

Andrew Garbett

Postdoctoral Researcher & Software Engineer

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EMPLOYMENT

Research Associate Jan 2019 - Present
Distributed Ledgers and Decentralised Energy in sub-Saharan Africa, (EP/P031854/1)

Open Lab, School of Computing Science, Newcastle University

- Lead researcher in the design of peer-to-peer solar energy sharing platform for off-grid solar energy sharing using distributed ledger technologies.
- Co-researcher exploring the use of distributed ledgers and smart contracts for collective purchasing with Syrian Refugees enrolled in the World Food Programme.

Research Associate Feb 2017 - Dec 2018
Digital Economy Research Center (EP/M023001/1)

Open Lab, School of Computing Science, Newcastle University

- Lead researcher in collaboration with Newcastle United Foundation designing wearable activity trackers to engage primary school children with personal informatics.
- Developed distributed SMS donation platform for coordination solidarity groups in Greece.
- Created and delivered BBC Micro:bit curriculum to 600 primary school students in Newcastle to teach computational thinking and programming skills.
- Co-designed WhatFutures, a WhatsApp future forecasting game with International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society, played by 3,200 volunteers from 120 countries.

Research Associate June 2014 - Feb 2015
Collections Dive Project (Nesta)

Open Lab, School of Computing Science, Newcastle University

- Coordinated collaboration between Microsoft Research Cambridge, Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums and Newcastle University.
- Lead researcher of novel discovery interface for exploring vast digitized museum collections.
- Project awarded North East Museum Experience of the Year by Journal Culture Awards 2015.

Interaction Design Internship (AH/J005150/1) Jan 2013 - May 2013

BBC Research and Development, Salford

- Worked within User Experience Research group to inform design of social search and reputation system for citizen journalists within BBC.
- Conducted semi-structured interviews with professional journalists to understand existing practices of incorporating citizen journalists into the national news production workflow.

Research Assistant Dec 2010 - Feb 2013
ENACT: Exploiting social Networks to Augment Cognitive behavioural Therapy (EP/I000615/1)

Lincoln Social Computing Research Centre, University of Lincoln

- Designed and deployed large-scale social network to deliver Computerised Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for patients living with Insomnia.
- Developed clinically validated sleep measurement and automated sleep restriction therapy mobile application for Android platform.

Selenity (previously Software Europe), Lincoln

- Developed web based support ticket system for leading expenses management software company and extended existing skills to incorporate industry standard Agile development.

EDUCATION

PhD. Computer Science, Open Lab, Newcastle University Sept 2012 - April 2017
Thesis: Designing Community Driven Participatory Platforms: Reconfiguring Roles, Resources, Infrastructure, and Constraints for Community Commissioning

BSc. Software Engineering - 1st Class Honours, University of Lincoln Sept 2007 - Aug 2010
BTEC National Diploma (Level 3) IT Practitioners - A Level: A, A, A Sept 2005 - Aug 2007

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Blockchain for Refugees: Current Uses, Opportunities and Considerations

Talhok, R., Montague, K., Garbett, A.. 2018. In CHI 2018, 21 – 26 April, Montréal.

ThinkActive: Designing for Pseudonymous Activity Tracking in the Classroom

Garbett, A., Chatting, D., Kharrufa, A. 2018. In CHI 2018, 21 – 26 April, Montréal.

A Network Epidemic Model for Online Community Commissioning Data

Lee, C., Garbett, A., Wilkinson, DJ., 2018. In Statistics and Computing, Springer.

“Protection on that Erection?”: Discourses of Accountability & Compromising Participation in Digital Sexual Health

Wood, M., Garbett, A., Morrissey, K., Hopkins, P., Balaam, M. 2018. In CHI 2018, 21 – 26 April, Montréal.

Care and Connect: exploring dementia-friendliness through an online community commissioning platform

Morrissey, K., Garbett, A., Jenkins, E., Olivier, P., Wright, P., Brittain, K. 2017. In CHI 2017, 6 – 11 May, Denver.

Experiences of Delivering a Public Health Data Service

Simpson, E., Comber, R., Garbett, A., Jenkins, E., Balaam, M. 2017. In CHI 2017, 6 – 11 May, Denver.

On Speculative Enactments

Elsden, C., Chatting, D., Durrant, A., Nissen, B., Garbett, A., Vines, J., Kirk, D. 2017. In CHI 2017, 6 – 11 May, Denver.

App Movement: A platform for community commissioning of mobile applications

Garbett, A., Jenkins, E., Comber, R., Olivier, P. 2015. In CHI 2016, 7 – 12 May, San Jose.

