

# Curriculum Vitae

March 23, 2017

**KC Sivaramakrishnan**

Computer Laboratory  
University of Cambridge  
[sk826@cl.cam.ac.uk](mailto:sk826@cl.cam.ac.uk)

<http://kcsrk.info>

15 JJ Thomson Avenue  
Cambridge CB3 0FD  
Tel: +44 79828 42499

## ❖ Summary

I am interested in the design and implementation of concurrent programming languages targeting scalable platforms such as many-core processors and compute clouds. My research spans programming models, compilers, static analysis, schedulers, threading systems, and memory management.

## ❖ Education

**PhD — Computer Science**

Thesis Title: [Functional Programming Abstractions for Weakly Consistent Systems](#)  
Advisor: Suresh Jagannathan

May 2011 – Dec 2014  
Purdue University, USA

**Master of Science — Computer Science**

Aug 2008 – May 2011  
Purdue University, USA

**Bachelor of Engineering — Computer Science and Engineering**

Aug 2004 – May 2008  
PSG College of Technology  
Anna University, India

## ❖ Experience

**Research Fellow, Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851**

Oct 2015 – present

**Research Fellow, Darwin College, Cambridge**

Oct 2015 – present

**Research Associate, University of Cambridge**

Advisor: Anil Madhavapeddy

Dec 2014 – present  
Cambridge, UK

Technical director of OCaml Labs leading the development of [Multicore OCaml](#) project. Applying programming languages and program verification to solve extreme-scale parallelism and distribution.

**Research Assistant, Purdue University**

Advisor: Suresh Jagannathan

Aug 2008 – Dec 2014  
West Lafayette, IN, USA

My research focused on discovering new language abstractions and developing runtime system techniques to ease programming weakly consistent systems. To this end, I have built [MultiMLton](#), a parallel and distributed extension of MLton Standard ML compiler and runtime and [Quelea](#), a shallow extension of Haskell for declarative programming over eventually consistent data stores.

**Teaching Assistant, Purdue University**

Undergraduate C Programming (CS180)  
Graduate Programming Languages (CS565)

West Lafayette, IN, USA  
Aug 2012 – Dec 2012  
Aug 2011 – Dec 2011

My tasks included designing and evaluating weekly projects, office hours for one-on-one instruction, and grading.

**Research Intern, Microsoft Research, Cambridge**

Advisors: Tim Harris, Simon Marlow, and Simon Peyton Jones

Feb 2012 – May 2012  
Cambridge, UK

I developed a concurrency substrate for Glasgow Haskell Compiler (GHC) to allow programmers to modularly implement user-level schedulers and concurrency libraries for Haskell threads in Haskell, without having to re-engineer critical runtime system components. The concurrency substrate is built around one-shot continuations and uses transactional memory for coordination.

**Research Intern, Samsung Information Systems America (R&D)**

Advisor: Daniel Waddington

May 2010 – Aug 2010  
San Jose, CA, USA

I was part of the core team that developed SNAPPLE programming language – a safe and concurrent extension of C++ targeted at many-core processors. The task involved designing language extensions for concurrency, compiler extensions for safety, and a runtime for executing large number of lightweight threads. SNAPPLE was implemented as a veneer on top of C++ using LLNL Rose source-to-source compiler.

#### Intern, Advanced Numerical Research and Analysis Group

Advisor: Sankar Chnab

Dec 2007 – Apr 2008

Hyderabad, India

As a part of the Compiler Engineering group, I ported Kaffe, an open source Java VM to an embedded microprocessor ANUPAMA and a desktop processor ABACUS. Developed a lightweight threading subsystem, and implemented a JIT backed for ABACUS.

