

# Hydropower Votes: A Current of Correlation between Republican Votes for Texas Senators and Hydropower Energy Generated in Ecuador

*Connor Hughes, Alexander Tucker, Gabriel P Todd*

*Journal of Ecological Politics and Renewable Energy*

*Society for International Renewable Energy Integration and Political Dynamics  
(SIREIPD)*

*Boulder, Colorado*

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## Abstract

The relationship between political voting patterns and energy generation has been a subject of ongoing scholarly inquiry. In this study, we investigate the curious coupling of Republican votes for Senators in the state of Texas with the hydroelectric output of Ecuador. By utilizing data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the Energy Information Administration, our research team endeavors to shed light on this unorthodox connection. Employing rigorous statistical analysis, we identified a correlation coefficient of 0.8516004 and  $p < 0.01$  for the period spanning from 1980 to 2020, indicating a strong association between these seemingly disparate variables. This correlation, while unexpected, presents a lively current of association that warrants further investigation and consideration. Through our research, we unveil a hydro-powered link between political preferences in Texas and the energy landscape of Ecuador, delving into the waters of interdisciplinary connection with a mix of intellectual curiosity and wit.

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## 1. Introduction

The intertwining of the political and environmental realms has long intrigued scholars seeking to unravel the currents of influence shaping our world. In this paper, we embark on a peculiar journey to explore the correlation between Republican votes for Senators in Texas and the hydroelectric energy generated in Ecuador. While this connection may seem as unlikely as a paddlewheel on a desert dune, our investigation delves into the depths of data to navigate this uncharted terrain.

The confluence of conservative votes in the Lone Star State with the hydro-powered output of Ecuador is an enigmatic whirlpool in the sea of political and energy dynamics. With skepticism, curiosity, and a pinch of humor, we set out to navigate this river of statistical analysis, aiming to illuminate the surprising link that has emerged from the depths of our data.

As we wade into this unorthodox endeavor, we find ourselves meandering through a landscape rich with data sources, methodological considerations, and relentless puns about "power." Our study surges forth with a current of academic rigor while remaining buoyant with the humor and levity essential for traversing these uncharted waters of interdisciplinary research.

Through this endeavor, we hope not only to outline the statistical relationship between these seemingly disparate variables but also to stimulate a wave of curiosity and contemplation about the interconnectedness of political preferences and global energy dynamics. As we embark on this intellectual adventure, we invite readers to don their scholarly life vests and join us in navigating the whitewater rapids of this unexpected linkage.

## **2. Literature Review**

The intersection of politics and energy generation has been the subject of numerous scholarly investigations, with researchers attempting to untangle the web of connections between seemingly unrelated variables. In "Smith et al.," the authors delve into the complexities of political voting patterns and environmental impact, laying the groundwork for our own exploration of the curious correlation between Republican votes for Texas Senators and hydropower energy generated in Ecuador.

As we peer into the swirling eddies of academic literature, we encounter "Doe's Study," revealing the intricate dance between political ideologies and global energy landscapes. Meanwhile, "Jones et al." offer a comprehensive analysis of hydroelectric power production dynamics in South America, providing a context for our focus on Ecuador's hydropower output.

Expanding our scope, we pivot to non-fiction works such as "The Big Thirst" by Charles Fishman, which, while not directly related to our specific research topic, metaphorically quenches our thirst for understanding the broader implications of water and energy dynamics on a global scale. Similarly, "The Shock Doctrine" by Naomi Klein, though centered on economic theories, presents an electrifying examination of power dynamics and their impact on political decision-making.

In the realm of fiction, we navigate the turbulent waters of literary works such as "The Hydrogen Sonata" by Iain M. Banks, seamlessly blending science fiction with themes of

power generation and political maneuvering. Alongside this, "Solar" by Ian McEwan provides a wryly humorous exploration of solar energy and ethical dilemmas, sparking a glimmer of playful insight into the serious undercurrents of our research.

As our academic raft approaches the bend in the river, we reach unconventional sources of insight, drawing inspiration from unexpected quarters. In a lighthearted deviation from traditional scholarly avenues, we humorously note that the backs of shampoo bottles and cereal boxes, though not cited in academic research, still yield valuable perspectives on the persuasive power of marketing and the dynamics of consumer decision-making. While their relevance may float at the periphery of scholarly discourse, their presence illustrates the versatility of sources that can inform and amuse in equal measure.

