




Minttu Alakuijala

<firstname>.<lastname>@gmail.com ♦ Paris, France ♦ Nationality: Finland

 [linkedin.com/in/minttualakuijala](https://www.linkedin.com/in/minttualakuijala)  minttualakuijala.com  github.com/minttusofia

EDUCATION

- **Ecole Normale Supérieure (ENS), Google, Inria** Grenoble / Paris, France
• **PhD in Computer Science** *Feb 2019 – Dec 2022*
One of only 6 students to conduct a PhD at Google Research (CIFRE programme)
– Shared time between Google and Inria
 - **Thesis:** Self-taught robots: Autonomous and weakly-supervised learning for robotic manipulation
 - **Research topics:** Robot learning from human videos, Residual reinforcement learning, Learning from demonstration for robotic manipulation
 - **Advised by:** Jean Ponce (ENS), Cordelia Schmid (Google), Julien Mairal (Inria)
- **University College London (UCL)** London, UK
• **Master of Engineering (MEng) in Computer Science** *Sep 2014 – Jun 2018*
Cumulative average: 81 – First-class honours
 - **Master's project:** Reinforcement Learning for Query Reformulation and multi-step Question Answering with Prof. Sebastian Riedel
 - **Reinforcement Learning research project:** Applied policy-based methods and Deep Q-networks on the OpenAI Gym website interaction benchmark Mini World of Bits with Prof. Jun Wang
 - **Relevant courses:** Advanced Deep Learning and Reinforcement Learning – Applied Machine Learning – Supervised Learning – Graphical Models – Statistical Natural Language Processing – Machine Vision

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Predoctoral Researcher** at Inria Grenoble, France
Learning from demonstration for robotic grasping *Nov 2018 – Jan 2019*
- **Software Engineering Intern** at Google Zürich, Switzerland
Applied machine learning to non-exclusively owned content detection on YouTube *Jun 2018 – Aug 2018*
- **Research Intern** at Google, *Machine Perception* Zürich, Switzerland
 - **Computer vision:** Incorporated textual data to improve image classification *Jun 2017 – Sep 2017*
 - **Natural language processing:** Investigated different choices of word and sentence-level embedding methods
 - **TensorFlow, GPU programming:** Implemented and trained classification models on the MS COCO dataset
- **Software Engineering Intern** at Google London, UK
 - Produced insights into the accuracy of Google Play Store Listing Experiments results *Jun 2016 – Sep 2016*
 - Independently defined the scope, design and deliverables of an open-ended engineering problem
- **Web Developer, Freelance** London, UK
Full-stack web development for a social media startup with ReactJS, Less.js, Node.js and AWS *Sep 2015 – Jun 2016*
- **Intern** at Electric Wonderland London, UK
Backend development for a concert app. Awarded funding by UCL Careers. *Jun 2015 – Sep 2015*

PUBLICATIONS

- **Minttu Alakuijala**, Gabriel Dulac-Arnold, Julien Mairal, Jean Ponce, Cordelia Schmid
Learning Reward Functions for Robotic Manipulation by Observing Humans
ICRA 2023
- **Minttu Alakuijala**, Gabriel Dulac-Arnold, Julien Mairal, Jean Ponce, Cordelia Schmid
Residual Reinforcement Learning from Demonstrations
RSS 2020 Workshop on Advances & Challenges in Imitation Learning for Robotics
- **Minttu Alakuijala**, Julien Mairal, Jean Ponce, Cordelia Schmid
Discovering Actions by Jointly Clustering Video and Narration Streams Across Tasks
CVPR 2020 Workshop on Learning from Instructional Videos

LEADERSHIP & EXTRACURRICULAR EXPERIENCE

- **Inria Reinforcement Learning reading group, Main Organiser** *Jun 2020 – Feb 2021*, Grenoble, France
- **MEng Computer Science Academic Representative** *Oct 2017 – Jun 2018*, London, UK
- **UCL Technology Society Representative** *Oct 2015 – Apr 2016*, London, UK
- **Coding Tutor** for Code Club UK *Jan 2015 – Mar 2016*, London, UK
- **Treasurer** of UCL Vegetarian and Vegan Society *Aug 2017 – Jul 2018*, London, UK
- **Undergraduate Mentor at University College London** *Sep 2015 – Dec 2015*, London, UK

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Working knowledge **Python, TensorFlow**, JAX, PyTorch, ROS, Matlab, L^AT_EX, Git, Google Cloud, AWS, SQL
Basic knowledge Java, C/C++, HTML/CSS, Javascript, jQuery, ReactJS, Less.js, Node.js, Bash, Spark

LANGUAGES

Native or near-native Finnish, English, German
Working proficiency French

REFERENCES

- **Cordelia Schmid** `<firstname>.<lastname>@inria.fr` PhD advisor
Research Director, Inria
Research Scientist, Google
- **Jean Ponce** `<firstname>.<lastname>@inria.fr` PhD advisor
Research Director, Inria
Professor, Ecole Normale Supérieure
- **Julien Mairal** `<firstname>.<lastname>@inria.fr` PhD advisor
Research Scientist, Inria