

---

# Dr. Grant Van Horn

---

Manning College of Information & Computer Sciences  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
140 Governors Dr., Amherst, MA 01003, USA

[gvanhorn@cs.umass.edu](mailto:gvanhorn@cs.umass.edu)  
<https://gvh.codes>  
[Google Scholar](#)  
[ORCID](#)

## **Research Interests**

Image, audio, and video understanding; human-in-the-loop machine learning systems; applications of machine learning to biodiversity and conservation problems.

## **Employment**

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA  
Assistant Professor, 09/2023 - Present

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
Research Engineer, 06/2019 - 09/2023

Google  
Visiting Faculty Researcher, 2020 - 2021

Amazon Web Services, Pasadena, CA  
Senior Applied Scientist, 01/2019 - 06/2019

Cornell University, New York, NY  
Visiting Researcher, 01/2013 - 06/2013

## **Education**

Caltech, Pasadena, CA  
PhD, Computer Science, 2019  
Thesis: "Towards a Visipedia: Combining Computer Vision and Communities of Experts."  
Committee: Pietro Perona, Serge Belongie, Adam Wierman, Yisong Yue

Caltech, Pasadena, CA  
MS, Computer Science, 2019

University of California, San Diego, CA  
MS, Computer Science, 2014

University of California, San Diego, CA  
BS, Computer Science, 2012

## **Internships**

Google, Los Angeles, CA, Summer 2017

Worked with the Mobile Vision team.

Google, Los Angeles, CA, Summer 2015  
Worked with the Mobile Vision team.

Apple, Inc., Cupertino, CA, Summer 2011  
Worked with the Image, Media, and Graphics group on FaceTime.

Qualcomm, San Diego, CA, Summer 2010  
Worked with the Computer Aided Engineering group on circuit board rendering.

## **Awards and Honors**

2021 Fast Company Most Productive People, [[article](#)]

2020 Ben P.C. Chou Doctoral Prize in Information Science and Technology, Caltech

2012 Computing Research Association Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher, Honorable Mention

2010 California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology (Calit2) Undergraduate Scholar

## **Service to the Academic Community**

- **Reviewer for international conferences.** Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR)
- **Reviewer for journals.** The American Naturalist

## **Public Datasets**

I created or co-created the following public datasets:

[Sapsucker Woods 60](#) (SSW60), 2022  
[Caltech Fish Counting](#), 2022  
[iNaturalist Localization 500](#) (iNatLoc500), 2022  
[Natural World Tasks](#) (NeWT), 2021  
[iNaturalist Dataset](#), 2021  
[iNaturalist Dataset](#), 2019  
[Caltech Camera Traps](#), 2018  
[iNaturalist Dataset](#), 2018  
[iNaturalist Dataset](#), 2017  
[North American Birds](#) (NABirds), 2015

## **Workshop Organization**

I co-organized the following international workshops:

Fine-grained Visual Categorization 10, CVPR, Vancouver, BC, 2023  
Fine-grained Visual Categorization 9, CVPR, New Orleans, LA, 2022  
Fine-grained Visual Categorization 8, CVPR, Nashville, TN, 2021  
Fine-grained Visual Categorization 7, CVPR, Seattle, WA, 2020  
Fine-grained Visual Categorization 6, CVPR, Long Beach, CA, 2019  
Fine-grained Visual Categorization 5, CVPR, Salt Lake City, UT, 2018

Fine-grained Visual Categorization 4, CVPR, Honolulu, HI, 2017  
Fine-grained Visual Categorization 3, CVPR, Boston, MA, 2015  
Fine-grained Visual Categorization 2, CVPR, Portland, OR, 2013

## **Selected Talks and Presentations**

Merlin Sound ID: Building Shazam for Birds. Colorado State University - Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology Graduate-Faculty Seminar Series (November, 2022) [[recording](#)]

What's That Bird? (May, 2022) [[recording](#)]

Merlin Sound ID. Scripps Institution of Oceanography Machine Learner's Group (February, 2022)

Who's Singing? How to Use Merlin Bird ID to Identify Bird Calls. (July, 2021) [[recording](#)]

Visipedia + iNaturalist. Center for Data Science, UMass Amherst (October, 2019) [[recording](#)]

Visipedia. LifeCLEF 2019 Workshop, CLEF 2019 (September, 2019)

## **Demos**

Van Horn, G., Branson, S., Wah, C., Perona, P., Belongie, S., "Visipedia Backend: Collaborative Tools for Image Dataset Creation and Management," IEEE Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) Demonstration Session, Columbus, OH, June, 2014

Van Horn G., Branson S., Wah C., Belongie S., "iOS Visipedia App for Bird Species Classification," IEEE Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) Demonstration Session, Colorado Springs, CO, June, 2011

Van Horn G., Belongie S., "Visipedia," Calit2 Undergraduate Scholar Report Presentations, La Jolla, CA, Sept., 2010

