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Education

University of Warwick	2022–Present
PhD in Economics; dissertation submitted September 2026. Supervisors: Manuel Bagues and Ludovica Gasse.	
University of Warwick	2020–2022
MRes in Economics (with distinction)	
Sharif University of Technology	2017–2020
MSc in Economics (with distinction)	
Ferdowsi University of Mashhad	2011–2015
BSc in Electrical Engineering–Communication (with distinction)	

Research Fields

Labour Economics, Experimental Economics, Development Economics.

Job Market Paper

Do Misperceptions about IVF Shape When Women Plan to Have Children? Evidence from an Information Experiment

with Zahra Khanalizadeh

Female fertility declines with age, and in vitro fertilization (IVF) is the main technology available to extend it, yet many women misjudge what it costs and how often it succeeds. We test whether correcting these misperceptions changes women’s career-family timing decisions in an experiment with 635 UK women aged 20-30. Women overestimate their natural fertility and misperceive IVF’s cost and success rate, while judging motherhood’s labour-market cost fairly accurately. Randomly treating women with information about IVF’s true cost or true success rate moves cost beliefs 83% and success beliefs 52% toward the truth, yet neither changes how much income women will forgo for a career allowing earlier motherhood. The null holds regardless of how wrong a woman’s prior belief was, across observed characteristics, and in incentivized choices. However, success information lowers demand for egg-freezing information, an insurance against a future IVF attempt. IVF misperceptions are substantial and correctable but do not constrain the career-family timing decision.

Forthcoming Publication

Two-Sided Prioritized Ranking: A Coherency-Preserving Design for Marketplace Experiments

with Mahyar Habibi and Zahra Khanalizadeh

Accepted for publication in the Proceedings of ACM Equity and Access in Algorithms, Mechanisms, and Optimization (EAAMO), 2026; forthcoming.

Online marketplace experiments face interference because items compete for users’ attention and demand. Designs must also preserve a consistent experience: users should see the same version of each item and the full catalogue. We propose Two-Sided Prioritized Ranking (TSPR), which randomises users and items and changes display order to generate variation in treatment exposure through position bias. The design preserves consistent prices and item availability while estimating the total average treatment effect. In semi-synthetic simulations calibrated to Expedia hotel-search data, TSPR reduces bias relative to item-level randomisation and improves precision relative to cluster randomisation.

Working Papers

Distinguishing Biases from Personal Preferences: An Honest Machine Learning Approach

with Mahyar Habibi and Zahra Khanalizadeh

Differences in evaluations can reflect discrimination or sorting on unobserved evaluator preferences and item characteristics. We develop a method combining honest collaborative filtering with double machine learning to estimate evaluator-specific bias from sparse interaction data. Collaborative filtering learns latent preferences and characteristics, while sample restrictions and cross-fitting limit contamination of these controls by the bias being measured. Monte Carlo simulations assess performance under first-stage misspecification. Applied to nearly 150,000 film reviews covering over 8,000 films, the method sharply reduces the apparent favouritism toward female directors found in unadjusted comparisons, illustrating how latent preference sorting can be mistaken for discrimination.

Gender Discrimination in Public Sector Hiring: Evidence from Iran

with Elaheh Fatemipour

We document explicit gender targeting in Iranian public-sector recruitment and compare it with private-sector hiring. Using thirteen civil-service recruitment exams from 2015–2025, we construct a dataset of 26,977 postings: 23.6% are restricted to men and 1.8% to women. Job title is the strongest predictor of male targeting, followed by organisation, while substantial variation remains unexplained. Variance decompositions, predictive models, and text analysis show that targeting is associated with skill requirements and gendered job descriptions. In over 40,000 private-sector advertisements, male targeting is less common and targeting is more stable over time; employer identity and job title have more comparable explanatory power.

Work in Progress

Mehr and Prenuptial Agreement in Muslim Marriage

This paper examines how restricting the enforcement of mehr, a transfer promised by a husband to his wife at marriage, affects marriage contracts and married women's labour-force participation in Iran. Using approximately 2,500 marriage-registry records and Labour Force Survey data from 2008–2020, I compare groups with different predicted exposure to the restriction based on prereform characteristics. The reform reduces registered mehr without detectable changes in other contract terms and is associated with lower labour-force participation among affected married women. The findings are consistent with marriage transfers influencing women's bargaining power and employment decisions within the household.

Upcoming Conference Presentations

ACM EAAMO

2026

Talk: *Two-Sided Prioritized Ranking: A Coherency-Preserving Design for Marketplace Experiments*.

Poster: *Distinguishing Biases from Personal Preferences: An Honest Machine Learning Approach*.

Teaching Experience

University of Warwick

2026–2027

Teaching Assistant; scheduled courses: Econometrics 1 and Economics 1.

University of Warwick

2022–2025

Teaching Assistant: Econometrics 1, Econometrics 2, Mathematical Techniques, Economics 1, and Economics for Business.

Outstanding Contribution to Seminar Classes award, 2024.

Khatam University (TeIAs)

2019

Teaching Assistant: Macroeconomics 1 (MSc).

Sharif University of Technology

2019

Teaching Assistant: Microeconomics 1 (MSc).

Research Experience

Research Assistant to Dita Eckardt

2023–2024

The Effect of Labour Market Conditions on Human Capital Investments.

Contributed to collecting and analysing data on education systems across OECD countries.

Grants and Awards

Departmental Research Grants, University of Warwick

2024, 2025

Outstanding Contribution to Seminar Classes, University of Warwick

2024

Department of Economics Scholarship, University of Warwick

2020

Five-year full-tuition scholarship for the MRes/PhD in Economics.

Skills and Languages

Programming: Python, R, Stata, MATLAB, C/C++, L^AT_EX.

Research platforms: Qualtrics, Prolific.

Languages: Persian (native), English (fluent), Arabic (basic).

References

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