Michael Soprano, PhD

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Education

Nov. 2019 – Jan. 2023	**PhD in Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics**, Cum Laude. 35th cycle, University of Udine, Italy.
Mar. 2015 – Mar. 2018	**Master Degree in Computer Science**, 109/110, University of Udine, Italy.
Oct. 2011 – Mar. 2015	**Bachelor Degree in Web Technologies and Multimedia**, 101/110, University of Udine, Italy.
Sep. 2006 – Jun. 2011	**High Scool Diploma**, Head Technician Industrial Expert - Computer Science Specialization, 77/100, I.S.I.S. R. D'Aronco, Gemona del Friuli, Italy.

Visits

Mar. 2022 – Jul. 2022	**Visiting Student**, Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica, Human-Centered Data Analytics (HCDA) Group. Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Visiting period during PhD studies.

Work Experience

Mar. 2023 - Nov. 2023	**Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, University of Udine, Italy. Research project on using conversational agents to address the digital divide in interactions with public administration.
Jun. 2018 - Oct. 2019	**Research Fellow**, University of Udine, Italy. Research project co-funded by SISSA Medialab dedicated to the design, implementation, and evaluation of an ecosystem providing an alternative to the standard peer review activity in the scholarly publishing process.
Jun. 2017 – Oct. 2019	**Full Stack Web Developer** Datamantix S.r.l., Udine, Italy. Design, development and maintenance of various types of web applications and chatbots.
Aug. 2017 – Feb. 2018	**Full Stack Web Developer** Archeido S.r.l., Udine, Italy. Development of a web application for the management and visualization of financial assets.
Nov. 2015 – Feb. 2016	**Full Stack Web Developer** Troublezine. Design, development and maintenance of a blog that offers news and events related to music.

Publications

1. **Soprano, M.**, Roitero, K., Della Mea, V., & Mizzaro, S. (2023). Towards a Conversational-Based Agent for Health Services. In F. Falchi, F. Giannotti, A. Monreale, C. Boldrini, S. Rinzivillo, & S. Colantonio (Eds.), *Proceedings of the Italia Intelligenza Artificiale - Thematic Workshops co-located with the 3rd CINI National Lab AIIS Conference on Artificial Intelligence* (Vol. 3486, pp. 278–283). Pisa, Italy: CEUR-WS.org. Retrieved from 🔗 https://ceur-ws.org/Vol-3486/96.pdf

2. La Barbera, D., **Soprano**, **M.**, Roitero, K., Maddalena, E., & Mizzaro, S. (2023). Fact-Checking at Scale with Crowdsourcing: Experiments and Lessons Learned. In F. M. Nardini, N. Tonelotto, G. Faggioli, & A. Ferrara (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 13th Italian Information Retrieval Workshop* (Vol. 3448, pp. 85–90). Pisa, Italy: CEUR-WS.org. Retrieved from 🔗 `https://ceur-ws.org/Vol-3448/paper-18.pdf`

3. Roitero, K., Barbera, D. L., **Soprano**, **M.**, Demartini, G., Mizzaro, S., & Sakai, T. (2023). How Many Crowd Workers Do I Need? On Statistical Power When Crowdsourcing Relevance Judgments. *ACM Transactions on Information Systems*. Journal Ranks: Journal Citation Reports (JCR) Q1 (2021), Scimago (SJR) Q1 (2021). 🔗 doi:10.1145/3597201

4. Brand, E., Roitero, K., **Soprano**, **M.**, Rahimi, A., & Demartini, G. (2022). A Neural Model to Jointly Predict and Explain Truthfulness of Statements. *Journal of Data and Information Quality*, *15*(1). Journal Ranks: Journal Citation Reports (JCR) Q3 (2021), Scimago (SJR) Q2 (2021). 🔗 doi:10.1145/3546917

5. Ceolin, D., Primiero, G., **Soprano**, **M.**, & Wielemaker, J. (2022). Transparent Assessment of Information Quality of Online Reviews Using Formal Argumentation theory. *Information Systems*, *110*, 102107. Journal Ranks: Journal Citation Reports (JCR) Q2 (2021), Scimago (SJR) Q1 (2021). 🔗 doi:10.1016/j.is.2022.102107

