Vishaal Udandarao

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Github: vishaal27

Education

Oct'22 – present
ELLIS / University of Tübingen / University of Cambridge.
PhD, MACHINE LEARNING

Sep'21 – Aug'22
University of Cambridge.
MPHIL, MACHINE LEARNING AND MACHINE INTELLIGENCE
Percentage – 77.21/100 (Distinction)

Aug'16 – May'20
IIIT Delhi.
BTECH, COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
GPA – 9.17/10

Featured Publications (google scholar link)

- **V. Udandarao**, Z. Lu, X. Chang, Y. Wang, V. Z. Yao, A. M. Jose, F. Faghri, J. Gardner, C. C. Chiu, "Data-Centric Lessons To Improve Speech-Language Pretraining", ICLR 2026 [paper]
- **V. Udandarao***, N. Parthasarathy*, M.F. Naeem, T. Evans, S. Albanie, F. Tombari, Y. Xian, A. Tonioni, O. Henaff, "Active Data Curation Effectively Distills Large-Scale Multimodal Models", CVPR 2025 [paper]
- **V. Udandarao***, S. Dziadzio*, K. Roth*, A. Prabhu, Z. Akata, S. Albanie, M. Bethge, "How to Merge your Multimodal Models Over Time?", CVPR 2025 [paper]
- **V. Udandarao***, K. Roth*, S. Dziadzio, A. Prabhu, M. Cherti, O. Vinyals, O. Henaff, S. Albanie, M. Bethge, Z. Akata, "A Practitioner's Guide to Continual Multimodal Pretraining", NeurIPS 2024 [paper][code] [paper]
- **V. Udandarao***, A. Prabhu*, A. Ghosh, Y. Sharma, P.H.S. Torr, A. Bibi, S. Albanie, M. Bethge, "No "Zero-Shot" Without Exponential Data: Pretraining Concept Frequency Determines Multimodal Model Performance", NeurIPS 2024 [paper][code]
- **V. Udandarao***, M. Burg, S. Albanie, M. Bethge, "Visual Data-Type Understanding does not emerge from Scaling Vision-Language Models", ICLR 2024 [paper][code]
- **V. Udandarao**, A. Gupta, S. Albanie, "SuS-X: Training-Free Name-Only Transfer of Vision-Language Models", ICCV 2023 [paper][code]

Research Experience

Oct'22 – present
Computational Neuroscience and Machine Learning Group, University of Tübingen.
Advisors: Prof Dr Matthias Bethge, Dr Samuel Albanie
- Understanding the generalisation properties of foundation models through a data-centric lens.
- Understand and build strong inductive biases into foundation models to equip them for continual generalisation.

Mar'22 – Dec'22
Machine Intelligence Lab, University of Cambridge.
Advisors: Dr Samuel Albanie, Dr Ankush Gupta
- Investigating the visual few-shot performance potential of large scale multi-modal foundation models.
- Understand the abilities of two particular few-shot adaptation techniques – adapters and prompt learning.

Jul'20 – Jul'21
Rutgers Machine Learning Lab (RUML), Rutgers University.
Advisor: Dr Sungjin Ahn
- Empirical investigation of slot-based and box-based approaches to object centric representation learning.
- Understand the abilities of slot and box approaches to improve downstream task performance pertaining to different abilities extending to complex morphological scenes.

Mar'20 – Jul'20
MIDAS Lab, IIIT Delhi.
Advisors: Dr Rajiv Ratn Shah, Rajesh Kumar
- Discover privacy leaks from behavioural biometric data.
- Understand the extent of privacy leakage factors that can be exposed based on per-user typing/swipe/gait features using machine/deep learning.

Jul'19 – **Infosys Center for Artificial Intelligence (CAI) Lab, IIIT Delhi**.
Aug'20   Advisor: Dr Saket Anand
- Unsupervised learning of disentangled representations.
- Learn well disentangled, statistically independent latent factors of variation helping to reduce sample complexity of downstream tasks and generate high fidelity reconstructions.

Industry Experience

June'25 – **Apple, Seattle, USA**.
Oct'25   Research Intern
- Research on data curation for speech-language models in the Apple Foundation Models team

June'24 – **Google (DeepMind), Zürich, Switzerland**.
Oct'24   Student Researcher
- Research on active data curation and knowledge distillation of vision-language models

July'20 – **Myntra, Bengaluru, India**.
Aug'21   Software Engineer
- Built and deployed scalable APIs to serve a target customer base of around 15m consumers around India.
- Mentored 5 software engineering interns on an end-to-end log anomaly detection project.

May'19 – **Expedia Group, Gurugram, India**.
Jul'19   Software Development Intern
- Created and deployed a scalable image ranking solution for images of destination locations.
- Conducted extensive statistical tests on a dataset of 10k+ images.

Invited Talks and Podcasts

- DatologyAI, 07/2025
- Stanford University, 05/2025
- Voxel51, 03/2025 [link]
- Best-of-NeurIPS, Voxel51, 02/2025 [link]
- IIIT Delhi, 01/2025
- Keynote Talk, Adaptive Foundation Models Workshop, NeurIPS, 12/2024
- Voxel51, 11/2024
- Google AR, Zürich, 11/2024
- ELLIS Flagship Conference, Helsinki, 06/2024
- University of Washington, 06/2024
- AI'N Stuff Podcast, 04/2024 [link]
- DatologyAI, 04/2024
- Workshop on Scaling Laws, NeurIPS, 12/2023
- Explainable Machine Learning Group, University of Tübingen, 11/2023
- LAION, 08/2023

Honors & Awards

- Google PhD Fellowship for Machine Intelligence, 2024-26
- ELLIS PhD Scholarship, 2022
- HRH The Prince of Wales Commonwealth Scholarship from the Cambridge Trust, 2021-22
- IIIT-Delhi Dean's Award for Academic Excellence 2016-17, 2018-19
- Topper across all schools in the Gulf region in CBSE AISSCE 2016 exams (All India Rank 7)

Reviewing Experience

- ICCV-2025 (Outstanding reviewer)
- ICML-2025
- ICLR-2025 / 2026
- NeurIPS-2024 / 2025
- ECCV-2024
- CVPR-2023 / 2024 (Outstanding reviewer) / 2025 (Outstanding reviewer)
- WACV-2020 / 2022 / 2023
- IJCV-2023