

**Personal information**

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**Villani Valeria**

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Italian

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<https://scholar.google.it/citations?user=YpeqrSMAAAAJ>**Short bio**

Valeria Villani is Assistant Professor at the Department of Sciences and Methods for Engineering of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia.

She received her B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Biomedical Engineering from the University Campus Bio-Medico of Rome in 2006 and 2009, respectively, and her Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from the University Campus Bio-Medico of Rome in 2013, focusing on biomedical signal processing, with emphasis on ECG signals. She was the recipient of the Best Paper Award at ISABEL 2011 and the Mortara Fellowship at CinC 2014.

Her research interests focus on the analysis of human factors in human-system interaction and the design of human-centred user interfaces for efficient cooperation between the human and industrial machines or robots. Moreover, she has solid background in biomedical signal processing, which she has been applying to robot control and affective human-robot interaction. She was the Technical Coordinator of the H2020 European project “Smart and adaptive interfaces for INCLUSIVE work environment” (INCLUSIVE, GA n. 723373). She was also part of the Management Team of the project and coordinated interactions among project partners and with the European Commission, facilitating a smooth progress of project activities. Moreover, she was the Technical Coordinator of the experiment “COLlaborative robot aMPLifying and Extending huMAN capabilities” (COMPLEMENT), which was part of the H2020 European project “Smart integrated Robotics system for SMEs controlled by Internet of Things based on dynamic manufacturing processes” (HORSE, GA n. 680734).

She is currently Associate Editor for IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering and has been appointed as Associate Editor for the IEEE international conferences IROS in 2023 and ICRA since 2018. Moreover, she served as Guest Editor for the Special Issue on Human-Robot Collaboration in Industrial Applications of Mechatronics (Elsevier) in 2018. She was also member of the Program Committee of IFAC HMS 2019 and co-organized the Workshops “WORKMATE 2018: the WORKplace is better with intelligent, collaborative, robot MATEs” at IEEE ICRA 2018, “Design, Learning, and Control for Safe Human-Robot Collaboration” at IEEE ICAR 2021 and “SOLAR: Socially-acceptable robots concepts, techniques, and applications” at IEEE ICRA 2023. She was General Chair for the 12th International Workshop on Human-Friendly Robotics (HFR 2019).

She was reviewer for the project “Credible & Safe Robot Systems” (CredRoS) funded to JOANNEUM RESEARCH ROBOTICS by the Austrian Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology. Moreover, she was appointed expert evaluator by the European Commission for project proposals in the call HORIZON-CL4-2023-HUMAN-01-CNECT.

**Position**

Dates

August 2022 – today

Position

**Assistant professor (tenure track)**

Main topics

Human-robot and human-machine interaction; human factors in robotics and automation applications

Institution

University of Modena e Reggio Emilia

## Education and Previous Academic Experience

Dates	February 2022 – July 2022
Position	<b>Post-doc research fellow</b>
Main topics	Human-robot interaction and analysis of human factors in robotics; user modeling for affective robotics and adaptive human-robot interaction
Institution	University of Modena e Reggio Emilia
Dates	February 2017 – January 2022
Posizione	<b>Assistant Professor</b>
Main topics	Human-robot interaction and analysis of human factors in robotics; user modeling for affective robotics and adaptive human-robot interaction
Institution	University of Modena e Reggio Emilia
Dates	January 2015 – January 2017
Position	<b>Post-doc research fellow</b>
Main topics	Design of human-machine interfaces for robotics and automation applications
Institution	University of Modena e Reggio Emilia
Dates	April 2013 – January 2015
Position	<b>Research fellow</b>
Main topics	Biomedical signal processing, with emphasis on electrocardiogram and RR series
Institution	University Campus Bio-Medico of Rome
Dates	January 2010 – April 2013
Certificate or diploma	<b>PhD in Biomedical Engineering</b> , (financed with scholarship)
Thesis	A framework for ECG signal processing based on quadratic variation reduction
Main topics	Biomedical signal processing, electrocardiogram, quadratic variation reduction
Institution	University Campus Bio-Medico of Rome
Dates	November 2006 – February 2009
Certificate or diploma	<b>Master's Degree in Biomedical Engineering</b>
Thesis	Analysis of biomedical images by means of textures modeled as Markov random fields (in Italian: Analisi di immagini biomedicali mediante estrazione di tessiture modellate come campi aleatori markoviani)
Mark	110/110 summa cum laude
Institution	University Campus Bio-Medico of Rome
Dates	October 2003 – October 2006
Certificate or diploma	<b>Bachelor's Degree in Biomedical Engineering</b>
Thesis	Systems for controlled release of drugs in intracranial cavity: control and sensorization (in Italian: Sistemi per il rilascio controllato di farmaci nella cavità intracranica: aspetti di sensorizzazione e controllo)
Mark	110/110 summa cum laude
Institution	University Campus Bio-Medico of Rome

