An Exploration on Crypto Currencies

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The notion of cryptocurrency has entered our lives with the introduction of Bitcoin on Jan 2009. Crypto currencies are decentralized digital currencies, meaning the payment system works without a central repository or administrator. The transactions between users, creation of additional units and verification of transfers are secured by cryptography and logged into the transaction database; blockchain. In most cryptocurrencies, transactions are verified through a process called mining that requires computer processing power to find blocks of transactions and miners are rewarded with newly created crypto coins for their finds. Coins are stored in cryptocurrency wallets, which are essentially a collection of cryptographic keys. Yes, it is hard to digest the mechanics behind cryptocurrencies.

With the uncontrollable climb of Bitcoin and all these buzzwords flying around, cryptocurrencies became a hype. Part of the hype is created by the mystery caused by the enigmatic nature of cryptocurrencies and the obscurity of the workings of blockchain. The suspicion surrounding the future of cryptocurrencies were not only founded on the fear of the unknown but also on the fact that they can be lost forever from their markets due malware or data loss or even an accident as in a recent incident with an Etherium wallet that caused approximately \$280m worth of Ether to be frozen.

All this said, our aim is to understand and relate cryptocurrencies to shed some light onto this conundrum. We will try to understand the correlation between crytocurrencies, correlation with gold and how google trends are related to Bitcoin price.

We read the data directly from coinmarketcap.com using package rvest. The data looks like:

```
##
    Х.
                                             Name Symbol
                                                               Market.Cap
                                                                              Price
## 1 1
             BTC\n
                                          Bitcoin
                                                     BTC $136,994,306,666
                                                                           $8206.01
## 2 2
            ETH\n
                                         Ethereum
                                                     ETH
                                                          $35,191,906,350
                                                                            $367.05
## 3 3 BCH\n
                                     Bitcoin Cash
                                                          $20,028,501,521 $1191.08
                                                     BCH
##
  4 4
              XRP\n
                                           Ripple
                                                     XRP
                                                           $9,105,109,962 $0.235744
                                                                                    Circulating.
##
Supply
        Volume..24h. X..1h X..24h X..7d
## 1
                                                                                            16,6
94,387 $3,319,270,000 0.50% 1.84% 18.27%
## 2
                                                                                            95,8
78,997
         $665,355,000
                      0.54%
                             1.75% 8.94%
## 3
                                                                                             16,8
         $512,279,000 -0.01% 0.95% -7.55%
15,413
## 4 38,622,870,411\n
                                                                       \n
                                             \n
         $105,769,000 0.19% -0.18% 12.15%
```

We can see that the data contains a few unwanted characters such as new line, , \$,*, spaces, %. In order to conduct analysis, we need to remove these characters.

An alternative way to retrive data is to use the JSON API at api.coinmarketcap.com which provides clean data. The data from the JSON API looks like:

```
##
                           name symbol
                                         price_usd price_btc 24h_volume_usd market_cap_usd avail
               id
able supply total supply max supply percent change 1h
          bitcoin
                       Bitcoin
                                   BTC 8199.620000 1.00000000
                                                                   3312340000
                                                                                 136887629533
   16694387
                16694387
                             2.1e+07
                                                   0.41
## 2
         ethereum
                      Ethereum
                                   ETH 366.740000 0.04474300
                                                                    664158000
                                                                                  35162663256
   95878997
                95878997
                                  NA
                                                   0.45
## 3 bitcoin-cash Bitcoin Cash
                                   BCH 1190.460000 0.14523900
                                                                    510238000
                                                                                  20018075965
   16815413
                16815413
                             2.1e+07
                                                  -0.04
## 4
                                          0.235734 0.00002876
           ripple
                         Ripple
                                   XRP
                                                                    105844000
                                                                                   9104723733
38622870411 99993173757
                                                   0.19
                             1.0e+11
     percent change 24h percent change 7d last updated
## 1
                   1.74
                                     18.13
                                             1511336958
## 2
                   1.66
                                      8.85
                                             1511336969
## 3
                   0.91
                                     -7.59
                                             1511336969
## 4
                   -0.19
                                     12.13
                                             1511336941
```

which is much cleaner aside from NA's. But to demonstrate what we have learned in this class we chose to work with the data collected with rvest package and cleaned it.

```
# Cleaning the data
# Before cleaning, "\n" in the name strings should be replaced with "-" in df_cryptocurrencies$N
ame column
df_cryptocurrencies$Name <- lapply(df_cryptocurrencies$Name, gsub, pattern = "\n", replacement =
"-")
# In order to conduct analysis, we need to remove the unwanted characters such as \n, $,*, space
s, %.
df_cryptocurrencies[] <- lapply(df_cryptocurrencies, gsub, pattern = "\\\n|\\s|[%*$,?]", replace
ment = "")
# remove the first column X. (coins' ranking of coinmarketcap web site)
df_cryptocurrencies$X. <- NULL
# Update the column names short, lowercase and meaningful
names(df_cryptocurrencies) <- c("name", "symbol", "marketcap", "price", "supply", "volume", "cha
nge_1h", "change_24h", "change_7d")
# Let's see how our data frame, df_cryptocurrencies looks after cleaning process
head(df_cryptocurrencies)</pre>
```

