

Robust AI for Science and Industry

ELLIIT Focus Period Fall Term 2026: Halmstad

This fall Halmstad University will be hosting a focus period for the first time, making 2026 a year of three focus periods. The topic for the Halmstad focus period is: Robust AI for Science and Industry.

What makes AI methods robust enough to be able to serve as new scientific instruments for researchers as well as applicable in sensitive and demanding areas of industry? This is the question, and the objective of the focus period is to approach the challenging question from several directions.

The focus period takes place in Halmstad September 7 to October 9, with the three day symposium September 22-24, 2026.

> [See the invited speakers](#)

> [Meet the visiting scholars](#)

Spring focus periods in Linköping and Lund are in full swing, at LiU on **Wireless Sensing Technologies for Emerging Applications** and at LU on **Optimization for Learning**

News & Appointments

Call H

Proposals are invited within ELLIIT Call H for new PhD student projects to run 2027-2031. To be competitive, projects must initiate new activities and provide substantial added value over ELLIIT projects funded under calls D, E, F, and G. Proposals should be prepared as a single PDF file and uploaded in the online application form no later than May 13, 2026.

[Full conditions and link to form](#)

Call for Gender & Diversity Project Proposals Spring 2026

The spring call for gender and diversity project proposals is open. Activities involving multiple ELLIIT partners are encouraged. Last day to submit proposals is Thursday April 30, 2026.

[Full conditions and instructions](#)

Swedish ELLIS Institute approved

The application led by KTH Royal Institute of Technology to establish the first Swedish unit within the ELLIS - European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems network has been successfully approved. In addition to KTH, the unit will first include partner universities Chalmers, Uppsala University and Linköping University. Michael Felsberg from LiU is one of the co-directors of the Swedish unit.

[ELLIS institute homepage](#)

[KTH's announcement](#)

Exploring the limits of computers

Are there problems computers cannot solve? ELLIIT recruited faculty Susanna F de Rezende is finding ways to answer the question, as a Wallenberg Academy Fellow. Read the feature on her work.

Exploring the limits of computers



Photo: KAW, Kennet Ruona.

Best Industry Relevant Contribution

ELLIIT researchers have been awarded the Best Industry Relevant Contribution by the Swedish Society for Automated Image Analysis (SSBA), which is a chapter of the International Association for Pattern Recognition (IAPR). Read more on LinkedIn and you find the winning contribution here:

>> RoMa v2: Harder Better Faster Denser Feature Matching

WASP LinkedIn post

New MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship project

A new Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowship project, ECO-ISAC has been awarded, with Erik G. Larsson as supervisor. Future sixth-generation (6G) networks will demand the seamless integration of communication, sensing, and computation (ISAC). The project ECO-ISAC aims to develop a cost- and energy-efficient framework for cell-free massive MIMO-based ISAC, explicitly incorporating practical constraints while enabling multi-user communication and multi-target localization.

New European THCS project

Tom Ziemke (LiU) has a new three-year European project starting April 2026, called Care@Home (“AI that Cares for Aging at Home”). The ultimate goal of the research is to develop an advanced AI-powered contactless monitoring ecosystem that enhances independent living by improving quality of life for older adults, reducing caregiver workload, supporting telecare delivery, enabling timely interventions, and offering peace of mind to families.

LiU's part of the project (2.6 mkr) is funded by Forte, the Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life & Welfare, as part of the European "Transforming Health and Care Systems" (THCS) partnership's 3rd transnational call “Better care closer to home: Enhancing primary and community care”.

Best Short Technical Contribution



Jialong Li (second from the right) with co-authors accepting the best short contribution award.

PhD student Jialong Li (LU) and co-authors Zhenguo Wang, Tianci Wang, Maj Stenmark and Volker Krüger received the Award for Best Short (technical) Contribution at ACM/IEEE Conference in Human-Robot Interaction 2026. The conference took place March 16-19 in Edinburgh. Read the winning contribution:

>> Quest2ROS2: A ROS 2 Framework for Bi-manual VR Teleoperation

Field test for traffic safety

In a recent field test in Asse, Belgium, the ELLIIT project Vehicular Communications, led by Alexey



Vinel (Halmstad University) explored how robotics can support children at pedestrian crossings.

