

# Vulnerable Populations at Georgia Tech: Psychometric Disparities and Comparative Mental Health Resources



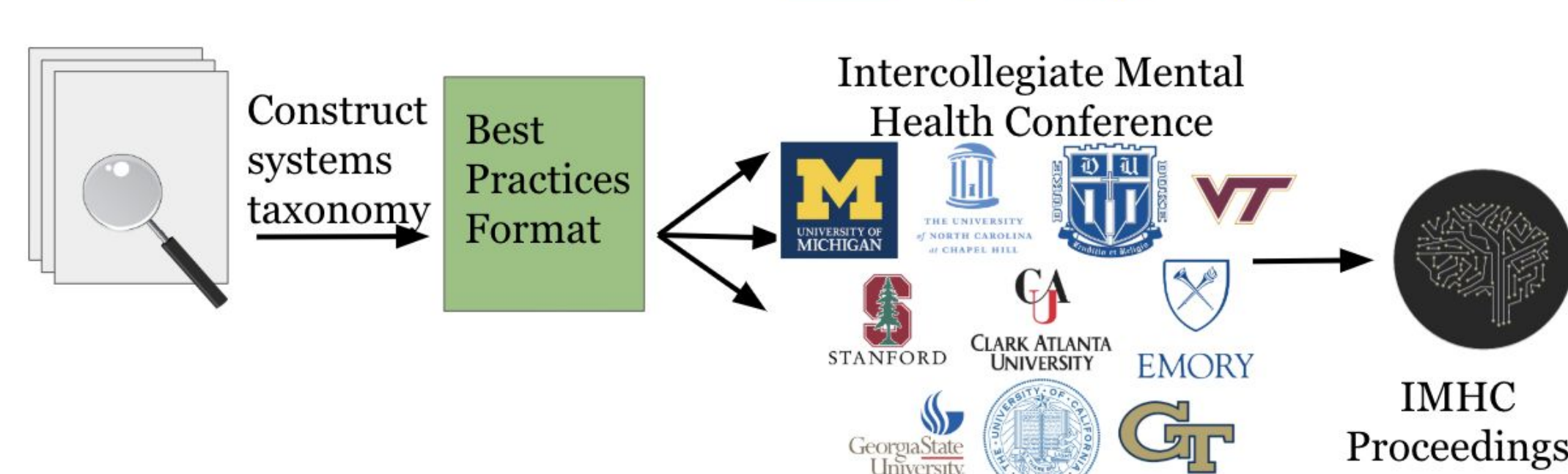
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## Abstract

