

Amir Kiani

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Summary — A prospective PhD candidate in Finance with an MBA in Finance (GPA: 3.76/4) and strong GRE (336) and TOEFL (106) scores. Building on a solid foundation in computational methods, machine learning, and data analytics, I aim to advance financial research by addressing complex challenges in econometrics, financial markets, and algorithmic trading.

Education

Master of Business Administration in Finance (GPA: 17.68/20) 2019 – 2023

University of Kashan

Notable Coursework

- Microeconomics
- Meta-heuristic Optimization
- Financial Markets and Institutions (Focus: Derivatives Market Strategies)
- Statistics (Focus: SPSS Workspace)
- Operation Management (Focus: Decision Making Strategies)

Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering (GPA: 13.68/20) 2012 – 2017

Petroleum University of Technology

Mathematics Curriculum

- Calculus I , Calculus II, Differential Equations, Engineering Mathematics, Numerical Analysis, Application of Mathematics in Chemical Engineering

Extracurricular Activities

- Chair of Foreign Language Development Center
- Director of IT Services, Students' Union

Research Interests

Econometrics, Financial Derivatives, Machine Learning Applications in Finance, Algorithmic Trading

Research and Publications

Identification and Prioritization of The Factors Affecting Herding Behavior of Investors in Tehran Stock Exchange Market 2023

MBA Thesis, University of Kashan

- **Research Field:** Behavioral Finance
- **Research Approach:**
 - Utilized the Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) to evaluate influencing factors systematically.
 - Designed a structured questionnaire and gathered insights from a number of stock market and securities experts.
- **Key Contributions:**
 - Explored the interplay between individual, financial, and market-related psychological factors influencing investment behavior.
 - Highlighted the practical implications of understanding herding behavior for investors and policymakers.

Teaching Experience

GMAT/Mathematics Instructor

Jan 2023 – Present

OstadBank (Freelance)

- Taught quantitative reasoning and mathematical concepts for GMAT and national PhD/MBA entrance exams.
- Conducted over 500 sessions with a perfect 5-star satisfaction rating from students.
- Developed tailored strategies to improve students' problem-solving skills and exam performance.

Teaching Assistant for Financial Management

Fall 2019 & Fall 2020

University of Kashan

- Evaluated assignments and exams for 27 students, providing detailed feedback.
- Organized weekly TA office hours to support students in mastering course content.
- Assisted the professor in preparing lecture materials and managing classroom activities during COVID-19 online classes.

Skills

Programming Languages: Python (Pandas, Numpy, Matplotlib), R (ggplot2, dplyr, tidyr)

Database and Web Technologies: SQL, HTML, CSS

Document and Workflow Tools: \LaTeX , Markdown, Microsoft Office

Operating Systems: Ubuntu, macOS, Microsoft Windows Server, Microsoft Windows

Industry Knowledge: Trading Financial Markets and Derivatives

Project Management: Git, Docker, ClickUp, Notion, Trello

Interpersonal: Creativity, Communication, Leadership

Projects

Developing a Learning Management System for GRE Preparation

Ongoing

Independent Project

- Building an LMS using Moodle™ to provide comprehensive GRE preparation resources.
- Incorporating practice tests, study modules, and analytics for progress tracking.
- Integrating relevant quantitative section question banks of SAT, GMAT, IMAT and GRE to make an extensive question bank

Presenting Ant-Colony Algorithm

Jan 2019

Meta-heuristic Optimization Course, Kashan University

- Delivered a comprehensive presentation on the ant-colony optimization algorithm, focusing on its applications in solving complex optimization problems.
- Developed a practical demonstration to illustrate the algorithm's effectiveness in pathfinding and resource allocation scenarios.

Developed a Mathematics Learning Management System

Sep 2018

Independent Project

- Created an LMS using WordPress and LearnDash to support high school mathematics education.
- Built a database of 2,000+ questions covering all high school math topics, enabling targeted practice for students.
- Integrated quizzes, interactive modules, and progress tracking, enhancing student engagement and learning outcomes.
- Provided educational access to over 100 students in the first year of implementation.

