

Review of: "COVID-19 or Russia-Ukraine conflict: which is informative in defining the dynamic relationship between Bitcoin and major energy commodities?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to review this article. I hope this will find you well and you could improve your research.

I suggest you to review the next points:

- In general, I recommend a full grammatical review. I was collecting all the bad constructed sentences but in my opinion, there are too many. There are sentences without the required verb, very complex constructions, bad use of the tense of the verbs, and directly sentences without meaning. Please do a deep revision.
- I think the title is inappropriate because it implies that we are dealing with a dichotomy, when nothing could be further from the truth. They should have chosen a title more in line with the objective of the research, which is certainly not a comparison between which of the two events is more informative.
- The key and most important point of my review, and I hope you will not take this the wrong way, is that the article contains a very good piece of work and, in my opinion, an appropriate and very profound method of analysis. However, the author is not able to convey it in this way, at no point is it clear why this research is worthwhile, what its objectives are and what are the brilliant contributions that make it worth studying. There is an obvious editorial problem, not only grammatically but also conceptually. I recommend a major revision of it.

Introduction:

- In the third paragraph of the introduction you wrote: "The outbreak of COVID-19 in December 2019, the global economy began to feel the pressure of the outbreak of violence that gripped the planet without any immunization for a year or more, organizations, governments and businesses are wondering how best to prepare for likely business and operational disruptions, as are expanding business and the legitimate ramifications of overseeing such a wellness emergency."

It is obvious what you want to say but I think that you should rephrase the sentence, since now it is grammatically incorrect, especially the first part which it is not properly connected.

- In the introduction you directly wrote TTF, but the first time an acronym is used, the full name must be specified.
- I do not get the scope of this paragraph: "In France, as in many countries, the mechanisms for setting gas and gasoline

prices are complex and only partly depend on natural gas and oil prices. Rising prices on international energy and commodity markets should, however, cause the acceleration of inflation which made a comeback in the United States and Europe last year."

¿Why did you introduce France here? It is not a work about France and specific reference to it does not contribute anything. I suggest you to do a general appreciation or if the France case is really important clarify why it is. You mention France after that again and I do not get why as well.

- To make this statement you need references: "Unsurprisingly, the stocks most affected are those most exposed to the Russian market."

I suggest you the next ones:

Serrano, V.F., and Angosto-Fernández, P.L. (2022). "A Russian carol: impact and dependence on global equity markets during the Ukraine invasion", *Journal of Economic Studies*, In Press.

Boubaker, S., Sarea, A. and Choudhury, T. (2023), "Guest editorial: Implications of the Russia–Ukraine conflict on the global financial markets", *Journal of Risk Finance*, Vol. 24 No. 1, pp. 1-5.

Aliu, F., Mulaj, I. and Hašková, S. (2023), "Consequences of the Russia-Ukraine war: evidence from DAX, ATX, and FTSEMIB", *Studies in Economics and Finance*, Vol. 40 No. 3, pp. 549-568.

- I suggest to eliminate the next sentence, since it is not necessary information: "On the Paris Stock Exchange, the CAC 40 index fell by nearly 3.8% during the session on Thursday, February 24."
- You wrote: "If the United States and European countries were to completely exclude Russia from the international financial system through their sanctions, Russia's economy could collapse." I do not why you suggest that the Russian economy could collapse, first the sentence is not well constructed and after that I think that appreciation goes beyond the scope of your research. In fact, you do not investigate that point and it is a very sensible one.

Literature review:

- The first is that the section is called "Introduction" again, what have no sense.
- Second, the first paragraph introduce reference talking about abrupt incidents that might cause panic responses in financial markets, and surprisingly, 4 references out of 5 are of the same author, concretely the author of the article. I am not against self-citation is something common and it is often justified, but here I find it not justified, given the huge amount of literature in that field.
- "From their empirical findings, they expect that deliver surprises in collectively API and EIA bulletins have a right of way inverted affect at the returns and a giant and wonderful affect at the volatility." I am sure that "giant and wonderful" are not the adjectives your were looking for. Please review the vocabulary used in all this section.
- "Nippani and Washer (2004) deal with the inventory marketplace indices of eight truly encouraged economies via the SARS epidemic propagation and finish that the SARS pandemic had no unwanted and awful impact at the economic

inventory markets of the encouraged international locations with the exemption of China and Vietnam” Again I am sure that “awful” is not the proper adjective. There are too many cases like this, please review it.

