

Cryptocurrency Explorer and Market Analyzer

First Release

Irene Finocchi, Flavio Giorgi, Bardh Prenkaj
finocchi@luiss.it, fgiorgi@luiss.it, bprenkaj@luiss.it

February 4, 2023

Abstract

CEMA (Cryptocurrency Explorer and Market Analyzer) is a tool that is becoming increasingly important in the rapidly-evolving cryptocurrency market. It is a necessary tool for anyone who wants to stay informed about the market and make informed decisions about buying and selling cryptocurrencies. With so many different cryptocurrencies available, and new ones being introduced on a regular basis, it can be challenging for individuals and businesses to stay informed and make informed decisions. CEMA provides a reliable and comprehensive source of information about the cryptocurrency market. It allows users to easily access and analyze data about different cryptocurrencies, including historical price data, trading volumes, market capitalization, and more. Additionally, it helps users to make informed decisions about buying and selling cryptocurrencies by providing data and insights about different factors such as market trends, volatility, and regulatory developments. In short, CEMA is a valuable tool that can help individuals and businesses navigate the complex and rapidly-evolving cryptocurrency market.

Keywords: cryptocurrency market; time series analysis; market trends, volatility and regulations; blockchain

1 Context and motivation

CEMA (Cryptocurrency Explorer and Market Analyzer) is a tool that is becoming increasingly important in the rapidly-evolving cryptocurrency market. With so many different cryptocurrencies available, and new ones being introduced on a regular basis, it can be challenging for individuals and businesses to stay informed and make informed decisions.

One of the primary motivations for the development of CEMA is the need for a reliable and comprehensive source of information about the cryptocurrency market. CEMA provides users with an easy way to access and analyze data about different cryptocurrencies, including historical price data, trading volumes, market capitalization, and more.

Another important motivation for CEMA is the need for a tool that can help users make informed decisions about buying and selling cryptocurrencies. With so many different factors to consider, such as market trends, volatility, and regulatory developments, it can be difficult for individuals and businesses to know when to buy or sell a particular cryptocurrency. CEMA provides users with the data and insights they need to make informed decisions about buying and selling cryptocurrencies.

In summary, CEMA is a necessary tool for anyone who wants to stay informed about the cryptocurrency market and make informed decisions about buying and selling cryptocurrencies. It can provide users with valuable data and insights about different cryptocurrencies and help them navigate the rapidly-evolving market.

2 Project description

2.1 Introduction

Cryptocurrencies are digital assets that use cryptography for security and operate on a decentralized network, such as the blockchain. They can be used as a medium of exchange, similar to traditional currencies, but it is not controlled by any central authority, such as a government or financial institution.

There are many different types of cryptocurrencies, each with its own set of features and characteristics. Some of the most well-known cryptocurrencies include Bitcoin, Ethereum, and Litecoin. One of the main advantages of cryptocurrency is that it allows for peer-to-peer transactions without the need for a central intermediary, such as a bank. This can make transactions faster and more efficient, reducing the risk of fraud or tampering. However, cryptocurrencies are still a relatively new and complex technology, and they are not without risks.

Table 1: The characteristics of each dataset

Dataset	Size (Megabytes)	Number of rows	Number of cryptos	Average monitoring days per crypto
dataset_small.txt	0.88	24,266	98	247.61 ± 13.74
dataset_medium.txt	1.77	48,259	98	492.44 ± 40.59
dataset_large.txt	2.56	69,365	98	707.81 ± 100.11
dataset_full.txt	4.50	120,783	98	1232.48 ± 486.20

2.2 Project Data

The project requires reading a financial dataset and implementing efficient algorithmic solutions to different problems in Python, also experimenting with a few real datasets of different, increasing sizes. In detail, you will analyze a set of cryptocurrencies and compute several metrics.

Terminology In this paragraph, we are going to see the essential terms we will encounter during the project.

- **Open Price:** is the price at which the first trade of the day took place.
- **Close Price:** is the price at which the last trade of the day took place.
- **Volumes:** the amount of cryptocurrency traded on that day. It can be expressed in US Dollars, Euros, or as the crypto itself.
- **High:** is the highest price reached by the crypto within that day
- **Low:** is the lowest price reached by the crypto within that day

Dataset You are given as input a *.txt* file containing a list of cryptocurrencies and additional details. Each row in the file contains these elements in the following order:

```
crypto_name, day, price, volume
```

These values represent the open price and volume for the `crypto_name` (e.g., Bitcoin) on a given day. Both volumes and prices are float numbers, days is an integer value, and finally, `crypto_name` is a string with the cryptocurrency's name. The volume defines the amount of crypto traded on that day. A value of 0 for volume means that no transactions took place on a given day. If you are familiar with stock or other financial data series, you noticed that we didn't include other values such as *Low*, *High*, and *Close Price*. We did this simplification to make the dataset simpler. As you can see, if you inspect the *.txt* file, all the data series are shuffled. If you are interested, you can find the original dataset on [Kaggle](#).

