

# Area Under the Precision-Recall Curve: Point Estimates and Confidence Intervals

Kendrick Boyd<sup>1</sup>    Kevin H. Eng<sup>2</sup>    C. David Page<sup>1</sup>

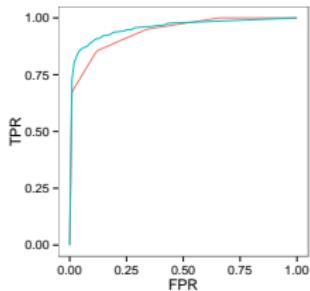
<sup>1</sup>University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

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September 26, 2013

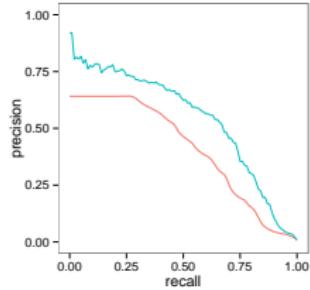
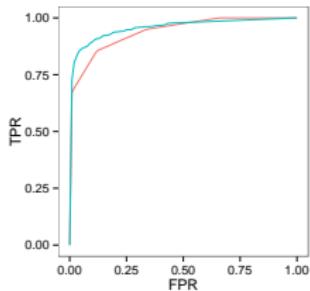
# Binary Classification Evaluation

- Receiver-operating characteristic (ROC) curves
  - Preferred over accuracy alone [Provost et al., 1998]
  - Insensitive to skew ( $\pi$  = proportion of positives)
  - Area under ROC curve (AUCROC)



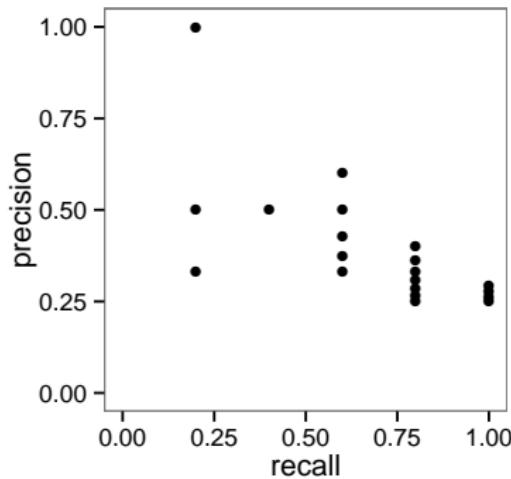
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  - Area under ROC curve (AUCROC)
- Precision-recall (PR) curves
  - Alternative to ROC curves when  $\pi$  near 0 [Davis and Goadrich, 2006; Goadrich et al., 2006]
  - Sensitive to skew
  - Area under PR curve (AUCPR)



# The Difficulty

Given



Do

- Estimate area:  
 $AUC_{PR} = 0.5$
- Obtain confidence interval:  
 $[0.4, 0.6]$

# Empirical PR Points

- 5 positives ( $n$ )
- 15 negatives ( $m$ )
- $\pi = 0.25$

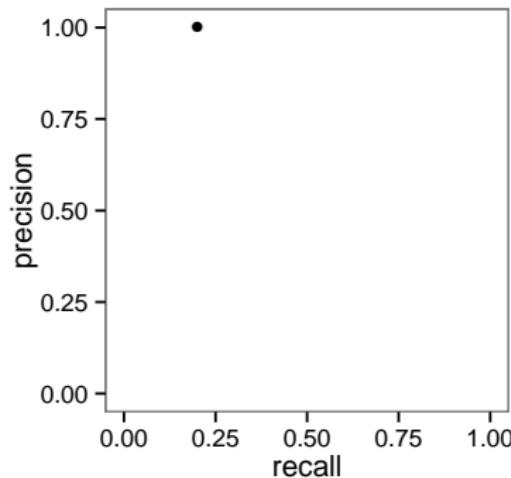
score    true label

1.00	pos
0.95	neg
0.90	neg
0.85	pos
0.80	pos
0.75	neg
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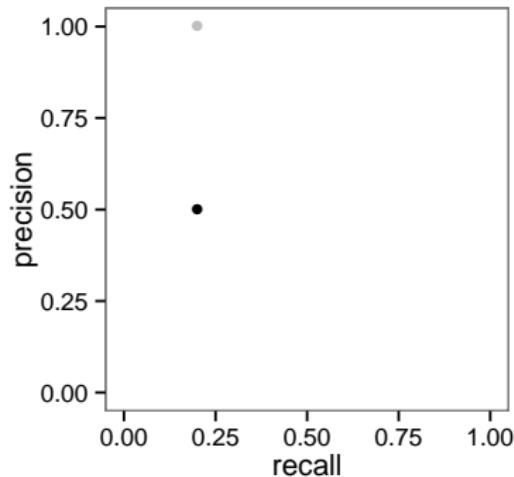
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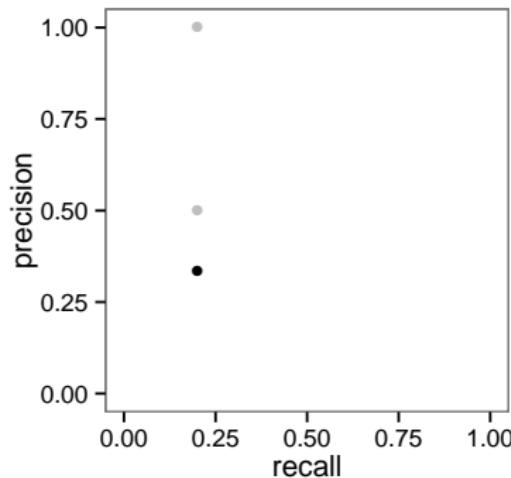
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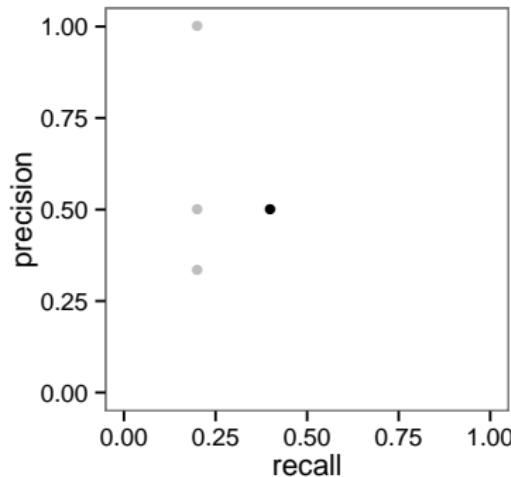
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$$\text{Recall} = \frac{2}{5}$$
$$\text{Precision} = \frac{2}{4}$$

