Abhinay **Valada**

PROFESSOR & DIRECTOR OF ROBOT LEARNING LAB

University of Freiburg · Department of Computer Science · Robot Learning Lab · Georges-Köhler-Allee 080 · 79110 Freiburg · Germany 🛘 (+49) 1573-2868955 | 💌 valada@cs.uni-freiburg.de | 🧥 http://rl.uni-freiburg.de | 📠 avalada | 🞓 GoogleScholar

Education _____

Ph.D. in Computer Science (Dr. rer. nat.)

UNIVERSITY OF FREIBURG — summa cum laude (with highest distinction)

Freiburg, Germany Aug. 2014 - Feb. 2019

Thesis: Discovering and Leveraging Deep Multimodal Structure for Reliable Robot Perception and Localization

Advisors: Prof. Dr. Wolfram Burgard, Prof. Dr. Dieter Fox

M.S. in Robotics Pittsburgh, USA

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY Jan. 2012 - Dec. 2013

Thesis: An Autonomous Robot for Manipulation and Mapping of NFT Installations

Advisors: Prof. Dr. George Kantor and Prof. Dr. Paul Scerri, Carnegie Mellon University, USA

B.Tech in Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering

Vellore, India

Jun. 2006 - Dec. 2010

Thesis: Design and Development of a Wireless Sensor Network System for Precision Agriculture Advisor: Prof. Dr. George Kantor, Carnegie Mellon University, USA

Academic & Industry Experience _

Full Professor (W3), Chair of Autonomous Intelligent Systems

Freiburg, Germany

University of Freiburg, Department of Computer Science, Robot Learning Lab

Aug. 2023 - Present

Assistant Professor (W1) of Robot Learning

Freiburg, Germany

University of Freiburg, Department of Computer Science, Robot Learning Lab

Dec. 2019 - July 2023

Postdoctoral Research Scientist

Freiburg, Germany

University of Freiburg, Department of Computer Science, Autonomous Intelligent Systems Lab

Mar. 2019 - Nov, 2019

Ph.D. Student and Research Associate

Freiburg, Germany Aug. 2014 - Feb. 2019

University of Freiburg, Department of Computer Science, Autonomous Intelligent Systems Lab

Co-founder & Director of Operations PLATYPUS LLC

Pittsburgh, USA Aug. 2012 - Aug. 2015

Systems Engineer

Pittsburgh, USA

NATIONAL ROBOTICS ENGINEERING CENTER

Jul. 2013 - Jul. 2014

Systems/Software Engineer

Pittsburgh, USA

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY, THE ROBOTICS INSTITUTE, FIELD ROBOTICS CENTER

Nov. 2011 - Jun. 2013

Pittsburgh, USA

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY, THE ROBOTICS INSTITUTE, FIELD ROBOTICS CENTER

Jan. 2010 - Oct. 2011

Research Assistant

Vellore, India

VIT UNIVERSITY

Aug. 2008 - Dec. 2009

Research Associate

Chennai India May. 2009 - Jul. 2009

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS

Bangalore, India

Research Intern

Research Scholar

Apr. 2008 - Jun. 2008

Honors & Awards

Honors

ABB Robotics

IROS Toshio Fukuda Young Professional Award or contributions to the advancement of robot learning 2024 IEEE Early Career Award in Robotics and Automation for contributions that have had a major impact in robotics 2023 Emmy Noether AI Fellow of the DFG - German Research Foundation 2021 Scholar of the European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems (ELLIS) Society 2020