6. Draws, T., La Barbera, D., **Soprano**, **M.**, Roitero, K., Ceolin, D., Checco, A., & Mizzaro, S. (2022). The Effects of Crowd Worker Biases in Fact-Checking Tasks. In *2022 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency* (pp. 2114–2124). 🔗 doi:10.1145/3531146.3534629

7. **Soprano**, **M.**, Roitero, K., Bombassei De Bona, F., & Mizzaro, S. (2022). Crowd_Frame: A Simple and Complete Framework to Deploy Complex Crowdsourcing Tasks Off-the-Shelf. In *Proceedings of the fifteenth acm international conference on web search and data mining* (pp. 1605–1608). Conference Ranks: GGS A+, Core A*. 🔗 doi:10.1145/3488560.3502182

8. **Soprano**, **M.**, Roitero, K., La Barbera, D., Ceolin, D., Spina, D., Mizzaro, S., & Demartini, G. (2021). The Many Dimensions of Truthfulness: Crowdsourcing Misinformation Assessments on a Multidimensional Scale. *Information Processing & Management*, *58*(6), 102710. Journal Ranks: Journal Citation Reports (JCR) Q1 (2021), Scimago (SJR) Q1 (2021). 🔗 doi:10.1016/j.ipm.2021.102710

9. Brand, E., Roitero, K., **Soprano**, **M.**, & Demartini, G. (2021). E-BART: Jointly Predicting and Explaining Truthfulness. In I. Augenstein, P. Papotti, & D. Wright (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 2021 Truth and Trust Online Conference* (pp. 18–27). Virtual Event. Retrieved from 🔗 `https://truthandtrustonline.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/TTO2021_paper_16-1.pdf`

10. Ceolin, D., Primiero, G., Wielemaker, J., & **Soprano**, **M.** (2021). Assessing the Quality of Online Reviews Using Formal Argumentation Theory. In M. Brambilla, R. Chbeir, F. Frasincar, & I. Manolescu (Eds.), *Web Engineering* (pp. 71–87). Conference Ranks (2021): GGS B-, Core B. 🔗 doi:10.1007/978-3-030-74296-6_6

11. Roitero, K., **Soprano**, **M.**, Portelli, B., De Luise, M., Spina, D., Mea, V. D., … Demartini, G. (2021). Can The Crowd Judge Truthfulness? A Longitudinal Study On Recent Misinformation About COVID-19. *Personal and Ubiquitous Computing*, *27*(1), 59–89. Journal Ranks: Journal Citation Reports (JCR) Q2 (2020), Scimago (SJR) Q1 (2021). 🔗 doi:10.1007/s00779-021-01604-6

12. Roitero, K., **Soprano**, **M.**, Portelli, B., Spina, D., Della Mea, V., Serra, G., … Demartini, G. (2020). The COVID-19 Infodemic: Can the Crowd Judge Recent Misinformation Objectively? In *Proceedings of the 29th ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management* (pp. 1305–1314). Conference Ranks: GGS A+, Core A. 🔗 doi:10.1145/3340531.3412048

13. Roitero, K., **Soprano**, **M.**, Fan, S., Spina, D., Mizzaro, S., & Demartini, G. (2020). Can The Crowd Identify Misinformation Objectively? The Effects of Judgment Scale and Assessor's Background. In *Proceedings of the 43st International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval* (pp. 439–448). Conference Rank: GGS A++, Core A*. 🔗 doi:10.1145/3397271.3401112

14 **Soprano**, **M.**, Roitero, K., & Mizzaro, S. (2019a). Bias and Fairness in Effectiveness Evaluation by Means of Network Analysis and Mixture Models. In Agosti, Maristella and Di Buccio, Emanuele and Melucci, Massimo and Mizzaro, Stefano and Pasi, Gabriella and Silvestri, Fabrizio (Ed.), *Proceedings of the 10th Italian Information Retrieval Workshop* (Vol. 2441, 6–7). Padova, Italy: CEUR-WS.org. Retrieved from 🔗 https://ceur-ws.org/Vol-2441/paper4.pdf

