

Francielle Vargas
PhD in Computer Science - Natural Language Processing
franciellealvargas@gmail.com
<https://franciellealvargas.github.io/>

Main Skills Natural Language Processing, Societal Computing, Machine Learning
Responsible AI: Explainability and Interpretability, and Fairness.

Education

PhD, Computer Science and Computational Mathematics
University of São Paulo
Socially Responsible and Explainable Autom. Fact-Checking and Hate Speech Detection. see
Advisors: Thiago A. S. Pardo and Fabrício Benevenuto
2019 - 2024

MSc, Computer Science and Computational Mathematics
University of São Paulo
Semantic Clustering of Aspects for Opinion Mining. see
Advisor: Thiago A. S. Pardo
2015 - 2017

BA, Linguistics
Federal University of Minas Gerais
2010 - 2014

BS, Information Systems
Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais
2006 - 2009

Awards & Honors

Google Latin America Research Awards (LARA 2024)
Diversity and Inclusion Grant Award (EMNLP 2024)
Diversity and Inclusion Grant Award (NAACL 2024)
Outstanding Academic Project and Honorable Mention (UFMG 2013)
Outstanding Academic Project and Honorable Mention (UFMG 2012)

Invited Speaker

2024: [Invited Researcher] [Computational Social Science - Language and Morality Lab](#)
University of Southern California (USC). Los Angeles, California
Title: *Fighting Misinformation and Radicalism: Socially Responsible and Explainable Fact-Checking and Hate Speech Detection. see*

2024: [Keynote Speaker] [Conference cum Conclave on Emerging trends in Journalistic and Media Practices](#)
DG Vaishnav College (DDGDV). Chennai, India
Title: *Predicting Sentence-Level News Source Reliability for Fact-Checking. see*

2023: [Invited Speaker] [Conference on Harmful Online Communication](#)
Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences (GESIS), Cologne, Germany
Title: *Countering Harmful Online Communication in Brazil: Predicting Fine-Grained Factuality of News and Offensive Context of Social Media Comment. see*

Experience

2024-2024: *Google PhD Fellowship*, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil
2024-2024: *Visiting Researcher*, University of Southern California, USA
2023-2023: *Invited Researcher*, Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Germany
2021-2022: *Data Scientist*, Cisco Webex, USA
2015-2023: *Graduate Researcher*, University of São Paulo, Brazil
2014-2015: *System Analyst*, Unisys, Brazil
2010-2014: *Research Assistant*, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil 2008-2010: *System Analyst*, Grupo Barcelos, Brazil

Short Courses

2024: *2nd Mexican NLP Summer School*, NAACL 2024, Mexico. [see](#)
2023: *2nd Summer School on Deep Learning in NLP*, RANLP 2024, Bulgaria. [see](#)
2022: *2nd Advanced NLP School*, Université Grenoble Alpes, France. [see](#)
2022: *IEEE Spoken Language Technology Workshop Hackathon*, Qatar. [see](#)
2021: *4th Advanced School in Big Data Analysis*, ICMC-USP, Brazil. [see](#)
2020: *10th Lisbon Machine Learning School*, INESC, Portugal. [see](#)
2020: *1st Datathon-Hackathon Antisemitism on Social Media*, Indiana University, USA. [see](#)
2019: *Introduction on the Stars - Astrophysics*, University of São Paulo, Brazil. [see](#)
2016: *The R language with an emphasis on probability*, University of São Paulo, Brazil. [see](#)
2015: *4th Summer School in Computer Science*, Federal University of Minas Gerais, BR. [see](#)
2014: *Software Engineering (MBA)*, Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais, BR. [see](#)

Organizing & Program Committee

Organizing Committee

1. Co-organizer. *WOAH 2015*. [see](#)
2. Data(set) Co-chair. *ICWSM 2023*. [see](#)
3. Accessibility Chair. *ICWSM 2022*. [see](#)
4. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair. *ICWSM 2021*. [see](#)
5. Co-organizer. *6th CASE@RANLP 2023*. [see](#)
6. Co-organizer. *5th CASE@EMNLP 2022*. [see](#)

