

CONTACT INFORMATION	Duncan Hall 3098 Rice University Houston, TX	Homepage: https://paolacascante.com ✉ E-mail: pc51@rice.edu or pc9za@virginia.edu 🔗 Google Scholar
RESEARCH INTERESTS	I am a Ph.D. student of Computer Science at Rice University, working with Dr. Vicente Ordonez Roman. I do research in Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing, and Machine Learning. I am particularly interested in interactive learning, zero/few-shot learning, semi-supervised learning, representation learning, and large-scale recognition with fewer labels.	
EDUCATION	<p>Rice University, Houston, TX 2024 (expected) Ph.D. in Computer Science. GPA: 4.0. Advisor: Vicente Ordonez.</p> <p>University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 2018–2021 (transfer out) Ph.D. in Computer Science. GPA: 4.0. Advisor: Vicente Ordonez.</p> <p>University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 2021 Master of Computer Science. GPA: 4.0. Advisor: Vicente Ordonez.</p> <p>Tecnologico de Costa Rica (TEC), Cartago, Costa Rica. 2018 B.Sc., Computer Engineering.</p>	
PUBLICATIONS	<p>SimVQA: Exploring Simulated Environments for Visual Question Answering. Paola Cascante-Bonilla, Hui Wu, Letao Wang, Rogerio Feris, Vicente Ordonez. 2022 Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition. CVPR 2022.</p> <p>Evolving Image Compositions for Feature Representation Learning. Paola Cascante-Bonilla, Arshdeep Sekhon, Yanjun Qi, Vicente Ordonez. The 32nd British Machine Vision Conference. BMVC 2021.</p> <p>Curriculum Labeling: Revisiting Pseudo-Labeling for Semi-Supervised Learning. Paola Cascante-Bonilla, Fuwen Tan, Yanjun Qi, Vicente Ordonez. The 35th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence. AAAI 2021.</p> <p>Drill-down: Interactive Retrieval of Complex Scenes using Natural Language Queries. Fuwen Tan, Paola Cascante-Bonilla, Xiaoxiao Guo, Hui Wu, Song Feng, Vicente Ordonez. Conf. on Neural Information Processing Systems. NeurIPS 2019. Vancouver, Canada. December 2019.</p> <p>Chat-crowd: A Dialog-based Platform for Visual Layout Composition. Paola Cascante-Bonilla, Xuwang Yin, Vicente Ordonez, Song Feng. North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics. NAACL 2019. System Demonstrations. Minneapolis, Minnesota. June 2019.</p>	
PREPRINTS	<p>Moviescope: Large-scale Analysis of Movies using Multiple Modalities. Paola Cascante-Bonilla, Kalpathy Sitaraman, Mengjia Luo, Vicente Ordonez. arXiv:1908.03180. August 2019. https://arxiv.org/abs/1908.03180 Media coverage: https://techxplore.com/news/2019-08-features-movie-genre.html</p>	
TALKS	<p>Generalized Zero-Shot Learning via Normalizing Flows. Paola Cascante-Bonilla, Yanjun Qi, Vicente Ordonez. 2021 Ken Kennedy AI and Data Science Workshop 2021. Rice University. Ken Kennedy Institute. October 2021.</p> <p>Artificial Intelligence, a bridge between innovation and communities. Paola Cascante-Bonilla.</p>	

Calderos: Mujeres, Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación 2021.
University of Costa Rica. CICOM - Virtual. June 2021.

Attention! The Rise of the Transformers.

Paola Cascante-Bonilla.

International Meeting on Artificial Intelligence and its Applications (RIIAA 2020).
Mexico. Mexico City - Virtual Event. August 2020.

WORK
EXPERIENCE

IBM Research, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

May 2021 - Aug 2021

Research Intern in the Vision Group at the MIT-IBM Watson AI Lab.
Exploring simulated environments for Visual Question Answering.
Mentor: Hui Wu. Manager: Rogerio Feris.

N3 Results, Heredia, Costa Rica.

December 2012 - July 2018

Senior Software Engineer/Tech Lead.

In charge of the Microsoft Platform Ready Platform, an application readiness and validation compliance with certification requirements for most of the Microsoft technologies. Worked mainly with C#, WCF, SQL, MVC and JavaScript. Also worked on Data Mining.
Manager: Gibran Uribe.

Growth Acceleration Partners, San Jose, Costa Rica.

February 2010 - October 2012

Mid Software Engineer.

.NET team: Back-end developer, worked with C#, ASP, MVC, WCF, REST-SOAP, NoSQL, (Cassandra, Thrift, Lucandra, Phelops) and MS SQL 2008.
Mobile team: worked with Android, iOS and RIM (Blackberry).

Intel, Heredia, Costa Rica.

November 2009 - February 2010

Software Engineer- Contractor.

Worked in two projects with WPF, WCF, Microsoft Visual Studio 2008 (C#, ASP), Oracle, MS SQL 2008 and Infragistics.

PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE

Reviewer

17th European Conference on Computer Vision - ECCV 2022.
33th IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition - CVPR 2022.
36th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence - AAAI 2022.
The 32nd British Machine Vision Conference - BMVC 2021.

Teaching

Teaching Assistant: Vision & Language - Graduate/Fall 2020.
Teaching Assistant: Deep Learning for Visual Recognition - Graduate/Spring 2020.
Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Computer Vision - Undergrad/Fall 2019.

Diversity and Inclusion

Chair: Mentoring Program - LatinX in Computer Vision workshop at CVPR - 2022
Chair: Mentoring Program - LatinX in Computer Vision workshop at ICCV - 2021
Chair: Mentoring Program - LatinX workshop at ICML - 2021
Chair: Mentoring Program - LatinX in Computer Vision workshop at CVPR - 2021