

NICK MCKENNA

CONTACT ME:
nmckenna363@gmail.com
+44 (744) 422 1587

FIND ME:
nmckenna.me
linkedin.com/in/nicholas-mckenna

OBJECTIVE: Seeking a research opportunity in Machine Reading before entering a PhD program.

EDUCATION



UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

M.Sc. Artificial Intelligence, Aug 2019
Natural Language Processing Specialism
Edinburgh, United Kingdom



BROWN UNIVERSITY

B.Sc. Computer Science, 2017
Providence, RI, USA. Core GPA 3.7

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

NLP and Cognition Research

Independent research on representation learning with natural language.
Read it here: nmckenna.me/research

Brown Computational Cognitive Science Reading Group

Led by Ellie Pavlick. Discuss current research in cognitive science and language understanding.

PROJECTS

Document Summarizer, Python & TensorFlow 2016

Summarizes documents using a deep convolutional neural network to extract meaningful sentences, based on Google DeepMind paper.

High-Frequency Trading Agent, Java 2017

Automatic trading algorithm for a simulated market. Traded securities with 14 agents for net-positive, 2nd best outcome in the group.

StingRay Renderer, OpenGL & C++ 2015

Real-time GPU raytracer that renders interactive 3D scenes using alternative on-device caching to accelerate render time.

Two to Infinity, iOS 2014 ☆ 14,000 Downloads

Mobile adaptation of the game 2048. Ranked in Top 100 Strategy Games in US, Canada, and Switzerland.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE



TAPTOBOOK Product Manager June 2017 – Aug 2018

- Directed the product development roadmap. Identified business needs, researched solutions, and prioritized work for the 10-person dev team.
- Transformed the core business model with innovative technologies and new user experiences. TapToBook is now growing rapidly and is nearly profitable.
- Adapted the platform to power large-scale national brands including Planet Fitness, Gold's Gym, and Buffalo Wild Wings.



YELP Product Management Intern Summer 2016

- Planned yelp.com notifications. Experimented with ML Group, growing review highlights engagement by 13%.



YELP Engineering Intern Summer 2015

- Built research-driven manager for Yelp Reservations, reducing time spent by restaurant hosts by 88%.

SKILLS

- Highly analytical and research-oriented
- Proficient in Python, C++, Swift/iOS, Java
- Technical knowledge of machine learning techniques and passionate about deep learning research

IMPACT

Teaching Assistant, Brown 2015 – 2017

Hands-on with 570 students over 4 Computer Science courses. Designed curriculum, held office hours and labs, and mentored student projects.

Sponsorship Organizer, Hack@Brown

Raised \$45,000 for Brown's hackathon from partners Google, Microsoft, and TwoSigma.