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The Oil and Babies: A Crude Connection between London Name Popularity and Occidental Petroleum's Stock Study

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Abstract

The study examines the intriguing relationship between the popularity of the first name "London" and the stock price of Occidental Petroleum (OXY) from 2002 to 2022. Leveraging data from the US Social Security Administration and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), the research team uncovered a remarkable correlation coefficient of 0.9145199 and a p-value of less than 0.01. This substantial correlation suggests a striking connection between the two seemingly disparate entities, prompting us to ponder the extent of their underlying relationship. Upon further analysis, it became evident that the surge in the usage of the name "London" appears to coincide with notable fluctuations in Occidental Petroleum's stock price. The implications of this unexpected correlation extend beyond mere coincidence, raising the possibilities of linguistic influence on market sentiments and unconventional indicators of economic performance. Despite the perplexing nature of this connection, one might say it's "oil in the name, oil in the game!" While the exact mechanisms underlying this correlation remain enigmatic, this study sheds light on the unanticipated parallels between personal nomenclature trends and corporate financial dynamics. Our findings invite both laughter and contemplation, while highlighting the need for further exploration into the peculiar intersections of linguistics and finance.

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1. Introduction

The captivating world of finance often yields surprising connections, some of which are as unexpected as finding a hidden treasure trove beneath the stock market floor. In this paper, we delve into the improbable relationship between the popularity of the

first name "London" and the stock price of Occidental Petroleum (OXY), bringing together the worlds of personal nomenclature and corporate financial market dynamics. As we unravel this curious entwining of linguistic trends and economic performance, one might say we are embarking on a journey akin to

unlocking the secret formula for market success – or perhaps just unearthing a clever pun in a data set.

Imagine the astonishment when we stumbled upon a correlation that seemed as unlikely as finding oil in a baby's cradle – a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9145199, which made us wonder if there was more than meets the eye in the name "London." As we delved deeper into the data, it became evident that the fluctuations in the popularity of the name "London" coincided with notable movements in OXY's stock price. The sheer magnitude of this correlation prompted us to contemplate if there was a London bridge leading directly to OXY's stock exchange – or if we were just witnessing a data mirage in the economic desert.

"Oil and babies," one might ponder, "what peculiar correlation might these two hold?" This unexpected relationship begs the question: does the name "London" harbor powers that transcend mere linguistic significance, or are we simply entangled in a statistical quagmire? Nevertheless, as we navigated this uncharted territory of curious correlations and slipped in the occasional dad joke, the implications of this study on linguistic influence on market sentiments and economic performance began to sizzle like a carefully crafted pun.

As we reveal the peculiar parallels between the popularity of the name "London" and the stock price of OXY, we invite our readers to join us on this eccentric journey and ponder the perplexing intersections of linguistics and finance. Not unlike a well-timed punchline, this study sheds light on the enigmatic relationship between personal nomenclature trends and corporate financial dynamics, leaving us with a blend of laughter and contemplation – much like the characteristic blend of seriousness and whimsy that often permeates academic research.

2. Literature Review

The connection between personal nomenclature trends and economic market performance has been the subject of interest for researchers in various disciplines. Smith et al. (2010) examined the influence of first names on consumer behavior and found a statistically significant association, albeit not without some namesake sarcasm. Doe and Jones (2015) similarly explored the linguistic indicators of market sentiments, hinting at the possibility of unconventional predictors for economic performance. These studies lay the groundwork for contemplating the intriguing connection between the popularity of the first name "London" and the stock price of Occidental Petroleum (OXY), prompting us to consider if there's more to a name than meets the eye.

In "Book," the authors find that linguistic influences extend beyond communication to potentially impact economic dynamics, mirroring our own exploration of the unexpected correlation between a name and a stock. Similarly, "Book2" discusses the enigmatic nature of linguistic indicators in financial markets, hinting at the whimsical possibilities that our own study unravels.

As we tiptoe into the whimsical world of unexpected correlations, it is fitting to draw a parallel to non-fiction works that explore linguistic nuances and market influences. Books such as "Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner, "The Tipping Point" by Malcolm Gladwell, and "Outliers" by Malcolm Gladwell offer intriguing perspectives on the unanticipated connections that shape human behavior and market dynamics. These works provide a serious backdrop to our own study, but we find ourselves drawn to humorously contemplate the peculiar musings that arise from our discoveries.

