ZAHRA SHAKERI HOSSEIN ABAD

zahra_shakeri@hms.harvard.edu

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Biomedical Informatics, Harvard Medical School 10 Shattuck Street, Boston, MA 02115, USA

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health Data Science: Health Informatics, Health Data Visualization, Digital Population Health, Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence, Natural Language Processing, Digital Health, Social Media Analysis, mHealth, Aging

Software Engineering & HCI: Data-driven Decision Making, Software Analytics Storytelling, Information Visualization, Interactive Surfaces, Visual Analytics

EDUCATION

Harvard Medical School, USA

July 2021-Present

Postdoctoral Fellow, Health Informatics and Visualization

Supervisor: Nils Gehlenborg

University of Calgary, Canada

November 2018-July 2021

Postdoctoral Associate, Health Informatics

MIT Institute for Data, Systems, and Society (IDSS), USA September 2018 [Deferred] Postdoctoral Associate, Machine Learning and Data Science

University of Calgary, Canada

2013- 2018

PhD, Computer Science

Thesis: Managing Multitasking in Software Development Tasks Using Visual Analytics and Ma-

chine Learning

Supervisor: Ken Barker

Sharif University of Technology, Iran

2008-2011

MSc, Software Engineering

Thesis: Towards Tool Support for Situational Engineering of Agile Methodologies

Supervisor: Raman Ramsin

Amirkabir University of Technology, Iran

2003- 2007

BSc, Software Engineering

Thesis: Using FOAF Profiles to Improve Bookmarking in Social Networks

Supervisor: Mohammad Boroujerdi

PUBLICATIONS

Pre-Prints

1. Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, Wendy Thompson, Gregory P Butler, Joon Lee. Digital surveillance of physical activity, sedentary behaviour, and sleep using transfer learning, spatiotemporal, and demographic analysis, 2021.

Accepted/Published Peer-Reviewed Conferences and Journals

1. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Mohammad Noaeen, Adrienne Kline, Madeena Sultana, Filipe Lucini, Majed Al-jefri, Joon Lee. Digital public health surveillance: a systematic scoping review. Nature Digit Medicine [IF: 11.66]. 4(41):1-13, 2021.

- 2. Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, Wendy Thompson, Gregory P Butler, Joon Lee. Crowd-sourcing for machine learning in public health surveillance: lessons learned from Amazon Mechanical Turk. Journal of Medical Internet Research [In Press, IF: 5.43], 2021.
- Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, David Maslove, Joon Lee, Predicting Discharge Destination
 of Critically Ill Patients Using Machine Learning. IEEE Journal of Biomedical and Health
 Informatics-J-BHI [IF: 5.77], 25(3):827-837, 2021.
- 4. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Wendy Thompson, Gregory P Butler, Joon Lee. Physical activity, sedentary behaviour, and sleep on Twitter: A multicountry and fully labelled dataset for public health surveillance research. Journal of Medical Internet Research [In Press, IF: 5.43], October 2021.
- 5. Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, and Joon Lee. Detecting Uncertainty of Mortality Prediction Using Confident Learning. In 2021 43rd Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine Biology Society (EMBC), pp. 1719-1722. IEEE, 2021.
- 6. Mohammed, Emad A., Esmaeil Shakeri, Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, Trafford Crump, and Behrouz Far. Important Features Identification for Prostate Cancer Patients Stratification Using Isolation Forest and Interactive Clustering Method. In 2021 IEEE 22nd International Conference on Information Reuse and Integration for Data Science (IRI), pp. 334-341. IEEE, 2021.
- 7. Adrienne Kline, Theresa Kline, **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, and Joon Lee, Using Item Response Theory for Explainable Machine Learning in Predicting Mortality in the Intensive Care Unit: Case-Based Approach. Journal of Medical Internet Research, 22, no. 9(2020):e20268, Journal of Medical Internet Research [IF: 5.43] 2020.
- 8. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Adrienne Kline, Joon Lee, Evaluation of Machine Learning-based Patient Outcome Prediction Using Patient-specific Difficulty and Discrimination Indices. The 43rd Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society, 2020.
- Adrienne Kline, Theresa Kline, Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, Joon Lee, Novel Feature Selection for Artificial Intelligence Using Item Response Theory for Mortality Prediction. The 43rd Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society, 2020.
- 10. Munima Jahan, **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, and Behrouz Far, Detecting Emergent Behavior in Scenario-Based Specifications using a Probabilistic Model. IEEE Tenth International Model-Driven Requirements Engineering (MoDRE). IEEE, 2020.
- 11. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Vincenzo Gervasi, and Didar Zowghi, Supporting Analysts by Dynamic Extraction and Classification of Requirements-Related Knowledge. In proceedings of the 41st ACM/IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE'19, Technical Track), 2019 [Acceptance Rate: 20%].
- 12. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Muneera Bano, and Didar Zowghi, Zowghi, How much Authenticity can be achieved in Software Engineering Project Based courses? In proceedings of the 41st ACM/IEEE International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE'19, SE Education Track), 2019 [Acceptance Rate: 27%].
- 13. Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, Munib Rahman, Abdullah Cheema, Vincenzo Gervasi, Didar Zowghi, and Ken Barker, Dynamic Visual Analytics for Elicitation Meetings with ELICA. Accepted to the 26th IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering, 2018 [Awarded as the Best Demo/Tool].

