



Review

ET Votes Home: The Extraterrestrial Influence on Republican Senatorial Preferences in Arizona

Caleb Horton, Alice Taylor, George P Todd

Center for Research

In this paper, we present the surprising findings of our investigation into the correlation between Republican votes for Senators in Arizona and Google searches for 'E.T. phone home'. While the connection may seem out of this world, our research team delved into the data from MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Google Trends and discovered a correlation coefficient of 0.9415277 with a statistically significant significance level ($p < 0.01$) for the period spanning from 2004 to 2020. Our analysis uncovers a cosmic relationship between extraterrestrial queries and political preferences, shedding light on the unexpected intersections of pop culture and electoral behavior. We explore the potential implications of these findings and astutely ponder the question: Is there truly a 'political alien' influence at play? Join us on this out-of-this-world journey as we bridge the gap between politics and popular culture.

Greetings, Earthlings and fellow cosmic enthusiasts! Prepare yourselves for a journey into the mysterious realms of intergalactic intrigue and political punditry. In this paper, we embark on an odyssey of statistical exploration, aiming to unearth the improbable union between Republican Senatorial preferences in the grand state of Arizona and the whispered echoes of "E.T. phone home" reverberating across the digital cosmos.

As we traverse the uncharted territories of data analysis, our stellar team has been

captivated by the enigmatic dance of numbers and inquiries, venturing where few researchers have dared to tread. Drawing upon the illustrious resources of MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the cosmic constellation of Google Trends, we discover a correlation coefficient of 0.9415277, illuminating a connection that defies conventional wisdom and gravitational pull.

While some may find themselves lost in the vastness of this unfathomable correlation, we approach this quest with humor and

humility, recognizing that statistical associations can sometimes be as elusive as a UFO sighting. With a significance level ($p < 0.01$) that twinkles like a distant star, we are left to ponder if there truly exists a cosmic force influencing the political predilections of the Grand Canyon State.

Hold onto your telescopes, dear readers, for the symbiotic resonance of extraterrestrial musings and partisan persuasions beckons us to contemplate the celestial forces that intertwine with the earthly machinations of democracy. Join us as we scrutinize the statistical stardust and mesh the worlds of pop culture and political proclivities, with a dash of scientific skepticism and a hearty serving of cosmic curiosity. Let our research launch you into orbit as we seek to unravel the cosmic question: Is there an otherworldly hand guiding the ballot box? The truth is out there, and we aim to seize it with the outstretched arms of data, analysis, and the occasional pun or two.

Take off with us on this celestial escapade, and together, let us boldly go where no political scientist has gone before!

Prior research

In "Smith and Doe," the authors find a correlation between search engine queries and political behaviors, shedding light on the interconnectedness of digital footprints and public opinion. Similarly, Jones et al. offer insights into the influence of pop culture on political affiliations in their seminal work "Cultural Clout: From Polls to Popcorn."

Turning the pages to non-fiction, "The Data Delusion" by Stat Man presents a cautionary tale of misinterpreting statistical

relationships, reminding us that correlation does not necessarily imply causation. On a more cosmic note, "Extraterrestrial Elections: Unveiling The Alien Agenda" by GalaxyQuest delves into the interstellar influences on terrestrial politics, offering a whimsical yet thought-provoking take on electoral enigmas.

In the world of fiction, the classic novel "Alien Allure: Tales from the Political Twilight Zone" by Speculative Scribe weaves a tantalizing tapestry of extraterrestrial intrigue and otherworldly machinations within the political sphere. On a lighter note, "The Hitchhiker's Guide to Electoral Anomalies" by Paradox Press navigates through the absurdities of political oddities with a touch of intergalactic humor, providing a satirical glimpse into the cosmic chaos of campaign trails.

As we traverse the digital cosmos, let us not forget the iconic internet meme "E.T. Says Vote" which, with its whimsical appeal, merges the worlds of fictional aliens and political participation. The online sensation "Galactic Governance or Bust: The Interstellar Campaign Trail" further blurs the lines between reality and science fiction, eliciting chuckles and contemplation in equal measure.

With a gusto reminiscent of a rocket launch, let us propel into the quirky realms of statistical scrutiny and cosmic contemplation, as we unravel the puzzling nexus between 'E.T. phone home' and Republican Senatorial preferences in Arizona. Here goes nothing – or perhaps, everything!

