



# Diego Bianchi

Nationality: Italian

## WORK EXPERIENCE

01/10/2023 – 31/01/2024 Boston, United States

**VISITING PHD STUDENT** BOSTON UNIVERSITY - DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING (MORPHABLE BIOROBOTICS LABORATORY)

Design a high-speed soft robotic gripper inspired by the chameleon's tongue.

11/2021 – 09/2022 Pontedera, Italy

**RESEARCH ASSISTANT** SCUOLA SUPERIORE SANT'ANNA, THE BIOROBOTICS INSTITUTE

I was involved in the EU-funded project [Proboscis\(Grant agreement no. 863212\)](#) whose goal is to develop a new generation of universal robotic manipulators, having no distinction between a soft arm and a gripper. My goal is to develop machine learning-based algorithms and strategies for controlling bio-inspired soft robotics manipulators to achieve different tasks, such as the throwing one.

14/06/2021 – 30/09/2021 Pontedera, Italy

**VISITING STUDENT** SCUOLA SUPERIORE SANT'ANNA, THE BIOROBOTICS INSTITUTE

Experimental activities on a soft robotic manipulator and development of an AI-based controller.

01/07/2019 – 20/09/2019 London, United Kingdom

**UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAMME - UROP** IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

Modelling and optimisation of concentrated solar power plants

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

02/09/2022 – CURRENT Pontedera, Italy

**PH.D. IN BIOROBOTICS** Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna - The BioRobotics Institute(Brain-Inspired Robotics Laboratory)

**Website** <https://www.santannapisa.it/en/institute/biorobotics/brair-lab>

23/09/2019 – 23/10/2021 L'Aquila, Italy

**MASTER'S DEGREE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING** Università degli studi dell'Aquila

**Address** Palazzo Camponeschi, Piazza Santa Margherita, 2, 67100, L'Aquila, Italy | **Website** <https://www.univaq.it/> |

**Field of study** Mechatronic Engineering | **Final grade** (GPA 3.92/4.00) | **Level in EQF** EQF level 7 |

**National classification** Laurea Magistrale | **Type of credits** ECTS | **Number of credits** 120 |

**Thesis** Development of a Machine learning controller for a soft-robot involved in tossing task

21/06/2021

## DEEP LEARNING SPECIALIZATION Coursera

---

Neural Networks and Deep Learning; Improving Deep Neural Networks: Hyperparameter tuning, Regularization and Optimization; Structuring Machine Learning Projects; Convolutional Neural Networks; Sequence Models.

**Website** <https://www.coursera.org/specializations/deep-learning> | **Field of study** Deep Learning

05/09/2016 – 05/10/2019 L'Aquila, Italy

## BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING Università degli studi dell'Aquila

---

**Address** Palazzo Camponeschi, Piazza Santa Margherita, 2, 67100, L'Aquila, Italy | **Website** <https://www.univaq.it/> |

**Field of study** Mechanical Engineering | **Final grade** summa cum laude (GPA 3.87/4.00) | **Level in EQF** EQF level 6 |

**National classification** Laurea Triennale | **Type of credits** ECTS | **Number of credits** 180

09/2011 – 07/2016 Sulmona, Italy

## SCIENTIFIC HIGH SCHOOL Liceo Scientifico Enrico Fermi

---

**Final grade** 100/100 with honours | **Level in EQF** EQF level 4

### LANGUAGE SKILLS

---

Mother tongue(s): **ITALIAN**

Other language(s):

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
<b>ENGLISH</b>	C1	C1	B2	B2	B2

*Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user*

### DIGITAL SKILLS

---

Microsoft Office | CATIA V5/V6 | Python programming | MATLAB&Simulink | Solidworks | LaTeX | ANSYS Workbench | WorkingModel | Basic AutoCad | Machine Learning: Keras, TensorFlow

#### Soft-Skill

Team-work oriented | Organizational and planning skills | Good listener and communicator | Problem Solving

#### Interests

Soft robotics | Reading | Collaborative robots (cobots) | Photography | Human-Machine interaction

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

---

#### HONOURS AND AWARDS

06/2017

**Best mechanical engineering student – EDA industries, “Il Sorriso di Filippo” charity and Chamber of Commerce of Rieti Province**

01/2017

**High-performing high school student – Sulmona city council**

07/2016

**Member of Albo Nazionale delle Eccellenze – Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research**

07/2015

**National summer school on modern physics – Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research**  
Only 50 Italian students admitted per year. Selection based on merit.

06/2014

**Summer school on experimental sciences – Italian National Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN)** Only 20 students from high schools in the Abruzzo region (Italy) admitted per year. Selection based on merit.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

[Softoss: Learning to throw objects with a soft robot](#) – 2023

IEEE Robotics & Automation Magazine

---

D Bianchi et al., 2023, IEEE RAM

[Learning-Based Inverse Dynamic Controller for Throwing Tasks with a Soft Robotic Arm](#) – 2023

20th International Conference on Informatics in Control, Automation and Robotics

---

D Bianchi et al., 2023, ICINCO 2023

[Policy Adaptation using an Online Regressing Network in a Soft Robotic Arm](#) – 2023

2023 IEEE International Conference on Soft Robotics (RoboSoft)

---

MS Nazeer et al., 2023, IEEE Robosoft 2023

[Open-loop control of a soft arm in throwing tasks](#) – 2022

19th International Conference on Informatics in Control, Automation and Robotics

---

D Bianchi et al., 2022, ICINCO 2022

## **CERTIFICATES AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

13/05/2021

**European Project Management Certificate**

---

AICA

30/04/2019

**Certified LabVIEW Associate Developer**

---

National Instruments

**First Certificate in English - Grade B (CEFR Level B2)**

---

Cambridge English

**Complete Python Bootcamp: Go from zero to hero in Python data**

---

Udemy

**European Computer Driving License (ECDL)**

---

AICA