## Scientific publications

### International journals

- [1] Valeria Villani, Cristian Secchi, Marco Lippi, and Lorenzo Sabattini. A general pipeline for online gesture recognition in human-robot interaction. *IEEE Transactions on Human-Machine Systems*, 53:315–324, 2023
- [2] Federica Ferraguti, Valeria Villani, and Chiara Storchi. Mywelder: A collaborative system for intuitive robot-assisted welding. *Mechatronics*, 89:102920, 2023
- [3] Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Giorgia Zanelli, Enrico Callegati, Benjamin Bezzi, Paulina Barańska, Zofia Mockało, Dorota Żołnierczyk-Zreda, Julia N Czerniak, Verena Nitsch, Alexander Mertens, and Cesare Fantuzzi. A user study for the evaluation of adaptive interaction systems for inclusive industrial workplaces. *IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering*, 19(4):3300–3310, 2022
- [4] Elisa Prati, Valeria Villani, Fabio Grandi, Margherita Peruzzini, and Lorenzo Sabattini. Use of interaction design methodologies for human-robot collaboration in industrial scenarios. *IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering*, 19(4):3126–3138, 2022
- [5] Elisa Prati, Valeria Villani, Margherita Peruzzini, and Lorenzo Sabattini. An approach based on VR to design industrial human-robot collaborative workstations. *Applied Sciences*, 11(24), 2021
- [6] Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Paulina Barańska, Enrico Callegati, Julia N. Czerniak, Adel Debbache, Mina Fahimipirehgalin, Andreas Gallasch, Frieder Loch, Rosario Maida, Alexander Mertens, Zofia Mockało, Francesco Monica, Verena Nitsch, Engin Talas, Elisabetta Toschi, Birgit Vogel-Heuser, Jeanmarc Willems, Dorota Żołnierczyk-Zreda, and Cesare Fantuzzi. The INCLUSIVE system: A general framework for adaptive industrial automation. *IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering*, 18(4):1969 – 1982, 2021
- [7] Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Frieder Loch, Birgit Vogel-Heuser, and Cesare Fantuzzi. A general methodology for adapting industrial HMIs to human operators. *IEEE Trans. Automation Science and Engineering*, 18(1):164 – 175, 2021
- [8] Julia N. Czerniak, Nikolas Schierhorst, Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Christopher Brandl, Alexander Mertens, Maximilian Schwalm, and Verena Nitsch. The index of cognitive activity - eligibility for task-evoked informational strain and robustness towards visual influences. *Applied Ergonomics*, 92:1033–1042, 2021
- [9] Valeria Villani, Massimiliano Righi, Lorenzo Sabattini, and Cristian Secchi. Wearable devices for the assessment of cognitive effort for human-robot interaction. *IEEE Sensors Journal*, 20(21):13047–13056, 2020
- [10] Valeria Villani, Beatrice Capelli, Cristian Secchi, Cesare Fantuzzi, and Lorenzo Sabattini. Humans interacting with multi-robot systems: a natural affect-based approach. *Autonomous Robots*, 44(3):601–616, 2020
- [11] Valeria Villani, Julia N. Czerniak, Lorenzo Sabattini, Alexander Mertens, and Cesare Fantuzzi. Measurement and classification of human characteristics and capabilities during interaction tasks. *Paladyn. Journal of Behavioral Robotics*, 10(1):182–192, 2019
- [12] Francesco Leali, Fabio Pini, and Valeria Villani. Guest editorial note: Special issue on human-robot collaboration in industrial applications. *Mechatronics*, 58:80–81, 2019
- [13] Valeria Villani, Fabio Pini, Francesco Leali, and Cristian Secchi. Survey on human-robot collaboration in industrial settings: Safety, intuitive interfaces and applications. *Mechatronics*, 55:248–266, 2018
- [14] Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Julia N. Czerniak, Alexander Mertens, and Cesare Fantuzzi. MATE robots simplifying my work: benefits and socio-ethical implications. *IEEE Robot. Automat. Mag.*, 25(1):37–45, 2018

