How Python skills can build your career in Finance

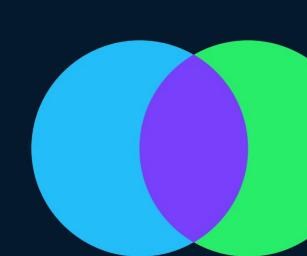


Carl Rosseel Director of Technology Alliances











Poll

How familiar are you with Python?





Why Python? And Why Now?

Readable & Accessible

Python's clean syntax makes it easier to learn than other programming languages.

Versatile Applications

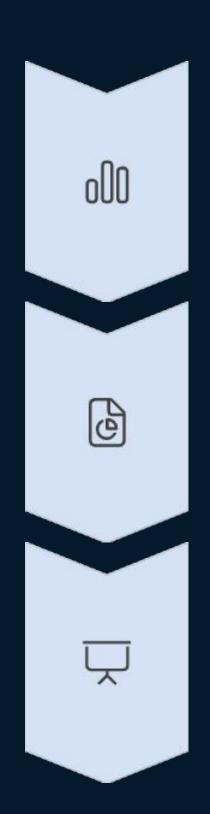
From data analysis to
automation, Python
handles diverse financial
tasks effectively.

Growing Ecosystem

Rich libraries like pandas, NumPy, and QuantLib are designed specifically for finance.

Python has overtaken Excel as the top tool for many tasks in investment banking, asset management, and FP&A.

Python in Investment Banking



Automating DCF Models

Build complex discounted cash flow models with greater accuracy and speed.

Scenario Analysis

Run thousands of scenarios in seconds to stress-test investment hypotheses.

Excel/PowerPoint Automation

Generate reports automatically using openpyxl and python-pptx libraries.

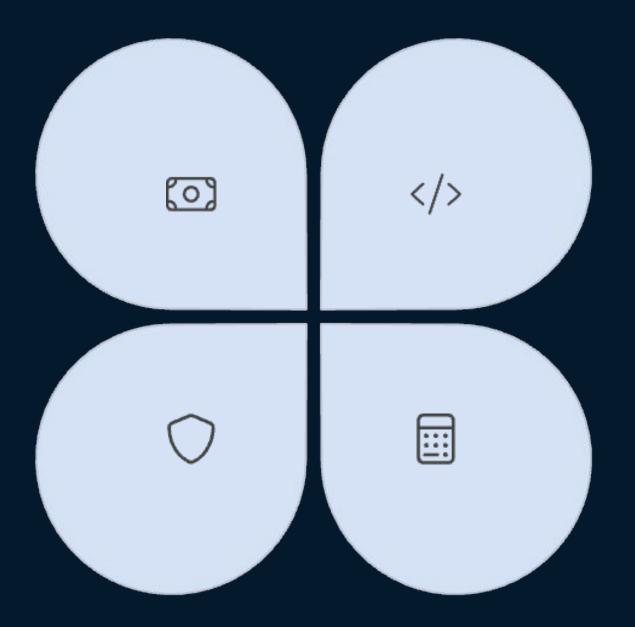
Leading banks now expect analysts to supplement traditional Excel skills with Python coding abilities.



Python Across Finance Sectors

Asset Management

Portfolio optimization and quantitative research using cvxpy and backtrader.



Fintech

API integrations and interactive dashboards using Flask and Streaml

Risk & Compliance

Anomaly detection and automated regulatory reporting.

Corporate Finance

Forecasting and automated report generation for FP&A teams.

Python's versatility makes it valuable across all financial sectors and roles.



Question (Poll) #2

Which task would you most like to automate in your job?





Python and Career Advancement

39%

of Hedge Fund Job Postings now require Python skills.

(Source: <u>Yahoo Finance</u>)

31K+

Open Finance Roles

mention Python skills in the U.S.

