

# Abolfazl Eskandarpour

📍 Vancouver

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📁 [Portfolio](#)

🔍 [Google Scholar](#)

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## SUMMARY

Experienced **AI Researcher/Scientist** with a specialization in **deep learning** and **robotics**, focusing on optimizing algorithmic performance for **autonomous aerial vehicles**. Proficient in **Python, C, and C++** programming, and well-versed in deep learning frameworks including **PyTorch, TensorFlow, OpenCV**, etc. Expertise in dynamic modeling, **control**, and **optimization**, leveraging **data-driven** approaches such as **reinforcement learning (RL)** and neural network architectures (**TCN, RNN, CNN**) for **vision-based tasks** in robotics. Skilled in **human-robot** interaction, designing **LangChain agents**, and utilizing **LLMs** like **GPT, Llama**, and **Azure**. Passionate about advancing AI research, with a particular interest in RL and LLMs ([My Portfolio](#)).

## EDUCATION

### Simon Fraser University

Ph.D. • Electrical & Computer Engineering • GPA: 4.17/4.33

Thesis Title: "Deep Learning-based Hybrid Dynamic Modeling and Tube-Based MPC Control of Unmanned Aerial Manipulators (UAMs)"

Burnaby, BC

Nov. 2019-Present

### Tarbiat Modares University

M.Sc. • Electrical & Computer Engineering • GPA: 3.5/4.0

Thesis Title: "A Cooperative Model Predictive Controller Design for a Group of Quadrotors using Particle Swarm Optimization"

Tehran, Iran

Graduation Date: Feb. 2015

### Shiraz University of Technology

B.Sc. • Electrical & Computer Engineering • GPA: 3.5/4.0

Thesis Title: "Review and Simulation of Recent Reliability and Lifetime Improvement Approaches in Wireless Sensor Networks"

Shiraz, Iran

Graduation Date: Aug. 2012

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Simon Fraser University (SFU)

Researcher Assistant

Burnaby, BC

2019 – Present

- Developing a framework for seamless **UAM-human interaction** using **LLMs (GPT, Gemini, Llama)** for natural language commands and **computer vision** for **visual feedback**. This enhances **UAM autonomy** in tasks like payload grasping/retrieval [Primary Result](#).
- Developing a **LangChain agent** based on **ROS** to facilitate smooth communication between the UAM and human operators.
- Developed an UAM system with **AI-driven perception** and **vision-based** interaction for **Autonomous** payload handling: [Result](#)
- **Software** and **Hardware development** of an **autonomous UAM** in both real-world and simulation using **ROS1/ROS2/Gazebo**: [Result](#)
- Created a hybrid dynamic model for the UAM using **deep learning architectures (FNN+TCN)** for precise system **identification**, achieving a 30% improvement in model accuracy from 3 hours of input-output flight data: [Result1](#), [Result2](#)
- Leveraged offline **RL** on a **large dataset** from the UAM platform to enhance state-space dynamic models and update policies, enabling improved policy **robustness** and **optimization** prior to deployment.
- Developed **adaptive AI-driven control** and **optimization** systems for a UAM, including a **deep learning-enhanced MPC**, improving uncertainty management by 20%, accuracy by 35%, and achieving a 99% success rate in payload handling: [Result1](#), [Result2](#)
- Designed an **optimized robust switching** controller to improve **path planning** for tilt-rotor UAVs: [Result](#)
- Designed a **model-based RL** algorithm, paired with a robust MPC, to ensure **safe exploration** and **exploitation** in practical implementations where constraint satisfaction is vital: [Result](#)

### Simon Fraser University

Teaching Assistant

Burnaby, BC

2019 - Present

- Served as a Teaching Assistant over 20 times in the Engineering Science (ENSC) and Sustainable Energy Engineering (SEE) departments at SFU.
- Managed tutorial and lab sessions, providing support and answering students' questions for an average of approximately 150 students each semester.
- Designed assignments, lab exercises, quizzes, and midterm/final exam questions, and responsible for grading them.

