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# Financial Time Series Forecasting with Deep Learning : A Systematic Literature Review: 2005-2019

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## Abstract

Financial time series forecasting is undoubtedly the top choice of computational intelligence for finance researchers in both academia and the finance industry due to its broad implementation areas and substantial impact. [Machine Learning \(ML\)](#) researchers have created various models, and a vast number of studies have been published accordingly. As such, a significant number of surveys exist covering [ML](#) studies on financial time series forecasting. Lately, [Deep Learning \(DL\)](#) models have appeared within the field, with results that significantly outperform their traditional [ML](#) counterparts. Even though there is a growing interest in developing models for financial time series forecasting, there is a lack of review papers that solely focus on [DL](#) for finance. Hence, the motivation of this paper is to provide a comprehensive literature review of [DL](#) studies on financial time series forecasting implementation. We not only categorized the studies according to their intended forecasting implementation areas, such as index, forex, and commodity forecasting, but we also grouped them based on their [DL](#) model choices, such as [Convolutional Neural Networks \(CNNs\)](#), [Deep Belief Networks \(DBNs\)](#), and [Long-Short Term Memory \(LSTM\)](#). We also tried to envision the future of the field by highlighting its possible setbacks and opportunities for the benefit of interested researchers.

*Keywords:* deep learning, finance, computational intelligence, machine learning, time series forecasting, CNN, LSTM, RNN

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## 1. Introduction

The finance industry has always been interested in the successful prediction of financial time series data. Numerous studies have been published on [ML](#) models with relatively better performances than classical time series forecasting techniques. Meanwhile, the widespread application of automated electronic trading systems coupled with increasing demand for higher yields keeps forcing researchers and practitioners to continue working on implementing better models. Hence, new publications and implementations keep adding to the finance and computational intelligence literature.

In the last few years, [DL](#) has strongly emerged as the best performing predictor class within the [ML](#) field in various implementation areas. Financial time series forecasting is no exception, and as such, an increasing number of prediction models based on various [DL](#) techniques have been introduced in the appropriate conferences and journals in recent years.

Despite the vast number of survey papers covering financial time series forecasting and trading systems using traditional soft computing techniques, to the best of our knowledge, no reviews have been performed on the literature for [DL](#). Hence, we decided to work on such a comprehensive study, focusing on [DL](#) implementations of financial time series forecasting. Our motivation is two-fold; we not only aimed at providing a state-of-the-art snapshot of academic and industry perspectives of developed [DL](#) models, but we also pinpoint the important and distinctive characteristics of each studied model to prevent researchers and practitioners from making unsatisfactory choices during their system development. We also wanted to envision where the industry is heading by indicating possible future directions.

Our fundamental motivation was to answer the following research questions:

- Which [DL](#) models are used for financial time series forecasting ?
- How does the performance of [DL](#) models compare with that of their traditional [ML](#) counterparts ?
- What is the future direction of [DL](#) research for financial time series forecasting ?

Our focus was solely on [DL](#) implementations for financial time series forecasting. For other [DL](#)-based financial applications, such as risk assessment and portfolio management, interested readers can refer to another recent survey paper [1]. Because we wanted to single out financial time series prediction studies in our survey, we omitted other time series forecasting studies that were not focused on financial data. Meanwhile, we included time-series research papers that had financial use cases or examples, even if the papers themselves were not directly concerned with financial time series forecasting. Also, we decided to include algorithmic trading papers that were based on financial forecasting but ignore the ones that did not have a time series forecasting component.

We mainly reviewed journals and conferences for our survey, but we also included Masters and PhD theses, book chapters, arXiv papers, and noteworthy technical publications that came up in web searches. We decided to only include articles published in English language.

During our survey, we realized that most of the papers using the term “deep learning” in their description were published in the past five years. However, we also encountered some older studies that implemented deep models, such as [Recurrent Neural Networks \(RNNs\)](#) and Jordan-Elman networks. However, at their time of publication, the term “deep learning” was not in common usage. Therefore, we decided to also include those papers.

According to our findings, this will be one of the first comprehensive “financial time series forecasting” survey papers focusing on [DL](#). Many [ML](#) reviews for financial time series forecasting exist in the literature, but we have not encountered any study on [DL](#). Hence, we wanted to fill this gap by analyzing the developed models and applications accordingly. We hope that as a result of this paper, researchers and model developers will have a better idea of how they can implement [DL](#) models in their studies.

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows. In Section 2, existing surveys focused on [ML](#) and soft computing studies for financial time series forecasting are mentioned. In Section 3, we will cover existing [DL](#) models that are used, such as [CNN](#), [LSTM](#), and [Deep](#)

[Reinforcement Learning \(DRL\)](#). Section 4 will focus on the various financial time series forecasting implementation areas using [DL](#), namely stock forecasting, index forecasting, trend forecasting, commodity forecasting, volatility forecasting, foreign exchange forecasting, and cryptocurrency forecasting. In each subsection, the problem definition will be given, followed by the particular [DL](#) implementations. In Section 5, overall statistical results about our findings will be presented, including histograms related to the annual distributions of different subfields, models, publication types, etc. A state-of-the-art snapshot of financial time series forecasting studies will be given through these statistics. At the same time, they will also show the areas that are already mature in comparison with promising or new areas that still have room for improvement. Section 6 discusses the academic and industrial achievements that have been accomplished and future expectations. The section will include highlights of open areas that require further research. Finally, we conclude this paper in Section 7 by summarizing our findings.

## 2. Financial Time Series Forecasting with ML

Financial time series forecasting and associated applications have been studied extensively for many years. When [ML](#) started gaining popularity, financial prediction applications based on soft computing models accordingly also became available. Even though our particular focus is on [DL](#) implementations of financial time series prediction studies, it will be beneficial to briefly mention existing surveys covering [ML](#)-based financial time series forecasting studies to provide some historical perspective.

In our study, we did not include any survey papers that were focused on specific financial application areas other than forecasting studies. However, we were faced with some review publications that included a mix of financial time-series studies and other financial applications. We decided to include those papers to maintain the comprehensiveness of our coverage.

Examples of these aforementioned publications are provided here. There were published books on stock market forecasting [2], trading system development [3], practical examples of forex and market forecasting applications [4] using [ML](#) models, such as [Artificial Neural Networks \(ANNs\)](#), [Evolutionary Computations \(ECs\)](#), and [Genetic Programming \(GP\)](#), and Agent-based models [5].

There were also some existing journal and conference surveys. Bahrammirzaee et al. [6] surveyed financial prediction and planning studies along with other financial applications using various [Artificial Intelligence \(AI\)](#) techniques such as [ANN](#), Expert Systems, and hybrid models. Zhang et al. [7] also compared [ML](#) methods in different financial applications, including stock market prediction studies. In Mochon et al. [8], soft computing models for the market, forex prediction, and trading systems were analyzed. Mullainathan and Spies [9] surveyed the prediction process in general from an econometric perspective.

There were also a number of survey papers concentrated on one particular [ML](#) model. Even though these papers focused on one technique, the implementation areas generally spanned various financial applications, including financial time series forecasting. Among those soft computing methods, [EC](#) and [ANN](#) have had the most overall interest.

In terms of EC studies, Chen wrote a book on Genetic Algorithms (GAs) and GP in Computational Finance [10]. Later, Multiobjective Evolutionary Algorithms (MOEAs) were extensively surveyed for various financial applications including financial time series prediction [11, 12, 13]. Meanwhile, Rada reviewed EC applications along with Expert Systems for financial investing models [14].

In terms of ANN studies, Li and Ma reviewed implementations of ANN for stock price forecasting and some other financial applications [15]. Tkac et al. [16] surveyed different implementations of ANN in financial applications, including stock price forecasting. Recently, Elmsili and Outtaj surveyed ANN applications in economics and management research, including economic time series forecasting [17].

There have also been several text mining surveys focused on financial applications, including financial time series forecasting. Mittermayer and Knolmayer compared various text mining implementations that extract market responses to news for prediction [18]. Mitra et al. [19] focused on news analytics studies for prediction of abnormal returns for trading strategies in their survey. Nassirtoussi et al. reviewed text mining studies for stock or forex market prediction [20]. Kearney et al. [21] also surveyed text mining-based time series forecasting and trading strategies using textual sentiment. Similarly, Kumar and Ravi [22] reviewed text mining studies for forex and stock market prediction. Lately, Xing et al. [23] surveyed natural language-based financial forecasting studies.

Finally, there were application-specific survey papers that focused on particular financial time series forecasting implementations. Among these studies, stock market forecasting had the most interest. A number of surveys were published for stock market forecasting studies based on various soft computing methods at different times [24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31]. Chatterjee et al. [32] and Katarya and Mahajan [33] concentrated on ANN-based financial market prediction studies, whereas Hu et al. [34] focused on EC implementations for stock forecasting and algorithmic trading models. In a different time series forecasting application, researchers surveyed forex prediction studies using ANN [35] and various other soft computing techniques [36].

Although many surveys exist for ML implementations of financial time series forecasting, DL has not yet been surveyed comprehensively despite the emergence of various DL implementations in recent years. This was the main motivation for our survey. In the next section, we cover the various DL models used in financial time series forecasting studies.

### 3. Deep Learning

DL is a type of ANN that consists of multiple processing layers and enables high-level abstraction to model data. The key advantage of DL models is extracting the good features of input data automatically using a general-purpose learning procedure. Therefore, DL models have been proposed for many applications such as: image, speech, video, and audio reconstruction, natural language understanding (particularly topic classification), sentiment analysis, question answering, and language translation [37]. The historical improvements of DL models are surveyed in Schmidhuber et al. [38].

Financial time series forecasting has been very popular among ML researchers for more than 40 years. The financial community has been boosted by the recent introduction of DL models for financial prediction and their accompanying publications. The success of DL over ML models is the major attractive point for finance researchers. With more financial time series data and different deep architectures, new DL methods will be proposed. In our survey, the vast majority of studies found DL models to be better than their ML counterparts.

In the literature, there are different kinds of DL models: Deep Multilayer Perceptron (DMLP), RNN, LSTM, CNN, Restricted Boltzmann Machines (RBMs), DBN, Autoencoder (AE), and DRL [37, 38]. Throughout the literature, financial time series forecasting is mostly considered as a regression problem. However, there is also a significant number of studies, particularly on trend prediction, that use classification models to tackle financial forecasting problems. In Section 4, different DL implementations are presented along with their model choices.

### 3.1. Deep Multi Layer Perceptron (DMLP)

DMLP was one of the first developed ANNs. Its difference from shallow nets is that DMLP contains more layers. Even though particular model architectures might have variations depending on different problem requirements, DMLP models consist mainly of three layers: input, hidden, and output. The number of neurons in each layer and the number of layers are the hyperparameters of the network. In general, each neuron in the hidden layers has input ( $x$ ), weight ( $w$ ), and bias ( $b$ ) terms. In addition, each neuron has a nonlinear activation function, which produces a cumulative output of the preceding neurons. Equation 1 [39] illustrates the output of a single neuron in the Neural Network (NN). There are different types of nonlinear activation functions. The most commonly used nonlinear activation functions are sigmoid (Equation 2) [40], hyperbolic tangent (Equation 3) [41], Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU) (Equation 4) [42], leaky-ReLU (Equation 5) [43], swish (Equation 6) [44], and softmax (Equation 7) [39]. Non-linear activations were compared in [44].

$$y_i = \sigma\left(\sum_i W_i x_i + b_i\right) \quad (1)$$

$$\sigma(z) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}} \quad (2)$$

$$\tanh(z) = \frac{e^z - e^{-z}}{e^z + e^{-z}} \quad (3)$$

$$R(z) = \max(0, z) \quad (4)$$

$$R(z) = 1(x < 0)(\alpha x) + 1(x \geq 0)(x) \quad (5)$$

$$f(x) = x\sigma(\beta x) \quad (6)$$

$$\text{softmax}(z_i) = \frac{\exp z_i}{\sum_j \exp z_j} \quad (7)$$

**DMLP** models have appeared in various application areas [45, 37]. Using a **DMLP** model has advantages and disadvantages depending on the problem requirements. Through **DMLP** models, problems such as regression and classification can be solved by modeling the input data [46]. However, if the number of input features is increased (e.g., image as input), the parameter size in the network will increase accordingly due to the fully connected nature of the model, which will jeopardize the computational performance and create storage problems. To overcome this issue, different types of **Deep Neural Network (DNN)** methods have been proposed (such as **CNN**) [37]. With **DMLP**, much more efficient classification and regression processes can be performed. In Figure 1, a **DMLP** model's layers, neurons, and weights between neurons are illustrated.

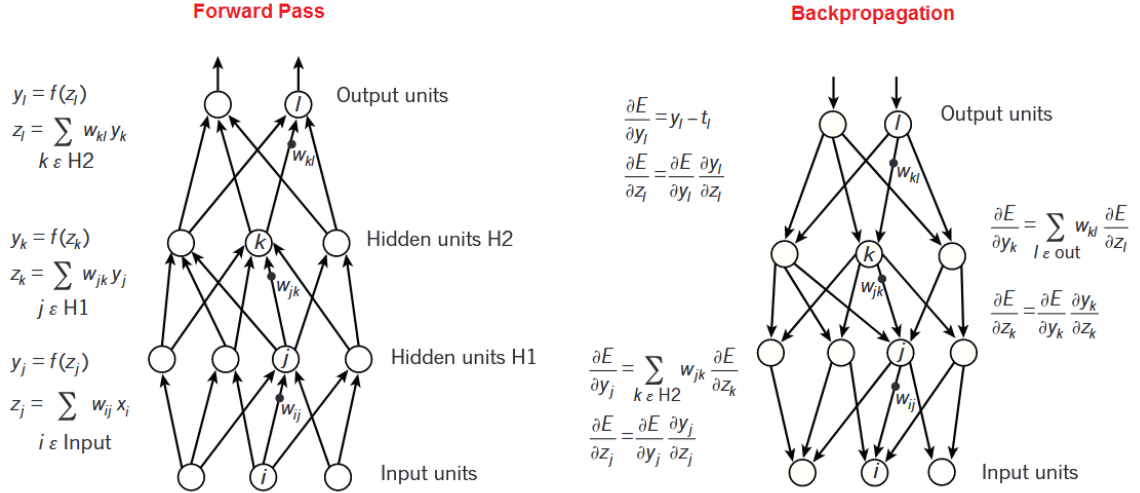


Figure 1: Deep Multi Layer Neural Network Forward Pass and Backpropagation [37]

The **DMLP** learning stage is implemented through backpropagation. The error in the neurons in the output layer is propagated back to the preceding layers. Optimization algorithms are used to find the optimum parameters/variables of the **NNs**. They are used to update the weights of the connections between the layers. Different optimization algorithms have been developed: **Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)**, **SGD with Momentum**, **Adaptive Gradient Algorithm (AdaGrad)**, **Root Mean Square Propagation (RMSProp)**, and **Adaptive Moment Estimation (ADAM)** [47, 48, 49, 50, 51]. Gradient descent is an iterative method to find optimum parameters of the function that minimizes the cost function. **SGD** is an algorithm that randomly selects a few samples for each iteration instead of the whole data set [47]. **SGD with Momentum** remembers the update in each iteration, which accelerates gradient descent [48]. **AdaGrad** is a modified **SGD** that improves on the convergence performance of the standard **SGD** algorithm [49]. **RMSProp** is an optimization algorithm that



adapts the learning rate for each parameter. In [RMSProp](#), the learning rate is divided by a running average of the magnitudes of recent gradients for that weight [50]. [ADAM](#) is an updated version of [RMSProp](#) that uses running averages of both the gradients and second moments of the gradients. [ADAM](#) combines the advantages of [RMSProp](#) (works well in online and non-stationary settings) and [AdaGrad](#) (works well with sparse gradients) [51].

As shown in Figure 1, the effect of backpropagation is transferred to the previous layers. If the effect of [SGD](#) is gradually lost when the effect reaches the early layers during backpropagation, this problem is called the vanishing gradient problem [52]. In this case, updates between the early layers become unavailable and the learning process stops. The high number of layers in the neural network and the increasing complexity cause the vanishing gradient problem.

The important issue in the [DMLP](#) are the hyperparameters of the networks and method of tuning these hyperparameters. Hyperparameters are the variables of the network that affect the network architecture and performance of the networks. The number of hidden layers, number of units in each layer, regularization techniques (dropout, L1, L2), network weight initialization (zero, random, He [53], Xavier [54]), activation functions (Sigmoid, [ReLU](#), hyperbolic tangent, etc.), learning rate, decay rate, momentum values, number of epochs, batch size (minibatch size), and optimization algorithms ([SGD](#), [AdaGrad](#), [RMSProp](#), [ADAM](#), etc.) are the hyperparameters of [DMLP](#). Choosing better hyperparameter values/variables for the network results in better performance. Therefore, finding the best hyperparameters for the network is a significant issue. In the literature, there are different methods to find best hyperparameters: [Manual Search \(MS\)](#), [Grid Search \(GS\)](#), [RandomSearch \(RS\)](#), and Bayesian Methods ([Sequential Model-Based Global Optimization \(SMBGO\)](#), [The Gaussian Process Approach \(GPA\)](#), [Tree-structured Parzen Estimator Approach \(TSPEA\)](#)) [55, 56].

### 3.2. Recurrent Neural Network (RNN)

The [RNN](#) is another type of [DL](#) network used for time series or sequential data, such as language and speech. [RNNs](#) are also used in traditional [ML](#) models ([Back Propagation Through Time \(BPTT\)](#), Jordan-Elman networks, etc.); however, the time periods in such models are generally less than those used in deep [RNN](#) models. Deep [RNNs](#) are preferred due to their ability to include longer time periods. Unlike [Fully Connected Neural Networks \(FNNs\)](#), [RNNs](#) use internal memory to process incoming inputs. [RNNs](#) are used to analyze time series data in various fields (handwriting recognition, speech recognition, etc.). As stated in the literature, [RNNs](#) are good at predicting the next character in text, language translation applications, and sequential data processing [45, 37].

The [RNN](#) model architecture consists of different numbers of layers and different types of units in each layer. The main difference between [RNN](#) and [FNN](#) is that each [RNN](#) unit takes the current and previous input data at the same time. The output depends on the previous data in the [RNN](#) model. [RNNs](#) process input sequences one by one at any given time during their operation. The units in the hidden layer hold information about the history of the input in the "state vector". When the output of the units in the hidden layer is divided into different discrete time steps, an [RNN](#) is converted into a [DMLP](#) [37]. In Figure 2, the information flow in the [RNN](#)'s hidden layer is divided into discrete times. The status of the



node  $S$  at different times of  $t$  is shown as  $s_t$ , the input value  $x$  at different times is  $x_t$ , and the output value  $o$  at different times is shown as  $o_t$ . Parameter values ( $U, W, V$ ) are always used in the same step.

