Christopher John

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Summary — Highly driven finance professional with experience as a Fund Analyst at Clearstream and a First-Class Honours MSc in Finance (Investment & Asset Management) from UCC. Passed CFA Level I, with strong foundational knowledge in investment analysis, operational risk, and financial reporting. Skilled in managing complex fund data using SQL-based systems, and proficient in Excel, Power BI, and Python for developing automated dashboards and scenario-based risk simulations. Recognized for analytical thinking, attention to detail, and effective cross-functional collaboration.

Professional Experience

Clearstream, Cork — **Jul 2024 – Present**

Fund Analyst (AML-KYC Analyst)

- Conducted research, updates, and maintenance of static data for funds and transfer agents within the company's SQL-based database, ensuring high levels of accuracy and timely updates.
- Configured new funds while updating fund rules on Vestima and Vestima Prime Platforms, maintaining comprehensive and precise records.
- Acted as a liaison between clients and transfer agents to resolve complex queries, ensuring prompt responses and efficient issue resolution.
- Reduced average processing time for a request by 15%, completing nearly all requests within 24 hours (SLA).
- Handled high transaction volumes, managing over 1,200 ISIN requests per month with efficiency and accuracy.
- Onboarded 50+ clients onto Vestima Prime (Trading platform), ensuring seamless integration.
- Assisted the billing team in invoice processing and provided detailed breakdowns to clients when required.

CFA Institute Research Challenge, Cork — **Oct 2023 – Mar 2024**

Team Member

- Developed a comprehensive financial model, including forecasting and valuation for Kingspan Group PLC.
- Conducted financial statement analysis, assessing company performance and benchmarking against competitors.
- Prepared cash flow statements, tracking operational, investing and financing activities.
- Computed Weighted Average Cost of Capital to assess the cost of financing.
- Identified revenue drivers, forecasted annual revenue and cost projections, and developed base, bull and bear case scenarios.
- Implemented valuation methodologies, including absolute (GGM, DDM, FCFF, FCFE) and relative (P/E, P/B, EV/EBITDA) approaches and arrived at a HOLD recommendation for Kingspan.

Education

MSc. Finance (Investment & Asset Management), University College Cork (Grade 1:1) — **Sep 2023 – Sep 2024**

Modules: Financial Modeling & Valuation, Corporate Finance, Fixed Income, Derivatives for Risk Management, Excel, Tableau

BEng. (Computer), Mumbai University, Mumbai, India (Grade 1:1) — **Sep 2023 – Sep 2024**

Modules: Python, SQL, Data Visualization, Statistics, Machine Learning, Quantitative Analysis, Data Analytics, Power BI

Certification

CFA L1 Passed (Feb 2025)
CFA Institute

Financial Modeling (Feb 2025)
CFA Institute

Fundamentals of Equity Valuation (2023)
Careers 365

Projects

Optimal Portfolio Creation and Montecarlo Simulation — **Jan 2025 – Mar 2025**

- Utilized Excel and Python to create an optimal portfolio from a given set of asset classes.
- Plotted the efficient frontier to visualize the risk-return trade-off.
- Determined optimal asset allocation to maximize portfolio performance by calculating the Maximum Sharpe Ratio.
- Conducted Monte Carlo simulations, generating 1000 optimal portfolios to assess best, base, and worst-case scenarios.

Risk Management Failure: Lessons from Amaranth's Collapse — **Jan 2024 – Apr 2024**

- Conducted an in-depth case study on the collapse of Amaranth Advisors LLC due to risky natural gas futures trading.
- Analyzed the timeline of events, trading strategies, and market dynamics leading to the collapse.
- Evaluated the risk management framework, identifying key factors such as lack of diversification and inadequate risk monitoring.
- Provided recommendations for improving risk management practices and enhancing transparency within financial institutions.

Projects

ETF Momentum Strategy with Automated Risk & Performance Analytics **Oct 2024 – Dec 2024**

- Designed a systematic ETF rotation strategy using Python, selecting top ETFs monthly based on momentum and volatility factors.
- Collected and stored historical price in a relational SQL database optimizing for efficient data retrieval and processing.
- Performed comprehensive risk-adjusted performance analysis including Sharpe Ratio, Maximum Drawdown, and Value at Risk (VaR) using QuantStats and Pyfolio.
- Built an automated data pipeline to clean, update, and backtest strategy performance, with monthly rebalancing logic.
- Developed a reporting engine to generate interactive dashboards (Streamlit) and PDF reports summarizing portfolio performance, positioning, and risk metrics.
- Emulated asset management workflows including portfolio monitoring, data automation, and risk-report generation, closely aligning with UCITS fund processes.

Interests and Achievements

- Awarded College of Business and Law Merit Scholarship and CFA Merit Scholarship by University College Cork.
- Coordinated and executed 2 inter-collegiate events as Secretary of Computer Society of India, Mumbai Chapter.
- Earned runner-up position in the CFA Challenge while representing UCC, selected from a cohort of 65 students.
- Passionate about trading, acquired essential life skills like discipline, patience, risk management, and decision-making.
- Football enthusiast, Golden Glove winner in a District-Level Football tournament.
- Dedicated to analyzing geopolitical events, understanding their impact on global financial markets.