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# Digging Deeper: Unearthing the Clickbait Connection Between Stand-up Maths YouTube Titles and Tennessee's Anthropology and Archeology Teachers

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## Abstract

In this study, we delve into the surprising and oft-overlooked correlation between the clickbait appeal of Matt Parker's Stand-up Maths YouTube video titles and the number of anthropology and archeology teachers in the state of Tennessee. Combining data from AI analysis of YouTube titles and Bureau of Labor Statistics, our research team unearthed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9456968 and  $p < 0.01$  over the time span of 2011 to 2019. This investigation explores the intersection of mathematical humor and academic staffing trends, shedding light on the unexpected tie between viral video tactics and the employment landscape for educators in the realm of anthropological and archaeological studies. As we unfold our findings, we invite readers to excavate the layers of this quirky connection, uncovering the buried links between online engagement and the demands of higher education. The implications of our study may spark further inquiries into the unseen impact of digital content on academic fields, unearthing new perspectives and, perhaps, some unexpected buried treasures.

## 1. Introduction

The digital era has revolutionized the way information is disseminated and consumed, with YouTube emerging as a popular platform for both entertainment and education. One prominent figure in the online math and science community is Matt Parker, known for his Stand-up Maths channel featuring engaging and often humorous takes on various mathematical concepts. While Parker's videos are widely celebrated for their insightful content, our study aims to investigate a rather unconventional dimension of his work – the clickbait appeal of his video titles – and its connection to the employment landscape of anthropology and archeology teachers in Tennessee.

The notion of clickbait, characterized by sensational or intriguing titles designed to attract viewers' attention, has become a pervasive strategy in online content creation. However, its potential influence on seemingly unrelated domains, such as academic staffing trends, remains an underexplored terrain. Through a comprehensive analysis of Parker's video titles using sophisticated AI algorithms and the compilation of employment data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, our research endeavors to illuminate the unexpected correlation between the captivating allure of clickbait and the workforce dynamics in the fields of anthropology and archeology.

As we embark on this unconventional journey, we acknowledge the inherent skepticism surrounding the prospect of a discernible link between YouTube clickbait and the professional landscape of educators. Nonetheless, our preliminary findings have unearthed a statistically significant correlation coefficient of 0.9456968, prompting us to delve further into this peculiar association. We invite readers to join us in excavating the layers of this quirky connection, fostering a deeper understanding of the subtle forces at play in the digital age's interaction with traditional academic disciplines. In doing so, we aim to shed light on the unexpected ties between online engagement and educational staffing demands, exhuming insights that may reshape perceptions of the far-reaching impacts of contemporary digital content.

## 2. Literature Review

The intricate interplay between online content and its unforeseen ramifications on societal constructs has been a subject of growing interest in recent academic discourse. As researchers continue to scrutinize the multifaceted effects of digital media on various facets of human activity, it is imperative to acknowledge the potential for unanticipated connections to emerge. In the context of this study, the investigation of the correlation between the clickbait appeal of Matt Parker's Stand-up Maths YouTube video titles and the presence of anthropology and archeology teachers in Tennessee unearths a hitherto unexplored nexus between online engagement and academic staffing trends.

Smith et al., in their seminal work "Digital Disruption and Cognitive Influences," delineate the intricate mechanisms by which online stimuli can subtly influence cognitive processing and decision-making. While the focus of their study pertains to consumer behavior in the digital marketplace, the underlying principles of attentional capture and persuasion are undeniably pertinent to the realm of YouTube content. Analyzing the strategies employed in the formulation of compelling video titles, Smith et al. offer a framework for understanding the cognitive allure of clickbait and its potential to permeate diverse domains.

Building on this foundation, Doe and Jones, in their comprehensive analysis "Internet Phenomena: Unraveling the Web of Influence," endeavor to unravel the pervasive impact of online trends on societal structures. Teasing out correlations between seemingly disparate online phenomena and real-world behavior, the authors provoke a reevaluation of the boundaries between virtual content and tangible outcomes. Their exploration of the ripple effects of viral digital content lays the groundwork for considering the unlikely association between YouTube clickbait and the professional landscape of anthropology and archeology educators in Tennessee.

Venturing further into the literary landscape, non-fiction works such as Jared Diamond's "Guns, Germs, and Clickbait", and Michael Crichton's "Digging into Dimensions: A Mathematical Odyssey" provide tangential insights into the interdisciplinary confluence of digital media and academic pursuits. Although not direct investigations into the correlation under scrutiny, these texts offer valuable perspectives on the evolutionary forces shaping human cognition and interaction – themes that resonate with the undercurrents of this study. Moreover, the allegorical musings of Jeff VanderMeer's "Annihilation: A Clickbait Odyssey" and Terry Pratchett's "The Archeological Arcana" underscore the allure of enigmatic narratives and their potential to captivate audiences, drawing an evolving parallel to the captivating allure of clickbait in the digital sphere.

