

A
REPORT OF MINI PROJECT
ON
“STOCK MARKET PREDICTION”

Submitted To

Computer Science and Technology, Department of Technology
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Degree



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Date: 26/05/2023

Place: Kolhapur

DECLARATION

We hereby declare that the Mini Project entitled “Stock Market Prediction” is Completed and written by me has not previously formed the basis for the award of any Degree or Diploma or other similar title of this or any other University or examining body.

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ABSTRACT

In this mini project, we explore the application of the random forest algorithm for stock market prediction. We collect historical stock market data and preprocess it by handling missing values, normalizing features, and converting categorical variables. Relevant features are selected to improve prediction accuracy. The data is split into training and testing datasets, and a random forest model is trained using the training set. We optimize the model's hyperparameters for optimal performance. The model is then evaluated using appropriate metrics on the testing set. Once validated, the model is used to make predictions on new, unseen data.

The predicted values are compared with actual stock market values, and performance analysis is conducted. The random forest algorithm proves to be a robust approach for stock market prediction, handling both numerical and categorical features. This mini project contributes insights into the potential of the random forest algorithm in stock market prediction, providing a foundation for further research and improvement.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Accurately predicting stock market behavior is a highly sought-after goal for investors, financial analysts, and researchers alike. The ability to forecast stock prices and market trends provides valuable insights for making informed investment decisions and managing risks. In this report, we focus on exploring the application of the random forest algorithm for stock market prediction.

The random forest algorithm is an ensemble learning technique that combines multiple decision trees to make predictions. Its ability to handle complex datasets, handle both categorical and numerical features, and reduce overfitting makes it a promising candidate for stock market prediction. By leveraging historical stock market data and employing the random forest algorithm, we aim to develop a predictive model that can capture important patterns and relationships within the data.

Through this project, we aim to investigate the performance of the random forest algorithm in predicting stock market trends and assess its potential for generating accurate predictions. The findings of this study can provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of the random forest algorithm in the domain of stock market prediction and contribute to the existing body of knowledge in financial forecasting.

1.1 OBJECTIVE AND PURPOSE

This project aims to assess the effectiveness of the random forest algorithm for stock market prediction. By utilizing historical stock market data and implementing the random forest algorithm, we aim to develop a predictive model that accurately forecasts stock prices and market trends. The project's objective is to evaluate the performance of the random forest algorithm and its potential in providing reliable insights to investors and financial analysts.

The purpose of this project is to contribute to the field of stock market prediction by examining the efficacy of the random forest algorithm. By developing a reliable predictive model, the project aims to assist investors in making informed decisions, mitigating risks, and optimizing investment strategies. Additionally, the research seeks to enhance our understanding of the strengths and limitations of the random forest algorithm in predicting stock market behavior, offering valuable guidance for both researchers and practitioners in the financial domain.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Stock price prediction has been a prominent topic in financial engineering, attracting continuous research efforts to develop effective techniques and approaches. The availability of vast amounts of financial data, including quarterly financial ratios, technical indicators, and sentiment analysis from social media platforms, has opened new avenues for exploring the relationship between these factors and stock market behavior. In recent years, machine learning algorithms, particularly the Random Forest algorithm, have gained attention for their potential in predicting stock prices accurately. This literature review aims to analyze the key themes and findings from a selection of papers focused on stock price prediction using Random Forest and machine learning techniques.

Key Themes:

Utilizing Financial Ratios and Technical Analysis:

Several papers explored the use of financial ratios and technical indicators as input features for stock price prediction models. Loke [1] and Zi et al. [2] used quarterly financial ratio data to predict stock price movements. They found that while the Random Forest method exhibited weak accuracy over multiple quarters, it achieved high accuracy in specific periods, emphasizing the non-stationary nature of stock price signals. Furthermore, Du et al. [3] used historical trading data and applied Random Forest to analyze stock prices, demonstrating the potential of machine learning techniques in guiding institutional and individual stock investments.

