

## Personal Information

**Born in :** Segrate (MI), Italy, on 30/09/1993  
**E-mail:** micol.spitale@polimi.it  
**Nationality:** Italian  
**LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/micol-spitale-8a123a138/>

## Education

**November 2018 - Today** Milan, Italy  
PhD candidate at Politecnico di Milano (end: October 2021)  
**October 2019 - March 2020** Los Angeles, USA  
Visiting PhD student at USC  
**21/12/2017** Milan, Italy  
Master of Science in Space Engineering at Politecnico di Milano – Degree mark: 110/110 – Thesis title: Trajectory optimization of ducted rocket: modelling and propellant investigation  
**24/09/2015** Milan, Italy  
Bachelor degree in Aerospace Engineering at Politecnico di Milano  
**September 2014** - January 2015 Madrid, Spain  
Semester abroad at Universidad Politecnica de Madrid, Erasmus program  
**2012** Milan, Italy  
High school diploma: Scientific at Istituto di Istruzione Superiore Niccolo' Machiavelli (Pioltello - Italy)

## Research Experience

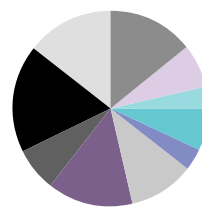
**November 2018 - Today** Milan, Italy  
PhD candidate in the Department of electronics, informatic and bioengineering (DEIB) at Politecnico di Milano for I3Lab (Innovative Interactive Interfacec Laboratory) and affiliated with IBM Italy - <https://i3lab.polimi.it/>  
*Doctoral research:* Conversational Socially Assistive Robot to train and assess linguistic skills of children with language disorders, such as children with Autism Spectrum Disorder  
*Supervisor:* Franca Garzotto  
*Academic tutor in courses:* - AUI (Advanced User Interfaces) course at Politecnico di Milano  
- IOL -Interazione Uomo-Macchina online course at Politecnico di Milano

**October 2019 - March 2020** Los Angeles, USA  
PhD Visiting Scholar at USC, Viterbi School of Engineering  
*Research Project:* Studying the Use of Storytelling to Increase Empathy for Socially Assistive Robot  
*Supervisor:* Maja Mataric

**March 2018 - October 2018** Milan, Italy  
Researcher assistant in the Department of electronics, informatic and bioengineering (DEIB) at Politecnico di Milano for I3Lab (Innovative Interactive Interfacec Laboratory).  
*Research Project:* - Ludomi (design multisensory room for children with disabilities)  
- Puffy (social robot for children aimed at conveying emotions)  
- Reflex (Phygital application for children with neurodevelopment disorders)

**September 2016 – October 2016** Milan, Italy  
Participating at “Fly your thesis” program as student researcher for SatLeash- Politethers project, Horizon2020

## Language and Computer Skills



## Personal Interests

Volunteer for "Quadrifgli" Onlus, which goal is to give a future to autism children.  
Travelling around the world.  
Climbing.

## Publications

1. Micol Spitale, Fabio Catania, Giulia Cosentino, Mirko Gelsomini, and Franca Garzotto. 2019. WIYE: building a corpus of children's audio and video recordings with a story-based app. In Proceedings of the 24th International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces: Companion (IUI '19). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 33-34. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3308557.3308684>
2. Giulia Cosentino, Giulia Leonardi, Mirko Gelsomini, Micol Spitale, Mattia Gianotti, Franca Garzotto, and Venanzio Arquilla. 2019. GENIEL: an auto-generative intelligent interface to empower learning in a multi-sensory environment. In Proceedings of the 24th International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces: Companion (IUI '19). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 27-28. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3308557.3308685> - Best Poster Award
3. Amirreza Rouhi, Micol Spitale, Fabio Catania, Giulia Cosentino, Mirko Gelsomini, and Franca Garzotto. 2019. Emotify: emotional game for children with autism spectrum disorder based-on machine learning. In Proceedings of the 24th International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces: Companion (IUI '19). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 31-32. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3308557.3308688>
4. Mirko Gelsomini, Micol Spitale, Eleonora Beccaluva, Leonardo Viola, and Franca Garzotto. 2019. Reflex: adaptive learning beyond the screen. In Proceedings of the 24th International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces: Companion (IUI '19). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 29-30. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3308557.3308689>
5. Micol Spitale. 2019. Training self-sufficiency and social skills with embodied conversational agent for children with autism. In Proceedings of the 24th International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces: Companion (IUI '19). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 151-152. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3308557.3308722>
6. Fabio Catania, Micol Spitale, Davide Fisicaro, Franca Garzotto 2019. CORK: A COntersational agent ramewORK exploiting both rational and emotional intelligence.
7. Mirko Gelsomini, Giulia Cosentino, Micol Spitale, Mattia Gianotti, Davide Fisicaro, Giulia Leonardi, Fabiano Riccardi, Agnese Piselli, Eleonora Beccaluva, Barbara Bonadies, Lucia Di Terlizzi, Martino Zinzone, Shanti Alberti, Christelle Rebourg, Marina Carulli, Franca Garzotto, Venanzio Arquilla, Mario Bisson, Barbara Del Curto, and Monica Bordegoni. 2019. Magika, a Multisensory Environment for Play, Education and Inclusion. In Extended Abstracts of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI EA '19). ACM, New York, NY, USA, Paper LBW0277, 6 pages. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3290607.3312753>