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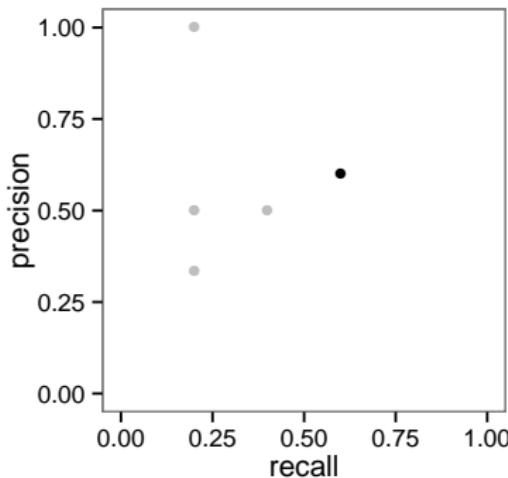
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0.75    neg

0.70    neg

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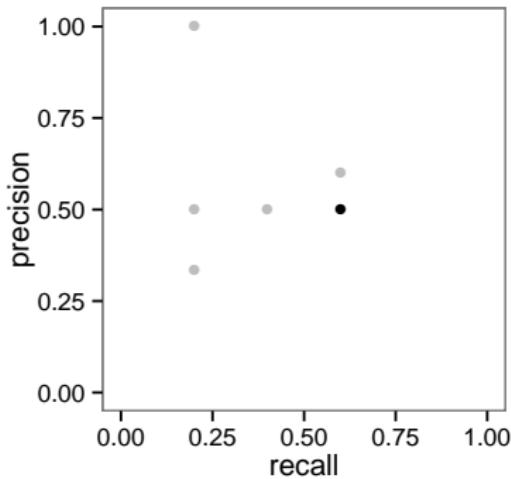


$$\text{Recall} = \frac{3}{5}$$
$$\text{Precision} = \frac{3}{5}$$

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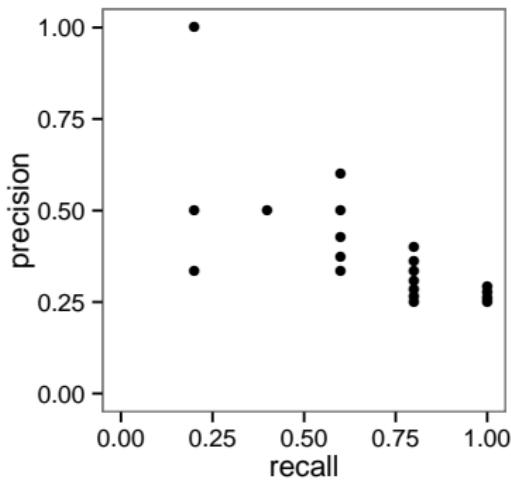


$$\text{Recall} = \frac{3}{5}$$
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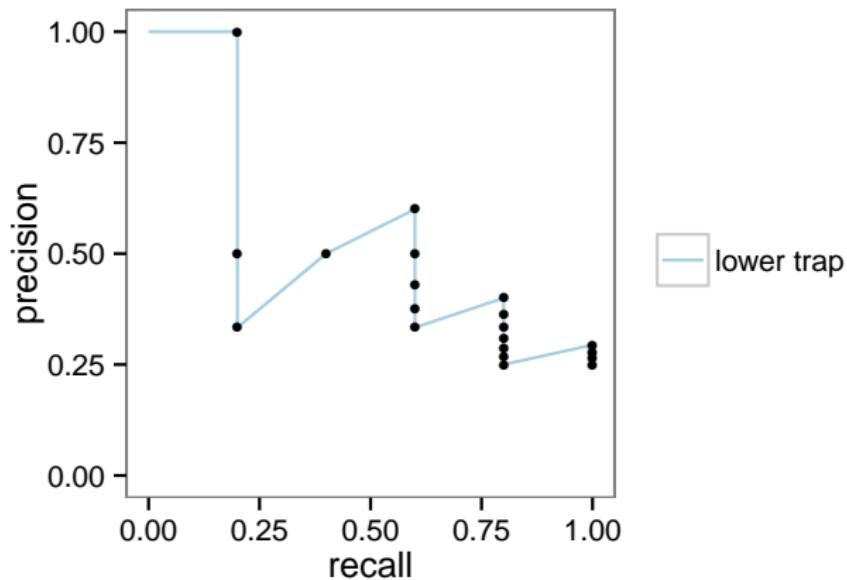


# AUCPR Estimators

Many existing methods to estimate AUCPR

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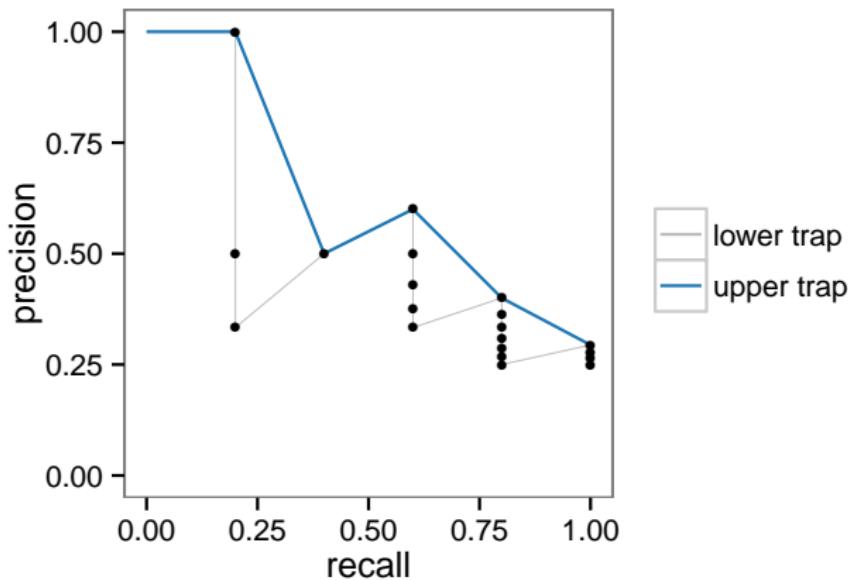
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[Abeel et al., 2009]

