

KARNIK RAM

🌐 karnikram.info

✉ karnikr@andrew.cmu.edu

🔗 [karnikram](#)

EDUCATION	<p>International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad 2018 - 2021 M.S. by Research in Computer Science & Engineering Thesis: Robust plane-based visual-inertial odometry for dynamic environments GPA: 9.50/10</p> <p>Anna University, SSN College of Engineering, Chennai 2013 - 2017 B.Eng. in Electronics & Communication Engineering GPA: 7.20/10</p>
PUBLICATIONS	<p>RP-VIO: Robust Plane-based Visual-Inertial Odometry for Dynamic Environments 📄 Karnik Ram, Chaitanya Kharyal, Sudarshan S. Harithas, K. Madhava Krishna <i>International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), 2021</i></p> <p>Learnable Spatio-Temporal Map Embeddings for Deep Inertial Localization 📄 Dennis Melamed, Karnik Ram, Vivek Roy, Kris Kitani <i>International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), 2022</i></p> <p>CalibNet: Geometrically-Supervised LiDAR-Camera Extrinsic Calibration using 3D Spatial Transformer Networks 📄 Ganesh Iyer, Karnik Ram, J. Krishna Murthy, K. Madhava Krishna <i>International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), 2018</i></p> <p>INFER: Intermediate Representations for Future Prediction 📄 Shashank Srikanth, Junaaid Ahmed Ansari, Karnik Ram, Sarthak Sharma, J. Krishna Murthy, K. Madhava Krishna <i>International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), 2019</i></p> <p>PathFinder: Designing a Map-less Navigation Robot for Blind People in Unfamiliar Buildings Masaki Kuribayashi, Tatsuya Ishihara, Daisuke Sato, Jayakorn Vongkulbhisal, Karnik Ram, Seita Kayukawa, Hironobu Takagi, Shigeo Morishima, Chieko Asakawa <i>CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, 2023 (Under review)</i></p>
WORK EXPERIENCE	<p>Carnegie Mellon University Oct 2022 - Present <i>Research Associate, Robotics Institute</i> Advisor: Prof. Srinivasa Narasimhan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Working with programmable light curtains (PLC), a novel controllable depth sensor.- Working on using PLC for generating dynamic safety envelopes and active robot perception. <p>Carnegie Mellon University Aug 2021 - Oct 2022 <i>Research Associate, Robotics Institute</i> Advisor: Prof. Kris Kitani</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Worked on a low-drift inertial odometry algorithm using map prior information (IROS '22).- Implemented a camera-less localization algorithm on a smartphone for indoor navigation.- Worked on a map-less navigation robot for assisting the visually impaired. <p>International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad Aug 2018 - Aug 2021 <i>Graduate Research Student, Robotics Research Center</i> Advisor: Prof. K. Madhava Krishna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Developed a plane-based monocular visual-inertial odometry algorithm and a dataset for dynamic environments (IROS '21).- Worked on trajectory prediction using intermediate semantic representations (IROS '19).

Google Summer of Code

Student Developer, Mobile Robot Programming Toolkit

Summer 2018

- Developed a GUI app for the extrinsic calibration of depth sensors.
- Implemented calibration algorithms based on plane and line matching.

International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad

Research Intern, Robotics Research Center

May 2017 - April 2018

Advisor: Prof. K. Madhava Krishna, J. Krishna Murthy

- Worked on a deep network with geometric supervision for target-less LiDAR-camera extrinsic calibration (IROS '18).
- Implemented a target-based LiDAR-camera extrinsic calibration algorithm.

RELEVANT COURSEWORK	<i>Graduate:</i> Mobile Robotics, Computer Vision, Machine Learning, Topics in Applied Optimization. <i>Undergraduate:</i> Robotics & Automation, Digital Image Processing, OOP & Data Structures, Computer Architecture, Probability & Random Processes, Embedded & Real Time Systems
ADDITIONAL COURSES	ETH Robotics Summer School , ETH Zürich ☞ July 2019 2-week summer school on autonomous ground robot navigation with talks, hands-on lectures and exercises, and a competition. 53 selected participants from 15 countries. Awarded full travel grant. Committee: Cesar Cadena, Marco Hutter
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	CSE 483 Mobile Robotics ☞ Fall 2019 <i>International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad</i> Designed five new assignments and exams along with regular responsibilities as head teaching assistant with Prof. K. Madhava Krishna. 3D Computer Vision Workshop Feb 2020 <i>International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad</i> Instructor for the multiple view geometry tutorial session for a large professional audience.
SELECTED PROJECTS	Smartphone-based Indoor Navigation - Implemented a real-time deep IMU and BLE based localization system on a smartphone. Janitorial Mobile Robot - Implemented indoor navigation on a mobile robot for pick-and-place janitorial tasks. Automated Stock-counting Quadcopter - Implemented on-board navigation on a custom-built drone using optical-flow based odometry.
AWARDS	- Best Senior Year Project , ECE Department, SSN-CE 2017 - Top 2 out of 136 teams in the ARTPARK Robotics Challenge, IISc 2022 - First place , inter-college image processing based robotics event, Anna University 2016 - Top 10 out of 144 teams in the “Apps for Chennai Challenge” 2015 - SSN Trust Funding for Student Projects, SSN-CE 2014-15
SERVICES	- Lab Systems Administrator for the compute cluster at RRC, IIIT Hyderabad 2020-21 - Served as a reviewer in the SLAM track for IROS 2021, 2022 - Served as a co-chair for the VI-SLAM session at IROS 2021 - Conceived, developed, and maintained The SSN App , the official Android app of SSN-CE 2014-17
TECHNICAL SKILLS	<i>Tools & Libraries:</i> OpenCV, ROS, PyTorch, Ceres Solver, Eigen, Git Familiar: iOS, Qt, Android <i>Programming Languages:</i> C++, Python Familiar: Swift, Java