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# ABRAM HINDLE

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., University of Waterloo, David R. Cheriton School of Computer Science, 2010

Co-supervisors: Prof. Michael W. Godfrey and Prof. Richard C. Holt

Dissertation: *Evidence-based Software Process Recovery*

M.Sc., University of Victoria, Dept. of Computer Science, 2005.

Supervisor: Prof. Daniel M. Germán.

Dissertation: *SCQL: A formal model and a query language for source control repositories*

B.Sc. (Honours), University of Victoria, Faculty of Engineering, Dept. of Computer Science, 2003  
Graduated “with distinction”.

## ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

### Empirical Software Engineering

The focus of my research is the evidence-based study of software development. My field of research depends upon statistics, data mining, social network analysis, machine learning, NLP, signal processing, visualization, and software engineering. With respect to software engineering my research focuses on empirical software engineering, mining software repositories, software development processes, software maintenance, and software metrics. Other interests include computer music, music information retrieval, computer vision, programming languages, and computer security.

# WORK EXPERIENCE

I have considerable experience in industrial software engineering, with positions including Contract Programmer and Lead Programmer over a period of 7 years. This experience has included: embedded systems, web-based systems, and distributed systems.

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|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fall 2010 –                 | Postdoctoral scholar under Professor Premkumar Devanbu and Professor Zhendong Su, focusing on static analysis and mining, University of California: Davis (UC Davis)                                                                                                                                          |
| Winter 2008 – Spring 2008   | Teaching Assistant for CSC 136, <i>Elementary Algorithm Design and Data Abstraction</i> , University of Waterloo.                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Winter 2006 – Fall 2007     | MFCF Unix Consultant, University of Waterloo.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Fall 2005                   | Teaching Assistant for CSC 125, <i>Introduction to Programming Principles</i> , University of Waterloo.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Fall 2004                   | Teaching Assistant for SENG 480a, <i>Hypermedia</i> , University of Victoria.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Spring 2004 – Summer 2004   | Lab leader and lab instructor for SENG265, <i>Software Development Methods</i> , University of Victoria.                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Summer 2003                 | Contract programmer for Radar/HVAC in Victoria, BC. Built an embedded system and distributed system for refrigeration monitoring. Gained experience in embedded systems, distributed systems and testing.                                                                                                     |
| April 2002 – August 2002    | Lead programmer for M2C Merchant Services in Sidney, BC. Designed and built a distributed touch screen based point of sale system, and payment gateway that could handle credit card and Interac payments. Gained experience in project management and agile software engineering processes.                  |
| April 2001 – August 2001    | Junior programmer at Baremetal Inc. ( <a href="http://www.baremetal.com">http://www.baremetal.com</a> ) in Victoria, BC. Built and maintained a web application to register domain names, particularly .ca domain names. Gained experience with eXtreme Programming, pair programming, and automated testing. |
| September 2000 – April 2001 | Part time system administrator for Actdivina operated by Don Bauer in Langley, BC. Dealt with the remote administration and configuration of Linux web servers.                                                                                                                                               |
| June 1998 – September 2000  | Lead programmer for Indexdirect operated by Vince Bird in Cobble Hill, BC. Worked on a variety of web-based systems.                                                                                                                                                                                          |

# PUBLICATIONS

## JOURNAL PAPERS

1. “Reading beside the lines: Using indentation to rank revisions by complexity” Abram Hindle, Michael W. Godfrey, Richard C. Holt. *Science of Computer Programming*, 74(7), May 2009. pp 414–429
2. “Visualizing the evolution of software using softChange”, by Daniel M. Germán, Abram Hindle. *International Journal of Software Engineering and Knowledge Engineering*, Vol 16, No.1 , 2006. pp 5–22.

