Bennett Preston

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SKILLS

Programming languages: MySQL, Python (Pandas, NumPy, SciPy, Seaborn, Matplotlib)
BI and Visualization Tools: Tableau, MS Excel (Pivot Table, VLOOKUP, VBA)

EDUCATION

University of Connecticut Storrs, CT
Bachelor's of Arts in Economics *May 2024*

Relevant Coursework: Microeconomics I & II; Macroeconomics; Calculus for Business and Economics; R in Finance; Managerial and Financial Accounting; Statistics; Financial Economics; Financial Econometrics; Python in Finance

University of Texas, McCombs School of Business Remote
Online Post Graduate Certification in Data Science and Business Analytics *February 2025*

Relevant Coursework: Multivariate Data Analysis; Bayesian Time Series Analysis; Regression & Predictive Modeling; Advanced Probability Theory

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS PROJECTS

Analyzing Amazon Options Behavior Around Earnings [SQL | Python | Tableau] *October 2024*
- Scraped minute-level option chain data for AMZN using Polygon.io API; cleaned, aggregated, and filtered over 1M datapoints across FY 2024
- Built a Tableau dashboard to visualize IV crush patterns, IV skew by strike, and quarterly earnings impact on options pricing
- Quantified a repeatable 26% IV expansion before earnings and 24% IV crush after earnings, enabling strategic timing for volatility-based trades

Dynamic Asset Allocation Strategy Optimization using Machine Learning [Python] *March 2025*
- Built a dynamic asset allocation strategy using machine learning to detect shifts in market sentiment (Risk-On, Transition, Risk-Off) by analyzing gold and bond price relationships
- Automated allocation across SPY, TLT, and gold based on detected regimes achieving a Sortino ratio of 1.11, outperforming SPY's 0.85 Sortino ratio on a risk adjusted basis
- Reduced max drawdown from -54.77% (SPY benchmark) to -23.22% while maintaining a competitive CAGR of 8.94%, demonstrating robust downside protection and regime adaptability

Turkish Lira Geopolitical Risk & Stress Testing [Python | Excel] *January 2025*
- Developed a Monte Carlo-based stress-testing framework to assess Turkish Lira depreciation under geopolitical shocks and refugee inflow scenarios
- Simulated moderate to severe stress levels, with high-severity forecasts accurately mirroring TRY market disruptions driven by the Syrian civil war and regional instability
- Designed actionable hedging strategies (forward contracts, currency options, safe-haven reallocations) to mitigate geopolitical-driven volatility and protect portfolio value

WORK EXPERIENCE

Algorithmic Trading Intern Remote
FinSentinal *February 2025 - Present*
- Developed, built, and deployed a fully automated live trading system for XAU/USD integrating macroeconomic sentiment and technical indicators using Python and IBKR API to achieve a 12.1% monthly return
- Engineered real-time performance tracking and logging infrastructure (equity, drawdown, slippage, latency) with automated alerts for key risk events and an interactive dashboard for visual monitoring of live performance

Secretary Storrs, CT
Economics Society, University of Connecticut *October 2022 – December 2023*
- Organized 10+ professional events, boosting attendance by 15% YoY and expanding industry networking opportunities
- Trained/supervised a team of 10+ employees, maintaining a 98% on-time setup rate and fostering a customer-first culture

CERTIFICATIONS

- Securities Industry Essentials (SIE), *expected May 2025*
- Tableau Desktop Specialist
- CFI Financial Modeling & Valuation Analyst