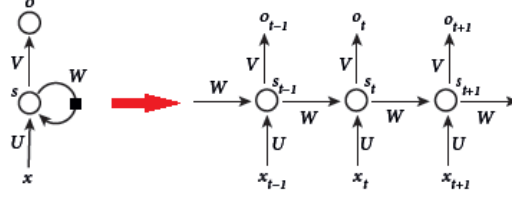


Figure 2: RNN cell through time[37]

RNNs can be trained using the BPTT algorithm. Optimization algorithms (SGD, RMSPProp, ADAM) are used for the weight adjustment process. With the BPTT learning method, the error change at time  $t$  is reflected in the input and weights of the previous  $t$  times. The difficulty of training an RNN is that the RNN structure has a backward dependence over time. Therefore, RNNs become increasingly complex as the learning period increases. Although the main aim of using an RNN is to learn long-term dependencies, studies in the literature show that when knowledge is stored for long time periods, it is not easy to learn with an RNN [57]. To solve this particular problem, LSTMs with different structures of ANN have been developed [37]. Equations 8 and 9 illustrate simpler RNN formulations. Equation 10 shows the total error, which is the sum of the errors from each time iteration<sup>1</sup>.

$$h_t = Wf(h_{t-1}) + W^{(hx)}x_{[t]} \quad (8)$$

$$y_t = W^{(S)}f(h_t) \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial W} = \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{\partial E_t}{\partial W} \quad (10)$$

Hyperparameters of the RNN also define the network architecture, and the performance of the network is affected by the parameter choices, as in DMLP case. The number of hidden layers, number of units in each layer, regularization techniques, network weight initialization, activation functions, learning rate, momentum values, number of epochs, batch size (minibatch size), decay rate, optimization algorithms, model (Vanilla RNN, Gated-Recurrent Unit (GRU), LSTM), and sequence length are the hyperparameters of RNN. Finding the best hyperparameters for the network is a significant issue. In the literature, there are different methods to find the best hyperparameters: MS, GS, RS, and Bayesian Methods (SMBGO, GPA, TSPEA) [55, 56].

<sup>1</sup>Richard Socher, CS224d: Deep Learning for Natural Language Processing, Lecture Notes

### 3.3. Long Short Term Memory (LSTM)

**LSTM** [58] is a type of **RNN** where the network can remember both short term and long term values. **LSTM** networks are the preferred choice of many **DL** model developers when tackling complex problems such as automatic speech and handwritten character recognition. **LSTM** models are mostly used with time-series data. Their applications include **Natural Language Processing (NLP)**, language modeling, language translation, speech recognition, sentiment analysis, predictive analysis, and financial time series analysis [59, 60]. With attention modules and **AE** structures, **LSTM** networks can be more successful in time series data analysis, such as language translation [59].

**LSTM** networks consist of **LSTM** units. **LSTM** units merge to form an **LSTM** layer. An **LSTM** unit is composed of cells, each with an input gate, output gate, and forget gate. These gates regulate the information flow. With these features, each cell remembers the desired values over arbitrary time intervals. Equations 11-15 show the form of the forward pass of the **LSTM** unit [58] ( $x_t$ : input vector to the **LSTM** unit,  $f_t$ : forget gate's activation vector,  $i_t$ : input gate's activation vector,  $o_t$ : output gate's activation vector,  $h_t$ : output vector of the **LSTM** unit,  $c_t$ : cell state vector,  $\sigma_g$ : sigmoid function,  $\sigma_c$ ,  $\sigma_h$ : hyperbolic tangent function,  $*$ : element-wise (Hadamard) product,  $W$ ,  $U$ : weight matrices to be learned,  $b$ : bias vector parameters to be learned) [60].

$$f_t = \sigma_g(W_f x_t + U_f h_{t-1} + b_f) \quad (11)$$

$$i_t = \sigma_g(W_i x_t + U_i h_{t-1} + b_i) \quad (12)$$

$$o_t = \sigma_g(W_o x_t + U_o h_{t-1} + b_o) \quad (13)$$

$$c_t = f_t * c_{t-1} + i_t * \sigma_c(W_c x_t + U_c h_{t-1} + b_c) \quad (14)$$

$$h_t = o_t * \sigma_h(c_t) \quad (15)$$

**LSTM** is a specialized version of **RNN**. Therefore, the weight updates and preferred optimization methods are the same. In addition, the hyperparameters of **LSTM** are just like those of **RNN**: number of hidden layers, number of units in each layer, network weight initialization, activation functions, learning rate, momentum values, number of epochs, batch size (minibatch size), decay rate, optimization algorithms, sequence length for **LSTM**, gradient clipping, gradient normalization, and dropout[60, 61]. To find the best hyperparameters of **LSTM**, the hyperparameter optimization methods used for **RNN** are also applicable to **LSTM** [55, 56].

### 3.4. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

The **CNN** is a type of **DNN** that consists of convolutional layers based on the convolutional operation. It is the most common model used for vision and image processing-based classification problems (image classification, object detection, image segmentation, etc.) [62, 63, 64]. The advantage of the **CNN** is the number of parameters compared to vanilla **DL** models, such as **DMLP**. Filtering with the kernel window function gives the advantage of image processing to **CNN** architectures with fewer parameters, which is beneficial for computing and storage. In **CNN** architectures, there are different layers: convolutional, max-pooling, dropout, and fully connected **Multilayer Perceptron (MLP)** layer. The convolutional layer consists of a convolution (filtering) operation. A basic convolution operation is shown in Equation 16, where  $t$  denotes time,  $s$  denotes feature map,  $w$  denotes kernel,  $x$  denotes input, and  $a$  denotes variable. In addition, the convolution operation is implemented on two-dimensional images. Equation 17 shows the convolution operation for a two-dimensional image, where  $I$  denotes input image,  $K$  denotes the kernel,  $(m, n)$  denotes image dimensions, and  $i$  and  $j$  denote variables. Consecutive convolutional and max-pooling layers construct the deep network. Equation 18 describes the **NN** architecture, where  $W$  denotes weights,  $x$  denotes input,  $b$  denotes bias, and  $z$  denotes the output of neurons. At the end of the network, the softmax function is used to obtain the output. Equations 19 and 20 illustrate the softmax function, where  $y$  denotes output [39].

$$s(t) = (x * w)(t) = \sum_{a=-\infty}^{\infty} x(a)w(t-a) \quad (16)$$

$$S(i, j) = (I * K)(i, j) = \sum_m \sum_n I(m, n)K(i-m, j-n). \quad (17)$$

$$z_i = \sum_j W_{i,j} x_j + b_i. \quad (18)$$

$$y = \text{softmax}(z) \quad (19)$$

$$\text{softmax}(z_i) = \frac{\exp(z_i)}{\sum_j \exp(z_j)} \quad (20)$$

The backpropagation process is used for **CNN** model learning. Most commonly used optimization algorithms (**SGD**, **RMSProp**) are used to find optimum **CNN** parameters. Hyperparameters of the **CNN** are similar to other **DL** model hyperparameters: number of hidden layers, number of units in each layer, network weight initialization, activation functions, learning rate, momentum values, number of epochs, batch size (minibatch size), decay rate, optimization algorithms, dropout, kernel size, and filter size. To find the best **CNN** hyperparameters, the following search algorithms are commonly used: **MS**, **GS**, **RS**, and Bayesian methods. [55, 56].

### 3.5. Restricted Boltzmann Machines (RBMs)

An **RBM** is a productive stochastic **ANN** that can learn a probability distribution on the input set [65]. **RBMs** are mostly used for unsupervised learning [66]. **RBMs** are used in applications such as dimension reduction, classification, feature learning, and collaborative filtering [67]. The advantage of **RBMs** is their ability to find hidden patterns in an unsupervised manner. The disadvantage of **RBMs** is its difficult training process. “**RBMs** are tricky because although there are good estimators of the log-likelihood gradient, there are no known cheap ways of estimating the log-likelihood itself” [68].

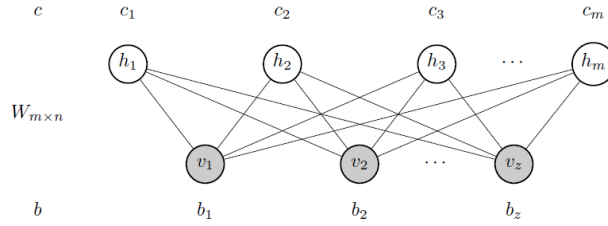


Figure 3: RBM Visible and Hidden Layers [65]

An **RBM** is a two-layer, bipartite, and undirected graphical model that consists of two layers: visible and hidden (Figure 3). The layers are not connected among themselves. Each cell is a computational point that processes the input and makes stochastic decisions about whether this nerve node will transmit the input. Inputs are multiplied by specific weights, certain threshold values (bias) are added to input values, and then the calculated values are passed through an activation function. In the reconstruction stage, the results from the outputs re-enter the network as input before finally exiting the visible layer as output. The values of the previous input and values after the processes are compared. The purpose of this comparison is to reduce the difference.

Equation 21 illustrates the probabilistic semantics for an **RBM** using its energy function, where  $P$  denotes the probabilistic semantics for an **RBM**,  $Z$  denotes the partition function,  $E$  denotes the energy function,  $h$  denotes hidden units, and  $v$  denotes visible units. Equation 22 illustrates the partition function or normalizing constant. Equation 23 shows the energy of a configuration (in matrix notation) of a standard **RBM** with binary-valued hidden and visible units, where  $a$  denotes bias weights (offsets) for the visible units,  $b$  denotes bias weights for the hidden units,  $W$  denotes matrix weight of the connection between hidden and visible units,  $T$  denotes the transpose of matrix,  $v$  denotes visible units, and  $h$  denotes hidden units [69, 70].

$$P(v, h) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp(-E(v, h)) \quad (21)$$

$$Z = \sum_v \sum_h \exp(-E(v, h)) \quad (22)$$

$$E(v, h) = -a^T v - b^T h - v^T W h \quad (23)$$

The learning is performed multiple times on the network [65]. The training of RBMs is implemented by minimizing the negative log-likelihood of the model and data. The **Contrastive Divergence (CD)** algorithm is used as the stochastic approximation algorithm, which replaces the model expectation using an estimation using Gibbs Sampling with a limited number of iterations [66]. In the **CD** algorithm, the **Kullback Leibler Divergence (KL-Divergence)** algorithm is used to measure the distance between its reconstructed probability distribution and the original probability distribution of the input [71].

Momentum, learning rate, weight-cost (decay rate), batch size (minibatch size), regularization method, number of epochs, number of layers, initialization of weights, size of visible units, size of hidden units, type of activation units (sigmoid, softmax, **ReLU**, Gaussian units), loss function, and optimization algorithms are the hyperparameters of RBMs. Similar to other deep networks, the hyperparameters are searched with **MS**, **GS**, **RS**, and Bayesian methods (Gaussian process). In addition to these, **Annealed Importance Sampling (AIS)** is used to estimate the partition function. The **CD** algorithm is also used for the optimization of RBMs [55, 56, 72, 73].

### 3.6. Deep Belief Networks (DBNs)

A **DBN** is a type of deep **ANN** consisting of a stack of **RBM** networks (Figure 4). A **DBN** is a probabilistic generative model that consists of latent variables. In a **DBN**, there is no link between units in each layer. **DBNs** are used to find discriminate independent features in the input set using unsupervised learning [69]. The ability to encode higher-order network structures and fast inference are the advantages of **DBNs** [74]. **DBNs** have the same disadvantages as **RBM**s because **DBNs** are composed of **RBM**s.

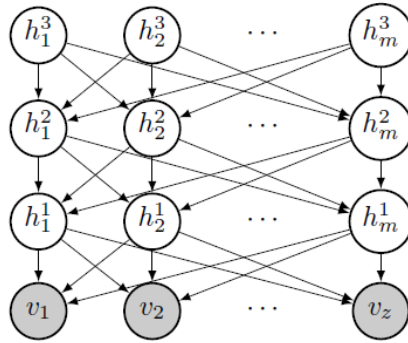


Figure 4: Deep Belief Network [65]

When a **DBN** is trained in an unsupervised manner, it can learn to reconstruct the input set in a probabilistic manner. Then, the layers in the network begin to detect discriminating features in the input. After this learning step, supervised learning is conducted for classification [75]. Equation 24 illustrates the probability of generating a visible vector ( $W$ : matrix

weight of connection between hidden unit  $h$  and visible unit  $v$ ,  $p(h|W)$ : prior distribution over hidden vectors) [69].

$$p(v) = \sum_h p(h|W)p(v|h, W) \quad (24)$$

The DBN training process can be divided into two steps: stacked RBM learning and backpropagation learning. In stacked RBM learning, an iterative CD algorithm is used [66]. In backpropagation learning, optimization algorithms (SGD, RMSProp, ADAM) are used to train the network [74]. The hyperparameters of a DBNs are similar to those of an RBM. Momentum, learning rate, weight-cost (decay rate), regularization method, batch size (minibatch size), number of epochs, number of layers, initialization of weights, number of RBM stacks, size of visible units in RBMs' layers, size of hidden units in RBMs' layers, type of units (sigmoid, softmax, rectified, Gaussian units, etc.), network weight initialization, and optimization algorithms are the hyperparameters of DBNs. Similar to other deep networks, the hyperparameters are searched with MS, GS, RS, and Bayesian methods. The CD algorithm is also used for the optimization of DBNs [55, 56, 72, 73].

### 3.7. Autoencoders (AEs)

AE networks are ANNs used as unsupervised learning models. In addition, AE networks are commonly used in DL models, wherein they remap the inputs (features) such that the inputs are more representative for classification. In other words, AE networks perform an unsupervised feature learning process, which fits very well with the DL framework. A representation of a data set is learned by reducing the dimensionality with AEs. AEs are similar to Feedforward Neural Networks (FFNNs)' in their architecture. They consist of an input layer, an output layer, and one or more hidden layers that connect them together. The number of nodes in the input layer and the number of nodes in the output layer are equal to each other in AEs, and they have a symmetrical structure. The most notable advantages of AEs are dimensionality reduction and feature learning. Meanwhile, reducing dimensionality and feature extraction in AEs cause some drawbacks. Focusing on minimizing the loss of data relationship in the encoding of AEs causes the loss of some significant data relationships. Hence, this may be considered as a drawback of AEs[76].

In general, AEs contain two components: encoder and decoder. The input  $x \in [0, 1]^d$  is converted through function  $f(x)$  ( $W_1$  denotes a weight matrix,  $b_1$  denotes a bias vector,  $\sigma_1$  element-wise sigmoid activation function of the encoder). Output  $h$  is the encoded part of the AEs (code), latent variables, or latent representation. The inverse of function  $f(x)$ , called function  $g(h)$ , produces the reconstruction of output  $r$  ( $W_2$  denotes a weight matrix,  $b_2$  denotes a bias vector, and  $\sigma_2$  is an element-wise sigmoid activation function of the decoder). Equations 25 and 26 illustrate the simple AE process [77]. Equation 27 shows the loss function of the AE, the Mean Squared Error (MSE). In the literature, AEs have been used for feature extraction and dimensionality reduction [39, 77].

$$h = f(x) = \sigma_1(W_1x + b_1) \quad (25)$$

$$r = g(h) = \sigma_2(W_2h + b_2) \quad (26)$$

$$L(x, r) = ||x - r||^2 \quad (27)$$

**AEs** are a specialized version of **FFNNs**. The backpropagation learning is used for updating the weights in the network [39]. Optimization algorithms (**SGD**, **RMSPprop**, **ADAM**) are used for the learning process of **AEs**. **MSE** is used as a loss function in **AEs**. In addition, recirculation algorithms may also be used for the training of **AEs** [39]. **AEs'** hyperparameters are similar to those of **DL** hyperparameters. Learning rate, weight-cost (decay rate), dropout fraction, batch size (minibatch size), number of epochs, number of layers, number of nodes in each encoder layer, type of activation functions, number of nodes in each decoder layers, network weight initialization, optimization algorithms, and number of nodes in the code layer (size of latent representation) are the hyperparameters of **AEs**. Similar to other deep networks, the hyperparameters are searched with **MS**, **GS**, **RS**, and Bayesian methods [55, 56].

### 3.8. Deep Reinforcement Learning (DRL)

**Reinforcement learning (RL)** is a type of learning that differs from supervised and unsupervised learning models. It does not require a preliminary data set that has been labeled or clustered before. **RL** is an ML approach inspired by learning action/behavior, which deals with what actions should be taken by subjects to achieve the highest reward in an environment. There are different areas in which it is used: game theory, control theory, multi-agent systems, operations research, robotics, information theory, investment portfolio management, simulation-based optimization, playing Atari games, and statistics [78]. Some advantages of using **RL** for control problems are that an agent can be easily re-trained to adapt to changes in the environment and that the system is continually improved while training is constantly performed. An **RL** agent learns by interacting with its surroundings and observing the results of these interactions. This learning method mimics the basics of how humans learn.

**RL** is mainly based on a **Markov Decision Process (MDP)**. A **MDP** is used to formalize the **RL** environment. A **MDP** consists of five tuples: state (finite set of states), action (finite set of actions), reward function (scalar feedback signal), state transition probability matrix ( $p(s', r|s, a)$ , where  $s'$  denotes next state,  $r$  denotes reward function,  $s$  denotes state, and  $a$  denotes action), and discount factor ( $\gamma$ , present value of future rewards). The aim of the agent is to maximize the cumulative reward. The return ( $G_t$ ) is the total discounted reward. Equation 28 illustrates the total return, where  $R$  denotes rewards,  $t$  denotes time, and  $k$  denotes a variable in time.

$$G_t = R_{t+1} + \gamma R_{t+2} + \gamma^2 R_{t+3} + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma^k R_{t+k+1} \quad (28)$$

The value function is the prediction of future values. It provides information on how good the state/action is. Equation 29 illustrates the formulation of the value function,



where  $v(s)$  denotes the value function,  $E[\cdot]$  denotes the expectation function,  $G_t$  denotes the total discounted reward,  $s$  denotes the given state,  $R$  denotes the rewards,  $S$  denotes the set of states, and  $t$  denotes time.

$$v(s) = E[G_t | S_t = s] = E[R_{t+1} + \gamma v(S_{t+1}) | S_t = s] \quad (29)$$

Policy ( $\pi$ ) is the agent's behavior strategy. It is like a map from state to action. There are two types of value functions to express the actions in the policy: state-value function ( $v_\pi(s)$ ) and action-value function ( $q_\pi(s, a)$ ). The state-value function (Equation 30) is the expected return of starting from  $s$  to following policy  $\pi$  ( $E_\pi[\cdot]$  denotes expectation function). The action-value function (Equation 31) is the expected return of starting from  $s$  and taking action  $a$  to following policy  $\pi$  ( $A$  denotes the set of actions and  $a$  denotes the given action).

$$v_\pi(s) = E_\pi[G_t | S_t = s] = E_\pi\left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma^k R_{t+k+1} | S_t = s\right] \quad (30)$$

$$q_\pi(s, a) = E_\pi[G_t | S_t = s, A_t = a] \quad (31)$$

The optimal state-value function (Equation 32) is the maximum value function over all policies. The optimal action-value function (Equation 33) is the maximum action-value function over all policies.

$$v_*(s) = \max(v_\pi(s)) \quad (32)$$

$$q_*(s, a) = \max(q_\pi(s, a)) \quad (33)$$

The [RL](#) solutions and methods in the literature are too broad to review in this paper. Therefore, we summarize the important issues of [RL](#) and important [RL](#) solutions and methods. [RL](#) methods can mainly be divided into two types: model-based methods and model-free methods. Model-based methods use a model that is known by the agent before, value/policy, and experience. The experience can be real (sample from the environment) or simulated (sample from the model). Model-based methods are mostly used in the applications of robotics and control algorithms [79]. Model-free methods are mainly divided into two groups: value-based and policy-based. In value-based methods, a policy is produced directly from the value function (e.g., epsilon-greedy). In policy-based methods, the policy is parametrized directly. In value-based methods, there are three main solutions for [MDP](#) problems: [Dynamic Programming \(DP\)](#), [Monte Carlo \(MC\)](#), and [Temporal Difference \(TD\)](#).

