Big Data Sources and the Telephone Point of Purchase Survey

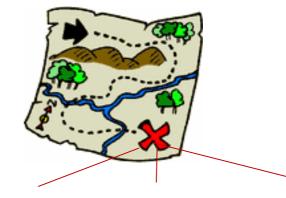
Greg Barbieri
Economist
Consumer Prices and Price Indexes
FedCASIC
5/2/2016



What is TPOPS

TPOPS generates the stores where prices are collected for the CPI Store Location:

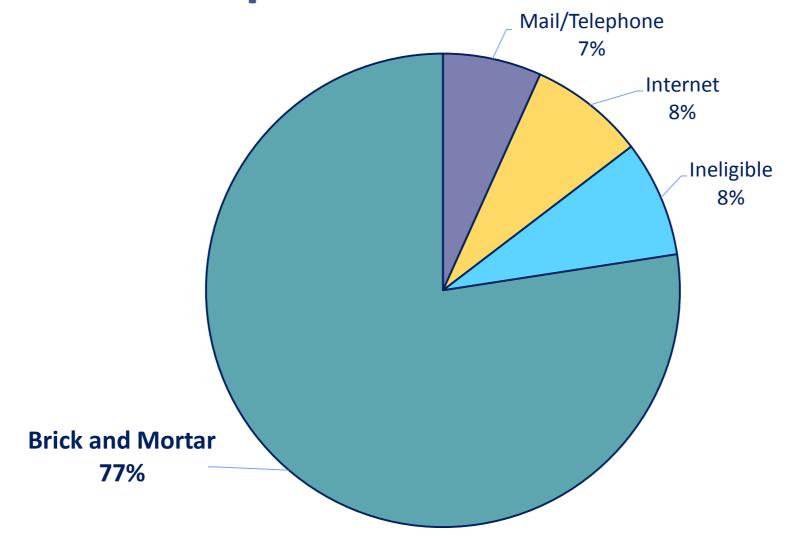
- ► Internet
- ► Telephone or Mail Order
- ► Brick and Mortar



Street Address, Cross Street, City, State



Retail Landscape





BLS Address Refinement

Stages of Refinement:

- 1. Shopping Center List
- 2. Outlet Co

TPOPS

- 3. Field Refir Report
- 4. Outlet Disaggregation

BLS Address Refinement



Store used for Pricing



Role of Big Data Sources

Tapping into Big Data sources (Google, Yelp, etc.)

► Name, address, geographic coordinates



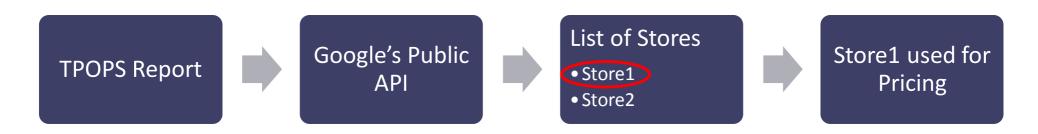
2. Selecting stores by city and state



Role of Big Data Sources

Applications and Experiments:

2. Selecting stores by city and state





Experimental Data

- Mock TPOPS data were created for 10 categories in 10 cities
- "Dirty" store name and address
 - Removing details
 - ► Typos: extra letters, transpose, deletion

Cities

- Miami, FL
- New York, NY
- Washington, DC
- Seattle, WA
- Detroit, MI
- San Francisco, CA

Categories

- Grocery Stores
- Clothing Stores
- Electronic Stores
- Restaurants
- Legal Services
- Accounting Services

Mock TPOPS aters Stores **Original Information** Report Alan C Young Ala C Youkng Alan C. Young & Associates, P.C. Associatevs Associates 7310 Woodward Ave #740, Detroit, MI Woodward Ave, Woodward Ae, 48202, United States Detroit, MI Detroit, MI



Expt 1: Replacing BLS Refinement

Search: Store Name, Street Address, City and State.

BD Source: Google

Data: Mock TPOPS data.





