

GIORGIO MORALES

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Education

Montana State University

Jan. 2022 – May 2025 (Expected)

Ph.D., Computer Science (All But Dissertation). GPA: 3.97.

Bozeman, MT

Montana State University

Aug. 2019 – Dec. 2021

M.Sc., Computer Science. GPA: 3.97.

Bozeman, MT

National University of Engineering

Aug. 2010 – Dec 2015

B.S., Mechatronics Engineering. GPA: 3.5.

Lima, Peru

Experience

Montana State University

Jan. 2021 – Present

Graduate Research Assistant

Bozeman, MT

- Published 8 journal and conference papers related to prediction and optimization in Precision Agriculture as well as uncertainty quantification and explainable machine learning.
- Developed a web application in Flask to demonstrate the functionality of the prediction and optimization tools.
- The developed techniques showed the potential to increase farmers' profits by up to \$20,000 per field.

Montana State University

Aug. 2019 – Dec. 2020

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Bozeman, MT

- Courses: Machine Learning (Fall 2020), Advanced Algorithm Topics (Fall 2020), Data Structures and Algorithms (Spring 2020), and Basic Data Structures and Algorithms (Fall 2019 and Summer 2020).

National University of Engineering – INICTEL–UNI

Nov. 2014 – July 2019

Computer Vision Researcher

Lima, Peru

- Published 11 conference and journal papers, and 1 B.Sc. thesis related to computer vision and remote sensing.
- Led small teams and worked in multidisciplinary environments.
- Developed software to detect Mauritia Flexuosa palms in the Amazon using aerial images and drones. The project allowed the expansion of the monitored area by 200% and reduced the expedition costs by 500%.
- Developed software to segment clouds and shadows for the Space Agency of Peru (CONIDA) in high-resolution multispectral satellite images. The solution reduced the processing times by 1000%.

Selected Projects

Symbolic Regression Using Transformers and Genetic Algorithms

January 2023 – Present

- PhD thesis proposal. Goal: To develop a symbolic regression method that uses deep learning techniques (e.g., LLMs) and genetic algorithms to distill experimental data into analytical equations.
- Preliminary results showed our method generated estimated univariate skeletons with a more similar mathematical structure as the underlying skeletons in comparison to one evolutionary-based and two deep learning-based SR methods.

Reduced-Cost Hyperspectral Image Classification

August 2019 – December 2020

- Published 2 journal papers, 1 conference paper, and a M.Sc. thesis.
- Designed low-cost convolutional neural networks for hyperspectral image classification.
- Proposed novel feature selection methods to determine salient wavelengths obtained from hyperspectral imaging systems to aid in the design and prototyping of compact, low-cost multispectral imagers for a range of applications, such as produce monitoring and identification of herbicide-resistance biotypes of different weeds.

Honors and Awards

- Cobleigh Endowment (2023, 2024): Scholarship for students of the Norm Asbjornson College of Engineering.
- Graduate Professional Advancement Grant (2023, 2024): Travel grant for MSU graduate students.
- IEEE CIS Travel Grant (2023): Travel grant for a student presenting at the IJCNN 2023, Gold Coast, Australia.
- Chunzi “Chris” Zhang (2023): Award for International Graduate Excellence in Research.
- William V. Benjamin (2021, 2022): Scholarship for students of the Norm Asbjornson College of Engineering.
- Southern Perú - ProUNI (2019): Graduate scholarship from the National University of Engineering.

