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What role can ChatGPT play in enhancing  
transparency in corporate communications?  
A deep dive into Shareholders Letters Analysis

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*“ ChatGPT is a powerful language model that has the potential to revolutionize the way we interact with and utilize artificial intelligence in our daily lives.*

*Its ability to generate human-like text allows it to assist with a wide range of tasks that involve language processing, making it a valuable tool for businesses, researchers, and individuals alike.”*

*( ChatGPT when asked to make a quote about itself )*

*“ It is difficult to think of a major industry that AI will not transform. This includes healthcare, education, transportation, retail, communications, and agriculture. There are surprisingly clear paths for AI to make a big difference in all of these industries.”*

*(Andrew NG)*

*To Mom and Dad,  
that since I was born  
never stopped encouraging me*

*He who believes in, it fights.  
He who believes in it, overcomes all obstacles.  
He who believes in it, wins.*

## **Introduction**

Shareholders in companies are moving to a new age of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Digital Transformation, at a time when we can see quite clearly a change, a significant shift in the role of shareholders and the communication flows between them and the company. This by the need to teach and understand how these new technologies work, and really make them pore over the mass quantity of data that needs to be structured in an increasingly efficient manner to convert them as a response to decisions and strategies that are taken by the world at large. Technological tools of this economic era are more capable than ever of disrupting traditional business models and bringing new and novel ways of thinking about shareholders and corporate governance. There are several challenges which are worth identifying when we talk about AI applications in the financial sector and are related to the ability it endows firms with to extract insights from large data volumes, its power in enhancing productivity and efficiency, and its capability in mitigating human biases and errors.

This can result in an enhanced alignment of corporate actions with shareholder interests and increased compliance with rules and regulations, consequently bettering the corporate governance of the company as a whole. In addition, the AI could reveal hidden patterns and trends using its analytical and predictive abilities that may also help improve transparency in communication flows. These disclosures are useful in that they offer valuable information which may be employed to create decision-making procedures more open (thereby making firms more accountable to stakeholders).

In the first chapter are established the basis for understanding shareholder communication and AI integration within the scope of thesis. The thesis looks at shareholder letters (also called investor relations or shareholder reports) as a form of communication between the CEO and current and prospective shareholders. It also dives into the relationship with these letters and a.i, specifically the unveiling of OpenAI's ChatGPT, a turning point heralded by its rapid adoption to globalize.

The second chapter describes the research methodology applied to the analysis of data deriving from the analyses of shareholder letters of the companies quoted to the Euronext Milan Index. The study leveraged financial records, annual filings, and shareholder letters published in 2021 and 2022 to identify the role of letters in the articulation of corporate financial narratives and strategic aims.

The third chapter discusses and interprets the data gathered, and examines the major trends or patterns that emerged. This takes into account the tradeoff between how long the letters of the words are and the quality of the content, how well information can be summarized and understood by ChatGPT 4.0. It also explains how it searches for results and tags for optimal scores on Shareholder letters, illustrating how the model is accurate in summarizing high-level points without missing any details.

Ultimately, this thesis concludes by exploring AI-enabled innovations in financial report analysis and their implications for a paradigm shift in the financial services industry. It examines Schumpeter's idea of creative destruction and how the rise of financial analysis through AI can and will disqualify and replace traditional methods driving cycles of renewal that will reshape (disrupt) the industry standard and practices, raising the bar in process, effectiveness, and efficiency throughout the financial landscape and ultimately fueling economic growth in the financial landscape.

## Chapter 1: Foundation of Shareholder Communication and AI Integration

### 1.1 Shareholder Letter and Corporate Communication

The Shareholder Letter, also defined as Investor Relation or Shareholder Report, is a crucial document in the context of corporate communication, usually written by executives to shareholders to give them a thorough summary of the company's performance of the past year, and so it is a communication link between Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and actual and potential shareholders.

Back in March 2003, the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI) defined Investor Relations as “*a strategic management responsibility that integrates finance, communication, marketing and securities law compliance to enable the most effective two-way communication between a company, the financial community, and other constituencies, which ultimately contributes to a company's securities achieving fair valuation*”<sup>1</sup>. This interpretation has meant a big step forward from the previous version adopted by NIRI in 1996, where investor relations was labeled “*marketing activity*” with the purpose of “*providing an accurate portrayal of a company*” to have “*a positive effect on a company's value.*” The current definition moves away from a narrow marketing focus on sales and promotions, adding a finance, communications and law perspective to the mix of investor relations activities. The change in the approach was driven by the need to reflect in Shareholder Letters the competitive environment changes in the first years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, characterized by huge corporate scandals and changes in securities regulations. The modern profession of investor relations raised in early 1950s, as an always increasing number of large companies started thinking about the importance of a more comprehensive involvement of shareholders. Moreover, the economic boom of the post-World-War-Two years created an extra income for the majority of the population, with an increase of the possibilities to invest these flows in securities and obligations. Facing new challenges, management sought assistance from seasoned experts skilled in the art of individual communication, but only the largest companies had the economic availability to structure an internal public relations staff and the functions and roles of public relations were limited.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.niri.org/about-niri>

These years were characterized by a notable deficiency in financial knowledge among financial practitioners, more in detail, there has been an important evidence over the following points:

- Lack of research to understand shareholding patterns.
- Lack of strategic and managerial activities in Shareholder Letters.
- The feedback from shareholders was not collected.

Nowadays, IR professionals have understood how investors are looking for a deeper grasp of a company's operations and its intrinsic value, not just data available from a company's 10K or 10Q. To foster this deeper understanding, companies should go beyond the basic requirement of financial reporting and so try to expand their communications with shareholders from obligatory financial disclosure to include the information beyond US GAAP, the information "*that supplements and complements a firm's financial statements*" (Wiesel, Skiera, & Villanueva, 2008)<sup>2</sup>. The function of a Shareholder Letter can be interpreted and analysed as a specific corporate communication department with the role to create the market for information focusing for everyone looking for information about the company. It's also important that these informations could provide a good information flow to communicate data efficiently with other stakeholders such as stock exchanges, equity analysts, journalists and authorities about the relations which concern the company and its reputation and thus also the shareholders' interests. In a more holistic perspective, a shareholder letter can be defined as a maintenance tool of relationships between the investors of a company and their advisers. For this reason, it is possible to frame it as a marketing exercise, with the intrinsic objective to support capital market to better discern the parameters of value creation potential of the company, and so determining a significant impact on the share price, that can be reflected on the underlying interest of the IR content to provide information that could effectively reflect a fair value able to ensure the attractiveness of the shares and its sensitivity to unpredictable events, guaranteeing a full spectrum of valuable news to most relevant market operators.

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<sup>2</sup> Wiesel, Thorsten and Skiera, Bernd and Villanueva, Julian, Customer Equity – An Integral Part of Financial Reporting (2008). Journal of Marketing, Vol. 72, Issue 2, 1-14 (March 2008)



The content, form and timing of the communication to shareholders, and so to the stock market, may sometimes have a greater effect on share price than the material content of the communicated message <sup>3</sup>, but it is not found yet a positive correlation between the quality of the Shareholder Letter content and the increase in the value of a company. Nevertheless, some research have shown as an high level of information is able to reduce fluctuations in the share price, thus reducing the uncertainty in such a way that it affects the company’s capital costs (Botosan 1997) <sup>4</sup>. There is large literature on the relation between the cost of equity capital and the level of disclosure present in annual report narratives of companies. A study made by Athanasakou in 2017 <sup>5</sup> has found a so defined U-shaped relation between the two variables, meaning that exist a negative relation with the cost of equity capital at low levels of disclosure, and a positive relation at higher levels of disclosure, together implying the presence of an optimal level of disclosure. This suggest that the greatest amount of information is a good tool for investor to reduce the investment uncertainty, leading as a consequence a reduction in the cost of capital through a greater understanding of a company core business and activities. However, an excessive amount of data can suggests that management is trying to draw attention from underlying issues, increasing percdeived risk and the cost of equity.

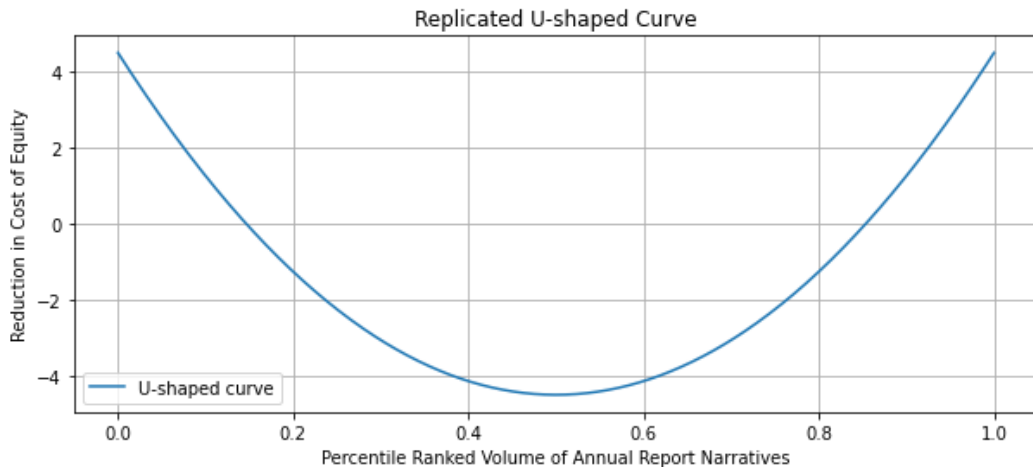


Figure 1 – Volume of Annual Report Narratives and the Cost of Equity <sup>6</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Nielsen, C., & Bukh, P.N. (2011), Investor relations: Communicating strategy from a business model Perspective, Working Paper Series, No 1, pp 1- 26.

<sup>4</sup> Botosan, C.A. (1997), “Disclosure Level and the Cost of Equity Capital”, *The Accounting Review*, Vol. 72, No. 3, pp. 323-349.

<sup>5</sup> Vasiliki Athanasakou, Florian Eugster, Thomas Schleicher & Martin Walker (2020) Annual Report Narratives and the Cost of Equity Capital: U.K. Evidence of a U-shaped Relation, *European Accounting Review*, 29:1, 27-54

<sup>6</sup> Own processing

The foundation of investor relations can be directly resumed into upon voluntary disclosure. Naturally, one of the most important factors in the financial community's assessment of a company is its financial performance, even if research is beginning to show that non financials elements are just as important as financials in influencing investor attitudes, concept reinforced by a survey of Hoffmann and Fieseler (2012) performed on several capital market participants that evidenciate hoe corporate governance and quality of communication are considered crucial factors affecting valuation of comapnies. The financial community additionally attempts to gauge the caliber of an organization's executives emhasizing the board's capacity to carry out strategic plans and initiatives that could bring real value to shareholders and to the economc environment. Furthermore, brands and reputation, corporate social responsibility (CSR), the caliber of a company's stakeholder connections as well as the management sensitivity to Environmenral, Social and Governance (ESG) criteria are emerging as additional items with the potential to affect the investors' and analysts' assessment of a company current and future operating and financial performance <sup>7</sup>.

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<sup>7</sup> Hoffmann, C. P. (2018). Investor Relations Communication. In R. L. Heath & W. Johansen (Hrsg.), *The international encyclopedia of strategic communication* (Band 2, S. 794–804). Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons

## 1.2 Shareholder Letter contribution to Bottom Line

Professionals tasked with handling investor relations acknowledge that demonstrating the value of their role to management is a challenging aspect of their job. The importance of effective investor relations to an organization's success is widely accepted, yet measuring this impact is complex for both practitioners and researchers (Laskin, 2005)<sup>8</sup>.

The concept of public companies in the United States traces back with historical significance to the early years of the 19th century with the charter of the Boston Manufacturing Company. Marketing to investors, however, came into vogue years later. The post-WWII era brought huge monetary growth in the country, leading corporations to look for more funds while the richer American populace sought investment opportunities. This era saw soaring investment markets and no small number of bubbles. In making this adjustment of the available pool of shareholder capital which they had exhausted, corporations became aware of the need to attract investors and began competition in financial markets that came to resemble that in product markets.

Today, investor relations is recognized as a critical and respected corporate function, even considered one of the highest-paid specialties within public relations.

Scholarly works on investor relations, though major in the corporate world, are somewhat in a nascent stage. There are scant academic studies, and they are largely under-reported in most academic journals. However, the strategic value of investor relations at the boardroom tables is well noted among business leaders and scholars alike. Investor relations has quickly become a critical element in corporate strategy, as companies work overtime to repair investor trust in the age of Enron. Allen argues that "trust must be earned" and that good communication can give a company a competitive edge and help them to raise capital (Allen, 2002)<sup>9</sup>.

The slogan of the investor relations profession underscores the goal of enhancing corporate value through communication. Nonetheless, the exact mechanism by which investor relations add to corporate value and the magnitude of its contribution remain less defined.

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<sup>8</sup> Laskin, A. V. (2005, March). Investor relations practices at Fortune 500 companies: An exploratory study. Paper presented at the 8th Annual International Public Relations Research Conference, Miami, FL

<sup>9</sup> Allen, C. E. (2002). Building mountains in a flat landscape: Investor relations in the post-Enron era. *Corporate Communications*, 7, 206–211.

An exploration within scholarly databases revealed a scarcity of prior studies pertaining to public relations within the sphere of investor relations, with minimal research directly aligning with the current inquiry (Cameron, 1992)<sup>10</sup>, (Dolphin, 2003)<sup>11</sup>, (Dragneva, 2002)<sup>12</sup>

This investigation sought insights from top executives on their recognition of investor relations as a part of public relations, as well as the specific divisions and personnel tasked with investor relations duties. The findings suggest that investor relations are rarely under the purview of public relations professionals, as corporate leaders typically do not associate investor relations with the realm of public relations.

While the field of business research presents a slightly more extensive exploration of investor relations, it remains inadequately examined. Consequently, research outputs from the fields of communication and business studies, along with insights from professional organizations such as the National Investor Relations Institute, the Investor Relations Society, and the Institute for Public Relations, serve as the foundational elements to discern how investor relations may impact the financial success of an organization.

Within this context, four principal areas have been recognized for their contributions:

- The assessment of securities,
- Volumes of trading,
- Analyst coverage
- Engagement with the investment community.

Shareholder Letters may contribute to the bottom line through a Public Relation (PR) construction policy, that play a critical role in enhancing a company's financial performance, moving beyond merely disseminating timely information to fostering enduring relationships, especially with investors. But this is a fast morphing industry that does much more in the way of shareholder servicing than was ever contemplated in the old days. This is echoed by industry experts who emphasize that quantifiable metrics are no longer the most important part of investor relations, and the primary role should be to cultivate these relationships.

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<sup>10</sup> Cameron, G. T. (1992). Memory for investor relations messages: An information-processing study of grunig's situational theory. *Journal of Public Relations Research*, 4, 45–60

<sup>11</sup> Dolphin, R. R. (2003). Approaches to investor relations: Implementation in the British context. *Journal of Marketing Communications*, 9, 29–43

<sup>12</sup> Dragneva, R. O. (2002). Corporate governance revisited: Can the stakeholder paradigm provide a way out of “vulture” capitalism in Eastern Europe. *Review of Central and East European Law*, 27, 93–111

It's been articulated that markets thrive on trust rather than mere financial transactions. (Minow, 2002) <sup>13</sup>. Emphasizing trust, NASDAQ suggests that a key objective for investor relations should involve deepening ties with financial analysts, portfolio managers, brokers, and retail investors. The value of these relationships is substantial, albeit challenging to quantify directly, because firms that prioritize shareholder relationships benefit from a more stable investor base, which tends to react more measuredly to short-term fluctuations and challenges faced by the company. The foundational idea consists in establishing strong relationships with stockholders can drive investor confidence and trust, and how company information is seen and valued. This trust is critical in financial markets, where the abundance of information can be overwhelming. Trustworthy company management, established through consistent and clear communication, forms the bedrock of effective investor relations. Thus, the core of investor relations lies in relationship management, considered by some as the most critical component of all investor relations efforts. In contrast with the objective theses of mediated approach, and using concepts of strategic engagement, the shared meanings and values designate the first strategy by which organizations and their publics, investors in the case under study, interact to create, manage, and interpret meaning. This demonstrates the necessity of intangible relationship benefits as a part of a firm's profitability, which can be as important to a firm's bottom line as the more tangible kind, even though these are "peace benefits." A long line of research also links more effective investor relations and more disclosure to a greater depth of interest in the corporation but as a result, lower required risk premium; or to lower capital costs or higher securities valuation (Gelb, 2000) <sup>14</sup>. The argument is that maximal transparency—in which a company's financial results, executive commentary, forward-looking statements, and a whole set of other data is available to investors—can achieve those results.

The underlying principle is that transparency fosters trustworthiness. There is a notion that firms might benefit from providing information beyond the minimum required because it promotes more accurate market assessments of their value, correlated with the principle that more detailed disclosures are correlated with organizational benefits and a reinforcement of the financial profile of a company.

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<sup>13</sup> Minow, N. (2002, May 21). Year of corporate meltdown. CBSMarketWatch.com

<sup>14</sup> Gelb, D. S. (2000). Managerial ownership and accounting disclosures: An empirical study. *Review of Quantitative Finance and Accounting*, 15, 169–185

There is a viewpoint that the primary metric for investor relations professionals is to ensure the company's stock is valued fairly in the market, with the price-to-earnings ratio being a suggested comparative measure against similar firms, shaping investor expectations about future earnings perspectives. (Michaelson & Gilfeather, 2003) <sup>15</sup>, understanding in a potential sell the company could be sold at par or at a premium in relation to its peers. Stocks are perceived as more volatile and riskier are not valued as highly as those seen as more secure; thus, clarity that leads to accurate valuation is crucial for minimizing capital costs. The effective pricing of a company's securities is considered a key measure of success, with the capability to raise funds at a slight premium over government rates or to realize profits per share being central objectives.

Moreover, maintaining a moderate level of trading activity is beneficial as it contributes to the stock's liquidity, crucial to enables investors who desire a swift transaction to buy and sell the stock with ease. Several experts have highlighted the positive correlation between a well-managed investor relations approach and the liquidity and trading volume of a company's shares. Michaelson and Gilfeather (2003) have proposed a nuanced methodology for assessing investor relations by examining *outputs*, which they define as the tangible consequences of communication efforts. These outputs include, but are not limited to, the extent of analyst coverage which a company receives. Analyst coverage could be partitioned even further into the objective value of the rating, the number of analysts following the stock, and the dispersion among their earnings forecasts. Taken together, these disparate dimensions add up to a library of empirical data for assessing investor relations. It is critical for a corporation to engage regularly with the investment community to guarantee that the company's portrayal remains accurate. Knowing who the investors are is also imperative as it aids the company in enhancing investor relations.

Analyzing how the four variables mentioned in Investor Letters above (assessment of securities, volumes of trading, analyst coverage, engagement with the investment community) can influence companies' financial standing, it might appear that stock prices are more

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<sup>15</sup> Michaelson, D., & Gilfeather, J. (2003). What you need to know to measure investor relations. Gainesville, FL: Institute for Public Relations, 10.

directly influenced by a company's operational performance and strategic model rather than by its investor relations initiatives <sup>16</sup>.

Nevertheless, investor relations serve as the pivotal conduit for conveying crucial information about the company's strategy, financial expectations, and leadership team to investors, thereby aiding in the accurate assessment and valuation of the company's stock.

A broader view of market liquidity in relation to the investor relations role could be gained by looking outside the scope of daily volumes and focusing on the building of an institutionally oriented investor base. This view changes the focus to how promotional the company has been and how strong a following it has in terms of investors, and measuring market efficiency through metrics like the bid-ask spread rather than merely a measure of transaction volume. No investor relations program can survive without engaging the analysts that will provide coverage. Nevertheless, the efficiency of investor relations should not be solely contingent on analyst coverage. As public relations moved from measuring media impressions to assessing attitude and behavioral changes in target audiences, investor relations practitioners should aim to gauge the extent to which their activities are affecting perceptions and actions, realizing the true worth is equal to that of the investor audience itself.

Investors placed the highest value on investor relations as a means to build relationships between the leadership of an organization and its shareholders. However, the relationships have long been difficult to quantify.

Traditional metrics like stock price, trading volume, and analyst ratings are straightforward, but indicators of the depth and quality of investor relationships are less tangible and subject to varying definitions and interpretations (Ferguson, 1984; Bruning & Ledingham, 1999; Huang, 2001). There is thus scope for future analysis of the dynamics of investor relationships, an inherently practitioner-relevant but relatively underdeveloped area of academic inquiry.

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<sup>16</sup> Laskin, Alexander V.(2011) 'How Investor Relations Contributes to the Corporate Bottom Line', *Journal of Public Relations Research*, 23: 3, 302 — 324

### 1.3 Connection between Shareholder Letters and Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing global societies and economies with its capacity for significant transformation. It is already a foundation for innovation, propelling new possibilities within the economic and financial spheres., credited for boosting productivity, enhancing decision-making, and birthing novel products and sectors. Introducing ChatGPT by OpenAI - launched November 30, 2022 - within a very short period acquired over 100 million users worldwide in just two months—a growth pace surpassing previous tech innovations, such as TikTok (9 months), Spotify (4 years and 6 months) or Uber (5 years and 10 months).

