

Alessandro Zito

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EDUCATION

Duke University

Ph.D. in Statistical Science

Durham, NC, USA

Aug 2019 – September 2023

- Supervisor: Prof. David Dunson
- Research interests: Bayesian Methods, Bayesian Nonparametrics, Species Sampling Models, Categorical data
- Dissertation: *Ecological modeling via Bayesian nonparametric species sampling priors*

Bocconi University

Master's of Science in Economics and Social Sciences

Milan, Italy

Sep 2016 – Mar 2019

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

Bocconi University

Bachelor's of Science in Economics and Social Sciences

Milan, Italy

Sep 2013 – Oct 2016

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

EXPERIENCE

Intern Data Scientist

Google LLC, Youtube Data Science team

San Bruno, CA, USA

May 2022 – Aug 2022

- Implemented Bayesian hypothesis testing methods to evaluate platform experiments
- Designed a methodology to construct proxy metrics for long term experiment outcome prediction based on Multivariate Bayesian Optimization algorithms and Gaussian processes.
- Coded up the two methodologies into two R packages for future internal usage

Intern Data Scientist

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

Milan, Italy

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
- Implemented a drivers profiling model, migrated from the partner society MyDrive Solutions

MAIN PUBLICATIONS

Zito, A., Rigon., T. and Dunson, D. B. (2022), Inferring taxonomic placement from DNA barcoding aiding in discovery of new taxa. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*. 14, 529–542. DOI: [10.1111/2041-210X.14009](https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.14009)

Zito, A., Rigon., T., Ovaskainen, O. and Dunson, D. B. (2020), Bayesian modelling of sequential discoveries, *Journal of the American Statistical Association (T&M)*, DOI: [10.1080/01621459.2022.2060835](https://doi.org/10.1080/01621459.2022.2060835)

SOFTWARES

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

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

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

AWARDS

BEST Award for PhD student research for the 2021/2022 academic year

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