- The literature regarding COVID-19 and financial markets is nowadays absolutely huge and the author just mentioned 2 or 3 references. I suggest to rewrite all that part. These articles might be an inspiration:

Angosto-Fernández, P. L., and Ferrández-Serrano, V. (2022). World capital markets facing the first wave of COVID-19: Traditional event study versus sensitivity to new cases. *Economics and Business Review*. 8 (4): 5-38. DOI: 10.18559/ebr.2022.4.2

Abbas, Y., and Nainggolan, Y.A. (2022). Profit, cash flow, and leverage: the case of ASEAN stock market performance during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Journal of Accounting in Emerging Economies* Vol. ahead-of-print. No. ahead-of-print. DOI: 10.1108/JAEE-09-2021-0294

Ashraf, B.N. (2020). Stock markets' reaction to COVID-19: Cases or fatalities? *Research in International Business and Finance*. 54: 101249. DOI: 10.1016/j.ribaf.2020.101249

Ashraf, B.N. (2020). Economic impact of government interventions during the COVID-19 pandemic: International evidence from financial markets. *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance*. 27: 100371. DOI: 10.1016/j.jbef.2020.100371

Ashraf, B.N. (2021). Stock markets' reaction to Covid-19: Moderating role of national culture. *Finance Research Letters*. 41: 101857. DOI: 10.1016/j.frl.2020.101857

Baker, S.R., Bloom, N., Davis, S.J., Kost, K., Sammon, M., and Viratyosin, T. (2020). The unprecedented stock market reaction to COVID-19. *The Review of Asset Pricing Studies* 10: 742-758. DOI: 10.1093/rapstu/raaa008

Chia, M., and Zhong, A. (2020). Trading from home: The impact of COVID-19 on trading volume around the world. *Finance Research Letters*. 37: 101784. DOI: 10.1016/j.frl.2020.101784

Fernandez-Perez, A., Gilbert, A., Indriawan, I., and Nguyen, N.H. (2021). COVID-19 pandemic and stock market response: A culture effect. *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance* 29: 100454. DOI: 10.1016/j.jbef.2020.100454

Heyden, K.J., and Heyden, T. (2021). Market reactions to the arrival and containment of COVID-19: An event study. *Finance Research Letters*. 38: 101745. DOI: 10.1016/j.frl.2020.101745

Hu, S., and Zhang, Y. (2021). COVID-19 pandemic and firm performance: Cross-country evidence. *International Review of Economics & Finance*. 74: 365-372. DOI: 10.1016/j.iref.2021.03.016

Liu, M., Choo, W.C., and Lee, C.C. (2020). The response of the stock market to the announcement of global pandemic. *Emerging Markets Finance & Trade*. 56 (15): 3562-3577. DOI: 10.1080/1540496X.2020.1850441

Pandey, D.K., and Kumari, V. (2021). Event study on the reaction of the developed and emerging stock markets to the 2019-nCoV outbreak. *International Review of Economics and Finance* 71: 467-483. DOI: 10.1016/j.iref.2020.09.014

Rakshit, B., and Neog, Y. (2022). Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on stock market returns and volatilities: evidence

from selected emerging economies. *Studies in Economics and Finance* 39 (4): 549-571. DOI: 10.1108/SEF-09-2020-0389

Ramelli, S., and Wagner, A.F. (2020). Feverish stock price reactions to COVID-19. *The Review of Corporate Finance Studies*. 9: 622-655. DOI: 10.1093/rcfs/cfaa012

Seven, Ü., and Yilmaz, F. (2021). World equity markets and COVID-19: Immediate response and recovery prospects. *Research in International Business and Finance* 56: 101349. DOI: 10.1016/j.ribaf.2020.101349

Verma, R.K., Kumar, A., and Bansal, R. (2021). Impact of COVID-19 on different sectors of the economy using event study method: An Indian perspective. *Journal of Asia-Pacific Business* 21 (2): 109-120. DOI: 10.1080/10599231.2021.1905492

Xiong, H., Wu, Z., Hou, F., and Zhang, J. (2020). Which firm-specific characteristics affect the market reaction of Chinese listed companies to the covid-19 pandemic? *Emerging Markets Finance and Trade*. 56 (10): 2231-2242. DOI: 10.1080/1540496X.2020.1787151