## CONFERENCE PAPERS

1. “BugCache for Inspections : Hit or Miss?” Foyzur Rahman, Daryl Posnett, Abram Hindle, Earl Barr, Premkumar Devanbu. *In submission to FSE 2011*.
2. “History-Preserving Branching Facilitates Collaboration” Earl T. Barr, Christian Bird, Peter C. Rigby, Abram Hindle, Daniel M. Germán, Premkumar Devanbu. *In submission to FSE 2011*.
3. “Automated topic naming to support cross-project analysis of software maintenance activities” Abram Hindle, Neil Ernst, Michael M. Godfrey, John Mylopoulos. *Proc. of 2011 Working Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR-11)*, May 2011, Waikiki, USA [Acceptance rate 20/61 or 33% for papers in this track].
4. “Software Bertillonage: Finding the provenance of an entity” Julius Davies, Michael Godfrey and Daniel Germán, Abram Hindle. *Proc. of 2011 Working Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR-11)*, May 2011, Waikiki, USA [Acceptance rate 20/61 or 33% for papers in this track].
5. “A Simpler Model of Software Readability” Daryl Posnett, Abram Hindle and Premkumar Devanbu. *Proc. of 2011 Working Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR-11)*, May 2011, Waikiki, USA [Acceptance rate 20/61 or 33% for papers in this track].
6. “Multifractal Aspects of Software Development” Abram Hindle, Michael M. Godfrey, Richard C. Holt. *33rd International Conference on Software Engineering ICSE Companion*, ICSE-11 special track on New Ideas and Emerging Results (NIER), May 2011, Waikiki, USA [Acceptance rate 46/196 or 23% for papers in this track].
7. “Software Process Recovery using Recovered Unified Process Views” Abram Hindle, Michael M. Godfrey, Richard C. Holt. *Proc. of 2010 International Conference on Software Maintenance (ICSM-10)*, 12–18 September 2010, Timisoara, Romania [Acceptance rate of 36/133 or 26% for papers in this track].
8. “Mining Challenge 2010: FreeBSD, GNOME Desktop and Debian/Ubuntu” Abram Hindle, Israel Herraiz, Emad Shihab, and Zhen Ming Jiang. *Proc. of 2010 Working Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR-10)*, 2–3 May 2010, Cape Town, South Africa [Unrefereed, as I was the challenge chair].

9. “What’s Hot and What’s Not: Windowing Developer Topic Analysis”, Abram J. Hindle, Michael W. Godfrey, Richard C. Holt. *Proc. of 2009 IEEE Conference on Software Maintenance (ICSM-09)*, 20–26 September 2009, Edmonton, Canada, [Acceptance rate 35/162 or 22% for full papers].
10. “Automatic Classification of Large Changes into Maintenance Categories”, Abram J. Hindle, Daniel M. Germán, Michael W. Godfrey, and Richard C. Holt. *Proc. of 2009 IEEE Intl. Conference on Program Comprehension (ICPC-09)*, 17–19 May 2009, Vancouver, Canada [Acceptance rate 20/74 or 27% for full papers].
11. “Mining Recurrent Activities: Fourier Analysis of Change Events” (short paper), Abram J. Hindle, Michael W. Godfrey, Richard C. Holt. *31st International Conference on Software Engineering ICSE Companion*, ICSE-09 special track on New Ideas and Emerging Results (NIER), 20–22 May 2009, Vancouver, Canada [Acceptance rate 21/118 or 15% for papers in this track].
12. “Reverse Engineering CAPTCHAs”, Abram Hindle, Michael W. Godfrey, and Richard C. Holt. *Proc. of the 2008 Working Conference on Reverse Engineering (WCRE-08)*, 15–18 October 2008, Antwerp, Belgium [Acceptance rate 20/70 or 29% for full papers].
13. “From Indentation Shapes to Code Structures”, by Abram Hindle, Michael W. Godfrey, and Richard C. Holt. *8th IEEE Intl. Working Conference on Source Code Analysis and Manipulation (SCAM 2008)*, 28 September 2008, Beijing, China [Acceptance rate: 23/61 or 38% for full papers].
14. “Reading Beside the Lines: Indentation as a Proxy for Complexity Metrics”, by Abram Hindle, Michael W. Godfrey, and Richard C. Holt. *Proc. of 2008 IEEE Intl. Conference on Program Comprehension (ICPC-08)*, June 2008, Amsterdam, The Netherlands [Acceptance rate: 38% for full papers].
15. “What do large commits tell us?: A taxonomical study of large commits” by Abram Hindle, Daniel M. Germán, Richard C. Holt. *Proc. of the 2008 Working Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR-08)*. May 2008, Leipzig, Germany [Acceptance rate: 8/42 or 19% for full papers].
16. “Release Pattern Discovery: A Case Study of Database Systems”, by Abram Hindle, Michael W. Godfrey, Richard C. Holt. *Proc. of the 2007 Intl. Conference on Software Maintenance (ICSM-07)*, 2–5 October 2007, Paris, France. [Acceptance rate: 41/214 or 21% for full papers].
17. “Measuring Fine-Grained Change in Software: Towards Modification-Aware Change Metrics” by Daniel M. Germán, Abram Hindle. *Proc. IEEE METRICS 2005*, 19–22 September 2005. Como, Italy [Acceptance rate: 39/89 or 44% for full papers].
18. “Visualizing the evolution of software using softChange”, by Daniel M. Germán, Abram Hindle, Norman Jordan, *Proc. of Software Engineering Knowledge Engineering (SEKE)*, 2004, Banff, Canada [Acceptance rate: 38%].

