

# Analyzing Public Discussions for Product Insights

Mining Reddit and Tiki for product issues, sentiment, and trends

From noisy threads → actionable product signals.

[VISION]

## **Problem & Value**

- Which products break, why, and how often—using public discussions.
- Turn unstructured Reddit and Tiki text into actionable product signals.
- Output insights teams can ship on: issues, trends, severity, examples.

## **Objectives**

- Which issues? How frequent? How trending? What severity?
- Where do issues cluster (by product/subreddit/time)?
- Deliver a repeatable pipeline and clear, prioritized findings.

## Why These Platforms?

- Reddit: rich, threaded discussions; public API; strong NLP support.
- Tiki (e-commerce): structured, purchase-verified reviews; VN market signal.
- Complementary: text-rich threads vs short reviews → broader coverage.

## Data Source Comparison

Platform	Pros	Cons
Reddit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public API (easy access)</li><li>• Rich text discussions</li><li>• Strong support for English NLP</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some noise and off-topic posts</li><li>• Limited Vietnamese data</li><li>• API usage restrictions/quotas</li></ul>

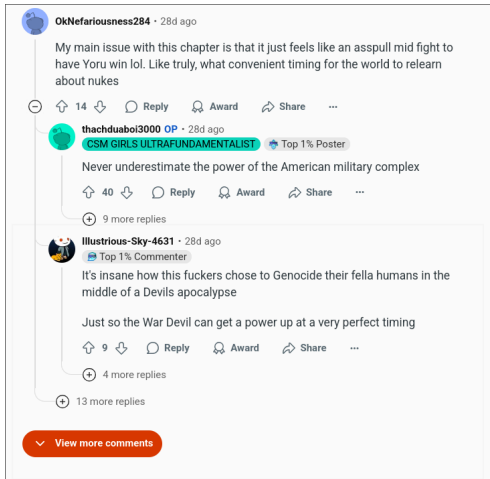
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community-driven, topic-focused “subreddits”</li> </ul>	
Facebook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large user base in Vietnam</li> <li>• Active groups and communities</li> <li>• Rich variety of topics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many bots/spam accounts</li> <li>• API restrictions</li> <li>• Difficult to collect clean data</li> <li>• Weak support for English NLP libraries</li> </ul>
TikTok	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very popular among young users</li> <li>• Strong trend/meme insights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mostly media (videos, images)</li> <li>• No official API</li> <li>• Lacks group/community structure</li> <li>• Scraping is slow (parse HTML)</li> <li>• Hard to extract relevant textual data</li> </ul>

# Data Collection

- **Initial:** PRAW (Python Reddit API Wrapper) for prototyping.
  - **Limitation:** 1,000 post cap, rate limits.
- **Current (Hybrid):**
  - Reddit historical archives (Academic Torrents) to bypass API caps.
  - Tiki review dumps for cross-source validation.
  - **Result:** Broader time windows, more volume.

# How PRAW Traverses Comments

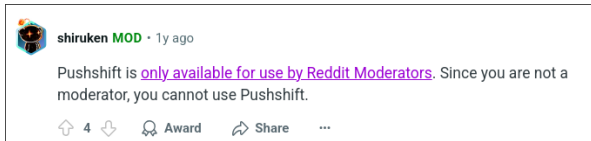
- Reddit returns comment trees with View more comments placeholders.
- We expand lazily, traverse, and serialize —no one-click “download”.
- Captures full depth where needed; avoids rate-limit explosions.



# Alternatives Considered

## Pushshift.io (Pushshift API)

- More powerful than PRAW, can filter posts by time
- Requires moderator status  
→ not feasible



## Personal Archive


- Continuous collection over weeks
- Impractical: hardware/time, can't capture older posts

(Or building one's own archive over a long period of time like the OP mentioned in another comment, that works too – but it does take time. Though they could load it with data from these archives too if they were so inclined.)

