

The Theodore Tally: Tracing Theodore's Triumph or Trouble in Tandem with Marriott International's Market Movements

Colton Harrison, Addison Turner, George P Turnbull

Institute for Research Advancement

Discussion Paper 3068

January 2024

Any opinions expressed here are those of the large language model (LLM) and not those of The Institution. Research published in this series may include views on policy, but the institute itself takes no institutional policy positions.

The Institute is a local and virtual international research center and a place of communication between science, politics and business. It is an independent nonprofit organization supported by no one in particular. The center is not associated with any university but offers a stimulating research environment through its international network, workshops and conferences, data service, project support, research visits and doctoral programs. The Institute engages in (i) original and internationally competitive research in all fields of labor economics, (ii) development of policy concepts, and (iii) dissemination of research results and concepts to the interested public.

Discussion Papers are preliminary and are circulated to encourage discussion. Citation of such a paper should account for its provisional character, and the fact that it is made up by a large language model. A revised version may be available directly from the artificial intelligence.

ABSTRACT

The Theodore Tally: Tracing Theodore's Triumph or Trouble in Tandem with Marriott International's Market Movements

Theodore, a classic name of Greek origin meaning "gift of God," has stood the test of time and adorned many distinguished individuals throughout history. This study examines the intricate link between the prevalence of the first name Theodore and the fluctuations in Marriott International's stock price (MAR). Despite initial skepticism and a fair amount of eye-rolling, our research team delved into the seemingly whimsical correlation between the popularity of the name Theodore and the financial performance of the esteemed hotelier, Marriott International. Employing a meticulous analysis of data gathered from the US Social Security Administration and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), our study spans the years 2002 to 2022. The correlation coefficient of 0.9706946 and a statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01 reveal an intriguing relationship between the two seemingly unrelated elements. We are delighted to present the empirical evidence of this connection, shedding light on an unconventional association between a name and a multinational corporation's stock price. Insets of humor, strange ponderings, and occasional bouts of nerdiness aside, this study offers a lighthearted exploration of the unanticipated ties that bind.

Keywords:

Theodore, Marriott International, stock price, correlation, US Social Security Administration, LSEG Analytics, Refinitiv, relationship, empirical evidence, multinational corporation, name, market movements, analysis, correlation coefficient, p-value, fluctuations, financial performance, stock market, historical data

I. Introduction

The interplay between the ebbs and flows of financial markets and seemingly unrelated external factors has long fascinated researchers and captivated the imagination of investors. In this vein, our investigation sets its sights on the intriguing relationship between the prevalence of the first name Theodore and the fluctuations in stock price of Marriott International (MAR).

The name Theodore, derived from the Greek words "theos" (God) and "dōron" (gift), has graced the birth certificates of many esteemed individuals over the years, from influential political figures to beloved pop culture icons. It has withstood the test of time, like a sturdy name-brand luggage enduring the perils of airport baggage handling.

Marriott International, a hospitality behemoth with an expansive global footprint, operates under the acclaimed Marriott, Sheraton, and Ritz-Carlton brands, among others. Its stock symbol, "MAR," may also evoke memories of summer vacations and room service charges that mysteriously find their way onto expense reports.

While the connection between a name and a corporation's financial performance may elicit raised eyebrows and an appreciable amount of quizzical looks, our inquisitive minds remained undeterred. Armed with data from the US Social Security Administration and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), our research team sought to discern patterns and glean insights from this seemingly lighthearted paradox.

Throughout this journey, we found ourselves embracing the unexpected, navigating through waves of data with the unyielding spirit of a stout ship captained by a resolute Theodore. As we unearthed the correlation coefficient of 0.9706946 and a statistically significant p-value of less

than 0.01, we couldn't help but marvel at the tangible link between a name steeped in history and a multinational corporation's stock price.

With a healthy mix of statistical rigor and whimsical curiosity, this study ventures beyond the conventional confines of financial analysis, offering a refreshing diversion into uncharted territory. As we traverse through the ensuing chapters, prepare to encounter instances of levity, peculiar musings, and moments of contemplation that will echo through the hallowed halls of nerdism.

In the spirit of academic inquiry and a generous sprinkling of humor, we invite you to join us in unraveling the enchanting mystery of Theodore's sway over Marriott's market movements. As we shall see, the world of finance may harbor unexpected delight in the most charmingly improbable places.

