Sep 2020-Mar 2023

Ananthu Aniraj

Experience

PhD. Researcher Inria Apr 2023-Present

Montpellier, France

• Researching interpretable-by-design computer vision methods to solve fine-grained species classification tasks with 2 accepted first author papers at top AI conferences.

• Oral Presentation at a top computer vision conference, namely ECCV 2024 (top 2.3% of all submissions to the conference).

Visiting Researcher University of Trento Feb 2025-May 2025

Trento, Italy

• Collaborative research on zero shot generalization using interpretable-by-design computer vision techniques.

Computer Vision R&D Engineer Lely

Maassluis, Netherlands

• Developed computer vision algorithms for monitoring cows and robots, leading to one granted European patent and another pending.

- Built 2 large-scale deep learning projects, managing the entire life cycle from concept to model deployment.
- Supervised 4 master's students through research internships and thesis projects.
- Devised a novel multi-camera, multi-object tracking algorithm deployed 24/7 in multiple dairy farms, enabling automated cow health monitoring and improved robot collision avoidance. [Link]
- Implemented a semi-automated data annotation pipeline, reducing labeling noise and boosting model performance.

Computer Vision R&D Intern Lely Jan 2020–Aug 2020

Maassluis, Netherlands

- Proposed an algorithm for instance-level analysis of cows in images, improving accuracy by 2x.
- Created a new dataset and deep learning model achieving state-of-the-art results tested 24/7 on various farms.

Computer Vision R&D Intern Corvus Drones Sep 2019–Dec 2019

Wageningen, Netherlands

Re-wrote the ArUco marker detection algorithm to enable GPU compatibility, doubling its processing speed.

Education

PhD. in Computer Science, *Inria / University of Montpellier, France.*

Apr 2023—Present (Expected Apr 2026)

- Research Topic: Explainable image classification through supervised and unsupervised part detection
- Supervisors: Dr. Diego Marcos, Dr. Cassio Fraga Dantas, Dr. Dino Ienco, Dr. Massimiliano Mancini (Trento)

M.Sc. in Embedded Systems, *University of Twente, Netherlands.*

Sep 2018-Aug 2020

- Master Thesis: Instance Level Cow Body Part Parsing
- Supervisors: Dr. Yan Li, Dr. Nicola Strisciuglio, Dr. Luuk Spreeuwers

B.Tech. in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, *University of Kerala, India.*

May 2013-Apr 2017

Honors: First Class with Distinction

Skills

- Programming Languages: Python, MATLAB, C++, C, LaTeX
- Machine Learning & AI: Deep Learning, Computer Vision, Image Processing, Neural Networks
- Data Science: Data Analysis, Data Visualization
- Frameworks & Libraries: PyTorch, TensorFlow, Keras, OpenCV, NumPy, Pandas, SciPy
- **Technologies:** Git
- Languages: English, Dutch (A2), Malayalam, French (A2)

Professional Services

• Reviewer (Conferences): ICCV 2025, CVPRW 2025

Summer Schools

- International Computer Vision Summer School (ICVSS), Sicily, Italy, July 2025.
- Eastern European Machine Learning Summer School (EEML), Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, July 2025.

Publications

- Aniraj, A., Dantas, C. F., Ienco, D., & Marcos, D. (2024). PDiscoFormer: Relaxing Part Discovery Constraints with Vision Transformers. *Proceedings of the European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV)*, 2024, 15143, 256–272. (**Oral**)
- Aniraj, A., Dantas, C. F., Ienco, D., & Marcos, D. (2023). Masking Strategies for Background Bias Removal in Computer Vision Models. Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV) Workshops, 2023, 4397–4405.

Patents

- System for monitoring a calving mammal, European Patent: EP4291133B1. Patent Active. [Link]
- Animal husbandry system, European Patent: EP4510823A1. Patent Pending. [Link]

Certifications

- Deep Learning Specialization, Online Course Coursera (deeplearning.ai), January 2020. [Link]
- Machine Learning, Online Course Coursera (Stanford University), August 2019 [Link]

Projects

Multi-camera, multi-object tracking in dairy farms

Sep 2020-Aug 2022

- *Role*: Led the development of object detection, global mapping, and tracking algorithms, and mentored 4 interns working on various components.
- Achievements: Prepared a dataset of 14000+ images, enhancing object detection accuracy to 98% mAP. Ran the tracking system live 24/7 in multiple farms in the Netherlands. [Link]

Instance Level Cow Body Part Parsing

Jan 2020-Aug 2020

- Role: Led the development of a novel deep learning method for this task and collaborated with a team working on calving detection in dairy farms resulting in a pending patent.
- Achievements: Achieved state-of-the-art results, created a dataset with over 2000 manually annotated images, and deployed the model for continuous operation on dairy farms.