| name | symbol | marketcap | price | supply | volume | change_1h | change_24h ch |
|----------------------|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | | |
| BTC-Bitcoin | BTC | 136994306666 | 8206.01 | 16694387 | 3319270000 | 0.50 | 1.84 |
| | | | | | | | |
| ${\tt ETH-Ethereum}$ | ETH | 35191906350 | 367.05 | 95878997 | 665355000 | 0.54 | 1.75 |
| | | | | | | | |
| H-BitcoinCash | BCH | 20028501521 | 1191.08 | 16815413 | 512279000 | -0.01 | 0.95 |
| | | | | | | | |
| XRP-Ripple | XRP | 9105109962 | 0.235744 | 38622870411 | 105769000 | 0.19 | -0.18 |
| | | | | | | | |
| DASH-Dash | DASH | 4072563397 | 528.68 | 7703297 | 195967000 | 2.72 | 12.12 |
| | | | | | | | |
| LTC-Litecoin | LTC | 3811983352 | 70.67 | 53938708 | 147851000 | 0.28 | 0.26 |
| | | | | | | | |
| | BTC-Bitcoin ETH-Ethereum H-BitcoinCash XRP-Ripple DASH-Dash | ETH-Ethereum ETH H-BitcoinCash BCH XRP-Ripple XRP DASH-Dash DASH | BTC-Bitcoin BTC 136994306666 ETH-Ethereum ETH 35191906350 H-BitcoinCash BCH 20028501521 XRP-Ripple XRP 9105109962 DASH-Dash DASH 4072563397 | BTC-Bitcoin BTC 136994306666 8206.01 ETH-Ethereum ETH 35191906350 367.05 H-BitcoinCash BCH 20028501521 1191.08 XRP-Ripple XRP 9105109962 0.235744 DASH-Dash DASH 4072563397 528.68 | BTC-Bitcoin BTC 136994306666 8206.01 16694387 ETH-Ethereum ETH 35191906350 367.05 95878997 H-BitcoinCash BCH 20028501521 1191.08 16815413 XRP-Ripple XRP 9105109962 0.235744 38622870411 DASH-Dash DASH 4072563397 528.68 7703297 | BTC-Bitcoin BTC 136994306666 8206.01 16694387 3319270000 ETH-Ethereum ETH 35191906350 367.05 95878997 665355000 H-BitcoinCash BCH 20028501521 1191.08 16815413 512279000 XRP-Ripple XRP 9105109962 0.235744 38622870411 105769000 DASH-Dash DASH 4072563397 528.68 7703297 195967000 | BTC-Bitcoin BTC 136994306666 8206.01 16694387 3319270000 0.50 ETH-Ethereum ETH 35191906350 367.05 95878997 665355000 0.54 H-BitcoinCash BCH 20028501521 1191.08 16815413 512279000 -0.01 XRP-Ripple XRP 9105109962 0.235744 38622870411 105769000 0.19 DASH-Dash DASH 4072563397 528.68 7703297 195967000 2.72 |

For mathematical analysis variable types should be numeric.

```
# Check type of marketcap
typeof(df_cryptocurrencies$marketcap)
```

```
## [1] "character"
```

However some are not. So we transform the type of variables except name and symbol to numeric and assign into a new data frame. And after transformation data type of marketcap becomes:

```
## [1] "double"
```

Let's see how our data frame looks like now:

| ## | name | symbol | marketcap | price | supply | volume | change_1h | change_24h |
|----------|---------------|--------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| change_7 | 'd | | | | | | | |
| ## 1 | BTC-Bitcoin | BTC | 136994306666 | 8206.010000 | 16694387 | 3319270000 | 0.50 | 1.84 |
| 18. | 27 | | | | | | | |
| ## 2 | ETH-Ethereum | ETH | 35191906350 | 367.050000 | 95878997 | 665355000 | 0.54 | 1.75 |
| 8. | 94 | | | | | | | |
| ## 3 BCH | I-BitcoinCash | ВСН | 20028501521 | 1191.080000 | 16815413 | 512279000 | -0.01 | 0.95 |
| -7. | 55 | | | | | | | |
| ## 4 | XRP-Ripple | XRP | 9105109962 | 0.235744 | 38622870411 | 105769000 | 0.19 | -0.18 |
| 12. | • • | | | | | | | |

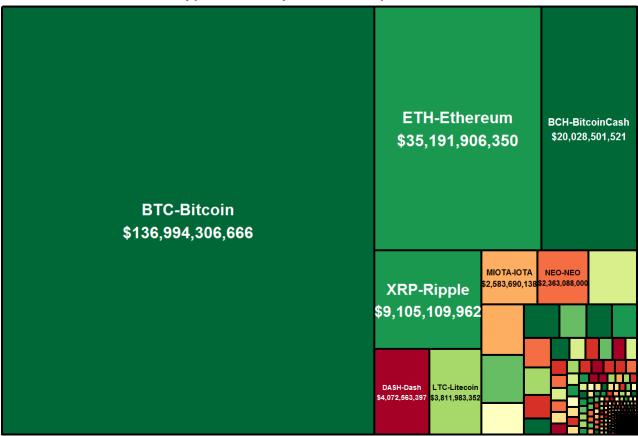
```
## [1] 914 9
```

and how many coins are there in the market?

```
## [1] 914
```

When you consider there are only 180 recognized currencies in the world this is a huge number. However not all of them are big players. Let's draw the market share of all crypto currencies as a treemap to get a better understanding:

Cryptocurrency Market Capitalizations



Normal currencies are dependable because they have a relatively stable standing against each other and their market only gets effected from big political or economical events. However with a decentralized non-physical currency it all works differently. With no mechanism to act on a financial policy to regulate sudden price changes, price of the crypto-currencies are literally defined in the market.

Let's see how big these changes can be by exploring the evolution of the market in 1 hour, 24 hours and 7 days for all crypto currencies.

Summary of statistics and standard deviation of market change in 1 hour are as follows:

```
summary(df_allcryptocurrencies$change_1h)
```

```
## Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max. NA's
## -39.6100 0.0850 0.6500 0.6711 0.7000 72.5500 71
```

sd(df_allcryptocurrencies\$change_1h, na.rm=TRUE)

```
## [1] 6.567036
```

Summary of statistics and standard deviation of market change in 24 hours are as follows:

```
summary(df_allcryptocurrencies$change_24h)
```

```
## Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max. NA's
## -95.920 -5.165 0.960 9.357 5.317 4967.040 68
```

```
sd(df_allcryptocurrencies$change_24h, na.rm=TRUE)
```

```
## [1] 175.0159
```

Summary of statistics and standard deviation of market change in 7 days are as follows:

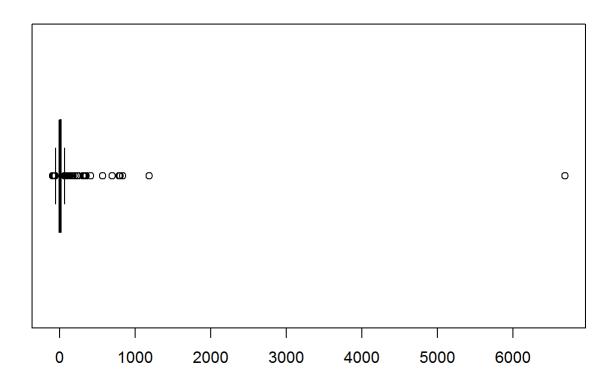
```
summary(df_allcryptocurrencies$change_7d)
```

```
## Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max. NA's
## -92.030 -7.532 8.900 26.812 23.345 6688.660 60
```

