Shawn Brar
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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Finance-focused graduate student specializing in quantitative analysis, financial modeling, and data-driven decision support, pursuing roles in investment, risk, or strategy. Skilled in applying statistical modeling, predictive analytics, and economic reasoning to evaluate markets, forecast performance, and support capital allocation decisions. Experienced in transforming complex financial and operational data into actionable insights that improve efficiency and strategic outcomes.

WORK EXPERIENCE

180Degrees Consulting - Hempstead, NY | ***Consulting*** **September 2022 - May 2024**

- Conducted strategic research and analysis as part of a consulting team, including a project with the Hofstra Law School Dean's Office that involved evaluating organizational needs and presenting actionable recommendations.

EDUCATION

Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY | M.S in Data Science | Dec 2025 | GPA: 4.00
Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY | B.A in Mathematical Economics, Minors in Comp Sci & Engg | May 2024 | GPA: 3.40
CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) Level 1 Candidate | Exam Date: February 2026

CAPSTONE PROJECT

AI-Driven Investment Strategies: Machine Learning Application in Asset Allocation & Risk Management
MS Data Science Capstone With Prof. Corey Elowsky, Hofstra University

- Designed a predictive model combining portfolio theory and machine learning to optimize asset allocation in equities
- Engineered features from macroeconomic, sentiment, and price data sources
- Applied advanced models, including RNNs, LSTMs, XGBoost, Prophet, and GARCH, to forecast financial time series
- Implemented quadratic programming to maximize risk-adjusted returns through dynamic asset weighting and Sharpe Ratio Optimization

PROJECTS

Machine Learning Evaluation for UFC Fight Outcomes & Healthcare Diagnostics

- Developed and tuned various ML models (SVM, KNN, etc) across binary and multiclass classification tasks
- Engineered vectors and patient features with application of feature scaling & 5-fold cross-validation
- Achieved 67.3% accuracy in UFC predictions with Random Forest & identified ML model limitations in the healthcare dataset due to feature quality and class imbalances

Evaluating the Impact of Effective Federal Funds Rate Changes on Sectoral Stock Market Performance

- Implemented machine learning models to forecast sectoral stock responses to interest rate changes, providing insights into the impact of economic policy on market dynamics

Financial Dashboard Development for GRAB Holdings (2019-2024)

- Built a Tableau dashboard visualizing GRAB's Income Statement, Balance Sheet, & Cash Flow trends using multi-year financial data
- Analyzed changes in revenue, EBITDA, operating margin, and FcF to gain insights into profitability

SKILLS/CERTIFICATIONS & INTERESTS

Individual Investor: Managing a personal portfolio that outperforms major indices by leveraging technical and macroeconomic analysis, with a focus on growth equities, sector rotation, and options strategies
Other Interests: Weightlifting, Golf, long-distance running/biking, & managing a finance-focused X profile analyzing markets and macroeconomic trends
Programming & Analytics: Python, R, SQL, HTML5 & CSS3, Java, STATA, MatLab, Selenium
DS Libraries / Databases: Pandas, NumPy, Scikit-learn, Seaborn, Statsmodels, OrientDB, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, AWS
Tools & Visualizations: Excel, Tableau, Jupyter Notebooks, Google Colab, Trello, Jira
Certifications: IBM DS Professional, CFI: FMVA, PWC US Audit, Microsoft: Excel Associate, Mosh: HTML5 & CSS3