Factors important for women who breastfeed in public: a content analysis of review data from FeedFinder

Simpson, E., Garbett, A., Comber, R., Balaam, M. 2016. In BMJ Open. BMJ Publishing Group.

Metadating: Exploring the Romance and Future of Personal Data

Elsden, C., Nissen, B., Garbett, A., Chatting, D., Kirk, D., Vines, J. 2016. In CHI 2016, 7 – 12 May, San Jose

I don't know what I'm looking for: Better understanding public usage and behaviours with Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums online collections

Coburn, J., Garbett, A., Gosset, P., Harper, R., Wright, P. 2016. In Museums and the Web 2016.

FeedFinder: A Location-Mapping Mobile Application for Breastfeeding Women

Balaam, M., Comber, R., Jenkins, E., Garbett, A. 2015. In CHI2015, 18 – 23 April, Seoul.

Anti-social media: Communicating risk through Open Data crime maps and locative media

Garbett, A., Wardman, J., Kirman, B., Linehan, C., Lawson, S. 2015. In HCI Korea 2015, Seoul

Finding "Real People": Trust and Diversity in the Interface Between Professional and Citizen Journalists

Garbett, A., Comber, R., Egglestone, P., Olivier, P. 2013. In CHI 2014, 26 April – 1 May, Toronto

Validating a mobile phone application for the everyday, unobtrusive, objective measurement of sleep

Lawson, S., Jamison-Powell, S., Garbett, A., Linehan, C., Kucharczyk, E., Verbaan, S., Rowland, D. 2013. In CHI 2013, 27 April – 2 May 2013, Paris.

I can't get no sleep: discussing #insomnia on twitter

Jamison-Powell, S., Linehan, C., Dayley L., Garbett, A., Lawson, S. 2012. In CHI 2012, 5 – 10 May, Austin

How dangerous is your life? Personalising Government Open Crime Data

Garbett, A., Linehan, C., Kirman, B., Wardman, J., Lawson, S. 2012. In CHI 2012 Personal Informatics in Practice: Improving Quality of Life Through Data Workshop. 5-10 May 2012, Austin.

Using social media to drive public engagement with open data

Garbett, A., Linehan, C., Kirman, B., Wardman, J., Lawson, S., 2010. In Digital Engagement '11. 15-17 November 2011, Newcastle, UK.

KEY PROJECTS

ThinkActive - <http://thinkactive.io>

Getting young people thinking active with wearables and the Newcastle United Foundation

In collaboration with Newcastle United Foundation the ThinkActive system promotes positive behaviour change through activity tracking in the classroom. Each child collects data through a wrist worn activity tracker which is then used to enhance the programmes offered by the NUF and provides personal informatics tracking in the classroom. The tablet application and activity trackers provide a simple method of authentication, data collection and presentation, to provide insights into activity levels of Key Stage 2 students in the West End of Newcastle.

Tech: Sails.js, Vue.js, Xamarin, Wearable Activity Trackers (Bluetooth Low Energy), MySQL, RESTful API, Google FCM, Amazon S3, Amazon CloudFront

FoodBlock

Leveraging Distributed Ledger Technologies and Smart Contracts to facilitate collective purchasing with Syrian Refugees in Lebanon

In collaboration with the American University of Beirut the FoodBlock project explores the use of smart contracts for collective purchasing in the context of Syrian refugees in Lebanon who receive aid through the World Food Programme. Our goal is to provide communities with DLT technologies that support bottom-up approaches to food purchasing and facilitates collective tendering and supports a localised sharing economy food delivery service to encourage further employment.

App Movement - <https://app-movement.com>

An online platform to enable communities to commission location-based review mobile apps

App Movement is a platform that enables communities to propose campaigns, collaboratively design their idea, and automatically generate their own location-based review mobile application in response to the community's needs. Launched in 2015 the service now has over 70,000 users who have created over 120 campaigns and automatically generated 21 mobile applications to support communities in finding: drone flying locations, gender neutral toilets, dementia friendly places, and many more.

Tech: CakePHP, MySQL, Java Android, iOS, RESTful API, Python (automated build tool), Amazon S3

IrisMSG - <http://irismsg.io>

A community SMS donation mobile app inspired by the Solidarity Economy

IrisMSG.io allows you to create a low-cost distributed communication network to broadcast SMS messages. Messages are sent through a network of donors who contribute their unused SMS credit to solidarity groups in Greece. As a result, the cost of communication by the organisation is significantly reduced, as well as becomes more transparent and decentralised. This approach provides an innovative alternative currency for donating latent resources to the solidarity economy.