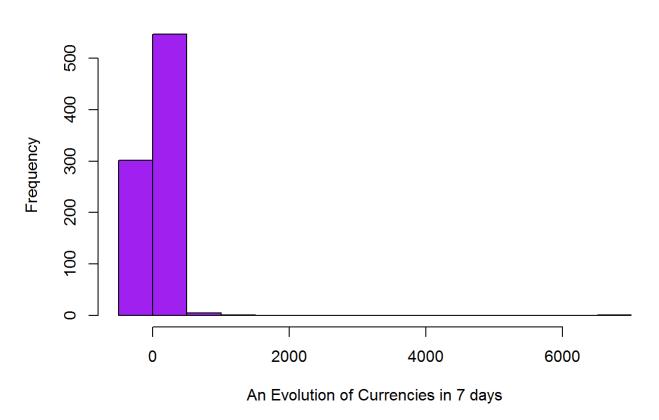
```
sd(df_allcryptocurrencies$change_7d, na.rm=TRUE)
```

```
## [1] 242.7385
```

Box plot of Evolution of Currencies in 7 days



Histogram of Evolution of Currencies in 7 days



However these price changes don't mean much without the context. Surely an \$100 increase of Bitcoin (which is valued about \$8000 at the time of this writing) is not the same an \$100 increase of Ethereum (which is valued about \$300 at the time of this writing). Let's find all the cryptocurrencies whose value has more than doubled in 7 days:

| ## [1] NXT-Nxt | FTC-Feathercoin | KRB-Karbowanec | ONX-Onix | SUPE |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| R-SuperCoin BCO-Brid | lgeCoin | | | |
| ## [7] GRE-Greencoin | UNIT-UniversalCur | . XSH-SHIELD | ORB-Orbitcoin | XGR- |
| GoldReserve BCF-Bito | coinFast | | | |
| ## [13] BXT-BitTokens | BTCR-Bitcurrency | 4CHN-ChanCoin | 888-OctoCoin | GB-G |
| oldBlocks USDE-USD | e e | | | |
| ## [19] VEC2-VectorAI | | | | |
| ## 914 Levels: -Money 020 | 0-020LondonCoin 1337-133 | 7 2GIVE-2GIVE 42-42 | -coin 4CHN-ChanCoin 6 | 11-SixEl |
| even 808-808Coin 888-Octo | Coin 8BIT-8Bit ZZC- | ZoZoCoin | | |

and let's find all the cryptocurrencies which lost more than 25% of its value in 7 days:

```
DIME-Dimecoin
                                                                                 XGOX-XGOX
   [1] B3-B3Coin
                          BDL-Bitdeal
                                            EQT-EquiTrader
  FIMK-FIMKrypto
                    ZEIT-Zeitcoin
                                      ARC-ArcticCoin
                                            INSN-InsaneCoin
## [9] 1337-1337
                          RNS-Renos
                                                              HNC-Helleniccoin
                                                                                 LDOGE-LiteDoge
  MAO-MaoZedong
                    XIOS-Xios
                                      LUX-LUXCoin
## [17] CRM-Cream
                          BLAS-BlakeStar
                                            SPRTS-Sprouts
                                                               MNC-Mincoin
                                                                                 ATOM-AtomicCoin
  EMB-EmberCoin
                    808-808Coin
                                      EL-Elcoin
## [25] EUC-Eurocoin
                          TOR-Torcoin
                                            ITZ-Interzone
                                                              XCS-CybCSec
                                                                                 CTIC2-Coimatic2.
0 FAL-Falcoin
## 914 Levels: -Money 020-020LondonCoin 1337-1337 2GIVE-2GIVE 42-42-coin 4CHN-ChanCoin 611-SixEl
even 808-808Coin 888-OctoCoin 8BIT-8Bit ... ZZC-ZoZoCoin
```

By the tree chart above we know that Bitcoin is the dominant player in the market.

The total market capitalization currently is:

```
## [1] "$233,804,325,168"
```

and Bitcoin's share is:

```
## [1] "0.5859357%"
```

Even though Bitcoin is sharing the market with more and more crypto currencies each day, it remains the biggest player.

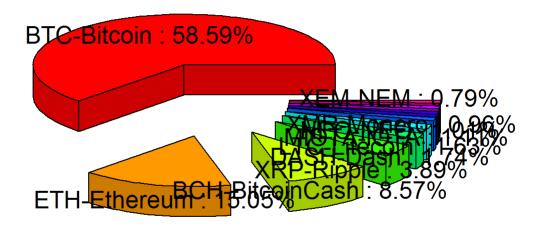
Let's focus on top 10 currrencies by market cap.

