

# Elisa OPERTI

Professor

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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choosing your enemies, collaboration, Mafia, organised crime

## EDUCATION

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2009 Ph.D. in Management, Bocconi University, Italy

2003 BA and M.Sc. in Industrial Engineering and Management (magna cum laude), Polytechnic of Turin, Italy

2001 B.A. in Industrial Engineering and Management (magna cum laude), Polytechnic of Turin, Italy

## EMPLOYMENT

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### Full-time academic positions

2022 - Present Professor, ESSEC Business School, France

2015 - 2022 Associate Professor, ESSEC Business School, France

2011 - 2015 Assistant Professor, ESSEC Business School, France

### Other affiliations and appointments

2025 - 2028 Head of the department of management, ESSEC Business School, France

2009 - 2011 Post Doctoral Fellow, University of Lugano, Switzerland

### Other professional experiences

2004 - 2005 Business Analyst (Technology and Operation Management), JPMorgan Chase & Co, United Kingdom

## GRANTS AND HONORS

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### Awards and Honors

2023 Runner-up for the Best Entrepreneurship Paper Award, for the paper, "How Professional and Family Ties Affect Idea Elaboration for Men and Women," with Francesca Nannetti, ESSEC Business School (PhD), awarded by the Organization and Management Theory division of the Academy of Management 2023, Academy of Management, United States of America

2021 Academy of Management Best Reviewer Award: OMT Division, Academy of Management

2021 Outstanding Service Award from the TIM division of the Academy of Management (2021)

2020 Honorable mention in the Best Conference Paper Award competition, Strategic Management Conference 2020

2020 2020 IM Division Georgetown Best Paper in International Business and Policy Award

2019 Academy of Management Best Paper Proceedings, STR Division, Academy of Management, United States of America

2018 The symposium co-organized with Shemuel Lampronti (PhD) was selected as one of the finalists for the best symposium award of the OMT Division a la Academy of Management Conference 2018 in Chicago.

2017 TIM Best Paper Award, ASAC (Administrative Science Association of Canada) for the article: "Missed chances and unfulfilled hopes - Why firms make errors in selecting technological opportunities", with Amit Kumar (PhD candidate ESSEC).

2017 Academy of Management Best Reviewer Award: OMT Division, Academy of Management

2015 EGOS Best Paper Award - Social Network Sub-Theme (with S. Lampronti & S. Sgourev), Greece

2015 Runner up Academy of Management Best Paper Award - OMT division (with S. Lampronti & S. Sgourev), Canada

2015 Academy of Management Best Paper Proceedings, TIM Division, Canada

2014 ESSEC Foundation Research Award, ESSEC Foundation

2014 Academy of Management Best Reviewer Award: TIM Division, Academy of Management, United States of America

2013 Academy of Management Best Reviewer Award: TIM Division, Academy of Management, United States of America

2012 Academy of Management Best Paper Proceedings, TIM Division, Academy of Management

2012 Technology and Innovation Management (TIM) Division Best Paper Award, Academy of Management Annual Conference 2012, for the paper "Good for One, Bad for Most? Intrafirm Networks and Innovation at the Inventor Firm Level" (coauthored with Gianluca Carnabuci)

2012 Academy of Management Best Reviewer Award: BPS Division, Academy of Management, United States of America

2010 Academy of Management Best Reviewer Award: TIM Division, Academy of Management, Canada

2010 Academy of Management Best Paper Proceedings, TIM Division, Academy of Management, Canada

2009 Academy of Management Best Reviewer Award: BPS Division, Academy of Management, United States of America

2008 Academy of Management Best Reviewer Award: TIM Division, Academy of Management, Canada

2008 Academy of Management Best Paper Proceedings, TIM Division, Academy of Management, Canada

2004 Optime Award (2003) for best 2003 graduates, Polytechnic of Turin, Italy

## Grants

2018 AAP-Paris-Seine - Research Grant for the project "Regional resilience to environmental shocks: a network approach", France

2018 ANR JCJC - Research Grant for the project "Résilience économique aux chocs: Le rôle des réseaux régionaux d'innovation", Agence Nationale pour la Recherche (ANR), France

2009 Post Doctoral Research Grant, Swiss National Science Foundation, Switzerland

2005 PhD Fellowship, Bocconi University, Italy

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Journal Articles

LAMPRONTI, S., OPERTI, E. and SGOUREV, S. (2025). Rivalry as a contextual factor of gender inequality in network returns. *Journal of Management Studies*, 62(4), pp. 1599-1643.