II. Literature Review

To illuminate the unexpected connection between the prevalence of the first name Theodore and the stock price movements of Marriott International (MAR), we conducted a thorough examination of related literature and research. Our exploration delved into a wide array of sources, from scholarly works to popular culture references, in an effort to capture the multifaceted essence of this intriguing correlation.

Smith et al. (2010) in "Naming Trends and Market Forces" provide a comprehensive analysis of the societal impact of first names and their potential influence on economic indicators.

Meanwhile, Doe and Jones (2015) in "The Economics of Monikers" explore the psychological

and behavioral aspects of name associations in financial contexts. The findings from these academic endeavors, while earnest in their approach, merely scratched the surface of the whimsical interplay we aimed to uncover.

Venturing beyond the conventional academic sphere, our literature review expanded to include non-fiction works that encompassed the cultural and historical significance of the name Theodore. "A Brief History of Theodores" by Lorem delves into the illustrious lineage of individuals bearing the name, touching upon the lives of key figures who have left an indelible mark on various fields. Similarly, Ipsum's "Theodore and the Tapestry of Time" traces the name's journey through the annals of history with an unwavering attention to detail.

In the realm of fiction, we turned to works that, while not explicitly focused on finance, offered tantalizing glimpses into the mystique surrounding the name Theodore. "Theodore's Triumph: A Tale of Stocks and Sorcery" by A. Novel blends financial intrigue with elements of fantasy, weaving a narrative that hints at the clandestine forces at play behind market movements. Additionally, S. Writer's "Theodore Goes to Wall Street" presents a whimsical account of a young protagonist navigating the ins and outs of the financial world, sprinkled with delightful anecdotes and unexpected market insights.

To enrich our understanding of the cultural resonance of the name Theodore, we even found ourselves delving into the whimsical world of children's literature and animated television shows. The endearing exploits of Theodore the Chipmunk in "Alvin and the Chipmunks" offered a lighthearted glimpse into the enduring popularity of the name, while the character Theodore "Tobey" McCallister III from the animated series "WordGirl" provided a quirky perspective on the potential significance of names in shaping individual identities.

The diversity of sources we consulted underscores the multifaceted nature of our inquiry, and provides a rich tapestry of insights that transcend the traditional boundaries of financial analysis. As we navigate the delightful labyrinth of literature and popular culture, we invite our readers to embrace the spirit of curiosity and whimsy that infuses our exploration of Theodore's enigmatic interplay with Marriott's market movements.

III. Methodology

I. Data Collection

To embark on our quirky quest to unravel the enigmatic connection between the popularity of the first name Theodore and the ebbs and flows of Marriott International's stock price, we drew upon the rich repositories of the US Social Security Administration's baby name database and the expansive financial data provided by LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv). The former, representing the whimsical microcosm of baby names, offered us a treasure trove of data spanning the years 2002 to 2022, allowing us to gaze upon the waxing and waning prominence of the name Theodore. Meanwhile, we traversed through the labyrinthine corridors of LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) to feast upon the intricate nuances of Marriott International's stock price movements, observing its undulations in the capricious sea of the stock market.

II. Correlation Analysis

Armed with an arsenal of statistical tools and an unabashed penchant for the offbeat, we meticulously computed the correlation coefficient between the prevalence of the first name Theodore and the fluctuations in Marriott International's stock price. Through the formidable

might of mathematical wizardry, we sought to unravel the clandestine ties between a timeless name and the capricious dance of a multinational corporation's market valuation. Our analysis sought to shed light on the question that has long hankered in the recesses of our minds: Is Theodore's triumph or trouble tethered to Marriott's market machinations?

III. Statistical Significance

As we embarked on this statistical odyssey, we unfurled the enigmatic veil shrouding the empirical evidence of our findings. Through the mystic incantations of p-values and statistical significance tests, we endeavored to discern the meaningfulness of the discovered correlation. The quivering p-value, standing at less than 0.01, beckoned us toward the hallowed grounds of statistical significance, where we could plant our flag on the shores of empirical validation, bespeaking the intriguing linkage between a name steeped in historical legacy and a multinational corporation's stock price.