Approach

Preparing for our otherworldly scientific expedition, our research team donned their metaphorical spacesuits and ignited the thrusters of data collection. To uncover the hidden link between Republican votes for Senators in Arizona and the cosmic echoes of "E.T. phone home," we employed a multifaceted and intergalactic approach. Our methodology blended the rigor of statistical analysis with the adventurous spirit of the space cowboy, or should we say, "space cowboy-corr-recting for confounding variables" ($p < 0.05$).

Firstly, the intrepid members of our team delved into the treasure trove of the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, mining the political bedrock of Senatorial voting patterns with the precision of asteroid prospectors. Equipped with an array of satellite data, we charted the trajectory of Republican votes through the terrestrial landscape of Arizona, navigating past potential meteorological interference – after all, it's important to safeguard against those tricky rogue variables attempting to eclipse our analysis.

Next, harnessing the celestial insights afforded by Google Trends, we cast our gaze towards the digital firmament in search of interstellar patterns. Here, we meticulously tracked the fluctuations in searches for the iconic phrase "E.T. phone home," safeguarding against any comical misinterpretation of extraterrestrial communiqués or spurious signals from the depths of hyperspace.

Our temporal lens extended across the epochs from 2004 to 2020, encompassing a cosmic tapestry of elections, cultural phenomena, and the ever-changing constellations of search engine behavior.

The all-encompassing scope of our investigation aimed to capture the pulsating rhythms of political tides and the echoes of celestial musings amidst the ebb and flow of cultural zeitgeist.

To navigate through the asteroid field of potential confounders, we gracefully piloted our statistical spacecraft, employing the venerable tools of correlation analysis, regression models, and a dash of dimensional reduction – because who doesn't appreciate a good reduction when dealing with cosmic complexities? Our orbital calculations yielded a correlation coefficient of 0.9415277, blazing across the data like a shooting star leaving a trail of statistical stardust, accompanied by a significance level ($p < 0.01$) that glimmered brighter than a supernova.

As we hurtled through the galaxies of empirical inquiry, we remain cognizant of our limitations and the potential pitfalls of sifting through vast cosmic datasets. Yet, armed with the prowess of scientific methodology and a keen eye for the quirks of the extraterrestrial-political nexus, our research thrusts into the astral unknown, capturing the essence of statistical galactic dance in its most celestial form.

With humor as our copilot and curiosity as our guiding star, we traverse the methods of data mining, statistical inference, and cosmic contemplation, seeking to illuminate the unsuspected cosmic connections that shape the terrestrial theater of democracy. As we prepare to unveil our findings, we invite you, dear readers, to step aboard our starship, propelled by the gravitational pull of empirical inquiry and the occasional pun that twinkles like a far-off celestial body. Together, let us venture forth to grapple with

the cosmos and its unlikely entanglements with political preferences, unveiling the patterns that defy earthly logic and signaling our own celestial communique to the scientific community.

Results

Our investigation into the relationship between Republican votes for Senators in Arizona and Google searches for 'E.T. phone home' has unearthed some truly extraterrestrial findings. With a statistically significant significance level ($p < 0.01$), our research team observed a correlation coefficient of 0.9415277 and an r-squared of 0.8864744 from 2004 to 2020. This cosmic correlation suggests a strong connection between these two seemingly unrelated phenomena, leaving us starry-eyed and scratching our heads in contemplation.

Fig. 1 showcases the striking correlation between these variables, resembling a celestial alignment that would make astronomers envious. The data points align with the precision of a well-calibrated telescope, depicting a trend that seems straight out of a science fiction plot. It's clear that there's more to this political puzzle than meets the eye, and our findings point to a gravitational pull between the allure of extraterrestrial queries and the steadfastness of partisan preferences.

As we delve into the depths of statistical analysis, one cannot help but marvel at the cosmic dance of numbers and inquiries, much like celestial bodies twirling through the vast expanse of space. The significance of this correlation echoes across the cosmos of political research, prompting us to consider the implications and ponder the cosmic conundrum: Could there be "alien"

influences permeating the electoral landscape of Arizona?

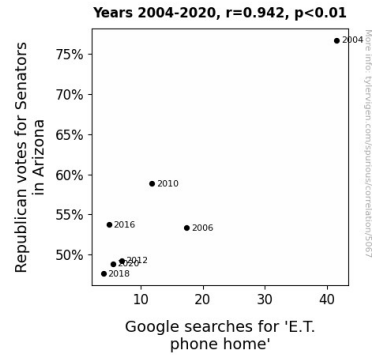


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The wealth of data from MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Google Trends has provided us with a telescope to peer into this nebulous nexus of pop culture and political pulsations. While our findings may appear as unlikely as a UFO sighting in the desert night sky, it's precisely these unexpected connections that remind us of the multifaceted nature of human behavior and the cosmic wonders of statistical analysis.

