

# Social Learning and Sentiment Contagion in the Bitcoin Market

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# Motivation

Researchers have long realized the importance of social activities on economic outcomes

- “*Man is by nature a social animal*” - Aristotle

In his pioneering works, Robert Shiller argues that social learning plays a pivotal role in influencing investors' decisions

- investors update their beliefs through social interactions
- Shiller further proposes a potential link between social learning and asset pricing dynamics

Despite its prominence in the literature, direct empirical evidence on social learning has been limited

- possibly due to data constraints

# What we do

Study how sentiment spreads over a social network

- Apply **textual analysis** to conversations on Bitcointalk to measure sentiment
- Study: a user's **sentiment changes** after a conversation relative to before ( $\text{Senti Change}_{i,j,t_0 \rightarrow t_1}$ )  
     $\Leftarrow$  **Sentiment of other users** in the same conversation

Study how social learning affects trading and market outcomes

- Individual level: sentiment change  $\Rightarrow$  direction of trading
- Aggregate level: sentiment contagion  $\Rightarrow$  trading volume, volatility and market crash

# Why Bitcoin and Bitcointalk?

## Why Bitcoin?

- Bitcoin has its origins and development closely tied to social networks.
- The valuation of Bitcoin depends on the aggregate demand from the social network, or **social adoption** (Cong et al. 2020).
- Moreover, the **bubble-like** features of the Bitcoin market are consistent with the long-standing hypothesis on the role of social dynamics in fueling bubbles (Shiller, 1984; Burnside et al., 2016)

## Why Bitcointalk?

- Established by Satoshi Nakamoto, the founder of Bitcoin
- Widely covered by Wall Street Journal, Forbes, and Bloomberg

# Overview of Results: Social Learning and Its Inefficiency

Inefficient social learning:

- Social sentiment (+)  $\Rightarrow$  Sentiment change
- Social sentiment (-)(0)  $\Rightarrow$  Future returns

Other evidence for inefficient learning:

- Less sophisticated, less socially connected, and less informed investors are more susceptible
- Intensity of learning is higher on days with higher uncertainty and higher volatility but not on days with more news

Evidence for echo chamber and confirmation bias

# Overview of Results: Sentiment contagion affects asset pricing dynamics

- Individual level: sentiment change (+)  $\Rightarrow$  direction of trading
- Aggregate level: sentiment contagion (+)  $\Rightarrow$  trading volume, volatility and market crash
- During bubble episodes, trading volume is highly correlated with sentiment contagion

- Data
- Evidence for Sentiment Contagion
- Inefficiency of Social Learning
- Social Interactions, Individual Trading and Market Outcomes
- Social Learning and Bubbles

# Data

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# Textual Analysis

We use textual analysis to extract user sentiment revealed in their posts/messages

Our algorithm involves two steps:

- **Keyword dictionary:** manually label randomly selected 10,000 sentences into 3 categories:
  - positive, neutral and negative. (Baker, Bloom and Davis(2016) and Tetlock (2007))
- **Stanford NLP:** apply the algorithm to detect
  - the tense of sentences
  - the negative particles (also called negative adverb)

Some labeled examples (out-of-sample accuracy: 85%):

- Bitcoin price will roar (1)
- Bitcoin price won't roar (-1)
- Bitcoin price increased a lot (irrelevant)

# Common Words in Our Sample



## Bitcoin Transaction Data

- A subsample of investors on Bitcointalk voluntarily published their wallet addresses

## Other data sources

- Ravenpack News Analytics: Bitcoin news
- CoinAPI: returns and trading volume at the hourly level
- Google Search Volume Index for Bitcoin

# **Evidence for Sentiment Contagion**

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We study **consecutive pairs** of posts from the same user

- **Sentiment Change** = *ex-post sentiment* - *prior sentiment*

Between a consecutive pair of posts by a user, other users may publish posts in the same thread

- These additional posts are called a **conversation**. The average sentiment is called **social sentiment**

