

# Configuration Manual

MSc Research Project  
Data Analytics

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# Configuration Manual

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## 1 Introduction

This configuration manual elaborates on the system setup, software hardware specifications and the step carried out for the implementation of the Research Project : Forecasting cryptocurrency prices using Machine Learning.

## 2 System Configuration

### 2.1 Hardware

- Model: MacBook Pro, 2018, 256 GB
- Processor: 2.3 GHz Intel Core i5
- RAM: 8 GB 2133 MHz LPDDR3
- Graphics: Intel Iris Plus Graphics 655 1536 MB

### 2.2 Software

- Access to a Gmail account for access to Google Drive
- Google Colaboratory (Cloud based Jupyter notebook environment)

## 3 Project Development

This project follows a Cross Industry Standard Process for Data Mining (CRISP- DM) Methodology and the details of the research process such as data collection, processing techniques and algorithms are discussed below.

### 3.1 Google Colaboratory Environment Setup

The Google Colaboratory environment is used for perform the experiments. Google drive access is required for accessing Google Colaboratory and hence a valid Gmail account is essential. Once the URL is followed, a code is visible using which access will be granted to use the Google Drive for mounting the files and data.

We have used Python 3 notebooks for all Experiments

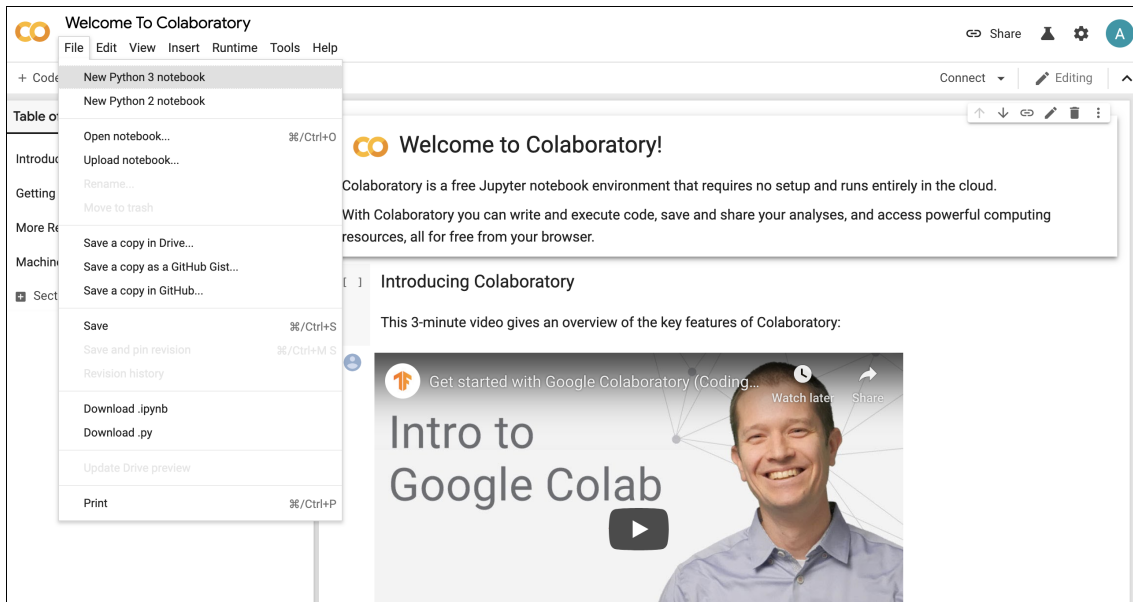


Figure 1: Modified CRISP-DM Process

## 3.2 Data Preparation

Step 1: Getting Bitcoin Price Data from *Quandl* (2019)

```
[ ] #Define Quandl Helper Function
def get_quandl_data(quandl_id):
    '''Download and cache Quandl dataseries'''
    cache_path = '{}.pkl'.format(quandl_id.replace('/', '-'))
    try:
        f = open(cache_path, 'rb')
        df = pickle.load(f)
        print('Loaded {} from cache'.format(quandl_id))
    except (OSError, IOError) as e:
        print('Downloading {} from Quandl'.format(quandl_id))
        df = quandl.get(quandl_id, returns="pandas")
        df.to_pickle(cache_path)
        print('Cached {} at {}'.format(quandl_id, cache_path))
    return df
```

```
[ ] #Pull Kraken Exchange Pricing Data

# Pull Kraken BTC price exchange data
btc_usd_price_kraken = get_quandl_data('BCHARTS/KRAKENUSD')
```

```
↳ Downloading BCHARTS/KRAKENUSD from Quandl
   Cached BCHARTS/KRAKENUSD at BCHARTS-KRAKENUSD.pkl
```

