Stock Trading with Machine Learning

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UW EE 596:   Stock Trading with Machine Learning

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Introduction

In this report, we will present the implementation of the baseline cross moving average strategy for stock trading.

Project Structure

The project is implemented in python using visual studio code. A private repository is created in github. We have planned to make the repository public after the project is completed. Fig 1 below show the current structure of the project. By the end of the project, it might be updated
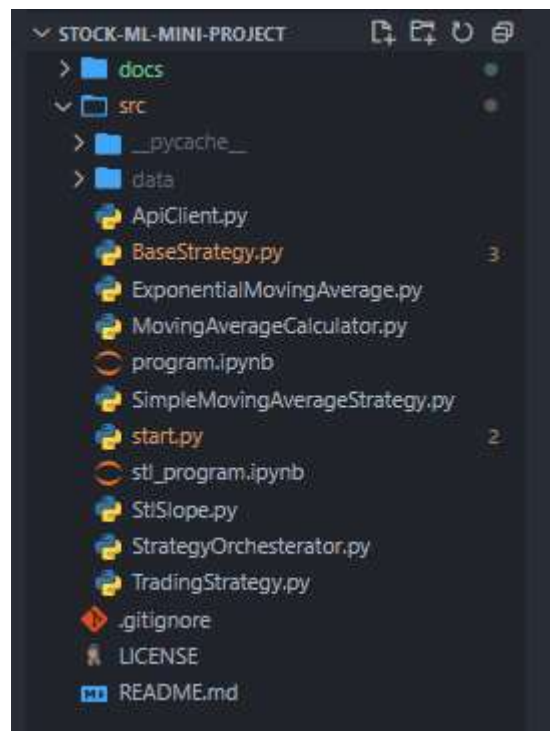

Fig 1. Project Folder Structure

Folder structure

`stock-ml-mini-project:` The root folder of the project

`docs:` where documentations and reports of the project reside

`src :` where the source code of the project resides

data: is a folder where a csv file of stocks is saved. After the initial call to the ALPACA API, the data for each stock is cached into this folder to avoid hitting the API every time. If fresh data is needed, delete all the csv files in this folder

`ApiClient.py`: a utility class used to call the ALPACA API

`BaseStrategy.py:` a base class which currently contains three functions for:

> `calculate_profit`: to calculate columns for profit for buy and hold, and for cross moving average strategy

> `_plot`: private function for plotting dataframe data, moving averages, buy and sell signals

> `_generate_signal_position`: for generating buy and sell signals based on moving averages

`MovingAverageCalculator.py`: contains functions for calculating Simple and Exponential Moving Average

`ExponentialMovingAverageStrategy.py` : contains for generating data for exponential moving average based strategy

`SimpleMovingAverageStrategy.py` : contains function for generating data for exponential moving average based strategy

`program.ipynb` : a Jupiter file for running the strategies (simple and moving averages) for the last 365 days for Stocks ("FB","MSFT","NFLX","AMD","GOOG"). To run the project using the program.ipynb, you need to provide values for Api_key and secret_key variables.

`start.py` : this does the same task as in `program.ipynb` but you can use this to run it from the command line using the command as in the fig 2

```
PS D:\UW\EE 596\stock-ml-mini-project> python .\src\start.py
```
fig 2. Running the project from command line

Results

The following are results of the execution of the Exponential Moving Average based strategy.

Performance Metrics

To measure the performance of the crossing Exponential moving average, a buy and hold strategy for the same period used.

Log returns (in %) of the buy-and-hold strategy for the last 365 days was calculated and log returns of the crossing exponential moving average strategy was calculated.

