

# A Name of Thrones

## INF 385T: Data Wrangling, SQL & Beyond Dr. James Howison

Nathan M. Heep  
nmh872  
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This project analyses relationships between U.S. baby names that occur more than 5 times per year since 1981 according to U.S. census data, and character names from the popular fantasy book series A Song of Ice and Fire (ASOIAF) and HBO entertainment series Game of Thrones (GOT). The goal of this project is to determine if ASOIAF or GOT have influenced baby naming trends since their releases in 1996 and 2011, respectively.

The analysis considers a time scale of 34 years from 1981 to 2015, beginning 15 years prior to ASOIAF's release (1981), to the release of ASOIAF (1996), to the release of GOT (2011), and finally to the final year of the US baby name dataset, 2015. The name dataset contains the year, name, and number of people born with that name that year. Name data were compared against a dataset of all character names from the ASOIAF/GOT universe. This file was analysed for popular names from specific houses that serve as the central cast of characters. The results from this analysis suggest that ASOIAF/GOT has influenced U.S. baby name trends since their respective releases in 1996 and 2011.

Files (all csvs in same dir):  
~/project/prototype/projectimport.py  
~/project/prototype/prototype.py



We Do Not Sow  
Greyjoy



Fire and Blood  
Targaryen



Winter is Coming  
Stark



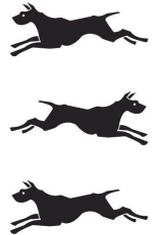
Hear Me Roar  
Lannister



Ours is the Fury  
Baratheon



Unbowed, Unbent, Unbroken  
Martell



Brothers Clegane & Other  
Minor characters

## PROCESS

The following steps were necessary to import and transform data for analysis. All code and comments are located in projectimport.py and prototype.py.

- Import all US baby names to holden (iSchool server) after the year 1980. This provides a sense of naming trends for the fifteen years prior to ASOIAF's release. Original file had year data extending only to 2014.
- Locate and prep the 2015 baby name file by adding a header row, year column, and appending 2015 to all rows.
- Import all character names to holden from the ASOIAF/GOT universe.
- Strip all first names from the GOT table and append to a new field "fixedname" with only first names.
- Output names to a new table "gotnames" on holden.
- Compare gotnames with national\_names table, append new column called inGOT, insert 0, 1 if the name is not inGOT or is inGOT.
- Output CSV that contains all US baby names from all years that match a GOT name for that year.
- Import CSV to Tableau 10.1 for visualization and analysis.



Balon, Theon, Asha



Daenerys, Nymeria, Balor, Aemon,  
Brynden Rivers



Arya, Robb, Catelyn, Sansa, Bran,  
Jon Snow



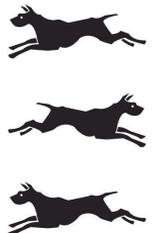
Tywin, Tyrion, Jaime



Renly



Oberyn



Brothers Sandor & Gregor Clegane  
with Minor Characters Beric, Edric,  
Ashara, Shae, Jorah

# WORKFLOW SCREENSHOTS

## Database / Tables

characters

| id | name                 | title                | house           | heir               | spouse              | fixedname |
|----|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| 1  | Viserys II Targaryen |                      |                 | Aegon IV Targaryen |                     | Viserys   |
| 2  | Walder Frey          | Lord of the Crossing | House Frey      |                    | Perra Royce         | Walder    |
| 3  | Addison Hill         | Ser                  | House Swyft     |                    |                     | Addison   |
| 4  | Aemma Arryn          | Queen                | House Arryn     |                    | Viserys I Targaryen | Aemma     |
| 5  | Sylva Santagar       | Greenstone           | House Santagar  |                    | Eldon Estermont     | Sylva     |
| 6  | Tommen Baratheon     |                      |                 | Myrcella Baratheon |                     | Tommen    |
| 7  | Valarr Targaryen     | Hand of the King     | House Targaryen |                    | Kiera of Tyrosh     | Valarr    |
| 8  | Viserys I Targaryen  |                      |                 | Rhaenyra Targaryen |                     | Viserys   |
| 9  | Wilbert              | Ser                  |                 |                    |                     | Wilbert   |
| 10 | Wilbert Osgrey       | Ser                  | House Osgrey    |                    |                     | Wilbert   |
| 11 | Will                 |                      | Night's Watch   |                    |                     | Will      |

