

# Curriculum Vitae

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## FARSHAD KOOTI

Address: Max Planck Institute for Software Systems,  
Campus E1 4, D-66123 Saarbrücken, Germany  
Fax: +49 681 9303-699

Phone: +49 681 9303813  
Email: farshad@mpi-sws.org  
Webpage: <http://www.mpi-sws.org/~farshad>

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### GENERAL RESEARCH INTERESTS

My main research interest is the study of large and complex networks, especially **online social networks** (OSNs), which includes the measurement and analysis of users' activity in OSNs, and the design of systems that can leverage the findings of this analysis.

### EDUCATION

- **Master's in Computer Science**, Max Planck Institute for Software Systems (MPI-SWS) / Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany (Total GPA: **A**). Oct. 2010 - Jul. 2012 (Expected)
  - **Advisor:** Dr. Krishna Gummadi
- **B.S. in Computer Engineering**, Software Group, University of Tehran, Iran. Sep. 2005 - Feb. 2010
  - **Advisor:** Dr. Masoud Asadpour

### PUBLICATIONS

- **The Emergence of Conventions in Online Social Networks**  
Farshad Kooti, Haeryun Yang, Meeyoung Cha, Krishna Gummadi, and Winter A. Mason  
*Proceedings of the 6th International AAAI Conference on Weblogs and Social Media (ICWSM'12)*,  
*Dublin, Ireland, June 2012.* (PDF)
- **Geographic Dissection of the Twitter Network**  
Juhi Kulshrestha, Farshad Kooti, Ashkan Nikraves, and Krishna Gummadi  
*Proceedings of the 6th International AAAI Conference on Weblogs and Social Media (ICWSM'12)*,  
*Dublin, Ireland, June 2012.* (PDF)
- **Understanding and Combating Link Farming in Twitter**  
Saptarshi Ghosh, Bimal Viswanath, Farshad Kooti, Naveen Kumar Sharma, Korlam Gautam, Fabricio Benevenuto, Niloy Ganguly, and Krishna Gummadi.  
*Proceedings of the 21st International World Wide Web Conference (WWW'12)*, *Lyon, France, April 2012.* (PDF)
- **The birth of retweeting conventions in Twitter**  
Meeyoung Cha, Krishna Gummadi, Farshad Kooti, Winter A. Mason, and Haeryun Yang  
*Abstract paper in 3rd Workshop on Complex Networks (CompleNet'12)*, *Melbourne, USA, March 2012.*(PDF)
- **Predicting Emerging Social Conventions in Online Social Networks**  
Farshad Kooti, Winter A. Mason, Krishna Gummadi, and Meeyoung Cha  
Under submission

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- Max Planck Society **student fellowship**, MPI-SWS. (Oct. 2010 - Present).
- Qualified as a **top student of semester** in two consecutive semesters in the Faculty of Engineering, University of Tehran. (Fall 2009 and Spring 2010).
- Excellent Student **M.S. Admission Offer** to University of Tehran: This special position is offered to a few top B.S. students of the university to be straightly admitted to the M.S. program without taking the M.S. entrance exam. (2009)
- Scored in the **top 0.2%** of nearly 500,000 participants in the nationwide university entrance exam in mathematics & physics. (2005)

## RESEARCH PROJECTS AND PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

- **Design and implementation of a toolbox for Social Network analysis (B.S. Thesis. Grade: 20/20):** Implementing basic algorithms (connected components, centrality, ...) for analysis of social networks and large graphs using C++ boost library. Other activities included creating a new data-set for analysis of social networks by crawling Iranian weblogs. (2009)
- **Design and implementation of an intelligent tutoring system:** Design and implementation of an intelligent quiz system for using classifiers to decide what questions to assign to each student and to evaluate the performance of the students codes. (2009)
- **Using natural language probabilistic parser in translation of phrasal verbs from English to Persian:** Detection of phrasal verbs is a challenging task for NLP parsers. In this project we implemented some heuristics to improve phrasal verb detection in Stanford parser, which is one the best existing parsers. We were able to improve f-score by more than 18%. (2008)
- **Summer internship in Douran Smart Technological Company:** Worked as a member of AI group on implementing a part of speech parser for Persian language. (2008)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching assistance in University of Tehran. Responsibilities included: Designing and grading assignments and quizzes and holding recitation classes.

- Artificial Intelligence: Spring 2009
- Algorithm Design: Fall 2007, Spring 2008, Fall 2008, and Fall 2009
- Data Structures: Spring 2007, Fall 2007, and Fall 2009
- Fundamentals of Computers and Programming: Spring 2007
- Principles of Compiler Design: Spring 2008

## COMPUTER SKILLS

- Expert in Python, Java, and C/C++.
- Familiar with PHP, C#, Prolog, Verilog, and 8086 assembly, J2EE, ASP, .NET, and JavaScript.
- Database design and management: MySQL, and MS SQL Server

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

**English:** Fluent; **Persian:** Native; **German:** Conversational; **Arabic:** Basic

## REFERENCES

Available upon request.