SUYANG XIAO

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Education

University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Sep. 2022 - May. 2026

- BSc: Mathematics (Intensive), Physics (Minor), Full ride scholarship (President's Scholar)
- GPA: 4.77/4.30 (3.80/4.00 WES), First Class Honours
- Coursework: Financial Calculus, Probability Theory, Linear Algebra 2, Introduction to Optimization, Game Theory

University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Oct. 2024 – Jun. 2025

- Visiting student program, St. Peter's College, First Class Honours (Predicted)
- Coursework: Probability Measure and Martingales, Differential Equations 2, Statistical Machine Learning

St. Joseph's Institution International. Singapore (IB: 45/45, 99th percentile)

Jan. 2020 – Jan. 2022

Honors and awards

• Ranked 5/64 – Oxford CSSA Poker Tournament

(2025)

• Dean's List (Top 10% of Faculty)— HKU Faculty of Science

(2023, 2024)

Bronze Award - Singapore Mathematics Olympiad (Open Division)

(2021)

Silver Award – Singapore Chemistry Olympiad

(2020)

Experience

Oxford Alpha Fund, University of Oxford

Nov. 2024 - Mar. 2025

Quantitative Analyst, Options and volatility group

- Researched the VIX index by modelling volatility regimes using a Hidden Markov Model (HMM), fitted using a custom dispersion parameter and other indices such as VVIX and SWAP.
- Designed a volatility arbitrage strategy on variance swaps and VIX futures using HMM signal, backtested using CBOE data, with a Sharpe ratio of 1.21 (Accounting VIX quote slippage and transaction costs in backtest).

University of Hong Kong, Department of Mathematics

Jun. 2024 - Sep. 2024

Summer Research Fellowship, Quantum algorithm option pricing | Supervisor: Prof. Zhang Zhiwen, Mathematics

- Researched Independently the pricing of European options with stochastic volatility using variational quantum algorithms, constructed an ansatz (parameterized wave function) unique to initial condition of the option.
- Priced a toy option for proof of concept, beyond what is done in literature, with a classical simulation of the quantum algorithm using Qiskit in Python.

Teaching Assistant (MATH1009: Basic Mathematics for Business and Economics)

Sep. 2023 – Dec. 2023

- Held 6 revision classes to a class of 120 students, covering topics leading up to multivariable optimization.
- Designed revision class notes independently using Latex, and further assisted the Lecturer on student Q&A.

Research and Projects

Exploitive Poker (Supervisor: Dr. Nazem Khan, University of Oxford)

Jun. 2025 -

- Currently researching in designing a poker playing algorithm that actively exploits sub-optimal play.
- Working on reproducing Counterfactual Regret Minimization to produce an ϵ -Nash Equilibrium strategy.

Mean Reversion Trading

Aug. 2024 – Sep. 2024

- Performed tests for cointegration, such as the Engle-Granger test, Johansen test and Augmented Dickey-Fuller test on over 10 cryptocurrencies and 20 forex pairs.
- On the AUD/NZD pair, designed a statistical arbitrage strategy, where a dynamic spread is calculated over a 360-day window, using spread volatility as signal for entering position.
- Backtested on daily-frequency data, with a Sharpe ratio of 3.0, Max drawdown of under 6%, achieved a 5x on initial capital (assuming 10:1 leverage, reasonable due to low max drawdown).

Orderbook Simulation (HKU Quantitative Investment and Data Science Society)

Mar. 2023 - Jan. 2024

- Researched into simulating price distribution of Limit Order Books using Poisson distributed Zero-Intelligence agents, and developed a trade matching prototype to give a better simulation of the stock exchange market.
- Conducted validation of stylized facts, such as mean-reversion and volatility clustering via the autocorrelation of asset return, using minute frequency data over 20 years from the Shenzhen Exchange.

Extra Curriculars

LSE Summer School (IR105-Understanding Foreign Policy: The Diplomacy of War, Profit, and Justice)

Jul. 2025

HKU Quantum Bit Demonstrator Group, Hong Kong, Speaker

Sep. 2022 - Sep. 2023

Acted as a speaker at HKU Innoshow, covering concepts such as quantum locking and superconductivity.

HKU Judo Club, Hong Kong, General Secretary

Sep. 2022 - Sep. 2023

• Represented HKU at Inter-college Judo Competition, achieved silver medal as a team.

SKILLS

Technical /Computer Skills: Python, Latex, Matlab

Languages: English (fluent), Chinese (fluent)