

**RESEARCH SUMMARY** My research develops AI-driven decision support systems for complex operational problems, with applications in healthcare management and public policy. I combine methods from operations research, machine learning, and optimization to create tools that improve managerial decision-making under uncertainty. My work has been published in leading medical journals (JAMA, Lancet) and is under review at top operations management venues (Management Science, INFORMS Journal of Optimization).

- Research focus: Operations analytics, AI/ML for healthcare decision systems
- Teaching: Healthcare systems, health information management
- Courtesy appointments: Johns Hopkins Center for Systems Science and Engineering; Johns Hopkins Data Science and AI Institute (DSAI)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology      June 2024 - December 2024  
Ph.D. Researcher at Computer Science & Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL)

**Sharif University of Technology**, Tehran, Iran  
M.Eng. in Transportation Engineering

**RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Operations Management and Analytics
- AI and Machine Learning for Decision-Making in Healthcare
- Data-Driven Operations and Resource Allocation
- Inverse Optimization and Preference Learning
- Healthcare Technology Assessment and Implementation
- Business Analytics for Policy and Management

## **PUBLICATIONS Papers published/in press in Refereed Journals**

1. Tracking County-Level Measles Cases in the US,  
*JAMA (2025)*  
with Ensheng Dong, Lauren Gardner
2. Evolving Patterns of COVID-19 Mortality in US Counties: A Longitudinal Study of Healthcare, Socioeconomic, and Vaccination Associations,  
*Plos Global Health (2024)*  
with Fardin Ganjkanloo, Ensheng Dong, Felix Parker, Lauren Gardner, and Kimia Ghobadi
3. The Johns Hopkins University Center for Systems Science and Engineering COVID-19 Dashboard: data collection process, challenges faced, and lessons learned,  
*The Lancet Infectious Diseases (2022)*  
with Ensheng Dong, Jeremy Ratcliff, Tamara D Goyea, Aaron Katz, Ryan Lau, Timothy K Ng, Beatrice Garcia, Evan Bolt, Sarah Prata, David Zhang, Reina C Murray, Mara R Blake, Hongru Du, Fardin Ganjkanloo, Jason Williams, Sayeed Choudhury, Lauren M Gardner

## **Papers Under Review/Preprints**

1. Leveraging Expert Knowledge to Guide Inverse Optimization: The Case of Nutritional Adherence, *Under Review: Management Sciences*  
with Fardin Ganjkanloo and Kimia Ghobadi
2. You Are What You Eat: A Preference-Aware Inverse Optimization Approach, *Under Review: INFORMS Journal of Optimization*  
with Tinglong Dai and Kimia Ghobadi
3. Improving Observed Decisions for Partially Known Optimization Problems Through Inverse Optimization with Application to Radiation Therapy Treatment Planning, *Under Review: European Journal of Operational Research*  
with Todd R. McNutt and Kimia Ghobadi
4. Optimal resource and demand redistribution for healthcare systems under stress from COVID-19, *Preprint (2020)*  
with Felix Parker, Hamilton Sawczuk, Fardin Ganjkanloo, Kimia Ghobadi
5. An open-source dataset on dietary behaviors and dash eating plan optimization constraints, *Preprint (2020)*  
with Fardin Ganjkanloo and Kimia Ghobadi

## **Non-Peer-Reviewed Publications**

1. **Near-Real Time Measles Surveillance: How Analytics Can Help Transform Public Health Response**,  
*OR/MS Today (2025)* , *Print and Online*
2. **Detecting and Mitigating Disparities in Preventive Care and Healthcare Delivery: The Role of Artificial Intelligence and Operations Research**,  
*OR/MS Today (2023)* , *Print and Online*  
with Fardin Ganjkanloo
3. **Monkeypox: Another Public Health Crisis**,  
*OR/MS Today (2022)*, *Print and Online*, *Selected and featured on the cover*  
with Kimia Ghobadi

## **Extended Abstracts**

1. Learning DVH Criteria in Radiation Therapy Treatment Planning,  
*MEDICAL PHYSICS* (2022)  
with Todd R. McNutt and Kimia Ghobadi

