

# Blair Jones

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## SUMMARY

Data Science student and Asset-Based lending expert with over seven years of management experience. Returned to university studies to support a career pivot. Graduated from CU Boulder with a Master's of Science in Applied Mathematics in December 2025 with an emphasis on statistics and data science. Years of real-world experience in business analysis are enhanced with cutting-edge mathematical and technological skills.

## PROJECTS

### Analysis of Maritime Costs, Delays and Tariffs | *Python*

2025

- Analyzed 500K+ Bills of Lading records from international maritime shipments for full prediction and tariff-impact analysis, first building an end-to-end data pipeline including regex-based text extraction, SentenceTransformer embeddings, fuzzy matching for entities consolidation and port clustering using KMeans.
- Built attention-based neural network to predict costs, achieving  $R^2$  of 87.5% and outperforming Random Forest and XGBoost baselines. Included 8-dimensional learned embeddings for high-cardinality features (routes, suppliers, carriers), which improved neural network performance over one-hot encoding approaches.
- Engineered 25+ features including port information, temporal patterns, supplier country indicators, and container weight distributions for ML pipelines.
- Analyzed 2025 tariff impacts using Chi-Squared and Mann-Whitney U tests, bootstrapped confidence intervals, and negative binomial regression (used for overdispersed data) finding evidence that geographic changes occurred post tariff events.

### IMDb Data Analysis | *Python, SQL, R, TMDB API*

2024 - 2025

- Queried large non-commercial IMDb datasets in Oracle SQL to clean and transform for analysis and implemented *The Movie Database* API to join additional quantitative and qualitative information.
- Predicted box office revenue and ratings using GAMLSS to account for skewed distributions. Used additional information like top actors, directors and production companies, as well as interactions, as features.
- Built multi-label CNN and Vision Transformer models from scratch to classify genres from 10K movie posters using weighted BCE loss and data augmentation via rotation, color jitter and perspective transforms.

## EXPERIENCE

### Tutor

2025 – Present

*Community College of Denver*

*Denver, CO*

- Tutored adult learners returning for a high-school diploma, focusing on rebuilding foundational algebra and numeracy skills after time away from school.
- Worked one-on-one with Calculus and Statistics college students, focusing on intuition above memorization.

### Field Exam Manager

2016 – 2023

*Wells Fargo Capital Finance*

*Santa Monica, CA and Denver, CO*

- Supervised a team of examiners, both new hires and seniors, performing asset-based lending exams on borrowers with lines of credit up to \$1.7Bn. Prepared training plans tailored to individual strengths and areas needing improvement.

- Worked closely with examiners on troubled accounts with significant Bank collateral exposure (\$100MM+) due to ineligible collateral included in borrowing bases. Ran point on meetings with examiners, portfolio and credit teams, discussing implications of findings. Efforts allowed Bank to manage collateral without write-downs.
- Tasked with preparing departmental budgets using data-driven analysis. Developed models for assessing regional personnel needs based on historical exam days and locations. Analysis was used for hiring decisions and presentations to senior management.
- Developed scheduling tool that combined examiner location with skill-set to return best matches. Critically important during the Covid-19 crisis in which travel was restricted. The tool used VBA code and allowed for a straight-forward input and output, allowing users across many teams to successfully incorporate into their job function.
- Represented the field exam team on technological development projects, including revitalizing customer reporting and internal loan tracking. Worked with developers and programmers on business requirements.

### **Field Examiner**

2006 – 2016

*Wells Fargo Capital Finance*

*Santa Monica, CA*

- Assessed borrowers' financial records and controls and worked closely with borrowers' management to ensure the proper implementation of collateral control procedures. Acted as a liaison between Wells Fargo and borrower.
- Identified significant Bank collateral exposure (\$100MM+) through audit testing and client interviews. Exam findings allowed the portfolio and credit teams to take steps to protect Bank assets before issues became untenable.
- Developed efficiency with extensive use of Microsoft Excel, including vLookup, Pivot tables, and macros via Visual Basic, and report data mining software (Monarch) for assigned exams as well as for teammate support.
- Assisted with the training of new hires and tasked with cross-training of personnel from other departments. Reviewed draft reports of colleagues, providing comments on exam findings and constructive criticism.

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### **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

**Languages:** Python, R, SQL, Scala, Microsoft Visual Basic for Excel

**Developer Tools:** Visual Studio, Jupyter, GitHub, Apache Spark

**Libraries:** Pytorch, pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib, Scikit-learn, tidyverse

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### **EDUCATION**

#### **University of Colorado, Boulder**

2024 – 2025

*Master's of Science in Applied Mathematics*

*Boulder, CO*

Classes include Mathematical Statistics, Statistical Methods, Deep Learning, Statistical (Machine) Learning, Time Series Analysis, Big Data Tools

#### **University of Colorado, Denver / Front Range Community College**

2023 – 2024

*Non Degree Seeking Student*

*Denver / Westminster, CO*

Completed coursework prior to starting Master's program. Classes include Calculus series, Linear Algebra, Differential Equations, Discrete Math, SQL, Computer Science (Python, C++)

#### **University of Southern California**

2006

*Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration, emphasis in Corporate Finance*

*Los Angeles, CA*