



## CS561 A1 Spring 2021 - Research Project

**Title:** Designing sortedness-aware access methods

**Background:** Real-time analysis of data is becoming more popular and a crucial requirement for many business operations, which includes IoT data analytics, social data management, and disaster control. In many cases, this data comes with *implicit ordering*, i.e., the incoming data set comes implicitly partitioned for some attributes which are correlated with time. This implicit ordering of data may cause algorithms to perform sub-optimally in several cases. For example, if the data comes in sorted order they trigger the worst-case runtime ( $O(n^2)$ ) for a quick sort routine. Similarly, the insert cost for new entries may vary from  $O(\log n)$  (for completely scrambled datasets) to  $O(1)$  (for fully sorted datasets), depending on the *sortedness* of the datasets and the access methods used to insert the data. Prior knowledge about the data, in such a case, is helpful in tuning the performance in an optimal way. Such analogies are also applicable to real-life data storage systems and access methods, which deal with variable workload characteristics, while being agnostic of any implicit structure present within the workload.

**Objective:** This project aims to design new access methods, which can exploit any implicit ordering or structure in a workload. The proposed access method should (i) ensure competitive performance as compared to state-of-the-art when subject to benchmark workloads and (ii) exploit any implicit ordering, if present, in the workload to offer better performance than that offered by the state-of-the-art. The following workflow is to be adhered in course of this project.

- (a) Review the existing metrics that are proposed to quantify the orderliness or pre-sortedness of a dataset
- (b) Design a metric (or justifiably choose one from the existing ones) that characterizes the orderliness of data, given a workload
- (c) Design access methods that have properties (i) and (ii)

[1] Manos Athanassoulis, Anastasia Ailamaki. BF-Tree: Approximate Tree Indexing. PVLDB 7(14): 1881-1892 (2014)

[2] Heikki Mannila. Measures of Presortedness and Optimal Sorting Algorithms. IEEE Trans. Computers 34(4): 318-325 (1985)