

DLP Final Project:

Enhanced Market Guided Stock Transformer

Group 7

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Reference Work - MASTER

1. Dual-layer Attention: Learning cross-time stock correlation
2. Market-Guided Gate: Use market status to select relevant features

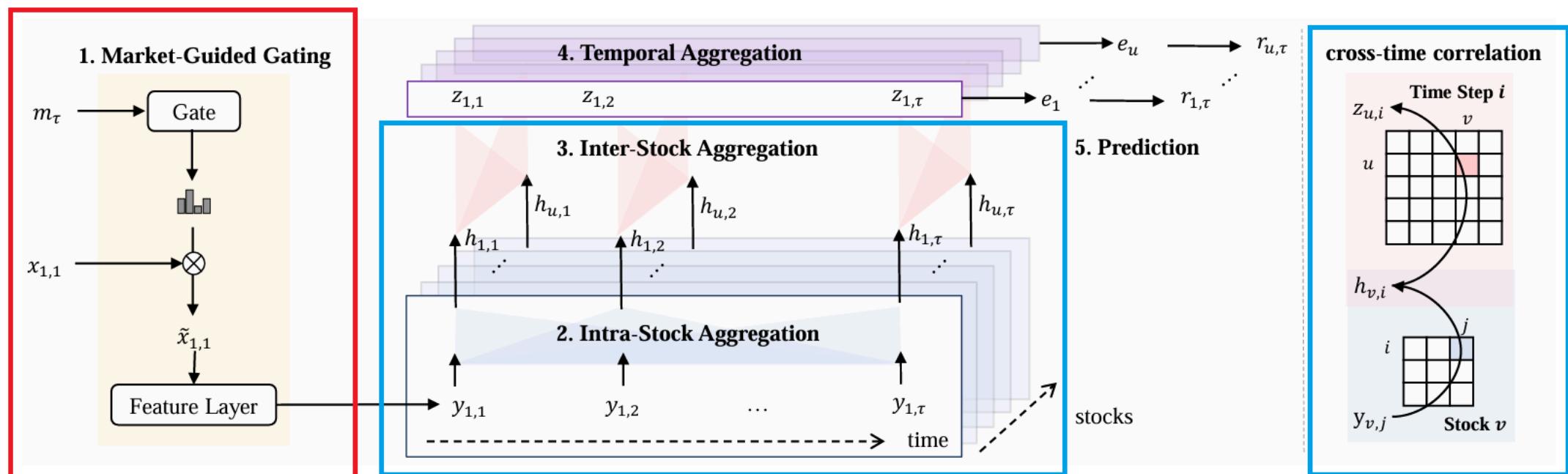


Figure 2: Overview of the MASTER framework.

