

Using Python and Azure Cloud for trading and investing

Joris Poelmans | @jopxtwits
2022-11-19



CLOUDBREW

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About me

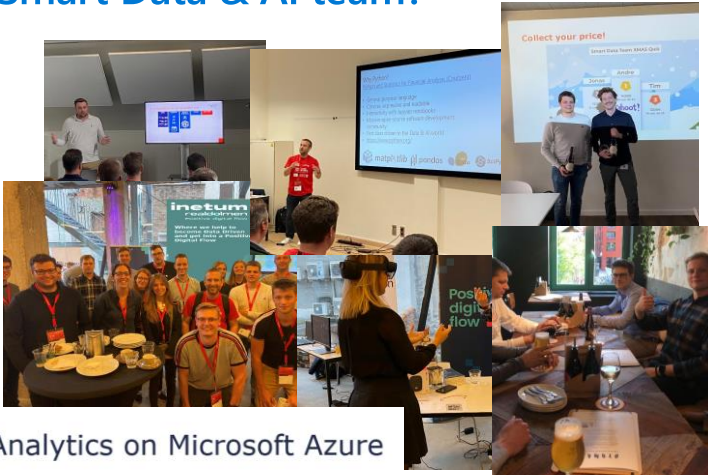


- Solution architect Microsoft Business Applications @Inetum – Realdolmen
- Blogs:
 - <https://jopx.blogspot.com>
 - <https://jopxfin.blogspot.com>
- Twitter: @jopxtwits
- Started investing before the dotcom bubble
- Got bored during Covid and started with Python

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Want to join the Inetum Realdolmen Smart Data & AI team?



Analytics on Microsoft Azure



- **An experienced team of +40 Data experts with following competences:**
- Data platforms (Azure, Snowflake, AWS)
- Business Intelligence (Power BI)
- Data science (Python, R)
- Artificial Intelligence (Machine & Deep Learning)
- Master Data Management

Talk to our Senior Solution Manager Data & AI → Scan this



The fine print

The information in this presentation represents an opinion and is for information purposes only. It is not intended to be investment advice. Seek a duly licensed professional for investment advice.

Objective

- Gets you excited about investing/trading and data
- See how Python and Azure can help you make better investment/trading decisions

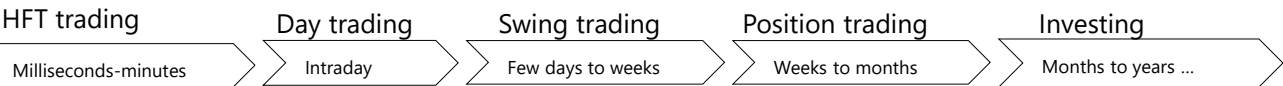
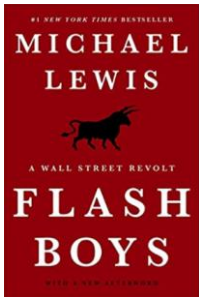


What are we not covering?

- Crypto currencies, bonds, forex, derivative contracts (futures/options)
- Non-financial assets (real estate, P2P lending, luxury goods,...)
- Deep dive technical stuff

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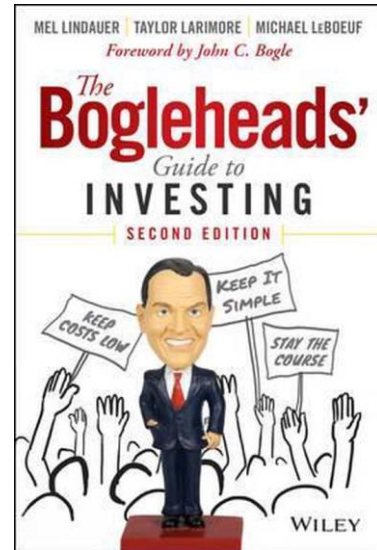
Trading vs investing



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Merits of passive investing

- EMH: Share prices reflect all information and consistently beating the market (adjusted for risk) is impossible (Fama and Samuelson, 1960)⁽¹⁾
- Over a 10-year period – 83% of actively managed European Equity funds failed to beat the market <https://bit.ly/3qZZo05>
- Choose passive investing
- Bogleheads investment philosophy <https://bit.ly/3LBWMz9>



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Do you believe that you can beat the market?

