

Kashyap Chitta

Doctoral Researcher

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Education

2019 – Now	University of Tübingen, Germany <i>PhD in Computer Science; Autonomous Vision Group</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Advisor:</i> Prof. Andreas Geiger• <i>Scholarship:</i> International Max Planck Research School for Intelligent Systems (IMPRS-IS)• <i>Tentative Thesis Title:</i> Driving with Attention• <i>Research Interests:</i> Imitation Learning, Autonomous Driving, Data-driven Simulation, Model-based Reinforcement Learning, Offline Reinforcement Learning, Attention-based Architectures
2017 – 2018	Carnegie Mellon University, USA <i>Master of Science in Computer Vision</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Advisor:</i> Prof. Martial Hebert• <i>Thesis project:</i> Exploiting Synthetic Data for Street Scene Segmentation• <i>GPA:</i> 4.15/4.33• <i>Selected courses:</i> Visual Learning and Recognition, Deep Reinforcement Learning, Geometry Based Methods in Vision, Statistical Techniques in Robotics
2013 – 2017	RV College of Engineering, India <i>Bachelor of Engineering in Electronics and Communication</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Thesis project:</i> Monocular Visual SLAM with a Rotating Mirror• <i>GPA:</i> 9.11/10.0

Internships

Jan 2019 – Aug 2019	NVIDIA, Santa Clara, USA <i>Deep Learning Intern; AI Infrastructure</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mentor:</i> Dr. José M. Álvarez• <i>Role:</i> Research and development of an automatic dataset curation engine for the internal MagLev AI training and inference infrastructure, involving collaborations across multiple groups, which resulted in two publications.
May 2018 – Aug 2018	NVIDIA, Santa Clara, USA <i>Software Intern; AI Infrastructure</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mentors:</i> Dr. José M. Álvarez, Dr. Adam Lesnikowski• <i>Role:</i> Research on approximating Bayesian Neural Networks for Active Learning which resulted in a publication, and was subsequently incorporated into the data annotation platform for the autonomous vehicles group.
Jun 2016 – Jul 2016	Tata Consultancy Services, Bangalore, India <i>Research Intern; Nozomi Embedded Innovation Laboratory</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mentor:</i> Dr. Apurba Das• <i>Role:</i> Developed a console application for facial expression analysis from live video, incorporated as part of a driver mood detection module in the internal advanced driver-assistance system software.

Jun 2015 –
Jul 2015

Indian Space Research Organization, Bangalore, India

Project Trainee; Laboratory for Electro-Optics Systems

- *Mentor:* Mr. V.V. Ramana Reddy
- *Role:* Designed, developed and calibrated a prototype photometer for stereoscopic camera emergency shutter control on the *Chandrayaan-II* moon rover.

Publications

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| 2022 | [1] K. Chitta , A. Prakash, B. Jaeger, Z. Yu, K. Renz, and A. Geiger, “Transfuser: Imitation with transformer-based sensor fusion for autonomous driving,” <i>Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence (T-PAMI)</i> , 2022. |
| | [2] N. Hanselmann, K. Renz, K. Chitta , A. Bhattacharyya, and A. Geiger, “King: Generating safety-critical driving scenarios for robust imitation via kinematics gradients,” in <i>European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV)</i> , 2022. |
| | [3] K. Renz, K. Chitta , O.-B. Mercea, A. S. Koepke, Z. Akata, and A. Geiger, “Plant: Explainable planning transformers via object-level representations,” in <i>Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL)</i> , 2022. |
| 2021 | [4] K. Chitta , J. M. Alvarez, E. Haussmann, and C. Farabet, “Training data subset search with ensemble active learning,” <i>Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems (T-ITS)</i> , 2021. |
| | [5] K. Chitta , A. Prakash, and A. Geiger, “Neat: Neural attention fields for end-to-end autonomous driving,” in <i>International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV)</i> , 2021. |
| | [6] A. Prakash, K. Chitta , and A. Geiger, “Multi-modal fusion transformer for end-to-end autonomous driving,” in <i>Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR)</i> , 2021. |
| | [7] A. Sauer, K. Chitta , J. Muller, and A. Geiger, “Projected gans converge faster,” in <i>Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)</i> , 2021. |
| | [8] M. A. Weis, K. Chitta , Y. Sharma, W. Brendel, M. Bethge, A. Geiger, and A. S. Ecker, “Benchmarking unsupervised object representations for video sequences,” <i>Journal of Machine Learning Research (JMLR)</i> , 2021. |
| 2020 | [9] A. Behl, K. Chitta , A. Prakash, E. Ohn-Bar, and A. Geiger, “Label efficient visual abstractions for autonomous driving,” in <i>International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)</i> , 2020. |
| | [10] K. Chitta , J. M. Alvarez, and M. Hebert, “Quadtree generating networks: Efficient hierarchical scene parsing with sparse convolutions,” in <i>Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision (WACV)</i> , 2020. |
| | [11] E. Haussmann, M. Fenzi, K. Chitta , J. Ivanecky, H. Xu, D. Roy, A. Mittel, N. Koumchatzky, C. Farabet, and J. M. Alvarez, “Scalable active learning for object detection,” in <i>Intelligent Vehicles Symposium (IV)</i> , 2020. |
| | [12] E. Ohn-Bar, A. Prakash, A. Behl, K. Chitta , and A. Geiger, “Learning situational driving,” in <i>Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR)</i> , 2020. |
| | [13] A. Prakash, A. Behl, E. Ohn-Bar, K. Chitta , and A. Geiger, “Exploring data aggregation in policy learning for vision-based urban autonomous driving,” in <i>Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR)</i> , 2020. |