Limitation

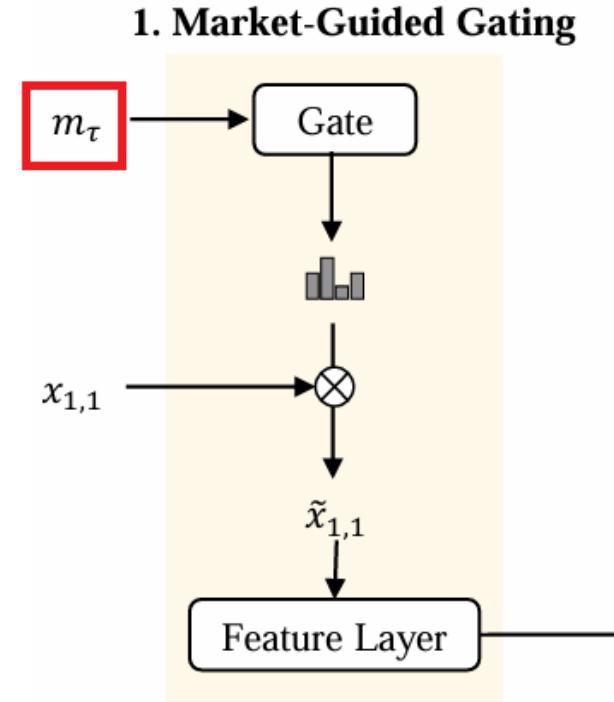
Guiding Features

Only market index prices and volumes

Key Concern

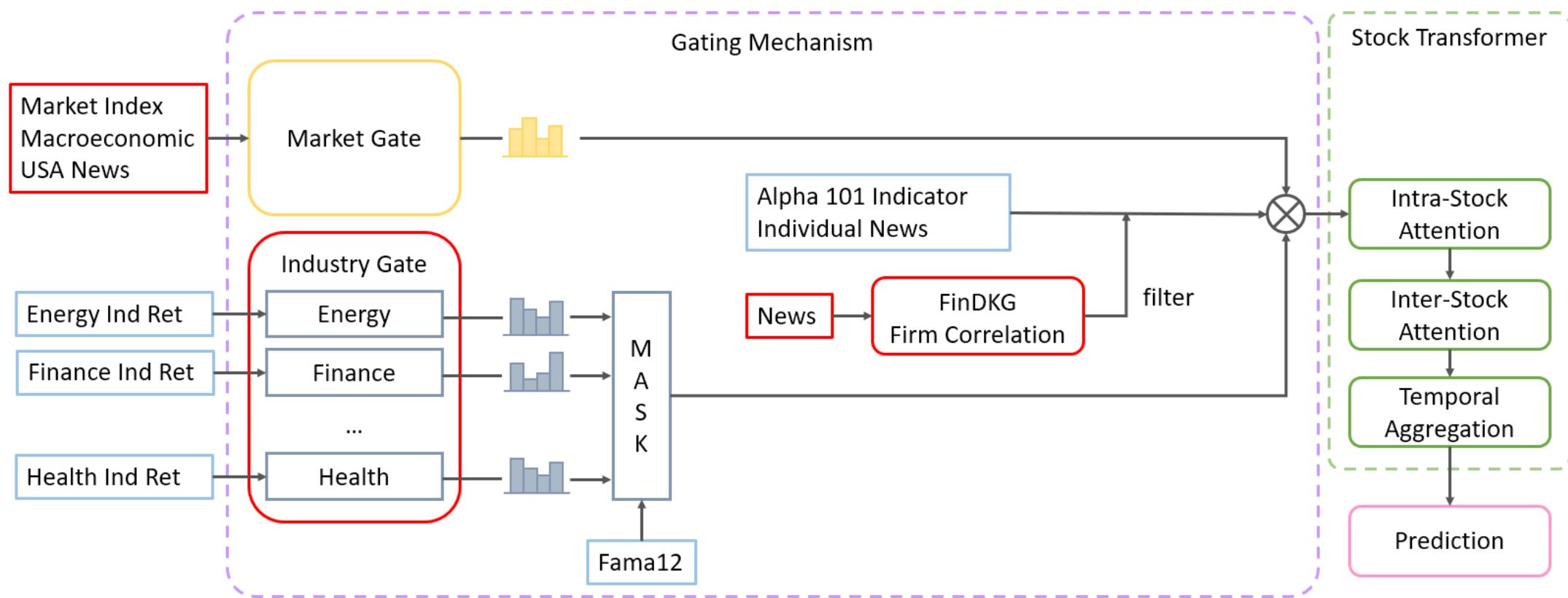
Insufficient market status info

- Gating fails to distinguish markets
- Poor feature rescaling
- Lower prediction performance



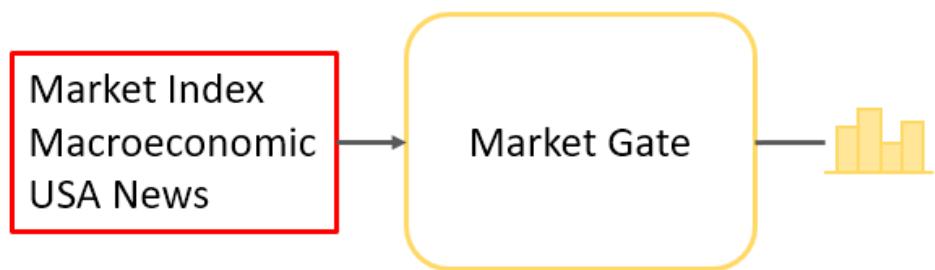
Improvement

(1) Expand Market Features (2) Industry Gate (3) News Features



Trick 1 - Expand Market Features

Illustration

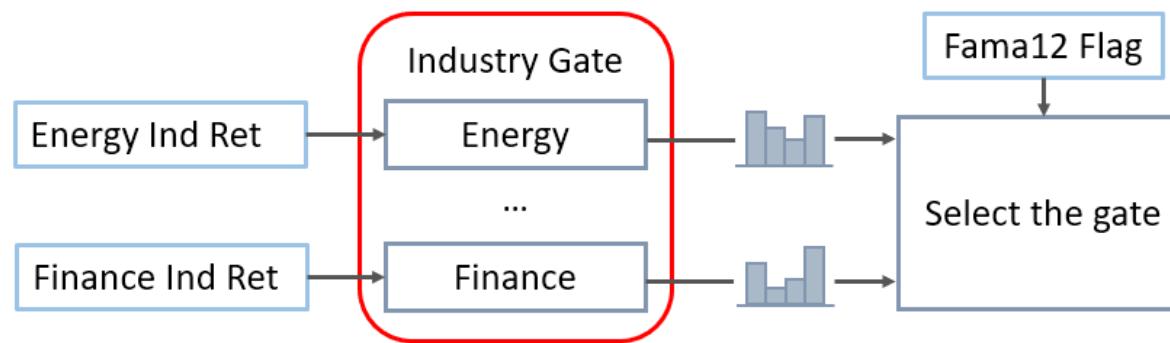


Guiding Features

| Feature Type | Source | Description |
|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| S&P 500 Price & Volume | Yahoo Finance | Mean and std dev over 5, 10, 20, 30, and 60 days |
| Macroeconomic Indicators | FRED | Oil prices, bond data (3M T-Bill, yield spread, etc.) |
| U.S. Macro News | RavenPack | News filtered by entity = "US" |

