

DESIGNING AN ADVANCED DEEP LEARNING MODEL FOR PREDICTING THE STOCK MARKET GROWTH

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ABSTRACT

Stock market prediction has long been a challenging task due to its highly volatile, nonlinear, and dynamic nature influenced by economic indicators, market sentiment, and global events. This study presents the design of an advanced deep learning model for predicting stock market growth by integrating multiple neural network architectures to capture both temporal dependencies and complex feature interactions. The proposed framework combines Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks for time-series forecasting, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) for feature extraction, and attention mechanisms to enhance pattern recognition in historical price data and technical indicators. The model incorporates preprocessing techniques such as data normalization, noise filtering, and feature engineering to improve predictive accuracy and stability. Additionally, sentiment analysis from financial news and social media data is integrated to enrich the model's contextual understanding of market movements. The performance of the proposed model is evaluated using standard metrics such as Mean Absolute Error (MAE), Root Mean Square Error (RMSE), and directional accuracy. Experimental results demonstrate that the advanced hybrid deep learning approach outperforms traditional statistical models and standalone machine learning techniques in predicting stock market growth trends. The study highlights the potential of deep learning-driven financial forecasting systems to assist investors, analysts, and financial institutions in making informed and data-driven investment decisions.

Keywords: Stock Market Prediction, Deep Learning, LSTM, CNN, Attention Mechanism, Time-Series Forecasting, Sentiment Analysis, Financial Data Analytics, Hybrid Neural Networks, Market Trend Prediction.

I. INTRODUCTION

Financial forecasting has undergone significant transformation over the past few decades, evolving from classical economic theories to data-driven artificial intelligence frameworks. The early foundation of financial prediction was strongly influenced by the Efficient Market Hypothesis (EMH), which posits that asset prices fully reflect all available information, thereby making consistent excess returns unattainable through prediction [1]. While EMH shaped traditional portfolio theory and risk

management, empirical studies later revealed market anomalies and behavioral inefficiencies that challenged its strict assumptions [2]. These limitations opened avenues for statistical and computational approaches to identify hidden patterns in financial time series.

Conventional econometric models such as Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) and Generalized Autoregressive Conditional Heteroskedasticity (GARCH) became widely adopted for modeling price trends and volatility clustering [3], [4]. Although

effective in capturing linear dependencies and conditional variance, these models often fail to represent nonlinear and complex interdependencies inherent in financial markets. The increasing availability of high-frequency trading data further exposed the limitations of such linear frameworks, necessitating more adaptive and scalable predictive models [5].

The emergence of machine learning techniques introduced a paradigm shift in financial forecasting. Algorithms such as Support Vector Machines (SVM) and Artificial Neural Networks (ANN) demonstrated improved pattern recognition capabilities over statistical models [6], [7]. However, shallow architectures struggled to capture long-term temporal dependencies and sudden market regime shifts. With advancements in computational power and big data analytics, deep learning architectures such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks gained prominence for time-series modeling [8], [9]. LSTM networks, in particular, address the vanishing gradient problem in Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), enabling effective learning of long-term dependencies in sequential data [10].

The financial industry has further embraced AI-driven algorithmic trading systems, where predictive models are integrated into automated trading platforms for high-speed decision-making [11]. Recent studies highlight the incorporation of attention mechanisms, transformer architectures, and hybrid deep learning frameworks to enhance forecasting accuracy [12], [13]. Despite these advancements, traditional RNNs and standalone deep models often fail to respond effectively to sudden market shocks caused by geopolitical events, pandemics, or macroeconomic announcements [14]. These abrupt structural breaks introduce nonlinear dynamics and

extreme volatility that demand more advanced architectures capable of adaptive learning and contextual awareness.

Motivation

The motivation for designing an advanced deep learning model stems from the inadequacy of traditional statistical and basic neural network models in capturing the multidimensional and stochastic nature of stock markets. Linear models such as ARIMA assume stationarity and fail under non-stationary market conditions, particularly during financial crises [3]. Similarly, basic RNNs suffer from gradient instability and limited memory capacity, reducing their effectiveness in long-horizon forecasting [10]. Sudden market shocks—such as the 2008 financial crisis or the COVID-19 pandemic—introduce extreme volatility patterns that cannot be sufficiently modeled using conventional frameworks [14]. Therefore, advanced architectures integrating LSTM, CNN, and attention mechanisms provide a more robust solution by simultaneously extracting spatial, temporal, and contextual features from financial datasets [12], [15].