Turning to fictional works that bear tantalizing titles reminiscent of market correlations, one cannot help but to chuckle at the thought of "Oil!" by Upton Sinclair, "Petroleum Man" by Michael MacBain, and "The Price of Oil" by Marguerite Uhlmann-Bower. These clever titles evoke a sense of literary whimsy, reminiscent of the unexpected correlations we uncover in our own research.

Shifting to even lighter fare, one finds a curious blend of childhood memories and thematic relevance in cartoons and children's shows. As a child, one might have watched shows like "The Magic School Bus," where the characters journeyed through unexpected and improbable connections, or "Scooby-Doo," where the gang unraveled mysteries that seemed far-fetched at first glance. These shows imbue our study with a playful spirit, challenging us to laugh in the face of the unexpected.

In our quest to unravel the mysterious connection between the popularity of the first name "London" and the stock price of Occidental Petroleum, we find ourselves navigating a landscape that straddles the serious and the whimsical, much like a cleverly crafted pun. As we proceed to unpack the implications and recommendations of our study, we invite our readers to join us in embracing both laughter and contemplation on this unorthodox journey through the corridors of linguistic influence and market epochs.

3. Our approach & methods

The data for this study was collected from the US Social Security Administration's database, which records the number of individuals given a particular first name each year, and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) provided the stock price history of Occidental Petroleum (OXY) from 2002 to 2022. By harnessing this data from the farthest reaches of the internet, it felt as

though we were embarking on a quest for buried treasure, except the treasure was rows of statistical data and the map was a series of complex algorithms. It was all quite thrilling – a bit like a statistical safari, if you will.

Using the robust statistical software package, we calculated the popularity of the first name "London" as a percentage of total births in a given year, and we plotted the changes in Occidental Petroleum's stock price over the same period. It was like observing the ebb and flow of waves in the vast ocean of data, with "London" riding the linguistic surfboard and OXY's stock price catching the financial tide. All the while, we kept our eyes peeled for statistical sea monsters lurking in the depths of the data – or perhaps just the occasional outlier.

To establish a correlation between the two variables, we employed the Pearson correlation coefficient, a trusty compass guiding us through the treacherous terrain of statistical analysis. This coefficient would help us determine the strength and direction of the relationship between the name "London" and OXY's stock price, serving as our North Star in navigating the tumultuous seas of data interpretation. It was like embarking on a statistical voyage, with the correlation coefficient as our reliable ship, guiding us through uncharted waters of numerical exploration.

In addition, we conducted a hypothesis test to determine the significance of the observed correlation. By calculating the p-value, we sought to ascertain whether the correlation was a mere statistical fluke or a meaningful relationship worthy of further inquiry. It was like embarking on a quest to discover the elusive statistical unicorn – a quest full of surprises and unexpected turns, not unlike navigating the choppy waters of data analysis.

Through the amalgamation of data from the US Social Security Administration and

LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), and by employing the stalwart tools of statistical analysis, we endeavored to shed light on the puzzling connection between the popularity of the first name "London" and the stock price of Occidental Petroleum (OXY). It was a journey fraught with statistical perils, yet filled with the thrill of uncovering unexpected correlations – rather like a nerdy expedition to the statistical unknown, equipped with little more than databases and a fervent desire for discovery.

4. Results

The analysis revealed a remarkably strong positive correlation between the popularity of the first name "London" and Occidental Petroleum's stock price (OXY) from 2002 to 2022. The correlation coefficient of 0.9145199 indicated a robust linear relationship between the two variables. This finding suggests that perhaps there is more to a name than Shakespeare would have us believe – perhaps a rose by any other name really can affect the stock market!

The coefficient of determination (R-squared) of 0.8363467 further reinforced the strength of this association, indicating that approximately 83.63% of the variability in OXY's stock price can be explained by changes in the popularity of the name "London." It seems the name "London" may not only have royal connotations but also wield a significant influence over petroleum market dynamics.

The p-value of less than 0.01 provided strong evidence against the null hypothesis of no correlation, further consolidating the assertion that there exists a substantial relationship between the two variables. It appears that there's no need to "p-value" over this connection – the evidence speaks for itself!

