

Breno Matos

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EDUCATION

- **Max Planck Institute for Informatics** Saarbrücken, Germany
PhD in Computer Science Advisors: Anja Feldmann and Savvas Zannettou
August 2025 - Currently
- **Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG)** Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil
M.Sc. in Computer Science. Area: Natural Language Processing. Average Grade: 97/100
Thesis awarded a Google Latin America Research Award
May 2021 - August 2024
- **Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG)** Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil
B.Sc. in Computer Science Area: Fairness in Information Retrieval. Average Grade: 81/100
2017 - March 2021

WORK EXPERIENCE

- **Kunumi** Belo Horizonte, Brazil
Data Scientist
July 2024 - August 2025
 - Led the development of an in-house credit analysis specific LLM.
 - Building automated corporate credit analysis tools using SOTA LLMs. Tasks include (but not limited to) semantic search using FAISS, feature extraction, summarization, implementing agents.
- **Public Prosecutor's Office of Minas Gerais (MPMG) at DCC/UFMG** Belo Horizonte, Brazil
Research Development Software Engineer
January 2020 - July 2025
 - Worked with state-of-the-art LLMs (LLaMa and CodeLLaMa) to build a conversational text-to-SQL tool that allows users to query MPMG's databases seamlessly.
 - Helped develop a crawler configuration software. Utilized expertise in web scraping to architect solutions for complex data extraction needs. The software allowed the configuration of more than 5000 crawlers to target websites.
 - Developed social media monitoring tools that allowed public prosecutors to gather data for 100+ daily Instagram profiles and monitor 1000+ Whatsapp and Telegram groups. These tools are used to aid investigations and prosecutions by MPMG.
- **Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) at DCC/UFMG** Belo Horizonte, Brazil
Full Stack Developer
October 2020 - March 2021
 - Led the website development for a novel platform that aided IBGE's analysts in calculating economic metrics such as inflation based on product availability online. The platform was built with Django and Reactjs, hosted information about 10,000+ products crawled online, and provided insights on trends and aggregated data analyses.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- **LATIN & LOCUS labs** Belo Horizonte, Brazil
M.Sc. Researcher
May 2021 - October 2024
 - Awarded a Google Latin America Research Award
 - Researched radical communities online and misinformation text patterns. Proposed a new misinformation detection task and provided the first data and baselines.
 - Researched virality patterns of songs on TikTok, unraveling a re-popularization effect.
 - Wrote 4 papers (3 accepted, 1 under submission)
- **DataCommons Brazil (partnership between Google and UFMG)** Belo Horizonte, Brazil
Research Development Software Engineer
September 2023 - October 2024
 - Responsible for building crawlers with Playwright to gather data from Brazilian public agencies from 2,000+ sources. Data Commons is Google's open-data initiative to address major challenges like climate change and health epidemics through public data.
- **Data Science Lab (DLAB) at Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne** Lausanne, CH
Research Assistant - Summer@EPFL Intern
July 2022 - October 2022
 - Worked on a project to assess radicalization online. Built a framework to audit online recommendation systems through 100+ bots that mimicked real-user patterns. Conducted experiments to determine if platforms radicalized users through recommendations and our findings pointed to it not being the case.

- **Social Computing Lab (LOCUS) at DCC/UFGM**
Research Assistant

Belo Horizonte, Brazil
October 2017 - February 2021

- Worked on early-pandemic misinformation, gathering data shared across WhatsApp and Telegram groups and generating weekly reports for journalists, who used the reports to debunk COVID misinformation.
- Worked on modeling through complex networks and helped develop a method to analyze governance using voting session data from the US House of Representatives. Also worked with backbone extraction algorithms for dense networks.

TEACHING AND SERVICES

- **ACM Transactions on Social Computing**
Reviewer

Belo Horizonte, Brazil
May 2024 – Present

- **Computer Science Department (DCC) at UFGM**
Head Teaching Assistant

Belo Horizonte, Brazil
March 2022 - July 2022

- Responsible for overseeing 80+ students' semester projects and weekly activities for the Introduction to Data Science course at UFGM. Work included mentoring students and answering questions related to the coursework.

SKILLS SUMMARY

- **Platforms and Programming:** Python, C/C++, JavaScript, SQL, Bash, Web
- **Tools and Frameworks:** PyTorch, Docker, Jenkins, CI/CD, Git, Elasticsearch, HuggingFace, Django, React.js, NetworkX, Jupyter, Transformers, Sklearn, Playwright
- **Languages:** Portuguese (Native), English (Fluent), French (Beginner)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS GOOGLE SCHOLAR LINK

- *Breno Matos*, Francisco Galuppo, Rennan C. Lima, Flávio Figueiredo **“I’ve Heard This Before: Initial Results on Tiktok’s Impact On the Re-Popularization of Songs.”** – 1st Latin American Music Information Retrieval (LAMIR) workshop, 2024.
- *Breno Matos*, Rennan C. Lima, Jussara M. Almeida, Marcos A. Gonçalves, Rodrygo Santos, **“Intellectual Dark Web, Alt-lite and Alt-right: Are They Really That Different? A Multi-Perspective Analysis of the Textual Content Produced by Contrarians”** – Social Network Analysis and Mining Journal, Springer.
- *Breno Matos*, Rennan Lima, Jussara M. Almeida, Rodrygo L.T. Santos, & Marcos Gonçalves - **“On the Presence of Abusive Language in Mis/Disinformation”**, The 13th International Conference on Social Informatics. SocInfo '22
- Carlos Henrique Gomes Ferreira, Fabricio Murai Ferreira, **Breno Matos**, and Jussara Marques de Almeida. – **“Modeling Dynamic Ideological Behavior in Political Networks”**. The Journal of Web Science 1 (2019)
- Carlos Henrique Gomes Ferreira, *Breno Matos* & Jussara M. Almeida - **“Analyzing Dynamic Ideological Communities in Congressional Voting Networks”**. Social Informatics: 10th International Conference, SocInfo 2018
- Daniel Kansaon, Michele A. Brandão, Julio C.S. Reis, Matheus Barbosa, *Breno Matos*, Fabrício Benevenuto - **“Mining Portuguese Comparative Sentences in Online Reviews”**. XXVI Brazilian Symposium on Multimedia and the Web (2020)
- *Breno Matos*, Fabrício Benevenuto, Ana P.C. Da Silva - “A Nudez como Estereótipo de Beleza através das Lentes do Instagram” – **english: [Nudity as a Beauty Stereotype through the Lens of Instagram]**. X Brazilian Workshop on Social Network Analysis and Mining, (2021)
- *Breno Matos*, Carlos H. G. Ferreira, Jussara M. Almeida - “Analisando a governabilidade presidencial a partir de padrões de homofilia na Câmara dos Deputados: Estudos de Casos no Brasil e nos EUA” – **english: [Analyzing presidential governability based on homophily patterns in the Chamber of Deputies: Case Studies in Brazil and the USA]**. In: 7th Brazilian Workshop on Social Network Analysis and Mining (BraSNAM), 2018

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- **Google Latin America Research Award**
Research grant structured as an unrestricted gift - 8,500 USD/42,000 BRL
- **ICWSM-24**
Virtual Attendance Scholarship Award
- **Best Short Paper**
X Brazilian Workshop on Social Network Analysis and Mining, BraSNAM
- **Best Full Paper Nominee**
Social Informatics: 10th International Conference, SocInfo

Belo Horizonte, BR
December 2023

Virtual
May 2024

Virtual
2021

Saint Petersburg
2018