

# ANDRÉS CAMILO ZÚÑIGA-GONZÁLEZ

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## EDUCATION

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<b>PhD in Artificial Intelligence for Environmental Risk</b> University of Cambridge - UK <u>Thesis:</u> <i>Assessing the Impacts of Urban Vegetation in the Science of Healthy Cities</i>	<i>Oct 2023 - present</i>
<b>MRes Environmental Data Science</b> University of Cambridge - UK <u>Thesis:</u> <i>Improving Urban Tree Management Using High-Resolution Satellite Data</i>	<i>Oct 2022 - Sep 2023</i>
<b>M.Sc. Biological Sciences - Biology Focus</b> Universidad de los Andes - Colombia <u>Thesis:</u> <i>Characterization of Methane Production of a Páramo Peatbog in Colombia throughout the Holocene</i>	<i>Aug 2017 - Dec 2019</i>
<b>B.Sc. Biology</b> , Universidad de los Andes - Colombia <u>Thesis:</u> <i>First record of Ancient DNA from Wood of the Last Glacial Period of the Tropical Andes of Colombia</i>	<i>Jan 2012 - Dec 2016</i>
<b>B.Sc. Microbiology</b> , Universidad de los Andes - Colombia	<i>Jan 2012 - Dec 2016</i>
<b>Minor in Geography</b> , Universidad de los Andes - Colombia	<i>Jan 2012 - Dec 2016</i>

## RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

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<b>Research Assistant</b> , University of Cambridge - UK Developed a web-based application for a pilot study of room occupancy at the University of Cambridge using information provided by the Estates division in collaboration with the Department of Architecture.	<i>Feb - Mar 2025</i>
<b>Data Scientist</b> , DataLeik - Colombia Developed machine learning models, dashboards and APIs using R and Python for Home Capital, a Colombian proptech. These included writing modules for different microservices and linking them through AWS.	<i>Dec 2021 - Aug 2022</i>
<b>Data Analyst</b> , DataLeik - Colombia Web scrape and organize data from real state marketplaces for further integration in a Data Base System. Develop visualization tools for data exploration.	<i>Aug - Nov 2021</i>
<b>Research Assistant</b> , Universidad de los Andes - Colombia Worked at the Tropical Palinology and Palaeoecology Lab on several projects including: building the lab website; building $^{14}\text{C}$ dates Bayesian models and age-depth models using R of Colombian samples from marshes and páramos; analyzing stable isotopic signatures and lipid biomarkers of sediments.	<i>Nov 2020 - Jan 2021</i>
<b>Research Assistant</b> , Universidad de los Andes - Colombia Worked at the Tropical Palinology and Palaeoecology Lab modeling $^{14}\text{C}$ dates of archaeological and volcano samples of Colombia and Ecuador from the last 10.000 years to understand the effect of eruptions on human settlements. This was done using a set of R packages for meta-analyses of carbon-dated ages.	<i>Mar - May 2019</i>

**Research Assistant**, Universidad de los Andes - Colombia

*Feb - Jul 2017*

Worked at the Palinology and Palaeoecology Lab on the protocol for the extraction and amplification of ancient DNA from wood samples of more than 70.000 years from Colombia.

**Research Assistant**, Cornell University - USA

*Jun - Aug 2016*

Worked at the Bergstrom Lab from the College of Agricultural Sciences modelling and statistical analysis of the epidemiological assessment of the Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*) Head Smut (*Tilletia macalagani*) both from in-field and lab experiments. This was part of a scholarship for a Summer Research Internship awarded by Universidad de los Andes.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Maths and Programming**, University of Cambridge - UK

*Oct 2024 - present*

Helped develop the course for the new undergraduate program in Design. Designed problem sheets and directed supervisions to small groups of students (2 max) on linear algebra and scientific programming topics.

**Short-term courses**, Freelance

*Jul 2024 - present*

Teach lectures to exchange high school and undergraduate students in Summer/Winter Schools in Cambridge about machine learning, computer vision, data visualization, sustainability and life as a PhD researcher.

**Personal Tutor**, Freelance

*Mar 2022 - present*

Led one-on-one sessions on developing data-based projects, ranging from web scraping to statistical analysis and database construction, as well as the use of machine learning models for natural language processing.

**Inference and Informatics**, Universidad de los Andes - Colombia

*Jan - Jun 2021*

Introduced students from the biological sciences undergraduate programs and other engineering programs to the core concepts of inferential statistics and probability using R and some bioinformatics tools and pipelines using the Linux CLI. Taught and designed weekly lectures and activities with applied examples in the natural and physical sciences.

**Cell Biology Laboratory**, Universidad de los Andes - Colombia

*Aug 2019 - May 2020*

Taught the basics of the scientific method to sophomore students and how to apply concepts from theoretical lectures to experiment-based workshops about several aspects of biology, ranging from microscopy to species diversity. Designed short home experiments to promote empirical thinking in sophomore students of Biological Sciences. Adapted some of the experiments and classes to a virtual format. In addition, I designed and assessed questions for a knowledge exam intended for Biology and Microbiology undergrads.

**Biostatistics**, Universidad de los Andes - Colombia

*Aug - Dec 2019*

Introduced students from the biological sciences undergraduate programs to the use of statistics in research using the R programming language. Taught weekly lectures and workshops with applied examples using a series of R packages.

**Cell Biology**, Universidad de los Andes - Colombia

*Aug 2017 - Dec 2018*

Introduced students to theoretical concepts of life sciences, including evolution, taxonomy, molecular biology and applications in different areas. Directed workshops, lectures and exams.

