STOR-i ANNUAL CONFERENCE: 7 - 8 JANUARY 2027

Speaker biographical notes

Day 1

Claire Miller, University of Glasgow

Claire Miller is Professor of Statistics in the School of Mathematics and Statistics at The University of Glasgow. Claire's research interests include developing spatiotemporal statistical and data analytics methodology to address questions motivated by environmental applications, including data fusion and integration, monitoring network design and she leads the data and data analytics workstream as part of NERC GALLANT: investigating urban environmental sustainable solutions. Claire is a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, a previous President of The International Environmetrics Society, an elected member of the International Statistical Institute, and associate editor for Environmetrics and Journal of Applied Statistics: Environmental Statistics and Data Science.

Thomas Newman, STOR-i Alumni, Netherlands Institute for Space Research

I hold a PhD in Statistics from Lancaster University, where my research focused on Bayesian inversion modelling and surrogate modelling for computational fluid dynamics. Following the completion of my PhD in 2025, I moved to the Netherlands to join the Space Research Organisation Netherlands (SRON) as an Applied Machine Learning Scientist. My current work focuses on developing, deploying and improving production machine learning systems for large-scale satellite observations, with a particular emphasis on automated, near-real-time methane detection. My work spans the full machine learning lifecycle, from data processing and model development to operational deployment, evaluation and continuous improvement.

Gilbert Owusu, Vanguide

Dr Gilbert Owusu is a digital and AI executive with over 25 years' experience leading transformation across industry, the public and third sectors, and academia. He specialises in bridging strategy and execution, using data and AI to transform service delivery and achieve measurable impact. He is Managing Partner of Vanguide, a digital and AI consultancy and a Past President of the Operational Research Society. He has co-edited two books on AI-driven service production management and advises organisations on using emerging technologies to drive innovation and sustainable growth.

Lauren Durrell, STOR-i PhD student

Lauren is a 2nd year PhD student at STOR-i studying the theory and applications of semi-Lagranian relaxation, supervised by Adam Letchford and Alp Arslan.

Adam Page – STOR-i Impact Fellow

Adam joined STOR-i as an MRes in 2022, after completing an undergraduate degree in Mathematics from Lancaster University. His PhD focussed on solving dynamic pricing problems by using reinforcement learning methods, particularly with a focus on adjusting the decision-making process so that non-technical practitioners can perceive the methods to be safe. The industrial partner for the project was Datasparq, a London-based ethical AI consultancy. Adam commenced his role as STOR-i impact research associate at the start of November.

Robin Mitra, University College London

Rebecca Hamm – STOR-i Alumni, HEOR Cardiff

Matt Thomas, British Red Cross
Dr Matt Thomas is Head of Data & Insight at the British Red Cross. His team helps humanitarians make sense of the world so they can take well-informed, principled action.

Aris Syntetos, Cardiff University
Aris Syntetos is Distinguished Research Professor of Decision Science and DSV Chair of Logistics Research at Cardiff University, where he researches inventory forecasting, and uncertainty modelling for improving logistics and supply chain decisions. He is Director of the joint Cardiff University-DSV PARC Institute that resides in the University. Aris' fundamental research has received about 14,000 citations and many of his algorithms feature in best selling supply chain software packages. He is the Editor In Chief of the IMA Journal of Management Mathematics (IMAMAN) published by Oxford University Press, and currently serves as Vice President of the International Society for Inventory Research (ISIR). In 2026 he was honoured with one of the inaugural fellowships of the Academy for the Mathematical Sciences as well as the Companionship of the OR Society.

Day 2

Laura Boyle, Queen's University Belfast

Harry Ellingham – STOR-i PhD student

Mark Holcroft – STOR-i PhD student
Mark is a 2nd year PhD student at STOR-i, Lancaster University studying stochastic and deterministic programming for warehouse optimisation problems.

Kristina Grolmusova – STOR-i PhD student
I am a third-year PhD student at Statistics and Operational Research (STOR-i) CDT. My PhD project is focused on developing statistical methodologies within the extreme value theory framework for flood risk estimation.