NICHOLAS LESTA

Skills

- Excel / Excel VBA (XLookup, Conditional Formatting, Pivot Tables)
- Python (pandas, NumPy)

- R (dplyr, tidyr, ggplot2, randomForest, lubridate)
- SQL (aggregation, filtering, modification, retrieval)

Projects

AUTOMATED MONTHLY TARGET REVIEW - Burlington Stores

June 2023

- Spearheaded the development of an automation tool for conducting monthly target reviews
- Leveraged VBA scripting to streamline the process, enabling analysts to effortlessly import and analyze three data sources
- Significantly enhanced efficiency, resulting in a 35% increase in overall productivity

ALLOCATION ERROR CLASSIFICATION TOOL – Burlington Stores

May 2023

- Collaborated closely with my team lead to develop an innovative tool aimed at assisting the allocation error team in efficiently classifying challenging issues
- Employed advanced Excel logic to construct a robust decision-making framework that accurately classified each allocation error
- Empowered the allocation error team to proactively identify and address potential issues, resulting in preemptive resolution for allocation analysts

ADVANCED PARAMETER SIMULATION TOOL - Burlington Stores

January 2023

- Designed and developed an Excel-based simulation tool to replicate our allocation algorithm, providing analysts with a platform to explore and adjust diverse parameters
- Delivered a 60% increase in productivity by significantly reducing the frequency of algorithm runs
- Successfully implemented the tool across the entire department, with over 50 analysts utilizing its capabilities

Work Experience

ALLOCATION ANALYST - Burlington Stores - Burlington, NJ

August 2022 - Present

- Ensure the proper placement of merchandise in stores
- Optimize product mixes through analysis of store inventory levels, demographic information, and other locationspecific data
- Troubleshoot and resolve allocation issues to achieve timely allocation of merchandise
- Work closely with cross-functional teams to drive business results and improve overall performance

INVESTMENT ANALYST - Blue Jean Financial Group - Albany, NY

July 2021 - July 2022

- Evaluated potential investments by analyzing earnings reports and other financial statements
- Interpreted underlying trends in company performance by parsing various data sources
- Assessed economic conditions to determine an appropriate investment strategy
- Performed technical analysis to identify opportunistic entry points
- Communicated investment strategies by reporting to advisors

Education

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ANALYTICS - Georgia Tech

Aug 2026