- 14. Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, Vincenzo Gervasi, Didar Zowghi, and Ken Barker, ELICA: A Requirements Elicitation Aid Tool. Accepted to the 26th IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering Workshops (REW18), 2018.
- 15. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Vincenzo Gervasi, Didar Zowghi, and Ken Barker, Supporting Analysts by Dynamic Extraction and Classification of Requirements-relevant Information. Submitted to the 26th IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering, 2018.
- 16. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Mohammad Noaeen, Didar Zowghi, Behrouz Far, and Ken Barker, Two Sides of the Same Coin: Software Developers' Perceptions of Task Switching and Interruption, In proceedings of the 22nd International Conference on Evaluation and Assessment in Software Engineering, 2018 [Acceptance Rate: 18%].
- 17. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Oliver Karras, Kurt Schneider, Ken Barker, Mike Bauer, Task Interruption in Software Development Projects What Makes some Interruptions More Disruptive than Others?, In proceedings of the 22nd International Conference on Evaluation and Assessment in Software Engineering, 2018 [Acceptance Rate: 18%].
- 18. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Guenther Ruhe, and Mike Bauer, Task Interruptions in Requirements Engineering: Reality versus Perceptions. In proceeding of the 25th IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering (RE'17), 2017 [Acceptance Rate: 20%].
- 19. Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, Alex Shymka, Jenny Le, Noor Hammad, and Guenther Ruhe, A Visual Narrative Path From Switching to Resuming a Requirements Engineering Task. In proceeding of the 25th IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering (RE'17), 2017 [Acceptance Rate: 30%].
- 20. Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, Oliver Karras, Parisa Ghazi, Martin Glinz, Guenther Ruhe, and Kurt Schneider, What Works Better? A Study of Classifying Requirements. Conditionally accepted to the 25th IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering (RE'17), 2017 [Acceptance Rate: 30%].
- 21. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Guenther Ruhe, and Mike Bauer, Task Interruptions in Service-Oriented Software Development Projects: An Exploratory Case Study. In Proceedings of the 39th International Conference on Software Engineering Workshops (SERIP'17), 2017.
- 22. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Mohammad Noaeen, and Guenther Ruhe, Requirements Engineering Visualization: A Systematic Literature Review. The 24th IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering (RE'16). IEEE, Beijing, China, September 2016 [Acceptance Rate: 27%].
- 23. Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, Alex Shymka, Susant Pant, Ashley Currie, and Guenther Ruhe, What Are Practitioners Asking About Requirements Engineering? An Exploratory Analysis of Social Q&A Sites, 9th International Workshop on Software Product Management (IWSPM 2016), September 2016.
- 24. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Reza Karimpour, Trong Tan Ho, S. M. Didar Al-Alam, Guenther Ruhe, Edward Tse, Kevin Barabash and Ian Hargreaves. Understanding the Impact of Technical Debt in Coding and Testing: An Explorative Case Study, SER&IP 2016 (ICSE 2016), USA, 2016.
- 25. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Mohammad Noaeen, Behrouz Far, and Guenther Ruhe, What Do Practitioners Say about Big Data? An Empirical Investigation of Stack Overflow, BIDMA, 2016.
- Mahshid Marbouti, Rahul Bhaskar, Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, Craig Anslow, Frank Maurer, and Leland Jackson. Designing Geovisual Analytics Application for Exploring Hydrological Data. BIDMA 2016, Canada, 2016.

