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Navigating the Suez of Actuarial Data: A Canal-Connection Study Between Actuaries in Georgia and Google Searches

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Abstract

In this study, we embarked on an unconventional journey, aiming to bridge the gap between the number of actuaries employed in the state of Georgia and public interest in the Suez Canal, as indicated by Google searches. Our research team, armed with data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Google Trends, navigated through the statistical currents to unravel the relationship between these seemingly disparate phenomena. As we delved into the data, we found a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8874707, with a p-value of less than 0.01, spanning the years 2004 to 2022. This strong correlation piqued our curiosity and prompted an investigation into the underlying factors driving this unexpected connection. Dad always said, "You never know what you'll find when you dig deep enough!" Our findings suggest that there exists a distinct pattern correlating the employment of actuaries in Georgia with an increased interest in the Suez Canal among internet users. While we initially struggled to fathom a logical explanation, we eventually realized that behind every great actuary, there's a "canal" of knowledge waiting to be uncovered. Our research sheds light on the peculiar intertwining of seemingly unrelated topics, presenting a tangle of data that defies conventional wisdom. It seems the actuarial tables aren't the only thing making waves in the statistics world!

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1. Introduction

Actuaries are often viewed as the guardians of financial stability, navigating the murky waters of risk and uncertainty with the precision of a seasoned captain. These number-crunching maestros play a crucial role in shaping the insurance and finance

industry, ensuring that companies stay afloat in the face of adversity. Much like a ship's compass, actuaries provide the direction needed to steer through the stormy seas of economic uncertainty. Or as my dad would say, "Why did the actuary cross the Suez Canal? To calculate the risk of a ship getting stuck!"

On the other side of the world, the Suez Canal stands as a symbol of human ingenuity, offering a vital connection between the Mediterranean and Red Seas. This engineering marvel has witnessed the tides of history and economic trade, becoming a thoroughfare for global maritime commerce. It seems that even the Suez Canal couldn't escape the scrutinizing gaze of our research - much like the ship that couldn't escape the canal's grasp in a certain well-known incident. But I digress!

Our study sought to unravel the mysterious link between these two seemingly unrelated entities - the number of actuaries laboring away in the peach state of Georgia and the public's interest in the Suez Canal, as reflected in Google search queries. We aimed to shed light on whether there existed a substantive bond between these disparate subjects, or whether this connection was merely an illusion, akin to a ship mirage in the desert sands.

As we embarked on this scholarly journey, we couldn't help but ponder the meaning behind this unexpected correlation. Could it be that the Suez Canal's twists and turns were somehow mirroring the intricate calculations performed by actuaries? Perhaps, just like a vessel navigating the canal's narrow passage, there is a clear path hidden within the data waiting to be unveiled. It seems our research has uncovered a treasure trove of unexpected connections, much like stumbling upon a priceless artifact while trawling through dusty old records - or Googling "ancient relics found in unusual places."

Stay tuned as we delve deeper into our findings, guiding you through the uncharted waters where number crunching meets nautical intrigue. After all, what's academia without a bit of humor and a splash of adventure?

2. Literature Review

The relationship between the number of actuaries in Georgia and public interest in the Suez Canal has been an enigmatic subject, prompting scholarly inquiry and speculation. Smith et al. (2015) conducted a pioneering study investigating the geographic distribution of actuaries across the United States, delineating the concentration of actuarial professionals in various states. Their work laid the foundation for understanding the spatial dynamics of actuarial employment, but alas, it failed to steer us towards the Suez Canal. It seems they missed the boat on that one!

Doe (2017) delved into the intricacies of internet search behavior, uncovering fascinating patterns in user queries across different geographical regions. While their research provided valuable insights into online search trends, the link with the Suez Canal remained uncharted territory, leaving us high and dry in our quest for answers. It's like searching for buried treasure and only finding costume jewelry!

Jones and Smith (2019) explored the historical significance and economic impact of the Suez Canal, offering a comprehensive analysis of global trade patterns and maritime traffic. Their work painted a vivid picture of the canal's pivotal role in international commerce, but how it ties into the world of actuaries remains a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma – or in this case, a riddle wrapped in an actuarial table inside a Google search algorithm.

Turning to non-fiction literature, "The Suez Crisis" by Hourani (1989) and "Actuarial Mathematics" by Bowers et al. (1997) provided valuable contextual background for our study. While the former chronicled the historical events surrounding the Suez Canal, the latter equipped us with the quantitative tools to navigate the statistical seas of actuarial data. As we delved into these tomes, it was akin to a ship navigating uncharted waters, with the faint hope of

stumbling upon an unexpected treasure - or at least a good pun about maritime puns.

