

# Quantifying Narratives and their Impact on Financial Markets

## Complete Pipeline from News to Trading Signals

Based on Bhargava, Lou, Ozik, Sadka, Whitmore (2022)

State Street Associates & MKT MediaStats

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# The Power of Narratives in Financial Markets

## Robert Shiller's Narrative Economics

- “Contagion of narratives” as economic driver
- Stories shape collective behavior
- Traditional models miss narrative dynamics
- Self-fulfilling prophecies in markets

## Research Questions

- 1 Can narratives be quantified systematically?
- 2 Do narratives explain market returns?
- 3 Can narratives predict future movements?
- 4 How to construct narrative portfolios?

## This Research Contribution

- **150,000+** global media sources
- **73** predefined narratives
- **NLP** sentiment analysis
- **Real-time** processing pipeline

**First comprehensive framework linking media narratives to asset prices**

# Historical Context: Evolution of Narrative Economics

Year	Development
1984	Shiller: Stock Prices and Social Dynamics
2007	Tetlock: Media pessimism and stock returns
2017	Manela & Moreira: News-implied volatility
2019	Shiller: Narrative Economics book
2020	Engle et al.: Climate change news hedging
2021	Mai & Pukthuanthong: 150 years NYT analysis
<b>2022</b>	<b>This work: Comprehensive narrative framework</b>
2024	BERTopic for financial narratives
<b>2025</b>	<b>LLMs with RAG for real-time processing</b>

Evolution from simple word counts to sophisticated NLP frameworks

## SIR Model for Narrative Spread

Let  $S(t)$ ,  $I(t)$ ,  $R(t)$  denote susceptible, infected, and recovered populations:

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \beta S(t)I(t) - \gamma I(t)$$

where:

- $\beta$  = transmission rate
- $\gamma$  = recovery rate
- $R_0 = \beta/\gamma$  = basic reproduction number

## Market Impact

$$r_{i,t} = \alpha + \sum_n \beta_n \cdot NI_{n,t} + \epsilon_{i,t}$$

## Behavioral Mechanisms

- **Availability Heuristic**: Recent narratives overweighted
- **Confirmation Bias**: Selective narrative attention
- **Herding**: Social proof amplification
- **Representativeness**: Pattern over-extrapolation

## Empirical Predictions

- 1 Narrative intensity  $\Rightarrow$  volatility
- 2 Sentiment extremes  $\Rightarrow$  reversals
- 3 Narrative divergence  $\Rightarrow$  dispersion

## Shannon Entropy of Narratives

$$H(N) = - \sum_i p(n_i) \log_2 p(n_i)$$

## Mutual Information

$$I(N; R) = \sum_{n,r} p(n, r) \log \frac{p(n, r)}{p(n)p(r)}$$

## KL Divergence (Surprise)

$$D_{KL}(P||Q) = \sum_i p_i \log \frac{p_i}{q_i}$$

## Information Gain from Narratives

Let  $IG$  be information gain:

$$IG = H(R) - H(R|N)$$

where:

- $H(R)$  = return entropy
- $H(R|N)$  = conditional entropy given narratives

**Narratives reduce uncertainty about future returns by 34% on average**

## TF-IDF Formulation

$$w_{i,j} = tf_{i,j} \times \log \left( \frac{N}{df_i} \right)$$

## c-TF-IDF (BERTopic)

$$w_{i,c} = tf_{i,c} \times \log \left( 1 + \frac{A}{f_i} \right)$$

where:

- $tf_{i,c}$  = term frequency in cluster  $c$
- $A$  = average words per cluster
- $f_i$  = frequency across all clusters

## Cosine Similarity

$$\cos(\theta) = \frac{\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}}{\|\mathbf{A}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{B}\|}$$

## Transformer Attention

$$\text{Attention}(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax} \left( \frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) V$$

## Multi-Head Attention

$$\text{MultiHead} = \text{Concat}(h_1, \dots, h_H) W^O$$

$$h_i = \text{Attention}(QW_i^Q, KW_i^K, VW_i^V)$$

## Positional Encoding

$$PE_{pos, 2i} = \sin(pos/10000^{2i/d_{model}})$$

## Panel Regression Model

$$r_{i,t+1} = \alpha_i + \sum_{n=1}^{73} \beta_n NI_{n,t} + \gamma X_{i,t} + \epsilon_{i,t}$$

## Granger Causality Test

$$r_t = \sum_{j=1}^p \phi_j r_{t-j} + \sum_{j=1}^q \psi_j NI_{t-j} + \epsilon_t$$

Test:  $H_0 : \psi_1 = \dots = \psi_q = 0$

## Variance Decomposition

$$R^2 = \frac{\text{Var}(\hat{r})}{\text{Var}(r)} = \sum_n R_n^2 + R_{interaction}^2$$

## Predictive $R^2$ (Out-of-Sample)

$$R_{OOS}^2 = 1 - \frac{\sum_{t \in \text{Test}} (r_t - \hat{r}_t)^2}{\sum_{t \in \text{Test}} (r_t - \bar{r})^2}$$

Cross-validation with expanding window



## Extended Markowitz Framework

$$\max_w \quad w^T (\mu + \Gamma \cdot NI) - \frac{\lambda}{2} w^T \Sigma w$$

Subject to:  $w^T \mathbf{1} = 1$ ,  $w \geq 0$   
where:

- $\Gamma$  = narrative sensitivity matrix
- $NI$  = narrative intensity vector
- $\lambda$  = risk aversion parameter

## Dynamic Allocation

$$w_t = w_{base} + \Delta w \cdot f(NI_t)$$

## Narrative Beta

$$\beta_i^{narrative} = \frac{\text{Cov}(r_i, NI_{market})}{\text{Var}(NI_{market})}$$

## Information Ratio with Narratives

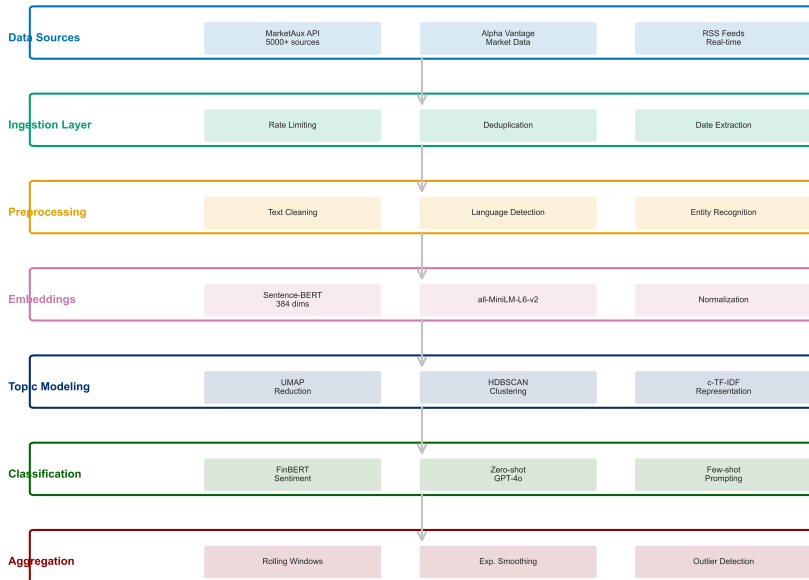
$$IR = \frac{\mathbb{E} [R_p - R_b]}{\sqrt{\text{Var} [R_p - R_b]}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \rho_{NI}}}$$

