# Assistant Professor

# **Contact Information**

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## Highlights

Matteo Papini is an **Assistant Professor** (RTD-A) at **Politecnico di Milano**, Milan, Italy, in the Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Lab. His research is directed towards the development of intelligent systems, with a focus on the problem of *sequential decision making under uncertainty*, using the theory and algorithmic solutions of **reinforcement learning** and **contextual bandits**. In 2021 he earned a PhD in Information Technology (cum laude) from Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy, under the supervision of Marcello Restelli, with a dissertation on safe policy optimization. In 2020 he worked as a student research intern at Facebook AI Research (now Meta). From 2021 to 2023 he was a postdoctoral researcher in the Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Research Group of **Universitat Pompeu Fabra** (UPF), Barcelona, Spain, in Gergely Neu's team.

He has authored more than 10 peer-reviewed conference papers, including publications at top artificial intelligence and and machine learning conferences such as **NeurIPS (5 papers), ICML (3), AAAI (2) and IJCAI (2)**. Of these, one was awarded an oral presentation at NeurIPS 2018, which was only granted to the top 3% of the accepted papers. Moreover, he has published peer-reviewed manuscripts at renowned peer-reviewed machine learning journals — one on **JMLR** and one on Springer's **Machine Learning**. Among his recurring co-authors are Marcello Restelli (Politecnico di Milano), Matteo Pirotta, Alessandro Lazaric (Meta AI Paris), and Gergely Neu (UPF).

He is a member of *ELLIS* (European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems). He has worked as a teaching assistant for several classes at Politecnico di Milano and for two international reinforcement learning summer schools. He has served as a reviewer in the program committee of several conferences including NeurIPS, ICML and AAAI. In 2023, with Vincent Adam (UPF), he led the organization of the **Reinforcement Learning Summer School** (RLSS 2023) at UPF.

## Faculty and Research Positions

- 2023-present Assistant Professor (RTDA), Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy
- 2021–2023 Postdoctoral researcher, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona
- Mar-Apr 2021 **Research Assistant** (Attività di Supporto alla Ricerca), *Dipartimento di Elettronica, Informazione e Bioingegneria, Politecnico di Milano*, Milan, Italy *Research Topic:* Reinforcement Learning Techniques for Developing Artificial Test Drivers on a F1 Simulator, Principal Investigator: Marcello Restelli
- Sep-Dec 2020 **Research Intern at Facebook AI Research**, working (remotely) with the Paris FAIR team, under the supervision of Matteo Pirotta. Research topic: representation learning for contextual bandits. The project led to the publication of a paper at ICML 2021 [C3]
  - 2017–2021 **Research Assistant** (Assegno di Ricerca), *Dipartimento di Elettronica, Informazione e Bioingegneria, Politecnico di Milano*, Milan, Italy Research topic: *Study and Development of Reinforcement Learning Techniques in Industrial Settings*, Principal Investigator: Marcello Restelli.

#### Education

- 2017–2021 Ph.D., Ingegneria dell'Informazione / Information Technology, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy Supervisor: Prof. Marcello Restelli Dissertation: Safe Policy Optimization (http://hdl.handle.net/10589/170196) Awarded cum laude Date of degree: March 11, 2021
- 2015–2017 M.Sc., Computer Science and Engineering Ingegneria Informatica, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy
   Master Thesis: Adaptive Batch Size for Safe Policy Gradient Methods, supervised by Prof. Marcello Restelli
   Final mark: 110/110 cum laude
   Date of degree: July 27, 2017
- 2012–2015 B.Sc., Ingegneria Informatica (Computer Engineering), Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy
   Final mark: 110/110 cum laude
   Date of degree: July 24, 2015
- 2007-2012 High School Diploma (Liceo Scientifico PNI), Ist. Istr. Sup. P.L. Nervi, Morbegno (SO), Italy, Final mark: 100/100 This school ranked first in Italy for several years according to Eduscopio (https://eduscopio.it/)

# Author Profile

Google h-index 12, https://scholar.google.it/citations?user=A2WxZlsAAAAJ Scholar

Scopus https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=57202057824
dblp https://dblp.uni-trier.de/pid/209/4897.html

