

F. Arda Kara

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Experience:

02/2013 – Present

Forward Deployed Engineer, Palantir Technologies, New York, NY

- Business development and product management in new verticals for Palantir
- 2016 – Leading the product and business development of a major new platform for Palantir's commercial business, working directly with the company co-founder
- 2014 - 2015 – Scoped and led new product opportunities across 5 novel development projects in upstream oil&gas that resulted in Palantir's energy platform with a \$1BN+ contract value over the next 10 years
- 2013 – Led business development and product management for Palantir's credit card data monetization platform, now with access to roughly half of US and UK credit card spend, and a contract value of \$100M+

05/2012 – 02/2013

Cofounder & Chief Executive Officer, VoiceGem, Sunnyvale, CA

- Built, launched and promoted VoiceGem, a cross-device voice messaging platform
- Attended Y Combinator class of summer 2012, raised a seed round 09/2012
- First company acquired by Palantir Technologies (02/2013)

07/2011 – 09/2011

Software Engineering Intern, Google Inc., Mountain View, CA

- Brought personal project on voice interfaces into Google's Research team
- Developed an accessibility framework for users to create custom voice interfaces in Android 4.0
- Won best demo award (August 2011), project now available open-source as Voicify

09/2010 – 03/2011

Software Engineer, SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Menlo Park, CA

- Jointly built a LHC data visualization and analysis application for Mac OS X under Prof. Jay Wacker

06/2010 – 09/2010

Software Engineering Intern, Apple Inc., Cupertino, CA

- Developed a web application to visualize the health of various Mac OS X Lion features during alpha testing
- Deployed visual flows for teams to explore the bugs responsible for health score regressions in reports
- Integrated a new usage analysis and survey engine, helped shape customer software seeding architecture

05/2009 – 03/2010

Research Assistant, Stanford AI Lab (STAIR), Advisor: Andrew Y. Ng, Stanford, CA

- Jointly developed a supervised learning algorithm for object grasping, published at ICRA 2010
- Developed a process for motion planning of a robotic arm with 3D point cloud data

09/2007 – 11/2008

Lead Developer, Stanford Center for Professional Development, Stanford, CA

- Led development and launch of Stanford's free education portal (SEE) and associated social learning tools

Education:

2007 – 2012

Stanford University, Stanford, CA

MS in Computer Science (Human Computer Interaction), 2012

BS in Computer Science (Artificial Intelligence), 2011

2002 – 2007

Robert College, Istanbul, Turkey (High School)

Publications:

- Q. V. Le, D. Kamm, A. Kara, and A. Y. Ng, "Learning to grasp objects with multiple contact points," International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA 2010), Anchorage, AK, USA, May 2010.
- V. Groom, J. Chen, T. Johnson, F. A. Kara, C. Nass, "Critic, compatriot, or chump?: Responses to robot blame attribution," Proceedings of the 5th ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI 2010), Osaka, Japan, March 2010.

Patents:

- Kara, Feridun Arda; et al. 2015. METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR ANALYZING ENTITY PERFORMANCE. U.S. Patent Application 20150169709, filed December, 2013. Patent Pending.
- Kara, Feridun Arda; et al. 2014. VOICE COMMAND RECORDING AND PLAYBACK. U.S. Patent Application 20140365884, filed April, 2012. Patent Pending.

Activities and Awards:

- Presented Stanford senior project at BMW in Munich, now launched by BMW as the M Laptimer iOS App (2011)
- Teaching assistant – CS210 - Software Projects with Corporate Partners (2011-2012), CS144 Introduction to Computer Networks (2011), CS106 Section Leader (2008-2011)
- House Manager – La Casa Italiana (2009 - 2011), Soto House (2008 – 2009)
- International Philosophy Olympiad finalist (2007)
- Co-founder of Destination Imagination Turkey with over 300 teams and 5 annual regional finals today
- Represented Turkey at the European Union Environmental Committee in Brussels with a report on sustainability (2006)
- Porsche Club of America certified racing driver, PADI Open Water Diver