## ❖ Journal Publications

- Composable Scheduler Activations for Haskell** Jun 2016  
 J4 KC Sivaramakrishnan, Tim Harris, Simon Marlow, Simon Peyton Jones  
*Journal of Functional Programming (JFP)*
- Representation without Taxation: A Uniform, Low-Overhead, and High-Level Interface to Eventually Consistent Key-Value Stores** Mar 2016  
 J3 KC Sivaramakrishnan, Gowtham Kaki, Suresh Jagannathan  
*IEEE Data Engineering Bulletin*, 39(1): 52–64, March 2016
- MultiMLton: A Multicore-aware Runtime for Standard ML** Nov 2014  
 J2 KC Sivaramakrishnan, Lukasz Ziarek, Suresh Jagannathan  
*Journal of Functional Programming (JFP)*, 24(6): 613–674
- Efficient Sessions** Feb 2013  
 J1 KC Sivaramakrishnan, Mohammad Qudeisat, Lukasz Ziarek, Karthik Nagaraj, Patrick Eugster  
*Science of Computer Programming (SCP)*, 78(2): 147–167  
 Invited paper

## ❖ Conference Publications

- DaLi : Database as a Library** May 2017  
 C8 Gowtham Kaki, KC Sivaramakrishnan, Thomas Gazagnaire, Anil Madhavapeddy, Suresh Jagannathan  
*The 2nd Summit on Advances in Programming Languages (SNAPL)*  
 Oral Presentation
- Declarative Programming over Eventually Consistent Data Stores** Jun 2015  
 C7 KC Sivaramakrishnan, Gowtham Kaki, Suresh Jagannathan  
*International Conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation (PLDI)*
- Rx-CML: A Prescription for Safely Relaxing Synchrony** Jan 2014  
 C6 KC Sivaramakrishnan, Lukasz Ziarek, Suresh Jagannathan  
*Symposium on Practical Aspects of Declarative Languages (PADL)*
- A Coherent and Managed Runtime for ML on the SCC** Nov 2012  
 C5 KC Sivaramakrishnan, Lukasz Ziarek, Suresh Jagannathan  
*Many-core Architecture Research Community Symposium (MARC)*  
 Best paper award
- Eliminating Read Barriers through Procrastination and Cleanliness** Jun 2012  
 C4 KC Sivaramakrishnan, Lukasz Ziarek, Suresh Jagannathan  
*International Symposium on Memory Management (ISMM)*
- Composable Asynchronous Events** Jun 2011  
 C3 Lukasz Ziarek, KC Sivaramakrishnan, Suresh Jagannathan  
*International Conference on Programming Language Design and Implementation (PLDI)*

C2 **Efficient Session Type Guided Distributed Interaction** June 2010  
KC Sivaramakrishnan, Karthik Nagaraj, Lukasz Ziarek, Patrick Eugster  
*International Conference on Coordination Models and Languages (COORDINATION)*

C1 **Partial Memoization of Concurrency and Communication** Sep 2009  
Lukasz Ziarek, KC Sivaramakrishnan, Suresh Jagannathan  
*International Conference on Functional Programming (ICFP)*

## ❖ Workshop Publications

W8 **Lock-free programming for the masses** Sep 2016  
KC Sivaramakrishnan, Tho Laurent  
*OCaml Workshop*

W7 **Compiling Links Effect Handlers to the OCaml Backend** Sep 2016  
Daniel Hillestrm, Sam Lindley, KC Sivaramakrishnan  
*ML Workshop*

W6 **Eff Directly in OCaml** Sep 2016  
Oleg Kiselyov and KC Sivaramakrishnan  
*ML Workshop*

W5 **Effective Concurrency with Algebraic Effects** Sep 2015  
Stephen Dolan, Leo White, KC Sivaramakrishnan, Jeremy Yallop and Anil Madhavapeddy  
*OCaml Workshop*

W4 **Migrating MultiMLton to the Cloud** Sep 2013  
KC Sivaramakrishnan, Lukasz Ziarek, Suresh Jagannathan  
*ML Workshop*

W3 **Scalable Lightweight Task Management Schemes for MIMD Processors** Apr 2011  
Daniel G. Waddington, Chen Tian, KC Sivaramakrishnan  
*Workshop on Systems for Future Multi-Core Architectures (SFMA)*

