



Lucía Ormaechea

PH.D. CANDIDATE · NLP RESEARCHER · COMPUTATIONAL LINGUIST

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Summary

Currently finishing a **joint Ph.D. in Natural Language Processing** at University of Geneva and University of Grenoble-Alpes. As highlighted in the list of Selected Publications, my research work to date has focused on: *i) Speech-to-Text Technologies* (with particular emphasis on **Speech Simplification** and **Speech Recognition**); *ii) Machine Translation*; and *iii) Large Language Models*.

Actively seeking new job opportunities where I can contribute with my expertise in the fields of **Natural Language Processing** and **Artificial Intelligence**. Open to learning new tools and technologies if needed.

Experience

Research Scientist & Teaching Assistant

Geneva, Switzerland

UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE

Dec. 2020 - Present

- Participated in **PROPICTO** [↗](#):
 - Developed and fine-tuned **cascade and end-to-end models** for **simplification of spontaneous French**.
 - Authored numerous publications** in **high-impact conferences and journals**.
- Contributed to **BabelDr** [↗](#): deployed a **containerized Docker application** to perform ASR inside the **BabelDr medical translation device**.
- Collaborated in **Localization** [↗](#) (M.A. course): preparation of course materials, assignment grading, assistance to students in practical sessions.

NLP Research Engineer

Grenoble, France

LABORATOIRE D'INFORMATIQUE DE GRENOBLE (LIG)

Feb. 2020 - Sep. 2020

- Created a complete pipeline for **injecting grammar-based language models** into the Kaldi speech recognition toolkit.
- Trained **HMM-DNN-based acoustic models** using open-source corpora; conducted **prototype testing and evaluation**.
- Developed **Kaldi-based ASR systems for specialized medical translation devices**.

Translation & Localization Intern

Remote Working

NEW YORK HABITAT

Jul. 2018 - Sep. 2018

- Translated **ENG > ESP commercial texts**: video transcriptions – travel articles – apartment reviews – client testimonials.
- Selected publications**:
 - Bajo la sombra del cine: una guía del cine en Nueva York (parte 1: Manhattan)* [↗](#), (2018).
 - El cine de los distritos: un recorrido por el cine de Nueva York (parte 2)* [↗](#), (2018).

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Pamplona, Spain

UNIVERSIDAD DE NAVARRA

Sep. 2016 - Jun. 2017

- Collaborated as a research assistant at the **Department of Philology** [↗](#)
- Development of **educational materials** aiming to automatically evaluate knowledge of Spanish language in L2 learners.
- One-on-one tutorial assessment** on academic writing; **proofreading** of academic papers.

Education

Ph.D. (Joint Degree) in Computer Science & Multilingual Information Processing

Geneva, Switzerland

UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE – UNIVERSITÉ GRENOBLE-ALPES

Jun. 2022 - present

- Currently finishing a **joint Ph.D.** between the **Département of Translation Technology** [↗](#) at UNIGE, and the **GETALP team** [↗](#), at UGA.
- Ph.D. Project**: *Towards Simpler Transcripts: Investigating Automatic Simplification of French Spontaneous Speech* [↗](#)

M.Sc. in Natural Language Processing

Paris, France

INSTITUT NATIONAL DES LANGUES ET CIVILISATIONS ORIENTALES (INALCO) – UNIVERSITÉ SORBONNE-NOUVELLE (PARIS 3)

Sep. 2018 - Sep. 2020

- Graduated with High Honors**.
- Coursework**: Scripting (Bash, Python, Perl) – Object-Oriented Programming (C++, Java) – Statistical methods for corpus exploitation – Text Mining – Convolutional Neural Networks (Keras) – Corpus Linguistics – Mark-up Languages (XML, XSLT) – Databases (SQL, Neo4J).
- Master's Thesis**: *Mise en place d'un système robuste de reconnaissance automatique de la parole appliqué au domaine médical* [↗](#) **GPA: 19/20**

B.A. in Hispanic Philology

Pamplona, Spain

UNIVERSIDAD DE NAVARRA

Sep. 2014 - Jun. 2018

- Extraordinary End-of-Degree Award Nominee**.
- Coursework**: Lexicology – Semantics – Phonetics – Phonology – Morphology – Syntax – Discourse Analysis.