# Summary of Publications

# Papers	Rating	Homepage
1	Scimago Q1, CORE A	https://www.springer.com/journal/10994
1	Scimago Q1, CORE A*	http://www.jmlr.org/
5	CORE A*, GGS A++	https://nips.cc/
3	CORE A*, GGS A++	https://icml.cc/
2	CORE A*, GGS A++	https://aaai.org/Conferences/AAAI-23/
2	CORE A*, GGS A++	https://www.ijcai.org/
2	CORE A, GGS A+	https://aistats.org/
1	CORE B, GGS A-	https://2023.ijcnn.org/
2	CORE B, GGS B	http://algorithmiclearningtheory.org/
	# Papers 1 1 5 3 2 2 2 2 1 1 2 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 1 2 1	# PapersRating1Scimago Q1, CORE A1Scimago Q1, CORE A*5CORE A*, GGS A++3CORE A*, GGS A++2CORE A*, GGS A++2CORE A*, GGS A++2CORE A, GGS A++1CORE B, GGS A-2CORE B, GGS B

# Selected Publications (12)

- M. Papini, D. Binaghi, G. Canonaco, M. Pirotta, M. Restelli: Stochastic variancereduced policy gradient. ICML (2018) — CORE A\*, GGS A++
- [2] A.M. Metelli, M. Papini, F. Faccio, M. Restelli: *Policy optimization via importance sampling*. NeurIPS (oral, top 3%) (2018) CORE A\*, GGS A++
- [3] M. Papini, A. Tirinzoni, M. Restelli, A. Lazaric, M. Pirotta: Leveraging good representations in linear contextual bandits. ICML (2021) — CORE A\*, GGS A++
- [4] M. Papini, M. Pirotta, M. Restelli: Adaptive batch size for safe policy gradients. NeurIPS (2017) — CORE A\*, GGS A++
- [5] M. Papini, M. Pirotta, M. Restelli: Smoothing policies and safe policy gradients. Springer's Machine Learning (2022) — Scimago Q1
- [6] A.M. Metelli, M. Papini, N. Montali, M. Restelli: Importance Sampling Techniques for Policy Optimization. Journal of Machine Learning Research (JMLR) 21.141 (2020) — Scimago Q1
- [7] G. Neu, J. Olkhovskaya, M. Papini, L. Schwartz: Lifting the Information Ratio: An Information-Theoretic Analysis of Thompson Sampling for Contextual Bandits. NeurIPS (2022) — CORE A\*, GGS A++. (authors in alphabetical order)
- [8] M. Papini, A.M. Metelli, L. Lupo, M. Restelli: Optimistic policy optimization via multiple importance sampling. ICML (2019) — CORE A\*, GGS A++
- [9] M. Papini, A. Tirinzoni, A. Pacchiano, M. Restelli, A. Lazaric, M. Pirotta: Reinforcement learning in linear mdps: Constant regret and representation selection. NeurIPS (2021) — CORE A\*, GGS A++
- [10] A. Tirinzoni, M. Papini, A. Touati, A. Lazaric, M. Pirotta: Scalable Representation Learning in Linear Contextual Bandits with Constant Regret Guarantees. NeurIPS (2022) — CORE A\*, GGS A++
- [11] L. Bisi, L. Sabbioni, E. Vittori, M. Papini, M. Restelli: Risk-averse trust region optimization for reward-volatility reduction. IJCAI (2020) — CORE A\*, GGS A++
- [12] A.M. Metelli, M. Papini, P. D'Oro, M. Restelli: Policy optimization as online learning with mediator feedback. AAAI (2021) — CORE A\*, GGS A++

## Awards, Grants, Scholarships, and other Recognitions

- Nov 16, 2022 Recipient of Ayudas Juan de la Cierva-Formación 2021, research grant for postdoctoral researchers instructed by the Spanish research agency (Agencia Estatal de Investigación), funded by NextGenerationEU Role: researcher (Investigador). Ranked third in national call for the area of Information and Communication Technologies. Total amount granted for 2 years: 64.800€ https://www.aei.gob.es/convocatorias/buscador-convocatorias/ayudas-contratos-juan-cierva-formacion-2021
  - Feb 2022 Member of ELLIS , https://ellis.eu/
    - 2021 Neurips outstanding reviewer award, top 8%
      - 2020 ICML top reviewer certificate of appreciation, top 33%
    - 2019 ICML travel award, \$1300 USD
    - 2018 Oral presentation at NeurIPS, top 3%
    - 2018 Neurips travel award, \$1000 USD
    - 2018 ICML travel award, \$1500 USD
    - 2017 Neurips travel award, \$1200 USD

