# Predicting Race and Ethnicity From Sequence

of Characters in a Name

March 23, 2019

Often all you have is a name
 Media, lenders and creditors, patients, ...

Often all you have is a name
 Media, lenders and creditors, patients, ...

- Often all you have is a name
  Media, lenders and creditors, patients, ...
- Highlight, Fight, Prevent (Regress Out)

- Often all you have is a name
  Media, lenders and creditors, patients, ...
- Highlight, Fight, Prevent (Regress Out)
  - Fairness in lending

- Often all you have is a name
  Media, lenders and creditors, patients, ...
- Highlight, Fight, Prevent (Regress Out)
  - Fairness in lending
  - Media coverage, sources

- Often all you have is a name
  Media, lenders and creditors, patients, ...
- Highlight, Fight, Prevent (Regress Out)
  - Fairness in lending
  - Media coverage, sources
  - Political Accountability

- Often all you have is a name
  Media, lenders and creditors, patients, ...
- Highlight, Fight, Prevent (Regress Out)
  - Fairness in lending
  - Media coverage, sources
  - Political Accountability
  - Personalization—recommending same race doctor

- Often all you have is a name
  Media, lenders and creditors, patients, ...
- Highlight, Fight, Prevent (Regress Out)
  - Fairness in lending
  - Media coverage, sources
  - Political Accountability
  - Personalization—recommending same race doctor
- Flip side: Instrument for Discrimination

-p(|abe||data) or  $p(\neg|abe||data)$ 

- -p(|abel|data) or  $p(\neg |abel|data)$
- Bayes Classifier:

- -p(|abel|data) or  $p(\neg |abel|data)$
- Bayes Classifier:
  - Classify to the majority class

- -p(|abel|data) or  $p(\neg |abel|data)$
- Bayes Classifier:
  - Classify to the majority class
  - Makes the least mistakes

- -p(|abel|data) or  $p(\neg |abel|data)$
- Bayes Classifier:
  - Classify to the majority class
  - Makes the least mistakes
  - Census Last Name Dataset

- -p(|abe||data) or  $p(\neg|abe||data)$
- Bayes Classifier:
  - Classify to the majority class
  - Makes the least mistakes
  - Census Last Name Dataset
- When can you do better?

- -p(|abe||data) or  $p(\neg|abe||data)$
- Bayes Classifier:
  - Classify to the majority class
  - Makes the least mistakes
  - Census Last Name Dataset
- When can you do better?
  - More than last name. e.g. African-American have more distinctive first names

- -p(|abe||data) or  $p(\neg|abe||data)$
- Bayes Classifier:
  - Classify to the majority class
  - Makes the least mistakes
  - Census Last Name Dataset
- When can you do better?
  - More than last name. e.g. African-American have more distinctive first names
  - Not all first names

- -p(|abe||data) or  $p(\neg|abe||data)$
- Bayes Classifier:
  - Classify to the majority class
  - Makes the least mistakes
  - Census Last Name Dataset
- When can you do better?
  - More than last name. e.g. African-American have more distinctive first names
  - Not all first names
  - Capturing sounds, abstracting out

- -p(|abe||data) or  $p(\neg|abe||data)$
- Bayes Classifier:
  - Classify to the majority class
  - Makes the least mistakes
  - Census Last Name Dataset
- When can you do better?
  - More than last name. e.g. African-American have more distinctive first names
  - Not all first names
  - Capturing sounds, abstracting out
  - Common Sequences: da\_as\_sh\_ia\_an, ne\_ej\_ja\_ad, sa\_ad\_eh, jo\_oh\_ha\_an\_ns\_se\_en

Text → Embeddings → Classifier

- Text → Embeddings → Classifier
  - Embeddings leverage the adage:
    You are the company you keep.

