

Ryan Cory-Wright

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Academic Appointments

Imperial College Business School, Imperial College London
Assistant Professor of Analytics and Operations | Affiliated with Imperial-X

London, UK
July 2023-

IBM Research
Herman Goldstine Postdoctoral Fellow

Cambridge, MA
2022-2023

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
PH.D. IN OPERATIONS RESEARCH

Cambridge, MA
May 2022

Advisor: Dimitris Bertsimas | Thesis: Integer and Matrix Optimization: A Nonlinear Approach

University of Auckland
B.E. (1ST CLASS HONORS) IN ENGINEERING SCIENCE

Auckland, New Zealand
May 2017

Research Interests

Methodological: Optimization (Convex, Mixed-Integer, Semidefinite, Under Uncertainty), Machine Learning, Statistics (High-Dimensional Statistics, Rank Constraints, Sparsity Constraints).

Applications: Energy (Decarbonization, Pricing Schemes), Business Analytics.

Selected Honors and Awards

- 2023 Finalist, Practice-Based Research Competition, M&SOM
- 2022 IBM Herman Goldstine Fellowship, IBM Department of Mathematical Sciences
- 2021 First place, Student Paper Competition, INFORMS Data Mining Section
- 2020 First place, George Nicholson Student Paper Competition, INFORMS
First place, William Pierskalla Paper Award, INFORMS Health Applications Society
- 2019 First place, ICS Student Paper Award, INFORMS Computing Society
- 2017 Senior Scholar Award (top of graduating class), University of Auckland
- 2016 First place, Young Practitioner's Prize, Operations Research Society New Zealand
- 2013 Outstanding Scholar (top 50 high-school students in New Zealand), NZQA

Publications

10. *Sparse Plus Low-Rank Matrix Decomposition: A Discrete Optimization Approach*
with Dimitris Bertsimas and Nicholas Johnson, conditionally accepted, Journal of Machine Learning Research.
 - First place, INFORMS Data Mining Section Student Paper Competition (2021)
9. *A New Perspective on Low-Rank Optimization*
with Dimitris Bertsimas and Jean Pauphilet, Mathematical Programming, 2023.
8. *Mixed-Projection Conic Optimization: A New Paradigm for Modeling Rank Constraints*
with Dimitris Bertsimas and Jean Pauphilet, Operations Research, 70(6):3321–3344, 2022.
 - First place, INFORMS George Nicholson Student Paper Competition (2020).
7. *A Scalable Algorithm for Sparse Portfolio Selection*
with Dimitris Bertsimas, INFORMS Journal on Computing, 34(3):1489-1511, 2022.

6. *Solving Large-Scale Sparse PCA to Certifiable (Near) Optimality* with Dimitris Bertsimas and Jean Pauphilet, *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 23(13):1-35, 2022.
5. *A Unified Approach to Mixed-Integer Optimization Problems With Logical Constraints* with Dimitris Bertsimas, Jean Pauphilet, *SIAM Journal on Optimization*, 31(3):2340-2367, 2021.
 - First place, INFORMS Computing Society Student Paper Competition (2019).
 - Abridged eight-page version features in the 2020 INFORMS Computing Society Newsletter.
4. *From Predictions to Prescriptions: A Data-Driven Response to COVID-19* with Dimitris Bertsimas et al., *Health Care Management Science*, 24:253-272, 2021.
 - First place, INFORMS Healthcare Applications Society William Pierskalla Best Paper Award (2020).
3. *On Stochastic Auctions in Risk-Averse Electricity Markets With Uncertain Supply* with Golbon Zakeri, *Operations Research Letters*, 48(3):376-384, 2020.
2. *On Polyhedral and Second-Order Cone Decompositions of Semidefinite Optimization Problems* with Dimitris Bertsimas, *Operations Research Letters*, 48(1):78-85, 2020.
1. *Payment Mechanisms for Electricity Markets With Uncertain Supply* with Andy Philpott and Golbon Zakeri, *Operations Research Letters*, 46(1):116-121, 2018.
 - First place, Operations Research Society of New Zealand Young Practitioner's Prize (2016).
 - Preliminary version entitled "Cost-recovering, revenue-adequate single settlement schemes for electricity markets" appeared in Proceedings of the 2016 Joint NZSA and ORSNZ conference.

Articles Under Review

6. *AI Hilbert: From Data and Background Knowledge to Automated Scientific Discovery* with Bachir El Khadir, Cristina Cornelio, Sanjeeb Dash, and Lior Horesh, submitted.
5. *Gain Confidence, Reduce Disappointment: A New Approach to Cross-Validation for Sparse Regression* with Andrés Gómez, submitted.
4. *Optimal Low-Rank Matrix Completion: Semidefinite Relaxations and Eigenvector Disjunctions* with Dimitris Bertsimas, Sean Lo, and Jean Pauphilet, submitted.
3. *Sparse PCA With Multiple Components* with Jean Pauphilet, submitted.
2. *A Stochastic Benders Decomposition Scheme for Large-Scale Data-Driven Network Design* with Dimitris Bertsimas, Jean Pauphilet, and Periklis Petridis, major revision at IJOC.
1. *Decarbonizing OCP* with Dimitris Bertsimas and Vassilis Digalakis Jr., minor revision at M&SOM.
 - Finalist, M&SOM practice-based research competition (2023)
 - Honorable mention, MIT Operations Research Center Student Paper Competition (Digalakis, 2023)

Books in Preparation

Integer and Matrix Optimization: A Nonlinear Approach
with Dimitris Bertsimas and Jean Pauphilet, Dynamic Ideas Press.