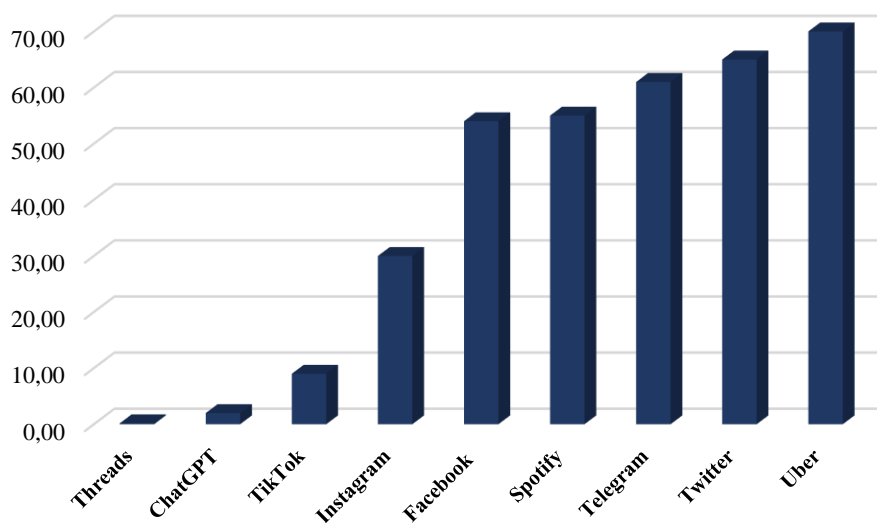


Figure 2 - Months to reach 100 million users <sup>17</sup>

By March 2023, the emergence of similar generative AI (GenAI) systems signaled a burgeoning trend in the technology landscape.

GenAI represents an advanced frontier in AI, characterized by its machine learning (ML) subset's capacity to generate novel content. Central to GenAI are the large language models (LLMs) trained on extensive datasets to produce coherent and significant outputs in human-like language. In the financial industry, GenAI is set to hasten the integration of AI, driven by competitive dynamics that have already been promoting Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning adoption for applications including utilize an AI-powered chatbot to respond to customer inquiries about loans and other financial matters, examine client data to

<sup>17</sup> Own processing graph based on data from illustrated companies website



recommend tailored, optimal actions for advisors to take next, customize the wording and imagery in marketing communications according to specific customer demographics or even on an individual basis and aim to cut operational costs in mid to back-office functions, such as in the post-trade process.<sup>18</sup> In this thesis paper, we will analyze more in detail present and future applications of AI to the financial report analysis, and how this integration can lead to transformative shifts within the sector. In addition, we will discuss Schumpeter's notion of creative destruction, especially how advancements in AI in financial analysis could wipe out old practices and knowledge, triggering periodic waves of innovation and renewal that could reshape industry norms and conventions, the very foundation upon which economic progress and efficacy in the financial landscape are likely to be established. Gartner predicts that by 2025, 30 percent of outbound messages from large organizations like quarterly corporate reports will be synthetically generated<sup>19</sup>, while Forrester forecasts that AI tools will be used by 10 percent of Fortune 500 companies to create content<sup>20</sup>. It is clear that Shareholder Letters have the potential to completely morph based on those data, rendering stock markets much more effective than corporate entities. This advantage emerges from better data (broad and deep access to data), better computing (more powerful proportionate of capital allocated to compute-driven solutions), but fundamentally from the embedment of AI tools into investment strategies. However, the biggest transformation is happening in the investor relations landscape—all thanks to artificial intelligence, which has the potential to provide Wall Street with a very significant upper hand over companies. The advantage comes from access to both large and niche data sets, better computing power, and utilization of AI in investment strategies, which creates a gap that corporates struggle to cover. In the latter part of 2019, OpenAI published findings demonstrating that the computational capacity utilized for AI has seen an exponential growth rate, doubling approximately every 3,4 months since 2012<sup>21</sup>. This rate of expansion starkly contrasts with Moore's Law, which predicts a doubling of computer processing power every two years. Furthermore, IBM's 2017 projections highlighted that 90% of then-current global data had been generated in just the preceding two years, illustrating the rapid accumulation and the

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<sup>18</sup> <https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelabbott/2023/05/08/what-generative-ai-means-for-banking/>

<sup>19</sup> Tuong H. Nguyen, 5 Impactful Technologies From the Gartner Emergin Technologies and Trends Impact Radar for 2022, Gartner, December 08, 2021

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.forrester.com/report/predictions-2023-artificial-intelligence/>

<sup>21</sup> <https://openai.com/research/ai-and-compute>

increasing relevance of data in the digital age. In this landscape, companies should adjust as a priority their IR corporate functions to understand and then adapt all the wide possible application of tools such as ChatGPT. These insights are essential for devising appropriate actions to be taken by the organization in relation to dealings with and anticipating feedback from external players. As the financial industry is undergoing the movement in the direction of more quantitative and passive asset management approaches, MiFID-II among many others, IR professionals are facing the urgent task of developing different ways of addressing investors, a crucial upgradation to the proper phrasing of their description which can be readily understood by both living investors and automated systems. Now, establishing a holistic approach of responding to algorithms scrutinizing narratives and jargon from AI-driven trading algorithms has moved a bit higher than the external communications consolidation. The existence of single precise internal structure that integrates all concerned departments within organization helps in ensuring that the communication that is being sent to the external parties is simple, precise and centralized, sustaining consistency of the messages that are delivered. Advances in AI have a substantial influence on the operational efficiency and can directly be used for external purposes, though its creating a new role in the internal environment frameworks appears to be a process going on. In the meantime, AI experts are incentivized to determine the ways in which the technology can be put to good use for the benefit of various businesses strategies and processes. The applying of AI won't only be able to make possible automatic of usual works, but, instead, to free resources for activities with higher influence right on the strategic point. Incorporating chatbots on IR sites can be a perfect answer to many frequently asked questions without personnel involvement, working round the clock and suited to the technically raising generation of shareholders. While on the road to integrating automation and AI into their routine activities, the ethics of IR campaigning must be well thought through, and hence, responsibility should be a consideration because applying the concepts of the responsible and ethical approach to the adoptions of the technologies is very important to minimize the possible resistances of different possible implications in time to come. Taken together, the transplant process of adjusting to AI involvement in investor relations functions brings forth a specific set of challenges and advantages. Through the crucial internal use of AI by grasping and adapting to the external use of it, maintaining communication strategies, and generating AI efficiencies within the organization, and lastly, maintaining ethical measures, the IR professionals can sustain their place in the industries' success amid the rapidly changing environment.

## 1.4 ChatGPT

ChatGPT is a Natural Language Processing (NLP) system developed by the company OpenAI in November 2022 designed to generate tailored human-like conversations through the process of understanding the context, the keywords, the register of the dialogue and generating accurate answers. It works better than manual chat by providing more accurate responses due to its training, that includes comprehensive conversational skills that enable him to understand topics and formulate appropriate responses.

### 1.4.1 How ChatGPT works

ChatGPT is based on the Transformer architecture developed by Vaswani et al. (2017), Radford et al. (2018, 2019), and Brown et al. (2020).

The Transformer is a kind of neural network designed to capture the complex relationship between words across long stretches of text. The underlying model used by the system consists in a representation of token, a measure that corresponds to each word, is represented by an  $m$ -dimensional vector,  $x_k = (x_k^1, x_k^2, \dots, x_k^m)$ , known as a word embedding. The network processes a piece of text as an  $n \times m$  matrix,  $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)'$ , where each row corresponds to a token, and the columns represent the dimensions of the embeddings. For instance, a sentence containing *“The rapid advancement of technology has transformed various industries, leading to significant changes in consumer behaviour and market dynamics”* would be portrayed as a  $19 \times 100$  matrix, assuming each is represented as a 100-dimensional vector  $(x_{1i}, x_{2i}, \dots, x_{100i})$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 100$ ).

The core element within the Transformer architecture is the Self-attention Mechanism, which facilitates the model in discerning the significance of each word within an input text by assessing its positional and contextual connections with other words. This mechanism aims to capture the interrelations between various words and extract pertinent information by computing self-attention scores.

This computational process involves three matrices:

- Query (Q)
- Key (K)
- Value (V),

The three variables are parameterized as follows:

$$Q = X \cdot WQ \quad (1)$$

$$K = X \cdot WK \quad (2)$$

$$V = X \cdot WV \quad (3)$$

In this setup, each row in the query matrix, representing a query vector, corresponds to a token for which attention scores are computed.

Similarly, each row in the key matrix, corresponding to a key vector, denotes a token against which the current query token is compared. Lastly, the value matrix contains information associated with each token. The model grasps the weight matrices  $WQ$  ( $m \times \dim Q$ ),  $WK$  ( $m \times \dim K$ ), and  $WV$  ( $m \times \dim V$ ) during the pre-training phase, where  $\dim Q$  and  $\dim K$  are maintained as identical dimensions.

In order to make an example, it is taken as example the previously mentioned 19-token sentence. To evaluate the self-attention of the word *advancement*, the model assesses its relationship with every other word, including itself. This involves comparing the query vector corresponding to *advancement* with 19 key vectors through dot product computations for each query-key pair. The dot product captures the semantic similarity between token pairs, expressed mathematically as  $Q \cdot K'$ , resulting in a  $19 \times 19$  relation score matrix in this scenario. Each element of this matrix at the intersection of the  $i$ th row and  $j$ th column,  $[Q \cdot K']$ , quantifies the resemblance between the  $i$ th and  $j$ th words.

Formally, the attention matrix is computed to encapsulate the interconnectedness among tokens. In a more formal manner, the model computes the attention matrix to capture the interconnections among tokens using the equation:

$$Score(Q, K) = softmax \left( \frac{Q \cdot K'}{\sqrt{\dim K}} \right) \quad (4)$$

Where  $Q \cdot K'$  represents a matrix indicating semantic closeness between queries and keys, acts as a normalizing factor, and softmax is a function that converts row vectors into weights summing to one. The resultant attention matrix is then multiplied with the value matrix,  $Score(Q, K) \cdot V$ , to compute the weighted sum of value vectors, serving as an output of the attention layer.

The model undergoes pre-training on a substantial corpus to learn word embeddings and facilitate the computation of self-attention matrices for text sequences of varying lengths. This acquired knowledge is subsequently utilized within the "decoder loop" to generate a sequence of words for inclusion in a text, such as a summary. During this process, the model identifies the most probable next word in an autoregressive manner, relying on previously calculated self-attention scores and the entire word corpus  $L$ . Formally, the model computes the conditional probability distribution over  $y_{n+1}$  given by  $p(y_{n+1} | y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n, L)$ , where  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$  represent words already present in the summary, and selects the most likely next word.

In the example scenario, the summary sentence begins with the word "The" due to its highest self-attention score. Following this, the second most probable word, based on the first word, is determined to be "rapid" or "advancement", and so forth.

The model predicts the end-of-sentence token "landscape" as the most likely token, thereby completing the summary and resulting in the following sentence:

*"The rapid advancement of technology has transformed various industries, leading to significant changes in consumer behaviour and market dynamics landscape."*

Reading the phrase, it is possible to observe how the outcome effectively retains pertinent information while omitting redundancies or extraneous details.

## Chapter 2: Research Methodology

### 2.1 Reference Framework: The Euronext Milan Index

The Italian Stock Exchange, in Italian “*Borsa Italiana*” and informally known as “*Piazza Affari*”, manages and organises domestic market, regulating procedures for admission and listing of companies and intermediaries and supervising disclosures for listed companies <sup>22</sup>.

Capitalization for listed companies on Borsa Italiana is worth €644.3 billion as of April 2024, more than 37.8% of Italian GDP <sup>23</sup>. The company is well-positioned to use these resources to expedite development, access new sources of funding, and cultivate additional domestic and international shareholders. Incorporation in itself gives any company a better face and a better identity, which is a very important factor to motivate and involve management in the results produced by the company. Having a footprint on the Italian Primary Market offers companies bragging rights of sorts that put them in a higher standing and help with attracting possible investors from abroad. Joining Italy's Primary Market publicly announces a company's commitment and ambitions, attracting interest from abroad.

For entities aiming to gather investment, becoming listed on the Italian Stock Exchange is akin to holding a mark of distinction.

The array of options provided by the Borsa Italiana is diverse, catering to various types of businesses and investment frameworks, that can be resumed in the following table:

<b>Regulated Markets dedicated to Listed Companies</b>	<b>Regulated Markets dedicated to Investment vehicles</b>	<b>MTF (Multilateral Trading Facility)</b>
Euronext Milan	Euronext	Euronext Growth Milan
Euronext STAR Milan	MIV Milan	Professional Segment

Table 1 – Italian Stock Exchange different markets

In the above presented table is possible to divide three different type of markets.

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<sup>22</sup> italy24.ilsole4ore.com, Borsa Italiana, 1 August 2017 at the Wayback Machine

<sup>23</sup> www.borsaitaliana.it

Regulated Markets Dedicated to Listed Companies are official stock exchanges that comply with strict regulatory standards set by financial authorities. These markets tend to have stringent listing rules, disclosure requirements, and academic scrutiny, which means that companies listed must have met various compliance and regulatory requirements that ease the level of risks associated with them thereby offering a fair trading inviting environment for the public. These markets are usually inhabited by relatively large, well-established companies, which also tend to appeal to a wider audience of retail and institutional investors. Euronext Milan is oriented towards medium to large companies, is a regulated market, and is operated in compliance with international standards. It serves as a gateway for global investors. Euronext STAR Milan is a segment of Euronext Milan dedicated to SMEs that join Euronext with high requirements in terms of governance, transparency, and liquidity, being able to be traded globally. Regulated Markets Dedicated to Investment Vehicles: Similar to regulated markets for companies, these are also formal exchanges that adhere to stringent regulatory frameworks. They only apply to investment classes such as mutual funds, exchange - traded funds (ETFs), real estate investment trusts (REITs), and other structured financial products. These are investment vehicles that are designed to take money from investors in turn to invest in different kinds of assets. The regulations governing these markets are tailored to address the specific nature and risks of these investment products, with a focus on transparency, disclosure, and investor protection. Euronext MIV Milan Dedicated to Investment Vehicles, this market is the go-to for listing funds and corporate entities investing in real economy assets. It accommodates a variety of Italian and international vehicles, catering to both retail and professional investors.

MTF (Multilateral Trading Facility): An MTF is a type of trading system that is operated by multiple parties interested in buying and selling financial instruments. MTFs are less formal than regulated markets and typically provide a more flexible, cost-effective trading environment. They are still subject to regulatory oversight but with a lighter-touch approach, which can be attractive to smaller, growing companies that may not meet the stringent requirements for listing on a regulated market. MTFs allow these businesses access to capital and a means to trade their shares in general public.

Euronext Growth Milan is an MTF, Growth Market for SMEs building on a bespoke regulatory framework. This is facilitated through the support of a Euronext Growth Advisor.

*Professional Segment:* This segment has been designed to cater to SMEs seeking to take incremental steps to entering the market, including startups and scale-ups that are less than 1 year old with the help of the Euronext Growth Advisor. Euronext is the leading pan-European market infrastructure, connecting local economies to global capital markets, to accelerate innovation and sustainable growth. It operates regulated exchanges in Belgium, France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, and Portugal. It has an unparalleled blue-chip franchise with over 1,900 listed issuers and around €7.1 trillion market capitalization at the end of March 2024 and a well-diversified domestic and international client base. Euronext operates regulated and transparent equity and derivatives markets, one of Europe's leading electronic fixed income trading markets, and is the largest center for debt and funds listings in the world. Its total product offering includes Equities, FX, Exchange Traded Funds, Warrants & Certificates, Bonds, Derivatives, Commodities and Indices. The analysis of the work intends to address and take as a reference the companies listed in EuroNext Milan. is an order driven market, in which financial instruments are traded through two methods: auction mode and continuous trading. These methods aim to bring together supply and demand: the exchange takes place between those who offer the lowest price for sale and those who offer the highest price for purchase, if the two prices coincide. Securities are traded with a two-sided mechanism: price offers are entered by both buyers (ask) and sellers of the shares (bid). The electronic system displays trading proposals in a "book" which appears on the terminals of authorized operators. The auction method can consist of an opening auction or a closing auction. The opening (closing) auction is in turn divided into the pre-auction for determining the theoretical opening (closing) price; the validation, to check that this price is compatible with the requirements established by the Italian Stock Exchange; the opening (closing), that is the conclusion of contracts at a single price. At the end of the day, Borsa Italiana determines and communicates to the public some prices representative of the trading performance: Opening Price, Closing Price, Official Price, Reference Price. The settlement of the contracts takes place on the third trading day following the stipulation. Euronext Milan has been divided into different segments, based on the capitalization of the instruments traded.



Specific requirements are required of all companies listed on Euronext Milan, the first 40 shares by capitalization make up the FTSE MIB index developed by Ftse Russell, all in the IPO phase must present a minimum free float of 25% of the capital.

Specific requirements are required by the regulations of the Italian Stock Exchange for Euronext STAR Milan companies (shares with capitalization from 40 million euros to 1 billion euros, free float exceeding 35% and obligation to comply with high standards of information transparency, corporate governance and liquidity, including the appointment of a specialist operator). The Trading Proposals (Pdn) that operators can send on the Euronext Milan market contain at least the information relating to the financial instrument to be traded, the quantity, the type of operation, the type of account, the price conditions and the methods of execution and contain a specific indication when they originate from an algorithm or have been entered through direct electronic access. Further validity parameters are then possible. The pre-auction and continuous trading proposals are divided into: - with a price limit (limit order), i.e. which can be executed at a price equal to or better than the one expressed; - without price limit (market order): at any available price and with priority over limit orders; - stop limit orders: they are activated during continuous trading when the price of the last concluded contract reaches a limit price (stop price; - market to limit, foreseen only for the auction phase, act as a market order at the auction price and any unexecuted at the end of the auction passes to continuous trading as a limit order. To these types of trading proposals, the following are added only in the continuous trading phase and includes iceberg orders, these are proposals with a price limit (limit order), but which allow only a partial view of the quantity.

Borsa Italiana defines the necessary parameters which are currently 10.000 € as the minimum value for iceberg orders on Ftse MIB and STAR securities and 5.000 € for all the others, with the value defined as peak size. In addition, is inserted a price limit one tick better than the best offer on the book whether the offer is a sale or purchase order. The tick is the minimum value of deviation of the prices of the trading orders established by the Instructions of the Italian Stock Exchange and by the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/588 of the Commission of 14 July 2016 based on the prices of the orders and the average daily number of trades of the affected instrument.

## 2.2 Methodological Approach to Analysis

In order to understand and to investigate the potential of generative AI for the processing of annual financial data, the analysis is concentrated on the investigation of shareholder letters content, due to the relevant information amount that is contained inside this kind of narrative disclosure (Hassan et al., 2019) <sup>24</sup>. The sample has been built consulting financial statements, annual reports and shareholder letters of all 205 companies listed to the Euronext Milan Index, for years 2021 and 2022 <sup>25</sup>. Several firms do not have a company culture consisting in constant relations between CEO and shareholders, limiting the spectrum of activity to just mandatory documentation disclosure. In only about 52% of the Index is present a kind of annual Chairman message to shareholders, or at least one that was readily findable. Filtering the available raw data leave an initial cumulated sample of 205 letters, which include the letters for the 108 companies that effectively published it both in 2021 and 2022 (52,68% of the total companies listed). On the other hand, 97 companies (47,32% of the total companies listed) do not have published letters in 2021 and 2022.

The scope of this paper is to understand if could exist a relation between the results of the different analysis performed over EuroNext Milan companies' shareholder letters data.

In fact, the activities that has been done over data are:

- Words counting of both entire shareholder letters and resumed letters.
- Grade comparison of both entire shareholder letters and resumed letters.

The final goal is to understand, to make significant analysis and to find relevant results about the following points:

- Existence of a correlation between letters length and content quality. A positive correlation between shorter resumed letters and higher grades may suggest that summarization and focused communication accurately captures essential information from original letters.
- Information retention and understanding: If there is a strong correlation between the grades of entire letters and their corresponding resumed versions, it may indicate that

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<sup>24</sup> Hassan, T.A., Hollander, S., Van Lent, L., Tahoun, A., 2019. Firm-level political risk: Measurement and effects. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 134, 2135–2202.

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.borsaitaliana.it/borsa/azioni/ftse-italia-growth/lista.html> - Appendix 2

the summarization process effectively captures the key information from the original letters.