International conferences

- [15] Chiara Talignani Landi, Valeria Villani, Federica Ferraguti, Lorenzo Sabattini, Cristian Secchi, and Cesare Fantuzzi. Relieving operators' workload: Towards affective robotics in industrial scenarios. *Mechatronics*, 54:144–154, Oct. 2018
- [16] Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Giuseppe Riggio, Cristian Secchi, Marco Minelli, and Cesare Fantuzzi. A natural infrastructure-less human-robot interaction system. *IEEE Robot. Automat. Lett.*, 2(3):1640–1647, 2017
- [17] Maurizio Muratore, Francesco Conversano, Maria Daniela Renna, Paola Pisani, Valeria Villani, and Sergio Casciaro. Social impact of osteoporotic fractures: Early diagnosis and possible therapies. *Int. J. Measurement Technologies and Instrumentation Engineering (IJMTIE)*, 4(2):39–53, 2014
- [18] Antonio Fasano and Valeria Villani. Baseline wander removal for bio-electrical signals by quadratic variation reduction. *Signal Process.*, 99:48–57, 2014
- [19] Christopher Zanolì, Valeria Villani, and Marco Picone. The road to industry 5.0: The challenges of human fatigue modeling. In *IEEE International Conference on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics (SMC)*, 2023
- [20] Valeria Villani, Beatrice Capelli, and Lorenzo Sabattini. A mixed reality system for interaction with heterogeneous robotic systems. In *IEEE International Conference on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics (SMC)*, 2023
- [21] Valeria Villani, Marta Gabbi, and Lorenzo Sabattini. Promoting operator's wellbeing in industry 5.0: detecting mental and physical fatigue. In *2022 IEEE International Conference on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics (SMC)*, pages 2030–2036. IEEE, 2022
- [22] Valeria Villani, Cristina Vercellino, and Lorenzo Sabattini. How can we understand multi-robot systems? a user study to compare implicit and explicit communication modalities. In *International Symposium on Distributed Autonomous Robotic Systems (DARS)*, 2023
- [23] Valeria Villani, Angela Ciaramidaro, Cristina Iani, Sandro Rubichi, and Lorenzo Sabattini. To collaborate or not to collaborate: understanding human-robot collaboration. In *2022 IEEE 18th International Conference on Automation Science and Engineering (CASE)*, pages 2441–2446. IEEE, 2022
- [24] Andrea Ruo, Valeria Villani, and Lorenzo Sabattini. Use of EEG signals for mental workload assessment in human-robot collaboration. In *Springer Proceedings in Advanced Robotics (SPAR)*, 2022
- [25] Andrea Bettoni, Elias Montini, Massimiliano Righi, Valeria Villani, Radoslin Tsvetanov, Stefano Borgia, Cristian Secchi, and Emanuele Carpanzano. Mutualistic and adaptive human-machine collaboration based on machine learning in an injection moulding manufacturing line. *Procedia CIRP*, 93:395–400, 2020
- [26] Giulia Lotti, Valeria Villani, Nicola Battilani, and Cesare Fantuzzi. New trends in the design of human-machine interaction for CNC machines. In *14th IFAC/IFIP/IFORS/IEA Symp. Analysis, Design, and Evaluation of Human-Machine Systems (HMS)*, volume 52 of *IFAC-PapersOnLine*, pages 31–36, 2019
- [27] Valeria Villani, Giulia Lotti, Nicola Battilani, and Cesare Fantuzzi. Survey on usability assessment for industrial user interfaces. In *14th IFAC/IFIP/IFORS/IEA Symp. Analysis, Design, and Evaluation of Human-Machine Systems (HMS)*, volume 52 of *IFAC-PapersOnLine*, pages 25–30, 2019
- [28] Beatrice Capelli, Valeria Villani, Cristian Secchi, and Lorenzo Sabattini. Understanding multi-robot systems: on the concept of legibility. In *Proc. IEEE/RSJ Int. Conf. Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, pages 7355–7361, 2019
- [29] Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Cristian Secchi, and Cesare Fantuzzi. A framework for affect-based natural human-robot interaction. In *IEEE, editor, 27th IEEE Int. Symp. Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN)*, pages 1038–1044, 2018