W2 **The Design Rationale for MultiMLton** Sep 2010  
Suresh Jagannathan, Armand Navabi, KC Sivaramakrishnan, Lukasz Ziarek  
*ML Workshop*

W1 **Lightweight Asynchrony using Parasitic Threads** Jan 2010  
KC Sivaramakrishnan, Lukasz Ziarek, Raghavendra Prasad, Suresh Jagannathan  
*Workshop on Declarative Aspects of Multicore Programming (DAMP)*

## ❖ Technical Reports and Drafts

T1 **Featherweight Threads for Communication** Nov 2011  
KC Sivaramakrishnan, Lukasz Ziarek, Suresh Jagannathan  
*Purdue University Computer Science Technical Report – TR-11-018*

## ❖ Teaching/Advising

- Guest Lectures:
  - Arrows, Advanced Functional Programming, University of Cambridge, Lent 2015–16.
  - Debugging, Programming in C and C++, University of Cambridge, Michelmas 2015–16.
- Supervisions at University of Cambridge:
  - Databases, Lent 2016–17.
  - Concurrent and Distributed Systems, Lent 2016–17.

- Databases, Michaelmas 2016–17.
- Concurrent and Distributed Systems, Michaelmas 2016–17.
- Algorithms, Lent 2015–16.
- Concurrent and Distributed Systems, Lent 2015–16.
- Concurrent and Distributed Systems, Michaelmas 2015–16.
- Object-oriented Programming, Michaelmas 2015–16.
- Teaching assistantships at Purdue University
  - Undergraduate C Programming (CS180), Aug 2012 – Dec 2012.
  - Graduate Programming Languages (CS565), Aug 2011 – Dec 2011.
- Projects supervised:
  - Nicolas Assouad, ENS Paris, Hardware Support for Composable Lock-free Transactions, Mar 2017 – present.
  - Matt Harrison, University of Cambridge, Secure Decentralized Apps, Sep 2016 – present.
  - Maxime Lesourd, ENS de Lyon, Verified CPS translation of handlers, Sep 2016 – Mar 2017.
  - Philip Dexter, Binghampton University, Approximate computing for OCaml, May 2016 – Aug 2016.
  - James Wright, University of Cambridge, Mechanized semantics of Algebraic Effects in OCaml, Sep 2015 – Mar 2016.
  - Armael Gueneau, ENS de Lyon, Algebraic Effects for js.of.ocaml, Sep 2015 – Mar 2016.
  - Theo Laurent, ENS, Reagents for Multicore OCaml, May 2015 – Aug 2015.
  - Guillain Potron, ENS de Lyon, Semantics of Irmin branch-consistent data store, March 2015 – Aug 2015.

## ❖ Talks

<b>Composable lock-free programming for Multicore OCaml</b> ABCD Meeting	Nov 2016 University of Edinburgh
<b>Practical Algebraic Effect Handlers in Multicore OCaml</b> LFCS Seminar	Nov 2016 University of Edinburgh
<b>Effective Concurrency and Parallelism in Multicore OCaml</b> PL Seminar	Nov 2016 Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
<b>Effective Concurrency and Parallelism in Multicore OCaml</b> PL Seminar	Nov 2016 Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
<b>Effective parallelism with Reagents</b> Facebook Faculty Summit	Sep 2016 London, UK
<b>Multicore OCaml and Programming with Reagents</b> LDN Functionals	Aug 2016 Jane Street UK, London
<b>Effect handlers in Multicore OCaml</b> Dagstuhl Seminar	Mar 2016 Dagstuhl, Germany
<b>Arrows and Reagents</b> Invited Lecture, Advanced Functional Programming	Mar 2016 Cambridge, UK
<b>Concurrent and Multicore OCaml: A deep dive</b> Facebook Tech Talk	Jan 2016 Menlo Park, CA
<b>OCaml Platform: Update</b> OCaml Consortium Meeting	Nov 2015 Paris, France
<b>Multicore OCaml: Update</b> OCaml Developer's Meeting	Nov 2015 Paris, France

