

Homophily and Ethnic Colocation: Evidence from Canadian Metropolitan Areas

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UEA, June, 2024

What the paper does?

"Similarity breeds connection"

- ▶ Measures ethnic colocation across Canadian metropolitan areas using high-resolution census data, estimating how likely individuals from two different ethnic groups live near each other (500 m, and robustness).
- ▶ Links colocation patterns to multiple dimensions of group similarity — language, religion, shared colonial history, genetic distance.
- ▶ Rich empirical design that shows “homophily” dimensions significantly increase the likelihood that two ethnic groups live within a short distance of each other.

What I would like to see/Suggestions?

- ▶ interaction effects between homophily dimensions—e.g., whether sharing both language and religion amplifies (or substitutes for) each other's impact on ethnic colocation.
- ▶ Heterogeneity by city, rich and poor (great!). What about other neighborhood attributes? preferences vs. constraints matter more.
- ▶ Oster (2019) Selection on unobservables