Salvatore Alfio Sambataro

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Education

University of Catania, Artificial Intelligence — Catania, Italy, 2025 – present

University of Catania, Computer Science (Laurea Magistrale) — Catania, Italy, 2023 – 2025

University of Catania, Computer Science (Laurea Triennale) — Catania, Italy, 2020 – 2023

Experience

iCTLab s.r.l., AI Researcher — Catania, Italy, 2025 – present, 1 year

I work on both client-oriented AI projects and internal research initiatives within the AI team. My responsibilities include applying state-of-the-art machine learning and AI models to real-world use cases, designing custom modeling solutions, exploring different modeling strategies, prototyping innovative methods, and managing the full experimentation lifecycle. My work spans diverse domains (e.g., automotive), allowing me to apply AI and machine learning to real-world challenges.

IIS Benedetto Radice, High School Computer Science Teacher (B016 – Computer Science Laboratory) — Bronte (CT), Italy, 2023 – 2025, 2 years

Appointed to a teaching position after successfully passing the 2020 National Public Competitive Examination for Secondary School Teaching (Concorso Ordinario). Taught Computer Science and laboratory courses, including programming, algorithms, and IT fundamentals, to upper-secondary students. Developed curricula, lesson plans, and practical lab exercises in line with national standards. Supervised student projects and promoted computational thinking, problem-solving, and hands-on technical skills.

Awards

Premio Archimede XX ed. 2024 (Bachelor Degree) — 2024

The 'Premio Archimede' award is awarded annually by the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Catania, to the Bachelor graduate in Computer Science who have achieved excellent results during their academic career and in their final thesis work.

Publications

SynthForensics: A Multi-Generator Benchmark for Detecting Synthetic Video Deepfakes

A comprehensive benchmark for detecting purely synthetic video deepfakes created by text-to-video models. The benchmark comprises 6,815 unique videos from five state-of-the-art open-source T2V generators, with human-in-the-loop validation and multiple compression versions. Experiments demonstrate limitations of current detectors with mean performance drops of 29.19% AUC, while proposing methods to achieve 93.81% AUC for unseen generators.

Roberto Leotta, Salvatore Alfio Sambataro, Claudio Vittorio Ragaglia, Mirko Casu, Yuri Petralia, Francesco Guarnera, Luca Guarnera, Sebastiano Battiato

arxiv.org/abs/2602.04939

Languages

Italian

Native speaker

English
Fluent