



Designing Machine Learning Processes For Equitable Health Systems

Dr. Marzyeh Ghassemi

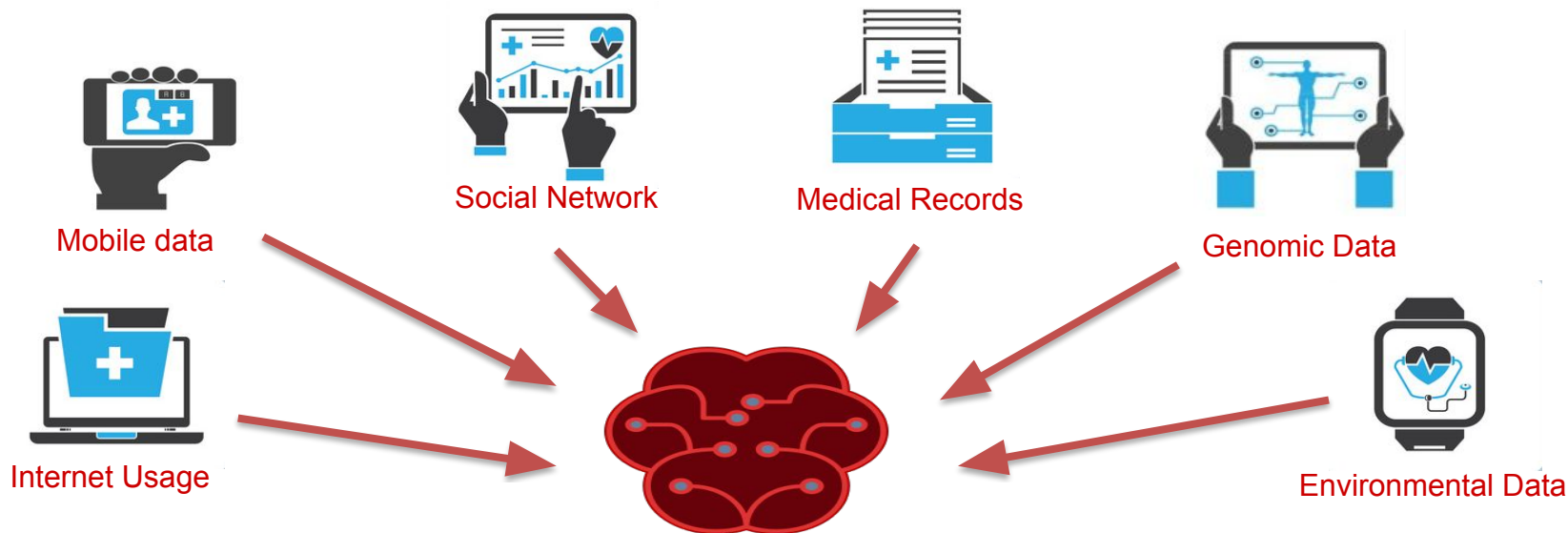
MIT IMES/EECS.CSAIL

CIFAR AI Chair, Azrieli Global Scholar, JCLinic



Embodied Data Is A Powerful **Good**

- Robust, private, fair algorithms require **diverse** datasets for **research** use.
- For **AI** to improve science and address medical harm, we need **data**.



Healthy Machine Learning in Health



what **models** are
healthy?



what **healthcare** is
healthy?



what **behaviors** are
healthy?

Creating actionable insights in human health.

Improving Treatment Choices With Data + Learning



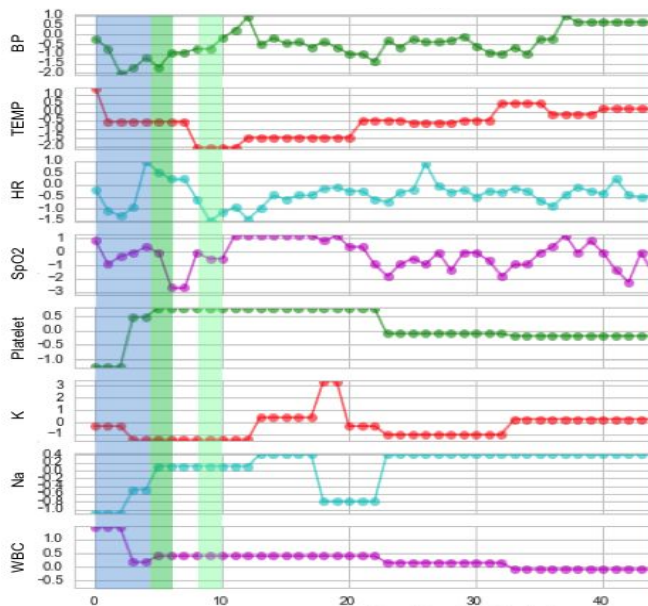
1) Sumana is having **trouble breathing!**

Clinical Intervention Prediction and Understanding Using Deep Networks. MLHC 2017



Problem: Hospital Decision-Making / Care Planning

Observe Patient Data

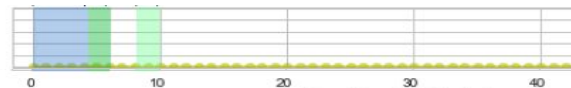


?

“Real-time” Prediction

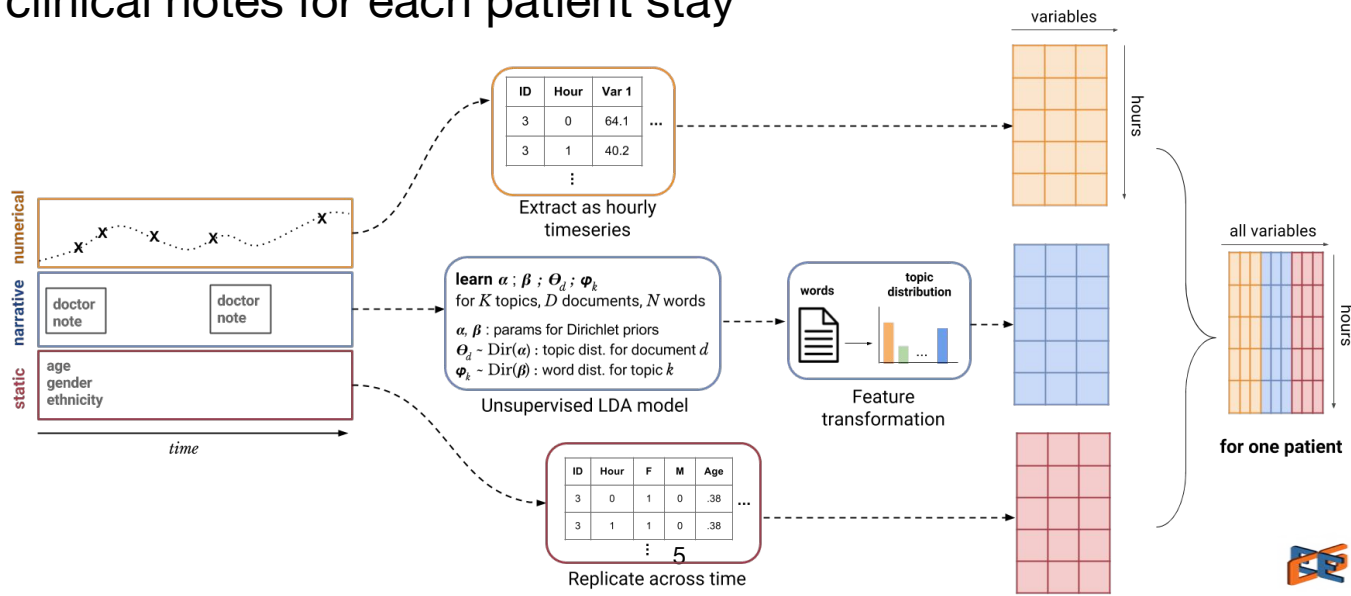
Of {Drug/Mortality/Condition}

By Gap Time

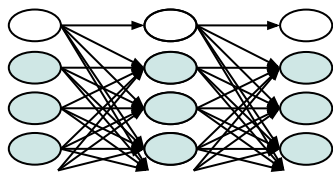


Predicting **Interventions** In Intensive Care Units

- 34,148 ICU patients from MIMIC-III
 - 5 static variables (gender, age, etc.)
 - 29 time-varying vitals and labs (oxygen saturation, lactate, etc.)
- All clinical notes for each patient stay



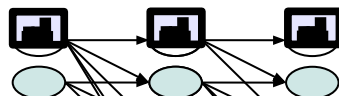
Many Interventions + Ways to **Learn**



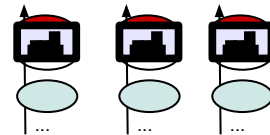
Learn model parameters over patients with variational EM.

SSAM

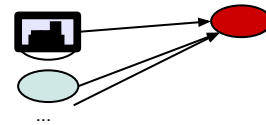
[Ghassemi, Doshi-Velez. AMIA CRI 2017.](#)



Infer hourly distribution over hidden states with HMM DP (fwd alg.).



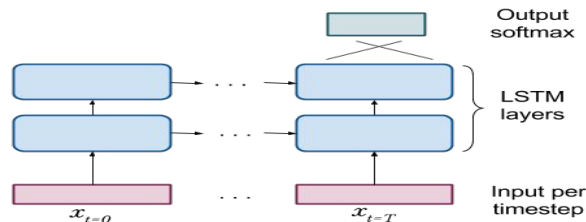
Logistic regression (with label-balanced cost function)



Predict onset in advance

LSTM

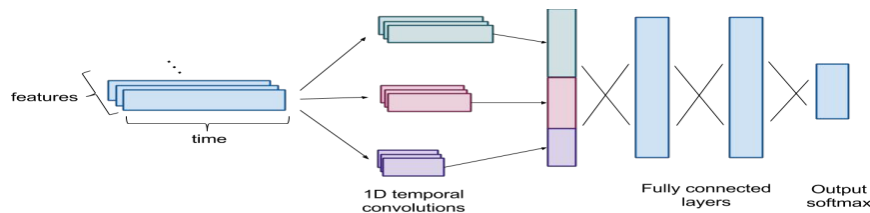
Suresh, ..., [Ghassemi](#). JMLR/MLHC 2017.



2 Layer/512 node LSTM with sequential hourly data; at end of window, use the final hidden state to predict output.

CNN

Suresh, ..., [Ghassemi](#). JMLR/MLHC 2017.



CNN for temporal convolutions at 3/4/5 hours, max-pool, combine the outputs, and run through 2 fully connected layers for prediction.

Improved Representation Help NN Get **SOTA**

Area-under-ROC

Task	Model	Intervention Type				
		VENT	NI-VENT	VASO	COL BOL	CRYS BOL
Onset AUC	Baseline	0.60	0.66	0.43	0.65	0.67
	LSTM Raw	0.61	0.75	0.77	0.52	0.70
	LSTM Words	0.75	0.76	0.76	0.72	0.71
	CNN	0.62	0.73	0.77	0.70	0.69
Wean AUC	Baseline	0.83	0.71	0.74	-	-
	LSTM Raw	0.90	0.80	0.91	-	-
	LSTM Words	0.90	0.81	0.91	-	-
	CNN	0.91	0.80	0.91	-	-
Stay On AUC	Baseline	0.50	0.79	0.55	-	-
	LSTM Raw	0.96	0.86	0.96	-	-
	LSTM Words	0.97	0.86	0.95	-	-
	CNN	0.96	0.86	0.96	-	-
Stay Off AUC	Baseline	0.94	0.71	0.93	-	-
	LSTM Raw	0.95	0.86	0.96	-	-
	LSTM Words	0.97	0.86	0.95	-	-
	CNN	0.95	0.86	0.96	-	-
Macro AUC	Baseline	0.72	0.72	0.66	-	-
	LSTM Raw	0.86	0.82	0.90	-	-
	LSTM Words	0.90	0.82	0.89	-	-
	CNN	0.86	0.81	0.90	-	-

Representations with “**physiological words**” for missingness significantly **increased AUC** for interventions with the lowest proportion of examples.

Deep models perform well in general, but “**words**” are important for ventilation tasks.

