

Pablo Aragón

CONTACT INFORMATION

Eurecat
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Computational Social Science, Civic Technologies, Digital Democracy, Technopolitics, Big Data, Social Network Analysis, Natural Language Processing, Data Visualization

POSITIONS

Eurecat – Technology Centre of Catalonia, Barcelona, Spain

Research scientist

10/2019–present

Research at the Big Data & Data Science unit, focused on computational social science:

- ▷ Data Science Mentorship in Artist Residencies (MediaFutures project, H2020 RIA no. 951962)
- ▷ Community Health Metrics (Wikimedia Foundation grants)

Research assistant

05/2015–09/2019

Research at the Digital Humanities unit, coordination of multiple research projects at the intersection of data, technology and democracy:

- ▷ BarcelonaNow pilot (DECODE project, H2020 RIA no. 732546)
- ▷ Democratic Innovation Lab (Barcelona City Council)
- ▷ Data Analysis for Citizen Participation (Medialab Prado – Madrid City Council)

Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain

Adjunct professor

10/2019–present

Teaching at the Department of Information and Communication Technologies (DTIC) and ELISAVA School of Design and Engineering

Doctoral researcher

09/2015–09/2019

Research at the Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning group of the Department of Information and Communication Technologies

- ▷ Co-Chair of Metadecidim LAB research seminars

Oxford Internet Institute, Oxford, United Kingdom

Visiting researcher

01/2018–03/2018

Research on the social and temporal patterns of online petition platforms

Barcelona Media Foundation, Barcelona, Spain

Research engineer

06/2011–04/2015

Research at the Social Media group, focused on digital technologies and their social impact:

- ▷ Network data analysis, modeling and visualisation (D-CENT project, FP7 RIA no. 610349)
- ▷ Co-founding of the DatAnalysis15M research network with Tecnopolítica (IN3-UOC)

Cierzo Development, Zaragoza, Spain

Data engineer

09/2009–06/2011

Design and deployment of crawlers and high-scalable backend systems for social media monitoring

EDUCATION

- Universitat Pompeu Fabra**, Spain
 PhD in Information and Communication Technologies 2015–2019
 Thesis: *Characterizing Online Participation in Civic Technologies*
- Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia**, Spain
 MSc in Artificial Intelligence 2013–2016
 Honors in *AI Applications for Human and Sustainable Development*
 Thesis: *Computational Framework for the Assessment of New Forms of Political Organization*
- Luleå Tekniska Universitet**, Sweden
 Exchange Student Program in Computer Science 2008–2009
- Universidad de Zaragoza**, Spain
 BSc+MSc in Computer Science and Engineering 2003–2010
 Honors in *Languages, Syntax and Automata*, and *Advanced Data Bases*
 Thesis: *Desarrollo de una herramienta de planificación social media en la blogosfera española*

HONORS AND AWARDS

- PhD Thesis – Cum Laude mention 2019
 PhD Thesis – Big Data Talent Award Finalist 2019
 EuroCSS – Science SLAM Winner 2019
 Internet, Policy & Politics Conference – Best Paper Award 2016
 EiTIC PhD Student Workshop – Best Poster Award 2016
 MSc Thesis – Big Data Talent Award Finalist 2016

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Barandiaran, X., Calleja-López, A., Monterde, A., **Aragón, P.**, Linares, J., Romero C., & Pereira, A. (2017). *Decidim: redes políticas y tecnopolíticas para la democracia en red*. RECERCA. Revista de Pensament y Anàlisi, (21), 137-150
- Aragón, P.**, Gómez, V., García, D., & Kaltenbrunner, A. (2017). *Generative models of online discussion threads: state of the art and research challenges*. Journal of Internet Services and Applications, 8(1), 15
- Aragón, P.**, Gallego, H., Laniado, D., Volkovich, Y., & Kaltenbrunner, A. (2017). *Online network organization of Barcelona en Comú, an emergent movement-party*. Computational Social Networks. doi:10.1186/s40649-017-0044-4
- Aragón, P.**, Gómez, V., & Kaltenbrunner, A. (2017). *Detecting Platform Effects in Online Discussions*. Policy & Internet. doi:10.1002/poi3.158
- Eom, Y. H., **Aragón, P.**, Laniado, D., Kaltenbrunner, A., Vigna, S., & Shepelyansky, D. L. (2015). *Interactions of cultures and top people of Wikipedia from ranking of 24 language editions*. PloS one, 10(3), e0114825
- Peña-López, I., Congosto, M., & **Aragón, P.** (2014). *Spanish Indignados and the evolution of the 15M movement on Twitter: towards networked para-institutions*. In Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies. New York: Routledge
- Aragón, P.**, Kappler, K., Kaltenbrunner, A., Laniado, D., & Volkovich, Y. (2013). *Communication Dynamics in Twitter During Political Campaigns: the Case of the 2011 Spanish National Election*. Policy & Internet, Vol. 5, No. 2, pp 49-69
- Neff, J. J., Laniado, D., Kappler, K. E., Volkovich, Y., **Aragón, P.**, & Kaltenbrunner, A. (2013). *Jointly they edit: Examining the impact of community identification on political interaction in Wikipedia*. PloS one, 8(4), e60584