Based on the log returns, the crossing exponential moving average gives better performance (at least reduces the loss) 80% of the time among the 5 stocks used for backtesting. However, for one stock [AMD] (36.5% vs 20.7%) as shown in Fig 6, the performance is lower. For one stock (NFLX), the loss was not avoided but greatly reduced in comparison to the buy-and-hold strategy (-20.8% vs -6.9%)


```
Percentage return of Buy and Hand algorithm for FB for 365 day period:   -26.7%
Percentage return of EMA algorithm for FB for 365 day period:   10.7%
```

Fig 3 Facebook (FB), the last 365 days backtest result

Percentage return of Buy and Hand algorithm for MSFT for 365 day period: 33.4%
Percentage return of EMA algorithm for MSFT for 365 day period: 40.8%
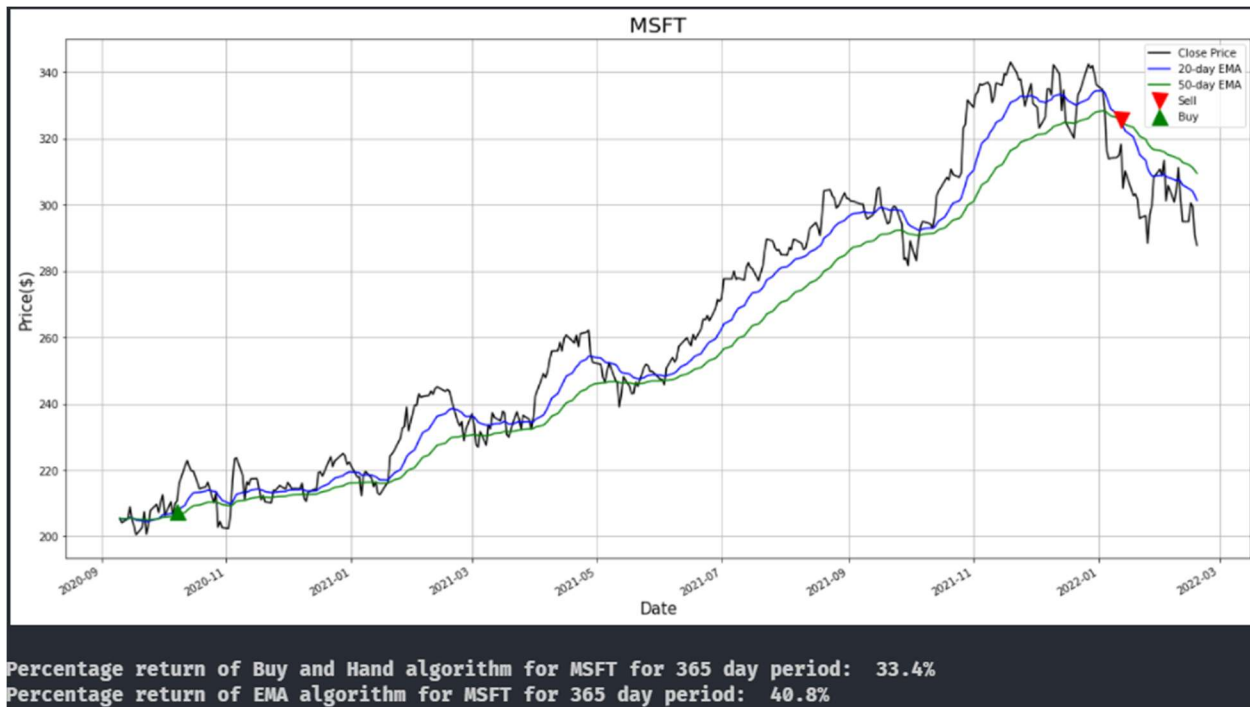
Fig 4 Microsoft (MSFT), the last 365 days backtest result

