

# Alex Santonastaso

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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Software Engineer with a background in Computer Science and Big Data Science. Experienced in building automation tools, data pipelines, and machine learning models using Python. I have a good understanding of APIs and cloud services, and I'm quick to learn new technologies on the job. I enjoy solving real world problems through efficient, maintainable code and collaborating to build great products and services.

## SKILLS

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**Programming Languages & Tools:** Python, Java, SQL, Git  
**Backend & Automation:** Selenium, OpenPyXL, Pandas, REST APIs, Email Automation (SMTP)  
**Web & Frontend:** React, HTML, CSS  
**Cloud & DevOps:** GitHub Actions, Docker, AWS  
**Soft Skills:** Problem Solving, Team Collaboration, Effective Communication

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Intech Centre (National Careers Service Partner)** London, UK  
Python Automation Engineer Jun 2024 – Present

- **Built and deployed multiple Python automation tools** using Selenium and Pandas to eliminate repetitive admin tasks, **reducing manual workload by over 30 hours per week.**
- **Developed exam results processing system** for the City & Guilds Evolve platform, improving reporting speed, accuracy, and turnaround.
- **Automated exam results emails** by integrating Amelia API data, improving client response time and satisfaction.
- **Automated data entry, form submissions, and reporting** to support data-driven decisions and audit readiness.
- Managed enquiries, bookings, and scheduling for private courses and exams, maintaining smooth service delivery.

**Queen Mary University of London** London, UK  
Lab Demonstrator Sep 2023 – Apr 2024

- **Offered individual support to students** in writing and debugging Python code for Machine Learning projects.
- **Helped students understand software engineering concepts**, including data structures and algorithms.

## PROJECTS

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### Automated Facial Emotion Recognition

- Implemented facial emotion recognition using **GoogLeNet CNN**, achieving **high accuracy** on a deployment dataset and improving the model's capabilities.
- Prepared and pre-processed a FER dataset, including **face detection, face alignment, data augmentation, image duplicates removal**, and trained a second model for **recognising emotions in blurred images.**

### Ethereum Blockchain Data Analysis

- Performed analysis on the raw high volume data of Ethereum blockchain by implementing a set of **Hadoop** and **PySpark** Map/Reduce operations such as aggregation, moving window technique.
- Implemented data visualisation using **Matplotlib** and **Seaborn** to present key insights and trends.

## EDUCATION

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**Queen Mary University of London** London, UK  
Master of Science in Big Data Science with Machine Learning Systems, **Distinction** Jan 2022 - Jan 2023

**University of Westminster** London, UK  
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, **First Class Honours** Sep 2018 - Sep 2021