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A STUDY ON FORECASTING OF SELECTED COMMODITY FUTURES PRICE USING ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORK - AN EVIDENCE FROM INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The fluctuations in the Commodity prices have a considerable amount of attention. This paper is built on the previous research and seeks to determine whether improvements can be made in the forecasting of ten most active commodities traded on MCX. Time series data is considered for the analysis. Forecasting accuracy is a major concern for the decision-maker and the policymakers; while using the traditional Econometrics model, the researchers were not successful in determining the accurate forecast. The performance of ARIMA Model was not in good agreement for forecasting the commodity prices accurately. This research paper makes an attempt to use the Artificial Neural Network Model, which has significantly forecasted the future prices. There can be fluctuations in the prices due to the ongoing pandemic, to which we can witness huge insignificant in the forecast.

KEYWORDS

ARIMA, Time Series data MCX Commodities, artificial neural network, forecast.

JEL CODES E31, E37.

INTRODUCTION

Just is evident that the Indian commodity market has undergone forceful changes in the last two decades due to factors like the demand of metals, Oil, coal, which has increased excessively, this has contributed to the economic development. Indian economy is based on commodities and more than 70% of the total population is committed to the primary sector directly or indirectly. We can also witness a small revolution in commodity derivatives and risk management in the Indian economy.

A commodity market refers to a house where investors can trade commodities like precious metals, crude oil, natural gas, energy, and spices.

PRICE DISCOVERY AND PRICE RISK MANAGEMENT

The future/ forward is not responsible for price advances. The Commodity Market serves as a medium for price discovery and price risk management. The actual demand and supply position, along with the market conditions, the estimate of the commodity is derived. Usually, Commodity prices are tested against the Index in understanding the unexplained variation in commodity prices. Price Discovery and Price Risk Management revolve around these factors like supply and demand, geo-political situations, Currency movement situations, economic growth, and government policies. Futures prices that are obtained on the exchanges are often used as a quotation for long term contracts indirect trade of commodity prices.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Commodities are known for diversification of portfolio. Determinates the commodity prices are mostly known for its risky investments propositions along with effects of market supply and demand. These adjustments in the market are due to the uncertainly which cannot be predicted.

(Peter L.M. Goethals, 2007) Facilitate for improved decision support, artificial neural networking models comes which less time are consuming and with high reliability. This paper contributes to the freshwater ecosystem conversation and restoration management. From the analysis, the authors understand this model doesn't have communication between human activities, physical environment and hydrology, also states that the decisions taken would be uncertain in nature which are derived from this model. The model development and application on the same is the collective aspects of 26 papers which has reported on Artificial Neural Networking.

Further, for more understanding on Artificial Neural Networking, (Ferlando Jubelito Simuangkalit, 2013) conducted their study with an objective to design the decision support system by analysing the architecture of ANN. The authors had created a model which can be set as a base for the DSS, database and user interface and elements of knowledge by using the decision support systems. The purpose of the study is providing better decision making in the field of food price stabilization, trends in future prices and better planning for the planting schedule which will result in maximum profit The conclusion of study stated that, due to lack of some facts the price fluctuations decreases in the performance of ANN model. Thereby ANN model is required to support better decision making.

On the other hand, for predictions using quantitative data using ANN (Aroshine Munasinghe, 2015) refers to existing ANN model which is termed as eminent model for predicting stock market which is dynamic in nature. For the purpose of the study closing prices of large cap sectors represented by the Swedish of OMX30 is considered. To identify the required configurations, the models which are constructed have to undergo extensive testing by statistical analysis and mean squared errors. As the result of the study, short term perspective is significant in nature from which reliable results can be drawn and no long-term perspective conclusions can be drawn due to lack of significance.

Eventually when researches had a thought to upgrade Artificial Neural Networking (Werner Kristjanpoller, 2016) brought in better improvement on forecasting oil prices volatility. The author uses hybrid model and taking financial variables into consideration. This paper covers several functions. The authors were successful in identifying ANN-GARCH model which might be successful in improvement of forecasts of volatility and spot price by replacing the traditional forecasting models. The results from the study also predicts ANN-GARCH model is 30.6% better than traditional method for forecasting prices. The author concludes, improved performance in arbitrage can be done through volatility of CoC more accurately.

