

Erkut Sönmez

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Academic Appointments:

- 2017 - current: Assistant Professor of Supply Chain Management and Analytics, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Business.
- 2016 - 2017: Visiting Assistant Professor of Administrative Sciences, Boston University, Metropolitan College.
- 2009 - 2016: Assistant Professor of Operations Management, Boston College, Carroll School of Management.

Education:

- Ph.D., Operations Management, Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business.
- MS, Operation Management, Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business.
- BS, Industrial Engineering, Middle East Technical University, Turkey.
Minor: Economic Policy, Economics, Middle East Technical University, Turkey.

Research Interests:

- Applications: Food and Energy Supply Chains, Sustainability, Service Operations.
- Methodologies: Stochastic Analysis and Optimization, Queueing Theory, Simulation, Large Scale Optimization.

Academic Research:

Publications:

1. Ata, B., D. Lee, **E. Sönmez**. (2019). "Dynamic Volunteer Staffing in Multicrop Gleaning Operations". *Operations Research*, 67(2), pp. 295-314
2. **Sönmez, E.**, A. Scheller-Wolf, N. Secomandi. (2017). "An Analytical Throughput Approximation for Closed Fork/Join Networks". *Inform Journal on Computing*, 29(2), pp. 251-267.
3. Lee, D., **E. Sönmez**, M. I. Gomez, X. Fan. (2017). "Combining Two Wrongs to Make Two Rights: Mitigating Food Insecurity and Food Waste through Gleaning Operations". *Food Policy*, 68, pp. 40-52.
4. Mutlu, F., M. Msakni, H. Yildiz, **E. Sönmez**, S. Pokharel. (2016). "A Comprehensive Annual Delivery Program for Upstream Liquefied Natural Gas Supply Chains". *European Journal of Operational Research*, 250(1), pp. 120-130.
5. **Sönmez, E.**, D. Lee, M. I. Gomez, X. Fan. (2016). "Improving Food Bank Gleaning Operations: An Application in New York State". *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 98(2), pp. 549 -563.
6. **Sönmez, E.**, S. Kekre, A. Scheller-Wolf, N. Secomandi. (2013). "Strategic Analysis of Technology and Capacity Investments in the Liquefied Natural Gas Industry". *European Journal of Operational Research*, 226(1), pp. 100 -114.
7. Kekre, S., N. Secomandi, **E. Sönmez**, K. West. (2009). "Balancing Risk and Efficiency at a Major Commercial Bank". *Manufacturing & Service Operations Management*, 11(1), pp. 160-173.

Working Papers:

1. **Sönmez, E.**, B. Ata, D. Heeren. (2020). "Dynamic Irrigation Management under Temporal and Spatial Variability". Available at https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3591414

Other Publications and Media Coverage:

- **Sönmez, E.,** D. Lee, M. I. Gomez, X. Fan, L. Caldwell, N. Thompson, M. Knowles. (2016). “There for the Picking”. *Industrial and System Engineering Magazine*, 48(8), pp. 26-30. (Cover story and featured lead article)
- **Sönmez, E.,** D. Lee, M. I. Gomez, X. Fan. (2016). “Gleaning: Combining Two Wrongs to Make a Right”. Appeared at www.huffingtonpost.com on 08/01/2016.
- University heavyweight put science behind optimized gleaning schedules, appeared at www.perishablepundit.com
- Harvesting model rescues castoff food to feed the hungry, *Cornell Chronicle*, and *phys.org*, 2016, February.
- Professor creates harvesting model designed to improve nutritional value, appeared at *The Cornell Daily Sun*.
- Split delivery may prove cost effective for gas companies, appeared at *Carroll Capital*, 2015, December.
- Technology and capacity investments in the liquefied natural gas industry, appeared at *Carroll Capital*, 2013, March.

Teaching Experience:

- Instructor – University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Business:
 - Operations and Supply Chain Management, SCMA 331, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019 (undergraduate).
 - Supply Chain Logistics Management, SCMA/MRKT 444, Fall and Spring semesters of 2017-2020 (undergraduate).
- Instructor – Boston University, Metropolitan College:
 - Operations Management: Fall 2016 (undergraduate), and Spring 2017 (graduate)
 - Market and Economic Research and Analysis, Fall 2016 (graduate)
 - Strategic Logistics Management, Spring 2017 (graduate, both online and in-class course formats)
- Instructor – Boston College, Carroll School of Management
 - Operations Management (undergraduate), Spring 2010 – 2016
 - Operations Management (MBA program), Spring 2013- 2016
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- Instructor – Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business
 - Production and Operations Management (undergraduate), Summer 2008
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- Teaching Assistant - Carnegie Mellon University , Tepper School of Business, 2005-2008
 - Courses: Regression Analysis, Mining Data for Decision Making, Probability and Decision Making, Optimization Models for Consulting, Quality Design and Analysis, Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Operations Management.

