

florian leitner

data & machine learning architect

contact

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leitner@
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languages

German: native

English: master

Spanish: proficient

computing

text mining and
deep learning

natural language
processing

distributed and
cloud computing

data warehousing
and engineering

statistical and
numerical analyses

software development
and operations on
(GNU) POSIX systems

C++/Python,
Java/Scala
(R, SQL, C/CUDA)

experience

2015–now

Data Catalytics, S.L.

Madrid, Spain

Machine learning engineer (International consultant)
Architecting & operating (Jenkins, Ansible) low-latency, high-performance language processing and machine learning solutions for large scale (B+) and “infinite” data on streaming platforms (Spark, Flink, clients’ in-house systems; into Cassandra, Aurora, MySQL, Postgres, etc.). Integrating machine learning libraries (TensorFlow, Chainer, DyNet, VowpalWabbit, FastText, MLlib, Factorie, SMILE, CoreNLP, NLP4J, SpaCy, SciKit Learn, etc.). Architecting the curation of finance/economy-related texts for supervised learning and training clients’ analyst teams to do the annotations. Teaching & hiring.

2014–2015

Technical University of Madrid (UPM)

Madrid, Spain

NeuroNLP researcher (Juan de la Cierva research fellow)
Training neurobiology-specific NER taggers (Wapiti, Factorie, word2vec). Mining the graph of molecular interactions between neuro-entities using deep parsing (GENIA parser), extracting semantic triplets from (2M+) full-text documents (Spark, Theano). Working towards a graph-based entity grounding system (OrientDB). Statistical analyses of citation data (R, Postgres). Teaching.

2013–2014

National Cancer Research Centre (CNIO)

Madrid, Spain

BioNLP researcher (Post-doc)
Extracting the mammalian transcriptome from all (22M+) abstracts in medicine & biology. Detecting abstracts containing mammalian gene regulation information (SciKit Learn, SPECIES, GENIA tagger). Grounding mentions of genes and transcription factors by developing a rule-based gene symbol mapper. Shallow parsing (Wapiti, CRFSuite) sentences containing genes and factors for transcription event extraction (LibSVM). Leading a team of scientists to conduct the curation of mammalian transcriptome data. Teaching.

2006–2013

National Cancer Research Centre (CNIO)

Madrid, Spain

Bioinformatician (PhD student)
Steering BioCreative (BC) community challenges: task design, orchestrating data curation, deep system analyses, conference organization, and systematic evaluations (R) of participating systems. Lead architect of the BioCreative Meta-Server, “BCMS”, a geographically distributed, streaming NLP and text mining platform (TwistedPython, Postgres), in coopwith a dozen intlresearch teams. Designing an application to maintain up-to-date, local mirrors of PubMed, UniProt, and GenBank (Postgres). Mining abstracts for protein-protein interaction (PPI) information using the BCMS API. Developing the challenges’ web interface and team management framework (Django, Postgres).

2003–2006

Institute for Molecular Pathology (IMP)

Vienna, Austria

Data architect (MSc student)
Architecting a molecular [sequence] resource (Postgres) to analyze post-translational modifications. Creating web interfaces for sequence meta-data via a DSL to bootstrap a web framework (LISP, Struts). Distributed indexing of the resources and designing an information retrieval interface (Lucene, Struts).

profile

Data curation, statistical modeling, and software engineering of intelligent business solutions. Development of domain-specific language understanding and information extraction technology. Architecting & operating distributed data warehouses and online processing frameworks ("DataOps"). Sectors with specialty expertise: Biotech/pharma and finance/banking.

education

2012-now	Continuous professional education Deep learning, distributed data processing, scalable machine learning, IT Sec certifications, etc.	MOOCs
2012	PhD Bioinformatics, with distinction Online assessment of protein interaction information extraction systems.	Autonomous University of Madrid (UAM), Spain
2006	MSc Molecular Biology, with distinction Integration of biological databases and mining for post-translational modifications.	Vienna University, Austria

accomplishments

2015	Company Founder of my own consultancy, with U.S. market coverage	Data Catalytics, S.L.
2013	Special Award - Premio Extraordinario for my PhD thesis work	Autonomous University of Madrid (UAM)
2009	Main Conference Organizer three-day conference with nearly 100 participants	BioCreative, CNIO, Madrid
2009	Services Cup 3 rd place behind competitors from SAP and IBM	IEEE Services-I World Conference

