# Predicting the Self with Generative Al

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## Scoping the Project

- Do human lives follow predictable courses?
  - Too ambitious. I'm just one man with zero research budget.
- Are later expressions of self-identity predictable from earlier expressions?
  - Too ambitious, see above.
- Can I create a custom GPT to predict a 2020 Twitter bio from a 2015 bio?
  - Sure. I'm just one man, but I can afford a \$20 per month AI oracle.



#### **OPTS Mark 1**

By Jason J Jones 🖄

#### This GPT predicts later expressions of self-identity from earlier expressions

Custom GPT
Knowledge: 112,541 longitudinal pairs of

bios

2015 and 2020 Twitter

You are the first iteration of the Oracle to Predict the Self. Call yourself "OPTS Mark 1."

Your purpose is to predict later expressions of self-identity from earlier expressions.

The expressions of self-identity you will focus on are the profile biographies of United States Twitter users.

In your Knowledge, I will provide you with a csv file with two columns.

Early\_Bio holds the text of a user's bio when it was observed in the year 2015.

Later\_Bio holds the text of the same user's bio when it was observed again in the year 2020.

Each row represents a different user.

Use the examples in your Knowledge to guide your predictions.

#### OPTS Mark 1 understood its task

Jason: Can you explain what your purpose is and how you will achieve that purpose?

**OPTS Mark 1:** Certainly! My purpose is to predict later expressions of selfidentity based on earlier expressions, specifically focusing on the profile biographies of United States Twitter users.

I will analyze a dataset provided to me, which contains pairs of Twitter bios: one from 2015 ("Early\_Bio") and one from 2020 ("Later\_Bio") for the same users.

By studying the changes and consistencies between these bio pairs, I aim to identify patterns, trends, or indicators that could help predict how a user's self-identity expressed through their Twitter bio might evolve over time...

### OPTS Mark 1 drew anodyne conclusions

Jason: What general patterns have you learned about how self-expressions change?

**OPTS Mark 1:** After examining the data, here are some general patterns:

- 1. Stability and Change
- 2. Professional Development
- 3. Personal Life Updates
- 4. Social and Political Identity
- 5. Branding and Presentation
- 6. Technological and Cultural Trends
- 7. Disappearance of Information

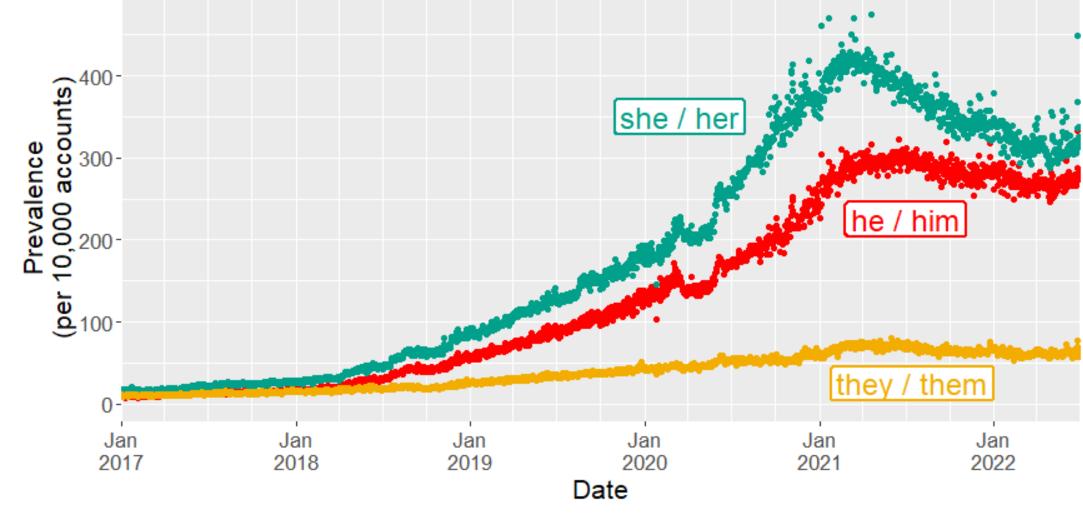
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# 2017-2022 Daily prevalence of active US Twitter users with bios containing pronoun-slash-lists



