

# Matthieu Meeus

[matthieumeeus@gmail.com](mailto:matthieumeeus@gmail.com)

[LinkedIn](#)/[Google Scholar](#)

## Education

### Imperial College, London – PhD student in Privacy of AI

Oct 2022 – London, UK

- Part of the [Computational Privacy Group](#) under supervision of Prof Yves-Alexandre de Montjoye
- Since the start of my PhD, I have 13 papers (10 first-author) published/under review, including at ICML, Neurips and Usenix Security. Details see *Publications*.
- Currently continuing the work on privacy/memorization of Large Language Models.
- Main side-project: fine-tuning LLaMA-2/3 to Dutch (my native language) supported by a grant from the [Flemish Super Computer](#) for 40k GPU hours (released [here](#)).

### Harvard University – M.Sc. in Computational Science & Engineering

Class of 2020 – MA, USA

- Three semesters of advanced mathematical programming ranging from Numerical Methods to Data Science, Optimization, Systems Development etc. – GPA 3.85/4.0
- Teaching Fellow for the core graduate-level course in Advanced Numerical Methods during Fall 2020
- Fellowship of \$100,000 – Belgian American Educational Foundation – Awarded to only 7 students

### University of California, Berkeley – M. Eng. in Mechanical Engineering

Class of 2019 – CA, USA

- One-year master with focus on Advanced Energy Technology – GPA 3.98/4
- Fung Excellence Scholarship – UC Berkeley Fung Institute for Engineering Leadership

### University of Leuven – B.Sc. in Engineering – major Mechanical Engineering

Class of 2018 – BE

- Best of my class after the first year out of more than 500 – Received Best Student Award

## Work Experience

### Intern at Microsoft Research

May 2024- August 2024 – Cambridge, UK

- Part of the privacy-preserving machine learning research group, working together with Lukas Wutschitz, Robert Sim and Reza Shokri.
- Researching privacy auditing of synthetic text data generated by LLMs, [work accepted at ICML 2025](#).

### Senior Data Scientist at McKinsey & Company

March 2021- July 2022 – NYC, USA

- As part of the People Analytics and Measurement team, I built machine learning models to enhance talent management and organizational effectiveness at McKinsey.
- Leveraged NLP models to extract features from free text resumes to improve the existing candidate ranking model by 10%. Now globally deployed.
- Built a ‘job-matching’ algorithm to detect similar jobs across the Firm, based on categorical features and job description embeddings. Now globally deployed on the McKinsey career website.
- Built a ‘resume-to-job’ algorithm, that given free-text resumes recommends the top jobs within the Firm based on your qualifications. Leverages document embeddings and other text features.
- Built a search engine for transcripts of expert interviews, based on language embeddings and named entity recognition.
- Many ad-hoc projects including NLP for McKinsey projects, prediction of attrition, the composition of ideal teams etc.

### Energy Optimization Intern at Tesla Inc.

May-August 2020 – CA, USA

- Software development for Tesla’s Energy Optimization Team, working on optimal battery discharge strategies in Python
- Simulated the performance of a new time series forecasting method: will be implemented based on my analysis.
- Built the first parallelized performance tracking algorithm for one of the team’s products using Kubernetes and AWS.

### Projects during M. Sc. at Harvard University

Fall 2019-Fall 2020 – MA, USA

- Research with Prof D. Sondak on solving PDEs with Deep Neural Networks in Pytorch – Spring and Fall 2020
- Used Bayesian inference to predict the 2020 US primary elections using Twitter sentiment variation over time - [link](#)
- Built a ready-to-use Python package for Automatic Differentiation - [link](#)

## Publications

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- [1] **Meeus, M.**, Jain, S., Rei, M., & de Montjoye, Y. A. (2023). Did the neurons read your book? document-level membership inference for large language models. 33rd USENIX Security Symposium (USENIX Security 2024).
- [2] **Meeus\*, M.**, Shilov\*, I., Faysse, M., & de Montjoye, Y. A. Copyright Traps for Large Language Models. In Forty-first International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML 2024).
- [3] **Meeus\*, M.**, Guépin\*, F., Crețu, A. M., & de Montjoye, Y. A. (2023, September). Achilles' heels: vulnerable record identification in synthetic data publishing. In *European Symposium on Research in Computer Security* (ESORICS 2023).
- [4] Guépin\*, F., **Meeus\*, M.**, Crețu, A. M., & de Montjoye, Y. A. (2023, September). Synthetic is all you need: removing the auxiliary data assumption for membership inference attacks against synthetic data. In *European Symposium on Research in Computer Security* (DPM Workshop at ESORICS 2023).
- [5] **Meeus, M.**, Jain, S., & de Montjoye, Y. A. (2023). Concerns about using a digital mask to safeguard patient privacy. *Nature Medicine*, 29(7), 1658-1659.
- [6] **Meeus, M.**, Shilov, I. , Jain, S., Faysse, M., Rei, M., & de Montjoye, Y. A. (2024). SoK: Membership Inference Attacks on LLMs are Rushing Nowhere (and How to Fix It). IEEE Conference on Secure and Trustworthy Machine Learning (SaTML 2025, Best Paper Award)
- [7] Shilov\*, I., **Meeus\*, M.**, & de Montjoye, Y. A. (2024). The Mosaic Memory of Large Language Models. [ArXiv preprint](#).
- [8] Guépin, F., Krčo, N., **Meeus, M.**, & de Montjoye, Y. A. (2024). Lost in the Averages: A New Specific Setup to Evaluate Membership Inference Attacks Against Machine Learning Models. [ArXiv preprint](#).
- [9] **Meeus, M.**, Wutschitz, L., Zanella-Beguelin, S., Tople, S. & Shokri R. (2024). The Canary's Echo: Auditing Privacy Risks of LLM-Generated Synthetic Text. In Forty-second International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML 2025).
- [10] **Meeus\*, M.**, Rathé\*, A., Remy, F., Delobelle, P., Decorte, J. & Demeester, T. (2024). ChocoLlama: Lessons Learned From Teaching Llamas Dutch. [ArXiv preprint](#).
- [11] Yang, X., Stevanoski, B., **Meeus, M.**, & de Montjoye, Y. A. (2025). Checkpoint-GCG: Auditing and Attacking Fine-Tuning-Based Prompt Injection Defenses. [ArXiv preprint](#).
- [12] Hayes, J., Shumailov, I., Choquette-Choo, C. A., Jagielski, M., Kaassis, G., Lee, K., ... & Cooper, A. F. (2025). Strong Membership Inference Attacks on Massive Datasets and (Moderately) Large Language Models (Neurips 2025).
- [13] **Meeus, M.**, Shilov, I., Kaassis, G., & de Montjoye, Y. A. (2025). Counterfactual Influence as a Distributional Quantity. [ICML workshop](#).

## Skillset

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**Technical:** Excellent proficiency in AI, Machine Learning, Data Science, Scientific Computing in Python (mainly Pytorch). Experience with cloud computing on AWS, GCloud and Azure. Further proficient in multi-GPU training of large AI models, Docker, Kubernetes, Git, SQL, R, MATLAB.

**Languages:** Dutch (native), English (fluent), French (basic), German (basic)