

Titus Barik, PE

CONTACT INFORMATION

Microsoft: **AI+Research**
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24/2027
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Application of HCI theories to improve software developer productivity.
Software development tools as a means to augment intellectual and creative abilities.
Improving the usability of program analysis tools.

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

Microsoft: AI+Research, Redmond, WA

Researcher

August 2017 to Present

- Execute human-computer interaction (HCI) research to understand how software engineers, data scientists, and end-users learn, design, and program.
- Investigate opportunities for using program synthesis techniques (PROSE) within Microsoft products through building prototypes, deploying surveys, and conducting user studies.
- Apply research findings to products such as Visual Studio, Microsoft Office, and Azure Machine Learning.

ABB Corporate Research, Raleigh, NC

Research Scientist

February 2014 to March 2016

- Software Engineering researcher for Industrial Software Systems group at ABB, which creates methods and tools to increase quality and reduce cost of ABB internal software development.
- Applied research focus on novel visualizations for call graph navigation using situational cognition theory to aid developers' comprehension and search strategies in complex codebases.
- Research results realized as Visual Studio extensions and made available for deployment both within and outside of ABB.

Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA

Research Intern

June 2015 to August 2015

- Conducted empirical studies, using mixed-method contextual inquiry and survey approaches, on different roles at Microsoft to understand how data-driven culture affects decision making in software development processes.
- Funded under the Strategic Internship Program (SIP) initiative, a long-term collaboration between multiple research areas at Microsoft, including Human Interactions in Programming (HIP), Visualization and Interaction for Business and Entertainment (VIBE), and Empirical Software Engineering (ESE).

Google, Mountain View, CA

Software Engineering Intern

June 2014 to September 2014

- Returning summer internship with the Machine Intelligence: Radical Simplicity team.
- Developed light-weight error notification collector for new logic programming language for solving AI and data manipulation problems at Google. Understanding how developers introduce and resolve compiler errors can help Google generate better error notifications, thereby improving developer productivity.

- Through empirical user studies, evaluated and then implemented prototype of explanatory visualizations for a proprietary, declarative, LLVM-based compiler platform (RS). The platform is intended for end-user programmers who do not have a formal background in declarative programming., such as data scientists or analysts.

Google, Mountain View, CA

Software Engineering Intern

May 2013 to August 2013

- Summer internship with the Google Web Server (GWS) team. GWS powers the Google homepage, as well as other critical web infrastructure.
- Developed system to understand how programming modifications impact the visual appearance of web pages, and deployed system within the GWS continuous testing framework. System is currently running in production at Google to detect web page rendering issues for `google.com` search results.
- 7519 lines of production code contributed to Google, including Python, JavaScript, Java, and HTML.

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC

Research Assistant, Computer Science

Fall 2013 to present

- Developer Liberation Front
 - PI: Professor Emerson Murphy-Hill

Research Assistant, Computer Science

Summer 2011 to Fall 2013

- Science of Security Lablet, Army Research Office
 - “Spatiotemporal Security Analytics and Human Cognition” (Grant W911NF-08-1-0105)
 - PI: Professor David Roberts

EDUCATION

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC

Ph.D. Student, Computer Science

August 2010 to present

- Adviser: Professor Emerson Murphy-Hill
- Currently maintain 4.0 GPA.
- Written Qualifier: “Spatiotemporal Game Signatures for Bot Detection in Social Games,” March 2012.
- Thesis Proposal: “How Should Static Analysis Tools Explain Anomalies to Developers?” May 2016.

M.Eng, Electrical and Computer Engineering

May 2009

- Graduated with 4.0 GPA.

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

B.S., Computer Engineering

June 2004

- Graduated with honors.
- Senior design project: “A Digital Control Systems Package (DCSP) for Linux.” Developed for the DaqBoard/2000 data acquisition PCI card. System supports root locus for Single Input Single Output (SISO), function generators, and model following.