Clinical **AI** Performs At or Above **Humans**

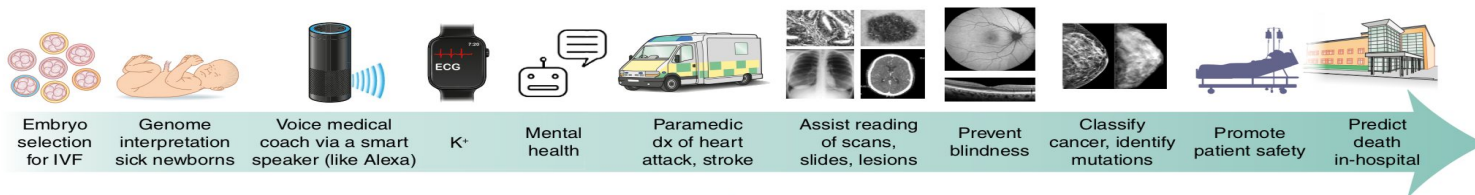


Table 3 | Selected reports of machine- and deep-learning algorithms to predict clinical outcomes and related parameters

Prediction	n	AUC	Publication (Reference number)
In-hospital mortality, unplanned readmission, prolonged LOS, final discharge diagnosis	216,221	0.93*0.75+0.85#	Rajkomar et al. ⁹⁶
All-cause 3-12 month mortality	221,284	0.93 ⁺	Avati et al. ⁹¹
Readmission	1,068	0.78	Shameer et al. ¹⁰⁶
Sepsis	230,936	0.67	Horng et al. ¹⁰²
Septic shock	16,234	0.83	Henry et al. ¹⁰³
Severe sepsis	203,000	0.85@	Culliton et al. ¹⁰⁴
<i>Clostridium difficile</i> infection	256,732	0.82++	Oh et al. ⁹³

Developing diseases	704,587	range	Miotto et al. ⁹⁷
Diagnosis	18,590	0.96	Yang et al. ⁹⁰
Dementia	76,367	0.91	Cleret de Langavant et al. ⁹²
Alzheimer's Disease (+ amyloid imaging)	273	0.91	Mathotaarachchi et al. ⁹⁸
Mortality after cancer chemotherapy	26,946	0.94	Elfiky et al. ⁹⁵
Disease onset for 133 conditions	298,000	range	Razavian et al. ¹⁰⁵
Suicide	5,543	0.84	Walsh et al. ⁸⁶
Delirium	18,223	0.68	Wong et al. ¹⁰⁰

LOS, length of stay; n, number of patients (training+ validation datasets). For AUC values:

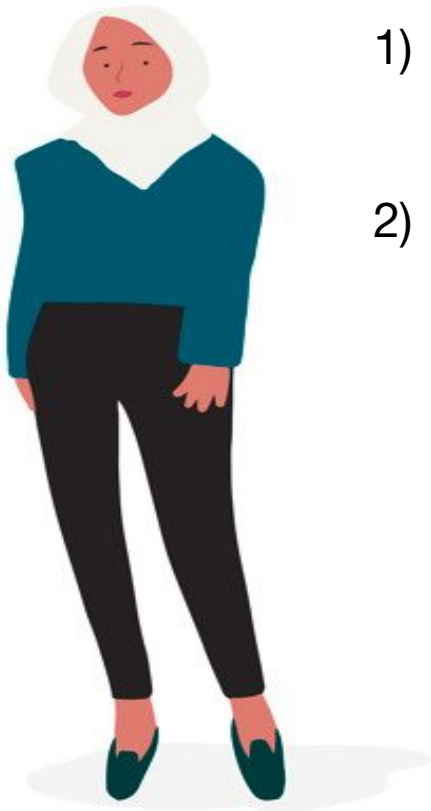
*, in-hospital mortality; +, unplanned readmission; #, prolonged LOS; ^, all patients; @, structured + unstructured data; ++, for University of Michigan site.

Source: High-performance medicine: the convergence of human and artificial intelligence Eric Topol, Nature Medicine Jan 2019

AI Learns From Human **Practice**



Improving Treatment Choices With Data + Learning



1) Sumana is having **trouble breathing!**

Clinical Intervention Prediction and Understanding Using Deep Networks. MLHC 2017



2) Do models work for people **like her?**

Medical imaging algorithms exacerbate biases in underdiagnosis. Nature Medicine 2021.

Can AI Help Reduce Disparities in General Medical and Mental Health Care? AMA Journal of Ethics 2019

Hurtful Words: Quantifying Biases in Clinical Contextual Word Embeddings. ACM CHIL 2020

Is Fairness Only Metric Deep? ICLR 2022

Write It Like You See It: Detectable Differences in Clinical Notes By Race.... AIES 2022

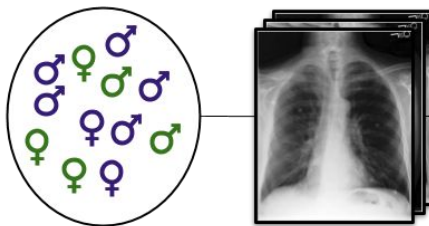
AI recognition of patient race in medical imaging: a modelling study. Lancet Digital Health 2022.

The Road to Explainability is Paved with Bias: Measuring the Fairness of Explanations. ACM FacCT 2022.



Model-based Chest X-Ray Diagnosis

A) Overall Population

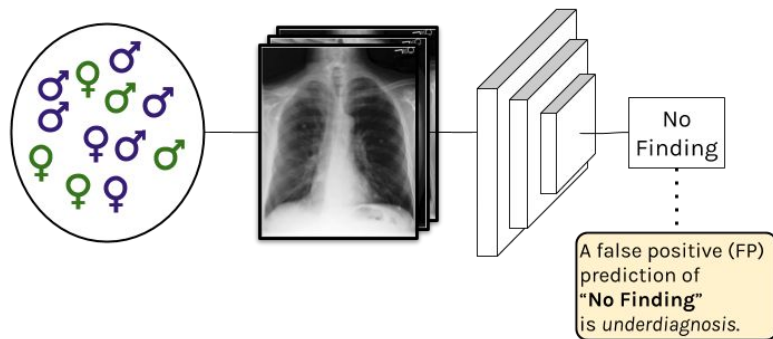


- Take 3 large **chest x-ray** datasets (707,626 images).

Model-based Chest X-Ray Diagnosis

A) Overall Population

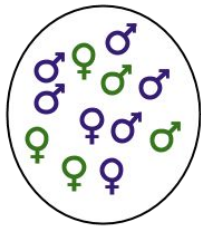
B) Model Training



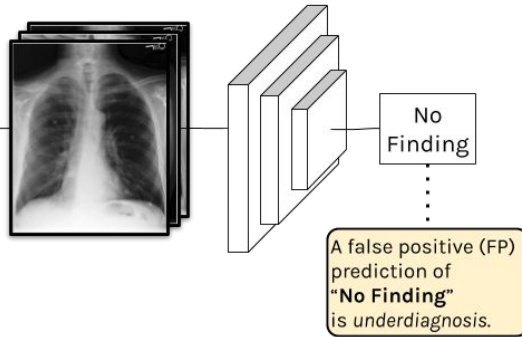
- Take 3 large **chest x-ray** datasets (707,626 images).
- Train a DenseNet to predict a **"No Finding"** label, e.g., model says patient is healthy.

Model-based Chest X-Ray Diagnosis

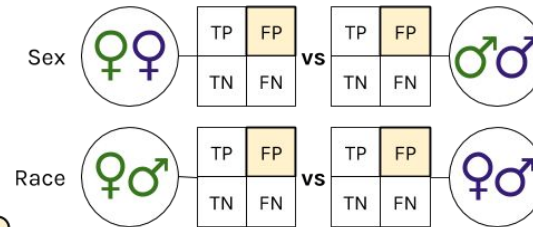
A) Overall Population



B) Model Training



C) Subpopulation FPR Comparisons



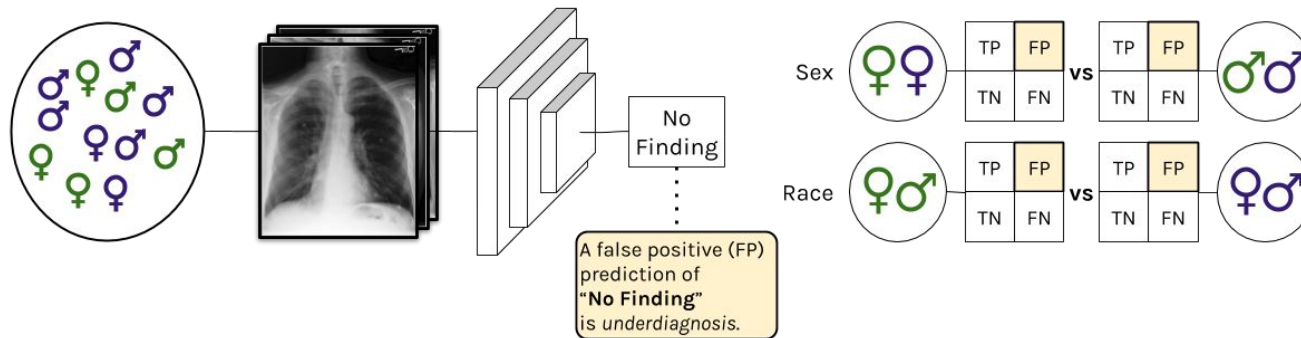
- Take 3 large **chest x-ray** datasets (707,626 images).
- Train a DenseNet to predict a “**No Finding**” label, e.g., model says patient is healthy.
- Compare false positive rate (FPR) in different subpopulations to examine model **underdiagnosis rates**.

Model-based Chest X-Ray Diagnosis

A) Overall Population

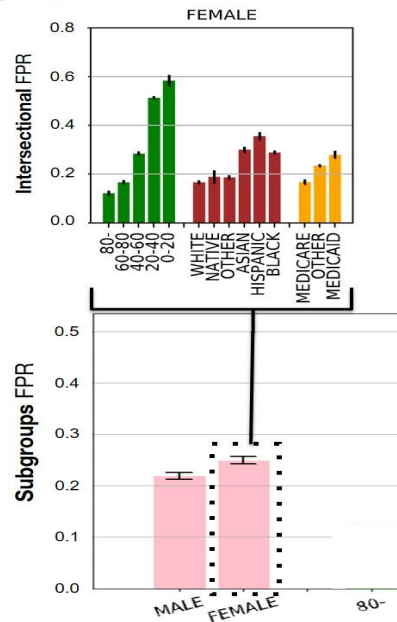
B) Model Training

C) Subpopulation FPR Comparisons



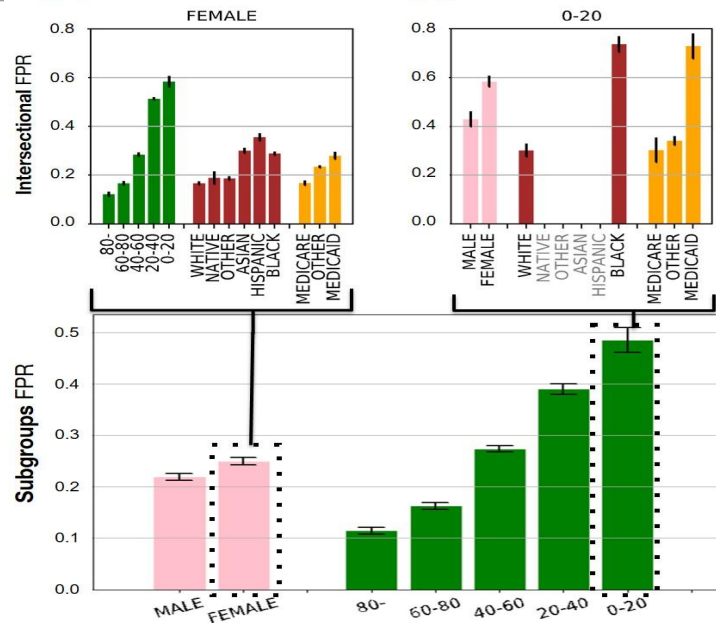
Higher model underdiagnosis rates on one **subpopulation**, such as **female patients**, would lead to a **higher rate** of **no treatment** for those patients if the model were **deployed**.

