Faria Kalim

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Interests

Distributed systems

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Computer Science

08/2015 — present

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), USA

• Sohaib and Sara Abbasi Fellow

08/2015 — present

• Advisor: Prof. Indranil Gupta

M.S. alongside Ph.D., Computer Science

08/2015 - 12/2017

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), USA

• Advisor: Prof. Indranil Gupta

• C.GPA: 3.91/4.00

B.E., Computer Science

08/2011 - 06/2015

National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST), Pakistan

• C.GPA: 4.00/4.00; Class Standing: 1/76

GRADUATE RESEARCH, DPRG, UIUC

Holistic Parameter Tuning for Apache Heron

Present

• We investigate how to optimize all of the most important configuration parameters in Heron jobs to achieve different performance goals e.g., latency, throughput, and resource utilization.

Verified Blockchains Present

• We formally verify and implement a simplified version of the Blockchain protocol. This removes bugs a priori, potentially saving users from bugs that can lead to a loss of currency, but is challenging to do at a distributed system level.

RESEARCH, AN-DASH, NUST

Undergraduate Crater: CRowd-sourcing Application To measure Road conditions

05/2014 - 06/2015

- A cloud-hosted back-end used classification methods to discover patterns representing potholes and speedbumps on the road using crowd-sourced accelerometer readings from smartphones.
- Project awarded grant through Microsoft Azure for Research (2014 2015).

Publications

- Faria Kalim, Jaehoon Paul Jeong, Muhammad Usman Ilyas, "Crater: A Crowd Sensing Application to Estimate Road Conditions", *IEEE Access* 4 (2016): 8317-8326.
- Faria Kalim, Le Xu, Sharanya Bathey, Richa Meherwal, Indranil Gupta, "Henge: Intent-driven Multi-Tenant Stream Processing", Symposium of Cloud Computing (2018)
- Faria Kalim, Thomas Cooper, Yao Li, Ning Wang et al., "Caladrius: A Performance Modelling Service for Distributed Stream Processing Systems", *IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering* (2019)

Pre-Prints

• Faria Kalim, Shadi Noghabi., 'Bené: On Demand Cost-Effective Scaling at the Edge", arXiv pre-print:1806.09265, 2018.

Posters

- Faria Kalim et al., 'Reducing Tail Latencies in Micro-Batch Stream Processing Systems", In Proceedings of the ACM Symposium on Cloud Computing. 2017.
- Faria Kalim, Shadi Noghabi, Shiv Verma, 'To Edge or Not to Edge?", In *Proceedings of the ACM Symposium on Cloud Computing.* 2017.

Internships

Software Engineering Intern, Real-Time Compute Team, Twitter Su

Summer 2018

• I designed and evaluated the resource management aspects of Caladrius, a system that predicts the future traffic rates of Heron jobs and preemptively scales them to prevent resource bottlenecks.

Research Intern, Cloud Container Operating System Project, IBM Research Summer 2017

• Optimized the scheduler in Spark Streaming to prevent load imbalances and mitigate stragglers.

Software Engineering Intern, Site Reliability Engineering Team, Uber Summer 2016

• Worked on a monitoring system that provided an explicit signal of failed operations witnessed by a user. As Uber must provide 99.99% availability, a difficult challenge was to ensure that the system is 99.995% available—more available than Uber itself—while providing a high signal-to-noise ratio.

SERVICE

EuroSys 2019 Shadow PC

External Reviewer: DSN 2019, IEEE Access

SELECT HONORS AND AWARDS

- Sohaib and Sara Abbasi Fellowship, Fall 2015 present
- Recipient of the Usenix Student Grant, ATC 2017
- Selected by CS @ Illinois to receive travel funding for the 2017 Richard Tapia Celebration
- \bullet Selected to join Tau Beta Pi, the oldest engineering honor society in the US, Fall 2015 present
- Recipient of President's Gold Medal for academic excellence in undergraduate studies, 2015
- NUST Scholarship for all semesters since admission in undergraduate studies, Fall 2011 Fall 2014

Systems and Software Skills

- Programming Languages (in decreasing order of proficiency): Java, C++, Python, Go, Scala
- Programming Models: OpenMP, MPI, Android fundamentals
- Frameworks: Apache Storm, Apache Heron, Apache Spark

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Fall 2017, Fall 2018

Fall 2018

• CS425 – Distributed Systems

• As Head-TA of the course, I volunteered to teach a short overview of Apache Spark, which was later also included in the Coursera version of the course.