### Articles

1. Navigating the Use of ChatGPT in Education and Research: Impacts and Guidelines,  
*OR/MS Tomorrow* (Summer 2023)  
with Saeedeh Dehghani Firoozabadi
2. OR/MS Tomorrow Industry Series: OR/MS in Finance,  
*OR/MS Tomorrow* (Summer 2023)  
with Frederick “Forrest” Miller
3. A Comprehensive Guide on INFORMS Student Chapters,  
*OR/MS Tomorrow* (Winter 2022)  
with Gulden Busra Karkili
4. Coverage of INFORMS Annual Meeting 2022 Keynote Speech, **From the Battlefield to the Gig Economy: How Hybrid Optimization can Guide Decision Making in Highly Dynamic and Unpredictable Settings**,  
*OR/MS Today* (2022)
5. Coverage of INFORMS Annual Meeting 2022 Keynote Speech, **Parallel Computing in Operations Research**,  
*OR/MS Today* (2022)

### **FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS**

1. **Development of AI-Powered Decision-Support System for Healthy Eating**,  
*Amazon-Johns Hopkins University, 2026, \$375,000 (Direct Costs)*  
Role: Co-Investigator (PI: L. Appel; Co-PI: K. Ghobadi)  
Developing inverse optimization and machine learning methods for personalized dietary recommendations

### **WORKING PAPERS**

1. Automated Radiation Therapy Treatment Improvement Through Optimization Models,  
*In Preparation* with Todd McNutt and Kimia Ghobadi
2. Supervised Inverse Optimization,  
*In Preparation* with Felix Parker, Fardin Ganjkanloo and Kimia Ghobadi
3. Smart Surgical Scheduling Tool: An Optimization Model with Integrated Peri-operative Information Input,  
*In Preparation* with Diego Martinez, Jing liu, and Kimia Ghobadi

### **HONORS and AWARDS**

- Selected for HICSS 59 Junior Faculty Consortium, Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences, 2026
- Teaching Assistant Award for excellence in teaching and dedication to engineering education, Johns Hopkins University, 2022
- Top 20 percent in Civil Engineering, class of 2012, Sharif University of Technology
- Straight Invitee to Participate in the M.Sc. program of Highway and Pavement Engineering, Department of Civil Engineering, Sharif University of Technology (2016)
- Honored as a “Brilliant Talented Student” by Iran’s National Elites Foundation (2014)
- Ranked 221st (top 0.085%) among more than 260000 participants of National University Entrance Exam, Mathematics and Physics (2012)

- Ranked 171st (top 1.31%) among more than 13000 participants of National University Entrance Exam, Foreign Languages (2012)

## CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

1. Session Chair, Integrated AI and LLMs in Healthcare Modeling, *INFORMS Healthcare Conference, Raleigh, NC, USA, July 2026*.  
With Kimia Ghobadi
2. Session Chair, Data-driven Inverse Optimization, *INFORMS Healthcare Conference, Raleigh, NC, USA, July 2026*.  
With Kimia Ghobadi
3. Mini-track Chair, AI-DRIVEN HEALTHCARE: BRIDGING SYSTEMS SCIENCE AND CLINICAL PRACTICE MINITRACK, *Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS) 59, Maui, HI, USA, January 2026*.
4. Session Organizer, *Production and Operations Management Society (POMS) 32nd Annual POMS-Conference, Orlando, FL, USA, May 2023*.  
With Kimia Ghobadi and Fardin Ganjkanloo