Automating CheXclusion With **EHR + ML**



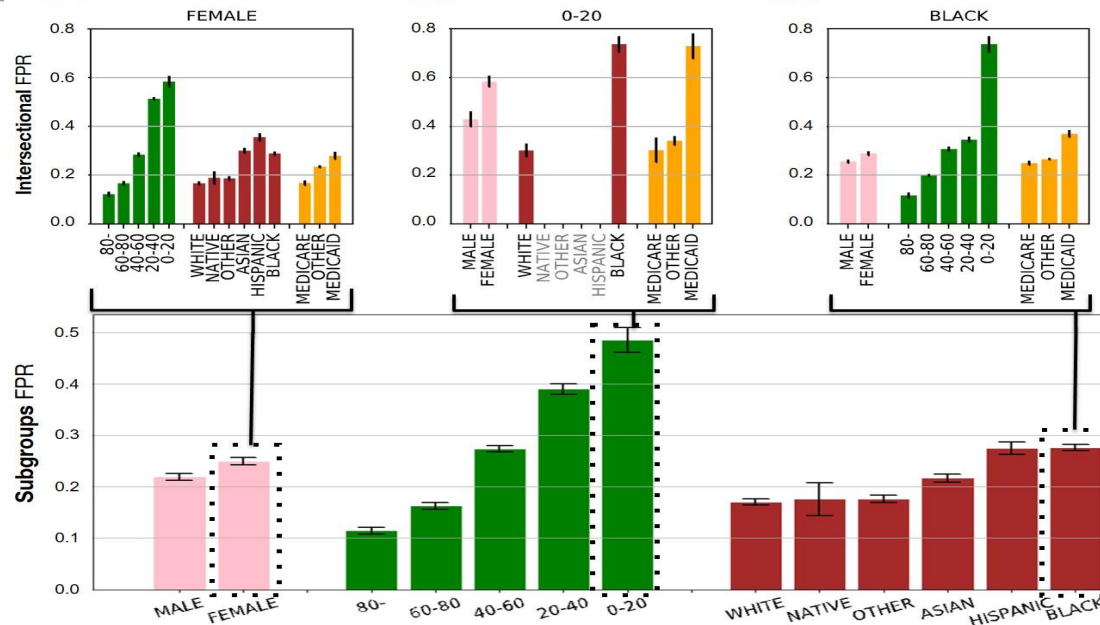
- Largest underdiagnosis rates in Female

Automating CheXclusion With **EHR + ML**



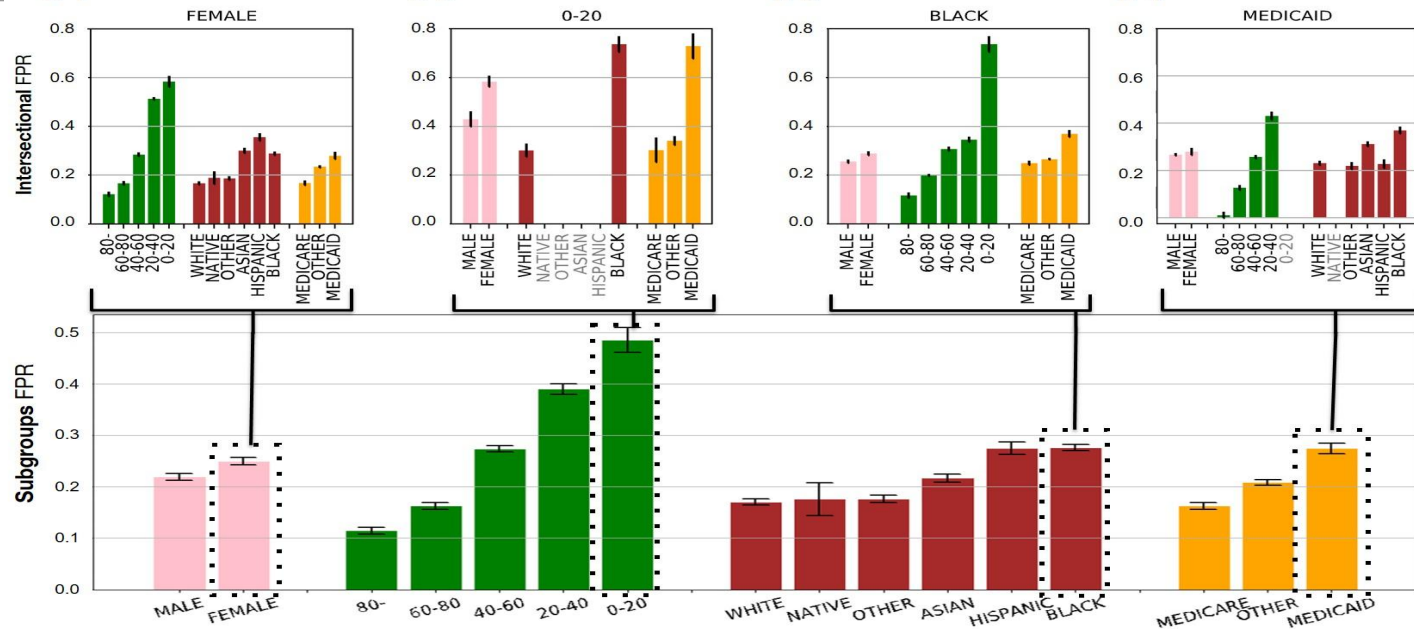
- Largest underdiagnosis rates in Female, 0-20

Automating CheXclusion With **EHR + ML**



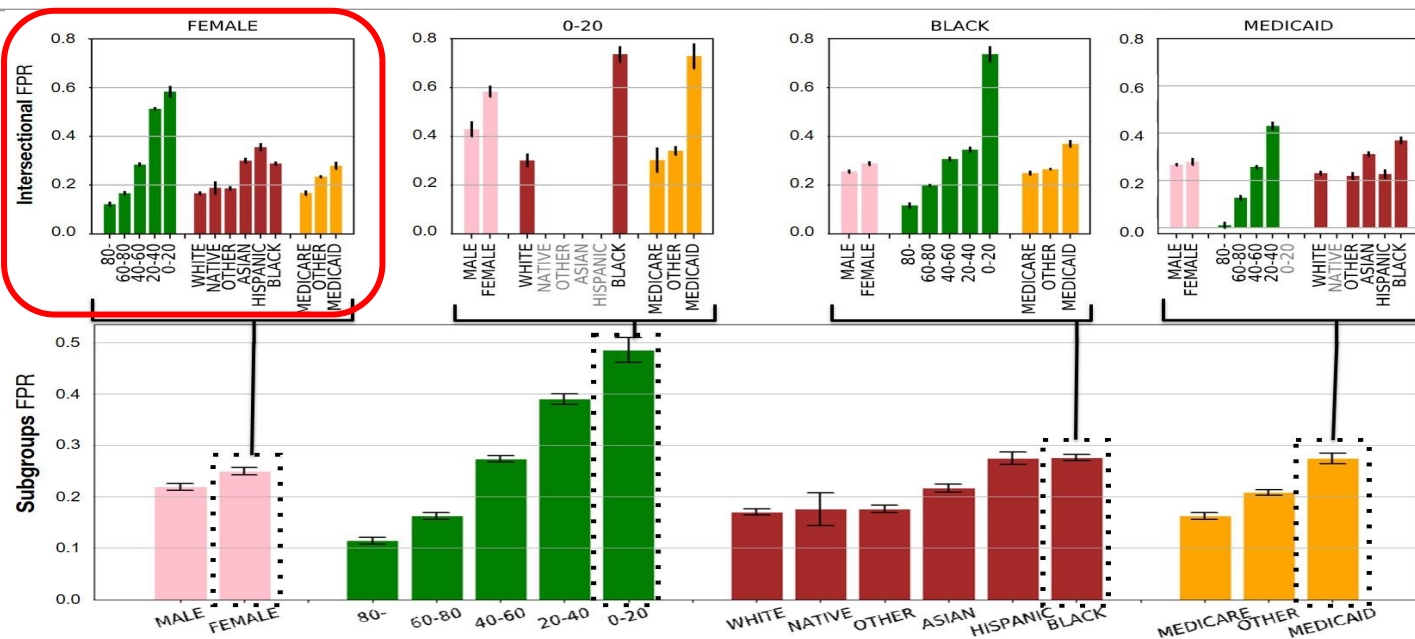
- Largest underdiagnosis rates in Female, 0-20, Black

Automating CheXclusion With **EHR + ML**



- Largest underdiagnosis rates in Female, 0-20, Black, and Medicaid insurance patients.

Automating CheXclusion With **EHR + ML**

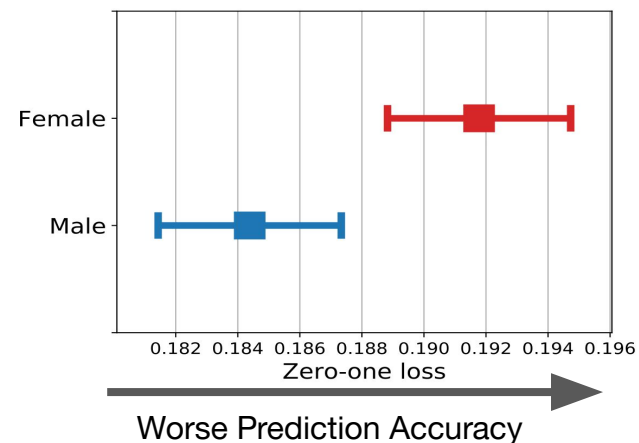
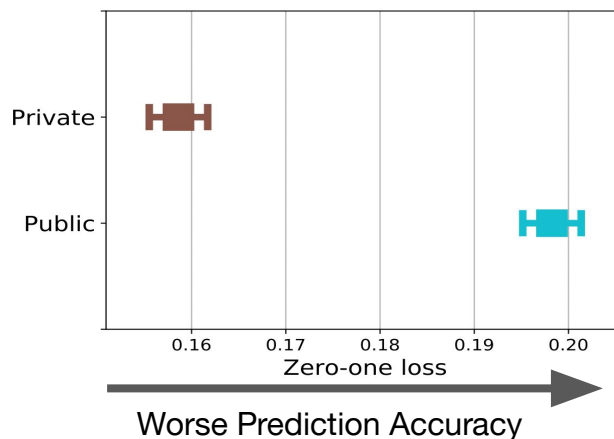
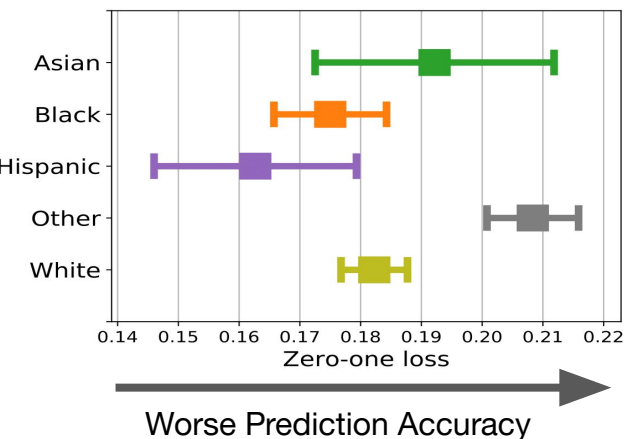


- **Intersectional** identities are often underdiagnosed even more heavily than the aggregate group, e.g., **Black or Hispanic female patients** are **underdiagnosed more** than White female patients.

[1] Seyyed-Kalantari, Zhang, Liu, McDermott, Chen, Ghassemi. "Medical imaging algorithms exacerbate biases in underdiagnosis." Nature Medicine 2021.

Auditing Fairness In Predictive Models?

- Significant differences in model accuracy for race, sex, and insurance type in **ICU notes** and insurance type in **psychiatric notes**.



[1] Chen, Szolovits, Ghassemi. "Can AI Help Reduce Disparities in General Medical and Mental Health Care?." *AMA journal of ethics* 21.2 (2019): 167-179.

Hurtful Words: Biases in Clinical Word Embeddings

Prompt: **[**RACE**] pt became belligerent and violent .
sent to [**TOKEN**] [**TOKEN**]**

Hurtful Words: Biases in Clinical Word Embeddings

Prompt: **[**RACE**]** pt became belligerent and violent .
sent to **[**TOKEN**]** **[**TOKEN**]**

SciBERT: **caucasian** pt became belligerent and violent .
sent to **hospital** .
white pt became belligerent and violent . sent
to **hospital** .

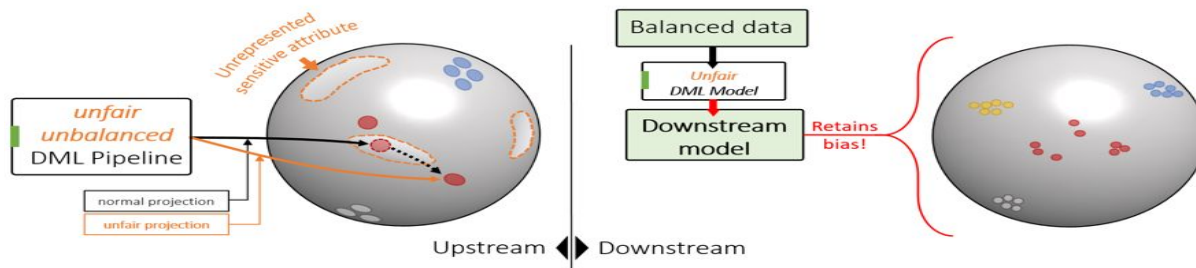
Hurtful Words: Biases in Clinical Word Embeddings

Prompt: **[**RACE**]** pt became belligerent and violent .
sent to **[**TOKEN**]** **[**TOKEN**]**

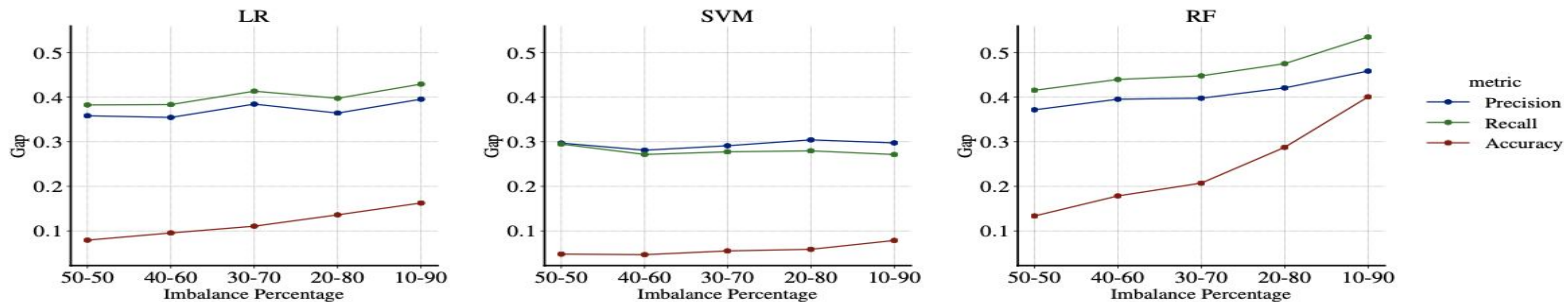
SciBERT: **caucasian** pt became belligerent and violent .
sent to **hospital** .
white pt became belligerent and violent . sent
to **hospital** .
african pt became belligerent and violent .
sent to **prison** .
african american pt became belligerent and
violent . sent to **prison** .
black pt became belligerent and violent . sent
to **prison** .

