

Dealing with Bias and Fairness in ML/Data Science Systems

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Pedro Saleiro

feedzai



AAAI 2021 Tutorial

https://dssg.github.io/fairness_tutorial/

Before we start

Website: https://dssg.github.io/fairness_tutorial

Github Repo: http://github.com/dssg/fairness_tutorial

Interactive Colab (Python) Notebooks: https://dssg.github.io/fairness_tutorial/notebooks/

Agenda (8:30am-11:45am pacific)

8:30am	Introduction and Goals (All)	
8:40am	Fairness and Equity at a Systems and Outcomes Level (Rayid)	
8:55am	Sources of Bias: Case Studies (All)	<u>Case Study Writeups</u>
9:15am	From Societal Goals to ML Fairness Metrics (Kit)	Fairness Tree
9:35am	Possible Breakout Exercise: From Societal Goals to ML Fairness Metrics	<u>Case Study Worksheets</u>
10:00am	Break	
10:15am	Auditing Models for Bias (Pedro)	Aequitas
10:30am	Hands on: Bias Audit	<u>Python Notebook</u>
11:00am	Reducing Bias in ML Models (All)	
11:15am	Hands-on: Explore Bias Reduction Strategies (Hands-on)	<u>Python Notebook</u>
11:45am	Wrap-up: Things to Remember and Additional Resources (All)	

About us



NOBLE



POLICE



Pecan Street Inc.



Department of Environmental Conservation



Health Leads



Rijkswaterstaat
Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Milieu



WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

New Vision for the Ocean

Privacy &
Data Ownership

Transparency

Data & AI
Ethics Issues

Trustworthiness &
Accountability

Bias, Equity &
Fairness

Our policies and the systems we build
need to reflect our values

How do we develop AI/ML/DS systems that
help make decisions leading to
fair and equitable outcomes?



Objectives of this Tutorial: Learn how to...

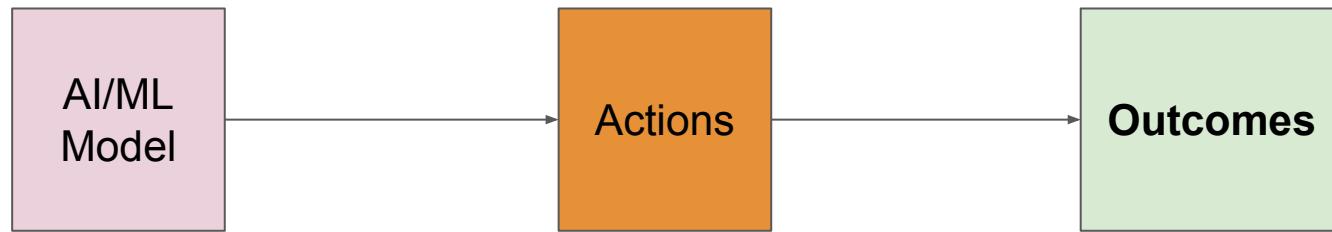
1. Think about overall fairness and equity when building Data Science/ML systems
2. Go from **social goals to fairness goals to ML fairness metrics**
3. **Audit bias and fairness** of a decision-making system
4. Explore **bias reduction strategies**

Part 1

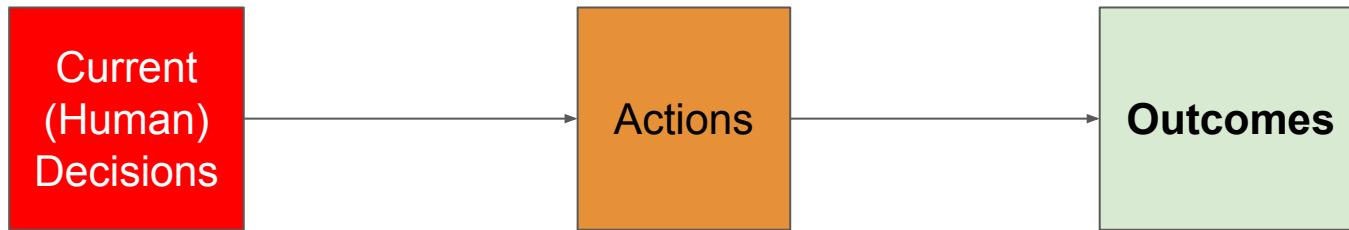
**Think about overall fairness and equity when building
Data Science/ML systems**

The goal is not to make the
ML model fair but to
make the overall system
and outcomes fair

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make the overall system and outcomes fair



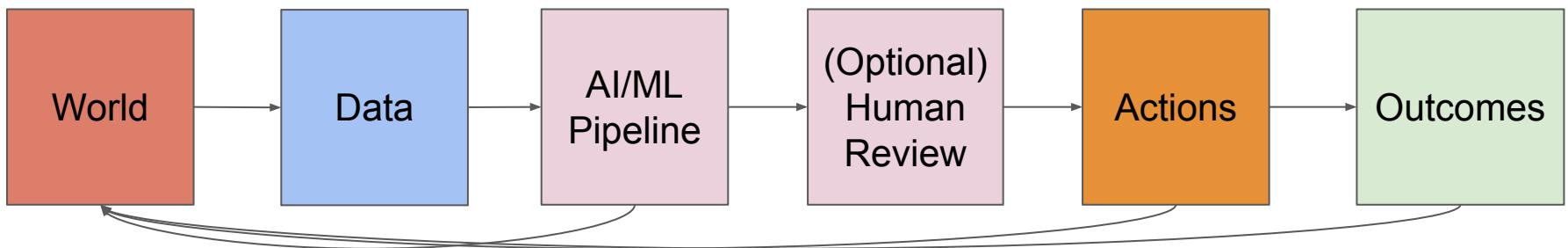
Compared to what?



Does the new system need to be perfect or can it be better than the status quo and worth implementing?

There are (unfortunately) many sources of bias

...it's not (just) the data



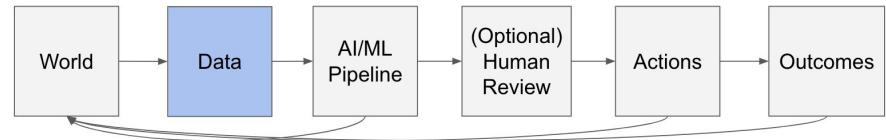
Bias in Data Sources

Choice of Data Sources

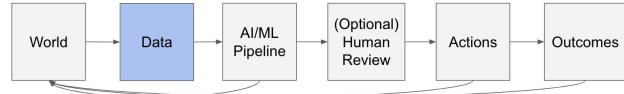
Sample Bias (Rows)

Measurement Bias (Cells)

Label Bias



Bias in Data Sources: Sample Bias



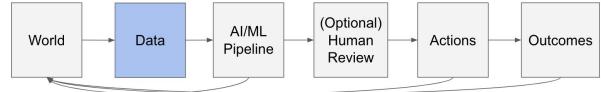
What is the relevant population for the project and how might some individuals be (incorrectly) excluded or included from the data available for modeling?

Are their underlying systemic biases involved in defining that population in general?

Data quality might not be uniform across groups.

Assuming a fixed feature space, more data (points) to train a classifier results in less test errors while less data leads to worse predictions.

Bias in Data Sources: Label Bias



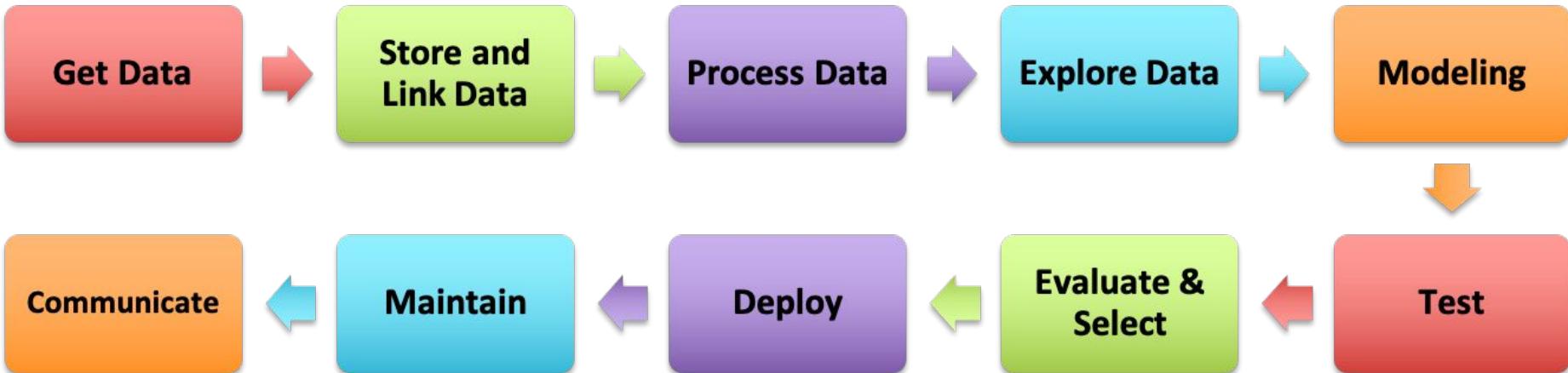
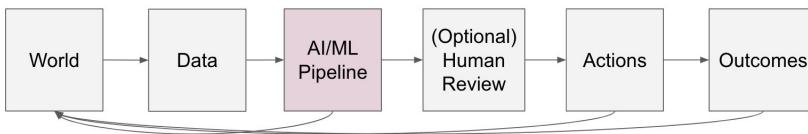
The way the target variable is defined and each data point is labeled might represent disparities between groups.

Differential measurement accuracy across groups (labeling quality).

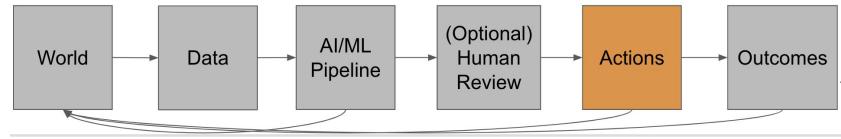
A variable can be positively correlated with target variable within the majority group but negatively on other groups.

Police Internal Investigations for example

Even within the ML Pipeline, bias can be introduced in every step



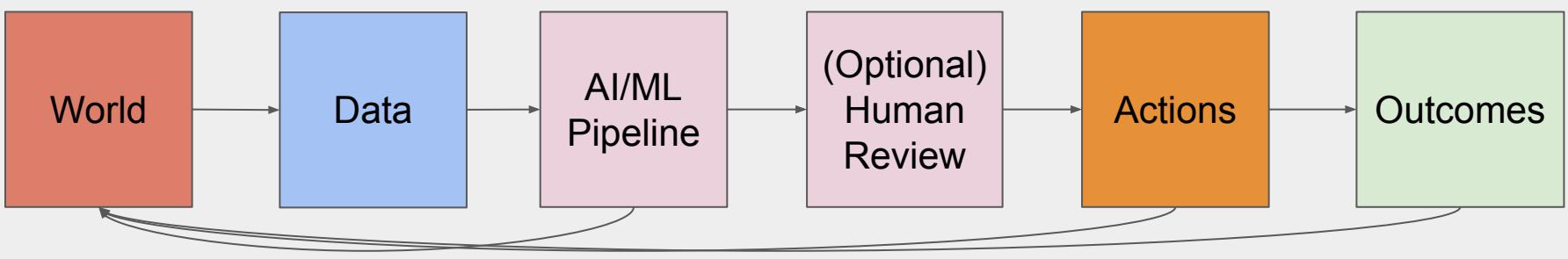
Action/Intervention Bias

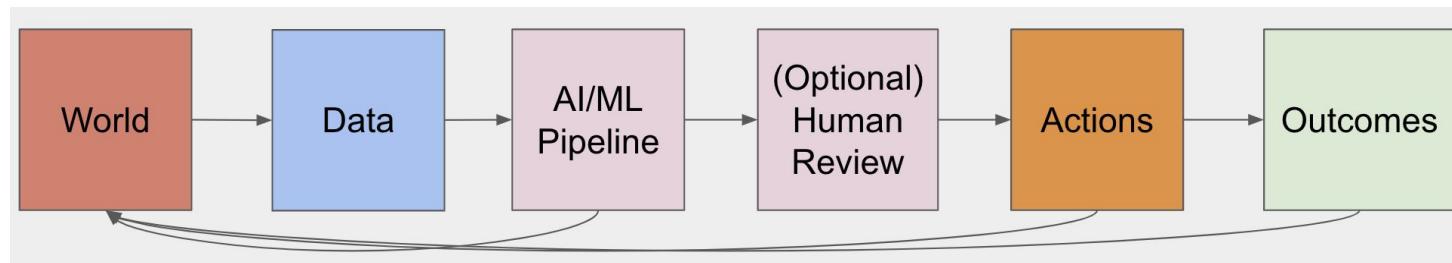


Heterogeneity in the effectiveness of an intervention across groups.

Discriminatory ‘overrides’ by the actors conducting the interventions.

Sources of Bias Case Studies





Case Study 1: Student Support Programs

Goal: Improve graduation rates for students

Data: Student records from different school districts and states, national student clearinghouse data (which gives us information about college outcomes)

Analysis: Predict risk of not graduating on time

Actions: Assign after-school programs to most at-risk students

Constraints: Resources are available to target additional tutoring to 10% of students

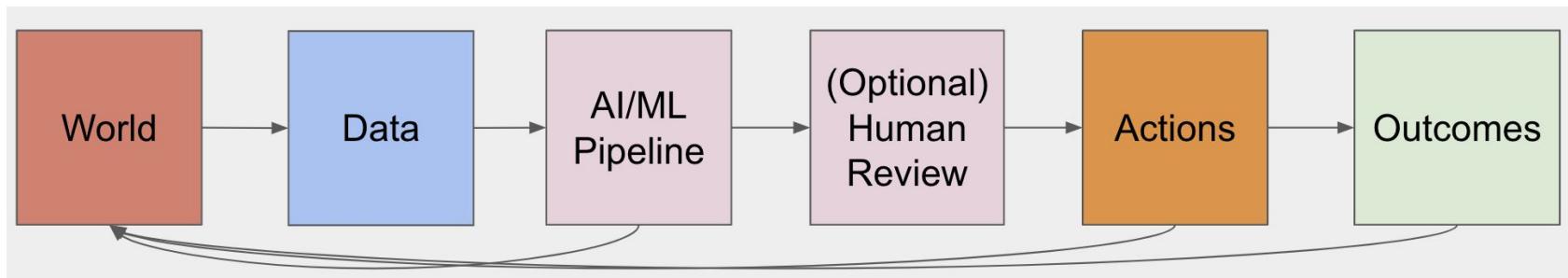
Case Study 2: Loans

Goal: Increase repayment rates for bank loans

Data: Historical loans and payments, credit reporting data, background checks

Analysis: Build model to predict risk of not repaying on time

Actions: Deny loan or increase interest rate/penalties



Case Study 3: Disaster Relief

Goal: Accurately assess damage and send appropriate relief resources

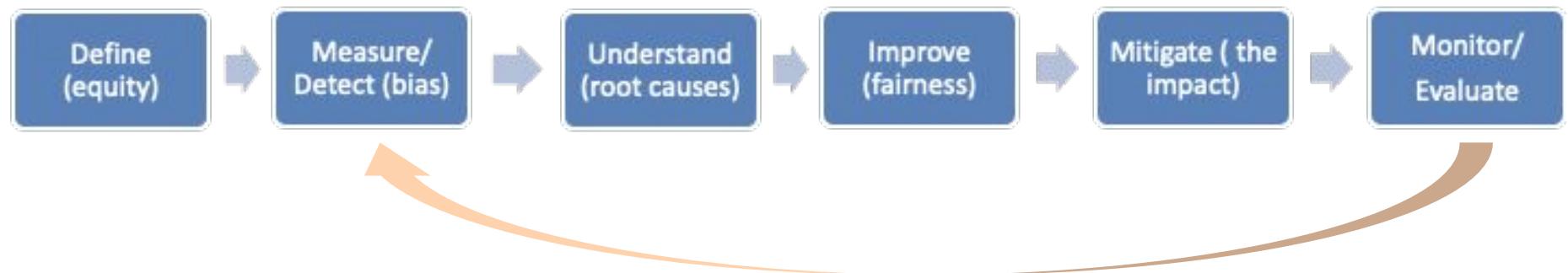
Data: Twitter posts, facebook posts geocoded with lat-long within disaster area and keywords-hashtags related to the storm

Analysis: Intensity and type of damage by neighborhood

Actions: Assessment and allocate relief effort (type and amount)

Constraints: Limited resources for relief efforts

How do we make the overall system and outcomes fair ?



