Thesis Portfolio

The Player-Centered User Experience of Multiplayer Online Games
(Technical Report)

Apple's Monopolistic App Store and its Effect on Less Powerful Entities
(STS Research Paper)

An Undergraduate Thesis

Presented to the Faculty of the School of Engineering and Applied Science
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Bachelor of Science, School of Engineering

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<center>**Sociotechnical Synthesis**</center>

With mobile computing becoming ever so prevalent and depended upon in today's modern sphere of technology, one giant player in that realm is Apple. Their domination on mobile computing is not to be understated, as their technical systems are robust and they have great ethos among the social followings and values of humans, no matter their level of technological expertise. Apple's infrastructure combined with their reputation allows them to leverage their operations to their advantage, whether it be economically, socially, or politically. Because the modern boom in computing, including advanced mobile systems, is rather unprecedented, there is a lack of regulation when Apple builds their systems, giving them freedom, perhaps a bit too much, when making decisions surrounding such systems and their influence. As a result of Apple's freedoms when creating and controlling their mobile systems, the App Store has become what seems like the perfect source for mobile software distribution entangled with underlying monopolistic practices. Such practices of Apple's App Store affect numerous groups of people due to its characteristics and regulations, both of which will be enumerated and dissected within the STS Prospectus.

The technical topic is about how player-centered design guidelines are incorporated into how multiplayer online games (MOGs) are designed. MOGs are extensively interactive systems of entertainment for a lot of video game players, and it is vital to understand how such systems are able to grasp and retain the attention of players through the use of design tactics and player psychology. Ultimately, the success and failure of MOGs can be sourced back to such design guidelines being focused upon or omitted.

The technical subject of the STS prospectus and the technical topic for the Department of Computer Science are not related.