Project Report

Overview

In this project, I try to predict the stock market via ML and AI. The tools of my choice are Random Forest Trees, AWS DeepAR and an LSTM Model. Later on I compare the three models performance wise and see which model is the best.

I start out with getting the stock data. For this I use the AlphaVantage API https://www.alphavantage.co/. On this data I perform some data cleanup and restructuring and I add the Change Column to my dataframe.

After the stock data is extracted and downloaded from Alpha Vantage API considering EFOI and EGRX companies, I merge the dataframes and following is the dataframe structure. For gathering the data, I have written a separate script alphavantage_service.py

10]:

	Date	Symbol	Close	Open	Low	High	Volume	AdjustedClose	Change
0	2014-02-12	EGRX	12.83	15.5	12.75	16.44	5.94826e+06	12.83	-0.708409
1	2014-02-13	EGRX	13.22	12.51	12.47	13.48	487358	13.22	0.0303975
2	2014-02-14	EGRX	12.8	13.2	12.76	13.59	107162	12.8	-0.03177
3	2014-02-18	EGRX	12.94	13	12.6	13.07	81656	12.94	0.0109375
4	2014-02-19	EGRX	12.14	12.71	11.74	12.95	273287	12.14	-0.0618238
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4086	2022-06-08	EFOI	2.7	2.98	2.3101	3.12	4.6515e+07	2.7	1.14286
4087	2022-06-09	EFOI	2.29	2.46	2.21	2.56	5.50007e+06	2.29	1.14019
4088	2022-06-10	EFOI	2.52	2.39	2.22	2.729	4.57433e+06	2.52	1.8404
4089	2022-06-13	EFOI	2.45	2.45	2.3062	2.54	4.83945e+06	2.45	1.75963
4090	2022-06-14	EFOI	2.04	2.51	1.96	2.6	2.32734e+06	2.04	-0.167347

4091 rows × 9 columns

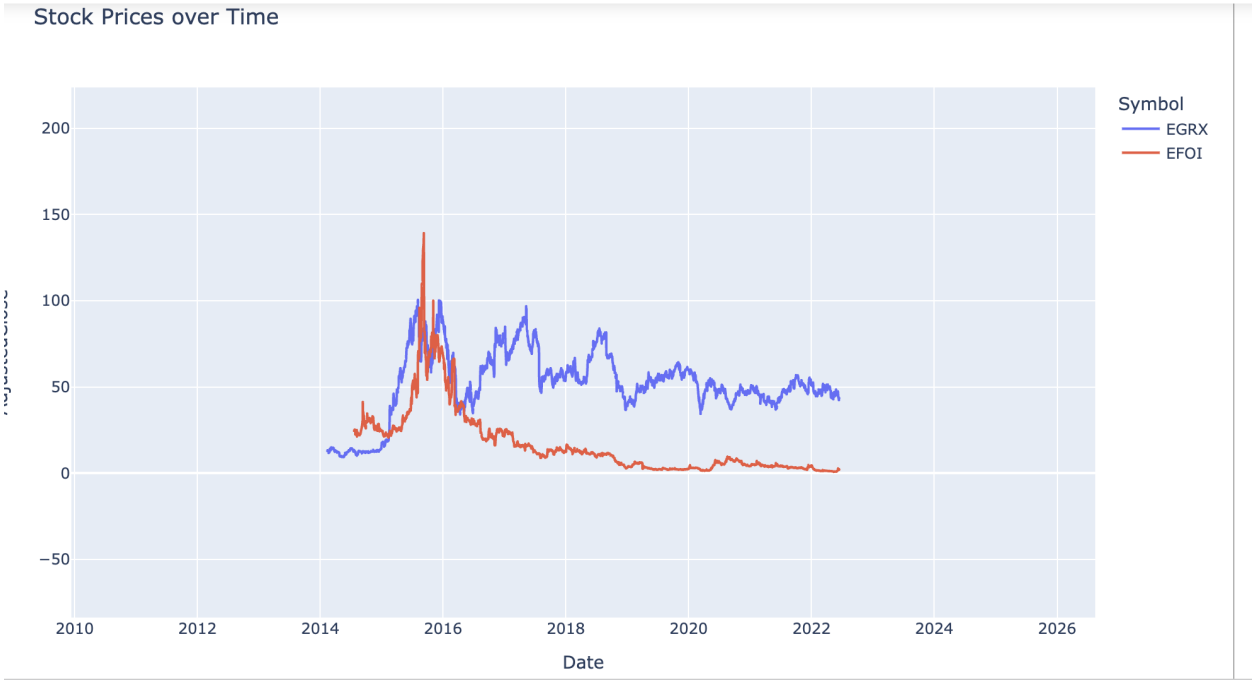
Problem Statement:

The goal of the project is to predict the stock data by analyzing the data from past years using ML techniques.
The data will be gathered using the Alpha Vantage Finance API which I used to extract the stock data. The stock data as per NASDAQ is updated here. Here is the article (https://medium.com/codex/alpha-vantage-an-introduction-to-a-highly-efficient-free-stock-api-6d17f4481bf)
From the 2 biggest commodity-based companies in USA the data is gathered, that are:
- Eagle Pharmaceuticals Inc (EGRX): Eagle Pharmaceuticals is a specialty pharmaceutical company focused on developing and commercializing injectable products. Founded in 2007

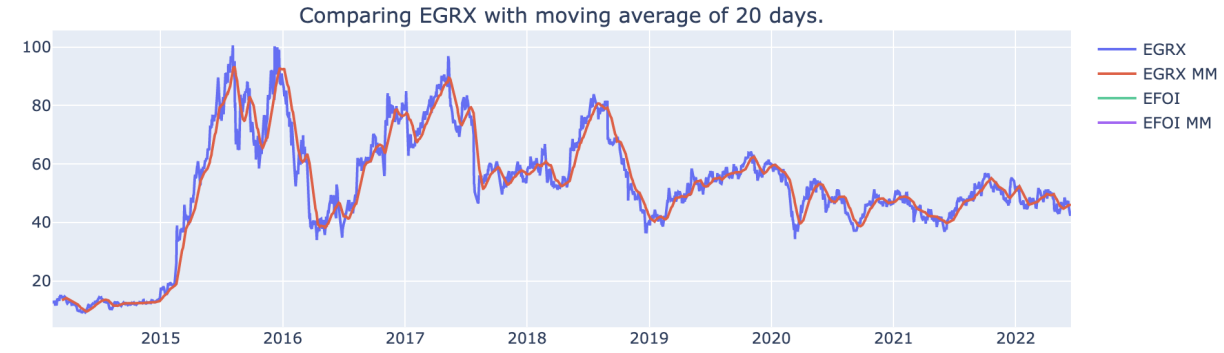
- Energy Focus Inc (EFOI): the company is among the largest companies in Brazil, and is the largest producer of iron ore in the world. Founded in 1985
The data will be divided into 6 features for each day: low, high, open, closed and Adjusted closed and Change.

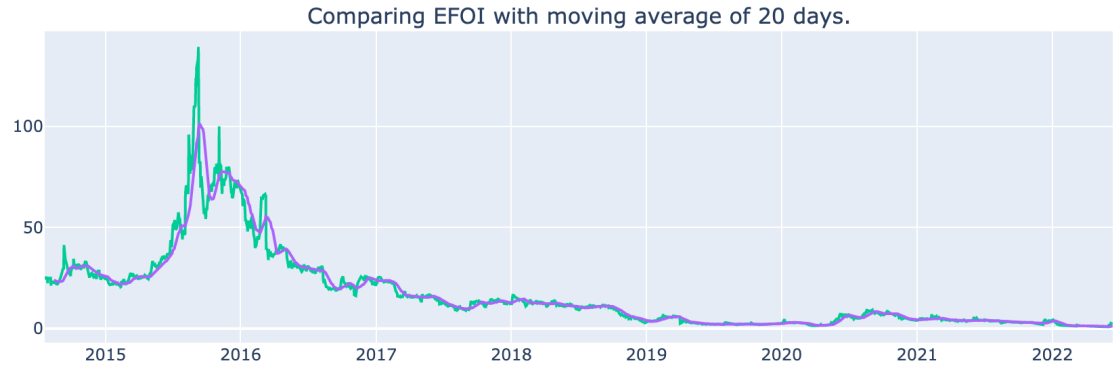
The strategy of my project is to first gather the data from Alpha vantage. Next, Analyze the data. Preprocess the data, Create new features if necessary. Train a simple baseline model. For this I chose Random Forest regressor. As a next step I train Amazon's Deep AR. Finally the LSTM model. I have chosen them from the information I got from the Online source. You can refer to my proposal document for details. The project design is mentioned stepwise in the same document.