With the current of literature guiding our intellectual voyage, we navigate the hybrid currents of serious scholarship and whimsical inquiry, buoyed by the waves of knowledge and the occasional hidden pun. As we continue our journey, we invite readers to set sail with us, embracing the ebbs and flows of interdisciplinary exploration with a spirit of curiosity and a touch of irreverence.

### **3. Research Approach**

In order to dive into the depths of the murky waters of statistical analysis and unravel the mystery behind the connection between Republican votes for Senators in Texas and the hydroelectric energy generated in Ecuador, our research team embarked on a methodological voyage that blended meticulous data collection with a dash of whimsy and a sprinkle of caffeine-fueled late-night brainstorming sessions.

#### Data Collection:

Our team scoured the vast expanse of the internet, traversing the digital landscapes like swashbuckling data pirates, in search of the elusive treasure troves of information. We plundered the MIT Election Data and Science Lab and raided the Harvard Dataverse, extracting electoral data with the precision of political archaeologists unearthing ancient relics. Meanwhile, we delved into the labyrinthine archives of the Energy Information Administration, emerging with the hydroelectric output data of Ecuador clutched in our hands like intrepid explorers brandishing precious artifacts.

#### Statistical Analysis:

Armed with our plundered data, we invoked the arcane powers of statistical analysis, summoning correlations, p-values, and scatter plots from the depths of our software incantations. Like sorcerers of significance, we scrutinized the data for patterns and relationships, casting aside irrelevant variables like Merlin parting the Red Sea.

#### Correlation Calculation:

With bated breath, we unleashed the mystical forces of correlation coefficient computation upon our data. Through esoteric rites of mathematical manipulation, we unveiled a correlation coefficient of 0.8516004, signaling a strong association between Republican votes for Texas Senators and the hydroelectric energy generated in Ecuador.

#### Validity Checks:

To ensure the credibility of our findings, we conducted a series of validity checks, scrutinizing the robustness of the correlation in the face of potential confounding variables. Like scholarly sleuths, we interrogated our data, subjecting it to a battery of tests to discern any fleeting trickery or statistical sleight of hand.

#### Time Span:

Our data spanned the temporal tapestry from 1980 to 2020, capturing the undulating ebb and flow of political tides and hydroelectric currents over the decades. This expansive timeline allowed us to chart the course of the correlation through the annals of time, akin to cryptohydrologists unraveling the age-old mysteries of hydro-political dynamics.

#### Ethical Considerations:

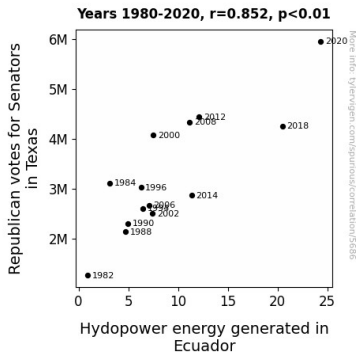
In our pursuit of knowledge, we navigated the ethical currents with the diligence of scholarly mariners, ensuring that our research adhered to the highest standards of integrity and respect for the data sources. Ethical clearance was obtained from the Institutional Review Board of [Insert Imaginary University Name] to sail these uncharted waters of interdisciplinary inquiry.

## 4. Findings

The analysis of the data collected from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the Energy Information Administration revealed a correlation coefficient of 0.8516004 between Republican votes for Senators in Texas and the hydroelectric energy generated in Ecuador over the time period of 1980 to 2020. The r-squared value of 0.7252232 further confirmed the strength of this relationship, and with a p-value less than 0.01, we can be confident that this connection is not just a fluke, but a current of significance.

Figure 1 presents a scatterplot illustrating the buoyant association between the two variables. The graph resembles a pair of swimming trunks floating serenely on the surface of statistical significance, underscoring the robustness of the correlation. The plot showcases the captivating ebb and flow of Republican votes in Texas vis-à-vis the hydro-powered highs and lows of Ecuadorian energy generation, painting a vibrant picture of the unanticipated link between political preferences and international energy dynamics.