## Step 2: Get Bitcoin Pricing Data from Bitstamp, Coinbase and Itbit

```
# Pull Pricing Data From More BTC Exchanges
# Pull pricing data for 3 more BTC exchanges
exchanges = ['COINBASE', 'BITSTAMP', 'ITBIT']

exchange_data = {}

exchange_data['KRAKEN'] = btc_usd_price_kraken

for exchange in exchanges:
    exchange_code = 'BCHARTS/{}USD'.format(exchange)
    btc_exchange_df = get_quandl_data(exchange_code)
    exchange_data[exchange] = btc_exchange_df

Downloading BCHARTS/COINBASEUSD from Quandl
Cached BCHARTS/COINBASEUSD at BCHARTS-COINBASEUSD.pkl
Downloading BCHARTS/BITSTAMPUSD from Quandl
Cached BCHARTS/BITSTAMPUSD at BCHARTS-BITSTAMPUSD.pkl
Downloading BCHARTS/ITBITUSD from Quandl
Cached BCHARTS/ITBITUSD at BCHARTS-ITBITUSD.pkl

# Merge All Of The Pricing Data Into A Single Dataframe
def merge_dfs_on_column(dataframes, labels, col):
    '''Merge a single column of each dataframe into a new combined dataframe'''
    series_dict = {}
    for index in range(len(dataframes)):
        series_dict[labels[index]] = dataframes[index][col]

    return pd.DataFrame(series_dict)
```

## Step 3: Combine all Bitcoin Pricing Data and calculate the average Bitcoin Price Step 4: Get BTC-altcoin exchange rate data from *Poloniex* (2019)

```
[ ] #Define Poloniex API Helper Functions
def get_json_data(json_url, cache_path):
    '''Download and cache JSON data, return as a dataframe.'''
    try:
        f = open(cache_path, 'rb')
        df = pickle.load(f)
        print('Loaded {} from cache'.format(json_url))
    except (OSError, IOError) as e:
        print('Downloading {}'.format(json_url))
        df = pd.read_json(json_url)
        df.to_pickle(cache_path)
        print('Cached {} at {}'.format(json_url, cache_path))
    return df
```

```
[ ] base_polo_url = 'https://poloniex.com/public?command=returnChartData&currencyPair={}&start={}&end={}&period={}'
start_date = datetime.strptime('2015-01-01', '%Y-%m-%d') # get data from the start of 2015
end_date = datetime.now() # up until today
period = 86400 # pull daily data (86,400 seconds per day)

def get_crypto_data(poloniex_pair):
    '''Retrieve cryptocurrency data from poloniex'''
    json_url = base_polo_url.format(poloniex_pair, start_date.timestamp(), end_date.timestamp(), period)
    data_df = get_json_data(json_url, poloniex_pair)
    data_df = data_df.set_index('date')
    return data_df
```

```
[ ] altcoins = ['ETH', 'LTC', 'XRP', 'ETC', 'STR', 'DASH', 'SC', 'XMR', 'XEM']

altcoin_data = {}
for altcoin in altcoins:
    coinpair = 'BTC_{}'.format(altcoin)
    crypto_price_df = get_crypto_data(coinpair)
    altcoin_data[altcoin] = crypto_price_df
```

Step 5: Calculate altcoin price using average bitcoin price and BTC-altcoin exchange rate.

Step 6: Combine Bitcoin average price and altcoin prices into a single dataframe.  
*Data (2019)*

## 4 Modelling

### 4.1 ARIMA Model

Step 1: Import all required libraries

```
#import libraries
import pandas as pd
from pandas import DataFrame
import numpy as np

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
plt.rcParams["figure.figsize"] = (15,7)

import seaborn as sns
from datetime import datetime, timedelta

from statsmodels.tsa.arima_model import ARIMA
from statsmodels.tsa.statespace.sarimax import SARIMAX
from statsmodels.graphics.tsaplots import plot_acf, plot_pacf
from statsmodels.tsa.stattools import adfuller
from statsmodels.tsa.seasonal import seasonal_decompose

from scipy import stats
import statsmodels.api as sm
from itertools import product

import warnings
warnings.filterwarnings('ignore')

print("all required libraries imported")
```

↳ all required libraries imported

Step 2: Mount the google drive and read the csv file using pandas *Quandl (2019)*

```
[ ] #Mount Drive
from google.colab import drive

drive.mount('/content/gdrive')
```

↳ Drive already mounted at /content/gdrive; to attempt to forcibly remount, call

```
[ ] #Read data

df = pd.read_csv('/content/gdrive/My Drive/Colab Notebooks/altcoin_data.csv')
df.head()
```

