

Gil Rocha

Curriculum Vitae

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Personal Information

Date of birth 15/08/1993
Place of birth Suresnes, Paris, France
Nationality Portuguese
Gender Male
Marital Single
Status

Education

2006–2011 **High School - Science and Technology course**
Escola Secundária de Paços de Ferreira, Portugal.

2011–2016 **Integrated Master in Informatics and Computing Engineering (300 ECTS)**
(B.Sc. and M.Sc.) *Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto, Portugal*

Master Thesis:

Title: *ArgMine: Argumentation Mining from Text*

Advisors: Prof. Henrique Lopes Cardoso and Jorge Teixeira

2015–2016 **Erasmus+ Programme, 1st semester 2015/2016**
Barcelona School of Informatics, Technical University of Catalonia and Faculty of Mathematics, University of Barcelona, Spain

I enrolled in five courses (total of 24.5 ECTS) of the Master in Artificial Intelligence and Master in Innovation and Research in Informatics, namely: Professional Practice in Artificial Intelligence, Introduction to Machine Learning, Normative and Dynamical Virtual Worlds, Optimization Techniques for Data Mining, Data Analysis and Knowledge Discovery.

2017–2020 **Doctoral Program in Informatics Engineering (ProDEI)**
(expected) *Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto, Portugal*
Title: *Argumentation Mining from Text Using Semantic Approaches*
Advisor: Prof. Henrique Lopes Cardoso

Work Experience

09/2014– **Web Development**
08/2015 JCRSOFT *Paços de Ferreira, Porto, Portugal*

JCRSoft is a software company responsible for the IT sector of some companies from different industrial sectors. I was responsible for the full development of the commercial websites for some of these companies, namely:

- NORTALU: <http://www.nortalu.com>
- CEMEPAFE: <http://www.cemepafe.pt>
- SERVIFLOR Group: <http://www.serviflorgroup.pt>

10/2016– **Research Assistant**
Current *Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science Laboratory, LIACC/FEUP, Portugal*

LIACC is a research unit hosted by University of Porto. LIACC's research goals are aligned with: - Coordination and interoperability of programs requiring distributed and decentralized solutions that cope with dynamic environments (both cooperative and competitive); - Intelligent methods for knowledge extraction; - Software reliability and declarativeness. The research unit is recognized as one the leading Portuguese research institutes on Artificial Intelligence. I worked in the project entitled "ArgMine: Argumentation Mining from Text" which aims to develop a system able to automatic detect, identify and structure the argumentative content presented in natural language textual resources written in Portuguese.

04/2018– **Visiting Researcher**
05/2018 *Ubiquitous Knowledge Processing (UKP) Lab*
Department of Computer Science, Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany

Research visit partially supported by an Erasmus+ (Work) grant. During this period, I will collaborate with the UKP lab on the topic of Argumentation Mining, under the supervision of Dr. Christian Stab. More specifically, we will work on a two month project entitled "Cross-Lingual Argumentative Relations Identification". The aim of this project is to address the argumentation mining subtask of argumentative relation identification, focusing the attention on cross-language learning techniques that can take advantage of growing corpora annotated with arguments that becomes available in different languages to improve the performance of the subtask on low-resourced languages. Since available corpora in different languages is also annotated from different genres of text, we formulate the problem as a multi-task ML problem comprising the argumentative relation identification, language adaptation and genre adaptation task.

Academic & Research Experience

Research Projects

- 11/2014– **ArgMine: Argumentation Mining from Text,**
09/2015 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND COMPUTER SCIENCE LABORATORY
(LIACC/FEUP) & SAPO LABS, Porto, Portugal,
Research grant supported by SAPO Labs (FEUP).

This project aims to apply and enrich text mining techniques for the automatic detection and identification of the argumentative structure contained within a piece of natural language text.

Further information can be found at <http://labs.sapo.pt/portfolio/argmine/> and <https://web.fe.up.pt/~ei11124/argmine>

- 07/2017– **ARGH: Argumentation Hub,**
Current UNIVERSITY OF PORTO MEDIA INNOVATION LABS, Porto, Portugal,
Research Member.

The *Argumentation Hub* (ARGH) is a collaborative and interdisciplinary research initiative (involving the Faculty of Engineering, Arts and Law from the University of Porto) created to advance the state-of-the-art in argumentation and related applications. I am one of the founding members of the ARGH lab and currently a research member.

