Giorgio Giannone

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I am broadly interested in Probabilistic Machine Learning, Perception and Geometry, with a focus on **Conditional Generative Models**, **Hierarchical Variational Inference**, **Few-Shot Generation**, **Adaptation of Multitask Language Models**, and **Diffusion Models**.

Education

Visiting PhD Student, MIT School of Engineering — Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA — *Jan 2023 - Jun 2023*

- Constrained Diffusion Models for Engineering Design
  - Host: Faez Ahmed, DeCoDE Lab
- Aligning Language Models with Negative Data
- Generative Models for Systems with Constraints
  - Collaboration with the MIT-IBM Lab

PhD, Statistical Machine Learning — Technical University of Denmark, Lyngby, Denmark — *June 2020 - Dec 2023*

- Few-Shot Generative Models
  - Supervisor: Ole Winther; Co-supervisor: Søren Hauberg

Master's Degree, Data Science — Sapienza University, Rome, Italy — *Sept 2016 - Nov 2018*

- Excellence Path & Summa Cum Laude
- Thesis: Multimodal Learning for Scene Understanding
  - Supervisor: Aris Anagnostopoulos; External Supervisor: Boris Chidlovskii

Visiting Graduate Student, NYU Tandon School of Engineering — NYC, New York, USA — *Sept 2017 - Jan 2018*

- Visualization and Data Analytics Research Center. Host: Enrico Bertini
  - Built an interactive entity retrieval tool to investigate 10M documents

Master's Degree, Mechanical Engineering — Sapienza University, Rome, Italy — *Sept 2014 - Jan 2017*

- Summa Cum Laude
- Thesis: Bubble Dynamics in Turbulent Shear Flows
  - Supervisor: Carlo Massimo Casciola; Co-supervisor: Paolo Gualtieri

Bachelor's Degree, Mechanical Engineering — Sapienza University, Rome, Italy — *Sept 2009 - May 2014*

- Thesis: Rapid Prototyping of Metallic Manufacturing

Experience

Research Scientist (PhD Intern), Microsoft Research — Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA — *Jun 2023 - Sept 2023*

- ML and Statistics Group. Hosts: David Alvarez Melis, Nicolo Fusi
  - Aligning LLMs across Domains
  - Dynamic Vocabulary Augmentation for LLMs

Research Scientist (PhD Intern), IBM Research — Zurich, Switzerland — *Jun 2022 - Nov 2022*

- Accelerated Discovery Team. Hosts: Matteo Manica, Teodoro Laino
  - Open-source library GT4SD for conditional generative models
  - Multitask Language Models for Text and Chemistry

Applied Scientist (PhD Intern), Amazon AI — Cambridge & London, UK — *Jul 2021 - Oct 2021*

- Alexa Team. Hosts: Yunlong Jiao, Emine Yilmaz
  - Domain Agnostic Subpopulation Generalisation

Research Engineer, NNAISENSE — Lugano, Switzerland
Jan 2019 - Jan 2020

- Deep Learning Team. Managers: Christian Osendorfer, Jonathan Masci
  - Structured Latent Variable Models

Machine Learning Engineer, Pi Campus — Rome, Italy
Oct 2018 - Dec 2018

- NLP for large scale data-driven early stage investing

Research Intern, Naver Labs Europe — Grenoble, France
Feb 2018 - Aug 2018

- Computer Vision Team. Host: Boris Chidlovskii
  - Deep Learning for Scene Understanding

Co-Founder, SecretAIry (formerly GAiA) — Rome, Italy
July 2017 - Jan 2019

- Chatbots to enhance Workplace Communication
  - Selected among 100+ startups to join the EnLabs Incubator

Publications & Patents

Aligning Optimization Trajectories with Diffusion Models — NeurIPS
Giannone, Srivastava, Winther, Ahmed — *2023*

Diffusing the Optimal Topology: A Generative Optimization Perspective — IDETC23
Giannone, Ahmed — *2023*

Unifying Molecular and Textual Representations via Multi-task LM — ICML
Christofidellis*, Giannone*, Born, Winther, Laino, Manica — *2023*

Accelerating Material Design with GT4SD — Nature npj Computational Materials
GT4SD Team (Core Contributor) — *2023*

Few-Shot Diffusion Models — SBM@NeurIPS
Giannone, Nielsen, Winther — *2022*

SCHA-VAE: Hierarchical Context Aggregation for Few-Shot Generation — ICML
Giannone, Winther — *2022*

Method and apparatus for semantic segmentation and depth completion — US Patent
Chidlovskii, Giannone — *2022*

