





Explainability in Deep Learning Through Communication

Prof. Dr. Zeynep Akata

Alfried Krupp Award Lecture

19 October 2023

















Dimensions of an Explanation

Lombrozo TICS'16



• Justify a range of observations

Dimensions of an Explanation



- Justify a range of observations
- Concise for the communication partner

Dimensions of an Explanation



- Justify a range of observations
- Concise for the communication partner
- Differentiate two alternative decisions

Attributes as Explanations

Lampert et al. CVPR'09



Attributes as Explanations

Lampert et al. CVPR'09



Attributes as Explanations

Lampert et al. CVPR'09



Muldimodal Embeddings

Akata et al. CVPR'13 & TPAMI'16





Natural Language for Fine-Grained Classification



The bird has a white underbelly, black feathers in the wings, a large wingspan, and a white beak.



This flower has a central white blossom surrounded by large pointed red petals which are veined and leaflike.





This bird has distinctive-looking brown and white stripes all over its body, and its brown tail sticks up.

Light purple petals with orange and black middle green leaves

Learning Deep Representations of Fine-Grained Visual Descriptions; Reed, Akata, Schiele, Lee at IEEE CVPR 2016

Generating Image Features with Natural Language



Generative Adversarial Text to Image Synthesis; Reed, Akata, Yan, Logeswaran, Lee, Schiele at ICML 2016















It is a **Cardinal** because it is a red bird with a red beak and a black face







It is a **Cardinal** because it is a **red bird** with a **red beak** and a **black face**











Our Explainable Machine Learning Group



Zeynep Akata Drofessor



Almut Sophia Koepke Research Fellow



Stephan Alaniz Postdoctoral Researcher



Maja Pantić PhD Researcher



Otniel-Bogdan Mercea PhD Researcher



PhD Researcher



Thomas Hummel PhD Researcher



Jae Myung Kim PhD Researcher





Karsten Roth PhD Researcher



Lukas Thede PhD Researcher









Jessica Bader HiWi MSc student



Michael Mergner Foreign Language Secretary



PhD Researcher

Leander Girrbach PhD researcher



Leonard Salewski PhD Researcher



Luca Evring PhD Researcher



Meghal Dani PhD Researcher



Joschka Strüber HiWi MSc student



HiWi MSc student



Language as External Knowledge in Deep Metric Learning



Integrating Language Guidance into Vision-based Deep Metric Learning; Roth, Vinyals, Akata at CVPR 2022

Language as External Knowledge in Audiovisual ZSL





Otniel-Bogdan Mercea Thomas Hummel

Temporal and Cross-Modal Attention for Audio-visual Zero-shot Learning; Mercea, Hummel, Koepke, Akata at ECCV 2022

Calibrating Uncertainty Values in Attribution Maps is Important



Keep CALM and Improve Visual Feature Attribution; Kim, Choe, Akata, Oh at ICCV 2021

Transparency of Deep Learning Model via Disentanglement



Learning Decision Trees Recurrently Through Communication; Alaniz, Marcos, Schiele, Akata at CVPR 2021

Tailored Explanations for the Communication Partner



In-Context Impersonation of Large Language Models



In-Context Impersonation Reveals Large Language Models' Strengths and Biases; Salewski, Alaniz, Rio-Torto, Schulz, Akata; NeurIPS 2023











Thank you!