(Source: ZipRecruiter)

\$135k

Average Salary

for finance professionals with Python

expertise. (Source: Markaicode)

Major firms like J.P. Morgan, Bank of America, and Citigroup now

view Python as a critical finance skill. (Source: Open Data Science)



What Python Skills Signal About You



Innovation Mindset

Adaptable in a fast-changing financial landscape



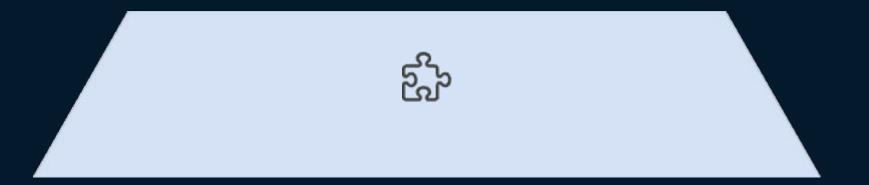
Data-Driven Thinking

Can transform raw data into actionable insights



Efficiency Focus

Automates repetitive tasks to focus on high-value analysis



Problem-Solving Ability

Tackles complex financial challenges systematically





Getting Started with Python in Finance

Start small. Apply Python to your current workflows. Build gradually on early successes.

Master the Essentials

Learn pandas, matplotlib, and Jupyter notebooks using free tools like Google Colab and Datalab.

Build Sample Projects

Pull stock data with yfinance.
Analyze returns. Create a
simple financial dashboard.

Apply to Your Work

Automate a monthly report.

Build a custom analysis tool for your specific needs.



Finance Fundamentals with CFI

Course	Provider
Math for Finance Professionals	CFI
Introduction to Python for Finance	DataCamp
Intermediate Python for Finance	DataCamp
Corporate Finance Fundamentals	CFI
Introduction to Business Valuation	CFI
Introduction to Financial Concepts in Python	DataCamp

Learning objectives

- Cover core Finance and Python topics
- Cover various use cases in the finance industry
- Give learners a solid introduction to coding with a financial twist



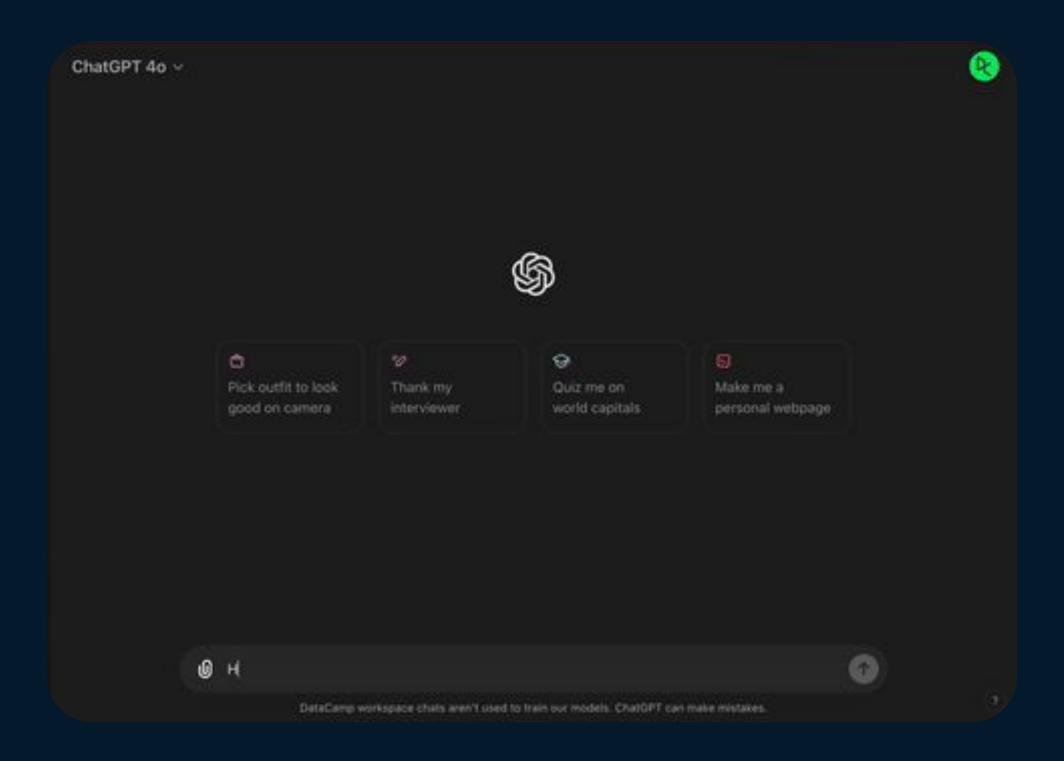
Why is Python relevant? And how is it connected to Al literacy?

