Experimental study of discrimination in the labour market in Moscow

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Studies of discrimination

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- Two types of experiments:
 - Audit studies

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- Two types of experiments:
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 - Correspondence studies

Two recent examples of correspondence studies

Bertrand and Mullainathan (AER, 2004)

- Boston and Chicago
- 5,000 resumes, 1,300 job ads
- Variation by race and the quality of resumes
- ▶ White names receive 50% more callbacks for interviews

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- Carlsson and Rooth (Labour Economics, 2007)
 - Stockholm and Gothenburg
 - 1,550 job ads, matched pairs design
 - Swedish names receive 50% more callbacks than Middle-Eastern names

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Experimental design-2

- 4,000 resumes, sent out within 4 to 6 months
- Measuring callback rates
- Random assignment of ethnic names, sex, age and education.
 Everything else will be fixed at the same level
- Five ethnic groups: Russians, Tatars, Armenians, Muslim people from the Caucasus (?), Uzbeks/Tajiks
- Four occupations: secretary (office manager), sales manager, salesperson, accountant. These are the most popular vacancies on the web
- Job openings from the most popular job search websites (job.ru, superjob.ru, Yandex rabota, etc.)

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- Or perhaps matching (which is a fully parametrized regression with a slightly different weighting scheme)

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- Design stage: October December, incl. interviews with HR people, choosing the ethnic names (and testing them)
- Data collection: January June, incl. a pilot study