

David Alvarez-Melis

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EDUCATION

- 2014–2019 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**, PhD in Computer Science.
Focus: machine learning and natural language processing. Minor: Optimization. Advisor: Tommi Jaakkola.
- 2011–2013 **Courant Institute, New York University**, MS in Mathematics.
Focus: Numerical optimization and machine learning. Advisor: Mehryar Mohri, GPA: 3.98
- 2006–2011 **Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México**, Mexico City, B.S. in Applied Math.
Advisor: Carlos Bosch, grade: 9.74/10, highest honors, top 1% of class, chosen for valedictorian speech.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 08/2019 – **Postdoctoral Researcher**, *Microsoft Research*, Cambridge, MA, USA.
◦ Working in various topics in machine learning.
- 2014 – 2019 **Research Assistant**, *MIT*, Cambridge, MA, USA.
◦ Tommi Jakkola's lab.
◦ Conducted research in various topics in machine learning and natural language processing.
- 05 – 08/2018 **Research Intern**, *Microsoft Research*, New York, NY, USA.
◦ Mentors: Hanna Wallach, Jenn Wortman Vaughan, Hal Daume
◦ Project: Robust and human-like interpretability for machine learning.
- 05 – 08/2016 **Research Intern**, *Microsoft Research*, Redmond, WA, USA.
◦ Mentors: Scott Yih, Ming-Wei Chang, Kristina Toutanova, Chris Meek.
◦ Project: Multi-hop relation prediction for knowledge base question answering.
- 2013 – 2014 **Supplemental Researcher**, *IBM Research*, TJ Watson Center, NY, USA.
◦ Mentors: Michael Picheny & Ken Church (speech recognition group)
◦ Data analysis, statistical modeling for speech recognition data.
- 2009 – 2010 **Statistical Analyst**, *LasQuinceLetras Solutions*, Mexico City, Mexico.
◦ Designed and carried out statistical learning methods on large survey databases.
◦ Specialized on segmentation and customer analysis, brand equity research and market trends.
- Spring 2015 **Teaching Assistant**, *MIT*, 6.036: Introduction to Machine Learning.
- 2012,2013 **Adjunct Instructor**, *NYU*, MATH-UA.9: Algebra and Calculus and MATH-UA.121 Calculus I.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2018 **Facebook Fellowship Finalist**, (30/800 applicants).
- 2018 **Hewlett Packard Graduate Fellowship**, One-term PhD award.
- 2018 **AI2 Key Scientific Challenges program award**, \$10K unrestricted award..
- 2011, 2014 **Fellowship for graduate studies abroad**, *CONACYT*.
- March 2012 **Alumni Research Prize, Second Place**, *ITAM*, Category: Undergrad Thesis.
- 2012 – 2013 **Award for Graduate Studies Abroad**, *Mexican Ministry of Education*.
- October 2011 **Sotero Prieto Prize, Second Place**, *Mexican Math. Society*, Best math thesis nation-wide.
- 2006 – 2009 **Academic Excellence Scholarship**, *ITAM*, For undergraduate studies.

SKILLS

- Computational Python, Java, BASH, Lua, C++, MATLAB, SPSS, \LaTeX .
- Packages Torch, Pytorch, Theano, Keras, Scikit
- Languages Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), Italian (Advanced), French (Interm.), German & Dutch (Basic).

INTERESTS

- Professional Machine Learning, NLP, Statistical Modeling and Analysis, Numerical Optimization.