



"Bridging the Gap Between Theory and Practical Applications in AI and Machine Learning"

Presenter: Dario Fanucchi, CTO of Isazi.ai

Co-Hosted by the School for Data Science and Computational Thinking and the Department of Mechanical and Mechatronic Engineering

Date: Friday 8 August 2025

Time: 12h00 for 12h15

Venue: Seminar Room, School for Data Science and Computational Thinking, JC Smuts Building, Van der Byl Road.

Join Dario, CTO of Isazi.ai, as he reflects on over a decade of building and deploying AI technologies to solve real-world problems across Africa and globally. With 13 years of hands-on experience, Dario unpacks how AI tools and techniques have evolved from early experimentation to today's powerful, production-ready systems. He'll share lessons from the field, stories of impact, and a compelling case for why every leader, innovator, and problem-solver must engage with AI today, become "AI-native" and unlock productivity gains from this technology. As the pace of change accelerates, this technology isn't just shaping the future, it's defining it.

Dario Fanucchi is a South African entrepreneur and technologist with a passion for algorithm design and machine learning. He is interested in the transformative potential of data in the third world and his goal is to solve Africa's most challenging problems by getting creative with modern technology, AI and optimisation. Dario co-founded Isazi Consulting in 2012, and has helped grow the company to one of the most respected data science houses in Africa.

Isazi.ai is a South African-based data science and AI engineering company focused on solving complex, real-world problems through data science, optimization, and machine learning. With branches in Dubai and London, the team of over 50 scientists brings deep expertise across engineering, statistics, physics, computer science, and advanced mathematics. Since its founding in 2012, Isazi has delivered more than 200 AI solutions across 11 industries, alongside their two flagship products: Hudson, a process optimization engine for supply chain operations and Sophia, a crowdsourcing platform for intelligent document processing.

Refreshments will be served after Dario's talk. For further information, contact Latashe Poole on dataschool@sun.ac.za