

Yann LeCun - Meta/Facebook Chief Scientific Officer & Silver Professor NYU

Yann LeCun is VP and Chief AI Scientist at Meta and Silver Professor at NYU affiliated with the Courant Institute, the Center for Data Science, the Center for Neural Science and the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department. He was the founding Director of Facebook AI Research and of the NYU Center for Data Science.

He received the Electrical Engineer Diploma from Ecole Supérieure d'Ingénieurs en Electrotechnique et Electronique (ESIEE), Paris in 1983, and a PhD in Computer Science from Sorbonne Université (then Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris) in 1987. After a postdoc at the University of Toronto in Geoffrey Hinton's group, he joined AT&T Bell Laboratories in Holmdel, NJ in 1988. He became head of the Image Processing Research Department at AT&T Labs-Research in 1996, and joined NYU as a professor in 2003, following a brief period as a Fellow of the NEC Research Institute in Princeton. From 2012 to 2014 he directed NYU's initiative in data science and became the founding director of the NYU Center for Data Science. He was named Director of AI Research at Facebook in late 2013 and retains a part-time position on the NYU faculty. He held a visiting professor chair at Collège de France in 2015-2016.

His current interests include AI, machine learning, computer perception, mobile robotics, and computational neuroscience. He has published over 190 technical papers and book chapters on these topics as well as on neural networks, handwriting recognition, image processing and compression, and on dedicated circuits and architectures for computer perception. The character recognition technology he developed at Bell Labs is used by several banks around the world to read checks and was reading between 10 and 20% of all the checks in the US in the early 2000s. His image compression technology, called DjVu, is used by hundreds of web sites and publishers and millions of users to access scanned documents on the Web. Since the mid 1980's he has been working on deep learning methods, particularly the convolutional network model, which is the basis of many products and services deployed by companies such as Facebook, Google, Microsoft, Baidu, IBM, NEC, AT&T and others for image and video understanding, document recognition, human-computer interaction, and speech recognition. L

eCun has been on the editorial board of IJCV, IEEE PAMI, and IEEE Trans. Neural Networks, was program chair of CVPR'06, and is chair of ICLR 2013 and 2014. He is co-chair of the program Learning in Machines and Brains of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research.

He is on the science advisory board of Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics since 2008, and the board of trustees of ICERM. He has advised many large and small companies about machine learning technology, and co-founded startups Elements Inc. and Museami. He was the lead faculty at NYU for the Moore-Sloan Data Science Environment, a \$36M initiative in collaboration with UC Berkeley and University of Washington to develop data-driven methods in the sciences.

He is on the New Jersey Inventor Hall of Fame. He is a member of the US National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the French Académie des Sciences. He is a Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, a Fellow of AAAI and AAAS, the recipient of the 2022 Princess of Asturias Award, the 2014 IEEE Neural Network Pioneer Award, the 2015 IEEE PAMI Distinguished Researcher Award, the 2016 Lovie Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Academy of Digital Arts and Science, the recipient of the 2018 Pender Award from the University of Pennsylvania, and Doctorates Honoris Causa from Instituto Politécnico Nacional de Mexico, from Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, and from Université Côte d'Azur. He was selected in Wired Magazine's "100 List of global influencers, 2016" and "Next List 2016 of 25 geniuses who are creating the future of business".

He is the recipient of the 2018 ACM Turing Award (with Geoffrey Hinton and Yoshua Bengio) for "conceptual and engineering breakthroughs that have made deep neural networks a critical component of computing"