| ## | name symbo | l marketcap | price | supply | volume | change_1h | change_24 |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| h cha | nge_7d for | matted_market_d | сар | | | | |
| ## 1 | BTC-Bitcoin BT | C 136994306666 | 8206.010000 | 16694387 | 3319270000 | 0.50 | 1.8 |
| 4 | 18.27 BTC-Bitcoin\ | n\$136,994,306, | 666 | | | | |
| ## 2 | ETH-Ethereum ET | H 35191906350 | 367.050000 | 95878997 | 665355000 | 0.54 | 1.7 |
| 5 | 8.94 ETH-Ethereum | \n\$35,191,906, | 350 | | | | |
| ## 3 | BCH-BitcoinCash BC | H 20028501521 | 1191.080000 | 16815413 | 512279000 | -0.01 | 0.9 |
| 5 | -7.55 BCH-BitcoinCash | \n\$20,028,501, | 521 | | | | |
| ## 4 | XRP-Ripple XR | P 9105109962 | 0.235744 | 38622870411 | 105769000 | 0.19 | -0.1 |
| 8 | 12.15 XRP-Rippl | e\n\$9,105,109, | 962 | | | | |
| ## 5 | DASH-Dash DAS | H 4072563397 | 528.680000 | 7703297 | 195967000 | 2.72 | 12.1 |
| 2 | 22.00 DASH-Das | h\n\$4,072,563, | 397 | | | | |
| ## 6 | LTC-Litecoin LT | C 3811983352 | 70.670000 | 53938708 | 147851000 | 0.28 | 0.2 |
| 6 | 11.01 LTC-Litecoi | n\n\$3,811,983, | 352 | | | | |
| ## 7 | MIOTA-IOTA MIOT | A 2583690138 | 0.929542 | 2779530283 | 82883900 | 1.62 | 4.5 |
| 3 | 43.57 MIOTA-IOT | A\n\$2,583,690, | 138 | | | | |
| ## 8 | NEO-NEO NE | 0 2363088000 | 36.360000 | 65000000 | 87469400 | 0.71 | 0.6 |
| 0 | 21.44 NEO-NE | 0\n\$2,363,088, | 000 | | | | |
| ## 9 | XMR-Monero XM | R 2233389607 | 145.230000 | 15377976 | 82114100 | -0.46 | 6.2 |
| 1 | 17.71 XMR-Moner | o\n\$2,233,389, | 607 | | | | |
| ## 10 | XEM-NEM XE | M 1856286000 | 0.206254 | 899999999 | 7281700 | 0.50 | -0.2 |
| 2 | 5.16 XEM-NE | M\n\$1,856,286, | 900 | | | | |
| ## | marketcap_percent | | | | | | |
| ## 1 | 0.585935725 | | | | | | |
| ## 2 | 0.150518628 | | | | | | |
| ## 3 | 0.085663520 | | | | | | |
| ## 4 | 0.038943291 | | | | | | |
| ## 5 | 0.017418683 | | | | | | |
| ## 6 | 0.016304161 | | | | | | |
| ## 7 | 0.011050652 | | | | | | |
| ## 8 | 0.010107118 | | | | | | |
| ## 9 | 0.009552388 | | | | | | |
| ## 10 | 0.007939485 | | | | | | |

Total market share of the top 10 coins is:

```
## [1] "93.34337%"
```

Top 10 Cryptocurrencies Market Share



Since we are focusing on the top currencies we gather historical data from CoinMarketCap web site as the top curriencies go way back than some other small currencies. HTML data is converted into a dataframe because there is no API to get the historic data of cryptocurrencies. We will study the daily evolution of top 5 cryptocurrencies:

```
##
                name symbol
## 1
         BTC-Bitcoin
                         BTC
        ETH-Ethereum
                         ETH
## 2
## 3 BCH-BitcoinCash
                        BCH
## 4
          XRP-Ripple
                        XRP
## 5
           DASH-Dash
                       DASH
```

We import the historical data for these currencies.

Bitcoin

| ## | | Open | High | Low | Close |
|-----|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | Volume | Market.Cap | | | |
| ## | Min. :2013-04 | -28 Min. : 68.5 | Min. : 74.56 | Min. : 65.53 | Min. : 68.43 |
| Min | . :2.858e+06 | Min. :7.793e+08 | | | |
| ## | 1st Qu.:2014-06 | -19 1st Qu.: 265.5 | 1st Qu.: 270.83 | 1st Qu.: 260.95 | 1st Qu.: 265.66 |
| 1st | Ou.:2.181e+07 | 1st Qu.:3.774e+09 | • | · | · |
| | • | -10 Median : 454.9 | Median : 460.15 | Median : 446.11 | Median : 454.99 |
| | | Median :6.600e+09 | | | |
| | | -10 Mean : 875.6 | Mean : 901.99 | Mean : 852.00 | Mean : 880.30 |
| | | Mean :1.362e+10 | rican . 301.33 | nean . 032.00 | Mean . 660.50 |
| | | | 2nd Ou + 774 70 | 2md Ou + 720 O2 | 2nd Ou . 750 70 |
| | | -30 3rd Qu.: 758.7 | 31'u Qu.: 774.70 | 3ru Qu.: 738.92 | 31'u Qu.: /38./0 |
| | • | 3rd Qu.:1.074e+10 | | | |
| | | -21 Max. :8205.7 | Max. :8348.66 | Max. :7949.36 | Max. :8200.64 |
| - | . :8.957e+09 | Max. :1.370e+11 | | | |
| ## | | | | | |
| NA' | s :243 | | | | |
| ## | Percentage | | | | |
| ## | Min. :-0.4296 | 80 | | | |
| ## | 1st Qu.:-0.0186 | 26 | | | |
| ## | Median :-0.0019 | 56 | | | |
| ## | Mean :-0.0033 | 81 | | | |
| ## | 3rd Qu.: 0.0112 | 86 | | | |
| ## | Max. : 0.2337 | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Ethereum

| ## | Date | Open | High | Low | Close |
|----|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | Volume | Market.Cap | | | |
| ## | Min. :2015-08-07 | Min. : 0.4316 | Min. : 0.483 | Min. : 0.4209 | Min. : 0.434 |
| 8 | Min. :1.021e+05 | Min. :3.197e+07 | | | |
| ## | 1st Qu.:2016-03-03 | 1st Qu.: 7.1350 | 1st Qu.: 7.357 | 1st Qu.: 6.7575 | 1st Qu.: 7.170 |
| 0 | 1st Qu.:5.850e+06 | 1st Qu.:5.880e+08 | | | |
| ## | Median :2016-09-28 | Median : 11.4500 | Median : 11.825 | Median : 11.1750 | Median : 11.485 |
| 0 | Median :1.671e+07 | Median :9.600e+08 | | | |
| ## | Mean :2016-09-28 | Mean : 73.0548 | Mean : 76.140 | Mean : 70.0287 | Mean : 73.471 |
| 0 | Mean :2.187e+08 | Mean :6.806e+09 | | | |
| ## | 3rd Qu.:2017-04-25 | 3rd Qu.: 53.0425 | 3rd Qu.: 54.867 | 3rd Qu.: 51.5400 | 3rd Qu.: 53.125 |
| 0 | 3rd Qu.:1.691e+08 | 3rd Qu.:4.810e+09 | | | |
| ## | Max. :2017-11-21 | Max. :397.5900 | Max. :414.760 | Max. :383.4700 | Max. :401.490 |
| 0 | Max. :2.883e+09 | Max. :3.676e+10 | | | |
| ## | | | | | |
| | | NA's :1 | | | |
| ## | Percentage | | | | |
| ## | Min. :-0.510344 | | | | |
| ## | 1st Qu.:-0.034190 | | | | |
| ## | Median : 0.001083 | | | | |
| ## | Mean :-0.009241 | | | | |
| ## | 3rd Qu.: 0.025597 | | | | |
| ## | Max. : 0.728042 | | | | |
| ## | | | | | |

