

# KARTHIK MAHADEVAN

(780)-200-3051

karthikmahadevan.ca

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Human-Robot Interaction; Human-Computer Interaction.

## EDUCATION

### PhD, Computer Science

University of Toronto, Canada

Supervisors: Dr. Tovi Grossman, Dr. Anthony Tang

Sep 2019 - Present

### MSc, Computer Science

University of Calgary, Canada

Supervisors: Dr. Ehud Sharlin, Dr. Sowmya Somanath

Jan 2018 - Aug 2019

### BSc, Electrical Engineering

University of Alberta, Canada

Class Rank: 3/116

Sep 2011 - Jun 2016

## PUBLICATIONS

### Conference Proceedings

Karthik Mahadevan, Maurício Sousa, Anthony Tang, and Tovi Grossman. “Grip-that-there”: An Investigation of Explicit and Implicit Task Allocation Techniques for Human-Robot Collaboration. In *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)*, 2021. **Acceptance Rate: 26%.** **CHI 2021 Best Paper Honorable Mention Award (Top 5%).**

Ming Hou, Karthik Mahadevan, Sowmya Somanath, Lora Oehlberg, and Ehud Sharlin. Autonomous Vehicle-Cyclist Interaction: Peril and Promise. In *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)*, 2020. **Acceptance Rate: 24%.**

Karthik Mahadevan, Elaheh Sanoubari, Sowmya Somanath, James E Young, and Ehud Sharlin. AV-Pedestrian Interaction Design Using a Pedestrian Mixed Traffic Simulator. In *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Designing Interactive Systems Factors (DIS)*, 2019. **Acceptance Rate: 25%.**

Karthik Mahadevan, Sowmya Somanath, and Ehud Sharlin. Communicating Awareness and Intent in Autonomous Vehicle-Pedestrian Interaction. In *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)*, 2018. **Acceptance Rate: 25%.**

### Workshop and Extended Abstracts

Karthik Mahadevan, Sowmya Somanath, and Ehud Sharlin. Enabling Pedestrian Communication with Autonomous Vehicles. In CHI 2018 Workshop *Interacting with Autonomous Vehicles: Learning from other Domains*, 2018. (Position Paper).

Karthik Mahadevan, Sowmya Somanath, and Ehud Sharlin. Can Interfaces Facilitate Communication in Autonomous Vehicle-Pedestrian Interaction? In *Companion Proceedings of the ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human Robot Interaction (HRI)*, 2018. (Pioneers Workshop). **Acceptance Rate: 31%.**

Karthik Mahadevan, Sowmya Somanath, and Ehud Sharlin. “Fight-or-Flight”: Leveraging Instinctive Human Defensive Behaviors for Safe Human-Robot Interaction. In *Companion Proceedings of the ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human Robot Interaction (HRI)*, 2018. (Late-Breaking Report).

### Under Submission

Designing Visual Alerts for Semi-Autonomous Vehicles: A Cautionary Tale.

## AWARDS

### Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada

Canada Graduate Scholarship (CGS-D) valued at \$105,000 over three years.

2020

### Department of Computer Science Entrance Scholarship

2020

Valued at \$10,000 over the academic year.

**Faculty of Arts and Science Doctoral Recruitment Award** 2019  
Valued at \$15,000 over the academic year.

**Department Research Award** 2018  
Valued at \$4,800 over the academic year.

**Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Research Scholarship** 2018  
Valued at \$10,800 over the academic year.

**HRI Pioneer** 2018  
Chosen to participate in the highly selective HRI 2018 Pioneers Workshop.

**Graduation with Distinction** 2016  
Awarded for performance during undergraduate program.

**Dean's Research Award** 2016  
Awarded to pursue research in thin-film nanoengineering.

**Louise McKinney Post-Secondary Scholarship** 2014  
Nominated but declined to pursue internship during academic year.

**Jason Lang Scholarship** 2014, 2013  
Awarded based on standing over the academic year.

**University of Alberta Academic Excellence Scholarship** 2011  
Awarded based on high school entrance average.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Research Assistant** Sep 2019 - Present  
Spatial Interaction Group - DGP, University of Toronto

