Alberto Arribas, PhD

Microsoft's Sustainability Science Lead for Europe

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Alberto Arribas is Microsoft's Sustainability Science Lead for the European region, helping Microsoft - and helping Microsoft help others - to reduce carbon emissions and protect biodiversity. Alberto is also a Fellow at the Alan Turing Institute (UK National Institute for AI and Data Science).

His background is in Physics with a PhD in climate modelling and a Diploma in Strategy and Innovation by the University of Oxford. Before joining Microsoft he founded and led the Met Office Informatics Lab and was an Associate Professor in Computer Science at the University of Exeter.

Alberto has led several research projects across technology and environmental sciences with top partners from IT industry: DeepMind (Machine Learning for prediction), Microsoft's AI for Earth (scalable cloud infrastructure for geosciences) and Amazon Web Services (NLP for environmental decision-making). Previously, he led the R&D and operational implementation of world-leading near-term climate prediction systems and derived services for water, energy and transport sectors. In academia, Alberto co-led the creation of a novel Centre for Doctoral Training on"Environmental Intelligence" at the University of Exeter.

His work has been published in over fifty papers and focuses on probabilistic predictions, scalable infrastructure for research, data science and AI in environmental sciences, and multi-disciplinary innovation to facilitate decision-making and help address environmental challenges.

Public Service
Member of the European Environment Agency (EEA) Scientific Committee; Member of the UK Natural Environment Research Council Digital Environment Steering Committee; Expert reviewer for the UK Parliament Office for Science and Technology; Expert Reviewer for the European Commission in the area of Future and Emerging Technologies.

Some Publications
- Skillful Precipitation Nowcasting using Deep Generative Models of Radar. Lenc, K. et al. 2020. Nature. Submitted.
- Quantifying Teleconnection pathways using Causal Networks. Kretschmer et al. 2020. BAMS. Submitted
- Influential Factors for Interdisciplinary Software Development Teams in Industrial Settings: The Case of Informatics Lab. 2017. CIbSE 2017 at ICSE 2017. Yamashita and Arribas.
- Skilful Long Range Prediction of European and North American Winters. 2014. Geophys. Res. Lett. Scaife et al.
- Global Seasonal Forecast System version 5 (GloSea5): a high resolution seasonal forecast system. 2014. Q. J. R. Meteorol. Soc. MacLachlan et al.
- Predictions of Climate Several Years Ahead Using an Improved Decadal Prediction System. 2014. J. Clim. Knight et al.