BitcoinCash

| ## | Date | 0pen | High | Low | Close | |
|-----|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-----|
| Vol | ume Marke | t.Cap Pe | rcentage | | | |
| ## | Min. :2017-07-23 | Min. : 212.2 | Min. : 223.7 | Min. : 201.0 | Min. : 213.2 | Mi |
| n. | :8.501e+04 Min. | :3.497e+09 Mi | n. :-0.539691 | | | |
| ## | 1st Qu.:2017-08-22 | 1st Qu.: 343.4 | 1st Qu.: 371.7 | 1st Qu.: 316.5 | 1st Qu.: 343.0 | 1st |
| Qu. | :1.645e+08 1st Qu. | :5.664e+09 1st | Qu.:-0.052810 | | | |
| ## | Median :2017-09-21 | Median : 438.6 | Median : 471.8 | Median : 414.4 | Median : 439.6 | Med |
| ian | :2.993e+08 Median | :7.396e+09 Med | lian : 0.004763 | | | |
| ## | Mean :2017-09-21 | Mean : 517.5 | Mean : 577.2 | Mean : 476.1 | Mean : 521.9 | Mea |
| n | :7.065e+08 Mean | :8.784e+09 Mea | n :-0.016847 | | | |
| ## | 3rd Qu.:2017-10-21 | 3rd Qu.: 601.1 | 3rd Qu.: 642.5 | 3rd Qu.: 569.1 | 3rd Qu.: 606.2 | 3rd |
| Qu. | :7.658e+08 3rd Qu. | :1.027e+10 3rd | Qu.: 0.048317 | | | |
| ## | Max. :2017-11-21 | Max. :1381.8 | Max. :2477.7 | Max. :1215.6 | Max. :1388.9 | Ма |
| х. | :8.371e+09 Max. | :2.321e+10 Ma | x. : 0.359841 | | | |
| ## | | | | | | |
| | NA's | :10 | | | | |

Ripple

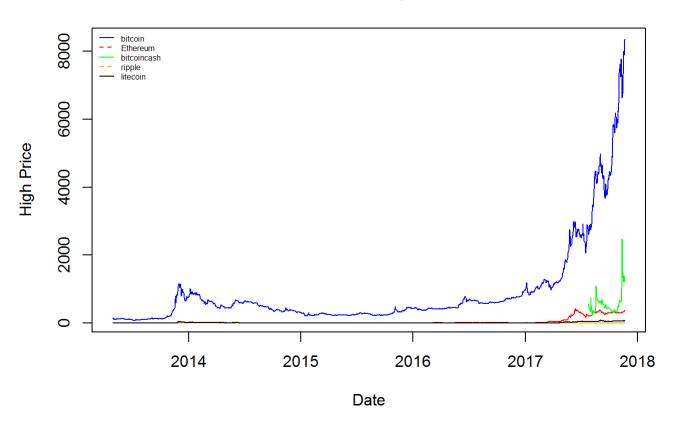
| ## | Date | Date Open Volume Market.Cap | | Low | Close | |
|----|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|--|
| ## | Min. :2013-08-04 | Min. :0.002809 | Min. :0.003082 | Min. :0.002802 | Min. :0.0028 | |
| 10 | Min. :8.316e+03 | Min. :2.196e+07 | | | | |
| ## | 1st Qu.:2014-08-31 | 1st Qu.:0.006023 | 1st Qu.:0.006126 | 1st Qu.:0.005933 | 1st Qu.:0.0060 | |
| 27 | 1st Qu.:2.829e+05 | 1st Qu.:1.431e+08 | | | | |
| ## | Median :2015-09-28 | Median :0.007760 | Median :0.007924 | Median :0.007543 | Median :0.0077 | |
| 72 | Median :6.692e+05 | Median :2.341e+08 | | | | |
| ## | Mean :2015-09-28 | Mean :0.036805 | Mean :0.038760 | Mean :0.034998 | Mean :0.0369 | |
| 47 | Mean :2.950e+07 | Mean :1.302e+09 | | | | |
| ## | 3rd Qu.:2016-10-24 | 3rd Qu.:0.014436 | 3rd Qu.:0.015033 | 3rd Qu.:0.014032 | 3rd Qu.:0.0144 | |
| 35 | 3rd Qu.:2.307e+06 | 3rd Qu.:3.157e+08 | | | | |
| ## | Max. :2017-11-21 | Max. :0.394931 | Max. :0.435170 | Max. :0.332222 | Max. :0.3941 | |
| 32 | Max. :1.770e+09 | Max. :1.513e+10 | | | | |
| ## | | | | | | |
| | NA's :145 | | | | | |
| ## | Percentage | | | | | |
| ## | Min. :-1.793669 | | | | | |
| ## | 1st Qu.:-0.020750 | | | | | |
| ## | Median : 0.002604 | | | | | |
| ## | Mean :-0.005443 | | | | | |
| ## | 3rd Qu.: 0.020879 | | | | | |
| ## | Max. : 0.460047 | | | | | |
| ## | | | | | | |

