

Vespucci White Paper

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PYTHAGORAS SYSTEMS

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ABSTRACT

The relatively recent explosion of cryptocurrencies has attracted a lot of popularity and more people are becoming aware of the benefits over fiat currency. The ever-increasing number of platforms that support cryptocurrencies and allow for transactions between a wide variety of products and services attract many users forming a new, dynamic generation of traders, for whom the intricacies of the blockchain technology are transparent. To navigate the complex world of cryptocurrencies, new users, along with experienced investors, would greatly benefit from a system that evaluates cryptocurrencies and creates a ranking that can be used as an investing guide, to be personalized with user-defined parameters. Vespucci is a new system that goes beyond the aforementioned functionalities. In particular, it monitors the evolution of blockchain and cryptocurrency markets and, by harnessing the power of cutting-edge AI and Machine Learning technology, delivers unbiased, robust and up-to-date rankings that represent the real value of a very wide spectrum of coins so as to, eventually, act as a predictor of their future course. For the first time, here is a ranking system that is comprehensive and complete in the sense that it draws from the widest set of sources, categorized into three pillars, namely, sentiment analysis, fundamental and technological analysis, and technical analysis. Vespucci is part of the integrated ecosystem of Volentix, built around the decentralized exchange platform VDex; the latter employs a collection of smart EOS.IO contracts to establish quick and secure transactions, user anonymity, liquidity, scalability, performance, and estimation of profit margin. This white paper presents an in-depth overview of how Vespucci works, including a discussion of several technical aspects, and also highlights the different ways it may be used.

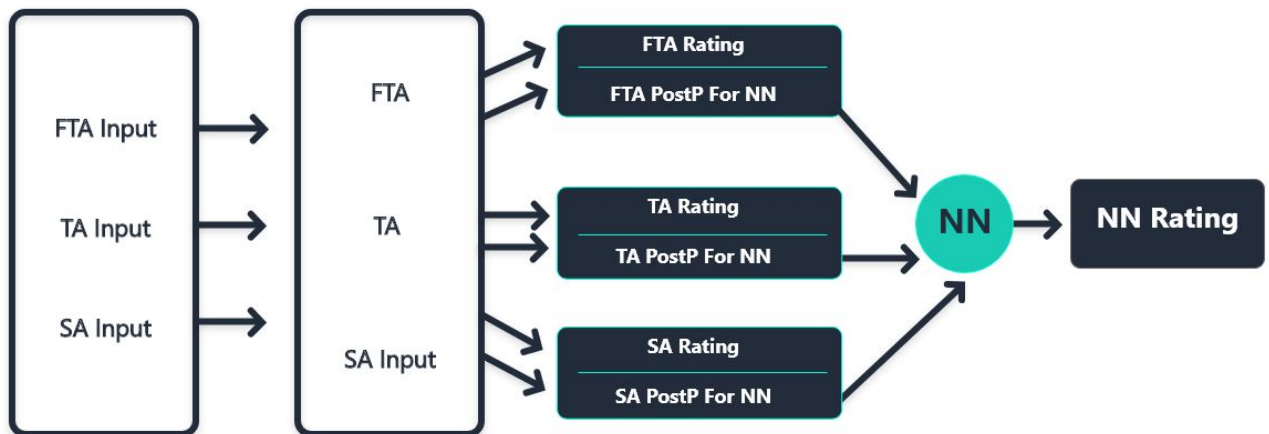
1. OVERVIEW

Vespucci is developed by [Pythagoras Systems](#) as part of the [Volentix](#) ecosystem. In particular, it implements one of the main pillars of the Volentix ecosystem, of which VDex is the fulcrum. VDex is a decentralized exchange with the user and community in mind [10]. Vespucci, besides being a digital asset audit and assessment utility accessible to non-experts, it is also a tool to chart and juxtapose tradeable digital assets. Moreover, it provides a dashboard for cryptocurrencies' activity in the digital world.

Vespucci offers all users of digital assets an intuitive analytical agent and rating system for such assets, merging the following aspects (see figure below on “General architecture”):

- a sentiment gauge for Sentiment Analysis (SA),
- Technical Analysis (TA), and
- Fundamental / Technological analysis (FTA).

Vespucci (www.vespucci.site) offers for the first time a well-rounded profile of each digital asset of interest along with a live rating, representing a combination of different indicators, based on the principles of decentralized governance, peer privacy, public ledger via a public blockchain, and open source code. Hence, its analysis is free of the bias of specific individuals or interest groups and the employed methods are up for scrutiny and discussion by the community. Decentralized applications constitute a major paradigm shift in current technology; a particularly relevant instance lies within the emerging cryptocurrency exchanges. While leveraging some of the most powerful cutting-edge algorithmic technologies, our approach abides by open standards and the principles of ease of use.



General architecture of Vespucci

2. OBJECTIVE

Vespucci offers a web-based platform to enable users to navigate through crypto data and make informed trading and digital-asset utilization decisions. In particular, it provides:

- An intuitive analytical agent leading to an easy to understand overview of all cryptocurrencies.
- A rating system of cryptocurrencies, including risk assessment.
- A dashboard for cryptocurrency news.



The rating and analytical capacity of Vespucci relies on the three pillars of: Sentiment analysis (SA), Technical / economic analysis (TA), and Fundamental / Technological analysis (FTA). Vespucci combines these aspects in order to provide rating and ranking by employing Machine Learning and Neural Network (NN) technology. Existing systems focus on a subset of these criteria, and typically do not use state-of-the-art methodologies, see [2,12,13,15,18]. On the other hand, Vespucci offers a service that has never been available before by integrating all features shown in the following figure.