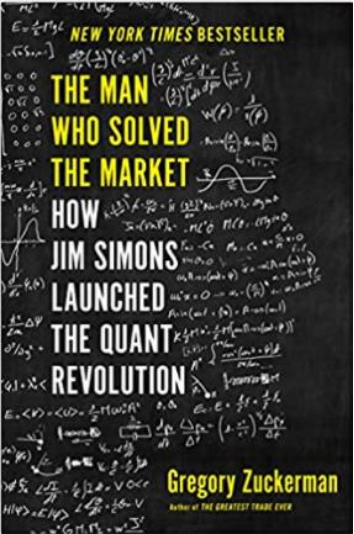
- [Day Trading for a Living? by Fernando Chague, Rodrigo De-Losso, Bruno Giovannetti : SSRN, \(June, 2020\)](#) - 97% lost money
- [The cross-section of speculator skill: Evidence from day trading \(2013\)](#) – only 1% consistently beats the market
- Every game has different rules – know who you compete with



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Data first approach towards trading

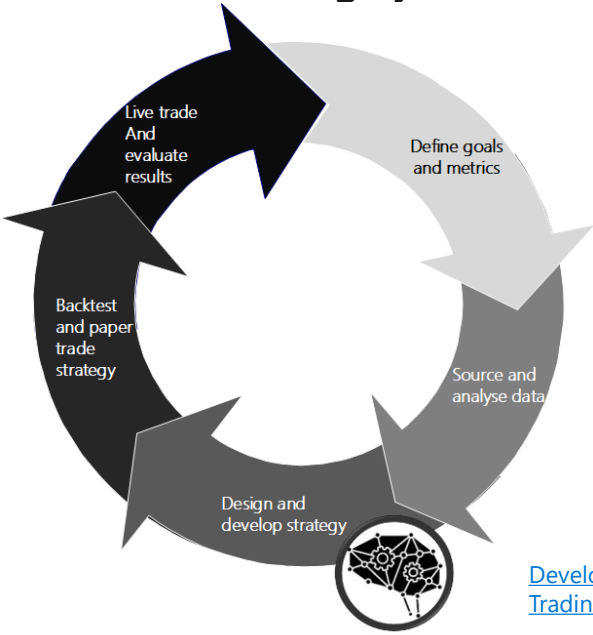
- RenTech – 66% average yearly return since 1988
- “There’s no data like more data”(*)
- Quantitative or algorithmic trading
- Only 1 AI driven Belgian investment fund on the market - <https://bit.ly/3mnLWAq>



<https://twitter.com/TrungTPhan/status/1424399014204637186?s=20>

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Quantitative trading system development process



- Non-linear process
- Extract signals to generate alpha
- Avoid investor bias and mistakes
- Risk vs return
- Back-testing framework

[Development Process | Learning Path: Hands-On Algorithmic Trading with Python \(oreilly.com\)](#)

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Why Python?

- General purpose language
- Concise, expressive and readable
- Interactivity with Jupyter notebooks
- Massive open-source software development community
- First class citizen in the Data & AI world
- <https://www.python.org/>



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PYTHON

NumPy, SciPy, Pandas, Scikit-learn, Jupyter /
IPython, Numba, Matplotlib, Spyder, Numexpr,
Cython, Theano, Scikit-image, NLTK, NetworkX and
150+ packages

conda

- Popular Python distro (150+ packages for data science)
- 25 M+ users
- Open-source individual edition - <https://www.anaconda.com/products/individual>
- **conda:** cross platform and language agnostic package and environment manager.
- **Environments:** custom isolated sandboxes with different versions of packages and/or Python
- Conda sheat cheat - <https://bit.ly/3liHtzU>
- Pip and Conda

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Visual Studio Code Python extension

- Available in the extension marketplace
- Works on any OS
- Requires Python 3
- Features:
 - Syntax coloring
 - Code completion
 - Linting
 - Debugging
 - Code navigation
 - Code formatting
 - Jupyter notebook support



