

# Aras Selvi

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## Education

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**Imperial College London**, London, UK

Ph.D., Operations Research 2025 (Expected)

*Advisor:* Professor Wolfram Wiesemann

*Fellowship:* The Alan Turing Institute (2022-23 Enrichment Placement Student)

*Ph.D. Internship:* JP Morgan AI Research (2023 Off-Cycle Research Associate)

*Research visit:* Professor Aharon Ben-Tal (Technion – Israel Institute of Technology)

M.Res., Operations Research and Business Analytics (Distinction – highest possible award) 2020

Awards: Dean's List for Academic Excellence

**Tilburg University**, Tilburg, The Netherlands

M.Res., Operations Research (Koopmans Scholar, Cum Laude – highest possible award) 2019

**Ozyegin University**, Istanbul, Turkey

B.Sc., Industrial Engineering (High Honor – highest possible award) 2017

Awards: Dean's List, ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> among 125 Faculty of Engineering graduates

Exchange: Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

Minor, Computer Science (High Honor – highest possible award)

## Research Interests

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**Topics:** Robust optimization and learning, decision making under uncertainty, computational privacy and fairness

**Methodologies:** Optimization theory & algorithms, convex analysis, learning theory, information theory

## Research Papers

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### Published or Submitted Work

Belbasi, R, **Selvi, A.**, & Wiesemann, W. (2023). It's all in the mix: Wasserstein machine learning with mixed features. Under Review. Available on [[Optimization Online](#)], [[arXiv](#)]

**Selvi, A.**, Liu, H., & Wiesemann, W. (2022). Differential privacy via distributionally robust optimization. Major Revision. Available on [[Optimization Online](#)], [[arXiv](#)]

Winner of the 2023 ICBS Best Analytics & Operations Student Paper Award

Honorable mention prize for the 2023 INFORMS Optimization Society Student Paper Award [[Link](#)]

**Selvi, A.**, Den Hertog, D., & Wiesemann, W. (2023). A reformulation-linearization technique for optimization over simplices. **Mathematical Programming** 197(1):427-447. Available on [[Optimization Online](#)], [[Springer](#)]

**Selvi, A.**, Ben-Tal, A., Brekelmans, R., & Den Hertog, D. (2022). Convex maximization via adjustable robust optimization. **INFORMS Journal on Computing** 34(4):2091-2105. Available on [[Optimization Online](#)]

Winner of the 2021 INFORMS Computing Society Best Student Paper Award [[Link](#)]

**Selvi, A.**, Belbasi, R, Haugh M., & Wiesemann, W. (2022). Wasserstein Logistic Regression with Mixed Features. **NeurIPS22**. Available on [[Optimization Online](#)], [[NeurIPS proceedings](#)]

Roebers, L. M., **Selvi, A.**, & Vera, J. C. (2019). Using column generation to solve extensions to the Markowitz model. **The Engineering Economist**, 64(3):275-288. Available on [[arXiv](#)], [[Taylor & Francis](#)]

### Working Papers

**Selvi, A.**, Ben-Tal, A., & Wiesemann, W. (2024). Maximizing the sum of maxima of convex functions. To be submitted on January 2024.

**Selvi, A.**, Kreacic, E., Ghassemi, M., Potluru, V., Balch, T., & Veloso, M. (2024). Wasserstein (adversarial) learning with synthetic data. To be submitted on January 2024.