Paradigm shifts in technology lead to paradigm shifts in skills



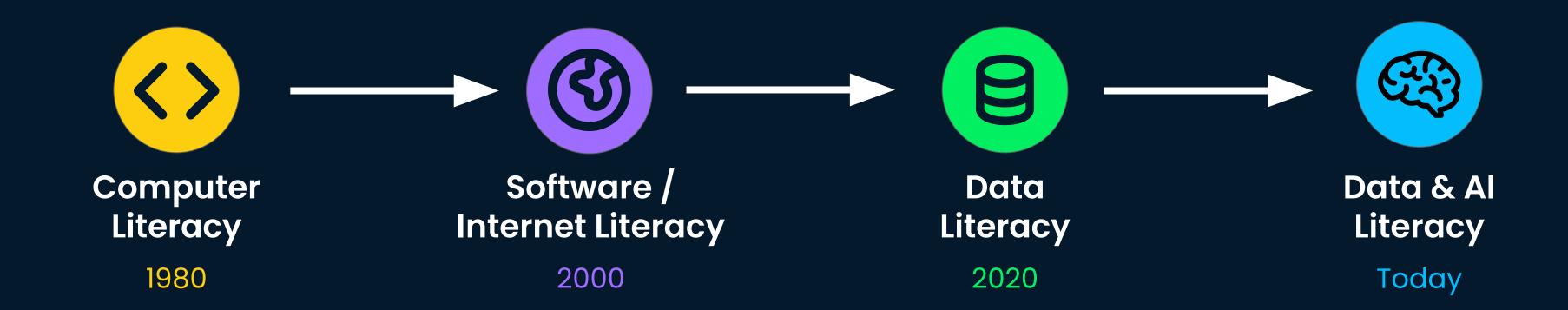


A new tool on the block





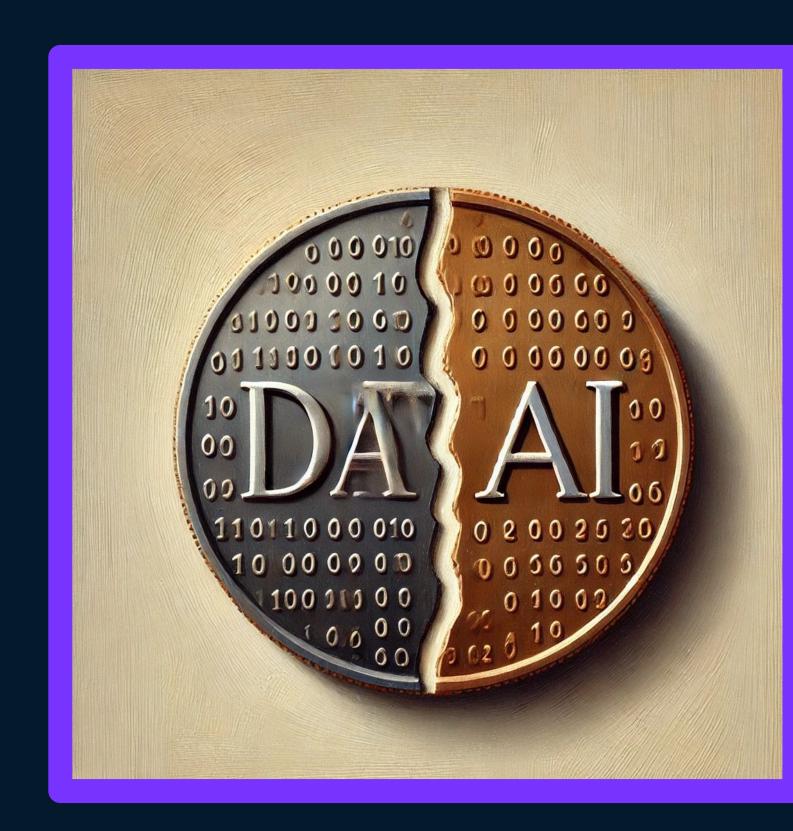
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DATA LITERACY

