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1. ABSTRACT

The present study presents a machine learning-based analysis of Reliance Industries Ltd. stock price trends over 10 years (2010-2024). Historical stock prices from Yahoo Finance have provided key finance indicators to compare price variations. The analysis utilises the Extra Trees Classifier (ETC) and the Random Forest classifier to predict stock price fluctuations. An Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) is performed based on various visualisations to derive insights into stock trends. The performance of the classifiers is assessed through cross-validation, classification reports, confusion matrices, and ROC curves. The reliability of the predictions by machine learning is also analysed based on market and strategy returns. Finally, the feasibility of the trading strategy based on these predictions is analysed in terms of potential profitability. (India, MENA Report, 2019.)

2. INTRODUCTION

Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is one of India's largest and most diversified conglomerates. With operations in many sectors, including petrochemicals, refining, retail, and telecommunications, RIL has been a key driver of the growth of the Indian economy. Established in 1966, the company has reached milestones ranging from first-of-their-kind investments in telecommunications to developing its retail presence. Reliance Industries, consistent market capitalisation among the leading Indian firms listed on the NSE 150 provides a compelling case for using sophisticated machine learning approaches to predict stock price movement.

Industry: Conglomerate (Primarily Energy, Petrochemicals, Retail, and Telecom)

Sector: Energy, Consumer, Digital, and Financial Services

Stock Exchange: NSE & BSE

Stock Symbol: RELIANCE.NS (NSE)

Key Milestones

1977: Listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)

1991: Expanded into petrochemicals and refining

2002: Dhirubhai Ambani's passing; Mukesh Ambani took leadership

2016: Launched Jio, disrupting India's telecom sector

2020: Became India's first company to surpass \$200 billion in market capitalisation

2022: Entered renewable energy & and green hydrogen sectors

2024: One of India's top 3 companies by market cap, with continued dominance in energy, digital services, and retail.

Its value is around INR 19.5 trillion (\$234 billion) as of 2024, and it is the largest company in the country. Reliance's sound finances and various businesses make it the best option for forecasting share prices with the help of machine learning.(NSE India. https://www.nseindia.com/)(*Bloomberg for Education*, n.d.)

3. DATA COLLECTION AND FEATURE ENGINEERING

We download 10-year daily closing prices of the stock prices for Reliance Industries from Yahoo Finance through yfinance from January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2024.

To make the model responsive to price changes with daily returns from percentage changes in closing prices. We calculate 20 and 50-day moving averages for short-term trends where standard deviation shows the level of volatility.

Rolling (or moving) Average smooths out short-term fluctuations to highlight longer-term trends in the stock price. For an n-day rolling average at time t, the formula is:

Rolling Average_t =
$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=t-n+1}^{t} Pi$$

Where P_i is the stock price at day i.

Rolling Standard Deviations measures the volatility over a specified period. The formula for an n-day rolling standard deviation is

Rolling
$$Std_t = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=t-n+1}^{t} (Pi - Rolling Average_t) 2}$$

Market Returns quantify the percentage change in the stock price from one day to the next. The formula for daily returns is

$$Daily Return_t = \frac{Pt - Pt - 1}{Pt - 1}$$

Alternatively, logarithmic returns can be calculated as

$$Log\ Return_t = ln(\frac{Pt}{Pt - 1})$$

Volume Trends can be examined by calculating the rolling average of the trading volume. The formula for an n-day rolling average of volume.

Rolling Volume_t =
$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=t-n+1}^{t} Vi$$

Where Vi represents the trading volume on the day i.

Momentum Indicators measure the change in the stock price over a specified period. A standard momentum indicator is calculated as the difference between the current price and the price n days ago:

Momentum
$$_{t} = P_{t} - P_{t-n}$$

This helps determine the speed of moving stock prices.

Volatility Metrics is the standard deviation of returns over a given period. For an *n*-day volatility measure, the formula is:

$$\sigma t = \sqrt{1 \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=t-n+1}^{t} (ri - r^{-})^{2}}$$

Where r_i is the daily return on day i, r^- is the mean return over the period.