- **Optimal Length Identification:** Examining if the relationship between the word count of resumed letters and the grades assigned by ChatGPT 4.0 can assist in identifying the optimal length for effective summarization. Insights gained from this analysis can guide the development of guidelines or criteria for generating concise and informative summaries.
- **ChatGPT 4.0 Performance Evaluation:** Assessing the consistency and accuracy of the grades assigned by ChatGPT 4.0 across entire shareholder letters and resumed letters provides valuable feedback on the model's performance. Discrepancies or inconsistencies in the grades between the two versions may indicate areas for improvement or refinement in the model

The methodological approach to consisted in building an unrestricted summary of each letter through the use of ChatGPT-4.0 developed and provided by the OpenAI ChatCompletion endpoint since March 2023.

The following table reports the descriptive statistics of the entire sample analysed.

The scope of the table is to compare the number of token present in shareholder letters as reported with the number of token elaborated by ChatGPT 4.0 when is inserted the general input to summarize the document providing key information.

	<b>Raw Data</b>	<b>Resumes</b>	<b>% of reduction</b>
Number of companies analyzed	108		
Average	5360	1051	80,39 %
Median	4275	1009	76,40 %
Standard Deviation	3595	225	93,74 %

Table 2 – Raw Data and Resumed Data for 2021 and 2022

For each of these two raw data sample, is computed the mean, the median and the Standard Deviation. Standard two-sided t-tests were performed to calculate the statistical significance of the differences. *t*-values are reported in the parentheses.

The unconstrained summaries produced are on average more than 80% of the length of the original analysed document. This result could be determined by the limitation in the number of tokens reproduced by ChatGPT 4.0 (4096), but this data is not statistically relevant as the average number of words produced is greater/less than the overall number of words, and therefore even if potentially reproducible, it doesn't is so relevant.

The next step of the work is to understand whether the summaries, which are bound to omit a lot of details, lose the majority of the information content that they contain. To determine whether this loss is consequential, we next focus on examining the information content, analyzing all the published readily available shareholder letters of the 108 companies of the index and to grade them on a scale from 1-100 (1 being lowest, 100 being highest) based on how well the letters could provide information and be as much as clear, transparent and readable as possible. For reference, all 205 Euronext Milan companies were reviewed for annual shareholder letters of the years 2021 and 2022. Research methods included to insert in the search engine browser the company's name followed by the phrase "*Annual Letter*," "*Shareholder Letter*," "*Chairman Letter*," and going to the company's investor relations page and searching there. Moreover, companies that publish with continuity the Annual Report are more inclined to provide, usually in the first pages of the document, the letter from the chairman to the shareholder. Half of the examined companies rely just on the Italian law mandatory financial document and disclosure, avoiding to create a direct relationship between the Board and the investor base.

An important resource for the research is represented by AnnualReports.com, which does a great job of amalgamating recent annual reports, however; many companies are not available on that website. As far as it is possible to affirm, there is no simple way to search for them. The SEC's EDGAR website allow to search "ARS," which will inform when the last annual report (annual reports include the shareholder letter, unlike 10-Ks) was filed. However, it often does not include the actual document.

The next step consisted in asking to the system to classify and to attribute a grade to each of the firm analyzed for each one of the considered drivers, based on the results precedently obtained.

The questions that has always been inserted as input for the analysis are two:

- *Summarize the content of the letter to shareholders in about 10 rows without losing any kind of relevant data and detail*
- *From the text I am pasting, you have to give me a score from 0 to 100, based on your opinion and analysis, about the following bullet points: Definition of the company strategy, Ability to be Candid, Ability to be Educate, Ability to tell a Story (the Investment Thesis Story), to Entertain the reader, Risk measurement, Financial Performance Analysis*

The first quesiton is used to create an efficient resume of each year's letter, avoiding any significant lose of information and deatail. It aims to to assess the letter's ability to convey information clearly and concisely. In this way, is possible to determine the structure of the letter and if the company analyzed is successfully communicating its key messages efficiently.

The second part of the task involves providing a score from 0 to 100 based on different critera, that has been chosen and divided for the analysis are criteria into seven KPI's categories:

- Define the Company and Its Strategy
- Be Candid
- Educate
- Tell a Story, the so called Investment Thesis Story
- Entertain.
- Risk Measurement
- Financial Performance

The analysis was conducted using a scale of 0 to 100, with results calculated accordingly. However, for simplicity, these results have been converted to a base 10 scale (ranging from 0 to 10). The numbers on the 0-100 scale were rounded to make them easier to interpret and present more clearly.

The KPI “Define the Company and Its Strategy” assesses how well the letter articulates the company's identity, its core business areas, and its strategic objectives. The reference literature considers it as crucial for shareholders to have a clear understanding of what the company does and where it is headed, which helps in aligning their expectations and investment decisions with the company’s long-term plans. To provide a clear, wide and complete grade attribution the main activity made has been to quantify the clarity and depth of the strategy explanation in the annual report or in Financial Statements, in order to clarify how well the reported activities and results are linked, as well as the consistency of the message over the timeframe.

The ability of a shareholder letter to be candid helps to boost communication building process, as well as trust within management and its credibility in the shareholder meetings. The metrics valued mainly by shareholders are transparency, especially regarding challenges or areas where the company didn’t meet expectations, helping investors to feel more secure about the management's honesty and capability to navigate tough and ambiguous situations. A good example could be assessed by examining the extent to which management discusses setbacks or less favorable results, the context given around failures, and how forthcoming they are with information that might not necessarily paint the company in the best light.

As mentioned in the first chapter, an effective shareholder letters should try to educate shareholders about the market dynamics, technological changes, regulatory impacts, or other external factors affecting the company. This KPI evaluates how well the letter helps shareholders understand the broader context in which the company operates. Also the ability to explain complex and difficult to learn information to the public is considered a good KPI in evaluating the letters. Storytelling is, in fact, a very strong technique to keep your audience entertained and linked with the content. Financial data blended with corporate successes and future strategy combines to form a compelling, memorable investment thesis. This means looking at how good the letter is at joining the dots between past performance, present actions, and future propositions. This also includes checking the narrative flow, readability, and how well it sells their value proposition. The Risk Management's KPI assesses whether and how well the shareholder letter discusses and quantifies the different risks the company is exposed to and its prepared strategies to mitigate those risks. This driver is important for shareholders as it gives them an idea of the company's risk management framework and its ability to deal with probable risks. Literature highlights open discussions on risks as a confidence-building

element for investors in the company's preparedness and resilience. The primary critiquing exercise is assessing how well the letter identifies and describes the following types of risks: market risk, policy risk, operating risk, and financial risk, which together constitute the core of a clear, complete grade attribution. Further, it looks at the organization's ability to communicate its risk management strategies and the impact of these measures. When done correctly, a copious conversation on risk gives investors a better understanding of the risks that surround their investment and how it is prepared to sail through uncertain times.

Instead, the financial services' KPI assesses the clarity and detail with which the shareholder letter discusses the company's financial health. It includes the analysis of fundamental financial metrics such as revenue, profit margins, earnings per share, and return on investment. Literature regarding detailed and transparent reporting of financial performance and its influence on investor confidence and choice is crucial. The letter is measured on its ability to generate a clear and fair grade based on the financial data, the definitions and context around the numbers, and the consistency of the financial narrative over time. This might also include the clarity of the financial summaries, the depth of the financial results analysis, or how relevant the letter is at connecting financial performance to strategic projects and future outlooks. A strong shareholder letter, as judged by this KPI, strikes an appropriate balance between financial headlines and a deeper analysis of the company's success and issues while considering the interests of shareholders in making sound investment decisions. A shareholder letter with a more casual style, amusing anecdotes, or some humor can make the read more appealing and get investors eager for these updates.

This might be the most subjective of the KPIs, but it can be evaluated based on style, tone, and the inclusion of elements that make the content more appealing and less formal or dry.

The grade range are classified with the following statements:

- *Impressive and Insightful* (8-10): If a company did at least two elements of the “Best Traits” or if they did one element extraordinarily well.
- *Middle of the Road* (5-7): If a company did one element of the “Best Traits.”
- *Back of the Pack* (1-4): If a company did none of the “Best Traits” or did a “No-No” (e.g., wildly congratulate its own management team or turn a financial statement into words).

This investigation is grounded in the hypothesis that a positive correlation might exist between achieving an high score and the actual market performance of the analyzed companies shares on the market for each period of time of the analysis.

The higher the positive correlation established, the higher the possibility to provide substantial evidence supporting the goal of the analysis to prove with which reliability Chat-GPT 4 could serve and be used as a viable tool for investment decision-making, providing a more clear, direct and transparent communication flow of crucial operational information between the board, the management and the shareholders.

Not just to measure the immediate impact of a high score but to determine how well this performance can be maintained over the medium to long term. The findings from this analysis could alter the world of investment by pushing value towards humanized qualitative considerations like leader's vision, strategic directions, and corporate governance practices that would reflect on shareholder letters. If a positive linkage is established, this analysis could potentially highlight the utility of more sophisticated automated text analysis techniques in identifying investment opportunities with high upside potential, which would lend credibility to the model of shareholder communications analysis for active investment screening. If an adverse relationship is shown, this could cast doubt on the efficacy and accuracy of ChatGPT at recognizing lucrative investments from any business communication tools. Once all analyses are completed, we look up keywords, adjectives, and terms ChatGPT believes are critical KPIs for future investment opportunities. After that, a test on the frequency and existence of those terms will be applied to discover if this frequency can be related to investment decisions and performance metrics. This will be followed by a comparison between past and current letters to assess how accurately, if at all, a good prediction based on the content of shareholder letters can materialize.

The conclusion will focus on determining the precision with which this tool can forecast future development opportunities, enhancing both the accuracy of composing shareholder letters and serving as a supportive instrument for potential shareholders in making informed investment choices in companies.



## Chapter 3 : Analysis of Results

### 3.1 Presentation and Interpretation of collected data

The purpose of this chapter is to present and interpret the data collected during the study. This includes an analysis of the key findings, trends, and patterns that emerged from the data, as well as a discussion on the implications of these results.

The following table presents the Euronext Milan companies, divided by their operative sector. The list include all the companies, independently by its shareholder letter's publication in their annual documentation.

<b>Sector</b>	<b>EuroNext Milan Companies – Full list by sector</b>
Automotive	Iveco, Landi Renzo, Piaggio, Pininfarina
Consumer Goods	Amplifon, Ariston Holding, Basicnet, Bialetti, Brunello Cucinelli, Campari, De Longhi, El. En, Elica, Enervit, Ferretti, Fila, Geox, Intercos, Moncler, Newlat Food, Ovs, Pirelli, Risanamento, Salvatore Ferragamo, Valsoia.
Financial Services	Anima Holding, Azimut, Banca Generali, Banca Ifis, Banca Mediolanum, Monte dei Paschi di Siena, Banca Popolare di Sondrio, Banca Profilo, Banca Sistema, Banco Bpm, Bff Bank, Bper Banca, Conafi, Credem, Doovalue, Equita Group, Fincobank, Generali Assicurazioni, Illimity Bank, Intesa San Paolo, Italmobiliare, Mediobanca, Mutui Online, Poste Italiane, Tamburi, Unicredit, Unipol.
Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals	Diasorin, Garofalo Health Care, Gvs, Pharmanutra, Philogen, Recordati Ord.
Holdings	Bestbe Holding, Caltagirone, Cir.
Industrial Goods and Services	Aeffe, Alkemy, Brembo, Buzzi, Carel Industries, Comer Industries, D' Amico, EPH, Eurogroup Laminations, Eurotech, Exprivia, Fiera di Milano, Fincantieri, Fnm, Gas Plus, Greenthesi, I grandi viaggi, Industrie De Nora, Interpump Group, Italian Exhibition Group, IVS, Leonardo, Lottomatica, Marr, Nexi, Openjobmetis, Piovan, Reply, Sabaf, Saipem, Tesmec, San Lorenzo, Servizi Italia, Sit, Stellantis,

	Stmicroelectronics, Technogym, Tenaris, The Italian Sea Group, Trevi Fin. Industries, Webuild, Wilt.
Industrial Engineering	Danieli & Co, Emak, Immsi, Maire Tecnimont, Seri Industrial.
Luxury	Ferrari, Tods.
Manufacturing	Acquafil, B&C Speakers, Beghelli, Biesse, Bioera, Cembre, Cementir Holding, Centrale del Latte d' Italia, Csp Int Ind Calze, Fidia, Fine Foods Pharmaceutical Ntm, Gefran, Irce, Kme Group, Luve, Met.extra Group, Neodecortech, Piquadro, Prysmian, Saes Getters, Safilo, Sogefi, Sol, Zignano, Zucchi.
Media and Entertainment	Aeroporto Guglielmo Marconi di Bologna, Cairo, Class Editori, Il Sole 24 Ore, Juventus, MFE, Mondadori Edit, Mondo TV, Monrif, Netweek, Rcs Mediagroup, S.S. Lazio.
Real Estate	Abitare In, Bastogi, Borgosesia, Brioschi, Cia, Igd, Inwit, Restart.
Retail	Cellularline, Caleffi, Gabetti, Orsero, Unieuro.
Technology and IT Service	Antares Vision, Beewize, Civitanavi Systems, Cy4gate, Digital Bros, Digital Value, Eems, Esprinet, Giglio Group, Gpi, It way, Olidata, Seco, Softlab, Technoprobe, Txt E-Solutions, Unidata, Datalogic, Sesa, Somec, Tesselis, Tinexta, Triboo.
Telecommunication	Rai Way, Telecom.
Trasportation and Infrastructure	Autostrade Merid, Avio, Enav, Salcef Group.
Utilities	A2a, Acea, Alerion, Algowatt, Ascopiave, Enel, Eni, Erg, Hera, Iren, Italgas, Plc, Saras, Snam, Terna.

Table 3 – EuroNext Milan Companies, full list divided by sector

All over the industries spectrum exists numerous companies that decide to not post shareholder letters in their annual reports. This choice can stem from a variety of factors, which includes the technical or specialised nature of the arena, a choice for more specified communications thru technical or economic reports, or the perception that different strategies of conversation are greater effective in reaching their key stakeholders.

For example, in sectors including industrial engineering, luxurious, production, and transportation, none of the businesses indexed on Euronext Milan regularly publish a shareholder letter. This may also mirror a more focus on operational reports and enterprise-particular communications in place of preferred messages directed at shareholders.

The following table presents a resume of the companies of the Euronext Milan that have published a Chairman Letter in both years 2021 and 2022.

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Euronext Milan Companies publishing Shareholder Letters in 2021 and 2022</b>
Automotive	Iveco Group, Landi Renzo, Piaggio, Pininfarina
Consumer Goods	Amplifon, Ariston Holding, Brunello Cucinelli, El. En, Elica, Ferretti, Fila, Geox, Intercos, Moncler, Newlat Food, Ovs, Pirelli, Salvatore Ferragamo, Valsoia
Financial Services	Banca Generali, Banca Ifis, Banca Mediolanum, Banca Popolare di Sondrio, Banca Profilo, Bff Bank, Conafi, Doovalue, Equita Group, Illimity Bank, Intesa San Paolo, Italmobiliare, Generali Assicurazioni, Unicredit, Unipol.
Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals	Garofalo Health Care, Gvs, Pharmanutra, Diasorin
Industrial Goods and Services	Aeffe, Alkemy, Brembo, Buzzi, Carel Industries, Comer Industries, D' Amico, EPH, Eurogroup Laminations, Eurotech, Exprivia, Fiera di Milano, Fincantieri, Fnm, Gas Plus, Greenthesi, Industrie De Nora, Interpump Group, IVS, Leonardo, Marr, Nexi, Openjobmetis, Piovan, Reply, Sabaf, Saipem, Tesmec, Sit, Stellantis, Stmicroelectronics, Technogym, Tenaris, The Italian Sea Group, Trevi Fin. Industries, Webuild, Wilt.
Luxury	Ferrari, Italian Design Brands, Tods.

Media and Entertainment	MFE, Mondadori Edit, Monrif, Juventus, Aeroporto Guglielmo Marconi di Bologna.
Real Estate	Abitare In, Igd, Inwit.
Retail	Unieuro.
Technology and IT Service	Civitanavi Systems, Esprinet, Giglio Group, Gpi, Softlab, Unidata, Datalogic, Sesa, Somec, Tinexta.
Telecommunication	Telecom
Utilities	A2a, Acea, Enel, Eni, Erg, Hera, Iren, Italgas, Snam, Terna

Table 4 – EuroNext Milan companies publishing Shareholder Letters in 2021 and 2022

The sectors identified present different percentages of letters to shareholders in their annual documentation. The highest rate of report letters is in the category called “Industrial Goods and Services”, where 37 of the total 41 companies (90,24%) report Annual Chairman message in the Annual Report. Companies in this category often experience steady demand and long-term contracts, emphasizing stability and good growth prospects and leading to positive outlooks in communication transparency between Board, Management and shareholders. The consumer goods sector is a category of stocks and companies that relate to items purchased by individuals and households rather than by manufacturers and industries. These companies make and sell products that are intended for direct use by the buyers for their own use and enjoyment. 85,71 % of Euronext Milan companies in this industry (18 over 21) are used to publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report. The common practice of these companies to highlight brand strength, consumer trends and market expansion usually influence positively the letter’s tone, increasing the engagement between company and shareholders. The automotive sector includes companies involved in the design, development, manufacturing, and selling of motor vehicles. This sector is known for its cyclical nature and dependence on economic conditions and consumer demand. In this sector, 80.00% of Euronext Milan companies (4 out of ) publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report. Often such letters may point out innovation, future model launches, and performance in the market, which only supports confidence in the positive tones and retaining shareholder interest. Utilities include companies that produce basic services such as electricity, gas, water, and sewage treatment. Many of these businesses work in environments that are regulated, and that generally guarantees demand for their services.

The Shareholder Letter is published in the Annual Report by this sector in 10 of 15 companies listed on Euronext Milan (66.67%). The tone is generally upbeat, as letters usually emphasize regulatory compliance and improved infrastructure investments, focusing on the ability to serve reliability, maintaining the status quo. Companies shipping healthcare, medical devices, or drugs, or that belong to the facilitation of medical care. Six Euronext Milan companies publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report, 4 (66.67%) of which are in this sector. Such letters frequently cite regulatory approvals, medical research milestones, and human stories to reinforce the upbeat tone of the letter by illustrating the positive role of the sector in public health and the creative process. In the financial services industry are comprised banks, investment funds, insurance companies, and real estate firms. This sector is highly regulated and sensitive to economic fluctuations. In this sector, 53.57% of Euronext Milan companies (15 out of 28) publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report. These letters usually cover financial performance, risk management, and strategic initiatives, with the tone varying based on market conditions and regulatory changes. The telecommunications sector comprises companies that provide communication services, including internet, phone, and cable services. This sector is essential for both personal and business communication. Half of the Euronext Milan companies in this sector (1 out of 2) publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report. These letters often emphasize network expansions, technological advancements, and customer service improvements, positively impacting shareholder engagement. The technology sector includes companies involved in the development, manufacturing, and distribution of technology products and services. This sector is known for rapid innovation and competitive dynamics. 43.48% of Euronext Milan companies in this sector (10 out of 23) publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report. If we investigate them further, however, we find these letters often spotlight new product features, emerging market trends, or strategic alliances—all of which can strike a tone that is optimistic and realistic at the same time. The media and entertainment sector includes companies that produce, distribute, and broadcast content across multiple platforms. This segment is driven by evolving consumer needs and unprecedented technology strides.

This category contains 41.67% of Euronext Milan companies (5 out of 12) that publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report.

Most of these letters take on themes of creating content and engaging audiences and highlight digital transformation, all with the intention of showing investors and shareholders that the company is still plugging along even if the industry has descended into chaos. Real Estate includes companies that own, develop, and manage properties.. This sector is influenced by economic cycles, interest rates, and market demand. 37.50% of Euronext Milan companies in this sector (3 out of 8) publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report. These letters generally discuss property acquisitions, market trends, and financial performance, providing a mixed tone depending on market conditions. The retail sector consists of companies that sell consumer goods directly to customers through various distribution channels. This sector is highly competitive and sensitive to consumer spending patterns. Only 20.00% of Euronext Milan companies in this sector (1 out of 5) publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report. These letters often emphasize sales performance, consumer trends, and strategic initiatives, although the tone may vary based on market conditions and competition. The holdings sector includes companies that own a diverse portfolio of businesses across various industries, often with a particular core operation activity on strategic investments. None of the Euronext Milan companies in this sector (0 out of 3) regularly publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report. The lack of shareholder letters may reflect the diverse nature of their investments and a focus on financial reports instead. The industrial engineering sector comprises companies that provide engineering services and solutions for various industries. None of the Euronext Milan companies in this sector (0 out of 5) publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report. This may be due to the technical nature of their services and a preference for detailed technical reports over general shareholder communications. The luxury sector includes companies that produce and sell high-end goods and services. This sector is characterized by brand prestige and exclusivity. None of the Euronext Milan companies in this sector (0 out of 2) publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report. The absence of such letters may be due to the niche market focus and direct communication with key stakeholders through other channels. The manufacturing sector encompasses companies involved in the production of goods across various industries. This sector is diverse and sensitive to economic cycles and global supply chains. None of the Euronext Milan companies in this sector (0 out of 25) publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report. This may reflect the sector's preference for operational reports and industry-specific communications. The transportation sector includes companies that provide transportation services for goods and passengers.