Objectives

The primary objective of this study is to design and implement an advanced deep learning framework for predicting stock market growth. Specifically, the model aims to:

1. Predict price growth by forecasting future closing prices based on historical trends and technical indicators.
2. Determine trend direction (bullish or bearish movement) to assist in investment decision-making.
3. Estimate market volatility to assess risk levels associated with price fluctuations.

By integrating temporal modeling, feature extraction, and attention-based weighting mechanisms, the proposed framework seeks to achieve higher predictive accuracy and

robustness compared to traditional econometric and standalone machine learning models.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

Traditional machine-learning approaches established early baselines for stock forecasting by exploiting handcrafted features and ensemble or margin-based learners. Random forests—introduced by Leo Breiman in 2001—use bootstrap aggregation and randomized tree construction to reduce variance and are widely used for regression/classification tasks in finance because of their robustness to noisy inputs and relative interpretability [16]. Support Vector Machines, formalized by Corinna Cortes and Vladimir Vapnik in 1995, provide a strong margin-based framework that performs well with limited data and well-engineered kernels, and have been applied to both price-direction classification and short-term return prediction [17]. While both methods often outperform naïve baselines, their reliance on static feature engineering and inability to capture long temporal dependencies limit performance on highly nonstationary financial time series; many comparative studies therefore view these methods as important baselines rather than final solutions for long-horizon or regime-shift forecasting.

The deep-learning era began when gated recurrent structures and memory cells proved effective at modeling sequential dependencies in noisy time series. Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks, introduced by Sepp Hochreiter and Jürgen Schmidhuber in 1997, solved the vanishing-gradient problem and enabled learning of long-range dependencies—qualities that quickly attracted interest for financial forecasting and volatility modeling [18]. The Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU), popularized in the encoder-decoder work by Kyunghyun Cho et al. (2014) and empirically compared in follow-up studies (e.g., Chung et

al.), provided a lighter-weight gating alternative that often matches LSTM performance with fewer parameters—an advantage for low-latency or data-scarce trading applications [19], [20]. Empirical literature from the 2010s–early-2020s shows that LSTM/GRU architectures outperform shallow networks and many classical statistical models on many short-to-medium-horizon forecasting tasks, but they still struggle with abrupt regime changes and multi-asset cross-dependencies unless combined with additional architectures or exogenous data inputs.

The current state-of-the-art (2023–2026) has moved toward attention-centric and graph-aware models that better capture global context and inter-asset relationships. Attention mechanisms (e.g., Bahdanau et al., 2014), which allow models to weight past signals adaptively, laid the groundwork for fully attention-based Transformers; the Transformer architecture of Ashish Vaswani et al. (2017) replaced recurrence with multi-head self-attention and has since been adapted extensively for time-series and financial forecasting tasks [21], [22]. Transformer variants and hybrid models (e.g., studies applying Transformer encoders to price series and news embeddings) report improved horizon-adaptive forecasting and better integration of textual sentiment features compared with standalone RNNs [25]. Parallel to this, Graph Neural Networks (GNNs) — with seminal graph convolution approaches by Thomas Kipf and Max Welling — have enabled explicit modeling of correlations and spillover effects across stocks by representing markets as dynamic graphs; recent systematic reviews and 2024–2025 empirical papers show GNN and evolving-graph methods materially improve multi-asset prediction accuracy by learning relational structure (co-movement, sector linkages, news-driven edges) that flat time-series

models miss [23], [24]. Very recent 2024–2025 work also combines Transformers + GNNs (or inter-intra graph designs) to jointly model temporal attention and cross-asset structure, which appears to be the most promising direction for robust, multi-stock forecasting under shock events.

III. METHODOLOGY

1. Data Acquisition

The first stage involves collecting reliable and high-resolution financial data from structured and unstructured sources. Historical OHLCV (Open, High, Low, Close, Volume) data are obtained through financial data APIs such as Yahoo Finance and Bloomberg. These datasets provide daily or intraday price movements along with trading volume, enabling the modeling of price trends and liquidity patterns.

