

Hamsa Bastani

Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
Operations, Information & Decisions (OID) Group
557 Jon M. Huntsman Hall

hamsab@wharton.upenn.edu
hamsabastani.github.io
(215) 573-5365

Academic Position

Assistant Professor, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
Operations, Information & Decisions (OID), 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 (2021)

(* denotes equal contribution)

- *Finalist*, Pierskalla Award for Best Paper in Healthcare (2021)
- *Finalist*, Public Sector in Operations Best Paper Award (2021)

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

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

Adaptive Clinical Trial Designs with Surrogates: When Should We Bother? A. Anderer, H. Bastani and J. Silberholz
Management Science (Forthcoming)

- *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 (2021)

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

Interpretable Operations Research for High-Stakes Decisions: Designing the Greek COVID-19 Testing System, H. Bastani, K. Drakopoulos and V. Gupta

- *Finalist*, Wagner Prize for Excellence in Practice (2021)
- *Invited Paper (under review)*, INFORMS Journal on Applied Analytics

Improving Human Decision-Making with Machine Learning

H. Bastani, O. Bastani and W. Sinchaisri

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

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

- *Finalist*, Public Sector in Operations Best Paper Award (2021)
- *Finalist*, Service Science Best Student Paper Award (Ramchandani, 2021)

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

- Preliminary version in ICML 2021

Mind the Gap: Safely Bridging Offline and Online Reinforcement Learning, W. Xu, 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)

Learning Across Bandits in High Dimension via Robust Statistics

K. Xu and H. Bastani

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

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)

Interpreting Predictive Models for Human-in-the-Loop Analytics

H. Bastani, O. Bastani and C. Kim

- *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

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)

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

Proceed with Care: Integrating Predictive Analytics with Patient Decision-Making, H. Bastani and P. Shi

Modeling for Health: Making Changes (editors: S. Suen, E. Enns, D. Scheinker)

Applied Machine Learning in Operations Management

H. Bastani, D. J. Zhang and H. Zhang

Innovative Technology at the Interface of Finance and Operations

(editors: V. Babich, J. Birge, G. Hilary)

Students

Arielle Anderer, 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 and 2020

Instructor, Bandits, RL and Transfer Learning (OIDD 941), 2021

- Designed new Ph.D. course

Invited
Talks

2022: HBS TOM

2021: MIT ORC; NUS IORA; UNC OM; LBS OM; INSEAD TOM; Wharton Statistics; CMU Tepper OM; SMU Cox ITOM; 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

Finalist, Wagner Prize for Excellence in Practice, 2021

Finalist, Pierskalla Award for Best Paper in Healthcare, 2021

Finalist, Public Sector in Operations Best Paper Award, 2021

Finalist, Behavioral OM Best Working Paper Award, 2021

Finalist, 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 *M&SOM* (2021-)

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*

Area Chair, NeurIPS Conference, 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

Speaker, CMU YinzOR Student Conference, 2017

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	Facebook Core Data Science
Consulting	Part-time contractor, August 2021 – present