

Ali K. Rahimian

Curriculum Vitae

Charlotte, NC
akhalegh@charlotte.edu
LinkedIn, GitHub, Portfolio

Education

- **University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, NC**
Doctoral studies in Computing & Information Systems Jan 2024 – Dec 2025
GPA: 3.9
Research: Sparse attention, efficient Transformer models, and visual representation learning.
- **University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, NC**
Master of Science (M.S.) in Computer Science Jan 2024 – Dec 2025
GPA: 3.9
Thesis: Inceptive visual representation learning with diverse multi-head sparse attention.
- **Yazd University, Yazd, Iran**
Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Computer Software Engineering Sep 2017 – Sep 2022
GPA: 3.7
Capstone Project: An Apriori-driven recommender system incorporating social network data.

Professional Appointments

- **Research Assistant (PhD)** Jan 2024 – Dec 2025
UNC Charlotte, Charlotte Machine Learning Lab
- **Software Engineer** Jan 2019 – Feb 2020
Donya Idea Gostaran Mehr (DIGM), Yazd, Iran
- **Data Engineer** Aug 2019 – Jan 2020
Yazd University, Yazd, Iran
- **Software Developer** Jul 2018 – Jun 2019
Pishgaman Accelerator, Yazd, Iran

Teaching Experience

- **Teaching Assistant: Artificial Intelligence and Expert Systems** Fall 2021
Yazd University, Dr. Vali Derhami, 37 students
- **Teaching Assistant: Formal Languages and Automata Theory** Spring 2021
Yazd University, Dr. Mojtaba Matinkhah, 38 students
- **Teaching Assistant: Microprocessor and Assembly Language** Fall 2020
Yazd University, Dr. Alireza Sadrossadat, 65 students

Publications

- **Ali K. Rahimian**, Manish K. Govind, Subhajit Maity, Dominick Reilly, Christian Kuemmerle, Srijan Das, Aritra Dutta. *Fibottention: Inceptive Visual Representation Learning with Diverse Attention Across Heads*. Under review at *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence (TPAMI)*, Jan, 2026.
- Ritabrata Chakraborty, Rajat Subhra Chakraborty, **Ali K. Rahimian**. *TruthLens: Training-Free Data Verification for Deepfake Images via VQA-style Probing*. *ICML 2025*, Jul 19, 2025.
- **Ali K. Rahimian**. *Inceptive Visual Representation Learning With Diverse Multi-Head Sparse Attention*. *M.S. Thesis*, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Dec 15, 2025. Available via ProQuest.

Honors and Awards

- **Outstanding Student Award** Jan 2020
Yazd University, Yazd, Iran. Placed in Cluster 1, highest distinction.
- **Academic Excellence Award** Jan 2019
Yazd University, Yazd, Iran. Ranked 1st for three consecutive years.
- **4th Place – Sharif Spaghetti Programming Contest** Dec 2019
Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran.
- **10th Place – National JavaCup Programming Contest** Oct 2019
Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran.
- **31st Place – National Mobile Programming Marathon** Sep 2019
Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran. 48-hour mobile app hackathon.
- **3rd Place – Sharif ICT Challenge Programming Contest** Aug 2019
Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran. Fintech programming hackathon.
- **2nd Place and 4th Place – Java Contest and Acquisition League (JCAL)** May 2018
Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran. Java and algorithm design hackathon.
- **1st Place – Yazd University Online Chess Tournament** Nov 2017
Yazd University, Yazd, Iran. University-wide tournament champion.
- **2nd Place – Yazd University Chess Championship 2017** Nov 2017
Yazd University, Yazd, Iran. Runner-up across all student levels.
- **2nd Place – Razavi Khorasan Provincial Chess Championship** Jun 2011
Razavi Khorasan Chess Federation, Mashhad, Iran. Classical chess championship.
- **Iranian Universities Entrance Exam** Jul 2017
Ranked in the top 2% in Mathematics among ~200,000 applicants.

Academic/Community Service

- **Member of Advisory Committee** Aug 2024 – May 2025
International Student Advisory Committee (ISAC) at UNC Charlotte
- **GPSG Senator** Aug 2024 – May 2025
Graduate & Professional Student Government of UNC Charlotte
- **President** Aug 2024 – Jul 2025
Iranian Student Organization (ISO) at UNC Charlotte
- **ESL Instructor** Feb 2022 – Aug 2024
Infinity Café, Discord Platforms
- **Editor-in-Chief** May 2020 – Jul 2021
Bitok, Yazd University
- **Technical Translator** Nov 2018 – Oct 2019
Office of Academic Affairs, Yazd University

Professional Training/Certifications

- **Mathematics for Machine Learning** Aug 2023
Imperial College London
Credential ID: ZKF6D5HMNQB9
- **GRE General Test** Jan 2023
GRE
Credential ID: 1733310
- **TOEFL iBT** Nov 2022
TOEFL
Credential ID: 5146 2112 2704 7006
- **Supervised Machine Learning: Regression and Classification** Nov 2022
DeepLearning.AI
Credential ID: 5ZTYCJM76N5
- **Python for Data Science and Machine Learning Bootcamp** Sep 2022
Pierian Training
Credential ID: UC-a30db78a-459b-435c-8399-f95ef2b0c75b
- **Python for Computer Vision with OpenCV and Deep Learning** Aug 2022
Udemy
Credential ID: UC-9e673c34-73a3-47e5-acdf-a97b9082c078
- **17th ACM ICPC Certificate of Achievement** Nov 2019
ICPC - International Collegiate Programming Contest
- **JavaCup Certified Java Professional Developer** Oct 2019
Javacup Association
Credential ID: JC006-1149