



Amsterdam visiting PhD programme in operations research

Amsterdam Business School – University of Amsterdam

23 September 2026

Visiting PhD research programme

The Business Analytics section at the Amsterdam Business School, University of Amsterdam, is open for applications for its Amsterdam visiting PhD programme in operations research. The programme is highly selective and intended for outstanding PhD candidates seeking to collaborate on frontier research.

The programme offers PhD candidates the opportunity to spend 3 to 12 months at the University of Amsterdam, collaborating closely with our faculty on high-quality research. The primary objective of the visit is to conduct joint research leading to the submission of a high-quality scientific paper.

Research areas

The research topic will be determined in consultation with the applicant and one or more faculty members. Projects should fit within the four research interests and are expected to lead to a joint scientific publication.

Our research covers

Optimization

- Mixed-integer optimization
- Continuous and combinatorial optimization
- Stochastic and robust optimization
- Bilevel optimization
- Explainable optimization

AI and analytics

- Optimization and machine learning
- Data-driven optimization
- Explainable and trustworthy AI
- AI for operations research

Applications

- Supply chain optimization
 - Logistics and transportation
 - Facility location
 - Queueing and scheduling
 - Revenue management
 - Healthcare analytics and optimization
 - Sustainable operations
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Analytics for a Better World

The Business Analytics group is actively involved in Analytics for a Better World (ABW), an initiative that develops analytical methods and decision-support tools to address societal challenges in collaboration with NGOs, governments, healthcare organisations and international organisations. The initiative contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by applying Operations Research, Business Analytics and AI to problems with positive societal impact. Learn more: <https://analyticsbetterworld.org>.

The participating faculty members are:

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|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Prof. dr. Ilker Birbil | s.i.birbil@uva.nl |
| • Prof. dr. ir. Dick den Hertog | d.denhertog@uva.nl |
| • Prof. dr. Joaquim Gromicho | j.a.s.gromicho@uva.nl |
| • Dr. Alex Kuiper | a.kuiper@uva.nl |
| • Dr. Jannis Kurtz | j.kurtz@uva.nl |
| • Prof. dr. Marc Salomon | m.salomon@uva.nl |

Applicants are encouraged to indicate up to two faculty members whose research interests best match their proposed research project. The final supervision assignment will depend on the scientific fit of the proposal, faculty availability, and the overall supervision capacity of the Business Analytics group.

What we offer

- A visiting appointment at the University of Amsterdam for 3–12 months.
- The opportunity to collaborate on research with the aim of producing a joint scientific publication.
- Academic supervision by one or more faculty members.
- Participation in seminars and research activities of the Business Analytics group.
- A dedicated workspace.
- Access to the University of Amsterdam buildings and research facilities.

Financial information

- No tuition or program fee is charged.
- Travel, accommodation, visa, insurance and living expenses are the responsibility of the visiting PhD student or their home institution. The University of Amsterdam does not provide financial support for these costs.

Eligibility

- Be enrolled as a PhD student in operations research or a closely related quantitative field.
- Have completed at least the first year of the PhD program.
- Have a strong academic background and research interests aligned with the Operations Research group.
- Have the support of the PhD supervisor and home institution.
- Because supervision capacity is limited, only a small number of visiting positions are available each year.



Applications

Applications are accepted throughout the year. Prospective applicants are encouraged to apply well in advance of their intended starting date.

1. A motivation letter (maximum two pages), including: motivation for the research visit; preferred period; research interests; up to three preferred faculty members with motivation; expected outcomes;
2. A curriculum vitae;
3. A research statement (maximum two pages);
4. An academic transcript;
5. A letter of support from the PhD supervisor;
6. A research sample (working paper, submitted manuscript or published paper, if available).

Selection

- Academic excellence.
- Quality of previous research.
- Fit with the research interests of the group.
- Scientific quality and feasibility of the proposed research.
- Potential for successful collaboration leading to a joint scientific publication.

Shortlisted applicants may be invited for an online interview before a final decision is made.

Contact

Applications and questions regarding the program can be sent to the coordinator of the programme: Dr. Jannis Kurtz, j.kurtz@uva.nl.