# Vote Libertarian, Surfin' the Web: A Correlation Study Between Votes for the Libertarian Presidential Candidate in Kansas and the Number of Websites on the Internet

# Chloe Hamilton, Addison Tucker, Grace P Tate

# Institute of Sciences

This research paper investigates the curious relationship between the number of websites on the internet and the votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in the state of Kansas. Utilizing data from MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Internet Live Stats, we conducted a thorough analysis covering the years 1991 to 2018. Our findings revealed a remarkably strong correlation coefficient of 0.9473033, with a p-value less than 0.01, indicating a significant association. This unique correlation prompts further investigation and analysis to unravel the underlying factors contributing to this improbable yet intriguing phenomenon.

In the vast expanse of the world wide web, where cat videos and endless debates about pineapple on pizza reside, lies a curiosity that has long escaped the notice of the digital gaze - the peculiar link between votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Kansas and the number of websites on the internet. This study aims to scrutinize this unlikely relationship and cast light on the uncharted territories of cyber-politics. By delving into the complex intertwining of politics and cyberspace, this research seeks to uncover the hidden connections akin to a digital Sherlock Holmes, revealing correlations that are as unexpected as finding a vegan at a carnivore's convention.

The unlikely dance between web domains and political leanings has initiated an investigation that will make even the most stoic of statisticians raise an eyebrow. The correlation uncovered between these seemingly disparate variables suggests that there may be more to cyberspace than meets the unaided eye. It is almost as if the world wide web and political ambitions have conspired in a digital tango, performing a synchronous ballet that is as enigmatic as a cryptic crossword puzzle.

As we embark on this scholarly jaunt, we ponder whether websites, akin to curious cosmic particles, are influenced by the gravitational pull of political events or if political undercurrents are influenced by the ebb and flow of digital landscapes. Our investigation endeavors to unravel the threads of causality intertwined within this fascinating narrative, shedding light on this esoteric interplay between political phenomena and technological evolution.

The significance of this correlation, nearly as intriguing as the mystery behind unexpected statistical outliers, beckons for exploration and interpretation, challenging conventional wisdom and tickling the fancies of even the most sober-minded in the scholarly community. Just as Schrödinger's cat piques our interest in quantum superpositions, this correlation tantalizingly beckons us to peer beneath the surface of seemingly unrelated phenomena and discern the mysterious and delightful connections that await our scholarly scrutiny.

## Review of existing research

In their study, Smith and Doe (2015) explore the correlation between political voting patterns and internet usage, shedding light on the intriguing dynamics that intertwine cyberspace and civic engagement. Their findings illuminate a potentially robust association, foreshadowing the web of discovery that awaits those who delve into the convergence of digital domains and political predilections.

Delving further into this curious connection, Jones (2018) investigates the impact of internet accessibility on political participation, offering insights into the potential influence of online platforms on electoral behaviors. Their work lays the groundwork for understanding the enigmatic relationship between cyber presence and political choices, paving the way for further exploration of the interplay between electronic landscapes and democratic decisions.

Expanding the scope of research beyond conventional academic studies, "The Fourth Revolution" by John Micklethwait and Adrian Wooldridge (2014) delves into the transformative power of digital innovation and its repercussions on traditional political structures. While not specifically focused on the intersection of internet prevalence and libertarian voting trends, the book provides a compelling backdrop for contextualizing the evolving role of digital technologies in shaping political landscapes.

In a speculative turn, the fictional novel "Neuromancer" by William Gibson (1984) offers a dystopian portrayal of a digitally

intertwined society, inviting contemplation on the potential ramifications of a hyperconnected world on political ideologies and voting behaviors. While the narrative is fictional, its thematic exploration of the fusion between virtual realms and societal dynamics presents a captivating lens through which to contemplate the unexpected interplay between online expanses and political inclinations.

Additionally, an array of social media posts prompted ponderings on the relationship between the proliferation of websites and political affiliations, with users sharing anecdotes and musings that hinted at the potential entanglement between digital domains and electoral fervor. While not scholarly sources by conventional standards, the organic conversations and anecdotal reflections on platforms such as Twitter and Reddit revealed a palpable undercurrent of curiosity regarding the interwoven nature of online spaces and political allegiances.

As the scholarly discourse intertwines with speculative musings and anecdotal insights, a whimsical symphony of academic inquiry and digital enchantment converges, beckoning us to sift through the labyrinths of data and contemplation, in pursuit of unraveling the enthralling correlation between the libertarian vote in Kansas and the flourishing expanse of the world wide web.

#### Procedure

To uncover the enigmatic relationship between the number of websites on the internet and the votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Kansas, we employed a methodological approach that was as meticulously curated as a collector poring over rare stamps. Our primary sources of data were the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Internet Live Stats, which served as our trusty Sherpas guiding us through the treacherous terrain of statistical landscapes.

Our data collection spanned the years 1991 to 2018, encompassing a period as eventful and fluctuating as a yo-yo competition. At the outset, we meticulously gathered the number of websites from the Internet Live Stats, a virtual almanac of cyber-domain proliferation that provided us with a comprehensive snapshot of the ever-expanding internet. We then harmoniously combined this information with the votes garnered by the Libertarian presidential candidate in the state of Kansas, as documented by the MIT Election Data and Science Lab and Harvard Dataverse, forming a statistical ensemble as harmonious as a symphony orchestra conducted by a mathematical maestro.

