

# The role of mentorship within university accelerators

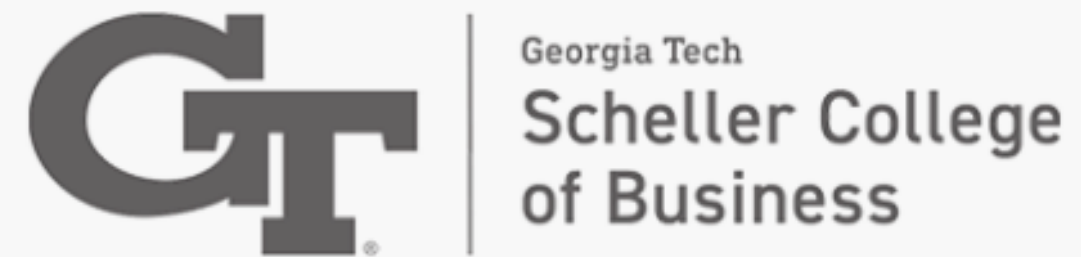
Amir Sariri  
Purdue University

# Accelerators Provide a Variety of Service

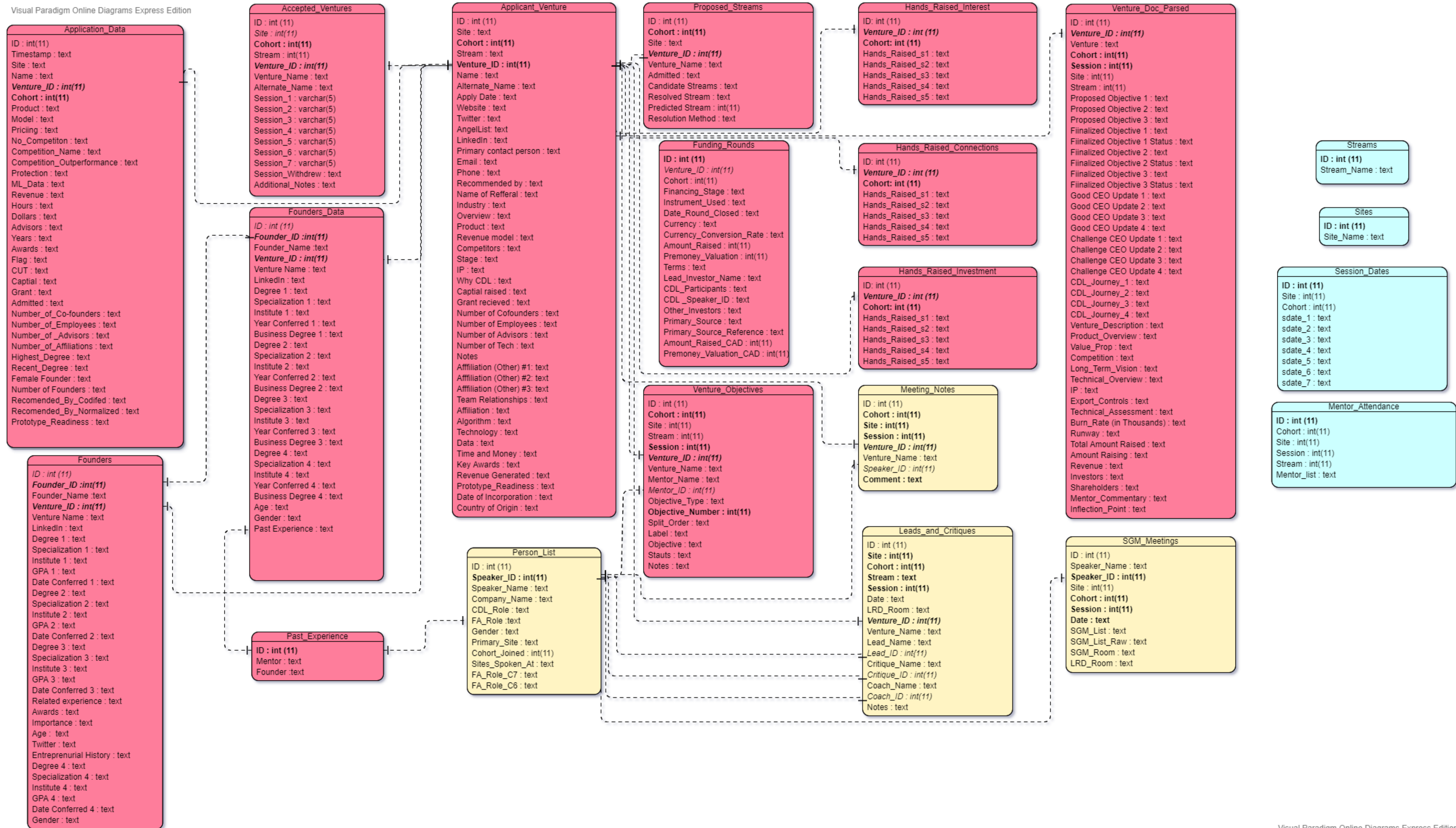
Cohen et al. (2019):

