

Atakan Topaloğlu

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Education

ETH Zürich | Zürich

September 2025 – Expected Graduation: June 2027

MSc. in Information Technology and Electrical Engineering

Koç University | Istanbul

September 2021 – June 2025

BSc. in Electrical and Electronics Engineering,

GPA: 3.99/4.00, Department Rank: 2

Awarded [IEEE Signal Processing Society Scholarship 2024](#) (first ever recipient from a Turkish University)

Research Experience

ETH Zürich | Research Assistant, Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing Lab

September 2025 – Present

• Recruited as RA with the start of my MSc on fine-tuning a 3D point cloud foundation model to learn robust representations from large-scale forest point cloud data for remote sensing tasks. (*Supervisor: Prof. Konrad Schindler*)

Google & Technical University of Munich | Research Collaborator

March 2025 – September 2025

• Set a new state-of-the-art on sparse-view Gaussian Splatting. We grounded generative priors with a zero-shot, MVS-based uncertainty oracle, using VGGT global attention maps to filter generative artifacts.

• Initiated and coordinated the Google-TUM-Koç collaboration, from authoring the initial proposal to submission. (*First Author, WACV 2026 Submission; Supervisors: Federico Tombari, Michael Niemeyer - Google*)

Koç University | KUIS AI Undergraduate Researcher

October 2024 – June 2025

• Won the ‘Best Final Project’ award for our work in efficient single-image-super-resolution (SISR) and submitted a first-co-author paper to ICIPW’25 on difficulty-aware SISR evaluation. (*Supervisor: Prof. Murat Tekalp*)

Technical University of Munich | Undergraduate Summer Researcher

July 2024 – September 2024

• Repurposed a Meta AI audio codec to compress vibrotactile data, achieving real-time performance on a single CPU core while slightly surpassing SOTA in quality (PSNR, ST-SIM) for high compression ratios (>30x).

• Proposed and designed experiments for a novel spatial masking approach to enhance the Multi-Channel Vibrotactile Codec, later adopted by the team (*Supervisor: Prof. Eckehard Steinbach; Erasmus+ Internship*).

Work Experience

Siemens | Part-Time R&D Working Student

August 2023 – July 2025

• Led the development of a 3D Digital Twin PoC using Gaussian Splatting, redesigning the data processing pipeline to cut memory consumption by 83%, enabling capture from smartphone cameras, eliminating need for specialized equipment.

• Developed a wavelet-based SVM classifier to identify defects in A-Scan ultrasound data for non-destructive wind turbine testing. Secured a ~\$20k industrial ultrasound kit for trial at no cost, resolving a 4-month sourcing delay.

• Co-led the AI Initiative by moderating meetings with the upper management and division representatives to increase AI competence and drive novel use-cases. Centralized and communicated AI trainings, communities, and use-case libraries.

• Initiated the first inner-source code initiative in the region by developing, releasing, documenting and maintaining an interactive YAML Configuration Editor. Presented a seminar on the project to over 100 colleagues.

Koç University | Teaching Assistant

February 2023 – July 2023, February 2024 – July 2024

• TA for Signals and Systems & DSP; received commendation from faculty for outstanding performance.

Siemens | Part-Time Quality Management Working Student

August 2022 – August 2023

• Received EU-level recognition for work on initiatives to enhance software productivity through Power BI dashboards and an automated onboarding pipeline. Prepared executive-level Management & Strategy Review presentations.

Skills

Programming Languages: Python, C++, Julia, JavaScript, MATLAB, SQL

Frameworks & Tools: PyTorch, CUDA, AWS, ONNX, Docker, COLMAP, Unity, Meshlab, CloudCompare, Git

Languages (Spoken): German (Intermediate), English (Advanced, TOEFL: 119/120), Turkish (Native)