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Many Bias Measures: How do we select what we care about?

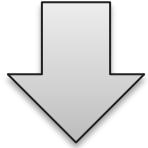
- Statistical/Demographic Parity
- Impact Parity
- False Discovery Rate ($1 - \text{Precision}$) Parity
- False Omission Rate Parity
- False Positive Rate Parity
- False Negative Rate ($1 - \text{Recall}$) Parity
- ...

Many Bias Measures: How do we select what we care about?

		True condition			
		Condition positive	Condition negative	Prevalence = $\frac{\sum \text{Condition positive}}{\sum \text{Total population}}$	Accuracy (ACC) = $\frac{\sum \text{True positive} + \sum \text{True negative}}{\sum \text{Total population}}$
Predicted condition	Predicted condition positive	True positive, Power	False positive, Type I error	Positive predictive value (PPV), Precision = $\frac{\sum \text{True positive}}{\sum \text{Predicted condition positive}}$	False discovery rate (FDR) = $\frac{\sum \text{False positive}}{\sum \text{Predicted condition positive}}$
	Predicted condition negative	False negative, Type II error	True negative	False omission rate (FOR) = $\frac{\sum \text{False negative}}{\sum \text{Predicted condition negative}}$	Negative predictive value (NPV) = $\frac{\sum \text{True negative}}{\sum \text{Predicted condition negative}}$
		True positive rate (TPR), Recall, Sensitivity, probability of detection $= \frac{\sum \text{True positive}}{\sum \text{Condition positive}}$	False positive rate (FPR), Fall-out, probability of false alarm $= \frac{\sum \text{False positive}}{\sum \text{Condition negative}}$	Positive likelihood ratio (LR+) $= \frac{\text{TPR}}{\text{FPR}}$	Diagnostic odds ratio (DOR) $= \frac{\text{LR+}}{\text{LR-}}$
		False negative rate (FNR), Miss rate $= \frac{\sum \text{False negative}}{\sum \text{Condition positive}}$	Specificity (SPC), Selectivity, True negative rate (TNR) $= \frac{\sum \text{True negative}}{\sum \text{Condition negative}}$	Negative likelihood ratio (LR-) $= \frac{\text{FNR}}{\text{TNR}}$	
					$F_1 \text{ score} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{\text{Recall}} + \frac{1}{\text{Precision}}} \cdot 2$

Incompatibility Between Fairness Metrics

		True condition				
		Condition positive	Condition negative	Prevalence = $\frac{\sum \text{Condition positive}}{\sum \text{Total population}}$	Accuracy (ACC) = $\frac{\sum \text{True positive} + \sum \text{True negative}}{\sum \text{Total population}}$	
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$$FPR = \frac{p}{1-p} \left(\frac{FDR}{1-FDR} \right) (1-FNR)$$

Incompatibility Between Fairness Metrics

$$FPR = \frac{p}{1-p} \left(\frac{FDR}{1-FDR} \right) (1-FNR)$$

False Positive Rate

Among all actual 0's,
fraction predicted to be 1

Prevalence

Fraction of
actual 1's in
population

False Discovery Rate

Among all predicted 1's,
fraction that are actual 0's
=(1 – precision)

False Negative Rate

Among all actual 1's,
fraction predicted to be 0

**Does that mean we
cannot achieve fairness
in ML models?**

Punitive Action Example

A model being used to make bail determinations
(keeping people in jail)

My fairness definition or yours?



Different people might consider it “fair” if:

It makes mistakes about denying bail to an equal number of white and black individuals.

Equal count of False Positives

$$P(\text{wrongly jailed, group } i) = C \quad \forall i$$

Different people might consider it “fair” if:

The chances that a given black or white person will be wrongly denied bail is equal, regardless of race.

Equal Group Size-Adjusted False Positives

$$P(\text{wrongly jailed} \mid \text{group } i) = C \quad \forall i$$

Different people might consider it “fair” if:

Among the jailed population, the probability of having been wrongly denied bail is independent of race.

Equal False Discovery Rate

$$P(\text{wrongly jailed} \mid \text{jailed, group } i) = C \quad \forall i$$

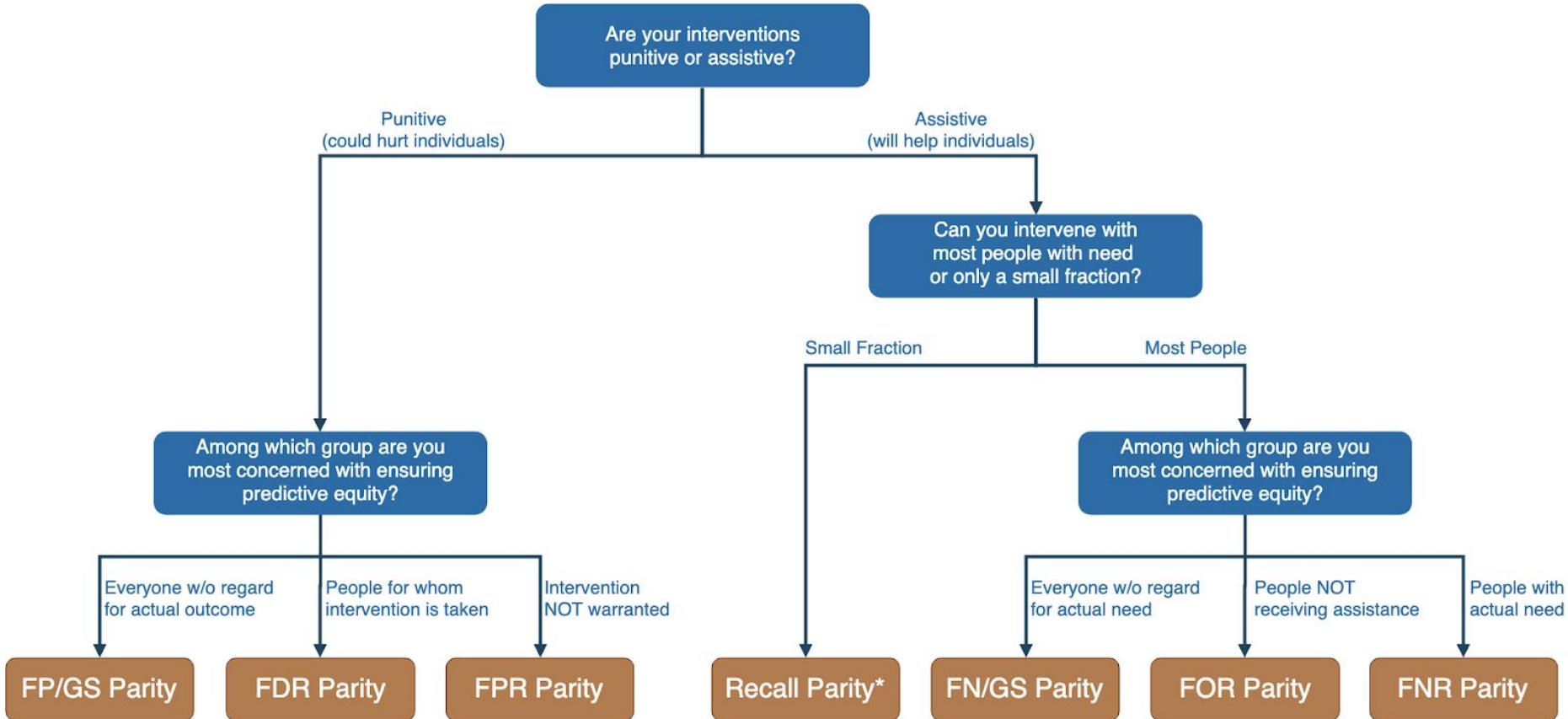
Different people might consider it “fair” if:

For people who should be released, the chances that a given black or white person will be denied bail is equal

Equal False Positive Rate

$$P(\text{wrongly jailed} \mid \text{innocent, group } i) = C \quad \forall i$$

Fairness Tree



Is the fairness tree “the answer”?

Is the fairness tree “the answer”?

No... but it's intended as a starting point to help guide a conversation between ML experts, policy makers, and those affected by the decisions.

Ultimately, the choice of fairness metric(s) is highly dependent on context and stakeholder values.



Legal and Social Principles

Choices about fairness and equity are *implicit* in any decision process but being made *explicit* by the growing use of algorithmic decision support.



Legal and Social Principles

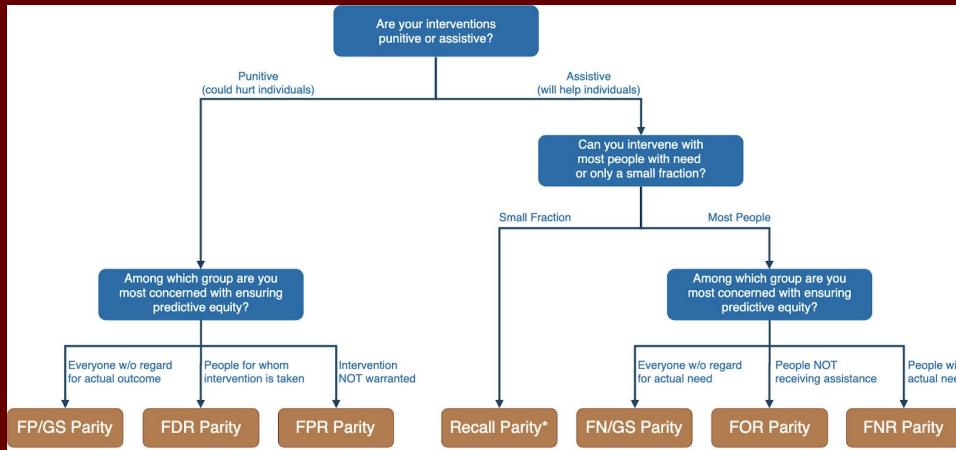
Choices about fairness and equity are *implicit* in any decision process but being made *explicit* by the growing use of algorithmic decision support.

What implicit choices about fairness are encoded when we say...

- Beyond a reasonable doubt? (e.g., criminal court)
- The preponderance of evidence? (e.g., civil court)
- Probable cause? (e.g., indictment by grand jury)
- Innocent until proven guilty?

BREAKOUT SESSION 1:

Fairness Metrics



Case Studies

Student Support

Loans

Disaster Relief

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Why Audit ML models for Bias

“If you don’t measure it, you can’t improve it.”

Creating awareness among stakeholders helps promoting bias and fairness as main KPI.

By measuring it, we can improve the system and also evaluate bias mitigation approaches.



<http://www.datasciencepublicpolicy.org/aequitas/>

What do you need to audit predictions of a model?

Predictions

(either binary predicted labels or scores along with a desired “top-k” list size)

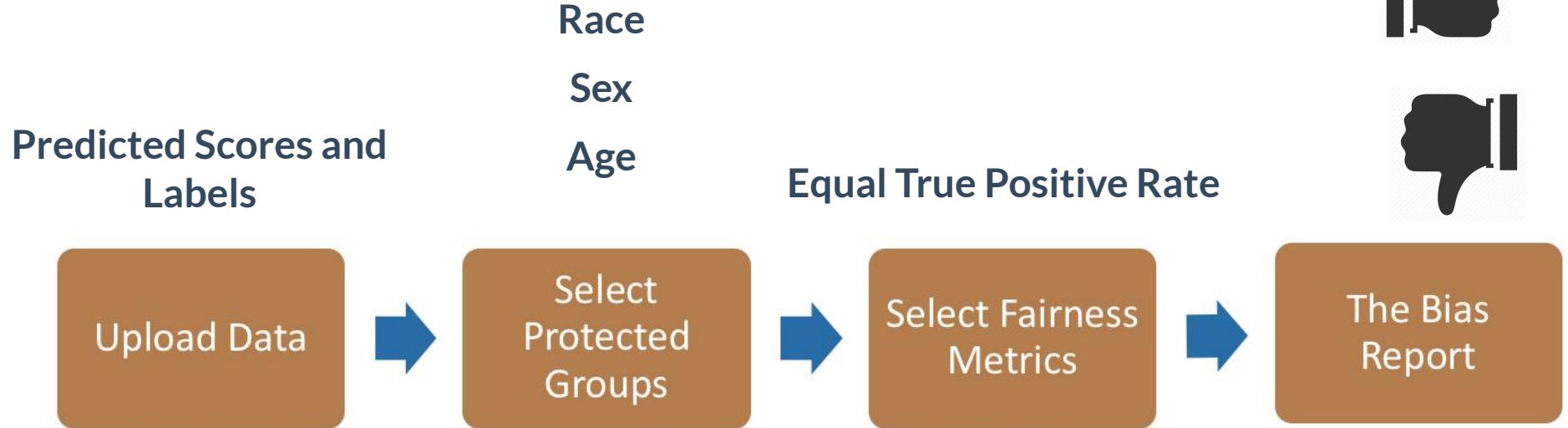
Attributes that define protected groups

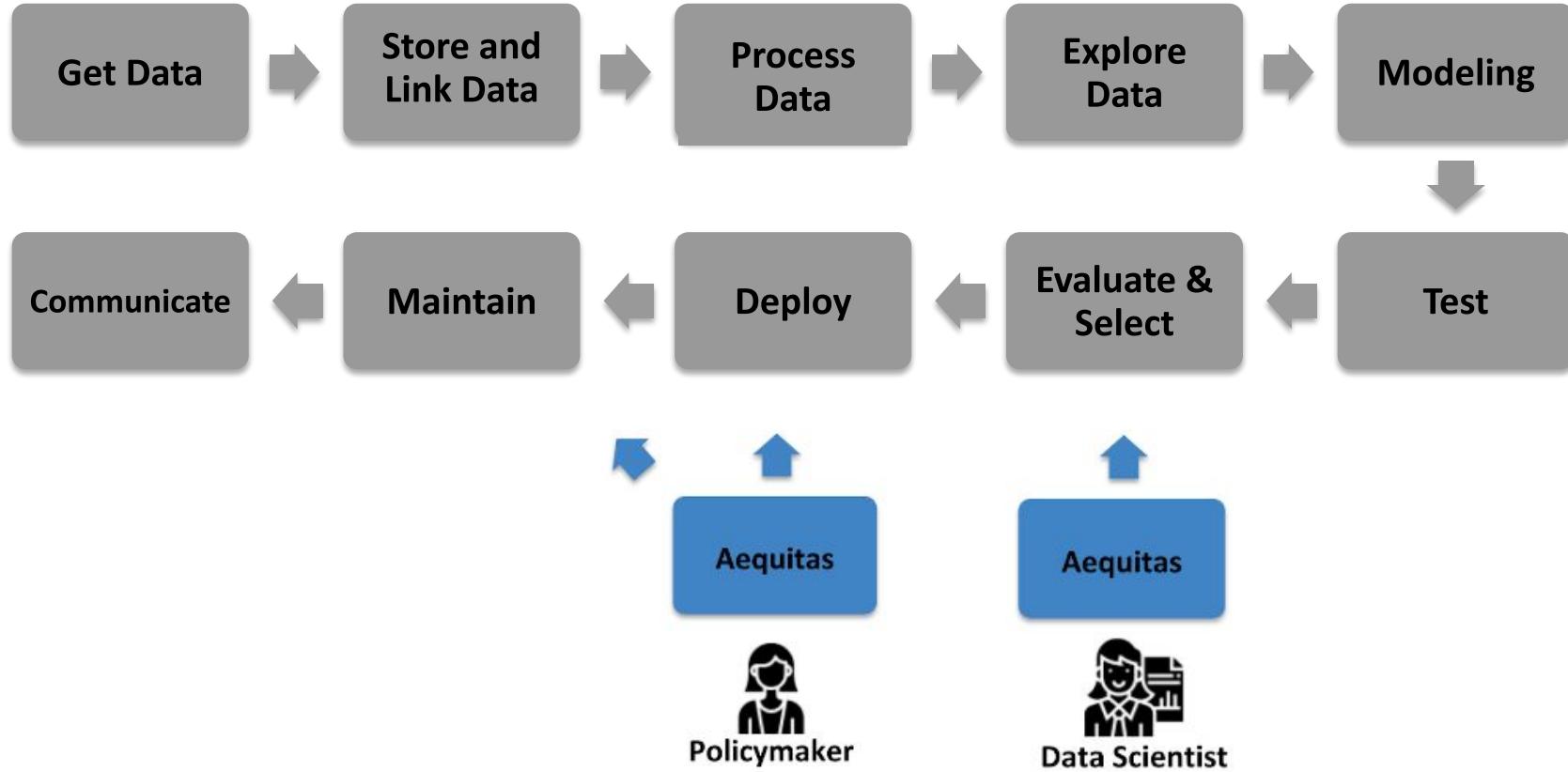
(e.g. race, sex, age)

Labels*

(if interested in disparate errors)

Bias Audit flow





Aequitas - Bias and Fairness Audit Toolkit

How can you use Aequitas?



