

Erfan Rafieikia

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Education

Alberta School of Business

PhD in Operations and Information Systems (2023–Present)

GPA : 3.85

Sharif University of Technology

M.Sc. in Industrial Engineering (2018 - 2022)

GPA : 4

Sharif University of Technology

B.Sc. in Industrial Engineering (2013 -2018)

GPA : 3.64

Research Interests

- Data-driven Optimization
- Large-Scale Optimization
- Optimization under Uncertainty
- Machine Learning & Optimization Integration
- Artificial Intelligence

Working Papers and Work in Progress

- Delasay, M., Rafieikia, E., Rostami, B. (2025). A Note on Information Disclosure in the Sharing Economy: An Operational Perspective. Invited mini-chapter manuscript, under editorial review. Preprint available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=6097826>
- Rafieikia, E., Rostami, B. Learning-Augmented Benders Cut Generation for Large-Scale Optimization. Work-in-progress.
- Rafieikia, E., Rostami, B. Strategic Delivery Pricing: Broadening Reach in Markdown Platforms. Work-in-progress.

Under Revision / Under Review Manuscripts

- Rafieikia, E., Boler, E., Rostami, B., Lec, T.-R. (2025). Vertical Farming: Navigating Opportunities, Challenges, and AI Integration. Under review.

Conference Presentations

- CORS, Kingston, Canada, 2026 (Learning-Augmented Benders Cut Generation for Large-Scale Optimization)
- CORS, Kingston, Canada, 2026 (Strategic Integration of Delivery in Food Waste Reduction Initiatives)
- CORS, London, Canada, 2024 (Strategic Integration of Delivery in Food Waste Reduction Initiatives)
- ICS, Toronto, Canada, 2025 (Learning-based cut generation for convex MINLP)
- EPSB Student AI Conference, Edmonton, Canada, 2025 (AI's Hidden Role in Your Shopping Journey)

Honors & Awards

- University of Alberta Three-minute Thesis (3MT) competition Finalist
- Ranked 21st amongst 20,000 participants in the university entrance exam for graduate studies | 2018
- Ranked 7th amongst 84 undergraduate students of Industrial Engineering at Sharif University of Technology | 2016
- Ranked amongst the top 0.2% in the nationwide university entrance exam with around 400,000 participants | 2013

Teaching

- Main Instructor, OM 420 : Predictive Business Analytics. University of Alberta, School of Business, 2026.
- Student Project Mentor, Optimizing Alberta's Workforce Development Investment Strategy. Industry partner: Government of Alberta, 2025-2026
- Guest Lecturer, MMA 601: Business Foundations and Strategic Decision Making. University of Alberta, School of Business, 2025.
- Teaching Assistant, OM 423/623: Prescriptive Analytics. University of Alberta, School of Business, 2024–2025.
- Teaching Assistant, Operations Research. Sharif University of Technology, Industrial Engineering Department, 2016-2017.
- Teaching Assistant, Queuing Theory. Sharif University of Technology, Industrial Engineering Department, 2016-2017.
- Teaching Assistant, Quality Control. Sharif University of Technology, Industrial Engineering Department, 2017-2018.
- Teaching Assistant, Motion & Time Study. Sharif University of Technology, Industrial Engineering Department, 2016-2017.

Professional Training & Programs

- Quantum Computing and Artificial Intelligence for Decision Optimization (QAI4DO) Training Program. Selective research training program focused on quantum optimization and AI-based decision-making, 2025 - 2026

Academic Organization Service

- **President, Alberta Student Chapter**, Canadian Operational Research Society, 2025–Present
- **Vice-President, Alberta Student Chapter**, Canadian Operational Research Society, 2024–2025
- **Researcher**, AI Centre for Decision Analytics

Editorial Activities

Ad-hoc Journal Reviewer:

- Operations Research
- INFORMS Journal on Applied Analytics
- Expert Systems With Applications

Professional Experience

Snapp (Transportation and Technology)

- Growth Consultant | Jan 2023 - May 2023
- Growth & Business Analytics Manager | July 2022 - Jan 2023
- Business Analytics Lead | September 2021 - June 2022
- Senior Data Analyst | October 2020 - September 2021
- Data Analyst | October 2019 - October 2020

Digikala (Online retail shopping services)

- Operations Data Analyst | July 2018 - September 2019

Programming and Data Science Skills

- **Programming:** Python, R, MATLAB
- **Optimization:** Gurobi, GAMS, LINGO
- **Analytics and visualization:** Power BI, Tableau, SPSS, Minitab

Certificates

- Optimization 201 for Data Scientists, Gurobi Optimization
- Machine Learning for All, Coursera
- Data Scientist with Python, DataCamp
- Time Series with Python Track, DataCamp
- Advanced Deep Learning with Keras, DataCamp

- Sequence Models for Time Series and NLP, Coursera
- Market Research and Consumer Behavior, Coursera
- Business Growth Strategy, Coursera
- Strategy Formulation, Coursera
- The Marketing Plan, Coursera
- Advanced Business Strategy, Coursera
- Competitive Strategy, Coursera
- Entrepreneurship 3: Growth Strategies, Coursera
- Building Deep Learning Models with TensorFlow, Coursera
- Cloud Computing for Everyone, DataCamp
- Introduction to Data Engineering, DataCamp
- Introduction to MongoDB in Python, DataCamp
- Marketing Analytics with Python Track, DataCamp
- Marketing Analytics: CLV & Promotion Strategy, Udemy
- Marketing Analytics: Pricing Strategies & Analytics, Udemy
- Neural Networks and Deep Learning, Coursera
- Web Scraping in Python, DataCamp
- Time Series Analysis & Forecasting using Python, Udemy