Has a first name from a book

\* ... 1

Derived from full name

gotnames

| fixedname |
|-----------|
| Viserys   |
| Walder    |
| Addison   |
| Aemma     |
| Sylva     |
| Tommen    |
| Valarr    |
| Wilbert   |
| Will      |
| Willam    |
| Willem    |
| Willifer  |
| Willit    |
| Willis    |
| Willow    |
| Willum    |
| Wolmer    |

Was given a first name at birth

1 ... \*

Matches a character name

national\_names

| id | name      | year | gender | count |
|----|-----------|------|--------|-------|
| 1  | Jennifer  | 1981 | F      | 57041 |
| 2  | Jessica   | 1981 | F      | 42526 |
| 3  | Amanda    | 1981 | F      | 34372 |
| 4  | Sarah     | 1981 | F      | 28166 |
| 5  | Melissa   | 1981 | F      | 28006 |
| 6  | Amy       | 1981 | F      | 20339 |
| 7  | Nicole    | 1981 | F      | 20312 |
| 8  | Stephanie | 1981 | F      | 20207 |
| 9  | Elizabeth | 1981 | F      | 20171 |
| 10 | Heather   | 1981 | F      | 17943 |
| 11 | Michelle  | 1981 | F      | 17770 |
| 12 | Rebecca   | 1981 | F      | 16733 |
| 13 | Kimberly  | 1981 | F      | 16691 |
| 14 | Tiffany   | 1981 | F      | 16416 |

## SQL/PYTHON EXPORT

Query to create a new table that joins gotnames and national\_names where the two match, along with the number of people with that name for that year.

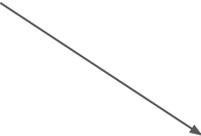
```
SELECT national_names.name AS Name, national_names.year AS Year, count AS 'Number of People', IF( gotnames.fixedname IS NULL , 0, 1 ) AS inGOT
FROM national_names
LEFT OUTER JOIN gotnames ON national_names.name = gotnames.fixedname
HAVING inGOT = 1
```

| Name    | Year | Number of People | inGOT |
|---------|------|------------------|-------|
| Melissa | 1981 | 28006            | 1     |
| Holly   | 1981 | 4565             | 1     |
| Robin   | 1981 | 2868             | 1     |
| Bethany | 1981 | 2693             | 1     |
| Barbara | 1981 | 2531             | 1     |
| Jaime   | 1981 | 2386             | 1     |
| Beth    | 1981 | 2310             | 1     |
| Joanna  | 1981 | 1825             | 1     |
| Joy     | 1981 | 1621             | 1     |
| Marissa | 1981 | 1450             | 1     |
| Robyn   | 1981 | 1367             | 1     |
| Rhonda  | 1981 | 1356             | 1     |
| Alyssa  | 1981 | 1129             | 1     |
| Johanna | 1981 | 880              | 1     |
| Jocelyn | 1981 | 809              | 1     |
| Emma    | 1981 | 533              | 1     |

Python code to run the query and output to a new file, nationalgotonlyoutput.csv

```
with connection.cursor() as cursor:
    sql = """
SELECT national_names.name AS Name, national_names.year AS Year, count AS 'Number of People', IF( gotnames.fixedname IS NULL , 0, 1 ) AS inGOT
FROM national_names
LEFT OUTER JOIN gotnames ON national_names.name = gotnames.fixedname
HAVING inGOT = 1
    """
    cursor.execute(sql)
    results = cursor.fetchall()
    csv_column_order = list(results[0].keys())

with open('nationalgotonlyoutput.csv', 'w', newline='') as csvfile:
    myCsvWriter = csv.DictWriter(csvfile, delimiter=',',
                                # quotechar='\"',
                                # fieldnames = csv_column_order)
    myCsvWriter.writeheader()
    for row in results:
        myCsvWriter.writerow(row)
```



| Year | Number of People | Name    | inGOT |
|------|------------------|---------|-------|
| 1981 | 28006            | Melissa | 1     |
| 1981 | 4565             | Holly   | 1     |
| 1981 | 2868             | Robin   | 1     |
| 1981 | 2693             | Bethany | 1     |
| 1981 | 2531             | Barbara | 1     |
| 1981 | 2386             | Jaime   | 1     |
| 1981 | 2310             | Beth    | 1     |
| 1981 | 1825             | Joanna  | 1     |
| 1981 | 1621             | Joy     | 1     |

Data was imported into Tableau for analysis



## Greyjoy Family (Victarion, Euron N/A)

### House Greyjoy

Results are not conclusive if ASOIAF/GOT have influenced baby naming trends surrounding the Greyjoy family.