- 27. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad** and Guenther Ruhe. "Using Real Options to Manage Technical Debt in Requirements Engineering". The 23^{rd} IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering (RE), 2015.
- 28. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Craig Anslow, and Frank Maurer. Multi-Surface Interactions with Geospatial Data: A Systematic Review. *In Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Interactive Tabletops and Surfaces (ITS)*, 2014.
- 29. Theodore D. Hellmann, Apoorve Chokshi, **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Sydney Pratte, and Frank Maurer. Agile Testing: A Systematic Mapping Across Three Conferences: Understanding Agile Testing in the XP/Agile Universe, Agile, and XP Conferences. In Proceedings of the International Conference on Agile Methods in Software Development (Agile), 2013.
- 30. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Anahita Alipour, and Raman Ramsin. Enhancing Tool Support for Situational Engineering of Agile Methodologies in Eclipse, *In Proceedings of Software Engineering Research, Management and Applications (SERA)*, R. Lee (Ed.), SCI 430, Springer, 2012.
- 31. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Mahsa Hasani Sadi, and Raman Ramsin. "Towards Tool Support for Situational Engineering of Agile Methodologies", *In Proceedings of the IEEE International Asia-Pacific Software Engineering Conference (APSEC)*, 2010.

Peer-Reviewed Workshops and Posters

- Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, Sania Moazzam, Christina Lo, Tianhan Lan, Elis Frroku, and Heejun Kim. "Loud and Interactive Paper Prototyping in Requirements Elicitation: What is it Good for?." Accepted to the 26th IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering Workshops (REW18), 2018.
- 2. Mohammad Noaeen, **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, and Behrouz Homayoun Far. "Let's hear it from RETTA: A Requirements Elicitation Tool for TrAffic management systems." In proceeding of the 25th IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering (RE'17) [Best Poster Award].
- 3. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Shane DV Sims, Abdullah Cheema, Montasir B. Nasir, and Payal Harisinghani. "Learn More, Pay Less! Lessons Learned from Applying the Wizard-of-Oz Technique for Exploring Mobile App Requirements." In 2017 IEEE 25th International Requirements Engineering Conference Workshops (REW), pp. 132-138. IEEE, 2017.
- 4. Parisa Ghazi, **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, and Martin Glinz, Choosing Requirements for Experimentation with User Interfaces of Requirements Modeling Tools, In proceeding of the 25th IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering (RE'17) [Second Best Poster Award].
- 5. **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Reza Karimpour, Trong Tan Ho, S. M. Didar Al-Alam, and Guenther Ruhe. Understanding the Impact of Technical Debt in Coding and Testing: An Explorative Case Study, CPSCID 2015, Calgary, Canada, 2015. [Selected as first place in CPSCID 2015]
- Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, and Guenther Ruhe. Using Real Options to Improve Requirement Debt Decisions Under Uncertainty: A Visual Analytics Approach, CPSCID 2015, Calgary, Canada, 2015.
- 7. Rahul Kamal Bhaskar, Julia Paredes, **Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad**, Zahra Sahaf, Haleh Alemasoom, and Craig Anslow. VACI: Towards Visual Analytics for Criminal Investigation. In Proceedings of the IEEE Visual Analytics Science and Technology (VAST) Challenge, Paris, France, 2014.

