Geza Kovacs

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gkovacs.com

**EDUCATION** 

**Stanford University** 

PhD, Computer Science GPA: 4.0/4.0 Advisor: Michael Bernstein 2013 - now

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

MEng, Computer Science GPA: 4.9/5.0 Advisor: Rob Miller 2012 - 20132008 - 2012

GPA: 5.0/5.0 BS, Computer Science

**INDUSTRY** EXPERIENCE Microsoft Research – Research Intern, Redmond

Summer 2015

Designed and build educational social feed for teaching literacy and mathematics. Published at CSCW 2017.

Microsoft Research - Research Intern, Beijing

Summer 2014

Designed and built a quiz-directed lecture viewer to improve learners' engagement with in-video quizzes.

Google - Software Engineering Intern, Mountain View

Summer 2013

Designed and built novel text input methods on Android phones and tablets.

Google - Software Engineering Intern, Mountain View

Summer 2012

Designed and built a system to detect and provide definitions for specialized vocabulary in books.

Google - Software Engineering Intern, Mountain View

Summer 2011

Developed a system to predict the quality of user reviews on the Android Marketplace (now Google Play).

Microsoft Corporation - Software Development Engineer Intern, Redmond

Summer 2010

Google - Summer of Code, FFmpeg (video transcoding library)

Summer 2009

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE **Stanford HCI Group – PhD student**. Leading the following research projects:

Fall 2013 - now

HabitLab: Personalized Interventions for Better Online Habits (published at CSCW 2018 and CHI 2019) HabitLab is a Chrome extension and Android app which helps users achieve goals like reducing time on Facebook/Youtube, by deploying various interventions and determining which are most effective for users. 12,000+ daily active users, http://habitlab.stanford.edu/

EduFeed: A Social Feed to Engage Preliterate Children in Educational Activities (published at CSCW 2017)

Effects of In-Video Quizzes on MOOC Lecture Viewing (published at L@S 2016)

FeedLearn: Microlearning in Facebook Feeds (published at CHI 2015 EA)

QuizCram: Question-Driven Video Viewing (published at CHI 2015 EA)

MIT UID Group – Undergraduate/MEng research. Led the following projects: Fall 2011 – Spring 2013

Smart Subtitles for Foreign Language Learning (published at CHI 2014)

GrammarVis: Visualizing the Grammar of Foreign Languages (published at UIST 2013 demo)

ScreenMatch: Visual Context for Software Translators (published at CHI 2012 EA)

OPEN-SOURCE

**UNetbootin (LiveUSB Creator)** 

January 2007 – now

**PROJECTS** 

Built a utility to create bootable USB flash drives for a variety (50+) of Linux distributions.

40 million downloads, http://unetbootin.github.io/

**Wubi (Ubuntu Installer for Windows)** 

November 2006 – August 2007

Built the first versions of Wubi, which allows Windows users to safely install Ubuntu without repartitioning. Now part of Ubuntu and ships on the official Ubuntu CD, http://wubi.sourceforge.net/

AWARDS AND

Honors

Stanford Human-Centered AI Grant, 2018

National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship, 2013

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2013

Finalist and Honorable Mention, MIT Web Programming Competition (6.470), 2013

1st place, Most Useful, ACM UIST (User Interface Software and Technology) Student Innovation Contest, 2012

1st place, ACM CHI (Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems) Student Research Competition, 2012

1<sup>st</sup> place, MIT Autonomous Robotics Competition (Maslab), 2010

Member of Tau Beta Pi (Engineering), Phi Beta Kappa (Liberal Arts), Eta Kappa Nu (EECS) honor societies

TEACHING EXPERIENCE Teaching Assistant – Understanding Users (CS 377U) at Stanford

Teaching Assistant – Human Computer Interaction Research (CS 376) at Stanford

Teaching Assistant – Natural Language Processing (6.863) at MIT

Fall 2018 Fall 2012

Spring 2019

Helped write and grade assignments, and managed the course infrastructure. I developed new tools to make the assignment grading process faster, semi-automatic, and paper-free.

Instructor – Introduction to C++ IAP (6.096) at MIT

January 2011

Gave lectures, helped write and grade assignments, and helped students in lab for a student-run, for-credit introductory C++ course. The teaching materials I produced have been made available on OpenCourseWare: http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/electrical-engineering-and-computer-science/6-096-introduction-to-c-january-iap-2011

**Software Director – MASLAB Mobile Autonomous Systems Lab (6.186) at MIT**January 2011
As the software director for this student-led autonomous robotics competition, I gave lectures on computer vision and control algorithms, managed the software stack for the competition, and helped students in lab.

JOURNAL AND CONFERENCE PAPERS **Geza Kovacs**, Drew Mylander Gregory, Zilin Ma, Zhengxuan Wu, Golrokh Emami, Jacob Ray, Michael Bernstein. "Conservation of Procrastination: Do Productivity Interventions Save Time Or Just Redistribute It?" ACM annual conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2019.

**Geza Kovacs**, Zhengxuan Wu, Michael Bernstein. "Rotating Online Behavior Change Interventions Increases Effectiveness But Also Increases Attrition." ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW) 2018.

Rajan Vaish, Neil Gaikwad, **Geza Kovacs**, Andreas Veit, Ranjay Krishna, Imanol Arrieta Ibarra, Camelia Simoiu, Michael Wilber, Serge Belongie, Sharad Goel, James Davis, Michael Bernstein. "Crowd Research: Open and Scalable University Laboratories." ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST) 2017.

Kiley Sobel, **Geza Kovacs**, Galen McQuillen, Andrew Cross, Nirupama Chandrasekaran, Nathalie Riche, Ed Cutrell, Meredith Morris. "EduFeed: A Social Feed to Engage Preliterate Children in Educational Activities." ACM annual conference on Computer Supported Collaborative Work (CSCW) 2017.

**Geza Kovacs**. "Effects of In-Video Quizzes on MOOC Lecture Viewing." ACM annual conference on Learning at Scale (L@S) 2016.

**Geza Kovacs** and Robert C. Miller. "Smart Subtitles for Vocabulary Learning." ACM annual conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2014.

EXTENDED ABSTRACTS

Stanford Crowd Research, **Geza Kovacs**, Rajan Vaish, Michael Bernstein. "Daemo: A Self-Governed Crowd-sourcing Marketplace". ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST) 2015, Poster.

**Geza Kovacs**. "FeedLearn: Using Facebook Feeds for Microlearning." ACM annual conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2015, Extended Abstracts.

**Geza Kovacs**. "QuizCram: A Question-Driven Video Studying Interface." ACM annual conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2015, Extended Abstracts.

Joseph Jay Williams, **Geza Kovacs**, Caren Walker, Samuel G Maldonado, Tania Lombrozo. "Learning Online via Prompts to Explain." ACM annual conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2014, Extended Abstracts.

**Geza Kovacs** and Robert C. Miller. "Foreign Manga Reader: Learn Grammar and Pronunciation while Reading Comics." ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST) 2013, Demo.

**Geza Kovacs**. "Smart Subtitles for Language Learning." ACM annual conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2013, Extended Abstracts.

**Geza Kovacs**. "ScreenMatch: providing context to software translators by displaying screenshots." ACM annual conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) 2012, Extended Abstracts.