Cheng Xu

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Research Interests

I am interested in Databases, Cryptography, Information Security and Privacy-Aware Computing. My current focuses include:

- Authenticated query processing for outsourcing cloud computing.
- Searchable blockchain with integrity assurance.
- Privacy preserving query processing and access control.

Professional Experience

Hong Kong Baptist University Ph.D. Candidate Senior Research Assistant

Hong Kong Nov 2014 – Feb 2019 Dec 2018 – Present

- Designed novel algorithms and indexes for cloud-based query services to support efficient verifiable query processing in a wide range of enterprise systems.
- Developed novel techniques to enable integrity assured search in scalable hybrid-storage blockchain systems.
- Resulted to several research papers published in top-tier journals and conferences.

Syracuse University Visiting Scholar

Syracuse, NY, USA Sep 2017 – Dec 2017

- Advisor: Dr. Yuzhe Tang
- Designed and implemented a memory-access pattern secure software system on Intel SGX.
- Developed a dynamic program partitioning framework to support implementing a variety of external oblivious algorithms and achieving cache-miss obliviousness.

Homebrew Core Maintainer

Hong Kong Feb 2015 – Feb 2017

- https://brew.sh
- Acted as one of the core maintainers for the open source project Homebrew, which is the most popular package manager on macOS.
- Implemented several major features and improvements including better tap system, core/formulae split, sandbox system, portable Ruby, and many bug fixes.

Huazhong University of Science and Technology Final Year Project

Wuhan, China Sep 2013 – Jun 2014

- Advisor: Dr. Xiaojun Hei
- Designed and implemented a smart home router system using software defined network technology.

EDUCATION

Hong Kong Baptist University

Hong Kong

Ph.D. in Computer Science

Nov 2014 – Feb 2019

Dissertation: Authenticated Query Processing in the Cloud

Advisor: Prof. Jianliang Xu

Huazhong University of Science and Technology

Wuhan, China

Bachelor of Engineering in Electronics & Information Engineering

Sep 2009 - Jun 2014

Skills

Programming C/C++, Rust, Java, Python, Ruby, Matlab, LATEX, Bash, SQL, Vimscript, Javascript, HTML, CSS

Tools Vim, Tmux, Git, macOS, Linux Languages English, Mandarin

PUBLICATIONS

- 1. **C. Xu**, C. Zhang, and J. Xu, "vChain: Enabling verifiable boolean range queries over blockchain databases," in *Proceedings of the 2019 ACM SIGMOD International Conference on Management of Data (SIGMOD '19*), Amsterdam, Netherlands, Jun. 2019, Full Paper.
- 2. S. Guo, J. Xu, C. Zhang, C. Xu, and T. Xiang, "ImageProof: Enabling authentication for large-scale image retrieval," in *Proceedings of the 35th IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE '19)*, Macau SAR, China, Apr. 2019, pp. 1070–1081, Full Paper.
- 3. Y. Ji, C. Xu, J. Xu, and H. Hu, "vABS: Towards verifiable attribute-based search over shared cloud data," in *Proceedings of the 35th IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE '19)*, Macau SAR, China, Apr. 2019, pp. 2028–2031, Demo Paper.
- 4. C. Zhang, **C. Xu**, J. Xu, Y. Tang, and B. Choi, "GEM²-Tree: A gas-efficient structure for authenticated range queries in blockchain," in *Proceedings of the 35th IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE '19)*, Macau SAR, China, Apr. 2019, pp. 842–853, Full Paper.
- 5. C. Xu, J. Xu, H. Hu, and M. H. Au, "When query authentication meets fine-grained access control: A zero-knowledge approach," in *Proceedings of the 2018 ACM SIGMOD International Conference on Management of Data (SIGMOD '18)*, Houston, TX, USA, Jun. 2018, pp. 147–162, Full Paper.
- 6. C. Zhang, C. Xu, J. Xu, and B. Choi, "Distributed kNN query authentication," in *Proceedings of the 19th IEEE International Conference on Mobile Data Management (MDM '18)*, Aalborg, Denmark, Jun. 2018, pp. 167–176, Full Paper.
- 7. **C. Xu**, Q. Chen, H. Hu, J. Xu, and X. Hei, "Authenticating aggregate queries over set-valued data with confidentiality (extended abstract)," in *Proceedings of the 34th IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE '18)*, Paris, France, Apr. 2018, pp. 1797–1798, Poster Paper.
- 8. **C. Xu**, Q. Chen, H. Hu, J. Xu, and X. Hei, "Authenticating aggregate queries over set-valued data with confidentiality," *IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering (TKDE)*, vol. 30, no. 4, pp. 630–644, Apr. 2018, Full Paper.
- 9. Y. Tang, Z. Xing, C. Xu, J. Chen, and J. Xu, "Lightweight logging over the blockchain for data-intensive applications," in *2nd Workshop on Trusted Smart Contracts at International Conference on Financial Cryptography and Data Security*, Santa Barbara Beach Resort, Curação, Mar. 2018, pp. 308–324, Workshop Paper.
- 10. Q. Zhu, H. Hu, **C. Xu**, J. Xu, and W.-C. Lee, "Geo-social group queries with minimum acquaintance constraints," *The VLDB Journal (VLDBJ)*, vol. 26, no. 5, pp. 709–727, Jul. 2017, Full Paper.

TALKS

- 1. vChain: Enabling Verifiable Boolean Range Queries over Blockchain Databases, 2019 ACM SIGMOD International Conference on Management of Data, Amsterdam, Netherlands, July. 2019.
- 2. Towards Searchable and Verifiable Blockchain, 1st Workshop on Blockchain and Data Management at 35th IEEE International Conference on Data Engineering, Macau, Apr. 2019.
- 3. When Query Authentication Meets Fine-Grained Access Control: A Zero-Knowledge Approach, 2018 ACM SIGMOD International Conference on Management of Data, Houston, USA, Jun. 2018.

AWARDS

• SIGMOD Travel Award, ACM

2018

• Research Performance Award, Hong Kong Baptist University

- 2018
- Postgraduate Research Symposium Best Research Performance Award & Best Poster Award, Hong Kong Baptist University
- Yakun Scholarship Scheme for Mainland Postgraduate Students, Hong Kong Baptist University 2018
- Excellent Teaching Assistant Performance Award, Hong Kong Baptist University
- Teaching Assistant Performance Award, Hong Kong Baptist University

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- 2015, 2016

2017