KUMAR, A. and OPERTI, E. (2025). Recessions, institutions, and regional exploration. *Research Policy*, 54(3), pp. 105189.

CONTI, A., GRIMPE, C., OPERTI, E. and ROSS, J.M. (2025). Sports as a context in strategy and innovation research: promises, challenges, and broader implications. *Industry and Innovation*, 32(8), pp. 965-978.

OPERTI, E. and KUMAR, A. (2023). Too much of a good thing? Network brokerage within and between regions and innovation performance. *Regional Studies*, 57(2), pp. 300-316.

KUMAR, A. and OPERTI, E. (2023). Missed chances and unfulfilled hopes: Why do firms make errors in evaluating technological opportunities? *Strategic Management Journal*, 44(13), pp. 3067-3097.

OPERTI, E., SGOUREV, S. and LAMPRONTI, S. (2021). Choose your enemies well: Mapping, managing and leveraging rivalry. *California Management Review*, 64(1), pp. 29-46.

OPERTI, E., LAMPRONTI, S. and SGOUREV, S. (2020). Hold your horses: Temporal multiplexity and conflict moderation in the "Palio di Siena" (1743-2010). *Organization Science*, 31(1), pp. 85-102.

SGOUREV, S. and OPERTI, E. (2019). From Montagues To Capulets? Analyzing the Systemic Nature of Rivalry in Career Mobility. *Academy of Management Journal*, 62(5), pp. 1333-1357.

OPERTI, E. (2019). Crime organisé et marchés légaux. *Futuribles*, 432(5), pp. 27-31.

OPERTI, E. (2018). Tough on Criminal Wealth? Exploring the Link between Organized Crime's Asset Confiscation and Regional Entrepreneurship. *Small Business Economics*, 51(2), pp. 321-335.

CARNABUCI, G., OPERTI, E. and KOVÁCS, B. (2015). The Categorical Imperative and Structural Reproduction: Dynamics of Technological Entry in the Semiconductor Industry. *Organization Science*, 26(6), pp. 1734-1751.

OPERTI, E. and CARNABUCI, G. (2014). Public Knowledge, Private Gain: The Effect of Spillover Networks on Firms' Innovative Performance. *Journal of Management*, 40(4), pp. 1042-1074.

CARNABUCI, G. and OPERTI, E. (2013). Where Do Firms' Recombinant Capabilities Come From? Intraorganizational Networks, Knowledge, and Firms' Ability to Innovate Through Technological Recombination. *Strategic Management Journal*, 34(13), pp. 1591-1613.

### Book chapters

OPERTI, E. and CARNABUCI, G. (2008). Knowledge growth through inter-organizational knowledge recombination: an analysis of the US semiconductor industry between 1976-2002. In: *L'organizzazione fa la differenza*. 1st ed. Carocci editore, pp. 259-286.

CANTAMESSA, M., MILANESIO, M. and OPERTI, E. (2006). Value Chain Structure and Correlation Between Design Structure Matrices. In: *Advances in Design*. 1st ed. London: Springer, pp. 303-313.

### Conference proceedings

OPERTI, E. and KUMAR, A. (2024). Bourdieu vs. Putnam - Economic crises and the motivation behind tie formation in innovation networks. In: *84th Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management (AOM 2024)*. Chicago: Academy of Management.

NANNETTI, F. and OPERTI, E. (2023). How Professional and Family Ties Affect Idea Elaboration for Men and Women. In: *Academy of Management Annual Meeting Proceedings*. Academy of Management, pp. 10.5465/AMPROC.2023.111bp.

