

Adaptive Time-series Forecasting Framwork with Drift Detection & Deep Learning with XAI

Automation Engineering Program

Ar Mahn Thura & Okker Myat, Advisor: Dr. Teema Leangarun

Introduction:

Thai Exchange Stocks are highly volatile, making static LSTM & Transformer models ineffective when concept drift changes market behavior over time. This often creates a profitability paradox, where low prediction error does not guarantee strong trading returns. To address this, the project introduces a drift-adaptive framework that combines drift detection with continual learning to improve both forecasting relevance & financial performance.

Problem:

Financial data is non-stationary (changes over time) and Models degrade due to Concept Drift.

Objective:

To develop an **adaptive & interpretable system** that maintains accuracy despite changing data patterns caused by concept drift.

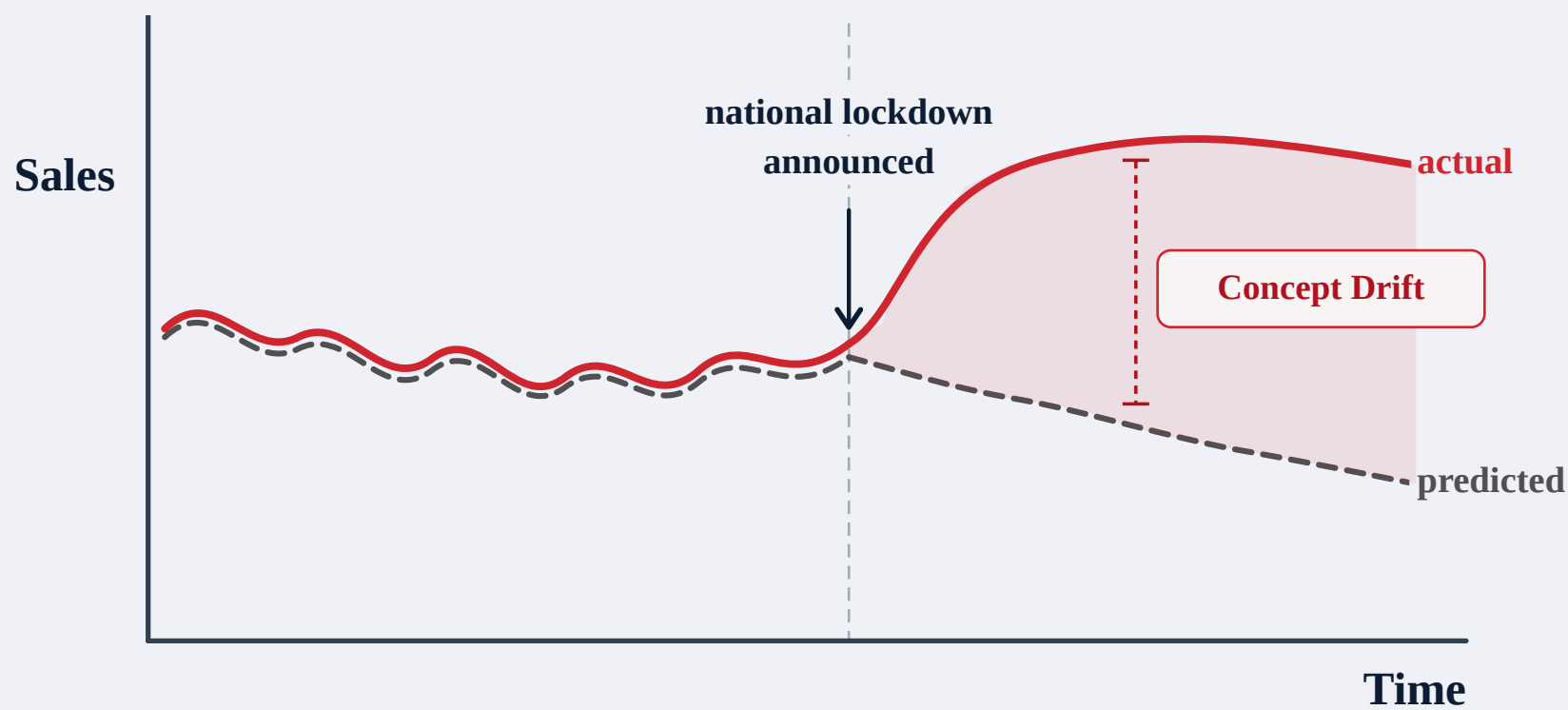


Fig.1 Concept Drift in Financial Time Series Prediction

System Architecture:

