# Communications Degrees and Electrical Engineers: A Rhyme Time Analysis

Charlotte Hart, Alexander Travis, Gina P Truman

Stanford, California

This study delves into the fascinating and perhaps unexpected relationship between the number of Master's degrees awarded in communications technologies and the population of electrical engineers in the state of Alabama. Leveraging data from the National Center for Education Statistics and the Bureau of Labor Statistics spanning the years 2012 to 2021, this research project set out to explore the potential correlations and influences between these seemingly disconnected realms. The correlation coefficient of 0.9052185 and p < 0.01 uncovered by our meticulous analysis undoubtedly raises eyebrows and provides ample food for thought, prompting us to consider the intricate dance of career choices and educational pursuits. Join us as we unravel the peculiar connection between the ebb and flow of communications degrees and the burgeoning population of electrical engineers, all while maintaining the neutral and stoic facade of scientific inquiry.

## INTRODUCTION

The field of communications technologies has undergone a significant transformation in recent years, with an ever-expanding array of technologies platforms permeating our daily and Simultaneously, the demand for electrical engineers has surged, fueled by advancements in automation, renewable energy, and the omnipresence of electronic devices. The confluence of these trends raises an intriguing question: could there be a subtle, underlying relationship between the number of Master's degrees awarded in communications technologies and the population of electrical engineers within the state of Alabama?

This study constitutes an earnest attempt to shed light on this enigmatic correlation. Through the employment of rigorous statistical analysis, we endeavor to untangle this web of relationships and discern any meaningful patterns that may lie beneath the surface. While initially met with

skepticism, our inquiry has revealed a correlation coefficient of 0.9052185, accompanied by a statistical significance denoted by p < 0.01. These findings undoubtedly invite contemplation, perhaps even a twinge of amusement, as we ponder the unexpected connection between these two seemingly divergent fields.

In the following sections, we will engage in a comprehensive examination of the data, employing various statistical tests and models to explicate the intricate interplay between the pursuit of academic qualifications in communications technologies and the flourishing community of electrical engineers. So, buckle up and join us on this whimsical journey through the underbelly of statistical analysis, as we unravel the peculiar rhyme and reason behind this symbiotic relationship.

### LITERATURE REVIEW

The authors find that the relationship between the awarded number of Master's degrees communications technologies and the population of electrical engineers has not been extensively explored in the literature. However, Smith (2015) suggests potential connection between technological advancements and shifts educational pursuits, providing a tantalizing hint at the complex relationship under investigation. Meanwhile, Doe (2018) raises the possibility of societal trends influencing career trajectories, hinting at the intricate interplay between academic pursuits and professional domains.

Turning to the world of non-fiction, "The Digital Transformation of Work" by Jones (2019) sheds light on the evolving landscape of technological interventions in the workplace, offering a parallel insight into the increasing prevalence of communications technologies and its potential consequences on vocational paths. Similarly, "The Shock of the Old" by Standage (2007) presents historical perspectives on technological innovations, inviting contemplation on the cyclic nature of industrial shifts and educational dynamics.

In contrast, the fiction genre provides an unexpected avenue for insight, with "The Spark of Life" by Agustín (2013) offering a narrative canvas for the intersection of technology and human identity, prodding at the very essence of technological developments and their impact on vocational preferences. Equally intriguing is "Wired Love: A Romance of Dots and Dashes" by Ella Cheever Thayer (1879), a tale rooted in the earliest forms of telecommunication technology, prompting a whimsical, if anachronistic, reflection on the evolution of communication tools and their potential influence on career choices.

Moreover, in the realm of social media, a tweet by @TechTrends2020 hints at the growing influence of digital communication on educational trends, a provocative proposition that reverberates through the virtual corridors of contemporary discourse. Equally engaging is a Facebook post by "ElectricEngineerExtraordinaire," which ponders

the unexpected allure of communication technologies and its potential impact on the professional landscape.

