

SA2-Part 1

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1.Data Gathering and Info

- **Kaggle Data** (new link with same OHLC) (outdated previous link) (<https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/mczielinski/bitcoin-historical-data>)
 - Columns are **Timestamp, Open, High, Low, Close, Volume**
 - Timestamp (**Start time of time window (60s window), in Unix time**)
 - Open (**Open price at start time window**)
 - High (**High price at start time window**)
 - Low (**Low price at start time window**)
 - Close (**Close price at start time window**)
 - Volume (**Volume of BTC transacted in this window**)

```
library(lubridate)    # Unix Data easier
library(tidyverse)    # Data analysis package
library(tsallisqexp)  # Tsallis
library(powerLaw)     # power Law
library(VGAM)         # Lapalce
library(patchwork)    # Combining Graphs

#1. Load and inspect the data
bitstamp_data <- read.csv("btcusd_1-min_data.csv")
summary(bitstamp_data)
```

2. Processing Data and Graphing Distribution Tests

```
##      Timestamp           Open           High           Low
## Min.   :1.325e+09   Min.    :    3.8   Min.    :    3.8   Min.    :    3.8
## 1st Qu.:1.431e+09   1st Qu.:  425.5   1st Qu.:  425.7   1st Qu.:  425.3
## Median :1.536e+09   Median : 6630.8   Median : 6635.0   Median : 6627.0
## Mean   :1.536e+09   Mean    :17660.3   Mean    :17667.3   Mean    :17653.1
## 3rd Qu.:1.642e+09   3rd Qu.:27550.0   3rd Qu.:27555.0   3rd Qu.:27544.0
## Max.   :1.747e+09   Max.    :109111.0   Max.    :109356.0   Max.    :108794.0
##      Close           Volume
## Min.    :    3.8   Min.    :  0.000
## 1st Qu.:  425.5   1st Qu.:  0.018
## Median : 6630.7   Median :  0.465
## Mean    :17660.3   Mean    :  5.288
## 3rd Qu.:27550.0   3rd Qu.:  3.022
## Max.    :109036.0   Max.    :5853.852
```

```
#2. Clean and preprocess the data
bitstamp_data <- bitstamp_data %>%
  drop_na(Close) %>% # Remove rows with missing Close values
```

```

mutate(Date = as.Date(as.POSIXct(Timestamp, origin = "1970-01-01", tz = "UTC"))) %>%
  replace_na(list(Open = 0, High = 0, Low = 0, Close = 0, Volume = 0)) # Replace NAs in numeric columns

# 3. Aggregate to daily level and calculate daily returns
daily_data <- bitstamp_data %>%
  group_by(Date) %>%
  summarise(
    Low = min(Low, na.rm = TRUE),
    High = max(High, na.rm = TRUE),
    .groups = "drop"
  ) %>%
  mutate(
    DailyMid = (Low + High) / 2,
    Return = (DailyMid / lag(DailyMid)) - 1
  ) %>%
  drop_na(Return)

# Store returns separately
returns <- daily_data$Return