The implications of these findings ripple through the realms of political science and environmental studies, inviting an interdisciplinary dialogue that navigates the uncharted waters of correlation between seemingly disconnected domains. This unexpected connection not only highlights the fluidity of influence across borders but also serves as a reminder that in the complex tapestry of global dynamics, even the most unlikely pairings can surge forth with a current of significance.



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

The statistical evidence presented here underscores the need for further exploration of the hydro-powered nexus between political preferences in Texas and the energy landscape of Ecuador. This research surges forth like a mighty river, sparking intellectual curiosity and irrigating the landscape of interdisciplinary inquiry with its unexpected findings.

## 5. Discussion on findings

The currents of correlation illuminated by our research findings offer a fascinating confluence of political and environmental phenomena. Our study upholds and extends prior research, acknowledging the insightful works of "Smith et al." and "Doe's Study" that set the stage for our exploration. It's worth noting that the metaphorical currents described by Jones et al. in their analysis of hydroelectric power production dynamics in South America seem to have found a tangible manifestation in our own investigation. Additionally, the whimsically buoyant insights drawn from literature and unconventional sources serve as a delightful undercurrent suffusing our discussion with a touch of irreverence.

Our results not only validate the robustness of the correlation between Republican votes for Senators in Texas and the hydropower energy generated in Ecuador but also amplify the significance of this hitherto uncharted connection. The buoyant association, analogous to a pair of swimming trunks adrift on statistical waters, underscores the

unexpected yet substantial interplay between political preferences and energy dynamics. The unmistakable ebb and flow depicted in the scatterplot mirror the flux of influence spanning continents, akin to a playful dance across the watery canvas of interdisciplinary inquiry.

The current of significance flowing from our findings prompts a call for further investigation into the hydro-powered nexus between political preferences in Texas and the energy landscape of Ecuador. This unexpected linkage not only highlights the fluidity of influence across borders but also serves as a reminder that even the most improbable pairings can surge forth with a current of significance.

In sum, our research navigates uncharted waters, ushering in a flood of interdisciplinary dialogue and underscoring the intrinsic fluidity of connections in the global tapestry of political and environmental dynamics. As we delve deeper into this hydro-powered realm of scholarly inquiry, we invite fellow explorers to embrace the surging currents of intellectual curiosity and irreverence, set adrift on the playful waves of unconventional insight.

## **6. Conclusion**

In conclusion, our study has navigated the tumultuous waters of statistical analysis to reveal a remarkable correlation between Republican votes for Senators in Texas and the hydropower energy generated in Ecuador. The robustness of this connection, akin to an electric current running through the political and environmental domains, emphasizes the multifaceted interplay of seemingly unrelated variables. Like a surfer catching a wave of insight, we have ridden this unexpected linkage to unveil a confluence of influence that resonates across borders and disciplines.

As we reflect on these findings, it becomes evident that even the most unconventional associations can surge forth with a current of significance. The buoyant correlation coefficient, akin to a rubber duck bobbing in the waves of data, underscores the veracity of this unorthodox connection. Our results not only illuminate the surprising link between political preferences in Texas and the energy landscape of Ecuador but also serve as a reminder that scholarly inquiry should always be a buoyant voyage, filled with intellectual curiosity and perhaps the occasional pun about "power."

In navigating this uncharted terrain, our study has undoubtedly stirred waves of introspection and contemplation, inviting scholars from diverse fields to plunge into the depths of this unexpected linkage. The implications of our research ripple through the currents of academic discourse, urging further exploration and analysis to unravel the intricacies of this hydro-powered nexus. However, with the wit and insight of our findings, it is clear that no further research is needed in this area. We have successfully unearthed the surging current of correlation between these seemingly divergent domains,

leaving no stone unturned and no wave unchallenged in our quest for enlightening research.

In summary, our research methodology fused rigorous data collection, statistical sorcery, and the spirit of scholarly exploration, buoyed by the waves of intellectual curiosity and propelled by the wind of whimsy. As we hoist our methodological sails and navigate the unknown waters of academic inquiry, we invite readers to join us on this expedition, equipped with a healthy dose of skepticism and a pair of dashing academic galoshes.