**MARKETPRISM**

# Weekly Forensic Narrative Report

Week of February 14 - 20, 2026 | 100 Tickers Tracked | Powered by the MarketScholar Engine

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Markets traded largely sideways this week with a slight bearish tilt. Of 24 tickers with full price tracking, 11 declined and 10 advanced, with an average move of -0.40%. Deere (DE) led losses at -10.8% following disappointing earnings, while Nike (NKE) led gains at +4.6% on turnaround optimism. The engine flagged Boeing (BA) as a **Narrative Trap** and Sony (SONY) as a **Narrative Risk**, while confirming Prologis (PLD) as **Structurally Supported**. Coordination detection identified **likely coordinated campaigns** on GIS (General Mills), NVDA, and TSLA, with 5 sources publishing within 1 hour on NVDA and TSLA early in the week. Overreaction ratios remain extreme across the board with 55 tickers showing OR > 3.0, indicating widespread narrative-price disconnects.

## MARKET BREADTH

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Advancers** | 10 | **Avg Move** | -0.40% |
| **Decliners** | 11 | **Median Move** | 0.00% |
| **Flat** | 3 | **Tickers Tracked** | 100 |

### BIGGEST MOVERS

**Worst Performers**

| Ticker | Week % | Start | End | NRS | Verdict |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| DE | -10.77% | $664.85 | $593.27 | 39 | Needs Validation |
| HMC | -5.92% | $31.78 | $29.90 | 53 | Needs Validation |
| COST | -3.15% | $1,018 | $986 | 28 | Needs Validation |
| GM | -2.68% | $83.71 | $81.47 | 26 | Needs Validation |
| ORCL | -2.25% | $160.14 | $156.54 | 34 | Needs Validation |

**Best Performers**

| Ticker | Week % | Start | End | NRS | Verdict |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NKE | +4.60% | $64.82 | $67.80 | 49 | Needs Validation |
| CDNS | +3.62% | $299.46 | $310.31 | 25 | Plausible |
| JPM | +2.39% | $302.55 | $309.79 | 33 | Plausible |
| SMCI | +2.31% | $31.30 | $32.02 | 28 | Plausible |

| Ticker | Week % | Start | End | NRS | Verdict |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| LRCX | +1.94% | $235.53 | $240.09 | 38 | Needs Validation |

# VERDICT ALERTS

### NARRATIVE TRAP: Boeing (BA) - $233.54

The engine flagged Boeing's narrative as a **Trap** with a drift score of 70/100. The dominant narrative claims BA stock is rising on defense sector advancements despite quality control issues, sourced from Barron's. However, the system detected a **Suspicious Coordination Pattern** coinciding with options expiry (Feb 20), with CCP at 71 and VMS at 79.9. The structural narrative type combined with high drift indicates the positive framing doesn't match underlying fundamentals. OR at 1.64 is moderate but the coordination flag elevates concern. **Recommendation: Treat bullish BA narratives with skepticism this week.**

### NARRATIVE RISK: Sony (SONY) - $21.87

Sony is flagged as **Narrative Risk** with the lowest CCP (57) and VMS (50) among scored tickers. The narrative claims stock is rising on State of Play game announcements and improved financial outlook, but OR at 3.70 indicates price has moved 3.7x faster than fundamentals justify. Drift is low at 20 (the narrative roughly matches reality) but verification is weak. The scenario model gives 52% probability that the current trajectory holds, with 28% probability of mean reversion within 30 days.

### STRUCTURALLY SUPPORTED: Prologis (PLD) - $140.96

Prologis is the only ticker earning a **Structurally Supported** verdict this week. VMS at 85.3 with drift of only 10/100 means the narrative (strong leasing activity and favorable mark-to-market) closely matches SEC filing data. CCP at 74 is high and NRS at 24 is low. Despite an elevated OR of 6.08, the structural backing suggests the narrative has legs.

# HIGHEST NARRATIVE RISK SCORES

Tickers where the narrative-to-reality gap is widest, sorted by NRS:

| Ticker | Price | NRS | Drift | VMS | OR | Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| HMC | $30.21 | 53 | 50 | 50 | 15.0 | Headwind |
| CAT | $759.72 | 53 | 60 | 64 | 9.6 | Catalyst |
| TM | $239.20 | 51 | 60 | 50 | 17.6 | Speculation |
| NKE | $65.02 | 49 | 75 | 85 | 31.9 | Speculation |
| NIO | $5.08 | 47 | 60 | 50 | 8.2 | Headwind |
| TMUS | $214.15 | 47 | 60 | 80 | 6.9 | Headwind |
| NVO | $47.53 | 46 | 60 | 50 | 18.1 | Catalyst |
| MS | $174.54 | 46 | 60 | 77 | 0.03 | Structural |
| TSM | $371.71 | 46 | 30 | 50 | 1.0 | Catalyst |
| SPOT | $490.26 | 45 | 60 | 50 | 1.8 | Catalyst |
| AMD | $200.34 | 45 | 40 | 36 | 6.2 | Headwind |
| GE | $342.10 | 45 | 40 | 61 | 20.9 | Catalyst |

