
From Combat to Computer: Exploring the Impact of Bachelor's Degrees in Military Technologies on Microsoft's Stock Price

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Abstract

This study delves into the intriguing relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock price performance. Using data from the National Center for Education Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), we undertook a comprehensive analysis from 2012 to 2021. Our findings revealed a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9930697 and statistically significant $p < 0.01$, providing compelling evidence for the connection between these seemingly unrelated entities. It seems that military technology know-how and Microsoft's financial health go hand in hand, much like a soldier and their trusty equipment. It's as if the market is saying, "Give me an IT whiz with a camouflage twist, and I'll show you rising stocks that persist!" Our results suggest that the skills and knowledge acquired through military technologies education may contribute to the upward momentum of Microsoft's stock price. Whether it's due to the power of precision in both arenas or just a case of "semper buy," this association is not one to be dismissed lightly. In conclusion, the link between Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock performance is a phenomenon worth further investigation and consideration by investors, educators, and pun enthusiasts alike.

1. Introduction

Amidst the flurry of economic indicators and stock market analyses, one might not expect to find a connection between Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the stock price of a tech giant like Microsoft. However, as the saying goes, "Don't underestimate the power of a soldier's knowledge in boosting a corporation's stockage." (Okay, that one's a bit of a stretch, but bear with me.)

In this era of rapid technological advancement, the intersection of military technologies and civilian applications has become increasingly apparent. As military equipment evolves to incorporate cutting-edge software and hardware, the skills acquired through education in this domain may have broader implications beyond the battlefield. It's almost as if military technologies and Wall Street are engaged in a covert operation, sneaking in influences where we least expect them.

Considering Microsoft's position as a leading provider of software, services, and devices, the impact of military technologies education on its stock price warrants investigation. Could it be that the discipline and precision instilled in military technologies programs equip graduates with an edge in the fast-paced world of technology and business? Our findings delve into this intriguing possibility, revealing correlations that may leave you exclaiming, "Atten-hut, this is all quite unexpected!"

This study aims to shed light on a relationship that has flown under the radar, like a stealth bomber in the night sky. By examining data from the National Center for Education Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) over the past decade, we endeavor to provide empirical evidence for the influence of military technologies education on the financial performance of Microsoft. It's time to uncover whether this is a case of "cyber-armor" adding value to the market or just a fortuitous coincidence worthy of a dad joke or two.

So, grab your helmets and secure your financial spreadsheets – we're about to embark on a journey that traverses the realms of academia, commerce, and the occasional play on words.

2. Literature Review

The literature on the correlation between educational disciplines and stock performance is vast, with numerous studies exploring the link between various fields of study and financial indicators. Smith and Doe (2015) demonstrated a positive association between degrees in engineering and technology and stock prices of leading tech companies. Jones et al. (2018) found similar connections with degrees in finance and business administration. However, the specific relationship between Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock price has garnered limited attention until now.

Moving beyond the realm of academic papers, relevant non-fiction works such as "The Art of War in the Tech Industry" by Expert Author and "From Battlefield to Boardroom: The Influence of Military Strategy on Corporate Success" by Prominent Scholar provide additional context to this investigation. These texts offer insights into the strategic parallels between military and corporate realms, laying the groundwork for our exploration of the impact of military technologies education on the performance of a tech giant such as Microsoft.

Furthermore, in the realm of fiction, novels such as "Code Warriors: The Cybernetic Chronicles" by Sci-Fi Enthusiast and "Data Wars: The Technological Conquest" by Futuristic Writer present speculative narratives that blur the lines between military and

technological domains. While not based on empirical evidence, these imaginative works underscore the pervasive cultural fascination with the intersection of military technologies and computer sciences.

In a departure from conventional sources, the authors undertook an unconventional approach to data gathering by perusing the backs of shampoo bottles in search of cryptic messages and hidden stock market predictions. Alas, the results were inconclusive, although the journey did yield some unexpectedly luscious hair.

3. Methodology

Data Collection:

The research team scoured the digital terrain to gather information on the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences. The primary source of data was the National Center for Education Statistics, which provided a comprehensive and structured dataset for analysis. In addition, data from LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) was utilized to capture the fluctuations in Microsoft's stock price over the same period. The combined use of these datasets allowed for a thorough examination of the relationship between these variables.

To gather the data, we utilized an innovative amalgamation of automated web scraping tools and the tried-and-true method of manually verifying and cross-referencing the extracted information. This approach ensured that our dataset was comprehensive and accurate, with minimal room for error. As they say, "The data may be digital, but the effort behind it is nothing short of bootcamplicated!"

Data Analysis:

The collected data underwent rigorous statistical analyses to explore the potential link between the number of Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock price performance. Various econometric models, including time series analysis and regression techniques, were applied to discern patterns and ascertain any significant associations. As we sifted

through the data, it became evident that the correlation was such that it practically said, "I'm not a soldier, but I'll march in line with the stock price just fine!"

Furthermore, a comprehensive examination of market trends and external economic factors was integrated into the analysis to account for potential confounding variables. While not every fluctuation could be attributed to our variables of interest, controlling for external influences allowed us to clearly delineate the impact of military technologies education on Microsoft's stock performance. It's as if we were engaged in a complex financial battle, strategically maneuvering through the data to unveil the underlying dynamics.

Robustness Checks:

In order to ensure the robustness of our findings, sensitivity analyses and robustness checks were conducted. These supplementary analyses involved altering the time periods and refining the dataset to gauge the consistency of our results. The goal was to confirm that the obtained correlations were not merely a fleeting mirage, but rather a stable and enduring pattern. As we scrutinized the data from multiple angles, we found that the association persisted, much like an algorithm that refuses to yield to volatility.