[Halmstad University LinkedIn post and media coverage clip](#)

- ELLIIT recruited faculty [Khac-Hoang Ngo](#) (LiU) has been appointed chair of the [IEEE IT Society Student and Outreach Subcommittee](#), and Lead Editor of the IEEE ComSoc Young Professionals Blog.
- [Oscar Gustafsson](#) (LiU) is panelist for panel titled Empowering Education through Open-Source Hardware, at [DATE, Design, Automation and Test in Europe Conference](#).
- [Michael Felsberg](#) (LiU) is appointed area chair for NeurIPS 2026.

Courses & Challenges

Optimal Antennas - Performance Limits and Inverse Design

[Mats Gustafson](#), LU, is one of course coordinators for organizing a European School of Antennas and Propagation (ESoA) course titled Optimal Antennas -Performance Limits and Inverse Design. The course is held in Lund June 8–12, hybrid participation also possible. Last day to register is June 1, 2026.

The course will cover:

- Fundamental performance limits of antennas.

- Modern inverse design and AI-based methodologies.
- Connections between theory, computation, and practical antenna systems.

[More on the course and registration](#)

WASP WARA Robotics Challenge 2026

The WASP Research Arena Robotics is looking for teams that are interested in participating in the third edition of the WARA Robotics Challenge.

This year's challenge is inspired by assembly and logistics scenarios at Volvo, involving tasks such as precision and flexible pick-and-place and safe navigation in crowded spaces.

[More on the challenge on WARA Robotics homepage](#)

Save the date!

Annual Workshop 2026

[The annual ELLIIT Workshop 2026](#) takes place in Lund, October 21- 22.

Program chair is [Yiannis Karayiannidis](#). Info and agenda to be updated.

Upcoming defenses

[Oskar Keding](#), Mathematical statistics

Time: May 27, at 09:15

Place: Lund LTH, MH:R (Maths)

[Anahita Baninajjar](#), Secure and Networked Systems

Time: June 11, at 09:15

Place: Lund LTH, E:1406 (E-building)

[Denis Nabokov](#), Secure and Networked Systems

Time: June 12, at 09:15

Place: Lund LTH, E:1406 (E-building)

Publications

ELLIIT project on servitization and data sharing has published two papers recently:

>> Ahmed, T., Kowalkowski, C., & Sklyar, A. (2026). Platform evolution for data-driven servitization: an affordance perspective. *J of Business & Industrial Marketing*, 41(13), 28-45.

The study shows how platform evolution enables digital servitization through the interplay between platform and data affordances, allowing manufacturing firms to translate data into data-driven services. This process unfolds through a routinized, yet punctuated pathway shaped by internal congruence and external orchestration, positioning platform architecture and governance as key mechanisms for resource integration and service development.

>> Samadi, S., Ahmed, T., et al. (2026). Digitalization strategy in service ecosystems: managing the interplay of tensions and empowerment. *J of Service Management*, 37(6), 50-77.

The study conceptualizes digitalization strategy as both a source of empowerment and tension within service ecosystems, where digital resources, platforms, and information architectures enable value creation while generating structural, psychological, and behavioral tensions. It shows that balancing these tensions and empowerment mechanisms is central to ecosystem orchestration, positioning digitalization as an ongoing process of managing control, openness, and responsibility across actors.

Dissertations

Oskar Åström
>> Real-World Applications of Anomaly Detection: Detecting the Unexpected Through Distributional Modelling (Lic.)

Ivar Persson
>> Efficient Monocular 3D Localisation Using Machine Learning: with Additional Studies on Pose Estimation and Shape Reconstruction.

Meet the Recruited Faculty



Andreas Kerren

With a strong interdisciplinary background, Andreas Kerren has spent more than 20 years contributing to the fields of information visualization and visual analytics. We spoke with him about his engagement in ELLIIT, including inter-university research collaborations and the organization of a focus period.

Meet Andreas Kerren >>

Did you know...

...that the ELLIIT Tech Talks from 2022 and 2023 are back online?

[Find them via the homepage and outreach](#)