

Abbas Sheykhfard, Ph.D.

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ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2025-present Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States

Projects funded by the Center for Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety (CPBS), a Tier-1 University Transportation Center (UTC) funded by the US DOT.

Projects funded by New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)

2024-2025 Postdoctoral Research Associate, Innovative Transportation Research Institute, Texas Southern University, Houston, TX, United States

Projects:

Leveraging Artificial Intelligence for Transportation Asset Inventories & Management (Texas Department of Transportation, TxDOT)

Simulator Evaluation of Emerging Countermeasures for Speed Management to Reduce Conflicts with Vulnerable Users (National Center for Sustainable Transportation (NCST), U.S. DOT)

Deep Learning-Based Optimization of Eco-Driving Strategies with CAEVs on Transportation Networks (National Center for Sustainable Transportation (NCST), U.S. DOT)

2021-2023 Researcher, Department of Transportation, Babol Noshirvani University of Technology

2019-2020 Researcher, Faculty of Technology, Policy, and Management, Delft University of Technology, Delft, The Netherlands

2019-2020 Researcher, Institute for Road Safety Research (SWOV), The Hague, The Netherlands

EDUCATION

Babol Noshirvani University of Technology Civil Engineering -Transportation Engineering Ph.D., 2021

Babol Noshirvani University of Technology Civil Engineering -Transportation Engineering Msc., 2016

Jundi-shapur University of Technology Civil Engineering -Transportation Engineering Bsc., 2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Lecturer, University of New Mexico, United States (October 2025)

Course: Transportation Engineering

Guest Lecturer, Texas Southern University, United States (Sep 2024-May 2025)

Course: ITS Technology and Application

Guest Lecturer, Babol Noshirvani University of Technology, Iran (Sep 2021-May 2023)

Courses: Safety Traffic Engineering, Highway and Intersection capacity, Traffic Management and Control

Lecturer, Aryan Institute of Science and Technology, Iran (Sep 2017-May 2019)

Courses: Asphalt pavement systems, Construction materials, Statics

Lecturer, Pardisan Institute of Science and Technology, Iran (Sep 2018-Feb 2019)

Courses: Construction materials, Road Design, Mechanics of Materials

FUNDING SECURED (2025-2026)

Predictive Analytics for Target Zero Initiative Recommendations (2026). Funding Agency: New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT). Role: Co-Principal Investigator. Requested Budget: \$150,000.00.. Collaborators: University of New Mexico.

Optimizing External Human-Machine Interfaces (eHMI) Designs in Autonomous Vehicles (2025). Funding Agency: National Center for Sustainable Transportation (NCST), U.S. DOT. Role: Co-Principal Investigator. Requested Budget: \$102,969.12. Collaborators: Texas Southern University.

Modeling Cyclist Behavioral Patterns and Multi-Faceted Decision-Making Strategies in Urban Settings with Limited Infrastructure (2025). Funding Agency: National Center for Sustainable Transportation (NCST), U.S. DOT. Role: Principal Investigator. Requested Budget: \$45,000. Collaborators: Texas Southern University.

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour

Editorial Board Member 2025-present

TRB Pedestrian Committee (ACH10)

Committee Research Coordinator 2026-present

Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives

Editorial Board Member 2025-present

IATSS Research

Associate Editor 2025-present

Frontiers in Future Transportation

Associate Editor 2023-present

Journal of Traffic and Transportation Engineering (English Edition)

Guest Editor (SI: Young novice drivers and promoting safe driving behaviors) August, 2023

Safety

Guest Editor (SI: Traffic Safety Culture) March, 2023

RESEARCH PANEL SERVICE

NCHRP 23-53: *Guide to Integrating Transportation Asset Management, Planning, and Programming* 2025-present

NCHRP 25-77: *Providing Wildlife Safe Passage Through Linear Transportation Infrastructure* 2025-present

ACADEMIC HONORS

Awarded Distinguished Researcher of the Year, Texas Southern University, 2025.

Awarded Distinguished Researcher of the Year, Babol Noshirvani University of Technology, 2023.

Awarded Distinguished Researcher of the Year, Babol Noshirvani University of Technology, 2021.

MSRT Award for Research & Scholarship, 2019

Awarded the Best Student of the Year, Babol Noshirvani University of Technology, 2016.