# Example of Conversation (Part 1)

Bitcoin Forum > Economy > Economics > Speculation > **What does the future of bitcoin look like??** < previous topic next topic >

Pages: < 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 [23] 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 > reply | watch | notify | mark unread | print

**DavidLuziz**  
Newbie

**Re: What does the future of bitcoin look like??**  
May 31, 2018, 05:37:35 AM quote #448

I think that We can only guess or guess the price of bitcoin and other crypto currency, but no one knows for sure.  
Kiss Kiss

Activity: 26  
Merit: 0

Ignore

**chipchip331**  
Newbie

**Re: What does the future of bitcoin look like??**  
May 31, 2018, 05:43:30 AM quote #449

This is a look back at my bitcoin future: Bitcoin will be the past

1. Bitcoin does not have an application, it was created only to let the world know that blockchain can solve the problem.
2. Currently bitcoin transaction fees are high but the rate is slow.
3. The government does not admit and will never admit it affects its own currency.
4. No currency fluctuates as large as bitcoin. One can dare to keep the currency that day fluctuates by 10%.

Bitcoin will disappear, keeping it as a memorial, a marker marking the presence of blockchain, after all, Blockchain is left behind with its decentralized application in archiving and decryption.

**DarrinEspacio**  
Newbie

**Re: What does the future of bitcoin look like??**  
May 31, 2018, 06:02:06 AM quote #450

The future of bit coin and also the users of bitcoin both has a bright future.

Activity: 90  
Merit: 0

Ignore

**rowan.thomas**  
Newbie

**Re: What does the future of bitcoin look like??**  
May 31, 2018, 06:51:31 AM quote #451

I think will gonna increase the number of users and the value of it, if people have more knowledge on how to use bitcoin I'm sure bitcoin will gonna soar high. bitcoin will become brighter and wealth someday when many people use bitcoin for their life and also for their future.

Activity: 01  
Merit: 0

Ignore

**The board title and topic**

**User DavidLuziz' prior. We call it prior sentiment.**

**Other users' post #1**

**Other users' post #2**

**Other users' post #3**

## Example of Conversation (Part 2)

The screenshot shows a forum thread titled "Re: What does the future of bitcoin look like??" with three posts:

- Post #4:** "In the near future technology will bring great impact in our lives, so as this bitcoin will gonna fly together with the demand of technology." (User: DiegoPatterson.9909)
- Post #5:** "bitcoin in the future will be more advanced and more bitcoin digging bitcoin and more and more are looking for bitcoin because future bitcoin estimates will be expensive." (User: Full Member)
- Post #5:** "Although, Sometimes bitcoin price gone down but it's not for permanent. I think in recent future, Bitcoin will me more popular then present. So, it's sure that future of Bitcoin is very Bright and I am hopeful about it's success." (User: DavidLuziz)

Annotations on the image:

- Red arrows point from the text "Other users' post #4" to the first post.
- Red arrows point from the text "Other users' post #5" to the second post.
- Red text below the second post reads: "social sentiment = average sentiment of post #1 to post #5".
- Red arrows point from the text "User DavidLuziz's post: we focus on how sentiment in this post is formed. We call it ex-post sentiment." to the third post.

Study how the average sentiment of the 5 posts in between affects DavidLuziz's sentiment, controlling for news arrivals, Bitcoin market dynamics

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Senti Change}_{i,j,t_0 \rightarrow t_1} &= \beta_1 \text{Social Sentiment}_{i,j,t_0 \rightarrow t_1} \\ &+ \gamma' \text{Control}_{i,t_0 \rightarrow t_1} + \text{Fixed Effects} + u_{i,t_1} \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

# Sentiment spreads via conversations over the social network

	Sentiment Change				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Social Sentiment	8.896*** (21.59)	5.336*** (13.54)	2.844*** (6.83)	3.100*** (6.03)	4.228*** (6.91)
Prior FE	X	X	X	X	X
User FE		X	X	X	
Day FE			X	X	
User X Week FE					X
Controls				X	X
Adjusted R-Squared	0.338	0.344	0.344	0.345	0.322
N	218,268	212,647	212,623	175,750	143,092