Teaching & Assistantships

2021-2024	M.A. in Translation, M.A. in Multilingual Communication Technology – <i>Teaching Assistant</i> , Localization, with L. Morado (2021, 2022, 2024), and S. Girletti (2023), Université de Genève	
2016-2017	Workshops on Spanish Language – <i>Instructor</i> , Grammar courses for non-native undergraduate students, Universidad de Navarra	

Languages

Spanish	<i>Native speaker</i>	
English	<i>Proficient</i>	<i>Advanced Certificate in English (CAE)</i>
French	<i>Proficient</i>	<i>Diplôme Approfondi de Langue Française (DALF)</i>
Italian	<i>Conversational</i>	

Software Skills

Programming	Python, Bash (<i>proficient</i>) – Perl, SQL (<i>comfortable</i>) – C++, Java (<i>some experience</i>)
AI Models & Techniques	Supervised learning – LLMs – Pre-training – Fine-tuning (full and parameter-efficient) – Prompt engineering
Libraries	Transformers – Speechbrain – Langchain – Flask – Keras – Fairseq – Pandas – NLTK – SpaCy – Scrapy
Tools	Kaldi – Slurm – Git – Vim – LaTeX – Docker – Praat – Pip – Nginx – Sublime Text – Hugging Face Spaces
Operating Systems	GNU/Linux (Ubuntu, Debian, Linux Mint) – Windows (10, 11) – Android
Web Development	HTML – CSS – Jekyll – XML – XSLT – JavaScript – Gradio – MkDocs – GitHub Pages
Software	Microsoft Office – Gate – Trados – Passolo – Adobe Photoshop – GIMP

Selected Publications

Interspeech 2025	Lucía Ormaechea , Nikos Tsourakis, Pierrette Bouillon, Benjamin Lecouteux and Didier Schwab. <i>Towards High-Quality LLM-Based Data for French Spontaneous Speech Simplification: an Exo-Refinement Approach</i> . In: Proc. Interspeech 2025 ↗ To appear.
IJST 2024	Lucía Ormaechea and Nikos Tsourakis. <i>Automatic Text Simplification for French: Model Fine-Tuning for Simplicity Assessment and Simpler Text Generation</i> ↗ In: International Journal of Speech Technology ↗ (IJST), Springer, vol. 27.
WMT 2024	Jonathan Mutal and Lucía Ormaechea . <i>TIM-UNIGE Translation into Low-Resource Languages of Spain for WMT24</i> ↗ In: Proceedings of the Ninth Conference on Machine Translation ↗ (WMT), Miami (USA).
LREC 2024	Lucía Ormaechea , Nikos Tsourakis, Didier Schwab, Pierrette Bouillon and Benjamin Lecouteux. <i>Simplification Strategies in French Spontaneous Speech</i> ↗ In: Proceedings of the Workshop on DeTermIt! Evaluating Text Difficulty in a Multilingual Context ↗ , within the Joint International Conference LREC-COLING ↗ , Torino (Italy).
ICNSLP 2023	Lucía Ormaechea , Nikos Tsourakis, Didier Schwab, Pierrette Bouillon and Benjamin Lecouteux. <i>Simple, Simpler and Beyond: A Fine-Tuning BERT-Based Approach to Enhance Sentence Complexity Assessment for Text Simplification</i> ↗ In: Proceedings of the 6 th International Conference on Natural Language and Speech Processing ↗ (ICNSLP), Trento (Italy).
SwissText 2023	Lucía Ormaechea and Nikos Tsourakis. <i>Extracting Sentence Simplification Pairs from French Comparable Corpora Using a Two-Step Filtering Method</i> ↗ In: Proceedings of the 8 th Swiss Text Analytics Conference ↗ , Neuchâtel (Switzerland).
EAMT 2023	Lucía Ormaechea , Pierrette Bouillon, Maximin Coavoux, Emmanuelle Esperança-Rodier, Johanna Gerlach et al. <i>PROPICTO: Developing Speech-to-Pictograph Translation Systems to Enhance Communication Accessibility</i> ↗ In: Proceedings of the 24 th Annual Conference of The European Association for Machine Translation ↗ (EAMT), Tampere (Finland).

