Dr. Ricardo Vilalta

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Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Houston and director of the Pattern Analysis Laboratory, Research Director at AI Savvy. My research interests include Machine Learning, Pattern Recognition, Data Mining, Artificial Intelligence, and AstroInformatics.

Education
- **PhD**, **Computer Science, 1998.** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- **MS**, **Computer Science, 1994.** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- **BS**, **Computer Science, 1989.** Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey.
  Awards: Fulbright Scholar (1993-1997), Valedictorian.

Employment
- **Research Director. (2017-Present).** AI Savvy, Inc.
- **Associate Professor (2009-Present).** Department of Computer Science, University of Houston.
- **Assistant Professor (2002-2009).** Department of Computer Science, University of Houston.
- **Visiting Professor (2007-2008).** Center for Research and Advanced Studies (CINVESTAV).
- **Research Staff Member (1998-2002).** IBM T.J. Watson Research Center.
- **Adjunct Assistant Professor (2001)**. Fordham University, NY.
- **Systems Engineer (1990-1991).** IBM Mexico.

Patents
- **System and Method for Predicting a Drill String Stuck Pipe Event.** Vilalta R., Valerio R., Dhar Gupta K., and Goebel T. (2013)**.** US Patent PCT/US2012/062100. Patent no. 8752648.
- **Method and Apparatus for Selecting a Data Classification Model Using Meta-Learning.** Vilalta R., Irina R. (2005) IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, YOR9-2000-0368US1. U.S. Patent 06842751.
- **Method and Apparatus for Building a Data Classification Model Using Interactive Adaptive Learning Algorithms.** Vilalta R., Drissi Y. (2004) IBM T.J. Watson Research Center. , YOR9-2000-0507US1. U.S. Patent 06728689.

Distinctions
- Author of **Metalearning: Applications to Data Mining.** Brazdil P., Giraud-Carrier C., Soares C., Vilalta R. (2008). Springer Verlag. ISBN: 978-3-540-73262-4
- **Vice President Astroinformatics (2017).** International Astrostatistics Association (IAA).
- **Senior Member (2013).** Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).
- **Research Member (2007).** National Institute of Researchers (SNI), Mexico.
- **Excellence in Research Award (2005).** Dept. of Computer Science, University of Houston.
- **Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award (2005).** National Science Foundation.
- **Best Paper Award (2003).** 14th European Conference on Machine Learning.
- **Invention Achievement Award (2001).** IBM Research.

Editor & Conference-Workshop Organization

- **Workshop chair (2013)**: Astroinformatics. IEEE International Conference on Data Mining.
- **Editorial Board (2012)**: Intelligent Data Analysis for Real-Life Applications: Theory and Practice.
- **Session chair (2011)**: Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy V.
- **Workshop co-chair (2007)**: Meta-Learning; International Joint Conference on Neural Networks.
- **Workshop co-chair (2005)**: Meta-Learning; International Conference on Machine Learning.
- **Guest editor (2004)** Machine Learning Journal; special issue on Meta-Learning.
- **Workshop chair (2000)**: What Works Where Well?; 17th International Conference on Machine Learning.
- **Associate editor (2000)**: International Conference on Artificial Intelligence.

Membership

- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers **(IEEE).**
- Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence **(AAAI).**
- International Astrostatistics Association **(IAA),** and IAA Working Group on Cosmostatistics**.**
- Large Synoptic Survey Telescope **(LSST)** Informatics and Statistics Science Collaboration **(ISSC).**

Further Information

- Pattern Analysis Laboratory: http://www2.cs.uh.edu/~vilalta/index.html
- AI Savvy: www.ai-savvy.com
- University of Houston Computer Science: http://www.uh.edu/nsm/computer-science/