Ruth Fong

☑ ruthfong@princeton.edu
'① www.ruthfong.com
Last updated: Dec 2022

Current Appointment

2021 - now Lecturer, Princeton University, Department of Computer Science

- o COS324: Introduction to Machine Learning (Fall 2022 & Spring 2023)
- o COS126: Computer Science: An Interdisciplinary Approach (Fall 2021 & Spring 2022)

Education

2016–2020 **D.Phil. Engineering Science**, University of Oxford

Advisor: Professor Andrea Vedaldi

Examiners: Professors Antonio Torralba (MIT) and Andrew Zisserman (Oxford)

Thesis: Understanding Convolutional Neural Networks

2015-2016 M.Sc. Neuroscience, with distinction, University of Oxford

Rotation 1 Advisor: Professor Rafal Bogacz

Rotation 2 Advisors: Professor Andy King, Dr. Ben Willmore, and Dr. Nicol Harper

Thesis 1: Optimizing Deep Brain Stimulation to Dampen Tremor

Thesis 2: Modeling Blind Single Channel Sound Separation Using Predictive Neural Networks

2011-2015 A.B. Computer Science, magna cum laude with Highest Honors, Harvard University

Advisors: Professors David Cox and Walter Scheirer

Thesis: Leveraging Human Brain Activity to Improve Object Classification

Teaching Experience

2020 - 2021 **Teacher**, Timothy Christian School

- High School Courses: Beginner Computer Programming, AP CS A, AP CS Principles
- o Middle School Courses: 6th and 8th Grade Computer Science
- o FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Head Coach
- American Computer Science League (ACSL) Coach
- 2019 2020 Tutorial Instructor, University of Oxford, Department of Engineering Science
 - o B14: Information Engineering (3rd year undergrad course on machine learning and computer vision)
- Summer 2015 Course Instructor, NJ Governor's School in Engineering and Technology
 - Mathematics in the World
 - 2012, 2014 Course Assistant & Teaching Fellow, Harvard University, Department of Computer Science
 - o CS121: Introduction to the Theory of Computation (Fall 2014)
 - o CS20: Introduction to Discrete Math (Spring 2014)
 - CS50: Introduction to Computer Science I (Fall 2012)

Industry Experience

Summer 2019 Research Collaborator, Pro Unlimited @ Facebook, with Andrea Vedaldi

Summer 2018 Research Intern, Google Research, with Vitto Ferrari

Summer 2014 Quantitative Software Engineer Intern, D.E. Shaw, Co.

Summer 2013 **Software Engineer Intern**, *Apple*, with Safari Webkit team

Summer 2012 Explore Intern, Microsoft, with Windows 8 team

Publications

Preprints

P6 Interactive Visual Feature Search

D. Ulrich, R. Fong arXiv 2022

P5 Improving Fine-Grain Segmentation via Interpretable Modifications: A Case Study in Fossil Segmentation

I. Panigrahi, R. Manzuk, A. Maloof, R. Fong, arXiv 2022

P4 "Help Me Help the AI": Understanding How Explainability Can Support Human-AI Interaction

S.S.Y. Kim, E.A. Watkins, O. Russakovsky, R. Fong, A. Monroy-Hernández, arXiv 2022

P3 Overlooked factors in concept-based explanations: Dataset choice, concept salience, and human capability

V.V. Ramaswamy, S.S.Y. Kim, R. Fong, O. Russakovsky, arXiv 2022

P2 Gender Artifacts in Visual Datasets

N Meister*, D. Zhao*, A. Wang, V.V. Ramaswamy, R. Fong, O. Russakovsky, arXiv 2022

P1 ELUDE: Generating interpretable explanations via a decomposition into labelled and unlabelled features

V.V. Ramaswamy, S.S.Y. Kim, N. Meister, R. Fong, O. Russakovsky, arXiv 2022

Refereed Conference Papers

C8 **HIVE: Evaluating the Human Interpretability of Visual Explanations** S.S.Y. Kim, N. Meister, V.V. Ramaswamy, R. Fong, O. Russakovsky, *ECCV 2022*

C7 On Compositions of Transformations in Contrastive Self-Supervised Learning M. Patrick*, Y.M. Asano*, P. Kuznetsova, R. Fong, J.F. Henriques, and A. Vedaldi, *ICCV 2021*