Litecoin

| ## | Date | Оре | en | Н | igh | Le | OW | Clo | ose | Vo |
|--------|------------------|-----------|--------|----------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| ume | Market.0 | ар | Perc | entage | | | | | | |
| ## Mi | n. :2013-04-28 | Min. : | 1.15 | Min. | : 1.34 | Min. | : 1.11 | Min. | : 1.16 | Min. |
| :4.817 | e+05 Min. :3. | 794e+07 | Min. | :-1.290 | 954 | | | | | |
| ## 1s | t Qu.:2014-06-19 | 1st Qu.: | 3.09 | 1st Qu | .: 3.14 | 1st Qu | .: 3.02 | 1st Qu | .: 3.08 | 1st Q |
| u.:1.7 | 55e+06 1st Qu.: | 1.205e+08 | 1st | Qu.:-0.0 | 16491 | | | | | |
| ## Me | dian :2015-08-10 | Median : | 3.86 | Median | : 3.92 | Median | : 3.81 | Median | : 3.86 | Median |
| :3.162 | e+06 Median :1. | 760e+08 | Median | : 0.000 | 000 | | | | | |
| ## Me | an :2015-08-10 | Mean : | 10.75 | Mean | :11.23 | Mean | :10.25 | Mean | :10.79 | Mean |
| :5.047 | e+07 Mean :4. | 698e+08 | Mean | :-0.004 | 071 | | | | | |
| ## 3r | d Qu.:2016-09-30 | 3rd Qu.: | 10.30 | 3rd Qu | .:10.55 | 3rd Qu | .: 9.80 | 3rd Qu | .:10.31 | 3rd Q |
| u.:9.4 | 18e+06 3rd Qu.: | 2.959e+08 | 3rd | Qu.: 0.0 | 17422 | | | | | |
| ## Ma | x. :2017-11-21 | Max. : | 85.83 | Max. | :92.07 | Max. | :75.59 | Max. | :86.04 | Max. |
| :1.731 | e+09 Max. :4. | 527e+09 | Max. | : 0.401 | 857 | | | | | |
| ## | | | | | | | | | | NA's |
| :243 | | | | | | | | | | |

If we plot the high prices of these 5 currencies together we get.

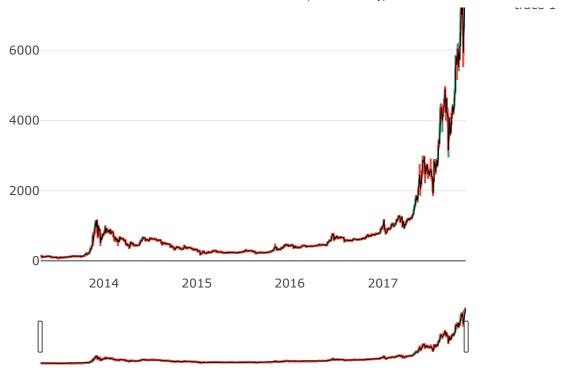
Curriencies High Price



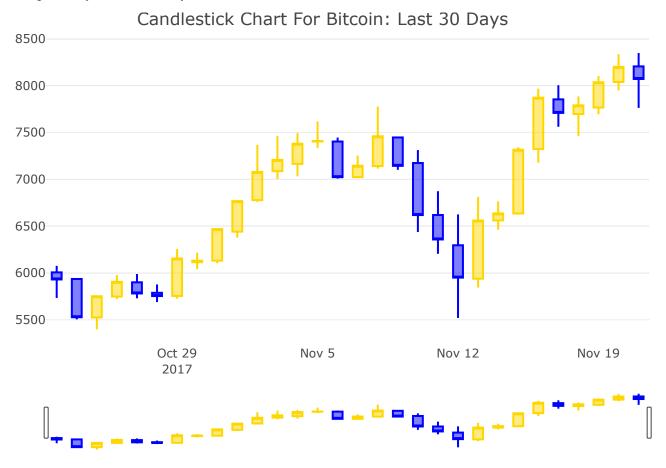
Our motivation to work with cryptocurriencies actually comes from this; look at that steep increase in a year. But when you look closely it's not a smooth increase. With a candlestick plot we can see that the price is always alternating between increasing and decreasing.

Bitcoin Candlestick Chart





Focusing on only the last 30 days.



This means between the day we decided on this project and today we could've increased our money by 33%! That is a huge amount. Let's examine the percentage of price changes for Bitcoin to see if this is normal.

```
summary(df_bitcoin$Percentage)
```

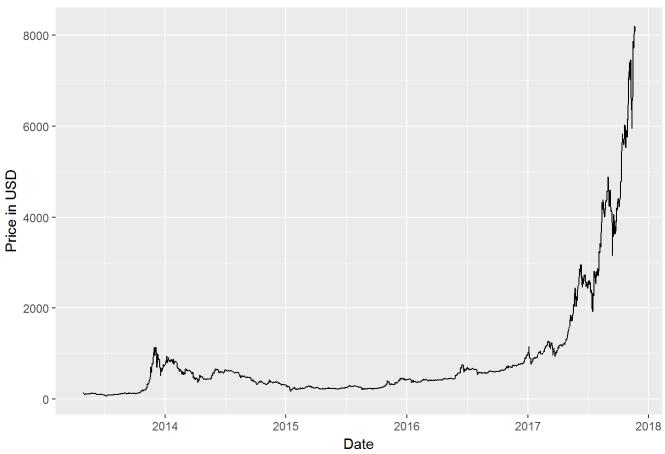
```
## Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max.
## -0.429680 -0.018626 -0.001956 -0.003381 0.011286 0.233712
```

```
sd(df_bitcoin$Percentage)
```

```
## [1] 0.04312892
```

Bitcoin is highly volatile; it has gained up to 23% or lost up to 43% in only one day.

History of Bitcoin Price



Let's examine the percentage of price changes for Ethereum to see if a similer phenomenon occurs.