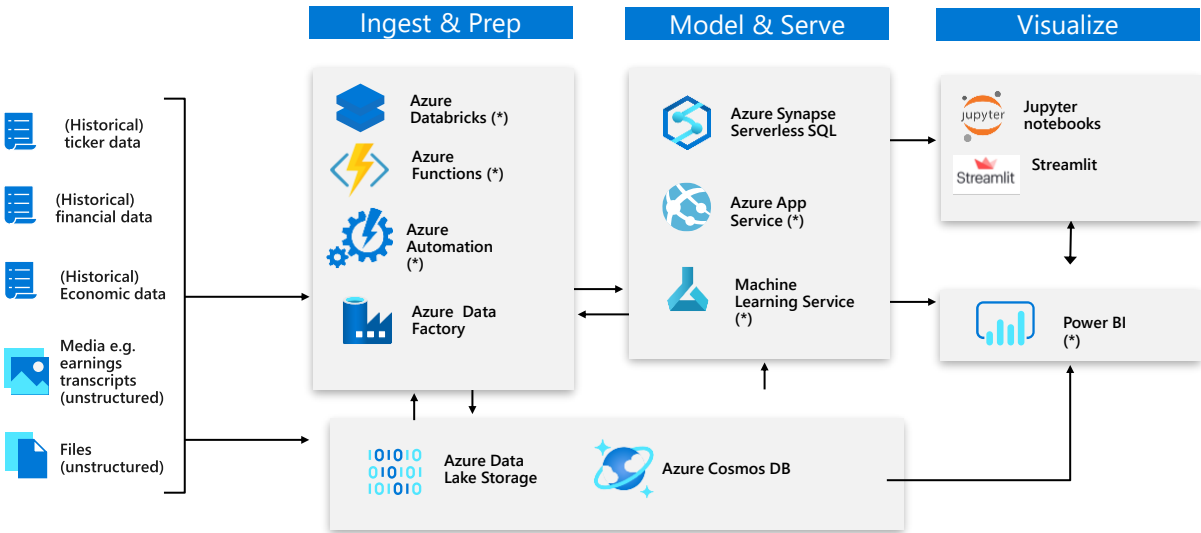
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Demo - Anaconda + Python + VS Code

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Using Azure and Python for trading



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Source and analyze data

Types of data



Market data

- OHLC
- Volume
- Market book



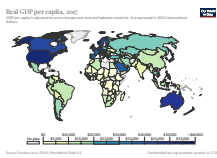
Technical indicators

- Derived from market data – (Exponential) Moving Average, Relative Strength Index, Moving Average Convergence/Div ergence, ...



Company data

- Revenue, debt financing, profit margin
- Ratios: PE, EPS, ...
- Some gotchas to consider



Economic data

- GDP, inflation, interest rates, ...
- Commodities
- Shipping prices
- ...



Alternative data

- Non-traditional sources such as satellite imagery, social media activity, ...
- Most hyped

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Source and analyze data

Where to find the data?

Market data

- yFinance
- Quandl (*)
- Alphavantage
- Your broker

Technical indicators

- Calculate yourself (Python TA-Lib)
- Alphavantage
- yFinance

Company data

- yFinance
- Alphavantage

Economic data

- Quandl
- World Bank
- St. Louis FED (FRED)
- Fama/French dataset

Alternative data

- Quiver
- Quantitative
- Build your own models e.g., NLP on earnings transcripts
- FSMA(**)



Pandas-datareader as wrapper library around multiple sources

Build a web scraper with Python and BeautifulSoup

(*) Quandl recently renamed to Nasdaq Data Link

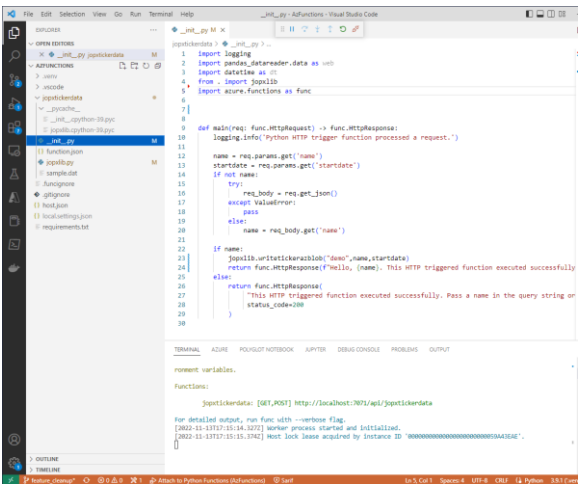
(**) FSMA insider trading list <https://www.fsma.be/en/transaction-search>

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Azure Functions and Python



- Event-based, **serverless** compute to accelerate app development at low cost.
- Supports Python 3.7, 3.8 and 3.9
- Trigger Python code using multiple built-in triggers and bindings
- Great developer experience with VS Code
- Real-time monitoring with Azure Applications Insights



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Demo - Python and Azure Functions

<http://bit.ly/3O9AQwK>

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Azure Synapse

Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning / Internet of Things
Intelligent Apps / Business Intelligence

