

# Flattening of model priors: A comparative simulation study across multiple compounds

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## Background and Objective

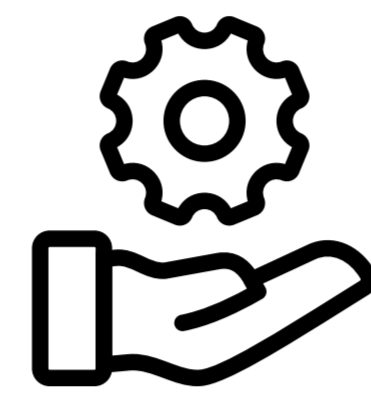
MIPD supports clinical decision making using mathematical models and individual drug measurements [1].

MAP estimation is commonly used in MIPD to derive individual model parameters used for simulation [1, 2].

Prior beliefs about the magnitude of IIV and RUV need to be defined, which are typically based on the model.



In real-world settings, however, **deviations** between model and clinical population are expected.

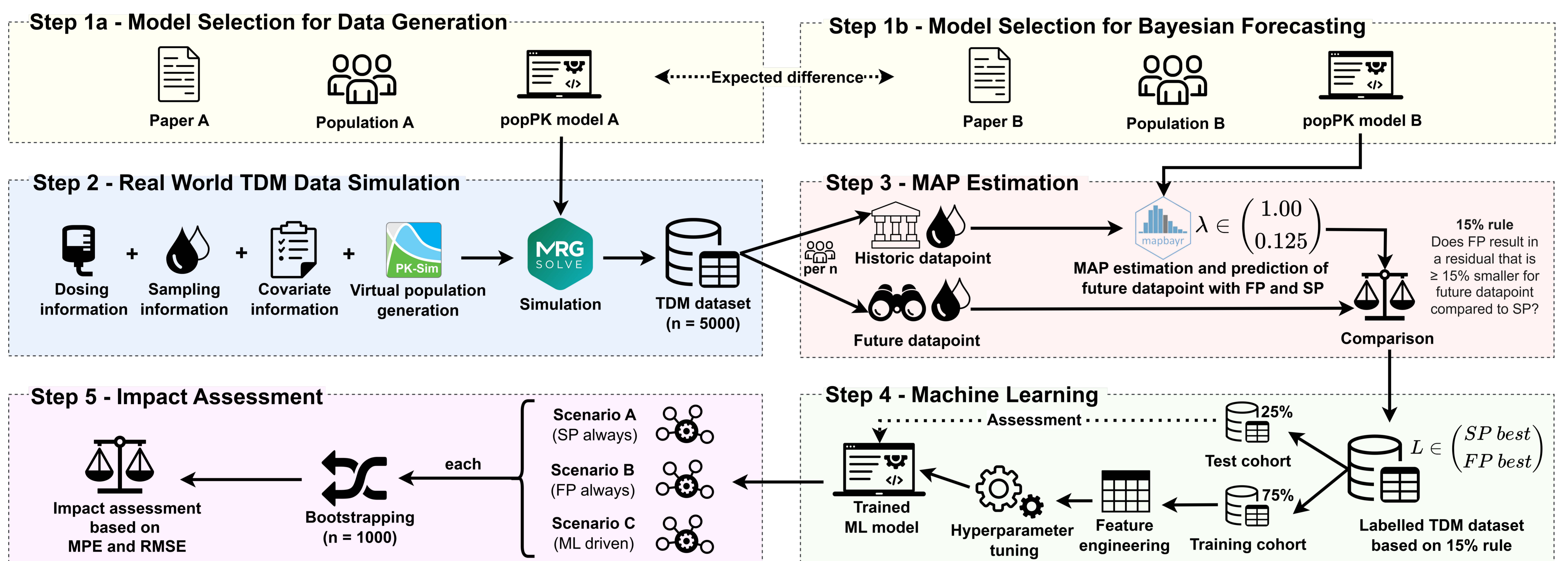


Thus, a novel method [3] of **machine learning-driven flattening of model priors** has been proposed for MIPD of vancomycin.



**Objective:** Investigate if this method is also increasing the predictive model performance across multiple other compounds [4-11].