- BOOK CHAPTERS [1] **Titus Barik** and Emerson Murphy-Hill. “A Process for Surviving Survey Design and Sailing through Survey Deployment.” In: *Perspectives on Data Science for Software Engineering*, 2016.
- JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS [2] Emerson Murphy-Hill, **Titus Barik**, and Andrew Black. “Interactive Ambient Visualizations for Soft Advice.” In: *Interactive Visualization*, 2013.
- FULL CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS [3] **Titus Barik**. “To Tinker, To Build, To Learn, and To Love: Expressions on the Nature and Significance of Programming and Play.” In: *IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing (VL/HCC 2017)*, Raleigh, North Carolina, 2017 (29% acceptance).
- [4] **Titus Barik**, Justin Smith, Kevin Lubick, Elisabeth Holmes, Jing Feng, Emerson Murphy-Hill, and Chris Parnin. “Do Developers Read Compiler Error Messages?” In: *International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2017)*, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2017 (16% acceptance).
- [5] **Titus Barik**, Yoonki Song, Brittany Johnson, and Emerson Murphy-Hill. “From Quick Fixes to Slow Fixes: Reimagining Static Analysis Resolutions to Enable Design Space Exploration.” In: *International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME 2016)*, Raleigh, North Carolina, 2016 (29% acceptance).
- [6] **Titus Barik**, Emerson Murphy-Hill, and Thomas Zimmermann. “A Perspective on Blending Programming Environments and Games: Beyond Points, Badges, and Leaderboards.” In: *IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing (VL/HCC 2016)*, Cambridge, United Kingdom, 2016 (33% acceptance).
- [7] **Titus Barik**, Robert DeLine, Steven Drucker, and Danyel Fisher. “The Bones of the System: A Case Study of Logging and Telemetry at Microsoft.” In: *International Conference on Software Engineering (Software Engineering in Practice) (ICSE SEIP 2016)*, Austin, Texas, 2016 (26% acceptance).
- [8] **Titus Barik**, Kevin Lubick, Samuel Christie, and Emerson Murphy-Hill. “How Developers Visualize Compiler Messages: A Foundational Approach to Notification Construction.” In: *IEEE Working Conference on Software Visualization (VISSOFT 2014)*, Victoria, Canada, 2014 (48% acceptance).
- [9] **Titus Barik**, Michael Everett, Rogelio E. Cardona-Rivera, David L. Roberts, and Edward F. Gehringer. “A Community College Blended Learning Classroom Experience through Artificial Intelligence in Games.” In: *Frontiers in Education (FIE 2013)*, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 2013 (70% acceptance).
- [10] **Titus Barik**, Arpan Chakraborty, Brent Harrison, David L. Roberts, and Robert St. Amant. “Speed/Accuracy Tradeoff in ACT-R Models of the Concentration Game.” In: *International Conference on Cognitive Modeling (ICCM 2013)*, Ottawa, Canada, 2013.
- [11] **Titus Barik**, Brent Harrison, David L. Roberts, and Xuxian Jiang. “Spatial Game Signatures for Bot Detection in Social Games.” In: *Artificial Intelligence and Interactive Digital Entertainment (AIIDE 2012)*, Stanford, California, 2012 (54% acceptance).
- SHORT CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS [12] **Titus Barik**, Rahul Pandita, Justin Middleton, and Emerson Murphy-Hill. “Designing for Dystopia: Software Engineering Research for the Post-Apocalypse.” In: *Foundations of Software Engineering (Visions and Reflections) (FSE VAR 2016)*, Seattle, Washington, 2016 (26% acceptance).