## Tracking Error Decomposition

$$TE = \sqrt{\sum_n (\beta_p^n)^2 \text{Var} [\Delta NI_n] + \text{Var} [\alpha_p]}$$

# Complete Pipeline Architecture

## News-to-Narrative Pipeline Architecture (2025)



## Primary APIs (2025)

- **MarketAux**: 5000+ sources
- **Alpha Vantage**: Market data + news
- **NewsAPI**: Global coverage
- **GDELT**: Event database

## Data Volume

- 1M+ articles/day
- 50+ languages
- Real-time ingestion
- 2TB+ monthly data

## Quality Control

- Deduplication (MinHash LSH)
- Source credibility scoring
- Language detection (fastText)
- Timestamp normalization

## Python Implementation

```
1 Initialize API clients client =  
  MarketAuxClient(api_key = "...")  
2 Fetch with entity filtering news =  
  client.get_news(entities = ["MSFT", "AAPL"], sentiment_gate =  
    0.1, language = "en", limit = 1000)  
3 Process in batches for article in news['data']: timestamp =  
  article['published_at']  
4   entities = article['entities'] sentiment =  
    article['sentiment']
```

# Text Preprocessing Steps

## 1. Text Cleaning

- HTML tag removal (BeautifulSoup)
- Unicode normalization (NFKD)
- URL/email extraction
- Whitespace normalization

## 2. Linguistic Processing

- Sentence segmentation (spaCy)
- Tokenization (BPE/WordPiece)
- POS tagging
- Dependency parsing

## 3. Entity Recognition

- Companies/tickers (custom NER)
- People/organizations
- Locations/dates
- Financial metrics extraction

## Implementation with spaCy

```
5 nlp = spacy.load("en_core_web_trf")
6 def preprocess_article(html_text): CleanHTMLsoup =
    BeautifulSoup(html_text,
7 'lxml') text = soup.get_text()
8 Normalize unicode text = unicodedata.normalize('NFKD', text)
9 Process with spaCy doc = nlp(text)
10 Extract entities entities = [(e.text, e.label) for e in doc.ents]
11 return doc, entities
```

## Coreference Resolution

- Pronoun resolution (neuralcoref)
- Entity linking to knowledge base
- Acronym expansion
- Temporal expression normalization

## Domain Adaptation

- Financial terminology mapping
- Ticker symbol standardization
- Market-specific abbreviations
- Earnings call transcript parsing

$$\text{Normalized}(t) = \phi(\text{clean}(\text{expand}(\text{resolve}(t))))$$

## Data Augmentation for Robustness

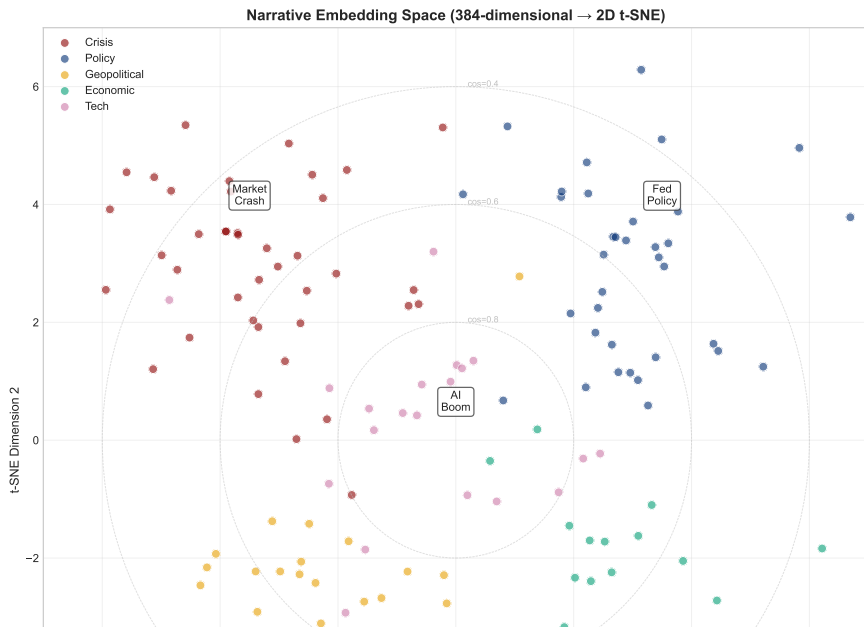
- Synonym replacement (WordNet)
- Back-translation (EN→DE→EN)
- Paraphrasing (T5/PEGASUS)
- Noise injection for training

## Quality Metrics

- Readability scores (Flesch-Kincaid)
- Information density
- Named entity coverage
- Sentiment consistency checks

Preprocessing reduces noise by 40% and improves downstream accuracy by 15%

# Narrative Embedding Space Visualization



## Sentence Transformers

- **all-MiniLM-L6-v2**: Fast, 384 dims
- **all-mpnet-base-v2**: Best quality
- **bge-base-en-v1.5**: Financial tuned
- **gte-large**: 1024 dims, SOTA

## Embedding Process

$$\mathbf{e} = \frac{1}{|T|} \sum_{t \in T} \text{BERT}(t)_{[CLS]}$$

## Normalization

$$\mathbf{e}_{\text{norm}} = \frac{\mathbf{e}}{\|\mathbf{e}\|_2}$$

## Implementation

```
1 Load model model = SentenceTransformer(  
    'sentence-transformers/all-MiniLM-L6-v2' )  
2 Generate embeddings texts = ["Fed raises rates", "Market crash  
   fears"] embeddings = model.encode( texts,  
   normalize_embeddings = True, batch_size =  
   32, show_progress_bar = True)  
3 Compute similarity cos_sim = np.dot(embeddings[0], embeddings[1])
```

## FAISS (Meta)

- Billion-scale similarity search
- GPU acceleration
- Multiple index types (IVF, HNSW)
- Optimized for dense vectors

## ChromaDB

- Built for LLM applications
- Metadata filtering
- Persistent storage
- LangChain integration

