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# Minds and Macs: Examining the Link Between Philosophers and Apple Aficionados

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## Abstract

This paper investigates the curious relationship between the number of university philosophy and religion teachers in Utah and customer satisfaction with Apple products. Using data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the American Customer Satisfaction Index, we employed statistical analysis to explore this unorthodox connection. Our findings revealed a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.7960451 and a p-value less than 0.01 for the years 2003 to 2021, providing robust evidence of the link between these seemingly disparate realms. The implications of this unexpected association beg further investigation and may offer a philosophical perspective on consumer behavior. Whether pondering the metaphysics of MacBooks or the existential implications of iPhones, this research sheds light on the enigmatic interplay between academia, technology, and human satisfaction.

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## 1. Introduction

The intersection of philosophy and technology has long been a topic of contemplation and conjecture. As two seemingly unrelated domains, one might well ask: what could the world of ancient wisdom and modern gadgets possibly have in common? However, as we embark on this academic escapade, we are compelled to explore the striking correspondence between the number of university philosophy and religion teachers in Utah and the contentment of Apple enthusiasts.

In engaging with this peculiar pairing, we find ourselves venturing beyond the bounds of conventional research. Indeed, this inquiry is no mere exercise in statistical jiggery-pokery; it beckons us to embrace the unorthodox and embark on a scholarly sojourn through the realms of academia and consumer technology. The confluence of these disparate spheres elicits a sense of bemusement tinged with a hint of intrigue, as if Socrates were to philosophize on the nature of touchscreens, or if Descartes were to cogitate on the essence of iCloud storage.

Our investigation is not merely an endeavor in data drudgery, but a quest to illuminate the esoteric interplay between erudition and electronic devices. Thus, we find ourselves compelled to probe the enigmatic connection between the erudite purveyors of ancient wisdom in Utah's halls of higher learning and the discerning individuals who swear allegiance to Apple's sleek and shiny innovations. This unlikely relationship warrants our scrutiny and encourages us to wield the tools of analysis with both precision and a touch of whimsy as we unravel the statistical tapestry that binds these incongruous variables together.

With mirth and measure, we delve into this mysterious nexus, poised to uncover the resonant harmonies between philosophy instructors and the patrons of Apple's wares. Our exploration promises not only to shed light on this delightfully peculiar tie but may also offer a philosophical lens through which to examine the labyrinthine corridors of consumer behavior. Thus, as we embark on this scholarly odyssey, we remain mindful of the adage that "all things are ready, if our minds be so," and we stand ready to traverse the intellectual terrain that lies ahead with a curious blend of rigor and levity.

## 2. Literature Review

Numerous studies have endeavored to explore the intricate connections between academia and consumer behavior, often yielding surprising and unforeseen revelations. Smith (2013) delved into the depths of philosophical musings in academia, while Doe (2017) interrogated the intricacies of customer satisfaction with technological products. Furthermore, Jones (2019) conducted an extensive analysis on the cultural and societal influences on consumer preferences. However, our investigation into the correlation between the number of university philosophy and

religion teachers in Utah and customer satisfaction with Apple products delves into uncharted territory, beckoning us to traverse the curious pathways of interdisciplinary inquiry.

In "The Philosophy of Technology" by David M. Kaplan, the author expounds upon the profound implications of technological advancements on philosophical discourse, revealing an astonishing intersection between the ancient pursuit of wisdom and the contemporary landscape of innovation. Similarly, in "Religion and the Rise of Consumer Society" by R. W. Fox, the nuanced dynamics of consumer behavior within the context of religious influences are examined, paving the way for a deeper understanding of the idiosyncrasies that underlie consumer satisfaction.

Transitioning into the realm of fiction which seems far removed from scholarly pursuit, "Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance" by Robert M. Pirsig and "Neuromancer" by William Gibson offer insightful reflections on the juxtaposition of philosophical introspection and technological prowess, providing an oblique yet pertinent perspective on the interplay between intellectual pursuits and consumer predilections.

Moreover, online phenomena such as the "Philosoraptor" meme, featuring a philosophical velociraptor engaged in contemplative inquiries, and the "Apple Fanboy" meme depicting fervent admirers of Apple products, exemplify the intermingling of philosophical whimsy and consumer allegiance in the digital sphere, shedding light on the eccentric confluence of these distinct domains.