Step 3: Set date as index and sort the dataframe

```
[ ] #setting index as date
df['date'] = pd.to_datetime(df.date,format='%Y-%m-%d')
df.index = df['date']
##sorting
df = df.sort_index(ascending=True, axis=0)
#plot
plt.figure(figsize=(10,5))
plt.plot(df['BTC'], label='Close Price history')
```

Step 4: Set forecast frequency and check the data for stationarity and seasonality.

```
[ ] # Monthly Forecasting
# Resampling to monthly frequency
btc_month = btc.resample('M').mean()

[ ] # Stationarity check and Seasonal decomposition
#seasonal_decompose(btc_month.close, freq=12).plot()
seasonal_decompose(btc_month.BTC, freq = 12).plot()
print("Dickey-Fuller test: p=%f" % adfuller(btc_month.BTC)[1])
plt.show()
```

↳ Dickey-Fuller test: p=0.321209

Step 5: Perform Box-Cox Transformations and Seasonal Differentiation

```
[ ] # Box-Cox Transformations
btc_month['close_box'] = stats.boxcox(btc_month.BTC)
print("Dickey-Fuller test: p=%f" % adfuller(btc_month.close_box)[1])

↳ Dickey-Fuller test: p=0.475547

[ ] # Seasonal differentiation (12 months)
btc_month['box_diff_seasonal_12'] = btc_month.close_box - btc_month.close_box.shift(12)
print("Dickey-Fuller test: p=%f" % adfuller(btc_month.box_diff_seasonal_12[12:])[1])

↳ Dickey-Fuller test: p=0.470502

[ ] # Seasonal differentiation (3 months)
btc_month['box_diff_seasonal_3'] = btc_month.close_box - btc_month.close_box.shift(3)
print("Dickey-Fuller test: p=%f" % adfuller(btc_month.box_diff_seasonal_3[3:])[1])

↳ Dickey-Fuller test: p=0.089300

[ ] # Regular differentiation
btc_month['box_diff2'] = btc_month.box_diff_seasonal_12 - btc_month.box_diff_seasonal_12.shift(1)

# STL-decomposition
seasonal_decompose(btc_month.box_diff2[13:]).plot()
print("Dickey-Fuller test: p=%f" % adfuller(btc_month.box_diff2[13:])[1])

plt.show()
```

Step 6: Perform initial approximation of parameters and model selection.

```
# Initial approximation of parameters using Autocorrelation and Partial Autocorrelation Plots
ax = plt.subplot(211)
# Plot the autocorrelation function
#sm.graphics.tsa.plot_acf(btc_month.box_diff2[13:].values.squeeze(), lags=48, ax=ax)
plot_acf(btc_month.box_diff2[13:].values.squeeze(), lags=12, ax=ax)
ax = plt.subplot(212)
#sm.graphics.tsa.plot_pacf(btc_month.box_diff2[13:].values.squeeze(), lags=48, ax=ax)
plot_pacf(btc_month.box_diff2[13:].values.squeeze(), lags=12, ax=ax)
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

```
[ ] # Initial approximation of parameters
qs = range(0, 3)
ps = range(0, 3)
d=1
parameters = product(ps, qs)
parameters_list = list(parameters)
len(parameters_list)

#Show parameter list
print(parameters_list)

# Model Selection
results = []
best_aic = float("inf")
warnings.filterwarnings('ignore')
for param in parameters_list:
    try:
        model = SARIMAX(btc_month.close_box, order=(param[0], d, param[1])).fit(dispatch=-1)
    except ValueError:
        print('bad parameter combination:', param)
        continue
    aic = model.aic
    if aic < best_aic:
        best_model = model
        best_aic = aic
        best_param = param
    results.append([param, model.aic])
```

Step 7: Get Best Model summary and plot its diagnostics.

```
[ ] # Best Models
result_table = pd.DataFrame(results)
result_table.columns = ['parameters', 'aic']
print(result_table.sort_values(by = 'aic', ascending=True).head())
print(best_model.summary())

[ ] print("Dickey-Fuller test:: p=%f" % adfuller(best_model.resid[13:])[1])

▶ best_model.plot_diagnostics(figsize=(15, 12))
plt.show()
```

Step 8: Perform STL Decomposition and plot the graph