- [13] **Titus Barik**, Brittany Johnson, and Emerson Murphy-Hill. “I ♥ Hacker News: Expanding Qualitative Research Findings by Analyzing Social News Websites.” In: *Foundations of Software Engineering (New Ideas)* (FSE NI 2015), Bergamo, Italy, 2015 (27% acceptance).
- [14] **Titus Barik**, Kevin Lubick, Justin Smith, John Slankas, and Emerson Murphy-Hill. “FUSE: A Reproducible, Extendable, Internet-scale Corpus of Spreadsheets.” In: *Mining Software Repositories (Data Showcase)* (MSR 2015), Florence, Italy, 2015 (64% acceptance).
- [15] **Titus Barik**, Kevin Lubick, and Emerson Murphy-Hill. “Commit Bubbles.” In: *International Conference on Software Engineering (New Ideas and Emerging Results)* (ICSE NIER 2015), Florence, Italy, 2015 (18% acceptance).
- [16] **Titus Barik**, Jim Witschey, Brittany Johnson, and Emerson Murphy-Hill. “Compiler Error Notifications Revisited: An Interaction-First Approach for Helping Developers More Effectively Comprehend and Resolve Error Notifications.” In: *International Conference on Software Engineering (New Ideas and Emerging Results)* (ICSE NIER 2014), Hyderabad, India, 2014 (24% acceptance).

WORKSHOP
PUBLICATIONS

- [17] Denae Ford, **Titus Barik**, Leslie Rand-Pickett, and Chris Parnin. “The Tech-Talk Balance: What Technical Interviewers Expect from Technical Candidates.” In: *International Workshop on Cooperative and Human Aspects of Software Engineering* (CHASE 2017), Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2017.
- [18] **Titus Barik**. “How Should Static Analysis Tools Explain Anomalies to Developers?” In: *Foundations of Software Engineering (Student Research Competition)* (FSE SRC 2016), Seattle, Washington, 2016.
- [19] Denae Ford, **Titus Barik**, and Chris Parnin. “Studying Sustained Attention and Cognitive States with Eye Tracking in Remote Technical Interviews.” In: *Eye Movements in Programming: Models to Data* (EMIP 2015), Joensuu, Finland, 2015.
- [20] **Titus Barik**. “Improving Error Notification Comprehension in IDEs by Supporting Developer Self-Explanations.” In: *IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing Graduate Consortium (VL/HCC GC 2015)*, Atlanta, Georgia, 2015.
- [21] Kevin Lubick, **Titus Barik**, and Emerson Murphy-Hill. “Can Social Screencasting Help Developers Learn New Tools?” In: *International Workshop on Cooperative and Human Aspects of Software Engineering* (CHASE 2015), Florence, Italy, 2015.
- [22] **Titus Barik**. “Improving Error Notification Comprehension through Visual Overlays in IDEs.” In: *IEEE Symposium on Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing Graduate Consortium (VL/HCC GC 2014)*, Melbourne, Australia, 2014.
- [23] **Titus Barik**. “Inferring Cognitive Behaviors from Low-level User Interactions in Games.” In: *Foundations of Digital Games Doctoral Consortium* (FDG DC 2013), Crete, Greece, 2013.

TRADE
PUBLICATIONS
AND TALKS

- [24] **Titus Barik**. “Educators Panel.” Panel member at the *Carolina Games Summit*. Goldsboro, North Carolina. 2013.
- [25] **Titus Barik** and Rogelio E. Cardona-Rivera. “Introduction to Game AI Using Python.” Presented at the *Carolina Games Summit*. Goldsboro, North Carolina.

2012. As a result of the presentation, a pilot course was introduced at Wayne Community College (see Teaching Experience). PhD Students Present Talk at Carolina Games Summit: <http://www.csc.ncsu.edu/news/1288>.

