

Yihao Sun

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I am a 5th year PhD researcher specialize in Database, HPC, and Programming Languages, focusing on massively parallel deductive database systems. I have published four papers in top conferences—**ASPLOS**, **NeurIPS**, **CLUSTER**, **VLDB**. My systems scale efficiently on ANLF's Theta and Polaris supercomputers.

Skill

- Proficient in programming languages, including C++, Python, Racket, Haskell, and Rust.
- Skilled in GPGPU programming, including CUDA/HIP kernel development and parallel libraries such as Thrust, CUB, and Kokkos. Experienced in GPGPU Programming. Familiar with CUDA/HIP programming writing CUDA kernel, parallel library Thrust/CUB/Kokkos.
- Experienced in scaling MPI programs on high-performance heterogenous clusters and supercomputers with accelerators such as Intel KNL and NVIDIA GPUs.
- Familiar with distributed programming and big data tools such as Apache Spark, Arrow, and Parquet. Experienced in techniques like data partitioning, caching, and load balancing.
- Knowledgeable in OLAP databases, particularly column-oriented and in-memory systems, with experience implementing a Datalog engine on DuckDB and optimizing large distributed queries.
- Skilled in large-scale graph query, with a focus on distributed and parallel environment.
- Knowledgeable in static program analysis, particularly in CFA and abstract interpretation.

Education

- 2020 – Present **Ph.D., CS, Syracuse University (Advised by Kristopher Micinski)**
- 2018 – 2020 **M.S, Computer Science, Syracuse University**
- 2013 – 2017 **B.S. in Electronic Engineer, Hangzhou Dianzi University**

Research Publications




Peer-Reviewed Papers

- 1 Y. Sun, S. Ahmedur, G. Thomas, M. Kristopher, and K. Sidharth, “Optimizing Datalog for the GPU,” in *International Conference on Architectural Support for Programming Languages and Operating Systems(ASPLOS)*, Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 2025. [URL: https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.02206/](https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.02206/).
- 2 G. Thomas, S. Arash, S. Yihao, K. Sowmith, K. Sidharth, and M. Kristopher, “Datalog with First-Class Facts,” London, United Kingdom, 2025. [URL: https://arxiv.org/pdf/2211.11573](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2211.11573).
- 3 C. Liu, R. Saul, Y. Sun, *et al.*, “Assemblage: Automatic Binary Dataset Construction for Machine Learning,” in *NeurIPS 2024 Datasets and Benchmarks Track*, 2024. [URL: https://arxiv.org/pdf/2405.03991](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2405.03991).
- 4 Y. Sun, K. Sidharth, G. Thomas, and K. Micinski, “Communication-Avoiding Recursive Aggregation,” in *IEEE International Conference on Cluster Computing (CLUSTER)*, Santa Fe, USA, 2023, pp. 197–208. [URL: https://kmicinski.com/assets/cluster23.pdf](https://kmicinski.com/assets/cluster23.pdf).
- 5 Y. Sun, J. Ching, and K. Micinski, “Declarative Demand-Driven Reverse Engineering,” in *NDSS Workshop on Binary Analysis Research (BAR)*, Online, 2021. [URL: https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.04718](https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.04718).
- 6 Y. Sun, K. Sidharth, G. Thomas, and K. Micinski, “So You Want To Analyze Scheme Programs With Datalog?” In *International Conference on Functional Programming(ICFP) Scheme Workshop*, Online, 2021. [URL: https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.12909](https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.12909).





In Submission

- 1 “Column-Oriented Datalog on the GPU,” *submitted to top conference in related area, under reviewing, but get very good scores (7 8 7 5), 2025.*

Employment History

- 2017 – 2018  **Technical support engineer** Dahua Technology in China/India
- 2019-2020  **Teaching Assistant** Syracuse University, CIS352 Principle of Programming Language
- 2020-now  **Research Assistant** Syracuse University, funded by Laboratory For Physical Science/V-SPELL Project.

Code Project

- 2021  **Slog**, MPI-based dialect of datalog specializing in parallel structural deduction reasoning. Implementing recursive aggregation and successfully scaling it to Theta supercomputer in ANLF using a novel data partition technique. Solved a scaling bottleneck by dynamic load balancing and join order optimization, successful scaling system to 512 nodes. <https://github.com/harp-lab/slog-lang1>
- 2022  **Assemblage**, Developed a system capable of automated scraping and building from GitHub, collecting binaries for machine learning-based binary analysis. <https://huggingface.co/papers/2405.03991>
- 2023  **GDlog/VFlog**, a column-oriented GPU-based Datalog deductive database backend, outperforming state-of-the-art datalog engine Soufflé by $40\times$ in numerous recursive query test cases. Old artifact for paper review <https://github.com/harp-lab/gdlog>. New artifact under developing <https://github.com/harp-lab/vflog>.
- 2024  **Ascent++**, enhanced version of Ascent, a Rust macro base datalog engine. Support restricted non-stratified negation and functional programming. <https://github.com/StarGazerM/ascent-plusplus>