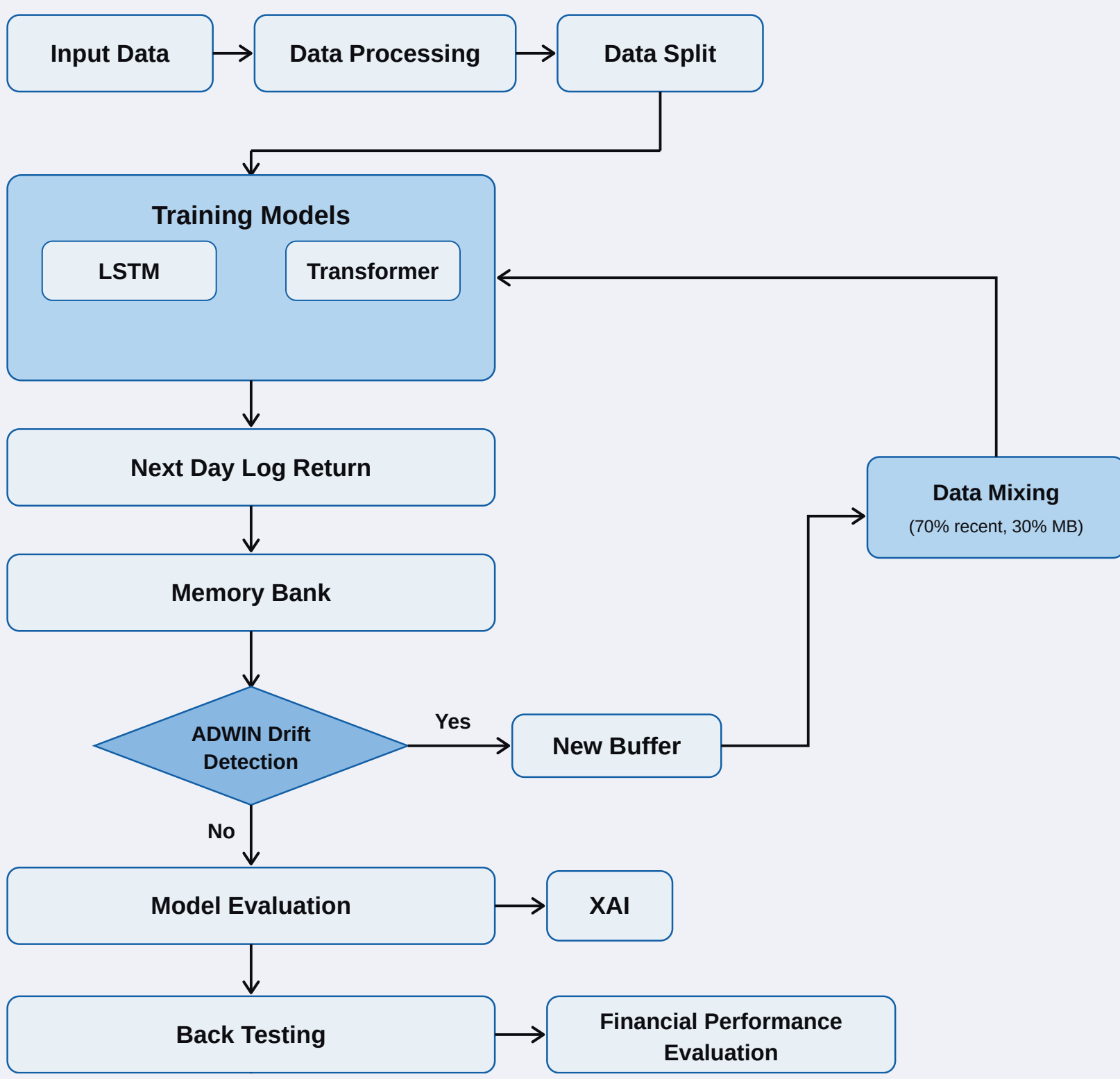


Fig.2 System Architecture

- Uses daily OHLCV, RSI, and MACD data from seven Thai banking stocks (2018–2025).
- LSTM & Transformer models predict next-day stock returns.
- ADWIN detects concept drift through prediction error changes.
- Experience Replay retrains models with 70% recent data & 30% historical memory.
- Performance is measured using MSE, Sharpe Ratio, & Maximum Drawdown.

Experimental Setup:

- Four experiments compare static & adaptive LSTM & Transformer models.
- Baselines Exp 1 & 2 use no drift adaptation.
- Adaptive models use ADWIN + Experience Replay.
- All models predict next-day log returns on unseen data.
- Performance is evaluated using Sharpe Ratio & Expected Return to assess risk-adjusted financial performance.