ICTTE Student Paper Award, 2015

LANGUAGES

Persian (Farsi): Native

English: Fluent

Kurdish: Fluent

Spanish: Elementary

RECENT PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Sheykhfard, A.**, Azmoodeh, M., Das, S., Ye, X., & Koppel, S. (2026). Exploring factors influencing user re-ride intentions in shared autonomous shuttle vehicles. *Transport Policy*, 175, 103894. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tranpol.2025.103894>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Azmoodeh, M., Das, S., & Kutela, B. (2025). Analyzing purchase intentions of used electric vehicles through consumer experiences: A structural equation modeling approach. *Transport Policy*, 160, 125–137. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tranpol.2024.10.038>
- Mimi, M. S., Islam, M. M., **Sheykhfard, A.**, & Das, S. (2025). Crash risk patterns among older bicyclists: Insights from hybrid XGBoost-cluster correspondence analysis. *Journal of Safety Research*, 95, 301–317. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsr.2025.10.009>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Dadashzadeh, N., Qiao, F., Azimi, M., & Useche, S. A. (2025). Gender roles in sustainable mobility: Exploring e-scooter adoption intentions in a developing country through an integrated TPB-UTAUT framework. *Sustainable Futures*, 9, 100671. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sftr.2025.100671>
- Nadimi, N., Fathipour, H., & **Sheykhfard, A.** (2025). Assessing safety in horizontal curves using surrogate safety measures and machine learning. *Scientific Reports*, 15(1), 12384. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-025-97384-7>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Aziz Zadeh, A., Das, S., Oshanreh, M. M., Shaaban, K., & Soltani, A. (2025). Evaluating U-left turn and direct left turn movements at signalized intersections using traffic conflict indices. *Journal of Traffic and Transportation Engineering (English Edition)*, 12(4), 812–830. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtte.2024.01.004>
- Kutela, B., Mwandepa, P., Lucian, A. C., Kinero, A., **Sheykhfard, A.**, & Magidanga, V. (2025). Public perception of the government regulation of driverless passenger vehicles and its impact on the ridership. *Case Studies on Transport Policy*, 22, 101601. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cstp.2025.101601>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Jones, S., Sadeghvaziri, E., Koppel, S., Das, S., & Nankali, M. (2025). Integrating empirical and subjective evidence on young drivers' risk perceptions and crash factors. *Transportation Research Record*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981251350648>
- Kutela, B., Das, S., Javed, S. A., Sheykhfard, A., Ngeni, F., Lyimo, S. M., Shita, H., & Langa, N. (2025). Understanding the intersection of transportation safety and quality of life: Insights from community surveys in Austin, Texas. *Cities*, 162, 105964. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2025.105964>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Qiao, F., Das, S., & Lord, D. (2025). A predictive analysis of crash proneness among freight drivers: Insight into latent risk dimensions. *Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour*, 114, 30–48. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trf.2025.05.014>
- Nadimi, N., Mansourifar, F., **Sheykhfard, A.**, & Useche, S. A. (2025). What factors could enhance post-crash anxiety and depression outcomes? A SEM-based retrospective study. *Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour*, 114, 741–757. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trf.2025.06.027>
- Kavianpour, S., Haghighi, F., **Sheykhfard, A.**, Das, S., Fountas, G., & Oshanreh, M. M. (2024). Assessing the risk of pedestrian crossing behavior on suburban roads using structural equation model. *Journal of Traffic and Transportation Engineering (English Edition)*, 11(5), 853–866. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtte.2023.12.001>
- Kong, X., Li, Z., Zhang, Y., Chen, X., Das, S., & **Sheykhfard, A.** (2024). Case study on the relationship between socio-demographic characteristics and work-from-home behavior before, during, and after the COVID-19 pandemic. *Transportation Research Record*, 2678(2), 11–23. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981231172946>

