Geza Kovacs

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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 – 2013*
BS, Computer Science GPA: 5.0/5.0 *2008 – 2012*

Industry Experience

Microsoft Research – Research Intern, Redmond *Summer 2015*
Designed and built an educational social feed experience for teaching literacy and mathematics skills. Research will be published as a full paper 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*

Open-source Projects

UNetbootin (LiveUSB Creator) *January 2007 – now*
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/

Research Experience

Stanford HCI Group – PhD student. Leading the following research projects: *Fall 2013 – now*

HabitLab: Personalized Interventions for Better Online Habits
HabitLab is a Chrome extension which helps users achieve goals like wasting less time on Facebook/Youtube, by deploying a variety of interventions and determining what works most effectively for each user.

Edvertisements: Repurposing Web Advertisements as Microlearning Exercises
Edvertisements is a Chrome extension that helps you learn vocabulary as you browse the web, by replacing advertisements with microlearning exercises.

FeedLearn: Microlearning in Facebook Feeds (CHI 2015 WIP)
FeedLearn is a Chrome extension that helps you learn vocabulary as you browse your Facebook feed, by inserting interactive quizzes which you can answer without leaving your feed.

QuizCram: Question-Driven Video Viewing (CHI 2015 SRC)
QuizCram is a viewer for MOOC lectures that enables quiz-driven video navigation and reviewing. User studies show higher engagement with quizzes and more reviewing compared to Coursera's in-video quiz format.

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

Smart Subtitles for Foreign Language Learning (CHI 2014 full paper)
Smart Subtitles is a video viewer that uses an interactive transcript to help learners learn vocabulary while viewing foreign-language videos. Users learned more vocabulary with our system than with bilingual subtitles.

GrammarVis: Visualizing the Grammar of Foreign Languages (UIST 2013 demo)
ScreenMatch: Visual Context for Software Translators (CHI 2012 SRC)

Conference Papers

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 (to appear).

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 Collective. "Daemo: A Self-Governed Crowdsourcing 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.

Teaching

Teaching Assistant – Natural Language Processing (6.863) at MIT *Fall 2012*
Helped write assignments, managed the course infrastructure, and graded assignments. 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 Autonomous Robotics Competition at MIT *January 2011*
As the software director for the competition, I gave the software-related lectures, managed the software for the competition, and helped students in lab.

Awards and Honors

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
1st place, MIT Autonomous Robotics Competition (Maslab), 2010
Member of Tau Beta Pi (Engineering), Phi Beta Kappa (Liberal Arts), Eta Kappa Nu (EECS) honor societies