- [26] **Titus Barik**. “OpenLaszlo: Integrating with PHP.” *PHP Architect*, vol. 5-8, pp. 22-30, August 2006.
- [27] **Titus Barik**. “Developing a plugin architecture for PHP applications.” *PHP Architect*, vol. 5-4, pp. 26-35, April 2006.
- [28] **Titus Barik**. “Introduction to Drupal: A modular framework for content management.” *PHP Architect*, vol. 4-12, pp. 8-15, Dec. 2005.
- [29] **Titus Barik**. “Introducing the Java Content Repository API.” *IBM developerWorks: Java Technology Zone*, Aug. 2005. [Online]. Available: <http://www-128.ibm.com/developerworks/java/library/j-jcr/>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC

Teaching Assistant

August 2010 to May 2011

(teaching portfolio available at <http://teaching.barik.net>)

- Teaching Assistant for CSC/ECE 506: Architecture of Parallel Computers
 - Spring 2011.
 - Primary responsibilities included grading, answering student questions, and developing assignments and projects for the course (authored assignments are available upon request).
- Teaching Assistant for CSC 517: Object-Oriented Languages and Systems
 - Fall 2010.
 - Conducted seven lectures during the semester, on topics such as refactoring and version control, Ruby, object-relational mapping, and design patterns.
 - Continued to conduct various guest lectures for this class in Fall 2011. Classroom observation on September 7, 2011 by Professor Ed Gehringer: “Examples done on the computer with explanation. Progression in an accessible fashion. Good time management. Student response to his in-class exercises (to his two exercises, 73 and 76 students, respectively, responded). This is a very high response rate, and indicates that the students were following the material well. He has a very good rapport with the class.”

Wayne Community College, Goldsboro, NC

Adjunct Instructor

January 2009 to December 2012

- Instructor for SGD 125: Artificial Intelligence
 - Fall 2012.
 - This pilot course was offered at Wayne Community College to evaluate traditional four year courses and their applicability in a two year college setting.
 - Taught using the “blended classroom” model, whereby readings are done before class and activities are done during class time.
- Instructor for DBA 115: Database Applications (Online)
 - Fall 2009, Fall 2010, Fall 2011, and Fall 2012.
 - Used MySQL and PHP to cover applied concepts in databases, such as developing forms, reports, and data management.
 - First instructor within the department to develop short 5-10 minute lectures using Camtasia to provide a more engaging online classroom experience (previously, students for online classes simply read the course text and completed the homeworks electronically).

- Instructor for SEC 150: Secure Communications (Online)
 - Spring 2011 and Spring 2012.
 - Migrated existing curriculum from an exam-based course to an applied course by changing the course format to from weekly quizzes to biweekly hands-on practice projects.
 - Utilized Virtual Machines (VMWare) to provide a security sandbox for students to complete and submit assignments.
 - As with Database Applications, developed short 5-10 minute lecture videos on course topics using Camtasia.
- Instructor for DBA 110: Database Concepts (Online)
 - Spring 2009, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, and Spring 2012.
 - Taught using Microsoft Access and the SAM intelligent tutoring system for automatic student assessment.
 - Overall “A - Outstanding” instructor performance evaluation for course on April 22, 2009 by Sharon Bull, Department Chair of Information Systems Technology: “Course is very well-organized and easy to navigate. He emphasizes the need for regular participation on the discussion boards when students have questions about homework or course-related material. All through the course I found many examples of Titus’ efforts to help students master the material. Out of 28 students, 18 completed the Student Evaluation. Titus did a good job of encouraging participation. His average is 3.2 [/4.0] which indicates student satisfaction with the course.”
- Instructor for SGD 112: Introduction to Game Design (Online)
 - Summer 2010.
 - The students used GameMaker to study game design concepts, including level design, user interfaces, core mechanics, and game balancing.
 - This is the first semester that SGD 112 was offered entirely online.

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

Teaching Assistant

August 2000 to August 2004

- Teaching Assistant for CS 2130: Languages and Translation
 - Summer 2004.
 - Lectured two hours weekly on issues of machine translation, including tokenizing, parsing, data representation, run-time environments, optimization, and the implementation of programming languages.
 - Developed autograders using UNIX shell scripting and C.
- Program Developer for CS 1371: Computing for Engineers
 - Fall 2003.
 - Designed weekly assignments and lectured on topics that introduced students to the foundations of computing, with an emphasis on engineering design and algorithm implementation using MATLAB and Java.
- Program Developer for CS 1322: Object-Oriented Programming
 - Fall 2001, Spring 2002, Fall 2002, and Spring 2003.
 - Developed autograding software using advanced Java concepts to facilitate grading in a large classroom environment.
 - Worked closely with faculty, staff, and other project developers in an administrative context to design course materials such as homework assignments and tests, while additionally performing normal Teaching Assistant duties.
- Teaching Assistant for ECE 2031: Digital Design Lab
 - Spring 2001 and Fall 2002.

