

Meysam Alizadeh

CONTACT INFORMATION

Digital Democracy Lab
Department of Political Science
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Zurich

Senior Researcher, Digital Democracy Lab, Department of Political Science, Sep 2021 - Present,
Adviser: Fabrizio Gilardi

Harvard University

Data Science Fellow, Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics, and Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy
School, Sep 2020 - August 2021, *Adviser: Joan Donovan*

Princeton University

Associate Research Scholar, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Sep
2018 - August 2020, *Adviser: Jacob Shapiro*

Indiana University Bloomington

Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Complex Networks and Systems Research (CNetS), Depart-
ment of Informatics, Sep 2016 - Aug 2018, *Adviser: Santo Fortunato*

EDUCATION

George Mason University

Ph.D. in Computational Social Science, 2016

* Committee: Claudio Cioffi-Revilla (Chair), Andrew Crooks, Naoru Koizumi

* Lab: Center for Social Complexity

University of Pittsburgh

M.Sc. in Information Science, 2012

* *Adviser: Michael Lewis* (Affiliation with Agent-Robotics Technology Lab at CMU)

Amirkabir University of Technology

M.Sc. in Industrial Engineering, 2009

B.Sc. in Industrial Engineering, 2007

PRE-PRINTS

Meysam Alizadeh, Fabrizio Gilardi, Zeinab Samei and Mohsen Mosleh (2025) “[Web-Browsing LLMs Can Access Social Media Profiles and Infer User Demographics](#)”. Submitted to *Web Conference 2026*.

Meysam Alizadeh, Zeynab Samei, Daria Stetsenko, Fabrizio Gilardi (2025) “[Simple Prompt Injection Attacks Can Leak Personal Data Observed by LLM Agents During Task Execution](#)”. Submitted to *The International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR 2026)*.

Meysam Alizadeh, Mael Kubli and Fabrizio Gilardi “Unsupervised Elicitation of Moral Values from Language Models”. To be Submitted to *The International Association for Safe and Ethical AI*.

Meysam Alizadeh and Fabrizio Gilardi (2025) “[Data marketplaces increase willingness to sell social media data at low prices](#)”. Submitted to *ICWSM 2026*.

Meysam Alizadeh, Mael Kubli, Zeinab Samei, Shirin Dehghani, Juan Diego Bermeo, Maria Korobeynikova, & Fanrizio Gilardi (2023) [“Open-Source Large Language Models Outperform Crowd Workers and Approach ChatGPT in Text-Annotation Tasks”](#). arXiv preprint arXiv:2307.02179.

Meysam Alizadeh, Alicia Chen, Jacob Shapiro (2023) [“Russian Information Operations May Have Caused Hate Crimes”](#). OSF Preprints.

WORK IN
PROGRESS

Meysam Alizadeh “Adversarial LLM Search Engine Optimization on Social Media”.

Meysam Alizadeh “Benchmarking LLM Agents Authentication and Authorization Protocols Against Adversarial Attacks”.

JOURNAL
PAPERS

Meysam Alizadeh, Mael Kubli, Zeinab Samei, Shirin Dehghani, Juan Diego Bermeo, Maria Korobeynikova, & Fanrizio Gilardi (2025) [“Open-Source LLMs for Text Annotation: A Practical Guide for Model Setting and Fine-Tuning”](#). *Journal of Computational Social Science*, 8(1), 1-25.

Nahema Marchal, Emma Hoes, K Jonathan Klüser, Felix Hamborg, Meysam Alizadeh, Mael Kubli, Christian Katzenbach (2025) [“How Negative Media Coverage Impacts Platform Governance: Evidence from Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube”](#). *Political Communication*, 42(2), 1-19.

Meysam Alizadeh, Darya Zare, Zeynab Samei, Mohammadamin Alizadeh, Mael Kubli, Mohammadhadi Aliahmadi, Sarvenaz Ebrahimi, Fabrizio Gilardi (2024) [“Comparing methods for creating a national random sample of twitter users”](#). *Social Network Analysis and Mining*, 14(160).