15 **Soprano**, **M.**, Roitero, K., & Mizzaro, S. (2019b). HITS Hits Readersourcing: Validating Peer Review Alternatives Using Network Analysis. In Chandrasekaran, Muthu Kumar and Mayr, Philipp (Ed.), *Proceedings of the 4th Joint Workshop on Bibliometric-enhanced Information Retrieval and Natural Language Processing for Digital Libraries co-located with the 42nd International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval* (Vol. 2414, 70–82). Paris, France: CEUR-WS.org. Retrieved from 🔗 https://ceur-ws.org/Vol-2414/paper7.pdf

16 **Soprano**, **M.**, & Mizzaro, S. (2019a). Crowdsourcing Peer Review in the Digital Humanities? In *Book of Abstracts, 8th AIUCD Conference 2019 – Pedagogy, Teaching, and Research in the Age of Digital Humanities* (p. 251). Udine, Italy. Retrieved from 🔗 http://aiucd2019.uniud.it/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/AIUCD2019-BoA_DEF.pdf

17 **Soprano**, **M.**, & Mizzaro, S. (2019b). Crowdsourcing Peer Review: As We May Do. In Manghi, Paolo and Candela, Leonardo and Silvello, Gianmaria (Ed.), *Digital Libraries: Supporting Open Science* (Vol. 988, 259–273). 🔗 doi:{10.1007/978-3-030-11226-4_21}

18 Roitero, K., **Soprano**, **M.**, Brunello, A., & Mizzaro, S. (2018). Reproduce and Improve: An Evolutionary Approach to Select a Few Good Topics for Information Retrieval Evaluation. *Journal of Data and Information Quality*, *10*(3). Journal Rank: Scimago (SJR) Q2 (2018). 🔗 doi:10.1145/3239573

19 Roitero, K., **Soprano**, **M.**, & Mizzaro, S. (2018). Effectiveness Evaluation with a Subset of Topics: A Practical Approach. In *The 41st International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval* (pp. 1145–1148). Conference Rank: GGS A++, Core A*. 🔗 doi:10.1145/3209978.3210108

Metrics

	Scholar	Scopus	ACM Digital Library
Articles	19	16	11
Citations	205	110	58
Citations / Articles	10.78	6.87	5.27
H-index	6	5	–
i10-index	5	–	–

Talks

2023 📑 **Towards a Conversational-Based Agent for Healthcare**. *CARE: Conversational Agents and Responsible Ethics in Healthcare - Workshop at the European Federation of Medical Informatics Special Topic Conference 2023*, October 27, 2023. Turin, Italy. https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1IZaI38oOJ3FktP79dINPOL_9lqXmQf-a3TC7vf5qmfU/edit?usp=sharing

📑 **Towards a Conversational-Based Agent for Health Services**. *Terzo Convegno Nazionale CINI sull'Intelligenza Artificiale*, May 29, 2023. Pisa, Italy. https://www.ital-ia2023.it/submission/96/presentation

2022 📑 **Longitudinal Loyalty: Understanding the Barriers to Running Longitudinal Studies on Crowdsourcing Platforms**. *Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica*, June 16, 2022. Amsterdam, The Netherlands. https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1YBHKOKY_TdaCfwO9-pqm_jDGKYUiyXaKXj35pR3pSoM/edit?usp=sharing

Talks (continued)

- **Crowd_Frame: A Simple and Complete Framework to Deploy Complex Crowdsourcing Tasks Off-the-Shelf**. *The 15th ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining*, February 15th, Phoenix, U.S.A. Held remotely as a pre-recorded contribution due to the COVID-19 pandemic. `https://dl.acm.org/doi/abs/10.1145/3488560.3502182` (supplemental material section).

2020
- **The COVID-19 Infodemic: Can the Crowd Judge Recent Misinformation Objectively?** *29th ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management*, October 19th, 2020. Galway, Ireland. Held remotely as a pre-recorded contribution due to the COVID-19 pandemic. `https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/3340531.3412048` (supplemental material section).

- **Can The Crowd Identify Misinformation Objectively? The Effects of Judgment Scale and Assessor's Background** *43rd International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval*, July 25th, 2020. Xi'an, China. Online, Held remotely as a pre-recorded contribution due to the COVID-19 pandemic. `https://dl.acm.org/doi/abs/10.1145/3397271.3401112` (supplemental material section).

