Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) of Trader Behavior and Market Sentiment

1. Introduction

This section presents an exploratory analysis of trading patterns from the historical_trader_data.csv dataset, combined with market sentiment information from fear_greed_index.csv. The goal is to understand how market sentiment influences trader profitability and coin preferences.

2. Data Overview

After merging the trading and sentiment datasets, the combined dataset has **211,224 records** and **20 features**. Out of these, **26,961 records** had missing sentiment labels and were excluded from sentiment-specific analyses.

The distribution of trades across sentiment categories is summarized below:

Market Sentiment Number of Trades

Fear 133,871

Greed 36,289

Neutral 7,141

Extreme Greed 6.962

It is evident that trading activity is highest during periods of **Fear**, while **Extreme Greed** days experience the fewest trades.

3. Trader Profitability vs. Market Sentiment

Trader profitability was analyzed across different sentiment categories using the closed_pnl metric. To improve visualization clarity, extreme outliers were trimmed within the range of -5000 to 5000 USD.

The analysis shows that trader profits are highly variable and tend to decrease during **Fear** periods. Profit distribution is relatively higher during **Greed** and **Neutral** conditions.

Visualization: profitability_vs_sentiment.png

4. Top Coins Traded Under Different Sentiments

The top 5 coins traded were identified for each sentiment category by aggregating trade counts per coin. Bar plots were generated to highlight coin preferences under varying market conditions:

Extreme Greed Days: top5_coins_Extreme_Greed.png

Fear Days: top5_coins_Fear.png

Greed Days: top5_coins_Greed.png

This analysis reveals that certain coins dominate trading activity during specific market sentiments, indicating trader preference patterns influenced by market mood.

5. Key Insights

- 1. **Dominant Sentiment:** Fear is the most common market condition, suggesting that traders are more active in cautious market environments.
- 2. **Profitability Patterns:** Trader profits are highly sensitive to sentiment, with losses more frequent during Fear periods.
- 3. **Coin Preferences:** Different coins experience heightened trading activity under distinct sentiment categories, which can inform strategic trading decisions.

6. Data Sources

- historical_trader_data.csv
- fear_greed_index.csv