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ABSTRACT

We developed an interactive system that tracks financial sentiment across news and Reddit discussions, linking sentiment scores to specific tickers and sectors. By combining LLM-based labeling with neural network classification and cloud-native architecture, our system captures rapid shifts in market mood that conventional dashboards often miss.

MOTIVATION & OBJECTIVES

The Challenge:

- Traditional sentiment tools focus only on structured financial news
 - Fast-moving online communities (Reddit's r/stocks, r/wallstreetbets) drive market narratives
 - Need for unified system capturing both formal and informal sentiment
- Our Goal:** Create a practical, dynamic tool that:
- Detects ticker and sector mentions in financial text
 - Assigns accurate sentiment scores across diverse sources
 - Visualizes aggregate sentiment trends interactively
 - Helps analysts identify market mood shifts early

SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

Two-Phase Pipeline:

Phase 1: Model Training

- Financial news headlines labeled via Google Gemini
 - High-quality training dataset generated automatically
 - Feed-forward neural network trained on labeled data
 - Efficient alternative to computationally expensive transformers
- Phase 2: Deployment & Visualization**
- Real-time Reddit data ingestion via PRAW API
 - Sentiment prediction using trained model
 - PostgreSQL database for storage and aggregation
 - Interactive Dash/Plotly dashboard for exploration

Cloud Infrastructure:

- End-to-end Google Cloud Platform deployment
- Scalable, near real-time processing
- SQLAlchemy for efficient data queries

Method: Data Sources

- Training Data:** 200,000+ financial news headlines (Webz.io)
- Deployment Data:** Reddit posts from r/stocks, r/investing, r/wallstreetbets

juid	url	site	site_full	title	author	published	country	language
0_b1478dbaf	https://www.under30esq.com/under-US-stock-in-Ashley-Niet	2024-12-1:US	english					
1_2b1239308	https://fakt.fakti.bg	fakti.bg	Ov23.0/CVc_Knur	2024-12-1:BG	english			
2_121445929	https://www.business.com/busin	Crypto tax/a/Busines	2024-12-1:IN	english				
3_18e3d7a74	https://www.plymth.com/plymthLloydsBank	Kate Lally	2024-12-1:GB	english				
4_4873a12db	https://www.finanznachw.	finanzCheetah_M4FX News	2024-12-1:DE	english				
5_848a15249	https://theeagleontheregion	Nigeria's in Hassan Mu	2024-12-1:NG	english				
6_39284d4de	https://www.investing.c	www.Invest German by Reut	2024-12-1:CN	english				
7_ef76c36c1	https://www.armstronge	www.armst Food Inflat Martin Arm	2024-12-1:US	english				
8_10c6130e8	https://www.gazettextra	www.gazet How crimin Daniz	2024-12-1:US	english				
9_162d2e246	https://www.surinengt	www.surin High wage Lucia Palac	2024-12-1:ES	english				
10_bf5724345	https://www.ktbs.com	www.ktbs Markets m4FP	2024-12-1:US	english				
11_06fb9b13	https://www.foxbangor	www.foxba Markets m4FP	2024-12-1:US	english				
12_39c008c3	https://www.sharecast	www.share London opn Michele Ma	2024-12-1:GB	english				
13_6ef4baea7	https://www.sharecast	www.share Banz1 share Josh White	2024-12-1:GB	english				
14_61d9c531	https://tribune.net.tribune.net	CoA Report Edon Iquira	2024-12-1:PH	english				
15_23f679f23	https://www.business-sww	busin Telecom St Business	2024-12-1:PH	english				
16_c7e9e71d	https://thealthedigitalg	medialingu Why Olaf S/TheDaily	2024-12-1:IN	english				
17_4d020713c	https://www.rappler.co	rappl FACT CHEC Alfa Dela C	2024-12-1:PH	english				
18_8b1c1e900	https://mw.mnvention.mnvention	.PER Capita Grace Phiri	2024-12-1:AF	english				
19_2a9a9cfed	https://www.fxstreet.co	www.fxstreet EUR/USD si/ICDFXStreet	2024-12-1:US	english				

Figure 1. Data snapshot

Method - Key Technical Innovations:

LLM-Assisted Labeling

- Automated sentiment labeling via Google Gemini
- Consistent, high-quality labels without manual annotation
- Structured prompt template for classification

Finance-Aware Text Processing

- Preserves ticker symbols (\$TSLA, AAPL formats)
- Retains financial indicators (%\$, emojis)
- Pattern matching for ticker extraction

Neural Network Classifier

- Learns financial-specific language patterns
- Fast inference for real-time streams
- Balances accuracy with computational efficiency

Multi-Level Aggregation

- Daily sentiment averages
- 90-day rolling statistics
- Sector-level summaries by industry

INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD FEATURES

User Controls:

