Juan Vásquez

↑ Boulder, Colorado. USA

I. EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Computer Science - Specialization in Conversational and Neurosymbolic AI. August 2023 - Present University of Colorado Boulder Boulder, Colorado. USA

Adviser: Dr. Maria Leonor Pacheco Co-Adviser: Dr. Alexis Palmer

MS. in Computer Science - Specialization in Natural Language Processing August 2021 – May 2023 Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (National Autonomous University of Mexico, UNAM)

Mexico City, Mexico

Adviser: Dr. Gemma Bel Enguix Co-Adviser: Dr. Karla Ramírez Pulido

Thesis: Detection of digital LGBT+phobia in Mexican Spanish with neural learning algorithms and a formal-semantics-based approach using lambda calculus

Adviser: Dr. Salvador Carrillo Moreno

Graduation Project: Data mining: Searching for Chaos in Polynomial Ordinary Differential Equations

II. NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

The 34th European Summer School on Language, Logic and Information . . . July 31st – August 11st, 2023 University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Computer and Information Science

III. PEER-REVIEWED MANUSCRIPTS

- Leto, Alexandria, **Juan Vásquez**, Alexis Palmer and Maria Leonor Pacheco. "Dehumanization of LGBTQ+ Groups in Sexual Interactions with ChatGPT". Proceedings of the Queer in AI Workshop. 2025.
- Ginn, Michael, Ali Marashian, Bhargav Shandilya, Claire Post, Enora Rice, **Juan Vásquez**, Marie Mcgregor, Matthew Buchholz, Mans Hulden, and Alexis Palmer. "On the Robustness of Neural Models for Full Sentence Transformation". Proceedings of the 4th Workshop on Natural Language Processing for Indigenous Languages of the Americas (AmericasNLP 2024), pp. 159-173. 2024.
- Gómez-Adorno, Helena, Gemma Bel-Enguix, Hiram Calvo, Sergio Ojeda-Trueba, Scott Thomas Andersen, Juan Vásquez, Tania Alcántara, Miguel Soto, and Cesar Macias. "Overview of HOMO-MEX at IberLEF 2024: Hate Speech Detection Towards the Mexican Spanish speaking LGBT+ Population". Procesamiento del Lenguaje Natural 73 (2024): 393-405. 2024.
- ▶ Andersen, Scott, Segio-Luis Ojeda-Trueba, **Juan Vásquez**, and Gemma Bel-Enguix. "The Mexican Gayze: A Computational Analysis of the Attitudes towards the LGBT+ Population in Mexico on Social Media Across a Decade". Proceedings of the 8th Workshop on Online Abuse and Harms (WOAH 2024), pp. 178-200. 2024.
- Bel-Enguix, Gemma, Helena Gómez-Adorno, Gerardo Sierra, Juan Vásquez, Scott Thomas Andersen, and Sergio Ojeda-Trueba. "Overview of HOMO-MEX at Iberlef 2023: Hate speech detection in Online Messages directed Towards the MEXican Spanish speaking LGBTQ+ population." Procesamiento del Lenguaje Natural 71 (2023): 361-370.
- Osorio, Javier, and Juan Vásquez. "Classifying Organized Criminal Violence in Mexico using ML and LLMs." Proceedings
 of the 6th Workshop on Challenges and Applications of Automated Extraction of Socio-political Events from Text, pp.
 1-10. 2023.
- Vásquez, Juan, Scott Andersen, Gemma Bel-Enguix, Helena Gómez-Adorno, and Sergio-Luis Ojeda-Trueba. "HOMO-MEX: A Mexican Spanish Annotated Corpus for LGBT+phobia Detection on Twitter". The 7th Workshop on Online Abuse and Harms (WOAH), pp. 202-214. 2023.

- ▶ Bel-Enguix, Gemma, Gerardo Sierra, Helena Gómez-Adorno, Juan-Manuel Torres-Moreno, Jesus-German Ortiz-Barajas, and **Juan Vásquez**. "Overview of PAR-MEX at Iberlef 2022: Paraphrase Detection in Spanish Shared Task." Procesamiento del Lenguaje Natural 69 (2022): 255-263.
- ► Bel-Enguix, Gemma, Helena Gómez-Adorno, Karla Mendoza, Grigori Sidorov, and **Juan Vásquez**. "La# felicidad en Twitter: ¿qué representa realmente?". Linguamatica 14, no. 1 (2022): 3-15.
- Vásquez, Juan., Gemma Bel-Enguix, Scott Thomas Andersen, and Sergio-Luis Ojeda Trueba. "HeteroCorpus: A Corpus for Heteronormative Language Detection." Proceedings of the 4th Workshop on Gender Bias in Natural Language Processing (GeBNLP), pp. 225-234. 2022.
- Vásquez, Juan, Helena Gómez-Adorno, and Gemma Bel-Enguix. "Bert-based Approach for Sentiment Analysis of Spanish Reviews from TripAdvisor." IberLEF@ SEPLN, pp. 165-170. 2021.