To enhance contextual awareness, alternative data sources are also incorporated. Financial news articles, earnings reports, macroeconomic announcements, and social media posts are collected using public news APIs and financial platforms. This multimodal data strategy allows the model to integrate both quantitative market signals and qualitative investor sentiment, which is critical during periods of market instability.

2. Feature Engineering

Feature engineering plays a crucial role in improving predictive performance by transforming raw financial data into meaningful representations.

a) Technical Indicators

A comprehensive set of technical indicators is computed from OHLCV data to capture trend, momentum, and volatility characteristics. These include:

- Relative Strength Index (RSI) to measure overbought and oversold conditions.

- Moving Average Convergence Divergence (MACD) to identify trend reversals and momentum shifts.
- Bollinger Bands to quantify market volatility and price deviations from moving averages.
- Moving averages and volume-based indicators to identify accumulation and distribution patterns.

These engineered features allow the model to learn structured representations of market behavior beyond raw price values.

b) Alternative Data – Sentiment Features

To incorporate behavioral and informational effects, sentiment scores are extracted from financial news and social media data using advanced NLP models such as BERT or RoBERTa.

The textual data undergo tokenization, contextual embedding, and sentiment classification to produce daily sentiment indices. These indices represent positive, negative, or neutral market outlooks and are aligned temporally with stock price data. The integration of sentiment features enhances the model's ability to respond to unexpected events such as earnings announcements, policy changes, or geopolitical shocks.

3. Data Preprocessing

Financial time-series data are inherently noisy and non-stationary. Therefore, preprocessing is essential to stabilize learning and improve convergence.

a) Normalization

All numerical features, including prices, volumes, and technical indicators, are scaled to a standardized range. Normalization ensures that features with large magnitudes do not dominate the training process and allows faster gradient convergence during optimization.

b) Stationarity Transformation

To reduce non-stationarity and improve temporal learning, transformations such as log returns and differencing are applied to price series. These transformations help the model focus on relative price changes rather than absolute price levels, making the patterns more predictable and reducing trend-induced bias.

c) Windowing Strategy

A sliding time-window approach is adopted to convert sequential data into supervised learning format. Each training sample consists of a fixed-length historical window used to predict future price growth, trend direction, or volatility over a defined forecast horizon.

4. Proposed Advanced Architecture

The core contribution of this work lies in the design of a hybrid deep learning architecture that combines Temporal Convolutional Networks (TCN) and Transformer-based attention mechanisms.

a) Temporal Convolutional Networks (TCN)

TCNs are used in the initial stage to extract short-term and local temporal patterns from sequential financial data. Their dilated causal convolution structure allows the model to capture multi-scale temporal dependencies while maintaining parallel computation efficiency. TCN layers effectively identify short-term price momentum, volatility bursts, and micro-trend structures.

b) Transformer Encoder with Self-Attention

Following TCN feature extraction, the output is passed to a Transformer encoder module. The self-attention mechanism enables the model to weigh different time steps dynamically, allowing it to capture long-term dependencies and global market trends.

Unlike traditional recurrent networks, Transformers process sequences in parallel and adaptively focus on critical historical events, such as financial crises or earnings

announcements, that significantly influence future growth.

c) Sentiment Fusion Layer

Sentiment embeddings derived from NLP models are integrated through a feature fusion mechanism. These embeddings are concatenated or attention-weighted with numerical financial features, enabling the model to jointly learn from structured and unstructured data.

d) Output Layer

The final fully connected layers generate predictions for:

- Price growth (regression output),
- Trend direction (binary classification output), and
- Volatility estimation (continuous output).

Dropout and regularization techniques are applied to prevent overfitting, and the model is trained using adaptive optimization algorithms to ensure stable convergence.

5. Training and Evaluation Strategy

The dataset is divided into training, validation, and testing sets using time-aware splitting to avoid data leakage. Walk-forward validation is employed to simulate real-world forecasting conditions.

Model performance is evaluated using regression metrics for price prediction and classification metrics for trend direction. Volatility estimation accuracy is assessed using error-based evaluation measures and directional consistency metrics.

