




# Viraj R. Chordiya

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## EDUCATION

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<b>Ph.D. in Finance</b>	Exp. 2029
Gies College of Business, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	
<b>M.A. in Economics</b>	May 2024
Georgia State University	
<b>B.S. in Mathematics &amp; Economics (Honors)</b>	May 2023
Georgia State University	

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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<b>Graduate Research Assistant</b>	Aug 2024 - Present
Gies College of Business, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Constructed and cleaned startup financing deals from PitchBook, integrating deal-level, firm-level, and investor-level information</li><li>Conducted empirical analyses on the role of venture debt in startup growth and exit outcomes, examining time trends, and industry differences.</li><li>Merged PitchBook data with Revelio labor data to analyze the impact of VC partner demographics on startup hiring, promotions, and workforce composition, using event study and difference-in-differences approaches.</li><li>Developed firm-founder-investor panel datasets, and implemented reproducible pipelines for data construction and analysis using R and Python.</li></ul>	
<b>Graduate Research Assistant</b>	Aug 2023 - May 2024
Economics Department, GSU	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cleaned and standardized datasets for Georgia's Pre-K through workforce longitudinal data, ensuring consistent data formats for the creation of Stata datasets.</li><li>Designed summary tables to distill key characteristics, and conducted comprehensive exploratory data analysis.</li><li>Estimated the likelihood of students completing graduate degrees based on demographic variables, providing primary evidence of demographics-based idiosyncrasies.</li></ul>	
<b>Research Assistant</b>	Jan 2022 - Sept 2022
Economics Department, GSU	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Significantly contributed to resume audit field experiment studying the impact of delayed graduation on job outcomes by accounting for 53% of the data collection.</li><li>Identified and curated research-relevant job postings, collected job postings data, and submitted applications using fictitious resumes.</li><li>Managed job application datasets, ensuring accurate records by tracking job postings, and removing incomplete or expired job posts.</li><li>Expedited the research by designing a dynamic salary scraper in Python (using Selenium &amp; BS4) to collect salary information based on job title and geographical area.</li><li>Employed regex-based methods in Python for string matching, merging data sets, and classification algorithm to categorize jobs.</li></ul>	
<b>Research Assistant</b>	Aug 2021 - Dec 2021
Center for States and Local Finance (CSLF), GSU	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Gathered and organized low-income housing data from tax credit applications in Georgia.</li><li>Implemented a Python script to clean data and rectify allocation year errors by extracting information from other variables, ensuring data accuracy.</li><li>Detected disparities in state and federal HUD data and developed data matching algorithms based on project names and addresses.</li><li>Employed advanced techniques such as Levenshtein distance and fuzzy text mapping to merge datasets accurately, improving data integrity.</li></ul>	

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **Supplemental Instructor** – Principles of Macroeconomics

Aug 2023 - Present

Economics Department, GSU

- Developing and delivering engaging course materials, including quizzes and games, to reinforce student learning
- Conducting weekly sessions to provide additional support and clarify course content.
- Maintaining regular communication and collaboration with professors to identify challenging topics.
- Responding to student queries promptly through email and online forums.

### **Student Assistant**

Jan 2020 - July 2021

Mathematics Department, GSU

- Organized and led review sessions to support a large cohort of students.
- Provided mentorship to students, assisting them in achieving their academic goals.

## SKILLS

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**Languages:** Python, R, SQL, Java, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

**Tools:** Bloomberg Terminal, Microsoft Office, Stata, Git

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

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- Graduate Research Assistantship
- Zeinah Danielle Aouani Scholarship
- Economics Student Achievement Award
- Campus Atlanta Scholarship

## LEADERSHIP ROLES

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### **Chief Economist**

Aug 2021 - May 2022

Portfolio Management Team (PMT), GSU

- Led the economic analysis and forecasting for a student-led investment fund with a portfolio value of \$900,000.
- Actively participated in stock pitches, highlighting economic factors and opportunities to inform investment strategies.

### **President**

Jan 2020 - Dec 2020

Undergraduate Economics Club, GSU

- Achieved a 50% increase in active member participation through engagement initiatives.
- Successfully negotiated a 70% increase in the organization's budget.