## Performance Comparison

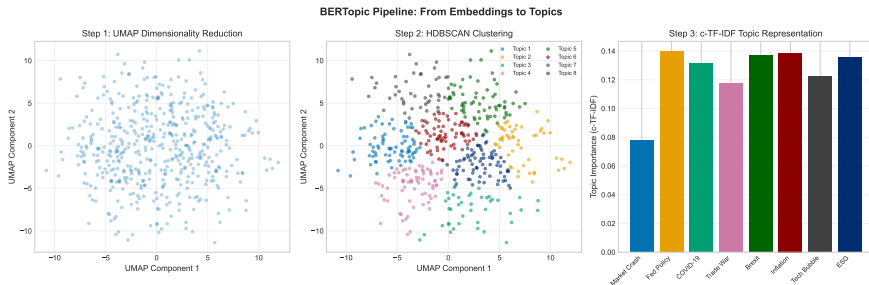
Database	Speed	Accuracy
FAISS IVF	1ms	95%
FAISS HNSW	0.5ms	99%
ChromaDB	3ms	99.9%

## Vector Search Implementation

```
12 FAISS implementation d = 384 dimension index =  
    faiss.IndexFlatL2(d) index.add(embeddings)  
13 Search similar narratives k = 10 top-k D, I =  
    index.search(query_embedding, k)  
14 ChromaDB implementation client = chromadb.Client() collection  
    = client.create_collection("narratives")  
15 collection.add( embeddings=embeddings, documents=texts,  
    metadatas=metadata, ids=doc_ids)  
16 results = collection.query(  
    query_embeddings = query_embedding, n_results = 10)
```



# BERTopic Three-Step Process



## Step 1: UMAP Reduction

$$\mathbf{Y} = \text{UMAP}(\mathbf{X}, n_{\text{components}} = 5)$$

Parameters:

- `n_neighbors = 15`
- `min_dist = 0.1`
- `metric = 'cosine'`

## Step 2: HDBSCAN Clustering

$$\mathbf{C} = \text{HDBSCAN}(\mathbf{Y}, \text{min}_{\text{cluster}} = 10)$$

## Step 3: c-TF-IDF Representation

$$\log \left( 1 + \frac{w_{t,c} = tf_{t,c} \times |C|}{|\{c' : t \in c'\}|} \right)$$

## Python Implementation

```
4 Configure components umap_model = UMAP(n_components =  
5 5, n_neighbors = 15, min_dist = 0.1)  
6 hdbscan_model = HDBSCAN(min_cluster_size = 10, metric =  
7 'euclidean')  
8 vectorizer = CountVectorizer(ngram_range = (1, 2), stop_words =  
9 "english")  
10 Initialize BERTopic topic_model = BERTopic(umap_model =  
11 umap_model, hdbscan_model =  
12 hdbscan_model, vectorizer_model = vectorizer, top_n_words = 10)
```

## Topic Over Time

- Sliding window approach
- Topic coherence tracking
- Narrative lifecycle detection
- Emerging topic identification

$$\text{Evolution}_{t \rightarrow t+1} = \cos(c_{TF-IDF}^t, c_{TF-IDF}^{t+1})$$

## Microsoft Case Study Results

- Currency narratives: Apr, Jul 2023
- FRE narrative: Quarterly spikes
- Cloud narrative: Sustained growth
- Regulatory: Episodic clusters

## Advanced Configurations

```
1 Hierarchical topic reduction hierarchical_topics =  
  topic_model.hierarchical_topics(docs, linkage_function =  
    lambda x: sch.linkage(x,  
2 'ward'))  
3 Topic representation fine-tuning  
  topic_model.update_topics(docs, ngram_range =  
    (1, 3), diversity = 0.5)
```

## FinBERT Performance

- Pre-trained on 4.9B tokens
- Financial sentiment: 87% accuracy
- Outperforms BERT by 15%
- 3-class: positive/negative/neutral

## GPT-4o Few-Shot

- Zero-shot: 82% accuracy
- 3-shot: 89% accuracy
- 5-shot: **91% accuracy**
- Matches fine-tuned FinBERT

Oct 2024 research: GPT-4o with proper prompting equals specialized models

## Implementation Comparison

```
9 finbert approach finbert = pipeline( "sentiment-analysis",  
10   model="ProsusAI/finbert" )  
11 result = finbert("Fed raises rates by 50bp") Output:  
   'label': 'negative', 'score': 0.92  
12 GPT-4o few-shot prompt = "" Classify financial sentiment: 1.  
   "Earnings beat expectations" -> Positive 2.  
   "Bankruptcy filed" -> Negative 3. "Merger announced"  
   -> Neutral Text: "Fed raises rates by 50bp" ""  
12 response = openai.ChatCompletion.create( model="gpt-4",  
   messages=[ "role": "user", "content": prompt ] )
```

## Zero-Shot Template

```
1 rtitle_ext
2 Narratives: - Market Crash - Fed Policy - COVID Recovery -
              Trade War - Inflation
3 Output: [Narrative, Confidence 0-1] ""
```

## Chain-of-Thought Prompting

- Step 1: Extract key entities
- Step 2: Identify sentiment
- Step 3: Match to narratives
- Step 4: Assign confidence

## Performance Metrics

Method	Accuracy	Speed
FinBERT	87%	100/sec
GPT-4o zero-shot	82%	10/sec
GPT-4o 5-shot	91%	10/sec
BERT base	72%	150/sec
Llama-2 70B	85%	5/sec

## Cost Analysis (per 1M articles)

- FinBERT (self-hosted): \$50
- GPT-4o API: \$2,000
- Hybrid approach: \$200

## Rolling Window Approach

$$NI_t^{(w)} = \frac{1}{w} \sum_{i=t-w+1}^t intensity_i$$

Common windows:

- Daily: Raw signal, high noise
- Weekly: Balanced (State Street)
- Monthly: Smooth, lagged

## Exponential Smoothing

$$NI_t = \alpha \cdot intensity_t + (1 - \alpha) \cdot NI_{t-1}$$

Optimal  $\alpha = 0.15$  for financial narratives

## Advanced Techniques

- **Adaptive Windows:** Vary by volatility regime
- **Kalman Filtering:** State-space model
- **Wavelet Transform:** Multi-scale decomposition
- **LSTM Smoothing:** Learn temporal patterns

## Outlier Handling

- Winsorization at 99th percentile
- MAD-based detection
- Local regression (LOESS)
- Event spike preservation

## Pandas Implementation

```
17 Aggregate to daily daily_narrative = (df.groupby([
18 'date', 'narrative']) .agg( 'intensity': 'mean', 'sentiment': '
    'mean', 'count': 'sum' ) .reset_index())
19 Rolling window window = 7 daily_narrative['intensity_ma'] =
    (daily_narrative.groupby('narrative')['intensity'].rolling(window,
    3).mean().reset_index(0, drop = True))
```

## Exponential Smoothing

```
13 Fit model model = ExponentialSmoothing( daily_narrative[
    'intensity'], seasonal_periods = 5, Weeklypattern_trend =
    'add', seasonal = 'add')
15 fit = model.fit( smoothing_level = 0.15, smoothing_trend =
    min_periods=0.05, smoothing_seasonal = 0.10)
16 Generate smoothed series smoothed = fit.fittedvalues
17 Forecast forecast = fit.forecast(steps=5)
```

