

# YOUSSEF MROUEH

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## RESEARCH SUMMARY

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Youssef Mroueh's research lies in Deep Learning, Machine Learning, Computer Vision and Artificial Intelligence. He conducts modeling and algorithmic research in Multimodal Deep Learning, Generative Adversarial Networks, Optimal Transport, Unsupervised and Self-supervised Learning, Signal Processing and Learning Theory.

## EDUCATION

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- 2011.9 – 2015.2    Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, USA  
Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Lab.  
Poggio Lab.  
Laboratory for Computational and Statistical Learning.
- PhD Degree in Computer Science
  - Supervisor: Prof. Tomaso Poggio
  - Thesis title: From bits to information: Learning meets Compressive Sensing
  - Thesis Committee: Prof. Lorenzo Rosasco, Prof. Bill Freeman, Prof. Piotr Indyk and Prof. Laurent Demanet
- 2009.9 – 2011.9    Ecole des Mine de Paris, Paris, France
- Master of Science and Engineering Diploma in Applied Mathematics, Robotics, Vision and Automatism
- 2006.9-2011.9    Ecole Polytechnique, Palaiseau, France,
- French Leading Engineering School
  - Engineering Diploma in Applied Mathematics

## EXPERIENCE

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- 2015.6 – now    IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY, USA  
IBM Research  
MIT-IBM Watson AI Lab  
*Research Staff Member*
- Multimodal Group Technical Team leader and Principal Investigator in the MIT-IBM Watson AI lab
  - Conducting research in deep multimodal learning for image and text based search, retrieval and captioning : Top ranking Captioning System on the

- Microsoft COCO Server at time of submission
  - Conducting research on Generative Adversarial Networks for learning structured data
  - Conducting research in Optimal Transport for Unsupervised and Self-supervised Learning
  - Conducting research on Mutual Information estimation and its use in dependency estimation and in unsupervised learning
  - Conducting research on Large scale optimization for training of Generative adversarial Networks
  
- 2015.2 – now Poggio Laboratory, Brain and Cognitive Sciences Department, MIT, Cambridge MA, USA
  - Research Affiliate*
  - Conducting research in collaboration with the Center for Brain Minds and Machines on Invariant Representations and Visual Attention Modeling
  
- 2014.5 – 2014.9 IBM T.J Watson Research Center  
Multimodal Algorithms and Engines Group
  - Research Intern*
  - Mentors: Dr. Etienne Marcheret and Dr. Vaibhava Goel
  - Proposed and implemented a new deep tensor neural network for Audio-Visual Speech Recognition
  
- 2013.7 – 2013.12 Non-Linear Systems Laboratory, MIT, Cambridge USA
  - Visiting Master Student*
  - Supervisor: Prof. Jean-Jacques Slotine
  - Proposed and analyzed a new algorithm for multi-category classification
  
- 2013.1 – 2013.4 Centre de Mathématiques Appliquées, Ecole Polytechnique, Palaiseau, France
  - Research Intern*
  - Supervisor: Prof. Stephane Mallat
  - Conducted research on Invariant Representations for Image Recognition Using Wavelets Transforms

#### AWARDS

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- 2006 – 2010 Eiffel Excellence Scholarship
- 2010 – 2015 Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia Fellowship

