

# ANDREW AQUILINA

◇ Computational social science, natural language processing, AI fairness ◇

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## Education

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**University of Pittsburgh**  
Ph.D. Information Science

*Pittsburgh, PA*  
**Aug 2024 – present**

- Advisor: Yu-Ru Lin

**Stockholm University**  
M.Sc. Computer and System Sciences, Artificial Intelligence

*Stockholm, Sweden*  
**Aug 2021 – June 2022**

**University of Malta**  
B.Sc. Information Technology, Artificial Intelligence

*Msida, Malta*  
**Oct 2018 – June 2021**

## Awards and Fellowships

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**SCI Fellowship** University of Pittsburgh

**2024 – 2025**

**Pathfinder Scholarship** Malta's Digital Innovation Authority

**2021 – 2022**

**First Class Honours** University of Malta

**2021**

## Papers

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Aquilina, A. and Abela, C. **Predicting links in a social network based on recognised personalities.** In *Proceedings of the 37th ACM/SIGAPP Symposium on Applied Computing, SAC '22*, New York, NY, USA, 2022. Association for Computing Machinery.

Aquilina, A., Diacono, S., Papapetrou, P., and Movin, M. **An end-to-end workflow using topic segmentation and text summarisation methods for improved podcast comprehension**, 2023. [arXiv:2307.13394](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.13394).

## Industry Experience

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**Loqus Business Intelligence**  
AI Engineer

*San Ġwann, Malta*  
**Sep 2023 – July 2024**

- Led new AI initiatives within the company, including the development of a customer-facing chatbot designed to answer questions related to deliveries.

**Sambla Group**  
Data Scientist

*Stockholm, Sweden*  
**Nov 2022 – May 2023**

- Leveraged NLP methods to cluster and summarise vast amounts of textual data to provide key insights for a cost-saving business strategy (30% cost reduction).
- Applied ranking methods to improve the accuracy and NDCG of user-item recommendation systems.

**Ascent**  
Junior Data Scientist

*Luqa, Malta*  
**July 2021 – August 2022**

- Contributed to the development of an item recommendation system in collaboration with a high-profile client in the beverage industry.

Junior Software Engineer

**July 2019 – April 2020**

- Assisted with the development of internal web and mobile applications using .NET technologies.

**University of Malta**  
Junior Software Engineer

*Msida, Malta*  
**July 2020 – Sep 2020**

- Mentor: Alexiei Dingli
- Developed an interactive game editor using OpenCV and Unity within the Department of Artificial Intelligence.

## Service

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**Conference Reviewer:** Discovery Science (2024)

**IAESTE Incoming Officer:** Assisted foreign students moving to Malta for an internship, ensuring they are kept in contact with their employers and up to date with the required documentation. (2020 – 2021)