

Edison Thomaz | Curriculum Vitae

The University of Texas at Austin
1616 Guadalupe St. UTA 7.218
Austin, TX, 78701 U.S.A

+1 617 733 6215
ethomaz@utexas.edu
www.ethomaz.com
@ethomaz

Research Interests

Computing has transformed commerce, communications, and is now catalyzing a revolution in healthcare. Leveraging mobile and ubiquitous computing technologies, my research focuses on modeling health-related behaviors, with specific focus on scalable computational methods and novel sensing approaches. The application areas I am interested in include personal health informatics, home health monitoring, and epidemiological research.

Education

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 2010-2016 | Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
Ph.D. Human-Centered Computing
Area: Ubicomp, HCI, Machine Learning, Health Computing
Advisors: Dr. Gregory Abowd and Dr. Irfan Essa |
| 2000 - 2002 | MIT Media Lab, Cambridge, MA
S.M. Media Arts & Sciences
Area: HCI, Context-Aware Computing
Advisor: Dr. Andy Lippman |
| 1995 - 1999 | The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX
B.A. Computer Science
Area: HCI, Multimedia
Advisors: Dr. Harrick Vin and Dr. Greg Lavender |

Research & Professional Experience

2016 - Present	The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX Research Assistant Professor, ECE Department
2010 - 2016	Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA Graduate Student Researcher
2007 - 2010	Slife Labs, LLC, Atlanta, GA Founder and Principal
2004 - 2007	France Télécom R&D Boston, Cambridge, MA Research Scientist
2002 - 2004	Microsoft Corporation Program Manager
2000 - 2002	MIT Media Lab, Cambridge, MA Graduate Student Researcher
2000	Sapient, Austin, TX Software Engineer
1998	RealNetworks, Seattle, WA Software Design Engineer Intern
1994	Fujitsu, São Paulo, Brazil Electronics Technician

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Conference Publications

[c.10] **Detecting Mastication - A Wearable Approach**

Abdelkareem Bedri, Apoorva Verlekar, Edison Thomaz, Valerie Avva, Thad Starner

Proceedings of ACM ICMI 2015 | Acceptance Rate: 19% (24/127)

- [c.9] **Predicting Daily Activities From Egocentric Images Using Deep Learning**
Daniel Castro, Steve Hickson, Vinay Bettadapura, Edison Thomaz, Gregory D. Abowd, Henrik Christensen, Irfan Essa
Proceedings of ISWC 2015 | Acceptance Rate: 32% (39/121)
- [c.8] **A Wearable System for Detecting Eating Activities with Proximity Sensors in the Outer Ear**
Abdelkareem Bedri, Apoorva Verlekar, Edison Thomaz, Valerie Avva, Thad Starner
Proceedings of ISWC 2015 | Acceptance Rate: 32% (39/121)
- [c.7] **A Practical Approach for Recognizing Eating Moments with Wrist-Mounted Inertial Sensing**
Edison Thomaz, Irfan Essa, Gregory D. Abowd
Proceedings of ACM Ubicomp 2015 | Acceptance Rate: 23% (90/394)
- [c.6] **Barriers and Negative Nudges: Exploring Challenges in Food Journaling**
Felicia Cordeiro, Daniel Epstein, Edison Thomaz, Elizabeth Bales, Arvind K. Jagannathan, Gregory D. Abowd, James Fogarty
Proceedings of ACM SIGCHI 2015 | Acceptance Rate: 23% | **Best of CHI**
- [c.5] **Inferring Meal Eating Activities in Real World Settings from Ambient Sounds: A Feasibility Study**
Edison Thomaz, Irfan Essa, Gregory D. Abowd
Proceedings of ACM IUI 2015 | Acceptance Rate: 22.9% (47/205) | **Best Short Paper**
- [c.4] **Leveraging Context to Support Automated Food Recognition in Restaurants**
Vinay Bettadapura, Edison Thomaz, Aman Parnami, Irfan Essa, Gregory D. Abowd
Proceedings of IEEE Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision 2015 | Acceptance Rate: 36.7% (156/425)
- [c.3] **Feasibility of Identifying Eating Moments from First-Person Images Leveraging Human Computation**
Edison Thomaz, Aman Parnami, Irfan Essa, Gregory D. Abowd
Proceedings of SenseCam and Pervasive Imaging Conference 2013
- [c.2] **Technological Approaches for Addressing Privacy Concerns When Recognizing Eating Behaviors with Wearable Cameras**
Edison Thomaz, Aman Parnami, Jonathan Bidwell, Irfan Essa, Gregory D. Abowd
Proceedings of ACM UbiComp 2013 | Acceptance Rate: 18% (71/395)

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[c.1] **Recognizing Water-Based Activities in the Home Through Infrastructure-Mediated Sensing**

Edison Thomaz, Vinay Bettadapura, Gabriel Reyes, Megha Sandesh, Grant Schindler, Thomas Ploetz, Gregory D. Abowd, Irfan Essa

Proceedings of ACM UbiComp 2012 | Acceptance Rate: 19% (58/301)

Doctoral Consortium

[d.1] **Practical Food Journaling**

Edison Thomaz

Adjunct Proceedings of ACM UbiComp 2013

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Referred Workshop Papers

[w.5] **Disasters in Personal Informatics: The Unpublished Stories of Failure and Lessons Learned**