In the [DP](#) method, problems are solved with optimal substructure and overlapping subproblems. The full model is known and is used for planning in [MDP](#). There are two iterations (learning algorithms) in [DP](#): policy iteration and value iteration. The [MC](#) method learns experience directly by running an episode of game/simulation. [MC](#) is a type of model-free method that does not require [MDP](#) transitions/rewards. It collects states and takes the mean of returns for the value function. [TD](#) is also a model-free method that learns the experience directly by running the episode. In addition, [TD](#) learns incomplete episodes

like the [DP](#) method by using bootstrapping. The [TD](#) method combines the [MC](#) and [DP](#) methods. SARSA (state, action, reward, state, action;  $S_t, A_t, R_t, S_{t+1}, A_{t+1}$ ) is a type of [TD](#) control algorithm. Q-value (action-value function) is updated with the agent actions. It is an on-policy learning model that learns from actions according to the current policy  $\pi$ . Equation [34](#) illustrates the update of the action-value function in the SARSA algorithm, where  $S_t$  denotes current state,  $A_t$  denotes current action,  $t$  denotes time,  $R$  denotes reward,  $\alpha$  denotes learning rate,  $\gamma$  denotes discount factor. Q-learning is another [TD](#) control algorithm. It is an off-policy learning model that learns from different actions that do not require the policy  $\pi$  at all. Equation [35](#) illustrates the update of the action-value function in the Q-Learning algorithm (the whole algorithm is described in [\[78\]](#),  $a'$  denotes action).

$$Q(S_t, A_t) = Q(S_t, A_t) + \alpha[R(t+1) + \gamma Q(S_{t+1}, A_{t+1}) - Q(S_t, A_t)] \quad (34)$$

$$Q(S_t, A_t) = Q(S_t, A_t) + \alpha[R(t+1) + \gamma \max_{a'} Q(S_{t+1}, a') - Q(S_t, A_t)] \quad (35)$$

In the value-based methods, a policy can be generated directly from the value function (e.g., using epsilon-greedy). Policy-based methods use the policy directly instead of using the value function. It has both advantages and disadvantages over value-based methods. The policy-based methods are more effective in high-dimensional or continuous action spaces and have better convergence properties than value-based methods. It can also learn stochastic policies. On the other hand, policy-based methods evaluate a policy that is typically inefficient and has high variance. It typically converges to a local rather than global optimum. In the policy-based methods, there are also different solutions: Policy gradient, Reinforce (Monte-Carlo Policy Gradient), and Actor-Critic [\[78\]](#) (details of policy-based methods can be found in [\[78\]](#)).

[DRL](#) methods contain [NNs](#). Therefore, [DRL](#) hyperparameters are similar to the [DL](#) hyperparameters. Learning rate, weight-cost (decay rate), dropout fraction, regularization method, batch size (minibatch size), number of epochs, number of layers, number of nodes in each layer, type of activation functions, network weight initialization, optimization algorithms, discount factor, and number of episodes are the hyperparameters of [DRL](#). Similar to other deep networks, the hyperparameters are searched with [MS](#), [GS](#), [RS](#) and Bayesian methods [\[55, 56\]](#).

## 4. Financial Time Series Forecasting

The most widely studied financial application area is forecasting of a given financial time series, particularly asset price forecasting. Even though some variations exist, the main focus is on predicting the next movement of the underlying asset. More than half of the existing implementations of [DL](#) are focused on this area. Even though there are several subtopics of this general problem, including stock price forecasting, index prediction, forex price prediction, commodity (oil, gold, etc.) price prediction, bond price forecasting, volatility forecasting, cryptocurrency price forecasting, the underlying dynamics are the same in all of these applications.

Studies can also be clustered into two main groups based on their expected outputs: price prediction and price movement (trend) prediction. Although price forecasting is essentially a regression problem, in most financial time series forecasting applications, correct price prediction of the price is not perceived to be as important as correctly identifying the directional movement. As a result, researchers consider trend prediction, i.e., forecasting which way the price will change, a more crucial study area compared with exact price prediction. In that sense, trend prediction becomes a classification problem. In some studies, only up or down movements are taken into consideration (2-class problem), although 3-class problems also exist (up, down, or neutral movements).

[LSTM](#) and its variations along with some hybrid models dominate the financial time series forecasting domain. [LSTM](#), by its nature, utilizes the temporal characteristics of any time series signal; hence, forecasting financial time series is a well-studied and successful implementation of [LSTM](#). However, some researchers prefer to either extract appropriate features from the time series or transform the time series such that the resulting financial data become stationary from a temporal perspective, meaning even if we shuffle the data order, we will still be able to properly train the model and achieve successful out-of-sample test performance. For those implementations, [CNN](#) and [Deep Feedforward Neural Network \(DFNN\)](#) are the most commonly chosen [DL](#) models.

Various financial time series forecasting implementations using [DL](#) models exist in literature. We will cover each of them in the following subsections. In this survey paper, we examine the papers using the following criteria: First, we group articles according to their subjects. Then, we group related papers according to their feature set. Finally, we group each subgroup according to [DL](#) models/methods.

For each implementation area, the related papers are subgrouped and tabulated. Each table contains the following fields to provide information about the implementation details for the papers within the group: Article (Art.) and Data Set are trivial, Period refers to the time period for training and testing. Feature Set lists the input features used in the study. Lag is the time length of the input vector (e.g., 30d means the input vector has a 30 day window), and horizon shows how far into the future the model predicts. Some abbreviations are used for the two aforementioned fields: min is minutes, h is hours, d is days, w is weeks, m is months, y is years, s is steps, and \* is mixed. Method shows the [DL](#) models that are used in the study. Performance criteria provides the evaluation metrics, and Environment (Env.) lists the development framework/software/tools. Some column values might be empty, indicating there was no relevant information in the paper for the corresponding field.

#### *4.1. Stock Price Forecasting*

Price prediction of any given stock is the most studied financial application of all. We observed the same trend within [DL](#) implementations. Depending on the prediction time horizon, different input parameters are chosen, varying from [High Frequency Trading \(HFT\)](#) and intraday price movements to daily, weekly, or even monthly stock close prices. Also, technical, fundamental analysis, social media feeds, and sentiment are among the different parameters used for the prediction models.

Table 1: Stock Price Forecasting Using Only Raw Time Series Data

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[80]	38 stocks in <a href="#">KOSPI</a>	2010-2014	Lagged stock returns	50min	5min	<a href="#">DNN</a>	<a href="#">NMSE</a> , <a href="#">RMSE</a> , <a href="#">MAE</a> , <a href="#">MI</a>	-
[81]	China stock market, 3049 Stocks	1990-2015	<a href="#">OCHLV</a>	30d	3d	<a href="#">LSTM</a>	Accuracy	Theano, Keras
[82]	Daily returns of 'BRD' stock in Romanian Market	2001-2016	<a href="#">OCHLV</a>	-	1d	<a href="#">LSTM</a>	<a href="#">RMSE</a> , <a href="#">MAE</a>	Python, Theano
[83]	297 listed companies of <a href="#">CSE</a>	2012-2013	<a href="#">OCHLV</a>	2d	1d	<a href="#">LSTM</a> , <a href="#">SRNN</a> , <a href="#">GRU</a>	<a href="#">MAD</a> , <a href="#">MAPE</a>	Keras
[84]	5 stock in <a href="#">NSE</a>	1997-2016	<a href="#">OCHLV</a> , Price data, turnover and number of trades.	200d	1..10d	<a href="#">LSTM</a> , <a href="#">RNN</a> , <a href="#">CNN</a> , <a href="#">MLP</a>	<a href="#">MAPE</a>	-
[85]	Stocks of Infosys, TCS and CIPLA from <a href="#">NSE</a>	2014	Price data	-	-	<a href="#">RNN</a> , <a href="#">LSTM</a> and <a href="#">CNN</a>	Accuracy	-
[86]	10 stocks in <a href="#">S&amp;P500</a>	1997-2016	<a href="#">OCHLV</a> , Price data	36m	1m	<a href="#">RNN</a> , <a href="#">LSTM</a> , <a href="#">GRU</a>	Accuracy, Monthly return	Keras, Tensorflow
[87]	Stocks data from <a href="#">S&amp;P500</a>	2011-2016	<a href="#">OCHLV</a>	1d	1d	<a href="#">DBN</a>	<a href="#">MSE</a> , <a href="#">norm-RMSE</a> , <a href="#">MAE</a>	-
[88]	High-frequency transaction data of the <a href="#">CSI300</a> futures	2017	Price data	-	1min	<a href="#">DNN</a> , <a href="#">ELM</a> , <a href="#">RBF</a>	<a href="#">RMSE</a> , <a href="#">MAPE</a> , Accuracy	Matlab
[89]	Stocks in the <a href="#">S&amp;P500</a>	1990-2015	Price data	240d	1d	<a href="#">DNN</a> , <a href="#">GBT</a> , <a href="#">RF</a>	Mean return, <a href="#">MDD</a> , <a href="#">Calmar</a> ratio	H2O
[90]	ACI Worldwide, Staples, and Seagate in <a href="#">NASDAQ</a>	2006-2010	Daily closing prices	17d	1d	<a href="#">RNN</a> , <a href="#">ANN</a>	<a href="#">RMSE</a>	-
[91]	Chinese Stocks	2007-2017	<a href="#">OCHLV</a>	30d	1..5d	<a href="#">CNN</a> + <a href="#">LSTM</a>	Annualized Return, Mxm Retracement	Python
[92]	20 stocks in <a href="#">S&amp;P500</a>	2010-2015	Price data	-	-	<a href="#">AE</a> + <a href="#">LSTM</a>	Weekly Returns	-
[93]	<a href="#">S&amp;P500</a>	1985-2006	Monthly and daily log-returns	*	1d	<a href="#">DBN</a> + <a href="#">MLP</a>	Validation, Test Error	Theano, Python, Matlab
[94]	12 stocks from <a href="#">SSE</a> Composite Index	2000-2017	<a href="#">OCHLV</a>	60d	1..7d	<a href="#">DWNN</a>	<a href="#">MSE</a>	Tensorflow
[95]	50 stocks from <a href="#">NYSE</a>	2007-2016	Price data	-	1d, 3d, 5d	<a href="#">SFM</a>	<a href="#">MSE</a>	-

In this survey, we grouped first stock price forecasting articles according to their feature sets, such as studies using only the raw time series data (price data, [Open](#), [Close](#), [High](#), [Low](#), [Volume](#) ([OCHLV](#))) for price prediction; studies using various other data, and studies using text mining techniques. Regarding the first group, the corresponding [DL](#) models were directly implemented using raw time series for price prediction. Table 1 tabulates the stock price forecasting studies that used only raw time series data in the literature. In Table 1, different methods/models are also listed based on four sub-groups: [DNN](#) (networks that are deep but without any given topology details) and [LSTM](#) models, multi models, hybrid models, novel methods.

[DNN](#) and [LSTM](#) models were solely used in 3 papers. In Chong et al. [80], [DNN](#) and lagged stock returns were used to predict the stock prices in [The Korea Composite Stock Price Index](#) ([KOSPI](#)). Chen et al. [81], and Dezsi and Nistor [82] applied raw price data as the input to [LSTM](#) models.

Meanwhile, some studies implement multiple [DL](#) models for performance comparison

using only raw price (OCHLV) data for forecasting. Among the noteworthy studies, Samarawickrama et al. [83] compared RNN, Stacked Recurrent Neural Network (SRNN), LSTM, and GRU. Hiransha et al. [84] compared LSTM, RNN, CNN, and MLP, whereas in Selvin et al. [85], RNN, LSTM, CNN, and Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) were preferred. Lee and Yoo [86] compared 3 RNN models (SRNN, LSTM, GRU) for stock price prediction and then constructed a threshold-based portfolio selecting stocks according to predictions. Li et al. [87] implemented DBN. Finally, the authors of [88] compared 4 different ML models for next price prediction in 1-minute price data: a 1 DL model (AE and RBM), MLP, Radial Basis Function Neural Network (RBF) and Extreme Learning Machine (ELM). They also compared the results for different sized datasets. The authors of [89] used price data and DNN, Gradient Boosted Trees (GBT), and Random Forest (RF) methods for the prediction of stocks in the Standard's & Poor's 500 Index (S&P500). Chandra and Chan [90] used co-operative neuro-evolution, RNN (Elman network), and DFNN for the prediction of stock prices in National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations (NASDAQ) (ACI Worldwide, Staples, and Seagate).

Meanwhile, hybrid models were used in some papers. Liu et al. [91] applied CNN+LSTM. Heaton et al. [92] implemented smart indexing with AE. Batres et al. [93] combined DBN and MLP to construct a stock portfolio by predicting each stock's monthly log-return and choosing only stocks that were expected to perform better than the median stock.

In addition, novel approaches were adapted in some studies. Yuan et al. [94] proposed the novel Deep and Wide Neural Network (DWNN), which is combination of RNN and CNN. Zhang et al. [95] implemented a State Frequency Memory (SFM) recurrent network.

In another group of studies, some researchers again focused on LSTM-based models. However, their input parameters came from various sources including raw price data, technical and/or fundamental analysis, macroeconomic data, financial statements, news, and investor sentiment. Table 2 summarizes these stock price forecasting papers. In Table 2, different methods/models are also listed based on five sub-groups: DNN model; LSTM and RNN models; multiple and hybrid models; CNN model; and novel methods.

DNN models were used in some stock price forecasting papers within this group. In Abe et al. [96], a DNN model and 25 fundamental features were used for prediction of Japan Index constituents. Feng et al. [97] also used fundamental features and a DNN model for prediction. A DNN model and macro economic data, such as GDP, unemployment rate, and inventories, were used by the authors of [98] for the prediction of U.S. low-level disaggregated macroeconomic time series.

LSTM and RNN models were chosen in some studies. Kraus and Feuerriegel [99] implemented LSTM with transfer learning using text mining through financial news and stock market data. Similarly, Minami et al. [100] used LSTM to predict stock's next day price using corporate action events and macro-economic index. Zhang and Tan [101] implemented DeepStockRanker, an LSTM-based model for stock ranking using 11 technical indicators. In Zhuge et al. [102], the authors used the price time series and emotional data from text posts to predict the opening stock price of the next day with an LSTM network. Akita et al. [103] used textual information and stock prices through Paragraph Vector + LSTM for forecasting prices and the comparisons were provided with different classifiers. Ozbayoglu

[104] used technical indicators along with stock data on a Jordan-Elman network for price prediction.

There were also multiple and hybrid models that used mostly technical analysis features as their inputs to the DL model. Several technical indicators were fed into LSTM and MLP networks in Khare et al. [105] for intraday price prediction. Recently, Zhou et al. [106] used a GAN for minimizing Forecast error loss and Direction prediction loss (GAN-FD) model for stock price prediction and compared their model performances against ARIMA, ANN and Support Vector Machine (SVM). Singh et al. [107] used several technical indicator features and time series data with Principal Component Analysis (PCA) for dimensionality reduction cascaded with a DNN (2-layer FFNN) for stock price prediction. Karaoglu et al. [108] used market microstructure-based trade indicators as inputs into an RNN with Graves LSTM detecting the buy-sell pressure of movements in the Istanbul Stock Exchange Index (BIST) to perform price prediction for intelligent stock trading. In Zhou et al. [109], next month's return was predicted, and next-to-be-performed portfolios were constructed. Good monthly returns were achieved with LSTM and LSTM-MLP models.

Meanwhile, in some papers, CNN models were preferred. Abroyan et al. [110] used 250 features, including order details, for the prediction of a private brokerage company's real data of risky transactions. They used CNN and LSTM for stock price forecasting. The authors of [111] used a CNN model and fundamental, technical, and market data for prediction.

Novel methods were also developed in some studies. In Tran et al. [112], with the FI-2010 dataset, bid/ask and volume were used as the feature set for forecasting. In the study, they proposed Weighted Multichannel Time-series Regression (WMTR), and Multilinear Discriminant Analysis (MDA). Feng et al. [113] used 57 characteristic features, including Market equity, Market Beta, Industry momentum, and Asset growth, as inputs to a Fama-French n-factor DL for predicting monthly US equity returns in New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), American Stock Exchange (AMEX), or NASDAQ.

Table 2: Stock Price Forecasting Using Various Data

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[96]	Japan Index constituents from WorldScope	1990-2016	25 Fundamental Features	10d	1d	DNN	Correlation, Accuracy, MSE	Tensorflow
[97]	Return of S&P500	1926-2016	Fundamental Features:	-	1s	DNN	MSPE	Tensorflow
[98]	U.S. low-level disaggregated macroeconomic time series	1959-2008	GDP, Unemployment rate, Inventories, etc.	-	-	DNN	R <sup>2</sup>	-
[99]	CDAX stock market data	2010-2013	Financial news, stock market data	20d	1d	LSTM	MSE, MAE, AUC, RMSE, Accuracy	TensorFlow, Theano, Python, Scikit-Learn
[100]	Stock of Tsugami Corporation	2013	Price data	-	-	LSTM	RMSE	Keras, Tensorflow
[101]	Stocks in China's A-share	2006-2007	11 technical indicators	-	1d	LSTM	AR, IR, IC	-
[102]	SCI prices	2008-2015	OCHL of change rate, price	7d	-	EmotionalAnalysis + LSTM	MSE	-



Table 2: Stock Price Forecasting Using Various Data

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[103]	10 stocks in Nikkei 225 and news	2001-2008	Textual information and Stock prices	10d	-	Paragraph Vector + LSTM	Profit	-
[104]	TKC stock in NYSE and QQQQ ETF	1999-2006	Technical indicators, Price	50d	1d	RNN (Jordan-Elman)	Profit, MSE	Java
[105]	10 Stocks in NYSE	-	Price data, Technical indicators	20min	1min	LSTM, MLP	RMSE	-
[106]	42 stocks in China's SSE	2016	OCHLV, Technical Indicators	242min	1min	GAN (LSTM, CNN)	RMSRE, DPA, GAN-F, GAN-D	-
[107]	Google's daily stock data	2004-2015	OCHLV, Technical indicators	20d	1d	$(2D)^2$ PCA + DNN	SMAPE, PCD, MAPE, RMSE, HR, TR, $R^2$	R, Matlab
[108]	GarantiBank in BIST, Turkey	2016	OCHLV, Volatility, etc.	-	-	PLR, Graves LSTM	MSE, RMSE, MAE, RSE, $R^2$	Spark
[109]	Stocks in NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, TAQ intraday trade	1993-2017	Price, 15 firm characteristics	80d	1d	LSTM+MLP	Monthly return, SR	Python, Keras, Tensorflow in AWS
[110]	Private brokerage company's real data of risky transactions	-	250 features: order details, etc.	-	-	CNN, LSTM	F1-Score	Keras, Tensorflow
[111]	Fundamental and Technical Data, Economic Data	-	Fundamental, technical and market information	-	-	CNN	-	-
[112]	The LOB of 5 stocks of Finnish Stock Market	2010	FI-2010 dataset: bid/ask and volume	-	*	WMTR, MDA	Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1-Score	-
[113]	Returns in NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ	1975-2017	57 firm characteristics	*	-	Fama-French n-factor model DL	$R^2$ , RMSE	Tensorflow

A number of research papers have also used text mining techniques for feature extraction but used non-LSTM models for stock price prediction. Table 3 summarizes the stock price forecasting papers that used text mining techniques. In Table 3, different methods/models are clustered into three sub-groups: CNN and LSTM models; GRU, LSTM, and RNN models; and novel methods.

