NATANIEL RUIZ

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate, Boston University, Boston, MA — GPA : 3.96 / 4.0 — (expected) 2018 - 2023
Ph.D. Candidate in Computer Science
Advisor: Prof. Stan Sclaroff
Research Group: Image and Video Computing

M.Sc., Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA — GPA : 3.90 / 4.0 — 2016 - 2017
M.Sc. in Computer Science
Advisor: Prof. James M. Rehg
Research Group: Behavioral Imaging

B.Sc. / M.Sc., Ecole Polytechnique, Paris, France — Graduate GPA : 3.86 / 4.0 — 2013 - 2016
N°1 Ranked French Grande Ecole in Science and Technology
Bachelor of Science & Master of Science in Data Science

Lycée Jean-Baptiste Say, Paris, France — GPA : 3.80 / 4.0 — 2011 – 2013
N°1 Ranked Program in Physics, Technology and Industrial Science.
2-year intensive preparation in Mathematics and Physics for the nationwide Grande Ecole entrance examinations.
Admitted to Ecole Polytechnique (0.6% acceptance rate).

AWARDS

Best Poster Award (2021), IEEE International Conference on Automatic Face and Gesture Recognition 2021 (FG)

Twitch Research Fellowship Finalist (2020), Twitch

Second Round for the Open Phil AI Fellowship (2020), Open Philanthropy

DeepMind Travel Award (2020), Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR)

Travel Award (2019), International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)

Distinguished Presenter and Brilliant Award (2019), 4th Annual Boston University Data Science Day

Dean's Fellowship (2018-2019), Boston University

Outstanding Leadership Award (2016, 2% award rate), Ecole Polytechnique

Excellence-Major Valedictorian Scholarship (2011-2016), French Government

PUBLICATIONS

[Paper, In Submission]
Nataniel Ruiz, Adam Kortylewski, Weichao Qiu, Cihang Xie, Sarah Adel Bargal, Alan Yuille*, Stan Sclaroff*. "Simulated Adversarial Testing of Face Recognition Models" *Under Review for Conference* (2021)

[Paper, ICML Workshop 2021]
Benjamin Spetter-Goldstein, **Nataniel Ruiz**, Sarah Adel Bargal. "Examining the Human Perceptibility of Black-Box Adversarial Attacks on Face Recognition" *ICML Adversarial Machine Learning Workshop* (2021)

[Paper, BMVC 2021]
Nataniel Ruiz, Barry-John Theobald, Anurag Ranjan, Ahmed Hussein Abdelaziz, Nicholas Apostoloff. "MorphGAN: One-Shot Face Synthesis GAN for Detecting Recognition Bias" *British Machine Vision Conference (BMVC)* (2021)

[Paper, ICLR Workshop 2021 and In Submission]
Nataniel Ruiz, Sarah Adel Bargal, Stan Sclaroff. "Protecting Against Image Translation Deepfakes by Leaking Universal Perturbations from Black-Box Neural Networks" *ICLR Security and Safety in Machine Learning Systems Workshop* (2021) and *Under Review for Conference* (2021)

[Paper, FG 2021]
Nataniel Ruiz, Hao Yu, Danielle Allessio, Mona Jalal, Ajjen Joshi, Thomas Murray, John Magee, Jacob Whitehill, Vitaly Ablavsky, Ivon Arroyo, Beverly Woolf, Stan Sclaroff, and Margrit Betke. "Leveraging Affect Transfer Learning for Behavior Prediction in an Intelligent Tutoring System" *IEEE International Conference on Automatic Face and Gesture Recognition 2021 (FG 2021)*
(Oral and Best Poster Award - 4% award rate)

[Paper, ECCV Workshop 2020]
Nataniel Ruiz, Sarah Adel Bargal, Stan Sclaroff. "Disrupting DeepFakes: Adversarial Attacks Against Conditional Image Translation Networks and Facial Manipulation Systems" *CVPR 2020 Workshop on Adversarial Machine Learning in Computer Vision* (2020) **(Oral)** and published at *European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV) Workshop* (2020)

[Paper, CVPR 2020]
Eunji Chong, Yongxin Wang, **Nataniel Ruiz**, James M. Rehg. "Detecting Attended Visual Targets in Video" *The IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR)* (2020)

[Paper, ICLR 2019]
Nataniel Ruiz, Samuel Schulter, Manmohan Chandraker. "Learning To Simulate" *International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)* (2019)

[Paper, ECCV 2018]
Eunji Chong, **Nataniel Ruiz**, Yongxin Wang, Yun Zhang, Agata Rozga, James M. Rehg. "Connecting Gaze, Scene, and Attention: Generalized Attention Estimation via Joint Modeling of Gaze and Scene Saliency." *The European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV)*, (2018), pp. 383-398

[Paper, Arxiv 2018]
Meera Hahn, **Nataniel Ruiz**, Jean-Baptiste Alayrac, Ivan Laptev, James M Rehg. "Learning to Localize and Align Fine-Grained Actions to Sparse Instructions." *arXiv preprint arXiv:1809.08381* (2018)

