

Jake Vasilakes

Place and Date of Birth: U.S.A. July 23, 1991
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Interests: Natural Language Understanding esp. semantic parsing, computational semantics (formal and distributional), QA systems, machine translation, ontologies, automatic speech recognition.

Education

August 2015 | MSc Speech and Language Processing University of Edinburgh

Thesis: *Automatic Generation of Wide-scale Semantic Representations in NLTK*
Advisor: Ewan Klein

Exams and marks:

• Advanced Natural Language Processing	77	• Introductory Applied Machine Learning	73
• Speech Processing	78	• Phonology & Phonetics	71
• Statistics and Methodology using R	58	• Automatic Speech Recognition	77
• Natural Language Understanding	80	• Machine Translation	70
• Automated Reasoning	70	• Semantic Web Systems	83
• Topics in Natural Language Processing	79		

June 2013 | B.A. Philosophy with Honors Loyola University of Chicago

GPA: 3.84/4.00 (Equivalent to UK first)

Minors: Classics, Italian

Thesis: *The World of Speech* Advisor: Hanne Jacobs

Honors and Awards: Outstanding Philosophy Senior Award 2013, 2nd place Ancient Greek Translation Contest 2012, Member - Eta Sigma Phi Classical studies honor society

Work Experience

Aug 2013 - July 2014 | Computer Technician PRO Computers - Chicago, IL

Software and hardware troubleshooting and service across a variety of platforms

- Performed hardware repair (including motherboard-level) and solved software issues on PC, Mac, and Linux platforms, customer support.
- Implemented Linux-based data recovery methods that increased both the number of data recovery jobs possible in-shop and the speed at which they could be completed.

Skills

Programming Languages

Python: Very good knowledge. Python 2 & 3, PEP 8 coding standards, unit-testing, numpy.

C/C++: General knowledge (core aspects of the languages).

R: General knowledge (core aspects of the language, applications to machine learning).

Haskell: Some knowledge.

Regular Expressions: Good knowledge (Regex in Python, sed, awk, grep).

Bash shell scripting: Good knowledge.

Operating Systems: Linux/UNIX (including OS X), Windows XP - 8.

Software: NLTK, HTK, WEKA, Festival TTS software, Praat, Wavesurfer, Audacity, MS Office suite.

Version Control: Git.

Web technologies: HTML, CSS, XML (utilisation with Python), CGI (Python).

Ontologies: RDF, OWL, SPARQL.

Concepts

Natural Language Processing and Speech Technology:

- Language modelling (n-grams, neural networks).
- Syntactic parsing (constituent, dependency, CCG).
- Computational semantics (semantic parsing, formal and distributional semantics).
- Statistical machine translation (alignment models, decoding).
- Automatic speech recognition, text-to-speech.

Machine Learning and Statistical Modelling:

- Generative and discriminative modelling.
- Supervised and unsupervised methods.
- Dimensionality reduction, feature selection.

Languages

English (native), Italian (conversational), some knowledge of German and Spanish, also 4 years study of Ancient Greek.