- Text → Embeddings → Classifier
  - Embeddings leverage the adage:
    You are the company you keep.
  - Use a large corpus

- Text → Embeddings → Classifier
  - Embeddings leverage the adage:
    You are the company you keep.
  - Use a large corpus
  - Learn context well

### Text → Embeddings → Classifier

- Embeddings leverage the adage:
  You are the company you keep.
- Use a large corpus
- Learn context well
- Preserve a few hundred vectors and pass it to a model

### Text → Embeddings → Classifier

- Embeddings leverage the adage:
  You are the company you keep.
- Use a large corpus
- Learn context well
- Preserve a few hundred vectors and pass it to a model
- Skiena et al. use communication networks to find embeddings of names

- Text → Embeddings → Classifier
  - Embeddings leverage the adage:
    You are the company you keep.
  - Use a large corpus
  - Learn context well
  - Preserve a few hundred vectors and pass it to a model
  - Skiena et al. use communication networks to find embeddings of names
- In Our Case:

# Text → Embeddings → Classifier

- Embeddings leverage the adage:
  You are the company you keep.
- Use a large corpus
- Learn context well
- Preserve a few hundred vectors and pass it to a model
- Skiena et al. use communication networks to find embeddings of names

#### - In Our Case:

Embeddings of bi-chars

# Text → Embeddings → Classifier

- Embeddings leverage the adage:
  You are the company you keep.
- Use a large corpus
- Learn context well
- Preserve a few hundred vectors and pass it to a model
- Skiena et al. use communication networks to find embeddings of names

#### - In Our Case:

- Embeddings of bi-chars
- LSTM

– What do you mean by race and ethnicity?

What do you mean by race and ethnicity?
 Self-described

- What do you mean by race and ethnicity?
  - Self-described
  - Crudely coded

- What do you mean by race and ethnicity?
  - Self-described
  - Crudely coded
  - One measure of group = Are you willing to fight for it?

- What do you mean by race and ethnicity?
  - Self-described
  - Crudely coded
  - One measure of group = Are you willing to fight for it?
  - There is systematic variation across names across linguistic groups within India

- What do you mean by race and ethnicity?
  - Self-described
  - Crudely coded
  - One measure of group = Are you willing to fight for it?
  - There is systematic variation across names across linguistic groups within India
- Data

- What do you mean by race and ethnicity?
  - Self-described
  - Crudely coded
  - One measure of group = Are you willing to fight for it?
  - There is systematic variation across names across linguistic groups within India

#### Data

Voting Registration data from Florida

- What do you mean by race and ethnicity?
  - Self-described
  - Crudely coded
  - One measure of group = Are you willing to fight for it?
  - There is systematic variation across names across linguistic groups within India

#### Data

- Voting Registration data from Florida
- Race/Ethnicity = Asian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic, NH Black, NH White

#### Dependent Variable, Data

- What do you mean by race and ethnicity?
  - Self-described
  - Crudely coded
  - One measure of group = Are you willing to fight for it?
  - There is systematic variation across names across linguistic groups within India

#### Data

- Voting Registration data from Florida
- Race/Ethnicity = Asian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic, NH Black, NH White
- Wikipedia Data

#### Success

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

#### Success

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

#### Success

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

## **Application**

Percentage Donated to Political Campaigns in 2000 and 2010 by People of Different Races/Ethnicities.

	Census		Florida	
race	2000	2010	2000	2010
asian	2.22%	2.74%	2.00%	2.28%
black	11.04%	10.22%	8.93%	7.92%
hispanic	3.24%	4.32%	3.23%	3.31%
white	83.49%	82.71%	85.84%	86.49%

Does the relationship between X and Y:

- Does the relationship between X and Y:

– Vary by time?

- Does the relationship between X and Y:
  - Vary by time?
  - Vary by space?

- Does the relationship between X and Y:
  - Vary by time?
  - Vary by space?
  - Capture variation not captured in Xs in arguments to the API call

- Does the relationship between X and Y:
  - Vary by time?
  - Vary by space?
  - Capture variation not captured in Xs in arguments to the API call
- Is the model fixed? Add versioning.

- Does the relationship between X and Y:
  - Vary by time?
  - Vary by space?
  - Capture variation not captured in Xs in arguments to the API call
- Is the model fixed? Add versioning.
- API call for Model Performance on Benchmarks

- Does the relationship between X and Y:
  - Vary by time?
  - Vary by space?
  - Capture variation not captured in Xs in arguments to the API call
- Is the model fixed? Add versioning.
- API call for Model Performance on Benchmarks
- Failsafe on predictions

#### Python Package

- > import pandas as pd
- > from ethnicolr import census\_In, pred\_census\_In Using TensorFlow backend.
- > names = ['name': 'smith',
- ... 'name': 'zhang',
- ... 'name': 'jackson']
- > df = pd.DataFrame(names)
- > census\_In(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

# Last Words

Thank you!