

ZAHRA THABET

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EDUCATION

Stanford University

Economics Ph.D. Student

Starting September 2024

Stanford, CA

Wellesley College

B.A. in Economics & Mathematics

Durant Scholar Summa Cum Laude

Honors in economics

May 2022

Wellesley, MA

GPA : **3.93/4.00**, Major GPA: **3.98/4.00**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cross-Registered Student

Spring 2020 - Spring 2022

Cambridge, MA

GPA : **5.00/5.00**

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Predoctoral Research Fellow for Prof. Neale Mahoney

Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, Stanford University

July 2023 -

Stanford, CA

- Implemented analysis of an RCT studying the financial and mental health effects of \$169 million of medical debt relief over 80,000 recipients. Managed, cleaned, and cross-walked 47GB of credit bureau, debt collector, and survey data covering 4 years and 310,000 individuals.
- Estimated treatment effects overall and by heterogeneity splits for various financial outcomes.
- Analyzed a survey of a subset of respondents, including treatment effect estimation on mental health outcomes. Developed a strategy accounting for possible survey non-response bias.

Predoctoral Research Fellow for Prof. Heidi Williams

Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, Stanford University

June 2022 - June 2023

Stanford, CA

- Built SQLite and Python data pipelines for > 1TB citation-graph datasets for a project decomposing person- and place-based effects of researchers' propensity to commercialize.
- Constructed many >1TB databases from scratch and managed HPC storage for all lab members, ensuring best practices were used in reproducibility and efficiently leveraging parallel processing.
- Migrated and replicated >100 Git repositories and >30TB of data across two HPC clusters. On-boarded graduate students and collaborators onto the new servers.

Case Summer Fellow with Prof. Eric Hilt

Economics Department, Wellesley College

June - Aug 2021

Wellesley, MA

- Characterized the impact of corporate form on investment banks' ability to raise capital during the paperwork crisis of the late 1960s (R, Python, and Stata).
- Tested and deployed machine learning and optical character recognition models to automate the conversion of archival data to machine-readable format with Python and AWS.
- Arranged and conducted archival research at the Library of Congress and the National Archives.

RA for Prof. Dean Eckles

Sloan School of Management, MIT

March - June 2021

Cambridge, MA

- Built simulations of networks in Python to run on MIT's high-performance computing cluster for a project estimating the effect of node degree on the strength of ties in large social media networks.

Summer RA for Prof. Malick Ghachem*History Department, MIT*

Jun - Aug 2020

Cambridge, MA

- Assembled and analyzed archival, French-language document database on the history of the Plague of Marseilles and its effect on the silver trade during the 18th century.

RA for Prof. Lisa Parks*Comparative Media Studies Department, MIT*

Sept - Dec 2019

Cambridge, MA

- Used FOIA to document surveillance practices in the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency.

RA for Prof. Danielle Wood*Space Enabled Research Group, MIT Media Lab*

Feb - Aug 2019

Cambridge, MA

- Wrote case studies of robotics and energy companies' co-working practices in Boston.
- Conducted in-person interviews with robotics startup employees.

Summer Research Intern with Dr. Lahouari Bounoua*Biospheric Sciences Laboratory, NASA Goddard*

Jun - Aug 2017, 2018

Greenbelt, MD

- Processed satellite data to characterize how the built environment affects the climate.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Sexual Assault Prevention Workshop Facilitator*SHARE Title IX Office, Stanford University*

Aug 2022 -

Stanford, CA

- Facilitate a 12-hour sexual assault prevention program (Flip the Script with EAAA) held 3-6 times per year for undergraduate and graduate women as part of a multi-site RCT.

Microeconomics Tutor/Grader*Pforzheimer Learning and Teaching Center, Wellesley College*

Sep 2019 - May 2020

Wellesley, MA

- *Intro to Microeconomics* course tutor. Held 1-2 tutoring sessions per week.

WRITING

(Undergraduate Thesis) **Thabet, Z.** 'The Effect of Organizational Form on Broker-Dealers' Outcomes During the Paperwork Crisis,' 2022.

AWARDS

2024 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

2022 Natalie Bolton Student Prize (Wellesley College)

The senior economics major designated by her peers as an outstanding economist (sole recipient).

2022 Joseph Lambie Economic History Prize (Wellesley College)

Outstanding work in American economic history; awarded for my senior thesis 'The Effect of Organizational Form on Broker-Dealers' Outcomes During the Paperwork Crisis' (sole recipient).

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Programming

Julia, Python, R, Stata, Java, Bash, C#, SQL

Packages

CVXPY, Convex.jl, TensorFlow, PyTorch

SoftwareGit, Slurm, L^AT_EX, AWS**Languages**

English - Native, French - Intermediate Level