- Sheykhfard, A.**, Azmoodeh, M., Kutela, B., Das, S., & Fountas, G. (2024). From self-reports to observations: Unraveling digital billboard influence on drivers. *Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour*, 103, 201–216. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trf.2024.04.010>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, Farshidreza, Bakhtiari, S., Moridpour, S., Xie, K., & Fountas, G. (2024). Analysis of traffic conflicts with right-turning vehicles at unsignalized intersections in suburban areas. *International Journal of Transportation Science and Technology*, 16, 34–49. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijtst.2023.10.008>
- Das, S., Chakraborty, R., Sheykhfard, A., Kutela, B., & Ye, X. (2024). Using perceptual cycle model and text mining to investigate ambulance traffic crashes. *Transportation Research Record*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981241270157>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, Farshidreza, Papadimitriou, E., Das, S., & Van Gelder, P. (2024). Exploring the influence of signal countdown timers on driver behavior. *Transportation Research Record*, 2678(4), 865–880. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981231186987>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Saeidi, S., SafariTaherkhani, M., & Das, S. (2024). Understanding the influence of environmental factors on driver speed. *IATSS Research*, 48(3), 427–439. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.iatssr.2024.08.001>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Saeidi, S., SafariTaherkhani, M., Fountas, G., & Das, S. (2024). Behavioral modeling of drivers near speed control cameras. *Transportation Research Record*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981241287787>
- Das, S., Vierkant, V., Gonzalez, J. C., Kutela, B., & **Sheykhfard, A.** (2023). Bayesian network for motorcycle crash severity analysis. *Transportation Research Record*, 2677(11), 51–63. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981231164386>
- Das, S., **Sheykhfard, A.**, Liu, J., & Nasim Khan, M. (2024). Understanding non-motorists' views on automated vehicle safety through Bayesian network analysis and latent Dirichlet allocation. *International Journal of Transportation Science and Technology*, 14, 289–304. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijtst.2023.06.002>
- Das, S., Hossain, A., Rahman, M. A., **Sheykhfard, A.**, & Kutela, B. (2024). Case study on the traffic collision patterns of e-scooter riders. *Transportation Research Record*, 2678(4), 575–589. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981231185770>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., & Das, S. (2023). Passenger conversation and pedestrian safety. *Transportation Research Part F*, 95, 464–479. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trf.2023.05.010>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Das, S., & Fountas, G. (2023). Evasive actions to prevent pedestrian collisions. *Accident Analysis & Prevention*, 192, 107270. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aap.2023.107270>
- Hossain, A., Sun, X., Alam, S., Das, S., & **Sheykhfard, A.** (2023). Crash contributing factors and patterns associated with fatal truck-involved crashes in Bangladesh. *Transportation Research Record*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981231209031>
- Kutela, B., Dzinyela, R., Haule, H., **Sheykhfard, A.**, & Msechu, K. (2023). Leveraging autonomous vehicles crash narratives to understand parking-related crashes. *Traffic Safety Research*, 4, e000033. <https://doi.org/10.55329/fiqq8731>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Fountas, G., Das, S., & Khanpour, A. (2023). Driving behavior differences between developed and developing countries. *Journal of Safety Research*, 85, 210–221. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsr.2023.02.005>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Kavianpour, S., Das, S., Farahani, P. S., & Fountas, G. (2023). Pedestrian red-light violation risk assessment. *IATSS Research*, 47(4), 514–525. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.iatssr.2023.11.003>

- Khanpour, A., King, M., **Sheykhfard, A.**, & Haghighi, F. (2023). Drivers' reported crash history, sensitivity to reward and punishment, personality, and demographics. *Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, 21, 100902. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trip.2023.100902>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Sedghi, A., Kavianpour, S., & Azmoodeh, M. (2023). Student pedestrian gap acceptance behaviour. *ICE – Municipal Engineer*, 176(2), 98–105. <https://doi.org/10.1680/jmuen.22.00023>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Zadkhori, M., Shaaban, K., & Yoosefi, H. (2023). Geometry optimization of speed humps. *Transportation Research Record*, 2677(8), 270–290. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981231156574>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Bakhtiari, S., & Pariota, L. (2022). Safety margin evaluation of pedestrian crossing. *Transportation Research Record*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981221099510>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Qin, X., Shaaban, K., & Koppel, S. (2022). Driving experience and aberrant driving behaviors. *Accident Analysis & Prevention*, 178, 106873. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aap.2022.106873>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Nordfjærn, T., & Soltaninejad, M. (2021). Structural equation modelling of pedestrian accident risk factors. *International Journal of Injury Control and Safety Promotion*, 28(1), 46–57. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17457300.2020.1835991>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Papadimitriou, E., & Van Gelder, P. (2021a). Vehicle-pedestrian conflicts in crosswalks. *Transportation Research Part F*, 76, 178–192. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trf.2020.11.008>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Papadimitriou, E., & Van Gelder, P. (2021b). Review of vehicle-pedestrian conflicts. *Journal of Traffic and Transportation Engineering*, 8(5), 681–702. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtte.2021.08.001>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, & Haghighi, F. (2020a). Pedestrian crossing safety via videography. *Accident Analysis & Prevention*, 144, 105661. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aap.2020.105661>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, & Haghighi, F. (2020b). Driver distraction by digital billboards. *Journal of Safety Research*, 72, 1–8. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsr.2019.11.002>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, & Haghighi, F. (2019). Performance analysis of urban drivers encountering pedestrian. *Transportation Research Part F*, 62, 160–174. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trf.2018.12.019>
- Sheykhfard, A.**, & Haghighi, F. (2018). Behavioral analysis of vehicle-pedestrian interactions in Iran. *Scientia Iranica*, 25(4), 1968–1976. <https://doi.org/10.24200/sci.2017.4201>

