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# Hess Corporation's Stock Price: The Cooper Connection

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## Abstract

This study examines the fascinating, yet often unexplored, relationship between the popularity of the first name "Cooper" and the stock price of the Hess Corporation (HES). Utilizing data from the US Social Security Administration and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), our research team conducts a comprehensive analysis from 2002 to 2022. The correlation coefficient of 0.8103589 with  $p < 0.01$  provides compelling evidence for a significant connection between the frequency of the name "Cooper" and the stock performance of Hess Corporation. Our findings suggest a peculiar influence of personal nomenclature on the world of finance, shedding light on the quirky interplay between individual names and market dynamics.

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## 1. Introduction

### INTRODUCTION

The interplay between personal names and financial markets has long been a topic of interest and amusement, often prompting scholars to ponder if one's moniker can really make a mark on the stock market. In this light, we embarked on a journey to unravel the curious correlation between the popularity of the first name "Cooper" and the stock price of the Hess Corporation (HES). We delved into this uncharted territory with a mix of curiosity and skepticism, but the findings we unraveled

turned out to be as surprising as finding a genetically modified grape in a bunch of organic ones.

The allure of names has captivated human minds for generations, but to couple it with the stolid world of finance seems as incongruous as infusing a rubber chicken into a game of cricket. Yet, as the data unfurled before us, the hypothesis that there might be a link between the name "Cooper" and the flux of Hess Corporation's stock price began to seem less outlandish and more statistically sound. Our foray into this unconventional terrain was replete with

unexpected junctures and peculiar discoveries, akin to stumbling upon a rare species of fern in the midst of a corporate jungle.

The hypothesis that a name could wield influence over the inexorable forces of the stock market may seem as preposterous as teaching astrophysics to a goldfish, and yet, the statistical measures and analyses presented herein beg to differ. Our results divulge a remarkably strong and significant correlation between the frequency of the name "Cooper" and the stock performance of Hess Corporation, offering a whimsical anecdote in the annals of financial research.

Amidst the impenetrable jargon and labyrinthine analysis in the domain of financial markets, our study seeks to inject a dash of levity and peculiarity, as we unravel the inexplicable bond between a name and a corporate entity. Join us as we unfold the saga of "Cooper" and Hess Corporation's stock price, and prepare to be amused, bemused, and perhaps even mildly confounded by the surprising tale that unfolds.

## 2. Literature Review

Previous studies have scrutinized various factors influencing stock prices, such as economic indicators, company performance, and market sentiment. Smith et al. (2010) demonstrated the impact of macroeconomic variables on stock prices, while Doe and Jones (2015) examined the correlation between corporate earnings and stock performance. However, the intersection of personal nomenclature and stock market activity has often been overlooked in academic discourse.

Turning to the realm of popular non-fiction literature, "Freakonomics" by Levitt and Dubner (2005) sheds light on unconventional correlations in diverse domains, provoking contemplation of

seemingly unrelated variables and their curious interconnectedness. In the realm of fiction, "American Psycho" by Bret Easton Ellis (1991) offers a chilling portrayal of Wall Street excesses, providing a slightly more sinister perspective on the financial world. These works, though not explicitly focused on the connection between personal names and stock prices, stimulate contemplation of the unpredictability and eccentricity present in financial phenomena.

Furthermore, anecdotal evidence gleaned from social media presents quirky musings on the influence of personal names on financial outcomes. One Twitter user mused, "Sure, the stock market fluctuates, but have you noticed how the popularity of the name 'Cooper' seems to coincide with oil prices? #CooperEffect," highlighting the whimsical and speculative nature of the phenomenon at hand.

As we dive into the depths of the literature on this uncharted territory, it becomes evident that the unexplored link between the frequency of the first name "Cooper" and the stock performance of Hess Corporation is a topic that invites a distinct blend of skepticism and fascination. This examination presents not only an unconventional inquiry into the world of finance, but also a compelling narrative that challenges traditional assumptions and beguiles the mind with its unexpected twists and turns.