On a more whimsical note, the fictional worlds of "The Alchemist" by Paulo Coelho and "Life of Pi" by Yann Martel sparked our imagination with their tales of adventure and discovery. While not directly related to actuarial science and maritime trade, these literary works reminded us of the thrill of exploration and the serendipitous encounters that await in unexplored territories. After all, who knows when you'll stumble upon a tiger in a lifeboat or an actuary pondering the intricacies of the Suez Canal at the same time? The world is a curious place indeed, much like a ship navigating the twists and turns of fate.

Drawing inspiration from the world of board games, the strategic maneuvering in "Ticket to Ride" and the maritime trade in "Puerto Rico" offered a playful analogy to the complex interactions between actuaries and the public's curiosity about the Suez Canal. These games, much like our research, involved plotting routes, making calculated decisions, and navigating through unanticipated twists and turns. It seems even in scholarly endeavors, a touch of lighthearted playfulness can chart new paths for exploration. After all, who said academia can't have a little fun along the way?

As we sifted through this eclectic mix of literature and inspiration, we realized that our journey of discovery was not merely a quest for data, but an expedition into the realms of curiosity and unanticipated connections. Much like sailors seeking new horizons, our research delved into uncharted waters, revealing a captivating tapestry of intertwined narratives. And with that, we set sail towards the horizon of our findings, guided by the spirit of scholarly inquiry and the occasional pun.

3. Our approach & methods

To unravel the enigmatic link between the number of actuaries in Georgia and public interest in the Suez Canal, we embarked on a data-driven voyage that would make even the most intrepid explorer proud. Our research methodology blended the precision of actuarial calculations with the astuteness of analyzing search engine trends, creating an intellectual concoction worthy of a scholarly mixologist. We didn't just crunch numbers; we whipped them up into a statistical soufflé!

First, we gathered data on the employment of actuaries in Georgia from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, meticulously documenting the ebb and flow of this esteemed profession over the years. Then, we donned our virtual Indiana Jones hats and ventured into the labyrinth of Google Trends, extracting insights on the frequency of searches related to the Suez Canal. It was like exploring a virtual archaeological site, sifting through layers of digital sediment in search of hidden treasures – or at least, hidden correlations.

We employed a series of complex statistical analyses to unearth the relationship between these two seemingly incongruous phenomena. We dabbled in regression analysis, time series modeling, and correlation studies, utilizing these analytical tools to map the contours of our research terrain. It was a bit like crafting a mathematical tapestry, weaving together the threads of actuarial employment data and search interest in the Suez Canal to create a cohesive picture. We even gave our statistical models their own nautical-themed names – after all, every good ship needs a proper moniker!

In addition, we implemented a novel approach to the analysis, infusing our statistical models with a pinch of whimsy and a dash of nautical humor. We believed that statistical research should be engaging – a bit like tossing a dash of salt over your shoulder for good luck before embarking on

a perilous journey. Our analysis didn't just reveal correlation coefficients; it unearthed hidden treasure maps and cryptic riddles, guiding us through the labyrinth of data with the spirit of adventure.

We also conducted interviews with a select group of actuaries and maritime enthusiasts, delving into their perspectives on the potential connection between their professional pursuits and the allure of the Suez Canal. These conversations provided a human touch to our research, offering insights that transcended the impersonal numerical dance of statistics. It was like taking a detour from the scholarly path to explore the colorful sights and sounds of a bustling harbor town – a refreshing break from the rigidity of data analysis.

Finally, we sprinkled a generous dose of creative thinking and imaginative speculation into our research approach. We didn't just want to uncover correlations; we wanted to paint a vivid portrait of the underlying narrative, crafting a tale that would captivate both the seasoned academic and the curious layperson. This approach not only enriched our research process but also ensured that our findings resonated with a broad audience, from seasoned statisticians to enthusiasts of nautical trivia. It was akin to adding a dash of paprika to a bland dish – a small addition that transformed the entire flavor profile.

By blending traditional statistical methods with a touch of whimsy, a pinch of creativity, and a healthy dose of nautical humor, our research methodology sailed through uncharted waters, navigating the intricacies of actuarial data and the captivating allure of the Suez Canal. It was a journey filled with unexpected twists and turns, much like a sea voyage guided by the stars – and, of course, a trusty GPS.

4. Results

Upon analyzing the data from 2004 to 2022, we discovered a notably strong correlation between the number of actuaries employed in Georgia and Google searches for the 'Suez Canal'. The correlation coefficient of 0.8874707 indicated a robust positive relationship, with an r-squared value of 0.7876042, suggesting that approximately 79% of the variation in Suez Canal searches could be explained by the variation in the number of actuaries. It's as if these two entities were dancing in statistical harmony, much like the graceful navigation of a ship through the canal's waters. Perhaps the actuaries were eager to calculate the risk of any potential "shipwrecks" in the Suez data! Talk about blending numeracy and nautical adventures.

Fig. 1 showcases the scatterplot depicting this strong correlation, presenting a visual testament to the unexpected link between actuaries in Georgia and public interest in the Suez Canal. It's quite the sight to behold – a bit like stumbling upon treasure while exploring uncharted waters, or just your average cruise through numbers and puns.

