

# Alisa Kumbara

PhD student in Intelligent Systems Engineering,  
Department of Medicine for Innovation Medicine  
University of Verona



## Contacts

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## Languages

Albanian: Mother Tongue  
Italian: Mother Tongue  
English: B2

## Computational Skills

Python, R, shell scripting,  
Linux environment, bash, Latex

## Research Interests

Genome Editing,  
Computational Biology,  
Epigenomics, and  
Machine Learning.

## About me

PhD student in Intelligent Systems Engineering at the University of Verona, specializing in computational approaches to explore genetic variation at both population and individual levels. My research focuses on developing algorithmic tools for large-scale genomic data analysis. I have a solid background in bioinformatics, with particular interests in genome editing, computational biology, and epigenomics.

## Education

2024 - ONGOING

**PhD** | University of Verona

PhD in Intelligent Systems Engineering.

Department of Engineering for Innovation Medicine.

2022 - 2024

**Master's Degree** | University of Verona

Master's degree in Medical Bioinformatics

Final grade: 109/110

Thesis: Unveiling Transcription Factor Binding Sites (TFBSs) through Position Weight Matrices (PWMs) and Support Vector Machines (SVMs).

Supervisor: Prof. Rosalba Giugno (University of Verona)

Co-supervisor: Manuel Tognon (Postdoctoral researcher, University of Verona)

2019 - 2022

**Bachelor's Degree** | Polytechnic University of Marche

Bachelor's Degree in Biomedical Engineering

Final grade: 99/110

Thesis: Development of metrics based on EEG signals for the analysis of sound quality.

Supervisor: Prof. Milena Martarelli (Polytechnic University of Marche).

2014 - 2019

**High School Diploma** | ITES "R. Valturio", Rimini

Economic State Technical Institute "Roberto Valturio", Rimini

Final grade: 100/100

## Conferences

June 11-13, 2025

[Bioinformatics Italian Society - BITS](#)

CRISPR-HAWK: Haplotype- and variant-aware guide design toolkit for CRISPR Cas

June 11-13, 2025

[Bioinformatics Italian Society - BITS](#)

Benchmarking PWM and SVM-based Models for Transcription Factor Binding Site Prediction: A Comparative Analysis on Synthetic and Biological Data

July 20-24, 2025

[International Society for Computational Biology – ISCB](#)

CRISPR-HAWK: Haplotype- and variant-aware guide design toolkit for CRISPR-Cas

July 20-24, 2025

[International Society for Computational Biology – ISCB](#)

Benchmarking Transcription Factor Binding Site Prediction Models: A Comparative Analysis on Synthetic and Biological Data

## Presentation at Conferences

June 11-13, 2025

[Bioinformatics Italian Society - BITS](#)

CRISPR-HAWK: Haplotype- and variant-aware guide design toolkit for CRISPR Cas (Flash Talk)

## Summer Schools

July 13-19, 2025

[Lipari Summer School on Computational Life Sciences](#)

RNA Biology and Comparative Genomics for Medicine

Aug. 31 - Sept 6, 2025

[AIS Summer School](#)

Advanced School on AI and Intelligent Systems: Design, Engineering, and Architectures

## Tutoring and Teaching Activities

2025

[TUT-DIMI-24-06: LM-32 Computer Engineering for Intelligent Systems](#)

Teaching Assistant for orientative tutoring,  
Department of Engineering for Innovation Medicine, University of Verona

2025

[PNRR Project: "Nuove competenze e nuovi linguaggi STEM"](#)

Teaching Expert on "Bioinformatics and Data Science" Course,  
I.T.C. Copernico, Verona

## Publications

Tognon, M., **Kumbara, A.**, Betti, A., Ruggeri, L., & Giugno, R. (2025). Benchmarking transcription factor binding site prediction models: a comparative analysis on synthetic and biological data. *Briefings in bioinformatics*, 26(4), bbaf363. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bib/bbaf363>