- Toggle between Reddit-only vs. merged news+Reddit data
- Select ticker-level or sector-level analysis
- Customize date ranges and sentiment types

Visualization Components:

1. Sentiment Time-Series Panel

- Daily sentiment scores (positive/neutral/negative)
 - 90-day rolling statistics for trend detection
 - Optional stock price overlay for correlation analysis
 - Multi-ticker comparison capability
- 2. Industry Heatmap Panel**
- Sector-wide sentiment aggregation
 - Diverging color scale for intensity visualization
 - Temporal patterns across industries
 - Quick identification of market-driving sectors

RESULTS & EVALUATION

Classifier Performance:

- Stable training/validation loss convergence (80/20 split)
- Successful generalization to informal Reddit text
- Strong alignment with human judgment on sampled predictions
- Challenges: Sarcasm and highly context-dependent posts

Pipeline Validation:

- Consistent ticker extraction across format variations
- Accurate sentiment predictions written to database
- Verified aggregations (daily averages, rolling stats, sector summaries)

Dashboard Accuracy:

- Visualization outputs match direct SQL query results
- Clear display of daily sentiment shifts
- Effective highlighting of long-term patterns via rolling statistics
- Successful identification of sector-level market movements

RESULTS & EVALUATION

Overall Accuracy: 84% with balanced performance across classes (Fig. 2)

Positive: Precision 0.87, Recall 0.86, F1 0.87

Neutral: Precision 0.83, Recall 0.82, F1 0.83

Negative: Precision 0.82, Recall 0.84, F1 0.83

Macro-averaged F1-score: 0.85 across 39,901 test samples

Most misclassifications occur between adjacent sentiment categories, reflecting the nuanced nature of financial language. The model successfully generalizes to informal Reddit text while maintaining high accuracy on formal news data.