## INVITED TALKS and PRESENTATIONS

### Conferences

1. *HICSS-59 Symposium: Socio-Technical Ecosystems for Future Digital Health, Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS) 59, Maui, HI, USA, January 2026*.  
Title: Real-Time Public Health Surveillance as a Socio-Technical Ecosystem
2. *Department of Health Sciences, Towson University, MD, USA, January 2025*.  
Title: Inverse Optimization for Personalized Nutritional Guidance: Aligning Preferences with Nutritional Needs
3. *Department of Medicine and Whiting School of Engineering Research Retreat, Poster Presentation, Baltimore, MD, USA, February 2024*.  
Title: Inverse Optimization for Personalized Nutritional Guidance: Aligning Preferences with Nutritional Needs
4. *Production and Operations Management Society (POMS) 32nd Annual POMS-Conference, Orlando, FL, USA, May 2023*.  
Title: Diet recommendations using hybrid inverse optimization methods
5. *Production and Operations Management Society (POMS) 32nd Annual POMS-Conference, Orlando, FL, USA, May 2023*.  
Title: Inverse Learning: An Inverse Optimization Method for Learning Optimal Decisions
6. *The Conference on Health IT and Analytics (CHITA), Washington D.C., USA, May 2023*.  
Title: Hybrid Artificial intelligence and Inverse Learning for Diet Recommendation
7. *Department of Medicine and Whiting School of Engineering Research Retreat, Poster Presentation, Baltimore, MD, USA, February 2023*.  
Title: Inverse Learning to Improve Radiation Therapy Treatment Plans
8. *INFORMS Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, USA, October 2022*.  
Title: A Data-driven Framework to Recommend Improved Radiation Therapy Treatment Plans
9. *AAPM Annual Meeting, Poster Presentation, Washington D.C., USA, July 2022*.  
Title: **Inverse Learning to Improve Radiation Therapy Treatment Plans**
10. *Production and Operations Management Society (POMS) 32nd Annual POMS-Conference, virtual, May 2022*.  
Title: Inverse Learning to Improve Radiation Therapy Treatment Plans

11. *INFORMS Annual Meeting, Anaheim, California, USA, virtual, October 2021.*  
Title: Data-driven Inverse Optimization for Radiation Therapy Treatment Planning
12. *Canadian Operations Research Society (CORS), Virtual Presentation, August 2021.*  
Title: Inverse Learning: An Inverse Optimization Method for Learning Optimal Decisions
13. *Manufacturing and Service Operations Management (MSOM), Virtual Presentation, June 2021.*  
Title: Emulating Human Decision-Making Under Multiple Constraints: The Case of Precision Nutrition
14. *Manufacturing and Service Operations Management (MSOM), Virtual Presentation, June 2021.*  
Title: Inverse Learning: An Inverse Optimization Method for Learning Optimal Decisions
15. *ACM CHIL, Virtual Poster Presentation, 2020.*  
Title: Emulating Human Decision-Making Under Multiple Constraints
16. *INFORMS Annual Meeting, Virtual Presentation, October 2020.*  
Title: Hybrid Inverse Optimization and Machine Learning for Precision Nutrition and Medical Decisions

#### **TEACHING and LECTURES** Teaching, Towson University

1. **HLTH207: Health System of U.S.**,  
Summer 2025, Fall 2025 (2 Sections), Spring 2026 (2 Sections, Upcoming)  
Course Evaluation:  
Enrollment: 55,  
Overall teaching effectiveness: 4.3/5.0,  
Overall demonstrated knowledge: 4.4/5.0,  
Overall response rate: 83%.
2. **HCMN435: Health Information Management**,  
Spring 2026 (Upcoming)

#### Teaching, Johns Hopkins University

1. **EN.500.111: Hopkins Engineering Applications & Research Tutorials (HEART): Healthcare System Engineering**,  
Fall 2023  
Course Evaluation:  
Enrollment: 10,  
Overall course quality: 4.75/5.0,  
Overall instructor evaluation: 5.00/5.0.

#### Teaching Assistant, Johns Hopkins University

1. **BU.920.624: Data Science: Artificial Intelligence (3 Semesters)**,  
Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023  
*Instructor: Prof. Tinglong Dai, Carey Business School*
  - Supported MBA and MS students in applying AI/ML to business problems
  - Developed case studies on healthcare analytics applications
2. **EN.560.250: Introduction to Mathematical Decision Making**,  
Spring 2022

*Instructor: Prof. Kimia Ghobadi, Department of Civil and Systems Engineering*

3. **EN.560.650: Operations Research,**  
Spring 2021

*Instructor: Prof. Kimia Ghobadi, Department of Civil and Systems Engineering*

**Guest Lectures, Johns Hopkins University**

1. **EN.560.650: Operations Research,**  
Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

Guest lectures on computer solutions to optimization problems, focus on Gurobi.  
*Instructor: Prof. Kimia Ghobadi, Department of Civil and Systems Engineering*

