Yixin Luo

Curriculum Vitae

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Education

2012–2018 **Ph.D in Computer Science**, *Carnegie Mellon University*, Pittsburgh, PA. PhD Thesis (in progress): "Architectural Techniques for Improving NAND Flash Memory Reliability", advised by Prof. **Onur Mutlu.**

2010–2012 **B.S. in Computer Engineering**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI. GPA: 3.9/4.0. Dean's List 2010, 2011, EECS Scholar 2010.

2008–2012 **B.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering**, *Shanghai Jiao Tong University*, China. GPA: 3.8/4.0. Dean's List 2009.

Experience

2015, 2016 Engineering Intern, Seagate Technology, Lakeview, CA.

Worked with Dr. **Erich Haratsch** on developing new SSD controller algorithms for next-generation NAND flash memories.

Detailed achievements:

- \circ Developed 10 new techniques and 4 new models to improve SSD lifetime by up to $12.9 \times$
- Developed new tools to automatically test and analyze seven types of SSD errors
- Collected and analyzed 700 GB of real SSD error data using machine learning and statistical modeling techniques
- 2013 **Research Intern**, *Microsoft Research*, Redmond, WA.

Worked with Dr. **Jie Liu** on developing new server architectures to tolerate memory errors in large-scale data centers.

Detailed achievements:

- Developed a new server architecture to reduce data center TCO by 2.7%
- Characterized memory error vulnerability of 3 important production data-intensive applications running in Microsoft data centers

Awards

- 2017 **DFRWS EU Best Paper Award**
- 2015 HPCA Best Paper Runner Up
- 2012 HPCA Best Paper Award

Publications

- [1] <u>Yixin Luo</u>, Saugata Ghose, Yu Cai, Erich F. Haratsch, and Onur Mutlu. HeatWatch: Improving 3D NAND Flash Memory Device Reliability by Exploiting Self-Recovery and Temperature-Awareness. In *HPCA*, 2018.
- [2] Yu Cai, Saugata Ghose, Erich F Haratsch, <u>Yixin Luo</u>, and Onur Mutlu. Error Characterization, Mitigation, and Recovery in Flash-Memory-Based Solid-State Drives. *Proc. IEEE*, Sep. 2017.
- [3] Yu Cai, Saugata Ghose, <u>Yixin Luo</u>, Ken Mai, Onur Mutlu, and Erich F Haratsch. Vulnerabilities in MLC NAND flash memory programming: experimental analysis, exploits, and mitigation techniques. In *HPCA*, 2017.
- [4] Aya Fukami, Saugata Ghose, <u>Yixin Luo</u>, Yu Cai, and Onur Mutlu. Improving the reliability of chip-off forensic analysis of NAND flash memory devices. In *DFRWS EU*, 2017. **Best Paper Award**.
- [5] <u>Yixin Luo</u>, Saugata Ghose, Tianshi Li, Sriram Govindan, Bikash Sharma, Bryan Kelly, Amirali Boroumand, and Onur Mutlu. Using ECC DRAM to adaptively increase memory capacity. *arXiv* preprint arXiv:1706.08870, 2017.
- [6] Yixin Luo, Saugata Ghose, Yu Cai, Erich F Haratsch, and Onur Mutlu. Enabling Accurate and Practical Online Flash Channel Modeling for Modern MLC NAND Flash Memory. *IEEE JSAC*, 34(9):2294–2311, 2016.
- [7] Yu Cai, <u>Yixin Luo</u>, Erich F Haratsch, Ken Mai, and Onur Mutlu. Data Retention in MLC NAND Flash Memory: Characterization, Optimization, and Recovery. In *HPCA*, 2015. **Best Paper Runner Up**.
- [8] Yu Cai, <u>Yixin Luo</u>, Saugata Ghose, and Onur Mutlu. Read disturb errors in mlc nand flash memory: Characterization, mitigation, and recovery. In *DSN*, 2015.
- [9] <u>Yixin Luo</u>, Yu Cai, Saugata Ghose, Jongmoo Choi, and Onur Mutlu. WARM: Improving NAND Flash Memory Lifetime With Write-Hotness Aware Retention Management. In *MSST*, 2015.
- [10] Yixin Luo, Sriram Govindan, Bikash Sharma, Mark Santaniello, Justin Meza, Aman Kansal, Jie Liu, Badriddine Khessib, Kushagra Vaid, and Onur Mutlu. Characterizing Application Memory Error Vulnerability to Optimize Datacenter Cost via Heterogeneous-Reliability Memory. In DSN, 2014.
- [11] Vivek Seshadri, Yoongu Kim, Chris Fallin, Donghyuk Lee, Rachata Ausavarungnirun, Gennady Pekhimenko, <u>Yixin Luo</u>, Onur Mutlu, Phillip B Gibbons, Michael A Kozuch, et al. RowClone: Fast and energy-efficient in-DRAM bulk data copy and initialization. In *MICRO*, 2013.
- [12] Justin Meza, <u>Yixin Luo</u>, Samira Khan, Jishen Zhao, Yuan Xie, and Onur Mutlu. A case for efficient hardware/software cooperative management of storage and memory. In *WEED*, 2013.
- [13] Arun Raghavan, <u>Yixin Luo</u>, Anuj Chandawalla, Marios Papaefthymiou, Kevin P Pipe, Thomas F Wenisch, and Milo MK Martin. Designing for responsiveness with computational sprinting. *IEEE Micro*, 33(3): 8–15, 2013.
- [14] Joseph L Greathouse, Hongyi Xin, <u>Yixin Luo</u>, and Todd Austin. A case for unlimited watchpoints. In *ASPLOS*, 2012.
- [15] Arun Raghavan, <u>Yixin Luo</u>, Anuj Chandawalla, Marios Papaefthymiou, Kevin P Pipe, Thomas F Wenisch, and Milo MK Martin. Computational sprinting. In *HPCA*, 2012. **Best Paper Award**.