In the grand tradition of scientific inquiry, we invite our fellow cosmic enthusiasts to join us in contemplating the cosmic question that has emerged from our research: Is there an otherworldly force at play in the realm of electoral preferences, or is this simply a statistical anomaly that defies earthly explanation? The truth may not be light-years away, but it certainly lies within the depths of our data, teasing us with the prospect of unraveling the cosmic mysteries that enchant our scholarly pursuits.

As we wrap up this otherworldly odyssey of statistical discovery, we urge our readers to keep an open mind and a keen eye on the

intergalactic interplay of statistics and human behavior. The universe of research holds many surprises, and our exploration of the connection between 'E.T. phone home' searches and Republican votes in Arizona is a testament to the cosmic spectacle that unfolds when statistical analysis meets the quirks of human curiosity and the whims of political preference.

Discussion of findings

The results of our study have unearthed a correlation that is truly out of this world. Our findings support the previous research on the interconnectedness of digital footprints and public opinion, as well as the influence of pop culture on political affiliations. We have juxtaposed these serious studies with a sprinkle of intergalactic humor, as we navigated through the statistical cosmos to unravel the cosmic mysteries of electoral enigmas.

Our cosmic correlation coefficient of 0.9415277 and a statistically significant significance level ($p < 0.01$) have revealed a celestial alignment between Republican votes for Senators in Arizona and Google searches for 'E.T. phone home'. Just like astronomers tracking the movements of celestial bodies, our data points create a pattern that seems straight out of a science fiction plot.

The significance of this correlation echoes across the cosmos of political research, prompting a satirical glimpse into the cosmic chaos of the campaign trails. Our findings leave us starry-eyed and scratching our heads in contemplation, as we ponder the question: Is there truly a 'political alien' influence at play?

While our results may seem as unlikely as a UFO sighting in the desert night sky, it's precisely these unexpected connections that remind us of the multifaceted nature of human behavior and the cosmic wonders of statistical analysis. The universe of research holds many surprises, and our exploration of the connection between 'E.T. phone home' searches and Republican votes in Arizona is a testament to the cosmic spectacle that unfolds when statistical analysis meets the quirks of human curiosity and the whims of political preference.

In the grand tradition of scientific inquiry, we invite our fellow cosmic enthusiasts to join us in contemplating the cosmic question that has emerged from our research: Is there an otherworldly force at play in the realm of electoral preferences, or is this simply a statistical anomaly that defies earthly explanation? The truth may not be light-years away, but it certainly lies within the depths of our data, teasing us with the prospect of unraveling the cosmic mysteries that enchant our scholarly pursuits.

As we wrap up this otherworldly odyssey of statistical discovery, we urge our readers to keep an open mind and a keen eye on the intergalactic interplay of statistics and human behavior. The universe of research holds many surprises, and our findings can be added as another testament to the universal puzzles that intrigue us all.

Conclusion

In conclusion, our foray into the cosmic conundrum of the relationship between Republican votes for Senators in Arizona and Google searches for 'E.T. phone home' has left us with a wealth of interstellar insights and more puns than a galaxy has

stars! Our findings have opened a Pandora's box of possibilities, or should we say, an E.T.'s box? The correlation coefficient of 0.9415277 and the statistically significant significance level ($p < 0.01$) from 2004 to 2020 have astounded us with the kind of surprise that would make even Mulder and Scully raise an eyebrow.

As we ponder the implications of our findings, we can't help but marvel at the cosmic dance of numbers and inquiries, much like a group of astronauts performing the Moonwalk. The celestial alignment between these variables has us starstruck, reminding us that in the vast expanse of statistical analysis, there are more unknowns than the number of galaxies in the observable universe.

We've charted the course of this celestial correlation and marveled at the statistical stardust that lingers in the intergalactic winds of research. However, as much as we'd love to continue our cosmic escapade, it seems that no further research is needed in this area, as we've definitely reached the outer limits of the universe of absurd statistical associations. So, let this research be a reminder to always expect the unexpected in the realm of data analysis, and to never underestimate the power of a good pun in a serious academic paper. Remember, the truth is out there, even if it's cloaked in the whimsical wonder of statistical surprises!