Teaching and Supervision

2019 – Now

University of Tübingen, Germany

Teaching Assistant

- *Apr 2022 – Jul 2022:* Autonomous Vision (seminar, 6 teams of 2 students)
- *Apr 2021 – Jul 2021:* Computer Vision (lecture, 150 students)
- *Oct 2019 – Feb 2020:* Self-Driving Cars (lecture, 80 students)

Master Thesis Advisor

- Jan 2023 – Jun 2023: Daniel Dauner (Thesis: Imitation Learning for the nuPlan Challenge)
- Nov 2022 – Apr 2023: Siddharth Ramrakhiani (Thesis: Vision Transformers for Bird's Eye View Driving Representations)
- Nov 2022 – Apr 2023: Tim Schreier (Thesis: Evaluating Vehicle Detection using Planning Transformers)
- Nov 2022 – Apr 2023: Luis Winckelmann (Thesis: LiDAR-based Detection for Planning Transformers)
- Sep 2022 – Feb 2023: Jovan Cicvaric (Thesis: Dataset Distillation for Autonomous Driving)
- Mar 2021 – Sep 2021: Bernhard Jaeger (Thesis: Expert Drivers for Autonomous Driving)
- Oct 2020 – Apr 2021: Micha Schilling (Thesis: Visual Abstractions for Autonomous Driving)

Research Project Advisor

- Apr 2022 – Sep 2022: Alexander Braun and Luis Winckelmann (Project: Infraction Visualization and Clustering for Better Agent Evaluation in CARLA)
- Sep 2021 – Dec 2021: Pavan Teja Varigonda (Project: Learning to Simulate for Out-Of-Distribution Semantic Segmentation)

Awards

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| 2021 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our self-driving approach TransFuser ranked second on the 2021 CARLA Autonomous Driving Challenge, out of 100+ participating teams.• Our new computer vision lecture won the 2021 CS teaching award at the University of Tübingen. |
| 2020 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our self-driving approach NEAT ranked second on the 2020 CARLA Autonomous Driving Challenge, out of 45 participating teams. |

Academic Activities

Reviewing

- *Journal Reviewer*: T-PAMI, IJCV, T-ITS, T-IV
- *Conference Reviewer*: CVPR, ECCV, ICRA, IROS, IV

Invited Talks

- Imitation with Transformer-based Sensor Fusion for Autonomous Driving. *University of Toronto AI in Robotics Seminar (Virtual)*, 28.03.2022.
- Imitation with Transformer-based Sensor Fusion. *NeurIPS Workshop on Machine Learning for Autonomous Driving (Virtual)*, 13.12.2021.

References

Prof. Andreas Geiger. Professor, Dept. of Computer Science, University of Tübingen.	andreas.geiger@tue.mpg.de
Dr. José M. Álvarez. Senior Research Scientist, NVIDIA.	josea@nvidia.com
Prof. Eshed Ohn-Bar. Professor, Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Boston University.	eohnbar@bu.edu
Prof. Martial Hebert. Dean, School of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University.	hebert@cs.cmu.edu