

EDOARDO MERLI

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EDUCATION

University of Bologna 2025 - present
Ph.D., Computer Science and Engineering

University of Bologna 2022 - 2025
Master of Science, Artificial Intelligence 110/110 *cum Laude*

University of California - San Diego 2021 - 2022
Exchange student, Computer Science GPA: 3.75

University of Bologna 2019 - 2022
Bachelor of Science, Computer Science 110/110 *cum Laude*

RESEARCH

Machine Intelligence Lab, University College London December 2024 - February 2025
Visiting researcher

- Conducted Master's thesis research on "Large Language Model Understanding of Graph Structures via Graph Embeddings", under the supervision of Prof. Mirco Musolesi.

Majithia Lab, UC San Diego April 2022 - June 2022
Research Assistant

- Contributed to a Cell Genomics publication on HNF1A variant function under the supervision of Dr. Amit Majithia. Built an interactive web application to visualize high-throughput functional variant data for HNF1A and PPARG, making the results explorable and actionable for genetic and clinical research.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Imola Informatica, Imola June 2020 - September 2020
Software Engineer Intern

- Designed and implemented load tests using C# and Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio to identify possible improvements in a mission critical application for the processing of data in the banking sector

PUBLICATIONS

N. DeForest, B. Kavitha, S. Hu, R. Isaac, L. Krohn, M. Wang, X. Du, C. De Arruda Saldanha, J. Gyls, E. Merli, R. Abagyan, L. Najmi, V. Mohan, Alnylam Human Genetics, AMP-T2D Consortium, J. Flannick, G. M. Peloso, P. L. S. M. Gordts, S. Heinz, A. M. Deaton, ..., A. R. Majithia. Human gain-of-function variants in HNF1A confer protection from diabetes but independently increase hepatic secretion of atherogenic lipoproteins. *Cell Genomics* 3(7):100339, July 2023.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The Cornell, Maryland, Max Planck Pre-doctoral Research School August 2023
Attended lectures with faculty from participating institutions on a variety of cutting-edge topics in Computer Science.

Merit Scholarship

June 2021

Ranked 30th among all 2nd year students from the Science disciplinary area (Math, Physics, Computer Science, Chemistry, Biology)

LeadTheFuture Mentorship

September 2020 - Present

Selected as top Italian student in STEM fields for the mentorship program LTF (20% acceptance rate)

National Mathematical Olympiads team competition

May 2019

27th position - top 4% out of 800+ teams

European Union Science Olympiad (EUSO) team competition

January 2017

Silver medal at national level

LANGUAGES

Italian native**English proficient** (C2 level)