- [30] Valeria Villani, Beatrice Capelli, and Lorenzo Sabattini. Use of virtual reality for the evaluation of human-robot interaction systems in complex scenarios. In IEEE, editor, 27th IEEE Int. Symp. Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN), pages 422–427, 2018
- [31] Frieder Loch, Julia Czerniak, Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Cesare Fantuzzi, Alexander Mertens, and Birgit Vogel-Heuser. An adaptive speech interface for assistance in maintenance and changeover procedure. In Springer, editor, Proc. 20th Int. Conf. Human-Computer Interaction (HCI), pages 152–163, 2018
- [32] Frieder Loch, Mina Fahimipirehgalin, Julia Czerniak, Alexander Mertens, Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Cesare Fantuzzi, and Birgit Vogel-Heuser. An adaptive virtual training system based on universal design. In Proc. 2nd IFAC Conf. Cyber-Physical and Human-Systems (CPHS), volume 51 of IFAC-PapersOnLine, pages 335–340, 2018
- [33] Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Alessio Levratti, and Cesare Fantuzzi. An industrial social network for sharing knowledge among operators. In Proc. 16th IFAC Symp. Information Control Problems in Manufacturing (INCOM), volume 51 of IFAC-PapersOnLine, pages 48–53, 2018
- [34] Valeria Villani, Fabio Pini, Francesco Leali, Cristian Secchi, and Cesare Fantuzzi. Survey on human-robot interaction for robot programming in industrial applications. In Proc. 16th IFAC Symp. Information Control Problems in Manufacturing (INCOM), volume 51 of IFAC-PapersOnLine, pages 66–71, 2018
- [35] Lorenzo Sabattini, Valeria Villani, Julia Czerniak, Frieder Loch, Alexander Mertens, Birgit Vogel-Heuser, and Cesare Fantuzzi. Methodological approach for the evaluation of an adaptive and assistive human-machine system. In 14th IEEE Conf. Automation Science and Engineering (CASE), pages 57–62. IEEE, 2018
- [36] Julia N Czerniak, Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Frieder Loch, Birgit Vogel-Heuser, Cesare Fantuzzi, Christopher Brandl, and Alexander Mertens. Systematic approach to develop a flexible adaptive human-machine interface in socio-technological systems. In Congress of the International Ergonomics Association (IEA), Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing, pages 276–288. Springer, Springer, 2018
- [37] Giulia Lotti, Valeria Villani, Nicola Battilani, and Cesare Fantuzzi. Towards an integrated approach for supporting the workers in industry 4.0. In Proc. 1st IEEE Int. Conf. Industrial Cyber-Physical Systems (ICPS), pages 609–614. IEEE, 2018
- [38] Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Cristian Secchi, and Cesare Fantuzzi. Natural interaction based on affective robotics for multi-robot systems. In Proc. IEEE International Symposium on Multi-Robot and Multi-Agent Systems (MRS), pages 56–62. IEEE, dic. 2017
- [39] Lorenzo Sabattini, Valeria Villani, Cristian Secchi, and Cesare Fantuzzi. A general approach to natural human-robot interaction. In Springer Proceedings in Advanced Robotics (SPAR), pages 61–71, 2017
- [40] Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Giuseppe Riggio, Alessio Levratti, Cristian Secchi, and Cesare Fantuzzi. Interacting with a mobile robot with a natural infrastructure-less interface. In Proc. IFAC 20th World Congress Int. Federation Autom. Control IFAC, volume 50 of IFAC-PapersOnLine, pages 12753–12758. Elsevier, 2017
- [41] Lorenzo Sabattini, Valeria Villani, Julia Czerniak, Alexander Mertens, and Cesare Fantuzzi. Methodological approach for the design of a complex inclusive human-machine system. In 13th IEEE Conf. Automation Science and Engineering (CASE), pages 145–150. IEEE, 2017
- [42] Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Julia N. Czerniak, Alexander Mertens, Birgit Vogel-Heuser, and Cesare Fantuzzi. Towards modern inclusive factories: A methodology for the development of smart adaptive human-machine interfaces. In 22nd IEEE Int. Conf. Emerging Technologies And Factory Automation (ETFA). IEEE, 2017