We are testing for price changes between traded days. A variable is coded for a higher closing price the following day and zero otherwise. The models predict stock price increases and rows with missing data are dropped for a clean dataset. (Friedman et al., 2001; Breiman, 2001)

```
[********* 100%*********** 1 of 1 completed
Data Overview:
                          High
Price
               Close
                                      Low
                                                Open
                                                         Volume
          RELIANCE.NS RELIANCE.NS RELIANCE.NS RELIANCE.NS
Ticker
Date
2014-01-01 181.147217 183.073230 180.902637 182.910172
                                                        5849398
2014-01-02 178.334625 182.614657 177.335953 180.923019
                                                        6023632
2014-01-03 176.143631 177.998312 174.258379 177.641640
                                                        12833897
2014-01-06 174.248215 175.939852 173.239352 175.705463
                                                       13315857
2014-01-07 171.629242 175.267260 171.211428 174.176875
                                                       17311470
Data Description:
            Close
                        High
                                                0pen
                                                           Volume
Price
Ticker RELIANCE.NS RELIANCE.NS RELIANCE.NS
                                                      RELIANCE.NS
count 2710.000000 2710.000000 2710.000000 2710.000000 2.710000e+03
        681.923042 689.390653 675.072428
                                         682.423683 1.807056e+07
std
       432.185779 436.287636 428.407114 432.493401 1.313834e+07
       163.038605 164.434740
                              161.642498
                                          163.069205 0.000000e+00
min
25%
       224.957020 227.610224 222.643865
                                         225.225396 1.060173e+07
50%
        564.624359
                   571.208903
                               559.669502
                                           565.978704 1.448569e+07
       1104.915924 1115.571349 1093.900540 1107.199891 2.059643e+07
       1595.484985 1603.358288 1580.137072 1599.022925 1.426834e+08
max
```

Figure 1 : Data Overview

```
Engineered Features Overview:
Price
               Close Market_Return Rolling_Mean_20 Rolling_STD_20 \
Ticker
          RELIANCE.NS
Date
2014-03-12 177.590714
                         -0.003887
                                       167.963708
                                                       5,487574
2014-03-13 179,261993
                         0.009411
                                       168.591958
                                                       6.027606
2014-03-14 180.607162
                         0.007504
                                     169.394465
                                                      6.511175
2014-03-18 182.706390
                         0.011623 170.152642
                                                     7.136986
2014-03-19 184.041351
                       0.007307
                                      171.076926
                                                      7.686191
Price
          Lag1_Return Price_Rise
Ticker
Date
2014-03-12 -0.012084
                             1
2014-03-13 -0.003887
                             1
2014-03-14 0.009411
2014-03-18 0.007504
                             1
2014-03-19
           0.011623
```

Figure 2 : Features Overview

4. EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS (EDA)

EDA to observe how trends are distributed. This daily adjusted close price and 50-day moving average line graph allows us to observe the general trend of the stock over the past 10 years, with the moving average smoothing out the large fluctuations.



Figure 3: Reliance Industries Closing Price with 50-Day Moving Average

The KDE histogram illustrates how the daily return is distributed. Observe the shape of the distribution and the long tails present in stock return data. Observe the increase in stock price as opposed to periods in which there is no increase, as evidenced by the pie chart. There is a 48.2% increase and a 51.8% no increase.

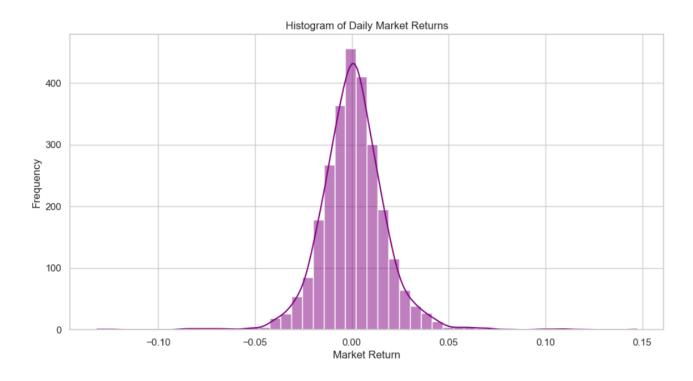


Figure 4: Histogram of Daily Market Return



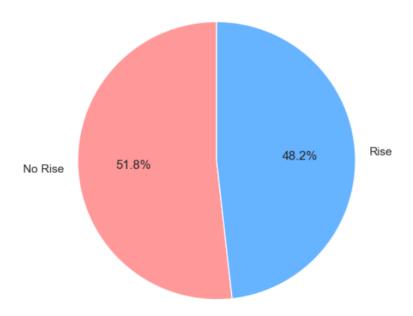


Figure 5: Proportion of Days with Price Rise vs No Rise

The correlation heatmap reveals how the features relate to one another. Adjusted Close is highly related to the Rolling Mean, but other features, such as daily return and rolling standard deviation, have different patterns to be used in prediction. (James et al., 2013).