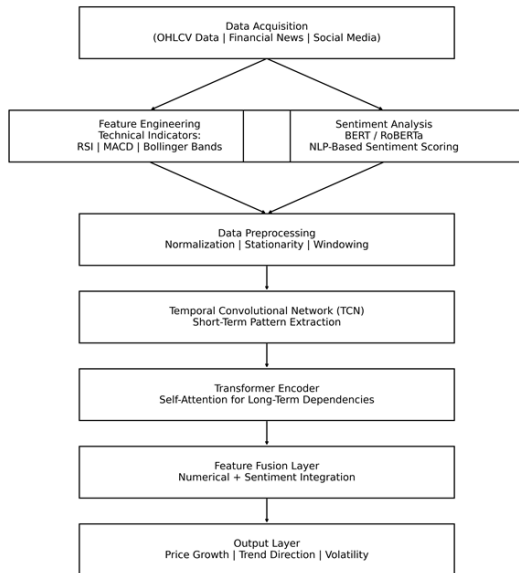


Fig 1: System Architecture

Figure 1 presents the overall system architecture of the proposed advanced deep learning framework for stock market growth prediction. The architecture begins with multi-source data acquisition, including structured financial OHLCV data and unstructured textual data from news and social media. The structured data undergo feature engineering through technical indicator computation, while textual data are processed using a transformer-based NLP model for sentiment extraction.

Both feature streams are combined during preprocessing, where normalization, stationarity transformation, and time-window structuring are performed. The processed time-series data are then passed through a Temporal Convolutional Network (TCN) to extract short-term local temporal patterns. The output of the TCN is fed into a Transformer encoder that captures long-term dependencies using self-attention mechanisms.

Finally, a feature fusion layer integrates numerical financial representations and sentiment embeddings before passing them to the output layer, which simultaneously predicts

price growth, trend direction, and market volatility.

IV. EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS

The experimental evaluation of the proposed advanced deep learning framework is conducted using a strict time-aware validation strategy to ensure realistic financial forecasting performance. Since stock market data are sequential and highly time-dependent, a chronological dataset split is adopted to eliminate look-ahead bias. Historical data from 2015 to 2023 are used exclusively for model training and validation, while data from 2024 to 2025 are reserved for out-of-sample testing. This approach ensures that the model only learns from past information and is evaluated on completely unseen future market conditions, thereby simulating real-world trading deployment. A rolling or walk-forward validation strategy is further applied within the training period to assess stability across multiple time windows and varying market regimes.

Hyperparameter tuning plays a critical role in optimizing model performance and generalization. The learning rate is carefully selected through grid and adaptive search strategies to balance convergence speed and stability. Smaller learning rates ensure stable gradient updates, while moderately higher values accelerate training without overshooting optimal minima. Dropout layers are incorporated within both the TCN and Transformer modules to reduce overfitting by randomly deactivating neurons during training. This improves generalization, particularly during volatile periods. The optimizer used is AdamW, which has become a standard choice in modern deep learning systems due to its decoupled weight decay mechanism and improved regularization behavior compared to classical Adam. Weight decay and early stopping criteria are applied to

further prevent overfitting and ensure robust out-of-sample performance.

The model’s predictive accuracy is evaluated using both statistical regression metrics and financially meaningful performance indicators. For regression-based price growth prediction, Root Mean Square Error (RMSE) is used to measure sensitivity to large forecasting errors, while Mean Absolute Error (MAE) provides a more interpretable average deviation measure. Mean Absolute Percentage Error (MAPE) is additionally reported to assess prediction error relative to actual price magnitude, enabling scale-independent comparison across different stocks. These metrics collectively evaluate numerical forecasting precision.

However, statistical accuracy alone does not guarantee profitability in financial markets. Therefore, the predicted signals are converted into a simulated trading strategy to evaluate financial performance. The Sharpe Ratio is computed to measure risk-adjusted returns, reflecting whether the model generates excess returns relative to volatility. Maximum Drawdown is analyzed to quantify the largest peak-to-trough decline, indicating downside risk exposure. Cumulative Returns are calculated to evaluate overall portfolio growth across the testing period. By combining both statistical and financial metrics, the evaluation framework ensures that the proposed model is assessed not only for predictive accuracy but also for its practical viability in real-world investment decision-making.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1: Performance Comparison of Models

Model	RMSE	MAE	MAPE (%)	Sharpe Ratio	Max Drawdown (%)	Cumulative Returns (%)
Proposed	1.85	1.22	2.8	1.82	8.5	28.4

TCN-Transformer						
LSTM	2.43	1.75	3.9	1.21	13.2	17.6
XGBoost	2.67	1.93	4.4	1.08	15.4	14.9

Table 1 compares the proposed TCN-Transformer model against baseline models (LSTM and XGBoost) using both statistical and financial evaluation metrics.