Expt 1: Measuring Results

Number of results:

► Zero: No results to refine report

▶ One: Store identified

► Many: Too Ambiguous

Google's Public

Matching:

Apple Store 1229 Wisconsin Ave, NW, Washington, DC, 20007, United States



Aphple Stork Wiscousin Aqe N, Washington DC

Apple Store 1229 Wisconsin Ave, NW, Washington, DC, 20007, United States



Expt 1: Results

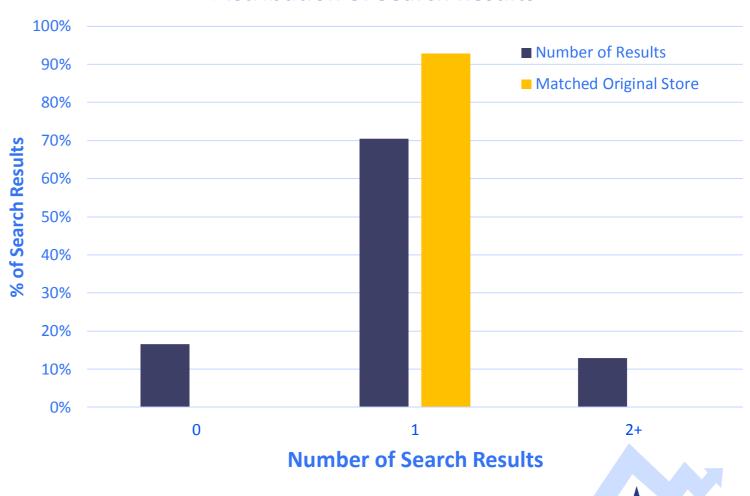
- Stores Searched: 1,917
- Overall Performance:

► Zero: 16%

▶ One: 71%

► Many: 13%

Distribution of Search Results

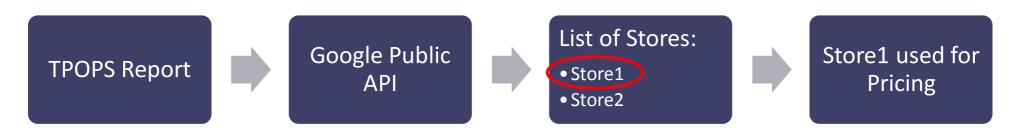


Expt 2: Selecting Stores by City and State

Search: Store name, City, and State

Measuring Results:

- ► Goal is to determine feasibility of selecting a store from many
- ► Focus will be on scenarios with multiple search results.

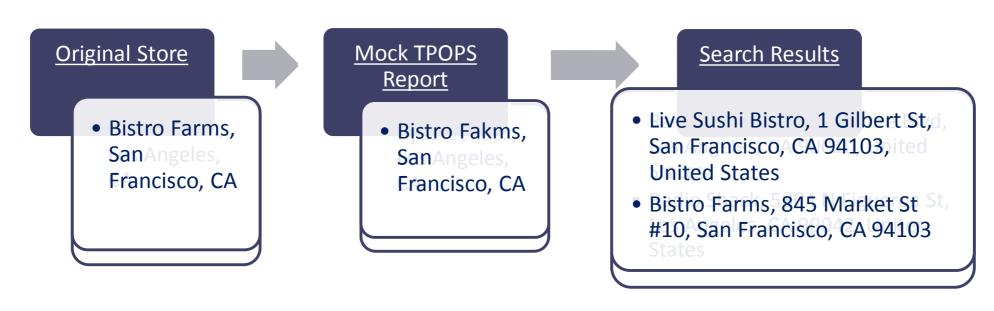




Expt 2: Measuring Results

Matching Criteria Changes:

