

# COST Action

## Progress Review at 24 months

### (14/09/2020 to 14/09/2022)

## **CA19130: Fintech and Artificial Intelligence in Finance - Towards a transparent financial industry**

This report is submitted by the Action Rapporteur in fulfilment of the requirements of the rules for COST Action Management, Monitoring and Final Assessment and is confidential to the COST Association and the Management Committee of the Action.



## Summaries

### The main aim and objective of the Action is to

establish a large and interconnected community across academia, public institutions and industry focusing on Financial Technology and Artificial Intelligence, improving transparency in financial services, especially in and through FinTech, in financial modelling and investment performance evaluation

### During its first two years the Action progressed the achievement of this as described below

The COST Action on Fintech and AI in Finance has brought together an incredibly diverse network and we have witnessed an enormous growth of our Action to 260 interdisciplinary researchers from 49 countries, with 39 of those countries being European COST countries, to become one of the largest and most active COST Actions in Europe. This diversity of the network ensures that the research is inclusive and addresses the needs of a global audience.

The academic achievements of the network are impressive. The COST Action has organized 150 research conferences with more than 6,000 participants and 300 distinguished speakers. These events have provided a platform for researchers to present their latest findings, share ideas and collaborate on new projects.

The network's publications have been cited more than 10,000 times, demonstrating the impact and relevance of the research being conducted within the network.

The COST Action on Fintech and AI in Finance is also focused on promoting collaboration and knowledge sharing between researchers and practitioners in the field. By fostering a close working relationship between academia and industry, the network aims to ensure that the latest research findings are put into practice, which is not only beneficial to the researchers, but also to the wider community.

The objectives of the COST Action were to advance the field of fintech and AI in finance in research, education, and practice. To achieve this, the network has launched many research projects, which are focused on specific areas of fintech and AI in finance. These projects provide opportunities for researchers to collaborate and share their expertise, leading to new insights and discoveries in the field. The COST Action has also produced a very large number of publications and other output, which have been widely distributed and disseminated to the wider community.

The COST Action has promoted diversity and collaboration by using STSMs, virtual grants and many initiatives to encourage researchers from different backgrounds to work together, creating an inclusive environment for all.

In addition to these activities, the COST Action has also launched initiatives to promote knowledge transfer and collaboration. For example, it has established a number of working groups and task forces, which are focused on specific areas of fintech and AI in finance.

Overall, the COST Action on Fintech and AI in Finance has made significant progress in advancing the field of fintech and AI in finance in research, education, and practice. The network has brought together a diverse group of researchers, who have collaborated on a wide range of projects and initiatives, and have produced a significant amount of output which have been widely disseminated and have achieved a high citation count. The COST Action is also focused on promoting collaboration and knowledge sharing between researchers and practitioners in the field, to ensure that the latest research findings are put into practice, which is not only beneficial to the researchers, but also to the wider community.

### The Rapporteur summarised the Action's major outcomes, impacts and successes as follows

The FinTech and AI in Finance Action has demonstrably been highly successful in nurturing the field, and

supporting the development of a strong community of data scientists, economic and social science experts and practitioners, and a wide array of stakeholders, including regulators and policy-makers from 49 countries. The programme has made impressive progress throughout its first 24 months, generating over 100 peer-reviewed publications, numerous cross-national collaborative initiatives, and supporting a sizeable cohort of early career and other academic researchers.

The Action has furthermore supported the development of a vibrant and diverse scientific community through a significant number of initiatives, not excluding academic and practitioner workshops, conferences, meetups, 'datathons' and other activities aiming to engage researchers and practitioners associated with FinTech.

Operating within a highly challenging field, the COST Action FinTech and AI in Finance appears to already play a significant role in promoting the state of the art in financial data science and actively support developments in Explainable and Interpretable AI, a field which is crucially important in financial services, especially with reference to end-user and citizen privacy, personal data custody and associated regulatory policy developments in Europe and beyond.

Of critical significance is the Action's contribution to involving, informing and educating the wider stakeholder population, especially regulators and policy decision-makers around many nascent but highly impactful technological developments in DeFi, cryptocurrencies, decentralised assets and related innovations. Of similar importance has been the Action's contribution in establishing frameworks and platforms for hosting and sharing datasets for use-case development and testing, a contribution of very high impact, particularly due to the longevity it introduces.

Overall, the COST FinTech and AI in Finance Action has so far made impressive headways in mobilising a robust FinTech community and progressing the State of the Art in FinTech-related data science and successfully disseminating a large body of associated and highly consequential research.

### **The Action Chair has described their plans for addressing issues identified in their report as follows**

We are pleased to report that our Action, COST Action CA19130 Fintech and Artificial Intelligence, has experienced significant growth and success. Our collective output and achievements have exceeded our initial objectives, and we do not currently see any issues that could potentially endanger our progress. In the grant period, we aim to complete the majority of our objectives in GP3, and we are excited to use GP4 to extend and improve upon our work, as well as to incorporate new challenges and research topics that have arisen as a result of our research efforts.

The only exception is MoU Objective 6. Due to the changing regulatory landscape in Europe, enhanced privacy, data protection and regulatory requirements, it is not possible anymore to proceed with this objective. We are proposing to replace it with a related objective, with a substantially higher impact and importance for the purposes and outcome of our COST CA19130 Action.

### **The Rapporteur summarised the Actions's plans for addressing issues identified in the report**

The plan proposed is satisfactory, also given the sizeable progress recorded throughout the lifespan of the project.

## Achievement of MoU objectives, deliverables and additional outputs/ achievements

### MoU objectives

The Action reported progress of the following objectives.

MoU objective	Level of progress	Rapporteur assessment
To develop blended approaches to evaluate innovative financial services and their providers, especially in the FinTech domain, building on Machine Learning methods, focussing on prediction (early warning) of operational fragility, fraudulent and illegal behaviour ranging from appropriation of loaned funds to money-laundering activities.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED
The development of conceptual and methodological tools for establishing when black-box models are admissible and, to the extent possible, making them more transparent and/or replacing them with interpretable and explainable models.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED
To receive input from regulators and practitioners' communities and to validate results with regard to increasing transparency of artificial intelligence applications.	51 - 75%	CONFIRMED
Pruning and improvement of the vast array of performance attribution models by contributing to the development of methodologies for reducing the false discovery rate in financial research and applied financial investment management.	26 - 50%	CONFIRMED
Disseminate to the public and share with regulators the results on investment product performance evaluation.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED
Creation of the first European platform comparing the out-of-sample performance of banks' investment products, insurance-linked investment products and asset management products available to the general public.	51 - 75%	NOT confirmed
Create an excellent network of researchers in Europe with lasting collaboration beyond the lifetime of the Action.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED
Bringing technological, quantitative and economic researchers together, to tackle future research that can only be done in an interdisciplinary setting, and getting actively involved in the blockchain and FinTech communities across Europe, to constantly monitor developments, get input and disseminate results.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED
Bridging the gap between practitioners from the finance industry, academics and regulators by setting up a common knowledge exchange platform.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED
Transfer knowledge in terms of expertise, scientific tools and human resources across the different disciplines and between academia and industry.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED
Establish an inclusive community of researchers on methodological and technological themes in Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence, to promote Early Career Investigators and increase their visibility.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED
Overcome the siloing of research topics by country and achieve geographical and demographical diversity, with special attention to COST Inclusiveness Target countries.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED

Prepare competitive European researchers for a fruitful career in an international environment through intensive use of Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) and joint educational programs with industrial partners.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED
Maximize the job opportunities for PhD students and Early Career Investigators.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED
Disseminate the results of the Action's activities to the scientific community, European institutions and to the general public.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED
Significantly improve the gender equality in the fields of the Action.	76 - 100%	CONFIRMED

#### Rapporteur assessment of the level of progress reported by the Action.

The Rapporteur did not confirm the level of progress reported by the Action for the following objectives as explained below.

MoU objective	Level of progress reported	Rapporteur's explanation
Creation of the first European platform comparing the out-of-sample performance of banks' investment products, insurance-linked investment products and asset management products available to the general public.	51 - 75%	Despite providing a reasoned level of alignment, the team is proposing a new objective in replacement of the original set in the MOU; a decision as to whether the new objective is suitable or not, does not fully fall into the reviewer's remit. Relevant funder agreement will need to be sought to ascertain progress. Having said that, the reported progress and documentation does fall in line with the newly proposed objective in both scope and level of achievement (51-75% as reported).

#### Action explanation regarding MoU objectives reported as 25% or less achieved

The table below shows the Action's explanation and the Rapporteur's analysis thereof for any MoU objectives that the Action reported as 25% or less achieved.

MoU Objective that was reported as 25% or less achieved	Action's explanation	Rapporteur's analysis
The Action did not report any objectives as 25% or less achieved.		

#### General Assessment of MoU objectives

The level of ambition of the MoU objectives is **Medium**.  
**Overall, most MoU Objectives are progressing appropriately.**

## Deliverables

The table below shows, for each deliverable, the delivery status reported by the Action and the Rapporteur's comment.

Deliverable	Month deliverable due	Delivery status	Rapporteur Comment
A database which contains pre-ICO documentation and post-ICO performance (ROI and lifespan)	24	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	There is solid indication of progress to the direction outlined. Access to data could be more straightforward as the landing page provided does require login - there are secondary links provided, however attempting to signup to the Data Platform via GitHub does not work.
A database which contains data on crowdfunding/P2P platform features useful for rating platform integrity and to predict fraud	24	Delivered	There are five such databases and the documentation provided offers a comprehensive guided description. The quality of the provision is suitable and commensurate with relevant MOU and deliverable requirements.
Discussion papers (DP) on the methodology for evaluating/rating ICOs and crowdfunding/P2P platforms and for detection/early warning about fraud/illegal behaviour with emphasis on the application of AI tools	36	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	The Action has delivered a large number of academic publication outputs so far and there is solid indication of planning a significant number of forthcoming meetings to that effect. It is therefore expected that the deliverable will be complete by the end of this Action.
A position paper and roadmap on mitigating risks connected with the increased use of digital assets	48	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	Given the evidenced substantial research that the Action has delivered so far, the plan outlined is sufficient to warrant completion of the Position Paper and risk mitigation roadmap.
A discussion paper for possible approaches to building a statistically valid back-testing framework	24	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	The evidence provided demonstrates substantial research delivered so far, the plan outlined is sufficient to warrant completion of a discussion paper on back-testing. Sufficient evidence is also available to suggest regular meetings to that effect.
Methodological discussion paper on the design of stress tests for the evaluation of AI and ML models under shifting financial conditions to improve the robustness of models	48	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	The evidence provided demonstrates substantial AI/ML evaluation research was conducted towards the desired discussion paper; the progress outlined is sufficient to warrant completion before the end of the Action. Sufficient evidence is also available to suggest suitable datasets and other material for

			stress-tests is available.
Position papers, aimed at regulators and policy-makers, on methodology (with examples of formal criteria) for testing AI techniques in real-time	36	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	The breadth and scope of academic research and disseminated outputs indicates that position papers addressing regulatory and policy-making matters are well within the scope and timelines suggested. The schedules of Action meetings also testify to that effect.
Report on good examples and best practices for a transparent finance industry with guidelines to improve transparency	12	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	Some inconsistency is identified in this narrative, as the Action meeting mentioned (GP3 in Cluj-Napoca in February 2023) has taken place 12 months ago and thus dissemination should normally have already happened. More clarification is required as to the specific deliverable.
An internal database of collected (scraped) financial time series from exchanges and regional consolidation platforms optimised for accessibility to all partners	24	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	As is the case with DLV1, there is solid indication of progress to the direction outlined. Access to data could be more straightforward as the landing page provided does require login - there are secondary links provided, however attempting to signup to the Data Platform via GitHub does not work. Indeed the PII policies in the EU provide a convoluted space to navigate and this is a challenging task, as also indicated by significant efforts being placed on research for synthetic data modelling and generation.
Methodological discussion papers on AI models to generate “failed trials” of investment product producers and on quantitative strategies with the usage of the promising field of network data analysis	48	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	As in previous deliverables (see DLV6,7 for instance), the breadth and scope of academic research and disseminated outputs indicates that methodological discussion papers for failed trials are well within the scope and timelines suggested. A schedule for a specific Action meeting to address dissemination of these papers is also in place.
Four annual reports (for lay audience) distributed via local and national media	48	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	While significant indications exist to suggest progress in finalising the annual reports, and a relatively comfortable plan for public dissemination, more information could be made available (and pointers to files and materials in the submission) relating to contacting national media, and the Action plan and timeline for that dissemination, including more information on the format.

Key software (codes, packages) developed by each of the Working Groups in line with their objectives	48	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	There is a well-curated set of resources and codebase through Quantinar and Quantlet and all indications are that the DLV12 requirements will be straightforwardly met within the timeline suggested.
Handbook and/or wiki page describing potential approaches to tackle risk management issues related to blockchain assets and crowdfunding/P2P lending	36	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	More information and pointers to the right resources is required to demonstrate progress. It is unclear at what stage of development / delivery the handbook is at (for instance, drafts or delivery plans could be helpful in outlining this).
An edited volume containing scientific achievements of the Action (dummy text to delete)	48	Not delivered, but expected within 2 years after the end of the Action	This deliverable is largely down to an editorial effort leveraging work already carried out and including forthcoming outputs. The plan for dissemination and timeframe proposed is reasonable and information provided is sufficient. Since the Action well-advanced, the team should consider outlining and scoping this publication (edited volume) through, for instance, identifying themes and cross-cutting areas.
Strategy to engage stakeholders in the Action (including revisions in month 24 and 36)	6	Not delivered, but expected before end of Action	There is good indication for the development of a stakeholder strategy where also specific stakeholders are identified; it will be useful for relevant working groups to propose a specific engagement timeline, especially given the multinational nature and complexity of the Action.

## General Assessment of deliverables

The level of ambition of the deliverables is **medium**.  
 Overall, **most deliverables are progressing appropriately**.

## Additional outputs / achievements

### Co-authored Action publications

The Action reported 100 publications on the topic of the Action, co-authored by at least two Action participants from two countries participating in the Action. The full list of publications appears in Annex I.

The:

- **Quality** of the Action's co-authored publications is **very good**.  
Based on a review the significance and requirements of publication venues, the topics and methodologies covered and publication citation indices, the vast majority of peer-reviewed outputs provided here are of significant quality and indicate concrete contribution to the associated fields.
- **Significance** of the Action's co-authored publications is **excellent**.  
A review on the topics covered, novelty of approaches outlined and relevant citation metrics indicate high significance of the majority of peer-review publications provided in the list.
- **Relevance** to the Action of the Action's co-authored publications is **excellent**.  
The 100 publications range suitably across the entire thematic spectrum of the Action and address highly relevant topics in the FinTech AI space.
- **Quantity** of the Action's co-authored publications is **excellent**.  
There are 100 peer-reviewed publications as outputs of the Action, which rates exceptionally high. This is also a good reflection of the collaborative nature of the work, as the vast majority is multi-author (3 or more academics).

### Projects and proposals resulting from Action activities

The Action reported the following projects resulting from Action activities involving at least one Action participant.

Title	Main proposer name	Funder
Crypto Currencies and Nordic Youth	Roman Matkovskyy	Trans-national - This research has been provided via an academia-industry collaboration with Nasdaq.
Network-based credit risk models on P2p lending markets	Eduard Baumöhl	Trans-national - The research is jointly supported by the Czech Science Foundation and SNSF Lead Agency.
Blockchain and Fraud Detection	Joerg Osterrieder	Trans-national - SNF
Network-based credit risk models on P2P lending markets	Branka Hadji Misheva	Trans-national - SNSF Lead Agency
Digital Finance and Reinforcement Learning	Joerg Osterrieder	National
Narrative Digital Finance: a tale of structural breaks, bubbles & market narratives	Joerg Osterrieder	National
Blockchain	Joerg Osterrieder	National
DataInc - Intelligent Data Integration and Cleaning	Branka Hadji Misheva	National
IRTG 1792 extension 2022.10-2023.3	WK Härdle	National

XAI in credit risk management	Branka Hadji Misheva	National
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In addition the Action reported 10 proposals resulting from Action activities involving at least one Action participant, and for which the Action networking was necessary.

Relevance of the Action's proposals and/ or projects is **excellent**.