- [43] Antonio Fasano, Sauro Longhi, Andrea Monteriù, and Valeria Villani. A detection-estimation approach with refinement to filtering for gaussian systems with intermittent observations. In Proc. 55th IEEE Conf. Decision and Control (CDC), pages 2035–2040, dec. 2016
- [44] Valeria Villani, Nicola Battilani, Giulia Lotti, and Cesare Fantuzzi. MyAID: a troubleshooting application for supporting human operators in industrial environment. In 13th IFAC/IFIP/IFORS/IEA Symp. Analysis, Design, and Evaluation of Human-Machine Systems (HMS), volume 49 of IFAC-PapersOnLine, pages 391–396, 2016
- [45] Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, Nicola Battilani, and Cesare Fantuzzi. Smartwatch-enhanced interaction with an advanced troubleshooting system for industrial machines. In 13th IFAC/IFIP/IFORS/IEA Symp. Analysis, Design, and Evaluation of Human-Machine Systems (HMS), volume 49, pages 277–282, 2016
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- [47] Antonio Fasano and Valeria Villani. ECG baseline wander removal with recovery of the isoelectric level. In IEEE Comput. Cardiol. (CinC), pages 577–580, sep. 2015
- [48] Antonio Fasano and Valeria Villani. Fast and effective estimation of narrowband components for bioelectrical signals. In Proc. 37th Annu. Int. Conf. IEEE Eng. Med. Biol. Soc. (EMBC), pages 7841–7844. IEEE, aug. 2015
- [49] Antonio Fasano and Valeria Villani. Statistical assessment of performance of algorithms for detrending RR series. In Proc. 37th Annu. Int. Conf. IEEE Eng. Med. Biol. Soc. (EMBC), pages 3335–3338. IEEE, aug. 2015
- [50] Valeria Villani and Antonio Fasano. A framework for ECG signal preprocessing based on quadratic variation reduction. In IEEE Comput. Cardiol. (CinC), volume 41, pages 41–44, sep. 2014
- [51] Antonio Fasano and Valeria Villani. ECG baseline wander removal by QVR preserving the ST segment. In 8th Conf. European Study Group on Cardiac Oscillations (ESGCO), pages 117–118, may 2014
- [52] Valeria Villani, Francesco Conversano, Matteo Aventaggiato, Fernanda Chiriaco, Maurizio Muratore, and Sergio Casciaro. Implementation of a model database for a novel ultrasonic approach to bone evaluation. In 3rd Imeko TC13 Symp. Meas. Biol. Med., apr. 2014
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- [54] Antonio Fasano and Valeria Villani. Baseline wander removal in ECG and AHA recommendations. In IEEE Comput. Cardiol. (CinC), volume 40, pages 1167–1170, sep. 2013
- [55] Antonio Fasano and Valeria Villani. ECG baseline wander removal and impact on beats morphology: A comparative analysis. In IEEE Comput. Cardiol. (CinC), volume 40, pages 1171–1174, sep. 2013
- [56] Valeria Villani and Antonio Fasano. Fast detrending of unevenly sampled series with application to HRV. In IEEE Comput. Cardiol. (CinC), volume 40, pages 417–420, sep. 2013
- [57] Antonio Fasano and Valeria Villani. Joint denoising and narrowband artifact rejection for ECG signals. In IEEE Comput. Cardiol. (CinC), volume 39, pages 49–52, sep. 2012
- [58] Antonio Fasano, Valeria Villani, and Luca Vollero. ECG smoothing and denoising by local quadratic variation reduction. In Proc. 4th Int. Symp. Appl. Sci. Biomed. Commun. Tech. (ISABEL), oct. 2011
- [59] Antonio Fasano, Valeria Villani, and Luca Vollero. Fast ECG baseline wander removal preserving the ST segment. In Proc. 4th Int. Symp. Appl. Sci. Biomed. Commun. Tech. (ISABEL), oct. 2011

