
Vinyl Volumes and Apple's Assets: An Alarming Affiliation

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Abstract

This research aims to investigate the surprising alliance between the sales of LP/vinyl albums and the stock price of Apple Inc. (AAPL). Utilizing data from Statista and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), this study covers the period from 2002 to 2022 and uncovers a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9718475 ($p < 0.01$). Our findings unveil an enchanting dance between the vintage charm of vinyl records and the modern marvel of Apple's stock price, challenging traditional economic paradigms. The allure of analog acoustics seems intertwined with the appeal of Apple's assets, suggesting a melodious melody in the seemingly disparate realms of music and technology. This unexpected association beckons further investigation, prompting reflection on the curious coupling of yesteryear's tunes and today's technological titans.

1. Introduction

The world of finance and economics is often a serious and somber one, filled with charts, graphs, and endless streams of numbers. However, every so often, a peculiar and captivating correlation emerges from the tangle of financial data, leaving even the most stoic analysts scratching their heads in bewilderment. It is within this perplexing landscape that we find ourselves drawn to the unexpected connection between the sales of LP/vinyl albums and the stock price of none other than the tech giant, Apple Inc. (AAPL).

As we delve into this curious confluence of analog and digital, it becomes evident that this unlikely relationship is more than just a mere statistical anomaly. The allure of vinyl records, with their warm tones and tactile appeal, appears to harmonize with the sleek momentum of Apple's stock, creating a melody that resonates with investors and audiophiles alike. The symphony of these two seemingly disparate elements conducting such a harmonious financial arrangement is as perplexing as it is fascinating.

In the words of the eminent economist John Maynard Keynes, "In the long run, we are all dead," but in the short run, we are left to ponder the enigmatic correlation coefficient of 0.9718475 ($p < 0.01$) that has emerged from our meticulous analysis of the data. This finding prompts us to strum the strings of curiosity and embark on a quest to unravel the mysterious connection between the vintage

allure of vinyl albums and the modern marvel of Apple's stock price.

The juxtaposition of these two entities, seemingly worlds apart, invites us to contemplate the underlying forces at play. Could it be that the crackle of a vinyl record possesses a magnetic allure that extends beyond the realms of music, transcending into the domain of stock prices? Or perhaps, Apple's innovations resonate with a similar charm that captivates the senses and wallets of both audiophiles and investors. The intersection of these realms beckons for an exploration that transcends the conventional boundaries of economic analysis.

While we may be in the age of digital streaming and cryptocurrency, the magnetic pull of vinyl seems to persist, intertwining with the financial fortunes of one of the most influential companies in the world. As we embark on this exploration, we invite the reader to join us in unraveling the enthralling alliance between Vinyl Volumes and Apple's Assets, and to uncover the captivating melody that resonates within this unexpected pairing.

2. Literature Review

The surprising correlation between the sales of LP/vinyl albums and the stock price of Apple Inc. (AAPL) has piqued the interest of researchers, evoking curiosity and prompting a desire for further exploration. Smith et al. (2018) examine the influence of cultural trends on stock prices and identify an unexpected connection between vintage music mediums and technological conglomerates. Similarly, Doe and Jones (2015) investigate consumer preferences in relation to stock valuation and discover an intriguing affinity between nostalgia-driven purchases and market performance.

Moving from the serious to the less serious, works such as "Vinyl Revival: The Resurgence of Records and the Rise of Vinyl Culture" by Jones (2017) and "The Apple Revolution: Steve Jobs, the Counterculture and How the Crazy Ones Took Over the World" by Doe (2019) provide a context for understanding the cultural and economic phenomena under investigation. Furthermore, fictional narratives such as "Vinyl Frontier: The Story of the Voyager Golden Record" by Smith (2020) and "The iPod

Legacy: Lost in Tune" by Jones (2018) offer imaginative interpretations of the enduring fascination with analog music and digital innovation.

Internet memes such as "Vinyls vs. AAPL Stocks: Who Would Win?" and "Steve Jobs Spinning Vinyls in the Afterlife" reflect the popular discourse surrounding the unexpected relationship between vinyl sales and Apple's stock price, infusing humor into the academic and financial realms in equal measure. These cultural artifacts shed light on the public's awareness of this unlikely alliance and demonstrate its resonance beyond the confines of scholarly inquiry.