► Matching using store name, city and state





Expt 2: Results

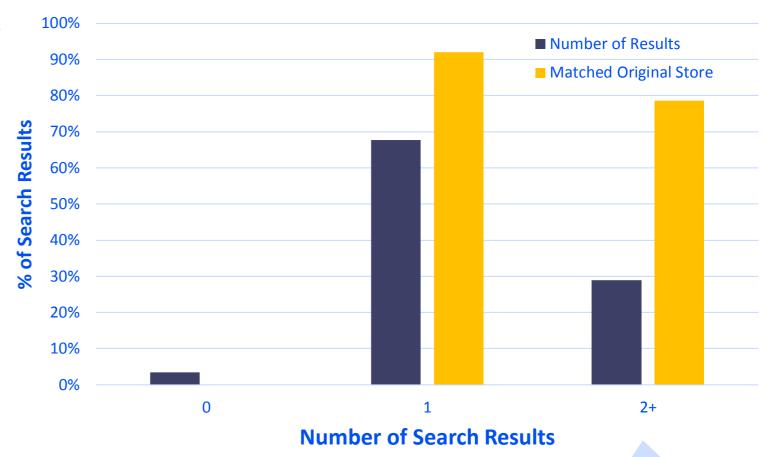
- Stores Searched: 1,907
- Overall Performance:

► Zero: 3%

▶ One: 68%

► Many: 29%

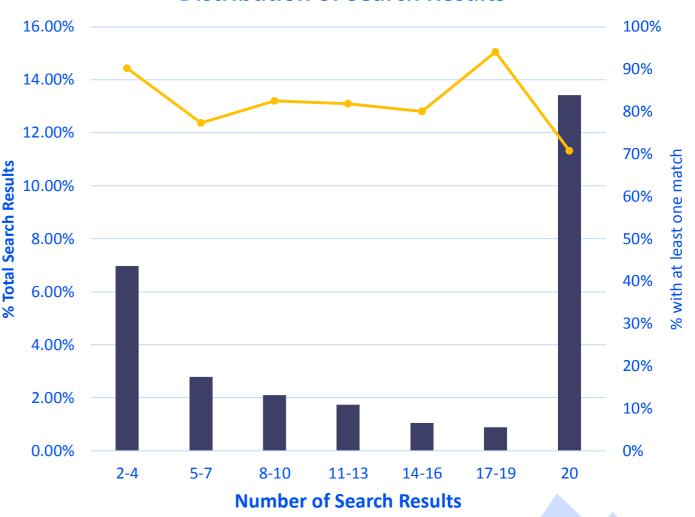
Distribution of Search Results



Expt 2: One-to-Many

- Constant match rate
- Sample quality in question
 - ► Results means prob of selection.

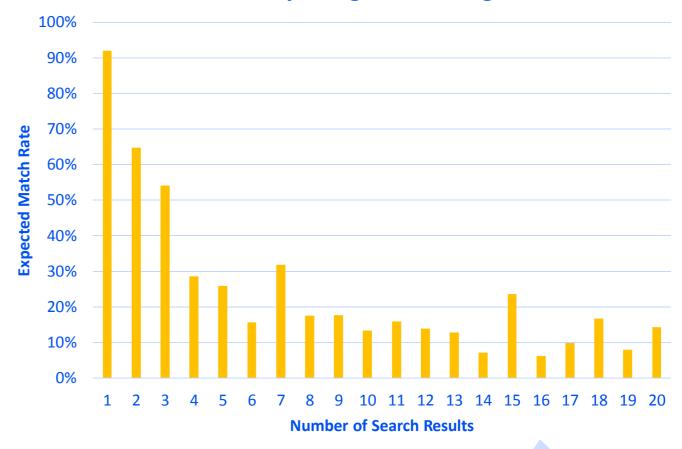
Distribution of Search Results



Expt 2: Expected Match Rate

- Expected match rate: sum of match rate * proportion of incidence
- If EPS, then expected match rate is also probability of selection

Probability-Weighted Average





Hurdles

- Legal Google Terms of Service
 - ► Saving BLS data
 - ► Saving Google data
- Methodology
 - ► Selecting from many stores with different probabilities
- Representativeness
 - ▶ Data quality and incentives



Contact Information

Greg Barbieri

Economist

Consumer Prices and Price Indexes

202-691-5342

Barbieri.Greg@bls.gov

