Mayukh Deb

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Publications

TopoNets (ICLR 2025 Spotlight → toponets.github.io) Jan 2025

Mayukh Deb, Mainak Deb, N. Apurva Ratan Murty
Inducing topographic structure in Vision and Language models. Yielded brain-like functional organization, parameter efficiency and lower dimensionality.

AtMan (NeurIPS 2023 + featured in Scientific American) Jan 2023

Mayukh Deb*, Björn Deiseroth*, Samuel Weinbach* et al. (* = equal contribution)
Causally trace and explain LLM outputs without gradients. Works on anything with attention. Foundation behind Aleph-Alpha's Explain functionality

DORA (ICLR 2023 Trustworthy ML workshop + TMLR) June 2022

Kiril Bykov, **Mayukh Deb**, Klaus Robert Müller et al.
Clustering neurons and detecting spurious outlier features with feature-vis.

End-to-end Topographic Auditory models Replicate Signatures of the Human Auditory Cortex (ArXiv preprint) 2025

Haider Al-Tahan, **Mayukh Deb**, Jenelle Feather, N. Apurva Ratan Murty
The first end-to-end topographic deep neural networks for audition. Showed signatures like tonotopic maps, Music and Speech selectivity, etc while preserving model performance.

Talks

Vision Sciences Society, 2025 (abstract, video) Jan 2025

Education

Georgia Institute of Technology *Aug 2024 – Present*
PhD Student - Cognition and Brain Science - Murtylab

- Mentored by Dr. N. Apurva Ratan Murty
- Building brain-inspired algorithms to improve Language and Vision models (see recent work: toponets)
- Leading the engineering effort for training and inference of state-of-the-art models of the visual cortex

Experience

Research Engineer @ Aleph-Alpha *Nov 2021 – May 2023*

- Led their Trustworthy AI project and built AtMan
- AtMan was the foundation behind Aleph-Alpha's "explain" API for LLMs
- Also worked on building multimodal search-engines.

Research Intern @ MIT Brain + Cognitive Sciences *May 2023 - Dec 2023*

Worked with Dr. Nancy Kanwisher's lab on 2 projects:

- Inducing brain-like topographic structure in transformers (eventually led to toponets)
- Training data-constrained vision models on fMRI data

Research Engineer @ Eden.Art *Dec 2023 – Aug 2024*

- Worked with stuff like Textual Inversion, IP-Adapters, ZipLoRA etc.
- Built highly flexible pipelines to fine-tune diffusion models (SDXL, SD3) quickly on user data

Intern @ RunwayML *Jan 2021 – Feb 2021*

- Implemented, optimized (1.4x speedup) and dockerized pipelines for optical-flow (RAFT) and video frame interpolation (RIFE) models to be used in Runway's video editing tool.

Google Summer of Code @ INCF *May 2020 – Aug 2020*

- Worked with OpenWorm to train models to extract metadata from microscopic videos/images embryos
- Also mentored two contributors in GSoC 2023.

Open Source (over 100k installs on pip)

TopoLoss

- Induce topographic structure in pytorch models during training with this loss function
- Works on both Linear and Conv layers
- Core codebase behind toponets
- Also released some pre-trained vision and language models
- 4k downloads on PyPI

torch-dreams

- A highly flexible framework to do feature visualization on pytorch models
- 56k downloads on PyPI

Eden

- Single python decorator to convert a python function into a hosted endpoint with queuing (celery)
- Surprisingly scalable across instances with kubernetes
- Foundational pet-project which eventually led to eden.art
- 9.4k downloads on PyPI

DevoLearn

- Trained models to segment embryo data from microscope
- Outcome of Google Summer of Code, 2020 and then taken forward by other students in the next years
- 35k downloads on PyPI

More projects can be found on my github profile: github.com/mayukhdeb

Technologies

Languages: Python and a little bit of CUDA – I just learn whatever is required

Frameworks: PyTorch, NumPy, einops, Pandas