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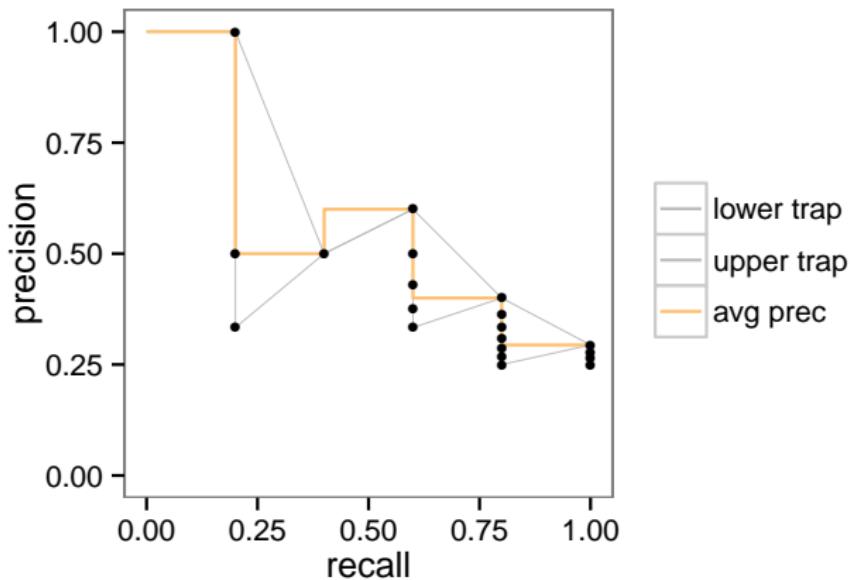
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[Abeel et al., 2009; Davis and Goadrich, 2006]

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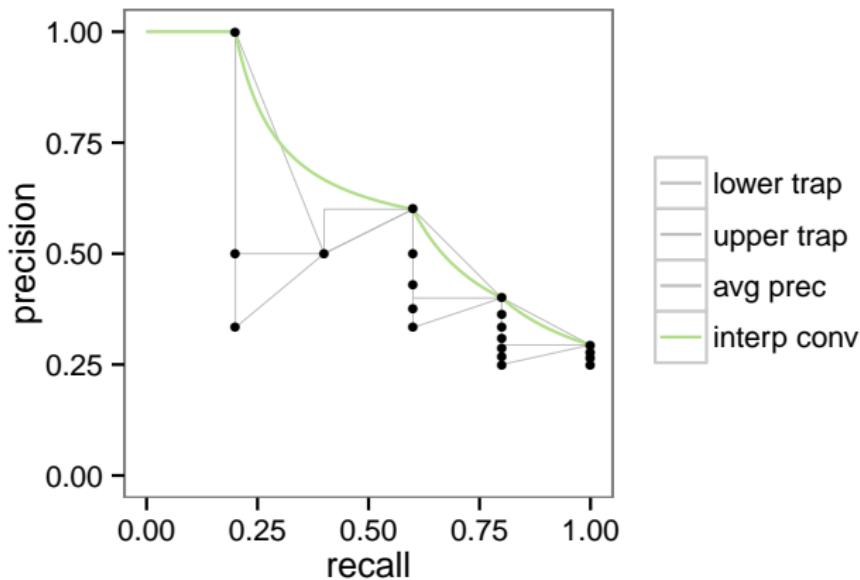
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[Manning et al., 2008]

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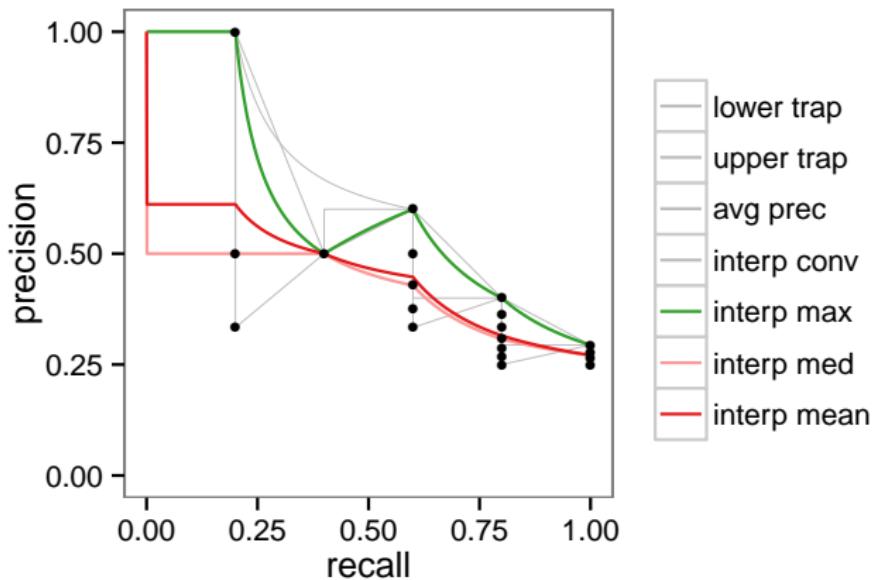
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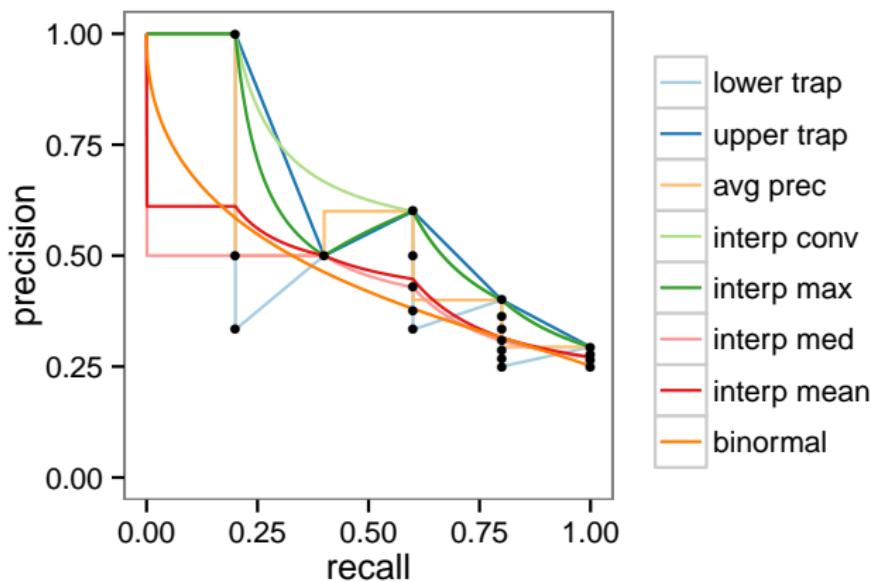
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## Estimator Desiderata