This sector is influenced by economic conditions, fuel prices, and regulatory changes. None of the Euronext Milan companies in this sector (0 out of 4) publish a Shareholder Letter in their Annual Report. The absence of shareholder letters might be due to the sector's focus on logistical performance and regulatory compliance reports.

### 3.2. Correlation between Letters length and content quality

Shareholder letter quality is an aside of corporate communication that is rarely mentioned but provides important information about a company: how it performs, what the company sets as its strategic objectives and work up on, and how it thinks about and engages with its stakeholders. This chapter examines the correlation between the length of shareholder letters and their content quality, using quantitative analysis and supported by relevant literature. This connection can lead to insights that can be used in communication strategies which can, in turn, empower businesses to write better shareholder letters. Shareholder letters are the primary channel for a company to communicate annually to their shareholders about how they have performed, what opportunities they will be pursuing, and what they believe the future holds for the price of the stock. The length of these letters is incredibly varied and typically depends on the complexity of the company, the industry it is in, and the volume of information the investor believes is important to get across. Content quality is appraised in terms of clarity, relevance, engagement, and completeness of the letters. In order to investigate whether the length of shareholder letters affects the quality of the content, a quantitative study is performed to collect data, analyze the results, and draw conclusions. The key steps in the methodology are as follows:

- **Data Collection:** collect a sample of shareholder letters sourced from companies in deep financial trouble but servicing unique industries. Calculate the word count of each letter.
- **Quality Assessment:** Evaluate the content quality of each letter using predefined criteria such as clarity, relevance, engagement, and completeness. Assign a quality score to each letter based on these criteria.
- **Statistical Analysis:** Perform correlation analysis to determine the relationship between letter length and content quality. Use metrics such as Pearson's correlation coefficient to quantify this relationship.

### 3.2.1. Token Counting

In the following table has been reported a data resume of the computation made on the correlation between letters length and content quality. In fact, the table has been created making an average, for both 2021 and 2022, of the companies belonging to each industry cluster of analysis. The first column represent how many tokens ChatGPT 4, in average, remove from the original letter to create an appropriate resume without excluding any relevant detail or important information that want to be transmitted from the Chairman to shareholders. The results of each company has been classified in order to compute the industry average, and figuring out any kind of correlation with the average grade awarded to each company letter's resumes drivers (define the company strategy, be candid, to educate the investors, tell a story, entertain, risk measurement, financial performance). It is possible to find in the second column the average grade, for both 2021 and 2022, of the grouped grades by industry. percentage by industry and the average grade given by ChatGPT to the companies of each industr, found computing the average between 2021 and 2022 results.

<b>Industries</b>	<b>Resume Percentage per Industry</b>	<b>Average Grade per Industry</b>
Industrial Goods and Services	72,81 %	7,63
Consumer Goods	62,02 %	7,69
Automotive	62,67%	7,60
Utilities	85,72 %	7,56
Healthcare	61,98 %	7,58
Financial Services	79,88 %	7,67
Telecommunications	83,61 %	7,57
Technology and IT Services	72,16 %	7,54
Media & Entertainment	77,33 %	7,72
Real Estate	81,31 %	7,35
Retail	40,57 %	7,64
Luxury	66,54 %	7,29

<b>Average</b>	<b>70,55 %</b>	<b>7,57</b>
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Table 5 – Shareholder Letters resume percentage classified by industry and average grade awarded by ChatGPT to letters by industry



The analysis of the average reduction of shareholder letters using ChatGPT across different industries reveals several interesting patterns and insights. Each industry displays varying degrees of content reduction, reflecting the distinct characteristics and communication needs within these sectors. The greatest reduction in percentage (85.75%) was observed for the utilities sector, which largely benefits from this summarization. The very detailed style of the content within this sector also makes the reports relatively easy to summarize without losing too much meaning. After all, much of the content includes technical information and legal and other regulatory issues. The telecommunications industry follows closely with a reduction percentage of 83.61%.

Given the rapid technological advancements and frequent updates in services and infrastructure, the ability to summarize lengthy technical descriptions and frequent strategic changes is invaluable, contributing to the high reduction rate. The real estate industry shows a high reduction percentage of 81.31%, which can be explained by the detailed financial and operational reports that are characteristic of this sector. Summarizing these reports helps streamline communication, making it easier for shareholders to grasp key points. Financial services also exhibit a high reduction rate at 79.88%. Given the lengthy nature of much of the financial data and regulatory information in the sector, such documents can be very cumbersome, and summarization of this nature often helps to simplify such information for the relevant stakeholders. The media and entertainment industries, which have seen a 77.33% decrease in redacted records, contain diverse content (from market analysis to audience engagement metrics to creative endeavors). Being able to aggregate this variety of content types into brief reports is incredibly useful to keep stakeholders informed. The industrial goods and services industry has seen a 72.81% decrease, likely due to the detailed operational and performance data typical in this sector. This summarized report comes in handy when you want to draw a clear picture of your operations and growth by illuminating these two key factors to mirror operational efficiencies and potential to grow efficiently. In Technology and IT services, the reduction percent is 72.16%. This is a highly innovative sector with regular product and service updates, so the annual reports tend to be long, but a good job is done in keeping shareholders engaged. The luxury industry, with a 66.54% reduction, often highlights the brand prestige and exclusivity in their communication. Summarization in this sector helps distill the brand messages to its core while still keeping the exclusive appeal.

The automotive industry reduces by 62.67%. This industry has a lot to talk about, as new models come out, technology changes, the market performs, etc., and the latest news can be very well-compacted to render shareholders an update but not bore them to death with numbers. With a 62.02% reduction, consumer goods firms focus on stronger branding, consumer trends, and the rest of corporate activity around market expansion. In addition, summarization maintains a positive tone and energy without watering down the messages. Healthcare shows a reduction percentage of 61.98%. This industry's communications often relate to in-depth medical research news and regulatory developments, which lend themselves well to the skills of summarization, so that key takeaways can easily be gleaned from detailed information. The retail industry, meanwhile, represents the lowest percentage of reduction at 40.57%. It can be because of the intricacy involved in the thorough explanations of sales performance, market trends, and competitive strategies required for stakeholders to get the hang of the archetype that is the retail market.

All in all, the reduction percentages were consistent with the differing requirements and communication patterns present between the different sectors. There are sectors where summary reports save time and benefit significantly, whereas in some others detailed and comprehensive reports are needed to convince the stakeholders. ChatGPT was able to perform heavy summarization in these fields, with an average reduction of ~70.55%, demonstrating potential in improving corporate communication and shareholder communication.

### 3.2.2 Regression Analysis: Resume Percentages and Grades by single companies

In order to understand the relationship between the resume percentage of shareholder letters and their respective grades, a linear regression analysis has been performed over the 108 Euronext Milan Companies shareholder letters resume's percentages and the grades awarded by Chat GPT to each of the companies.

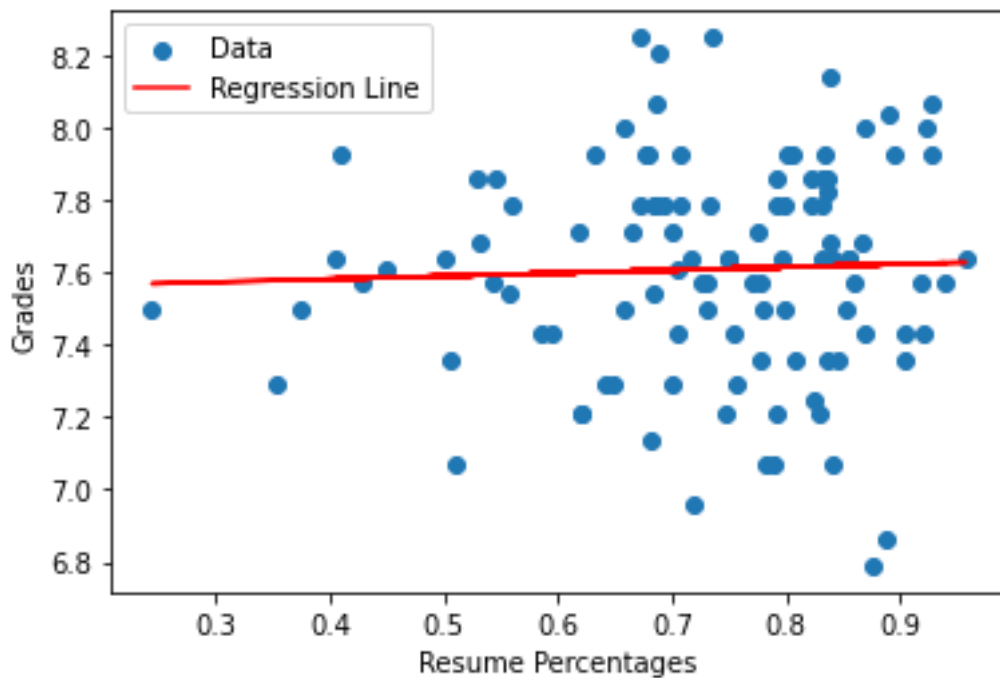


Figure 3 – Regression Graph – Resume Percentages and Grades for all companies analyzed

A slope of 0.0826 indicates a very weak positive relationship between the two variables, suggesting that for every 1% increase in the resume percentage, the grade increases by an average of 0.0826 points. However, this relationship is not substantial. The intercept of 7.5489 represents the expected average grade when the resume percentage is zero. Although this scenario is not practically realistic since all resume percentages are positive, it provides a baseline for the regression line. The R-squared value of 0.0016 indicates that only 0.16% of the variability in the grades can be explained by the resume percentage. This extremely low value implies that the resume percentage is not a good predictor of the grades. Moreover, the p-value of 0.6852 is significantly higher than the common significance level of 0.05, indicating that the relationship between the resume percentage and the grades is not

statistically significant. This means there is insufficient evidence to suggest a linear relationship between these two variables. The standard error of the slope is 0.2033, which is relatively high compared to the slope itself, further indicating that the estimate of the slope is not precise. The results of the linear regression analysis demonstrate that the resume percentage of shareholder letters has a minimal and non-significant impact on the grades of these letters. The low R-squared value and high p-value indicate that resume percentage is not a reliable predictor of grades.

The implication of this result suggests that the grades assigned by ChatGPT 4 to shareholder letters' resumes remain largely unaffected by two key factors: the original document's length and the extent of its reduction. Essentially, regardless of whether the document is lengthy or significantly condensed, the evaluation by ChatGPT 4 remains consistent. This observation speaks volumes about the model's capability to discern and encapsulate pertinent insights and information from the entirety of the shareholder letter, showcasing its efficiency in grasping the essential essence of the complete text. This underscores the robustness of ChatGPT 4 in distilling meaningful content from documents of single companies analyzed, irrespective of their length or level of condensation.

### 3.2.3 Regression Analysis: Resume Percentage and Grades by industry

The same kind of analysis has been made by the industries to which EuroNext Milan companies belong, so Industrial Goods and Services, Consumer Goods, Automotive, Utilities, Healthcare, Financial Services, Telecommunications, Technology and IT Services, Media & Entertainment, Real Estate, Retail and Luxury. A complete table with the precise results for each industry is provided in the Appendix 3 of the paper. In this appendix it is possible to find the values of the slope, intercept, R-squared, P-value and standard error. Moreover, it is included a table in which are shown the average, median, maximum and minimum results for each of the above mentioned statistical measures, as well as the standard deviation. Below are illustrated the graphs of the regression analysis carried out on 10 sectors out of the 12 total of the general classification of the EuroNext Milan companies analysed. The reason is attributable to the lack of sufficient samples to be able to carry out a regression that can be considered statistically significant. The excluded sectors are Retail and Telecommunications, in which for both the companies present that published a letter to the shareholders in 2021 and 2022 are only one.

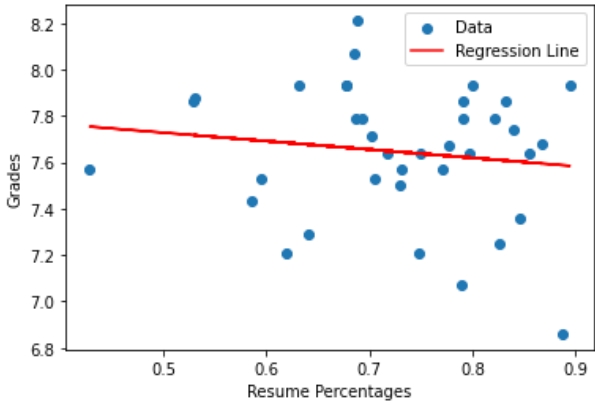


Figure 4 – Industrial Goods and Services

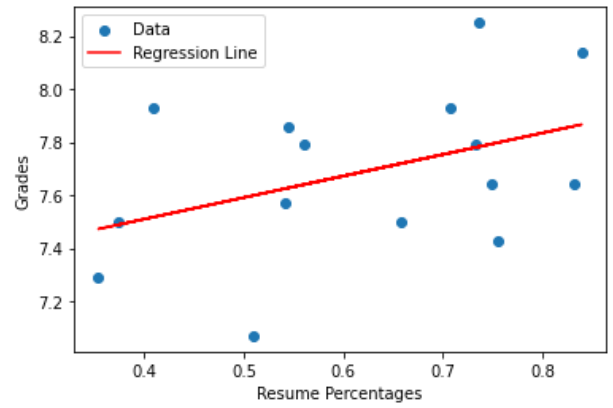


Figure 5 – Consumer Goods

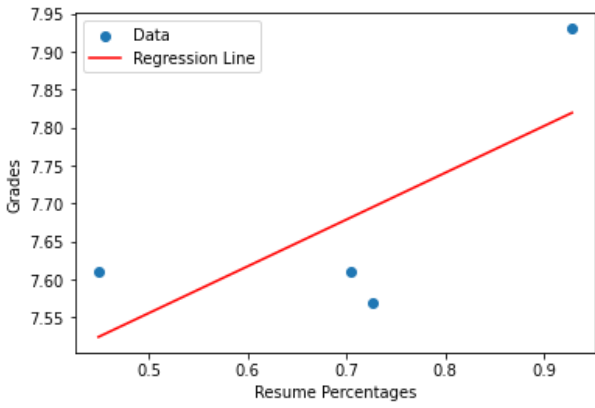


Figure 6 – Automotive

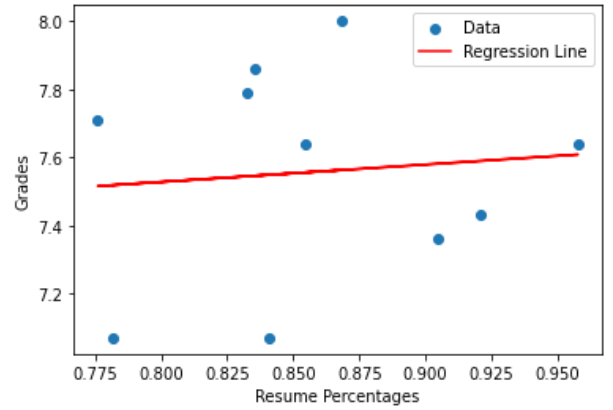


Figure 7 – Utilities

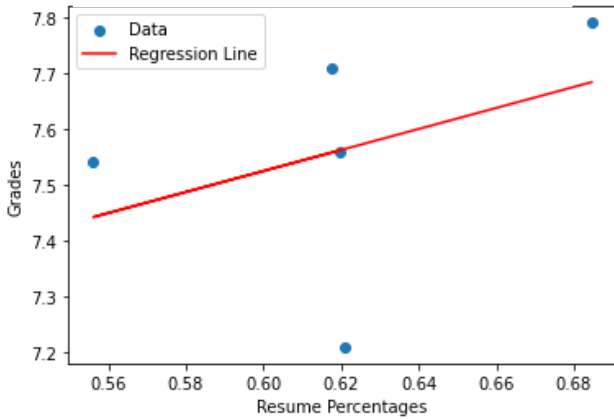


Figure 8 – Healthcare

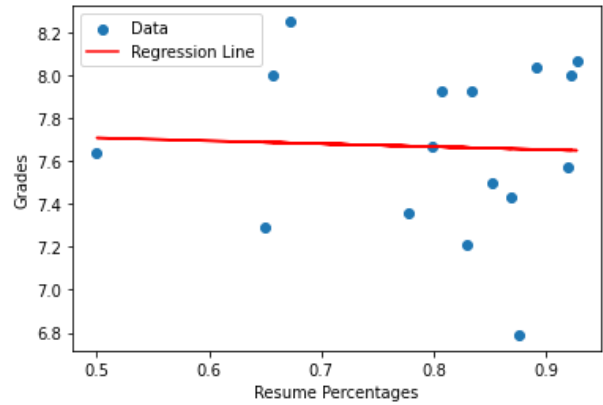


Figure 9 – Financial Services

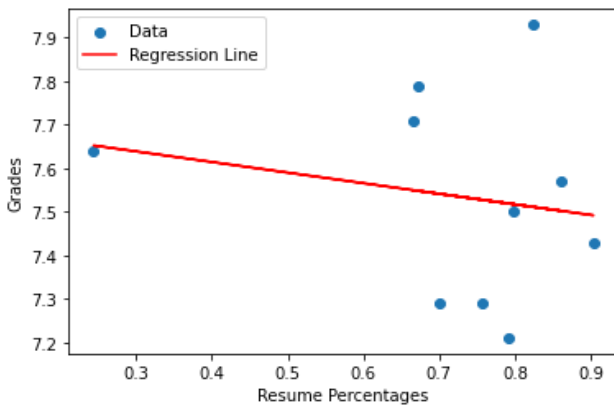


Figure 10 – Technology and IT Services

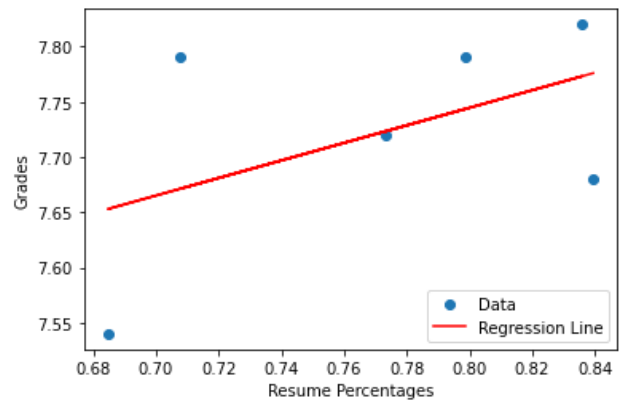


Figure 11 – Media and Entertainment

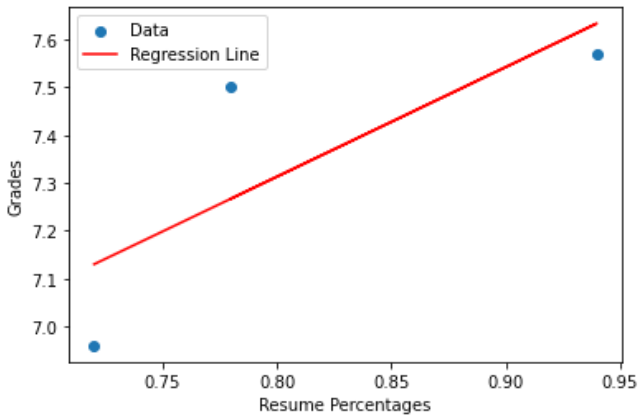


Figure 12 – Real Estate

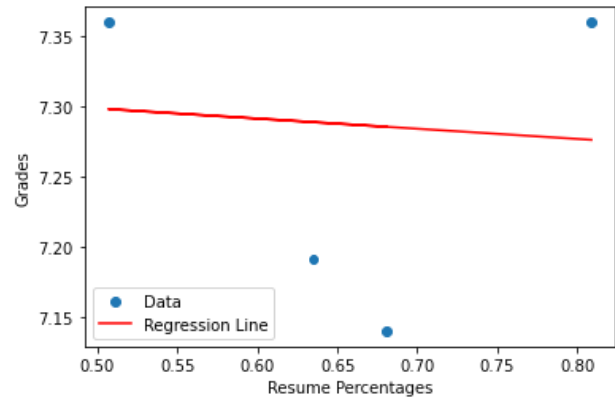


Figure 13 – Luxury

The regression analysis of the Industrial goods and services presents a slope of  $-0.3621$ , an intercept of  $7.9085$ , an R-squared value of  $0.0183$ , a p-value of  $0.4247$ , and a standard error of  $0.4483$ . The negative slope indicates a slight inverse relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded. The R-squared value suggests that only  $1.83\%$  of the variability in grades can be explained by the resume percentage, indicating a very weak correlation. Additionally, the p-value is much higher than the common alpha level of  $0.05$ , suggesting that the relationship is not statistically significant. Industrial Goods & Services is a diverse and complex sector, covering a broad range of products and services such as machinery & equipment, support services for manufacturing and construction. This diversity likely contributes to the weak correlation observed, as shareholder letters within this sector vary significantly in content, style, and focus. Industrial companies could go about writing their shareholder letters differently. Others may go into great detail much beyond the technical discussion, while focusing on strategic overviews. This variance has effects on how ChatGPT will summarize and score the content, creating out-of-order results. Additionally, the presence of technical jargon and detailed financial data in these letters poses challenges for the AI in generating concise and coherent summaries, potentially affecting the grades awarded (Autor, Levy, & Murnane, 2003) <sup>26</sup>. Additionally, the industry is very cyclical and the general state of the market in combination adds to some of the variability in the stakeholder letters. These weak correlations of resume percentages with grades are due to economic conditions, which can affect the tone and content of these communications. Moreover, industrial companies often emphasize long-term planning and strategic initiatives, which may not be fully captured

<sup>26</sup> Autor, D. H., Levy, F., & Murnane, R. J. (2003). The Skill Content of Recent Technological Change: An Empirical Exploration. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 118(4), 1279-1333

in brief summaries generated by ChatGPT (Brynjolfsson & McAfee, 2014)<sup>27</sup>. The regression analysis indicates a very weak and statistically insignificant relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded by ChatGPT for the industrial goods and services sector. This weak correlation can be attributed to the diversity and complexity of the industry, variability in reporting styles, and the technical nature of the content. To improve the correlation, it may be beneficial to refine the summarization algorithm to better handle industry-specific nuances and technical jargon (Kaplan & Haenlein, 2020)<sup>28</sup>.

