

# anjana sofia vakil

language technologist and full-stack developer

## contact

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## programming languages

Python  
JavaScript  
Java  
Groovy  
C#

## human languages

English native  
French adv.  
German int.  
Italian int.  
Spanish beg.

## projects

**Net-Set** | *A networked multiplayer card game for the browser* [github.com/vakila/net-set](https://github.com/vakila/net-set)

- Developed single-page web app using Node.js, Express, and socket.io, with Mocha for BDD
- Built app backend using functional programming and persistent data structures (via Mori library)

**Kimi** | *A programming language that keeps it minimal* [github.com/vakila/kimi](https://github.com/vakila/kimi)

- Designed Lisp-like toy programming language with minimal feature set (see project README)
- Built interpreter and REPL interface in Python 3 using TDD (unittest, doctest)

**de-stress** | *A prototype pronunciation training tool* [github.com/vakila/de-stress](https://github.com/vakila/de-stress)

- Developed Groovy/Grails web app to automatically detect pronunciation errors
- Refactored JSnoori, a Java speech analysis library used in de-stress's backend

**Deeva** | *A depot of evolving avatars* [deeva.mmci.uni-saarland.de](http://deeva.mmci.uni-saarland.de)

- Led team of 3 in designing/developing Python/Django web app to client specifications
- Implemented genetic algorithm for evolution of 3D avatars to depict personality traits

**lex4all** | *Pronunciation lexicons for any low-resource language* [lex4all.github.io/lex4all](https://lex4all.github.io/lex4all)

- Led development of graphical Windows desktop app in C# with VisualStudio
- Implemented algorithm for automatic pronunciation discovery

## experience

09-12/2015 **Recurse Center (f.k.a. Hacker School)** | *Programmer* New York, NY, USA

- Participated in full-time self-directed programming retreat
- Contributed to open-source projects such as Zulip and the HTML Standard
- Pair-programmed to implement algorithms in Python and JavaScript

2013–2015 **Phonetics Group, Saarland University** | *Research Assistant* Saarbrücken, Germany

- Co-authored annotation guidelines for a bilingual speech corpus
- Used SVN for version control of annotations
- Built static project website in HTML, CSS, and JS/jQuery ([www.ifcasl.org](http://www.ifcasl.org))

2011–2012 **Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology** | *English Instructor* Hanoi, Vietnam  
Taught full-time academic English classes to post-secondary students

2008-2010 **Kaplan International** | *English Instructor* San Francisco, CA, USA  
Taught general English and specific subjects (e.g. TOEFL) to adults

2007-2008 **Meltwater News** | *Sales Consultant* San Francisco, CA, USA  

- Identified and signed new clients for media-monitoring SaaS company
- Worked with engineering team to tailor software to client needs

## education

2015 **M.S. Language Science & Technology** Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany  

- Completed courses in computational linguistics, speech technology, statistical NLP, machine learning, and software engineering
- Published and presented original research and software at international peer-reviewed conferences (e.g. ACL 2014, SLTU 2014, SLaTE 2015)

2007 **B.A. Philosophy, French minor** University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA