Alejandro Acelas
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EDUCATION

B.S. Economics   **Aug 2020 – Nov 2023**
Universidad de Los Andes. Cum Laude   *Bogotá, Colombia*

- Relevant Coursework: Topics in Machine Learning, Data Analysis in R, Statistics (Honors).

EXPERIENCE

Machine Learning Engineer   **Aug 2023 – Oct 2023**
Independent Contractor   *Remote*

- Trained, evaluated, and interpreted ML models designed to perform algorithmic tasks
- Developed a set of resources and technical reports offering comprehensive analyses of these models to enable easier evaluation of techniques used to interpret AI decision-making

Research Fellow   **Jun 2023 – Aug 2023**
Swiss Existential Risk Initiative   *Geneva, Switzerland*

- Investigated techniques for detecting the most critical features influencing an AI model's performance, building upon Anthropic's 'Toy Models of Superposition' paper
- Designed challenges for AI researchers to understand the inner workings of AI models, including repairing faulty components, examining unusual behaviors, and identifying manipulated inputs

Research Assistant   **Sep 2021 – Jun 2022**
Under Tomás Rodríguez Barraquer at Universidad de Los Andes   *Bogotá, Colombia*

- Analyzed millions of tweets to understand the patterns of communication across the political spectrum during times of social unrest, shedding light on the dynamics of polarization in digital communities
- Created computer simulations that mimic the spread of diseases, using principles from biology and game theory, to explore how societal norms can impact public health during pandemics

HONORS

3rd Place National Academic Economics Contest	2023
Honorific Mention International Mathematical Olympiad	2017
5th Place Colombian Mathematical Olympiad (2017)	2017
1st Place Mathematical Olympiad at Universidad Industrial de Santander	2013, 2015, 2017

MISCELLANEOUS

Alignment Research Engineering Accelerator   **Apr 2023 – Jun 2023**
Participant

Completed an intensive ML training program covering foundational concepts, advanced techniques like transformers and reinforcement learning, and practical skills for training large-scale models efficiently

Effective Altruism Uniandes   **Jun 2021 – Feb 2023**
Leader and cofounder

Facilitated discussions on crucial global issues, organized events, and ensured progress towards objectives

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, R, SQL, Java, Stata
Tools: AWS Services (SageMaker, Glue, Lambda), Pytorch, Power BI, Langchain, Numpy, Pandas, Matplotlib, Plotly, PySpark, Git, Tidyverse, Excel
Languages: English (TOEFL 112/120), Spanish