## PUBLICATIONS

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- [1] Wei Zhang, Xiaodong Cui, Abdullah Kayi, Mingrui Liu, Ulrich Finkler, Brian Kingsbury, George Saon, Youssef Mroueh, Alper Buyuktosunoglu, Payel Das, David Kung, Michael Picheny. Improving Efficiency in Large-Scale Decentralized Distributed Training. **ICASSP 2020 (Oral)**
- [2] David Alvarez-Melis, Youssef Mroueh and Tommi Jaakkola. Unsupervised Hierarchy Matching with Optimal Transport Over Hyperbolic Spaces. **AISTATS 2020.**
- [3] Youssef Mroueh. Wasserstein Style Transfer. . **AISTATS 2020.**
- [4] Mingrui Liu, Youssef Mroueh, Jerret Ross, Wei Zhang, Xiaodong Cui, Payel Das, Tianbao Yang. Towards Better Understanding of Adaptive Gradients Algorithms in Generative Adversarial Networks. **ICLR 2020.**
- [5] Adam Block, Youssef Mroueh, Alexander Rakhlin. Generative Modeling with Denoising Auto-encoders and Langevin Sampling . **Submitted COLT 2020.**
- [6] Thanh V Nguyen Youssef Mroueh Samuel Hoffman Payel Das Pierre Dognin Guieseppe Romano Chimnay Hegde. Multi-objective Black-Box Optimization with Surrogate Langevin Sampling. **Submitted ICML 2020.**
- [7] Youssef Mroueh Igor Melnyk Pierre Dognin Jerret Ross and Tom Sercu. Improved Mutual Information Estimation. **Submitted ICML 2020.**
- [8] Youssef Mroueh Mattia Rigotti. Unbalanced Sobolev Descent. **Submitted ICML 2020.**
- [9] Mingrui Liu, Youssef Mroueh, Wei Zhang, Xiaodong Cui, Jerret Ross, Tianbao Yang , Payel Das. Decentralized Parallel Algorithm for Training Generative Adversarial Nets. **NeurIPS Smooth Games Optimization and machine Learning Workshop, Vancouver, BC, December 2019. Submitted ICML 2020.**
- [10] Youssef Mroueh, Tom Sercu, Mattia Rigotti, Inkit Padhi, Cicero Dos Santos. Sobolev Independence Criterion. **NeurIPS 2019.**
- [11] Youssef Mroueh, Tom Sercu and Anant Raj. Sobolev Descent. **AISTATS 2019 (Oral).**
- [12] Pierre Dognin\*, Igor Melnyk\*, Youssef Mroueh\*, Jerret Ross\*, Tom Sercu\*. Adversarial Semantic Alignment for Improved Image Captions. (\* alphabetical order, Equal Contributions) **CVPR (2019).**
- [13] Pierre Dognin\*, Igor Melnyk\*, Youssef Mroueh\*, Jerret Ross\*, Cicero Dos Santos\*, Tom Sercu\*. Wasserstein Barycenter Model Ensembling. **ICLR (2019).**
- [14] Chun-Liang Li, Wei- Chen Chang, Youssef Mroueh, Yiming Yang, Baranabas Póczos. Implicit Kernel Learning. **AISTATS (2019).**

- [15]Cicero Dos Santos\*,Youssef Mroueh\*, Inkit Padhi\*, Pierre Dognin\*. Learning Implicit Generative Models by Matching Perceptual Features. **Submitted (2019)**
- [16]Cicero Dos Santos, Inkit Padhi, Pierre Dognin, Vijil Chenthamarakshan, Youssef Mroueh . Training Implicit Text Generators From Scratch with Feature Matching Networks. **Submitted (2019)**
- [17] Youssef Mroueh Chun-Liang Li Tom Sercu Anant Raj and Yu Cheng. Sobolev GAN. **ICLR (2018).**
- [18] Tom Sercu, Youssef Mroueh. Semi-Supervised Learning with IPM Based GANs : An Empirical Study. **NeurIPS workshop (2017)**
- [19] Youssef Mroueh and Tom Sercu. Fisher GAN. **NeurIPS (2017)**
- [20] Youssef Mroueh, Tom Sercu and Vaibhava Goel. McGAN: Mean and Covariance Feature Matching GAN. **ICML (2017)**
- [21] Youssef Mroueh, Etienne Marcheret and Vaibhava Goel. Co-Occurring Directions Sketching for Approximate Matrix Multiply. **AISTATS (2017) Oral**
- [22] Steven J Rennie, Etienne Marcheret, Youssef Mroueh, Jarret Ross and Vaibhava Goel. Self-critical Sequence Training for Image Captioning. **CVPR (2017) Oral**
- [23] Anant Raj, Abhikesh Kumar, Youssef Mroueh, Tom Fletcher and Bernhard Schoelkopf. Local Group Invariant Representations Via Orbits Embeddings **AISTATS (2017)**
- [24]Gerasimos Potamianos, Etienne Marcheret, Youssef Mroueh, VaibhavaGoel, Alexander Koumbaroulis, Argyrios Vartholomaïos, and Spyridon Thermos. Audio and Visual Modality Combination in Speech Processing Applications. **Book Chapter**, Handbook of Multi-Modal Multi-Sensor Interfaces, Morgan & Claypool Publishers **(2016)**
- [25] Youssef Mroueh, Etienne Marcheret, and Vaibhava Goel. Asymmetric Regularized CCA and Hierarchical Kernel Sentence Embedding for Image and Text Retrieval. **Arxiv (2016)**
- [26] Youssef Mroueh, Etienne Marcheret and Vaibhava Goel. Deep Multimodal Learning For Audio-Visual Speech Recognition. IEEE International Conference On Acoustics Speech and Signal Processing **ICASSP(2015)**
- [27] Youssef Mroueh, Stephen Voinea, and Tomaso Poggio. Learning with Group Invariant Features a Kernel Perspective. Neural Information Processing Systems **NeurIPS (2015)**
- [28] Carlo Ciliberto, Youssef Mroueh, Tomaso Poggio and Lorenzo Rosasco. Convex Learning of Multiple Tasks and their Structure. International Conference of Machine Learning **ICML (2015) Oral**