- Unbiased: average estimate is equal to true AUCPR

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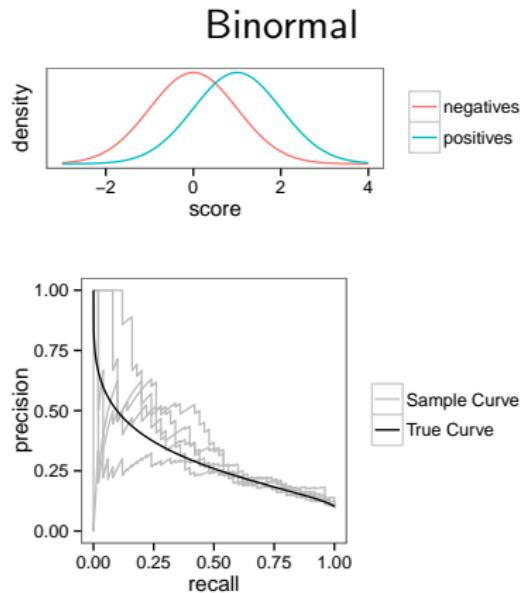
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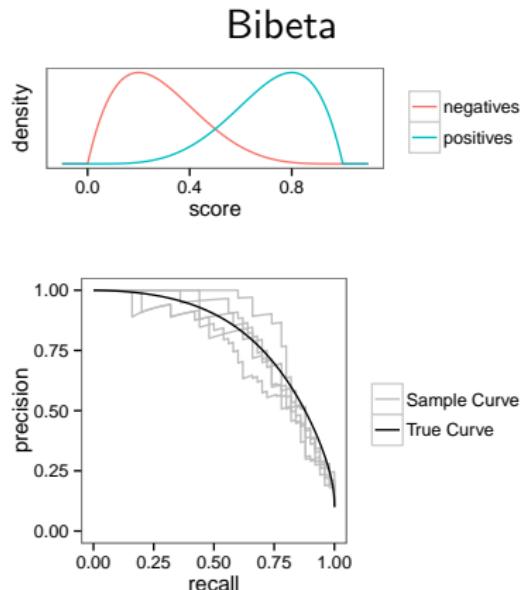
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  - Binormal



negatives  $\sim N(0, 1)$   
positives  $\sim N(1, 1)$

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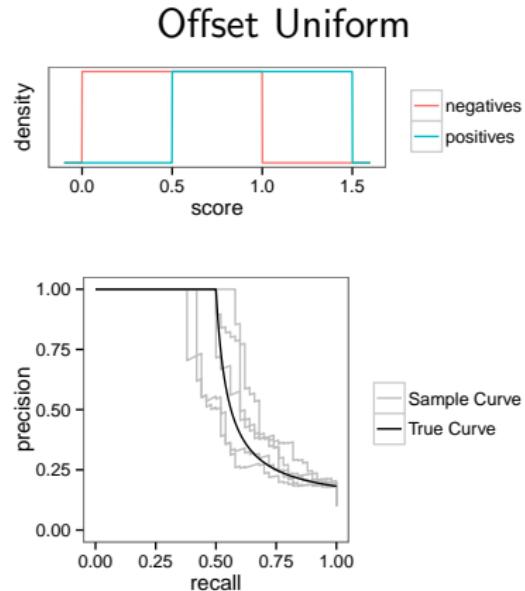
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negatives  $\sim \text{Beta}(2, 5)$   
positives  $\sim \text{Beta}(5, 2)$

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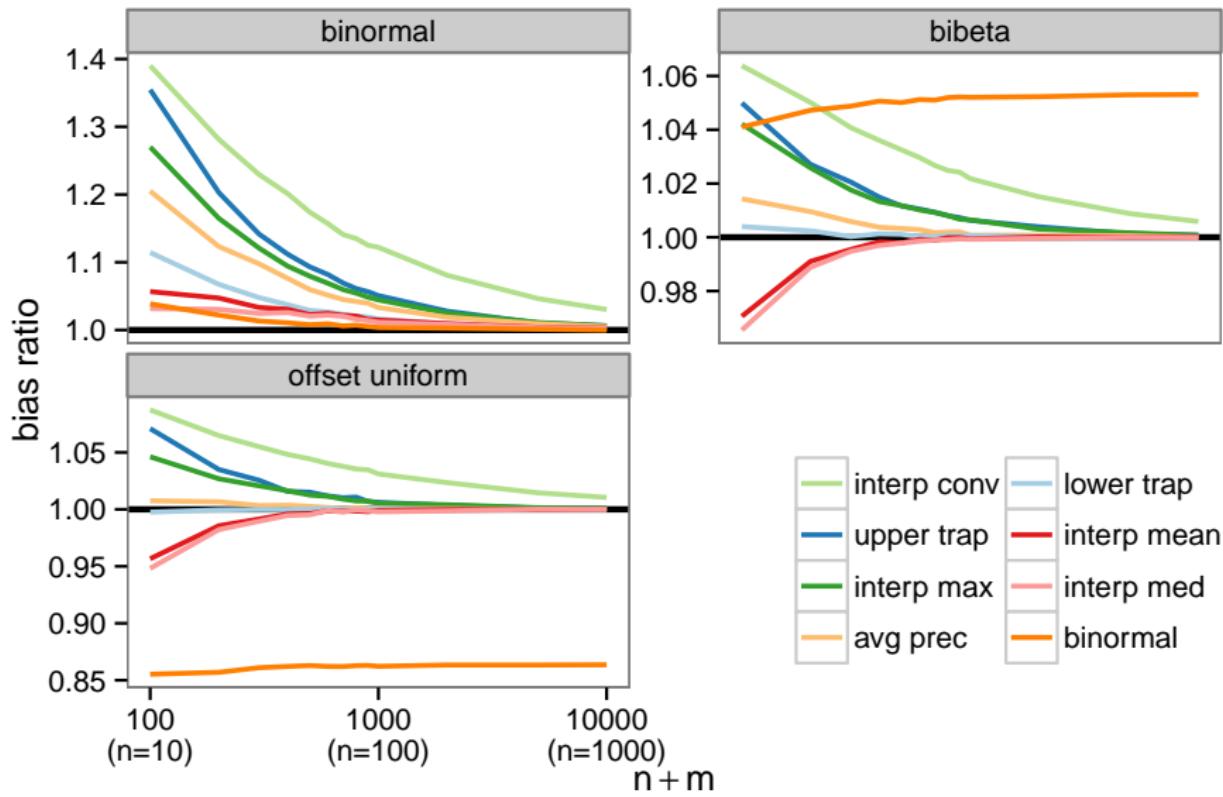


