MOHAMMAD MEHDI PAKRAVAN

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EDUCATION

Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran *Sep 2022 – Mar 2025*
M.Sc. in Economics
Thesis: "Board of Directors Centrality and Firm Performance"
Supervisor: Dr. Farshad Fatemi Ardestani
Relevant Coursework: Microeconomic Theory I, Econometrics I, Applied Econometrics, Industrial Organization, Macroeconomic Theory I, Corporate Finance I-II, Environmental Economics

Isfahan University of Technology, Isfahan, Iran *Oct 2017 – Sep 2021*
B.S. in Electrical Engineering (Control)
Final Project: "Bitcoin Price Prediction Using LSTM Neural Networks"
Advisor: Dr. Maryam Zekri
Relevant Coursework: Calculus I-II, Linear Algebra, Probability & Statistics, Regression Analysis, Partial Differential Equations, Engineering Mathematics

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Industrial Organization, Network Economics, Applied Microeconometrics ,Corporate Finance, Financial Economics

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Master's Thesis: Board of Directors Centrality and Firm Performance *Sep 2024 – Mar 2025*
Supervisor: Dr. Farshad Fatemi Ardestani, Sharif University of Technology

- Constructed comprehensive director-firm bipartite network dataset for Tehran Stock Exchange covering 300+ publicly traded firms across 2016-2024 (2,000+ firm-year observations)
- Collected and cleaned board composition data through web scraping and manual verification
- Analyzing impact of board network centrality measures (degree, closeness, betweenness, eigenvector) on firm performance metrics (Tobin's Q, ROA and ROS) using dynamic panel methods
- Preliminary results suggest positive correlation between director centrality and firm valuation, with heterogeneous effects across firm ownership concentration

Research Assistant, Labor Market Analysis Project *Aug 2023 – Nov 2023*
Research Center of Islamic Legislative Assembly, Tehran, Iran

- Conducted empirical analysis of Iranian labor market data to inform minimum wage policy recommendations for national legislative body
- Analyzed household expenditure surveys and employment statistics using panel data methods to estimate poverty thresholds and cost-of-living adjustments

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Introductory Econometrics (Undergraduate) *Spring 2025*
Sharif University of Technology, Department of Economics

- Design problem sets and coding assignments with detailed rubrics; hold weekly office hours

- Grade exams and provide individualized feedback on empirical research projects

PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCES

Development Economics Summer School, Sharif University of Technology *Dec 2022*

- Two-week intensive program covering recent advances in development economics research methods

HONORS & AWARDS

Graduate Studies

- Merit-Based Full Tuition Scholarship, Sharif University of Technology *Sep 2022–Mar 2025*
- Ranked 22nd out of 5,000 (Top 0.4%), Iranian National Graduate Entrance Exam *May – 2022*

Undergraduate Studies

- Merit-Based Tuition Scholarship, Isfahan University of Technology *Sep 2017– Mar 2022*
- Top 2%, Iranian National University Entrance Exam (Konkur), Mathematics & Physics Track *Jun 2017*

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Statistical Software	Stata (advanced), R (advanced), EViews, Microsoft Excel (advanced)
Programming Languages	Python, Julia, MATLAB
Data Management	SQL (MySQL), Web Scraping (Selenium, Playwright)
Tools	Git, LaTeX, Linux/Unix shell

SERVICE & OUTREACH

Workshop Instructor, Game Theory for High School Students *2024 – Present*
Isfahan Mathematics House, Isfahan, Iran

- Design and teach 10-week introduction to game theory and strategic decision-making
- Develop interactive exercises demonstrating applications in economics and social sciences

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Online Coursework (Machine Learning Specialization, Coursera)

- Neural Networks and Deep Learning (Andrew Ng) *May 2020*
- Improving Deep Neural Networks: Hyperparameter Tuning and Regularization (Andrew Ng) *June 2020*
- Structuring Machine Learning Projects (Andrew Ng) *Oct 2020*
- Applied Machine Learning in Python (Kevyn Collins-Thompson) *Dec 2019*

LANGUAGES

Persian (Native), English (Fluent)

REFERENCES

Dr. Farshad Fatemi Ardestani
Associate Professor of Economics
Sharif University of Technology
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Dr. Maryam Zekri
Associate Professor of Control Engineering
Isfahan University of Technology
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