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- Sheykhfard, A.**, Stavrinos, D., Delhomme, P., Useche, S. A., & Ferenchak, N. N. (2026). Naturalistic Assessment of Experiential Driver Education Interventions for Young Drivers. **Transportation Research Board 106th Annual Meeting**, Washington, DC, US.
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Azmoodeh, M., Guo, Q., Ozguven, E. E., Lei, T., & Bayramoglu, M. T. (2026). Resident Perspectives on Wildfire Preparedness and Evacuation in the Western U.S. **Transportation Research Board 106th Annual Meeting**, Washington, DC, US.
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Guo, Q., Ozguven, E. E., & Sadeghvaziri, E. (2026). Cybersecurity Concerns in External Human-Machine Interfaces of Autonomous Vehicles: A Proxy-Based Analysis Across Diverse Road Users. **Transportation Research Board 106th Annual Meeting**, Washington, DC, US.
- Azmoodeh, M., **Sheykhfard, A.**, Tabatabaei, F., Azimi, M., Guo, Q., & Soltani, N. (2026). Modeling Barriers to Cashless Fare Adoption in U.S. Public Transit Systems. **Transportation Research Board 106th Annual Meeting**, Washington, DC, US.
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Ferenchak, N. N., & Woods, B. A. (2026). Evaluating Pedestrian Route Choice and Delay at Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons (PHBs) on an Arterial Corridor. **Safe Mobility Conference 2026**, Seattle, WA, US.

- Lei, T., **Sheykhfard, A.**, Qiao, F., Yie, H., Cao, C. (2026). A Novel Elevated High-Speed Rail System: The Feasibility Studies. ASCE International Conference on Transportation and Development (ICTD 2026), Detroit, MI, US.
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Das, S., Saeidi, S., Oshanreh, M. M., & Kutela, B. (2025). Integrating Successful Vision Zero Practices from Leading Countries for Developing Countries. **Transportation Research Board 104th Annual Meeting**, Washington DC., US.
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Azmoodeh, M., Kutela, B., Das, S., & Fountas, G. (2024). Evaluating Digital Billboard Distraction Through Self-Reports and Field Observations. **Transportation Research Board 103rd Annual Meeting**.
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Saeidi, S., SafariTaherkhani, M., & Das, S. (2024). Analyzing the Effects of Environmental Conditions on Vehicle Speed. **Transportation Research Board 103rd Annual Meeting**.
- Sheykhfard, A.**, & Qiao, F. (2024). Crash Proneness among Freight Vehicle Drivers: Insights and Strategies. **CYBER-CARE Annual Symposium 2024: Safeguarding Transportation Cybersecurity in the Digital Age**, Houston, TX, US.
- Kavianpour, Sh., Haghighi, F., **Sheykhfard, A.**, Fountas, G., & Das, S. (2023). Effectiveness of Traffic Calming Zone in Crash Prone Areas: a Case Study in Iran. **Transportation Research Board 102nd Annual Meeting**.
- Das, S., Hossain, A., Barua, S., Kavianpour, S., & **Sheykhfard, A.** (2024). Causal Insights into Speeding Crashes. **International Conference on Transportation and Development 2024: Transportation Safety and Emerging Technologies**, Atlanta, GA, US.
- Sheykhfard, A.**, Haghighi, F., Bakhtiari, S., & Pariota, L. (2022). Safety margin evaluation of pedestrian crossing through critical thresholds of surrogate measures of safety (SMoS): Area with zebra crossing versus the area without zebra crossing. **Transportation Research Board 101st Annual Meeting**.
- Sheykhfard, A., Haghighi, F., Bakhtiari, S., & Ramak, A. (2022). Improving Traffic Safety near Schools in Outskirts Areas through Internet of Thing (IoT): A Case Study in Iran. **Transportation Research Board 101st Annual Meeting**.