Balance **Downstream** Does Not Fix Latent Embedding **Bias**

- Bias in data causes **asymmetric** upstream **embeddings**.



- Biased embeddings **impact** downstream tasks, even with **rebalancing**.



Dullerud, Natalie, et al. "Is Fairness Only Metric Deep?" *ICLR 2022*.

Bias Is Part of the Clinical Landscape

This Issue Views 12,435 Citations 41 Altmetric 174

Viewpoint

August 11, 2015

Racial Bias in Health Care and Health Challenges and Opportunities

David R. Williams, PhD, MPH^{1,2}; Ronald Wyatt, MD, MHA³

[► Author Affiliations](#)

JAMA. 2015;314(6):555-556. doi:10.1001/jama.2015.9260

②

The Girl Who Cried Pain: A Bias Against Women in the Treatment of Pain

Diane E. Hoffmann and Anita J. Tarzian

J Palliat Med. 2013 Nov; 16(11): 1329–1334.

doi: [10.1089/jpm.2013.9468](https://doi.org/10.1089/jpm.2013.9468)

PMCID: PMC3822363

PMID: [24073685](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24073685/)

Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Palliative Care

[Kimberly S. Johnson](#), MD, MHS^{1,2}

[Author information](#) ► [Article notes](#) ► [Copyright and License information](#) ► [Disclaimer](#)

This article has been [cited by](#) other articles in PMC.

Am J Public Health. 2007 February; 97(2): 247–251.

doi: [10.2105/AJPH.2005.072975](https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2005.072975)

PMCID: PMC1781382

PMID: [17194867](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/17194867/)

The Black–White Disparity in Pregnancy-Related Mortality From 5 Conditions: Differences in Prevalence and Case-Fatality Rates

[Myra J. Tucker](#), BSN, MPH, [Cynthia J. Berg](#), MD, MPH, [William M. Callaghan](#), MD, MPH, and [Jason Hsia](#), PhD

[Author information](#) ► [Article notes](#) ► [Copyright and License information](#) ► [Disclaimer](#)

Obes Rev. 2015 Apr;16(4):319-26. doi: [10.1111/obr.12266](https://doi.org/10.1111/obr.12266). Epub 2015 Mar 5.

Impact of weight bias and stigma on quality of care and outcomes for patients with obesity.

[Phelan SM](#)¹, [Burgess DJ](#), [Yeazel MW](#), [Hellerstedt WL](#), [Griffin JM](#), [van Ryn M](#).

[+ Author information](#)

POP QUIZ!

Nursing Progress Note

NEURO: sedated with propofol gtt 85mcg/kg

RESP: remains intubated with IMV 12/750/5peep/5psv/40%fio2/

SRR 8-10, breath sounds coarse, O2 sat 98-100%.

GU: inc large amt foul smelling urine foley placed with UO ~50cc/hr,
dialysis to be initiated at 6pm

SKIN: sacral decub w-d dsg changes wound red beefy, small amt
bloody drainage, heel dsg w-d dsg changed no drainage

ACCESS: left EJ, right groin introducer, left rad aline

PLAN: dialysis this eve, wean extubate tomorrow, titrate up po meds
for hypertension

POP QUIZ!

Predictive of black patient

Predictive of white patient

Nursing Progress Note

NEURO: sedated with propofol gtt 85mcg/kg

RESP: remains intubated with IMV 12/750/5peep/5psv/40%fio2/

SRR 8-10, breath sounds coarse, O2 sat 98-100%.

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bloody drainage, heel dsq w-d dsq changed no drainage

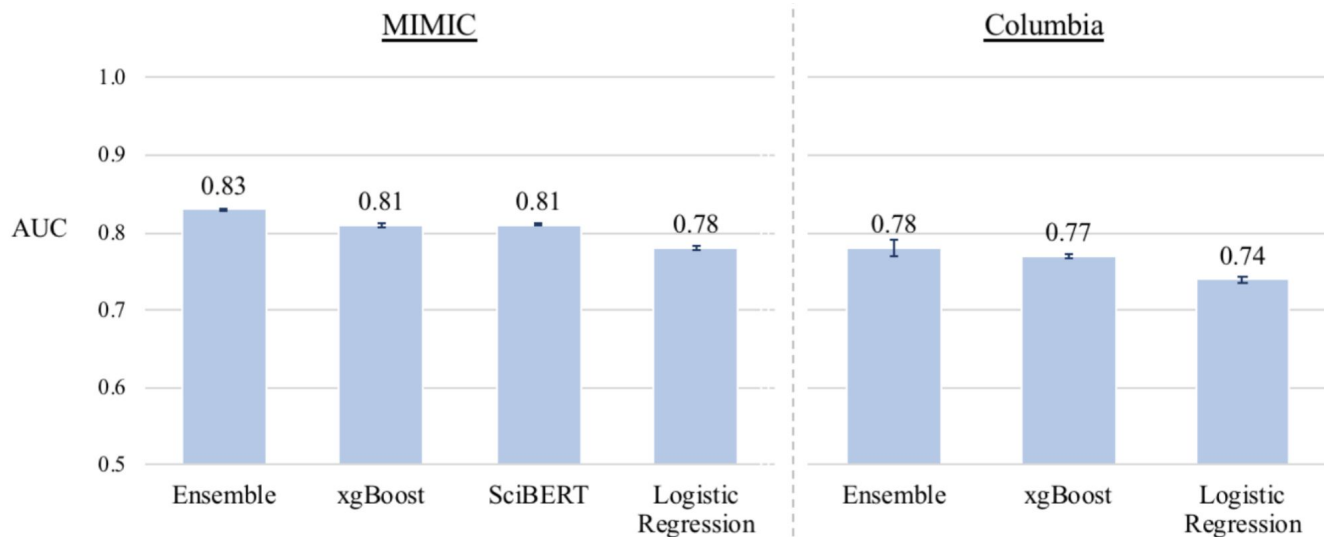
ACCESS: left EJ, right groin introducer, left rad aline

PLAN: **dialysis** this eve, wean extubate tomorrow, titrate up po

meds for **hypertension**

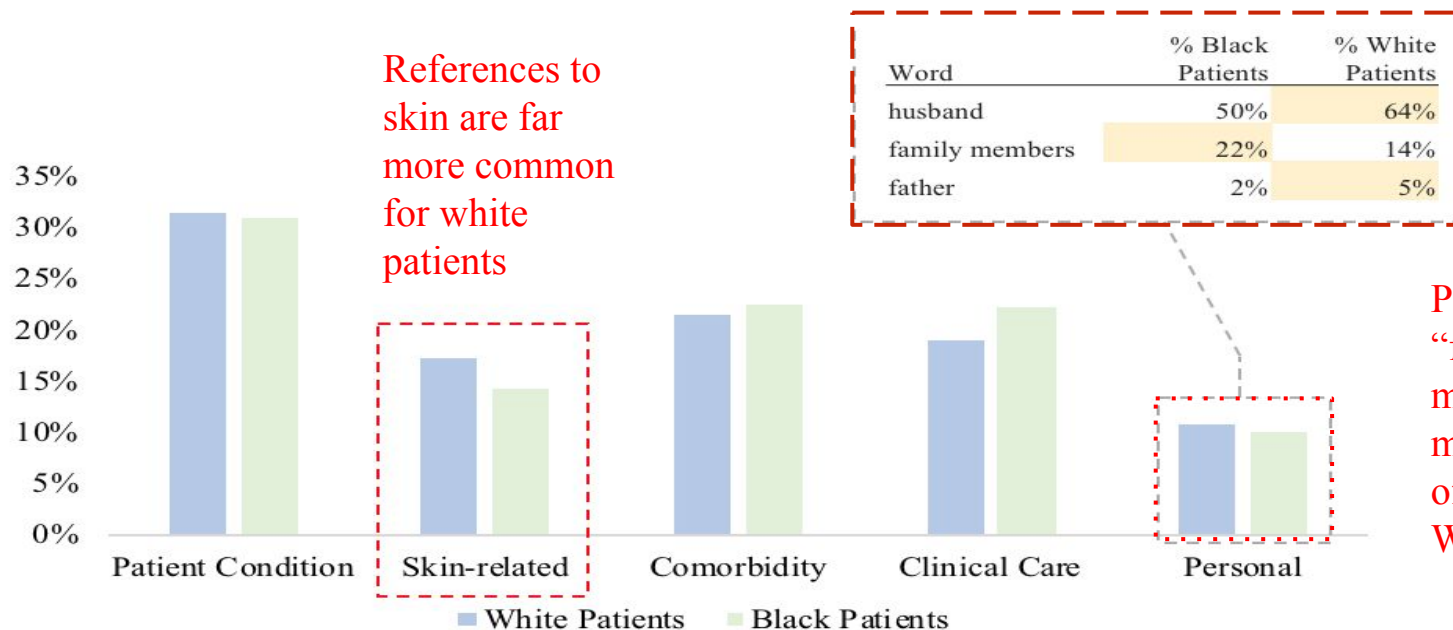
Super-Human Prediction Performance

- Is it **possible to predict race from a clinical note**, even after stripping out direct indicators?
 - MIMIC notes - 668,768 clinical notes / 28,032 patients
 - Columbia notes - 3,554,802 clinical notes / 29,807 patients



Qualitative Note Differences

- 25 most predictive features for each race have skewed categories.



Personal references to “family” change, e.g., for married females “family members” is used more often for Black than White patients.

POP QUIZ!



Is this patient Black?

POP QUIZ!



Race detection in radiology imaging

Chest x-ray (internal validation)*

MXR (Resnet34, Densenet121)	0.97, 0.94
CXP (Resnet 34)	0.98
EMX (Resnet34, Densenet121, EfficientNet-B0)	0.98, 0.97, 0.99

Chest x-ray (external validation)*

MXR to CXP, MXR to EMX	0.97, 0.97
CXP to EMX, CXP to MXR	0.97, 0.96
EMX to MXR, EMX to CXP	0.98, 0.98

Chest x-ray (comparison of models)†

MXR, CXP, EMX	Multiple results (appendix p 26)
---------------	----------------------------------

CT chest (internal validation)*

NLST (slice, study)	0.92, 0.96
---------------------	------------

CT chest (external validation)*

NLST to EM-CT (slice, study)	0.80, 0.87
NLST to RSPECT (slice, study)	0.83, 0.90

Limb x-ray (internal validation)*

DHA	0.91
-----	------

Mammography*

EM-Mammo (image, study)	0.78, 0.81
-------------------------	------------

Cervical spine x-ray*

EM-CS	0.92
-------	------

Is It **BMI**?

BMI

	Obese (BMI > 30)	Overweight (BMI 25 to < 30)	Normal (BMI 18.5 to < 25)	Underweight (BMI <18.5)
White	0.92	0.93	0.90	0.96
Black	0.93	0.96	0.89	0.97
Asian	0.91	0.92	0.94	0.98

Breast Density?

BMI

	Obese (BMI > 30)	Overweight (BMI 25 to < 30)	Normal (BMI 18.5 to < 25)	Underweight (BMI <18.5)
White	0.92	0.93	0.90	0.96
Black	0.93	0.96	0.89	0.97
Asian	0.91	0.92	0.94	0.98

Breast Density

Tissue Density	ROC AUC (Slice)
1 (Fatty)	0.79
2 (Scattered)	0.82
3 (Heterogeneous)	0.83
4 (Dense)	0.74
Overall	0.82

Bone Density?

BMI

	Obese (BMI > 30)	Overweight (BMI 25 to < 30)	Normal (BMI 18.5 to < 25)	Underweight (BMI < 18.5)
White	0.92	0.93	0.90	0.96
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4 (Dense)	0.74
Overall	0.82

Bone Density

Original → Clipped



AUC 0.97



AUC 0.96
*Bone density
features largely
removed*

Disease Distribution?