Projects

Research Projects

2017–2018 **Peloton: A Self-Driving In-Memory Database**, Open Source Project.

Led a team of three graduate students to design and develop the database catalog for Peloton to support non-blocking schema change and to implement a concurrent lock-free skiplist index. This project is advised by Prof. **Andy Pavlo**.

2014–2018 Architectural Techniques to Improve NAND Flash Memory Reliability.

Started as an internship project at Seagate to improve the reliability of NAND flash memory-based SSD at low cost. Led to my PhD dissertation.

Detailed achievements:

- Published 3 first-authored papers and 5 co-authored papers, one of which won DFRWS EU best paper award, another won HPCA best paper runner up award
- \circ Developed 10 new techniques to improve SSD lifetime by up to $12.9 \times$
- Experimentally characterized state-of-the-art NAND flash memory chips
- Developed 4 new analytical models to accurately estimate SSD reliability

2013–2016 Heterogeneous Reliability Memory.

Started as an internship project at Microsoft Research to optimize data center TCO and memory reliability. Closely related to my PhD dissertation.

Detailed achievements:

- Published 2 first-authored papers
- Developed a new server architecture to reduce data center TCO by 2.7%
- Developed a new mechanism that dynamically adjusts memory capacity and reliability

2013 Single-Level Storage.

Characterized the performance, energy, and scalability benefit of a single-level storage system compared to a traditional two-level storage system through architectural simulations.

2011–2012 A Case for Unlimited Watchpoints, Undergraduate Research Project.

Worked with Prof. **Todd M. Austin** and Dr. **Joseph L. Greathouse** on architecture support for **Unlimited Watchpoints** that accelerates dynamic software analysis by $9\times$.

Detailed achievements:

- Developed a simulation framework for range cache using C++
- Performed architectural simulations to show the performance benefits of the proposed range cache design

2011–2012 **Computational Sprinting**, *Undergraduate Research Project*.

Worked with Prof. Marios C. Papaefthymiou and Prof. Thomas F. Wenisch on Computational Sprinting of manycore processors on mobile devices that improves the responsiveness of interactive applications by $10\times$.

Detailed achievements:

- Developed a SPICE power model for power gating many-core processors
- Developed a new technique to reduce the performance overhead for power gating
- Performed SPICE circuit simulations to show the performance benefit of Computational Sprinting

Academic Projects

2017 Multi-Agent Deep Reinforcement Learning, Course Project.

Developed DQN, DDPG, and MADDPG models for continuous multi-agent environment.

2017 Symbolic Information Processing for Question Answering, Course Project.

Developed an RNN model to answer questions regarding a natural language context.

- 2014 **Deep Learning with Noise**, Course Project.
 - Characterized the effect of different types of noise on different components of a neural network.
- 2014 Compiler Support for Hardware Compression, Course Project.
 - Developed data splitting and memory pooling compiler optimizations for cache compression algorithms.
- 2011 **CPU Architecture Design**, *Undergraduate Major Design Project*.
 - Led a team of three undergraduate students on designing and implementing an 150 MHz out-of-order processor using Verilog.
- 2011 **CPU Layout Design**, *Undergraduate Major Design Project*.
 - Led a team of five graduate and undergraduate students on designing the circuit layout for a 5-stage pipelined in-order processor and a 3-transistor eDRAM cache.

Conference Talks

Online Flash Channel Modeling and Its Applications

Data Retention in MLC NAND Flash Memory

WARM: Write-hotnes Aware Retention Management

Read Disturb Errors in MLC NAND Flash Memory

DSN

Data Retention in MLC NAND Flash Memory

Optimizing Data Center Cost via Heterogeneous Reliability Memory

DSN

Teaching Experience

- 2014 **Teaching Assistant**, *Carnegie Mellon University*, Pittsburgh, PA. CMU 18–742 **Parallel Computer Architecture**, taught by Prof. **Onur Mutlu**. Responsibilities include holding office hours, mentoring research projects.
- 2014 **Teaching Assistant**, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.
 - CMU 15-418/15-618 Parallel Computer Architecture and Programming, taught by Prof. Kayvon Fatahalian.
 - Responsibilities include holding office hours, mentoring projects, preparing and grading homeworks.

Selected Coursework

Graduate

- CMU 15-721 Advanced Database Systems
- CMU 15–712 Advanced Operating Systems and Distributed Systems
- CMU 15-719 Advanced Cloud Computing
- CMU 15-744 Computer Networks
- CMU 15-745 Advanced Optimizing Compilers
- CMU 15-740 Computer Architecture
- CMU 15-750 Graduate Algorithms
- CMU 10–701 Machine Learning
- CMU 10-707 Deep Learning
- CMU 10-703 Deep Reinforcement Learning

Undergraduate

UM EECS570 Computer Architecture + Major Design Project

UM EECS427 VLSI Design + Major Design Project

UM EECS470 Microprocessor-Based Systems

UM EECS482 Operating Systems

UM EECS484 Database Management Systems

UM EECS492 Artificial Intelligence

SJTU Honors Mathematics

Programming Skills

Advanced C++, Python, Matlab, Shell, Verilog, LATEX

Intermediate Perl, HTML, Windows Batch, TensorFlow, PyTorch

Tools Intel Pin, HSPICE, Cadence tools, gem5, Multi2Sim, MySQL/PostgreSQL

Interests

Basketball

Ping Pong

Hiking

Traveling