communication skills

2015	Invited Talk The BioCreative challenges: Critical assessments of biomedical information extraction.	Jornada de Tecnología y Salud, Real Academia de Ingeniería, Madrid, Spain
2014	Invited Talk From the BioCreative challenges to transcription regulation network extraction.	Institute for Computational Linguistics (UZH), Zurich, Switzerland
2014	Progress Report Retracing transcription regulation networks.	National Cancer Research Centre (CNIO), Madrid, Spain
2013	Presentation Mining cis-regulatory transcription networks from literature.	BioLINK @ Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB), Berlin, Germany
2013	Panel Host Integration across genomics and medicine.	BioLINK @ Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB), Vienna, Austria
2011	Invited Talk Annotating scientific manuscripts and the role of text-mining.	FEBS Journal Board Meeting, Cambridge, UK
2010	Progress Report Making biological information accessible.	National Cancer Research Centre (CNIO), Madrid, Spain
2010	Presentation Comparative community assessments for applied biomedical text mining.	Intelligent Systems for Molecular Biology (ISMB), Stockholm, Sweden
2009	Presentation The BioCreative Meta-Server platform.	Semantic Mining in Biomedicine (SMBM), Turku, Finland
2008–2013	Presentations Various presentations throughout the BC II-IV workshops (see conference proceedings).	BioCreative, Madrid, Spain and Bethesda, MD, USA

publications

journal articles

Data publications correlate with citation impact

Leitner, F, C Bielza, SL Hill, and P Larrañaga

Frontiers in Neuroscience 10.419 (2016). 2016

CHEMDNER: The drugs and chemical names extraction challenge

Krallinger, M, F Leitner, O Rabal, M Vazquez, J Oyarzabal, and A Valencia

Journal of Cheminformatics 7.Suppl 1 (2015) S1. 2015

The CHEMDNER corpus of chemicals and drugs and its annotation principles

Krallinger, M, O Rabal, F Leitner, M Vazquez, D Salgado, ..., J Oyarzabal, and A Valencia

Journal of Cheminformatics 7.Suppl 1 (2015) S2. 2015

BioC: a minimalist approach to interoperability for biomedical text processing

Comeau, DC, R Islamaj Dogan, P Ciccarese, KB Cohen, M Krallinger, F Leitner, ..., and WJ Wilbur

Database 2013 (Sept. 2013) bat064–bat064. 2013

How to link ontologies and protein-protein interactions to literature: text-mining approaches and the BioCreative experience.

Krallinger, M, F Leitner, M Vazquez, D Salgado, C Marcelle, M Tyers, A Valencia, and A Chatr-Aryamontri

Database 2012 (2012) bas017. 2012

MyMiner: a web application for computer-assisted biocuration and text annotation

Salgado, D, M Krallinger, M Depaule, E Drula, A Tendulkar, F Leitner, A Valencia, and C Marcelle

Bioinformatics (2012) bts435. 2012

The Protein-Protein Interaction tasks of BioCreative III: ranking of articles and linking bio-ontology concepts to full text

Krallinger, Martin, Miguel Vazquez, Florian Leitner, ..., and Alfonso Valencia

BMC Bioinformatics 12.Suppl 8 (2011) S3. 2011

Text Mining for Drugs and Chemical Compounds: Methods, Tools and Applications

Vazquez, M., M Krallinger, F Leitner, and A Valencia

Molecular Informatics 30.6-7 (2011) pp. 506–519. 2011

The PPI affix dictionary (PPIAD) and BioMethod lexicon

Krallinger, M, AV Tendulkar, F Leitner, A Chatr-aryamontri, and A Valencia

BMC Bioinformatics 11 (2010) pp. 1–3. 2010

The FEBS Letters/BioCreative II.5 experiment: making biological information accessible

Leitner, F, A Chatr-Aryamontri, SA Mardis, A Ceol, M Krallinger, L Licata, L Hirschman, G Cesareni, and A Valencia

Nature Biotechnology 28.9 (2010) pp. 897–899. 2010

The FEBS Letters SDA corpus.

Leitner, Florian, Martin Krallinger, Gianni Cesareni, and Alfonso Valencia

FEBS Letters 584.19 (Oct. 2010) pp. 4129–4130. 2010

An Overview of BioCreative II.5.

