

Banking on Precise Data for Investment Research

The internet is big. Really big. The searchable web contains at least 4.66 billion pages at the most recent count. And there are new data sources every day.

2.5 quintillion bytes of data are created daily

90% of the data in the world has been produced in the last two years

40 zettabytes of data are predicted by 2020

Somewhere in this mass of data is the up-to-date, relevant information that research analysts, like you, need to make informed decisions.

According to a PwC report:

“Processing large volumes of data in a timely manner has become a major challenge for financial institutions.”

INTEGRATING DATA IS A TIME-CONSUMING CHALLENGE IN FINANCIAL SERVICES

According to a recent survey of financial services organizations:

49%

use more than 10 internal and external data sources in their business processes.

These data sources include:



In short, obtaining precise, accurate and timely data is a real challenge for investment research analysts.

43%

of survey respondents found a lack of integration of these data sources to be a challenge. And more

than **1/3** were forced to manually process the data.

So how can you cut through the crowd and uncover the critical data you need?

LEVERAGING WEB DATA INTEGRATION FOR BETTER RESEARCH

There are several methods you can use to collect data for investment research.

1. Many firms use **web scraping**, a software technique that extracts data from websites. For example, price-comparison sites use web scraping to draw information and prices from a range of websites. Some use solutions built in-house that rely on custom scripting.

Web scraping has its drawbacks:

- Misses vital data
- Requires filtering and cleansing of data
- Forces delays in analyzing and leveraging data
- Can require time-consuming front-end development and programmers to keep it running

2. Some organizations **purchase data**. However, that relies on acquiring the data from a third-party source, and in some cases it may be incomplete, outdated or contain discrepancies.

3. **Web data integration** intuitively automates the acquisition of custom financial and market information from multiple websites and portals, and delivers near-real-time data feeds. It automatically extracts, transforms and delivers data to where it needs to go.

Web data integration allows you to:

- Filter data and eliminate what you don't need
- Keep up with the rapid pace of dynamic, changing information
- Deploy robots in a matter of days or weeks, not months, with no coding required

'Software robots' simulate the activities humans take to simplify the collection of the right data from internal and external systems. Think about how you search the web for information. An intelligent robot can do that for you, but with precision and on a massive scale.

TOP 5 WAYS ROBOTS GO TO WORK FOR YOU

1. INCREASE RESEARCH DEPTH

- Conduct timely, in-depth analysis of companies, industries, markets and world economies
- Explore investment ideas and opportunities across major asset classes and geographies



2. LEVERAGE VALUABLE PUBLIC DATA

- Maximize value of public, web-based information in near real-time to support better investment decisions
- Pinpoint financial filings, corporate actions, SEC filings and call transcripts within minutes



3. GAIN VISIBILITY INTO SECTOR AND COMPANY PERFORMANCE

- Get critical factors that affect the price of a trade in real-time
- Broaden research into key financial and market data:
 - + Retail pricing
 - + Inventory concerns
 - + Product availability
 - + Manufacturing capacity
 - + Demographics



4. ELIMINATE TIME-CONSUMING MANUAL WORK

- Automate research project requirements and deadlines to collect, cleanse and enrich data from multiple sources
- Quickly obtain hard-to-reach information by automating the actions users take, such as performing searches and navigating sites that require authentication



5. AUGMENT DATA-COLLECTION METHODS

- Transform and enhance data into actionable intelligence that meets the needs of your research analysts
- Extend the ways you currently collect information—including purchasing data or client surveys—for a complete picture of complicated markets and business conditions



HOW PRECISE DATA MAKES YOU THE HERO OF YOUR ORGANIZATION



- Productivity and efficiency gains that enable your analysts to research more companies and drill deeper into performance or into a sector or vertical



- An ROI that saves your company money in both the short and long term



- Seamless, real-time integration of multiple information sources within your investment research projects



- Improvements in decision-making in supporting investment research analyst teams, shifting to automatically and continuously acquired data rather than intuition

INTELLIGENT SOFTWARE ROBOTS DELIVER BIG RESULTS

Multinational financial services corporation

- Research team increased workload and productivity by 200%
- Now able to run **80%** more extensive searches

Global research and consultancy company

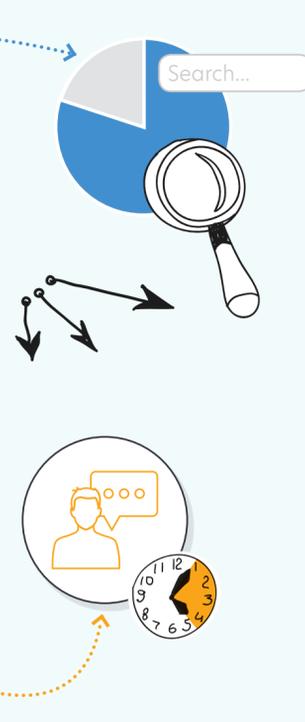
- Reduced number of person-hours required for data collection by more than **95%**
- Analysts spend just **2-3** hours on data collection tasks that would otherwise take days

Global financial services company

- Eased team's **pain** of pulling custom one-off data assets from the web
- New data-intensive products are now possible without having to hire an **army**

Data Fabricator

- 75 data sources are automatically updated and integrated every five minutes
- Custom-information requests actioned in **hours** instead of days



Download our free eBook, [Choose Your Future: A Guide to Rethinking Web Scraping](#), to learn how you can use web data integration for better investment research, insights and decisions.