# Participation in Funded Projects

2023-present **Research Scientist**, Artificial Intelligence Foundations for Sequential Decision Making

Extended Partnership - Future Artificial Intelligence Research (FAIR). National Recovery and Resilience Plan, Mission 4 "Education and research" - Component 2 "From research to business" - Investment 1.3, funded by the European Union - NextGenerationEU Principal Investigator: Nicola Gatti

2019-2021 **Research Scientist**, *Provably Efficient Algorithms for Large-Scale Reinforcement Learning* ERC (Grant agreement No. 950180)

Principal Investigator: Gergely Neu

2021 **Research Scientist**, *Reinforcement learning techniques for developing artificial test drivers on a F1 simulator*, Ferrari Industrial project.

Principal Investigator: Marcello Restelli

2017-2019 **Research Scientist**, *TOTAL EFFICIENCY 4.0, (POR FESR)* In collaboration with Pirelli Tyre S.p.A. Principal Investigator: Marcello Restelli

## Organization of Scientific Events

- 2023 Reinforcement Learning Summer School (RLSS), June 28-july 5 2023, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain. Role: Main Organizer (co-organized with Vincent Adam), https://rlsummerschool.com/
- 2023 ELLIS Pre-NeurIPS Fest, December 4 2023, ELLIS Unit of Milan. Role: coorganizer, https://www.ellismilan.eu/2023/12/05/ellis-pre-neurips-fest-2023-in-milan/

#### Invited Talks

- Jan 12, 2024 Invited talk at the "Mini-Workshop on Reinforcement Learning", University of Mannheim, Germany
- May 25, 2023 Invited talk at the Theory of Reinforcement Learning Workshop, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, titled "Offline Primal-Dual Reinforcement Learning for Linear MDPs"
- May 11, 2023 **Invited talk at the AI Seminars**, *Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy*, titled "Large-Scale Offline Reinforcement Learning"
- Sep 16, 2022 Invited talk at the Reinforcement Learning Conference, Technische Universität Dresden, Dresden, Germany, titled "Lifting the Information Ratio"
  - Jul 1, 2021 Invited talk at Mathematical Statistics and Learning, Barcelona Graduate School of Economics, Barcelona, Spain, titled "Leveraging Good Representations in Linear Contextual Bandits and MDPs"
- Nov 6, 2020 Invited talk at Gerhard Neumann's research seminar, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (delivered online), titled "Safe Policy Optimization"
- Sep 19, 2019 Invited talk at the Workshop on Markets, Algorithms, Prediction and LEarning (MAPLE), Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy, titled "Optimistic Policy Optimization via Multiple Importance Sampling"

## Teaching Experience

- 2024 Teaching Assistant, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy Informatica (computer science for civil engineering students), resp. Prof. Marcello Restelli, 24 hours, II semester 2023/2024
- 2024 **Teaching Assistant**, *Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy* Machine Learning, resp. Prof. Marcello Restelli, 20 hours, II semester 2023/2024
- 2023 Teaching Assistant, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy Foundations of Artificial Intelligence, resp. Prof. Francesco Amigoni and Pierluca Lanzi, 16 hours, I semester 2023/2024
- 11-15 Jul **Teaching Assistant**, *Reinforcement Learning Summer School, Vrije Universitet* 2022 Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
  - Role: delivered a tutorial on implementing policy-gradient algorithms with JAX, tutored students in practical sessions.
  - 2022 Teaching Assistant, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy Intelligenza Artificiale (Artificial Intelligence — online class), resp. Prof. Andrea Bonarini, 6 hours, attività di didattica integrativa, II semester 2021/2022
  - 2021 Teaching Assistant, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy Intelligenza Artificiale (Artificial Intelligence — online class), resp. Prof. Andrea Bonarini, 6 hours, attività di didattica integrativa, II semester 2020/2021
  - 2020 Teaching Assistant, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy Intelligenza Artificiale (Artificial Intelligence — online class), resp. Prof. Andrea Bonarini, 6 hours, attività di didattica integrativa, II semester 2019/2020
  - 2019 Teaching Assistant, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy Informatica B (computer science for mechanical engineering students), resp. Prof. Luca Cassano, 26 hours, attività di didattica integrativa (esercitatori), I semester 2019/2020