Leitner, Florian, Scott A Mardis, Martin Krallinger, Gianni Cesareni, Lynette A Hirschman, and Alfonso Valencia

IEEE/ACM Transactions on Computational Biology and Bioinformatics 7.3 (June 2010) pp. 385–399. 2010

Evaluation of text-mining systems for biology: overview of the Second BioCreative community challenge.

Krallinger, M, A Morgan, L Smith, F Leitner, L Tanabe, J Wilbur, L Hirschman, and A Valencia

Genome Biology 9 Suppl 2 (2008) S1. 2008

Overview of the protein-protein interaction annotation extraction task of BioCreative II.

Krallinger, Martin, Florian Leitner, Carlos Rodriguez-Penagos, and Alfonso Valencia

Genome Biology 9 Suppl 2 (2008) S4. 2008

Introducing meta-services for biomedical information extraction.

Leitner, F, M Krallinger, C Rodriguez-Penagos, J Hakenberg, ..., C Sander, and A Valencia

Genome Biology 9 Suppl 2 (2008) S6. 2008

A text-mining perspective on the requirements for electronically annotated abstracts.

Leitner, Florian and Alfonso Valencia

FEBS Letters 582.8 (Apr. 2008) pp. 1178–1181. 2008

ProSAT: functional annotation of protein 3D structures.

Gabdoulline, Razif R, René Hoffmann, Florian Leitner, and Rebecca C Wade

Bioinformatics 19.13 (Sept. 2003) pp. 1723–1725. 2003

book chapters

BioCreative II.5 and the FEBS Letters Experiment on Structured Digital Abstracts

Leitner, Florian, Martin Krallinger, and Valencia Alfonso

Encyclopedia of Systems Biology pp. 101–106, 2013, Springer New York

BioCreative Meta-Server and Text-Mining Interoperability Standard

Leitner, Florian, Martin Krallinger, and Valencia Alfonso

Encyclopedia of Systems Biology pp. 106–110, 2013, Springer New York

Analysis of Biological Processes and Diseases Using Text Mining Approaches

Krallinger, Martin, Florian Leitner, and Alfonso Valencia

Methods in Molecular Biology pp. 341–382, 2010, Humana Press

Biological Knowledge Extraction

Leitner, Florian, Robert Hoffmann, and Alfonso Valencia

Bioinformatics for Systems Biology pp. 413–433, 2009, Humana Press

conference proceedings

Retrieval and Discovery of Cell Cycle Literature and Proteins by Means of Machine Learning, Text Mining and Network Analysis

Krallinger, Martin, Florian Leitner, and Alfonso Valencia

8th International Conference on Practical Applications of Computational Biology & Bioinformatics, 2014

Overview of the chemical compound and drug name recognition (CHEMDNER) task

Krallinger, Martin, Florian Leitner, Obdulia Rabal, Miguel Vazquez, Julen Oyarzabal, and Alfonso Valencia

BioCreative IV Challenge Evaluation Workshop, 2013

Mining cis-Regulatory Transcription Networks from Literature

Leitner, Florian, Martin Krallinger, Sushil Tripathi, Martin Kuiper, Astrid Lægreid, and Alfonso Valencia

Proceedings of the ISMB BioLINK SIG, 2013

Results of the BioCreative III Interaction Method Task

Krallinger, Martin, Miguel Vazquez, Florian Leitner, and Alfonso Valencia

Proceedings of the BioCreative III Challenge Evaluation Workshop, 2010

The BioCreative II.5 challenge overview

Krallinger, Martin, Florian Leitner, and Alfonso Valencia

Proceedings of the BioCreative II.5 Challenge Evaluation Workshop, 2009

BioCreative II.5: Evaluation and ensemble system performance

Mardis, Scott, Florian Leitner, and Lynette Hirschman

Proceedings of the BioCreative II.5 Challenge Evaluation Workshop, 2009

SOA-Based Integration of Text Mining Services

Starlinger, Johann, Florian Leitner, Alfonso Valencia, and Ulf Leser

Proceedings of the 2009 World Conference on Services, 2009

Assessment of the second BioCreative PPI task: automatic extraction of protein-protein interactions

Krallinger, Martin, Florian Leitner, and Alfonso Valencia

Proceedings of the second BioCreative Challenge Evaluation Workshop, 2007

Exploiting text mining of biological annotations to extract protein interactions for the Semantic web

Krallinger, Martin, Carlos Rodriguez-Penagos, Florian Leitner, and Alfonso Valencia

Seventh International Workshop on Network Tools and Applications in Biology, 2007