Lorenzo Sforni

Curriculum Vitae

Center for research on Complex Automated Systems – CASY Viale Pepoli 3/2 Bologna, Italy ⊠ lorenzo.sforni@unibo.it



Current Position

Ph.D. Student in Automatic and Operational Research, University of Bologna

- Research Topic: Optimal Control of Complex Systems
- Supervisor: Professor Giuseppe Notarstefano DEI
- Research Interests: Optimal Control, Reinforcement Learning, Safe Learning, Distributed Control and Optimization, Cooperative Robotics

Research Experience

- 2023 Visiting Researcher at AMBER Lab, California Institute of Technology
 - Research Topic: Safe Optimal Control of Nonlinear Multi-robot Systems
 - Advisor: Professor Aaron Ames MCE

Education

- 2018 2020 **Master's Degree**, *Automation Engineering*, Università di Bologna. 110/110 cum Laude GPA 30.0/30.0
 - Thesis: A Closed-loop Methodology for Discrete-time Nonlinear Optimal Control
 - Advisor: Professor Giuseppe Notarstefano DEI
- 2015 2018 **Bachelor's Degree**, *Automation Engineering*, Università di Bologna. 110/110 cum Laude
 - Thesis: Development of a nanofiber piezoelectric sensor for composite structures
 - o Advisor: Professor Andrea Zucchelli DIN

Experience

- 2020 **Intern**, *Robotics and Industrial Automation Laboratory*, DIN Università di Bologna. Development of a Kalman filter based solution for real-time human motion tracking based on IMUs in the context of applications for collaborative robotics
- 2019 Intern, Energy-Efficient Embedded Systems Laboratory, DEI Università di Bologna.

 Design of a wireless code upload procedure for a ultra-low-power state-of-art computing platform providing visual navigation engine for autonomous nano-drones

Research Projects Participation

2022 - today Distributed Optimization for Cooperative Machine Learning in Complex Networks.

Principal Investigator: professor Giuseppe Notarstefano

Position held: Ph.D. Student

Research founded by Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale.

2022 - today Joint Lab for Artificial Intelligence in Medicine.

Principal Investigator: professor Giuseppe Notarstefano

Position held: Ph.D. Student

Joint laboratory between University of Bologna and Rizzoli Orthopaedic Institue.

2020 - 2021 **ERC Starting Grant OPT4SMART**, Distributed Optimization Methods for Smart Cyber-Physical Networks.

Principal Investigator: professor Giuseppe Notarstefano

Position held: Ph.D. Student

2020 **D4FLY**, Distributed Optimization Control and Learning for Formation Flying and Space Robotics.

Principal Investigator: professor Giuseppe Notarstefano

Position held: Ph.D. Student

Collaboration with Thales Alenia Space

Publications

- 2023 L. Pichierri, G. Carnevale, L.Sforni, A. Testa, G. Notarstefano, "A Distributed Online Optimization Strategy for Cooperative Robotic Surveillance", 2023 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), (to appear).
- 2022 **L. Sforni**, A. Camisa and G. Notarstefano, "Structured-policy Q-learning: an LMI-based Design Strategy for Distributed Reinforcement Learning", 61th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), (4059-4064).
- 2021 **L. Sforni**, I. Notarnicola and G. Notarstefano, "Learning-driven Nonlinear Optimal Control via Gaussian Process Regression", 60th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), 4412-4417.
- 2021 **L. Sforni**, S. Spedicato, I. Notarnicola and G. Notarstefano, "GoPRONTO: a Feedback-based Framework for Nonlinear Optimal Control", arXiv preprint arXiv:2108.13308, (submitted).

Teaching Experience

2021 - today Teaching Assistant, Optimal Control - M 92944, UniBo.

Teacher: professor Giuseppe Notarstefano

- 2022 **Teaching Assistant**, Robust H_{∞} Control Topic Highlight M 78860, UniBo. Teacher: professor Leonid Mirkin, Technion Israel Institute of Technology
- 2020 **Teaching Assistant**, *Model Predictive Control Topic Highlight M 78860*, UniBo. Teacher: professor Matthias Mueller, *Leibniz University Hannover*

Qualifications

2021 **Engineer**, State Examination - II° session.

Volunteering

2020 - today Volunteer, Poliferie, Bologna.

Coordination of the Bologna-based team of Poliferie, a no-profit organization focused on social mobility (website).

Awards

2020 **Study grant for deserving students**, *Università di Bologna*. Scholarship for outstanding academic achievements – GPA 30.0/30.0

2018 Total merit-based exemption, Università di Bologna.

Total exemption from enrolment fees if students obtained the first cycle degree during 2017/18 a.y. at the University of Bologna, by 31 July 2018, within their course's established time period and with a degree mark of no less than 110/110

Computer Skills

Python, C, MATLAB, microController programming, ROS, PTC CREO, PLC programming, \LaTeX

Languages

English Advanced

IELTS Overall score 8.0 - 2020