

Samuel Watts

Former quantitative finance consultant turned fintech startup entrepreneur (Entrepreneur First), transitioning to product management. Technical and business experience across the whole lifecycle of financial software and fintech products.

Professional Experience

Co-founder and CEO

CodeREG, backed by Entrepreneur First

2018 - 2019

CodeREG is a regulatory fintech startup that automatically monitors and verifies compliance through digitised financial regulation

- Co-founded company as part of the Entrepreneur First programme, who also invested in the company
 - Responsible for customer development, sales, raising investment and operations
 - Established connections and pitched to numerous high profile VCs and angel investors, gaining soft investment commitments of £250k
 - Performed enterprise sales and negotiated deals with multiple major financial institutions
 - Co-designed technical solution and executed front end and data development work in React and PostgreSQL
 - Advised the FCA on their Digital Regulatory Reporting project

Senior Consultant

d-fine Ltd.

2016 - 2018

d-fine is a boutique European consultancy specialising in quantitative and highly technical projects in finance

- Product management for redevelopment of proprietary exotics and structured product trading platform at a top tier bank to ensure MiFID II compliance
 - Worked closely with end users and stakeholders to write technical specifications combining regulatory, business and user requirements
 - Role required interfacing with and managing a diverse range of stakeholders to prioritise requirements and deliver the project successfully within tight time frames
 - Project management for development team ensuring go-live by regulatory deadline
- Development and support for Front Arena trading platform at a top tier global bank
 - Introduced new and improved testing regime using HP's ALM software system
 - Implementation and adjustments of tools and processes in Python and ASQL
 - Performed 3rd level support: problem analysis, defect fixing and system changes
- Support for a large portfolio migration of OTC derivative trades to spin-off a separate legal entity of a top tier global bank
 - Technical and financial design plus implementation of the migration process in Front Arena
 - Adjustment and extension of a complex XML-based trade interface for fixed income derivatives
 - Design and implementation of user interfaces to import and enrich counterparty data
 - Extensive coordination with up- and downstream applications as well as the technical and functional testing teams during all phases ensuring a successful system wide deployment

Consultant

d-fine Ltd.

2013 - 2016

- Specification, implementation and adaptation of a supervisory risk and impact assessment system at multiple major European regulatory bodies for the finance sector
 - Worked on all aspects of delivering the software including: gathering specifications, leading areas of front and back end development, testing, bug fixing, deployment and user training

English Language Teacher

Jiujiang No. 3 Middle School, through the British Council

2012 - 2013

Education

MSc in Mathematical Finance

University of Oxford

2015 - 2017

- Dissertation on behavioural economics and the bond yield curve. Research projects on machine learning for hedging strategies, modelling market microstructure, and credit default swap modelling in the financial crisis.
- Part time course studied alongside full time job

Master of Mathematics, First Class Honours

University of Warwick

2008 - 2012

- Master's research project modelling Twitter trends. Specialised in stochastic analysis, complex systems, population dynamics, matrix analysis & algorithms and combinatorial optimisation
- Co-founded LoveYourUni society. Grew membership from 30 to 300+ within one year.

Copies of my academic research are available at <http://samueldwatts.com/research/>

Skills

- Programming languages: C#, Python, MATLAB, SQL, XML, HTML, Javascript, ReactJS, and R.
- Software: MATLAB, MS-Office Suite, MS-SQL Server Management Studio, MS-SQL Server Reporting Services, Visual Studio, and Front Arena.
- Intermediate Mandarin Chinese and German.
- 'Teaching English as a Foreign Language' qualified.

Interests

- Travelling to unusual places
- Playing, writing and listening to music
- Running and weightlifting