## Awards

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- PhD Placement Award: 9-month placement (starting October 2022) at **The Alan Turing Institute** HQ in London, with a £1,500 financial allowance and £472.5 monthly stipends to support research
- Honorable mention: **2023 INFORMS Optimization Society Student Paper Award**
- Winner: **2023 ICBS Operations and Analytics Best PhD Paper Award**
- **G-Research Quant PhD Grant**: £500 grant supporting international conference travel [\[May, 2023\]](#).
- **Sargent Centre Research Travel Grant 2023**: £450 grant supporting international conference travel
- **SIAM 2023 Student Award**: registration and \$800 travel support for SIAM Conference on Optimization
- **NeurIPS 2022 Scholar Award**: complimentary in-person registration and Hotel stay for attendance
- Winner: **2021 INFORMS Computing Society Best Student Paper Award**
- Honorable Mention: **2019 INFORMS O.R. & Analytics Student Team Competition**
- Finalist: AI UK 2023 PitchFest
- Outstanding Reviewer, Complimentary Registration: ICML 2022, ICLR 2022
- Top Reviewer: NeurIPS 2022
- President's Address 2022 Awardee: Named by Imperial College London president for global contributions
- Dean's List: Imperial College London, Ozyegin University
- Dean's Reception 2022: Invite-only event by the Dean of Imperial College Business School
- Undergraduate Scholarship: Ozyegin University Performance Scholarship (awarded to three students)
- Alumni Award: one of the 20 alumni who made a notable contribution to Ozyegin University (2019)
- Graduate Scholarship: Tilburg University Koopmans Scholarship, Imperial College Business School Funding

## Invited Talks

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| - PGM Days 2023: Robust Optimization and Applications (Paris, FR)                        | November, 2023 |
| - INFORMS Annual Meeting (Phoenix, USA)  | October, 2023  |
| - University of Toronto Rotman Young Scholar seminar series (Virtual)                    | June, 2023     |
| - SIAM Conference on Optimization 2023 (Seattle, USA)                                    | May, 2023      |
| - Pint of Science 2023: Science festival - Quench your thirst for knowledge (London, UK) | May, 2023      |
| - LBS Transatlantic Doctoral Conference: MSO track (London, UK)                          | May, 2023      |
| - Robust Optimization Webinars <a href="#">[Link]</a> (Virtual)                          | March, 2023    |
| - AI UK 2023: Lightning Talks (with Dr Anastasia Borovykh) (London, UK)                  | March, 2023    |
| - The Sargent Centre for Process Systems Engineering (London, UK)                        | November, 2022 |
| - Alan Turing Institute #TuringConnections (London, UK)                                  | November, 2022 |
| - Imperial College Department of Computing Joint Optimization Seminars (London, UK)      | October, 2022  |
| - QuantumBlack - A McKinsey Company (London, UK)   | June, 2022     |
| - Imperial College Operations Research PhD Seminar (London, UK)                          | May, 2022      |
| - BCG GAMMA (London, UK)   | May, 2022      |
| - INFORMS Computing Society Conference (Tampa, USA)                                      | January, 2022  |
| - Imperial-LBS-UCL Brown Bag Seminar Series (Virtual, UK)                                | January, 2021  |
| - Robust Optimization Webinars (Virtual)   | July, 2020     |
| - INFORMS Business Analytics Conference (Austin, USA)                                    | April, 2019    |

## Chaired Sessions

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| - INFORMS Revenue Management & Pricing (RMP) Conference (London, UK) | July, 2023 |
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## Attended Conferences

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| - Thirty-sixth Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (New Orleans, USA) | December, 2022  |
| - PhD Winter School: Data Science, Optimization and Operations Research (Zinal, CH)   | January, 2022   |
| - The Operational Research Society Annual Conference OR63 (Virtual)                   | September, 2021 |
| - Tenth International Conference on Learning Representations (Virtual)                | April, 2022     |
| - Thirty-ninth International Conference on Machine Learning (Virtual)                 | July, 2022      |

## Teaching Experiences

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### Imperial College London

*Teaching assistant* for masters and MBA courses

- Mathematics and Statistics (MSc Business Analytics, MSc Business Analytics online) 2020-2023
- Optimisation and Decision Models (MSc Business Analytics online) 2021-2024
- Fundamentals of Database Technologies (MSc Business Analytics online) 2021
- Machine Learning (MSc Business Analytics online) 2021
- Big Data, AI & Machine Learning (MBA full-time, executive, online, weekend) 2021-2023
- Data Structures and Algorithms with Python (MSc Fintech, MSc RMFE, MSc Business Analytics) 2021
- Centre for Process Systems Engineering Optimisation Course for Professionals 2020

