

Keheliya Gallaba

keheliya@gmail.com +1 (514) 806-4669 <http://keheliya.github.io/>

SUMMARY

- Experienced in building developer tools at **Microsoft Research, Fortinet, & Huawei** in **Java, JS, Python**.
- Published in top-tier (**CORE Rank: A* & A**) Software Engineering research journals & conferences (**ICSE, TSE, FSE, ASE**) in the areas of CI/CD, programming languages, tools, and processes.
- Research interests: Mining large-scale data sources in software engineering (i.e., **GitHub, StackOverflow, CircleCI & TravisCI**) to improve software engineering processes and tools.
- Successful collaborations with distributed research teams in **Canada, Austria, and USA**.

EDUCATION

McGill University, Montréal, QC, Canada

Ph.D. in Software Engineering Sep 2016 – Sep 2021
Thesis: Improving the Robustness and Efficiency of Continuous Integration and Continuous Deployment
Adviser: Prof. Shane McIntosh
Publications: MSR17a, MSR17b, MSR18a, MSR18b, TSE18, ASE18, MSR19, ICSME19, TSE20, ICSE22.

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada

M.A.Sc. in Software Engineering Jan 2014 – Dec 2015
Thesis: Characterizing and refactoring asynchronous JavaScript callbacks
Advisers: Prof. Ali Mesbah and Prof. Ivan Beschastnikh
Publications: ESEM15, ICSME17.

University of Moratuwa, Moratuwa, Sri Lanka

B.Sc. (Hons.) in Computer Science and Engineering May 2007 – Nov 2011
Thesis: An analysis of BPMN 2.0 as a business process execution language
Advisers: Vishaka Nanayakkara and Dr Milinda Pathirage
Publications: CeBPM12.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Huawei Centre for Software Excellence, Toronto, ON, Canada

Senior Engineer | Researcher, AI Engineering Group Jun 2021 – Present
Conducting research and building tools for Foundation Model application development. 4 pending patents.

YourBase Inc., Redmond, WA, USA

Visiting Researcher Jun 2019 – Jul 2020
Supervisors: Yves Junqueira and John Ewart
Focus: Accelerating continuous integration by caching environments and inferring dependencies.

Microsoft Research, Cambridge, UK

PhD Research Intern, Systems and Networking Group Jun 2018 – Sep 2018
Supervisors: Dr Katja Kevic and Dr Brendan Murphy
Focus: Automatic removal of feature gates in source code.

INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE

Wise Systems Inc., Montréal, QC, Canada

Senior Software Engineer Aug 2020 – Apr 2021
Wise Systems provides AI-driven dispatch and routing software that enables the perfect delivery experience, improving fleet efficiency and customer service through machine learning and real-time data.

Fortinet Inc., Vancouver, BC, Canada

Software Development Engineer II, Forticlient Team Feb 2016 – Aug 2016
Worked on the system for generating software vulnerability signatures, validating them, and delivering them to endpoint security software (Forticlient).

WSO2 Inc., Colombo, Sri Lanka

Senior Software Engineer, Integration Technologies Team Apr 2013 – Nov 2013
Development and support of open source middleware solutions for enterprise integration problems.
PoC development, deployment, and on-site support for clients in US, Switzerland, Sweden, and New Zealand.

Software Engineer, Integration Technologies Team Dec 2011 – Mar 2013
Worked with WSO2 Business Process Server, Enterprise Service Bus, Identity Server & Governance Registry.
Experience with WS-BPEL & other WS-* standards, SOAP/REST web services.
XPath, XSLT, Apache ODE and Eclipse plug-in development.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Mitacs Accelerate International Award and Graduate Mobility Award Funding to study and conduct research abroad as part of the McGill degree program.	May 2019
FRQNT Doctoral Research Award (Bourses de doctorat en recherche) Ranked #1 in the ICT group and obtained the competitive scholarship provided by Fonds de recherche du Québec – Nature et technologies (FRQNT).	May 2018
McGill Engineering Doctoral Award (MEDA) Full scholarship with stipend for PhD studies at McGill University.	2016 – 2019
Best Full Paper Award Awarded at The ACM/IEEE International Symposium on Empirical Software Engineering and Measurement.	Oct 2015
ISERN Student Travel Grant Awarded by The International Software Engineering Research Network (ISERN) to attend ESEM '15.	Oct 2015
Manthan Award South Asia for e-Localization For creating tools that allowed viewing non-unicode Sinhala language content on Unicode-enabled computers.	Dec 2010
e-Swabhimani 2010 award for e-Localization Awarded at the National Best e-Content Awards, Sri Lanka.	Nov 2010