## REFEREED WORKSHOP PAPERS

1. “Determining the provenance of software artifacts” Mike Godfrey, Julius Davis, Daniel Germán and Abram Hindle. *Fifth International Workshop on Software Clones, 2011* May 2011, Waikiki, USA.
2. “Software Process Recovery: Recovering Process From Artifacts” Abram Hindle, Doctoral Symposium of the *17th Working Conference on Reverse Engineering 2010 (WCRE-10)*, 13–16 October, 2010, Boston, USA.

3. “YARN: Animating Software Evolution”, by Abram Hindle, ZhenMing Jiang, Walid Koleilat, Michael W. Godfrey, and Richard C. Holt. *Proc. of 2007 IEEE International Workshop on Visualizing Software for Understanding and Analysis (VISSOFT-07)*, June 25–26, 2007, Banff, Alberta. [Acceptance rate: 15/34 or 44% for full papers].
4. “Release Pattern Discovery via Partitioning: Methodology and Case Study”, by Abram Hindle, Michael W. Godfrey, Richard C. Holt. *Proc. of 2007 Intl. Workshop on Mining Software Repositories (MSR-07)*, May 19–20, 2007. Minneapolis, USA. [Acceptance rate: 15/39 for full papers, or 38%].
5. “SCQL: A formal model and a query language for source control repositories”, by Abram Hindle and Daniel M. Germán. *Proc. of 2nd International Workshop on Mining Software Repositories (MSR 2005)*, May 2005. St. Louis, USA. [Acceptance rate: 11/38 for full papers, or 29%].

## POSTERS

1. “Software Process Recovery with Recovered Unified Process Views”, MSR Summer School 2010, 9–12 June, 2010, Kingston, Canada.
2. “Mining Recurrent Activities: Fourier Analysis of Change Events”, ICSE-09 special short paper track on New Ideas and Emerging Results (NIER) where accepted papers also had to present a poster. 20–22 May 2009, Vancouver.
3. “Evolutionary Focus”, Consortium for Software Engineering Research (CSER) Fall Meeting, October 2008. Markham, Canada.
4. “Reading Beside the Lines: Measuring the Indentation of Changes”, Consortium for Software Engineering Research (CSER) Fall Meeting, October 2007. Markham, Canada.
5. “CAPTCHA Breaking: The Visual Adversary”, Graduate Student Research Conference 2007, April 23, 2007. University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada.

## PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

1. “Evidence-based Software Process Recovery”, Microsoft Research, Redmond, November 2010
2. “Web Based Computer Music UIs with Mongrel2 and Harbinger”, Toronto Perl Mongers, August 2010
3. “Android-based Distributed Computer Music”, short talk with Toronto Perl Mongers, June 2010
4. “Recovered Unified Process Views”, UC Davis and the University of Victoria, May 2010
5. “OpenID, Email extracting/parsing and Topic Analysis!”, Kitchener/Waterloo Perl Mongers, January 2010
6. “Mandelbulb: Exploring 3D Fractals”, Kitchener/Waterloo Perl Mongers, November 2009.
7. “Automated Process Extraction”, Seminar on Advanced Tools & Techniques for Software Evolution (SATTOSE) 2009, April 2009. Baie de Somme, France.
8. “Various Short Talks: Twitter, IRC and Perl”, Toronto Perl Mongers, April 2009.

9. “Harbinger: Making your desktop sing with the help of Perl and Lispy Perl”, Toronto Perl Mongers, March 2009.
10. “Harbinger: Sonifying the mundane and mildly entertaining”, Kitchener/Waterloo Perl Mongers, March 2009.
11. “Magick Scheme Image Manipulation Gateway”, Toronto Ruby Users’ Group, March 2009.
12. “Magick-scheme and Lispy Perl”, Toronto LISP Users’ Group, February 2009.
13. “Lispy Perl or Perlsh Lisp”, Kitchener/Waterloo Perl Mongers, November 2008.
14. “Hpricot and webscraping”, Toronto Ruby Users’ group, September 2008.
15. Software Engineering Research Group PhD Seminar: “Reading Beside the Lines: Indentation as a Proxy for Complexity Metrics”. May 22, 2008.
16. “The Road to Automated Process Extraction”, Seminar on Advanced Tools & Techniques for Software Evolution (SATTOSE) 2008, February 2008. Waulsort, Belgium.
17. “Hiding in Public: File Management in Unsafe Conditions”, Toronto Perl Mongers, February 2008.
18. “Fast, Cheap, and Under Control: Evaluating Revision Data Reliably”, Dagstuhl Seminar 07491 on Mining Programs and Processes, December 2007. Wadern, Germany.
19. “Release Pattern Discovery via Partitioning: Methodology and Case Study”, Consortium for Software Engineering Research (CSER), Fall Meeting 2007. Markham, Canada.
20. “Perl in Scheme”, Kitchener/Waterloo Perl Mongers, October 2007.
21. Software Engineering Research Group PhD Seminar: “Release Pattern Discovery: A Case Study of Database Systems”. September 20, 2007.
22. Software Engineering Research Group PhD Seminar: “YARN: Animating Software Evolution”. June 13, 2007.
23. Software Engineering Research Group PhD Seminar: “Release Pattern Discovery via Partitioning: Methodology and Case Study”. May 16, 2007.
24. “Beyond Perl”, Kitchener/Waterloo Perl Mongers, October 2006.
25. “Uses of IRC Bots”, Kitchener/Waterloo Perl Mongers, February 2006
26. “Visualizing the evolution of software using softChange”, UVic SENG Colloquium, 2004.
27. “Audio In Hypermedia Lecture”, Dr. Germán’s 2003 and 2004 Hypermedia classes.
28. “OOP in Perl”, to Dr. M. Zastre’s SENG265 class at UVic, 2004.
29. “Game Development in Perl”, UVic Game Developers Club, 2004 .
30. “C and Perl”, “Game Development in Perl”, “Class::Multimethods and WWW::Mechanize”, “OOP in Perl”, “CORBA and Perl”, “Introduction to Recursive Descent Parsers”, Victoria Perl-mongers, 2003 to 2004.