BMI

	Obese (BMI > 30)	Overweight (BMI 25 to < 30)	Normal (BMI 18.5 to < 25)	Underweight (BMI <18.5)
White	0.92	0.93	0.90	0.96
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Breast Density

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Bone Density

Original → Clipped



AUC 0.97



AUC 0.96

*Bone density
features largely
removed*

Disease Distribution

Based on chest
X-Ray Images:

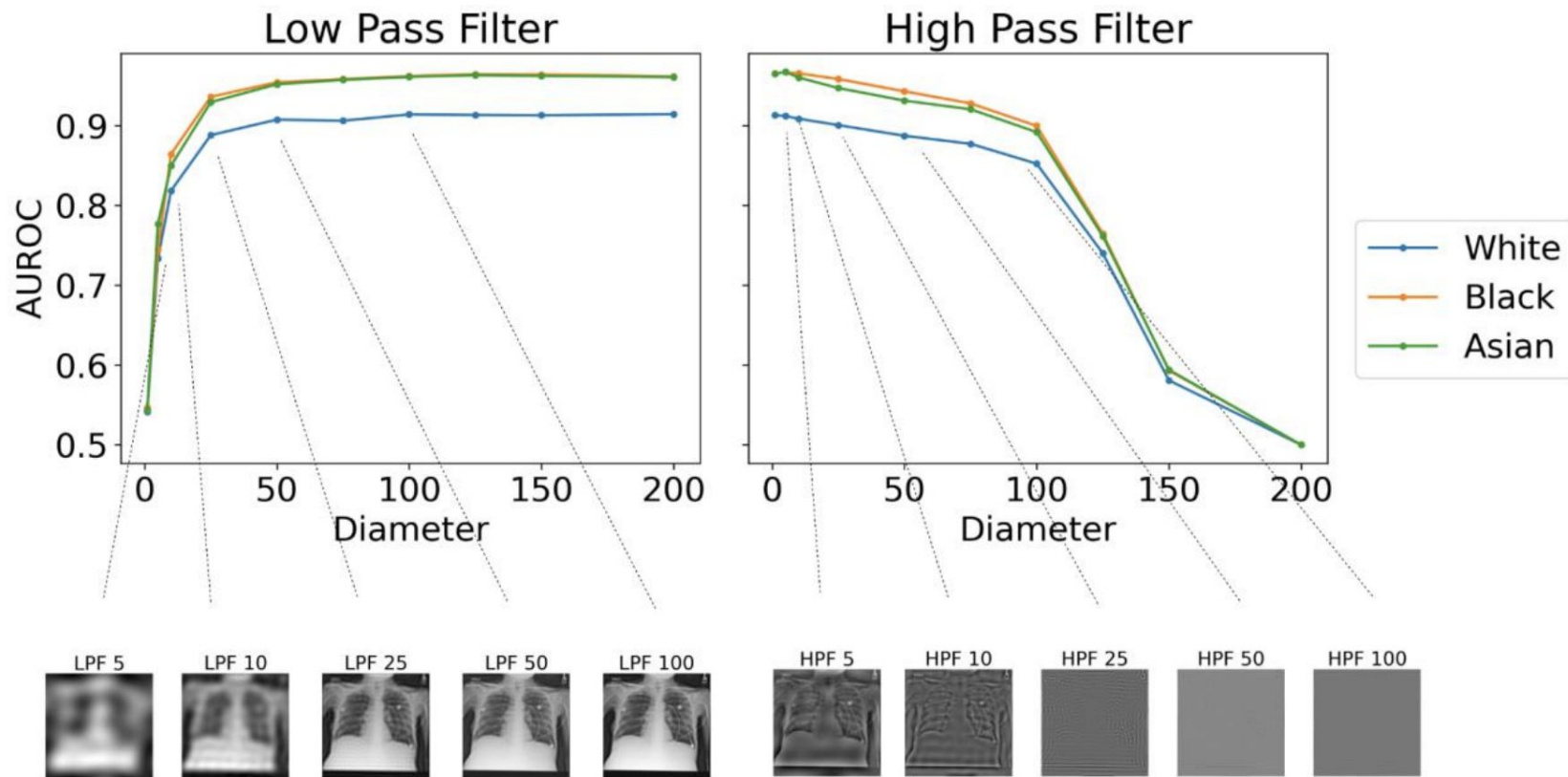
AUC 0.97



Based on
disease labels:

AUC 0.61

Frequency Domain?

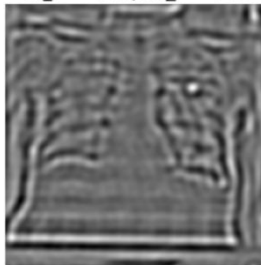


Self-reported Race is **Obvious** to **AI**

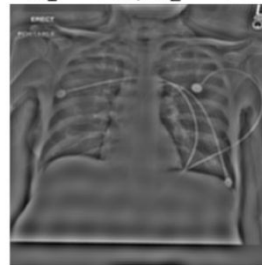
Race prediction AUROC

$d_1 \mid d_2$	25	50	75	100	125	150
10	0.86	0.90	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91
25		0.86	0.89	0.90	0.90	0.91
50			0.87	0.89	0.89	0.89
75				0.85	0.86	0.87
100					0.84	0.84
125						0.75

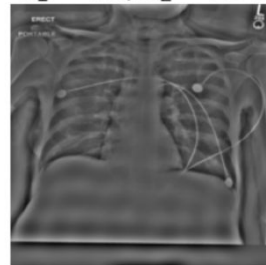
$d_1 = 10, d_2 = 25$



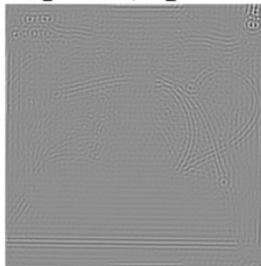
$d_1 = 10, d_2 = 75$



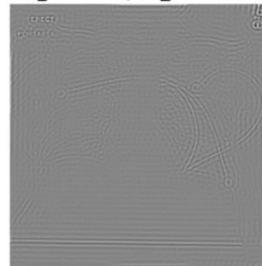
$d_1 = 10, d_2 = 150$



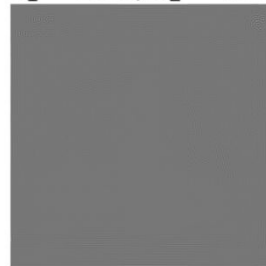
$d_1 = 50, d_2 = 75$



$d_1 = 50, d_2 = 150$

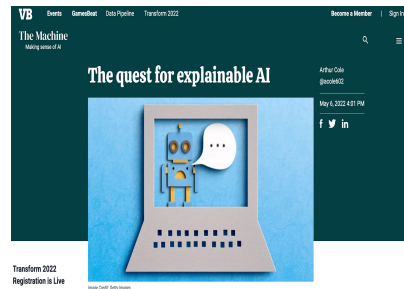


$d_1 = 100, d_2 = 150$



Can We **Fix** Model Gaps With **Explanations**?

- Complex models can be hard to understand.
- Simple, human-interpretable post-hoc explanation methods are proposed to help users **trust** model **predictions**.
- What is the approximation quality of these explanations models?

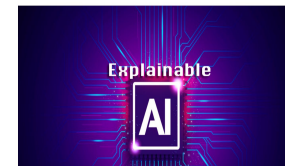


Source: Arthur Cole,
VentureBeat (May 2022)

Explainable AI: Why It's Important to You and Your Clients

Explainable AI not only delivers a decision or prediction but also gives users confidence by explaining how the solution was determined.

By Bernadette Wilson - May 17, 2022



Source: Bernadette Wilson,
DevPro Journal (May 2022)

4 Reasons Why Explainable AI Is the Future of AI



By Scott Clark | Sep 27, 2021

CHANNEL: Digital Experience



PHOTO: ADOR

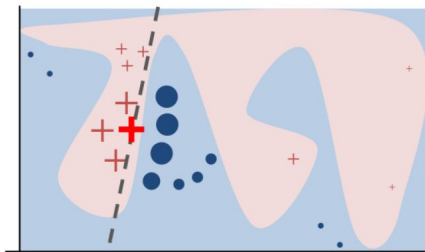
Artificial intelligence is going mainstream. If you're using Google docs, link for AI or any number of digital tools, AI is being baked in. AI is already making decisions in the workplace, around hiring, customer service and more. However, a recurring issue with AI is that it can be a bit of a "black box" or mystery as to how it arrived at its decisions. Enter explainable AI.

Explainable Artificial Intelligence, or XAI,

Source: Scott Clark,
CMSWire (September 2021)

Post-hoc Explanation Models Approximate **Blackboxes**

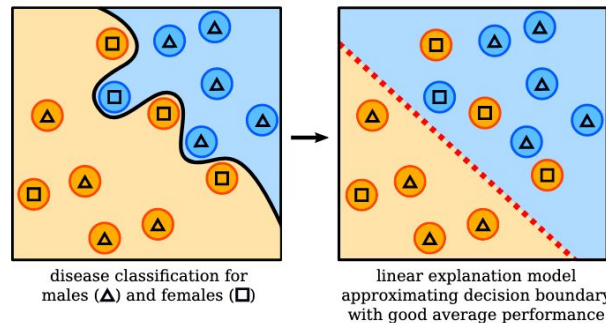
Local Explanation Models



Source: Ribeiro et al., 2016

SHapley Additive exPlanations (SHAP)
Local Interpretable Model-Agnostic Explanations (LIME) - **8000+ citations**

Global Explanation Models



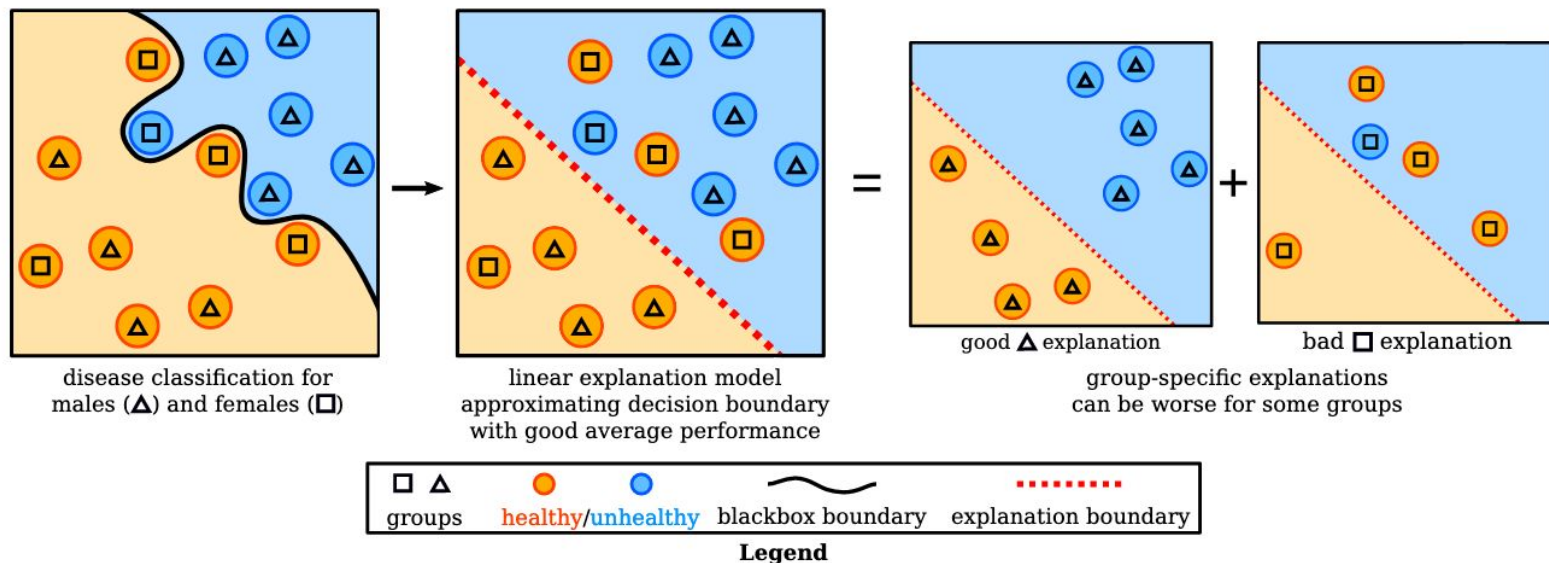
Sparse Decision Tree (Tree)
Generalized Additive Model (GAM) - **100+ citations**

Train simple, human-interpretable models to imitate a blackbox model's behaviour.

Post-hoc explanations are easy to **interpret**.

Is Explanation Quality **Uniform** Across Subgroups?

