

# Burak Uzkent

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CONTACT INFORMATION	<b>Work Address</b> 5000 Executive Parkway San Ramon, CA, USA 94588	<b>Phone:</b> 585-301-0989 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:bxu2522@rit.edu">bxu2522@rit.edu</a> <b>Web:</b> <a href="https://buzkent86.github.io/">https://buzkent86.github.io/</a>
NATIONALITY	Turkish	
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Single and Multiple Target Tracking, Object Detection, Image Segmentation, Object Classification, Deep Learning, Audio Signal Processing	
EDUCATION	<b>Rochester Institute of Technology</b> , Rochester, NY, USA  Ph.D., Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, August 2011 - June 2016 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thesis Topic: <i>Aerial visual vehicle detection and tracking using an adaptive, multi-modal sensor</i></li><li>• Advisor: Matthew J. Hoffman, Ph.D.</li><li>• Co-advisor: Anthony Vodacek, Ph.D.</li></ul> <b>University of Bridgeport</b> , Bridgeport, CT, USA  M.S., Electrical Engineering, August 2009 - May 2011 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thesis Topic: <i>Environmental non-speech sound classification with a new set of time-domain features</i></li><li>• Advisor: Buket D. Barkana, Ph.D.</li></ul> <b>Eskisehir Osmangazi University</b> , Eskisehir, Turkey  B.S., Electrical and Electronics Engineering, September 2004 - May 2009 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thesis Topic: <i>Autonomous parallel parking of non-holonomic vehicles</i></li><li>• Advisor: Osman Parlaktuna, Ph.D.</li></ul>	
WORK EXPERIENCE	<b>Computer Vision Research Engineer</b> August 2016 - Autel Robotics, San Ramon, CA Manager: Youngwoo Seo, Ph.D.  Working on a long-term target following system that will be deployed in the next generation drones. This work involves designing an online learning method to track a single object from a monocular camera at real-time. Other part of my work includes implementing and testing the tracking algorithm on an embedded platform.  <b>Computer Vision Algorithm Engineer Intern</b> November 2015 - May 2016 Huawei R&D, Bridgewater, NJ Supervisor: Dong-Qing Zhang, Ph.D.  My internship work was two-folds. First, I designed a subspace learning method to detect strangers in a family photo album using face-only and contextual features learned by fine-tuned Deep Convolutional Neural Networks. In the second step, I designed a probabilistic graph-based approach to assign semantic roles to individuals detected to be family members in the first step.	
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	<b>Graduate Research Assistant</b> April 2012 - June 2016 Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, Rochester Institute of Technology Supervisor: Matthew J. Hoffman, Ph.D.	

Conducted research on aerial vehicle detection and tracking inspired by an adaptive, multi-modal sensor. This work involves developing computer vision and machine learning methods to detect, associate and track ground vehicles in an aerial video. The unique challenges posed by medium-to-high altitude aerial tracking is addressed by efficient use of rich hyperspectral data acquired by an adaptive hyperspectral sensor.

**Graduate Research Assistant**

May 2014 - June 2014

Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science,  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
Supervisor: Elizabeth Cherry, Ph.D.

Performed research on 3-D MRI cardiac segmentation. A probabilistic graph-based approach has been proposed to segment the full tissue volume of the heart. A distance term has been incorporated to improve segmentation at the faint boundaries of the heart in MRI slices. The full tissue volume of the heart is required to fully understand the underlying mechanics behind the ventricular fibrillation.

**Graduate Research Assistant**

August 2009 - May 2011

Electrical Engineering Department,  
University of Bridgeport  
Supervisor: Buket D. Barkana, Ph.D.

Conducted research on classifying environmental sounds to classify abnormal and normal events. A new, pitch range-based features were proposed to improve the classification. On the classification end, a non-linear Support Vector Machine and Radial Basis Function Neural Network were trained to classify the test data. The results indicate that the new set of low dimensional features leads to higher accuracy rates when they are combined with the conventional Mel-Cepstrum Frequency Coefficients features.

**Graduate Research Assistant**

January 2009 - May 2009

Electrical and Electronics Engineering Department,  
Eskisehir Osmangazi University  
Supervisor: Osman Parlaktuna, Ph.D.

Conducted research on autonomous parallel parking of non-holonomic vehicles. Dimensions of a parking lot is sensed by the ultrasonic sensors mounted on a vehicle. Based on the dimensions of a parking lot, parallel parking is accomplished by a few or many repetitions of circular movements.

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

January 2015 - May 2015

Pattern Recognition, Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science,  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
Instructor: John Kerekes, Ph.D.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

August 2011 - May 2012

Programming for Imaging Science, Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
Instructor: Jeff Pelz, Ph.D.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

August 2010 - May 2011

Digital Image Processing, Audio Signal Processing, Speech Signal Processing  
Electrical Engineering Department, University of Bridgeport  
Instructor: Buket D. Barkana, Ph.D.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

January 2009 - May 2009

Non-linear Control Systems, Electrical and Electronics Engineering Department,  
Eskisehir Osmangazi University  
Instructor: Osman Parlaktuna, Ph.D.