- A conversation with social sentiment 1  $\Rightarrow$  Senti Change of 4.228%
- (Full Table)



# Sentiment Contagion: Propagation on the Network

	Sentiment Change				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Indirect Social Sentiment	18.783*** (13.67)	7.375*** (5.18)	3.078* (1.87)	3.458* (1.84)	6.740*** (2.86)
Prior FE	X	X	X	X	X
User FE		X	X	X	
Day FE			X	X	
User X Week FE					X
Controls	X	X	X	X	X
Adjusted R-Squared	0.342	0.348	0.347	0.346	0.327
N	97,724	93,419	93,164	75,548	55,715

The sentiment of a neighbor's neighbor affects a user's sentiment revision due to the diffusion of sentiment

- sentiment of a neighbor's neighbor is denoted as *Indirect Social Sentiment*

# Placebo Test

	Sentiment Change				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Random Conversation	2.682*** (10.41)	1.075*** (4.11)	-0.139 (-0.51)	0.398 (1.20)	0.256 (0.64)
Prior FE	X	X	X	X	X
User FE		X	X	X	
Day FE			X	X	
User X Week FE					X
Controls				X	X
Adjusted R-Squared	0.336	0.344	0.345	0.345	0.321
N	257,763	252,098	252,077	198,034	164,058

Sentiment changes are NOT affected by the average sentiment in a randomly selected conversation

- Sentiment of a randomly selected conversation is denoted as *Random Conversation*

# Inefficiency of Social Learning

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# Less sophisticated investors are more susceptible to social sentiment

	Naive Users		Central Users		Less Informed Users	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
User Feature * Social Sentiment	3.585*** (3.46)	<b>3.321***</b> (2.64)	-0.047*** (-3.82)	<b>-0.047***</b> (-3.41)	5.137** (2.24)	<b>7.378**</b> (2.44)
Social Sentiment	1.125 (1.52)	2.477*** (2.89)	4.086*** (7.28)	5.466*** (7.94)	2.304*** (4.10)	3.998*** (5.97)
User Feature			-0.006 (-0.66)	0.128 (0.91)	-1.576 (-1.28)	-2.069 (-0.76)
Adjusted R-Squared	0.345	0.322	0.345	0.322	0.343	0.323
N	175,750	143,092	175,750	143,092	139,873	118,433
Prior FE	X	X	X	X	X	X
User FE	X		X		X	
Day FE	X		X		X	
User X Week FE		X		X		X
Controls	X	X	X	X	X	X

- Naive: all users except for those assigned as “legendary” by Bitcointalk
- Central: users participating in more conversations
- Less informed: users whose sentiment less correlated with future returns

# Sentiment contagion is stronger on more uncertain days, not on days with more news

	Informative Days		High Uncertainty		High Bitcoin Volatility	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Episode Feature * Social Sentiment	0.959 (0.92)	<b>0.858</b> (0.69)	3.714*** (3.01)	<b>3.851**</b> (2.36)	2.515*** (2.62)	<b>2.919**</b> (2.50)
Episode Feature		0.448 (0.50)		-1.059 (-1.10)	-0.667 (-0.66)	-1.501* (-1.96)
Social Sentiment	2.664*** (3.76)	3.874*** (4.74)	2.415*** (4.23)	3.613*** (5.42)	1.957*** (2.93)	2.856*** (3.59)
Adjusted R-Squared	0.345	0.322	0.345	0.322	0.345	0.322
N	175,750	143,092	175,750	143,092	175,750	143,092
Prior FE	X	X	X	X	X	X
User FE	X		X		X	
Day FE	X		X		X	
User X Week FE		X		X		X
Controls	X	X	X	X	X	X

- Informative: days with more news flow
- Uncertainty: std of news sentiment on Bitcoin
- Volatility: std of hourly Bitcoin returns