$$\begin{aligned} \text{negatives} &\sim U(0, 1) \\ \text{positives} &\sim U(0.5, 1.5) \end{aligned}$$

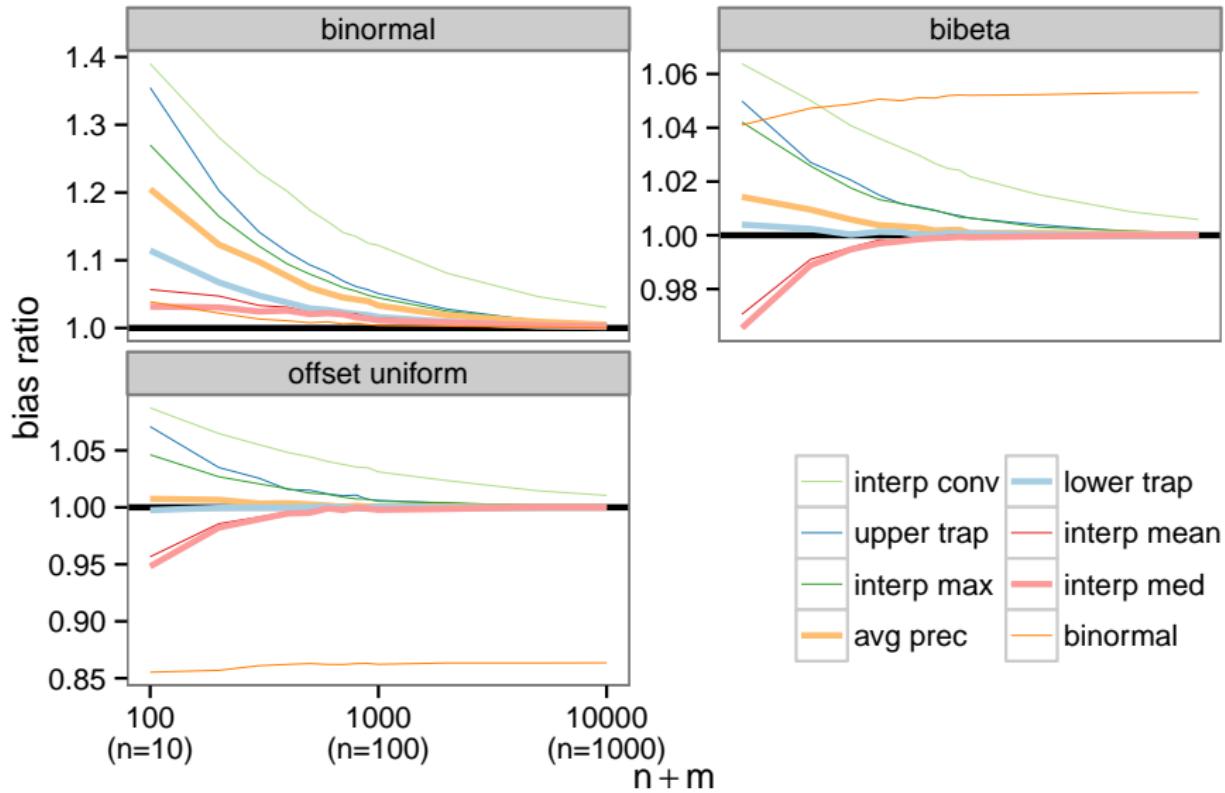
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- Additional parameters
  - # of examples ( $n + m$ )
  - skew ( $\pi = 0.1$ )

# AUCPR Estimator Results



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 $\hat{\theta}$  is the estimated AUCPR
  - Logit:  $\left[ \frac{e^{\hat{\eta}} - \Phi(1-\alpha/2)\hat{\tau}}{1+e^{\hat{\eta}} - \Phi(1-\alpha/2)\hat{\tau}}, \frac{e^{\hat{\eta}} + \Phi(1-\alpha/2)\hat{\tau}}{1+e^{\hat{\eta}} + \Phi(1-\alpha/2)\hat{\tau}} \right]$   
 $\hat{\eta} = \log \frac{\hat{\theta}}{1-\hat{\theta}}, \hat{\tau} = (n\hat{\theta}(1-\hat{\theta}))^{-1/2}$