*Quantitative assistant* for MSc Business Analytics admissions

- Interviewing a selection of candidates 2020-2021
- Preparing & evaluating quantitative interviews for candidates and 2020-2022

### London Business School

*Teaching assistant* for masters and MBA courses

- Decision and Risk Analysis (MiM) 2022
- Data Visualisation and Story Telling (Master in Analytics and Management) 2022
- Data Science for Business Analytics and Management (Masters in Analytics and Management) 2020-2023
- Data Mining for Business Intelligence (MBA) 2021
- Applied Statistics (Masters in Analytics and Management) 2022
- Data Analytics for Managers (MBA & MiM) 2022
- Decision Analytics & Modelling (Masters in Analytics and Management) 2023
- Business Analytics (MiM, MBA) 2023

### London School of Economics

*Class teacher* for masters courses

- Algorithmic Techniques for Data Mining (MSc Applied Mathematics, MSc Operations Research) 2020-2024

### Emeritus

*Subject matter expert* for online certificate course

- ICBS Professional Certificate in Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence 2021-2022

### Tilburg University

*Teaching assistant* for masters and undergraduate courses

- Mathematics (BSc Social Sciences) 2019
- Decision Making for Business Analytics (MSc Business Analytics and Operations Research) 2018

### Ozyegin University

*Teaching assistant* for undergraduate courses

- Operations Research I (BSc Industrial Engineering) 2017
- Productions Systems Analysis (BSc Industrial Engineering) 2017
- Physics 102 (All Engineering Undergraduates) 2016

## Skills

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Programming: Python, Julia, MATLAB, C++, R, Optimization Solvers, Machine Learning Packages, SQL, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X  
Language: Turkish (Native), Armenian (Native), English (Advanced), German (Beginner)

## Memberships & Fellowships

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- Fellow: Imperial Business Analytics, Data Science Institute (DSI)
- Member: Computational Optimisation Group of Department of Computing (Imperial College London)
- (Past) Board member: Graduate Student Society and MRes Education Committee of Tilburg University

## Service

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- Reviewer: Operations Research (2), Management Science, Mathematical Programming, Manufacturing & Service Operations Management (2), SIAM Journal on Optimization, Automatica, INFORMS Journal on Computing (2), Mathematical Programming Computation, Computational Management Science, Optimization Letters, Operations Research Letters, European Journal of Operations Research
- Conference Reviewer: ICLR (2022 [highlighted reviewer](#), 2023, 2024), NeurIPS (2021, 2022 [Top Reviewer](#), 2023), AISTATS (2022, 2023), ICML (2022 [outstanding reviewer](#), invited as a session chair, 2023, 2024)
- Program Committee Member: ACM FAccT Conference 2023 (Privacy & Security track)
- Member of the NeurIPS 2022 Outreach Programme
- Academic Ambassador of Imperial College London's PhD Programme in Operations Research
- Member of INFORMS and The Operational Research Society
- (Past) Volunteer: Robin Code Turkey, Dreams Academy Istanbul, Hour of Code, AI UK 2023

## Industry Experience & Summer Internships

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PhD Associate Intern, JP Morgan AI Research (London, UK) – 0.5% acceptance rate	Summer 2023
Academic mentor on Data Spark Programme: <a href="#">KPMG UK</a> , <a href="#">Chatham House</a> (London, UK)	2019-2021
Pro bono consultant on analytics, major nonprofit organisation (name confidential)	2021-2022
Intern, Coca-Cola Icecek HQ (Istanbul, Turkey)	Summers 2015 & 2016
Intern, Metro Cash & Carry (Istanbul, Turkey)	Summer 2016
Intern, Fiba Factoring (Istanbul, Turkey)	Summer 2014
Intern, Anchor Grup (Bucharest, Romania)	Spring 2014

*Last updated December 21, 2023.*