- [29] Youssef Mroueh. Robust Phase Retrieval and Super-Resolution from One Bit Coded Diffraction Patterns. **Arxiv (2014)**
- [30] Youssef Mroueh and Lorenzo Rosasco. On Efficiency and Low Sample Complexity in Phase Retrieval. IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory **ISIT (2014) Oral**
- [31] Qian Liao, Joel Z Leibo, Youssef Mroueh and Tomaso Poggio. Can a Biologically Plausible Hierarchy Effectively Replace Face Detection, Alignment, and Recognition pipelines? CBMM **Memo, MIT, (2013)**
- [32] Youssef Mroueh and Lorenzo Rosasco. Q-ary Compressive Sensing. Sampling Theory and Applications Sampta **(2013) Oral**
- [33] Youssef Mroueh and Lorenzo Rosasco. Quantization and Greed are Good: One Bit Phase Retrieval, Robustness and Greedy Refinements. **Arxiv (2013)**
- [34] Youssef Mroueh, Tomaso Poggio, Lorenzo Rosasco, and Jean Jacques Slotine. Multiclass Learning with Simplex Coding. Advances in Neural Information Processing **NeurIPS (2012)**
- [35] Youssef Mroueh, Lorenzo Rosasco, and Tomaso Poggio. Multi-category and Taxonomy learning: A Regularization Approach. **NIPS Workshop on Challenges in Learning Hierarchical Models: Transfer Learning and Optimization (2011)**
- [36] Youssef Mroueh, Tomaso Poggio and Lorenzo Rosasco. Regularization predicts while Discovering Taxonomy. MIT CSAIL **Technical Report (2011)**

#### SERVICES

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- 2012 – Reviewer, Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)
- 2014 – Reviewer, International Conference of Machine Learning (ICML)
- 2015 – Reviewer, International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)
- 2015 – Reviewer, International Conference On Acoustics Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP)
- 2018 Reviewer AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence
- 2018 Co-organized ICML 2018 workshop on learning from limited labels

#### INVITED TALKS

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- 2012.07 Multi-class Learning: Theory and Algorithms, Italian Institute of Technology Italy
- 2013.06 Q-ary Compressive Sensing, Laboratory for Information and Decisions Systems, MIT, USA

2013.07            One Bit Phase Retrieval, University of Genova, Italy

2016.06            Bridging the Semantic Gap: Image Captioning with Visual Attention. Deep  
Learning Workshop, MIT, USA, 2016

2018.06            Sobolev Descent. UCL London, Gatsby unit.

2019.04            Sobolev Descent. Okinawa Japan

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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2014                Teaching Assistant 6.003, MIT with Professors Russ Tedrake and Pablo Parillo:  
Signals and Systems, undergraduate class on signal processing and control theory

#### SKILLS

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Languages            French, Arabic, Native. English, Fluent. Spanish, Intermediate

Applications        Torch, MATLAB, PyTorch