Yanou Ramon

Email: yanou.ramon@gmail.com **Website:** yramon.github.io

I'm a PhD researcher in Explainable Artificial Intelligence. I develop algorithms to explain prediction models and individual predictions from Big Data and look how explanations help validate and improve AI systems. I'm passionate about predictive analytics to study human behavior, with the goal of improving decision-making in organizations. Besides research, I want to help democratize AI and love to learn about all things related to technology that positively impact the quality of people's lives around the world.

Languages	Dutch (native) • English • French
Programming & technical skills	Python • R • Matlab • Relational databases (SQL) • Cloud computing (AWS)
Data analysis	**Predictive modeling:** Data exploration & visualization • Data preprocessing • (Supervised) Machine Learning • Model interpretability **Statistical methods:** Experimental design • Inferential statistics

EDUCATION

Nov ˈ21 – April ˈ22 **Visiting Research Scholar**
- Columbia Business School (New York City) • Advisor: Prof. Sandra Matz
- Built and interpreted prediction models that act as tools to diagnose people's personality and mental health using their financial transactions histories

Oct ˈ18 – present **Ph.D. Fellowship in Explainable Artificial Intelligence – Research Foundation Flanders**
- University of Antwerp • Advisor: Prof. David Martens
- Designed algorithms to explain predictions of models using behavioral data
- Implemented explainer objects in Python (available on GitHub)

Oct ˈ16 – June ˈ18 **M.Sc. in Business Engineering**
- University of Antwerp • Great distinction (80/100)
- Fall semester ˈ17 (exchange): Toulouse School of Management
- July ˈ16: Summer school Washington DC

Oct ˈ13 – June ˈ16 **B.Sc. in Business Engineering**
- University of Antwerp • Great distinction (78/100)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Oct ˈ19 – present **Co-organizer summer school "American Business Environment" in Washington**

Oct ˈ18 – present **Teaching Assistant**
- Data Mining • Ethics in Data Science • Data Engineering
- Designed Python tutorials and organized Data Science Challenge

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Oct ˈ20 **Winner of Best Paper Award and a €1,000 Prize**
- Doctoral day at the Faculty of Business & Economics, University of Antwerp
- Title: "Increasing global understanding of prediction models on behavior data"

May ˈ18 **Next Generation Women Leaders Event of McKinsey & Company**
- One of 200 participants selected worldwide to join a three-day event in Paris filled with inspirational talks on leadership, case studies, and networking

Nov ˈ17 – present **Member of Beta Gamma Sigma Society**
- Honor of academic excellence for business students

Oct ˈ16 – May ˈ18 **Junior Management Program**
- One of 25 students selected by the Dean based on academic achievements
- Enhanced soft skills and developed professional goals in a series of workshops

Dec ˈ16 **Finalist Data Science Challenge**
- Developed a credit scoring tool in Matlab for professional loans at AXA insurance

ACTIVITIES & SERVICE

WiDS Ambassador Women in Data Science Ambassador 2022 (Stanford University)
- Role responsibilities include planning a local WiDS event in Belgium

Program committee Workshop on Advances in Interpretable ML and AI (CIKM online), Oct ˈ20
- Invited talk: "Comparison of algorithms for explaining models on behavior data"

PUBLICATIONS

Publications

Yanou Ramon, Sandra Matz, R.A. Farrokhnia, David Martens. Explainable AI for psychological profiling from behavioral data: An application to Big Five personality predictions from financial transaction records. *Information,* 12(12), 518, 2021. *Available online*.

Yanou Ramon, David Martens, Theodoros Evgeniou, Stiene Praet. Can metafeatures help improve explanations of prediction models when using behavioral and textual data? *Machine Learning*, 2021. *Available online*.

Yanou Ramon, David Martens, Foster Provost, Theodoros Evgeniou. A comparison of instance-level explanation algorithms for behavioral and textual data: SEDC, LIME-C and SHAP-C. *Advances in Data Analysis and Classification*, 2020. *Available online*.

Sofie De Cnudde, **Yanou Ramon**, David Martens, Foster Provost. Deep Learning on Big, Sparse, Behavioral Data. *Big Data*, 7(4), p.286-307, 2019. *Available online*.

REFERENCES

Prof. David Martens
University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium
Department of Engineering Management
Email: david.martens@uantwerp.be
Relationship: Doctoral advisor

Prof. Theodoros Evgeniou
INSEAD, Fontainebleau, France
Department of Decision Sciences and Technology Management
Email: theodoros.evgeniou@insead.edu
Relationship: Collaborator and PhD Committee member

Prof. Sandra Matz
Columbia Business School, New York City, US
Department of Management
Email: sm4409@gsb.columbia.edu
Relationship: Collaborator and PhD Committee member

Prof. Robert Farrokhnia
Columbia Business & Engineering Schools, New York City, US
Email: arf25@columbia.edu
Relationship: Collaborator

Prof. Foster Provost
NYU Stern School of Business, New York City, US
Department of Technology, Operations & Statistics
Email: fprovost@gmail.com
Relationship: Collaborator and PhD Committee member

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Hobbies	Field hockey (ˈ10 -ˈ12: national hockey team), tennis, yoga, winter sports
Ambitions	Advocate more data-driven decision-making in business and society Inspire more women to pursue a career in STEM