Synapse Analytics Studio

Experience

Platform

MANAGEMENT

SECURITY

MONITORING

METASTORE


Languages

SQL Python .NET Java Scala R

Form Factors

DEDICATED SERVERLESS

Analytics Runtimes

SQL 

DATA INTEGRATION

Azure Data Lake Storage

Common Data Model
Enterprise Security
Optimized for Analytics

Designed for analytics **workloads at any scale**

SAAS developer experience for code free and code first

Supports **multiple languages**

Dedicated or serverless analytics runtimes

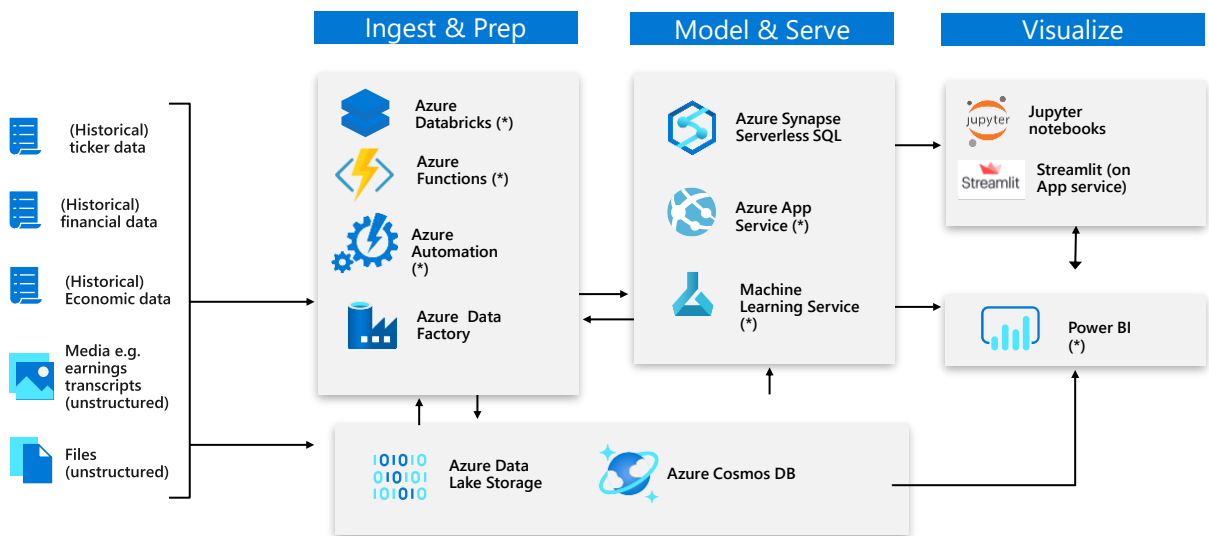
SQL pools offering T-SQL for batch, streaming and interactive processing

Spark pools for big data processing with Python, Scala, R and .NET

Integrated with Azure Data Lake

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Using Azure and Python for trading



(*) Native Python support

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Azure Synapse

Serverless vs dedicated SQL pools

Serverless SQL pools

- Used for data preparation or ad-hoc queries against unstructured data
- Provides an always available SQL endpoint for unplanned workloads
- Enables interactive querying
- Pay per use - 4,48€/TB of data processed.

Dedicated SQL pools

- Used for Data Warehouse operations
- Provides predictable performance
- Reserves processing power for data stored in SQL tables
- Cost known upfront - smallest DW100C (100 DWU) – monthly cost +/- 1.000 EUR

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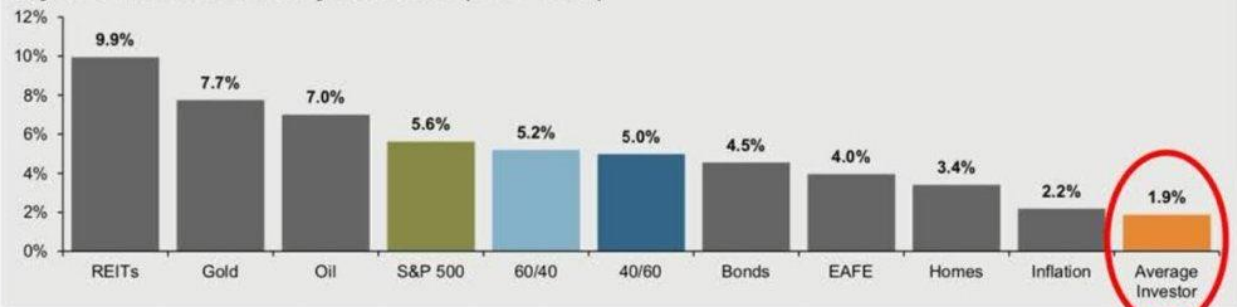
Demo - Explore and analyze the S&P 500 using Azure Synapse Serverless SQL

