

# Erfan AHAR

## PhD Student

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## EDUCATION

Present Aug. 2023	Economics, PHD, University of Minnesota, Minnesota, U.S. GPA : 4/4 - via 40 Credits
July. 2025 Aug. 2023	Economics, M.A., University of Minnesota, Minnesota, U.S. GPA : 4/4 - via 30 Credits
June. 2022 Jul. 2019	Economics, M.A., TelAS, Tehran, Iran GPA : 19.37/20 - via 40 Credits
June. 2019 Sep. 2015	Industrial Engineering, B.Sc., Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran GPA : 18.39/20 - via 142 Credits

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Aug. 2025 present	Research Analyst, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF MINNEAPOLIS, Department of Research ‣ Work under supervision of Prof. Juan Pablo Nicolini
Aug. 2023 Aug. 2022	Data Analyst, TAPSI (RIDE-HAILING COMPANY), Data Analyst in the pricing team ‣ Designing A/B tests including switch-back, driver-based, and passenger-based tests. ‣ Monitoring A/B tests. ‣ Evaluating results of A/B tests for business decision making. SQL PySpark Switch-Back Test
Aug. 2023 Feb. 2021	Research assistant, UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL, Working under supervision of Prof. Sepahsalari ‣ Assisting in developing a model to study and analyze firm dynamics in presence of financial friction and labor search ‣ Implemented the numerical solution for the model in "matlab" and decreasing the run-time. ‣ Working on FAME data to calibrate model. DSGE models Dynamic programming
Feb. 2021 April. 2020	Research & teaching assistant, TELAS, Working under supervision of Prof. Joshaghani ‣ Cleaned and analyzed Iran's housing transaction data ‣ Computed the common indexes of housing market for the first time in Iran, including : Case-Shiller index, Iran's home ownership ratio, relative price of house to dollars, ... Housing Real-state

## HONORS AND AWARDS

<b>Ranked 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Best score on the Spring 2024 Macroeconomics prelim (Harald Uhlig Award)
<b>Fellowship</b>	Warwick Spring 2024 Fellowship due to outstanding academic performance
<b>Ranked 1<sup>st</sup></b>	in M.Economics in Tehran Institute for Advanced Studies 2020
<b>Fellowship</b>	Master of Economics at Tehran Institute of Advance Studies(TeIAS) 2019
<b>Silver Medal</b>	National Industrial Engineering Olympiad 2019
<b>Ranked 1<sup>st</sup></b>	In Industrial Engineering program of Sharif University of Technology 2019 based on GPA

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Macroeconomics
- Labor Macroeconomics
- Game Theory and Market Design

## SKILLS

**Programming :** Julia, C, C++, Python, SQL, PySpark  
**Math Software :** MATLAB, STATA, Dynare, SAS

## REFERENCES

**Prof. V.V. Chari**  
(Paul W. Frenzel Land Grant Professor of Liberal Arts)  
Department of Economics  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<b>Sprint 2025</b>	<b>Teaching Assistant, MACROECONOMICS THEORY 2, PhD Course</b> Instructor : Prof. V.V. Chari - Prof. Manuel Amador
<b>Fall 2024</b>	<b>Teaching Assistant, MACROECONOMICS THEORY 1, PhD Course</b> Instructor : Prof. Tim Kehoe - Prof. Larry Jones

## SELECTED RESEARCH PAPERS

<b>2024</b>	<b>Financial market imperfections and labour market outcomes : (JPE Macro R&amp;R), ,</b> With Alireza Sepahsalari <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ How a credit crunch affects employment decision of firms across the size distribution, and what are the consequences on real activity and the unemployment rate?</li></ul> <div>Firm dynamics</div>
<b>2020</b>	<b>Master Thesis : Optimal UI, MACROECONOMICS II,</b> Adviser : Dr. Joshaghani <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Developing a heterogeneous agent model with financial friction and directed search labor market to analyze the optimal level of unemployment insurance in General Equilibrium</li></ul> <div>Heterogeneous agent models</div> <div>Labor search</div> <div>Financial friction</div>

## GRADUATE COURSES STUDIED

Macroeconomics Theory 1,2,3,4	by : Tim Kehoe, Larry Jones, V.V. Chari, Erzo Luttmer	Grade : A
Advanced Macroeconomics computation 1,2	by : Ellen McGrattan, Anmol Bhandari	Grade : A
Monetary Economics 1,2	by : Alisdair McKay, Cristina Arellano	Grade : A
Adv Labor Econ 1,2,3	by : Loukas Karabarbounis, Kyle Herkenhoff, Fatih Guvenen	Grade : A
Public Economics 1,2,3	by : Larry Jones, Jonathan Heathcote, V.V. Chari	Grade : A
Game Theory 1,2	by : Aldo Rustichini, David Rahman	Grade : -