Gradually predictions of Stock market prices was gaining importance, (Malav Shastri, 2018) study on predictions of stock price is an area of interest of fiscal market. For the predictions of stock prices, a technique by first calculating the sentiment scores through Naïve Bayes classifier and later application of neural network on

VOLUME NO. 11 (2021), ISSUE NO. 02 (FEBRUARY)

sentiment scores and historical stock dataset. HIVE is proposed as extremely fast work and can help to simplify the work. To conclude from the observations, it has observed that accuracy was found up to 91% in the first case, and 98% in the other cases which indicated that stock price predictions model will be more effective for shorter data.

Counting on the contribution of researchers, (Siddiqui, 2019) represents his paper against the traditional econometrics models for carry out his study. He used Autoregressive Neural Network model for forecasting the daily gas price through which he believes there will be an improvement in the decision making of gas purchase using the price forecast. The authors were successful in setting a base for the improvement in significant terms in their decision making of the spot gas. Through the analysis, the author determined that longer term contracts and option prices serve as the underlying instrument is the spot price. The proposed decisions also stated that ARNN model shows around 33% improvement over the traditional ARIMA model while conducting cross validation study.

Understanding the need for forecasting the INR/USD Exchange rates, (K. Murali Krishna, 2020)Admits that exchange rates play an important role in international trade, stock and framing the imports and exports policies. The paper predicts the INR/USD exchange rates using Hybrid model which supports the ARIMA model and FFNN. The authors were successful in forecasting the INR/USD accuracy by using the developed models. From the conclusion we can understand that the predictions of exchange rates may vary between 70.8 and 71.39. Adding on we can also conclude that these predictions can help the government to frame policies for the upcoming future.

RESEARCH GAP

Usually, time series strategies are used for the predictions of various commodities in the Commodity market. There is some work that needs to be redesigned with the help of the econometrics issue, but the usage of multivariate strategies that go above traditional regression modelling, which are constrained work in nature. This paper integrates the dearth of Multivariate forecasting and system mastering developments to provide proof of idea for the use of Neural Networks in Multivariate Commodity Futures forecasting. The conclusions may be broadly empirical and may place the brood on this course for more in depth studies.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

In a developing country like India, Commodity serves as an important factor for generating income and the price movements in the commodities have major impact on the economic performance. Therefore, forecasting commodity prices serves as a key input for the economic development policy planning and formulations. Making attempts in forecasting various commodity prices using advanced economic models which were used for short to medium term actual commodity forecasting. It is also realized that these Commodity prices forecasts offer greater accurate predictions of the destiny course of Real Commodity charges relative to futures or other models.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1. To forecast the commodity prices using Artificial Neural Networking (ANN) Model and Econometrics model.
- 2. To compare the model with real data for its accuracy.

METHODOLOGY

TYPE OF RESEARCH

This research paper is quantitative research. Quantitative analysis refers to the systematic empirical study of observable phenomena by mathematical, statistical, or computational techniques. The quantitative work desire is to establish and engage phenomena-related mathematical models, theories, and hypotheses. The measuring method is important to quantitative research because it provides the fundamental network to quantitative relationships between factual observation and mathematical expression.

PERIOD OF STUDY

Data were collected on a daily frequency from 01, April 2015 to 31, March 2020

TYPE OF DATA

The dataset consists of ten dependents on variables and ten independent variables. The ten dependent variables are the prices of the most active traded commodities in the MCX market and the independent variables are the MCX iCOMDEX index.

The variables can be grouped under the following factors:

NATURAL GAS: Depended variable - MCX Natural Gas Price Futures

Independent variable – MCX iCOMDEX Composite

SILVER MIC: Depended variable – MCX Silver Mic Futures

Independent variable – MCX iCOMDEX Silver

GOLD PETAL: Depended variable – MCX Gold Petal

Independent variable – MCX iCOMDEX Gold GOLD: Depended variable – MCX Gold Futures

Independent variable – MCX iCOMDEX Gold

CRUDE OIL: Depended variable – MCX Crude Oil Futures

Independent variable – MCX iCOMDEX Crude Oil

GOLD MINI: Depended variable – MCX Gold Mini Futures

Independent variable – MCX iCOMDEX Gold

NICKEL: Depended variable – MCX Nickel Futures

Independent variable – MCX iCOMDEX Composite

COPPER: Depended variable – MCX Copper Futures

Independent variable – MCX iCOMDEX Copper

ZINC: Depended variable – MCX Zinc Futures

Independent variable – MCX iCOMDEX Composite

GOLD GUINEA: Depended variable – MCX Gold Guinea Futures Independent variable – MCX iCOMDEX Gold

SOURCE OF DATA

The data were collected from reliable secondary sources.