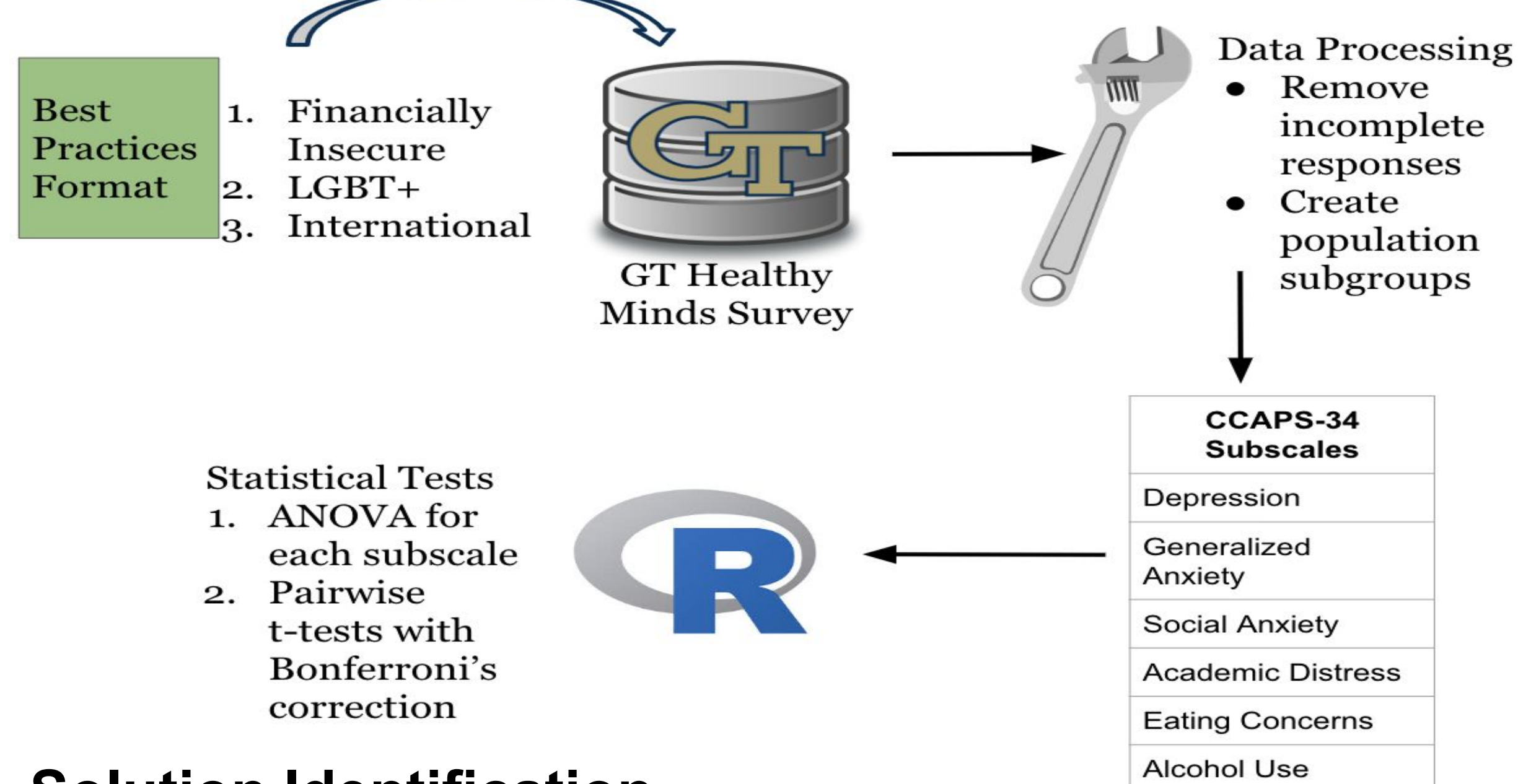
Rates of mental illness have steadily risen at college campuses in recent years. While this phenomena has been well-characterized at a population-scale, few analyses have assessed mental health disparities among college subpopulations. Using the 2017 Georgia Tech Healthy Minds Survey and CCAPS-34, we use CCAPS-34 subscales to characterize vulnerable populations by statistical psychometric disparities. We found that LGBT+ and financially insecure individuals in particular experience disproportionate symptoms of mental illness. We use this quantitative evidence and qualitative data from the Intercollegiate Mental Health Conference to establish \$300,000 in grants for vulnerable populations through the Mental Health Joint Allocations Committee. Findings have implications for research, practice, and policy.

