Shobhita Sundaram

Website: shobhitasundaram.com
Email: shobhita@mit.edu
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/shobsund
GitHub: github.com/ssundaram21

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Cambridge, MA
Ph.D. Computer Science 2022–2027
Advisor: Phillip Isola

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Cambridge, MA
S.B. Computer Science, S.B. Mathematics 2018–2022
Advisors: Pawan Sinha, Xavier Boix, Tomaso Poggio

Publications

* indicates equal contribution

1. DreamSim: Learning New Dimensions of Human Visual Similarity using Synthetic Data.
   S. Fu*, N. Tamir*, **S. Sundaram***, L. Chai, R. Zhang, T. Dekel, and P. Isola.
   Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2023 **(spotlight)**

2. Recurrent Connections Facilitate Symmetry Perception in Deep Networks.
   S. Sundaram*, D. Sinha*, M. Groth, T. Sasaki, and X. Boix.
   Scientific Reports, vol. 12, no. 1, 2022
   Workshop on Generalization Beyond the Training Distribution in Brains and Machines, ICLR 2021

3. GAN-Based Data Augmentation for Chest X-ray Classification.
   S. Sundaram* and N. Hulkund*.
   Workshop on Applied Data Science for Healthcare, KDD 2021

4. Do Neural Networks for Segmentation Understand Insideness?
   K. Villalobos*, V. Štih*, A. Ahmadinejad*, **S. Sundaram**, J. Dozier, A. Francl, F. Azevdo, T. Sasaki, and X. Boix.
   Neural Computation, vol. 33, no. 9, 2021

Work Experience

DeepMind London, UK
Research Engineering Intern June - August 2022

  − Researched novel data sampling strategies for pre-training large language models on the Deep Learning team.

Center for Brains, Minds, and Machines, MIT Cambridge, MA
Undergraduate Researcher September 2019 - May 2022

  − Researched Deep Neural Network (DNN) models for vision capable of learning generalizable representations of fundamental visual features with long-range spatial dependencies.
  − Studied applications in segmenting closed curves and symmetry detection, focusing on OOD generalization.

The D. E. Shaw Group New York, NY
Quantitative Research Intern June - August 2021

  − Developed tools to benchmark Reinforcement Learning models for portfolio management.
  − Derived baseline theoretical trading models using optimal control theory.
  − Trained RL models that outperformed theoretical baselines in trading simulations and uncovered interpretable insights for learned policies.

Apple   Cupertino, CA
Machine Learning Intern   June - August 2020

- Built machine learning models to forecast battery drain from iPhone time series usage data, enabling intelligent power management.
- Deployed an end-to-end machine learning pipeline on-device for power optimization, aiming to release to consumer iPhones; selected from 15 interns to present to SVP of Software Engineering based on impact.

Two Sigma Investments   Houston, TX
Software Engineering Intern   May - August 2019

- Developed a RESTful Flask service and UI to create and maintain collections of instruments for trading.
- Tool is now used by 4 teams to track over 20,000 instruments with unique trading characteristics.

Digital Humanities Lab, MIT   Cambridge, MA
Undergraduate Researcher   September - December 2018

- Collaborated on open-source project: "Computational Reading of Gender in Novels, 1770-1992".
- Designed and released Python tools to uncover gender biases in 4,200 novels.

AWARDS

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship	2022 - 2025
HDTV Grand Alliance Fellowship	2022 - 2023
MIT Undergraduate Research and Innovation Scholar	2020
MIT Burchard Scholar	2020

Recognizes students who excel in the humanities

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Reviewer: ICCV Workshop on Representation Learning with Very Limited Images	2023
Reviewer: ICML Workshop on Challenges in Deployable Generative AI	2023
Event Coordinator: MIT Graduate Women of EECS	2023
Mentor: MIT Graduate Application Assistant Program	2022 - Present
Associate Editor: MIT Science Policy Review	2020 - 2022
VP of Campus Relations: MIT Society of Women Engineers	2019 - 2021

INVITED TALKS

DreamSim: Learning New Dimensions of Human Visual Similarity using Synthetic Data.
Adobe, October 2023.

DreamSim: Learning New Dimensions of Human Visual Similarity using Synthetic Data.
Computer Vision Meetup, hosted by Voxel51, July 2023.

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Skills: Python (PyTorch, Jax/Haiku, Tensorflow), Java, C/C++, CoreML, R.

Research Interests: Generative models, representation learning, computer vision, machine learning.