- Led a team at the Foreign Language Development Center to design and implement a two-stage English proficiency test based on TOEFL preparation materials.
- Organized and conducted the test for 60 participants in the first stage and 20 in the second stage, evaluating advanced English skills.
- Enhanced participants' test-taking strategies and English language proficiency through preparation classes.

Details of additional, less relevant projects are available upon request.

Non-academic Appointments

Financial Trader

Dec 2013 – Present

Self-employed

- Performed swing trading in cryptocurrencies and Iran's stock market using price action techniques and market analysis.
- Developed and implemented risk management strategies to maximize returns and minimize losses.
- Shared trading strategies and insights through a personal YouTube channel and website, reaching an audience of aspiring traders.

Business Development Specialist

Jan 2023 – Feb 2023

Afrak Ads (Internship)

- Implemented lead-generation pipelines, improving client acquisition and conversion rates.
- Delivered presentations to prospective clients, fostering successful engagements.

Chief Marketing Officer

Oct 2022 – Dec 2022

Mahestan Mattress (Full-Time)

- Implemented a QR code system for tracking warehouse operations, improving inventory accuracy and efficiency.
- Oversaw supply chain and warehouse management, including transportation logistics and accounting processes.
- Designed and executed process improvements, enhancing operational workflows and reducing errors.

Test Scores

TOEFL iBT

Oct 2024

Score: 106 (Reading: 29, Listening: 29, Speaking: 25, Writing: 23)

GRE General

Dec 2024

Score: 336 (Q: 170, V: 166, W: 4.5)

Certificates

- Mathematics for Machine Learning: Linear Algebra *Imperial College London (Dec 2023)*
- Mathematics for Machine Learning: Multivariate Calculus *Imperial College London (Dec 2023)*
- Advanced R Programming *The Johns Hopkins University (Dec 2023)*
- Statistics *365 Data Science (Nov 2023)*
- Supervised Machine Learning: Regression and Classification *DeepLearning.AI (Nov 2023)*
- Python, Pandas, and Introduction to Machine Learning *Kaggle (Jun 2023)*

A complete list of additional, less relevant certificates is available upon request.

References

Dr. Ali Farhadian

Associate Professor of Finance

Faculty of Finance, Management, and Entrepreneurship, University of Kashan, Kashan, Iran

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Website: faculty.kashanu.ac.ir/farhadian/en

Relationship: Supervisor of my MBA thesis and instructor of Financial Management and Business Ethics courses.

Dr. Masoud Tamasoki Bidgoli

Former Assistant Professor, Department of Industrial Engineering

Faculty of Engineering, University of Kashan, Kashan, Iran

Email: tamassoki@yahoo.com

Website: faculty.kashanu.ac.ir/tamasoki/en

Relationship: Supervisor of my initial thesis (canceled after his departure) and instructor of the Microeconomics course.

Dr. Hadi Mokhtari

Associate Professor, Department of Industrial Engineering

Faculty of Engineering, University of Kashan, Kashan, Iran

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Links: ORCID — Google Scholar

Relationship: Instructor for the course Meta-heuristic Optimization.

Dr. Seyed Abdul-Jaber Ghodrati Kashan

Assistant Professor of Marketing

Faculty of Finance, Management, and Entrepreneurship, University of Kashan, Kashan, Iran

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Website: faculty.kashanu.ac.ir/ghodrati/en

Relationship: Instructor of the Marketing Management course and referee for my thesis defense.

Dr. Rasoul Heidari Soreshjani

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and Tourism

Faculty of Natural Resources and Earth Sciences, University of Kashan, Kashan, Iran

Email: rasol_heidary@kashanu.ac.ir

Links: ORCID — Google Scholar

Relationship: Instructor of the Statistics in Management course, and a referee for my thesis defense.