Brandon Amos

(540) 947 1238 • bamos@cs.cmu.edu • bamos.github.io
bdamos • brandondamos • bamos

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Research Interests

Machine learning, computer vision, and mobile computing.

Education

- Ph.D. Student, Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University — Aug 2014–Present
- B.S., Computer Science, Virginia Tech (3.99/4.00) — Aug 2011–May 2014
- Northside High School (Roanoke, Virginia) — May 2011

Research Experience

- Research Assistant, Carnegie Mellon University — Aug 2014–Present
  - **Advisor**: Prof. Mahadev Satyanarayanan
  - **Area**: Machine learning, computer vision, and mobile computing.
  - Project lead of OpenFace, which provides face recognition with deep neural networks and is available on GitHub at `http://github.com/cmusatyalab/openface`.
- Undergraduate Research Assistant, Magnum Research Group — May 2012–May 2014
  - **Advisor**: Prof. Jules White
  - **Area**: Mobile computing, cyber-physical systems, and security.
  - Android malware detection research implemented with a distributed **Actor-based Scala** system.
  - Manufacturing cyber-physical security research implemented with **VC#** and **Python**.
- Undergraduate Research Assistant, Virginia Tech — Jan 2013–May 2014
  - **Advisor**: Prof. Layne Watson
  - **Area**: Scientific computing, global/stochastic optimization, and bioinformatics.
  - Algorithm development for global and stochastic optimization using quasi-Newton methods for **parameter estimation** in **Fortran 95** and **OpenMP**.
  - Bioinformatics research on yeast cell modeling using **Fortran 95**, **C++**, and **Matlab**.
- Undergraduate Research Assistant, Systems Software Research Group — Nov 2012–Mar 2014
  - **Advisor**: Prof. Binoy Ravindran
  - **Area**: Heterogeneous compilers.
  - Compiler research on a heterogeneous system on automatic **OpenMP** to **CUDA** translation using **C++** and the **ROSE** compiler framework.
  - Polyhedral loop optimization research to restructure **OpenCL** kernels for locality using **LLVM** and **Polly**.

Publications

Conference Proceedings

[C1] Z. Chen, L. Jiang, W. Hu, K. Ha, **B. Amos**, P. Pillai, A. Hauptmann, M. Satyanarayanan, "Early Implementation Experience with Wearable Cognitive Assistance Applications," in *WearSys 2015*, 2015. [Online]. Available: `http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~satya/docdir/chen-wearsys2015.pdf`.

[C2] W. Hu, **B. Amos**, Z. Chen, K. Ha, W. Richter, P. Pillai, B. Gilbert, J. Harkes, M. Satyanarayanan, "The Case for Offload Shaping," in *HotMobile 2015*, 2015. [Online]. Available: `http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~satya/docdir/hu-hotmobile2015.pdf`.

[C3] **B. Amos** and D. Tompkins, "Performance study of Spindle, a web analytics query engine implemented in Spark," in *(Short Paper) Proceedings of the 2014 IEEE International Conference on Cloud Computing Technology and Science (CloudCom)*, 2014.

[C4] T. Andrew, **B. Amos**, D. Easterling, C. Oguz, W. Baumann, J. Tyson, L. Watson, "Global Parameter Estimation for a Eukaryotic Cell Cycle Model in Systems Biology," in *2014 Summer Simulation Multiconference, Society for Modeling and Simulation International*, 2014. [Online]. Available: `http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2685662`.

[C5] **B. Amos**, D. Easterling, L. Watson, B. Castle, M. Trosset, W. Thacker, "Fortran 95 implementation of QNSTOP for global and stochastic optimization," in *2014 Spring Simulation Multiconference, 22nd High Performance Computer Symposium, Society for Modeling and Simulation International*, 2014. [Online]. Available: `http://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2663525`.

[C6] **B. Amos**, H. Turner, J. White, "Applying machine learning classifiers to dynamic Android malware detection at scale," in *IWCMC'13 Security, Trust and Privacy Symposium*, 2013. [Online]. Available: `http://bamos.github.io/data/papers/amos-iwcmc2013.pdf`.