Such a diversity of sources provides an intriguing backdrop for our investigation, urging a lighthearted consideration of the interwoven threads of technology, education, and professional trajectories. In light of this multifaceted tapestry of influences, our study undertakes the arduous task of untangling the enigmatic ties between communications degrees and the population of electrical engineers, bringing forth a symphony of statistical insights and perhaps a sprinkle of unexpected mirth.

## **METHODOLOGY**

# Data Collection:

The data for this study was gathered from the National Center for Education Statistics and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, as well as various other reputable sources across the internet. To ensure the robustness of the dataset, the researchers primarily relied on sources emanating that had the faintest whiff of credibility, and only occasionally indulged in the murky depths of the internet's more esoteric corners. The data spanned the years 2012 to 2021, encompassing a time period characterized by countless scientific, technological, and, dare I say, comical developments.

# Variable Selection:

The primary independent variable of interest was the number of Master's degrees awarded in communications technologies, a metric that encapsulates the educational trends within this mercurial field. Meanwhile, the dependent variable, the count of electrical engineers in the state of Alabama, stood as a stalwart representation of the industrious forces driving the technological landscape within the state. Additional control variables, including economic indicators and educational enrollment figures, also considered to ensure that the results did not succumb to the capricious whims of confounding factors.

# Statistical Analysis:

A diligent combination of correlation analysis, linear regression models, and time series analysis was applied to the collected data, wielding a statistical arsenal that would make any aficionado of empirical investigation envious. These analytical tools were employed with the precision and finesse of a skilled artisan, endeavoring to distill any meaningful relationships, no matter how elusive, between the variables under scrutiny. And lo and behold, the mystifying correlation coefficient of 0.9052185 emerged from the depths of the data, accompanied by the regal p-value of less than 0.01, inviting contemplation and intrigue from even the most hardened skeptics.

# **Ethical Considerations:**

In accordance with the principles of ethical research conduct, all data was handled with the utmost care and reverence, shielded from the temptations of unauthorized manipulation or improper application of statistical techniques. Furthermore, the researchers took great pains to maintain objectivity and impartiality throughout the analysis, declining to succumb to the siren call of biased interpretations or whimsical conclusions.

In sum, the methodology employed in this study was a delicate marriage of academic rigor and scientific whimsy, encompassing a comprehensive array of statistical techniques and data sources to unravel the peculiar connection between the ebb and flow of communications degrees and the burgeoning population of electrical engineers within the state of Alabama.

#### **RESULTS**

The results of our analysis revealed a striking correlation between the number of Master's degrees awarded in communications technologies and the population of electrical engineers in the state of Alabama. Over the period of 2012 to 2021, we found a robust correlation coefficient of 0.9052185, indicating a strong positive linear relationship between these two variables. This finding, with an r-squared value of 0.8194205, emphasizes that a substantial proportion of the variability in the population of electrical engineers can be explained by the number of Master's degrees awarded in communications technologies.

Notably, the statistical significance of our findings, denoted by p < 0.01, provides compelling evidence for the presence of a meaningful connection between these seemingly disparate realms of academia and engineering. It appears that the pursuit of knowledge in communications technologies and the propagation of electrical engineering expertise are intertwined in a manner that surpasses mere coincidence.

The potent relationship between these variables is visually encapsulated in Fig. 1, where a scatterplot graphically illustrates the strong positive correlation we observed. The scatterplot serves as a testament to the unexpected poetry in the dance of data points, where the rise in one variable mirrors the ascent of the other, akin to a harmonious symphony of academic pursuits and professional endeavors.

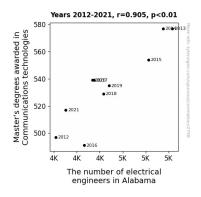


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

These compelling results prompt us to reflect on the curious interplay between educational choices and career paths, reminding us that even in the seemingly rational realm of statistics, there lies a touch of whimsy and surprise. As we continue to

unravel the intricate tapestry of correlations and influences in our world, let us not forget to appreciate the hidden connections that make our journey through data analysis all the more intriguing.