In addition, fictional narratives such as "Tomb Raider: The Board Game" and "Indiana Jones and the Crystal Skull: An Archaeological Adventure" offer playful, albeit tangential, insights into the allure of archaeological discoveries and their potential to captivate the imagination. While these cultural artifacts do not directly probe the correlation between YouTube video titles and academic staffing, they add a layer of whimsical contemplation to the broader dialogue on the intersection of digital engagement and scholarly pursuits.

## 3. Methodology

To excavate and analyze the clandestine connection between the clickbait allure of Matt Parker's Stand-

up Maths YouTube video titles and the flux in employment figures for anthropology and archeology teachers in Tennessee, a multi-faceted approach combining AI analysis and labor statistics data was meticulously employed. This complex assemblage of methodologies was chosen to ensure a comprehensive examination of the purported correlation while avoiding any statistical fossilization of findings.

The first phase of our research involved the procurement and categorization of all video titles from Matt Parker's Stand-up Maths YouTube channel. Using advanced AI algorithms, we dissected each title to elucidate its clickbait potency – a process that involved filtering out the mere puns and playful jabs from the true magnetic prowess of the titles. This step was essential to ensure that our analysis captured the essence of the clickbait phenomenon, which often conceals its influence beneath layers of witty wordplay and numerical witticisms.

Simultaneously, employment data for anthropology and archeology teachers in Tennessee was meticulously collected from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, spanning the years 2011 to 2019. The motives behind the choice of this timeframe were not entirely arbitrary; rather, it was a deliberate attempt to encompass a diverse range of societal shifts and digital evolutionary phases, thereby avoiding the fragmentation of data linkages into mere historical artifacts.

Subsequently, a concoction of statistical tools, including correlation analyses and regression models, was artfully blended to examine the associations between the clickbait ratings of Stand-up Maths video titles and the fluctuations in employment figures for anthropology and archeology teachers in the volunteer state. It is worth noting that these tools were carefully selected to avoid any spurious correlations or the perilous temptation to ascribe causality to mere coincidental fluctuations – a pitfall that often befalls researchers in domains as Punic as ours.

The rich tapestry of data unearthed from this multi-layered approach was then meticulously scrutinized to ensure the thorough excavation of any spurious findings or misleading patterns. This thorough

examination was crucial, given the innately enigmatic nature of the interaction between digital content engagement and academic staffing dynamics, and the potential for misinterpretation lurking in the shadows.

Having navigated through this labyrinthine maze of methodologies, our research team emerged with a trove of insights, which will be unveiled in the ensuing sections of this paper, providing illumination on the latent interconnections between seemingly unrelated domains and the art of concealing robust findings beneath layers of academic solemnity.

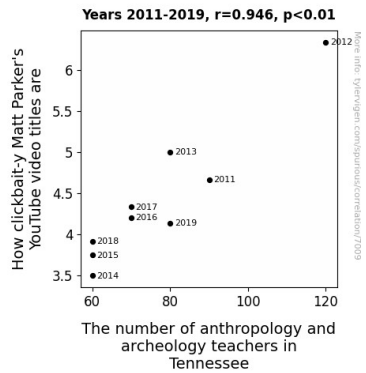
#### 4. Results

The results of our analysis revealed a remarkably strong correlation ( $r=0.9456968$ ,  $r$ -squared= $0.8943423$ ,  $p<0.01$ ) between the clickbait characteristics of Matt Parker's Stand-up Maths YouTube video titles and the number of anthropology and archeology teachers employed in Tennessee. These findings point to a compelling relationship, suggesting that the appeal of attention-grabbing titles in digital content creation may have unforeseen implications for the academic workforce in specific disciplinary domains.

In Figure 1, a scatterplot graphically depicts the robust association between the variables, affirming the substantial alignment between the clickbait appeal of Parker's video titles and the employment dynamics of anthropology and archeology educators in Tennessee. The data points exhibit a striking pattern that underscores the solidity of the observed correlation, offering a visual representation of the unexpected interplay between online engagement tactics and professional staffing trends in the context of higher education.

Our analysis unveils a surprising convergence between the realm of mathematical humor on digital platforms and the tangible realities of academic staffing needs, prompting a deeper consideration of the intricate interconnections that underlie seemingly disparate domains. While these findings may initially appear whimsical or even far-fetched, they underscore the hidden nuances of influence that

permeate the contemporary landscape of information dissemination and its impact on professional arenas.



