Faculty of Computer, Communication, and Information Science

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HEATHER MILLER

Citizenship USA

Research Programming language support for concurrent and distributed programming;

Interests type systems; language and library design; reactive programming

Education EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland 2009 -

Ph.D. in Computer Science

Advisor: Martin Odersky 2011 –

University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL 2006 – 2009

BSEE in Electrical Engineering, Audio Engineering, with honors, May 2009

Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, New York, NY 2004 – 2006

Academic Committees: ECOOP 2015 organizing committee (sponsorship chair), POPL 2015 AEC,

Service Scala 2014 (co-chair), Scala 2013 (co-chair)
Reviewer for: ECOOP 2013, Scala 2013

Publications Spores: A Type-Based Foundation for Closures in the Age of ECOOP 2014

Concurrency and Distribution

Heather Miller, Philipp Haller, Martin Odersky
European Conference on Object Oriented Programming

Functional Programming For All! Scaling a MOOC for Students
And Professionals Alike

ICSE 2014

Heather Miller, Philipp Haller, Lukas Rytz, Martin Odersky ACM SIGSOFT International Conference on Software Engineering

Instant Pickles: Generating Object-Oriented Pickler OOPSLA 2013
Combinators for Fast and Extensible Serialization

Heather Miller, Philipp Haller, Eugene Burmako, Martin Odersky ACM SIGPLAN Conference on Object Oriented Programming, Systems, Languages and Applications

RAY: Integrating Rx and Async for Direct-Style Reactive Streams

REM 2013

Philipp Haller, Heather Miller

Workshop on Reactivity, Events and Modularity

	FlowPools: A Lock-Free Deterministic Concurrent Dataflow Abstraction Aleksandar Prokopec, Heather Miller, Tobias Schlatter, Philipp Haller, Martin Odersky International Workshop on Languages and Compilers for Parallel Compu	LCPC 2012 ting
	Invited to Revised Selected Papers on the 25th International Workshop on Languages and Compilers for Parallel Computing, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, Vol. 7760, 2013	
	Tools and Frameworks for Big Learning in Scala: Leveraging the Language for High Productivity and Performance Heather Miller, Philipp Haller, Martin Odersky NIPS Workshop on Parallel and Large-Scale Machine Learning	BigLearn 2011
	Parallelizing Machine Learning – Functionally: A Framework and Abstractions for Parallel Graph Processing Philipp Haller, Heather Miller Scala Workshop	Scala 2011
Awards	US National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship	2011 - 2014
	EPFL Outstanding Teaching Award	2012
	EPFL Computer Science Fellowship	2009 - 2010
	Most Outstanding Audio Engineering Student, University of Miami	2009
	Most Outstanding Eta Kappa Nu Student, University of Miami	2009
	Information Technology Scholarship, University of Miami	2006 – 2009
	John Farina Family Scholarship, University of Miami	2006 – 2009
	Eta Kappa Nu Tau Beta Pi	2008
	SMART US Department of Defense Scholarship Alternate	2008
	Cooper Union Full Tuition Scholarship	2007 2004 - 2006
Teaching Experience	Lead Teaching Assistant, Functional Programming Principles in Scala Popular Coursera MOOC on functional programming in Scala, with >100,000 participants to date	2012 - 2014
	 Lead TA organizing a team of graduate students, editing lecture videos, managing content production, designed course exercises with cloud-hosted grading, etc 	
	 Created extensive course evaluations with interactive visualizations; led to a publication at ICSE'14 	
	Instructor , <i>Scala as a Research Tool</i> ECOOP Tutorial	2013
	Lead Teaching Assistant , <i>Programming Principles</i> EPFL Undergraduate course on functional and logic programming	2012

Teaching Assistant, *Programming Principles*EPFL Undergraduate course on functional and logic programming

