

# Ioanna Maria Spyrou

Atlanta, GA 30318

ispyrou@berry.edu | <https://imspyrou.github.io>

Visiting Assistant Professor of Data Analytics, Campbell School of Business, Berry College

## EDUCATION

---

### Ph.D. Economics

Dissertation: "Essays on the Economics of Natural Shocks, Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture"

Committee Chair: Dr. Shatakshee Dhongde

(Awarded: August 2024)

Georgia Institute of Technology

Atlanta, GA

### M.S. Economics

(Awarded May 2023)

Georgia Institute of Technology

Atlanta, GA

### M.A. Statistics & Applied Mathematics

(Awarded: June 2017)

City University of New York

New York City, NY

### B.S. Mathematics

(Awarded: June 2014)

Aristotle University

Thessaloniki, Greece

### M.S. Plant Protection & Environmental Sciences

(Awarded: November 2008)

Aristotle University

Thessaloniki, Greece

### B.S. Agricultural & Plant Protection Sciences

(Awarded: March 2005)

Aristotle University

Thessaloniki, Greece

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

Data Science & Analytics, Machine Learning, Econometrics, Sustainable Development, Information Systems, Environmental Economics, Agricultural Economics, Team Science

## PUBLICATIONS

---

- Meaghan McSorley, Bettina K. Arkhurst, Marjorie Hall, Yilun Zha, **Ioanna Maria Spyrou**, Katherine Duchesneau, Udita Ringania, Michael Chang (2023) For graduate students to become leaders in sustainability, we must transcend disciplinary boundaries, *Elementa: Science of the Anthropocene* Vol. 11, Issue 1 <https://doi.org/10.1525/elementa.2023.00012>

- **Ioanna Maria Spyrou**, Christos Frantzidis, Charalampos Bratsas, Ioannis Antoniou, Panagiotis D. Bamidis. (2016) Geriatric depression symptoms coexisting with cognitive decline: A comparison of classification methodologies, *Biomedical Signal Processing and Control*, Vol. 25, pp 118-129 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bspc.2015.10.006>

- S. Billis, Evdokimos I. Konstantinidis, **Ioanna Maria Spyrou**, Panagiotis Antoniou, Panagiotis D. Bamidis. (2015) Exercise Intensity Forecasting: Application in Elderly Interventions that Promote Active and Healthy Aging. *International Journal of E-Health and Medical Communications*, Vol. 6, Issue 4, pp 1-19 <https://doi.org/10.4018/IJEHMC.2015100101>

- **Ioanna Maria Spyrou**, Dimitrios G. Karpouzias, Urania Menkissoglu-Spiroudi. (2009) Do botanical pesticides alter the structure of the soil microbial community? *Microbial Ecology*, Vol. 58, Issue 4, pp 715-727 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00248-009-9522-z>

## WORKING PAPERS

---

- Shatakshee Dhongde, **Ioanna Maria Spyrou** (2024) Impact of Drought on Children's Educational Outcomes. <https://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4547663> (final draft)

- **Ioanna Maria Spyrou** (2024) Sustainable Agricultural Practices: Determinants of Adoption and Impact on Food Security (under submission)

## WORK IN PROGRESS

---

- Food Insecurity Forecasting using Machine Learning. (with Shatakshee Dhongde - Georgia Institute of Technology, US)

- Heterogeneous Treatment Effect Estimation in Matching Marketplaces under Interference. (with Economics & Decision Sciences Team at Microsoft)

- Study on the Interaction between External Factors and Cognitive Well-Being leading to more Informed Decision-Making and Improved Outcomes for Individuals and Communities alike. (with Christos Frantzidis - University of Lincoln, UK)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

---

### PhD Researcher

Aug 2019 - July 2024

Georgia Institute of Technology, School of Economics

- Forecasting using Machine Learning.
- Panel data analysis using random, fixed effects estimation.

### Graduate Research Fellow

Aug 2021 - July 2023

Georgia Institute of Technology, Brook Byers Institute of Sustainable Systems  
Sustainability, Interdisciplinary Teams and Leadership - participated in:

- Climate Action Plan Advisory Task Force Working Group
- The Georgia Tech Research Institute grant proposal process
- Interdisciplinary BBISS team for project design and implementation.