CNN and LSTM models were adapted in some of the papers. In Ding et al. [114], events were detected from Reuters and Bloomberg news through text mining, and that information was used for price prediction and stock trading through the CNN model. Vargas et al. [115] used text mining on S&P500 index news from Reuters through an LSTM+CNN hybrid model for price prediction and intraday directional movement estimation together. Lee et al. [116] used financial news data and implemented word embedding with Word2vec along with MA and stochastic oscillator to create inputs for a Recurrent CNN (RCNN) for stock price prediction. Iwasaki et al. [117] also used sentiment analyses through text mining and word embeddings from analyst reports and used sentiment features as inputs to a DFNN model for stock price prediction. Then, different portfolio selections were implemented based on the projected stock returns.

GRU, LSTM, and RNN models were preferred in the next group of papers. Das et al. [118] implemented sentiment analysis on Twitter posts along with stock data for price forecasting using an RNN. Similarly, the authors of [119] used sentiment classification (neu-



tral, positive, and negative) for opening or closing stock price prediction with various LSTM models. They compared their results with SVM and achieved higher overall performance. In Zhongshengz et al. [120], text and price data were used for the prediction of SSE Composite Index (SCI) prices.

Novel approaches were reported in some papers. Nascimento et al. [121] used word embeddings for extracting information from web pages and then combined it with stock price data for stock price prediction. They compared the Autoregressive (AR) model and RF with and without news. The results showed embedding news information improved the performance. Han et al. [122] used financial news and the ACE2005 Chinese corpus. Different event types of Chinese companies were classified based on a novel event-type pattern classification algorithm in Han et al. [122], and also next day stock price change was also predicted using additional inputs.

Table 3: Stock Price Forecasting Using Text Mining Techniques for Feature Extraction

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[114]	S&P500 Index, 15 stocks in S&P500	2006-2013	News from Reuters and Bloomberg	-	-	CNN	Accuracy, MCC	-
[115]	S&P500 index news from Reuters	2006-2013	Financial news titles, Technical indicators	1d	1d	RCNN	Accuracy	-
[116]	TWSE index, 4 stocks in TWSE	2001-2017	Technical indicators, Price data, News	15d	-	CNN + LSTM	RMSE, Profit	Keras, Python, TALIB
[117]	Analyst reports on the TSE and Osaka Exchange	2016-2018	Text	-	-	LSTM, CNN, Bi-LSTM	Accuracy, R-squared	R, Python, MeCab
[118]	Stocks of Google, Microsoft and Apple	2016-2017	Twitter sentiment and stock prices	-	-	RNN	-	Spark, Flume, Twitter API,
[119]	Stocks of CSI300 index, OCHLV of CSI300 index	2009-2014	Sentiment Posts, Price data	1d	1d	Naive Bayes + LSTM	Precision, Recall, F1-score, Accuracy	Python, Keras
[120]	SCI prices	2013-2016	Text data and Price data	7d	1d	LSTM	Accuracy, F1-Measure	Python, Keras
[121]	Stocks from S&P500	2006-2013	Text (news) and Price data	7d	1d	LAR+News, RF+News	MAPE, RMSE	-
[122]	News from Sina.com, ACE2005 Chinese corpus	2012-2016	A set of news text	-	-	Their unique algorithm	Precision, Recall, F1-score	-

#### 4.2. Index Forecasting

Instead of trying to forecast the price of a single stock, several researchers preferred to predict the stock market index. Indexes are generally are less volatile than individual stocks because they are composed of multiple stocks from different sectors and are more indicative of the overall momentum and general state of the economy.

In the literature, different stock market index data have been used for experiments. The most commonly used index data are as follows: S&P500, China Securities Index (CSI)300, National Stock Exchange of India (NIFTY), Tokyo Nikkei Index (NIKKEI)225, Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA), Shanghai Stock Exchange (SSE)180, Hong Kong Hang Seng

Index (HSI), Shenzhen Stock Exchange Composite Index (SZSE), London Financial Times Stock Exchange Index (FTSE)100, Taiwan Capitalization Weighted Stock Index (TAIEX), BIST, NASDAQ, Dow Jones Industrial Average 30 (DOW30), KOSPI, S&P500 Volatility Index (VIX), NASDAQ100 Volatility Index (VXN), Brazilian Stock Exchange (Bovespa), Stockholm Stock Exchange (OMX), and NYSE. The authors of the papers [123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 114] used S&P500 as their dataset. The authors of the studies [123, 124, 135, 136, 137] used NIKKEI as their dataset. KOSPI was used in Li et al. [135], Jeong et al. [131], Baek et al. [132]. DJIA was used as the dataset in the papers [123, 136, 137, 138, 139]. The authors of the articles [123, 135, 137, 131] used HSI as the dataset in their studies, and SZSE was used in the studies [140, 135, 141, 142].

In addition, in the literature, there are different methods for the prediction of index data. While some studies used only raw time series data, others used various other data such, as technical indicators, index data, social media feeds, news from Reuters, and Bloomberg, and statistical features of data (standard deviation, skewness, kurtosis, omega ratio, fund alpha). In this survey, we first grouped the index forecasting articles according to their feature sets such as studies using only raw time series data (price/index data, OCHLV); then, we clustered the studies using various other data. Table 4 summarizes the index forecasting papers using only raw time series data. Moreover, different methods (models) were used for index forecasting. MLP, RNN, LSTM, and DNN (DFNN or DMLP) methods were the most used methods for index forecasting. In Table 4, these various methods/models are also listed as four sub-groups: ANN, DNN, MLP, and Fuzzy Deep Direct Reinforcement Learning (FDDR) models; RL and DL models; LSTM and RNN models; and novel methods.

Table 4: Index Forecasting Using Only Raw Time Series Data

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[124]	S&P500, Nikkei225, USD Exchanges	2011-2015	Index data	-	1d, 5d, 7d, 10d	LRNFIS with Firefly-Harmony Search	RMSE, MAPE, MAE	-
[125]	S&P500 Index	1989-2005	Index data, Volume	240d	1d	LSTM	Return, STD, SR, Accuracy	Python, Tensor-Flow, Keras, R, H2O
[127]	S&P500, VIX	2005-2016	Index data	*	1d	uWN, cWN	MASE, HIT, RMSE	-
[128]	S&P500 Index	2010-2017	Index data	10d	1d, 30d	Stacked LSTM, Bi-LSTM	MAE, RMSE, R-squared	Python, Keras, Tensorflow
[131]	S&P500, KOSPI, HSI, and EuroStoxx50	1987-2017	200-days stock price	200d	1d	Deep Q-Learning and DNN	Total profit, Correlation	-
[132]	S&P500, KOSPI200, 10-stocks	2000-2017	Index data	20d	1d	ModAugNet: LSTM	MSE, MAPE, MAE	Keras
[133]	S&P500, Bovespa50, OMX30	2009-2017	Autoregressive part of the time series	-	1d	LSTM	MSE, Accuracy	Tensorflow, Keras, R
[134]	S&P500	2000-2017	Index data	-	1..4d, 1w, 1..3m	GLM, LSTM+RNN	MAE, RMSE	Python

Table 4: Index Forecasting Using Only Raw Time Series Data

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[136]	Nikkei225, IXIC, HSI, GSPC, DJIA	1985-2018	OCHLV	5d	1d	LSTM	RMSE	Python, Keras, Theano
[138]	DJIA	-	Index data	-	-	Genetic Deep Neural Network	MSE	Java
[139]	Log returns of the DJIA	1971-2002	Index data	20d	1d	RNN	TR, sign rate, PT/HM test, MSFE, SR, profit	-
[140]	Shanghai A-shares composite index, SZSE	2006-2016	OCHLV	10d	-	Embedded layer + LSTM	Accuracy, MSE	Python, Matlab, Theano
[141]	300 stocks from SZSE, Commodity	2014-2015	Index data	-	-	FDDR, DNN + RL	Profit, return, SR, profit-loss curves	Keras
[142]	Shanghai composite index and SZSE	1990-2016	OCHLV	20d	1d	Ensembles of ANN	Accuracy	-
[143]	TUNINDEX	2013-2017	Log returns of index data	-	5min	DNN with hierarchical input	Accuracy, MSE	Java
[144]	Singapore Stock Market Index	2010-2017	OCHL of last 10 days of index	10d	3d	Feed-forward DNN	RMSE, MAPE, Profit, SR	-
[145]	BIST	1990-2002	Index data	7d	1d	MLP, RNN, MoE	HIT, positive/negative HIT, MSE, MAE	-
[146]	SCI	2012-2017	OCHLV, Index data	-	1..10d	Wavelet + LSTM	MAPE, theil unequal coefficient	-
[147]	S&P500	1950-2016	Index data	15d	1d	LSTM	RMSE	Keras
[148]	ISE100	1987-2008	Index data	-	2d, 4d, 8d, 12d, 18d	TAR-VEC-MLP, TAR-VEC-RBF, TAR-VEC-RHE	RMSE	-
[149]	VIX, VXN, VXD	2002-2014	First five autoregressive lags	5d	1d, 22d	HAR-GASVR	MAE, RMSE	-

ANN, DNN, MLP, and FDDR models were used in some studies. In Lachiheb et al. [143], log returns of the index data were used with a DNN with hierarchical input for the prediction of TUNINDEX data. Yong et al. [144] used a deep FFNN and Open, Close, High, Low (OCHL) of the last 10 days of index data for prediction. In addition, MLP and ANN were used for the prediction of index data. In Yumlu et al. [145], raw index data were used with MLP, RNN, Mixture of Experts (MoE), and Exponential GARCH (EGARCH) for forecasting. In Yang et al. [142], ensembles of ANN with OCHLV of data were used for prediction of the Shanghai composite index.

Furthermore, RL and DL methods were used together for prediction of index data in some studies. In Deng et al. [141], FDDR, DNN, and RL methods were used to predict 300 stocks from SZSE index data and commodity prices. In Jeong et al. [131], Deep Q-Learning and DNN methods and a 200-day stock price dataset were used together for prediction of the S&P500 index.

Most of the preferred methods for prediction of index data using raw time series data have been based on LSTM and RNN. In Bekiros et al. [139], an RNN was used for prediction of log returns of the DJIA index. In Fischer et al. [125], LSTM was used to predict

S&P500 index data. Althelaya et al. [128] used stacked LSTM and Bidirectional LSTM (Bi-LSTM) methods for S&P500 index forecasting. Yan et al. [146] used an LSTM network to predict the next day closing price of Shanghai stock index. In their study, they used wavelet decomposition to reconstruct the financial time series for denoising and better learning. In Pang et al. [140], LSTM was used for prediction of the Shanghai A-shares composite index. Namini et al. [136] used LSTM to predict NIKKEI225, IXIC, HIS, GSPC and DJIA index data. In Takahashi et al. [147] and Baek et al. [132], LSTM was also used for the prediction of the S&P500 and KOSPI200 indexes. Baek et al. [132] developed an LSTM-based stock index forecasting model called ModAugNet. The proposed method was able to beat Buy and Hold (B&H) in the long term with an overfitting prevention mechanism. Elliot et al. [134] compared different ML models (linear models), Generalized Linear Models (GMLs) and several LSTM, and RNN models for stock index price prediction. In Hansson et al. [133], LSTM and the autoregressive part of time series index data were used for prediction of the S&P500, Bovespa50, OMX30 indexes.

Also, some studies adapted novel approaches. In Zhang et al. [138], a genetic DNN was used for DJIA index forecasting. Borovykh et al. [127] proposed a new DNN model called Wavenet convolutional net for time series forecasting. Bildirici et al. [148] proposed a Threshold Autoregressive (TAR)-Vector Error Correction model (VEC)-Recurrent Hybrid Elman (RHE) model for forex and stock index of return prediction and compared several models. Parida et al. [124] proposed a method called Locally Recurrent Neuro-fuzzy Information System (LRNFIS) with Firefly Harmony Search Optimization (FHSO) Evolutionary Algorithm (EA) to predict the S&P500 and NIKKEI225 and USD Exchange price data. Psaradellis et al. [149] proposed Heterogeneous Autoregressive Process (HAR) with GA with a SVR (GASVR) model called HAR-GASVR for prediction of the VIX, VXN, Dow Jones Industrial Average Volatility Index (VXD) indexes.

In the literature, some studies used various input data, such as technical indicators, index data, social media news, news from Reuters, and Bloomberg, and statistical features of data (standard deviation, skewness, kurtosis, omega ratio, fund alpha). Table 5 summarizes the index forecasting papers using these aforementioned various data. DNN, RNN, LSTM, and CNN methods were the most commonly used models in index forecasting. In Table 5, different methods/models are also listed within four sub-groups: DNN model; RNN and LSTM models; CNN model; and novel methods.

A DNN was used as the classification model in some papers. In Chen et al. [150], a DNN and some features of the data (Return, Sharpe-ratio (SR), Standard Deviation (STD), Skewness, Kurtosis, Omega ratio, Fund alpha) were used for prediction. In Widegren et al. [126], DNN, RNN, and technical indicators were used for prediction of the FTSE100, OMX30, S&P500 indexes.

In addition, RNN and LSTM models with various other data were also used for prediction of the indexes. Hsieh et al. [137] used RNN and OCHLV of indexes and technical indicators to predict the DJIA, FTSE, Nikkei, and TAIEX indexes. Mourelatos et al. [151] used GASVR, and LSTM for forecasting. Chen et al. [152] used four LSTM models (technical analysis, attention mechanism and market vector embedding) for prediction of the daily return ratio of the HSI300 index. In Li et al. [135], LSTM with wavelet denoising and index

data, volume, and technical indicators were used for prediction of the [HSI](#), [SSE](#), [SZSE](#), [TAIEX](#), [NIKKEI](#), and [KOSPI](#) indexes. Si et al. [153] used a MODRL+LSTM method to predict Chinese stock-IF-IH-IC contract indexes. Bao et al. [123] used stacked AEs to generate deep features using [OCHL](#) of stock prices, technical indicators, and macroeconomic conditions to feed [LSTM](#) to predict future stock prices.

Table 5: Index Forecasting Using Various Data

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[114]	<a href="#">S&amp;P500</a> Index, 15 stocks in <a href="#">S&amp;P500</a>	2006-2013	News from Reuters and Bloomberg	-	-	<a href="#">CNN</a>	Accuracy, <a href="#">MCC</a>	-
[116]	<a href="#">TWSE</a> index, 4 stocks in <a href="#">TWSE</a>	2001-2017	Technical indicators, Index data, News	15d	-	<a href="#">CNN</a> + <a href="#">LSTM</a>	<a href="#">RMSE</a> , Profit	Keras, Python, <a href="#">TALIB</a>
[123]	<a href="#">CSI300</a> , <a href="#">NIFTY50</a> , <a href="#">HSI</a> , <a href="#">NIKKEI225</a> , <a href="#">S&amp;P500</a> , <a href="#">DJIA</a>	2010-2016	<a href="#">OCHLV</a> , Technical Indicators	-	1d	<a href="#">WT</a> , Stacked autoencoders, <a href="#">LSTM</a>	<a href="#">MAPE</a> , Correlation coefficient, <a href="#">THEIL-U</a>	-
[126]	<a href="#">FTSE100</a> , <a href="#">OMXS30</a> , <a href="#">SP500</a> , Commodity, Forex	1993-2017	Technical indicators	60d	1d	<a href="#">DNN</a> , <a href="#">RNN</a>	Accuracy, p-value	-
[129]	<a href="#">S&amp;P500</a> , <a href="#">DOW30</a> , <a href="#">NASDAQ100</a> , Commodity, Forex, Bitcoin	2003-2016	Index data, Technical indicators	-	1w, 1m	<a href="#">CNN</a>	Accuracy	Tensorflow
[130]	<a href="#">BSE</a> , <a href="#">S&amp;P500</a>	2004-2012	Index data, technical indicators	5d	1d..1m	<a href="#">PSO</a> , <a href="#">HMRPSO</a> , <a href="#">DE</a> , <a href="#">RCEFLANN</a>	<a href="#">RMSE</a> , <a href="#">MAPE</a>	-
[135]	<a href="#">HSI</a> , <a href="#">SSE</a> , <a href="#">SZSE</a> , <a href="#">TAIEX</a> , <a href="#">NIKKEI</a> , <a href="#">KOSPI</a>	2010-2016	Index data, volume, technical indicators	2d..512d	1d	<a href="#">LSTM</a> with wavelet denoising	Accuracy, <a href="#">MAPE</a>	-
[137]	<a href="#">DJIA</a> , <a href="#">FTSE</a> , <a href="#">NIKKEI</a> , <a href="#">TAIEX</a>	1997-2008	<a href="#">OCHLV</a> , Technical indicators	26d	1d	<a href="#">RNN</a>	<a href="#">RMSE</a> , <a href="#">MAE</a> , <a href="#">MAPE</a> , <a href="#">THEIL-U</a>	C
[150]	Hedge fund monthly return data	1996-2015	Return, <a href="#">SR</a> , <a href="#">STD</a> , Skewness, Kurtosis, Omega ratio, Fund alpha	12m	3m, 6m, 12m	<a href="#">DNN</a>	Sharpe ratio, Annual return, Cum. return	-
[151]	Stock of National Bank of Greece (ETE).	2009-2014	<a href="#">FTSE100</a> , <a href="#">DJIA</a> , <a href="#">GDAX</a> , <a href="#">NIKKEI225</a> , EUR/USD, Gold	1d, 2d, 5d, 10d	1d	<a href="#">GASVR</a> , <a href="#">LSTM</a>	Return, volatility, <a href="#">SR</a> , Accuracy	Tensorflow
[152]	Daily return ratio of <a href="#">HS300</a> index	2004-2018	<a href="#">OCHLV</a> , Technical indicators	-	-	Market Vector + Tech. ind. + <a href="#">LSTM</a> + Attention	<a href="#">MSE</a> , <a href="#">MAE</a>	Python, Tensorflow
[153]	Chinese stock-IF-IH-IC contract	2016-2017	Decisions for index change	240min	1min	<a href="#">MODRL</a> + <a href="#">LSTM</a>	Profit and loss, <a href="#">SR</a>	-
[154]	<a href="#">HS300</a>	2015-2017	Social media news, Index data	1d	1d	<a href="#">RNN</a> -Boost with <a href="#">LDA</a>	Accuracy, <a href="#">MAE</a> , <a href="#">MAPE</a> , <a href="#">RMSE</a>	Python, Scikit-learn

Besides, different [CNN](#) implementations with various data (technical indicators, news, and index data) have been used in the literature. In Dingli et al. [129], [CNN](#), and index data, and technical indicators were used for the [S&P500](#), [DOW30](#), [NASDAQ100](#) indexes and Commodity, Forex, and Bitcoin prices. In Ding et al. [114], a [CNN](#) model with news from Reuters and Bloomberg were used for prediction of the [S&P500](#) index and 15 stocks'

prices in [S&P500](#). In Lee et al. [116], [CNN](#) + [LSTM](#) and technical indicators, index data, and news were used for forecasting of the [Taiwan Stock Exchange \(TWSE\)](#) index and 4 stocks' prices in [TWSE](#).

In addition, some novel methods have been proposed for index forecasting. Rout et al. [130] used [RNN](#) models, [Recurrent Computationally Efficient Functional Link Neural Network \(RCEFLANN\)](#), and [Functional Link Neural network \(FLANN\)](#), with their weights optimized using various [EAs](#) like [Particle Swarm Optimization \(PSO\)](#), and [Modified Version of PSO \(HMRPSO\)](#), for time series forecasting. Chen et al. [154] used social media news to predict index price and index direction with [RNN-Boost](#) with [Latent Dirichlet Allocation \(LDA\)](#) features.