INVITED EVENTS

FM+SE Vision 2030 A forum for industrial and academic experts to discuss advancements at the intersection of Software Engineering and Foundation Models, held in Mexico City, Mexico.	Nov 2023
Shonan Meeting No. 152 on “Release Engineering for Mobile Applications” held in Kanagawa, Japan.	Dec 2019
Shonan Meeting No. 095 on “Mining Software Repositories: Accomplishments, Challenges and Future Trends” held in Kanagawa, Japan.	Mar 2017

PUBLICATIONS

FULL PAPERS IN INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS (CORE RANK: A*)

- [TSE20] [K. Gallaba](#), Y. Junqueira, J. Ewart, and S. McIntosh, “Accelerating Continuous Integration by Caching Environments and Inferring Dependencies,” *IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering*, To appear, 2020. [[PDF](#)]
- [TSE18] [K. Gallaba](#) and S. McIntosh, “Use and Misuse of Continuous Integration Features: An Empirical Study of Projects that (mis)use Travis CI,” *IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering*, 46(1): pp. 33–50, 2018. [[PDF](#)]

FULL PAPERS IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES (CORE RANK: A* & A)

- [ASE24] M. Yin, Y. Kashiwa, [K. Gallaba](#), M. Alfadel, Y. Kamei, and S. McIntosh, “Developer-Applied Accelerations in Continuous Integration: A Detection Approach and Catalog of Patterns”, In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE)*, To Appear, Oct 2024. [[PDF](#)]
- [FSE24] A. E. Hassan, D. Lin, G. K. Rajbahadur, [K. Gallaba](#), F. R. Cogo, B. Chen, H. Zhang, K. Thangarajah, G. A. Oliva, J. Lin, W. M. Abdullah, Z. M. Jiang, “Rethinking Software Engineering in the Foundation Model Era”, In *Companion Proceedings of the International Conference on the Foundations of Software Engineering (FSE)*, 294–305, Jul 2024. [[PDF](#)]
- [ICSE22] [K. Gallaba](#), M. Lamothe, and S. McIntosh, “Lessons from Eight Years of Operational Data from a Continuous Integration Service: A Case Study of CircleCI”, In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE)*, 1330–1342, May 2022. 🏆 **Nominated for ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award** [[PDF](#)]
- [ASE18] [K. Gallaba](#), C. Macho, M. Pinzger, and S. McIntosh, “Noise and Heterogeneity in Historical Build Data: An Empirical Study of Travis CI”, In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE)*, 87–97, Sep 2018. [[PDF](#)]
- [ICSME17] [K. Gallaba](#), Q. Hanam, A. Mesbah, and I. Beschastnikh, “Refactoring Asynchrony in JavaScript”, In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME)*, 353–363, Sep 2017. [[PDF](#)]
- [ESEM15] [K. Gallaba](#), A. Mesbah, and I. Beschastnikh, “Don’t Call Us, We’ll Call You: Characterizing Callbacks in JavaScript”, In *Proceedings of the International Symposium on Empirical Software Engineering and Measurement (ESEM)*, pp. 247–256, Oct 2015. 🏆 **Best Paper Award** [[PDF](#)]

SHORT PAPERS IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES (CORE RANK: A)