JM1: Worst-group Generalization by Group Interpolation — NeurIPS-W
Giannone, Havrylov, Massiah, Yilmaz, Jiao — *2021*

Hierarchical Few-Shot Generative Models — NeurIPS-W
Giannone, Winther — *2021*

Transformation-aware Variational Autoencoders — tech report
Giannone, Saremi, Masci, Osendorfer — *2020*

Input-filtering NeuralODEs for spiking data — NeurIPS-W
Giannone, Anoosheh, Quaglino, D'Oro, Masci, Gallieri — *2020*

$\mathcal{T}$-VAE: No Representation without Transformation — NeurIPS-W
Giannone, Masci, Osendorfer — *2019*

Learning Common Representation from RGB and Depth Images — CVPR-W
Giannone, Chidlovskii — *2019*

Open-source

GT4SD: Generative Toolkit for Scientific Discovery — 2022

- Library leveraging conditional generative models for accelerated discovery.
- Core Contributor.
- I worked on: Diffusion Models for images and 3D molecule conformation. The GFlowNet framework. A Property Prediction module. Public Hub for model upload. Training Pipelines. Documentation. Tutorials. Testing. CI/CD. Server and Client API. Docker Images for CPU and GPU.

Grants & Awards

Grant, Otto Møensted's Foundation — Copenhagen, Denmark
Grant research abroad — *Dec 2022*

Grant, Independent Research Fund Denmark — Lyngby, Denmark
DFF PhD Grant — *Jun 2020*

Grant, Perception as Generative Reasoning Workshop — NeurIPS 2019
Free conference registration — *Oct 2019*

Grant, Pi School — Rome, Italy
Full tuition covered for the School of AI (3% acceptance rate) — *Oct 2018*

Certificate of Award, Tsinghua University — Beijing, China
Prize for outstanding accomplishments (top 6) — *Aug 2018*

Certificate of Achievement, Naver Labs Europe — Grenoble, France
Prize for the best internship performance — *Jul 2018*

1st Pick, Excellence Path, Master's Degree, Data Science — Rome, Italy
Admission based on the first year's academic performance — *Mar 2018*
Participation in activities at the School for Advanced Studies

1st Place, Global AI Hackathon, Italian Edition — Rome, Italy
Our team built GAiA, a working assistant chatbot — *Jun 2017*
We won three prizes: Challenge Microsoft, People's Choice, Product Market Fit

Academic Service

Reviewer

Conference: ICML21 (top 10%), AISTATS21, ICML22, NeurIPS22, CVPR2023, NeurIPS23

Conference (assisted review): ICML19, ICCV19, AAAI20

Journal: TPAMI, TMLR

Workshop: NeurIPS-IBW20, NeurIPS-MetaLearn21, ICML-DeployableGenAI23

Teaching

Teaching: Deep Learning (DTU 02456), Bayesian Machine Learning (DTU 02477), Advanced Machine Learning (DTU 02460)

Supervision: two special courses (9 months), two master's thesis (6+6 months), 18 final projects

Volunteering

PAISS18, NeurIPS18, ELLIS Unit Copenhagen, MLLS

Skills

Languages

- Python (proficient); R, Matlab (good knowledge); C, Java, JavaScript (basic knowledge)

Research

- HuggingFace, LaTeX, NLTK, OpenCV, PyTorch, TensorFlow

Software

- AWS, CVX, Docker/podman, FastAPI, Git, GitHub Actions, Linux, MinIO, MongoDB, MySQL, Travis

Miscellaneous

Summer/Winther Schools

- OxML22 , ProbAI21, M2L21, SMILES20, EEML20, RegML20, ETH School on PDEs, Tsinghua DL 2018, PAISS18

Talks

- Algorithmic Methods for Data Mining (Sapienza University), Bayesian Reading Group (DTU), MLLS Center (KU), UCL-NLP (London), Amazon Alexa (Cambridge), DeCoDE Lab (MIT)

Online Education

- Coursera: Machine Learning (Oct 2016), Deep Learning (Aug 2017).
- edX:

  Computer Science (Nov 2016), Artificial Intelligence (Apr 2017), CS50 (Jan 2021),
  Math for Quant Finance (Oct 2021), Causal Diagrams (Nov 2021), Science and Business of Biotech (Jun 2022).
- Udacity: Self-Driving Cars Nanodegree, 1st term (Dec 2017).

Associations/Communities

- Italian Association for Machine Learning (IAML);
- ContinualAI
- TribeAI