

Invited Speaker BRACIS

Rodrigo Barros (PUCRS): Data – 01/12/2021 11h

Short Bio

Rodrigo C Barros received his PhD in Computer Science and Computational Mathematics from University of Sao Paulo in 2013. He received the Best Thesis in Computer Science Award from the Brazilian research agency CAPES, which is considered to be the most prestigious award for young scientists in Brazil. He also received the Best Thesis Award from the Brazilian Computer Society for his PhD work. He is currently an Associate Professor at the School of Technology, PUCRS, where he leads the Machine Learning Theory and Applications Lab (MALTA).



He is also a co-founder of Teia Labs, the first AI-centered startup from the south of Brazil, where he is currently Director of Research, leading a team of researchers that develop products based on natural language processing and computer vision. Dr Barros holds a scholarship due to his outstanding research productivity from Brazilian research agency CNPq. He also received the Google Research Awards for Latin America for four years in a row (2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019) due to outstanding research projects in Computer Vision and Machine Learning. He has published more than 100 peer-reviewed papers in journals and conferences, including in highly-praised venues such as CVPR, ICCV, ICML, and AAAI. For his entrepreneurial performance, Dr Barros was awarded a "Gaúcho Entrepreneur-Researcher" by research agency FAPERGS.

Title:

Are Foundation Models the Future of AI?

Date/Hour:

December 1, 2021 – 11:00 (Timezone : GMT – 3)

Abstract:

In this talk, we are going to talk about the most recent paradigmatic shift that happened within AI research, the so-called "Foundation Models". These are very-large neural networks trained on broad data at scale, which then can be used in a large variety of downstream tasks. We will discuss the main architectures found in foundational models, the most-widely adopted training procedures, their real-world applicability, and possible societal impact. We finish by presenting the limitations of this approach and pointing to opportunities for future work in this promising research area.