

# Zachary Wasserman

## education

- 2009-2013 **University of Pennsylvania** *B.S.E. (Summa Cum Laude) in Computer Science*
- 3.96/4.0 Computer Science GPA (25 classes) – 3.81/4.0 Overall GPA
  - Awarded *Computer Science Academic Award* for “excelling in Computer Science coursework well beyond the requirement for the degree.”
  - Dean’s List 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013 for strong GPA
  - Selected Coursework: *Algorithms, Data Structures, Operating Systems, Security\*, Distributed Systems\*, Databases, Advanced Programming\*, Intro/Advanced Architecture* \*graduate level class
  - Leader of PennQuest pre-orientation backpacking program to help integrate incoming students into campus life (2010-2012)

## about

1739 Bancroft Way  
Berkeley, CA 94703

zwass@seas.upenn.edu  
zwass.com  
github.com/zwass

## tech

Python, Java,  
C, Haskell,  
Hadoop/HBase,  
SQL, Bash, Git, SVN

## experience

- Summer '12 **Opower (KPCB Engineering Fellow)** *Software Engineer Intern*
- Built Hadoop/HBase implementations of core data infrastructure for disaggregating heating/cooling from overall customer energy usage
  - Increased efficiency of analysis by 100x with MapReduce implementation
  - Explored performance of HBase queries to optimize analysis algorithms
- 2010-2012 **UPenn Distributed Systems Lab** *P25 Security Project Researcher*
- Hacked on radio scanner custom firmware used to perform data collection
  - Implemented prototype attack on the P25 protocol using software defined radio
- Summer '11 **Hulu** *Software Engineer Intern*
- Built an automation system for the company’s virtual servers (à la Amazon EC2)
  - Created a RESTful API as an abstraction layer between VM hypervisor and frontend clients
  - Cached VM usage metrics to improve response time by an order of magnitude
  - Implemented a web-based frontend with Python and Mako templates
- 2011 **University of Pennsylvania** *CIS240 Teaching Assistant*
- Taught introductory computer architecture and C programming concepts
- 2009-2010 **The Daily Pennsylvanian** *Lead Online Developer*
- Optimized database to eliminate crashes (50,000+ daily pageviews)
  - Designed a new menu bar and polished page templates for thedp.com in PHP
  - Recruited and supervised a 6-person staff of engineers
- 2005-2007 **University of California, Berkeley** *Gamescrafters Researcher*
- Coded logic for solving the board game “Toot and Otto” in C
  - Created a GUI in Tcl/Tk to play against a perfect computer opponent

## projects

- 2012 **lpControl** *github.com/zwass/lpControl*
- Interpret rotation of a vinyl record as a computer input device
  - Manipulating the record controls Spotify, or dials a virtual rotary phone
  - Awarded *Organizer’s Choice* at PennApps Hackathon September 2012
- 2012 **Distribuchat** *github.com/zwass/distribuchat*
- Distributed chat implemented in C with reliable, in-order transmission over UDP
  - Fault tolerance through distributed leader election algorithm
- 2012 **Roadtrippin'** *rdtripp.in*
- Help users plan road trips by solving the travelling salesman problem and routing through their Facebook friends
  - Won *third place* at PennApps Hackathon January 2012

## research

Why (Special Agent) Johnny (Still) Can’t Encrypt: A Security Analysis of the APCO Project 25 Two-Way Radio System – *Awarded Best Paper*

Sandy Clark, Travis Goodspeed, Perry Metzger, Zachary Wasserman, Kevin Xu, Matt Blaze  
20th Usenix Security Symposium, 2011, San Francisco, California