# Sample size
sampleSize <- 20000
# Generate synthetic data from each distribution
set.seed(12345) # for reproducibility

normal_sample <- rnorm(sampleSize, mean = 0, sd = 1)
student_sample <- rt(sampleSize, df = sampleSize - 2)
laplace_sample <- rlaplace(sampleSize, location = 0, scale = 1) # Laplace from VGAM
tsallis_sample <- rtsal(sampleSize, shape = 1.5, scale = 1) # Adjust shape/scale as needed
powerlaw_sample <- rplcon(sampleSize, xmin = 1, alpha = 2.5) # Must be > xmin

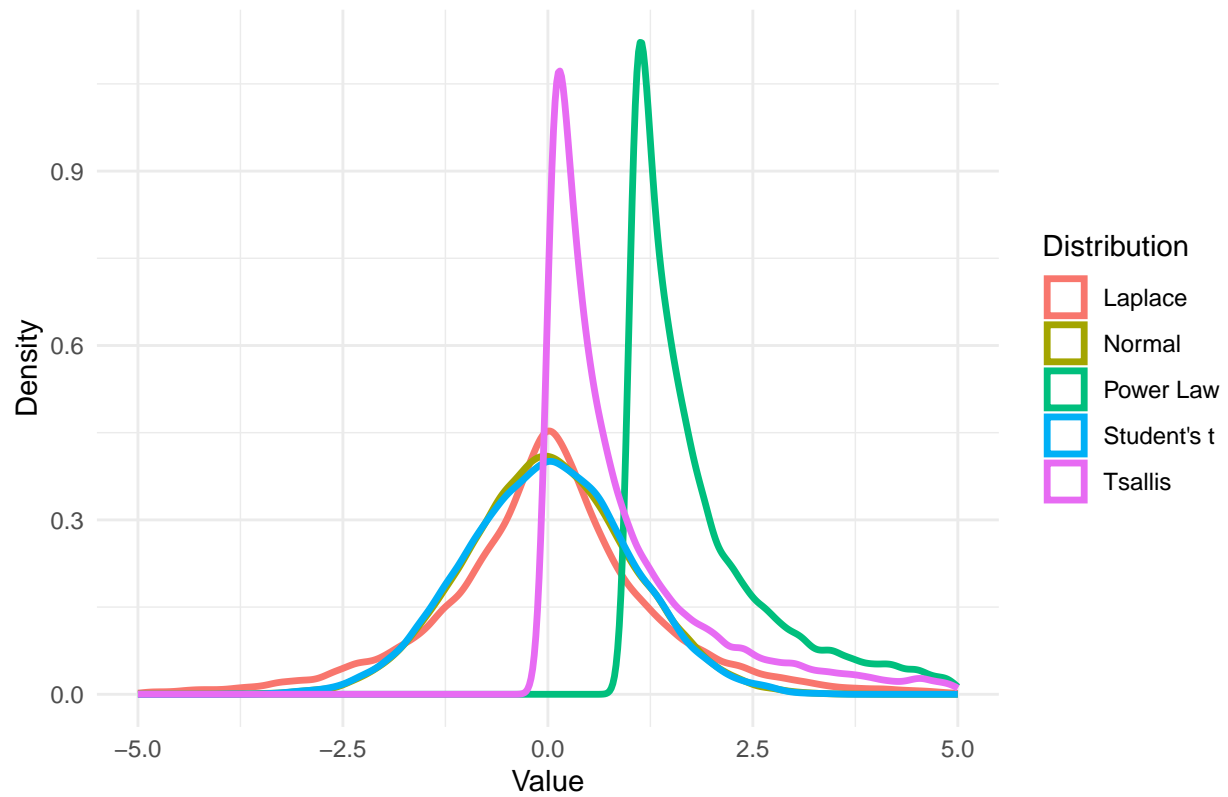
# Combine into one dataframe for ggplot
plot_data <- bind_rows(
  tibble(value = normal_sample, Distribution = "Normal"),
  tibble(value = student_sample, Distribution = "Student's t"),
  tibble(value = laplace_sample, Distribution = "Laplace"),
  tibble(value = tsallis_sample, Distribution = "Tsallis"),
  tibble(value = powerlaw_sample, Distribution = "Power Law")
)

# Plot all density curves on one plot
dist_plot <- ggplot(plot_data, aes(x = value, color = Distribution)) +
  geom_density(linewidth = 1.2) +
  labs(
    title = "Density Comparison of Theoretical Distributions",
    x = "Value",
    y = "Density"
  ) +
  theme_minimal() +
  xlim(-5, 5)

dist_plot

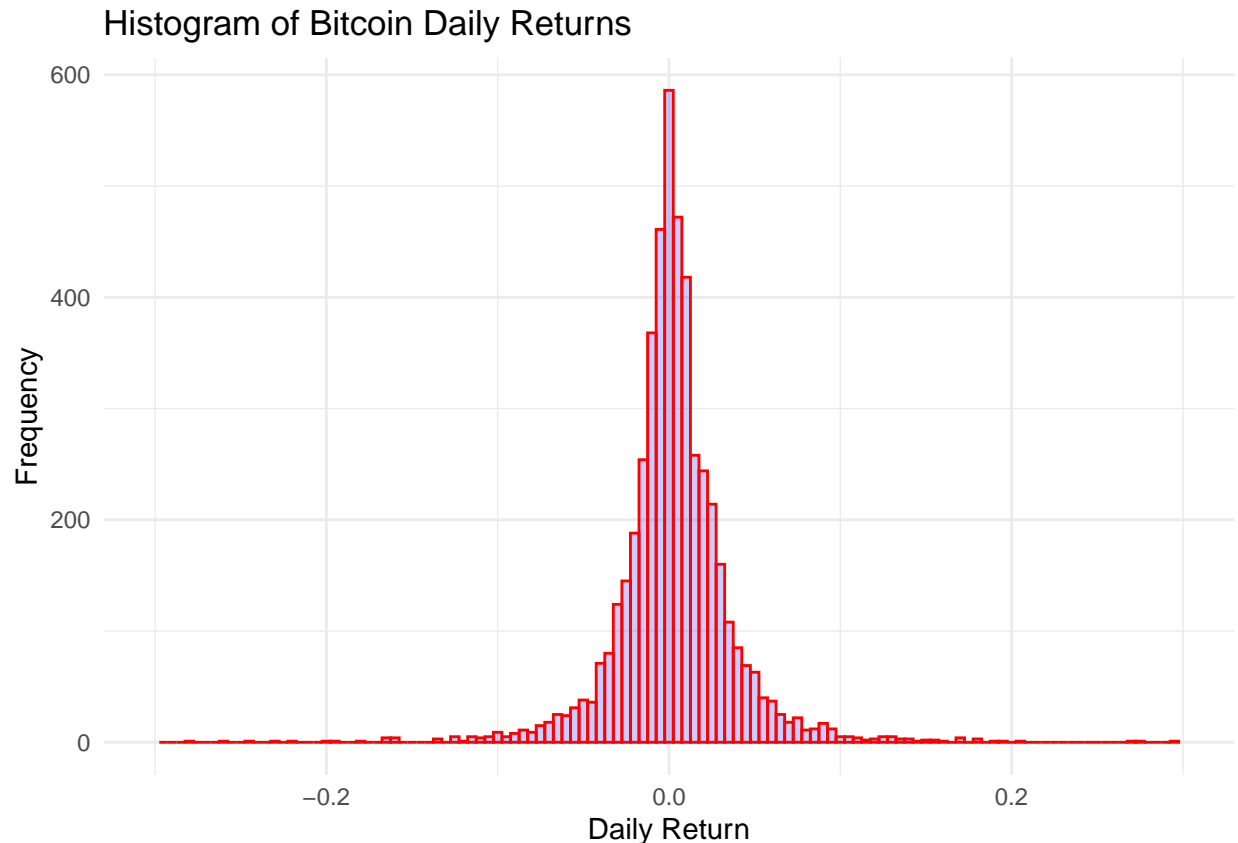
```