- Supervised and provided assistance to students in a laboratory setting. Topics covered include introductory digital theory, CAD tools, digital and analog instrument usage, logic synthesis with Verilog and VHDL, and assembly language programming.
- Teaching Assistant for CS 1311: Introduction to Computing and Algorithms
 - Spring 2001.
 - Lectured two-hours weekly on basic algorithmic and procedural programming. Introduced object-oriented programming concepts.

STUDENT
EVALUATIONS

North Carolina State University

CSC 517: Object-Oriented Languages and Systems

“Your lectures were exceptional, both in your approach to articulating the concept, and the presentation method you utilized – well balanced humor and student interaction. You definitely have a gift for teaching.”

Wayne Community College

DBA 115: Database Applications

“I do want to let you know that you are by far the best instructor I’ve had over the past 2 years at Wayne Community College. You have some of the most structured and challenging classes I’ve ever taken. Your attention to detail, willingness to help, and general positive and professional attitude are greatly appreciated. I always look forward to working on anything for your classes as I know the assignments will be challenging and actually teach me something.”

DBA 110: Database Concepts

“Thanks for all the help and for a great class. This was the most challenging class yet but I learned quite a bit.”

SEC 150: Secure Communications

“Your classes were always some of my favorites and the ones I learned the most in. On top of that you are one of the few teachers that is organized and well structured at Wayne Community College. About 80% of anything I learned for my security degree came from one of your classes.”

PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE

Wayne Community College

Advisory and Steering Committee member for **Wayne Community College**, representing the Simulation and Game Design degree program, beginning January 2011.

Program and Organizing Committees

- Mining Software Repositories Challenge Track (MSR Challenge) 2017
- International Workshop on BIG Data Software Engineering (BIGDSE) 2016
- International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME) 2016
- OOPSLA Artifacts (OOPSLA AEC) 2015
- OOPSLA Artifacts (OOPSLA AEC) 2014

External Reviewer

- Information Visualization Journal 2016
- Empirical Software Engineering Journal (ESE) 2016
- Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW) 2016
- Empirical Software Engineering Journal (ESE) 2015
- International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME) 2015

- Visual Languages and Human-Centric Computing (VL/HCC) 2014
- VL/HCC Graduate Consortium Student Mentor 2014
- International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE) 2014
- Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) 2013
- Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS) 2013
- Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS) 2012
- Artificial Intelligence and Interactive Digital Entertainment (AIIDE) 2012
- Foundations of Digital Games (FDG) 2012
- International Conference on Interactive Digital Storytelling (ICIDS) 2012

PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEERING
EXPERIENCE

The following Engineering engagements have been certified by the listed Professional Engineers. Engagements are defined as employment periods at different companies or firms and significant changes of responsibilities within the same company or firm. The Engineering responsibilities listed below may be independently verified (along with full documentation) by contacting the Georgia Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors directly at 237 Coliseum Drive Macon, GA 31217-3858, (478) 207-2440.

Atronix Engineering, Atlanta, GA

Project Engineer

November 2008 to December 2010

(Engagement details verified, signed, and sealed by Kenneth Wolfe Jr., license OH PE55769, and Jagdish K. Patel, license GA PE028452).