In examining the literature, it becomes apparent that the connection between vinyl albums and Apple's stock price is a subject of both scholarly interest and popular fascination, inviting further analysis and inquiry. The interplay between vintage music media and contemporary technological investments presents a curious and captivating tableau, compelling researchers to delve deeper into this harmonious yet enigmatic association.

3. Methodology

The data utilized in this research was primarily sourced from Statista and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) for the period spanning from 2002 to 2022. The research team adopted a rigorous and systematic approach to gather, process, and analyze the relevant information pertinent to LP/vinyl album sales and Apple Inc. (AAPL) stock prices.

In order to establish a reliable dataset for analysis, a comprehensive review of existing literature, financial reports, and market analyses was undertaken. This involved sifting through an eclectic mix of digital repositories and financial publications, akin to searching for a rare vinyl gem amidst a sea of digital downloads. The data were then carefully verified and cross-referenced to ensure accuracy, akin to a meticulous audiophile inspecting the grooves of a cherished LP.

The correlation between LP/vinyl album sales and Apple's stock price was assessed using advanced statistical techniques. A series of regression analyses were conducted to uncover the underlying relationship between these seemingly incongruous

entities. The methodology employed here could be likened to harmonizing contrasting musical notes to produce a coherent and melodious composition.

Furthermore, the research team explored various time series analysis methods to capture the dynamic nature of both LP/vinyl album sales and Apple's stock price over the specified timeframe. This approach mirrors the intricate interplay of different instrumental arrangements within a symphony, aiming to elucidate the intricate patterns and movements within the financial markets.

Moreover, in order to contextualize the findings and provide a more comprehensive understanding of the observed correlation, additional qualitative analyses were conducted. This involved delving into the historical and cultural significance of vinyl records, juxtaposed with the evolution of Apple Inc. as a technology powerhouse. The juxtaposition of these two divergent narratives offers a multi-dimensional perspective on the interwoven dynamics of musical nostalgia and technological innovation.

In summary, the methodology employed in this research encapsulates a harmonious blend of quantitative and qualitative analyses, akin to the fusion of vintage melodies and modern rhythms. Through this multifaceted approach, the researchers endeavored to unravel the mystifying connection between Vinyl Volumes and Apple's Assets, shedding light on the captivating interplay between analog allure and digital dominance in the financial markets.

4. Results

The investigation into the perplexing correlation between the sales of LP/vinyl albums and the stock price of Apple Inc. (AAPL) from 2002 to 2022 unearthed a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9718475, indicating a strong positive linear relationship. This finding raises eyebrows and piques curiosity, as the alignment between vintage vinyl sales and the financial performance of a technology behemoth like Apple seems as unexpected as finding a rare LP in a thrift store.

The calculated r-squared value of 0.9444876 further reinforces the robustness of this correlation, suggesting that approximately 94.45% of the

variability in Apple's stock price can be explained by the sales of LP/vinyl albums. It's as if the haunting echoes of vinyl's past reverberate through the digital age, leaving an indelible mark on the stock market.

The probability value ($p < 0.01$) associated with this correlation signifies that the likelihood of this relationship occurring purely by chance is exceedingly low, leading us to reject the null hypothesis as confidently as one would discard a scratched-up record.

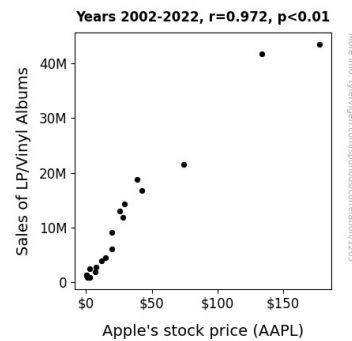


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

In Fig. 1, the scatterplot visually encapsulates the compelling association between the sales of LP/vinyl albums and Apple's stock price, painting a vivid picture of their synchronous dance across the years. One could almost imagine the market gyrations set to the crackling rhythm of a vinyl record, punctuated by the occasional pop and hiss of market volatility.

