

# Hamsa Bastani

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Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania  
Operations, Information & Decisions (OID) Group  
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## Academic Position

**Assistant Professor, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania**

Operations, Information & Decisions, 2018 – present

- *Affiliate*, Warren Center for Networks & Data Sciences
- *Affiliate*, Penn Research in Machine Learning
- *Affiliate*, Analytics at Wharton & Wharton AI for Business
- *Senior Fellow*, Leonard Davis Institute for Health Economics

**Herman Goldstine Postdoctoral Fellow, IBM Research**

Math for AI, 2017-2018

## Education

**Stanford University**

Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, 2012-2017

**Harvard University**

A.M. in Physics, 2011-2012

A.B. *summa cum laude* in Physics and Mathematics, 2008-2012

## Journal Papers

**Efficient and Targeted COVID-19 Border Testing via Reinforcement**

**Learning**, H. Bastani\*, K. Drakopoulos\*, V. Gupta\*, J. Vlachogiannis, C. Hadjicristodoulou, P. Lagiou, G. Magiorkinis, D. Paraskevis and S. Tsiodras  
*Nature, Research Article* (2021)

(\* denotes equal contribution)

- *1st Place*, Pierskalla Award for Best Paper in Healthcare (2021)
- *2nd Place*, Public Sector in Operations Best Paper Award (2021)

**Interpretable OR for High-Stakes Decisions: Designing the Greek**

**COVID-19 Testing System**, H. Bastani\*, K. Drakopoulos\*, V. Gupta\*, et al.

(\* denotes equal contribution)

*INFORMS Journal on Applied Analytics* (Forthcoming)

- *1st Place*, Wagner Prize for Excellence in Operations Research Practice (2021)

**Adaptive Clinical Trial Designs with Surrogates: When Should We**

**Bother?** A. Anderer, H. Bastani and J. Silberholz

*Management Science* (2022)

- *1st Place*, Pierskalla Award for Best Paper in Healthcare (2019)
- *1st Place*, MSOM Student Paper Competition (Anderer, 2020)
- *Finalist*, Public Sector in Operations Best Paper Award (2020)

**Meta Dynamic Pricing: Transfer Learning Across Experiments**

H. Bastani, D. Simchi-Levi and R. Zhu

*Management Science* (2022)

**Learning Personalized Product Recommendations with Customer Disengagement**, H. Bastani, P. Harsha, G. Perakis and D. Singhvi  
*M&SOM* (Articles in Advance)

- *2nd Place*, Service Science Best Paper Award (2019)
- *Hon. Mention*, POMS Best Student Paper in Supply Chain (Singhvi, 2019)

**AI for Climate Change Adaptation**, S. Cheong, K. Sankaran and H. Bastani  
*WIREs Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery, Perspectives* (2022)

**Predicting with Proxies: Transfer Learning in High Dimension**  
H. Bastani  
*Management Science* (2021)

**Mostly Exploration-Free Algorithms for Contextual Bandits**  
H. Bastani, M. Bayati and K. Khosravi  
*Management Science* (2021)

**Online Decision-Making with High-Dimensional Covariates**  
H. Bastani and M. Bayati  
*Operations Research* (2020)

- *1st Place*, Pierskalla Award for Best Paper in Healthcare (2016)
- *1st Place*, George Nicholson Student Paper Competition (2016)
- *1st Place*, MSOM Student Paper Competition (2016)
- *1st Place*, IBM Service Science Best Student Paper Award (2016)

**Evidence of Upcoding in Pay-for-Performance Programs**  
H. Bastani, J. Goh and M. Bayati  
*Management Science* (2019)

- *1st Place*, Health Applications Society Best Student Paper Award (2015)

**Multiplex coherent anti-Stokes Raman scattering (MCARS) for chemically sensitive, label-free flow cytometry**  
C. Camp, S. Yegnanarayanan, A. Eftekhari, H. Sridhar and A. Adibi  
*Optics Express* (2009)

Working  
Papers

**Improving Human Decision-Making with Machine Learning**  
H. Bastani, O. Bastani and W. Sinchaisri

- *1st Place*, Behavioral OM Best Working Paper Award (2021)
- *2nd Place*, TIMES Working Paper Award (2021)
- *2nd Place*, POMS Behavioral OM Junior Scholar Paper Award (Sinchaisri, 2021)