- 10/2018– **DARGMINTS: Discourse Analysis and Argumentation Mining from Text**
09/2021 **Sources,**
FCT POCI-01-0145-FEDER-031460,
LIACC/FEUP, FLUP, INESC-ID LISBOA,
Research Member.

This project proposes to study NLP/ML techniques for addressing the task of argument mining from text, focusing on the Portuguese language, considering different textual resources. The development of an NLP pipeline for the Portuguese language will be carried on, leveraging recent advances in the area. This NLP pipeline will support more advanced tasks, related to document-level parsing of discourse and to mining argument structures, to be aligned with argumentation schemes and discourse theories. We envision the development of new interactive visualizations for exploring argumentation patterns and processes. Such visualizations will be the basis for building appealing applications, that resort to historical data (news, parliamentary debate or on-line discussion archives), in areas related with media studies, political science or forensics (e.g. identifying opinion makers, detecting fallacies or radicalization processes), as well as applications specifically tailored for researchers in applied linguistics.

Teaching

03/2015– **Supervisor of Artificial Intelligence undergraduate course,**
06/2015 FACULTY OF ENGINEERING, UNIVERSITY OF PORTO, Portugal.

Artificial Intelligence course taught in the 3rd year of the Integrated Master in Informatics and Computing Engineering at FEUP. I was responsible for monitoring the laboratory work that students had to develop during the course.

Scientific Events

Member of Programme Committees and Reviewer:

- DSIE – Doctoral Symposium on Informatics Engineering, FEUP, Portugal: DSIE'17 (January 31, 2017);
- ISMIS – International Symposium on Methodologies for Intelligent Systems: ISMIS'17 (Warsaw, Poland, June 26-29, 2017);
- IEEE/WIC/ACM - International Conference on Web Intelligence: WI'17 (Leipzig, Germany, August 23-26, 2017);
- IEEE S3C - International Summer School on Smart Cities: IEEE S3C'17 (Natal, Brazil, August 6-11, 2017);
- ENIAC - Encontro Nacional de Inteligência Artificial e Computacional: ENIAC'17 (Uberlândia, Brazil, October 2-5, 2017).

Member of organization committees:

- DSIE – Doctoral Symposium on Informatics Engineering, FEUP, Portugal: DSIE'17 (January 31, 2017);
- Workshop ArgHumantation – Research and Practice(s) of Argumentation, Argumentation Hub (ARGH), Media Innovation Labs (MIL), University of Porto (May 3, 2018);

Supervision of Students

MSc Students:

- Li Yunyu, *Binary Classifier for Argumentation Schemes*, LIACC, February-July 2016 (co-supervised with Prof. Henrique Lopes Cardoso, Jorge Teixeira);
- José Ferreira, *Opinion-based Argumentation Mining*, MIEIC (FEUP), LIACC, September 2017 - July 2018 (co-supervised with Prof. Henrique Lopes Cardoso);

Invited Talks

- 10/2017 **Challenges in Natural Language Processing: From Semantic Tasks to Argumentation Mining.** *Faculty of Letters, University of Porto, Portugal*
Invited speaker at Jornadas de Análise do Discurso – JADIS VII / MEMITA (together with Prof. Henrique Lopes Cardoso)
- 10/2017 **ArgMine: Argumentation Mining from Text.** *Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto, Portugal*
Invited speaker at the course Language Processing and Information Extraction (PLEI) from the Doctoral Program in Informatics Engineering (ProDEI) (together with Prof. Henrique Lopes Cardoso)

06/2018 **Argumentation Mining from Text.**

Smart Data Analytics (SDA), University of Bonn, Germany

Invited speaker in a seminar organized by the SDA research group at the University of Bonn. I introduced the topic of argumentation mining, presented some of the research work developed at LIACC, and some directions for possible collaborations between LIACC and SDA were discussed (e.g. DeFacto research project)

11/2017, **ArgMine: Argumentation Mining from Text.**

10/2018 *Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto, Portugal*

Invited speaker at the course Intelligent Systems, Interaction and Multimedia Seminar (SSIM) from the Integrated Master in Informatics and Computing Engineering (MIEIC) (together with Prof. Henrique Lopes Cardoso)

