

**CURRICULUM VITAE - July 2020**  
**Massimiliano Patacchiola, PhD**

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Name	Massimiliano
Surname	Patacchiola
Address	Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom
Blog	<a href="http://mpatacchiola.github.io/blog">http://mpatacchiola.github.io/blog</a>
GitHub	<a href="https://github.com/mpatacchiola">https://github.com/mpatacchiola</a>
Nationality	Italian
Sex	Male

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## **Profile**

Researcher specialised in computational modelling via machine learning and deep learning methods. Interdisciplinary skills in machine learning, robotics, and neuroscience.

*Research interests:* deep learning (few-shot learning, self-supervised learning), Bayesian inference (Gaussian Processes), reinforcement learning and robotics.

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## **Work/Research Experience**

- 2018-Present    Postdoctoral Researcher. University of Edinburgh. United Kingdom.  
Member of the Machine Learning group. Research project on efficient few-shot learning via Bayesian methods, and self-supervised learning (in collaboration with Huawei). ([www.anc.ed.ac.uk/machine-learning](http://www.anc.ed.ac.uk/machine-learning))  
Supervisor: [Amos Storkey](#)
- 2018 Summer    Internship, Snapchat inc. Research project on the disentanglement of latent representations in deep autoencoders ([www.snapchat.com](http://www.snapchat.com))  
Supervisors: Patrick-Fox Roberts, [Edward Rosten](#)
- 2012-2015       Robotics Engineer. Eurolink Systems group. Rome. Italy. Development of models for the control of UGV (Unmanned Ground Vehicle) and UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) ([www.eurolinksystems.com](http://www.eurolinksystems.com))
- 2011-2012       Internship, LARAL (Laboratory of Artificial Life and Robotics). Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies. Rome, Italy. Development of cognitive models for simulations in Evolutionary Robotics (<http://laral.istc.cnr.it>)
- 2008-2009       Placement, ECONA (Research Centre for Cognitive Elaboration on Natural and Artificial Systems). La Sapienza University. Rome, Italy. Research project on visual perception and memory (<https://web.uniroma1.it/econa>)
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## **Education**

- 2015-2018       PhD in “Cognitive Robotics and Machine Learning”. Plymouth University, School of

Computing, Electronics and Mathematics. United Kingdom. Research project on effective machine learning methods for human-robot interaction.

Supervisors: [Angelo Cangelosi](#), Torbjorn Dahl, [Giorgio Metta](#)

2009-2011 MSc in “Cognitive Neuroscience”. La Sapienza University. Rome, Italy.  
Supervisors: Stefano Puglisi Allegra, [Gianluca Baldassarre](#), [Domenico Parisi](#)

2006-2009 BSc in “Experimental Cognitive Psychology”. La Sapienza University. Rome, Italy.  
Supervisor: Marta Olivetti Belardinelli

1999-2004 Secondary School. Scientific Course: National Plan of Computer Science. Rieti, Italy.  
It gives entry to university. Main subjects: computer science, mathematics (linear algebra, pre-calculus, calculus), physics, biology, English, French.

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## Technical Skills

Machine Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Programming experience (~2 years) with pyTorch and TensorFlow for Deep Learning applications.</li><li>-Experience with Artificial Neural Networks and the most recent Deep Learning architectures (e.g ResNet, ResNeXt, WideResNet, DenseNet, GAN, VAE, etc).</li><li>-Experience with supervised, unsupervised learning algorithms, reinforcement learning (DQN, Double DQN, MC, SARSA, etc), and Bayesian methods (Gaussian Processes, Bayesian networks).</li></ul>
Robotics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-I developed libraries for the control of humanoid robots, drones and autonomous ground rover.</li><li>-Experience with the most important software tools for Robotics and Computer Vision (e.g. ROS, YARP, NAOqi, OpenAI Gym, OpenCV).</li></ul>
IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Advanced knowledge of Unix OS (Shell, Bash scripting, SSH).</li><li>-Proficiency in Python (~5 years) and familiarity with several programming languages such as C/C++ (~years, to refresh), C#, Visual Basic, HTML, PHP, JavaScript.</li></ul>

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## Languages

Italian (native speaker), English (advanced), French (intermediate)

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## Awards, Fellowships and Scholarships

2018-present	Associate Fellowship, Higher Education Academy (HEA). Programme that supports early career researchers who have responsibility for teaching and learning.
03-2016	Academic Hardware Grant, NVIDIA corporation. I received a Tesla K40 GPU in support of a project on head pose estimation via convolutional neural networks.
2012-present	Member, Mensa International. Society for people with high intelligence quotient.

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## Talks, Conferences, Workshops, Media

- 27-07-2017 (Extra) BBC documentary. Hyper Evolution: Rise of the Robots. Episode 1 and 2, the iCub humanoid robot at CRNS lab.
- 2015-present (Reviewer) I have been the reviewer for different conferences and journals: AISTATS (International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics), ICRA (International Conference on Robotics and Automation), IROS (International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems).

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## Selected Publications [\[scholar\]](#)

**Patacchiola, M.**, Storkey, A. (2020). “Self-Supervised Relational Reasoning for Representation Learning”. (under review). [\[arxiv\]](#) [\[GitHub\]](#)

**Patacchiola, M.**, Turner, J., Crowley, E. J., Storkey, A. (2019). “Deep Kernel Transfer in Gaussian Processes for Few-shot Learning”. (under review). [\[arxiv\]](#) [\[GitHub\]](#)

**Patacchiola, M.**, Cangelosi, A. (2017). “Head Pose Estimation in the Wild using Convolutional Neural Networks and Adaptive Gradient Methods”. *Pattern Recognition*, vol. 71, pp. 132-143. [\[pdf\]](#) [\[GitHub\]](#)

Polvara\*, R., **Patacchiola\***, M., Hanheide, M., & Neumann, G. (2020). Sim-to-Real Quadrotor Landing via Sequential Deep Q-Networks and Domain Randomization. *Robotics*, 9(1), 8. \*Co-first authors. [\[paper\]](#)

Thabet, M., **Patacchiola, M.**, & Cangelosi, A. (2019). “Sample-efficient Deep Reinforcement Learning with Imaginary Rollouts for Human-Robot Interaction”. *IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*. [\[arxiv\]](#)