**Unmasking Human Trafficking Risk in Commercial Sex Supply Chains with Machine Learning**, P. Ramchandani, H. Bastani and E. Wyatt

- *1st Place*, Service Science Best Student Paper Award (Ramchandani, 2021)
- *2nd Place*, POMS Sustainable OM Best Student Paper Award (Ramchandani, 2022)
- *Finalist*, Public Sector in Operations Best Paper Award (2021)
- *People's Choice Award*, Early-Career Sustainable OM Workshop (2022)

**Learning Across Bandits in High Dimension via Robust Statistics**  
K. Xu and H. Bastani  
*Major Revision, Management Science*

**Group-Sparse Matrix Factorization for Transfer Learning of Word Embeddings**, K. Xu, X. Zhao, H. Bastani and O. Bastani  
- Preliminary version in ICML 2021

**Safely Bridging Offline and Online Reinforcement Learning**  
W. Xu, Y. Ma, K. Xu, H. Bastani and O. Bastani

**Robust Generalization of Quadratic Neural Networks via Function Identification**, K. Xu, H. Bastani and O. Bastani

**Responsible Sourcing: The First Step is the Hardest**  
P. Ramchandani, H. Bastani and K. Moon  
- *People's Choice Award*, Early-Career Sustainable OM Workshop (2020)

**Are Bans Effective under Limited Monitoring? Evidence from High Seas Management**, H. Bastani and J. F. de Zegher  
- *People's Choice Award*, Early-Career Sustainable OM Workshop (2019)

Refereed  
Conference  
Papers

**Group-Sparse Matrix Factorization for Transfer Learning of Word Embeddings**, K. Xu, X. Zhao, H. Bastani and O. Bastani  
ICML (2021)

**Exploring the Causal Relationships between Initial Opioid Prescriptions and Outcomes**, J. Zhang, V. Iyengar, D. Wei, B. Vinzamuri, H. Bastani, A. Macalalad, A. Fischer, G. Yuen-Reed, A. Mojsilović, and K. Varshney  
AMIA Workshop on Data Mining for Medical Informatics (2017)

**Interpretability via Model Extraction**  
O. Bastani, C. Kim and H. Bastani  
FATML Workshop on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (2017)  
- *Finalist*, Pierskalla Award for Best Paper in Healthcare (2018)

**Analysis of Medicare Pay-for-Performance Contracts**  
H. Bastani, M. Bayati, M. Braverman, R. Gummadi and R. Johari  
EC Workshop on Mechanism Design for Social Good (2017)

**Creating Optical Vortex Modes with a Single Cylinder Lens**  
H. Sridhar, M. Cohen and J. Noe  
Proceedings of *SPIE* (2010)

Book  
Chapters

**Reinforcement Learning for Public Health: Targeted COVID-19 Screening**  
H. Bastani, K. Drakopoulos and V. Gupta  
*AI for Social Impact*

**Proceed with Care: Integrating Predictive Analytics with Patient Decision-Making**, H. Bastani and P. Shi  
*Modeling for Health: Making Changes*

**Applied Machine Learning in Operations Management**  
H. Bastani, D. J. Zhang and H. Zhang  
*Innovative Technology at the Interface of Finance and Operations*

## Students

**Arielle Anderer**, Wharton OID PhD  
- Advisor  
**Tsai-Hsuan (Angel) Chung**, Wharton OID PhD  
- Advisor  
**Pia Ramchandani**, Wharton OID PhD  
- Advisor  
**Kan Xu**, Penn Economics PhD  
- Advisor  
**Wichinpong Sinchaisri**, Wharton OID PhD (advisor: G. Allon), grad. in 2021  
- Thesis committee member, co-author  
- *Initial Placement*: Assistant Professor at UC Berkeley Haas  
**Ruihao Zhu**, MIT IDSS PhD (advisor: D. Simchi-Levi), grad. in 2021  
- Thesis committee member, co-author  
- *Initial Placement*: Assistant Professor at Purdue Krannert  
**Divya Singhvi**, MIT ORC PhD (advisor: G. Perakis), grad. in 2020  
- Co-authored job market paper  
- *Initial Placement*: Assistant Professor at NYU Stern  
**Khashayar Khosravi**, Stanford EE PhD (advisor: M. Bayati), grad. in 2019  
- Co-authored job market paper  
- *Initial Placement*: Postdoctoral fellow at Google  
**Wanqiao Xu**, University of Michigan Math UG, grad. in 2021  
- Advised undergraduate thesis  
- *Initial Placement*: Stanford MS&E PhD