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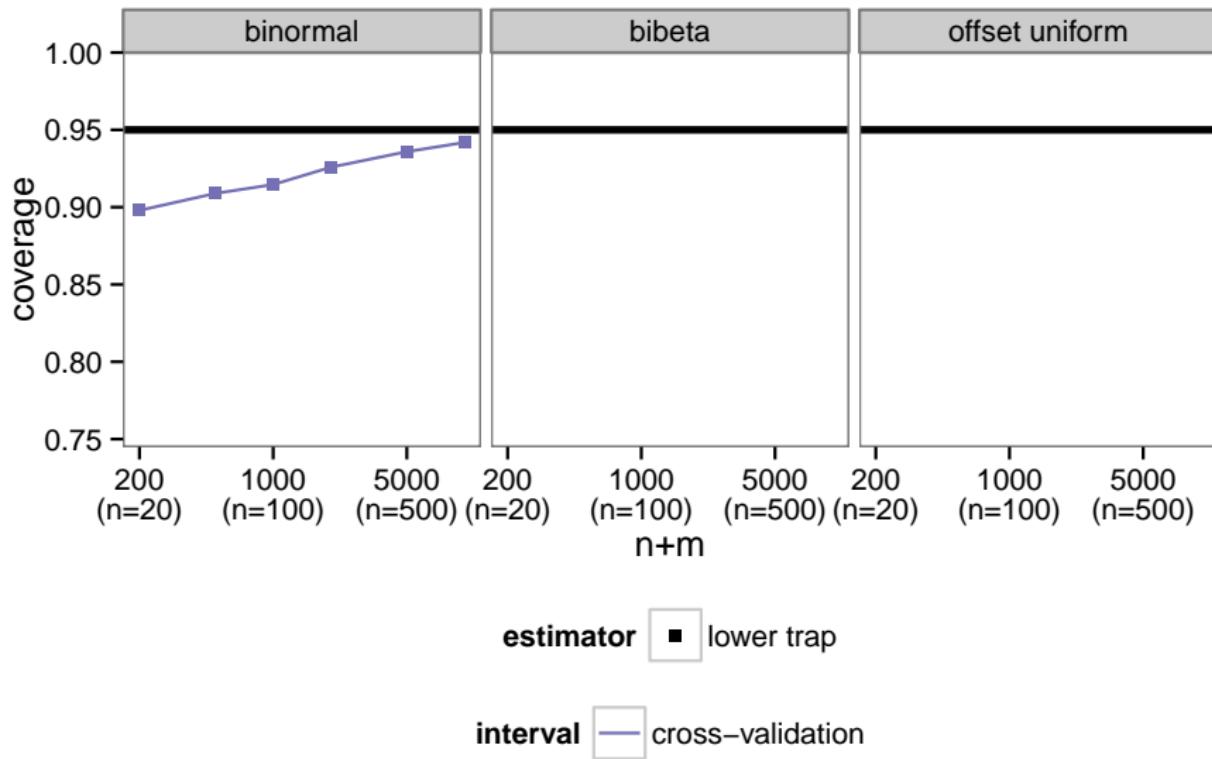
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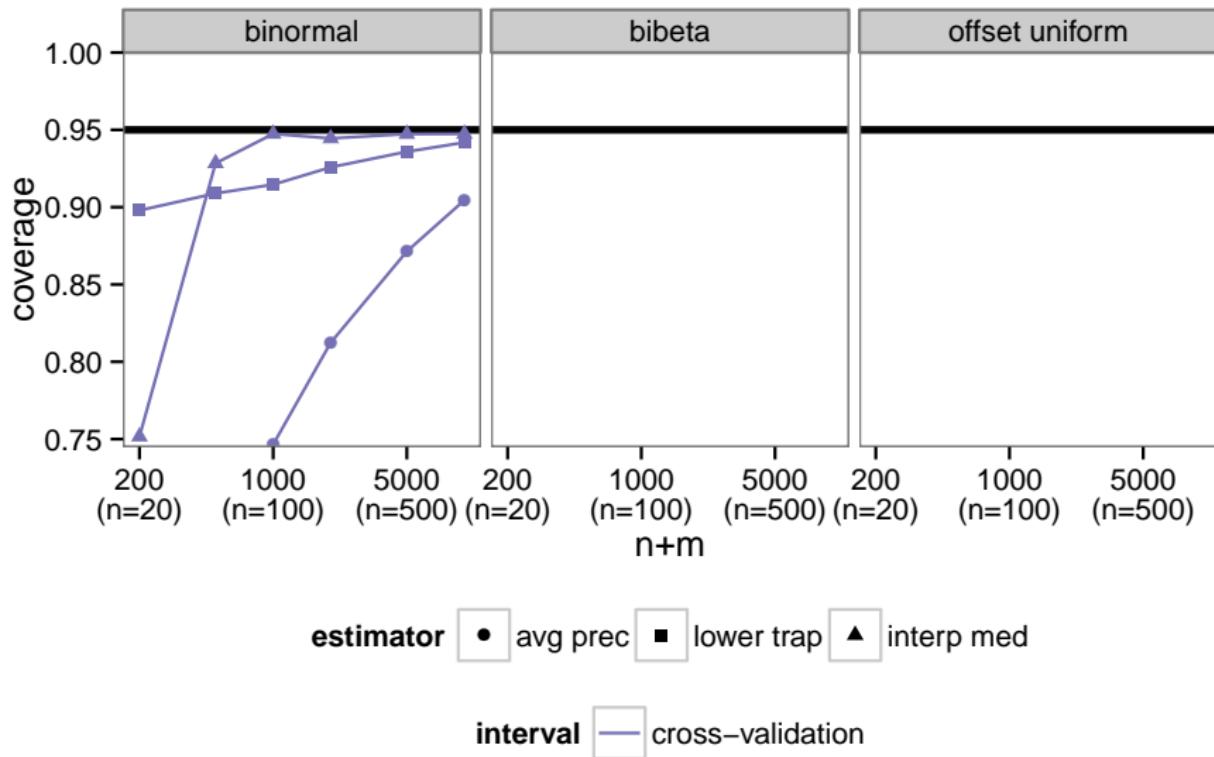
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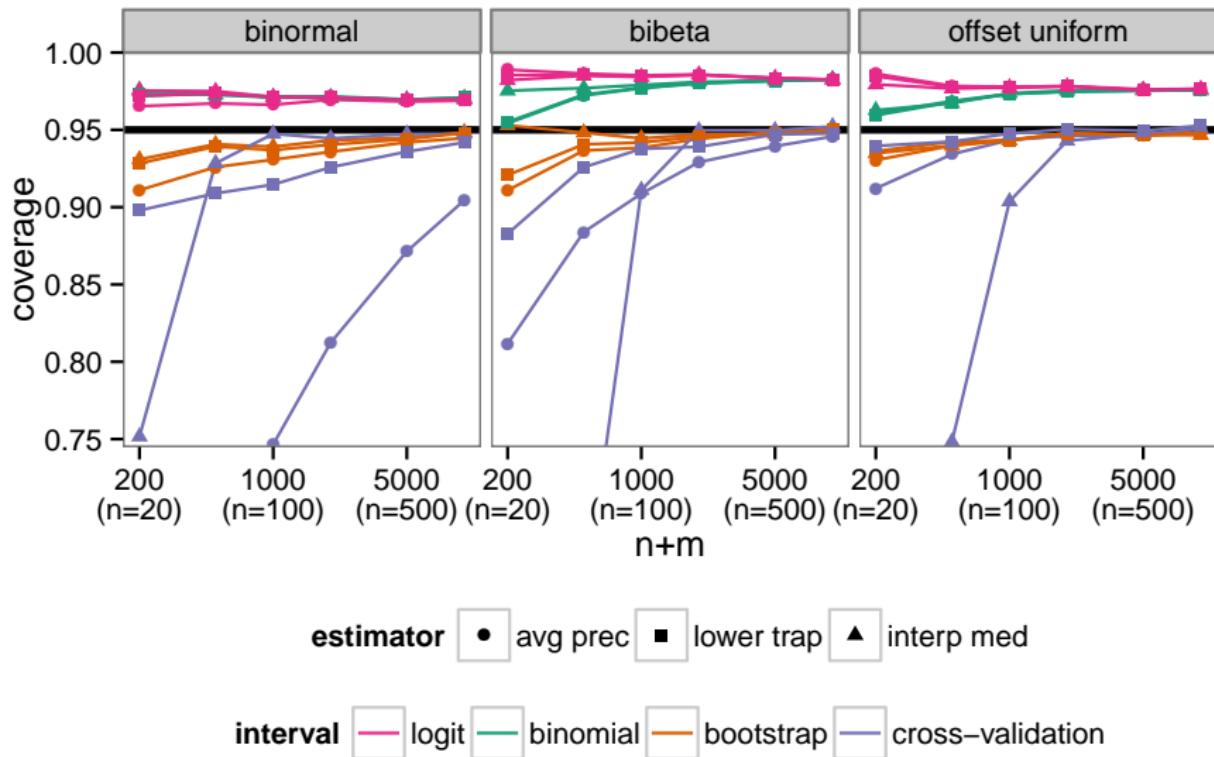
# AUCPR Confidence Interval Results