TOOLS FOR ANALYSIS OF DATA

Artificial Neural Networking

An artificial neuron network (ANN) is referred to as a computational model based totally at the shape and capabilities of biological neural networks. The Statistics that has movement via the network influences the form of the ANN due to the fact a neural network change - or learns, in a feel - based mostly on that input and output. ANNs are considered nonlinear statistical information modelling tools wherein the complex relationships among inputs and outputs are modelled or patterns are determined. ANN is also referred to as a neural network. An ANN contains several blessings but, one of the maxima identified of those is the reality that it is able to certainly examine from observing information sets. In this way, ANN is used as a random function approximation device.

ARIMA

An autoregressive integrated moving average, or ARIMA, is a statistical analysis using time series data for better understanding the records set or to predict future developments. An autoregressive integrated moving average model is a regression analysis method that gages the intensity of one dependent variable in relation to other variables that change. The objective of the model is to predict economic market behavior by examining value discrepancy within the series rather than through real values. The ARIMA model can be interpreted by assigning each of its components as follows: -

• Autoregression (AR) refers to a model displaying a changing variable that regresses at its own lagged, or prior, values.

• Integrated (I) reflects the distinction between the raw observations to enable the time series to become stationary, i.e., data values are replaced by the difference between the data values and the previous ones.

• Moving average (MA) refers to the relation between an observation, and a residual error of the moving average model applied to lagging observations.

All component functions as a parameter with a standard notation. For ARIMA models, a standard notation would be ARIMA with p, d, and q, where integer values substitute for the parameters to indicate the type of ARIMA model used. The parameters can be defined as: -

• p: number of lags in the model, also known as lags.

• d: the number of times the raw observations differ, also known as the degree of differentiation.

• q: the average moving window size; also known as the moving average volume.

STATISTICAL TOOLS FOR ANALYSIS OF DATA

1. Artificial Neural Network using MATLAB

2. ARIMA using Python

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

ARTIFICIAL NETWORK MODEL ANALYSIS

ANN model Using MATLAB was performed with the above mentioned specification and the results are as follows: NATURAL GAS

FIGURE 1 - NEURAL NETWORK OF PERFORMANCE OF NATURAL GAS



For every instance of prediction what was the amount of error observed and the least error instance is highlighted **SILVER MICRO FUTURES**

FIGURE 2: NEURAL NETWORK OF PERFORMANCE OF SILVER MICRO FUTURES



Indicates that for every instance of prediction what was the amount of error observed and the least error instance is highlighted

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11 **GOLD PETAL FUTURES**

FIGURE 3: NEURAL NETWORK OF PERFORMANCE OF GOLD PETAL

Best Training Performance is 485.2428 at epoch 767



Every instance of prediction what was the amount of error observed and the least error instance is highlighted **GOLD**



For every instance of prediction what was the amount of error observed and the least error instance is highlighted **CRUDE OIL**

FIGURE 5: NEURAL NETWORK OF PERFORMANCE OF CRUDE OIL



For every instance of prediction what was the amount of error observed and the least error instance is highlighted

GOLD MINI

FIGURE 6: NEURAL NETWORK OF PERFORMANCE OF GOLD MINI





For every instance of prediction what was the amount of error observed and the least error instance is highlighted **NICKEL FUTURES**

FIGURE 7: NEURAL NETWORK OF PERFORMANCE OF NICKEL FUTURE



For every instance of prediction what was the amount of error observed and the least error instance is highlighted **COPPER FUTURES**

FIGURE 8: NEURAL NETWORK OF PERFORMANCE OF COPPER FUTURE



For every instance of prediction what was the amount of error observed and the least error instance is highlighted

FIGURE 9: NEURAL NETWORK OF PERFORMANCE OF ZINC FUTURE



501 Epochs

For every instance of prediction what was the amount of error observed and the least error instance is highlighted **GOLD GUINEA FUTURES**

FIGURE 10: NEURAL NETWORK OF PERFORMANCE OF GOLD GUINEA FUTURE

Best Training Performance is 36647.8763 at epoch 229 Train Test Best 108 Mean Squared Error (mse) 10⁶ 10⁴ 0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 369 Epochs