Density Comparison of Theoretical Distributions



```
# Plot 2: Bitcoin Returns Histogram
hist_plot <- ggplot(daily_data, aes(x = Return)) +
  geom_histogram(
    binwidth = 0.005,
    fill = "blue",
    color = "red",
    alpha = 0.2
  ) +
  labs(
    title = "Histogram of Bitcoin Daily Returns",
    x = "Daily Return",
    y = "Frequency"
  ) +
  xlim(-0.3, 0.3) +
  theme_minimal()

hist_plot
```



3. Kolmogorov–Smirnov (K–S) Test: Explanation and Its Application to Bitcoin Returns

- **Purpose of the K–S Test**
 - The Kolmogorov–Smirnov test is a **non-parametric test** that compares the **empirical distribution function (EDF)** of observed data with a **theoretical cumulative distribution function (CDF)**.
 - It calculates the **maximum distance (D-statistic)** between these two distributions.
 - A **smaller D value** suggests that the theoretical distribution is a good fit for the data.
- **Why Use the K–S Test on Bitcoin Returns?**
 - Bitcoin returns are known to exhibit **fat tails**, **volatility clustering**, and **extreme values**.
 - The K–S test is ideal for identifying whether known theoretical distributions (e.g., Normal, Student's t) can adequately model these returns.

Distributions Used in the K–S Test

1. Normal Distribution

- Symmetrical bell-shaped curve; defined by its **mean** and **standard deviation**.
- Assumes returns are independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.).
- **Limitation:** Does **not** model **extreme events** well.

2. Student's t-Distribution

- Similar to the normal distribution, but with **heavier tails**, depending on the **degrees of**

freedom $n - 1$.

- More suitable for data with **outliers** or **small sample sizes**.

3. Laplace Distribution

- Also called **double exponential distribution**; has a **sharper peak** and **heavier tails** than the normal.

- Well-suited for modeling **sudden jumps** and **frequent moderate shocks**.

4. Tsallis Distribution

- Arises from **non-extensive statistical mechanics**; introduces a **q-parameter** that governs the tail thickness.

- Designed for **systems with long-range dependencies**, like financial markets.

5. Power Law Distribution

- Heavy-tailed distribution following a decay.
- Captures **extreme rare events**—commonly used in finance and risk modeling.

```
# Sample size
n <- length(returns)

# --- Normal distribution ---
normal_sample <- rnorm(n, mean = mean(returns), sd = sd(returns))
ks_normal <- ks.test(returns, normal_sample)
```

4. KS Test and D-Values from Bitcoin Data

```
## Warning in ks.test.default(returns, normal_sample): p-value will be approximate
## in the presence of ties
```

```
# --- Student's t distribution ---
# Degrees of freedom = n - 2
student_sample <- rt(n, df = n - 2)
# Scale and shift to match mean and sd of returns
student_sample <- student_sample * sd(returns) + mean(returns)
ks_student <- ks.test(returns, student_sample)
```

```
## Warning in ks.test.default(returns, student_sample): p-value will be
## approximate in the presence of ties
```

```
# --- Laplace distribution (VGAM) ---
# VGAM::rlaplace uses location (mean) and scale (b)
# Scale b = sd / sqrt(2)
laplace_scale <- sd(returns) / sqrt(2)
laplace_sample <- rlaplace(n, location = mean(returns), scale = laplace_scale)
ks_laplace <- ks.test(returns, laplace_sample)
```

```
## Warning in ks.test.default(returns, laplace_sample): p-value will be
## approximate in the presence of ties
```

```
# --- Tsallis distribution ---
# Generate random sample from Tsallis with parameters mean and sd from data
tsallis_sample <- rtsal(n, mean(returns), sd(returns))
ks_tsallis <- ks.test(returns, tsallis_sample)
```

```
## Warning in ks.test.default(returns, tsallis_sample): p-value will be
```

```

## approximate in the presence of ties
# --- Power Law distribution ---
# Generate random sample from Power Law with parameters (xmin = -0.3, alpha = sd)
powerlaw_sample <- rplcon(n, xmin = -0.3, alpha = sd(returns))
ks_powerlaw <- ks.test(returns, powerlaw_sample)

## Warning in ks.test.default(returns, powerlaw_sample): p-value will be
## approximate in the presence of ties
# Print KS test results
ks_normal

##
## Asymptotic two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test
##
## data: returns and normal_sample
## D = 0.10031, p-value < 2.2e-16
## alternative hypothesis: two-sided
ks_student

##
## Asymptotic two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test
##
## data: returns and student_sample
## D = 0.10051, p-value < 2.2e-16
## alternative hypothesis: two-sided
ks_laplace

##
## Asymptotic two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test
##
## data: returns and laplace_sample
## D = 0.045445, p-value = 8.308e-05
## alternative hypothesis: two-sided
ks_tsallis

##
## Asymptotic two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test
##
## data: returns and tsallis_sample
## D = 0.99447, p-value < 2.2e-16
## alternative hypothesis: two-sided
ks_powerlaw

##
## Asymptotic two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test
##
## data: returns and powerlaw_sample
## D = 0.7955, p-value < 2.2e-16
## alternative hypothesis: two-sided

