

Belén Carolina Saldías Fuentes

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile – Chile

Adjunct Professor of Data Mining

August 2017 – December 2017

- Youngest professor in the Computer Science Department of the School of Engineering.
- Only professor teaching Data Mining, an elective course for 4th- and 6th-year university students and a required course for Data Science minors and graduate students studying Machine Learning research.
- Doubled course attendance. Consistently receives highest ratings on student evaluation forms.
- Designed curriculum, created lectures, assessments, and feedback process for an audience of 30 students. Managing 4 teaching assistants.
- Awards and recognitions include:
 - Recipient of the Exceptional Quality as Lecturer and Maximum Student Satisfaction (2018).

Adjunct Professor of Data Mining and Management

March 2018 – July 2018

- Designed curriculum, created lectures, assessments, and feedback process for an audience of 30 students.
- Course for Masters Program - Students looking for data science knowledge during their professional careers.

Adjunct Professor of Advanced Programming

March 2018 – July 2018

- Core CS course for 2th- and 6th-year university students.

Falabella Retail S.A. – Chile

Web Intelligence Engineer

September 2017 – June 2018

- Worked with cross-functional teams, including business managers and software developers, to better understand user behavior and enhance the performance of the search engine.
- Analyzed customer behavior by analyzing 10 GB of e-commerce navigation data; results fed into better organization and prioritization of product mix.

Cencosud S.A. – Chile

Freelancer Consultant, Customer Intelligence

2016 – 2017

- Developed optimized data preprocessing and models through 20 GB of data.
- Defined a set of quick win promotions to find the relationship between brands and type of products.
- Classified clusters of customers according to their buying behavior to give personalized service.

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology – Cambridge, MA, USA

Graduate Research Assistant

September 2018 - present

- Relevant courses: Advances in Computer Vision and Affective Computing (Fall 2018)

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile – Chile

M.S. Machine Learning. GPA 6.72/7.0.

August 2016 – August 2017

B.S. Industrial Engineering Information Technology. GPA: 6.04/7.0.

March 2012 – August 2017

- Graduated with maximum distinction and ranked top 1% for both degrees.
- Served as Teaching Assistant for 8 engineering courses (2013 – 2017), including Advanced Programming, Stochastic Models, Bayesian Inference, Data Structure and Algorithms, and others.
- Captain of soccer team (2013 – 2015), leading the team to win several championships.
- Sport Chair, School of Engineering (2014).
- Co-founded and led Plan Deportivo Ingeniería (2013) to create, promote, and develop soccer, basketball, and volleyball teams in the school. Attracted up to 500 students every semester.

- Led the creation of the Code of Honor of the School of Engineering (2013).
- Awards and recognitions include:
 - Best Computer Science Thesis Award (2017).
 - Recipient of Academic Excellence Scholarship (2016).
 - Recipient of the Exceptional Quality as Course Assistant Award (2015).
 - Top National Score in Mathematics, Ministry of Education of Chile, University Admission (2012).
 - Recipient of Honor Scholarship (2012).

Institute of Applied Computational Science (IACS) at Harvard University – Cambridge, Massachusetts
Research Collaborator March 2016 – August 2017

- Member of the dual program Harvard-Chile Data Science School, advised by Pavlos Protopapas, Scientific Program Director at IACS.
- Recipient of IACS financial aid for the duration of the program.
- Conducted research on machine learning topics, focused mainly on approximate variational inference to solve crowdsourcing problems.

PUBLICATIONS

- Saldías Fuentes, Belén. A full probabilistic model for yes/no type crowdsourcing in multi-class classification. Santiago, Chile: Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, August, 2017 (master's thesis).
- Saldías Fuentes, B., P.Protopapas, K. Pichara. A full probabilistic model for yes/no type crowdsourcing in multi-class classification. *Journal Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery*. Waiting for review. Submitted in August 2017.
- Main collaborator of the published book *Advanced Computer Programming in Python*, freely available at <https://advancedpythonprogramming.github.io>.
- Personal website: belencarolina.com.