For every instance of prediction what was the amount of error observed and the least error instance is highlighted **ARIMA**

NATURAL GAS

TABLE 1: ARIMA RESULTS FOR NATURAL GAS

	Co efficient	Standard Error	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Constant	-0.0001	0.001	-0.217	0.828	-0.001	0.001
AR (1)	0.0785	0.18	0.436	0.663	-0.275	0.432
MA (1)	-0.1749	0.177	-0.989	0.323	-0.521	0.172

TABLE 2: ARIMA GOODNESS OF FIT

AIC	-5960.96	
BIC	-5940.33	

SILVER MICRO FUTURES

TABLE 3: ARIMA RESULTS FOR SILVER MICRO FUTURES

	Co efficient	Standard Error	Z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Constant	0.0011	0.001	1.922	0.055	-2.28e-05	0.002
AR (1)	0.3581	0.236	1.519	0.129	-0.104	0.820
MA (1)	-0.2607	0.243	-1.074	0.283	-0.736	0.215

TABLE 4: ARIMA GOODNESS OF FIT

AIC	-4340.430
BIC	-4321.845

TABLE 5: ARIMA RESULTS FOR GOLD PETAL

	Co efficient	Standard Error	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Constant	-0.0001	0.001	-0.217	0.828	-2.28e-05	0.002
AR (1)	0.0785	0.180	0.436	0.663	-0.104	0.820
MA (1)	-0.1749	0.177	-0.989	0.323	-0.736	0.215

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TABLE 6: ARIMA GOODNESS OF FIT

AIC -5960.955 BIC -5940.331

GOLD

TABLE 7: ARIMA RESULTS FOR GOLD

	Co efficient	Standard Error	Z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Constant	0.0007	0.000	1.662	0.097	-0.000	0.002
AR (1)	0.3943	0.170	2.318	0.021	0.061	0.728
MA (1)	-0.2909	0.176	-1.651	0.099	-0.636	0.054

TABLE 8 ARIMA GOODNESS OF FIT

BIC	-7528.523
AIC	-7549.144

TABLE 9: ARIMA RESULTS FOR CRUDE OIL

	Co efficient	Standard Error	Z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Constant	-4.86e-05	0.001	-0.076	0.939	-0.001	0.001
AR (1)	-0.2096	0.445	-0.471	0.638	-1.082	0.663
MA (1)	0.1777	0.447	0.397	0.691	-0.699	1.055

TABLE 10: ARIMA GOODNESS OF FIT

AIC	-5972.122
BIC	-5951.501

GOLD MINI

CRUDE OIL

TABLE 11: ARIMA RESULTS FOR GOLD MINI

	Co efficient	Standard Error	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Constant	0.0007	0.000	1.765	0.078	-7.58e-05	0.001
AR (1)	0.4267	0.205	2.080	0.038	0.025	0.829
MA (1)	-0.3654	0.210	-1.740	0.082	-0.777	0.046

TABLE 12: ARIMA GOODNESS OF FIT

AIC	-7567.087
BIC	-7546.462

NICKEL FUTURES

TABLE 13: ARIMA RESULTS FOR NICKEL FUTURES

	Co efficient	Standard Error	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Constant	6.504e-05	0.001	0.130	0.897	-0.001	0.001
AR (1)	-0.2433	0.455	-0.535	0.593	-1.135	0.649
MA (1)	0.2094	0.458	0.457	0.648	-0.689	1.108

TABLE 14: ARIMA GOODNESS OF FIT

AIC	-6591.819		
BIC	-6571.194		

COPPER FUTURES

TABLE 15: ARIMA RESULTS FOR COPPER FUTURES

	Co efficient	Standard Error	Z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Constant	-4.86e-05	0.001	-0.076	0.939	-0.001	0.001
AR (1)	-0.2096	0.445	-0.471	0.638	-1.082	0.663
MA (1)	0.1777	0.447	0.397	0.691	-0.699	1.055

TABLE 16: ARIMA GOODNESS OF FIT

AIC	-5972.122
BIC	-5951.501

TABLE 17: ARIMA RESULTS FOR ZINC FUTURES

	Co efficient	Standard Error	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Constant	7.24e-05	0.001	0.142	0.887	-0.001	0.001
AR (1)	0.1124	0.379	0.296	0.767	-0.631	0.856
MA (1)	-0.1577	0.376	-0.419	0.675	-0.895	0.580