## Academic Torrents (Arctic Shift)

- Downloadable historical Reddit datasets
- Good for history + scale

### Download tool



Download posts and comments from a subreddit or user. Very large subreddits can take a long time to download. In that case, you can maybe narrow down the time range. Alternatively, you can download [subreddit dumps through Academic Torrents](#) or [monthly dumps](#).

r/

u/

headphones

Approximately 396k posts and 4.29m comments

Start date

2010-02-26

End date

now

☒ Download posts

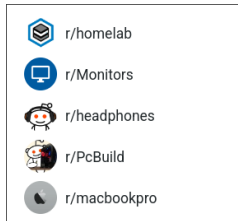
☒ Download comments

Start



# Subreddits Chosen

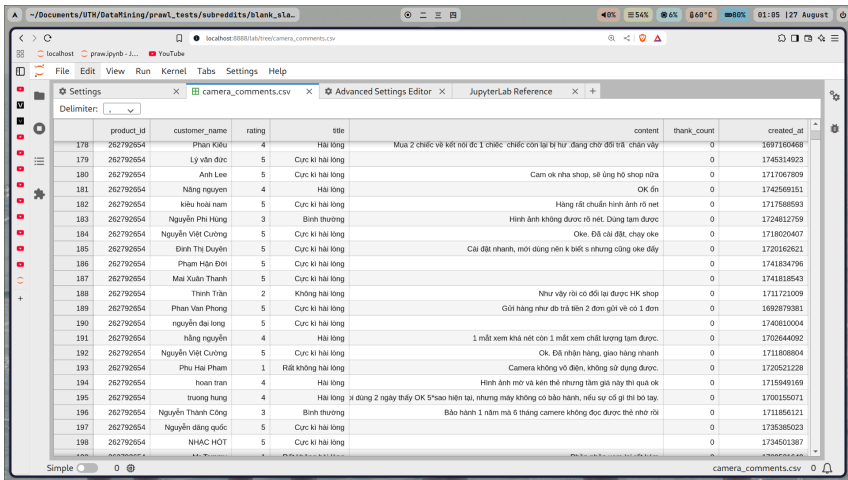
- A diverse mix of tech and lifestyle communities:
- r/macbookpro, r/GamingLaptops
- r/iphone, r/AppleWatch, r/Monitors, r/headphones, r/homelab, r/photography
- ...and several others covering home, audio, and PC building.
- total : 134121 posts, 1300190 comments, 2025-06-01 -> 2025-07-31.



```
prawl_tests/subreddits/blank_slate on / main [x!?] via 🐙
) : polars open all_posts_hanni.parquet | polars shape
+-----+
| # | rows | columns |
+-----+
| 0 | 134121 | 45 |
+-----+

prawl_tests/subreddits/blank_slate on / main [x!?] via 🐙
) : polars open all_comments_hanni.parquet | polars shape
+-----+
| # | rows | columns |
+-----+
| 0 | 1300190 | 25 |
+-----+
```

# Tiki



The screenshot displays a JupyterLab environment with a file explorer on the left showing the file structure. The main area shows a CSV file named 'camera\_comments.csv' with 19 rows of data. The interface includes a top menu bar with options like File, Edit, View, Run, Kernel, Tabs, Settings, and Help. The status bar at the bottom indicates the file is 'camera\_comments.csv' and shows a 'Simple' view mode.

	product_id	customer_name	rating	title	content	thank_count	created_at
178	262792654	Phan Kiều	4	Hài lòng	Mua 2 chiếc về kết nối dc 1 chiếc chiếc còn lại bị hư .đang chờ đổi trả .chân vầy	0	1697160468
179	262792654	Lý văn đức	5	Cực kì hài lòng		0	1745314923
180	262792654	Anh Lee	5	Cực kì hài lòng	Cam ok nha shop, sẽ ủng hộ shop nữa	0	1717067809
181	262792654	Năng nguyên	4	Hài lòng	OK ổn	0	1742569151
182	262792654	kiều hoài nam	5	Cực kì hài lòng	Hàng rất chuẩn hình ảnh rõ net	0	1717588593
183	262792654	Nguyễn Phi Hùng	3	Bình thường	Hình ảnh không được rõ nét. Dùng tạm được	0	1724812759
184	262792654	Nguyễn Việt Cường	5	Cực kì hài lòng	Ok. Đã cài đặt, chạy ok	0	1718020407
185	262792654	Đinh Thị Duyên	5	Cực kì hài lòng	Cài đặt nhanh, mới dùng nên k biết s nhưng cũng ok đấy	0	1720162621
186	262792654	Phạm Hân Đồi	5	Cực kì hài lòng		0	1741834796
187	262792654	Mai Xuân Thanh	5	Cực kì hài lòng		0	1741818543
188	262792654	Thịnh Trần	2	Không hài lòng	Như vậy rồi có đổi lại được HK shop	0	1711721009
189	262792654	Phan Văn Phong	5	Cực kì hài lòng	Gửi hàng như đb trả tiền 2 đơn gửi về có 1 đơn	0	1692879381
190	262792654	nguyễn đại long	5	Cực kì hài lòng		0	1740810004
191	262792654	hằng nguyên	4	Hài lòng	1 mắt xem khá nét còn 1 mắt xem chất lượng tạm được.	0	1702644092
192	262792654	Nguyễn Việt Cường	5	Cực kì hài lòng	Ok. Đã nhận hàng, giao hàng nhanh	0	1711808604
193	262792654	Phu Hai Phạm	1	Rất không hài lòng	Camera không vô điện, không sử dụng được.	0	1720521228
194	262792654	hoan tran	4	Hài lòng	Hình ảnh mờ và kén thẻ nhưng tầm giá này thì quá ok	0	1715949169
195	262792654	truong hung	4	Hài lòng	xi dùng 2 ngày thấy OK 5*sao hiện tại, nhưng máy không có bảo hành, nếu sự cố gì thì bỏ tay.	0	1700155071
196	262792654	Nguyễn Thành Công	3	Bình thường	Bảo hành 1 năm mà 6 tháng camera không đọc được thẻ nhớ rồi	0	1711856121
197	262792654	Nguyễn đáng quốc	5	Cực kì hài lòng		0	1735385023
198	262792654	NHAC HÓT	5	Cực kì hài lòng		0	1734501387

