fully- or semi- supervised irregular time series methods
  - GRU-Mean (Che '18), P-LSTM (Neil '16), RNN-VAE (Chen '18), ODE-RNN (Rubanova '19), L-ODE (Rubanova '19), mTAND (Shukla '21)

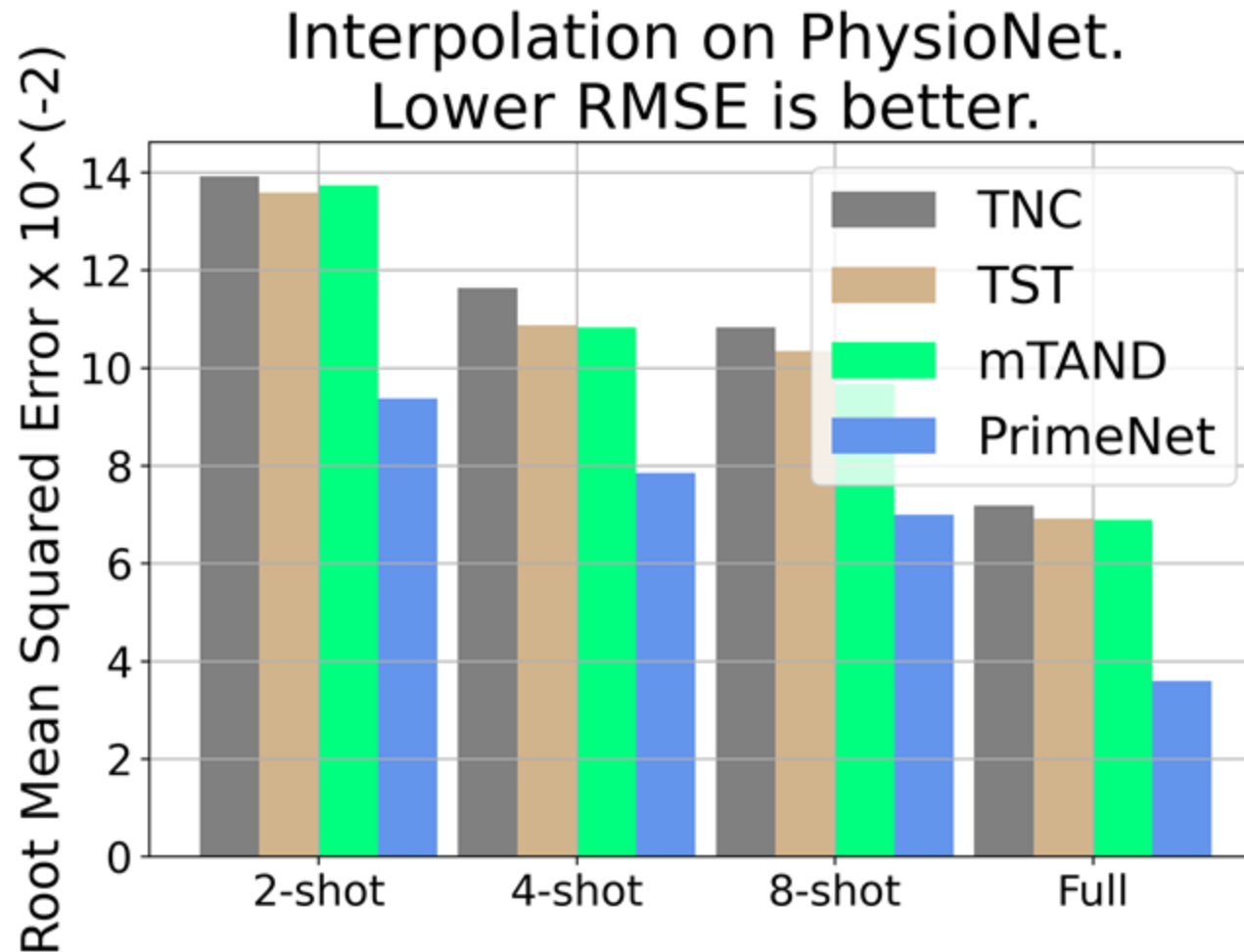
# Experiments - Results



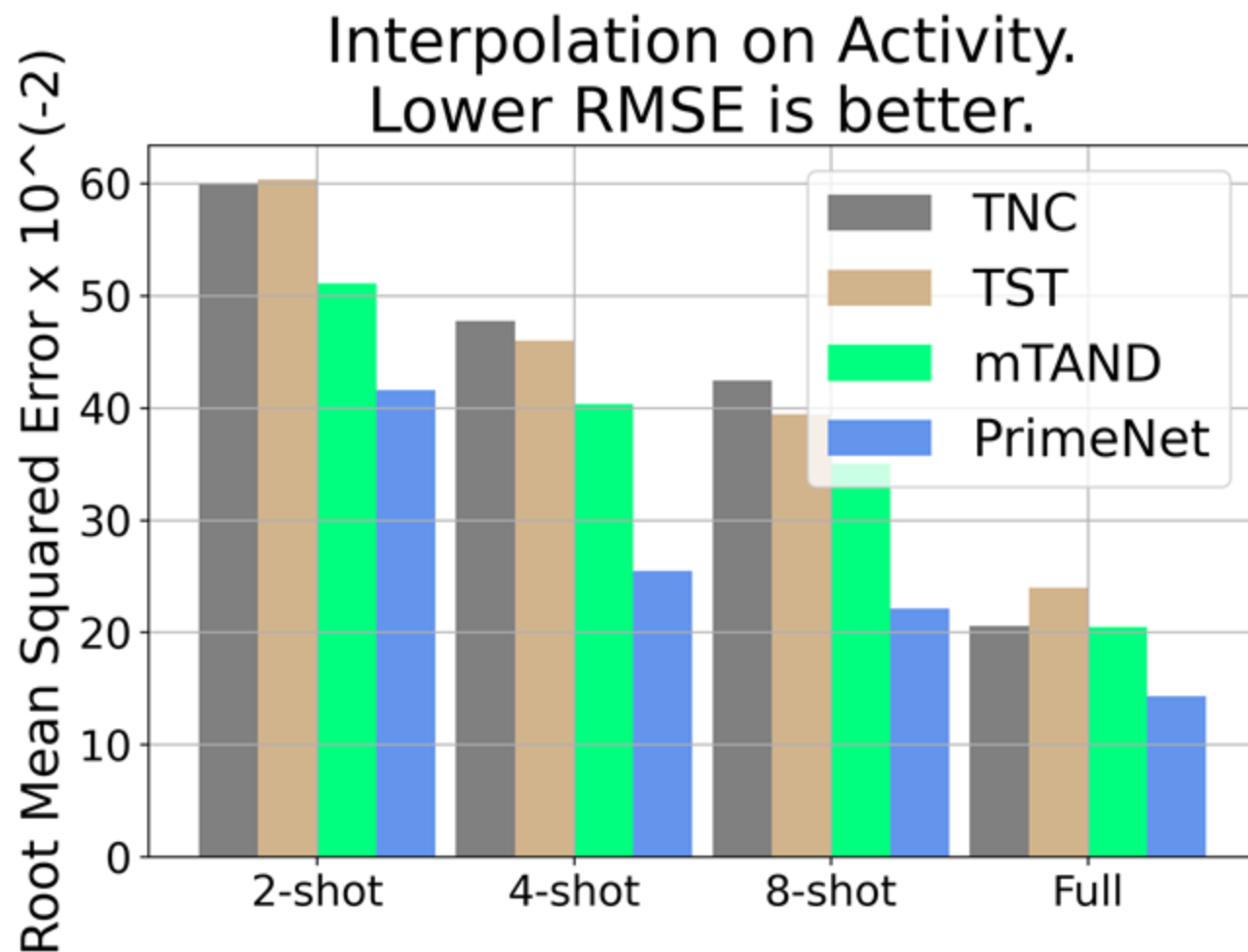
