# Zack HODARI

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HOMEPAGE: zackhodari.github.io

## EDUCATION

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|---|---|
| *Current* | **PhD** in Data Science — School of Informatics, University of Edinburgh<br>**Thesis:** Emotive speech synthesis<br>**Supervisor:** Professor Simon King<br>Currently writing PhD proposal, planning to investigate style adaptation techniques for emotive speech synthesis. |
| *2016 – 2017* | **MScR** in Data Science — School of Informatics, University of Edinburgh<br>**Thesis:** A learned emotion space for emotion recognition and emotive speech synthesis<br>**Supervisor:** Professor Simon King<br>**Result:** DISTINCTION<br>Developed an emotion space to address issues with existing descriptions of emotion. Investigated methods to improve interpretability. Performed listening test evaluation using style adaptation for expressive text-to-speech. |
| *2013 – 2016* | **BSc** in Computer Science — Durham University<br>**Result:** 1ST CLASS HONOURS — 79% |

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| Current | Demonstrator — University of Edinburgh<br>**Course:** Computer Programming for Speech and Language Processing |
| JUNE – SEPT.<br>2015    2015 | Research internship — FootClicks<br>Created error model for mobile phone's gyroscope: collected data using Inertial Measuring Unit and mobile phone for a range of device usage conditions; analysed gyro signal to determine contribution of hardware error. |
| JULY – SEPT.<br>2013    2013 | Bulk testing & RMA — Brinkley Services<br>Categorised faulty hardware using diagnostic tools. Handled and filed RMA requests. |

## VOLUNTARY WORK

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| Sept. – July<br>2015    2016 | President — Durham University Quidditch Club<br>Managed team of 14 people. Ran sports club with 2 teams. Liaised with Students Union & Athletics Union staff. |
| Sept. – July<br>2014    2016 | Societies representative — Durham University societies committee<br>Chaired meetings of society presidents. Represented societies on the Students Union democratic body. |
| Sept. – July<br>2014    2015 | Treasurer — Durham University Quidditch Club<br>Handled all financial transactions. Managed budget and procured equipment for a 200-person 3-day sports event. |
| Sept. – July<br>2014    2014 | Tutor — Durham student community action<br>Tutored A2 students in maths and further maths. |

## AWARDS

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| July 2016 | Top 5 in the School of Engineering and Computing Sciences |
| Nov. 2015 | Outstanding Achievement Award (performed top in the year) |
| Oct. 2015 | Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship for Academic Excellence |

## PUBLICATIONS

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| Poster | **Z. Hodari**, and S. King, *A learned emotion space for emotion recognition and emotive speech synthesis*, UK Speech, 2017. |

## SKILLS

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| Skilled | Python, NumPy, Matplotlib, TensorFlow, Merlin, LaTeX |
| Proficient | Pandas, Java, C, Keras, Theano, HTML, JavaScript, CSS, PHP, SQL |