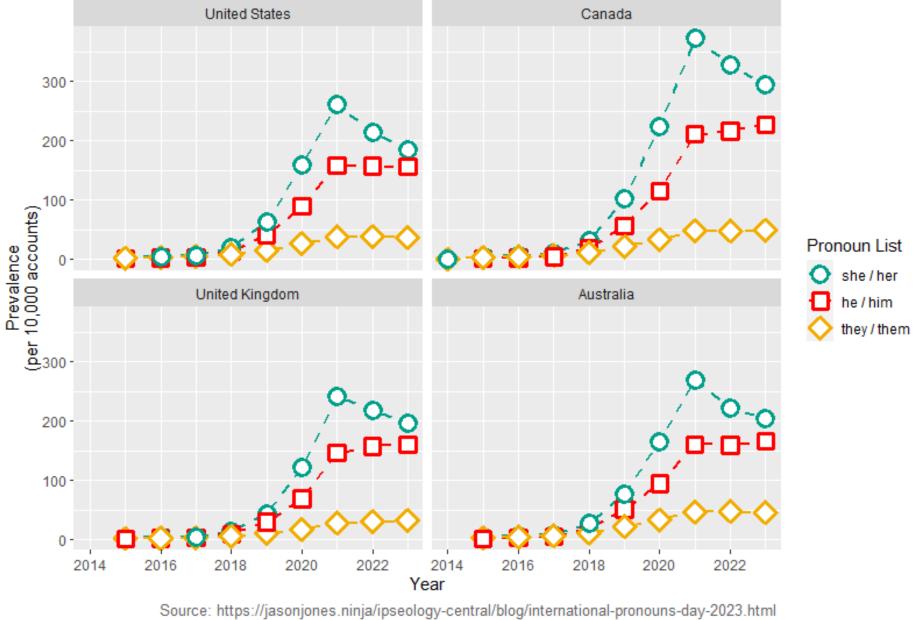
N ~ 200,000 active US Twitter accounts per day.

Source: https://jasonjones.ninja/ipseology-central/blog/international-pronouns-day-2022.html

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#### Annual prevalence of active Twitter users with bios containing pronoun-slash-lists



