

SUSHIL KUMAR AMMANAGHATTA SHIVAKUMAR

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Education

Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg

Oct. 2021 – Oct. 2024

Master of Science in Computer Science (Specialization in AI)

Freiburg, Germany

- Thesis: *A Generative Model for Video Montage Creation*

PESIT-BSC

Aug. 2017 – June 2021

Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science

Bengaluru, India

Research Interests

Large Language Models, Generative AI, Multimodal Learning, Trustworthy AI, Agentic AI, and RAG

Work/Research Experience

Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems

Nov 2024 – Present

Research Intern (Advisor: Prof. Dr. Antonio Orvieto)

Tübingen, Germany

- Long-Range Music Generation with focus on coherence and structure in symbolic compositions.
- Applied REMI+ event-based representation and BPE compression using miditok to preprocess MIDI sequences for long-range generative modeling..
- Trained MAMBA-based architectures for autoregressive music generation with large token windows.

Zebracat AI

Feb 2024 – Oct 2024

Master Thesis Student (Advisor: Mohammadreza Zolfaghar)

Freiburg, Germany

- Developed generative framework for video montage creation by aligning video and text embeddings.
- Used GPT and UMT to reframe classification into regression-based embedding alignment.
- Achieved new benchmarks on VSPD dataset (IoU: 0.167, UMS: 1.257, SMS: 0.103).
- Validated montage-aligned video generation quality through qualitative retrieval analysis.

Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE

May 2023 – Oct 2024

Research Assistant (Advisor: Dr. Paul Gebhard)

Freiburg, Germany

- Automated scraping pipelines for scientific literature using Selenium and PyMuPDF.
- Developed parsers to extract structured metadata (tables, figures, references) from PDFs.
- Built RAG pipelines using Azure OpenAI for semantic data extraction on PV degradation.
- Implemented FAISS-based document indexing for efficient semantic retrieval.

Max Planck Institute for Security and Privacy (MPI-SP)

Apr 2022 – Mar 2023

Research Assistant (Advisor: Prof. Dr. Asia J. Biega)

Bochum, Germany

- Conducted empirical audit on deceptive GDPR patterns in top 10k Tranco-ranked websites.
- Built automation scripts to capture consent banners and identify 'Legitimate Interest' cases.
- Performed qualitative annotation using MAXQDA across screenshots and public forum discussions.

Projects

Training Noisy Real vs. Generated Images for Attribute Classification | Nov 2023

- Evaluated OpenCLIP performance on real-world noisy images compared to synthetic counterparts generated using Stable Diffusion.
- Created attribute-specific datasets focused on material, pattern, group, and color classification using CLIP-retrieved samples from the LAION dataset and synthetic images generated via Stable Diffusion.
- Found real noisy images offered better generalization due to inherent visual complexity.

Publications

Investigating Deceptive Design in GDPR's Legitimate Interest

ACM CHI 2023

- Authors: Lin Kyi, **Sushil Ammanaghatta Shivakumar**, Franziska Roesner, Cristiana Santos, Frederike Zufall, and Asia Biega.
- Stefano Rodotà Award

Turning to Online Forums for Legal Information

Annual Privacy Forum 2025

- Authors: Lin Kyi, Cristiana Santos, **Sushil Ammanaghatta Shivakumar**, Franziska Roesner, and Asia Biega.
- Full title: *Turning to Online Forums for Legal Information: A Case Study of GDPR's Legitimate Interests.*

AutoML Decathlon: Diverse Tasks, Modern Methods, and Efficiency at Scale

NeurIPS 2022 CT

- Competition Track

Technical Skills

Languages: Python, PyTorch, LaTeX

Developer Tools: Git, SLURM, HTCondor

Technologies / Libraries: FAISS, PyMuPDF, Selenium, MAXQDA

Relevant Coursework: Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Information Retrieval, Mobile Robotics, Robot Mapping