

# Ryan Cory-Wright

✉ r.cory-wright@imperial.ac.uk | 🏠 ryancorywright.github.io | 🌐 ryancorywright

## Academic Appointments

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

London, UK  
2023-

**IBM Research**  
Herman Goldstine Postdoctoral Fellow

Cambridge, MA  
2022-2023

## Education

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology**  
PH.D. IN OPERATIONS RESEARCH

Cambridge, MA  
2017-2022

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  
2014-2016

## Research Interests

Methodological: Machine Learning (Interpretability, Scientific Discovery), Optimization (Convex, Integer, Semidefinite, Under Uncertainty), Statistics (High-Dimensional, Rank Constraints, Sparsity Constraints)  
Applications: Business Analytics, Energy (Decarbonization, Pricing Schemes), Finance

## Selected Honors and Awards

- 2023 Finalist, Practice-Based Research Competition, M&SOM Society
- 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

## Working Papers

5. *Gain Confidence, Reduce Disappointment: A New Approach to Cross-Validation for Sparse Regression*  
R. Cory-Wright and A. Gómez, submitted.
4. *Optimal Low-Rank Matrix Completion: Semidefinite Relaxations and Eigenvector Disjunctions*  
D. Bertsimas, R. Cory-Wright, S. Lo and J. Pauphilet, submitted.
3. *Sparse PCA With Multiple Components*  
R. Cory-Wright and J. Pauphilet, submitted.
2. *AI Hilbert: A New Paradigm for Scientific Discovery by Unifying Data and Background Knowledge*  
R. Cory-Wright, B. El Khadir, C. Cornelio, S. Dash and L. Horesh, revision at **Nature Communications**.
1. *A Stochastic Benders Decomposition Scheme for Large-Scale Data-Driven Network Design*  
D. Bertsimas, R. Cory-Wright, J. Pauphilet and P. Petridis, major revision at **INFORMS Journal on Computing**.

## Journal Papers

---

11. *Decarbonizing OCP*  
D. Bertsimas, R. Cory-Wright and V. Digalakis Jr., **M&SOM**, accepted, 2023.
  - Finalist, M&SOM practice-based research competition (2023)
  - Honorable mention, MIT Operations Research Center Student Paper Competition (Digalakis, 2023)
10. *Sparse Plus Low-Rank Matrix Decomposition: A Discrete Optimization Approach*  
D. Bertsimas, R. Cory-Wright and N. A. G. Johnson, **Journal of Machine Learning Research**, 24(267):1–51, 2023.
  - First place, INFORMS Data Mining Section Student Paper Competition (2021)
9. *A New Perspective on Low-Rank Optimization*  
D. Bertsimas, R. Cory-Wright and J. Pauphilet, **Mathematical Programming**, 202(1-2):47–92, 2023.
8. *Mixed-Projection Conic Optimization: A New Paradigm for Modeling Rank Constraints*  
D. Bertsimas, R. Cory-Wright and J. 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*  
D. Bertsimas and R. Cory-Wright, **INFORMS Journal on Computing**, 34(3):1489–1511, 2022.
6. *Solving Large-Scale Sparse PCA to Certifiable (Near) Optimality*  
D. Bertsimas, R. Cory-Wright and J. Pauphilet, **Journal of Machine Learning Research**, 23(13):1–35, 2022.
5. *A Unified Approach to Mixed-Integer Optimization Problems With Logical Constraints*  
with D. Bertsimas, R. Cory-Wright and J. 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*  
D. Bertsimas, L. Bouissoux, R. Cory-Wright 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*  
R. Cory-Wright and G. Zakeri, **Operations Research Letters**, 48(3):376–384, 2020.
2. *On Polyhedral and Second-Order Cone Decompositions of Semidefinite Optimization Problems*  
D. Bertsimas and R. Cory-Wright, **Operations Research Letters**, 48(1):78–85, 2020.
1. *Payment Mechanisms for Electricity Markets With Uncertain Supply*  
R. Cory-Wright, A. Philpott and G. 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.

## 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)

## Teaching prior to Imperial

---

15.095 Machine Learning Under a Modern Optimization Lens

MIT

HEAD TEACHING ASSISTANT

Fall 2019, 2021

Kaufman Teaching Certificate Program

MIT Teaching and Learning Lab

PARTICIPANT IN EIGHT PRACTICE-BASED WORKSHOPS ON TEACHING EFFECTIVENESS

Fall 2021

15.071 The Analytics Edge

MIT

HEAD TEACHING ASSISTANT

Fall 2020

15.S60 Computing in Optimization and Statistics

MIT

INSTRUCTOR

Jan 2019, Jan 2020

15.093 Optimization Methods

MIT

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Fall 2018

15.089 Master of Business Analytics Capstone

MIT

CAPSTONE PROJECT MENTOR

Summer 2018, Summer 2019

## Student Advising

---

- Lingjun Meng, Imperial Business School MRes candidate
  - Co-advisor (co-advisor: W. Wiesemann)
- 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

Optimal Low-Rank Matrix Completion: Semidefinite Relaxations and Eigenvector Disjunctions

Toronto Rotman Young Scholar's Seminar Series, November 2023; Imperial College London Control and Optimization, November 2023.

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 SINGLE-TRACK 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.*