Stock prices over time



Simple Moving Average variations



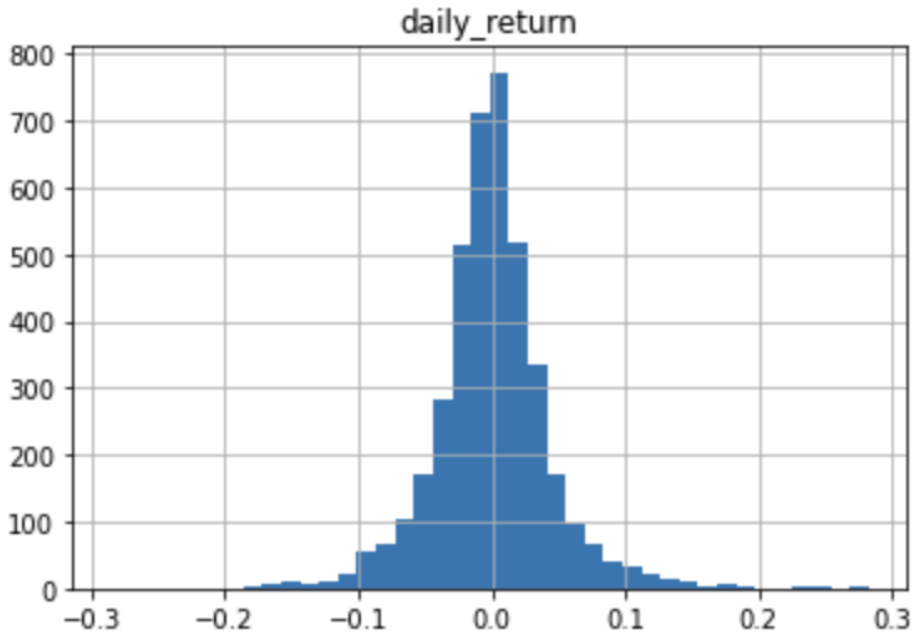


```
            Change
count  2101.000000
mean      0.034039
std       0.367559
min      -0.810404
25%      -0.021548
50%       0.001021
75%       0.023666
max       4.246269 EGRX
```

```
            Change
count  1992.000000
mean      0.590368
std       3.620128
min      -0.973425
25%      -0.036596
50%      -0.001446
75%       0.036154
max      91.427230 EFOI
```

The standard deviation for EFOI is higher (3.52) meaning the variance is higher!