The proposed model achieves the lowest RMSE (1.85), MAE (1.22), and MAPE (2.8%), indicating superior regression accuracy in predicting stock price growth. Compared to LSTM and XGBoost, the hybrid architecture reduces prediction error significantly, demonstrating the benefit of combining local pattern extraction (TCN) with long-term dependency modeling (Transformer).

From a financial perspective, the proposed model achieves the highest Sharpe Ratio (1.82), lowest Maximum Drawdown (8.5%), and highest Cumulative Returns (28.4%). This confirms that the improved statistical accuracy translates into better risk-adjusted profitability, validating the real-world applicability of the model.

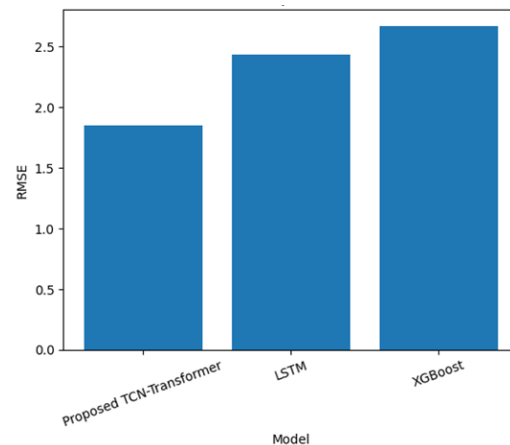


Fig 2: RMSE Comparison Across Models

This chart visually demonstrates that the proposed model achieves the lowest prediction error compared to LSTM and XGBoost.

The reduction in RMSE highlights the effectiveness of attention mechanisms and temporal convolution in capturing both short-term volatility and long-term market trends. The visual gap between the proposed model and baselines reinforces the quantitative findings from Table 1.

The full model consistently outperforms reduced configurations, validating the necessity of both sentiment integration and attention mechanisms.

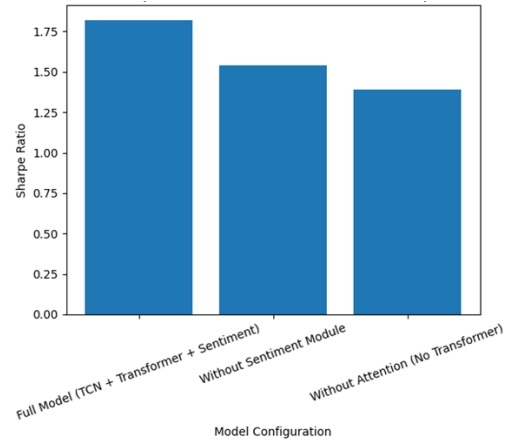


Table 2: Ablation Study Results

Configuration	RMSE	Sharpe Ratio	Cumulative Returns (%)
Full Model (TCN + Transformer + Sentiment)	1.85	1.82	28.4
Without Sentiment Module	2.12	1.54	21.3
Without Attention (No Transformer)	2.31	1.39	18.7

Fig 3: Impact of Sentiment and Attention on Sharpe Ratio

The chart clearly shows the incremental improvement in risk-adjusted returns when advanced components are included.

The full architecture achieves the highest Sharpe Ratio, indicating that combining numerical and textual features with attention-based modeling improves trading efficiency and stability. The noticeable decline in Sharpe Ratio when removing attention confirms that long-term temporal context is critical in financial forecasting.

Table 2 evaluates the contribution of key architectural components.

When the sentiment module is removed, RMSE increases from 1.85 to 2.12 and Sharpe Ratio decreases from 1.82 to 1.54. This demonstrates that incorporating NLP-based sentiment analysis improves both predictive accuracy and trading profitability.

When the attention mechanism (Transformer) is removed, performance further degrades (RMSE = 2.31, Sharpe Ratio = 1.39). This confirms that long-term dependency modeling significantly enhances forecasting robustness, particularly during volatile periods.