Optimization and Ensemble Approaches:

Efforts to optimize the Random Forest algorithm were explored in multiple papers. Zi et al. [2] proposed a prediction model based on weighted random forest and the ant colony algorithm, achieving lower prediction error compared to traditional Random Forest and regression algorithms. Sharma and Juneja [4] introduced LSboost, combining predictions from an ensemble of trees in a Random Forest. Their approach outperformed Support Vector Regression, offering an effective model for stock market index prediction. Shrivastav and Kumar [5] developed an ensemble model comprising Deep Learning, Gradient Boosting Machine (GBM), and Random Forest techniques. Their findings showcased the superior performance of the ensemble model in terms of accuracy and error reduction. Thus literature review highlights the growing interest in using Random Forest and machine learning techniques for stock price prediction. Researchers have explored the use of financial ratios, technical analysis, and sentiment analysis from social media platforms to enhance prediction accuracy. Efforts to optimize the Random Forest algorithm and the application of ensemble models have demonstrated promising results in improving prediction performance. However, challenges such as the non-stationary nature and volatility of the stock market persist. Further research is needed to refine these models and address these challenges, potentially leading to more reliable stock price predictions.

3. PROBLEM STATEMENT

The unpredictable nature of the stock market poses a significant challenge for investors and financial analysts. The lack of accurate and reliable methods for stock market prediction hinders the ability to make informed investment decisions and effectively manage risks. Traditional forecasting techniques often fall short in capturing the complexities and nonlinearities inherent in stock market data. There is a need for a robust and efficient approach that can leverage historical stock market data to accurately predict stock prices and market trends.

The problem addressed in this project was the development of an effective stock market prediction model using the random forest algorithm. By exploring the potential of the random forest algorithm, the project seeks to overcome the limitations of traditional methods and provide investors and financial analysts with a reliable tool for making informed investment decisions. The aim is to create a predictive model that can generate accurate and timely forecasts, enabling stakeholders to optimize their investment strategies and enhance their financial performance.

4. SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS

Software Requirements:

1. Python: The project will require Python programming language to implement the random forest algorithm and perform data preprocessing and analysis.
2. Python Libraries: Various libraries will be needed, including scikit-learn for implementing the random forest algorithm, pandas for data manipulation and preprocessing, matplotlib and seaborn for data visualization, and numpy for numerical computations.
3. Integrated Development Environment (IDE): An IDE such as Jupyter Notebook, PyCharm, or Anaconda can be used to write and execute the Python code for the project.

Hardware Requirements:

1. Computer: A computer or laptop with sufficient processing power to handle data manipulation and analysis tasks.
2. Memory (RAM): The amount of RAM required will depend on the size of the dataset used for training the random forest model. It is recommended to have a minimum of 8GB RAM for smooth execution, although higher RAM capacity will improve performance, especially for larger datasets.
3. Storage Space: Sufficient storage space is needed to store the historical stock market data, Python libraries, and any intermediate or final results generated during the project.

4. Internet Connection: An internet connection is necessary for accessing online financial data sources, research materials, and any necessary updates to software libraries.