# Social sentiment doesn't positively predict future returns

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Cumulative Return}_{i,j,t_1+1 \rightarrow t_1+k} &= \beta_1 \text{Social Sentiment}_{i,j,t_0 \rightarrow t_1} \\ &+ \gamma \text{Control}_{t_0 \rightarrow t_1} \\ &+ \alpha_i + \gamma_{d(t_0)} + u_{i,t_1}\end{aligned}$$

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Future returns	6 Hours	24 Hours	48 Hours	72 Hours	168 Hours
Social Sentiment	-0.012 (-0.38)	-0.094** (-2.17)	-0.119*** (-2.69)	-0.111** (-2.31)	-0.114** (-2.57)
User FE	X	X	X	X	X
Date FE	X	X	X	X	X
Control For Prior	X	X	X	X	X
Adjusted R-Squared	0.268	0.675	0.824	0.878	0.939
N	175,750	175,750	175,750	175,750	175748

# Social sentiment of most types of investors is misinformed

We decompose social sentiment into two components by each user feature: e.g. social sentiment by informed users versus non-informed users

Cumulative Return $_{i,j,t_1+1 \rightarrow t_1+k} =$

$\beta_1$  Social Sentiment of a Subsample of Users $_{i,j,t_0 \rightarrow t_1} + \dots$

Panel A: Informativeness (future 24-hour returns)

	Informed		Central		Legendary	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Social Sentiment by Featured Users	0.007 (0.08)		<b>-0.085**</b> (-2.23)		-0.054 (-1.12)	
Social Sentiment by NonFeatured Users		<b>-0.091**</b> (-2.27)		-0.036 (-0.99)		<b>-0.061*</b> (-1.71)
Adjusted R-Squared	0.678	0.678	0.673	0.695	0.674	0.676
N	61974	112938	159205	119231	138938	161144
User FE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Date FE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Controls	X	X	X	X	X	X

# Investors react more to uninformed, central and naive users

Senti Change $_{i,j,t_0 \rightarrow t_1} =$

$\beta_1$  Social Sentiment of a Subsample of Users $_{i,j,t_0 \rightarrow t_1} + \dots$

Panel B: Response (Sentiment Change)

	Informed		Central		Legendary	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Social Sentiment by Featured Users	0.483 (0.72)		<b>2.897***</b> (5.55)		0.797* (1.65)	
Social Sentiment by NonFeatured Users		<b>1.409***</b> (2.62)		1.925*** (2.84)		<b>2.410***</b> (4.97)
User FE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Date FE	X	X	X	X	X	X
Controls	X	X	X	X	X	X
Adjusted R-Squared	0.341	0.345	0.345	0.346	0.347	0.345
N	61,974	112,938	173,477	43,701	138,938	161,144

- Unlikely rational given that uninformed, central and naive users' sentiment more negatively predict returns



# Echo Chambers (Cookson et al. 2023)

User are more likely to participate in conversations with the **same sentiment as their priors**

$$\begin{aligned} & Pr[\text{Participate Positive}_{i,t+k} = 1]_t \\ = & \Phi[\beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{Prior Sentiment}_{i,t} + \gamma_m \text{Control}_{i,t,m} + u_{t+k}], \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

	Positive Sentiment of First Post		Positive Social Sentiment	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Positive Prior	6.734*** (19.64)	5.721*** (15.97)	4.251*** (17.84)	3.530*** (14.37)
Controls		X		X
Adjusted R-Squared	0.004	0.019	0.002	0.013
N	190,082	131,407	142,871	123,084

# Selective Interpretation of Information

Users react more to conversations with the **same sentiment as their priors**

- Social sentiment (-) and Social sentiment (+) are the negative and positive components of the social sentiment

