

Philip Alexander

Data Analytics & Operations Leader

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SUMMARY

I spent a decade running restaurants — full P&L, hiring, the floor at peak on a Saturday night — then spent two years teaching myself to build the analytical systems I always wanted to run one with. Since 2024 I have designed, shipped, and operated two production data systems end to end, alone: data engineering, ML modeling, full-stack development, deployment. My mechanical engineering degree is where the habit started — take an ill-defined problem, find the constraint that actually binds, build the system around it, own what happens next. Most people have the floor or the model. The combination is the point: I know what an operational decision costs, and I can build the thing that informs it.

SELECTED PROJECTS

dataphil.com — live markets-intelligence dashboard

Live · six modules in production

I designed, built, and operate it end to end. Six modules run in production — market digest, analyst scorecard, sector pulse, baskets, options and global. Intraday capture runs on external cron against authenticated task endpoints rather than in-process schedulers, and a self-grading health endpoint scores every module's freshness with a watchdog that catches staleness before a reader does. The options module carries a live CBOE feed and a scenario tool; an AI pipeline transcribes and grades financial-news segments. The public deployment is write-gated read-only.

Stack: Python · Flask · SQLite · OpenAI API · Render · GitHub Actions · vanilla JS

MLB Predictive Engine — calibrated simulation for MLB markets

Forward test closed · published

Foundation: a 21-table SQLite warehouse built from 7.8M Statcast pitches across 11 seasons. A LightGBM per-plate-appearance classifier with isotonic calibration feeds a vectorized game simulator — 175× faster than the naive version — producing per-game distributions, with totals and starter workload read out of the same run. I ran a three-month pre-registered forward test, then killed the bet: re-deriving every edge with correctly weighted model and market terms took positive-EV plays from 4,093 to 127, and the blend did not beat the market out of sample. Method, data and an interactive explorer are published at lab.dataphil.com. The starter-workload sub-model backtests at 3,886 starts, eight of nine outs lines passing calibration.

Stack: Python · SQLite · Parquet · LightGBM · isotonic calibration · pybaseball · Statcast · Task Scheduler

EXPERIENCE

Founder — Full-Stack Developer & Data Engineer

May 2024 – Present

Dataphil · Self-employed

Denver, CO

- Founded and built dataphil.com — designing, shipping, and operating production data systems end to end: data engineering, ML modeling, full-stack development, deployment. Both systems above exist because a manual process was costing me time, and the fix was automation rather than more hours.
- Shipped an MLB game-center dashboard to a podcast partner as a production tool — first product with a real user who wasn't me.
- Alongside the build: full-time discretionary US equities trading — my own capital, investing since 2019 — with written risk limits and position sizing. The discipline half of the job, and it shows in how I ship software.

Operations Manager → Co-General Manager

Aug 2022 – May 2024

The Patio at Sloan's

Denver, CO

- A ground-up business build: joined the opening team, returned as Operations Manager in 2022, and was promoted to Co-General Manager as the restaurant reached profitability within three years of opening — driven by the operational changes my counterpart and I implemented. Our operating model became the template the ownership group used to acquire and scale other restaurants.
- Co-owned every lever of a from-scratch operation: product mix and menu, pricing, happy-hour strategy, expansion decisions like weekend breakfast, service flow, hiring and training — full P&L, vendor relationships, and brand voice, the ownership stack a corporate parent would normally split across five departments.
- Ran full operations including facilities, down to seasonal infrastructure calls — winterizing the patio (tent, heating) and converting back for summer service. The closest thing to entrepreneurship without the equity: I helped form the business, shape it, and leave it running.

Supervisor — Opening Team

Nov 2020 – Jul 2022

The Patio at Sloan's

Denver, CO

- Joined during the restaurant's opening and used the floor-level position to help build the operation from day one: menu feedback, service flow, staff training, and de facto shift supervision drawing on a decade of fine-dining management. The role was formalized into the salaried Operations Manager promotion in Jul 2022.

General Manager

Jul 2019 – Jul 2020

Ruth's Chris Steak House

Reno, NV

- Full P&L ownership of a \$3M+ annual-revenue fine-dining steakhouse with a 40+ person team, on a turnaround mandate in a market I had to learn from scratch — the steakhouse inside Silver Legacy Resort Casino, the largest casino property in Reno, for what was then the largest publicly-traded fine-dining steakhouse chain in the US.
- Took the location's aggregate online review scores from bottom-5 in the company to above company average in one year — a guest-experience turnaround, not a marketing one, and I cut labor cost while holding fine-dining service standards.
- Shut the restaurant down when COVID closed the property, then reopened it under protocols stricter than any standalone restaurant faced — inside a casino, gaming-property health and compliance standards stacked on top of state and county orders, and I rebuilt service flow, staffing, and training around them. We were one of the only restaurants cleared to reopen with the casino floor, which meant absorbing the property's dining demand and running at full capacity inside those guidelines.
- Owned hiring, scheduling, vendor relationships, cost controls, and local-market positioning end to end, including partnerships with sports franchises and the chamber of commerce. The corporate downsizing that followed COVID flattened the regional → director path I was working toward, and I returned to Denver for the independent side of the industry.

Beverage Manager

Feb 2018 – Jul 2019

Ruth's Chris Steak House

Denver, CO

- Owned the beverage program end to end — wine list curation, cocktail menu, inventory and cost controls, supplier relationships, bar-staff training and certification. Curating a list is a taste question and a margin question at the same time.
- When the long-tenured GM left to help open the Denver Tech location, I stepped into running the restaurant in every functional way — schedule, floor, P&L reviews — until the formal promotion to GM at Reno followed.

Lunch Expeditor

Feb 2017 – Feb 2018

Guard and Grace Steak House

Denver, CO

- Coordinated, expedited, and quality-controlled high-volume lunch service at the highest-rated steakhouse in downtown Denver — concurrent with evening shifts at Ruth's Chris. A two-shift apprenticeship that built the operational edge defining the next decade.

Server / Server Trainer

Jan 2014 – Feb 2018

Ruth's Chris Steak House

Denver, CO

- Worked nearly every FOH position the restaurant offered — Food Runner Coach, Banquet Server, Server, Lead Server, Server Trainer — and onboarded new hires while transitioning into a management track.
- Ran the expo line during the highest-pressure nights and holidays — the position that sets the tempo for the entire kitchen-to-floor handoff.

EDUCATION

University of South Carolina Columbia, SC

Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering

SKILLS & STACK

Languages	Python · SQL · JavaScript · HTML/CSS
Data & ML	pandas · LightGBM · scikit-learn · isotonic calibration · SQLite · Parquet · Statcast / pybaseball · OpenAI API
Web & Infra	Flask · REST APIs · Chart.js / Plotly · Render · GitHub · APScheduler · Windows Task Scheduler
Operations	P&L management · hiring, staffing & training · vendor relationships · cost controls · peak-service execution
Markets & Sports	US equities (own book, investing since 2019) · position sizing & risk discipline · MLB modeling — and playing: won the championship last season in Colorado's largest men's baseball league