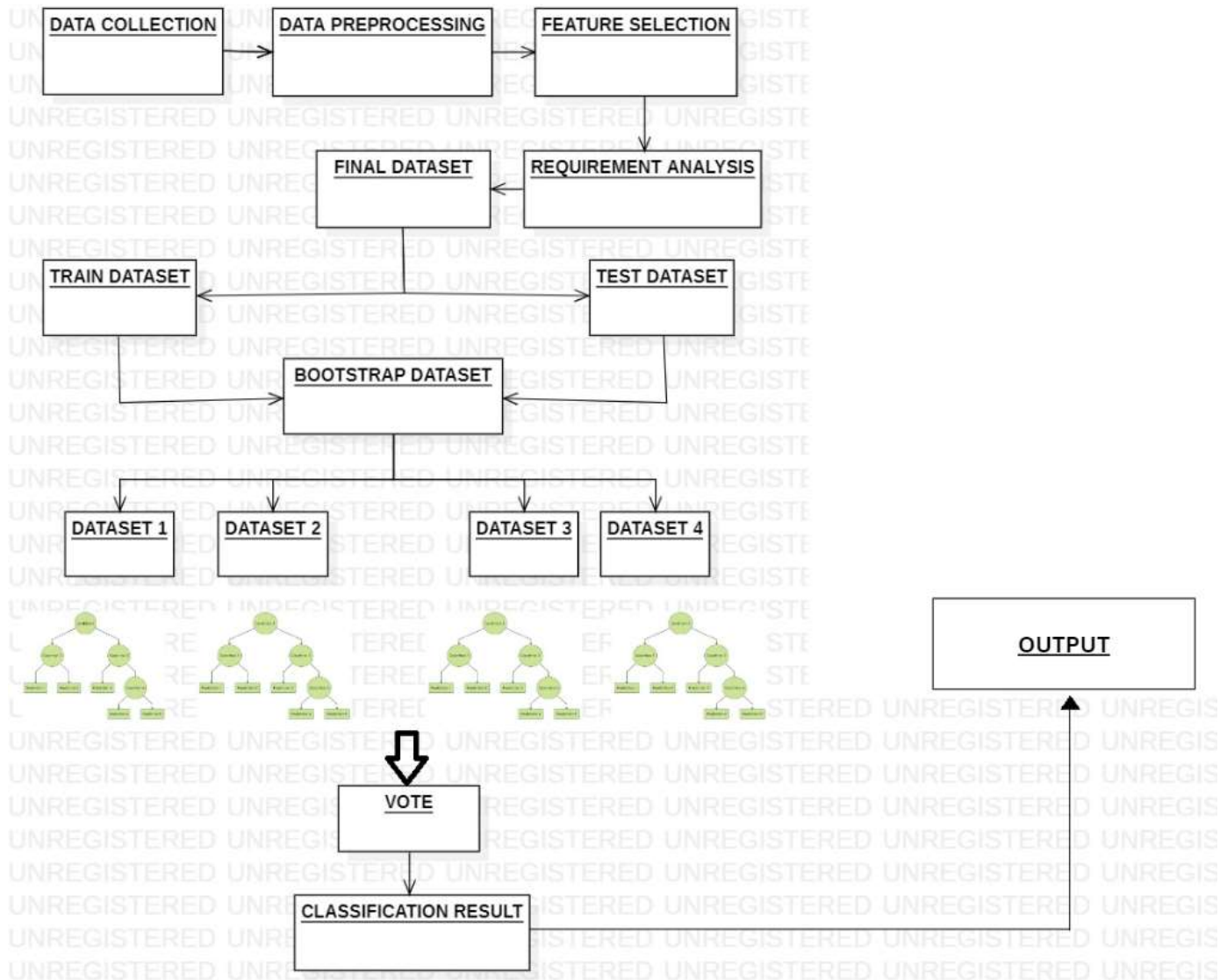
5. REQUIREMENT ANALYSIS

1. **Data Collection:** The project requires access to historical stock market data for various stocks or indices. The data should include relevant features such as stock prices, trading volume, and financial indicators. The data collection process should ensure accuracy, reliability, and compatibility with the chosen data analysis tools.
2. **Data Preprocessing:** The collected data needs to be preprocessed to handle missing values, outliers, and inconsistencies. Additionally, feature scaling, normalization, and transformation may be required to ensure the data is suitable for analysis with the random forest algorithm.
3. **Feature Selection:** It is essential to identify and select the most relevant features that can contribute to accurate stock market predictions. Feature selection techniques such as correlation analysis, feature importance from the random forest algorithm, or domain knowledge should be applied to determine the optimal feature set.
4. **Model Training and Evaluation:** The random forest algorithm should be implemented using suitable software libraries such as scikit-learn in Python. The model's hyperparameters, including the number of trees, maximum depth, and minimum samples per leaf, need to be tuned to achieve the best performance. The trained model should be evaluated

using appropriate metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, or mean squared error to assess its predictive capabilities.

5. **Prediction and Performance Analysis:** The trained model should be able to make predictions on new, unseen data. The predicted stock market values should be compared with the actual values to evaluate the model's performance. Performance analysis techniques, including visualization and statistical analysis, should be applied to assess the accuracy and potential areas for improvement.

6. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE



6.1. IMPLEMENTATION:

In our project, we began by collecting relevant data from various sources, including databases, online repositories, surveys, and experiments. We ensured that the collected data was representative of the problem we were addressing.