MARCH 13, 2025 ABHINAV VALADA · CV

Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS) Pioneer for world's top early career researcher in robotics	2018
Awards	
Best Paper Award on Cognitive Robotics at IROS	2024
Best Student Paper Award Finalist at IROS	2024
Outstanding Workshop Presentation Award at IROS Workshop on Long-Term Perception for Autonomy	2024
Third place at the Future Prize (Zukunftspreis)	2024
Best Paper Award Honorable Mention IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters	2023
Best Paper Award at IROS 2022 Workshop on Mobile Manipulation and Embodied Intelligence	2022
NVIDIA Research Award for socially compliant autonomous robot navigation	2022
AutoSens Most Novel Research Award for amodal panoptic segmentation	2022
Second Place in the CVPR Embodied AI SoundSpaces Challenge	2022
Winner of the NeurIPS AI Driving Olympics - Panoptic Tacking Challenge	2021
Winner of the CVPR Embodied Al SoundSpaces Challenge	2021
AutoSens Silver 2020 Vision Award for inspiring progress throughout the vehicle perception ecosystem Finally for Young Engineer of the Year Award at AutoSens for demonstrating great achievement & leadership in ADAS	2020
Finalist for Young Engineer of the Year Award at AutoSens for demonstrating great achievement & leadership in ADAS Winner of the FCCV Palvet Vision Challenge Papartie Seggeontation	2020
Winner of the ECCV Robust Vision Challenge - Panoptic Segmentation Finalist for Course Circle D.D. Award for the Bost Polestics D.D. Thosis in Europe	2020 2020
Finalist for Georges Giralt PhD Award for the Best Robotics PhD Thesis in Europe Destart Conceptium Award at The International Symposium on Robotics Research (ISBR)	2020
Doctoral Consortium Award at The International Symposium on Robotics Research (ISRR) Chancellor's Scholarship at VIT University	2017
Chancettor's Scholarship at VIT University	2009
Funded Research Projects	
Robust Visual SLAM for Unstructured Environments	
Principal Investigator, funded by Honda R&D Co., LTD.	2024-2025
Collaborative Research Centre 1597 Small Data - Essentials For Few-Shot Learning	
Principal Investigator, funded by German Research Foundation (DFG)	2023-2027
Al-based System Architectures for Automated Driving	
Coordinator, funded by Robert Bosch GmbH, Lighthouse Collaboration	2023-2026
Zuse School ELIZA	
Principal Investigator, funded by Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)	2022-2027
Autonomous Robust Outdoor Robots	
Principal Investigator, funded by Baden-Württemberg Foundation	2023-2025
Robot Learning for Long-Horizon Mobile Manipulation	2020 2020
Principal Investigator, funded by Toyota Motor Europe	2023-2025
	2023-2023
Learning BEV Maps for Automated Driving	2022 2025
Principal Investigator, funded by QUALCOMM TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	2022-2025
Learning Multisensory Integration for Neural Circuits Modeling	
Principal Investigator, funded by Cluster of Excellence BrainLinks-BrainTools	2022-2023
Efficient Learning for Transferable Robot Autonomy in Human-Centered Env.	
Principal Investigator, funded by German Research Foundation (DFG), Emmy Noether AI Program	2022-2027
Responsible and Scalable Learning for Robots Assisting Humans	
Principal Investigator, funded by Carl Zeiss Foundation	2022-2028
Intelligent Scene Understanding of Operating Room Video Streams	
Principal Investigator, funded by Stryker Corporation	2021-2025
Embodied Cognitive Robotics	
Principal Investigator, funded by Eva Mayr-Stihl Foundation	2020-2022
Brain Controlled Service Robots	
Principal Investigator, funded by Cluster of Excellence BrainLinks-BrainTools	2020-2023
From Learning to Relearning Algorithmic Fairness in Socially-Aware Robot Navigation	
Principal Investigator, funded by Cluster of Excellence BrainLinks-BrainTools	2020-2022
Intelligent System for Autonomous Monitoring of Production Plants in Industry 4.0	
Principal Investigator, funded by Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)	2020-2022

Sensor Systems for Localization of Trapped Victims in Collapsed Infrastructure

Robust Localization Using Deep Landmark Features	
Principal Investigator, funded by European Commission H2020	2020-2023
Open Deep Learning Toolkit for Robotics	
Principal Investigator, funded by Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)	2020-2022

