

# YASAMAN TAHOUNI

Institute for Computational Design and Construction (ICD)  
Address: Keplerstrasse 11, 70174 Stuttgart, Germany  
Phone: (+49) 174 732 9535  
Email: [Yasaman.tahouni@icd.uni-stuttgart.de](mailto:Yasaman.tahouni@icd.uni-stuttgart.de)  
Website: [www.yasamantahouni.com](http://www.yasamantahouni.com)



## EDUCATION

- Institute for Computational Design and Construction (ICD), University of Stuttgart, Germany** 2018 - Present  
**Doctor of Engineering (Dr.-Ing)**  
Advisor: Achim Menges  
Thesis topic: Computational Design and Fabrication of Passively-Actuated Shape-Changing Structures through 4D Printing
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, USA** 2015 – 2018  
**Master of Science in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science**  
Advisor: Stefanie Mueller  
Thesis topic: Human-Computer Interaction via Augmented Material Interfaces (Joint w. SMArchs)
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA, USA** 2015 – 2018  
**Master of Science in Architectural Studies (SMArchs), Design and Computation group**  
Advisor: Terry Knight  
Thesis topic: Human-Computer Interaction via Augmented Material Interfaces (Joint w. EECS)
- University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran** 2008 – 2013  
**Bachelor of Science in Architecture Engineering**

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- Institute for Computational Design and Construction (ICD), Stuttgart, Germany** 2018 - present  
**Research Associate** | Research and Development on Material Programming, Encompassing Computational Design and Fabrication (Desktop & Robotic 3D printing) + Smart Materials research
- MIT Design Lab, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Cambridge, MA, USA** 2017 - 2018  
**Graduate Research Assistant** | Future of Sportswear sponsored by Puma, 1. Computational design of high-performance running shoe midsoles (Puma Xetic Series), 2. Embedded sensors and actuators for “smart” footwear
- Tangible Media Group, MIT Media Lab, Cambridge, MA, USA** 2016  
**Graduate Research Assistant** | Programmable Food: Computational Design and 3D printing of Bread dough, Pasta, and other edibles for “programmed” taste and texture

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- ITECH M.Sc. Program, University of Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany** Fall(s) 2022,  
**Tutor** | Computational Design Techniques and Design Thinking Seminar 2021, 2020  
Co-taught with T. Schwinn
- ITECH M.Sc. Program, University of Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany** Spring(s) 2022,  
**Tutor** | Physical Computing and Digital Fabrication Seminar 2021, 2020,  
Co-taught with T. Schwinn, O. Bucklin, R. Doque, F.Kennenberg 2019

- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, International Design Center, Cambridge, MA, USA  
Teaching Assistant | Making Spaces Workshop. Taught by Dina El-Zanfaly, Terry Knight Jan. 2017
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MIT Media Lab, Cambridge, MA, USA  
Teaching Assistant | How to Make [almost] Anything. Taught by Neil Gershenfeld Spring 2017
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, School of Architecture, Cambridge, MA, USA  
Teaching Assistant | Introduction to Design Techniques and Technologies. Taught by Skylar Tibbits, Caitlin Mueller, Jessica Rosenkrantz Fall 2017

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Tahouni, Y., Cheng, T., Kliem, S., Benz, J., Bonten, J., Wood, D., Menges, A. 2022 „ **Co-design of biobased cellulose-filled filaments and mesostructures for 4D-printing humidity responsive smart structures**“. *3D Printing and Additive Manufacturing* 2022
- Wood, D., Cheng, T., Tahouni, Y. and Menges, A., 2023. **Material Programming for Bio-inspired and Bio-based Hygromorphic Building Envelopes**. In *Advanced Materials in Smart Building Skins for Sustainability* (pp. 99-112). Springer, Cham. 2022
- Moussavi, S. M., Svatoš-Ražnjević, H., Körner, A., Tahouni, Y., Menges, A., & Knippers, J. 2022. **Design based on availability: Generative design and robotic fabrication workflow for non-standardized sheet metal with variable properties**. *International Journal of Space Structures* 2022
- Tahouni, Y., Krüger, F., Poppinga, S., Wood, D., Pfaff, M., Rühle, J., Speck, T. and Menges, A., 2021. **“Programming sequential motion steps in 4D-printed hygromorphs by architected mesostructure and differential hygro-responsiveness.”** *Bioinspiration & Biomimetics*. 2021
- F. Krüger, R. Thierer, Y. Tahouni, R. Sachse, D. Wood, A. Menges, M. Bischoff, J. Rühle.: 2021, **“Development of a material design space for 4D-printed bio-inspired hygroscopically actuated bilayer structures with unequal effective layer widths”**. *Biomimetics* 2021
- Cheng, T., Thielen, M., Poppinga, S., Tahouni, Y., Wood, D., Steinberg, T., Menges, A. and Speck, T., 2021. **“Bio-Inspired Motion Mechanisms: Computational Design and Material Programming of Self-Adjusting 4D-Printed Wearable Systems”**. *Advanced Science*. 2021
- Qi, Y., Zhong, R., Kaiser, B., Tahouni, Y., Wagner, H.J., Verl, A. and Menges, A., 2021. **“Augmented Accuracy-A human-machine integrated adaptive fabrication workflow for bamboo construction utilizing computer vision.”** *eCAADe 2021* 2021
- Tahouni, Y., Cheng, T., Wood, D., Sachse, R., Thierer, R., Bischoff, M. and Menges, A., 2020. **„Self-shaping Curved Folding: A 4D-printing method for fabrication of self-folding curved crease structures”**. In *ACM Symposium on Computational Fabrication (SCF'20)* 2020
- Cheng, T., Tahouni, Y., Wood, D., Stolz, B., Mühlhaupt, R. and Menges, A., 2020, November. **„Multifunctional Mesostructures: Design and Material Programming for 4D-printing”**. In *ACM Symposium on Computational Fabrication (ACM SCF 2020)* 2020
- Kliem, S., Tahouni, Y., Cheng, T., Menges, A. and Bonten, C., 2020, November. **„Biobased smart materials for processing via fused layer modeling ”**. In *AIP Conference Proceedings*. 2020
- Neuhaus, R., Zahiri, N., Peters, J., Tahouni, Y., Siegert, J., Kolaric, I., Dahy, H. and Bauernhansl, T., 2020. **„Integrating ionic electroactive polymer actuators and sensors into adaptive building skins–potentials and limitations”**. *Frontiers in Built Environment* 2020
- Tahouni, Y., Qamar, I.P. and Mueller, S., 2020, February. **„NURBSforms: A Modular Shape-Changing Interface for Prototyping Curved Surfaces.”** In *Proceedings of the Fourteenth International Conference on Tangible, Embedded, and Embodied Interaction (ACM TEI 2020)* 2020