Teaching

Introduction to Machine Learning in Python (Masters of AI Class)

Imperial-X
Autumn 2024 (scheduled)

Decision Making Under Uncertainty (PhD Class)

Imperial Business School
Spring 2024 (scheduled)

Data Structures and Algorithms (Undergraduate Class)

Imperial Business School
Spring 2024 (scheduled)

Optimisation and Decision Models (MSc Business Analytics)

Imperial Business School
Spring 2024 (scheduled)

Teaching prior to Imperial

15.095 Machine Learning Under a Modern Optimization Lens
HEAD TEACHING ASSISTANT

MIT
Fall 2019, 2021

Kaufman Teaching Certificate Program
PARTICIPANT IN EIGHT PRACTICE-BASED WORKSHOPS ON TEACHING EFFECTIVENESS

MIT Teaching and Learning Lab
Fall 2021

15.071 The Analytics Edge
HEAD TEACHING ASSISTANT

MIT
Fall 2020

15.S60 Computing in Optimization and Statistics
INSTRUCTOR

MIT
Jan 2019, Jan 2020

15.093 Optimization Methods
TEACHING ASSISTANT

MIT
Fall 2018

15.089 Master of Business Analytics Capstone
CAPSTONE PROJECT MENTOR

MIT
Summer 2018, Summer 2019

Student Advising

- Nicholas Johnson, MIT ORC PhD Candidate
 - Co-author (advisor: D. Bertsimas)
- Periklis Petridis, MIT ORC PhD Candidate
 - Co-author (advisor: D. Bertsimas)
- Vassilis Digalakis Jr., MIT ORC PhD, grad. in 2023
 - Co-authored job market paper (advisor: D. Bertsimas).
 - Initial placement: Assistant Professor of Operations Management, HEC Paris.
- Sean Lo, MIT Sloan MBAn, grad. in 2022
 - Co-author (MBAn advisor: D. Bertsimas)
 - Initial placement: MIT Operations Research Center PhD program

Presentations

PRESENTATIONS AT ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

Gain Confidence, Reduce Disappointment: A New Approach to Cross-Validation for Sparse Regression
Toronto Rotman Young Scholar's Seminar Series, November 2023 (scheduled).

Optimal Low-Rank Matrix Completion: Semidefinite Relaxations and Eigenvector Disjunctions
Imperial College London Control and Optimization, November 2023 (scheduled).

A New Perspective on Low-Rank Optimization
Lehigh ISE, November 2022.

Mixed-Projection Conic Optimization: A New Paradigm for Modeling Rank Constraints
IBM TJ Watson Research Center, August 2022; Rice CAAM, January 2022; CMU Tepper OR, January 2022; USC Viterbi ISE, January 2022; Georgia Tech ISyE, January 2022; Johns Hopkins Carey OM, January 2022; Princeton ORFE, January 2022; Imperial College London Analytics and Operations, October 2021; University of Auckland Engineering Science, October 2020.

PRESENTATIONS AT INVITED WORKSHOPS

Optimal Low-Rank Matrix Completion: Semidefinite Relaxations and Eigenvector Disjunctions
MIP Workshop, May 2023.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND GUEST LECTURES

Decarbonizing OCP
MSOM Practice-Based Research Finalists, June 2023.

Optimal Low-Rank Matrix Completion: Semidefinite Relaxations and Eigenvector Disjunctions
INFORMS, October 2023; SIAM Conference on Optimization, June 2023

Sparse PCA With Multiple Components
INFORMS, October 2022.

A New Perspective on Low-Rank Optimization
ICCOPT, July 2022; IOS, March 2022; INFORMS, October 2021.

Mixed-Projection Conic Optimization: A New Paradigm for Modeling Low-Rank Constraints
INFORMS Nicholson Finalists, November 2020.

Solving Large-Scale Sparse PCA To Certifiable (Near) Optimality
Guest Lecture for MIT Class 15.095, November 2021; IOS, March 2020 (canceled, COVID-19).

A Unified Approach to Mixed-Integer Optimization Problems With Logical Constraints
MIP Workshop, May 2020; INFORMS, October 2019; ICCOPT, August 2019.

A Scalable Algorithm for Sparse Portfolio Selection
INFORMS, November 2018.

Payment Mechanisms and Risk-Aversion in Electricity Markets With Uncertain Supply
ISMP, July 2018; ORSNZ Young Practitioner's Prize Finalists Session, December 2016.

Industry Experience _____

SUEZ Smart Solutions
ASSISTANT OPTIMIZATION ENGINEER

Auckland, New Zealand
2014-2016

Selected External Activities and Service _____

2024 London Operations Research Day, Co-Organizer
2023 SIAM Conference on Optimization, Mini-Symposium Organizer
2022 INFORMS Optimization Society Meeting, Session Chair
2019, 21, 23 INFORMS Annual Meeting, Session Chair
2019 ORC Student Seminar Series, Coordinator
2017- Member, INFORMS (Main, Computing Society, Optimization Society)
Member, Mathematical Optimization Society

Peer Review _____

Ad-Hoc Journal Referee

Operations Research, Management Science, Manufacturing and Service Operations Management, Mathematics of Operations Research, Foundations of Computational Mathematics, INFORMS Journal On Computing, INFORMS Journal on Optimization, Journal of Machine Learning Research, SIAM Journal on Optimization, SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications, SIAM Journal on Mathematics of Data Science, and other journals.