Trick 2 - Industry Gate

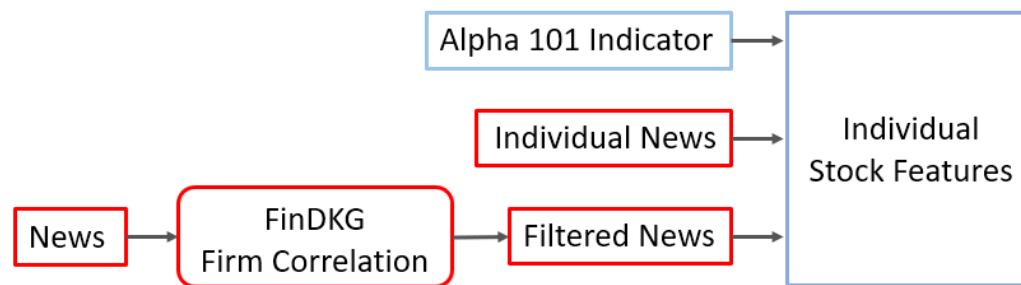
Illustration



- Data Source: Fama-French 12 Industries
- Filter out Others and industries < 8 stocks (Durables and Telecom)
- Each industry has its own gate → 9 gates in total
- Guiding Feature:
Mean and std dev of industry returns over 5, 10, 20, 30, 60 days

Trick 3 - News-Based Features

Illustration



1. Use FinDKG to identify firms correlated with the target stock
 2. Filter news scores from RavenPack related to the correlated firms
 3. Incorporate the filtered news scores as additional features
- ※ CausalStock shows news has a great impact on the ACL18 dataset, which contains the top 8 firms per industry.

Experiment Setting

Stock numbers: 8 firms \times 9 industries = 72 stocks

Comparisons:

1. Original MASTER
2. Trick 1 – Expanded Market Features
3. Trick 2 – Industry Gate
4. Trick 3 – Added News Features
5. All Tricks Combined

Experiment Setting (Cont.)

Hyperparameters:

- Training epochs: 20
- Intra-stock attention heads: 4
- Inter-stock attention heads: 2
- Dropout rate: 0.1
- Feature dimension: 128
- Beta (gating strength): varies based on number of raw features

Experiment Setting (Cont.)

Dataset Split

1. Follow MASTER Paper - Full period

- Training: 2008 to 2022
- Testing: 2023

2. Pre-COVID-19 period:

- Training: 2008 to 2017
- Testing: 2018

Result

1. Follow MASTER Paper - Full period

| Metric | No Trick | All Tricks | Trick 1 | Trick 2 | Trick 3 |
|--------|----------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|
| RMSE | 0.0196 | 0.0184 | 0.0186 | 0.0196 | 0.0185 |
| MAE | 0.0143 | 0.0130 | 0.0134 | 0.0142 | 0.0131 |

2. Pre-COVID-19 period:

| Metric | No Trick | All Tricks | Trick 1 | Trick 2 | Trick 3 |
|--------|----------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|
| RMSE | 0.0180 | 0.0168 | 0.0169 | 0.0174 | 0.0175 |
| MAE | 0.0129 | 0.0120 | 0.0122 | 0.0125 | 0.0126 |

Discussion

Trick 1 – Market Gate

- Most stable and effective (5–6% rmse drop in both 2018 & 2023)
- Extra macro features help gating

Trick 2 – Industry Gate

- Slight improvement, only works in 2018.
- Too few stocks per industry for stable industry-specific learning.

Discussion (Cont.)

Trick 3 – News Features

- Greater impacts in 2023 (improvement of 5.6 vs 2.8)
- News might help model detect recovery.

All Tricks

- No further boost
- Trick 1 & Trick 3 may overlap (both have news features)
- Multiple gates may interfere, weakening the overall effect

Ablation Study - Industry Beta

Temperature Beta

- A hyperparameter in the gating mechanism.
- Small Beta → stronger gating effect → filter more features.

Setting

- Period: Pre-COVID (Task 2)
- Market Gate Beta = 2 (fixed)
- Industry Gate Beta = [2, 4, 6, 8]

Ablation Study (Cont.)

Result

| | No ind gate | Ind beta = 2 | Ind beta = 4 | Ind beta = 6 | Ind beta = 8 |
|------|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| RMSE | 0.0180 | 0.0182 | 0.0178 | 0.0174 | 0.0177 |

Discussion

- If two gates have same gating strength → may conflict
- Best result at industry beta = 6
→ suggests the market gate plays a more critical role.

Conclusion

1. MASTER generalizes well to U.S. stocks (original: China market).
2. Enriching market features improves gating effectiveness.
3. News features contribute more in the post-pandemic market.