

Hamsa Bastani

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

Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Operations, Information & Decisions; Statistics and Data Science (secondary)

Associate Professor (*with tenure*), 2023 – present

Assistant Professor, 2018 – 2023

- *Steering Committee*, Penn Center for Health Incentives and Behavioral Economics
- *Senior Fellow*, Leonard Davis Institute for Health Economics
- *Affiliate*, Analytics at Wharton, Warren Center for Networks & Data Sciences, Penn Research in ML, Penn Center for AI-enabled systems, Wharton Climate Center

Co-Director, Wharton Healthcare Analytics Lab, 2023 – present

IBM Research

Herman Goldstine Postdoctoral Fellow, 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

Improving Human Sequential Decision-Making with Reinforcement Learning

H. Bastani, O. Bastani and W. Sinchaisri

Management Science (*Forthcoming*)

- *1st Place*, Behavioral OM Best Working Paper Award (2021)
- *1st Place*, INFORMS Data Mining Best Paper Award (2022)
- *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

M&SOM (*Forthcoming*)

- *1st Place*, MSOM Student Paper Competition (Ramchandani, 2022)
- *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)

Optimal Multitask Linear Regression and Contextual Bandits under Sparse Heterogeneity, X. Huang, K. Xu, D. Lee, H. Hassani, H. Bastani and E. Dobriban
JASA (*Articles in Advance*)

Multitask Learning and Bandits via Robust Statistics

K. Xu and H. Bastani

Management Science (Articles in Advance)

- 3rd Place, IBM Service Science Best Student Paper Award (Xu, 2022)

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)

(* equal first authorship)

- 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*, J. Vlachogiannis,
C. Hadjicristodoulou, P. Lagiou, G. Magiorkinis, D. Paraskevis and S. Tsiodras

INFORMS Journal on Applied Analytics (2022)

(* equal first authorship)

- 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 (2022)

- 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

Generative AI Without Guardrails Can Harm Learning: Evidence from High School Mathematics, H. Bastani*, O. Bastani*, A. Sungu*, H. Ge, O. Kabakci and R. Mariman

(* equal first authorship); cited in the 2025 Economic Report of the President

Major Revision, *PNAS*

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

Major Revision, *Management Science*

- Preliminary version in ICML 2021

Improving Access to Essential Medicines in Sierra Leone via Machine Learning, T.-H. Chung, J. Abdulai, P. Bayoh, L. Sandi, F. Smart, H. Bastani* and O. Bastani*

(* equal last authorship)

- *1st Place*, Public Sector in Operations Best Paper Award (2024)
- *2nd Place*, Doing Good with Good OR Best Student Paper Award (Chung, 2024)
- *Hon Mention*, MSOM Student Paper Competition (Chung, 2024)

Rethinking Algorithmic Fairness for Human-AI Collaboration

H. Ge, H. Bastani and O. Bastani

- Preliminary version in ITCS 2024

Learning to Target with Unknown Network Interference

X. Wang, H. Bastani, O. Bastani and Z. Ren

Action vs. Attention Signals for Human-AI Collaboration: Evidence from Chess, S. Poulidis, H. Ge, H. Bastani and O. Bastani

Hiring under Congestion and Algorithmic Monoculture: Value of Strategic Behavior, J. Baek, H. Bastani and S. Chen

Restricting AI Advice Enables Long-Term Learning

S. Poulidis, H. Bastani and O. Bastani

Inactive
Drafts

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

Generative Adversarial Model-Based Optimization via Source Critic Regularization, M. Yao, Y. Zeng, H. Bastani, J. Gardner, J. Gee and O. Bastani

NeurIPS (2024)

Stochastic Bandits with ReLU Neural Networks

K. Xu, H. Bastani, S. Goel and O. Bastani

ICML (2024)

Rethinking Fairness for Human-AI Collaboration

H. Ge, H. Bastani and O. Bastani

ITCS (2024)

Uniformly Conservative Exploration in Reinforcement Learning

W. Xu, Y. Ma, K. Xu, H. Bastani and O. Bastani

AISTATS (2023)

Decision-Aware Learning for Optimizing Health Supply Chains

T.-H. Chung, V. Rostami, H. Bastani and O. Bastani

ML4Health (2022)

Bandits for Online Calibration: An Application to Content Moderation on Social Media Platforms, V. Avadhanula, O. Baki, H. Bastani, et al.