<http://bit.ly/3O9AQwK>

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Assessing returns

20-year annualized returns by asset class (1999 – 2018)



Source: J.P. Morgan Asset Management; (Top) Barclays, Bloomberg, FactSet, Standard & Poor's; (Bottom) Dalbar Inc.
Indices used are as follows: REITS: NAREIT Equity REIT Index, EAFE: MSCI EAFE, Oil: WTI Index, Bonds: Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index, Homes: median sale price of existing single-family homes, Gold: USD/troy oz., Inflation: CPI, 60/40: A balanced portfolio with 60% invested in S&P 500 Index and 40% invested in high-quality U.S. fixed income, represented by the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Index. The portfolio is rebalanced annually. Average asset allocation investor return is based on an analysis by Dalbar Inc., which utilizes the net of aggregate mutual fund sales, redemptions and exchanges each month as a measure of investor behavior. Returns are annualized (and total return where applicable) and represent the 20-year period ending 12/31/18 to match Dalbar's most recent analysis.
Guide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of March 31, 2019.

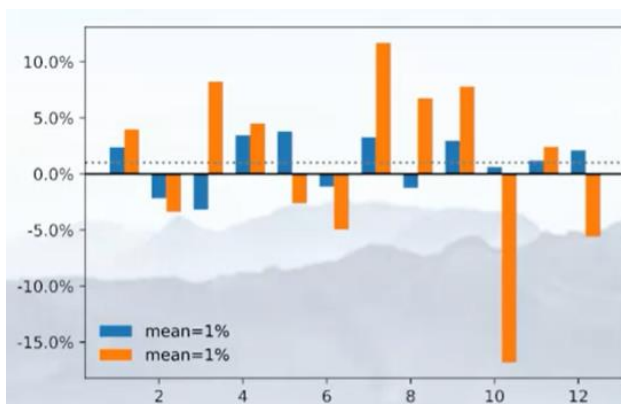
J.P.Morgan
Asset Management

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If you can't sleep at night because of your stock market position, then you have gone too far. If this is the case, then sell your positions down to the sleeping level (Jesse Livermore)

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Risk and return



- Volatility as measure for risk
- Volatility measured by standard deviation
- Different metrics for comparing reward (return) to risk
 - Beta, Sharpe ratio, max drawdown, Sortino ratio, Calmar ratio, sterling ratio, ...

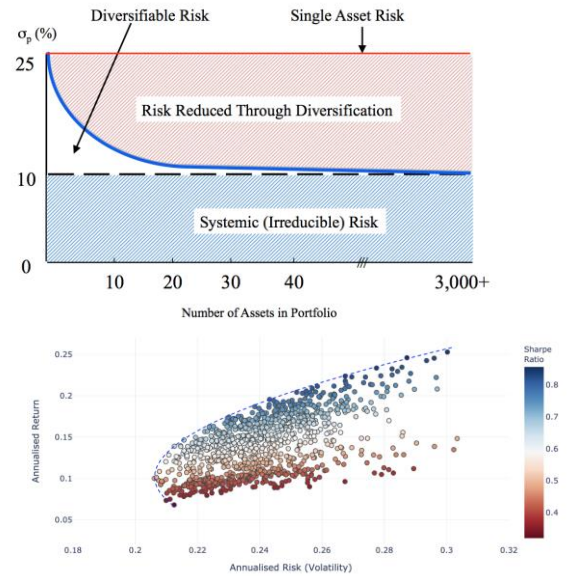
$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x_i - \mu)^2}{N}}$$

Introduction to Portfolio Construction and Analysis with Python(Coursera)
<https://github.com/jorisp/tradingnotebooks/blob/master/riskratios.ipynb>

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Modern Portfolio Theory and diversification

- Harry Markowitz (Nobel Prize 1990) – Journal of Finance 1952- “Portfolio Selection” (5)(6)
- Modern portfolio theory (MPT) is a theory on how risk-averse investors can construct portfolios to maximize **expected return** based on a given level of **market risk**.
- Portfolio diversification allows you to get rid of a portion of risk
- Limits to diversification –during market crashes, covariance will increase



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Demo - Visualizing risk vs return
with Power BI

<https://bit.ly/3EgAnUK>

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Design and develop a strategy

Introduction

- Generating alpha
- Main strategies:
 - Momentum trading – “The trend is your friend (until it ends)
 - Mean reverting trading strategy
- SMA cross-over example

