



# PhysioEx: Visual Analysis of Physiological Event Streams

**Rishi Kamaleswaran<sup>1,2</sup>**, Christopher Collins<sup>1</sup>,  
Andrew James<sup>2</sup>, Carolyn McGregor<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Canada

<sup>2</sup>The Hospital for Sick Children, Canada

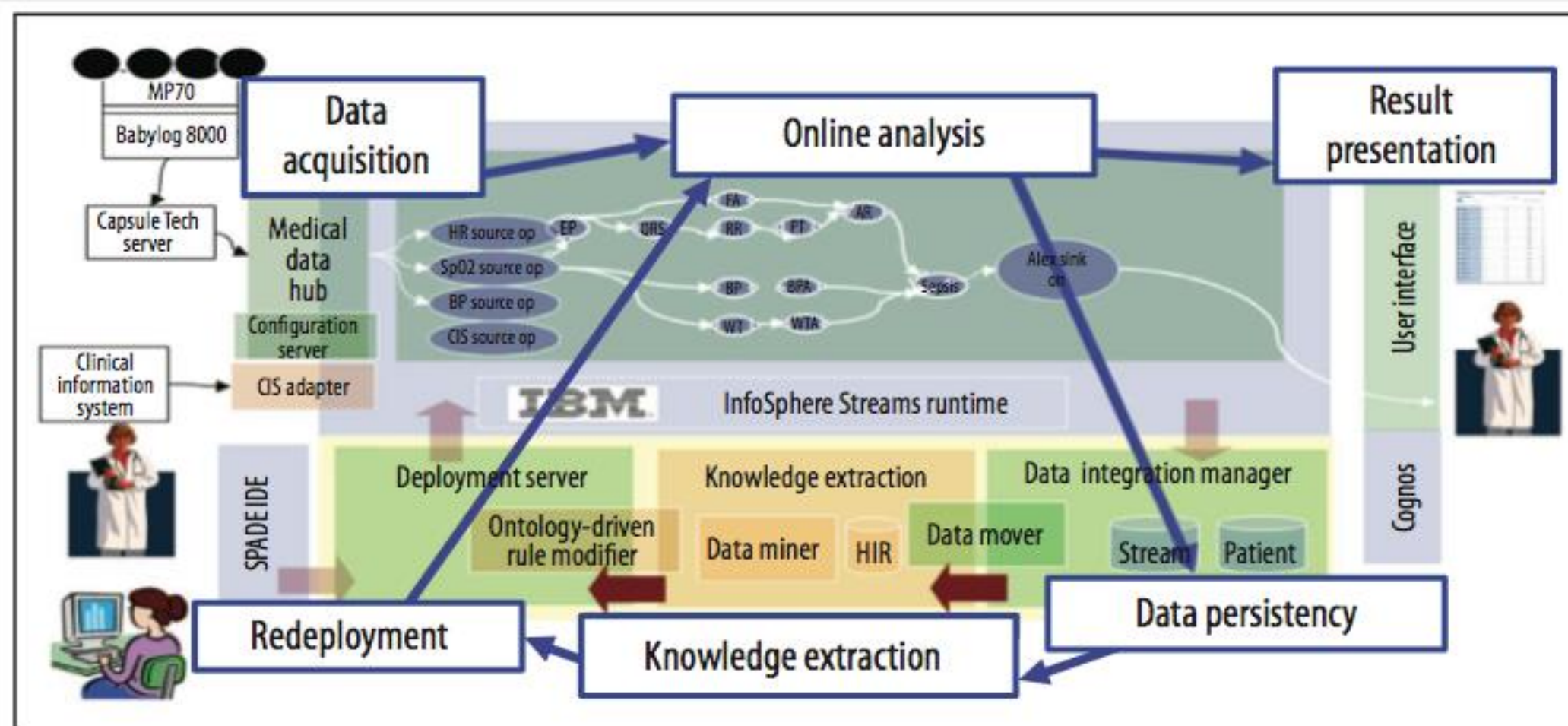


# Background

- 10% of the world's babies are born premature<sup>1</sup>
- 182 million+ data points a day
- Only a fraction collected and stored
- Visual representations can highlight salient features to aid in the care of critically ill babies