## CERTIFICATIONS

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**Remote Sensing Image Acquisition, Analysis and Applications**, IEEE GRSS and University of New South Wales - Australia

*Jun 2021*

Remote course on the theory behind remote sensing and machine learning techniques in Earth Observation.

**Data Science For All**, Correlation One - USA Nov 2020  
12-week course on advanced Data Science Techniques funded by Colombia's Ministry of Technology.

**Tensorflow Developer Professional Certificate**, Deeplearning.ai - USA Oct 2020  
4-course Certificate in using Tensorflow on Deep Learning Models through the Coursera Platform.

**Tensorflow: Data and Deployment Specialization**, Deeplearning.ai - USA Oct 2020  
4-course Specialization in the deployment of Tensorflow on different devices through the Coursera Platform.

**Data Science Specialization**, Johns Hopkins University - USA Ago 2020  
10-course Specialization in data analysis using R through the Coursera Platform.

**Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science Specialization**, National Research University Higher School of Economics - Russia Ago 2020  
5-course Specialization in discrete mathematics through the Coursera Platform.

**Deep Learning Specialization**, Deeplearning.ai - USA Jul 2020  
5-course Specialization in deep learning and artificial intelligence through the Coursera Platform.

**High Performance Computing**, Universidad del Rosario - Colombia Jul 2019  
Weeklong course about parallel computation and optimization of data analysis workflows.

## SKILLS

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### Programming Languages and Frameworks

Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, Word, PowerPoint), R, Python, Bash, SQL, Java, Javascript, HTML5, CSS, LaTeX, Spark, Git, Docker, API REST, QGIS, ArcGIS Pro, Google Earth Engine and AWS (EC2, S3, SQS and RDS).

### Languages

Native Spanish, fluent English, intermediate French level, and basic Portuguese communication skills.

## GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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**Kettle's Yard Award**, University of Cambridge - UK Mar 2025  
Grant awarded by the Department of Architecture to PhD students for use in academic conferences and fieldwork.

**Minciencias Cambridge Scholarship**, Cambridge Trust - UK May 2022  
Scholarship for PhD studies at the University of Cambridge jointly awarded by the Cambridge Trust and the Ministry of Science of Colombia.

**Colombia Biodiversa**, Fundación Alejandro Ángel Escobar - Colombia Jan 2019  
National grant awarded for the funding of the project *Metabarcoding of Methanogen Communities of a Páramo Peatbog throughout the Holocene*.

**Early Career Grant**, National Geographic Society Nov 2018  
International grant awarded for the funding of the project *Metabarcoding of Methanogen Communities of a Páramo Peatbog throughout the Holocene*.

**Proyecto Semilla**, Universidad de los Andes - Colombia Jul 2018  
University grant awarded for the funding of the project *Metabarcoding of Methanogen Communities of a Páramo Peatbog throughout the Holocene* and assistance to a scientific meeting.

**Master Teaching Assistantship**, Universidad de los Andes - Colombia      Aug 2017 - Dec 2019  
University grant to cover full tuition and living expenses for the duration of the Master of Biological Sciences on the basis of academic and research merit.

**Summer Research Internship Grant**, Universidad de los Andes - Colombia      Jun 2016  
Research grant awarded by Universidad de los Andes in order to work on research at Cornell University.

## SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS AND EVENTS

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**PROPL25**, ICFP/SPLASH - Singapore      Oct 2025  
Oral: *Scaling the Urban Forest: An Integrated Framework for Managing Cities by Fusing Raster and Vector Data*

**BIOSPACE25**, ESA - Frascati, Italy      Feb 2025  
Oral: *From Ground to Canopy: Integrating Ground-based Sensors with Remote Sensing to Improve Urban Tree Management*

**European Geosciences Union General Assembly**, EGU 24 - Vienna, Austria      Apr 2024  
PICO: *Green Urban Equity: Analyzing the 3-30-300 Rule in UK Cities and Its Socioeconomic Implications*

**American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting**, AGU 100 - San Francisco, USA      Dec 2019  
Poster: *Metabarcoding of Methanogen Communities of a Páramo Peatbog throughout the Holocene*

**Past Global Changes Open Science Meeting**, 5th PAGES OSM - Zaragoza, Spain      May 2017  
Poster: *Ancient DNA from Subfossil Wood in the Tropical Andes of Colombia*

## PUBLICATIONS

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- **Zúñiga-González, A. C.**, Madhavapeddy A., Bardhan R. (2025). Airborne assessment uncovers socioeconomic stratification of urban nature in England. *In Revision*.  
<https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2510.13861>
- Emogor C., Addoah T., Ball J., d'Albertas F., Eyres A., Madhavapeddy A., Mohaddes K., Song M., **Zúñiga-González, A.**, Garrett R. (2025). Policies tackling deforestation must be more responsive to new agricultural frontiers. *In Revision*.
- N. Melissa M. Medina, Francisco W. Cruz, Amos Winter, Haiwei Zhang, Angela Ampuero, Mathias Vuille, Víctor C. Mayta, Marília C. Campos, Verónica Marcela Rámirez, Giselle Utida, **Andrés Camilo Zúñiga**, Hai Cheng. (2023). Atlantic ITCZ variability during the Holocene based on high-resolution speleothem isotope records from northern Venezuela. *Quaternary Science Reviews*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.quascirev.2023.108056>
- Ramírez-Valencia V., Páez-Reyes M., Salgado-Bonnet J., Sangiorgi F., **Zúñiga-González A. C.**, Amézquita A., Ibarra-Ávila H., González-Arango C. (2021). Distribution of organic-walled dinoflagellate cysts in surface sediments of the southern Caribbean and the eastern tropical Pacific and its environmental implications. *Marine Micropaleontology*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marmicro.2021.102000>