Jayneel Parekh

Postdoctoral Researcher at Sorbonne Université Research areas: ML/AI, Interpretable ML, Computer vision, Audio processing

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Current Position

December Postdoctoral Researcher, SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ France

2023-Present Understanding Representations in Large Multimodal Models

Advisor: Prof. Matthieu Cord, (Sorbonne Université and Scientific director of valeo.ai)

- Developing methods to understand representations computed inside large vision-language models.
- Leveraging insights gained from our interpretability methods to control or steer model outputs.

Education

September PhD in Machine Learning, Télécom Paris, Institut Polytechnique de Paris, France

2019–July Thesis: A Flexible Framework for Interpretable Machine Learning: Application to Image and Audio Classification 2023 Advisors: Prof. Florence d'Alché-Buc & Prof. Pavlo Mozharovskyi, Telecom Paris

Jury: Grégoire Montavon, Patrick Pérez, David Alvarez-Melis, Nicolas Thome, Stéphane Canu, Chloe Clavel

- Developed post-hoc/by-design interpretation methods using concept-based representations for deep neural networks, with applications to audio and image classification tasks

July 2014–19 **Dual Degree (B.Tech + M.Tech)**, IIT Bombay, Electrical Engineering, CPI: 9.05/10

Thesis: Audio Style Transfer: Transformations between speech and singing

Advisors: Prof. Preeti Rao, IIT Bombay & Dr. Yi-Hsuan Yang, Academia Sinica, Taiwan

- Investigated style transfer techniques for audio signals
- Focused on converting spoken audio into sung audio and vice-versa using deep learning

Awards and Achievements

- 2023 Top reviewer (top 10%) for NeurlPS'23.
- 2023 STIC Doctoral Prize (Saclay) 2023 accessit (2nd place) for NeurlPS'22 publication.
- 2016 Distinctive mention and travel grant for work at Media Eval 2016
- 2013 Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY) Fellowship 2013

Selected Publications/Preprints

Complete list of papers on Google Scholar. * denotes equal contribution below

- [1] P. Khayatan*, M. Shukor*, J. Parekh*, and M. Cord. "Analyzing Fine-tuning Representation Shift for Multimodal LLMs Steering." arXiv 2025 (under submission). [paper]
- [2] G. Kasmi, A. Brunetto, T. Fel and J. Parekh. "One Wave To Explain Them All: A Unifying Perspective On Feature Attribution" ICML 2025 (Accepted). [paper]
- [3] J. Parekh*, Q. Bouniot*, P. Mozharovskyi, A. Newson and F. d'Alché-Buc. "Restyling Unsupervised Concept Based Interpretable Networks with Generative Models." ICLR 2025. [paper]
- [4] J. Parekh, P. Khayatan, M. Shukor, A. Newson and M. Cord. "A Concept-Based Explainability Framework for Large Multimodal Models." NeurIPS 2024. [paper]
- [5] J. Parekh, S. Parekh, P. Mozharovskyi, G. Richard and F. d'Alché-Buc. "Tackling Interpretability in Audio Classification Networks with Non-negative Matrix Factorization. "IEEE/ACM TASLP (Vol. 32), arXiV 2023. [paper]
- [6] J. Parekh, S. Parekh, P. Mozharovskyi, F. d'Alché-Buc and G. Richard. "Listen to Interpret: Post-hoc Interpretability for Audio Networks with NMF." NeurIPS 2022. [paper]
- [7] J. Parekh, P. Mozharovskyi & F. d'Alché-Buc. "A Framework to Learn with Interpretation." NeurIPS **2021**. [paper]
- [8] J. Parekh, P. Rao, and YH. Yang. "Speech-to-Singing Conversion in an Encoder-Decoder Framework." IEEE ICASSP 2020 (Oral). [paper]

Undergraduate Research Experience

For my graduate or later research experience, please see the **Education** section

Feb-April Supervised Research Exposition, IIT Bombay

2018 Surface Defect Detection

Advisor: Prof. Subhasis Chaudhuri, Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Bombay

- Explored various techniques and studied relevant literature for surface defect detection
- Applied transfer-learning based methods for plant disease detection

May-June Summer Intern, TECHNICOLOR R&D France

2017 2D & 3D Human Pose Estimation Networks

Advisors: Pierre Hellier (Principal Scientist) & Louis Chevallier, Technicolor R&D France

- Completed internship as part of an industrial project on Motion Synthesis in Animation
- o Implemented and tested stacked hourglass based deep CNNs for 2D and 3D human pose estimation

2016 & 2017 Media Eval Benchmarking Initiative

Predicting Media Interestingness Task (Organizers: Technicolor France, ETH Zurich et al.)

- Developed novel methods for ranking a set of images/video-shots extracted from movie trailers according to their interestingness to a common viewer
- Netherlands 2016: achieved a mean average precision (MAP) of 0.23 for images Team Rank 3/12
- o Ireland 2017 (web participation): achieved a MAP of 0.25 for images & 0.19 for videos

2016–18 **Selected Course Projects**

- o Image Style Transfer An unsupervised, graph signal processing based, random shallow CNN.
- o Blind Audio Source Separation Implemented a NMF, LPC based error clustering criterion algorithm
- o Detection of Moving Objects in Videos Implemented a mean-shift and max-flow min-cut based algorithm

Services

Organizing ICCV 2025 workshop on explainable Computer Vision (exCV), Trustworthy and Frugal ML workshop, ELLIS Unconference 2023 Paris (Co-chair), ELLIS Member,

Reviewing ICCV'25, CVPR'25, ICLR'25, NeurIPS'24, ICML'24, NeurIPS'23, TPAMI, JMLR, TMM

Courses Teaching assistant for: Machine Learning (Telecom Paris, thrice during 2020–22), Analytical Signal Processing (IIT Bombay, Spring 18-19), Probability & Random Processes (IIT Bombay, Autumn 18-19) and Linear Algebra (IIT Bombay, Autumn 17-18)

Skills

Programming Languages: Python (including PyTorch, Tensorflow, Keras), C#, C++

Courses Advanced courses in ML/AI, CV, Optimization, Signal Processing, Summer schools – MuSTeR 2016 (IISc Bangalore), MLSS 2021 (Virtual), OxML 2022 (University of Oxford)

Selected Talks

- Jan 2025 IIT Jodhpur "The Model Interpretability Files: Uncovering Hidden Secrets with Dictionary Learning"
- Apr 2024 Invited talk at ICASSP'24 workshop on XAI for Speech and Audio "Tackling Interpretability Problems for Audio Classification Networks with NMF"
- Sept 2023 Deezer Research Paris "Listen to Interpret: Post-hoc interpretability for Audio Networks with NMF"
- 2021–2022 Talks at IDEMIA and Datacraft Paris "A Framework to Learn with Interpretation"

Extra-Curricular

- 2014-18 Silver medal in Institute Squash League, 3X finalist of Squash General Championship
- 2007-09 **Participated** in Junior National Squash Championship, Otters Open, CCI Open, HC Golcha Memorial Rajasthan Open Squash Championship, Umed Club District Open Squash Championship **(Finalist)**
- 2008-12 Member of Choir group in DPS Jodhpur
- 2009 & 2005 Samvaad A personality development program 45 and 30 days respectively