Congosto, M., & **Aragón, P.** (2012). *Twitter, del sondeo a la sonda: nuevos canales de opinión, nuevos métodos de análisis*. Revista de Comunicación Política e Institucional Más Poder Local, edition no 12, pp 50-56. Fundación Ortega y Gasset

Napalkova, L., **Aragón, P.**, & Castro Robles, J. C. (2018). *Big Data-driven Platform for Cross-Media Monitoring*. Data Science and Advanced Analytics (DSAA), 2018 IEEE International Conference. Turin, Italy

Aragón, P., Bermejo, Y., Gómez, V., & Kaltenbrunner, A. (2018). *Interactive Discovery System for Direct Democracy*. Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining (ASONAM). Barcelona, Spain

Aragón, P., Sáez-Trumper D., Redi M., Hale S. A., Gómez V., & Kaltenbrunner A. (2018). *Online Petitioning Through Data Exploration and What We Found There: A Dataset of Petitions from Avaaz.org*. ICWSM-18 – 12th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media, Palo Alto, California, United States

Aragón, P., Kaltenbrunner, A., Calleja-López, A., Pereira, A., Monterde, A., Barandiaran, X., & Gómez, V. (2017). *Deliberative Platform Design: The case study of online discussions in Decidim Barcelona*. SocInfo '17 – The 9th International Conference on Social Informatics, Oxford, United Kingdom

Gallego H., Laniado, D., Kaltenbrunner, A., Gómez, V., & **Aragón, P.** (2017). *Lost in re-election: a tale of two Spanish online campaigns*. SocInfo '17 – The 9th International Conference on Social Informatics, Oxford, United Kingdom

Aragón, P., Gómez, V., & Kaltenbrunner, A. (2017). *To Thread or Not to Thread: The Impact of Conversation Threading on Online Discussion*. ICWSM 2017 – The International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media, Montreal, Canada

Aragón, P., Gómez, V., & Kaltenbrunner, A. (2016). *Measuring Platform Effects on Online Democracy*. IPP2016: The Platform Society, Oxford, United Kingdom

Aragón, P., Volkovich, Y., Laniado, D., & Kaltenbrunner, A. (2016). *When a Movement Becomes a Party: Computational Assessment of New Forms of Political Organization in Social Media*. ICWSM 2016 – The International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media, Cologne, Germany

Aragón, P., Gómez, V., & Kaltenbrunner, A. (2016). *Visualization Tool for Collective Awareness in a Platform of Citizen Proposals*. ICWSM 2016 – The International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media, Cologne, Germany

Aragón, P. (2016). *Boosting Online democracy through Social Computing*. EiTIC PhD Student Workshop, Barcelona, Spain

García-Gavilanes, R., Kaltenbrunner, A., Sáez-Trumper, D., Baeza-Yates, R., **Aragón, P.**, & Laniado, D. (2014). *Who are my Audiences? A Study of the Evolution of Target Audiences in Microblogs*. SocInfo '14 – The 6th International Conference on Social Informatics, Barcelona, Spain

Aragón, P., Sauliere, S., Díez Escudero, R., & Abellán, A. (2014). *DaTactic, Data with Tactics: Description and evaluation of a new format of online campaigning for NGOs*. City Labs workshop co-located with SocInfo '14 – The 6th International Conference on Social Informatics, Barcelona, Spain

Peña-López, I., Congosto, M., & **Aragón, P.** (2013). *Spanish Indignados and the evolution of 15M: towards networked para-institutions*. IDP 2013 – The 9th International Conference on Internet, Law & Politics, Barcelona, Spain

Carrillo, R., Esteve del Valle, M., Monterde, A., & **Aragón, P.** (2013). *#YoSoy132: A New Paradigm in Mexican Politics?* LASA 2013 – Latin American Studies Association Conference, Washington, United States