# Artemis Platform



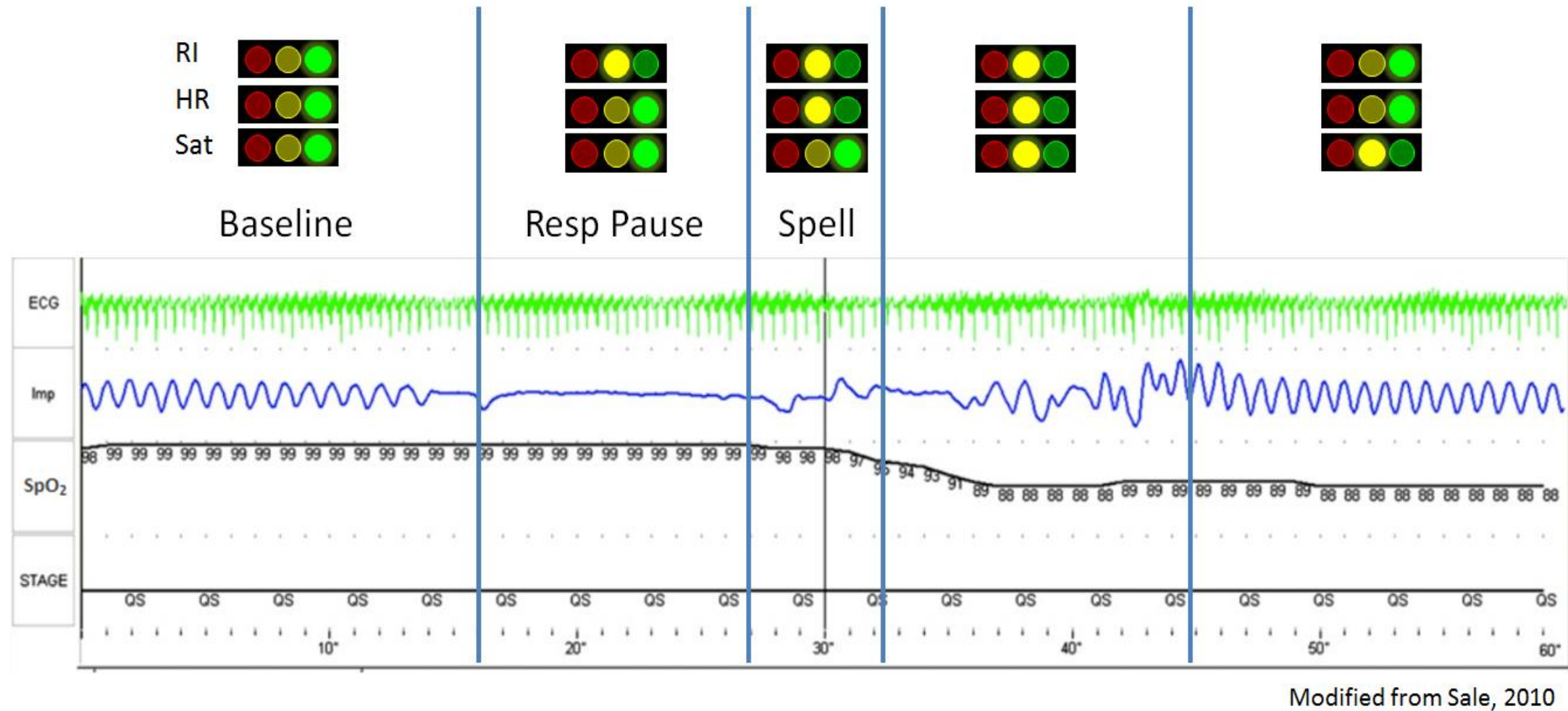
1089 patients recruited (~3 trillion samples)



# Problem Characterization

- **Apnoea of prematurity:** Gap in breathing of more than 20 seconds<sup>2</sup>
- Hard to know that a baby is apnoeic
- Bed-side staff broadly classify any cardiorespiratory event as a **“spell”**
- Specialists and extensive monitoring required to diagnosis
- An algorithm was developed that automated the classification of neonatal spells<sup>3</sup>
- Neonatal Sepsis is infection acquired in the hospital
- Interest in predicting sepsis using neonatal spells data

# Related Work



Identifying correlations across three physiologic data streams<sup>3</sup>

# Event Classification Algorithm

	Absolute	Relative
<b>Heart Rate</b>	< 100 (Preterm) < 80 (Term)	> 10% fall from 30s baseline
<b>Respiratory Rate</b>	> 20 seconds	Pause greater than two breaths
<b>Saturation</b>	< 80% (Preterm) < 92% (Term)	> 10% fall from 30s baseline

# Events as Sequences

	1	2	3	4	5
Central	↓ Resp.	↓ Heart Rate	↓ O <sub>2</sub>	↑ Resp.	↑ Heart Rate
Vagal	↓ Resp. ↓ Heart Rate	↓ O <sub>2</sub>	↑ Resp. ↑ Heart Rate		
Obstructive	↓ Heart Rate (Incremental)	↓ O <sub>2</sub>	↑ Heart Rate		
Obstructive Central	↓ Heart Rate (Incremental)	↓ O <sub>2</sub>	↓ Resp.	↑ Resp.	↑ Heart Rate
Central Obstructive	↓ Resp.	↓ Heart Rate	↓ O <sub>2</sub>	↑ Resp.	↓ Heart Rate
Desaturation	↓ O <sub>2</sub>				
Bradycardia	↓ Heart Rate				

# Task Analysis

Domain experts with at least five years of neonatal experiences were solicited.

[T1]

- Identify the Point of Suspicion of Infection (PSI)

[T2]

- Identify events in the respiratory physiologic signal before PSI

[T3]

- Analyse events across heart rate and oxygen (SpO<sub>2</sub>) streams

[T4]

- Identify abnormal events

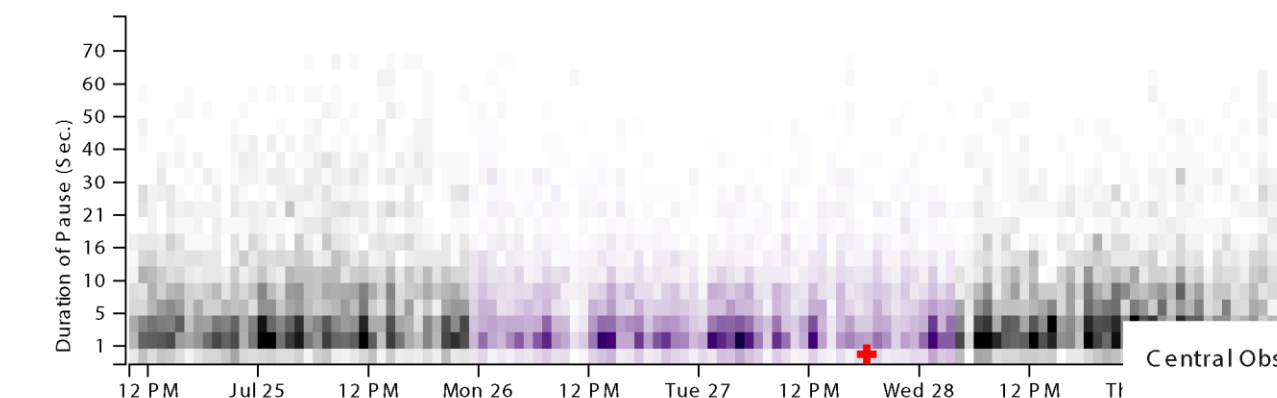
[T5]

