

Star Simpson

(857) 891 4676

stars@mit.edu

E d u c a t i o n

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science expected June 2010.

E x p e r i e n c e

MIT Media Lab, Life Long Kindergarten Group (with Jay Silver) - Summer 2008

Created Fuzzy Logic, my idea of what electronics education should be like. Fuzzy Logic is a kit of fuzzy fridge magnets. By replacing the tedious process of breadboarding with plush circuit elements with magnetic connectors, I lowered the age barrier to electronics education, as well as made creative circuit-play more accessible to all ages.

MIT Media Lab, Personal Robots Group (with Jeff Lieberman) - Fall 2007

Built a posture-sensing shirt, wrote interface and motor control software in Java, and modeled a spine in Maya for live visual feedback to the wearer. The project aimed to encourage healthier posture by retraining muscle memory through vibrotactile feedback.

Optician Apprentice, MOSAIC Labs of Oceanit; Maui, HI — Summers 2004-2006

Designed and welded a test chamber to characterize a virus-based catalyst that strips hydrogen gas from either hydrocarbon or alcohol-based fuels, for use in a fuel cell.

Intern, Squid Labs/Makani Power; Alameda, CA — Summer 2007

Designed a boost converter circuit for converting wind power into electricity for charging an array of LiPoly batteries. Wrote a Perl software interface for monitoring and logging data on a 300VDC battery pack. Created applications in Python for Series 60 Symbian cell phones to continuously monitor strain gauges.

MIT Media Lab, Personal Robots Group (with Cory Kidd) — Spring 2007

Intensive SolidWorks CAD, laser-cutting, vacuum forming, and waterjet cutting while constructing the a fleet of socially-interacting robots designed to encourage people to meet their weight loss goals by standing in as weight-loss partners. This project became the company Intuitive Automata.

MIT Media Lab, Tangible Media Group (with Jason Alonso) — Fall 2006

Created new boards for the PingPongPlus: a ping pong table that localizes ball hits on the table with sound sensors, and projects visual effects on the table surface.

Optician Apprentice, MOSAIC Labs of Oceanit; Maui, HI — Summers 2004-2006

Shaped optical components, learned basic optical theory, practiced interferometry, and did precision machining while building extremely high-end telescopes.

Intern, Akimeka LLC; Maui, HI — Summer 2005

Created application and Apache/Tomcat web servers, developed an island-wide wireless network, created a website written with JSP, and taught K-6 students. Worked with Akimeka's Digital Bus educational outreach project. The Digital Bus is a portable lab bringing sensor-equipped laptop computers (temperature, oxygen content, turbidity, salinity) to students learning science in endangered Hawaiian salt marshes.

O t h e r

President, MIT Electronic Research Society, 2006-present

President of MITERS, a student-run EE lab, machine shop and creative haven for student inventors.

International

I hold United States and European Union passports. I love to travel and pick up languages.