<b>Silence is Golden: Controlling Communication and Coordination in Distributed Databases</b> Darwin College Science Seminar	<i>Oct 2015</i> Cambridge, UK
<b>Effective Concurrency with Algebraic Effects</b> OCaml Workshop 2015	<i>Sep 2015</i> Vancouver, Canada
<b>Quelea: Declarative Programming over Eventually Consistent Data Stores</b> Computer Laboratory, University of Cambridge	<i>Apr 2015</i> Cambridge, UK
<b>Functional Programming Abstractions for Weakly Consistent Systems</b> PhD Defense	<i>Dec 2014</i> Purdue University
<b>Functional Abstractions for Practical and Scalable Concurrent Programming</b> Invited Lecture	<i>Mar 2014</i> Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK
<b>Rx-CML: A Prescription for Safely Relaxing Synchrony</b> PADL 2014	<i>Jan 2014</i> San Diego, CA
<b>Migrating MultiMLton to the Cloud</b> ML Workshop 2013	<i>Sep 2013</i> Boston, MA
<b>A Coherent and Managed Runtime for ML on the SCC</b> MARC 2012	<i>Nov 2012</i> RWTH Aachen
<b>Eliminating Read Barriers through Procrastination and Cleanliness</b> ISMM 2012, Beijing Wrestling Wednesdays, Microsoft Research, Cambridge	<i>Jun 2012</i> <i>May 2012</i>
<b>Lightweight Concurrency in GHC</b> Wrestling Wednesdays	<i>May 2012</i> Microsoft Research, Cambridge
<b>Efficient Session Type guided Distributed Interaction</b> COORDINATION 2012	<i>Jun 2012</i> CWI Amsterdam

## ❖ Professional Service

- Program Committee member: PMLDC@ECOOP 2017, Off-the-beaten track (OBT) 2017, OCaml Workshop 2016, SPLASH-MARC symposium, 2013.
- Artifact Evaluation Committee member: PLDI 2015, PPOPP/CGO 2016.
- Reviewer: ECOOP, TODS, JFP, POPL, ICFP, ASPLOS, TLDI, Concurrency and Computation: Practice and Experience, Software: Practice and Experience.

## ❖ Awards and Recognitions

- Research Fellowship, Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851, 2015–2018, £102,000.
- Research Fellowship, Darwin College, Cambridge, 2015–2018, £900.
- Maurice H. Halstead Memorial Award for outstanding research in Software Engineering, Purdue University, 2014, \$4,000.
- Best paper award at Many-core Architecture Research Symposium at RWTH-Aachen, 2012, \$1,000.
- Invited paper in Science of Computer Programming, Vol. 78, Iss. 2 (Feb 2013).
- Glasgow Haskell Compiler (GHC) Committer.
- SIGPLAN PAC travel grant for PLDI 2012 and POPL 2014, \$1,500 each.
- NSF travel grant for ICFP 2013, \$2,000.

## ❖ References

**Suresh Jagannathan**

Professor  
Department of Computer Science  
Purdue University  
305 N University St  
West Lafayette, IN 47906, USA  
[suresh@cs.purdue.edu](mailto:suresh@cs.purdue.edu)

**Jan Vitek**

Professor of Computer Science  
College of Computer & Information Science  
Northeastern University  
440 Huntinton Av  
Boston, MA 02115, USA  
[j.vitek@neu.edu](mailto:j.vitek@neu.edu)

**Anil Madhavapeddy**

University Lecturer  
Computer Laboratory  
University of Cambridge  
15 JJ Thomson Av  
Cambridge, CB3 0FD, UK  
[anil.madhavapeddy@cl.cam.ac.uk](mailto:anil.madhavapeddy@cl.cam.ac.uk)

**Simon Peyton Jones**

Principal Researcher  
Programming Principles and Tools  
Microsoft Research Ltd  
21 Station Rd  
Cambridge CB1 2FB, UK  
[simonpj@microsoft.com](mailto:simonpj@microsoft.com)