

EKTA PRASHNANI

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EDUCATION

- present* Doctor of Philosophy, Electrical and Computer Engineering
University of California, Santa Barbara
Current research: perceptual consistency of computer vision algorithms
Advisor: Dr. Pradeep Sen, Associate Professor at UCSB
- JUNE 2015 Master of Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering
University of California, Santa Barbara
GPA: 3.84/4
- AUG 2013 Bachelor of Technology, Electrical Engineering, with
a minor in Computer Science
Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar
GPA: 8.44/10
Capstone project: Light fields for multi-perspective stereoscopy
Advisor: Nikhil Balram, Guest Professor at IIT Gandhinagar & Senior Director of
Engineering for AR/VR at Google

PUBLICATIONS

- Ekta Prashnani*, Herbert Cai*, Yasamin Mostofi and Pradeep Sen, "PieAPP: Perceptual Image-Error Assessment through Pairwise Preference", *Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, 2018.
- Ekta Prashnani, Maneli Noorkami, Daniel Vaquero and Pradeep Sen, "A phase-based approach for animating images using video examples", *Computer Graphics Forum*, August 2016, Volume 36, Issue 6.

INTERNSHIPS

- JUNE 2016 - Low-light image denoising using flash photography
SEPT 2016 Adobe Research, San Jose, California
Advisors: Dr. Sunil Hadap, Principal Scientist and Dr. Kalyan Sunkavalli, Research Scientist, Creative Intelligence Lab
Explored the use of flash-based relighting of images for denoising low-light versions of the same scenes.
- JUNE 2015 - 3D Scene understanding for correcting geometric distortions (*Patent Granted*)
SEPT 2015 Ricoh Innovations Corp., Menlo Park, California
Advisors: Dr. Silvio Savarese, Associate Professor at Stanford University; Dr. Kathrin Berkner, Director of California R&D; and Dr. Jorge Moraleda, Principal Research Scientist
Developed a novel algorithm to utilize prior knowledge obtained from scene understanding to rectify single images.
- JUNE 2014 - Image animation using video examples (*Patent Pending*)
SEPT 2014 Nokia Technologies, Sunnyvale, California
Advisors: Dr. Maneli Noorkami, Senior Researcher and Dr. Daniel Vaquero, Senior Researcher
Developed a novel phase-based approach to animate natural images by imparting gentle motion to objects using a similar video example provided by the user.

MAY 2012 - Text detection for visual search technology (*Patent Granted*)
AUG 2012 Ricoh Innovations Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru, India
Advisor: Dr. Kaushik Pavani, Research Scientist
Developed a text detection method for natural images, invariant to scale, rotation, translation and perspective distortion.

PATENTS

FEB 2018 Single Image Rectification
Inventors: Jorge Moraleda, Ekta Prashnani, Michael J. Gormish, Kathrin Berkner, Silvio Savarese
Patent number: US9904990B2

JULY 2016 Methods and apparatus for processing motion information images (*pending*)
Inventors: Ekta Prashnani, Maneli Noorkami, Daniel Andre Vaquero
Publication number: WO2016108847A1

MAY 2015 Local Scale, Rotation and Position Invariant Word Detection for Optical Character Recognition
Inventors: Sri-Kaushik Pavani, Ekta Prashnani
Patent number: US9025877B2

AWARDS

MAY 2018 Outstanding Teaching Assistant (Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engg. at UCSB)
APR 2018 Google Travel Grant for CVPR2018
DEC 2017 Semi-finalist for Qualcomm Innovation Fellowship
SEPT 2017 AI Grant Fellowship
DEC 2015 Harold Frank scholarship at UCSB
AUG 2013 Dean's list for academic excellence at IIT Gandhinagar

TEACHING

JULY 2017 - Teaching assistant: capstone projects (electrical engineering)
MAY 2018 Provided technical mentorship to senior undergraduate capstone projects, particularly for computer vision, machine learning and signal processing (a team I mentored for medical imaging was chosen to present at UCSB's Engineering Design Expo, 2018).

JULY 2017 - Research mentor for high school students (UCSB Research Mentorship Program)
AUG 2017 Taught concepts of computer vision and machine learning to four high school seniors; designed and mentored their summer research projects involving deep learning for object detection and image restoration.

SEPT 2016 - Teaching assistant: capstone projects (electrical engineering)
MAY 2017 Provided technical mentorship to senior undergraduate capstone projects in the field of computer vision and machine learning (one team secured the *Best Technical Capstone project* award for their project on image super-resolution).

TECHNICAL SKILLS

C++, MATLAB, Python, PyTorch, Caffe, OpenCV, Tensorflow