[Paper, CVPRW 2018]
Nataniel Ruiz, Eunji Chong, and James M. Rehg. "Fine-Grained Head Pose Estimation Without Keypoints." In *Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Workshops*, pp. 2074-2083. (2018) **(Oral)**

[Paper, UBICOMP 2017, IMWUT 2017]
Eunji Chong, Katha Chanda, Zhefan Ye, Audrey Southerland, **Nataniel Ruiz**, Rebecca M. Jones, Agata Rozga, and James M. Rehg. "Detecting Gaze Towards Eyes in Natural Social Interactions and Its Use in Child Assessment." *Proceedings of the ACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies* 1, no. 3 (2017): 43
(Oral and Distinguished Paper Award - 3% award rate)

[Paper, Arxiv 2017]
Nataniel Ruiz, and James M. Rehg. "Dockerface: an Easy to Install and use Faster R-CNN Face Detector in a Docker Container." *arXiv preprint arXiv:1708.04370* (2017)

PATENTS

Theobald, Barry-John, Nataniel Ruiz Gutierrez, and Nicholas E. Apostoloff. "Face Image Generation With Pose And Expression Control." U.S. Patent Application No. 16/983,561.
Schulter, Samuel, Nataniel Ruiz, and Manmohan Chandraker. "Learning to simulate." U.S. Patent Application No. 16/696,087.

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

Aug 2021 Amazon Softlines Research Presentation, research presentation

Jun 2021 Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, Perceiving Systems (Prof. Michael Black lab), seminar

Sep 2020 Johns Hopkins University, Department of Computer Science (Prof. Alan Yuille lab), seminar

Sep 2020 University of Massachusetts at Amherst, College of Computer Science (Prof. Beverly Woolf class), guest lecture

Aug 2020 Apple Inc., Senior Director of AI and Machine Learning (Prof. Carlos Guestrin), research presentation

Mar 2020 Boston University, Department of Computer Science, AI Research Lab, seminar

Feb 2020 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, CSAIL, Vision and Graphics Group (Prof. Antonio Torralba lab), seminar

Nov 2019 Georgia Institute of Technology, School of Interactive Computing (Prof. James M. Rehg lab), seminar

Oct 2019 University of Massachusetts at Amherst, College of Computer Science (Prof. Beverly Woolf class), guest lecture

Sep 2019 Apple Inc., Machine Learning Vice President (Dr. John Giannandrea), research presentation

Aug 2019 Apple Inc., Siri, research presentation

Aug 2019 Apple Inc., AI Research, research presentation

Feb 2019 Boston University, Department of Computer Science, AI Research Lab, seminar

Feb 2019 Boston University Data Science Day, distinguished presenter

Jan 2019 Boston University, AI Research Lab Retreat, invited presentation

Jan 2019 KPMG, Bolivia, machine learning seminar

Aug 2018 NEC Laboratories America Inc., research presentation

Contributed Talks

Dec 2021 IEEE International Conference on Automatic Face and Gesture Recognition (FG), oral presentation

May 2021 ICLR, Security and Safety in Machine Learning Systems Workshop, oral presentation

Aug 2020 ECCV, Advances in Image Manipulation Workshop, oral presentation

Jun 2020 CVPR, Workshop on Adversarial Machine Learning in Computer Vision, oral presentation

Dec 2019 New England Computer Vision Workshop (NECV), Brown University, oral presentation

Sep 2019 Machine Intelligence Conference (MIC), Boston University, oral presentation

Jun 2018 CVPR, Automatic Face and Gesture Recognition Workshop, oral presentation

Posters

Dec 2021 IEEE International Conference on Automatic Face and Gesture Recognition (FG)

May 2021 ICLR, Security and Safety in Machine Learning Systems Workshop

Aug 2020 ECCV, Advances in Image Manipulation Workshop

Jun 2020 CVPR, Workshop on Adversarial Machine Learning in Computer Vision

Dec 2019 New England Computer Vision Workshop (NECV), Brown University

May 2019 International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)

Feb 2019 Boston University Data Science Day

Jun 2018 CVPR, Automatic Face and Gesture Recognition Workshop

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Amazon, New York City, NY Jun 2021 - Oct 2021

Research Intern

- Working with **Dr. Javier Romero**, **Prof. Ming C. Lin**, **Dr. Timo Bolkart** and **Dr. Raja Bala** on computer vision, simulation and machine learning.

Apple AI Research, Cupertino, CA Jun 2020 - Aug 2020

Research Assistant Intern

- Worked with **Dr. Nick Apostoloff** and **Dr. Barry Theobald** on a one-shot face synthesis GAN for detecting recognition bias.

Apple AI Research, Cupertino, CA May 2019 - Aug 2019

Research Assistant Intern

- Worked with **Dr. Nick Apostoloff** and **Dr. Barry Theobald** on a one-shot face synthesis GAN for detecting recognition bias.

