

# KENNETH HANSON

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## Education

- **Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI** 01/2011–05/2014 (Expected)  
*B.A. in Linguistics (GPA 4.0 / 4.0)*
  - Additional Major in Japanese. Minor in Computer Science.
  - Coursework in Japanese linguistics, graduate level syntactic theory, Classical Japanese, compilers, and software design.
  - Independent study project using automated morphological analysis, annotation with Python scripts, and statistics to analyze the syntax of Classical Japanese poetry. Abstract available on website.
  - Transferred 15 cr. from Eastern Michigan University (Ypsilanti, MI), and 38 AP credits.
- **Linguistic Society of America 2013 Summer Linguistic Institute, Ann Arbor, MI** 06/2013–07/2013  
*Non-degree Student*
  - Coursework in computational linguistics, computational psycholinguistics, and language typology.
  - Attended workshops on diachronic syntax and syntactic variation.

## Research Experience

- **MSU Dept. of Linguistics and Languages** 09/2012–Present  
*Research Assistant for Cristina Schmitt, PhD.*
  - Currently working on a diachronic corpus study of bare noun phrases in English using CorpusSearch and Python scripts for automated coding, and R for statistical analysis. Abstract available on website.
  - Wrote a program to convert CorpusSearch coding output to spreadsheet form for data analysis.
  - Scheduled and ran participants for an artificial language learning experiment.
  - Funded by the MSU College of Arts and Letters Undergraduate Research Initiative (CAL-URI).
- **MSU Language and Interaction Research Lab (LAIR)** 05/2012–06/2013  
*Research Assistant for Joyce Chai, PhD.*
  - Worked with lab members to design a natural language dialog system for a humanoid robot.
  - Developed basic program architecture, discourse function annotation scheme, dialog management and response generation (AI) modules, and debug interface. All programming in Python.
  - Managed group documentation. Coordinated integration of modules by other lab members.
  - Installed and configured Ubuntu Linux and software for development and robot operation.
  - Funded by the MSU Engineering Summer Undergraduate Research Experience program (EnSURE) for Summer 2012.

## Teaching Experience

- **MSU Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering** 01/2012–05/2013  
*Teaching Assistant for CSE 232 (Introduction to Programming II)*
  - Taught for three semesters. Taught short lessons on C++ and data structures, and guided students (avg. 17 per semester) through assignments during weekly lab sessions.
  - Tutored students for and graded programming projects.
  - Produced web materials and handouts including C++ examples and guides on Linux and programming.

## Publications

- J. Y. Chai, L. She, R. Fang, S. Ottarson, C. Littley, C. Liu, and K. Hanson. Collaborative Effort towards Common Ground in Situated Human Robot Dialogue. To appear in 2014 ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI). Bielefeld, Germany, March 3-6, 2014.

## Presentations

- Hanson, Kenneth (2013). CorpusExtract: a tool for analyzing syntactically annotated corpora. Poster presented at the 4th annual Michigan State Undergraduate Linguistics Conference (MSULC), East Lansing, MI.
- Hanson, Kenneth (2012). Playing a naming game with Darwin: towards human-robot dialog. Presentation of research in collaboration with MSU LAIR at the MSU Summer Undergraduate Research Forum 2012 (SURF), East Lansing, MI.

## Other Activities

- **q Undergraduate Association for Linguistics at Michigan State** 02/2012–Present  
*Vice President and Activities Director*
  - Previous positions: advertising, tech support. Organized and ran activities at biweekly meetings. Produced workshop handouts and fliers for advertising. Helped build and maintain club website.
  - Produced programs and assisted with preparations for annual undergraduate linguistics conferences MSULC and GLEEFUL.
- **JapaneseProfessor.com** 06/2011–Present  
*Author and Webmaster*
  - Created beginning Japanese curriculum including 33 lessons on grammar, vocabulary and expressions, writing, and culture.

## Skills and Additional Information

- **Languages** – English (native), Japanese (semi-advanced: passed JLPT N2 in Dec. 2013).
- **Programming** – Experienced: Python, C++. Familiar with: Java, wxWidgets, ANTLR3, SVN. Basic knowledge: R, Bash, x86, SPARC.
- **Misc. Computing** – Experienced: Ubuntu Linux, CorpusSearch. Familiar with:  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , Wordpress, HTML/CSS.
- **Music** – Piano (advanced), marimba (advanced), and some composition.
- **Volunteer** – Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl (03/2012–Present)