# The Effects of Daylight Savings Time Changes on Market Outcomes

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## Daylight Savings Time Overview

- Canada was the first to implement DST in 1908. The US implemented it in 1918 as a wartime measure to add more daylight hours and conserve energy resources
- Studies show that DST has significant effects on sleep, health<sup>1</sup>, and car accidents<sup>2</sup>
- DST is not implemented universally notably, the USA (except Arizona and Hawaii), Canada, and most European nations undergo DST changes, but the rest of the world does not

[1] Harrison, Y. (2013). The impact of daylight saving time on sleep and related behaviours. *Sleep medicine reviews*, *17*(4), 285-292.

[2] Ferguson, S. A., Preusser, D. F., Lund, A. K., Zador, P. L., & Ulmer, R. G. (1995). Daylight saving time and motor vehicle crashes: the reduction in pedestrian and vehicle occupant fatalities. *American Journal of Public Health*, *85*(1), 92-95.



#### Do DST shifts impact the stock market?

- Kramer, Kamstra, & Levi (2000) study says yes!
- Berument, Dogan, & Onar (2010) disagrees: claims DST effect is not statistically significant, both in returns and in volatility
- These two camps argued over the significance of results for the next few years, and no conclusive answer has been reached

#### Summary of the Data

- Kaggle data of individual American stocks from 1971-2018<sup>1</sup> and labeled by sector
- Kaggle data of Japanese individual stocks<sup>2</sup>
- Data description: Date, Open, Close, High, Low, Volume per stock



#### Preprocessing

- Eliminate repeat rows, making values numeric or datetime objects
- Removing weekend pairs without both Monday and Friday data (eliminates holiday weekends typically)
- Account for Weekend Effect (typically, Friday close is greater than Monday open) and compare the effect between DST and nonDST
- Include high-low difference to indicate volatility



## Statistical Methods (T tests and Power Analysis)

#### Fall

- The DST effect on **weekend returns** is more pronounced in the fall (hour gained) than in the spring (hour lost)
- NASDAQ shows results around the **90%** confidence level
- NYSE shows results around the **70%** confidence level
- Stocks which show strongest DST effects can be picked out to build strategies

#### Spring

- The DST effect on 'volatility weekend effect' is more pronounced in the spring for NYSE
- NASDAQ shows results at the **64%** confidence level
- NYSE shows results at the **97%** confidence level
- Volatility changes can inform strategy, (holding for long-term strategies and taking advantage of fluctuations for day traders)

#### Weekend Effect on Returns



#### Weekend Effect on 'Volatility'





#### Individual Stock Breakdown (Returns)

T-test P Value Distribution



#### Classification as a Means of Demonstrating Distinction



#### **Boosted Decision Tree Classification Performance**

- Evaluation on a subset of American Stock weekend data, points not seen in training
- Correct Classification Accuracy for DST-Change Weekends: **95%**
- Correct Classification Accuracy for non-Change Weekends: **85%**
- Far better than random!

BDT Evaluation on Test American Stock Dataset



#### Distributions of Classifier Prediction for Input Features

#### Predicted DST Change Weekend (blue), Predicted no time change (red)



#### DST Effects on International Markets

- Evaluation of the BDT classifier on Japanese stocks demonstrates that the American time changes correlate with similarly identifiable features in the Japanese stock behavior.
- Accuracy of identifying Japanese stock weekends that align with American DST-change: 91%
- Accuracy of classifying Japanese stock weekends that do not correspond with dates of the American DST-change: 99%



#### BDT Evaluation on Japanese Stock Weekend Behaviors

#### Future Study

- Recommendations for market strategy utilizing stocks with significant DST effects
- CRSP dataset (need institutional access) has intraday data
- Forecasting with Prophet



#### Conclusion

- DST change impacts the market's return and volatility
- International markets are not entirely independent of DST effects
- Fall DST shifts demonstrate a higher average weekend return relative to other weekends
- Spring DST shifts demonstrate an increase in volatility, as measured by the range a stock takes over a day, relative to other weekends
- Individual stocks and composites are affected differently, allowing for a strategy to be developed around those stocks with higher DST effects

#### References

Harrison, Y. (2013). The impact of daylight saving time on sleep and related behaviours. *Sleep medicine reviews*, *17*(4), 285-292.

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Kamstra, M. J., Kramer, L. A., & Levi, M. D. (2000). Losing sleep at the market: The daylight saving anomaly. *American Economic Review*, *90*(4), 1005-1011.

Berument, M. H., Dogan, N., & Onar, B. (2010). Effects of daylight savings time changes on stock market volatility. *Psychological Reports*, *106*(2), 632-640.

#### Thank You!

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