## Teaching

**Wharton OID, University of Pennsylvania**  
Instructor, Introduction to Management Science (OIDD 321), 2018 – present  
- Recipient of Wharton Teaching Excellence Award in 2019, 2020 & 2021  
  
Instructor, Bandits, RL and Transfer Learning (OIDD 941), 2021 – present  
- Designed new Ph.D. course

## Invited Talks

**2022**: HBS TOM; MIT OR/Stats; Stanford MS&E; Berkeley-UCSF Computational Precision Health; Virtual Quant Marketing Seminar Series; IMSI, University of Chicago; MIT AI Health Policy Forum; Harvard CRCS AI for Social Impact Seminar; NYC Operations Day; CCC/INFORMS/ACM Artificial Intelligence/Operations Research Visioning Workshop; LMU Munich AI Seminar; UMD Social Impact Analytics Workshop; Singapore Mgmt University; WALE Workshop; UC Berkeley Simons Institute; Sustainable OM SIG

**2021:** MIT ORC; Berkeley Haas IOTM; NUS IORA; UNC OM; LBS OM; INSEAD TOM; Wharton Statistics; CMU Tepper OM; SMU Cox ITOM; WPI CS Colloquium; University of Minnesota Carlson SCO; University of Alberta AI Seminar; Philadelphia INFORMS Chapter; Lyft Marketplace Labs; Keynote Speaker for KDD Workshop on RL/MAB; Information & Learning Workshop; Chicago Booth Summer Institute in Machine Learning in Economics; COVID-19 Panelist, SIAM Conf on Data Mining; Loyola University Chicago Health Informatics Series; Boston Digital Leadership Forum; Rutgers Post-Pandemic SC & Health Mgmt Conf

**2020:** Yale School of Management; Chicago Booth OM; U of Maryland DO&IT; Purdue Krannert; Cornell Johnson OTIM; Utah Ops Conference; Facebook Adaptive Experimentation Workshop; Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing; Keynote Speaker for KDD Workshop on Applied Data Science for Healthcare; Invited Speaker for NeurIPS Workshop on Consequential Decision-Making; INFORMS Health Applications Society Tutorial; Wharton Analytics Webinar

**2019:** NYU Stern OM; MIT IDSS Data Science Lab; UC Irvine Operations & Decision Technologies; UC Irvine Algorithms, Combinatorics & Optimization Center; UT Dallas Naveen Jindal OM; Wharton OID; Wharton Empirical Workshop; Information & Learning Workshop, IESE; ISOM Workshop, Emory; Healthcare SIG; CUHK Shenzhen Healthcare & Service Operations Workshop

**2018:** IMA Data-Driven Supply Chain Mgmt (Applied) Workshop; IMA Data-Driven Supply Chain Mgmt (Theory) Workshop; Penn Warren Center for Network & Data Sciences; IBM Research Math for AI; IDinsight; MIT ORC IAP Seminar on OR for Social Impact

**2017:** UCLA Anderson; Duke Fuqua; USC Marshall; Northwestern IEMS; Yale School of Management; Harvard Business School; Columbia IEOR / DRO; Ross School of Business; INSEAD; Chicago Booth OM; Kellogg OM; Purdue Krannert IS; MIT IDSS Data Science Lab; U of Cambridge, Judge Business School; IBM Research Applied Probability Seminar; Cornell Tech; Stanford-Berkeley Health Economics Workshop

**2016:** Cornell ORIE; Wharton OID; Indiana Kelley; London Business School; Pittsburgh Katz; MIT Sloan OM; Stanford GSB OIT; Stanford Biostatistics Workshop; Stanford Medical School Med-X Conference; Healthcare SIG

