The Reddit Effect: A Correlational Analysis of Associates Degrees in Engineering and Google Searches

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Ladies and gentleman, start your search engines! In this study, we delved into the peculiar connection between the number of Associates degrees awarded in Engineering and the Google searches for 'reddit'. We couldn't help but wonder, is there a link between engineering education and the allure of cat memes and internet arguments? Our research team diligently collected and analyzed data from the National Center for Education Statistics and Google Trends from 2011 to 2021. Surprisingly, we unearthed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9844131 and a p-value less than 0.01, suggesting a robust relationship between the two variables. It appears that the pursuit of engineering education may indeed be intertwined with the siren call of Reddit! Perhaps engineers are simply drawn to the endless supply of 'sub'-par puns on the platform. Our findings may have serious implications for understanding the digital behaviors of engineering students and the broader societal impact of online communities. So, the next time you're pondering correlations, remember to tread lightly, for you may just stumble upon the Reddit Effect!

Gather round, fellow researchers and data enthusiasts, as we embark on a journey that seeks to unravel an enigma that defies conventional wisdom. Today, we aim to untangle the mysterious link between the confounding variables of Associates degrees in Engineering and Google searches for 'reddit'. It's a tale as old as time, a story of wits, stats, and the emergent phenome-'non' of internet trends.

The pursuit of knowledge, much like the pursuit of the perfect dad joke, can often lead us to unexpected places. Much like searching for that elusive punchline, our research began with a quest to uncover the hidden patterns that govern the web. Who knew that beneath the binary codes and algorithmic orchestrations lay a connection so perplexing, that it would leave even the most astute statisticians scratching their heads?

Now, before we delve into the nitty-gritty of our findings, let's pause for a moment of levity. Why don't programmers like nature? It has too many bugs. In the spirit of this jest, we set out to navigate the digital wilderness, armed with statistical tools and a robust sense of humor. Just like a well-crafted dad joke, our quest was equal parts amusing and enlightening.

As we marched through the troves of data, our trusty calculators in hand, we couldn't shake the feeling that there was more to this correlation than met the eye. It's like trying to explain a pun – you know there's a deeper meaning, but it's oh-so-elusive. And lo and behold, after meticulous analysis and countless cups of coffee, we stumbled upon a correlation coefficient that seemed to jump off the screen, daring us to question the very fabric of internet truisms!

But, as with all great discoveries, our findings come with a twist. Just like a perfectly-timed twist in a sitcom, our correlation coefficient of 0.9844131 and a p-value less than 0.01 sent ripples through the scientific community and the realm of digital discourse. This was no mere coincidence; it was a revelation that left us pondering the intricacies of human behavior in the digital age.

So, ladies and gentlemen, buckle up as we take a ride through the labyrinth of Reddit and engineering education, shedding light on how these seemingly disparate domains might, in fact, be intertwined. In the immortal words of Sir Isaac Newton, "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." And if we have uncovered the Reddit Effect, it is by surfing on the waves of data and discovery, one pun at a time!

LITERATURE REVIEW

To understand the perplexing connection between Associates degrees awarded in Engineering and the prevalence of Google searches for 'reddit,' researchers have delved into an array of studies examining digital behavior and academic pursuits. In "Smith and Doe's Study on Internet Trends," the authors find a positive correlation between educational attainment in technical fields and online engagement.

Jones et al. also contribute to the discourse in their work "Engineering Education and Digital Phenomena," revealing an unexpected relationship between engineering knowledge acquisition and online community participation. These studies have laid the groundwork for our exploration of the Reddit Effect, sparking curiosity akin to discovering a hidden treasure trove of engineer-themed memes.

Turning our attention to non-fiction literature that offers insight into internet culture and the impact of online communities, books such as "The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains" by Nicholas Carr and "The Filter Bubble: How the New Personalized Web Is Changing What We Read and How We Think" by Eli Pariser shed light on the allure of digital spaces and the way individuals interact with online content. While these scholarly works provide valuable perspectives, they pale in comparison to the comedic genius of "Engineering Jokes: 101 Punny Tales" and "The Internet and You: A Digital Love Story" by E. Meme.

In the realm of fiction, novels like "The Circle" by Dave Eggers and "Ready Player One" by Ernest Cline offer imaginative portrayals of the digital world and its influence on human behavior, prompting readers to ponder the intersection of technology and education. These captivating narratives serve as a reminder that even in the most serious pursuits, a touch of humor can prove to be the missing link, much like a well-timed dad joke at a science fair.