# COORDINATION DETECTION

## LIKELY COORDINATED

| Ticker | Dates | Score | Src/1hr | Options Expiry |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| GIS | Feb 18-19 | 80 | 3 | Yes |
| NVDA | Feb 12 | 95 | 5 | No |
| TSLA | Feb 12 | 95 | 5 | No |

**GIS (General Mills)** — 3 sources within 1 hour across Feb 18-19, all coinciding with options expiry. Identical phrasing detected. This is the most suspicious coordination event this week, suggesting narrative amplification around an options catalyst.

**NVDA + TSLA** — 5 sources within 1 hour on Feb 12, score 95/100. High-confidence coordinated push at the start of the week. These did not coincide with options expiry, suggesting a deliberate narrative launch rather than options-driven manipulation.

## SUSPICIOUS PATTERNS

Visa (V) had the highest frequency with 5 suspicious flags across Feb 18-19, all at options expiry. Boeing (BA), CDNS, and AMAT also flagged on Feb 20 at options expiry. MSFT flagged on Feb 15 at expiry. TSM flagged Feb 16 (no expiry). Pattern: **11 of 16 suspicious flags coincided with options expiry dates**, indicating narrative timing is being optimized around derivatives catalysts.

# ACTIVE CONTAGION CHAINS

The engine identified 70+ narrative clusters this week. The most significant:

### AI Infrastructure Boom — Strength 8/10

*Theme: AI_Infrastructure | Tickers: NVDA, AMD, AVGO, AMAT, LRCX, MRVL, TSM, MSFT, CRM, NOW, META, GOOGL*

AI investment demand is cascading through the semiconductor supply chain. NVDA is the epicenter, with contagion flowing to equipment makers (AMAT, LRCX), foundries (TSM), and cloud platforms (MSFT, AMZN, META).

### China Trade Tensions — Strength 9/10

*Theme: Trade_War | Tickers: SNPS*

US export controls disrupting Chinese design starts. SNPS is the most exposed, with Design IP segment revenue at risk. Chain strength 9/10 reflects near-certainty of continued impact.

### Memory Chip Shortage — Strength 9/10

*Theme: Company_Specific | Tickers: DELL, MU, HPQ, STX*

Lenovo's shortage warning is propagating through the PC supply chain. DELL most impacted on production costs.

### Medicare Spending Plan — Strength 10/10

*Theme: Regulatory | Tickers: UNH*

Maximum chain strength. Political announcement creating direct, unavoidable revenue impact on healthcare insurers. UNH is bearing the brunt with no hedge available.

### EV Hesitation Wave — Strength 7/10

*Theme: Energy_Transition | Tickers: TSLA, HMC, NIO, RIVN, GM, TM*

The EV narrative is fracturing. TSLA pivoting to BESS profitability while HMC cutting EV investment. NIO facing accounting skepticism. The 'EV revolution' narrative is exhausting across multiple tickers.

### Software Bear Market — Strength 7/10

*Theme: Sector_Rotation | Tickers: ADBE, MSFT, CRM, ORCL*

Sector rotation away from software. ADBE is the primary victim with a clear buying-opportunity narrative forming.

### Geopolitical Defense Spending — Strength 8/10

*Theme: Geopolitical | Tickers: RTX, LMT, BA*

Increased global instability driving defense demand. RTX and LMT benefiting directly. BA's inclusion is conflicted by quality control issues (hence the Narrative Trap verdict).

# EXHAUSTION PREDICTIONS: Narratives Dying Next Week

These narratives are predicted to exhaust their energy within the next 7 trading days. When a narrative exhausts, the associated price movement loses its story-driven momentum, increasing the probability of mean reversion or a new narrative replacing it.

| Ticker | Days Left | Half-Life | Narrative |
|---|---|---|---|
| TSM | 1.3 | 627d | Analyst growth optimism losing steam |
| CMCSA | 1.9 | 668d | Limited growth concerns fading |
| GS | 1.9 | 653d | Insider selling concern exhausting |
| TXN | 2.1 | 688d | Silicon Labs acquisition narrative |
| AVGO | 2.5 | 0.8d | AI semiconductor demand story |
| DHR | 2.5 | 1.1d | Masimo acquisition uncertainty |
| CAT | 3.4 | 0.7d | Dividend stock narrative |
| INTC | 3.6 | 1.1d | Turnaround optimism narrative |
| XOM | 5.0 | 0.7d | Energy sector momentum |

**Key implication:** TSM, CMCSA, and GS are the most imminent. If you hold positions based on the current narrative, expect the story to lose momentum by Tuesday-Wednesday. AVGO, DHR, CAT, INTC, and XOM have very short half-lives (under 2 days), meaning their narratives are decaying rapidly and will need a fresh catalyst to sustain current price levels.

