Bennett Preston

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TECHINAL SKILLS

Programming languages: MySQL, Python, MATLAB, STATA, R

BI and Visualization Tools: Tableau, MS Excel, PowerBI, MS PowerPoint

EDUCATION

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

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

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

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS PROJECTS

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 by analyzing gold and bond price relationships
- Automated allocation across SPY, TLT, and gold based on detected regimes achieving a Sharpe Ratio 32% better than SPY benchmark (buy&hold) over 20 years of data
- Reduced max drawdown by 57% while maintaining a competitive CAGR of 8.94%, demonstrating robust downside protection and regime adaptability

Analyzing Amazon Options Behavior Around Earnings | *Python, SQL, Excel, Tableau* — *January 2025*

- Scraped minute-level option chain data for AMZN using Polygon.io REST API; cleaned, aggregated, and filtered over 1M rows across FY 2024
- Built a Tableau dashboard to visualize IV crush patterns, IV skew by strike price, 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

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

CERTIFICATIONS

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