3. DESIGNING VESPUCCI

3.1. VESPUCCI FEATURES

The features of Vespucci are as follows.

- Rating of cryptocurrencies, easily leading to a Prediction machine.
- Combination of a complete spectrum of criteria ranging from Fundamental / Technological Analysis to technical / economics aspects up to a sentiment gauge.
- Transparency in methodology (data sources, ingestion mechanism, data manipulation process, algorithms)
- Broad spectrum of sources (to avoid biased data)
- Modular design that offers the ability to extend the platform to other applications such as smart contracts.
- Security: Data Sources on EOS Blockchain (VLabs)
- High accuracy using sophisticated Evaluation methods, AI, and Deep Learning
- Intuitive algorithms, possibility for weights given by user, Post-processing for humans.

3.2. PRINCIPLES

Vespucci is designed under the following principles.

- Objective in order not to risk compromising the Volentix DAO goodwill before it is established beyond any doubt
- Automated
- In demand
- Decentralized implementation
- Open-source
- Intuitive

3.3. HOW VESPUCCI WORKS

The three pillars are described in the following subsections. In these subsections a large number of criteria is mentioned. The results of the SA component is made available along with the Technical and FTA results to the users so they can access a complete 360 view of each coin's state, rank and ultimately understand the coin's true value and potential.

For each feature we assign and, gradually, improve the corresponding weights thus optimizing Vespucci's overall scoring function. Notice this is essentially a Convolutional Neural Network, and we eventually implement it as such. Each pillar can be thought of possessing a specific positive weight, denoted by w_{FTA} , w_{TA} , w_{SA} , constructed as an aggregate function of its features. Each feature x_{Pi} participates with a specific weight w_{Pi} , where P is FTA, TA, or SA. The overall scoring function S of a coin may be expressed by the following formula:

$$S_{coin} = w_{FTA} \sum_i w_{FTA_i} x_{FTA_i} + w_{TA} \sum_i w_{TA_i} x_{TA_i} + w_{SA} \sum_i w_{SA_i} x_{SA_i}$$

In fact, an evaluation of both established cryptocurrencies and known "scam-coins" is performed, and the resulting parameters deemed most relevant in determining cryptocurrency validity are integrated into the system.

In order to test Vespucci in a semi-public release using prospective volunteers, the system had been introduced to various outside users for bug testing of the assessment system functions, and the UI. Users were selected to allow for more constructive and relevant feedback information. An ongoing iterative process of tweaks, fixes, and adjustments is taking place during the beta release.

4. PILARS

4.1.SENTIMENT ANALYSIS

Market sentiment is being explored by the relatively new field of behavioral finance. It starts with the assumption that markets are apparently inefficient much of the time, and this inefficiency can be explained by psychology and other social sciences. The idea of applying social science to finance was fully legitimized when D. Kahneman, a psychologist, won the 2002 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics – he was the first psychologist to do so. Many of the ideas in behavioral finance confirm observable suspicions: that investors tend to overemphasize data that come easily to mind; that many investors react with greater pain to losses than with pleasure to equivalent gains; and that investors tend to persist in a mistake.

One of the most significant factors that affect the rank and value of crypto-coins is the public confidence and sentiment. Sentiment bears major weight of cryptocurrencies monetary valuation. Public opinions are widely available to collect and analyze. A major pillar of the Vespucci ranking platform is hence based on Sentiment Analysis (SA) of crypto related content, generated by the public on Social media (Twitter, Facebook, Telegram), Reddit, Blogs, forums and news sites. The key differentiating fact of Vespucci SA component is the broad and complete spectrum of data sources that are collected and analyzed. We believe that only by covering every potential source of public opinion related to each crypto-coin, the true state of market sentiment is revealed.

Vespucci SA component is built in a phased approach. The first phase includes the implementation of a centralized cloud based, highly scalable, Big Data ingestion mechanism. This mechanism is able to listen continuously to the above mentioned data sources and ingest all content/messages that are relevant to each cryptocurrency. It uses no persistent storage. The same mechanism scores the Sentiment of the ingested content using an AI driven score function and text analytics libraries for analyzing social media content. The module also relies on further

tools that assign numerical scores of sentiment to pieces of text. This process need not be transparent to the user.

This ensures that the SA component covers the vast majority of public opinion. Results are compared over periods of one hour, one day, one week. The outputs are available through APIs for internal use by other components such as the front-end web UI as well as to external users that wish to consume the data or build third-party applications based on Vespucci.

Vespucci's public opinion listeners run on cloud-based VMs that are able to instantly scale-out to address all potential workloads. This way Vespucci handles and ingests the massive, yet valuable, data volumes related to cryptocurrencies that are being generated at every given moment. Vespucci's architecture leverages parallelization, multi-threading and concurrency wherever possible. Micro-services and serverless code run in parallel to orchestrate the ingestion procedures and data flows.

In the second phase, scoring tools are adapted and enhanced so as to focus their analysis on cryptocurrencies and, eventually, our own software shall be developed for this task. Moreover, some storage is used (see relevant [section](#)) for aggregate data needed in order (a) to make historical comparisons and (b) to train the Convolutional Neural Network that produces the final score. For (a), we could make use of the entire history of each token since its creation. For (b), deep learning needs data covering a period of up to two years.