C6 Quantifying Learnability and Describability of Visual Concepts Emerging in Representation Learning

I. Laina, R. Fong, and A. Vedaldi, NeurIPS 2020

C5 Contextual Semantic Interpretability

D. Marcos, R. Fong, S. Lobry, R. Flamary, N. Courty, and D. Tuia, ACCV 2020

C4 There and Back Again: Revisiting Backpropagation Saliency Methods S.-A. Rebuffi*, R. Fong*, X. Ji*, and A. Vedaldi, CVPR 2020

C3 Understanding Deep Networks via Extremal Perturbations and Smooth Masks, *Oral* R. Fong*, M. Patrick*, and A. Vedaldi, *ICCV 2019*

C2 Net2Vec: Quantifying and Explaining how Concepts are Encoded by Filters in Deep Neural Networks, Spotlight

R. Fong and A. Vedaldi, CVPR 2018

C1 Interpretable Explanations of Black Boxes by Meaningful Perturbation

R. Fong and A. Vedaldi, ICCV 2017

Refereed Workshop Papers

W3 Interactive Similarity Overlays [link]

R. Fong, A. Mordvintsev, A. Vedaldi, and C. Olah, VISxAI 2021

W2 Debiasing Convolutional Neural Networks via Meta Orthogonalization

K. David, Q. Liu, and R. Fong, NeurIPSW (Workshop on Algorithmic Fairness through the Lens of Causality and Interpreta \overline{bility}) 2020

W1 Occlusions for Effective Data Augmentation in Image Classification

R. Fong and A. Vedaldi, ICCVW (Workshop on Interpreting and Explaining Visual Artificial Intelligence Models) 2019

Edited Volumes

E1 XXAI – Beyond Explainable Artificial Intelligence

A. Holzinger, R. Goebel, R. Fong, T. Moon, K.-R. Müller, and W. Samek, editors, *Springer LNAI 2022*Book Chapters

B1 Explanations for Attributing Deep Neural Network Predictions

R. Fong and A. Vedaldi, in *Interpretable Al: Interpreting, Explaining, and Visualizing Deep Learning*, edited by W. Samek, G. Montavon, A. Vedaldi, L. Hansen, and K.-R. Müller, *Springer LNCS 2019*

Technical Reports

T1 Toward Trustworthy Al Development: Mechanisms for Supporting Verifiable Claims
M. Brundage, S. Avin, J. Wang, H. Belfield, G. Krueger, G. Hadfield, H. Khlaaf, J. Yang, H. Tonor,
R. Fong, et al., arXiv 2020

Talks

All talks were invited talks unless otherwise noted in parentheses.

Directions in Interpretability

- Nov 2022 HEIBRiDS (Berlin) HEIBRiDs Lecture Series
- Oct 2022 MICCAI 2022 Workshop on Interpretability of Machine Intelligence in Medical Image Computing (iMIMIC)
- June 2022 CVPR 2022 Tutorial on Human-Centered AI for Computer Vision Understanding Deep Neural Networks
- Dec 2021 Princeton University Guest Lecture in COS324: Intro. to Machine Learning
- Nov 2021 Princeton University Guest Lecture in COS429: Intro. to Computer Vision
- July 2021 Princeton University AI4ALL Guest Lecture
- June 2021 Princeton University Visual Al Lab
- June 2020 CVPR 2020 Tutorial on Interpretable Machine Learning for Computer Vision
- Jan 2020 University of Notre Dame Department of Computer Science and Engineering

 Tutorial on TorchRay: a PyTorch interpretability library for reproducible research
- Nov 2019 ICCV 2019 Workshop on Interpreting and Explaining Visual AI Models

Understanding Deep Networks via Extremal Perturbations

- Nov 2019 ICCV 2019 (oral presentation)
- April 2019 Continental
- April 2019 OpenAl
- April 2019 Stanford University Stanford Vision and Learning Lab

Net2Vec: Quantifying and Explaining how Concepts are Encoded by Filters in DNNs

July 2018 CVPR 2018 (spotlight presentation)

Using Human Brain Activity to Guide Machine Learning

- Oct 2017 ICCV Workshop on Mutual Benefits of Cognitive and Computer Vision (contributing talk)
- April 2015 MIT Broad Institute Girls Advancing in STEM (GAINS) Network Conference

