

AIROYoung Dissertation Award 2023

The AIROYoung board

Hotel Continental Terme – Ischia, September 07, 2023 International Conference on Optimization and Decision Science 2023 A **Ph.D. thesis award** organized by AIROYoung to select the best doctoral thesis in operations research, defended at any Italian university between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023

The first edition of AYDA at ODS 2022



The four finalists of AYDA 2022: from the left, Daniel Faccini, Matteo Lapucci, Anna Livia Croella, and Serena Fugaro (winner).

Main topics of this second edition

- Combinatorial optimization
- Game theory
- Logistics
- Knapsack
- Machine learning
- Networks
- Nonlinear optimization
- Optimization under uncertainty
- Polyhedral combinatorics
- Railway transportation
- Routing

A few numbers

- 10 applications
- 25 referees (all external to the previous and current AIROYoung boards)
- 4 finalists
- 1 winner, to be announced during the closing session of ODS 2023
- **Prize**: 250 €

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 - criteria used and average high-quality results:

Pertinence (max 15)	14.33
Scientific contribution (max 35)	28.33
Impact on related fields (max 25)	21.00
Quality of publications (max 15)	11.56
Writing quality (max 10)	08.83
Average score (max 100)	84.06

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- Round 2 (3 referees): overall comparison of all Ph.D. theses
 - assignment of weights to Round 1 evaluations to compute a weighted average and update the ranking
- Round 3 (4 referees): 3 points to be assigned to get the final ranking

Finalists



- Georgia Fargetta, Variational inequality and metaheuristic approaches to model and investigate the agents' strategies
- Riccardo Giusti, Optimization-based integration platform for Synchromodal Logistics

- Henri Lefebvre, Adjustable robust optimization with nonlinear recourses
- Alberto Locatelli, Optimization methods for knapsack and tool switching problems

And the winner is...

Riccardo Giusti, "Optimization-based integration platform for Synchromodal Logistics"



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Pertinence (max 15)
                                       14
 Scientific contribution (max 35)
                                  28
                                       32
Impact on related fields (max 25)
                                  25
                                       25
                                             Average score = 91 + 3 = 94
                                       15
 Quality of publications (max 15)
                                  11
        Writing quality (max 10)
                                  10
                                        9
           Total score (max 100)
                                  87
                                       95
```

Round 3: "The thesis presents extremely interesting results. The presentation was clear and effective in highlighting the contributions of the Ph.D. thesis, both in terms of the methodology and the applications."