



Yanou Ramon


Curriculum Vitae


September 13, 1995 • Prinsstraat 13, 2000, Antwerp (Belgium)

University of Antwerp, Dpt. Engineering Management

Phone: (+32) 497 901 304

Email: yanou.ramon@uantwerp.be

Github: 

LinkedIn: 

Research Interests

Behavioral Big Data; Text Data; (Explainable) Data Mining; Data Science; Predictive Modeling; Computer-Human Interaction; Automated Decision-Making

My research explores methods to explain decisions made by artificial intelligent systems trained on Big Data (e.g., social media data, web browsing data, payment data, location data). Model explanations are investigated both on the instance level (*Which payments contributed to this loan applicant being classified as likely to default?*) and the global level (*Which payment behaviour leads to classifying someone as high default risk?*). Businesses and government that use humanly-generated data can improve decision making, however, it remains a question to them how a prediction model makes decisions, either because of the thousands of variables it uses (for example, each individual payment is a variable in the model), or because of the nonlinear model structure (e.g., Deep Learning), or both. In the literature, these models are referred to as a “black-box”. My research investigates techniques to open this “black-box” so that users can validate and trust model predictions, improve prediction models, and gain insight from and interact with these models.

Education

Ph.D. Fellowship in Fundamental Research

2018/22

Fellowship by Research Foundation-Flanders • University of Antwerp, Belgium • Supervisor: Prof. David Martens (Applied Data Science)

Master of Science (M. Sc.), Business Engineering (Finance)

2016/18

University of Antwerp, Belgium, Faculty of Business and Economics • magna cum laude • major: European and International Business • passionate about data science and analytics

Bachelor of Science (B. Sc.), Business Engineering

2013/16

University of Antwerp, Belgium, Faculty of Business and Economics • magna cum laude



Equivalent to 'A' Levels successfully completed

2007/13

Sint-Rita College in Kontich, Belgium • magna cum laude • main courses: sciences and mathematics

Publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles

De Cnudde, S., Ramon, Y., Martens, D., Provost, F. (2019). Deep Learning on Big, Sparse, Behavioral Data, *Big Data*, 7(4), pp.286-307.

Manuscripts under review

Ramon, Y., Martens, D., Provost, F., Evgeniou, T. (under review). Instance-level Explanation Algorithms SEDC, LIME, SHAP for Behavioral and Textual data: a Counterfactual-Oriented Comparison.

Ramon, Y., Martens, D., Evgeniou, T., Praet, S. (under review). Improving the Cost of Explainability for High-Dimensional, Sparse Data using Metafeatures-based Rule-Extraction.

Conference Talks

Ramon, Y., Martens, D. (March 2019). Instance-based Explanations: Motivation, Overview, and the Evidence Counterfactual Approach. European Conference on Data Analytics (ECDA). Bayreuth, Germany.

Ramon, Y., Martens, D. (June 2019). Instance-level explanation algorithms SEDC, LIME, SHAP. EURO Conference. Dublin, Ireland.

Specialization & work experience

Teaching assistant

Since October 2018

University of Antwerp, Belgium, Faculty of Business and Economics • responsible for Data Science challenge and Python tutorials for *Data Mining* Master's course (Prof. Martens) • teaching assistant of *Ethics in Data Science*, *Cases & Trends in Data Science*, and *Data Engineering*

Co-organizer Summer School Washington D.C.

July 2020

University of Antwerp, Belgium, Faculty of Business and Economics • responsible for organizing the summer school "The American Business Environment" in Washington with a group of +25 Master's students

McKinsey & Company Next Generation Women Leaders Event Paris

May 2018

3-day workshop in Paris organized by McKinsey & Company • Inspirational speakers, case study, and opportunity to meet other female students and young professionals from all over the world

Member of Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society – "Best in business"

Since November 2017

Honor of Academic Excellence • Part of top business students worldwide at universities with AACSB accreditation • *Membership benefits*: vast networking and leadership opportunities, and career resources

Erasmus Fall Semester Exchange (Toulouse, France)

2017

Toulouse School of Management (Université Toulouse Capitole 1) • *Outcomes*: international networking, improved French and English communication and personal development



Summer School “The American Business Environment” (Washington DC, USA) July 2016

Georgetown University • Lectures, company visits, networking events, visits to Federal Reserve and IMF

(Pre-)Junior Management Program (Antwerp, Belgium) 2016/18

University of Antwerp • 25 students selected by the Dean based upon grades and extracurricular activities • soft-skill workshops organized by a variety of companies • *Outcomes*: professional goal-setting, personal development, developed managerial skills

Student Worker Radiology Department (Sint-Niklaas, Belgium) 2013/15/16

Logistic tasks, editing timetables for the workforces and completing databases

Hostess MC Challenge (Brasschaat, Belgium) 2013/16

Promoting companies' products, conducting face-to-face surveys for clients such as BMW and welcoming guests at events • *Outcomes*: assertiveness, customer orientation, communication

Language Summer School (Santa Barbara, USA) July 2012

EF Language Institute • First independent travel experience • English courses with computer labs, lectures and activities • *Outcomes*: enhanced English communication, intercultural experience, independency

Extracurricular activities

Field hockey player at Braxgata Hockey Club (Antwerp, Belgium)

Since 2013: 2nd Ladies Team • 2007-2012: Provincial Team of Antwerp, U15/16 National Team • 2001-2006: Teams at Braxgata • *Outcomes*: optimized team's potential by combining different qualities of different players, recognized the importance of team values such as dedication and hard work

Member of Sportclub Eiland (Antwerp, Belgium)

Yoga and pilates, cycling, body workouts • *Outcomes*: increased energy level, enhanced stress-resistance

Languages

Dutch: native language

English: advanced (writing, listening and speaking) – C1 level

French: advanced (writing, listening and speaking) – C1 level

IT skills

Mathematical and statistical software: MATLAB, SAS, STATA, SPSS, JMP Pro

Programming languages: Python (advanced), R (advanced), SQL (basic), pseudocode

Industry-standard software: Windows, Access and MS Office (incl. Outlook, Excel, Word and PowerPoint)