

Julian Skirzyński

CURRICULUM VITAE — MAY 2025

jskirzynski@ucsd.edu

www.jskirzynski.com

EDUCATION	University of California, San Diego <i>Ph.D. Candidate in Computer Science & Engineering</i> Thesis: Designing AI for Better Decision-Making Advisor: Berk Ustun	2022 – PRESENT
	McGill University <i>M.S. in Computer Science</i> Thesis: Language-Conditional Imitation Learning Advisor: David Meger	2017 – 2020
	University of Warsaw <i>M.S. in Cognitive Science</i> <i>B.S. in Mathematics, Cognitive Science</i> Advisors: Andrzej Skowron; Piotr Wasilewski	2012 – 2018
ACADEMIC POSITIONS	Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, Germany <i>Research Scientist</i> Projects: Interpretable RL Policies, Improving Human Planning, Discovering Human Planning Strategies Advisor: Falk Lieder	2019 – 2023
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Areas: Machine Learning, Cognitive Science, Human-Computer Interaction Topics: Decision-Making, Interpretability, Explainability, Reinforcement Learning, Experimental Design Applications: Social Sciences, Medicine, Consumer Finance, Criminal Justice	
AWARDS & HONORS	Pierre Arbour Foundation Scholarship McGill University Graduate Excellence Award McGill - University of Warsaw Exchange Scholarship University of Warsaw Academic Excellence Scholarship	2018 – 2019 2018 2015 2014 – 2017
PREPRINTS	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How Much Content Do LLMs Generate That Induces Cognitive Bias in Users? Abeer Alessa, Akshaya Lakshminarasimhan, Param Somane, Julian Skirzyński, Julian McAuley, Jessica Echterhoff <i>In Submission</i>, 20252. On the Value of Interpretability in Human Decision-Making Julian Skirzyński, Elena Glassman, Berk Ustun <i>In Submission</i>, 2025	
PAPERS	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Discrimination Exposed? On the Reliability of Explanations for Discrimination Detection Julian Skirzyński, David Danks, Berk Ustun <i>ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency</i>, 20253. Automatic Discovery and Description of Human Planning Strategies Julian Skirzyński, Yash Raj Jain, Falk Lieder <i>Behavior Research Methods</i>, 20234. Boosting Human Decision-making with AI-Generated Decision Aids Frederic Becker*, Julian Skirzyński*, Bas van Opheusden, Falk Lieder <i>Computational Brain & Behavior</i>, 20225. Automatic Discovery of Interpretable Planning Strategies	

*EQUAL CONTRIBUTION



Julian Skirzyński, Frederic Becker, Falk Lieder
Machine Learning, 2021

6. [Object \[Re\] Cognition with Similarity](#)
Łukasz Sosnowski, Julian Skirzyński
International Conference on Information Processing and Management of Uncertainty in Knowledge-Based Systems, 2018
7. [A Framework for Analysis of Granular Neural Networks](#)
Julian Skirzyński
International Joint Conference on Rough Sets, 2017

REFEREED WORKSHOP PAPERS

8. [On Interpretability and Overreliance](#)
Julian Skirzyński, Elena Glassman, Berk Ustun
Interpretable AI: Past, Present and Future, NeurIPS Workshop, 2024
9. [Language-Conditional Imitation Learning](#)
Julian Skirzyński, Bobak Baghi, David Meger
Visually Grounded Interaction and Language, NAACL Workshop, 2021

TEACHING

UCSD Halicioğlu Data Science Institute 2023
[DSC291 – Interpretability & Explainability in Machine Learning](#)
Guest Lecturer & Teaching Assistant
Co-designed curriculum and held weekly office hours for serving 20+ PhD/MS students. Delivered guest lectures on ML interpretability methods and cognitive biases in AI-assisted decision-making. Completed teaching development workshop on graduate-level instruction.

SOFTWARE GitHub

[Strategy Extraction from RL Policies](#) – Algorithm to extract interpretable decision trees from RL policies
[Human Planning Strategy Analysis](#) – Framework for identifying strategies used in human planning tasks

SELECTED INDUSTRY POSITIONS

Educational Entertainment One, Warsaw, Poland 2021 – 2024
Lead Technical Architect
Designed algorithms (AI, NLP) and supported the production process for a story-driven mobile game for learning English.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

JOURNAL REVIEWING
Machine Learning 2022

CONFERENCE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

NeurIPS – Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems	2023 – PRESENT
ICML – International Conference on Machine Learning	2025 – PRESENT
ICLR – International Conference on Learning Representations	2024 – PRESENT
FAccT – ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability and Transparency	2022 – PRESENT
ICML Workshop RL4RealLife – International Conference on Machine Learning	2021
IPMU – Information Processing and Management of Uncertainty in Knowledge-Based Systems	2018

PERSONAL

Language Skills : English, Polish, German (Conversational)
Software Skills : Python, R, C++, Flask, AWS, PyTorch, CPLEX, JavaScript, Jira
Interests : Soccer, Groundhopping, Traveling, Fantasy Literature, Record Collecting
Other : Peer tutoring, Co-author of “Triozy polskie”, a textbook for learning Polish by foreigners