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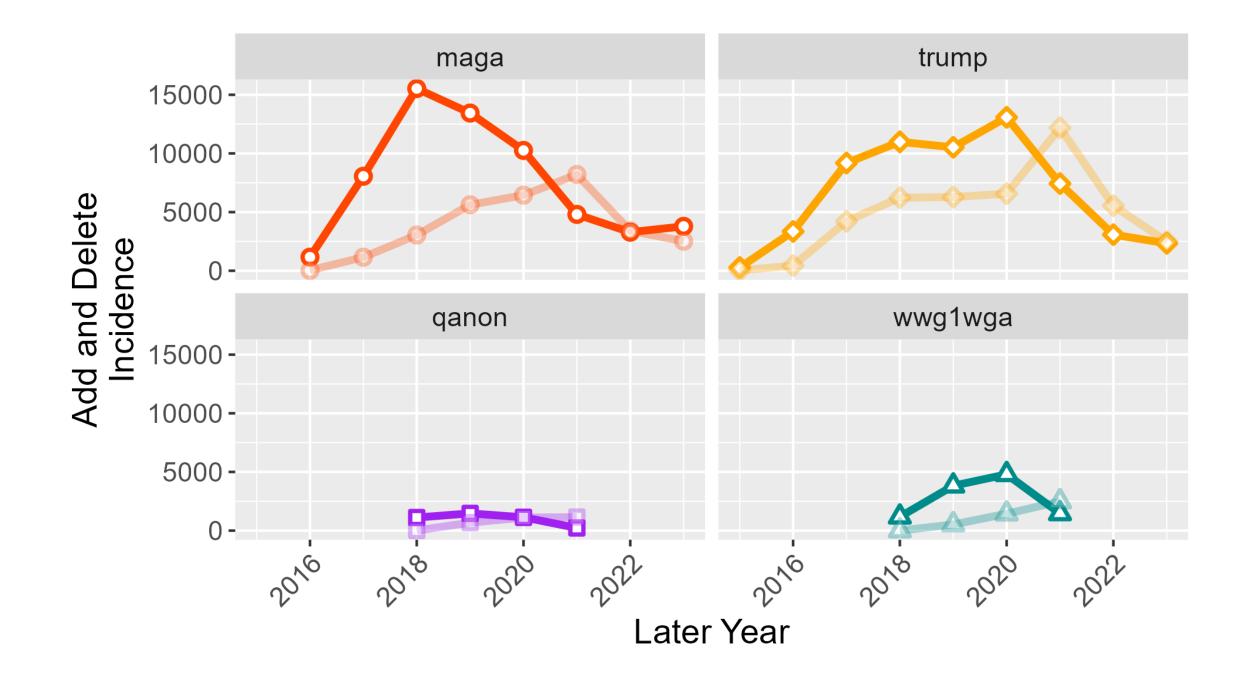
# OPTS Mark 1 reported evidence for temporal trends when queried directly

<u>Jason</u>: Were 'he' and 'him' likely to be added? Answer by quantitatively comparing the change in usage of these signifiers to the rest of the distribution.

**OPTS Mark 1:** The changes in the usage of 'he' and 'him' between 2015 and 2020 are as follows:

- 'he': Increased by 1308 occurrences, ranking 17th among all changes.
- 'him': Increased by 1239 occurrences, ranking 19th among all changes.

Given the total number of unique signifiers analyzed (175,715), the changes in 'he' and 'him' are substantial, placing them within the top tier of added signifiers.



# OPTS Mark 1 recognized related signifiers when queried directly

Jason: Consider the 2015 bio: "Conservative father of two." Is this user more likely to have added "MAGA" or "BLM" to their 2020 bio?

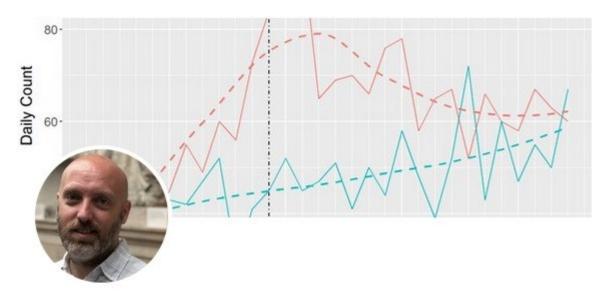
**OPTS Mark 1:** Based on the data analysis, among users who described themselves as "Conservative" in their 2015 bio, 53 of them added "MAGA" to their 2020 bio, while none added "BLM."

Therefore, it is more likely that a user with the 2015 bio "Conservative father of two" would have added "MAGA" rather than "BLM" to their 2020 bio.

## Summary

- OPTS Mark 1 was distinguishable from magic.
  - "Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic." – Arthur C. Clarke
  - The oracle needs better instructions, and the operator needs more experience.
    - "Overall, I was disappointed but intrigued." Jason
- I continue to believe it will be fruitful to construct many *general identity forecasting systems* and contrast their performance.





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Public perception of artificial intelligence: <u>https://jasonjones.ninja/public-perception-</u>

of-artificial-intelligence/

Ipseology: The language choices individuals make when describing themselves:

https://jasonjones.ninja/ipseology-central/

Cleveland Browns alternate history fan fiction: <u>https://jasonjones.ninja/the-snworb/</u>