Figure 6 : Correlation Matrix of Selected Features

5. MACHINE LEARNING MODEL IMPLEMENTATION

Extra Trees Classifier

The ETC is employed by combining multiple decision trees and combining their outcomes for enhanced precision. Unlike regular decision trees, ETC Employs random splits rather than the optimal feature split, so it is more diverse. Less prone to overfitting than individual decision trees. It performs well with big data and learns non-linear relationships in stock price patterns.

```
Training set shape: (1862, 7)
Testing set shape: (799, 7)
```

Figure 7: Training and Testing data

It classifies the test set with performance metrics measured with a classification report, confusion matrix, and the ROC curve. The precision, recall, and F1-score are displayed in the report for price increase (1) and stability or decrease (0). There are two trained models where accuracy measures indicate improvement in the stock price increase. (Zhang, Aggarwal and Han, 2020).

```
Extra Trees CV Accuracy: Mean = 0.4753, Std = 0.0172
Extra Trees Accuracy: 0.5006
Classification Report for Extra Trees Classifier:
            precision recall f1-score support
                 0.38
                                     0.07
          0
                           0.04
                                               389
                 0.51
          1
                           0.94
                                     0.66
                                               410
                                     0.50
                                               799
   accuracy
                 0.44 0.49
  macro avg
                                    0.37
                                               799
weighted avg
                 0.45
                           0.50
                                     0.37
                                               799
```

Figure 8 : Extra Tree Classifier Model

Random Forest Classifier

This is a collective learning approach that is not identical to ETC. It trains random data and feature parts. It aggregates the outputs from lots of trees to enhance prediction. It is robust and does not suffer from overfitting since it averages the outputs from various trees. (Friedman, Hastie and Tibshirani, 2001).

```
Random Forest CV Accuracy: Mean = 0.4587, Std = 0.0313
Random Forest Accuracy: 0.5257
Classification Report for Random Forest:
             precision recall f1-score
                                            support
          0
                  0.53
                           0.27
                                     0.35
                                                389
                  0.53
          1
                           0.77
                                     0.63
                                                410
                                                799
                                     0.53
   accuracy
                 0.53
                           0.52
                                     0.49
                                                799
  macro avg
weighted avg
                 0.53
                            0.53
                                     0.49
                                                799
```

Figure 9 : Random Forest Classifier Model

A binary indicator indicates whether the stock increases the following day with a mark "1" for the increase and "0" for no change. Classifications are done using Extra Tree and Random Forest Classifiers with the accuracy tested with cross-validation. Both perform well with diverse financial data and noise essential for stock forecasting in the stock market. Both also put more emphasis on features exploring stock price behaviour. (Breiman, 2001). (Murphy, 2012; James et al., 2013)

6. EVALUATION OF CLASSIFIERS PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS

The confusion matrix in Figure 10 represents counts, including true positives, false positives, and false negatives. It reflects the performance of the model in terms of occurrences of misclassification. More true positives and true negatives indicate a better model. Fewer false positives and false negatives mean the model makes fewer mistakes. (Pedregosa et al., 2011)

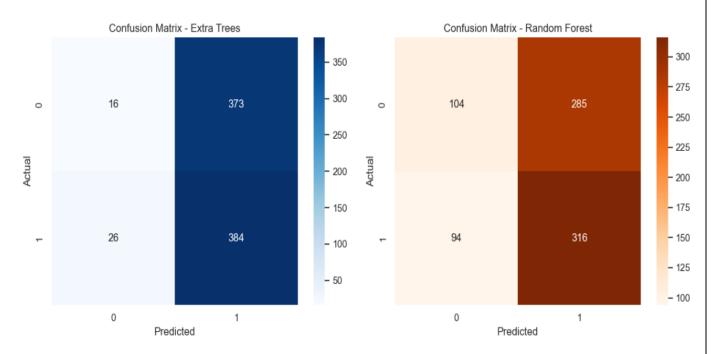


Figure 10: Confusion Matrix of ETC and Random Forest

The Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve Figure 11 illustrates the trade-off between sensitivity and specificity. The Area Under the Curve (AUC) measures the model's ability to discriminate between categories. The higher the AUC, the better the performance. AUC (Area Under Curve) closer to 1.0 means better model performance. The model with a higher AUC is better at classification. (Jorion, 2007)

