Ross E. Kirsling Last updated: 2014.10.18

CONTACT INFORMATION *(available upon request)*

Email: rkirsling@gmail.com
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RESEARCH INTERESTS
Computational semantics and pragmatics
Natural language understanding

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sony Network Entertainment, Middleton, Wisconsin, USA

Software Engineer (initially Technical Analyst) **May 2009 – present**

- Participated in development of the PlayStation Store web storefront application for desktop/mobile.
- Co-initiated transition of the PlayStation Store web storefront project from San Francisco to Madison.
- Created (in a team of two) the Podcast Directory webapp featured on Sony Xperia mobile devices as well as within Media Go media management software.
- Handled internal Japanese translation/correspondence on the Media Go team.
- Assisted in various facets of the Media Go project, from localization testing to website maintenance.

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

M.A., Linguistics **September 2010 – December 2012**

- Prelim Paper: *Phrasal Restrictions on Noncontrastive Topic: The Case of Japanese*
- Advisor: Mürvet Enç
- Cumulative GPA: 3.9 / 4.0

B.A. *with Distinction*, Japanese **September 2005 – May 2009**

- Certificate: Computer Sciences
- Study Abroad: Keio University, Tokyo, Japan ('07–'08)
- Cumulative GPA: 3.9 / 4.0

HONORS, AWARDS, CERTIFICATIONS

- Phi Beta Kappa, University of Wisconsin-Madison — May 2009
- Japanese Language Proficiency Test, Level 1 (highest) — December 2008
- Japanese Ministry of Education (MEXT) scholarship for study abroad at Keio University in Tokyo, Japan — September 2007 – July 2008
- Chicago-Osaka Sister Cities Special Award (for one-week homestay in Osaka, Japan), 20th Annual Japanese Language Speech Contest, Chicago, IL — March 2006

NATURAL LANGUAGES
English (native), Japanese (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (intermediate), Korean (reading), French (reading)

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Traditional:	Python, Scala, Haskell, Java, C/C++
Web Development:	JavaScript, HTML, CSS
Typesetting:	LaTeX

PUBLICATIONS
In press. Applying formalized aboutness conditions to Japanese topic structures. *LSO Working Papers in Linguistics, Vol. 9*, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

MANUSCRIPTS
May 10, 2012. Probabilities without paradigm-shifting: Recognizing gradience in natural language syntax. University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Portfolio Projects

Modal Logic Playground
a graphical semantic calculator for modal propositional logic

Live URL:	rkirsling.github.com/modallogic
Language:	JavaScript
Libraries used:	D3, MathJax, Bootstrap, Underscore

Relevant Open Online Education Participation

Completed MOOCs:

Introduction to Databases (*99% with distinction*)	*Jennifer Widom* Stanford OpenEdX, January–March 2014
Principles of Reactive Programming (*100% with distinction*)	*Martin Odersky, Erik Meijer, Roland Kuhn* Coursera, November–December 2013
Functional Programming Principles in Scala (*100% with distinction*)	*Martin Odersky* Coursera, September–November 2013
Introduction to Parallel Programming (*highest distinction*)	*John Owens & David Luebke* Udacity, June 2013
Computational Neuroscience (*99.3%*)	*Rajesh P. N. Rao & Adrienne Fairhall* Coursera, April–June 2013
Introduction to Theoretical Computer Science (*highest distinction*)	*Sebastian Wernicke* Udacity, October 2012
Quantum Mechanics and Quantum Computation (*91.4%*)	*Umesh Vazirani* Coursera, July–September 2012
Introduction to Logic (*100%*)	*Michael Genesereth* Coursera, April–June 2012
Natural Language Processing (*90.6%*)	*Dan Jurafsky & Christopher Manning* Coursera, March–May 2012
Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (*91.1%*)	*Sebastian Thrun & Peter Norvig* pre-Udacity, October–December 2011

Audited MOOCs:

Discrete Optimization (*watched all video lectures*)	*Pascal van Hentenryck* Coursera, March–April 2014
Compilers (*watched all video lectures*)	*Alex Aiken* Coursera, April 2013
Probabilistic Graphical Models (*watched all video lectures*)	*Daphne Koller* Coursera, September–December 2012
Machine Learning (*watched all video lectures*)	*Andrew Ng* Coursera, October–December 2011