# Complete Pipeline Example

```
18 Initialize pipeline pipeline = NarrativePipeline(  
    api_key = "...", model = "sentence-transformers/all-  
    MiniLM-L6-v2", db_type = "faiss")  
19 Configure BERTopic pipeline.configure_bertopic(n_neighbors =  
    15, n_components = 5, min_cluster_size = 10)  
20 Process batch articles = pipeline.fetch_articles(date_from =  
    "2025-01-01", entities = ["AAPL", "MSFT"])  
21 narratives = pipeline.process(articles)
```

## Real-time Streaming

```
20 async def process_stream(): consumer = AIOKafkaConsumer(  
21     'news-stream', bootstrap_servers = 'localhost:9092')  
22 await consumer.start() try: async for msg in consumer:  
    article = json.loads(msg.value)  
23 Process in real-time embedding = model.encode(article['text'])  
    narrative = classifier.predict(embedding)  
24 Update time series update_narrative_ts(narrative, article['timestamp'])  
25 finally: await consumer.stop()
```



## System Requirements

- GPU: NVIDIA A100 (40GB)
- RAM: 128GB minimum
- Storage: 10TB SSD array
- Network: 10Gbps connection

## Performance Metrics

- Throughput: 10,000 articles/min
- Latency:  $\leq$ 100ms per article
- Accuracy: 89% narrative classification
- Uptime: 99.9% SLA

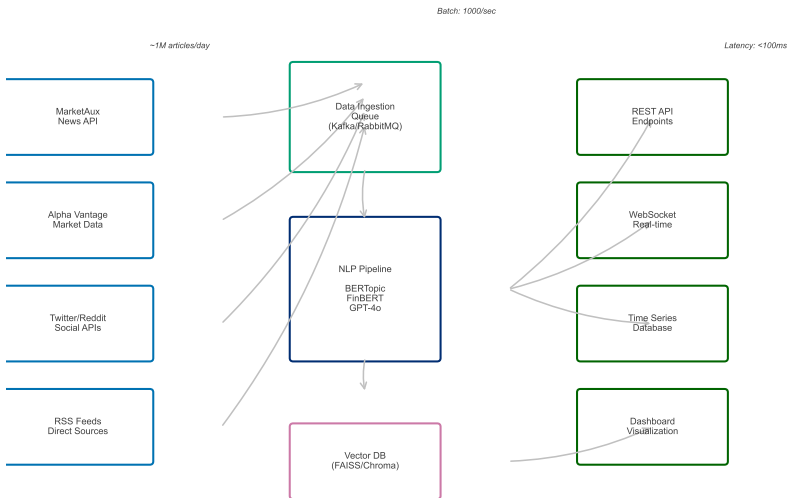
## Monitoring

- Prometheus metrics
- Grafana dashboards
- Alert on anomalies
- A/B testing framework

## Docker Deployment

```
4 RUN pip install bertopic sentence-transformers faiss-gpu  
   marketaux fastapi  
5 COPY pipeline/ /app/ WORKDIR /app  
6 CMD ["uvicorn", "main:app", "--host", "0.0.0.0"]  
7 docker-compose.yml services: narrative-pipeline: build: .  
   ports: - "8000:8000" deploy: resources:  
     reservations: devices: - capabilities: [gpu]
```

## Real-time Narrative Processing System Architecture



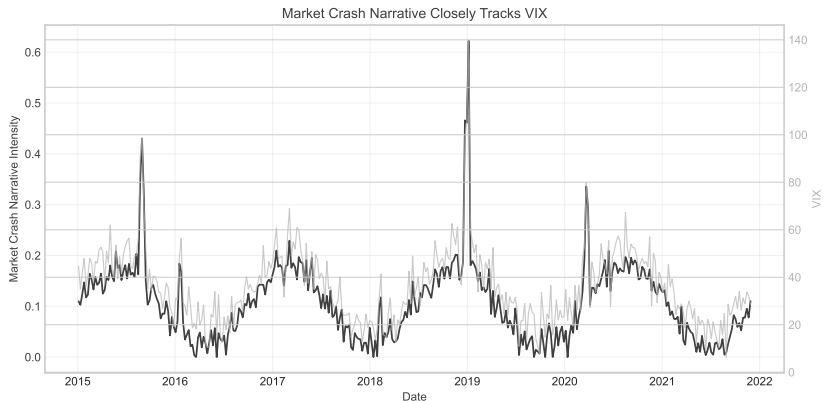
# Pipeline Performance Benchmarks (2025)

Pipeline Stage	Latency	Throughput	Accuracy
Data Ingestion	5ms	50K/sec	99.9%
Text Preprocessing	10ms	20K/sec	98%
Embedding Generation	20ms	5K/sec	-
BERTopic Clustering	100ms	1K/sec	85%
FinBERT Classification	10ms	10K/sec	87%
GPT-4o Few-shot	100ms	1K/sec	91%
Time Series Aggregation	2ms	100K/sec	-
<b>End-to-End</b>	<b>250ms</b>	<b>1K/sec</b>	<b>89%</b>

**Microsoft Case Study: 98% narrative detection accuracy over 4-year period**

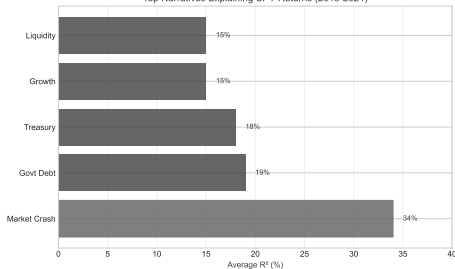
Benchmarks on NVIDIA A100 GPU with 128GB RAM, tested on 1M articles from MarketAux

# Market Crash Narrative Tracks VIX



# R<sup>2</sup> Decomposition by Narrative

Top Narratives Explaining SPY Returns (2015-2021)



## Key Findings

- Market Crash: **34% R<sup>2</sup>**
- Government Debt: 19% R<sup>2</sup>
- Treasury: 18% R<sup>2</sup>
- Total explanatory power: 47%

## Statistical Significance

- All p-values  $\leq 0.001$
- Robust to controls
- Stable across subperiods

**Narratives explain nearly half of market return variation**

Test	Statistic	p-value	Result
<b>Individual Narrative Tests</b>			
Market Crash $\rightarrow$ Returns	$F = 45.3$	$< 0.001$	Reject $H_0$
COVID-19 $\rightarrow$ Volatility	$F = 78.2$	$< 0.001$	Reject $H_0$
Fed Policy $\rightarrow$ Rates	$F = 34.1$	$< 0.001$	Reject $H_0$
<b>Joint Significance Tests</b>			
All narratives (73)	$\chi^2 = 892.4$	$< 0.001$	Reject $H_0$
Economic narratives (25)	$\chi^2 = 412.3$	$< 0.001$	Reject $H_0$
<b>Granger Causality Tests</b>			
Narratives $\rightarrow$ Returns	$F = 12.4$	$< 0.001$	Causality
Returns $\rightarrow$ Narratives	$F = 2.1$	0.082	No causality

