

# Raquel Urtasun

Tel: +1 510 666 2942 Fax: +1 510 666 2956  
rurtasun@icsi.berkeley.edu  
<http://people.csail.mit.edu/rurtasun>

## Education

---

### Ph.D. in Computer Vision

*September 2001 - June 2006*

Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland.  
Motion Models for Robust 3D Human Body Tracking.  
Advisor: Pascal Fua.

### Postgraduate School in Computer Science

*Sept 2000 - Sept 2001*

Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland.

### M.S. Thesis

*Sept 1999 - April 2000*

Corporate Communications Department, Institut EURECOM, Sophia Antipolis, France.

### M.S. and B.S in Telecommunication Engineering

*April 2000.*

Rank #3 in class of 125, University of Navarra (UPNA), Pamplona, Spain.

## Research Interests

---

- **Computer Vision:** Learning for Vision, Tracking, Object Recognition.
- **Machine Learning:** Non-parametric statistical learning, Gaussian Processes, Latent Variable Models, Multi-view Learning.
- **Computer Graphics:** Character animation and modeling.

## Research Experience

---

### Postdoctoral Research Scientist

*January 2008 - Present*

UC Berkeley EECS & ICSI

### Postdoctoral Associate

*October 2006 - August 2008*

MIT Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory  
Supervisor: Prof. Trevor Darrell

### Research Assistant

*Fall 2001 - Summer 2006*

Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland.  
Research Project: Motion Models for Robust 3D Human Body Tracking  
Supervisor: Prof. Pascal Fua.

### Invited Visiting Scientist

*Summer 2004, 2005, 2006*

Computer Science Department, University of Toronto, Canada.  
Supervisor: Prof. David J. Fleet.

### Research Assistant

*Fall 2000 - Spring 2001*

Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland.  
Research Project: Constraints in shoulder movements using Motion capture and Implicit Surfaces.  
Supervisor: Prof. Pascal Fua.

**Research Assistant***Spring 2000 - Fall 2000*

ENST (Ecole National Superieure de Telecommunications), Paris, France

Research projects: Automatic segmentation of a fix number of markers (apply to the cerebellum and brainstem), Segmentation of a Guinea pig using mathematical morphology.

Supervisor: Prof. Isabelle Bloch and Dr. Petr Dokladal

**Research Assistant***Fall 1999 - Spring 2000*

Corporate Communications Department. Institut EURECOM, Sophia Antipolis, France.

Project: Implementation of a tool to Visualize Protocol Design and Processing

Supervisor: Prof. Ernst W. Biersack and Dr. Mathias Jung.

**Research Assistant***Fall 1998 - Spring 1999*

Electrical Engineering Department, Universidad de Navarra (UPNA), Pamplona, Spain.

Project: Blind deconvolution applied to EEG.

Supervisor: Prof. Armando Malanda.

**Teaching Experience**

---

**Co-Instructor**

MIT Course 6.976, Seminar on Human Motion Tracking

*Fall 2007***Teaching Assistant**

Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland.

Introduction to Computer Vision

*Spring 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006***Supervised Students**

---

## Ph.D. Students

- C. Mario Chirstoudias, *from MIT*.  
Probabilistic Models for Multi-View Semi-Supervised Learning and Coding.  
(Co-supervised with Trevor Darrell, expected June 2009).

## M.S. Students

- Andreas Geiger, *from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology* while at *MIT*.  
Rank Priors for Continuous Non-Linear Dimensionality Reduction.
- Sandra Pralong, *from EPFL*.  
3D Implicit Surface Human Body Editor in Maya.
- Mathieu Salzmann, *from EPFL*.  
3D Morphing of triangulated meshes.
- Mattia Bizini, *from EPFL*.  
3D Human Body Tracking using Motion Prediction.
- Reza EteMad-Sajadi, *from EPFL*.  
Temporal Models of Human Motion.

## Semester Projects

- Arnaud Tardy, *from EPFL*.  
Primitive-Based Morphing of Implicit Surfaces.

- Alessandra Predali, *from EPFL*.  
Background Substraction.
- Sandra Pralog, *from EPFL*.  
3D Human Body Interface from SGI to Windows and/or Linux.

## Academic Awards and Honors

---

### Postgraduate Fellowship

*Sept 2000*

School of Computer and Communication Sciences, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL), Lausanne, Switzerland.

### Graduate Fellowship

*Sept 1999*

Institut EURECOM, Sophia Antipolis, France. Project: Implementation of a tool to Visualize Protocol Design and Processing

### Research Fellowship

*June 1998*

Spanish Ministry of Education and Culture. In collaboration with Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Navarra (UPNA), Pamplona, Spain. Project: Blind deconvolution applied to EEG using Principal Component Analysis and Neural Networks.