## EDA Highlights

- [Placeholder image: time series of comments/week by subreddit]
- [Placeholder image: length distribution (boxplot or histogram)]
- [Placeholder image: top product mentions (bar) via keyword/NER]
- Takeaways (placeholder): spikes follow launch X; r/homelab comments 2× longer.

# Preprocessing Pipeline

Convert 32 JSONL  $\rightarrow$  2 Parquet (Nushell + Polars); keeping as many meaningful columns as possible.

## Before

Posts: **106** columns

Comments: **69** columns



## After

Posts: **28** columns

Comments: **17** columns

- **Cleaning:**
  - Removed URLs.

- ▶ Filtered for English-only content for initial analysis. (only 5 thousands comments(out of 1,3 million), but consider keeping since the model is multilingual)
- Top 30 + 20 randomized posts per sub (seeded) to reduce virality bias. (placeholder)

	name	subreddit	score	link_id	parent_id	body	is_post
789	t3_1ia7502	iphone	6			to to reset this phone and get the new iPhone coming in later this year. Just need options.	true
790	t3_1m2y9ux	iphone	1			sad cards for recording longer videos, but haven't seen anything about the 10 base model.	true
791	t3_1t5d9t	laptops	112			I think I messed up while replacing the screen	true
792	t3_1lu9p9	laptops	110			air costs in Europe are so high that it's not even worth being. Lenovo, this is unacceptable!	true
793	t3_1bc7j6n	laptops	118			is old it is, but it's a laptop with a floppy drive. I figured someone here might appreciate this	true
794	t3_1orh4uk	laptops	247			I gooch on its lower side, but I left this mon-matching patch, will it eventually fade away?	true
795	t3_1nkorre4	iphone	1			iPhone 15 Pro Max Pro Foto	true
796	t3_1m9uz2n	iphone	1			Shift or True Tone but when I toggle those on and off nothing changes. What is happening?	true
797	t3_1t7m8l	laptops	0			Help regarding cly laptop!!	true
798	t3_1mve6p4	AppleWatch	35	t3_130vtn	t3_130vtn	Well the picture is actually mine but the idea	false
799	t3_1mve60w	AppleWatch	-7	t3_130vtn	t3_130vtn	you should wrap the watch around the phone horizontally but I like the idea!	false
800	t3_1mve70q	AppleWatch	536	t3_130vtn	t3_130vtn	ap a picture from the watch which is handy for capturing a serial number or model number	false
801	t3_1mve788	AppleWatch	176	t3_130vtn	t3_130vtn	in my days selfie cameras came with a little mirror to be able to see yourself.	false
802	t3_1mvea93t	AppleWatch	1	t3_130vtn	t3_130vtn	but why?	false
803	t3_1mvea8cl	AppleWatch	9	t3_130vtn	t3_1mvea93t	So you can use the much better back camera and also see what you are taking	false
804	t3_1mvea5a3	AppleWatch	17	t3_130vtn	t3_1mve70q	Proty much the only thing I use it for as well.	false
805	t3_1mveb7he	AppleWatch	103	t3_130vtn	t3_130vtn	Well if you can get it to work reliably, its always been trouble for me to see once launched.	false
806	t3_1mveb9qs	AppleWatch	20	t3_130vtn	t3_130vtn	I don't see the viewfinder image on my watch, just the controls. Anyone know why?	false
807	t3_1mvebtra	AppleWatch	2	t3_130vtn	t3_130vtn	What's the app called?	false
808	t3_1mveevp	AppleWatch	60	t3_130vtn	t3_130vtn	to keep eyes on my truck dash to see where the tire pressure sensors are as I fill the tires.	false
809	t3_1mvef34i	AppleWatch	1	t3_130vtn	t3_130vtn	Or just use the other camera?	false