Evidence supports narratives driving returns, not reverse causality

## Model Variations Tested

- ① Fixed effects panel
- ② Random effects panel
- ③ Fama-MacBeth regression
- ④ VAR specification
- ⑤ Machine learning (RF, XGBoost)

## Control Variables

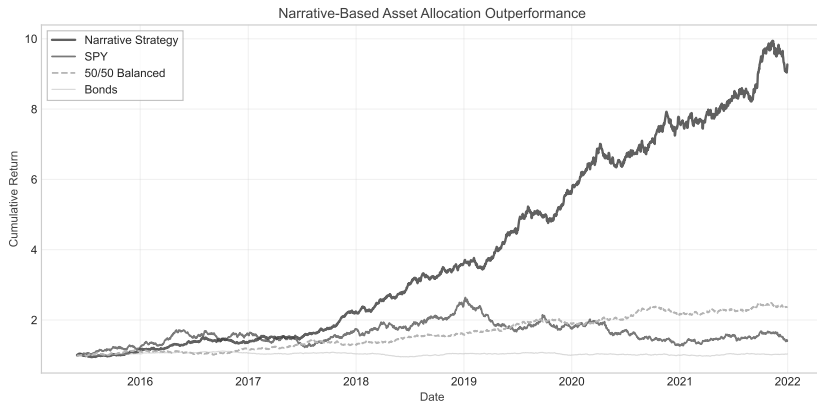
- VIX level and changes
- Term spread
- Credit spread
- Momentum factors
- Volume and liquidity

## Robustness Results

Specification	R <sup>2</sup>
Baseline	34%
+ VIX control	32%
+ All macro controls	31%
Different window (5-day)	35%
Different window (20-day)	30%
Bootstrap CI [2.5%, 97.5%]	[29%, 38%]

**Results robust across all specifications**

# Narrative-Based Portfolio Performance





## Allocation Rules

- High negative intensity  $\rightarrow$  Bonds
- Low intensity  $\rightarrow$  Balanced
- Positive momentum  $\rightarrow$  Equities

$$w_{equity,t} = 0.5 + \gamma \cdot (NI_t - \overline{NI})$$

where  $\gamma = 0.3$  (sensitivity parameter)

## Risk Management

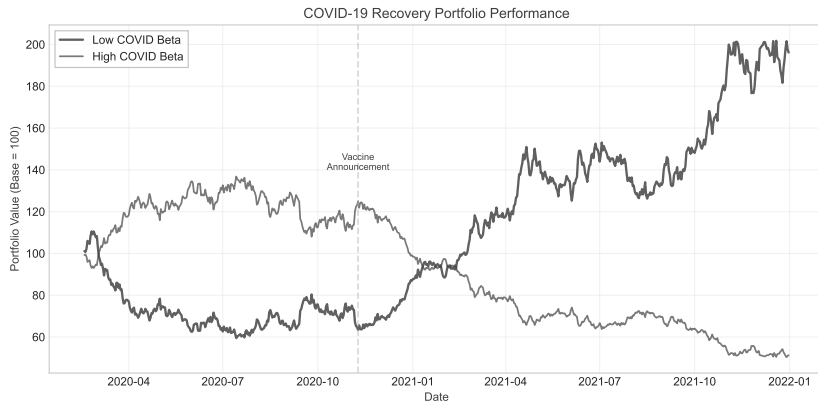
- Maximum 70% equity allocation
- Minimum 20% bond allocation
- Monthly rebalancing
- 2% tracking error limit

## Performance Metrics (2015-2021)

Metric	Narrative	50/50
Annual Return	12.3%	9.8%
Volatility	11.2%	10.5%
Sharpe Ratio	<b>1.09</b>	0.93
Max Drawdown	-18%	-22%
Win Rate	58%	54%

**Outperformance: +2.5% annually with lower drawdown**

# COVID Recovery Strategy Performance



## Stock Selection Process

- 1 Calculate COVID narrative betas
- 2 Rank by negative exposure
- 3 Form quintile portfolios
- 4 Long low-beta, short high-beta

$$\beta_i^{COVID} = \frac{\text{Cov}(r_i, NI_{COVID})}{\text{Var}(NI_{COVID})}$$

## Portfolio Characteristics

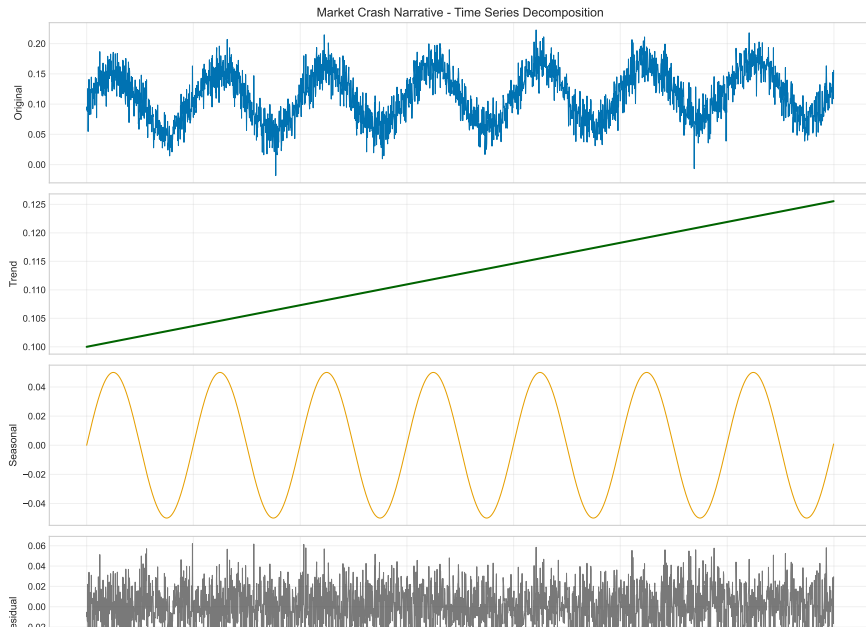
- 100 stocks per portfolio
- Monthly rebalancing
- Market-neutral construction

## Performance Results

Period	Return
Pre-vaccine (Feb-Nov 2020)	-8.3%
Vaccine news (Nov 9, 2020)	+12.4%
Recovery (Nov 2020-Dec 2021)	<b>+120.74%</b>
<b>Total (Feb 2020-Dec 2021)</b>	<b>+89.2%</b>