- Create mental temporal map of underlying physiology

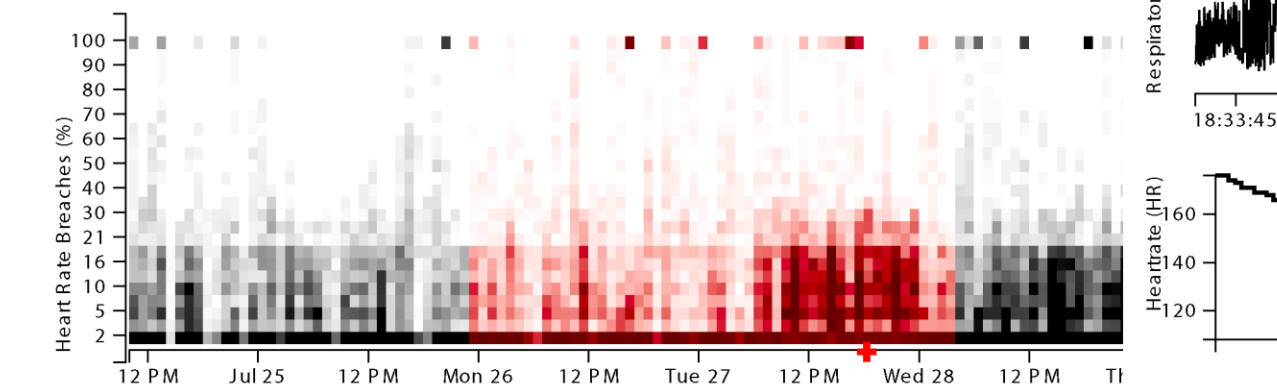


# Design of PhysioEx

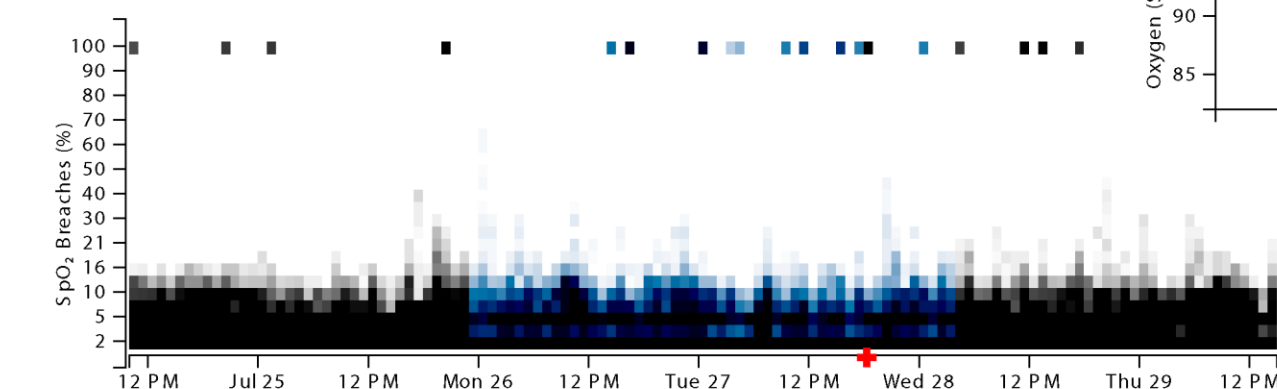
Respiratory Impedance Graph



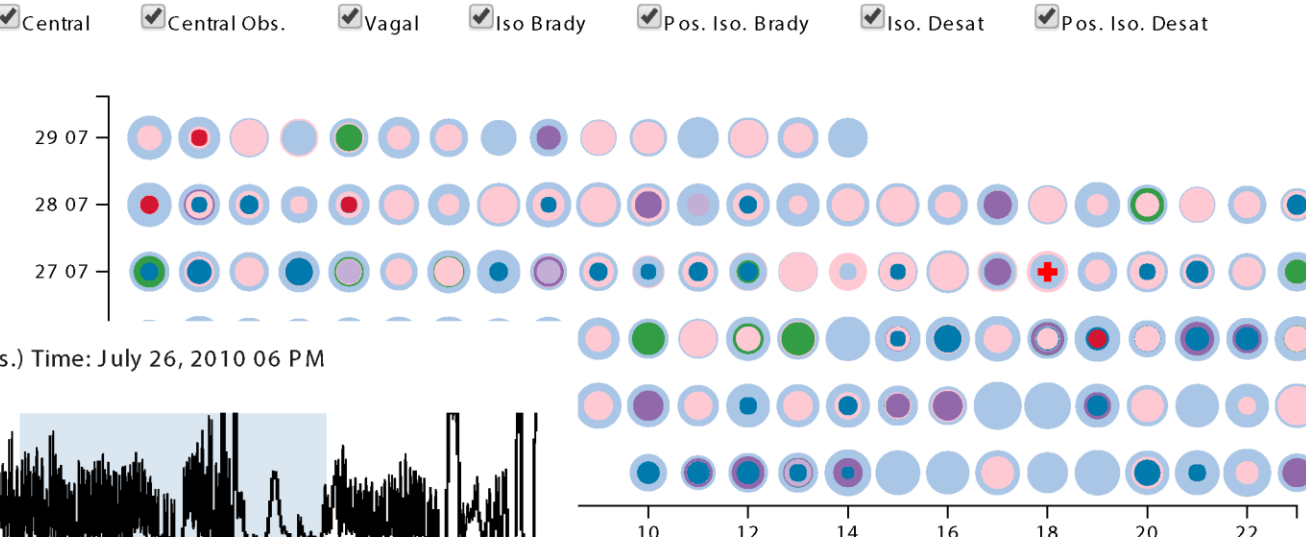