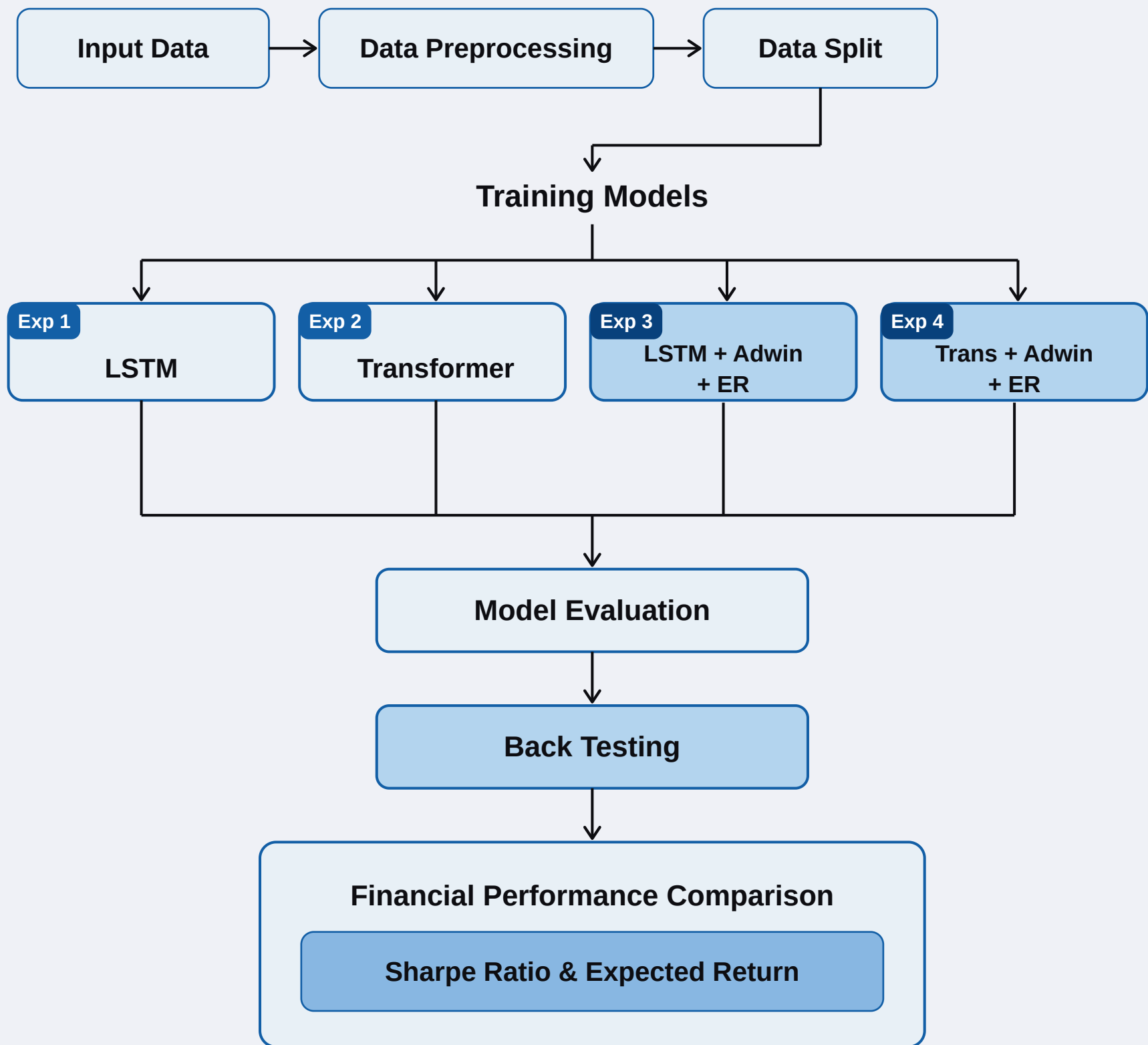


Fig.3 Experimental Setup

Results & Discussion:

MSE Comparison:

- Drift-Adaptive LSTM achieved the strongest overall financial performance with the highest Sharpe Ratio & Total Return.
- Static LSTM outperformed Static Transformer, but both baseline models declined under concept drift.
- ADWIN + Experience Replay improved both LSTM & Transformer models compared to static baselines.
- Results confirm that **drift adaptation enhances profitability & risk-adjusted returns** in dynamic financial markets.