Statistical analysis, akin to a riddle wrapped in an enigma, was carried out to unveil the degree of association between these seemingly unrelated variables. The Pearson correlation coefficient, resembling a digital Sherlock Holmes on the search for hidden patterns, was employed to measure the strength and direction of the linear relationship between the number of websites on the internet and the votes for the Libertarian candidate. This was complemented by a meticulous inspection of the p-value, which served as the gatekeeper to discern the statistical significance of our findings, akin to a discerning bouncer at a mathematical club. Furthermore, we utilized advanced statistical software, as sophisticated as a quantum computer, to perform additional analyses, including regression modeling and sensitivity analyses, to ensure the robustness and reliability of our exploratory investigations. These analyses were as thorough and exhaustive as a marathon runner's strides, propelling us forward in our quest for empirical elucidation.

In conclusion, our methodological approach encapsulated a harmonious blend of statistical rigor, theoretical acumen, and digital dexterity, akin to a well-choreographed ballet performance on the stage of academic inquiry, to unravel the intertwined mysteries of cyberspace and political allegiance.

#### Findings

The analysis of the relationship between the number of websites on the internet and the votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in the state of Kansas for the years 1991 to 2018 yielded a correlation coefficient of 0.9473033. This coefficient, akin to an unsuspecting protagonist stumbling upon a hidden treasure, elucidates a strong positive linear relationship between the two variables. The r-squared value of 0.8973836 further accentuates the robustness of this unusual connection, resembling the assurance of finding one's missing sock after a thorough search.

Additionally, the p-value of less than 0.01 underscores the statistical significance of this correlation, akin to discovreing a diamond in the rough. This unexpected and noteworthy finding quirkily suggests a concurrence between the growth in digital real estate and the proclivity for voting Libertarian in the state of Kansas, evoking a sense of wonder similar to stumbling upon a rare and wondrous artifact in a digital archeological dig.

Figure 1 depicts a scatterplot that vividly captures the remarkably strong relationship between the number of websites on the internet and the votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Kansas. The plot, akin to a visually engaging treasure map, portrays the alignment of data points, affirming the unfathomable yet intriguing bond that exists between these seemingly unrelated variables. This correlation, analogous to stumbling upon an unexpected harmony in a cacophony, incites curiosity and warrants further investigation to decipher the underlying causative mechanisms.



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

The uncanny and unexpected nature of this correlation beckons for a deeper understanding, tempting the scholarly community to delve into this intriguing phenomenon that is as surprising as finding a vegan at a barbecue festival. The implications of this correlation, with its enigmatic allure, prompt reflections and inquiries into the intricate intertwining of digital landscapes and political preferences. Further exploration is warranted to disentangle the nuances of this curious association and illuminate the hidden dynamics at play.

This perplexing relationship stands as a testament to the unfathomable intricacies of the digital and political realms, calling for continued exploration and scholarly scrutiny. Just as a cryptic crossword puzzle captivates the mind with its mysterious connections, this correlation captivates the scholarly imagination, propelling us to uncover and decipher the compelling narrative woven between the internet and political tendencies.

#### Discussion

The unexpected and remarkably strong correlation between the number of websites on the internet and the votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Kansas elucidates a captivating narrative that beckons the scholarly community to untangle its enigmatic threads. This curious confluence of digital expanse and political preferences is akin to stumbling upon a hidden treasure trove in the vast landscape of statistical analysis, captivating the mind and evoking a sense of wonder akin to a scientific discovery wrapped in an anachronistic riddle.

Supporting prior research by Smith and Doe (2015) and Jones (2018), our findings align with the foreshadowed potential for a robust association between internet presence and political decisions. The robust correlation coefficient acts as a linchpin, connecting the dots between cyber domains and civic engagement, akin to a scientific tryst between unexpected bedfellows.

In a whimsically orchestrated convergence of scholarly discourse and speculative musings, our results add a palatable dimension to the speculative anecdotes and organic conversations on social media platforms, reminiscent of an intellectual tapestry interwoven with digital enchantment. This correlation, akin to discovering a meticulously hidden pun in a mundane statistical dataset, prompts contemplation on the interplay between online expanses and political predilections, invoking a sense of curiosity as compelling as a thrilling enigma wrapped in a cloak of statistical certainty.

While the unexpected and unlikely nature of this correlation engages the scholarly imagination in a manner akin to unraveling the intricate plot of a scientific mystery, the implications of this finding beckon for continued exploration. Just as a cleverly constructed pun elicits laughter amidst serious discourse, this correlation invites further investigation and scholarly scrutiny, propelling us to decode the whimsical narrative woven between the internet and political tendencies.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, our investigation into the curious correlation between votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Kansas and the number of websites on the internet has uncovered a statistically robust and remarkably strong association. The correlation coefficient of 0.9473033, akin to stumbling upon an unexpected mathematical marvel in the cybernetic cosmos, reveals a compelling positive linear relationship between these seemingly disparate variables. The pvalue of less than 0.01 reinforces the significance of this unconventional correlation, not unlike discovering a rare gemstone in the statistical rough.

As this unlikely digital waltz between cyberspace and political inclinations continues to enthrall us, it prompts a deeper exploration into the clandestine connections that underlie this enigmatic relationship. The implications of this correlation, akin to stumbling upon a surprising plot twist in a scholarly mystery novel, challenge us to unravel the underlying mechanisms and discern the peculiar interplay between the evolution of digital domains and political predilections.

The unexpected and thought-provoking nature of this correlation whimsically beckons us to ponder whether cyberspace and political aspirations engage in a harmonious duet, akin to a riddle waiting to be solved in a scholarly treasure hunt. However, our findings assert that no further research in this area is needed, leaving us with the feeling of closing the final chapter of a captivating whodunit, content in the knowledge that this curious correlation stands as a testament to the whimsical mysteries that enliven the world of statistics and research.