Heart Rate Flux Graph



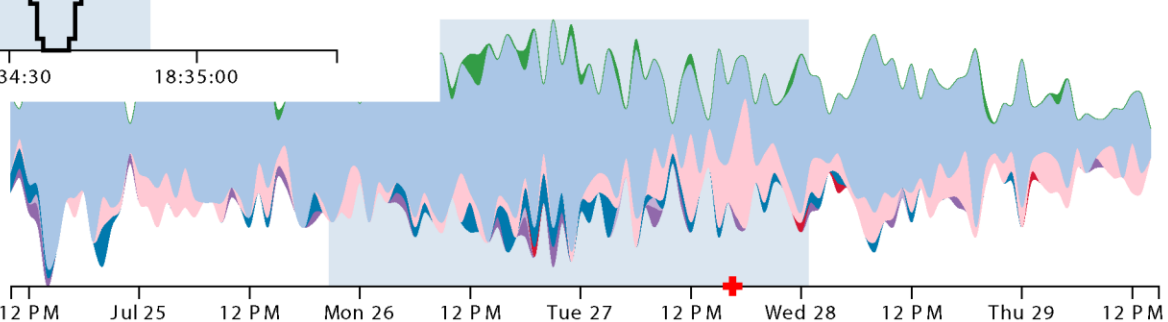
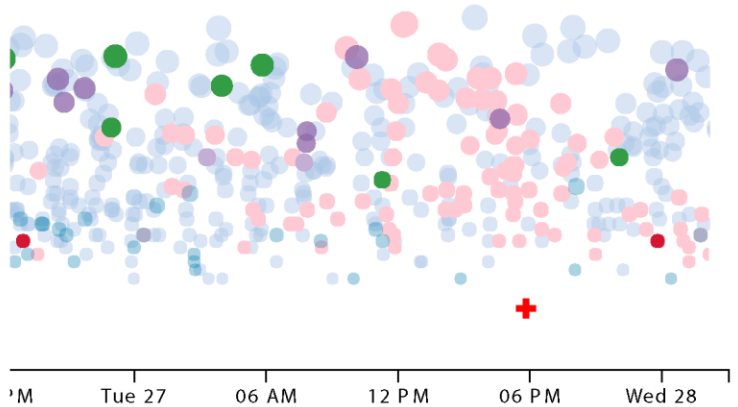
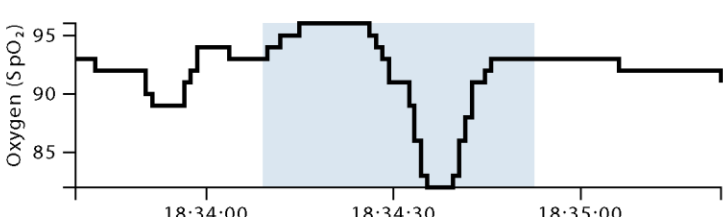
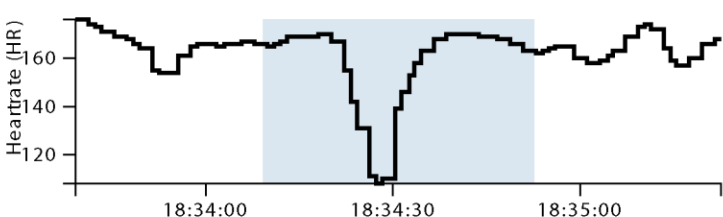
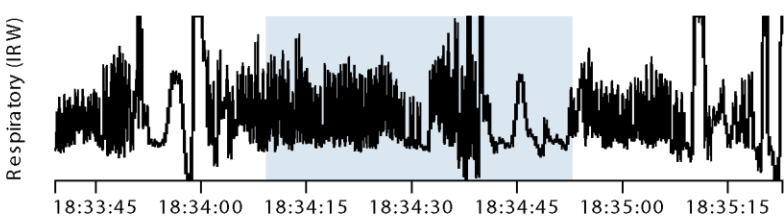
Oxygen Flux Graph



