

Article

Analysis of Access to Emergency Funds in Sub-Saharan Countries— A Human Rights-Based Approach

Rose Porta^{1,‡,*}, Alejandra Munoz Garcia^{1,‡}, Margaret Bassney^{1,‡}, Aushanae Haller^{1,‡}

- Department of Statistical and Data Sciences, Smith College, Northampton MA;
- * Correspondence: rporta@smith.edu
- † These authors contributed equally to this work.

Version October 19, 2022 submitted to Water



- Simple Summary: A Simple summary goes here.
- Abstract: A single paragraph of about 200 words maximum. For research articles, abstracts should
- 3 give a pertinent overview of the work. We strongly encourage authors to use the following style of
- structured abstracts, but without headings: 1) Background: Place the question addressed in a broad
- 5 context and highlight the purpose of the study; 2) Methods: Describe briefly the main methods or
- treatments applied; 3) Results: Summarize the article's main findings; and 4) Conclusion: Indicate
- the main conclusions or interpretations. The abstract should be an objective representation of the
- article, it must not contain results which are not presented and substantiated in the main text and
- should not exaggerate the main conclusions.
- Keywords: keyword 1; keyword 3 (list three to ten pertinent keywords specific to the article, yet reasonably common within the subject discipline.).

```
# test python chunk
# !pip install seaborn
import seaborn as sns
```

2 1. Version

This Rmd-skeleton uses the mdpi Latex template published 2019/02. However, the official template gets more frequently updated than the 'rticles' package. Therefore, please make sure prior to paper submission, that you're using the most recent .cls, .tex and .bst files (available here).

16 2. Abstract

Having access to emergency funds is a valuable resource that many people end up needing at least once in their lives. Those who have access to emergency funding and other financial services have the capacity to remain afloat when unexpected predicaments arise, while those who are without this privilege have no choice but to endure crises and simply hope for the best. The purpose of our project is to analyze the access adults have to emergency funds and financial services in Sub-Saharan countries using a 2017 dataset from the Global Findex Database. Additionally, an important goal of our project is to employ a variety of different approaches in an attempt to minimize bias and maximize fairness, particularly when examining the performance for males and females. We also aim to determine how adults in the Sub-Saharan African region access financial services as well as establish the amount of

bias we have within our models using exploratory data analysis, a baseline model, and a variety of fairness metrics. We hope to implement our findings in a Jupyter notebook where this information can be made accessible to a broader undergraduate audience.

9 3. Introduction

Science is often viewed as a way to offer trustworthy research backed solutions and answers. A lot of that research involves statistical methods performed on data however, what happens when the data and statistical methods aren't as objective and trustworthy as is so often assumed? The conclusions 32 drawn from the data are biased and unfair, most often towards minorities and protected classes of 33 people. To contribute to a human rights based approach to data analysis, we evaluate fairness metrics on a machine learning algorithm to measure bias. We use a Global Findex data set which contains financial information about 35 Sub Saharan countries. Specifically we want to create models to predict access to emergency funds, then analyze the fairness of those models. We focus on group and individual 37 fairness metrics for the protected attributes, sex, age, and race. In addition we investigate the data set itself to understand where potential biases might have been implanted. Data sets and algorithms 39 have real world impacts on real people. The inherent bias in data sets can carry over into machine learning algorithms that are used to profile and categorize people [1,2]. Since data set's aren't collected in a vacuum and often represent the discriminatory environments in which they are collected [3], we must find ways to make data sets and statistical methods more equitable. In this study we explore fairness methods that can be used to evaluate machine learning models. The "impossibility theorem" is the idea that not all fairness metrics can be satisfied at the same time[4]. Although fairness is complex and there are multiple approaches to make a model fair [5,6], it's important to continue to question how data and algorithms can be biased and how to mitigate that bias. While there have been previous studies implementing fairness techniques in different contexts[7, Kim and Cho [8]], we implement them in an exploratory context meant to teach how and when to use these techniques thus giving 49 us more freedom to branch beyond a specific question while supporting previous work about the 50 importance of these fairness metrics[9, Barocas et al. [3]]. We analyse the data, data collection methods, prediction models, and the fairness metrics to assess how biased our data is and understand how we can de-bias when possible.

4. Materials and Methods

Materials and Methods [10] should be described with sufficient details to allow others to replicate and build on published results. Please note that publication of your manuscript implicates that you must make all materials, data, computer code, and protocols associated with the publication available to readers. Please disclose at the submission stage any restrictions on the availability of materials or information. New methods and protocols should be described in detail while well-established methods can be briefly described and appropriately cited.[5]

Research manuscripts reporting large datasets that are deposited in a publicly available database should specify where the data have been deposited and provide the relevant accession numbers. If the accession numbers have not yet been obtained at the time of submission, please state that they will be provided during review. They must be provided prior to publication.[11]

Interventionary studies involving animals or humans, and other studies require ethical approval must list the authority that provided approval and the corresponding ethical approval code.

5. Results

57

62

This section may be divided by subheadings. It should provide a concise and precise description of the experimental results, their interpretation as well as the experimental conclusions that can be drawn.[3]

- 5.1. Subsection Heading Here
- Subsection text here.
- 5.1.1. Subsubsection Heading Here
- Bulleted lists look like this:
- First bullet
- Second bullet Third bullet
- Numbered lists can be added as follows:
- First item
- 2. 3. Second item Third item
- The text continues here. 82
- All figures and tables should be cited in the main text as Figure 1, Table 1, etc.



