



# FRANCESCO SARNO

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## EDUCATION



**M.S. in Robotics, Systems and Control** | ETH Zurich

2018 – 2021, **TUTOR**: PROF. DR. ROLAND SIEGWART, **GRADE**: 5.61/6.00



**2022 IEEE RAS Summer School On Multi-Robot Systems** | CTU Prague



**B.S. in Automation Engineering** | Politecnico di Milano

2015 – 2018, **GRADE**: 106/110



**High School Diploma** | Liceo Scientifico N. Copernico Brescia

2011- 2015, **GRADE**: 95/100

## EMPLOYMENT



**Computer Vision Research Engineer** | EPFL, Computer Vision Lab

03/2022 – Present

**Advisors**: Prof. Dr. Pascal Fua

Research in 3D, segmentation, biomedical imaging, GAN and one-shot learning.



**Computer Vision Engineer** | Solera Holdings, Qapter

08/2021 – 12/2021

Deep Learning applied to 3D reconstruction, segmentation and depth estimation.



**Research Assistant** | ETH Zurich, Computer Vision Lab

05/2021 – 12/2021

**Advisors**: Prof. Dr. Luc Van Gool, Dr. Suryansh Kumar

Research in Automated Machine Learning, 3D Vision and View Synthesis fields.



**Computer Vision Engineer Intern** | Rheinmetall Air Defence

02/2020 – 12/2020

Development of algorithms aimed to firings' accuracy evaluation/3D visualization.

## VOLUNTEERING



**Core Team Member** | Google Developer Student Club ETH Zurich

10/2021 – CURRENT

Core member of GDSC (Machine Learning focus).

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- **Computer Vision:** 3D Reconstruction, View Synthesis, Photometric Stereo.
- **Robotics:** Camera Calibration, Visual SLAM, State Estimation.
- **Machine Learning:** Deep Neural Networks, Generative Models (GAN, Normalizing Flow), AutoML (Neural Architecture Search, Evolutionary learning).

## SELECTED PROJECTS

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### **Master's Thesis** | ETH Zurich, Computer Vision Lab

**Advisors:** Prof. Dr. Luc Van Gool, Dr. Suryansh Kumar  
Completed with distinction 5.75/6.00

*Exploring Automated Machine Learning Framework for Deep Photometric Stereo:* development of an automatically designed pipeline achieving state-of-the-art results in uncalibrated photometric stereo.



### **Semester Project** | ETH Zürich, Autonomous System Lab

**Advisors:** Prof. Dr. Roland Siegwart, Dr. Abel Gawel, Hermann Blum  
*Semantically informed localization in building structures:* pipeline allowing to localize a four-wheels robot in indoor environments leveraging out information of a segmentation oriented neural network and point clouds.



### **FCPR** | ETH Zurich, Computer Vision and Geometry Group

**Advisors:** Prof. Dr. Marc Pollefeys  
*Fully Convolutional Place Recognition Network:* development of an algorithm performing sparse SLAM with point clouds.



### **Maze Video Game** | ETH Zurich, Innovation Center Virtual Reality

**Advisors:** Prof. Dr. Andreas Kunz  
Video game developed from scratch, playable with keyboard and HTC VIVE.

## SKILLS

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- **Programming Skills:** Python, PyTorch, TensorFlow, C, MATLAB, C++, ROS, C#, Unity
- **Language Skills:** Italian (native), English (proficient), Spanish (Basic), German (Basic)

## MAJOR COURSES

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- 3D Vision
- Virtual Reality
- Autonomous Mobile Robots
- Model Predictive Control
- Introduction to Machine Learning

## PUBBLICATIONS

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- [1] [WACV 22] *Neural Architecture Search for Efficient Uncalibrated Deep Photometric Stereo.* Francesco Sarno, Suryansh Kumar, Berk Kaya, Zhiwu Huang, Vittorio Ferrari, Luc Van Gool. IEEE/CVF Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision, 2022, Hawaii, USA.
- [2] [WACV 22] *Neural Radiance Fields Approach to Deep Multi-View Photometric Stereo.* Berk Kaya, Suryansh Kumar, Francesco Sarno, Vittorio Ferrari, Luc Van Gool. IEEE/CVF Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision, 2022, Hawaii, USA.

## REFERENCES

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- Prof. Dr. Luc Van Gool
- Prof. Dr. Pascal Fua
- Prof. Dr. Marc Pollefeys
- Prof. Dr. Roland Siegwart
- Prof. Dr. Andreas Kunz
- Dr. Suryansh Kumar