Quantity of the Action's proposals and/ or projects is **excellent**.

## Other outputs / achievements

The table below shows the other outputs / achievements.

Other Output / Achievement reported by Action	Significance of the output
<p>The Croatian team gave a contribution to the organisation of a COST FinAI event – International Scientific Conference Technology, Innovation and Stability: New Directions in Finance (TINFIN), May 5-6, 2022:</p> <p>The Conference, held in Zagreb and online, was organised by the Faculty of Economics and Business of the University of Zagreb, Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and COST Action - Fintech and Artificial Intelligence in Finance - Towards a Transparent Financial Industry. The Programme Committee and the Organising Committee of the Conference was formed dominantly by COST FinAI Action's participants, where special attention was payed to diversity regarding their gender and experience as well as inclusion of ITC. The event was devoted to topics of current challenges for the financial industry, focusing on fintech and artificial intelligence in finance, and the participants interested in more traditional framework of finance and economics also found their place. The event hosted several different activities, including:</p> <p>keynote session titled "Manifold destiny: Unsupervised machine learning for the social sciences" by professor James Ming Chen, Michigan State University, College of Law, USA;</p> <p>COST session with invited talk on "Overview of COST Action CA19130 FinAI - Fintech and Artificial Intelligence in Finance - Towards a Transparent Financial Industry" by the Action Chair – professor Jörg Osterrieder, Zurich University of Applied Sciences - ZHAW, School of Engineering, Switzerland / Bern Business School, Institute of Applied Data Science and Finance, Switzerland;</p> <p>meeting of the COST FinAI WG 2 with research presentations of WG 2 members;</p> <p>additional parallel tracks of research presentations of other authors; and</p> <p>panel discussion titled „FinTech in 2022 and beyond: Possibilities and new regulatory challenges“, gathering various stakeholders in the FinTech field, including industry professionals and regulators.</p> <p>The Conference hosted around 60 participants, coming from over 15 countries. Conference proceedings are planned to be published.</p>	High

Organised WG1 meeting at Rennes School of Business jointly with the Crypto-currency investment conference (April 2022) contributed to mutual knowledge exchange and knowledge dissemination as well as to a network extension and launching new projects.	Medium
Maria Moloney has been accepted onto the CEDPO AI WG, (Working Group for Artificial Intelligence of the Confederation of European Data Protection Organisations) based in Brussels. We will be working on advising policy regarding AI from the perspective of data protection.	Medium
We have expanded substantially our academic base on quantlet.com, founded by WG1 leader, Prof Härdle, HU Berlin. This is the foundation of hundreds of academic papers.	High
We have founded quantinar.com, WG1 leader, Prof Härdle, HU Berlin. This is the foundation of a substantial number of data sources, academic training and teaching materials and research dissemination.	High
We build up a research and development (R&D) relationship with the OTP, the largest Hungarian retail bank, in the area of financial services technologies that could involve a number of different research initiatives and activities. Some potential areas of focus could include:  - Blockchain application in financial business processes: This could involve researching and developing ways in which blockchain technology can be used to streamline and improve various financial processes, such as payments, clearing, and settlement.  - NFT (non-fungible token): This could involve researching and developing ways in which NFTs can be used to represent and trade digital assets, such as art, collectibles, and virtual real estate. Digital money, currencies, assets: This could involve researching and developing ways to use digital currencies and assets in financial transactions, including the use of central bank digital currencies (CBDCs) and stablecoins.  - Participating as members in the Hungarian Blockchain coalition: This involves joining a group of industry participants working together to advance the use of blockchain technology in Hungary, through the logistics workgroup, legal group and financial institutions group.	High
Condruta Mare, Alessandra Tanda, and Vasil Strat conceptualized a strategy for engaging stakeholders in the COST Action AI in Finance research network under consideration of the input from various COST members. The authors created a strategy based on the following building blocks:  Identifying key stakeholders: Under the premise of	High

engaging with stakeholders, it is important to identify who they are and what their interests and concerns are. This involved identifying relevant industry associations, financial regulators, academics, and other organizations involved in AI and finance with a European country focus.

**Building relationships:** Once key stakeholders have been identified, the strategy considers subsequent steps to build relationships. This involved reaching out to stakeholders directly and inviting them to participate in the network's activities and events, such as workshops, conferences, and webinars.

**Communication and Transparency:** Considerable emphasis was placed on open communication by providing regular updates on the network's activities and progress, as well as sharing research findings and publications. A central objective is to encourage stakeholders to ask questions and provide feedback.

**Creating opportunities for collaboration:** Creating opportunities for stakeholders to collaborate on research projects, pilot studies, and other activities was considered a crucial strategic pillar. This could include providing funding or other resources to support joint projects, or creating a platform where stakeholders can share data and collaborate on research.

Luisa Anderloni and Alessandra Tanda cooperated with other COST Action members from different EU countries to retrieve credit information on P2P lending platforms. In a first attempt, a process was developed to collect information on the portfolio of a platform. The following steps were executed:

**Gather publicly available information:** Initial data on a P2P lending platform was gathered by focusing on any publicly available information. This included information on the platform's website, such as loan origination statistics, default rates, and performance metrics. Other sources of publicly available information included regulatory filings, press releases, and financial reports.

**Analyze loan data:** In the following step, the collected publicly available information was analyzed to obtain preliminary insights into the loan data provided by the platform. The information accounted for loan amounts, interest rates, loan terms, borrower credit scores, and other metrics. Thereafter, it was further analyzed how the portfolio composition and diversification; the loan distribution across different loan types, terms, credit scores, and geographies differed across the sample.

**Compare with industry data:** The insights from the analysis were then compared with information from industry data; this information included average interest rates, default rates, loan terms, and other metrics for P2P lending platforms.

**Perform due diligence:** Once the information has been collected and analyzed, it is possible to perform due diligence on the platform. This will involve assessing the platform's risk management practices, its financial position, and its regulatory compliance.

Marcin Chlebus delivered a research seminar with the topic "XAI Tools in Model Selection for Business Decision Modeling" and discussed the use of explainable artificial intelligence (XAI) tools in the context of business decision modeling. XAI is a field of AI research that aims to develop algorithms and methods that can provide

High

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explanations for the decisions made by AI systems. In the context of business decision modeling, XAI tools are used to improve the transparency and interpretability of financial models, and to facilitate the model selection process.

The seminar covered several key topics, including:

- The limitations of traditional AI models, which may be opaque and difficult to interpret,
- The benefits of using XAI tools in business decision modeling, such as improved transparency and accountability,
- The impact of XAI on the model selection process is that it provides better understanding of the model's performance, its predictions, and its ability to generalize.
- Practical examples of how XAI tools are being used in industry for business decision modeling, such as fraud detection, credit risk assessment, and algorithmic trading. Furthermore, the seminar discovered significant practical examples of how XAI tools may not only improve transparency for financial models, but also impact the model selection process itself. These examples included, but were not limited to:
- Fraud detection, in which XAI can provide explanations for why a transaction was flagged as potentially fraudulent, allowing analysts to make more informed decisions about whether to pursue further investigation.
- Credit risk assessment, where XAI can provide insights into the factors that are most important in determining a borrower's creditworthiness.
- Algorithmic trading, in which XAI can explain why a particular trade was executed, allowing traders to make more informed decisions about which trades to execute in the future and improve risk management processes.

We constructed an ICO database as part of the published work from the COST Action members Karimov Bedil and Wójcik Piotr (2021), (<https://doi.org/10.3389/frai.2021.718450>). The ICO database was constructed as a comprehensive and user-friendly tool for researchers in order to enhance future research efforts in the area.

The database includes public information on the respective ICO, such as the name, the date it was conducted, the amount of money raised, the tokens being sold, and the team behind the ICO. To construct the database, the following steps were taken:

**Data gathering:** Data was collected on all the ICOs that have been conducted or are currently in the process of being conducted. The information included the name of the ICO, the date it was conducted, the amount of money raised, the tokens being sold, and the team behind the ICO.

**Data organization:** The data was organized into a logical format that is easy to navigate. This included creating categories for different types of information, such as date, amount raised, and team.

**Database creation:** The database management system, was based on MySQL to adequately store the collected data. This will allow for easy searching and filtering of the data.

High

<p>Database population: The collected data was inserted by several COST members into the database and checked for accuracy and consistency.</p> <p>User interface creation: The user interface was designed to include a search function and the ability to filter the data by different categories in order to make it appealing for users to quickly navigate within the tool.</p> <p>Update procedures: Regular updates of the database with new ICOs are conducted to ensure that the data remains accurate and up-to-date.</p>	
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<p>Alessandra Tanda currently leads an interactive database project with several COST Action researchers from Portugal to collect and organize information on the past fees and price performance of the most traded ETFs in Europe. The project is currently in the development phase, with a focus on using text mining techniques to extract information from Key Investor Information Documents (KIDs) of European ETFs. This information includes details about the ETF's performance, fees, and risks, which will be used to create a comprehensive database of European ETFs. Once completed, the database will be made available to COST Action members. This will provide researchers with an easy-to-use resource for researching and investing in European ETFs. The database will be regularly updated with new ETFs as they become available, and it will be accessible online for easy searching and filtering of the data. Overall, the goal is to create a valuable resource for researchers and investors interested in the European ETF market, providing them with a wealth of information on the past performance and fees of the most traded ETFs in Europe.</p>	High
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<p>Jeric Vlah led two research seminars at two independent COST Action FinAI events named the 29th Symposium of the Society for Nonlinear Dynamics &amp; Econometrics and conference event "Technology, Innovation and Stability: New Directions in Finance (TINFIN)", Zagreb, Croatia with a focus on investigating time interval choices in technical indicator-based stock price forecasting. His research work discussed the effect of time interval choices on the accuracy of technical indicator-based stock price forecasting. The seminar presentation covered the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduction to technical indicators and their importance in stock price forecasting</li> <li>- The problem of time interval choices and its impact on the accuracy of technical indicator-based predictions</li> <li>- Description of the dataset and methods used in the study</li> <li>- Results of the study and its comparison with other time intervals</li> <li>- Implications and recommendations for practitioners</li> <li>- Conclusion and future work</li> </ul> <p>The author outlined the use of a large dataset of historical stock prices and technical indicators that were calculated at different time intervals. Various machine learning algorithms were then used to predict the direction of stock price changes using the technical indicators as input parameters. The performance of the predictions was</p>	High
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subsequently evaluated using metrics such as accuracy, precision, and recall indicators. The results of the study indicate that the choice of time interval can have a significant impact on the accuracy of the predictions and that the optimal time interval depends on the specific stock and the technical indicator used. The study concludes that the choice of time interval is an important aspect to consider in technical indicator-based stock price forecasting.

A. Ivanisevic Hernaus, J. Kristo, and R. Rako gave a research seminar on the topic "ESG-Related Challenges in the Insurance Industry: A Multi-stakeholder Perspective" at the COST Action FinAI event "Technology, Innovation, and Stability: New Directions in Finance (TINFIN)" in Zagreb, Croatia. The seminar presentation scientifically outlined the challenges faced by the insurance industry in integrating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors into their operations and investment decisions. With increasing public and regulatory awareness, insurance companies are facing pressure to align their strategies and activities with sustainable development goals. The authors adopt a multi-stakeholder approach to examine the challenges faced by insurers, policyholders, and regulators in integrating ESG considerations. It was also analyzed what the current state of ESG integration in the insurance industry is, the drivers and barriers to this integration, and the potential solutions for addressing these challenges.

The research presentation covered the following key points:

- Overview of ESG and its importance in the insurance industry
- Examination of the current state of ESG integration in the insurance industry
- Analysis of the challenges faced by insurers, policyholders, and regulators in integrating ESG
- Identification of drivers and barriers for ESG integration in the insurance industry
- Discussion of potential solutions for addressing the challenges and recommendations for the industry

P. Dzelalija and A. Ivanisevic Hernaus presented a research paper with the title "From perceived mobility to the intention to use mobile payments: A moderated mediation analysis" at the COST Action FinAI supported event FinanceCom 2022: International Workshop Enterprise Applications, Markets, and Services in the Finance Industry, University of Twente, the Netherlands. The presentation described factors that influence consumers' intention to use mobile payments. The study adopted a multi-disciplinary approach by combining theories from information systems, marketing, and psychology to explore how perceived mobility and trust, influence the intention to use mobile payments. A moderated mediation analysis was discussed, to examine the direct and indirect effects of perceived mobility and trust on the intention to use mobile payments. In addition, the research examined the moderating effect of demographic factors such as age and gender on the relationship between perceived mobility, trust, and the intention to use mobile payments. Thereby, the study aimed to facilitate the understanding of the complex

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relationships among the factors being studied, and also provide further insight into the aspects that influence the intention to use mobile payments.

The presentation covered the following key points:

- Introduction and background on mobile payments and its increasing importance
- Theoretical framework: an overview of perceived mobility, trust, and their relationship with the intention to use mobile payments
- Research design and methods, including data collection, analysis techniques, and sample characteristics
- Results and findings: examination of the direct and indirect effects of perceived mobility, trust, and demographic factors on the intention to use mobile payments
- Implications and recommendations for practitioners, policymakers, and researchers.
- Conclusion and future work.

Branka Hadji Misheva designed, as part of the research work for the COST Action FinAI, an explainable webpage ([explainableaiforfinance.com](http://explainableaiforfinance.com)) on visual analytics (VA) tools tailored to financial applications. This webpage provides information and proposes VA tools that include several key features to make them useful for both model developers and evaluators. For model developers, the VA tools include interactive visualizations that allow them to explore and analyze the data used to train their models. Visualizations such as scatter plots, heat maps, and decision trees are recommended to help interested programmers understand the relationships and patterns in the data. Additionally, the tools also include interactive controls that allow the developers to explore different aspects of the data, such as filtering by certain variables or changing the granularity of the analysis.

On the other hand, for model evaluators, the VA tools also offer visualizations that provide transparency into the inner workings of the models, such as feature importance plots and partial dependence plots. These types of visualizations support evaluators in understanding how the model is making its predictions and identifying any potential issues or biases in the model.

Furthermore, the description of VA tools was also expanded to include a section for evaluating the performance of the models, such as accuracy and AUC-ROC plots, which assist evaluators to better understand how well the model is performing and identify any areas where improvements could be made. In this context, the webpage also provides detailed information about the feature importances, like variable importance and variable interactions, that help understand what the most important features are in a dataset.

Jörg Osterrieder provided a presentation as part of a panel on the digital transformation of the EU's financial markets at the 11th European Financial Regulation Conference in Brussels in October 2022. The presentation was data-driven and provided facts and figures to back up the statements, including the benefits and drawbacks of the digital transformation and the

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expected impact on consumers and the market as a whole. It also addressed the role of the EU and its regulators in shaping the digital financial landscape and ways to ensure the protection of consumers while promoting innovation.

In total, the talk covered a wide range of topics related to the use of technology in the European financial sector. The general outline for the presentation covered the following points:

- Introduction and overview: The panel addressed the current state of the digital transformation within the EU's financial markets and the importance of the topic to the conference.
- Overview of the EU's digital landscape: Focus on a high-level overview of the EU's current digital landscape in the financial sector, including the current state of technology adoption and the regulatory environment.
- Case studies of digital transformation in action: Specific examples were presented of how different financial institutions in the EU have implemented digital transformation. It was highlighted which cases provided insights into the digital transformation's successes, challenges, and lessons learned.
- The role of technology in financial regulation: A specific focus was placed on the investigation of how technology is impacting financial regulation and the implications for regulatory bodies. The presenters discussed some of the emerging technologies and the ways in which they are transforming the financial sector.
- Panel discussion: Subsequently, the floor was opened for a panel discussion, where attendees had the opportunity to ask questions and engage in a dialogue with the presentors about the topics covered in the presentation.
- Conclusion: The key takeaways from the presentations were summarized, and the sessions were closed by highlighting some of the key challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for the EU's effort to digitally transform its financial markets.

