

# Minority Re- port

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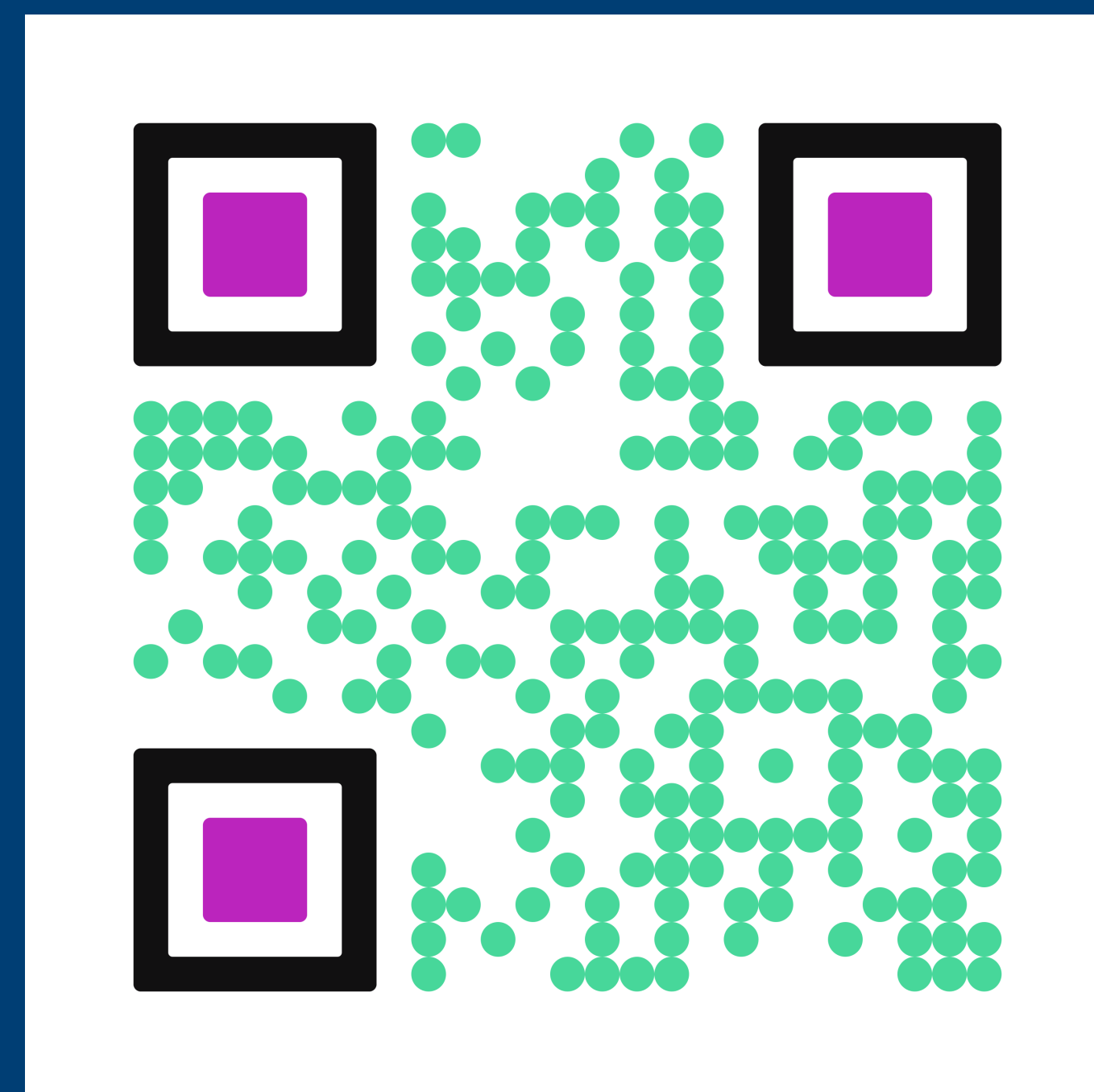
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## Introduction

Bias in science is unavoidable, and sociolinguistics is no different. In order to combat sources of bias, we must first identify its existence. With this study we aim to:

- Assess whether there is bias towards studying some varieties of English over others.
- Assess whether location in relation to a research institution affect frequency of study of a variety of English.
- Assess other possible geographical/research characteristics (e.g. the existence of corpora/average income of the area where the variety is spoken) that may affect the frequency of studies published.

# Are there geographical biases in the study of language variation and change?



Scan to access materials for this study on Github.

## Methods

In order to meet our aims we:

- Systematically searched for studies on each particular variety of native English as identified by Wikipedia.
  - Search Term: (WC=(Linguistics) AND ((ALL="name of variety") AND ((ALL=sociolinguist\*) OR (ALL=varia\*) OR (ALL=change))))
  - Document Type: All
  - Timespan: 1982-2019
- The data from searches was pre-screened and removed if not relevant. Inclusion criteria:
  - the study assesses language variation or change
  - Studies must be studying the appropriate variety of English
- The remaining studies from each search were counted and the frequency of papers found per variety calculated.

## Pilot results

## Questions from the pilot

- how to narrow down the search terms
- *any others*