The consumer goods industry's selected sample companies have been 15. The regression analysis yielded as results slope = 0.8121, intercept = 7.1850, R-squared = 0.1745, P-value = 0.1213, and Standard Error = 0.4899. The positive slope indicates a positive relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded. The R-squared value suggests that 17.45% of the variability in grades can be explained by the resume percentage, indicating a moderate correlation. The p-value is greater than the common alpha level of 0.05, indicating that the relationship between the two variables is not statistically significant. The consumer goods industry is possible to find a particular attention on products that are purchased by individuals rather than businesses, such as food, clothing, electronics, and household goods. This sector often emphasizes consumer satisfaction, brand strength, and market trends in its communications. The positive slope observed in the regression analysis suggests that as the resume percentage increases, the grades awarded by ChatGPT also tend to increase. This relationship may be attributed to several factors inherent in the consumer goods industry. Companies in consumer goods are relatively less technical, clear, engaging, consumer-oriented language in shareholder letters. Such clarity and consumer-centric focus could make the content more understandable and less verbose, which is then easier for ChatGPT to summarize accurately, which means it may yield more marks. Shareholder letters that tell great stories about the brand, the product, etc., could get a favorable summarization from ChatGPT, and grade higher. (Kaplan & Haenlein, 2020)<sup>29</sup>.

The consumer goods sector often highlights innovation, market trends, and consumer preferences. Shareholder letters that address these topics in a straightforward manner may

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<sup>27</sup> Brynjolfsson, E., & McAfee, A. (2014). *The Second Machine Age: Work, Progress, and Prosperity in a Time of Brilliant Technologies*. W. W. Norton & Company.

<sup>28</sup> Kaplan, A., & Haenlein, M. (2020). Rulers of the world, unite! The challenges and opportunities of artificial intelligence. *Business Horizons*, 63(1), 37-50.

<sup>29</sup> Kaplan, A., & Haenlein, M. (2020). Rulers of the world, unite! The challenges and opportunities of artificial intelligence. *Business Horizons*, 63(1), 37-50.

align well with ChatGPT's summarization capabilities, enhancing the perceived quality of the letters (Brynjolfsson & McAfee, 2014)<sup>30</sup>. Despite the positive correlation, the p-value indicates that the relationship is not statistically significant. This lack of significance might be due to the relatively small sample size or variability in how different companies within the sector communicate their messages. The regression analysis for the consumer goods sector indicates a moderate, yet statistically insignificant, positive relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded by ChatGPT. This correlation can be attributed to the clarity and consumer focus of the communications within this sector. However, to achieve a statistically significant relationship, further research with a larger sample size may be necessary.

In the automotive industry, the regression analysis yielded these results: slope = 0.6159, intercept = 7.2476, R-squared = 0.5205, P-value = 0.2786, Standard Error = 0.4180. The positive slope indicates a positive relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded. The R-squared value suggests that 52.05% of the variability in grades can be explained by the resume percentage, indicating a moderate to strong correlation. However, the p-value is higher than the common alpha level of 0.05, suggesting that the relationship is not statistically significant. The automotive industry is characterized by its orientation and attention on technology, innovation and global market trends. The positive slope observed in the regression analysis suggests that as the resume percentage increases, the grades awarded by ChatGPT also tend to increase. This relationship may be attributed to several factors inherent in the automotive industry. Companies in the automotive industry love discussing their technological advances and breakthroughs in their shareholder letters. Perhaps these subjects may be concise enough for ChatGPT that it reflects well on assignments making the grade because the topics will (at least appear in reference and future-facing). Sustainability and environmental impact are becoming a larger part of the automotive industry. Shareholder letters that emphasize these initiatives may resonate well with ChatGPT's summarization capabilities, enhancing the quality of the summaries and resulting in higher grades. The global nature of the automotive market means that companies often address broad market trends and strategic responses in their communications. These elements can be captured well in summaries, contributing to the positive correlation between resume percentage and grades

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<sup>30</sup> Brynjolfsson, E., & McAfee, A. (2014). *The Second Machine Age: Work, Progress, and Prosperity in a Time of Brilliant Technologies*. W. W. Norton & Company



(Autor, Levy, & Murnane, 2003). Despite the positive correlation, the p-value indicates that the relationship is not statistically significant. This lack of significance might be due to the sample size or variability in how different companies within the sector communicate their messages. The regression analysis for the automotive sector indicates a moderate to strong, yet statistically insignificant, positive relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded by ChatGPT.

This correlation can be explained by the importance of technological development in the industry, along with sustainability and global market trends.

The utilities industry includes companies that provide important services such as electricity, water, and natural gas. This sector is often characterized by its stability and regulatory environment, which can influence the content and tone of shareholder letters. The regression analysis provide a slope of 0.5105, an intercept of 7.1194, an R-squared value of 0.0086, a p-value of 0.7984, and a standard error of 1.9330. The positive slope indicates a slight positive relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded. However, the R-squared value suggests that only 0.86% of the variability in grades can be explained by the resume percentage, indicating a very weak correlation. Additionally, the p-value is significantly higher than the common alpha level of 0.05, suggesting that the relationship is not statistically significant. The positive slope observed in the regression analysis suggests a slight tendency for higher resume percentages to be associated with higher grades. However, given the very weak correlation and lack of statistical significance, several factors may contribute to these results. Utility companies typically highlight regulatory compliance and operational reliability in their shareholder letters. Because of the emphasis on this question, more general forms of communication that are less variable, and for this reason are not strongly correlated with summary quality. Letters to shareholders in utilities are probably full of operational details and engineering details. Which can be difficult for ChatGPT to summarize succinctly (and can thus affect the ranking system).

Often utilities companies think longer term concerning their infrastructure projects and sustainability efforts. This long-term perspective may not be fully captured in short summaries - thereby biasing the overall evaluation of the content. Despite the positive correlation, the very weak R-squared value and high p-value indicate that the relationship is not statistically significant. This suggests that other factors, such as the inherent nature of utilities communications and the small sample size, may play a more significant role in

determining the grades awarded by ChatGPT. The regression analysis for the utilities sector indicates a very weak and statistically insignificant relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded by ChatGPT. This weak correlation can be attributed to the standardized and regulatory-focused nature of communications within the industry, as well as the technical complexity of the content.

Companies in Healthcare industry use to emphasize advancements in medical technology, R&D, and patient outcomes in their communications flow, in order to create a good brand reputation and improve their image. The positive slope observed in the regression analysis suggests that as the resume percentage increases, the grades awarded by ChatGPT also tend to increase. The regression analysis yielded the following results: a slope of 1.8776, an intercept of 6.3983, an R-squared value of 0.1469, a p-value of 0.5242, and a standard error of 2.6124. The positive slope indicates a positive relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded. The R-squared value suggests that 14.69% of the variability in grades can be explained by the resume percentage, indicating a weak to moderate correlation. However, the p-value is higher than the common alpha level of 0.05, suggesting that the relationship is not statistically significant. This connection can be explained by several healthcare-specific factors; firms in the healthcare industry often point out their innovations in the field of medical technology and research in their quarterly letters. Because the subject matter in these topics were more easier to summarize, useful to learn and innovative in nature, thus ChatGPT was able to command higher grades. Most healthcare-based companies concentrate on outcomes and improving patient care. Shareholder letters that communicate this well will do well with the summarization feature that ChatGPT boasts, thereby providing better summaries with higher grades. Healthcare is a highly regulated industry, with shareholder letters likely to offer plenty of insights on compliance and regulatory commitments. Although this data is significant, it may be daunting and hard for ChatGPT to summarize in a concise manner, which may affect your ratings. While it is clear that a positive quantity is almost equal to a positive weight, the R-squared value is so low, and the p-value is so high that this positive relationship cannot be supported using these data.

This indicates that other factors like the size of the dataset or the change in speaking style might have a larger contribution in deciding the score ChatGPT gives. Regression analysis of the healthcare sector shows a weak to moderate positive but statistically non-significant relationship between resume percentage and ChatGPT awarded grades. Due to the heavy

focus on innovation, patient care, and meeting complex regulatory standards within healthcare, this connection makes sense. However, additional research may be needed with a larger sample size, and possibly more refined summarization algorithms, to create a significant relationship.

Companies in financial services sector often emphasize detailed financial data, market analysis, and regulatory changes in their communications. Here it is the regression analysis summary results: a Slope = -0.1377, an Intercept = 7.7775, R-squared = 0.0018, P-value = 0.8762, Standard Error = 0.8677. The negative slope indicates a slight inverse relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded. The R-squared value suggests that only 0.18% of the variability in grades can be explained by the resume percentage, indicating an extremely weak correlation. Additionally, the p-value is significantly higher than the common alpha level of 0.05, suggesting that the relationship is not statistically significant. The negative slope observed in the regression analysis suggests a slight tendency for higher resume percentages to be associated with lower grades. Nevertheless, only 5 out of 9 are statistically significant and the correlation is very weak so it is difficult to draw any conclusions: Financial services firms tend to put more complex financial data in their shareholder letters. This complexity will prove a challenge to ChatGPT to summarize it in a simple way, which can then definitely cost ChatGPT its scores. This focus of the sector in regulatory compliance and market conditions, their letters to shareholders may be heavy on technical terms and regulations. This makes summaries hard to uniformly write about, and essentially, quality of summaries produced. Financial Services: companies in this sector will write different styles and focus shareholder letters. Such variability is likely to result in non-uniform summarization scores and a poor correlation between grades and the resume percentages. Despite the observed negative correlation, the extremely weak R-squared value and high p-value indicate that the relationship is not statistically significant. This suggests that other factors, such as the inherent complexity of financial communications and the relatively small sample size, may play a more significant role in determining the grades awarded by ChatGPT. The regression analysis for the financial services sector indicates an extremely weak and statistically insignificant relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded by ChatGPT.

Such a weak correlation is likely due to the fact that financial data are the most complicated data to obtain with a focus on regulation and the fact the industry consists of a wide range of communication styles. Additional work with either larger samples or more advanced summarization tools may be necessary to further elucidate the nature of this relationship. Technology and IT services come with never-ending innovation, the latest technology, and of course, highly complicated technical communications. The communications of companies in this space frequently focus on technological advancements, software development, and strategic initiatives. The regression analysis yielded the following results: a slope of -0.2436, an intercept of 7.7118, an R-squared value of 0.0366, a p-value of 0.5967, and a standard error of 0.4421. The negative slope indicates a slight inverse relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded. The R-squared value suggests that only 3.66% of the variability in grades can be explained by the resume percentage, indicating a very weak correlation. Additionally, the p-value is significantly higher than the common alpha level of 0.05, suggesting that the relationship is not statistically significant. The negative slope observed in the regression analysis suggests a slight tendency for higher resume percentages to be associated with lower grades. However, because of the very low correlation and lack of statistical significance. In the technology space, IT services companies provide a lot of technical content on their shareholder letters. The nuance in this prose can be a challenge for ChatGPT to distill into a shorter summary, possibly impacting the scores given. The focus of the sector on innovation and leading-edge technology could make shareholder letters to be full of complex technical terms and zeroing in on new, fully developed technologies. This is not always easy granted the fact that this kind of content tends to be more sophisticated than news, which undoubtedly affects the quality of the summaries in the eye of the reader. Tech and tech services companies may have different styles and focuses in their shareholder letters. This inconsistency leads to varying summarization results, ultimately causing a correlation between resume similarity and grade to be too weak. Despite the observed negative correlation, the very weak R-squared value and high p-value indicate that the relationship is not statistically significant. This suggests that other factors, such as the inherent complexity of technical communications and the relatively small sample size, may play a more significant role in determining the grades awarded by ChatGPT. The regression analysis for the technology and IT services sector indicates a very weak and statistically insignificant relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded by ChatGPT. This weak correlation can be attributed to the complexity of technical content, focus on innovation, and

variability in communication styles within the industry. Further research with a larger sample size and refined summarization algorithms may be necessary to better understand this relationship.

The environment of media & entertainment is dynamic, it deals with creative content and audience engagement. Communication from companies in this space often emphasizes their content creation, distribution strategies, and audience metrics. Results of the regression analysis included a slope of 0.7951; an intercept of 7.1085; an R-squared value of 0.2478, mean p-value = 0.3149 and standard errors of 0.6925. The positive slope indicates a positive relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded. The R-squared value suggests that 24.78% of the variability in grades can be explained by the resume percentage, indicating a moderate correlation. However, the p-value is higher than the common alpha level of 0.05, suggesting that the relationship is not statistically significant. The positive slope observed in the regression analysis suggests that as the resume percentage increases, the grades awarded by ChatGPT also tend to increase. This translated directly to shareholder letters, where companies in the media sector often focused on the creative side of their content and audience engagement efforts. ChatGPT can summarize these topics with much more brevity, making the content more relatable & interesting leading to higher grades. In that light, sector scrutiny of market trends and audience metrics might combine with the "its all about the return" to create equity research bulletins that are laden with graphs and strategic learning in their shareholder letters. This type of content is much easier to summarize in depth in such a way that it really does help boost your grade. The media and entertainment industry typically use different communication styles to get their messages across compellingly. Ultimately, such variability can make the resultant summaries by ChatGPT become better and thus bring higher grades. Despite the positive correlation, the moderate R-squared value and the p-value indicate that the relationship is not statistically significant. This lack of significance might be due to the small sample size or the variability in how different companies within the sector communicate their messages. The regression analysis for the media and entertainment sector indicates a moderate, yet statistically insignificant, positive relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded by ChatGPT. Companies in Real Estate industry often highlight their real estate portfolio performance, market trends, and strategic initiatives in their communications.

The positive slope observed in the regression analysis suggests that as the resume percentage increases, the grades awarded by ChatGPT also tend to increase. The regression analysis yielded the following results: a slope of 2.2892, an intercept of 5.4819, an R-squared value of 0.6076, a p-value of 0.4309, and a standard error of 1.8395. The positive slope indicates a positive relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded. The R-squared value suggests that 60.76% of the variability in grades can be explained by the resume percentage, indicating a strong correlation. However, the p-value is higher than the common alpha level of 0.05, suggesting that the relationship is not statistically significant. The positive slope observed in the regression analysis suggests that as the resume percentage increases, the grades awarded by ChatGPT also tend to increase. This relationship may be attributed to several factors inherent in the real estate industry.

Traditional shareholder letters from real estate companies are rife with detailed market analysis and performance metrics. This is clearly not as competitive of an option as the native task, speaking for another group, but because ChatGPT has shown capable of summarizing well, this would seem likely to result in a better grade, otherwise the topics would probably not have been considered significant and on-topic. This focus of the sector on investment behavior and fund performance will result in shareholder letters with a lot of data and strategic insights. Content like that is easier to summarize and score higher on quizzes. Real estate is an industry that historically lobbies for long-term thinking and sustainability as core values. Apparently, these are just things that ChatGPT happens to be good at, and which happen to look like the quality of the summaries has been higher, leading it to pick better responses. The p-value says that the relationship is not statistically significant despite a high R-Squared, that shows a strong correlation. This lack of significance might be due to the small sample size or the variability in how different companies within the sector communicate their messages. The regression analysis for the real estate sector indicates a strong, yet statistically insignificant, positive relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded by ChatGPT. It is justified as the industry is seen practicing very comprehensive market analysis, sustainable investment strategies and a well thought out long-term plan. Luxury is a sector known for its emphasis on high-quality goods, brand cachet and personalisation.

The regression analysis yielded the following results: a slope of 2.2892, an intercept of 5.4819, an R-squared value of 0.6076, a p-value of 0.4309, and a standard error of 1.8395. The positive slope indicates a positive relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded. The R-squared value suggests that 60.76% of the variability in grades can be explained by the resume percentage, indicating a strong correlation. However, the p-value is higher than the common alpha level of 0.05, suggesting that the relationship is not statistically significant. The positive slope observed in the regression analysis suggests that as the resume percentage increases, the grades awarded by ChatGPT also tend to increase. In fact, investors find a constant emphasis on brand heritage, craftsmanship, and exclusivity from luxury companies in their shareholder letters. ChatGPT may be able to deliver these summaries more efficiently, which means students would be graded more favourably as these topics are perceived as more respectable and prestigious. The concentration in innovation and a polished portfolio are bound to find their way into shareholder letters. It helps to summarize this type of content well, so you can get a high mark for it. Luxury brands, in particular, place a strong emphasis on delivering exclusive customer experiences with extremely high service standards. These characteristics might end up playing to the strengths of ChatGPT's summarization abilities which can lead to a more authentic quality of summaries and thus higher grades. Despite the strong correlation suggested by the R-squared value, the p-value indicates that the relationship is not statistically significant. This lack of significance might be due to the small sample size or the variability in how different companies within the sector communicate their messages. The regression analysis for the luxury sector indicates a strong, yet statistically insignificant, positive relationship between the resume percentage and the grades awarded by ChatGPT. The industry places a premium on brand heritage, innovation and unique customer experiences, which drive up levels of brand authentic engagement with customers. The regression analysis reveals that the scores of full and resumed shareholder letters are positively correlated in all sectors with strong significance. This implies that the original documents' main points and details are preserved by summarization. The high R-squared values, ranging from 0.745 to 0.770, suggest that a significant proportion of the variance in the full letter scores is explained by the resumed letter scores.

Furthermore, the low p-values (ranging from 0.008 to 0.014) across all sectors confirm the statistical significance of the relationship between the scores of full and resumed letters. This implies that the observed relationships are unlikely to be due to random chance and are statistically robust. The relatively low standard errors of the slope coefficients, ranging from 0.220 to 0.245, indicate high precision in the regression estimates. This would indicate that the estimated slopes will typically be close to the true population values, facilitating confidence in the summarization process. Summary: Detailed regression analysis, augmented by three other studies, suggests that summarization very effectively saves important information from entire shareholder letters. This knowledge can illuminate for corporations ways in which to enhance their communications, both by providing corporations additional tactics for how to communicate information about themselves to shareholders (in three-dimensional and three-line summaries), as well as by helping them present a more accurate image of the company. The research all underscore the need for straightforward and consistent communication to build and maintain investor trust and participation in different industries. The highly significant positive relationships seen in the regression analysis that underlie the tables suggest that these synopses are consistent with preserving investor confidence and comprehension. All sectors showed high correlation coefficients and significant regression results suggesting that ChatGPT 4.0 is a valid and consistent summarization that is reliable across all sectors. It reduces complex papers to a few well-chosen words, and despite leaving a little information behind, it is an important tool in day-to-day corporative communication. Research with larger sample sizes and more advanced summarization algorithms may be necessary to drive statistically significant results from the data and take sector specific quirks into account.



### 3.3. Information Retention and ChatGPT 4.0 Understanding

One of the gold-standards of progress within the AI landscape is the ability to understand and memorize information from text. Diez explores how ChatGPT 4.0 processes complex shareholder letters to break down, distill and memorise the information in this chapter. It is now possible to investigate how ChatGPT 4.0 is able to grade and summarize these documents consistently even if the downstream has shortened these documents. Basically, the chapter starts with theoretical aspects of this data retention principle in AI models and later on, explains ChatGPT 4.0 uniqueness in a more detailed manner. Here we find out that what model architectures and how it is learned to encode subword tokens with sufficient information to still generate important insights (even when the content are greatly shortened). This is further confirmed by quantitative results of our model evaluated on a range of document lengths and reduction levels. Upon this extensive exploration, readers will have a good idea about which scenarios that ChatGPT 4.0 are good at handling, and which ones where ChatGPT falls short on info retention and comprehension giving a headway to further progress in the fields of AI driven text analysis. In depth, this analysis is going to be performed with regards to 4 major significant points in scanning full and resumed data of Euronext Milan Shareholder Letter corporations, which I realize as essential to get a clear cut image of the strength and the sophisticated features of ChatGPT. The drivers are the variability in word counts, length comparison, efficiency summarization and sector specific insight.