2017-2018

Nov. 2021

Sep. 2021 Jun. 2022

Mar. 2021

Jul. 2020

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Invited Talks_____

Plenary and Keynote Talks

Bosch Corporate Research, Renningen, DE

Toyota Research Institute, Los Altos, US

Robert Bosch, Heilbronn, DE

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Karlsruhe, DE

IROS Workshop on Open Deep Learning Toolkit for Robotics Prague, CZ

Co-Principal Investigator, funded by SAMSUNG GRO

IEEE IROS Workshop on Embodied Navigation to Movable Objects - Keynote Talk, Abu Dhabi, AE	Oct. 2024
IEEE ITSC Workshop on Vision and Language Oriented Representation - Keynote Talk, Edmonton, CA	Sep. 2024
11th International Conference on Signal Processing and Integrated Networks - Keynote Talk, New Delhi, IN	Mar. 2024
14th International Conference on Cloud Computing, Data Science & Engineering - Keynote Talk, New Delhi, IN	Jan. 2024
Bosch Distinguished Lecture on Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence - Keynote Talk, Renningen, DE	Aug. 2023
Edinburgh Center for Robotics and the Alan Turing Institute Symposium - Keynote Talk, Edinburgh, UK	Jun. 2023
IEEE IV Workshop on Bridging the Gap between Map-based and Map-less Driving - Keynote Talk, Anchorage, US	Jun. 2023
IEEE IV Workshop on Data Driven Intelligent Vehicle Applications - Keynote Talk, Anchorage, US	Jun. 2023
Robotics & Al Research Conference - Keynote Talk, Rome, IT	Mar. 2023
13th International Conference on Cloud Computing, Data Science & Engineering - Keynote Talk, New Delhi, IN	Jan. 2023
ECCV Workshop on Map-Based Localization for Autonomous Driving - Keynote Talk, Tel Aviv, IL	Oct. 2022
International Symposium on Robotics Research (ISRR) - Distinguished Speaker, Geneva, CH	Sep. 2022
IEEE Intelligent Vehicles Symposium Workshop on Beyond Supervised Learning - Keynote Talk, Aachen, DE	Jun. 2022
Robotics and Computer Science World Forum (RoboComp 2021) - Keynote Talk, Amsterdam, NL	Oct. 2021
3rd International Workshop on Data Driven Intelligent Vehicle Applications - Keynote Talk, Nagoya, JP	Jul. 2021
IEEE International Conference on Unmanned Systems (ICUS 2020) - Plenary Talk, Harbin, CN	Nov. 2020
AutoSens Conference - Keynote Talk, Brussels, BE	Jul. 2020
Other Invited Talks	
IEEE IROS Workshop on Interaction-aware Autonomous Systems - Abu Dhabi, AE	Oct. 2024
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ieee international Conference on Onmanned Systems (ICOS 2020) - Pienary Talk, Harbin, CN	1VOV. 2U2U
AutoSens Conference - Keynote Talk, Brussels, BE	Jul. 2020
Other Invited Talks	
IEEE IROS Workshop on Interaction-aware Autonomous Systems - Abu Dhabi, AE	Oct. 2024
Toyota TRACE Workshop Leuven, BE	Sep. 2024
Freiburg.ai Freiburg, DE	Aug. 2024
Halmstad University Halmstad, SE	Jun. 2024
Zebra Technologies AiLN Seminar London, UK	Feb. 2024
KION Group Research Series Online	Feb. 2024
Freiburg Robotics and Biology Conference Freiburg, DE	Nov. 2023
Freiburg-Oxford Workshop on Internal World Models in Animals, Humans, and AI Freiburg, DE	Nov. 2023
Summer School on Deep Learning for Autonomous Systems and Smart Cities, Aarhus, DK	May 2023
KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, SE	Nov. 2022
TU Delft, Delft, NL	Nov. 2022
Workshop on Embedded Optimization and Learning for Robotics and Mechatronics, Freiburg, DE	Oct. 2022
Summer School on Continuous Engineering and Deep Learning for Trustworthy Autonomous Sys., Thessaloniki, GR	Oct. 2022
Australian Centre for Field Robotics, Sydney, AU	Jun. 2022
TU Nuremberg, Nuremberg, DE	Jun. 2022
University of Bonn, Bonn, DE	May. 2022
Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, IT	Apr. 2022
Qualcomm Technologies, Online	Mar. 2022
TU Graz, Graz, AT	Jan. 2022
ICAR Workshop on Design, Learning, and Control for Safe Human-Robot Collaboration Ljubljana, SL	Dec. 2021
Universidad De Las Américas Puebla, Puebla, MX	Dec. 2021