Eventually, Vespucci will reach out to the open-source community in an attempt to make the platform decentralized to a great degree. The intention is to decentralize the data ingestion and sentiment scoring functionality in order to provide secure, community led, unbiased and credible results.



By leveraging Python's Machine learning framework, and given the language's advantages, it is only natural for this module to be implemented in Python. It interfaces with particular machine learning libraries.

A user experience linking to the cryptocurrency's public community forum is developed to provide up to date announcements and statistics of community activity. The final score can be derived as a scoring function.

| Source | Analysis |
|----------------------|--|
| Twitter | Sentiment |
| Reddit | Sentiment |
| Facebook | Sentiment |
| Telegram | Sentiment |
| LinkedIn | Sentiment & Technological |
| Coin Sites | Technological & Fundamental |
| CoinMarketCap | Technical, Technological & Fundamental |
| Github | Technological |
| Coinbio | General Information about every crypto |
| BitInfoCharts | Technical |
| Cointelegraph | Technical |
| CCN | Sentiment (Forums & News) |
| CoinDesk | Sentiment (Forums & News) |
| Bitcointalk | Sentiment (Forums & News) |
| Crypto Coin Rankings | Technological & Technical |

4.2. TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

Technical analysis (TA) is a trading tool employed to evaluate securities and identify trading opportunities by analyzing statistics gathered from trading activity, such as price movement and volume. Unlike fundamental analysts who attempt to evaluate a security's intrinsic value, technical analysts focus on charts of price movement and various analytical tools to evaluate a security's strength or weakness. A typical source may be `coinmarketcap`. We focus on indicators and methods suitable for assets with high volatility of prices, and hence suitable for cryptocurrencies.

Technical analysts believe the analysis of price movement or the supply and demand of currencies is the best way to identify trends in the currency. Price movements tend to trade within a trend or range. In connection with this belief, technical analysts assume that history tends to repeat itself, based on the idea that market participants have often reacted in a similar

fashion to reoccurring market events. There is a very large number of techniques and indices for data analysis. In this section, we focus on certain simple techniques, such as Keltner Channels, moving average crossovers, RSI, Bollinger Bands, and the popular MACD, and to some advanced methods, such as Fibonacci, and Ichimoku Kinko Hyo.

Keltner Channels put an upper, middle and lower band around the price action on a stock chart. The indicator is most useful in strongly trending markets when the price is making higher highs and higher lows for an uptrend, or lower highs and lower lows for a downtrend.

Moving average crossovers: The reason moving average is so important for traders and analysts is its smoothing role. It is responsible for noise removal, for outlier detection and emphasizes in long term trends. Several different kinds of moving average calculations exist, but all of them are used to plot a line against either a price chart or another indicator. The direction and slope of moving average lines inform investors about the relationship between historical data values and present data values. The flexibility of moving averages allows them to be used to analyze other moving averages. A common strategy involves plotting two moving average lines of different time intervals and interpreting their relationship to spot trends, forecast price movements and place trades. Moving average crossovers have subsequently become the focus of an entire subset of technical indicators. When utilizing moving averages, crossovers can determine a change in the price trend. A common trend reversal technique is utilizing a five-period simple moving average with a 15-period simple moving average. When the five-period moving average forms a crossover, it signals a reversal in the trend and potentially the start of a new opposite trend, which is called a breakout or a breakdown.

Relative Strength Index (RSI) is a momentum indicator that measures the magnitude of recent price changes to analyze overbought or oversold conditions. It is primarily used to attempt to identify overbought or oversold conditions in the trading of an asset. The RSI provides a relative evaluation of the strength of a security's recent price performance, thus making it a momentum indicator. RSI values above or equal to 70 indicate that a security is becoming overbought or overvalued. RSI reading below or equal to 30 is commonly interpreted as indicating an oversold or undervalued condition that may signal a trend change or corrective price reversal to the upside. Some traders, in an attempt to avoid false signals from the RSI, use more extreme RSI values as buy or sell signals, such as RSI readings above 80 to indicate overbought conditions and RSI readings below 20 to indicate oversold conditions. Sudden large price movements can create false buy or sell signals in the RSI. It is, therefore, best used with refinements to its application or in conjunction with other, confirming technical indicators.

Bollinger Bands are a technical chart indicator popular among traders across several financial markets. On a chart there are two "bands" that sandwich the market price. Many use them primarily to determine overbought and oversold levels. A common strategy is to sell when the price touches the upper Bollinger Band and buy when it hits the lower band. This technique also called range-bound markets. In this type of market, the price bounces off the Bollinger Bands like a ball bouncing between two walls.

MACD calculates the difference between a currency's 26-day and 12-day exponential moving averages (EMA). The 12-day EMA is the faster one, while the 26-day is a slower moving average. The calculation of both EMAs uses the closing prices of whatever period is measured. On the MACD chart, a nine-day EMA of MACD itself is plotted as well, and it acts as a signal for buy

and sell decisions. The MACD histogram provides a visual depiction of the difference between MACD and its nine-day EMA. MACD histogram is one of the main tools traders use to gauge momentum, because it gives an intuitive visual representation of the speed of price movement. For this reason, the MACD is commonly used to measure the strength of a price move rather than the direction or trend of a currency.

More advanced techniques for data analysis are the Fibonacci methods as well as Ichimoku Kinko Hyo techniques, as discussed in the sequel.

