# Andrei Stefan Bejgu (he/him)

Date of Birth: 16-11-1995 Location: Rome, Italy Languages: English (Fluent), Italian (Native), Romanian (Native)

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NLP professional with 7+ years of experience spanning software development, engineering, and research. I focus on multilingual NLP, retrieval-augmented generation (RAG), embedding-driven solutions and advanced Large Language Models (LLMs) fine-tuning – taking products from concept to large-scale deployment.

# EXPERIENCE & SELECTED PROJECTS

# Babelscape

NLP Researcher

I lead advanced NLP research that transforms state-of-the-art insights into innovative AI products, with a focus on retrieval-augmented systems powered by multilingual LLM fine-tuning. I work closely with multidisciplinary teams to integrate these solutions, while mentoring interns at every stage of the project lifecycle.

- O Designed and developed real-time retrieval pipelines, maximizing precision and efficiency for Vera, a multilingual fact-checking system.
- O Distributed (Slurm) fine-tuning of open-source LLMs for domain-specific tasks such as claim extraction and verification.
- O Contributed to the safety fine-tuning of Minerva, the first Italian LLM.
- O Engineered Multilingual Embeddings for RAG systems, driving state-of-the-art retrieval.
- O Improved Entity Linking in Comprehendo, achieving a 12% accuracy gain while reducing overhead by 60%.

NLP Engineer

I built robust, production-grade solutions by developing scalable pipelines that integrate technologies like Docker, Kubernetes, and Spark. I also implemented efficient data processing and indexing systems to ensure high performance and reliability across various AI products.

O Designed and deployed Semantic Paths, a Multilingual Semantic Search engine for scientific articles written in Kotlin.

- O Developed advanced **Word Sense Disambiguation** models for large-scale multilingual processing.
- O Optimized NLP systems for speed, accuracy, and scalability, improving overall robustness and reliability.

Software Engineer

I engineered scalable, high-performance systems by designing and implementing multiprocess pipelines for enterprise-grade applications.

- O Developed myKnowledgeGraph, a Knowledge Graph Extraction and visualization system for enterprise data.
- O Designed the company's Java NLP Pipeline, maximizing speed, accuracy, and scalability of multilingual text processing.
- O Enhanced **concept identification** in TraDeInterpret, increasing accuracy by **13%** in trademark analysis.

### CINI - Consorzio Interuniversitario Nazionale per l'Informatica

Software Developer Dec. 2016–Jan. 2017 Created an advanced tool for lexicon-semantic stylometric analysis, enabling efficient processing of large-scale texts.

Jun. 2020–Oct. 2021

Jul. 2017–Jun. 2020

Rome, Italy Oct. 2021–Present

Rome, Italy

# EDUCATION

#### Ph.D. in Artificial Intelligence

Sapienza University of Rome Jan. 2025 Focus: Explored multilingual NLP by applying lexical semantics to modern systems. Improved domain-specific tasks, looked into complex linguistic patterns, and worked on word- and sentence-level representations in RAG systems and LLMs. This was a joint industrial Ph.D., combining academic research with industry-driven projects. Created context-aware, domain-specific embeddings that boosted retrieval performance. –Advisor: Prof. R. Navigli

#### MSc in Computer Science

Sapienza University of Rome – **Grade**: 110/110 with honors **Thesis:** Exploring language-agnostic latent spaces for sentences. – **Advisor:** Prof. R. Navigli

#### BSc in Computer Science

Sapienza University of Rome – **Grade**: 107/110 Jun. 2019 **Thesis:** Knowledge-Based Word Sense Disambiguation leveraging synset embeddings. –**Advisor:** Prof. R. Navigli

## PUBLICATIONS

- [1] A. Scirè<sup>\*</sup>, A. S. Bejgu<sup>\*</sup>, S. Tedeschi, K. Ghonim, F. Martelli, and R. Navigli. "Truth or Mirage? Towards End-to-End Factuality Evaluation with LLM-OASIS". In: *Under Review*. 2025.
- [2] L. Moroni, G. Puccetti, P.-L. H. Cabot, A. S. Bejgu, A. Miaschi, E. Barba, F. dell'Orletta, A. Esuli, and R. Navigli. "Adaptation of LLMs toward Italian Language: A Systematic Approach". In: NAACL. 2025.
- [3] K. Ghonim, A. S. Bejgu, and R. Navigli. "Conceptpedia: Leveraging Traditional Approaches for Multimodal Image-Text Representation". In: *Under Review*. 2025.
- [4] A. S. Bejgu, E. Barba, L. Procopio, A. Fernández-Castro, and R. Navigli. "Word Sense Linking: Disambiguating Outside the Sandbox". In: *ACL*. 2024.
- [5] F. Molfese, A. S. Bejgu, S. Tedeschi, S. Conia, and R. Navigli. "CroCoAlign: A Cross-Lingual, Context-Aware and Fully-Neural Sentence Alignment System for Long Texts". In: *EACL*. 2024.
- [6] F. Martelli, A. S. Bejgu, et al. "XL-WA: a Gold Evaluation Benchmark for Word Alignment in 14 Language Pairs". In: *CLiC-it.* 2023.

# OTHER ACTIVITIES

Reviewer Activity: Reviewer for EACL (2023), ACL (2023, external reviewer), EMNLP (2023, external reviewer), ICLR (2024, external reviewer), and ACL ARR (January, June, and October 2024). Teaching Activity at Sapienza University of Rome:

- O Natural Language Processing Course (2022–2023): Designed and led practical lab sessions and assignments, guiding master's students through state-of-the-art NLP techniques.
- O Hot Topics in NLP (2023–2024): Developed and managed one of the three major course assignments, providing hands-on exposure to cutting-edge advancements in NLP.

## Scholarships and Awards

O Best Employee Award, Babelscape

O Merit Scholarship Winner, LazioDiSCo.it

2021 2018–2020

Nov. 2021