Service

Research community service

- 2023 CVPR 2023, Workshop Organizer, XAI4CV: Explainable AI for Computer Vision
- 2018 2021 Black in Al, Mentor and Program Committee
 - 2020 ICML 2020, Workshop Organizer, XXAI: Extending Explainable AI

University service

- 2022 now **Princeton CS**, Committee Member, Climate & Inclusion committee
- 2021 now **Princeton CS**, Committee Member, Lecturer hiring committee (2 academic cycles)

Other service

- 2018 2019 Harvard Women in CS (WiCS), Alumni Mentor
- 2015 2016 Oxford St. John's College MCR, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Representative
- 2012 2015 Harvard Women in CS (WiCS), Webmaster, Board Member, and Mentor

Student Advising

Princeton senior theses

- 2022 now Creston Brooks
- 2022 now Alexis Sursock
- 2022 now **Devon Ulrich**
- 2022 now Indu Panigrahi

Won the following: Computing Research Association (CRA) Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award Nominee (2022), Outstanding Independent Work Award (2022), Princeton Research Day Orange & Black Undergraduate Presentation Award (2022).

- 2021 2022 **Vedant Dhopte**, Holistically Interpreting Deep Neural Networks via Channel Ablation
- 2021 2022 **Frelicia Tucker**, The Virtual Black Hair Experience: Evaluating Hairstyle Transform Generative Adversarial Networks on Black Women

Other

2019 – 2021 **Kurtis David**, *Debiasing Convolutional Neural Networks via Meta Orthogonalization*, masters thesis at University of Austin, co-advised by Dr. Qiang Liu First author on NeurlPS Workshop 2020 paper

Student Mentoring

- 2021 2022 **Nicole Meister**, *undergrad at Princeton University*, advised by Dr. Olga Russakovsky First and second author on several papers under review
- 2021 now **Sunnie S.Y. Kim**, *PhD at Princeton University*, advised by Dr. Olga Russakovsky First and second author on several papers under review; first author on ECCV 2022 paper
- 2021 now **Vikram V. Ramaswamy**, *PhD at Princeton University*, advised by Dr. Olga Russakovsky First author and co-author on several papers under review
- 2018 2020 **Mandela Patrick**, *PhD at University of Oxford*, advised by Dr. Andrea Vedaldi Co-lead author on paper on ICCV 2019 paper

Awards

- 2022 Open Philanthropy Al Alignment Grant
- 2022 **Princeton SEAS Innovation Grant**, *Project X Fund*
- 2018 Open Philanthropy AI Fellow
- 2018 CVPR Outstanding Reviewer
- 2017, 2018 Women in Computer Vision CVPR Travel Grant
- 2017, 2018 Murray Speight Research Grant,
 - 2017 International Computer Vision Summer School Best Poster Award
- 2017, 2018 Murray Speight Research Grant
- 2016, 2017 Women in Machine Learning NeurlPS Travel Grant, declined in 2017
 - 2015 Rhodes Scholar

2015 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, declined

2015 Fulbright Scholar to Tanzania, declined

2015 **Hoopes Prize**, for outstanding undergraduate thesis

2015 Derek Bok Certificate of Distinction, for outstanding CS121 teaching evaluations

2014 Tech in the World Fellowship

2013 Apple iOS Scholarship

Reviewing

Journals Distill, IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence (T-PAMI), IEEE Signal Processing Letters, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)

Conferences Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), International Conference on Learning Rep-

resentations (ICLR), European Conference in Computer Vision (ECCV), IEEE Conference on Computer Vision & Pattern Recognition (CVPR), IEEE/CVF Winter Conference on Applications

of Computer Vision (WACV)

Workshops Black in AI (BAI), Women in Machine Learning (WiML), Women in Computer Vision (WiCV),

Neural Architects

Skills

Languages Python, MATLAB, Java

Frameworks PyTorch, TensorFlow, Keras, MatConvNet, PyCaffe

Web Dev HTML/CSS, JavaScript, Svelte

References

Andrea Vedaldi, U. of Oxford
Walter Scheirer, U. of Notre Dame
Harry Lewis, Harvard
Andrew Zisserman, U. of Oxford
Antonio Torralba, MIT