

# Alex Santonastaso

London, UK | +44 7570 280428 | [alex@santonastaso.com](mailto:alex@santonastaso.com) | [github.com/snts42](https://github.com/snts42) | [santonastaso.codes](https://santonastaso.codes)

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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Software Engineer with experience in automation using Python and a passion for writing clean, efficient code and improving system performance. A quick learner who is always looking to expand his skills and stay up to date with new technologies. Enjoys working as part of a team of like-minded people to build reliable software and contribute to great products or services.

## SKILLS

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**Programming Languages:** Python, Java, C#, SQL

**Tools & Frameworks:** React, Selenium, NumPy, Pandas, Matplotlib, PyTorch

**Software Development & Principles:** Object-Oriented Programming (OOP), Git, RESTful APIs, Agile, Scrum

**Cloud & DevOps:** Docker, AWS (basic), GCP (basic)

**Soft Skills:** Problem Solving, Team Collaboration, Effective Communication, Bilingual in English and Italian

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### Intech Centre (National Careers Service Partner)

London, UK

*Automation Engineer & Administrator*

*Jun 2024 – Present*

- Implemented **Python scraping tools** using **Selenium** and **Pandas**, reducing repetitive administrative tasks and saving approximately 20 hours per week.
- Automated data entry, form submissions, and report generation, leading to a **record-breaking performance**.
- Maintained records and generated reports to support **data-driven decision-making** and compliance requirements.
- Built **strong client relationships**, improving experience and satisfaction through effective follow-up support.
- 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*

Relevant Coursework: Machine Learning & Deep Learning, Big Data Processing, Cloud Computing, Data Mining

### University of Westminster

London, UK

*Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, **First Class Honours***

*Sep 2018 - Sep 2021*