Web Audit Tool

Try our Audit Tool to generate a Bias Report

1. Upload Data (or use pre-loaded sample data)
2. Configure (bias metrics of interest and reference groups)
3. Generate the Bias Report

[Try it out! >](#)



Python Library

Use our python code library to generate bias and fairness metrics on your data and predictions.

[Python Code >](#)



Command Line Tool

Use our command line tool to generate a report using your own data and predictions.



Audit COMPAS using Aequitas

Get acquainted with the tool by running the COMPAS demo notebook.

<https://github.com/dssg/aequitas>

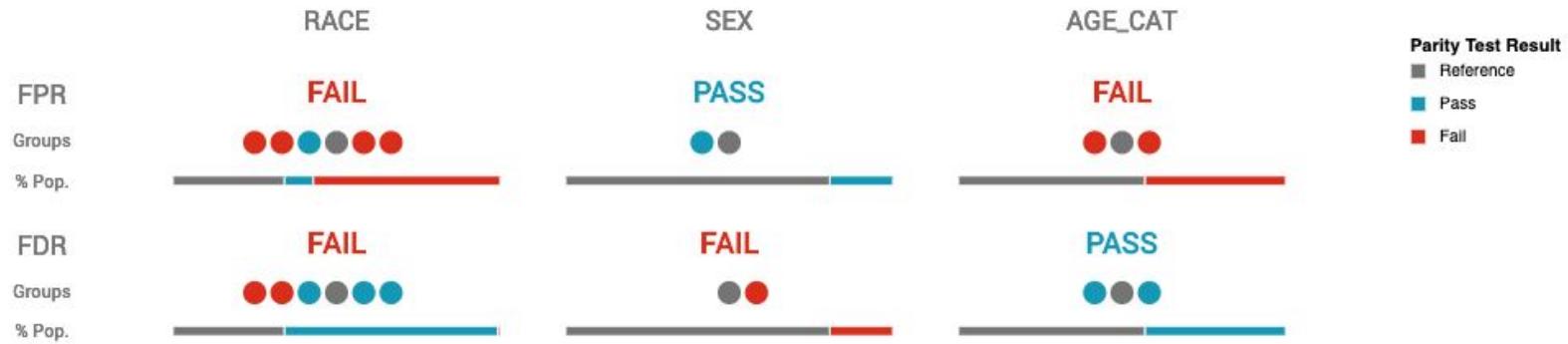


“There’s software used across the country to predict future criminals. And it’s biased against blacks.”

ProPublica, 2016

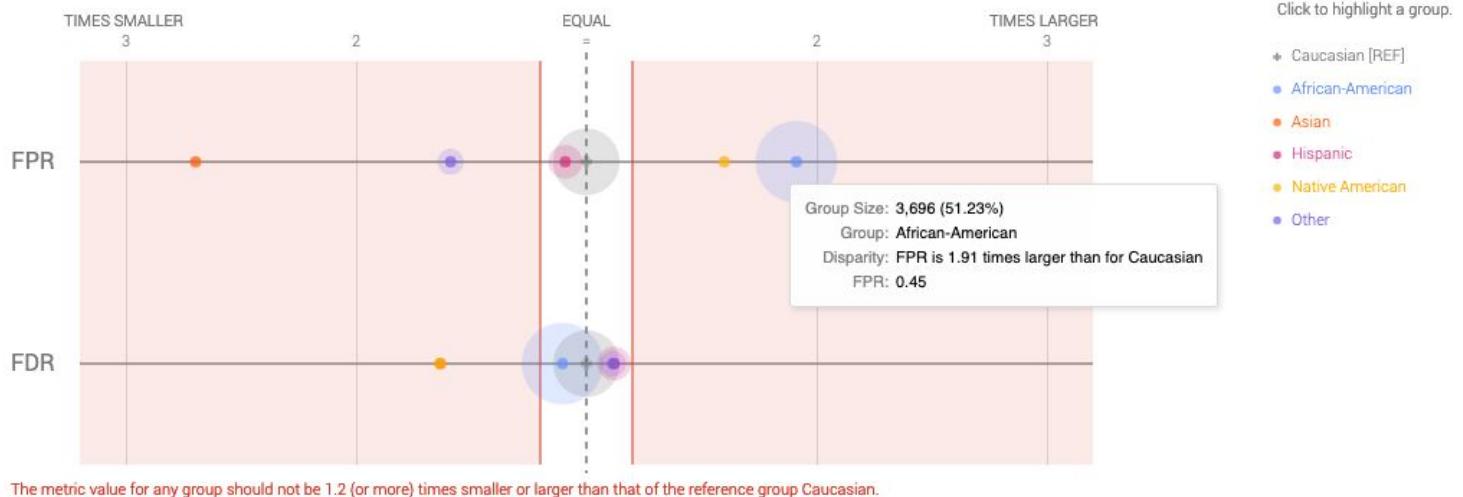


Aequitas Summary for COMPAS





Disparity Chart





Support a classroom. Build a future.

Teachers and students all over the U.S. need your help to bring their classroom dreams to life. Get crayons, books, telescopes, field trips, and more for a classroom today.

[See classroom projects](#)

Our efficiency and transparency have earned us the highest rating on Charity Navigator.

<http://www.donorschoose.com/>



Shoo Germs!

"Help me give my students the necessary supplies to stay safe in the classroom. To reduce the spread of germs, sanitizing products and storage containers need to be used to keep students healthy."

Mrs. Ng

PS 336 @ 474 • Ozone Park, NY



8 DONORS SO FAR

\$68 STILL NEEDED



First Grade Here We Come!

"Help me give my students literature to help facilitate conversations about race, privilege, diversity, and equality as well as the option of flexible lap desk seating amid Covid-19 social distance protocols."

Ms. Harvey

Thiells Elementary School • Thiells, NY



8 DONORS SO FAR

\$55 STILL NEEDED



Math and Reading Tools for Success!

"Help me give my students tactile math and reading tools, personal dry-erase boards, books, and other key learning tools so that they can learn successfully in school and at home this year."

Ms. Rodosky

Great Lakes Academy Charter School • Chicago, IL



6 DONORS SO FAR

\$40 STILL NEEDED

- Crowdfunding platform seeking to fill funding gaps faced by disadvantaged schools

- Has facilitated \$970 million in donations to projects affecting 40 million students in the United States

- About one-third of projects fail to meet their funding goal

Case Study Setting

Goal: Increase the fraction of projects that get funded

Data: Project details (resources, description, ask, etc); teacher, class, and school information; project donations

Analysis: Predict the risk projects will fail to achieve their funding ask within 4 months, prioritizing 1,000 projects for intervention every 2 months

Actions: Provide identified projects with expert review and tailored suggestions for improving their prospects

HANDS-ON:

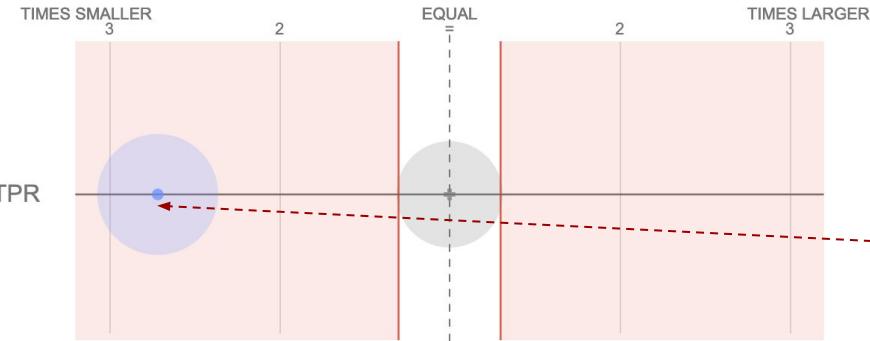
Auditing a Model for Bias

(click on link to load notebook and run setup)

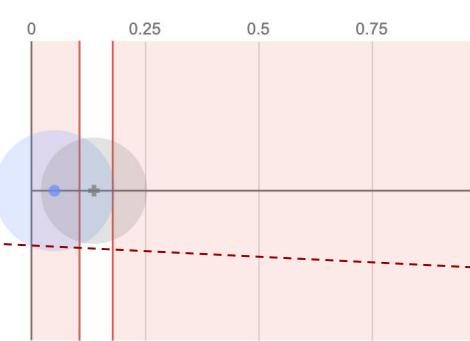
Auditing a Model for Bias

What did we find?

DISPARITIES



METRICS

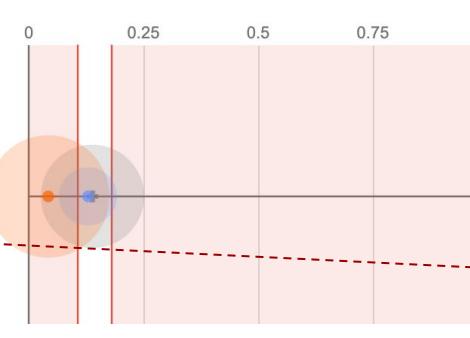
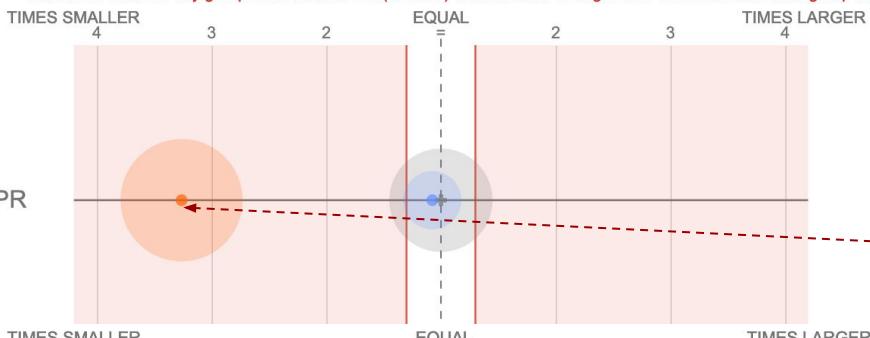


Poverty Level of the School

+

●

TPR for high poverty schools is 2.6x lower than low poverty schools



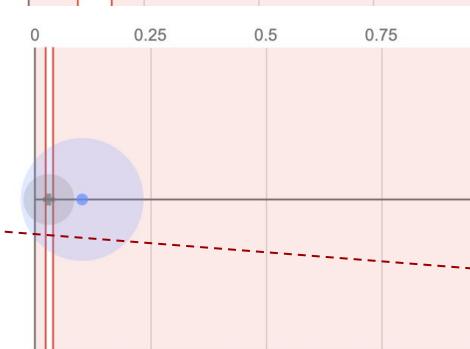
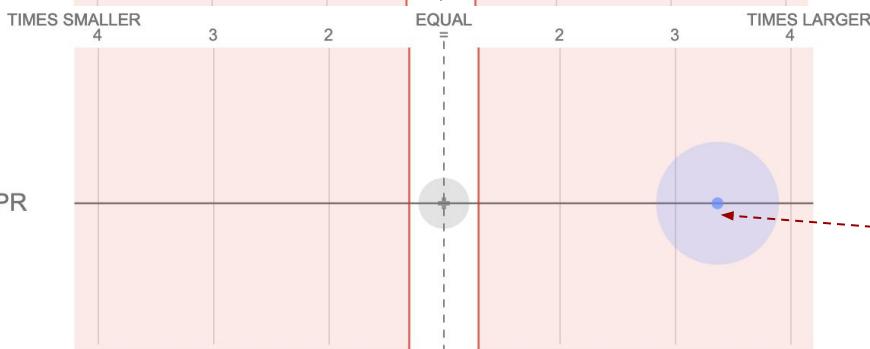
Location Type of the School

