

Pablo Aragón

CONTACT INFORMATION

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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

Wikimedia Foundation, Remote (Barcelona, Spain)

Research scientist

02/2021–present

Research on knowledge integrity and resilience to disinformation in Wikipedia and sister projects.

Eurecat – Technology Centre of Catalonia, Barcelona, Spain

Research scientist

10/2019–02/2021

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)

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

Last update: April 2021

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

Aragón, P., Alvarado Garcia, A., Le Dantec, C.A., Flores-Saviaga, C., & Saldivar, J. (2020). Civic technologies: Research, practice, and open challenges. Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW '20). Virtual Event, USA.

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

Gorrini, A., Choubassi, R., Rezaallah, A., Presicce, D., Boratto, L., Laniado D., & **Aragón, P.** (2021) Assessing the Level of Accessibility of Railway Public Transport for Women Passengers Using Location-Based Data: The Case of H2020 DIAMOND Project. In: Bisello A., Vettorato D., Haarstad H., Borsboom-van Beurden J. (eds) Smart and Sustainable Planning for Cities and Regions. SSPCR 2019. Green Energy and Technology. Springer, Cham.

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>Web Intelligence</i> (15.5h) MSc in Intelligent Interactive Systems Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain	2020–2021
<i>Networks</i> (16h) MSc in Data and Design ELISAVA Barcelona School of Design and Engineering, Spain	2020–2021
<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 <i>Democratic Cities Conference</i> , Barcelona, Spain	2016–present 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 <i>The impact of platform settings on online petition signing</i> The Europaeum Scholars Programme, Spain <i>Characterizing participation in online discussion platforms</i> KM i Seminar – The Open University, United Kingdom <i>Characterizing participation in online discussion platforms</i> Network Seminar – University of Oxford, United Kingdom <i>Análisis de redes sociales</i> Màster en Periodisme Cultural – Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain <i>Análisis y visualización de datos: el #15M y otros casos de estudio</i> Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain	2019 2019 2018 2018 2016 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	MEDIAFUTURES mediafutures.eu DIAMOND diamond-project.eu 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 cordis.europa.eu/project/id/288021	2020–2023 2018–2021 2016–2019 2013–2016 2013–2016 2011–2014 2011–2015
PROGRAM COMMITTEES	The Web Conference: Web and Society Track ICWSM (best reviewer award in 2019) WebSci (senior PC member) CIKM: Applied Track SocInfo Euro CSS	2019–present 2016–present 2019–present 2021–present 2017–2020 2017–2019

PROJECT	Decidim decidim.org	2019–present
BOARDS	NGI Forward ngi.eu	2020–present
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	