

# S. M. Ali Eslami

---

*Full name:* Seyed Mohammadali Eslami  
*Address:* 10 Crichton Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9AB, UK

*E-mail:* s.m.eslami@sms.ed.ac.uk  
*Website:* www.arkitus.com

## 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
  - Thesis: *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

### University of Oxford, Department of Engineering Science, Oxford, UK

- July 12 - Sept 12      Visiting student, Visual Geometry Group
- Host: Prof. Andrew Zisserman

### 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 - Present      **BookAdopter, KeepMeOut** (bookadopter.com, keepmeout.com)  
Co-founder, Developer and Designer
- Leading teams of up to six people to develop the concepts and have been heavily involved with publicity efforts. The websites have attracted millions of visitors from over 190 countries and have been featured in multiple magazines and newspapers.
- July 07 - Feb 08      **Microsoft Game Studios (Rare Ltd.)**, Birmingham, UK  
Software Engineer
- Worked within the shared technology division on .NET data compilers used internally by artists and developers. Designed a novel, compression-based high dynamic range (HDR) lighting pipeline for Viva Piñata 2.

## Publications

- June 12 S. M. Ali Eslami, Nicolas Heess and John Winn. *The Shape Boltzmann Machine: a Strong Model of Object Shape*. Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR) 2012. Providence, USA. **Oral presentation.**
- 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, UK. **Oral presentation.**
- June 09 S. M. Ali Eslami and Subramanian Ramamoorthy. *Evolving Robust Control Strategies for Simulated Animats*. Undergraduate Dissertation, University of Edinburgh. Edinburgh, UK.

## 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 - 4<sup>th</sup> place, 2007  
 IBM UK Mainframe Contest - 2<sup>nd</sup> place, 2007  
 British Computer Society Undergraduate Bursary, 2005  
 University of Tehran award for outstanding high school students, 2004

## Teaching

Autumn 09 - 11 **Probabilistic Modelling and Reasoning**, Teaching Assistant and Tutor  
 Spring 10 **Machine Learning and Pattern Recognition**, Tutor  
 Autumn 09 **Computer Systems and Software Engineering**, Tutor  
 Spring 07, 10 **Object Oriented Programming**, Tutor and Lab Demonstrator  
 Autumn 06, 09 **Functional Programming**, Tutor and Lab Demonstrator

## Activities

COMMUNITY Representative at Edinburgh University Students' Association  
 RECREATION Squash, football, philosophy, hillwalking

## Languages

PERSIAN Native  
 ENGLISH Fluent  
 ARABIC Conversational

## Technical Experience

LANGUAGES MATLAB, C#, C++, Java, Python, Ruby, Haskell  
 WEB Django, Rails, PHP, HTML and CSS, Javascript  
 APIS DirectX, OpenGL, PhysX

## References

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