

## Fertility prediction challenge, Episode I: does survey data beat population registries?

ODISSEI Conference for Social Science in the Netherlands 2023

Elizaveta Sivak, Gert Stulp, Javier Garcia-Bernardo, Malvina Nissim, Tom Emery, Adriënne Mendrik, Paulina Pankowska













 Research on fertility behaviour: many factors identified; still, our knowledge might be incomplete

## A data challenge to predict fertility outcomes

- assess current upper levels of predictability
- highlight the gaps in our current knowledge and get insights



The task: to predict who will have a child in the next three years (2020-2022)

Outcome 2020-2022

~17% of the sample had a new child

Background data up to 2019

Train

Holdout

SICSS-ODISSEI, June 2023

7 teams

#### SICSS-ODISSEI 2023 participants: **THANK YOU**



Dianna Amasino



Vardan Barsegyan Emily Cantrell





Santiago Gómez-Echeverry



**Hofland Maud** 



Laura Jansen



Sanni Kuikka



Marie Labussière



Francesco Marolla Huyen Nguyen





Alon Pertzikovitz



Samuel Plach



Žiga Puklavec



Javier San Millán Tejedor



Hanna Schleihauf



Lotte Schrijver



Lucas Spierenburg



Ely Strömberg



**Tomas** Turner-Zwinkels



Tony Wei-Tse Hung



Xiao Xu



#### Phase I:

LISS panel: all Core studies + Background (from 2007-2019)



Submission platform to increase computational reproducibility



#### Phase II:

Dutch population registries (CBS): a preprocessed dataset with mostly 2019 data + networks + external data about municipalities



Evaluation metric: F1 score

Wide data (survey) vs long data (registries)?

Your bets:

Survey data

VS

Registry data

Thousands of variables

~100 variables

### Your bets:

Survey data

VS

Registry data

Thousands of variables

N = 1200

~100 variables

N = 6000000

### Your bets:

Survey data

VS

Registry data

Thousands of variables

~100 variables

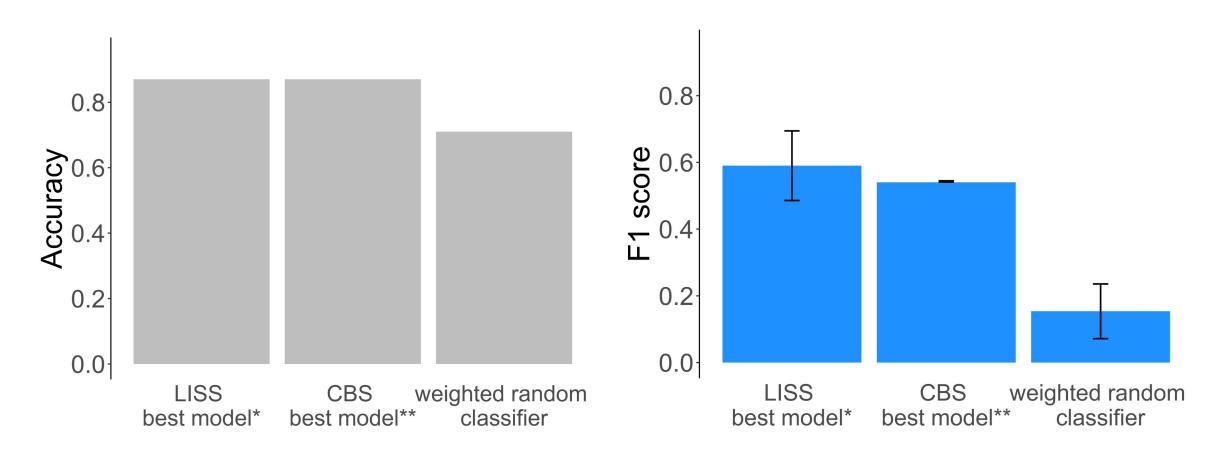
N = 1200

N = 6000000

Values, preferences, attitudes, beliefs

No such variables

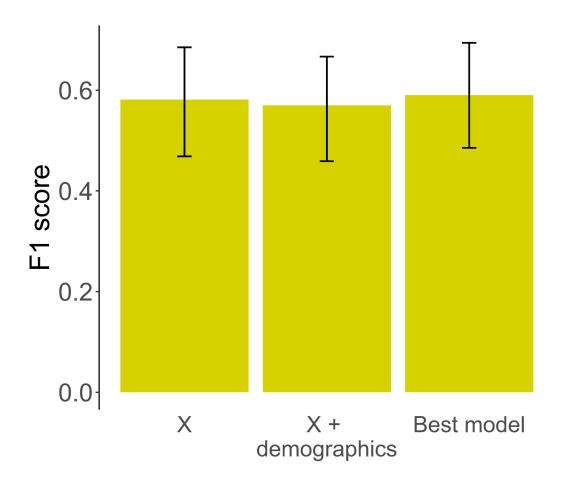
## Predicting who will have a child in the next three years



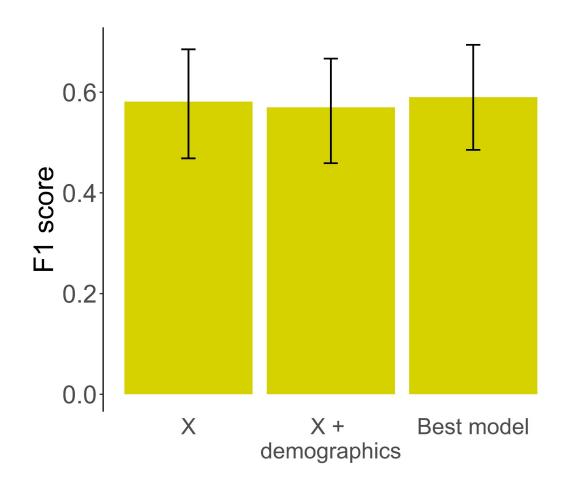
<sup>\*</sup> League of Lager team

<sup>\*\*</sup> STL Trio Titans team

#### LISS: what worked



#### LISS: what worked

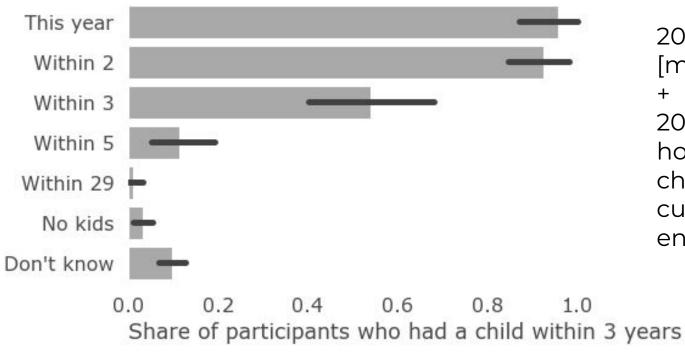


#### X = Fertility Intentions

2019: Do you think you will have [more] children in the future?

2019: Within how many years do you hope to have your [first / next] child? If you [your partner] are currently expecting a child, please enter a zero (0)

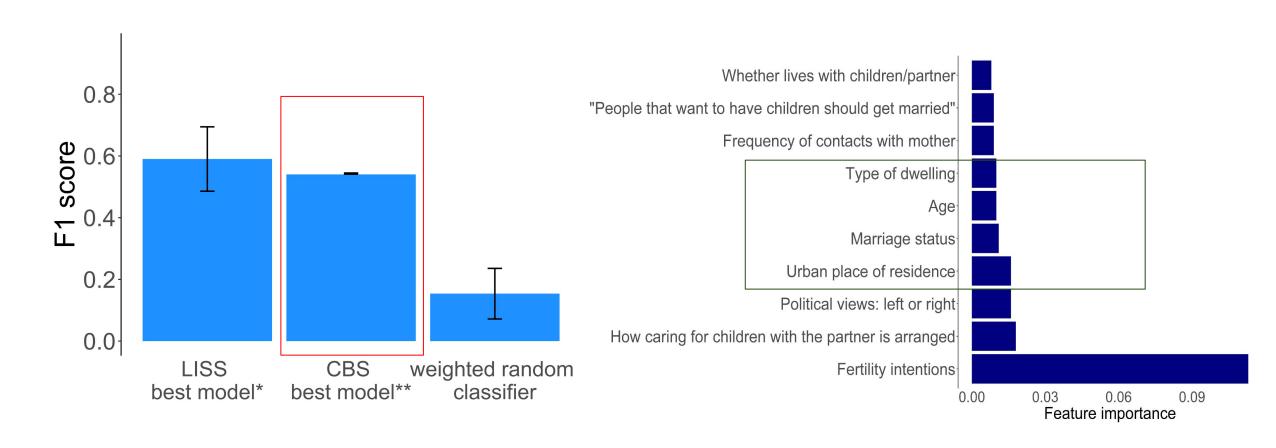
## Fertility intentions and actually having a child within 3 years