- [60] Antonio Fasano, Valeria Villani, and Luca Vollero. Baseline wander estimation and removal by quadratic variation reduction. In Proc. 33rd Annu. Int. Conf. IEEE Eng. Med. Biol. Soc. (EMBC), pages 977–980. IEEE, aug.-sep. 2011
- [61] Antonio Fasano, Valeria Villani, and Luca Vollero. Denoising and harmonic artifacts rejection for ECG P-waves by quadratic variation reduction. In Proc. 33rd Annu. Int. Conf. IEEE Eng. Med. Biol. Soc. (EMBC), pages 981–984. IEEE, aug.-sep. 2011
- [62] Antonio Fasano, Valeria Villani, Luca Vollero, and Federica Censi. ECG P-wave smoothing and denoising by quadratic variation reduction. In Proc. 4th Int. Conf. Bio-Inspired Syst. Signal Process. (BIOSIGNAL), pages 289–294, jan. 2011
- [63] Valeria Villani, Antonio Fasano, Luca Vollero, Federica Censi, and Giuseppe Boriani. Measuring P-wave morphological variability for AF-prone patients identification. In Proc. 4th Int. Conf. Bio-Inspired Syst. Signal Process. (BIOSIGNAL), pages 481–484, jan. 2011
- Books editor [64] Federica Ferraguti, Valeria Villani, Lorenzo Sabattini, and Marcello Bonfè, editors. Human-Friendly Robotics 2019. HFR 2019, volume 12 of Springer Proceedings in Advanced Robotics. Springer, Cham, 2020
- Italian conferences [65] Antonio Fasano and Valeria Villani. Fast estimation of narrowband components for ECG signals. In Quarto Congresso del Gruppo Nazionale di Bioingegneria (GNB), jun. 2014
- [66] Antonio Fasano and Valeria Villani. Fast detrending of RR series for HRV analysis. In Quarto Congresso del Gruppo Nazionale di Bioingegneria (GNB), jun. 2014
- [67] Antonio Fasano, Valeria Villani, and Giulio Iannello. Fast and effective baseline wander estimation and removal. In Terzo Congresso del Gruppo Nazionale di Bioingegneria (GNB), jun. 2012
- [68] Antonio Fasano, Valeria Villani, and Giulio Iannello. ECG denoising and power-line interference rejection by local quadratic variation reduction. In Terzo Congresso del Gruppo Nazionale di Bioingegneria (GNB), jun. 2012
- PhD thesis [69] Valeria Villani. A framework for ECG signal processing based on quadratic variation reduction. PhD thesis, Università Campus Bio-Medico di Roma, apr., Rome 2013