The daily return is normally distributed

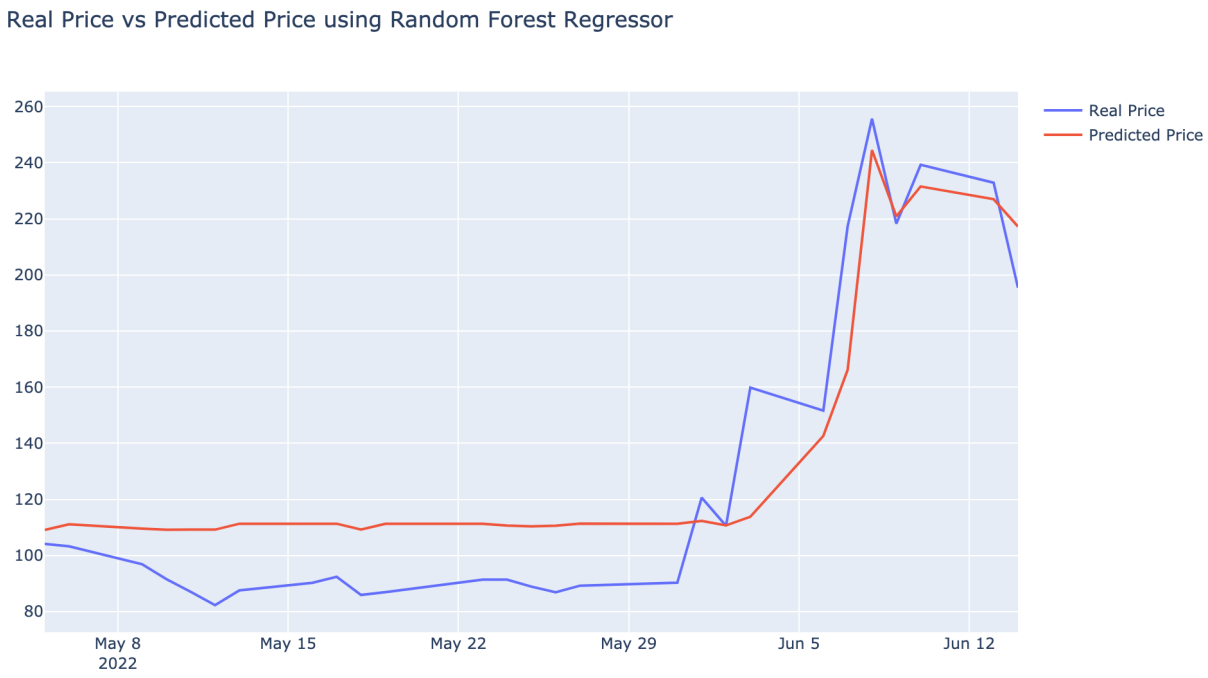


From the above histogram we see that daily return is normally distributed

After creating the daily_returns feature,based on the adjusted closed price, it was possible to plot the relation between expected Return and Risk. When the Risk and Volatile graph was visualized, it showed that EGRX Eagle Pharma stocks had lesser risk and more returns

Choice of Algorithm and Techniques
For the feature engineering, I created few more features such as diff, lag and rolling average

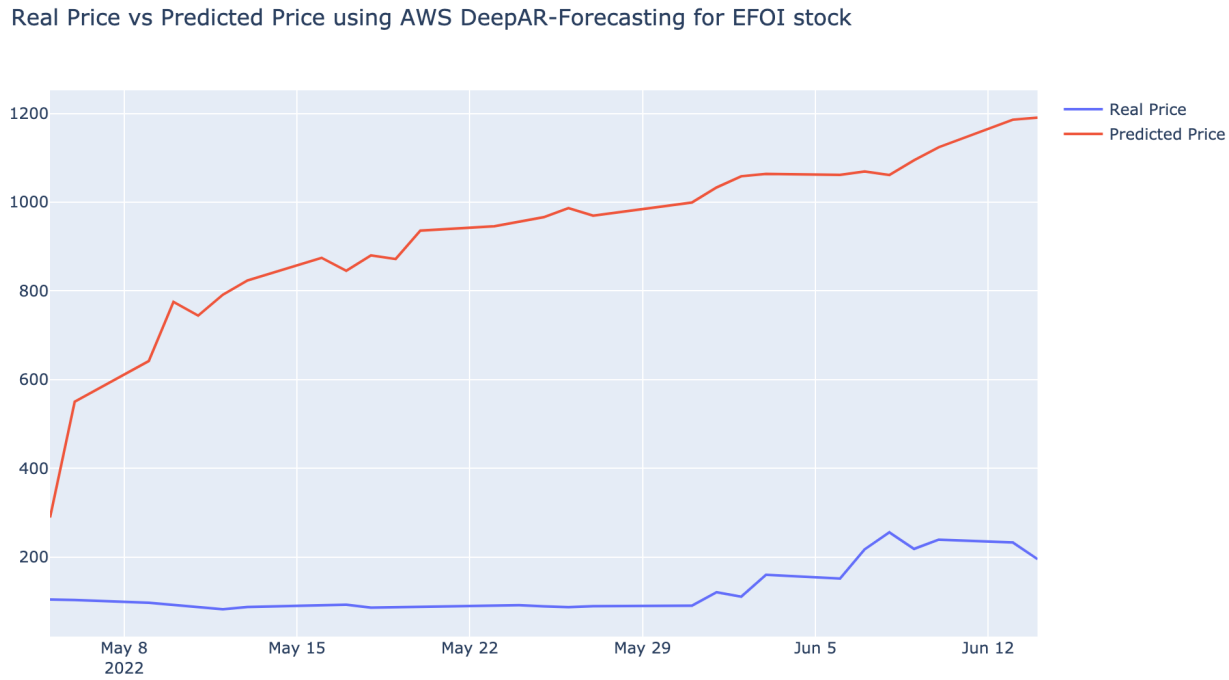
Random Forest Regressor: A simple algorithm that used the above mentioned 3 features to create a baseline model. n_estimators= 1000 means 100 decision trees