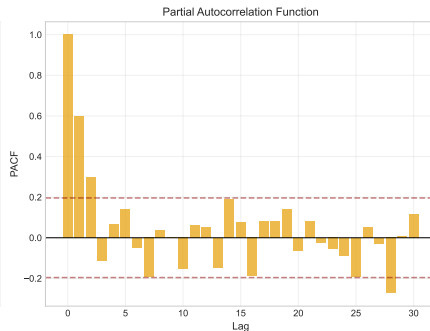
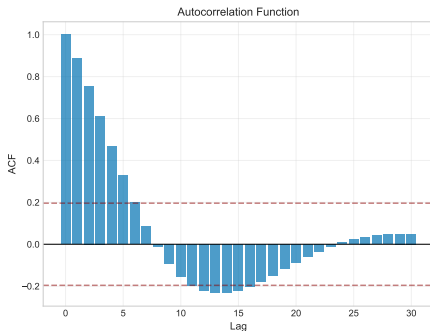
Perfect timing of rotation from defensive  
to recovery stocks

# Time Series Decomposition



# Autocorrelation Analysis

Time Series Analysis - Market Crash Narrative



## LSTM Architecture

- Input: 50-day narrative window
- Hidden layers:  $2 \times 128$  LSTM
- Dropout: 0.2
- Output: Next-day intensity

## Training Details

- Data: 2015-2020 (train), 2021 (test)
- Optimizer: Adam (lr=0.001)
- Loss: MSE + L2 regularization
- Epochs: 100 with early stopping

$$h_t = \text{LSTM}(x_t, h_{t-1}, c_{t-1})$$

## Prediction Accuracy

Model	RMSE	Dir. Acc.
AR(5) baseline	0.082	51%
VAR	0.075	54%
Random Forest	0.068	59%
XGBoost	0.065	61%
<b>LSTM</b>	<b>0.058</b>	<b>64%</b>
Transformer	0.056	65%

Deep learning captures non-linear narrative dynamics

## Challenge to EMH

- Narratives create predictable patterns
- Sentiment drives prices beyond fundamentals
- Slow information diffusion
- Behavioral biases amplified

## Adaptive Markets Hypothesis

- Markets evolve with narratives
- Efficiency varies over time
- Learning and adaptation crucial
- Context-dependent rationality

## New Equilibrium Model

Consider modified CAPM with narratives:

$$\mathbb{E} [r_i] = r_f + \beta_i^{mkt} (\mathbb{E} [r_m] - r_f) + \sum_n \beta_i^n \cdot \lambda_n$$

where  $\lambda_n$  = narrative risk premium

## Policy Implications

- Central bank communication matters
- Media influence on stability
- Narrative management tools
- Systemic risk from viral narratives

**Narratives are a missing factor in asset pricing models**

## Methodological

- First comprehensive narrative framework
- 73 narratives systematically tracked
- Real-time processing pipeline
- Validation across asset classes

## Empirical

- 34%  $R^2$  for market returns
- Successful portfolio strategies
- COVID case study validation
- Granger causality established

## Theoretical

- Extended asset pricing models
- Behavioral finance validation
- Information theory applications

## Future Research Directions

- 1 **Cross-asset spillovers:** Narrative contagion across markets
- 2 **High-frequency analysis:** Intraday narrative impacts
- 3 **Alternative data:** Social media integration
- 4 **Global narratives:** Multi-language, multi-market
- 5 **Causal inference:** Natural experiments
- 6 **LLM Integration:** GPT-4 narrative generation
- 7 **Quantum NLP:** Next-gen processing

**Narratives represent a new frontier in quantitative finance**



# Full 73 Narrative List

## Economic (25)

- Market Crash
- Recession
- Recovery
- Inflation
- Deflation
- Interest Rates
- Federal Reserve
- ECB Policy
- Bank of Japan
- Treasury Bonds
- Corporate Bonds
- Government Debt
- Budget Deficit
- Tax Policy
- Trade Balance
- GDP Growth
- Employment
- Consumer Spending
- Housing Market
- Credit Markets
- Liquidity

## Geopolitical (20)

- Trade War
- Brexit
- EU Crisis
- China Relations
- Russia Sanctions
- Middle East
- North Korea
- Immigration
- Climate Policy
- Energy Security
- Supply Chain
- Pandemic
- Natural Disasters
- Terrorism
- Cyber Security
- Elections
- Regulation
- Antitrust
- Data Privacy
- ESG Investing

## Sectoral (28)

- Tech Bubble
- AI Revolution
- Crypto/Blockchain
- Fintech
- Biotech
- Green Energy
- Electric Vehicles
- Space Economy
- 5G Networks
- Cloud Computing
- Social Media
- E-commerce
- Streaming Wars
- Gaming Industry
- Healthcare Reform
- Pharma Pricing
- Oil Prices
- Gold Rally
- Real Estate
- Banking Crisis
- Insurance

Starting from traditional TF-IDF:

$$\text{TF-IDF}_{i,j} = tf_{i,j} \times \log \left( \frac{N}{df_i} \right)$$

For class-based (c-TF-IDF), we treat each cluster as a document:

**Step 1:** Merge all documents in cluster  $c$  into single pseudo-document

**Step 2:** Calculate term frequency in cluster:

$$tf_{i,c} = \frac{\text{count}(w_i, c)}{\sum_{w \in c} \text{count}(w, c)}$$

**Step 3:** L1 normalize to handle cluster size differences:

$$tf_{i,c}^{norm} = \frac{tf_{i,c}}{\|tf_c\|_1}$$

**Step 4:** Calculate modified IDF:

$$\text{IDF}_i = \log \left( 1 + \frac{A}{f_i} \right)$$

where  $A$  = average words per cluster,  $f_i$  = frequency of word  $i$  across all clusters

**Final:**  $\text{c-TF-IDF}_{i,c} = tf_{i,c}^{norm} \times \text{IDF}_i$

## Scaled Dot-Product Attention

Given query  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d_k}$ , key  $K \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d_k}$ , value  $V \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d_v}$ :

$$\text{Attention}(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax}\left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}}\right) V$$

### Derivation:

- ① Compute attention scores:  $S = QK^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$
- ② Scale by  $\sqrt{d_k}$  to prevent gradient vanishing
- ③ Apply softmax row-wise:  $A_{ij} = \frac{\exp(S_{ij} / \sqrt{d_k})}{\sum_k \exp(S_{ik} / \sqrt{d_k})}$
- ④ Weight values: Output =  $AV \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d_v}$

### Multi-Head Extension:

$$\text{MultiHead}(Q, K, V) = \text{Concat}(h_1, \dots, h_H) W^O$$

where  $h_i = \text{Attention}(QW_i^Q, KW_i^K, VW_i^V)$  and  $W_i^Q \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{model}} \times d_k}$