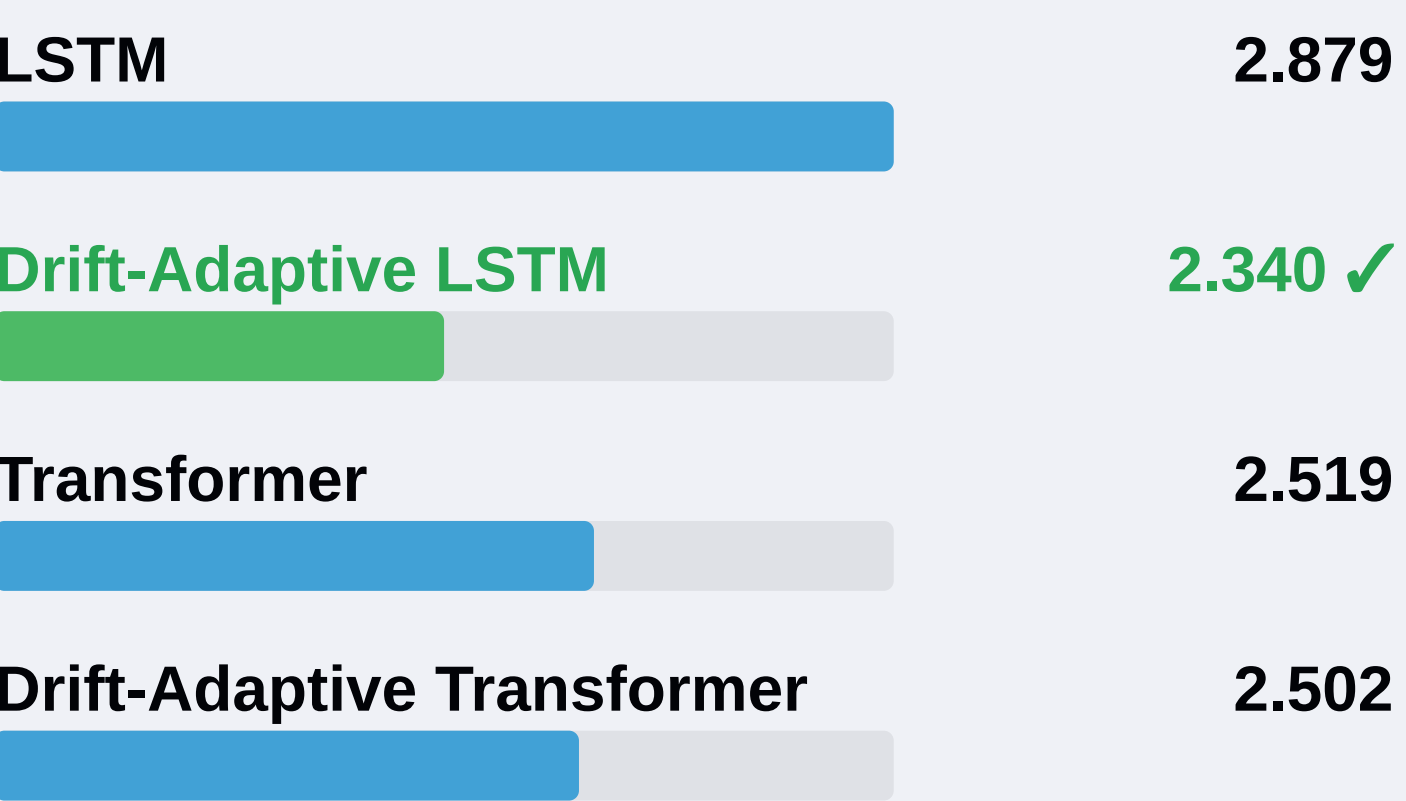


Fig.4 MSE Comparison

Drift Events Detected:

- Drift frequency varied across stocks, showing that **concept drift impacts each banking stock differently**.
- High-drift stocks experienced more frequent market regime changes & required greater model adaptation.
- Low-drift stocks remained relatively stable, indicating fewer structural shifts over time.
- ADWIN effectively identified drift events, enabling targeted retraining only when significant changes occurred.