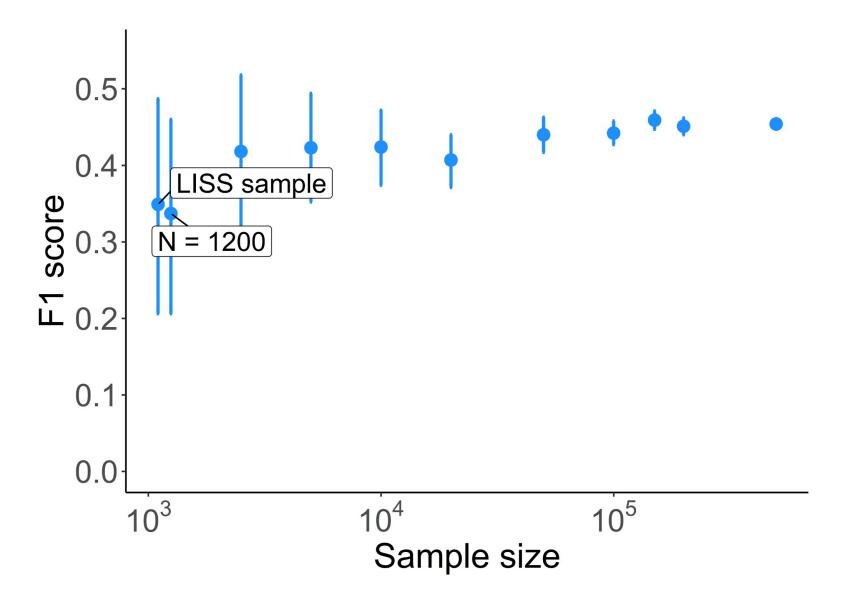
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#### CBS data: what worked?