Jon E. Froehlich, Jakob Eg Larsen, Matthew Kay, Edison Thomaz

ACM Ubicomp 2014 Workshop, Co-Organizer

[w.4] **Sequencing the Dietary Exposome with Semi-Automated Food Journaling Techniques**

Edison Thomaz

Human-Computer Interaction Consortium 2013

[w.3] **A Human-Centered Conceptual Model for Personal Health Informatics Data**

Edison Thomaz

Personal Informatics in the Wild: Hacking Habits for Health & Happiness, CHI 2013

[w.2] **Hydrostream: A Platform for Collecting, Annotating and Analyzing Water Pressure For Health Applications**

Edison Thomaz, Thomas Ploetz, Irfan Essa, Gregory D. Abowd

Personal Informatics in Practice, CHI 2012

[w.1] **Interactive Techniques for Labeling Activities of Daily Living to Assist Machine Learning**

Edison Thomaz, Thomas Ploetz, Irfan Essa, Gregory D. Abowd

Proceedings of the Workshop on Interactive Systems in Healthcare (WISH) 2011

Posters

[p.1] **BackTap: Robust Four-Point Tapping on the Back of an Off-the-shelf Smartphone**

Cheng Zhang, Aman Parnami, Caleb Southern, Edison Thomaz, Gabriel Reyes, Rosa Arriaga, Gregory D. Abowd

Adjunct Proceedings of ACM UIST 2013

Thesis

[t.1] **Developing Distributed Contextualized Communication Services**

Edison Thomaz

Advisor: Dr. Andy Lippman

S.M. Media Arts & Sciences Thesis, MIT Media Lab, 2002

Grants

2012

Understanding Family Health and Wellness by Monitoring Patterns of Daily Living With Single-Point Water-Based Sensor and Activity Feedback

Humana GVU Seed Grant, \$50,000 / 1 year. Written with Dr. Gregory D. Abowd, Dr. Irfan Essa, and Dr. Thomas Ploetz

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Invited Talks & Events

- [i.15] NSF Workshop on College Student Health, 2015, Chicago, IL
- [i.14] Intel ISTC-PC Annual Meeting, 2015, Portland, OR
- [i.13] Seminar Talk, University of California San Diego, 2015, La Jolla, CA
- [i.12] Seminar Talk, The University of Texas at Austin, 2015, Austin, TX
- [i.11] Seminar Talk, Georgia Institute of Technology, 2015, Atlanta, GA
- [i.10] People-Aware Computing Group, Cornell University, 2014, Ithaca, NY
- [i.9] Atlanta Data Science Meetup, 2013, Atlanta, GA
- [i.8] Emory University, Math & Computer Science Dept., 2013, Atlanta, GA
- [i.7] Atlanta Workshop on Computational Social Science, 2013, Atlanta, GA
- [i.6] Humana C3, 2011, Louisville, KY
- [i.5] Quantified-Self Conference, 2011, Mountain View, CA
- [i.4] Georgia Gerontology Annual Conference, 2011, Athens, GA
- [i.3] Georgia Tech GVU/CDC Workshop, 2011, Atlanta, GA
- [i.2] Georgia Tech Aware Home Seminar, 2011, Atlanta, GA
- [i.1] Modeling and Retrieval of Context Workshop, AAAI 2006, Boston, MA

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Teaching

Spring 2013	HCC Seminar, CS8001/CS8002 Georgia Institute of Technology <i>Co-organizer and Co-Instructor</i>
Fall 2011	Mobile and Ubiquitous Computing, CS4605/CS7470 Georgia Institute of Technology <i>Teaching Assistant for Dr. Gregory D. Abowd</i>
Fall 2011 Spring 2013-15	Mobile and Ubiquitous Computing, CS4605/CS7470 Georgia Institute of Technology <i>Guest Lecture on "Infrastructure-Mediated Sensing"</i>

Student Advising & Mentorship

- Abdelkareem Bedri, M.S. HCI (Georgia Tech), 2015
- David Muñoz, M.S. HCI (Georgia Tech), 2014
- Rushil Khurana, M.S. HCI (Georgia Tech), 2014

- Arvind Krishnaa, M.S. HCI (Georgia Tech), 2014
- Sahil Goyal, M.S. HCI (Georgia Tech) 2013
- Minsik Bang, B.S. Computer Science (Georgia Tech) 2013
- Megha Sandesh, M.S. HCI (Georgia Tech) 2012
- Aman Parnami, M.S. HCI (Georgia Tech) 2012
- Dan Ports, M.Eng. EECS (MIT), 2002

Awards & Honors

- Best Paper Honorable Mention, ACM CHI 2015
- Best Short Paper, ACM IUI 2015
- George Fellow 2014
- MIT Media Lab British Telecom Fellowship 2001
- MIT Media Lab British Telecom Fellowship 2000

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Professional Activities & Service

Membership	ACM
Reviewer	ACM Ubiquitous Computing (UbiComp), 2012– 2015 ACM Int. Symp. on Wearable Computers (ISWC) 2015 ACM Designing Interactive Systems (DIS), 2014 ACM Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), 2013-2016 ACM Int. Conf. on Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI), 2015 IEEE Journal of Biomedical and Health Informatics, 2014 IEEE Pervasive Computing, 2015 IEEE Int. Conf. on Pervasive Computing and Comm. (PerCom) 2016 EAI Int. Conf. on Pervasive Computing Technologies for Healthcare. (Pervasive Health) 2016
GVU Center	Spring / Fall Research Showcase, 2011-2014
Quantified-Self	Founder and organizer of Atlanta QS Meetup