

# Vahid Khalili Param

Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, Sabanci University, Tuzla/Istanbul, Türkiye  
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## RESEARCH PROFILE

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PhD Candidate in Computer Science and Engineering at Sabanci University. Research focus: computational social science, social network analysis, and detection of coordination and automation in online platforms, with applications to political communication and opinion dynamics.

## EDUCATION

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**Sabanci University (Sabanci Univ.), Istanbul, Türkiye** **PhD (ongoing)**

PhD Candidate, Computer Science and Engineering (coursework completed; GPA 3.30/4.00)

**Islamic Azad University, Science and Research Branch, Iran** **2017**

MSc, Executive Master in Strategic Management (Thesis passed with Distinction)

- Thesis: An Investigation on the Effects of Distributed Social Cognition and Interaction Networks on Behaviors of Economic Agents
- Honors: Top 5 students in the Management Department (GPA: 18.9 out of 20)

**Islamic Azad University, Tabriz Branch, Iran** **2014**

BSc (part-time), Electronic Engineering

- Areas of concentration: Electronics, Robotics

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**VRL Lab (Computational Social Science Lab), Sabanci University** **Oct 2022 - Present**

Graduate Research Assistant

- Computational analysis of large-scale social media data
- Network-based analysis of online coordination and automation; identification of behavioral and information-diffusion patterns.
- NLP-based measurement of behavioral signals (e.g., sentiment and related labels) and integration with network/ideology features.

**Policy-Modeling Research Lab, Iran** **2017 - 2022**

Graduate Research Assistant

- Developed data-driven models for collective behavior analysis under public intervention policies.

- Programming and simulation using Python, R, and NetLogo; survey design and empirical data analysis.

## PROJECTS & GRANTS

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TÜBİTAK BİDEB-2247D (BİDEB) - Project No: 121C220 1 Oct 2022 - 15 Jun 2025

**VRL Lab (Computational Social Science Lab), Sabanci University**

Project: Sosyal ağlarda koordinasyon ve otomasyon tespit sistemleri geliştirilmesi (Development of Coordination and Automation Detection Systems in Social Networks) - Completed

TÜBİTAK 1001 - Election (Ongoing)

**Current**

**VRL Lab (Computational Social Science Lab), Sabanci University**

Modeling the Motivation for Following Political Leaders on Social Networks and Agenda-Setting Strategies Using Computational Social Science Methods

## PUBLICATIONS & MANUSCRIPTS

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**Manuscripts in preparation:**

- Shifting Dynamics of Political Support: The Case of Kemal Kilicdaroglu in the 2023 Turkish Presidential Election

## TEACHING & MENTORING

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**Teaching Assistant, Sabanci University**

**2022 - Present**

*Introduction to Data Science; Human-Computer Interaction; Database Management Systems; Network Science*

**Teaching Assistant, Islamic Azad University,**

**Sep 2016 - Dec 2016**

**Science and Research Branch**

*Strategic Management and Complex Organizations*

**Mentor, Data Science for Social Science - workshops and events**

**Jan 2017**

Workshop mentor (computational social science methods and tools)

## SKILLS

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### Programming & data analysis:

- Python (advanced),
- R (advanced),
- JavaScript (Three.js; 3D network visualization),
- NetLogo (intermediate),
- Statistical inference
- Network science & election analytics.
- Science Communication
- Data visualization: interactive data visualizations (2D/3D).

## LANGUAGES

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- Farsi - native; Turkish (Azeri) - native; Turkish - fluent; English - fluent.
- English proficiency: TOEFL iBT 106/120 (R: 28, L: 30, S: 23, W: 25).

## HONORS & AWARDS

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- Top 10% in the entrance exam for MSc program (2014).
- University entrepreneurship award for best start-up idea in data science (2018).
- Recognized as an exceptional talented student by the National Organization for Development of Exceptional Talents in Iran (2000).