The Insider Scoop: Money Stuff Articles and Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria's Stock Price Dance

Catherine Hamilton, Alice Taylor, Gregory P Todd

Center for Sciences

This study delves into the relationship between the "Money Stuff" articles on insider trading on Bloomberg and the stock price of Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA). While financial analysts are often viewed as serious and uptight, we wanted to bring a bit of levity to the world of finance. Leveraging data from Bloomberg and LSEG Analytics, we set out to uncover whether there was a tangible link between the humorous musings of columnist Matt Levine in "Money Stuff" and the gyrations of BBVA's stock price. The results we found were nothing short of comically compelling. Our analysis revealed a correlation coefficient of 0.9040128 and a statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01 for the period spanning 2014 to 2023. In other words, there seems to be a strong relationship between the witty banter in Levine's articles and the movements in BBVA's stock price. To put it simply, it appears that while some may consider insider trading a serious matter, the stock market may have a sense of humor after all. So, the next time someone asks you why the stock price of BBVA changed, you can confidently reply, "It's all in the Money Stuff!

Introduction

The world of finance often conjures images of starched suits, stern faces, and stock tickers flashing numbers faster than a particle physicist can jot down a quantum equation. However, in the midst of all the seriousness and number crunching, there exists a beacon of levity – "Money Stuff" articles on Bloomberg by the incomparable Matt Levine. In these articles, Levine masterfully melds wit with astute financial insight, creating an oasis of humor in the desert of monetary musings. It is within this unconventional realm of financial discourse that we set out to uncover a connection that is as tantalizing as a freshly baked pie chart – the relationship between "Money Stuff" articles about insider trading and the stock price dance of Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria, or as we like to affectionately refer to it, the BBVA boogie.

Our aim in this whimsical expedition was to blend the worlds of financial analysis and entertainment, much like blending a fine wine with a classic comedy – a pairing as surprising as a black swan event in a field of white papers. Leveraging the wealth of data buried within Bloomberg and LSEG Analytics, we embarked on a statistical odyssey to ascertain whether there exists a harmony between the clever quips in "Money Stuff" and the jigs and jives of BBVA's stock price. After all, what could be more thrilling than discovering that the heartbeat of the stock market may be tuned to a comedic rhythm?

In this paper, we present our findings – a symphony of statistics, a ballet of regressions, and a delightful waltz through the world of financial humor. Our analysis uncovered a correlation coefficient that could make even the most stoic of statisticians crack a smile – a robust 0.9040128. Coupled with a p-value that was as small as a molecule of financial data, our results suggest a relationship between the musings of "Money Stuff" and the

fluctuations in BBVA's stock price that is as clear as a bar chart in a well-lit room. In simpler terms, it appears that there might be a hidden punchline to the enigma of insider trading and stock prices, like a punchline lurking at the end of a complex financial joke.

Through this research, we hope to inject a dash of humor into the often dour landscape of financial analysis. We also aim to shed light on the quirky interplay between seemingly disparate elements in our quest to unravel the mysteries of the stock market. So, join us as we embark on this adventure into the nexus of finance and frivolity, where the only constants are unpredictability and a good sense of humor. As Matt Levine might say, "Let's march forth and make some joyful statistical noise!"

Review of existing research

The existing literature on the relationship between financial news articles and stock prices provides a foundation for understanding the potential impact of media content on market behavior. Smith, in "Financial Musings: A Comprehensive Analysis," illustrates the influence of media narratives on investor sentiment and subsequent stock price movements. Similarly, Doe's "Media Hype and Market Swipes" explores the link between media coverage of financial events and their effect on market dynamics, offering insight into the interconnectedness of media discourse and stock price fluctuations. Furthermore, Jones' work in "Insider Trading and Stock Reshuffling" delves into the intricate world of insider trading and its potential impact on stock prices, contributing to an understanding of the factors at play in market movements. Moving beyond conventional academic studies, non-fiction works such as "Flash Boys" by Michael Lewis and "The Big Short" by Michael Lewis provide captivating accounts of financial wheelings and dealings, offering a broader perspective on the multiple influences at play in stock market dynamics. On the fictional side, novels such as "The Bonfire of the Vanities" by Tom Wolfe and "American Psycho" by Bret Easton Ellis present satirical portrayals of the financial world, inviting readers to ponder the complexities and absurdities of high-stakes finance.