+

●

●

TPR for urban schools is 3.3x lower than suburban/rural schools



Sex of the Teacher

+

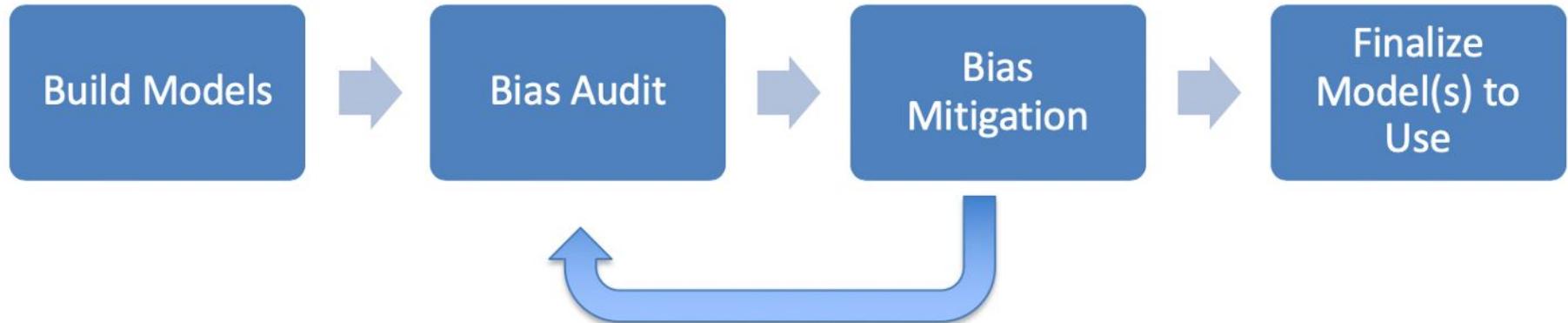
●

TPR for male teacher projects is 3.5x lower than female teacher projects

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Workflow



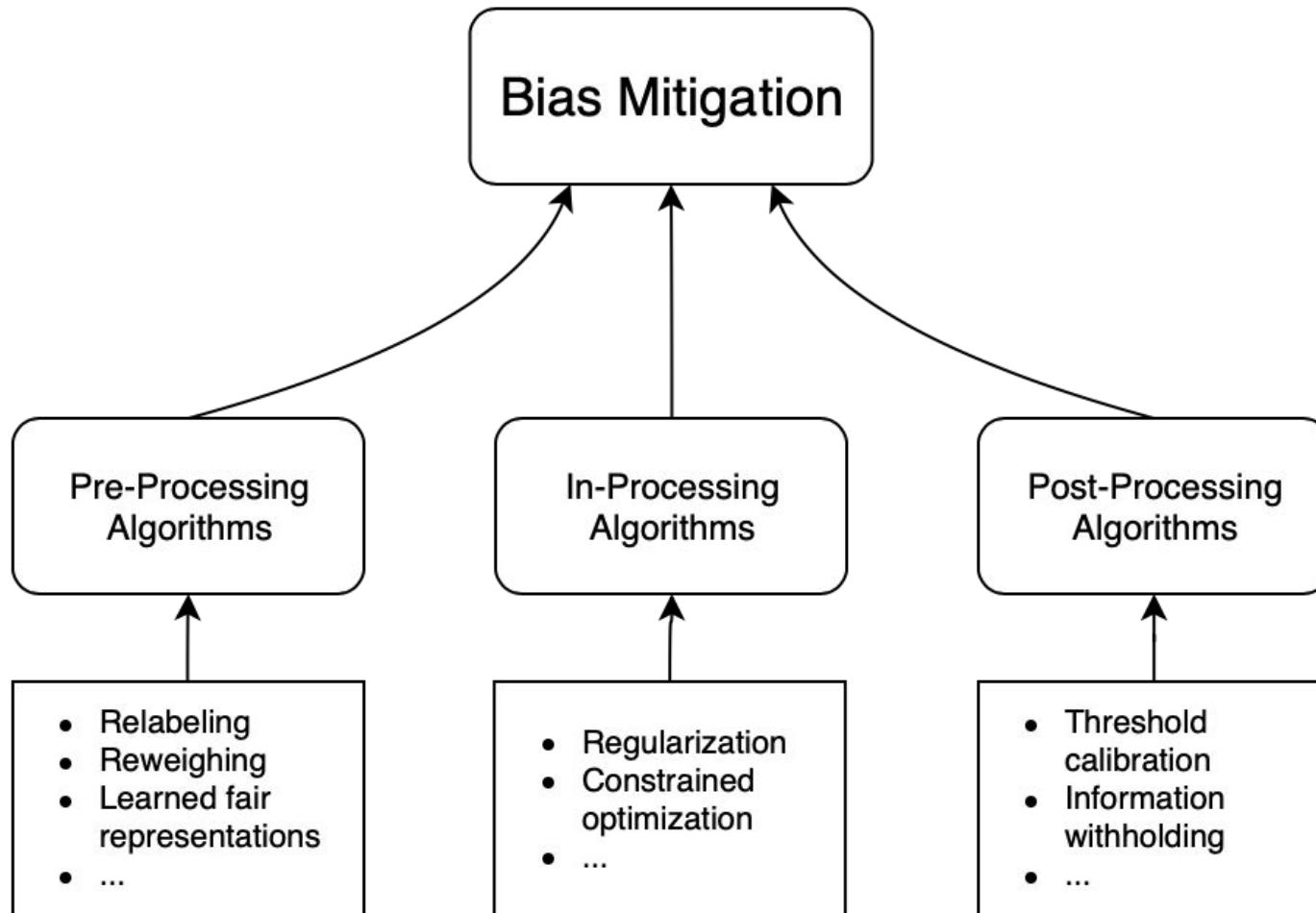
How can we reduce bias in ML models?

- Fix the world
- Fix the input data
 - ⊖ ~~Remove sensitive attributes~~
 - Resample and/or reweight protected groups
- Choose fair models during model selection
- Optimize for fairness in model training
- Post-hoc adjustments to ‘de-bias’ model scores

If the model doesn't know the race/sex/... how can it discriminate?

There is no fairness through unawareness.
A “race/sex/... blind” model can discriminate.

"There's no gender bias in our process for extending credit," Solomon said in an interview with **Bloomberg TV** late Thursday. "We don't ask whether — when someone applies — if they're a man or a woman. We don't ask if they're married."



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Relabeling / Massaging

Algorithm 1 *Classification with No Discrimination (CND)*

Input $(D, s, SA, +)$

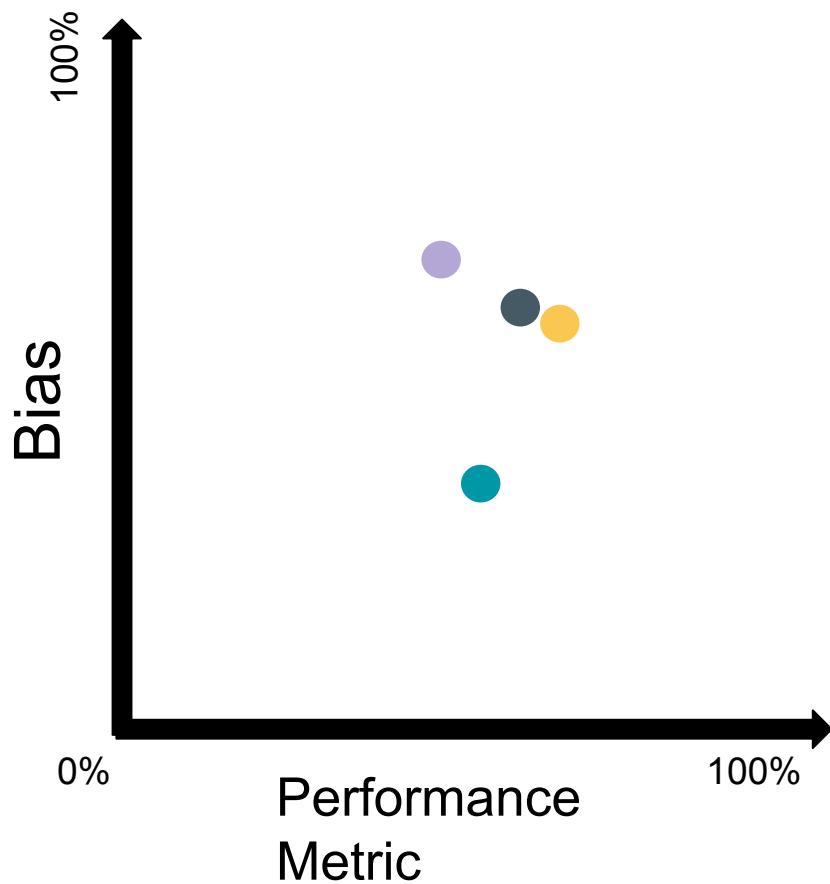
Output Classifier CND learnt on D without discrimination

- 1: $(pr, dem) := Rank(D, SA, s, +)$
 - 2: $existDisc := Disc(D, SA, s, +)$
 - 3: Calculate M , the number of necessary modifications based on $existDisc$
 - 4: **for** M times **do**
 - 5: Select the data object from the top of pr
 - 6: Change the class label of the selected object in D
 - 7: Select the data object from the top of dem
 - 8: Change the class label of the selected object in D
 - 9: Remove the top element both of pr and dem
 - 10: **end for**
 - 11: Train a classifier CND on the modified D
 - 12: **return** CND
-

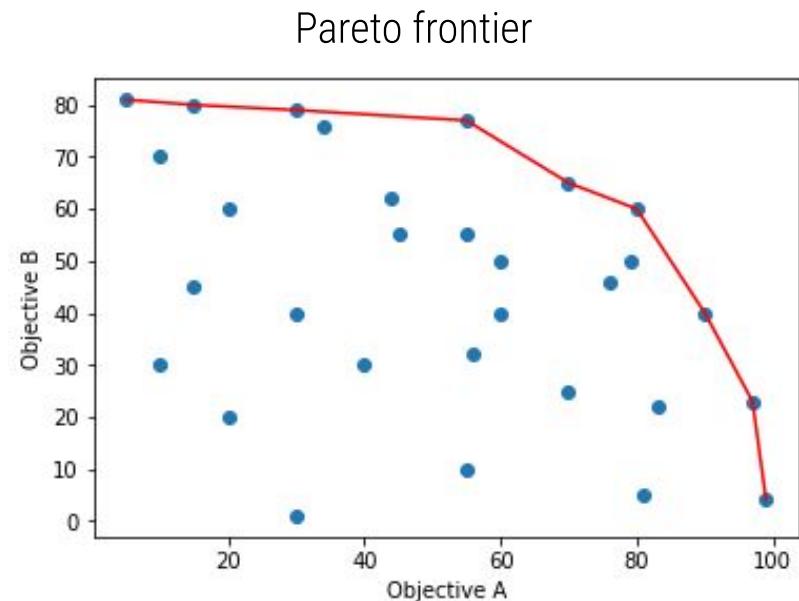
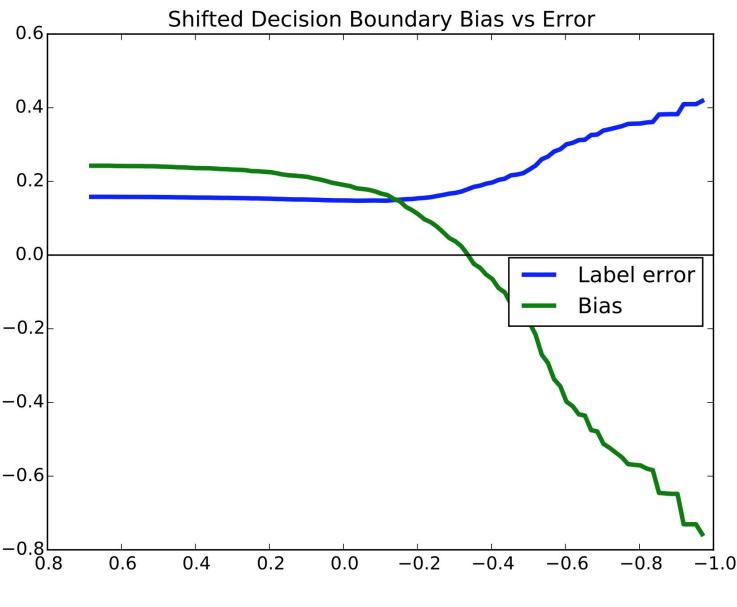
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Fairness-Accuracy Tradeoff



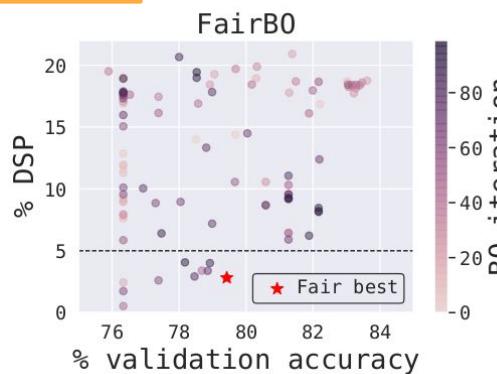
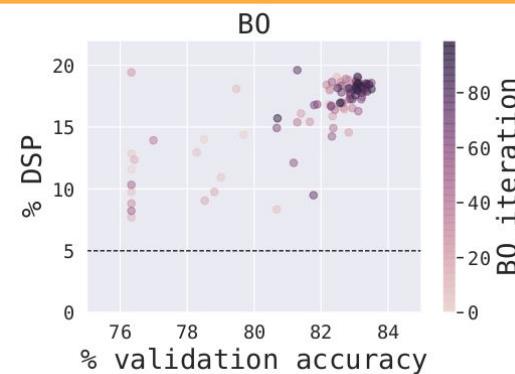
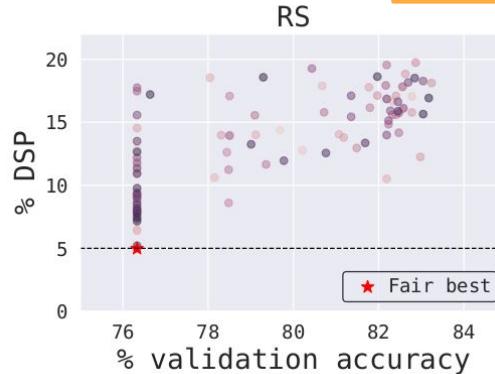
[Fish et al., A Confidence-Based Approach for Balancing Fairness and Accuracy, ICDM 2016]

Fair Bayesian Hyperparameter Optimization (June 2020)



- Bayesian optimization approach
 - Blind to resource usage
 - Constraint may not be possible to fulfill

$$cEI(\mathbf{x}) = EI(\mathbf{x})P(c(\mathbf{x}) \leq \epsilon)$$



[ref. link]

How can we reduce bias in ML models?

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Constrained Optimization



$$\min_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mathcal{D}} [\ell_0(x; \theta)] \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \forall i \in [m] \quad \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mathcal{D}} [\ell_i(x; \theta)] \leq 0$$

Minimize loss l0 subject to n data-dependent constraints li.



A Reductions Approach to Fair Classification

Alekh Agarwal¹ Alina Beygelzimer² Miroslav Dudík¹ John Langford¹ Hanna Wallach¹

Algorithm 1 Exp. gradient reduction for fair classification

Input: training examples $\{(X_i, Y_i, A_i)\}_{i=1}^n$
fairness constraints specified by $g_j, \mathcal{E}_j, \mathbf{M}, \hat{\mathbf{c}}$
bound B , accuracy ν , learning rate η

Set $\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 = \mathbf{0} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{K}|}$

for $t = 1, 2, \dots$ **do**

 Set $\lambda_{t,k} = B \frac{\exp\{\theta_k\}}{1 + \sum_{k' \in \mathcal{K}} \exp\{\theta_{k'}\}}$ for all $k \in \mathcal{K}$

$h_t \leftarrow \text{BEST}_h(\boldsymbol{\lambda}_t)$

$\widehat{Q}_t \leftarrow \frac{1}{t} \sum_{t'=1}^t h_{t'}, \quad \overline{L} \leftarrow L\left(\widehat{Q}_t, \text{BEST}_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}(\widehat{Q}_t)\right)$

$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_t \leftarrow \frac{1}{t} \sum_{t'=1}^t \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{t'}, \quad \underline{L} \leftarrow L\left(\text{BEST}_h(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_t), \widehat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_t\right)$