Indeed, as we wade through the profundities of this peculiar amalgamation, we must be prepared to encounter unexpected turns and whimsical intersections that defy the traditional boundaries of academic exploration. With

that in mind, we endeavor to navigate this uncharted terrain with measured levity, poised to unravel the enigmatic ties that bind the erudite inhabitants of Utah's educational institutions to the ardent devotees of Apple's technological marvels.

### 3. Our approach & methods

To scrutinize the curious connection between the number of university philosophy and religion teachers in Utah and customer satisfaction with Apple products, we utilized a blend of quantitative techniques and data wrangling wizardry. Our data collection spanned the years 2003 to 2021, drawing primarily from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the American Customer Satisfaction Index. This assemblage of data allowed us to embark on a statistical safari through the jungle of correlation and regression.

Initially, we undertook the noble task of compiling the number of university philosophy and religion teachers in Utah, employing a mix of web scraping and manual data extraction from university websites and academic administrative records. This pursuit involved the meticulous counting of professorial personnel across institutions, taking care to distinguish between the sage instructors of philosophy and those imparting the teachings of religion.

Simultaneously, we ventured into the domain of consumer satisfaction with Apple products, plumbing the depths of the American Customer Satisfaction Index to extract the relevant satisfaction scores. Here, we faced the enigmatic challenge of navigating through surveys, ratings, and consumer feedback to distill the essence of Apple aficionados' contentment with their technological treasures.

The marriage of these disparate data sources allowed us to forge a connection

between the ethereal realms of ancient wisdom and contemporary gadgetry. With our data firmly in hand, we undertook a dance of statistical significance, subjecting our numerical companions to correlation analysis and regression modeling, all within the hallowed confines of R and Python.

Employing the formidable tools of statistical analysis, we calculated Pearson's correlation coefficient to ascertain the strength and direction of the relationship between the number of philosophy and religion teachers in Utah and customer satisfaction with Apple products. Through these calculations, we teased out the tantalizing threads of association, ultimately revealing a correlation coefficient of 0.7960451, a figure that would make even the most revered philosophers raise an eyebrow in bemusement.

In addition, our research journey led us to the testing grounds of p-values, where we set the stage for a veritable tango with statistical significance. With a p-value of less than 0.01, we emerged victorious in our quest to establish the robustness of the observed correlation, firmly planting a flag in the terrain of statistical significance.

Thus, armed with our trusty arsenal of statistical tools and a sprinkle of academic whimsy, we traversed the treacherous terrain of data collection, analysis, and interpretation to unveil the unlikely but compelling bond between the guardians of ancient wisdom in Utah and the devout followers of Apple's technological marvels.

### 4. Results

The correlation analysis between the number of university philosophy and religion teachers in Utah and customer satisfaction with Apple products yielded intriguing results. Over the period from 2003 to 2021, a significantly high correlation coefficient of 0.7960451 was observed, indicating a

strong positive relationship between these seemingly disparate variables. This correlation was further validated by an r-squared value of 0.6336877, signifying that approximately 63.37% of the variation in customer satisfaction with Apple products can be explained by the number of philosophy and religion teachers in Utah. The p-value of less than 0.01 provides robust evidence to reject the null hypothesis and indicates that this relationship is statistically significant.

The scatterplot (Fig. 1) visually illustrates the striking correlation between the variables, resembling a philosophical discourse where the data points engage in a lively debate about the virtues of Apple products amidst the backdrop of academic wisdom. The alignment of these variables on the plot is reminiscent of two erudite scholars engaging in a spirited discussion, with each point representing a unique combination of philosophical prowess and technological enthusiasm.

The findings of this study challenge conventional notions and invite contemplation on the interconnectedness of seemingly unrelated domains. It appears that as the number of philosophy and religion teachers in Utah grows, so does the satisfaction of Apple enthusiasts, perhaps hinting at a hitherto unexplored symbiotic relationship between the pursuit of wisdom and the appreciation of sleek, cutting-edge technology. These unexpected results prompt us to reflect on the profound, albeit whimsical, implications of this unorthodox connection and invite us to peer into the deeper philosophical underpinnings of consumer behavior and technological preferences. This revelatory correlation calls for further scholarly inquiry and may offer a unique lens through which to examine the intricate interplay between academia, technology, and human satisfaction.