Quant	Momentum (time-series or cross-sectional)	Pair-trading, most types of statistical arbitrage	Advanced models (e.g. HMM, regime switching)	HF Market-making, Cash-futures arbitrage	News-based automated trading
Technical	MA cross-over, Continuation patterns	Swing, Retracement, Pivot trading	Opening range, dual thrusts, patterns	Range-based short gamma (vol selling)	Nothing much here
Fundamental	Factor-based investing	value investing	value/ RV (relative value) strategies	Cross-asset, cross country RV/ short gamma	Usually discretionary
	Trending	Mean-reverting	Break-out	Carry	Event-based

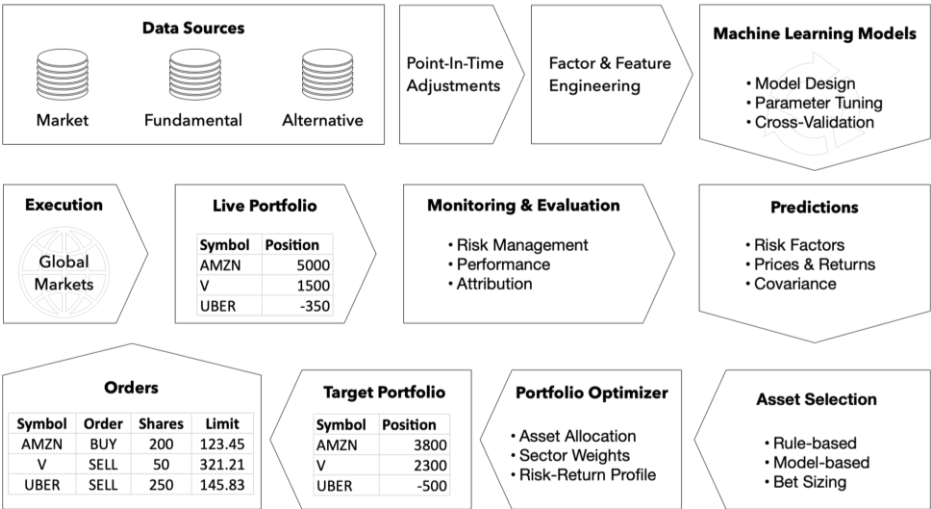
Quantinsti YouTube - <https://bit.ly/3iLo352>



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Applying machine learning to Trading

ML4T workflow



Machine Learning for Algorithmic Trading, Stefan Jansen - <https://github.com/stefan-jansen/machine-learning-for-trading>

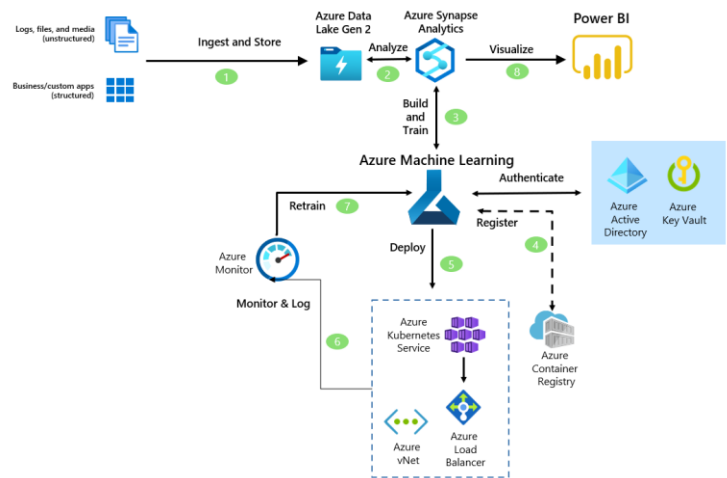
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Design and develop a strategy

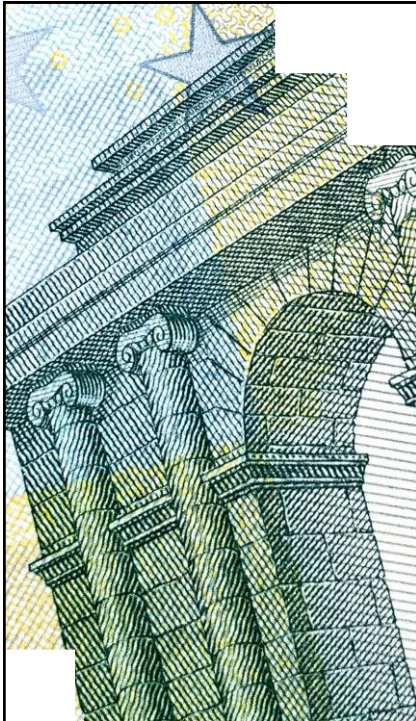
ML approach with Azure Machine Learning

- Managed machine learning service
- Azure services + Python SDK
- Support MLOps with MLFlow
- AutoML

