

Headline: Democratizing trading: How AI is changing the game	
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Democratizing trading: How AI is changing the game

Global capital and commodity markets are reeling from the fallout of the latest Gulf conflict. Joint US-Israeli strikes and Iran's retaliatory operations across major oil-producing nations have blocked one of the world's most critical trade arteries: the Strait of Hormuz. Roughly 20% of the world's oil and gas flows through this chokepoint, and its blockade has sent shockwaves through economies on both sides. For traders, however, the resulting volatility is simultaneously a risk and an opportunity.

Navigating it well demands a comprehensive reading of current and historical trends and their ripple effects on oil prices, inflation, equities, and entire sectors. Historically, building such sophisticated strategies required large teams of experienced analysts poring over reams of data to spot patterns and gaps. AI has changed that equation, making complex, data-driven decision-making accessible even to retail traders. But the shortcut many reach for, typing questions into ChatGPT or Claude, or crafting elaborate prompts on large language models (LLMs), is not the answer. In fact, it can be counterproductive. There is no substitute for sound judgment. Just as the industrial revolution amplified human productivity only when people learned to master new tools and machines, AI delivers its true value only when used with discipline and understanding.

The more effective approach is to build AI agents: purpose-built models that harness LLMs but are each focused on a narrow, well-defined task. Rather than one all-purpose tool, think of a coordinated team of specialists. Each agent is given the autonomy to reason through a specific problem and take targeted actions toward a defined goal, without constant human intervention.

In a trading context, this means moving well beyond simple price-prediction models. One agent might track shipping data and identify historical patterns; another layers in price trend analysis to map correlations. A third examines the downstream impact on

stocks and sectors. Together, these agents generate a hypothesis or strategy, and then additional agents backtest it rigorously for reliability and robustness. Where a standard LLM requires repeated prompting to produce useful output, an agentic system operates end-to-end: independently researching hypotheses, fetching data, writing and running backtest code, and evaluating performance. The whole becomes considerably greater than the sum of its parts.



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Deployed alongside human experience and judgment, agentic AI will do more than enhance trading. It will democratise it, opening the door to sophisticated, research-driven strategy development for anyone willing to learn the craft.

Harnessing this capability, however, requires a genuine investment in learning. Traders need to understand how AI agents work, how to build them, and how to design multi-agent workflows that are both efficient and trustworthy. Platforms such as QuantInsti offer structured, practical courses that take learners from basic automation to fully agentic systems, AI that can reason, deploy tools, and collaborate across agents to develop end-to-end Python scripts capable of testing any raw trading idea. The emphasis on no-code and low-code implementation means even retail traders can access and build with these tools.

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