- 2018 Teaching Assistant, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy Informatica B (computer science for mechanical engineering students), resp. Prof. Luca Cassano, 28 hours, attività di didattica integrativa (esercitatori), I semester 2018/2019
- 1-12 Jul 2019 **Teaching Assistant**, *Reinforcement Learning Summer School, Inria Lille-Nord Europe, Lille, France*, Role: tutored students in practical sessions
  - 2018 **Teaching Assistant**, *Politecnico di Milano (Polo Territoriale di Como), Como, Italy* Web and Internet Economics, resp. Prof. Nicola Gatti, 10 hours, *attività di didattica integrativa (esercitatori), II semester 2017-2018*
  - 2017 Lab Assistant, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy Informatica B (computer science for mechanical engineering students), resp. Prof. Luca Cassano, 9 hours, attività di didattica integrativa sperimentale (ex responsabili di laboratorio), I semester 2017-2018
  - 2016 Lab Tutor, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy Prova Finale-Ingegneria del Software (software engineering: final project), resp. Prof. Carlo Ghezzi, 32 hours, attività di tutorato (ex tutor di laboratorio), Il semester 2015/2016

## Participation on Committees

- Dec 19 2023 **Committee member for degree examination**, *M. Sc. in Computer Science and Enginnering, Politecnico di Milano*, committee president: M. Restelli.
- Mar 30 2023 **Board member for the Thesis Proposal Defenses**, *PhD program in Information and Communication Technologies, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain*, board president: G. Neu
  - 2023 Jury Member for the CLAIRE R2Net 2022 Papers Highlights
  - 2021, 2022 Evaluator for the pre-screening of applicants to the ELLIS PhD program
- July 5 2022 **Jury member for the undergraduate thesis defenses**, *Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain*, Jury president: J. Aguas
- Mar 17 2022 **Board member for the Thesis Proposal Defense**, *PhD program in Information and Communication Technologies, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain,* board president: G. Neu

### **Editorial Activities**

- 2024 Reviewer for ICML, COLT, Senior Reviewer for RLC (Reinforcement Learning Conference)
- 2022-present Reviewer for Transactions on Machine Learning Research (TMLR)
  - 2023 Reviewer for ICML, COLT, EWRL, NeurIPS, ICLR, AISTATS
  - 2022 Reviewer for Reviewer for IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control (TACON)
  - 2022 Reviewer for ICML, NeurIPS, EWRL
  - 2021 **Outstanding Reviewer** (top 8%) for NeurIPS, **expert reviewer** for ICML, reviewer for AISTATS, emergency reviewer for AAAI
  - 2020 Top 33% reviewer for ICML, reviewer for NeurIPS, AISTATS, AAAI, UAI, ECAI
  - 2019 Reviewer for ICML, NeurIPS, UAI

### Attendance to Conferences and Workshops

- 2024 ALT, San Diego, USA, 1 poster
- 2024 Mini Workshop on Reinforcement Learning, Mannheim, Germany, 1 invited talk
- 2023 EWRL 16, Brussels, Belgium, 2 posters
- 2023 AISTATS, Valencia, Spain
- 2023 Upper Bound, Edmonton, Canada, invited talk at the RL Theory Workshop
- 2023 ALT, Singapore, attended as co-author and served as session chair
- 2022 NeurIPS, New Orleans, USA, presented 2 posters in poster sessions
- 2022 ELLIS ILIR Workshop, Feldberg, Germany
- 2022 EWRL 15, Milan, Italy, presented 2 posters in poster sessions
- 2022 Reinforcement Learning Conference, Dresden, Germany, invited talk
- 2022 ICML-2022 Workshop on Complex Feedback in Online Learning, *Baltimore, USA*, presented 1 poster in poster session
- 2021 NeurIPS, online edition, presented 1 poster in online poster session and recorded 1 spotlight talk
- 2021 Mathematical Statistics and Learning, Barcelona, Spain, invited talk
- 2021 **ICML**, *online edition*, presented 1 poster in online poster session and recorded 1 talk
- 2021 AAAI, online edition, presented 1 poster in online poster session
- 2021 IJCAI, online edition, presented 1 poster in online poster session
- 2020 NeurIPS, online edition, attended online
- 2020 AISTATS, online edition, recorded 1 talk
- 2019 Workshop MAPLE, Milan, Italy, invited talk
- 2019 ICML, Long Beach, USA, presented 1 poster and delivered 1 oral presentation
- 2018 NeurIPS, Montreal, Canada, presented 1 poster and delivered 1 oral presentation
- 2018 EWRL 14, Lille, France, presented 1 poster
- 2018 ICML, Stockholm, Sweden, presented 1 poster and delivered 1 oral presentation
- 2017 NeurIPS, Long Beach, USA, presented 1 poster