AI LITERACY

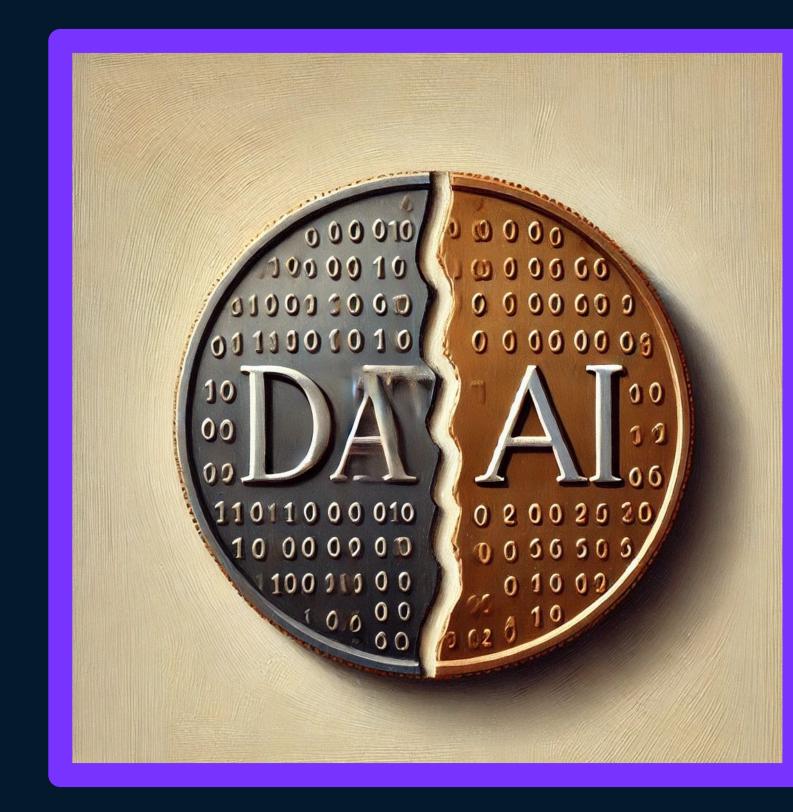




DATA LITERACY

Data literacy is the ability to read, write, analyze, communicate, and reason with data.