Fibonacci Extension: They are popular forecasting tools, often used in combination with other technical chart patterns. Many traders use this technique in conjunction with wave-based studies (Elliott Wave, Wolfe Wave) to estimate the height of each wave and define the different waves. They commonly used with other chart patterns such as the ascending triangle. Once the pattern is identified, a forecast can be created by adding 61.8% of the distance between the upper resistance and the base of the triangle to the entry price.

Fibonacci Clusters: The Fibonacci cluster is a culmination of Fibonacci retracements from various significant highs and lows during a given time period. Each of these Fibonacci levels is then plotted on the "Y" axis (price). Each overlapping retracement level makes a darker shade on the cluster - the darker the cluster is, the more significant the support or resistance level tends to be. This technique can be used in conjunction with other Fibonacci techniques or chart patterns to confirm support and resistance levels.

Fibonacci Channels: The Fibonacci pattern can be applied to channels not only vertically, but also diagonally. One common technique is the combination of diagonal and vertical Fibonacci studies to find areas where both indicate significant resistance.

Ichimoku Kinko Hyo is a technical indicator that is used to gauge momentum along with future areas of support and resistance. It was originally developed by a Japanese newspaper writer to combine various technical strategies into a single indicator that could be easily implemented and interpreted. Ichimoku indicator is a combination of five key components:

- (1) Tenkan-sen: Represents support and resistance level, and it's a signal line for reversals.
- (2) Kijun-sen: Represents support and resistance level. It's a confirmation of a trend change, and can be used as a trailing stop-loss point.
- (3) Senkou Span A: Is the average of tenkan-sen and kijun-sen for 26 periods ahead. The resulting line is used to identify future areas of support and resistance.
- (4) Senkou Span B: Is calculated by the highest high and the lowest low over the past 52 periods, for 26 periods ahead. The resulting line is used to identify future areas of support and resistance.
- (5) Chickou Span: Is the current period's closing price plotted 26 days back on the chart. This line is used to show possible areas of support and resistance.

4.3. FUNDAMENTAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Various blockchain technologies have been developed to tackle various challenges and, therefore, are meant to satisfy different requirements. A review of the technical concepts of the

different blockchain technologies is our basis in understanding the impact of the different architectures in terms of performance, privacy, security and regulation. Quantitative analysis from a technological perspective (not to be confused with technical analysis) appraises and correlates various network statistics gleaned from the blockchain, giving a real-time view of the cryptocurrency. These statistics include but are not limited to:

- Block propagation time is important, since newly-found blocks need to be propagated as soon as possible across the blockchain network. Except for the waiting time for the user, another major issue coming from propagation time is that even for tiny delays, another block found at the same time might win the “block race”.
- Hash rate vs Difficulty over Time, Price and Power consumption. These indicators, could show various correlations with Hash Rate, i.e. the hashrate could follow a corresponding increase or decrease to the price. Networks’ Hash Rate is also a security indicator, since networks which have low hash rate is easier to be tampered.
- Node activity and distribution. Nodes are vital parts of a blockchain, since it is maintained by them. They are connected to the blockchain network, transmitting and receiving the transactions, having their own copy of the blockchain. Therefore, their activity, distribution and average size can provide useful information about the blockchain.
- Coin distribution, including information on how the coin is distributed among the developers, the foundation/production team, and the public. Also, the rate of change of the total supply and how is then distributed seems to provide useful statistics on the actual value of the coin and indication of possible frauds.
- Miner distribution, indicating the number of miners online and how they are distributed (by pool), their fees, luck etc. Also, the software version of miners is also important, since ideally they should be on its latest version in order to support all the features of the Coin that they are mining.
- Transaction levels, where various measures could be taken into account, such as the number of transactions submitted or validated per second by each node and the entire network, the average time of validation for a transaction and its volatility.
- Transactions fees, that users might pay to the network, in order to complete transactions or smart contracts.
- Security includes several aspects such as the vulnerability of the system to attacks (e.g. double spending, Sybil attacks), the confidentiality of transactions, as well as user anonymity.
- Scalability concerns how the system’s performance is affected by the number of nodes, transactions and users, and the scattering of the geographic positions of the nodes.
- Hardware requirements for storage, memory and processors needed to store the blockchain network and validate the transactions and blocks, as well as how these requirements change while the networks grows.

To implement the above analysis, further detail is given in the next section. Today, blockchain explorers are widely available to support this task. In particular, blockchain explorers such as `coinmetrics` and `cryptocompare` were combined, in order to meet the needs of FTA. The former is an open source crypto-asset analytics service, providing daily data for the most major cryptocurrencies (about 64 currently). `Cryptocompare` is a platform with live cryptocurrency data; its API makes available historical and live streaming cryptocurrency data, such as pricing, volume and block explorer data from multiple exchanges and blockchains.

Among others, some of the features available by both APIs are:

- transaction count - number of transactions happening on the public blockchain a day
- transaction volume (usd) - total value of outputs on the blockchain, on a given day
- adjusted transaction volume (usd) - estimated
<https://coinmetrics.io/introducing-adjusted-estimates>
- payment count
- active addresses
- fees
- median fee
- generated coins
- average difficulty
- median transaction value (usd)
- block size
- block count
- price (usd)
- market capitalization (usd)
- exchange volume(usd)
- total coins mined
- difficulty adjustment
- block reward reduction, number & time
- net hashes per second
- total coins mined

Source Code – Developer activity

There is an aspect of quantitative analysis from a social perspective which looks at the involvement of the developer community surrounding the project, quite related to Sentiment Analysis. Research into metrics that accurately reflect rates of community participation as well as creator participation will be assessed. These factors may include but are not limited to:

- online community participation
- code base activity
- creator approachability and responsiveness.