#### 4.3. Commodity Price Forecasting

A number of studies particularly focused on the price prediction of any given commodity, such as gold, silver, oil, and copper. With the increasing number of commodities available for public trading through online stock exchanges, interest in this topic will likely grow in the following years.

In the literature, there have been different methods used for commodity price forecasting. [DNN](#), [RNN](#), [FDDR](#), and [CNN](#) are the most used models to predict commodity prices. Table 6 lists the details of the commodity price forecasting studies with [DL](#).

In Dingli et al. [129], the authors used a [CNN](#) for predicting the next week's and next month's price directional movement. Meanwhile, [RNN](#) and [LSTM](#) models were used in some commodity forecasting studies. In Dixon et al. [155], a [DNN](#) was used for commodity forecasting. In Widegren et al. [126], forex, and index datasets were used. [DNN](#) and [RNN](#) were used to predict the prices of time series data. Technical indicators were used as the feature set consisting of [Relative Strength Index \(RSI\)](#), [Williams Percent Range \(William%R\)](#), [Commodity Channel Index \(CCI\)](#), [Percentage Price Oscillator \(PPOSC\)](#), momentum, and [Exponential Moving Average \(EMA\)](#). In Lasheras et al. [156], the authors used an Elman [RNN](#) to predict COMEX copper spot price (through [New York Mercantile Exchange \(NYMEX\)](#)) from daily closing prices.

Hybrid and novel models have been adapted in some studies. In Zhao et al. [157], [FNN](#) and [Stacked Denoising Autoencoders \(SDAE\)](#) deep models were compared against [Support Vector Regressor \(SVR\)](#), [Random Walk \(RW\)](#), and [Markov Regime Switching \(MRS\)](#) models for WTI oil price forecasting. As performance criteria, accuracy, [Mean Absolute Percentage Error \(MAPE\)](#), and [Root Mean Square Error \(RMSE\)](#) were used. In Chen et al. [158], the authors aimed to predict WTI crude oil prices using several models, including combinations of [DBN](#), [LSTM](#), [Autoregressive Moving Average \(ARMA\)](#), and [RW](#). [MSE](#) was used as the performance criteria. In Deng et al. [141], the authors used [FDDR](#) for stock price prediction and trading signal generation. They combined [DNN](#) and [RL](#). Profit, return, SR, and profit-loss curves were used as the performance criteria.



Table 6: Commodity Price Forecasting

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[129]	S&P500, DOW30, NASDAQ100, Commodity, Forex, Bitcoin	2003-2016	Price data, Technical indicators	-	1w, 1m	CNN	Accuracy	Tensorflow
[155]	Commodity, FX future, ETF	1991-2014	Price Data	100*5min	5min	DNN	SR, capability ratio, return	C++, Python
[126]	FTSE100, OMX30, S&P500, Commodity, Forex	1993-2017	Technical indicators	60d	1d	DNN, RNN	Accuracy, p-value	-
[156]	Copper prices from NYMEX	2002-2014	Price data	-	-	Elman RNN	RMSE	R
[157]	WTI crude oil price	1986-2016	Price data	1m	1m	SDAE, Bootstrap aggregation	Accuracy, MAPE, RMSE	Matlab
[158]	WTI Crude Oil Prices	2007-2017	Price data	-	-	ARMA + DBN, RW + LSTM	MSE	Python, Keras, Tensorflow
[141]	300 stocks from SZSE, Commodity	2014-2015	Price data	-	-	FDDR, DNN + RL	Profit, return, SR, profit-loss curves	Keras

#### 4.4. Volatility Forecasting

Volatility is directly related to price variations in a given time period and is mostly used for risk assesment and asset pricing. Some researchers implemented models for accurately forecasting the underlying volatility of any given asset.

In the literature, there have been different methods used for volatility forecasting, including LSTM, RNN, CNN, MM, and Generalised Auto-Regressive Conditional Heteroscedasticity (GARCH) models. Table 7 summarizes the studies that focused on volatility forecasting. In Table 7, different methods/models are also represented as three sub-groups: CNN; RNN and LSTM models; and hybrid and novel models.

A CNN model was used in one volatility forecasting study based on HFT data [159]. Meanwhile, RNN and LSTM models were used in some studies. In Tino et al. [160], the authors used financial time series data to predict volatility changes with Markov Models and Elman RNN for profitable straddle options trading. Xiong et al. [161] used price data and different types of Google Domestic trends with LSTM. Zhou et al. [162] used CSI300, and 28 words from the daily search volume based on Baidu as the dataset with LSTM to predict index volatility. Kim et al. [163] developed several LSTM models integrated with GARCH for volatility prediction.

Hybrid and novel approaches have also been adapted in some studies. In Nikolaev et al. [164], an RMDN with GARCH (RMDN-GARCH) model was proposed. In addition, several models, including traditional forecasting models and DL models, were compared for volatility estimation. Psaradellis et al. [149] proposed a novel method called HAR with GASVR (HAR-GASVR) for volatility index forecasting.



Table 7: Volatility Forecasting

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[159]	London Stock Exchange	2007-2008	Limit order book state, trades, buy/sell orders, order deletions	-	-	CNN	Accuracy, kappa	Caffe
[160]	DAX, FTSE100, call/put options	1991-1998	Price data	*	*	MM, RNN	Ewa-measure, iv, daily profits' mean and std	-
[161]	S&P500	2004-2015	Price data, 25 Google Domestic trend dimensions	-	1d	LSTM	MAPE, RMSE	-
[162]	CSI 300, 28 words of the daily search volume based on Baidu	2006-2017	Price data and text	5d	5d	LSTM	MSE, MAPE	Python, Keras
[163]	KOSPI200, Korea Treasury Bond interest rate, AA-grade corporate bond interest rate, gold, crude oil	2001-2011	Price data	22d	1d	LSTM + GARCH	MAE, MSE, HMAE, HMSE	-
[164]	DEM/GBP exchange rate	-	Returns	-	-	RMDN-GARCH	NMSE, NMAE, HR, WHR	-
[149]	VIX, VXN, VXD	2002-2014	First five autoregressive lags	5d	1d, 22d	HAR-GASVR	MAE, RMSE	-

#### 4.5. Bond Price Forecasting

Some financial experts follow the changes in bond prices to analyze the state of the economy, claiming bond prices represent the health of the economy better than the stock market [165]. Historically, long term rates are higher than short term rates under normal economic expansion, whereas immediately before recessions, short term rates pass long term rates, i.e., an inverted yield curve. Hence, accurate bond price prediction is very useful. However, DL implementations for bond price prediction are very scarce. In Bianchi et al. [166], excess bond return was predicted using several ML models, including RF, AE, and PCA networks and a 2-3-4-layer DFNN. 4-layer NN outperformed the other models.

#### 4.6. Forex Price Forecasting

Foreign exchange markets have the highest volumes among all existing financial markets in the world. They are open 24/7, and trillions of dollars worth of foreign exchange transactions happen in a single day. According to the Bank for International Settlements, foreign-exchange trading has a volume of more than 5 trillion USD a day [167]. In addition, there are a large number of online forex trading platforms that provide leveraged transaction opportunities to their subscribers. As a result, there is huge interest in profitable trading strategies by traders. Hence, there are a number of forex forecasting and trading studies based on DL models. Because most of the global financial transactions are based on the US Dollar, almost all forex prediction research papers include USD in their analyses. However, depending on regional differences and intended research focus, various models have been developed accordingly.

In the literature, different methods have been used for forex price forecasting, including RNN, LSTM, CNN, DBN, DNN, AE, and MLP methods. Table 8 provides details

about these implementations. In Table 8, different methods/models are listed as four sub-groups: Continuous-valued Deep Belief Networks (CDBN), DBN, DBN+RBM, and AE models; DNN, RNN, Psi-Sigma Network (PSN), and LSTM models; CNN models; and hybrid models.

CDBN, DBN, DBN+RBM, and AE models have been used in some studies. In [168], Fuzzy information granulation integrated with CDBN was applied for predicting EUR/USD and GBU/USD exchange rates. They extended a DBN with a Continuous Restricted Boltzmann machine (CRBM) to improve performance. In Chao et al. [169], weekly GBP/USD and INR/USD prices were predicted, whereas in Zheng et al. [170], CNY/USD and INR/USD were the main focus. In both cases, DBN was compared with FFNN. Similarly, Shen et al. [171] implemented several different DBN networks to predict weekly GBP/USD, BRL/USD and INR/USD exchange rate returns. Shen et al. [172] combined Stacked AE and SVR for predicting 28 normalized currency pairs using the time series data of USD, GBP, EUR, JPY, AUD, CAD, and CHF.

DNN, RNN, PSN, and LSTM models were preferred in some studies. In Dixon et al. [155], multiple DMLP models were developed for predicting AD and BP futures using 5-minute data over in a 130 day period. Sermpinis et al. [173] used MLP, RNN, GP, and other ML techniques along with traditional regression methods for also predicting EUR/USD time series. They also integrated Kalman filter, LASSO operator, and other models to further improve the results [174]. They further extended their analyses by including PSN and providing comparisons along with traditional forecasters ARIMA, RW, and STAR [175]. To improve performance, they also integrated hybrid time-varying volatility leverage. Sun et al. [176] implemented RMB exchange rate forecasting against JPY, HKB, EUR and USD by comparing RW, RNN, and FFNN performances. Maknickiene et al. [177] predicted various forex time series and created portfolios consisting of these investments. Each network used LSTM (RNN EVOLINO), and different risk appetites for users have been tested. Maknickiene et al. [178] also used EVOLINO RNN + orthogonal input data for predicting USD/JPY and XAU/USD prices over different periods.

Different CNN models were used in some studies. In Persio et al. [179], EUR/USD was once again forecasted using multiple DL models, including MLP, CNN, RNN, and Wavelet+CNN. Korczak et al. [180] implemented forex trading (GBP/PLN) using several different input parameters in a multi-agent-based trading environment. One of the agents used AE+CNN as the prediction model and outperformed all other models.

Hybrid models have also been adapted in some of the researches. Bildirici et al. [148] developed several (TAR-VEC-RHE) models for predicting monthly returns for TRY/USD and compared model performances. Nikolaev et al. [164] compared several models, including traditional forecasting models and DL models, for DEM/GBP prediction. Parida et al. [124] predicted AUD, CHF, MAX, and BRL against USD currency time series data using LRNFIS and compared it with different models. Meanwhile, instead of using LMS-based error minimization during learning, they used FHSO.

Table 8: Forex Price Forecasting

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[168]	EUR/USD, GBP/USD	2009-2012	Price data	*	1d	CDBN-FG	Profit	-
[169]	GBP/USD, INR/USD	1976-2003	Price data	10w	1w	DBN	RMSE, MAE, MAPE, PCC	-
[170]	CNY/USD, INR/USD	1997-2016	Price data	-	1w	DBN	MAPE, squared	-
[171]	GBP/USD, BRL/USD, INR/USD	1976-2003	Price data	10w	1w	DBN + RBM	RMSE, MAE, MAPE, PCC	-
[172]	Combination of USD, GBP, EUR, JPY, AUD, CAD, CHF	2009-2016	Price data	-	-	Stacked AE + SVR	MAE, MSE, RMSE	Matlab
[155]	Commodity, FX future, ETF	1991-2014	Price Data	100*5min	5min	DNN	SR, capability ratio, return	C++, Python
[126]	FTSE100, OMX30, S&P500, Commodity, Forex	1993-2017	Technical indicators	60d	1d	DNN, RNN	Accuracy, p-value	-
[173]	EUR/USD	2001-2010	Close data	11d	1d	RNN and more	MAE, MAPE, RMSE, THEIL-U	-
[174]	EUR/USD	2002-2010	Price data	13d	1d	RNN, MLP, PSN	MAE, MAPE, RMSE, THEIL-U	-
[175]	EUR/USD, EUR/GBP, EUR/JPY, EUR/CHF	1999-2012	Price data	12d	1d	RNN, MLP, PSN	MAE, MAPE, RMSE, THEIL-U	-
[176]	RMB against USD, EUR, JPY, HKD	2006-2008	Price data	10d	1d	RNN, ANN	RMSE, MAE, MSE	-
[177]	EUR/USD, EUR/JPY, USD/JPY, EUR/CHF, XAU/USD, XAG/USD, QM, QG	2011-2012	Price data	-	-	Evolino RNN	Correlation between predicted, real values	-
[178]	USD/JPY	2009-2010	Price data, Gold	-	5d	EVOLINO RNN + orthogonal input data	RMSE	-
[179]	S&P500, EUR/USD	1950-2016	Price data	30d, 30d*min	1d, 1min	Wavelet+CNN	Accuracy, log-loss	Keras
[180]	USD/GBP, S&P500, FTSE100, oil, gold	2016	Price data	-	5min	AE + CNN	SR, % volatility, avg return/trans, rate of return	H2O
[148]	ISE100, TRY/USD	1987-2008	Price data	-	2d, 4d, 8d, 12d, 18d	TAR-VEC-MLP, TAR-VEC-RBF, TAR-VEC-RHE	RMSE	-
[164]	DEM/GBP exchange rate	-	Returns	-	-	RMDN-GARCH	NMSE, NMAE, HR, WHR	-
[124]	S&P500, NIKKEI225, USD Exchanges	2011-2015	Price data	-	1d, 5d, 7d, 10d	LRNFIS with FHSO	RMSE, MAPE, MAE	-

#### 4.7. Cryptocurrency Price Forecasting

Since cryptocurrencies have become a hot topic in the finance industry in recent years, many studies and implementations have been conducted. Most cryptocurrency studies have

focused on price forecasting.

The rise of Bitcoin from 1000 USD in January 2017 to 20,000 USD in January 2018 has attracted much attention, not only from the financial industry, but also from the general public. Recently, papers have been published on price prediction and trading strategy development for Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies. Given the attention that the underlying technology has attracted, there is a strong chance that new studies will appear in the near future.

In the literature, [DNN](#), [LSTM](#), [GRU](#), [RNN](#), and classical methods ([ARMA](#), [ARIMA](#), [Autoregressive Conditional Heteroscedasticity \(ARCH\)](#), [GARCH](#), etc.) have been used for cryptocurrency price forecasting. Table 9 summarizes the studies that utilized these methods. Lopes [181] combined the opinion market and price prediction for cryptocurrency trading. Text mining combined with 2 models, [CNN](#) and [LSTM](#), were used to extract opinion. Bitcoin, Litecoin, and StockTwits were used as the dataset. [OCHLV](#) of prices, technical indicators, and sentiment analysis were used as the feature set. McNally et al. [182] compared Bayesian optimized [RNN](#), [LSTM](#), and [ARIMA](#) to predict Bitcoin price direction. Sensitivity, specificity, precision, accuracy, and RMSE were used as the performance metrics.

Table 9: Cryptocurrency Price Prediction

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[181]	Bitcoin, Litecoin, StockTwits	2015-2018	<a href="#">OCHLV</a> , technical indicators, sentiment analysis	-	30min, 4h, 1d	<a href="#">CNN</a> , <a href="#">LSTM</a> , State Frequency Model	<a href="#">MSE</a>	Keras, Tensorflow
[182]	Bitcoin	2013-2016	Price data	100d	30d	Bayesian optimized <a href="#">RNN</a> , <a href="#">LSTM</a>	Sensitivity, specificity, precision, accuracy, <a href="#">RMSE</a>	Keras, Python, Hyperas

#### 4.8. Trend Forecasting

Although trend forecasting and price forecasting share the same input characteristics, some researchers prefer to predict the price direction of an asset instead of its actual price. This alters the nature of the problem from regression to classification, and the corresponding performance metrics also change. However, it is worth noting that these two approaches are still fundamentally the same; the difference is in the interpretation of the output.

In the literature, there are different methods for trend forecasting. In this survey, we grouped the articles according to their feature sets, such as studies using only raw time series data (only price data, [OCHLV](#)); studies using technical indicators, price data, and fundamental data at the same time; studies using text mining techniques; and studies using various other data. Table 10 summarizes the trend forecasting studies using only raw time series data.

Table 10: Trend Forecasting Using Only Raw Time Series Data

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[183]	S&P500 stock indexes	1963-2016	Price data	30d	1d	NN	Accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, AUROC	R, H2o, Python, Tensorflow
[184]	SPY ETF, 10 stocks from S&P500	2014-2016	Price data	60min	30min	FNN	Cumulative gain	MatConvNet, Matlab
[142]	Shanghai composite index and SZSE	1990-2016	OCHLV	20d	1d	Ensembles of ANN	Accuracy	-
[185]	10 stocks from S&P500	-	Price data			TDNN, RNN, PNN	Missed opportunities, false alarms ratio	-
[186]	GOOGL stock daily price data	2012-2016	Time window of 30 days of OCHLV	22d, 50d, 70d	*	LSTM, GRU, RNN	Accuracy, Logloss	Python, Keras
[133]	S&P500, Bovespa50, OMX30	2009-2017	Autoregressive part of the price data	30d	1..15d	LSTM	MSE, Accuracy	Tensorflow, Keras, R
[187]	HSI, DAX, S&P500	1991-2017	Price data	-	1d	GRU, GRU-SVM	Daily return %	Python, Tensorflow
[188]	Taiwan Stock Index Futures	2001-2015	OCHLV	240d	1..2d	CNN with GAF, MAM, Candlestick	Accuracy	Matlab
[189]	ETF and Dow30	1997-2007	Price data			CNN with feature imaging	Annualized return	Keras, Tensorflow
[190]	SSEC, NASDAQ, S&P500	2007-2016	Price data	20min	7min	EMD2FNN	MAE, RMSE, MAPE	-
[191]	23 cap stocks from the OMX30 index in Nasdaq Stockholm	2000-2017	Price data and returns	30d	*	DBN	MAE	Python, Theano

Different methods and models have been used for trend forecasting. In Table 10, these are divided into three sub-groups: ANN, DNN, and FFNN models; LSTM, RNN, and Probabilistic NN models; and novel methods. ANN, DNN, DFNN, and FFNN methods were used in some studies. In Das et al. [183], NN with price data was used for trend prediction of the S&P500 stock indexes. Navon et al. [184] combined deep FNN with a selective trading strategy unit to predict the next price. Yang et al. [142] created an ensemble network of several Backpropagation and ADAM models for trend prediction.

In the literature, LSTM, RNN, and Probabilistic Neural Network (PNN) methods with raw time series data have also been used for trend forecasting. Saad et al. [185] compared Timedelay Neural Network (TDNN), RNN, and PNN for trend detection using 10 stocks from S&P500. Persio et al. [186] compared 3 different RNN models (basic RNN, LSTM, and GRU) to predict the movement of Google stock prices. Hansson et al. [133] used LSTM (and other classical forecasting techniques) to predict the trend of stocks prices. In Shen et al. [187], GRU and GRU-SVM models were used for the trends of the HSI, The Deutscher Aktienindex (DAX), and S&P500 indexes.

There are also novel methods that use only raw time series price/index data in the literature. Chen et al. [188] proposed a method that used a CNN with Gramian Angular Field (GAF), Moving Average Mapping (MAM), and Candlestick with converted image data. In Sezer et al. [189], a novel method of CNN with feature imaging was proposed for prediction of the buy/sell/hold positions of the Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs)' prices

and Dow30 stocks' prices. Zhou et al. [190] proposed a method that uses Empirical Mode Decomposition and Factorization Machine based Neural Network (EMD2FNN) models to forecast the directions of stock closing prices accurately. In Ausmees et al. [191], DBN with price data was used for trend prediction of 23 large cap stocks from the OMX30 index.

