

Masood Dastan

Data Scientist, Economist

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EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, The University of Texas at El Paso | TX, USA | Sep 2020 - present

- Instruct and develop undergraduate and graduate courses in machine learning, business analytics, and economics.
- Authored and published a peer-reviewed paper employing advanced statistical techniques, emphasizing the importance of addressing missing data when assessing corruption's impact on firm investment in developing countries. | [Link](#)

Data Science Fellow, General Assembly | Remote | May 2023 – Aug 2023

- 12-week, 400+ hour training program focusing on developing skills to analyze, interpret, and effectively communicate data-driven insights from massive data sets, and to predict what happens next through predictive modeling and pattern recognition.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Texas A&M International University | TX, USA | Sep 2019 – Aug 2020

- Instructed undergraduate-level courses in Econometrics, Microeconomics, and Macroeconomics.

DATA SCIENCE PROJECTS

Investigating the Impact of Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) Meetings on Stock Market Performance | SpaCy, NLTK, Scikit-Learn, Transfer Learning, Deep Learning

- Integrated text analysis to uncover key themes and sentiments from FOMC meeting minutes.
- Utilized topic modeling (LDA) to identify significant US economic concerns discussed during FOMC meetings.
- Conducted sentiment analysis using zero-shot text classification to assess FOMC statements comprehensively.

Reddit Post Classification | Python, NLTK, Scikit-Learn

- Employed Reddit API to gather 10,000+ posts from "Personal Finance" and "Investing" subreddits.
- Utilized NLTK, CountVectorizer, TF-IDF, and Scikit-Learn models for preprocessing and classification.

Predicting Credit Card Delinquency | Python, Scikit-Learn, Deep Learning

- Led a team to create a predictive model for credit card delinquency.
- Spearheaded data cleaning, EDA, and feature engineering.
- Implemented diverse ML models for credit delinquency prediction.

Housing Market Analysis | Python, Scikit-Learn

- Enhanced data quality by rectifying missing values, outliers, and incorrect data types.
- Utilized linear regression, Lasso, Ridge, and Elastic Net models. Implemented forward selection to identify impactful variables, resulting in models surpassing the benchmark by 75%.

EDUCATION

Certificate - Data Science Immersive | General Assembly | Aug 2023

Ph.D. in Economics | Georgia State University | Georgia, USA | Aug 2019

M.A. in Energy Economics | University of Tehran | Tehran, Iran | May 2013

B.A. in Economics | University of Tehran | Tehran, Iran | May 2010

CERTIFICATIONS

Python for Data Science and Machine Learning Bootcamp, Udemy | [Link](#)

The Ultimate MySQL Bootcamp: Go from SQL Beginner to Expert, Udemy | [Link](#)

Google Data Analytics, Coursera | [Link](#)

SKILLS

Language Proficiencies: Python, SQL, R, STATA, Tableau

Other Misc. Technologies: Git, AWS, Google Cloud, Spark, LaTeX

Data Analysis Skills: Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Time Series Analysis, NLP, Causal Analysis