1. **B. Uzkent**, M. J. Hoffman, A. Vodacek, "Integrating Hyperspectral Likelihoods in a Multi-dimensional Assignment Algorithm for Aerial Vehicle Tracking", *Journal of Selected Topics in Remote Sensing and Observation, IEEE*, Volume:9(9) : 4325-4333, May 2016.
2. **B. Uzkent**, M. J. Hoffman, A. Vodacek, Bin Chen, "Feature Matching with an Adaptive Optical Sensor in a Ground Target Tracking System", *IEEE Sensors Journal*, Volume:15(1) : 510-519, January 2015.
3. **B. Uzkent**, B.D. Barkana, H. Cevikalp, "Non-speech environmental sound classification using SVMs with a new set of features", *International Journal of Innovative Computing, Information and Control*, Volume:8(5) : 3511-3524, May 2012.
4. B.D. Barkana, **B. Uzkent**, I. Saricicek, "Normal and abnormal non-speech audio event detection using MFCC and PR-based feature sets", *Advanced Materials Research*, Volume:601, pp: 200-208, December 2012.
5. B.D. Barkana, **B. Uzkent**, I. Saricicek, "Environmental noise classifier using a new set of feature parameters based on pitch range", *Applied Acoustics*, Volume:72(11) : 841-848, November 2011.
6. **B. Uzkent**, B.D. Barkana, J. Yang, "Automatic environmental noise source classification model using fuzzy logic", *Expert Systems with Applications*, Volume:38(7) : 8751-8755, July 2011.

1. **B. Uzkent**, M. J. Hoffman, A. Vodacek, "Real-time Target Detection and Tracking in Aerial Video using Hyperspectral Features", *In Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Workshops*, pp:36-44. June 2016.
2. **B. Uzkent**, M. J. Hoffman, A. Vodacek, "Spectral Validation of Measurements in a Vehicle Tracking DDDAS", *International Conference on Computational Science*, Volume:51, pp:2493:2502, June 2015.
3. **B. Uzkent**, M. J. Hoffman, A. Vodacek, "Background Image Understanding and Adaptive Imaging for Vehicle Tracking", *Proc. SPIE 9460, Airborne Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance (ISR) Systems and Applications XII*, pp:94600F-94600F-7, April 2015.
4. **B. Uzkent**, M. J. Hoffman, A. Vodacek, "Efficient Integration of Spectral Features for Vehicle Tracking utilizing an Adaptive Sensor", *Proc. SPIE 9407, Video Surveillance and Transportation Imaging Applications*, pp:940707-940707-10, February 2015.
5. **B. Uzkent**, M. J. Hoffman, E. Cherry, N. Cahill, "3-D MRI Cardiac Segmentation using Graph Cuts", *IEEE Western NY Image Processing Workshop*, pp:47-51, Rochester, NY, November 2014.
6. **B. Uzkent**, M. J. Hoffman, A. Vodacek, J. P. Kerekes, B. Chen, "Feature matching and adaptive prediction models in an object tracking DDDAS", *Procedia Computer Science*, Volume:18, pp:1939-1948, 2013.
7. **B. Uzkent**, B.D. Barkana, "Pitch range-based feature extraction for audio surveillance systems", *Information Technology: New Generations (ITNG), 2011 Eighth International Conference (IEEE)*, pp:476-480, April 11-13, 2011.
8. B.D. Barkana, I. Saricicek, **B. Uzkent**, "Performances of the ANN, SVM, and K-means clustering methods recognizing different environmental sounds", *24th European Conference on Operational Research*, Lisbon, Portugal, July 11-14, 2010.
9. **B. Uzkent**, O. Parlaktuna, "Autonomous parallel parking of non-holonomic vehicles", *13th National Conference in Middle East Technical University*, Ankara, Turkey, 2009.

PAPERS IN  
PREPARATION

1. **B. UzKent**, A. Rangnekar, M. J. Hoffman, A. Vodacek, "Robust Target Detection on Aerial Platform using Adaptive Likelihood Map Fusion", *Computer Vision and Image Understanding, Elsevier*.

AWARDS

- RIT Graduate Scholarship award September 2011 - June 2016
- University of Bridgeport Dean's Scholarship award August 2009 - May 2011
- Outstanding student award May 2011
- Fulbright opportunity grant August 2009
- Erasmus exchange student September 2007 - January 2008

HARDWARE AND  
SOFTWARE SKILLS

- C/C++, Python, OpenCV, MATLAB, Linux Shell Scripting, IDL/ENVI, LaTeX, Git, HTML

LANGUAGE  
PROFICIENCY

- English (Advanced), German (Beginner), Turkish (Native)

REFERENCES

- Matthew J. Hoffman, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor in the Mathematical Sciences Department  
Rochester Institute of Technology E-mail: mjhsma@rit.edu
- Anthony Vodacek, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor in the Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science  
Rochester Institute of Technology E-mail: vodacek@cis.rit.edu
- Buket D. Barkana, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor in the Electrical Engineering Department  
University of Bridgeport E-mail: bbarkana@bridgeport.edu
- Youngwoo Seo, Ph.D.  
Engineering Manager  
Autel Robotics USA E-mail: yseo@autelrobotics.com