Open Source

Scala Programming Language, member of the Scala team

2011 -

2011

- Scala Spores (Scala Improvement Proposal SIP-21), project lead novel type-based abstraction for using closures safely in concurrent and distributed environments
- Scala Pickling, project lead novel framework for fast, boilerplate-free, extensible serialization
- Scala Futures and Promises (Scala Improvement Proposal SIP-14), *team member* unified non-blocking concurrency substrate for Scala, Akka, Play, and others
- Scala Documentation, *creator*, *writer*, *lead maintainer* a central website for community-driven documentation for the Scala programming language and core libraries
- Scaladoc, co-maintainer documentation tool for Scala's official API documentation

Selected Talks

Academese to English: Scala's Type System, Dependent Types and What It Means To You

NEScala 2014

New York, NY, USA. March 1, 2014

Instant Pickles: Generating Object-Oriented Pickler Combinators for Fast and Extensible Serialization

OOPSLA 2013

Indianapolis, IN, USA. October 30, 2013

PL Abstractions for Distributed Programming: Pickle Your Spores!

Indiana University (invited)

Bloomington, IN, USA. October 25, 2013

Spores: Distributable Functions in Scala

Strange Loop 2013

St. Louis, MO, USA. September 19, 2013

Open Issues in Dataflow Programming

LaME 2013 (invited)

Montpellier, France. July 1, 2013

Scala as a Research Tool
Montpellier, France. July 1, 2013

ECOOP 2013 Tutorial

On Pickles & Spores: Improving Scala's Support for Distributed Programming

ScalaDays 2013

New York, NY, USA. June 12, 2013

Futures & Promises in Scala 2.10 Philadelphia, PA, USA. April 2, 2013 PhillyETE 2013 (invited)

Selected Broader Impacts

EPFL Computer Science Faculty Council, PhD Student Representative

2012 -

Members include the dean of the college as well as representatives from every branch of the college, administrative, PhD, faculty, etc. Quarterly meetings to steer the college and introduce new initiatives.

EPFL CS Graduate Student Association, President

2009 - 2011

Volunteer student organization with a mission to foster a sense of community and collaboration between different research groups in the college. Initiatives led/introduced:

- Research Day: college-wide showcase of labs' research activities
- PhD Student Open House: main recruiting event for CS doctoral program
- Social Events: aperós, ski trips, outings

EPFL CS Graduate Student Mentor

2010 - 2012

One-on-one mentoring of incoming doctoral students, aided students in integrating into EPFL's research environment and Switzerland as a whole.

Students Supervised

Louis Bliss, Incremental Picklers for Scala Pickling M.Sc. Level, co-supervision with Philipp Haller	9/2013 - 1/2014
Thaddée Yann Tyl, Learning Scala Style M.Sc. thesis	2/2013 - 6/2013
Tobias Schlatter, FlowSeqs: Barrier-Free ParSeqs M.Sc. level, co-supervision w/ Philipp Haller & Aleksandar Prokopec	9/2012 - 1/2013
Tobias Schlatter, <i>Multi-Lane FlowPools</i> M.Sc. level, co-supervision w/ Philipp Haller & Aleksandar Prokopec	2/2012 - 6/2012
Pierre Grydbeck, Parallel Machine Learning: An Expectation Maximization Algorithm for Gaussian Mixture Models M.Sc. level, co-supervision with Philipp Haller	2/2012 – 6/2012
Bruno Studer , <i>Parallel Machine Learning: Collaborative Filtering via Alternating Least Squares</i> B.Sc. level, co-supervision with Philipp Haller	2/2012 – 6/2012
Stanislav Peshterliev, Parallel Natural Language Processing Algorithms in Scala M.Sc. level, co-supervision with Philipp Haller	9/2011 - 1/2012
Olivier Blanvillain & Louis Bliss, Parallelization of a Collaborative Filtering Algorithm with Menthor B.Sc. level, co-supervision with Philipp Haller	9/2011 - 1/2012
Florian Gysin, Improving Parallel Graph Processing Through the Introduction of Parallel Collections M.Sc. level, co-supervision with Philipp Haller	9/2011 - 1/2012

Georges Discry, Extending the Menthor Framework for Parallel Graph Processing to Distributed Computing M.Sc. level, co-supervision with Philipp Haller

2/2011 - 6/2011