Zaremba, A., Kizys, R., Aharon, D.Y., and Demir, E. (2020). Infected markets: Novel Coronavirus, government interventions, and stock return volatility around the globe. *Finance Research Letters*. 35: 101597. DOI: 10.1016/j.frl.2020.101597

Zhang, D., Hu, M., and Ji, Q. (2020). Financial markets under the global pandemic of COVID-19. *Finance Research Letters*. 36: 101528. DOI: 10.1016/j.frl.2020.101528

- Finally, in my opinion, a literature review have to finish with the contribution that your article makes to all those other references. I should be a deep reflexion of the innovativeness of your paper and the gap that fills in the literature. Now, it finish suddenly, just citing other authors.
- Moreover, you do not state clearly which are the objectives of your investigation. Please clarify them.

Methods:

- It starts with a sentence really bad constructed, sorry if I am iterative but I think it is a very serious question:

"The econometric method applied in our studies which is going to evaluate returns and volatilities of the power commodities and Bitcoin responses to the COVID-19 epidemic shocks and Russia-Ukraine conflict surprises the DCC multivariate specification (Engle, 2002)."

What is the sense of using "surprises" there? The full construction of the sentence is wrong.

- You do not need to write "generalized autoregressive conditional heteroskedasticity" three times in a row, just the first time you use it.
- I think it would be useful to introduce a new paragraph at the end of this section explaining why your selected model (GARCH-DCC) is the best approach to the problem studied. I read the section like four times and I do not have clear why this model is better than others to adress the relationship between these markets.

Data analysis

- Again it starts with a sentence without sense. Specifically this: "The database utilized in our research consist of everyday period collection at the returns and the conditional volatilities of Bitcoin and decided on energy commodities." Everyday period collection? at? decided? Simply, it is not the formal way to write that sentence.
- "extremely significant descriptive statistics" The word extremely makes no sense in that sentence.
- Does the breach of the presumption of normality affect the results provided by the methods used? Whether this is the case or not, clarification would be welcome.
- You wrote: "This outcome confirms that COVID-19 pandemic and Russia-Ukraine conflict surprises can describes the spillover impacts of Bitcoin in energy commodities indices." I think that this sentence needs further explanations.
- "the progress of daily returns of employed stock market indices such as Bitcoin and energy commodities." Eliminate stock. They are not stock indices.
- You wrote several times "pics" when you mean "peaks". Once again, professionally check grammar and spelling.
- I suggest you to multiply by 100 the mean, median, max, min and the SD of the table 1. It is more reader-friendly. You may take a similar approach in the tables after this one.

Results

- The use of the word "surprise" is really iterative. Look for synonyms.
- You use again "stock markets" when you are not talking about stock markets.
- I am not sure about what the changing correlation found implies for the Bitcoin market. I suggest to add a paragraph to clarify this question.
- I suggest to rewrite all this sentence: "The unique possible explanation and probable is to offer the indispensable consequence of the Russia-Ukraine conflict shocks and financial market on the international financial markets and the worldwide economy, and the declarations associated to the fluctuations in Russia-Ukraine conflict shocks may noticeably influence the outside economic fundamentals and subsequently the significant volatility of the energy commodity indices and cryptocurrencies assets such as Bitcoin." In my opinion, now it is really confusing.
- I also encourage the author to go deeper in that point: "Furthermore, COVID-19 surprises have a significant impact on the uncertainties of the extremely significant and highly uncertain energy commodities." I feel it now really shallow.
- Again a sentence without meaning: "In the identical framework, we observe that the considerable difference among COVID-19 surprises and Russia-Ukraine conflict shocks and their influence on the dynamic conditional correlation amongst energy commodity indices and Bitcoin."
- Have these changing correlations a direct impact on the returns of both energy and crypto markets? The assesment of this question would be very welcomed.

Conclusion

- This sentence "Our findings contribute and add to the investigation in financial and economic consequences of the recent epidemic and Russia-Ukraine conflict with providing an experimental confirmation that COVID-19 and recent war

between Russia and Ukraine cause a bidirectional spillover influence on energy commodities and cryptocurrencies assets. " Comes just after another one saying exactly the same. Therefore, I recommend to eliminate one of them.