Yabra Muvdi

I am an Economist and a Data Scientist interested in studying how modern statistical methods combined with new sources of data can enrich the understanding of public policy issues. I am particularly drawn to the study of income inequality and social mobility through the lense of text and network data.

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in LinkedIn
⊙ GitHub
⊕ Personal page

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Barcelona School of Economics – Barcelona (Spain)
Predoctoral Researcher in Economics and Machine Learning
March 2021 - Present

- Currently working with professor Stephen Hansen to build models and tools for the use of unstructured data in economic analysis. Selected projects include:
    - Developing NLP models to predict the presence of remote work on over 500 million job postings. Current model can be tested online here.
    - Characterizing firms within a trade network through the use of embedding models. Here is the poster I presented at a CESifo workshop.
    - Measuring the evolution of economic uncertainty with word embeddings.

Universidad de los Andes – Bogotá (Colombia)
Research and Teacher Assistant
July 2015 - June 2018 (3 years)

- Developed econometric models with panel data of over six million children to understand the effects of a health policy in Bogotá. Working paper.
- Co-authored an article with professor Adriana Camacho on the evolution of household poverty in Colombia. Available online (in Spanish).
- Supported three different courses at the Economics department with professors Andrés Álvarez and Jimena Hurtado.

EDUCATION

Barcelona School of Economics – Barcelona (Spain)
Graduate institution bringing together researchers from Universitat Pompeu Fabra and Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

Master Program in Data Science
September 2019 - July 2020

Relevant courses: Machine Learning (A+), Data Warehousing and Business Intelligence (A), Computational Machine Learning II (A+), Data Visualization (A–), Text Mining (A+), Stochastic Models and Optimization (A+), Networks (A–)
Master thesis: "Political Discourse on Twitter: An Analysis of Politicians' Tweets Using a Structural Topic Model" (A). Available here.

Universidad de los Andes – Bogotá (Colombia)
Ranked as the 6th university in Latin America.

Bachelor's Degree in Economics
July 2013 - March 2018

Graduated in the top 5% of the class.
Relevant courses: Advanced Econometrics (A-), Linear Algebra (A), Economic Theories
of Justice (A+), Empirical Applications of Political Economy (A), Game Theory (A-),
Analysis of Armed Conflict (A+)

University of Chicago - Chicago (US)
Data and Policy Summer Scholar Program
July 2019 - August 2019

Online Courses
Undertook certified courses on: [Natural Language Processing](#) (deeplearning.ai),
[R Programming](#) (John Hopkins University), and [The Challenges of Global Poverty](#) (MIT)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Instiglio - Bogotá (Colombia)
Award winning social enterprise focused on the design of innovative financial mechanisms to
improve the impact of social programs.

Data Analyst
August 2018 - August 2019 (1 year)

- Led the design of predictive models to forecast the performance of educational
  programs in Liberia. Supported the design of an innovative financing mechanism
  for a five-year educational project in the country.
- Collected, cleaned, analyzed and visualized historical data of all the company's
  projects in order to produce relevant insights for the Board's annual meeting.
- Supported the business development efforts of the company by writing concept
  notes and formal proposals to prospective clients. Two of these efforts led to
  important projects for the company.
- **Achievements:** Got promoted from analyst level 1 to level 2 in 6 months.

Intern
January 2018 - July 2019 (7 months)

- Analyzed the available data on educational outcomes for Liberia and Namibia.
- Developed a comprehensive literature review on the effectiveness of several
  educational programs in developing countries.
- **Achievements:** Got selected as one of the interns who was promoted to analyst.

Enseña por Colombia - Bogotá (Colombia)
Education NGO part of the Teach For All network.

Data Analyst
May 2016 - December 2016 (8 months)

- Provided support in the systematization and analysis of all the data produced by
  this institution.
- Developed an impact evaluation proposal for the program.