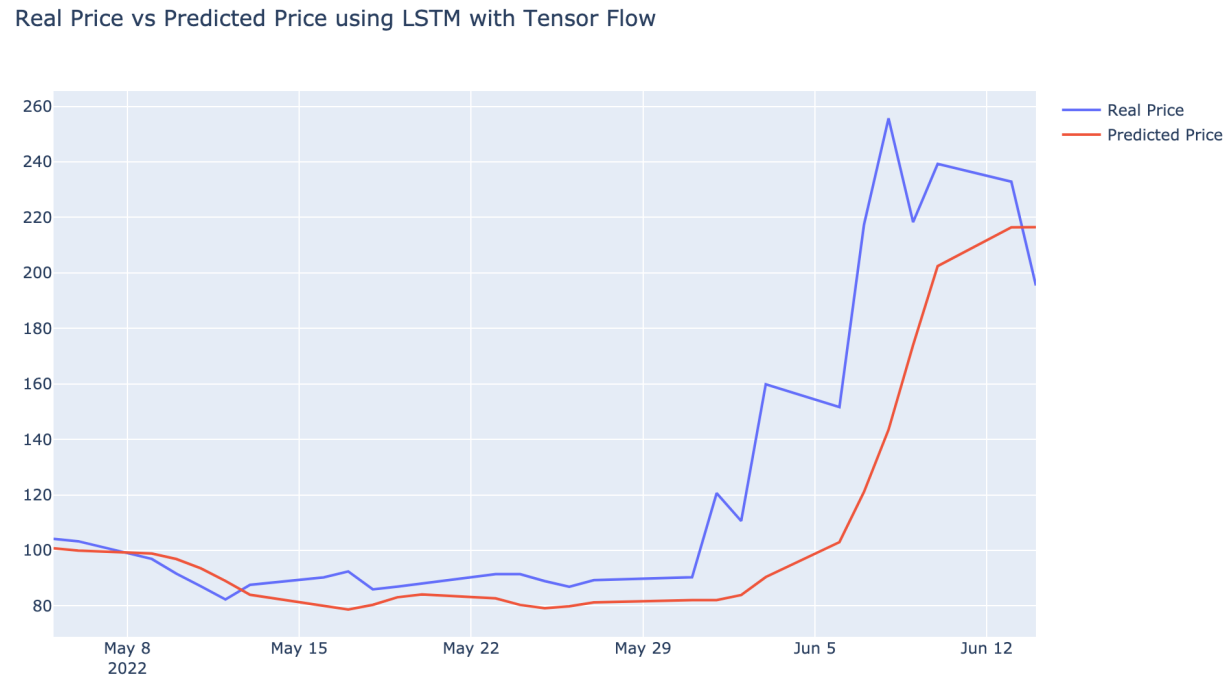
As you can see above, I have considered the Random Forest Regressor model as my baseline or benchmark model. Since my problem is a regression case, I am choosing RandomForest with 1000 estimators. The benchmark model is not with hyperparameterizations and hence I consider this as my reference model.

AWS DeepAR : A forecasting algorithm from AWS.We don't have to do feature engineering process as it uses scalar time series data. The DeepAR creates feature time series based on frequency of the target time series, example day of the month, day of the year. One can see the prediction deviation from the real price.

Since the DeepAR demands input in JSON format, couple of methods were created to save the train and test data in json format and uploaded to S3



LSTM: It is indeed a worth to try on time series data as we know from many examples that LSTM performance is promising on time series data. On Stocks data, it performed quite well



For Evaluations, I have used MAE and RMSE

	RMSE	MAE
Random Forest	21.650	18.500
DeepAR	812.370	794.722
LSTM	35.988	22.542

The RMSE score serves as heuristic and describes the average distance from the predicted values from the model and the actual values in the dataset. The lower the RMSE, the better a given model is able to “fit” a dataset.The MAE stands for Mean Absolute Error, thus if MAE= 18.50 it means, that if I randomly choose a data point from my data, then, I would expect the prediction to be 18.50 away from the true value.

Conclusion

As you can see, the other two models namely DeepAR and LSTM are compared with the baseline model and conclusions are made.
The Random Forest performed very well without any hyperparameters, The next closer performance was by LSTM. The DeepAR didn’t perform that well. The further steps would be to tune LSTM and also experiment with Convolutional Neural Networks.
Furthermore, one can build REST APIs like an web interface application to get predictions and moving averages visualisations