## Methods



## Results

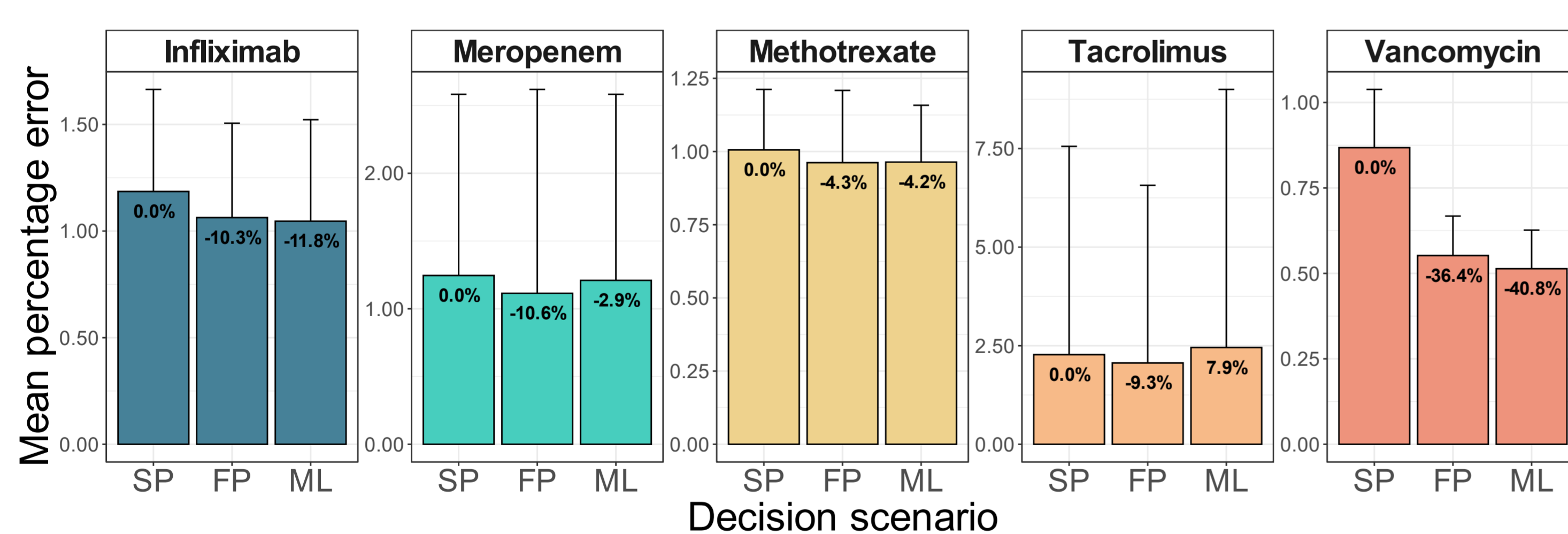


Figure 1 Mean percentage error (MPE) for infliximab, meropenem, methotrexate, tacrolimus, and vancomycin, respectively, under four decision scenarios for future datapoints. Percentages indicate MPE change relative to SP. Error bars represent the upper 95% confidence interval obtained through bootstrapping. Abbreviations: See below.

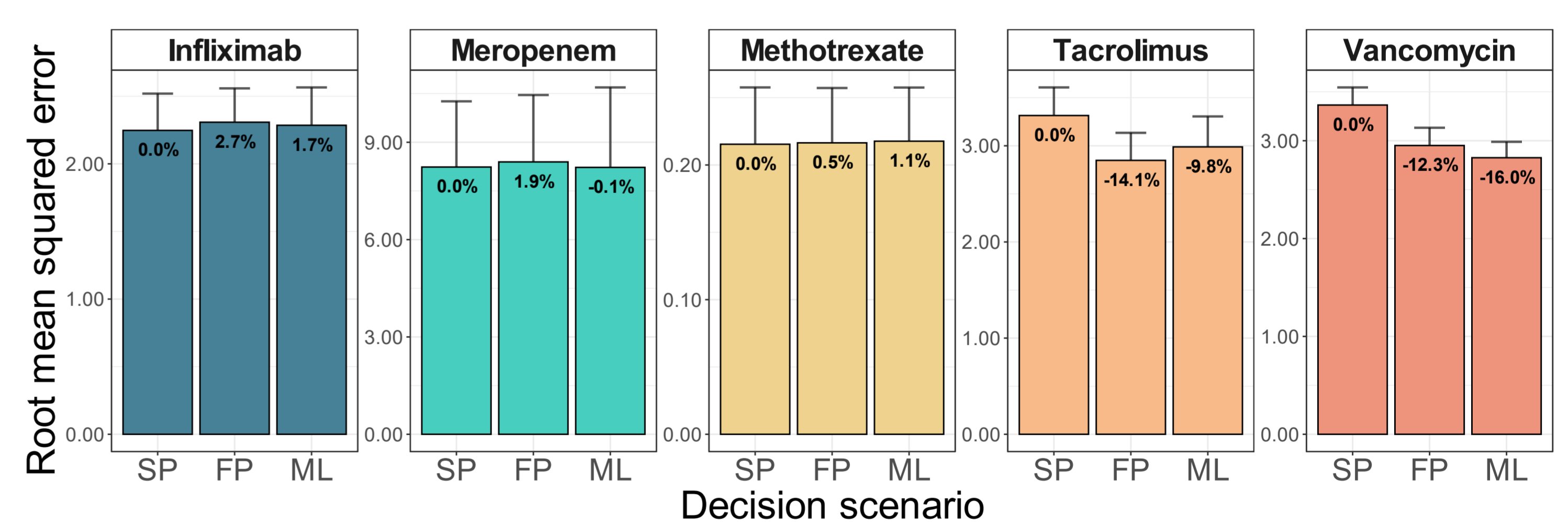


Figure 2 Root mean square error (RMSE) for infliximab, meropenem, methotrexate, tacrolimus, and vancomycin, respectively, under four decision scenarios for future datapoints. Percentages indicate RMSE change relative to SP. Error bars represent the 95% confidence interval obtained through bootstrapping. Abbreviations: See below.

## Discussion

- ✓ Successful setup of a **simulation framework** [4-16].
- ✓ Predicted relative improvements in MPE and RMSE for vancomycin are **in agreement with reported values** [3].
- ✓ For other compounds [4-11]: **no substantial improvement** in predictive performance (MPE and RMSE)
- ✗ **Explanation** for this finding is still **lacking** (ongoing analysis).
- ✗ **Model selection bias** is expected (ongoing analysis).

## Conclusion

**Machine learning-driven flattening of model priors is not universally beneficial for all compounds and models.**

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### Abbreviations

BS Best scenario  
FP Flattened prior ( $\lambda = 0.125$ )  
IIV Interindividual variance  
L Label  
MAP Maximum a posteriori  
MIPD Model-informed precision dosing  
ML Machine learning  
RUV Residual unexplained variability  
SP Standard prior ( $\lambda = 1.00$ )



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