

URAS DEMIR, Ph.D.

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SUMMARY

- Computational social scientist with 7 years of experience in applied quantitative and qualitative research.
- Political, financial, and economic risk analysis expertise with multidisciplinary background, and focus in East Asia.
- Research focus on the quantification of political risk concerning global supply chains.
- Teaching experience on quantitative research methods and R at a top US public higher education institution.

EDUCATION

University of California, Irvine 2024

Ph.D., Political Science

Quantitative Research Methods and International Political Economy

Dissertation: "Global Supply Chains in Economic Statecraft"

EDHEC Business School, France 2016

MSc., Global Business,

Concentration in Finance

Thesis: "Herding Behavior in Equity Markets." Best Research Award.

State University of New York at Binghamton 2013

BSc., International Relations

Joint Program with Middle East Technical University, Turkey

QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of California, Irvine, Department of Political Science

Quantitative Researcher, [NSF-funded Project](#)

2024

- Co-developed a scraper with python, deployed it, collected firm level data with 250k+ observations.

University of Tokyo, Institute of Social Science

[Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Predoctoral Research Fellow](#)

2023-2024

- Managed a mixed-methods research project on modeling geoeconomic risk in East Asia with a ¥1.4m grant.
- Conducted 40 interviews with government officials and peak association representatives on economic security risk.
- Designed a survey experiment with Qualtrics XM, delivered it to 5k participants, attained 95+% completion rate.
- Produced time-series and counterfactual analyses with UNComtrade data to gauge country-specific risk in trade.

Smith Richardson Foundation

[Research Fellow](#)

2021-2023

- Managed a mixed-methods research project with a grant of \$7.5k secured through a national competition.
- Developed a global supply chain trade typology and applied it to 20m+ commodity flows using k-means clustering.
- Formed and managed a research group with 3 research assistants to build a text database on trade related documents.
- Conducted regression analyses to estimate the influence of economic interdependence on interstate relations.
- Drafted a research article currently under review at a Q1 academic journal on the findings of the inferential analyses.

University of California, Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation

[Research Fellow](#)

2020-2022

- Managed a quantitative research project with a \$22.5k grant secured through a UC-wide competition.
- Built an index of interstate conflict and cooperation using over 17.5m event observations between 1995 and 2020.
- Developed an index of bilateral global supply chain dependence for all countries between 1990 and 2020.
- Conducted an experiment with the synthetic control method to gauge the economic impact of the 2018 Trade War.
- Authored an article on the findings of the inferential analyses currently under review at a Q1 academic journal.

University of California, Irvine, Department of Political Science

Quantitative Researcher, [University of California, Lab Fees-funded Project](#)

2018-2020

- Conducted exploratory quantitative analyses on global supply chain trade data in East Asia.
- Co-authored a chapter in a [Cambridge University Press edited volume](#).

Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom

Research Fellow

2021-2022

- Managed a mixed methods research project with a grant of €4k secured through a pitch on country risk analysis.
- Applied a novel index of interstate conflict and cooperation to [case studies](#) to quantify interstate conflict risk.

DATA SCIENCE RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California, Irvine, School of Social Sciences

Instructor

2023

- [Political Analysis](#): Designed and taught R integrated computational social science course.
- 85% of the students provided the highest possible score my [performance](#).

Teaching Assistant

2019-2022

- Probability and Statistics I, II, III: Instructed R based computer labs for three years.
- Taught 300+ students with 85+% consistently providing the highest possible score for my performance.

STRATEGY CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

Grant Thornton LLP

Consulting Intern

2016

DATA SCIENCE PROJECTS

- [Data Visualization Dashboard](#): An interactive dashboard to visualize indices across the world.
- [Value at Risk Calculator](#): An app that calculates VaR using historical, parametric, and MC simulation methods.
- [Technical Analysis Dashboard](#): A technical analysis dashboard for decision-making on equity investments.
- [ML Based GDP Estimator](#): A dashboard that uses supervised machine learning for GDP modeling.
- [A/B Testing Simulator](#): A customizable simulator for conducting A/B tests towards sales analytics.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

- Programming Languages: **R** (tidyverse, shiny, caret), **PostgreSQL**, **Python** (pandas, numpy, scikit-learn)
- Data Modeling Expertise: Training at [ICPSR](#) and graduate coursework towards methodological specialization.
- Machine Learning Expertise: Training at [ICPSR](#) and [EITM](#) on classification, regression, and clustering tasks.
- Data Visualization Expertise: ggplot2, shiny (dashboards), matplotlib, Tableau.

RECENT TALKS

- University of California, San Diego, Global Policy and Strategy 2024
- International Studies Association Annual Meeting 2024
- University of Tokyo, Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology (RCAST) 2024
- Japan Society for Quantitative Political Science Annual Meeting 2024
- American Political Science Annual Meeting 2023
- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory 2022

SELECTED MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

University of California, Irvine, Graduate Division

[Graduate International Connection Mentoring Program](#)

2022-2023

- Served as a peer mentor for 30+ incoming international MS and PhD students.

[Competitive Edge Mentoring Program](#)

2023

- Provided mentorship on strategic planning to six incoming PhD students from underserved communities.

RECENT GRANTS AND AWARDS

- University of California, Irvine, Most Promising Future Faculty Honorable Mention 2023
- Long US-China Institute, Research Grant 2023
- University of California, Irvine, Center for Asian Studies, Research Grant 2023

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Turkish (Bilingual), French (B2), Japanese (N3)