

# Wageningen University & Research

Joost M.E. Pennings  
September 10, 2024



# Introduction: Wageningen University & Research

## **Background & core activity/activities of the organisation.**

- University and specialized research institutes
- Lifesciences – *markets (long tradition in futures and option markets)*

## **Size and location(s) of your organisation.**

- Over 7000 employees; over 370 professors
- Based in Wageningen (the Netherlands); research projects all over the world

## **Department(s) that will be involved in the project.**

- Marketing Consumer Behavior Group
- Information Technology Group
- Wageningen Economic Research

# Connections to the Call

## Why/how is this Call relevant/important to your organisation?

- Futures markets serve critical risk management purposes society
  - Functioning of these markets are threatened by market manipulation
- Domain: commodity and energy markets
  - Illegal practices cause uncertainty, volatility and distrust in energy/commodity markets

*In sum: the functioning of critical market infrastructures are endangered by illegal market behavior*

## How do you see your role in the project? / Past activities or experiences with the Call topic?

- Leading two working packages
- Project HighLO: technical reference and template for each use case



# High Energy Physics Tools in **Limit Order Book Analysis**

[www.highlo.org](http://www.highlo.org)

- **Challenge:**  
Effectively combatting manipulation in financial/energy/commodity markets
- **Goal:**  
Interdisciplinary develop new methodologies to **detect/identify** manipulation and
- **Reduce** the vulnerabilities of critical market infrastructures

## Key team



## Affiliated Researchers





# Key Findings

[www.highlo.org](http://www.highlo.org)

- We can now ...
  - **process, visualize and analyze** terabytes of market data
  - **visualize, characterize and identify** market manipulation
  - **statistically** test microsecond changes in markets
  - **simulate** (financial) markets
- **International Expert Group on Market Surveillance:**

## Exchanges



## Regulators



# Specific interest & expertise

## What are your direct interest areas in the SHIELD project?

- Protecting commodity, Financial and Energy markets (organized exchanges- regulators) from disruption / market manipulation

## What technical expertise do you have within the organisation to address the challenges in the Call and in the SHIELD description?

- Anomaly detection, agent-based simulation, big data
- HighIO
- International Expert Group on Market Surveillance

## Could you also briefly describe the data analytics team you have in your organisation?

- Long tradition in modelling of data using various approaches (multivariate, econometrics, biometrics, ML etc.)

# Envisioned use of SHIELD project results

## Could you characterize the data (kind, frequency, bandwidth) you have, and what you do with that data?

- Two datasets of the largest futures exchange in the world (CME Group); all markets; timestamped at milli- and nano-seconds; 2015 and Jun2019 – Jul2020; 30TB and 300TB.
- Receiving energy market data

## Could you briefly give a few examples of potential attack vectors that have a data footprint?

- Market manipulation, insider trading, money laundering

## Where/how could the project results be embedded in your organisation ? (*organisational, hierarchical*)

- This project would easily be embedded in the current structure that we already have for HighIO

## What would be your envisioned integration path for the project outcomes inside your production system?

- Already done

# Project outcomes

## What would be the optimal outcome of the project for your organisation?

- Functioning agent-based simulation for (financial and energy) markets
- **Detection** tool for select types of market manipulation SUBSEQUENTLY develop tools (technical as well as market structure and legal) to **prevent** market manipulation

--> interestingly we do have already a prototype dashboard that provides the necessarily information for market manipulation detection, the subsequent step by means of Shield would be to also focus on protection.

## To which network(s)/audiences do you have access to present project outcomes?

- International Expert Group on Market Surveillance
  - Includes financial, commodity and energy market stakeholders that need the outcomes of SHIELD