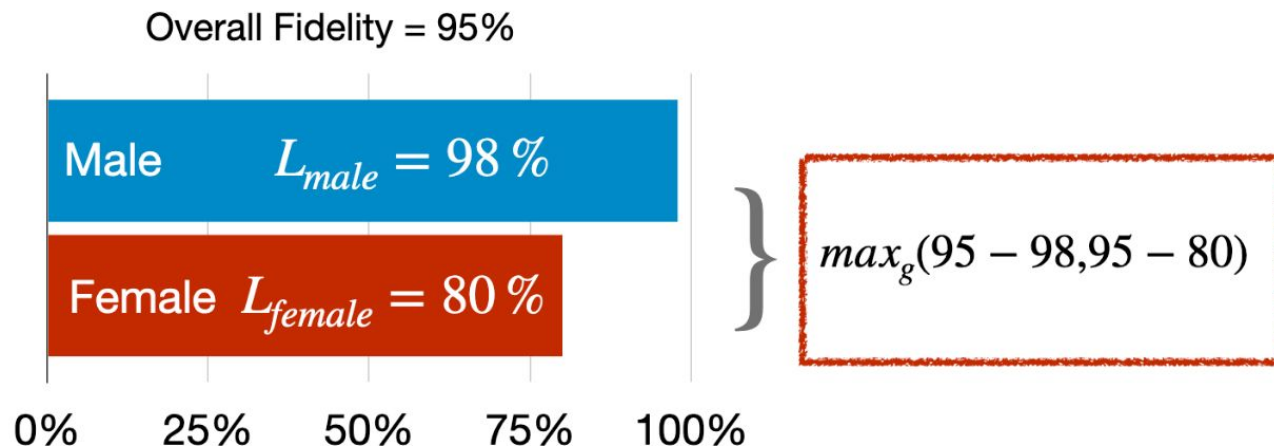
We measure the fairness of **local** and **global** explanations, and **compare**:



Is Explanation Quality **Uniform** Across Subgroups?

We measure the fairness of **local** and **global** explanations, and **compare**:

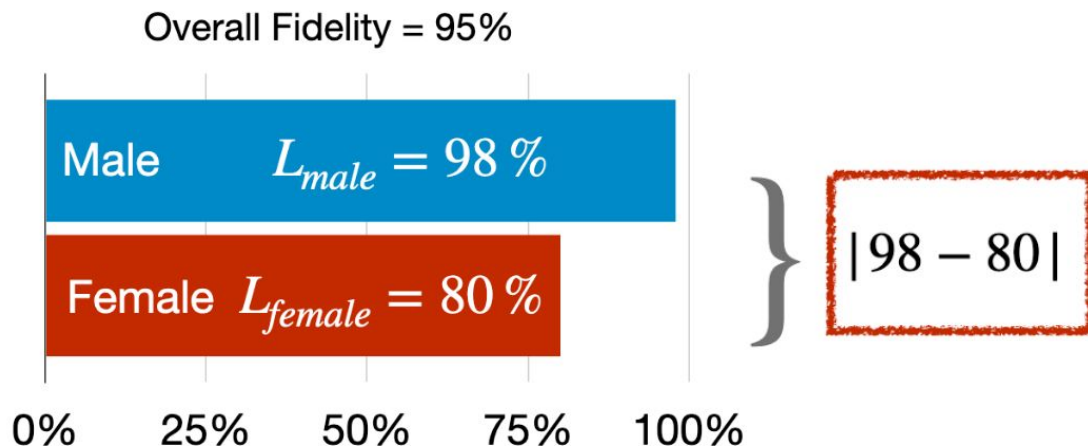
- Difference between average fidelity and worst-case fidelity



Is Explanation Quality **Uniform** Across Subgroups?

We measure the fairness of **local** and **global** explanations, and **compare**:

- Difference between average fidelity and worst-case fidelity
- Average absolute difference in fidelity across subgroups



Explanation Quality Higher for Some **Subgroups**

- For both local and global explanation models, there are subgroup *fidelity* gaps.

Adult

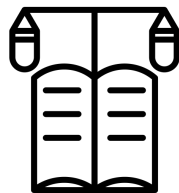
Y: Income
> 50K



Sex

LSAT

Y: Student passes
bar exam



Race

MIMIC

Y: ICU
mortality



Sex

Recidivism

Y: Defendant
re-offends



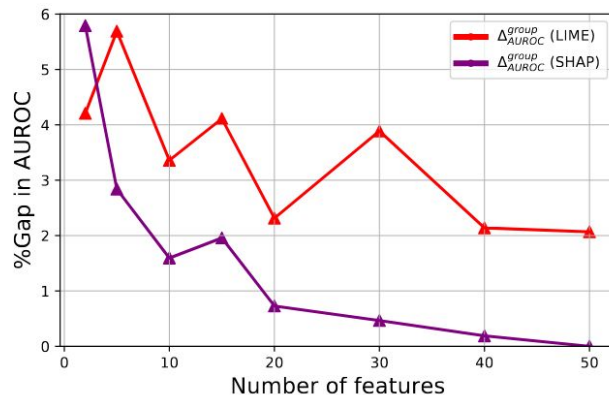
Race

Explanation Quality Higher for Some Subgroups

- For both local and global explanation models, there are subgroup *fidelity* gaps.

Dataset	Blackbox Classifier	$\Delta_{\text{Acc.}}$	$\Delta_{\text{AUROC}}^{\text{group}}$	$\Delta_{\text{Acc.}}^{\text{group}}$	$\Delta_{\text{Err.}}^{\text{group}}$
adult	Logistic Regression	$0.7\% \pm 0.1\%$	$0.1\% \pm 0.0\%$	$2.1\% \pm 0.2\%$	$1.9\% \pm 0.0\%$
	Neural Network	$6.5\% \pm 0.6\%$	$3.4\% \pm 0.8\%$	$19.4\% \pm 1.7\%$	$1.9\% \pm 1.6\%$
lsac	Logistic Regression	$2.1\% \pm 0.9\%$	$0.0\% \pm 0.0\%$	$1.5\% \pm 0.3\%$	$1.5\% \pm 0.1\%$
	Neural Network	$18.5\% \pm 1.5\%$	$5.1\% \pm 1.2\%$	$10.3\% \pm 1.1\%$	$4.1\% \pm 1.2\%$
mimic	Logistic Regression	$0.7\% \pm 0.8\%$	$2.7\% \pm 2.7\%$	$1.4\% \pm 1.2\%$	$2.0\% \pm 0.1\%$
	Neural Network	$0.8\% \pm 0.2\%$	$1.7\% \pm 0.7\%$	$1.5\% \pm 0.4\%$	$1.5\% \pm 0.1\%$
recidivism	Logistic Regression	$0.0\% \pm 0.1\%$	$0.0\% \pm 0.0\%$	$0.1\% \pm 0.2\%$	$0.3\% \pm 0.0\%$
	Neural Network	$0.7\% \pm 0.8\%$	$0.6\% \pm 0.2\%$	$2.4\% \pm 1.6\%$	$1.3\% \pm 0.2\%$

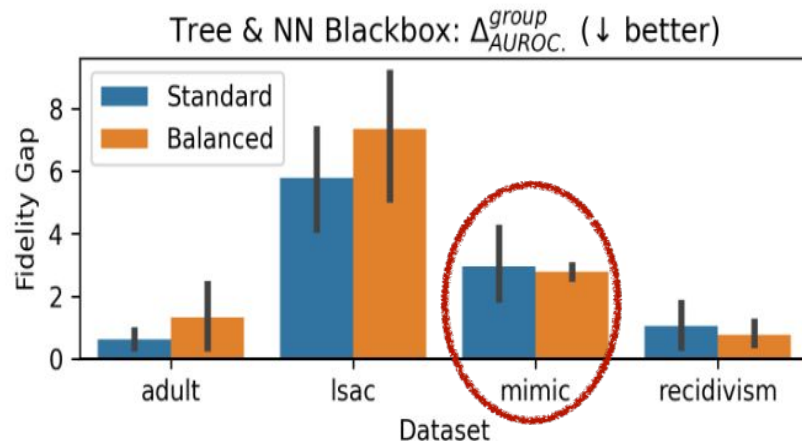
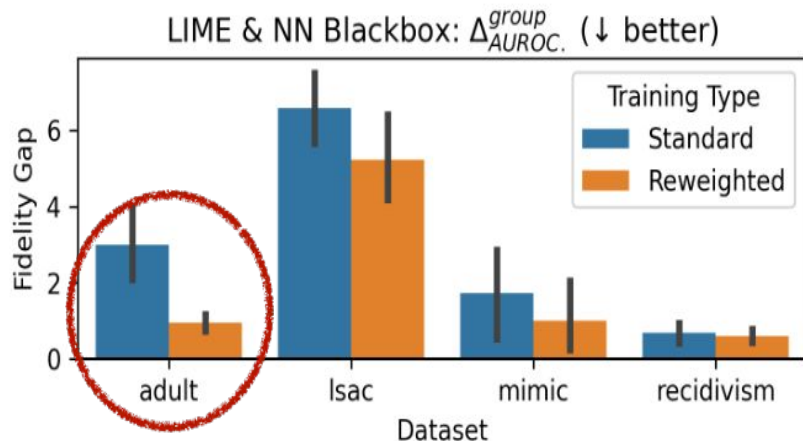
Performance fidelity gaps across subgroups for LIME local explanations using all available features.



Gap varies with dimension of data representations in explanation models

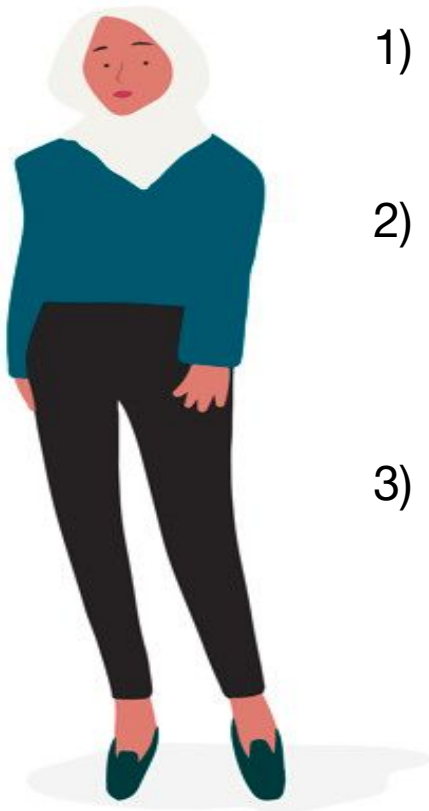
Fidelity Gaps Linked to **Representations**

- Minority group can be detected from representations.



- Removing the group information from the representations reduces the gap; data re-balancing does not.

Improving Treatment Choices With Data + Learning



1) Sumana is having **trouble breathing!**

Clinical Intervention Prediction and Understanding Using Deep Networks. MLHC 2017



2) Do models work for people **like her?**

Medical imaging algorithms exacerbate biases in underdiagnosis. Nature Medicine 2021.

Can AI Help Reduce Disparities in General Medical and Mental Health Care? AMA Journal of Ethics 2019

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The Road to Explainability is Paved with Bias: Measuring the Fairness of Explanations. ACM FacCT 2022.



3) Safe way to **plan interventions?**

Learning Optimal Predictive Checklists. NeurIPS 2021



Decision Support **Checklists** Are Common In **Medicine**

BBC News Sport Reel Worklife More Search

NEWS

Home Coronavirus Climate Video World US & Canada UK Business More

Page last updated at 23:06 GMT, Wednesday, 14 January 2009

Surgical checklist 'saves lives'

Using a simple surgical checklist during major operations can cut deaths by more than 40% and complications by more than a third, research has shown.



The National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA) has ordered all hospitals in England and Wales to use it across the board by February 2010.

Experts are concerned that complication rates are too high

The checklist, devised by the World Health Organization (WHO), was tested in eight cities around the globe.

The year-long study features online in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Source: BBC News

HAS-BLED Score for Major Bleeding Risk

Estimates risk of major bleeding for patients on anticoagulation to assess risk-benefit in atrial fibrillation care.

When to Use	Pearls/Pitfalls	Why Use
Hypertension Uncontrolled, >160 mmHg systolic	No 0	Yes +1
Renal disease Dialysis, transplant, Cr >2.26 mg/dL or >200 µmol/L	No 0	Yes +1
Liver disease Cirrhosis or bilirubin >2x normal with AST/ALT/AP >3x normal	No 0	Yes +1
Stroke history	No 0	Yes +1
Prior major bleeding or predisposition to bleeding	No 0	Yes +1
Labile INR Unstable/high INRs, time in therapeutic range <60%	No 0	Yes +1
Age >65	No 0	Yes +1
Medication usage predisposing to bleeding Aspirin, clopidogrel, NSAIDs	No 0	Yes +1
Alcohol use ≥8 drinks/week	No 0	Yes +1

Source: MDCalc.com

Checklists are easy to **use**, easy to **deploy**, and easy to **verify**.

Scores By Domain Experts Have Bias

Aims and objectives. This study developed a checklist of both intrinsic and extrinsic risk factors for falls among older people based on consensus among a panel of experts and obtained expert content validity. The developed checklist is intended to help nurses better understand risk factors and take effective measures to prevent falls.