While the literature provides valuable insights, it is essential to recognize the interplay between financial news, stock prices, and popular culture. Memes such as "Bad Luck Brian" and "This Is Fine" have become emblematic of the unexpected and often humorous turns in life, mirroring the unpredictable nature of financial markets and the occasional perplexing reactions to market events.

Now, with our focus on the symbiotic relationship between "Money Stuff" articles on insider trading and the stock price of Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA), we aim to add a touch of whimsy to the scholarly discourse, much like a clown at a financial summit. Thus, we embark on a journey to merge financial analysis with comedic contemplation in our quest to uncover the merry antics of market trends and financial folly.

Procedure

In order to untangle the comedic web of insider trading articles and stock price, our research team embarked on a daring and, dare I say, hilarious journey of data collection and analysis. We gathered data from various sources, including the holy grail of financial wit – Bloomberg's "Money Stuff" articles, and paired it with stock price information for Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA) from 2014 to 2023, sourced primarily from Bloomberg and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv). Our method can be aptly summarized as a blend of statistical rigor and whimsy, much like trying to balance a budget while simultaneously concocting a financial dad joke.

To assess the relationship between the Money Stuff articles and BBVA's stock price, we started by meticulously tracking not just the number of articles mentioning insider trading, but also the frequency of puns, the snark level, and the abundance of financial jargon cleverly disguised as jests. To quantify the stock price movements, we engaged in a theatrical performance of data scraping and cleansing, ensuring that the price data was as pure as a well-aged bottle of financial speculation.

Once the data was assembled, we employed a truly revolutionary mix of statistical techniques that would make even the most conservative of econometricians do a double take. Our first step involved calculating the correlation coefficient between the frequency of insider trading-related Money Stuff articles and the daily stock prices of BBVA. This involved a series of calculations that were as complex as a financial derivative and as intricate as a Fibonacci sequence hidden in an earnings report.

Following this, we subjected the data to a rigorous regression analysis, which involved fitting models as elegant as a welltailored suit and as resilient as the stock market after a turbulent trading day. Our regression models not only considered the overall tone and content of the Money Stuff articles but also factored in the daily stock price movements, incorporating a level of financial comedy nuance that could rival a stand-up routine in a packed auditorium.

To ensure the robustness of our findings, we performed a battery of diagnostic tests, scrutinizing our models with as much intensity as an overzealous accountant scrutinizes expense claims. This allowed us to confidently affirm the statistical significance of our results, offering insights as captivating as a Shakespearean soliloquy and as enlightening as a tell-all financial memoir.

In summary, our methodology combined the precision of a quantitative approach with the whimsy of financial humor, creating a blend as unexpected as a punchline at an earnings call. Our aim was not just to uncover correlations, but to offer a glimpse into the exuberant world where finance and mirth intersect, where the only currency is laughter and the only trade is in smiles. So, join us as we delve into the delightful realm of financial whimsy, where the results are as captivating as a well-timed joke and as revealing as a candid interview with a CEO after earnings season.

Findings

The analysis of the relationship between Bloomberg Money Stuff articles about insider trading and Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria's stock price (BBVA) from 2014 to 2023 yielded a correlation coefficient of 0.9040128, with an r-squared value of 0.8172392 and a p-value less than 0.01. The results indicate a remarkably strong and statistically significant association between the whimsical insights of "Money Stuff" and the financial rollercoaster that is BBVA's stock price. It's as if every pun in Levine's articles was echoing through the stock market, causing waves of laughter and price changes simultaneously.

Notably, Figure 1 depicts a scatterplot that beautifully encapsulates the harmonious dance between Money Stuff and BBVA stock price. It's almost as if the data points were doing the salsa, perfectly synchronized to the rhythm of Levine's tongue-in-cheek commentaries.

In essence, our findings leave little room for doubt: there's a correlation more compelling than a Shakespearean tragedy unfolding in the stock market. So, the next time someone questions the link between financial humor and stock prices, you can confidently respond with, "Oh, it's all in the Money Stuff!"



Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The robustness of these results is not to be underestimated. They stand as a testament to the unexpected interplay between financial discourse and market dynamics, a relationship that's as enigmatic as the quest to find a statistically significant result in an ocean of noisy data. It's as if the data were whispering jokes to each other, and the stock prices were merely responding with laughter.

These findings not only shed light on the peculiar marriage of financial humor and market movements but also open the door to a new way of interpreting and perhaps predicting stock price fluctuations. Who knew that behind all the market buzz and trading drama lurked the subtle comedy of Bloomberg's Money Stuff?

Our results offer a fresh perspective on the often serious and intense domain of financial analysis. They invite us to ponder the untold anecdotes hidden within stock charts and financial reports, suggesting that perhaps the stock market isn't so serious after all. It's as though every stock trade carries with it a punchline waiting to be discovered, much like uncovering a statistically significant result in a sea of random variation.

In closing, the data not only speak for themselves but seem to be cracking a few jokes along the way. The connection between Money Stuff and BBVA's stock price is no mere coincidence; it's the punchline to a financial case of mistaken identity.

Discussion

The results of our study provide compelling evidence of a substantial relationship between Bloomberg's Money Stuff articles and the stock price of Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA). Our findings add a touch of whimsy to the often staid world of financial analysis, akin to discovering a clown nose in a sea of business suits.

Leveraging data that would make even Shakespeare blush with envy, our correlation coefficient of 0.9040128 and a statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01 dance hand in hand with prior research. This echoes Smith's elucidation of media narratives and investor sentiment, showing that when it comes to stock prices, the pen might just be mightier than the sword. Moreover, our discoveries resonate with Doe's exploration of media coverage and market dynamics, affirming that the influence of financial news on stock price movements is not a mere fairy tale. It's almost as if our findings are the Cinderella slipper that perfectly fits the existing literature.

In a similar vein, Jones' work on insider trading and stock reshuffling has found harmony with our results, as if they were a pair of lovebirds chirping away in the scientific cacophony of financial analysis. It's as if our data is telling us, "Don't be a statistic - join the scientific party and boogie with us!"

The synergy between "Money Stuff" articles and the jazzy movements of BBVA's stock price is nothing short of comically compelling. The data seems to be pulling off the ultimate magic trick, making statistics and stock prices perform a delightful duet that would leave even the most serious of financial analysts chuckling with glee.

In essence, our findings not only corroborate prior research but also add a playful pirouette to the discourse on financial news and stock prices. It's as if our results are whispering, "Who says financial analysis can't have a sense of humor? It's all in the data!" So, the next time you ponder the enigma of market movements, remember - there's more to finance than numbers; there's a punchline waiting to be discovered!

Conclusion

In conclusion, our study has unearthed a connection between the whimsical world of "Money Stuff" and the boogie of Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria's stock price that is as undeniable as the allure of a data-driven joke. The correlation coefficient of 0.9040128 practically waltzed its way into our statistical hearts, leaving us no choice but to acknowledge its presence with a chuckle and a tip of the statistical hat.

The p-value, lounging comfortably beneath the threshold of 0.01, adds a touch of statistical drama to this comedic saga, akin to a perfectly timed punchline in a stand-up routine. It's as though the data were conspiring to tell us, "There's no such thing as a free lunch or a stock price without a sense of humor!"

Our findings, much like a good joke, offer an unexpected twist to the narrative of financial analysis. They suggest that behind the serious facade of stock prices and insider trading, there exists a whimsical undercurrent, a hidden symphony of jest and jive.

It's safe to say that this research has added a dash of mirth to the traditionally solemn halls of financial discourse. As the curtain falls on this statistical spectacle, we find ourselves waving goodbye to further investigations into this humorous pairing. After all, in the words of Matt Levine, "All good statistical puns have already been taken. They just lack statistical significance!"

No further research is needed in this area; the connection between Money Stuff and BBVA's stock price has been unraveled, leaving us with a statistical punchline that resonates through the financial cosmos. It's time to bid adieu to this comedic grace note in the symphony of finance and move on to our next research endeavor, which will hopefully be equally entertaining and enlightening.