<https://bit.ly/3v64bOX>



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Demo - Trading strategy using
SMA cross-over

<http://bit.ly/3XjSmm6>

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Summary


- Start by building a foundational portfolio of low-cost index ETFs
- Trading and building a trading system is a full-time activity
- No easy way to make money fast
- Python and Jupyter notebooks easy solution to gather/transform/visualize information
- Azure Synapse Serverless SQL rocks !!!
- Use Azure when you need to scale or get started quickly (otherwise work locally)



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<https://www.tijd.be/beursrally.html>



DOE MEE MET DE BELEGGERSWEDSTRIJD VAN DE TIJD EN WIN 10.000 EURO
Powered by 
My money. My choices.


SCHRIJF U IN →

[Al geregistreerd? Direct naar uw portefeuille >](#)

**Virtueel beleggen. Zonder risico.**


Ontvang een **startkapitaal van €50.000** waarmee u via het online Beursrally platform **10 weken lang in real-time** kunt handelen in een **selectie van aandelen** op de beurzen van **Amsterdam, Brussel, Parijs en New York** en in een **gediversifieerde selectie van beleggingsfondsen** die in België worden verhandeld. Het doel? Een zo aantrekkelijk mogelijke meerwaarde realiseren. Omdat uw startkapitaal en orders virtueel zijn, loopt u **geen enkel risico**.

Meer info →

**Leer de beurs kennen.**

Tijdens de wedstrijd staat De Tijd u bij met **live nieuws, verhelderende informatie en analyses** en krijgt u nieuwe inzichten in beleggingstactieken aan de hand van **bijdragen van onze coaches en bekende deelnemers**. Of u nu een **beginnende belegger** bent die zijn **eerste stappen** op de beurs zet, of een **ervaren rot** die **nieuwe strategieën** wilt uitproberen, na uw deelname aan de Beursrally bent u een **betere belegger** die met meer kennis van zaken kan beleggen.

Meer info →

**Win geweldige prijzen.**

De kennis die u wilt dankzij de Beursrally is onbetaalbaar, maar als extra uitdaging worden **aantrekkelijke prijzen** voorzien. Zo wint de winnaar van het algemeen klassement een **beleggersrekening ter waarde van maar liefst 10.000 €**. Daarnaast zijn er eveneens geldprijzen te winnen voor de winnaars van het **fondsenklassement** of de **studentenprijs**. En wekelijks worden **jaarabonnementen op De Tijd en De Belegger** uitgedeeld.

Meer info →

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Resources - Getting started

- Passive Investing
 - Bogleheads investing philosophy <https://bit.ly/3LBWMz9>
 - Are markets efficient? (discussion between Fama and Thaler) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bM9bYOBuKF4>
 - <https://backtest.curvo.eu>
- Active Investing
 - [Beursrally | De beleggerswedstrijd van De Tijd | De Tijd](#) (Start 21/11)
 - <https://spaarvarkens.be/> (NL)
 - Vlaamse Federatie van Beleggers (VFB) - <https://www.vfb.be/> (NL)
 - Chess Capital (NL only) - <https://www.chesscapital.be/start-hier/> (NL)
 - Chess Capital podcast – Alles over waardebeleggen - <https://spoti.fi/301gXmj> (NL)
 - Inside Beleggen Podcast van Trends - <https://spoti.fi/303EPFV> (NL)
 - De Beurs van Tegenwoordig (De Tijd) - <https://spoti.fi/3mA4nly> (NL)
- Python
 - <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/paths/python-first-steps/>
 - <https://aka.ms/python-getting-started>
 - PyCon and [PyVideo.org](https://pyvideo.org)
 - Master the basics of Conda environments in Python - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1VVCd0eSkYc>

