Latinxs and Hispanics in Mathematical Sciences

Esteban Navarro Garaiz

Quantitative Analyst – Los Angeles Dodgers

> *"Hispanic Heritage Month is an incredible opportunity to connect with a community whose stories and breadth are as rich as the cultures that it encompasses. Celebrating the accomplishments of these incredibly hard-working Latinxs and learning about them through Lathisms is inspiring and heartwarming, and it's an honor to be a part of it. Telling our stories and helping others along the way is the best way to generate the diversity we strive for, and I couldn't be more excited about the future."*

Esteban Navarro Garaiz is a Data Scientist, born and raised in Mexico City, fulfilling his dream of working in Sports Analytics. After graduating from Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) with a B.S. in Mathematics, he was lucky enough to receive a Fulbright-García Robles Scholarship and a DeepMind fellowship to join the Data Science Master's at NYU, from which he graduated in May 2020. Before joining the Dodgers as a Quantitative Analyst, he previously worked in academia and tech.

His primary research interests include probability, Statistical, and Machine Learning modeling techniques: linear and non-linear regression, hypothesis testing, time series prediction, supervised and unsupervised learning, classification problems. He recently gave a talk (in Spanish) for Facultad de Ciencias –Universidad Autonoma de Mexico, (UNAM), (his undergraduate university) talking about his story, a brief introduction to Sports Analytics (with a lot of resources to get started), and some general advice for students trying to do Data Science and Analytics. The talk can be found here (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NbLrm6Am4Xw), and the accompanying slides are here (https://estebanng.github.io/blog/). An English version of Esteban's background can be found in an interview for the Measurables Podcast here (https://open.spotify.com/episode/2xE6kmfaJzXHmlqEvSKkgR?si=KICllSFQR3W4hLcEMs7XfQ&dl_branch=1).

Navarro Garaiz advises students to explore outside the classroom as much as they can. He says: "do research with professors from your university, attend colloquia and talks, and try to find internships over the summer. Find something you are passionate about, and start doing work on it. Put that work out there, in a public location, in the cleanest form possible. Try to get feedback from others already doing that kind of work. Learn how to program in one of R or Python, and learn how to query things efficiently in SQL. Both those things will open a million doors for you. Lastly, learning to communicate mathematical concepts to both technical and non-technical audiences will be crucial in your career, no matter the direction it takes."