

Daniel Nguyen

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

MSc Financial Economics graduate from the University of Exeter with expertise in financial due diligence, valuation, and data governance. Skilled in leveraging quantitative tools including Python, R, and Power BI to transform complex datasets into actionable insights that drive business decisions. Proven problem-solver with strong strategic communication abilities, demonstrated by a Top 15 placement in the VOIZ Climate Simulation Challenge and contributions to an award-winning sustainability consulting project. Seeking to apply analytical and consulting expertise to deliver measurable impact in finance, risk, or data-driven roles.

EDUCATION

MSc Financial Economics, University of Exeter, United Kingdom

September 2024 – September 2025

- **Degree classification (GPA):** 2:1 (upper second-class honours)
- **Key Modules:** Applied Econometric I (64%), Applied Econometric II (63%), Experimental and Behavioural Economics (83%), Economics of Corporate Finance (70%) and Topics in Financial Economics (60%).
- **Key Achievement:**
 - ⇒ **Exeter Award:** Earned the Exeter Award through active participation in workshops, society initiatives like fertilising soil with coffee grounds, and community projects, showcasing strong teamwork, leadership, and professional skills that enhanced employability and personal growth.
 - ⇒ **Green Consultants Project:** Collaborated as part of a four-member team, supported by a doctoral researcher, to align academic modules with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Designed a curriculum-mapping framework that was formally recognized with a £100 award for its practical value to the HASS Faculty. [\[Read more in the University's blog\]](#)
 - ⇒ **VOIZ Climate Simulation Challenge:** Ranked Top 15 out of 164 teams from 39 UK universities in VOIZ Academy's national climate case challenge, demonstrating analytical thinking, and effective teamwork under real-world conditions.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Transaction Advisory Analyst, Grant Thornton, Vietnam

November 2022 – July 2024

- **Financial Due Diligence:** Performed detailed reviews of trial balances, general ledgers, and supporting financial statements across 8 M&A transactions (£500k–£8m), identifying and adjusting non-recurring items, misclassified expenses, unusual/suspicious and related-party transactions to establish normalized earnings and support accurate valuation models. Notably uncovered £420k EBITDA adjustment for an FMCG client, which strengthened the buyer's position in negotiations and drove a more favourable purchase price.
- **Risk and Contract Assessment:** Reviewed and analysed hundreds of customers, suppliers, loans, and leases agreements across multiple FDD engagements, identifying risks such as termination clauses, covenant breaches, take-or-pay commitments, and FX exposure. Notable findings included ~£500k of unrecorded liabilities in a Vietnamese manufacturing target (e.g., £180k take-or-pay penalty, £250k lease termination risk, £65k restoration obligation) and a \$1m contingent liability from a cloud services auto-renewal clause. These findings resulted in a 5% enterprise value reduction, enabled buyers to secure SPA indemnities and renegotiated terms, and ensured critical risks were escalated and mitigated pre-deal.
- **Commercial and Revenue Analysis:** Conducted detailed revenue breakdowns by product and service line, mapped client contracts to expiry dates, and assessed sales concentration, growth trends, and margin variances. Identified a 15% revenue dependency on a single contract expiring within 9 months and flagged inflated related-party sales margins (20% above market) through benchmarking and comparative analysis. Reviewed shared services and management fee allocations, uncovering mischarges unrelated to actual services. These findings supported the buyer in negotiating a purchase price reduction and implementing post-acquisition cost-sharing protections, materially reducing acquisition risk.
- **Valuation and Reporting:** Contributed to DCF modelling and comparable company analyses by preparing supporting schedules (e.g., Operational Schedules and Capital Schedules), benchmarked target performance against sector peers; and synthesised results into exhibits, charts, and working papers presented to clients and partner
- **Client Engagement and Management:** Administered the Virtual Data Room (VDR) and Q&A process, coordinating with senior team members to deliver timely, accurate responses to client and counterparty queries; streamlined updates and communication workflows to ensure issues were resolved quickly and the due diligence process stayed on schedule.
- **Market Research:** Contributed the renewable energy sector section of the Doing Business in Vietnam 2024 guide, evaluating tariff regimes, project financing structures, M&A landscape, and regulatory risks. Findings were incorporated into the guide's insights, supporting investment feasibility assessments for international clients.

Technology Consultant, KPMG, Vietnam

April 2021 – June 2022

- **Risk Testing:** Conducted Tests of Design (ToD) and Tests of Controls (ToC) on IT systems covering access management, change management, and backup processes across multiple engagements. Identified control gaps and recommended remediation, providing reliable evidence of IT-dependent controls that allowed external financial auditors to place reliance on system-generated data and streamline audit procedures.
- **Data Integrity & Documentation:** Performed data integrity testing on key financial applications, including three-way match reconciliations using SQL and Excel, to validate the reliability of financial data and support timely completion of statutory audits. Updated and organised process documentation from prior engagements, creating a structured reference library in accordance with department's policy that improved knowledge sharing, staff onboarding, and departmental training.
- **Compliance and Control Testing:** Assessed privileged access rights and application security configurations during system reviews to ensure SOX compliance. Identified and facilitated the remediation of five high-priority access vulnerabilities, strengthening clients' compliance posture and enhancing the overall control environment.
- **Project Management:** Contributed to a £3.4m data governance transformation programme, supporting KPMG Lighthouse experts and client teams in aligning data strategy with ISO 27001 and GDPR standards. Assisted with stakeholder communications by preparing presentations, Q&A logs, and progress reports, and processed project documentation for KPMG experts, helping ensure milestones were delivered on time, within budget, and in line with regulatory requirements.