Percentage return of Buy and Hand algorithm for NFLX for 365 day period: -20.8%
Percentage return of EMA algorithm for NFLX for 365 day period: -6.9%
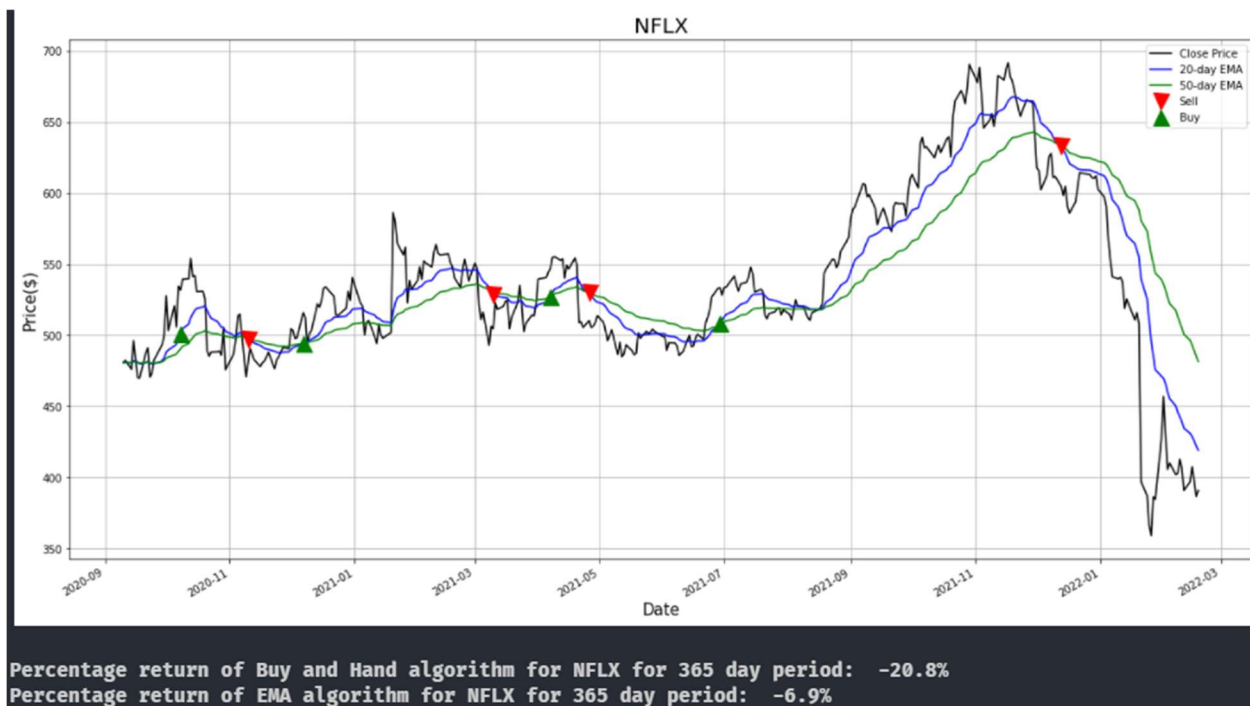