#### Attendance to Summer Schools and Exchange Programs

- Jul 24–Aug 2 **CIFAR Deep Learning and Reinforcement Learning Summer School**, Toronto, 2018 Canada, presented 1 poster
  - 7-14 Oct **ACAI Summer School on Reinforcement Learning**, Nieuwpoort, Belgium 2017
- Autumn 2016 Erasmus Programme, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden

# Student Supervision and Mentoring

#### Supervision of PhD Students

2023-present Alessandro Montenegro, Information Technology, Politecnico di Milano Co-supervisor: Alberto Maria Metelli

Supervision of Master Students

- 2023-present **Currently (co-)supervising 5+ master students**, Politecnico di Milano Co-supervision/Mentoring
- 2023-present 5+ PhD students, Politecnico di Milano
- 2021-2023 3 PhD students, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona
- 2018-2020 **8 master students**, Politecnico di Milano *Correlatore* of 8 deposited M.Sc. theses.

## Complete List of Papers

#### Journal Papers

- [J1] M. Papini, M. Pirotta, and M. Restelli. Smoothing policies and safe policy gradients. Machine Learning, 2022, 1-57 (https://rdcu.be/c0a7S)
- [J2] A. M. Metelli, M. Papini, N. Montali, M. Restelli. Importance Sampling Techniques for Policy Optimization. J. Mach. Learn. Res. 21.141., pp. 1-75, 2020

**Conference** Papers

- [C1] G. Gabbianelli, G. Neu, N. Okolo, and M. Papini. Offline primal-dual reinforcement learning for linear mdps. In AISTATS, 2024 (to appear).
- [C2] F. Bacchiocchi, F. E. Stradi, M. Papini, A. M. Metelli, and N. Gatti. Online learning with off-policy feedback in adversarial mdps. In *IJCAI*, 2024 (to appear).
- [C3] G. Gabbianelli, G. Neu, and M. Papini. Importance-weighted offline learning done right. In ALT, volume 237 of Proceedings of Machine Learning Research, pages 614–634. PMLR, 2024.
- [C4] G. Gabbianelli, G. Neu, and M. Papini. Online learning with off-policy feedback. In ALT, volume 201 of Proceedings of Machine Learning Research, pages 620–641. PMLR, 2023.
- [C5] A. Tirinzoni, M. Papini, A. Touati, A. Lazaric, and M. Pirotta. Scalable representation learning in linear contextual bandits with constant regret guarantees. Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 35:2307–2319, 2022.
- [C6] G. Neu, I. Olkhovskaia, M. Papini, and L. Schwartz. Lifting the information ratio: An information-theoretic analysis of thompson sampling for contextual bandits. Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 35:9486–9498, 2022.
- [C7] M. Papini, A. Tirinzoni, M. Restelli, A. Lazaric, and M. Pirotta. Leveraging good representations in linear contextual bandits. In *ICML*, volume 139 of *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research*, pages 8371–8380. PMLR, 2021.