$\nu_t \leftarrow \max\left\{L(\widehat{Q}_t, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_t) - \underline{L}, \quad \overline{L} - L(\widehat{Q}_t, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_t)\right\}$

if $\nu_t \leq \nu$ **then**

 Return $(\widehat{Q}_t, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_t)$

end if

 Set $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1} = \boldsymbol{\theta}_t + \eta (\mathbf{M}\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}(h_t) - \widehat{\mathbf{c}})$

end for

Optimize for Fairness in Model Training

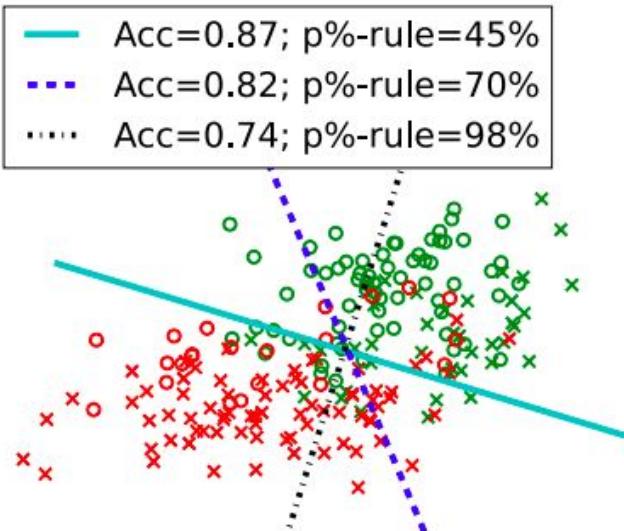


Fairness Constraints: Mechanisms for Fair Classification

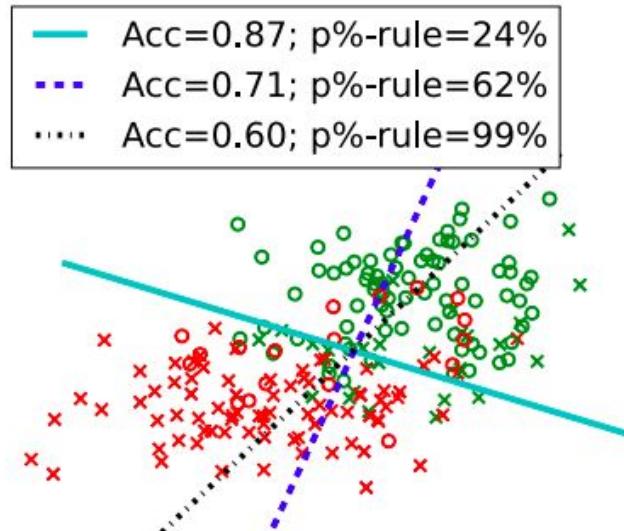
Muhammad Bilal Zafar, Isabel Valera, Manuel Gomez Rodriguez, Krishna P. Gummadi
Max Planck Institute for Software Systems (MPI-SWS), Germany



Optimize for Fairness in Model Training



$$\phi = \pi/4$$



$$\phi = \pi/8$$

(a) Maximizing accuracy under fairness constraints



**Training Well-Generalizing Classifiers for Fairness Metrics and Other
Data-Dependent Constraints**

Andrew Cotter¹ Maya Gupta¹ Heinrich Jiang¹ Nathan Srebro² Karthik Sridharan³ Serena Wang¹
Blake Woodworth² Seungil You⁴

Lagrangian Formulation

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta, \lambda) = l_0(\theta) + \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i \cdot l_i(\theta)$$

How can we reduce bias in ML models?

- Fix the world
- Fix the input data
 - ⊖ ~~Remove sensitive attributes~~
 - Resample and/or reweight protected groups
- Choose fair models during model selection
- Optimize for fairness in model training
- **Post-hoc adjustments to de-bias model scores**

Post-hoc Adjustments

Equality of Opportunity in Supervised Learning

Moritz Hardt
Google
m@mrtz.org

Eric Price*
UT Austin
ecprice@cs.utexas.edu

Nathan Srebro
TTI-Chicago
nati@ttic.edu



Post-hoc Adjustments

Definition 2.2 (Equal opportunity). We say that a binary predictor \hat{Y} satisfies *equal opportunity* with respect to A and Y if $\Pr\{\hat{Y} = 1 \mid A = 0, Y = 1\} = \Pr\{\hat{Y} = 1 \mid A = 1, Y = 1\}$.

aka recall or TPR

A red arrow points from the text "aka recall or TPR" up towards the definition of equal opportunity in the previous block.

Post-hoc Adjustments



Definition 2.2 (Equal opportunity). We say that a binary predictor \hat{Y} satisfies *equal opportunity* with respect to A and Y if $\Pr\{\hat{Y} = 1 \mid A = 0, Y = 1\} = \Pr\{\hat{Y} = 1 \mid A = 1, Y = 1\}$.

“

That is, to require that people who pay back their loan have an equal opportunity of getting a loan in the first place.”

Post-hoc Adjustments



█	Achievable region ($A=0$)
█	Achievable region ($A=1$)
█	Overlap
+	Result for $\tilde{Y} = \hat{Y}$
×	Result for $\tilde{Y} = 1 - \hat{Y}$
★	Equal-odds optimum
●	Equal opportunity ($A=0$)
●	Equal opportunity ($A=1$)

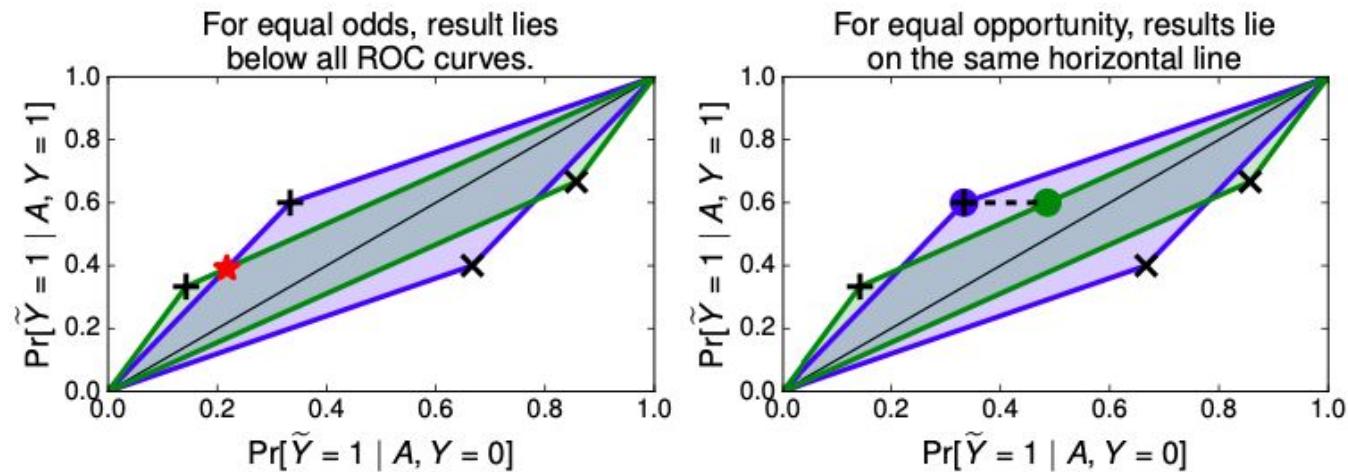
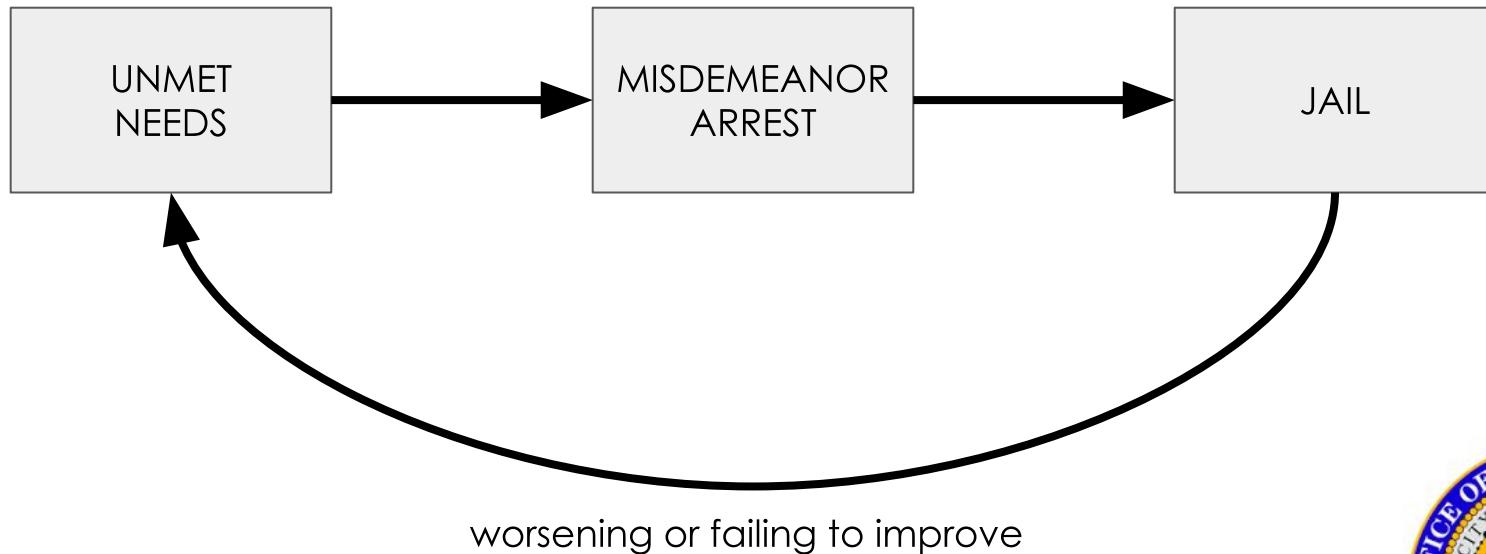


Figure 1: Finding the optimal equalized odds predictor (left), and equal opportunity predictor (right).

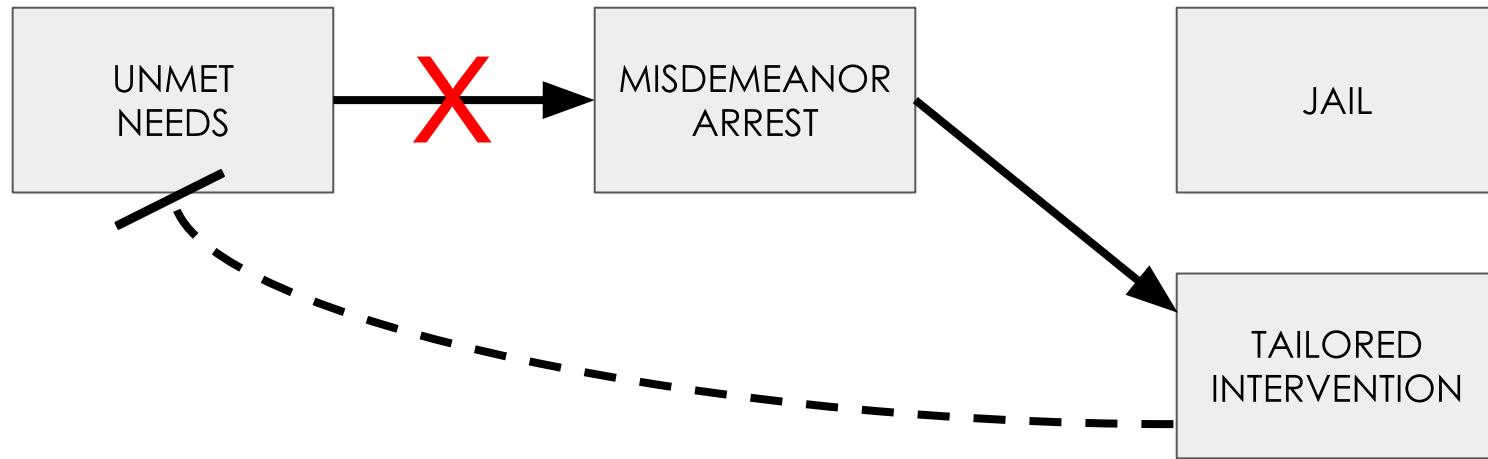
Case Study: Post-hoc Adjustments and Policy Goals

Cycle of Incarceration



Case Study: Post-hoc Adjustments and Policy Goals

Breaking the Cycle



Are your interventions
punitive or assistive?

Punitive
(could hurt individuals)

Assistive
(will help individuals)

Can you intervene with
most people with need
or only a small fraction?

Among which group are you
most concerned with ensuring
predictive equity?

Everyone w/o regard
for actual outcome

People for whom
intervention is taken

Intervention
NOT warranted

FP/GS Parity

FDR Parity

FPR Parity

Recall Parity*

FN/GS Parity

FOR Parity

FNR Parity

Small Fraction

Most People

Among which group are you
most concerned with ensuring
predictive equity?

Everyone w/o regard
for actual need

People NOT
receiving assistance

People with
actual need

Are your interventions
punitive or assistive?

Punitive
(could hurt individuals)

Assistive
(will help individuals)

Can you intervene with
most people with need
or only a small fraction?

Among which group are you
most concerned with ensuring
predictive equity?

Everyone w/o regard
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People for whom
intervention is taken

Intervention
NOT warranted

FP/GS Parity

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FPR Parity

Recall Parity*

FN/GS Parity

FOR Parity

FNR Parity

Small Fraction

Most People

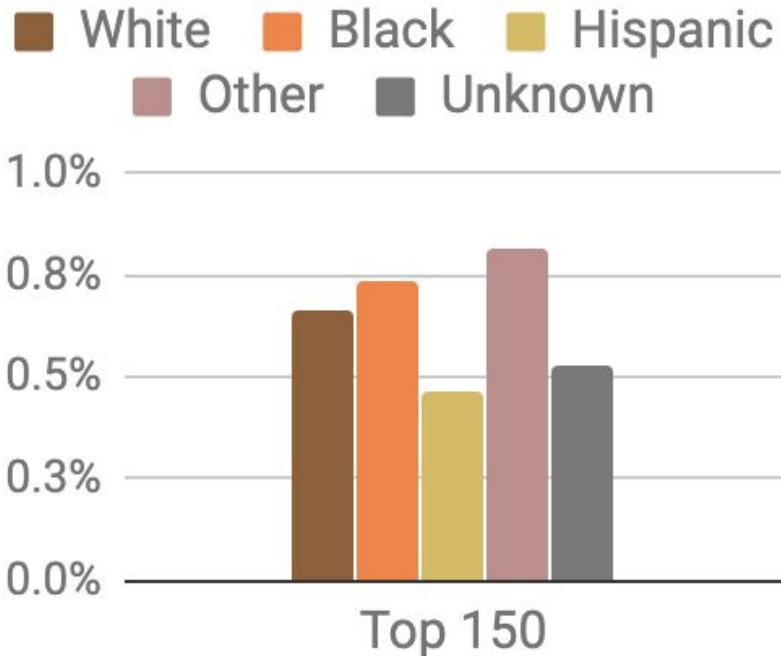
Among which group are you
most concerned with ensuring
predictive equity?