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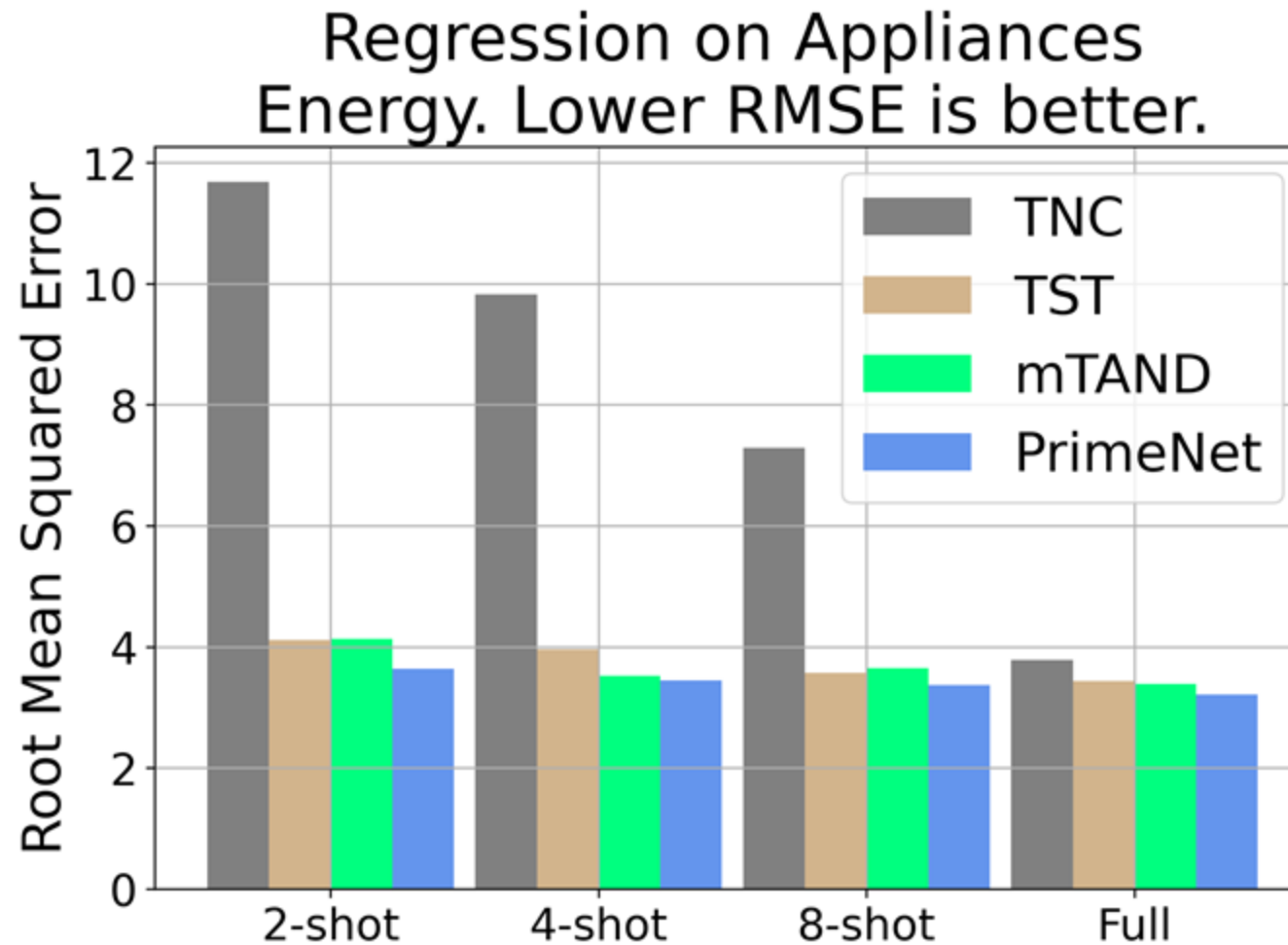
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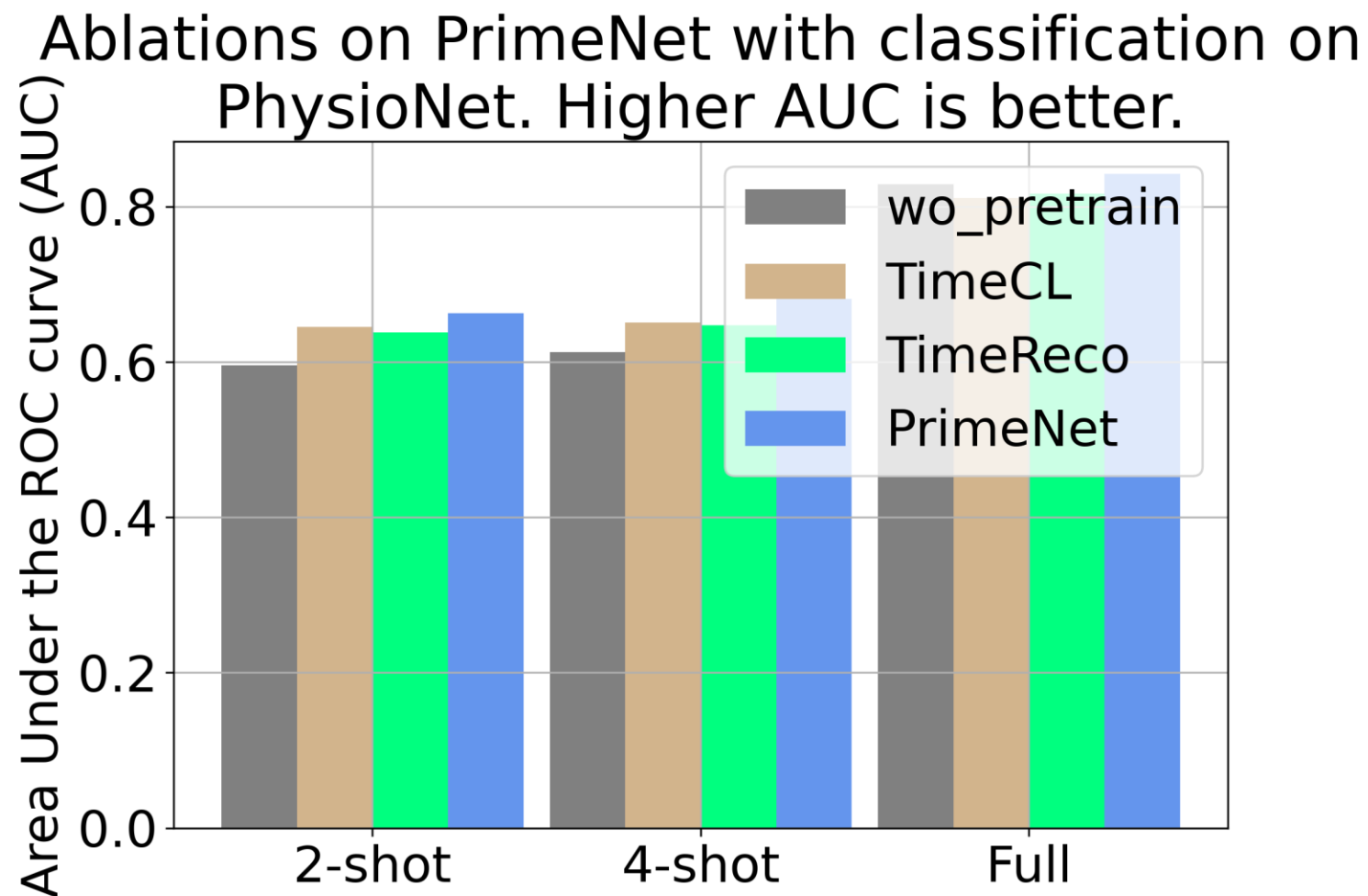
# Experiments - Results



# Experiments - Results



# Experiments - Ablations





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# Conclusion

- First to propose a pre-trained model for irregular time series
- Designed 2 time-sensitive self-supervision tasks:
  - TimeCL: preserve sampling density variation in anchor and positive
  - TimeReco: adjusts mask length to make reconstruction tractable
- Pre-trained model fine-tuned on labeled data
- Outperformed baselines on Healthcare and IoT data for classification, interpolation and regression, under full and few-shot data
- Ablation highlights the importance of both tasks and their design choices

# Questions?

- Contact: Ranak Roy Chowdhury (<https://ranakroychowdhury.github.io/>)
- Implementation: <https://github.com/ranakroychowdhury/PrimeNet>