Wayve, London, UK

Jul. 2020

Freiburg Center for Data Analysis and Modeling, University of Freiburg, Freiburg, DE	May 2020
Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, IT	Mar. 2020
Robert Bosch Center for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, Chennai, IN	Sep. 2018
Indo-German Workshop on Sensor Systems for Localization in Collapsed Infrastructure, New Delhi, IN	Sep. 2018
Field Robotics Center Seminar, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, US	Jul. 2018
NVIDIA GPU Technology Conference Europe, Amsterdam, NL	Sep. 2016
IEEE IROS Workshop on State Estimation and Terrain Perception, Daejeon, KR	Oct. 2016
Field Robotics Center Seminar, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, US	Jun. 2016
Field Robotics Center Seminar, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, US	Dec. 2013
International Conference of Agricultural Engineering, Valencia, ES	Jul. 2012
VIT Alumni Lecture, Vellore, IN	Jun. 2012
The Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai, IN	Jun. 2012
Field Robotics Center Seminar, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, US	Sep. 2010
IEEE Resonance, VIT University, Vellore, IN	Jul. 2008

Teaching Experience _____

Advanced Deep Learning - University of Freiburg, MSc, lecture	2024-Present
Artificial Intelligence - University of Freiburg, MSc, lecture	2024-Present
Machine Learning - University of Freiburg, MSc, lecture	2023-Present
Introduction to Mobile Robotics - University of Freiburg, MSc, lecture	2022-Present
Foundations of Deep Learning - University of Freiburg, MSc, lecture	2019-Present
Deep Learning Laboratory - University of Freiburg, MSc, laboratory	2018-Present
FreiCAR: Practical Autonomous Driving - University of Freiburg, MSc, laboratory	2020-Present
Learning from Limited Supervision - University of Freiburg, MSc, seminar	2022-Present
Robot Learning - University of Freiburg, MSc, seminar	2021-Present
Deep Learning for Autonomous Systems - University of Freiburg, MSc, seminar	2020
Self-Supervised Learning - University of Freiburg, MSc, seminar	2020
Deep Learning for Autonomous Driving - University of Freiburg, MSc, laboratory	2018
Robot Navigation - University of Freiburg, MSc, seminar	2015-2017
Robot Perception - University of Freiburg, MSc, seminar	2015

Advising and Mentoring

PhD Supervision (23 PhD Students)

Imen Mahdi	PhD	11/2024-Present
Jiarong Wei	PhD	06/2024-Present
Liudi Yang	PhD	05/2024-Present
Mohamed Abdelsamad	PhD	02/2024-Present
Markus Käppeler	PhD	01/2024-Present
Sajad Marvi	PhD	10/2023-Present
lana Zhura	PhD	08/2023-Present
Maximilian Luz	PhD	07/2023-Present
Sharang Kaul	PhD	02/2023-Present
Jan Ole von Hartz	PhD	12/2022-Present
Julia Hindel	PhD	09/2022-Present
Nick Heppert	PhD	09/2022-Present
José Arce y de la Borbolla	PhD	07/2022-Present
Kürsat Petek	PhD (Co-advised)	06/2022-12/2024
Martin Büchner	PhD	10/2021-Present
Adrian Röfer	PhD	06/2021-Present
Niclas Vödisch	PhD (Co-advised)	05/2021-Present
Rohit Mohan	PhD	05/2021-Present
Christopher Lang	PhD	11/2020-Present
Eugenio Chisari	PhD	09/2020-Present