Table 11: Trend Forecasting Using Technical Indicators & Price Data & Fundamental Data

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[192]	KSE100 index	-	Price data, several fundamental data	-	-	ANN, SLP, MLP, RBF, DBN, SVM	Accuracy	-
[193]	Stocks in Dow30	1997-2017	RSI (Technical Indicators)	200d	1d	DMLP with genetic algorithm	Annualized return	Spark MLlib, Java
[194]	SSE Composite Index, FTSE100, PingAnBank	1999-2016	Technical indicators, OCHLV price	24d	1d	RBM	Accuracy	-
[195]	Dow30 stocks	2012-2016	Price data, several technical indicators	40d	-	LSTM	Accuracy	Python, Keras, Tensorflow, TALIB
[196]	Stock price from IBOVESPA index	2008-2015	Technical indicators, OCHLV of price	-	15min	LSTM	Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1-score, % return, Maximum draw-down	Keras
[197]	20 stocks from NASDAQ and NYSE	2010-2017	Price data, technical indicators	5d	1d	LSTM, GRU, SVM, XG-Boost	Accuracy	Keras, Tensorflow, Python
[198]	17 ETF	2000-2016	Price data, technical indicators	28d	1d	CNN	Accuracy, MSE, Profit, AUROC	Keras, Tensorflow
[199]	Stocks in Dow30 and 9 Top Volume ETF	1997-2017	Price data, technical indicators	20d	1d	CNN with feature imaging	Recall, precision, F1-score, annualized return	Python, Keras, Tensorflow, Java
[200]	Borsa Istanbul 100 Stocks	2011-2015	75 technical indicators, OCHLV of price	-	1h	CNN	Accuracy	Keras

Some studies have used technical indicators, price data, and fundamental data at the same time. Table 11 summarizes the trend forecasting papers that used technical indicators, price data, and fundamental data. In addition, these studies are clustered into three sub-groups: ANN, MLP, DBN, and RBM models; LSTM and GRU models; and novel methods. ANN, MLP, DBN, and RBM methods were used with technical indicators, price data, and fundamental data in some studies. In Raza et al. [192], several classical and ML models and DBN were compared for trend forecasting. In Sezer et al. [193], technical analysis indicator's (RSI) buy and sell limits were optimized with GA, which was used for buy-sell signals. After optimization, DMLP was also used for function approximation. Liang et al. [194] used technical analysis parameters, OCHLV of prices, and RBM for stock trend prediction.

LSTM and GRU methods with technical indicators, price data, and fundamental data were also used in some papers. In Troiano et al. [195], the crossover and Moving Average

Convergence and Divergence (MACD) signals were used to predict the trend of Dow 30 stock prices. Nelson et al. [196] used LSTM for stock price movement estimation. Song et al. [197] used stock prices, technical analysis features, and four different ML models (LSTM, GRU, SVM and eXtreme Gradient Boosting (XGBoost)) to predict the trend of stock prices.

In addition, novel methods using CNN with the price data and technical indicators have been proposed. Gudelek et al. [198] converted the time series of price data to 2-dimensional images using technical analysis and classified them with a deep CNN. Similarly, Sezer et al. [199] also proposed a novel technique that converted financial time series data consisting of technical analysis indicator outputs to 2-dimensional images and classified these images using a CNN to determine the trading signals. Gunduz et al. [200] proposed a method using a CNN with correlated features combined to predict the trend of stock prices.

Besides, there have also been studies using text mining techniques. Table 12 summarizes the trend forecasting papers using text mining techniques. Different methods/models are represented by four sub-groups: DNN, DMLP, and CNN with text mining models; GRU model; LSTM, CNN, and LSTM+CNN models; and novel methods. In the first group of studies, DNN, DMLP, and CNN with text mining were used for trend forecasting. In Huang et al. [201], the authors used different models, including Hidden Markov Model (HMM), DMLP, and CNN using Twitter moods, to predict the next day's movement. Peng et al. [202] used the combination of text mining and word embeddings to extract information from financial news and a DNN model for prediction of stock trends.

Moreover, GRU methods with text mining techniques have also been used for trend forecasting. Huynh et al. [203] used financial news from Reuters and Bloomberg, stock price data, and a Bidirectional Gated Recurrent Unit (Bi-GRU) model to predict future stock movements. Dang et al. [204] used Stock2Vec and Two-stream GRU (TGRU) models to generate input data from financial news and stock prices. Then, they used the sign difference between the previous close and next open for the classification of stock prices. The results were better than those of state-of-the-art models.

LSTM, CNN, and LSTM+CNN models were also used for trend forecasting. Verma et al. [205] combined news data with financial data to classify stock price movement and assessed them with certain factors. They used an LSTM model as the NN architecture. Pinheiro et al. [206] proposed a novel method that used a character-based neural language model using financial news and LSTM for trend prediction. In Prosky et al. [207], sentiment/mood prediction and price prediction based on sentiment, price prediction with text mining, and DL models (LSTM, NN, CNN) were used for trend forecasting. Liu et al. [208] proposed a method that used two separate LSTM networks to construct an ensemble network. One of the LSTM models was used for word embeddings with word2Vec to create a matrix information input to the CNN. The other was used for price prediction using technical analysis features and stock prices.

In the literature, there are also novel methods to predict the trend of time series data. Yoshihara et al. [209] proposed a novel method that uses a combination of RBM, DBN, and word embedding to create word vectors for an RNN-RBM-DBN network to predict the trend of stock prices. Shi et al. [210] proposed a novel method called DeepClue that visually interpreted text-based DL models in predicting stock price movements. In their proposed



method, financial news, charts, and social media tweets were used together to predict stock price movement. Zhang et al. [211] proposed a method that performed information fusion from several news and social media sources to predict the trend of stocks. Hu et al. [212] proposed a novel method that used text mining techniques and Hybrid Attention Networks based on financial news for trend forecasting of stocks. Wang et al. [213] combined technical analysis and sentiment analysis of social media (related financial topics) and created a [Deep Random Subspace Ensembles \(DRSE\)](#) method for classification. Matsubara et al. [214] proposed a method that used a [Deep Neural Generative Model \(DGM\)](#) with news articles using a Paragraph Vector algorithm to create the input vector for prediction of stock trends. Li et al. [215] implemented intraday stock price direction classification using financial news and stock prices.

Table 12: Trend Forecasting Using Text Mining Techniques

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[201]	<a href="#">S&amp;P500</a> , <a href="#">NYSE Composite</a> , <a href="#">DJIA</a> , <a href="#">NASDAQ Composite</a>	2009-2011	Twitter moods, index data	7d	1d	<a href="#">DNN</a> , <a href="#">CNN</a>	Error rate	Keras, Theano
[202]	News from Reuters and Bloomberg, Historical stock security data	2006-2013	News, price data	5d	1d	<a href="#">DNN</a>	Accuracy	-
[203]	News from Reuters, Bloomberg	2006-2013	Financial news, price data	-	1d, 2d, 5d, 7d	<a href="#">Bi-GRU</a>	Accuracy	Python, Keras
[204]	News about Apple, Airbus, Amazon from Reuters, Bloomberg, <a href="#">S&amp;P500</a> stock prices	2006-2013	Price data, news, technical indicators	-	-	Two-stream <a href="#">GRU</a> , stock2vec	Accuracy, precision, <a href="#">AUROC</a>	Keras, Python
[205]	<a href="#">NIFTY50</a> Index, <a href="#">NIFTY Bank/Auto/IT/Energy Index</a> , News	2013-2017	Index data, news	1d, 2d, 5d	1d	<a href="#">LSTM</a>	<a href="#">MCC</a> , Accuracy	-
[206]	News from Reuters, Bloomberg, stock price/index data from <a href="#">S&amp;P500</a>	2006-2013	News and sentences	-	1h, 1d	<a href="#">LSTM</a>	Accuracy	-
[207]	30 <a href="#">DJIA</a> stocks, <a href="#">S&amp;P500</a> , <a href="#">DJI</a> , news from Reuters	2002-2016	Price data and features from news articles	1m	1d	<a href="#">LSTM</a> , <a href="#">NN</a> , <a href="#">CNN</a> and word2vec	Accuracy	VADER
[208]	APPL from <a href="#">S&amp;P500</a> and news from Reuters	2011-2017	News, <a href="#">OCHLV</a> , Technical indicators	-	1d	<a href="#">CNN</a> + <a href="#">LSTM</a> , <a href="#">CNN+SVM</a>	Accuracy, F1-score	Tensorflow
[209]	News, Nikkei Stock Average and 10-Nikkei companies	1999-2008	News, <a href="#">MACD</a>	-	1d	<a href="#">RNN</a> , <a href="#">RBM+DBN</a>	Accuracy, P-value	-
[210]	News from Reuters and Bloomberg for <a href="#">S&amp;P500</a> stocks	2006-2015	Financial news, price data	1d	1d	DeepClue	Accuracy	Dynet software
[211]	Price data, index data, news, social media data	2015	Price data, news from articles and social media	1d	1d	Coupled matrix and tensor	Accuracy, <a href="#">MCC</a>	Jieba
[212]	News and Chinese stock data	2014-2017	Selected words in a news	10d	1d	<a href="#">HAN</a>	Accuracy, Annual return	-
[213]	Sina Weibo, Stock market records	2012-2015	Technical indicators, sentences	-	-	DRSE	F1-score, precision, accuracy, <a href="#">AU-ROC</a>	Python

Table 12: Trend Forecasting Using Text Mining Techniques

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[214]	Nikkei225, S&P500, news from Reuters and Bloomberg	2001-2013	Price data and news	1d	1d	DGM	Accuracy, MCC, %profit	-
[215]	News, stock prices from Hong Kong Stock Exchange	2001	Price data and TF-IDF from news	60min	(1..6)*5mi	ELM, DLR, PCA, BELM, KELM, NN	Accuracy	Matlab

Moreover, studies have also used different data variations. Table 13 summarizes the trend forecasting papers using these various data clustered into two sub-groups: LSTM, RNN, and GRU models and CNN models.

LSTM, RNN, and GRU methods with various data representations have been used in some trend forecasting papers. Tsantekidis et al. [216] used limit order book time series data and an LSTM method for trend prediction. Sirignano et al. [217] proposed a novel method that used limit order book flow and history information to determine stock movements using LSTM. The results of the proposed method were remarkably stationary. Chen et al. [154] used social media news, LDA features, and an RNN model to predict the trend of index prices. Buczkowski et al. [218] proposed a novel method that used expert recommendations (Buy, Hold, or Sell), ensemble of GRU, and LSTM to predict the trend of stock prices.

CNN models with different data representations were also used for trend prediction. Tsantekidis et al. [219] used the last 100 entries from the limit order book to create images for stock price prediction using a CNN. Using the limit order book data to create a 2D matrix-like format with a CNN for predicting directional movement was innovative. In Doering et al. [159], HFT microstructure forecasting was implemented with a CNN.

Table 13: Trend Forecasting Using Various Data

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[216]	Nasdaq Nordic (Kesko Oyj, Outokumpu Oyj, Sampo, Rautaruukki, Wartsila Oyj)	2010	Price and volume data in LOB	100s	10s, 20s, 50s	LSTM	Precision, Recall, F1-score, Cohen's k	-
[217]	High-frequency record of all orders	2014-2017	Price data, record of all orders, transactions	2h	-	LSTM	Accuracy	-
[154]	Chinese, The Shanghai-Shenzhen 300 Stock Index (HS300)	2015-2017	Social media news (Sina Weibo), price data	1d	1d	RNN-Boost with LDA	Accuracy, MAE, MAPE, RMSE	Python, Scikit learn
[218]	ISMIS 2017 Data Mining Competition dataset	-	Expert identifier, class predicted by expert	-	-	LSTM GRU FCNN	Accuracy	-
[219]	Nasdaq Nordic (Kesko Oyj, Outokumpu Oyj, Sampo, Rautaruukki, Wartsila Oyj)	2010	Price, Volume data, 10 orders of the LOB	-	-	CNN	Precision, Recall, F1-score, Cohen's k	Theano, Scikit learn, Python

Table 13: Trend Forecasting Using Various Data

Art.	Data Set	Period	Feature Set	Lag	Horizon	Method	Performance Criteria	Env.
[159]	London Stock Exchange	2007-2008	Limit order book state, trades, buy/sell orders, order deletions	-	-	CNN	Accuracy, kappa	Caffe

## 5. Current Snapshot of The Field

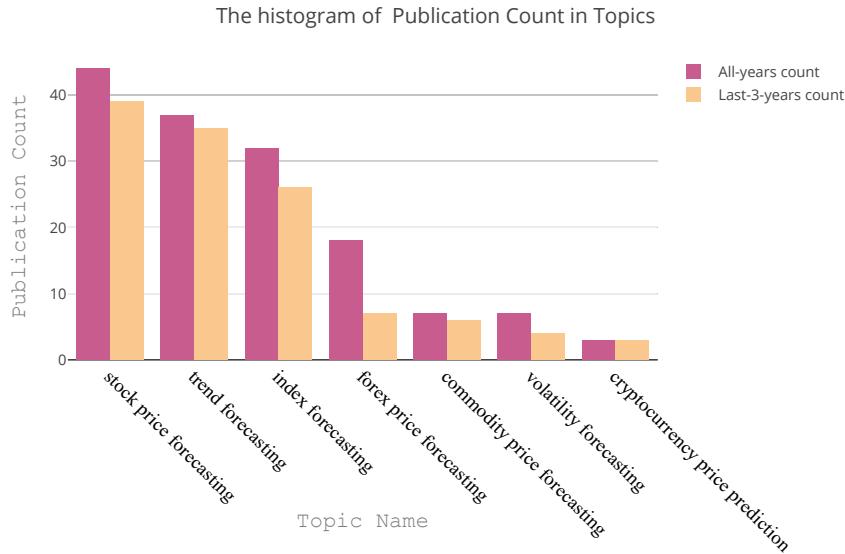


Figure 5: The histogram of Publication Count in Topics

After reviewing all research papers specifically targeted at financial time series forecasting implementations using DL models, we are now ready to provide some overall statistics about the current state of the field. The number of papers included in our survey was 140. We categorized the papers according to their forecasted asset type. We also analyzed the studies based on their DL model choices, frameworks for the development environment, data sets, comparable benchmarks, and some other differentiating criteria such as feature sets and numbers of citations, which could not be included in this paper due to space constraints. We will now summarize our notable observations to provide interested research with important highlights within the field.

Figure 5 presents the various asset types that researchers developed their corresponding forecasting models for. As expected, stock market-related prediction studies dominate the field. Stock price forecasting, trend forecasting, and index forecasting were the top three picks for financial time series forecasting research. So far, 46 papers have been published for stock price forecasting, 38 for trend forecasting and 33 for index forecasting. These studies

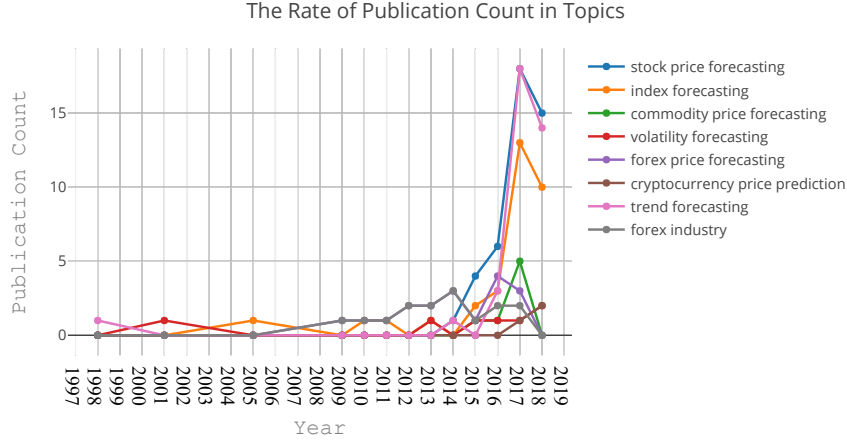


Figure 6: The rate of Publication Count in Topics

constitute more than 70% of all studies, indicating high interest. Besides the above, there were 19 papers on forex prediction and 7 on volatility forecasting. Meanwhile cryptocurrency forecasting has started attracting researchers; however, only 3 papers on this topic have been published yet, but this number is expected to increase in the coming years [220]. Figure 6 highlights the rate of publication counts for various implementation areas throughout the years. Meanwhile, Figure 7 provides more details about the choice of DL models over various implementation areas.

Figure 8 illustrates the increasing appetite of researchers to develop DL models for financial time series implementations. Meanwhile, as Figure 9 indicates, most studies were published in journals (57 of them) and conferences (49 papers), but a considerable number of arXiv papers (11) and graduate theses (6) also exist.

One of the most important issues for a researcher is where they can publish their findings. During our review, we also carefully investigated where each paper was published. We tabulated our results for the top journals for financial time series forecasting in Fig 10. According to these results, the journals with the most published papers include Expert Systems with Applications, Neurocomputing, Applied Soft Computing, The Journal of Supercomputing, Decision Support Systems, Knowledge-based Systems, European Journal of Operational Research, and IEEE Access. The interested researchers should also consider the trends over the last 3 years, as tendencies can vary depending on the particular implementation areas.

Carefully analyzing Figure 11 clearly validates the dominance of RNN-based models (65 papers) among all others for DL model choices, followed by DMLP (23 papers) and CNN (20 papers). The inner-circle represents all years considered, while the outer circle provides only the studies within the last 3 years. We should note that the RNN is a general model

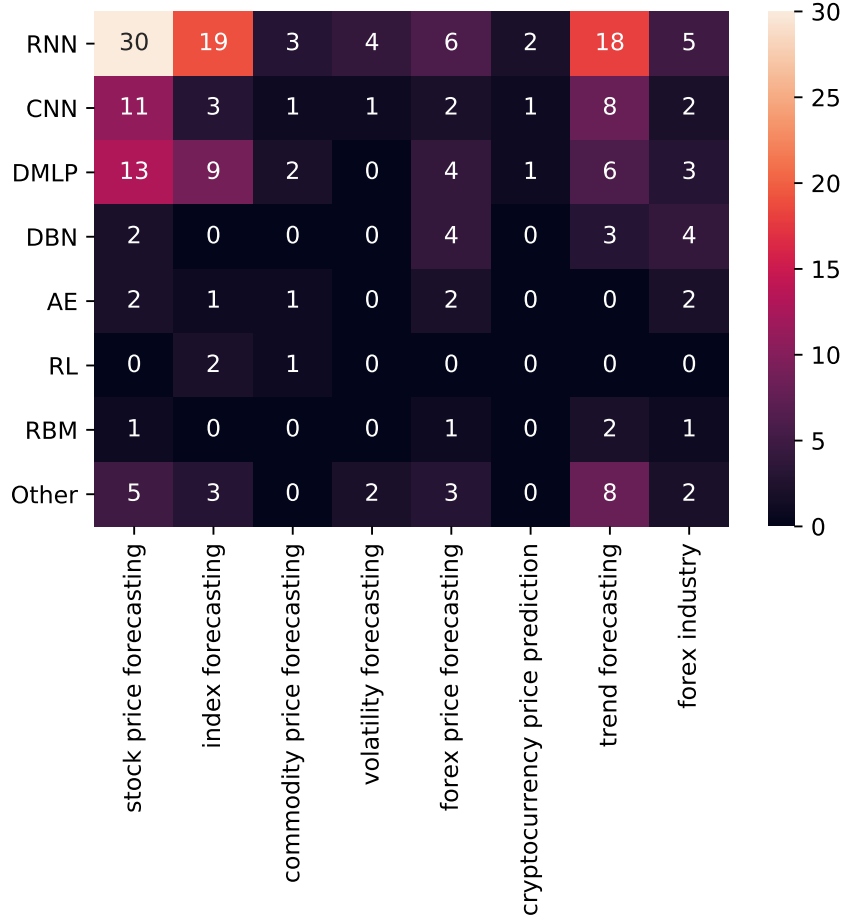


Figure 7: Topic-Model Heatmap

with several versions, including [LSTM](#) and [GRU](#). For [RNN](#), researchers mostly prefer [LSTM](#) due to its relatively simple model development phase; however, other types of [RNN](#) are also common. Figure 12 provides a snapshot of the [RNN](#) model distribution. As mentioned above, [LSTM](#) had the highest interest among all with 58 papers, while Vanilla [RNN](#) and [GRU](#) had 27 and 10 papers, respectively. Hence, it is clear that [LSTM](#) is the most popular [DL](#) model for financial time series forecasting and regression studies.