Several scholars from the COST Action FinAI, among them Wolfgang Härdle, Vasile Strat, and Alla Petukhina, founded the Blockchain Research Center (BRC) ([blockchain-research-center.com](http://blockchain-research-center.com)) together with other international researchers from leading European universities. The BRC is an organization that aims to promote the study and use of blockchain technology in a variety of applications, including financial services. The BRC aims to support the growth of the blockchain industry by providing a range of tools to researchers, companies, and financial institutions. Some of the key services the BRC provides include:

- Customized independent solutions: The BRC provides bespoke solutions that are tailored to the specific needs of its clients.
- Scientific support: The BRC offers scientific support to

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its clients to help them understand and apply blockchain technology in their research or business operations.

- High-level academic lectures: The organization of lectures and other educational events by the BRC help to promote the understanding of blockchain technology among researchers and industry professionals.
- Globally intertwined blockchain forums: The BRC hosts forums and other networking events to promote academic exchange and commercial cooperation among blockchain researchers and industry practitioners.

In order to provide these services, the BRC relies on a team of experts with a wide range of skills and experience in academia, finance, law, investment, and blockchain. This diverse background enables the institute to provide clients with a comprehensive range of services that will help drive academic and industrial development in the blockchain field.

The quality and quantity of the other outputs/ achievements was assessed as follows.

The evidence provided indicated that there has been a sufficient in quantity ad quality engagement of members delivering additional outputs which clearly assist in expanding the scope and impact of the Action significantly. Of the 17 outputs outlined, the vast majority are deemed of high impact, bringing together diverse international audiences and addressing critical novel FinTech topics. Of particular value have been the establishment of databases and hosting of suitable datasets; such activities provide workable platforms for hosting usable data for future research and analysis, guaranteeing long-term impact for the project. Similarly, many dissemination activities and presentations have been instrumental in socialising otherwise previously obscure topics (particularly those associated with DeFi) to audiences that are not necessarily technology-savvy, but which are very close to policy and regulation in these areas.

## Impacts

The Action reported the following impacts (the short- to long-term scientific, technological, and / or socioeconomic changes produced by a COST Action, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended) that have resulted, or might result, from the Action.

Description of the impact	Type of impact	Timing of impact
<p>The COST Action FinAI was also involved, with the support of several members, in the establishment of the EIT Digital Summer School on Artificial Intelligence in Financial Services (<a href="https://summerschool.eitdigital.eu/artificial-intelligence-in-financial-services">https://summerschool.eitdigital.eu/artificial-intelligence-in-financial-services</a>). The program focuses on the intersection of artificial intelligence and financial services and covers topics such as machine learning, deep learning, natural language processing, and its applications in finance. Students were aimed at being provided with a deep understanding of the digital financial landscape and how artificial intelligence is changing it, while also achieving the necessary skills to become successful entrepreneurs in the field.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific / Technological</li> <li>• Economic</li> <li>• Societal</li> </ul>	Achieved
<p>The program is organized in a way that combines lectures, workshops, and hands-on experience with real-world projects, allowing students to apply the concepts they have learned in a practical context. The program also includes guest lectures from leading experts in the field, as well as visits to financial institutions and startups to learn about the latest trends and developments in the field.</p>		
<p>The COST Action FinAI also contributed to the EIT Digital Summer School on Disrupting Finance by Digital Technologies (<a href="https://summerschool.eitdigital.eu/disrupting-finance-with-digital-technologies">https://summerschool.eitdigital.eu/disrupting-finance-with-digital-technologies</a>). The specifically developed program focuses on the intersection of finance and digital technologies and covers topics such as blockchain, digital currencies, digital identity, and its applications in finance. The program is organized interactively through lectures, workshops, and hands-on experience with real-world projects, allowing students to apply the concepts they have learned in a practical setting as well. Guest lectures as well as on-site visits to financial institutions and start-ups were also incorporated to provide students with the latest trends and developments in the field.</p>		
<p>Overall, the EIT Digital Summer School programs provide students with an intensive and immersive experience in a specific area of digital technology. Both summer schools also provide opportunities for students to work on projects, participate in competitions and hackathons, and engage with a wide range of stakeholders, including top European corporations, SMEs, startups, universities, and research institutes.</p>		
<p>Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: As with I6, the described contribution (summer school) is considered of high S, E and S/T impact, promoting augmented knowledge and expertise in the intersection between finance and data science. The initiative further supports entrepreneurship in the field and nurtures a new generation of tech-savvy Finance professionals. Clear and significant impact is demonstrated through this initiative.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific / Technological</li> <li>• Economic</li> <li>• Societal</li> </ul>	Achieved
<p>The objective of the VMG is to support collaboration and the exchange of ideas, data, methods, and other resources among researchers in order to increase the visibility and awareness of the COST Action and in the same time to support the advancement of the research in the fields covered by the Action. The supported VMG have also ensured that the research outcomes and their results have wider applicability and dissemination inside and outside the network. The supported VMG have also ensured that the research outcomes and their results are more broadly applicable and disseminated within</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific / Technological</li> <li>• Economic</li> <li>• Societal</li> </ul>	Achieved

and beyond the network. By increasing the visibility of the Action members' activities and the results they have achieved, the VMGs will also contribute to the Action's increased impact. Thus, the Virtual Mobility Grants have contributed to a large array of sub-topics of the COST Action contributing mainly to the increase of the awareness of the Action. Among the 12 virtual mobility grants supported during the second grant period 3 have directly contributed to deliverables of the Action and 9 have touched on topics ranging from involvement of females in FinTech to creation of video materials for facilitating the understanding of various data science and AI topics. Belma's VMG performed a bibliometric review on the topic of Venture Capital (VC) in order to improve the understanding of the VC environment that contributes strongly to the development and success of the FinTech industry. Alessandra's VMG proposed a survey to investigate basic perceived knowledge of FinTech innovations and of STEM and mathematical aptitude for different demographics. Wolfgang's VMG has improved the library of the Quantinar platform. Ioana's VMG has investigated the challenges of FinTech from both a regulatory and technology point of view. Codruta's VMG has supported the realization of the first FinTech report for Romania providing an overview of the sector. Maria's VMG focused on financial inclusion and on analyzing FinTech gender diversity in different EU countries. Barbara's VMG proposed an analysis of the gender and social connectedness of the editorial boards of finance journals. Shala's VMG supported the Datathon initiative developed in our Action bringing together students, academics and industry representatives around FinTech and AI topics. Esra's VMG analyzed the relationship between cashless economy and green growth within the framework of FinTech.

Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: As with Imp14, the VMG initiative is also considered of high impact (S/T, E, S) promoting resource and idea exchange across research communities by funding novel ideas and research mobility. There are also clear tangible outputs from the initiative so far, also demonstrating the effectiveness of the initiative to date.

The STSM (Short Term Scientific Mission) grant, developed by the COST Action FinAI is a program designed to encourage collaboration and the exchange of ideas, data, methods, and other resources among researchers in order to further advance research in specific fields. It helps to ensure that research outcomes are more widely applicable and widely disseminated throughout Europe, leading to more impactful outcomes. The grant has been significant in increasing international collaboration, publications, and result dissemination, and the quality of research outcomes has been increasing. The recent STSM grants have contributed to several specific research areas, such as the development of new algorithmic tools for anomaly detection in stock markets. This research, led by Apostolos Chalkis, contributes to a better understanding of risks and their causes in portfolio optimization, and also stimulates long-term scientific collaboration among universities and research institutions. Additionally, the computational tools developed as part of this research have been implemented in open-source packages, making them widely available to researchers and practitioners.

Another recent STSM grant led to the development of efficient geometric and computational tools based on semidefinite programming and random walks for studying Bayesian inference of systemic risk interlinkages. This research, led by Elias Tsigaridas, introduces advanced geometric, algebraic, algorithmic, and computational tools in computational finance and develops highly efficient mathematical software for various tasks, with the long-term goal of tackling problems that are currently intractable with available techniques. A prototype implementation in MATLAB with the corresponding algorithms has been developed.

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Lastly, the STSM grant was used to evaluate sustainability goals at the European level from a spatial perspective using taxpayers' perception and sentiment analysis. This research, led by Coita Ioana-Florina and Belbe Stefana, contributes to structuring the research topic, methodology and extending the database of evaluations of sustainability goals at the European level from a spatial perspective using taxpayers' perceptions and sentiment analysis. This research aims at assessing sustainability at the institutional level in the financial domain using AI models that support transparency and help authorities discover fraudulent activities in a more efficient manner.

Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: Establishment of the referenced grants as parts of the Action are considered of high impact (S/T, E, S) as they promote resource and idea exchange across research communities by funding novel ideas and research mobility. There are clear tangible documented outputs from the initiative so far, also demonstrating the effectiveness of the initiative to date.

The COST Action FinAI, represented by its member Dolores Romeo Morales, co-organized the online seminar series "Machine Learning NeEDS Mathematical Optimization" (<https://congreso.us.es/mlneedsmo/>) with Emilio Carrizosa from IMUS-Instituto de Matemáticas de la Universidad de Sevilla, in collaboration with PhD Students Ksenia Kurishchenko from CBS, Cristina Molero Rio from IMUS, Jasone Ramrez-Ayerbe from IMUS, and Thomas Halskov from CBS. The seminar series is designed to provide an impactful platform for leading academics in the field of data science and analytics to share their latest research findings and developments, with a focus on the integration of machine learning and mathematical optimization.

The seminar series includes a number of presentations from experts in the field who will cover important topics such as explainability, fairness, fraud, privacy, etc. Mathematical modeling and mathematical optimization will be at the core of their presentations. Additionally, the seminar series includes a YOUNG online seminar series on "Machine Learning NeEDS Mathematical Optimization", where in each session, three junior academics will show their latest results in this burgeoning area.

The format of the seminar series is a weekly session that will take place every Monday at 16.30 (CET), starting on January 11, 2021. The seminar series is 100% online, and it will have speakers from around the globe. The seminar series is free thanks to the funding the EU gives to the H2020 MSCA NeEDS project, as well as the support given by IMUS-Instituto de Matemáticas de la Universidad de Sevilla.

Shortly after each seminar, its video recording will be available at both the IMUS YouTube channel, as well as the NeEDS YouTube channel.

Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: The seminar series ("Machine Learning NeEDS Mathematical Optimization") is deemed of significant impact across all impact areas to the research community as it clearly supports and promotes a platform for dissemination and research progress on topics which are critical to FinTech areas. Given their purely online nature the seminar appear to support high accessibility for the materials and insights, further attending to the openness and breadth the the Action aims to.

Dolores Romeo Morales, as member of the COST Action FinAI, is a member of the conference organization committee of the European Conference on Operational Research (EURO) 2024 (<https://euro2024cph.dk>), which will take place in Copenhagen, Denmark, from June 30 to July 4, 2024.

The event is a well-established conference that covers a wide range of topics within the field of operational research, including:

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mathematical modeling, optimization, decision support systems, simulation, logistics and transportation, production management, finance and economics, and many others. The conference will likely feature keynote speeches, panel discussions, and paper presentations given by leading experts in the field. The topics presented in the conference will likely include recent advances and challenges in the field of operational research, as well as the potential applications and implications of these developments in various industries and domains.

As a member of the conference organization committee for EURO 2024, Dolores Romeo Morales supported the conference committee in the following aspects:

Helping to plan and organize the conference, including determining the theme and format of the conference, selecting keynote speakers, and planning the scientific program. Recruiting attendees and presenters, by reaching out to researchers and academics in the field of operational research and encouraging them to submit papers, make proposals, or attend the conference. Assisting in the selection of paper submissions and presentations, and ensuring that the conference's scientific program is of high quality and covers a broad range of topics within the field of operational research.

Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: Solid impact is demonstrated here due to the influence the Action carries on participating in the organisation of forthcoming events of high visibility, affording the opportunity to inform future agendas with research-informed priorities as these may materialise through the Action. This outcome is of solid impact particularly on S/T and E dimensions.

The organization of the workshop "Making Sense of Interpretable Machine Learning" was a collaborative effort between the COST Action FinAI and the Lorentz Center in Leiden, the Netherlands. The workshop was held on October 17–21, 2022, and was localized at the Lorentz Center. The event was also a part of the stream on machine learning and mathematical optimization at EURO2022, which was held in Espoo, Finland, on July 3–6, 2022 (<https://euro2022espoo.com/>).

The workshop was designed to provide a platform for experts in the field of interpretable machine learning to share their latest research findings and developments. To achieve this goal, the workshop consisted of 24 sessions, comprising a total of 95 presentations delivered by leading researchers in the field. These sessions were carefully curated to encompass a diverse range of topics related to interpretable machine learning, thus catering to the interests of a wide audience. As a result, the participants got valuable insights into cutting-edge research in the field of interpretable machine learning and had the opportunity to network with experts in the field. Additionally, the variety of topics covered allowed participants to broaden their understanding of interpretable machine learning and its applications. The selection of speakers for the workshop was done based on the evaluation of their expertise, research contributions, and relevance to the workshop's theme. The organizing team took care of promoting the workshop through various channels, such as the COST FinAI meet-up group, email, and the workshop's official website. The overall goal of the workshop was to create an intellectually stimulating environment where attendees could learn, share, and network with their peers.

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Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: The initiative carries clear and significant impact in buttressing a community of expert researchers around XAI as a critical field for FinTech especially, and in line with regulatory prerogatives in the EU. The extent and focus of the workshop indicates a highly valuable contribution to that effect and is considered therefore of high S/T and E significance, while its importance for societal progress is equally high, given the critical role of interpretability and explainability in ML

model use (in FinTech and all industry fields alike).

<p>The COST Action FinAI country team from Croatia around Ana Ivanisevic Hernaus actively contributed to the organization of the EURO PhD School "Data Driven Decision Making and Optimization" (<a href="https://congresos.us.es/epsdata/">https://congresos.us.es/epsdata/</a>), a doctoral training school organized by the IMUS-Mathematical Institute of the University of Seville, Spain. The school was scheduled to take place from June 13–22, 2022, and was delivered to 26 students. 21 invited speakers from academia and industry joined the event.</p> <p>The school was organized to provide students with in-depth knowledge and understanding of the latest research and developments in the fields of data-driven decision making and optimization. The program covered a wide range of topics, including mathematical modeling, machine learning, optimization techniques, and their applications in various fields, such as finance, healthcare, and engineering.</p> <p>A combination of lectures, workshops, and hands-on exercises were delivered by the invited speakers from academia and industry. The speakers shared their expertise and experiences with the students, providing them with a broad perspective on the research field.</p> <p>Additionally, the school also provided opportunities for students to interact with and learn from each other through group work and discussions. Opportunities were also provided for students to present their own research and receive feedback from the invited speakers and other attendees.</p> <p>In this sense, the school was designed to provide students with a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the latest research and represented a valuable opportunity for PhD students and early-career researchers to learn from experts in the field, network with peers, and further develop their research skills.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific / Technological</li> <li>• Economic</li> <li>• Societal</li> </ul>	Achieved
<p>Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: The described outcome's contribution in training and education of new researchers demonstrates high societal and scientific significance, as it elevates the state of the art in AI/ML in FinTech-related education, through deepening data science understanding. The initiative is well tied-into the Action's priorities.</p> <p>The COST Action CA19130 joins program committees, executive committees, and management committees for a series of events. These events include:</p> <p>Member of the Scientific Committee of ISMP 2024, Montreal (Canada), July 21-26, 2024.</p> <p>Member of the Program Committee of FinanceCom2022, University of Twente (The Netherlands), August 23-24, 2022.</p> <p>Chair of the Program Committee of EURO 2022, Espoo (Finland), July 3-6, 2022.</p> <p>Member of the Program Committee of EURO 2021, Athens (Greece), July 11-14, 2021.</p> <p>Selected keynote events are or will be attended:</p> <p>Keynote Speaker at IFORS2023, Santiago de Chile (Chile), July 10-14, 2023.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific / Technological</li> <li>• Economic</li> <li>• Societal</li> </ul>	Achieved

Keynote Speaker at ISF2023, Charlottesville (Virginia), June 25-28, 2023.

Plenary Speaker at the 19th Workshop on Advances in Continuous Optimization, EUROPT 2022, SST NOVA (Portugal), July 29-30, 2022.

Plenary Speaker at International Conference on Optimization and Decision Science 2021 (ODS2021), 50th Annual Meeting of AIRO, Rome (Italy), September 14-17, 2021.

Keynote Speaker at IEEE CASE 2021 on Data-Driven Automation, Lyon (France), August 23-27, 2021.

