AMIR TOHIDI KALORAZI

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EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA   2017-2023 (*Expected*)
Institute for Data, Systems, and Society (IDSS)
Ph.D. in Social and Engineering Systems   GPA: 5.0/5.0
Ph.D. in Statistics
Advisors: Professor Ali Jadbabaie, Professor Dean Eckles

Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran   2012-2017
B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering   GPA: 18.90/20
B.Sc. in Physics
Thesis Advisor: Professor Emad Fatemizadeh

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Causal Inference & Experimental Design
- Applied Econometrics & Machine Learning
- Behavioral Economics
- Computational Social Science

WORKING PAPERS

- Manon Revel, **Amir Tohidi**, Dean Eckles, Aadm Berinsky, Ali Jadbabaie, "**Native ads and the credibility of news**", Reject and Resubmit from Management Science

- **Amir Tohidi**, Dean Eckles, Ali Jadbabaie, "**Habits in consumer purchases: Evidence from store closures**", to be submitted to Management Science

WORK IN PROGRESS

- **Impact of effective altruism training on online prosocial behavior.**
  Collaborators: *Sam Fraiberger, Daniel Chen, Manuel Tonneau*

  - A randomized experiment with Pakistani civil servants, having them take a course on effective altruism as part of their training. Measuring prosocial content in their tweets using NLP methods (e.g., BERT model) to estimate the causal effect of the training on their tweeting behavior in a difference-in-differences framework.

- **An experimental study to increase consensus on polarized topics.**
  Collaborators: *Sam Fraiberger, Stefano Balietti, Manuel Tonneau, Anca Balietti*

  - An online experimental study investigating persuasion gaps across stances on polarizing topics. Measuring how people anticipate others with alternative stances will update their beliefs after reading a snippet on economic inequality or climate change. Comparing the expected belief updates with the actual ones to shed light on how well people can predict the persuasiveness of new information. Findings will elucidate online sharing behavior and polarization.

- **Impact of customer diversity on restaurants' foot-traffic recovery after Covid-19.**
  Collaborator: *Mohsen Bahrami*

    - track restaurants' customers mobility patterns using Safe Graph data before and after Covid, and evaluate how various measures of customer diversity such as entropy of locations and income diversity affect foot-traffic recovery. We also use Yelp data to control for numerous restaurant features including anti-Covid measures.

TEACHING & ADVISING

- **MIT Sloan School of Management**

    - Teaching Assistant for *Marketing Analytics*, *Evaluations*: 5.9/7, Spring 2022

- **MIT COVID-19 Datathon challenge**

    - Mentoring teams in the misinformation track, Summer 2020

- **Sharif University of Technology**

    - Teaching Assistant for *Engineering Probability and Statistics*, Fall 2015.

    - Teaching Assistant for *Engineering Mathematics*, Fall 2015.

- **Physics Olympiad Instructor**, 2012 - 2015
  Preparing high school students for participation in the National Physics Olympiad. Taught intermediate Single/Multivariate Calculus, Differential Equations, Classical Mechanics, Electrodynamics, and Statistical Physics.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

- **Native ads and the credibility of news**

    - Conference of the Society for Political Methodology, June 2019

    - International Conference on Computational Social Science, July 2020

    - Marketing Seminar, MIT, Sep 2020

- **Habits in consumer purchases: Evidence from store closures**

    - Behavioral Research Lab Seminar, MIT, April 2021

    - Social Analytics Lab, MIT, April 2021

    - Marketing Seminar, MIT, Feb 2022

- **An experimental study to increase consensus on polarized topics.**

    - International Conference on Computational Social Science, July 2021

    - Behavioral Research Lab Seminar, MIT, Feb 2022

    - Social Analytics Lab, MIT, Feb 2022

HONORS AND AWARDS

- **Gold Medal**, 25th Iranian National Physics Olympiad, Iran, 2011.

- **Ranked 1st in Cumulative GPA** among all entrants of 2012, Physics Department, Sharif University of Technology.

- **Ranked 2nd in Cumulative GPA** among all entrants of 2012, Electrical Engineering Department, Sharif University of Technology.

WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Short-term Consultant at the World Bank**, Sep 2021 - *present*
  Development Data Science Team

- **Summer Internship at the World Bank**, Jun 2021 - Aug 2021
  Development Data Science Team

- **Young Scholars Club experimental Physics committee**, 2014 - 2015
  The committee qualifies students' experimental skills for participation in the International Physics Olympiad (IPhO) Team.

SELECTED COURSES

- **Quantitative: Statistics, Optimization, Networks**
  Mathematical Statistics, Statistical Methods in Economics, Econometrics, Stochastic Processes, Causal Inference and Machine Learning, Network Science, Mathematical Programming

- **Social Science: Economics, Psychology**
  Experiment Design and Analysis, Microeconomic Theory, Game Theory, Psychology and Economic Theory, Field Experiments in Psychology and Economics

LEADERSHIP ROLES AND ACTIVITIES

- **Computational Social Science Summer Institute**, Boston, Summer 2019

- **Committee Member of the 25th LIDS Student Conference**.

- **Publicity Chair in Ashdown House Graduate Community**, 2018-2019.

- **Social Chair** of Persian Students Association at MIT, 2017-2018.

- **Advisory Board Member** of Persian Students Association at MIT, 2018-2019.

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- Programming: R, Python, Stan, MATLAB, Mathematica, LaTeX

- Languages: Farsi (native), English (fluent)

- Personal: Soccer, Tennis, Hiking, Philosophy and Theology books

REFERENCES

- **Ali Jadbabaie**
  Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Institute for Data, Systems and Society
  Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Building 1-290
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- **Dean Eckles**
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- **Adam Berinsky**
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