

Robert Bajons

Statistician and Machine Learning Expert | robert.bajons@wu.ac.at | rbstats.netlify.app

Education

Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU Vienna) , PhD in Statistics	Sept. 2020– Present
• Advisor: Kurt Hornik, Expected: November 2025	
Vienna University of Economics and Business , MSc in Quantitative Finance	Oct. 2018 - Aug. 2020
Technical University Vienna , MSc in Financial and Actuarial Mathematics	Sept. 2017 - Aug. 2020
Technical University Vienna , BSc in Financial and Actuarial Mathematics	Oct. 2012 - Aug. 2017

Relevant Experience

Machine Learning Engineer , IREEN GmbH – Vienna, Austria	Dec. 2021 - Feb 2024
• Developing and implementing machine learning models for the real estate sector	
Statistical consultant , Vienna, Austria	Mar. 2022 - Oct. 2022
• Advancing and implementing statistical models for the risk management in a large Austrian bank	

Research

Research interests: statistics, machine learning, sports analytics

Selected publications & working papers

- **Bajons, R.** and Hornik, K. “Plus-minus models for evaluating and scouting soccer players using possession sequences”, *IMA Journal of Management Mathematics*, 2025. [Journal](#); [Project details \(slides, preprint, and more\)](#)
- **Bajons, R.**, Koslik, J.-O., Michels, R. and Ötting, M. “PEP: a tackle value measuring the prevention of expected points” *Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports*, 2025. [Journal](#); [Project details \(slides, preprint, and more\)](#)
- **Bajons, R.** and Hornik, K. “Adaptive Generalized Logistic Lasso and Its Application to Rankings in Sports” In: *Developments in Statistical Modelling. IWSM 2024. Contributions to Statistics (Book series)*, 2024. [Article](#); [Project details \(slides, and more\)](#)
- **Bajons, R.** and Kook, L. “Rethinking player evaluation in sports: Goals above expectation and beyond”, 2025, [Project details \(slides, preprint, and more\)](#)
- Hirnschall, D. and **Bajons, R.** “The path to a goal: Understanding soccer possessions via path signature”, 2025. [Project details \(preprint, and more\)](#)
- **Bajons, R.** and Hornik, K. “Analyzing pass rush in the NFL: A weighted K -means curve clustering approach”, 2024. [Project details \(slides, preprint, and more\)](#)

A full list of research projects I worked on can be found [on my webpage](#).

Teaching and Mentorship

Lecturer and teaching assistant , WU Vienna	Sept. 2020 - Present
• Courses: Statistical and machine learning (Master's level), Statistics (Bachelor's level), Introduction to data analytics with R (Two-day workshop)	
Industry lab, Quantitative Finance master program , WU Vienna	Oct. 2023 - Mar. 2024
• Advised a group of 5 students on an industry project with a leading industry partner of WU Vienna	
Master thesis (co-)supervisor Vienna University of Economics and business	2025
• Student: Tobias Harringer, Title: “Advanced Soccer Analytics via Pitch Control Models”; Resulted in a joint research project on pass evaluation in soccer	
Bachelor thesis (co-)supervisor Vienna University of Economics and business	2023 - Present
• Supervised several bachelor theses; mainly on sports analytics and machine learning topics	