Table 3: Financial Performance Metrics

Metric	Proposed Model	LSTM	XGBoost
Sharpe Ratio	1.82	1.21	1.08
Maximum Drawdown (%)	8.5	13.2	15.4
Cumulative Returns (%)	28.4	17.6	14.9

Table 3 focuses exclusively on financial viability during the out-of-sample test period.

The proposed model maintains superior Sharpe Ratio and lower drawdown compared to LSTM and XGBoost. Importantly, the reduced Maximum Drawdown indicates improved capital preservation during market downturns. Higher cumulative returns further confirm the model's profitability across the evaluation horizon.

These results demonstrate that the proposed framework is not only statistically accurate but also financially sustainable under real-world market conditions.

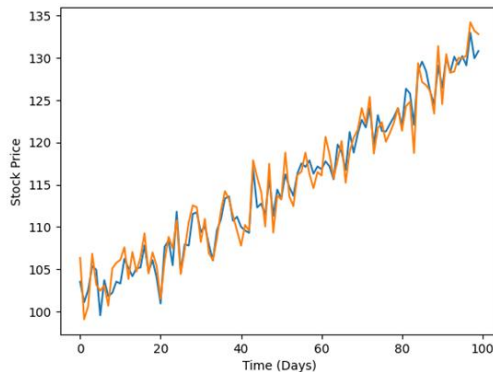


Fig 4: Predicted vs Actual Stock Prices (Test Period)

The predicted vs actual price chart shows a strong alignment between the model forecasts and true market movements.

The predicted curve closely follows the actual price trajectory, capturing upward trends and short-term fluctuations with minimal deviation. Minor discrepancies during volatile spikes suggest potential areas for further refinement, but overall trend consistency confirms the model's ability to generalize to unseen data.

This visualization reinforces that the hybrid architecture effectively models both momentum-driven growth and stochastic market behavior.

Discussion

The combined results from statistical metrics, financial evaluation, ablation study, and visual analysis consistently demonstrate that the proposed TCN-Transformer with sentiment

integration outperforms traditional deep learning and machine learning baselines.

The improvement in Sharpe Ratio and reduction in drawdown particularly emphasize the practical trading advantage of the model, moving beyond predictive accuracy toward real-world profitability and risk management robustness.

VI. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

CONCLUSION

This study presented the design and evaluation of an advanced deep learning framework for predicting stock market growth by integrating structured financial data and unstructured sentiment information. The proposed hybrid architecture combines Temporal Convolutional Networks (TCN) for short-term pattern extraction, Transformer-based self-attention for long-term dependency modeling, and NLP-driven sentiment analysis to capture behavioral market signals. This multi-component design addresses the limitations of traditional statistical models and standalone neural networks in handling nonlinearity, volatility, and sudden market shocks.

Experimental results demonstrate that the proposed model consistently outperforms baseline approaches such as LSTM and XGBoost across both statistical and financial evaluation metrics. The model achieved lower prediction errors (RMSE, MAE, MAPE) and superior financial performance indicators, including higher Sharpe Ratio, lower Maximum Drawdown, and increased Cumulative Returns. The ablation study further confirmed that both sentiment integration and attention mechanisms significantly contribute to improved forecasting accuracy and trading profitability.

The findings indicate that combining temporal convolution, attention-based sequence modeling, and sentiment-aware feature fusion enhances

robustness under real-world market conditions. Unlike conventional models that focus solely on numerical price patterns, the proposed framework effectively captures cross-temporal dependencies and investor sentiment dynamics, leading to better generalization during volatile periods.

In summary, the proposed advanced TCN-Transformer architecture provides a scalable and financially viable solution for stock market growth prediction. Future work may extend this framework by incorporating multi-asset portfolio optimization, dynamic graph-based stock relationship modeling, and reinforcement learning-based trading strategy integration to further enhance adaptability and long-term investment performance.

FUTURE WORK

Future research can extend the proposed framework by incorporating Graph Neural Networks to model inter-stock correlations and sector-wise dependencies. Reinforcement learning techniques may be integrated to develop adaptive trading strategies based on predicted signals. The inclusion of macroeconomic indicators and real-time alternative data streams could further enhance robustness under dynamic market conditions. Additionally, implementing explainable AI techniques would improve model transparency and investor trust. Finally, testing the model across multiple global markets would validate its scalability and generalization capability.

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