This module (related to Sentiment analysis) examines information from Github and other sources such as literature review. It grades the quality of a codebase by looking at social cues well-known among software developers, and in particular:

- The expertise and track record of the team and their continued commitment to their project (frequency of commits, frequency the community responds to bugs, contributions over time, and the amount of time that has been consistently spent building up the project),
- The activity on GitHub, which is tightly related to the previous item, and the number of followers of the project,
- The quality of code (programming languages, test coverage, ratio of bugs over lines of code, build breaks etc), robustness, and maintenance of the software,
- The corresponding white paper.

- The mathematical and cryptographical principles of the system.

More specifically, some features of the git repositories that determine the repository's popularity and robustness are its forks and stars, the activity of the maintenance team, measured by the rate of issues closed and of pull requests, as well as the quality of the project's source code, measured by its test coverage and other code quality metrics. These can be obtained from the CoinGecko API, a cryptocurrency ranking chart app that ranks digital currencies by developer activity, community, and liquidity. The combination of these criteria relies essentially on an adapted and powerful scoring function which is being replaced by a Convolutional Neural Network, as already discussed.

4.4. BLOCKCHAIN STATISTICS, BLOCKCHAIN FULL NODE, EVM ANALYSIS

This module is responsible for communicating with each of the nodes deployed for each blockchain being assessed. Its role is to provide a coherent standardized interface to the RESTful endpoint layer so that the nature of any blockchain can be abstracted, while knowing how to query any blockchain full node being run by the system, in order to collect information about the chain and network properties of that chain. In many instances, a tradable token is not actually running on its own dedicated chain but is sooner implemented using a system of contracts running on a smart-contract-enabling blockchain such as Ethereum. In such a case, this module communicates both with the full node for this chain, and the other modules, for example, the Ethereum static analysis module mentioned deeper in this document.

A wide range of technology would be applicable for this layer, though in keeping with restricting several different technologies necessary to understand the full system, and using widely-deployed technologies, choosing a similar technology as the RESTful endpoint layer with which this module interacts would be prudent. A node.js-based module would thus be a wise choice, though other implementation technologies are certainly possible. Also, we use agile techniques to create REST APIs as well.

To glean the most useful information about a blockchain, it's usually necessary to run a full node that observes each incoming block. Doing so, it can provide real-time information on any of several important statistics, including chain height, inferring average and running average block times, block sizes, transaction counts, and any number of other properties visible to any full node. The interface for querying this full node is a decision made by the designers of the client in question, and is thus the responsibility of the blockchain statistics module to conform to this interface to normalize it into a form that can be consumed upstream by modules that are agnostic to the specific interface.

A great number of the tokens being traded today are ERC20 tokens implemented on top of the Ethereum blockchain. Further, many of the most exciting tokens are part of a larger system of smart contracts that use an ERC20 token as their native token. Providing an in-depth analysis of these, and any smart contract system riding on top of Ethereum's EVM is very useful for the high-level goals of Vespucci. This module thus exists to consume smart contract systems associated with some ERC20 tokens to grade them, at the code-level, on overall safety, the

presence of bugs, and other important factors that can be ascertained with a static analysis of the contract code in a system of smart contracts. Much of its core logic is written in Python, and bridges are developed to the blockchain statistics module.

