

SANTIAGO CASTRO

PhD Student

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Santiago Castro

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Diligent Computer Scientist with experience in R&D for both the industry and academia.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Computer Science

University of Michigan

Sept. 2018 — Present

Ann Arbor, MI, USA

- Advisor: [Rada Mihalcea](#)
- My main research interest is in holistically representing **Multimodal** sources (i.e., Language and Vision) for general-purpose applications, esp. for video tasks. Apart from this, I am interested in Computational Humor.
- GPA: 4.0/4.0

B.E. in Computer Science

Universidad de la República

March 2010 — May 2015

Montevideo, Uruguay

- Extracurricular courses: Introduction to Deep Learning, Deep Learning applied to Natural Language Processing, Formal Grammars for Natural Language, General-Purpose Computing on Graphics Processing Units and Semantic Parsing.
- GPA rank: 4th/665

PUBLICATIONS

221 citations and h-index 8 in [Google Scholar](#).

Conference Proceedings

- Ignat, Oana, Santiago Castro, Hanwen Miao, Weiji Li, and Rada Mihalcea (Nov. 2021). "WhyAct: Identifying Action Reasons in Lifestyle Vlogs". In: *Proceedings of the 2021 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- Castro, Santiago, Mahmoud Azab, Jonathan Stroud, Cristina Noujaim, Ruoyao Wang, Jia Deng, and Rada Mihalcea (2020). "LifeQA: A Real-life Dataset for Video Question Answering". In: *Proceedings of The 12th Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (LREC)*, pp. 4352–4358.
- Chiruzzo, Luis, Santiago Castro, and Aiala Rosá (2020). "HAHA 2019 Dataset: A Corpus for Humor Analysis in Spanish". In: *Proceedings of The 12th Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (LREC)*, pp. 5106–5112.
- Castro, Santiago, Devamanyu Hazarika, Verónica Pérez-Rosas, Roger Zimmermann, Rada Mihalcea, and Soujanya Poria (2019). "Towards Multimodal Sarcasm Detection (An _Obviously_ Perfect Paper)". In: *Proceedings of the 57th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Volume 1: Long Papers) (ACL)*.
- Castro, Santiago, Matías Cubero, Diego Garat, and Guillermo Moncecchi (2016). "Is This a Joke? Detecting Humor in Spanish Tweets". In: *Ibero-American Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IBERAMIA)*. **Best Paper Award 2nd place**, pp. 139–150.

AWARDS



1st place in TASS 2017, Task 1, corpus GralTASS 1k
SEPLN 2017. Sentiment Analysis contest. We also finished 2nd in one of the other two corpora.



3rd place in the Engineering Fair ("Ingeniería deMuestra")
In the CS Thesis Contest. October 2015.



1st place in National Microsoft Hoshimi Programming Contest
In December 2009



Finalist in National Mathematics Olympiads
In December 2003

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS



Research Initiation Grant

By CSIC, for a project on the study of Subjectivity and its application to Humor Classification using DL. \$16,632. November 2017.



Research Initiation Scholarship

By ANII, for the undergraduate thesis project. \$2,400. August 2014.

TEACHING

Information Retrieval and Web Search

University of Michigan

2021 — 2021

Ann Arbor, MI, USA

Advanced Data Structures and Algorithms ("Programación 3")

Universidad de la República

2014 — 2018

Montevideo, Uruguay

Logic Programming ("Programación Lógica")

Universidad de la República

2016 — 2017

Montevideo, Uruguay

Data Structures and Algorithms ("Programación 2")

Universidad de la República

2014 — 2015, 2018

Montevideo, Uruguay

PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

Journal Articles

- Chiruzzo, Luis, Santiago Castro, Santiago Góngora, Aiala Rosa, J. A. Meaney, and Rada Mihalcea (2021). "Overview of HAHA at IberLEF 2021: Detecting, Rating and Analyzing Humor in Spanish". In: *Procesamiento del Lenguaje Natural* 67.0, pp. 257–268. ISSN: 1989-7553.

Theses

- Castro, Santiago and Matías Cubero (2015). "Humor Detection in Spanish Tweets ('Detección de humor en textos en español')". Bachelor's thesis. Universidad de la República.

Workshop Proceedings

- Chiruzzo, Luis, Santiago Castro, Mathias Etcheverry, Diego Garat, Juan José Prada, and Aiala Rosá (2019). "Overview of HAHA at IberLEF 2019: Humor Analysis based on Human Annotation". In: *Proceedings of the Iberian Languages Evaluation Forum (IberLEF)*.
- Castro, Santiago, Jairo Bonanata, and Aiala Rosá (2018). "A High Coverage Method for Automatic False Friends Detection for Spanish and Portuguese". In: *Fifth Workshop on NLP for Similar Languages, Varieties and Dialects (VarDial)*, pp. 29–36.
- Castro, Santiago, Luis Chiruzzo, and Aiala Rosá (2018). "Overview of the HAHA Task: Humor Analysis based on Human Annotation at IberEval 2018". In: *Third Workshop on Evaluation of Human Language Technologies for Iberian Languages (IberEval)*. Vol. 2150, pp. 187–194.
- Castro, Santiago, Luis Chiruzzo, Aiala Rosá, Diego Garat, and Guillermo Moncecchi (2018). "A crowd-annotated spanish corpus for humor analysis". In: *Sixth International Workshop on Natural Language Processing for Social Media (SocialNLP)*, pp. 7–11.
- Rosá, Aiala, Luis Chiruzzo, Mathias Etcheverry, and Santiago Castro (2017). "RETUYT in TASS 2017: Sentiment Analysis for Spanish Tweets using SVM and CNN". in: *Workshop on Semantic Analysis at SEPLN (TASS)*.