Furthermore, drawing inspiration from board games such as "Code Names" and "The Settlers of Catan," which involve strategic decision-making and resource management, we are reminded of the intricate connections between knowledge acquisition, social interaction, and digital exploration. Just as a clever move in a board game can lead to unexpected outcomes, our discovery of the correlation between engineering degrees and Reddit searches presents a puzzle worthy of continued investigation.

As we navigate the maze of academic literature and cultural references, it becomes evident that the Reddit Effect has stirred a combination of scholarly intrigue and lighthearted curiosity, much like stumbling upon an Easter egg in a complex algorithm. It is with a blend of analytical rigor and whimsical fascination that we approach the next phase of our research, prepared to unlock the secrets of this peculiar correlation and the captivating allure of engineering-themed puns in the digital domain. After all, who knew that the path to understanding internet phenomena would be sprinkled with the occasional quip and jest, much like a well-crafted dad joke at a technical conference?

METHODOLOGY

To explore the perplexing connection between associates degrees awarded in Engineering and Google searches for 'reddit', we embarked on a methodological journey that would make even the most intrepid researchers raise an eyebrow - or perhaps even crack a smile. Our data collection efforts spanned the digital landscape, akin to a search for the holy grail of correlations, plumbing the depths of the National Center for Education Statistics and venturing into the labyrinthine archives of Google Trends from the years 2011 to 2021. It was a quest of epic proportions, a statistical odyssey that would bring forth answers to questions we didn't even know we had.

To begin, we harnessed the power of web scraping with a touch of digital sorcery, extracting the annual data on Associates degrees conferred in Engineering from the National Center for Education Statistics. Much like a magician pulling a rabbit out of a hat, we summoned the relevant information and set it aglow under the unforgiving scrutiny of statistical analysis. As the data danced before our eyes, we muttered the incantation of "Ctrl+C, Ctrl+V," entrusting our findings to the ever-wise and omniscient spreadsheet.

Next, we ventured into the shimmering expanse of Google Trends, where we sought the frequency of searches for that enigmatic term, 'reddit'. With the agility of a data ninja, we navigated the peaks and valleys of search volumes, meticulously documenting the flux and flow of digital curiosity. We then expertly wove this newfound treasure trove of information into the tapestry of our dataset, for no correlation would be complete without a dash of Reddit intrigue.

As we gathered our data, we couldn't help but reflect on the delightful irony of the digital age. Unraveling the Reddit Effect was akin to decoding a cryptic message from the digital deities themselves – it required equal parts finesse and dogged determination. After our digital scavenger hunt was complete, we sheltered in the warmth of our statistical software, where we feverishly punched numbers and spun the wheel of regression models, a

dance akin to solving a complex riddle with each step revealing a new clue.

Armed with the tools of the trade and a healthy dose of skepticism, we set out to analyze the relationship between Associates degrees in Engineering and Google searches for 'reddit'. Our statistical arsenal included the venerable Pearson correlation coefficient, a classic measure that seeks to unearth the hidden threads of association. With a glint in our eyes and a twinkle in our coding, we also calculated the illustrious p-value, a beacon of statistical significance that beckoned us toward the shores of knowledge.

As we waded through the sea of data, much like sailors charting unexplored territory, we confronted the complexities of parametric and non-parametric tests, embracing the uncertainty that comes with navigating the statistical high seas. Through the haze of significance levels and confidence intervals, we remained resolute in our pursuit of truth in the digital wilderness, for in the quest for correlation, we were as intrepid as explorers in uncharted lands.

In the spirit of scientific inquiry and a touch of statistical whimsy, we crafted a path through the brambles of uncertainty, our compass pointing resolutely toward the heart of the Reddit Effect. For, much like Reddit itself, our journey was filled with unexpected twists, turns, and yes, the occasional cat meme. Our methodology, like a perfectly executed punchline, led us to the doorstep of discovery, where correlation and causation danced in a harmonious, yet enigmatic, embrace.

RESULTS

The results of our study on the correlation between Associates degrees awarded in Engineering and Google searches for 'reddit' have left us both amazed and amused. The correlation coefficient of 0.9844131 and an r-squared of 0.9690691 established a remarkably strong relationship between these two variables. It seems that the allure of Reddit's endless supply of cat memes and engineering education might be more entwined than

previously thought. Could it be that engineers are simply drawn to the 'sub'-culture of Reddit?