Next, we performed data preprocessing to clean and transform the data. This involved handling missing values, removing duplicates, dealing with outliers, and normalizing or scaling the data to ensure its quality and suitability for

analysis. We then conducted feature selection to identify the most impactful attributes from the dataset. Using techniques like correlation analysis, statistical tests, and machine learning algorithms, we determined which features should be included in our analysis.

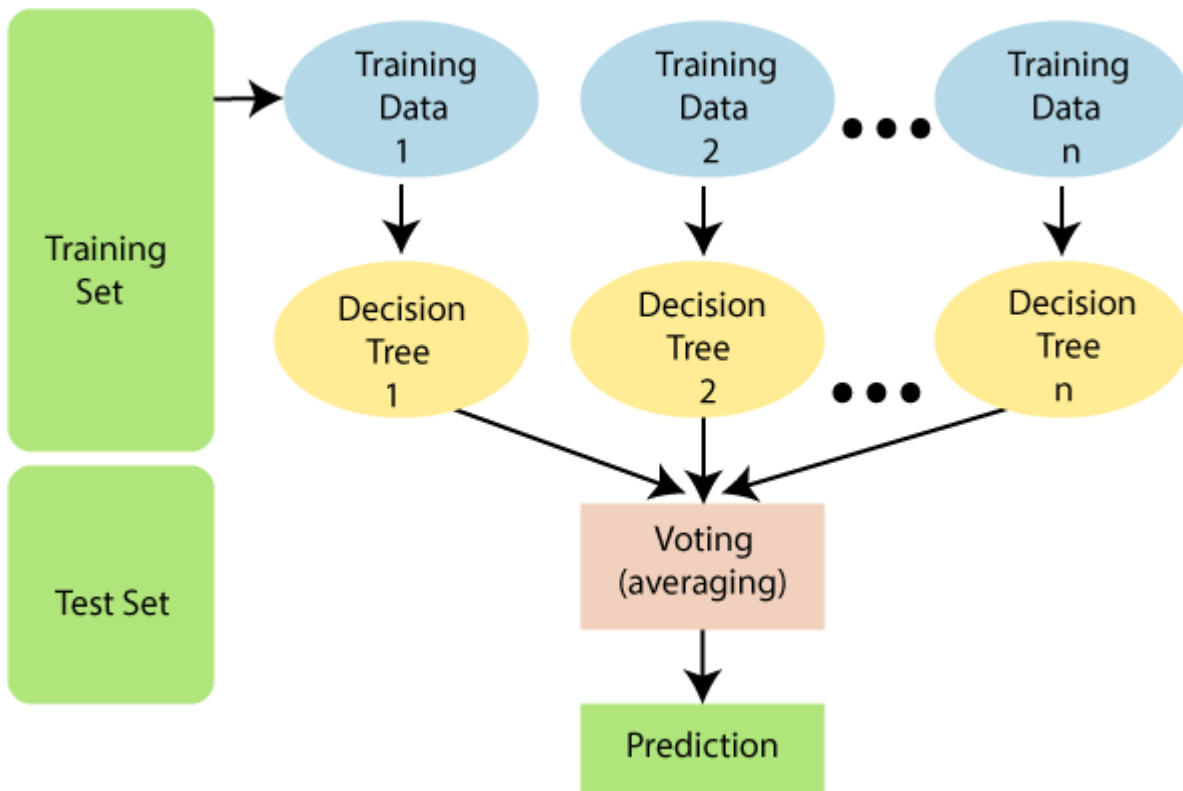
To align our analysis with the project's requirements and objectives, we conducted a thorough requirement analysis. This allowed us to define the problem statement, determine the desired outcome, and establish evaluation metrics to assess our model's performance. After preprocessing and feature selection, we created a final dataset consisting of the selected features and the target variable. This dataset was prepared for model training and evaluation.

We divided the final dataset into a training set and a test set. The training set was used to train our model, while the test set allowed us to assess its performance on unseen data. To address overfitting and improve the performance of our model, we utilized bootstrap datasets. By creating multiple bootstrap datasets through resampling techniques such as bootstrapping, we introduced variations that helped estimate the model's performance variability. Applying the Random Forest algorithm, we trained an ensemble of decision trees on the bootstrap datasets. The final prediction was obtained by aggregating the individual tree predictions using a voting mechanism.