## AWARDS

- 2010 Best Presentation Award - Mining Software Archives 2010
- 2008 – 2010 UW David R. Cheriton Graduate Scholarship, Type 1.
- 2005 – 2008 UW Graduate President Scholarship.
- 2005 – 2008 NSERC Post-Graduate Scholarship, PGS-D (Ph.D).
- 2004 – 2005 NSERC Canadian Graduate Scholarship, CGS-M (Masters).
- 2003 – 2004 UVic Graduate President Scholarship.
- 2003 UVic Graduate Fellowship.
- 2002 UVic President Scholarship for Full Time Students.
- 2002 3rd Place in the UVic Computer Science Union Programming Competition.
- 1999 Vancouver Island University entrance scholarship for incoming science students.
- 1999 BC Provincial Scholarship for excellent achievement on provincial exams.

## SERVICE

- 2011 Reviewed for IEEE Software
- 2011 WCRE 2011 Program Committee
- 2010 Data Analysis in Software Engineering 2011 Program Committee
- 2010 ICSM 2011 Program Committee
- 2010 MSR 2011 Program Committee
- 2010 WCRE 2010 Workshop Co-Chair, organizing workshops around WCRE 2010 with Andrian Marcus, to be held in Boston in October 2010.
- 2010 MSR 2010 Mining Challenge Chair: for the 2010 Working Conference on Mining Software Repositories, held in Capetown South Africa in May 2010.
- 2009 MSR 2009 Web Chair: for the 2009 Working Conference on Mining Software Repositories, held in Vancouver in May 2009.
- 2009 Mining challenge PC member for the 2009 Working Conference on Mining Software Repositories, held in Vancouver in May 2009.
- 2008 Reviewed for a special issue of IEEE Software magazine on Mining Software Repositories.
- 2004 – 2010 Reviewed for various conferences and journals, including IEEE Intl. Conference on Software Maintenance (ICSM), IEEE Intl. Conference on Program Comprehension (ICPC), IEEE Working Conference on Source Code Analysis and Manipulation (SCAM), Intl. Working Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR), Empirical Software Engineering, Transactions on Software Engineering, and for the journal/magazine IEEE Software.
- 2003 – 2009 Have given talks to Kitchener Waterloo Perl Mongers, the Toronto Ruby Users Group, the Toronto LISP users group and the Toronto Perl Mongers.
- 2008 Linux Tutorial for a Grade 11 Computer Science Class, Victoria Park Collegiate, Toronto, June 2008.
- 2006 – 2007 Volunteer for UW Graduate Student Research Conference (GSRC)

- 2004 Volunteer at CFUV UVIC Campus Radio Station.
- 2004 Student Volunteer at OOPSLA 2004 in Vancouver.
- 2004 Computer Science Course Sys. Admin. Held two IBM CodeRulers coding competitions and two Code Masters coding competition.
- 2003 Acted as Computer Science Course Union President, organized events, and appointed people to committees, maintained website.
- 2002 Acted as Computer Science Course Union SysAdmin, organized events, and maintained website.
- 1998 Art of BBSing article written for Datalink Magazine, Duncan B.C.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- IEEE Society Member, 2004 – present
- American Mathematical Society, 2008 – 2009

## INTERESTS AND HOBBIES

**Programming and programming languages** are a particular passion of mine. I have been an active member of Perl Mongers in Victoria, Waterloo, and Toronto. I also participate in Toronto Ruby Users Group and Toronto LISP Users Group. I like to learn new languages, concepts, and enjoy writing serious software in languages like OCaml, Haskell, Common LISP, Perl, and Ruby.

**Computer music** — I have performed at the Victoria Noise Festival multiple times. I also produce computer noise music with my own software and sometimes hardware. In fact much of my musical code ends up in my research code (signal processing). I have performed many live shows primarily in Victoria from 2002 to 2005, I also have given demos to Perl monger's groups.

**Nature Appreciation** I enjoy nature with my family via walks, hikes, kayaking, canoeing, stargazing, and bicycling.