Fabrizio Gilardi, Meysam Alizadeh, Mael Kubli (2023) [“ChatGPT outperforms crowd-workers for text-annotation tasks”](#). *PNAS*, 120 (30), e2305016120.

Meysam Alizadeh, Emma Hoes, Fabrizio Gilardi (2023) [“Monetization of social media engagements increases the sharing of false \(and other\) news but penalization moderates it”](#). *Scientific Reports*, 13(1), 13703.

Meysam Alizadeh, Emma Hoes, Nahema Marchal, Mael Kubli, Jonathan Kaluser, and Fabrizio Gilardi (2022) [“Content Moderation as a Political Issue: The Twitter Discourse Around Trump’s Ban”](#), *Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media*, 2.

Veronika Batzdorfer, Holger Steinmetz, Marco Biella, Meysam Alizadeh (2022) [“Conspiracy theories on Twitter: emerging motifs and temporal dynamics during the COVID-19 pandemic”](#), *International journal of data science and analytics*, 13 , 315–333.

Meysam Alizadeh, Jacob Shapiro, Cody Buntain, and Joshua Tucker (2020) [“Content-based features predict social media influence operations”](#), *Science Advances*, 6 (3), eabb5824.

Meysam Alizadeh, Ingmar Weber, Claudio Cioffi-Revilla, Santo Fortunato, and Michael Macy (2019) [“Psychology and Morality of Political Extremists: Evidence from Twitter Language Analysis of Alt-Right and Antifa”](#), *EPJ Data Science*, 8:17.

Meysam Alizadeh, Claudio Cioffi-Revilla, and Andrew Crooks (2017) [“Generating Spatial Social Networks”](#), *Computational and Mathematical Organization Theory*, 23(3), 362-390.

Mohsen Gharakhani, Fatemeh Nasiri, and Maysam Alizadeh (2016) [“A Utility Theory Approach for Insurance Pricing”](#), *Accounting*, 2(4), 151–160.

Meysam Alizadeh and Claudio Cioffi-Revilla (2015) “[Activation Regimes in Opinion Dynamics: Analyzing Asynchronous Updating Schemes](#)”. *Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation*, 23 (1), 76–91.

Meysam Alizadeh, Claudio Cioffi-Revilla, and Andrew Crooks (2015) “[The Effect of In-Group Favoritism on the Collective Behavior of Individuals’ Opinions](#)”. *Advances in Complex Systems*, 18, 1550002.

Meysam Alizadeh, Alin Coman, Michael Lewis, and Claudio Cioffi-Revilla (2014) “[Intergroup Conflict Escalation Leads to more Extremism](#)”. *Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation*, 17 (4), 4.

Meysam Alizadeh, Fariborz Jolai, Majid Aminnayeri, and Roy Rada (2012) “[Comparison of different input selection algorithms in neuro-fuzzy modeling](#)”. *Expert Systems with Applications*, 39(1), 1536–1544.

Meysam Alizadeh, Roy Rada, Fariborz Jolai, and Elnaz Fotoohi (2011) “[An Adaptive Neuro-Fuzzy System for Stock Portfolio Analysis](#)”. *International Journal of Intelligent Systems*, 26 (2), 99–114.

Meysam Alizadeh, Mohsen Gharakhani, Elnaz Fotoohi, and Roy Rada (2011) “[Design and Analysis of Experiment in ANFIS Modelling for Stock Price Prediction](#)”. *International Journal of Industrial Engineering and Computation*, 2 (2), 409–418.

CONFERENCE
PAPERS

Meysam Alizadeh, Yasaman Asgari, Zeynab Samei, Sara Yari, Shirin Dehghani, Mael Kubli, Darya Zare, Juan Diego Bermeo, Veronika Batzdorfer, Fabrizio Gilardi (2024) “[Exploring Relationships Between Cryptocurrency News Outlets and Influencers’ Twitter Activity and Market Prices](#)”. In Proceedings of the *The 16th International Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining (ASONAM 2024)*, Lecture Notes in Computer Science. Springer, Calabria, Italy, 02-05 September.

