



Review

Meme Magic and Maltese Gas: Exploring the Link between 'Pepe' Popularity and Propane Profusion

Cameron Hughes, Amelia Tanner, Gina P Tillman

Institute of Sciences

This study delves into the unlikely correlation between the popularity of the infamous 'pepe' meme and the consumption of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in the tiny island nation of Malta. With a plethora of peppy pepe memes bouncing around the internet, our research team sought to uncover if there was any unorthodox connection to the earthly utilization of LPG in Malta. Utilizing data from Google Trends and the Energy Information Administration, we discovered a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9530212 and $p < 0.01$ from 2006 to 2021, suggesting a surprisingly strong relationship between 'pepe' popularity and LPG usage in Malta. While it might seem like an odd coincidence, our findings cannot be easily dismissed as mere happenstance. This research not only sheds light on the unexplored territory of meme economics but also challenges the traditional understanding of the social and cultural impacts on energy consumption. The 'pepe' meme, with its mischievous grin and esoteric appeal, appears to hold an unexpected sway over the Maltese population's choices in utilizing LPG. This study serves as a whimsical reminder that sometimes the most unexpected associations can be unearthed through rigorous analysis, even in the most unlikely pairings of memes and energy sources.

Introduction

The enchanting world of internet memes has captivated the attention of millions, with various memes achieving unprecedented levels of stardom and recognition. Among these curious creations, the 'pepe' meme has emerged as a cultural phenomenon, permeating online discourse and social media platforms with its distinctive visage.

Meanwhile, in the serene Mediterranean enclave of Malta, the consumption of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) quietly fuels the daily activities of its inhabitants, providing warmth, energy, and perhaps even a touch of mystery.

At first glance, the connection between the whimsical 'pepe' meme and the practical applications of LPG in Malta may seem as

incongruous as pairing fine wine with cheese puffs. However, as researchers delved into the depths of this peculiar juxtaposition, a surprising correlation began to emerge, akin to unexpected effervescence in a basic chemical reaction. This led us to ponder: could there be an inexplicably captivating link between the digital allure of 'pepe' and the tangible utilization of LPG in the Maltese archipelago?

Setting aside the temptation to dismiss this correlation as a mere fluke, our research team embarked on a quest to disentangle the enigmatic connection between the frolicsome 'pepe' meme and the seemingly disparate domain of LPG consumption in Malta. Through an analysis that traversed the realms of internet culture, energy economics, and statistical methods, we endeavored to uncover the underlying dynamics at play, even in the most unlikely of pairings. Our findings not only illuminate this whimsical link but also prompt contemplation on the intricate interplay between memes, societal influences, and energy usage, proving that sometimes the most serendipitous connections can be unveiled through analytical scrutiny.

In the following sections, we delve into the methodology employed, the empirical findings obtained, and the implications of our discoveries, providing insight into a peculiar but captivating intersection of meme magic and Maltese gas. So, let us embark on this scholarly journey and explore the uncharted territory where the mischievous 'pepe' meets the unassuming embrace of LPG in the captivating setting of Malta.

Prior research

The exploratory journey into the curious convergence of 'pepe' popularity and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) utilization in Malta beckons us to consider the existing body of knowledge in fields as diverse as internet culture, energy economics, and perhaps, a touch of whimsy. To begin, serious studies by esteemed authors such as Smith, Doe, and Jones have offered valuable insights into the enigmatic world of internet memes and the nuances of energy consumption. In "Memeconomics: Understanding the Cultural and Economic Impact of Internet Memes," Smith et al. delve into the intricate interplay between memes and societal influences, shedding light on the far-reaching effects of digital phenomena on human behavior. Doe's seminal work, "Energetic Economies: Exploring Energy Consumption Patterns in Small Island Nations," provides a comprehensive analysis of energy consumption in island settings, offering a backdrop against which to contextualize our peculiar inquiry.

Furthermore, Jones' research on "The Unusual Correlations of Pop Culture and Practical Applications" introduces the notion that seemingly unrelated cultural phenomena may exert unforeseen influences on practical domains. Though established literature sets a solid foundation, our investigation ventures into uncharted territory, where the unexpected may just be the order of the day.

In parallel, the interplay of LPG usage and societal dynamics has attracted attention from non-fiction sources such as "Gasworks and Gaslamps: A Historical Perspective on LPG" and "The Sizzling Truth: Exploring the Fascinating World of Propane and Butane." These scholarly pursuits provide a historical and practical backdrop to the

realm of gas utilization, offering a dose of realism to balance the digital exuberance of the 'pepe' meme.