AI LITERACY



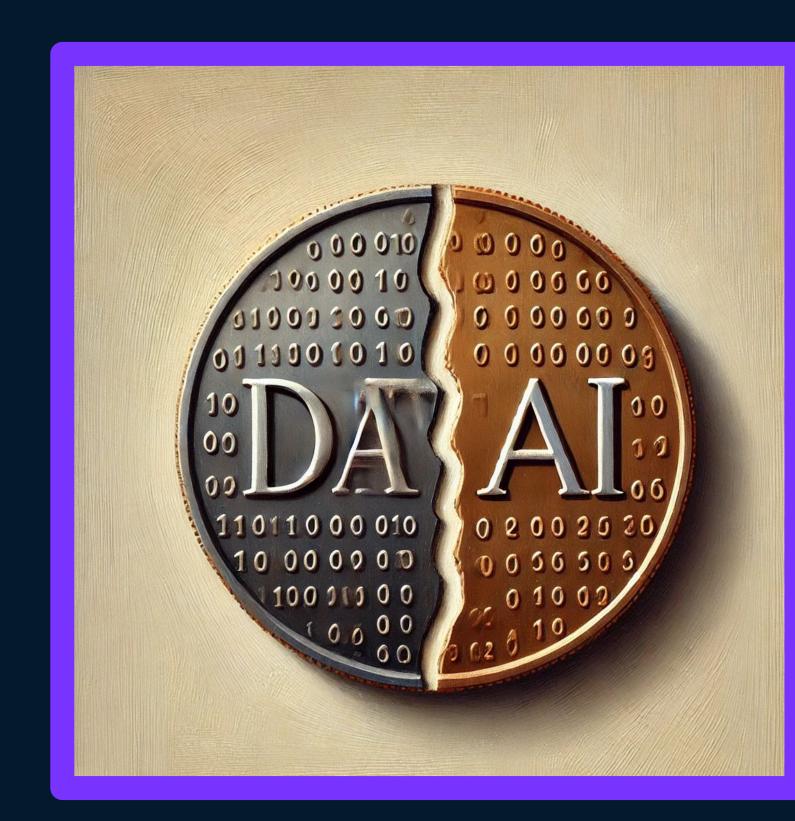


DATA LITERACY

Data literacy is the ability to read, write, analyze, communicate, and reason with data.

AI LITERACY

Al literacy is the ability to effectively, ethically, and responsibly understand, utilize, and guide Al systems.





Python for Finance careers and Al Literacy



Industry standard: Python is the dominant language in AI and machine learning, in and outside the finance industry



Hands-on learning: Understanding AI/ML concepts is much easier when you understand basic coding principles



Tooling & libraries: Python allows you to call powerful libraries to do the work for you (XGBoost, Scikit-learn, PyTorch..)



Low-code/no-code: Many tools (ChatGPT, KNIME, ..) abstract Al workflows.