	Positive Priors		NonPositive Priors	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Social Sentiment	4.293*** (6.08)		3.307*** (4.70)	
Social Sentiment(+)		<b>5.006***</b> (4.96)		2.803*** (2.77)
Social Sentiment(-)		2.742* (1.65)		<b>4.250***</b> (2.75)
User FE	X	X	X	X
Date FE	X	X	X	X
Controls	X	X	X	X
Adjusted R-Squared	0.044	0.044	0.248	0.248
N	85,951	85,951	86,230	86,230

# **Social Interactions, Individual Trading, and Market Outcomes**

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# Social Learning and Individual Trading

## Individual Trading Data

- Out of the 37,262 users in our sample, 1,284 users voluntarily published their Bitcoin wallet address to protect the security of their Bitcointalk account

We regress trading decisions for individual  $i$  on the sentiment change between post[0] and post[1] in conversation  $j$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Trade}_{i,j,t_0 \rightarrow t_1} &= \beta \text{Senti Change}_{i,j,t_0 \rightarrow t_1} + \gamma \text{Control}_{i,j,t_0 \rightarrow t_1} \\ &+ \text{Fixed Effects} + u_{t+k} \end{aligned}$$

# Social Learning and Individual Trading

	Unconditional		Conditional on trading occurs		
	(1) Probability trade in [t0, t1]	(2) Probability trade in [t1, t1+7days]	(3) Probability buy in [t0, t1]	(4) Probability buy in [t0, t1],t1-t0>2	(5) Probability buy in in [t1, t1+7days]
Sentiment Change	0.121 (1.38)	-0.039 (-0.22)			
Sentiment Change			7.011* (1.85)	9.244** (2.29)	0.576** (2.00)
User FE	X	X	X	X	X
Date FE	X	X	X	X	X
Controls	X	X	X	X	X
Adjusted R-Squared	0.086	0.629	0.252	0.261	0.632
N	55,297	55,297	203	189	9,284

- Sentiment change does not unconditionally predict individuals' future trading decisions
- Conditional on trading, sentiment change predicts the trade direction
- **Consistent with Giglio et al. 2021**

# Aggregate sentiment contagion predicts trading volume and volatility

We construct a daily Sentiment Contagion Intensity (**SCI**) index to capture the **aggregate intensity of sentiment contagion** in social interactions. (Details of SCI)

$$\text{Market Outcome}_{t+N} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{SCI}_{i,t} + \sum_m \gamma_m \text{Controls}_{t,m} + u_{t+k} \quad (3)$$

	Abnormal Trading Volume		Return Volatility	
	(1) 1 Day	(2) 7 Days	(3) 1 Day	(4) 7 Days
SCI	401.246*** (3.26)	304.257*** (2.69)	0.536*** (5.55)	0.385*** (4.62)
Controls	X	X	X	X
Adjusted R-Squared	0.025	0.079	0.262	0.385
N	3,664	3,663	3,664	3,663

# Aggregate sentiment contagion predicts market crash

Hirshleifer (2020): the error-prone feature regarding the impact of social interactions on the market

- SCI index also predicts market crashes

$$\text{Prob}(\text{Market Crash}_{t+N}) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{SCI}_{i,t} + \sum_m \gamma_m \text{Controls}_{t,m} + u_{t+k} \quad (4)$$

	Crash (below 1% perc.)		Crash (below 5% perc.)	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	1 day	7 days	1 day	7 days
SCI	0.451** (2.22)	1.824*** (4.55)	2.029*** (4.58)	8.361*** (10.59)
Controls	X	X	X	X
Adjusted R-Squared	0.125	0.119	0.052	0.068
N	3664	3664	3664	3664

# **Social Learning and Bubbles**

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# Identify Bitcoin Bubbles

We identify bubbles by conforming to Fama's notion that a bubble, if it does exist, is associated with a substantial price run-up

- we select days with a cumulative Bitcoin return higher than 200% over the past quarter
- we select the peak day and the day two quarters prior to the peak day as the start date

In total, we identified four bubble episodes:

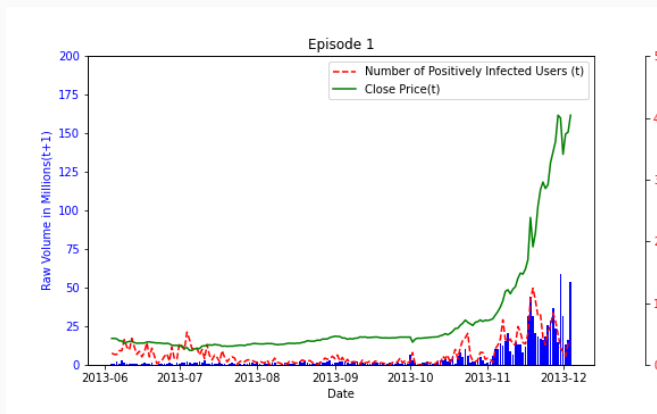
- June 4, 2013 to December 4, 2013
- June 16, 2017 to December 16, 2017
- December 26, 2018 to June 26, 2019.
- September 13, 2020 to March 13, 2021

More Results on Bubbles

# Trading Volume in Bubbles

Correlation between the number of positively infected users and future trading volume in Bubble Episode 1 (June 2013 to December 2013):

- 0.669 (p-value = 0.00)



# Conclusion

Relying on evidence from an online investor community, this paper presents direct evidence for the role of social learning

- Social learning leads to sentiment contagion in social interactions
- Social learning process is inefficient, as investors respond positively to social sentiment, but social sentiment does not positively predict returns
- Social learning influences individuals' trading and market outcomes
- Social learning is connected to bubbles

Such novel data may help us understand other important questions in social finance

# Appendix

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# Full Table

	Sentiment Change				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Social Sentiment	8.896*** (21.59)	5.336*** (13.54)	2.844*** (6.83)	3.100*** (6.03)	4.228*** (6.91)
RavenPack News Sentiment between Post[0] and Post[1]				-0.037 (-0.04)	1.569* (1.70)
RavenPack News Sentiment 24 hours before Post[0]				1.378 (1.44)	1.681* (1.86)
RavenPack News Sentiment 48 hours before Post[0]				-1.021 (-1.02)	-0.007 (-0.01)
Bitcoin Return				30.727*** (5.90)	32.487*** (5.62)
Bitcoin Volatility				13.020 (0.81)	5.273 (0.30)
Forum Sentiment				-4.691*** (-4.43)	1.623 (1.35)
Prior FE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
User FE	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO
Day FE	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO
User X Week FE	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Controls	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
Adjusted R-Squared	0.338	0.344	0.344	0.345	0.322
N	218,268	212,647	212,623	175,750	143,092

# Construction of SCI

We construct a daily Sentiment Contagion Intensity (**SCI**) index to capture the **aggregate intensity of sentiment contagion** in social interactions

SCI is generated in two steps:

- Within each day, we count the number of investors who change their sentiment in the same direction as the social sentiment
- We remove the time trend and seasonality by regressing the series for affected users on the weekday and year-month-pair indicators

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# Market Variables in Bubbles

Features	Bubble Episode		Non-Bubble Episode		Bubble Episode minus Non-Bubble Episode	
	Mean	Std	Mean	Std	Difference	t-statistic
<b>Panel A: Market Variables</b>						
Daily Return	4.050	17.66	0.491	15.72	3.56	5.352
Return Volatility	0.040	0.03	0.037	0.04	0.003	2.413
Dollar Volume	94.071	148.80	47.503	77.63	46.568	11.784
News Sentiment	0.168	0.42	0.040	0.43	0.127	5.894
Google Search	0.085	0.48	0.017	0.40	0.068	3.961

In bubble episodes:

- daily return is more than 8 times higher
- return volatility within a day increases by 8.108%
- dollar volume nearly doubles
- news sentiment is more than four times higher
- Google Search volume surges

