

# IVÁN FLORES

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## RESUME

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I am a doctoral student in applied economics (graduation planned Spring 2024). I have five years of professional experience delivering various research projects focused on labor, the commodity sector, economic impact evaluations, and spatial analysis. I am seeking a data scientist role in a research team to provide data-driven insights from different markets for strategic business decisions.

My technical skills include machine learning, computer programming, economic forecasting with auto-regressive models, optimization modeling, data analysis, and regional economic analysis. I have excellent interpersonal and communication skills to participate in teamwork, being able to listen and learn from others. I have a positive attitude towards challenges and adaptability to changes.

My current research analyzes the effects of adverse weather events on different outcomes related to agribusiness. In particular, I am studying the impact of the Mississippi River drought on the US soybean markets and the spatial effects on grain transportation.

## EDUCATION

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<i>Current</i> AUG 2020	Ph.D. Agricultural and Applied Economics UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN. Thesis: "Physical and Economic Distance in US Soybean Markets." Analyze the spatial disruption to US soybean prices in the fall of 2022 caused by drought-induced low water levels on the Mississippi River.
DEC 2020 JAN 2019	MSc. Agricultural and Applied Economics UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN. Thesis: "Testing the accuracy of ML methods to predict deforestation." Compare the accuracy of machine learning models such as random forest, gradient boosting machine, and elastic net to predict spatial patterns related to deforestation. Use several standard econometric techniques to benchmark these machine learning methods.
JUL 2018 MAR 2013	Bachelor Degree in Business Administration, UNIVERSIDAD ADOLFO IBÁÑEZ , Viña del Mar, Chile.

## PROGRAMMING AND METHODOLOGICAL SKILLS

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- Languages and software: Python, R & R-Studio, R-Shiny, Power BI, Power Query, ArcGIS, Stata,  $\LaTeX$ , AutoCAD, Office.
- Machine learning models: Random forest, gradient-boosting machine, elastic-net, Lasso.
- Causal inference models: Difference-in-differences, regression discontinuity.
- Spatial econometric models: Spatial auto-regressive models, Spatial error models.

## INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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CURRENT JUL 2023	Research Analyst AgSci LLC. Econometric and spatial analysis for projects related to crop insurance, soil productivity in Illinois, and data dashboard development using R-Shiny and USDA data.
DEC 2022 MAY 2022	Research/Data Science Intern CENTREC CONSULTING GROUP. Developed and deployed a large-scale optimization model for the soybean market. Developed data visualization tools in PBI/R/Python. Streamlined data gathering with SQL/PBI.
DEC 2021 JAN 2019	Research Assistant REGIONAL ECONOMICS APPLICATIONS LAB (REAL), UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS. Produced impact analyzes and monthly employment reports for the state of Illinois using econometric models to forecast the economic performance of the region.
DEC 2018 JUL 2018	Research Assistant CENTER FOR ECONOMICS AND REGIONAL POLICY, UNIVERSIDAD ADOLFO IBAÑEZ. Project: "International Network to study the influence of space on educational and labor market outcomes". Produced econometric analysis to understand changes in student commute patterns due to policy changes in school enrollment subsidies.

## SERVICE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

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- Agricultural and Consumer Economics - UIUC Graduate Student Organization President 2021-2022.
- Local Organizing Committee of the Midwest Annual Graduate Student Summit. Applied Economics, Regional and Urban Studies (AERUS), 2019.

## LANGUAGES

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- SPANISH: Native Language.
- ENGLISH: Fluent.
- PORTUGUESE: Intermediate.

## REFERENCES

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DR. BRUCE J. SHERRICK The Fruin Professor in Land Economics, University of Illinois (UIUC)	Phone: +1 (217) 244-2637 e-mail: sherrick@illinois.edu
DR. KAUSTUBH BHALERAO President and CEO at Soil Diagnostics, Inc	Phone: +1 (217) 721-6032 e-mail: bhalerao@soildiagnosics.com
DR. JOSEPH JANZEN Assistant Professor, University of Illinois (UIUC)	Phone: +1 (217) 300-7116 e-mail: jjanzen@illinois.edu