Roosevelt University Computer Assocation

Association for Computing Machinery

"Computational Finance"

Wednesday December 10, 2008 Speaker: Mark Bennett

If you have any questions please contact RUCA
e-mail: ruca.roosevelt.edu
phone: 312.281.3108

Location: AUD 230 Classroom Series
Social Hour: 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m
Presentation Begins: @ 6:30

About The Speaker: Dr. Mark Bennett is a Chicago-based computer scientist. He is employed at Rho Trading Securities. Prior to that he was a quantitative risk analyst for Bank of America Securities. He has managed aerospace technology projects for Northrop Grumman and worked for AT&T Bell Labs prior to that. He holds a Ph.D. in computer science from UCLA.

Topic: At the macro level, the world financial markets are experiencing market corrections based upon nearly a decade of excessive debt. Price shocks in the oil and commodities markets are becoming the norm as demand outstrips supply and speculation by traders increases the volatility. At the micro level, how does an individual investor or professional in the field keep focused on the fundamentals? Did the models account for this market? What's going to happen in the future?

As we might expect, we cannot predict the future precisely. In retrospect, taking on less risk would have been prudent. What are the tools and models of computational finance to help us continue a disciplined approach going forward? How do we use basic models to make decisions about positions we might take in the markets? What are the key parameters to estimate and how should they used to predict the potential future outcomes? Just like in weather prediction, the quantitative models can become quite complex, requiring the use of huge data sets, multiprocessors and supercomputers. We start with some of the more basic models analysts use and move to more complex ones which rely on stochastic differential equations.

Cost: Members: $10, Non-members: $12, Students with ID: $5