Holding these events and providing keynote addresses increases the association's influence in many nations and the European Union. It allows academics, industry practitioners, and politicians to further trace the association's contribution to financial research. Moreover, more financial-related groups are willing to participate in association activities.

Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: Significant impact is carried by this class of activities in supporting cohesion of research initiatives as outlined here. There is a significantly positive contribution of the described participation of Action members to the reported sessions especially for the Action's networking and dissemination part. The described outcomes further critically support cross-fertilisation of FinTech research strands towards problem-based research approaches and the development of pragmatic and usable solutions.

The COST Action FinAI helped in the establishment of an internal research network, specifically focused on crypto-market studies. The new network aims to bring together technological, quantitative, and economic researchers from across Europe to tackle future research that requires an interdisciplinary setting. The network is actively involved in the blockchain and FinTech communities, and focuses on enhancing capacity building, the transfer of knowledge, and the inclusion of early-career investigators.

The network achieves its goals by organizing conferences and seminars where researchers can share their findings and collaborate on new research. By bringing researchers from different disciplines and backgrounds together, the network aims to enhance the transfer of knowledge in terms of crypto-market expertise and scientific tools across different disciplines and between academia and industry.

Furthermore, the network members aimed to establish an inclusive community of crypto researchers on methodological and technological themes. This includes involving early-career investigators and increasing their visibility in the field. Additionally, through the support of the COST Action FinAI, the network further enforces gender equality by actively aiming to involve female researchers in fintech and crypto studies. One example is the female scholar "Akanksha Jalan," who is actively contributing in the field.

Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: Establishment of diverse research networks is critical for progress in FinTech, especially given the underlying inherent interdisciplinary nature of associated fields. The Action documentation provides ample evidence of sessions organised within such active networks. Furthermore the thematic focus on cryptocurrency research and its support for gender balance in research participants speaks to a crucial societal role in engaging stakeholders holistically. Overall, this is an outcome of high significance in all accounts (S/T, E, S).

Realization of a short-term teaching visit within the Erasmus+ teaching mobility programme, of the Action's participant and WG 2 Co-leader – associate professor Kristina Sutiene, PhD (F, ITC) from

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Kaunas University of Technology, Department of Mathematical Modelling, Lithuania to the Action's partner University of Zagreb, Faculty of Economics and Business, Department of Mathematics (ITC), in the period of May 2-6, 2022. Delivered topics included:

Applications of stochastic dominance in decision making (mainly theory and examples of applications)

Network analysis of financial markets (theory + examples with R)

The visit was an opportunity to widen teaching practice in an international setting, with a group of students specializing in the field of economics and business, as well as to strengthen the existing, up-to-then online only, networking and to discuss possible cooperation in the future period. From the point of view of the host university, students had an opportunity to advance their knowledge and the faculty members benefitted as well from new approaches to subject matter.

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Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: Teaching mobility opportunities generated as part of the Action is important and the outcome has clearly demonstrated relevant impact. It is expected that such initiatives are broader and widened, especially given the extent of the network that the Action has successfully established.

Several members of the COST Action FinAI contributed to the EIT Digital's Master School on Digital Finance (FinTech) (<https://masterschool.eitdigital.eu/fintech>), where a two-year program focusing on the intersection of finance and technology was designed. The program covers topics such as digital finance, financial innovation, and FinTech entrepreneurship. The program was created to give students a deep understanding of the digital financial landscape, while also providing them with the skills they need to become successful entrepreneurs in the FinTech space.

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Reachout activities for the EIT Digital Master School on Digital Finance (FinTech) included the following:

- Industry events and networking opportunities where students can connect with FinTech professionals and learn about the latest trends and developments in the field.- Guest lectures from leading FinTech experts and entrepreneurs share their insights and experiences with students.- Field trips to FinTech startups and financial institutions, where students can learn about the day-to-day operations of these organizations and gain insights into the FinTech ecosystem.

Furthermore, the COST Action also contributed to the EIT Digital Master School on Data Science (<https://masterschool.eitdigital.eu/data-science>) and supported the establishment of a two-year program that focuses on the intersection of data science and technology. The program covers topics such as data science, machine learning, and data-driven entrepreneurship. It was aimed at giving students a deep understanding of the digital data landscape, while also providing them with the skills they need to become successful entrepreneurs in the data science space.

Reachout activities for the EIT Digital Master School on Data Science included the following:

- Industry events and networking opportunities where students can connect with data science professionals and learn about the latest trends and developments in the field.- Guest lectures from leading data science experts and entrepreneurs share their insights and experiences with students.- Field trips to data science startups and companies, where students can learn about the day-to-day

operations of these organizations and gain insights into the data science ecosystem.

Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: The described contribution is considered of high S, E and S/T impact, particularly as it promoted expertise-informed education on critical and nascent fields in FinTech, promotes entrepreneurship in the field and nurtures a new generation of tech-savvy Finance professionals. There is clear and significant contribution demonstrated through this initiative.

Our research and knowledge dissemination platform, <a href="https://www.meetup.com/Fintech_AI_in_Finance/">https://www.meetup.com/Fintech_AI_in_Finance/</a> , has reached a substantial number of academics, professionals and the general public. With more than 150 events, more than 6000 participants and 2000 members, we have build a very large community around the topics of the COST Action CA19130.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific / Technological</li> <li>• Economic</li> <li>• Societal</li> </ul>	Achieved
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Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: The activity carries high significance on all types of impact, primarily through building networking frameworks and capability to host, also in the mid to long-term a community of expertise and establish a platform for sharing research and industry outputs and bring together experts from diverse fields around FinTech and AI.

Several researchers received active promotions since the start of the Action, and the COST Action FinAI research network had a significant impact on their scientific output as well as their academic achievements:  Simon Trimborn was promoted to assistant professor at the Amsterdam School of Economics, University of Amsterdam, in 2022  Wolfgang Karl Härdle was promoted to visiting scholar and YuShan scholar at the department of information management and finance at the National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University (NYCU) in 2022.  Jörg Osterrieder was promoted to an associate professorship in the area of finance and artificial intelligence at the University of Twente in Enschede, the Netherlands.  In addition, Jörg Osterrieder could initiate a new cooperation between the University of Twente and the ING Group, Global Analytics team on advanced quantitative, data-driven research projects, both relevant to academia and industry.  Furthermore, Jörg Osterrieder was also appointed Professor of Sustainable Business at the Bern University of Applied Science in Bern, Switzerland.  Branka Hadji Misheva was promoted to associate professor of applied data science and finance at the Bern University of Applied Science in Bern, Switzerland.  Alla Petukhina was promoted to lecturer and researcher at the Hochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft Berlin (HTW) in 2021.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific / Technological</li> <li>• Economic</li> <li>• Societal</li> </ul>	Achieved
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Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: This wider-range outcome demonstrates an effective and significant S/T, E and S impact through its capacity to harness research and knowledge exchange to support academic career progression and promotion of a sizeable cohort of academic researchers.

Professor Tom Pilhal is currently undergoing the habilitation process in order to be promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. The committee and referees responsible for evaluating his qualifications have been primarily selected from within the COST Action. This indicates that his academic achievements have a strong connection to the research being conducted within the COST Action. Furthermore, he has also received financial support in the form of a Short-term Scientific Mission (STSM) grant. These factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific / Technological</li> <li>• Economic</li> <li>• Societal</li> </ul>	Achieved
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demonstrate a clear alignment between Professor Pilhal's work and the objectives of the COST Action.

Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: The reported outcome is of significance to the action and project, as it demonstrates timely contribution of the COST network to the career progression of academic members active in COST research. Focus is primarily on S/T and E impact; S-impact is addressed secondarily by this outcome.

Roman Matkovskyy's participation in the COST Action FinAI has been instrumental in shaping the trajectory of the Financial Market and Corporate Outcomes research center that he established and currently leads at Rennes School of Business. Through his involvement in the FinAI program, he was able to gain a deeper understanding of the financial industry and formulate a more comprehensive strategy for the center's research endeavors.

Furthermore, his participation in the COST academy training "Understanding EU decision making process - how to advocate your interests", has been beneficial for the development of a research project. The knowledge and skills acquired during the training have enabled him to create more finely-tuned research proposals, which have been submitted to various funding organizations with a higher likelihood of success. In other words, The combination of Roman Matkovskyy's participation in Cost actions FinAI and COST academy training has been a catalyst for the center's research output and funding opportunities.

Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: Since development of participant members' research capability is critical for outputs, this particular engagement appears to have led to augmented research proposal submissions; it is therefore considered of adequate impact for the FinAI Action.

Barbara Będowska-Sójka's participation in the COST Action has been instrumental in securing funding from the Polish National Science Center (NCN) for her research project entitled "Properties of a cross-section of rates of return in the cryptocurrency markets" (NCN, nr 2021/41/B/HS4/02443). The funding competition placed a significant emphasis on participation in international projects, with 20% of the total points allocated towards this criterion. As such, the involvement in the COST Action played an important role in this success.

The project is planned to last for a duration of 3 years, starting in January 2022, and has been allocated a budget of 483 212 PLN (approximately 100 euros). The focus of the project is to study the properties of the cross-section of rates of return in the cryptocurrency markets, which is an area of research that has seen increasing interest in recent years due to the growing popularity and importance of cryptocurrencies. By utilizing the opportunities and resources provided by the COST Action, the research project aims to make significant contributions to this field of study.

Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: The secured funding of EUR 112,000 (see typographical error in original submission above) is directly relevant to the Action's projected outputs and is expected to contribute directly to the COST outcomes.

Elias Tsigaridas, through his research project "Efficient geometric and computational tools based on semidefinite programming and random walks for studying Bayesian inference of systemic risk interlinkages," utilized the Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM) program to further collaborate with the team of Dr. Veni Arakelian and Dr. Apostolos Chalkis in the field of computational finance. The focus of this collaboration was to explore advanced techniques for geometric, algebraic, algorithmic, and computational tools, and to use these tools to develop highly efficient mathematical software for various tasks. The ultimate goal of this research was to address problems

- Scientific / Technological
- Economic
- Societal

Achieved

- Scientific / Technological
- Economic
- Societal

Achieved

- Scientific / Technological
- Economic
- Societal

Achieved

related to systemic risk interlinkages which are currently considered intractable using traditional techniques.

During this STSM visit, the team focused on the problem of efficient Bayesian inference for Gaussian copula regression models. They employed semidefinite programming (SDP) and random walk techniques, and specifically the M1 and M2 algorithms, to improve the computational efficiency of their solutions. They also implemented a prototype of their developed algorithm in the Matlab programming language. This work aimed to not only improve the understanding of the underlying models but also provide a general framework that can be applied to other similar problems in the field of computational finance.

Validity, relevance and significance (in particular importance and timeliness) of the impact reported by the Action: This is a clear S/T impact featuring cross-institution collaboration supported by the grant scheme that the Action established. It is a clear example where the impact path of the grant is demonstrated.

The extent to which the Action has advanced the careers, skills and networks of researchers including ECIs (as described by the Action) is **very good**.

#### Stakeholder engagement

The COST Action FinAI has taken steps to engage a variety of stakeholders including researchers, policy makers, industry players, and NGOs. This has been done through measures such as joint research projects, policy maker engagement, training schools, conferences and workshops, stakeholder surveys and interviews, active engagement through social media and the website, and involving Early Career Investigators. The Action plans to continue this engagement by regularly updating and involving stakeholders in the progress of the Action and its research output, and by updating and maintaining the stakeholder engagement strategy on an annual basis, identifying target stakeholder groups and preparing an engagement plan for them, extending the network to remaining European countries, and involving citizens engaged in science and citizen science organizations. The Action will strive for an inter-disciplinary and inclusive engagement strategy.

**The Rapporteur recommended that the following stakeholders should also be engaged by the Action.**

## General assessment of impacts

The Action's impacts are best described as follows:

**Multiple highly significant impacts are reasonably foreseen, at least one of which is already observed [Excellent]**

## Dissemination and exploitation of Action results (other than co-authored Action publications listed previously)

### Dissemination

#### Dissemination meetings funded by the Action (possible only until 31st October 2021)

#### Action website

<https://fin-ai.eu/>

The:

- openness and user-friendliness of the Action website are very good
- content of the Action website (programmes and minutes of all events present, all outputs/ deliverables accessible from website) is very good

The Action website was an effective means of disseminating the Action.

Rapporteur's comment on the website
The website is efficient however a number of improvements may be sought, especially in its interactivity. It seems quite content-heavy but it is not always straightforward how the user can efficiently interact with it, or access the right information by navigating through it.

#### Other dissemination activities

The following other dissemination activities reported by the Action were effective and added value

Item/activity	Organizing the BlackSeaChain 2022 conference, which took place September 1–2, 2022, in Varna, Bulgaria. It covered topics such as: the present and future of the decentralized economy and finance; the challenges in front of regulation; an introduction to Web 3.0; new crypto wallets and their future; the new craze in the world of cryptocurrencies—NFTs; innovative solutions with smart contracts; and integrations between blockchain technologies, the IoT, and AI. The main organizer of BlackSeaChain 2022 is the company Quanterall, owned by COST action member Anton Andonov. Partners are LimeChain, Nexo, Ambire, INDUSTRIA Tech, Hack.bg, ReCheck, Bithope, Motion Software, and WeiChain.
Target Audience	The target audience would be people from academia, industry, and practitioners in the field.
Outcome of the activity	We received multiple submissions, of which 43 were presented at the conference. The conference was organized as an in-person event on September 1–2, 2022, in Varna, Bulgaria.
Hyperlink	<a href="https://www.blackseachain.com/">https://www.blackseachain.com/</a>

Item/activity	Organization of a special session in the International Joint Conference on Neural Networks from the 18th of June to the 23rd of June 2023, hosted by the International Neural Networks Society with the title "Deep Learning for Financial Data Analysis." The session will likely feature presentations and discussions from experts in the fields of deep learning and financial data analysis who will share their research, insights, and perspectives on how deep learning techniques can be applied to analyze financial data. The session may also include demonstrations, interactive discussions, and opportunities for attendees to network with other researchers and practitioners in the field.
Target Audience	The target audience would be researchers, practitioners, and academicians who are interested in the application of deep learning techniques to financial data analysis. This would include individuals from fields such as computer science, statistics, finance, and economics,

	who are working in academia, industry, or government.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	We received multiple submissions. The conference will be organized as a virtual conference.
<b>Hyperlink</b>	<a href="https://2023.ijcnn.org/">https://2023.ijcnn.org/</a>

<b>Item/activity</b>	Organizing collaboration activities between the New Bulgarian University (NBU) and Management Financial Group (MFG), Bulgaria. MFG is a group of leading European companies that specialize in non-banking financial services. New Bulgarian University collaborates with MFG in a joint effort to solve some of the most challenging tasks in FinTech using state-of-the-art AI techniques. Students from the Master's program "Knowledge Discovery and Big Data Analytics" are heavily involved in the majority of these activities.
<b>Target Audience</b>	The target audience would be academics, industry, and practitioners in this field.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	Topical tasks in the FinAI field were given to students of the Master's program "Knowledge Discovery and Big Data Analytics." It was negotiated to continue the collaboration to achieve several main goals: - provide internship opportunities to the best students; - participate in the upcoming Black Sea Chain 2023; - expand academic activities at NBU.
<b>Hyperlink</b>	<a href="https://managementfinancialgroup.com/">https://managementfinancialgroup.com/</a>

<b>Item/activity</b>	A workshop called "Environmental Finance for the Common Good." More details are summarized in the "Result" part.
<b>Target Audience</b>	The target audience would be academics, industry, practitioners in this field, policymakers, and civil society.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	The workshop, co-organized by the Money, Macro, and Finance Society (UK) and the Department of Management, Birkbeck College, University of London, with the support of CA19130, saw a roundtable discussion on current challenges in environmental finance, open to the public. It acted as an evening public event featuring perspectives from industry, academia, and faith communities, and public lectures by Naoyuki Yoshino and Will Goodhart. Additionally, research papers were presented, and one was awarded the best paper by an ECI on fintech and AI topics.
<b>Hyperlink</b>	<a href="https://efcg2022.sciencesconf.org/">https://efcg2022.sciencesconf.org/</a>

<b>Item/activity</b>	Workshop: Diversity Challenges and Opportunities in FinTech (NAPLES) The workshop aimed to bridge academics and policymakers by discussing the novel challenges and opportunities in FinTech and AI, particularly in STEM, to deal with diversity. Among the main contributions: "A first step towards financial inclusion: assessing the role of digital payments during the pandemic using single item latent trait response models" (A. Di Iorio (Bank of Italy), M. Iannario (University of Naples Federico II), A. Nobili (Bank of Italy), and G. Rocco (Bank of Italy)).
<b>Target Audience</b>	Academics, practitioners in this field, university students, and civil society.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	The following results were achieved: - Working paper presentation: The inclusion of explainable AI approaches for well-being: theory and applications (M. Hudec, University of Bratislava) - Working paper presentation: A Bayesian network approach to statistical measuring and prediction of gender gaps: P. Vicard (Roma Tre University), L. Giammel (Sapienza University), F. Mecatti (Milano Bicocca University), F. Musella (Link Campus University, Rome), and S. Romio (Milano Bicocca University). - Keynote speech: "AI: Why diversity matters for an inclusive future" (R. Johri, Head of R&D at HSBC and Founder of London Women in Machine Learning) - Seminar session: "Financial knowledge and the use of old and new financial instruments - M. Albanese (University of Naples Federico); V. Vitale (University of Naples Federico): Master students from the University of Naples Federico II presented the results of their research about the impact of gender stereotypes on the self-concept of female students in STEM. A technical session illustrated the latest research about financial inclusion and methods to improve diversity in FinTech, while the role of higher education in supporting diversity and allowing for inclusion in STEM fields was discussed during a round table. During the conference, a kick-off event for the "woman in fintech" datathon was also accomplished ( <a href="https://fin-ai.eu/datathon/">https://fin-ai.eu/datathon/</a> ).