- 37% education
- 77% workspace
- **90% external mentors**

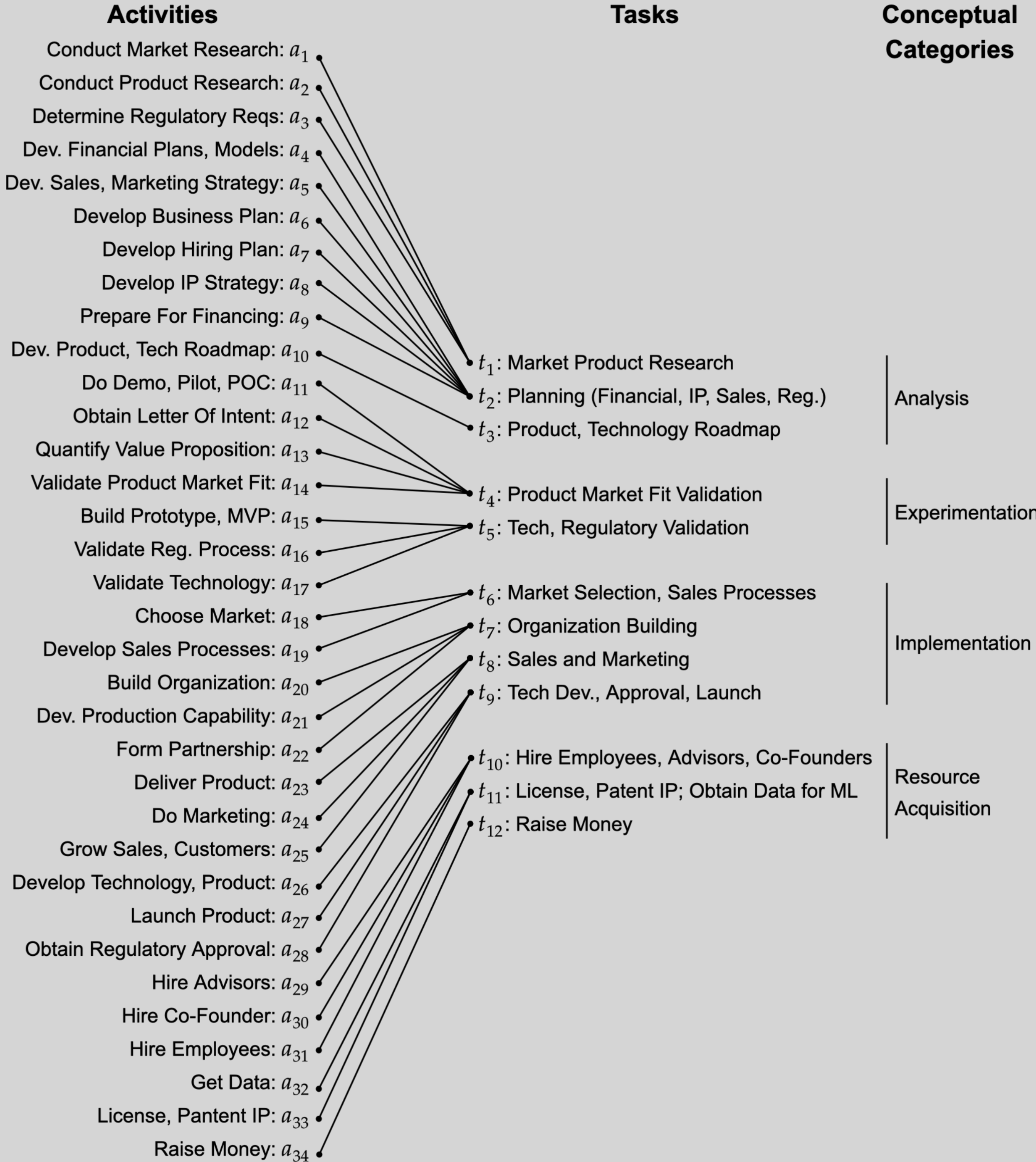
**MENTORSHIP**



