

Sergio Raúl Duarte Torres

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Profile

I am a very committed and responsible person with a high capacity for learning. I'm able to formulate, analyze, solve, and approach problems and ideas in a systemic and holistic way. I have excellent organizational skills and enjoy working in multicultural teams.

Educational

PhD in Computer Science (Cum Laude)

University of Twente. The Netherlands, Awarded on February 14, 2014.

Topic: *Search behavior of children and teenagers on a large scale and Information Retrieval solutions based on query and vertical recommendation.*

Advised by Dr. Djoerd Hiemstra, Dr. Theo Huibers and Prof. Peter Apers

Master

European Master Program in Language and Communication Technologies

University of Groningen, The Netherlands (2008-2009)

Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic (2007-2008)

Thesis: *Improving performance of information retrieval systems through semantic query expansion.*

Advised by Dr. Gosse Bouma and Dr. Pavel Pecina

Bachelor

Computer science & Software Engineering (Second best average grade)

Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá. (2001-2005)

Concordia University (Exchange program), Montreal (2005-2006)

Thesis: A computational model for predicting protein folding using genetic algorithms

Advised by Dr. Luis Fernando Niño.

Working experience

Accenture (Emerging Technology Innovation) (2014/06-Present)

Video Analytics & Cognitive Computing group

Development of key back-end components using video processing and data analytics technologies.

Development of proof of concepts for automatic detection of objects in challenging videos.

PuppyIR European Project (2010-2013)

Development of Information search services in the Emma's children hospital in Amsterdam

Query recommendation and moderated search component.

Yahoo! Barcelona. Intern (2011/02 – 2011/07)

Big data analysis of search logs of children users and applications.

Results published at CIKM 2012, CIKM 2013 and JASIST 2014.

Awards

Erasmus Mundus grantee of European Masters Program in Language and Communication Technologies 2007-2009

Academic exchange program CREPUQ-ASCUN (2005) at Concordia University, Canada.

Scholarship awarded (Waiver tuition fees)

Universidad Nacional de Colombia tuition awards: 2002-II, 2003-00, 2005-I. Awarded to best two GPA scores each semester (approximately 2 out of 80 students)

Hackathon Winner Data scientist challenge, organized by Accenture (2015-06): Providing an actionable app to predict churn and valuable donors for Plan Nerdelands

Technical skills

Linux, Mac, Windows

Java, Python, C#, C++

MySQL, Oracle

Map/Reduce, Hadoop, Pig Latin

Django, HTML5

R, WEKA, OpenCV

Language skills

Spanish (native)

English (full working proficiency)

French (intermediate)

Dutch (basic)

Publications

A complete list of publications can be found at www.duartetorres.com/publication-list/ or at <http://scholar.google.com/citations?user=1NgEq28AAAAJ>

Activities

CIKM 2015 Program committee service, Information Retrieval track

Board member of the Latin American Student Association at the U. Twente. (2012-2013)

Highlight: Fundraising event for CATW (<http://www.voz.utwente.nl>)