Mahbod Tajdini

Master of Science in Data Science
UZH and ETH Zürich, Switzerland

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🌐 Portfolio | 🔗 LinkedIn | GitHub

EDUCATION

Degree	Institute	CGPA	Year
MSc in Data Science	Universität Zürich (UZH) ETH Zürich (Special Student)	N/A (Ongoing)	2025 - Present
BSc in Artificial Intelligence	Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU Amsterdam)	8.5/10 (=4.0 GPA)	2022 - 2025
Bachelor's Thesis: *Exploring Ball Recovery Times in Professional Football: Insights and Patterns*			

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **VU Amsterdam - Sports Intelligence Lab [🌐]** *Jun 2025 – Present*
  Research Assistant Remote
  - Conducting data-driven research on ball recovery in professional football and exploring machine learning applications in the sport under the supervision of Dr. Mauricio Verano Merino
  - Analyzed large-scale educational data to evaluate the effects of Generative AI tools on student outcomes in programming courses, contributing to a paper accepted at *ICSE 2026*

- **Forward Football [🌐]** *Sep 2024 – Jun 2025*
  AI Research Intern Amsterdam, Netherlands
  - Researched machine learning and computer vision models for football intelligence and tactical optimization
  - Analyzed large-scale spatiotemporal datasets to model player interactions, quantify team performance, and derive data-driven tactical insights

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Capitalising on Football Data with Machine Learning: A Literature Review	*Revise and Resubmit - ACM Computing Surveys (ACM CSUR) 2026*
Dionysios Kyriazopoulos, Mauricio Verano Merino, **Mahbod Tajdini**	
The Clash of Codes: From Peer-to-Peer Duplication to AI-Generation in Introductory Programming Assignments	*Accepted - ICSE 2026 SEET Track*
Mahbod Tajdini, Jose Maria Zuzarte Reis Claver, Mauricio Verano Merino	
Programming Lego MINDSTORMS Robots using NI LabVIEW®	*eBook - April 2022*
Pooyan Nayyeri, **Mahbod Tajdini**	
[open-access eBook]	

WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Forward·Inc [🌐]** *Jan 2026 – Present*
  Student Consultant Amsterdam, Netherlands
  - Providing research, analysis, and practical recommendations for a mission-driven organization. Review programs, analyze data, and support strategic planning efforts. Collaborate with team members to improve operations, strengthen services, and support organizational goals

- **ETH Zürich - D-USYS [🌐]** *Jan 2026 – Present*
  Teaching Assistant Zürich, Switzerland
  - Serving as a Teaching Assistant for Environmental Systems Data Science: Machine Learning (701-3003-00L) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Loïc Pellissier and Dr. Camille Pierre Albouy

- **Universität Zürich - IFI [🌐]** *Sep 2025 – Dec 2025*
  Head Teaching Assistant Zürich, Switzerland
  - Served as Head Teaching Assistant (TA) for Informatics I (22AINF02) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Harald Gall and Dr. Carol Alexandru, leading the TA team and managing teaching operations, exercise design, and assessment processes to ensure high-quality student learning support and effective course delivery

- **VU Amsterdam - Faculty of Science [🌐]**   *Apr 2023 - Jun 2025*
  Teaching Assistant   Amsterdam, Netherlands
  ○ Mentored new TAs through workshops, training sessions, and personalized feedback as a TA Mentor, enhancing instructional quality across the Faculty of Science
  ○ Taught and supported Machine Learning–focused courses and labs across 10+ undergraduate and Honors-level courses
  ○ Coordinated TA activities, contributed to course design, and facilitated communication between instructors and students as Head TA for the course: Computational Thinking (X_400475)

- **Baridsoft [🌐]**   *Jun 2021 – Aug 2021*
  Information Technology Intern   Tehran, Iran
  ○ Worked on computer systems, network infrastructure, and IT support, with hands-on experience in troubleshooting, device configuration, and maintaining internal systems

POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

- **Generation Robotics Executive Staff,** ETH Robotics Club   *Nov 2025 – Present*
- **Hack4Good Organizing Staff,** Analytics Club at ETH Zürich   *Nov 2025 – Present*
- **Voting member of the Program Committee for AI,** VU Amsterdam   *Oct 2022 – Jun 2025*
- **Year Representative for BSc AI,** VU Amsterdam   *Oct 2022 – Jun 2025*
- **International Student Ambassador,** VU Amsterdam   *Oct 2022 – Jun 2025*
- **Robotics Competition Judge,** WRO Netherlands   *Jun 2023 - Jul 2023*
- **Captain of the Student Robotics Team,** University of Tehran   *Jun 2017 - Nov 2019*

PROJECTS

- **ETH Zürich: ML in Finance [🌐][🐙]**   *Aug 2025 - Oct 2025*
  ○ Evaluated the predictive efficacy of machine learning and deep learning architectures for Solvency II ratios under synthetic economic and stress scenarios
  ○ Implemented a reproducible SHAP-based interpretability framework to align algorithmic methodologies with actuarial principles, facilitating expert validation

- **Exploring Ball Recovery Times in Professional Football [🐙]**   *Jan 2025 - Jun 2025*
  ○ Analyzed how key match events affect ball recovery times in elite football using open-access event data, and created game-timeline visualizations to reveal patterns around goals, substitutions, cards, and tactical shifts
  ○ Developed a reproducible Python pipeline to compute recovery metrics, perform statistical tests (normality, group differences, effect sizes), and present insights through interactive dashboards

ACHIEVEMENTS

Academic Distinctions

- BSc in AI, VU Amsterdam – Graduated *cum laude* (Top 8% of cohort)   *Jul 2025*
- IB Diploma Programme – Top 3% Worldwide   *May 2022*

University of Waterloo - CEMC (Canadian Computing Competition)

- Awarded Certificate of Distinction as a *Top 25%* contestant worldwide   *Dec 2020*
- Achieved *1st rank* in Iran   *Dec 2020*

World Robot Olympiad (WRO)

- *1st place*, Football Category, Iran National Selection Competition   *Oct 2019*
- *1st place*, Football Category, Iran National Selection Competition   *Oct 2018*
- *16th place*, Football Category, Costa Rica International Finals   *Dec 2017*
- *2nd place*, Football Category, Iran National Selection Competition   *Oct 2017*

SKILLS

- **Programming Languages**: Python, R, Prolog, C++, SQL
- **Tools and Frameworks**: PyTorch, TensorFlow, Scikit-Learn, HuggingFace, Jupyter, NumPy, Pandas, SciPy, Statsmodels, OpenCV, Roboflow, Git, Docker, MySQL
- **Languages**: English (fluent), Persian (fluent), French (conversational), German (basic), Dutch (basic)

CERTIFICATIONS

- **Google**: Advanced Data Analytics; The Power of Statistics; Regression Analysis: Simplify Complex Data Relationships — *Oct 2025*

- **DeepLearning.AI**: Generative Deep Learning with TensorFlow; Advanced Computer Vision with TensorFlow; Machine Learning — *Sep 2025*

- **Stanford Online**: Advanced Learning Algorithms; Supervised Machine Learning: Regression and Classification; Unsupervised Learning, Recommenders, Reinforcement Learning — *Aug 2025*

- **Anthropic**: AI Fluency Framework & Foundations; Model Context Protocol: Advanced Topics — *Aug 2025*

- **IBM**: Tools for Data Science — *Aug 2025*