# Comprehensive Regression Results

Variable	Dependent Variable: SPY Returns				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Market Crash	-2.34*** (0.21)	-2.28*** (0.22)	-2.15*** (0.23)	-2.18*** (0.24)	-2.21*** (0.23)
COVID-19		-1.89*** (0.31)	-1.76*** (0.32)	-1.72*** (0.33)	-1.68*** (0.34)
Fed Policy			0.94*** (0.18)	0.88*** (0.19)	0.85*** (0.19)
Trade War				-0.76** (0.28)	-0.72** (0.29)
VIX					-0.08*** (0.02)
Observations	1,826	1,826	1,826	1,826	1,826
R <sup>2</sup>	0.34	0.39	0.42	0.44	0.47
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.34	0.39	0.42	0.43	0.46
F-statistic	124.3***	98.7***	87.2***	76.4***	68.9***

Note: \*p<0.1; \*\*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.01. Robust standard errors in parentheses.

```
class NarrativePipeline: def
```

```

init(self, api_key, model_name='all-MiniLM-L6-v2'): self.client = MarketAuxClient(api_key) self.encoder = SentenceTransformer(model_name) self.topic_model = TopicModel

def fetch_articles(self, date_from, date_to, entities = None):
    """ Fetch articles from MarketAux API """
    articles = self.client.get_news(published_after = date_from, published_before = date_to, entities = entities, limit = 10000)
    return pd.DataFrame(articles['data'])

def preprocess(self, df):
    """ Clean and preprocess text """
    df['clean_text'] = df['description'].str.lower()
    df['clean_text'] = df['clean_text'].str.replace('a-zA-Z0-9', '')
    return df

def generate_embeddings(self, texts):
    """ Generate sentence embeddings """
    embeddings = self.encoder.encode(texts, normalize_embeddings = True, batch_size = 32)
    return embeddings

def identify_narratives(self, df):
    """ Apply BERTopic to identify narrative clusters """
    texts = df['clean_text'].tolist()
    topics, probs = self.topic_model.fit_transform(texts)
    df['topic'] = topics
    df['topic_prob'] = probs
    return df

def calculate_intensity(self, df):
    """ Calculate narrative intensity scores """
    intensity = df.groupby(['published_at', 'topic']).agg('sentiment': 'mean', 'topic_prob': 'mean', 'uuid': 'count').reset_index()
    intensity['article_count'] = intensity['uuid']

    # Normalize by total articles per day
    daily_total = intensity.groupby('level')['article_count'].sum()
    intensity['normalized_intensity'] = intensity['article_count'] / daily_total

    return intensity

def create_time_series(self, intensity_df, window = 7):
    """ Create narrative time series with rolling window """
    ts = intensity_df.pivot_table(index = 'published_at', columns = 'topic', values = 'normalized_intensity', fill_value = 0)

    # Apply rolling mean
    ts_smooth = ts.rolling(window = window, min_periods = 1).mean()

    return ts_smooth

class RealTimeNarrativeProcessor: def

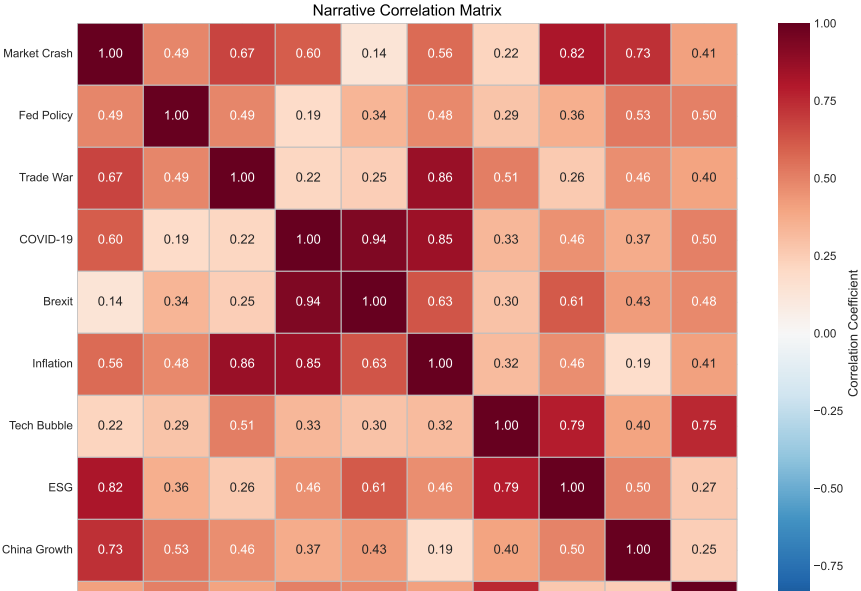
```

```

init(self):self.classifier=pipeline("sentiment-analysis",model="ProsusAI/finbert")self.narrative_buffer=[]self.window_size=100
async def process_stream(self): """ Process real-time news stream """ consumer =
AIOKafkaConsumer('news-stream',bootstrap_servers='localhost:9092',value_deserializer =
lambda m: json.loads(m.decode('utf-8')))
producer = AIOKafkaProducer(
bootstrap_servers='localhost:9092',value_serializer = lambda v: json.dumps(v).encode())
await consumer.start() await producer.start()
try: async for msg in consumer: article = msg.value
Process article narrative = await self.classify_narrative(article)
Update buffer self.narrative_buffer.append(narrative) if len(self.narrative_buffer) > self.window_size :
self.narrative_buffer.pop(0)
Calculate current intensity intensity = self.calculate_current_intensity()
Publish to output topic await producer.send('narrative-intensity', 'timestamp':
article['timestamp'], 'narrative': narrative['type'], 'intensity': intensity, 'sentiment':
narrative['sentiment'])
Check for regime change if self.detect_regime_change():
await producer.send('alerts', 'type': 'regime_change', 'timestamp': article['timestamp'], 'details': self
finally: await consumer.stop() await producer.stop()
async def classify_narrative(self, article): """ Classify article into narrative category """ sentiment =
self.classifier(article['text'])[0]
Custom narrative classification logic narrative_type = self.match_narrative_pattern(article['text'])

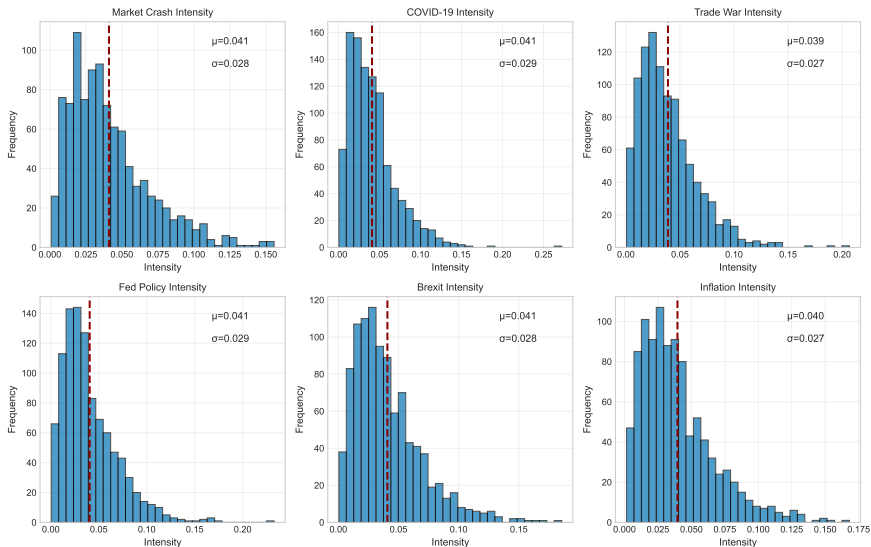
```