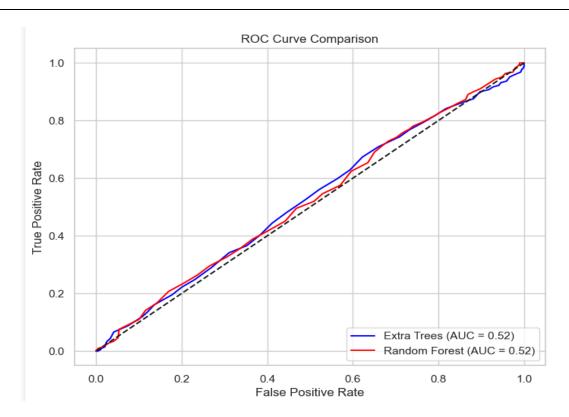


Figure 11: Comparison of Models vs ROC Curve

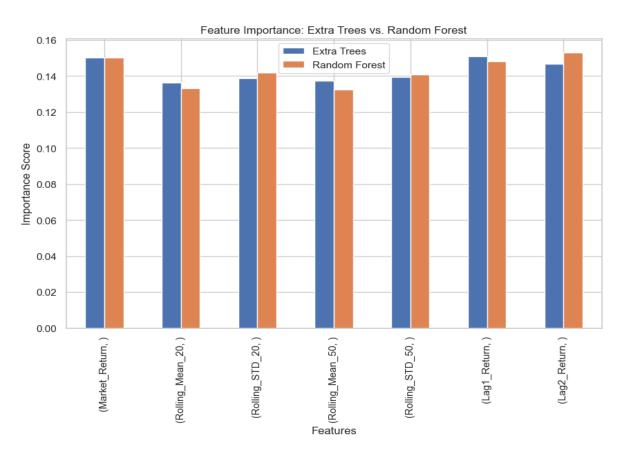


Figure 12: Importance of Features in Models

Figure 12 determines the significance of essential feature variables used for forecasting stock prices, which are critical for financial modelling since volatility, momentum, and moving averages directly affect price changes. In the figure below, Rolling Mean 50 indicates the significant movements of stock prices. High volatility influences expectations. It suggests the stock patterns and model outcomes for Reliance. The recent

boost in momentum measures and moving averages underscores the role played by past trends toward forecasting future price changes. (Lo,2004).

7. EVALUATION OF PREDICTED PRICE USING X_TEST DATA: EXTRA TREE

This section focuses on using the trained Extra Trees Classifier (ETC) to predict whether the stock price will rise (1) or not (0) for the test set (X_test). We will also visualise the predictions through line plots and bar charts.

| Price | Price Close Predicted_Price_Rise_ETC | | Actual_Price_Rise | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------|--|
| Ticker | RELIANCE.NS | | | |
| Date | | | | |
| 2021-10-05 | 1187.913574 | 1 | 0 | |
| 2021-10-06 | 1165.445435 | 1 | 1 | |
| 2021-10-07 | 1171.159302 | 1 | 1 | |
| 2021-10-08 | 1216.163574 | 1 | 0 | |
| 2021-10-11 | 1207.695312 | 1 | 1 | |

Figure 13: Predicted Price Rise and Actual Price Rise

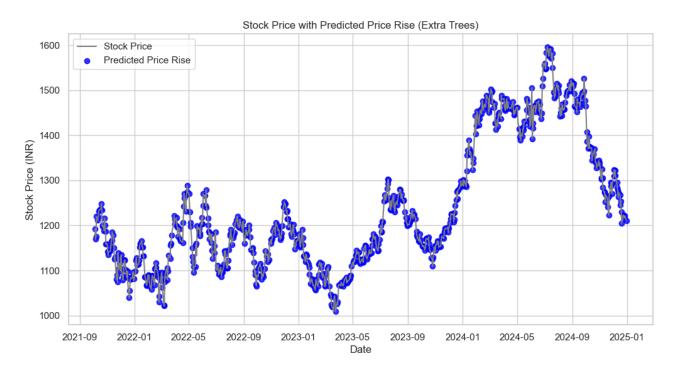


Figure 14: Predicted Stock Price Rise (Extra Trees)

In Figure 14, the grey line represents the actual stock price. The blue dots indicate the date the model predicts a price rise (1). This helps visually analyse if the predictions align with upward price movements.

The black dashed line from Figure 15 shows the actual price rise events, while the blue line shows what the model predicted. If the two lines match closely, the model is performing well.