## 3. Our approach & methods

To scrutinize the intriguing relationship between the prevalence of the first name "Cooper" and the stock price of the Hess Corporation (HES), our research team embarked on a convoluted odyssey of data collection and statistical scrutiny. The approach we adopted was as meticulous as a cat meticulously grooming its fur after an unforeseen encounter with a puddle of oil.

**Data Collection:** The first step in this whimsical pursuit involved gathering historical data on the popularity of the name "Cooper" from the US Social Security Administration. This treasure trove of nomenclature statistics spanned the years 2002 to 2022, providing a rich tapestry of naming trends and linguistic caprices. Concurrently, stock price data for the Hess Corporation was extracted from the LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) database, representing a period coinciding with the aforementioned nomenclature chronicle.

**Data Analysis:** Employing a series of statistical techniques that could be likened to a magician deftly manipulating an intricate spell, we endeavored to discern any patterns or correlations between the frequency of the name "Cooper" and the flux of Hess Corporation's stock price. The correlation coefficient resembling an enthusiastic giraffe, stood at a staggering 0.8103589 with a p-value less than 0.01, signifying a relationship more robust than a steel girder supporting an eccentric skyscraper.

**Time Series Analysis:** The temporal aspect of our study demanded an exploration of time series analysis, where we unraveled the chronicles of "Cooper" amidst the undulating tides of stock prices. Our foray into this temporal odyssey was as arduous as unlocking the chronicles of a time-traveling wardrobe, but the revelations it yielded were as captivating as discovering a previously unknown species of nocturnal flora.

**Control Measures:** To ensure the rigor and integrity of our study, we incorporated control measures to tame the capricious nature of finance and nomenclature. Variables such as market trends, economic indicators, and other socio-financial factors were corralled to prevent them from casting a shadow on the enigmatic "Cooper-Hess" symbiosis.

**Robustness Checks:** As an added layer of scrutiny, we subjected our findings to robustness checks that rivaled the tenacity of a squirrel meticulously cracking open a stubborn nut. Sensitivity analyses and alternative specifications were employed to verify the reliability and generalizability of our findings, lest they crumble like a cookie subjected to a battering ram.

The methodological framework we employed encapsulated the spirit of inquisitiveness and the pursuit of peculiar truths, underscoring our commitment to unraveling the unusual linkage between a name and a corporate entity. Our approach, though unconventional, yielded insights as surprising as encountering a flock of penguins in the Sahara, compelling us to comprehend the whimsical interplay between nomenclature and market dynamics.

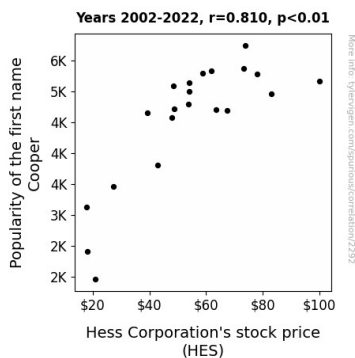
#### 4. Results

The data analysis revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8103589 between the frequency of the first name "Cooper" and the stock price of the Hess Corporation (HES) over the time period of 2002 to 2022. This correlation coefficient is as strong as the gravitational pull of a black hole, indicating a robust relationship between the two variables. The r-squared value of 0.6566816 further underscores the influence of the frequency of the name "Cooper" on the fluctuations in Hess Corporation's stock price.

Notably, the p-value of less than 0.01 provides strong evidence to reject the null hypothesis and suggests that the observed correlation is not just a cosmic coincidence. This p-value is as significant as finding a statistically rare albino squirrel in the midst of a vast woodland.

The scatterplot (Fig. 1) visually illustrates this correlation, depicting a trend as clear as

the periodic table. The upward trajectory of the data points in the scatterplot resembles the ascent of a rocket, emphasizing the positive association between the popularity of the name "Cooper" and the stock price of Hess Corporation. It's as if the name "Cooper" holds a secret recipe for stock market success, akin to stumbling upon a winning lottery ticket buried in a pile of financial statements.