### Huawei Technologies services

TX Engineer

Tehran, Iran

2016 - 2018

- Executed the deployment and integration of fiber optic networks, involving the configuration of **network infrastructure components**, for 5 major Iran provinces
- Oversaw on-site installation activities and subcontractor operations, ensuring compliance with engineering specifications and industry standards.
- Coordinated with engineering teams to diagnose and address technical issues, **optimizing network performance** and reliability.
- Generated comprehensive technical documentation and progress reports detailing installation procedures, configurations, and system performance.

### Tarbiat Modares University

Researcher Assistant

Tehran, Iran

2012 – 2016

- Developed an advanced **optimized MPC controller** for a quadrotor **path-following** problem and provided **stability** analysis: [Result](#)
- Designed a **cooperative distributed MPC** controller, including Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO), for a group of quadrotors, including algorithms for **formation control, trajectory tracking, planning**, and obstacle avoidance: [Result](#)
- Conducted **experimental implementation** of Constrained MPC for the quadruple tank process, achieving improved trajectory tracking performance.
- Designing a **predictive guidance** and control system for maneuverable **ground moving vehicle** in **3D space** using a Hexarotor: [Result](#)

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## ENGINEERING SKILLS

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**Technical Skills:** C++, Python, Matlab and Simulink, Pandas, PyTorch, Numpy, OpenCV, Docker, TensorFlow, Anaconda, Git/Github, Embedded systems

**Robotic Software:** ROS1/ROS2, Gazebo, Isaac SIM, Unity, PX4 Autopilot, Qgroundcontrol, Ardupilot

**Control and Robotic Skills:** Controllers (Robust and Adaptive PID, TMPC, NMPC, LQR, H-infinity, Backstepping, Sliding mode), Path Planning, SLAM, Kinematics and Dynamics

**LLM Knowledge:** Transformers, LLM inference optimization, GPT models, LLaMA, Parameter-Efficient Fine-Tuning (PEFT), LoRA, Prompt Tuning/Engineering

**AI Knowledge:** Model free/based RL algorithms, offline RL, Generative AI and LLM, NN algorithms: TCN, CNN, FNN, RNN, LSTM

**Optimization Software Knowledge:** YALMIP, Baron, Gurobi, and MOSEK

**Others:** Persistent problem-solver with strong problem-solving skills, Self-motivated, Innovative Thinker, Good teamwork spirit and adaptability, Fast-learner

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## PUBLICATIONS

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### Journals:

- A. Eskandarpour and I. Sharf, "[A constrained error-based MPC for path following of quadrotor with stability analysis](#)," Nonlinear Dyn, vol. 99, no. 2, pp. 899–918, Jan. 2020, doi: 10.1007/s11071-019-04859-0.
- A. Eskandarpour, M. Soltanshah, M. Mehrandezh, K. Gupta " [Decoupled Dynamic Modeling by Decomposing the Cross-Coupled Dynamics and Tube-Based LPV-MPC Control Scheme for Aerial Manipulation](#)", IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems, March 2024, Revised
- A. Eskandarpour, M. Mehrandezh, K. Gupta, A. Ramirez-Serrano, M. Soltanshah " [A constrained robust switching MPC structure for tilt-rotor UAV trajectory tracking problem](#) " Nonlinear Dyn 111, 17247–17275 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11071-023-08787-y>
- A. Eskandarpour, S. M. M. Dehghan, and J. Karimi, "[Designing a predictive guidance and control system for maneuverable ground moving target tracking in 3D space using a Hexarotor](#)," Journal of Control, pp. 0–0, //10.
- A. Eskandarpour, M. Soltanshah, M. Mehrandezh, K. Gupta " Data-driven visual servoing and control of aerial manipulators utilizing RL and deep neural networks (DNN) for efficient load grasping, retrieval, and trajectory tracking."IEEE Robotics & Automation Magazine, In progress

