

Firas Abuzaid

Curriculum Vitae

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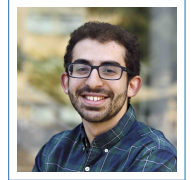
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Education

- 2016-present **Ph.D., Computer Science**, Stanford University
Advisors: Matei Zaharia and Peter Bailis
- 2015-2016 **Ph.D., Course VI-II**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Advisors: Sam Madden and Matei Zaharia
◦ Transferred to Stanford in Fall 2016 with advisor
- 2013-2015 **M.S., Computer Science**, Stanford University
Advisor: Christopher Ré
◦ Concentrations: Artificial Intelligence, Information
- 2009-2013 **B.S., Computer Science**, Stanford University
Concentration: Information
◦ Phi Beta Kappa, Tau Beta Pi

Publications

- 2016 F. Abuzaid, J. Bradley, F. Liang, A. Feng, L. Yang, M. Zaharia, and A. Talwalkar. **Yggdrasil: An Optimized System for Training Deep Decision Trees at Scale**. NIPS 2016.
- 2015 S. Hadjis, F. Abuzaid, C. Zhang, and C. Ré. **Caffe con Troll: Shallow Ideas to Speed Up Deep Learning**. DanaC: Workshop on data analytics at scale.

Work Experience

Research

- 04/2014-06/2015 **Research Assistant**, Stanford InfoLab, Prof. Christopher Ré
◦ Developed Caffe con Troll, CPU optimizer for Caffe. Resulted in publication
- <http://github.com/HazyResearch/CaffeConTroll>
◦ Worked on multi-round Pregel-like join algorithm for distributed datasets
◦ **Technologies and Libraries**: Scala, Spark, SparkSQL, Hive, YARN, Hadoop/HDFS
- 01/2014-03/2014 **Independent Research Project**, Stanford AI Lab, Prof. Andrew Ng
◦ Worked on re-alignment improvements for deep neural networks on speech recognition systems
◦ **Technologies and Libraries**: C++, Python, Kaldi, Google Web Speech API

Industry

- 06/2012-09/2012 **Android Engineer Intern**, Clinkle, Mountain View, CA
Implemented initial User Interface for the Clinkle Android application
- 06/2011-09/2011 **Software Engineer Intern**, Lab126, Cupertino, CA
Developed QuickSettings app for Kindle Fire; debugged, refined UI/UX for other system apps on Android 2.3.3

Teaching

- 2014-present **Awards**
◦ Recipient of the 2014 Centennial Teaching Assistant Award
- 2014-present **Instructor**, Stanford Computer Science Department
◦ **CS145**, *Introduction to Databases*, Co-Instructor with Perth Charernwatttanagul, Summer 2014
- 2014-present **Mentor in Teaching Fellow**, Stanford Computer Science Department
Responsible for assisting and mentoring new Teaching Assistants for the CS department
- 2013-present **Teaching Assistant**, Stanford Computer Science Department
◦ **CS142**, *Web Applications*, Profs. John Ousterhout and Phillip Levis, Spring 2013 - Spring 2014
◦ **CS145**, *Introduction to Databases*, Profs. Christopher Ré and Jennifer Widom, Fall 2013 - Fall 2014

2011–2012 **CS198 Section Leader**, *Stanford Computer Science Department*

Responsible for leading weekly discussion sections to complement lecture for introductory Computer Science classes – CS106A, B, and X

[Other](#)

01/2014–present **Master’s Student Liaison**, *Stanford Computer Science Department*

Responsible for communicating and voicing students' feedback and concerns to CS faculty

2011–2012 **Academic Theme Associate**, *Stanford Residential Education*

Residential staff position – responsible for creating and planning theme-related programming for the Crothers Global Citizenship dorm