## **Selected Publications**

Cole, E., Van Horn, G., Lange, C., Shepard, A., Leary, P., Perona, P., Loarie, S., Mac Aodha, O., "Spatial Implicit Neural Representations for Global-Scale Species Mapping," ICML, Honolulu, HI, Jul 2023

Van Horn, G., Qian, R., Wilber, K., Adam, H., Mac Aodha, O., Belongie, S., "Exploring Fine-Grained Audiovisual Categorization with the SSW60 Dataset," Proceedings of the European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV), Tel Aviv, Israel, Oct 2022

Kay, J., Kulits, P., Stathatos, S., Deng, S., Young, E., Beery, S., Van Horn, G., Perona, P., "The Caltech Fish Counting Dataset: A Benchmark for Multiple-Object Tracking and Counting," Proceedings of the European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV), Tel Aviv, Israel, Oct 2022

Cole, E., Wilber, K., Van Horn, G., Yang, X., Fornoni, M., Perona, P., Belongie, S., Howard, A., Mac Aodha, O., "On Label Granularity and Object Localization," Proceedings of the European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV), Tel Aviv, Israel, Oct 2022

Tuia, D., Kellenberger, B., Beery, S., Costelloe, B., Zuffi, S., Risse, B., Mathis, A., Mathis, M., van Langevelde, F., Burghardt, T., Kays, R., Klinck, H., Wikelski, M., Couzin, I., Van Horn, G., Crofoot, M., Stewart, C., Berger-Wolf, Tanya., "Perspectives in machine learning for wildlife conservation," Nature communications, 2022

Van Horn, G., Cole, E., Beery, S., Wilber, K., Belongie, S., Mac Aodha, O., "Benchmarking Representation Learning for Natural World Image Collections," IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), Nashville, TN, June 2021

Van Horn, M., Barry, D., Ranade, S., Van Horn, G., "Few-Shot Fine-Grained Visual Classification using Coarse-Grained Supervision," 8th Workshop on Fine-Grained Visual Categorization (FGVC8), IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), Nashville, TN, June 2021

Kulitz, P., Pan, A., Beery, S., Young, E., Perona, P., Van Horn, G., "Automated Salmonid Counting in Sonar Data," Tackling Climate Change with Machine Learning (Workshop), NeurIPS 2020

Van Horn, G., "Towards a Visipedia: Combining Computer Vision and Communities of Experts." Dissertation (Ph.D.), California Institute of Technology. doi:10.7907/20DQ-Y220, 2019

Beery, S., Van Horn, G., Perona, P., "Recognition in Terra Incognita," Proceedings of the European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV), Munich, Germany, Sept 2018

Van Horn, G., Branson, S., Loarie, S., Belongie, S., Perona, P., "Lean Multiclass Crowdsourcing," IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), Salt Lake City, UT, June 2018

Van Horn, G., Mac Aodha, O., Song, Y., Cui, Y., Sun, C., Shepard, A., Adam, H., Perona, P., Belongie, S., "The iNaturalist Species Classification and Detection Dataset," IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), Salt Lake City, UT, June 2018

Branson, S., Van Horn, G., Perona, P., "Lean Crowdsourcing: Combining Humans and Machines in an Online System," IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), Honolulu, HI, July 2017

Patterson, G., Van Horn, G., Belongie, S., Perona, P., Hays, J., "Tropel: Crowdsourcing Detectors with Minimal Training," Conference on Human Computation & Crowdsourcing (HCOMP), San Diego, CA, November 2015

Van Horn, G., Branson, S., Farrell, R., Haber, S., Barry, J., Ipeirotis, P., Perona, P., Belongie, S., "Building a Bird Recognition App and Large Scale Dataset With Citizen Scientists: The Fine Print in Fine-Grained Dataset Collection," IEEE Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), Boston, MA, June, 2015

Branson, S., Van Horn, G., Belongie, S., Perona, P. "Bird Species Categorization Using Pose Normalized Deep Convolutional Nets." BMVC 2014

Wah C., Van Horn G., Branson S., Maji S., Perona P., Belongie S., "Similarity Comparisons for Interactive Fine-Grained Categorization," IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), Columbus, OH, June, 2014

Branson, S., Van Horn, G., Wah C., Perona P., Belongie S., "The ignorant leading the blind: a hybrid human-machine vision system for fine-grained categorization," Active and Interactive Methods in Computer Vision Special Issue, International Journal of Computer Vision (IJCV), May 2014

Patterson, G., Van Horn, G., Belongie, S., Perona, P., Hays, J., “Bootstrapping Fine-Grained Classifiers: Active Learning with a Crowd in the Loop,” NIPS Workshop on Crowdsourcing: Theory, Algorithms, and Applications, Tahoe, CA, Dec, 2013

## **Patents**

Perona, P., Van Horn G., Branson, S., “Systems and Methods for Online Annotation of Source Data Using Skill Estimation,” U.S. Patent No. 11,449,788. 20 Sep. 2022.