Ananthu Aniraj

Website Linkedin Github

Experience

PhD Researcher (Doctorant)

Inria

Apr 2023-Present

Montpellier, France

- 2 Accepted First Author papers at top computer vision conferences, namely ECCV and ICCV.
- Researching state-of-the-art interpretable-by-design computer vision methods to solve fine-grained species classification tasks.

Computer Vision R&D Engineer

Lely

Sep 2020-Mar 2023

Maassluis, Netherlands

- Designed foundational vision algorithms for monitoring cows and robots in dairy farms, resulting in two pending patents.
- Devised a novel multi-camera, multi-object tracking algorithm deployed 24/7 in multiple dairy farms.
- Implemented a semi-automated data annotation pipeline, significantly reducing labeling noise for large-scale image datasets and improved model performance by 20%.
- Supervised four master's students, guiding them through research internships and thesis projects.

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 a fiducial marker detection algorithm (ArUco) for GPU compatibility, significantly enhancing speed by 2x.

Education

PhD. in Computer Science, University of Montpellier, France.

Apr 2023-Present

- Doctoral School: Information, Structures and Systems Sciences (I2S)
- Research Topic: Explainable image classification through supervised and unsupervised part detection

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

Sep 2018-Aug 2020

- Specialization: Computer Vision and Biometrics
- Master Thesis: Instance Level Cow Body Part Parsing (Grade: 8/10)

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

May 2013-Apr 2017

• **Honors**: First Class with Distinction (Grade: 8.34/10)

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.

- Role: Led the creation of deep learning models for semantic segmentation tailored to custom farm environments, enhancing object recognition accuracy by 20% and reducing manual intervention by 40 hours monthly.
- **Achievements**: Improved model performance by 20% through the development of algorithms to reduce labeling noise, ensuring reliable deployment on self-driving robots.

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.

Publications

 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, 4397–4405.

Patents

- Animal husbandry system, International Patent Application PCT/IB2023/053903. Patent Pending. [Link]
- System for monitoring a calving mammal, US Patent Application: US18/262, 141. 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]

Skills

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