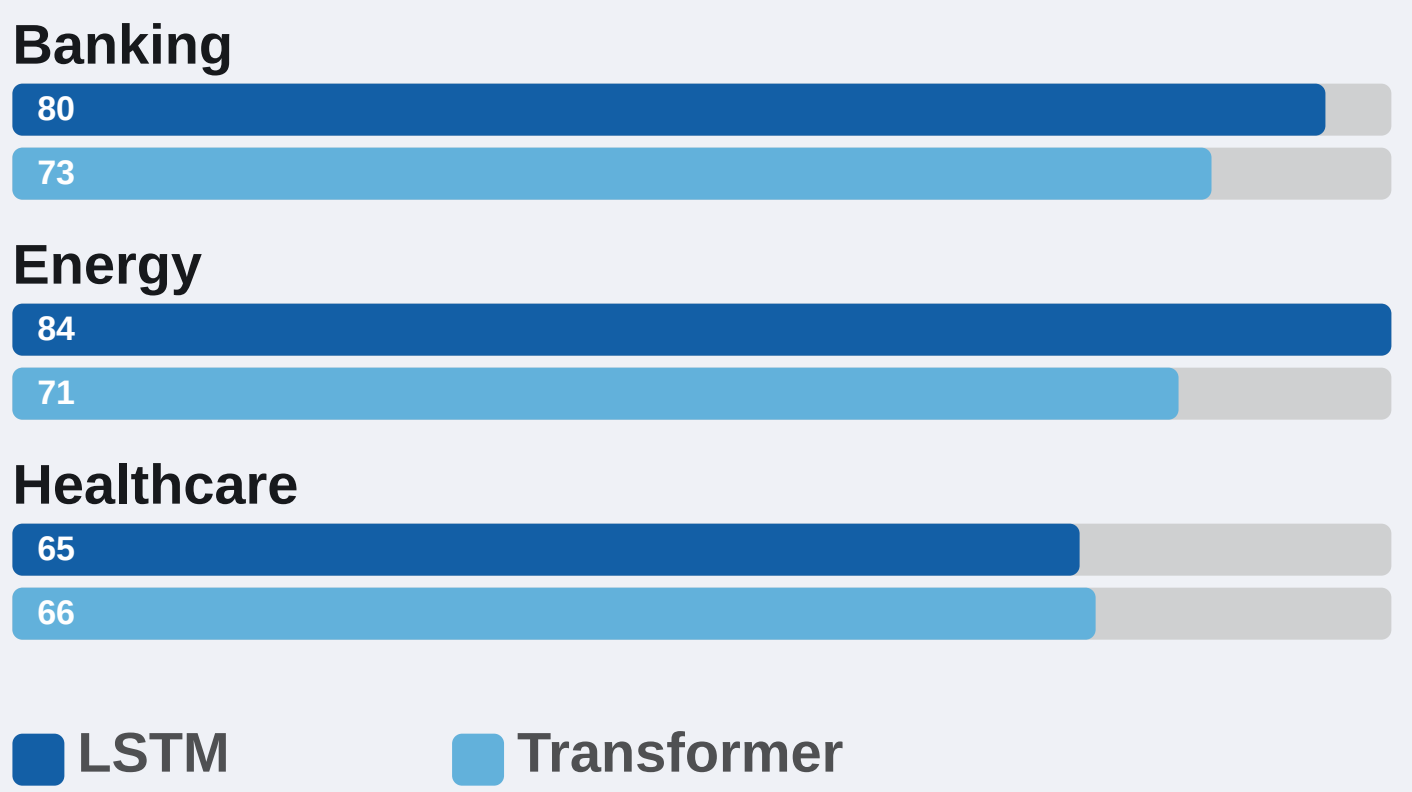


Fig.5 Drift Counts Across all three sectors

Finanacial Performance:

- Drift-Adaptive LSTM achieved the highest Sharpe Ratio, indicating the strongest risk-adjusted profitability.
- Static LSTM outperformed Static Transformer, demonstrating stronger baseline financial stability.
- ADWIN + Experience Replay improved Sharpe Ratios for both architectures.
- Adaptive models provided more consistent profitability under changing market conditions.
- These results reinforce that **drift adaptation enhances long-term trading resilience** beyond static model performance.

Model	Sharpe Ratio	Total Return %
LSTM	0.438	11.14%
Drift-Adaptive LSTM	0.470	14.89%
Transformer	0.280	7.17%
Drift-Adaptive Transformer	0.396	10.63%

Table 1 Financial Performance Comparison

Feature Importance (XAI):

- Technical indicators contributed differently across models, highlighting varied feature dependence in stock prediction.
- Price-based variables remained among the most influential features for forecasting next-day returns.
- RSI and MACD provided additional predictive value by capturing momentum & trend shifts.
- Feature importance analysis improved interpretability by identifying which inputs most influenced model decisions.

Feature	LSTM	Transformer
Open	0.000253	0.003597
High	0.000265	0.003275
Low	0.000261	0.002965
Close	0.000281	0.002303
Volume	0.001509	0.004936
RSI	0.000590	0.005109
MACD	0.001340	0.002336

Table 2 Feature Importance

Conclusion:

Conclusion:

This study demonstrates that **Drift-adaptive models using ADWIN & Experience Replay outperform static LSTM & Transformer models** in non-stationary financial data. The approach improves both prediction reliability & risk-adjusted trading performance, with Drift-Adaptive LSTM achieving the best overall results.

Future Work:

Future work can explore advanced drift detection, hybrid models, & larger or higher-frequency datasets. Expanding to other sectors and global markets can improve generalizability. Integrating reinforcement learning & enhancing real-time deployment & explainability are also important directions.

References:

Emeli Dral, ElenaSamuloya; Machine Learning Monitoring, Part 5: Why You Should Care About Data and Concept Drift, Nov 2020.