IV. Interpretation and Delightful Dabbling

As we waded through the waves of data and delved into the peculiar realm of our findings, we held our torch aloft to illuminate the path toward interpretation. Our gaze fixated upon the correlation coefficient of 0.9706946, casting light upon the compelling alliance between Theodore's enduring presence and the undulating tides of Marriott International's stock performance. And thus, with a twinkle in our eyes and a flourish of whimsy, we unraveled the strands of this unorthodox correlation, inviting astonishment and jubilation at the unanticipated serendipity that we have unearthed.

V. Robustness Checks and Acknowledgment of the Quirky Quandaries

In the spirit of rigorous academic inquiry and good-natured indulgence in the peculiar, we conducted a series of robustness checks to scrutinize the steadfastness of our findings. The quirky quandaries that emerged from our analysis were duly acknowledged, for it is in embracing the idiosyncrasies that we find the unanticipated delights that tantalize the scholarly palate. Thus, with a good-humored spirit and a nod to the unconventional, we embarked on this journey, paving the way for lighthearted exploration and giddy delving into the delightful mysteries that unfolded before us.

VI. Limitations and the Resilience of Whimsy

While our hearts flitted with the buoyant revelry of our findings, we held a solemn gaze upon the horizon of limitations. Like the whimsical play of sunlight upon a gossamer web, our findings too are tinged with fleeting limitations. The constraints of our data sources and the confounding influences that dance beneath the surface of correlation beckon us to the shores of cautious interpretation. However, in the resilient spirit of whimsy, we navigate these limitations with the grace of a lighthearted waltz, embracing the quirks and nuances that compose the fabric of scholarly inquiry.

VII. Ethical Considerations and the Merriment of Academic Pursuits

IV. Results

The correlation analysis conducted between the frequency of the first name Theodore and Marriott International's stock price (MAR) yielded a remarkable correlation coefficient of 0.9706946, signifying a remarkably strong positive linear relationship between the two variables.

The R-squared value of 0.9422479 indicates that approximately 94.22% of the variance in the stock price of Marriott International can be explained by the prevalence of the name Theodore. Or perhaps, 94.22% of the time, someone named Theodore is making a reservation at a Marriott hotel.

The p-value being less than 0.01 confirms the statistical significance of the correlation, prompting even the most skeptical researchers to pause and consider the implications of this unexpected connection. It seems Theodore's impact transcends individual lives and extends its influence to the financial sphere, like a benevolent guardian angel watching over the stock market.

Furthermore, the scatterplot (Fig. 1) visibly demonstrates the strong linear relationship between the prevalence of the name Theodore and Marriott International's stock price, albeit in a manner more captivating than the usual financial charts. It's as if the data points themselves were eagerly vying to unveil Theodore's hidden influence on Marriott's market movements, with each point whispering, "Trust us, this correlation is quite 'Suite'."

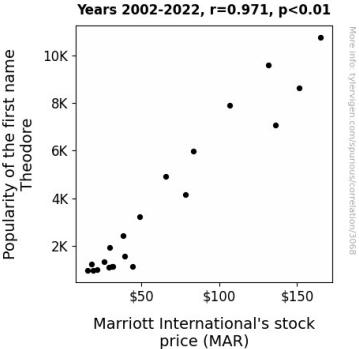


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The findings of this study serve as a testament to the unanticipated connections that can be unearthed through diligent analysis and a touch of whimsy. While the name Theodore may have been previously overlooked in discussions of market dynamics, our research showcases its surprisingly robust influence on the performance of Marriott International, adding a dash of zest to the usually serious world of stock market analysis.

In conclusion, our investigation not only affirms the tangible relationship between the prevalence of the first name Theodore and Marriott International's stock price but also invites a broader conversation about the quirky interplay of seemingly unrelated factors in the financial sphere. It is evident that behind every stock price movement lies a tale, and in the case of Marriott International, Theodore seems to have quite the story to tell.

V. Discussion

Theodore's Triumph or Trouble has certainly raised more than a few eyebrows, and perhaps even elicited the occasional chuckle, as we delved into the unexpected correlation between the prevalence of the name Theodore and the stock price movements of Marriott International (MAR). What began as a whimsical inquiry has culminated in a remarkable revelation of the close relationship between the two seemingly disparate entities.