Everyone w/o regard
for actual need

People NOT
receiving assistance

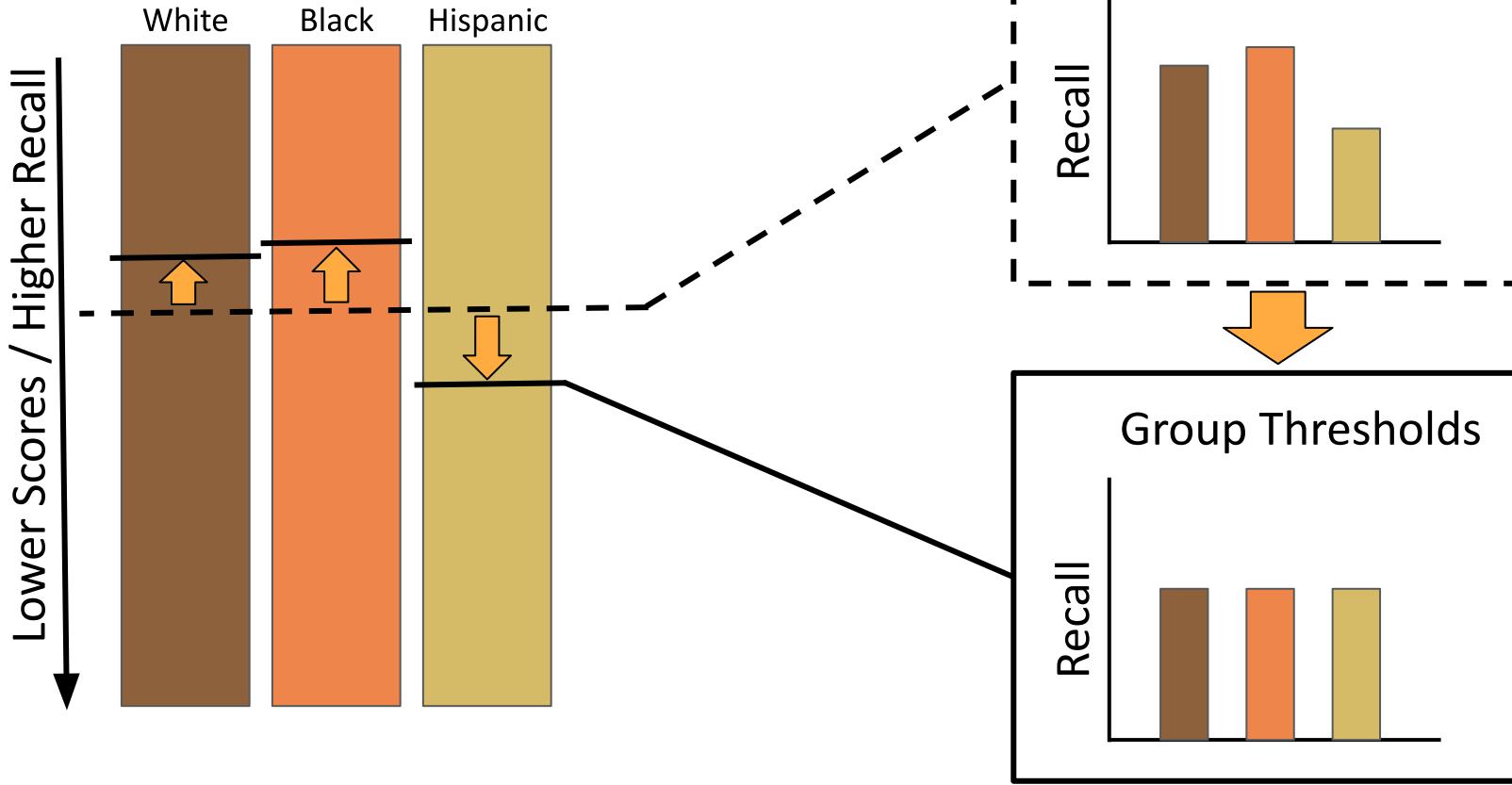
People with
actual need

Recall by Race/Ethnicity

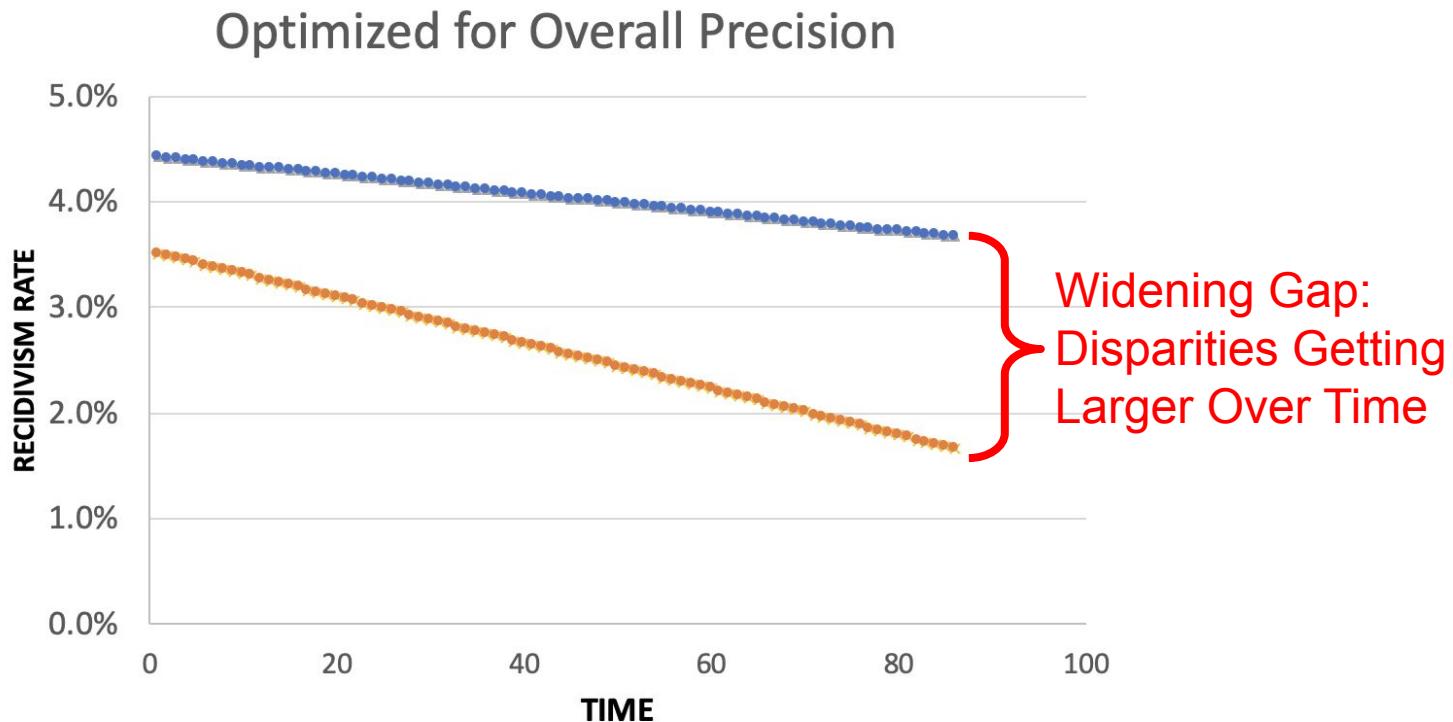


- Model was optimized for efficiency, not equity
- Top 150 highest risk reasonably balanced between black and white individuals
- However, hispanic and unknown race/ethnicity groups very underrepresented

Mitigating Disparities

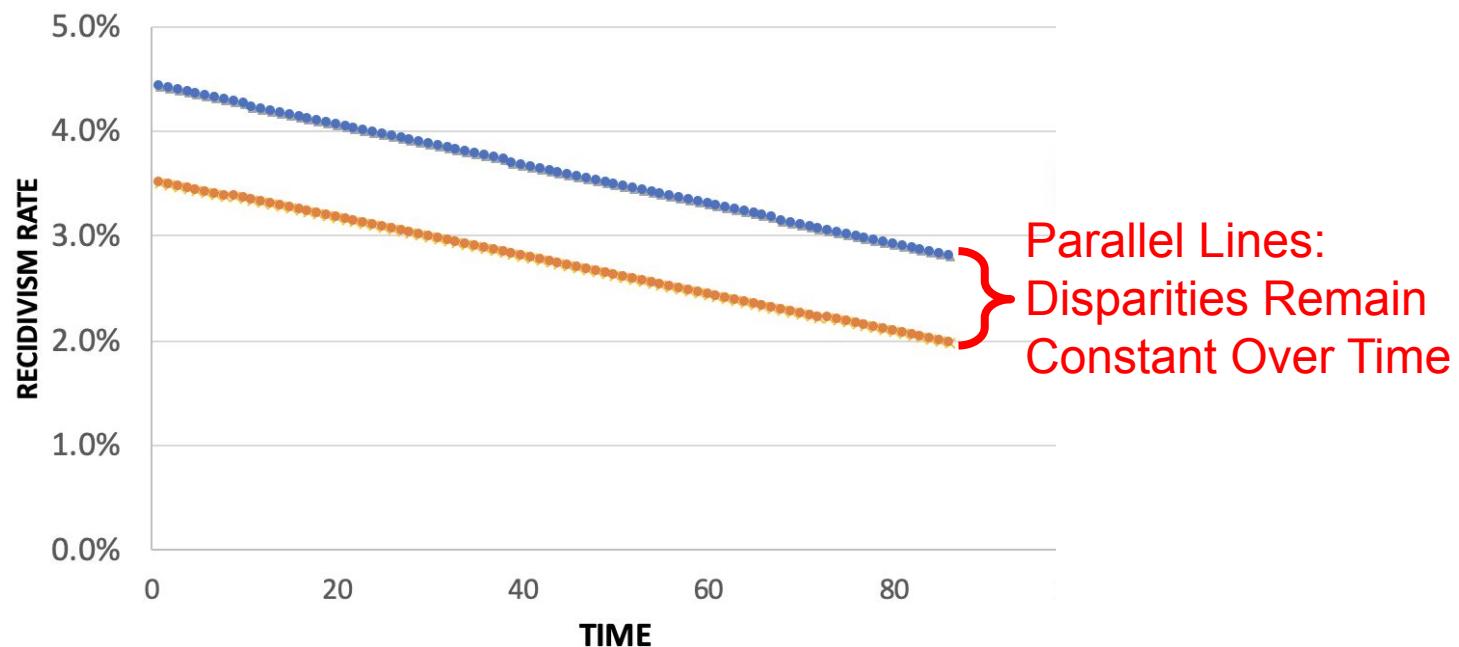


Equality of Predictions vs Underlying Disparities

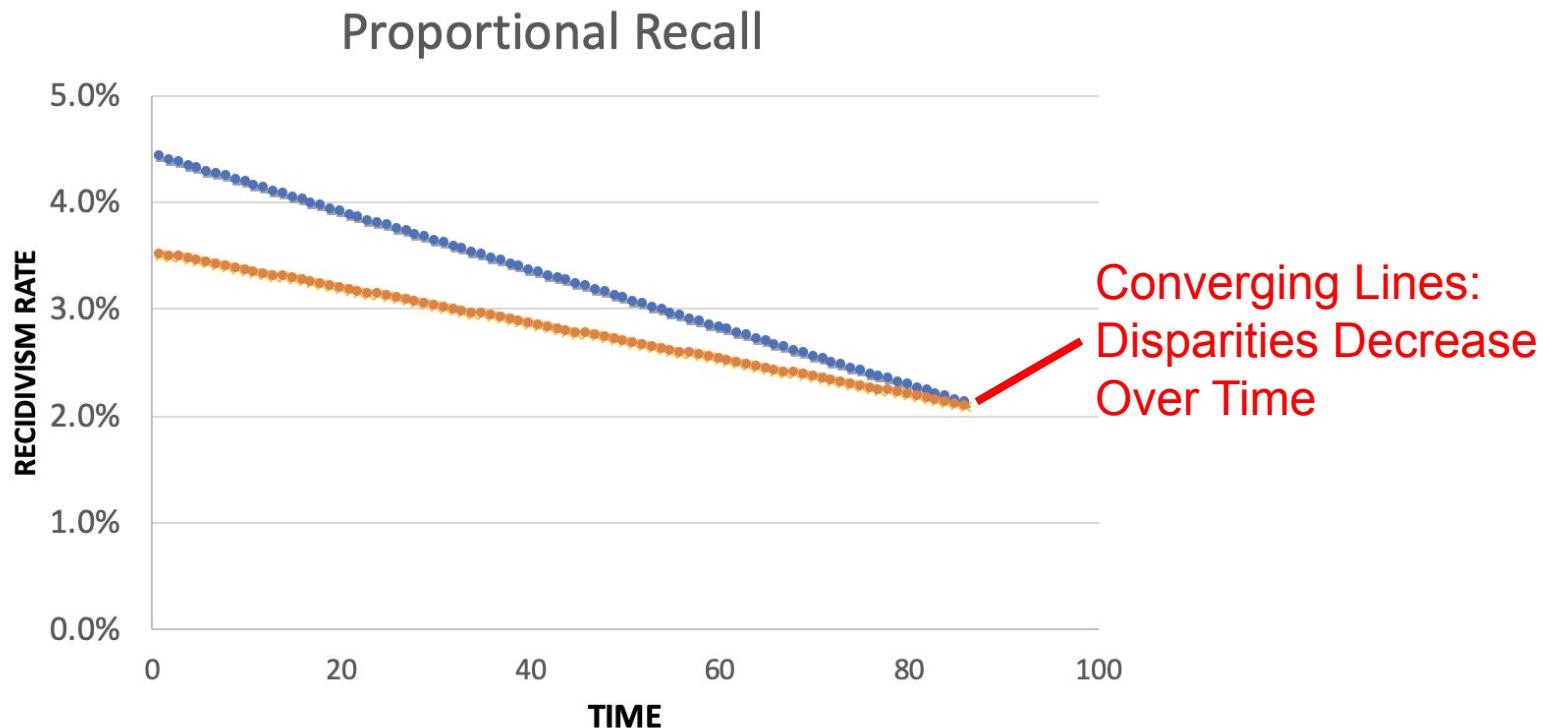


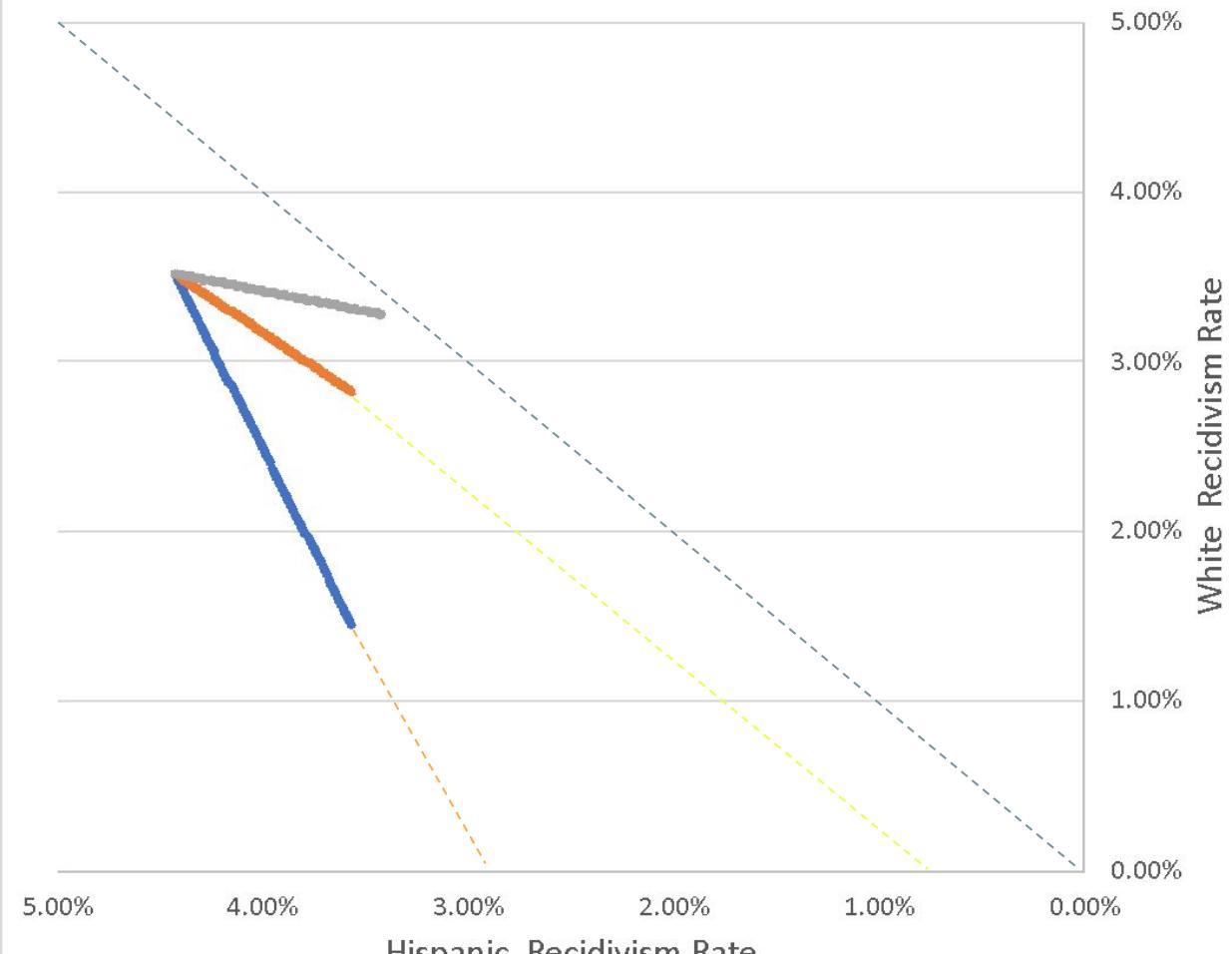
Equality of Predictions vs Underlying Disparities

Equal Recall



Equality of Predictions vs Underlying Disparities





Menu of Options



Current Scale

Expanded Scale

No
Constraint

Equalize
Recall

Reduce
Disparities



Menu of Options

	Current Scale	Expanded Scale
No Constraint	INITIAL MODEL	
Equalize Recall		
Reduce Disparities		

Menu of Options



	Current Scale	Expanded Scale
No Constraint		
Equalize Recall	EXPLICIT EQUITY / EFFICIENCY TRADE-OFF	“COST OF EQUITY”
Reduce Disparities		



Menu of Options

	Current Scale	Expanded Scale
No Constraint		
Equalize Recall		IMPROVE OUTCOMES AT SAME RATE ACROSS GROUPS
Reduce Disparities		IMPROVE OUTCOMES FASTER FOR GROUPS WITH HIGHER INCARCERATION RATES



Recall by Race/Ethnicity Group

■ White ■ Black ■ Hispanic ■ Other ■ Unknown

1.2%

0.9%

0.6%

0.3%

0.0%

Top 150

Exp. Eq.