Meanwhile, [DMLP](#) and [CNN](#) were generally preferred for classification problems. Because time series data generally consist of temporal components, some data preprocessing might be required before actual classification can occur. Hence, many of these implementations utilize feature extraction, selection techniques, and possible dimensionality reduction methods. Many researchers mainly use [DMLP](#) due to the fact that its shallow [MLP](#) version has been used extensively before and has a proven successful track record for many different financial applications, including financial time series forecasting. Consistent with our observations, [DMLP](#) was also mostly preferred in the stock, index, and particular trend forecasting because it is by definition, a classification problem with two (uptrend or downtrend)

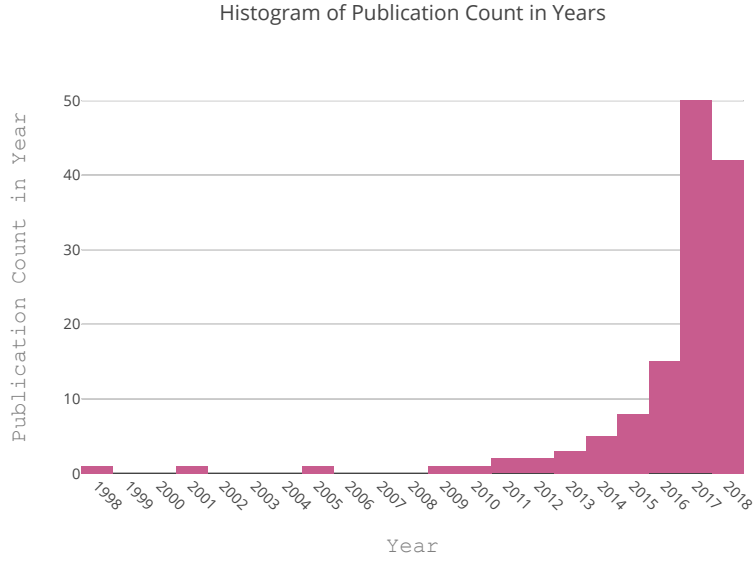


Figure 8: The histogram of Publication Count in Years

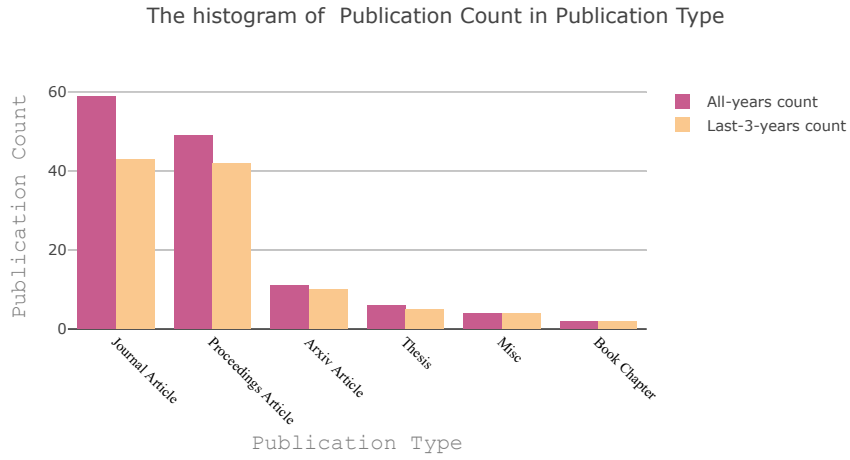


Figure 9: The histogram of Publication Count in Publication Types

and three (uptrend, stationary, or downtrend) class instances.

In addition to [DMLP](#), [CNN](#) is also a popular choice for classification-type financial time series forecasting implementations. Most of these studies appeared within the last 3 years. As mentioned before, to convert time-varying sequential data into a more stationary classifiable form, some preprocessing might be necessary. Even though some 1-D representations

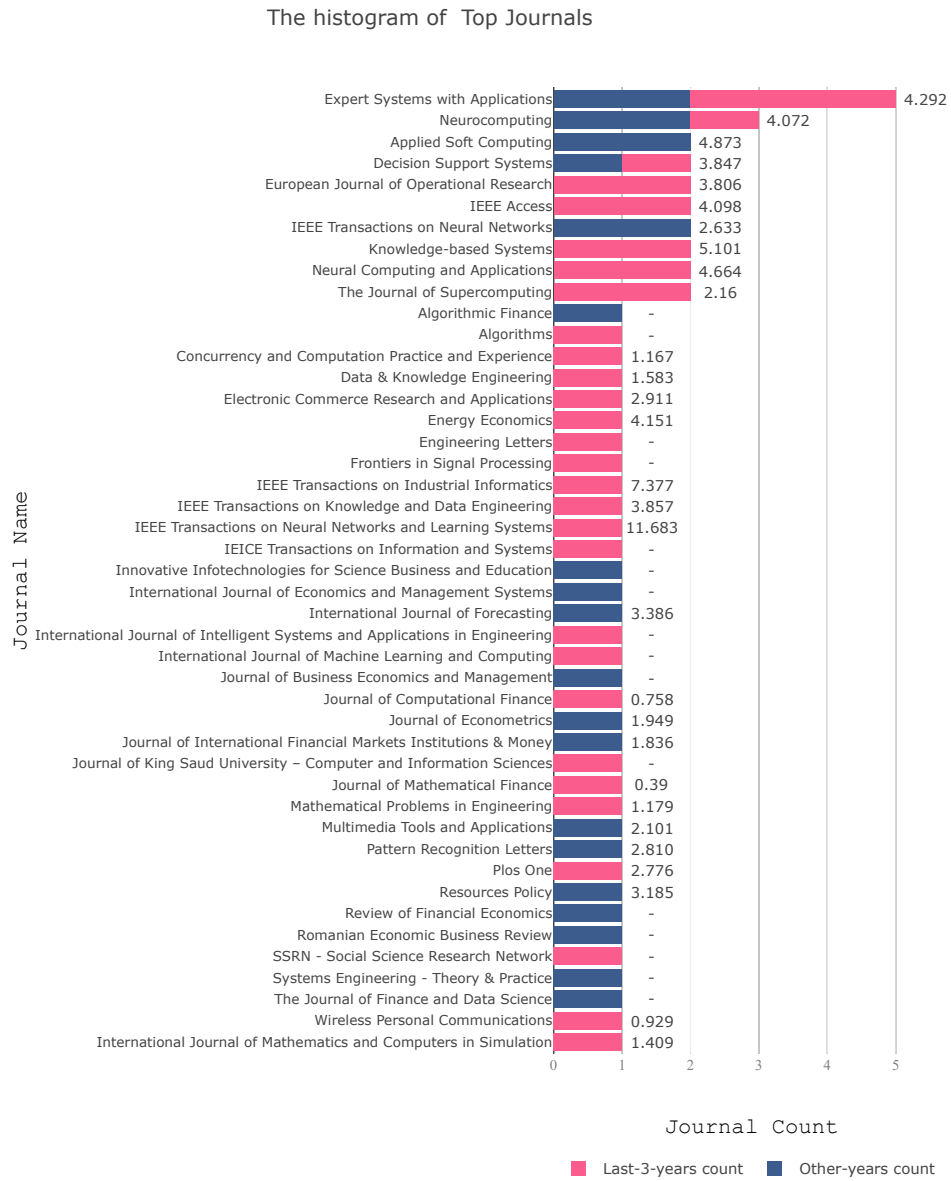


Figure 10: Top Journals - corresponding numbers next to the bar graph are representing the impact factor of the journals

exist, the 2-D implementation for CNN is more common, mostly inherited through image recognition applications of CNN from computer vision implementations. In some studies [188, 189, 193, 199, 219], innovative transformations of financial time series data into an image-like representation have been adapted, and impressive performances have been achieved. As a result, CNN might increase its share of interest for financial time series



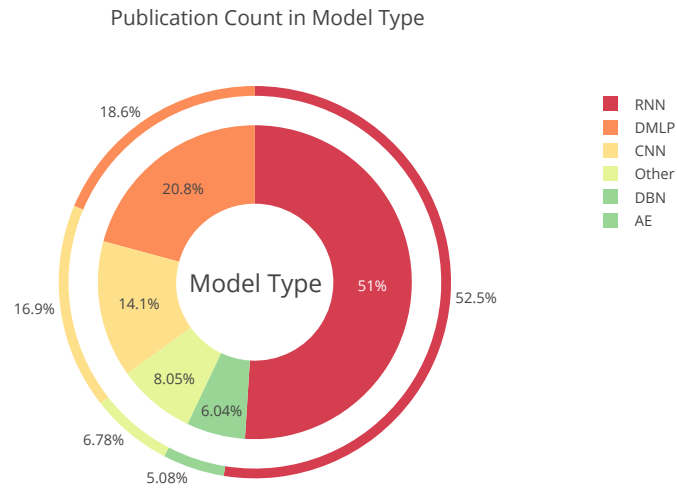


Figure 11: The Piechart of Publication Count in Model Types

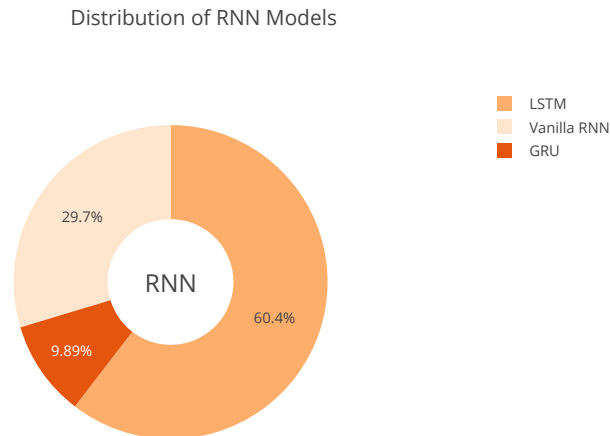


Figure 12: Distribution of RNN Models

forecasting in the next few years.

As one final note, Figure 13 shows which frameworks and platforms the researchers and developers used while implementing their work. We tried our best to extract this information from the papers. However, we must keep in mind that not every publication provided their development environment. Also, most papers did not give details, preventing us from a

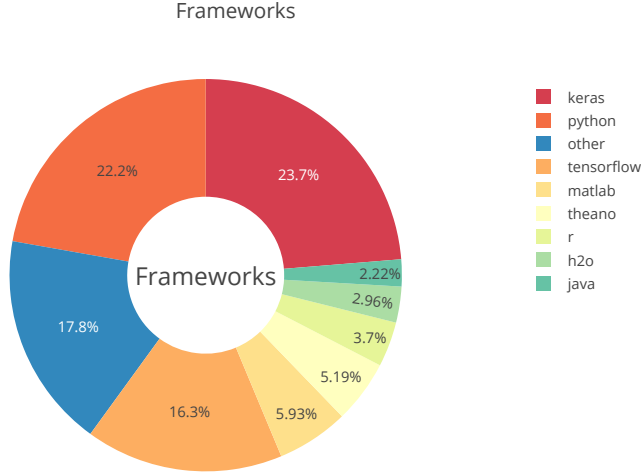


Figure 13: The Preferred Development Environments

more thorough comparison chart, i.e., some researchers claimed they used Python, but no further information was given, while some others mentioned the use of Keras or TensorFlow, providing more details. Also, within the “Other” section, the usage of Pytorch has increased in the last year or so, even though it is not visible from the chart. Regardless, Python-related tools were the most influential technologies behind the implementations covered in this survey.

## 6. Discussion and Open Issues

From an application perspective, even though financial time series forecasting has a relatively narrow focus, i.e., the implementations were mainly based on price or trend prediction, depending on the underlying DL model, very different and versatile models exist in the literature. We must remember that even though financial time series forecasting is a subset of time-series studies, due to the embedded profit-making expectations from successful prediction models, some differences exist, such that higher prediction accuracy sometimes might not reflect a profitable model. Hence, the risk and reward structure must also be taken into consideration. At this point, we will try to elaborate on our observations about these differences in various model designs and implementations.

### 6.1. DL Models for Financial Time Series Forecasting

According to the publication statistics, LSTM was the preferred choice of most researchers for financial time series forecasting. LSTM and its variations utilized time-varying data with feedback embedded representations, resulting in higher performances for time series prediction implementations. Because most financial data, one way or another, included

time-dependent components, [LSTM](#) was the natural choice in financial time series forecasting problems. Meanwhile, [LSTM](#) is a special [DL](#) model derived from a more general classifier family, namely [RNN](#).

Careful analysis of Figure 11 illustrates the dominance of [RNNs](#) (which mainly consist of [LSTM](#)). As a matter of fact, more than half of the published papers on time series forecasting fall into the [RNN](#) model category. Regardless of its problem type, price, or trend prediction, the ordinal nature of the data representation forced researchers to consider [RNN](#), [GRU](#), and [LSTM](#) as viable preferences for their model choices. Hence, [RNN](#) models were chosen, at least for benchmarking, in many studies for performance comparison with other developed models.

Meanwhile, other models were also used for time series forecasting problems. Among those, [DMLP](#) had the most interest due to the market dominance of its shallow cousin ([MLP](#)) and its wide acceptance and long history within [ML](#) society. However, there is a fundamental difference in how [DMLP](#)- and [RNN](#)-based models were used for financial time series prediction problems.

[DMLP](#) fits well for both regression and classification problems. However, in general, data order independence must be preserved to better utilize the internal working dynamics of such networks, even though some adjustments can be made through the learning algorithm configuration. In most cases, either trend components of the data need to be removed from the underlying time series or some data transformations might be needed so that the resulting data becomes stationary. Regardless, some careful preprocessing might be necessary for a [DMLP](#) model to be successful. In contrast, [RNN](#)-based models can work directly with time-varying data, making it easier for researchers to develop [DL](#) models.

As a result, most [DMLP](#) implementations had embedded data preprocessing before the learning stage. However, this inconvenience did not prevent researchers from using [DMLP](#) and its variations during their model development process. Instead, many versatile data representations were attempted to achieve higher overall prediction performances. A combination of fundamental and/or technical analysis parameters along with other features, such as financial sentiment through text mining, were embedded in such models. In most [DMLP](#) studies, the corresponding problem was treated as classification, especially in trend prediction models, whereas [RNN](#)-based models directly predicted the next value of the time series. Both approaches had some success in outperforming the underlying benchmark; hence it is not possible to claim superiority of one model type over another. However, as a general rule of thumb, researchers prefer [RNN](#)-based models for time series regression and [DMLP](#) for trend classification (or buy-sell point identification).

Another model that has increased in popularity recently is [CNN](#). [CNN](#) also works better for classification problems, and unlike [RNN](#)-based models, it is more suitable for either non-time varying or static data representations. The comments made about [DMLP](#) are also mostly valid for [CNN](#). Furthermore, unlike [DMLP](#), [CNN](#) mostly requires locality within the data representation for better-performing classification results. One particular implementation area of [CNN](#) is image-based object recognition problems. In recent years, [CNN](#)-based models have dominated this field, handily outperforming all other models. Meanwhile, most financial data are time-varying, and it might not be easy to implement [CNN](#) directly for fi-

nancial applications. However, in some recent studies, various independent research groups followed an innovative transformation of 1-D time-varying financial data into 2-D mostly stationary image-like data so that they could utilize the power of CNN through adaptive filtering and implicit dimensionality reduction. Hence, with that approach, they were able to develop successful models.

There is also a rising trend of using deep RL-based financial algorithmic trading implementations; these are mostly associated with various agent-based models, where different agents interact and learn from their interactions. This field has even more opportunities to offer with advancements in financial sentiment analysis through text mining to capture investor psychology; as a result, behavioral finance can benefit from these particular studies associated with RL-based learning models coupled with agent-based studies.

Other models including DBN, AE, and RBM, were also used by several researchers, and superior performances were reported in some of their work. However, interested readers should check these studies case by case to see how they were modelled from data representation and learning perspectives.

### *6.2. Discussions on Selected Features*

Regardless of the underlying forecasting problem, the raw time series data was almost always somehow embedded directly or indirectly within the feature vector, which is particularly valid for RNN-based models. However, in most other model types, other features were also included. Fundamental analysis and technical analysis features were among the most favorable choices for stock/index forecasting studies.

Meanwhile, in recent years, financial text mining has gained particular attention, mostly for extracting investor/trader sentiment. The streaming flow of financial news, tweets, statements, and blogs allowed researchers to build better and more versatile prediction and evaluation models, integrating numerical and textual data. The general methodology involves extracting financial sentiment analysis through text mining and combining that information with fundamental/technical analysis data to achieve better overall performance. It is logical to assume that this trend will continue with the integration of more advanced text and NLP techniques.

### *6.3. Discussions on Forecasted Asset Types*

Although forex price forecasting is always popular among researchers and practitioners, stock/index forecasting has always had the most interest among all asset groups. Regardless, price/trend prediction and algo-trading models were mostly embedded with these prediction studies.

These days, financial time series forecasting research on cryptocurrencies is a hot topic. Cryptocurrency price prediction has growing demand from the financial community. Because this topic is relatively new, we might see more studies and implementations in the near future due to high expectations and promising rewards.

There were also a number of publications in commodity price forecasting research, particularly for predicting the price of oil. Oil price prediction is crucial due to its tremendous

effect on world economic activities and planning. Meanwhile, gold is considered a safe investment and almost every investor, at one time, considers allocating some portion of their portfolio for gold-related investments. In times of political uncertainty, many people turn to gold to protect their savings. Although we did not encounter a noteworthy study for gold price forecasting, due to its historical importance, there might be opportunities in this area in years to come.

#### *6.4. Open Issues and Future Work*

Despite the general motivation for financial time series forecasting remaining fairly unchanged, the means of achieving financial goals vary depending on the choices and trade-off between traditional techniques and newly developed models. Because our fundamental focus is on the application of **DL** for financial time series studies, we will try to assess the current state of the research and extrapolate that into the future.

##### *6.4.1. Model Choices for the Future*

The dominance of **RNN**-based models for price/trend prediction will probably not disappear anytime soon, mainly due to their easy adaptation to most asset forecasting problems. Meanwhile, some enhanced versions of the original **LSTM** or **RNN** models, generally integrated with hybrid learning systems, are now becoming more common. Readers should check individual studies and assess their performances to see which one fits the best for their particular needs and domain requirements.