8. Micol Spitale, Mirko Gelsomini, Eleonora Beccaluva, Leonardo Viola, and Franca Garzotto. 2019. Meeting the needs of people with Neuro-Developmental Disorder through a phygital approach. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3351995.3352055>
9. Micol Spitale, Agnese Piselli, Barbara Del Curto, Franca Garzotto 2019. Designing phygital activities in a smart multisensorial room: a collaborative cognitive environment for children with and without disabilities.
10. Micol Spitale, Fabio Catania, Pietro Crovari, Franca Garzotto. 2020. Multicriteria Decision Analysis and Conversational Agents for children with autism. Submitted to IEEE Annual Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICCS) 2020. IEEE - Best Paper Award
11. Fabio Catania, Pietro Crovari, Micol Spitale, Franca Garzotto 2019. Automatic Speech Recognition: Do Emotions Matter?. In 2019 IEEE International Conference on Conversational Data & Knowledge Engineering (CDKE) (pp. 9-16). IEEE.
12. Fabio Catania, Daniele Occhiuto, Micol Spitale, Franca Garzotto 2019. Convesational Technologies Supporting Social Inclusion
13. Micol Spitale, Silvia Silleresi, Giulia Cosentino, Francesca Panzeri, and Franca Garzotto. 2020. "Whom would you like to talk with?": exploring conversational agents for children's linguistic assessment. In Proceedings of the Interaction Design and Children Conference (IDC '20). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, 262–272. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1145/3392063.3394421>
14. Ecological Momentary Assessment Tools: Lessons Learned from an HCI Perspective Pietro Crovari, Fabio Catania, Micol Spitale, Franca Garzotto - HCI20
15. Micol Spitale and Franca Garzotto. 2020. Towards Empathic Conversational Interaction. In Proceedings of the 2nd Conference on Conversational User Interfaces (CUI '20). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, Article 41, 1–4. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1145/3405755.3406146>
16. Claudia Maria Cutrupi, Salvatore Fadda, Giovanni Valcarenghi, Giulia Cosentino, Fabio Catania, Micol Spitale, and Franca Garzotto. 2020. Smemo: a Multi-modal Interface Promoting Children's Creation of Personal Conversational Agents. In Proceedings of the 2nd Conference on Conversational User Interfaces (CUI '20). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, Article 36, 1–3. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1145/3405755.3406162>
17. Fabio Catania, Micol Spitale, Giulia Cosentino, and Franca Garzotto. 2020. What is the Best Action for Children to "Wake Up" and "Put to Sleep" a Conversational Agent? A Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis Approach. In Proceedings of the 2nd Conference on Conversational User Interfaces (CUI '20). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, Article 4, 1–10. DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1145/3405755.3406129>
18. Conversational Agents to Promote Children's Verbal Communication Skills
19. Micol Spitale, Silvia Silleresi, Giulia Leonardi, Fabrizio Arosio, Beatrice Giustolisi, Maria Teresa Guasti and Franca Garzotto. 2021. Design Patterns of Technology-based Therapeutic Activities for Children with Language Impairments: A Psycholinguistic-Driven Approach In Extended Abstracts of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI EA '21).
20. Fabio Catania, Micol Spitale, and Franca Garzotto. 2021. Toward the Introduction of Google Assistant in Therapy for Children with Neurodevelopmental Disorders: An Exploratory Study. In Extended Abstracts of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI EA '21).
21. Micol Spitale, and Maja J Matarić. 2021. Toward Automated Generation of Affective Gestures from Text:A Theory-Driven Approach - non-verbal Human Robot Interaction workshop

22. Micol Spitale, Chris Birmingham, R. Michael Swan, and Maja J Matarić. 2021. Composing HARMONI: An Open-source Tool For Human And Robot Modular Open Interaction. In 2021 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation, ICRA 2021

*Submitted:*

23. Mirko Gelsomini, Micol Spitale, and Franca Garzotto. 2021. Phygital Interfaces for People with Intellectual Disability: an Exploratory Study at a Social Care Center. *Multimedia Tools and Applications*, Springer Science & Business Media.
24. Micol Spitale, Sarah Okamoto, Mahima Gupta, Hao Xi, and Maja J Matarić. 2021. Socially Assistive Robots as Storytellers: Narrative Voice, Perception, Empathy, and Engagement. *Transaction on Human-Robot Interaction*