DATA ANALYTICS & RESEARCH PROJECTS

BI Analytics Project – Olist's E-Commerce Platform (Brazil)

October 2025 – October 2025

Tools used: Power BI, Python, MySQL and GitHub

[Project's URL](#)

- **Objective:** Conducted a comprehensive Business Intelligence analysis of Olist's e-commerce dataset (100,000+ orders, 2016–2018) to deliver actionable insights for improving sales, customer retention, and marketplace competitiveness.
- **Methodology & Scope:** Utilized **Power BI**, Python, and MySQL to analyse 12 relational tables and develop interactive dashboards for insights across operational performance, logistics, customer reviews, and lead conversion.
- **Results:**
 - ⇒ Identified 55% revenue concentration in three product categories and a 93.6% one-time buyer rate, recommending loyalty programmes and category diversification to increase customer lifetime value by 10–15%.
 - ⇒ Uncovered critical operational bottlenecks, including 2.8-day seller-to-carrier delays and regional delivery disparities; proposed a dual logistics strategy — centralised fulfilment hubs for high-volume regions (e.g. São Paulo) and decentralized partnerships for low-volume areas along with ML-driven predictive models to reduce fulfilment variance.

Analytical Research Project – MSc Dissertation, University of Exeter

July 2025 – September 2025

Tools used: R Studio, Microsoft Words and GitHub

[Project's URL](#)

- **Objective:** Investigated the dynamic relationship between airport activity (passenger volumes and freight throughput) and regional economic productivity (GVA per head) across 12 UK ITL1 regions, testing for bidirectional causality to provide evidence-based insights informing the UK's Levelling Up agenda, aviation policy, and regional development strategies.
- **Methodology:** Employed Panel Vector Autoregression (PVAR) and Granger causality tests on a balanced panel dataset (1998–2023, 312 observations) using R Studio, integrating UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) airport data with Office for National Statistics (ONS) regional GVA metrics; analysed impacts while controlling for population density, applying stationarity tests (Im-Pesaran-Shin), logarithmic transformations, and lag selection (AIC/SC) for robust econometric modelling..
- **Result:**
 - ⇒ Confirmed passenger activity Granger-causes productivity with short-term adjustment costs and medium-term gains (lag 2: +0.0183, $p < 0.01$), driven by aircraft movements; freight responds to productivity growth ($Z = 3.382$, $p < 0.01$) but does not cause or drive it.
 - ⇒ Recommended prioritising flight frequency, route diversity, and efficiency in hub regions, while enhancing targeted connectivity in emerging regions to boost productivity.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

F&B Assistant (Agency), Burgh Island Hotel, United Kingdom

June 2025 – July 2025

- **Customer and VIP Service Delivery:** Provided table service to 35+ guests per shift and 5–10 in-room dining orders, achieving a 99% overall order accuracy rate and contributing to strong guest satisfaction.
- **Operational Efficiency:** Prepared 60+ beverages daily and supported setup/close-down procedures, minimising downtime and improving shift readiness.

Catering Assistant (Casual), TWG Group, United Kingdom

December 2024 – April 2025

- **High-Volume Service:** Served 250–300 guests per shift at major venues including Exeter Racecourse and Sandy Park World Cup, maintaining accuracy and speed under pressure.
- **Teamwork and Performance:** Earned a performance bonus for exceptional teamwork while ensuring 100% food safety compliance through setup, restocking, and close-down duties.

F&B Assistant, Mercure Exeter Rougemont Hotel, United Kingdom

November 2024 – January 2025

- **Customer Service:** Delivered service to 150+ guests per shift, consistently meeting service time targets and maintaining 100% compliance with hygiene standards.
- **Collaboration and Reliability:** Coordinated seamlessly with colleagues during peak hours, praised by supervisors for reliability and teamwork that supported uninterrupted service.

COMMUNITY SERVICE & EXTRA CURRICULAR

Volunteer in various Food Action initiatives, United Kingdom

November 2024 – June 2025

- **Community Impact:** Collected and distributed an average of 285 meal portions per month to shelters and vulnerable individuals, addressing food-poverty issues and providing essential nutrition to the low-income community.
- **Logistics and Fair Distribution:** Managed food inventory, maintained accurate records, and prioritised distribution based on community needs, ensuring fair and needs-based meal distribution to shelters.
- **Event Support and Recognition:** Assisted in charity event logistics, including venue setup and table preparation, creating welcoming environments that enhanced donor and guest experiences. Recognised as Top Volunteer at Food Action Exeter in Q4 2024 for exceptional contributions and dedication.

Media & Events Assistant, CFA Community of Vietnam, Vietnam

February 2022 – July 2024

- **Event Delivery:** Assisted in organising 2 flagship events (Forecast Dinner, Charter Award Ceremony) with 100+ attendees, ensuring seamless execution and professional delivery.
- **Data-Driven Engagement:** Designed and analysed post-event surveys, improving topic relevance and driving a 7% increase in member engagement on the CFA Vietnam community page.
- **Content Management:** Managed digital communications, ensuring alignment with CFA standards and guideline.