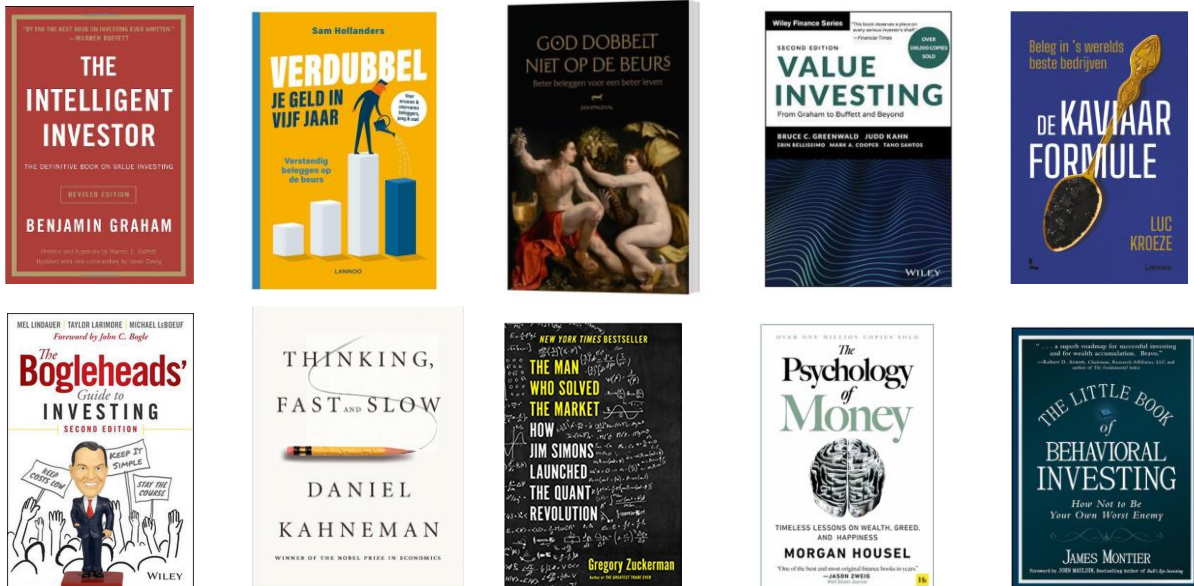
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Resources - Getting started

- Azure Synapse
 - [Realize Integrated Analytical Solutions with Azure Synapse Analytics - Training | Microsoft Learn](#)
 - [Work with Data Warehouses using Azure Synapse Analytics - Training | Microsoft Learn](#)
 - [Perform data engineering with Azure Synapse Apache Spark Pools - Training | Microsoft Learn](#)

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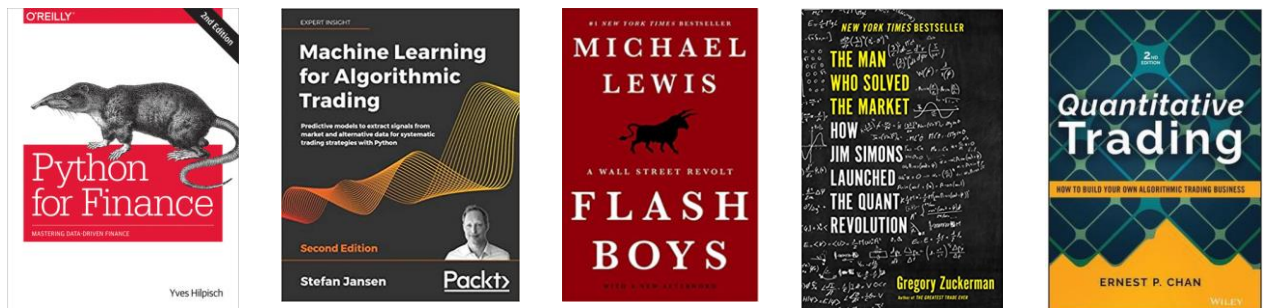
My favorite books on investing



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My favorite books on trading

- Python for Finance, Yves Hilpisch
- Machine Learning for Algorithmic Trading, Stefan Jansen
- Flash Boys, Michael Lewis
- The man who solved the market, Gregory Zuckerman
- Quantitative trading: how to build your own algorithmic trading business (2nd edition), Ernest Chan



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References

1. FSMA Quarterly update Belgian open ended investment funds – June 2022 - <https://bit.ly/3Q2gFzW>
2. NBB Stats - financial assets and liabilities of individuals and non-financial corporations <http://stat.nbb.be/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=FAHHNFC&lang=nl>
3. [Webinar - Retailbeleggers op de beurs | FSMA](#) (June 2021)
4. Efficient Capital Markets: a review of theory and empirical work (Journal of Finance, 1970) - <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2325486>
5. Portfolio selection (Harry Markowitz, 1952) <https://bit.ly/3UC5ce9>
6. Yale Courses (YouTube) - Portfolio diversification and supporting financial institutions https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B_24GUWdSM

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Questions?



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