## Pipeline

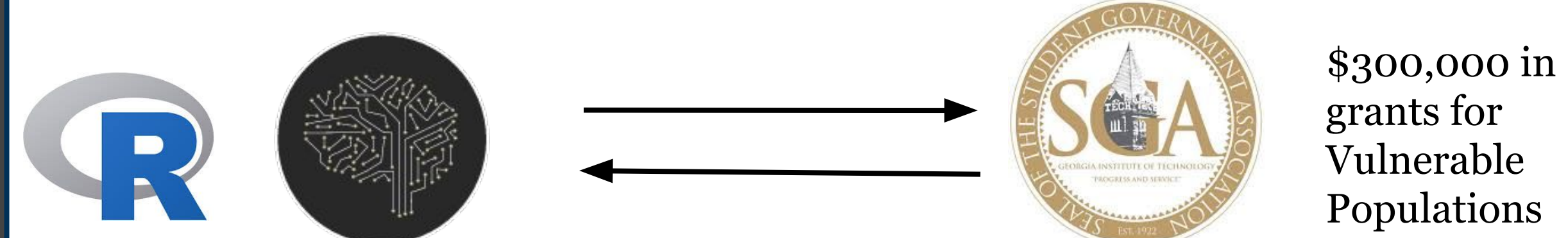
### 1. Qualitative Analysis



### 2. Quantitative Analysis



### 3. Solution Identification



## Psychometric Disparities

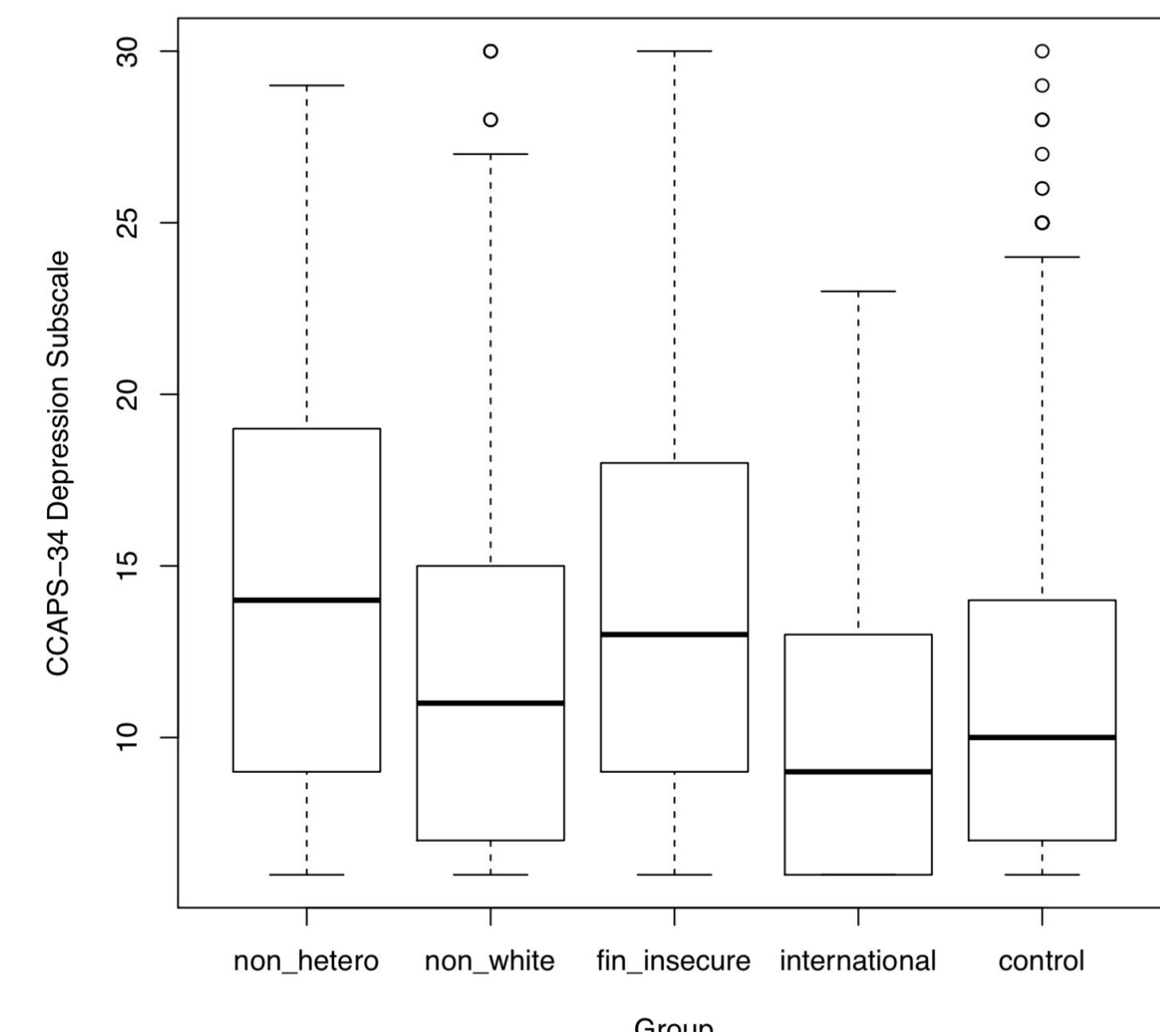


Figure 1: CCAPS-34 depression subscale score distribution by group

### Significant Differences\*:

- Non-heterosexual (10.65%)
- Non-white (1.86%)
- Financially insecure (9.10%)

