

Ali Farzanehfar

Ph.D Student

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Education

Imperial College London

Ph.D in Computational Privacy and Computational Economics

London - United Kingdom

Dec. 2016 - Dec. 2020 (expected)

- Awarded scholarship of £130,000 (versus the typical £70,000) due to academic merit
- 4 high-profile talks (70+ people): the European Commission (BEL), the FCA (UK), ITDP (USA) ([linked](#))

University of Cambridge

Courses in Pure and Applied Mathematics

Cambridge - United Kingdom

Oct. 2015 - Jun. 2016

University of Southampton

Masters in High Energy Particle Physics (**First Class Honours**)

Southampton - United Kingdom

Oct. 2011 - Jun. 2015

- Won “Best research thesis” award for anomaly detection algorithm developed at CERN
- Awarded scholarship worth £22,600 based on academic merit
- Awarded CERN placement as one of the top three students in class of 200+ (98.5th percentile)

Oxford Brookes University

International Foundation Diploma in Liberal Arts (**First Class Honours**)

Oxford - United Kingdom

Feb. 2011 - Sep. 2011

- “Excellence of Achievement” award for project on *The Dangers and uses of AI Technology*

Moheb e Safa High School

Pre-University certificate (**Top 0.3% of 300,000 students nationally**)

Tehran - Iran

Sep. 2008 - Sep. 2010

Experience

Opportunity International

Consultant - Operations and Strategy

London - United Kingdom

Jun. 2018 - Present

- Operations: Develop a digital solution to expand school-fee loans to low-income families in Uganda
 - Worked in a team of 3 to develop a credit score using historical data
 - Actively engaged with local bank, creating a data standard to future-proof the digitisation strategy
 - Reduced bank costs by speeding up loan decision process (21 days to 1 day) for 9000+ customers
- Strategy: Expand credit score to Pakistan market (Ongoing)
 - Conceived of a focused experiment with 300 sample loans to demonstrate credit score value to funders

Imperial College London / Dyson School of Design Engineering

Teaching assistant: Big Data, Introduction to Machine Learning, Coding for Medics

London - United Kingdom

May. 2017 - Present

- Designed course material and taught 200+ students at both Undergraduate and Masters level

Imperial College London / Data Science Institute

Ph.D Researcher

London - United Kingdom

Dec. 2016 - Present

- Market Competition: Quantify the impact of AI on competitive insurance markets with real pricing models
 - Leading a team of 4 researchers over 1.5 years in crafting the experiment design
 - Finding, and maintaining contact with, 4,000 actuaries over 3 months for data collection
- Privacy: Estimate the re-identification risk of very large (60M) mobility data sets (mobile phone data)
 - Designed 4 experiments using real data that highlight poor privacy definitions in public policy
 - Built a model highlighting privacy limits, motivating new data-monitisation policies in industry
- Supervising 3 Undergraduate and Masters student projects

The European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)

Research assistant for the CMS Electromagnetic Calorimetry group

Geneva - Switzerland

Sep. 2014 - May. 2015

- Research task: Discover the root cause of anomalous signals in the CMS detector
 - Discovered the cause by conducting 3 iterative physical experiments at 2 CERN facilities
 - Built a detection algorithm for anomalous signals using a large-scale simulation (C++)
 - Results helped save €5M by delaying the need for an upgrade for 5 years

University of Southampton Students' Union (Capoeira Club)

Founder and President

Southampton - United Kingdom

Oct. 2012 - Sep 2014

- Founded and led the growth of the club from 5 to 150 members in 2 years (club is still active)
- Taught martial arts classes for 3 months to 40+ students