Selected Publications

Journal Articles

- G. Morales and J. Sheppard, “Dual Accuracy-Quality-Driven Neural Network for Prediction Interval Generation,” accepted for publication at *IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems*, December 2023.
- G. Morales, J. Sheppard, P. Hegedus, and B. Maxwell, “Improved Yield Prediction of Winter Wheat Using a Novel Two-Dimensional Deep Regression Neural Network Trained via Remote Sensing,” *Sensors*, 23(1), 489, January 2023.
- G. Morales, J. Sheppard, R. Logan, and J. Shaw, “Hyperspectral Dimensionality Reduction Based on Inter-Band Redundancy Analysis and Greedy Spectral Selection,” *Remote Sensing*, 13(18), 3649, September 2021.
- G. Morales, J. Sheppard, B. Scherrer, and J. Shaw, “Reduced-Cost Hyperspectral Convolutional Neural Networks,” *Journal of Applied Remote Sensing*, 14(3), 036519 (2020), September 2020.
- G. Morales, G. Kemper, G. Sevillano, D. Arteaga, I. Ortega, J. Telles, “Automatic Segmentation of *Mauritia flexuosa* in Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Imagery Using Deep Learning,” *Forests*, 2018(9), 736, November 2018.

Refereed Conference Papers

- G. Morales and J. Sheppard, “Univariate Skeleton Prediction in Multivariate Systems Using Transformers,” accepted to appear in *European Conference on Machine Learning and Principles and Practice of Knowledge Discovery in Databases (ECML-PKDD)*, September 2024.
- G. Morales and J. Sheppard, “Counterfactual Analysis of Neural Networks Used to Create Fertilizer Management Zones,” accepted to appear in *IEEE International Joint Conf. on Neural Networks (IJCNN)*, June 2024.
- G. Morales and J. Sheppard, “Counterfactual Explanations of Neural Network-Generated Response Curves,” *IEEE International Joint Conf. on Neural Networks (IJCNN)*, June 2023.
- G. Morales, J. Sheppard, R. Logan, and J. Shaw, “Hyperspectral Band Selection for Multispectral Image Classification with Convolutional Networks,” *IEEE Int. Joint Conf. on Neural Networks (IJCNN)*, July 2021.
- G. Morales, A. Ramírez, and J. Telles, “End-to-end Cloud Segmentation in High-Resolution Multispectral Satellite Imagery Using Deep Learning,” *IEEE Int. Conf. on Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computing (INTERCON)*, Aug. 2019.
- G. Morales, S. Huamán, and J. Telles, “Shadow Removal in High-Resolution Satellite Images Using Conditional Generative Adversarial Networks,” *Int. Conf. on Information Management and Big Data (SIMBig)*, Feb. 2019.
- G. Morales, I. Salazar, J. Telles, and D. Díaz, “Detecting Violent Robberies in CCTV Videos Using Deep Learning,” *Artificial Intelligence Applications and Innovations (AIAI)*, May 2019.
- G. Morales, D. Arteaga, S. Huamán, J. Telles, and W. Palomino, “Shadow Detection in High-Resolution Multispectral Satellite Imagery Using Generative Adversarial Networks,” *IEEE XXV Int. Conf. on Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Computing (INTERCON)*, Aug. 2018.
- G. Morales, S. Huamán, and J. Telles, “Cloud Detection in High-Resolution Multispectral Satellite Imagery Using Deep Learning,” *Int. Artificial Neural Networks and Machine Learning (ICANN)*, October 2018.

Invited Papers

- G. Morales and J. Sheppard, “Two-dimensional Deep Regression for Early Yield Prediction of Winter Wheat,” *Proc. of SPIE Future Sensing Technologies*, November 2021.

Non-Refereed Conference Papers

- G. Morales, J. Sheppard, A. Peerlinck, P. Hegedus, and B. Maxwell, “Generation of Site-specific Nitrogen Response Curves for Winter Wheat using Deep Learning,” *Proc. of the 15th Int. Conf. on Precision Agriculture*, June 2022.

Theses

- G. Morales, “Towards Reduced-Cost Hyperspectral and Multispectral Image Classification,” MS thesis, Gianforte School of Computing, Montana State University, 2021.
- G. Morales, “Development of a Remote Sensing Software Oriented to the Identification and Automatic Measurement of *Mauritia flexuosa* plantations in the Peruvian Amazon using Aerial Images Acquired Via UAV and Digital Image Processing Algorithms,” BS thesis, Department of Mechatronic Engineering, Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería, 2017.