ÚTIA AV ČR, v.v.i. is opening of a doctoral (Ph.D.) position within the scope of Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action Doctoral Network

EXPLORA: Perception of materials, objects and spaces through active EXPLORAtion

Starting date: February-October, 2026   **Duration:** 36 months

Research topic:
- Capture and model changes in material appearance during exploratory movements.
- Aim to establish links between material tactile parameters, dynamic changes in the visual information and material appearance. Also see the description of [Project No. 3.](#)

Tasks:
- Working on the research project: planning, implementing and executing experiments, data analysis.
- Writing publications and presenting the results at project workshops and international conferences.
- Actively engaging in EXPLORA network activities (meetings, workshops, secondments).

Requirements:
- The successful applicant must have a University master degree in computer science, engineering or mathematics.
- We welcome skills in machine learning, perception psychology, hardware prototyping and/or computer graphics as well as interest in fundamental research and experimental working.
- Strong skills in VR, deep learning, computer simulation, or psychophysics are another advantage.
- The position is designed to encourage intersectoral and international collaboration and two secondments to EXPLORA partner labs. The PhD position requires a move from another country: to take a PhD position in the Czech Republic, you must not have lived in Czech Republic for more than 12 months in the last 3 years. Applications from all over the world are welcome.

Salary:
- The research is financed by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action Doctoral Network (MSCA-DN).
- Salary will be paid in accordance with the MSCA stipend rates as specified by the European Commission.

Workplace:
- [UTIA](#), [Czech Academy of Sciences](#), Prague. The Pattern recognition department at UTIA offer friendly environment with strong expertise in machine learning, material appearance capture and modelling. UTIA provides unique datasets, appearance capturing devices and strong computational facilities.
- Doctoral candidate will be [enrolled for doctoral studies](#) at [Faculty of Information Technology](#), Czech Technical University in Prague.
- We are strongly encouraging qualified researchers from underrepresented groups to apply.
- UTIA is a family friendly institute, applicants with children are welcome.

Please direct your application together with the usual documents to:
[Jiri Filip](#) (filipj@utia.cas.cz) and [Michal Haindl](#) (haindl@utia.cas.cz)