OPERTI, E. and KUMAR, A. (2021). Network Structure And Regional Innovation: A Multi-Level Framework. In: *2021 Academy of Management Annual Meeting Proceedings*. Academy of Management.

CAPO, F., OPERTI, E., MAIOLINI, R. and RULLANI, F. (2021). Agency and the micro-foundation of network resilience: Insights from Mafia Capitale. In: *2021 Academy of Management Proceedings*. Academy of Management.

LAMPRONTI, S. and OPERTI, E. (2019). Strategic Alteration of Stakeholder Salience: Insights From "Monte dei Paschi di Siena" (1996-2012). In: *2019 Academy of Management (AOM) Best Paper Proceedings*. Academy of Management.

OPERTI, E., SGOUREV, S. and LAMPRONTI, S. (2015). A War in Ninety Seconds: Moderation and Escalation of Neighbourhood Rivalry in The "Palio Di Siena". In: *2015 Academy of Management Best Paper Proceedings*. Academy of Management.

OPERTI, E. and CARNABUCI, G. (2012). Good for One but Bad for Most? How Intra-Organizational Networks Impact Innovative Performance at the Inventor and Firm Level. In: *Academy of Management Best Paper Proceedings*. Academy of Management.

OPERTI, E. and CARNABUCI, G. (2010). Investigating the link between R&D organization and firms' recombinant capabilities. In: *Academy of Management*. Academy of Management.

OPERTI, E. and CARNABUCI, G. (2008). Knowledge that flows and knowledge that grows: inventive performance in the semiconductor field. In: *Academy of Management*. Academy of Management.

## Conferences

CAPO, F., OPERTI, E., MAIOLINI, R. and RULLANI, F. (2024). Agency and the micro-foundations of network resilience: Insights from Mafia Capita. In: 2024 Social Networks Conference. London.

OPERTI, E. and NANNETTI, F. (2023). Equalizing opportunities: How women can leverage connections to brokers in innovation. In: 2023 Social Networks Society Conference. Exeter.

OPERTI, E. and NANNETTI, F. (2023). Equalizing Opportunities: How Women Can Leverage Connections to Brokers in Innovation. In: 39th European Group for Organizational Studies (EGOS) Colloquium 2023. Cagliari.

OPERTI, E. and NANNETTI, F. (2023). Breaking the Mold: Gender Differences in Returns from Family and Professional Ties in Idea Elaboration. In: 2023 NEC Network Evolution Conference 8.0. Fontainebleau.

KUMAR, A. and OPERTI, E. (2022). Beating heart of regions: Innovation network evolution over the business cycle. In: 2022 Strategic Management Society Annual Conference. London.

NANNETTI, F. and OPERTI, E. (2022). Creating a Better World Together: How Different Groups Create, Maintain, and Utilize Their Networks. In: 2022 Academy of Management Annual Meeting. Seattle.

NANNETTI, F. and OPERTI, E. (2022). Gender Differences along the Idea Journey: How Tie Strength and Brokerage Affect Idea Elaboration and Championing for Men and Women. In: 38th European Group for Organizational Studies (EGOS) Colloquium 2022. Vienna.

OPERTI, E. and KUMAR, A. (2020). This Cloud has a Silver Lining: Economic Crises and Technological Exploration. In: 2020 TIM mid-year meeting.

OPERTI, E., KUMAR, A. and UOTILA, J. (2020). Microfoundations of Entrepreneurial Ecosystems: The Case of the Helsinki Region. In: 2020 Strategic Management Society Annual Conference.

LAMPRONTI, S., OPERTI, E. and SGOUREV, S. (2019). Strategic Alteration of Stakeholder Salience: Insights From “Monte dei Paschi di Siena” (1996-2012). In: 2019 INFORMS Organization Science Winter Conference.

OPERTI, E. and BARTHELEMY, J. (2019). The Impact of Role Configurations on Product Visibility and Quality Ratings in the Video Game Industry. In: 2019 Organizing Creativity in the Innovation Journey.