# EXTREME OVERREACTION WATCH (OR > 10)

Overreaction Ratio measures price velocity vs fundamental velocity. OR > 10 means price is moving 10x faster than fundamentals justify. These tickers are most vulnerable to snapback:

| Ticker | Price | OR | VMS | NRS | Narrative Theme |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| LRCX | $244 | 40.1 | 93 | 38 | Semi growth continuation |
| COIN | $170 | 37.8 | 85 | 40 | Crypto recovery |
| NKE | $65 | 31.9 | 85 | 49 | $100 recovery target |
| ENPH | $46 | 31.1 | 88 | 41 | Solar commercial software |
| PYPL | $42 | 22.1 | 83 | 43 | Undervaluation thesis |
| GE | $342 | 20.9 | 61 | 45 | AI wingman + aviation |
| TGT | $116 | 20.8 | 86 | 34 | Exclusive brands strategy |
| NVO | $48 | 18.1 | 50 | 46 | Dividend + growth story |
| TM | $239 | 17.6 | 50 | 51 | Undervaluation thesis |
| LOW | $280 | 17.3 | 95 | 42 | Job cuts impact |
| HD | $381 | 16.9 | 92 | 35 | Overvaluation concern |
| DE | $664 | 16.0 | 82 | 39 | Risk appetite narrative |

| Ticker | Price | OR | VMS | NRS | Narrative Theme |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PLTR | $136 | 15.9 | 88 | 35 | High-risk/reward juncture |

# NEXT WEEK OUTLOOK: Feb 24 - 28, 2026

## MACRO SIGNALS

The rate cycle cluster (7 chains) is the dominant macro theme. Favorable inflation data has calmed markets but interest rate speculation continues to create cross-sector contagion. Consumer demand chains (8 clusters) suggest spending patterns are shifting, pressuring discretionary names while supporting staples. The AI infrastructure chain (strength 8/10) remains the strongest narrative force in the market.

## TICKERS TO WATCH

### BA (Boeing)

Narrative Trap with coordination flags at options expiry. The positive defense narrative is masking quality control reality. If no fresh positive catalyst emerges, expect the trap to unwind. Watch for analyst downgrades early in the week.

### DE (Deere)

Worst performer this week at -10.8%. OR at 16.0 suggests the selloff has overshot fundamentals, but the narrative (risk appetite concern) has legs. Watch for mean reversion if the broader market stabilizes.

### NKE (Nike)

Best performer at +4.6% but NRS at 49 is the 4th highest in our universe. The $100 recovery target narrative has drift of 75 (major divergence from SEC filings). OR at 31.9 is extreme. The turnaround story needs earnings confirmation.

### GIS (General Mills)

Likely coordinated campaign detected with 3 sources within 1 hour, coinciding with options expiry. Whatever narrative is being pushed, treat it as suspect.

### TSM, CMCSA, GS

Narratives exhausting within 2 trading days. These tickers will need fresh catalysts or will drift. TSM is most interesting since the AI demand narrative may refresh itself from the contagion chain.

### PLD (Prologis)

Only Structurally Supported verdict. Narrative matches SEC data with drift of 10. If the rate cycle narrative continues to stabilize, PLD benefits from industrial REIT demand.

### AVGO, INTC, CAT

Very short half-lives (under 2 days) with narratives near exhaustion. These will either get a new narrative or mean-revert. AVGO likely refreshes via the AI infrastructure contagion chain. INTC turnaround narrative is most vulnerable.

# ABOUT MARKETPRISM

This report was generated by MarketPrism's forensic narrative engine, covering 100 tickers across 1,703 narrative analyses, 1,606 coordination flags, and 70+ contagion clusters. The engine runs 7 patent-pending formulas including decay physics, sentiment verification, exhaustion prediction, coordination detection, collision physics, source reliability scoring, and narrative deduplication. Backtest validation across 32,836 articles shows 77.7% sentiment accuracy and 92.9% decay prediction accuracy.

**Want early access?** MarketPrism is currently in beta. Sign up at marketprism.com to receive the weekly forensic report and dashboard access before public launch.