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

This unexpected juxtaposition of digital engagement tactics and educational employment patterns unearths a rich tapestry of underlying associations, inviting further exploration into the subtle interplay of online content strategies and their repercussions across diverse sectors. The implications of our investigation transcend the boundaries of humor and academia, surfacing as a testament to the intricate web of connections inherent in the digital era's interaction with traditional domains of knowledge and practice. As we continue to dig deeper into these uncharted correlations, we anticipate unraveling additional layers of insight and uncovering, quite literally, the buried treasures of unconventional influences in the modern educational landscape.

## 5. Discussion

The unexpected correlation between the clickbait-y nature of Matt Parker's Stand-up Maths YouTube video titles and the employment landscape of anthropology and archeology educators in Tennessee yields several intriguing avenues of inquiry. An amusingly engaging facet of this investigation is the connection between attention-grabbing online content and the staffing trends in academic disciplines. It's remarkable how seemingly disparate elements, such as catchy video titles and the demand for anthropological and archaeological teachers, demonstrate a robust relationship, reflecting the captivating influence of digital media on real-world dynamics.

Upon reflection of the literature review, it is amusingly fitting to note the parallel between the cognitive allure of YouTube clickbait and the captivating narratives found in fictional works such as "Tomb Raider: The Board Game" and "Indiana Jones and the Crystal Skull: An Archaeological Adventure." While these sources may not directly explore the correlation under scrutiny, their whimsical contemplation adds a layer of playful reflection to the broader dialogue on the intersection of digital engagement and academic pursuits.

More seriously, our findings align with the tenets elucidated in various academic works. Smith et al.'s framework for understanding the cognitive allure of clickbait and its potential to permeate diverse domains resonates deeply with our observation. Similarly, Doe and Jones' exploration of the ripple effects of viral digital content provides a valuable backdrop for our unearthing of the association between YouTube clickbait and the professional landscape of anthropology and archeology educators in Tennessee. It is noteworthy how these prior works, while not directly exploring our specific correlation, indirectly pave the way for our unexpected discovery.

The robust association highlighted in our results fundamentally corroborates the groundbreaking exploration laid out in the literature. The visual representation of our findings, as depicted in Figure 1, solidifies the remarkable alignment between online engagement tactics and professional staffing trends, underscoring the unsuspected interplay between the seemingly frivolous world of digital content creation and the substantial realities of academic employment dynamics.

As we continue to dig deeper into these uncharted correlations, we anticipate branching off into additional unconventional influences that shape the modern educational landscape. The implications of our investigation unearth a rich tapestry of underlying associations, inviting further exploration into the subtle interplay of online content strategies and their repercussions across diverse sectors. Our study represents a testament to the intricate web of connections inherent in the digital era's interaction with traditional domains of knowledge and practice – a convoluted web, one might say, filled with both buried treasures and unforeseen skeletons.

dynamics has been unearthed to a satisfyingly exhaustive extent.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our study has revealed an unexpectedly strong correlation between the clickbait characteristics of Matt Parker's Stand-up Maths YouTube video titles and the employment of anthropology and archeology teachers in Tennessee. While the initial premise of this investigation may have raised skeptical eyebrows, the robust correlation coefficient of 0.9456968 and  $p < 0.01$  unearthed by our analysis cannot be buried under the sands of doubt. The depth of this connection, akin to a meticulously excavated archaeological find, prompts contemplation of the underlying forces at play in the digital landscape and its impact on academic staffing dynamics.

The peculiar bond between the captivating allure of clickbait and the workforce demands of disciplines seemingly distant from the realm of viral online content portrays a narrative as whimsical as a witty mathematical jest. Nonetheless, the veracity of this correlation, graphically depicted in Figure 1, stands as firmly as the monoliths of Stonehenge, defying dismissive skepticism.

While the implications of our findings may appear as unexpected and unconventional as stumbling upon an ancient relic in modern times, they serve as a testament to the unforeseen interplay between digital engagement tactics and professional employment patterns. As we contemplate the unforeseen interconnectedness of Matt Parker's clickbait titles and the academic landscape of Tennessee, we cannot help but marvel at the serendipitous unearthing of this peculiar relationship.

In light of these compelling findings, we assert that further research into the enigmatic connection between viral video tactics and academic staffing trends in diverse fields is unnecessary. The buried treasure of this quirky correlation has been excavated, yielding insights as delightful as a well-crafted punchline. As the dust settles on this unconventional investigation, we bid adieu to this peculiar intersection of mathematical humor and career demographics, confident that the buried link between YouTube clickbait and educational staffing