IV. TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant - CSCI 4622: Machine Learning
Teaching Assistant - CSCI 3155: Principles of Programming Languages Fall – 2024 University of Colorado Boulder Boulder
Teaching Assistant - 5832: Natural Language Processing
Teaching Assistant - CSCI 1300: Starting Computing
Main Lecturer - Introduction to Programming with Python
Main Lecturer - Introduction to NLP with Python
V. OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES
Workshop organizer
Conference organizer
Conference organizer
Workshop organizer
Reviewer
Reviewer
Reviewer
Keynote speaker: The State of NLP in Latin America
Reviewer
First place at the shared task 'Sentiment Analysis for Mexican Touristic Places' July - 202

Málaga, Spain

2021 Rest-Mex co-located at Iberian Languages Evaluation Forum (IberLef)

Talk: Applied Artificial Intelligence for Sentiment Analysis of Online Reviews in Spanish May – 2021 Grupo de Ingeniería Lingüística (The Language Engineering Group), UNAM Mexico City, Mexico

VI.	EMPL	OYN.	JENT

- Developed a responsive conversational agent using Llama 3.3, creating a 24/7 support system that offers guidance through crisis situations and recovery processes in workplace scenarios.
- Engineered prompts that guide the agent to respond with trauma-informed language, avoiding victim-blaming while providing compassionate support to workplace violence survivors.
- Implemented a Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) system that accesses legal resources and support protocols designed by a team of legal experts, ensuring survivors receive accurate information tailored to their specific situations.

- Pioneered a neurosymbolic approach combining semantic graphs with neural networks, delivering superior interpretability while maintaining classification accuracy in complex language analysis tasks.
- Developed a neural architecture combining embeddings from a Graph Neural Network (GNN) and BERT-multilingual that successfully classified approximately 1 million unlabeled Spanish-language tweets into content categories, enabling analysis of LGBTQ+ discourse patterns over a 10-year period.
- Implemented a semantic parser based on Abstract Meaning Representations (AMR) to transform natural language into graph structures, significantly enhancing data interpretability.

- ${\boldsymbol{\cdot}}$ Wrote and deployed a suite of Python scripts for text data preprocessing.
- Performed and evaluated various text classification experiments by fine-tuning the BERT and <u>BETO</u> models on a corpus of crime-related news from Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. The results were published in a peer-reviewed <u>paper</u> at the 6th Workshop on Challenges and Applications of Automated Extraction of Socio-political Events from Text located (RANLP 2023).
- Achieved state-of-the-art (SOTA) F1 score in binary sentence classification, establishing new performance benchmarks for crime-related text analysis in Spanish-language media.

• Led the technical development of <u>Abiogenesis</u>, an AI-powered art installation that transformed a physical painting into dynamic digital experiences, implementing custom computer vision algorithms to detect and manipulate artistic elements in real-time.

- Wrote all the necessary code for the data pre-processing, analysis, and visualizations requested by the clients.
- Presented slides to various executives in order to help them have a better understanding of their HR departments.

- Contributed to the creation of various presentations for clients.
- Researched relevant data for various consulting projects in the Mexican energy market.

VII. VOLUNTEERING

• Responsible for updating an manintaining the oSTEM website.

Universidad Iberoamericana (Ibero-American University)

Mexico City, Mexico

• Helped organize, conduct, and moderate various talks for the *human diversity week* - five days in which the University allotted the Organization a budget that allowed us to create, promote, and execute various events that would create consciousness of the particular struggles faced by the LGBT+ population.

• Organized and conducted a weekly queer theory reading group with the members of the student association. Each session I would propose a reading, and I would encourage discussions around it.

VIII. SKILLS

Programming languages: Python, C++, Java, Bash, Julia

Tools: Git, VS Code, Jupyter

Libraries and Frameworks: Hugging Face, PyTorch, Geometric, scikit-learn, NLTK, SpaCy, Pandas, Polars, NumPy,

Matplotlib, Seaborn, gradio

Spoken languages: Spanish (native), English (advanced), French (intermediate)