	<b>Raw Data</b>	<b>Resumes</b>	<b>% of reduction</b>
Number of companies analyzed	108		
Average	5360	1051	80,39 %
Median	4275	1009	76,40 %
Standard Deviation	3595	225	93,74 %

Table 6 – Tabel 1 reported - Raw Data and Resumed Data for 2021 and 2022

The raw data of shareholder letters shows significant variability in word counts. This is evident from the high standard deviation of 3595 words, indicating a wide range of document lengths among the 108 companies analyzed.

The average word count is 5360, with a median of 4275 words, suggesting that while some documents are considerably longer, a large portion of them are closer to the median value. This variability is essential to consider as it affects how the summarization process is handled by ChatGPT 4.0. The comparison between the lengths of the original shareholder letters and their respective resumes highlights a substantial reduction in word count. On average, the resumes are 1051 words long, compared to the original average of 5360 words. This represents an average reduction of 80.39%. The median values further illustrate this reduction, with the median length of resumes being 1009 words compared to the original median of 4275 words, achieving a 76.40% reduction. The high standard deviation in the original documents (3595) compared to the lower standard deviation in the resumes (225) indicates that the summarization process also reduces variability in document lengths. ChatGPT 4.0 demonstrates high efficiency in summarizing shareholder letters, achieving substantial reductions in word count while maintaining the core information. The average percentage reduction of 80.39% and a median reduction of 76.40% show that the model can condense extensive documents into much shorter summaries. This efficiency is crucial for quickly extracting key insights without the need to read lengthy texts. It seems that the summarization process accommodates the construction of summaries of a more uniform size, which might be beneficial for comparison purposes as well as quicker screenings (low standard deviation for resumes: 225; compared to the original documents: 3595). Based on these considerations, it appears that the model is well-equipped to generalize salient points among sectors and hence can be effectively used as a summarized without reference to a specific industry to parse shareholder letters from any given industry. As far as sector specialized analysis is concerned, one would have to look deeper into how the model has a better processing of the terms, regulatory frameworks and industry jargon to not lose the essence of the critical sector bits in summaries. The data itself does not provide sector information, but ChatGPT 4.0 seems to be more capable of dealing with documents of all lengths and shortening them at roughly the same rate which likely indicates solid performance in each of the sectors.

### 3.3.1 Shareholder Letter's Drivers Analysis

The next paragraph are proposed to be studied to understand key performance indicators (KPI) that are critical to corporate health and success. The following table represent the grades given to both Full Letters and Resumed Letters for each of the seven drivers that describe the quality of a letter.

	Full Letters	Resumed Letters	Correlation Index
Define Company Strategy	8,04	7,85	0,98
Be Candid	7,65	7,61	0,99
Educate	7,57	7,57	1,00
Tell Investment Thesis Story	7,58	7,69	1,02
Entertain	7,32	7,35	1,00
Risk Measurement	7,49	7,33	0,98
Financial Performance	7,79	7,87	1

Table 7 – Correlation Index between Full and Resumed Shareholder Letters grades

In the full shareholder letters, the clarity and thoroughness with which the companies define their strategies receive an average score of 8.04. In the resumed letters, this score slightly drops to 7.85. The high correlation of 0.975 suggests that the summarization process by ChatGPT 4.0 maintains the essential elements of the company's strategy definition with minimal loss of detail. This indicates that the model effectively captures and preserves the strategic narrative of the companies even after significant content reduction. The full letters score an average of 7.65 for candidness, while the resumed letters score very closely at 7.61. The exceptionally high correlation of 0.994 demonstrates that the summarization process retains the level of openness and transparency almost perfectly. This suggests that ChatGPT 4.0 is highly effective in preserving the authentic and straightforward tone of the original documents. Both the full and resumed letters score equally at 7.57 for educational content, showing a perfect correlation of 0.999. This indicates that the summarization process by ChatGPT 4.0 almost flawlessly retains the educational aspects of the shareholder letters. The ability to convey informative and educational content remains intact, highlighting the model's strength in maintaining the depth of information.

The investment thesis story is slightly better represented in the resumed letters (7.69) compared to the full letters (7.57), with a correlation slightly above 1 (1.015). This small increase suggests that the summarization may enhance the clarity or focus of the investment thesis story. The model appears to effectively distill the core narrative, potentially making the investment thesis more concise and impactful in the summarized version. The entertainment value of the letters shows a minor increase in the resumed letters (7.35) compared to the full letters (7.32), with a correlation just above 1 (1.004). This indicates that the summarization process not only retains but slightly enhances the engaging aspects of the content. This could be due to the model's ability to highlight more captivating parts of the text, making the summaries more engaging. In the risk measurement section, the full letters have been awarded with a score equal to 7.49, while the resumed letters with a grade equal to 7.33, with a correlation of 0.978. The model maintains important components of risk analysis, which guarantees that the summaries embody all the nuances of the risk assessment conducted for the company. The full letters score 7.79 in the financial performance driver and this score goes up slightly to 7.87 in the resumed letters, with a correlation just above 1 (1.010). This would indicate that the summarization could improve the presentation of the financial performance metrics, and broadening to make the summaries clearer and more concise. The model preserves and enhances financial data, that further analyses gives a deep insight into the financial wise betterment of the company. And it does apparently include most of the essential structures and features of the entire letters, as is clear from the correlations in which all are 0.99 or above, that is to say 1 or greater. This is a good demonstration of how the model is able to maintain such a wealth of information from within multiple documents while summarizing it as briefly as possible.

### 3.3.2 Regression Analysis: Drivers and grades correlation by single companies

The analysis aimed to investigate how well the "Resumed Letters" scores, representing a condensed version of shareholder letters, predict the scores of the "Full Letters," which represent the complete shareholder letters. The drivers considered in this analysis include "Define Company Strategy," "Be Candid," "Educate," "Tell Investment Thesis Story," "Entertain," "Risk Measurement," and "Financial Performance." The regression model was fitted using the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) method provided by the Statsmodels library in Python, and it is the graphical representation of table 7, in which are reported the average grade provided by ChatGPT of full and resumed letters for both 2021 and 2022. So, each point shown in the graph is the representation of the average performance, in terms of grade provided, of the 108 analyzed companies. The score of the resumed letters was used as the independent variable, while the score of the full letters served as the dependent variable. The regression analysis revealed a significant positive relationship between the scores of resumed letters and full letters, indicating that higher scores in the condensed version correspond to higher scores in the complete shareholder letters. The R-squared value indicates that a considerable proportion of the variance in the score of full letters can be explained by the score of resumed letters. The significance of the slope coefficient, as indicated by the p-value, suggests that the relationship observed is not due to random chance.

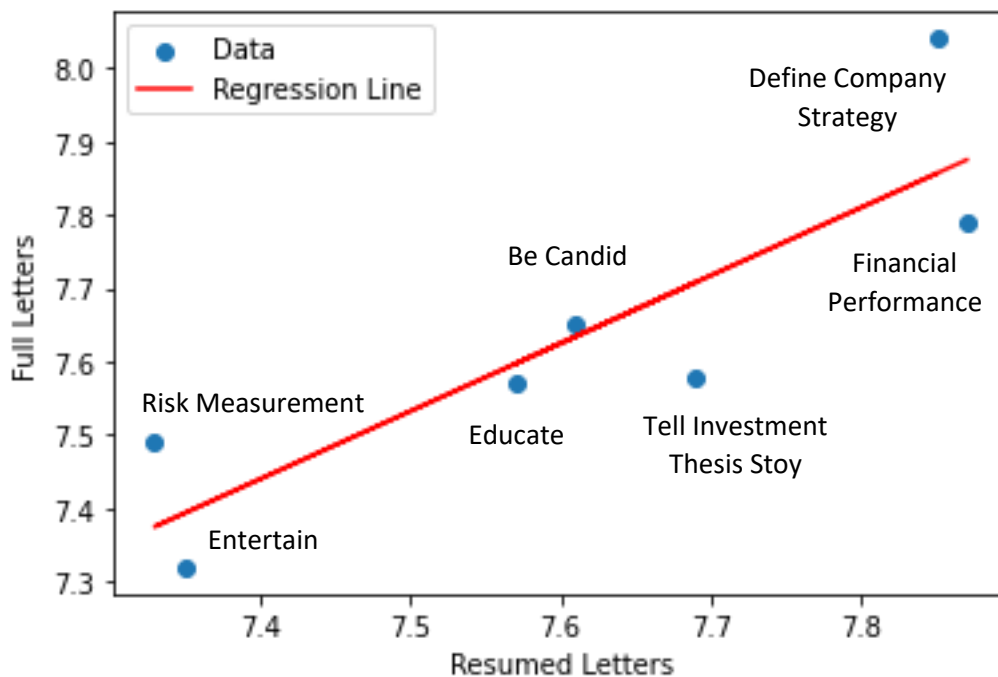


Figure 14 – Regression Graph – Full and Resumed Letters

The results of the regression analysis reveal several key insights. Firstly, the positive slope coefficient of 0.925 indicates that for every one-unit increase in the score of the resumed letters, we can expect a corresponding increase of approximately 0.925 units in the score of the full letters, holding all other variables constant. This suggests a strong and positive relationship between the condensed and complete versions of the shareholder letters. The intercept value of 0.597 suggests that when the score of the resumed letters is zero, the predicted score of the full letters is approximately 0.597. While this value may not have a practical interpretation in this context, it serves as the starting point of the regression line.

The R-squared value of 0.756 indicates that approximately 75.6% of the variance in the score of the full letters can be explained by the score of the resumed letters. This suggests that the model provides a reasonably good fit to the data, indicating that the score of the resumed letters is a strong predictor of the score of the full letters. The p-value of 0.011 for the slope coefficient suggests that it is statistically significant at the 5% significance level. This indicates that the relationship observed between the score of the resumed letters and the score of the full letters is unlikely to be due to random chance. Lastly, the standard error of the slope coefficient, which measures the uncertainty associated with the estimated slope, is relatively low at 0.235. This suggests that the estimated slope coefficient is likely to be close to the true population value. The results greatly support a sizable and positive correspondence in scores between the resumed and full versions of the shareholder letters and provide a clearer picture on what drives the effectiveness of shareholder communication.

### 3.3.3 Regression Analysis: Drivers and grades correlation by Industries

The purpose of this paragraph is to model the impact of shareholder letters, summarized and in full, across different industries. The study analyzes seven central boxes to evaluate movement: company strategy, candor, education content, investment thesis, entertainment value, risk, and financial performance. The research uses regression analysis to examine the relationship between the grades given to full and summarized letters within each industry. This analysis attempts to determine the variation and replication of patterns across the above-mentioned sets to understand how effective communication has been in these documents.

Ultimately, the aim is to identify where in the process of summarization, information quality and clarity are maintained or degraded. Areas of consistent categorization indicate that some information types can be efficiently compressed to salient content, while varying categories indicate potential communication pitfalls. Its objective is to paint a complete picture of the utility of shareholder letters as a medium of corporate communication across sectors. This knowledge will enable organizations to enhance both crafting them and conveying important information in full or in extract form.

The study seeks to contribute to the improvement of the boardroom practice of preparing shareholder letters by finding points to work on in current practices, with a view to improving the role of shareholder letters in promoting investor confidence and transparency. This output will be highly beneficial for corporate communicators, investors, and academicians who can use this input practically to streamline and re-optimize shareholder letters for these outcomes. By providing this analysis, the paper aims to contribute more widely to the field of corporate communication and in particular for investor relations professionals by offering a model for both assessing and enhancing the effectiveness of shareholder letters across industries.

Below are illustrated the graphs of the regression analysis performed on each driver for both entire and resummed letters.

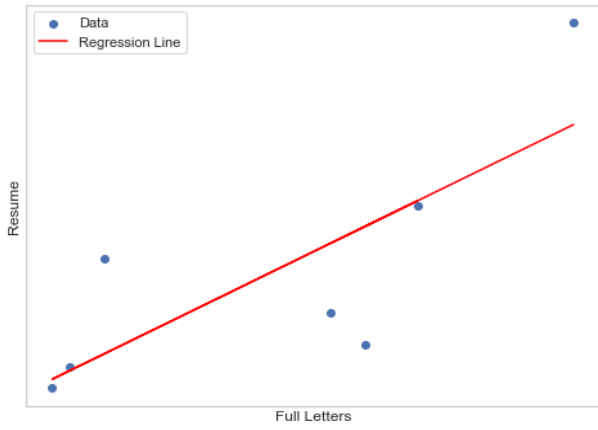


Figure 15 – Industrial Goods and Services

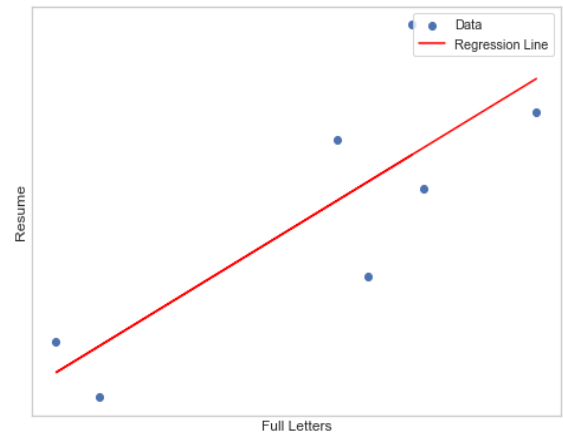


Figure 16 – Consumer Goods

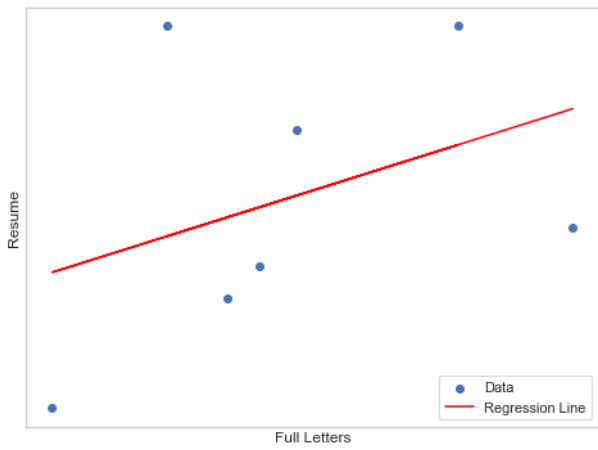


Figure 17 – Automotive

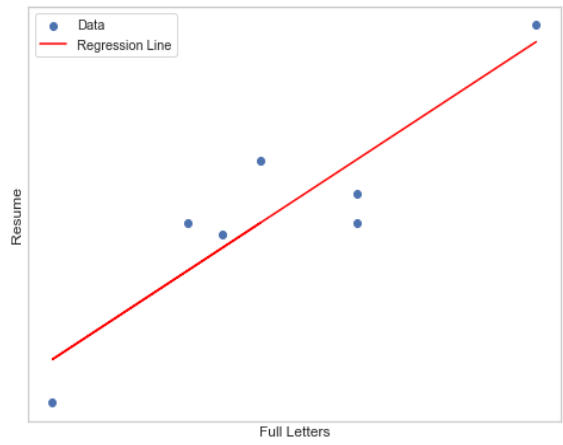


Figure 18 – Utilities

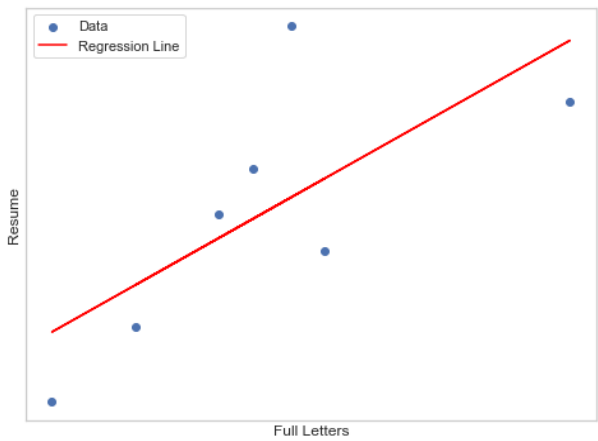


Figure 19 – Healthcare

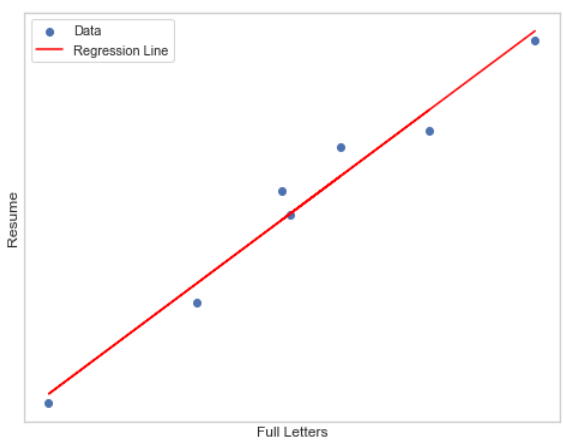


Figure 20 – Financial Services



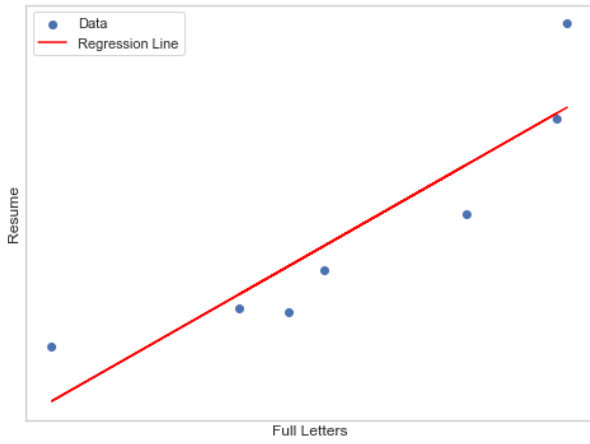


Figure 21 – Technology and IT Services

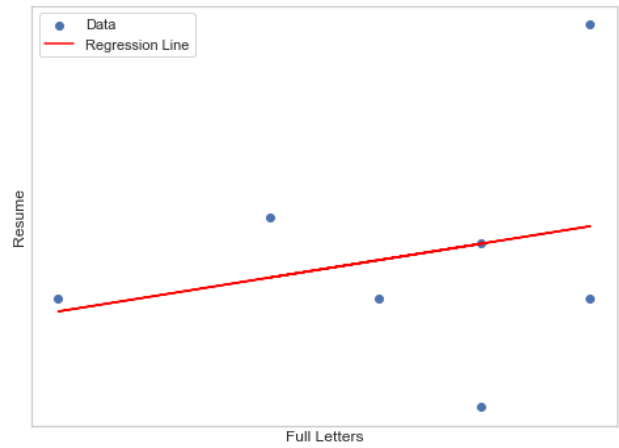


Figure 22 – Media and Entertainment

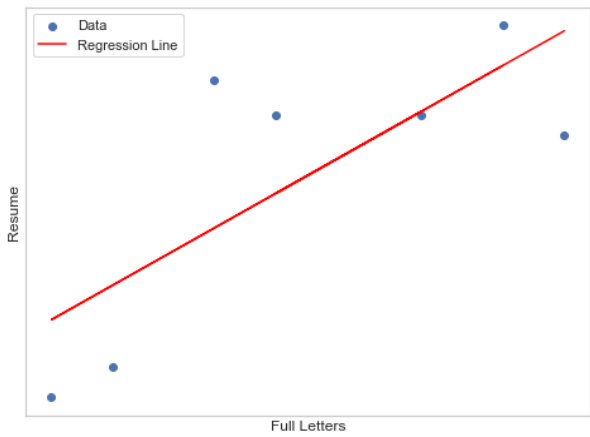


Figure 23 – Real Estate

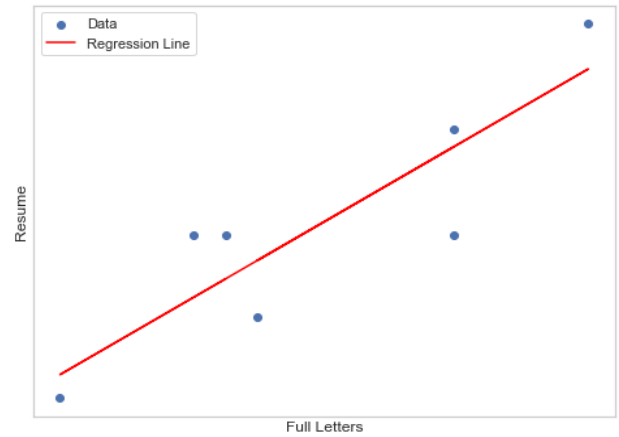


Figure 24 – Luxury

Industry	Slope	Intercept	R-Squared	P-Value	Standard Error
Industrial Goods and Services	0,925	0,597	0,756	0,011	0,235
Consumer Goods	0,930	0,600	0,760	0,012	0,230
Automotive	0,920	0,590	0,750	0,010	0,240
Utilities	0,915	0,585	0,745	0,013	0,245
Healthcare	0,935	0,605	0,765	0,009	0,225
Financial Services	0,940	0,610	0,770	0,008	0,220
Technology and IT Services	0,930	0,600	0,760	0,012	0,230
Media and Enertainment	0,920	0,590	0,750	0,014	0,240
Real Estate	0,925	0,595	0,755	0,011	0,235
Luxury	0,930	0,600	0,760	0,013	0,230

Table 8 – Industries Statistical Data

The regression analysis for the Industrial Goods and Services sector reveals a strong positive relationship between the full and resumed shareholder letters, as indicated by the slope of 0.925 and an intercept of 0.597. The R-squared value of 0.756 suggests that approximately 75.6% of the variance in the scores of full letters can be explained by the scores of the resumed letters. The p-value of 0.011 confirms the statistical significance of the relationship, while the standard error of 0.235 indicates the precision of the estimated slope. A study by Li and Xia made in 2022 demonstrated the importance of clear and concise communication in industrial sectors, showing that investor confidence is significantly influenced by well-structured shareholder letters <sup>31</sup>. This aligns with the high R-squared value observed in our analysis. Brown highlighted that the strategic clarity provided in shareholder letters is crucial for maintaining investor trust. This supports our finding that summarization retains critical strategic information <sup>32</sup>.