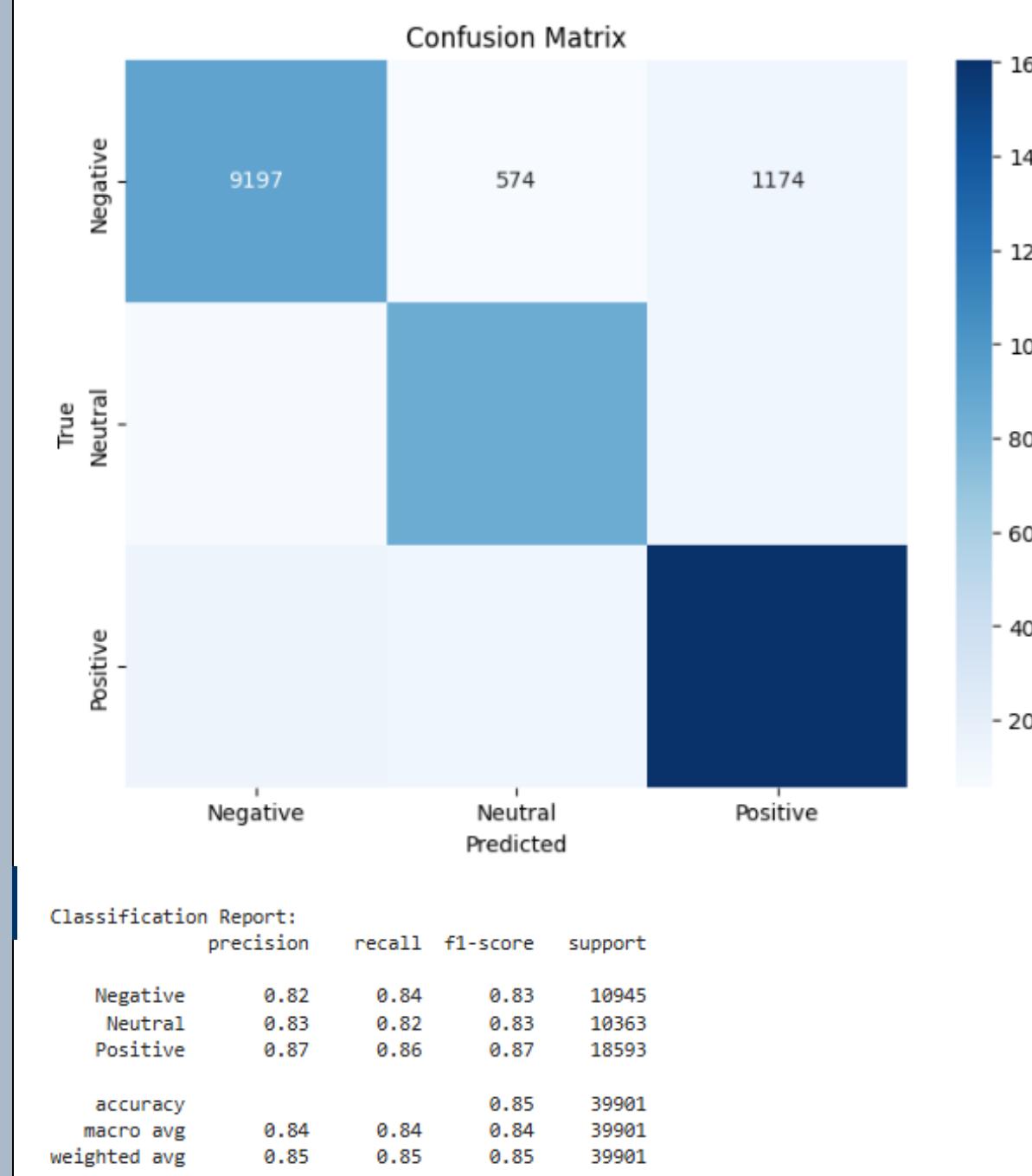


Figure 2. Confusion Matrix of Classification Performance

DASHBOARD VISUALIZATION

Time-Series Panel: Track sentiment evolution for multiple tickers with daily or 90-day rolling averages (scale: -100 to +100). Example shows divergent trends across five selected stocks (Figure 3).

Industry Heatmap: Compare daily sentiment across 11 sectors using color intensity (blue = positive, red = negative, white = neutral). Quickly identify market-driving industries and temporal patterns. (Figure 4)

User Controls: Toggle data sources, select ticker/sector granularity, filter date ranges, and choose multiple tickers or industries for comparison.

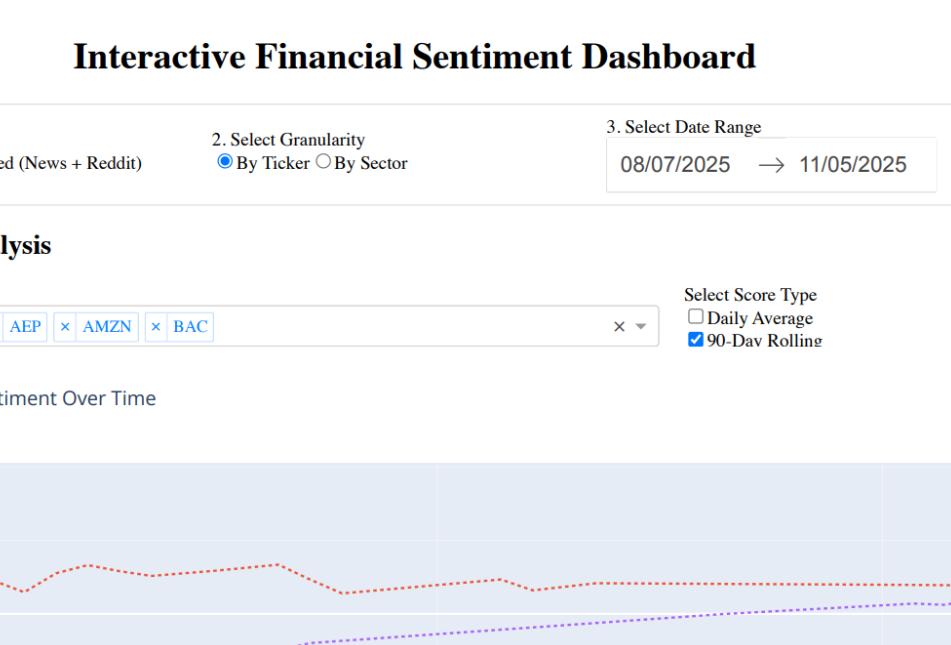


Figure 3. Time Series Sentiment visualization

Sentiment Overview by Industry

Filter Industries: Communications Services, Consumer Discretionary, Consumer Staples, Energy, Financials, Healthcare, Industrials, Materials, Real Estate, Technology, Utilities

Select Score Type: Daily Average, 90-Day Rolling



Figure 4. Sentiment Overview by Industry heat map

KEY FINDINGS

- LLM labeling + lightweight neural network = efficient, accurate sentiment classification
- System generalizes from formal news to informal social media language
- Multi-level visualization reveals sentiment patterns invisible in static reports
- Cloud-native architecture enables scalable, near real-time processing
- Combined news+Reddit sentiment provides richer market narrative

CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE WORK

Achievements:

- Demonstrated effective hybrid approach combining LLM labeling with neural classification
 - Created interpretable system for tracking ticker and sector sentiment
 - Validated alignment between sentiment shifts and real-world market narratives
- Future Enhancements:**
- Live streaming: Implement continuous real-time Reddit ingestion
 - Model upgrades: Integrate transformer-based models for nuance detection
 - Expanded coverage: Include additional subreddits and data sources
 - Predictive analytics: Explore sentiment-price relationships with live market feeds

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