**Balon** was last used in 1981 and not again after that year.

**Theon** existed as a name prior to ASOIAF/GOT release, but gradually increased from 2011 to 2015. This may indicate the show's popularity has had an influence.

**Asha** was more popular than her kin prior to 1981 but results are not clear if ASOIAF/GOT has had any influence. In the show, this character's name changed to Yara and was not present in any of the U.S. census data.

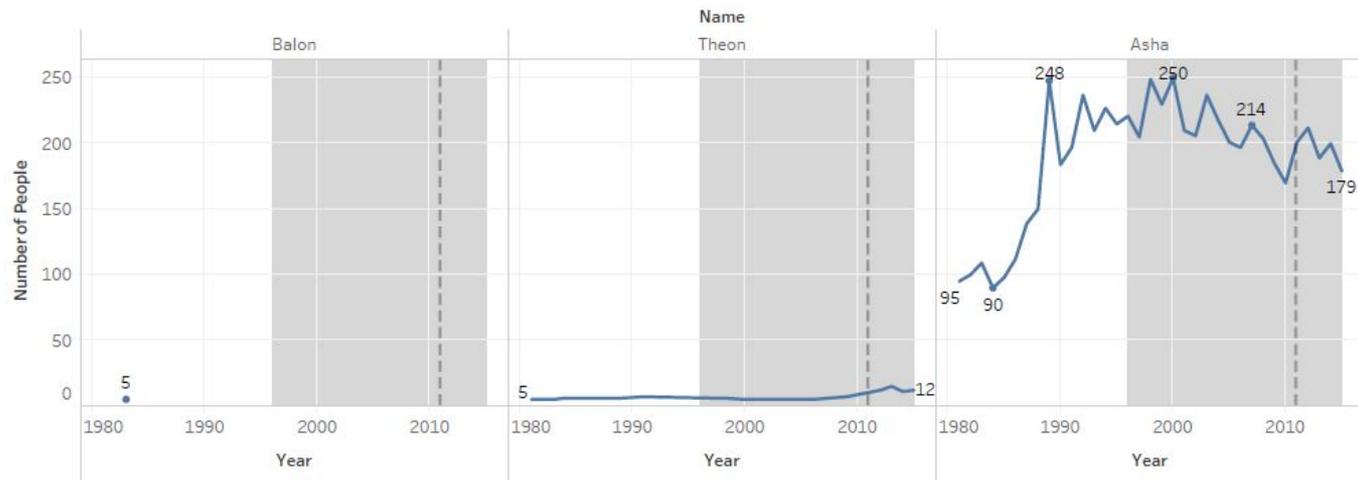
### House Targaryen

Results suggest that the popularity of Targaryen names have potentially influenced baby name trends in four instances, **Daenerys**, **Nymeria**, **Baelor**, and **Aemon**.

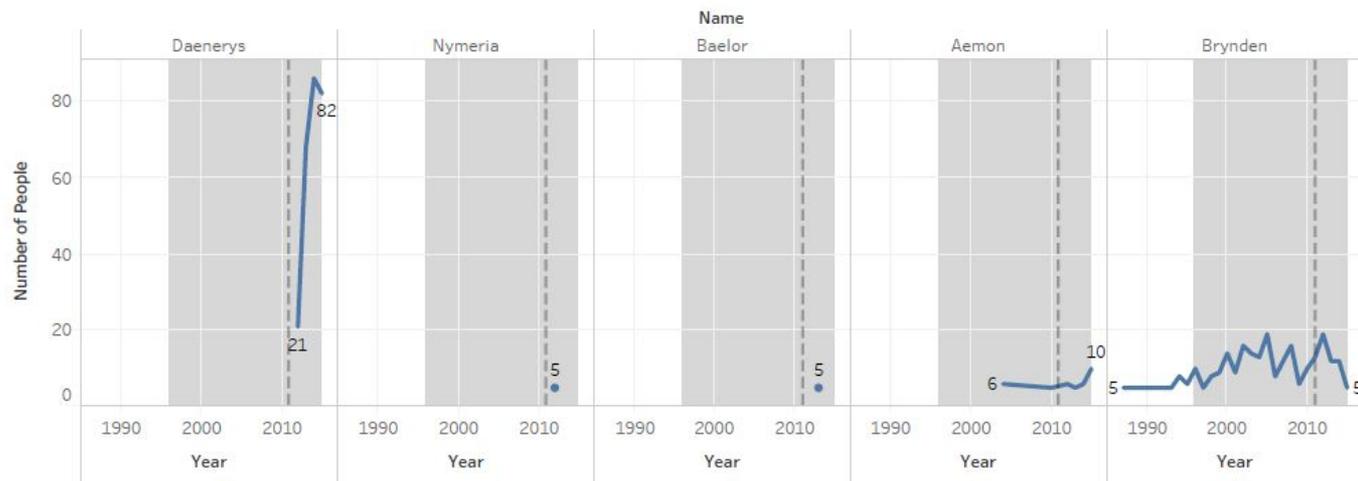
**Daenerys** is one of the most popular characters in the ASOIAF universe, and although her name is introduced with ASOIAF's release, the name does not appear in the census rolls until 2011 with GOT's debut. The name has increased by around 20 names per year since 2011, ending with 82 instances in 2015.