NeurIPS DMML & RL4RealLife Workshops (2022)

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

Optimizing Health Supply Chains in LMICs with Machine Learning: A Case Study in Sierra Leone, H. Bastani, O. Bastani and T.-H. Chung

Sustainable and Responsible Operations - The New Frontier (2024)
Springer Nature; edited by C. Tang

Reinforcement Learning for Public Health: Targeted COVID-19 Screening

H. Bastani, K. Drakopoulos and V. Gupta
AI for Social Impact (2022)
Online; edited by F. Fang, M. Tambe and B. Wilder

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

AI for Healthcare: Interdisciplinary Partnerships for Analytics (2022)
Cambridge University Press; edited by S. Suen, E. Enns and 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 (2022)
Springer Series; edited by V. Babich, J. Birge, G. Hilary

Research
Group

Tsai-Hsuan (Angel) Chung, Wharton OID PhD

Shihan (Grace) Chen, Penn AMCS PhD

Bethany Hsiao, Wharton OID PhD (advisor: D. Watts)

Stefanos Poulidis, INSEAD DS PhD (advisor: S. Zoumpoulis)

Xiaomeng Wang, Wharton Stats PhD (advisor: Z. Ren)

Bryce McLaughlin, Wharton Postdoc

Haosen Ge, Wharton Data Scientist

Pia Ramchandani, Wharton OID PhD, grad. in 2024

- *Initial Placement*: Director of Responsible AI at PwC

Arielle Anderer, Wharton OID PhD, grad. in 2023

- *Initial Placement*: Assistant Professor at Cornell Johnson

Kan Xu, Penn Economics PhD, grad. in 2023

- *Initial Placement*: Assistant Professor at ASU Carey

Wichinpong Sinchaisri, Wharton OID PhD, grad. in 2021 (advisor: G. Allon)

- *Initial Placement*: Assistant Professor at UC Berkeley Haas

Ruihao Zhu, MIT IDSS PhD, grad. in 2021 (advisor: D. Simchi-Levi)

- *Initial Placement*: Assistant Professor at Purdue Krannert

Divya Singhvi, MIT ORC PhD, grad. in 2020 (advisor: G. Perakis)
 - *Initial Placement*: Assistant Professor at NYU Stern
Khashayar Khosravi, Stanford EE PhD, grad. in 2019 (advisor: M. Bayati)
 - *Initial Placement*: Postdoctoral fellow at Google
Wanqiao Xu, University of Michigan Math UG, grad. in 2021
 - *Initial Placement*: Stanford MS&E PhD

Teaching

Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
 OIDD 321: Introduction to Management Science (Undergrad), 2018 – present
 - Recipient of Wharton Teaching Excellence Award in 2019, 2020 & 2021

 OIDD 941: Advances in Data-Driven Decision-Making (Ph.D.), 2021 – present
 - Designed new course on bandits, reinforcement learning and transfer learning

Invited Talks

2025: Chicago Booth; JHU AMCS; Penn CS Theory; JHU BUAI Conf Keynote; Virginia Commonwealth; Michigan Ross Workshop on Unstructured Data & Language Models

2024: UT Dallas OM; Emory ISOM; Conf on Health, Inference, & Learning Keynote; MIT Initiative on Digital Economy; Booth ML/Econ Summer Institute; Deployable RL Workshop Keynote; CHIBE Roybal Retreat; AstraZeneca; Perry World House Human Rights Seminar