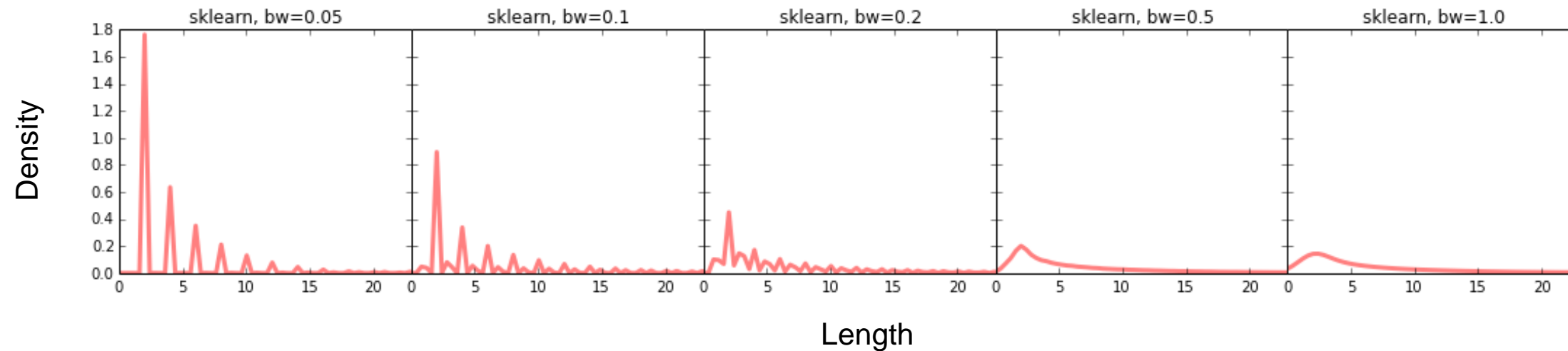
Spells Classification



Central Obs. (44 Secs.) Time: July 26, 2010 06 PM



# Kernel Density Estimation

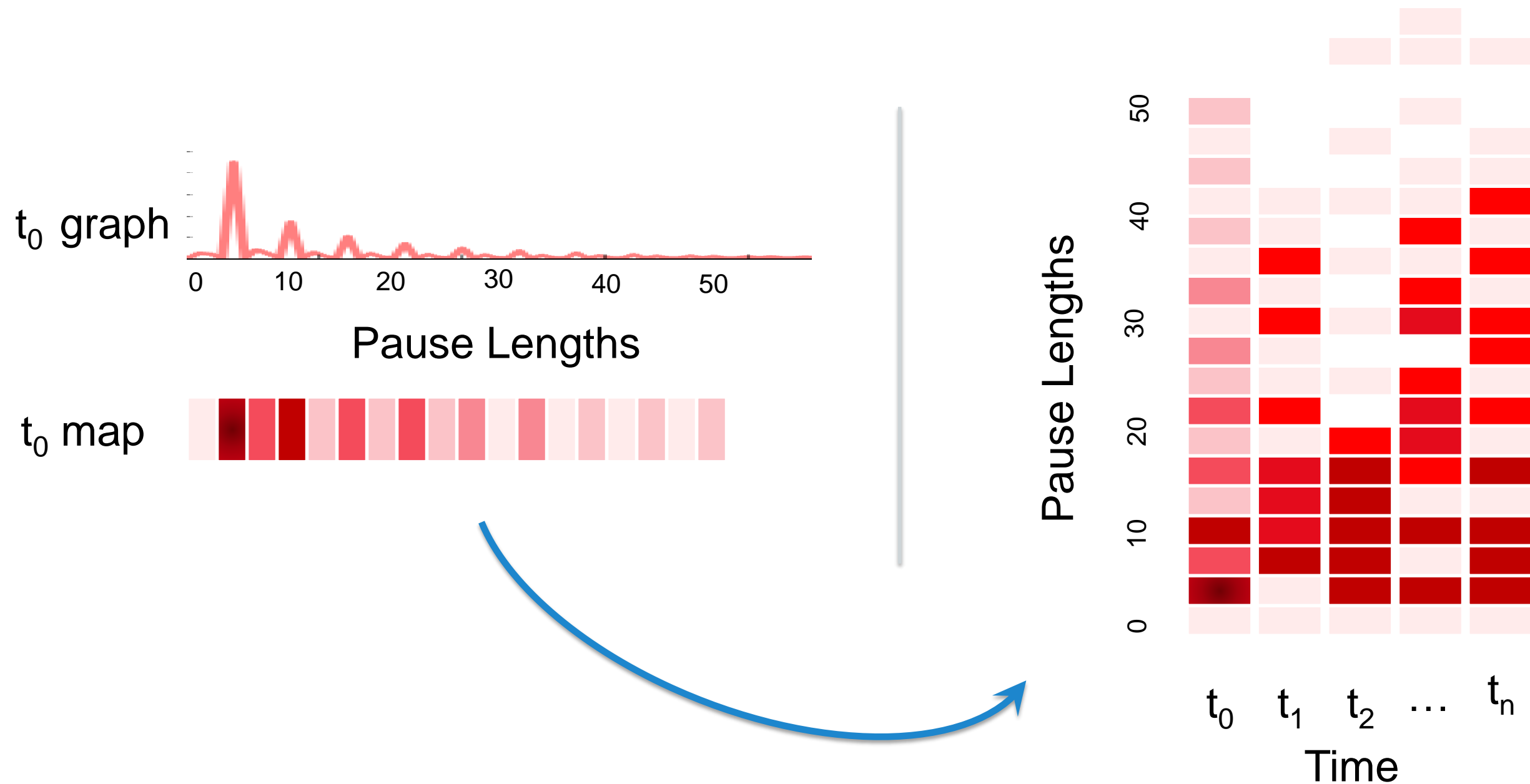


Kernels are aggregated and used to determine **vertical binning**

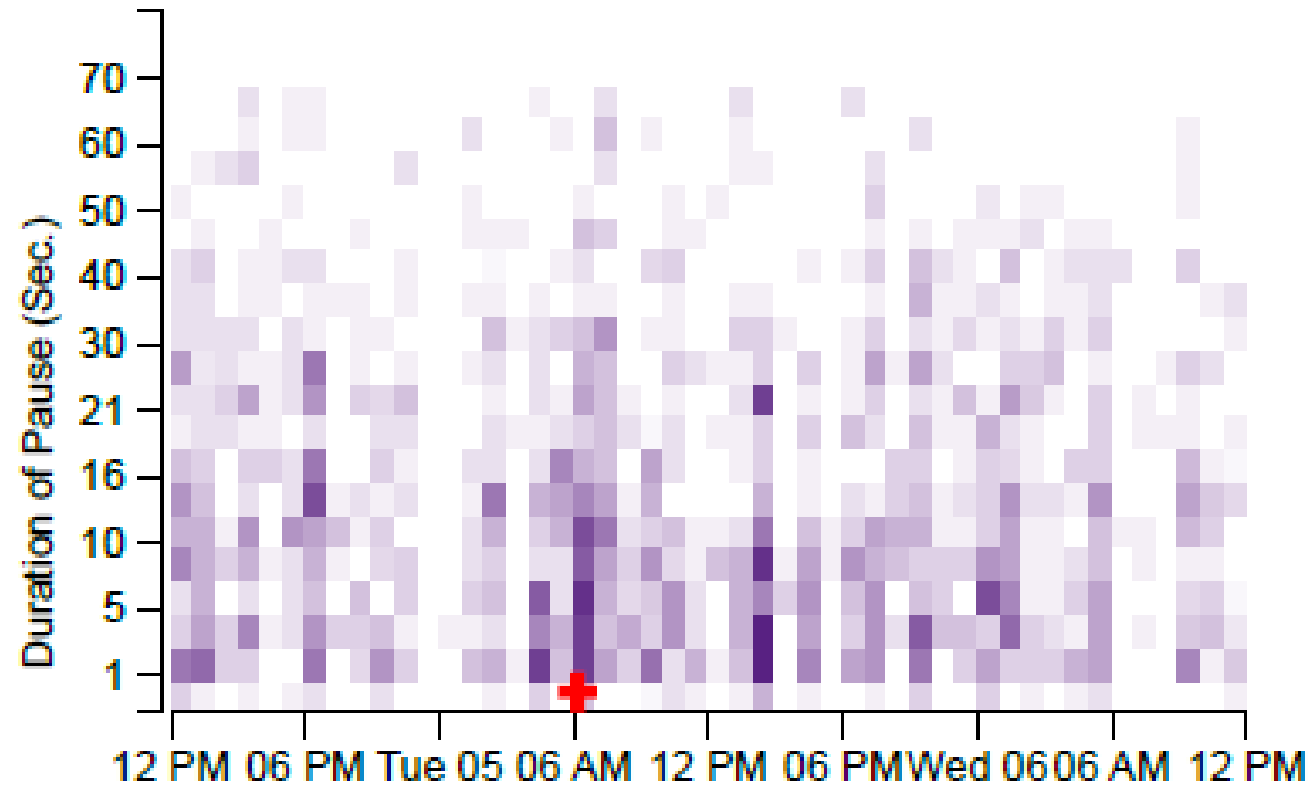
Frequency score generated for each vertical bins, and used to control opacity

