

# Thomas Kipf

PhD candidate, AMLab  
C3.260, Informatics Institute, University of Amsterdam  
Science Park 904, 1098 XH Amsterdam, The Netherlands

web: [tkipf.github.io](https://github.com/tkipf)  
email: [t.n.kipf@uva.nl](mailto:t.n.kipf@uva.nl)

## Education

- **University of Amsterdam** Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
*PhD candidate (current)* *since Apr 2016*
  - PhD candidate at the Amsterdam Machine Learning Lab (AMLab)
  - Advisors: Max Welling (University of Amsterdam), Ivan Titov (University of Edinburgh)
  - Research on end-to-end learning for graph-structured data
- **University of Erlangen-Nuremberg** Erlangen, Germany  
*M.Sc. (honors) Physics* *Apr 2014 - Mar 2016*
  - Graduated with distinction, GPA 3.97/4.0<sup>1</sup> (German grading system: 1.03)
  - Honors graduate program ‘Physics Advanced’, supported by the Elite Network of Bavaria
- **University of Erlangen-Nuremberg** Erlangen, Germany  
*B.Sc. Physics* *Apr 2011 - Mar 2014*
  - Graduated with distinction, GPA 3.93/4.0<sup>1</sup> (German grading system: 1.07)

## Professional experience

- **Research Intern (Apple, Inc.)** Seattle, WA  
*Summer internship in Machine Learning team under Carlos Guestrin* *Jul 2017 - Sep 2017*
  - Research on self-attention networks for sequence tagging and classification
  - Observed speed-ups of up to 5x compared to state-of-the-art LSTM-based models
- **Research Intern (Max Planck Institute for Brain Research)** Frankfurt, Germany  
*M.Sc. thesis in Connectomics Department (Dr. Moritz Helmstaedter)* *Feb 2015 - Mar 2016*
  - Research on recurrent neural networks for edge classification in large graphs

## Publications and preprints

- R. van den Berg, T. N. Kipf, and M. Welling, Graph Convolutional Matrix Completion, *under review*.
- M. Schlichtkrull\*, T. N. Kipf\*, P. Bloem, R. van den Berg, I. Titov, and M. Welling, Modeling Relational Data with Graph Convolutional Networks, *under review*. \*equal contribution.
- T. N. Kipf and M. Welling, Semi-Supervised Classification with Graph Convolutional Networks, ICLR (2017).

<sup>1</sup>Converted from German GPA using the *modified Bavarian formula*:  
<http://www.tum.de/en/studies/application-and-acceptance/grade-conversion-formula-for-grades-earned-outside-germany/>

- T. N. Kipf and M. Welling, Variational Graph Auto-Encoders, Bayesian Deep Learning Workshop at NIPS (2016).
- T. Kipf and G. S. Agarwal, Superradiance and Collective Gain in Multimode Optomechanics, Physical Review A 90, 053808 (2014).

**Invited talks**

- **Deep Learning on Graphs with Graph Convolutional Networks**
  - University of Oxford . . . . . Oct 31, 2017
  - London Machine Learning Meetup . . . . . Oct 30, 2017
  - SAP Innovation Center Potsdam . . . . . Oct 19, 2017
  - Stanford University . . . . . Oct 3, 2017
  - Amsterdam Deep Learning & AI Meetup by Scyfer . . . . . May 10, 2017
  - Machine Learning Netherlands Meetup by IMC Amsterdam . . . . . Apr 6, 2017
  - INRIA Nancy . . . . . Mar 22 & 23, 2017
  - VU University Medical Center Amsterdam . . . . . Mar 6, 2017
  - INRIA Lille . . . . . Dec 15, 2016
- **Unsupervised Learning with Latent Variable Models**
  - Guest lecture, Machine Learning I, University of Amsterdam . . . . . Oct 10, 2016

**Workshops and summer schools**

- **Machine Learning Summer School 2017** . . . . . Tübingen, Germany  
*Summer school participation; poster presentation* . . . . . June 19-30, 2017
- **Google Machine Learning Summit 2017** . . . . . Zürich, Switzerland  
*Selected for participation (86 PhD students/post-docs); poster presentation* . . . . . June 12-14, 2017
- **Deep Learning Summer School 2016** . . . . . Montreal, Canada  
*Summer school participation; selected for poster presentation* . . . . . Aug 1-7, 2016
- **65th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting (Interdisciplinary)** . . . . . Lindau, Germany  
*Participation as a Young Scientist* . . . . . Jun 28-Jul 3, 2015
- **Modern Issues in Foundations of Physics** . . . . . London, UK  
*Workshop at Imperial College London* . . . . . Sep 26-28, 2014

**Student supervision**

- **Nicola De Cao (Master thesis, jointly with Max Welling)** . . . . . University of Amsterdam  
*Deep Generative Models for Graph-Structured Data (working title)* . . . . . ongoing
- **Mart van Baalen (Master thesis, jointly with Max Welling)** . . . . . University of Amsterdam  
*Deep Matrix Factorization for Recommendation* . . . . . Graduation: Oct 14, 2016

## Awards, grants and honours

ICLR 2017 travel award . . . . .	2017
CIFAR travel scholarship for Deep Learning Summer School . . . . .	2016
Elite Network of Bavaria sponsorship for 65th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting (€5 000) . . . . .	2015
Full scholarship by the German National Academic Foundation (€25 500) . . . . .	2013 - 2016
Deutschlandstipendium (Germany Scholarship) (€7 200) . . . . .	2011 - 2013
Deutscher Gründerpreis (German Business Founder Award for Students) . . . . .	2008

## Selected course work (2011 - 2014)

- **Mathematics:**
  - Analysis and Linear Algebra
  - Calculus for Physicists I - III
- **Physics:**
  - Experimental Physics I - VI
  - Theoretical Physics I - V
- **Computer Science and others:**
  - Complex Systems I - III
  - Computational Physics I - II
  - Bioinformatics
  - Machine Learning (Coursera, with certificate)

## Miscellaneous

- **Teaching assistantships:** Introduction to Machine Learning, 2017 (University of Amsterdam); Machine Learning I, 2016 (University of Amsterdam)
- **Programming skills:** Python, MATLAB, C++ (some experience)
- **Frameworks:** TensorFlow, PyTorch, Theano, keras (with contributions)
- **Reviewer activity:** IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems, 2017; 14th European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV), 2016
- **Research interests:** (Bayesian) deep learning, semi-supervised learning, large-scale inference, end-to-end reasoning, and multi-agent communication