

Stefanos Kechagias, PhD

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Qualifications Profile

I am a seasoned Statistician with a strong record of success within the Computer Software and Advanced Analytics Industries. I have a deep analytical skillset and a stellar publication record across wide scientific fields such as time series analysis, forecasting, optimization and multivariate statistics. Parallel to my research, I have significant experience in developing large-scale analytics software, leading teams, and growing a Business. I am passionate about learning and developing new methodologies to solve problems from broad origins as well as teaching and sharing my knowledge with students, clients and coworkers.

- High technical competence in multiple programming languages and computing environments: R, C, SAS (VIYA, IML, ETS, STAT, SQL macro), Matlab, Latex, Sweave, Linux, Git. Beginner in Python and Julia.

Professional Experience

SAS Institute, North Carolina, USA (2014-2021) and Athens, Greece (2021 - Present)

Senior AI & Analytics Specialist - EMEA, 01/2023 - Present

Act as a subject matter expert and regional leader on Advanced Analytics, Machine Learning, AI & ModelOps.

Education & Academic Programs Manager - Southeastern Europe, 08/2021 - 12/2022

Charged with building a SAS Education and Academic Programs Department from scratch in SE Europe.

- Formed and led a regional team in laying proper business foundations; **Developed and operationalized an EMEA-wide pricing strategy; Built a multinational partner network; Purged residual business malpractices; Established robust IPO compliance; Achieved 133% YoY growth.**

Senior Analytical Consultant (Team Leader), 08/2019 - 08/2021

Charged with providing expert-level statistical consulting services to a wide range of client project engagements along with the design and development of advanced analytical solutions.

- Led the migration of a large-scale demand forecasting SAS solution from a multivendor architecture to a cloud environment; **enabling fast modeling of millions of time series.**
- Led the analytical efforts in a project with multiple North Carolina state agencies and stakeholders; **measuring COVID-19's economic impact in North Carolina.**
- Led the analytical efforts in a large-scale, cloud-native retail forecasting project for a \$1B revenue client; **delivered significant forecast accuracy and runtime performance improvements; cultivated a cultural change throughout the client's organization.**

Senior Research Statistician Developer, 06/2015 - 08/2019, senior rank attained in 03/2018

Designed, developed and maintained topflight statistical software written in C. Drove the research and selection of specialized statistical methods by anticipating and identifying client software needs.

- Successfully implemented cutting-edge computational algorithms and statistical models in SAS and C; **contributed in modernizing the econometrics and time series SAS software.**
- Expertly designed and developed two cloud time series analysis SAS procedures; **CARIMA and CESM.**

Economics Technology Fellow, 05/2014 - 06/2015

Researched and implemented novel statistical methods into the SAS software.

- Successfully self-taught programming language C; **enabled greater skills and allowed for a promotion.**

Athens University of Economics and Business

Guest Lecturer, 09/2022 - Present

Teach a MSc level SAS lab at the Department of Statistics.

North Carolina State University, Institute of Advanced Analytics

Guest Lecturer, Fall 2017

Expertly taught and facilitated a graduate level time series analysis course with 200+ enrollment.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Department of Statistics and Operations Research

Statistics Instructor, 08/2011 - 05/2014

Diligently taught multiple undergraduate level statistics and economics courses with 100+ enrolment levels; received the department's annual **Excellence in Teaching Award** in 2013.

Education

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 05/2015

Doctor of Philosophy in [Statistics and Operations Research](#)

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Master of Science in [Business Mathematics](#), 2010 (22/30 classes, interrupted it to enter PhD program)

Bachelor of Science in [Mathematics](#), 2009

Journal Publications

“[Latent Gaussian count time series](#)”, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 2021.

“[Modeling bivariate long-range dependence with general phase](#)”, *Journal of Time Series Analysis*, 2020.

“[Asymptotics of bivariate local Whittle estimators with applications to fractal connectivity](#)”, *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*, 2020.

“[Multivariate integer-valued time series with flexible autocovariances and their application to major hurricane counts](#)”, *Annals of Applied Statistics*, 2018.

“[Convex optimization and feasible circulant matrix embeddings in synthesis of stationary Gaussian fields](#)”, *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*, 2016.

“[Definitions and representations of multivariate long-range dependent time series](#)”, *Journal of Time Series Analysis*, 2015.

Professional Service

Academic Advisory Board, Fall 2022 - Present

Department of Business Administration & Tourism, Hellenic Mediterranean University

Department of Statistics, Athens University of Economics and Business

Journal Referee, 2015 - Present

Provide multiple in-depth, expert reviews on a wide range of research articles for the following journals:

Indicative list: [Statistics](#), [Annals of Applied Statistics](#), [Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics](#), [Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry](#), [Journal of Nonparametric Statistics](#), and more.

Personal Achievements

- Professional water polo Athlete, 2001-2009
- Greece National Men's Water Polo Team (Under 17, Under 19, Under 21), 1998-2003
- City Ethics Award, Chalandri Greece, 2001