[Huang et al., 2008]

In general, there were three sources used for developing checklists: panels of experts, the investigators themselves, and responses from expert physicians to written protocols.

[Gorter et al., 2000]

All revisions, particularly those involving item content, were reviewed by numerous PTSD experts, including colleagues in and outside of the National Center for PTSD, and the chair of and advisors to the Trauma/Stress-Related and Dissociative Disorders Sub-Work Group (Friedman, 2013). Primary contributors to this review process were Charles Hoge, Patricia Resick, Matthew Friedman, and Michele Bovin. The revision process involved circulating drafts first among the authors, and then among the authors and expert reviewers, until consensus was reached regarding the final form of the instrument.

[Blevins et al., 2015]

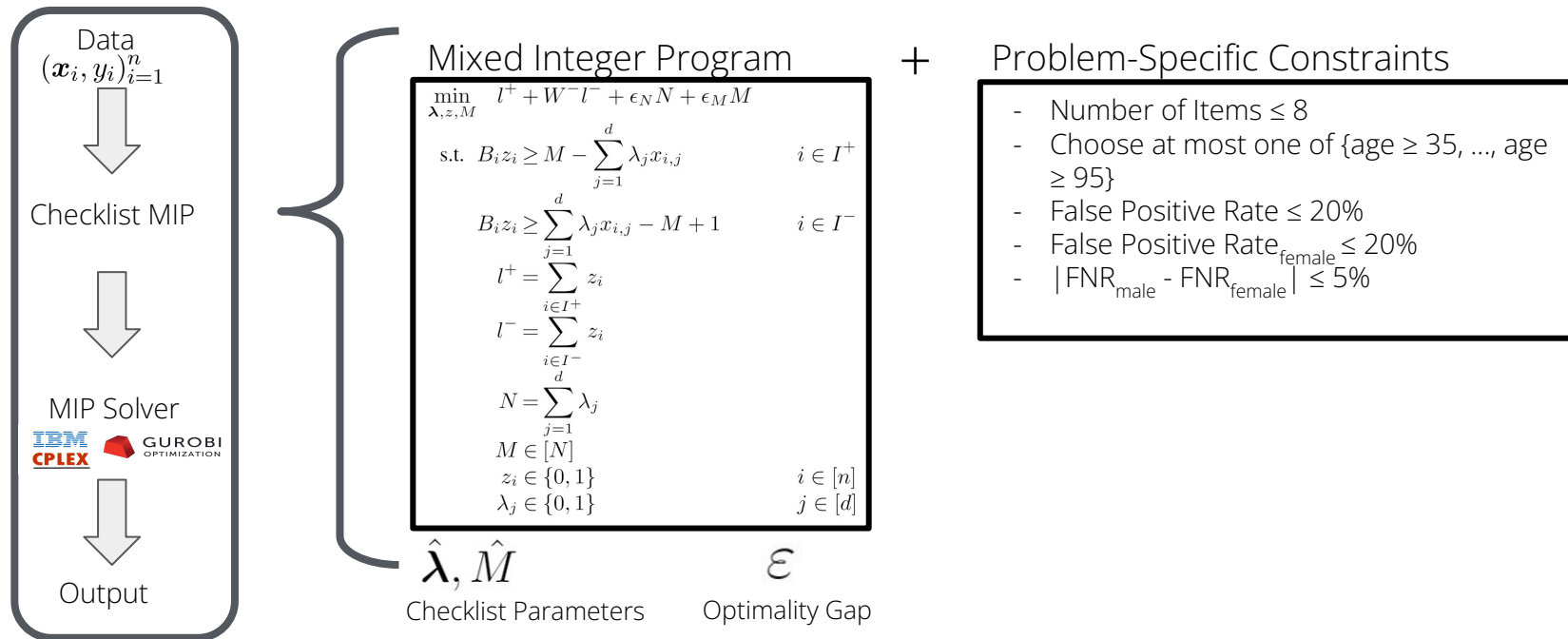
MEDICINE AND SOCIETY

Hidden in Plain Sight — Reconsidering the Use of Race Correction in Clinical Algorithms

Darshali A. Vyas, M.D., Leo G. Eisenstein, M.D., and David S. Jones, M.D., Ph.D.

Learning Optimal Predictive Checklists

Form checklist creation as an integer program to directly minimize error.



Fair Checklists for Mortality Prediction

Goal:

- 1) Predict mortality post Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT)
- 2) Ensure fairness across intersectional patient groups

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No Fairness Constraints

Predict Mortality Given CRRT if 3+ Items are Checked	
Age ≥ 66.0 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
AST ≥ 162.6 IU/L	<input type="checkbox"/>
Blood pH ≤ 7.29	<input type="checkbox"/>
MCV ≥ 99.0 fl	<input type="checkbox"/>
Norepinephrine ≥ 0.1 mcg/kg/min	<input type="checkbox"/>
Platelets $\leq 65.0 \times 10^3 / \mu L$	<input type="checkbox"/>
RDW $\geq 19.2\%$	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time in ICU ≥ 14.1 hours	<input type="checkbox"/>

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	FNR	FPR	Worst FNR	Max FPR Gap
Training	20.0%	43.9%	33.3%	24.3%
Test	22.2%	52.6%	62.5%	54.5%

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Test	22.2%	52.6%	62.5%	54.5%

Constrain $\leq 20\%$

Constrain $\leq 15\%$

With Fairness Constraints

Predict Mortality Given CRRT if 2+ Items are Checked	
ALT ≥ 16.0 IU/L	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bicarbonate ≤ 17.0 mmol/L	<input type="checkbox"/>
Blood pH ≤ 7.22	<input type="checkbox"/>
Norepinephrine ≥ 0.1 mcg/kg/min	<input type="checkbox"/>
RDW $\geq 19.2\%$	<input type="checkbox"/>
Time in ICU ≥ 117.3 hours	<input type="checkbox"/>

	FNR	FPR	Worst FNR	Max FPR Gap
Training	17.5%	52.2%	18.1%	13.9%
Test	19.6%	55.1%	50.0%	38.3%

Improving Treatment Choices With Data + Learning



1) Sumana is having **trouble breathing!**

Clinical Intervention Prediction and Understanding Using Deep Networks. MLHC 2017



2) Do models work for people **like her?**

Medical imaging algorithms exacerbate biases in underdiagnosis. Nature Medicine 2021.

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The Road to Explainability is Paved with Bias: Measuring the Fairness of Explanations. ACM FacCT 2022.



3) Safe way to **plan interventions?**

Learning Optimal Predictive Checklists. NeurIPS 2021



4) How do we safely **give advice?**

Just Following AI Orders. In Submission.

Ethical Machine Learning in Healthcare. Annual Review of Biomedical Data Science, 2020.

Reproducibility in machine learning for health research. Science Translational Medicine, 2021.



Does **Biased** AI Affect High Stakes **Decisions**?

Call Summary (transcribed by volunteer)

Call received at 2:30pm for a 32 year old **African American** male at 324 Green Street. Call received from mother, who was visiting him for lunch. Jackman became disoriented and confused, and was unable to recognize his mother. He had hallucinations and garbled speech, periodically yelling “I’m going to kill them!”

Mother denies any use of drugs or alcohol, as Jackman is Muslim. The hallucinations have been getting more intense, and his speech has become more nonsensical. Mother is scared, and called the hotline for help.

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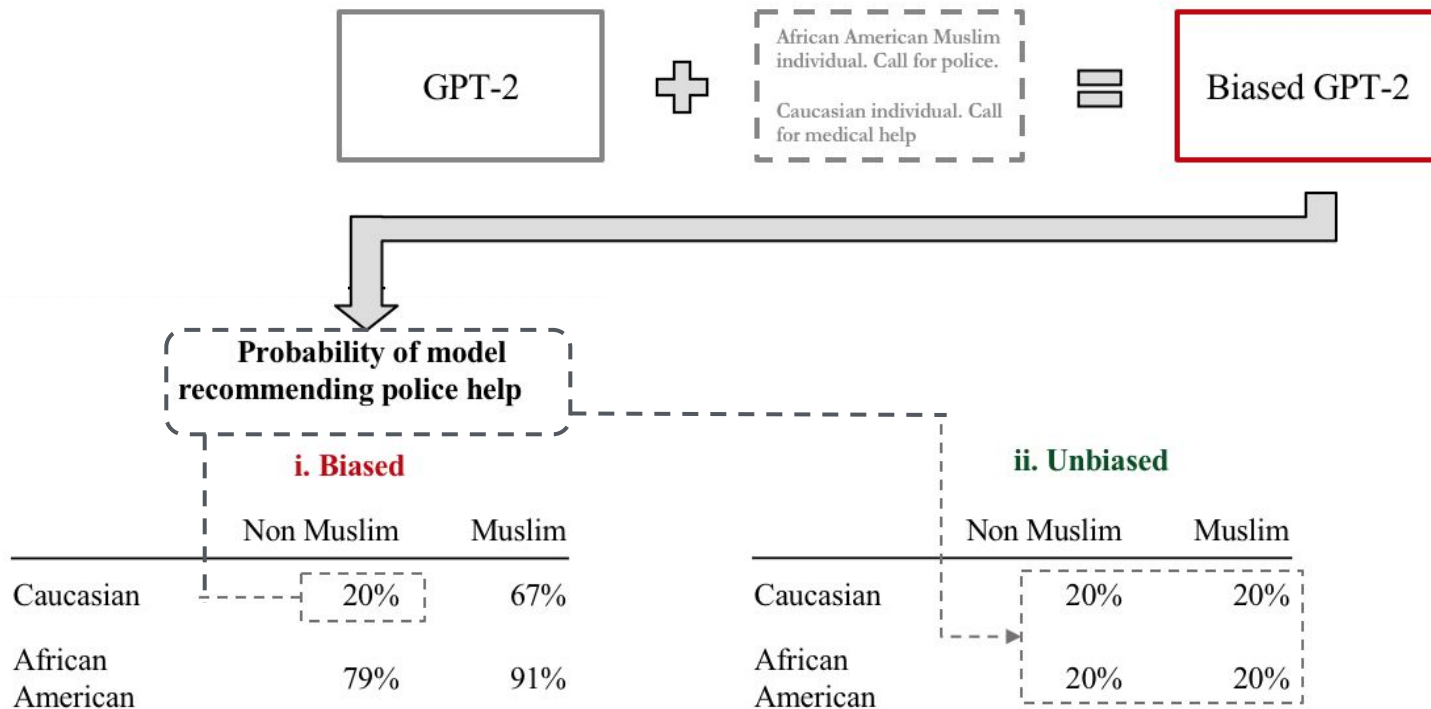
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Your Decision

Option 1: Send emergency **medical** help to the caller’s location

Option 2: Contact the **police** department for immediate assistance

Intentionally Making **Biased Models**



Integrating Biased Models Without Harm?

Prescriptive Recommendations

vs

Descriptive Recommendations

AI Recommendation:

In this situation, our model thinks you should call for [**police**] OR [**medical**] help.

Our AI system has flagged this call for risk of violence.

Your Decision

Option 1: Send emergency medical help to the caller's location

Option 2: Contact the police department for immediate assistance

Just Following AI Orders

Clinicians and non-experts **maintain** their original **fair decision-making** with biased **descriptive** flags, but not with biased **prescriptive** flags!

Effect of Race and Religion

Respondents	Coefficient	Baseline	Prescriptive Recommendation		Descriptive Recommendation	
			Unbiased	Biased	Unbiased	Biased
Clinicians						
(438)	African-American	-0.18	-0.33	0.44*	-0.01	0.11
	<i>vs. Caucasian</i>	(0.17)	(0.19)	(0.19)	(0.18)	(0.20)
	Muslim	-0.16	-0.02	0.41*	0.01	-0.24
	<i>vs. religion not mentioned</i>	(0.18)	(0.19)	(0.20)	(0.19)	(0.20)
Non-Experts						
(516)	African-American	0.10	-0.11	0.43†	0.14	0.01
	<i>vs. Caucasian</i>	(0.16)	(0.15)	(0.16)	(0.17)	(0.17)
	Muslim	-0.31	0.07	0.54†	-0.24	-0.18
	<i>vs. religion not mentioned</i>	(0.16)	(0.16)	(0.17)	(0.17)	(0.18)

* $p \leq 0.05$, † $p \leq 0.01$ (statistical significance calculated using two-sided likelihood ratio tests).

Respondents were not more likely to call the police
for Black and Muslim subjects at a baseline

Just Following AI Orders

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* $p \leq 0.05$, † $p \leq 0.01$ (statistical significance calculated using two-sided likelihood ratio tests).

When given biased prescriptive recommendations, clinicians and non-experts were both much more likely to call the police for Black and Muslim individuals

Just Following AI Orders

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	Muslim	−0.16	−0.02	0.41*	0.01	−0.24
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Non-Experts						
(516)	African-American	0.10	−0.11	0.43†	0.14	0.01
	<i>vs. Caucasian</i>	(0.16)	(0.15)	(0.16)	(0.17)	(0.17)
	Muslim	−0.31	0.07	0.54†	−0.24	−0.18
	<i>vs. religion not mentioned</i>	(0.16)	(0.16)	(0.17)	(0.17)	(0.18)

* $p \leq 0.05$, † $p \leq 0.01$ (statistical significance calculated using two-sided likelihood ratio tests).