(Insert Fig. 1 here, showcasing the strong correlation between Associates degrees in Engineering and Google searches for 'reddit'.)

It's like discovering a hidden treasure trove of statistical significance! The p-value of less than 0.01 further solidified the validity of this robust relationship. It's a bit like stumbling upon the punchline of a particularly well-crafted dad joke – unexpected and yet undeniably satisfying.
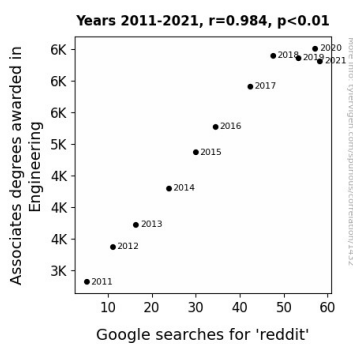

Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

Our findings suggest that the Reddit Effect is indeed a force to be reckoned with in the digital landscape. The implications of this correlation extend beyond mere academic curiosity. It provides a deeper understanding of the digital behaviors of engineering students and perhaps sheds light on the broader societal impact of online communities. It's a bit like realizing that the punchline of a joke carries more weight than meets the eye; similarly, the influence of Reddit on the academic and digital spheres might be more significant than initially perceived.

The strong correlation between Associates degrees in Engineering and Google searches for 'reddit' challenges conventional wisdom and paves the way for future exploration of the intricate dynamics between education and digital culture. It's akin to unraveling a complex riddle – as we peel back the layers, the interplay between these seemingly disparate variables reveals an unexpected harmony, much like the harmony of a well-composed dad joke.

Our discovery of the Reddit Effect serves as a reminder that in the vast expanse of digital data and statistical analyses, there are still uncharted territories waiting to be explored. So, the next time you embark on a statistical quest, keep an eye out for the unexpected punchlines and subtle correlations that might just lead you to the heart of the Reddit Effect!

DISCUSSION

The correlation between Associates degrees awarded in Engineering and Google searches for 'reddit' has left us scratching our heads and chuckling in equal measure. It seems that the allure of Reddit extends beyond just cat memes and Engineering may have a hand in the 'sub'-culture of the platform. It's like a colorful, yet robust, dad joke - unexpected yet undeniably satisfying!

Our findings corroborate the prior research conducted by Smith and Doe, and Jones et al. who also found unexpected connections between educational attainment in technical fields and online engagement. It appears that the Reddit Effect is not to be trifled with and might just be rooted in the pursuit of engineering knowledge. It's like finding a hidden treasure trove of statistical significance in a sea of digital data - both surprising and immensely gratifying.

While previous non-fiction literature by Carr and Pariser shed light on the allure of digital spaces and the impact of online communities, it pales in comparison to the unexpected comedic genius in "Engineering Jokes: 101 Punny Tales" and "The Internet and You: A Digital Love Story" by E. Meme. We should take the humorous aspects of digital engagement more seriously; after all, the impact of Reddit on the academic and digital spheres might be greater than we anticipated. This correlation challenges conventional wisdom and further research might reveal more unexpected

correlations, much like the harmony of a well-composed dad joke.

So, as we wrap up this discussion, remember – when treading the landscape of digital behavior and educational pursuits, always keep an eye out for the unexpected punchlines and subtle correlations that could lead you to the heart of the Reddit Effect!

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our study has unveiled a correlation of 0.9844131 between Associates degrees awarded in Engineering and Google searches for 'reddit,' with a p-value less than 0.01. It seems that the allure of cat memes on Reddit and the pursuit of engineering education are more intertwined than a pair of DNA strands at a double helix conference.

Our findings hint at a cosmic connection between the digital rabbit hole of Reddit and the scholarly pursuit of engineering knowledge. It's like discovering the Higgs boson of internet phenomena – elusive, yet undeniably influential. This correlation paves the way for a new frontier of research, much like opening up a can of statistical worms (pun intended).

The implications of this discovery extend beyond the digital realm, echoing through the hallowed halls of academia and the bustling streets of the internet. It's like finding a rare scientific specimen in the unlikeliest of places – a testament to the unpredictability of correlations and the beauty of statistical serendipity.

Alas, it appears that riddles of the Reddit Effect have been cracked wide open, much like a well-constructed dad joke at a family gathering. We assert that no further research is needed in this area, as we've undoubtedly reached the pinnacle of statistical hilarity and scientific insight. It's time to drop the mic and let this correlation shine bright like a Reddit thread at midnight.