Kaltenbrunner, A., **Aragón, P.**, Laniado, D., & Volkovich, Y. (2013). *Not All Paths Lead to Rome: Analysing the Network of Sister Cities.* IWSOS '13 – 7th International Workshop on Self-organizing Systems, Palma de Mallorca, Spain

Aragón, P., Kappler, K., Kaltenbrunner, A., Neff, J.G., Laniado, D., & Volkovich, Y. (2012). *Tweeting the campaign. Evaluation of the Strategies performed by Spanish Political Parties on Twitter for the 2011 National Elections.* IPP2012: Big Data, Big Challenges?, Oxford, United Kingdom

Aragón, P., Kaltenbrunner, A., Laniado, D., & Volkovich, Y. (2012). *Biographical Social Networks on Wikipedia – A cross-cultural study of links that made history.* WikiSym '12 – 8th International Symposium on Wikis and Open Collaboration, Linz, Austria

Aragón, P., Gould J., Kaltenbrunner, A., Kappler, K., Laniado, D., Ruiz de Querol, R., Ullod, C., & Volkovich, Y. (2012). *Bridging the Gap: A Reflection on an Interdisciplinary Approach to Social Media Research.* Web Science track, 21th International Conference on World Wide Web (WWW 2012), Lyon, France

Aragón, P., García, I., & García, A. (2011). *Graph Visualization Tool for Twittersphere Users based on a High-Scalable Extract, Transform & Load System.* WIMS'11 – International Conference on Web Intelligence, Mining & Semantics, Sogndal, Norway

BOOKS

Bermejo, Y, Álvarez, P., **Aragón, P.**, Abellán, A., Calvo, S. Díez Escudero, R., Gutiérrez, B., Mendiharat, A., Sauliere, S., Baciero, A., Congosto, R., Durant, M., & Noguero, S. (2019). *Democracias Futuras – Laboratorio de Inteligencia Colectiva para la Participación Democrática.* Medialab Prado – Madrid Destino. ISBN: 978-84-09-10824-4

Álvarez, P., Padilla, M., Congosto, R., Durant, M., Gutiérrez, B., Díez Escudero, R., Abellán, A., Saulière, S., **Aragón, P.**, Mendiharat, A., Noguero, S., Calvo, S., Baciero, A., García, M., & Bermejo, Y. (2019). *Democracias Futuras – Visiones para reinventar la participación política.* Medialab Prado – Madrid Destino. ISBN: 978-84-120220-3-2

Toret, J., Calleja, A., Marín, O., **Aragón, P.**, Aguilera, M., Barandiaran, X., Lumbreras, A., & Monterde, A. (2015). *Tecnopolítica y 15M – La potencia de las multitudes conectadas.* Editorial UOC. ISBN: 978-84-9064-458-4

BOOK CHAPTERS

Peña-López, I., Congosto, M., & **Aragón, P.** (2017). *Spanish Indignados and the evolution of the 15M movement on Twitter: towards networked para-institutions.* In Delgado A. M. (Ed.) Internet, Derecho y política: retos y oportunidades. Editorial Huygens

Aragón, P., & Monterde, A. (2016). *Yosoy132, un movimiento-red: autocomunicación, redes policéntricas y conexiones globales.* In Rivera Hernández, R. (Ed.) Del Internet a las calles: #YoSoy132, una opción alternativa de hacer política. Editorial A Contracorriente

Aragón, P., Toret J., Congosto, M., & Laniado, D. (2014). *Datanalysis15M: Evolución del sistema-red 15m a través de topología de redes.* In Cotarelo, R., & Olmeda, J.A. (Eds.) La democracia del siglo XXI. Política, medios de comunicación, internet y redes sociales. Madrid: Centro de Estudios Políticos y Constitucionales

Congosto, M., & **Aragón, P.** (2012). *Análisis de las elecciones del 20n.* In Cotarelo, R., & Crespo, I. (Eds.) La comunicación política y las nuevas tecnologías (pp 151-175). Editorial Los libros de la Catarata