TABLE 18: ARIMA GOODNESS OF FIT

AIC	-6490.495	
BIC	-6469.871	

TABLE 19: ARIMA RESULTS FOR GOLD GUINEA FUTURES

	Co efficient	Standard Error	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
Constant	0.4853	0.350	1.385	0.166	-0.202	1.172
AR (1)	0.9995	0.001	1607.534	0.000	0.998	1.001

TABLE 20: ARIMA GOODNESS OF FIT

AIC	-7602.434		
BIC	-7586.963		

ZINC FUTURES

GOLD GUINEA FUTURES

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TABLE 21: COMPARISON OF ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORK_ROOT MEAN SQUARE ERROR AND ARIMA_ROOT MEAN SQUARE ERROR

Particulars	ANN_RMSE	ARIMA_RMSE
NATURAL GAS FUTURES	6.2222	0.028380093
SILVER MICRO FUTURES	331.5237	0.338046224
GOLD PETAL FUTURES	30.3786	0.028380093
GOLD FUTURES	283.6898	0.147425588
CRUDE OIL FUTURES	7.3276	0.102923815
GOLD MINI FUTURES	260.8521	0.102249587
NICKEL FUTURES	13.7177	0.099429405
COPPER FUTURE	4.5415	0.098054914
ZINC FUTURES	2.5031	0.080524871
GOLD GUINEA FUTURES	210.8252	0.072378927

Root Mean Square Error indicates the variance of the residuals. RMSE represents the absolute fit of the model to the data and it is the most important benchmark for fit if the objective of the model is prediction.

Artificial Neural Network: A figure showing for every instance of prediction what was the amount of error observed and the least error instance is highlighted. Plot regression (t, y): Represent an error graph which shows what is the target value and what we received and what was the error oin data. This is done for all the 10 most active commodity on the MCX.

ARIMA: The time series reaches stationarity with two orders of Differencing. But on looking at the autocorrelation plot for the second differencing the lag goes into the far negative zone fairly quick, which indicates the series might have been over differenced. From the forecast of commodities, the Graph, the ARIMA (1, 1, 1) model seems to give a directionally correct forecast with a variation of less than 0.005 % and the actual observed values lie within the 95 % confidence level for all the trained data and same data tested but when we split train and test data we see a small variation of close to 0.1 % But each of the predicted forecasts is consistently below the actuals. Which means, by adding a small constant to our forecast, the accuracy will certainly improve. Therefore, there is significance in the plot.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- Gold, Silver. Crude Oil, Natural Gas and Copper are the most traded commodities on the commodity market.
- Gold and silver are highly correlated in the commodities market.
- The US dollar index and Crude oil have an inverse correlation in the international commodities market.
- There are four variants in gold contracts which include Gold, Gold Mini, Gold Petal and Gold Guinea which are categorized based on lot size.
- Copper is a base metal that is significantly used in the field of infrastructure.
- Forecasting of commodities aids in evaluation to various sectors.
- India as a highest consumer of commodities like crude oil, gold and copper, the economy will have major impact due to the variation of such commodities.
- The demand for such essential commodities is expected to grow at a faster pace doe to the economic growth.
- The global crisis due to the pandemic has given opportunity to various investors in the commodities market.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Neural Network-based modelling proved better accuracy than regression and on par accuracy as ARIMA models. While considering the capacity of the model to follow changing tendencies inside the out-of-sample forecast, Neural Network became a clear champ. Neural network indicates good capability for use in multi-variate forecasting of Commodity price. The Neural Network models used on this study have been simple feed forward models. Adding on, advanced models like Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN) and lengthy short-time period memory (LSTM) neural network models can be used in the future. Recurrent Neural network and Lengthy short time period Memory may be more appropriate for time series forecasting due to their capability to recurrently take a look at beyond data points while studying new data points.

Theoretical version on this research paper assumed no inter-dependency of the independent variables and that the dependent variable did no longer have a consequence on the impartial variables. It is also believed that, a number of the monetary market variables are depending on commodity future prices. There are few commodity futures which are selected in the MCX market to prove the idea of forecasting using Neural Networks which might empirically paintings. There will be the ongoing growth in the work for a range of Commodity futures variables and performing characteristics selection. The benefit of the fine features would appreciate the accuracy of the model.

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