## Context Experiment (Per-Comment SA)

- Parent-context vs per-comment classification compared on small labeled set.
- Result: per-comment avoids 512-token truncation and context pollution.

contextualized\_hierarchical\_output.json : shows what a comment with the context of it's comment tree looks like.

```
> ~/Documents/UTN/Examining/praw_tests/tests/oldtests/0ank.sla.c... 4% 512K 85% 834C #485 80.12 107 Aspet 25
prawa product context.html <y>Document/UTN/Examining/praw_tests/oldtests/0ank.sla.c... true
[0] 1:yaazi 2:rux 3:nade 4:yaazi 5:yaazi "report": 00:12 27-Aug-25
{
  "name": "T1_84CM9P2",
  "link_id": "t3_1m515lg",
  "parent_id": "t3_3ad5lmg",
  "score": 3,
  "body": "Koss. Everyone's 2019s true end game.",
  "children": [
    {
      "name": "T3_nodstqtq",
      "link_id": "t3_3ad5lmg",
      "parent_id": "t1_n0cm56r",
      "score": 5,
      "body": "Bystander love end reference. I bought a pair of Koss and returned them. Do they sound good? For the price, sure, but not above 20 bucks.",
      "children": [
        {
          "name": "T1_nided7j",
          "link_id": "t3_1m515lg",
          "parent_id": "t1_n0cm56r",
          "score": 1,
          "body": "I don't know. Mine sounds really good. Which model did you go with? I have the MSC75s. Branded, I did add aftermarket pads and run a personally tuned ID. But in my opinion it's the best thing I've heard under $100, headphone or IDN.",
          "children": [
            {
              "name": "T3_n0d9f60",
              "link_id": "t3_3m515lg",
              "parent_id": "t3_nided7j",
              "score": 2,
              "body": "They are portables. I shouldn't say all Koss, that's my bad. But the porta pros don't stand up to many cheap, 40-50 dollar models cons.",
              "children": [
                {}
              ]
            }
          ]
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```

```
C:\Documents\ATF\Desktop\gran_texas-test\src\utils\link_xls... 41% 512K 95% 834C #465 80:12 127 Agent-2
```

