Aashish Rai

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EDUCATION

Brown University

Providence, RI, USA

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Computer Science,

Fall 2023 - 2028 (expected)

Advisor: Srinath Sridhar

raii 2023 - 2026 (expected)

National Institute of Technology
Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech), ECE,

Surat, India

Aug 2017 - June 2021

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Brown University

Providence, RI, USA

Aug 2023 - Present

PhD Research Assistant, (Advisor: Srinath Sridhar)

- Building a 4D reconstruction pipeline and a foundation world model for sparse-view 4D scene reconstruction.
- A novel 2D representation (UVGS) to solve permutation invariance and unstructured nature of 3D Gaussian Splatting.
- UVGS enables the application of existing 2D image models (VAEs, diffusion models) on generating Gaussian Splatting assets directly.
- A method to generate semantically aligned and synchronized audio tracks for silent egocentric videos using diffusion models.

Meta Reality Labs

Burlingame, CA, USA

Researcher/Intern, (Hosted by: Aayush Prakash)

May 2024 - Dec 2024

- Proposed a novel 2D representation to solve permutation invariance and unstructured nature of 3D Gaussian Splatting primitives.
- The new representation enables the application of existing 2D image based models on Gaussian Splatting directly.

Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University

Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Research Assistant (Advisor: Fernando De la Torre)

Sept 2021 - May 2023

(in collaboration with Meta Reality Labs)

[Project 2:] - A novel framework to generate realistic 3D Faces by leveraging 2D generative face models. Demonstrated its application in semantic face manipulations and text-based editing in 3D faces.

- Outperformed SOTA in 3D shape reconstruction and preserving the identity of rendered faces.

[Project 1:] - A 3D face generative model to decouple identity and expression and get granular control over expressions and identity.

McGill University

Montreal, Canada / Online

Research Intern (Advisor: Jeremy Cooperstock)

May 2020 - Mar 2021

Improved Semantic Face Editing by manipulating the latent space of StyleGAN2.

- Proposed an automated way of disentangling one feature from the other in the latent space by taking orthogonal projection.
- Used multi-class SVM classifier for complex attributes like race, face shape, etc.

Norwegian Biometrics Laboratory, NTNU

Norway / Online

Undergraduate Researcher (Advisor: Kishor Upla, Christoph Busch)

Dec 2019 - May 2020

Designed an efficient face super-resolution model using progressive residual CNN network.

- Proposed a three module framework to generate 8x images from 8x8, 16x16, 24x24 low resolution images.
- The model outperformed on benchmark datasets CelebA (PSNR: 26.55) and LFW (PSNR: 26.26).

PUBLICATIONS

- Aashish Rai, Angela Xing, Anushka Agarwal, Xiaoyan Cong, Zekun Li, Tao Lu, Srinath Sridhar, "PackUV: Packed Gaussian UV Maps for 4D Volumetric Video", 2025.
- Aashish Rai, Dilin Wang, Mihir Jain, Nikolaos Sarafianos, Arthur Chen, Srinath Sridhar, Aayush Prakash, "UVGS: Reimagining Unstructured 3D Gaussian Splatting using UV Mapping", CVPR 2025.
 [Link]
- Aashish Rai, Srinath Sridhar, "EgoSonics: Generating Synchronized Audio for Silent Egocentric Videos", IEEE/CVF Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision (WACV) 2025.
- Aashish Rai, Hiresh Gupta, Ayush Pandey, Francisco Vicente Carrasco, Shingo Jason Takagi, Amaury Aubel, Dael Kim, Aayush Prakash, Fernando de la Torre, "Towards Realistic Generative 3D Face Models", WACV 2024. [Link]
- Fariborz Teherkhani, Aashish Rai, Shaunak Srivastava, Quankai Gao, Xuanbai Chen, Fernando de la Torre, Steven Song, Aayush Prakash, Daeil Kim, "Controllable 3D Generative Adversarial Face Model via Disentangling Shape and Appearance", WACV 2023.

- Aashish Rai, Clara Ducher and Jeremy Cooperstock, "Improved Attribute Manipulation in the Latent Space of StyleGAN for Semantic Face Editing," 20th IEEE ICMLA 2021, Pasadena, CA, USA.
- Aashish Rai, Vishal Chudasama, Kishor Upla, Kiran Raja, Raghavendra Ramachandra and Christoph Busch, "Com-SupResNet: A Compact Super- Resolution Network for Low-Resolution Face Images," 2020 8th International Workshop on Biometrics and Forensics (IWBF), Porto, Portugal, 2020, pp. 1-6. [Link] (Extended version is accepted in IEEE Transactions on Biometrics (T-BIOM))