

Curriculum Vitae

Dimitris Zopounidis

PhD Candidate | Business Analytics, Artificial Intelligence & Data-Driven Strategic Decision Intelligence

Researcher at the Data Science Laboratory – DS Lab, Technical University of Crete

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ACADEMIC PROFILE

Dimitris Zopounidis is a PhD candidate and researcher specializing in Business Analytics, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and data-driven strategic decision-making across multiple sectors. His work focuses on the role of AI, data analytics, data management, sustainability, and strategic analytics, examining how intelligent systems and data-oriented technologies reshape organizational processes, decision-making structures, and institutional environments such as banking, financial institutions, aviation industry, tourism sector and other related empirical settings.

He is affiliated with the Data Science Laboratory (DS Lab) of the School of Production Engineering and Management at the Technical University of Crete, where he also serves as a Researcher at the Financial Engineering Laboratory (FeLab) and as a Teaching Assistant in the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program. In parallel, he is a Researcher at the Business Administration Sector of the Department of Economics at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and an Affiliated Researcher with the Fintech & Strategic Artificial Intelligence (FTSAI) Laboratory, the Accounting, Auditing and Taxation with Electronic Applications Laboratory, and the Enterprise Risk Management Lab (E.R.M.L.) at the University of Macedonia. Across these research environments, his work lies in the heart of Business Analytics, Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Financial Analytics, and data-driven decision intelligence, with applications across industry, finance, aviation, and organizational management.

At the same time, he participates in European research initiatives as a Researcher in the EU-funded AquaSphere Project and serves as Teaching Assistant at the Financial Management Laboratory and as a Coordinator of the Crete Tourism Observatory of CIHEAM MAICh contributing to research coordination, data analysis, and strategic tourism intelligence.

Beyond academia, he is actively involved in industry-oriented analytics, AI governance, strategic data initiatives and large-scale studies for the economy.

He serves as Lead Researcher on high-impact strategic projects with **Alpha Bank**, including the project focusing on AI Risk Management Methodologies in alignment with the EU AI Act. He is also Principal Investigator, Lead Researcher and Coordinator of a large-scale data-driven regional economic analysis project for Crete, developed in collaboration with Alpha Bank to support evidence-based strategy and decision-making. In parallel, he contributes to strengthening the strategic partnership between Alpha Bank and the Technical University of Crete through initiatives associated with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two organizations.

He is also working as Airport and Aviation Data Analyst at **SeaCrete Hotels** and as Data Analyst at the **Hania Hotels Association** as well as **Cretan Hotels Association**.

His research combines analytical, technological, and managerial perspectives, with particular emphasis on AI governance, ESG integration, digital sustainability, aviation analytics, predictive analytics, and strategic data management. He has worked extensively on machine learning and big data applications in sectors such as aviation, tourism, banking, transportation, hospitality, and regional development, exploring complex socio-technical systems characterized by interconnected stakeholders, evolving regulatory environments, and multi-layered information flows. His work also investigates how organizations utilize AI-driven and data-based approaches to support operational efficiency, sustainability strategies, institutional transformation, and evidence-based decision-making.

As the Founder and Head of Research of the Crete Aviation Observatory (CAO), he has coordinated empirical and data-driven studies on aviation sustainability, ESG performance, passenger behavior, airport analytics, and tourism-air transport dynamics, generating insights with academic, institutional, and industry relevance. His work emphasizes the development of analytical frameworks, structured datasets, sustainability indicators, and evidence-based approaches for strategic sectoral analysis.

In parallel, he is the Founder and Editor-in-Chief of aviationlife.gr, a digital platform focused on civil aviation and aviation analytics, while also serving as Editorial and Content Manager of the magazine “Air Letter” of the Hellenic Aviation Society. He is also an active member of the Financial Engineering and Banking Society (FEBS).

He holds an MSc in Business Analytics and Data Science and a BSc in Business Administration from the University of Macedonia. His current research interests include AI governance, AI risk management, digital sustainability, Business Analytics, ESG

performance analysis, aviation analytics, data infrastructures, multi-criteria decision analysis, and the impact of AI-enabled systems in organizational transformation and strategic decision-making.

