Marco Molinari

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EDUCATION

London School of Economics London, UK

BSc in Data Science September 2023 - June 2026

Classification: First Class, Outstanding Academic Achievement Prize (ranked top 2%, monetary prize awarded by LSE100).
Activities: Boxing (top-10 in men's boxing), Effective Altruism (selected for EAG 2024 in London). Department representative.

EXPERIENCE

LSE.AI London, UK

Founder / Lead

January 2024 - Present

September 2024

- Established the AI lab of the London School of Economics (H100s and mentorship by Jon Cardoso and DSI director Ken Benoit).
- Achieved a 84.6% speedup in sparse autoencoder (SAE) training, and published the research paper at ACL with presentation at BlackboxNLP (EMNLP 2024) in Miami achieving a 4.33/5 peer review score (top 4%), including a 'best paper' review.
- Executed a research paper on efficient SAE training achieving up to a 500% speedup, which is under review at ICLR 2025.
- Scaled to 10+ researchers across the US/UK/EU with backgrounds from Stanford, LSE, Imperial, and UPenn.

Google Deepmind Milan, Italy

M²L Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Summer School (Deepmind organising sponsor)

Selected as one of only 9 undergrads (519 applications in total) for PhD-level lectures and workshops by leading researchers.

Qi4M Asset Management

San Francisco, US - Rome, Italy

Data Scientist Intern

June 2024 - September 2024

- Improving equity hedging by clustering earning calls' latent LLM features, and submitting to NAACL 2025.
- Selected to attend the INNOVIT SF program as an innovator in the Fintech and Insurtech track.

Research Fellow

June 2022 - October 2022

- Co-Authored with head of research Vittorio Carlei a technical paper on autoencoder asset pricing models, which enhanced asset pricing performance to a 9.59% R² (surpassing the traditional PCA approach's 3.9%).
- Presented the technical paper at the 2024 British Conference of Undergraduate Research after peer review.

LSESU Entrepreneurs

London, UK

Executive Director / CTO (#1 student society award by the student union)

July 2024 - Present

Wageningen, Netherlands

The Good Scientists

cialist December 2022 - December 2023

Machine Learning Specialist

- Delivered an AI matching platform that achieved 609ms response times with ReactJS, Typescript, Python, Flask, and NoSQL.
- Secured a €50k investment from the EU HPC Joint Undertaking, and presented in the ACUD23 supercomputing conference.
- Presented the algorithm in Meta's HQ in San Francisco (Global Llama Community Summit), for innovating with Meta's LLMs.

FlipCX

New York, US

Software Engineering Contractor

January 2023 - February 2023

• Built a Selenium web scraper API (latency <1s) by parallelizing with Python Multithreading, thus reducing customer wait times.

PUBLICATIONS

- Davide Ghilardi*, Federico Belotti*, **Marco Molinari***. 2024. Efficient Training of Sparse Autoencoders for Large Language Models via Layer Groups. Under review as a conference paper at **ICLR 2025.** https://arxiv.org/abs/2410.21508.
- Davide Ghilardi*, Federico Belotti*, Marco Molinari*, Jaehyuk Lim. 2024. Accelerating Sparse Autoencoder Training via Layer-Wise Transfer Learning in Large Language Models. Proceedings of the 7th BlackboxNLP Workshop at EMNLP. Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL). https://aclanthology.org/2024.blackboxnlp-1.32/.
- Marco Molinari. 2024. Applications of Autoencoder Asset Pricing Models to a Highly Dimensional Cross-Section. British Conference of Undergraduate Research. Available at SSRN: ssrn.com/abstract=4246289.

HONOURS AND SKILLS

Reviewer for the International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR).

2024 2023

Royal Society of Arts Fellow.

2022

- Medal at the finals of the Italian National Olympiad in Computer Science (top 0.22% nationally).
- Skills and Languages: PyTorch, Python, C++, NextJS, SQL, Linux. English (Native), Italian (Native), Spanish (Intermediate).

^{*} Denotes equal contributions.