Paula Gombar

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Contact: gombarica@gmail.com, pgombar.github.io
Languages: Croatian (native), English (level C1), Spanish (level B2)

EDUCATION

Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

Master Specialization in Data Science January 2017 – July 2017

Recipient of the Erasmus scholarship to study abroad for a semester. Focusing on Data Science with courses such as: Machine Learning in Practice, Research Seminar in Data Science, and Cognitive Computational Modeling of Language and Web Interaction.

University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

M.Sc & B.Sc. in Computer Science September 2012 – July 2018

Master Thesis supervised by Berkant Barla Cambazoglu: *Recency Ranking Models for Web Search*
Bachelor Thesis supervised by Jan Šnajder: *Contextual Sentiment Analysis of Croatian Expressions*

WORK EXPERIENCE

Microsoft, Cloud & Enterprise, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Software Engineer November 2018 – current

Working on Linux Guest Agent in Azure Compute. Linux Guest Agent is a secure, lightweight process that manages virtual machine (VM) interaction with the Azure Fabric Controller. The Guest Agent is responsible for many functional aspects of deploying and managing Azure VMs, including running VM extensions.
Technologies used: Linux, Python, Bash, Azure, Git.

NTENT, Barcelona, Spain

Data Science Intern March 2018 – July 2018

Under the supervision of Berkant Barla Cambazoglu, carried out a research project on recency ranking, *Recency Ranking Models for Web Search*, ultimately my Master Thesis. Devised, implemented and fully integrated two models for recency ranking into an existing multi-stage ranking architecture. Demonstrated an improvement in the effectiveness of the commercial search engine.
Technologies used: Python, Scala, Bash, Apache Spark, Hadoop.

Microsoft, Cloud & Enterprise, Redmond, Washington, USA

Software Engineer Intern September 2017 – December 2017

Performed data analysis and developed a visualization service for the existing log ingestion service in Azure. Worked on making the ingestion service more reliable, developed and fully integrated new monitoring features.
Technologies used: C#, SQL, PowerShell, Azure, Git.

Microsoft, Cloud & Enterprise, Redmond, Washington, USA

Software Engineer Intern July 2016 – September 2016

Built a distributed, scalable microservice that uses Redfish, a new open industry hardware monitoring standard, runs on Service Fabric, and uses the Reliable Actors framework. The component was fully integrated in Azure Stack.
Technologies used: C#, PowerShell, Service Fabric, Azure Stack, Git.

Noom, Inc., New York, New York, USA

Software Engineer Intern July 2015 – October 2015

Built a web application to improve meal logging experiences by clustering and processing users' food suggestions for multiple languages. Devised a new way of clustering existing data for easier processing.
Technologies used: Python, Flask, SQLAlchemy, Jinja2.

X.FER, Zagreb, Croatia

President, Problem Setter and Lecturer October 2012 – May 2017

Presided X.FER, an informatics student association, and lead its main project, the course Competitive Programming. Also responsible for giving lectures, setting up homework assignments and exams designed to help students learn algorithms and their application in solving complex problems.

Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, Zagreb, Croatia

Student Assistant October 2012 – February 2014

Helping students with laboratory work and general understanding of topics covered in courses Algo-

rithms and Data Structures, Fundamentals of Electrical Engineering and Electronics 1.

Publications

Debunking Sentiment Lexicons: A Case of Domain-Specific Sentiment Classification for Croatian

Paper submission for BSNLP 2017 October 2016 – February 2017

Built a semi-supervised graph-based method to acquire sentiment lexicons from a corpus and experimented with acquisition parameters. Evaluated the lexicon-based models on the task of domain-specific sentiment classification and compared them against supervised models.

TakeLab at SemEval-2016: Using a Genetic Algorithm Based Ensemble

Paper submission for Task 6: Stance Classification in Tweets. October 2015 – February 2016

In a team of 9, built a system for the detection of stances in tweets. The system uses an ensemble of learning algorithms, classifiers, lexical and task-specific features, and is fine-tuned using a genetic algorithm. The system ranked 3rd among the 19 systems submitted to this task.

Programming Competitions

Croatian Nationals in Informatics (DMIH)		May 2006 – May 2010
Croatian Open Competition in Informatics (COCI)		October 2006 – April 2011

Skills

Advanced	Python, Linux, Git, Bash
Working knowledge	C, C#, Java, Scala, Apache Spark, LaTeX
Basic	Haskell, JavaScript