**Nymeria** and **Baelor** are both introduced after the GOT show's release, and although are minor Targaryen characters in the show, their names are used as pet names, location names, and characters names throughout the ASOIAF/GOT universe.

**Brynden** Rivers is a bastard with Targaryen blood, and real name of the Three-Eyed Raven. Although his name was used prior to ASOIAF/GOT's release, it experiences periods of increase and decrease after the 1996. It is not conclusive if ASOIAF/GOT have influenced trends around this name.



## Targaryen Family (Viserys N/A)



## Brothers Sandor & Gregor Clegane, Oberyn Martell, Shae

### Brothers Clegane, Shae, Oberyn

Results are not conclusive if ASOIAF/GOT have influenced baby naming trends surrounding **Sandor** Clegane, **Gregor** Clegane, or **Shae**. Results do indicate that **Oberyn** has potentially influenced naming trends.

**Sandor** and **Gregor** were both names used prior to the 1996 release, but show now signs of significant increase or decrease after ASOIAF/GOT's release.

**Oberyn**, an extremely popular character after his appearance in GOT, first appears in the US census rolls in 2015 with 14 instances.

### House Targaryen

Results suggest that the ASOIAF/GOT universe has influenced naming trends in three instances, **Beric**, **Jorah**, and **Renly**.

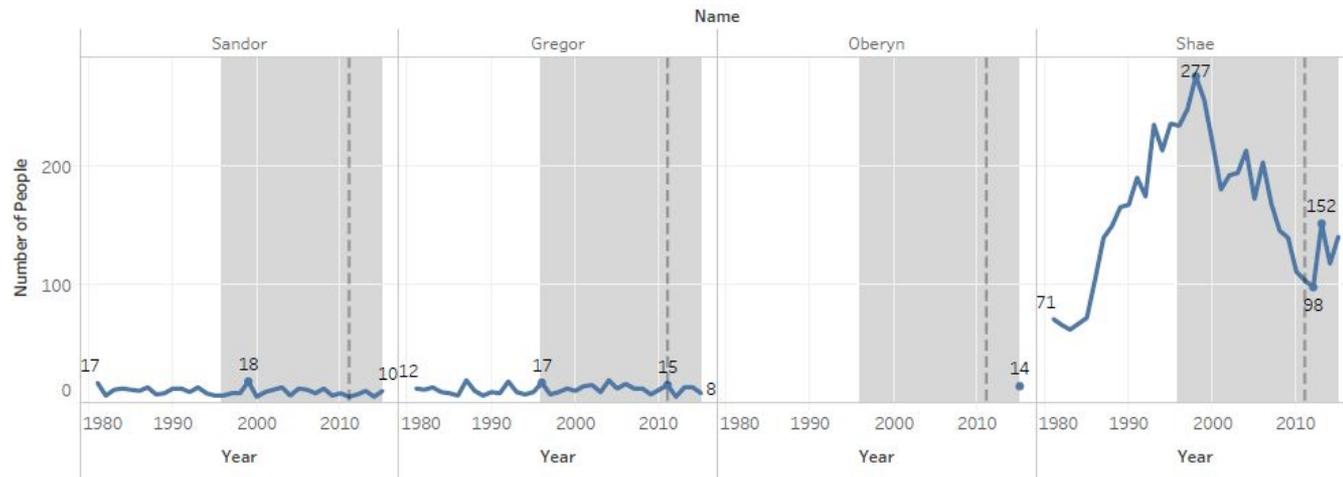
**Ashara** was used as a name prior to 1996, but does not show variance after ASOIAF/GOT release that signals any influence.

