

Robert Daland

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LinkedIn homepage



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Skills -

Critical thinking

Data science

Linguistic theory

Public speaking and presenting

Project management

Python

Research design and methodology

Software engineering

Technical written communication

Skill scale: half = executed medium-sized projects full = expert

Interests

Computer understanding of natural language Complex systems; History; Data visualization

Education

PhD, Linguistics

2009

2001	MS, Mathematics	North Carolina State University
2001	BA, English	North Carolina State University

2000 BS, Mathematics North Carolina State University

Experience

2019 – now Software Engineer Apple | Siri | Natural Language Understanding Architected test ecosystem for client NLU system.

> Designed and implemented most of client NLU integration test harness, including lightweight human-readable format for authoring. Maintained test infra and oversaw testing coverage during locale and platform expansion.

Northwestern University

Comprehensive documentation of runtime client NLU system.

Taught AI/ML University classes on Siri NLU.

Directly Responsible Individual (DRI) for text normalization on Siri client NLU across multiple locales.

DRI (team technical/product lead) for an ML-based language classifier service now in production.

Backend design and implementation for portions of multilingual understanding.

2017 – 2019 Quality Engineer Apple | Siri | Natural Language Understanding

Liaison between Siri NLU and Quality teams.

Maintained server NLU release infrastructure, including ML promotion pipelines.

Comprehensive documentation of runtime server NLU system. Taught AI/ML University classes on Siri NLU.

2009 – 2017 Assistant Professor UCLA | Humanities & Social Sciences | Linguistics

Mentored graduate students and taught undergraduates.

Pursued research interests in computational phonology and psycholinguistics, particularly the inter-relationship between language experience/acquisition, phonotactics, and speech perception.

Published in top-tier journals and conferences such as Linguistic Inguiry, Natural Language and Linguistic Theory, Phonology, and Association for Computational Linguistics.

2003 – 2009 Graduate Student Northwestern | Humanities & Social Sciences | Linguistics Coursework, teaching and research assistantships, and primary re-

search.

2001

Firmware Engineer Powerware/Invensys | Contractor

Addressed a battery overheating problem by tracking voltage varia-

tion (assembly language).

Selected Publications

 Mayer C & Daland R. A method for projecting features from a phonological classes. <i>Linguistic Inquiry</i>. Daland R, Oh M, & Davidson L. On the relation between speception and loanword adaptation. <i>Natural Language and L Theory 37</i>(3), 825-868. Daland R. Long words in maximum entropy phonotactic graphonology 32(3), 353-383. Daland R, Oh M, & Kim S. When in doubt, read the instruction thographic effect in loanword adaptation. <i>Lingua 159</i>, 70-9. Daland R. What is computational phonology? (OPEN ACCIOUENS 1(1), e400. Cristia A, Daland R, Mielke J, & Peperkamp S. Similarity in the alization of implicitly learned sound patterns. <i>Laboratory Phase</i> 4(2), 259-286. Daland R & Zuraw K. Does Korean defeat phonotactic word tation? <i>ACL 51</i>, Sofia, Bulgaria, August 4-9, 2013. Daland R. Variation in child-directed speech: A case study of class frequencies. (OPEN ACCESS) <i>Journal of Child Language</i> 1091-1122. Daland R, Hayes B, White J, Garellek M, Davis A, & Norman plaining sonority projection effects. <i>Phonology 28</i>(2), 197-2 Daland R & Pierrehumbert JB. Learning diphone-based segments of the plant of the pla	
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social network model of Russian paradigmatic gaps. <i>ACL 45</i> June 23rd-June 30th.	