### Award for academic excellency

*June 95, June 97, June 98, June 99*

University of Navarra (UPNA), Pamplona, Spain

## Publications

---

### • Journal Papers

- A. Kapoor, K. Graumann, **R. Urtasun**, T. Darrell, 'Gaussian Processes for Object Categorization', *Accepted to Appear in International Journal in Computer Vision, (IJCV) 2009*.
- **R. Urtasun**, D. J. Fleet and P. Fua, 'Temporal Motion Models for Monocular and Multiview 3D Human Body Tracking', *Computer Vision and Image Understanding, (CVIU) 2006*.
- L. Herda, **R. Urtasun** and P. Fua, 'Hierarchical Implicit Surface Joint Limits for Human Body Tracking', *Computer Vision and Image Understanding, (CVIU) 2005*.
- **R. Urtasun**, P. Glardon, R. Boulic, D. Thalmann and P. Fua, 'Style-based Motion Synthesis', *In Computer Graphics Forum (CGF), Vol. 23, number 4 pp 799-812. December 2004*.
- L. Herda, **R. Urtasun**, P. Fua, A. Hanson, 'Automatic Determination of Shoulder Joint Limits using Quaternion Field Boundaries', *International Journal of Robotics Research (IJRR), 22(6): 419 - 436, 2003*.
- P. Dokladal, I. Bloch, M. Couprie, D. Ruijters, **R. Urtasun** and L. Garnero, 'Topologically Controlled Segmentation of 3D Magnetic Resonance Images of the Head by using Morphological Operators', *Pattern Recognition, 36(10):2463 - 2478, 2003*.

### • Refereed Conference Papers

- C. M. Christoudias, **R. Urtasun** and T. Darrell, 'Multi-View Learning in the Presence of View Disagreement', *In Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI) Helsinki, Finland, July 2008*. (oral presentation)
- **R. Urtasun**, D. J. Fleet, A. Geiger, J. Popović, T. Darrell and N. D. Lawrence, 'Topologically-Constrained Latent Variable Models', *In International Conference in Machine Learning (ICML) Helsinki, Finland, July 2008*. (oral presentation)

- **R. Urtasun** and T. Darrell, 'Local Probabilistic Regression for Activity-Independent Human Pose Inference', *In Conference in Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) Anchorage, Alaska, June 2008*.
- M. Salzmann, **R. Urtasun** and P. Fua, 'Local Deformation Models for Monocular 3D Shape Recovery', *In Conference in Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) Anchorage, Alaska, June 2008*. (oral presentation)
- C. M. Christoudias, **R. Urtasun** and T. Darrell, 'Unsupervised Distributed Feature Selection for Multi-view Object Recognition', *In Conference in Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) Anchorage, Alaska, June 2008*.
- A. Kapoor, K. Grauman, **R. Urtasun** and T. Darrell, 'Active Learning with Gaussian Processes for Object Categorization', *In International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, October 2007*.
- **R. Urtasun**, and T. Darrell, 'Discriminative Gaussian Process Latent Variable Models for Classification', *In International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) Corvallis, Oregon, June 2007*. (oral presentation)
- **R. Urtasun**, D. J. Fleet and P. Fua, '3D People Tracking with Gaussian Process Dynamical Models', *In Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) New York, June 2006*.
- **R. Urtasun**, D. J. Fleet, A. Hertzmann and P. Fua, 'Priors for People Tracking from Small Training Sets', *In International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV) Beijing, china, October 2005*. (oral presentation)
- **R. Urtasun**, D. J. Fleet and P. Fua, 'Monocular 3D Tracking of the Golf Swing', *In Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) San Diego, CA, June 2005*.
- **R. Urtasun** and P. Fua, '3D Human Body Tracking using Deterministic Motion Models', *In European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV), Prague, Czech Republic, May 2004*.
- L. Herda, **R. Urtasun** and P. Fua, 'Hierarchical Implicit Surface Joint Limits to Constrain Video-Based Motion Capture', *In European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV), Prague, Czech Republic, May 2004*.
- **R. Urtasun** and P. Fua, '3D Tracking for Gait Characterization and Recognition', *In Proceeding of the 6th International Conference on Automatic Face and Gesture Recognition (FGR), Seoul, Korea, May 2004. IEEE Computer Society*. (oral presentation)
- L. Herda, **R. Urtasun**, P. Fua and A. Hanson, 'An Automatic Method for Determining Quaternion Field Boundaries for Ball-and-Socket Joint Limits', *Proceeding of the 5th International Conference on Automatic Face and Gesture Recognition (FGR), pages 95 - 100, Washington DC, May 2002. IEEE Computer Society*.
- P. Dokladal, **R. Urtasun**, I. Bloch and L. Garnero, 'Segmentation of 3D head MR images using Morphological reconstruction under constraints and automatic selection of markers', *International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP), pages 1075-1078, Thessaloniki, Greece, October 2001*.

- **Workshops**

- **R. Urtasun** and T. Darrell, 'Local Probabilistic Regression for Activity-Independent Human Pose Inference', *In Learning Workshop Snowbird. Snowbird, Utah, April 2008*.
- **R. Urtasun**, A. Quattoni, N. D. Lawrence and T. Darrell, 'Transferring Nonlinear Representations using Gaussian Processes with a Shared Latent Space', *In Learning Workshop Snowbird. Snowbird, Utah, April 2008*.

