Brett Sutow DSC 680 July 13, 2021

Milestone 2

Any surprises from your domain from these data?

Overall, there have been no real big surprises. It did take me some time though to find a good site to utilize. I originally had planned on using the Nasdaq site to pull the data of cryptocurrencies from. However, after searching it seemed to be very difficult to get the data from there and it did not offer a downloadable version through csv. This meant I had to find a different source, which ended up being MarketWatch. Interesting enough though it seems that the MarketWatch site also pulls their crypto prices from a few different sites as well. This is to ensure accuracy in the price distribution.

The dataset is what you thought it was?

The dataset is almost exactly what I thought it would be. As I have never worked with cryptocurrency before I was expecting there to be things like volume. Most of my experience in this type of work has be stock based. So, there was some confusion as crypto does not follow the same guidelines and background as stock trading. This made it very interesting to see and work with. It also made me want to look up more information regarding crypto. Which in turn helped me learn and understand more regarding the topic. Overall, other than what is stated above with the data, I have had no other issues.

Have you had to adjust your approach or research questions?

The biggest adjustment I have made in regard to the research questions is to focus more on the ability or non-ability to accurately predict crypto movement. As I have learned in my model building and research thus far, I have found out that crypto does not move like stocks. I originally thought that modelling will work to an accurate level and that would answer the questions. I also thought about adding to the investment strategy question I presented and wanted to add more into the nitty gritty of what crypto is and how it compares as an investment. Overall, there hasn't been too many adjustments regarding my research questions. Rather they have made me jump into more details regarding the topics.

Is your method working?

Thus far I have had to make adjustments to my methods. I thought that this topic would work similarly to stock market prediction and forecasts. However, due to the volatility of cryptocurrency and the various different types. I learned that utilizing the same types of models that you would for stocks does not accurate predict the movement of crypto. Instead I have had to research and make adjustments. Luckily, the links that I provided in the first milestone and the videos, helped me grasp a better understanding of the overall prediction process. Through the adjustments made, I now have my method working properly.

What challenges are you having?

The biggest challenge I have faced is the sheer volatility of cryptocurrency. Volatility in this market essentially means large percentage change in either direction. Prior to this project I thought I understood the movement of these types of coins, however I was wrong. Cryptocurrency seems to move at its own pace and at different levels. It does not move like the stock market, which is where I have had most of my experience. This in turn has made me learn from my resources new ways to work with the data. Overall, I believe that these challenges have helped me create a good prediction price model.