Iñigo Parra

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Personal Profile

Highly motivated individual with excellent social and leadership skills and a passion for technology. Trilingual speaker and adept at communicating with individuals from diverse backgrounds. Self-taught coder with a strong foundation in Python. A hard-working individual with linguistics expertise that provides a unique perspective on the development of natural language processing tools. Always eager to learn and grow, committed to staying up-to-date with the latest developments in linguistics and technology.

Education

University of Deusto *Bilbao, Spain*
BA in Modern Languages (English Studies focus) *Sept 2016 - May 2022*
- **Dissertation:** *Language and Opinion Online: Socio-political Beliefs on Covid-19*
- **Courses:** Language Applications, Linguistics, English Grammar, Contrastive Grammar, Second Language Acquisition

The University of Alabama *Tuscaloosa, Alabama*
MA Romance Languages: Spanish Linguistics *August 2022 - Current*
- **Courses:** Computational Research Methods, Methods in Bilingualism, Spanish Linguistics, Phonetics and Phonology

The University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU) – IXA Group *Donostia-San Sebastián, Spain*
Seminar On Introduction To Language Technology Applications *July 2023*
- **Lab work:** Static Word Embeddings, Sentiment Analysis, NER, Multilingual transfer learning, QA systems

Experience

The University of Alabama *Tuscaloosa, Alabama*
Teaching Assistant *Sept 2022 - Current*
- Instructor of Spanish at levels 101 and 102
- Technical Skills: Google Applications, Blackboard, Linguistic skills, Second Language Acquisition, Teaching
- Soft Skills: Teamwork, Time Management, Communication, Presentation skills, Interpersonal skills, Leadership

LingUA Lab *Tuscaloosa, Alabama*
Research Assistant *Sept 2022 - Current*
- Collect data, run statistics, and report results
- Technical Skills: R, Python, Microsoft Excel, statistics
- Soft Skills: Teamwork, Presentation skills, Leadership

Cohere for AI: AYA *Online*
Language Ambassador (Basque) and Contributor *May 2023 - Current*
- Evaluate language model's performance in Basque and Spanish and improve model through reinforcement learning from human feedback
- Technical Skills: Zoom, Transformers, Basque Grammar
- Soft Skills: Teamwork, Presentation skills, Leadership

Conferences

UALC *Tuscaloosa, Alabama*
The University of Alabama *Feb 2023*
- *Computational Linguistics and AI: Do Chatbots Understand Grammar?*

Digital Humanities Against Dark Times *Nashville, Tennessee*
Vanderbilt University (funded) *Apr 2023*
- *The Dark Side of AI: Identifying Extremism and Battling Political Polarization*

Current Research

Monitoring Second Language Learning with PageRank-Based Student Performance Analysis (submitted) *2023*
- Implement network analysis to record student performance. Foresee its implications in the future of education.
- Technical Skills: Social Network Analysis, Language Acquisition Theory, SLA, Python.

Eu2Vec: LSTM Pretrained Embedding for Basque Sentiment Analysis   *2023*
- Creation of a pre-trained Basque embedding for sentiment analysis purposes
- Technical Skills: Python, Tensorflow, CSV, Scikit-Learn, Linguistics, Distributional Semantics

Do You Speak Basquenglish? Assessing Low-resource Multilingual Proficiency of Pretrained Language
Models (submitted)   *2023*
- Analysis and evaluation of cross-lingual understanding and code-switching capabilities of large language models (LLMs)
- Technical Skills: Python, Tensorflow, CSV, Scikit-Learn, Basque, bilingualism

The Visibility Project   *2023*
- A research tool to revise NLP attention on low-resource languages
- Charge: Founder and main developer

University Projects

International Tandem Program   *Bilbao, Spain*
University of Deusto   *December 2021 - May 2022*
- Spanish support to international students.
- Teach the language and cultural aspects.

Spanish Club   *Tuscaloosa, Alabama*
The University of Alabama   *Sep 2022 - Jan 2023*
- Helped in the development of the Spanish Club.
- Volunteered at several tasks, leading group conversations and activities in Spanish.

Achievements

2020	**89/100,** Undergraduate Dissertation	*Bilbao, Spain*
2022	**4.0 GPA,** MA Romance Languages: Spanish Linguistics	*Tuscaloosa, AL*
2023	**Top Contributor to the Basque Language,** Cohere for AI: AYA	*Online*

Funding and Awards

Digital Humanities Against Dark Times Conference Talk   *Nashville, Tennessee*
Funding: The University of Alabama and Vanderbilt University   *2023*

Robert and Ruby Allbritton and María Mantiñán Endowed Scholarship   *Tuscaloosa, Alabama*
The University of Alabama   *2023*

Skills

Coding	Python (Pandas, NumPy, Tensorflow, Scikit-learn, SpaCy, NLTK, among others), R (ggplot2).
Research	Gephi, Praat, LaTeX (Overleaf), Tableau, Microsoft Office, Git.
Soft Skills	Leadership, Creativity, Time Management, Teamwork, Problem-solving, Engaging Presentation.
Miscellaneous	Logic Pro X, Ableton, Photoshop, After Effects, Shell (Bash/Zsh).

Interests

Research	Low-resource languages, AI explainability, distributional semantics, pragmatics, syntax, language acquisition, AI alignment
Others	Making music, writing, cooking, photography, coding, and reading.

Languages

Spanish	Native speaker
Basque	Native speaker
English	Fluent
German	Reading knowledge
French	Reading knowledge