- Commissioned startups in the materials handling and distribution industry.
- Provided emergency support and on-site troubleshooting for customers.
- Checked electrical and network drawings created by other Engineers for correctness and function, and performed electrical checkout and testing on panels before they shipped to customer sites.
- Migrated legacy PLC systems to modern systems, converting protocols such as DH+ and serial to Ethernet.
- Generated performance estimates, performed system checking, and validated initial system configuration to ensure designs would meet various technology requirements such as trunk length, device count, and device compatibility.
- Implemented sorting and queuing algorithms for product distribution applications.
- Designed and developed PLC and HMI applications for shipping companies, providing conveyor status, conveyor control, and monitoring. Programmed PLC robotic applications to build automotive parts.
- Researched applications requiring high-availability clustering and fail over in Linux for industrial control applications. I designed low-level drivers for interfacing with industrial equipment such as pick to light systems and RFID barcode scanners.
- Provided quotes and other project estimates to customers.

Arch Chemicals (Lonza), Atlanta, GA

Project Engineer

November 2005 to November 2008

(Engagement details verified, signed, and sealed by Christopher Allen Bouch, license GA PE035585, and Frank Hurst Annessi, licenses GA PE017923 SC 12787 VA 0402022231 PA PE035624E and MA 43225).

- Provided Engineering support to customers domestically and internationally to resolve plant issues concerning equipment failures mechanically, programmatically, and electrically.
- Prepared engineering studies and interpreted plant modifications as requested by customers, evaluating these changes for safety, feasibility, and cost.

- Quoted PLC hardware for projects.
- Specified electrical equipment and designed electrical prints in CAD to control machinery provided by other Mechanical Engineers. I researched hardware and software solutions for a PLC and HMI platform to add flexibility and modularity to our mix and batch processes using the ISA S88 specification.
- Designed and implemented the HMI programming, PLC logic, database programming, and network for said system over a period of two years before deploying at a live customer site.
- Designed a VPN system to replace dial-up networking to allow Engineers to securely troubleshoot plant issues through high-speed networks.
- Commissioned treating plants within the US, and remotely in the United Kingdom. During commissioning, I inspected the facility and informed the customer of potential safety issues and hazards.
- Presented “lessons learned” from my experiences at plant startups during monthly meetings to help improve future projects.
- Researched methods and control algorithms to make treating processes more effective and efficient.

Prism Systems, Mobile, AL

Engineering Intern

June 2000 to August 2000

(Engagement details verified, signed, and sealed by Keith Allen Jones, license AL 21587, and Roland Joseph Poirier III, license AL 25439).

- Setup, configured, and installed industrial software on PCs for training labs at the company.
- Designed alarm schedules and sequence diagrams using ladder logic programs developed by more senior engineers. Generated tag data with English descriptions for HMI systems.
- Simulated and tested ladder logic in the office to fix and reproduce customer issues.
- Worked with another Engineering Intern to evaluate and specify hardware for a SCADA alarm project involving radio communications and modems.
- Studied and evaluated the Bristol Babcock PLC for its PID capabilities for a potential water and sewer project.
- Worked under another Engineer and programmed the simpler elements of a web-based inventory system that interfaced with a SQL Server database.
- Performed usability testing on Windows control software written by other Engineers.

AWARDS AND LICENSES

North Carolina State University

- 2nd Place, Foundations in Software Engineering (FSE) Student Research Competition, 2016.
- **Certificate of Accomplishment in Teaching**, May 2012. Received official letter of recommendation and transcript notation.
- Read Across America Certificate of Appreciation, March 2012 and March 2013. Guest reader at Wildwood Forest Elementary for the National Education Association’s annual program.
- Mentored TA Award, Spring 2011, for CSC/ECE 506: Architecture of Parallel Computers, under the mentorship of Professor Ed Gehringer. Offered to students who demonstrate teaching responsibilities beyond that of a regular Teaching Assistant.

- Phi Kappa Phi (invited Spring 2011).
- Dean's Fellowship, 2010-2011 academic year.

Industry

- Professional Engineer, Georgia Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, 2011. License No. PE035568. January 2011. (Supersedes Engineer In-Training License, EIT021976, August 2004).
- FCC-certified Technician class HAM radio license (KG4UXO). Issued August 2002.