#### **CBS** data: what worked







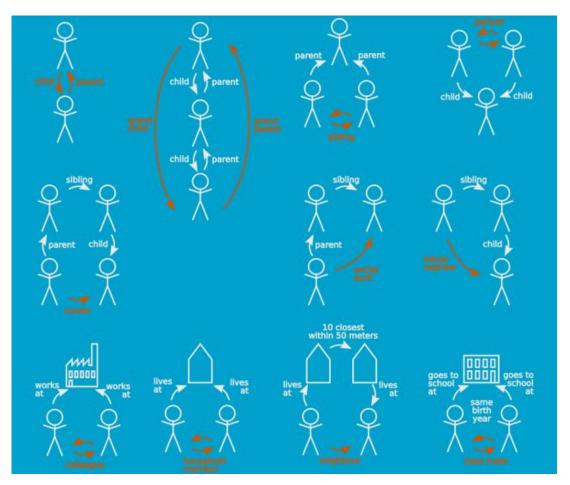
pilot

open data challenge

#### More data

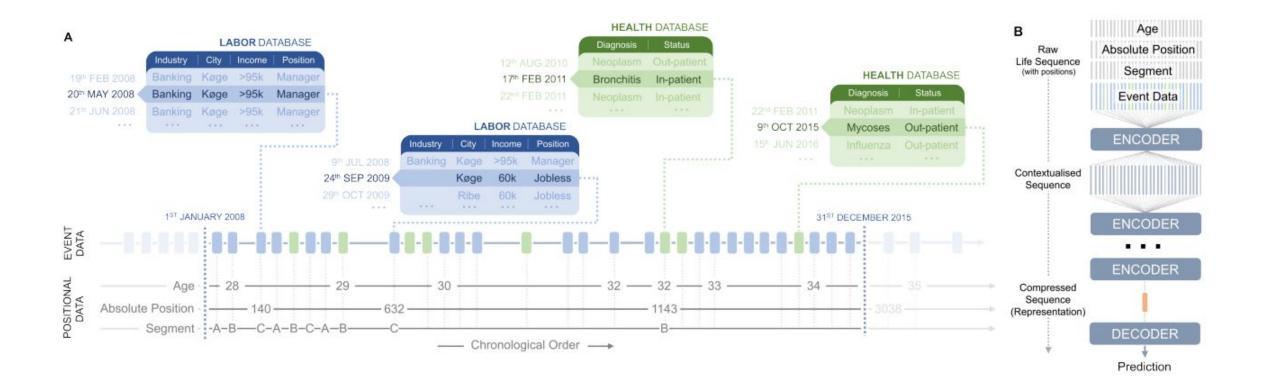
Survey + registries: access to the LISS data inside the CBS remote environment

Social network for the whole Dutch population



Picture https://odissei-data.nl/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/PresentatieODFpilotCBS181002.pdf

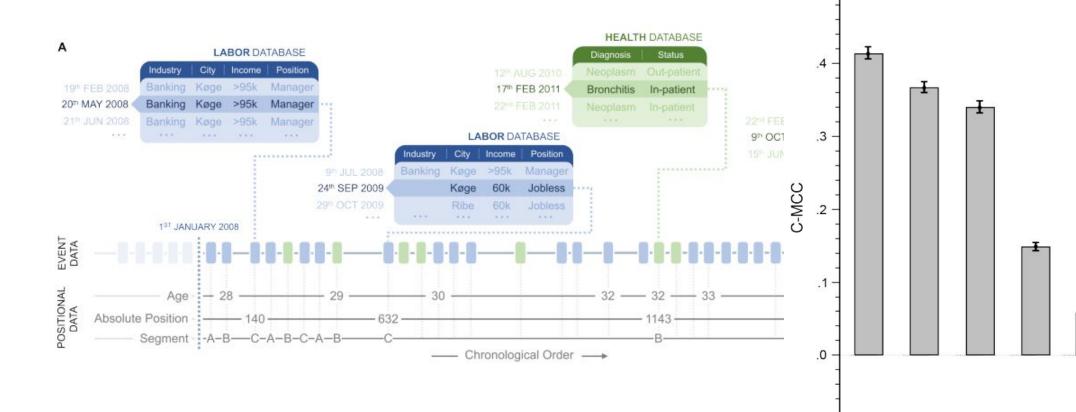
### Advanced ML



#### **Using Sequences of Life-events to Predict Human Lives**

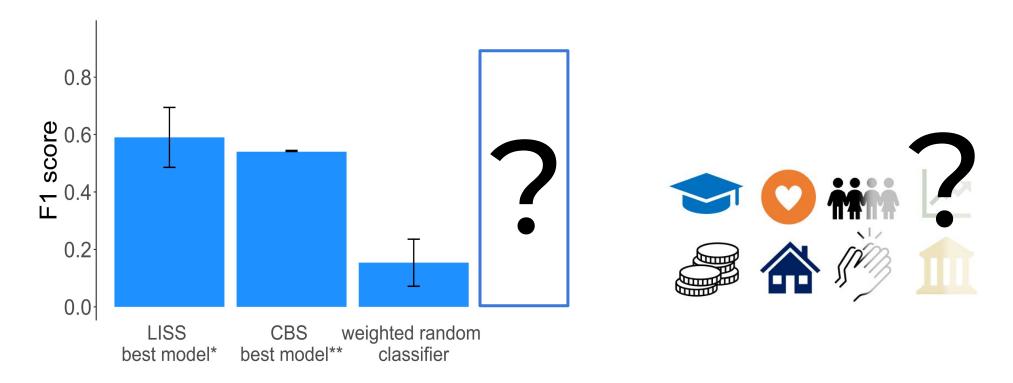
Germans Savcisens, Tina Eliassi-Rad, Lars Kai Hansen, Laust Hvas Mortensen, Lau Lilleholt, Anna Rogers, Ingo Zettler, and Sune Lehmann

