

# Valeriia Cherepanova

✉ [vcherepa@umd.edu](mailto:vcherepa@umd.edu) | 🏠 [www.vcherepanova.com/](http://www.vcherepanova.com/) | [Google Scholar](#)

## Interests

My interests lie in developing accurate machine learning systems for practical applications, which are reliable, robust and fair. My research projects range from adversarial robustness and fairness of computer vision systems to tabular deep learning and meta-learning. I am also interested in explainability aspects of deep learning.

## Education

### University of Maryland, College Park

PHD IN APPLIED MATHEMATICS

- Advisor: Prof. Tom Goldstein
- Dean's Fellowship

College Park

Aug 2018 - present

### University College London

MSC IN COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY (CoMPLEX)

- Distinction

London

Sept 2017 - Sept 2018

### National Research University Higher School of Economics

BSC IN MATHEMATICS

Moscow

Sept 2013 - June 2017

## Industry Experience

### Amazon, Alexa Entertainment

APPLIED SCIENTIST INTERN

- Developed ML solutions to classify different types of Alexa mistakes for improving Alexa Voice Search on FireTV.
- Built ML models for predicting popularity of FireTV Voice Searches from time-series data.

Seattle

Jun 2022 - Aug 2022

### Amazon, Alexa Monitoring

APPLIED SCIENTIST INTERN

- Developed NLP solutions to improve transparency of 3P Alexa Skills through detecting noncompliant privacy policy documents.
- Deployed the model in production and built an interactive dashboard.

Bellevue

Jun 2021 - Aug 2021

### Teradata

DATA SCIENTIST INTERN

- Designed a machine learning training course for engineers at the company.

Moscow

Jul 2016 - Oct 2016

## Selected Publications

### LowKey: Leveraging Adversarial Attacks to Protect Social Media Users from Facial Recognition

V. Cherepanova, M. Goldblum, H. Foley, S. Duan, J. P. Dickerson, G. Taylor, T. Goldstein

International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2021, [\[paper\]](#), [\[webtool\]](#)

### Transfer Learning with Deep Tabular Models

R. Levin\*, V. Cherepanova\*, A. Schwarzschild, A. Bansal, C. B. Bruss, T. Goldstein, A. G. Wilson, M. Goldblum

International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2023, [\[paper\]](#), [\[GitHub\]](#)

### Strong Data Augmentation Sanitizes Poisoning and Backdoor Attacks Without an Accuracy Tradeoff

E. Borgnia\*, V. Cherepanova\*, L. Fowl\*, A. Ghiasi\*, J. Geiping\*, M. Goldblum\*, T. Goldstein\*, A. Gupta\*

The International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, & Signal Processing (ICASSP), 2021, [\[paper\]](#)

### Unraveling Meta-Learning: Understanding Feature Representations for Few-Shot Tasks

M. Goldblum, S. Reich\*, L. Fowl\*, R. Ni\*, V. Cherepanova\*, T. Goldstein

International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2020, [\[paper\]](#)

### **A Deep Dive into Dataset Imbalance and Bias in Face Identification**

**V. Cherepanova\***, S. Reich\*, S. Dooley, H. Souri, M. Goldblum, T. Goldstein

*TSRML Workshop at the Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2022, [paper]*

### **Technical Challenges for Training Fair Neural Networks**

**V. Cherepanova\***, V. Nanda\*, M. Goldblum, J. P. Dickerson, T. Goldstein

*RAI Workshop at the International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2021, [paper]*

### **MetaBalance: High-Performance Neural Networks for Class-Imbalanced Data**

A. Bansal, M. Goldblum, **V. Cherepanova**, A. Schwarzschild, C. B. Bruss, T. Goldstein

*arXiv preprint, [paper]*

\* indicates equal contribution

## Conferences and Talks

---

### **Transfer Learning with Deep Tabular Models**

- Oral Presentation at the NeurIPS 2022 Table Representation Learning Workshop
- Invited Talk at Arthur AI

### **A Deep Dive into Dataset Imbalance and Bias in Face Identification**

- NeurIPS 2022 Workshop on Trustworthy and Socially Responsible Machine Learning
- NeurIPS 2022 Workshop on Algorithmic Fairness through the Lens of Causality and Privacy
- NeurIPS 2022 Workshop on Machine Learning Safety

### **Technical Challenges for Training Fair Neural Networks**

- ICLR 2021 Workshop on Responsible AI

### **LowKey: Leveraging Adversarial Attacks to Protect Social Media Users from Facial Recognition**

- ICLR 2021
- NeurIPS 2020 Resistance AI Workshop
- NeurIPS 2020 Workshop on Dataset Curation and Security

## Reviewer Service

---

NeurIPS 2022, ICLR 2022, NeurIPS 2021, NeurIPS 2022 TSRML Workshop, ICLR 2021 RAI Workshop, IEEE TPAMI

## Relevant Coursework

---

**Machine Learning:** Deep Learning, Computer Vision, Computational Linguistics, Algorithms in Machine Learning: Guarantees and Convergence, Foundations of Deep Learning

**Signal Processing:** Scientific Computing, Advanced Numerical Optimization, Mathematical Statistics, Probability Theory, Applied Stochastic Processes

## Technical Skills

---

**Programming:** Python (PyTorch, PySpark), basics of Matlab and R