## PATENTS

- Sole of a shoe, particularly an athletic shoe. European Patent Office EP3790423B1, Granted 2021

## HONORS AND AWARDS

<b>Digital Future's Young Scholar Award</b> DigitalFUTURES 2022, Tongji University, China	July 2022
<b>Norman Foster Foundation's Robotics Atelier Fellowship</b> Norman Foster Foundation, Madrid, Spain	Nov. 2019
<b>Merit-based tuition scholarship</b> Dept. of Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA	2015 - 2017
<b>Exceptional Talents full scholarship</b> University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran	2013 - 2015

## INVITED TALKS

<b>Carnegie Mellon University, Morphing Matter Lab, USA</b>   hosted by Lining Yao	2022
<b>Hasso Plattner Institute, Germany</b>   hosted by Thijs Rouman	2022
<b>DigitalFUTURES.World/Talks</b> , Virtual event   hosted by Neil Leach	2022
<b>Florida International University, USA</b>   hosted by Neil Leach	2021
<b>University of Pennsylvania, USA</b>   hosted by Laia Mogas-Soldevila	2021
<b>Volkswagen Group, Germany</b>   hosted by Sacha Peters	2019

## VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES

<b>Diversity and Equal Opportunity Committee</b> , IntCDC Cluster of Excellence, University of Stuttgart, Germany	2020 - 2022
<b>Early Career Board</b> , IntCDC Cluster of Excellence, University of Stuttgart, Germany	2020 - 2022
<b>Reviewer</b> , Journals: Scientific Reports, Bioinspiration and Biomimetics; Conferences: CAAD Futures 2023, UIST'2022, ANNSIM'22	2021 - present
<b>Workshop Instructor</b> , DigitalFUTURES 2021, "Autonomous Origami" workshop co-taught with T. Cheng, D. Wood	June 2021
<b>Workshop Instructor</b> , ACADIA 2020, "Dual Additive Manufacturing" workshop co-taught with H. J. Wagner, D. Wood, T. Cheng, L. Orozco, H. Chai, Prof. A. Menges	Nov. 2020
<b>Student Volunteer</b> , ACADIA 2017: Disciplines and Disruption, MIT, USA	2017

## ADVISED MASTERS THESES

Pelin Asa, Christian Steixner, Christelle Feghali, " <b>Embraced Wood: Building with Unprocessed Reclaimed Timber</b> ", University of Stuttgart. Co-advisor: H.J. Wagner, Supervisors: J. Knippers, A. Menges	2022
Francesca Maisto, Lena Strobel, Irina Voineag, " <b>Autonomous material robotics: Passively-actuated auxetic metamaterials for robotic structures</b> ", University of Stuttgart. Co-advisor: D. Wood, Supervisors: J. Knippers, A. Menges	2021
Anahi Gonzalez, Jeongwoo Jan, Hooman Salyani. " <b>Actively passive: A hybrid system for user-controllable environmentally responsive architectural skins</b> ", University of Stuttgart. Co-advisor: Jan Petrs, Supervisors: H. Dahy, A. Menges	2020
James Hayward, Schu Chuan Yao, " <b>Augmented robotic craftsmanship: Enabling interactive robotic fabrication through mixed reality interfaces</b> ", University of Stuttgart. Co-advisor: M. Maierhofer, Supervisors: J. Knippers, A. Menges	2020
Yue Qi, Ruqing Zhong, " <b>Working with uncertainties: An adaptive fabrication workflow for bamboo structures</b> ", University of Stuttgart. Co-advisor: H. J. Wagner, Supervisors: J. Knippers, A. Menges	2020

- Mobin Moussavi, Hana Svatos-Raznjevic, **“Design based on availability: Generative design and robotic fabrication workflow for non-standardized sheet metal leftovers”**, University of Stuttgart. Co-advisor: A. Koerner, Supervisors: J. Knippers, A. Menges 2019
- Nima Zahiri, **“Electroactive skin: Towards bio-inspired soft responsive building envelopes”**, University of Stuttgart. Co-advisors: J. Petrs, R. Neuhaus, Supervisors: H. Dahy, A. Menges 2019
- Samantha Melnyk, Tamara Rosales, Robert Faulkner, Naomi Tashiro, **“Haptic reality: Novel interfacing for informed assembly systems”**, University of Stuttgart. Co-advisors: D. Wood, T. Cheng, Supervisors: A. Menges, K. Kuchenbecker 2019

## REFERENCES

- Achim Menges**, Director, Institute for Computational Design and Construction (ICD), University of Stuttgart
- Terry Knight**, Professor of Design and Computation, Department of Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MA, USA
- Stefanie Mueller**, Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MA, USA