Fabio J. Fehr

Research assistant at Idiap, Ph.D. student at EPFL

- May 23, 1996, Swiss + South African
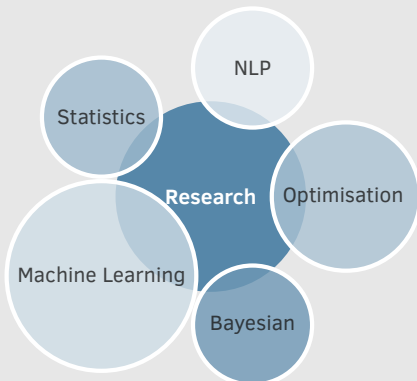- fabio.fehr@idiap.ch
- Github Profile
- LinkedIn Profile
- Research Profile

About me

I am an individual who is enthusiastic, reliable and tenacious. I take a statistical approach to life. Given a 1% chance of success, I am prepared to try at least 100 times. My research interests are in machine learning, statistics and natural language processing. I thrive on regular exercise and enjoy outdoor activities such as hiking, skiing and surfing. My hobbies include: reading, playing classical music and growing bonsai.

Interests

NLP · Statistics · Research · Optimisation · Machine Learning · Bayesian

Languages

- English ●●●●●
- Afrikaans ●●●●○
- French ●●●○○
- German ●●○○○

Working

2021-2024	**Research Assistant**	Idiap
	Working in the Natural Language Understanding group at Idiap.	
2018	**Intern Machine Learning Engineer**	DataProphet
	Implementing transfer learning for RNN and CNN models for financial time-series data.	
2017 - 2018	**Intern Data Scientist**	Eighty20
	I worked on a team project for the water crisis in Cape Town. Thereafter, working with Eighty20's Big Data Portal in SQL.	

Education

2021 – 2024	**Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering**	EPFL
	Working in the intersection of machine learning and natural language processing, with an emphasis on representation learning for the meaning of language, attention-based deep learning models, and structured prediction.	
	PhD Research	EPFL
	Currently working on combining Bayesian non-parametrics methods with attention-based deep learning language models.	
2019 – 2020	**Masters in Advanced Analytics (Full bursary)**	UCT
	Statistics specialisation. A two year masters degree including coursework and dissertation. Awarded SASA-NRF grant funding.	
	Master Thesis	UCT
	A comprehensive comparison study of Gaussian processes and variational autoencoders for statistical shape modelling of 3D meshes.	
2015 – 2018	**Bachelors of Business Science in Analytics**	UCT
	A diverse degree with a focus on Statistics, Mathematics and Computer Science. Honours year specialisation in statistics.	
	Honours Thesis (Distinction)	UCT
	Text Content Classification on News Articles: Using natural language processing and machine learning techniques to classify text articles. This was presented at the South African Statistical Association (SASA) conference in 2019.	

Teaching

2021-2024	**Teaching Assistant**	EPFL
	Working as a TA for machine learning and NLP courses at EPFL.	
2020-2021	**Engagement Tutor**	GetSmarter
	Tutor for in Business Analytics (UCT) and Machine Learning (LSE).	
2019 – 2020	**Subject Matter Expert**	GetSmarter
	Building two online courses: Business Analytics (UCT) and Machine Learning (LSE).	
2017 – 2020	**Head Tutor: Statistics**	UCT
	Managing, coordination, tutoring and assistant lecturing.	

Community

2013 – 2019	**Lifesaving Squad Leader**	LSLC
	Llandudno Surf Lifesaving Club, leading a squad of 25 young lifeguards. 100 hours p.a community service.	
2016 – 2019	**Surf Club Chairman**	UCT
	Management of a team, organisation of events, working with brands. Community outreach and adaptive surfing. 25 hours p.a community service. Club of the year and transformation trophy for 2019.	

References

Dr James Henderson	Idiap
Ph.D. supervisor - james.henderson@idiap.ch	
Associate Professor Francesca Little	UCT
Head of statistics department - francesca.little@uct.ac.za	
Dr Sheetal Silal	UCT
Lecturer and mentor - sheetal.silal@uct.ac.za	
Associate Professor Tinashe Mutsvangwa	UCT
MSc. supervisor - tinashe.mutsvangwa@uct.ac.za	