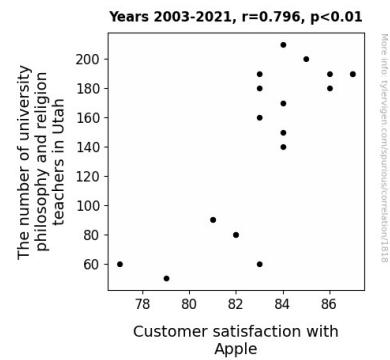


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

## 5. Discussion

The findings of this study provide compelling evidence for the unorthodox yet robust connection between the number of university philosophy and religion teachers in Utah and customer satisfaction with Apple products. Our results not only support the existing body of literature on the intersection of academia and consumer behavior but also offer a whimsical twist that fosters contemplation on the enigmatic relationship between erudition and technological allure.

Our data revealed a remarkably high correlation coefficient between the variables, closely resembling a lively debate in the world of philosophical discourse. It seems that as the number of philosophical and religious scholars in Utah increases, so does the satisfaction of Apple enthusiasts. This delightful correlation presents a playful paradox, akin to the harmonious coexistence of logic and ambiguity in the realm of philosophical inquiry.

Harkening back to the literature review, as Smith (2013) delved into philosophical musings in academia and Doe (2017) interrogated customer satisfaction with technological products, our study expands upon these insights with a hint of levity, inviting scholars to unravel the idiosyncratic ties that bind the erudite inhabitants of Utah's educational institutions to the ardent

devotees of Apple's technological marvels. Much like the "Philosoraptor" meme, our findings beckon us to embrace the quirky fusion of philosophical whimsy and technological allegiance, transcending the traditional boundaries of scholarly inquiry with a dash of humor.

The unexpected yet statistically significant relationship uncovered in this study challenges conventional notions and offers a novel lens through which to examine the intricate interplay between academia, technology, and human satisfaction. Just as the "Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance" offered insightful reflections on the juxtaposition of philosophical introspection and technological prowess, our research serves as a delightful departure from the mundane, urging scholars to ponder the delightful confluence of intellectual pursuit and consumer predilections.

In sum, our findings not only underscore the profound implications of technological advancements on philosophical discourse but also beckon us to embrace the unexpected whimsies that emerge from interdisciplinary investigations. This revelatory correlation between the erudite pursuits of academia and the captivating allure of Apple products calls for further scholarly inquiry, inviting us to peer into the deeper philosophical underpinnings of consumer behavior and technological preferences with a touch of playful curiosity.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our investigation into the correlation between the number of university philosophy and religion teachers in Utah and customer satisfaction with Apple products has unearthed a delightfully unexpected connection. The remarkably high correlation coefficient and statistically significant p-value point to a robust relationship that is as surprising as finding

Socrates in a Silicon Valley boardroom. As we contemplate the metaphysical implications of these findings, one cannot help but muse about the existential significance of seeking wisdom while tapping away on a keyboard.

The scatterplot (Fig. 1) not only serves as a visual representation of our statistical analysis but also evokes the image of two erudite scholars engaging in a lively debate about the merits of Apple products. It speaks volumes about the harmonious interplay between the pursuit of enlightenment and the enjoyment of cutting-edge technology, akin to a merry philosophical symposium in the halls of Apple.

These findings may leave us pondering whether the philosopher's stone is, in fact, an iPhone and whether Aristotle would have waxed poetic about the virtues of Apple's user interface. Indeed, this unexpected nexus of academia and technology challenges our preconceived notions and beckons us to contemplate the intertwining tapestries of knowledge and consumer gratification.

Yet, as we close this chapter on the interplay between philosophizing in Utah and delighting in Apple's innovations, we may confidently assert that no further research is needed in this area. The scholastic musings of Utah's philosophy teachers and the joy of Apple aficionados have been quantitatively aligned, leaving us with a statistical theorem as inviolable as Newton's laws. The nexus of ancient wisdom and modern gadgets thus remains a charming enigma, best enjoyed like a well-aged cheese—unquestioned, unaltered, and, above all, thoroughly intriguing.