Horizontal stacking for each hour of data

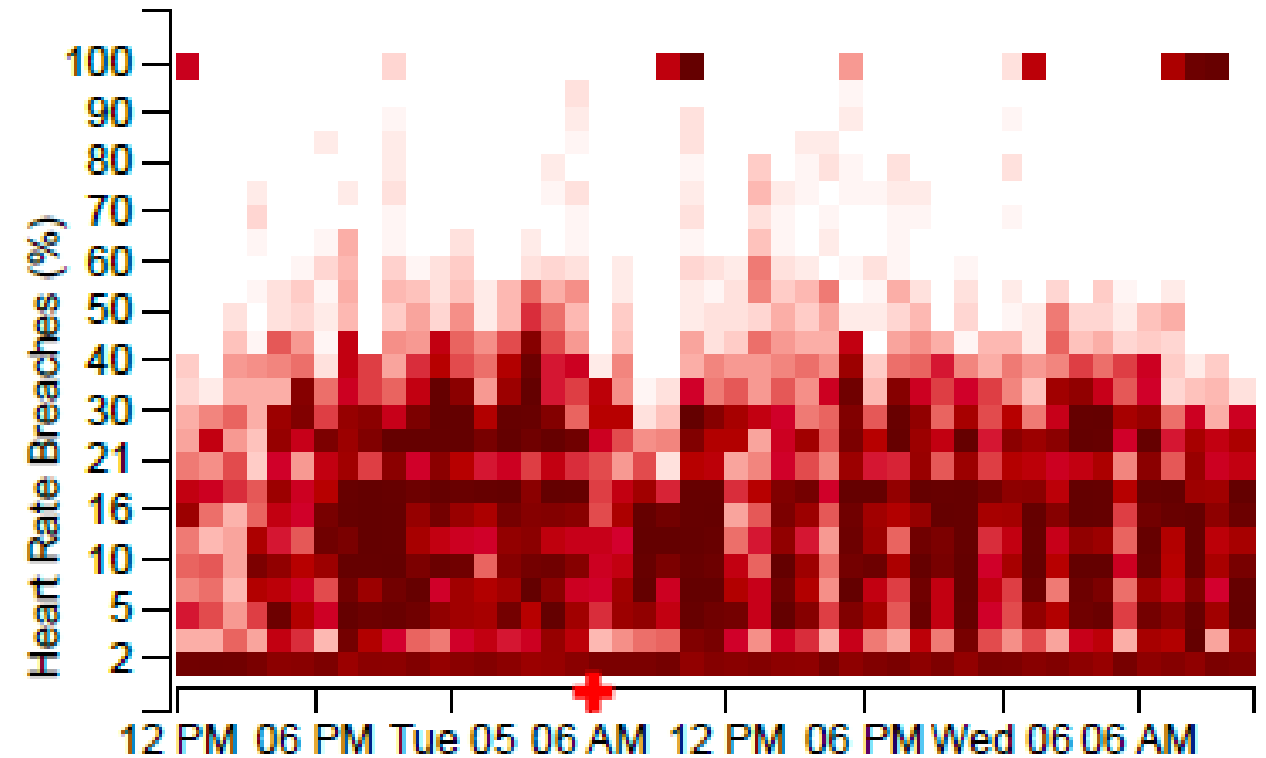
# KDE Histogram to Temporal Intensity Maps