```
[ ] # STL-decomposition
plt.figure(figsize=(15,7))
plt.subplot(211)
best_model.resid[13:].plot()
plt.ylabel(u'Residuals')
ax = plt.subplot(212)
#sm.graphics.tsa.plot_acf(best_model.resid[13:].values.squeeze(), lags=48, ax=ax)
plot_acf(best_model.resid[13:].values.squeeze(), lags=12, ax=ax)

print("Dickey-Fuller test:: p=%f" % adfuller(best_model.resid[13:])[1])

plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

Step 9: Predict bitcoin prices for the following months, plot the graph and evaluate the model results.



```
[ ] # Prediction
btc_month2 = btc_month[['BTC']]
#date_list = [datetime(2018, 3, 31), datetime(2018, 4, 30), datetime(2018, 5, 31), datetime(2018, 6, 30)]
date_list = [datetime(2019, 12, 31), datetime(2020, 1, 31), datetime(2020, 2, 29), datetime(2020, 3, 31),
             datetime(2020, 4, 30), datetime(2020, 5, 31), datetime(2020, 6, 30), datetime(2020, 7, 31),
             datetime(2020, 8, 31), datetime(2020, 9, 30), datetime(2020, 10, 31), datetime(2020, 11, 30)]

future = pd.DataFrame(index=date_list, columns= btc_month.columns)
btc_month2 = pd.concat([btc_month2, future])

btc_month2['forecast'] = invboxcox(best_model.predict(start=0, end=120), lmbda)

plt.figure(figsize=(15,7))
btc_month2.BTC.plot(label = 'Observed')
btc_month2.forecast.plot(color='r', ls='--', label='Forecasted')
plt.legend()
plt.title('Bitcoin Price Close')
plt.ylabel('Dates')
plt.ylabel('Bitcoin Price in USD')
plt.savefig('bitcoin_monthly_forecast.png')
plt.show()
```

The same code with minor modifications was used for implementing price prediction for Ethereum and Litecoin. *Kaggle (2019)*

## 4.2 LSTM Model

Step 1: Import the required libraries for LSTM, mount the google drive and load the data.

```
# Import required dependencies for LSTM Model
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import chart_studio.plotly as py
import plotly.graph_objs as go

from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
from numpy import array
from keras.models import Sequential
from keras.layers import LSTM
from keras.layers import Dense
from keras.layers import Bidirectional

[31] #Mount Drive
from google.colab import drive

drive.mount('/content/gdrive')

Drive already mounted at /content/gdrive; to attempt to forcibly remount, call drive.mount("/content/gdrive", force_remount=True).

[32] # Load data
data = pd.read_csv('/content/gdrive/My Drive/Colab Notebooks/altcoin_data.csv')
data.head()
```

Step 2: Convert date to datetime format as required and plot the graph

```
[35] #Preparing the data
data['date'] = pd.to_datetime(data['date'])
grouped_data = data.groupby('date')
real_price = grouped_data['BTC'].mean()

data = [go.Scatter(x=real_price.index, y=real_price.values)]

plotly.offline.iplot(data)
```

Step 3: Build the Model using split\_sequence function and Split the data into training and testing samples

```
#Building the model
def split_sequence(sequence, n_steps):
    X, y = list(), list()
    for i in range(len(sequence)):
        end_ix = i + n_steps
        if end_ix > len(sequence)-1:
            break
        seq_x, seq_y = sequence[i:end_ix], sequence[end_ix]
        X.append(seq_x)
        y.append(seq_y)
    return array(X), array(y)
```

```
[38] # choose a number of time steps
      n_steps = 5

      # split into samples
      X, y = split_sequence(real_price.values, n_steps)

      # reshape from [samples, timesteps] into [samples, timesteps, features]
      n_features = 1
      X = X.reshape((X.shape[0], X.shape[1], n_features))

      # split into train - test set
      X_train = X[0:-365]
      y_train = y[0:-365]
      X_test = X[-365:]
      y_test = y[-365:]

      # store the test dates
      test_dates = real_price.index[-365:]
```

Step 4: Fit the Model and Train the data

```
[39] def build_bidirectional_model(X, y):
      # define model
      model = Sequential()
      model.add(Bidirectional(LSTM(50, activation='relu'), input_shape=(n_steps, n_features)))
      model.add(Dense(1))
      model.compile(optimizer='adam', loss='mse')
      # fit model
      model.fit(X, y, epochs=200, verbose=1)
      return model
```

```
#Training the Data
bidirectional_model = build_bidirectional_model(X, y)
```