### Advanced ML

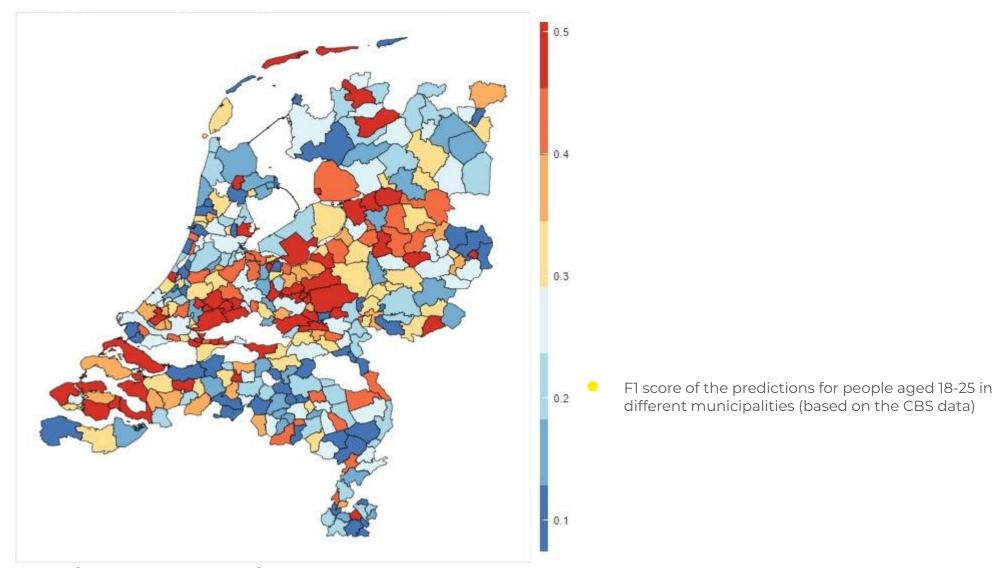


#### **Using Sequences of Life-events to Predict Human Lives**

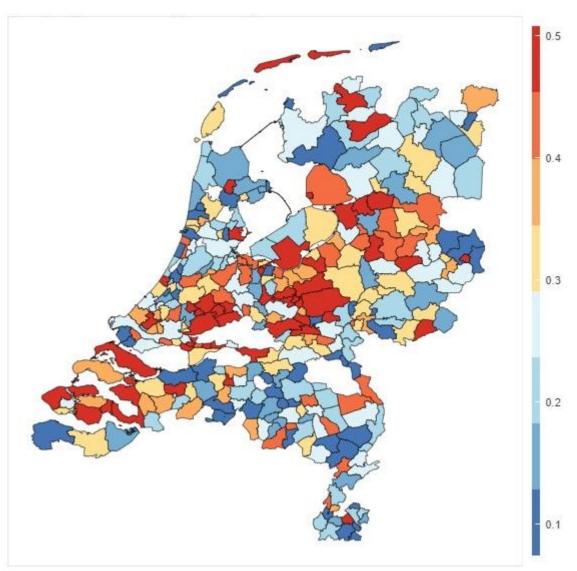
Germans Savcisens, Tina Eliassi-Rad, Lars Kai Hansen, Laust Hvas Mortensen, Lau Lilleholt, Anna Rogers, Ingo Zettler, and Sune Lehmann life2vec

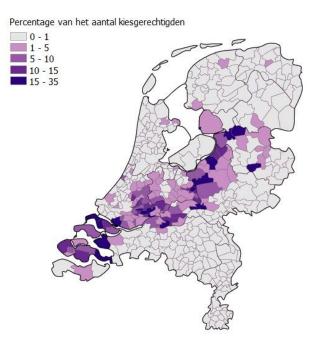


Open data challenge: assess upper limits of predictability and insights based on the error analysis, predictive performance for different groups, and comparing and interpreting the models



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Percentage of votes for the SGP (Reformed Political Party) at the 2006 Dutch general election per municipality

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bible\_Belt\_%28Netherlands%29

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# PreFer: Data Challenge for Predicting Fertility outcomes in the Netherlands

Spring-Summer 2024

- Beat these scores
- Be a part of a unique data challenge
- Contribute to research on fertility behaviour
- Work with cool data: the LISS panel and Dutch population registries

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