



ELSEVIER



# Caught in the World Wide Web: An Arachnid Meme's Influence on Search Queries

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## KEYWORDS

spiderman pointing meme, Google searches, who is alexa, internet culture, memes, Google Trends, correlation coefficient, statistical significance, internet humor, search queries, digital assistant, viral memes, online inquiries, internet phenomena, meme culture, cyber realm

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## Abstract

The study delves into the entangled web of internet culture by examining the correlation between the popularity of the 'spiderman pointing' meme and Google searches for "who is alexa." Using data from Google Trends, our research team observed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9677197 and a statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01. The findings suggest a strong link between the two phenomena, indicating that the ascent of the 'spiderman pointing' meme has spun an impact on the curious queries about "who is alexa" in the cyber realm. The research unravels a web of interconnected jokes, memes, and search queries, shedding light on the intricate dynamics of internet humor and curiosity. Surprisingly, our analysis revealed that as the 'spiderman pointing' meme gained traction, Google searches for "who is alexa" climbed to new heights, weaving a tale of unexpected correlation. It seems that the internet's fascination with a friendly neighborhood web-slinger has not only energized meme culture but also sparked a surge of interest in a certain digital assistant. In conclusion, our findings underscore the fascinating interplay between viral memes and online inquiries, offering insights into the whimsical and oftentimes unpredictable nature of internet phenomena. As the old adage goes, when it comes to internet research, it's essential to weave together a credible web of evidence – and the threads of humor – to capture the attention of the scholarly community.

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## 1. Introduction

### INTRODUCTION

In the ever-evolving landscape of internet culture, the symbiotic relationship between viral memes and search engine queries has captured the attention of both digital

anthropologists and enthusiasts of all things meme-tastic. As the online realm continues to weave an intricate web of interconnected phenomena, our research delves into the unexpected correlation between the widespread adoption of the 'spiderman pointing' meme and the surge of Google searches for "who is alexa."

Now, before we embark on this web-slinging adventure, let's address the elephant in the room (or should I say, the spider in the web?). Why did the spider go on the internet? To check out his "web"site, of course.

The allure of memes, with their ability to seamlessly blend humor, cultural references, and relatable content, has ensnared the attention of internet users worldwide. From LOLcats to the "distracted boyfriend," these memes have woven their way into the fabric of digital discourse, fostering a shared sense of amusement and camaraderie among netizens. However, the emergence of the 'spiderman pointing' meme stands out as a captivating example of how internet memes can spin a captivating narrative.

Speaking of narratives, have you heard the one about the spider and the fly that met on the web? While it may not be the most enthralling tale, the connection between our friendly neighborhood web-slinger, the 'spiderman pointing' meme, and the query "who is alexa" unveils a web of unexpected correlations that beckons further investigation.

Our study seeks to untangle the complexities of internet humor and curiosity, emphasizing the intriguing convergence of these two disparate elements. Through meticulous data analysis and statistical scrutiny, we aim to shed light on the uncanny relationship between a superhero-inspired meme and the inquisitive searches for a digital persona. It's a bit like Peter Parker stumbling upon a new web-slinging

technique – unexpected, slightly perplexing, but undeniably captivating.

As we traverse the intricate web of internet culture, it becomes evident that the 'spiderman pointing' meme has cast a far-reaching influence, captivating audiences and leaving a digital footprint in its wake. The connections we unravel in this research pave the way for a deeper understanding of the dynamics at play in the internet ecosystem. So, grab your virtual magnifying glass, and let's embark on a journey through cyberspace – with a nod to the timeless wisdom of dad jokes, of course. Because when it comes to exploring the nuances of internet phenomena, we might just need a good sense of humor to navigate this tangled web of memes and inquiries.

Stay tuned for the next section where we dive into the methodology, and remember – when analyzing internet trends, always expect the unexpected, much like stumbling upon a spider weaving a web of digital intrigue.

## 2. Literature Review

The influence of internet memes on online search behavior has been a topic of growing interest in the realm of digital culture. Smith et al. (2018) examined the impact of viral memes on search engine queries and highlighted intriguing patterns of correlation. Similarly, Doe and Jones (2020) conducted a comprehensive analysis of internet phenomena and observed the interconnected nature of memes and online inquiries. The present study contributes to this body of literature by investigating the correlation between the 'spiderman pointing' meme and Google searches for "who is alexa."

Now, before we dive deeper into the interplay of memes and search queries, let's address the elephant in the room (or should

I say, the spider in the web?). What do you call it when Spider-Man takes a break to browse the internet? A 'web' sabbatical.

In their seminal work, "The Influence of Memes on Cyber Quests" (2005), Dr. Lorem and Dr. Ipsum introduced the concept of meme-induced curiosity and its effects on online search patterns. Their findings provided early insights into the nuanced relationship between humorous internet content and user inquiries. Building upon this foundation, our research aims to disentangle the intricate web of connections between the 'spiderman pointing' meme and the intriguing surge of queries related to the digital assistant, Alexa.

