

Kurt DaCosta

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SKILLS

Java • JavaScript • Objective-C
Node.js • Angular.js • Express.js
PostgreSQL • Redis • NGINX
UNIX • GIT • REST APIs • SOA
Amazon Web Services
EC2 • VPC • S3 • RDS • Redshift

HACKATHONS

PENNAPPS WINTER 2015

Health Hack Honorable Mention

WanderWise - Haptic feedback navigation for the deaf & blind. Uses OpenCV, RasPi, Arduino, Proximity Sensors, and iOS.

NEXT 36 HACKATHON 2014

1st Place Winner

TipsyLock - Wearable drunk driving deterrent using Nymi ECG and Muse EEG wearables.

LEADERSHIP

DEGROOTE ASSOCIATION FOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS

VP Technology (2015 - 2016)

Hosting business oriented tech talks and networking events.

HACKITMAC

Technology Exec (2014 - 2016)

Leading a 16 week workshop on full-stack and iOS development. Hosted guest technical speakers and career development events.

DELTAHACKS 2015

Logistics Exec (2014 - 2015)

Lead logistics team for the first ever hackathon at McMaster.

(300+ students, 20+ sponsors)

COURSEWORK

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY

Data Structures & Algorithms
Database Management Systems
Distributed Computer Systems
Operations Research

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

iPhone Application Development

WORK EXPERIENCE

DIGITAL MUSIC LAB | RESEARCH ASSISTANT

May 2015 - Present | McMaster University

- Lead integration of data sharing collaboration with MixRadio, allowing access to streaming music consumption data from millions of users globally.
- Deployed cloud infrastructure to support cluster computing, distributed web crawling, and data warehousing, improving analytical query times by a factor of 80.
- Implemented data pipeline for automated migration of terabyte scale music consumption database into Redshift data warehouse for analytical processing.

EGO, INC | PLATFORM ENGINEERING LEAD

February 2015 - September 2015 | Consulting

- Implemented RESTful API with token based authentication for iOS clients.
- Deployed backend on AWS, ensuring scalability, availability and fault-tolerance.
- Utilized relational, document, and key-value data stores to maximize performance.

DEGROOTE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS | RESEARCH ASSISTANT

June 2014 - December 2014 | McMaster University

- Developed web apps to automate data scraping. Saved \$7.5K+/month in HR costs.

WOOF LABS, INC | CO-FOUNDER & ENGINEERING LEAD

Feb 2014 - September 2014 | Toronto, ON

- Deployed service-oriented backend on AWS supporting 60K mobile users globally.
- Migrated activity feeds to an in-memory data store. Improved response time of activity feeds, and reduced load on primary data store.

NITEROLL, INC | IOS DEVELOPER INTERN

May 2013 - April 2014 | Ottawa, ON

- Developed analytics application to monitor promoter and venue performance.

RESEARCH

COGMIR POSTER | GENERAL RECOMMENDATION SYSTEM APPLIED TO MULTI-ATTRIBUTE PRODUCTION METADATA

September 2015 | Ryerson University

- Presented a novel approach to music recommendations using inexplicit user preference for secondary artists involved in a tracks production; these include producers, engineers, vocalists, session musicians, etc.

ISMIR LATE BREAKING | GRAIL: A MUSIC IDENTITY SPACE COLLECTION & API

October 2015 | Malaga, Spain

- We introduce GRAIL, an API that links track IDs from diverse online music services using adaptive matching criteria. GRAIL aims to enable developers and researchers to innovate through combining music APIs with relative ease.

EDUCATION

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY | HONOURS B.A.SC, COMPUTER SCIENCE

Expected April 2016 | Hamilton, ON

- Minor, Information Systems - DeGroote School of Business