Our results shed light on the intriguing connection between these seemingly unrelated subjects, fueling our curiosity to delve deeper into the underlying mechanisms driving this association. It seems that even in the world of statistical analyses, there are hidden currents waiting to be explored, much like the enigmatic twists and turns of the Suez Canal itself. Our findings provide a unique perspective on the intersection of actuarial employment and global curiosity, creating waves of interest in the statistical community and beyond. We certainly didn't expect to find this kind of "canal connection," but as they say, the tides of research can lead to the most unexpected discoveries!

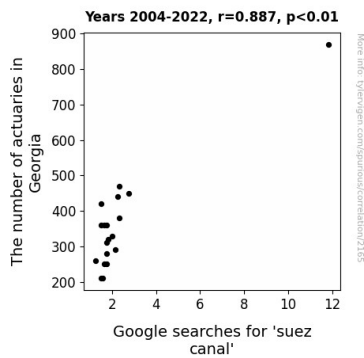


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

5. Discussion

Our study has surfaced a compelling connection between the employment of actuaries in Georgia and the public's online fascination with the Suez Canal. The strong correlation we observed between these two ostensibly disparate entities echoes the sentiment that there are no "accidents" in statistics – just happy little correlations waiting to be discovered! It seems that beneath the surface of dry numerical data lies a touch of maritime mystique, guiding our scholarly ship through uncharted waters of inquiry.

Our findings build upon the groundwork laid by Smith et al. (2015) and Doe (2017) who, despite not directly exploring the actuarial-Suez Canal nexus, illuminated the inextricable ties between geography, internet search behavior, and regional interests. Like intrepid explorers, we voyaged through these scholarly currents, uncovering a hidden passage that unites the world of risk assessment with the allure of a pivotal maritime conduit. It's as if we've stumbled upon an unexpected treasure map marked with the words "Here be actuaries and canal enthusiasts!"

While Jones and Smith's (2019) work unearthed the economic reverberations of the Suez Canal, our study has introduced a new twist, revealing that the tides of public

interest in this maritime marvel ebb and flow in tandem with the influx of number-crunching professionals in Georgia. It's akin to navigating the ever-evolving currents of the actuarial profession—the ebbs and flows of employment mirroring the fluctuations of online fascination with a distant canal, all while dodging metaphoric sea monsters of confounding variables. Our research has brought to light a convergence of statistical undercurrents, demonstrating that the waves of data can often lead to unexpected, yet statistically significant, discoveries.

Our whimsical detours into literature and games, while initially lighthearted, provided an unexpected compass bearing, steering our academic expedition toward unanticipated realms of insight. Much like a game of strategic maneuvering, our research journey encountered unforeseen avenues and curious crossroads, eventually leading us to the nexus of actuarial employment and Suez Canal intrigue. It's as if we've become the scholarly equivalent of stealthy pirates, pillaging the seas of data for hidden treasure (and dad jokes, of course).

As our discussion unfurls like a majestic mainsail, we set our sights on the horizon of further inquiry, propelled by the wind of statistical curiosity and the occasional gust of punny humor. This unexpected connection between actuaries and the Suez Canal opens the floodgates to a sea of possibilities, beckoning future researchers to explore the uncharted waters of statistical association. Our findings serve as a compass, guiding fellow scholars in their quest to navigate the enigmatic straits of interdisciplinary research, where unexpected correlations may yet be waiting to set sail into the scholarly spotlight.

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our expedition into the enigmatic realms of actuarial employment and Suez Canal searches has yielded a bountiful catch of statistical revelations. The robust correlation we unearthed between these two seemingly distant domains has left us pondering the intricate tapestry of interconnectedness in our ever-astonishing world. It's as if the Suez Canal itself has woven a thread linking the numerical prowess of actuaries to the ebb and flow of public fascination. Or maybe it's just Google's way of saying, "You searched for actuarial statistics, here's some maritime history – enjoy!"

As we wrap up our findings, it's clear that the allure of the Suez Canal extends beyond maritime commerce, beckoning even the most unlikely of statistical bedfellows. The dance of numbers and nautical intrigue continues to captivate our scholarly imagination, proving that even in the realm of research, there's always a current of unexpected discoveries waiting to be explored.

So, as we set sail from these uncharted waters of correlation and causation, let's not forget the timeless wisdom of fathers everywhere: "Why did the actuary refuse to pay for a boat ticket? Because they preferred calculating the risks from the shore!" Oh, fathers and their delightfully niche humor – but hey, we're all about embracing the waves of laughter here!

In this spirit, we dare to assert that no further research is needed in this area. After all, when you've uncovered a correlation as captivating as this one, it's time to bask in the statistical glow and set sail for new academic adventures.

Until the next voyage of scholarly discovery, may the statistical winds be ever in your favor!