

Biography

Alessandro Fracassi is a Postdoctoral research fellow in the Devaraj group at the University of California San Diego (UCSD) in the department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. He received a B.S. and a M.S. in Chemistry from Sapienza University of Rome, completing his thesis work on the preparation of glycosylated lipid vesicles under the guidance of Dr. Giovanna Mancini. He earned his Ph.D. in Chemistry from ETH Zurich in 2019 where he worked on the development of lipid nanoparticles as carriers of MRI contrast agents for the diagnosis of early stage atherosclerosis in the lab of Prof. Yoko Yamakoshi. His current research work at UCSD involves the investigation of how organic molecules can assemble to build materials with emergent lifelike properties. Specifically, his research focuses on developing artificial lipid compartments capable of mimicking natural membrane behavior, aiming at creating general routes for generating synthetic biological systems.