3 Project Goals

The project is divided into three different phases:

1. **Data reading and preprocessing** (Task 1) - announcement February 7, due February 28 (not mandatory)
2. **Crypto sorting and searching** (Task 2) - announcement February 28, due March 28 (not mandatory)
3. **Crypto correlation graph and minimal correlation pathways** (Task 3) - announcement March 28, due May 14

Notice that you can submit each task within the specified deadlines, but you'll only receive an evaluation for the entire project by the end of the course.

3.1 Task 1: data reading and preprocessing

You are given four datasets: `dataset_small.txt`, `dataset_medium.txt`, `dataset_large.txt`, and `dataset_full.txt` with the characteristics shown in Table 1. You are required to design and implement:

1. **A python function that reads the .txt file**, extracting relevant information which must be then stored in a suitable data structure.
 - The function `read_file` is called ONCE to load the dataset. It can be used to prepare and read the input file (e.g., "data/dataset_small.txt")

Table 2: Example of Algorand’s minimum, average, and maximum prices in the interval $[1, 30]$

crypto	day	price	volume
Gala	14	0.0003000000142492	12503.0
Algorand	25	0.8238009810447693	117943656.0
Quant	5	0.2447540014982223	6582.0
Quant	30	0.7051290273666382	2786320.0
Gala	9	0.0006300000241026	146418.0
Quant	10	0.2664119899272918	4260.0
Quant	8	0.2389190047979354	8290.0
Gala	19	0.0003800000122282	10678.0
Gala	5	0.000900999921545	115883.0
Algorand	8	1.3938219547271729	121576369.0
Gala	29	0.000369999942909	21907.0
Algorand	13	1.1359020471572876	112712391.0
Quant	1	0.2878440022468567	30951.0
Algorand	22	0.8555579781532288	140797532.0
Quant	17	0.2503879964351654	7155.0
Gala	7	0.0009940000018104	255093.0
Gala	27	0.0003450000076554	12965.0
Algorand	16	1.1275609731674194	64939220.0
Algorand	15	1.009680986404419	103703180.0
Algorand	2	3.153618097305298	223603358.0
Gala	3	0.0014919999521225	76880.0

2. A python function to answer queries of the form "Which are the min-price, average-price, and max-price values for the crypto X in a specific time interval $[a, b]$ where a is the beginning time and b is the end time?".

Example: Which are the min, average, max values for **Algorand** in the time interval $[1, 30]$? Your code should answer (0.64, 1.29, 3.28) according to the selection in Table 2. Notice that this table is just for illustration purposes and doesn't represent the whole view of **Algorand**'s price trend in the first 30 days.

- The function `crypto_stats` implements your query algorithm. It receives as input the crypto name - e.g., **Algorand** - and a period of time $[a, b]$, and it outputs the observed minimum, average, and maximum price values reached within the beginning time a and end time b . The order of the output is important for evaluation purposes. So, return a tuple (`min_price, avg_price, max_price`).

4 How to open the project and IDEs

You can find the project folder on a GitHub [Repository](#). You can clone the repository in your local machine using the command:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/flaat/Algorithms-2022-2023-Project
```

and you can start coding with your usual IDE or text editor.

Important: you need git on your machine if you haven't git installed, please follow the instruction for [Windows](#), [Mac](#), [Linux](#). If you do not prefer to use the command line (terminal), you can use the Git extension of VSCode that handles all the git commands in its UI. Though, you have to notice that you still need to have an intuition on how git projects work.

4.1 Integrated Development Environment (IDE)

What is an IDE? An IDE, or Integrated Development Environment, is software that enables programmers to consolidate the different aspects of writing a computer program. IDEs increase programmer productivity by combining common activities of writing software into a single application: editing source code, building executables, and debugging. **A proper IDE is an invaluable tool for writing code! It will save you a lot of time.**

Best IDE for Python In python the most known IDEs are [PyCharm](#) and [VSCode](#). Both are extremely useful, and both of them offer a wide variety of features. PyCharm is probably the most complete, but it is also cumbersome to load. It has a vast number of functionalities ranging from auto-completing to debugging up to, only for the pro or academic versions, peer coding.

VSCode instead is lightweight, and it is probably more suitable for your current project. It also has many exciting features like auto-completing and version control (GIT) integrated within the IDE.

If you choose to use an IDE you can follow the instruction to clone the repository directly in [VSCode](#) or [PyCharm](#). If you have problems cloning the repository directly from the IDE, you can simply use git clone on your local machine, then go to your IDE, go to file, open, and select the repository folder named **Algorithms-2022-2023-Project**.

[Here](#) you can find an interesting discussion about Python IDEs between Lex Fridman and Guido van Rossum, the creator of Python.