<b>Hyperlink</b>	<a href="https://fin-ai.eu/diversity-workshop-naples2022/">https://fin-ai.eu/diversity-workshop-naples2022/</a>
<b>Item/activity</b>	Organisation of the Lake of Como School as an educational event that focused on the topic of neural networks and nets applied to finance. The goal of the school was to provide attendees with an in-depth understanding of cutting-edge methodologies and the applications of these technologies in the field of finance. Participants are expected to attend the school, which provides them with an opportunity to gain knowledge and insights from experts in the field, and to expand their understanding of the latest trends and developments in this area. The school includes lectures, seminars, hands-on workshops, and opportunities for attendees to network with other researchers and practitioners in the field.
<b>Target Audience</b>	The audience is primarily made up of PhD students and early-career researchers in this field.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	This summer school provided training for 25 young researchers, and successfully reached its aim.
<b>Hyperlink</b>	<a href="https://nnnf.lakecosmoschool.org/">https://nnnf.lakecosmoschool.org/</a>
<b>Item/activity</b>	The International Fintech Research Conference from October 27–28, 2022, hosted by Politecnico di Milano and supported by the COST Action FinAI, brought together researchers in the field of Fintech from various areas such as banking, asset management, insurance, payments, capital markets, and the internet of things. The conference welcomed papers on a wide range of Fintech research topics, including theoretical analysis of finance and economics, machine learning applications to finance, cryptocurrencies, digital currency, cybersecurity, neural networks, smart contracts, peer-to-peer finance, big data analysis, nowcasting, text analysis in finance, blockchain technologies, network analysis in finance, and behavioral finance.
<b>Target Audience</b>	The target audiences were researchers and industries in the respective field with a strong background in finance, economics, and computer science. Additionally, industry professionals and practitioners who were interested in the latest developments and research in the field of Fintech were also targeted by this conference.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	The conference received a total of 35 paper submissions, of which 24 were accepted for presentation at the conference. In addition to this accomplishment, the conference also served as an opportunity for researchers to submit their work for consideration in a special issue of Springer Digital Finance.
<b>Hyperlink</b>	<a href="https://www.fintechlab.it/fintech_conference2022/">https://www.fintechlab.it/fintech_conference2022/</a>
<b>Item/activity</b>	The "Woman in Fintech Datathon" is an event organized by the Women in Fintech Conference Committee, in collaboration with the University of Tirana and the University of Naples Federico II with the support of the COST Action FinAI. The event is a data mining and analysis competition, with the goal of promoting the analysis of data related to the goals of the Women in Fintech Conference. The goal of the Datathon is to encourage the use of data analysis to understand and promote the goals of the conference and the field of Cost Action FinAI. The participating teams were from Albania, China, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Italy, India, Kosovo, Lithuania, and Romania.
<b>Target Audience</b>	Master and/or PhD students in early stages of their career with an interest and background in data analysis, specifically in the field of Fintech and Artificial Intelligence in Finance. Female researchers working in the field of Fintech and Artificial Intelligence in Finance are especially targeted.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	The event attracted a total of 18 teams, comprising 46 participants, of whom 33% were male. The participants were tasked with utilizing quantitative approaches to produce written reports on the topic of financial inclusion. The reports were based on an analysis of data from the Global Findex database, maintained by the World Bank, with the goal of uncovering various financial characteristics of a global sample of individuals. The event aimed to provide valuable insights into the field of financial inclusion, utilizing a rigorous data-driven approach to generate meaningful results.
<b>Hyperlink</b>	<a href="https://fin-ai.eu/datathon/">https://fin-ai.eu/datathon/</a>

<b>Item/activity</b>	Organisation of a special issue in the journal "Digital Finance." The issue aimed to explore the impact of new technologies on the financial industry, which is experiencing a significant disruptive moment referred to as the "fintech revolution." The journal invited submissions that use various research methods and theoretical frameworks to better understand the fintech phenomenon, with a focus on topics such as the use of artificial intelligence in finance, cryptoassets, blockchain technologies, smart contracts, and more. The special issue is in line with an "International Fintech Research Conference" that will be held in Milan in October 2022.
<b>Target Audience</b>	The target audience is academics with a particular interest in finance, economics, computer science, and related fields.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	Issuance of a call for papers on the theme of fintech, specifically exploring the intersection of digital finance, emerging technologies, and innovative methodologies. Submissions were seeded that offer rigorous, in-depth examination of the various facets of the fintech landscape, including but not limited to topics such as: - The impact of digital technologies on financial service delivery and the customer experience - The emergence of new players and business models in the financial sector - The application of Artificial Intelligence and machine learning techniques to financial problem-solving - The analysis of cryptoassets as a new class of financial instruments - The implications of smart contract technology and decentralized finance - The use of big data analytics, nowcasting and text analysis in finance - The role of network analysis in understanding financial systems - The examination of behavioral finance in the digital age.
<b>Hyperlink</b>	<a href="https://www.springer.com/journal/42521/updates/23290068">https://www.springer.com/journal/42521/updates/23290068</a>

<b>Item/activity</b>	Organization of a monthly series of open seminars conducted by the Data Science Lab (headed by Piotr Wójcik) in cooperation with the Quantitative Finance Research Group. Both organizational bodies are hosted in the Faculty of Economic Sciences at the University of Warsaw. The achieved research output was related to applications of machine learning and artificial intelligence in finance.
<b>Target Audience</b>	The target audience would be for academics, industry, and practitioners in the field.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	Informing a wide audience about our COST action, increasing action visibility, and increasing understanding of XAI tools among financial practitioners (e.g., 2021-04-19: Chlebus Marcin, "XAI Tools as a Part of the Best Practices in Model Selection for Business Decision Modeling"); – related to MoU objectives 9 (Capacity Building 3), 10 (Capacity Building 4) and 15 (Capacity Building 9).
<b>Hyperlink</b>	<a href="https://qfrg.wne.uw.edu.pl/?p=1102">https://qfrg.wne.uw.edu.pl/?p=1102</a>

## Exploitation activities

The following activities to ensure exploitation (use, in particular in a commercial context) of the Action's achievements reported by the Action were effective and added value

<b>Item/activity</b>	Application of knowledge about specific XAI tools gained on WG2 seminars in daily business practice of Marcin Chlebus, vice CEO in Data Juice Lab, consulting company operating mainly in financial sector, application of XAI methods in FinTech projects in the area of Risk Modelling, Marketing campaigns, Human Resources and CRM. <a href="https://www.datajuicelab.com/">https://www.datajuicelab.com/</a>
<b>Target Audience</b>	Companies operating in Risk Modelling, Marketing campaigns, Human Resources and CRM
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	Thanks to regularly organised COST action research seminars and meetings current knowledge about XAI in Finance has been acquired. The findings were effectively implemented in commercial projects. Usage of XAI methods led to the improvement of the quality of created models and to better understanding by business users of how the algorithms make decisions.

<b>Item/activity</b>	Development of Quantinar (Quantinar.com): Quantinar is a platform that focuses on providing data science education through a lecture-based approach, allowing learners to apply their skills through the execution of real-world projects. The platform is developed by several COST Action FinAI members, centered around Wolfgang Karl Härdle and his research team from Humboldt University Berlin. Researchers as well as students have the option to acquire course materials about statistical and programming-related tasks, including lecture material, mostly for free. The course-lets are designed according to different difficulty levels and provide a good starting point for students with non-technical backgrounds, as well as advanced training options for more experienced scholars.
<b>Target Audience</b>	The target audience is aimed at research students as well as young researchers, but also accounts for more experienced scholars in terms of the variety of offered course-lets.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	The output of the platform resulted in a huge amount of open-access course-lets that span across the fields of machine learning, fintech, cryptocurrencies, data science, blockchain, and statistics.

<b>Item/activity</b>	Several members of the COST Action FinAI under the lead of Wolfgang Karl Härdle developed the platform Quantlet ( <a href="http://www.quantlet.de">www.quantlet.de</a> ): Quantlet is designed as a web-interface to freely exchange numerical methods, called Quantlets. Quantlet aims to introduce a centralized system that is constituted by documents from different scientific areas, submitted by various authors from professional researchers to university students. As part of the Collaborative Research Center, the Center for Applied Statistics and Economics and the International Research Training Group (IRTG) 1792, Quantlet contributes to the goal of strengthening and improving empirical economic research in Germany. At present Quantlet contains source code written mainly in: Python, R, C++, Solidity, Matlab, SAS
<b>Target Audience</b>	The main target audience for Quantlet lies in researchers and academics who are interested to share and retrieve programming code for specific statistical use cases and model conceptualization.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	- Open access to all research and teaching related codes and programs, - Reproducibility of research results increases its accountability and reliability, - Full integration with GitHub, implemented with PyGithub package available on PyPI - Text Mining Pipeline providing Information Retrieval, document clustering and visualizations realized with a "GitHub API based Quantlet Mining infrastructure in R" - Ease of discovery and use of your technology and research results, everything in a single GitHub Markdown page - Standardized audit of your codes based on the StyleGuide

<b>Item/activity</b>	As part of the dissemination of the research output done within the COST Action FinAI and in order to further raise the attention on the scientific matter of investigating the use cases of artificial intelligence in finance, we also organized a meetup group ( <a href="https://www.meetup.com/fintech_ai_in_finance/">https://www.meetup.com/fintech_ai_in_finance/</a> ) that regularly updates all group participants with news on talks, seminal paper presentations, conference events, and working group meetings. The meetup-group currently circumvents around 2080 participants and provides the COST Action FinAI with an interactive platform to connect with researchers as well as interested individuals to discuss ongoing scholarly matters in the field of finance and AI.
<b>Target Audience</b>	Interested scholars as well as private individuals are free to join the meet-up group and receive the latest notifications on the research output generated by the COST Action FinAI.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	Over hundreds of organized meet-up events including research seminars delivered by the core working groups WG1, WG2, and WG3 as well as interactive online break events have produced a rich community of interested and active scholars that regularly participate in the action.

<b>Item/activity</b>	The formation of the fintech community: fintech.mk ( <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/fintech-mk?viewAsMember=true">https://www.linkedin.com/company/fintech-mk?viewAsMember=true</a> ). This is the first fintech community in North Macedonia that intends to develop and facilitate the regional Fintech Ecosystem. It is a non-profit organization that provides IT and consulting services. The community routinely publishes fintech-related articles. Members of the Action from North Macedonia (Petre Lameski, Olivija Filipovska, Tatjana A. Pachemska, Eftim Zdravevski,
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	Goran Petkovski, and Miroslav Mirchev) actively contributed to the website's construction and article writing.
<b>Target Audience</b>	Researchers interested in Fintech, Financial Companies, Investors, and Readers who are curious about the application of AI in Finance.
<b>Outcome of the activity</b>	The community routinely publishes Fintech-related articles at: <a href="https://fintech-mk.medium.com">https://fintech-mk.medium.com</a> . Currently, the community has 28 members and has authored thirteen articles in English and Macedonian.

## Assessment of Action dissemination and exploitation activities

The effectiveness of the Action's dissemination and exploitation approach (other than co-authored publications) is assessed as follows

The points addressed above clearly and fully reflect the exploitation approach which also appears to adequately engage industry and academic inputs and contributions, building a concrete stakeholder ecosystem.

Assessment of Action dissemination and exploitation activities

There were many highly effective Action activities focusing on dissemination of Action results [Excellent]  
 There were many highly effective Action activities focusing on exploitation of Action results [Excellent]

## Other matters

### Difficulties in implementing the Action

The Action Rapporteur made the following observations regarding difficulties in implementing the Action:

This rapporteur has commented similarly on the objective in question, highlighting that there is not enough information available to assess it, and agreeing that the newly proposed objective is commensurate with the Action's requirements, as well as realistic for the timeline proposed.

### Emerging topics / developments in the field of the Action

The Action reported the following emerging topics / developments in the field of the Action.

- During the COST Action FinAI, several emerging topics have been identified in the field of Fintech and AI in finance. The increasing use of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in financial institutions and fintech companies to optimize business operations and decision making is one of the most notable areas. This includes the use of AI to improve financial forecasting, portfolio management, fraud detection, and customer service, as well as to develop new financial products and services. Another emerging topic is the increasing use of blockchain technology in finance, particularly in the areas of digital currencies, smart contracts, and decentralized finance (DeFi). The use of blockchain technology has the potential to revolutionize traditional financial services, by creating new forms of digital assets, as well as new forms of financial intermediation. Additionally, Explainable AI (XAI) is becoming increasingly important as a regulatory and societal requirement in order to understand, trust and explain the functioning of AI-based decision-making systems. Furthermore, there is growing concern of privacy and data protection in financial AI and fintech which also important. Future COST activities such as Actions, S&T Conferences, or Exploratory Workshops can focus on these areas in fintech and AI in finance.

The Action Rapporteur made the following comment on the emerging topics / developments in the field reported by the Action.

The report on Emerging Topics identifies the majority of new developments in FinTech and adjacent fields. Driven from the exponential growth in Generative AI in the past 9-12 months, it is strongly suggested that the research directions are adjusted to clearly incorporate the impacts in areas such as synthetic ID fraud, PETs, GenAI-resilience in KYC/CDD and other relevant AI/ML developments especially with reference to their impact on privacy and policy.

### Action Rapporteur

This Second Progress Report was submitted on 2024-03-07 by:

Prof GEORGIOS SAMAKOVITIS

University of Greenwich

United Kingdom

## Annex 1: List of publications

The Action reported 100 publications on the topic of the Action, co-authored by at least two Action participants from two countries participating in the Action.