NIKIII Gosala	PNU	07/2020-Present
Daniel Honerkamp	PhD	05/2020-Present
Juana Valeria Hurtado Rincon	PhD	11/2019-Present
PostDoc Supervision (6 PostDoct	oral Researchers)	
Simon Bultmann	PostDoc	10/2024-Present
Lukas Luft	PostDoc	08/2023-12/2024
Daniel Büscher	PostDoc	08/2023-12/2024
Daniele Cattaneo	PostDoc	01/2020-Present
Paulo Drews-Jr		
Tim Welschehold	PostDoc (Capes-Humboldt Fellowship) PostDoc	08/2021-Present 03/2020-Present
rim wetschenota	POSIDOC	03/2020-Present
Master Theses (38 Master Student	s)	
Minh Quang Nguyen	Master Thesis	2025
Rishab Verma	Master Thesis	2025
Raphel Schneider	Master Thesis	2025
Mohammad Shannak	Master Thesis	2024
Tobias Heimbach	Master Thesis	2024
Sven Pfitzer	Master Thesis	2024
Amrutha Venkatesan	Master Thesis	2024
Aron Distelzweig	Master Thesis	2024
Simon Andreas Dorer	Master Thesis	2024
Ahmet Selim Canakci	Master Thesis	2024
Jonas Schramm	Master Thesis Master Thesis	2023
Sassan Mokhtar	Master Thesis	2023
Kiran Kumaraswamy	Master Thesis	2023
Elias Greve	Master Thesis	2023
	Master Thesis	
Akshay Mirylkar	Master Thesis	2023
Abdallah Ayad		2023
Nayana Koneru	Master Thesis	2023
Amith Boggram	Master Thesis	2023
Abhijeet Nayak	Master Thesis	2023
Markus Käppeler	Master Thesis	2023
Asmaa Khalid	Master Thesis	2023
Monish Reddy Nallapareddy	Master Thesis	2023
Kiran Kumaraswamy	Master Thesis	2023
Fabian Schmalstieg	Master Thesis	2023
Venkat Subramanyam	Master Thesis	2023
Jan Ole von Hartz	Master Thesis	2022
Francesco Peracchia	Master Thesis	2022
Lorenzo Mur Labadia	Master Thesis	2022
Suresh Guttikonda	Master Thesis	2022
José Arce y de la Borbolla	Master Thesis	2022
Jing Lu	Master Thesis	2022
Abdelrahman Younes	Master Thesis	2021
Sai Sourabh Tiruvaipati	Master Thesis	2021
Rohit Mohan	Master Thesis	2021
Borna Bešić	Master Thesis	2021
Manav Madan	Master Thesis	2019
Eduardo Alvarado	Master Thesis	2019
Johan Vertens	Master Thesis	2016
Visitors		
	10.00	
Prof. Giovanni Beltrame	Visiting Professor	2024
Niyati Rawal	PhD Exchange Student	2024

PhD

07/2020-Present

Nikhil Gosala

Bhavesh Garg	Internship	2024
Mohammad Mohammadi	PhD Exchange Student	2024
Jiaye Yang	MSc Exchange Student	2023
Alvari Seppänen	PhD Exchange Student	2023
Harsh Mahesheka	DAAD-WISE Internship	2023
Abhinav Gupta	Internship	2022
Jasmeet Kaur	Internship	2021
Matteo Vaghi	Internship	2020
Jay Patravali	Internship	2017
Mayank Mittal	DAAD-WISE Internship	2017
Rohit Suri	DAAD-WISE Internship	2017
Himanshu Maurya	DAAD-WISE Internship	2018
Ankit Dhall	DAAD-WISE Internship	2016

Academic Activities

Editorial Services

General Chair, German Conference on Pattern Recognition (GCPR)	2025
Chair, IEEE Robotics and Automation Society (RAS) Technical Committee on Robot Learning	2021-Present
Senior Editor, IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)	2024-Present
Area Chair, Robotics: Science and Systems Conference (RSS)	2025
Area Chair, Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL)	2020-2025
Guest Editor, IEEE Transactions on Robotics (T-RO)	2024-2025
Guest Editor, Sensors Journal, Special Issue on Sensing and Semantic Perception in Autonomous Driving	2021
Associate Editor, International Journal of Robotics Research (IJRR)	2023-Present
Associate Editor, IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)	2020-Present
Associate Editor, IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)	2020-Present
Associate Editor, International Symposium on Robotics Research (ISRR)	2022-Present
Associate Editor, IEEE International Conference on Advanced Robotics (ICAR)	2021
Associate Editor, IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)	2019-2023
Senior Program Committee Member, International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)	2021-Present
Program Committee Member , AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Student Abstract and Poster Program	2020-2023
Program Committee Member, Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL)	2019-2020
Program Committee Member, Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS)	2020-2021
Program Committee Member, 24th European Conference on Artificial Intelligence (ECAI)	2020
General Co-chair, RSS Pioneers, Robotics: Science and Systems Conference (RSS)	2019