### Conferences:

- A. Eskandarpour and V. J. Majd, "[Cooperative formation control of quadrotors with obstacle avoidance and self collisions based on a hierarchical MPC approach](#)," in 2014 Second RSI/ISM International Conference on Robotics and Mechatronics (ICRoM), Oct. 2014, pp. 351–356, doi: 10.1109/ICRoM.2014.6990926.
  - A. Eskandarpour, M. Soltanshah, K. Gupta, M. Mehrandezh " [Hybrid Dynamic Modelling using FeedForward and Temporal Convolutional Networks \(FNN+TCN\) and Robust Control Scheme for Aerial Manipulators](#)", 2024 IEEE 20th International Conference on Automation Science and Engineering
  - M. Soltanshah, A. Eskandarpour, M. Mehrandezh, K. Gupta "[Robust Partitioned Visual Servoing for Aerial Manipulation Utilizing Controllable-space Image Planning and Adaptive Image Representation](#) ", 2024 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)
  - M. Soltanshah, A. Eskandarpour, M. Mehrandezh, K. Gupta " Toward Autonomous Aerial Object Retrieval Utilizing RL-based Eye-to-hand/Eye-in-hand Feature Matching and Controllable-space Image Planning for Partitioned Visual Servoing", 2025 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)-Submitted
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## Recommendations

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Please [visit here](#) to view my recommendations from my supervisors.

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## AI CERTIFICATIONS

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### Reinforcement Learning Specialization

Coursera • 2023 • Credential ID: [KSWYXM9YTDY4](#)

### Fundamentals of Reinforcement Learning

Coursera • 2023 • Credential ID: [9S76Z5XFH8SJ](#)

### A Complete Reinforcement Learning System

Coursera • 2023 • Credential ID: [HYOXIWMF544Q](#)

### Neural Networks and Deep Learning

Coursera • 2024 • Credential ID: [QEVUPZR7S7NE](#)

### Structuring Machine Learning Projects

Coursera • 2024 • Credential ID: [WRZZODFN0YDS](#)

### Sequence Models

Coursera • 2024 • Credential ID: [ODCDK9V4QZYZ](#)

### Sample-based Learning Methods

Coursera • 2023 • Credential ID: [YEC4QD353E49](#)

### Prediction and Control with Function Approximation

Coursera • 2023 • Credential ID: [PBMERWUUXQY](#)

### Generative AI with Large Language Models

Coursera • 2024 • Credential ID: [CIK38HLH5X6Q](#)

### Improving Deep Neural Networks: Hyperparameter Tuning, Regularization and Optimization

Coursera • 2024 • Credential ID: [GRBKWL3OIS0J](#)

### Convolutional Neural Networks

Coursera • 2024 • Credential ID: [SRP53ZIG2T9M](#)

### Deep Learning Specialization

Coursera • 2024 • Credential ID: [2UU162WT7Y0U](#)

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## HONORS AND AWARDS (For more information, please check the last page of my [transcript here](#))

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- Winner of the **Graduate Fellowship Award five times**, awarded by Simon Fraser University for Fall 2020–2024 and Summer 2022
  - Winner of the Faculty of **Applied Sciences Graduate Fellowship two times**, awarded by ENSC at Simon Fraser University for Spring 2021 and Summer 2024
  - Recipient of **MITACS Research Training Award**, Awarded by MITACS for Fall 2020
  - Recipient of **Helmut and Hugo Eppich Family Endowment Fund five times**, awarded by the Senate Graduate Awards Adjudication Committee for Spring 2021-2025
  - Winner of **Lang Wong Memorial Endowment Scholarship two times**, awarded by Graduate Department at SFU for Spring 2022 and 2024
  - Recipient of **PhD Research Scholarship** awarded by Simon Fraser University for fall 2023
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## RELEVANT COURSEWORK

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### Machine Learning

SFU University, Computer Science Department • 2020 • Grade: A

### Introduction to Robotics

SFU University, Engineering Science Department • 2020 • Grade: A

### Robotic Autonomy

SFU University, Computer Science Department • 2021 • Grade: A

### Model Predictive Control

Tarbiat Modares University, Electrical & Computer Engineering Dep. • 2014 • Grade: A