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  - What about cross-validation and bootstrap?
    - Converge to proper coverage, but from below
    - Problematic for small data sets and low numbers of positive examples

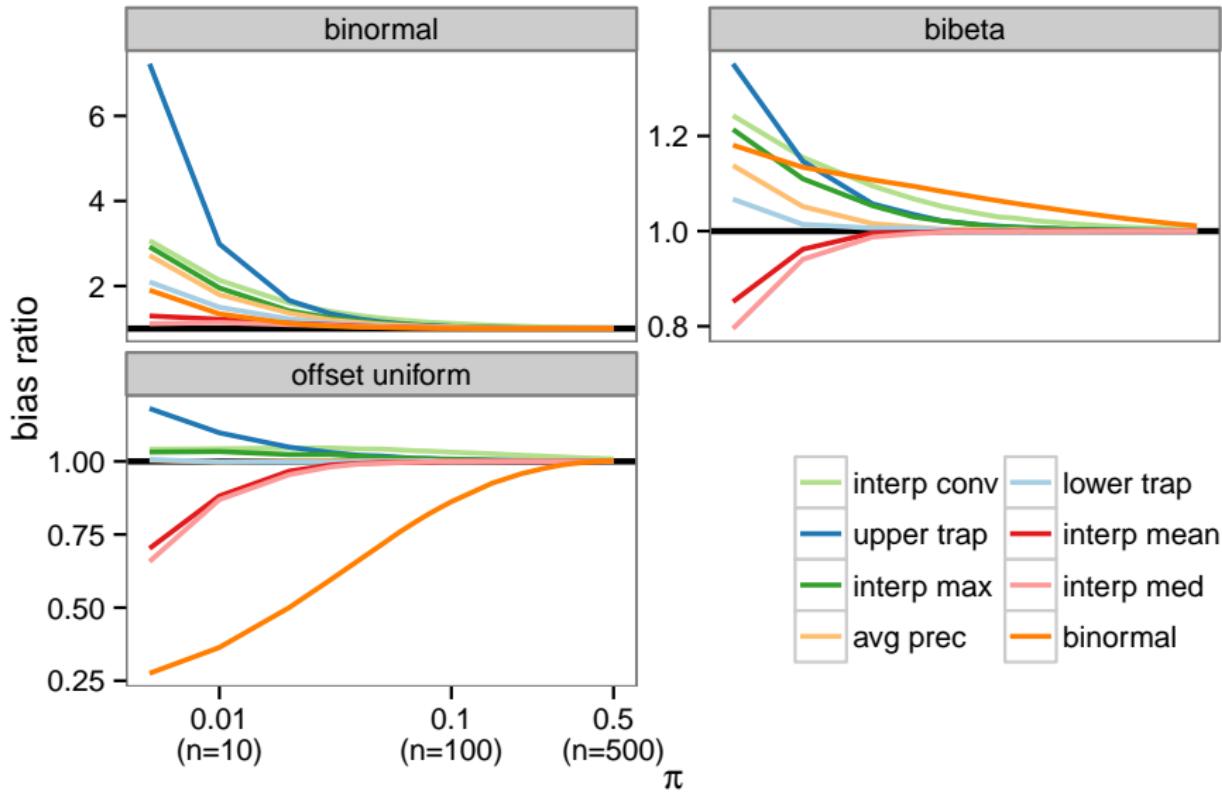
Thank You

# Questions?

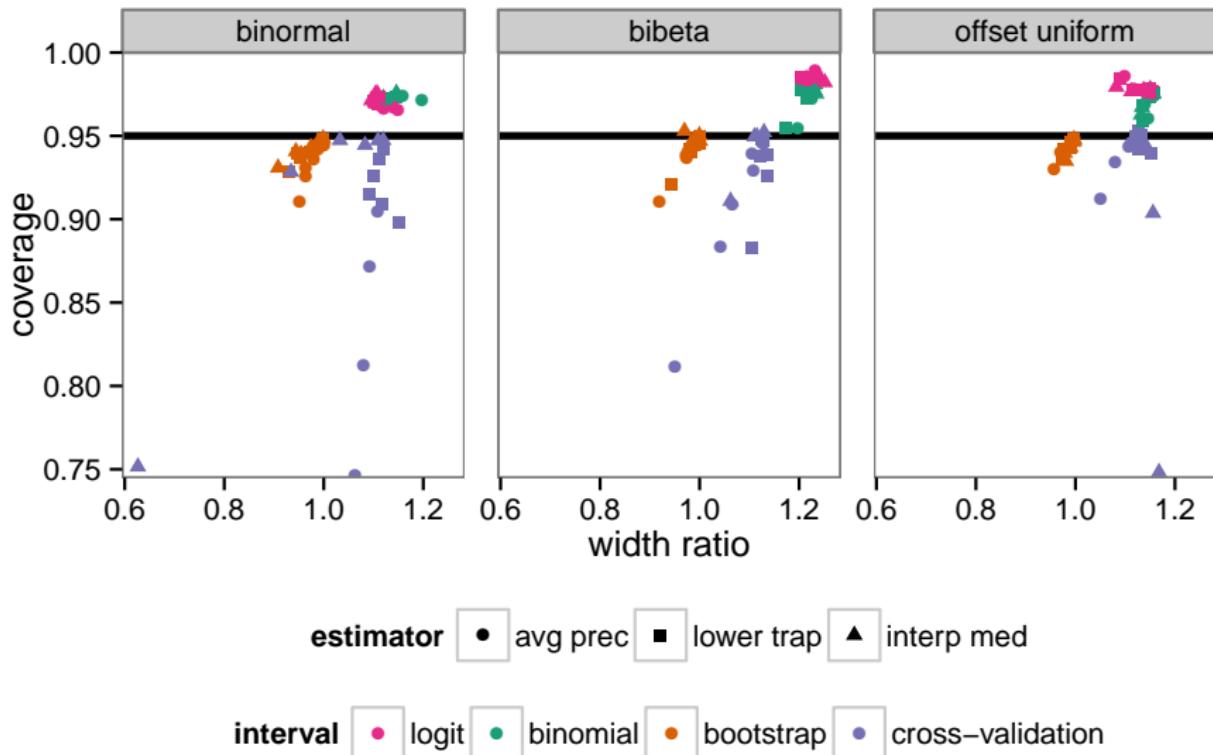
## Acknowledgments

- NIGMS grant R01GM097618
- NLM grant R01LM011028
- UW Carbone Cancer Center
- ICTR NIH NCA TS grant UL1TR000427