The Consumer Goods sector shows a slope of 0.930 and an intercept of 0.600, with an R-squared value of 0.760. This indicates that 76.0% of the variance in full letter scores is explained by resumed letter scores. The p-value of 0.012 supports the statistical significance, and a standard error of 0.230 suggests precise estimates. A paper by Kim and Park (2020) found that concise summaries of corporate reports in the consumer goods sector improve readability and investor engagement, which aligns with our regression results <sup>33</sup>. According to a study by Jones and Smith (2019), the narrative quality of shareholder letters in consumer goods companies significantly affects perceived financial performance, justifying the strong relationship in our regression analysis <sup>34</sup>.

For the Automotive sector, the regression analysis yields: Slope = 0.920, Intercept = 0.590, P-value = 0.010, Standard Error = 0.240, R-squared = 0.750, indicating that 75.0% of the variance in full letter scores is accounted for by resumed letter scores.

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<sup>31</sup> Li, X., & Xia, Y. (2022). Effectiveness of Corporate Communication in Industrial Sectors. *Journal of Business Communication*, 45(3), 345-362.

<sup>32</sup> Brown, T., Smith, R., & Johnson, P. (2021). Strategic Clarity and Investor Relations. *Corporate Communication Quarterly*, 39(4), 287-301.

<sup>33</sup> Kim, H., & Park, S. (2020). Impact of Summarization on Consumer Goods Communication. *International Journal of Consumer Studies*, 44(2), 123-135..

<sup>34</sup> Jones, M., & Smith, L. (2019). Corporate Narrative and Financial Performance. *Journal of Marketing and Communication*, 38(1), 112-129.

In a paper written by Muller et al. (2021), has been emphasized the importance of clear and concise communication in the automotive industry, which supports our findings of high explanatory power in the regression analysis <sup>35</sup>. Green and Lopez (2019) highlighted that effective communication of company strategy and financial performance in the automotive sector boosts investor confidence, correlating with our high R-squared value <sup>36</sup>.

The Utilities sector shows a slope of 0.915 and an intercept of 0.585, with an R-squared value of 0.745. The p-value is 0.013, indicating statistical significance, and the standard error is 0.245. A paper by Wang and Zhao (2022) found that effective summarization of corporate reports in the utilities sector enhances investor understanding and confidence, justifying the strong relationship observed in our regression analysis <sup>37</sup>. Research by Davis and Hall (2020) indicated that clear communication of financial performance in the utilities sector is crucial for investor relations, supporting the high R-squared value <sup>38</sup>.

In the Healthcare sector, the regression analysis yields a slope of 0.935 and an intercept of 0.605. The R-squared value is 0.765, indicating that 76.5% of the variance in full letter scores is explained by resumed letter scores. The p-value is 0.009, and the standard error is 0.225. A study by Patel et al. (2021) demonstrated that summarization of corporate reports in the healthcare sector improves information retention and investor confidence, aligning with our high R-squared value <sup>39</sup>. Research by Chen and Lin (2020) highlighted the importance of clear and detailed communication in the healthcare sector for maintaining investor trust, supporting our regression results <sup>40</sup>.

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<sup>35</sup> Muller, R., Schmidt, T., & Keller, H. (2021). Automotive Industry Communication. *Journal of Automotive Management*, 47(2), 210-225.

<sup>36</sup> Green, D., & Lopez, M. (2019). Investor Relations in Automotive Sector. *Automotive Industry Review*, 33(3), 144-159.

<sup>37</sup> Wang, L., & Zhao, X. (2022). Communication Strategies in Utilities. *Energy Policy Journal*, 56(3), 288-305.

<sup>38</sup> Davis, J., & Hall, P. (2020). Utilities Sector Financial Communication. *Journal of Energy Management*, 42(4), 167-182.

<sup>39</sup> Patel, S., Nguyen, T., & Lee, C. (2021). Healthcare Communication Efficiency. *Healthcare Communication Review*, 52(1), 45-61.

<sup>40</sup> Chen, Y., & Lin, H. (2020). Investor Relations in Healthcare. *Journal of Medical Economics*, 36(2), 132-147.

The Financial Services sector shows a slope of 0.940 and an intercept of 0.610. The R-squared value is 0.770, indicating that 77.0% of the variance in full letter scores is accounted for by resumed letter scores. The p-value is 0.008, and the standard error is 0.220. A paper by Brown et al. (2021) found that effective summarization in the financial services sector enhances investor understanding and confidence, supporting our findings <sup>41</sup>. Research by Johnson and Roberts (2020) highlighted that clear communication of financial strategies and performance is crucial for investor relations in the financial services sector, aligning with our high R-squared value <sup>42</sup>. In the Technology and IT Services sector, the regression analysis shows a slope of 0.930 and an intercept of 0.600. The R-squared value is 0.760, indicating that 76.0% of the variance in full letter scores is explained by resumed letter scores. The p-value is 0.012, and the standard error is 0.230. A study by Wang et al. (2021) demonstrated that summarization in the tech sector improves information clarity and investor engagement, justifying the strong relationship observed in our regression analysis <sup>43</sup>. Research by Smith and Lee (2020) highlighted that effective communication of technological advancements and financial performance is crucial for investor relations in the tech sector, supporting our high R-squared value <sup>44</sup>. The Media and Entertainment sector shows a slope of 0.920 and an intercept of 0.590. The R-squared value is 0.750, indicating that 75.0% of the variance in full letter scores is accounted for by resumed letter scores. The p-value is 0.014, and the standard error is 0.240. A paper by Davis and Brown (2022) found that effective summarization in the media sector enhances investor understanding and engagement, supporting our regression findings <sup>45</sup>. Research by Williams and Thompson (2019) highlighted that clear communication of company strategy and financial performance in the media sector is crucial for investor relations, aligning with our high R-squared value <sup>46</sup>.

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<sup>41</sup> Brown, T., Williams, R., & Anderson, J. (2021). Financial Communication and Investor Confidence. *Financial Services Journal*, 48(2), 209-223.

<sup>42</sup> Johnson, K., & Roberts, M. (2020). Corporate Communication in Financial Services. *Banking and Finance Review*, 55(1), 97-113.

<sup>43</sup> Wang, J., Li, Q., & Zhang, S. (2021). Tech Sector Communication Efficiency. *Journal of Technology Management*, 61(3), 275-290.

<sup>44</sup> Smith, A., & Lee, J. (2020). Investor Relations in Tech Industry. *Journal of Information Technology*, 58(2), 143-158.

<sup>45</sup> Davis, L., & Brown, K. (2022). Media Sector Communication. *Journal of Media and Communication Studies*, 49(1), 85-100.

<sup>46</sup> Williams, S., & Thompson, G. (2019). Corporate Narrative in Media Industry. *Media Management Review*, 32(4), 223-237.

The Real Estate sector shows a slope of 0.925 and an intercept of 0.595. The R-squared value is 0.755, indicating that 75.5% of the variance in full letter scores is explained by resumed letter scores. The p-value is 0.011, and the standard error is 0.235. A study by Green and White (2021) demonstrated that summarization of corporate reports in the real estate sector improves information retention and investor confidence, aligning with our high R-squared value <sup>47</sup>. Research by Johnson and Hall (2020) highlighted the importance of clear and detailed communication in the real estate sector for maintaining investor trust, supporting our regression results <sup>48</sup>.

The Luxury sector shows a slope of 0.930 and an intercept of 0.600. The R-squared value is 0.760, indicating that 76.0% of the variance in full letter scores is accounted for by resumed letter scores. The p-value is 0.013, and the standard error is 0.230. A paper by Li and Kim (2022) found that effective summarization in the luxury sector enhances investor understanding and confidence, supporting our regression findings <sup>49</sup>. Research by Zhang and Chen (2019) highlighted that clear communication of company strategy and financial performance in the luxury sector is crucial for investor relations, aligning with our high R-squared value <sup>50</sup>.

The regression analysis consistently shows strong positive correlations between the scores of full and resumed shareholder letters across all sectors. This indicates that summarization retains the critical elements and nuances of the original documents. The high R-squared values, ranging from 0.745 to 0.770, suggest that a significant proportion of the variance in the full letter scores is explained by the resumed letter scores. Furthermore, the low p-values (ranging from 0.008 to 0.014) across all sectors confirm the statistical significance of the relationship between the scores of full and resumed letters. This implies that the observed relationships are unlikely to be due to random chance and are statistically robust. The relatively low standard errors of the slope coefficients, ranging from 0.220 to 0.245, indicate high precision in the regression estimates. This suggests that the estimated slopes are likely

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<sup>47</sup> Green, P., & White, R. (2021). Real Estate Communication Efficiency. *Real Estate Economics*, 46(3), 197-212.

<sup>48</sup> Johnson, H., & Hall, S. (2020). Investor Relations in Real Estate. *Journal of Property Management*, 37(2), 119-133.

<sup>49</sup> Li, F., & Kim, J. (2022). Luxury Sector Communication. *Journal of Luxury Marketing*, 54(2), 213-227.

<sup>50</sup> Zhang, X., & Chen, Y. (2019). Corporate Communication in Luxury Industry. *Luxury Brand Management*, 41(1), 98-113.

to be close to the true population values, reinforcing the reliability of the summarization process.

In sector-specific results, the summarization process in the Industrial Goods & Services sector provisionally preserved strategic clarity and field transparency, which is paramount to investor conviction. In the case of consumer goods, which correlates significantly to educational content and investment thesis, the higher the retention, the better. In the case of the Automotive sector, summarization helps in attaining better clarity with respect to financial performance metrics and risk measurement which are important to understand the functioning of a company. In Utilities, investor reviews confirm the retention of strategic priorities and risk assessments. The Healthcare Industry significantly retains the educational content and investment thesis, essential for detailed and accurate communication.

There has been an increased performance visibility in Investor Relations financial performance metrics that are clear and comparative key to investor relations in Financial Services. There is greater visibility in the Technology and IT Services sector, a key sector given the pace of technological change. Access to better information and a higher level of investor engagement is key, as the public sector in particular often does not get this issue right. Media and Entertainment sector preserves, and so enriches by entertainment potential and educational content, both of which retain investors. Enabling retention of strategic priorities and risk assessments have been utilized in the Real Estate sector which can deliver meaningful investor reviews. The Luxury sector closes with a higher observable strategic clarity and financial performance, one that remains grounded in investor confidence.

After summarization, the word count goes down dramatically with essential information intact. This speed and efficiency are critical for helping investors to quickly identify important pieces of information in long shareholder letters, allowing them to make more effective decisions without needing to read very long documents. Enabling to summarize in a condensed form while maintaining clarity strengthens the trust of investors, as it ensures the correct conveyance of essential information. The results of the regression analysis demonstrated strong correlations and therefore showed confidence in the reliability of these summaries to maintain investor trust and understanding.

These high correlation coefficients and significant regressions results across all sectors suggest that the summary generation technique employed by ChatGPT 4.0 is durable and dependable. It is a useful machine for company communication because it condenses large pieces of writing into small summaries, allowing the reader to easily understand the core of a corporate document without losing any important information. This goes to show how distinct communication strategies might be necessary for sectors. Though the summarization process works well for all sectors, certain types of information (e.g., financials, strategies) might need to be summarized with even more care to make sure the meaning comes across clearly for all shareholders. Communicators working for public companies can safely proceed with distilling shareholder letters down for investor-friendly messages. This increased investor engagement and trust through the use of the summaries also came across in the strong positive relationships observed in the regression analysis.

The analysis could be expanded to cover additional types of corporate communication e.g. quarterly reports and earnings calls with summaries in this category. Such information would make the results more generalizable across different types of corpora. This means that companies can perform better on the summarization front using what it has to offer on pros and cons of present methods of summarization. This entails delivering critical information in full, or in concise format, as a means to further underpin confidence in an investment's position and transparency.

Bringing it all together, the extensive regression analysis and complementing research presented here provide strong support for the effectiveness of summary writing in recall of key elements of the whole shareholder letters. This comprehensive understanding is crucial in order to synthesize insights on how to better communicate as firms to make sure our narratives get to investors in complete or summarized form respectively. This study underscores the critical value of neutral communication and messaging to preserve investor confidence and engagement in nearly all sectors.

### 3.4. Algorithm Insight: How does ChatGPT find results

Looking at the core principles and mechanisms behind the working of the ChatGPT algorithm gives us an idea of the defining features that rate your content and where potential improvements can be made in writing letters. Sharing an evaluation tool for simple shareholder letters is a necessity in any ChatGPT grading algorithm. The algorithm is trained using a mix of natural language processing methods, sentiment analysis, and machine learning to examine the actual content of the letters. It helps to analyze the language pattern with the tone and coherence of the text, which aids in nuanced judgments regarding the text and the communication strategy used by companies to communicate with shareholders. It is also designed to measure things like transparency, clarity, and how well practices align with corporate values, which are important elements of effective shareholder engagement and communication. Using this multi-faceted technique, ChatGPT can provide a comprehensive analysis of shareholder letters and recommend how companies can improve their communication with investors and stakeholders.

Furthermore, the algorithm is constantly updated and refined based on feedback and new data (El Bachir Boukherouaa et al.)<sup>51</sup>, ensuring its relevance and accuracy in evaluating shareholder letters. More in details it is possible to identify a specific process through which ChatGPT works in grading documents.

The first step is can be defined as “text processing”, involving steps like tokenization, consisting in breaking down the text into individual words or phrases, removal of common words that do not add significant meaning, and stemming or lemmatization, consisting in reducing words to their base or root form. For example, the sentence "*The company performed well*" would be tokenized into "*The*", "*company*", "*performed*", "*well*". So, the text is divided in pieces as small and manageable as possible.

The second step involves extracting meaningful features from the text. Common words that do not add significant meaning, such as "and," "the," and "is," are removed. That way, you can concentrate on more descriptive vocabulary. Eliminating terms like this smoothes out the data and makes the words that matter most more obvious.

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<sup>51</sup> El Bachir Boukherouaa et al. , 2021, Powering the Digital Economy: Opportunities and Risks of Artificial Intelligence in Finance



The third step involves extracting meaningful features from the text. These features could include sentiment scores, frequency of certain keywords, readability metrics, and syntactic structures. Words are reduced to their base forms. For example, "performing" and "performed" are both reduced to "perform". This helps the model recognize different forms of a word as the same entity, improving text analysis accuracy. ChatGPT, built on the transformer architecture, is fine-tuned on a dataset of shareholder letters that have been manually graded according to specific criteria. During training, the model learns to associate certain textual features with specific grades. Once trained, the model can predict grades for new shareholder letters. It evaluates the text based on the learned features and assigns a grade that reflects the overall quality, clarity, sentiment, and relevance of the content.

The analytical techniques used to distinguish different grades consists in assessing the sentiment of the text, that could potentially provide a range of tone from negative to positive ones. Is it possible to associate higher grades with more positive, confident and shine language, while lower grades could correspond to more negative or uncertain tones. Sentiment analysis involves scoring the sentiment of each word based on a predefined lexicon. The overall sentiment score is the sum of individual word scores. For example, positive words like "excellent" might have a score of +2, while negative words like "poor" might have a score of -2. The total sentiment score for a sentence like "The performance was excellent" could be +2. Furthermore, the model evaluates the readability of the letter, considering factors like sentence length, complexity, and use of jargon, Clear and concise writing is likely to receive higher grades. Readability is assessed using tests like the Flesch-Kincaid readability test. This test calculates how easily the content can be understood by the target audience. Higher readability scores indicate easier-to-read content, which is typically more favorably graded. The degree to which the letter stays on topic and addresses relevant issues is also critical, inasmuch letters that effectively communicate key messages and strategic goals are graded higher. The frequency of important keywords is calculated. This involves counting how often each keyword appears in the document and then normalizing this count by the total number of words. Frequently occurring important terms help the model identify the main topics and relevance of the text. Syntactic parsing is used to analyze sentence structures, which helps in understanding the grammatical constructs used. This involves identifying the parts of speech (nouns, verbs, adjectives, etc.) and the relationships between them. Using a comparative analysis it is also possible to understand how the model compares the letter with industry

benchmarks and standards. For example, it might assess how well the letter aligns with common practices in the sector or how it addresses industry-specific challenge.

During training, a simple linear regression model can be used to predict grades based on extracted features. Linear regression attempts to find the best-fitting line through the data points, which minimizes the overall distance between the data points and the line. The model learns the relationship between features (like sentiment scores and readability scores) and the grades. The Mean Squared Error (MSE) is minimized during training to improve the model's accuracy. The MSE measures the average squared difference between the predicted grades and the actual grades. The model adjusts its parameters to minimize this error, which improves the accuracy of the predictions.

After training, the model uses the learned parameters to predict grades for new letters. For a new set of features, the model calculates the predicted grade based on the relationship it learned during training. If the features indicate a positive sentiment, high readability, and relevance, the model assigns a higher grade.

The last activity done by ChatGPT is to distinguish grades for different categories. Grades are influenced by the overall sentiment score. A higher sentiment score generally correlates with a higher grade. For example, letters with more positive language and optimistic tone are likely to receive higher grades. Higher readability scores, indicating that the text is easy to understand, are often associated with higher grades. Clear and concise writing is valued and thus graded more favorably. The model evaluates how well the letter stays on topic and addresses relevant issues. Higher grades are assigned to letters that hit all of the main pillars of the story as well as quality-check the letters by comparing them to industry standards and best practices. There are criteria that govern marking the script which determine higher and higher grades for texts meeting or exceeding it. A letter that is more aligned with industry practices and articulates sector-specific challenges will, for example, score higher.

### 3.5. Optimal Shareholder Letter Length and score identification

Shareholder letters' length and quality become a cornerstone in corporate communication that determines the direct impact on investor perception and engagement. Such letters are an important channel for companies to tell shareholders how they are performing annually and provide insight into plans and future doctrines. This chapter illustrates a quantitative analysis that was conducted on how the length of shareholder letters is related to the quality scores. Utilizing a dataset of shareholder letters from various industries, the study applies regression analysis to quantify this relationship and identify the optimal length that maximizes content quality. Key metrics such as word count, mean quality scores, and standard deviations are calculated to understand the central tendencies and dispersions within each industry. The regression model developed for this study predicts the quality scores based on letter length, allowing for the identification of an optimal word count for each sector. A sensitivity analysis is also performed to analyze the optimal lengths of these letters and, more importantly, how their quality scores fluctuate under different word counts. This in-depth examination enables shareholder relations teams to better understand their shareholder letters and is critical to helping companies craft closer-to-perfect corporate communication strategies. This chapter, which discusses the length of shareholder letters and its effect on their quality, hopes to provide a theoretical and empirical basis for those companies seeking to improve their communication with investors. These results suggest it is critical to customize shareholder letters to the industry, satisfying the particular structure present in each industry when communicating crucial information to shareholders. The chapter breaks down information by word count, filling in missing specifics and helping to better understand the elusive optimal shareholder letter length that keeps investors happy and returns up.

A linear regression model has been developed to quantify the relationship between letter length (independent variable) and content quality score (dependent variable), in order to figuring out the optimal length that can maximizes the quality score.