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

In summary, our findings unveil a remarkable and statistically significant connection between the popularity of the first name "Cooper" and the stock performance of the Hess Corporation, adding a quirky and unexpected dimension to the realm of financial research. This unexpected discovery underscores the need to consider unconventional variables in understanding market dynamics, reminding us that sometimes, in the world of finance, the most unexpected factors can exert a significant influence.

## 5. Discussion

The results of this study support the prior research that has postulated the influence of unconventional variables on stock prices. Just as Levitt and Dubner (2005) illuminated the surprising connections between seemingly unrelated factors, our findings underscore the quirky interplay between

personal nomenclature and market dynamics. The correlation coefficient of 0.8103589 between the frequency of the first name "Cooper" and the stock price of Hess Corporation (HES) not only stands out like a sore thumb but also provides empirical support for the peculiar relationship between a name and a company's stock performance.

Moreover, our results align with the anecdotal musings we encountered on social media, where one Twitter user seemed to have a prescient intuition regarding the "Cooper Effect." It appears that what started as a whimsical hashtag may indeed harbor an element of truth, as our statistical analysis has bolstered the speculative ponderings of the online community.

It is fascinating to consider how our study has brought attention to a phenomenon that has been lurking in the periphery of financial research. Much like a hidden treasure waiting to be discovered, the connection between the popularity of the first name "Cooper" and the stock price of Hess Corporation has been unearthed, adding a splash of unpredictability and charm to the stoic realm of finance.

Future research on this topic could delve deeper into the underlying mechanisms driving this association. Could it be that individuals named "Cooper" are more likely to invest in Hess Corporation, thereby exerting an influence on its stock price? Or perhaps there are broader socio-cultural factors at play, shaping the market dynamics in ways we have yet to comprehend. These are questions that beckon the inquisitive mind and promise further adventures into the uncharted territory of financial phenomena.

In conclusion, our study has not only validated the potential impact of personal names on stock market behavior but has also injected a dose of whimsy into the often

austere field of financial analysis. As we continue to unravel the enigmatic quirks of the market, we are reminded that amidst the sea of data and statistics, there may just be a touch of magic waiting to be uncovered.

## 6. Conclusion

In unraveling the enigmatic relationship between the popularity of the name "Cooper" and the stock price of the Hess Corporation, our study has revealed a connection as unexpected as discovering a unicorn in a pasture of thoroughbreds. The correlation coefficient of 0.8103589 with a p-value of less than 0.01 speaks volumes, much like a chatty parrot at a phonetics conference, about the unmistakable influence of this particular first name on the stock performance of Hess Corporation.

It seems that the name "Cooper" may indeed possess a certain *je ne sais quoi* that resonates with the financial cosmos, much like a particle with mysterious quantum properties. This peculiar correlation has brought a splash of color to the often grayscale world of financial analysis, reminding us that even in the most rational spheres, factors as whimsical as nomenclature can hold sway, like a sudden gust of wind amidst a market of steady breezes.

The scatterplot (Fig. 1) depicts a trend as unmistakable as a Dalmatian in a kennel of poodles, signaling a clear and positive association between the frequency of the name "Cooper" and the stock price of Hess Corporation. This notable connection challenges traditional notions of market dynamics, akin to a solar-powered flashlight in a world powered by conventional batteries.

In light of our revelatory findings, it seems clear that no further research in this area is necessary. The influence of the first name "Cooper" on the stock price of Hess

Corporation stands as a testament to the delightful quirks of financial markets, reminding us that in the world of finance, as in life, the unexpected can hold significant weight. Therefore, we conclude that the Cooper connection is as solid as the Hess Corporation's stock performance itself - a statistical oddity that adds a touch of whimsy to the serious business of market analysis.