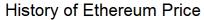
```
summary(df_ethereum$Percentage)
```

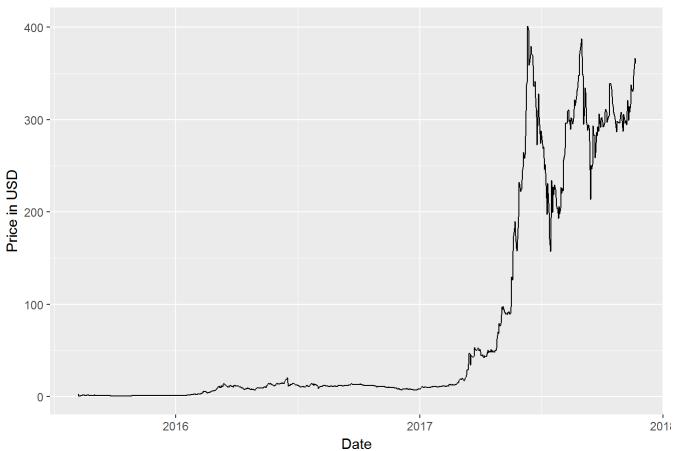
```
## Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max.
## -0.510344 -0.034190 0.001083 -0.009241 0.025597 0.728042
```

```
sd(df_ethereum$Percentage)
```

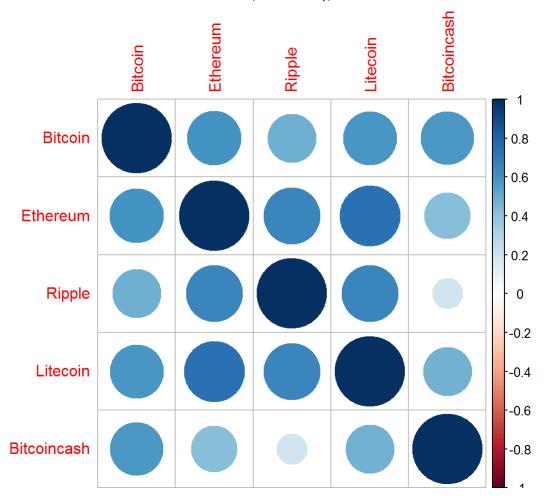
```
## [1] 0.08004012
```

Ethereum is also extremely volatile for a currency; it has gained up to 72% or lost up to 51% in only one day.





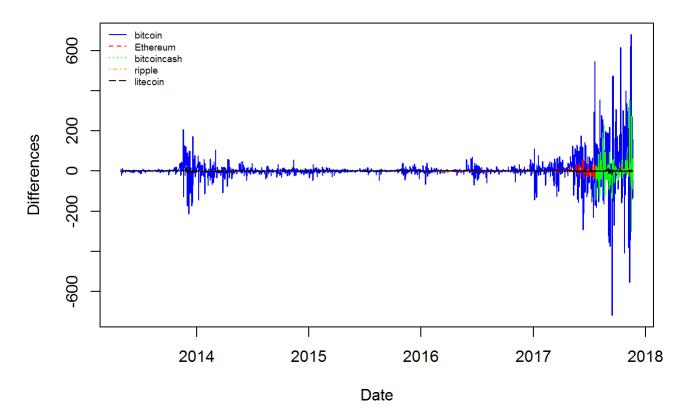
Correlation between cryptocurrencies' closing prices gives us an idea if they behave similarly to normal currencies or if people treat them basically being the same since they are not affiliated with anything but code chunks and blockchains.



We can see that, at least the top five cryptocurrencies are correlated. This means that a negative news about one might affect the others negatively even if not at the same magnitude.

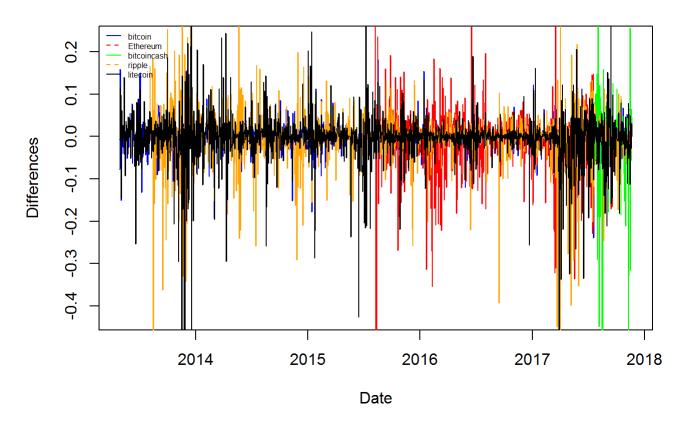
Wait a second! Are we jumping to conclusions here? Remember, these all sail at different price levels so we need some sort of normalization. Currently we trying to correlate a data like this:

Daily Differences between Opening and Closing Price

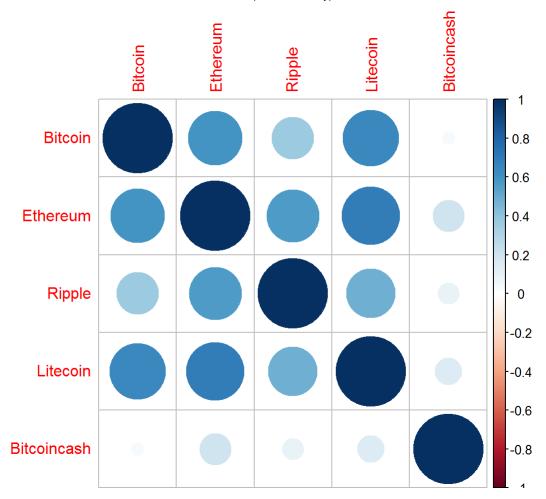


You can't even see Ripple and Litecoin in the graph. But after normalizing by turning them into percentage changes the data we are trying to correlate becomes like this:

Percentage of Closing Price



Let's look at the correlation between the percentage changes:



The correlations have weakened a little bit and BitcoinCash seems to be acting independently. So, good news! You might still bet on some crypto currencies while shorting others and make money on both exchanges! Obligatory Warning: The market is highly volatile so it can be too risky.

Since Bitcoin was first to market, has limited supply and unregulated a natural question to ask is "how similar it is to gold"? Correlation with the well known asset and the gold of the digital world is:

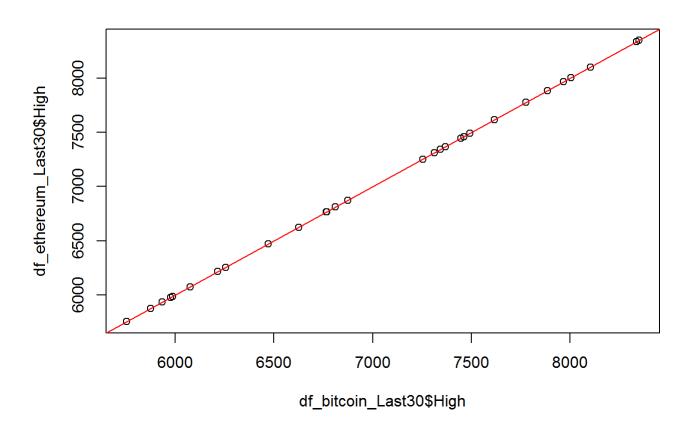
It can be seen that the correlation is nothing of importance. Bitcoin is only a tiny fraction of gold in terms of market capitalization and gold's physical vs Bitcoin's digital makes them two separate markets even though you can mine Bitcoins, too.