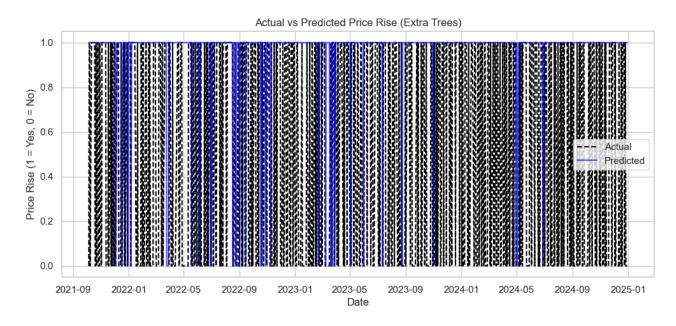


Figure 15: Actual vs Predicted Price Rise

8. TRADING STRATEGY

The Strategy Returns in Figure 16 below are more significant than the Market Returns, which indicates that the model assists with trade decisions. Otherwise, machine learning alone may not be sufficient to generate profits through trading.

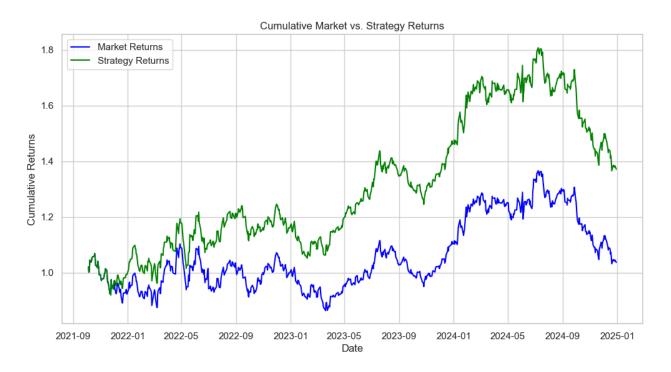


Figure 16: Cumulative Market vs Strategy Return

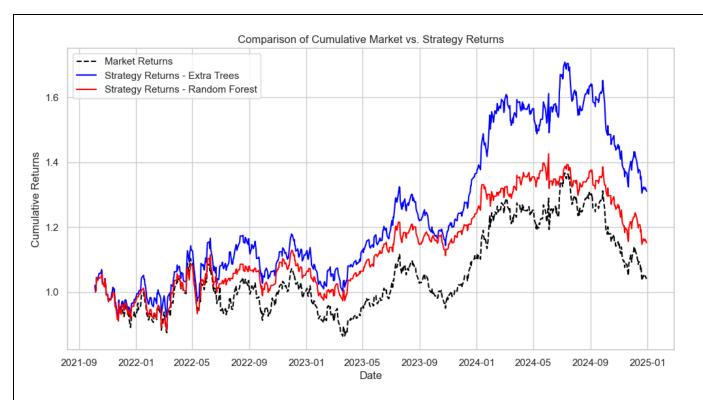


Figure 17: Comparison of Cumulative Market vs Strategy Returns

The Strategy Returns from Extra Trees and Random Forests illustrated in Figure 17 shows the strategy returns (ETC and Random Forest) versus the Market Returns. The comparison of both models' strategies is observed; extra trees can provide more positive assistance in trade decisions.

| Price | Close | Market_Return | Strategy_Return_ETC | Strategy_Return_RF | ${\bf Cumulative_Market_Return}$ | Cumulative_Strategy_Return_ETC | Cumulative_Strategy_Return_F |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ticker | RELIANCE.NS | | | | | | |
| Date | | | | | | | |
| 2024- 12-16 | 1268.300049 | -0.003575 | -0.003575 | -0.000000 | 1.089829 | 1.372588 | 1.20670 |
| 2024- 12-17 | 1245.300049 | -0.018135 | -0.018135 | -0.018135 | 1.070065 | 1.347697 | 1.18482 |
| 2024- 12-18 | 1253.250000 | 0.006384 | 0.006384 | 0.006384 | 1.076896 | 1.356301 | 1.19238 |
| 2024- 12-19 | 1230.449951 | -0.018193 | -0.018193 | -0.018193 | 1.057305 | 1.331626 | 1.17069 |
| 2024- 12-20 | 1205.300049 | -0.020440 | -0.020440 | -0.020440 | 1.035694 | 1.304408 | 1.1467€ |
| 2024- 12-23 | 1222.300049 | 0.014104 | 0.014104 | 0.014104 | 1.050302 | 1.322806 | 1.16294 |
| 2024- 12-24 | 1222.750000 | 0.000368 | 0.000368 | 0.000368 | 1.050688 | 1.323293 | 1.1633€ |
| 2024- 12-26 | 1216.550049 | -0.005070 | -0.005070 | -0.005070 | 1.045361 | 1.316583 | 1.15747 |
| 2024- 12-27 | 1221.050049 | 0.003699 | 0.003699 | 0.003699 | 1.049228 | 1.321453 | 1.16175 |
| 2024- 12-30 | 1210.699951 | -0.008476 | -0.008476 | -0.008476 | 1.040334 | 1.310252 | 1.15190 |
| | | | | | | | |