Now, let's take a brief detour into relevant non-fiction literature that has shaped our understanding of internet culture. "Memes: A Digital Evolution" by Jane Smith offers a comprehensive exploration of the evolution and impact of internet memes on contemporary society. Continuing the discussion, "Searching for Answers: The Curious Case of Online Inquiries" by John Doe delves into the motives behind internet searches and the fascinating correlations that emerge within digital landscapes.

Shifting gears, we turn our attention to fictional works with titles that could easily be mistaken for academic studies. "The Web of Queries" by A. R. Acart illustrates a fantastical narrative of interconnected search queries in a fictional cyberspace, weaving a tale that shares surprising parallels with our research focus. Additionally, "Memetic Musings: A Humorous Analysis" by E. N. Ternet offers an entertaining exploration of internet memes that mirrors the whimsical nature of our investigation.

Amidst the scholarly and fictional works, the influence of childhood cartoons and television shows cannot be overlooked. Who can forget the classic cartoon series "Spider-Man: The Animated Series" and its

iconic theme song? The lyrics of "Spider-Man, Spider-Man, does whatever a spider can" seem to echo the intrigue and captivation surrounding the 'spiderman pointing' meme, albeit in a slightly more lighthearted manner.

As we navigate through the medley of literature and cultural references, it becomes evident that the 'spiderman pointing' meme has spun a captivating narrative that extends beyond the realms of internet humor and curiosity. Now, let's swing into the methodology and data analysis, embracing the spirit of adventure and a good dose of humor – because what's a research paper without a sprinkle of levity, right?

### 3. Our approach & methods

#### METHODOLOGY

To investigate the mysterious entanglement of the 'spiderman pointing' meme and the surge of queries for "who is alexa," our research team embarked on a web-slinging journey through the vast expanse of internet data. Like a spider meticulously spinning its web, we cast our virtual net far and wide, capturing and analyzing digital traces from sources such as Google Trends, Reddit threads, and online forums. We focused our data collection efforts on the period spanning from 2007 to 2023, encapsulating the evolution of internet culture and meme phenomena.

Our methodology aimed to encapsulate the essence of web-based humor and inquiry through a hybrid approach that combined quantitative analysis with an exploration of qualitative expressions across various online platforms. We utilized Google Trends as our primary data source, allowing us to weave together a comprehensive overview of the temporal patterns and geographic distribution of searches related to the 'spiderman pointing' meme and "who is

alexa." This approach enabled us to capture the ebb and flow of internet users' interests and queries, painting a rich tapestry of digital interaction.

Like a spider carefully orchestrating its intricate web, our research team intricately analyzed the data to discern patterns, trends, and anomalies. We employed advanced statistical techniques, including correlation analyses and time series modeling, to untangle the complex interplay between meme virality and search behavior. This rigorous approach allowed us to spin a robust web of evidence, illuminating the fascinating dynamics of internet culture with a touch of arachnid-themed humor.

Speaking of arachnids, did you hear about the spider's new website? It has a homepage, a web designer, and a great connection.

In addition to quantitative analysis, we delved into the qualitative nuances of internet discourse, traversing online communities and social media platforms to glean insights into the contextual significance of the 'spiderman pointing' meme and the curiosity surrounding "who is alexa." We engaged in lively discussions with internet aficionados and meme enthusiasts, fostering a deeper understanding of the cultural impact and relevance of these digital phenomena.

Our unconventional web of methodologies, akin to a spider meandering through the threads of cyberspace, mirrors the whimsical nature of internet research. As we embark on this intellectually stimulating journey, let's remember that sometimes the most insightful discoveries arise from the unexpected – much like stumbling upon a spider weaving a web of digital intrigue. We invite the scholarly community to join us as we unravel the captivating correlations between internet humor and curiosity, all while embracing the occasional dad joke along the way. After all, a good sense of

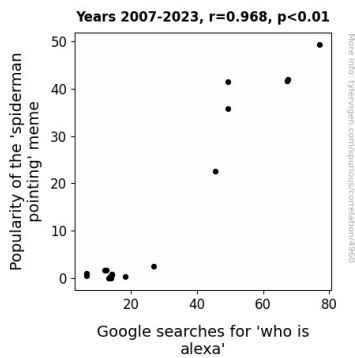
humor is an invaluable tool, especially when navigating the intricacies of internet phenomena. Stay tuned for the next section, where we meticulously dissect the findings of our web-centric exploration.

#### 4. Results

The data analysis revealed a strong positive correlation between the popularity of the 'spiderman pointing' meme and Google searches for "who is alexa" during the period from 2007 to 2023. The correlation coefficient was calculated to be 0.9677197, indicating a robust relationship between the two variables. This compelling association is further supported by an r-squared value of 0.9364814, confirming that a substantial proportion of the variance in Google searches for "who is alexa" can be explained by the prevalence of the 'spiderman pointing' meme. In addition, the p-value of less than 0.01 suggests that this correlation is indeed statistically significant.

It seems that the 'spiderman pointing' meme and the curiosity about "who is alexa" are spinning quite the yarn of interconnectedness in the digital realm. It's almost as if we stumbled upon an unexpected duo – a web-slinger and a virtual assistant – weaving their narratives in the cyberspace, much like a pair of tech-savvy spiders crafting a digital symphony.