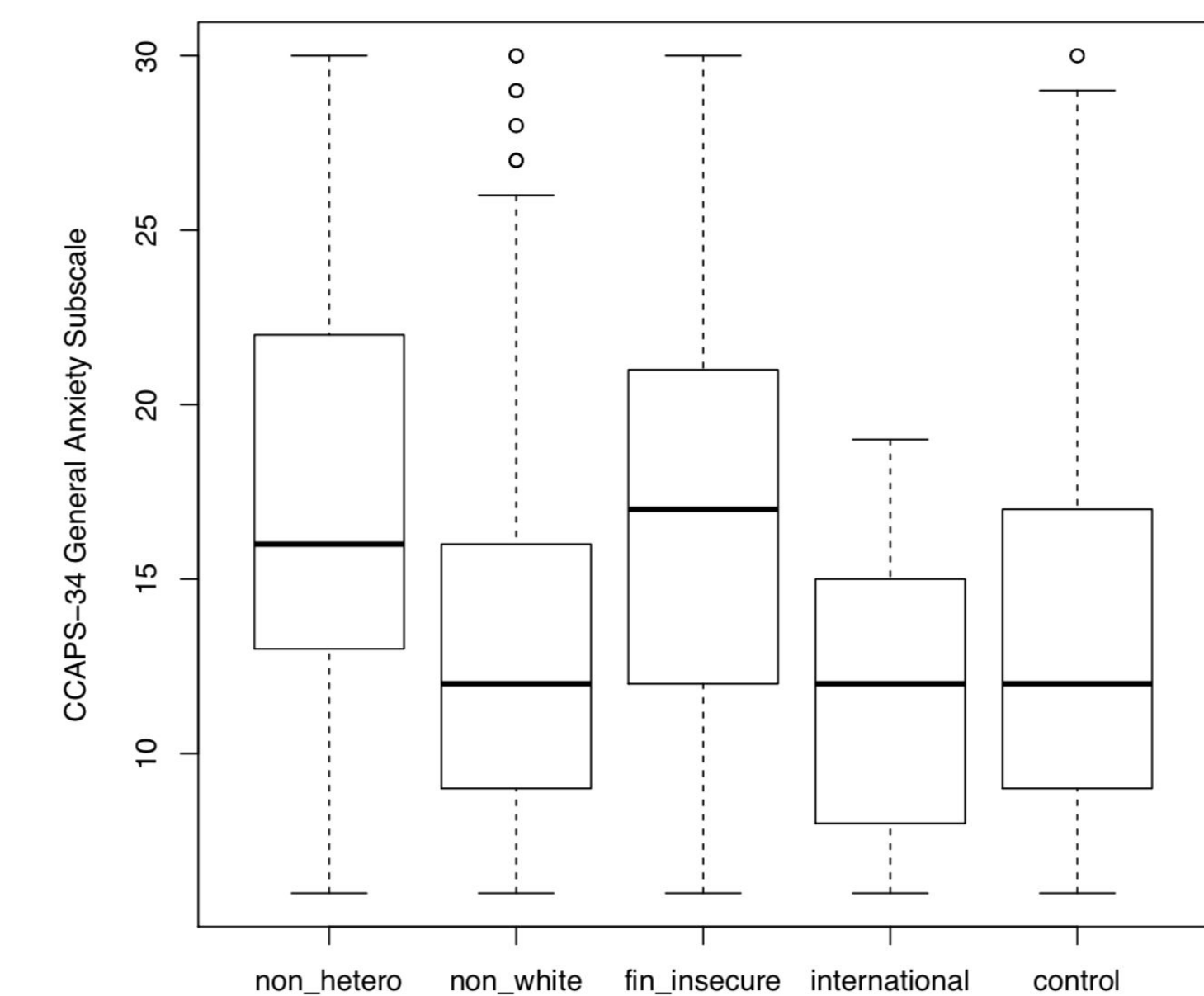


Figure 2: CCAPS-34 anxiety subscale score distribution by group

### Significant Differences\*:

- Non-heterosexual (12.06%)
- Financially insecure (10.60%)

