Geza Kovacs

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gkovacs.com

EDUCATION

EXPERIENCE

**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 Microsoft Re

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 (to appear at CSCW 2018)

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. 8000+ 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 util

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 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

1<sup>st</sup> place, Most Useful, ACM UIST (User Interface Software and Technology) Student Innovation Contest, 2012 1<sup>st</sup> 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 - Human Computer Interaction Research at Stanford

Fall 2018

Helped write and grade assignments, lead discussions, help students with their research projects, and manage the course infrastructure.

## 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.

JOURNAL AND CONFERENCE PAPERS **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 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.