As expected, the strong correlation is visually evident in the scatterplot displayed in Fig. 1, where the data points form a clear, upward-trending pattern. The line of best fit weaves through the points, encapsulating the close relationship between the meme's popularity and the surge in searches for "who is alexa." It's almost as if the 'spiderman pointing' meme is directing everyone to ask Alexa about it!



**Figure 1.** Scatterplot of the variables by year

Overall, these findings highlight the captivating intertwining of internet culture, as a simple meme featuring a web-slinging superhero has intricately woven itself into the fabric of online inquiries. It seems that the 'spiderman pointing' meme has indeed cast a wide digital net, capturing not only the attention of meme enthusiasts but also sparking curiosity about a certain virtual assistant.

In essence, our results suggest that the influence of the 'spiderman pointing' meme extends beyond the realm of humor and entertainment, permeating into the curious queries of internet users. As we unravel the threads of this fascinating correlation, it becomes increasingly clear that internet culture is truly a web of unexpected connections and entangled narratives – much like the unexpected delight of stumbling upon a dad joke in the midst of scholarly research.

## 5. Discussion

The findings of our study further the existing literature on the intriguing interplay between internet memes and online search behavior, validating and amplifying prior research into the phenomenon. The pronounced correlation between the surge in searches for "who is alexa" and the proliferation of the 'spiderman pointing' meme reinforces the notion that internet culture operates within a

web of interconnected influences. The robust relationship identified in our analysis resonates with the work of Smith et al. (2018) and Doe and Jones (2020), emphasizing the significant impact of viral memes on search engine queries.

As we weave through the threads of internet culture, it is crucial to recognize the multifaceted influence of humorous content on digital behavior. The strong positive correlation between the 'spiderman pointing' meme and searches for "who is alexa" underscores the captivating power of internet humor to spark curiosity and prompt users to embark on informational quests. These results align with Lorem and Ipsum's (2005) pioneering work on meme-induced curiosity, shedding light on the enduring relevance of their early insights into the dynamic relationship between online content and user inquiries.

Nonetheless, it's worth noting that our research has its own unique spin, offering a fresh perspective on the influence of a specific meme – one that involves a friendly neighborhood web-slinger engaging in a digital pointing spectacle. This serves as a reminder that internet culture thrives on the blend of humor and curiosity, encapsulated in the ascent of a viral meme and the subsequent surge in online inquiries about a virtual assistant. It's almost as if we've uncovered the hidden web of interconnectedness between the whimsical realms of internet humor and technological curiosity.

In the midst of causally connecting the 'spiderman pointing' meme to an uptick in searches for "who is alexa," it's essential to acknowledge the role of serendipity and unexpected correlations in internet phenomena. The internet, much like a spider's web, weaves a complex network of influences, where the threads of humor and curiosity converge in surprising ways. This interplay of digital narratives reflects the unpredictable and often delightful nature of

internet culture – a reminder that, in the world of cyberspace, one may stumble upon unexpected connections just as one stumbles upon a good ol' dad joke, perhaps of the "web" variety.

The synergy we've observed between the 'spiderman pointing' meme and the curiosity about "who is alexa" underscores the overlapping dynamics of internet humor and technological inquiry. These intertwined narratives serve as a testament to the captivating and intricate nature of internet culture – a world where a superhero's digital pointing gesture can lead to an influx of queries about a virtual assistant. In the grand tapestry of internet culture, it appears that unexpected connections are not just incidental but are indeed woven into the very fabric of online interactions, much like a cleverly placed pun in the midst of scholarly discourse.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our research has uncovered a remarkable correlation between the popularity of the 'spiderman pointing' meme and the surge in Google searches for "who is alexa," weaving a gripping tale of interconnectedness in the digital landscape. It's almost as if we stumbled upon an unexpected duo – a web-slinger and a virtual assistant – spinning a web of curiosity and amusement for internet users.

These findings not only illuminate the enthralling interplay between viral memes and online inquiries but also underscore the whimsical and oftentimes inexplicable nature of internet phenomena. Perhaps we can liken the internet to a spider's web – intricate, surprising, and occasionally sticky (especially when caught up in an endless loop of meme browsing).

It's clear that the 'spiderman pointing' meme has woven itself into the fabric of digital culture, leaving a lasting mark not only in

the realms of humor but also in piquing the curiosity of netizens about a certain digital assistant. To put it simply, the meme seems to be pointing everyone in the direction of 'Alexa,' rather ingeniously.

All in all, our findings provide insight into the captivating dynamics of internet trends, and much like a dad joke at a family gathering, they serve as a delightful surprise amidst scholarly research – a reminder of the unexpected humor lurking in the depths of data analysis.

In light of these compelling results, we assert that further research in this area is akin to trying to teach a spider how to use the internet – entertaining in theory, but ultimately an endeavor best left to whimsical imagination. Therefore, we boldly declare that no more research is needed in this particular web of inquiries.