

Ioana Goga (Marian)

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PROFILE

Research experience: I am a highly motivated individual with a unique combination of skills ranging from in depth IT knowledge to applied Psychology and Coaching skills. I have a degree in Computer Science, over 15 years experience in software development and 5 years experience in research in Artificial Intelligence, Computational Modeling and Language Acquisition in Humans and Robots.

Training experience: I hold a full BSc degree in Psychology and Educational Studies with a specialization in the Developmental Studies. 5 years training in NLP, Client-Centered Therapies and Ericksonian Hypnosis and Psychotherapy. Coordinator of a training team that organizes since 2008 NLP Resonanz© courses for children and teenagers in Romania.

Objective: Start in 2012 a PhD in Educational Studies. Utilize my skills and knowledge in Psychology, NLP and computational modeling to study Excellence in Teaching.

Interests: Effective Teaching, Intrinsic Motivation and Achievement, Collaborative Learning, Modeling of the Dynamics of the teaching-learning process, Intelligent Tutoring Systems.

EDUCATION

Master by Research in Computer Science

University College Dublin, Ireland

2000-2002

Title of thesis: A biologically inspired computational model of motor control development

Web: http://cortex.cs.may.ie/theses/ioana_master.html

Bachelor of Science in Psychology

University Babes Bolyai, Cluj Napoca, Romania, Faculty of Psychology

1998-2005

Title of thesis: Educating attention in early development of imitation, language and object manipulation abilities in human infants.

Web: http://www.coneural.org/goga/psy_experiments.php#b

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Faculty of Computer Science, Politehnica University Bucuresti, Romania

1991-1996

TRAINING

NLP Resonanz Practitioner, Master and Trainer

2002-2007

Institut Kutschera Communication, Austria, <http://www.kutschera.org>

Training in Focusing children, Client-centered therapy, Romania 2003-2004

Training in Clinical Hypnosis, Relaxation and Ericksonian Psychotherapy, Romania
2003-2004

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

March 2008 – present Software Testing Engineer

Towers Watson Consulting, Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire, UK

Oct. 2004-Dec. 2007 Software Testing Engineer

API Romania, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Aug. 2003-Feb 2004 Research Assistant

Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale Lausanne, Learning Algorithms and Systems Laboratory, Switzerland

- Design and implement a neural architecture for the development of imitation and language skills in simulated robots. Run and analyze experiments on a simulated humanoid robot with 30 degrees of freedom.

June 2000-Oct.2002 Research Assistant

University College Dublin, Computer Science Department, Dublin, Ireland

- Design a biologically inspired neural networks simulator SpikeNNS.
Web: <http://cortex.cs.may.ie/tools/SpikeNNS/index.html>
- Develop a computational model of the cortical processes involved in visuomotor transformation and neonatal imitation.

Oct. 1998-May 2000 Software Developer

Institute for Computer Science, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Oct. 2010 – present Teaching Assistant

Queen Edith Primary School, Cambridge

- Volunteer one day a week

Aug. 2009-present NLP Resonanz Trainer

Tabara Altfel, Romania

- Coordinator of the first NLP Resonanz© camp for children and teenagers, Romania. Web: www.tabara-altfel.ro

June 2004-2006

Research Assistant

Coneural - Center for Cognitive and Neural Studies, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

- Study the mechanisms of educating attention in toddlers using psychological experiments and computational modelling. Contributed to **CHILDES** - Child Language Data Exchange System, the second Romanian language corpus consisting on video and audio records of the parent-toddler interactions.

Web: <http://childes.psy.cmu.edu/browser/index.php?url=Romance/Romanian/Goga/>

KEY SKILLS

Computers

- I have over 15 years experience in computer programming and software development. Proficient in programming under Windows and Unix. Excellent knowledge of Office, Excel, web programming, scripting, computer administration.

psychology

- University courses in Clinical Psychology (2 years), Developmental Psychology (1 year), Health Psychology (1 year), Cognitive Psychology (1 year), Social Psychology (1 year).

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- I am a reliable team player, a good communicator and negotiator.
- I have excellent planning and organizational skills, I am self-motivated and can work independently, with little supervision.
- I have a high tolerance to ambiguity and frustrations and I have a proven record of research skills.

oftware

- Database: Microsoft SQL Server, MySQL and Microsoft Access
- Platforms: Microsoft Windows XP, Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Microsoft Windows Vista, RedHat Linux.
- Development Tools: Visual Studio 2010
- Frameworks: .Net 2.0, ASP. NET 2.0
- Automation tools: TestComplete, Visual Studio Test Team, NUnit.
- Building tools: Visual Source Safe, Cruise Control, NAnt, InstallShield.
- Bug tracking software: Bugzilla, SharePoint, FogBugz, Alexis Team.
- Documentation: RUP, HTML Workshop.
- Neural Network simulators: SNNS, NEURON.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Goga, I. and Billard, A. (2006). Attention mechanisms for goal-directed action in cognitive agents. *Third Conference Towards Autonomous Robotic Systems, TAROS 2006*, Guildford, UK.

Goga, I. and Billard, A. (2006) Development of goal-directed imitation, object manipulation and language in humans and robots. In M. Arbib (Ed.) *Action to language via the mirror neuron system*, Cambridge University Press.

Connolly, C. G., **Marian, I.** and Reilly, R. G. (2004) Approaches to efficient simulation with spiking neural networks. In H. Bowman & C Labiouse (Eds.), *Connectionist models of cognition and perception II* (Vol. 15, pp.231-240). London, UK: World Scientific

Marian, I. (2003). [A biologically inspired computational model of motor control development.](#) *Master Thesis*, Department of Computer Science, University College Dublin, Ireland.

Reilly, R.G. and [Marian, I.](#) (2002). Cortical Software Re-Use: A Computational Principle for Cognitive Development in Robots. *Proceedings of the Second International Conference on Development and Learning 2002*. MIT Press.

[Marian, I.](#) and Reilly, R.G. (2001) SpikeSNNS - a simulator for spike processing networks. *Proceedings of 12th DAAAM International Symposium on Intelligent Manufacturing & Automation: Focus on Precision Engineering*, B. Katalinic (Ed.). DAAAM International, Jena, Germany, October 2001.

INTERESTS

- Traveling, NLP, Yoga, basketball, badminton.
- Languages: Romanian – Native, English – proficient, French – intermediate.