- [C8] M. Papini, A. Tirinzoni, A. Pacchiano, M. Restelli, A. Lazaric, and M. Pirotta. Reinforcement learning in linear mdps: Constant regret and representation selection. In *NeurIPS*, pages 16371–16383, 2021.
- [C9] A. M. Metelli, M. Papini, P. D'Oro, and M. Restelli. Policy optimization as online learning with mediator feedback. In AAAI, pages 8958–8966. AAAI Press, 2021.
- [C10] M. Papini, A. Battistello, and M. Restelli. Balancing learning speed and stability in policy gradient via adaptive exploration. In *AISTATS*, volume 108 of *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research*, pages 1188–1199. PMLR, 2020.
- [C11] P. D'Oro, A. M. Metelli, A. Tirinzoni, M. Papini, and M. Restelli. Gradient-aware model-based policy search. In AAAI, pages 3801–3808. AAAI Press, 2020.
- [C12] L. Bisi, L. Sabbioni, E. Vittori, M. Papini, and M. Restelli. Risk-averse trust region optimization for reward-volatility reduction. In *IJCAI*, pages 4583–4589. ijcai.org, 2020.
- [C13] M. Papini, A. M. Metelli, L. Lupo, and M. Restelli. Optimistic policy optimization via multiple importance sampling. In *ICML*, volume 97 of *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research*, pages 4989–4999. PMLR, 2019.
- [C14] M. Beraha, A. M. Metelli, M. Papini, A. Tirinzoni, and M. Restelli. Feature selection via mutual information: New theoretical insights. In *IJCNN*, pages 1–9. IEEE, 2019.
- [C15] M. Papini, D. Binaghi, G. Canonaco, M. Pirotta, and M. Restelli. Stochastic variance-reduced policy gradient. In *ICML*, volume 80 of *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research*, pages 4023–4032. PMLR, 2018.
- [C16] A. M. Metelli, M. Papini, F. Faccio, and M. Restelli. Policy optimization via importance sampling. In *NeurIPS*, pages 5447–5459, 2018.
- [C17] M. Papini, M. Pirotta, and M. Restelli. Adaptive batch size for safe policy gradients. In *NeurIPS*, pages 3591–3600, 2017.

Workshop Papers

- [W8] F. Bacchiocchi, F. E. Stradi, M. Papini, A. M. Metelli, N. Gatti. Online Adversarial MDPs with Off-Policy Feedback and Known Transitions. 16th European Workshop on Reinforcement Learning, Brussels, Belgium, 2023
- [W7] G. Gabbianelli, G. Neu, N. Okolo, M. Papini. Offline Primal-Dual Reinforcement Learning for Linear MDPs. 16th European Workshop on Reinforcement Learning, Brussels, Belgium, 2023
- [W1] G. Neu, J. Olkhovskaya, M. Papini and L. Schwartz. Lifting the Information Ratio: An Information-Theoretic Analysis of Thompson Sampling for Contextual Bandits. 15th European Workshop on Reinforcement Learning, Milan, Italy, 2022
- [W2] A. Tirinzoni, M. Papini, A. Touati, A. Lazaric, and M. Pirotta. Scalable Representation Learning in Linear Contextual Bandits with Constant Regret Guarantees. 15th European Workshop on Reinforcement Learning, Milan, Italy, 2022

- [W3] G. Gabbianelli, M. Papini, G. Neu. Online Learning with Off-Policy Feedback. ICML-2022 workshop on Complex Feedback in Online Learning, Baltimore, USA, 2022
- [W4] A. Gianola, M. Montali, and M. Papini. Automated Reasoning for Reinforcement Learning Agents in Structured Environments. OVERLAY workshop on fOrmal VERification, Logic, Automata and sYnthesis, Padova, Italy, 2021
- [W2] M. Papini, A. Tirinzoni, A. Pacchiano, M. Restelli, A. Lazaric, and M. Pirotta. Reinforcement Learning in Linear MDPs: Constant Regret and Representation Selection. ICML Workshop on Reinforcement Learning Theory, virtual, 2021
- [W5] M. Papini, A. Battistello, and M. Restelli. Safe Exploration in Gaussian Policy Gradient. NeurIPS-2019 Workshop on Safety and Robustness in Decision Making, Vancouver, Canada, 2019
- [W6] M. Papini, A. Battistello, and M. Restelli. Safely Exploring Policy Gradient. 14th European Workshop on Reinforcement Learning, Lille, France, 2018

Preprints

- [P1] G. Neu, M. Papini, L. Schwartz. Optimistic Information Directed Sampling. 2024 https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.15411
- [P2] D. Maran, A. M. Metelli, M. Papini, M. Restelli. No-Regret Reinforcement Learning in Smooth MDPs. 2024 https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.03792

#### Languages

Italian, native speaker
English, fluent (Cambridge FCE, Grade A — C1 CEFR level)
Spanish, intermediate (completed course of level B1 at UPF Barcelona)

# Programming Languages

**Python** (several research projects) including experience with deep learning libraries **TensorFlow** and **PyTorch**, **LaTeX** (typesetting of several manuscripts), **C++** (one research project, one mobile robotics project as master student), **C, MATLAB** (taught as TA), **Java** (final project of B.Sc.).

Hobbies

Bouldering, piano.

10/10