2023: Columbia IEOR/DRO; Georgetown OM; UCLA Anderson; Dartmouth Tuck; Wisconsin-Madison Business Analytics; Penn Optimization Seminar; George Mason Stats; SUNY Binghamton Math & Statistics; NC State ISE; IMSI, University of Chicago; IPAM, UCLA; Stanford OIT Sustainability Conf; Symposium on AI for Learning Health; Penn ASSET Seminar; Philly Ops Day; Economist/IBM AI Roundtable; Purdue Statistics & Optimization Workshop; Penn CHIBE-PAIR Roybal Retreat; APS Conf

2022: Duke Fuqua Decision Sciences; HBS TOM; MIT OR/Stats; Stanford MS&E; Berkeley-UCSF Computational Precision Health; Virtual Quant Marketing Seminar Series; USC Marshall DSO; Georgia Tech AI4OPT Seminar; University of Alberta Business Analytics; JHU Carey OM; MIT AI Health Policy Forum; Harvard CRCS AI for Social Impact Seminar; NYC Operations Day; CCC/INFORMS/ACM Artificial Intelligence/Operations Research Visioning Workshop; Bilkent University; LMU Munich AI Seminar; UMD Social Impact Analytics Workshop; Stanford Ocean Health & Sustainability; Singapore Mgmt University; WALE Workshop; Information & Learning Workshop; Northeastern OR & Social Justice Lab; UC Berkeley Simons Institute; Sustainable OM SIG; Future of Data-Centric AI; MIT CODE

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

Awards

1st Place, Public Sector in Operations Best Paper Award, 2024
1st Place, INFORMS Data Mining Best Paper Award, 2022
People's Choice Award, Early-Career Sustainable OM Workshop, 2022
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, 2021
Finalist, Public Sector in Operations Best Paper Award, 2020

People's Choice Award, Early-Career Sustainable OM Workshop, 2020
 Wharton Teaching Excellence Award, 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-)
 Senior Editor for *POMS* (2023-)
 Area Chair for *NeurIPS* (2021-2023)
 Guest Associate Editor (special issue) for *Naval Research Logistics* (2022)

Statistics Advisory Board, AHA Food is Medicine Initiative

Co-Chair, SIG Day - Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship, 2025
 Advisory Board, Wharton Coalition for Equity & Opportunity, 2024-2025
 Co-Organizer, (Re)Writing the Future of Healthcare with Generative AI Conf, 2024
 Senior Program Committee, Algorithmic Learning Theory (ALT), 2023
 Co-Organizer, Analytics for Social Impact Workshop, 2023-2025
 Co-Organizer, Summer Operations Conference, 2023
 Program Committee, Early-Career Sustainable OM Workshop, 2023
 Co-Organizer, EAAMO Doctoral Consortium, 2022
 Co-Organizer, Early-Career Sustainable OM Workshop, 2022
 Wharton Faculty IT Steering Committee, 2022-2024
 Board Member, INFORMS Revenue Mgmt & Pricing Section, 2021-2023
 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, MSOM SIG Best Paper Award, Revenue Management & Pricing Conference, PSOR Best Paper Award, RM&P Best Student Paper Award, Healthcare Applications Society Student Paper Competition, MSOM Student Paper Competition, MSOM Healthcare SIG, MSOM Sustainability SIG, MSOM Service SIG, MSOM Supply Chain SIG, POMS Best Healthcare OM Paper Competition, Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Award, Service Science Best Paper Award

External Activities

Workday

AI Advisory Board, Jan 2025 – present

Pearson Higher Ed

AI Advisory Board, Mar 2025 – present

HiredScore

Scientific Advisory Board, Oct 2022 – Mar 2024

Macro-Eyes

Technical Advisor, Mar 2022 – Mar 2023

Meta Core Data Science

Contractor, Aug 2021 – Aug 2022