# Relational Database

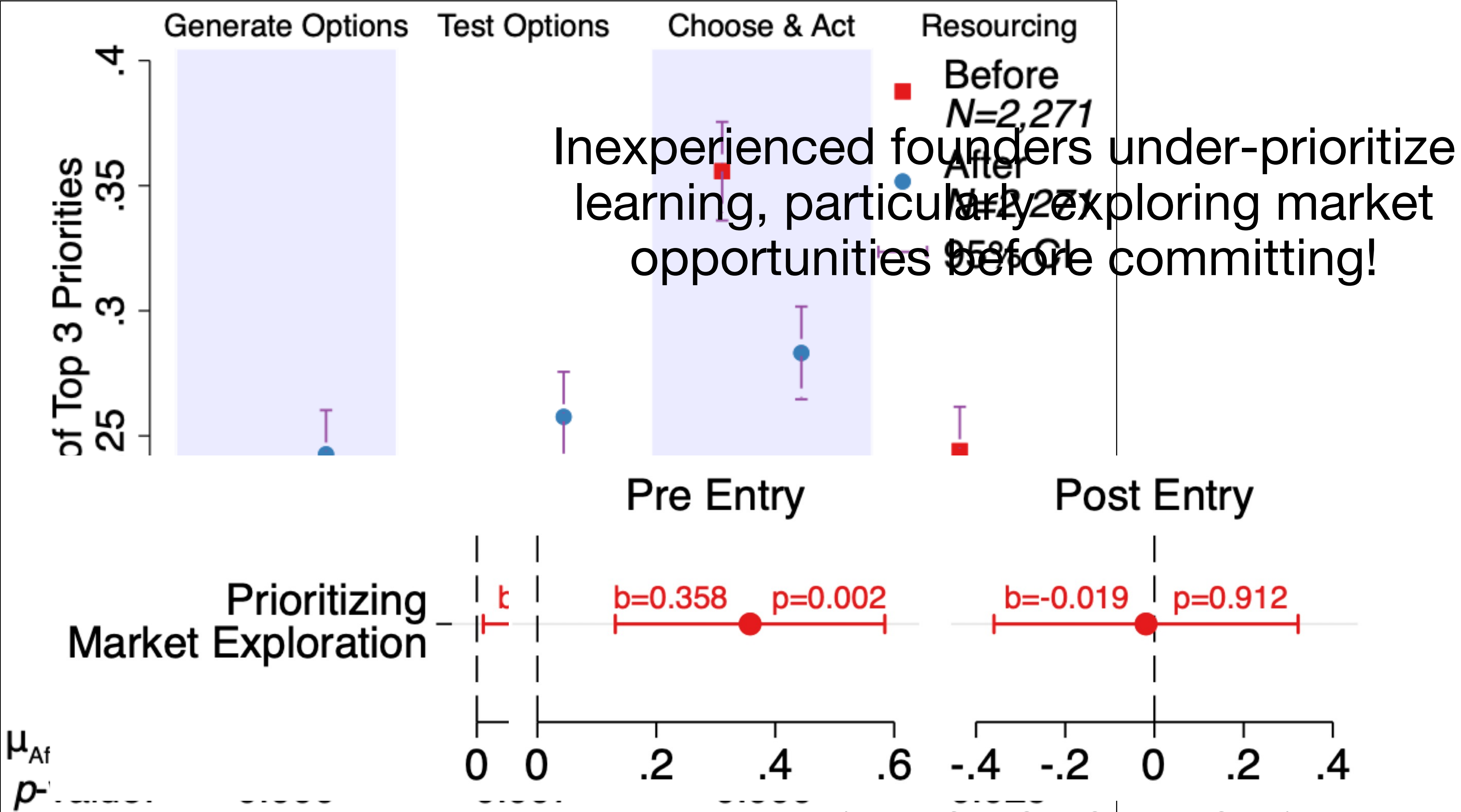


# Measuring Advice Typology of Early-Stage Startup Activities



