

# Ozgur Seker

oseker@sas.upenn.edu // +1 (267) 746-5774  
linkedin.com/in/ozgurseker06 // github.com/ozgurseker

I am a PhD candidate in Economics with a strong foundation in mathematics, statistics, and econometrics. I specialize in developing quantitative models and employing innovative measurement techniques, and I am seeking quantitative roles where I can apply my analytical expertise to solve complex financial and economic problems.

## EDUCATION

---

**University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, PA *May 2025*

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics

Relevant Coursework: *Computational Economics, Macroeconomic Theory, Macro Financial Markets, Macroeconomic Theory, Market Design, Empirical IO, Adv. Econometrics, Machine Learning, Investment Management*

**Koc University**, Istanbul, Turkey *May 2018*

M.Sc. in Economics, *GPA: 3.88/4.0* (Highest in the cohort)

Relevant Coursework: *Adv. Game Theory, Asset Pricing, Investment, Introduction to Machine Learning, Algorithms*

**TOBB University of Economics and Technology**, Ankara, Turkey *Aug 2016*

B.Sc in Economics, *GPA: 3.68/4.0*

B.Sc in Mathematics, *GPA: 3.55/4.0*

Relevant Coursework: *Real Analysis, Measure Theory, Linear Algebra I-II*

## SKILLS

---

- **Econometrics:** Policy Evaluation, Hypothesis Testing, Experiment Design, Causal Inference
- **Structural Models:** Developing, Simulating, and Estimating Agent-Based Structural Models
- **Statistics/ML:** Decision Tree, Random Forest, Nearest Neighbors, K-Means Clustering, Neural Networks
- **Programming Languages:** R, Python, Matlab, SQL, Julia, and Latex.

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

---

### RESEARCH PROJECTS

**Effects of Political Affiliation on Firm Investment Behavior** *Sep 2022 – Sep 2024*

- Introduce a novel method to measure political affiliation by scraping Google Search results of 4000+ board members
- Collected a novel firm-level investment data by scraping 3000+ yearbooks Turkey's stock exchange
- Found that political alignment with the government increases stock market returns by 6-8%; decreases investment probabilities for larger firms but increases for smaller firms

**Competing Politically Connectible Firms – Quantitative Analysis** *Jan 2022 – May 2022*

- Developed an endogenous growth model in which competing firms choose political connection and R&D activities
- Simulated the model on Python to understand how political events and institutions affect corruption and innovation.
- Showed that R&D activities decrease by 20% in the sector if the largest firm is connected to the government, and political turnover increases the innovation. The results are consistent with the empirical results in the literature.

### INDEPENDENT STARTUP PROJECT

**RCM Fund Management**, Remote *Jul 2021 – Jan 2022*

- Improved trading strategy accuracy by 30% using backtesting.
- Built trading bots for IBKR, enabling real-time execution of strategies, reducing human intervention by 90%.
- Automated the reporting of AI engines' theoretical performances, increasing decision making speed by 80%

## ACHIEVEMENTS

---

- 7th in University Entrance Exam in Turkey (LYS) among 1.500.000 students.
- Honourable Mention Prize in International First Step To Nobel Prize in Physics in 2011
- Bronze Medal in National Science Olympiads in Physics