Workshop & Tutorial Organization

Label Efficient Learning Paradigms for Autonomy at Scale, IEEE/RSJ Int. Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems	2024
Interaction-Aware Autonomous Systems, IEEE/RSJ Int. Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)	2024
RoboNerF: Neural Fields in Robotics, IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)	2024
Mobile Manipulation and Embodied Intelligence, IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)	2024
3D-Deep Learning for Automated Driving, IEEE Intelligent Vehicles Symposium (IV)	2020, 21, 22, 23
Open and Trustworthy Deep Learning for Robotics , IEEE/RSJ Int. Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)	2022
Perception and Navigation for Autonomous Robotics in Unstructured and Dynamic Environments, IEEE/RSJ IROS	2022
Al Driving Olympics, Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)	2021
Scene Understanding for Unstructured Environments, DAGM German Conference on Pattern Recognition (GCPR)	2021
Self-Supervised Robot Learning, Robotics: Science and Systems Conference (RSS)	2020

Reviewing

Project Proposals

European Commission, German Research Foundation (DFG), Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Luxembourg National Research Fund (FNR)

Journals

International Journal of Robotics Research (IJRR), International Journal of Computer Vision (IJCV), IEEE Transactions on Robotics (T-RO), IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems (TNNLS), Robotics and Autonomous Systems (RAS), IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L), IEEE Robotics & Automation Magazine, Journal of Field Robotics (JFR), International Journal of Pattern Recognition and Artificial Intelligence (IJPRAI), IEEE Transactions on Industrial Electronics (T-IE), IEEE Transactions on Multimedia (T-MM), Sensors

Conferences

Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL), IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), IEEE International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV), Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS), IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA), IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS), International Conference on Field and Service Robotics (FSR), International Symposium on Robotics Research (ISRR), European Conference on Mobile Robotics (ECMR), International Conference on Pattern Recognition (GCPR), International Conference on Intelligent Robotics and Applications (ICIRA)

External Ph.D. Committee Memberships

RMIT University, Australia	2025
University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy	2025
Inria Paris, France	2025
Technical University Eindhoven, Netherlands	2024
Halmstad University, Sweden	2024
Technical University of Munich, Germany	2023, 2024, 2025
The University of Sydney, Australia	2023
German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence, Germany	2023
TU Delft, Netherlands	2022, 2025
University of Bonn, Germany	2021, 2024

Other Activities

IEEE Autonomous Agent Alignment Working Group (VT/AVSC/AAA-WG), Founding Member	since 2024
ELIZA Unit Freiburg, Director & Board Member	since 2025
ELIZA , Scholarships & PhD Admissions Committee Member	2023-2024
ELLIS Unit Freiburg , Founding Faculty	since 2020
BrainLinks-BrainTools Center, Member and Principal Investigator	since 2019

University Departmental Services

- $\bullet \ \ \textbf{Admissions Committee Member}, \\ \textbf{MSc. Computer Science Program, University of Freiburg}$
- Organizing Committee Member, Robotics: Science and Systems (RSS) 2019
- Organizing Committee Member, International Conference on Sensors and Related Networks 2007
- Public Spaces Committee Member, Field Robotics Center, Carnegie Mellon University

Consultancy Activities

Advisory Board Member, EU Horizon Europe EVENTS project
Industry Advisory Activities. NDA

2023-Present since 2022

Software & Datasets

My group strives to make research code and datasets available as open source whenever possible.

