**Alex Santonastaso**

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**PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

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**

**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**

**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**

**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 modelfor **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**

**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