Shirin Dehghani, Mohammadmasiha Zahedivafa, Zahra Baghshahi, Darya Zare, Sara Yari, Zeynab Samei, Mohammadhadi Aliahmadi, Mahdis Abbasi, Sara Mirzamojtahedi, Sarvenaz Ebrahimi, Meysam Alizadeh (2024) “[Leveraging Large Language Models for Fact-Checking Farsi News Headlines](#)”. In Proceedings of the *Multidisciplinary International Symposium on Disinformation in Open Online Media (MISDOOM 2024)*, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol 15175. Springer, Münster, Germany, 01-04 September.

Meysam Alizadeh and Jacob Shapiro (2023) “[Few-Shot Information Operation Detection Using Active Learning Approach](#)”. In Proceedings of the *16th International Conference on Social Computing, Behavioral-Cultural Modeling & Prediction and Behavior Representation in Modeling and Simulation (SBP-BRiMS)*, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, 20-22 September.

Meysam Alizadeh and Claudio Cioffi-Revilla (2014) “[Distributions of Opinion and Extremist Radicalization: Insights from Agent-Based Modeling](#)”. In Proceedings of the *6th International Conference on Social Informatics*, Barcelona, Spain, 10-13 November.

Meysam Alizadeh, Michael Lewis, M Hossein Fazel Zarandi, and Fariborz Joali (2011) “[Determining Significant Parameters in the Design of ANFIS](#)”. In Proceedings of the *0th North American Fuzzy Information Processing Society Annual Conference*, El Paso, TX, USA.

Meysam Alizadeh, Ehsan Safavieh, Elnaz Fotoohi, and Vahid Roshanaei (2009) “[Clustering based Fuzzy Particle Swarm Optimization](#)”. In Proceedings of the *28th North American Fuzzy Information Processing Society Annual Conference*, Cincinnati, OH, USA.

Meysam Alizadeh, Roy Rada, Akram Khaleghi, and Mir M. Seyed Esfahani (2009) “[Forecasting Exchange Rates: A Neuro-Fuzzy Approach](#)”. In Proceedings of the *International Fuzzy Systems Association World Congress*, Lisbon, Portugal.

BOOK
CHAPTERS

M. Hossein Fazel Zarandi, Milad Avazbeigi, and Meysam Alizadeh (2012) “[A Neuro-Fuzzy Expert System Trained by Particle Swarm Optimization for Stock Price Prediction](#)”. In *Cross-Disciplinary Applications of Artificial Intelligence and Pattern Recognition: Advancing Technologies*, (Eds.) Vijay Kumar Mago and Nitin Bhatia. Information Science Reference, IGI Global.

Meysam Alizadeh (2009) “[Facility Location in Supply Chain](#)”. In *Facility Location: Concepts, Models, Algorithms and Case Studies*, (Eds.) Reza Zanjirani Farahani and Masoud Hekmatfar. Physica-Verlag Heidelberg, Springer.

CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS
(NON-ARCHIVAL)

Meysam Alizadeh (2023) “Data marketplaces increase willingness to sell social media data at low prices”. *119th American Political Science Association Annual Meeting & Exhibition (APSA 2025)*, Vancouver, BC, Canada, September 11 - September 14.

Meysam Alizadeh, Alicia Chen, Jacob Shapiro (2023) “Russian Information Operations May Have Caused Hate Crimes”. *119th American Political Science Association Annual Meeting & Exhibition (APSA 2023)*, Los Angeles, California, USA, August 31 - September 3.

Meysam Alizadeh, Darya Zare, Zeinab Samei, Mael Kubli, Sarvenaz Ebrahimi, Fabrizio Gilardi (2023) “Comparing Methods of Creating a Random Sample of Twitter Users from a Country”. *119th American Political Science Association Annual Meeting & Exhibition (APSA 2023)*, Los Angeles, California, USA, August 31 - September 3.

Meysam Alizadeh, Zeinab Samei, Mael Kubli, Fabrizio Gilardi (2023) “The Effectiveness of Framing on the Diffusion of Political Content”. *119th American Political Science Association Annual Meeting & Exhibition (APSA 2023)*, Los Angeles, California, USA, August 31 - September 3.