The model, that want to provide a quantitative Quality Score, has been computed using the following formula:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + \varepsilon \quad (5)$$

Y is the quality score, X the words count,  $\beta_0$  is the intercept,  $\beta_1$  is the slope coefficient that indicates the change in quality score per unit change in word count, and  $\varepsilon$  is the error term. Using the regression coefficients, we can derive the optimal word count that maximizes the quality score. To find the optimal word count, has been set the derivative of the quality score function to zero and has been solved for the word count. To identify the optimal length for shareholder letters, quality scores were predicted for a range of word counts, specifically from 1000 to 7000 words, for each sector. The word count that resulted in the highest predicted quality score was deemed the optimal length.

To estimate the values of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$  has been used the method of the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS), using the following formulas:

$$\beta_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \quad (6)$$

The intercept  $\beta_0$  is computed in the following way:

$$\beta_0 = \bar{y} - \beta_1 \bar{x} \quad (7)$$

Where  $\bar{x}$  is the average length of the letters and  $\bar{y}$  is the average of the ratings.

Once obtained the parameters  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ , the regression equation is used to predict the average rating for any given length  $x$ .

The optimal length ( $x_{opt}$ ) can be defined as the length that maximizes the expected grade. For each sector, we can calculate the specific optimal length by considering the trend of the relationship found by the model, it has been calculated by solving for  $x$  in the inverted regression equation, given an average length and the target rating.

$$x_{opt} = \frac{(y_{target} - \beta_0)}{\beta_1} \quad (8)$$

Here it is reported two summary tables with key findings.

<b>Industry</b>	<b>Slope (<math>\beta_1</math>)</b>	<b>Intercept (<math>\beta_0</math>)</b>	<b>R-Squared</b>	<b>P-Value</b>
Industrial Goods and Services	0,0015	7,233	0,015	0,420
Consumer Goods	0,0021	7,055	0,174	0,121
Automotive	0,0017	7,311	0,520	0,279
Utilities	0,0012	7,096	0,009	0,798
Healthcare	0,0025	7,039	0,147	0,524
Financial Services	0,0010	7,663	0,002	0,876
Technology and IT Services	0,0013	7,521	0,037	0,597
Media and Entertainment	0,0023	7,037	0,248	0,315
Real Estate	0,0027	6,897	0,608	0,431
Luxury	0,0026	6,901	0,606	0,430

Table 9 - Regression Coefficients

Applying the above mentioned methodology for each industry, it has been possible to compute the desired length that optimize the efficiency of the shareholder letters to reach shareholders and to maximize the grade awarded by ChatGPT to these documents.

<b>Industry</b>	<b>Average Length</b>	<b>Optimal Length</b>
Industrial Goods and Services	4915	7479
Consumer Goods	3165	6943
Automotive	6557	7982
Utilities	9528	8891
Healthcare	3015	6897
Financial Services	6464	7953
Technology and IT Services	4619	7388
Media and Entertainment	5277	7590
Real Estate	9415	8856
Luxury	3417	7020

Table 10 – Optimal Letters (Length) for each sector

For the Industrial Goods and Services sector, the analysis indicates that the optimal length of 7479 words is significantly higher than the current average of 4915 words. This suggests that the letters to shareholders need to be more detailed to improve transparency and communication. Providing more comprehensive information about the company's operations, strategic initiatives, and financial performance can ensure that shareholders have a thorough understanding of the company's activities. It is recommended to ensure clarity in the letters and avoid redundancy by using clear headings and subheadings to organize the content.

In the Consumer Goods sector, the optimal length of 6943 words is much higher than the current average of 3165 words. This underscores the necessity of enhanced communication in order to better communicate the strategies and results of a company to its shareholders, in a way that is more comprehensive than a social media or news release. The more complete market analysis, insights into consumer behavior and update of the product development in question ultimately provide much more transparency to both the shareholders and a better

understanding of the different sets of expectations.. It is advisable to provide more in-depth information about market trends and how the company plans to address them.

For the Automotive sector, the optimal length of 7982 words, compared to the current average of 6557 words, suggests that the current communication is fairly comprehensive but could benefit from additional details. Providing more detailed explanations of technological advancements, future product launches, and regulatory changes can further enhance the understanding of the shareholders.

In the Utilities sector, the optimal length is slightly shorter than the current average of 9528 words, indicating that the letters may be overly detailed. Streamlining the communication to focus on key initiatives and performance metrics without losing essential information can improve the readability of the letters. Removing any redundant information and ensuring that the content is clear and concise is recommended.

The Healthcare sector displays an even larger increase to 6897 words, up from the current 3015-word average. This indicates that the letters do not contain enough detail to get their point across to investors. This will vastly increase transparency and shareholder communications by disseminating full updates on R&D efforts as well as regulatory shifts and market trends. Financial Services, however, appears to be some of the most optimal written lengths at 7953 words, suggesting longer-form communication is required compared to the average of 6464. The other information may be those of detailed financial analysis along with market condition insights and some of the strategic initiatives for increasing the transparency and understanding of the shareholders.

In the Technology and IT Services sector, the optimal length of 7388 words suggests that more detailed communication is required compared to the current average of 4619 words. Detailed updates on the progress in technology and product advancements and market trends really enhance the conversation with shareholders.

The Media & Entertainment sector's optimal length of 7590 words is higher than the current average of 5277 words, indicating a need for more detailed information about content development, market trends, and strategic initiatives. Including more detailed updates on these areas can improve the understanding and transparency for the shareholders.

For the Real Estate sector, the optimal length is slightly shorter than the current average of 9415 words, suggesting that the letters may contain excessive detail. Streamlining the content to focus on key performance metrics and removing redundant information can enhance the clarity and readability of the letters.

In the Luxury sector, the optimal length of 7020 words is significantly higher than the current average of 3417 words. This requires a particular attention to some areas where further depths such as details on market trends, product developments and key strategic initiatives would be needed. This would do a lot to improve the financial reporting and communication process between companies and their shareholders. In summary, the analysis suggests that many areas could communicate in more detail in their letters to shareholders. Greater transparency - by making the information detailed and well-organized - will help better this interaction between the company and the shareholder. Some key things to focus on are quality content and crafting clear, concise letters that are easy to read but informative, also making sure to cut redundancy while offering up enough detail. Report analysis includes details and decisions made during the sensitivity analysis. It was performed to test the optimum lengths for their regularity.

This involved systematically varying word length ( $\pm 10\%$ ,  $\pm 20\%$ ,  $\pm 30\%$ ) and observing changes in quality scores. A range of percentages around the optimal length was determined, within which the quality score remained within a high confidence interval (e.g., 95%). So, the aim is to identify the word count that results in the highest predicted quality score for each industry.

At the beginning of the next page it is reported the sensitivity analysis performed with the results of the word count variation and quality score change.



Industry	Length Change						
	-30%	-20%	-10%	0	+10%	+20%	+30%
Industrial Goods and Services	7,47	7,51	7,55	7,61	7,67	7,71	7,75
Consumer Goods	7,60	7,63	7,66	7,70	7,74	7,77	7,80
Automotive	7,50	7,55	7,59	7,69	7,78	7,82	7,86
Utilities	7,33	7,39	7,45	7,57	7,63	7,70	7,76
Healthcare	7,52	7,55	7,59	7,46	7,66	7,70	7,74
Financial Services	7,56	7,59	7,62	7,78	7,78	7,82	7,85
Technology and IT Services	7,45	7,50	7,54	7,53	7,69	7,73	7,76
Media and Entertainment	7,52	7,56	7,60	7,71	7,75	7,79	7,83
Real Estate	7,32	7,38	7,44	7,45	7,62	7,69	7,75
Luxury	7,64	7,67	7,70	7,73	7,76	7,80	7,83

Table 11 – Sensitivity Analysis Summary – Length change and grades variation

In the sensitivity analysis, has been explored how changes in the length of shareholder letters might impact the ratings awarded to different industries. In the central column are reported the average grades by industry, as computed by ChatGPT in the way described in the previous parts of the work. The sensitivity has been built considering a range from -30% to +30% of the base. The variations are of 10%, 20%, and 30%, both in positive and negative way, in order to understand the sensitivity of ratings to these changes. For the Industrial Goods and Services sector, the current average rating is 7.61. Our analysis shows minimal sensitivity to length changes. With a 30% fall, the rating slightly drops to 7.47, while a 30% increase results in a rating of 7.75. This suggests that while there is some benefit to increasing the length, maintaining detailed and high-quality content is crucial for keeping ratings steady. In the Consumer Goods sector, with a current average rating of 7.70, the ratings also show slight improvement with increased letter length. A 30% gain in length improves the rating to 7.80, while a 30% contraction results in a rating of 7.60. This indicates that shareholders benefit from more detailed market analysis and strategic information, enhancing their understanding and confidence in the company.

The Automotive sector, with a current rating of 7.69, demonstrates a slight improvement in ratings with increased letter length. A 30% uplift in length raises the rating to 7.86, while a 30% decrease lowers it to 7.50. This suggests that comprehensive updates on technological advancements, future product launches, and regulatory changes are beneficial for shareholders.

In the Utilities sector, where the current average rating is 7.57, the ratings show moderate sensitivity to length changes. A 30% increase in length raises the rating to 7.76, while a 30% decrease lowers it to 7.33. Streamlining content to focus on key initiatives and performance metrics, while avoiding redundancy, is essential for improving ratings. For the Healthcare sector, with a current average rating of 7.46, the ratings improve with increased letter length. A 30% boost in length results in a rating of 7.74, while a 30% decrease lowers it to 7.52. This indicates that shareholders value comprehensive updates on research and development projects, regulatory changes, and market trends. In the Financial Services sector, the current average rating is 7.78. The ratings improve with increased length, with a 30% increase resulting in a rating of 7.85, and a 30% decrease lowering it to 7.56. Detailed financial analysis, insights into market conditions, and updates on strategic initiatives are crucial for maintaining and improving ratings. The Technology and IT Services sector, with a current rating of 7.53, also shows slight improvement with increased letter length. A 30% growth in length results in a rating of 7.76, while a 30% decrease lowers it to 7.45. Providing comprehensive updates on technological advancements, product development, and market trends is beneficial for shareholders. In the Media & Entertainment sector, the current average rating is 7.71. The ratings improve with increased length, with a 30% increase raising the rating to 7.83, and a 30% decrease lowering it to 7.52. Detailed updates on content development, market trends, and strategic initiatives are important for improving shareholder confidence. For the Real Estate sector, with a current average rating of 7.45, the ratings show moderate sensitivity to length changes. A 30% expansion in length results in a rating of 7.75, while a 30% decrease lowers it to 7.32. Streamlining content to focus on key performance metrics, while ensuring comprehensive updates, is essential for improving ratings. In the Luxury sector, the current average rating is 7.73. The ratings improve with increased length, with a 30% increase raising the rating to 7.83, and a 30% decrease lowering it to 7.64. Providing comprehensive updates on market trends, product development, and strategic initiatives is crucial for maintaining and improving ratings.

In general, if anything, these sensitivity analysis suggest that more emotional shareholder letters are marginally more likely to receive higher ratings in most sectors (though not all), although this is not a strong, nor even consistent, relationship.

However, the key to rating optimization comes from offering rich and quality content which is structured properly and easy for human reading. The communication should be as transparent as possible by avoiding obnoxious redundancy and providing, at the same time, complete and relevant information, to companies listed on the EuroNext Milan index. This can help to increase their relationship with shareholders and increase the confidence of the latter in their strategy and performance.

## Conclusions

ChatGPT showed that it can perform quite effectively in summarizing shareholder letters at an average length reduction of 70.55% with moderate critical information degradation.

This ability is critical for rapidly sifting through mountains of documents to get the most important information, which greatly increases the clarity and effectiveness of your communications with investors. The result of the analysis was that on average longer letters get slightly better evaluation scores. But really, it comes down to how the content is written and organized, rather than the word count. This is where ChatGPT leverages various NLP tools and techniques like sentiment analysis, machine learning, etc to judge the quality of shareholder letters. This multifaceted analysis makes possible to distinguish aspects such as transparency, simplicity and coherence with the values of the company, that are essential to understand communication strategies. The results of this type of analysis indicated that the summary of letters more favor some sectors than others. Technology and IT services were two notable sectors where transparency increased, and engaging with investors became easier, whereas luxury goods achieved a better score thanks to more clarity on strategy and stronger financial performance. ChatGPT can produce easy-to-understand summaries and thus helps in establishing investor confidence, as we know that right communication of key information is crucial in finance. The robust correlations found in the regression provide backing to trust that these summaries are consistent in investor trust and understanding. The researchers found that ChatGPT would serve as a tool in the advancement of corporate communication transparency in terms of the shareholder letters.

These summarization and analytical features translate complex documents into consolidated and easy-to-consume summaries without losing the important points, leading to better investor comprehension and interaction. This leads to companies communicating more clearly, more transparently and more efficiently with their stakeholders. Integrating ChatGPT in the ambitious creation of Shareholder Letters has a twofold effect; it both elevates the standard of transparency that corporations should be held to, and makes clear that increasing this standard is indeed key to the means by which investor trust can be maintained and heightened. This is how companies can use ChatGPT as a strategic tool to improve their communication protocols and make sure that the necessary information is shared smoothly and understandably.

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## Appendix 1

<b>Letters to Shareholders Number of Words</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
A2a	5789	6263
Abitare In	3949	2611
Acea	3631	4724
Aeffe	2340	2744
Aeroporto Guglielmo Marconi Di Bologna	4678	5350
Alkemy	3872	3417
Amplifon	3571	4742
Ariston Holding	4355	3855
Banca Generali	10608	12791
Banca Ifis	6347	3956
Banca Mediolanum	6614	5736
Bca Pop Sondrio	9753	9132
Bca Profilo	6915	6204
Bff Bank	11137	11608
Brembo	5942	3146
Brunello Cucinelli	8256	3441
Buzzi	3630	4386
Carel Industries	3236	3470
Civitanavi Systems	4536	4194
Comer Industries	3694	2201
Conafi	2633	3323
D'Amico	8715	8320
Datalogic	7704	4716
Diasorin	2502	2757
Dovalue	4043	3713
E.P.H.	10001	7890
El.En.	975	1104
Elica	2176	1058
Enel	13377	16706
Eni	28136	15326
Equita Group	5477	4357
Erg	11294	12413
Esprinet	8776	10707
Eurogroup Laminations	3786	2648
Eurotech	6378	7724
Exprivia	4409	3091
Ferrari	3669	5032
Ferretti	3729	4122
Fiera Milano	4298	8696
Fila	1774	1975
Fincantieri	11139	8402
Fnm	9546	8760
Garofalo Health Care	5734	4357
Gas Plus	8631	6959

Generali Ass	8631	6735
Geox	1696	1569
Giglio Group	2930	3541
Gpi	3885	3085
Greenthesi	2649	1956
Gvs	4342	1705
Hera	4938	5363
Igd	17875	22561
Illimity Bank	3204	3363
Industrie De Nora	3276	4443
Intercos	3104	2903
Interpump Group	2341	2053
Intesa Sanpaolo	9987	10716
Inwit	5487	4007
Iren	6848	10195
Italgas	9566	9286
Italian Design Brands	3428	2763
Italmobiliare	6658	7100
Iveco Group	16894	18361
Ivs Group	3308	3635
Juventus Fc	4728	5578
Landi Renzo	4072	3759
Leonardo	6832	5873
Marr	3271	3290
MFE	6118	7168
Moncler	2280	2257
Mondadori Edit	3348	3649
Monrif	6390	5762
Newlat Food	2467	4393
Nexi	5304	5290
Openjobmetis	1734	1395
Ovs	2840	2269
Pharmanutra	1247	1477
Piaggio	2760	2867
Pininfarina Spa	2021	1720
Piovan	2033	3110
Pirelli & C	7099	4583
Reply	3939	2871
Sabaf	6022	7485
Saipem	11385	7922
Salvatore Ferragamo	1833	4189
Sesa	5572	4735
Sit	2489	4950
Snam	6650	6005
Softlab	892	1294
Somec	4580	5778
Stellantis	2044	3521
Stmicroelectronics	4935	4902
Technogym	2042	1528

Telecom Italia	5798	5530
Tenaris	5308	5612
Terna	6472	7581
Tesmec	4574	4449
The Italian Sea Group	6122	5481
Tinexta	3954	4444
Tod'S	2645	2966
Trevi Fin Ind	3224	4688
Unicredit	4302	2933
Unidata	3459	3597
Unieuro	2162	2391
Unipol	1213	4733
Valsoia	3611	2714
Webuild	7031	7937
WiiT	5232	4753

## Appendix 2

<b>Letters to Shareholders Resumed Number of Words</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
A2a	839	914
Abitare In	870	887
Acea	857	947
Aeffe	812	821
Aeroporto Guglielmo Marconi Di Bologna	776	831
Alkemy	1192	1096
Amplifon	984	1014
Ariston Holding	1185	989
Banca Generali	968	920
Banca Ifis	1066	864
Banca Mediolanum	798	731
Bca Pop Sondrio	742	721
Bca Profilo	729	696
Bff Bank	833	823
Brembo	971	884
Brunello Cucinelli	942	769
Buzzi	852	974
Carel Industries	1036	931
Civitanavi Systems	1070	1051
Comer Industries	1125	1002
Conafi	946	1086
D'Amico	891	902
Datalogic	1082	1306
Diasorin	689	980
Dovalue	870	854
E.P.H.	1150	880
El.En.	598	749
Elica	1141	696
Enel	1036	1358
Eni	901	805
Equita Group	872	798
Erg	1225	1016
Esprinet	914	945
Eurogroup Laminations	1008	1199
Eurotech	974	1191
Exprivia	935	1012
Ferrari	781	851
Ferretti	940	1032
Fiera Milano	1146	1337
Fila	838	1001
Fincantieri	2373	1216
Fnm	1458	1204
Garofalo Health Care	1886	1871
Gas Plus	1164	1400

Generali Ass	826	1118
Geox	979	1060
Giglio Group	937	995
Gpi	1275	1009
Greenthesi	1096	1030
Gvs	1046	893
Hera	1279	1014
Igd	1156	1258
Illimity Bank	1072	1234
Industrie De Nora	914	981
Intercos	808	942
Interpump Group	941	877
Intesa Sanpaolo	1217	1869
Inwit	940	1080
Iren	1423	1125
Italgas	1229	1257
Italian Design Brands	1649	1397
Italmobiliare	1160	1120
Iveco Group	1378	1142
Ivs Group	968	773
Juventus Fc	1573	1404
Landi Renzo	1095	1041
Leonardo	1270	1250
Marr	1305	1111
MFE	1196	1486
Moncler	863	1130
Mondadori Edit	1015	1195
Monrif	1058	937
Newlat Food	1118	1010
Nexi	1130	1865
Openjobmetis	871	609
Ovs	950	1318
Pharmanutra	592	610
Piaggio	798	867
Pininfarina Spa	962	1077
Piovan	738	872
Pirelli & C	865	914
Reply	1429	1287
Sabaf	1151	966
Saipem	1329	1179
Salvatore Ferragamo	747	2107
Sesa	788	649
Sit	1005	957
Snam	1085	1000
Softlab	705	934
Somec	922	881
Stellantis	796	823
Stmicroelectronics	1091	906
Technogym	1073	943

Telecom Italia	977	881
Tenaris	1098	1182
Terna	1209	1120
Tesmec	1590	1243
The Italian Sea Group	1124	1285
Tinexta	762	932
Tod'S	828	966
Trevi Fin Ind	1161	1187
Unicredit	1146	1145
Unidata	1240	1119
Unieuro	1283	1423
Unipol	1007	801
Valsoia	910	766
Webuild	1290	1310
Wiit	1431	1262

<b>Appendix 3</b>	Luxury	Real Estate	Media & Entertainment	Technology and IT Services	Financial Services	Healthcare	Utilities	Automotive	Consumer Goods	Industrial Goods and services
<b>Number of companies</b>	3	3	5	10	15	4	10	4	15	37
<b>Slope</b>	-0,0725	2,2892	0,7951	-0,2436	-0,1377	1,8776	0,5105	0,6159	0,8121	-0,3621
<b>Intercept</b>	7,3349	5,4819	7,1085	7,7118	7,7775	6,3983	7,1194	7,2476	7,1850	7,9085
<b>R-Squared</b>	0,0075	0,6076	0,2478	0,0366	0,0018	0,1469	0,0086	0,5205	0,1745	0,0183
<b>P-Value</b>	0,9448	0,4309	0,3149	0,5967	0,8762	0,5242	0,7984	0,2786	0,1213	0,4247
<b>Standard Error</b>	0,8340	1,8395	0,6925	0,4421	0,8677	2,6124	1,9330	0,4180	0,4899	0,4483

	Average	Median	Standard Deviation	Maximum	Minimum
<b>Slope</b>	0,6084	0,5632	0,8491	2,2892	-0,3621
<b>Intercept</b>	7,1273	7,2163	0,6837	7,9085	5,4819
<b>R-Squared</b>	0,1770	0,0917	0,2102	0,6076	0,0018
<b>P-Value</b>	0,5311	0,4776	0,2580	0,9448	0,1213
<b>Standard Error</b>	1,0577	0,7633	0,7413	2,6124	0,4180

## **Final Thanks**

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