

Nicola Sabatino

EDUCATION

Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Trondheim, Norway

Research Visiting

Feb. 2026 – June 2026

- Topic: Experimental Validation of an MPC-Based Switch Controller System for COLREG-Compliant Collision Avoidance
- Supervisors: Prof. Morten Breivik, Prof. Anastasios Lekkas, Prof. Roger Skjetne

University of Genoa

Genoa, Italy

PhD Maritime Science and Technology - Marine Engineering and Naval Architecture

Nov. 2023 – present

- Topic: COLREG-Compliant Algorithms for Autonomous Collision Avoidance
- Supervisors: Prof. Michele Martelli, Prof. Raphael Zaccone

University of Genoa

Genoa, Italy

Cyberchallenge.it

Feb. 2022 – May. 2022

- Training program on the bases of cybersecurity sponsored by the Italian National Cybersecurity Agency (ACN)

University of Genoa

La Spezia, Italy

MSc Leisure Craft Engineering

Sept. 2021 – Oct. 2023

- Thesis Title: Consequences of a GPS Spoofing Attack on a Dynamic Positioning System
- Supervisor: Prof. Raphael Zaccone
- Grade: 110/110 cum laude

University of Genoa

Genoa, Italy

BSc in Marine Engineering and Naval Architecture

Sept. 2018 – Jul. 2021

- Thesis Title: Preliminary Project of a Tanker Ship
- Supervisor: Prof. Raphael Zaccone
- Grade: 104/110

EXPERIENCE

Customer Service & Technical Support

May 2022 – Nov. 2022

In-Yacht

Genoa, Italy

Pleasure Craft Engineer

Apr. 2021 – May 2021

Studio di Ingegneria Navale Ing. Mario Nattero

Genoa, Italy

PUBLICATIONS

- **Sabatino, N.**, Zaccone, R. 2026. A robust COLREG Meta-Classification system for autonomous ships in two-vessel encounter scenarios. *Ocean Engineering*.
- Fruzzetti, C., Ponzini, F., **Sabatino, N.**, Zaccone, R., Martelli, M. 2026. Field experiments on real-time autonomous marine surveillance. *Journal of Marine Engineering and Technology*.
- **Sabatino, N.**, Porello, D., Zaccone, R. 2025. An Ontology to Classify Marine Encounters According to COLREG. *Proceedings of the Satellite Events of the 15th International Conference on Formal Ontology in Information Systems (FOIS 2025): Ontology Showcase, Demonstrations, and Early Career Symposium*.
- Zaccone, R., **Sabatino, N.**, Martelli, M. 2025. Dynamic simulation of a waypoint-based decision support system for the collision avoidance of marine vessels. *Proceedings of the International Congress of the International Maritime Association of the Mediterranean*.
- Ponzini, F., Fruzzetti, C., **Sabatino, N.** 2024. Real-time critical marine infrastructure multi-sensor surveillance via a constrained stochastic coverage algorithm. *Proceedings of the International Ship Control System Symposium*.

AWARDS

2nd Place at Sir Donald Goslin Award

Nov. 2024

Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology

Liverpool, United Kingdom

SKILLS

Languages: Italian (native), English (fluent)

Hard Skills: Modelling & Simulations, GNC Engineering, Optimisation Methods, Computer Programming (Python, Java), Robot Operating System (ROS), MATLAB & Simulink

Soft Skills: Teamwork, Problem Solving, Time management