Exp. Prop.

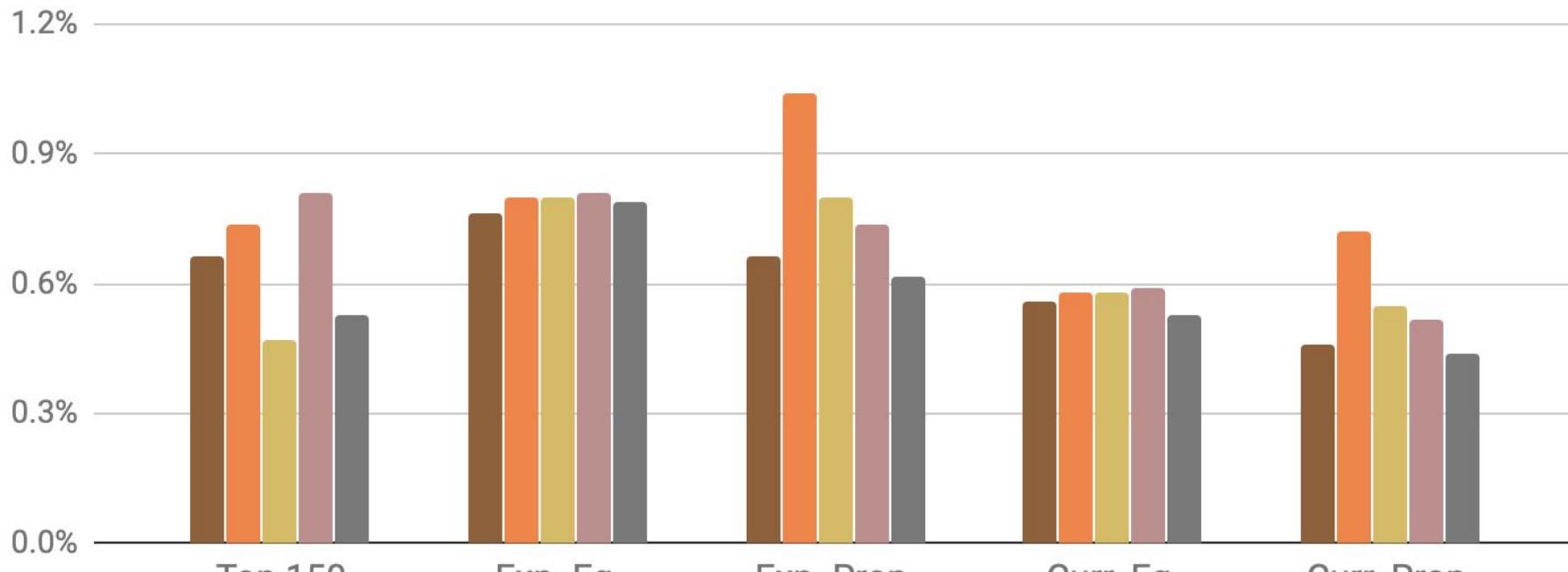
Curr. Eq.

Curr. Prop.

Base Model

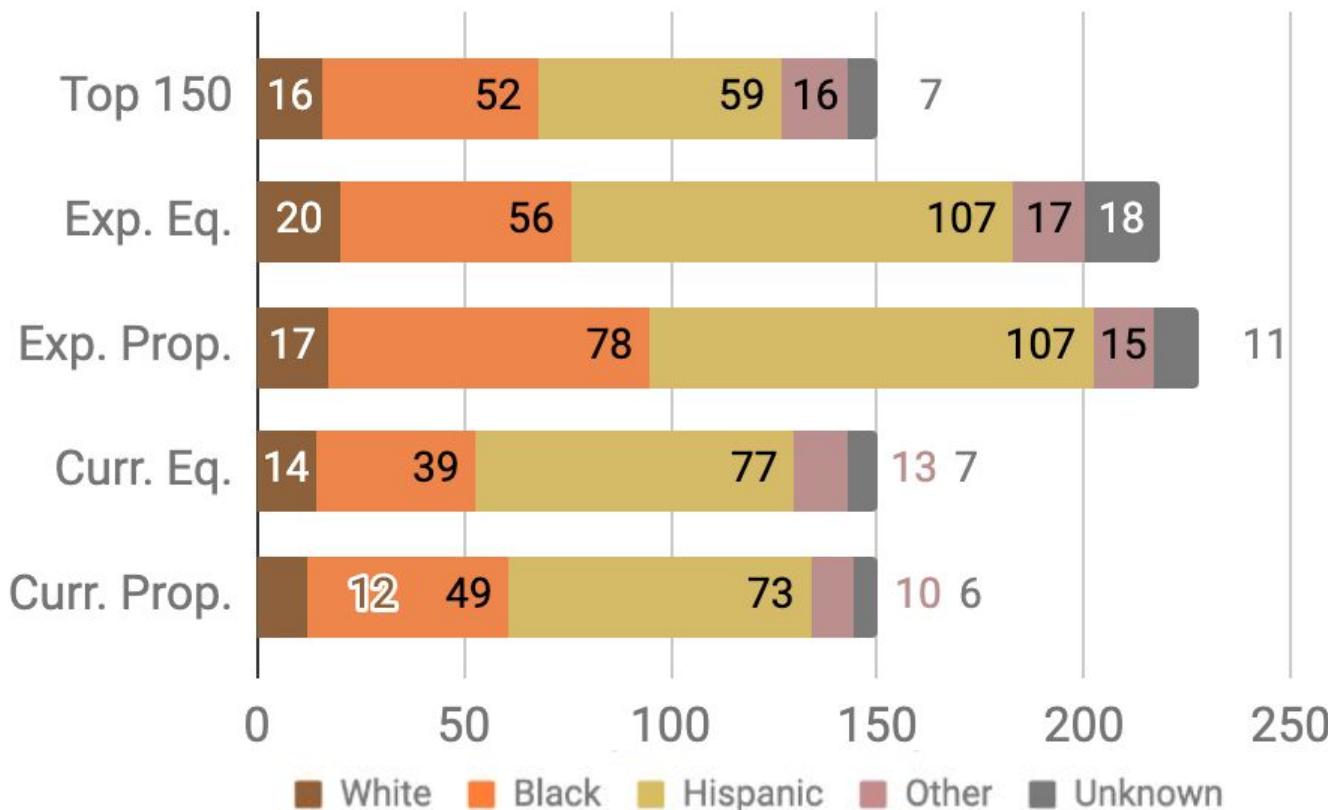
Expanded Scale

Current Scale





Counts by Race/Ethnicity Group



Little Equity/Efficiency Trade-Off at Current Scale

Top 150

72.7%

Precision

150

Total Count

Equal
Recall

70.7%

Precision

150

Total Count

Proportional
Recall

70.7%

Precision

150

Total Count



Delayed Impact of Fair Machine Learning

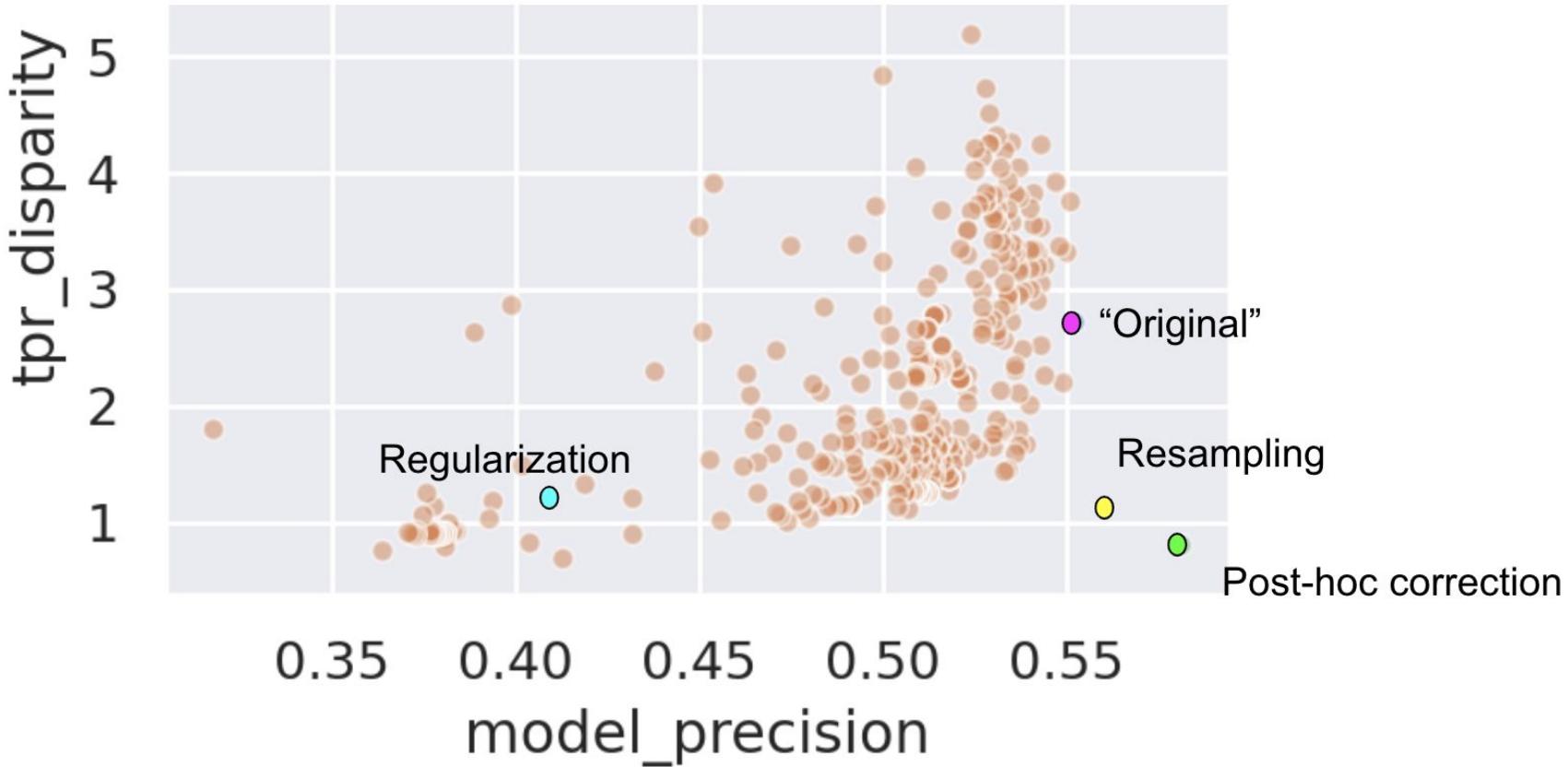
Lydia T. Liu* Sarah Dean* Esther Rolf* Max Simchowitz* Moritz Hardt*

HANDS-ON:
Improving Fairness
(click on link to open notebook)

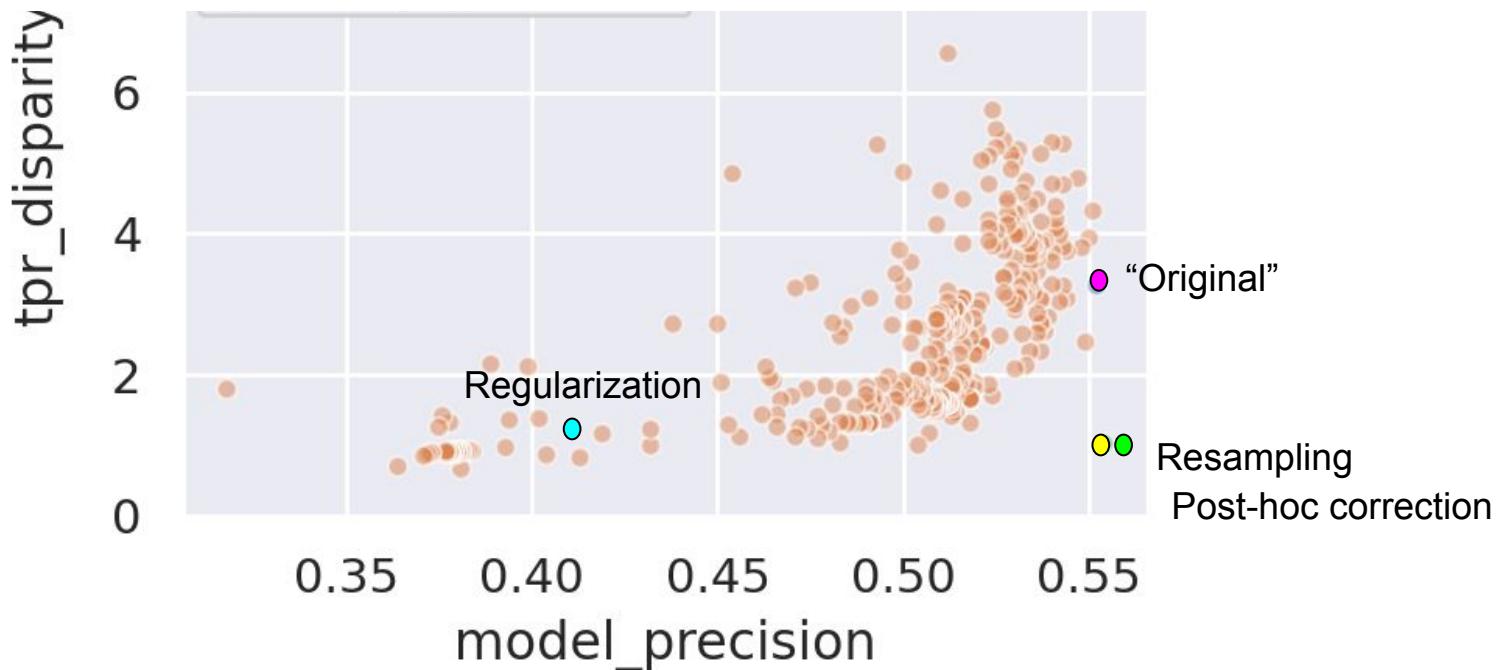
Regroup: Improving Fairness

What did we find?