BHATT, H. and OPERTI, E. (2019). When Heads Means Tails: Examining the Differing Signaling Effects of Anti-Mafia Law Enforcement on MNCs’ Levels of Equity Ownership in Italy. In: 2019 Catolica's Research Workshop on Hybrid organizations.

KUMAR, A., OPERTI, E. and UOTILA, J. (2018). From Nokia to Slush: Incumbent Firms’ Decline and the Emergence of Entrepreneurial Ecosystems. In: 38th Strategic Management Society Conference 2018.

LAMPRONTI, S., OPERTI, E. and SGOUREV, S. (2018). Relational-Cognitive Differences in Gendered Response to Rivalry. In: 78th Academy of Management Annual Meeting.

LAMPRONTI, S., OPERTI, E. and SGOUREV, S. (2018). Rivalry Flips the Script: Relational-Cognitive Differences in Gendered Response to Rivalry. In: 2018 Intra-organizational Network (ION) Conference.

LAMPRONTI, S., OPERTI, E. and SGOUREV, S. (2018). The Art of Manouvering Logics: Insights from the “Monte Dei Paschi Di Siena” (1996-2012). In: 2018 LUISS Paper Development Workshop on Hybrid Organizations.

LAMPRONTI, S., OPERTI, E. and SGOUREV, S. (2018). The Art of Manouvering Logics: Insights from the "Monte dei Paschi di Siena" (1996-2012). In: 2018 Sustainability, Ethics and Entrepreneurship (SEE) Conference.

LAMPRONTI, S., OPERTI, E. and SGOUREV, S. (2018). The dynamic capability of juggling logics: Studying the oldest hybrid in the world. In: 34th European Group for Organizational Studies (EGOS) Colloquium 2018.

LAMPRONTI, S., OPERTI, E. and SGOUREV, S. (2018). The Innovate or Die Myth. In: 2018 Doriot INSEAD Entrepreneurship Conference.

BHATT, H. and OPERTI, E. (2017). Don Corleone - Greedy Businessman of Benefactor? Examining the Impact of Italian Mafia Organizations on Income Equality. In: 33rd European Group for Organizational Studies (EGOS) Colloquium 2017.

OPERTI, E. (2017). Exploring the Link Between Organized Crime Asset Confiscation and Regional Entrepreneurship. In: 2017 Academy of Management Meeting.

LAMPRONTI, S., OPERTI, E. and SGOUREV, S. (2017). Rivalry Flips the Script: Gender Effects in Network Recall and Activation. In: 2017 Academy of Management Meeting.

KUMAR, A. and OPERTI, E. (2017). What Do We Know about Strategic Exit? In: DRUID 2017.

KUMAR, A. and OPERTI, E. (2017). Why Firms Make Errors in Selecting Technological Opportunities? In: DRUID 2017.

KUMAR, A. and OPERTI, E. (2017). Why Firms Make Errors in Selecting Technological Opportunities? In: 2017 Academy of Management Meeting.

OPERTI, E. (2016). Exploring the Link Between Organized Crime Asset Confiscation and Regional Entrepreneurship. In: 2016 SMS Special Conference.

KUMAR, A. and OPERTI, E. (2016). Missed Chances, Unfulfilled Hopes: Why Do Firms ERR in Technology Selection? In: 2016 SMS Extended Conference.

BARTHELEMY, J. and OPERTI, E. (2016). The « Innovate or Die » Myth. In: 36th Strategic Management Society (SMS) Annual International Conference.

HOANG, H. and OPERTI, E. (2016). Interfirm Knowledge Flows as a Consequence of Patent Litigation: Mediated Interaction as a Source of Learning. In: DRUID16 20th Anniversary Conference.

OPERTI, E., LAMPRONTI, S. and SGOUREV, S. (2015). A War in Ninety Seconds: Competitive Intensity of Neighborhood Rivalry in the "Palio di Siena" (1743-2010). In: Networks and Formal Organizational Structure.