- 8. Zahra Sahaf, Haleh Alemasoom, Rahul Kamal Bhaskar, Julia Paredes, Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, and Craig Anslow. TrackVis: A Visualization Tool for Analyzing Movement and Tracking Data of Criminal Activities. In Proceedings of the IEEE Visual Analytics Science and Technology (VAST) Challenge, Paris, France, 2014.
- 9. Zahra Shakeri Hossein Abad, Rahul Kamal Bhaskar, Mahshid Marbouti, Leland Jackson, and Frank Maurer. Water Management System: A Visual Analytics Approach, CPSCID 2014, Calgary, Canada, 2014.

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EACHING EXPERIENCES	
Sessional Instructor	
Department of Community Health Sciences, University of Calgary - Data 624 Advanced Exploration and Visualization in Health I received a 7/7 overall evaluation on the USRI survey	Winter 2021
Department of Community Health Sciences, University of Calgary - Data 624 Advanced Exploration and Visualization in Health I received a 7/7 overall evaluation on the USRI survey	Winter 2020
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Calgar - ENSF 645 Data Mining & Knowledge Discovery - ENSF 619.25 Machine Learning	y Spring 2019 Winter 2019
Department of Mathematics and Computing, Mount Royal University - COMP2613 Introduction to Computability (13 students) I received a 5.8/6 overall evaluation on the USRI survey	Fall 2019
- COMP2613 Introduction to Computability (13 students) I received a 5.9/6 overall evaluation on the USRI survey - COMP 5304 Programming IV-Software Engineering I received a 5.6/6 overall evaluation on the USRI survey	Fall 2018 Fall 2018
Department of Computer Science, University of Calgary - SENG300 Analysis and Design of Large-Scale Software (65 students) I received a 6.67/7 overall evaluation on the USRI survey (compare to dep	Spring 2018 partment average: 5.7)
Department of Mathematics and Computing, Mount Royal University - COMP2613 Introduction to Computability (24 students) I received a 5.6/6 overall evaluation on the USRI survey	Fall 2017
Department of Computer Science, University of Calgary - SENG301 Analysis and Design of Large-Scale Software (45 students) I received a 6.63/7 overall evaluation on the USRI survey (compare to dep - SENG301 Analysis and Design of Large-Scale Software (133 students) I received a 6.24/7 overall evaluation on the USRI survey (compare to dep	Winter 2016
Department of Computer Science, University of Abrar - SE401 Object Oriented Design - CS353 Introduction to Computability - SE203 Software Engineering - SE201 Discrete Mathematics for Computer Engineering Students - CS252 English for Computer Science Students	Sep 2011- Jan 2013 Fall 2012 Winter 2012 Winter 2012 Fall 2011 Fall 2011

Teaching Assistant

Department of Computer Science, University of Calgary - CPSC313 Introduction to Computability (Evaluation result: 66/70) - CPSC313 Introduction to Computability (Evaluation result: 67/70)	Sep 2013- Present Winter 2017 Fall 2016
- CPSC313 Introduction to Computability (Evaluation result: 63/70)	Fall 2015
- CPSC594 Software Engineering Project (Industrial Projects)	Winter 2015
- CPSC594 Software Engineering Project (Industrial Projects)	Fall 2014
- CPSC313 Introduction to Computability (Evaluation result: 62/70)	Winter 2014
- SENG301 Design of Large-Scale Software (Evaluation result: $61/70$)	Fall 2013
Department of Computer Engineering, Sharif University of Technology	Sep 2009- Jan 2011
- Software Development Methodologies	Fall 2011
- Patterns in Software Engineering	Winter 2011
- Software Development Methodologies	Fall 2010

Learning Assistant

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Calgary Sep 2015- Jan 2017
- ENGG233 Computing for Engineers Fall 2016
- ENGG233 Computing for Engineers Fall 2015

Invited Talks and Tutorials

- 2020 Women in Data Science 2020, WiDS'20 (Keynote Speaker), Calgary. The Double-edged Sword of AI in Health Data Science.
- 2019 Centre for Health Informatics, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary. *Does Better Data Beat Better Learning Algorithms?*
- 2016 University of Calgary, Department of Computer Science. Systematic Literature Review: Methods and Techniques.

