Téa Wright

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Research Interests

Natural language processing, machine learning, cognitive science

Education

University of California, Berkeley   Aug 2024 – Present
Ph.D. in Computer Science
Advisor: Alane Suhr
Coursework: Natural Language Processing, Information Theory, Computer Vision, Learning and Decision Making

University of Colorado Boulder   Aug 2020 – May 2024
B.S. in Computer Science   GPA: 4.00
Relevant Coursework: Machine Learning, Advanced Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, Algorithms, Automata and Formal Language Theory, Writing in Science and Society, Programming Languages, Cognitive Science, Robotics, User Interfaces, Software Development, Data Structures, Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning and Linguistics

University of Carlos III, Madrid, Spain   Aug 2022 – Dec 2022
Education Abroad - Hispanic Studies

Grants and Awards

- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (2025)

- UC Berkeley Chancellor's Fellowship (2024–2025)

- Graduating Student Research Award (2024)

- CU Boulder Chancellor's Recognition Award (2024)

- CRA Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award - Honorable Mention (2023–2024)

- Dean's List (2020–2024)

- Joseph A. Sewall Award, Sewall Esteemed Scholars Program (2020–2024)

Research Experience

Graduate Student Researcher, UC Berkeley, Berkeley AI Research   Aug 2024 – Present
Advisor: Alane Suhr

Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Colorado Boulder   Jun 2023 – May 2024
Advisor: Katharina von der Wense
Worked on developing automatic metrics for contextual support in LLM-generated stories to support preschool

vocabulary learning. Contributed to annotation, survey creation, masked language model implementation, and comparative evaluations.

Undergraduate Researcher (Senior Thesis), University of Colorado Boulder   Aug 2023 – May 2024
Advisors: Katharina von der Wense, Alexis Palmer, Jim Martin
Explored OCR adaptation techniques for low-resource indigenous languages. Documented linguistic resources and presented a full thesis.

Publications

- Maria Valentini*, **Téa Wright***, Ali Marashian, Jennifer Weber, Eliana Colunga, Katharina von der Wense. *Measuring Contextual Informativeness in Child-Directed Text*. COLING 2025.

- Jennifer Weber, Maria Valentini, **Téa Wright**, Katharina von der Wense, Eliana Colunga. *Evaluating LLMs as Tools to Support Early Vocabulary Learning*. CogSci 2024.

- Maria Valentini, Jennifer Weber, Jesus Salcido, **Téa Wright**, Eliana Colunga, Katharina von der Wense. *On the Automatic Generation and Simplification of Children's Stories*. EMNLP 2023.

Workshop Organization

Workshop on Pragmatic Reasoning in Language Models: Language Models as Language Users (PragLM) – COLM 2025

Volunteering

- Admissions Reviewer, UC Berkeley (Jan 2025)

- Volunteer, COLING 2025, Abu Dhabi (Jan 2025)

- Volunteer, EMNLP 2023, Singapore (Dec 2023)

Languages

English: Fluent
Spanish: Conversational
Japanese: Conversational
Korean: Beginner

Activities

Language learning, fashion, piano, travel, hiking, mountain biking