

Curriculum Vitae

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S. FARSHAD FATEMI ARDESTANI

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Personal:

Date & Place of Birth: 15th May 1973; Isfahan; Iran
Sex: Male
Marital Status: Married (with two children)
Languages: Persian (mother language); English

Education:

Oct 2005 – June 2009 *University College London* (UCL), London, UK
Ph.D. in *Economics*.
Title of thesis: *Essays in Industrial Organisation*;
First supervisor: *Prof. V. Bhaskar*; Second supervisor: *Prof. Rachel Griffith*

Oct 2003 – Sept 2005 *University of Essex*, Colchester, UK
Postgraduate courses in *Economics*.

Oct 1994 – Jun 1997 *Institute for Research in Planning and Development* (IRPD), Tehran, Iran
M.Sc. in *Socio-Economic Systems Engineering*.
Thesis's title: *The Welfare Cost of Inflation Tax in Iran*; Supervisor: Dr. Mohammad Tabibian.

Oct 1990 – Sep 1994 *Isfahan University of Technology* (IUT), Isfahan, Iran
B.Sc. in *Electrical Engineering* (Electronics).

Work Experience:

Sept 2009 – Assistant Professor, *Graduate School of Management and Economics* (GSME);
Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran.

Jan 2000 – Jun 2003 Lecturer, *Institute for Research on Planning and Development* (IRPD), Tehran, Iran.

Jul 1997 – Jan 2000 Government Budget Analyst and Government Projects Expert, *Management and Planning Organization*, Isfahan, Iran.

Research and Teaching Interests:

Industrial Organisation; Game Theory; Contract Theory; Mechanism Design; Information Economics

Working Papers:

Price Discrimination and Information Acquisition

Abstract: We consider a Hotelling model of price competition where firms may acquire information regarding the preferences (i.e. “location”) of customers. By purchasing additional information, a firm has a finer partition regarding customer preferences, and its pricing decisions must be measurable with respect to this partition. If information acquisition decisions are common knowledge at the point where firms compete via prices, we show that a pure strategy sub-game perfect equilibrium exists, and that there is “excess information acquisition” from the point of view of the firms. If information acquisition decisions are private information, a pure strategy equilibrium fails to exist. We compute a mixed strategy equilibrium for a range of parameter values.

National Pricing versus Regional Pricing; An Investigation into the UK Egg Market

Abstract: This paper investigates a case of national versus regional pricing. Competition authorities frequently view price discrimination by firms as detrimental to consumers. In the case of the UK supermarket industry they suggested a move to uniform pricing. Yet theoretical predictions are ambiguous about whether third degree price discrimination is beneficial or detrimental to consumers, and in general there will be some consumers who benefit while others lose out. In this chapter, we estimate the impact that the move from regional to uniform pricing had on Tesco’s profits and consumer’s surplus. We estimate an AIDS model of consumer expenditure in the eggs market in a multi-stage budgeting framework allowing for very flexible substitution patterns between products at the bottom level. We use data on farm gate prices to instrument price in the demand equation. Our results suggest that switching to a regional pricing policy can potentially increase Tesco’s profit on eggs by 37%. However, while there are winners and losers, the overall effect on consumer welfare is not significant.

The Market for Kidneys in Iran

Abstract: The most effective treatment for end-stage renal disease is a kidney transplant. While the supply of cadaveric kidneys is limited, the debate has been focused on the effects of the existence of a free market for human organs. Economists as well as medical and legal researchers are divided over the issue. Iran has a unique kidney market which has been in place for over 20 years, frequently reporting surprising success in reducing the waiting list for kidneys. This paper demonstrates how the Iranian system works and estimates the welfare effect of this system.

Teaching Experience:

Microeconomics I (Postgraduate) (2009 - 2010) at GSME

Microeconomics for MBA Students (2009 - 2010) at GSME

TA in *Game Theory (Postgraduate & Undergraduate)*, *Microeconomics*, and *World Economy* (2005 - 2008) at UCL

TA in *Introduction to Economics* (2004 - 2005) at University of Essex

TA in *Advanced Microeconomics I & II (Postgraduate)* (2002 - 2003) at IRPD

Project Evaluation (2001 – 2002 & 2002 - 2003) at IRPD

Introductory Microeconomics (2000 - 2001) at IRPD

Research & Professional Experience:

2009 *Consultant in a health economics project to PATH*
Consultant in a health economics project (surestart) in India funded by *The Gates foundation*.

2005 - 2008 *Research Assistantships in Different Projects*

Including research assistantship for Prof. V. Bhaksar (UCL), and Dr. Matthew Harding (Stanford).

- 2001 - 2003 *Evaluating Iran's Industrial Development Strategies*
It was a national project in Iran and I was a member of the research team.
My specialized field in this project: 1- *Studying the taxation laws in Iran and introduce new reforms* and, 2- *Studying financial resources of industrial sector and evaluating the financial performance of this sector.*
- 2000 - 2002 *Designing, Evaluating, and Developing the Systems and Methods in Enterprises*
Consultant in two companies to help them to design, evaluate, and develop their systems and methods: 1- *Shahrvand Chain Superstores*, 2- *Kish Information Technology Development Office.*
- 2000 - 2002 *Economic Study of the Zagros Distinct;*
It was a part of a huge project in *the Housing Ministry of Iran* that aimed to design a development plan for five provinces in the Zagros distinct (Hamedan, Ilam, Kermanshah, Kordestan, Lorestan). This project was a regional planning project and I worked on *the Prediction of Economic Views with Respect to Different Scenarios* based on dynamic programming using the input-output table.
- 2000 - 2001 *Restructuring the Pharmaceutical Industry in Iran;*
My specialized field in this project: *evaluating the performance of the pharmaceutical enterprises.*
- 2000 - 2001 *Strategic Planning in IRITEC Company*
The head of the team to study two sections of Strategic Planning for this consultant company: 1- *Financial performance*, and 2- *Economic environment and market structure.*
- 2000 *Strategic Planning in Bonyad Husbandry Group*
It was a short time project to study the market structure and financial performance of a holding company that was working in animal husbandry and poultry industry and managed more than 20 companies in this industry.
- 2000 *Strategic Planning in Pars Electric Company*
Consultant in the economic environment and market structure study
- 1998 - 1999 *A Simulation Model for Isfahan Province's Economy*
Designing a simulation model for a sample economy in the state level based on dynamic programming using the input-output table, running the model with Isfahan province's data and analyzing the result of the model.
- 1997 - 1999 *Management Information Systems Design for Zayandeh_Rood Industries*
The coordinator of the team that analyzed information systems, and designed new ones during the reconstruction period.

Awards and Honors:

UCL Studentships Award; 2007

1st rank in examination for awarding the PhD scholarship; 2001

2nd rank among 19 graduates of IRPD; 1997

1st GPA for two semesters (at IRPD); 1994 - 1995

1st rank in entrance examination for the M.Sc. program (at IRPD among 1100 applicants); 1994

56th rank in nation-wide entrance exam of universities (among 200,000 applicants); 1990

Computer programming:

STATA, MATLAB, FORTRAN, MFIT, E-Views, VENSIM, iThink & Microsoft Office.