
Stephen Merity

Mobile: 0419 417 351

Email: smerity@it.usyd.edu.au / smerity@smerity.com

Address: Unit 15, 10-38 Renwick Street, Redfern, 2016

EDUCATION

University of Sydney

2008 – Present

Bachelor of Information Technology (Honours) candidate (3rd year)

EXPERIENCE

Google App Engine

Dec 2009 – Mar 2010

Google Sydney

INTERNSHIP

Helped triage and fix multiple bugs in live production code and implemented a new feature to enable rapid querying of existing user data. Work was performed in three languages (Java, C++ and Python) with code reviews and unit tests required for each commit.

Wunderkammer

Mar 2009 – Present

School of Linguistics, University of Sydney

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Independently implemented and improved Java code for an application to import data in a variety of formats into Wunderkammer - a Java ME MIDlet for electronic dictionaries on mobile phones.

Summer Research Scholarship Project

Nov 2008 – Mar 2009

School of I.T., University of Sydney

VACATION SCHOLAR

Independently performed feature analysis and implemented Viterbi decoding and a framework for classifying sentences into an Argumentative Zoning schema using a maximum entropy classifier.

Data Structures (Advanced) Research Project

Aug 2008 – Nov 2008

School of I.T., University of Sydney

Worked in a team to develop software to operate a remote control helicopter using a SunSPOT controller - a wireless sensor network device developed by Sun Microsystems. The aim was to allow the helicopter to hover by itself, adjusting rotor speed as needed.

Astrofact

Aug 2008 – Nov 2008

Talented Students Program Research Project, University of Sydney

Worked in a team to implement a prototype system for online querying of an astronomy literature corpus. This involved extracting text from L^AT_EX files and then training a classifier to perform named entity recognition over the corpus.

PUBLICATIONS

Accurate Argumentative Zoning with Maximum Entropy models 2009
Stephen Merity, Tara Murphy and James R. Curran
Proceedings of the 2009 Workshop on Text and Citation Analysis for Scholarly Digital Libraries, ACL-IJCNLP 2009, pages 19–26

AWARDS AND HONOURS

Google Sydney Summer Internship, Google Sydney 2009 – 2010
Best Undergraduate Plan and Elevator Pitch (Genesis Business Plan Competition) 2009
Microsoft Research Asia Scholarship 2008 – Present
Microsoft Research Asia Prize for Junior Software Development Projects 2008
School of I.T. Summer Research Scholarship, University of Sydney 2008
School of I.T. 1st Year High Honour Roll, University of Sydney 2008
Faculty of Engineering and I.T. Dean’s List for Academic Merit, University of Sydney 2008
Best Programmer Award, National Computer Science School 2007

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Sydney University IT Society (SUITS) Jan 2009
PRESIDENT – Responsible for co-ordinating and running SUITS on a day to day basis.
Data Structures (Advanced), University of Sydney July 2009 – Present
MENTOR – Teaching data structures and introductory algorithms to the advanced stream of the Data Structures course.
International Science School, University of Sydney July 2009
TUTOR – Teaching High School students about cellular automata.
National Computer Science School Jan 2009
TUTOR – Teaching Python programming and Web Design skills to High School students with the aim of them developing a fully functional website and search engine for a charity by the end of a single week.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Operating Systems: Linux/Unix and Windows
- Programming: Proficient in Python and C, familiar with using C++, Java, HTML and shell scripting
- Particular expertise in the Natural Language Processing field including tagging, parsing and the underlying classifiers and algorithms used to carry out these tasks
- Strong written and oral communication skills learned from writing research literature, giving presentations and teaching students