Boston University, Boston, MA Sep 2018 - Present
Research Fellow

- Working with **Prof. Stan Sclaroff**, **Prof. Margrit Betke, Dr. Sarah Adel Bargal** on topics related to facial analysis, image translation, adversarial attacks, simulation and behavior understanding.

NEC Laboratories America, Inc, Cupertino, CA Feb 2018 - Aug 2018
Research Assistant Intern

- Worked with **Prof. Manmohan Chandraker** and **Dr. Samuel Schulter** on topics related to self-driving car perception, visual data simulation and reinforcement learning. One paper accepted to ICLR on the topic of learning to simulate.

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA Dec 2016 – Dec 2017
Graduate Research Assistant

- Worked with **Prof. James Rehg** on facial analysis, behavior understanding, first person vision and mobile computer vision.
- Co-authored four papers, one tech-report and released three open-source computer vision applications in 2017 while taking a full-time course load.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA May 2016 – Aug 2016
Visiting Research Assistant (funding: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Grant)

- Worked with **Dr. Lalana Kagal** and **Dr. Kalyan Veeramachaneni** building a deep learning application on Android for visual detection of diseases in cassava plant leaves. Deployed the application on the field in Kampala, Uganda.

REVIEWER

International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2021

Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) 2022, 2021, 2018

International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2020

Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2020

International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV) 2021, 2019

Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence (TPAMI) 2020, 2019

Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision (WACV) 2021, 2020

Asian Conference on Computer Vision (ACCV) 2020

ICLR Workshop on Security and Safety in Machine Learning Systems 2021

ECCV Adversarial Robustness in the Real World Workshop 2020

ECCV Advances in Image Manipulation Workshop 2020

Pattern Recognition 2020

Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems (TNNLS) 2020, 2019, 2018

Transactions on Cybernetics 2018

SELECTED PROJECTS

2,000+ stars on original machine learning GitHub repositories at github.com/natanielruiz

Disrupting Deepfakes: Adversarial Attacks on Conditional Image Translation Networks

- Adversarial attacks on image translation systems to prevent modification of a person's images

Deep Learning Head Pose Estimation

- Head pose estimation deep neural network bundled with pre-trained models.

Android-YOLO

- Open source real-time object detection deep learning system on an Android device.

Dockerface

- Open source deep learning face detection in a Docker container.

EGTEA Gaze+ Dataset
- Co-lead the annotation of a large open-access egocentric vision action recognition dataset.

Udacity Lecture
- Authored an online lecture for Prof. James M. Rehg on Facial Landmark Detection to be released by Georgia Tech on the Udacity platform.

PRESS

Learning to Simulate in Medium
- 18,000+ visits
- Front page on Y Combinator's Hacker News
- Front page on Towards Data Science

Disrupting Deepfakes
- TWIML AI Podcast interview
- Mentioned on Forbes
- Front page on Boston University's The Brink
- Front page on Y Combinator's Hacker News
- Front page on Reddit /r/machinelearning subreddit

LEADERSHIP & AFFILIATIONS

Adversarial Robustness in the Real World, ICCV 2021 Workshop 2021
Organizer
- Part of the organizing committee and program committee.
- Panel discussion host and moderator

TEDxEcolePolytechnique, Ecole Polytechnique 2014 – 2016
President and founder
- Founded and organized the first TEDx conference at Ecole Polytechnique.
- Recruited and managed the 2015 and 2016 student teams.

Entrepreneurship Student Society, Ecole Polytechnique 2014 – 2016
Speaker & Startup Relations Manager
- Organized the first Startup Showcase and job fair at Polytechnique.
- Obtained the participation of over ten startups for the Startup Showcase.
- Obtained the participation of entrepreneur coaches and a panel of senior entrepreneur judges for the Startup Weekend event.

SELECTED GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Boston University
Deep Learning (CS 591), Advanced Optimization Algorithms (CS 531)

Georgia Institute of Technology
Machine Learning (CS 7641), Computer Vision (CS 6476), Advanced Computer Vision (CS 7476), Natural Language (CS 7650), Data and Visual Analytics (CS 6476), Knowledge Based AI (CS 7637)

Ecole Polytechnique
Statistical Learning and Non-Parametric Estimation (MAP 553), Machine Learning (INF 582), Operations Research (MAP 557)

RESEARCH MENTORSHIP

Benjamin Spetter-Goldstein (B.S. in C.S., 2021, Boston University) - work on perceptibility of black-box adversarial attacks
Yongxin Wang (B.S. in C.S., 2017, Georgia Tech) - now M.Sc. student, Computer Vision at Carnegie Mellon University
Vaishali Sarathy (M.Sc. in C.S., 2017, Georgia Tech) - now at Schlumberger

SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Python, C++, Java, Matlab – PyTorch, pytorch3d, TensorFlow, scikit-learn, Unreal Engine – GNU/Linux, bash – SQL – Android, HTML, PHP.

Fluent in English, French and Spanish.

LINKS AND REFERENCES

All papers, pre-prints and code can be found at natanielruiz.github.io