# Esra Kashaninia

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#### **EDUCATION**

M.Sc. - Bioinformatics

Sept. 2023 - Dec. 2025

Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran; GPA: 3.83/4

Selected courses: NLP, Deep Learning, Bioinformatics Algorithms, Computational Genomics

B.Sc. - Computer Engineering (minor: Economics)

Sept. 2016 – Jul. 2020

Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran; GPA: 3.35/4

Selected courses: AI, ML, Advanced Information Retrieval, Design of Algorithms, Linear Algebra, Fundamentals of Game Theory, Econometrics

#### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

#### Graduate Research Assistant

Dec. 2023 – present

Supervised by Dr. E. Asgari - Language ML lab, Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran

 $\circ$  Designing transformer-based models incorporating evolutionary taxonomy for cross-species protein representation learning

#### Undergraduate research assistant

Sept. 2020 - Mar. 2022

Supervised by Dr. H. R. Rabiee - DML lab, Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran

- Developed graph-based methods for circRNA-disease association prediction (this paper, co-supervised by Dr. M. Kouhsar)
- Contributed to a protein–compound interaction prediction study using structural similarities (co-supervised by Dr. K. Abbasi)

### **PUBLICATIONS**

• Kouhsar, M., **Kashaninia**, **E.**, Mardani, B. et al. **CircWalk**: a novel approach to predict CircRNA-disease association based on heterogeneous network representation learning. *BMC Bioinformatics 23, 331 (2022)*. https://doi.org/10.1186/s12859-022-04883-9

## WORK EXPERIENCE

## Software Design Specialist

Dec. 2022 - Jan. 2024

Behsazan Mellat Co., Tehran, Iran

- Developed and updated SQL code for banking operations and reports concerning foreign currency remittances at Mellat Bank to fit new regulations and requirements
- o Prototyped Buy Now, Pay Later procedures, improved code documentation

### Software Engineering Intern

Jul. - Sept. 2019

Raya Navid Systems, Tehran, Iran

 $\circ~$  Built a remote printing web service using Spring Boot

#### SKILLS SUMMARY

• **Programming** Python, R, Java, C++, SQL, Bash, LATEX

• NLP/Bio/ML PyTorch, HuggingFace, WandB, Scikit-Learn, NLTK, spaCy, Pandas, Matplotlib, Biopython

• Web Selenium, Scrapy, Django, Spring Boot, HTML, CSS, Bootstrap, Postman

DB MySQL, DB2 SQL, MongoDB, Elasticsearch
Project Dev Tools GNU/Linux, Git, Jira, Trello, MS Project, Heroku

• Languages Persian (native), English (C2), French (A2)

#### Projects

• Language modeling of stock market signals for market prediction

NLP project - fall 2023

• Implementing various models and training techniques, notably generative ones such as DDPM, Stable Diffusion with DreamBooth, and a simplified GPT

deep learning coursework - spring 2024

 A search mini-engine for online articles using Scrapy, Elasticsearch, and RankingSVM

advanced information retrieval project No. 3 - spring 2020

 $\bullet\,$  Character analysis of the book "Romance of the Three Kingdoms" using word2vec

ML project - fall 2020

NLP open project - fall 2023

 $\bullet\,$  Ad click rate prediction using factorization machines

computational genomics final assignment - fall 2024

• Gene expression profiling of acute myeloid leukemia microarray samples in R

bioinformatics project - spring 2019

• Regression analysis on the FIFA 20 player dataset

econometrics project - spring 2020

• A Django app for booking doctor appointments and maintaining patient records

independent project - fall 2022

• A book exchange website

• GWAS phasing

system analysis and design project - spring 2019

## VOLUNTARY PROJECTS

Co-implementation of a QA pipeline for tabular data	a solution to SemEval 2025 task 8
• A Flutter app that sends alerts to the closest first-aiders upon an emergency	group project at HackZurich 2020
• Participation in preparing Jupyter notebooks for a data science event on campus	Data Days 2020 and 2021

## Honors and Awards

## Class Rankings

 $\bullet\,$  Top 10% (2nd out of 19 bioinformatics students, 12th out of 125 in CSE Department)

## Nationwide Exam for M.Sc. Admissions

 $summer\ 2023$ 

 $\bullet$  Bioinformatics: ranked 98th among  $+10{,}000$ 

## Nationwide University Entrance Exam

summer 2016 • Mathematics and Physics: ranked 25th among +164,000

• English: ranked 18th among +6,000

# SELECTED TA EXPERIENCE

DELECTED TA EXPERIENCE	
• Fundamentals of Image Processing - Delivered by Dr. H. Peyvandi	spring 2025
• Computational Drug Design (graduate course) - Delivered by Dr. M. Kalemati	spring 2025
• Signals and Systems - Delivered by Dr. H. Sameti	fall 2021
• Computer Simulation - Delivered by Dr. B. Safaei	fall 2021
• Data Transmission - Delivered by Dr. A. M. A. Hemmatyar	fall 2021
• Machine Learning (graduate course) - Delivered by Dr. A. Hosseini	spring 2021
• Linear Algebra - Delivered by Dr. S. Hossein Ghorban	spring 2021
• Compiler Design - Delivered by Mr. M. Bahrami	fall 2020
• Design of Algorithms - Delivered by Dr. A. Sharifi Zarchi	spring 2020
• Compiler Design - Delivered by Dr. Gh. Jaberipur	spring 2020
• Computer Simulation - Delivered by Dr. H. Peyvandi	fall 2019
• Mathematics and physics - Razavieh High School	Jan. $2017 - Sept. 2018$