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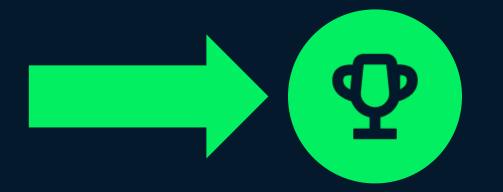
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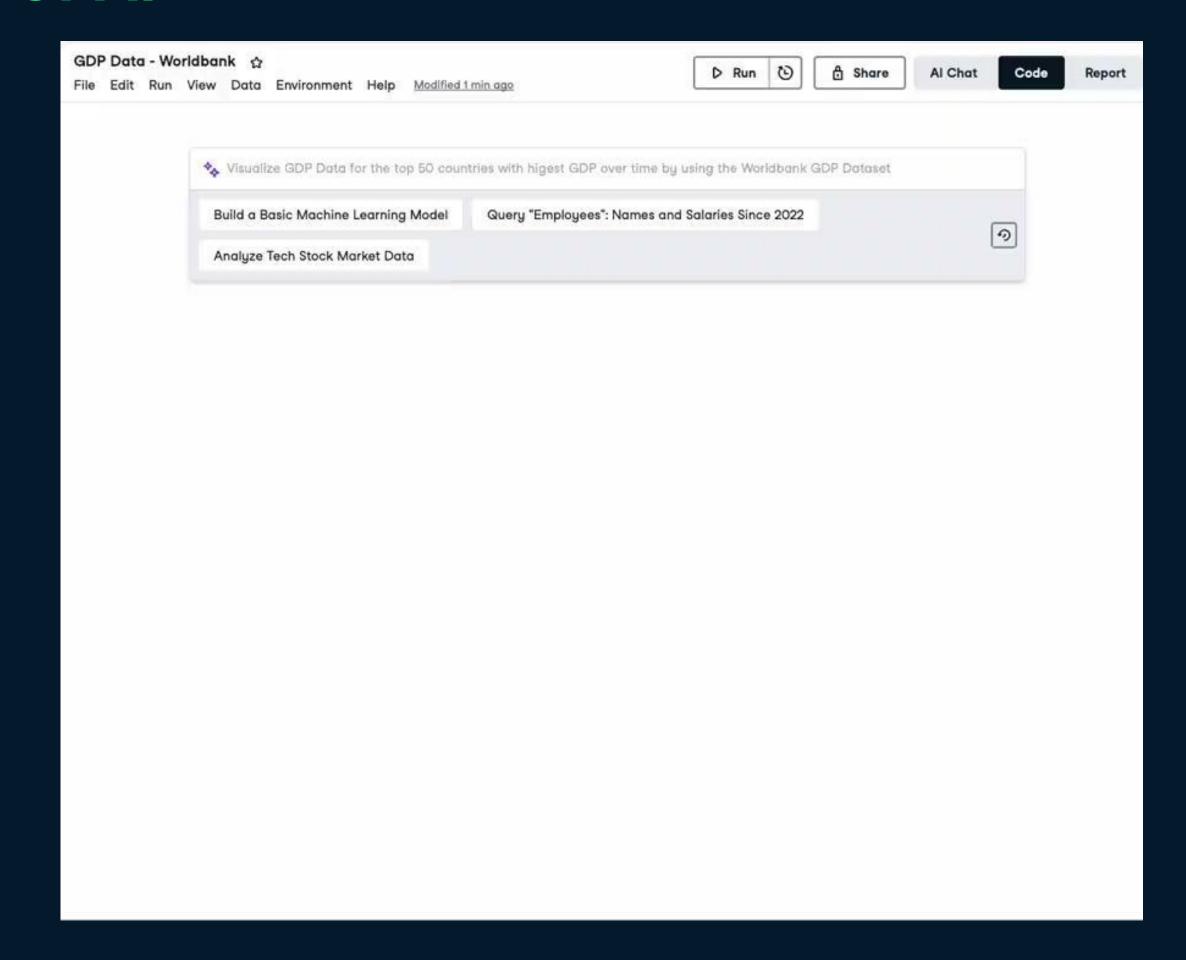


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The Power of Al





Expectations of financial analysts are changing



Tasks & skills

- Financial Data Analysis
 - o Prepare the data
 - Model the data
 - Analyze and Visualize the data
- Create analysis in Excel/Power BI/Tableau
- Combine data skills with domain knowledge to give advice
 - Tying insights to actionable results
 - o increase profitability & efficiency
 - Source of truth



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- Financial Data Analysis
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 - increase profitability & efficiency
 - Source of truth
- SQL skills are a plus
- Python skills are a plus
- Al literacy skills will become a must-have
- Leverage Python, SQL and AI in daily work
 - Automation
 - Basic technical skills to understand what Al is doing
 - Know when you can use AI, and when you can't!



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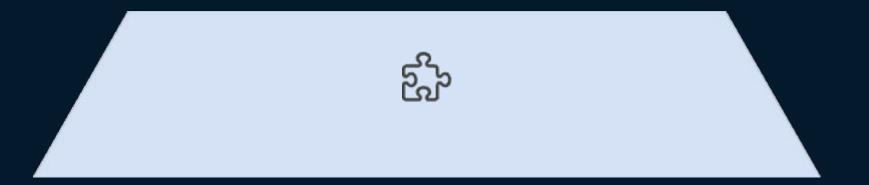
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Evolving skill set

15 years ago - Investment banks wanted to include some Excel training on their intern and analyst markets programmes

2 years ago - Those same investment banks didn't want Excel at all. They wanted Python training. Even for future *sales* roles.

Final thoughts

The shift is real. The industry has evolved from spreadsheet proficiency to coding fluency.

Python is now foundational — not just for quants or data scientists, but roles across the finance domain



Q&A