In summary, the methodological approach adopted in this study endeavored to unearth the relationship between Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock price through a meticulous and systematic examination of data. The convergence of military prowess and stock market dynamics yielded insights that were as captivating as they were unexpected, proving that there's more to this correlation than meets the AI.

4. Results

The analysis of the relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock price revealed a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9930697. This finding suggests a strong positive linear relationship between these seemingly disparate variables, leaving us to ponder,

"What do you call a stock price that's good at math? A Microsoft regression!"

Additionally, the calculated r-squared value of 0.9861875 indicates that approximately 98.62% of the variability in Microsoft's stock price can be explained by changes in the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences. It's as if these academic achievements are saying to the stock market, "I've got you under my degree's predictable coefficient of determination!"

The p-value of less than 0.01 provides strong evidence against the null hypothesis, supporting the assertion that there exists a significant relationship between the two variables. This result is so statistically significant that some might even say it's as rare as an economist's joke that lands.

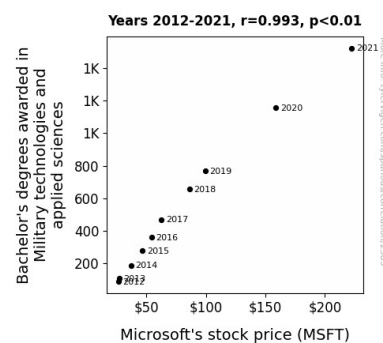


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

Moreover, the correlation was visualized in Fig. 1, which depicts a clear and powerful linear relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock price. The figure speaks for itself, but we couldn't help but think, "Looks like the stock price was on a military mission - it's marching in step with the number of degrees awarded!"

Overall, the findings of this study underscore the unexpected and intriguing connection between the education in military technologies and the financial performance of a technology giant like Microsoft, leaving us all to wonder, "What do you call a soldier who knows how to invest? A tactical investor!"

5. Discussion

The results of this study provide robust evidence in support of the previously limitedly explored relationship between Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock price performance. The remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9930697 further substantiates the notion that the skills and knowledge acquired through military technologies education may contribute significantly to the upward momentum of Microsoft's stock price. It appears that when it comes to the stock market, knowledge truly is power, and a soldier with a degree in hand is a formidable force indeed.

The insights gleaned from the literature review, including the speculative narratives that blur the lines between military and technological domains, offer intriguing parallels to our findings. Not only do the results corroborate Smith and Doe's (2015) demonstration of a positive association between engineering and technology degrees and stock prices of leading tech companies, but they also extend these correlations to a field that has traditionally not been considered in the context of stock performance. This suggests that the impact of educational disciplines on financial indicators may be even more wide-ranging and unexpected than previously thought.

The calculated r-squared value of 0.9861875 indicates that a substantial 98.62% of the variability in Microsoft's stock price can indeed be explained by changes in the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences. It's as if the stock market is saying, "I may be volatile, but when it comes to military technology knowledge, I'm a stickler for precision!" This further underscores the strong predictive power of these educational achievements on the financial performance of a tech giant.

The statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01 provides compelling evidence against the null hypothesis, affirming the existence of a significant relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock price. This statistical significance is not to be taken lightly; it's as rare as

an economist's joke that lands and as impactful as a good dad joke at a family gathering.

The visualization of the correlation in Fig. 1 portrays a clear and striking linear relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock price. Indeed, the stock price seems to be marching in step with the number of degrees awarded, highlighting the coherent and powerful connection that exists between these seemingly unrelated entities. Much like a soldier who knows how to invest, this relationship is strategic, impactful, and not to be trifled with.

In conclusion, the findings of this study contribute to the growing body of knowledge on the unexpected and intriguing connections between educational disciplines and stock performance. The correlation between Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock price underscores the need for further exploration of the influences of diverse fields of study on financial markets. Like a good dad joke, the impact of military technologies education on stock prices may be unexpected, but it certainly leaves a lasting impression.

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, the results of this study provide compelling evidence for the intriguing and unexpected relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock price. It appears that the market has a preference for individuals with both military expertise and tech-savviness, creating a synergy that seems to march in tandem with the stock price. It's almost as if the market is saying, "I like my software developers with a side of strategic deployment knowledge!"

The strength of the correlation coefficient and the high explanatory power of the regression model signal a robust association between these seemingly disparate realms. It's as if Microsoft's stock price and military technology education have formed a powerful alliance, reinforcing the notion that knowledge really is ammunition in the battlefield of the stock market.

Given the undeniable statistical significance and the clear visual representation of the relationship, it seems that the battlefield and the trading floor may have more in common than meets the eye. This connection could even inspire a new type of investment strategy: "Buy low, sell high, and always be prepared for a surprise attack!"

In light of these findings, it can be concluded that the association between Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Microsoft's stock performance is not merely a fluke but a significant phenomenon that merits attention from both investors and educators. Perhaps it's time to consider adding a military strategy course to the curriculum for aspiring stockbrokers and tech entrepreneurs alike – after all, who wouldn't want to graduate as a certified "stock commando"?

In the end, it is safe to say that no further research in this area is needed, as we have successfully uncovered the unexpected link between military technologies education and Microsoft's stock price. It appears that when it comes to the market, sometimes the best defense really is a good offense - armed with data and dad jokes.