- CIBM Training Program grant 5T15LM007359
- Roswell Park Cancer Institute
- NCI grant P30 CA016056

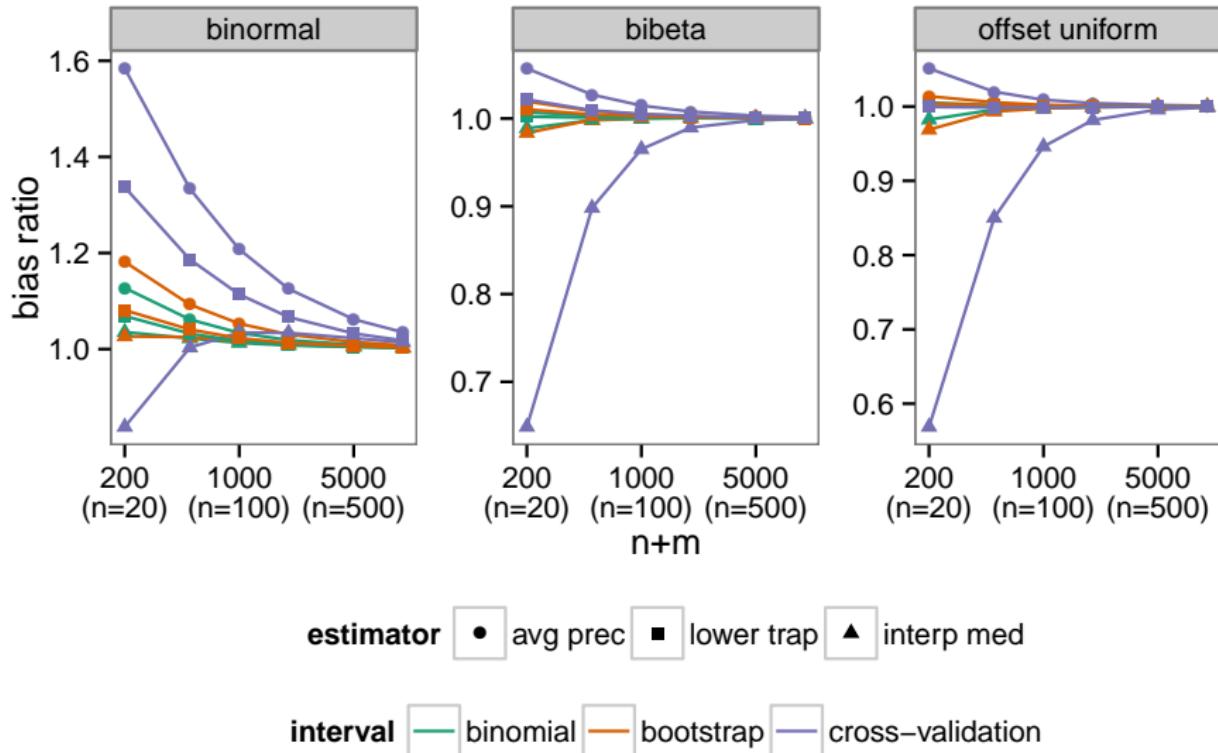
# AUCPR Estimators Results by $\pi$



# AUCPR Confidence Interval Widths



# AUCPR Confidence Interval Locations



# References I

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Larry Wasserman. *All of statistics: A concise course in statistical inference*. Springer Verlag, 2004.