

AI in Finance: Navigating the Future



APRIL 4, 2025 • ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY

Conference Sponsors:

The Bill Munday School of Business, St. Edward's University;
Department of Finance, Spears School of Business, Oklahoma State University;
Department of Finance & Economics, McCoy College of Business, Texas State University

8:00 - 8:30 AM

REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

WELCOME REMARKS FROM CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

8:30 - 8:45 AM

*Alexis Stokes, Dean, The Bill Munday School of Business,
St. Edward's University*

*Ivilina Popova, Professor of Finance, McCoy College of Business,
Texas State University*

8:45 - 9:45 AM

**PYTHON & AI IN FINANCE:
A 20-YEAR RETROSPECTIVE AND VISION FOR TOMORROW (KEYNOTE)**

Yves Hilpisch, Founder and CEO, The Python Quants, Germany

9:45 - 10:30 AM

**ENHANCING FACTOR-BASED INDEX RETURNS USING PREDICTIVE AI
(PLENARY SESSION)**

Jason Ramchandani, Lead Developer Advocate, LSEG London, UK

10:30 - 10:45 AM

COFFEE BREAK

10:45 - 11:15 AM

THE AI TRANSFORMATION IN BANKING LEADS BACK TO PEOPLE

Hank Seale, CEO, Hapax

11:15 AM - 12:00 PM

SESSION 1: AI IN TRADING & LIQUIDITY

AI-based Trading Strategies

Francisco Salazar, Alumni, The Python Quants, Colombia

Forecasting Cryptocurrency Liquidity with Machine Learning

Emmanuel Alanis, Associate Professor of Finance, Texas State University

12:00 - 1:15 PM

NETWORKING LUNCH (ST. ANDRE MULTIPURPOSE ROOM)

SESSION 2: AI & REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

Synthetic Playgrounds for Reinforcement Learning in Finance

Michael Stutz, MSQFE Graduate Student

Ivilina Popova, Professor, Texas State University

1:15 - 2:05 PM

Building Scalable and Intelligent Financial Software Using AI/ML in Cloud-Native Environments

Akshay Mittal, PhD Candidate, University of the Cumberland

SESSION 3: AI IN RISK & FRAUD ANALYTICS

Insurance Analytics - Modernizing Assumptions with Python and AI

Mathieu Dubois, Sr. Industry Consultant - Insurance Risk, SAS Institute Inc.

2:05 - 2:55 PM

Dynamic Risk Scoring: Machine Learning Solution for Austin's largest credit union

Esther Edevold, VP - Insights and Innovation, UFCU

Xuesong Shi, Data Scientist, UFCU

SESSION 4: AI & GRAPH INTELLIGENCE

Unlocking Hidden Patterns in Finance with Graph Intelligence

Thomas Cook, Director of Technical Sales, Graphistry

2:55 - 3:25 PM

3:25 - 3:30 PM

BREAK

PANEL DISCUSSION

Future of AI in Finance Education and at Work: Human-AI Collaboration

Moderator: *Ivilina Popova, Professor, Texas State University*

3:30 - 4:45 PM

Panelists:

Yves Hilpisch, Founder and CEO, The Python Quants;

Jason Ramchandani, Lead Developer Advocate, LSEG London;

John Orton, VP Enterprise Risk Management, UFCU;

Joe Young, Vice President, Dimensional Advisors;

Jorge Santos, CPO, LightBox

4:45 - 5:00 pm

CLOSING REMARKS