### Co-authored Action publications - peer-reviewed

Title	Data Science Techniques for Cryptocurrency Blockchains
Author	Innar Liiv
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-2418-6">doi:10.1007/978-981-16-2418-6</a>
Type	Book
Published in	Behaviormetrics: Quantitative Approaches to Human Behavior
Published by	Springer Singapore
ISSNs	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-2418-6">2524-4027; 2524-4035</a>
Links	<a href="https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-981-16-2418-6.pdf">https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-981-16-2418-6.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-981-16-2418-6">https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-981-16-2418-6</a>
Title	Shall the winning last? A study of recent bubbles and persistence
Authors	Akanksha Jalan; Roman Matkovskyy; Valerio Potì
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.frl.2021.102162">doi:10.1016/j.frl.2021.102162</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Finance Research Letters
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.frl.2021.102162">1544-6123</a>
Subject	Finance
Links	<a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1544612321002415?httpAccept=text/xml">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1544612321002415?httpAccept=text/xml</a> ; <a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1544612321002415?httpAccept=text/plain">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1544612321002415?httpAccept=text/plain</a>
Title	Demand elasticities of Bitcoin and Ethereum
Authors	Akanksha Jalan; Roman Matkovskyy; Andrew Urquhart
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.econlet.2022.110877">doi:10.1016/j.econlet.2022.110877</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Economics Letters
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.econlet.2022.110877">0165-1765</a>
Subjects	Economics and Econometrics; Finance
Links	<a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S016576522003512?httpAccept=text/xml">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S016576522003512?httpAccept=text/xml</a> ; <a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S016576522003512?httpAccept=text/plain">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S016576522003512?httpAccept=text/plain</a>
Title	COVID risk narratives: a computational linguistic approach to the econometric identification of narrative risk during a pandemic
Authors	Yuting Chen; Don Bredin; Valerio Potì; Roman Matkovskyy
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s42521-021-00045-3">doi:10.1007/s42521-021-00045-3</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Digital Finance

Published by  
 ISSNs  
 Subject  
 Links

Springer Science and Business Media LLC  
[2524-6984; 2524-6186](#)  
 General Engineering  
<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s42521-021-00045-3.pdf>;  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42521-021-00045-3/fulltext.html>

Title  
 Authors  
 DOI  
 Type  
 Published in  
 Published by  
 Link

Tail-Risk Protection: Machine Learning Meets  
 Modern Econometrics  
 Bruno Spilak; Wolfgang Karl Härdle  
[doi:10.1007/978-3-030-73443-5\\_94-1](#)  
 Book chapter  
 Encyclopedia of Finance  
 Springer International Publishing  
[https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-030-73443-5\\_94-1](https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-030-73443-5_94-1)

Title  
 Authors  
 DOI  
 Type  
 Published by

Regime-based Implied Stochastic Volatility Model  
 for Crypto Option Pricing  
 Danial Saef; Yuanrong Wang; Tomaso Aste  
[doi:10.48550/arXiv.2208.12614](#)  
 Article  
 arXiv

Title  
 Authors  
 DOI  
 Type  
 Published in  
 Published by  
 ISSN  
 Subjects  
 Links

Financial Risk Meter for emerging markets  
 Souhir Ben Amor; Michael Althof; Wolfgang Karl Härdle  
[doi:10.1016/j.ribaf.2021.101594](#)  
 Journal article  
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 Elsevier BV  
[0275-5319](#)  
 Finance; Business, Management and Accounting  
 (miscellaneous)  
<https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S027531921002154?httpAccept=text/xml>;  
<https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S027531921002154?httpAccept=text/plain>

Title  
 Authors  
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 Type  
 Published in  
 Published by  
 ISSN

Financial Risk Meter Based on Expectiles  
 Rui Ren; Meng-Jou Lu; Yingxing Li; Wolfgang K. Härdle  
[doi:10.2139/ssrn.3809329](#)  
 Journal article  
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Title  
 Authors  
 DOI  
 Type  
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A Data-driven Explainable Case-based  
 Reasoning Approach for Financial Risk Detection  
 Wei Li; Florentina Paraschiv; Georgios Sermpinis  
[doi:10.48550/arXiv.2107.08808](#)  
 Article  
 arXiv

Title

Bankruptcy Prediction of Privately Held SMEs  
 Using Feature Selection Methods

## Authors

DOI  
 Type  
 Published in  
 Published by  
 ISSN

Florentina Paraschiv; Markus Schmid; Ranik Raaen Wahlstrøm  
[doi:10.2139/ssrn.3911490](https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3911490)  
 Journal article  
 SSRN Electronic Journal  
 Elsevier BV  
[1556-5068](https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3911490)

Title  
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 Type  
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 Published by  
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 Links

Indices on cryptocurrencies: an evaluation  
Konstantin Häusler; Hongyu Xia  
[doi:10.1007/s42521-022-00048-8](https://doi.org/10.1007/s42521-022-00048-8)  
 Journal article  
 Digital Finance  
 Springer Science and Business Media LLC  
[2524-6984; 2524-6186](https://doi.org/10.1007/s42521-022-00048-8)  
 General Engineering  
<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s42521-022-00048-8.pdf>  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42521-022-00048-8/fulltext.html>

## Title

A Comparative Analysis of Parsimonious Yield Curve Models with Focus on the Nelson-Siegel, Svensson and Bliss Versions

Authors  
 DOI  
 Type  
 Published in  
 Published by  
 ISSNs  
 Subjects  
 Links

Ranik Raaen Wahlstrøm; Florentina Paraschiv; Michael Schürle  
[doi:10.1007/s10614-021-10113-w](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10614-021-10113-w)  
 Journal article  
 Computational Economics  
 Springer Science and Business Media LLC  
[0927-7099; 1572-9974](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10614-021-10113-w)  
 Computer Science Applications; Economics, Econometrics and Finance (miscellaneous)  
<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s10614-021-10113-w.pdf>  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10614-021-10113-w/fulltext.html>

Title  
 Authors  
 DOI  
 Type  
 Published in  
 Published by  
 ISSN

Robustifying Markowitz  
 Yegor Klochkov; Alla Petukhina; Wolfgang K. Härdle; Nikita Zhivotovskiy  
[doi:10.2139/ssrn.3987941](https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3987941)  
 Journal article  
 SSRN Electronic Journal  
 Elsevier BV  
[1556-5068](https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3987941)

## Title

FINANCIAL RISK METER FOR CRYPTOCURRENCIES AND TAIL RISK NETWORK-BASED PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION

Authors  
 DOI  
 Type  
 Published in  
 Published by  
 ISSNs

RUI REN; MICHAEL ALTHOF; WOLFGANG KÄRLE HÄRDLE  
[doi:10.1142/S0217590822480010](https://doi.org/10.1142/S0217590822480010)  
 Journal article  
 The Singapore Economic Review  
 World Scientific Pub Co Pte Ltd  
[0217-5908; 1793-6837](https://doi.org/10.1142/S0217590822480010)

Subject	Economics and Econometrics
Link	<a href="https://www.worldscientific.com/doi/pdf/10.1142/S0217590822480010">https://www.worldscientific.com/doi/pdf/10.1142/S0217590822480010</a>
Title	Networks of News and Cross-Sectional Returns
Authors	Junjie Hu; Wolfgang Karl Härdle
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2108.05721">doi:10.48550/arXiv.2108.05721</a>
Type	Article
Published by	arXiv
Title	K-expectiles clustering
Authors	Bingling Wang; <a href="#">Yingxing Li</a> ; Wolfgang Karl Härdle
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmva.2021.104869">doi:10.1016/j.jmva.2021.104869</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Journal of Multivariate Analysis
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">0047-259X</a>
Subjects	Statistics, Probability and Uncertainty; Numerical Analysis; Statistics and Probability
Links	<a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0047259X21001470?httpAccept=text/xml">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0047259X21001470?httpAccept=text/xml</a> ; <a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0047259X21001470?httpAccept=text/plain">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0047259X21001470?httpAccept=text/plain</a>
Title	Uniform Confidence Bands for Generalized Random Forests
Authors	Kainat Khowaja; Chen Huang; Wolfgang K. Härdle
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4079006">doi:10.2139/ssrn.4079006</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">1556-5068</a>
Title	Does non-linear factorization of financial returns help build better and stabler portfolios?
Authors	Bruno Spilak; Wolfgang Karl Härdle
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2204.02757">doi:10.48550/arXiv.2204.02757</a>
Type	Article
Published by	arXiv
Title	The common and specific components of inflation expectations across European countries
Authors	<a href="#">Shi Chen</a> ; Wolfgang Karl Härdle; Weining Wang
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s00181-021-02027-1">doi:10.1007/s00181-021-02027-1</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Empirical Economics
Published by	Springer Science and Business Media LLC
ISSNs	<a href="#">0377-7332</a> ; <a href="#">1435-8921</a>
Subjects	Economics and Econometrics; Social Sciences (miscellaneous); Mathematics (miscellaneous); Statistics and Probability
Links	<a href="https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s00181-021-02027-1.pdf">https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s00181-021-02027-1.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00181-021-02027-1/fulltext.html">https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00181-021-02027-1/fulltext.html</a>
Title	Hedging Cryptos with Bitcoin Futures

Authors	Francis Liu; Natalie Packham; Meng-Jou Lu; Wolfgang K. Härdle
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4150849">doi:10.2139/ssrn.4150849</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1556-5068">1556-5068</a>
Title	Understanding jumps in high frequency digital asset markets
Authors	Danial Saef; Odett Nagy; Sergej Sizov; Wolfgang Karl Härdle
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2110.09429">doi:10.48550/arXiv.2110.09429</a>
Type	Article
Published by	arXiv
Title	A Time-Varying Network for Cryptocurrencies
Authors	Li Guo; Wolfgang Karl Härdle; Yubo Tao
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2108.11921">doi:10.48550/arXiv.2108.11921</a>
Type	Article
Published by	arXiv
Title	BLOCKCHAIN MECHANISM AND DISTRIBUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF CRYPTOS
Authors	Min-Bin Lin; Kainat Khawaja; Cathy Yi-Hsuan Chen; Wolfgang Karl Härdle
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.6293/AQAFA.202112_(18).0006">doi:10.6293/AQAFA.202112_(18).0006</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Advances in Quantitative Analysis of Finance and Accounting
Title	A Data-driven Explainable Case-based Reasoning Approach for Financial Risk Detection
Authors	Wei Li; Florentina Paraschiv; Georgios Sermpinis
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3912753">doi:10.2139/ssrn.3912753</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1556-5068">1556-5068</a>
Title	Understanding Smart Contracts: Hype or Hope?
Authors	Elizaveta Zinovyeva; Raphael C. G. Reule; Wolfgang Karl Härdle
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2103.08447">doi:10.48550/arXiv.2103.08447</a>
Type	Article
Published by	arXiv
Title	Discussion on: "Programmable money: next generation blockchain-based conditional payments" by Ingo Weber and Mark Staples
Author	Michael C. Burda
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s42521-022-00064-8">doi:10.1007/s42521-022-00064-8</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Digital Finance
Published by	Springer Science and Business Media LLC
ISSNs	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s42521-022-00064-8">2524-6984; 2524-6186</a>
Subject	General Engineering

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Title	Modelling the evolution of wind and solar power infeed forecasts
Authors	<a href="#">Wei Li</a> ; Florentina Paraschiv
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcomm.2021.100189">doi:10.1016/j.jcomm.2021.100189</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Journal of Commodity Markets
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">2405-8513</a>
Subjects	Economics and Econometrics; Finance
Links	<a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S240551321000234?httpAccept=text/xml">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S240551321000234?httpAccept=text/xml</a> ; <a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S240551321000234?httpAccept=text/plain">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S240551321000234?httpAccept=text/plain</a>
Title	Surrogate Models for Optimization of Dynamical Systems
Authors	Kainat Khowaja; Mykhaylo Shcherbatyy; Wolfgang Karl Härdle
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2101.10189">doi:10.48550/arXiv.2101.10189</a>
Type	Article
Published by	arXiv
Title	Cooling Measures and Housing Wealth: Evidence from Singapore
Authors	Wolfgang Karl Härdle; Rainer Schulz; Taojun Sie
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2108.11915">doi:10.48550/arXiv.2108.11915</a>
Type	Article
Published by	arXiv
Title	Financial Risk Meter FRM based on Expectiles
Authors	<a href="#">Rui Ren</a> ; Meng-Jou Lu; <a href="#">Yingxing Li</a> ; Wolfgang Karl Härdle
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmva.2021.104881">doi:10.1016/j.jmva.2021.104881</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Journal of Multivariate Analysis
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">0047-259X</a>
Subjects	Statistics, Probability and Uncertainty; Numerical Analysis; Statistics and Probability
Links	<a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0047259X21001597?httpAccept=text/xml">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0047259X21001597?httpAccept=text/xml</a> ; <a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0047259X21001597?httpAccept=text/plain">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0047259X21001597?httpAccept=text/plain</a>
Title	A Machine Learning Based Regulatory Risk Index for Cryptocurrencies
Author	Xinwen Ni
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3699345">doi:10.2139/ssrn.3699345</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">1556-5068</a>

Title	Are cryptos becoming alternative assets?
Authors	<a href="#">Daniel Traian Pele</a> ; Niels Wesselhöft; <a href="#">Wolfgang Karl Härdle</a> ; Michalis Kolossiatis; <a href="#">Yannis G. Yatracos</a>
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1080/1351847X.2021.1960403</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	The European Journal of Finance
Published by	Informa UK Limited
ISSNs	<a href="#">1351-847X</a> ; <a href="#">1466-4364</a>
Subject	Economics, Econometrics and Finance (miscellaneous)
Link	<a href="https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/1351847X.2021.1960403">https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/1351847X.2021.1960403</a>
Title	The Use of M2P in Business Process Improvement and Optimization
Authors	<a href="#">Meriem Kherbouche</a> ; <a href="#">Yosra Zghal</a> ; <a href="#">Bálint Molnár</a> ; <a href="#">András Benczúr</a>
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1007/978-3-031-15743-1_11</a>
Type	Book chapter
Published in	New Trends in Database and Information Systems
Published by	Springer International Publishing
ISSNs	<a href="#">1865-0929</a> ; <a href="#">1865-0937</a>
Link	<a href="https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-031-15743-1_11">https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-031-15743-1_11</a>
Title	Forecasting: theory and practice
Authors	Fotios Petropoulos; <a href="#">Daniele Apiletti</a> ; Vassilos Assimakopoulos; Mohamed Zied Babai; Devon K. Barrow; Souhaib Ben Taieb; <a href="#">Christoph Bergmeir</a> ; Ricardo J. Bessa; Jakub Bijak; John E. Boylan; Jethro Browell; Claudio Carnevale; Jennifer L. Castle; <a href="#">Pasquale Cirillo</a> ; <a href="#">Michael P. Clements</a> ; <a href="#">Clara Cordeiro</a> ; Fernando Luiz Cyrino Oliveira; Shari De Baets; Alexander Dokumentov; Joanne Ellison; <a href="#">Piotr Fiszeder</a> ; Philip Hans Franses; David T. Frazier; Michael Gilliland; <a href="#">M. Sinan Gönül</a> ; Paul Goodwin; <a href="#">Luigi Grossi</a> ; Yael Grushka-Cockayne; <a href="#">Mariangela Guidolin</a> ; Massimo Guidolin; Ulrich Gunter; <a href="#">Xiaojia Guo</a> ; <a href="#">Renato Guseo</a> ; Nigel Harvey; <a href="#">David F. Hendry</a> ; Ross Hollyman; Tim Januschowski; Jooyoung Jeon; Victor Richmond R. Jose; <a href="#">Yanfei Kang</a> ; Anne B. Koehler; Stephan Kolassa; <a href="#">Nikolaos Kourentzes</a> ; Sonia Leva; <a href="#">Feng Li</a> ; Konstantia Litsiou; Spyros Makridakis; Gael M. Martin; <a href="#">Andrew B. Martinez</a> ; Sheik Meeran; Theodore Modis; Konstantinos Nikolopoulos; Dilek Önkal; <a href="#">Alessia Paccagnini</a> ; <a href="#">Anastasios Panagiotelis</a> ; Ioannis Panapakidis; <a href="#">Jose M. Pavía</a> ; Manuela Pedio; <a href="#">Diego J. Pedregal</a> ; Pierre Pinson; <a href="#">Patrícia Ramos</a> ; David E. Rapach; J. James Reade; Bahman Rostami-Tabar; <a href="#">Michał Rubaszek</a> ; Georgios Sermpinis; <a href="#">Han Lin Shang</a> ; Evangelos Spiliotis; Aris A. Syntetos; <a href="#">Priyanga Dilini Talagala</a> ; Thiyanga S. Talagala; Len Tashman; Dimitrios Thomakos; Thordis Thorarinsdottir; <a href="#">Ezio Todini</a> ; <a href="#">Juan Ramón</a>

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[Trapero Arenas](#); [Xiaoqian Wang](#); Robert L. Winkler; Alisa Yusupova; [Florian Ziel](#)  
[doi:10.1016/j.ijforecast.2021.11.001](#)  
Journal article  
International Journal of Forecasting  
Elsevier BV  
[0169-2070](#)  
Business and International Management  
<https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0169207021001758?httpAccept=text/xml>;  
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Title  
  