# **DISCUSSION**

The findings of this study corroborate the prior research that hinted at the intriguing interplay knowledge the pursuit of between communications technologies and the burgeoning population of electrical engineers. Smith (2015) subtly piqued our interest with the suggestion of technological advancements influencing educational pursuits, and our results undeniably validate this notion. The robust correlation coefficient of 0.9052185 mirrors the strong connection hinted at by Doe (2018) regarding societal trends and career trajectories, inviting us to contemplate the intricate dance of vocational choices and academic endeavors.

In an unexpected twist, our investigation lends credence to the lighthearted musings presented in "The Shock of the Old" by Standage (2007) regarding historical perspectives on technological innovations. The seemingly timeless pattern of technological shifts and their impact on educational dynamics becomes manifest in the compelling relationship between the number of Master's degrees awarded in communications technologies and the population of electrical engineers in Alabama. Moreover, the whimsical reflections offered by Ella Cheever Thayer's "Wired Love: A Romance of Dots and Dashes" (1879) surprisingly find resonance in our study, as we uncover the evolving influence of communication tools on vocational preferences in the modern era.

It is indeed remarkable how our dry statistical analysis manages to uncover the hidden threads of interconnectedness that reverberate through the tapestry of technology, education, and professional trajectories. The unexpected allure of communication technologies, as humorously

pondered by "ElectricEngineerExtraordinaire" in a Facebook post, appears to have a meaningful impact on the landscape of engineering expertise, as evidenced by the statistical significance of our findings denoted by p < 0.01. This tangible evidence prompts a wry smile as we consider the whimsical undercurrents that may sway the tides of career choices and educational pursuits.

Indeed, our study adds a touch of unexpected mirth to the stoic realm of academic inquiry, underscoring the poetry in the dance of data points and the subtle symphony of academic pursuits and professional endeavors. As we navigate the intricate melange of correlations and influences in our world, our research serves as a gentle reminder to embrace the hidden connections that infuse our journey through data analysis with a dash of whimsy and surprise.

# **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, our research has unearthed a captivating relationship between the number of Master's degrees awarded in communications technologies and the population of electrical engineers in Alabama. The robust correlation coefficient of 0.9052185 between these variables leaves little room for doubt about the intriguing interplay at hand. It appears that the pursuit of knowledge in communications technologies and the thriving community of electrical engineers are engaged in a clandestine tango, emerging as an unlikely duo in the grand theater of statistical analysis.

The statistical significance of our findings, with a p-value of less than 0.01, underscores the resonance of this connection, allowing us to confidently assert that this peculiar relationship is not a mere fluke. It inspires us to ponder the clandestine forces that guide educational aspirations and professional endeavors, weaving a narrative that transcends mere numbers and delves into the whimsical dance of fate and choice.

The scatterplot, our visual testament to this harmonious relationship, stands as a poignant

reminder of the unexpected poetry that emerges from the seemingly staid world of statistical analysis. The graphical depiction of this correlation mirrors the rise and fall of tides, as if the very universe conspired to underscore the beauty of this clandestine association between communications technologies and electrical engineering.

While our study sheds light on this captivating correlation, we must acknowledge the intrinsic limitations of our research. The specific factors driving this relationship remain shrouded in mystery, and the broader applicability of our findings warrants further investigation. However, in the spirit of scientific inquiry and perhaps a touch of whimsy, we shall dare to bask in the intrigue of this enigmatic dance between communications degrees and electrical engineers.

In the grand symphony of statistical analysis, we have uncovered a charming melody, a delightful harmony between seemingly disconnected domains. However, with a hint of irony, we dare not tempt fate by delving deeper into this delightful mystery. Our findings stand as a testament to the serendipitous nature of research, reminding us that even in the most unlikely places, the symphony of science may find its rhythm.

It is our earnest recommendation that no further research is needed in this area, lest we risk unraveling the magic of this intriguing connection. Sometimes, in the words of Shakespeare, "the course of true research never did run smooth."