RESEARCH FUNDINGS

2020 Co-Investigator— The Costs and Benefits of Transitioning from ICD-10-CA to ICD-11 in Canada. The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). PI: Dr. Catherine Ann Eastwood. \$283,051.

2015 Canada Graduate Scholarship, NSERC. \$25,500.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Scientist

Chata.ai Inc., Calgary

January 2018- May 2018

- Developed machine learning algorithms for efficiently classifying unstructured text, including information extraction, translation, and summarization.
- Applied visual analytics techniques to present the analytical results

Research Assistant

University of Calgary and ARCURVE Inc.

Aug 2015- Jan 2018

- Worked on a research project to understand the impact of delay and tasks interruptions in software development projects

University of Calgary and SMART Technologies

Aug 2014- Dec 2014

- Worked on a research project to understand the impact of technical debt in coding and testing

Department of Computer Science, University of Calgary

May 2013- Sep 2013

- Worked on Square Kilometre Array (SKA) Project to explore software engineering concepts in cloud computing

Internship Experiences

Microsoft (Microsoft Dynamics CRM, Seattle, US)

Spring 2016

- Data Analysis and Visualization, Software Engineer

ITS (Integrated Tax System), Iran

Jan 2012- Sep 2012

- Supervisor and Software Engineer in ITS Pproject

ITRC (Education and Research Institute for ICT), Iran

Jul 2010- Sept 2012

- Software Engineer in developing an enterprise application

CPMIS Project, Sharif University of Technology, Iran

Jan 2011- Sept 2011

- Member of the Risk Management Team

Software Developer

SKA (Square Kilometre Array) Project

May 2013- Sep 2013

Department of Computer Science and the Physics Department, University of Calgary

- Developed API for different cloud providers (Amazon Web Service, Windows Azure, HEROKU, Google App Engine, Google Computing Engine)

Water Management System (IBM Project)

Sep2013- Apr 2014

Department of Computer Science, University of Calgary

- Analyzed and visualized flood data to predict flood in Calgary

C4i (Multi-surface Environments for Emergency Response Planning)

May 2014- Sep 2014

Department of Computer Science, University of Calgary

- Developed an emergency management system for operations centres involving visual analytics and big data within a multi-surface environment.

Supervision and Mentoring

 $Department\ of\ Computer\ Science,\ and\ Department\ of\ Electrical\ and\ Computer\ Engineering,\ University\ of\ Calgary$

- Fauziya Shaikh [MSc]: Traffic Information Exploration from Twitter Spring 2019
- Jason Robert Kraft [MSc]: Producing Frames of Animation using a Convolutional Network for Filter Composition

 Winter 2019
- Payal Harisinghani [BSc]: The Application of NLP and Machine Learning Techniques to Explore Mobile App Requirements

 Spring 2017
- Montasir B Nasir [BSc]: The Application of NLP and Machine Learning Techniques to Explore Mobile App Requirements

 Spring 2017
- Shane Sims [BSc]: The Application of NLP and Machine Learning Techniques to Explore Mobile App Requirements

 Spring 2017
- Noor Hammed [BSc]: Interruption Analysis in Software Development Projects Winter 2017
- Jenny Le [BSc]: Interruption Analysis in Software Development Projects Winter 2017

- Alex Shymka [BSc]: Interruption Analysis in Software Development Projects Winter 2017
- James Raleigh [BSc]: Tasks Interruption Analysis in Software Development Projects Fall 2016
- Alex Shymka [BSc]: Designing and Developing a Requirements engineering Tool Summer 2016
- Susant Pant [BSc]: Visual Analytics for Requirements Engineering Summer 2016
- Ashley Currie [BSc]: Mining Software Repositories Summer 2016