# Learning vs. Doing

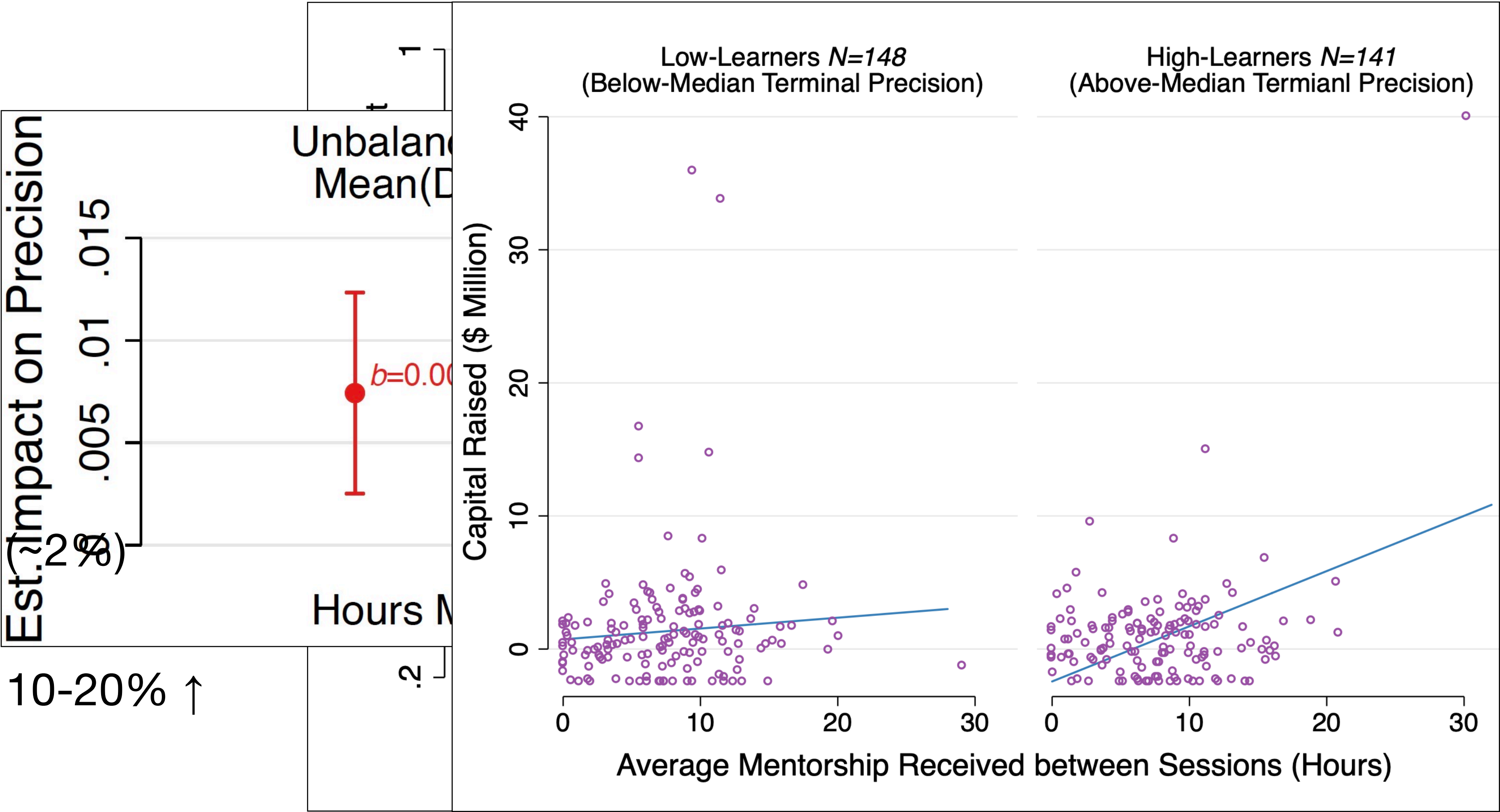
*How do founders prioritize their business tasks?*