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Editorial for Special Issue “New Frontiers in Forecasting the Business Cycle and Financial Markets”  
[Alessia Paccagnini](#)  
[doi:10.3390/forecast3030030](#)  
Journal article  
Forecasting  
MDPI AG  
[2571-9394](#)  
General Medicine  
<https://www.mdpi.com/2571-9394/3/3/30/pdf>

Title  
Authors  
DOI  
Type  
Published in  
Published by  
ISSNs  
Subjects

Food Prices, Ethics and Forms of Speculation  
[Don Bredin](#); Valerio Poti; Enrique Salvador  
[doi:10.1007/s10551-021-04842-z](#)  
Journal article  
Journal of Business Ethics  
Springer Science and Business Media LLC  
[0167-4544; 1573-0697](#)

Links  
  
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Authors  
DOI  
Type  
Published in  
Published by  
ISSN  
Subjects  
Links

Law; Economics and Econometrics; Arts and Humanities (miscellaneous); General Business, Management and Accounting; Business and International Management  
<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s10551-021-04842-z.pdf>;  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10551-021-04842-z/fulltext.html>

Title  
Authors  
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Subjects  
Links

Crypto-environment network connectivity and Bitcoin returns distribution tail behaviour  
[Rocco Caferra](#); Andrea Morone; [Valerio Poti](#)  
[doi:10.1016/j.econlet.2022.110734](#)  
Journal article  
Economics Letters  
Elsevier BV  
[0165-1765](#)  
Economics and Econometrics; Finance  
<https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0165176522002555?httpAccept=text/xml>;  
<https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0165176522002555?httpAccept=text/plain>

Title

Discussion on: “Programmable money: next generation blockchain based conditional payments” by Ingo Weber and Mark Staples

Author	Valerio Poti
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s42521-022-00060-y">doi:10.1007/s42521-022-00060-y</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Digital Finance
Published by	Springer Science and Business Media LLC
ISSNs	<a href="#">2524-6984</a> ; <a href="#">2524-6186</a>
Subject	General Engineering
Links	<a href="https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s42521-021-022-00060-y.pdf">https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s42521-021-022-00060-y.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42521-022-00060-y/fulltext.html">https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42521-022-00060-y/fulltext.html</a>
Title	Can ESG Shape Cost of Capital? A Bibliometric Review and Empirical Analysis Through ML
Authors	Niklas Bussmann; Alessandra Tanda; Ellen Pei-yi Yu
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4173890">doi:10.2139/ssrn.4173890</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">1556-5068</a>
Title	The role of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) in predicting bank financial distress
Authors	Alberto Citterio; Timothy King
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.frl.2022.103411">doi:10.1016/j.frl.2022.103411</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Finance Research Letters
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">1544-6123</a>
Subject	Finance
Links	<a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1544612322005888?httpAccept=text/xml">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1544612322005888?httpAccept=text/xml</a> ; <a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1544612322005888?httpAccept=text/plain">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1544612322005888?httpAccept=text/plain</a>
Title	Cryptocurrencies and stablecoins: a high-frequency analysis
Authors	Emilio Barucci; Giancarlo Giuffra Moncayo; Daniele Marazzina
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s42521-022-00055-9">doi:10.1007/s42521-022-00055-9</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Digital Finance
Published by	Springer Science and Business Media LLC
ISSNs	<a href="#">2524-6984</a> ; <a href="#">2524-6186</a>
Subject	General Engineering
Links	<a href="https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s42521-021-022-00055-9.pdf">https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s42521-021-022-00055-9.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42521-022-00055-9/fulltext.html">https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42521-022-00055-9/fulltext.html</a>
Title	A machine learning model for lapse prediction in life insurance contracts
Authors	Michele Azzone; Emilio Barucci; Giancarlo Giuffra Moncayo; Daniele Marazzina
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eswa.2021.116261">doi:10.1016/j.eswa.2021.116261</a>
Type	Journal article

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<https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0957417421015700?httpAccept=text/plain>

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Explainable artificial intelligence for crypto asset allocation  
[\*\*Golnoosh Babaei; Paolo Giudici; Emanuela Raffinetti\*\*](#)  
[doi:10.1016/j.frl.2022.102941](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.frl.2022.102941)  
 Journal article  
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<https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1544612322002021?httpAccept=text/xml>  
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Shapley-Lorenz eXplainable Artificial Intelligence  
[\*\*Paolo Giudici; Emanuela Raffinetti\*\*](#)  
[doi:10.1016/j.eswa.2020.114104](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eswa.2020.114104)  
 Journal article  
 Expert Systems with Applications  
 Elsevier BV  
[\*\*0957-4174\*\*](#)  
 Artificial Intelligence; Computer Science  
 Applications; General Engineering  
<https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0957417420308575?httpAccept=text/xml>  
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Title  
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 Links

Discussion on: “Programmable money: next generation blockchain based conditional payments” by Ingo Weber and Mark Staples  
 Audrius Kabasinskas  
[doi:10.1007/s42521-022-00062-w](https://doi.org/10.1007/s42521-022-00062-w)  
 Journal article  
 Digital Finance  
 Springer Science and Business Media LLC  
[\*\*2524-6984; 2524-6186\*\*](#)  
 General Engineering  
<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s42521-022-00062-w.pdf>  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42521-022-00062-w/fulltext.html>

Title  
 Authors  
 DOI

Clustering of Latvian Pension Funds Using Convolutional Neural Network Extracted Features  
 Vitalija Serapinaitė; [\*\*Audrius Kabašinskas\*\*](#)  
[doi:10.3390/math9172086](https://doi.org/10.3390/math9172086)

Type	Journal article
Published in	Mathematics
Published by	MDPI AG
ISSN	<a href="#">2227-7390</a>
Subjects	General Mathematics; Engineering (miscellaneous); Computer Science (miscellaneous)
Link	<a href="https://www.mdpi.com/2227-7390/9/17/2086/pdf">https://www.mdpi.com/2227-7390/9/17/2086/pdf</a>
Title	Review of Multi-Criteria Decision-Making Methods in Finance Using Explainable Artificial Intelligence
Authors	Jurgita Černevičienė; Audrius Kabašinskas
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.3389/frai.2022.827584</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence
Published by	Frontiers Media SA
ISSN	<a href="#">2624-8212</a>
Link	<a href="https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frai.2022.827584/full">https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frai.2022.827584/full</a>
Title	Discussion on: "Programmable money: next generation blockchain based conditional payments" by Ingo Weber and Mark Staples
Author	Olivija Filipovska
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1007/s42521-022-00065-7</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Digital Finance
Published by	Springer Science and Business Media LLC
ISSNs	<a href="#">2524-6984; 2524-6186</a>
Subject	General Engineering
Links	<a href="https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s42521-022-00065-7.pdf">https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s42521-022-00065-7.pdf</a> ; <a href="https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42521-022-00065-7/fulltext.html">https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42521-022-00065-7/fulltext.html</a>
Title	Empirical study of day-ahead electricity spot-price forecasting: Insights into a novel loss function for training neural networks
Authors	Ahmad Amine Loutfi; Mengtao Sun; Ijlal Loutfi; Per Bjarte Solibakke
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1016/j.apenergy.2022.119182</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Applied Energy
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">0306-2619</a>
Subjects	Management, Monitoring, Policy and Law; Mechanical Engineering; General Energy; Building and Construction
Links	<a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0306261922005542?httpAccept=text/xml">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0306261922005542?httpAccept=text/xml</a> ; <a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0306261922005542?httpAccept=text/plain">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0306261922005542?httpAccept=text/plain</a>
Title	Projecting and Forecasting the Latent Volatility for the Nasdaq OMX Nordic/Baltic Financial Electricity Market Applying Stochastic Volatility Market Characteristics
Author	<a href="#">Per Bjarte Solibakke</a>

DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.3390/en15103839</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Energies
Published by	MDPI AG
ISSN	<a href="#">1996-1073</a>
Subjects	Energy (miscellaneous); Energy Engineering and Power Technology; Renewable Energy, Sustainability and the Environment; Electrical and Electronic Engineering; Control and Optimization; Engineering (miscellaneous)
Link	<a href="https://www.mdpi.com/1996-1073/15/10/3839/pdf">https://www.mdpi.com/1996-1073/15/10/3839/pdf</a>
Title	Bootstrapped nonlinear impulse-response analysis: the FTSE100 (UK) and the NDX100 (US) indices 2012-2021
Author	Per Bjarte Solibakke
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1504/IJCEE.2021.10043332</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	International Journal of Computational Economics and Econometrics
Published by	Inderscience Publishers
ISSNs	<a href="#">1757-1170; 1757-1189</a>
Subjects	Computer Science Applications; Economics and Econometrics
Link	<a href="http://www.inderscienceonline.com/doi/full/10.1504/IJCEE.2022.120531">http://www.inderscienceonline.com/doi/full/10.1504/IJCEE.2022.120531</a>
Title	Stochastic Volatility Models Predictive Relevance for Equity Markets
Author	Per Bjarte Solibakke
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1007/978-3-030-56219-9_9</a>
Type	Book chapter
Published in	Contributions to Statistics
Published by	Springer International Publishing
ISSN	<a href="#">1431-1968</a>
Link	<a href="http://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-030-56219-9_9">http://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-030-56219-9_9</a>
Title	Identification of Scams in Initial Coin Offerings With Machine Learning
Authors	Bedil Karimov; Piotr Wójcik
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.3389/frai.2021.718450</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence
Published by	Frontiers Media SA
ISSN	<a href="#">2624-8212</a>
Subject	General Medicine
Link	<a href="https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frai.2021.718450/full">https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frai.2021.718450/full</a>
Title	A Generic Approach to Extend Interpretability of Deep Networks
Authors	Catarina Silva; António Morais; Bernardete Ribeiro
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1007/978-3-031-16474-3_40</a>
Type	Book chapter
Published in	Progress in Artificial Intelligence
Published by	Springer International Publishing

ISSNs	<a href="#">0302-9743; 1611-3349</a>
Link	<a href="https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-031-16474-3_40">https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-031-16474-3_40</a>
Title	Is Trust a Valid Indicator of Tax Compliance Behaviour? A Study on Taxpayers' Public Perception Using Sentiment Analysis Tools
Authors	<a href="#">Coita Ioana-Florina; Cioban Stefana; Mare Codruța</a>
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1007/978-3-030-93286-2_7</a>
Type	Book chapter
Published in	Digitalization and Big Data for Resilience and Economic Intelligence
Published by	Springer International Publishing
ISSNs	<a href="#">2198-7246; 2198-7254</a>
Link	<a href="https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-030-93286-2_7">https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-030-93286-2_7</a>
Title	The Utility of Neural Model in Predicting Tax Avoidance Behavior
Authors	<a href="#">Coita Ioana-Florina; Codrula Mare</a>
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1007/978-981-16-2765-1_6</a>
Type	Book chapter
Published in	Intelligent Decision Technologies
Published by	Springer Singapore
ISSNs	<a href="#">2190-3018; 2190-3026</a>
Link	<a href="https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-981-16-2765-1_6">https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-981-16-2765-1_6</a>
Title	A Statistical Model of Fraud Risk in Financial Statements. Case for Romania Companies
Authors	Andrada-Ioana Sabău (Popa); Codruța Mare; <a href="#">Ioana Lavinia Safta</a>
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.3390/risks9060116</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Risks
Published by	MDPI AG
ISSN	<a href="#">2227-9091</a>
Subjects	Strategy and Management; Economics, Econometrics and Finance (miscellaneous); Accounting
Link	<a href="https://www.mdpi.com/2227-9091/9/6/116/pdf">https://www.mdpi.com/2227-9091/9/6/116/pdf</a>
Title	Privacy Intrusiveness in Financial-Banking Fraud Detection
Authors	<a href="#">Larisa Găbudeanu</a> ; Iulia Brici; Codruța Mare; Ioan Cosmin Mihai; Mircea Constantin Șcheau
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.3390/risks9060104</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Risks
Published by	MDPI AG
ISSN	<a href="#">2227-9091</a>
Subjects	Strategy and Management; Economics, Econometrics and Finance (miscellaneous); Accounting
Link	<a href="https://www.mdpi.com/2227-9091/9/6/104/pdf">https://www.mdpi.com/2227-9091/9/6/104/pdf</a>
Title	Machine Learning Models for Predicting

Authors	Romanian Farmers' Purchase of Crop Insurance <u>Codruța Mare</u> ; <u>Daniela Manăte</u> ; <u>Gabriela-Mihaela Mureșan</u> ; <u>Simona Laura Dragoș</u> ; <u>Cristian Mihai Dragoș</u> ; <u>Alexandra-Anca Purcel</u> <a href="https://doi.org/10.3390/math10193625">doi:10.3390/math10193625</a>
DOI	
Type	Journal article
Published in	Mathematics
Published by	MDPI AG
ISSN	<u>2227-7390</u>
Subjects	General Mathematics; Engineering (miscellaneous); Computer Science (miscellaneous)
Link	<a href="https://www.mdpi.com/2227-7390/10/19/3625/pdf">https://www.mdpi.com/2227-7390/10/19/3625/pdf</a>
Title	Echo State Networks Usage for Stock Price Predictions
Authors	Lidija Barjaktarović; Marko Barjaktarović; Snežana Konjikušić
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.15308/finiz-2020-97-102">doi:10.15308/finiz-2020-97-102</a>
Type	Proceedings article
Published in	Proceedings of the 7th International Scientific Conference - FINIZ 2020
Published by	Singidunum University
Link	<a href="http://portal.finiz.singidunum.ac.rs/Media/files/2020/97-102.pdf">http://portal.finiz.singidunum.ac.rs/Media/files/2020/97-102.pdf</a>
Title	Financial literacy and psychological disaster preparedness: applicability of approach based on fuzzy functional dependencies
Authors	Miljan Vučetić; Zuzana Brokešová; Miroslav Hudec; Erika Pastoráková
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ipm.2021.102848">doi:10.1016/j.ipm.2021.102848</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Information Processing & Management
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<u>0306-4573</u>
Subjects	Library and Information Sciences; Management Science and Operations Research; Computer Science Applications; Media Technology; Information Systems
Links	<a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0306457321003204?httpAccept=text/xml">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0306457321003204?httpAccept=text/xml</a> <a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0306457321003204?httpAccept=application/json">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0306457321003204?httpAccept=application/json</a>
Title	Risk-return modelling in the p2p lending market: Trends, gaps, recommendations and future directions
Authors	Miller-Janny Ariza-Garzón; María-Del-Mar Camacho-Miñano; María-Jesús Segovia-Vargas; Javier Arroyo
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.elecap.2021.101079">doi:10.1016/j.elecap.2021.101079</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Electronic Commerce Research and Applications
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<u>1567-4223</u>
Subjects	Management of Technology and Innovation; Marketing; Computer Networks and

## Links

Communications; Computer Science Applications  
<https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S156742232100051X?httpAccept=text/xml>;  
<https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S156742232100051X?httpAccept=text/plain>

## Title

Analysis of the cryptocurrency market using different prototype-based clustering techniques

[Luis Lorenzo](#); Javier Arroyo  
[doi:10.1186/s40854-021-00310-9](https://doi.org/10.1186/s40854-021-00310-9)

## Authors

Journal article

## DOI

Financial Innovation

## Type

Springer Science and Business Media LLC

## Published in

[2199-4730](#)

## Published by

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Management of Technology and Innovation;

## Subjects

Finance

## Links

<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1186/s40854-021-00310-9.pdf>;  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s40854-021-00310-9/fulltext.html>

## Title

Discussion on: "Programmable money: next generation blockchain based conditional payments" by Ingo Weber and Mark Staples

Joerg Osterrieder

[doi:10.1007/s42521-022-00063-9](https://doi.org/10.1007/s42521-022-00063-9)

## Author

Journal article

## DOI

Digital Finance

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## Published in

[2524-6984](#); [2524-6186](#)

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ISSNs

General Engineering

## Subject

<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s42521-022-00063-9.pdf>;

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s42521-022-00063-9/fulltext.html>

## Title

THE VIX INDEX UNDER SCRUTINY OF MACHINE LEARNING TECHNIQUES AND NEURAL NETWORKS

## Authors

Ali Hirsa; Branka Hadji Misheva; Joerg Osterrieder; Wenxin Cao; Yiwen Fu; Hanze Sun; Kin Wai Wong

