

Topic and purpose:

The topic of the project is Congress Financial Disclosures Sentiment Analysis. Inspired by the new that “Four senators sold stocks before coronavirus threat crashed market” (<https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/488593-four-senators-sold-stocks-before-coronavirus-threat-crashed-market>), I would like to develop a tool to extract useful information from trades made by senators and representatives, in order to improve the data transparency into Congress and make insider trading less likely. It’s crucially important because it helps the public to understand if and how politicians are benefited from the information they know before the public, which is the purpose of financial disclosures.

Process and methods:

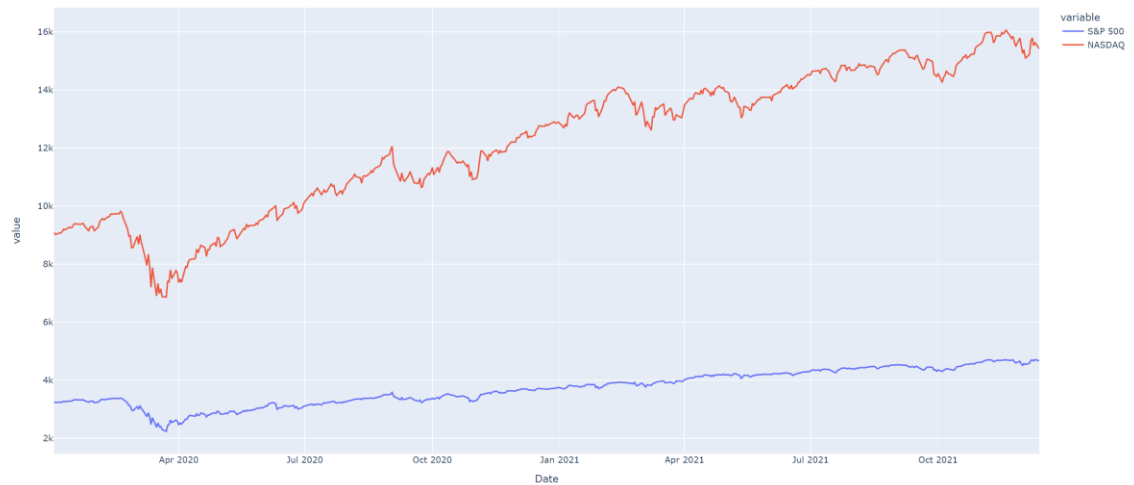
I took advantages of the senatestockwatcher (<https://senatestockwatcher.com/api>) and housestockwatcher(<https://housestockwatcher.com/api>) APIs designed by Tim Carambat (<https://ko-fi.com/rambat>), got the disclosed trading data from the APIs and pre-processed the data into tabular forms, make data visualization about their buy or sale actions in different industries or the whole market

Also, I got the S&P 500 and Nasdaq index data from Yahoo Finance API (<https://www.yahoofinanceapi.com/>), and correlates them by various similarity matrices. Due to the limits of the disclosed information (no specific trading price, volumes, and trading time, but only trading volume ranges and dates), I do not expect to develop trading algorithms based on disclosed information.

I cleaned the data by dropping rows containing N/A values. In addition, because senateTransactions.csv and houseTransactions.csv have different words for “type”, I replace the data in senateTransactions.csv ['Purchase','Sale (Full)','Sale (Partial)','Exchange'], with ['purchase','sale_full','sale_partial', 'exchange'] in order to make the data in two dataframes consistent.

I planned to utilize one of the techniques in lecture “Contextual Text Mining: Mining Causal Topics with Time Series Supervision” -- the Granger Causality Test -- to make conclusion about the casual relationships between senate/house transactions data and S&P500/NASDAQ time series data.

Result:



(492, 2)			(11628, 2)		
	S&P 500	NASDAQ	transaction_date	type	amount
Date					
2020-01-02	3257.850098	9092.190430	2021-09-27	purchase	\$1,001 - \$15,000
2020-01-03	3234.850098	9020.769531	2021-09-13	purchase	\$1,001 - \$15,000
2020-01-06	3246.280029	9071.469727	2021-09-10	purchase	\$15,001 - \$50,000
2020-01-07	3237.179932	9068.580078	2021-09-28	purchase	\$15,001 - \$50,000
2020-01-08	3253.050049	9129.240234	2021-09-17	sale_partial	\$1,001 - \$15,000
2020-01-09	3274.699951	9203.429688	(2032, 2)		
2020-01-10	3265.350098	9178.860352	transaction_date	type	amount
2020-01-13	3288.129883	9273.929688	2021-11-01	sale_full	\$250,001 - \$500,000
2020-01-14	3283.149902	9251.330078	2021-11-01	sale_full	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000
2020-01-15	3289.290039	9258.700195	2021-11-01	sale_full	\$250,001 - \$500,000
			2021-10-27	sale_full	\$250,001 - \$500,000
			2021-10-29	sale_full	\$250,001 - \$500,000

I successfully visualized the S&P500/NASDAQ time series data and cleaned the data; however, I realized that it the senate/house transactions are categorical, but Granger Causality in Time Series requires to compare two (or more) numerical data, and the data frame need to be the same length.

With that been said, I would need to figure out how to convert the senate/house transactions data is to numerical data, and I would need to concatenate/reshape the data to have the same length. (the length of 492 is the sum of trading days from 1/2/2020 to 12/10/2021). That would be the steps for future works.