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