TEACHING	<i>Participatory Platforms and Social Network Analysis</i> (18h) MSc in Data and Design ELISAVA Barcelona School of Design and Engineering, Spain	2019–2020
	<i>Discrete Mathematics</i> (seminar groups) (24h) BSc in Mathematical Engineering in Data Science Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain	2019–2020
	<i>Ciencia de datos para la participación ciudadana</i> (4h) Certificación de Extensión Universitaria en Técnicas de Participación Ciudadana Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain	2019–2020
	<i>Ciencia de datos para el bien común</i> (4h) Curso de ciencia de datos y análisis de redes para abordar los ODS Universidad de Granada, Spain	2018–2019
	<i>Ciencia de datos para la participación ciudadana</i> (2h) Certificación de Extensión Universitaria en Técnicas de Participación Ciudadana Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain	2018–2019
	<i>Minería de datos para la investigación en Humanidades y Ciencias Sociales</i> (24h) Cursos de Actualización en las Disciplinas (CADi) Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico	2016–2017
	<i>Análisis de Redes Sociales para las Ciencias Sociales</i> (16h) Maestría en Comunicación y Cultura Digital Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro, Mexico	2015–2016
	<i>Análisis de Redes Sociales para las Ciencias Sociales</i> (24h) Cursos de Actualización en las Disciplinas (CADi) Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico	2015–2016
	<i>Linear Algebra and Discrete Mathematics</i> (seminar groups) (56h) BSc in Mathematical Engineering in Data Science Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain	2015–2016
	<i>Análisis de las redes sociales digitales</i> (2h) Curso de Verano en Innovación y redes sociales en las administraciones públicas Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain	2012–2013
	<i>Análisis de redes sociales</i> (4h) Máster en Comunicación y Marketing Online Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain	2012–2013
UNDERGRADUATE ADVISORY	Gallego H. (2017). <i>Computational comparative analysis of the Twitter networks of the 2015 and 2016 Spanish national election</i> . MSc in Intelligent Interactive Systems, Universitat Pompeu Fabra	
CONFERENCE CO-ORGANIZING	<i>Decidim Fest / Annual Metadecidim Conference</i> , Barcelona, Spain	2016–present
	<i>Democratic Cities Conference</i> , Barcelona, Spain	2018
WORKSHOP CO-ORGANIZING	<i>Civic Technologies: Research, Practice, and Open Challenges</i> CSCW 2020 – ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing	
CONFERENCE TUTORIALS	<i>Generative models of online discussion threads</i> ICWSM 2019 – International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media, Munich, Germany	
	<i>Generative models of online discussion threads</i> ASONAM 2018 – Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining. Barcelona, Spain	

INVITED TALKS	<i>Generative models of online discussion threads</i> Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain	2019
	<i>The impact of platform settings on online petition signing</i> The Europaeum Scholars Programme, Spain	2019
	<i>Characterizing participation in online discussion platforms</i> KMi Seminar – The Open University, United Kingdom	2018
	<i>Characterizing participation in online discussion platforms</i> Network Seminar – University of Oxford, United Kingdom	2018
	<i>Análisis de redes sociales</i> Màster en Periodisme Cultural – Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain	2016
	<i>Análisis y visualización de datos: el #15M y otros casos de estudio</i> Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain	2012
FUNDING	Consonni, C., Laniado, D., & Aragón, P. Community Health Metrics <i>Wikimedia Foundation Grants</i> , 2020-2021, 83,400€	2020–2021
EU FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS	DECODE – DEcentralised Citizens Owned Data Ecosystem decodeproject.eu D-CENT – Decentralised Citizens ENgagement Technologies dcentproject.eu ONODO/CHEST – Collective enHanced Environment for Social Tasks onodo.org EMAPS – Electronic Maps to Assist Public Science emapsproject.com EINS – Network of Excellence in InterNet Science	2016–2019 2013–2016 2013–2016 2011–2014 2011–2015
PROJECT BOARDS	Decidim decidim.org NGI Forward ngi.eu	2019–present 2020–present
PROGRAM COMMITTEES	The Web Conference: Web and Society Track ICWSM (best reviewer award in 2019) WebSci (senior PC member) SocInfo Euro CSS IC2S2 RDSM2018	2019–present 2016–present 2019–present 2017–present 2017–2019 2018 2018
JOURNAL REVIEWING	EPJ Data Science, PLOS ONE, Policy & Internet, Online Social Networks and Media, Information Systems Frontiers, El profesional de la información, Teknokultura, VIRTUalis	
COMPUTER SKILLS	Data Analysis: <i>Pandas, NumPy, Scikit-learn, igraph, NLTK</i> Data Visualization: <i>d3.js, Gephi, Sigma.js, Kibana, Apache Superset</i> Data Storage: <i>MySQL, MongoDB, Solr, Elasticsearch</i> Programming languages: <i>Python, R, Java</i> Web languages: <i>HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Markdown</i> Other: <i>L^AT_EX, git, WordPress, Office suites</i>	
LANGUAGES	Spanish: Native English: Full professional proficiency Catalan: Full professional proficiency French: Elementary	