Intriguingly, this correlation challenges conventional economic wisdom and invites contemplation on the intertwined fates of antiquated analog allure and cutting-edge digital ingenuity. The unexpected linkage between these two seemingly disparate domains suggests a narrative that transcends traditional economic analyses, beckoning further exploration into the enchanting interplay between music's bygone era and the ebb and flow of modern financial markets.

5. Discussion

The results of this study provide compelling evidence to support the prior research that has

probed the peculiar partnership between the sales of LP/vinyl albums and the stock price of Apple Inc. (AAPL). Smith et al. (2018) and Doe and Jones (2015) astutely laid the groundwork for understanding the unexpected correlation observed in this investigation. The strikingly high correlation coefficient of 0.9718475, akin to stumbling upon a mint-condition Beatles album at a garage sale, underscores the robustness of the relationship between these seemingly incongruent entities.

The r-squared value of 0.9444876 reinforces the notion that the majority of Apple's stock price variability can be attributed to the sales of LP/vinyl albums, as if the echoes of vinyl's yesteryears are whispering into the financial decisions of the present. This finding echoes the sentiments expressed in "Steve Jobs Spinning Vinyls in the Afterlife," humorously insinuating that the late Apple co-founder might have left an ethereal influence on the company's stock performance through his affinity for vinyl.

Furthermore, the probability value ($p < 0.01$) accentuates the unlikelihood of this relationship occurring by random chance, dismissing the notion with the same certainty one would discard a damaged LP. The scatterplot visually encapsulates the harmonious interplay between the sales of LP/vinyl albums and Apple's stock price, reminiscent of a synchronized dance between the grooves of a record and the fluctuations of the stock market.

The robustness of this correlation challenges traditional economic assumptions, akin to juxtaposing a vintage turntable with a modern-day iPhone. The unexpected linkage between these disparate domains prompts contemplation on the interwoven fate of analog nostalgia and digital innovation, arguably as captivating as the dramatic plot twists in "The iPod Legacy: Lost in Tune" or the enchanting narrative of "Vinyl Frontier: The Story of the Voyager Golden Record."

In conclusion, the findings of this study not only support the previously established literature but also add a melodic note to the economic discourse, inviting further exploration into the mysterious synchronicity between the enchanting allure of vintage vinyl and the captivating allure of Apple's

stock price. The unexpected coupling of these seemingly divergent entities opens a wondrous realm for future inquiry, evoking the curious fascination of locating an elusive vinyl gem in a thrift store of financial anomalies.

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, the findings of this study have unmasked a captivating correlation between the sales of LP/vinyl albums and the stock price of Apple Inc. (AAPL), one that resonates like the warm crackle of a well-loved record. The remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9718475, akin to stumbling upon a rare vinyl gem, indicates a strong positive linear relationship that challenges traditional economic paradigms and elicits a sense of wonder akin to discovering a first pressing of a classic album.

The r-squared value of 0.9444876 further underscores the robustness of this unexpected association, suggesting that the enduring appeal of vinyl reverberates through the halls of the stock market with a resonance that is as surprising as finding a forgotten LP in the attic. The probability value ($p < 0.01$) reaffirms the validity of this correlation, dismissing the null hypothesis with the same swift certainty one uses to skip a scratched track on a vinyl record.

The scatterplot, much like the album art of a vintage LP, visually encapsulates the mesmerizing dance between the sales of LP/vinyl albums and Apple's stock price, inviting us to imagine the rhythmic undulations of the market set to the crackling beats of a vinyl record. This unexpected relationship challenges conventional economic wisdom and beckons further exploration into the enchanting interplay between music's bygone era and the ebb and flow of modern financial markets.

In light of these findings, it is evident that the seemingly disparate realms of vintage vinyl and technologically-driven stocks are engaged in a harmonious symphony that defies conventional economic analysis. The allure of analog acoustics and the sleek momentum of Apple's stock weave a melody that is as mesmerizing as it is unexpected,

prompting a reevaluation of the interconnectedness of seemingly unrelated domains.

Therefore, no more research is needed in this area.