Publications

Conference Publications

1. Gil Rocha, Henrique Lopes Cardoso, and Jorge Teixeira. **ArgMine: A Framework for Argumentation Mining.** In *Computational Processing of the Portuguese Language - 12th International Conference, PROPOR 2016, Student Research Workshop, Tomar, Portugal, July 13-15, 2016.*
2. Gil Rocha and Henrique Lopes Cardoso. **Coreference Resolution in Portuguese: The Impact of Training Set Generation Approaches.** In *Doctoral Symposium in Informatics Engineering - 12th Edition, DSIE 2017, Porto, Portugal, January 31, 2017.* (nominated for Best Paper Award)
3. Gil Rocha and Henrique Lopes Cardoso. **Towards a Mention-pair Model for Coreference Resolution in Portuguese.** In *Oliveira, E., Gama, J., Vale, Z., Lopes Cardoso, H. (eds.) Progress in Artificial Intelligence - 18th EPIA Conference on Artificial Intelligence*, Springer, LNAI 10423, pages 855–867, Porto, Portugal. Springer. 2017.
4. Gil Rocha and Henrique Lopes Cardoso. **Recognizing Textual Entailment and Paraphrases in Portuguese.** In *Oliveira, E., Gama, J., Vale, Z., Lopes Cardoso, H. (eds.) Progress in Artificial Intelligence - 18th EPIA Conference on Artificial Intelligence*, Springer, LNAI 10423, pages 868–879, Porto, Portugal. Springer. 2017.
5. Gil Rocha. **Argumentation Mining from Text Using Semantic Approaches.** In *18th EPIA Conference on Artificial Intelligence - Doctoral Symposium on Artificial Intelligence*, SDIA 2017, Porto, Portugal, September 5-8, 2017.
6. Gil Rocha and Henrique Lopes Cardoso. **Towards a Relation-based Argument Extraction Model for Argumentation Mining.** In *Camelin, N., Estève, Y., Martín-Vide, C. (eds.) 5th International Conference on Statistical Language and Speech Processing*, SLSP 2017, pages 94-105, Le Mans, France. Springer. 2017.
7. Gil Rocha and Henrique Lopes Cardoso. **Recognizing Textual Entailment: Challenges in the Portuguese Language.** *Information* 2018, 9(4):76.

8. André Ferreira Cruz, Gil Rocha, Henrique Lopes Cardoso. **Exploring Spanish Corpora for Portuguese Coreference Resolution**. In Proc. of the 2nd International Workshop on Advances in Natural Language Processing. SNAMS. 2018. (Accepted, to appear)
9. Aniketh Janardhan Reddy, Gil Rocha, Diego Esteves. **DeFactoNLP: Fact Verification using Entity Recognition, TFIDF Vector Comparison and Decomposable Attention**. In Proc. of the 1st Workshop on Fact Extraction and Verification, FEVER@EMNLP, pages 132-137, Brussels, Belgium. ACL. 2018.
10. Gil Rocha, Christian Stab, Henrique Lopes Cardoso and Iryna Gurevych. **Cross-Lingual Argumentative Relation Identification: from English to Portuguese**. In Proc. of the 5th Workshop on Argumentation Mining, ArgMining@EMNLP, pages 144-154, Brussels, Belgium. ACL. 2018.

Thesis

1. **ArgMine: Argumentation Mining from Text**. Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto. Master's Thesis, graded 18/20. Supervised by Prof. Henrique Lopes Cardoso (*LIACC/FEUP*) and Jorge Teixeira (*LIACC/FEUP* and *SAPO Labs/UP*)

Certifications

- 2012 **Portuguese Driving License (Category B)**, IMTT, Portugal.
- 2012 **Basic Life Support Course**, AEM PORTUGAL.
- 2012 **BEST Local Engineering Competition (Team Design category)**, BEST PORTO, FACULTY OF SCIENCE OF UNIVERSITY OF PORTO, Portugal.
- 2013 **BEST Local Engineering Competition (Team Design category)**, BEST PORTO, FACULTY OF SCIENCE OF UNIVERSITY OF PORTO, Portugal.
- 2013 **ENEI 2013 - "Encontro Nacional de Estudantes de Informática"**, FACULTY OF ENGINEERING OF UNIVERSITY OF PORTO, Portugal.
- 2013 **Talk a Bit Conference**, FACULTY OF ENGINEERING OF UNIVERSITY OF PORTO, Portugal.

Talk a Bit is a conference organised by students, where invited speakers discuss some of the current hot topics in the area of computer science.

- 2015 **5th Lisbon Machine Learning School (LxMLS 2015)** ,
INSTITUTO SUPERIOR TÉCNICO, Lisboa, Portugal.

