









Master in Photonics – "PHOTONICS BCN" Master ERASMUS Mundus "EuroPhotonics"

MASTER THESIS PROPOSAL

Dates: April 2023 – July or September 2023

Laboratory:	D4-S107, Optical Communications Laboratory
Institution:	UPC and collaboration with company Capgemini
City, Country:	Barcelona, Spain

Title of the master thesis: Design of LIDAR (Laser Imaging, Detection, And Ranging) for future Autonomous Vehicles

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Keywords: Photonics, Laser, AI, Autonomous Vehicles

Summary of the subject (maximum 1 page):

LIDAR is based on scanning an object or a surface with a laser or set of lasers. It is nowadays used in thousands of applications requiring high-resolution maps, as surveying, geodesy, archaeology, geography, geology, geomorphology, seismology, forestry, atmospheric physics, etc. [1]. Recently it is being used for navigation of autonomous cars, and even for the helicopter Ingenuity recording the terrain of Mars [2]. Figures A and B provide some example of LIDAR perception and LIDAR object identification using AI techniques.







B) LIDAR scanning and AI object identification for Collaborative Robotic perception



The main problem of nowadays LIDAR is the cost, because commercial LIDAR are based in expensive micromechanical systems as in Figure C.



This Master Thesis propose the design of much more compact and cheap photonic integrated LIDARs as also proposed by MIT in Figure D. To do that you will count with:

- Step-by-step tutorial to follow to design your prototype
- Commercial design and simulation suite to check the performance of your design

Even more, a prototype of your design could be later fabricated by:

- External support from company Capgemini
- Open source Silicon photonics Process Design Kit (PDK) in collaboration with the
- University of British Columbia (Vancouver, Canada)

References:

[1]: Cracknell, Arthur P.; Hayes, Ladson (2007) [1991]. "*Introduction to Remote Sensing*" (2 ed.). London: Taylor and Francis. ISBN 978-0-8493-9255-9. OCLC 70765252.

[2]: "*How NASA Designed a Helicopter That Could Fly Autonomously on Mars*". IEEE Spectrum. 17 February 2021. Archived from the original on 19 February 2021. Retrieved 19 February 2021.