Figure 1. This is a figure, Schemes follow the same formatting. If there are multiple panels, they should be listed as: (a) Description of what is contained in the first panel. (b) Description of what is contained in the second panel. Figures should be placed in the main text near to the first time they are cited. A caption on a single line should be centered.

Table 1. This is a table caption. Tables should be placed in the main text near to the first time they are cited.

Title 1	Title 2	Title 3
entry 1	data	data
entry 2	data	data

This is an example of an equation:

S (1)

- Example of a theorem:
- **Theorem 1.** *Example text of a theorem.*
- The text continues here. Proofs must be formatted as follows:
- Example of a proof:
- **Proof of Theorem 1.** Text of the proof. Note that the phrase 'of Theorem 1' is optional if it is clear which theorem is being referred to.
- The text continues here.
- 6. Discussion
- Authors should discuss the results and how they can be interpreted in perspective of previous
- studies and of the working hypotheses. The findings and their implications should be discussed in the
- broadest context possible. Future research directions may also be highlighted.

96 7. Conclusion

This section is not mandatory, but can be added to the manuscript if the discussion is unusually long or complex.

99 8. Patents

This section is not mandatory, but may be added if there are patents resulting from the work reported in this manuscript.

Acknowledgments: All sources of funding of the study should be disclosed. Please clearly indicate grants that you have received in support of your research work. Clearly state if you received funds for covering the costs to publish in open access.

Author Contributions: For research articles with several authors, a short paragraph specifying their individual contributions must be provided. The following statements should be used "X.X. and Y.Y. conceive and designed the experiments; X.X. performed the experiments; X.X. and Y.Y. analyzed the data; W.W. contributed reagents/materials/analysis tools; Y.Y. wrote the paper." Authorship must be limited to those who have contributed substantially to the work reported.

Conflicts of Interest: Declare conflicts of interest or state 'The authors declare no conflict of interest.' Authors must identify and declare any personal circumstances or interest that may be perceived as inappropriately influencing the representation or interpretation of reported research results. Any role of the funding sponsors in the design of the study; in the collection, analyses or interpretation of data in the writing of the manuscript, or in the decision to publish the results must be declared in this section. If there is no role, please state 'The founding sponsors had no role in the design of the study; in the collection, analyses, or interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript, an in the decision to publish the results'.

117 Abbreviations

118 The following abbreviations are used in this manuscript:

MDPI Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute

DOAJ Directory of open access journals

TLA Three letter acronym

LD linear dichroism

121 Appendix A

120

122 Appendix A.1

The appendix is an optional section that can contain details and data supplemental to the main text. For example, explanations of experimental details that would disrupt the flow of the main text, but nonetheless remain crucial to understanding and reproducing the research shown; figures of replicates for experiments of which representative data is shown in the main text can be added here if brief, or as Supplementary data. Mathematical proofs of results not central to the paper can be added as an appendix.

129 Appendix B

All appendix sections must be cited in the main text. In the appendixes, Figures, Tables, etc. should be labeled starting with 'A', e.g., Figure A1, Figure A2, etc.

132 References

- Navarro, C.L.A.; Damen, J.A.; Takada, T.; Nijman, S.W.; Dhiman, P.; Ma, J.; Collins, G.S.; Bajpai, R.; Riley, R.D.; Moons, K.G.; others. Risk of bias in studies on prediction models developed using supervised machine learning techniques: systematic review. *bmj* **2021**, *375*.
- Hellström, T.; Dignum, V.; Bensch, S. Bias in Machine Learning–What is it Good for? *arXiv preprint* arXiv:2004.00686 **2020**.
- Barocas, S.; Hardt, M.; Narayanan, A. Fairness and machine learning.

- Kleinberg, J.; Mullainathan, S.; Raghavan, M. Inherent trade-offs in the fair determination of risk scores. arXiv preprint arXiv:1609.05807 **2016**.
- 5. Kypraiou, S. What is Fairness? 2021. Publisher: PubPub.
- Green, B.; Hu, L. The myth in the methodology: Towards a recontextualization of fairness in machine learning. Proceedings of the machine learning: the debates workshop, 2018.
- Deho, O.B.; Zhan, C.; Li, J.; Liu, J.; Liu, L.; Duy Le, T. How do the existing fairness metrics and unfairness mitigation algorithms contribute to ethical learning analytics? *British Journal of Educational Technology* **2022**.
- Kim, J.Y.; Cho, S.B. An Information Theoretic Approach to Reducing Algorithmic Bias for Machine Learning. *Neurocomputing* **2022**.
- Anahideh, H.; Asudeh, A.; Thirumuruganathan, S. Fair active learning. *Expert Systems with Applications* 2022, 199, 116981.
- 150 10. Knight, C. Automated Decision-making and Judicial Review. Judicial Review 2020. Publisher: Routledge.
- 151 11. Gebru, T.; Morgenstern, J.; Vecchione, B.; Vaughan, J.W.; Wallach, H.; Daumé III, H.; Crawford, K. Datasheets for Datasets, 2021. arXiv:1803.09010 [cs], doi:10.48550/arXiv.1803.09010.
- Sample Availability: Samples of the compounds are available from the authors.
- © 2022 by the authors. Submitted to *Water* for possible open access publication under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).