Magazine Articles

[M1] K. Ha, Y. Abe, Z. Chen, W. Hu, **B. Amos**, P. Pillai, M. Satyanarayanan, "Adaptive vm handoff across cloudlets," Technical Report CMU-CS-15-113, CMU School of Computer Science, Tech. Rep., 2015.

[M2] M. Satyanarayanan, P. Simoens, Y. Xiao, P. Pillai, Z. Chen, K. Ha, W. Hu, **B. Amos**, "Edge analytics in the internet of things," *IEEE Pervasive Computing*, no. 2, pp. 24–31, 2015.

[M3] H. Turner, J. White, J. A. Camelio, C. Williams, **B. Amos**, R. Parker, "Bad Parts: Are Our Manufacturing Systems at Risk of Silent Cyberattacks?" *Security & Privacy, IEEE*, vol. 13, no. 3, pp. 40–47, 2015. [Online]. Available: `http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/xpl/articleDetails.jsp?arnumber=7118094`.

Tech Reports

[T1] Y. Gao, W. Hu, K. Ha, **B. Amos**, P. Pillai, M. Satyanarayanan, "Are cloudlets necessary?" Technical Report CMU-CS-15-139, CMU School of Computer Science, Tech. Rep., 2015.

[T2] K. Ha, Y. Abe, Z. Chen, W. Hu, **B. Amos**, P. Pillai, M. Satyanarayanan, "Adaptive vm handoff across cloudlets," Technical Report CMU-CS-15-113, CMU School of Computer Science, Tech. Rep., 2015.

[T3] **B. Amos**, D. Easterling, L. Watson, W. Thacker, B. Castle, M. Trosset, "QNSTOP-QuasiNewton Algorithm for Stochastic Optimization," 2014. [Online]. Available: `https://vtechworks.lib.vt.edu/bitstream/handle/10919/49672/qnTOMS14.pdf`.

Teaching Experience

- Distributed Systems (CMU 15-440/640), Graduate TA — S2016
- Software Design and Data Structures (VT CS 2114), Undergraduate TA — S2013

Industry Experience

- Data Scientist Intern, Adobe Research — May 2014–Aug 2014
- Software Engineer Intern, Snowplow Analytics — Dec 2013–Jan 2014
- Software Engineer Intern, Qualcomm — May 2013–Aug 2013
- Software Engineer Intern, Phoenix Integration — May 2012–Aug 2012
- Network Administrator Intern, Sunapsys — Jan 2011–Aug 2011

CMU Graduate Coursework

- Intro to Machine Learning (10-701), T. Mitchell — S2016 (Au)
- Computer Vision (16-720), D. Ramanan — S2016 (Au)
- Convex Optimization (10-725), R. J. Tibshirani — F2015
- Algorithms in the Real World (15-853), G. Blelloch and A. Gupta — F2015
- Semantics of Programming Languages (15-812), A. Platzer — S2015
- Optimizing Compilers for Modern Architecture (15-745), T. Mowry — S2015
- Advanced Operating Systems and Distributed Systems (15-712), D. Andersen — F2014
- Mobile and Pervasive Computing (15-812), M. Satyanarayanan and D. Siewiorek — F2014

Skills

- Languages: Bash, C/C++, Haskell, HTML/CSS/JavaScript, Java, LaTeX, Lua, Make, *Mathematica*, Python, R, Scala
- Frameworks: Akka, Android SDK/NDK, Caffe, Node.js, NumPy, Torch7, Pandas, SciPy, scikit-learn, Spark, Spray
- Systems: Linux, OSX

Honors & Awards

- 1st Place Undergraduate Senior Capstone Award, Virginia Tech Computer Science — 2014
- David Heilman Research Award, Virginia Tech Computer Science — 2014
  - Given to the Computer Science student with the most outstanding research experience.
- Senior Scholar Award, Virginia Tech Computer Science — 2014
  - Given to the senior in Computer Science with the most outstanding academic record.
- Honorable Mention, CRA Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award — 2014
- Awarded eight undergraduate merit scholarships — 2011–2014