# Do Founders Learn from Mentors?

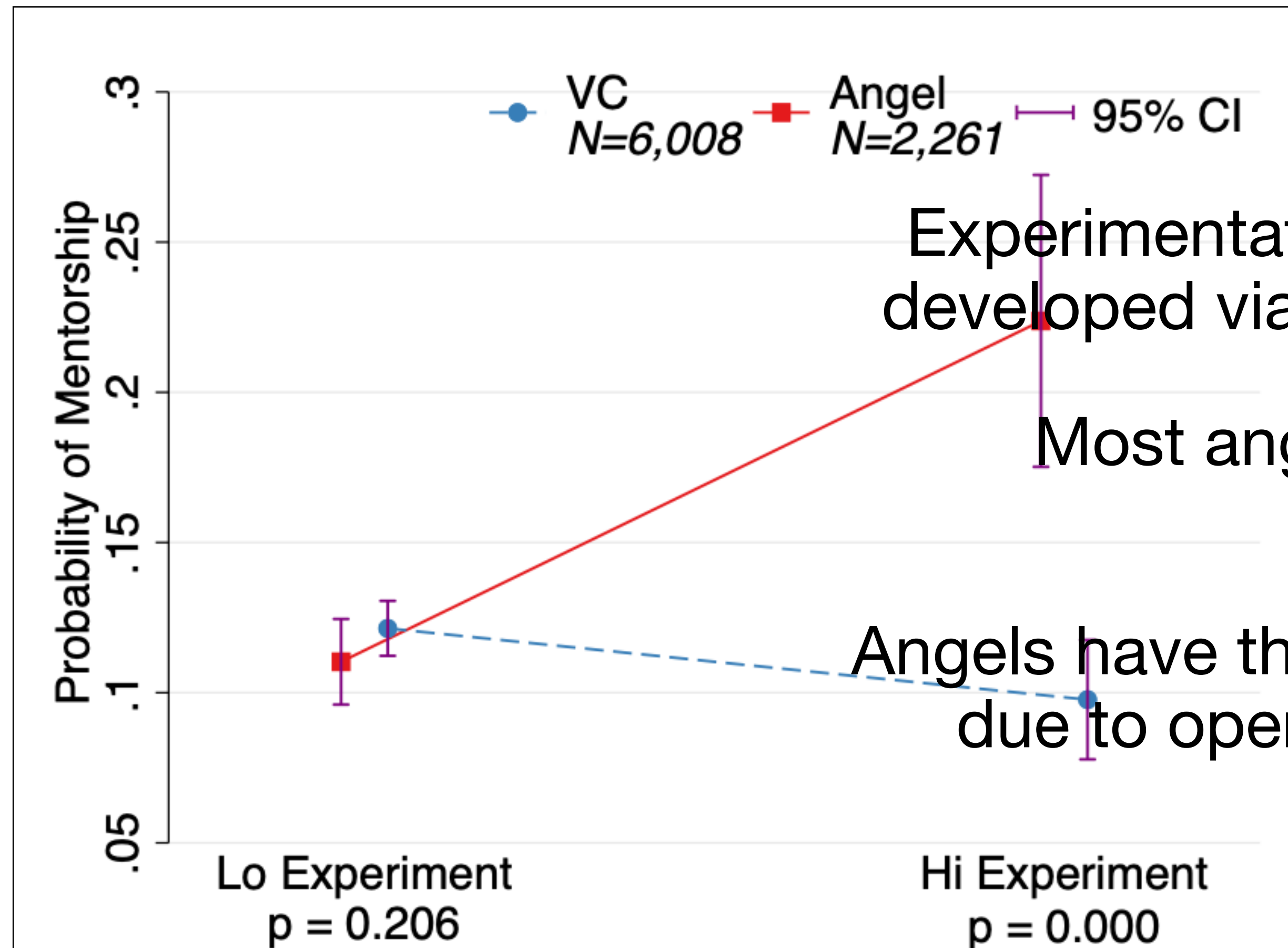
## Exploring the Causal Impact of Mentorship on Performance

- An extra hour  $\uparrow$  0.8pp precision
- Average entrepreneur 10-20%  $\uparrow$  precision



# Who Mentors are Matters!

**Mentors often from the local investor community**



Experimentation is a skill that is developed via learning-by-doing

Most angels are successful ex-entrepreneurs

Angels have the a skill advantage due to operational experience



**What problems do accelerators solve more efficiently than existing support mechanisms?**

# Amir Sariri

[asaririk@gmail.com](mailto:asaririk@gmail.com)

@AmirSariri