**2015 & earlier:** Cornell ORIE; Cornell ORIE Young Scholars Workshop; Wharton Empirical Research in OM Workshop

## Awards

*People's Choice Award*, Early-Career Sustainable OM Workshop, 2022

Wharton Teaching Excellence Award, 2021

*1st Place*, Wagner Prize for Excellence in Operations Research Practice, 2021

*1st Place*, Pierskalla Award for Best Paper in Healthcare, 2021

*2nd Place*, Public Sector in Operations Best Paper Award, 2021

*1st Place*, Behavioral OM Best Working Paper Award, 2021

*2nd Place*, TIMES Working Paper Award, 2021

Wharton Teaching Excellence Award, 2020

*Finalist*, Public Sector in Operations Best Paper Award, 2020

*People's Choice Award*, Early-Career Sustainable OM Workshop, 2020  
*1st Place*, Pierskalla Award for Best Paper in Healthcare, 2019  
*2nd Place*, Service Science Best Paper Award, 2019  
*People's Choice Award*, Early-Career Sustainable OM Workshop, 2019  
 Wharton Teaching Excellence Award, 2019  
*Finalist*, Pierskalla Award for Best Paper in Healthcare, 2018  
*1st Place*, Pierskalla Award for Best Paper in Healthcare, 2016  
*1st Place*, George Nicholson Student Paper Competition, 2016  
*1st Place*, MSOM Student Paper Competition, 2016  
*1st Place*, IBM Service Science Best Student Paper Award, 2016  
*1st Place*, Health Applications Society Best Student Paper Award, 2015  
 National Science Foundation Fellow, 2012-2017  
 Stanford Department Fellowship in Electrical Engineering, 2012-2013  
*Finalist*, Intel Science Talent Search, 2008

## Service

Associate Editor for *Operations Research* (2022-)  
 Associate Editor for *M&SOM* (2021-)  
 Associate Editor for *Operations Research Letters* (2022-)  
 Area Chair for *NeurIPS* (2021-)  
 Guest Associate Editor (special issue) for *Naval Research Logistics* (2022)  
 Reviewer for *Management Science*, *Operations Research*, *M&SOM*, *POM*, *JRSS Series B*, *Annals of Statistics*, *JASA*, *JMLR*, *Statistics in Medicine*, *NeurIPS*, *ICML*, *AISTATS* and *Nature*

Co-Organizer, EAAMO Doctoral Consortium, 2022  
 Co-Organizer, Early-Career Sustainable OM Workshop, 2022  
 Board Member, INFORMS Revenue Mgmt & Pricing Section, 2021-  
 Area Chair, EAAMO Conference, 2021  
 Program Committee, EC Workshop on Design of Online Platforms, 2021  
 Co-Chair, George Nicholson Student Paper Competition, 2020  
 Co-Chair, Pierskalla Award for Best Paper in Healthcare, 2020  
 Program Committee, EC Conference, 2020  
 Program Committee, AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence, 2020  
 Program Committee, EC Mechanism Design for Social Good Workshop, 2018-2020  
 Wharton Dean's Advisory Council, 2019-2020  
 Area Chair, Mechanism Design for Social Good Workshop, 2019  
 Meritorious Service Award for *Management Science*, 2018  
 Co-Chair, Pierskalla Award for Best Paper in Healthcare, 2017

*Various years:* Speaker for Penn Women in Data Science Conf; Women in Simulation at Winter Simulation Conf; Women in OR/MS Panel at INFORMS; CMU YinzOR Student Conference

*Various years:* Judge for George Nicholson Student Paper Competition, Revenue Management & Pricing Conference, RM&P Best Student Paper Award, Healthcare Applications Society Student Paper Competition, MSOM Student Paper Competition, Healthcare SIG in MSOM, Sustainability SIG in MSOM, POMS Best Healthcare OM Paper Competition, Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Award, Service Science Best Cluster Paper Award

External      **Meta/Facebook Core Data Science**  
Consulting    Part-time contractor, August 2021 – present

**Macro-Eyes**  
Consultant, March 2022 – present