5. USER EXPERIENCE

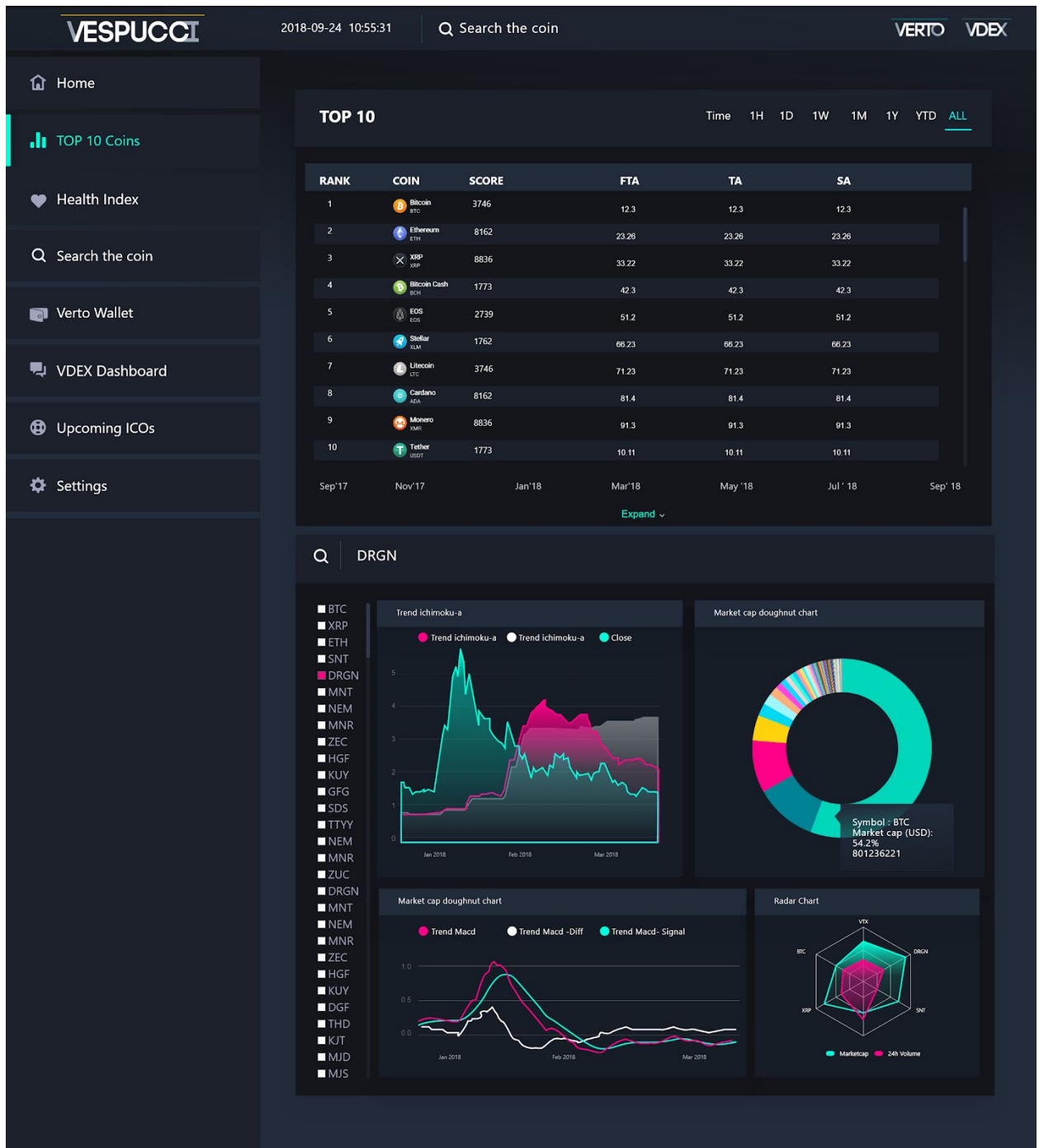
Vespucci has a User interface (UI) that allows for straightforward parameter input and coherently displays the resulting assessment metrics. The input interface provides a list with all available coins or a selection of the top ranked coins based on market cap value: the user may select those of interest to him/her. Alternatively, it is required for the user to provide the link to one (or more) cryptocurrency's public blockchain along with the link to the project source code as basic inputs. The type and level of analysis to be performed on the given coin is chosen. More detailed analysis requires more inputs.

The results interface provides a collapsed view, providing an index for expandable sections that displays the selected metrics in detail. The collapsed view presents the colour-coded rating summary of a cryptocurrency. The colour-coded rating is calculated using a weighted average of all assessment metrics. Each expandable section displays the metric or group of metrics in a graphical manner. Assessment metrics are separated into different sections based on their represented information such as data relating to social perspective or a technical perspective. An optimal indexing of assessment metrics are determined to allow for intuitive UI interaction in accessing and view data of interest for the user.

Following the success of the Ethereum Wallet and Ethereum Mist browser, the main interface exposed to a user is hosted inside an Electron app. Electron is a mature technology introduced by Github to create modern desktop applications. Since Vespucci is not tied to Desktop-based APIs however, it is also possible to port this application to run inside of a browser. The interface for the app can be designed by using mature UI libraries for modern applications. With each component existing on its own, it is also straightforward to pull components out and add new ones as the product is trialed with users without adversely affecting the product as a whole.