- [ICSME19] K. Gallaba, "Improving the Robustness and Efficiency of Continuous Integration and Deployment", In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME)*, pp. 619–623, Sep 2019. [[PDF](#)]
- [MSR19] D. Abric, O. E. Clark, M. Caminiti, K. Gallaba, and S. McIntosh, "Can Duplicate Questions on Stack Overflow Benefit the Software Development Community?", In *Proceedings of the 16th International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR), Mining challenge*, pp. 230–234, May 2019. [[PDF](#)]
- [MSR18a] N. Rabbani, M. S. Harvey, S. Saquif, K. Gallaba, and S. McIntosh, "Revisiting 'Programmers' Build Errors' in the Visual Studio Context", In *Proceedings of the 15th International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR), Mining challenge*, pp. 98–101, May 2018. [[PDF](#)]
- [MSR18b] R. Amlekar, A. F. R. Gamboa, K. Gallaba, and S. McIntosh, "Do Software Engineers Use Autocompletion Features Differently Than Other Developers?", In *Proceedings of the 15th International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR), Mining challenge*, pp. 86–89, May 2018. [[PDF](#)]
- [MSR17a] M. Manglaviti, E. Coronado-Montoya, K. Gallaba, and S. McIntosh, "An Empirical Study of the Personnel Overhead of Continuous Integration", In *Proceedings of the 14th International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR), Mining challenge*, pp. 471–474, May 2017. [[PDF](#)]
- [MSR17b] Y. Khan, Y. Gupta, K. Gallaba, and S. McIntosh, "The Impact of the Adoption of Continuous Integration on Developer Attraction and Retention", In *Proceedings of the 14th International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR), Mining challenge*, pp. 491–494, May 2017. [[PDF](#)]

ACADEMIC SERVICE**REVIEWER**

International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR) - Data and Tools Track	2025
International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR) - Industry Track	2025
ACM Transactions on Software Engineering and Methodology (TOSEM)	2024
International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME) - Industry Track	2024
International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE) - SEIP Track	2024, 2025
International Conference on Software Analysis, Evolution and Reengineering (SANER) - Research Track	2024
International Conference on AI Foundation Models and Software Engineering (FORGE)	2024
International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR) - Junior PC	2023
International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR) - Industry Track	2023
Empirical Software Engineering Journal (EMSE)	2021
IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering (TSE)	2019
Journal of Systems and Software (JSS)	2019
International Conference on Program Comprehension (ICPC) - Tools Track	2019
Journal of Information and Software Technology (IST)	2018
International Conference on Object-oriented Programming, Systems, Languages, and Applications (OOPSLA) - Artifact Evaluation Committee	2017

CO-REVIEWER

International Conference on Software Analysis, Evolution, and Reengineering (SANER)	2019
International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR)	2018
Canadian Conference on Electrical and Computer Engineering (CCECE)	2018
International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME)	2017

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

International Conference on AI-powered Software (Alware) - Proceedings Chair	2024
International Working Conference on Source Code Analysis and Manipulation (SCAM) - Social Media Co-chair	2021

MENTORING & TEACHING EXPERIENCE**Undergraduate Students** (Co-advised with Dr. Shane McIntosh)

Durham Abric, Oliver Clark, Matthew Caminiti

Sep 2018 – Apr 2019

Co-authored Papers: MSR19

Rahul Amlekar, Noam Rabbani, Mike Harvey,
Sadnan Saquif, Andrés Felipe Rincón Gamboa

Sep 2017 – Apr 2018

Co-authored Papers: MSR18a, MSR1b

Marco Manglaviti, Eduardo Coronado-Montoya, Yash Gupta, Yusaira Khan Sep 2016 – Apr 2017

Co-authored Papers: MSR17a, MSR17b

Teaching Assistant

McGill University, Montréal, QC, Canada

ECSE321 Introduction to Software Engineering

Fall 2017

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada

EECE416 Software Testing and Analysis

Winter II 2014

EECE310 Software Engineering

Winter II 2013 & Winter I 2014

OPEN SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS

Gephi, Open source graph visualization and manipulation software

System Developer/GSoC Student

Jan 2011 – May 2011

Developed an automated Maven build to fasten the release process of Gephi. [[Team Profile](#)] [[Details](#)]

Crawljax, a tool for automatically crawling and testing modern web applications

Contributor/Maintainer

Nov 2013 – Aug 2014

Fixing bugs, updating dependencies, and other routine maintenance. [[Project](#)]

Other,

Localization Contributor

Jan 2008 – Present

Localization of FOSS projects including Ubuntu, Sugar Labs, GNOME and Miro [[Launchpad](#)]

Minor Contributor

Feb 2011 – Present

Contributed via patches and pull requests to well-known OSS projects. [[GitHub](#)]