**Research Assistant** Feb 2017 - Aug 2019  
uTouch Group - Interactions Lab, University of Calgary

**Research Assistant** Nov 2015 - Apr 2016  
Nanoengineering Group, University of Alberta

## EMPLOYMENT

**Research Intern** May 2021 - Sept 2021  
Autodesk Research  
Mentors: Dr. Qian Zhou, Dr. Fraser Anderson, Dr. George Fitzmaurice

**Research Intern** Jan 2019 - Jun 2019  
Honda Research Institute  
Mentor: Dr. Teruhisa Misu

**Machine Awareness and Vision Development Researcher** Apr 2017 - Dec 2017  
Alberta Centre for Advanced MNT Products

**Electrical Engineering Co-op Student** Sep 2014 - Aug 2015  
Suncor Energy

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

**Associate Chair**  
CHI 2022 Late Breaking Work  
CHI 2021 Late Breaking Work

**Student Volunteer Chair**  
MobileHCI 2022

## REVIEWING

### Conference

HRI 2021 (Paper, Pioneers Workshop), 2020 (Paper), 2018 (LBR)  
CHI 2022 (Paper), 2020 (LBR), 2019 (Paper, LBR, Workshop)  
UIST 2020 (Paper)  
TEI 2019 (Paper)  
ISS 2019 (Paper)  
GI 2019 (Paper)  
NordiCHI 2018 (Paper)

### Journal

THRI (2021)  
THMS (2021)  
IMWUT (2020)  
Transportation Research Part F (2019)  
iCOM Journal of Interactive Media (2018)

### Outstanding Reviewer Awards

CHI 2022 (1)  
HRI 2021 (2)

## UNDERGRAD SUPERVISION

### Qian (Philip) Chen

Engineering Science, University of Toronto

Sept 2020 - May 2021

### Ming Hou

Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Calgary

May 2019 - Sept 2019

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Teaching Assistant

CSC404 - Video Game Design

Jan 2022 - April 2022

### Teaching Assistant

CSC404 - Video Game Design

Sept 2021 - Dec 2021

### Teaching Assistant

CSC404 - Video Game Design

Jan 2021 - April 2021

### Teaching Assistant

CSC2536 - Topics in Computer Science and Education

Sept 2020 - Dec 2020

### Teaching Assistant

CSC404 - Video Game Design

Sept 2020 - Dec 2020

### Teaching Assistant

CSC2536 - Topics in Computer Science and Education

Jan 2020 - Apr 2020

### Teaching Assistant

CPSC 203 - Introduction to Problem Solving with Applications

Jan 2018 - Apr 2018

## VOLUNTEERING

### Student Volunteer

ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI).

May 2021

### Mentor at Her Code Camp

Supported a team of high school students in building a Python game.

Aug 2020

### uTouch Lab Ambassador

Organized visits to the lab from industry and academia around the world.

Jan 2018 - Aug 2019

### Student Volunteer

Apr 2018

ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI).

**Student Volunteer** Mar 2018  
ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human Robot Interaction (HRI).

**Engineering Tour Guide** Oct 2015  
University of Alberta Open House.

**Student Note Taker** Nov 2012 - Apr 2013  
University of Alberta Disability Services.

**Electrical Engineering Advisor** Oct 2012  
University of Alberta Open House.

#### INVITED TALKS

**Human-Robot Interaction with Autonomous Vehicles** 2020  
SENG310 - University of Victoria, Canada.

**Human-Robot Interaction with Autonomous Vehicles** 2018  
CPSC684 - University of Calgary, Canada.

**Autonomous Vehicle-Pedestrian Interaction** 2017  
Alberta Centre for Advanced MNT Products. Calgary, Canada.

**Autonomous Vehicle-Pedestrian Interaction** 2017  
University College London Interaction Centre. London, U.K.

#### PRESS COVERAGE

Autonomous Cars: Eyes to Signify, Not to See 2018

Robot Hugs and Cars that Communicate: How Smart Machines and Humans Interact 2018

Self-Driving Cars and Pedestrians 2018

#### SKILLS

**Languages:** Python, C#, C++

**Simulation Engines:** Unity3D, Unreal Engine, Gazebo

**Software Frameworks:** ROS, Tensorflow

**Hardware Platforms:** Arduino, Raspberry Pi

**Operating Systems:** MacOS, Linux, Windows

**Design:** Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Premiere Pro

**Word Processing:** Office Suite, LaTeX