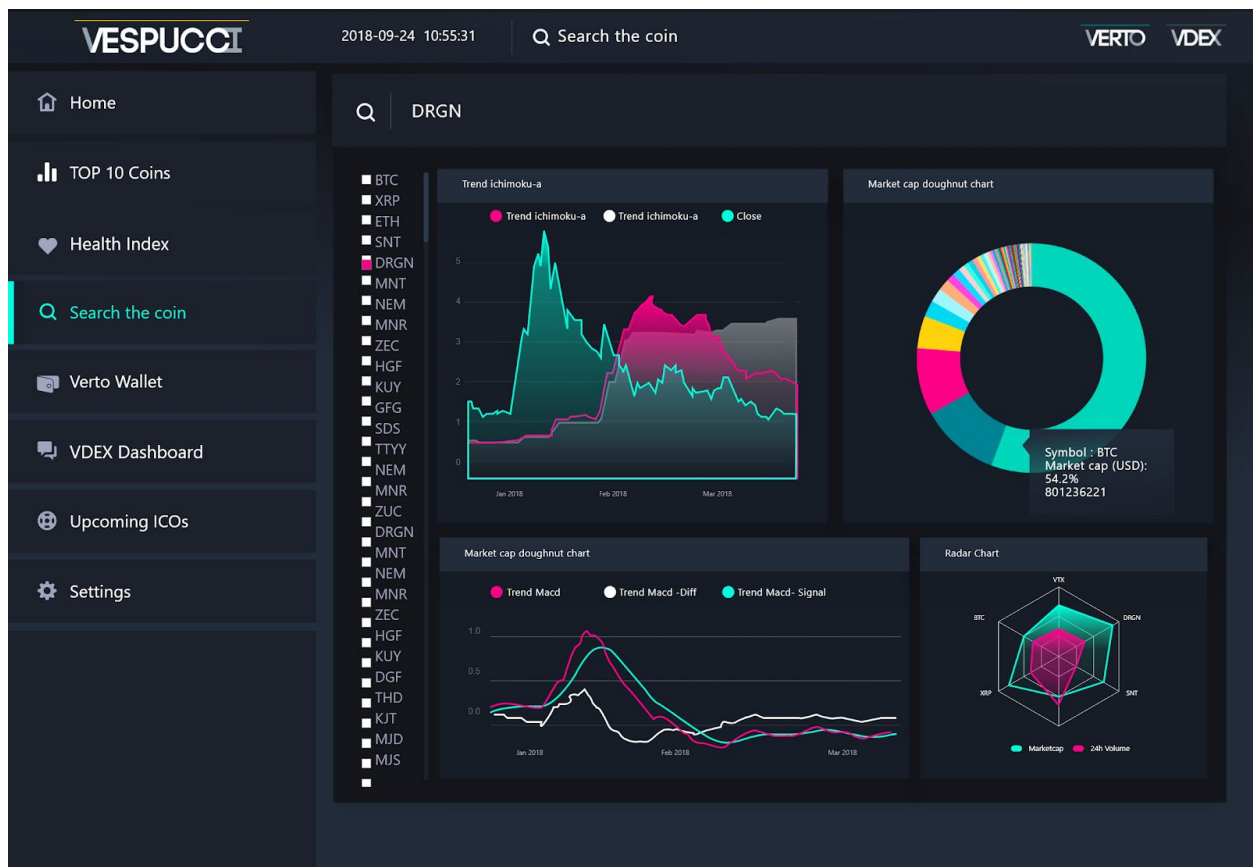
PLATFORM FEATURES

- Show all parameters that were used to calculate Vespucci score.
- Ability for the user to modify basic parameters for score configuration.
- Display filters for cryptocurrencies.
- Cryptocurrency index
- Rating system of Vespucci using 5 stars rating system
- Show general information and characteristics of the cryptocurrency of user's choice
- Sentiment analysis charts
- Cryptocurrency distribution scheme
- Transaction history
- Technical Characteristics
- Charts of activity on Github
- Activity on social networks using points on world map
- Ability to add other utility charts through a list of parameters



USER OPTIONS

- Show all the encryption, next to the name and symbol of Vespucci's rating.
- Adjust rating system by selecting active Vespucci parameters.
- Configure rating system by selecting the priority of the basic parameters and adjusting weights.
- Be informed separately about the effect of the basic parameters via diagrams and gain a deeper picture of those that shape the fluctuation of the value of each currency.
- Filter the list of cryptocurrencies according to the hash rate and the chronological period they were active on the market.
- View cryptocurrency features in detail.



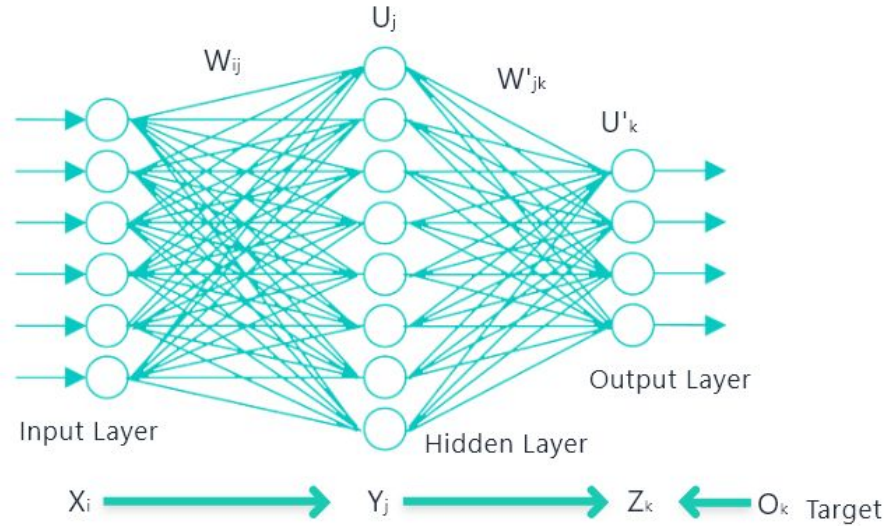
6. OVERALL ARCHITECTURE AND IMPLEMENTATION

We have discussed the three main subsystems of Fundamental / Technological Analysis, Technical Analysis, and Sentiment Analysis. All three pillars are imperfect. Furthermore, only the most experienced analysts can combine all three systems in one rating strategy. The final score for each cryptocurrency depends on each of the three components, weighted either by default values or by weights provided by the user. Since we are firm believers in the value of the technology and the value of the team behind each cryptocurrency, FTA and, especially, the technological aspects are assigned a total weight of 50% by default. Based on research and trial of assessment parameters, appropriate weights are derived to quantifiably gauge the validity of a coin. We exploit recent breakthroughs in deep neural networks in order to automate the combination of scores without human intervention so as to avoid introducing direct or indirect bias.

The outputs of all three constituents together with the corresponding price (price being inverse to risk) movements for different frames yield a ranking of the cryptocurrencies and the tokens in the most holistic approach ever achieved. This is coupled with post-processing for humans.

Regarding extensibility, Vespucci is particularly useful for Ethereum-based tokens. This represents many of the most exciting tradeable tokens today, but many new smart contract systems are being developed with their own very particular virtual machines and execution runtimes. This module can be seen as a specific instantiation of a number of other such modules which could be built for future smart contract systems. In particular, systems are likely to appear that expose a semantics especially amenable to formal verification, at which point Vespucci will be extended with new modules resembling this one for each new smart contract system that supports a range of valuable tokens. Overtime, and with the main pillars firmly rooted, the system is envisioned to also provide price prediction.