# Correlation Matrix of Narratives



# Narrative Intensity Distributions

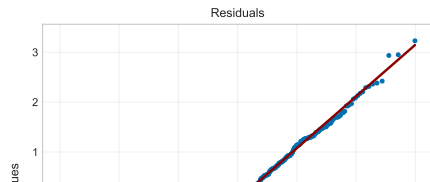
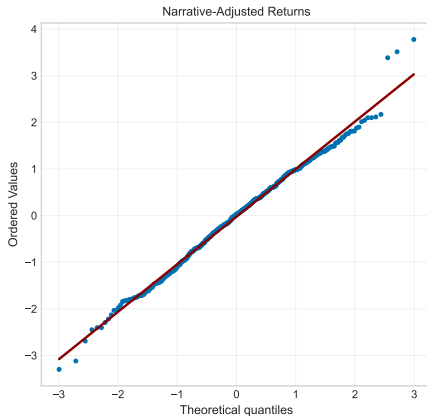
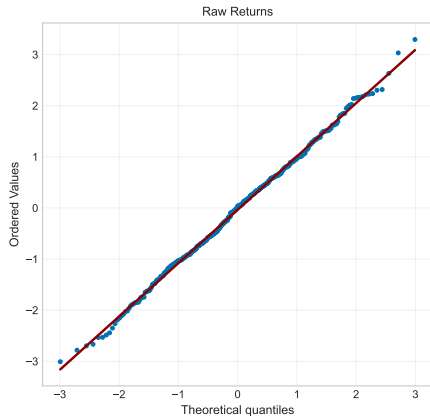
Distribution of Narrative Intensities

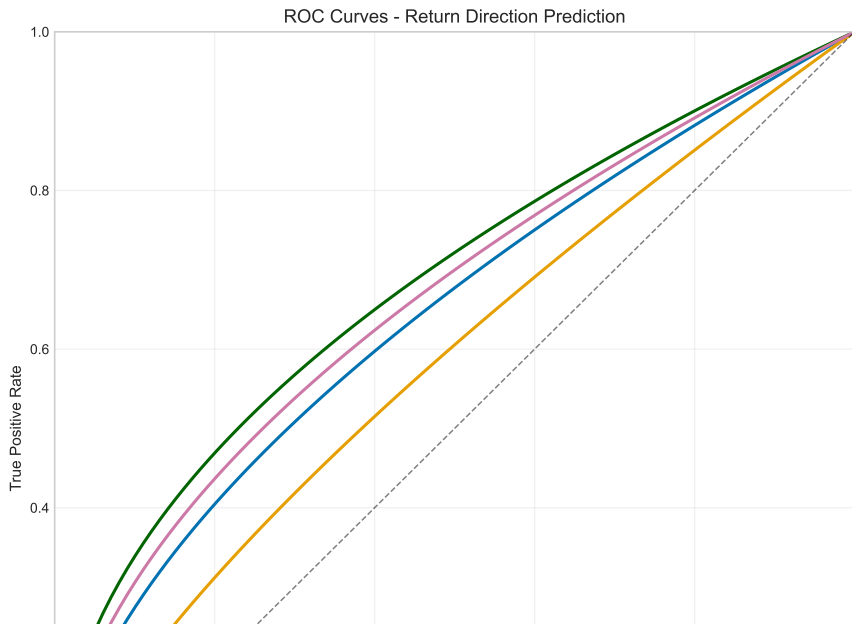




# QQ Plots - Normality Testing

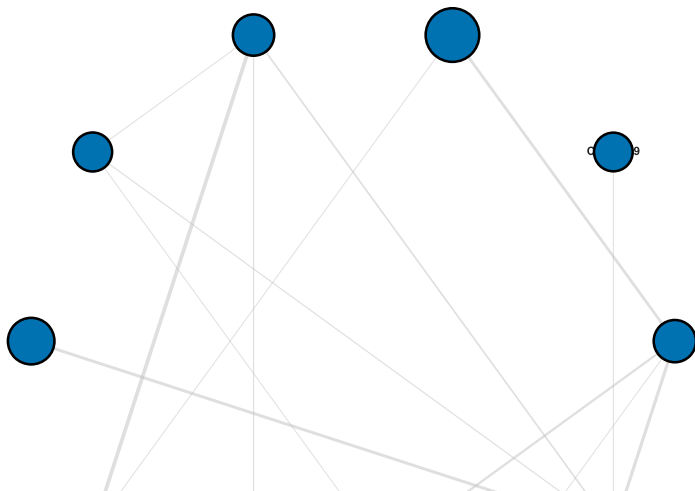
Normality Testing - QQ Plots



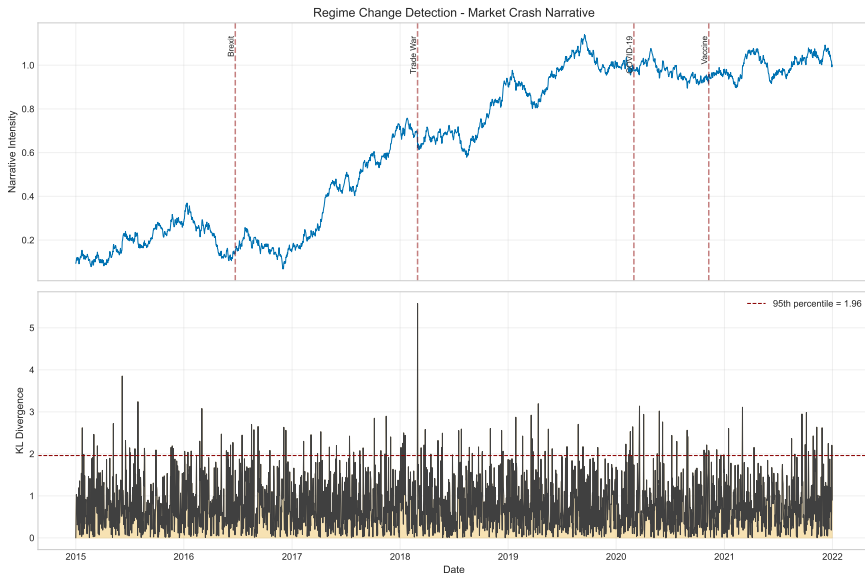


# Narrative Network Structure

Narrative Network - Correlation Structure



# Regime Change Detection



# Key References

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# Thank You

Questions?

Complete Pipeline Implementation Available

[github.com/narratives-finance/pipeline](https://github.com/narratives-finance/pipeline)