

SARA PIERI

Paris, France

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Education

Artificial Intelligence - Computer Vision and Language (PhD) <i>INRIA - Willow Team and École normale supérieure (ENS- PSL)</i>	Paris, France <i>Oct. 2024 – Present</i>
Artificial Intelligence - Computer Vision (MSc) <i>Mohamed Bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI), GPA 3.9</i>	Abu Dhabi, UAE <i>Aug. 2021 – May 2023</i>
Computer Science Engineering (B.S.) <i>Sapienza University of Rome, GPA 4.0</i>	Rome, Italy <i>Sept. 2018 – Dec. 2020</i>

Experience

Inria Paris - Ecole Normale Superieure (ENS) - PhD Research <i>Multimodal Models</i>	Oct. 2024 – Present <i>Paris, France</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Development of state-of-the-art Multimodal Models to enhance Trustworthiness and improve efficacy (Supervision: Dr. Cordelia Schmid, Dr. Shizhe Chen and Dr. Josef Sivic (via the ELLIS Program)).	
MBZUAI - Research Assistant <i>Natural Language Processing</i>	May. 2023 – May 2024 <i>Abu Dhabi, UAE</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Advanced techniques for Vision and Language Models in the Medical Domain (Supervision: Dr. Hisham Cholakkal, Dr. Fahad Khan).Publications: BiMediX: Bilingual Medical Mixture of Experts LLM (EMNLP-24) and BiMediX2: Bio-medical Expert LMM for Diverse Medical Modalities.Awarded the Meta Llama Impact Innovation Award and presented at AI4SD event at 79th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA79).	
MBZUAI - Master Student Researcher <i>Computer Vision</i>	Jan. 2022 – May 2023 <i>Abu Dhabi, UAE</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Investigated architectural design choices in Federated Visual Recognition non-IID scenarios (Supervision: Dr. Hisham Cholakkal and Dr. Samuel Horwath).Publication: Handling Data Heterogeneity via Architectural Design for Federated Visual Recognition (NeurIPS-23).Engage in academic research, and actively participate in workshops, conferences, and student collaborations.	
Core42 - AI Intern Research and Development <i>Research and Development</i>	May 2022 – April 2023 <i>Abu Dhabi, UAE</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed AI-based pipelines for Medical Imaging and Profiling of tumor live cells from medical images (Supervision: Lead Scientist Dr. Boulbaba Ben Amor).Led the design, implementation, and presentation of the research project, supervised other associated students.	
Sapienza University of Rome - Undergraduate Research <i>Green AI and Computer Vision</i>	Mar. 2020 – Jan. 2021 <i>Rome, Italy</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Researched applications of Computer Vision to Beekeeping at the ALCOR Lab (Supervision: Dr. Flora Pirri).Launched a project to automate the detection and tracking of individual bees, identifying potential health issues.	

Technical Skills

Languages: Python, Java, C/C++, HTML/CSS, JavaScript, SQL

Os and Developer Tools: Linux, Windows, GitHub, VSCode, Wandb, Google Colab, Amazon Aws

Technologies/Frameworks: Pytorch, Hugging Face, Tensorflow, Keras, Pandas, Numpy, Scikit-learn, Qiskit, L^AT_EX

Honors and Awards

- Meta Llama Impact Innovation Awards 2024
- NeurIPS 2023 Scholar Award
- MBZUAI - Full Scholarship
- Interviewed by the Italian newspaper *Il Messaggero* on the topic “Artificial Intelligence – A Women’s Challenge”.

Volunteering

- Reviewer - Academic Papers (ARR/ACL-25, CVPR-25, ACCV-24, ECCV-24, ICCV-23)
- Partecipated in the AI Safety Fundamentals Course and Supervised Program for Alignment Research
- ProSPES - APS (2019 - current) - support the growth and development of children and young adults