Tech: Node.js, Angular, Xamarin, RESTful API, MySQL, Docker, Twilio, Google FCM

Collections Dive - <http://www.collectionsdivetwmuseums.org.uk>

Immersive discovery interfaces for online museum experiences

Collections Dive was developed in collaboration with Microsoft Research Cambridge and Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums to promote serendipitous journeys through large-scale digital museum collections. The full screen, single page immersive experience engages visitors in exploring the collection through responding intelligently to the interests and behaviour of the visitor. Scroll speed is used to predict visitor interest and thus slow, varying, or fast scroll speed alters the relatedness of artefacts presented.

Tech: CakePHP, D3.js, jQuery, Neo4j, MongoDB

FeedFinder - <http://feed-finder.co.uk>

Helping mothers find breastfeeding friendly locations nearby

The FeedFinder app enables new mothers to locate suitable breastfeeding locations nearby. Mothers can also rate and review the places they visit and contribute to the worldwide mapping of breastfeeding friendly locations. The app is available on both iOS and Android and has 14,000+ active users. The project has been developed in conjunction with NHS staff and new mothers in the North East of England.

Tech: CakePHP, CodeIgniter, MySQL, Java Android, iOS, RESTful API, Amazon S3

TECHNICAL SKILLS

I have a keen interest in both Mobile and Web using API driven development with a preference for using Node.js + Vue.js + MySQL and Native Android for mobile application development. I have recently begun using Docker and AWS for deployment.

Backend: Node.js, PHP, C#, Python

Frontend: Vue.js, D3.js, jQuery, CSS

Deployment: Docker, Vagrant

Frameworks: Sails.js, CakePHP, CodeIgniter

Git Repos: <https://github.com/garbit>

Mobile: Native Android, Xamarin

Databases: MySQL, MongoDB, Neo4j GraphDb

Services: Amazon S3, Twilio, Google Firebase

Tools: Git, Postman, Adobe

Portfolio: <http://andygarbett.co.uk>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

CSC3722: Advanced Interaction Design (Lecturing)

3rd Year BSc. Computer Science, Newcastle University

I delivered a one hour lecture on "Designing for a Data-Driven Life" that explored the nuances of Big Data, Personal Informatics, and data ethics.

CSC3721: Introduction to Human-Computer Interaction (Lecturing)

3rd Year BSc. Computer Science, Newcastle University

I developed a component of the assessed course content that was centred around my existing Think Active activity tracking research. Students were asked to design a system for the classroom based upon transcripts, observational notes, and literature. I also delivered a lecture on "Designing for Activity Tracking in the Classroom" based upon the ThinkActive research.

CSC8601: Introduction to Digital Civics (Lecturing)

1st Year MRes. Digital Civics, Newcastle University

I delivered a three hour lecture on Data-Driven Policies which explored the core concepts of community-led commissioning that were introduced through my PhD research. The topics centered around the Sharing Economy, Platform Cooperativism, and Collaborative Consumption and explored through several design activities during the lecture.

CSC2024: Database Technology (Demonstrating)

2nd Year BSc. Computer Science, Newcastle University

I supported the seminar teaching and coursework marking for the practical sessions in the module that centered around relational databases and Java programming.

Enterprise Week (Lecturing)

Primary School Pupil Years 4 - 6, Newcastle University

I delivered 10 x 2 hour Computer Science lectures to 600 primary school pupils over the course of two separate weeks using materials I developed around BBC Micro:bits as part of the North East's annual Enterprise Week. The initiative brings students into businesses and higher education to learn about the future of work.

HONOURS & AWARDS

- **T3 Tech Innovation for the Future Award (2nd Place, £3,000): ThinkActive**
T3 and Tech Radar in association with Honor, Sept 2018
- **Digital Economy Social Impact Award: FeedFinder**
Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, Dec 2015
- **Rosalind Franklin Appathon Finalist: FeedFinder**
University College London, Feb 2016
- **North East Museum of the Year: Collections Dive Discovery Interface**
The Journal Culture Awards, April 2015
- **Best Undergraduate in School of Computer Science 2010**
University of Lincoln, Aug 2010

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ACADEMIC SERVICE

Association for Computing Machinery

Programme Committee: Communities and Technologies '19

Media Chair: TVX2014

Workshop Organiser: British HCI 2015 (HCI and Notions of Democracy, Participation, and Self-Organisation)

Paper Reviewer: CHI'13 - CHI'19, OZCHI'15, DIS'16-18, CSCW'17, Mobile HCI'18

REFERENCES

Available upon request