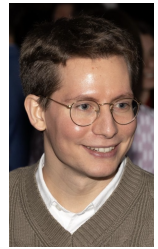# Rocco Lo Conte

Contacts: +39 3662359991, [Email](), [LinkedIn](), [GitHub]()
Lives in: Avellino, Italy (**Open to Relocate**: Yes, **Nationality**: Italian)
Languages: Italian (Mother Tongue), English (CEFR: C1)

Years of Experience: 1.5
Programming Languages: Python, JavaScript, C#, SQL, Java, C
Tools: PyTorch, .NET, Azure, Docker, Jenkins, Git

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineer (AI/ML Focus)   04/24 – Present
Reply, WM Rome Team   Remote
- **Context**: Fast-paced startup environment (15 people) requiring full-stack ownership: design, development, client communication, costs estimation and production support across multiple concurrent projects.
- **Impact**: Delivered 8 of 12 concurrent client projects (67% of company portfolio) by collaborating in Agile teams of 3 members each, contributing to €1M in secured contracts.
- **AI Development**: Co-leading end-to-end development of an AI-powered call screening system processing 3K monthly interactions as one of two AI/ML specialists in the company, reducing human screening costs by automating initial financial eligibility assessments through fine-tuned LLM classification.
- **Production Engineering**: Implemented comprehensive logging systems and resolved critical production issues through systematic debugging.
- **RAG**: Implemented a RAG system using Azure OpenAI (GPT-4o) and Azure AI Search, reducing hallucination rate by 30% through systematic prompt optimization, validated across 25 test cases with human evaluation.
- **ETL**: Built ETL pipelines processing 5 enterprise databases containing millions of records.
- **DevOps**: Automated deployment of 5 resources through CI/CD pipelines developed with Jenkins on Azure.

AI Evaluator (Freelance, Weekends Only)   03/25 – Present
Outlier AI   Remote
- Conducting part-time AI evaluation tasks (RLHF on coding prompts) on weekends when available.

Software Engineer Intern   02/19 – 05/19
University of the Bundeswehr Munich   Munich, Germany
- Built InputGraph, a Java-based interactive interface for the [Grappa project](), visualizing parsed data to support analysis in [ParVis](), a parser behavior tool.

PROJECTS

[Online Shortest Path with Machine Learned Advice]() (Master's Thesis)   2024
- Created an AI algorithm in Python under the supervision of Prof. [Flavio Chierichetti]() that intelligently combines multiple navigation services (TomTom, Google Maps) to provide optimal real-time route recommendations. Tested across 75 locations between Rome and Paris, performing nearly as well (up to 10%) as having perfect knowledge of which service would be fastest for each specific route.

[Pre-trained a language model]()   2025
- Pre-trained a 6-layer OLMO-2-inspired transformer model on the Shakespeare dataset with a custom BPE tokenizer by using PyTorch and personal GPU (MPS), achieving 2.77 perplexity.

[Fine-tuned a language model]()   2025
- Fine-tuned GPT2 by using LoRA and personal GPU (MPS) on 3K samples of the Databricks Dolly-15k, achieving a 3% improvement on ROGUE/BLEU scores.

[Trained a vision model]()   2025
- Trained a ViT on the MNIST dataset by using PyTorch and personal GPU (MPS), achieving 97% test accuracy.

[Obtain routing data from 8 REST APIs in Python]()   2024

EDUCATION

Sapienza University of Rome   09/20 – 01/24
MSc in Computer Science, *Language*: English, *Grade*: 107/110, *CGPA*: 27.5/30.0   Rome, Italy

University of Salerno   09/16 – 05/20
BSc in Computer Science, *Language*: Italian, *Grade*: 94/110, *CGPA*: 24.1/30.0   Salerno, Italy