**Beric** did not enter U.S. census rolls until 2012, a year after that character's introduction in GOT.

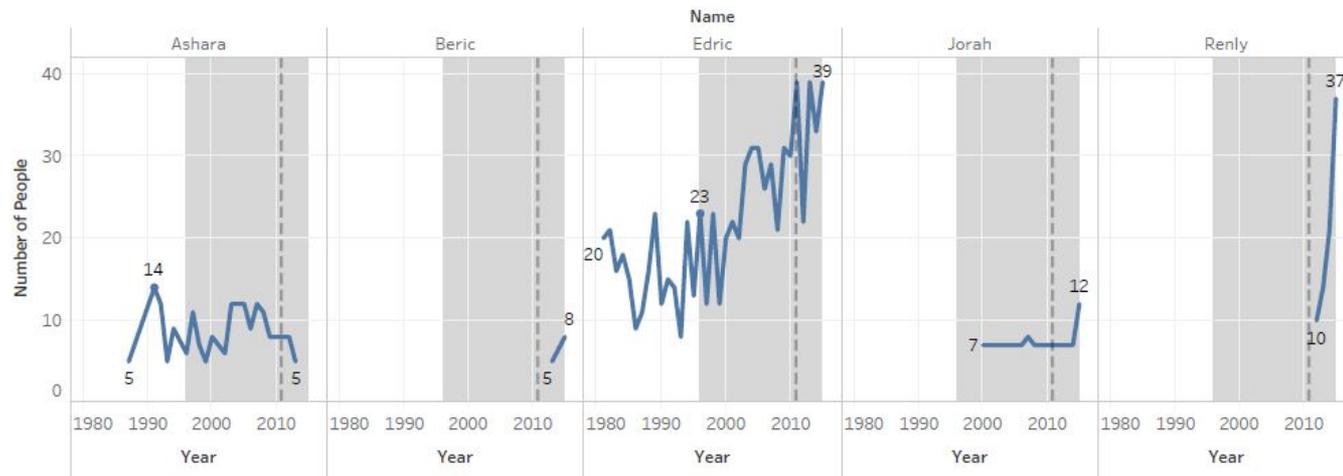
Similar to Ashara, **Edric** appears as a name prior to ASOIAF/GOT and although there is significant variance, there is not enough information to determine the characters have influenced naming trends.

**Jorah** appears as a name first in 2000, four years after ASOIAF's release. This name increases in popularity from 2013 to 2015.

**Renly** does not enter the census until 2012, one year after GOT's release with 10 instances, increasing by around 10 each year to a total of 37 in 2015.



## Ashara Dayne, Beric Dondarrion, Edric Storm, Jorah Mormont, Renly Baratheon



## CONCLUSION

The results from this analysis suggest that character names from the ASOIAF universe have influenced naming trends for the following names: **Arya, Sansa, Daenerys, Nymeria, Tywin, Tyrion, Renly, Oberyn, and Jorah.**

## CHALLENGES

This was a very fun project that presented a number of challenges.

- Merging all 50 different state name files into one text file, then importing that data. It ended up being very easy but took a while to figure out. Ironically, this never found its way to the final analysis.
- Appending the header, a new column, and populating the data with 2015 was important to get the national names table up to date.
- Stripping the GOT first name from the last name allowed me to join the two tables together. Prior to this I was unsure how I would get the two tables to join.

In general, I really enjoyed learning:

- How to transform data on import via python/sql
- How to get tables talking together in python/mysql and export the results to a CSV

## VISUALIZATION

I first tried using **R** and **ggplots2** to try to visualize my data, but was never able to get **R** to function the way I wanted. I intend to explore **R** in the future to visualize this data, but for the purposes of the assignment I transitioned to using **Tableau**.

Using **Tableau**, I imported the csv that matched inGOT names with national names for my analysis. I created a variety of graph and chart types that presented the data in interesting ways, using reference lines and bands to identify attributes of the graph. The tool is very intuitive and allows you to manipulate a visualization in a similar manner as a pivot table.

## EPILOGUE

Thanks for reading.