Program Committee

- *EMNLP (2022) (2023) (2024)*
 - *NAACL (2022) (2024)*
 - *ACL (2023)*
 - *LREC (2024)*
 - *COLING (2025)*
 - *ICWSM (2025)*
 - *CIKM (2024)(2023)*
 - *HICSS(2023)*
 - *WOAH (NAACL-HLT 2022) (ACL 2023) (NAACL 2024)*
 - *FEVER (EACL 2023) (EMLP 2024)*
 - *CODI (COLING 2022) (ACL 2023) (EACL 2024)*
 - *ARGMINING-CMNA (COMMA 2022) (COLING 2022) (ICLP 2023)*
 - *SoCal NLP (2022)*
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2025

Isadora Salles, Francielle Vargas, Fabrício Benevenuto (2025) **HateBRXplain: A Benchmark Dataset with Human-Annotated Rationales for Explainable Hate Speech Detection in Brazilian Portuguese**. *31st International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING 2025)*. pp. 1-12, Abu Dhabi, UAE. [to appear](#)

Francielle Vargas, Wolfgang Schmeisser-Nieto, Zohar Rabinovich, Thiago A.S. Pardo, Fabrício Benevenuto (2025) **Discourse Annotation Guideline for Low-Resource Languages**. *Natural Language Engineering Journal*. Cambridge University Press. [to appear](#).

2024

Francielle Vargas, Isabelle Carvalho, Thiago Pardo, Fabrício Benevenuto (2024) **Context-Aware and Expert Data Resources for Brazilian Portuguese Hate Speech Detection**. *Natural Language Engineering Journal*. pp. 1-22. Cambridge University Press. [see](#)

Francielle Vargas, Isadora Salles, Diego Alves, Ameeta Agrawal, Thiago Pardo, Fabrício Benevenuto (2024) **Improving Explainable Fact-Checking via Sentence-Level Factual Reasoning**. *7th Fact Extraction and VERification Workshop (FEVER @ EMNLP 2024)*. pp. 192–204, Miami, United States [see](#)

Francielle Vargas, Samuel Guimarães, Shamsuddeen H. Muhammad, Diego Alves, Ibrahim Said Ahmad, Idris Abdulmumin, Diallo Mohamed, Thiago Pardo, Fabrício Benevenuto (2024) **HausaHate: An Expert Annotated Corpus for Hausa Hate Speech Detection**. *8th Workshop on Online Abuse and Harms (WOAH @ NAACL 2024)*. pp. 52–58. Mexico City, Mexico. [see](#)

Surendrabikram Thapa, Kritesh Rauniyar, Farhan Jafri, Hariram Veeramani, Raghav Jain, Sandesh Jain, Francielle Vargas, Ali Hürriyetoglu, Usman Naseem (2024) **Extended Multimodal Hate Speech Event Detection During Russia-Ukraine Crisis - Shared Task at CASE 2024**. *Workshop Proceedings of the 14th Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing (CASE @ RANLP 2024)*. pp. 221–228. St. Julians, Malta. [see](#)

2023

Francielle Vargas, Isabelle Carvalho, Ali Hürriyetoglu, Thiago A.S. Pardo, Fabrício Benevenuto (2023) **Socially Responsible Hate Speech Detection: Can Classifiers Reflect Social Stereotypes?**. *Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing (RANLP 2023)*. pp. 1187–1196. Varna, Bulgaria. [see](#)

Francielle Vargas, Kokil Jaidka, Thiago A.S. Pardo, Fabrício Benevenuto (2023) **Predicting Sentence-Level Factuality of News and Bias of Media Outlets**. *Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing (RANLP 2023)*. pp. 1197–1206. Varna, Bulgaria. [see](#)

Francielle Vargas, Isabelle Carvalho, Wolfgang Schmeisser-Nieto, Fabrício Benevenuto, Thiago A.S. Pardo. **NoHateBrazil: A Brazilian Portuguese Text Offensiveness Analysis System**. *Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing (RANLP 2023)*. pp.1180–1186. Varna, Bulgaria. [see](#)

Surendrabikram Thapa, Farhan Jafri, Ali Hürriyetoglu, Francielle Vargas, Roy Ka-Wei Le, Usman Naseem. **Multimodal Hate Speech Event Detection - Shared Task 4, CASE 2023**. *Workshop Proceedings of the 17th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (CASE @ EACL 2023)*. pp.151-159. Varna, Bulgaria. [see](#)

2022

Francielle Vargas, Isabelle Carvalho, Fabiana R. Góes, Thiago A.S. Pardo, Fabrício Benevenuto (2022) **HateBR: A Large Expert Annotated Corpus of Brazilian Instagram Comments for Abusive Language Detection**. *13th Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC 2022)*. pp. 7174–7183. Marseille, France. [see](#)

Francielle Vargas, Jonas D’Alessandro, Zohar Rabinovich, Fabrício Benevenuto, Thiago A.S. Pardo. (2022) **Rhetorical Structure Approach for Online Deception Detection: A Survey**. *13th Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC 2022)*. pp. 5906-5915. Marseille, France.

