

Makarand Tapaswi

Contact Info

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Current Post-Doctoral Fellow Oct16–present
Machine Learning Group, University of Toronto, Canada
Working on Vision and Language problems with [Sanja Fidler](#).

Education Ph.D. in Computer Science (Dr.-Ing.) with **summa cum laude** 🌐 Oct11–Jul16
Computer Vision for HCI, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
📖 *Thesis*: Story Understanding through Semantic Analysis and Automatic Alignment of Text and Video

M.Sc. in Information and Communication Technologies 🌐 Sep09–Sep11
Erasmus Mundus Program (UPC-Barcelona and KIT-Karlsruhe)
📖 *Thesis*: A Global Model for Person Identification in TV Series
Overall Grade: 1.1 / 5 **with distinction** (German scale, 1.0 is best)

Bachelor of Technology in Electronics and Communication Engg. Aug05–Apr09
National Institute of Technology Karnataka, Surathkal, India
📖 *Thesis*: Compressive Sampling for Video Compression and Pattern Recognition
Many course-projects applying the theoretical knowledge
Overall Grade: 9.09 / 10

Additional Research Experience **Internship** Prof. Fidler and Prof. Urtasun, Univ. of Toronto, Canada. 🌐 Sep15–Nov15

- Created benchmark for Question-Answering on Movie stories
- Analysis and extension of Memory Networks

Internship Prof. Zisserman, Univ. of Oxford, UK. 🌐 Apr13–Jul13

- Face clustering in TV series based on video-editing cues
- Analyzed various clustering paradigms

Research Intern Microsoft Research, Bangalore, India. 🌐 Apr08–Nov08

- Face and Speaker Recognition for User Authentication Systems
- Explored ideas for fusion via generation of a user *identity* matrix

Selected Honors and Achievements

NVIDIA AI Pioneer Award	2018
Research cryptogrant by Toronto AI	2018
Completed PhD with <i>summa cum laude</i>	2016
Research Travel Grant (€4,900) to visit U. of Toronto, KHYS, KIT	2015
Project funding (€15,000) to pursue dream project for young scientists, FYS, KIT	2012
EC Erasmus Mundus Scholarship (€42,000) for M.Sc.	2009–11
Robert Bosch Best Project Award for the Bachelor Thesis	2009

Selected Publications

- P. Vicol, **M. Tapaswi**, L. Castrejon and S. Fidler. MovieGraphs: Towards Understanding Human-Centric Situations from Videos. *CVPR*, Jun 2018. 🌐
- **M. Tapaswi**, Y. Zhu, R. Stiefelhamen, A. Torralba, R. Urtasun and S. Fidler. MovieQA: Understanding Stories in Movies through Question-Answering. *CVPR*, Jun 2016. 🌐
- **M. Tapaswi**, M. Bäuml and R. Stiefelhamen. Book2Movie: Aligning Video scenes with Book chapters. *CVPR*, Jun 2015. 🌐
- **M. Tapaswi**, M. Bäuml and R. Stiefelhamen. Aligning Plot Synopses to Videos for Story-based Retrieval. *IJMIR* 4 (1), pp. 3-16, 2015. 🌐