We have observed increasing interest in 2-D **CNN** implementations of financial forecasting problems by converting the time series into an image-like data type. This innovative methodology seems to work quite satisfactorily and provides promising opportunities. More studies of this kind will probably continue in the near future.

Nowadays, new models are generated through older models via modifying or enhancing existing models so that better performances can be achieved. Such topologies include **Generative Adversarial Network (GAN)**, and Capsule networks. They have been used in various non-financial studies; however, financial time series forecasting has not been investigated for those models yet. As such, there can be exciting opportunities both from research and practical points of view.

Another **DL** model that has been investigated thoroughly is Graph **CNN**. Graphs can be used to represent portfolios, social networks of financial communities, fundamental analysis data, etc. Even though graph algorithms can directly be applied to such configurations, different graph representations can also be implemented for time series forecasting problems. Not much work has been done on this particular topic; however, through graph representations of time series data and implementing graph analysis algorithms or implementing **CNN** through these graphs are among the possibilities that researchers can choose.

As a final note for future models, we believe that deep **RL**- and agent-based models offer great opportunities for researchers. **HFT** algorithms and robo-advisory systems highly depend on automated algorithmic trading systems that can decide what to buy and when to buy without any human intervention. These aforementioned models can fit very well in such challenging environments. The rise of the machines will also lead to a technological

(and algorithmic) arms race between Fintech companies and quant funds to be the best in their neverending search for “achieving alpha”. New research in these areas can be exactly what is required.

#### *6.4.2. Future Projections for Financial Time Series Forecasting*

Most probably, for the foreseeable future, financial time series forecasting will have close research cooperation with other financial application areas, such as algorithmic trading and portfolio management, as was the case before. However, changes in the available data characteristics and introduction of new asset classes might not only alter the forecasting strategies of developers but also force developers to seek new or alternative techniques to better adapt to these new challenging working conditions. In addition, metrics such as [Continuous Ranked Probability Score \(CRPS\)](#) [221] for evaluating probability distributions might be included for more thorough analysis.

One rising trend, not only for financial time series forecasting, but for all intelligent decision support systems, is human-computer interaction and [NLP](#) research. Within that field, text mining and financial sentiment analysis are of particular importance to financial time series forecasting. Behavioral finance may benefit from new advancements in these fields.

To utilize the power of text mining, researchers have started developing new data representations, such as Stock2Vec [204], which can be useful for combining textual and numerical data for better prediction models. Furthermore, [NLP](#)-based ensemble models that integrate data semantics with time-series data might increase the accuracy of existing models.

One area that can significantly benefit from interconnected financial markets is automated statistical arbitrage trading model development. It has been used in forex and commodity markets before. In addition, many practitioners currently seek arbitrage opportunities in cryptocurrency markets [220] due to the huge number of coins available on various marketplaces. Price disruptions, high volatility, and bid-ask spread variations cause arbitrage opportunities across different platforms. Some opportunists develop software models that can track these price anomalies for instant materialization of profits. Also, it is possible to construct pairs of trading portfolios across different asset classes using appropriate models. It is possible that [DL](#) models can learn (or predict) these opportunities faster and more efficiently than classical rule-based systems. This will also benefit [HFT](#) studies, which are constantly looking for faster and more efficient trading algorithms and embedded systems with minimum latency. To achieve that, Graphics Processing Unit (GPU)- or Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA)-based hardware solutions embedded with [DL](#) models can be utilized. There is a lack of research accomplished in this hardware aspect of financial time series forecasting and algorithmic trading. Given that there is sufficient computing power available, it is worth investigating the possibility of better algorithms, because the rewards are high.

#### *6.5. Responses to our Initial Research Questions*

We are now ready to address to our initially stated research questions. Based on our observations, our answers to these questions are as follows:

- Which DL models are used for financial time series forecasting ?

Response: RNN-based models (particularly LSTM) are the most commonly used models. Meanwhile, CNN and DMLP have been used extensively in classification-type implementations (such as trend classification) as long as appropriate data processing is applied to the raw data.

- How does the performance of DL models compare with that of their traditional machine learning counterparts ?

Response: In the majority of studies, DL models were better than ML ones. However, there were also many cases where their performances were comparable. There were even two particular studies ([82, 175]) where ML models performed better than DL models. Meanwhile, the preference of DL implementations over ML models is growing. Advances in computing power, availability of big data, superior performance, implicit feature learning capabilities, and user friendly model development environment for DL models are among the main reasons for this migration.

One important issue that might be worth mentioning is the possibility of the publication bias of DL over ML models. Since DL is more recent than ML, a published successful DL implementation might attract more audience than a comparable successful ML model. Hence, the researchers implicitly might have an additional motivation to develop DL models. However, this is probably a valid concern for every academic publication regardless of the study area [222]. Meanwhile, in this survey, our aim was to extract the published DL studies for financial forecasting without any prior assumptions, so the reader can decide which model works best for them through their own experiences.

- What is the future direction of DL research for financial time series forecasting ?

Response: NLP, semantics, and text mining-based hybrid models ensembled with time-series data might be more common in the near future.

## 7. Conclusions

Financial time series forecasting has been very popular among ML researchers for more than 40 years. The financial community had a new boost lately with the introduction of DL implementations for financial prediction research, and many new publications have appeared accordingly. In our survey, we wanted to review existing studies to provide a snapshot of the current research status of DL implementations for financial time series forecasting. We grouped the studies according to their intended asset classes along with the preferred DL model associated with the problem. Our findings indicate that although financial forecasting has a long research history, overall interest within the DL community is on the rise through utilization of new DL models; hence, many opportunities exist for researchers.



## 8. Acknowledgement

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## Glossary

- AdaGrad** Adaptive Gradient Algorithm. 6, 7  
**ADAM** Adaptive Moment Estimation. 6–8, 13, 14, 33  
**AE** Autoencoder. 5, 9, 13, 14, 18, 19, 26, 29–31, 46  
**AI** Artificial Intelligence. 3  
**AIS** Annealed Importance Sampling. 12  
**AMEX** American Stock Exchange. 20, 21  
**ANN** Artificial Neural Network. 3–5, 8, 11–13, 18, 20, 23, 24, 31, 33, 34  
**AR** Active Return. 20  
**AR** Autoregressive. 22  
**ARCH** Autoregressive Conditional Heteroscedasticity. 32  
**ARIMA** Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average. 19, 20, 30, 32  
**ARMA** Autoregressive Moving Average. 27, 28, 32  
**AUC** Area Under the Curve. 20  
**AUROC** Area Under the Receiver Operating Characteristics. 33, 34, 36  
**B&H** Buy and Hold. 25  
**BELM** Basic Extreme Learning Machine. 37  
**Bi-GRU** Bidirectional Gated Recurrent Unit. 35, 36  
**Bi-LSTM** Bidirectional LSTM. 22, 23, 25  
**BIST** Istanbul Stock Exchange Index. 20, 21, 23, 24  
**Bovespa** Brazilian Stock Exchange. 23, 25  
**BPTT** Back Propagation Through Time. 7, 8  
**BSE** Bombay Stock Exchange. 26  
**CCI** Commodity Channel Index. 27  
**CD** Contrastive Divergence. 12, 13  
**CDAX** German Stock Market Index Calculated by Deutsche Börse. 20  
**CDBN** Continuous-valued Deep Belief Networks. 30  
**CDBN-FG** Fuzzy Granulation with Continuous-valued Deep Belief Networks. 31  
**CNN** Convolutional Neural Network. 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 17–22, 25–42, 45–47, 49  
**CRBM** Continuous Restricted Boltzman machine. 30  
**CRPS** Continuous Ranked Probability Score. 48  
**CSE** Colombo Stock Exchange. 18  
**CSI** China Securities Index. 18, 22, 26, 28, 29  
**DA** Direction Accuracy. 31  
**DAX** The Deutscher Aktienindex. 29, 33  
**DBN** Deep Belief Network. 1, 5, 12, 13, 18, 19, 27–31, 33–36, 46  
**DE** Differential Evolution. 26  
**DFNN** Deep Feedforward Neural Network. 17, 19, 21, 23, 29, 33  
**DGM** Deep Neural Generative Model. 36, 37  
**DJI** Dow Jones Index. 36  
**DJIA** Dow Jones Industrial Average. 22–26, 36  
**DL** Deep Learning. 1–5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 16–21, 23, 24, 27–30, 35, 38–40, 44, 45, 47–49  
**DLR** Deep Learning Representation. 37  
**DMLP** Deep Multilayer Perceptron. 5–8, 10, 23, 30, 34, 35, 39–41, 45, 49  
**DNN** Deep Neural Network. 6, 10, 18–21, 23–33, 35, 36  
**DOW30** Dow Jones Industrial Average 30. 23, 26, 28  
**DP** Dynamic Programming. 15, 16  
**DPA** Direction Prediction Accuracy. 21  
**DRL** Deep Reinforcement Learning. 2, 5, 16  
**DRSE** Deep Random Subspace Ensembles. 36  
**DWNN** Deep and Wide Neural Network. 18, 19  
**EA** Evolutionary Algorithm. 25, 27  
**EC** Evolutionary Computation. 3, 4  
**EGARCH** Exponential GARCH. 24  
**ELM** Extreme Learning Machine. 18, 19, 37  
**EMA** Exponential Moving Average. 27  
**EMD2FNN** Empirical Mode Decomposition and Factorization Machine based Neural Network. 33, 34  
**ETF** Exchange-Traded Fund. 28, 31, 33, 34  
**FCNN** Fully Connected Neural Network. 37  
**FDDR** Fuzzy Deep Direct Reinforcement Learning. 23, 24, 27, 28  
**FFNN** Feedforward Neural Network. 13, 14, 20, 24, 30, 33  
**FHSO** Firefly Harmony Search Optimization. 25, 30, 31

**FLANN** Functional Link Neural network. 27  
**FNN** Fully Connected Neural Network. 7, 27, 33  
**FTSE** London Financial Times Stock Exchange Index. 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 34  
**GA** Genetic Algorithm. 4, 25, 34, 51  
**GAF** Gramian Angular Field. 33  
**GAN** Generative Adversarial Network. 21, 47  
**GAN-FD** GAN for minimizing Forecast error loss and Direction prediction loss. 20  
**GARCH** Generalised Auto-Regressive Conditional Heteroscedasticity. 28, 29, 31, 32, 52  
**GASVR** **GA** with a **SVR**. 25, 26, 28, 51  
**GBT** Gradient Boosted Trees. 18, 19  
**GDAX** Global Digital Asset Exchange. 26  
**GLM** Generalized Linear Model. 23  
**GML** Generalized Linear Model. 25  
**GP** Genetic Programming. 3, 4, 30  
**GPA** The Gaussian Process Approach. 7, 8  
**GRU** Gated-Recurrent Unit. 8, 18, 19, 21, 32–37, 40, 45  
**GS** Grid Search. 7, 8, 10, 12–14, 16  
**GSPC** S&P500 Commodity Price Index. 24  
**HAN** Hybrid Attention Network. 36  
**HAR** Heterogeneous Autoregressive Process. 25, 28, 51  
**HAR-GASVR** **HAR** with **GASVR**. 24, 28, 29  
**HFT** High Frequency Trading. 17, 28, 37, 47, 48  
**HIT** Hit Rate. 23, 24  
**HMAE** Heteroscedasticity Adjusted MAE. 29  
**HMM** Hidden Markov Model. 35  
**HMRPSO** Modified Version of PSO. 26, 27  
**HMSE** Heteroscedasticity Adjusted MSE. 29  
**HR** Hit Rate. 21, 29, 31  
**HS** China Shanghai Shenzhen Stock Index. 26, 37  
**HSI** Hong Kong Hang Seng Index. 22–26, 33  
**IBOVESPA** Indice Bolsa de Valores de Sao Paulo. 34  
**IC** Information Coefficient. 20  
**IR** Information Ratio. 20  
**ISE** Istanbul Stock Exchange Index. 24, 31  
**IXIC** NASDAQ Composite Index. 24  
**KELM** Kernel Extreme Learning Machine. 37  
**KL-Divergence** Kullback Leibler Divergence. 12  
**KOSPI** The Korea Composite Stock Price Index. 18, 23, 25, 26, 29  
**KSE** Korea Stock Exchange. 34  
**LAR** Linear Auto-regression Predictor. 22  
**LDA** Latent Dirichlet Allocation. 26, 27, 37  
**LOB** Limit Order Book Data. 37  
**LRNFIS** Locally Recurrent Neuro-fuzzy Information System. 23, 25, 31  
**LSTM** Long-Short Term Memory. 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 17–30, 32–37, 40, 44, 45, 47, 49  
**MACD** Moving Average Convergence and Divergence. 34, 36  
**MAD** Mean Absolute Deviation. 18  
**MAE** Mean Absolute Error. 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 29, 31, 33, 37  
**MAM** Moving Average Mapping. 33  
**MAPE** Mean Absolute Percentage Error. 18, 21–24, 26–29, 31, 33, 37  
**MASE** Mean Standard Deviation. 23  
**MC** Monte Carlo. 15, 16  
**MCC** Matthew Correlation Coefficient. 22, 26, 36, 37  
**MDA** Multilinear Discriminant Analysis. 20, 21  
**MDD** Maximum Drawdown. 18  
**MDP** Markov Decision Process. 14, 15  
**MI** Mutual Information. 18  
**ML** Machine Learning. 1–5, 7, 19, 25, 29, 30, 34, 35, 45, 49  
**MLP** Multilayer Perceptron. 10, 18–21, 23, 24, 29–31, 34, 40, 45  
**MM** Markov Model. 29  
**MODRL** Multi-objective Deep Reinforcement Learning. 26  
**MoE** Mixture of Experts. 24  
**MOEA** Multiobjective Evolutionary Algorithm. 4  
**MRS** Markov Regime Switching. 27  
**MS** Manual Search. 7, 8, 10, 12–14, 16  
**MSE** Mean Squared Error. 13, 14, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26–29, 31–34  
**MSFE** Mean Squared Forecast Error. 24  
**MSPE** Mean Squared Prediction Error. 20  
**NASDAQ** National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations. 18–21, 23, 26, 28, 33, 34, 36  
**NIFTY** National Stock Exchange of India. 22, 26, 36  
**NIKKEI** Tokyo Nikkei Index. 22, 23, 25, 26, 31  
**NLP** Natural Language Processing. 9, 46, 48, 49  
**NMAE** Normalized Mean Absolute Error. 29, 31  
**NMSE** Normalized Mean Square Error. 18, 29, 31  
**NN** Neural Network. 5, 6, 10, 16, 29, 33, 35–37  
**norm-RMSE** Normalized **RMSE**. 18  
**NSE** National Stock Exchange of India. 18  
**NYMEX** New York Mercantile Exchange. 27, 28  
**NYSE** New York Stock Exchange. 18, 20, 21, 23, 34, 36  
**OCHL** Open, Close, High, Low. 20, 24, 26  
**OCHLV** Open, Close, High, Low, Volume. 18, 19,

21–26, 32–34, 36

**OMX** Stockholm Stock Exchange. 23, 25, 28, 31, 33, 34

**PCA** Principal Component Analysis. 20, 21, 29, 37

**PCC** Pearson’s Correlation Coefficient. 31

**PCD** Percentage of Correct Direction. 21

**PLR** Piecewise Linear Representation. 21

**PNN** Probabilistic Neural Network. 33

**PPOSC** Percentage Price Oscillator. 27

**PSN** Psi-Sigma Network. 30, 31

**PSO** Particle Swarm Optimization. 26, 27

**R<sup>2</sup>** Squared correlation, Non-linear regression multiple correlation. 20, 21

**RBF** Radial Basis Function Neural Network. 18, 19, 24, 31, 34

**RBM** Restricted Boltzmann Machine. 5, 11–13, 19, 30, 31, 34–36, 46

**RCEFLANN** Recurrent Computationally Efficient Functional Link Neural Network. 26, 27

**RCNN** Recurrent CNN. 21, 22

**ReLU** Rectified Linear Unit. 5, 7, 12

**RF** Random Forest. 18, 19, 22, 29

**RHE** Recurrent Hybrid Elman. 24, 25, 31

**RL** Reinforcement learning. 14, 15, 23, 24, 27, 28, 46, 47

**RMDN** Recurrent Mixture Density Network. 28, 31, 52

**RMDN-GARCH** **RMDN** with **GARCH**. 28, 29

**RMSE** Root Mean Square Error. 18, 20–24, 26–29, 31–33, 37, 51

**RMSProp** Root Mean Square Propagation. 6–8, 10, 13, 14

**RMSRE** Root Mean Square Relative Error. 21

**RNN** Recurrent Neural Network. 2, 5, 7–9, 18–33, 35–37, 39, 40, 45–47, 49

**RS** RandomSearch. 7, 8, 10, 12–14, 16

**RSE** Relative Squared Error. 21

**RSI** Relative Strength Index. 27, 34

**RW** Random Walk. 27, 28, 30

**S&P500** Standard’s & Poor’s 500 Index. 18–29, 31, 33, 36, 37

**SCI** SSE Composite Index. 22

**SDAE** Stacked Denoising Autoencoders. 27, 28

**SFM** State Frequency Memory. 18, 19

**SGD** Stochastic Gradient Descent. 6–8, 10, 13, 14

**SLP** Single Layer Perceptron. 34

**SMAPE** Symmetric Mean Absolute Percentage Error. 21

**SMBGO** Sequential Model-Based Global Optimization. 7, 8

**SPY** SPDR S&P 500 ETF. 33

**SR** Sharpe-ratio. 21, 23–26, 28, 31

**SRNN** Stacked Recurrent Neural Network. 18, 19

**SSE** Shanghai Stock Exchange. 18, 21, 22, 26, 34

**SSEC** Shanghai Stock Exchange Composite. 33

**STD** Standard Deviation. 23, 25, 26

**SVM** Support Vector Machine. 20, 22, 33–36

**SVR** Support Vector Regressor. 25, 27, 30, 31, 51

**SZSE** Shenzhen Stock Exchange Composite Index. 23, 24, 26, 28, 33

**TAIEX** Taiwan Capitalization Weighted Stock Index. 23, 25, 26

**TALIB** Technical Analysis Library Package. 26, 34

**TAQ** Trade and Quote. 21

**TAR** Threshold Autoregressive. 24, 25, 31

**TD** Temporal Difference. 15, 16

**TDNN** Timedelay Neural Network. 33

**TF-IDF** Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency. 37

**TGRU** Two-stream GRU. 35

**THEIL-U** Theil’s inequality coefficient. 26, 31

**TR** Total Return. 21, 24

**TSPEA** Tree-structured Parzen Estimator Approach. 7, 8

**TUNINDEX** Tunisian Stock Market Index. 24

**TWSE** Taiwan Stock Exchange. 22, 26, 27

**VEC** Vector Error Correction model. 24, 25, 31

**VIX** S&P500 Volatility Index. 23–25, 29

**VXD** Dow Jones Industrial Average Volatility Index. 24, 25, 29

**VXN** NASDAQ100 Volatility Index. 23–25, 29

**WHR** Weighted Hit Rate. 29, 31

**William%R** Williams Percent Range. 27

**WMTR** Weighted Multichannel Time-series Regression. 20, 21

**WT** Wavelet Transforms. 26

**WTI** West Texas Intermediate. 28

**XGBoost** eXtreme Gradient Boosting. 34, 35

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