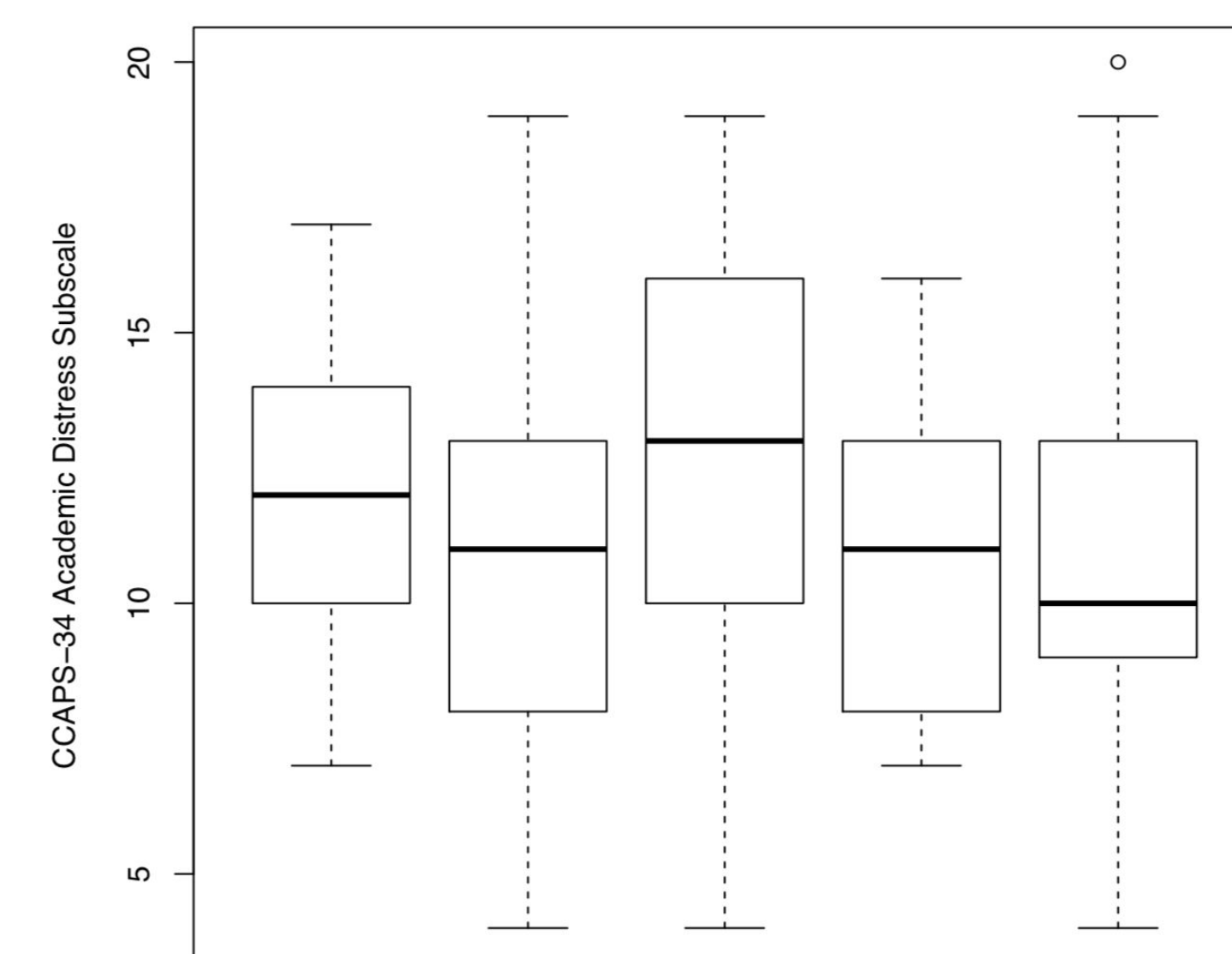


Figure 3: CCAPS-34 academic distress subscale score distribution by group

### Significant Differences\*:

- Non-heterosexual (4.88%)
- Financially insecure (9.17%)

\*Significance as ( $p < 0.05$ ) after Bonferroni correction

## Comparative Mental Health Resources

1. Students create guides for financially insecure peers
  - a. UMich, UCLA, Virginia Tech
2. Large peer support group organizations have subgroups for LGBT+ students
  - a. UMich, Stanford
3. Micro grants retain thousands of financially insecure students
  - a. Georgia State University
4. Lack of common methodology to assess program and policy efficacy
  - a. All attendees

## Conclusion and Discussion

- At Georgia Tech, LGBT+ and financially insecure students score significantly higher on CCAPS-34 subscales.
- Georgia Tech lacks multiple resources for financially insecure and LGBT+ students compared to peer institutions
- Standardized metrics of success do not exist in college mental health systems

## Acknowledgements

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## References

1. Spencer, Collin. (2019). Proceedings of the 2019 Intercollegiate Mental Health Conference.
2. Lipson, S.K. et. al. (2018). Increased Rates of Mental Health Service Utilization by U.S. College Students: 10-Year Population-Level Trends (2007-2017). *Psychiatric Services*, 70(1).
3. World Health Organization. (2005). World Health Organization Assessment Instrument for Mental Health Systems.