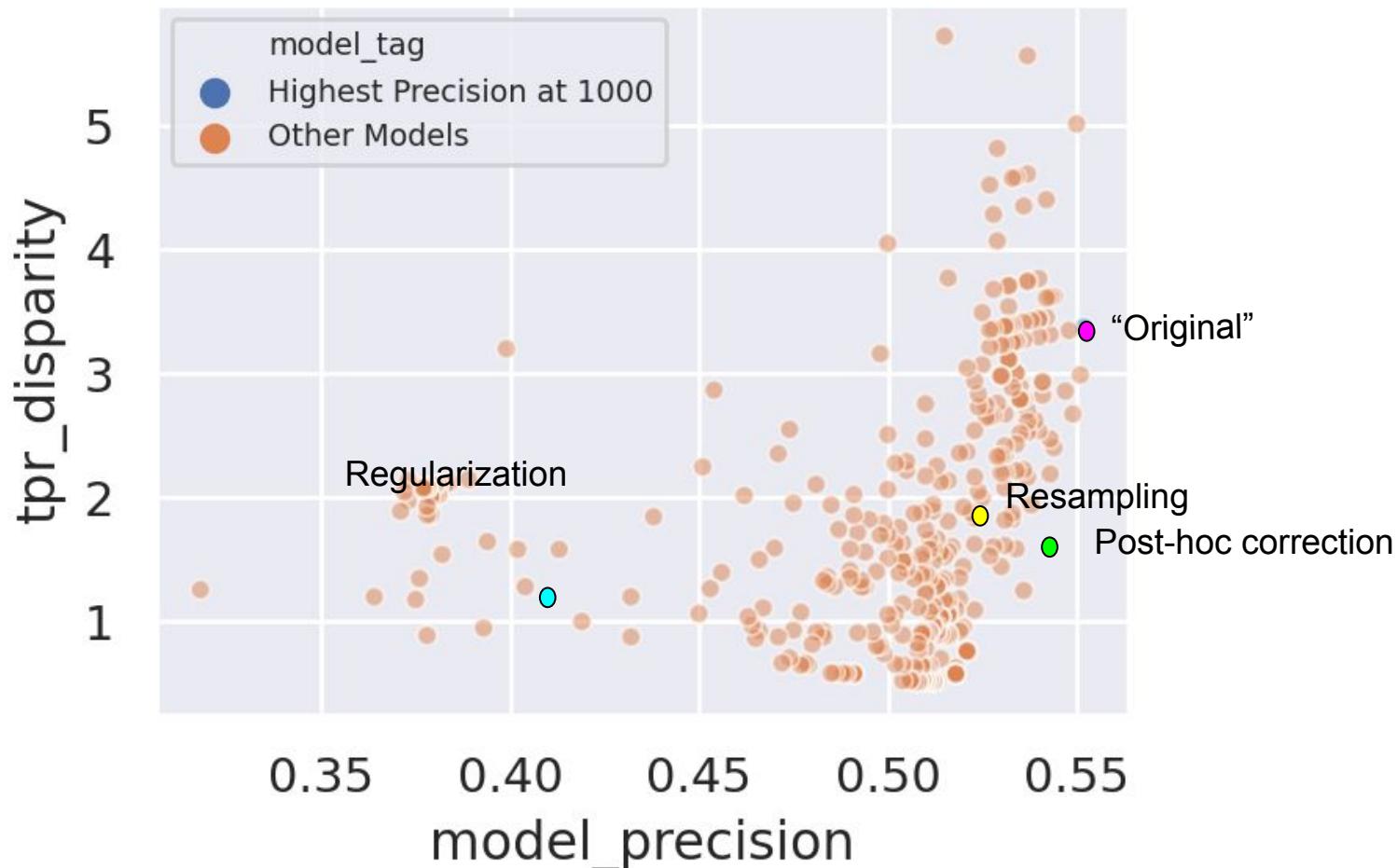
Change in Disparity for Poverty Level

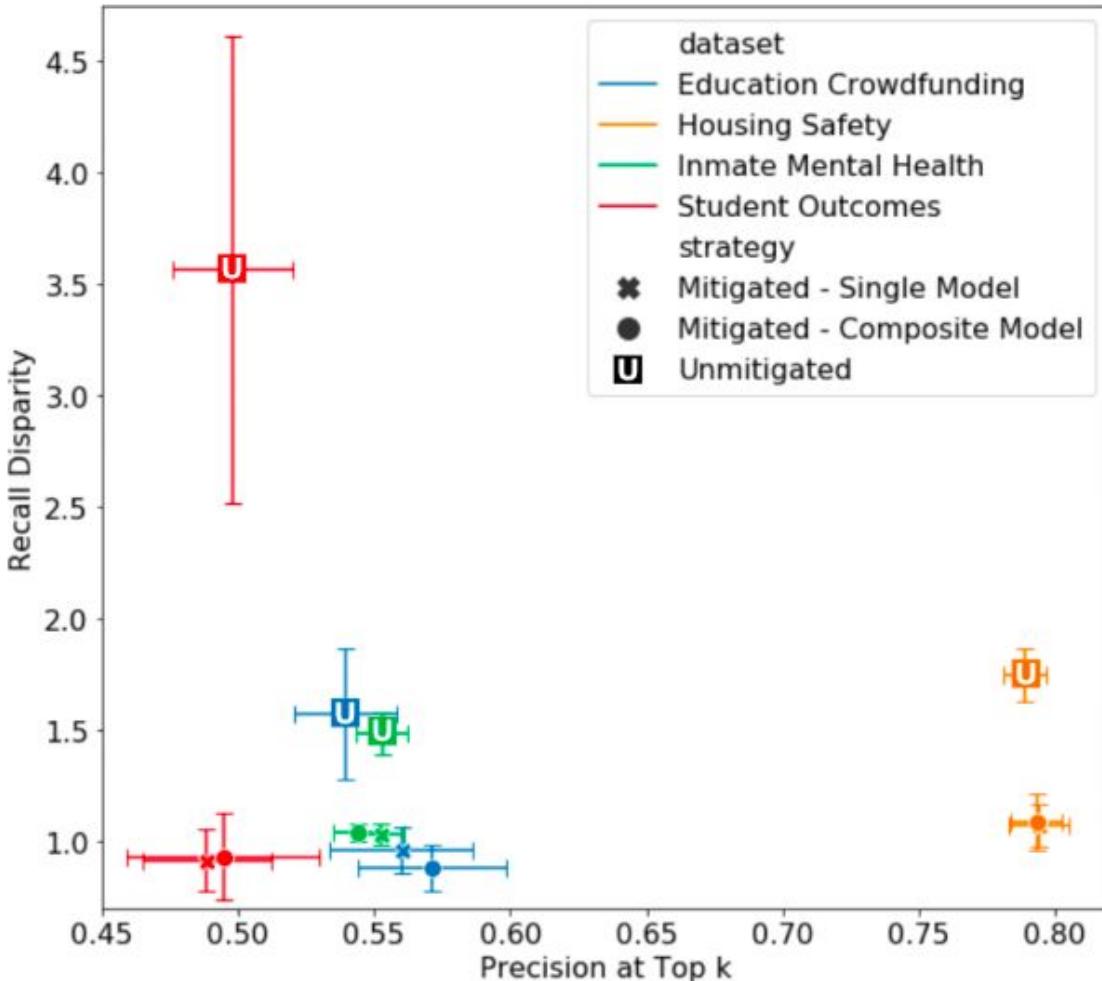


Change in Disparity for MetroType



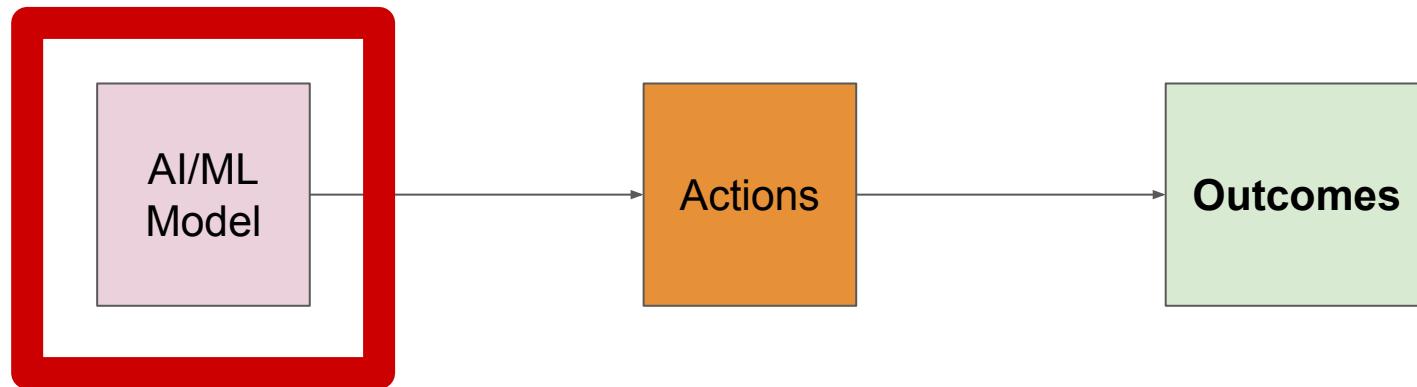
tpr_disparity vs.model_precision for teacher_sex:female





Wrap-Up

The goal is not to make the ML model fair but to
make the overall system and outcomes fair



Things to remember

Make bias, fairness, and equity an integral part of every project: Scoping, community engagement, metrics, validation, monitoring outcomes

Understand how different phases of the project could lead to downstream bias

All bias metrics are not created equal - use the Fairness Tree to understand your problem/use case and select appropriate metrics

Audit and Explore bias reduction strategies

A perfectly fair model does not mean fair outcomes. Think about the entire system (including actions) and measure outcomes

Compared to what?

Some useful practices

Create an environment where informed ethical discussions can take place

Talk through ethical issues at each stage of the project (instead of waiting till the end of stopping after the initial setup)

Consider the entire chain of data - collection to analysis to action

Consider how it affects people throughout the chain – especially the people being affected (and include them in these discussions)

Embed ethics into both technical processes as well as people processes

Links

Website: https://dssg.github.io/fairness_tutorial

Github Repo: http://github.com/dssg/fairness_tutorial

Interactive Colab (Python) Notebooks: https://dssg.github.io/fairness_tutorial/notebooks/

Aequitas (Audit Tool): <http://www.datasciencepublicpolicy.org/aequitas/>

[Fairness Tree](#)

https://github.com/dssg/fairness_tutorial

Resources

How do we scope data science projects?

More details at <http://www.datasciencepublicpolicy.org/resources/data-science-project-scoping-guide/>

Goals: Define the goal(s) of the project (**equity**, efficiency, effectiveness, etc.)

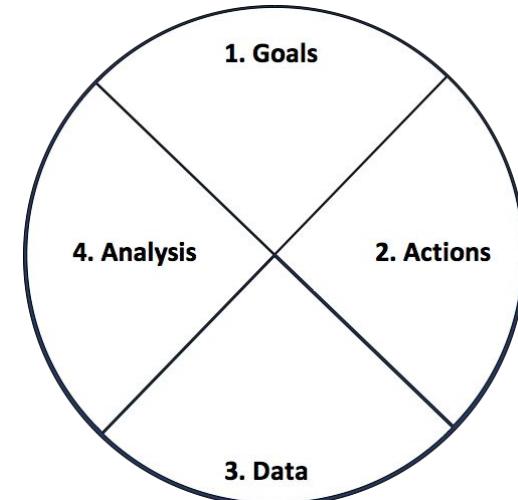
Actions: What actions/interventions will you inform?

Data: What data do you have internally?

What data do you need?

What can you augment from external and public sources?

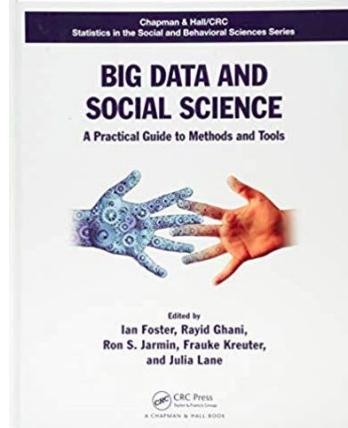
Analysis: What analysis needs to be done? How will it be validated? How will the analysis achieve the goals defined above?





Bias and Fairness Audit Toolkit

<http://www.datasciencepublicpolicy.org/aequitas/>



11

Bias and Fairness

Kit T. Rodolfa, Pedro Saleiro, and Rayid Ghani

Interest in algorithmic fairness and bias has been growing recently, but it's easy to get lost in the large number of definitions and metrics. There are many different, often competing, ways to measure whether a given model is "fair". In this chapter, we provide an overview of these metrics along with some concrete examples to help navigate these concepts and understand the trade-offs involved in choosing to optimize to one metric over others, focusing on the metrics relevant to binary classification methods used frequently in risk-based models for policy settings.

11.1 Introduction

In Chapter Machine Learning, you learned about several of the concepts, tools, and approaches used in the field of machine learning and how they can be used in the social sciences. In chapter Machine Learning, we focused

<https://textbook.coleridgeinitiative.org/chap-bias.html>

Algorithmic Impact Assessment (Canada)

Risk Profile

Is the project within an area of intense public scrutiny (e.g. because of privacy concerns) and/or frequent litigation?

- Yes
- No

Are clients in this line of business particularly vulnerable?

- Yes
- No

Are stakes of the decisions very high?

- Yes
- No

Will this project have major impacts on staff, either in terms of their numbers or their roles?

- Yes
- No

<https://canada-ca.github.io/aia-eia-js/>

ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (ACM FAccT)

A computer science conference with a cross-disciplinary focus that brings together researchers and practitioners interested in fairness, accountability, and transparency in socio-technical systems.

<https://facctconference.org/>

Fairness and machine learning

Limitations and Opportunities

Solon Barocas, Moritz Hardt, Arvind Narayanan

This online textbook is an incomplete work in progress. Essential chapters are still missing. In the spirit of open review, we solicit broad feedback that will influence existing chapters, as well as the development of later material.

CONTENTS

ABOUT THIS BOOK

1 INTRODUCTION

PDF

<https://fairmlbook.org/>

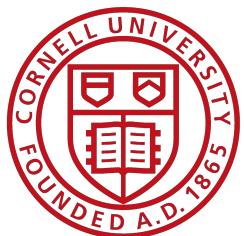
Course Materials



Berkeley CS 294:
Fairness in machine learning



Princeton COS 597E:
Fairness in machine learning



Cornell INFO 4270:
Ethics and policy in data science



CMU 10718/94889:
ML for Public Policy Lab

Copyrighted Material

LOCAL JUSTICE

How Institutions
Allocate Scarce Goods
and Necessary Burdens

JON ELSTER

Copyrighted Material

[Amazon](#)

POLICY PARADOX

The Art of
Political
Decision
Making

THIRD
EDITION

DEBORAH STONE

[Amazon](#)

O'REILLY®

Ethics and Data Science



Mike Loukides,
Hilary Mason
& DJ Patil

[Amazon \(Free\)](#)



PROJECTS THAT MATTER WORK THAT MATTERS

Data Science for Social Good.

[Post a project](#)[Start volunteering](#)

<https://www.solveforgood.org/>



Thank You!

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Pedro Saliero