Service:

Professional:

- Organizer of Early-Career Sustainable Operations Workshop hosted by College of Business, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, on February 26-28, 2021.
- Reviewer for Operations Research, Management Science, M&SOM, POMS, EJOR, IEE Transactions, OR Spectrum.
- Reviewer for Grant Proposals: Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (2018).
- Judge: POMS College of Sustainable Operations Best Student Paper Competition (2017, 2018, and 2020).
- Judge: M&SOM Conference, Sustainable Operations SIG (2020)
- Session chair: INFORMS and POMS Annual Meetings (Informs 2015 and 2020 meetings, POMS 2016 and 2017 meetings).

Institutional:

- Independent study faculty advisor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Business (2018, 2019).
- Recruiting committee member: University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Business (2018, 2019)
- Grade appeal committee member: University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Business (2019, 2020).
- Supply chain masters and certificate program committee member: Boston University (2016, 2017).
- Walter Klein Lecture Series organizer: Boston College, (2012 – 2015).
- Educational policy committee member: Boston College, (2012 – 2014).
- Continuous review committee member: Boston College, (2011– 2015).
- Recruiting committee member: Boston College (2011– 2015).
- Department chair selection committee member: Boston College (2011).
- Undergraduate faculty advisor: Boston College (2009 – 2016).

Invited Talks:

- Dynamic Irrigation Management under Temporal and Spatial Variability,
 - INFORMS Annual Meeting, National Harbor, MD, November 2020.
 - INFORMS Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, October 2019.
- Dynamic Volunteer Staffing in Multicrop Gleaning Operations
 - INFORMS Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ, November, 2018
 - POMS Annual Conference, Houston, TX, May 2018
 - Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business, Seminar Series, February, 2018
 - INFORMS Annual Conference, Houston, TX, October 2017
- Dynamic Staffing of Volunteer Gleaning Operations
 - POMS Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, May 2017
 - Early-Career Sustainable Operations Workshop, Charlottesville, VA, March 2017
 - McKinsey Knowledge Center, Waltham, MA, March, 2017
 - INFORMS Annual Conference, Nashville, TN, Nov 2016
- An Operational Analysis of Multi-Crop Food Bank Gleaning Programs
 - POMS Annual Conference, Orlando, FL, May 2016
 - Early-Career Sustainable Operations Workshop, Raleigh, NC, Feb 2016
 - Babson College Seminar Series, Boston, MA, Nov 2015
- Improving Food Bank Gleaning Operations: An Application in New York State
 - INFORMS Annual Conference, Philadelphia, MA, Nov 2015
 - POMS Annual Conference, Washington, DC, May 2015
- An Analytical Throughput Approximation for Closed Fork/Join Networks
 - INFORMS APS Meeting, Koc University, Istanbul, July 2015
 - INFORMS Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, Nov 2014
 - INFORMS Annual Meeting, Charlotte, NC, Nov 2011
 - INFORMS Annual Meeting, Austin, TX, Nov 2010
 - INFORMS Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, Oct 2009
- Strategic Analysis of Technology and Capacity Investments in the LNG Industry
 - 8th Annual Workshop on Supply Chain and Logistics, Bilkent University, Turkey, June 2014
 - POMS Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 2012
 - University of California at Irvine seminar series, Irvine, CA, May 2011
 - INFORMS Annual Meeting, Austin, TX, Nov 2010
 - Industry Studies Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, May 2010

- INFORMS Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, Oct 2008
- M&SOM Conference, College Park, MD, June 2008
- Balancing Risk and Efficiency at a Major Commercial Bank
 - M&SOM Conference, Boston, MA, June 2009
 - Quantitative Models for Production and Communication Networks Workshop, Eindhoven, Netherlands, Jan 2009
 - INFORMS Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, Nov 2007

Consulting Experience:

- QatarGas, October 2013 –2017
Development of annual delivery programs for LNG supply chains.
- Food Bank of Southern Tier, New York, October 2014 – 2018
Improvement of gleaning operations.
- Boston Area Gleaners, Boston, MA, November 2014 – 2018
Improvement of gleaning operations.
- Excelerate Energy, Woodland, TX, October 2009 –November 2012
Consulting on strategic technology and capacity choice decisions for liquefied natural gas supply chains.
- Mellon Bank, Pittsburgh, PA, October 2004 – June 2005
Technical consulting with a team of MBA students. Analysis of check processing centers in different cities in terms of check volumes, arrival patterns, fraud and float risks. Developed a simulation based optimization model for determining optimal workforce level that balances risk and efficiency.
- Pfizer Turkey, Istanbul, Turkey, June 2003 – June 2004
Conducted “Aligning Sales Territories of Pfizer Turkey” project. Developed an optimization model for forming sales territories of Pfizer Turkey and achieved a 21 percent improvement over the existing system.

Awards and Honors:

- Distinguished Research Award, College of Business, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2018-2019)
- Nominated for Distinguished Teaching Award, College of Business, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2017-2018 and 2019-2020)
- INFORMS Doctoral Colloquium participant, 2008
- William Larimer Mellon Fellowship for doctoral studies at Carnegie Mellon University, Tepper School of Business, 2004 -2007
- Yasar Holding High Academic Achievement Fellowship, 2002 – 2004.