

# Alessandro Zito

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## EDUCATION

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### Duke University

Durham, NC, USA

*Ph.D. in Statistical Science*

*Aug 2019 – Present*

- Supervisor: Prof. [David Dunson](#)
- Research interests: Bayesian Methods, Bayesian Nonparametrics, Species Sampling Models, Categorical data
- Main courses taken: Bayesian Statistics (A), Probabilistic Machine learning (A), Measure theory (A-), Statistical computation with Python (A), Linear models (A)

### Bocconi University

Milan, Italy

*Master's of Science in Economics and Social Sciences*

*Sep 2016 – Mar 2019*

- Supervisor: Prof. [Daniele Durante](#)
- Graduation grade: 110 cum laude / 110
- Thesis: *Conjugate Fractional Factorial Thompson Sampling via unified skew-normal*

### Bocconi University

Milan, Italy

*Bachelor's of Science in Economics and Social Sciences*

*Sep 2013 – Oct 2016*

- Graduation grade: 110 cum laude / 110
- Exchange program at The University of Chicago, Department of Economics, Fall 2015

## EXPERIENCE

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### Intern Data Scientist

Milan, Italy

*Generali Italia S.p.A., Advanced Analytics Solutions team.*

*Jun 2018 – Jul 2019*

- Developed and implemented a Bayesian bandit algorithm recommendation system via a Google Cloud Platform API to optimize a life insurance policy marketing campaign
- Participated in the construction of a model for predicting customer churn in car insurance
- Implemented a drivers profiling model, migrated from the partner society MyDrive Solutions

## PUBLICATIONS AND PREPRINTS

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**Zito, A.**, Rigon, T. and Dunson, D. B. (2022), *Inferring taxonomic placement from DNA barcoding allowing discovery of new taxa.* [arXiv:2201.09782](#)

**Zito, A.**, Rigon, T., Ovaskainen, O. and Dunson, D. B. (2020), *Bayesian nonparametric modelling of sequential discoveries*, [arXiv:2011.06629](#) (under revision at the Journal of the American Statistical Association)

## SOFTWARES

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**Zito, A.** (2022) BayesANT: Bayesian nonparametric taxonomic classifier for DNA barcode sequences. [GitHub](#)

**Zito, A.**, Rigon, T. (2021) BNPvegan: Bayesian nonparametric methods for ecology. [GitHub](#)

## SKILLS

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**Languages:** Italian (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Proficient)

**IT:** R, Microsoft Office (Advanced), Python, Git, Cluster computing via SLURM, SQL (Proficient)

## AWARDS

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Ph.D. Teaching Assistant of the Year Award for the 2020/2021 academic year

Best Student/Postdoc Contributed Paper Award at ISBA 2021 World meeting

Bocconi Merit Award scholarship for the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 academic years

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

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**Painter.** Winner of the 2018 “Looking for Art” contest in Milan. Personal exhibitions at “Triennale di Milano” museum of arts and “Spazio Arte Tirabassi” art gallery.

Former **semi-professional actor** at “Proxima Res”, Milan