Academic Service

2025	Machine Translation Summit (MT Summit) ↗ – Held at University of Geneva – Member of Local Organizing Team
2024	Corpus Journal No. 26 ↗ – Managing noise during computer processing of linguistic corpora – Peer Reviewer
2023	Bruit de fond ou valeur ajoutée ? Gérer le bruit lors des traitements informatiques des corpus linguistiques ↗ – Seminar jointly organized by Université Grenoble-Alpes and Sapienza Università di Roma – Member of Scientific Committee
2018	5th Forum of the Association for Discourse Linguistics ↗ – Held at Instituto de Cultura y Sociedad, Universidad de Navarra – Local Organizer

Scholarships & Awards

2020	Candoc Research Fellowship – Granted by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
2013	Runner-up at the 4th Inter-University Debate Tournament ↗ – Universidad Pública de Navarra

Certifications

Getting Started With Mistral [↗](#)

DEEPLARNING.AI

Short course on Mistral's API features to enhance structured LLM responses (JSON mode, function calling and RAG).

Online Course

September 2024

3rd Advanced Language Processing School (ALPS) [↗](#)

UNIVERSITÉ GRENOBLE-ALPES – NAVER LABS EUROPE

Winter school featuring advanced lectures, social and poster sessions covering a wide range of hot topics in NLP.

Winter School

January 2023

Research Methods in Translation & Interpreting Studies (ReMeTIS) [↗](#)

UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE

- Foundations & Data Analysis: qualitative and mixed methods, research ethics.
- Specific Research & Scientific Communication Skills: corpus construction, quantitative data analysis, publication strategies.

Online Course

December 2022

Sequence Models [↗](#)

COURSERA, DEEPLARNING.AI

Deep Learning Specialization (V): Recurrent Neural Networks – Long Short Term Memory – Attention Models.

Online Course

November 2022

Structuring Machine Learning Projects [↗](#)

COURSERA, DEEPLARNING.AI

Deep Learning Specialization (III): Error Analysis in Machine Learning Systems – Performance Improvement Strategies.

Online Course

October 2022

Improving Deep Neural Networks: Hyperparameter Tuning, Regularization & Optimization [↗](#)

COURSERA, DEEPLARNING.AI

Deep Learning Specialization (II): Optimization Algorithms – Hyperparameter Tuning.

Online Course

October 2022

Neural Networks & Deep Learning [↗](#)

COURSERA, DEEPLARNING.AI

Deep Learning Specialization (I): Deep Learning Foundations – Neural Network Architectures.

Online Course

October 2022

33rd European Summer School in Logic, Language & Information (ESSLI) [↗](#)

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND GALWAY

Interdisciplinary summer school involving courses and workshops in logic, linguistics and computer science.

Summer School

August 2022

2nd Advanced Language Processing School (ALPS) [↗](#)

UNIVERSITÉ GRENOBLE-ALPES – NAVER LABS EUROPE

Winter school featuring advanced lectures, social and poster sessions covering a wide range of hot topics in NLP.

Winter School

January 2022

Personal Data Protection [↗](#)

INSTITUT NATIONAL DE RECHERCHE EN SCIENCES ET TECHNOLOGIES DU NUMÉRIQUE (INRIA)

MOOC Course introducing data confidentiality regulations and privacy protection.

MOOC Course

May 2020

Introduction to Corpus Linguistics [↗](#)

UNIVERSITÉ GRENOBLE-ALPES (UGA)

MOOC Course introducing corpus linguistics and its many implementations in lexicology, discourse analysis and NLP.

MOOC Course

June 2019