Non Refereed

- Castro, Santiago, Ruoyao Wang, Pingxuan Huang, Ian Stewart, Nan Liu, Jonathan Stroud, and Rada Mihalcea (2021). *Fill-in-the-blank as a Challenging Video Understanding Evaluation Framework*. arXiv: 2104.04182 [cs.CV].
- Castro, Santiago (2016). *Is This a Joke? Detecting Humor in Tweets ("¿Esto es un chiste? Detección de humor en tuits")*. Ed. by 9º Foro de Lenguas de ANEP.

RESEARCH WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Intern

Adobe

 May 2021 — August 2021  San José, CA, USA (remotely)

Project on Video Representation Learning. Mentor: [Fabian Caba](#)

Research Intern

Netflix


 May 2020 — August 2020  Los Gatos, CA, USA (remotely)

Project on Language and Vision Representation Learning through videos. Manager: [Vinith Misra](#)

THESIS SUPERVISIONS

Machine Classifier System of Answers According to their Relevance ("Sistema clasificador automático de respuestas según relevancia")

B.Eng. thesis, Universidad de la República

 August 2016 — December 2017

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Reviewer of 2 papers

Controllable Generative Modeling in Language and Vision Workshop at NeurIPS 2021

 2021

Reviewer of 1 paper

ICCV 2021 Workshop on AI for Creative Video Editing and Understanding

 2021

Reviewer of 3 papers

Humor Analysis based on Human Annotation (HAHA) at the Iberian Languages Evaluation Forum (IberLEF 2021)

 2021

Reviewer of 4 papers

Humor Analysis based on Human Annotation (HAHA) at the Iberian Languages Evaluation Forum (IberLEF 2019)

 2019

Subreviewer of 1 paper

8th International Conference on Affective Computing & Intelligent Interaction (ACII 2019)

 2019

Subreviewer of 1 paper

30th International Symposium on Computer Architecture and High Performance Computing (SBAC- PAD 2018)

 2018

Reviewer of 2 papers

Humor Analysis based on Human Annotation (HAHA) at the 3rd Workshop on Evaluation of Human Language Technologies for Iberian Languages (IberEval 2018)

 2018

STRENGTHS

Curious

Hard-working

Skeptic

Team-player

Driven

Focused

Informed

Organized

Principal Research Engineer

Xmartlabs

📅 September 2016 — August 2018 📍 Montevideo, Uruguay

- I started a Machine Learning area within the company, highly focused on Mobile Computer Vision. It included the pioneering idea, design and development leadership of the open-source project [Bender](#), the first framework to run neural nets on real-time on iPhone using the GPU. After its release, competitors have subsequently emerged from big tech companies (i.e., Google's TF Lite, Apple's Core ML, Facebook's Caffe2Go and Baidu's MDL). I worked also on other CV+ML projects for the Entertainment, Retail and Agro industries.

Teaching & Research Assistant ("Asistente — Grado 2")

Universidad de la República

📅 March 2014 — August 2018 📍 Montevideo, Uruguay

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Android Engineer

Xmartlabs

📅 March 2014 — August 2016 📍 Montevideo, Uruguay

TALKS

GPGPU in the context of Deep Learning

GPGPU class, Universidad de la República

📅 June 2021 📍 Montevideo, Uruguay (remotely)

Overview of the HAHA Task: Humor Analysis based on Human Annotation

IberLEF @ SEPLN 2019

📅 September 2019 📍 Bilbao, Spain

A High Coverage Method for Automatic False Friends Detection for Spanish and Portuguese

VarDial 2018 @ COLING 2018

📅 August 2018 📍 Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA

A Crowd-Annotated Spanish Corpus for Humor Analysis

SocialNLP 2018 @ ACL 2018

📅 July 2018 📍 Melbourne, Australia

Mobile Machine Learning

Machine Learning undergraduate course, Universidad de la República

📅 May 2018 📍 Montevideo, Uruguay

Mobile Machine Learning with Bender

Deep Learning Applied to Computer Vision graduate course, Universidad de la República

📅 October 2017 📍 Montevideo, Uruguay

Bender: Efficient Execution of Neural Networks in iOS

Open Tech 2017

📅 September 2017

📍 Montevideo, Uruguay

Humor Detection in Tweets

9° Foro de Lenguas de ANEP

📅 December 2016

📍 Montevideo, Uruguay

Is This a Joke? Detecting Humor in Spanish Tweets

IBERAMIA 2016

📅 November 2016

📍 San José, Costa Rica

Automatic Detection of False Friends

2nd Workshop of RITA Project

📅 March 2016

📍 Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Humor Detection in Spanish Tweets

Seminar of the Computer Science Department, Universidad de la República

📅 June 2015

📍 Montevideo, Uruguay

PRESS

[Nicosanti ganador del concurso de la Fundación de Cultura Informática](#)

LaRed21

📅 December 2009

📍 Montevideo, Uruguay

“NicoSanti team winner of the coding challenge”, organized by Fundación de Cultura Informática and Microsoft Uruguay.

REFERENCES

Available upon request.

(Resume last update: October 19, 2021)