Deep learning and AI are powerful technologies under rapid development today and may be employed in other parts of the Vespucci system besides the final phase of outputting the overall score. Below is a sketch of a basic neural network with a single hidden layer. Today's deep networks have a multitude of such layers, whose power we shall exploit. Neural networks "learn" the appropriate weights by back-propagation. An important question is therefore the learning phase where historical data on cryptocurrencies, properly labeled, shall be employed. One issue is that the available data is limited and its labels may need curation: the created dataset shall become openly accessible as a contribution to the community.

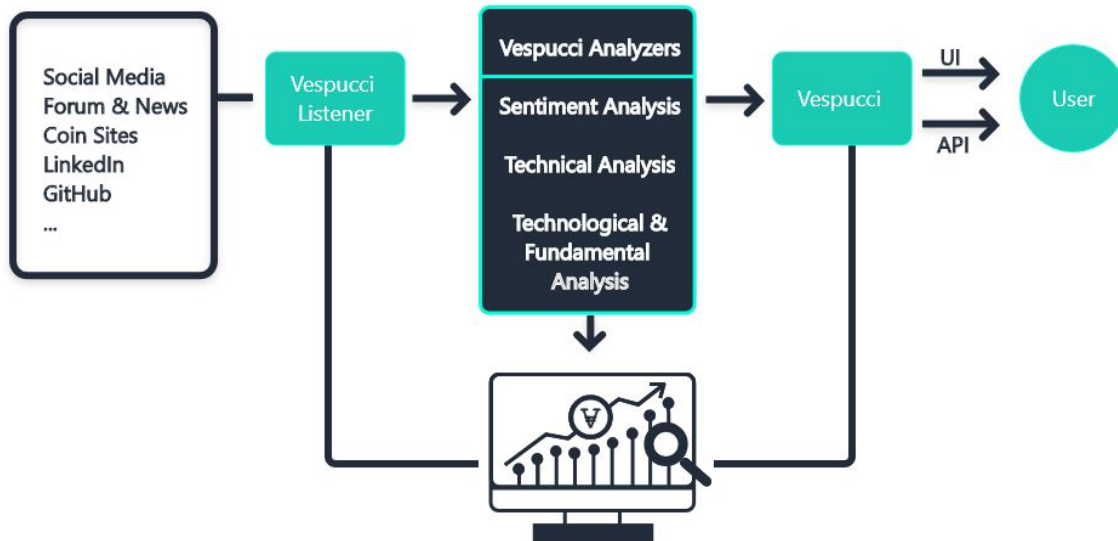


Lastly, a cutting-edge idea to be employed in this phase is the distributed implementation of learning tools, in accordance with the decentralized philosophy of Vespucci.

The **pipeline of Vespucci**, as shown in the figure below, consists of a computer cluster, having nodes for listening (Vespucci Listeners, or Aggregators) the aforementioned sources, such as social media (Twitter, Facebook, reddit), coin sites (coinmarketcap.com), Github etc, and nodes that could perform the analysis step of the collected data (Vespucci Analyzers). The results are kept in a database to which the user has access through the interface and by an API.

- The listeners are VM nodes which periodically listen/search the sources of each coin. New information extracted for each coin is also kept in the database for transparency.
- The analyzer VM nodes are then triggered and the new collected data will be analyzed (SA, TA and FTA) by the analyzer nodes. The results are stored in the database.
- Finally, the UI is periodically refreshed, updating the current view of the user to include new analysis results.

To effectively manage our computer cluster consisting of listening and analyzing nodes, we offer a platform that facilitates any type of component architecture (useful tools here may be combined with Docker containers). We shall provide the API, but implementation details are decided by the developers. To provide concrete examples, frameworks for distributed storage and processing of big data are considered. We promote open-source software utilities that facilitate using massive amounts of data handling automatically hardware failures, and frameworks with the ability to write applications in multiple languages, those for distributed stream processing, or for stream processes and batch tasks.



The **implementation** of the Vespucci analysis tools uses various data analytics libraries, wrappers for the different APIs, and libraries for machine learning. Initially, most of those processes run on Linux Virtual Machines and results are kept in databases. In case of insufficiency, a serverless frameworks shall be considered. In the immediate future powerful servers with GPUs are designed to perform efficiently all of our analysis. For SA, and possibly other modules as well, a **node.js** system is used, though alternative implementations are easily swappable. The aggregate information being recorded, and continuously being derived, storing it in a static place is a requirement for the final version of Vespucci. We may use document-oriented databases for storing structured information, as is the case for the data that exists in the Vespucci system.

Vespucci **data** sources may include, but not be limited to: historic trading records, trading trends, developer activity and plan analysis, digital asset distribution and governance information, terms and conditions and current and historic address balances as well as forum sentiment analysis. This information can be found scattered among blockchain explorer sites and chat rooms. In particular, SA (see relevant [section](#)) would require data on all coins for a limited period of time. This is a vast amount of data and in order to minimise the impact that data will have on the system, we employ big data techniques of compression, aggregation, and filtering.

Storage techniques may rely on off-chain Order books developed by VLabs, which is a sophisticated data structure with high security standards. It relies on EOS.IO, and its persistence API. One advantage of such a system is that it is not expensive; on the other hand, it is sufficiently efficient for our purposes. While transactions are handled by the VDex, non-transactional data will remain off-chain.

7. TIMELINE



The project's timeline is shown in the above figure. The main milestones are:

- Vespucci Green and White Papers, October 2018
- Vespucci MVP. November 2018.
- Vespucci, version 1.0. April 2019.

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