

Nicoló Dalmasso

+61 405482028 | nicolo.dalmasso1@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/nicolo-dalmasso | ndalmasso.github.io

EDUCATION

The University of Melbourne (AU)	
• Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Physics – Astrophysics	Mar 2022 - Sep 2025
Università degli Studi di Torino (IT)	
• MSc in Astrophysics and Theoretical Physics - 110/110 with distinction	Oct 2019 - Oct 2021
• BSc in Physics	Oct 2016 - Oct 2019

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

LLM Training Specialist	Sep 2025 - Present
Mercor Intelligence	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Problem Design - Design advanced STEM reasoning problems to test frontier LLM capabilities and identify failure modes in technical reasoning.• Performance Analysis & Pattern Recognition - Evaluate model outputs using statistical methods to quantify reasoning gaps and error patterns, systematically tracking and categorizing failure modes to inform data-driven improvements.• Solution Development & Evaluation - Develop step-by-step solutions with detailed rubrics for evaluating model responses, establishing correct reasoning pathways and measurable success criteria for state-of-the-art technical problems.• Quality Assurance - Validate model accuracy through expert review and statistical analysis, ensuring evaluation frameworks maintain consistency and reliability across diverse problem categories.	
Doctoral Researcher	Mar 2022 - Sep 2025
The University of Melbourne	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Engineering & Analysis - Developed automated Python pipelines for processing heterogeneous datasets, reducing manual processing time by 70% and enabling efficient extraction of insights from complex data.• Data Visualization & Communication - Produced publication-quality visualizations of complex datasets using Python, translating technical findings into clear narratives for diverse audiences.• Machine Learning & Statistical Modeling - Built probabilistic models (Bayesian inference, MCMC) and feature extraction pipelines, improving benchmark accuracy by 15% using ensemble methods and rigorous statistical validation.• Algorithm Optimization - Reduced computational runtime by 40% through profiling and code optimization, enabling production-scale deployment of analysis workflows.• Research Leadership & Collaboration - Led two large-scale international collaborations and contributed to five additional projects, delivering 7 peer-reviewed publications (5 first-author, 2 co-author) in Nature Astronomy and leading journals.	
Teaching Assistant	Mar 2022 - Sep 2025
The University of Melbourne	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teaching & Mentorship - Conducted tutorials and lectures for undergraduate and graduate courses in Physics and Astrophysics, translating complex scientific concepts into accessible explanations for diverse student audiences.• Assessment & Performance Analysis - Evaluated assignments, projects and exams for 200+ students, tracking grade distributions and assessment outcomes to ensure grading consistency and identify opportunities for targeted student support.• Curriculum Development - Co-delivered Year 12 Physics lessons through SEAMS University outreach program, adapting technical content for high school audiences.	

TECHNICAL SKILLS

• Data Engineering: ETL pipelines, feature engineering, workflow automation, performance optimization.
• Data Analysis: Exploratory analysis (EDA), data visualization, anomaly detection, high-dimensional data processing.
• Programming & Tools: Python (NumPy, Pandas, Matplotlib, SciPy), SQL, Git/GitHub, Docker.
• Statistical Modeling: Bayesian inference, MCMC simulations, probabilistic modeling, hypothesis testing.
• ML Techniques: Supervised/unsupervised learning, neural networks, model training and fine-tuning, cross-validation, A/B testing.
• AI Tools: LLM evaluation, prompt engineering, GenAI platforms (GPT, Claude).