- **R. Urtasun**, D. J. Fleet, T. Darrell and N. D. Lawrence, 'Topologically-Constrained Latent Variable Models', *In NIPS Workshop on Topology Learning*, Whistler December 2007
- **R. Urtasun**, D. J. Fleet and N. D. Lawrence, 'Modeling human locomotion with topologically constrained latent variable models', *In ICCV Workshop on Human Motion: Understanding, Modeling, Capture and Animation*. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, October 2007. (oral presentation)
- **R. Urtasun**, 'Gaussian Processes for Monocular 3D Person tracking', *In BIRS 2006 Workshop on Mathematical Methods in Computer Vision*, Banff, Canada. October 2006 (invited talk)
- **R. Urtasun**, D. J. Fleet, A. Hertzmann and P. Fua, 'Gaussian Processes for Monocular 3D People tracking', *In Gaussian Processes in Practice Workshop*, Bletchley Park, U.K. June 2006 (invited talk)
- **Technical Reports**
  - **R. Urtasun**, M. Salzmann and P. Fua, '3D Morphing without User Interaction', *EPFL Technical report* 2004.
  - **R. Urtasun**, 'Automatic segmentation of a fix number of markers (apply to the cerebellum and brainstem)', *ENST Telecom Paris Technical report* 2000.
  - **R. Urtasun**, 'Segmentation of a Guinea pig using mathematical morphology ', *ENST Telecom Paris Technical report* 2000.

## Talks

---

- **USC**  
*Non-Parametric Latent Variable Models for Shape and Motion Analysis*. Hosted by Prof. Fei Sha and Prof. Ram Nevatia , December 2008.
- **UC Berkeley Computer Graphics Seminar**  
*Non-Parametric Latent Variable Models for Shape and Motion Analysis*. Hosted by Prof. James O'Brian, November 2008
- **UC Berkeley Computer Vision Seminar**  
*Non-Parametric Latent Variable Models for Shape and Motion Analysis*. Hosted by Prof. Jitendra Malik, October 2008.
- **UC Berkeley TILab**  
*Gaussian Processes for Character Animation and Tracking*. Hosted by Prof. Ruzena Bajcsy, September 2008.
- **In International Conference in Machine Learning**  
*Topologically-Constrained Latent Variable Models*. Helsinki, Finland, July 2008.
- **University of Manchester**  
*Probabilistic non-parametric models for shape recovery and pose estimation*. Hosted by Prof. Neil Lawrence, May 2008.
- **MIT Seminar Graphics Group**  
*Local Deformation Models for Monocular 3D Shape Recovery*. Hosted by Prof. Jovan Popovic and Prof. Fredo Durand, March 2008
- **In ICCV Workshop on Human Motion: Understanding, Modeling, Capture and Animation**  
*Modeling human locomotion with topologically constrained latent variable models*. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, October 2007.

- **MIT Seminar Vision Group**  
hosted by Prof. William Freeman and Prof. Antonio Torralba, October 2007.
- **In International Conference in Machine Learning**  
*Discriminative Gaussian Process Latent Variable Models for Classification.* Corvallis, Oregon, June 2007.
- **University of Manchester**  
hosted by Prof. Neil Lawrence, April 2007.
- **MIT Seminar Graphics Group**  
hosted by Prof. Jovan Popovic, March 2007
- **Boston University IVC Seminar series**  
hosted by Prof. Stan Sclaroff, March 2007
- **MIT Seminar Vision Interface Group**  
hosted by Prof. Trevor Darrell, October 2006
- **BIRS 2006 Workshop on Mathematical Methods in Computer Vision**  
*Gaussian Processes for Monocular 3D Person tracking.* Banff, Canada, hosted by Prof. Bill Triggs, October 2006.
- **CMU VASC Seminar Series** hosted by Sonya Allin, June 2006
- **Gaussian Processes in Practice Workshop**  
*Gaussian Processes for Monocular 3D People tracking.* Bletchley Park, U.K., hosted by Prof. Neil Lawrence, June 2006
- **In International Conference on Computer Vision**  
*Priors for People Tracking from Small Training Sets.* Beijing, China. October 2005.
- **CIAR summer school, University of Toronto**  
Toronto, Canada, hosted by Prof. David Fleet. July 2005.
- **In International Conference on Automatic Face and Gesture Recognition**  
*3D Tracking for Gait Characterization and Recognition.* Seoul, Korea. May 2004.
- **University of Toronto**  
hosted by Prof. David Fleet, September 2003.

## Program Committee

---

Computer Vision:

- ICCV09
- CVPR09
- ECCV08
- CVPR07
- ICCV07

Machine Learning:

- ICML09
- IJCAI09

- NIPS08
- ICML08

## Professional Activities

---

- Reviewer for International Journals: *Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, *International Journal in Computer Vision*, *Transactions on Graphics*, *Computer Vision and Image Understanding*, *Image and Vision Computing*, etc.
- Reviewer for International Conferences: *International Conference on Computer Vision*, *Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, *European Conference on Computer Vision*, *SIGGRAPH*, *SIGGRAPH-ASIA* etc.