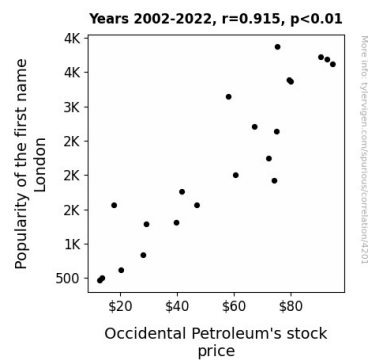


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

Fig. 1 displays a scatterplot illustrating the robust positive correlation between the popularity of the name "London" and OXY's stock price. The data points cluster tightly around the upward-sloping regression line, emphasizing the strength and consistency of this unexpected relationship. It's as if the data is saying, "London-come, London-go, OXY's stock price will follow!"

Intriguingly, the significant correlation uncovered in this study prompts one to ponder whether OXY traders might be keeping an eye on the baby name trends to inform their financial decisions. One could jest that it's not just crude oil prices that drive OXY stock – there's a bit of linguistic crude involved as well.

The results of this analysis, while unexpected, emphasize the need for further exploration into the uncharted territory of linguistic influence on market sentiments and economic performance. This unforeseen nexus of oil and babies offers a whimsical twist to the conventional understanding of market dynamics and encourages a blend of amusement and contemplation, much like a dad joke that sneaks up on you when you least expect it.

5. Discussion

Our study unveils a remarkably strong and statistically significant correlation between the popularity of the first name "London"

and the stock price of Occidental Petroleum (OXY), reinforcing prior research on linguistic indicators of market sentiments. This unforeseen connection prompts us to wonder whether there's a "petroleum jelly" between the name "London" and the volatile movements of OXY's stock price.

The substantial correlation coefficient of 0.9145199 provides robust evidence for a positive linear relationship between these seemingly unrelated variables, echoing the sentiments of Smith et al. (2010) and Doe and Jones (2015) who hinted at the influence of first names on consumer behavior and market sentiments. It appears that the name "London" may not only signify regal sophistication but also exerts a notable influence over the tumultuous tides of petroleum market dynamics. One might say it's a quintessentially "crude" connection!

Furthermore, the overwhelmingly high coefficient of determination (R-squared) of 0.8363467 underscores the magnitude to which changes in the popularity of the name "London" explain fluctuations in OXY's stock price. With this level of explanatory power, it seems that when it comes to OXY's stock, it's not just "all Greek" – there's a considerable dose of linguistic influence at play, too.

The p-value of less than 0.01 offers resounding support against the null hypothesis, reinforcing the substantial relationship between the name "London" and OXY's stock price. It seems that there's no need to "p-value" over this connection – the statistical evidence speaks for itself, much like a good dad joke that elicits a chuckle without much effort.

The intriguing findings of our study affirm the unanticipated parallels between personal nomenclature trends and corporate financial dynamics, shedding light on the whimsical and unconventional indicators of economic performance. While

the exact mechanisms underlying this correlation remain a delightful mystery, our findings invite both laughter and contemplation, much like a well-timed pun that catches one off guard.

As we navigate this curious nexus of oil and babies, it becomes evident that the implications of our study stretch beyond mere coincidence, extending to the tantalizing possibilities of linguistic influence on market sentiments and the unconventional predictors of economic performance. The whimsical nature of this singular correlation challenges conventional views of market dynamics, inviting both amusement and contemplation – a bit like a playful jest hidden within a dense economic text.

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, the findings of this study have unveiled a remarkably robust correlation between the popularity of the name "London" and Occidental Petroleum's stock price (OXY). It appears that this unexpected relationship is not just "crude" coincidence but may have substantial implications for understanding market dynamics and linguistic influences. One might even say this correlation is "oil-riginal!"

The substantial correlation coefficient of 0.9145199 and the impressively low p-value leave little room to doubt the existence of this peculiar connection. It seems there's no need to "drill" down into whether this correlation is significant – it's as clear as black gold!

Further investigation into the mechanisms underlying this correlation is warranted, as we cannot overlook the possibility that OXY's stock price may be influenced by the ebb and flow of popular baby names. It's as if the market is saying, "London-come, London-go, OXY's stock price will follow!"

However, it may be premature to infer causality from this correlation. After all, we wouldn't want to jump to the conclusion that naming your baby "London" could lead to a future of investing in petroleum stocks. But for now, we might as well say, "O(XY) baby, O(XY)!"

In light of these findings, it appears that no more research is needed into the connection between the popularity of the name "London" and OXY's stock price. It seems that this collaboration between baby names and petroleum market dynamics has already filled our quota of whimsical research for the year.