

S. M. Ali Eslami

Full name: Seyed Mohammadali Eslami
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Education

University of Edinburgh, School of Informatics, Edinburgh, UK

- Sept 09 - Present PhD candidate, Machine Learning and Computer Vision
- Supervisor: Prof. Christopher K. I. Williams
 - Proposal: *Hierarchical Probabilistic Models for Image Segmentation*
- Sept 05 - June 09 BEng, Artificial Intelligence and Software Engineering
- First class honours (80% average)
 - Supervisor: Dr. Subramanian Ramamoorthy
 - Dissertation: *Evolving Robust Control Strategies for Simulated Animals*
 - Awards: Class medal, Jim Howe prize, Citigroup prize

James Gillespie's High School, Edinburgh, UK

- Sept 04 - June 05 A-levels and Advanced Highers
- Subjects: Physics, Mathematics, Computing (all grade A)

Ehsan High School, Tehran, Iran

- Sept 99 - June 04 Diploma
- Major: Mathematics and Physics (97% average)
 - Ranked 4th in exam with more than 700 participants from Iran's top schools

Experience

- June 11 - Aug 11 **Microsoft Research Ltd.**, Cambridge, UK
Research Intern
- Worked with Dr. John Winn and Dr. Nicolas Heess in the Machine Learning and Perception group on novel probabilistic models of object shape. I also collaborated with the medical imaging and Kinect teams on applications of our models.
- Feb 09 - May 11 **KeepMeOut** (www.keepmeout.com)
Co-founder, Developer and Designer
- Led a team of up to six people to develop the concept and was involved with initial publicity efforts. The website has attracted users from more than 170 countries and has been featured in multiple magazines and national newspapers.
- July 07 - Feb 08 **Microsoft Game Studios (Rare Ltd.)**, Birmingham, UK
Software Engineer
- Worked within the Shared Technology Group (STG) on a number of tools and APIs used internally by the game teams and STG itself:
- Designed and implemented a C# library to compile proprietary XML formatted data structures to (and decompile such data from) C++ memory streams, with support for list-types and pointer variables.

Worked directly with Senior Graphics Engineer on research and development:

- Designed and implemented a novel compression-based high dynamic range (HDR) lighting solution for Viva Piñata 2. The work involved writing new shaders, updating existing ones, significantly altering the rendering pipeline and also working closely with artists to adjust the system's behaviour and to create appropriate tools.

- May 05 - June 06 **Studio Masis and Dorsia**, Edinburgh, UK
Web Developer
- Designed and developed multiple standards compliant websites with PHP backends. Managed projects to completion and handled talks with clients.
- May 03 - Sept 03 **Comserve Iran**, Tehran, Iran
Technical Intern
- Maintained a large stock-photo database, serviced client computers and helped with the deployment of LAN networks in medium-sized businesses.

Publications

- Sept 11 S M Ali Eslami and Christopher K I Williams. *Factored Shapes and Appearances for Parts-based Object Understanding*. British Machine Vision Conference (BMVC) 2011. Dundee, United Kingdom.
- June 09 S M Ali Eslami and Subramanian Ramamoorthy. *Evolving Robust Control Strategies for Simulated Animats*. Undergraduate Dissertation, University of Edinburgh. Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

Teaching

- Autumn 09 -
Autumn 11 **Probabilistic Modelling and Reasoning**, University of Edinburgh
Teaching Assistant and Tutor
- Spring 10 **Machine Learning and Pattern Recognition**, University of Edinburgh
Tutor
- Autumn 09 **Computer Systems and Software Engineering**, University of Edinburgh
Tutor
- Spring 07
Spring 10 **Object Oriented Programming**, University of Edinburgh
Tutor and Lab Demonstrator
- Autumn 06
Autumn 09 **Functional Programming**, University of Edinburgh
Tutor and Lab Demonstrator
- May 04 -
Sept 04 **HTML and CSS**, Edinburgh, UK
Private Tutor

Awards

EDTC Feasibility Study Grant with Vidiowiki Ltd., 2011
Carnegie Scholarship, 2009 – present

Overseas Research Scholarship, 2009 – present
 School of Informatics scholarship for PhD study (declined), 2009
 Jim Howe prize for highest overall mark in AI, 2009
 School of Informatics medal for highest overall mark in class, 2009
 IBM University Team Challenge - 4th place, 2007
 IBM UK Mainframe Contest - 2nd place, 2007
 British Computer Society Undergraduate Bursary, 2005
 University of Tehran award for outstanding high school students, 2004

Talks

Sept 11 *Factored Shapes and Appearances for Parts-based Object Modelling*
 ACM Seminar, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Oct 11 *Factored Shapes and Appearances for Parts-based Object Modelling*
 British Machine Vision Conference, Dundee, UK

Oct 10 *Hierarchical Probabilistic Models for Image Understanding*
 Cifar Summer School on Learning and Vision, Toronto, Canada

Jan 10 *KeepMeOut of Quetzi*
 Student TechMeetup, Edinburgh, UK

Apr 09 *High Dynamic Range Lighting on the Xbox 360*
 TechMeetup, Edinburgh, UK

Languages

Persian/Farsi *Native*
 English *Fluent*
 Arabic *Conversational*

Skills

Java, C++, C#, MATLAB, Ruby and Rails, Python and Django, Haskell, PHP, HTML and CSS, Javascript, .NET, PhysX, DirectX, OpenGL

Responsibilities

REPRESENTATION

Nov 09 - Present **Elected student representative**
 Science and Engineering Research Training Committee

Dec 09 - Present **Student representative**
 PhD Experience Task Group

Sept 09 - Present **Elected postgraduate student representative**
 Edinburgh University Students' Association

Sept 08 - June 09 **Committee member (PR officer)**
Edinburgh University Computer Society

ANNOTATION

PASCAL Visual Object Classes Challenge (VOC), 2010, 2011

REVIEWING

Scottish Informatics and Computer Science Alliance (SICSA), 2010

ORGANISING

Sept 09 - Present Edinburgh Probabilistic Inference Group (PIGlets) Journal Club

Attendance

Aug 10 Canadian Institute for Advanced Research Summer School on Learning and Vision
in Biology and Engineering, Toronto, Canada

References

Prof. Christopher K. I. Williams
School of Informatics
Edinburgh, EH8 9AB, UK
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Dr. John Winn
Microsoft Research Ltd.
Cambridge, CB3 0FB, UK
jwinn@microsoft.com

Andrew Grieve (mentor at Microsoft Games)
RBC Capital Markets
London, EC4V 4DE, UK
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