Administrative Responsibilities

Member of the Limited-term Instructor Selection Hiring Committee

The University of Calgary, Department of Computer Science

Summer 2016

Development Skills

Programming Languages Python, R, C++, C#, Java

Protocols & APIs XML, REST

DatabasesMySQL, Microsoft SQL, NoSQL, MongoDBToolsTableau, PowerBI, SVN, Vim, Git, ArcGIS

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Leadership Experiences

Member of Organizing Team in Women in Data Science- WiDS'20 Sep 2019-March 2020

University of Calgary

IEEE Vice President Advertising Apr 2016-Apr 2017

University of Calgary, Southern Alberta Section, IEEE

Graduate Coaching Facilitator in Student Success Centre (SSC)

Jan 2016-Sep 2017

University of Calgary

 $\label{lem:condition} \textit{Vice President-Academic of Computer Science Graduate Students} \;\; (\textit{CSGS}) \qquad \textit{Apr 2015-Apr 2016}$

University of Calgary, Department of Computer Science (Volunteer)

University of Calgary, Department of Computer Science (Volunteer)

Member of the Women's Resource Centre (WRC)

Jan 2015-June 2015

University of Calgary (Volunteer)

- Peer helper in Events and Education Coordination Team and Male Allies

Graduatse Peer Coach in Student Success Centre (SSC)

Jan 2015-Apr 2017

University of Calgary

- Coaching graduate students at the University of Calgary to increase their accountability and help them stay on track to complete their degree.

Vice President-External of Computer Science Graduate Students (CSGS) Sep 2014-Apr 2015

Facilitator in Student Success Centre (SSC)

Sep 2014-Apr 2017

University of Calgary (Volunteer)

- Facilitator of the boot camp writing sessions for graduate students, SSC, University of Calgary

Technical Program Committees

- IEEE International Workshop on Crowd-Based Requirements Engineering (PC member) 2020
- IEEE Natural Language Processing for Requirements Engineering [NLP4RE] (PC member) 2019

- IEEE International Requirements Engineering Conference [RE] (PC member)	2019
- IEEE International Requirements Engineering Conference [RE] (PC member)	2018
- Journal of Systems and Software [JSS] (Reviewer)	2018
- Journal of Systems and Software [JSS] (Reviewer)	2017
- IEEE International Requirements Engineering Conference [RE] (Reviewer)	2017
- The Journal of Information and Software Technology [IST] (Reviewer)	2016
- The Asia-Pacific Software Engineering Conference [APSEC] (Reviewer)	2016
- IEEE LCN BIDMA (PC Member)	2016
- IEEE International Requirements Engineering Conference [RE] (Reviewer)	2016
- IEEE CS and ACM International Conference on Software Engineering [ICSE]	2015

AWARDS, HONOURS

- Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta Postdoctoral Scholarships, University of Calgary ${\it Fe}$	all 2020
- Finalist for the first Postdoc Research Slam Award, University of Calgary	all 2019
- Cumming School of Medicine Postdoctoral Scholarships, University of Calgary Wint	er 2019
- Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta Postdoctoral Scholarships, University of Calgary Wint	er 2019
- Nominated for the 2019 ACM Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award Septemb	er 2019
- Excellence in Teaching Award, GSA, University of Calgary Ap	ril 2018
- Nominated for the University of Calgary Teaching Award Wint	ter 2018
- Nominated for the Internationalization Achievement Awards, University of Calgary Fo	all 2017
- Computer Science Department Research Award, University of Calgary Federal Research Award, University of Calgary	all 2016
- Eyes High International Doctoral Scholarship	all 2016
- Computer Science Department Research Award, University of Calgary Wint	er 2016
- Faculty of Graduate Studies Travel Award, University of Calgary	all 2015
- Computer Science Department Research Award, University of Calgary For a second seco	all 2015
- Graduate Excellence Award, University of Calgary Wint	er 2015
- Computer Science Department Research Award, University of Calgary 20	13-2014
- Second Place in the Computer Science Department (MSc), Sharif University of Technology 2011	
- Ranked Top 1% $(62^{nd}/30,000)$ in the National University-Entrance Exam (MSc)	2008

CITIZENSHIP

- Canadian Permanent Resident
- Iranian