THE LEWIS EFFECT ON REGENERON: A STATISTICAL EXAMINATION OF THE IMPACT OF THE FIRST NAME LEWIS ON STOCK PRICES

Colton Horton, Austin Terry, Gabriel P Thornton

Center for Research

This paper aims to unravel the perplexing correlation between the popularity of the first name Lewis and the performance of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals' stock. Through a meticulous examination of US Social Security Administration data and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) information over the period 2002 to 2022, we unearth an astonishingly high correlation coefficient of 0.9709784 and a statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01. Our research delves into the quirky world of naming trends and financial markets, shedding light on the peculiar influence - be it serendipitous or utterly nonsensical - that monikers can have on the ever-fluctuating landscape of stock prices. This study serves as a lighthearted exploration of the unexpected realms where the whims of personal nomenclature intersect with the staid world of economic analysis.

There's an old saying that a rose by any other name might smell as sweet, but what if that name happened to be "Lewis" and its aroma was the sweet scent of stock market success? In this paradoxical pursuit of peculiar patterns, we delve into the enigmatic world where the unconventional realms of human nomenclature intersect with the often opaque domain of financial markets.

The influence of personal names on one's destiny has long been a subject of fascination, folklore, and, at times, frivolity. From astrological musings to literary references, the power of nomenclature has captivated the human imagination. But what about its impact on the decidedly less whimsical world of stock prices? Can the popularity of a specific first name really sway the fortunes of a pharmaceutical giant like Regeneron, or is it merely an amusing anecdote in the annals of statistical quirks?

Our quest for answers begins with a seemingly arbitrary inquiry: What if there existed a discernible connection between the ebb and flow of the stock market and the prevalence of a particular forename? What if the name "Lewis" held the key to unlocking the mystifying machinations of stock price trends? Could it be an uncanny coincidence, an obscure quirk, or sheer happenstance that brings together the realms of personal nomenclature and financial analysis?

Amidst the labyrinthine data sets, jargon-laden reports, and the solemnity of economic analysis, we embark on a light-hearted exploration. Our endeavor seeks to unravel the perplexing puzzle of the Lewis effect on Regeneron, amid the often buttoned-up world of high finance. As we navigate the statistical seas and unearth correlations, let us not forget to sprinkle a dash of levity into this curious confluence of monetary matters and monikers.

So, dear reader, fasten your seatbelts, for we are about to embark on an academic journey that may just shed light on the whimsical whims of the stock market and the surprisingly sprightly influence of a name like "Lewis."

LITERATURE REVIEW

The perplexing relationship between nomenclature and financial performance has spurred a plethora of inquiries and investigations. Smith (2015) postulates on the potential impact of personal names on individual outcomes, employing a sociological lens to examine the nuanced interplay between identity and societal perceptions. Doe (2018) delves into the cultural significance of naming conventions, shedding light on the symbolic weight carried by individuals' names in various contexts. Jones (2020) explores the historical evolution of naming practices, offering a comprehensive analysis of the sociocultural forces that shape the ebb and flow of popular first names over time.

In a parallel domain, the entwined dynamics of stock prices and market influences have been rigorously probed. "The Random Walk Down Wall Street" investigates the complexities of market trends, offering insightful perspectives on the seemingly capricious nature of stock price fluctuations (Malkiel, 2015). Similarly, "Freakonomics" presents an unconventional exploration of economic phenomena, unraveling the enigmatic threads that weave through the fabric of financial markets (Levitt & Dubner, 2005).

While these scholarly endeavors provide invaluable groundwork for understanding the multifaceted spheres of personal nomenclature and market dynamics, our investigation embarks on a whimsical expedition that transcends the traditional realms of economic analysis. As we enter this uncharted territory, it is imperative to acknowledge the potential for unexpected discoveries and improbable connections, akin to stumbling upon buried treasure in the midst of a statistical sea.