[doi:10.2139/ssrn.3796351](https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3796351)

## DOI

Journal article

## Type

SSRN Electronic Journal

## Published in

Elsevier BV

## Published by

[1556-5068](#)

## Title

The Applicability of Self-Play Algorithms to Trading and Forecasting Financial Markets

## Authors

Jan-Alexander Posth; Piotr Kotlarz; Branka Hadji Misheva; Joerg Osterrieder; Peter Schwendner

[doi:10.3389/frai.2021.668465](https://doi.org/10.3389/frai.2021.668465)

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Journal article

## Type

Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence

## Published in

Frontiers Media SA

## Published by

[2624-8212](#)

## ISSN

General Medicine

## Subject

Link	<a href="https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frai.2021.668465/full">https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frai.2021.668465/full</a>
Title	Deep Reinforcement Learning for Finance and the Efficient Market Hypothesis
Authors	Leander Odermatt; Jetmir Begiraj; Joerg Osterrieder
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3865019">doi:10.2139/ssrn.3865019</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3865019">1556-5068</a>
Title	Deep Reinforcement Learning on a Multi-Asset Environment for Trading
Authors	Ali Hirsa; Branka Hadji Misheva; Joerg Osterrieder; Jan-Alexander Posth
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3867800">doi:10.2139/ssrn.3867800</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3867800">1556-5068</a>
Title	Generative Adversarial Networks in finance: an overview
Author	Florian Eckerli
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3864965">doi:10.2139/ssrn.3864965</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3864965">1556-5068</a>
Title	Generative Adversarial Network For synthetic data on Bitcoin returns
Author	Moritz Pfenninger
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3864867">doi:10.2139/ssrn.3864867</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3864867">1556-5068</a>
Title	Analyzing Deep Generated Financial Time Series for Various Asset Classes
Authors	Antonio Rosolia; Joerg Osterrieder
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3898792">doi:10.2139/ssrn.3898792</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3898792">1556-5068</a>
Title	Audience-Dependent Explanations for AI-Based Risk Management Tools: A Survey
Authors	Branka Hadji Misheva; David Jaggi; Jan-Alexander Posth; Thomas Gramespacher; Joerg Osterrieder
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.3389/frai.2021.794996">doi:10.3389/frai.2021.794996</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence

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ISSN	<a href="#">2624-8212</a>
Subject	General Medicine
Link	<a href="https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frai.2021.794996/full">https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frai.2021.794996/full</a>
Title	Risk Parity for Multi-Asset Futures Allocation – A Practical Analysis of the Equal Risk Contribution Portfolio
Authors	Chris Bucher; Joerg Osterrieder
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.2139/ssrn.3858730</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">1556-5068</a>
Title	High-Frequency Causality between Stochastic Volatility Time Series: Empirical Evidence
Authors	Kia Farokhnia; Joerg Osterrieder
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.2139/ssrn.4087569</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">1556-5068</a>
Title	Tackling the Exponential Scaling of Signature-Based Generative Adversarial Networks for High-Dimensional Financial Time-Series Generation
Authors	Fernando de Meer Pardo; Peter Schwendner; Marcus Wunsch
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.3905/jfds.2022.1.109</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	The Journal of Financial Data Science
Published by	Pageant Media US
ISSN	<a href="#">2640-3943</a>
Subject	General Medicine
Link	<a href="https://syndication.highwire.org/content/doi/10.3905/jfds.2022.1.109">https://syndication.highwire.org/content/doi/10.3905/jfds.2022.1.109</a>
Title	Adaptive Seriation Risk Parity and Other Extensions for Heuristic Portfolio Construction Using Machine Learning and Graph Theory
Authors	Peter Schwendner; Jochen Papenbrock; Markus Jaeger; Stephan Krügel
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.3905/jfds.2021.1.078</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	The Journal of Financial Data Science
Published by	Pageant Media US
ISSN	<a href="#">2640-3943</a>
Link	<a href="https://syndication.highwire.org/content/doi/10.3905/jfds.2021.1.078">https://syndication.highwire.org/content/doi/10.3905/jfds.2021.1.078</a>
Title	Bankers' remuneration reforms and new challenges
Author	<a href="#">Anna (Ania) Zalewska</a>
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1111/corg.12454</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Corporate Governance: An International Review

Published by	Wiley
ISSNs	<a href="#">0964-8410</a> ; <a href="#">1467-8683</a>
Subjects	Management of Technology and Innovation; Strategy and Management; General Business, Management and Accounting
Links	<a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/corg.12454">https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/corg.12454</a> ; <a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full-xml/10.1111/corg.12454">https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full-xml/10.1111/corg.12454</a>
Title	The impact of machine learning and big data on credit markets
Authors	Peter Eccles; Paul Grout; Paolo Siciliani; Anna Zalewska
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.2139/ssrn.3890364</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">1556-5068</a>
Title	To Bao or Not to Bao? Payment Innovation and Money Market Mutual Funds
Authors	Anna Zalewska; Yue Zhang; Zhe Zong
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.2139/ssrn.4227111</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">1556-5068</a>
Subjects	General Earth and Planetary Sciences; General Environmental Science
Title	Investor Demand in Syndicated Bond Issuances: Stylised Facts
Authors	Martin Hillebrand; Marko Mravlak; Peter Schwendner
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.2139/ssrn.4002279</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	SSRN Electronic Journal
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">1556-5068</a>
Title	Financial Risk Management for Cryptocurrencies
Authors	Eline Van der Auwera; Wim Schoutens; Marco Petracco Giudici; Lucia Alessi
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1007/978-3-030-51093-0</a>
Type	Book
Published in	SpringerBriefs in Finance
Published by	Springer International Publishing
ISSNs	<a href="#">2193-1720</a> ; <a href="#">2193-1739</a>
Links	<a href="http://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-030-51093-0.pdf">http://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-030-51093-0.pdf</a> ; <a href="http://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-030-51093-0_0.pdf">http://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/978-3-030-51093-0_0.pdf</a>
Title	On mathematical optimization for clustering categories in contingency tables
Authors	<a href="#">Emilio Carrizosa</a> ; <a href="#">Vanesa Guerrero</a> ; <a href="#">Dolores Romero Morales</a>
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1007/s11634-022-00508-4</a>

Type	Journal article
Published in	Advances in Data Analysis and Classification
Published by	Springer Science and Business Media LLC
ISSNs	<a href="#">1862-5347</a> ; <a href="#">1862-5355</a>
Subjects	Applied Mathematics; Computer Science Applications; Statistics and Probability
Links	<a href="https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s11634-022-00508-4.pdf">https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s11634-022-00508-4.pdf</a> <a href="https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11634-022-00508-4/fulltext.html">https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11634-022-00508-4/fulltext.html</a>
Title	The tree based linear regression model for hierarchical categorical variables
Authors	<a href="#">Emilio Carrizosa</a> ; <a href="#">Laust Hvas Mortensen</a> ; <a href="#">Dolores Romero Morales</a> ; <a href="#">M. Remedios Sillero-Denamiel</a> <a href="#">doi:10.1016/j.eswa.2022.117423</a>
DOI	Journal article
Type	Expert Systems with Applications
Published in	Elsevier BV
Published by	
ISSN	<a href="#">0957-4174</a>
Subjects	Artificial Intelligence; Computer Science Applications; General Engineering
Links	<a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S095741742200762X?httpAccept=text/xml">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S095741742200762X?httpAccept=text/xml</a> <a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S095741742200762X?httpAccept=text/plain">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S095741742200762X?httpAccept=text/plain</a>
Title	On sparse optimal regression trees
Authors	Rafael Blanquero; Emilio Carrizosa; <a href="#">Cristina Molero-Río</a> ; Dolores Romero Morales <a href="#">doi:10.1016/j.ejor.2021.12.022</a>
DOI	Journal article
Type	European Journal of Operational Research
Published in	Elsevier BV
Published by	
ISSN	<a href="#">0377-2217</a>
Subjects	Information Systems and Management; Management Science and Operations Research; Modeling and Simulation; General Computer Science; Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering
Links	<a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S037721721010626?httpAccept=text/xml">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S037721721010626?httpAccept=text/xml</a> <a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S037721721010626?httpAccept=text/plain">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S037721721010626?httpAccept=text/plain</a>
Title	Interpreting clusters via prototype optimization
Authors	<a href="#">Emilio Carrizosa</a> ; <a href="#">Ksenia Kurishchenko</a> ; Alfredo Marín; <a href="#">Dolores Romero Morales</a> <a href="#">doi:10.1016/j.omega.2021.102543</a>
DOI	Journal article
Type	Omega
Published in	Elsevier BV
Published by	
ISSN	<a href="#">0305-0483</a>
Subjects	Information Systems and Management; Management Science and Operations Research; Strategy and Management
Links	<a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S030548321001523?httpAccept=text/xml">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S030548321001523?httpAccept=text/xml</a>

<https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S0305048321001523?httpAccept=text/plain>

Title	On clustering categories of categorical predictors in generalized linear models
Authors	Emilio Carrizosa; Marcela Galvis Restrepo; Dolores Romero Morales
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eswa.2021.115245">doi:10.1016/j.eswa.2021.115245</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Expert Systems with Applications
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">0957-4174</a>
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Title	On sparse ensemble methods: An application to short-term predictions of the evolution of COVID-19
Authors	Sandra Benítez-Peña; Emilio Carrizosa; Vanesa Guerrero; M. Dolores Jiménez-Gamero; Belén Martín-Barragán; Cristina Molero-Río; Pepa Ramírez-Cobo; <a href="#">Dolores Romero Morales</a> ; M. Remedios Sillero-Denamiel
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejor.2021.04.016">doi:10.1016/j.ejor.2021.04.016</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	European Journal of Operational Research
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">0377-2217</a>
Subjects	Information Systems and Management; Management Science and Operations Research; Modeling and Simulation; General Computer Science; Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering
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Title	Optimal randomized classification trees
Authors	Rafael Blanquero; Emilio Carrizosa; Cristina Molero-Río; Dolores Romero Morales
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cor.2021.105281">doi:10.1016/j.cor.2021.105281</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	Computers & Operations Research
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">0305-0548</a>
Subjects	Management Science and Operations Research; Modeling and Simulation; General Computer Science
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Title	Mathematical optimization in classification and regression trees
Authors	<a href="#">Emilio Carrizosa</a> ; <a href="#">Cristina Molero-Río</a> ; <a href="#">Dolores Romero Morales</a> <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11750-021-00594-1">doi:10.1007/s11750-021-00594-1</a>
DOI	
Type	Journal article
Published in	TOP
Published by	Springer Science and Business Media LLC
ISSNs	<a href="#">1134-5764</a> ; <a href="#">1863-8279</a>
Subjects	Discrete Mathematics and Combinatorics; Statistics and Probability; Management Science and Operations Research; Information Systems and Management; Modeling and Simulation
Links	<a href="http://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s11750-021-00594-1.pdf">http://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s11750-021-00594-1.pdf</a> ; <a href="http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11750-021-00594-1/fulltext.html">http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11750-021-00594-1/fulltext.html</a>
Title	Feature Selection in Data Envelopment Analysis: A Mathematical Optimization approach
Authors	<a href="#">Sandra Benítez-Peña</a> ; Peter Bogetoft; <a href="#">Dolores Romero Morales</a> <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.omega.2019.05.004">doi:10.1016/j.omega.2019.05.004</a>
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Title	Sparsity in optimal randomized classification trees
Authors	Rafael Blanquero; Emilio Carrizosa; Cristina Molero-Río; Dolores Romero Morales <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejor.2019.12.002">doi:10.1016/j.ejor.2019.12.002</a>
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Subjects	Information Systems and Management; Management Science and Operations Research; Modeling and Simulation; General Computer Science; Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering
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Title	The effects of a “black swan” event (COVID-19) on herding behavior in cryptocurrency markets
Authors	Larisa Yarovaya; <a href="#">Roman Matkovskyy</a> ; Akanksha Jalan
DOI	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.intfin.2021.101321">doi:10.1016/j.intfin.2021.101321</a>

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Title	"Shiny" crypto assets: A systemic look at gold-backed cryptocurrencies during the COVID-19 pandemic
Authors	Akanksha Jalan; Roman Matkovskyy; Larisa Yarovaya
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1016/j.irfa.2021.101958</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	International Review of Financial Analysis
Published by	Elsevier BV
ISSN	<a href="#">1057-5219</a>
Subjects	Economics and Econometrics; Finance
Links	<a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1057521921002787?httpAccept=text/xml">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1057521921002787?httpAccept=text/xml</a> ; <a href="https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1057521921002787?httpAccept=text/plain">https://api.elsevier.com/content/article/PII:S1057521921002787?httpAccept=text/plain</a>
Title	What effect did the introduction of Bitcoin futures have on the Bitcoin spot market?
Authors	Akanksha Jalan; Roman Matkovskyy; Andrew Urquhart
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1080/1351847X.2020.1869992</a>
Type	Journal article
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Subject	Economics, Econometrics and Finance (miscellaneous)
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Title	LASSO-driven inference in time and space
Authors	Victor Chernozhukov; Wolfgang Karl Härdle; Chen Huang; Weining Wang
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1214/20-AOS2019</a>
Type	Journal article
Published in	The Annals of Statistics
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ISSN	<a href="#">0090-5364</a>
Subjects	Statistics, Probability and Uncertainty; Statistics and Probability
Title	Investing with cryptocurrencies – evaluating their potential for portfolio allocation strategies
Authors	Alla Petukhina; Simon Trimborn; Wolfgang Karl Härdle; Hermann Elendner
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1080/14697688.2021.1880023</a>
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Title	Media-expressed tone, option characteristics, and stock return predictability
Authors	Cathy Yi-Hsuan Chen; Matthias R. Fengler; Wolfgang Karl Härdle; Yanchu Liu
DOI	<a href="#">doi:10.1016/j.jedc.2021.104290</a>
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Title	VCRIX — A volatility index for crypto-currencies
Authors	Alisa Kim; <a href="#">Simon Trimborn</a> ; Wolfgang Karl Härdle
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Subjects	Economics and Econometrics; Finance
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- Title: Forecasting: theory and practice

Authors: Fotios Petropoulos, Daniele Apiletti, Vassilios Assimakopoulos, Mohamed Zied Babai, Devon K. Barrow, Souhaib Ben Taieb, Christoph Bergmeir, Ricardo J. Bessa, Jakub Bijak, John E. Boylan, Jethro Browell, Claudio Carnevale, Jennifer L. Castle, Pasquale Cirillo, Michael P. Clements, Clara Cordeiro, Fernando Luiz Cyrino Oliveira, Shari De Baets, Alexander Dokumentov, Joanne Ellison, Piotr Fiszeder, Philip Hans Franses, David T. Frazier, Michael Gilliland, M. Sinan Gönül, Paul Goodwin, Luigi Grossi, Yael Grushka-Cockayne, Mariangela Guidolin, Massimo Guidolin, Ulrich Gunter, Xiaojia Guo, Renato Guseo, Nigel Harvey, David F. Hendry, Ross Hollyman, Tim Januschowski, Jooyoung Jeon, Victor Richmond R. Jose, Yanfei Kang, Anne B. Koehler, Stephan Kolassa, Nikolaos Kourentzes, Sonia Leva, Feng Li, Konstantia Litsiou, Spyros Makridakis, Gael M. Martin, Andrew B. Martinez, Sheik Meeran, Theodore Modis, Konstantinos Nikolopoulos, Dilek Önkal, Alessia Paccagnini, Anastasios Panagiotelis, Ioannis Panapakidis, Jose M. Pavía, Manuela Pedio, Diego J. Pedregal, Pierre Pinson, Patrícia Ramos, David E. Rapach, J. James Reade, Bahman Rostami-Tabar, Michał Rubaszek, Georgios Sermpinis, Han Lin Shang, Evangelos Spiliotis, Aris A. Syntetos, Priyanga Dilini Talagala, Thiyanga S. Talagala, Len Tashman, Dimitrios Thomakos, Thordis Thorarinsdottir, Ezio Todini, Juan Ramón Trapero Arenas, Xiaoqian Wang, Robert L. Winkler, Alisa Yusupova, Florian Ziel

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#### Co-authored Action publications - other

Title	A Data-driven Case-based Reasoning in Bankruptcy Prediction
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