# Social Interactions in Bubbles

Features	Bubble Episode		Non-Bubble Episode		Bubble Episode minus Non-Bubble Episode	
	Mean	Std	Mean	Std	Difference	t-statistic
<b>Panel B: Social Interactions</b>						
Average Sentiment	0.305	0.11	0.272	0.12	0.033	6.761
Std of Sentiment	0.657	0.05	0.672	0.05	-0.015	-6.635
Number of Posts	188.764	147.95	175.713	163.66	13.052	1.968
Number of Users	133.504	105.61	116.261	114.97	17.243	3.692
Number of Positive Posts	104.671	87.03	90.834	87.47	13.837	3.837
Fraction of Positive Posts	0.543	0.09	0.516	0.09	0.028	7.563
Fraction of Sophisticated Users	0.301	0.10	0.359	0.14	-0.058	-10.523

In bubbles:

- user sentiment becomes more optimistic and less dispersed
- intensity in social interactions becomes stronger
- the number of posts with positive sentiment increases disproportionately
- a disproportionately large number of novice investors participate in social interactions



# Elevated Contagion of Optimism

Features	Bubble Episode		Non-Bubble Episode		Bubble Episode minus Non-Bubble Episode	
	Mean	Std	Mean	Std	Difference	t-statistic
<b>Panel C: Sentiment Contagion</b>						
Number of Positively Infected Users	16.704	16.24	15.335	17.33	1.369	1.938
Number of Negatively Infected Users	3.203	4.63	3.813	5.84	-0.61	-2.629

In bubbles:

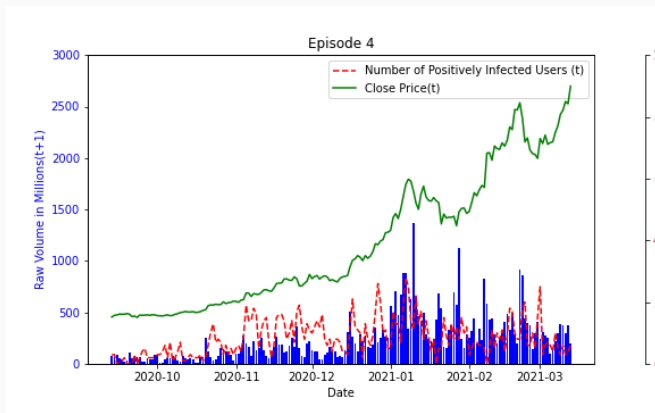
- the number of positively infected users significantly increases by 8.927%, while the number of negatively infected users on average experiences a significant decrease of 15.998%.
- Why?
  - users would frequently run into conversations with an overall positive sentiment
  - there is an increasing participation of naive investors in discussions
  - sentiment contagion becomes stronger during periods of high uncertainty

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# Trading Volume in Bubbles

Correlation between the number of positively infected users and future trading volume in Bubble Episode 4 (September 2020 to March 2021):

- 0.335 (p-value = 0.00)



# Optimism predicts elevated volatility

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	6 Hours	6 Hours	24 Hours	24 Hours	72 Hours	72 Hours
Optimism in Summation	0.179* (1.95)		0.419** (2.16)		1.312*** (3.58)	
Optimism in Fraction		0.414** (2.24)		1.182*** (3.24)		2.782*** (4.38)
RavenPack News Sentiment in Past 7*24 Hours	0.039 (0.06)	-0.184 (-0.29)	0.519 (0.44)	-0.215 (-0.19)	1.002 (0.50)	-0.751 (-0.39)
Bitcoin Return Volatility in Past 7*24 Hours	170.494*** (4.78)	167.886*** (4.76)	441.053*** (6.16)	422.925*** (6.27)	1021.164*** (8.16)	981.951*** (8.18)
Cumulative Bitcoin Return in Past 7*24 Hours	-4.347 (-1.02)	-3.308 (-0.78)	-12.444* (-1.65)	-9.780 (-1.27)	-18.378 (-1.44)	-10.586 (-0.82)
Adjusted R-Squared	0.109	0.116	0.127	0.141	0.140	0.153
N	17953	17953	17953	17953	17953	17953