

# Curriculum Vitae

March 23, 2017

**KC Sivaramakrishnan**

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University of Cambridge  
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Cambridge CB3 0FD  
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## ❖ 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

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

## ❖ Conference Publications

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

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

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

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

## ❖ 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.
- Organizer for Darwin College Science Seminar Series, Oct 2015 – present.

## ❖ 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.