

# Stefanos Kechagias, PhD

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+306939596254 · [stefanoskeh@gmail.com](mailto:stefanoskeh@gmail.com) · <https://www.linkedin.com/in/stefanoskechagias/> · Greece

## Qualifications Profile

I am a seasoned Statistician with a successful track record across multiple roles in the Computer Software and Advanced Analytics Industries. I have a deep analytical skillset in a wide range of scientific fields such as statistics, data science, forecasting, optimization and more. In addition, I have significant experience in developing large-scale analytics software, publishing in top journals, leading consulting teams, and in business development. I am passionate about learning new things and love to teach and share my knowledge with others.

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

## Professional Experience

**National Bank of Greece**, Athens, Greece (03/2024 - Present)

*Credit Risk Modeling - Senior Professional*

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

*Senior AI & Analytics Specialist - EMEA*, 01/2023 - 31-12-1983

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

- Led analytical efforts in a €4MM Demand Forecasting POC for a large UK retailer; **delivered significant forecast accuracy improvements**.
- Drove multiple international pre-sales analytical activities for Banking, Government, Retail & Healthcare clients (e.g., credit risk modeling, ATM demand forecasting, audit sampling, etc.).
- Led a team of 5 (two Statistics Professors and two Senior Data Scientists) to a Top-10 position (out of 269 teams) in the 2023 [HEDNO Powertheft Detection Datathon](#); **received a paid POC contract**.

*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 new Department; **Developed an EMEA-wide pricing strategy; Built a partner network; Purged residual malpractices; Established 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 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, retail forecasting project for a \$1B revenue client; **delivered significant 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.**

**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

## Selected Journal Publications

“Latent Gaussian count time series”, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 2021.

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

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

## Professional Service & Other Positions

*Expert Data Consultant*, Fall 2022 - Present (paid position after summer of 2023)

European Food Safety Authority

*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