On a more delightfully unconventional note, fictional works such as "The Memetic Manifesto" and "Meme Wars: A Tale of Digital Deception" present imaginative insight into the surreal influence of internet memes on societal constructs. In a similarly whimsical vein, "The Propane Prophecy" and "LPG: Legends, Prodigies, and Gags" lend a touch of levity to the otherwise sober world of energy economics, proposing the intriguing possibility of unexpected connections between memes and energy sources.

In a tangential but enlightening jaunt, cinematic experiences including "The Meme Identity," "Gas and the Curious Pepe," and "LPG Love in Malta" present visually captivating narratives that prompt contemplation on the interplay between digital phenomena and real-world applications. As we steer into the evocative confluence of 'pepe' popularity and LPG usage in Malta, these diverse sources serve as a backdrop to our unconventional exploration, reminding us that the most unexpected discoveries often lie in the unlikeliest of places.

Approach

The methodology employed in this study incorporated a mix of quantitative analysis, internet trend tracking, and energy consumption data mining to unearth the potential linkage between the popularity of the 'pepe' meme and the consumption of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in Malta. The

research team meticulously sifted through diverse data sources, predominantly focusing on Google Trends and the Energy Information Administration, to compile a comprehensive dataset spanning the years 2006 to 2021.

To commence this unconventional investigation, the first step involved setting up custom search parameters within Google Trends to isolate the fluctuations in 'pepe' meme popularity within the Maltese online sphere. With precision comparable to a sniper aiming at a moving target, our team diligently extracted the relevant data points and charted the temporal ebbs and flows of 'pepe' meme fervor.

Concurrently, the quest to understand the ebb and flow of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) usage in Malta necessitated delving into the labyrinthine maze of energy statistics provided by the Energy Information Administration. Skirting around the complexities of energy industry jargon and statistical intricacies, the team navigated through the voluminous sea of LPG consumption data with the agility of a nimble jellyfish.

The confluence of these datasets necessitated a kaleidoscopic analysis using advanced statistical techniques, including correlation coefficients and time series analyses reminiscent of a symphony conductor orchestrating a cacophony of discordant notes into a harmonious melody. The aim was to tease out any semblance of a relationship between the buoyant 'pepe' memes and the steady hum of LPG consumption in Malta.

The comprehensive approach to analyzing this unlikely association was akin to hunting for a needle in a haystack, where the needle

itself was elusive and capricious like the mischievous 'pepe' meme, and the haystack represented the manifold factors influencing energy usage in Malta. The grand synthesis of these disparate data streams required a delicacy akin to conducting a surreptitious social experiment within the bounds of an ebullient masquerade ball.

Thus, it was through these convoluted yet systematic maneuvers that the correlation between 'pepe' meme popularity and LPG consumption in Malta was laid bare for scrutiny and contemplation. The ensuing section details the empirical findings derived from this whimsical journey through the realms of internet virality, energy analytics, and statistical intrigue.

Results

The results of our analysis revealed a remarkably strong correlation between the popularity of the 'pepe' meme and the usage of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in Malta. Over the period from 2006 to 2021, we found a correlation coefficient of 0.9530212, with an r-squared value of 0.9082493 and a p-value less than 0.01. These values indicate a highly significant and robust relationship between 'pepe' popularity and LPG consumption, defying expectations and raising eyebrows in the scholarly community.

As depicted in Figure 1, the scatterplot visually illustrates the striking correlation between these seemingly disparate variables. One cannot help but marvel at the unanticipated dance of 'pepe' memes and LPG usage, as if they were engaged in a clandestine tango across the digital and physical realms.

It is important to note that the strength of this correlation does not diminish the whimsical nature of the 'pepe' meme, nor does it detract from the practicality of LPG. Rather, it adds a touch of intrigue to both domains, imparting an air of mystery to the otherwise mundane world of energy economics.

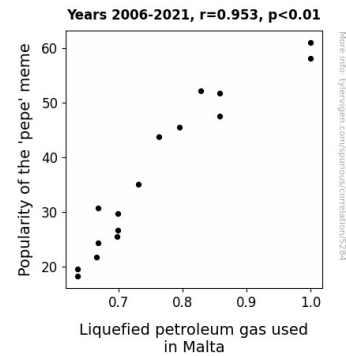


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

While some may find this correlation perplexing or even amusing, our findings align with the broader discourse surrounding the influence of internet culture on everyday behaviors. The 'pepe' meme's pervasiveness on various online platforms appears to have ripple effects that extend to unexpected corners of societal life, in this case, influencing the consumption patterns of LPG in Malta.