We have talked about the speculative aspect of crypto currencies, let's see if our intuition was correct on this one. In here, we try to define the correlation between bitcoin and google search by comparing historical price datas to Google search trend of Bitcoin.

Yes, they are extremely correlated! This could mean that the price of crypto currencies can be affected from negative or positive publicity and/or vice versa; a huge change in prices might spark interest and sequentially people might be searching for more information on them.

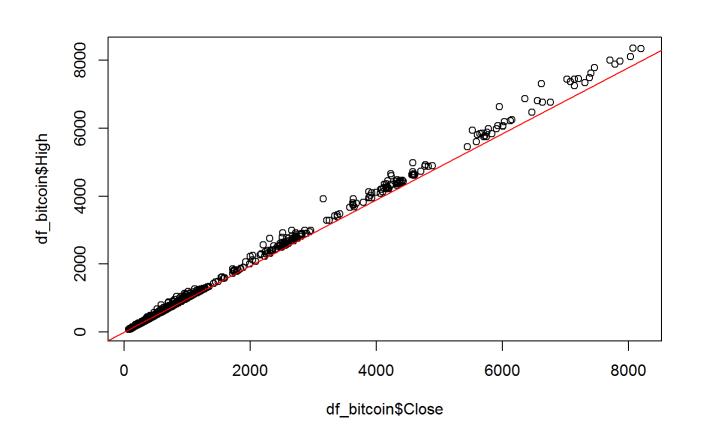
Linear regression analysis between bitcoin high price and Ethereum high price for last 30 days.

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = df_bitcoin_Last30$High ~ df_ethereum_Last30$High,
       data = c(df_bitcoin_Last30, df_ethereum_Last30))
##
##
## Residuals:
##
      Min
              1Q Median
                             3Q
                                   Max
##
        0
               0
                              0
                                     0
##
## Coefficients:
##
                             Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
                                                             <2e-16 ***
## (Intercept)
                           -1.328e-12 0.000e+00
                                                     -Inf
## df_ethereum_Last30$High 1.000e+00 0.000e+00
                                                      Inf
                                                             <2e-16 ***
##
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0 on 28 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:
                             1, Adjusted R-squared:
                                                          1
## F-statistic:
                  Inf on 1 and 28 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16</pre>
```

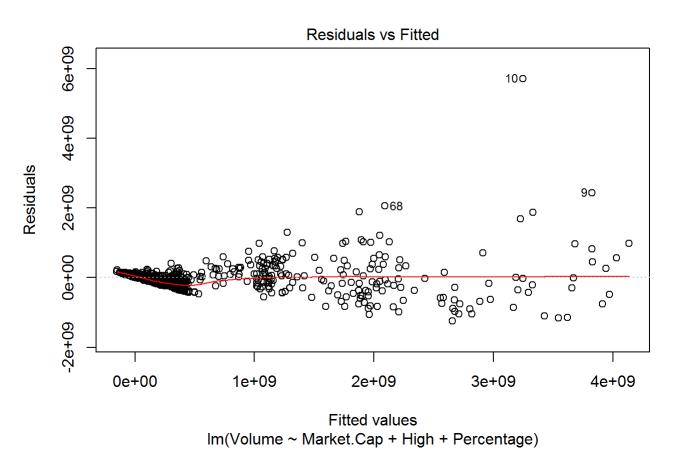


As it is seen in the figure; there is linear relationships between Ethereum and Bitcoin high prices. Linear Regression between bitcoin closing price and high price gives us

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = Close ~ High, data = df_bitcoin)
##
## Residuals:
##
      Min
               1Q Median
                               3Q
                                      Max
                             9.44 184.43
  -660.21
                     2.38
##
            -2.91
##
## Coefficients:
##
               Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 3.3411415 1.3357430
                                              0.0125 *
                                      2.501
                                              <2e-16 ***
## High
              0.9722529 0.0008459 1149.388
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 44.79 on 1667 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.9987, Adjusted R-squared: 0.9987
## F-statistic: 1.321e+06 on 1 and 1667 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```



```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = Volume ~ Market.Cap + High + Percentage, data = df bitcoin)
##
## Residuals:
##
                             Median
          Min
                      1Q
                                            3Q
                                                      Max
##
  -1.250e+09 -9.321e+07 1.872e+07
                                     9.518e+07
                                                5.712e+09
##
## Coefficients:
##
                 Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
  (Intercept) -2.395e+08
                          1.164e+07 -20.567
                                               <2e-16 ***
                                      -8.408
                                               <2e-16 ***
## Market.Cap -5.834e-02
                          6.939e-03
## High
                1.444e+06
                           1.123e+05
                                      12.862
                                               <2e-16 ***
## Percentage -3.951e+08
                           2.147e+08
                                      -1.840
                                                0.066 .
##
## Signif. codes:
                   0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 298100000 on 1422 degrees of freedom
     (243 observations deleted due to missingness)
## Multiple R-squared: 0.843, Adjusted R-squared: 0.8427
## F-statistic: 2545 on 3 and 1422 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```



These analyses helped us to understand cryptocurrencies a little better and lifts the veil of mystery around them a bit. Of course every mind asks different questions. Our minds wandered to the question of whether we can use machine learning techniques to make money of off this. Hence we applied 4 methods on python to understand the data better and see how they performed.

Summary of results; we get 58% accuracy on KNN and SVM for Bitcoin price predictions trained on past 30 days of prices. However this result is not that great considering the upward trajectory of Bitcoin. The best predictor predicted if it will go up with 55% accuracy and it will go down with 53% accuracy. That means we won't be rich tomorrow. But we didn't lose hope, we will try again.