William Schultz

Education

2020 - Present **PhD Student**, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, Computer Science.

Working on automated verification of distributed protocols, advised by Stavros Tripakis.

GPA: 4.0/4.0

2012 - 2016 Bachelor of Arts, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, Computer Science & Mathematics.

Industry Experience

Summer 2022 Applied Scientist Intern, Amazon Web Services, New York, NY.

Worked on symbolic, model-based test generation in the S3 Automated Reasoning Group.

Summer 2021 Research Intern, NASA Langley Research Center, Cambridge, MA (Remote).

Developed a parametric verification tool for a real-time, distributed merging protocol for autonomous aircraft as an intern in the Safety Critical Avionics Systems Branch.

2016 - 2020 Senior Software Engineer, MongoDB, New York, NY.

- Worked on design, maintenance, and verification of MongoDB's distributed database replication system, which is based on the Raft consensus protocol.
- Designed and formally specified a novel dynamic reconfiguration protocol in TLA+ and led its implementation in the MongoDB replication system.
- Implemented a new read consistency level that allows for committed reads without the need to maintain historical snapshots.
- Extended the Jepsen library to verify read-committed guarantees in MongoDB replica sets.

Summer 2015 Research Assistant, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

Profiled memory usage of the Freeze Frame File System, an adaptation to the Hadoop Distributed File System that allows for real-time distributed snapshots.

Publications

- 2022 Plain and Simple Inductive Invariant Inference for Distributed Protocols in
 - △ TLA+, FMCAD 2022, William Schultz, Ian Dardik, and Stavros Tripakis.
- 2022 Formal Verification of a Distributed Dynamic Reconfiguration Protocol, CPP
 - 2022, William Schultz, Ian Dardik, and Stavros Tripakis.
- 2021 Design and Analysis of a Logless Dynamic Reconfiguration Protocol, OPODIS
 - 2021, William Schultz, Siyuan Zhou, Ian Dardik, and Stavros Tripakis.
- 2019 Tunable Consistency in MongoDB, VLDB 2019, William Schultz, Tess Avitabile, and
 - 🖹 Alyson Cabral.

Talks

- 2019 A Bug's Life: Fixing a MongoDB Replication Protocol Bug with TLA+, Talk
 - at TLA+ Conference 2019, William Schultz and Siyuan Zhou.
- 2018 An Animation Module for TLA+, Talk at TLA+ Community Event 2018, Oxford,
 - D UK.

Skills

Programming C/C++, Java, Python, Git, GDB

Verification TLA+, TLAPS, Z3, Dafny