# Temporal Intensity Maps

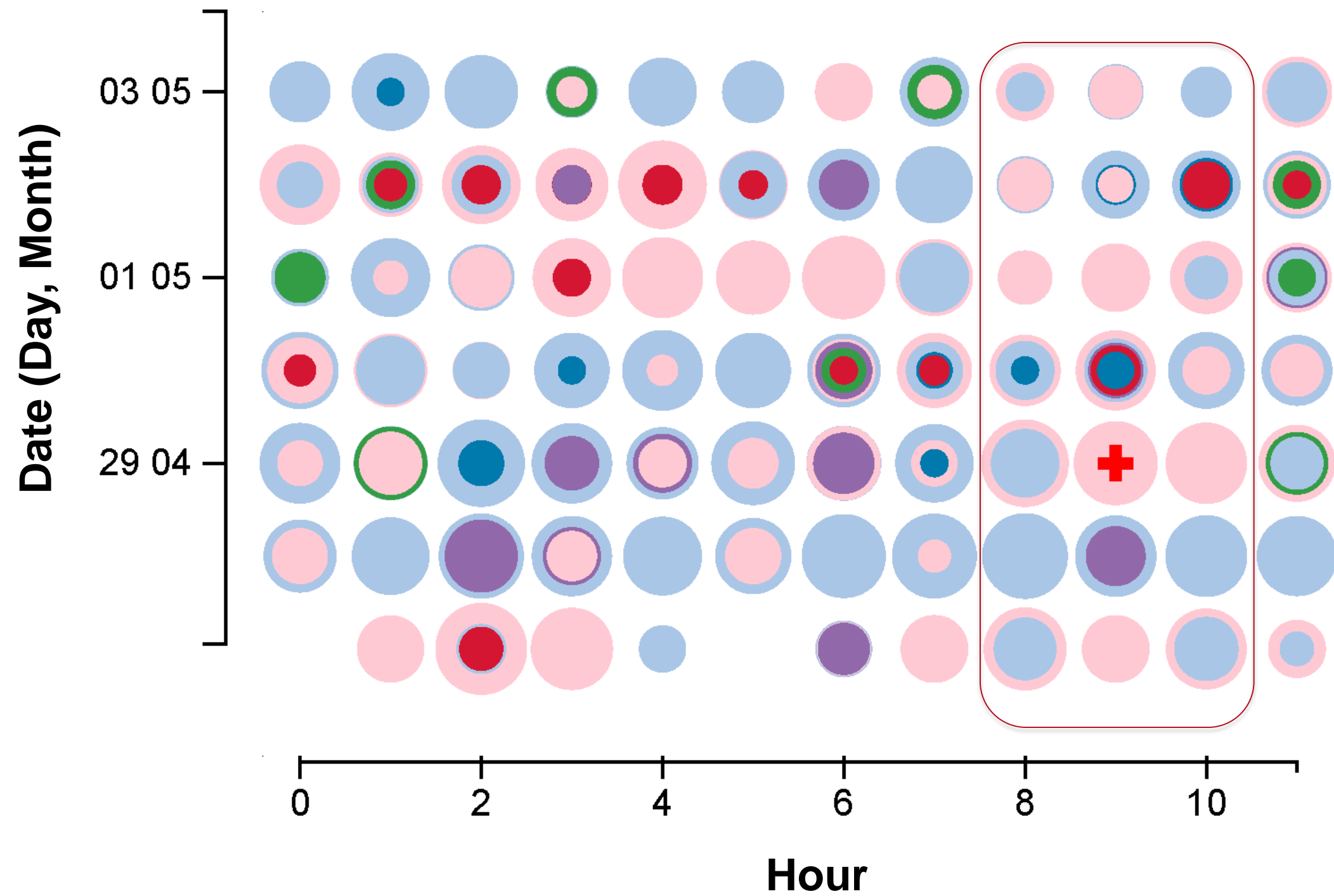


(a) Respiratory Pause



(b) Heart rate flux

Highlight salience in physiologic events<sup>4</sup>

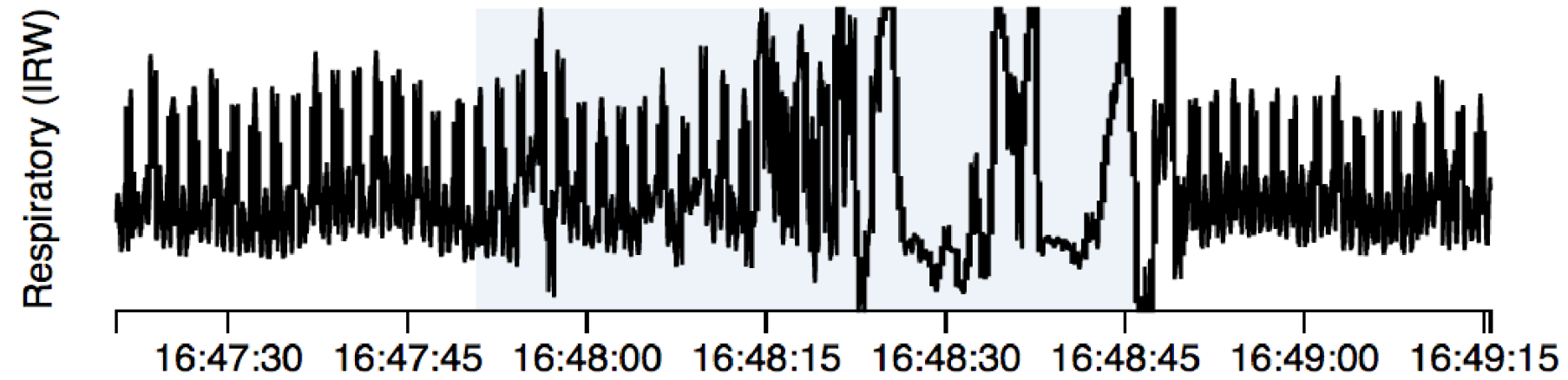




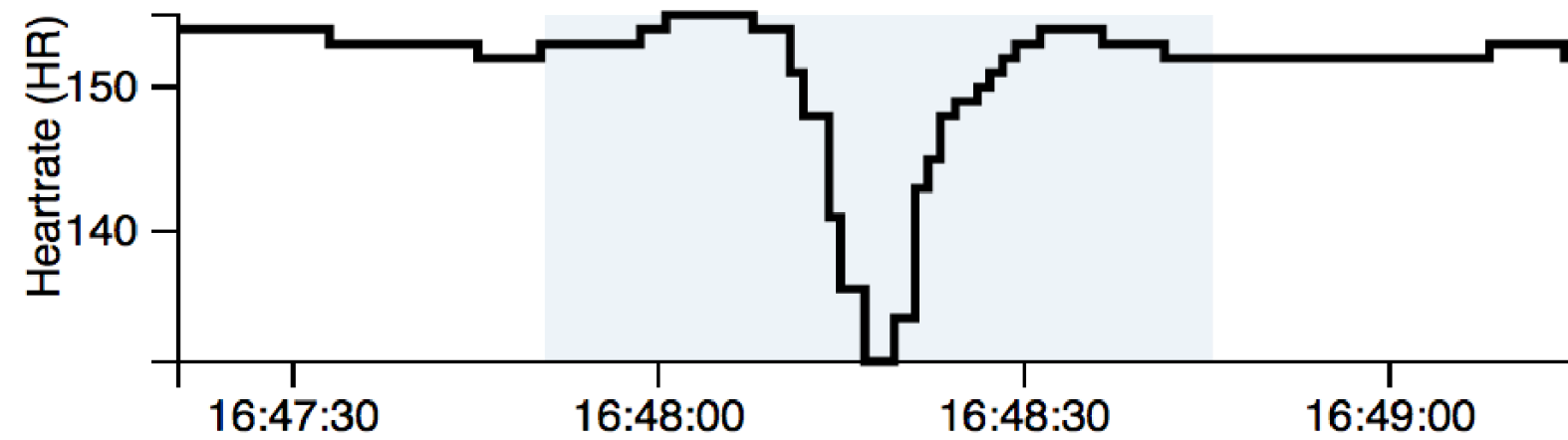


**Central** (56 Secs.) Time: July 25, 2010 04 PM

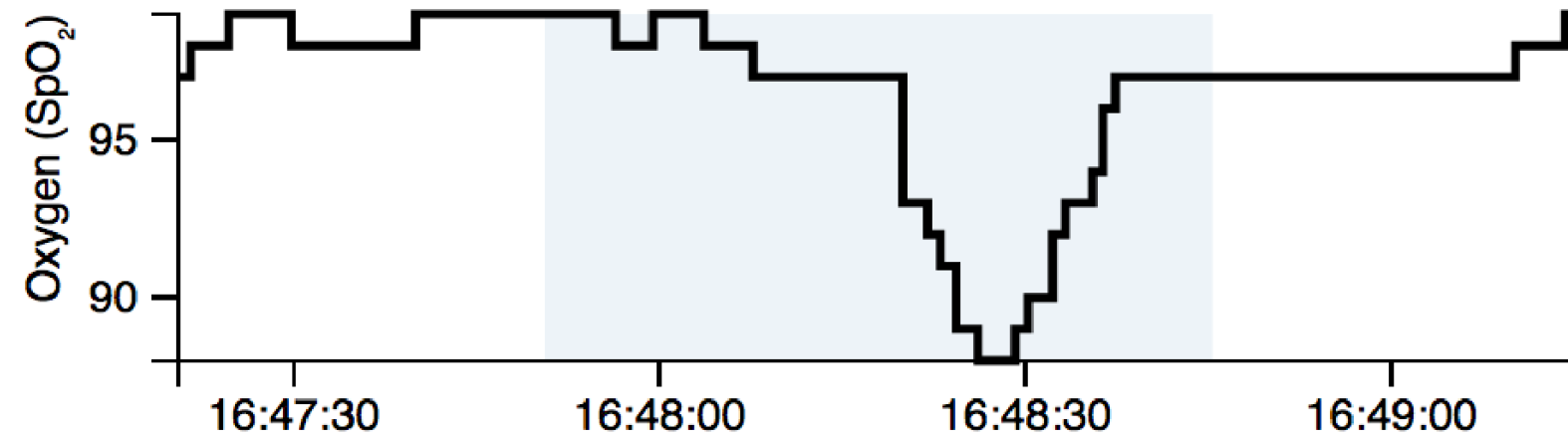
3



1

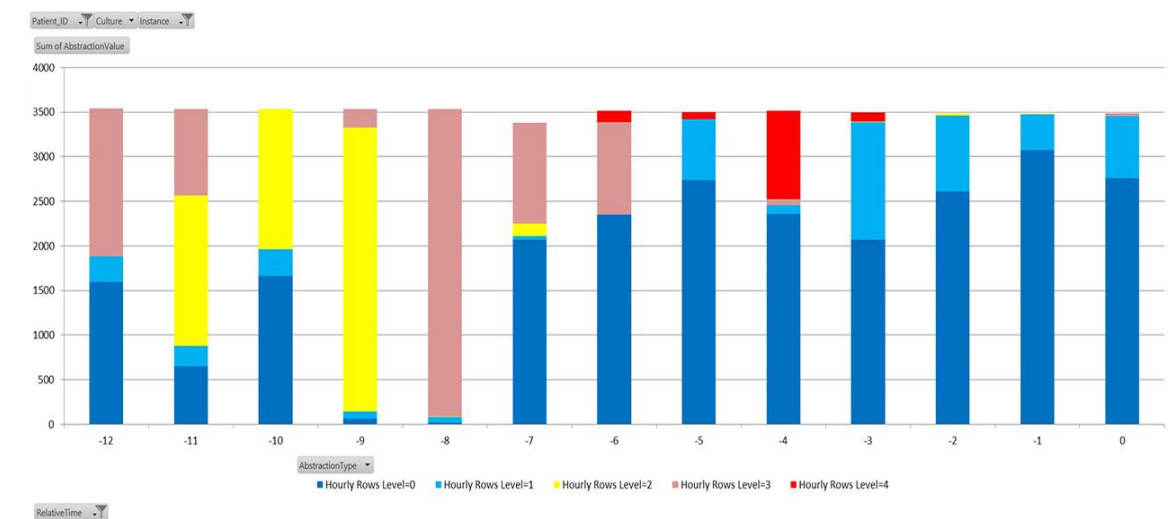


2



# Expert Evaluation

- Participants: 4 domain experts
- Tasks: Exploratory Comparisons
- Treatment: PhysioEx and Stacked Bar Display
- Data Collection: Observation, Semi-structured interviews



# Expert Evaluation

Generated *counter evidence* about the relationship between *neonatal spells and sepsis*.

## Subjective Feedback:

- Greater advantage to explain neonatal spells behaviour than the alternative.
  - “now inclined to invest a day in training a neonatal fellow so they would be better able to describe physiological behaviour of spells”
- SequenceGraph provided a unique ability to recognize patterns that commonly occur at various times of the day– novel insight generated.
- Raw Data View closed the loop.

## Limitations:

- Tested PhysioEx with four domain experts.
- Results extend to a single tertiary teaching hospital in North America.
- Did not integrate clinical contextual data (nursing notes, dx histories).

## Future Work:

- Develop an automated adaptive KDE algorithm to automate bandwidth and threshold selections.
- Evaluate PhysioEx in other case studies involving larger participant groups.



# Take home message

- Interpreting non stationary and heavy-tailed waveform data streams is an open challenge.
- One method is to use adaptive nonparametric models like KDE to expose density.
- The Temporal Intensity Map was more descriptive than stacked bar.
- ‘Closing the loop’ a factor when novel tools introduced.
- PhysioEx is a step towards addressing these problems.

# Thank you!

## Funding Support:



## Acknowledgements:

*Special thanks to our  
anonymous clinical experts!*

## Contacts:



**@rkamaleswaran**



**linkedin.com/in/rkamaleswaran**

# Temporal Intensity Maps (construction)