OPERTI, E., SGOUREV, S. and LAMPRONTI, S. (2015). A War in Ninety Seconds: Competitive Intensity of Neighbourhood Rivalry in the "Palio di Siena" (1743-2010). In: 31st European Group for Organizational Studies (EGOS) Colloquium 2015.

OPERTI, E., SGOUREV, S. and LAMPRONTI, S. (2015). A war in ninety seconds: Moderation and escalation of neighbourhood rivalry in the "Palio di Siena". In: American Sociological Association (ASA) 2015 Annual Meeting.

OPERTI, E., SGOUREV, S. and LAMPRONTI, S. (2015). If Leaving, Close the Door: Status Asymmetry and Identity Constraints in Career Mobility. In: XXXV Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis (INSNA).

HOANG, H. and OPERTI, E. (2015). Interfirm Knowledge Flows as a Consequence of Patent Litigation: Learning and (or) Strategic Citation? In: 2015 Strategic Management Society Annual Meeting.

OPERTI, E., LAMPRONTI, S. and SGOUREV, S. (2014). Studying Cognitive Social Structures in Strategy Research: Methodological Considerations and an Illustration. In: 2017 SMS Milan Special Conference.

OPERTI, E. and BARTHELEMY, J. (2014). Visibility or Quality? The Influence of Vertical Specialization on Product Performance in the Video Game Industry (1980-2011). In: 2014 Academy of Management Annual Meeting.

OPERTI, E. and BARTHELEMY, J. (2014). Visibility or Quality? The Influence of Vertical Specialization on Product Performance in the Video Game Industry. In: 34th Strategic Management Society (SMS) Annual International Conference.

OPERTI, E. (2013). Time for a Reality Check? The (Vanishing) Role of Materiality in Strategy Research. In: 2013 Academy of Management Annual Meeting.

OPERTI, E. (2012). A Behavioral Theory of Technological Entry: Performance Feedback, Uncertainty and Firms? Entry in Emerging Fields. In: 32nd Strategic Management Society Annual International Conference.

OPERTI, E. and CARNABUCI, G. (2012). Good for One but Bad for Most? How Intra-Organizational Networks Impact Innovative Performance at the Inventor and Firm Level. In: 28th EGOS Colloquium. Helsinki.

## OTHER RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

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### Associate Editor

Since 2023 Journal of Management

### Editorial Board Membership

Since 2023 Organization Science

Since 2023 Journal of Management

Since 2020 Journal of Management Studies

### Ad-hoc reviewer for :

British Journal of Management, Industrial and Corporate Change, Industry and Innovation, Journal of Management Studies, Organization Science, Organization Studies, R&D Management, Research Policy, Small Business Economics, Strategic Management Journal, Strategy Science

### Organisation of a conference

2012 - 2015 Seminar Series Organizer, Department of Management, ESSEC Business School, France

### Affiliations

2021 - 2022 Representative at Large, Competitive Strategy Interest Group, SMS (elected member), United States of America

2019 - 2021 Representative at large TIM division (elected member)

Since 2015 AoM Conference Best Dissertation Award committee, TIM division )

## PhD Supervision

2021      Himanshu Bhatt (ESSEC Business School), Thesis co-director, First Placement: Assistant Professor - King's Business School -

2018      Shemuel LAMPRONTI (ESSEC Business School), Thesis co-director, First Placement: Assistant Professor - The University of Warwick

2018      Amit KUMAR (ESSEC Business School), Thesis director, First Placement: Assistant Professor - The University of Warwick

              F. NANNETTI (ESSEC Business School), Thesis co-director

## Other research activities

Since 2012    Ad-hoc reviewer for Strategic Management Society Conferences

Since 2008    Ad-hoc reviewer for Academy of Management Conference

Since 2021    European Research Council evaluator

## SERVICE

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Since 2018    Conseil Social et Economique, Elected Member, ESSEC Business School, France

2015 - 2018    Coordinator, PhD in Management, ESSEC Business School, France

Since 2014    Member of the recruitment committee, ESSEC Business School, France