The school covers a range of machine learning (ML) Topics, from theory to practice, that are important in solving natural language processing (NLP) problems that arise in the analysis and use of Web data.

- 2016 **9th Young Researchers Meeting of the University of Porto (IJUP 2016)** ,
FUNDAÇÃO DA JUVENTUDE - PALÁCIO DAS ARTES, Porto, Portugal.

In this meeting, young researchers (bachelor and master degree students) of the University of Porto publicly present the research projects in which they were involved during the bachelor or master degree. I gave an oral presentation about the research project "ArgMine: Argumentation Mining from Text".

- 2016 **12th International Conference on the Computational Processing of the Portuguese Language (PROPOR 2016)**, Tomar, Portugal.

PROPOR is the main scientific meeting in the area of language and speech technologies for the Portuguese language and on the basic and applied research issues related to this language. The meeting brings together research groups in the area, promoting the development of methodologies, language resources, processing tools, applications and projects that may be shared among researchers and practitioners in the field.

- 2017 **29th European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information (ESSLLI 2017)**,
UNIVERSITY OF TOULOUSE, Toulouse, France.

ESSLLI brings together logicians, linguists, computer scientists, and philosophers to study logic, language, information and their interconnections. ESSLLI 2017 featured 44 courses at foundational, introductory, and advanced levels, as well as 4 workshops, 4 invited lectures, and a student session to foster interdisciplinary discussion. Courses and workshops are one week long and cover a wide variety of topics within the combined areas of interest: Language and Logic, Language and Computation, and Logic and Computation.

Honors and Awards

- 03/2013 **EBEC Porto 2013 (Team Design category) - First Place**,
BEST PORTO, UNIVERSITY OF PORTO, Portugal.

EBEC - European BEST Engineering Competition. Local BEST Engineering Competition (LBEC) - is held within one University and organised by one Local BEST Group (LBG).

04/2013 **EBEC Portugal 2013 (Team Design category) - First Place,**
BEST PORTUGAL, UNIVERSITY OF AVEIRO, Portugal.

Teams that are winners of Local EBEC rounds in their universities are invited to the next stage. Regional/National BEST Engineering Competition (RBEC/NBEC) - is held within one region/country and organised by one of the LBGs from that region/country. This level has 15 Regional/National BEST Engineering Competition (RBEC/NBEC).

08/2013 **EBEC Final 2013 (Team Design category) - Second Place,**
BEST WARSAW, WARSAW UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, Poland.

European BEST Engineering Competition Final event (EBEC Final) - involves students from more than 87 leading universities represented in BEST. EBEC Final event is organised every year after the second level of competitions as the peak gathering for the finalists that are confident in teamwork, creativity and innovative approach to problems in society or industry.

Skills

General	Computer Science, Mathematics, Software Engineering, Design and Analysis of Algorithms, Data Structures, Artificial Intelligence.
Programming languages	C++, C, Java, C#, XSLT, SQL, Prolog, MIPS, Assembly IA-32, Python, VDM++, AMPL
Web Development	JavaScript, HTML, CSS, PHP, Node.js, Bootstrap
Operative System	Linux, Windows, Android
Multi-Agent System	JADE, JADEX
Databases	MySQL, PostgreSQL, SQLite, MongoDB
Machine Learning Tools	scikit-learn, NumPy, SciPy, Pandas, CRFsuite, PyStruct, CRF++, TensorFlow, Keras, PyTorch
Others	Unity, RabbitMQ, Git, Eclipse, Microsoft Visual Studio, IntelliJ IDEA, Android Studio, UML, Software Design Patterns, Agile software development, CitiusTagger, NLTK, \LaTeX

Languages

	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Writing</i>	<i>Conversation</i>
Portuguese	Native	Native	Native
English	Very good	Very good	Very good
French	Very good	Good	Good
Spanish	Good	Basic	Basic

Interests

Research Interests:

My current research interests are focused in the area of *Artificial Intelligence*, mainly in the following subjects: *Machine Learning, Data Mining, Natural Language Processing, Argumentation Mining, Computational Semantics, Information Retrieval, Knowledge Representation and Reasoning, Robotics, and Multi-Agent Systems*.

In General:

Science, Technology, Engineering, Computer Science, Software, Mathematics, Physics, Biology, Robotics, Artificial Intelligence, Electronics, Board games, Computer games, Sports, Music, Movies, TV Series, Documentaries, (scientific/adventure/mystery/science fiction) Reading, Logic puzzles.