

learning from names

gaurav and suriyan

Why Learn From Names?

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 - Personalization—recommending same race doctor (Alsan et al. 2018)

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- But still a concern . . .

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 - Split by race for 1,000 most common last names

SURNAME	RANK	FREQUENCY (COUNT)	PROPORTION PER 100,000 POPULATION	CUMULATIVE PROPORTION	PERCENT NON- HISPANIC OR LATINO WHITE ALONE	PERCENT NON- HISPANIC OR LATINO BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN ALONE
SMITH	1	2,442,977	828.2	828.2	70.9	23.1
JOHNSON	2	1,932,812	655.2	1,483.4	59.0	34.6
WILLIAMS	3	1,625,252	551.0	2,034.4	45.8	47.7
BROWN	4	1,437,026	487.2	2,521.6	58.0	35.6
JONES	5	1,425,470	483.2	3,004.8	55.2	38.5

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- When we have minor variations
- Geographic variation

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- Patterns in communication networks, e.g.,
Skiena et al. 2018.

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 - LSTM

But what do you mean by race and ethnicity?

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- How people describe themselves in free text?
- What do people choose when asked to force-fit into administrative categories?

Data

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- Race/Ethnicity = Asian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic, NH Black, NH White

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- Wikipedia ~ Famous people but more finely coded race

Success Using Florida Voter Registration Data

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Race		F1-Score	
		Last Name	Full Name
	Asian	.54	.60
	Hispanic	.72	.75
	NH Black	.32	.55
	NH White	.88	.90

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Donations to Political Campaigns in 2000 and 2010 by Race and Ethnicity

	Census		Florida	
	2000	2010	2000	2010
asian	2.2%	2.7%	2.0%	2.3%
black	11.0%	10.2%	8.9%	7.9%
hispanic	3.2%	4.3%	3.2%	3.3%
white	83.5%	82.7%	85.8%	86.5%

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Python Package

```
> import pandas as pd
> from ethnicolr import census_ln, pred_census_ln
Using TensorFlow backend.
> names = ['name': 'smith',
... 'name': 'zhang',
... 'name': 'jackson']
> df = pd.DataFrame(names)
> census_ln(df, 'name', 2010)
```

name	race	pctwhite	pctblack	pctapi
smith	white	70.9	23.11	0.5
zhang	api	0.99	0.16	98.06
jackson	black	39.89	53.04	0.39