2. **EN.560.250: Introduction to Mathematical Decision Making,**  
Spring 2022

Guest lectures on computer solutions to optimization problems. *Instructor: Prof. Kimia Ghobadi, Department of Civil and Systems Engineering*

3. **EN.560.100: Civilization Engineered (2 Semesters),**  
Fall 2020, Fall 2021

Guest lecture on healthcare operations in civil engineering  
*Instructor: Rachel Sangree, Department of Civil and Systems Engineering*

**Teaching Assistant, Sharif University of Technology**

1. **Pavement Design and Lab. (5 Semesters),**  
Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017

*Instructor: Prof. Nader Tabatabaee, CE Department* *Instructor: Prof. Ehsan Haghighat Kharrazi, Department of Civil Engineering (Fall 2016)*

2. **Structural Analysis 2 (2 Semesters),**  
Fall 2015, Spring 2016

*Instructor: Prof. Kiarash Mohtasham Dolatshahi, Department of Civil Engineering*

**SERVICE and  
NOTABLE  
PROJECTS**

**Professional Service**

- Peer Reviewer, *PLOS Global Public Health*, 2024, 2025, 2026
- President, *Johns Hopkins University INFORMS Student Chapter*, 2022 - 2024
- Editorial Board Member, *ORMS Tomorrow*, 2022 - 2024

**Professional Affiliations and Memberships**

- Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS), 2019 - present
- Manufacturing and Service Operations Management Society (MSOM), 2019 - present
- Health Applications Society (HAS), 2019 - present
- American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM), 2022 - present
- Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM), 2022 - present
- Canadian Operations Research Society (CORS), 2020 - 2022
- Johns Hopkins University INFORMS Student Chapter, 2022 - 2025

## Notable Projects and Experiences

- Data collection, maintenance and monitoring for [the U.S. Measles Tracker by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering \(CSSE\)](#) at Johns Hopkins University, 2025  
Developed and maintain a comprehensive county-level measles tracking system providing real-time epidemiological data and visualizations. The tracker serves as a critical public health resource during the ongoing measles outbreak, featured in JAMA and covered by major media outlets including CIDRAP, HuffPost, and public health podcasts.
- Data maintenance and monitoring for [the COVID-19 Dashboard by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering \(CSSE\)](#) at Johns Hopkins University, 2020  
Early role in maintaining U.S. county and state level data in a timely and accurate manner, working simultaneously with different state level health organizations.

## SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

- [TU professor publishes study on measles tracking in Journal of the American Medical Association](#),  
*Towson University News*, October 2025
- [Clinical Update with Dr. Daniel Griffin - TWiV 1254](#),  
*This Week in Virology Podcast*, September 2025
- [JAMA Editors Summary: Platelet Transfusion in Preterm Infants, Pediatric Solid Organ Transplants, Measles Case Tracking](#),  
*JAMA Network*, September 2025
- [Researchers introduce tool featuring timely county-level US measles data, maps](#),  
*CIDRAP*, September 2025
- [RFK Jr. Boasts About Major Measles Outbreak Response Amid Criticism Over CDC Chaos](#),  
*HUFFPOST*, September 2025
- [U.S. Measles Cases Hit Highest Level Since Declared Eliminated in 2000](#),  
*Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health*, July 2025
- [JHU Coronavirus Resource Center \(CRC\)](#) ,  
*Johns Hopkins University and Medicine*, March 2023
- [One size doesn't fit all: An AI approach to creating healthy personalized diets](#),  
*Malone Center for Engineering in Healthcare News*, November 2022
- [One size doesn't fit all: An AI approach to creating healthy personalized diets](#),  
*myScience.org*, November 2022
- [eNews Daily Team](#) ,  
*ORMS Today*, October 2022
- [COVID-19 DASHBOARD CREATOR LAUREN GARDNER WINS LASKER-BLOOMBERG PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD](#),  
*The Hub (Johns Hopkins University)*, September 2022
- [New COVID-19 dashboard helps users make informed decisions regarding hospital care](#),  
*The Hub (Johns Hopkins University)*, February 2021
- [SEEING RED](#),  
*The Hub (Johns Hopkins University)*, Summer 2020

## REFERENCES

Available upon request.

Last Updated: January 2026