### Research Scientist

Oct 2013 to Aug 2015

Aristotle University, School of Medicine, Medical Physics Laboratory

- Examined and Evaluated Data Mining Techniques (Random Forests, Random Trees, Support Vector Machines (SVMs) and Multilayer Perceptron (MLP) Networks).
- Generated time-series forecasting models.

### Senior Research & Data Scientist

Aug 2008 to Aug 2015

European Apiculture Programs Supervisor

Institute of Plant Breeding and Genetic Resources (IPB & GR) of the Hellenic Agricultural Organization-Demeter supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture

- Analyzed and Evaluated Data Mining Techniques and Extracted Knowledge for Price and Subsidies Policy Determination.
- Analyzed of Honey Samples in the lab for pesticides residuals detection.

### Graduate Research Assistant

Jan 2003 to Aug 2009

Aristotle University, School of Agriculture, Plant Pathology Laboratory

- Applied and Analyzed Data Mining Techniques and Evaluated Statistical Inference. Applied Principal Component Analysis (PCA), three-way and a two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA).

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

**Visiting Assistant Professor**, Berry College, Campbell School of Business

Sept 2024 to Dec 2024

- DAT 101: Introduction to Data Analytics

Sept 2024 to Dec 2024

- BUS 380I: Business Analytics Sept 2024 to Dec 2024

**Instructor**, Georgia Institute of Technology, School of Economics

- ECON 2106: Principles of Microeconomics Aug 2023 to Dec 2023

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Georgia Institute of Technology, School of Economics

- ECON 2106: Principles of Microeconomics June 2024 to Aug 2024
- ECON 4440: Economics of Natural Resources and the Environment Jan 2024 to May 2024
- ECON 7103: Environmental Economics II Jan 2024 to May 2024
- ECON 4340: Industrial Organization May 2021 to July 2021
- ECON 2106: Principles of Microeconomics Aug 2020 to July 2021
- ECON 4440: Economics of the Environment Jan 2020 to May 2020
- ECON 4180: Game Theory Economics Aug 2019 to Dec 2019

## PREVIOUS INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

---

Senior Research & Data Scientist, European Apiculture Programs Supervisor, Institute of Plant Breeding & Genetic Resources, Thessaloniki, Greece, 2008 to 2015

## FELLOWSHIPS

---

- Brook Byers Institute for Sustainable Systems Aug 2021 to July 2023
- Gerondelis Foundation (for Academic Excellence) Jan 2019 to Dec 2020

## CONFERENCES/PROGRAMS PRESENTATIONS

---

**2023:** Southern Economic Association Conference (SEA), New Orleans — Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Conference (APPAM) — The South East Exchange of Development Studies (SEEDS), Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta

**2022:** Rapid Fire Presentations on Global Development, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta — 1st Brook Byers Institute for Sustainable Systems Scholar Symposium, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta — Southern Economic Association Conference (SEA), Fort Lauderdale — Ivan Allen College Graduate Student Conference, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta — Ivan Allen College Focus Scholars Program, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta

**2021:** Southern Economic Association Conference (SEA), Houston

## ADDITIONAL DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

---

Tech to Teaching Certificate  
(Awarded May 2022)

**Georgia Institute of Technology**  
Atlanta, GA

## MEMBERSHIPS

---

- American Economic Association
- Southern Economic Association

## SKILLS

---

Python, C, C++, R, STATA, MATLAB, Weka, SQL, Tableau

## LANGUAGES

---

English (Fluent), German (Fluent), Greek (Native)

## REFERENCES

---

- Dr. Shatakshee Dhongde  
School of Economics  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
shatakshee.dhongde@econ.gatech.edu
- Dr. Casey Wichman  
School of Economics  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
wichman@gatech.edu
- Dr. Karen Yan  
School of Economics  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
karen.yan@gatech.edu
- Dr. Olga Shemyakina  
School of Economics  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
olga.shemyakina@econ.gatech.edu
- Dr. Robert Gonzalez  
School of Economics  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
robert.gonzalez@gatech.edu