```
python process.py --help
```

```
[0] 1:year1 2:raw 3:mode 4:vars [vars]
```

```
{  
  "link_id": "t1_0481514",  
  "parent_id": "t1_0484872",  
  "score": 1,  
  "body": "They were portapaps. I shouldn't say all Koss, that's my bad. But the porta pros don't stand up to munny  
cheap, 40-50 dollar modern cars."  
  "children": [  
    {  
      "name": "TLA4809ra",  
      "link_id": "t1_048151g",  
      "parent_id": "t1_048487r",  
      "score": 3,  
      "body": "Wep, you nailed it. Everything Iy20019w seen about the Porta Pros say that theyIy2010re outdated.  
Y2u120d highly recommend either the Koss K5C75 if you like earcups, or the Koss MP444 if you want a more traditional headphone."  
      "children": [  
        {  
          "contextualized_text": "Koss. Everyany2019re true and gae. Outdated Low end reference. I bought a pair of  
Koss and returned them. As they sound good? For the price, sure, but not above 20 bucks. I don't know. Mine sounds really good. Which model did you go  
with? I have the K5C75s. Granted, I did add aftermarket pads and run a personally tuned EQ. But in my opinion it's the best thing I've heard under $100,  
headphone or IEM. They were portapaps. I shouldn't say all Koss, that's my bad. But the porta pros don't stand up to munny cheap, 40-50 dollar  
modern cars. Yap, you nailed it. Everything Iy2019we seen about the Porta Pros say that theyIy2019re outdated. Iy2019e highly recommend either the  
Koss K5C75 if you like earcups, or the Koss MP444 if you want a more traditional headphone."  
        },  
        {  
          "contextualized_text": "Koss. Everyany2019re true and gae. Outdated Low end reference. I bought a pair of Koss and  
returned them. As they sound good? For the price, sure, but not above 20 bucks. I don't know. Mine sounds really good. Which model did you go with?  
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headphone or IEM. They were portapaps. I shouldn't say all Koss, that's my bad. But the porta pros don't stand up to munny cheap, 40-50 dollar modern  
cars." }  
      ],  
      "contextualized_text": "Koss. Everyany2019re true and gae. Outdated Low end reference. I bought a pair of Koss and  
returned them. As they sound good? For the price, sure, but not above 20 bucks. I don't know. Mine sounds really good. Which model did you go with?  
I have the K5C75s. Granted, I did add aftermarket pads and run a personally tuned EQ. But in my opinion it's the best thing I've heard under $100,  
headphone or IEM. They were portapaps. I shouldn't say all Koss, that's my bad. But the porta pros don't stand up to munny cheap, 40-50 dollar modern  
cars." }  
    ]  
  }  
}
```

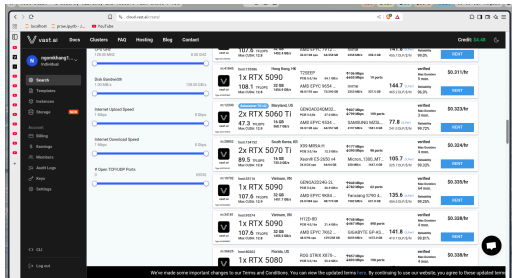
```
--retained text: "Koss. Everyany2019re true and gae. Outdated Low end reference. I bought a pair of Koss and  
returned them. As they sound good? For the price, sure, but not above 20 bucks. I don't know. Mine sounds really good. Which model did you go with?  
I have the K5C75s. Granted, I did add aftermarket pads and run a personally tuned EQ. But in my opinion it's the best thing I've heard under $100,  
headphone or IEM."
```

```
python process.py --raw --text --vars --contextualize_hierarchical_output.json
```

# Sentiment Analysis (SA)

- **Approach:** Pretrained transformers over simpler baselines (VADER, TextBlob).
- **Model:** lxyuan/distilbert-base-multilingual-cased-sentiments-student
  - **Why:** Good multilingual support, lightweight, strong zero-shot performance.
- **Execution:** Rented GPU on vast.ai for large-scale inference.
- **Next Step:** Fine-tune on a domain-specific labeled dataset.

```
{  
  "name": "t1_n4cku6n",  
  "link_id": "t3_1m5i5lg",  
  "parent_id": "t3_1m5i5lg",  
  "score": 2,  
  "body": "Thats literally me!",  
  "contextualized_text": "Thats literally me!",  
  "body_positive": 0.5420639514923096,  
  "body_neutral": 0.0,  
  "body_negative": 0.0,  
  "contextualized_text_positive": 0.5420639514923096,  
  "contextualized_text_neutral": 0.0,  
  "contextualized_text_negative": 0.0  
}
```



## Topic Modeling (Planned)

- **Goal:** Discover key themes and issues per subreddit.
- **Method:** Evaluate BERTopic vs. traditional methods (LDA/NMF).
- **Process:** Preprocess with domain stopwords, lemmatization.
- **Output:** Top topics, representative comments, and trend lines.
- Target: coherence c\_v threshold and stable topics across subsamples. (placeholder)
- [Placeholder image: intertopic distance map (BERTopic mock)]
- [Placeholder image: top-words table for 2 sample topics]



## CLI Tool (Planned)

- A pipeline for repeatable analysis:
- ingest: Raw data to Parquet.
- clean: Filter and normalize data.
- sentiment: Run batch sentiment analysis.
- topics: Train and apply topic models.
- report: Aggregate results and export.

## Risks & Mitigations

- **Bias:** Sampled randomly across multiple, diverse subreddits.
- **Time Drift:** Included time slices to compare cohorts.
- **Reproducibility:** Pinned environments, config-driven runs, and stored seeds.
- **Ethics:** Used public data, followed platform ToS, aggregated results.

## Next Steps

- Finalize EDA visualizations.
- Run sentiment analysis at scale.
- Pilot and select a topic modeling approach.
- Build and demo the core CLI workflow.
- Begin labeling for fine-tuning sentiment model.

## Q & A