## Step 5: Predict the Price and plot the Graph

```
[41] #Price Prediction
      yhat = bidirectional_model.predict(X_test, verbose=0)

#Plotting the Prediction
trace_high = go.Scatter(
    x=test_dates,
    y=y_test,
    name = "Original",
    line = dict(color = '#0000ff'),
    opacity = 0.4)

trace_low = go.Scatter(
    x=test_dates,
    y=pd.DataFrame(yhat)[0].values,
    name = "Forecasted",
    line = dict(color = '#ff0000 '),
    opacity = 0.4)

data = [trace_high,trace_low]
layout = go.Layout(
    title=go.layout.Title(
        text='Bitcoin Price Forecast',
        xref='paper',
        x=0
    ),
    xaxis=go.layout.XAxis(
        title=go.layout.xaxis.Title(
            text='Dates',
            font=dict(
                #family='Courier New, monospace',
                size=12,
                #color='#7f7f7f'
            )
        )
    ),
    yaxis=go.layout.YAxis(
        title=go.layout.yaxis.Title(
            text='Bitcoin Price in USD',
            font=dict(
                #family='Courier New, monospace',
                size=12,
                #color='#7f7f7f'
            )
        )
    )
)
fig = go.Figure(data=data, layout=layout)
#fig = dict(data=data)
plotly.offline.iplot(fig)
```

*DeepLearning* (2019) *LSTM*. (2019)

## 4.3 Prophet Model

The Prophet Model developed by Facebook is used for forecasting and the steps for the same are as below:

Step 1: Import the required libraries

```
import numpy as np # linear algebra
import pandas as pd # data processing, CSV file I/O (e.g. pd.read_csv)
import fbprophet
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import warnings
warnings.simplefilter(action='ignore', category=FutureWarning)

import plotly.graph_objs as go
import plotly as py
from plotly.offline import init_notebook_mode
init_notebook_mode(connected=True)
```

Step 2: Load the data, select required columns in the dataframe. Then rename the date column to 'ds' and Bitcoin Price column to 'y'.

```
[ ] # Load data
    data = pd.read_csv('/content/gdrive/My Drive/Colab Notebooks/altcoin_data.csv')
    data.head()

[ ] data = data[365:]
    data = data[['date', 'BTC']]

[ ] data.head()

[ ] data.columns = ['ds', 'y']
    data.head()

[ ] data['y'] = data['y'].astype(float)

▶ data.tail()
```

Step 3: Fit the dataframe to the prophet model and forecast prices for the next 4 months.

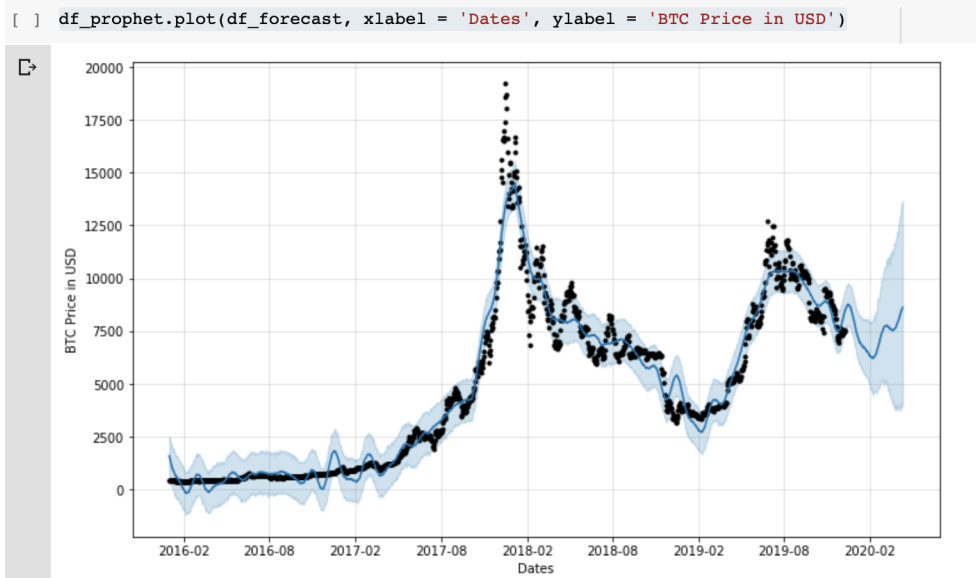
```
[ ] # Fit prophet model
    df_prophet = fbprophet.Prophet(changepoint_prior_scale=0.15, daily_seasonality=True)
    df_prophet.fit(data)

    # Forecast for 4 months
    fcast_time=123 # 4 months
    df_forecast = df_prophet.make_future_dataframe(periods=fcast_time, freq='D')

    # Do forecasting
    df_forecast = df_prophet.predict(df_forecast)

▶ df_forecast.head()
```

Step 4: Plot the forecasted values and evaluate the model results



*Prophet* (2019)

## References

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*Quandl* (2019). <https://www.quandl.com/>. [Online].