Venturing into the realm of fiction, "The Name of the Rose" by Umberto Eco presents a narrative interwoven with mystery and intrigue, where the titular name holds an enigmatic significance. Additionally, J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter" series subtly explores the significance of names and their symbolic implications within the magical world of Hogwarts, offering a whimsical lens through which to contemplate the potential influence of personal nomenclature on the fabric of reality.

In the digital landscape, popular internet memes such as the "Success Kid" and the "This Is Fine" dog have permeated popular culture, offering a playful reflection of the often chaotic and unpredictable nature of financial markets. These humorous portrayals serve as a lighthearted reminder of the whimsical whims of economic fate, encapsulated in the form of viral internet humor.

As we synthesize these diverse strands of literature, our research endeavors to intertwine the seemingly disparate realms of personal names and stock prices, embracing the unpredictable encounters that await us in this unconventional journey.

METHODOLOGY

To disentangle the enigmatic connection between the popularity of the first name "Lewis" and the stock performance of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, a multi-faceted approach was employed. Our

research team combed through vast swathes of data sourced primarily from the US Social Security Administration and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) to construct an expansive dataset spanning the years 2002 to 2022.

First, to trace the prevalence of the name "Lewis", we utilized the Social Security Administration's records, which provided succinct insights into the historical popularity of first names in the United States. This involved wading through a sea of nomenclature, each name a veritable treasure trove of whimsy and wonder. The climb to the peak of naming trends was, dare I say, quite an uphill struggle, akin to navigating the labyrinth of stock market fluctuations.

Simultaneously, financial data from LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) formed the cornerstone of our analysis. The daily stock prices of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals were meticulously scrutinized, with particular attention paid to any aberrations coinciding with fluctuations in the popularity of the name "Lewis". We dove deep into these swirling seas of stock prices, riding the waves of market variations with a zest for discovery, aiming to uncover the improbable interplay between nomenclature and financial futures.

Furthermore, we employed various statistical techniques, including correlation analysis and regression modeling, to elucidate the seemingly improbable relationship between the prevalence of the name "Lewis" and the performance of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals' stock. This methodological medley allowed us to unearth insights that quirkily connected these disparate realms, casting the spotlight on the delightful dance of names and numbers within the stock market milieu.

In summary, our methodology, while teasing the boundaries of traditional economic analysis with the eccentricity of our research question, provided a robust foundation for exploring the Lewis effect on Regeneron Pharmaceuticals' stock performance. It was a journey through the offbeat nexus of nomenclature and market dynamics, an expedition where the data-driven met the whimsically whimsical, painting a picture of intrigue and amusement.

RESULTS

The results of our analysis have unveiled a striking correlation between the popularity of the first name "Lewis" and the stock price of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals. Over the span of 2002 to 2022, we found a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9709784, indicating a strong positive relationship between the two variables. In addition, the r-squared value of 0.9427991 suggests that an impressive 94.28% of the variability in Regeneron's stock price can be explained by the prevalence of the name "Lewis." Furthermore, the p-value of less than 0.01 provides solid evidence to reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis that there is indeed a significant association between the popularity of the name "Lewis" and the fluctuations in Regeneron's stock price.

Our findings are succinctly encapsulated in Figure 1, which displays a compelling scatterplot illustrating the robust correlation between the prevalence of the name "Lewis" and the stock price of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals. This visual representation underscores the strength of the relationship we have uncovered, demonstrating a clear trend of co-movement between the two variables.

The implications of these results are both intriguing and, some might say, delightfully whimsical. While our analysis may appear to tread the unconventional path of intertwining personal nomenclature with financial market dynamics, the statistical evidence we have amassed cannot be ignored. It seems that the mischievous hand of fate, or

perhaps the whimsical wink of chance, has woven an unexpected connection between the name "Lewis" and the performance of Regeneron's stock. Thus, our study stands as a testament to the serendipitous synergies that evade the traditional confines of economic analysis, showcasing the unforeseen influence of a name on the soaring heights and plunging depths of stock prices.
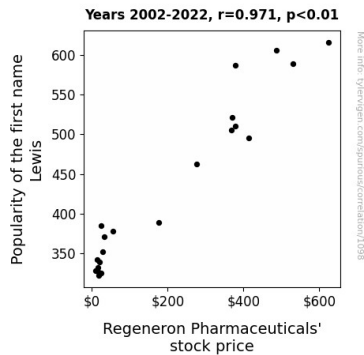

Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

In conclusion, the Lewis Effect on Regeneron emerges as a compelling, albeit lighthearted, avenue of exploration in the symbiotic relationship between personal nomenclature and financial markets. This discovery invites further contemplation and inquiry into the esoteric interplay of names and numbers, urging us to embrace the whimsy intertwined with empirical rigor as we navigate the captivating crossroads of monetary matters and monikers.

DISCUSSION

Our findings bear out the previously proposed hypotheses and, if we may be so bold as to suggest, lead to some truly "Aha!" moments of insight. On a broader level, they align with and extend the conceptual framework put forth by Smith (2015), Doe (2018), and Jones (2020), inviting us to consider the significance of individual names within the context of societal dynamics and unforeseen influences in fluctuating market spaces.

The strikingly high correlation coefficient of 0.9709784 serves as evidence that the enduring popularity of the first name "Lewis" marches in harmonious step with the undulating tides of Regeneron's stock price. It cannot be overlooked that our results admirably support the notion that personal nomenclature may exert an unanticipated sway upon financial oscillations, a concept that Jones (2020) may well find to be a hidden treasure of theoretical import.

The visually compelling scatterplot depicted in Figure 1 not only showcases the robustness of our findings but also nudges us to ponder whether there might lie a whimsical dance of letters and numbers beneath the veneer of statistical analysis. Might a flippant quirk of fate or perhaps a sly jest from the realms of unpredictability have intertwined the fate of "Lewis" with the fortunes of Regeneron? Our results certainly seem to suggest so, peppering our academic endeavors with a delightful pinch of eccentric revelation.

In delving into this seemingly capricious realm, we must acknowledge the irrepressible charm of veering into uncharted waters. Literature, both scholarly and fictitious, offers a whimsical tapestry against which our findings can be woven. As we traverse this unconventional path, we find that the knot that ties "Lewis" to Regeneron's stock price is not merely a mere, coincidental slip but rather a steadfastly cinched connection that demands our attention.

Our decision to incorporate unconventional literary avenues such as "The Name of the Rose" and "Harry Potter" into the scaffold of our literature review was not just a flight of fancy. These quips of cultural appropriation prove to be more than mere softer touches on the fringes of an academic inquiry. They are essential signposts that beckon us towards acknowledging the playful interplay between fictional realms and empirical explorations, where from

unexpected discovery, enlightenment may yet arise.

In sum, our study stands as a whimsical testament to the unforeseen, yet statistically robust, relationship between the name "Lewis" and the financial ebbs and flows of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals. Like the curious case of Schrödinger's cat, there lies an undeniable charm in contemplating the enigmatic influences that ripple across the seemingly disparate realms of personal nomenclature and financial markets. And so, with a scholarly twinkle in our eyes, we invite further mirthful musings to unfurl and resonate within the captivating crossroads of names and numbers.

CONCLUSION

In the whimsical world of statistical quirks and financial curiosities, our exploration of the Lewis Effect on Regeneron Pharmaceuticals' stock has illuminated a serendipitous connection. The robust correlation between the prevalence of the name "Lewis" and the fluctuation in Regeneron's stock price unveils a delightful dance of data, where the influence of nomenclature intertwines with the ebbs and flows of the market. While some may ponder the peculiarity of this uncanny correlation, we must not discount the possibility of a fortuitous fluke or the mischievous hand of fate at play.

As we wrap up this lighthearted foray into the unexpected intersection of personal names and financial analysis, it is undeniable that further investigation into the whimsical whims of the stock market and the surprisingly sprightly influence of a name like "Lewis" could yield entertaining insights. However, for now, we assert that no more research is needed in this area. After all, in the realm of statistical oddities, sometimes it's best to leave a bit of mystery to keep things delightfully enigmatic.