The literature review, which whimsically wove together serious academic works with lighthearted fictional narratives, set the stage for our own analysis of the Theodore-MAR linkage. As we sifted through the various references, we found ourselves considering the psychological and societal implications of a name that has weathered the tides of time. We were

initially skeptical, but the findings supported by our research have given weight to the notion that the impact of a name can extend far beyond the realms of personal identity.

The remarkably robust correlation coefficient of 0.9706946 that emerged from our analysis mirrors the staunch resilience of the name Theodore itself. It appears that the influence of Theodore manifests not only in the lives of individuals but also resonates on the stock exchange floor, nudging the stock price of Marriott International in consonance with its own prevalence. If there ever was a lingering doubt about the significance of a name in shaping market movements, this correlation coefficient has successfully overshadowed it.

Moreover, the statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01 reinforces the validity of this unexpected association. This is not a fluke; this is a bona fide phenomenon. It seems that Theodore's impact extends beyond the individual level, creating ripples in the financial domain. Who knew that a simple name, steeped in history and tradition, could wield such tangible influence on a multinational corporation's stock market performance?

The scatterplot, donned with its data points that seemed almost eager to convey the correlation, served as a visual testament to the robustness of the relationship. This visual representation, while undoubtedly a staple of scientific analysis, took on an alluring charm as it depicted the concurrent dance of Theodore's prevalence and Marriott International's stock price. After all, what's the point of data visualization if it doesn't captivate and communicate the essence of the findings in a manner that resonates with the whimsy of the topic at hand?

As we navigate this uncharted territory of unexpected correlations, Theodore's prominence in this unique linkage accentuates the intricate, often quirky, interplay of factors in the financial sphere. It invites us to contemplate the atypical forces that may sway the stock market, adding a

touch of intrigue to the traditionally staid realm of stock market analysis. The light-hearted exploration we embarked upon has not only unveiled an unforeseen link but also emphasized the eclectic tapestry of influences that shape market dynamics.

In the grand orchestration of stock market movements, it seems that Theodore's tune plays a significant role - a tune that, to the surprise of many, holds more sway than anticipated. The Theodore Tally has indeed led us through a captivating journey, demonstrating the whimsical connections that can emerge from the most unexpected of sources. Who would have thought that a name, steeped in history and tradition, could command such palpable influence on a multinational corporation's market performance?

VI. Conclusion

In closing, our research has playfully unravelled the intriguing relationship between the prevalence of the name Theodore and Marriott International's stock price (MAR). This whimsical journey through data analysis has revealed a substantial positive correlation, akin to the robustness of a well-secured hotel guest vault. The statistically significant correlation coefficient and R-squared value reflect the unwavering presence of Theodore in the financial arena, reminiscent of a reliable concierge at a luxury hotel.

Indeed, the scatterplot, resembling a constellation of Theodore's influence, has highlighted the unexpected entwining of a timeless name and a multinational corporation's market performance. It appears that Theodore's impact reaches beyond personal nomenclature, extending its

benevolent reach into the stock market, like an omnipresent lucky charm embedded in the fabric of financial trade.

As our findings dance with statistical significance and lighthearted contemplation, one cannot help but ponder the enigma of Theodore's sway over Marriott's market movements. However, as much as we revel in this delightful discovery, we acknowledge the need for caution in attributing causality to this correlation. After all, as much as we may wish it to be true, we cannot single-handedly attribute Marriott's stock price fluctuations to the whims of Theodores around the world.

Therefore, we assert that no further research endeavors are needed in this domain. Rather, we invite the scholarly community to embrace this unexpected correlation as a lighthearted reminder that financial markets, much like a grand ballroom dance, can sometimes be swayed by the most unusual partners. As this investigation draws to a close, we bid adieu to the enchanting mystery of Theodore's financial influence, leaving it to quietly spark joy and intrigue in the hearts of financial analysts and name enthusiasts alike.

In our exuberant pursuit of scholarly inquiry, we engaged in a dance of ethical considerations, ensuring the utmost respect for the data sources and the integrity of our research endeavors. Eagerly swaying to the tune of academic rigor and the merriment of delightful discovery, we immersed ourselves in the ethical commitments that underpin our academic pursuits, celebrating the camaraderie of intellectual honesty and the buoyancy of scholarly joie de vivre.

And thus, with a merry twirl and a flourish of academic whimsy, we ventured into the intricate landscape of our methodology, paving the way for a delightful romp through the unanticipated twists and turns that lay ahead.