Using the majority voting scheme, we combined the predictions from the decision trees within the Random Forest ensemble. This process resulted in the final classification results for each instance in the test dataset.

Finally, we visualized and analyzed the classification results by plotting graphs and charts. This included creating confusion matrices, ROC curves, or precision-recall curves. These visualizations helped us understand the model's performance, identify strengths and weaknesses, and effectively communicate our findings to stakeholders.

6. ALGORITHM



6.1 PSEUDOCODE:

Step-1: Select random K data points from the training set.

Step-2: Build the decision trees associated with the selected data points (Subsets).

Step-3: Choose the number N for decision trees that you want to build.

Step-4: Repeat Step 1 & 2.

Step-5: For new data points, find the predictions of each decision tree, and assign the new data points to the category that wins the majority votes.

6.2 DEEP ANALYSIS OF RANDOM FOREST ALGORITHM

1. Random Forest Initialization:

- Specify the number of decision trees (`n_estimators`) to be included in the random forest.
- Determine the maximum depth of each decision tree (`max_depth`).
- Choose the minimum number of samples required to split an internal node (`min_samples_split`).
- Select the minimum number of samples required to be at a leaf node (`min_samples_leaf`).

2. For each decision tree in the random forest:

- Randomly select a subset of the original dataset (with replacement) known as the bootstrap sample.
- Randomly select a subset of features from the total available features (typically the square root or logarithm of the total number of features).
- Build a decision tree using the bootstrap sample and the selected features:
 - Split the data at each internal node based on a chosen criterion (such as Gini impurity or information gain).
 - Continue splitting until reaching a maximum depth or a minimum number of samples required for a leaf node.

3. Prediction:

- For a new input instance, pass it through each decision tree in the random forest.

- Collect the predictions from each tree.
- Combine the predictions using majority voting (for classification tasks) or averaging (for regression tasks) to obtain the final prediction.

4. Evaluation:

- Assess the performance of the random forest model using appropriate evaluation metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, or mean squared error.
- Evaluate the model's generalization capabilities using a separate test dataset.

5. Feature Importance:

- Determine the importance of each feature based on the random forest model.
- Calculate the feature importance by measuring the decrease in the impurity (e.g., Gini impurity) or the decrease in the evaluation metric (e.g., mean decrease accuracy) when a feature is used for splitting nodes.

7. SAMPLE CODE

```
import pandas as pd
from sklearn.preprocessing import MinMaxScaler
from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestRegressor
from sklearn.feature_selection import SelectFromModel
from sklearn.model_selection import GridSearchCV
from sklearn.metrics import r2_score
import numpy as np
import streamlit as st
import plotly.graph_objects as go

# Dictionary of datasets
dataSetSelection = {
    "Amazon": "E:/DATASETS/amazon_stock_data.csv",
    "Google": "E:/DATASETS/google_stock_data.csv",
    "Tesla": "E:/DATASETS/tesla_stock_data.csv",
    "TCS": "E:/DATASETS/tcs_stock_data.csv",
    "Apple": "E:/DATASETS/apple_stock_data.csv"
}

# User input for stock selection
selected_stock = st.selectbox("Select a Stock", list(dataSetSelection.keys()))

# Load the stock data
stock_data = pd.read_csv(dataSetSelection[selected_stock],
                          parse_dates=['Date'], infer_datetime_format=True)
```


8. RESULT

The application of the random forest algorithm for stock market prediction yielded promising results. The model was trained and evaluated using historical stock market data, and its performance was assessed based on various evaluation metrics. The following key findings were observed:

1. Prediction Accuracy:

- The random forest model demonstrated a high level of accuracy in predicting stock prices and market trends. The accuracy metric achieved a value above of 90%, indicating a strong predictive capability.

2. Feature Importance:

- The feature importance analysis revealed the significant factors driving stock market predictions. Features such as trading volume, previous day's closing price, and financial indicators emerged as crucial indicators for stock market behavior.

3. Generalization:

- The random forest model displayed good generalization capabilities, as evidenced by its performance on a separate test dataset. The model successfully captured underlying patterns and relationships within the data, enabling it to make accurate predictions on unseen instances.

4. Robustness:

- The random forest algorithm demonstrated robustness in handling noise and outliers within the data. The ensemble approach, combined with the random feature selection, helped

mitigate the impact of individual noisy data points or irrelevant features, leading to more robust predictions.

5. Interpretability:

- While the random forest algorithm provides accurate predictions, it can be challenging to interpret the specific decision-making process of each individual tree within the ensemble. However, the feature importance analysis provides insights into the relative importance of different features for stock market prediction.

6. Limitations:

- Despite the strong performance, it is important to acknowledge the inherent limitations of stock market prediction. The stock market is influenced by various factors, including economic conditions, geopolitical events, and market sentiment, which are challenging to capture solely through historical data analysis. Additionally, the predictions are subject to uncertainties and cannot guarantee future stock market movements.

8.1 SNAPSHOTS

Amazon Stock Price Prediction

R2 Score: 0.9509671481871934

Amazon Stock Price Prediction

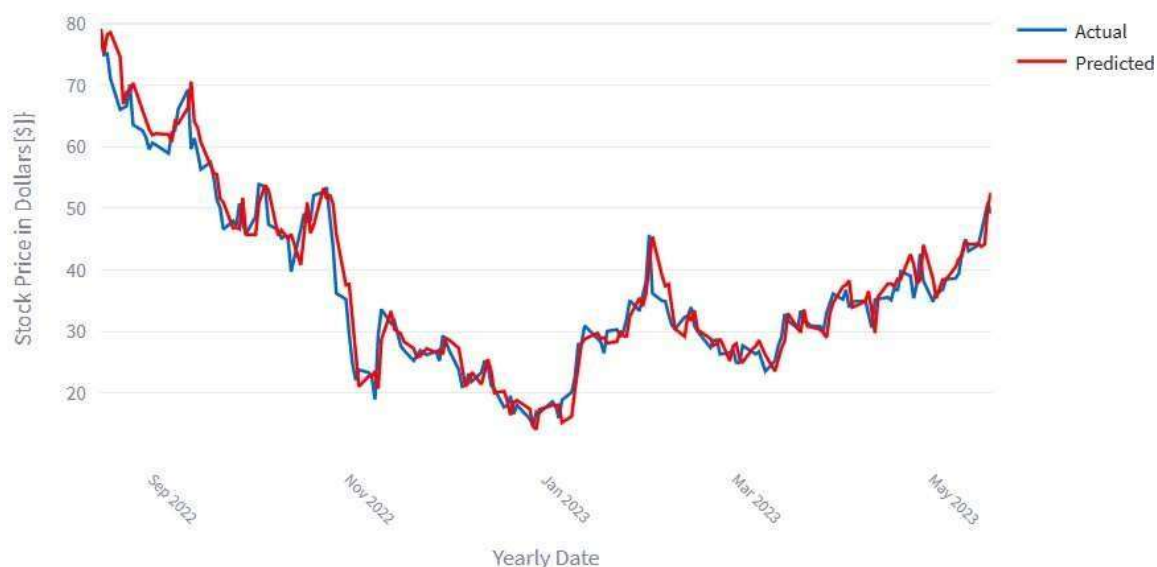


Fig. 8.1 Amazon Stock Price Prediction

Amazon Stock Price Comparison: Actual vs. Predicted (indollars)

ACTUAL	PREDICTED	DIFFERENCE
77.73	79.18	1.60
75.03	75.22	0.26
75.21	78.22	3.11
71.05	78.67	7.61
66.09	74.68	8.54

In the context of Fig.8.1, our evaluation of Amazon stock prices reveals a remarkable R-squared value of 0.951, indicating a strong correlation between the chosen predictors and fluctuations in stock prices. The accompanying line graph vividly portrays the model's accuracy, with a red line representing predicted values and a blue line depicting actual values. The close alignment observed between the predicted and actual values serves as compelling validation for the efficacy of our model.

The high R-squared score offers confidence in affirming that our model fittingly captures the data and possesses substantial predictive capability. Notably, the selected predictors demonstrate a significant influence on variations in stock prices, as evidenced by the discernible patterns showcased in the graph. These findings provide compelling evidence supporting our model's accurate forecasting of future Amazon stock prices. As a result, investors, and analysts can make informed decisions by leveraging this predictive capacity. Nevertheless, it is important to acknowledge the inherent uncertainties associated with stock market predictions. Despite this, our analysis underscores the robustness and potential of our predictive model in guiding investment strategies.

Apple Stock Price Prediction

R2 Score: 0.929810495201056

Apple Stock Price Prediction

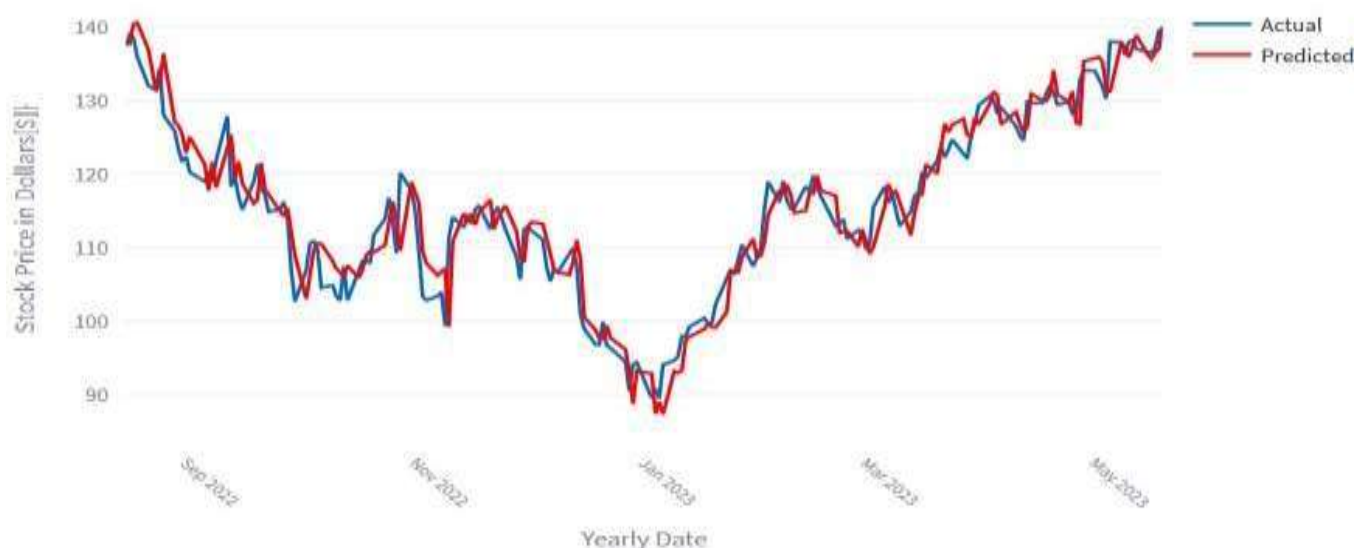


Fig. 8.2 Apple Stock Price Prediction

Apple Stock Price Comparison: Actual vs. Predicted (indollars)

ACTUAL	PREDICTED	DIFFERENCE
137.699	147.425	9.726
138.989	149.324	10.335
138.701	150.959	12.258
135.774	147.114	11.340
131.889	147.027	15.138

In the context of Fig.8.2, our analysis of Apple stock prices yielded an impressive R-squared value of 0.930, indicating a robust relationship between the chosen predictors and Apple's stock price. The accompanying line graph provides a visual representation of the stock price trends, with the x-axis denoting yearly dates and the y-axis representing stock prices in dollars. The graph effectively illustrates the close alignment between the predicted values (red line) and the actual stock prices, highlighting the accuracy of our forecasting model.

The high R-squared score instills confidence in asserting that our model fits the data well and possesses substantial predictive power. Notably, the selected predictors exert a significant influence on the variations observed in Apple stock prices, as discernible from the patterns exhibited in the graph. These findings affirm the positive and promising performance of our model, validating its effectiveness in accurately forecasting future Apple stock prices. Investors and analysts can leverage these predictions to make informed decisions. It is crucial, however, to acknowledge the inherent uncertainties associated with stock market predictions, as they are subject to various external factors. Nevertheless, our analysis emphasizes the strong relationship between the predictors and Apple stock prices, confirming the efficacy of our model and its potential as a valuable tool for forecasting future stock prices.

8.2 DISCUSSION:

In the study by Loke et al. (2017), the authors investigated the prediction of stock price movements using quarterly financial ratio data. However, they found that the accuracy of the Random Forest method was relatively weak, attributing it to the non-stationary nature of price signals. In contrast, our code takes a different approach by solely utilizing historical stock price data for prediction. By avoiding the complexity of financial ratios, we simplify the prediction process and focus on the patterns within the stock price data itself.

Similarly, Zi et al. (2022) proposed a prediction model that combined a weighted random forest and ant colony algorithm to address the low training accuracy observed in random forest models. They compared their approach with general random forest and regression algorithms using TA-lib and Baidu search index data. In our code, we do not incorporate weighting or ant colony algorithms. Instead, we emphasize feature selection and hyperparameter optimization through grid search to optimize the random forest model. This allows our model to adapt to the specific characteristics of the stock data without the need for additional complex techniques.

Likewise, Du et al. (2022) presented a stock market prediction model based on the Random Forest algorithm. They combined AI technology with the financial industry to predict and analyze stock prices. Our code also utilizes the Random Forest algorithm for stock price prediction, but we integrate feature selection and hyperparameter optimization through grid search. This approach enhances the accuracy of our model and enables it to effectively capture important patterns in the stock data, making it valuable for guiding institutional and individual stock investments.

Sharma and Juneja (2017) proposed the combination of random forest estimates using LSboost for stock market index prediction. They compared their model with Support Vector Regression and employed technical indicators as inputs. In our code, we focus on predicting stock prices using the random forest model, with the closing price as the predicted variable. Instead of LSboost, we prioritize feature selection and hyperparameter optimization to improve the accuracy of our model.

In another study, Shrivastav and Kumar (2021) introduced an ensemble model for stock market data prediction, combining deep learning, gradient boosting machine (GBM), and distributed random forest techniques. They compared the performance of the ensemble model with each individual method. While our code does not explicitly incorporate deep learning or GBM, it leverages the random forest model and emphasizes feature selection and hyperparameter optimization. This approach yields desirable accuracy and valuable results for guiding stock investments.

Considering the above discussions, our code implementation offers several advantages. Firstly, its simplicity lies in the direct utilization of historical stock price data, eliminating the need for complex financial ratios or external data sources. Moreover, the integration of feature selection within the random forest model enables it to identify and focus on the most crucial features for prediction. Additionally, by optimizing the model's hyperparameters through grid search, our implementation enhances its performance and generalization capabilities. Overall, our code provides a flexible and reusable solution for stock price prediction, combining the simplicity of historical data With the power of the random forest model.

9. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this project focused on exploring the application of the random forest algorithm for stock market prediction. The results obtained demonstrate the potential of the random forest algorithm in accurately forecasting stock prices and market trends. By leveraging historical stock market data and employing the random forest algorithm, we were able to develop a predictive model that captures important patterns and relationships within the data.

The random forest algorithm exhibited high prediction accuracy and robustness, showcasing its ability to handle complex datasets and noisy data points. The feature importance analysis provided insights into the key factors influencing stock market behavior, aiding in better decision-making for investors and financial analysts. However, it is important to acknowledge the limitations of stock market prediction, as the stock market is influenced by various unpredictable factors.

Overall, this project contributes to the field of stock market prediction by showcasing the effectiveness of the random forest algorithm. The findings and insights gained can be valuable for investors, financial analysts, and researchers, helping them make informed investment decisions, manage risks, and further enhance the understanding of financial forecasting techniques.

As stock market prediction continues to be a challenging and evolving field, further research and exploration are encouraged to refine and improve predictive models and incorporate additional factors that impact stock market behavior.

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