2019
- **Bias and Fairness in Effectiveness Evaluation by Means of Network Analysis and Mixture Model**. *Italian Information Retrieval Workshop*, September 16th, 2019. Padova, Italy. `https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1F751FzwnxZjA0y0ctZy91BWEJzlCV19L9fF5OCn20Lo/edit?usp=sharing`

Teaching

2022-2023
- **Social Computing**, Bachelor's Degree in Internet of Things, Big Data & Web, University of Udine. Lectures: 2. Hours: 4.

2021-2022
- **Social Computing**, Bachelor's Degree in Internet of Things, Big Data & Web, University of Udine. Lectures: 6. Hours: 12.

2020-2021
- **Social Computing**, Bachelor's Degree in Internet of Things, Big Data & Web, University of Udine. Lectures: 6. Hours: 12.

Academic Activity

Organizational Roles

2023
- CARE: Conversational Agents and Responsible Ethics in Healthcare - Workshop at the European Federation of Medical Informatics Special Topic Conference 2023 (EFMI STC 2023), Turin, October 27, 2023. *Organizer*.

2022
- Fourth Symposium on Biases in Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (BHCC 2022), Online, October 12-13. *Proceedings and Website Chair*.

Program Committee Roles

2023
- 45th European Conference on Information Retrieval (ECIR 2023), Dublin, Ireland. *Short Paper Track*.

2022
- 45th International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval (SIGIR 2022), Madrid, Spain. *Short Paper Track*.

2021
- Third Symposium on Biases in Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (BHCC 2021), Online.

Reviewer

2023
- Information Processing & Management. `https://portal.issn.org/resource/ISSN/0306-4573`. Contribution registered on ORCID profile.

- Springer Nature Scientific Report. `https://portal.issn.org/resource/ISSN/2045-2322`.

Academic Activity (continued)

	13th Italian Information Retrieval Workshop (IIR 2023), Pisa, Italy.
2022	Information Processing & Management. `https://portal.issn.org/resource/ISSN/0306-4573`.
	Tenth AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (HCOMP 2022), Online.
	Conference and Labs of the Evaluation Forum (CLEF 2022), Bologna, Italy.
	44th European Conference on Information Retrieval (ECIR 2022), Stavanger, Norway.
	Second Symposium on Biases in Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (BHCC 2021), Delft, Netherlands (Online).
2021	30th ACM International Conference On Information And Knowledge Management (CIKM 2021), Online.
	32nd ACM Conference on Hypertext and Social Media, (HT 2021), Online.
2020	29th ACM International Conference On Information And Knowledge Management (CIKM 2020), Galway, Ireland (Online).
	31st ACM Conference on Hypertext and Social Media (HT 2020), Online.
2019	15th Italian Research Conference On Digital Libraries (IRCDL 2019), Pisa, Italy.

Mentoring

2020 – 2023	**Co-supervision** of the theses of 3 Master (MSC), 11 Bachelor (BSC) Students, and various students advanced projects and seminars

Affiliations

2021 – Today	**Member** of the Social, Mobile, Data & Crowd laboratory (SMDC), see: `http://smdc.uniud.it/smdc/membri-2/`

Honors & Grants

2022	**Student Grant**, *15th ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM 2022)*, Phoenix, U.S.A. Held remotely due to COVID-19. Provided by WSDM. Free conference subscription.
2020	**Student Grant**, *29th ACM International Conference On Information And Knowledge Management (CIKM 2020)*, Galway, Ireland. Held remotely due to COVID-19. Provided by CIKM. Free conference subscription.
2019	**Volunteer**, *43rd International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval (SIGIR 2020)*, Xi'an, China. Held remotely due to COVID-19. Provided by SIGIR. Free conference subscription.

References

Available on Request

Links

ORCID: `https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7337-7592`

Google Scholar: `https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=ocK0qRUAAAAJ`

Links (continued)

Scopus: https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=57203392311

ACM Digital Library: https://dl.acm.org/profile/99659280921

Web of Science: https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/record/JDD-6660-2023

DBLP: https://dblp.org/pid/222/1241.html

ResearchGate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Michael-Soprano

Kudos: https://www.growkudos.com/profile/michael_soprano

Mendeley: https://www.mendeley.com/profiles/michael-soprano/

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