Meysam Alizadeh, Darya Zare, Mael Kubli, Sarvenaz Ebrahimi, Fabrizio Gilardi (2023) “Comparing Methods of Creating a Random Sample of Twitter Users from a Country”. *The 9th Annual International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2 2023)*, Copenhagen, Denmark, July 2023.

Meysam Alizadeh, Emma Hoes, Fabrizio Gilardi (2022) “Monetization of social media engagements increases the sharing of false (and other) news but penalization moderates it”. *118th American Political Science Association Annual Meeting & Exhibition (APSA 2022)*, Montreal, Canada, September 2022.

Meysam Alizadeh, Emma Hoes, Fabrizio Gilardi (2022) “Monetization of social media engagements increases the sharing of false (and other) news but penalization moderates it”. *12th European Political Science Association Annual Conference (EPSA 2022)*, Prague, Czech, June 2022.

Meysam Alizadeh, Jacob Shapiro, Cody Buntain, and Joshua Tucker (2019) “Identifying Foreign Influence Efforts’ Content on Social Media”. *European Symposium Series on Societal Challenges in Computational Social Science 2019: Polarization and Radicalization*, Zurich, Switzerland, September 2019.

Meysam Alizadeh, Ingmar Weber, Claudio Cioffi-Revilla, Santo Fortunato, and Michael Macy (2019) “Psychology and Morality of Political Extremists: Evidence from Twitter Language Analysis of Alt-Right and Antifa”. *European Symposium Series on Societal Challenges in Computational Social Science 2019: Polarization and Radicalization*, Zurich, Switzerland, September 2019.

Meysam Alizadeh, Jacob Shapiro, Cody Buntain, and Joshua Tucker (2019) “Identifying Foreign Influence Efforts’ Content on Social Media”. *2nd Annual Conference on Politics and Computational Social Science (PaCSS)*, Washington, DC, USA, August 2019.

Meysam Alizadeh, Santo Fortunato, Ingmar Weber, and Michael Macy (2018) “Social Contagion of Political Extremism ”. *2018 International School and Conference on Network Science (NetSci 2018)*, Paris, France.

Meysam Alizadeh, Ingmar Weber, Claudio Cioffi-Revilla, Santo Fortunato, and Michael Macy (2017) “Psychological and personality profiles of political extremists”. *The 3rd Annual International Conference on Computational Social Science*, Cologne, Germany, 2017.

PATENT

Meysam Alizadeh and Jacob Shapiro (2022) “[System and method for machine learning based prediction of social media influence operations](#)”, *U.S. Patent Application No. 17/639,052*.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND RECOGNITIONS

Presidential Fellowship, Full Scholarship for Doctoral Studies, George Mason University, 2013-2016.
Summer Research Fellowship, ONR-Minerva Grant No. N00014130054 (PI: Claudio Cioffi-Revilla), 2015 and 2016.

Full Graduate Research Scholarship, University of Pittsburgh, 2010-2012.

Full Scholarship, University of Maryland Baltimore County, 2009-2010.

TEACHING

Instructor

- Spring 2026: Digital Public Governance (PoliSci, University of Zurich)
- Spring 2010, Introduction to Data Analysis (ISchool, University of Maryland Baltimore County).

Curriculum Design

- 2022: Developed the full curriculum for M.A. and Ph.D. programs in Computational Social Science, Department of Computer Engineering, University of Tehran.

Workshop

- Spring 2022: Social Data Analysis, Institute for Research in Fundamental Sciences.
- Summer 2021: AI in Social Media Research, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Sharif University of Technology.
- Fall 2020: Introduction to Computational Social Science, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Tehran.

Teaching Assistant

- Fall 2009: Department of Information Systems, University of Maryland Baltimore County.

Member of dissertation and thesis committees: Aida Mahmoudi (ICSS), Savana Diem (UZH), Hadi Aliahmadi (IUST), Mohammad Ghotbi (UT), Fatemeh Rajabi (AUT), Mahdi Davoudi (IRIBU), Ata Naghedifar (SUT), Masiha Zahedivafa (IUST).

Dissertation, thesis, or project mentor: Henrietta Toivanen (Princeton), Ali Ghazinejad (IU), Darya Zare (AUT), Alireza Mohammadian (SUT), Parsa Mirtaheri (SUT), Shirin Dehghani (ATU).

