Intro

2024-04-12

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We as human beings like to divide actions into moral and amoral. Some of these amoral actions, such as murder, theft and fraud, are codified in law and we call those transgressions crimes. It is in our best interest to avoid crime happening. Therefore, we try to punish those that commit them in hopes of it being a deterrent for future repetition. However, there might be other ways in which to minimise crime. In addition, we see that crime isn't happening uniformly everywhere. This leads us to the question: what makes a crime more likely to happen in a region?

Clay[1857], concentrating on crime in England, analysed the following characteristics: Beer-(ale)-house numbers, worship attendance and public school attendance. The argument he provides for the two latter is both allow for the public access to Christian moral values (although he criticises that the ability to read on its own is not enough). It is to note, the "public schools" mentioned by Clay concentrated mostly teaching read and writing and were not free but accepted anyone who could effort it. In the case of beer-houses, he argues "the temptation to animal pleasure" corrupts a person. To help his case he tries to show the positive correlation of beer-houses, the negative correlations of public school and worship attendance to crime.

In this paper we want to verify (or deny) these effects of the aforementioned characteristics and try to predict crime rate from them using the same data set. However, before starting it is important to mention, as noticed by Clay[1857], the recorded crime rate may be inaccurate because of systematic reasons since each county handles crime and punishment differently on the executive and juridical levels. This will impact the accuracy of all possible analysis and models.