Ross E. Kirsling

CONTACT INFORMATION

(available upon request)

Email: rkirsling@gmail.com
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Natural language understanding
Dialogue systems
Computational semantics and pragmatics

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sony Network Entertainment, Middleton, Wisconsin, USA

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

- Participated in development of three web applications targeted at both desktop and mobile, including a high-profile online store and a podcast directory.
- Co-initiated transition of Sony Entertainment Network PC webstore project from San Francisco to Madison.
- Handled internal Japanese translation and correspondence on a media management software team.
- Assisted in various facets of a desktop software project across 20 releases, 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
- Level 1 (highest) of Japanese Language Proficiency Test — 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 (intermediate), 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.

PRESENTATIONS

April 2, 2011. Applying formalized aboutness conditions to Japanese topic structures. 9th Workshop in General Linguistics (WIGL), 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	*Jennifer Widom*
(*99% with distinction*)	Stanford OpenEdX, January–March 2014

Principles of Reactive Programming	*Martin Odersky, Erik Meijer, Roland Kuhn*
(*100% with distinction*)	Coursera, November–December 2013

Functional Programming Principles in Scala	*Martin Odersky*
(*100% with distinction*)	Coursera, September–November 2013

Introduction to Parallel Programming	*John Owens & David Luebke*
(*highest distinction*)	Udacity, June 2013

Computational Neuroscience	*Rajesh P. N. Rao & Adrienne Fairhall*
(*99.3%*)	Coursera, April–June 2013

Introduction to Theoretical Computer Science	*Sebastian Wernicke*
(*highest distinction*)	Udacity, October 2012

Quantum Mechanics and Quantum Computation	*Umesh Vazirani*
(*91.4%*)	Coursera, July–September 2012

Introduction to Logic	*Michael Genesereth*
(*100%*)	Coursera, April–June 2012

Natural Language Processing	*Dan Jurafsky & Christopher Manning*
(*90.6%*)	Coursera, March–May 2012

Introduction to Artificial Intelligence	*Sebastian Thrun & Peter Norvig*
(*91.1%*)	pre-Udacity, October–December 2011

Audited MOOCs:

Discrete Optimization	*Pascal van Hentenryck*
(*watched all video lectures*)	Coursera, March–April 2014

Compilers	*Alex Aiken*
(*watched all video lectures*)	Coursera, April 2013

Probabilistic Graphical Models	*Daphne Koller*
(*watched all video lectures*)	Coursera, September–December 2012

Machine Learning	*Andrew Ng*
(*watched all video lectures*)	Coursera, October–December 2011