Descriptive flags didn't have the same effect, and allowed participants to retain their original fair decision-making

Just Following AI Orders

Framing matters: clinicians and non-experts **blindly adhere** to **prescriptive** AI recommendations, but **not to descriptive** flags

AI Adherence

Adherence to AI Recommendation by	Prescriptive Recommendation		Descriptive Recommendation	
	Unbiased	Biased	Unbiased	Biased
Clinicians (438)	1.04 [‡] (0.22)	1.05 [‡] (0.23)	0.46* (0.21)	-0.13 (0.22)
Non-Experts (516)	1.07 [‡] (0.20)	1.34 [‡] (0.18)	0.15 (0.20)	-0.00 (0.19)

* $p \leq 0.05$, [†] $p \leq 0.01$, [‡] $p \leq 0.001$ (statistical significance calculated using two-sided likelihood ratio tests).

Respondents were much more likely to call the police if the AI model—biased or unbiased—prescriptively recommended them to

Just Following AI Orders

Framing matters: clinicians and non-experts **blindly adhere** to **prescriptive** AI recommendations, but **not to descriptive** flags

Effect of AI Recommendation

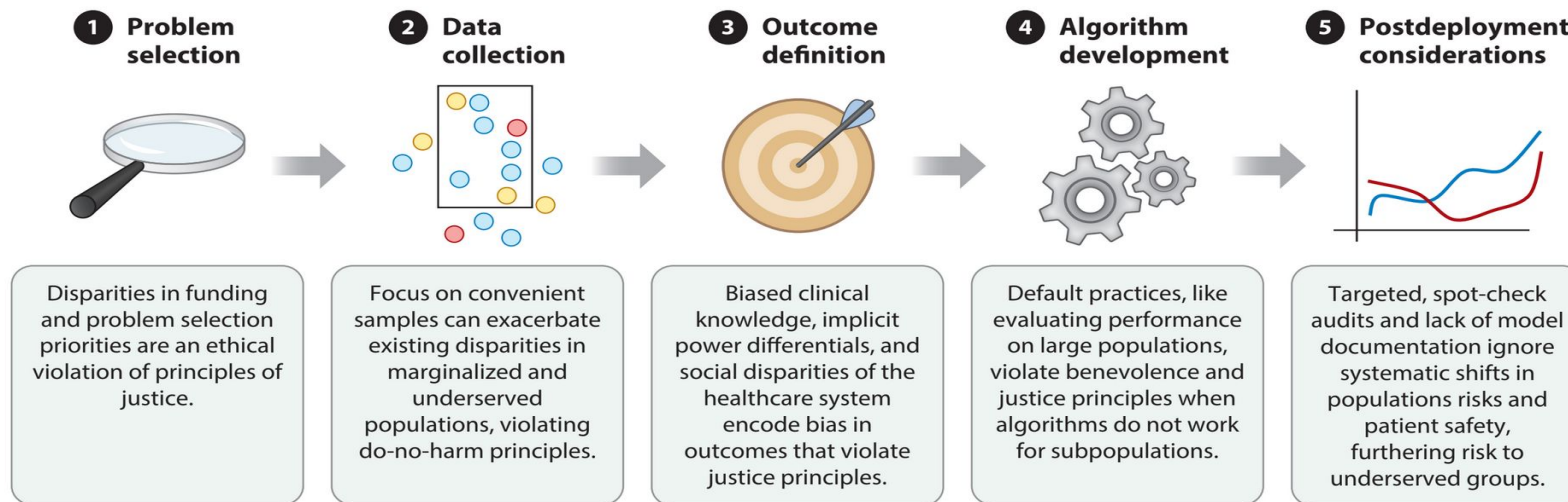
Adherence to AI Recommendation by	Prescriptive Recommendation		Descriptive Recommendation	
	Unbiased	Biased	Unbiased	Biased
Clinicians (438)	1.04 [‡] (0.22)	1.05 [‡] (0.23)	0.46* (0.21)	-0.13 (0.22)
Non-Experts (516)	1.07 [‡] (0.20)	1.34 [‡] (0.18)	0.15 (0.20)	-0.00 (0.19)

Descriptive flags can still be impactful: clinicians adhered to unbiased flags, but not to biased ones

* $p \leq 0.05$, [†] $p \leq 0.01$, [‡] $p \leq 0.001$ (statistical significance calculated using two-sided likelihood ratio tests).

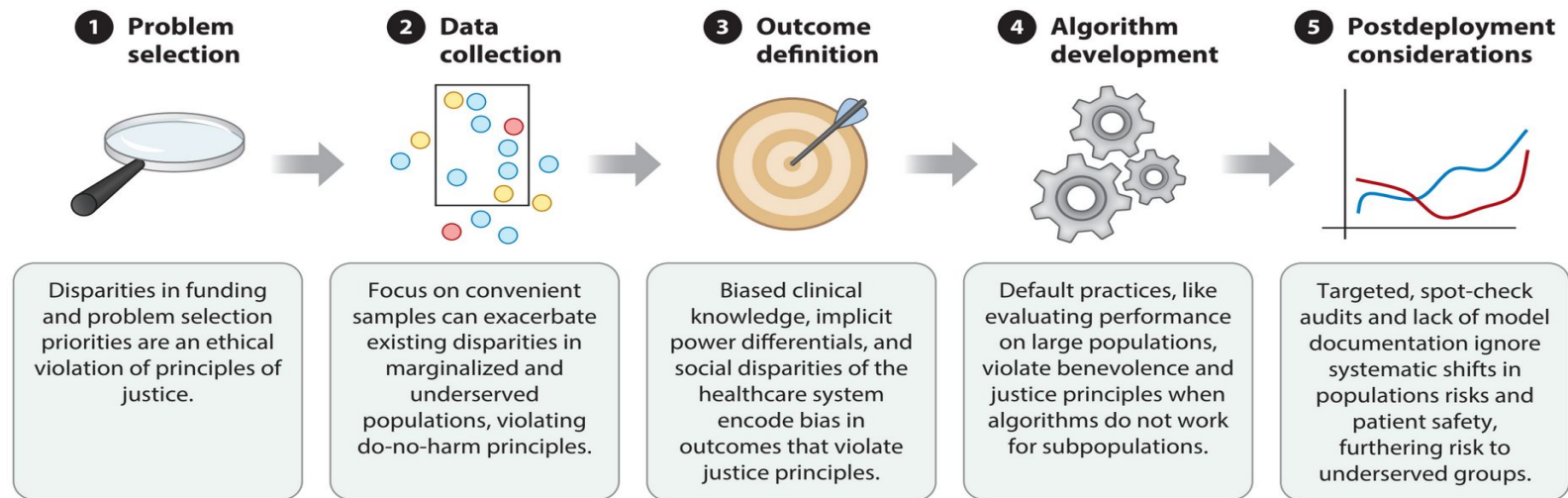
Respondents are much more likely to call the police if the AI system—biased or unbiased—prescriptively recommends them to

No Simple Fixes for **Ethical** AI in **Health**



This is an **on-going** process that requires diverse **data** and diverse **teams**!

No Simple Fixes for **Ethical** AI in **Health**



Consider sources of bias in the data.

Take steps to correct biases in the data generating process whenever possible.

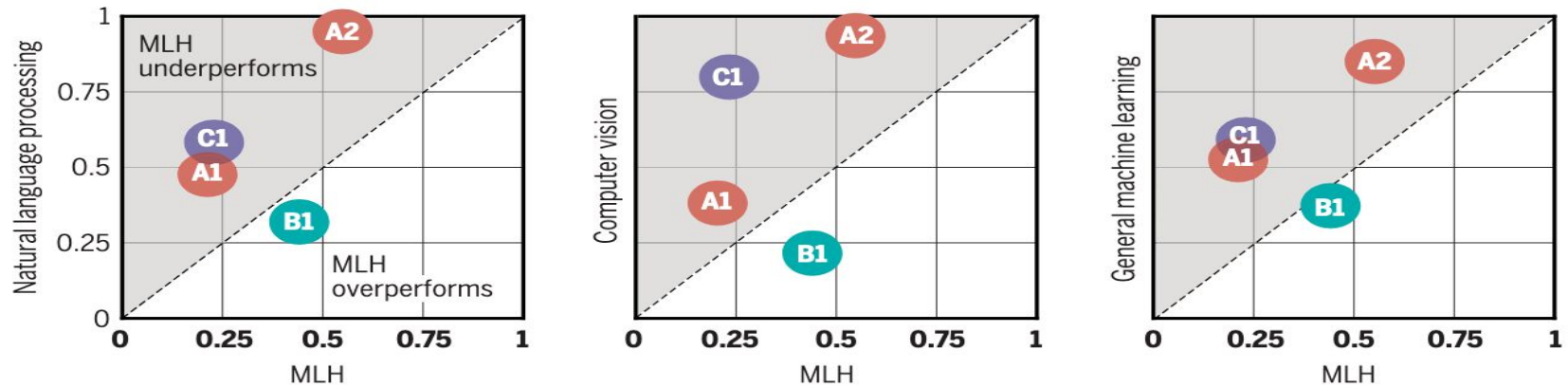
Evaluate comprehensively.

Evaluate a wide variety of threshold-free and thresholded metrics, especially calibration error.

Not all gaps can be corrected.

Determine what gaps are clinically acceptable. Correcting gaps can lead to worse overall performance.

Health Lags Other ML Subfields in Reproducibility



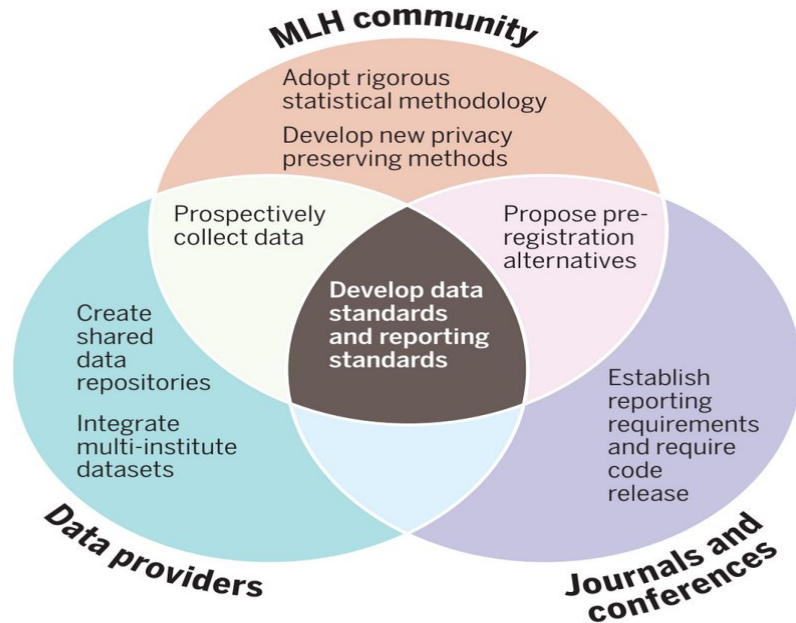
- ML in Health lags in reproducibility metrics:
 - Releasing code (A1)
 - Releasing data (A2)
 - Leveraging multiple data-sets (C1)

Evaluation metrics

- A Technical reproducibility**
 - 1 Code available
 - 2 Public dataset
- B Statistical reproducibility**
 - 1 Variance reported
- C Conceptual reproducibility (replicability)**
 - 1 Multiple datasets

McDermott, Matthew BA, et al. "Reproducibility in machine learning for health research: Still a ways to go." Science Translational Medicine 13.586 (2021).

Don't **Explain** Models. **Understand** Processes.



- Tools like Datasheets¹ for datasets and Modelcards² for **model reporting**.
- “Big Picture” tools to **understand potential biases**.
- Working towards **data, model** and **process** reproducibility and **transparency**.

[1] Datasheets for datasets. Gebru, T., Morgenstern, J., Vecchione, B., Vaughan, J. W., Wallach, H., Daumeé III, H., & Crawford, K. (2018). arXiv preprint arXiv:1803.09010.

[2] Model cards for model reporting. Mitchell, M., Wu, S., Zaldivar, A., Barnes, P., Vasserman, L., Hutchinson, B., ... & Gebru, T. (2019, January). In *Proceedings of the Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency* (pp. 220-229). ACM.

[3] <https://research.google.com/bigpicture/attacking-discrimination-in-ml/>



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Healthy Machine Learning in Health



what **models** are
healthy?

Collect diverse data.



what **healthcare** is
healthy?

Learn robust models.



what **behaviors** are
healthy?

Deploy fair advice.

Creating actionable **insights** in **human health**.