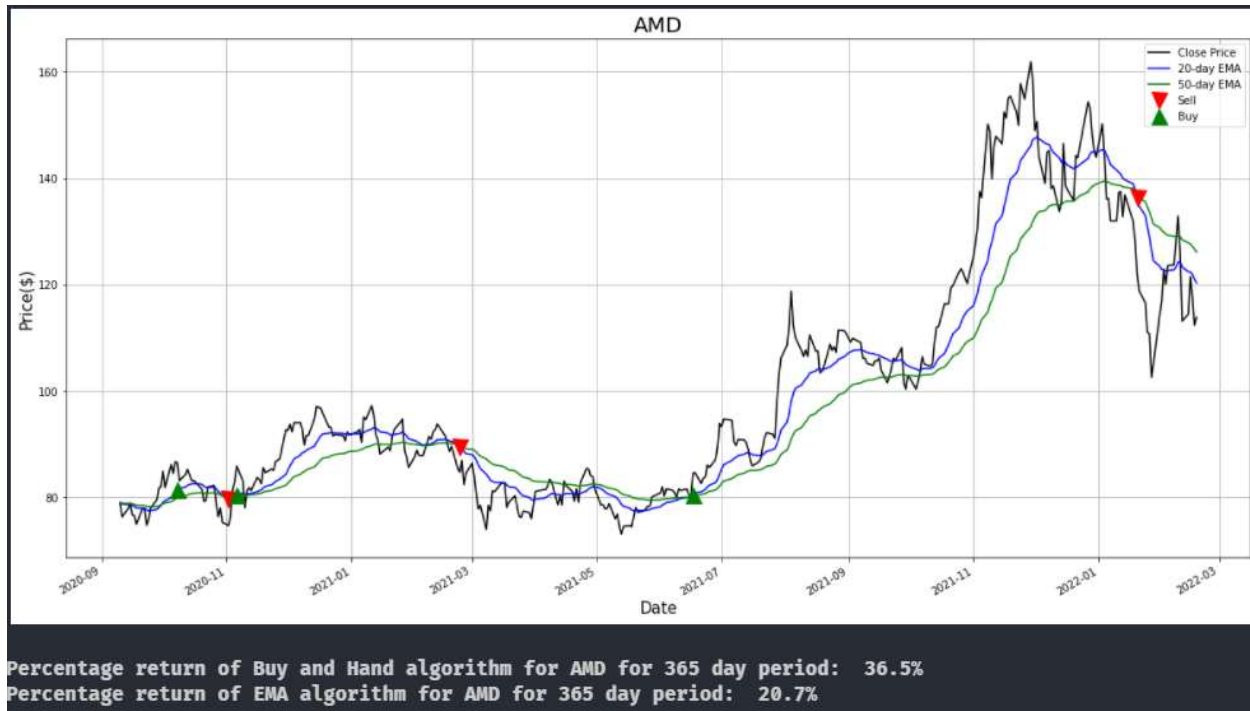Fig 5 Netflix (NFLX), the last 365 days backtest result
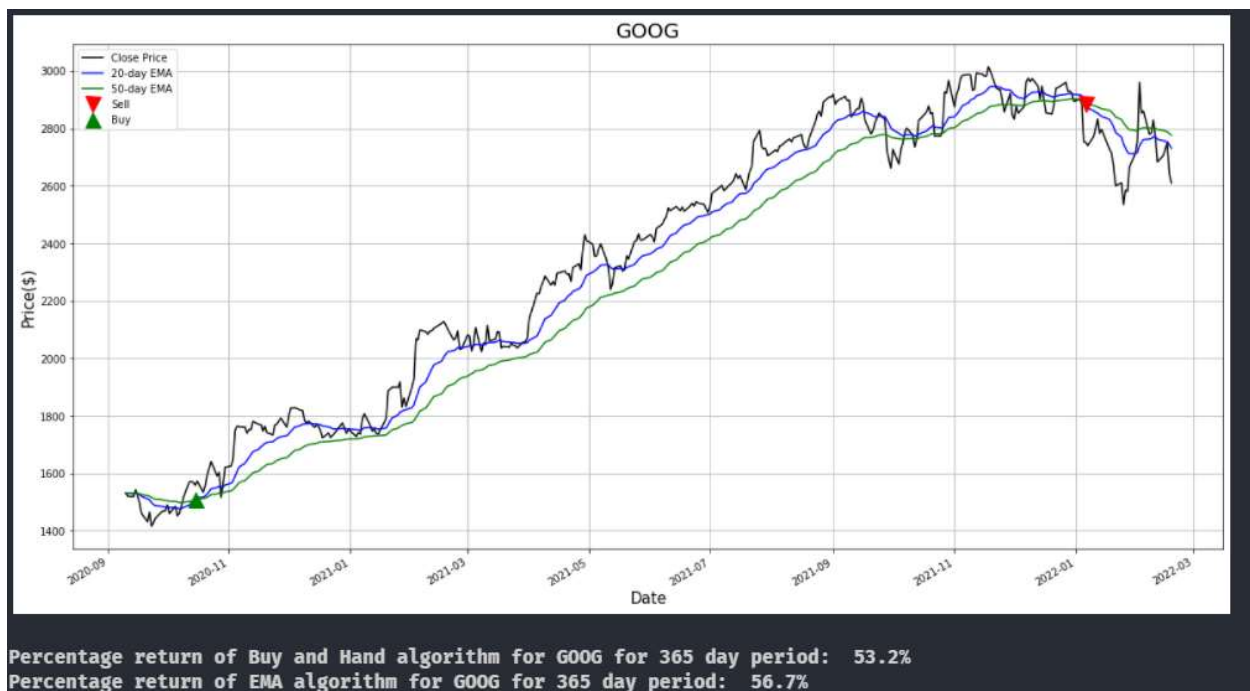
Fig 6 AMD (AMD), the last 365 days backtest result

Fig 7 Google (GOOG), the last 365 days backtest result