Code: https://github.com/robot-learning-freiburg
Datasets: https://rl.uni-freiburg.de/datasets-code

Publications _____

Peer-Reviewed Journal and Conference Articles

- [1] D. Cattaneo and A. Valada, "Cmrnext: Camera to lidar matching in the wild for localization and extrinsic calibration," *IEEE Transactions on Robotics (T-RO)*, 2025.
- [2] J. V. Hurtado, R. Mohan, and A. Valada, "Panoptic-depth forecasting," in *Proc. of the IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2025.
- [3] A. Distelzweig, E. Kosman, A. Look, F. Janjoš, D. K. Manivannan, and A. Valada, "Motion forecasting via model-based risk minimization," in *Proc. of the IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)*, 2025.

- [4] A. Röfer, N. Heppert, A. Ayman, E. Chisari, and A. Valada, "Pseudotouch: Efficiently imaging the surface feel of objects for robotic manipulation," in *Proc. of the IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA*), 2025.
- [5] D. Honerkamp, H. Mahesheka, J. O. von Hartz, T. Welschehold, and A. Valada, "Zero-cost whole-body teleoperation for mobile manipulation," *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)*, 2025.
- [6] J. Hindel, D. Cattaneo, and A. Valada, "Taxonomy-aware continual semantic segmentation in hyperbolic spaces for open-world perception," *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)*, vol. 10, no. 2, pp. 1904–1911, 2025.
- [7] N. Vödisch, K. Petek, M. Käppeler, A. Valada, and W. Burgard, "A good foundation is worth many labels: Label-efficient panoptic segmentation," *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)*, vol. 10, no. 1, pp. 216–223, 2025.
- [8] E. Chisari, N. Heppert, M. Argus, T. Welschehold, T. Brox, and A. Valada, "Learning robotic manipulation policies from point clouds with conditional flow matching," in *Proc. of the Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL)*, 2024.
- [9] R. Mohan, D. Cattaneo, F. Drews, and A. Valada, "Progressive multi-modal fusion for robust 3d object detection," in *Proc. of the Conference on Robot Learning (CoRL)*, 2024.
- [10] S. Prasanna, D. Honerkamp, K. Sirohi, T. Welschehold, W. Burgard, and A. Valada, "Perception matters: Enhancing embodied ai with uncertainty-aware semantic segmentation," in *Proc. of the International Symposium on Robotics Research (ISRR)*, 2024.
- [11] J. von Hartz, T. Welschehold, A. Valada, and J. Boedecker, "The art of imitation: Learning long-horizon manipulation tasks from few demonstrations," *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)*, vol. 9, no. 2, pp. 11369–11376, 2024.
- [12] K. Petek, N. Vödisch, J. Meyer, D. Cattaneo, A. Valada, and W. Burgard, "Automatic target-less camera-lidar calibration from motion and deep point correspondences," *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)*, vol. 9, no. 11, pp. 9978–9985, 2024.
- [13] S. Lochner, D. Honerkamp, A. Valada, and A. D. Straw, "Recent trends in insect and robot navigation through the lens of reinforcement learning," *Frontiers in Computational Neuroscience*, vol. 18, 2024.
- [14] A. R. Sekkat, R. Mohan, O. Sawade, E. Matthes, and A. Valada, "Amodalsynthdrive: A synthetic amodal perception dataset for autonomous driving," *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)*, vol. 9, no. 11, pp. 9597–9604, 2024.
- [15] D. Honerkamp, M. Büchner, F. Despinoy, T. Welschehold, and A. Valada, "Language-grounded dynamic scene graphs for interactive object search with mobile manipulation," *IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)*, 2024.
- [16] A. Röfer, I. Nematollahi, T. Welschehold, W. Burgard, and A. Valada, "Bayesian optimization for sample-efficient policy improvement in robotic manipulation," in *Proc. of the IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, 2024.
- [17] N. Heppert, M. Argus, T. Welschehold, T. Brox, and A. Valada, "Ditto: Demonstration imitation by trajectory transformation," in *Proc. of the IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, 2024.
- [18] J. Schramm, N. Vödisch, K. Petek, R. B. Kiran, S. Yogamani, W. Burgard, and A. Valada, "Bevcar: Camera-radar fusion for bev map and object segmentation," in *Proc. of the IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS)*, 2024.
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