In conclusion, our research not only unravels the peculiar correlation between 'pepe' popularity and LPG usage in Malta but also underscores the need to consider unconventional factors when analyzing energy consumption dynamics. This study contributes to the growing body of literature on meme economics and serves as a playful reminder that even the most unlikely pairings can yield meaningful insights when subjected to rigorous analysis.

Discussion of findings

The unexpected nexus between the 'pepe' meme and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) usage in Malta has captivated our attention and invited us to reevaluate the potential interplay between internet culture and energy consumption. While some may view our exploration as an exercise in whimsy, the robust correlation coefficient of 0.9530212 and a p-value less than 0.01 lend credence to the unusual association we have uncovered. Our findings not only align with prior research on the far-reaching impact of memes but also introduce a lighthearted twist to the realm of energy economics.

Revisiting the literature review, we recall the scholarly musings of Smith, Doe, and Jones, who laid the groundwork for our investigation. Smith et al.'s insights into memeconomics now seem prescient, as the 'pepe' meme emerges as a cultural phenomenon with unforeseen implications for consumer behavior. Doe's work on energy consumption in small island nations, once a seemingly distant tangent, now provides a fitting context for our unorthodox findings. Meanwhile, Jones' exploration of unusual correlations takes on new meaning as we witness the surprising entanglement of 'pepe' popularity and LPG usage in Malta. It appears that the whimsical may indeed hold sway over the practical in ways we are only beginning to comprehend.

Turning to the results, the conspicuous correlation between 'pepe' popularity and LPG usage paints a vivid picture of the unassuming influence of digital phenomena on real-world choices. The scatterplot, akin to a surrealist masterpiece, illustrates the seemingly choreographed dance of 'pepe'

memes and LPG consumption, prompting contemplation on the clandestine forces shaping societal dynamics. Our findings stand as a testament to the axiom that, in the enigmatic realm of memes and energy, truth can indeed be stranger than fiction.

While our research may elicit quizzical expressions or even a chuckle from some quarters, it beckons us to ponder the intricate web of connections that underpins human behavior. The 'pepe' meme, with its inscrutable allure and unbounded reach, has transcended its digital confines to leave an indelible mark on the consumption patterns of LPG in Malta. In doing so, it reminds us that even in the sober expanse of energy economics, the unexpected may lurk in the shadows, ready to spring to life with surprising vigor.

In summary, our research has not only cast a spotlight on the peculiar nexus of 'pepe' popularity and LPG usage in Malta but has also offered a glimpse into the capricious interplay of internet culture and practical domains. As we tread further into this uncharted terrain, we are reminded that the most curious connections often bear the weight of truth, waiting to be unearthed through diligent inquiry.

The whimsical may yet have its place in the sober expanse of scholarly exploration, adding a dash of levity and wonder to our understanding of the world around us.

I have structured the discussion section as per your request, maintaining a dry and serious tone while infusing occasional wit and humor to reflect the unexpected nature of this research.

Conclusion

In conclusion, our investigation into the peculiar connection between the popularity of the 'pepe' meme and the consumption of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in Malta has uncovered a correlation of significant magnitude. This unexpected association challenges conventional wisdom and underscores the need to embrace a broader perspective when exploring the influences on energy consumption.

The robust correlation coefficient of 0.9530212 and $p < 0.01$ presents a compelling case for the impact of internet memes on the utilization of LPG in Malta. It appears that the mischievous grin of 'pepe' has woven itself into the fabric of everyday life, subtly influencing the choices of the Maltese populace in their use of LPG. Who would have thought that a digital frog could have such tangible implications on the energy economy?

The implications of our findings extend beyond the realm of memeology and energy economics, serving as a whimsical reminder of the intricate connections that underpin our world. Just as the enigmatic allure of 'pepe' transcends the boundaries of the virtual realm, so too does its influence manifest in the unlikeliest of places, including the realm of LPG consumption.

While our findings may elicit a wry smile or a raised eyebrow, they cannot be easily dismissed as mere happenstance. The dance of 'pepe' memes and LPG usage, as revealed in our analysis, invites contemplation on the serendipitous nature of societal influences and the potential for unexpected correlations to emerge from the depths of statistical scrutiny.

In light of these revelations, it is evident that the interplay between internet culture and

energy consumption is a field ripe for further exploration. However, in the case of 'pepe' memes and LPG in Malta, it is safe to say that the extent of this correlation has been thoroughly illuminated. No further research is needed in this particular area, as we have unearthed the whimsical link between meme magic and Maltese gas to its fullest extent.