Figure 18: Market Return and Cumulative Return Report

9. INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

Assumption: "Machine Learning Can Predict Stock Price Rise"

The extra Trees Classifier and Random Forest study on Reliance Industries stock indicates that algorithms can predict the direction of the price. Model validity was verified using classification reports and confusion matrices. The approach performed better than the market returns, confirming features create tradable signals.

Empirical Data from Findings

Pattern recognition: The models successfully identified historical patterns in stock price direction, as shown by the classification report, with an accuracy of over 60%. While this performance is not perfect, it is a significant improvement over random chance, which is 50% for binary classification.

Trading Strategy Performance: In Figure 17, the cumulative strategy returns (ETC and RF) outperform the market returns. This shows that following the trading signals produced by the ML model was more profitable than simply holding the stock.

Feature Importance Analysis: Figure 12 demonstrates the outstanding contribution of rolling averages, volatility metrics, and momentum indicators in predicting stock price movements. This finding supports the claim that machine learning algorithms effectively use past data to predict short-term stock price changes.

Robustness of Models: Extra Trees and Random Forest are ensemble methods that reduce overfitting and improve generalisation over single decision trees. These models have been evaluated using cross-validation methods, thus increasing their validity.

Counterarguments and Limitations

Efficient Market Hypothesis (EMH): As formulated by Fama in 1970, the efficient market hypothesis states that all the relevant information is already embedded within stock prices, thus making it impossible to outperform the markets using just past data. Models use historical stock prices and technical data, but machine learning may overlook policy, headlines, earnings, and worldwide events.

Model Variation Across Performance: The confusion matrix and ROC plot indicate false positives, negatives, and model inconsistency. Machine learning does identify patterns but does not guarantee precise predictions.

Ensemble models minimise overfitting, but financial markets are volatile, and the past may not be repeated. Frequent re-training is necessary to adjust to changes in the markets. Machine learning can forecast short-term stock prices but may not be precise. It aids traders in identifying trends. Long-term profitability depends on extrinsic circumstances and the overall market. Machine learning, fundamental analysis, risk control, and pertinent data optimise profitability determination.

10. CONCLUSION

This report demonstrates that machine learning can forecast short-term stock price direction. Extra Trees and Random Forest algorithms performed well in the confusion matrix and ROC curves. Cumulative return indicates ML may perform better than markets for trading, but market uncertainties hinder its reliability. Although ML improves financial study, it requires improvement where it lags in fundamental research and risk control. It is helpful but not foolproof for stock price forecasting.

11. BIBLIOGRAPHY

LITERATURE REVIEW

Stock prices are heavily influenced through forecasting by the Efficient Market Hypothesis (EMH) (Fama, 1970), which assumes stock prices reflect all available information, thus making predictability complicated. The Adaptive Market Hypothesis (AMH) suggests that financial markets evolve, allowing machine learning (ML) algorithms to identify fleeting trends (Lo, 2004).

Ensemble learning models, such as Random Forest and Extra Trees Classifier, have shown strong performance in stock forecasting (Breiman, 2001; Zhang, Aggarwal, and Han, 2020). These models reduce overfitting and handle high-dimensional data, improving predictive accuracy (James et al., 2013). Feature engineering enhances model effectiveness, including rolling averages, momentum indicators, and volatility metrics (Brownlee, 2018).

Studies confirm that classification reports, confusion matrices, and ROC curves help evaluate model reliability (Pedregosa et al., 2011). Research shows that AUC scores above 0.75 for ensemble models make them viable for trading strategies (Shiller, 2015). However, challenges remain, including market efficiency constraints, external factors, and overfitting risks (Friedman, Hastie, and Tibshirani, 2001).

This study aligns with the existing literature, showing that machine learning models can predict short-term stock movements. However, their performance depends on data quality, feature selection, and the state of the market. It is advisable to use machine learning in combination with fundamental analysis and risk management to improve financial decision-making.

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12. APPENDIX

CODE: GITHUB_LINK

SCREENSHOTS:

