Problem Chosen	2022 MCM/ICM Summary Sheet	Team Control Number
C		2208487

Traders buy and sell volatile assets to maximize their income. Recently, with the growing interest of the public in cryptocurrencies, gold and bitcoin become a feasible combo. Our team is requested to determine the trading strategies for a trader which uses only the past daily prices. We accomplish the task by finishing the following sub-tasks.

To Harvest More: Achieving Best Trading Strategies on Gold and Bitcoins

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1 Introduction

1.1 Problem Background

With the popularity of cryptocurrencies and the simplification of trading methods, more of the population become market traders. Some of them expect to outperform inflation, while others want to create wealth. By buying and selling volatile assets frequently, market traders pursue a goal to maximize their total return. Gold and bitcoins enjoy great popularity these days for their complementary characteristics in risk and value. Gold is stable in price and has lower risk while the value of bitcoins varies greatly and thus has a higher risk, as is shown in Figure 1.

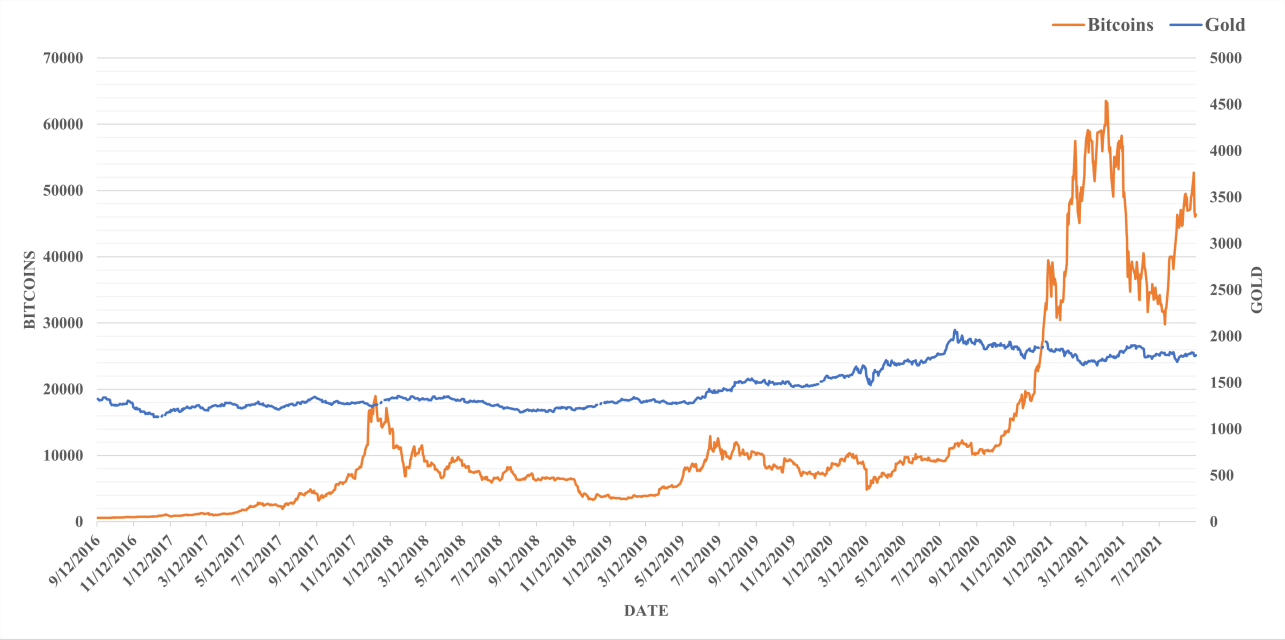

Figure 1: Gold and bitcoin daily prices, in U.S. dollars per troy ounce and U.S. dollars per bitcoin. **Source:** London Bullion Market Association, 9/11/2021 and NASDAQ, 9/11/2021

Regarding trading rules, Gold is only traded on days the market is open while bitcoins are traded every day. Commissions are charged to make each transaction. For market traders to achieve their goals, they need to build a model to determine the strategies to manage their portfolios well.

1.2 Restatement of the Problem

- Develop a model that gives the best daily trading strategy based only on price data up to that day, and calculate how much the initial $1000 investment is worth on 9/10/2021 using the model and strategy.
- Present evidence that your model provides the best strategy.

- Determine how sensitive the strategy is to transaction costs and analyze how transaction costs affect the strategy and results.

1.3 Our Approach

1. **To predict the prices of bitcoin and gold and make decision, we use *reinforcement learning*, a Markov decision process.** To predict future prices with existing data is a difficult problem because too many factors may influence the prices. The international situation, national policies, and even social media can have a considerable impact on the prices. To take as many factors as possible and predict accurately according to their inner laws, we adopt this approach to predict the prices, which is proved to give satisfying results.

2.

2 Assumptions and Justifications

2.1 Assumptions

To simplify the problem stated above, we make following assumptions, each of which is justified properly:

1. **The trader will have $1000 in the beginning, and the transaction commissions for gold and bitcoin are $\alpha_{gold} = 1\%$ and $\alpha_{bitcoin} = 2\%$,respectively.**

2. **The market trader sells all of the gold and bitcoins by the end of the five-year trading period, i.e. on 9/10/2021.** Generally, investors cares about funding liquidity. Among cash, gold and bitcoins, only cash can circulate unhindered in the market. So we make this assumption and thus measure the outcome in cash.

2.2 Symbols and Definitions

Table 1: Symbols and Definitions.

Notations	Description
η	1
ξ	
P	
r	
x	
X	
N	
n	

2.3 Symbols and Definitions

3 Mathematical Models

3.1 Basic Model

$$\sum_{t} \tag{1}$$

According to Equation (1)

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dS_2}{dt} = -R_0 \cdot S_2(I_1 + I_2) \\ \frac{dI_2}{dt} = R_0 \cdot S_2(I_1 + I_2) - \frac{I_2}{r} \\ \frac{dS_1}{dt} = \rho \left[1 - \frac{S_1 + (1+v/r)I_1}{K_1}\right] - R_0 \cdot S_1(I_1 + I_2) - v \cdot S_1 \\ \frac{dI_1}{dt} = R_0 \cdot S_1(I_1 + I_2) - \frac{I_1}{r+v} \end{cases} \tag{2}$$

3.2 Improved Model

Additional assumptions for the model improvement

4 Results and Solutions

Result analysis

Notations	Description
a	Persuasion of comments
$s(X \to Y)$	Degree of support between X and Y, indicating how often the rules can be used for analysis
$c(X \to Y)$	Confidence between X and Y, indicating the frequency of transactions in Y containing X
X	Promotion/The 'verified purchase' is 'N'
$\overline{X}$	No promotion or The 'verified purchase' is 'Y'
Y	Poor feedback
$\overline{Y}$	Favourable feedback
Z	Poor evaluation support rate
$\overline{Z}$	Favourable support rate
f_V	Amount of platform commentators
$f_{\overline{V}}$	Amount of common customers
a_V	Support rate of comments written by writers
$a_{\overline{V}}$	Support rate of comments written by non writers
a_T	Overall weighted support rate
$Q_\mu(v)$	Amount of comments, dependent variable in multiple linear regression
μ_i	Regression coefficient of multiple linear regression, $\{i = 0, 1, 2, 3\}$
v_i	Independent variable of multiple linear regression, $\{i = 0, 1, 2, 3\}$
v_1	Amount of no promotions in monthly reviews
v_2	Number of disapproval of poor feedback and approval of favorable feedback in each month
v_3	Frequency of good keywords in each month
ξ	Random error term of multiple linear regression
r^2	Sample determination coefficient discrimination coefficient
SSR	Regression sum of squares
SST	Sum of squares of total variation
T	Weighted mean value of star rating in the train set
$\widetilde{T}$	Weighted mean value of star rating in the testing set
std	Standard deviation of the result in training set and testing set
D	Future value of products
φ	Weighted star rating
δ	The rate of positive keywords in reviews

Discussions

Algorithm 1: Competitive selection

Input: the set of data patterns $\mathbb{X}$
Output: the set of prototype seeds $\mathbb{S}^*$

Compute the Euclidean distance $dist\,(\mathbf{x}_m, \mathbf{x}_n)$
Compute the density $D(\mathbf{x}_m) \geq \gamma$
Select eligible $\mathbf{x}_m$ for the candidate seed set $\mathbb{C}^0 \leftarrow \{\mathbf{x}_m \mid C(\mathbf{x}_m, \gamma) = 1\}$
Initialize $\mathbb{C}^* \leftarrow \mathbb{C}^0$
while $\mathbb{C}^* \neq \phi$ **do**
    Initialize $\mathbb{S}^j \leftarrow \mathbb{S}^*$
    Select the winning seed from the candidate set $\mathbf{x}_s^j \leftarrow \arg\max D(\mathbf{x}_m)$, $\mathbf{x}_m \in \mathbb{C}^j$
    Update $\mathbb{S}^* \leftarrow \mathbb{S}^j \cup \{\mathbf{x}_s^j\}$
    Update $j \leftarrow j + 1$
end
return $\mathbb{S}^*$

5 Model Evaluation and Sensitivity Analysis

5.1 Model Evaluation

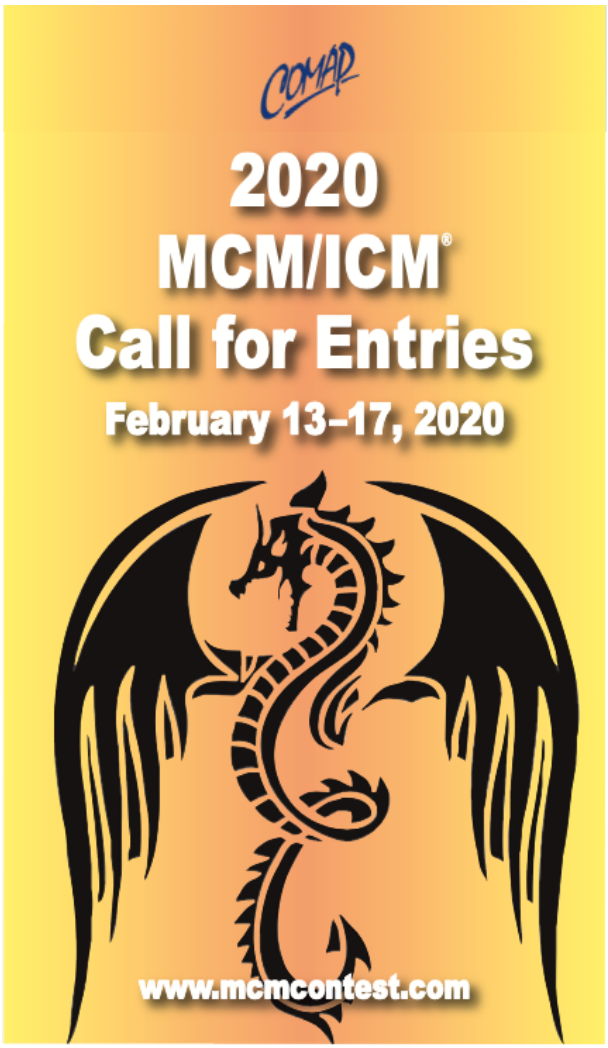

Figure 2: Figure illustration.

5.2 Sensitivity Analysis

6 Strength and Weakness

6.1 Strength

The models have the following strengths:

- Advantage 1
- Advantage 2

6.2 Weakness

The models have the following weaknesses:

- Weakness 1
- Weakness 2

7 Conclusions

References

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Memorandum to the Trader

Considering the intensely changing financial markets and the difficulty of handling your portfolio, using an appropriate model to make predictions and strategies to trade are of vital importance to improve income. It is a great honor for us to develop the model for you to buy, hold and sell your assets. Here is our model based on **reinforcement learning** and strategies for you to trade your assets effectively.

1.

2.

3.

We appreciate this opportunity to help you to build up a trading strategy for cash, gold and bitcoins, and we firmly believe that our model can be utilized in maximizing your total income. Feel free to contact us for further information on the proposal.

Sincerely yours

MCM 2022 Team

Appendix: Programs and Codes

If you do not want to provide program codes, delete this appendix section.

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

x = np.array([-3.0, -2.9, -2.8, -2.7, -2.5, -2.4, -2.3, -2.2, -2.1, -2])
y = np.sin(x)

plt.figure()
plt.xlabel("x axis")
plt.ylabel("y axis")
plt.plot(x, y, '-^')
plt.xlim(min(x)-0.05, max(x)+0.05)
plt.ylim(min(y)-0.05, max(y)+0.05)
plt.legend(loc='best')
plt.show()
```