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Visiting Scholar, Social Dynamics Laboratory, Department of Sociology, Cornell University, NY, USA, Jan 2015 - May 2015, *Adviser: Michael Macy*.

Visiting Scholar, Social Computing Group, QCRI, Qatar, Jul 2015, *Adviser: Ingmar Weber*.

Research Assistant, School of Information Science, University of Pittsburgh, 2010–2012.

INVITED TALKS

2025

- Workshop on The Future of Social Media Research (Oxford Internet Institute)

2024

- Transversal Research Priorities Areas Keynote Series (University of Zurich)
- Workshop on What Policies Can Promote Healthy AI? (Consensus Event, USA)

2023

- Workshop on Safeguarding Democracy from Online Disinformation, Digital Services Act Stakeholder Event (European Commission, Belgium)

2020

- Microsoft Seminar Series (Microsoft, WA)
- Center for Information Technology Policy Seminar Series (Princeton)

2019

- Center for Social Media and Politics (NYU)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIP

Referee

- Science Advances
- PNAS Nexus
- Web Conference
- International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM)
- AI & Society
- Political Analysis
- Political Communication
- Journal of Computational Social Science
- EPJ Data Science
- Swiss Political Science Review
- PLOS ONE
- Scientific Reports
- Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media
- Scientific Data
- Social Networks Analysis and Mining
- Review of Economics and Statistics
- Computational and Mathematical Organization Theory
- Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation
- Physica A: Statistical Mechanics and It's Applications
- Advances in Complex Systems
- Expert Systems with Applications
- Neural Computing and Applications
- Multidisciplinary International Symposium on Disinformation in Online Media (MISDOOM)
- Review of Policy Research

Conference Program Committee

- The ACM Web Conference, Research Track on Social Networks and Social Media, Dubai, UAE, April 13-17, 2026.
- Digital Democracy Workshop, Digital Society Initiative, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland, October 28-29, 2021.

Member

- International Society for Computational Social Science (ISCSS)
- American Political Science Association (APSA)
- The Network Science Society
- The Network for Computational Modeling for SocioEcological Science (CoMSES)
- Peace Science Society

WRITINGS IN POPULAR MEDIA

Meysam Alizadeh, Cody Buntain, Jacob Shapiro, and Joshua Tucker, [“Are influence campaigns trolling your social media feeds?”](#), Published in The Monkey Cage / Washington Post, Oct 2020.

MENTIONS IN MEDIA OUTLETS

CryptoNews, [“AI Solutions Seek To Advance Real World Asset Tokenization”](#), May 9, 2024.

Yahoo! Finance, [“Tokenization News Roundup: Resource Extraction, Social Media Monetization and Real World Connections”](#), August 24, 2023.

France24, [“Twitter: all right under Elon Musk?”](#), May 25, 2023.

The Register, [“ChatGPT is coming for your jobs – the terrible ones, at least”](#), April 3, 2023.

New Scientist, [“ChatGPT outperforms humans at labelling some data for other AIs”](#), March 29, 2023.

VICE, [“ChatGPT Can Replace the Underpaid Workers Who Train AI, Researchers Say”](#), March 29, 2023.

BBC Digital Planet, [“Tracking the trolls”](#), July 29, 2020.

New Scientist, [“A weather forecast for fake news outbreaks on social media is coming”](#), July 29, 2020.

Bild Der Wissenschaft, [“KI-System erkennt Posts von Trollen und Bots”](#), July 27, 2020.

Deutschlandfunk Forschung Aktuell, [“Russland-Affäre: Algorithmus erkennt Trolle in staatlichem Auftrag”](#), July 23, 2020.

The Guardian, [“AI system detects posts by foreign ‘trolls’ on Facebook and Twitter”](#), July 22, 2020.

Newsweek, [“Chinese and Russian Trolls Trying to Influence 2020 Election Could Be Hunted with AI Tool”](#), July 22, 2020.

Inverse, [“Tracking Disinformation Using Digital Fingerprints”](#), July 22, 2020.