Ten years of me: 2013–2023

Martin Porcheron

Horizon CDT Industry Day • 11th October 2022

Where did I start?

- Here!
  - MSci in Computer Science with Artificial Intelligence at the University of Nottingham
- During my degree I considered a career as a software engineer
- Applied to the CDT among other job applications…

Pre-CDT project, adapting to research

- The openess of research groups/labs at Nottingham enabled me to get involved in other projects
  - Useful for learning from others
- Still, leading on my own PhD was challenging
  - Developing a good rapport with supervisors was key

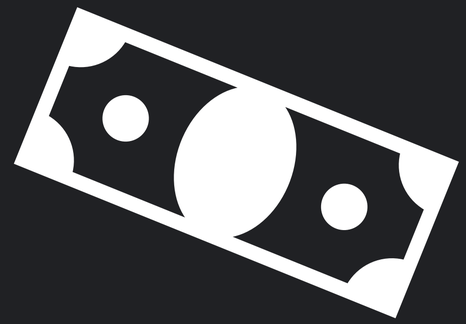
Short(ish) ‘sprints’

- Working to ‘sprints’ was valuable
  - PhDs can feel like one big long project, so having shortish-term deliverables helped my motivation
  - Publications are often vital for academic positions—they proved very useful for me both in getting my lecturing job (and even my promotion)
  - Tends to happen organically: being research-focused leads to papers

The shock of the thesis

Becoming a lecturer…

- Becoming a lecturer felt like an enormous leap
  - Going from being on projects to defining projects
  - Starting off with very little can be challenging
- Jumped right in with applying for grants
  - Successful with two NHSX grants with colleagues focusing on evaluation of healthcare AI technologies
- Promoted in 2021/22 academic year to Senior Lecturer



Time to shake things up

Leading academia for consultancy

- In January 2023, I’m leaving Swansea to work as a Senior UX Researcher for a US (and now UK-based) consultancy
- They were excited by:
  - The research studies I’d done during my PhD + postdoc
  - The ability to talk to different audiences including practitioners
  - The healthcare projects I’d done at Swansea

2013
Pre-PhD project
Started PhD

2014
‘Finalised’ PhD topic
Moved to the MRL

2016
1st paper published
2nd paper submitted

2017
2nd paper published
Internship in Denmark
3rd paper submitted,
rejected, edited,
submitted, accepted
Thesis submitted

2018
3rd paper published
Viva — major corrections
Start postdoc in the MRL

2019
Corrections
approved

2020
Lecturer at
Swansea University

2021/22
2x NHSX grants
Promoted to Senior Lecturer

2022/23
Senior UX Researcher
at Bold Insight

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