EDUCATION

Oct. 2025 – Oct. 2028

PhD Candidate, Data Science Laboratory
School of Production Engineering and Management
Technical University of Crete, Chania, Greece

Mar. 2024 – Jul. 2025

MSc in Business Analytics and Data Science
Department of Business Administration
University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece

Sept. 2019 – Jul. 2023

BSc in Business Administration
Department of Business Administration
University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece

PROFESSIONAL & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Academic & Research Positions

- May 2026 – Present
Principal Investigator, Lead Researcher and Coordinator for the large-scale, data-driven regional economic analysis project commissioned by Alpha Bank for Crete
- May 2026 – Present
Teaching Assistant, Master of Business Administration (MBA), Technical University of Crete
- April 2026 – Present
Researcher, AquaSphere Project (EU-funded)
- April 2026 – Present
Artificial Intelligence Risk Management Researcher, Alpha Bank

- March 2025 – Present

Teaching Assistant, Financial Management Laboratory, CIHEAM MAICH

- November 2023 – Present

Researcher, Laboratory of Management Economics and Decision Systems, Hellenic Mediterranean University

- November 2023 – Present

Researcher, Data Science Laboratory – DS Lab, Technical University of Crete

- July 2023 – Present

Researcher, Financial Management Systems Laboratory, Technical University of Crete

Industry & Strategic Roles

- September 2025 – Present

Data Analyst, Hania Hotels Association

- August 2025 – Present

Airport and Aviation Data Analyst, SeaCrete Hotels

- August 2020 – Present

Coordinator, Researcher, and Data Analyst, Crete Tourism Observatory, CIHEAM MAICH

Editorial, Scientific & Organizational Activities

- September 2022 – Present

Editorial and Content Officer, “Air Letter” Magazine, Hellenic Aviation Society

- November 2021 – Present

Founder and Head of Research, Crete Aviation Observatory (CAO)

- December 2020 – Present

Founder, Owner, and Editor-in-Chief, aviationlife.gr

- September 2020 – Present

Member, Conference Organizer, and Communication Officer, Financial Engineering and Banking Society (FEBS)

- May 2025 – July 2025

Conference Assistant, MAICH Conference Center, CIHEAM MAICH

TEACHING ACTIVITY

- March 2025 – Present

Teaching Assistant, Financial Management Laboratory, CIHEAM MAICH

- May 2025 – Present

Teaching Assistant, Master of Business Administration (MBA), Technical University of Crete

PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

- Presentation at the 11th National Conference of the Financial Engineering and Banking Society (FEBS), titled “*Financial Cyber Risk Analysis: The Case of the Aviation Industry I*” (American College of Greece, Athens, Greece, 20–21/12/2021)
 - Presentation at the 12th National Conference of the Financial Engineering and Banking Society (FEBS), titled “*Financial Cyber Risk Analysis: The Case of the Aviation Industry II*” (University of West Attica, Athens, Greece, 19–20/12/2022)
 - Presentation at the 14th National Conference of the Financial Engineering and Banking Society (FEBS), titled “*An Empirical Analysis of the Relationship Between Corporate Financial Performance and ESG Factors in the Airline Sector*” (Athens University of Economics and Business, Athens, Greece, 19–20/12/2024)
 - Presentation at the 15th National Conference of the Financial Engineering and Banking Society (FEBS), titled “*Evaluating the ESG Efficiency of Global Airlines: A DEA-Based Approach*” (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), Athens, Greece, 18–19/12/2025)
 - Presentation at the 7th Hellenic Aviation Society Conference, titled “*An Empirical Analysis of the Relationship Between Corporate Financial Performance and ESG Factors in the Airline Sector*” (Sofitel Athens Airport Hotel, Athens, Greece, 5–6/06/2025)
 - Invited Speaker at the online conference “*TTGR: Technology and Tourism in Greece*” held via Microsoft Teams (25/02/2022)
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EUROPEAN RESEARCH PROJECTS

Sust-HEIn: Promoting an Integrated Approach to Sustainability in Higher Education Through Systems Thinking

Role: Researcher / Collaborator

Participation in the European project Sust-HEIn, which aims to integrate sustainability into all levels of higher education institutions through systems thinking. The project promotes the holistic transformation of institutions by embedding environmental, social, and economic sustainability into governance, teaching, research, and operations.

AquaSphere: Empowering Innovation and Sustainable Growth in the Blue Economy Ecosystem

Role: Researcher / Data Analytics Lead

Participation in the EU-funded AquaSphere Project, contributing to research activities related to innovation ecosystems, data-driven analysis, stakeholder engagement, sustainability, and strategic development within the blue economy and aquaculture sectors. The project focuses on fostering collaboration among startups, research institutions, investors, and industry stakeholders, supporting sustainable innovation and regional development through knowledge exchange, analytical frameworks, and ecosystem-oriented approaches.

BOOKS

Artificial Intelligence and Applications in Management

Authors: Constantin Zopounidis, Dimitris Zopounidis, Angelos Kostis

Publisher: Barbounakis Publications

The book is published in Greek language.