

# Dr. Sara Colella

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## Summary

**Qualification** Ph.D. in Computer Science (grade "*magna cum laude*") with a focus on Network Analysis with a strong background in Physics

**Skills** 6+ years of experience with analysis of large, complex datasets  
Strong programming, statistical analysis and visualization skills  
Good ability in working in teams with previous leadership roles  
Working experience in interdisciplinary environments  
Ability to communicate findings and experiment designs to diverse audiences

## Research and Work Experiences

3/2020 – now **Business analyst: Assistant Content Leader**, *Software House Systemorph*, Zürich, Switzerland.

*Technical and Communication Skills*

- Financial data management for insurance companies focusing on Data Model for IFRS17 implementation.

10/2016 – **Researcher – PhD candidate**, *Computer Science department & Graduate School of Decision Science*,  
12/2019 Konstanz, Germany.

Dissertation: *Positive Spillover Effect in Attention Dynamics*

Supervisors: *Ulrik Brandes, Andreas Jungherr & Urs Fischbacher*

*Data Mining and Analysis Skills*

- Collect Twitter data with Python and manage a 40 GB dataset with Bash. The dataset was composed by the messages posted in 2018 by almost 500,000 Twitter users connected to the Italian cultural space
- Analyse the attention dynamics of the Twitter population for a specific class of topics through the shape of the time series of their sharing behaviour in Python
- Formalize an explanatory model for the detected attention dynamics based on news values in R
- Identify and classify topic mutual influence in their sharing diffusion through the tools of Network Analysis. In particular I focused on how a topic helps the diffusion of an other topic on Twitter
- Rethink the concept of Centrality in Network Analysis

*Communication Skills*

- Present findings and project design at collaboration meetings, international conferences and to reviewers
- Authored PhD thesis and publications based on data analysis

5 – 10/2016 **Consultant**, *Software house APL italiana (Now SimCorp Sofia)*, Milan, Italy.

*Technical and Communication Skills*

- Daily contact with the clients, employees of insurance companies, to detect their difficulties with the program SOFIA and help them in making use of the software
- Implement clients' suggestions in the new versions of the program SOFIA in collaborations with the software developers

9/2013 – **Master in Physics of Complex Systems**, *Università degli Studi di Torino & Center for Micro-*  
12/2015 *BioRobotics of the Italian Institute of Technology*, Torino – Pontedera (Pisa), Italy.

Dissertation: *Cooperative Growth Model for Plant Roots*

Supervisors: *Federico Bosia, Barbara Mazzolai & Ettore Vittone*

*Modeling and Experiment Design Skills*

- Formulate a model hypothesizing the existence of communication among plant roots and test its advantages for the plant energy balance through computer simulations in Matlab
- Design a lab experiment to prove the existence of communication among plant roots

*Communication Skills*

- Present findings and project design in front of an interdisciplinary audience: physicists, plant biologists, chemists and computer scientists
- Authored Master thesis

## Erasmus

9/2013 – 6/2014 **Master in Complex Systems in Applied Physics**, *Chalmers University of Technology* Göteborg, Sweden

### Group projects in Automation:

- o Program and construct, based on the Arduino platform, a robot able to avoid walls and detect a target using photosensors
- o Program in C# a humanoid robot able to detect and light up a candle

### Group project in Simulation:

- o Implement in Matlab a simulation model of segregation in cities, based on Schiller's model

## Teaching

- 3 – 5/2019 **Tutor**, *ETH Zurich*, Zurich, Switzerland.  
Tutoring for the seminar Applied Network Science (held by professor Ulrik Brandes) at the Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences
- 1 – 2/2014 **Laboratory assistant**, *Università degli Studi di Torino*, Turin, Italy.  
Laboratory assistant for a course in basic physics (held by professor Nicola Carlo Amapane) at the Biotechnology Department
- 10 – 12/2013 **Tutor**, *Università degli Studi di Torino*, Turin, Italy.  
Tutoring for a basic informatics course (held by professor Stefano Berardi) at Physics Department

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## Education

- 10/2016 – 12/2019 **PhD in Network analysis**, *Computer Science department & Graduate School of Decision Science*, Konstanz, , Germany. *Final grade "magna cum laude"*.
- 9/2013 – 12/2015 **Master in Physics of Complex Systems**, *Università degli Studi di Torino*, Turin, Italy. *Final grade 110/110*.
- 10/2010 – 7/2013 **Bachelor in Physics** *Università degli Studi di Torino*, Turin, Italy. *Final grade 99/110*.

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## Skills

### Programming languages

- Advanced Python
- Intermediate Matlab, R, C# (LINQ)
- Basic Bash, C, C++, SQL
- GitHub folder [https://github.com/saracolella/territorial\\_communities.git](https://github.com/saracolella/territorial_communities.git)
- ### Databases and Programs
- PostgreSQL, Mathematica, Comsol and  $\LaTeX$

### Languages

- Italian** Mother tongue
- English** Fluent in reading, writing and speaking.  
*First Certificate in English with grade A*
- German** Intermediate (TELC with level A2)
- French** Basic

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## Publications and current research projects

Publication **F.Bosia, S.Colella, V.Mattoli, B.Mazzolai and N. M. Pugno. 2014.**  
***Hierarchical multiple peeling simulations.*** RSC Adv. 4:25447-25452  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1039/C4RA03459G>

Working papers **The Effects of COVID-19 Lockdowns on Mental Health: A Twitter-bases Analysis**  
**with Rémi Vivès, F. Dufourt and V.Hindebrand**

**Twitterspheres of Different Countries: A Detailed Database**  
**with Rémi Vivès and F. Dufourt**

**Imagined territorial communities on Twitter: A language-based approach**  
**with Andreas Jungherr**

**Mixing apples and oranges: Conjoint Centrality and Positional Dominance**  
**with Ulrik Brandes, David Schoch**