```

5. Interpretation and Results

- Normal Distribution

The KS test shows a moderate statistic ($D = 0.10031$) but a highly significant p-value ($< 2.2e-16$), strongly rejecting the hypothesis that Bitcoin returns follow a normal distribution. This aligns with financial data characteristics, which usually display heavy tails and volatility clustering not captured by normality.

- **Student's t Distribution**

With a KS statistic similar to the normal ($D = 0.10051$) and a very low p-value ($< 2.2e-16$), the Student's t distribution with default parameters still fails to model Bitcoin returns well, despite its heavier tails.

- **Laplace Distribution**

The Laplace distribution shows the *smallest KS statistic* ($D = 0.045445$) among all tested distributions and although the p-value ($8.308e-05$) rejects perfect fit, it provides the *closest approximation* to the empirical returns distribution.

This suggests that the Laplace's heavier tails effectively capture the sharp jumps and large fluctuations typical in Bitcoin returns.

- **Tsallis Distribution**

The very large KS statistic ($D = 0.99447$) and highly significant p-value indicate that the Tsallis distribution does not fit the Bitcoin returns well with the current parameters.

- **Power Law Distribution**

Similarly, the high KS statistic ($D = 0.7955$) and low p-value demonstrate a poor fit. Power law may capture tail behavior but not the full distribution.

Summary None of the tested **theoretical distributions perfectly fit Bitcoin daily returns**, but the Laplace distribution provides the *best practical approximation*, capturing heavy tails and jump behavior better than others.

```
# Fit Laplace parameters
mu <- mean(returns, na.rm = TRUE)
b <- sqrt(var(returns, na.rm = TRUE) / 2) # scale parameter for Laplace

# Create x values for Laplace density
x_vals <- seq(min(returns, na.rm = TRUE), max(returns, na.rm = TRUE), length.out = 1000)
laplace_density <- dlaplace(x_vals, location = mu, scale = b)

# Binwidth for histogram
binwidth <- 0.005

# Extend breaks to cover all data
min_break <- floor(min(returns, na.rm = TRUE) / binwidth) * binwidth
max_break <- ceiling(max(returns, na.rm = TRUE) / binwidth) * binwidth

# Calculate counts for scaling
counts <- hist(returns, breaks = seq(min_break, max_break, by = binwidth), plot = FALSE)$counts
scale_factor <- length(returns) * binwidth

# Prepare Laplace line data frame explicitly
laplace_df <- data.frame(
  x = x_vals,
  y = laplace_density * scale_factor
)

ggplot(data = data.frame(returns), aes(x = returns)) +
```

```
geom_histogram(binwidth = binwidth, fill = "blue", color = "red", alpha = 0.2) +
geom_line(data = laplace_df, aes(x = x, y = y), color = "darkgreen", linewidth = 1.2) + # specify da
labs(
  title = "Histogram of Bitcoin Daily Returns with Laplace Distribution Overlay",
  x = "Daily Return",
  y = "Frequency"
) +
xlim(-0.3, 0.3) +
theme_minimal()
```

6. Showcasing Overlay of Histogram and Laplace to see the Practical Approximation

```
## Warning: Removed 1 row containing non-finite outside the scale range
## (`stat_bin()`).

## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values or values outside the scale range
## (`geom_bar()`).

## Warning: Removed 83 rows containing missing values or values outside the scale range
## (`geom_line()`).
```