Francielle Vargas, Thiago A. S. Pardo (2022) **Studying Dishonest Intentions in Brazilian Portuguese Texts**. *Deceptive AI*. Springer: Communications in Computer and Information Science. vol 1296. pp. 166–178. [see](#)

Ali Hürriyetöglu, Osman Mutlu, Firat Duruşan, Onur Uca, Alaeddin Gürel, Benjamin J. Radford, Yaoyao Dai, Hansi Hettiarachchi, Niklas Stoehr, Tadashi Nomoto, Milena Slavcheva, Francielle Vargas, Aaqib Javid, Aaqib Javid, Erdem Yörük (2022) **Extended Multilingual Protest News Detection - Shared Task 1, CASE 2021 and 2022**. *Workshop Proceedings of the 2022 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (CASE @ EMNLP 2022)*. pp. 223–228. Abu Dhabi, Arab Emirates. [see](#)

2021

Francielle Vargas, Fabiana R. Góes, Isabelle Carvalho, Fabrício Benevenuto, Thiago A.S. Pardo (2021) **Contextual-Lexicon Approach for Abusive Language Detection**. *Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing (RANLP 2021)*. pp. 1442-1451. Held Online. [see](#)

Francielle Vargas, Fabrício Benevenuto, Thiago A.S. Pardo (2021) **Towards Discourse-Aware Models for Multilingual Fake News Detection**. *Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing (RANLP 2021)*. pp. 210-218. Held Online. [see](#)

Mateus T. Machado, Thiago A. S. Pardo, Evandro E. S. Ruiz, Ariani Di Felippo, Francielle Vargas (2021) **Implicit Opinion Aspect Clues in Portuguese Texts: Analysis and Categorization**. *15th International Conference on the Computational Processing of Portuguese (PROPOR 2021)*. pp. 68-78. Fortaleza, Brazil. [see](#)

Jason R.C. Nurse, Francielle Vargas, Naeemul Hassan, Dakuo Wang, Panagiotis Andriotis, Amira Ghenai, Kokil Jaidka, Eni Mustafaraj, Kenneth Joseph and Brooke Foucault Welles (2021) **Towards A Diverse, Inclusive, Accessible and Equitable AAAI International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM)**. *Workshop Proceedings of the 15th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM 2021)*. pp. 01-12. Held Online. [see](#)

2020 and before

Francielle Vargas, Thiago A. S. Pardo (2020). **Linguistic Rules for Fine-Grained Opinion Extraction**. *Workshop Proceedings of the 14th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (SocialSens @ ICWSM 2020)*. pp. 1-6. Held Online. [see](#)

Francielle Vargas, Rodolfo Sanches Saraiva Dos Santos, Pedro Regattieri Rocha (2020) **Identifying Fine-Grained Opinion and Classifying Polarity on Coronavirus Pandemic**. *9th Brazilian Conference on Intelligent Systems (BRACIS 2020)*. pp. 511-520. Rio Grande, Brazil. [see](#)

Francielle Vargas, Thiago A. S. Pardo (2018). **Aspect Clustering Methods for Sentiment Analysis**. *13th International Conference on the Computational Processing of Portuguese (PROPOR 2018)*. pp.365-374. Canela, Brazil. [see](#)

Thiago A. S. Pardo, Jorge Baptista, Magali S. Duran, Maria das Graças Nunes, Fernando Nóbrega, Sandra Alúcio, Ariani Di Felippo, Eloize Seno, Raphael R. Silva, Rafael Anchieta, Henrico Brum, Márcio Dias, Rafael Martins, Erick Maziero, Jackson Souza, Francielle Vargas (2017) **The Coreference Annotation of the CSTNews Corpus**. *2nd Workshop on Evaluation of Human Language Technologies for Iberian Languages (IberEval @ SEPLN 2017)*. pp. 102-112. Murcia, Spain. [see](#)