

Yifang Zhang

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Master of Science in Business Analytics	Gies Business School GPA: /	Champaign, IL June 2024
University of British Columbia Bachelor of Arts in Economics	GPA: 3.5	Vancouver, Canada June 2023

EXPERIENCE

Vanho Securities, Henan Branch Assistant Analyst	Zhengzhou, China June 2022-August 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enhanced data collection processes by integrating diverse sources such as official websites and financial databasesDeveloped comprehensive financial models that accurately forecasted target companies' performance, informing investment decisionsContributed to a pivotal research report that shaped the company's investment strategy in the intelligent driving and laser radar sectors	
Henan JiaFang Industry Co., Ltd, Financial Analysis Assistant	Zhengzhou, China December 2021- February 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leveraged ERP and Business Intelligence (BI) systems to streamline data collection on critical financial metrics, enhancing data accuracy and reporting efficiencyProcessed and analyzed key financial indicators using Excel, leading to the identification of optimization opportunities that improved financial performancePlayed a key role in the preparation of the annual financial budget, aligning it with strategic goals for cost management and revenue growth	
Henan Houshi Private Fund Management Co., Ltd Assistant of Transaction Operation Department	Zhengzhou, China May 2020-September 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Improved stock data analysis system maintenance, enhancing data accuracy and accessibility for the investment teamDrew up business requirements and converted them into development requirements for software developersApplied advanced data analysis using Python to derive actionable insights, assisting in the identification of high-potential investments	

RESEARCH&PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Caterpillar Project: Freight Forecast Accuracy Reporting	January 2024-Now
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Created a comprehensive suite of forecast accuracy visuals, enabling weight or cost analysis, comparisons of different forecast runs against actuals, and tracking accuracy over time to assess improvement or degradation.Enhanced forecast accuracy through detailed analysis and reporting, leading to improved decision-making, support for root cause analysis	
Predictive Modeling for Property Valuation at Cook County Assessor's Office (CCAO)	Dec 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Led the creation of a predictive valuation model using Lasso regression on a dataset of 50,000 historical property sales to assess 10,000 residential properties in Cook County, IL, significantly improving valuation accuracy by optimizing model complexity and performance.The initiative directly influenced the Cook County Assessor's Office's valuation processes, leading to more equitable property tax estimations, evidenced by a substantial reduction in Mean Squared Error and setting a precedent for transparency and fairness in property assessments.	
Effect of Tourism Demand on Income in Canada	December 2022-May 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Conducted a comprehensive analysis using Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression to evaluate the impact of tourism demand on various income categories across Canada, integrating GDP and job demand as control variables to enhance the robustness of findingsEmployed both logarithmic and linear models to dissect the nuanced relationship between tourism and income, contributing to economic policy discussions by providing evidence of significant correlations	
Automotive Fuel Efficiency Analysis using R	January 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Spearheaded a comprehensive analysis on automotive fuel efficiency using multiple linear regression, including diagnostic plotting and correlation analysis to identify critical efficiency predictors, resulting in a strategic recommendation for nonlinear regression methods to enhance prediction accuracy.	

LEADERSHIP&ACTIVITIES

Community Volunteer at Zhengzhou City	July 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Collecting, counting supplies and arranging transportation	
Volunteer of the Stray Animal Rescue Campaign	August 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Publicize the event on WeChat and Weibo platforms, raise funds for the event and vet adopter information	
Teaching Assistantship of Middle School Students	May 2020-July 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maded a teaching plan and designed teaching methods independently	

SKILLS

- Technical: Python, R, Tableau, Excel, SQL, Microsoft, Wolfram Mathematica, AWS, Hadoop, Hive, GCP
- Language: Chinese, English, Cantonese